

PRODUCTION NOTES

Welcome to *Pirates Of The Curry Bean!* I am sure you will enjoy rehearsing and performing this musical comedy, but to aid you in your production it may be helpful to consider the following production notes.

CASTING

The script is written for 38 speaking characters and 6 non-speaking characters, as listed overleaf. These range from principal parts to small supporting roles. For productions with fewer cast members, condensing and doubling of characters is possible. This can be done in numerous ways, but the following example reduces the cast number to 24 speaking parts and 2 non-speaking parts:

- Remove Fluke, Gooseneck, Gibbet & Grog (reallocating lines) to leave just 4 sailors.
- Remove Bilge, Bilboe, Bullyrag & Barnacles (reallocating lines) to leave just 4 pirates.
- Remove Ping, Waff, Tick, Tack & Toe (reallocating lines) to leave just 2 natives.
- Reduce the rats & monkeys from 6 to 2.
- Double up Deadeye Dinghy & Stanley Periwinkle.

To expand the cast, unlimited chorus parts may be used as additional pirates, sailors, natives, rats & monkeys, possibly redistributing some lines. An off-stage choir can also be used for backing on songs. Squawk was written as a large parrot puppet worked and voiced in a traditional squeaky manner by a performer in pirate costume, holding the puppet on Redbeard's shoulder. The large gorilla is best played by an adult during its very brief appearance, but of course can be played by a larger child if so desired. The role of Hornhonker works best when played as an over-excited spoilt child - but no typecasting!

COSTUMES

This show is full of traditional piratical characters, and effective use of colour can help identify the different cast groups. For example, the pirates can wear traditional red and black with striped tops, knee length trousers, bandanas & striped socks/tights. The sailors can be dressed in naval blue and white, with white trousers, blue & white striped tops and sailor hats. Cod & Hornhonker could wear more elaborate blue & white uniforms whilst Redbeard could have a red "Hook" style costume. The Periwinkle family need a slight pirate flavour, possibly with black and white striped skirts, trousers and bandanas. The natives can be costumed in various ways, from Hawaiian style grass skirts to caveman style animal print. It is essential to keep everything colourful - and remember, you can't have too many stripes!

STAGING

This production can be staged effectively with simple scenery. A backcloth of blue sky, clouds and sea will work for the whole show, with small flats and props added to distinguish between scenes. The Squirty Squid can have wooden tables and chairs with a flat painted as a wall, window and inn sign. The docks can be created using a signpost and assorted barrels, crates and sacks. For the ship scenes, a flat fabric mast with ropes and gathered sail can be hung over the backcloth. A raised platform with ship's wheel attached may be placed centre stage, with a pair of simple flats behind to create the wooden sides of the ships. A large union or skull and crossbones flag can be hung to differentiate the two ships. The island of Lumbago can be created using some simple palm tree flats and the all important "Lumbago" sign.

MUSIC

All the music required to stage this production, including sound effects, is found on the Backing Track CD. A vocal recording is provided as a guide and to enable the swift learning of songs. The backing tracks without vocals are ideal to use in rehearsals and performances. Directors may, if they wish, allow a choir or separate character to accompany or replace a soloist in a song or section intended for a soloist. This is sometimes necessary if certain cast members are unable to perform the solo themselves fully or if a larger chorus or choir is required to be employed more fully throughout the show.

AND FINALLY...

This is a fun show to rehearse and perform, so remember to enjoy yourselves and your audience will, too! My best wishes for a successful and enjoyable production.

Craig Hawes

CHARACTERS

The Narrator

Deadeye Dinghy

The Periwinkle Family

- * Pearl Periwinkle
- * Jack Periwinkle
- * Liza Periwinkle
- Stanley Periwinkle/Chief Wonga
- Fiddlesticks the Cat

The Crew of HMS The Crunchy Frog

- * Captain Cod
- Admiral Horatio Hornhonker
- Scuttle
- Slack
- Mr. Wally
- Mr. Pratt
- Lookout Lofty
- Cutthroat Clegg
- Fathom
- Fender
- Fluke
- Gooseneck
- Gibbet
- Grog

The Crew of The Curry Bean

- * Captain Redbeard
- Loopy Louie
- Squawk the Parrot
- Baggywrinkle
- Broadside
- Bunghole
- Blunderbuss
- Barnacles
- Bullyrag
- Bilboe
- Bilge

The Natives of Lumbago

- Ping
- Pong
- Wiff
- Waff
- Tick / Seller 1
- Tack / Seller 2
- Toe / Seller 3

Ship Rats & Lumbago Monkeys

- Rocky Rat / Mickey Monkey
- Ronnie Rat / Monty Monkey
- Robbie Rat / Matty Monkey
- Roddy Rat / Macy Monkey
- Reggie Rat / Macky Monkey
- Rickie Rat / Minty Monkey

(* denotes characters with singing solos)

PROPS

- fish wares x3
- clipboards x2
- long chain with oversized plug
- brooms x2
- pair of scales
- piece of paper with a black spot
- tablecloth
- knitting needles
- large fish
- crate of stock for Pearl & Deadeye
- tin of baked beans
- bananas x2
- treasure map
- mops for sailors
- spade
- various tankards
- small model ships x2
- treasure chest
- large bag/sack
- telescope x2
- spears x4
- tights for pirates' heads
- union flag
- limbo pole
- large dynamite or bomb
- skull and crossbones flag
- Hawaiian lei
- saw for Cutthroat Clegg
- string of signal flags
- Swaggersword's pirate hat
- business card for Wally & Pratt
- large pair of knickers
- bunch of keys
- wheelbarrow
- hilt of a broken sword
- medallions x2
- shilling coin

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Music 1: Overture**PROLOGUE**

As the House Lights dim, the music begins and eventually swells as the curtain rises. An abstract scene with the mysterious figure of Stanley Periwinkle dressed as the infamous pirate, Captain Swaggersword, frozen centre stage. Deadeye Dinghy, our one-eyed pirate narrator, is stood to one side as he begins to tell the audience his tale, acted out as a simple mime by Stanley.

DEADEYE: I'll tell you all a story
It's true, I guarantee!
About a fearless pirate,
Who sailed the seven seas!

His name was Captain Swaggersword,
The bravest buccaneer,
Who raided other pirates
And made them quake with fear!

He buried all his booty
In a far and distant land,
Locked safely in a treasure chest
Beneath the silky sand!

Stanley exits.

But then the Captain vanished -
I don't know where or when.
His treasure lost forever
And never seen again!
Well, that is, until now...

SCENE 1**Music 2: Pot Of Gold**

As the music changes, the lights brighten and many characters enter excitedly. The scene changes to become the docks of Old London Town. We see the sign for Squirry Squid Tavern. Street sellers enter and call out their fishy wares.

SELLER 1: Fresh fish! Come and get your fresh fish!

SELLER 2: Cockles and Muscles! Alive, alive-o!

SELLER 3: Jellied eels! Slimy and delicious!

ALL: TRAVEL WITH US ON A NEW ADVENTURE
OVER THE OCEAN BLUE
FOLLOW YOUR HEART AND YOUR DREAMS WILL ALL COME TRUE
WAITING AT THE RAINBOW'S END
ARE TREASURES ALL UNTOLD
SO CHASE THAT RAINBOW, FIND YOUR POT OF GOLD!

SAILING AWAY WHERE THE WIND MAY TAKE US
NEVER KNOW WHAT YOU'LL FIND
LEAVE ALL YOUR CARES AND YOUR WORRIES FAR BEHIND
MAGIC HAPPENS EVERY DAY

BELIEVE WHAT YOU'VE BEEN TOLD
SO CHASE THAT RAINBOW, FIND YOUR POT OF GOLD!

(The company dance during a short instrumental section)

MAGIC HAPPENS EVERY DAY
BELIEVE WHAT YOU'VE BEEN TOLD
SO CHASE THAT RAINBOW, FIND YOUR POT OF GOLD!
(SO CHASE THAT RAINBOW, FIND YOUR POT OF GOLD!)
SO CHASE THAT RAINBOW, FIND YOUR POT OF GOLD!
(shouted) OF GOLD!

Music 3: Pot Of Gold Play Off

At the end of the song, the characters exit, chatting and laughing. Jack and Liza Periwinkle are playing a game of pirates with their cat Fiddlesticks. Deadeye addresses the audience once more.

DEADEYE: Welcome to the docks of Old London Town, and to the Squirty Squid - my favourite dockside tavern! Home to young Jack & Liza Periwinkle, a right pair of rascals...

JACK: Hand over the treasure, you mangy dog!

LIZA: You'll never get your hands on me booty, ye squid sucking buccaneer! *(to the cat)*
Hoist the main sail, Captain Fiddlesticks!

Fiddlesticks stands to attention and salutes, then takes the tablecloth off the table and holds it in the air, swaying from side to side as if at sea.

JACK: Think you can escape from me, Fearless Jack? Take that! And that!

The children begin to fight with broom sticks. Fiddlesticks becomes tangled up inside the tablecloth then Pearl enters with her arms full of stock for the tavern.

DEADEYE: Ah, and here's their dear devoted mother, Pearl. What a landlady - soft, kind and gentle!

PEARL: *(Shouting angrily)* Cut it out, you idle urchins, before I shiver both your timbers!

LIZA: Who's trying to board me pirate ship?

JACK: Look - it's a lily-livered land lubber!

PEARL: Don't be cheeky Jack. What have I told you two about playing pirates? I'm not having it! I work my fingers to the bone in this tavern and what do I get for it?

LIZA: Bony fingers?

PEARL: Don't be silly, Liza. And as for you, Fiddlesticks, there's a rat in me kitchen, so what are you going to do? *(Fiddlesticks shrugs)* Well, go on—scat, cat, and catch that rat!

Pearl points offstage severely and Fiddlesticks exits sadly.

JACK: We were only playing, mum. It's fun being pirates, and sea adventures are so exciting!

PEARL: The sea? Exciting? It's dark, deadly and dangerous, that's what it is! Have you

forgotten what happened to your dear, dear father? (*getting upset*) My poor Stanley, lost at sea all those years ago, never to return. Leaving me to look after you two ... all alone. (*she blows her nose on the tablecloth and we hear a fog horn*)

Music 4: SFX Nose Blow

(*recovering slightly and becoming cross*) And as for pirates, well - they're nothing but dirty rotten scoundrels!

Deadeye walks up to Pearl and enters the drama.

DEADEYE: I hope you're not talking about me, Pearly?

JACK & LIZA: Uncle Deadeye! (*they both run to hug Deadeye*)

PEARL: That's enough, you two. Round the back, now - off you go.

LIZA: But mum...

PEARL: Now, I say!

Jack and Liza straighten up the table cloth and chairs and exit.

DEADEYE: It's not their fault, Pearl. The sea's in their blood, you know.

PEARL: It was the sea that took their father away, Deadeye, remember? Those medallions round their necks are all he left them to remember him by. And I don't want you coming in here filling their heads with any more tales about pirate ships and treasure.

DEADEYE: But Pearl, isn't it time they knew the truth about their father?

PEARL: Don't start that again, Deadeye. We've got enough to worry about, without you stirring things up. Now if you've quite finished, then hop it - I'm closing early!

Pearl points to the door and freezes. Deadeye steps out of the drama and addresses the audience again

DEADEYE: She's right of course. Stirring things up is what I do best! (*He gets the treasure map out of his pocket and holds it up*) You know, I've been holding on to this little piece of paper for far too long. Time it found its way back to its rightful owners! (*He places it on a table top*) Stirring things up? Why, I've only just started!

Deadeye exits. Pearl unfreezes and Jack, Liza and Fiddlesticks enter. Fiddlesticks finds the map and looks at it in his paws.

JACK: Where's Uncle Deadeye?

PEARL: Gone. And good riddance, the trouble maker.

FIDDLESTICKS: Meow!

LIZA: Hey, what have you got there, Fiddlesticks?

JACK: (*taking it from the cat's paws*) Looks like a piece of paper. (*he opens it*) It's a map! A map of an island!

LIZA: And look, there's an X right in the middle!

BOTH: It's a treasure map!

PEARL: A what? Don't be ridiculous, give it here! *(she looks at it and gasps)* Well, as I live and breathe! It really is a treasure map! But where on earth did it come from?

There are three loud knocks at the tavern door.

PEARL: We're closed!

Captain Redbeard enters.

REDBEARD: Nobody closes the door on Redbeard the pirate, do they lads?

Music 5: Pirate Play On

Redbeard moves to centre stage, quickly followed by his pirate crew. Squawk the parrot is a puppet on Redbeard's shoulder, operated by a pirate next to him. The pirates shout out as they enter.

PIRATES: Ah-har!

PEARL: We don't serve your sort here. Haven't you read the sign? No pirates!

REDBEARD: Now, that's not very friendly, is it?

JACK: Who are you?

LOUIE: May I present Captain Redbeard, most fierce pirate of the seven seas.

JACK: Redbeard? But his beard is bright pink!

REDBEARD: *(angrily suspicious)* What did he say, Louie?

LOUIE: He said he feared he might sink! *(quietly to Jack)* Never say the "P" word in front of the Captain, laddy. Tends to make him mighty mad.

REDBEARD: Sink? Never! Why, we're the fiercest, scariest...

SQUAWK: ...stinkiest!

REDBEARD: ... pirates in the land!

BAGGYWRINKLE: We've come for some grub and some grog.

BLUNDERBUS: Curry and beans for everyone!

JACK: Curry and beans?

BARNACLES: That's right, lad! For everyone!

BULLYRAG: Curry and beans is all we eat! It's our favourite meal!

BROADSIDE: We even named our ship after it!

BUNGHOLE: That's right - we're the pirates of the Curry Bean!

PIRATES: Ahrrr!

LIZA: Doesn't that make you a bit, well, smelly?

BILBOE: Too right, missy! We can knock out our enemies with a single breath!

Bilboe breathes on Liza, who steps back pulling a repulsed face.

BILGE: And wherever we sail, we always have the wind behind us!

The pirates laugh.

PEARL: *(impatiently)* I don't care who you are, there's no curry and beans for you here!

The pirates mutter and grumble unhappily, apart from Redbeard who seems to like Pearl.

REDBEARD: What a lady! You remind me of me last ship!

PEARL: *(flattered)* Really? Was it elegant, streamlined and beautiful?

SQUAWK: No - she was fat old battleship that needed her bottom scraped!

PEARL: *(looking insulted and cross)* Well, you remind me of the sea!

REDBEARD: *(flattered)* You mean wild, romantic and restless?

PEARL: No - you're wet and you make me sick! *(the pirates all growl angrily)* There's no food. A tankard of ale is all you'll get here, so drink up and be off with you!

The pirates take a tankard of ale each and move over to the one side of the stage, gathering around Redbeard, whilst the family busy themselves on the opposite side of the stage.

LOUIE: Captain, isn't it time we set sail again? We've been docked here for too long. We haven't set sail for months!

SQUAWK: Long time, no sea!

BAGGYWRINKLE: That's right, Captain. We miss the smell of the sea.

BLUNDERBUS: The feel of wind in our hair!

BARNACLES: The feel of spray on our faces!

BULLYRAG: ...and crabs down our trousers!

BROADSIDE: It's time to burn ships, slice gizzards,

BUNGHOLE: ...steal treasure...

BILBOE: plunder and pillage!

BILGE: It's been so long, I've forgotten how to pillage!

SQUAWK: He's the pillage idiot!

REDBEARD: Aye, me hearties. I, too, miss the smell of treasure. But we've searched every island from here to Timbuktu! If only we had a treasure map!

The pirates all nod and look downhearted as the focus moves to the family on the other side of the stage.

JACK: *(waving the treasure map about)* But mum, what about the treasure map?

The pirates all turn immediately at overhearing the words "treasure map". They lean in with hands to their ears, comically eavesdropping. The family do not see this.

PEARL: Shush, Jack, not in front of those pirates. If they get so much as a whiff of treasure, they'll tear this place apart. We should get rid of it.

LIZA: You can't do that mum. Just think of it - a real treasure chest!

The family turn round to check the pirates aren't listening. The pirates immediately look away, checking nails, examining the ceiling, whistling quietly etc. The family turn back to continue and the pirates resume their eavesdropping.

LIZA: A real treasure chest full of gold and silver...

JACK: ...rubies and diamonds...

PEARL: ...sapphires and emeralds...

SQUAWK: ...pieces of eight!

The family turn again and the pirates quickly look away once more. Redbeard squeezes Squawk's beak.

JACK: What did that parrot say?

LOUIE: *(covering up for Squawk)* Oh, it's our new food order, laddy. Pizzas for eight!

PEARL: For the last time, there's no pizzas, no curry and no beans! Now hop it, you lot. We're closing early. I need my beauty sleep!

SQUAWK: You can say that again.

PEARL: I need my beauty sl... oh, shut your beak, you cheeky bird!

REDBEARD: Come on, lads, let's leave these good folk in peace. We shall return another time *(to the audience)* and sooner than you think! *(to Pearl)* Farewell, my little treasure! Ha, ha, ha, ha!

Music 6: Pirate Play Off

Redbeard exits, followed by his crew, all laughing.

LIZA: Did you hear what he called you? My little treasure! Do you think they heard?

PEARL: Well, just to be safe, I'll put it safely in the safe for safe keeping.

Pearl takes the map offstage and quickly returns as the children speak.

JACK: Do you think it's true? Do you think there really is far off island with treasure waiting to be discovered?

LIZA: An island where all your dreams can come true?

PEARL: Your father always said so.

Music 7: Lumbago Lullaby

The children and Fiddlesticks settle down to hear their mother's lullaby.

He used to dream about a distant land full of treasures and mystery. He called it Lumbago...

LUMBAGO, IN THE SEA OF SCIATICA
WHERE THE SKY IS SO BLUE
AND YOUR TROUBLES ARE FEW
AND YOU DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY!
LUMBAGO, IN THE SEA OF SCIATICA
SO JUST SIT AND RELAX
ON THE ISLAND OF DREAMS!

Over the end of the music, Pearl speaks to her children.

PEARL: Off to bed, you lot.

Jack, Liza and Fiddlesticks exit as Pearl settles down to sleep in her chair.

Blackout.

SCENE 2**Music 8: Midnight Raid**

Midnight at The Squirry Squid. The stage is dim and Pearl is asleep in a chair, snoring softly. The pirate crew enter at one side. Louie stays to the side holding a large bag. The other pirates, in twos, have a pairs of tights over their heads - one leg each, and are therefore stuck together. As the creepy music continues, they stumble around and become tangled together to the centre of the stage and then pull the tights off, realising it was a bad idea.

LOUIE: Come here, you blundering fools! And quiet, or you'll wake the landlady.

The pirates make a straight line across the stage in order, with Louie at one end, Bilge at the other.

Now, the Captain says the wench must have stashed the map in her safe. Where's the safe?

BAGGYWRINKLE: Where's the safe?

BLUNDERBUS: Where's the safe?

BARNACLES: Where's the safe?

BULLYRAG: Where's the safe?

BROADSIDE: Where's the safe?

BUNGHOLE: Where's the safe?

BILBOE: Where's the safe?

BILGE: *(pointing at the safe)* There's the safe!

BILBOE: *(pointing at the safe)* There's the safe!
BUNGHOLE: *(pointing at the safe)* There's the safe!
BROADSIDE: *(pointing at the safe)* There's the safe!
BULLYRAG: *(pointing at the safe)* There's the safe!
BARNACLES: *(pointing at the safe)* There's the safe!
BLUNDERBUS: *(pointing at the safe)* There's the safe!
BAGGYWRINKLE: *(pointing at the safe)* There's the safe!

Louie gets a large stick of dynamite out of the bag.

LOUIE: *(passing a large stick of dynamite)* Light the dynamite!
BAGGYWRINKLE: *(passing the dynamite)* Light the dynamite!
BLUNDERBUS: *(passing the dynamite)* Light the dynamite!
BARNACLES: *(passing the dynamite)* Light the dynamite!
BULLYRAG: *(passing the dynamite)* Light the dynamite!
BROADSIDE: *(passing the dynamite)* Light the dynamite!
BUNGHOLE: *(passing the dynamite)* Light the dynamite!
BILBOE: *(passing the dynamite)* Light the dynamite!
BILGE: *(passing the dynamite)* Light the dynamite!

Bilge takes the dynamite, lights it impressively, then passes it back to Bilboe.

BILGE: *(passing the lit dynamite)* There you go!
BILBOE: *(passing the lit dynamite)* There you go!
BUNGHOLE: *(passing the lit dynamite)* There you go!
BROADSIDE: *(passing the lit dynamite)* There you go!
BULLYRAG: *(passing the lit dynamite)* There you go!
BARNACLES: *(passing the lit dynamite)* There you go!
BLUNDERBUS: *(passing the lit dynamite)* There you go!
BAGGYWRINKLE: *(passing the lit dynamite)* There you go!
LOUIE: *(passing the lit dynamite back)* Aaghh, you fool!
BAGGYWRINKLE: *(passing the lit dynamite back)* Aaghh, you fool!
BLUNDERBUS: *(passing the lit dynamite back)* Aaghh, you fool!

BARNACLES: *(passing the lit dynamite back)* Aaghh, you fool!

BULLYRAG: *(passing the lit dynamite back)* Aaghh, you fool!

BROADSIDE: *(passing the lit dynamite back)* Aaghh, you fool!

BUNGHOLE: *(passing the lit dynamite back)* Aaghh, you fool!

BILBOE: *(passing the lit dynamite back)* Aaghh, you fool!

BILGE: *(turning as if to pass the lit dynamite on to someone else)* Aaghh, you fool!

Bilge realises there's no one there, then realises he is holding the lit dynamite. He takes it offstage and returns quickly as the pirates all crouch and put their fingers in their ears. We hear a crescendo of music and then a rather unusual and disappointing pop.

Music 9: SFX Explosion

Pearl wakes up with a start. The pirates get up.

PEARL: You lot! What are you doing, you ruffians!

LOUIE: *(leaving the bag on the floor)* Quick, grab the map!

Bilboe exits and returns quickly with the map. The pirates run off and exit. Louie re-enters straight away with Baggywrinkle and Blunderbuss and points at the bag on the floor.

LOUIE: The bag! The bag! Don't forget the bag! Get the bag, quick!

Louie pushes Baggywrinkle and Blunderbuss forwards and exits.

BAGGYWRINKLE: Get the bag!

BLUNDERBUSS: Get the bag!

Baggywrinkle and Blunderbuss to stand between the bag and Pearl, looking repeatedly in turn at them both, unsure which "bag" to get. They shrug, then go and grab Pearl by each arm and carry her off stage.

PEARL: Get off me, you brutes! Get off me, I say! Help!

Blackout.

SCENE 3

Music 10: Old London Docks

Old London Docks, the next morning. Deadeye enters carrying a crate, and stops to address the audience.

DEADEYE: It's a beautiful morning here at the Old London docks. There's a smell of the sea in the air. And something else I can't quite make out. Is it adventure ... or danger? But for Jack and Liza, the race is on to find a missing map and a missing mother!

Deadeye takes his crate and exits as Jack, Liza and Fiddlesticks enter.

JACK: Come on, Liza. We have to rescue mum from those pirates!

- LIZA:** But Jack, how do we know those pirates are behind all this?
- JACK:** Let's see. We discover a treasure map, then a band of dodgy pirates turn up. And this morning we wake up to find the safe blown up, the map gone—and mum, too!
- LIZA:** Yes, I suppose you're right. We've got to find that ship - it must be here at the docks somewhere. What did they call it?
- JACK:** The Curry Bean! Shouldn't be hard to sniff out! Come on, Fiddlesticks. Let's hunt pirates!

Music 11: Cod Play On

They exit as Captain Cod and Admiral Hornhonker enter from opposite sides and meet unexpectedly centre stage.

- HORNHONKER:** Ah, Captain Cod, I presume? I am Admiral Horatio Hornhonker. I believe you were expecting me?
- COD:** Indeed, Sir. I am to captain your first official voyage! And may I be the first to congratulate you on becoming an Admiral, Sir.
- HORNHONKER:** Oh, thank you - you are a sweetie! Well, it was mummy's idea, actually. She thought I should get a job, so I chose Naval Admiral. Sounds great fun, doesn't it, and I look so good in the uniform!
- COD:** You mean you've just joined the Navy and already you're an Admiral? It must be because you're an outstanding sailor, Sir. An extraordinary leader of men, an inspiration to all who serve under you.
- HORNHONKER:** No, I think it's because daddy is the Commander in Chief! Well, let's not hang about here. Where's my thingy?
- COD:** Your what?
- HORNHONKER:** My thingy - you know - the whatsit. The big thing made out of wood, goes up and down a lot.
- COD:** You mean your ship?
- HORNHONKER:** Ship! Yes, that's it! Gosh, I'm going to have to get used to all these new technical terms!
- COD:** Your ship is The Crunchy Frog, sir, and we set sail within the hour. Perhaps you would like to inspect your crew?
- HORNHONKER:** Oh yes. After all, we're all together out there on the open... the open
- COD:** Sea?
- HORNHONKER:** Sea! That's it! I really must make a note of that!
- COD:** Right, crew, fall in!

Music 12: Crew Play On #1

The sailors of the Crunchy Frog enter and line up. Lookout Lofty, obviously short sighted with a pair of thick glasses, is facing backwards. Cutthroat Clegg is at the end of the line holding a saw.

COD: Crew of the Crunchy Frog! Attention! Introduce yourselves to the admiral!

Each sailor salutes as they shout out their names.

FATHOM: Fathom!

FENDER: Fender!

FLUKE: Fluke!

GOOSENECK: Gooseneck!

GIBBET: Gibbet!

GROG: Grog!

LOFTY: Lofty!

CUTTHROAT: Clegg!

HONHONKER: *(inspecting the sailors)* What a fine bunch of sailors, Captain Cod. *(seeing the back of Lofty's head)* but I think this one needs a shave - he's got hair all over his face!

COD: That's the back of his head, sir. Lofty, turn around. You're facing the wrong way.

LOFTY: *(turning and looking in the wrong direction again)* Oh, I'm sorry sir. I didn't see you there!

COD: Over here, you fool!

LOFTY: *(Turning to Cod and squinting)* Ah, yes, sorry about that, sir. *(getting up close to squint at Hornhonker)* And how lovely to meet your wife! How do you do, madam.

Lofty kisses Hornhonker's hand, who pulls it away in horror.

HONHONKER: No, no! I'm the Admiral! What's your name, sailor?

LOFTY: Lofty, sir.

HORNHONKER: And what do you do?

LOFTY: I'm the ship's lookout.

HORNHONKER: Excellent. *(moving along)* And who are you?

CUTTHROAT: Cutthroat Clegg. I'm the ship's barber, sir.

HORNHONKER: Cutthroat the barber—not a name that inspires trust, is it?

CUTTHROAT: I'm also the ship's surgeon, sir.

HORNHONKER: Oh, do you have medical training?

CUTTHROAT: No, *(holding up a large saw)* but I've got a saw!

LOFTY: Cutthroat Clegg is the best ship's surgeon you'll ever find, sir.

CUTTHROAT: That's right! Sore finger, aching ear, gammy leg. I can get rid of all those.

HORNHONKER: You can cure all those?

CUTTHROAT: No, I just cut 'em off!

HORNHONKER: Yes, well let's hope I don't get a headache! *(turning to Cod)* Captain Cod, I see I'm in safe hands.

LOFTY: Talking of hands, I'm afraid we're two short, sir.

HORNHONKER: Oh dear, is there a height limit for sailing?

LOFTY: No, I mean we haven't got enough hands.

HORNHONKER: I've always managed with two.

COD: No, we need two more members of the crew. Never mind, sir, you just go aboard ship. The crew will show you where we are docked.

HORNHONKER: I think I can find the way to my own ship, Captain! *(pointing off the wrong way)* This way, chaps! *(He strides off and exits, whilst the others just stare at him. We hear a loud splash offstage and Cod and the crew react)*

Music 13: SFX Splash

COD: *(Despairingly)* Go and fish him out, lads.

SAILORS: Aye, aye, captain!

Music 14: Crew Play Off

The sailors all exit following Admiral Hornhonker, apart from Lofty who marches in the opposite direction. Captain Cod grabs him by the shoulders and points him back in the right direction whilst he is still marching, and he exits. Wally and Pratt the health and safety officers enter, dressed smartly in suits and ties, and approach Captain Cod.

WALLY: Excuse me, Captain, we'd like a word with Admiral Hornhonker.

COD: *(Looking off at where Hornhonker has fallen)* I'm afraid he's right in the middle of something at the moment.

PRATT: Busy, is he?

COD: *(Looking off again)* Up to his neck in it, actually! Can I help, gentlemen?

PRATT: Arthur Wally and Albert Pratt, health and safety officers.

WALLY: Here's our card. *(pointing at his name on the card)* I'm A Wally.

PRATT: *(pointing at his name on the card)* And I'm A Pratt!

COD: I'm sure you are. Look, I'm in a hurry - The Crunchy Frog sails on the midday tide!

WALLY: Oh, no it doesn't!

PRATT: Not without a certified certificate of certain ship shape sea safe insurance!

COD: A what?

PRATT: A certified certificate of certain ship shape sea safe insurance!

COD: That's easy for you to say! Anyway, I've already got insurance - I'm with the Admiral!

WALLY: That's not good enough, is it Mr. Pratt?

PRATT: Certainly not, Mr. Wally. No ship leaves these docks without a full health and safety check.

COD: Oh, very well. Come along, then. This way to the Crunchy Frog.

Cod leads Wally and Pratt off and they exit.

Music 15: Scuttle & Slack Play On

Scuttle and Slack enter as cockle and muscle salesmen. Scuttle is carrying Slack in a wheelbarrow full of shellfish.

SCUTTLE: *(shouting out his wares)* Cockles and muscles!

SLACK: Hawaii Five-O!

SCUTTLE: *(shouting out his wares)* Cockles and muscles!

SLACK: Hawaii Five-O!

SCUTTLE: Slack, it's not "Hawaii Five-O". It's "Alive, alive-o". That's how Molly Malone used to sell them, and she's the expert.

SLACK: Not any more, Scuttle. That Molly Malone wasn't best pleased when we pinched her barrow, was she?

SCUTTLE: You can say that again. She had a face like a tortured trout, didn't she!

SLACK: And it's a good job Molly's brother Lever didn't catch us.

SCUTTLE: Molly Malone hasn't got a brother called Lever.

SLACK: She has - she was calling him when we pinched her cockles. She kept shouting "Lever Malone, Lever Malone!"

SCUTTLE: Well, we got away with it. No thanks to you, just sat there in the barrow. My arms are nearly dropping off.

SLACK: You know your problem? You're all cockle and no muscle!

SCUTTLE: You can talk, you bone idle jellyfish!

SLACK: What do you mean? I spent hours scraping these cockles of that boat's bottom!

SCUTTLE: Yes, and now we've got to spend hours scraping them off your bottom! Get up out of there! *(he lifts Slack out of the barrow)* And look at those muscles - we'll never sell them. They're tiny!

SLACK: That's easily sorted. *(He lifts the barrow up and down as if doing exercises)* Hup, two, three, four! Hup, two, three, four!

SCUTTLE: What are you doing that for?

SLACK: Exercise makes your muscles grow!

SCUTTLE: That's it. I've had it with the shellfish business. We need to find work.

SLACK: But I hate work! I hate it! I hate it! I hate it! And you know what three hates are?

SCUTTLE: No?

SLACK: Three hates are twenty four!

Cod enters, listening to Scuttle & Slack.

SCUTTLE: Whether you hate it or not, you have to work to get ahead.

SLACK: But I've already got a head!

COD: Did I hear that you two are looking for work?

SLACK: *(pointing at Scuttle)* He is.

SCUTTLE: Shut it, Slack. Yes, we certainly are.

COD: Then this is your lucky day! How would you two like to go to sea?

SLACK: Go to see what?

COD: No, go to sea! I can offer you both a job in the King's navy.

SLACK: No thanks. I get seasick just watching goldfish.

COD: Haven't you ever wanted to get to the high seas?

SCUTTLE: I once reached the high seas when I was a young lad.

SLACK: But then his voice broke! *(they both laugh)*

SCUTTLE: Sorry, Captain, but it just sounds too risky.

COD: That's a shame, lads. Never mind, why don't you have a drink on me!

Cod hands a tankard each to Scuttle and Slack.

SCUTTLE: That's very kind of you

SLACK: Bottoms up!

They both drink to the bottom of the tankard, then let out a simultaneous "ahhh".