## The Town Of Ballybay

Tommy Makem 1977

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### INTRO: / 1 2 / 1 2 / [Dm][C] / [Bb][C]

With me [F] ring-a-ding-a-[Dm]dong, a-[F]ring-a-ding-a-[C7]daddy-o Me-[F]ring-a-ding-a-[Dm]dong [C] whack fol the [F] daddy

In the **[F]** town of Bally-**[Dm]**bay, there **[F]** was a lassie **[C]** dwellin' I **[F]** knew her very **[Dm]** well, and her **[C7]** story's worth a-**[F]**tellin' Her **[Dm]** father kept a **[C]** still, and he **[Dm]** was a good dis-**[C]**tiller But when **[Dm]** she took to the **[Bb]** drink, well the **[C]** devil wouldn't **[F]** fill her

With me [F] ring-a-ding-a-[Dm]dong, a-[F]ring-a-ding-a-[C7]daddy-o [F] Ring-a-ding-a-[Dm]dong [C] whack fol the [F] daddy-o

## / [Dm][C] / [Bb][C]

And she **[F]** had the wooden **[Dm]** leg that was **[F]** hollow down the **[C]** middle She **[F]** used to tie a **[Dm]** string on it and **[C7]** play it like a **[F]** fiddle She **[Dm]** fiddled in the **[C]** hall, she **[Dm]** fiddled in the **[C]** alleyway She **[Dm]** didn't give a **[Bb]** damn, for she **[C]** had the fiddle **[F]** anyway

A-[F]ring-a-ding-a-[Dm]dong, a-[F]ring-a-ding-a-[C7]daddy-o [F] Ring-a-ding-a-[Dm]dong [C] whack fol the [F] daddy-o

## / [Dm][C] / [Bb][C]

And she **[F]** said she wouldn't **[Dm]** dance, un-**[F]**less she had her **[C]** welly on But **[F]** when she had it **[Dm]** on, she could **[C7]** dance as well as **[F]** anyone She **[Dm]** wouldn't go to **[C]** bed, un-**[Dm]**less she had her **[C]** shimmy on But **[Dm]** when she had it **[Bb]** on, she would **[C]** go as quick as **[F]** anyone

A-[F]ring-a-ding-a-[Dm]dong, a-[F]ring-a-ding-a-[C7]daddy-o [F] Ring-a-ding-a-[Dm]dong [C] whack fol the [F] daddy-o

### / [Dm][C] / [Bb][C]

She had **[F]** lovers by the **[Dm]** score, every **[F]** Tom and Dick and **[C]** Harry She was **[F]** courted night and **[Dm]** day, but **[C7]** still she wouldn't **[F]** marry And **[Dm]** then she fell in **[C]** love with the **[Dm]** fellow with the **[C]** stammer When he **[Dm]** tried to run a-**[Bb]**way, she **[C]** hit him with the **[F]** hammer

With me [F] ring-a-ding-a-[Dm]dong, a-[F]ring-a-ding-a-[C7]daddy-o [F] Ring-a-ding-a-[Dm]dong [C] whack fol the [F] daddy-o

# / [Dm][C] / [Bb][C]

She had **[F]** children up the **[Dm]** stairs, she had **[F]** children in the **[C]** byre And a-**[F]**nother ten or **[Dm]** twelve, sittin' **[C7]** rottin' by the **[F]** fire She **[Dm]** fed them on **[C]** potatoes and on **[Dm]** soup she made with **[C]** nettles And on **[Dm]** rumps of hairy **[Bb]** bacon that she **[C]** boiled up in the **[F]** kettle

With me [F] ring-a-ding-a-[Dm]dong, a-[F]ring-a-ding-a-[C7]daddy-o [F] Ring-a-ding-a-[Dm]dong [C] whack fol the [F] daddy-o

### / [Dm][C] / [Bb][C]

So she **[F]** led a sheltered **[Dm]** life, eatin' **[F]** porridge and black **[C]** puddin' And she **[F]** terrorized her **[Dm]** man, un-**[C7]**til he died right **[F]** sudden And **[Dm]** when the husband **[C]** died, she was **[Dm]** feelin' very **[C]** sorry She **[Dm]** rolled him in the **[Bb]** bag and she **[C]** threw him in the **[F]** quarry

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A-[F]ring-a-ding-a-[Dm]dong, a-[F]ring-a-ding-a-[C7]daddy-o [F] Ring-a-ding-a-[Dm]dong [C] whack fol the  $[F]\downarrow$  daddy-o

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