

Old and Not So Old Bush Songs

The Shearer's Jamboree

Words and music by Eric Tutin 1946. Recorded by Tutin and Joan Martin.

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in treble clef, 2/4 time, with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The melody consists of 16 measures. Above the staff, the following chords are indicated: A (measures 1-2), D (measures 3-4), A (measures 5-6), E7 (measures 7-8), A (measures 9-10), D (measures 11-12), A (measures 13-14), E7 (measures 15-16), and A (measures 17-18). The melody features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some measures containing beamed eighth notes and others with quarter notes.

We were shearing down at Mungandi, the going had been tough,
We reckoned when we'd finished work that we had worked enough.
The chinaman jumped in the creek, the cook went on a spree,
We rounded up the country-side and held a jamboree.

There was music down in the hollow,
There was singing and dancing and beer
All the fellas on the station held a monstrous celebration
When the shearing was done for the year.

There were seven concertinas and a gadget made of wood
A fella with a trombone got a note in where he could,
A fiddle and a cornet and a bloke who played a leaf
He knew the Swanee River so they voted him the chief.

There was music down in the hollow,
There was singing and dancing and beer
There was never such a shindig from Sheas to Goondiwindi
When the shearing was done for the year.

It was nearly ten o'clock next day before we found the cook
The whisky he'd been drinking must havemade him awful crook
He was sleeping in the pig-sty with his head upon a sow
And when they both woke up and went you should have heard the row.

There was music down in the hollow,
There was singing and dancing and beer
There was never such a shindig from Sheas to Goondiwindi
When the shearing was done for the year.