

Frank Gardiner

Collected by Nancy Keesing and John Meredith from Ina Popplewell who provided both words and melody.

Oh, Frank Gard - iner he is caught at last, and lies in Syd - ney gaol,
For wound - ing Ser - geant Mid - dle - ton and for rob - bing the Mud - gee Mail,
For plund - ering of the Gold Es - cort, the Car - coar Mail al - so,
And it was for gold he made so bold, and not so long a - go.

His daring deeds surprised them all throughout the Sydney land,
And on his friends he gave a call and quickly raised a band,
And fortune always favoured him until the time of late,
Until Ben Hall and Gilbert met with their dreadful fate.

Farewell adieu to outlawed Frank, he was the poor man's friend,
The Government has secured him, the laws he did offend.
He boldly stood his trial and answered in a breath:
'And do what you will, you can but kill. I have no fear of death.'

Day after day they remanded him, escorted from the bar,
Fresh charges brought against him from neighbours near and far,
And now it is all over, the sentence they have passed,
All sought to find a verdict and 'Guilty' 'twas at last.

O'Meally has surrendered, Ben Hall's got his death wound,
And as for Johnnie Gilbert, near Binalong was found,
Alone he was and lost his horse, three troopers came in sight,
And they fought the three most manfully, got slaughtered in the fight.

When lives you take, a warning, boys, a woman never trust,
She will turn round, I will be bound, Queen's evidence the first,
He's doing two and thirty years, he's doomed to serve the crown,
And well may he say, he cursed the day he met with Mrs Brown.

Frank Gardiner he is caught at last, and lies in Sydney gaol,
For wounding Sergeant Middleton and robbing the Mudgee Mail,
For plundering of the Gold Escort, the Carcoar Mail also,
And it was for gold he made so bold, and not so long ago.