

Jindabyne

A lament on the flooding of Old Jindabyne for the Snowy Mountains Hydro-Electric Scheme. It is one of a series of songs composed by Ulick O'Boyle about the project and the men who built it. Further songs available from songsofthesnowy.com.au.

It's time to say fare - well to Jin - da - byne

It's been my home these fif - ty years of time.

Now the moun-tains in their win-ter snow and the Snow-y Riv-er down be-low

Will whis - per in fare - well to Jin - da - byne

And now fare - well old home of mine

They're going to flood the val-ley and the town of Jin - da - byne.

When I was young my father said to me
"Upon this spot I'm going to plant a tree
Tall and strong and made of pine to mark the land that I've made mine
And you'll make yours, my boy, in time to be"
But now farewell old tree of mine
They're going to flood the valley and the town of Jindabyne.

I guess that it don't hurt to have my say
For the young they'll laugh and say I've had my day
And they'll dam the waters from those hills even if an old man feels
There's things around the good lord meant to stay.
Like Jindabyne, old home of mine
They're going to flood the valley and the town of Jindabyne.

When Jindabyne at last becomes a lake
My eyes will see the waves but my heart will take
A trip beneath the surface blue down the years of memory true
And this perhaps will ease my yearning ache
For Jindabyne, a dream of mine,
When they flood the valley and the town of Jindabyne.