

## On The Track

Original words Jim Grahame (Jim Gordon), a life-long friend of Henry Lawson. The tune was written by musical duo Tony & Helen Romeo, both long term members of the Bush Music Club and performers with Southern Cross Bush Band.



**D Bm G A G A A**  
I've lived for days on a pint of flour and I've buck-led my belt up tight

**D Bm G A G A D**  
I've a bluch-er boot on my left side foot, and a but-ton up boot on my right

**G Em D A G D A**  
It's fif-teen weeks since I lost my job and a month till the first sheds start

**D Bm G A G A D**  
The days are hot and the stag-es long and the tuck-er would break your heart

**Chorus D G A D**  
I've blown me cheque and tast-ed dust, and smoked the last of my tea

**G D Bm A D**  
And it's lit-tle I'd care if it were to-day, the end of the road for me.

It's fifteen weeks since I earned a pound, and it's twelve since the last was spent  
 On a bit of a spree at a township pub with a quid or two that I lent  
 A hot wind blows from the dry north-west, there's a rim of gum on my lips  
 And my shoulders ache where the swag-straps drag, and my trousers sag on my hips

I drop my swag in a beefwood shade, I have plenty of time to rest  
 Till the birds wing off to the nearest pool, when I'll follow their thirsty quest;  
 Mirages mock as I sit and brood, or I battle it out with fate  
 Yes, I talk to myself at a time like this for the want of a better mate

I think awhile of these city men who reckon they're on the land,  
 As they preen themselves in a week-end camp or sport on the ocean sand.  
 They write the stuff that I read today and they boast of the race and flags;  
 But they'd change their tune if they changed their lot with a man that carries a swag!