

Poor Ned Kelly

Written by Canadian/Australian hill billy singer Smilin' Billy Blinkhorn c 1939. Blinkhorn (1914–77) sang cowboy songs from an early age and made a career in associating this with advertising. He moved to Sydney in 1938 performing in vaudeville theaters and recording for Regal Zonophone Records.

Verse

When he was a lad a - bout six - teen years old
 He re - ceived a horse that his best mate stole
 And the judge just to give him time to think
 Gave him three years hard lab - our in the loc - - al clink.

Chorus

It was poor Ned Kell - y, it's eas - i - er to do to - day!
 Poor Ned Kell - y! You don't ev - en have to run a - - way.

Now when he got out he went straight for a while
 And he worked very hard but he couldn't make a pile,
 And the coppers used to bully his poor old mum,
 So he stole their horses just for fun.

Now Ned and his mates they ran fast and free
 They held up the town of Jerilderie.
 They took the local coppers and they locked them away
 And they entertained the people for the rest of the day.

Now at Glenrowan they took old Ned
 But he wore a suit of armour so they couldn't shoot him dead.
 They took him down to Melbourne and they wouldn't go him bail
 Then they hanged him from the rafters of the Russell St Gaol.

(Spoken)

But what with income tax and sales tax and GST,
 the price of food and beer and the way they charge these days
 for a cup of tea and a meat pie, I say to meself
 "Old Ned and his mates, they weren't such bad blokes".