

Thirty-Eight-O-One

Written by Ray King and Ron Russell in 1987 in a rock band style. Tune and chorus adapted Dave Johnson 2019.

A 4/4 rock ballad in A major. The first verse consists of four lines of music. The lyrics are: "In the gold-en age of steam, there lived a beaut-y queen, Roam-ing round the coun-try - side, she was a driv - er's dream. Work -ing days and work -ing nights, up be-fore the sun They all tried hard to get a - board, Thir -ty -Eight -O - One." The chords are: A, D, A, A, B7, E7, A, D, A, D, A, E7, A.

Chorus

The chorus consists of four lines of music. The lyrics are: "Thir - ty -Eight O - - One, Thir - ty -Eight O - - One, From north to south and east to west you just keep roll - in' on. Thir - ty -Eight O - - One, Thir - ty -Eight O - - One, You stood the test, you're still the best Thir -ty -Eight -O - One." The chords are: A, D, A, A, D, A, B7, E7, A, D, A, D, A, E7, A.

The queen of all the fleet, the railway's pride and joy,
To ride upon the footplate, was the dream of every boy.
As she went roaring by, on another express run
Everyone would turn their heads for, Thirty-Eight-O-One.

Bound from Sydney town, the black smoke rolling higher,
Across the Hawkesbury river, to Newcastle on the Flier.
Over the Great Divide, on the Central Western run,
On the Southern Line, right on time, went, Thirty-Eight-O-One.

But your greatest feat, was steaming across the nation,
All the crowds would gather round, at every country station.
On the standard gauge, westward to the sun,
Across to Perth and back again went, Thirty-Eight-O-One.

The days of steam have been and gone, but some remember well
That big green flash as she went by, had such a tale to tell.
And now she's back upon the tracks, she just keeps rolling on,
She beat the rest she's still the best, Thirty-Eight-O-One.