

# FLASH JACK FROM GUNDAGAI

traditional

from Banjo Patterson's "Old Bush Songs" 1905

The musical notation consists of three staves of music in a treble clef, key of D major (one sharp), and 6/8 time signature. The first staff has chords D, A, and D above it. The second staff starts at measure 6 and has chords Bm, G, A, D, Bm, and G above it. The third staff starts at measure 12 and has chords D, A, and D above it.

Verse 1: I've shore at Burrabogie, and I've shore at Toganmain,  
I've shore at big Willandra and out on the Coleraine,  
But before the shearin' was over I've longed to get back again  
Shearin' for old Tom Patterson, on the One Tree Plain.

Chorus: All among the wool, boys, all among the wool  
Keep your wide blades full, boys, keep your wide blades full  
I can do a respectable tally myself whenever I like to try,  
But they know me round the back blocks as Flash Jack from Gundagai.

Verse 2: I've shore at big Willandra and I've shore at Tilberoo,  
And once I drew my blades, my boys, upon the famed Barcoo,  
At Cowan Downs and Trida, as far as Moulamein,  
But I always was glad to get back again to the One Tree Plain.

Verse 3: I've pinked 'em with the Wolseleys and I've rushed with B-bows, too,  
And shaved 'em in the grease, my boys, with the grass seed showing through.  
But I never slummed my pen, my lads, whate'er it might contain,  
While shearin' for old Tom Patterson, on the One Tree Plain.

Verse 4: I've been whalin' up the Lachlan, and I've dossed on Cooper's Creek,  
And once I rung Cudjinging shed, and blued it in a week.  
But when Gabriel blows his trumpet, lads, I'll catch the morning train,  
And I'll push for old Tom Patterson's, on the One Tree Plain.

*pinked 'em* - refers to shearing the sheep so close to the skin that the pink colour shows through  
*Wolseleys* - shearing machine

*B-Bows* - hand shears

*whaling* - fishing ( a slight exaggeration!)

*rung* - the ringer is the fastest shearer in the shed