The Bundanoon Report 2015

I don't know where to start You've often heard it said You'd better have a go now You'll be a long time dead

Let's have a look at Friday With the Fancy and the flare The music, the excitement I wished You could be there

Then Saturday, the workshops Keen dancers took the floor The jigs, the reels, the polkas The dancers begged for more

Sunday; after church of course We danced the Highland fling Waltzes of the years gone by You felt like you're the King

Sunday, when I hit the sack My mind went wondering back "Was that a triple minor? Or a long way set of three? Or a double duple minor With a major chord of C?"

The Monday morning workshops To clear the head of pain Don taught some flowery waltzes With music for the same

The day had nearly ended Dave Johnson took the floor We'd better make some history Before we close the door

The stayers, worn and weary Still steaming with delight "On the cue", said David The picture quite polite

Please come and join us next time I'll close now with this quote We welcome you; the stranger, "The stranger"; please take note. SINGABOUT
AUGUST 2015

OLD AND NEW



Rick Hull has taken his hand to the manufacture of musical instruments. This is his first accordion, a real work of art! Photo: Sandra Nixon

Mike Waters

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One of the Has-Beens

I'm one of the has beens a shearer I mean
I once was a ringer and I used to shear clean
I could make the wool roll off like the soil from the plough
But you may not believe me for I cant do it now

Chorus

I'm as awkward as a new chum and I'm used to the frown That the boss often shows me saying keep them blades down

I've shore with Pat Hogan, Bill Bright and Jack Gunn Tommy Leighton Charlie Fergus and the great roaring Dunn They brought from the Lachlan the best they could find But not one among them could leave me behind

It's no use complaining I'll never say die Though the days of fast shearing for me have gone by I'll take the world easy shear slowly and clean And I merely have told you just what I have been

Notes

Printed in Stewart and Keesing Old Bush Songs with the note: "From Mrs G.L.Ginns, of Merrylands, NSW". (Written by Robert Stewart) From the singing of A.L.Lloyd, who writes on the notes for Across the Western Plains that he heard it in Cowra, NSW when he was working there in the 1920's. Tune 'Pretty Polly Perkins'

Published on folkstream: http://folkstream.com/069.html

This traditional song is parodied by Don Henderson in his book *A Quiet Century* as follows:

I'm one of the has-beens. A folk song I mean. In oral transmission I once was serene. Illiterate agrarians my worth would avow, but you may not believe me 'cause they don't do it now.

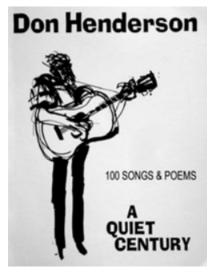
Chorus

I'm as awkward as a new one, much more cap and gown than a blithe air of arcadia; I've been written down.

Eluding the Banjo, Vance Palmer, Bert Lloyd, Jones, Durst and O'Connor I did likewise avoid. Manifold, Meredith, Tate, de Hugard, both Scotts, all found finding me was too hard.

One day while engrossed in making a whip, my current custodian let his version slip. Ron Edwards was on hand and wrote down all that, while feigning description of the sixteen strand plait.

Oh, it's no use complaining, I'll never say die, though the variant days for me have gone by. Now captured in MS, stave and magazine, I merely have told you just what I have been.



Book available from:

Don Henderson Project http://donhenderson.com.au/

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