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The Band Played Waltzing Matilda (2)

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When I was a young man I played the guitar And I lived the free life of the rover From Brisbane's green river To each dusty folk bar I waltzed my old Martin all over

But in each club I played in The people said, " Son We do like your singing But when I was done They would leap on the stage Saying now I'll sing you one" And this is the song that they sang me:

And the band played Waltzing Matilda And the audience forgot about me So amidst all the tears, flag waving and cheers I went to the loo for a pee.

How well I remember that terrible day How my blood boiled much hotter than water For up to that time I'd been well on me way To wooing the publican's daughter.

Johnny Turk he was there And he sang the song well I rained him with insults And truth is to tell I wished Eric Bogle Had gone straight to hell And never had come to Australia.

And the band played Waltzing Matilda It was such a well-loved refrain And when Johnny Turk was finished, the berk Went and sang it all over again.

So now every April I sits on me porch And I watch my past life go before me And I wish I had written that rambling song That brought Eric Bogle such glory The songs that I wrote I don't sing 'em no more They're tiring old songs From a tiring old bore And when young people ask What did he write them for I ask myself the same question.

And the band played Waltzing Matilda And the singers respond to the call As year after year all my hopes disappear That no one will sing it at all