

# Traditional & Folk Songs with lyrics & midi music

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### Black Velvet Band (New Zealand Version)

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It was the time for leaving.  
An emigrant I was bound  
To say farewell to my true love  
And dear old London town.

#### CHORUS:

Her eyes they shone like diamonds  
As I took hold of her hand.  
Her hair hung down to her shoulder  
Tied up with a black velvet band.

I knew not when I'd see her  
When I bade her adieu.  
For I was bound for New Zealand  
To see my contract through.

I'm saving every penny  
And silver to be found;  
I'll latch on to every sovereign  
That reaches Auckland town.

And when I'm rich and proper  
And own a store in town,  
I'll sail back home for my true love  
And then I'll settle down.

In most other countries, "The Black Velvet Band" is a transportation ballad. In New Zealand, however, which never experienced transportation, it was adapted to fit this gentler (if perhaps less exciting) lyric.

As recorded by Bruce Hall on "Song of a Young Country:  
New Zealand Folksongs."

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