

Silly Old Man

Trad (Australia, NSW, Sydney)

The image shows a musical score for the song 'Silly Old Man'. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The time signature is 6/8. The first system has 8 measures. The second system has 8 measures, starting with a repeat sign. The melody is written in the upper staff, and the accompaniment is in the lower staff. The melody features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, while the accompaniment consists of quarter and eighth notes.

Rhythm: Jig

Book: J Walsh, "Caledonian Country Dances, Being a collection of all the celebrated Scotch country dances now in vogue", London N.D.

Source: J Walsh (pub 1750)

The 'Convict Dance and Music Research Project' by Dr. Heather Blasdale-Clarke at QUT

Notes: The crew of the "HMS Bounty" are reported to have sung this as they threw Captain Bligh off his ship.

Tune transcribed & arranged by Roland Clarke, 2019