

## MOONDYNE JOE

Moondyne Joe, or more correctly Joseph Bolitho Johns (c. 1826-13 August 1900) was perhaps Western Australia's best known bushranger.

He is known to have been imprisoned at least 10 times in his life and is best remembered for the many times he escaped. His objections to authority were evident from the first time he was arraigned, when his attitude in an English court whilst up on charges of petty theft led to him being sentenced to 10 years penal servitude, whilst others on similar charges that day received sentences ranging from 3 weeks to 3 months.

Johns was eventually transported to Western Australia, where he managed to gain a conditional pardon. However, a series of petty crimes led to stints in gaol. Some of his escapes and subsequent recaptures are the stuff of legend, being audacious, inept, or both!

Moondyne Joe didn't rob banks or hold up mail coaches, but railed against the severe treatment of prisoners.

Fremantle Prison records state that on January 26 1900, in his 70s, he was found wandering the streets of South Perth, being of "unsound mind." He was ordered to go to the Mount Eliza Invalid Depot for medical attention. The irony is that he absconded three times...not realising that these same buildings were no longer places of detention. He is remembered as a lover of freedom who became a somewhat romantic figure in the public's eyes.

Words from Bryan Lynch's "The Ballad of Moondyne Joe",  
additional words by Mark Puddy  
Music by Mark Puddy

**♩=60 Freely**

**ff** **Rit.** **Molto Rit.** **A Tempo** **Rit.** **sub.p**

'Cause in he goes, and out he goes, and off a - gain he'll go; There's

**ff** **sub.p**

'Cause in he goes, and out he goes, and off a - gain he'll go; There's

**Molto Rit.** **♩=50**

3 not a gaol in "Dou - ble U A", can keep in Moon - dyne

not a gaol in "Dou - ble U A", can keep in Moon - dyne

not a gaol in "Dou - ble U A", can keep in Moon - dyne

not a gaol in "Dou - ble U A", can keep in Moon - dyne

5  $\text{♩} = 120$  *f* (small group - "chamber choir")

Joe. \_\_\_\_\_

Joe. \_\_\_\_\_

*f* (main choir) *mf* S div.

Joe dn der dn dn dn der Moon - dyne dn der dn dn

*f* der dee dn der dn *mf* der dee dn Moon - dyne der dee dn der dn

dn \_\_\_\_\_ der dn \_\_\_\_\_ der dn \_\_\_\_\_ der Moon - dyne Joe \_\_\_\_\_ der dn \_\_\_\_\_ der

8 *f* Unison S & A

(small group - "chamber choir") In the Dar - ling Ran - ges, ma-ny years a - go, there

*f* Unison T & B

In the Dar - ling Ran - ges, ma-ny years a - go, there

(main choir) S div. *mf* S div.

dn der Moon - dyne dn der dn dn dn der Moon - dyne

der dee dn Moon - dyne *mf* der dee dn der dn der dee dn Moon - dyne

dn \_\_\_\_\_ der der der der der der der dn \_\_\_\_\_ der dn \_\_\_\_\_ der dn \_\_\_\_\_ der Moon - dyne

11

lived a dar - ing out - law, by the name of "Moon - dyne Joe." He

lived a dar - ing out - law, by the name of "Moon - dyne Joe." He

dn der dn dn dn dn Joe,

der dee dn der dn der dee dn Joe,

Joe der dn der name of "Moon - dyne Joe", der der der der der

13

stole the squat - ters' hor - ses, and a sheep or two or three, he

stole the squat - ters' hor - ses, and a sheep or two or three, he

dn der dn dn dn dn der Moon - dyne

der dee dn der dn der dee dn Moon - dyne

dn der dn der dn der der Moon - dyne

15

Altos ↗

Basses ↗

loved to roam the count - ry - side, and swore he would be free; he

loved to roam the count - ry - side, and swore he would be free; he

Altos

der dee dn der dn der dee dn dn dn dn he

dn der dn der swore he would be free der dn he

17

Of be - - - ing

dreamt of be - - ing

dreamt of be - - ing

dreamt of be - - ing, be - ing

19

free, ah

oh ooh.

free, ah

oh ooh.

free be-ing free, he dreamt of be-ing free, be-ing free be-ing free, he

22

*f* S div.

The troo - pers said "We'll catch him, but we

dreamt of \_\_\_ be - ing free. The troo - pers said "We'll catch him, but we