

# Backblock Shearer

Australia, Vic, Swan Hill

Musical notation for the tune "Backblock Shearer". The notation is in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. It consists of two staves of music. The first staff has a treble clef and a 6/8 time signature. The melody is written on a single line. The second staff is identical to the first. Chord symbols G, D7, and G are placed above the first, third, and fifth measures of each staff respectively.

Book: Peter Ellis, "The Waltz, The Polka and All Kinds of Dance Music", p230, 2007

Source: collected from Morrie Gierisch, Swan Hill, Vic

Peter Ellis Collection, NLA

Notes: Morrie now plays this tune as a waltz as well as in 6-8 and often does it as an item switching from one time signature to the other. I think Morrie thinks the waltz is the Irish antecedant of Home Sweet Home, (which is isn't) but possibly got it from Alan Musgrove's CD where I think one of the Omeo performers sings it as a waltz. The tune is "Castle Gardens", from Ireland. The original is in 4-4, but Edgar Waters would say it's really originally come to Ireland from an English broadsheet. This whole blurb just summarises what the folk process is all about. Peter Ellis