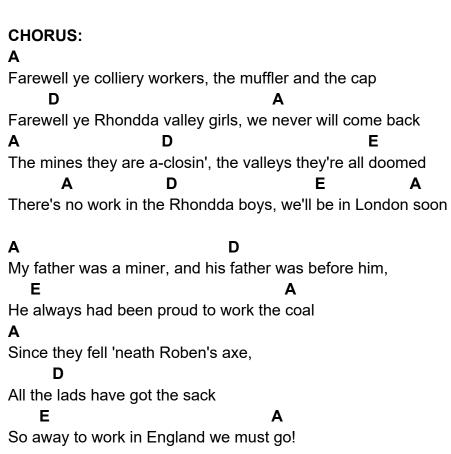
#### ALL THE LADS HAVE GOT THE SACK

The Rhondda Valley in South Wales has been synonymous with coal mining since the mid-nineteenth century, and the fortunes of the region and its people have always paralleled those of the coal industry. Pete Seeger's song "The Bells of Rhymney" based on the poem by Welsh poet Idris Davies mentions "the black bells of Rhondda" – black from the coal dust. This song was written by Frank Hennessey during a miners' strike. The reference to "Roben's axe" refers to Alfred Robens, who was Chairman of the National Coal Board from 1961 to 1971. You can hear this song performed by *The New Barleycorn* at <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DkXudCDgr81">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DkXudCDgr81</a>. If all the Welsh names in the last verse don't roll easily off your tongue, it would probably not violate the folk process to substitute Anglicized Welsh names like Morgan, Davis, Edwards.

## **FAREWELL TO THE RHONDDA**



# **CHORUS**

No more the chapel singin', that long ago has left us In the public house no more the miner's songs For the pit wheels they are stoppin', And the populations' droppin' And I can't afford to stay here very long

### **CHORUS**

Treherbert and Treorchy, Tonypandy and Tynewydd Ystrad Rhondda and Ton Pentre, all adieu For I can no longer wait While Parliament debates So a fond farewell I bid to all of you!

### **CHORUS**