## NIGEL HANLEY MUSIC

## I AM AUSTRALIAN

Music and Lyrics by Dobe Newton and Bruce Woodley

2 bar intro

as sung by The Seekers

I came from the dream-time from the dusty red-soil plains
I am the ancient heart the keeper of the flame
I stood upon the rocky shores, I watched the tall ships come
For forty thousand years I've been the first Australian

I came upon the prison ship bound down by iron chains I fought the land, endured the lash, and waited for the rains I'm a settler, I'm a farmers wife on a dry and barren run a convict then a free man I became Australian

I'm the daughter of a digger who sought the mother load the girl became a woman on a long and dusty road I'm a child of the depression, I saw the good times come I'm a bushy, I'm a battler, I am Australian

## **Chorus:**

we are one but we are many and from all the lands on earth we come we'll share a dream and sing with one voice I am, you are, we are Australian

I'm a teller of stories, I'm a singer of songs I am Albert Namatjira and I paint the ghostly gums I'm Clancy on his horse, I'm Ned Kelly on the run I'm the one who waltzed Matilda, I am Australian

I'm the hot wind from the desert, I'm the black soil of the plains I'm the mountains and the valleys, I'm the drought and flooding rains I am the rock, I am the sky, the rivers when they run the spirit of this great land, I am Australian

## Chorus x 3