

OUCB Tunebook

Curated by Matt Lenahan and Charlotte Reed September 2025

About this tunebook

There were a few aims in mind with this refresh: to bring in lots of staple Irish session tunes to give anyone with an interest in joining in with Oxford's thriving Irish session scene a good starting point; to introduce lots of new tunes that we can teach at rehearsals; and to maintain the spirit of previous folders with lots of fun tunes (and tunes that will make great dances). The dedicated showsets section has been axed in favour of sorting these tunes into their respective tune types, to encourage more flexibility at ceilidhs, and many of the newer sets are shorter in the hopes that each tune will be played more than twice before moving on to the next. We've prioritised Irish and Scottish music above everything else, but there's a taste of English, Euro, Québécois, and more. If you want to learn more English music, the sessions in Oxford are extremely welcoming, and the tunes are (generally) very easy to pick up by ear.

We want to encourage you to continue playing tunes from the previous folder, and there's resources to find/learn even more tunes below if you're keen. Most importantly, it's very difficult to convey the music using just the dots, particularly rhythm—use the dots as a guide, but there is no substitute for listening to recordings or listening along at sessions to get the feel of the music. We'd like to give a massive thank you to everyone who's worked on previous iterations of the folder, and a special thanks to the inimitable Callum Beck for his help with this one.

Happy playing!

Matt & Charlotte

Resources

If you're looking for more tunes...

- The Session has the dots for every tune under the sun—if you ask for the name of any tune at a session, you'll be able to find it here
- Foinn Seisiún 1, 2, and 3, albums (and books) of bog-standard Irish session tunes
- Fergal Scahill's Tune a Day, for recordings of 1600+ tunes on the fiddle
- irishtune.info/top-tunes, for a list of the most common Irish session tunes
- The previous iteration of the OUCB tunebook, available here
- The tunebook for the Oxford Slow Session, available at oxfordslowsession.com

Sessions in Oxford

- Irish and Scottish at the Half Moon, every Sunday, 8pm-late
- Irish at the Isis Farmhouse, every Friday except the 2nd of the month, 8pm-late
- The 'Bastard English' at the Isis Farmhouse, 2nd Friday of the month, 8pm-late
- Inclusive session at the Jolly Farmers, 2nd Saturday of the month, 12pm-3pm
- Open session at the Lamb and Flag, 3rd Sunday of the month, 4.30pm-8pm
- American/old time at the Star, 3rd Monday of the month, 8pm-late
- Balfolk at the Isis Farmhouse, 4th Sunday of the month, ?
- English at the Half Moon, 4th Monday of the month, 8pm-late
- Open session at the Oxford Blue, 3rd Thursday of the month, 7.30pm-late
- Scottish session at the White Hart, Wolvercote, 4th Friday of the month, 8pm-late
- Oxford slow session at the Slow and Steady, 1st Sunday of the month, 4pm-7pm
- + more listed at https://www.folkinoxford.co.uk/calendar.html

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32 bar reels — Morning Pancakes	Polkas — The Party Polkas
32 bar reels — The Road to Errogie	Polkas — The P&O
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32 bar reels — Stomach Steinway Woman	Dance special — Dashing White Sergeant
32 bar reels — Les Hommages	Dance special — Swedish Masquerade
32 bar reels — Pachelbel's Frolics	Dance special — Sweatsh Masquetade

32 bar reels — Pachelbel's Frolics

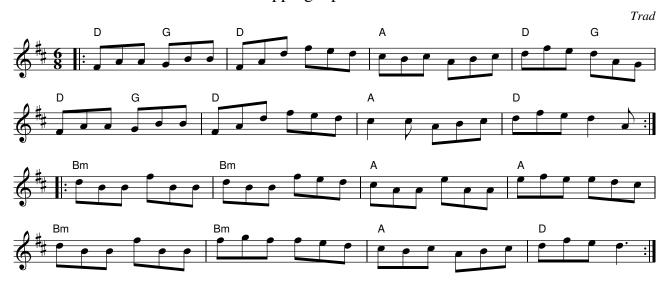
The Classics

32 bar jigs

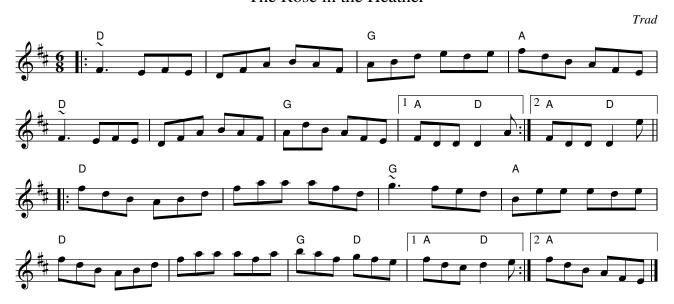
Out On The Ocean



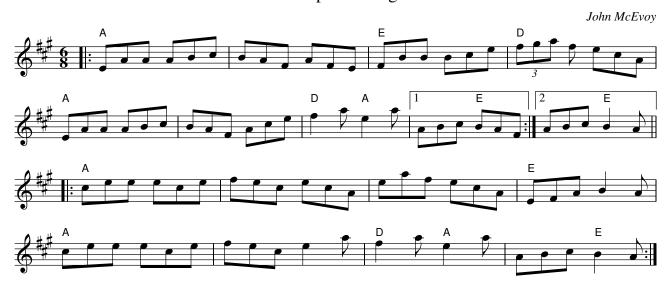
Tripping Up The Stairs



The Rose in the Heather



The Spotted Dog

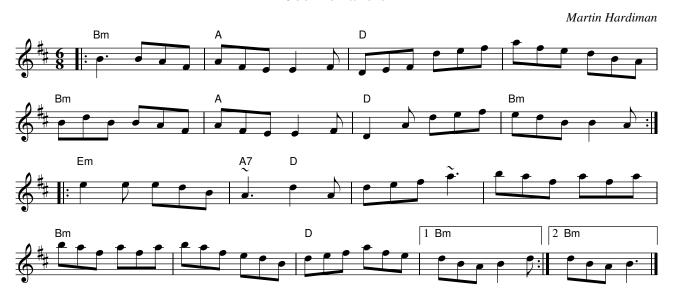


Nina's 32 bar jigs

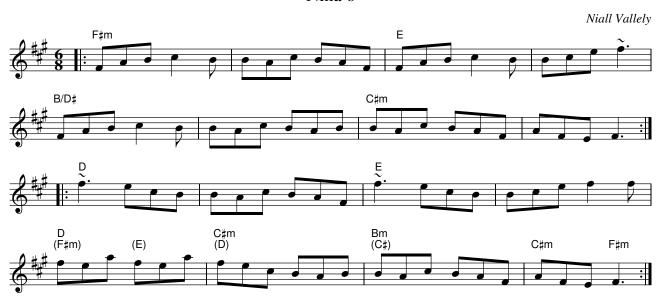
The First Pint



Joe Derrane's



Nina's



The Picc Line

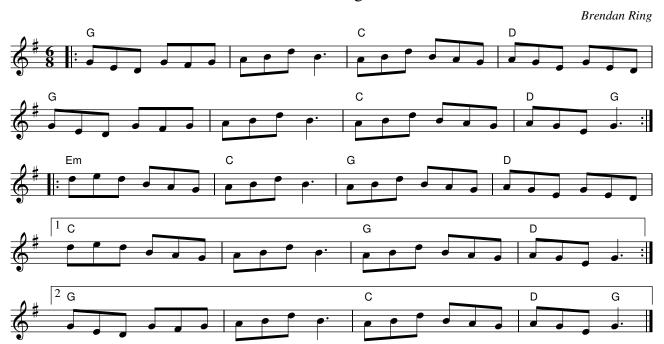


Basil's 32 bar jigs

The Soup Dragon



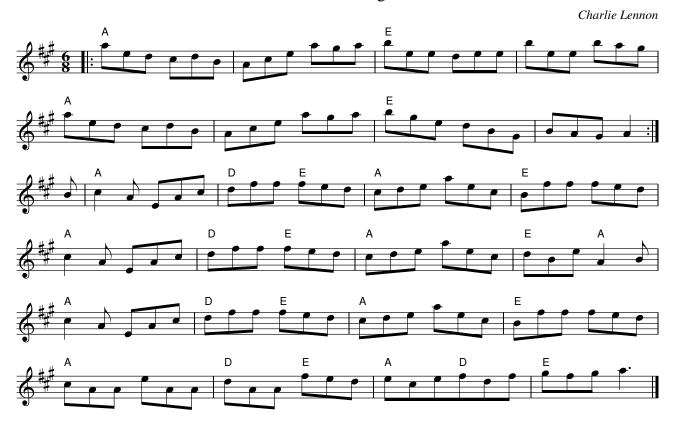
The Lisnagun



The Gathering

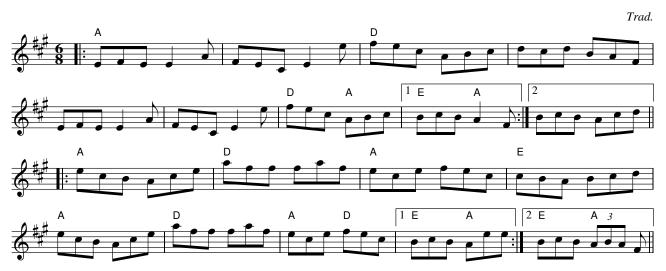


The Handsome Young Maidens

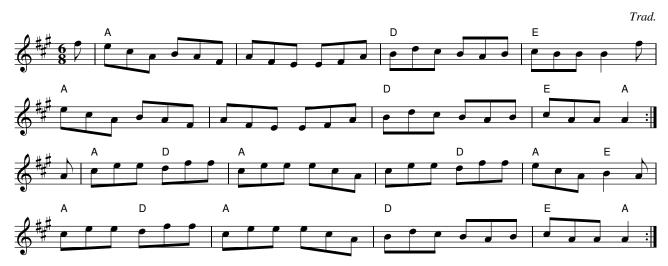


Rambler? I 'ardly know 'er! 32 bar jigs - ML

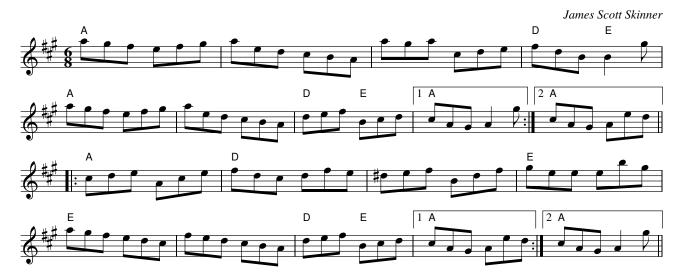
The Rambler



Health To The Ladies



Rosewood



Myra's Ducks 32 bar jigs - ML

Feed The Ducks



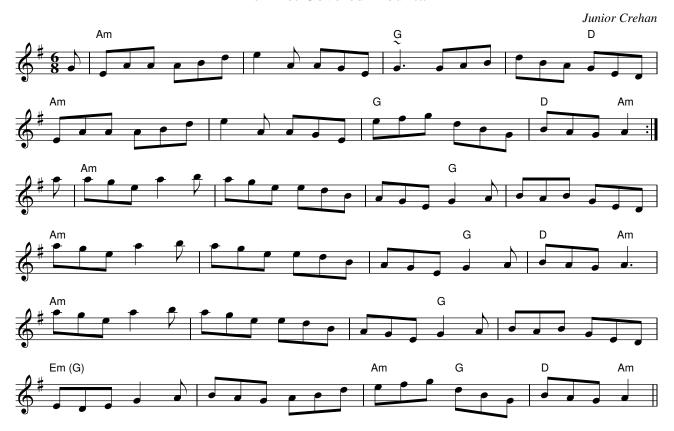
Myra's



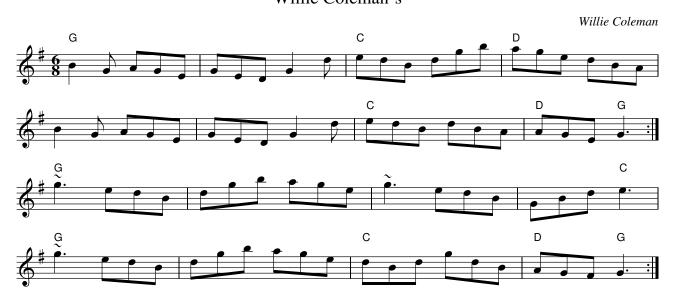
Willie's

32 bar jigs - ML

The Mist Covered Mountain



Willie Coleman's



The Scotsman Over The Border



McGoldrick's



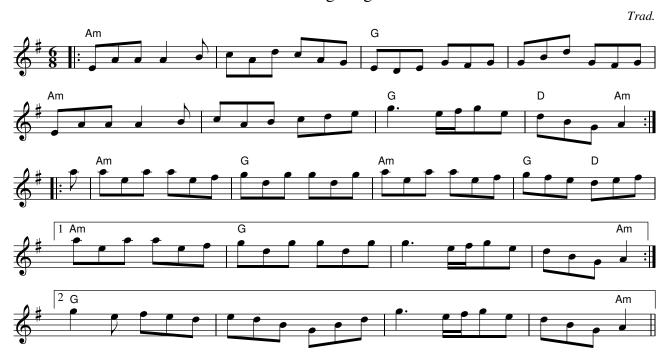
Not the Morgan Rattler

32 bar jigs - ML

The Cliffs Of Moher



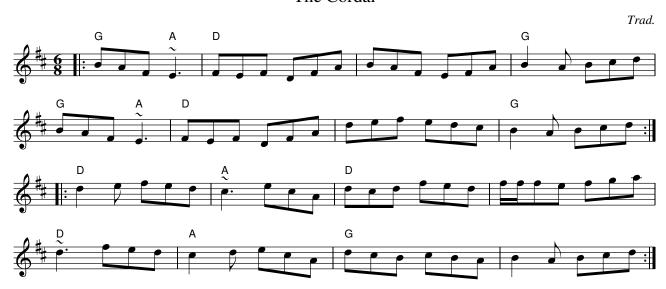
The Nightingale



The Banks Of Lough Gowna



The Cordal



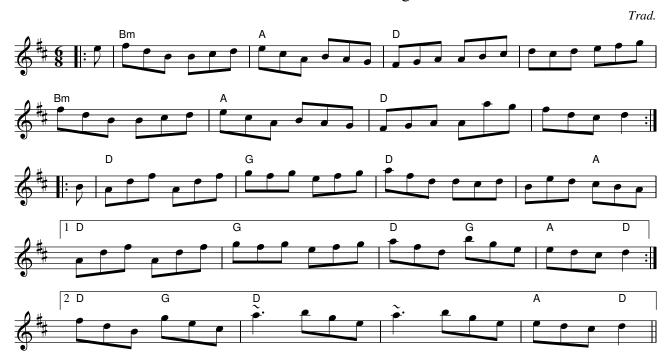
The Haunted House

32 bar jigs - ML

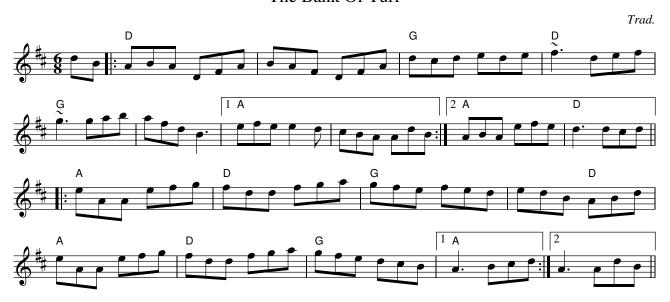
The Haunted House



The Tar Road To Sligo



The Bank Of Turf



The Donegal Lass



McIntyre's Castle

32 bar jigs - ML



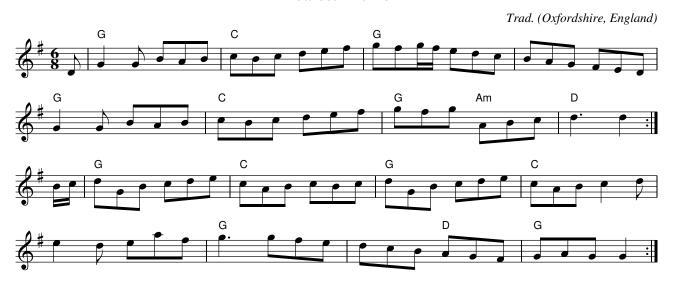
Dearest Dickie

32 bar jigs - ML

The Oyster Girl



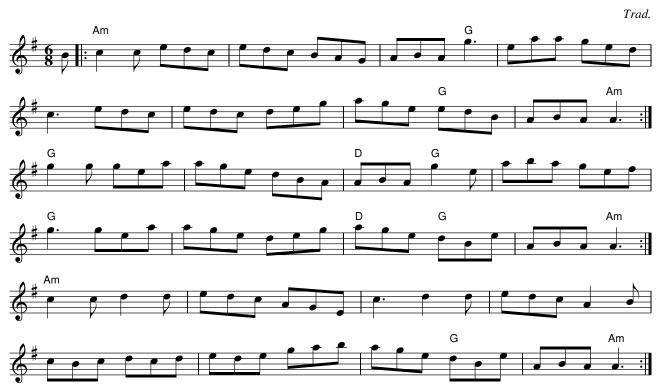
Dearest Dickie



Random Notes in the Kitchen

48 bar jigs - ML

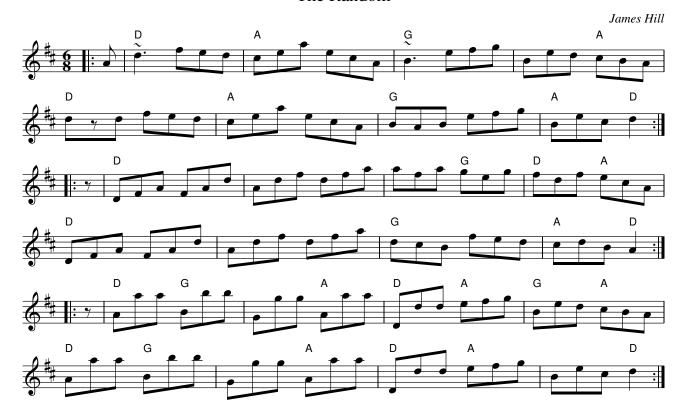
The Pipe On The Hob



The Cook In The Kitchen



The Random



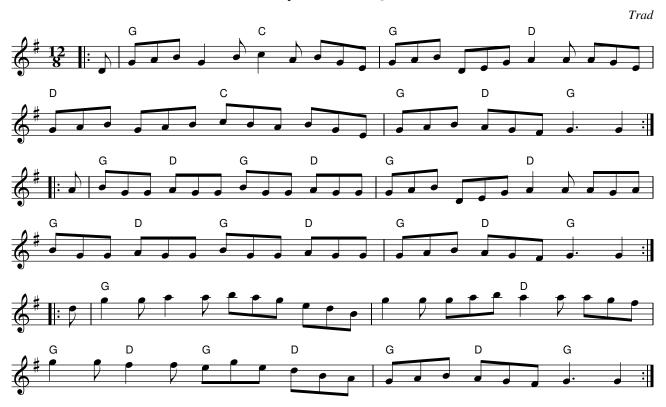
£50 Cashback 48 bar jig

A Bottle Of Vodka, Twenty Marlboro Reds And £50 Cashback, Please



Who Kissed Tommy Peoples? 48 bar jigs (ish) - ML

Merrily Kiss The Quaker



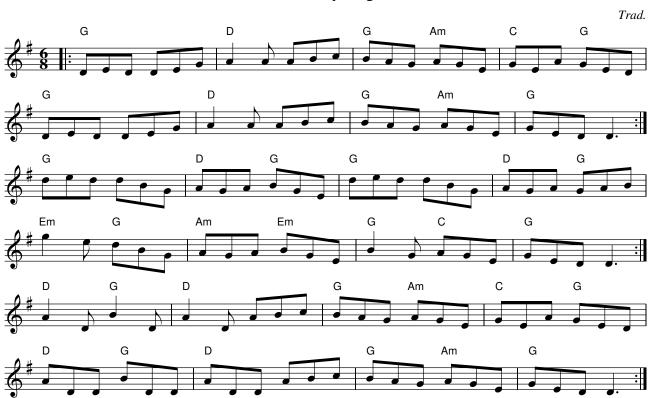
Gráinne's



Banish the Blarney Pilgrim

48 bar jigs

The Blarney Pilgrim



Banish Misfortune



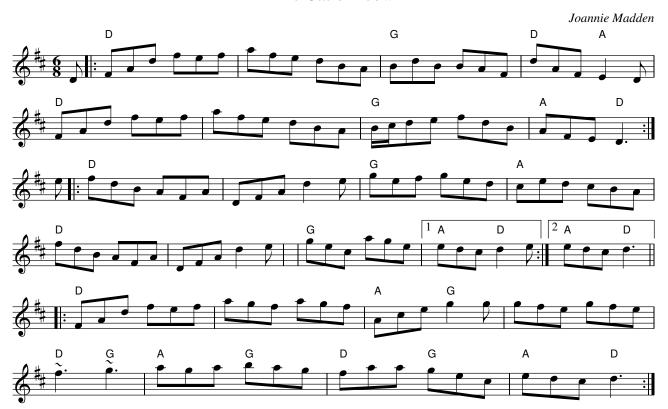
The Cat in the Well

48 bar jigs

The Wishing Well



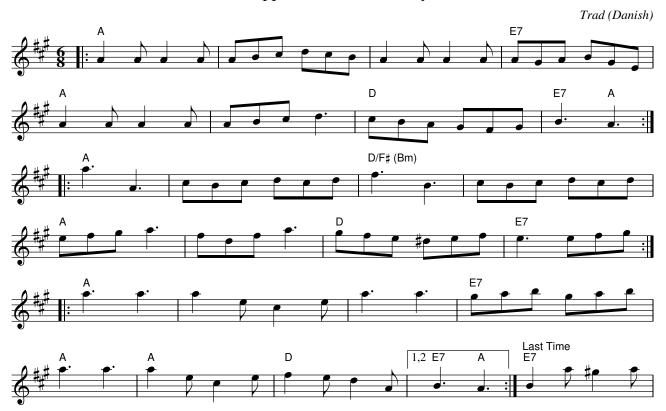
The Cat's Meow



The International Jigs

48 bar jigs

Den Toppede Høne Fra Vensyssel



Kadril Van Mechelen



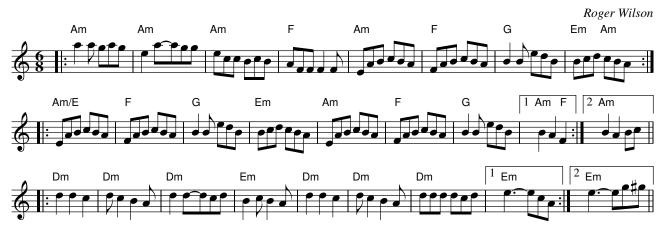
Horizonto

48 bar jig

Horizonto



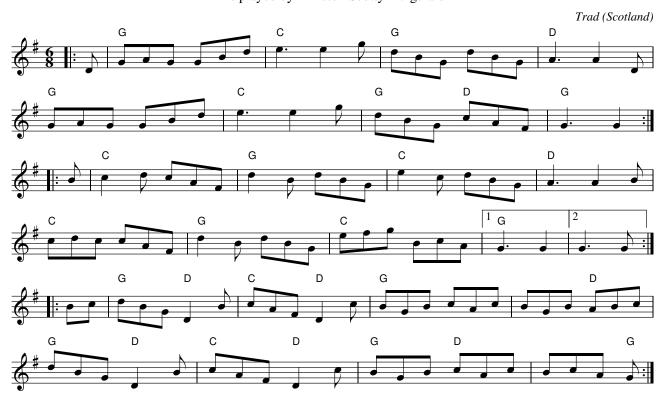
Zakynthos



Men of Questionable Character

48 bar jig - CR

The Canty Auld Man As played by Winston Scotty Fitzgerald



Garcon Volange
The Fickle Lad. As played by Winston Scotty Fitzgerald



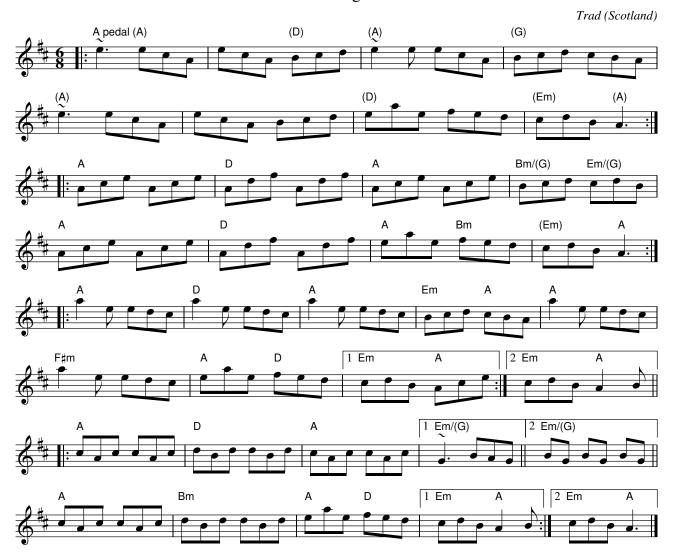
The Lark in the Highlands

64 bar jigs

The Lark in the Morning



The Atholl Highlanders



Muireann's

64 bar jigs

The Humours Of Ballyloughlin



Muireann's



The Maid at the Spinning Wheel

64 bar jig - ML

The Maid At The Spinning Wheel



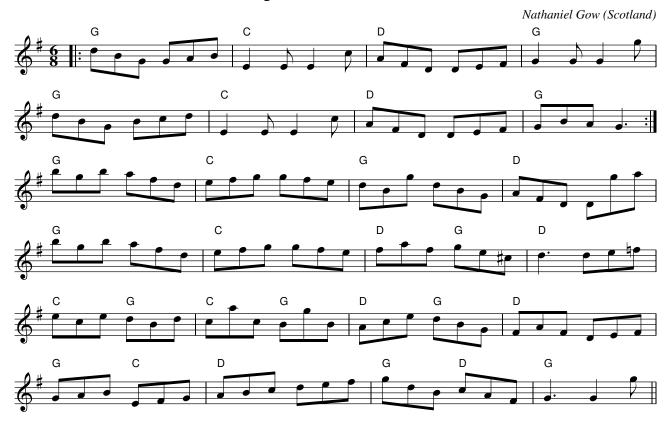
Lads Over the Hills

Mixed jigs - CR

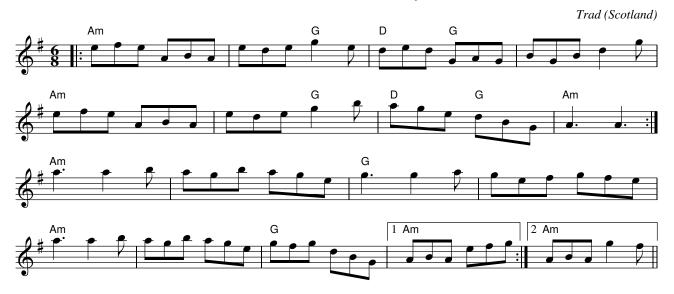
Gillan An Drover The Drover Lads



Margrett Brown's Favourite



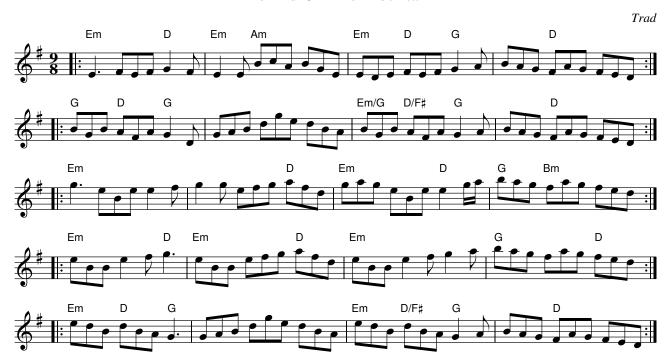
The Hills Of Glenorchy



The Tune That Shall Not Be Named

Slip jigs - ML

The Kid On The Mountain



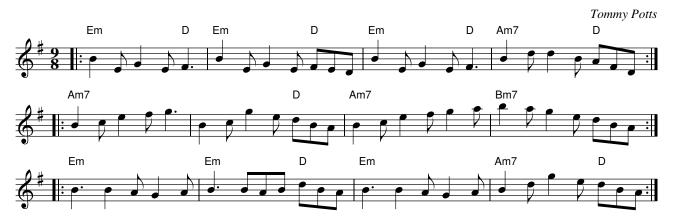
An Phis Fhliuch



The Rest of the Slip Jigs

Slip jigs

The Butterfly



Dever The Dancer



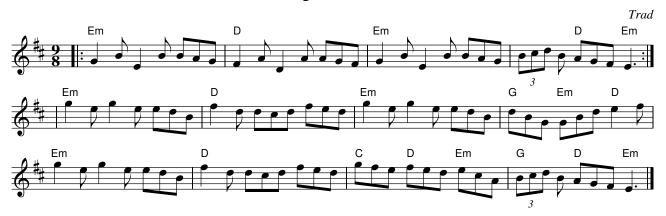
The Rabbit



The Swaggering Jig



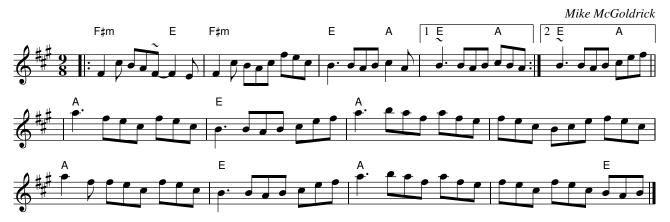
A Fig For A Kiss



The Humours Of Whiskey



Farewell To Whalley Range



All the Single Reels

16 bar reels - ML

Maud Millar



The Red-Haired Lass



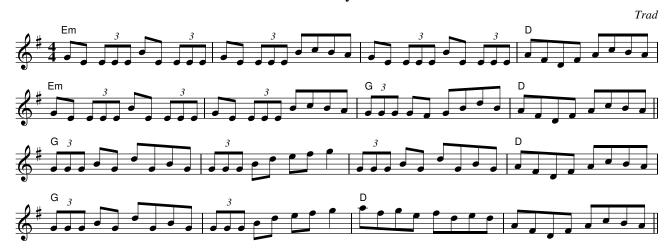
The Humours Of Tulla



The Hare's Paw



The Fermoy Lasses



The Mountain Road



The Pigtown Fling



The Monaghan Twig



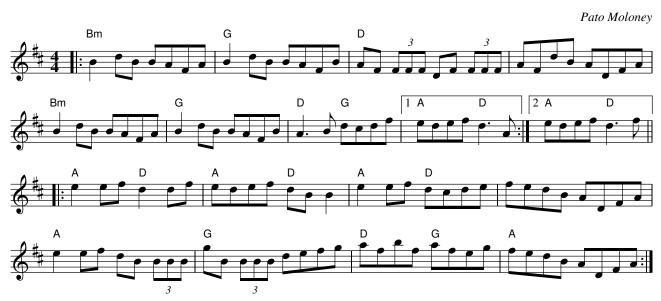
The Silver Spear

32 bar reels

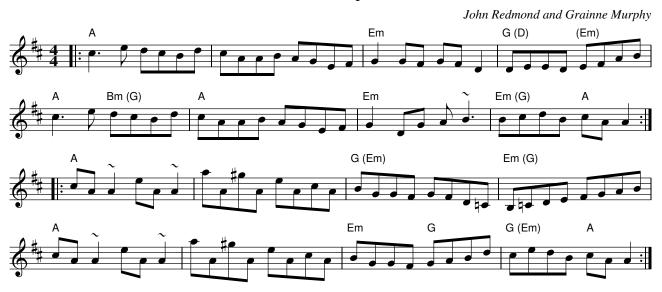
The Silver Spear



The Earl's Chair



Tree Gap



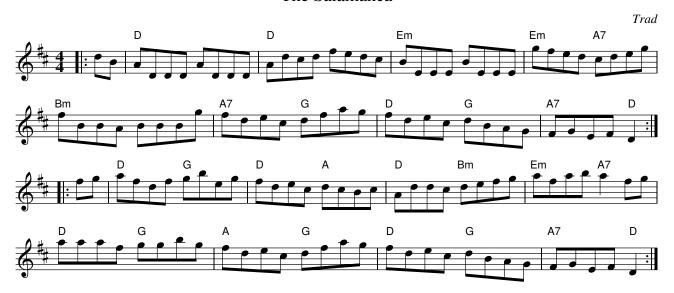
Frank's



The Salamanca

32 bar reels

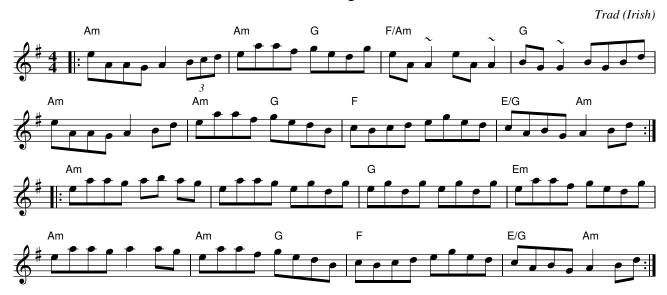
The Salamanca



Toss The Feathers



The Congress



The Mill House



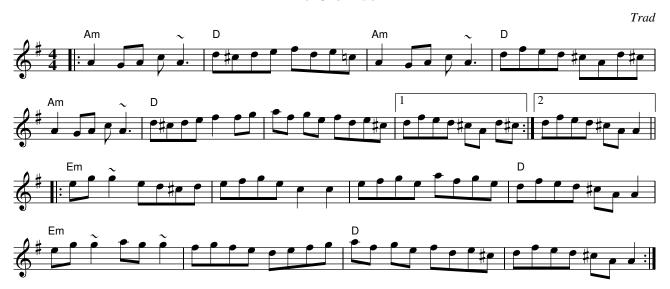
The High Reel

32 bar reels

Peter Street



The Old Bush



The Red Haired Boy



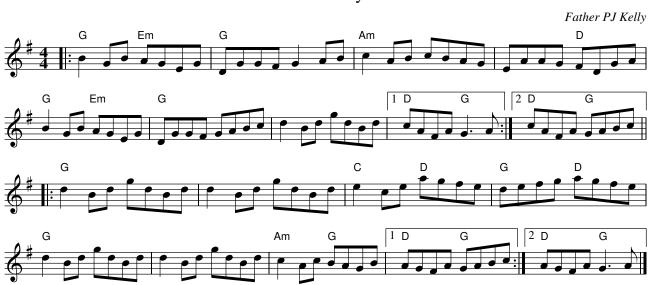
The High Reel



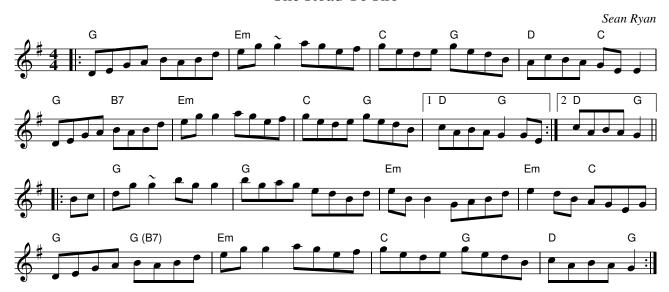
Cooley's

32 bar reels

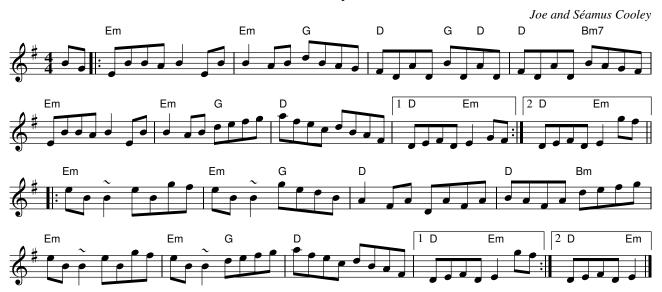
Father Kelly's



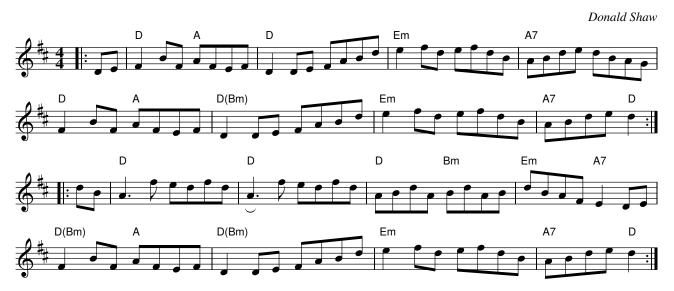
The Road To Rio



Cooley's

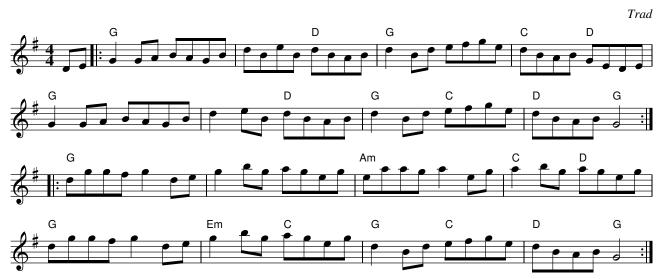


MacLeod's Farewell

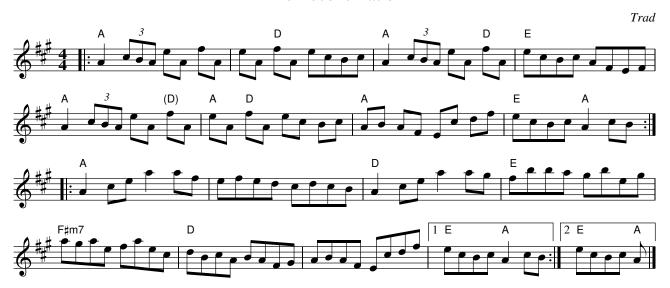


The Sally Gardens 32 bar reels

The Sally Gardens



The Reconciliation



Siobhan O'Donnell's



MacArthur Road

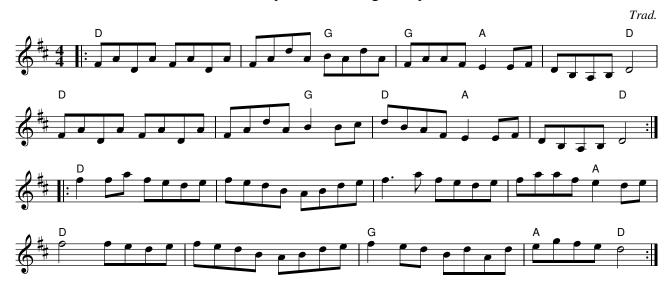


The Golden Keyboard 32 bar reels - ML

John Stenson's #2



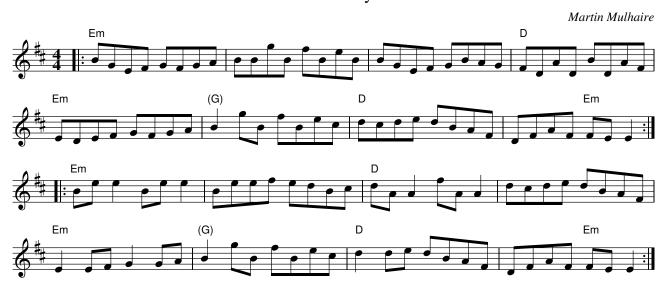
Lady Anne Montgomery



The Merry Blacksmith



The Golden Keyboard



The Holly Bush

32 bar reels - ML

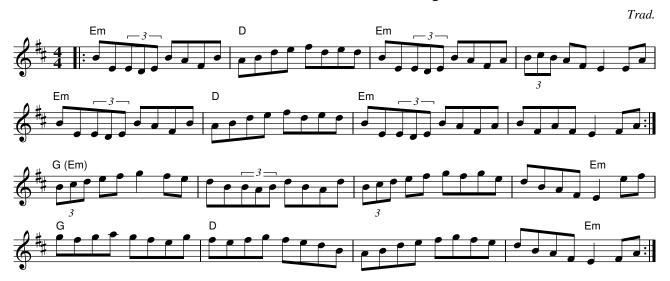
The Sligo Maid



The Holly Bush



The Green Fields Of Rossbeigh



The Humours Of Lissadell



The Star of Munster

32 bar reels - ML

Devanny's Goat



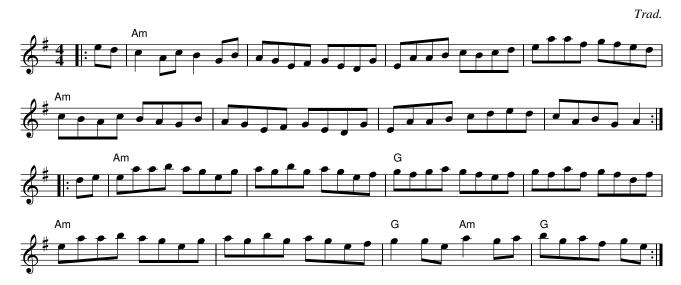
Farrel O'Gara's



The London Lasses



The Star Of Munster



Lucy Campbell's

32 bar reels - ML

The Spey In Spate



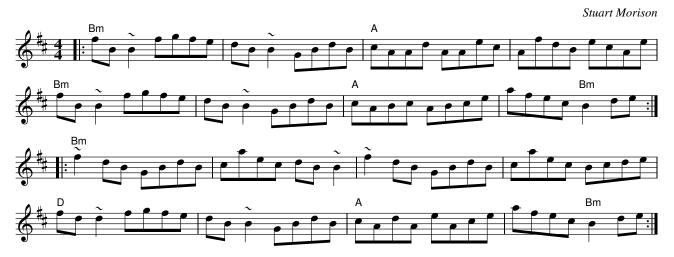
Morning Pancakes

32 bar reels - ML

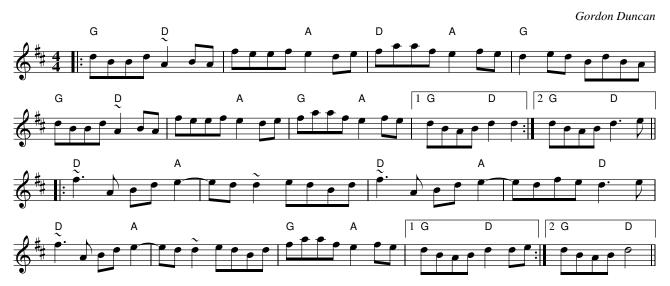
Good Morning To Your Nightcap



Maggie's Pancakes



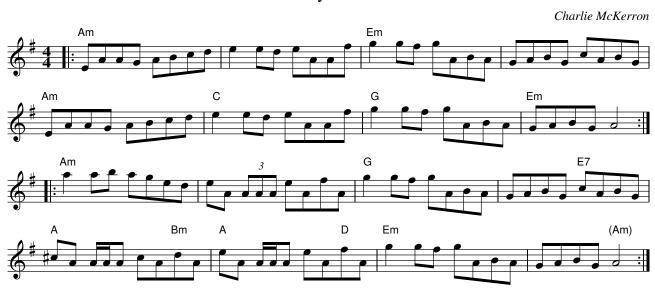
Ramnee Ceilidh



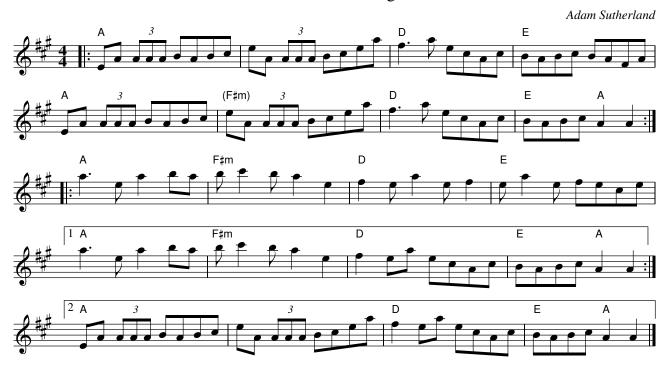
The Road to Errogie

32 bar reels

Islay Rant



The Road to Errogie



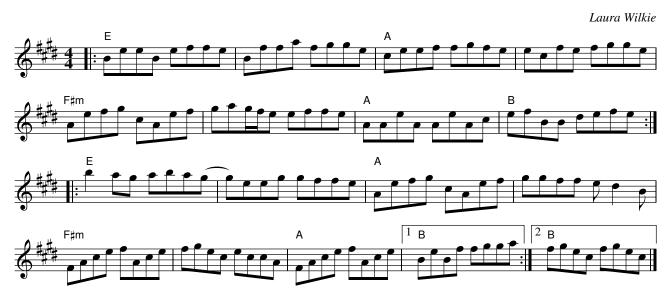
Toria's

32 bar reels

Dancing In Allihies



Toria's 50th



Stomach Steinway Woman

32 bar reels - ML

Stomach Steinway Man

Anne Lacey's



Les Hommages

32 bar reels - ML

Hommage à Edmond Parizeau

Marcel Messervier



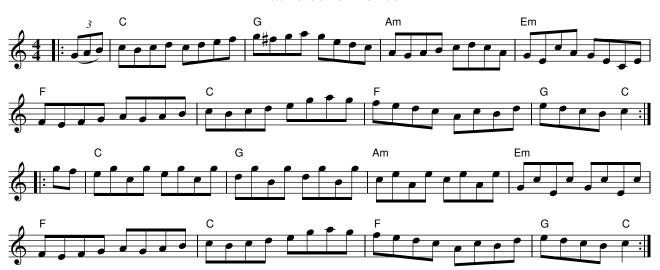
Hommage à Philippe Bruneau



Pachelbel's Frolics

32 bar reel - ML

Pachelbel's Frolics



Big John and the Devil

32 bar reels - CR

The Miller's Reel

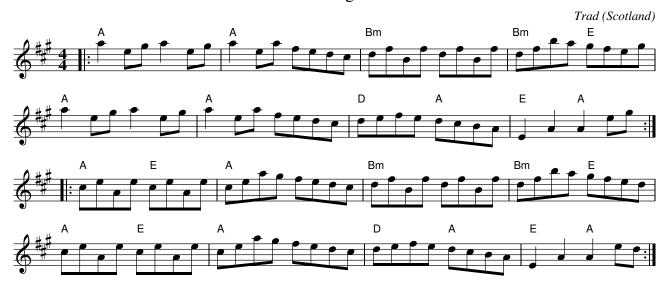


Big John MacNeill

Peter Milne (Scotland)



The De'il Among The Tailors



Mayor Harrison's Cup of Tea

48 bar reels - ML

The Cup Of Tea



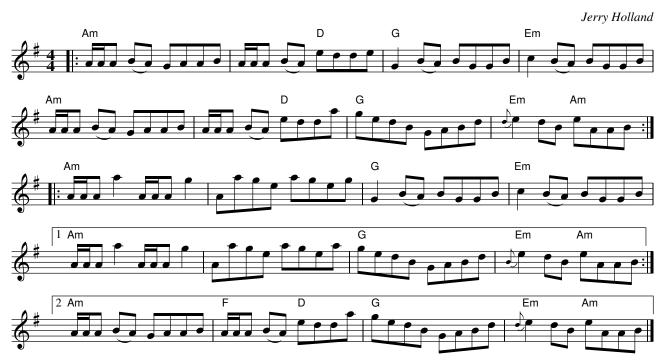
Mayor Harrison's Fedora



Brenda Stubbert's

Mixed reels

Brenda Stubbert's



Jock Broon's 70th



The Mouth of the Tobique Mixed reels - ML

The Mouth of the Tobique



Fleur de Mandragore



Farmers, Goats, and Bears

Mixed reels - CR

The Morayshire Farmers Club

William Marshall



The Bear In The Buckwheat



An Oidche Bha na Gobhair Aguin

The Night the Goats Came Home



Too Many Jamies

Mixed reels - CR

Jamie Hardie



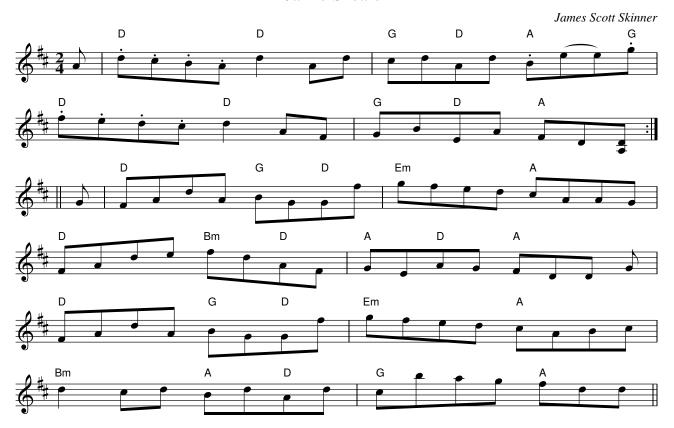
Rachael Rae

John Lowe (Scotland)



Jenny Dang the Weaver

Jamie Shearer



Put Me in a Box!

Mixed reels - CR

Coire An Lochan The Lake District

David Muir Possibly (Scotland)



Cuir Sa Chist Mhoir Mi Put Me In The Big Chest



Mrs MacLeod of Raasay



Annie in the Bungalow

Mixed reels - CR

Lady Muir MacKenzie

William Gow (Scotland)



The Bungalow

James Scott Skinner



Anna Thug Mi Gradh Dhuit Annie is My Darling

Captain Simon Fraser (Scotland)



The East Neuk O'Fife

Country dances - CR

The East Neuk O' Fife

James Oswald (Scotland)



The Bottom Of The Punchbowl

Trad (Scotland)



The Flowers Of Edinburgh

Trad (Scotland)

Scotland the Brave

Marches

Scotland the Brave



The Battle Of Waterloo



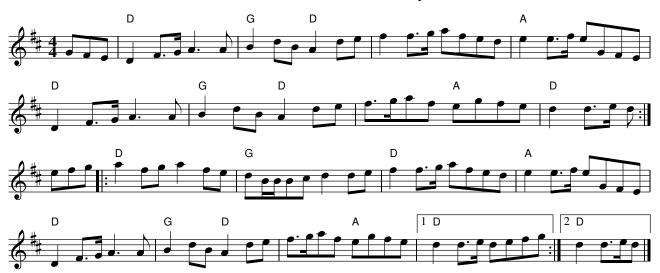
Willie Anderson's Farewell to Dalharn



The Wedding

Marches

Fair Isle School Centenary



Caroline and Henry's Wedding March



James Brown's

March - ML

James Brown's



Marche du Mont Saint-Louis

March - ML

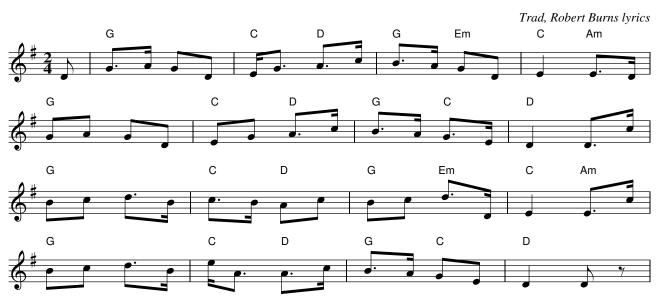
Marche du Mont Saint-Louis



Man on the Mountain

Marches (Robert Burns) - CR

A Man's A Man



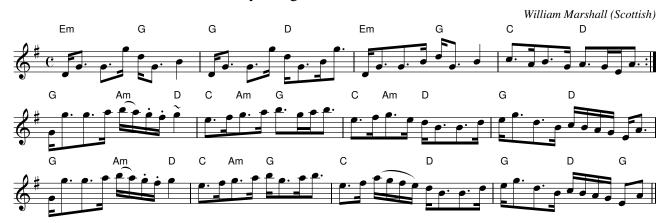
Tripping On The Mountain



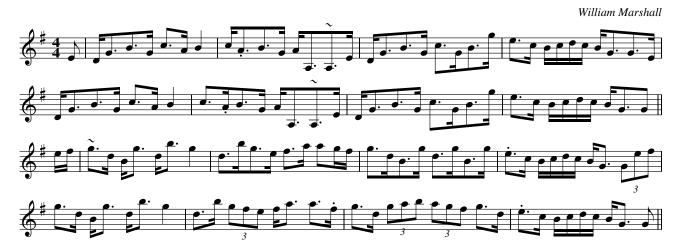
Jane and James'

Strathspeys - CR

Johnny Pringle, or Miss Jane Stewart



Mrs. James MacInnes



Rothiemurchus Rant

Strathspey (Robert Burns) - CR

Rothiemurchus Rant



The Warlocks

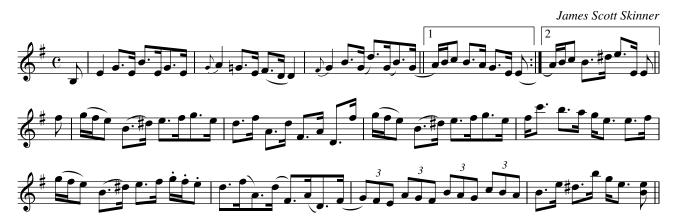
Strathspeys - CR

The Haughs Of Cromdale

Trad (Scotland)



Delnabo



The Warlocks



The Laird of Drumblair

Strathspeys - CR

The Laird Of Drumblair



Over the Bridge

Strathspeys - CR

The Forth Bridge



Jessie Smith



Lady Mary Ramsay



Kitty's Rights

Hornpipes

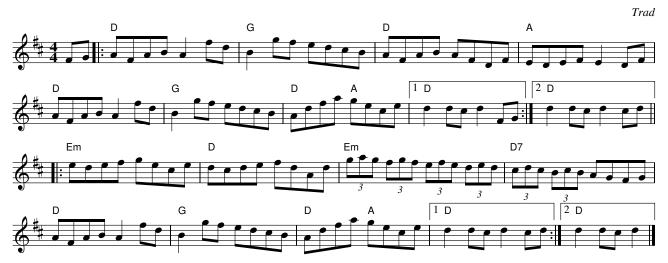
Kitty's Wedding



The Rights Of Man



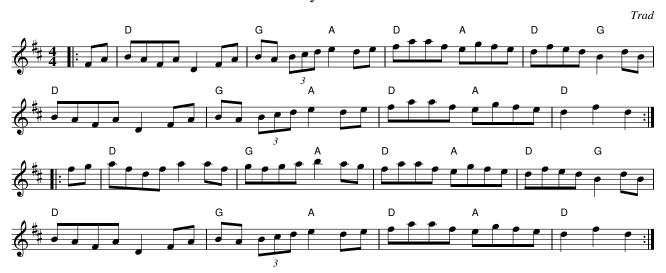
The Showman's Fancy



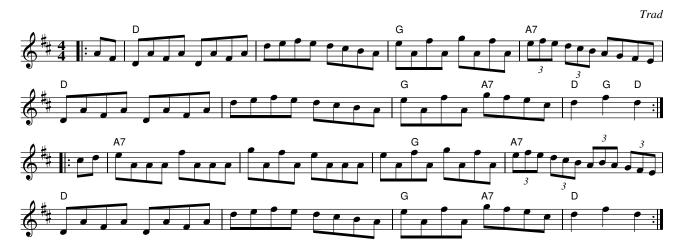
The Cheesy Hornpipes

Hornpipes

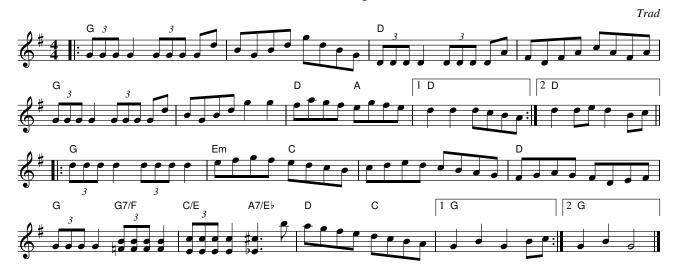
The Boys Of Bluehill



The Harvest Home



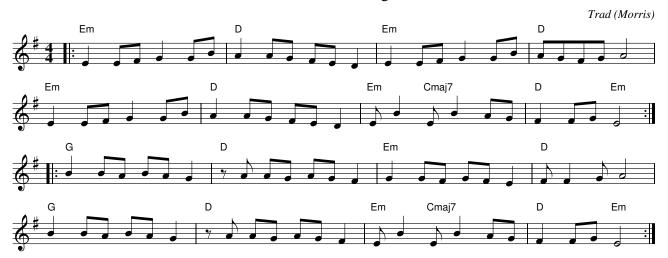
The Trumpet



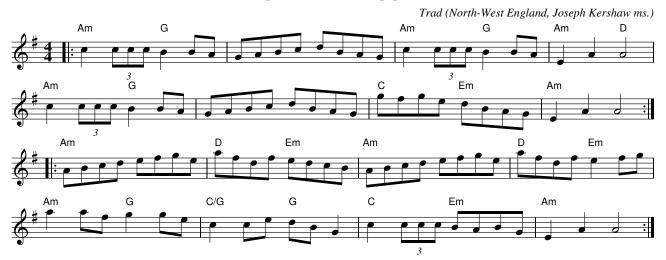
Baccapipes

Hornpipes

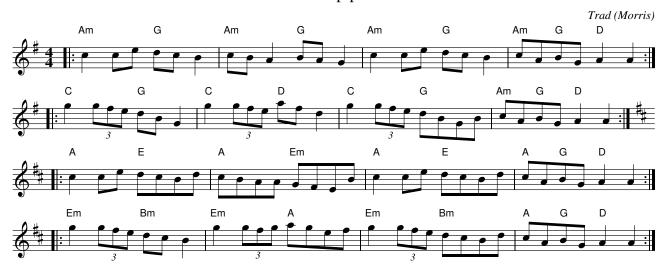
Uttoxeter Swing



Sportsman's Hornpipe



Baccapipes



Eibhlín Óg

Hornpipe

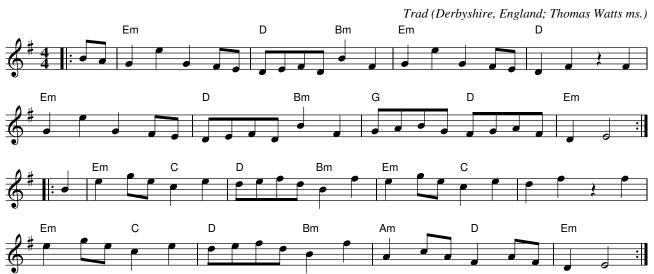
The Pride of Petravore



Mister Moore's Hornpipe

Hornpipe - ML

Mister Moore's Hornpipe



William Irwin's (Modal) Hornpipe

Hornpipe - ML

William Irwin's (Modal) Hornpipe

Trad (Lake District, England; William Irwin ms.)



The Stage Hornpipes - ML

The Stage



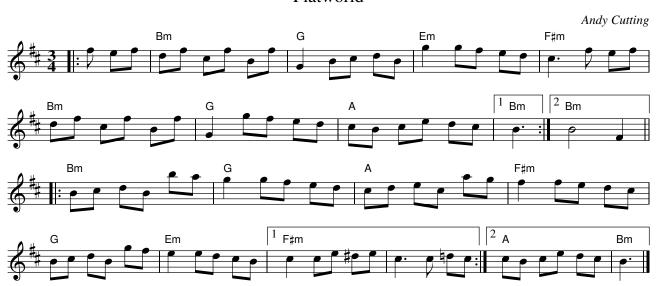
The Western



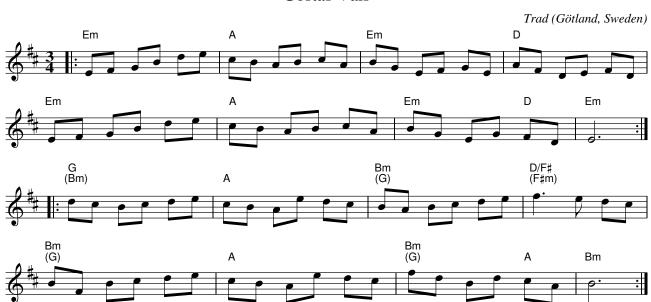
Flatworld

Waltzes

Flatworld



Göstas Vals



Maggie's Well

Waltzes

Maggie West's



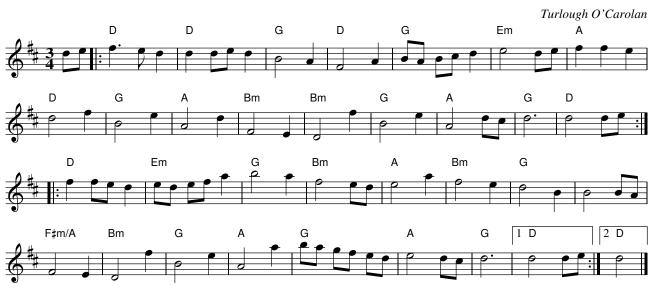
Sunday's Well



The Fairy and the Gent

Waltzes

Si Bheag Si Mhor



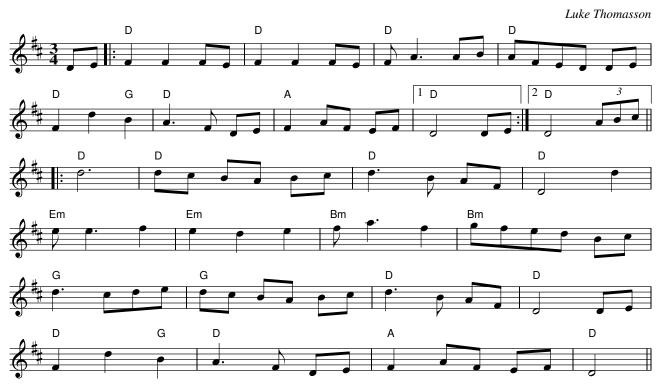
The Norwegian Gent



Midnight on the Water

Waltzes

Midnight On The Water



Flatwater Fran



Emma's

Waltzes

Emma's Waltz



Les Poules HuppéesWaltzes

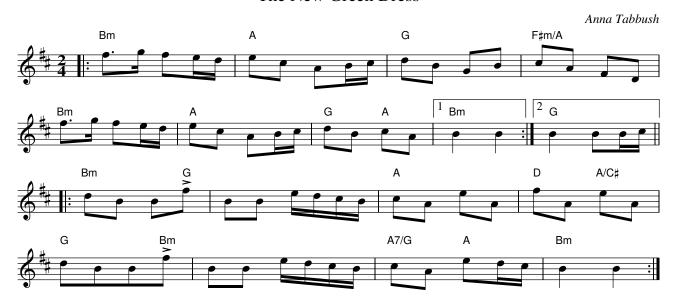
Les Poules Huppées

Gilles Chabenat

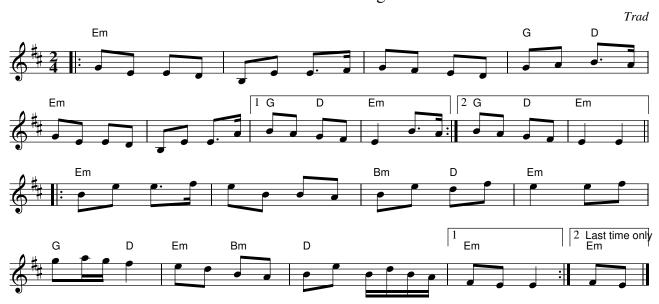
The New Green Dress

Polkas

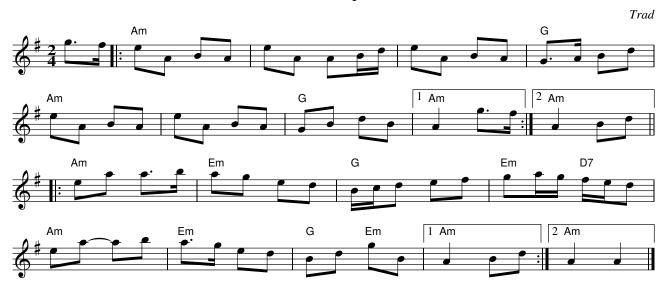
The New Green Dress



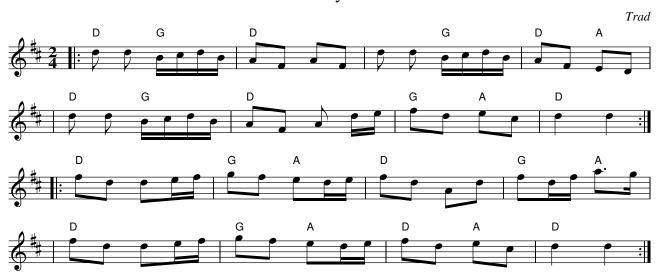
The Glen Cottage



As I Went Out Upon The Ice



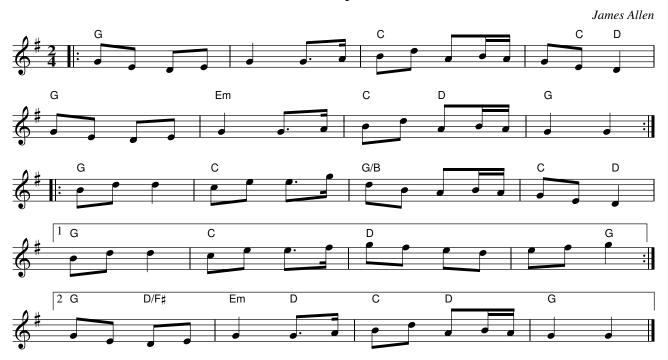
John Ryan's



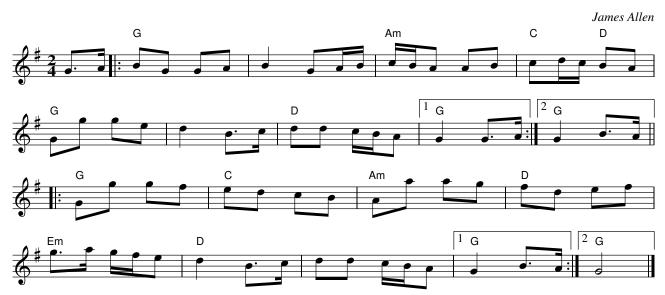
Salmon Tails

Polkas

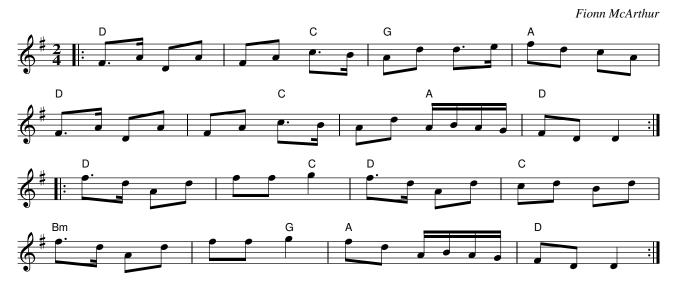
Salmon Tails Up The Water



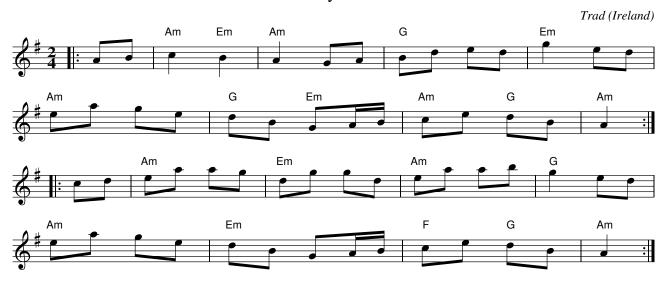
Jamie Allen



Titting The Scales

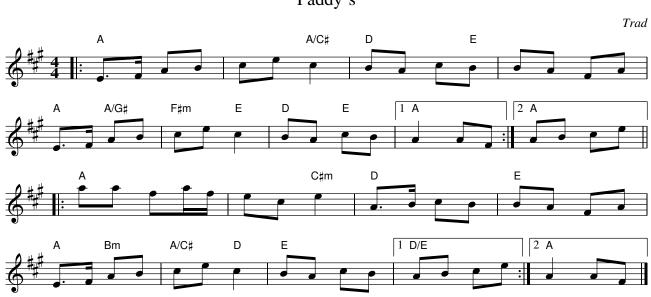


The Ballydesmond

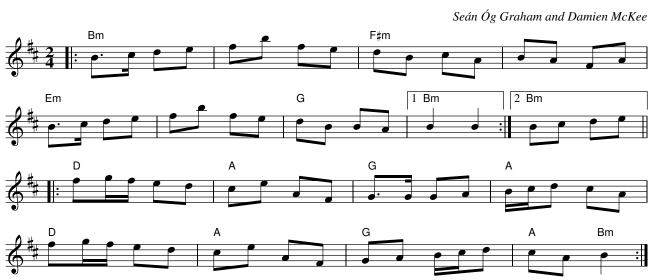


The Party Polkas Polkas

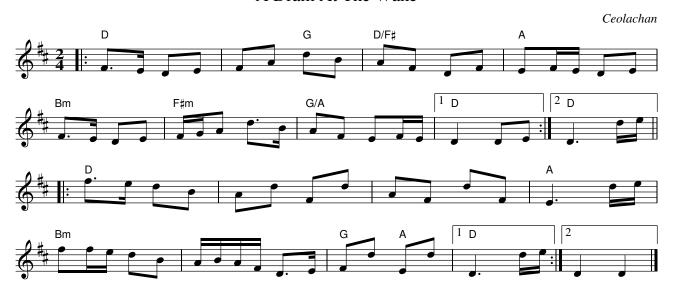
Paddy's

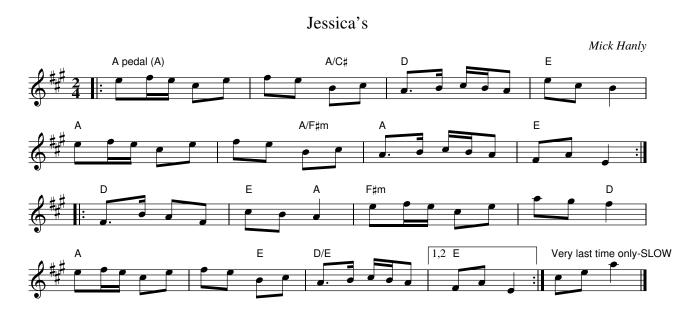


Prelude



A Dram At The Wake





The P&O

Polkas - ML

The P&O



I'll Buy Boots For Maggie



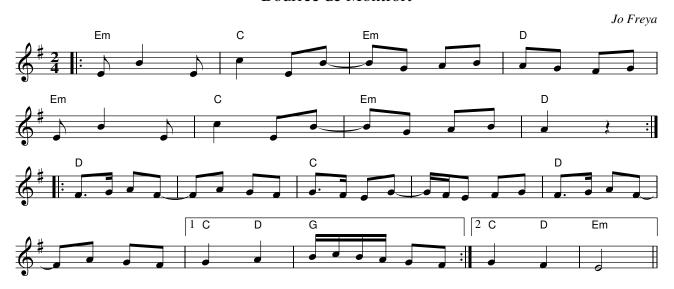
Din Tarrant's



Not Polkas

2-time bourrées - ML

Bourrée de Montfort



Chassepain



Bourrée à Malochet



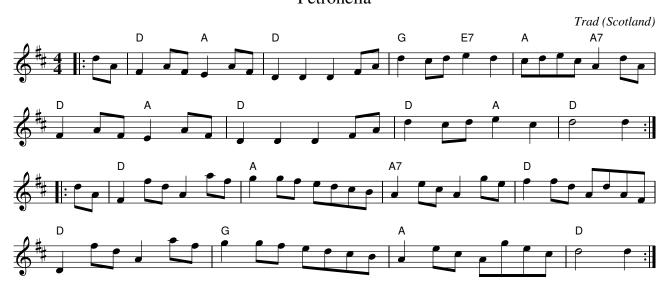
Dashing White Sergeant

Dance special

Dashing White Sergeant



Petronella



The Ceilidh Band Reel



Play Dashing White Sergeant once through at the end to finish the set.

Swedish Masquerade

Dance special

Swedish Masquerade

