

DANCEBOY'S LIST OF BEST DANCES - Updated 23/10/22.

(the latest revision is shown in the page footer at the end of this document).

This is a list of proven dances which have been enjoyed 'on the night' by those present. Without exception all dances on the list have been danced by me at some time or another. All dances are from programmes danced in RSCDS Branches and Clubs throughout Scotland - amongst others, Glasgow, Stirling, Alva, Hamilton, Blairgowrie, Pitlochry, Troon, Dufftown, Beaulieu, Linlithgow and Edinburgh.

All the dances quoted here are brilliant or above average and many have exceptionally good music associated with them. A few of the dances have been included principally because of the music associated with the dance but it will still be a good dance! None of the dances have been selected solely because their titles have some association with the dance event i.e. Follow Me Home for a last dance or Christmas this or Christmas that during the Festive Season. I hope you, as I do, disapprove of 'oh so clever theme programmes' where we are obliged to dance third rate dances chosen because of a certain meaning or reference in the title.

If you are making up a programme in any part of the world this list should be of help in ensuring your customers have a great night!!

Dances which have a '#' before and after it are dances which perhaps should NOT be included in an average dance programme unless time has been allowed for the dance, or a movement within a dance, to be taught on the night. They might be included in a dance programme under the description 'Dance of the Month' or 'Instructor's Choice' with an experienced caller on hand.

All the others are dances which may be a bit of a challenge but could be included on any dance programme. Many of the dances in this list will still require some homework before the event. U-tube is increasingly providing very helpful videos of dances accessible via the link below:-

<http://www.scottish-country-dancing-dictionary.com/dance-cribs.html>

Alternatively, ask your class teacher to teach the dance at a class meeting.

Apologies - occasionally I include a dance the source of which is not known. In these cases I will publish at the end of this document my best memory of the dance - please make of it what you can. If you find an error and can provide a source document please let me know - I will see you get full credit for providing the correction!! Topsy Turvy was such a dance - although initially I 'got it wrong' input from fellow dancers allowed me to eventually apply the necessary corrections. When I'm not sure I will say so!

Use of the list below is free of any charge or commission - Good Luck & Happy Dancin'!!!

THE BEST DANCE LIST

192 MILES HOME---(Sq)---J4x48* (Good fun dance - Bk 50)	Argyll's Farewell to Stirling	Bauldy Bain's Fiddle (R8x32)
Ageing Gracefully (S8x32)	Auchinellan Jig J8x32)	Bearsden Jig (J8x32)
#Aird of Coigach (J4x48)#	Auld Friends Meet (S8x32)	Beauty of the North (S8x32)
Airie Bennan(J5x32)	Auld Lang Syne (S8x32)	Bees of Maggieknockater
Alex T. Queen (R4x48)	Australian Ladies (R4x32)	Belle o' Bon Accord (S4x32)
Anna Holden's Strathspey (S8x32)	Aviator (The) (J8x32)	Bert McCroskie (R5x32)
Anne McArthur (S3x32) (simple filler dance)	Back to the Fireside (R8x32)	Best Set in the Hall
Another Piece of Silver (R8x32)	Baldovan Reel	Birlin' Sporrans (R8x40)
	#Bannockburn 700 (J8x40)#	Birls Allowed (J8x32)

Black Black Oil (R5x32)	Clutha (R4x48) Sq	Elephant Stampede (J4x48) Sq
Black Mountain Reel	Cocket Hat (The) (J8x40)	Falls of Rogie (R8x32)
Blackwater Reel (R8x32)	Colin's Kilts (J8x40)	Faraway Isles (J4x48)
Bonnie Lass o' Bon Accord (Square) (S1x64)	Come Up to the Top (J4x32) Nice wee fill-in dance.	Farewell to Crumlin (J4x32)
Bonnie Tree (S8x32)	Compliments to the Lawsons S4x32	Farewell to Balfour Road (5 cple) J1x96 (Music good. It's different!)
Bonny Bells of Heather (The) (6 cpls) (R6x32) Jean Attwood Alexander Bk8 (4s+5s+6s start on opposite sides)	Cooper's Wife (J8x40)	Far North Queensland (S5x32)
Bratach Bana (R8x32)	Countess of Dunmore's Reel (The) (R8x32)	Father Connelly's Jig (J4x64)(now over-danced)
#Brecon in March (R5x40) Sq#	Cramond Bridge (R8x32)	Festival Man (The) (J8x32)
Brig Amity (The) (R8x40)	Crème de La Crème (J3x32) Music MUST be Ian Slater 'From Manse to Dance' Track No2	Findlater Castle (R8x32) Music SHOULD be Findlater Castle 'A the Best Frae Bannshire' Colin Dewar
Brisk Young Lad (J5x48)	Crossing the Line (R6x32) 3 cple	Fife Ness (R8x32)
Broadford Bay (R8x32)	Cuckoo Clock (The) (R8x32)	Finnan Haddies (S4x32)
Broadway (S3x32) Dance OK but Music MUST be 'Give My Regards to Broadway'	Cuillins of Skye (S8x32)	Fireworks Reel (R8x32) (bars 9,10 & 17,18 must be mastered)
Buchan Lass (J4x32) Good +	Cullen Skink (S4x32)	First Rain of Spring (The) (J3x32)
Burniboozle (R8x32)	Dagmar's Fancy (S3x32)	Fisherman's Reel (R5x32) Sq
Burns Bicentenary Strathspey (S4x32)	Dancing in the Street (R4x32)	Flora's Cross (S8x32)
Butterfly (R4x32) (Gaye Collin NZ) Recommended music is The Craven Twelvesome - CD 'A Tribute to Derek Haynes'.	Dancing Master (J1x96) Sq	Flora's Fancy (J8x32)
Button Boy (The) (R8x32) W Zobel Allanton College.	Dancing Shepherds (The) (J8x32)	Flower o' the Quern (S4x32)
Byron Strathspey (S3x32)	Dancing Spirit (J8x32)	Four Score and Ten (S8x32)
Caddam Wood (R5x32)	Dandelion Picker (The) (R8x32)	Foxhill Court (S8x32)
Cadgers in the Canongate (R8x48)	#Deer Friends (S8x32)#	Fraser's Favourite (R8x32)
Campbeltown Loch (J8x48)	Diamond Jubilee (J4x32)	Freshwater Bay (J3x32) (Maggie Burns)
Cannadine Strathspey (S8x32)	Diamond Quarrie (R8x32)	Gaelforce Wind (J8x32)
Cape Breton Hornpipe (R4x32)	Don's Reel (R8x40)	Gavin's Reel (R5x32) (Sq)
Capetown Wedding (S8x32)	#Dragonfly (The) (J8x32)#	Georgie's Jig (J4x32)
Captain John Vancouver (J4x32)	Dream Catcher (S1x96) Sq)(now over-danced)	Gin and Tonic (A) Mx1(S3x32+R3x32) Scott
Captain MacBean's Reel	Duke of Perth (R8x32)	Glastonbury Tor (R8x32)
Cat & the Fiddle (The) (J8x32)	Duke of Wellington (The) (R8x32)	Glayva (R8x32)
#Carleton Jig (J4x32)#	Duncan Gray (R8x40)	Glenalmond Gamekeeper (R8x40)
Cashmere Shawl (S8x32)	Dunsinane (S8x32)	Glen Pavilion (The) (S4x32)
Chasing the Eclipse (S3x32)	Earl of Mansfield (R4x48)	Golden Boy (J8x32)
Chequered Court (The) (J8x32)	Ederline (S3x32)	Golden Memories (S3x32)
Christmas Ceilidh (A) (R8x40)	Elma McCausland MBE (J4x40)#	Golden Years (S8x32)
City of Stirling Reel (R8x32)	Elphinstone Jig (J8x32)	Gothenburg's Welcome (J8x32)
	Endrick Water (S3x32)	

Granny Knot (The) (R8x32)	Kenora Reel (R8x32)	Miss Frances Martin Mx1(S32+R32)
#Gypsy Dreams (S6x32) 3cple.#	Kinfauns Castle (S5x32)	#Miss Gabrielle's Reel (R8x32)(tricky)#
Happiness is Scottish Country Dancing (H8x32)	King'sChapel (S8x32)	Miss Gibson's Strathspey (S8x32)
Happy Christmas (J8x32)	Knotwork (J4x40)	Miss Johnstone of Ardrossan (R5x32)
Happy Meeting (J8x32)	Ladies of Dunse (R8x40)	Miss Kenyon's Strathspey (S4x32)
Hazel Tree (J8x32)	Lady in Red 2 (J5x32)	Miss Shearer's Strathspey (S8x32)
High Society (R4x40)	Lady Sophia Lindsay (R4x32)	Mixer Box (The) (R8x32) Different. Not as difficult as it appears.
Hills of Alba (R4x32)	Laird of Milton's Daughter (J8x32)	#Monica's Way (2 chords) (J4x32)#
Hollin buss (J8x32)	Laird o' the Land (J8x32)	Moray Rant (S3x32)
Hoy Tensome (The) (Square) Fun Dance - --- R5x40	Last o' the Lairds (J8x32)	Mr Duncan MacLean (J8x32)
Humours of California (S8x32) (to celebrate marriage of Marian Anderson & Max Kitchin)	Lea Rig (S8x32) to enjoy, bars 1-16 must be danced correctly. Music good.	Mrs MacPherson of Inveran (R8x32)
Hunter's Moon (J4x32)	Let's Have a Ceilidh (R4x32)	Mrs Milne of Kinneff (Square) (S4x32) (George Stirrat has very powerful music for this dance.
#Huntsman (The) (J4x40)#	Let the Hackles Rise (J4x48)	Mrs Stewart of Fasnacloich (R8x32)
Immigrant Lass (J4x32)	Links with St Petersburg (J8x32)	#Mrs Stuart Linnell (R8x40)#
Inchmickery (J5x32) Fun dance	Linnea's Strathspey (S8x32)	My Golden Bear (J4x32)
Inimitable Derek (R8x32)	Lochalsh Reel (R8x40)	Napier's Index (J8x40)
Inside oot Fisheater (R5x32)	Lochindorb Strathspey (S3x32)	Neil M. Grant (J8x32)
Iona Cross Mx1[3xSx32+3xRx32]]	Lobster in the Pot (J8x32) 2 cple. A bit corny but was good fun!	Never at Sea (R6x48) 6 cple.
Irish Rover (R8x32)	Lord Maclay's Reel (R4x40)	Norah (J1x96) Sq
It's Just for Fun (J8x32)	Macdonald of Keppoch Mx1(S2x32+R2x32) Sq	Norfolk Broads Hornpipe (R8x32)
It Wisnae Me (S4x32)	Macdonald of the Isles (S3x32)	Nottingham Lace (R1x96)
Jag's Jig (J8x32)	Mairi's Wedding (R8x40)	#Ocean Voyage (H5x32)#
James Gray (J4x32)	Major Ian Stewart (J8x32)	Old Grey Cat (R8x32)
Jane's Jig (Petyt) (J4x32)	Maxwells' Rant (R8x32)	Orpington Caledonians (R8x32) RSCDS Bk49.
Jean Martin of Aberdeen (S3x32)	Meeting of the Waters (R8x48)	Orwell Lodge Strathspey (S3x32) (note bars 25-32)
Jillwitha j (R3x48)	Merry St Andrews (J8x40)	Patched Bagpipe (The) (J4x32)
Jim Johnstone's Reel (R8x32)	#Meopham Green (J5x48) (5 cpl) # pronounced 'mefam'.	Peacocks in the Glen (R4x32) Unusual dance. Fun dance.
Joe McDairmid's Jig (J4x32)	Midnight Ferry (R4x40) Square	Peat Fire Flame (R8x40)
John Cass (J5x32)	Midnight Oil (J5x48)	Peggy Dewar (R8x32)
Johnnie Walker (S64+J64) Sq	Midsummer Common (S8x32)	Peggy Spouse MBE (S8x32)
Johnnie's Welcome Hame (R8x40)	Milton's Welcome (R8x32)	Phantom Piper (J4x32)
Joie de Vivre (J8x32)	Minard Castle (R8x40)	Pillar Box Reel (R4x32)
Just as I was in the Morning (R8x40)	Minister on the Loch (S3x32)	Pines of Pitlochry (J8x48)
Kelloholm Jig (J8x32)	Miss Eleanor (S3x32)	Plantation Reel (R5x32)

Polharrow Burn (R5x32)	Slytherin House (S8x32) Ssssssnakey music.	#Tullyvolen (R5x32) Sq#
Portincaple (R8x32*)	Snake Pass (J8x32)	Two Roses (S8x32)
Portnacraig (R8x32)	Snow on the Mountain (J8x32)	Uppies and Doonies (J4x32)
Postie's Jig (J4x32)	Southern Cross R8x32	Vale of Atholl (J8x32)
Preston Mill (R5x32)	Spiffen (J5x32)	Waggle o' the Kilt (J8x40)
#Prince Charlie's Quickstep (J4x48)#	Spirit of the Dance (S8x32)	Waternish Tangle (The) (J8x32)
Purple Heather Jig (J4x40)	Spot of Bother R8x32	Water of Life (Uisge Beatha) (S3x32)
Ramadan-ce (R8x32)	Spring Fling Reel (The) (R8x40) Book 50.	Wee Cooper o' Fife (J8x40)
Raven's Dance (J8x32)	Staircase in Styria (A) (R5x40) 5C set M Gray. Must be Marian Anderson 'The Sunday Class' Dance Book 2. CD ref TSCO2MA.	#Wee Green Book (Square) (R1x96)#
Ray Milbourne (R4x32)	#Stirling at 90 (5 cple) (R5x32)#	Weathercock (The) (J4x32)
Recumbent Stone (R5x48)	#St Magnus Quadrille (Square) RorJ(1x88) Dufftown Dance.#	Welcome to Dufftown (J8x32)
Red Squirrel (R8x32)	St Marks Celebration Jig (J8x32)	Welcome to Nerja (J5x48) (5 cple)
Reel of the Puffins (R4x32)	Sueno's Stone (R8x32)	Welcome to the Ball (J8x32) Good introduction dance. Birl friendly.
Rest and be Thankful	Sugar Candie (S8x32)	Wellington Connection (The) (R8x32)
#Restless Ghost (The) (R8x32)#	Sugar Loaf Jig (J8x32)	Westminster Reel (R8x32)
Rodney's Rant (J8x32)	Summer Assembly (R1x88)	We've Nae Electric (R5x32)
Rougemont Castle (S3x32)	Sunnyside (The) (J8x32)	Whigmaleeries (R8x32)
Royal Wedding (S8x32)	Swiss Lassie (R8x32)	White Heather Jig (J4x40)
Ruby Rant (The) (R8x32) (must be Jim Lindsay track - RSCDS Book 49)	Tattie Bogle (J8x32) (Scarecrow) (a programme filler)	#White Rabbit (The) (R8x32)#
Ruby Wilkinson's Farewell to Cranshaws (S4x32) (must be Jim Lindsay's track Book 52)	Thistle and the Columbine (The) (J8x32)	Wicked Willie (R4x32)
Rutland Reel (The) (R8x40)	Thornhill Strathspey (The) (S3x32)	Wild Goose Chase (J4x32)
Saltire Society Reel (R8x32) (a fill-in dance).	Thrums Cairn (The) (R8x32)	World Turned Upside Down (The)
#Salute to Glasgow (S8x32)#	Toast of Bon Accord (J8x32)	Woodland Reel (The) (R8x40)
Sands of Morar (S8x32)	#Toast to St Andrews (R4x48)#	Ysobel Stewart of Fish Hoek (S8x32)
Scallywag (The)-----J8x40	Todlen Hame (J8x32)	Ythanside (S8x32) (can be S3x32)
Scott Meikle (R4x32)	Topsy Turvey (S3x32) It's another strathspey but don't underestimate it.	Zoologist (J8x32)
Shene Gate.....(Square).....(J4x32)	Torrison Lassies (J8x40)	RECENTLY ADDED (23/10/22):-
Shetland Shepherdess (The) (J8x32)	Treasurer (The) (J8x32)	Elphinstone Jig (J8x32)
Shifftin'Bobbins (R8x32)	Tribute to the Borders (J8x32)	Elma McCausland MBE (J4x40)#
#Shortbread Fingers (S3x32)#	Tri-Mariner (The) (R8x32)	RECENTLY REMOVED:-
Silver City Strathspey (S8x32)	Trip to Bavaria (R4x32) Good Music	None
Silver Square (The)---(Square)---(5 cpls)---R5x32)	Trip to Timber Ridge (R8x32)	Marker Explanation.
Simple Little Strathspey (A) (S3x48)		# = dance requires particular preparation or be taught on the night (the entire dance may be complicated or just one movement within the dance).
Singing Sands (S3x32)		