DANCEBOY'S LIST OF BEST DANCES - Latest revision 8/11/26.

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, Beauly, 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)

Ageing Gracefully (S8x32)

#Aird of Coigach (J4x48)#

Airie Bennan(J5x32)

Alex T. Queen (R4x48)

Anna Holden's Strathspey (S8x32)

Anne McArthur (S3x32) (simple filler dance)

Another Piece of Silver (R8x32)

Argyll's Farewell to Stirling

#Arcadian Jig (J2x48)#

Auchinellan Jig J8x32)

Auld Friends Meet (S8x32)

Auld Lang Syne (S8x32)

Australian Ladies (R4x32)

Aviator (The) (J8x32)

Back to the Fireside (R8x32)

Baldovan Reel

#Bannockburn 700 (J8x40)#

Bauldy Bain's Fiddle (R8x32)

Bearsden Jig (J8x32)

Beauty of the North (S8x32)

Bees of Maggieknockater

Belle o' Bon Accord (S4x32)

Bert McCroskie (R5x32)

Best Set in the Hall

Birlin' Sporrans (R8x40)

Birls Allowed (J8x32)

Black Black Oil (R5x32)

Black Mountain Reel

Blackwater Reel (R8x32)

Bonnie Lass o' Bon Accord (Square) (S1x64)

Bonnie Tree (S8x32)

Bonny Bells of Heather (The) (6 cpls) (R6x32) Jean Attwood Alexander Bk8 (4s+5s+6s start on opposite sides)

Bratach Bana (R8x32)

#Brecon in March (R5x40) Sq#

Brig Amity (The) (R8x40)

Brisk Young Lad (J5x48)

Broadford Bay (R8x32)

Broadway (S3x32) Dance OK but Music MUST be 'Give My Regards to Broadway'

Buchan Lass (J4x32) Good +

Buckie Loon (R8x32)

Burniboozle (R8x32)

Burns Bicentenary Strathspey (S4x32)

Butterfly (R4x32) (Gaye Collin NZ) Recommended music is The Craven Twelvesome - CD 'A Tribute to Derek Haynes'.

Button Boy (The) (R8x32) W Zobel Allanton College.

Byron Strathspey (S3x32)

Caddam Wood (R5x32)

Cadgers in the Canongate (R8x48)

Campbeltown Loch (J8x48)

Cannadine Strathspey (S8x32)

Cape Breton Hornpipe (R4x32)

Capetown Wedding (S8x32)

Captain John Vancouver (J4x32)

Captain MacBean's Reel

Cat & the Fiddle (The) (J8x32)

#Carleton Jig (J4x32)#

Cashmere Shawl (S8x32)

Chasing the Eclipse (S3x32)

Chequered Court (The) (J8x32)

Christmas Ceilidh (A) (R8x40)

City of Stirling Reel (R8x32)

City Lights (J8x32)

Clutha (R4x48) Sq

Cocket Hat (The) (J8x40)

Colin's Kilts (J8x40)

Come Up to the Top (J4x32) Nice wee fill-in dance.

Compliments to the Lawsons S4x32

Cooper's Wife (J8x40)

Countess of Dunmore's Reel (The) (R8x32)

Cramond Bridge (R8x32)

Crème de La Crème (J3x32) Music MUST be Ian Slater 'From Manse to Dance' Track No2

Crossing the Line (R6x32) 3 cple

Cuckoo Clock (The) (R8x32)

Cuillins of Skye (S8x32)

Cullen Skink (S4x32)

Dagmar's Fancy (S3x32)

Dancing in the Street (R4x32)

Dancing Master (J1x96) Sq

Dancing Shepherds (The) (J8x32)

Dancing Spirit (J8x32)

Dandelion Picker (The) (R8x32)

Darlington Dancer (The)- Mx1(S2x40+R2x40) #

#Deer Friends (S8x32)#

Diamond Jubilee (J4x32)

Diamond Quarrie (R8x32)

Don's Reel (R8x40)

#Dragonfly (The) (J8x32)#

Dream Catcher (S1x96) Sq)(now over-danced)

Duke of Perth (R8x32)

Duke of Wellington (The) (R8x32)

Duncan Gray (R8x40)

Dunfermline City Reel (R4x32)

Dunsinane (S8x32)

Earl of Mansfield (R4x48)

Ederline (S3x32)

Elma McCausland MBE (J4x40)#

Elphinstone Jig (J8x32)

Endrick Water (S3x32)

Elephant Stampede (J4x48) Sq

Eternal Friendship (R4x32)

Falls of Bracklinn (S4x32) #

Falls of Rogie (R8x32)

Faraway Isles (J4x48)

Farewell to Crumlin (J4x32)

Farewell to Balfour Road (5 cple) J1x96 (Music good. It's different!)

Far North Queensland (S5x32)

Father Connelly's Jig (J4x64)(now over-danced)

Festival Man (The) (J8x32)

Findlater Castle (R8x32) Music SHOULD be Findlater Castle 'A the Best Frae Bannfshire' Colin Dewar

Fife Ness (R8x32)

Finnan Haddies (S4x32)

Fireworks Reel (R8x32) (bars 9,10 & 17,18 must be mastered)

First Rain of Spring (The) (J3x32)

Fisherman's Reel (R5x32) Sq

Flora's Cross (S8x32)

Flora's Fancy (J8x32)

Flower o' the Quern (S4x32)

Four Score and Ten (S8x32)

Foxhill Court (S8x32)

Fraser's Favourite (R8x32)

Freshwater Bay (J3x32) (Maggie Burns)

Gaelforce Wind (J8x32)

Galloping Carousel (The) (J4x32)

Gavin's Reel (R5x32) (Sq)

Georgie's Jig (J4x32)

Gin and Tonic (A) Mx1(S3x32+R3x32) Scott

Glastonbury Tor (R8x32)

Glayva (R8x32)

Glenalmond Gamekeeper (R8x40)

Glen Pavilion (The) (S4x32)

Golden Boy (J8x32)

Golden Memories (S3x32)

Golden Years (S8x32)

Gothenburg's Welcome (J8x32)

Granny Knot (The) (R8x32)

#Gypsy Dreams (S6x32) 3cple.#

Happiness is Scottish Country Dancing (H8x32)

Happy Christmas (J8x32)

Happy Meeting (J8x32)

Hazel Tree (J8x32) Superior dance!

High Society (R4x40)

Hills of Alba (R4x32)

Hollin buss (J8x32)

House Keys of Lisbon (The) S3x32 triangular. Encores often requested.

Hoy Tensome (The) (Square) Fun Dance ---- R5x40

Humours of California (S8x32) (to celebrate marriage of Marian Anderson & Max Kitchin)

Hundred Years Since (A) R8x32

Hunter's Moon (J4x32)

#Huntsman (The) (J4x40)#

Immigrant Lass (J4x32)

Inchmickery (J5x32) Fun dance

Inimitable Derek (R8x32)

Inside oot Fisheater (R5x32)

Iona Cross Mx1[3xSx32+3xRx32)]

Irish Rover (R8x32)

It's Just for Fun (J8x32)

It Wisnae Me (S4x32)

Jag's Jig (J8x32)

James Gray (J4x32)

Jane's Jig (Petyt) (J4x32)

Jean Martin of Aberdeen (S3x32)

Jill's Purple Party (R8x32)

JillWithAJ (R3x48)

Jim Johnstone's Reel (R8x32)

Jim's Haberdashery (J8x40)

Joe McDairmid's Jig (J4x32)

John Cass (J5x32)

Johnnie Walker (S64+J64) Sq

Johnnie's Welcome Hame (R8x40)

Joie de Vivre (J8x32)

Juniper Jig (J4x32) #

Just as I was in the Morning (R8x40)

Kelloholm Jig (J8x32)

Kenora Reel (R8x32)

Kilt Maker (The) (R4x32)

Kinfauns Castle (S5x32)

King'sChapel (S8x32)

Knotwork (J4x40)

Ladies of Dunse (R8x40)

Lady in Red 2 (J5x32)

Lady Sophia Lindsay (R4x32)

Laird of Milton's Daughter (J8x32)

Laird o' the Land (J8x32)

Last o' the Lairds (J8x32)

Lea Rig (S8x32) to enjoy, bars 1-16 must be danced correctly. Music good.

Let's Have a Ceilidh (R4x32)

Let the Hackles Rise (J4x48)

#Light Hearted Una (square) R5x32#

Links with St Petersburg (J8x32)

Linnea's Strathspey (S8x32)

Lochalsh Reel (R8x40)

#Loch Fitty Jig (J8x32) Alison Austin
Optional - on 2nd turn 1M leads
A Dunfermline Collection

Lochindorb Strathspey (S3x32)

Lobster in the Pot (J8x32) 2 cple. A bit corny but was good fun!

Lord Maclay's Reel (R4x40)

Macdonald of Keppoch Mx1(S2x32+R2x32) Sq

Macdonald of the Isles (S3x32)

Mairi's Wedding (R8x40)

Major Ian Stewart (J8x32)

Maxwells' Rant (R8x32)

Meeting of the Waters (R8x48)

Merry St Andrews (J8x40)

#Meopham Green (J5x48) (5 cpl) # pronounced 'mefam'.

Midnight Ferry (R4x40) Square

Midnight Oil (J5x48)

Midsummer Common (S8x32)

Milngavie Maestro (J8x32) Simple dance with birl at end.

Milton's Welcome (R8x32)

Minard Castle (R8x40)

Minister on the Loch (S3x32)

Miss Eleanor (S3x32)

Miss Frances Martin Mx1(S32+R32)

#Miss Gabrielle's Reel (R8x32)(tricky)#

Miss Gibson's Strathspey (S8x32)

Miss Johnstone of Ardrossan (R5x32)

Miss Kenyon's Strathspey (S4x32)

Miss Shearer's Strathspey (S8x32)

Mixer Box (The) (R8x32) Different. Not as difficult as it appears.

#Monica's Way (2 chords) (J4x32)#

Moray Rant (S3x32)

Mr Duncan MacLean (J8x32)

Mrs MacPherson of Inveran (R8x32)

Mrs Milne of Kinneff (Square) (S4x32) (George Stirrat has very powerful music for this dance.

Mrs Stewart of Fasnacloich (R8x32)

#Mrs Stuart Linnell (R8x40)#

My Golden Bear (J4x32)

Napier's Index (J8x40)

Neil M. Grant (J8x32)

Never at Sea (R6x48) 6 cple.

#Nikko Falls (The) (Square) R8x32 #

Norah (J1x96) Sq

Norfolk Broads Hornpipe (R8x32)

Nottingham Lace (R1x96)

#Ocean Voyage (H5x32)#

Old Grey Cat (R8x32)

Orchards of County Armagh (S3x32)

Orpington Caledonians (R8x32) RSCDS Bk49.

Orwell Lodge Strathspey (S3x32) (note bars 25-32)

Patched Bagpipe (The) (J4x32)

Peacocks in the Glen (R4x32) Unusual dance. Fun dance.

Peat Fire Flame (R8x40)

Peggy Dewar (R8x32)

Peggy Spouse MBE (S8x32)

Phantom Piper (J4x32)

Pillar Box Reel (R4x32)

Pines of Pitlochry (J8x48)

Pipped at the Post (R8x32)

Plantation Reel (R5x32)

Polharrow Burn (R5x32)

Portincaple (R8x32*)

Portincaple Oak (Square) Mx1(S1x32+R1x32)

Portnacraig (R8x32)

Postie's Jig (J4x32)

Preston Mill (R5x32)

#Prince Charlie's Quickstep (J4x48)#

Purple Heather Jig (J4x40)

Raising the Anchor (R5x32)

Ramadan-ce (R8x32)

Raven's Dance (J8x32)

Ray Milbourne (R4x32)

Recumbent Stone (R5x48)

Red Squirrel (R8x32)

Reel of the Puffins (R4x32)

Rest and be Thankful

#Restless Ghost (The) (R8x32)#

Return to Shieldaig (S3x32)

Roaring Twenties (The) (R8x32)#

Rodney's Rant (J8x32)

Rothbury Ramble (The) Mx1(S64+R64)

Rougemont Castle (S3x32)

Royal Wedding (S8x32)

Ruby Rant (The) (R8x32) (must be Jim Lindsay track - RSCDS Book 49)

Ruby Wilkinson's Farewell to Cranshaws (S4x32) (must be Jim Lindsay's track Book 52)

Rutland Reel (The) (R8x40)

Saltire Society Reel (R8x32) (a fill-in dance).

#Salute to Glasgow (S8x32)#

Sands of Morar (S8x32)

Scallywag (The)------J8x40)

Scott Meikle (R4x32)

Shene Gate…..(Square)…..(J4x32)

Shetland Shepherdess (The) (J8x32)

Shiftin'Bobbins (R8x32)

#Shortbread Fingers (S3x32)#

Silver City Strathspey (S8x32)

Silver Square (The)---(Square)---(5 cpls)---R5x32)

Simple Little Strathspey (A) (S3x48)

Singing Sands (S3x32)

Slytherin House (S8x32) Sssssnakey music.

Snake Pass (J8x32)

Snow on the Mountain (J8x32)

Southern Cross R8x32

Spiffen (J5x32)

Spirit of the Dance (S8x32)

Spot of Bother R8x32

Spring Fling Reel (The) (R8x40) Book 50.

Staircase in Styria (A) (R5x40) 5C set M Gray. Must be Marian Anderson 'The Sunday Class' Dance Book 2. CD ref TSCO2MA.

#Stirling at 90 (5 cple) (R5x32)#

#St Magnus Quadrille (Square) RorJ(1x88) Dufftown Dance.#

St Marks Celebration Jig (J8x32)

Sueno's Stone (R8x32)

Sugar Candie (S8x32)

Sugar Loaf Jig (J8x32)

Summer Assembly (R1x88)

Sunnyside (The) (J8x32)

Swiss Lassie (R8x32)

Tattie Bogle (J8x32) (Scarecrow) (a programme filler)

Thank You Patricia (S8x32)

Thistle and the Columbine (The) (J8x32)

Thornhill Strathspey (The) (S3x32)

Thrums Cairn (The) (R8x32)

Toast of Bon Accord (J8x32)

#Toast to St Andrews (R4x48)#

Todlen Hame (J8x32)

Topsy Turvey (S3x32) It's another strathspey but don't underestimate it.

Torridon Lassies (J8x40)

Treasurer (The) (J8x32)

Tribute to the Borders (J8x32)

Tri-Mariner (The) (R8x32)

#Trip around Salt Spring R3x40# (Lot to remember - should be danced twice)

Trip to Bavaria (R4x32) Good Music

Trip to Timber Ridge (R8x32)

#Tullyvolen (R5x32) Sq#

Two Roses (S8x32)

Uppies and Doonies (J4x32)

Vale of Atholl (J8x32)

Waggle o' the Kilt (J8x40)

Waternish Tangle (The) (J8x32)

Water of Life (Uisge Beatha) (S3x32)

Wee Cooper o' Fife (J8x40)

#Wee Green Book (Square) (R1x96)#

Weathercock (The) (J4x32)

Welcome to Dufftown (J8x32)

Welcome to Nerja (J5x48) (5 cple)

Welcome to the Ball (J8x32) Good introduction dance. Birl ffriendly.

Wellington Connection (The) (R8x32)

Westminster Reel (R8x32)

We've Nae Electric (R5x32)

Whigmaleeries (R8x32)

White Heather Jig (J4x40)

#White Rabbit (The) (R8x32)#

Wicked Willie (R4x32)

Wild Goose Chase (J4x32)

World Turned Upside Down (The)

Woodland Reel (The) (R8x40)

Young Accordion Man (R8x32) Simple fill-in dance. Good for new birlers!

Ysobel Stewart of Fish Hoek (S8x32)

Ythanside (S8x32) (can be S3x32)

Zoologist (J8x32)

Zytglogge R8x32

RECENTLY ADDED:-

Young Accordion Man (R8x32) Simple fill-in dance. Good for new birlers!

Milngavie Maestro (J8x32) Simple dance with birl at end.

House Keys of Lisbon (The) S3x32 triangular. Encores often requested.

Thank You Patricia (S8x32)

RECENTLY REMOVED:-

None.

Marker Explanation.

= dance requires particular preparation or be taught on the night (the entire dance may be complicated or just one movement within the dance).