

DANCEBOY'S LIST OF BEST DANCES - Updated 14/9/24.

(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, Beaully, 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	#Bannockburn 700 (J8x40)#
Ageing Gracefully (S8x32)	#Arcadian Jig (J2x48)#	Bauldy Bain's Fiddle (R8x32)
#Aird of Coigach (J4x48)#	Auchinellan Jig J8x32)	Bearsden Jig (J8x32)
Airie Bennan(J5x32)	Auld Friends Meet (S8x32)	Beauty of the North (S8x32)
Alex T. Queen (R4x48)	Auld Lang Syne (S8x32)	Bees of MaggieKnockater
Anna Holden's Strathspey (S8x32)	Australian Ladies (R4x32)	Belle o' Bon Accord (S4x32)
Anne McArthur (S3x32) (simple filler dance)	Aviator (The) (J8x32)	Bert McCroskie (R5x32)
Another Piece of Silver (R8x32)	Back to the Fireside (R8x32)	Best Set in the Hall
	Baldovan Reel	Birlin' Sporrans (R8x40)

Birls Allowed (J8x32)	Christmas Ceilidh (A) (R8x40)	Earl of Mansfield (R4x48)
Black Black Oil (R5x32)	City of Stirling Reel (R8x32)	Ederline (S3x32)
Black Mountain Reel	City Lights (J8x32)	Elma McCausland MBE (J4x40)#
Blackwater Reel (R8x32)	Clutha (R4x48) Sq	Elphinstone Jig (J8x32)
Bonnie Lass o' Bon Accord (Square) (S1x64)	Cocket Hat (The) (J8x40)	Endrick Water (S3x32)
Bonnie Tree (S8x32)	Colin's Kilts (J8x40)	Elephant Stampede (J4x48) Sq
Bonny Bells of Heather (The) (6 cpls) (R6x32) Jean Attwood Alexander Bk8 (4s+5s+6s start on opposite sides)	Come Up to the Top (J4x32) Nice wee fill-in dance.	Falls of Bracklinn (S4x32) #
Bratach Bana (R8x32)	Compliments to the Lawsons S4x32	Falls of Rogie (R8x32)
#Brecon in March (R5x40) Sq#	Cooper's Wife (J8x40)	Faraway Isles (J4x48)
Brig Amity (The) (R8x40)	Countess of Dunmore's Reel (The) (R8x32)	Farewell to Crumlin (J4x32)
Brisk Young Lad (J5x48)	Cramond Bridge (R8x32)	Farewell to Balfour Road (5 cple) J1x96 (Music good. It's different!)
Broadford Bay (R8x32)	Crème de La Crème (J3x32) Music MUST be Ian Slater 'From Manse to Dance' Track No2	Far North Queensland (S5x32)
Broadway (S3x32) Dance OK but Music MUST be 'Give My Regards to Broadway'	Crossing the Line (R6x32) 3 cple	Father Connelly's Jig (J4x64)(now over-danced)
Buchan Lass (J4x32) Good +	Cuckoo Clock (The) (R8x32)	Festival Man (The) (J8x32)
Buckie Loon (R8x32)	Cuillins of Skye (S8x32)	Findlater Castle (R8x32) Music SHOULD be Findlater Castle 'A the Best Frae Bannfshire' Colin Dewar
Burniboozle (R8x32)	Cullen Skink (S4x32)	Fife Ness (R8x32)
Burns Bicentenary Strathspey (S4x32)	Dagmar's Fancy (S3x32)	Finnan Haddies (S4x32)
Butterfly (R4x32) (Gaye Collin NZ) Recommended music is The Craven Twelvesome - CD 'A Tribute to Derek Haynes'.	Dancing in the Street (R4x32)	Fireworks Reel (R8x32) (bars 9,10 & 17,18 must be mastered)
Button Boy (The) (R8x32) W Zobel Allanton College.	Dancing Master (J1x96) Sq	First Rain of Spring (The) (J3x32)
Byron Strathspey (S3x32)	Dancing Shepherds (The) (J8x32)	Fisherman's Reel (R5x32) Sq
Caddam Wood (R5x32)	Dancing Spirit (J8x32)	Flora's Cross (S8x32)
Cadgers in the Canongate (R8x48)	Dandelion Picker (The) (R8x32)	Flora's Fancy (J8x32)
Campbeltown Loch (J8x48)	Darlington Dancer (The)- Mx1(S2x40+R2x40) #	Flower o' the Quern (S4x32)
Cannadine Strathspey (S8x32)	#Deer Friends (S8x32)#	Four Score and Ten (S8x32)
Cape Breton Hornpipe (R4x32)	Diamond Jubilee (J4x32)	Foxhill Court (S8x32)
Capetown Wedding (S8x32)	Diamond Quarrie (R8x32)	Fraser's Favourite (R8x32)
Captain John Vancouver (J4x32)	Don's Reel (R8x40)	Freshwater Bay (J3x32) (Maggie Burns)
Captain MacBean's Reel	#Dragonfly (The) (J8x32)#	Gaelforce Wind (J8x32)
Cat & the Fiddle (The) (J8x32)	Dream Catcher (S1x96) Sq)(now over-danced)	Gavin's Reel (R5x32) (Sq)
#Carleton Jig (J4x32)#	Duke of Perth (R8x32)	Georgie's Jig (J4x32)
Cashmere Shawl (S8x32)	Duke of Wellington (The) (R8x32)	Gin and Tonic (A) Mx1(S3x32+R3x32) Scott
Chasing the Eclipse (S3x32)	Duncan Gray (R8x40)	Glastonbury Tor (R8x32)
Chequered Court (The) (J8x32)	Dunfermline City Reel (R4x32)	Glayva (R8x32)
	Dunsinane (S8x32)	Glenalmond Gamekeeper (R8x40)

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

Patched Bagpipe (The) (J4x32)	Sands of Morar (S8x32)	Toast of Bon Accord (J8x32)
Peacocks in the Glen (R4x32) Unusual dance. Fun dance.	Scallywag (The)-----J8x40)	#Toast to St Andrews (R4x48)#
Peat Fire Flame (R8x40)	Scott Meikle (R4x32)	Todlen Hame (J8x32)
Peggy Dewar (R8x32)	Shene Gate.....(Square).....(J4x32)	Topsy Turvey (S3x32) It's another strathspey but don't underestimate it.
Peggy Spouse MBE (S8x32)	Shetland Shepherdess (The) (J8x32)	Torridon Lassies (J8x40)
Phantom Piper (J4x32)	Shifftin'Bobbins (R8x32)	Treasurer (The) (J8x32)
Pillar Box Reel (R4x32)	#Shortbread Fingers (S3x32)#	Tribute to the Borders (J8x32)
Pines of Pitlochry (J8x48)	Silver City Strathspey (S8x32)	Tri-Mariner (The) (R8x32)
Plantation Reel (R5x32)	Silver Square (The)---(Square)---(5 cpls)---R5x32)	#Trip around Salt Spring R3x40# (Lot to remember - should be danced twice)
Polharrow Burn (R5x32)	Simple Little Strathspey (A) (S3x48)	Trip to Bavaria (R4x32) Good Music
Portincaple (R8x32*)	Singing Sands (S3x32)	Trip to Timber Ridge (R8x32)
Portincaple Oak (Square) Mx1(S1x32+R1x32)	Slytherin House (S8x32) Ssssssnakey music.	#Tullyvolen (R5x32) Sq#
Portnacraig (R8x32)	Snake Pass (J8x32)	Two Roses (S8x32)
Postie's Jig (J4x32)	Snow on the Mountain (J8x32)	Uppies and Doonies (J4x32)
Preston Mill (R5x32)	Southern Cross R8x32	Vale of Atholl (J8x32)
#Prince Charlie's Quickstep (J4x48)#	Spiffen (J5x32)	Waggle o' the Kilt (J8x40)
Purple Heather Jig (J4x40)	Spirit of the Dance (S8x32)	Waternish Tangle (The) (J8x32)
Raising the Anchor (R5x32)	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)#		Woodland Reel (The) (R8x40)
		Ysobel Stewart of Fish Hoek (S8x32)

Ythanside (S8x32) (can be S3x32)

Zoologist (J8x32)

Zytglogge R8x32

RECENTLY ADDED:-

City Lights (J8x32)

Raising the Anchor (R5x32)

Juniper Jig (J4x32) #

Falls of Bracklinn (S4x32) #

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

Orchards of County Armagh (S3x32)

Portincaple Oak (Square)
Mx1(S1x32+R1x32) Anne Thorn. Magic of
Music 2.

Dunfermline City Reel (R4x32) 4C Set
Alison Austin. 'A Dunfermline Collection'

Buckie Loon (R8x32)

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

Hundred Years Since (A) R8x32*

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).