

Bedford Session Tunebook

A Collection of Tunes To Play in the Pub

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1. Introduction

This tunebook was assembled for the Bedford Steady Session, an opportunity for players of all acoustic instruments to get together to play folk tunes from English, Northumbrian, Scottish, and continental traditions.

For the session it is a starting point and aide-memoire to help form a common repertoire and know what tunes we know how to play: it is not prescriptive.

If you prefer to play by ear, clicking the title of a tune will take you to a webpage where you can listen to it.

The tune book is organised according to the time signatures of the tunes. Within groupings tunes are generally in alphabetical order.

We generally play tunes three times through, unless they're long, or we lose count and stop early/late, or we get over excited.

Tunes are generally played as 16 bars of each part of the music or as otherwise notated (e.g. in Salmon Tails Up The Water the A music is played twice through, the B music once).

<< Where it is more complicated than that, it is noted above the tune. >>

For example, Zelda is played as (A2B2)2(C2D2)2 A2B2.

That means that:

First you play 16 bars of the A music, then 16 bars of the B music, twice.

Next you play 16 bars of the C music, then 16 bars of the D music, twice.

Finally you play 16 bars of the A music, then 16 bars of the B music.

Alternative chords are shown in brackets if you can't play the first option. For "slashed" chords (e.g. F/C) play the first chord with the bass note only of the second one; if you don't have the first chord then just play that second bass note.

We usually play single tunes, but sometimes play sets. A few basic ideas for things that go well together are:

Captain Lanoe's Quick March -and- Rogue's March

Bear Dance -and- Theme Vannetaise in Em (or Danse de L'Ours -and- An Dro Vannetaise in Am)

Ganivelle -and- Le Canal en Octobre

Lunch in the Pub (simple version) -and- Will's Way

Salmon Tails Up The Water -and- Maggie In The Woods

2. Tunes In Two Time

Including polkas, quick steps, rants, scottishes...

Bear Dance Danse de L'Ours

Trad.

The musical score for 'Bear Dance' is written in 2/4 time and consists of four staves. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The melody is composed of eighth and quarter notes. Chord annotations are placed above the notes: A (first staff), Em (first and second staves), D (first and third staves), G (second and fourth staves), and B (third staff). The score includes repeat signs at the end of the second and fourth staves. Navigation symbols '<<' and '>>' are located on the left and right sides of the third staff.

E minor is the usual key for this tune in England.

Danse de L'Ours

Bear Dance

Trad.

A
Am Am Am G
 C G Am G Am G Am

B
Am G Am G
 C G Am G Am G Am

<< >>

A minor sits better on G/D Anglo Concertina played in the harmonic style.

Canal en Octobre, Le

Scottish

Frédéric Paris

A
 G Am(C) G Am(C) Em D D Em D
 G Am(C) G Am(C) Em D 1 G 2 G

B
 G Am(C) G Am(C) Em D D Em D
 G Am(C) G Am(C) Em D 1 G 2 G

The Congress at Laceby

Quick Step

Trad.

Chords indicated above the staff: A, D, D, D, D, D, A, D, D, G, A, D, D, G, A, D.

From the Joshua Gibbons MS (~1823) from Tealby, Lincolnshire.

Ganivelle

Scottish

Frédéric Paris

A G D G C D
 G D G C D
 C G C G
 C G C D

Pair with another tune as it doesn't resolve to the key note.

Horse's Brawl

Bransle des Chevaux

Bourree

Trad.

Chords indicated in the score:

- Staff 1: A/G, C, D, G, C, D
- Staff 2: G, C, D, G, D, G
- Staff 3: B, G, C, Em, G, D
- Staff 4: G, C, Em, D, G
- Staff 5: C, Gm/E, D, D, D
- Staff 6: Gm/E, D, D, Gm/E, G

From Arbeau's "Orchesographie" (1689)

The Jenny Lind Polka

Jenny Lind

Polka

Anton Wallerstein/Trad.

Chords for the first two staves:

- Staff 1: A, D, G, D, A, D
- Staff 2: D, G, D, A, D

Chords for the last two staves:

- Staff 3: B, Em, G, D, G
- Staff 4: Em, G, D, G

The Louth Quickstep

Trad.

The musical score for 'The Louth Quickstep' is written in 2/4 time and the key of D major (indicated by a single sharp). It consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The melody is composed of eighth and sixteenth notes. Above the first staff, the chords A, G, D, G, and D are indicated. The second staff continues the melody, with chords G, D, D, and G indicated above it. The third staff features a repeat sign at the beginning, followed by the melody, with chords B, G, D, D, G, C, D, D, and G indicated above it. The fourth staff concludes the piece with a repeat sign, with chords G, D, D, D, and G indicated above it.

<< From the Joshua Gibbons MS (~1823) from Tealby, Lincolnshire.
 Not to be confused with the Quickstep From Louth, found in the same
 manuscript. >>

Not For Joe

Dilwyn

Polka
AB

Trad.

Chords: A G D G D

Chords: G D [1 D G] || 2 D G

Chords: B G C G D

Chords: G C G D G

<< >>

Mominette

Scottish

J.F. "Maxou" Heintzen

Chords: A Em Am G Am G

Chords: Em Am G Am G

Chords: B Em G Am G

Chords: Em G Am Em

The Quickstep From Louth

Trad.

A G D G D G D G
 G D C D G
 B G G D D G
 G D C D G
 C G D Em D Em D G
 G D Em D Em D G
 D G Am G D G
 G Am C D G

From the Joshua Gibbons MS (~1823) from Tealby, Lincolnshire.
 Not to be confused with the Louth Quickstep, found in the same manuscript.

Roulante, La

LNB Polka, The

Polka

Jean Blanchard

The musical score for 'Roulante, La' is written in 2/4 time and the key of D major (one sharp). It consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The chords above the first staff are A, D, C, D, Em, D, D, and Em. The second staff continues the melody and includes a first ending bracket labeled '1 A D' and a second ending bracket labeled '2 A D'. The third staff features a repeat sign at the beginning and includes chords Em, Em, D, and D. The fourth staff also includes a first ending bracket labeled '1 D A D' and a second ending bracket labeled '2 D A D'. The score is flanked by double less-than signs (<<) on the left and double greater-than signs (>>) on the right.

Salmon Tails up the Water

Rant
A2B

William Allen/Trad.

Chords: A, G, G, D, C, D; G, G, G, D, G; B, G, C, G, D, G, D; G, C, Em, C, G; G, C, G, D, G, D; G, G, D, G.

Scottish À Catinaux

Scottish

Trad.

Chords: A, G, D, D, [1 D G] [2 D G]; B, G, D, D, [1 D G] [2 D G].

Scottish À Virmoux

Trad.

A G C G C G D
 G C G C G
 B G C G D
 G C G D G

<< >>

Uncle Bernard's

Polka

Trad.

A G G D G
 G G D G
 B C G D G
 C G D G

3. Tunes In Three Time

Including some waltzes and an air (that we tend to play quite waltzy); mazurkas, and three time bourrees, hornpipes and marches may follow one day...

Bonny At Morn

Waltz

Trad.

A
Em Em D D

Em Em D Em

Em Em D D

Em Em Bm Em

B
Em Em D D

Em Em Bm Em

Dr. Mackay's Farewell to Creagorry

Dark Island, The
Eilean Dorcha
Away to the Westward

Air

Ian MacLachlan

Chords: A, Am, Em, C, G, Em, G, D, Am, Em, C, G, D, C, G, G, Em, C, G, Em, G, D, Am, Em, C, G, D, C, G

Players without a the "low" C generally play an E in its place, and in bar 19 play a G.

Harry Gidley's

waltz

Trad.

A D D D Em

A A A D

D D D Em

A A Em(A) D

B D D Em Em

Em Em Em D

D D Em Em

A Em D D

>>

Inconnu de Limoise, L'

Mazurka

J.F. "Maxou" Heintzen

A

G

G

C

D



G

C



B

C

D

G

D



C

Em

1 D



<<

>>

Marianne, La

Waltz

Trad.

A

G

G

C

G

D



G

G

1 D

G

2 C

D



B

Am

G

D

G



Am

G

D

G



The Veleta Waltz

Waltz for the Valeta

Waltz

Trad.

Chords indicated above the staff:

Staff 1: A, D, G (Em), D

Staff 2: D, D, G(Em), D

Staff 3: D, A, G(Em), D

Staff 4: 1 D, A, A, A

Staff 5: 2 G(Em), D, A, D, D

Staff 6: B, D, A, G (Em), D

Staff 7: G(Em), D, A, A

Staff 8: D, A, G (Em), D

Staff 9: G (Em), D, A, D, D

4. Tunes In Four Time

Including an an-dro, hornpipes, marches, reels...

Adieu Les Filles De Mon Pays

March

Trad.

A
G
 G
 G
 D
 G
 G
 D

G
 G
 D
 G
 1 G 2 G

B
 G
 C
 C
 D
 G
 G
 D

G
 C
 C
 D
 G
 1 G 2 G

<< >>

Balquidder Lasses

Trad.

A

Em

Em

D

D



Em

Em

D

Em



B

Em

Em

D

D



Em

Em

D

Em



<<

>>

Black Tom

Graeme Meek

A
Em
Em
G
D
Em D
Em
Em
G
D
Em
B
C
G
Am
G
G
D
Em D
Em
D
G
Am
G
D
Em

Black Tom was a highwayman executed in Bedford 1607 and buried at a crossroads, now the "turbo" roundabout at the top of Union Street. His ghost has been said to have been seen beside the road.

$$A(AB^2)$$

>>

Ciel D'automne

André Brunet

A
 D G D 3 D G G A
 Em D G D Em | 1 Em D | 2 Em D
 B
 G D G D G D Em A
 Em D G D Em | 1 Em D | 2 Em D

<< >>

Donkey Riding

Trad.

A
 G D G D D
 G D G D D G
 B
 C D D G D D
 C G D G D D G

Enrico

Jacob

Thomas Hardy's Favourite

March

Trad.

Chords: A, D, D, D, Em, A, D, D, G, A7, D, B, F#m(D), Bm, Em, A, D, A, D, A, D, A7, D

<< >>

Jamaica

Trad.

Chords: A/G, C, G, D, G, G, C, G, G, D, A, D, G, D, C, G, C, G, D, G

Jimmy Allen

Jamie Allen

James Allen/Trad.

<< >>

A G G Am D

G C G D G

G G A G D

G C G D G

B G Em C A D

G C G D G

Lunch in the Pub

Lunch at the Pub

March

Peter Lockwood

The musical score is written for a march in 4/4 time, treble clef, and one sharp (F#). It consists of four staves of music. The chords indicated above the notes are: A, D, Am, G, D, C, Am on the first staff; D, Am, G, D, C, D on the second staff; B, D, Am, G, D, Am, G on the third staff; and D, Am, G, D, C, D on the fourth staff. The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some measures containing rests. The fourth staff is flanked by navigation arrows '<<' and '>>'.

Simple version as played in some sessions.

Lunch in the Pub

Lunch at the Pub

March

Peter Lockwood

The musical score is written for a melodeon in 4/4 time, featuring a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is presented across four staves. Chords are indicated above the notes: A/D, G, D, Em, D, G, D, Em, D, B, D, Am, G, D, Am, Em, D, Am, G, Am, and a first/second ending with D and Am. The score includes several triplet markings (indicated by a '3' below the notes) and repeat signs. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots. Navigation arrows '<<' and '>>' are placed at the beginning and end of the staff sequence.

Full version as originally written/played by the Cock & Bull Band.
 Melodeon players who don't have a c reversal will need to omit the bass note
 at the start of bars 2 & 6.

Maggie in the Woods

Trad.

A
G

Em G D

G Em G D G

B Em C G D

Em C G D G

<<

>>

Mr & Mrs Mickey Mouse

Trad.

A G C G G C G
 G D G 1 G 2 G
 B Em D G G D
 Am G D G D
 C G C G G C G
 G D G G

Mount Hills

Trad.

Chords for Mount Hills:

- Staff 1: A/G, D, G, G, D
- Staff 2: G, D, C, D, G
- Staff 3: B, D, D, C, G, D
- Staff 4: G, Em, C, G, D, G

Mourisque, La

Basse Danse 5

Tielman Susato

Chords for Mourisque, La:

- Staff 1: G, G, Em, D
- Staff 2: G, G, Em, D, G
- Staff 3: G, G, D, Em, D
- Staff 4: G, G, D, Em, D, G

Over the Hills and Far Away

March

Trad.

Chord progression for "Over the Hills and Far Away":

Staff 1: A G Em D G D

Staff 2: G Em Am Am G G D

Staff 3: B G Em G D

Staff 4: G Em Am Am G G D

Navigation: << >>

Portsmouth

Trad.

Chord progression for "Portsmouth":

Staff 1: A G C G D D

Staff 2: G C G D G

Staff 3: B G G G D D

Staff 4: G C G D G

Princess Royal

Turlough O'Carolan/Trad.

A G C G

Am D G D G

B C G D

G D G C G C G C

Am D G D G

Proudlock's Hornpipe

Hornpipe

Trad.

A

Chords: G D G G D G Em

B

Chords: G D G D G D G

<<

>>

Rigs o' Doom

Frans Tromp

A
 G C D C G G D
 G C D C D G
 B
 Em D Em B Em C A D
 C G C G C G D G
 C G C G C G D G
 C G C G C G D G

Written by a member of Utrecht Morris, in the style of Bampton.

Redwing

Trad.

Chords indicated above the staff:

- Staff 1: A, G, G, C, G
- Staff 2: D, G, D, D
- Staff 3: G, G, C, G
- Staff 4: D, G, D, G
- Staff 5: B, G, C, C, G, G
- Staff 6: D, D, G, G
- Staff 7: C, C, G, G
- Staff 8: D, D, G

Speed the Plough

The Naval Pillar

John Moorehead / Trad.

<< >>

The Naval Pillar is the original name, reflecting a proposed monument to commemorate the battle of the Nile in 1798. The tune became popular once it was used by Thomas Morton in his play *Speed the Plough*; hence its usual name now.

Thème Vannetais (TV)

An Dro Vannetais

An Dro

Trad./Tri Yann

Chord markings above the staves:

- Staff 1: A, Em, Em, D, D, Em
- Staff 2: Em, Em, D, D, Em
- Staff 3: B, Em, Em, D, D
- Staff 4: Em, Em, D, Em

E minor is the usual key for this tune in England.

An Dro Vannetais

Thème Vannetais (TV)

An Dro

Trad./Tri Yann

A
Am

Am

G

G

Am



Am

Am

G

G

Am



B

Am

Am

G

G



Am

Am

G

Am



<<

>>

A minor sits better on G/D Anglo Concertina played in the harmonic style.

Will's Way

Will Ward

Chords: A D, G D, G C G D, D, G D, A D, B, D, D, D, G C G D, D, D, A D.

Young Collins

Trad.

Chords: A G, C D, G C, G D G, B, C, D G, D G, C D, G, C D, G C, G D G.

Blowzabella

Jig
ABCDC

Trad.

A

D

A

D

D

A

D



B

D

A

D

D

A

D



C

D

A

D

D

A

D



D

D

A

D

D

A

D



<<

>>

Captain Lanoe's Quick March

Captain Nemo

Jig

Trad.

A

G

G

D

G

D

G



G

D

G

D

G



B

Em

Em

C

G

G



Em

Em

C

G

D

G



Jump at the Sun

Jig

John Kirkpatrick

A
 Em Em Em Em D
 Em Em Em D D Em
 B
 Em B Em B D
 Em B Em D D Em

<< >>

The D# in the last bar of the third line can alternatively be played as a B.

Lillibulero

Jig

Trad.

A
 G D G C D G
 B
 G D G G D
 C G C G C D G

The Rogue's March

March

Trad.

The musical score for 'The Rogue's March' is written in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. It consists of four staves of music. The chords indicated above the notes are as follows:

- Staff 1: A (above G), G, C, G, D
- Staff 2: G, C, G, D, G
- Staff 3: B, G, D, C, D, G, D, C, D
- Staff 4: G, C, G, D, G

The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some measures containing rests. The key signature is G major, and the time signature is 6/8. The score ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

<<

>>

Zelda

Philippe Plard

(A2B2)2(C2D2)2 A2B2

A

Am Dm(F) Am (C) Am (C) Em |1,3 Em Am (C) ||2,4 Em Am|



B

Am Am Dm Am G |1,3 G Am ||2,4 G Am|



C

Am Am E |1,3 E G Am ||2,4 E E Am|



D

Am Dm G |1,3 Dm ||2,4 DmGAm|



<<

>>

Often referred to as being a chappeloise, Philippe Plard who wrote it calls this a mix.
In England it is common to omit the C and D parts.

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