## Road to the Isles – Ceilidh dance, Strathspey

The Bens of Jura
Road to the Isles

1891 John McClellan (Dunoon, Scotland)



The tune for this dance is the Bens of Jura.

Just repeat this tune over and over, for the dance.

Here are two youtube examples of this dance:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A\_g2boDNzpl https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8atNdDA3oQ0

## Highland Fling – Highland Dance

## The Orange And Blue



Orange and Blue is the traditional tune played by pipers for the Highland Fling. This is a very bouncy dance, with dancers leaping off the ground as high as they can go, on every beat.

8 bars of music are played for the intro and bow for this dance, followed by 8 bars for each step of this solo dance.

Typically, the dancer will dance 4, or 6, sometimes 8 steps.

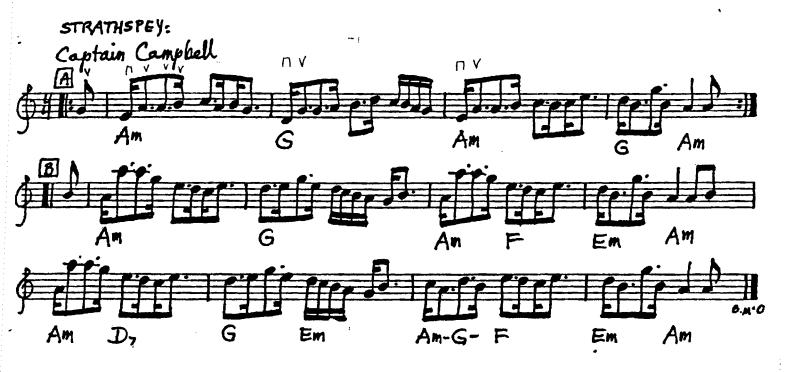
We will play this for a 4 step dance as follows: A, A, A, B, B For six steps, we could play A, A, A, B, B, A, B

This tune is from TheSession.org, with changed notes as Mary remembers.



Em

D (F#)





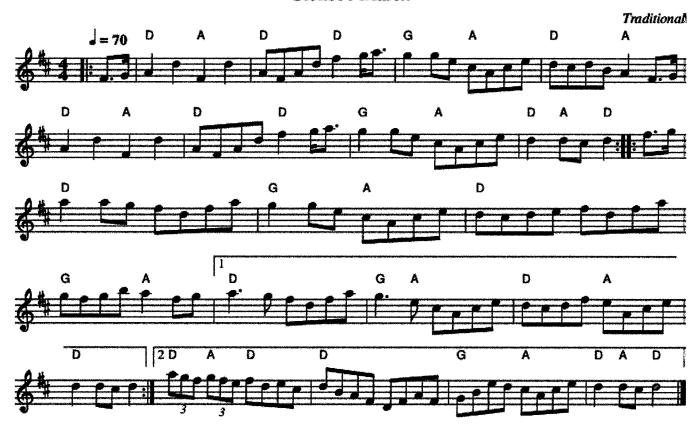
The Strathspey & Reel Society of New Hampshire, Inc.

# Triple S Tunes Smashing Scottish Session Tunes

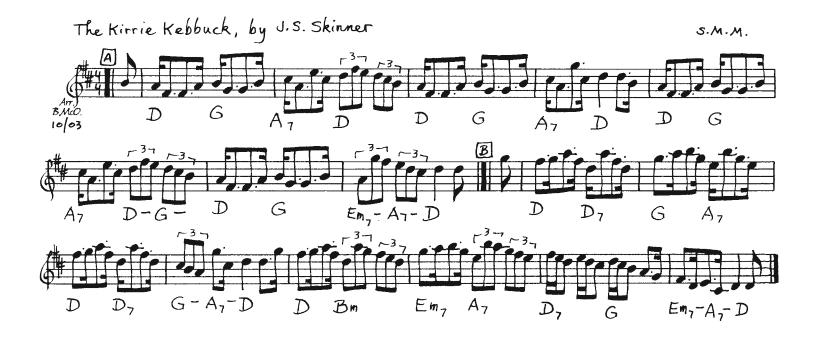


Arranged by B McOwen — January 2005

#### Glencoe March

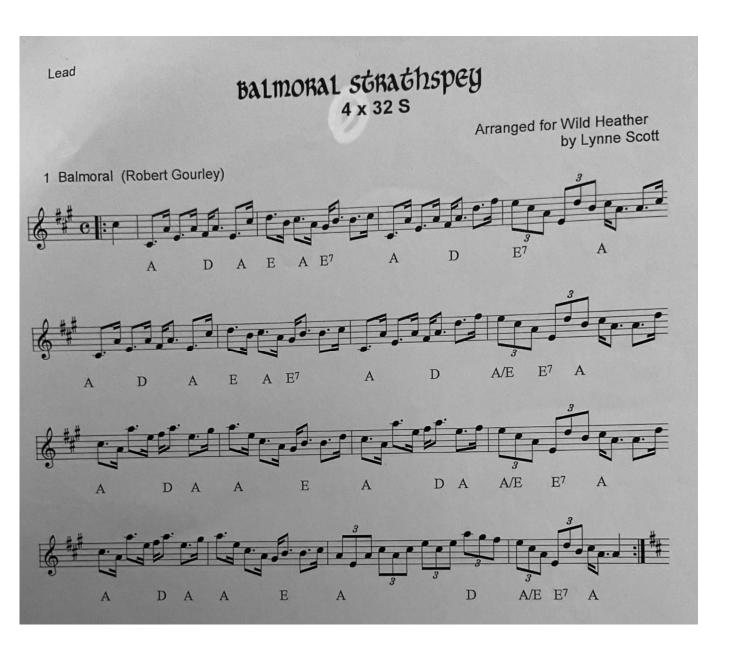


# Triple S Tunes Smashing Scottish Session Tunes





# **Balmoral Strathspey**



#### Calum's Road



The Sweetness Of Mary



#### Joan McDonald Boes

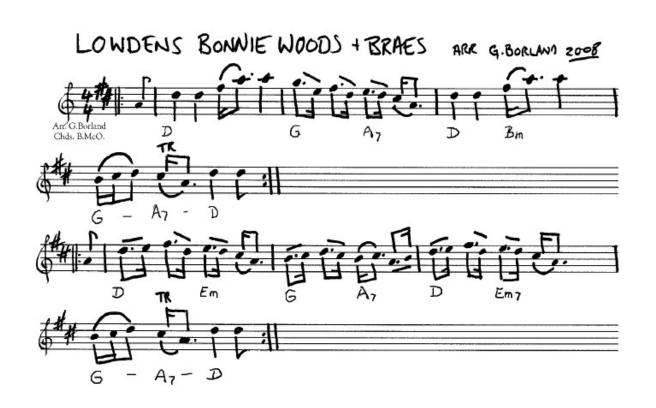
## Sweetness of Mary, The



#### Monymusk









This is often played as a Strathspey ("Slowly") or a "Pastoral" Air.

Nathaniel Gow (1763-1831), the fourth son of famed Scottish fiddle-composer Niel Gow, honored Colonel Hugh Montgomery (1749-1819), Earl of Eglinton, in the parish of Tarbolton, Ayrshire, who was an amateur fiddler and Scottish music enthusiast as the dedicate of "Gow's Fourth Collection of Strathspey Dances" (Edinburgh, 1800) and by naming this tune for his Montgomery family home.

"Coilsfield" refers to the grave of King Coil, which was reputed to lie nearby. Coil, or Coilus, or Coel Hen, was a British king (around 350-420 AD) in the Roman or post-Roman era who was linked to the Strathclyde area and who is probably referenced in the nursery rhyme "Old King Cole" - first recorded in William King's "Useful Transactions in Philosophy" in 1708-9).

The mansion was well-known to the poet Robert Burns (January 25, 1759 - July 21, 1796) when he lived nearby at Lochlea, for it was where he went to meet his Highland Mary (a dairymaid, Mary Campbell) at Coilsfield House. Burns wrote here was where "Summer first unfaulds her robes", and "they langest tarry". Their short romance was from spring to October 1786, she died of a fever caught caring for her sick brother.

2014.10.19

### The Banks of Spey, A Strathspey

William Marshall (1748-1833), Scotland



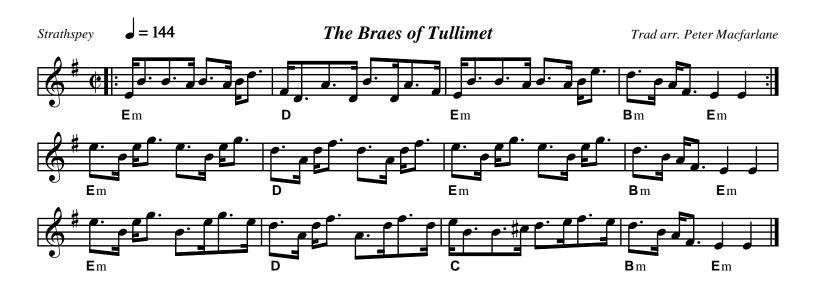
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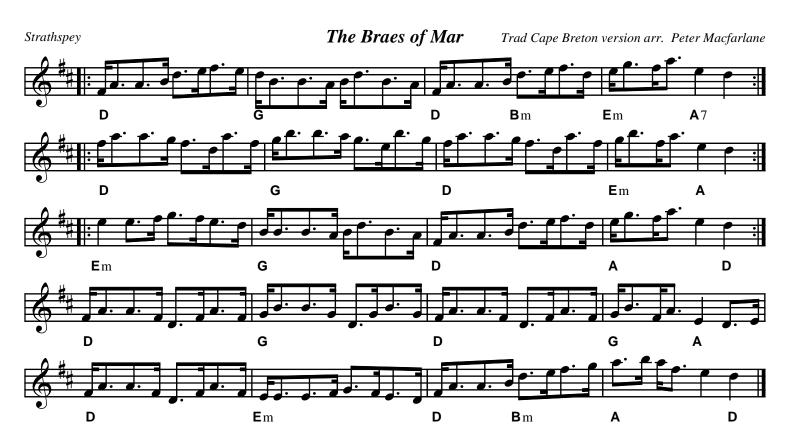
Poet Robert Tannahill wrote verses that fit Marshall's tune:

### The Banks of Spey

Scenes of my childhood, your wanderer hails you, Wing'd with rude storm, though the winter assails you, Bleak and dreary as ye are, ye yet hae charms to cheer me, For here, amidst my native hills, my bonnie lassie's near me.

'Tis sad to see the wither'd lea, the drumly flooded fountain, The angry storm in awful form, that sweeps the moor and mountain; But frae the surly swelling blast, dear lassie, I'll defend her, And frae the bonnie banks o' Spey I never more shall wander.





## Invercald's Rant



### Father John Angus Rankin Strathspey

Donald Angus Beaton



#### King George IV

Trad./Arr. Hamish Moore



#### 295 THE BRAES OF DUNVEGAN SET v01

The Braes of Dunvegan





#### Bowings are suggestions

Ronald "Ronnie" Cooper (1934-82) grew up in Lerwick, the capital and main port of the Shetland Islands, (123 miles off the north coast of the mainland on the east coast of Shetland) with Scottish Dance Music as played by Jimmy Shand and others. He first played accordion and then became very accomplished pianist with a unique and original style, due to his somewhat restricted eyesight. He was the first pianist admitted to the Shetland Fiddlers' Society (formed to revive Shetland's traditional music by Tom Anderson in 1960) and was the principal piano player of legendary local Lounge Bar sessions.

In the mid-60s, Cooper, on accordion, with his friends Willie Hunter (fiddle), Jim Halcrow (accordion), Willie Johnson (double bass), Drew Robertson (drums), and Eric Cooper (piano) formed the famous Hamefarers dance band. They played very little in public, but made a few records which included many of Ronnie's tunes. The five volumes of his compositions (now combined into The Ronnie Cooper Collection) have a unique Shetland flavor. His best known tunes include the march "Da Headlands"; the reels "Millbrae", "Peter Davidson", and "Da Tushkar"; and the waltzes "Ronas Voe", and "Sunset over Foula".

Rhythm: March 2022-07-10

Source: RCC / history FC



