COTTISH COUNTRY DANCING

JUBILEE BOOK 1929 - 2004

The Banffshire Branch of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society presents 12 locally inspired dances

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING IN BANFFSHIRE



Photo – Millbank Primary School Pupils receive 1932 Trophy – see inside for details.

Acknowledgements

The Banffshire Branch of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society is delighted to present its first book of dances which celebrates their 75th Anniversary in 2004. The twelve pieces which are included are all locally inspired.

We wish to acknowledge:

the people who devised the dances: Gary Coull, Margaret Cowie, Bill Forbes, Jean Mair, Jim Stott, Anne Taylor and Bob Taylor

the people who composed the tunes:

Drummond Cook, Alastair Hunter, Winifred Bird Matthew, Graeme Mitchell, Ian and Bill Powrie, Maureen Rutherford, Jack Stalker, and Frank Thomson

the people who assisted with the musical arrangements: Bill Hendry and Jennifer Wilson

and the Banffshire Branch members for their advice and support

We are also delighted to acknowledge George Clark for the layout of the booklet, Peters of Turriff for printing it, and the Banff and Buchan Arts Forum for assistance with funding.

Anne McArthur Chairperson RSCDS Banffshire Branch September 2004

Cover Photo:

In June 2004 Banffshire Branch Member Davina Gray (back centre) presented a trophy to the dancers from Millbank Primary School (Buckie) on the occasion of their success at the Moray Music Festival. Joining the group is Doris Hepburn (back left) who started the country dancing classes as an extra-curricular activity at the school three years ago.

The trophy was originally given in 1932 by a couple in Blackpool with Banffshire links. It was won and then held by the Longmanhill branch of the Women's Rural Institute, and the WRI later donated it to the Banffshire Branch. To mark their 75th anniversary, the Branch decided to award it to the school that accumulated the most points in this year's Festival.

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FINDLATER CASTLE

32 bar Reel for 3 couples in a 4 couple set

Dedicated to the Banffshire Branch of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society in honour of their 75th Anniversary.

Bars

- 1-8 1st couple cross down one place giving right hands; 2nd couple step up on bars 1-2. 1st couple, facing out on the sidelines, join hands with their corners. All balance in line. 1st couple turn their first corner with right hand, turn partner with left hand ³/₄ round to finish facing out on own sides in second place.
- 9-16 Reels of three on own sides. 1st lady giving left shoulder to 2nd lady, 1st man giving left shoulder to 3rd man. At the end of the reel (Bar 16) 1st lady finishes facing up and 1st man finishes facing down to give left hands in passing ready for:
- 17-20 1st lady with 2nd couple and 1st man with 3rd couple right hands across once round, opening out to finish 2nd 1st and 3rd couples all on own sides facing clockwise.
- 21-24 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples chase clockwise ¹/₂ way round the set.
- 25-32 Set and Link for three as follows:

All three couples, joining hands, set. First corners (at the left end of lines) dance to right end and curve round into place; 3^{rd} lady finishes in third place on the men's side facing up while 2^{nd} man finishes in top place on the ladies side facing down.

1st couple (in the middle of lines) pull right shoulders back and cast clockwise to finish with 1st lady in the middle of the dance in top place facing down and 1st man in the middle of the dance in third place facing up.

Second corners (at right end of lines) pull right shoulders back and cast clockwise, following 1st couple, to left end of old line; 2nd lady finishes in top place on the men's side facing down while 3rd man finishes in third place on the ladies side facing up.

Set and Link to finish on own sides in the order 2, 1, 3.

Repeat from second place.



Devised by Bill Forbes, formerly of Buckie.

Findlater Castle is now a ruin. It was built in the 16th century and was once home of the Ogilvies who were Earls of Findlater. It is situated two miles east of Cullen (Banffshire).

Findlater Castle

Tune – The Rev. Peter Fenton

By Adam Rennie



COMPLIMENTS TO JESSIE BAIN

32 Bar Strathspey for 4 couples

Bars

- 1-4 1st and 2nd couples, 3rd and 4th couples dance half rights and lefts.
- 5-8 1st lady and 2nd man, 3rd lady and 4th man change places giving right hands.
 1st man and 2nd lady, 3rd man and 4th lady change places giving left hands.
 1st and 3rd couples finish facing down and 2nd and 4th couples finish facing up, ready for:
- 9-16 Reels of four on the side lines. Begin by passing right shoulder with the person facing.
- 17-20 1st couple set and cast off one place; 2nd couple step up on bars 19-20.
- 21-24 1st and 3rd couples dance four hands once round to the left.
- 25-28 1st couple, with nearer hands joined, dance down between 3rd couple, divide and cast round 4th couple to finish in 4th place; 3rd and 4th couples step up on bars 27-28.
- All turn partners with the right hand once round.

Repeat with a new top couple.

Devised by Jean Mair, for her sister, Jessie Bain. This dance was the winner of a competition organised by the Banffshire Branch for their 60th Anniversary in 1989.

Jessie Bain was Pianist at the Buckie Class, and various other classes, for many years and was a recipient of the Society's Scroll in 1986.

Compliments to Mrs Jessie Bain

Tune - Jack Stalker's Compliments to Jessie Bain

By Jack Stalker





Mrs Jessie Bain (1909 – 2004)

THE BIRLIN' BIRKIE

32 bar Jig for 3 couples in a 4 couple set

Bars

- 1-4 1st couple, dancing in slightly towards each other, cast off one place while 2nd couple set and cross up to first place on opposite sides.
- 5-8 1st couple turn 1¹/₄ times with the right hand (or Birl) to finish in the middle of the set 1st man facing 2nd man, 1st lady facing 3rd man.
- 9-12 1st couple dance ½ reels of three across the set, 1st man with 2nd couple and 1st lady with 3rd couple; 1st couple begin the reels by passing right shoulder with the person they are facing.
- 13-16 1st couple, man above lady and in the middle of the set, turn 1½ times with the left hands (or Birl) to finish in promenade hold facing the men's side while 2nd man with 3rd lady and 3rd man with 2nd lady turn once round with the left hand to finish in promenade hold on the sidelines in second place position, facing each other across the set (men have ladies on their right.)
- 17-24 Reel of three across the set; 1st couple begin the reel by passing 2nd man and 3rd lady right shoulder. 2nd and 3rd couple finish on the sidelines, 2nd couple in first place on own sides, 3rd couple in third place on opposite sides (2nd and 3rd couple should stretch out in completing the last turn of the reel to dance into places on the sidelines.) 1st couple finish in the middle of the set facing down, 1st man with his partner on his right.
- 25-28 1st couple, dance down below 3rd couple, cross over and cast up one place on own sides, while 3rd couple set and cross over giving right hands to finish on own sides of the dance.
- 29-32 1st couple turn with the right hand once round (or Birl).

Repeat from second place.

Dance devised by Bob Taylor of Fochabers for John Connon of Dufftown, a good friend and enthusiastic country dancer who likes nothing better than a dance which includes the chance to have a good birl!

For those less familiar with the Scots tongue, to 'birl' is to revolve rapidly and a 'birkie' is a lively, spirited fellow.



THE BRAES OF STRATHLENE

32 bar Strathspey for 3 couples in a 4 couple set

Bars

- 1-8
- 1st and 2nd couples dance the Espagnole as follows:
 - 1-2 1st and 2nd ladies, joining right hands, dance towards the men's side passing between their partners. On the second step, 1st lady crosses 2nd lady over in front of her, so that 2nd lady dances out and up towards first place while 1st lady dances out and down towards second place. Meanwhile 1st and 2nd men cross to the ladies side passing on either side of their partners.
 - 3-4 1st and 2nd men, joining right hands, dance back towards their own side passing between their partners. On the fourth step, 1st man crosses 2nd man over in front of him, so that 2nd man dances out and up towards first place and 1st man dances out and down towards second place. Meanwhile 2nd and 1st ladies cross back to their own side passing on either side of their partners.
 - 5-8 2nd couple turn with the right hand to finish in first place while 1st couple turn with the left hand to finish facing first corners.
- 9-12 1st couple and first corners dance half a diagonal reel of four, 1st couple pass right shoulders on Bar 12 to finish facing second corners.
- 13-16 1st couple and second corners dance half a diagonal reel of four, 1st couple giving right hands on Bar 16 to cross to second place.
- 17-20 3^{rd} , 1^{st} and 2^{nd} couples chase clockwise $\frac{1}{2}$ way round the set.
- 21-24 1st lady with 2nd couple, 1st man with 3rd couple, dance right hands across once round. On Bar 24 1st couple pass left shoulders to finish in 2nd place on opposite sides, lady facing down and man facing up.
- 25-32 Left shoulder reels of three on the sides. On bars 31-32 1st couple cross to their own sides, 1st lady from first man's place and 1st man from third ladies place.

Repeat from second place.

Devised by Bill Forbes, originally from Buckie, for Anne Taylor of Fochabers (Moray). Strathlene, on the eastern outskirts of Buckie, (Banffshire) has wonderful winding paths - a hiker's paradise - leading away from the sea up to the golf course. The Braes cradle a fairly large holiday park overlooking the Moray Firth, famous for its sunsets - an unbelievable view. The Village of Findochty nestles to the East of the Braes and is where Anne grew up. "PS. I am not employed by the Scottish Tourist Board," writes Bill Forbes



TRAVELLING TO AMERICA

40 bar Reel for 3 couples in a 4 couple set

Bars

- 1-8 1st and 2nd couples dance right hands across and left hands back.
- 9-16 1^{st} couple set, cast off one place and turn with the left hand to finish facing first corners; 2^{nd} couple step up on Bars 11-12.
- 17-24 1st couple giving right shoulders to first corners dance a diagonal reel of four to finish with 1st couple facing first corners again.
- 25-32 1st couple giving right shoulders to first corners dance a reel of 3 on the sidelines. 1st couple crossing over, 1st lady from third man's place and 1st man from first ladies place, on Bars 31-32.
- 33-36 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples, joining hands on the sidelines, set twice.
- 2^{nd} , 1^{st} and 3^{rd} couples turn partners with the right hand once round.

Repeat from second place.

Devised by Gary Coull of the Dufftown Class after a trip to America in 1999. Bars 1 - 8 represents the stars on the USA flag. Bars 17 - 32 represents the stripes.



Play second part three times without repeats.

GOURDIEBURN

32 Bar Strathspey for 3 couples in a 3 couple Set

Bars

- 1-8 1st couple turn with the right hand and cast off one place; meet below the 2nd couple, dance down between the 3rd couple and cast up one place; 2nd couple step up on bars 3–4.
- 9-16 Beginning from the sidelines and passing left shoulders, 1st couple dance half a diagonal reel of four with their first corners; on Bar 12, 1st couple pass right shoulders to dance half a diagonal reel of four with their second corners; 1st couple finish in 2nd place on opposite side. (All three couples are now on opposite sides of the dance.)
- 17-24 1st couple petronella into the middle of the set, man facing down, lady facing up, while 3rd and 2nd couples change places on the sidelines giving right hands; All set joining hands across the set. 1st couple petronella to their own sides while 3rd and 2nd couples cross over to their own sides giving right hands; All set joining hands on the sidelines.
- 25-32 1st couple dance up to the top and cast off one place. On bar 28, 1st and 3rd couples dance in ready for a half poussette to change places.

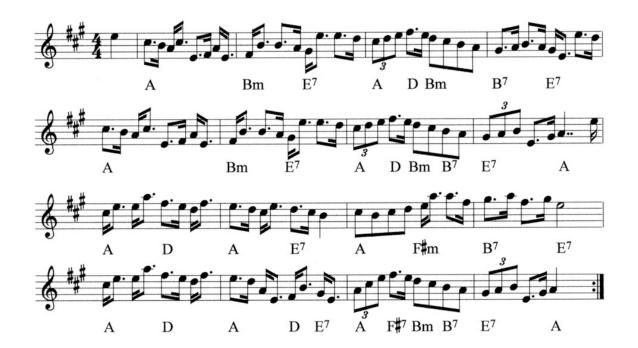
Repeat with a new top couple.

Devised by Margaret Cowie of the Buckie Class for James Stott's 50th birthday in May 2003

Gourdieburn

Tune - Walter and Betty Rutherford

By Drummond J Cook





Banff Evening Class - Teacher Pat Lemmon, Pianist Sheila Finlayson

THE GLENROTHES

32 Bar Jig for 4 couples

Bars

- 1-14 1st couple dance three ½ double figures of eight with 2nd, 3rd and 4th couples in succession finishing in 4th place on the opposite side of the dance as follows:
 - On Bar 1 1st couple dance a double ½ figure of eight with 2nd couple. 1st couple cross down to second place and dance up to first place while, on Bar 1, 2nd couple dance up to first place, cross down to second place and dance up to finish in first place on opposite sides of the dance. (2nd couple dance 6 steps)
 - On Bar 5 1st couple dance a double ½ figure of eight with 3rd couple. 1st couple cross down to third place and dance up to second place while 3rd couple dance up into second place, cross down to third place and dance up to finish in second place on opposite sides (3rd couple dance 6 steps)
 - On Bar 9 1st couple dance a double ½ figure of eight with 4th couple. 1st couple cross down to fourth place and dance up to third place while 4th couple dance up into third place, cross down to fourth place and dance up to finish in third place on opposite sides (4th couple dance 6 steps)

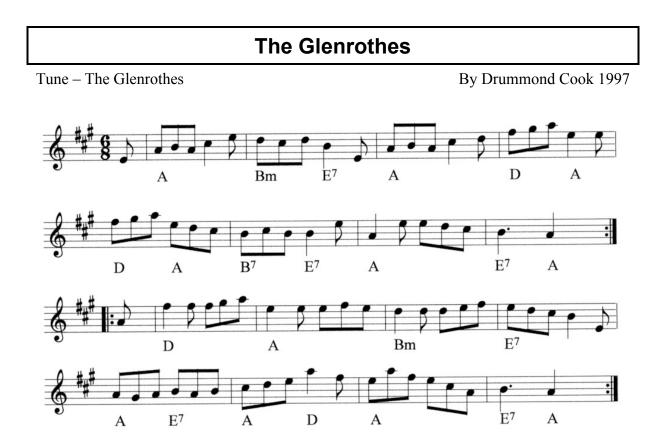
On Bars 1st couple continue to move down the dance. 13-14

- 15-16 1st couple turn with the right hand to finish in fourth place on opposite sides of the dance. Positions are now 2, 3, 4, 1 all on opposite sides of the dance.
- 17-20 1st and 4th couple dance ½ right hands across and, joining hands on the sidelines, set.
- 1^{st} and 3^{rd} couple dance $\frac{1}{2}$ left hands across and, joining hands on the sidelines, set.
- 1^{st} and 2^{nd} couple dance $\frac{1}{2}$ right hands across and, joining hands on the sidelines, set.
- 29-32 1st couple cast off to 4th place. 2nd, 3rd and 4th couples step up on bars 31-32.

Repeat with a new top couple.



Devised by Anne Taylor, Fochabers, to commemorate the launch in 1997 of The Glenrothes, a single malt whisky produced by Berry Bros & Rudd of London. The Glenrothes is distilled and bottled in Banffshire from the Glenrothes Distillery, Rothes.





Jim McLeod's Band, Buckie 1989

MORANBANK

32 bar Strathspey for 3 couples in a 4 couple set

Bars

- 1-8 1st and 2nd couples dance right hands across ½ way round. 1st and 3rd couples dance left hands across once round. 2nd and 1st couples dance right hands across ½ way round to finish in original places.
- 9-20 1st, 2nd and 3rd couples dance rights and lefts for three couples as follows:
 - 9-10 1st, 2nd and 3rd couples cross giving right hands.
 - 11-12 1st man and 3rd lady change places diagonally giving left hands while 1st and 2nd ladies, 2nd and 3rd men change places on the sidelines giving left hands.
 - 13-14 All three couples cross giving right hands.
 - 15-16 2nd couple change places diagonally giving left hands while 1st and 3rd couples change places with partners on the sidelines giving left hands.
 - 17-18 All three couples cross giving right hands.
 - 19-20 1st lady and 3rd man change places diagonally giving left hands while 2nd and 3rd ladies and 1st and 2nd men change places on the sidelines giving left hands. (All three couples are now back in their original places.)
- 21-24 1st couple set and cast off one place; 2nd couple step up on bars 23-24.
- 1^{st} and 2^{nd} couples dance an all round poussette.

Repeat from second place.

Devised by Gary Coull for Betty and Walter Rutherford of Keith on their moving to a new bungalow "Moranbank". The tune was written by Betty and Walter's daughter Maureen.



Dufftown 2002

WE'VE NAE ELECTRIC

32 bar Reel for 5 couples.

Bars

- 1-4 1st and 3rd couples cross over; 1st lady to face 2nd and 4th men, 3rd lady to face 4th and 5th men and 1st man to face 2nd and 4th ladies, 3rd man to face 4th and 5th ladies. 2nd and 4th couples step up on Bars 1-2. All 5 couples join hands as in double triangles and set.
- 5-8 1st and 3rd couples dance round their first corners into the middle of the dance, men facing up and ladies facing down, ready for:
- 9-16 Reel of four in the middle of the dance while, at the same time, 2nd 4th and 5th couples dance a left shoulder reel of three on the sidelines; to begin the 4th lady dances in and down and the 4th man dances in and up. All finish the reels where they began.
- 17-20 1st and 3rd couples cross giving right hands and cast round to their right ie:

1st lady dances round 4th man and 1st Man dances round 2nd lady to finish in second place on opposite sides of the dance

3rd lady dances round 5th man and 3rd man dances round 4th lady to finish in fourth place on opposite sides of the dance.

- 21-24 1st and 3rd couples turn with the right hand one and a half times to own sides of the dance
- 25-28 1^{st} and 4^{th} couples and 3^{rd} and 5^{th} couples set and link.
- All five couples turn with the right hand once round. Finish 2, 4, 1, 5, 3

Repeat from new positions.

Devised by Gary Coull of the Dufftown Class. This dance was devised after a holiday in Spain when the power went out in the villa at night.



Crackens is an incline - and a deceptively steep one at that – between Cairnie and Ruthven. Daredevil activities spring to mind

A GLINT OF GOLD

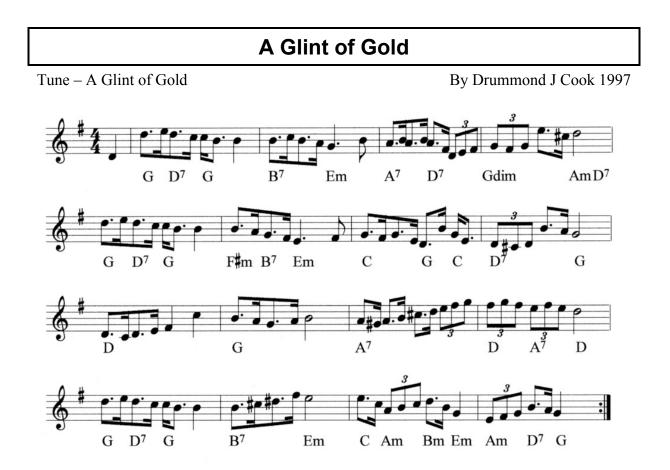
32 Bar Strathspey for 4 couples

Bars

- 1-4 1st and 4th couples cross and cast off one place; 2nd and 3rd couples step up or down.
- 5-8 1^{st} and 4^{th} couples dance left hands across once round while 2^{nd} and 3^{rd} couples chase $\frac{1}{2}$ way clockwise round the set; 3^{rd} man and 2^{nd} lady casting to begin.
- 9-10 3rd couple face 1st couple and 4th couple face 2nd couple. All set facing each other on the sidelines.
- 11-12 1st and 3rd men, 2nd and 4th ladies change places giving right hands and 2nd and 4th men, 1st and 3rd ladies change places giving left hands. 1st couple dance to the top and 4th couple to the foot of the dance.
- 13-16 3rd couple dance ½ figure of eight up round first couple and 2nd couple dance ½ figure of eight down round 4th couple.
- 17-20 3rd and 2nd couples dance left hands across once round while 1st and 4th couples chase ½ way clockwise round the set; 1st man and 4th lady casting to begin. Order now 4 3 2 1 on own sides of the dance.
- 21-22 4th couple face 3rd couple and 2nd couple face 1st couple. All set facing each other on the sidelines.
- 23-24 3rd and 4th men and 1st and 2nd ladies ½ turn right hands 3rd and 4th ladies and 1st and 2nd men ½ turn left hands so that 3rd and 2nd men dance out the men's side of the dance and 3rd and 2nd ladies dance out the ladies side of the dance to meet at the top and foot of the set, 1st and 4th couples step up or down.
- 25-28 2nd couple dance up in front of first couple and behind 4th couple as in ½ figure of eight on the sidelines and
 3rd couple dance down in front of fourth couple and behind 1st couple as in ½ figure of eight
- All four couples turn with both hands once round. Order now 2,4,1,3

Repeat from new positions.

Devised by James Stott of Ellon for Margaret Cowie of the Buckie Class on her 50th Birthday in 1997.





Tarlair Class (Macduff) 1982

THE TRIPITUP TROUPE

32 Bar Jig for 3 couples in a 4 couple set

Bars

- 1-4 1st couple cross over giving right hands, 1st lady to face 2nd and 3rd men, 1st man to face 2nd and 3rd ladies. 2nd couple step up on Bars 1-2. Joining hands, as in double triangles, all three couples set.
- 5-8 1st couple dance out and dance to their right round their first corners to finish facing their first corners on the diagonal.
- 9-16 1st couple dance a diagonal reel of four with their first corners. On Bar 15-16 1st couple turn with the left hand to face second corners.
- 17-24 1st couple dance a diagonal reel of four with their second corners to finish in 2nd place on their own sides.
- 25-28 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples dance six hands round to the left for six slip steps and then on bar 28, cross right foot over left and, keeping the weight on both feet and releasing hands, pivot round to face out, pulling left shoulder back.
- 29-32 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples dance round anti-clockwise (in a chase) back to own sides.

Repeat from second place.

Devised by Gary Coull of the Dufftown Class. The Tripitup Troupe (2001/2002) were the members of the Keith Grammar School demonstration team who won the under 16's schools category at the Moray Music Festival



THE HILLS OF ALBA

32 bar Reel for 4 couples

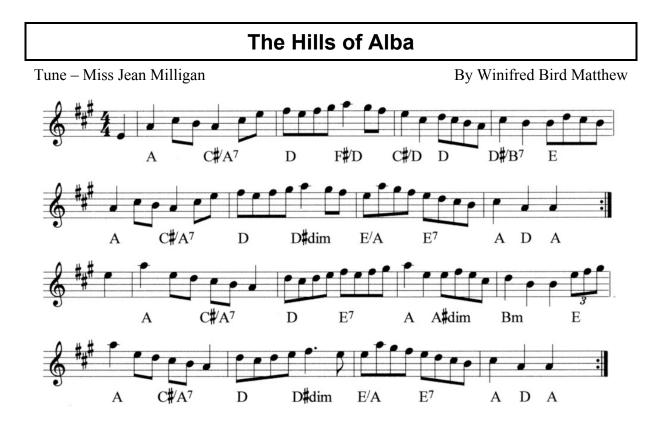
2 chords; on second chord 3rd and 4th couples change sides.

Bars

1-6	1 st and 4 th couples set, cross giving right hands and 1 st couple cast off one place, while 4 th cast up one place. 2 nd and 3 rd couples step up or down on Bars 5-6.
7-8	1^{st} and 4^{th} men petronella into the middle of the set; 1^{st} man between 2^{nd} couple facing down and 4^{th} man between 3^{rd} couple facing up, while 1^{st} and 4^{th} ladies turn with left hand $\frac{3}{4}$ round to finish in the middle of the set facing their partners, ready for:
9-16	Reel of four finishing 1 st man facing up and 4 th man facing down with their partners behind them facing in the same direction, ready for:
17-24	Right shoulder reels of three across the set, 1 st couple with the 2 nd couple and 4 th couple with the 3 rd couple. 1 st and 4 th couples finish in the middle of the set ready to dance right hands across; (1 st and 4 th ladies should close up behind their partners in reels of three then drop back a little) ready for:
25-28	1 st and 4 th couples dance right hands across to finish on the sidelines; 1 st couple in second place on opposite sides, 4 th couple in third place on own sides.
29-32	1 st and 4 th couples face each other on the sidelines, set and change places giving right hands. Finishing 2, 4, 1, 3. 1 st and 3 rd couples on opposite sides.

Repeat from new positions.

Dance devised by Bob Taylor in joyful celebration of his completion of the Munros with his fellow 'bagger' Tony Pilling on the Ben More cairn, Isle of Mull, on 30th September 2000.





Buckie 1989

SCOTTISH COUNTRÝ DANCING IN BANFFSHIRE 1929 – 2004



Banff Townswomen's Guild Scottish Country Dance Class of 1949