

# Folk Dance Tune Sets

Traditional, arranged by

Rob Harbron

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# The Full English

The Full English was a unique nationwide project unlocking hidden treasures of England's cultural heritage by making over 58,000 original source documents from 12 major folk collectors available to the world via a ground-breaking nationwide digital archive and learning project. The project was led by the English Folk Dance and Song Society (EFDSS), funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and in partnership with other cultural partners across England.

The Full English digital archive (www.vwml.org) continues to provide access to thousands of records detailing traditional folk songs, music, dances, customs and traditions that were collected from across the country. Some of these are known widely, others have lain dormant in notebooks and files within archives for decades.

The Full English learning programme worked across the country in 19 different schools including primary, secondary and special educational needs settings. It also worked with a range of cultural partners across England, organising community, family and adult learning events.

Supported by the National Lottery through the Heritage Lottery Fund, the National Folk Music Fund and The Folklore Society.





Produced by the English Folk Dance and Song Society (EFDSS), June 2014 Written by: Rob Harbron

Edited by: Frances Watt

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### **Two Dance Sets**

These tunes have been put together by Rob Harbron as part of The Full English school project at Hanham High School, South Gloucestershire in 2014.

Each set consists of 3 dance tunes chosen to work well together as a set. One is a set of reels, tunes in simple time (2/4, 4/4, 2/4), used for dances such as the *Dashing White Sergeant*. The other set is of jigs, tunes in compound time (6/8, 9/8, 12/8), used for dances such as *Circassian Circle*. Each tune might be repeated a few times before moving on to the next in the set.

Chords have been suggested – but these chords are merely suggestions – most folk musicians would use chords similar to these but different musicians would be likely to change chords in different places. Some players would use a lot more relative minors, some would hold drones or pedals, and some would go for a much more jazzy approach. And of course the tunes work very well by themselves with no chords.

## **Additional Resources**

Audio recordings by Rob Harbron of all the tunes in this pack are available for free download from www.efdss.org/resourcebank. Each tune is available individually at a slow speed. There is also a separate recording for each 'set' of tunes, played at full speed.



All the tunes can be found within The Full English digital archive:

#### **REELS**

- Twin Sisters: www.vwml.org/record/MK/1/3/5133
   Collected from Nancy Masters by Maud Karpeles
   10 August 1929, Weld, Maine, USA
- The Morpeth Rant: www.vwml.org/record/MK/1/3/4996
   Collected from Tom Arkle by Maud Karpeles & Mrs Dixon-Brown
   May 1928, Netherwitton, Northumberland
- Country Dance (Henry Cave's): www.vwml.org/record/CJS2/10/1488
   Collected from Henry Cave by Cecil Sharp
   Sept 1907, Midsomer Norton, Somerset

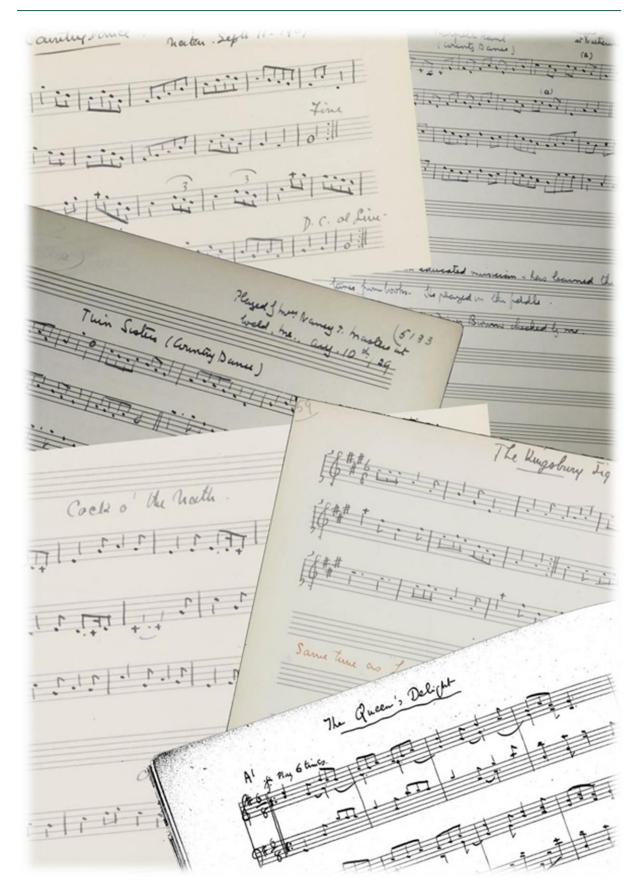
#### **JIGS**

- The Queen's Delight: www.vwml.org/record/GB/7d/18
   Collected from Will Rolf by George Butterworth
   1912, Bucknell, Oxfordshire
- Handsworth Sword Dance Tunes: Cock O' The North www.vwml.org/record/CJS2/10/2816B
   Sent by Mr Shaw to Cecil Sharp
   Feb 1913, Darnall, Yorkshire
- The Kingsbury Jig: www.vwml.org/record/CJS2/10/59
   Collected from The Barrington Fiddlers by Cecil Sharp
   Dec 1903, Hambridge, Somerset

# Tips for learning

- Listen to the recordings of the tunes, and play along, listening out for repeated passages and patterns.
- Play from the page, gradually committing tunes to memory so you can throw the music away!







# Dance tune set - Reels from The Full English digital archive



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#### **Dance tune set - Jigs**

from The Full English digital archive



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# **Rob Harbron**

Rob Harbron is a sought-after multi-instrumentalist, composer and producer and one of the country's leading players of the English concertina. He performs and records with numerous artists including Leveret, Fay Hield and the Hurricane Party, Emma Reid, Jon Boden and the Remnant Kings, Kerr Fagan Harbron and Fieldfare. He was Musical Director of the Royal Shakespeare Company's 2013 production of The Winter's Tale, and he has recently been commissioned to write music for the British Silent Film Festival, the English Folk Dance and Song Society and the Royal Geographical Society. He is a popular teacher and workshop leader, directs the English Acoustic Collective Summer School and has been a tutor for the National Youth Folklore Troupe of England.

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Our award-winning Resource Bank contains over 100 resources — incorporating hundreds of audio files, videos and supporting documents, all free to download. They offer endless practical ways to use folk song, music, dance, drama and more in all sorts of community settings, as well as in formal education.

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