Introduction

Once again, here are more of my dances, covering a wide range of style and difficulty. I hope there is something for everyone to enjoy.

Some notes on the music may be of interest.

The fascinating tune I have used for "The Ashford Anniversary" dance comes from a collection of dance tunes published in France in 1580, and I hope you will like it as much as I do.

The tune for the "New Year Rag" is a variation on "Auld Lang Syne", and this dance was made up for the New Year Dance of the Circassian Circle Folk Dance Club.

The tunes for "Nick's Maggot" are also variations. The famous theme from Niccolo Paganini's 24th Caprice has always attracted composers, and I thought I would presume to make a version of my own. The second tune in the dance is a variation on the big tune in Rachmaninov's variations on the theme (a variation on a variation !)

The other tunes are original, and I hope, not too impossible.

A cassette ("Optimistic Dances" Vol. 3) is in preparation, which once again features the virtuoso accordion playing of Peter Jenkins. It will include all the dances in this booklet as well as some others already published.

My thanks again to Bob Howe for his generous help, and to my other friends for their support and encouragement.

Charles Bolton.

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