

Two Shetland Polkas

Seven Step Polka

The musical score for "Seven Step Polka" is presented in three staves. The first staff starts with a G major chord. The second staff begins with a C major chord. The third staff starts with a C major chord. Below each staff, the corresponding chords are labeled: G, D, G, G, A, D⁷, G⁷; C, G, D, G, Am, D⁷, G; C, G, D, G, Am, D⁷, G. The music concludes with a final G note.

Dis tün wüs ösed fir an auld Shetland dance caaed be da same name. What wye it cam ta Shetland we dinna ken. Dere is a version o' him in England ösed fir a different dance. Dis een is in G and du haes to geng doon ower to da third string. Afore du plays him, try du over da scale o' G.

Da Boanie Polka

The musical score for "Da Boanie Polka" is presented in five staves. The first four staves follow a repeating pattern of chords: A, D, G, D, Em, A, D, A; D, G, D, Em, A, D. The fifth staff concludes with a D⁷ chord. The music ends with a final D note.

I learned dis een frae da late Jean Pole o' Waas. Shü wis a body aboot 80 years auld whin shü played him tae me. Whin shü played him, which shü always did sittin doon, shü kinda danced da tün wi her feet so dat du could nearly see da steps o' da polka. Dere is different wyes o' him played in England whaur he's ösed fir a polka as weel.

Dis is a fine aisy wye o' him. Whin du's played fir a peerie while, try da first bar o' him da wye dat we're written him at da end o' da tün.

Text by Tom Anderson, from
"Hand me doon ma fiddle"