

Tunes from the album *Big Music for Northumbrian Smallpipes* by Dick Hensold

transposed for traditional Northumbrian smallpipes notation

Dad's *Fantastic!* Jig

This jig was written for my Dad's birthday in 2006. *Fantastic!* was a favorite expression of his. This has been rewritten slightly to accommodate the seven-key chanter. The original version can be found in the "concert pitch" file of this title.



Musical notation for "Dad's *Fantastic!* Jig". The score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 6/8. It consists of three staves of music. The first staff contains the first six measures. The second staff contains measures 7-12, with first and second endings marked above the staff. The third staff contains measures 13-18, also with first and second endings marked above the staff.

Bruce Bowers

I can think of a few traditional Irish jigs that have an opening very similar to this, but somehow I got the idea that this simple tune would be great with some modal ambiguities...Bruce is an old friend, and co-founder of both the bands Way Up North and Piper's Crow. Playable on a standard 17-key chanter.



Musical notation for "Bruce Bowers". The score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 6/8. It consists of three staves of music. The first staff contains the first six measures. The second staff contains measures 7-12, with first and second endings marked above the staff. The third staff contains measures 13-18, also with first and second endings marked above the staff.

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Janette Gillis's Fish Cakes

Janette is a dancer from Mabou on Cape Breton Island who unexpectedly invited us to dinner and served wonderful fish cakes, which I had never had before. This has been rewritten slightly to accomodate the seven-key chanter. The original version, which had high and low Cs, can be found in the "concert pitch" file of this title.

Musical score for "Janette Gillis's Fish Cakes" in G major, 6/8 time. The score consists of five staves of music. The first staff begins with the tempo marking "Air". The second staff contains a first ending (marked "1") and a second ending (marked "2"). The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some dotted rhythms.

Troy MacGillivray

This reel is named after the increasingly-well-known fiddler and pianist from Antigonish, N.S., who played with me on *Big Music for Northumbrian Smallpipes*. The 16th-note (semiquaver) "cuts", as they are known in Nova Scotia can be played however you like, or you can play a simple quarter note (crotchet).

Musical score for "Troy MacGillivray" in G major, 6/8 time. The score consists of four staves of music. The piece is characterized by a fast, rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes, with frequent use of "cuts" (semiquaver runs).

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Mrs. J. Forbes

It sometimes happens that composers will think they wrote something new, and then realize later they had merely remembered a pre-existing tune. That was the case with this old Scottish reel, except that I had changed the entire tune apart from the first two measures. I decided I liked the new version better, so that was what I recorded. This tune has not been transposed from its original key of concert D minor (G minor in Northumbrian piper's G system) because so few pipers have high B \flat and high C keys. It will work in the present key on chanters with F \sharp s and a low C, and it could also be played in E minor on a 7-key chanter, but the pitch wouldn't be as good.

The musical score for "Mrs. J. Forbes" is presented in four staves. The first staff is the beginning of the piece, starting with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a common time signature (C). The melody is written in a single line. The second staff contains a first ending (marked '1') and a second ending (marked '2'). The third and fourth staves continue the melody, with the fourth staff also featuring first and second endings. The music is a Scottish reel, characterized by its rhythmic patterns and melodic structure.