
Comments

Itchy Fingers

Composed by Pipe Major Rab Pinkman of the "King's Own Scottish Borderers". It should be in A mixolydian, I think, not D.

To be honest, I'd always thought it composed by P.M. Robert Mathieson, who included it in one of his books of tunes, but it appears he was the arranger on this occasion, not the composer.

It is a hornpipe, not a reel, although as I've said before, bagpipe hornpipes are played like Irish reels.

I did an internet search on this tune before posting these comments, and found a pipe-band who play this tune and precede it with "The Ass In The Graveyard". They call it "The Ass and Itchy" set. Just as well they didn't play them the other way round!

Recorded by a fine Scottish group called "Calluna".

Posted on November 26th 2004 by Kenny

Thanks to xbigtimepiex and Kenny for the tune and details.

When did Pinkman live?

Any other version anyone? Or name? or similar sounding tunes?

I first heard this tune played at great speed on the scottish pipes in 93 on Harmony hill. (definitely sounded like a reel not a hornpipe; Aren't scottishpipe reels often played like hornpipes nnot the other way round?) It made an