

9. ST GEORGE'S DAY

or 'The Birthday of the Bard'

(2nd version)

Air: 'It was a lover and his lass' (Thomas Morley 1557 - 1603)

from 'As you like it' (William Shakespeare 23.4.1564 - 23.4.1616)

a round for five couples

Introduction (first time only): All face partner, step R & honour (4).

A Pass partner Rsh, & the next Lsh, acknowledging (4 steps each).
Face the next (new partner): gipsy Rsh (6)

B Take hands in a ring: go a double into the middle, raising arms to shoulder level, and fall back, lowering them again (8).
Keeping partner's inside hand, wheel round as couples, men backing, and face the centre again (6).

C Take hands again and circle L (walking step) (8): cast out L individually to face back (4).

D Circle back a/c/w in single file, men following their partners: on beats 7-8, women cast out R to face partners (8).
Back to back partners Rsh and set R&L (4).

[last time, for set R&L, substitute step R & honour original partner.

© Charles Bolton 23.4.1999

St George's day

Thomas Morley

INTRODUCTION (1st time only)

Gaily

♩ = 105-110

A B C D

arr © Charles Bolton (1987)

- A It was a lover and his lass, with a hey and a ho and a hey...nonny no,
with a hey...nonny nonny no
- B That o'er the green cornfields did pass, in spring time, in spring time,
in spring time, the only pretty ring time
- C When birds do sing, hey ding-a-ding-a ding, hey ding-a-ding-a ding,
hey ding-a-ding-a ding, sweet lovers love the spring
- D In spring time, in spring time, the only pretty ring time, when birds do sing,
hey ding-a-ding-a-ding, hey ding-a-ding-a-ding, hey ding-a-ding-a-ding,
sweet lovers love the spring

*The first version of this dance was written in 1987,
and published in an earlier booklet ("Occasions").
I felt that there was room for a less sophisticated dance,
more in keeping with the simplicity of the original tune and words,
and made up this version for a St George's Day twelve years later.*