

FOREWORD

There was nothing else for it, the tune just would not go away and the instructions were too vague, so what could be understood was bent and added to, to produce a workable dance. That dance was Sun Assembly which came to light when "Blackie" Blackwell produced a collection of Thompson's Dances at the Witney Folk Dance Club during 1973 or 1974.

This collection is the result of the bug caught while working out that particular dance. It has nearly always been the tune which has prompted me to look at the instructions and on the odd occasions where these are clear they are reproduced unchanged. In other cases much of the original idea has been retained while attempting to arrange the dance in a form which it is hoped will be used.

Four sources have been used. The book of Thompson referred to earlier, Wright's Compleat Collection of Celebrated Country Dances, Thomas Wilson's Companion to the Ballroom and his Analysis of Country Dancing and, for music only Vol. 1 of Dr. Crotch's Specimens from which the version of the tune Sweet Richard is taken.

My thanks are due to the Bedford Fine Companions and The Staplers who have unwittingly acted as guinea pigs, to my friends in Oxford, Berkshire, Gloucestershire and Buckinghamshire whose help encouragement and comments have been invaluable.

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