# Backblocks Music

It was hoped that a catchy but obscure name like *Backblocks* could do for Australian folk music what *Bluegrass* did for American folk.

Tunes arranged by David Johnson, Bob Bolton and Anne Pidcock 1984 - 1993

#### **Backblocks Aims**

To study and promote Australian traditional music and styles of playing.

To play (practise and perform) traditional Australian music on historically appropriate instruments in a style sympathetic to its social history.

To encourage other performers to play the music by joining in on practice nights, listening to live and recorded performances.

To encourage skills of aural transfer of music style and tunes.

To locate and sympathetically arrange hitherto unplayed source material and balance the over-reliance by contemporary bush bands on published tunes from related, but foreign, traditions.

To present this material as a performing group with the traditional emphasis on firm rhythmic music for social dancing.

To establish a library of taped performances from archive collections as well as appropriate contemporary sources; to enable interested performers to hear and emulate the sound and nuances of traditional artists.

#### **Bill Gilbert's First Set Tune**

played for "the square dance" by Bill on B/C and C/C# accordions and recorded by John Meredith



## Herb's Jig

Collected from Herb Gimbert at the Bush Music Club. Herb played tin whistle and single row button accordion.



# **Gulgong Set Tune**

collected from Sally Sloane by John Meredith



# Mick Pilley's Varsovienna

learnt by Mick from his father and recorded by John Meredith



#### Joe Yate's Schottische

As learnt from the playing of Chris Sullivan and Mark Rummery c1985. They learnt it from Joe Yates from Gulgong.



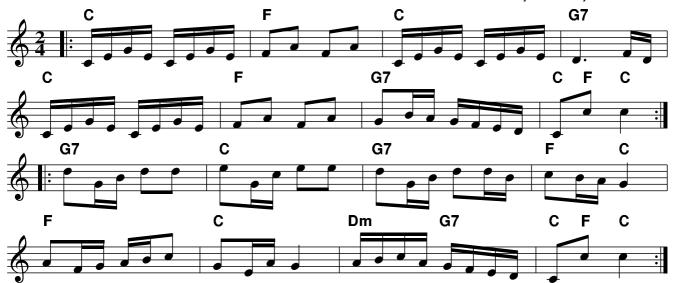
## George Large's First Step Dance

collected from Orley Benson by John Meredith



# **George Large's Second Step Dance**

collected from Orley Benson by John Meredith



## **Daisy Sutton's Set Tune**



#### **Parnell and His Band**

collected from Doddy Murphy by John Meredith



#### Harry Schultz's Waltz

collected from Les Schultz by John Meredith; Les got it from his father Harry who probably learnt it from his Bavarian grandfather.



#### The Whistled Schottische

Athritis stopped Rita Baker playing this tune for John Meredith so she whistled it instead.



#### Rita Baker's First Set Tune



## Bill McGlashan's Jig



