

Donald Blue

The image displays two staves of musical notation for the piece "Donald Blue". Both staves are in the key of D Major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody, starting with a repeat sign and a double bar line. The notes are: D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4. Chords are indicated above the staff: D (over the first four notes), A (over the fifth and sixth notes), D (over the seventh and eighth notes), and Bm (over the last four notes). The second staff contains the accompaniment, also starting with a repeat sign and a double bar line. The notes are: D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4. Chords are indicated above the staff: D (over the first four notes), G (over the fifth and sixth notes), D (over the seventh and eighth notes), Bm (over the last four notes), and D (over the final note).

"Donald Blue" is a Shetland reel or march in D Major. The parts are played AB (Flett & Flett) and AABB (Anderson, Brody, Hunter, Martin & Hughes).

The melody was collected under a different name by the English musicologist Pat Shuldham-Shaw, perhaps "Donald Beu" which was the name of a teacher on the island of Papa Stour. There is a slow bagpipe march of the same name, although a different tune. David Murray (Music of the Scottish Regiments, Edinburgh, 1994) writes, "The first pipe major of the 2nd Battalion (of the Scots Fusilier Guards) was Donald MacPherson, who transferred from the Black Watch; and it is, perhaps, a result of this connection that the Scots Guards play as their 'Lights Out' call, the march 'Donald Blue', as do the Black Watch and, indeed, did the Gordons, and that the pipe bag covers of the Scots Guards are in the Black Watch tartan". It was printed in Anderson & Georgeson's **Da Mirrie Dancers** (1970), Brody's **Fiddler's Fakebook** (1983), Flett & Flett's **Traditional Dancing in Scotland** (1964), Hunter's **Fiddle Music of Scotland** (1988) and Martin & Hughes' *Ho-ro-gheallaidh* (1990). It was recorded by Tom Anderson and Aly Bain on **The Silver Bow** (1976).