

The Ballydesmond Polka 3

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 2/4. It is divided into two main sections, A and B, each consisting of two staves. Section A (staves 1 and 2) has a first ending bracket over the first two staves. Section B (staves 3 and 4) has a first ending bracket over the first two staves. The chords are: Am, Em7, G, and C.

"The Ballydesmond Polka (3)", also known as "Gneevequilla Polka" or "Tom Billy's Polka" is an Irish polka in 2/4 time and A Mixolydian or A Dorian (Harker/Rafferty, Mallinson, Taylor/Tweed). The parts are played AABB.

It comes from the *Sliabh Luachra* region of the Cork-Kerry border of Ireland.

The "Ballydesmond Polkas" numbers 1, 2 and 3 are usually played as a group and are known collectively as "The Ballydesmond Polkas".

It was printed in Breathnach's **CRÉ 3**, Cotter's **Traditional Irish Tin Whistle Tutor** (1989), Cranitch's **Irish Fiddle Book** (1996) and **Irish Session Tunes: The Red Book** (2000), Harker's **300 Tunes from Mike Rafferty** (2005), Jordan's **Whistle and Sing!** (1975), Mallinson's **100 Irish Polkas** (1997), Miller & Perron's **101 Polkas** (1978), Moylan's **Johnny O'Leary of Sliabh Luachra** (1994), Mulvihill's **1st Collection** (1986), Taylor's *Traditional Irish Music: Karen Tweed's Irish Choice* (1994) and Vallely's **Learn to Play the Tin Whistle with Armagh Pipers Club, vol. 2**. It was recorded by Denis Murphy and Julia Clifford on **The Star Above the Garter** (1973) and Padraig O'Keefe on **The Sliabh Luachra Fiddle Master Padraig O'Keefe** (appears as "Tom Billy's").