

The Butterfly

The musical score for "The Butterfly" is presented in four systems of music on a single staff in treble clef, with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 9/8 time signature. The first system consists of two measures, with a boxed letter 'A' above the first measure. Chord markings 'Em' and 'D' are placed above the notes. The second system consists of two measures, with a boxed letter 'B' above the first measure. Chord markings 'Em' and 'D' are placed above the notes. The third system consists of two measures, with a boxed letter 'C' above the first measure. Chord markings 'Em' and 'D' are placed above the notes. The fourth system consists of two measures, with a 'D' chord marking above the first measure. The music is written in a simple, rhythmic style characteristic of a slip jig.

An Irish slip jig (in 9/8 time), it is also known as "Barney's Goat", "The Bug", "*Im Ag Eitilt*", "Kick The Peeler" and "The Red Admiral Butterfly". It is credited to the late fiddler Tommy Potts, who knew the first part of the tune from his father, John, a Uilleann piper. The "B" and "C" parts are based on a traditional slip jig called "Bill Groggin's Goat".

It was printed in Barnes' **English Country Dance Tunes, vol. 2** (2005), Bulmer & Sharpley's **Music from Ireland vol. 3** (1976), Mallinson's **100 Enduring** (1995) and Tubridy's **Irish Traditional Music, vol. 1** (1999).

It was recorded by Tommy Potts on **The Liffey Banks**, The Bothy Band on **1975**, James Galway and the Chieftains on **James Galway and the Chieftains in Ireland** (1986) and Paddy Glackin & Jolyon Jackson on **On Hidden Ground** (1980).

I remember hearing it on whistle or flute.

I learned it from print.