

Pat Batt's Poems



THE LADIES MAN

I'm a two-sex Scottish Dancer
And may seem rather dim
But I never spend one evening
As a full time her or him

I change my sex from dance to dance,
My corners always alter-
It's really not surprising I
Occasionally falter.

The old and simple dances
I can manage very nicely,
And I can learn a new dance
And do it most precisely-

But when it comes to next week
I don't know if I can,
For I learnt it as a woman
And dance it as a man.

And so, you men who have the luck
To stay always the same,
When female gentlemen go wrong
Be sparing with your blame.

I'll add a postscript to this tale-
One comfort I have got-
When both the women change their sex
It doesn't show a lot.

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The late Derek Haynes devised the 4-couple Strathspey Two Up, Two Down which is published in his 'The Fifth Carnforth Collection of Scottish Country Dances' with the footnote: For Pat Batt and all other two-sex Scottish dancers who have to dance on either side of the set. This dance was inspired by Pat's poem "The Ladies Man".