

Fisherman's Favourite

Trad Newfoundland - FF Version

5

13

Playing Notes: (none)

rev: v1.0 3/10/2015 8:22:25 AM wdm

This is well-known by Newfies as a button accordion special, played fast, and never done better than by Harry Hibbs - see it on YouTube by the master himself; Fisherman's Favourite, done by Harry Hibbs.

A contributor to The Session seems to think this is also known as 'The Cliffs' - which is itself a variant of 'Harvest Home'? For reference, I've included both our version of Harvest Home and the Session version of 'The Cliffs' in the var-abc file.

In the Fiddler's Companion, the entry for The Cliff Hornpipe has an interesting bit of musicology, and lends credence to the theory that this is related to 'Harvest Home'. There, it says; 'Barry Calaghan (2007) prints two versions, as 'Cliffe Hornpipe,' to illustrate the heavily dotted-rhythm hornpipe style of northern England players contrasted with the fast and smooth versions favoured by East Anglia or Devon players (who employ it as a vehicle for step dancing).' Given that many Newfies hail directly from Devonshire, and that the 'Favourite' is played exactly this way (fast and smooth, un-dotted, suitable for step-dancing), it seems likely this is the same tune.