

Robin Ddiog

Couple mixer the way they do it in Wales

Wales

Robin Ddiog (Lazy Robin) is a well-known and popular couple's mixer belonging to the family of Tympath (toom-path) or Barn Dances found throughout Wales and danced in social settings. It was devised by Lois Blake in the early years of the Welsh Folk Dance Society (1949) and introduced during a Christmas gathering in Pant y Fedwen. I learned this version from Owen Huw Roberts when visiting the Isle of Anglesey in 2002.

Note: *This is different from the circle, non-partner dance also devised by Lois Blake and introduced to many in the United States by Vyts Beliajus or Michael and Mary Ann Herman.*

Pronunciation: roh-bihn THEE-ahg
Formation: Double circle, couples facing (couple #1 CCW, couple #2 CW), W on the R
Position: W on the R, no contact
Steps: Walk
Meter: 4/4

Measure	Count	Step
---------	-------	------

Intro.		1 sustained note
--------	--	------------------

Part I		Star R & L
--------	--	------------

1-4	1-16	Couples #1 and #2: Star R (8 cts), Star L (8 cts)
-----	------	---

Part II		Arches (The arch always moves CW)
---------	--	-----------------------------------

1-2	1-8	Couple #1 dives, couple #2 arches (both couples turn inward to face again), Reverse
-----	-----	---

3	9-12	Couple #1 dives, couple #2 arches (both couples advance on to the next couple)
---	------	--

REPEAT the entire dance from the beginning until the music ends

Notes:

- *The music typically gets faster and faster to add to the fun. When this happens, the walking step often changes to a skipping step during the star, and a clap is added.*
- *The Welsh love to sing. They will often sing all of the song's verses while dancing—only then will the music speed up. An easy alternative for non-welsh speakers is to sing the chorus only. This is sung during Part II, Arches and the dancers sing no more once the melody changes.*

English: *Hi, di-ho, di-hi-di-hi-di-ho ... And the wind blows through the doorway*

Welsh: *Hi, di-ho, di-hi-di-hi-di-ho ... A'r gwynt i'r drws bob bore*