**Traditional Village Dance, Askrigg 2 March 2012**

**Introductory Dialogue between Peter Kennedy and Sam Fawcett**

*Lights dim.*

PK: And where is it you’re living now, Sam?

SF: West Birk Hatt Farm, Baldersdale.

PK: And where did your family come from?

SF: Well, they originated in Swaledale; I’ve lots of relatives there.

PK: And you used to play for the old country dances and polkas and so on, didn’t you?

SF: Oh, old time dances. I used to play fifty-five year ago, the old dances. Oh, there was quadrilles, alvens, caladones, lancers, country dances, Circassian Circle, polkas, schottisches, reels, polka mazurkas and all the rest of them.

PK: And how did you come to pick up the concertina?

SF: Well, you see, it was like that. I were quite a child and my father had one. And he were very particular o’er it. He had to be away on t’ fell and I’d just get it to start to learn: he ever knew. Oh well, we used to have a dance every Saturday night in t’ old hut. Course, there was sheep shearings and when we were finished hay or any neighbours used to gather up together and have a reel rattle in.

PK: What used to go on?

SF: Oh all sorts: I used to dance in them days. When we got a drop of beer and what happened, and got into full blast, there was none of this lazy dancing. We had to put some vim into it to keep up.

*Lights up.*