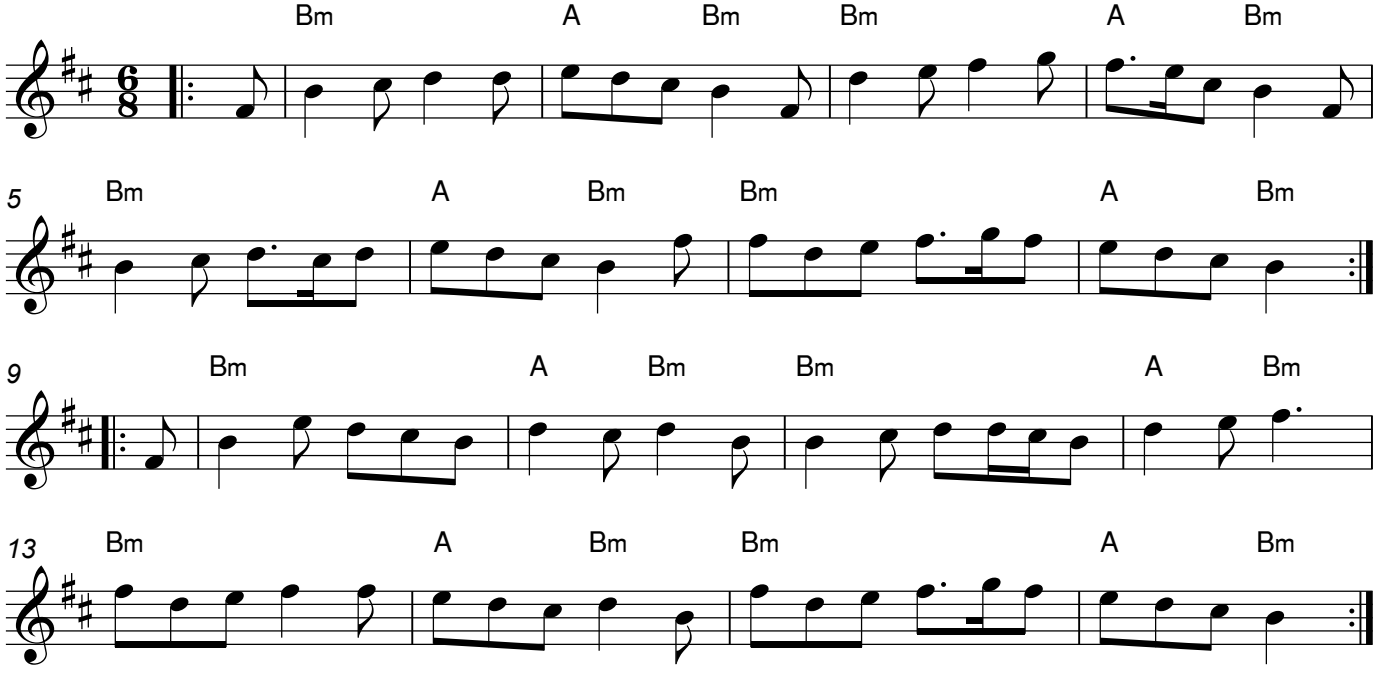
An Kulyek Hos

(The Mallard)

Lively Traditional Cornish



An Kulyek Hos (pronounced approximately "on KILL-yek haws") is a traditional tune from Cornwall in southwest England. Cornwall (Kernow) is one of the six major Celtic-language lands (Ireland, Scotland, Isle of Man, Wales, Brittany, Cornwall). Originally a song, An Kulyek Hos was collected by S. Baring-Gould in 1889 from a J. Masters. The words were about eating a mallard duck piece by piece, similar to the French ditties "Alouette" and "Le Merle". However, Baring-Gould considered these words too coarse for publication so it was entered into his "Songs and Ballads of the West" as a Country Dance. The tune is now usually played quickly, as a jig, and many variations have evolved.