



# Tune of the Month: The Morepeth Rant

05/01/2022 – Author: Josh Larios and Kitty Steetle

## THE MORPETH RANT

D G A D A

3

5 D G A D G A D

8 D G A D

3

13 D G A D

The tune is attributed to William Shield (1748- 1829) from Swalwell, Northumberland, northern England, but in the great tradition of folk music, he probably was not the composer as it is now believed that he appropriated his tunes.[1]

Morpeth is a market town also in Northumberland, so we can safely assume the tune is from that general area. The Morpeth Rant is sometimes called the Morpeth Hornpipe, a hornpipe being in 4/4, played a little slower than a reel, with the last bar having a rhythm of 2 quarter notes then 1 half note (or 3 quarter notes and a pickup into the next phrase).

The Morpeth Rant is also the name of a dance that uses the Morpeth Rant tune or a variant as accompaniment, one version being used as a Morris Dance tune.[2] A good source for details regarding The Morpeth Rant dance and rant step can be found on Andrew Carnie's folk music site, [folkdancemusings.blogspot.com](http://folkdancemusings.blogspot.com). [3] The Morpeth Rant can be heard in Old Time Jams, Irish and Scottish Sessions, and Contradances.

1. [https://tunearch.org/wiki/Annotation:Morpeth\\_Rant\\_\(1\)](https://tunearch.org/wiki/Annotation:Morpeth_Rant_(1))

2. Loc. cit.

3. I quickly learned that there are many (passionately opposing) opinions regarding the rant step so I chose to sidestep the argument and direct you here: <https://folkdancemusings.blogspot.com/2020/01/morpeth-rant-england.html>

## District 2 Report (Ferry, Lincoln, Pend O'Reille, Spokane, and Stevens Counties)

05/01/2022 – Author: Kyle Peterson

Spring has sprung, the flowers are blooming – some of them, anyway – and suddenly we are facing a plethora of events featuring traditional American music. This weekend will see the return of the Northwest Regional Fiddle Contest. Two weeks later, we will be in Chewelah for the Fiddlers on the Peak contest, hoping that the fire trucks next door will not be testing their sirens during a performance. It looks like the National Fiddle Contest will be held in Weiser, Idaho, at the end of June, and then it's just two long bows and a couple of eighth notes to the Moses Lake Fiddle Camp in mid-July. Many really interesting acts are scheduled at the Bluewaters Music Festival in Medical Lake in mid-August, which never fails to inspire. We are looking forward to a lot of fun and education this summer, perhaps we will see some of you from across state, who might be able to attend.

## District 3 Report (Chelan, Douglas & Okanogan Counties)

05/01/2022 – Author: Jose Lopez

Had a great time at the Jam Session on the 29th @ the Eagles (*Wenatchee Eagles Lodge #204 ~ 1208 N. Wenatchee Ave. Wenatchee, WA*). It was nice to see our friends again, some back from vacation in Florida, others from winter homes in Arizona, people from Moses Lake and some members that were not able to attend for various reasons. Just played music for 3 hrs and enjoyed being with friends. Our next meeting is on the 3rd Friday of May at the Eagles. Hope to have a good turn out.

## District 4 Report (Skagit, Whatcom, Island and San Juan Counties)

05/01/2022 – Author: Barry Cole

Dear Fiddlers, District 4 has been without an active secretary for about 3 months, but have now voted in: David Andersson <anderssoncrossborder@gmail.com> and his friend Kevin, both from Bellingham, to share that role.

Sarah and Carol shared about the April Sedro Wooley playout and Mount Vernon Jam.

At S/W, it was nice that we had three kids from Darington and teacher Diana play. We all want to give a special thanks for all that Sarah does for the district, as well as a thank you to all that were able to come and play, and those who helped! At the M/V Jam, we had a good turn out, a good time jamming, enjoying the music and fellowship, and Sarah's Swedish meatballs and Diana's Blue Ribbon pies. Yummy!

Please note on your Calendars for May 7th: Ray Jensen's birthday music celebration!

District 4 meets on the 2nd and 4th Fridays; That is May 13 for the meeting and Jam, and May 27 for the Jam. Both are at the Mount Vernon Senior Center [1401 Cleveland Ave, Mount Vernon, WA 98273] from 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm.

First Thursday, May 5th: Play out at Sedro Woolley Senior Center [715 Pacific St, Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284] at 11:30 am – 12:30 pm.

## District 5 Report (Kitsap, Mason, Grays Harbor & Pacific Counties)

05/01/2022 – Author: Laura Farr

We will hold our last meeting for the season on Saturday, May 21st at the Kitsap Square Dance Association – 6800 W. Belfair Valley Road, Bremerton. Tune learning will begin at 11:00, followed by the business meeting at noon, and jamming until 2:30.

The first Thursday evening jam at the Salmon Center classroom in Belfair will be May 5th from 6-9 pm. The 2nd and 4th Thursday afternoon jams will be held in the barn at the Salmon Center. The address is 600 NE Roessel Rd, Belfair.

Playouts:

- Friday, May 13 Canterbury Manor, Bremerton 2:00 pm

- Wednesday, May 18th Clearbrook Inn, Silverdale 2:00 pm Contact Sharon Habener 360 271-4182
- Tuesday, May 24th Bay Point, Bremerton 2:00 pm Contact Kay McCarthy 360 895-0628

## District 6 Report (King County)

05/01/2022 - Author: Jenny Swanson

Hello folks! District 6 has been plugging steadily along during the last half of March and first part of April. We have a good core of members who have stepped up to play at the playouts. These have all been well received by the audiences. Bernie Turner is keeping track of who is playing at which one, so contact him at [bernus.turner@comcast.net](mailto:bernus.turner@comcast.net) if you plan to participate.

Our last jam/meeting until September on April 9th was well attended. As you can see (if you click on the pictures) we had a good group of players, dancers and singers. It was so much fun. The dancers are Cici, Emma, and their dad, Dave.



We will all miss our times together, so I encourage people to keep playing with other people when you can. It's always fun to have a group of people come play music in your home or even meet at a park!



Speaking of smaller groups, Clayton has hosted Bernie and me in his home regularly for quite a few years now. This helps us keep up our skills, learn from each other and be ready to play together for audiences. Clayton has been a great asset to the fiddlers for many years. He's an excellent guitar player having played since he was a boy, which means over 80 years! Talk about calluses! And he's still

learning new things. It's rare that he misses a jam or meeting and he's so personable that when he arrives, everyone is glad. We all really enjoy and value Clayton.



Lastly, Roy Calvert would like to invite you all to Shirley's celebration of life. It will be held Sat. June 4th at 11 am at the DesMoines Masonic Center, located at 2208 S. 223rd in DesMoines, Wa.

Please bring your instruments so we can celebrate her life and play the music that Shirley loved.



Remember to sign up for fiddle camp if you are interested and pay your dues for the year if you haven't already. Please support the WOTFA organization in these ways. It's an important way to keep music that is accessible to everyone in our culture.

Thanks for reading. Send any comments or news to:

Jenny Swanson [timbuktoe@yahoo.com](mailto:timbuktoe@yahoo.com)

## District 8 Report (Pierce County)

05/01/2022 – Author: Barbara Peterson

Hi everyone, more and more opportunities to play music with us in Pierce County!

Here are some of our ongoing activities:

**3rd Sunday 2PM** District 8 Meeting and Jam. We will meet May 15 at the [Mid County Community Center \(MCCC\)](#) 10205 44th Ave E, Tacoma, WA 98446. It's easy to find behind the school on 104th, just off of 512 and Canyon Road. There's plenty of parking! We'll have a short meeting followed by music. Join us! Bring a friend! Meet some nice people!

**Mondays 1PM-3PM** Circle jam at Puyallup Senior Center – 210 W. Pioneer Ave. Again easy to find, and park.

**Wednesdays 5-8PM** a slower jam session at the Golden Rose Mobile Park in Puyallup. This will be a good place to start out at an easier pace. BUT please contact me ahead to confirm. Contact: Barbara Peterson [bmacLeap@comcast.net](mailto:bmacLeap@comcast.net)

**1st Friday 3:30-7:30PM** Circle Jam at Wilco Farm Store in Gig Harbor. 3408 Hunt St NW in the back. Contact Matt 202.631.3417

**Fridays 1PM-4PM** Golden Rose Mobile Park Community (The indoor tree jam)

**2nd Thursday 1:30PM** in June. We have resumed our quarterly playouts at Franke Toby Jones Retirement Community Center. Contact: Ron Duncan 253-549-2553

Other sites (Bonaventure, Willow Gardens, Wesley Bradley Park, Julian Estates) have indicated interest in our playouts as well. Better'd rosin up those bows!

We would like to see/hear more musicians at our circle jams and meetings. So why not drop in? Bring a friend. If you have questions, give us a call! Barbara (253) 926-8457

## District 9 Report (Lewis & Thurston Counties)

05/01/2022 – Author: Christie Easter

Hi Everyone!

For the month of May we will be having our usual 1st Friday meeting and jam on Friday, May 6th from 10 am-Noon at Faith Baptist Church, located at 436 Coal Creek Rd in Chehalis. To get to the church take I-5 to exit 79, then go EAST off the exit, that will take you back over the freeway. Then take a LEFT onto N. National Ave and go 1/3 mile, then take a RIGHT onto Coal Creek Rd. Go 1.1 miles on Coal Creek Rd, then turn RIGHT into the Church driveway. We will be in the middle building. There will be snacks and coffee/tea but not a potluck.

Everyone is welcome to attend our jam.

Also for the month of May we will be resuming our monthly playdate at Colonial Stillwater Estates after a 2 1/2 year layoff !!.

The date is Wednesday, May 11th from 4:00pm-5:00pm. Tentatively the plan is to play outside, that way we will not have to wear masks at the playdate which is not feasible for a music performing group. I'm hopeful that by the time we play at Colonial the mask mandate will have been dropped completely, but we'll see.

Please, please come to the playdate if you are able to, even if you are feeling rusty or unsure about playing in public. We desperately need to raise money for our youth scholarship fund, which after more than two years of not playing in public is pretty small.

There will be FiddleCamp this year and we will have at least 9 or 10 youth attending on scholarships, so every dollar we can put in the scholarship fund really helps. We will be playing all basic tunes like 'Liberty' and 'Old Joe Clark' and other easy favorites. I will be mailing out a playlist ASAP to everybody, and will have one at the jam as well. If there is a tune you want to play that is not on the list we will by all means do it, the list is just a suggestion to keep the music going.

Also, if you are planning on attending FiddleCamp on a youth scholarship this year please let me know if you haven't already. A head count of scholarships really helps me to coordinate things ahead of time.

And don't forget to register for FiddleCamp if you haven't already done so, it's going to be super fun.

If you have questions or need more information please call or text me (Christie) at 360-791-5185

## District 11 Report (Grant & Adam Counties)

05/01/2022 – Author: Charlie Root

District 11 held their April meeting and Jam on Easter Sunday, April 17th. We had fewer musicians and a smaller audience, but it was still a nice jam. We will be having two additional playouts in May, with one on May 9th at 2:00 at Columbia Crest in Moses Lake, and another on May 10 at 10:00 AM at McKay Healthcare in Soap Lake. The second week in May is National Nursing Home week, so it will be a busy week for us. In addition to those two, two of our regular monthly playouts are on Wednesday of that week. We are still not back to where we used to be, but places are starting to open up again.

Monthly Meeting: 3rd Sunday – 1:30 – Jam: 2:00-4:00  
Moses Lake Senior Center, 608 E. 3rd Ave. Moses Lake

Playouts:

2nd Wed. 10:00 AM Pioneer Village, 816 Sharon Ave. Moses Lake  
2nd Wed. 1:30 PM Avamere, 8425 Aspi Blvd NE, Moses Lake  
3rd Thurs. 10:00 AM Brookdale Hearthstone, 905 S. Pioneer Way, Moses Lake

## District 12 Report (Benton, Franklin, & Walla Walla Counties)

05/01/2022 – Author: Shawn Hughes

**Monthly Meeting:** 2nd Sunday at Trios Adult Day Services Building, 10 N. Washington St. Kennewick. (Enter at back) Doors open at 2:00PM for jamming; Finger potluck at 3:00, followed by short business meeting and more jamming.

### Monthly Playouts

1st Wednesday 6:00m PM. Hawthorne Court, 524 N Ely, Kennewick  
2nd Wednesday 6:15PM. Guardian Angel, 245 Van Giesen, Richland  
4th Wednesday 3PM. Bonaventure, 1800 Bellerive Dr. Richland.

There will be no District meeting for the month of May due to Mother's Day. We will be having a meeting in June. For the June meeting we will also be doing a BBQ. Meat, buns, condiments are furnished by the district however potluck dishes and sides are encouraged by others

District 12: Benton, Franklin and Walla Walla Counties: Chair: Joe Gunter 509-948-1772

## District 15 Report (Jefferson & Clallam Counties)

05/01/2022 – Author: Rita Hubbard

Nothing to report – we haven't started meetings yet but we're working on possibly having a campout sometime this summer – perhaps June or July. We will start meetings again in September.

## District 16 Report (Snohomish County)

05/01/2022 – Author: Dianne Gooch

We are having great jams on the 2nd & 4th Fridays each month; 5:30-10:00 pm – or when folks tire out. Come and go on your own schedule. The address is Sisco Heights Community Club, 13527 99th Ave. NE, Arlington, WA. We share a great variety of music with old-time tunes, bluegrass, swing and other unique songs.

We held our first WOTFA Midway Jam since the Covid shutdown, at the Lynnwood Library (19200 44th Ave W, Lynnwood) on Sunday, April 24. We had 11 musicians and hope to spread the word for our next jam on Sunday, May 22, 1:30-4:00 pm.

Our district has been invited to play at the Arlington Arts Fair bandstand on July 8, 1:00 pm. We hope to have a good group of musicians turn out for this event.

We look forward to our Chairman Noel's full recovery from knee replacement and return to our jams.

Dianne Gooch – Reporter – [DLGooch2305@gmail.com](mailto:DLGooch2305@gmail.com)

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