

Jack Payne

John Wesley Vivian "Jack" Payne (22 August 1899 – 4 December 1969) was a British dance music bandleader who established his reputation during the British dance band era of the 1930s. Born in Leamington Spa, he served in the Royal Flying Corps while playing the piano in amateur squadron bands.

After being part of "The Allies" concert party Force, leading dance bands to entertain the performed to wounded soldiers convalescing

He played with visiting American jazz bands early 1920s, including the Southern 'Rag-a-London' in 1925 where his ten-piece became ensemble regularly performed on the BBC in In 1928, Payne became the BBC Director of official dance band. In 1929 the band was television broadcast.



he then served in the newly-formed Royal Air troops and several times he around Birmingham.

at the 'Birmingham Palais' during the Jazz' Orchestra in 1922, before moving to the house band at London's 'Hotel Cecil'. This the latter half of the decade. Dance Music and the leader of the BBC's first featured in the first ever BBC

His signature tune was *Say it With Music* (written by Irving Berlin).

After leaving the BBC in 1932, when he was succeeded by Henry Hall, he returned to playing hotel venues and took his band on nationwide tours and made a film *'Say it with Music'* (1932), followed four years later by *'Sunshine Ahead'*.

Payne composed three successful waltzes of the period - *'Blue Pacific Moonlight'*, *'Underneath the Spanish Stars'* and *'Pagan Serenade'*.

He toured South Africa and France in the 1930s, but also concentrated his efforts on running a theatrical agency.



In 1941 he returned to the post of Director of Dance Music at the BBC, remaining there until 1946. Following this he became one of the BBC's first disc jockeys.

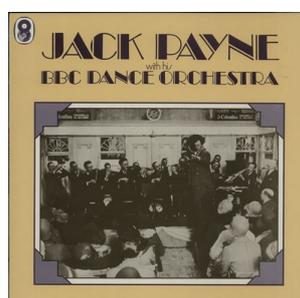
In 1955, he again changed career direction by returning to the dance music scene to present his own BBC Television programme, *Words and Music*, which ran for three series; also making the occasional television appearance as a panellist in *Juke Box Jury*, as well as other popular music programmes of the fifties and early sixties.

During his final years, Payne ran a hotel, The Middle House, in Mayfield, East Sussex (which was not a successful financial venture). Payne was married twice - his first wife having died after sixteen years of marriage.

He had an adopted daughter with his second wife who was the pianist and composer Peggy Cochrane.

He wrote two autobiographies, "This is Jack Payne" (1932) and "Signature Tune" (1947).

Jack Payne died in Tonbridge, Kent on 4 December 1969.



If You Go Down to the Woods Today ..

Songwriters: John W Bratton & Jimmy Kennedy



If you go down to the woods today You're sure of a big surprise.

If you go down to the woods today You'd better go in disguise!

For every bear that ever there was Will gather there for certain, because
Today's the day the Teddy Bears have their picnic.

Picnic time for Teddy Bears,

The little Teddy Bears are having A lovely time today.

Watch them. Catch them unawares,

And see them picnic on their holiday.

See them gaily gad about.

They love to play and shout, They never have any care;

At six o'clock their Mommies and Daddies Will take them home to bed,

Because they're tired little Teddy Bears

Every Teddy Bear who's ever been good Is sure of a treat today.

There's lots of marvellous things to eat And wonderful games to play.

Beneath the trees where nobody sees They'll hide and seek as long as they please

'Cause that's the way the Teddy Bears have their picnic.

Picnic time



Sitting on a Five-bar Gate

Billing and cooing, not a lot of doing,
You can't make her giggle, it's unsafe to wriggle,

Sitting on a Five-bar Gate.
Sitting on a Five-bar Gate.

You can't cuddle her, she can't cuddle you,
You can't keep your balance and your promise too.

You can't do your wooing, there's simply nothing doing, Sitting on a Five-bar Gate.



Airman, Airman, Don't put the wind up me !

Higher, higher, higher, higher, .. higher, higher, higher, higher ..
Up in my plane I soar .. Oh, .. Twenty feet or more !

I'm a flyer, a flyer, a flyer; no, not a liar, .. a flyer;
They say my flying-vest's made out of clouds !

When I fly, in the sky, they all cry, as I go by,
"Airman ! Airman ! Don't put the wind up me !"

When I fly round the town, knocking peoples' aerials down,
"Airman ! Airman ! Don't put the wind up me !"

They all look up and say "Is this a fairy ?"
"A Cock-a-doodle-doo, or a Canary ?"

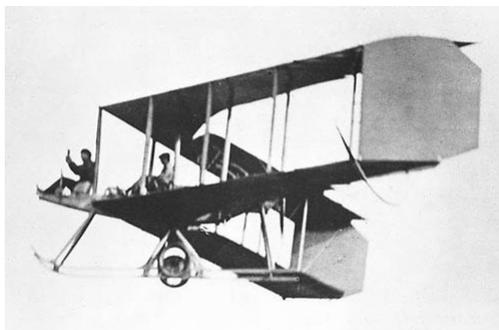
When I fly, they all shout, "Someone's let the Linnet out !"
"Airman ! Airman ! Don't put the wind up me !"

[Instrumental]

"There he comes, duck your heads !" "Run and hide beneath the beds !"
"Airman ! Airman ! Don't put the wind up me !"

They all look up and say "Is it a motor ?",
"A Flying-fish, a Cod-fish, or a Bloater ?",

When I fly, they all cry, "When can we wave you 'Good-bye' ?"
"Airman ! Airman ! Don't put the wind up me !"



Love Is The Sweetest Thing.

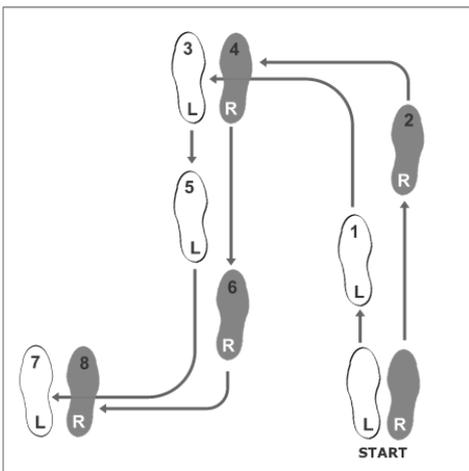
Love is the sweetest thing. What else on earth could ever bring
Such happiness to ev'rything, As Love's old story ?

Love is the strangest thing. No song of birds upon the wing
Shall in our hearts more sweetly sing, Than Love's old story.

Whatever heart may desire, Whatever fate may send,
This is the tale that never will tire; This is the song without end.

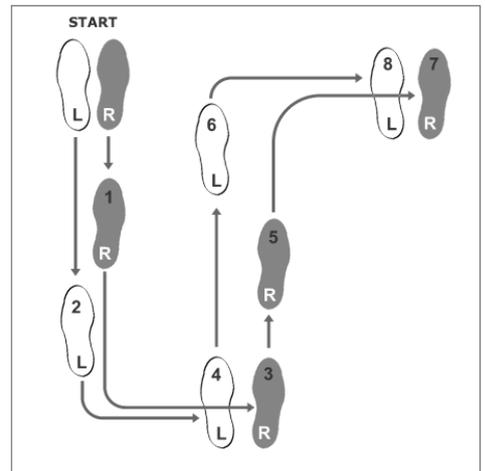
Love is the greatest thing. The oldest, yet the latest thing.
I only hope that fate may bring Love's story to you.

Love is the sweetest thing.



The basic elements of Foxtrot are walking steps and side steps. The long walking movements also involve a rise & fall action, which is similar to Waltz, although more subtle. The basic rhythm of foxtrot is slow, slow, quick, quick. The slow steps use 2 beats of music and the quick steps use one. Foxtrot is danced in a normal closed position, which means facing your partner and holding them close.

Gentleman



Lady

Say It With Music

Music is a language lovers understand,
Melody and romance wander hand in hand;
Cupid never fails assisted by a band,
So if you have something sweet to tell her ..

[Refrain:]

Say it with music. Beautiful music.
Somehow they'd rather be kissed
To the strains of Chopin or Liszt,

A melody mellow, played on a cello,
Helps mister Cupid along ..
.. So say it with a beautiful song.

