

La Danse du Chapé

The hat dance

This traditional 19th century Jersey dance would have played a central part in the celebrations held by the local farming community at the completion of ploughing and threshing.

Families would come together to sing and dance, drink cider (du cidre) and eat cake (d'la gâche) and Jersey bean crock (les pais ou fou).

As time went on and technology advanced such celebrations became less and less common. Horses were replaced by heavy machinery powered by steam. Ploughing and threshing were much easier and less time consuming, meaning there was no longer any reason to sing and dance!

Tchi pitchi! (What a shame!)

