

Dances for March 25, 2024

Video: The Dean Bridge of Edinburgh

The Dean Bridge of Edinburgh

RSCDS Book 23 – No. 4

32-bar strathspey for three couples in a four-couple longwise set

1 – 4 1st and 2nd couples set and link.

5 – 8 1st and 3rd couples set and link.

9 – 12 2nd, 3rd and 1st couples advance one step and retire one step and, giving both hands to partners, half turn to face partners in the middle of the set.

13 – 16 2nd, 3rd and 1st couples set and cast by the right to opposite sides. 2nd couple face each other, 3rd couple face down and 1st couple face up.

17 – 18 2nd couple, giving right hands cross over. 3rd and 1st women, 3rd and 1st men, giving right hands, change places.

19 – 20 2nd man and 1st woman, 2nd woman and 1st man, giving left hands, change places. 3rd couple, giving left hands, cross over.

Finish in the order 1,2,3, 1st couple on opposite sides.

21 – 24 1st and 2nd couples set and link. 1st couple finish back to back in the middle of the set facing opposite sides.

25 – 28 1st man with 2nd and 3rd women, 1st woman with 2nd and 3rd men advance one step and retire one step. 1st couple advance one step and turn right about to face in. 2nd and 3rd couples advance one step and turn right about to finish back to back facing own sides. (Note)

29 – 32 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples repeat bars 25 to 28, 1st

couple, giving right hands on bars 31-32, to cross to second place on own sides.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

Devised by Alec Hay, Auckland, New Zealand.

Original Tune: The Dean Bridge of Edinburgh (Traditional)

Note: The deviser did not intend that hands be given in bars 25-28.

Video: Jeannie o' the Witchin' E'e

Jeannie o' the Witchin' E'e

RSCDS: Scottish Dances collected by Mary Isdal MacNab
(Jig)

1 – 4 1st woman advances to partner and sets to him.

5 – 6 1st woman dances round behind 2nd man and faces him.
Fig. 1.

7 – 8 1st woman sets to 2nd man

9 – 12 1st woman gives right hand to partner then left hand to 2nd man and all three set twice.

13 – 16 1st man turns his partner under his right arm to finish in allemande position facing 2nd woman. 2nd couple step up on bars 15-16.

17 – 22 1st couple dance a figure of eight round 2nd couple, passing 2nd woman with right shoulder to begin. Fig. 2.

23 – 24 1st man turns his partner under his right arm to finish back to back in the middle of the set, 1st man facing 2nd woman and 1st woman facing 2nd man, ready for a reel of four.

25 – 32 1st and 2nd couples dance a reel of four across the dance, 1st couple finish facing each other in the middle having passed each other with right shoulders.

33 – 40 1st couple set twice then turn one and a half times with the right hand to finish on own sides in second place.

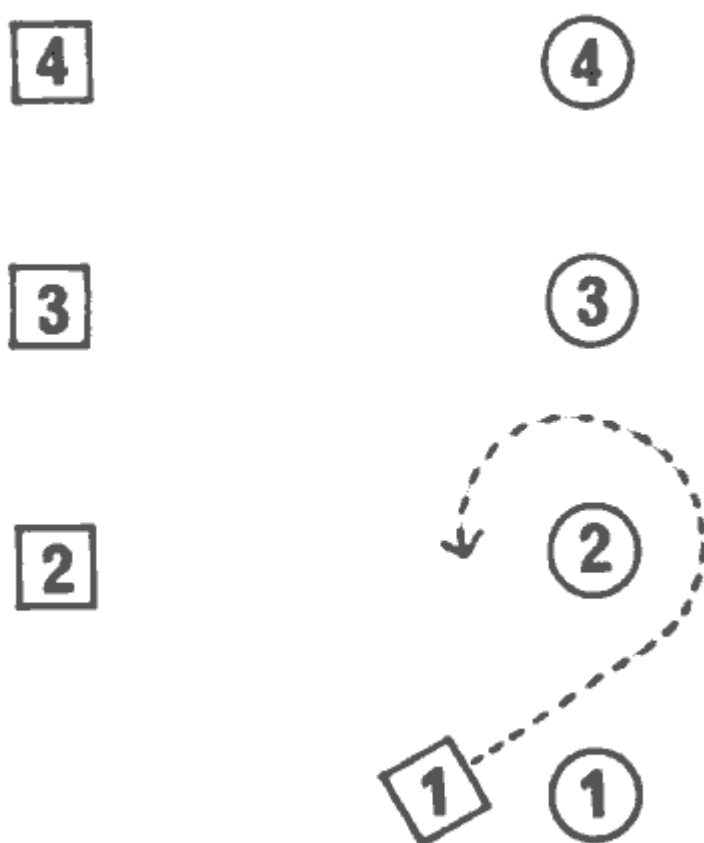
Repeat having passed a couple

Dedicated to my friend Miss Jean Milligan

Collected originally in Ayrshire but gifted by Mrs Fassiefern Bain of Vancouver, late of Appin, daughter of the Rev. W. Stewart, Nether Lochaber

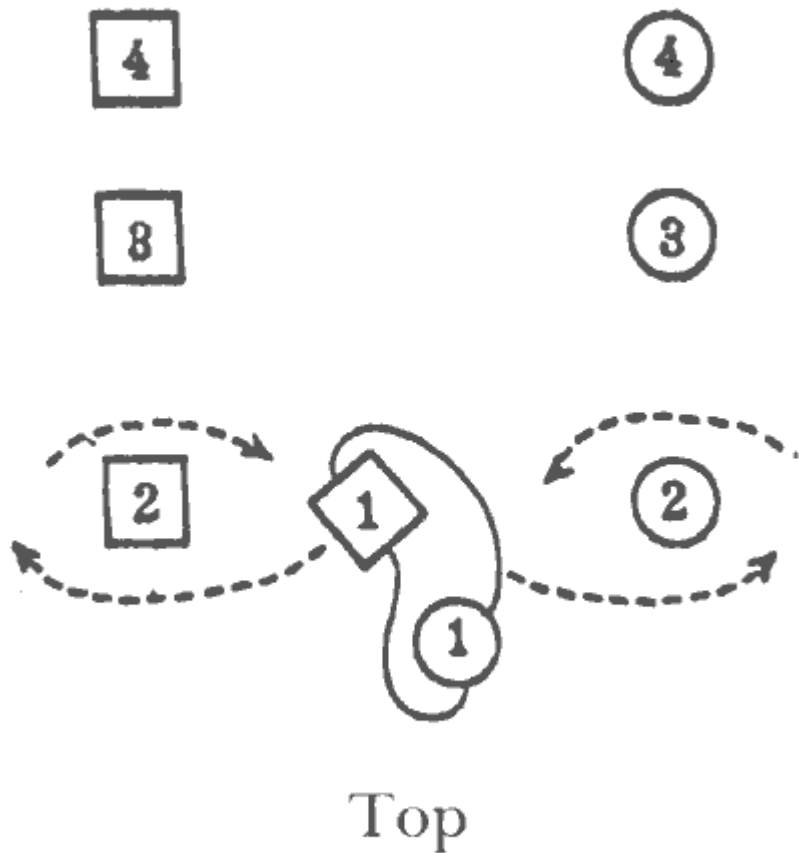
RSCDS: Scottish Dances collected by Mary Isdal MacNab

Fig. 1



Top

Fig. 2



Dances for March 4, 2024

Video: THE DANCING BELLS

THE DANCING BELLS

Ann Campbell – Who's Who in Toronto

A 32-bar Jig for three couples in a four-couple set

1 – 8 1st couple set, cast off one place, cross over giving right hands, and cast, 1st man round 3rd woman and 1st woman round 2nd man, to finish 1st woman between 2nd couple facing

down and 1st man between 3rd couple facing up. 2nd couple step up on bars 3-4.

9 – 12 1st man with 3rd couple and 1st woman with 2nd couple advance and retire.

13 – 16 1st couple change places up and down giving right hands and cast to the right to finish in second place on opposite sides, while 2nd and 3rd men and 2nd and 3rd women turn giving right hands.

17 – 20 1st man with 2nd and 3rd women, and 1st woman with 2nd and 3rd men, advance and retire.

21 – 24 1st man dances a half figure of eight round second couple and 1st woman dances a half figure of eight round 3rd couple to finish in second place.

25 – 28 1st man dances right hands across with 3rd couple while 1st woman dances right hands across with 2nd couple. 1st couple pass by the right shoulder.

29 – 32 1st man dances left hands across with 2nd couple while 1st woman dances left hands across with 3rd couple. 1st couple finish in second place.

Repeat from new places.

Devised in October, 2004.

Written to mark significant birthdays of Carole and Ron Bell.

Suggested Music: "The Dancing Bells"

Bobby Brown & The Scottish Accent

Celtic Fire in the Music (Disc 2, Track 2) ;

Video: Bedrule

Bedrule

RSCDS Book XXXIII

(Strathspey)

1–8 1st and 2nd women, and at the same time 1st and 2nd men, turn once round with both hands, opening out on the side lines and continuing into four hands round to the left and then 1st and 2nd couples turn partners once round to finish in the middle of the set, ready for promenade. On bar 8, 3rd couple dance in and take promenade hold.

9–16 1st, 2nd and 3rd couples promenade. On bars 15 – 16, 1st couple cast off to second place, while 2nd couple dance up to first place and 3rd couple return to original place.

17–20 1st and 3rd couples dance right hands across, finishing on the sidelines.

21–24 1st and 2nd couples dance left hands across, 1st couple finishing in second place facing down.

25–32 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples dance reels of three on the sides. 1st couple begin the reels by giving right shoulder to 3rd couple, and at the end they face down ready to repeat the dance.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

Devised by Betty Grant, Toronto, Ontario, 1984, in memory of her great, great grandmother Elizabeth Turnbull Dickson who left her home, Bedrule, near Jedburgh, in 1834 to emigrate to Canada.

The Manual of Scottish Country Dancing:

Bar 20 1st woman dances into second place on her own side pulling her right shoulder back, to prepare for left hands across.

Bar 24 1st woman dances straight out to second place on her own side, to give right shoulder to 3rd woman as she enters the reels of three.

TACNotes:'

1-8 1st & 2nd cpls stay in the middle at end of bar 6, & flow into the 2H turns.

17-20 On bar 20, 1st woman turns R about into sidelines & faces up ready for LH across.

21-24 On bar 24, 1st woman dances into 2nd place, facing down, to enter reel with 3rd woman.

25-32 1st cpl finish facing down, 3rd cpl facing up, ready for bar 1 of repetition.

Dances for February 26, 2024

Video: SANDS OF MORAR

SANDS OF MORAR

RSCDS Book 45. No. 6

(Strathspey)

1 – 8 1st couple dance a figure of eight round 2nd couple, giving right hands when crossing down from own side and left hands when crossing back.

9 – 16 1st, 2nd and 3rd couples dance reels of three on own sides, joining nearer hands with partner when possible. To begin 1st couple dance in and down, 2nd couple dance out and up and 3rd couple dance in and up. 2nd couple finish facing out.

17 – 20 1st couple turn with both hands once round and, retaining nearer hands, dance down to third place. 2nd couple dance out and up to first place and, joining nearer hands, dance down to second place to finish in the middle behind 1st couple. 3rd couple dance in to give nearer hands (3rd man right hand, 3rd woman left hand) and dance up and out to first place to finish in the middle behind 2nd couple. All three

couples are in the middle of the set facing down.

21 – 22 All three couples set.

23 – 24 1st couple cast up to first place, while 2nd couple, following them, cast up to second place and 3rd couple dance down to third place.

25 – 32 1st and 2nd couples dance the tourbillon as follows:

25-26 1st and 2nd couples turn with both hands halfway round. After one bar, 1st man releases his left hand to dance into 2nd woman's place while 1st woman dances into her original place. 2nd woman similarly releases her left hand to dance into 1st man's place while 2nd man dances into his original place.

27-28 1st couple set to 2nd couple.

29-30 1st and 2nd couples turn with both hands halfway round. After one bar, 1st woman releases her left hand to dance into 2nd man's place while 1st man dances into 2nd woman's place. 2nd man similarly releases his left hand to dance into 1st woman's place while 2nd woman dances into 1st man's place.

31-32 2nd and 1st couples, giving right hands, cross over.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

Devised by Barry Priddey, RSCDS Sutton Coldfield Branch and originally published by Glasgow Branch in The Diamond Jubilee Book (1983).

Tune: Pinky House, Traditional

The Manual of Scottish Country Dancing:

Bars 23-24 1st and 2nd couples must cast quickly so that 3rd couple can dance into place by the end of bar 24.

TACNotes:

23-24 1st cpl, followed by 2nd cpl, must cast quickly to allow

3rd cpl to dance down & short way into places.

27-28 Retain nearer hands with partner at end of bar 28 ready for 2H turn on bar 29.

29-30 At beginning of bar 30, 1st woman & 2nd man draw partners along sidelines with RH, then release to cross set.

Video: ROARING JELLY

ROARING JELLY

Dance devised by Hugh Foss. (Published in Glendarroch Sheet No. 6)

(Jig)

1 – 4 1st couple cross over, giving right hands, and cast off one place (2nd couple move up on 3–4).

5 – 8 Giving right hands again, they cross back and the man casts up one place to go between 2nd couple and the woman casts off one place to go between 3rd couple.

9 – 16 The three couples dance six hands round to the left and back. They take hands in threes at the end of bar 8 and don't let go until the end of bar 16. 2nd and 3rd men – and women – let go of each other at bar 15.

17 – 24 1st couple go up and down the dance, giving right hands, and 1st man dances a figure of eight round 3rd couple, passing 3rd man right shoulder to begin, while 1st woman, passing 2nd woman right shoulder, dances a figure of eight round 2nd couple. 1st couple end in 2nd place, 'wrong' sides.

25 – 30 Reels of three at the sides: to begin, 1st man passes 2nd woman right shoulder and 1st woman 3rd man right shoulder.

31 – 32 1st couple, giving right hands, cross back to own sides, 2nd place.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

Tune: Roaring Jelly, as given in Kerr's Caledonian Collection, p. 18, but with each 8 bars repeated, and Allan's Reels, etc. p. 25.

Dances for January 29, 2024

No Video

Ardbrae Angels

a 32-bar reel for 3 couples in a 4 couple longwise set

Elaine Hoag

1-8 1s+2s+3s dance Mirror Reels of 3 (1s dance in and down to begin)

9-16 1s+2s+3s dance a Crossover Reel of 3 (1s cross over to 2nd place opposite side to begin; 2s and 3s continue to reel on their own side). 1s finish the reel facing their own 1st corner while 2s accelerate at the end of the reel to finish at the top

17-24 "Interrupted Hello-Goodbye Setting" (1s finish in 2nd place own side)

17-18 1s+1st corners set, 1s finishing between corners facing partner

19-20 1s turn each other $\frac{3}{4}$ RH to face 2nd corner

21-22 1s+2nd corners set, 1W finishing between 3s, 1M between 2s

23-24 1s turn each other $\frac{3}{4}$ RH to 2nd place own side

25-32 Six hands round and back

After the 2nd repetition, dancing couple steps to the bottom as 4th couple dances in and up to begin the Mirror Reel of 3

** In the dance world, “angels” are individuals who are especially active in supporting dance groups and encouraging new dancers.

First danced at Ardbrae’s Spring Social on March 29th, 2020. Dedicated to all of Ardbrae’s “dance angels,” but especially to Deborah Connors and Guy Quesnel who have cheerfully supported the Ardbrae Scottish Country Dancers of Ottawa in countless ways for many years, and who celebrate birthdays on March 28th and 29th respectively.

Video: The Braes of Breadalbane

The Braes of Breadalbane

RSCDS Book 21. – No. 7.

(Strathspey.)

1 – 4 First couple turn with right hand and cast off one place. Second couple move up.

5 – 8 First couple turn with left hand, the woman casts up, and the man casts down to finish three and three across the dance.

9 – 12 First, second and third couples set twice.

13 – 16 First woman casts down while first man casts up. They turn each other with right hand and finish three and three on own side of dance.

17 – 20 First, second and third couples set twice.

21 – 24 All three couples turn partners with both hands and return to places.

25 – 32 First and second couples dance right and left across and back.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

Tune – The Braes of Breadalbane.
Skillern, 1795.

TACNotes:'

12 1st cpl turn R about, ready to cast.

Dances for January 22, 2024

Video: The Ferry Louper

The Ferry Louper

24 GRADED and SOCIAL DANCES, Devised by Roy Goldring, Leeds
Branch R.S.C.D.S.

32 bar jig for 3 couples

1 – 8 First, second and third couples dance clockwise (chase)
round to places.

9 – 16 First and second couples dance right hands across and
back with left hands. First couple finish facing out.

17 – 24 First couple cast off two places, dance up the middle
and cast off one place. Second couple step up on bars 23 – 24.

25 – 28 Second, first and third couples advance and retire.

29 – 32 Second, first and third couples turn partners with
right hands once round.

Repeat having passed a couple.

Recommended tune:- Castle Hill (M.A.J.)

NOTE: The term 'Ferry Louper' is an Orkney expression which
refers to someone who lives of the Orkney Islands but who was
not born there – i.e. someone who just jumped (or 'loured')

onto the ferry and came over.

Video: Up in the Air

Up in the Air

RSCDS Book 20 – No. 2

32-bar strathspey for three couples in a four-couple longwise set

1 – 8 1st couple cast off, dance down behind own lines and cast up to original places. On bar 8, 1st , 2nd and 3rd couples dance in to meet partners and face up.

9 – 16 1st, 2nd and 3rd couples dance a promenade. On bars 15-16, 1st couple cast off one place to finish facing first corners while 2nd couple dance up to first place.

17 – 20 1st couple set to first corners and then to second corners, finishing between them.

21 – 24 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples dance six hands once round to the left.

25 – 28 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples advance and retire.

29 – 32 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples, giving both hands, turn partners to own sides, 1st couple turning one and a half times.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

W Boag: A Collection of Favourite Reels & Strathspeys by the Most Eminent Composers, 1797.

Original tune: Sir George Clark of Pennycuik (Nathaniel Gow)

The Manual of Scottish Country Dancing:

Bar 20 1st couple, pulling back right shoulder, turn between corners ready to begin the circle.

TACNotes:'

8 All 3 cpls dance into position for promenade (2nd & 3rd cpls, L foot).

20 1st cpl use last setting step to turn R about into sidelines.

Video: The Pawling Porch

The Pawling Porch

Moments in Time, 21 Scottish Country Dances devised by Elaine Brunken

32 Bar Reel for 3 couples

1 – 4 1st couple Set and cast off one place. (2nd couple step up on bars 3-4)

5 – 8 1st couple Dance down between 3rd couple and cast up to second place.

9 – 12 1st couple and 1st corners Advance and Retire.

13 – 16 1st couple and 1st corners Turn with the Right Hand.

17 – 20 1st couple and 2nd corners Advance and Retire.

21 – 24 1st couple and 2nd corners Turn with the Right Hand.
(1st couple pass Right shoulder to own side.)

25 – 32 2nd, 1st , and 3rd couple dance Circle Round and Back.

Repeat having passed a couple

Devised May 2005, at the Pawling Weekend in Sylvan Lake, New York.

Muriel (Johnstone) and I had a small porch off our cabin, which seemed to become the place everyone stopped for a drink after classes, before lunch, after lunch, before dinner.....
(now there's a surprise!)

Pawling Weekend (run by the New York Branch) and situated 45

miles north of 'the City' is a brilliant weekend. The New York Branch is one of the friendliest, most welcoming groups that I have met in my many travels.

Suggested Tune: The Merrymaking (Traditional)

Dances for January 15, 2024

Video: Huntly Castle

Huntly Castle

John Drewery, The Canadian Book of Scottish Country Dances

Huntly Castle, now a ruin, was formerly the seat of the Earls, later the Marquises of Huntly – the chiefs of Clan Gordon.

Strathspey – 3 couples – 32 bars,

Tune – "My Only Jo and Dearie O' Gow's Repository , 3rd Part, Pace 12, This is the tune to which Bum's song "I goed a waeful gait yestreen" is usually set,

1 – 6 1st and 2nd couples set on the sides, then circle to the left once round to finish with 1st couple in top place, with nearer hands still joined, facing down. and 2nd couple in second place facing up.

7 – 8 1st and 2nd couples set,

9 – 16 1st and 2nd couples dance a Rondel to change places, 1st couple finish in second place facing out.

17 – 24 Reels of three on the sides.

To begin: – 1st couple dance out and down;

3rd couple, joining nearer hands, dance in and up;
2nd couple, joining nearer hands, dance in and down. |

All join inside hands with partners where possible in the reels.

At the end: – 2nd couple dance in to join nearer hands facing down;

1st couple dance to second place on own sides;

3rd couple dance in to join nearer hands facing up.

25 – 26 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples set,

27 – 30 Six hands round to the left. On Bar 30, all dance into the centre, pulling right shoulders back to face out.

31 – 32 All spiral out clockwise (in a chase) to own sides,

Repeat, having passed a couple,

Video: Beach Dancer

Beach Dancer

A 32 bar Jig for 3 couples in a 4 couple longwise set

For Margaret Blackhall, a teacher at Kamo Club who lives on the coast at Ngunguru.

Devised by Eddy West 2003.

1-4 First couple set and cross giving right hand.

5-8 First couple set to second couple and change places on the side giving left hands (men remain facing out).

9-16 Second and first couples dance a ladies chain, first man finishes facing out. First couple must continue into the next figure without hesitation.

17-20 First man casts down round third lady and crosses to third place, own side then casts up behind third man to second place, first lady follows to own side third place then dances

up the middle to second place on own side.

21-24 First and second ladies, and at the same time first and second men, turn giving left hands.

25-32 Second, first and third couples dance reels of three on the sides, first couple passing third couple right shoulder to start.

Repeat having passed a couple

Suggested recorded music "Over the Pond II" – Sound Company CD
"On Track".

Dances for October 30, 2023

No Video

Ardbrae Angels

A 32-bar reel for 3 couples in a 4 couple longwise set

Elaine Hoag

Suggested music: Thistle House Live, Track #13 ("The King's Rant")

1-8 1s+2s+3s dance Mirror Reels of 3 (1s dance in and down to begin)

9-16 1s+2s+3s dance a Crossover Reel of 3 (1s cross over to 2nd place opposite side to begin; 2s and 3s continue to reel on their own side). 1s finish the reel facing their own 1st corner while 2s accelerate at the end of the reel to finish at the top

17-24 "Interrupted Hello-Goodbye Setting" (1s finish in 2nd place own side)

17-18 1s+1st corners set, 1s finishing between corners facing

partner

19-20 1s turn each other $\frac{3}{4}$ RH to face 2nd corner

21-22 1s+2nd corners set, 1W finishing between 3s, 1M between

2s 23-24 1s turn each other $\frac{3}{4}$ RH to 2nd place own side

25-32 Six hands round and back

After the 2nd repetition, dancing couple steps to the bottom as 4th couple dances in and up to begin the Mirror Reel of 3

** In the dance world, “angels” are individuals who are especially active in supporting dance groups and encouraging new dancers.

First danced at Ardbrae’s Spring Social on March 29th, 2020. Dedicated to all of Ardbrae’s “dance angels,” but especially to Deborah Connors and Guy Quesnel who have cheerfully supported the Ardbrae Scottish Country Dancers of Ottawa in countless ways for many years, and who celebrate birthdays on March 28th and 29th respectively.

Video: Up in the Air

Up in the Air

RSCDS Book 20 – No. 2

32-bar strathspey for three couples in a four-couple longwise set

1 – 8 1st couple cast off, dance down behind own lines and cast up to original places. On bar 8, 1st , 2nd and 3rd couples dance in to meet partners and face up.

9 – 16 1st, 2nd and 3rd couples dance a promenade. On bars 15-16, 1st couple cast off one place to finish facing first corners while 2nd couple dance up to first place.

17 – 20 1st couple set to first corners and then to second corners, finishing between them.

21 – 24 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples dance six hands once round to the left.

25 – 28 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples advance and retire.

29 – 32 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples, giving both hands, turn partners to own sides, 1st couple turning one and a half times.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

W Boag: A Collection of Favourite Reels & Strathspeys by the Most Eminent Composers, 1797.

Original tune: Sir George Clark of Pennycuik (Nathaniel Gow)

The Manual of Scottish Country Dancing:

Bar 20 1st couple, pulling back right shoulder, turn between corners ready to begin the circle.

TACNotes:'

8 All 3 cpls dance into position for promenade (2nd & 3rd cpls, L foot).

20 1st cpl use last setting step to turn R about into sidelines.

Dances for October 23, 2023

Video: The Shetland Shepherdess

The Shetland Shepherdess

The San Andreas Collection by Ron Wallace

32 bar Jig for 3 couples in a 4 couple set

1 – 4 1st couple dance down between 2nd couple and cast up to original place

5 – 8 1st couple half figure of 8 down around 2nd couple

9 – 16 2nd, 1st and 3rd couple cross-over mirror reels of three on the sides, 1st couple cross to 2nd place on own side to begin, 2nd couple out and up and 3rd couple in and up; 2nd couple ends facing out

17 – 18 1st and 2nd women half turn by the LEFT hand while 1st and 2nd men half turn by the RIGHT hand

19 – 20 1st and 3rd women turn by the RIGHT hand while 1st and 3rd men turn by the LEFT hand, 1st couple ends in the middle facing up, and 3rd couple ends back in 3rd place (for 1st couple the turn is $\frac{3}{4}$ but for the 3rd couple the turn is once round)

21 – 24 1st couple dance up the middle to the top of the set and cast to 2nd place own side

25 – 32 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples advance and retire, all clap (last beat of Bar 28), and all turn partner by the RIGHT hand once round.

Music: “The Shetland Shepherdess” by Ron Wallace

This title was inspired by a trip to Oslo, Norway, to teach SCD where I met Caroline Nicol, a Shetland shepherdess shepherding in Norway! The dance and music are dedicated to Susan Hagen, my hostess, and all the fine folk in the Oslo SCD Group.

Video: Huntly Castle

Huntly Castle

John Drewery, The Canadian Book of Scottish Country Dances
Strathspey – 3 couples – 32 bars,

Huntly Castle, now a ruin, was formerly the seat of the Earls, later the Marquises of Huntly – the chiefs of Clan Gordon.

Tune – “My Only Jo and Dearie O’ Gow’s Repository , 3rd Part, Pace 12, This is the tune to which Bum!s song “I goed a waeful gait yestreen” is usually set,

1 – 6 1st and 2nd couples set on the sides, then circle to the left once round to finish with 1st couple in top place, with nearer hands still joined, facing down. and 2nd couple in second place facing up.

7 – 8 1st and 2nd couples set,

9 – 16 1st and 2nd couples dance a Rondel to change places, 1st couple finish in second place facing out.

17 – 24 Reels of three on the sides. To begin: – 1st couple dance out and down; 3rd couple, joining nearer hands, dance in and up; 2nd couple, joining nearer hands, dance in and down. All join inside hands with partners where possible in the reels. At the end: – 2nd couple dance in to join nearer hands facing down; 1st couple dance to second place on own sides; 3rd couple dance in to join nearer hands facing up.

25 – 26 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples set,

27 – 30 Six hands round to the left. On Bar 30, all dance into the centre, pulling right shoulders back to face out.

31 – 32 All spiral out clockwise (in a chase) to own sides,

Repeat, having passed a couple,

Video: Ferla Mor

FERLA MOR or THE BIG GREY MAN

THE DEESIDE BOOK OF SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCES, Part 1, by JOHN DREWRY

The Ferla Mor (a corruption of the Gaelic “Am Fear Liath Mor”) or the Big Grey Man, is reputed to haunt the upper part of Ben

Macdhui. Travellers usually encounter him when alone and in misty conditions – they become aware of his presence by a feeling that someone is following them.

In this dance, the first man becomes the Ferla Mor as he follows his partner during the reels – Bars 9 – 24.

Reel : 3 couples : 32 bars

Tune : “Lochiel House” by Angus Fitchet, The Angus Fitchet S.D. Collection page 2 (Mozart Allan)

1 – 8 1st couple set to one another , then turn by the right hand half-way round moving down to face one another across the centre of the dance in second place; they set again then turn by the right hand once round to finish with 1st lady facing her first corner, and with 1st man immediately behind her facing in the same direction. (2nd couple step up on Bars 3 – 4)

9 – 16 1st couple dance a reel of three diagonally across the dance with their first corners. They begin by passing 2nd man by the right, and 1st man follows his partner as closely as convenient. 1st lady, with her partner still behind her, finishes the reel facing her second corner.

17 – 24 1st couple, with 1st man still following his partner, dance a reel of three with their second corners, passing 3rd man by the right. On the last two steps, as she dances down the centre of the dance, 1st lady pulls her left shoulder back to face her partner and they turn by the left hand to face own first corners.

25 – 28 1st couple turn first corners by the right hand, then pass by the right to face second corners. (The corners dance four steps)

29 – 32 1st couple turn second corners by the right hand, then pass by the right to second place on own sides.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

Video: Postie's Jig

Postie's Jig

A 32-bar jig for four couples in a four-couple longwise set

1 – 2 1st and 4th couples set.

3 – 4 1st couple cast off one place while 4th couple cast up one place. 2nd couple step up to top place while 3rd couple step down to fourth place.

5 – 8 1st couple dance a half figure of eight round 2nd couple while 4th couple dance a half figure eight round 3rd couple.

9 – 12 1st man with 4th man and 1st woman with 4th woman, take nearer hands and cross to the opposite side of the set, the men making an arch for the women to dance under. Give free hand to corner person and turn (i.e. 1st man to 2nd man and 1st woman to 2nd woman etc). Corners finish in places, while 1st couple meet and join nearer hands to face down and 4th couple meet and join nearer hands to face up.

13 – 16 1st couple and 4th couple, with nearer hands joined, change places up and down, the 4th couple making an arch for the 1st couple to dance under. Give free hand to corner person and turn (i.e. 1st man to 3rd man and 1st woman to 3rd woman etc.). Corners finish in places, while 1st and 4th men meet and join nearer hands on own side and 1st and 4th women meet and join hands on own side.

17 – 24 Repeat the pattern of crossing and turning as in bars 9 – 12 and 13 – 16. When changing places across the set the men always make the arch and when changing up and down the set the couple dancing up always make the arch. Finish in the order 2, 1, 4, 3 with the 1st and 4th couples on the opposite side.

25 – 28 1st and 4th couples dance half rights and lefts.

29 – 32 1st and 4th couples turn by the right hand once round to finish in the order 2,4, 1, 3.

Repeat from new positions.

Devised by Roy Clowes.

Original tune: Lassie Come and Dance with Me by Neil Grant.

Source: Ormskirk Scottish Dances Book 5.

Dances for October 16, 2023

Video: Bedrule

Bedrule

RSCDS Book XXXIII – No. 7

(Strathspey)

1–8 1st and 2nd women, and at the same time 1st and 2nd men, turn once round with both hands, opening out on the side lines and continuing into four hands round to the left and then 1st and 2nd couples turn partners once round to finish in the middle of the set, ready for promenade. On bar 8, 3rd couple dance in and take promenade hold.

9–16 1st, 2nd and 3rd couples promenade. On bars 15 – 16, 1st couple cast off to second place, while 2nd couple dance up to first place and 3rd couple return to original place.

17–20 1st and 3rd couples dance right hands across, finishing on the sidelines.

21–24 1st and 2nd couples dance left hands across, 1st couple finishing in second place facing down.

25-32 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples dance reels of three on the sides. 1st couple begin the reels by giving right shoulder to 3rd couple, and at the end they face down ready to repeat the dance.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

Devised by Betty Grant, Toronto, Ontario, 1984, in memory of her great, great grandmother Elizabeth Turnbull Dickson who left her home, Bedrule, near Jedburgh, in 1834 to emigrate to Canada.

The Manual of Scottish Country Dancing:

Bar 20 1st woman dances into second place on her own side pulling her right shoulder back, to prepare for left hands across.

Bar 24 1st woman dances straight out to second place on her own side, to give right shoulder to 3rd woman as she enters the reels of three.

TACNotes:'

1-8 1st & 2nd cpls stay in the middle at end of bar 6, & flow into the 2H turns.

17-20 On bar 20, 1st woman turns R about into sidelines & faces up ready for LH across.

21-24 On bar 24, 1st woman dances into 2nd place, facing down, to enter reel with 3rd woman.

25-32 1st cpl finish facing down, 3rd cpl facing up, ready for bar 1 of repetition.

Video: Beach Dancer

Beach Dancer

A 32 bar Jig for 3 couples in a 4 couple longwise set
For Margaret Blackhall, a teacher at Kamo Club who lives on the coast at Ngunguru.

Devised by Eddy West 2003.

1-4 First couple set and cross giving right hand.

5-8 First couple set to second couple and change places on the side giving left hands
(men remain facing out).

9-16 Second and first couples dance a ladies chain, first man finishes facing out.

First couple must continue into the next figure without hesitation.

17-20 First man casts down round third lady and crosses to third place, own side then casts up behind third man to second place, first lady follows to own side third place then dances up the middle to second place on own side.

21-24 First and second ladies, and at the same time first and second men, turn giving left hands.

25-32 Second, first and third couples dance reels of three on the sides, first couple passing third couple right shoulder to start.

Repeat having passed a couple

Suggested recorded music "Over the Pond II" – Sound Company CD
"On Track".

Video: The Reel of the 51st Division

The Reel of the 51st Division

RSCDS Book 13 – No. 10

32-bar reel for three couples in a four-couple longwise set

1 – 8 1st couple set to each other and cast off two places, meet below 3rd couple and lead up the middle to face first corners. 2nd couple step up on bars 3-4.

9 – 12 1st couple set to and turn first corners with the right hand, finishing in a diagonal line by joining left hands with partner.

13 – 14 1st couple and first corners balance in line.

15 – 16 1st couple, releasing right hands with corners, turn each other one and a quarter times to face second corners.

17 – 22 1st couple repeat bars 9-14 with second corners.

23 – 24 1st couple cross to second place on own sides.

25 – 32 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples dance six hands round and back.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

Devised by Jimmy Atkinson, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, and Peter Oliver, Seaforth Highlanders (London Scottish), with advice from Tom Harris-Hunter, Royal Army Service Corps while all were interned in the Prisoner of War camp at Laufen in Germany.

Original tune: The Drunken Piper or Highland Rory
Alex. McLeod, c. 1880

The original instructions in the form of notes, written by Tom Harris-Hunter on a scruffy piece of paper when he was a prisoner of war, clearly show that the dance was intended for a five couple set as it is still danced in Perthshire.

TACNotes:'

1-8 Set (no stealing) bars 1-2, cast bars 3-5, dance in to meet on bar 6, lead up on bar 7 to face corners on bar 8.

Dances for October 2, 2023

Video: Longfield Reel

Longfield Reel

James Lamb: A Second Book of Graded Scottish Country Dances
32-bar reel for three couples in a four-couple longwise set

1 – 6 1st couple cast off two places and dance up the middle of the set to original places. At the same time, 3rd couple dance up to first place and cast off to original places.

7 – 8 1st, 2nd and 3rd couples set.

9 – 12 2nd couple dance a half figure of eight up round 1st couple.

13 – 16 2nd couple dance a half figure of eight down round 3rd couple to finish facing each other in the middle of the set with both hands joined. 1st couple step in.

17 – 24 1st and 2nd couples dance a poussette.

25 – 32 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples dance six hands round and back.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

Devised by James Lamb of Wakefield Caledonian Children's class when aged 13.

First published in RSCDS Leeds Branch 25th Children's Festival.

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No Video

Autumn Leaves

Haliburton School of Arts Scottish Country Dance Book #7

By Duncan and Maggie Keppie

6/8×32 bar Strathspey

2-couple dance in 3- or 4-couple longways set

Featured formation

Promenade reel of 3

2-couple allemande

1 – 8 SET & TURN: 1st woman & 2nd man set advancing & turn both hands, then 1st man & 2nd woman set advancing & turn both hands;

9 – 16 SET & TURN: 1st couple set advancing, turn both hands, and long cast;

17 – 24 PROMENADE REEL OF 3: 1st couple dance a promenade reel of 3 with 2nd couple, ending with 1st couple at the top and 2nd couple below them;

25 – 32 ALLEMANDE: 1st & 2nd couples dance an allemande.

REPEAT

Video: Postie's Jig

Postie's Jig

The Ormskirk Scottish Dances by Roy Clowes

Jig for a Four Couple Set

1 – 2 First and fourth couples set.

3 – 4 First couple cast down and second couple step up, while fourth couple cast up and third couple step down.

5 – 8 First couple dance half fugure of eight round second couple while fourth couple dance half figure of eight round third couple. Now at diag. 1.

9 – 12 First man and fourth man, first lady and fourth lady, with nearer hands joined, cross over, men making arch for ladies to pass under. Give “free” hand to corners and turn, i.e. first man to second man and first lady to second lady etc. Corners finish in places and first couple join nearer hands to face down while fourth couple faces up. Now at diag. 2.

13 – 16 Repeat bars 9 – 12 up and down, fourth couple making the arch.

17 – 24 Repeat bars 9 – 16 to places, diag. 1.

25 – 28 First and fourth couples dance half rights and lefts.

29 – 32 First and fourth couples turn partners with right hands.

Repeat from new places.

Tune: Lassie Come and Dance with Me.