

Dances for July 30, 2025

Ottawa Summer Class – Last Class

Video: A TRIP TO CRINAN

A TRIP TO CRINAN

From Coast To Coast With Scotch Mist

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

1-8 1st woman, followed by 2nd and 3rd women, dance across above 1st man, dance round 1st, 2nd and 3rd men, back to place.

9-16 3rd man, followed by 2nd and 1st men, dance round 3rd, 2nd, and 1st women, and dance down the middle of the set. On bar 16, the women dance in and join right hands with their partner facing down.

17-24 3rd couple, followed by 2nd and 1st couple, lead down the middle and up, with 1st couple and 2nd couple remaining in the centre.

25-32 1st and 2nd couples dance the allemande.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

Devised by Andrew and Mairi Collins, Oakville. Crinan is a small village at the Atlantic end of the Crinan Canal in Argyllshire. The Crinan Canal was opened in 1801 as a shortcut for boats from Loch Fyne to the Sound of Jura. Crinan was a childhood playground of Mairi's, and we visit whenever we go over.

No Video

Ehlana's Strathspey

32-bar Strathspey for 3 couples in a 3-couple set

1-4 1st couple dance in and cast off one place, 2nd couple stepping up on bars 3-4.

5-8 1st couple dance half figure of eight: 1st woman around 2nd man, 1st man around 3rd woman to end in 2nd place on opposite sides.

9-20 All three couples dance rights and lefts for three.

21-24 1st couple dance a half figure of eight: 1st woman around 3rd woman, 1st man around 2nd man.

25-32 1st and 3rd couples dance "The Rose" progression:

25-26 1st man and 3rd woman set to each other while 1st woman and 3rd man change places giving right hands to end facing out

27-28 1st man and 3rd woman half turn with both hands to face each other on the diagonal with hands joined while 1st woman dances up to 2nd man's place and 3rd man dances down to 3rd woman's place.

29-30 1st man & 3rd woman cast to their right, dance out to opposite corner, while 1st woman & 3rd man half turn both hands to face each other on the diagonal with hands joined.

31-32 1st man & 3rd woman dance across to progressed positions on their own side while 1st woman & 3rd man cast to the right to finish on progressed positions on own sides (2 3 1)

Note: All movements in "The Rose" should be dances in as round a shape as possible

Devised by Ellen McRanor

Dedicated to my granddaughter Ehlana

Suggested Tune: The Birks of Invermay

Video: The Provost Wynd

The Provost Wynd

RSCDS Second Book of Graded Scottish Country Dances

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

1 – 8 1st, 2nd and 3rd couples dance reels of three on own sides. 1st and 2nd men and 1st and 2nd women pass by the right to begin.

9 – 12 1st man and 2nd woman, giving right hands, turn once round.

13 – 16 1st woman and 2nd man , giving left hands, turn once round.

17 – 24 1st couple, giving right hands, cross over and cast off two places and, giving left hands, cross over and cast up one place. 2nd couple step up on bars 19-20.

25 – 28 1st and 3rd couples dance right hands across.

29 – 32 1st and 2nd couples dance left hands across.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

Devised by Roy Goldring.

First published in 24 Graded and Social Dances by Roy Goldring.

©Doreen Goldring, printed with permission.

Video: The Left-Handed Fiddler

The Left-Handed Fiddler

Howard Lasnik, A Tribute to Sally Dee

32 Bar Reel for 3 couples, devised by Howard Lasnik, 1997

Dedicated to Barbara McOwen, a right handed fiddler whose playing inspires so many dancers (and with thanks to Sally Dee for giving me so much encouragement).

1 – 4 1st couple turn by the left hand and cast into 2nd place (2nd couple stepping up on bars 3-4).

5 – 8 1st couple cross by the left hand and cast to the left, 1st man around 2nd woman and 1st woman around 3rd man, finishing in the center of the set, nearer hands joined, facing 2nd woman on the diagonal (as in The Montgomeries' Rant except the 1st woman is on the 1st man's right).

9 – 12 1st couple set to 2nd woman, change hands and set to 3rd man.

13 – 16 Set to 3rd woman, change hands and set to 2nd man. End facing 1st corners, 1st man having pulled back his left shoulder.

17 – 20 1st couple turn 1st corners by the left hand. 1st couple turn by the right hand to face 2nd corners.

21 – 24 1st couple turn 2nd corners by the left hand. 1st couple turn by the right hand to finish in 2nd place, own side.

25 – 32 Couples 2, 1, and 3 dance six hands around to the left and back to the right.

Sally Dee Project Committee: Howard Lasnik – MaryEllen Scanell – Marcie Rowland – Tom Pixton

Dances for July 23, 2025

Ottawa Summer Class

No Video

Bernie's Triumph

Holly Boyd, Oh, How We've Danced

32 bar Strathspey for-three couples in a longwise set

1 – 8 1st, 2nd and 3rd couples dance mirror reels of three on the side; 1st couple dance in and down, 2nd couple up and out, 3rd couple in and up to begin. Touch nearer hands with partner whenever possible

9 – 12 1st and 2nd couples turn 1-1/2 times to change places; men giving right hand, women giving left hand

13 – 16 1st and 3rd couples turn 1-1/2 times to change places; men giving left hand, women giving right hand 2,3,1

17 – 24 2nd, 3rd and 1st couples, taking hands on the side, set. All three men set again as women advance for two. All three men advance for two as women retire for two. All three women set as men retire for two. 2,3,1

25 – 32 3rd and 1st couples dance the tourbillon 2,1,3,4

First couple are in 2nd place ready to repeat the dance

Note: Attention must be paid by first couple after regressing with the tourbillon; they are in second place ready to begin again. Second time through they must cast back to the bottom as the 4th couple dance in to start the reels.

Gabriele Patterson was the winning bidder at a silent auction at TAC in Calgary for a dance written by me. She asked for a dance for her husband: 'I got the winning hand when I got him' with a mirror reel of three and a tourbillon.

August 2019

Video: The Greenbelt Jig

The Greenbelt Jig

Elaine Brunken, Moments in Time

32 Bar Jig for 3 couples

1 – 6 1st, 2nd, and 3rd ladies Dance around their partners passing Right shoulder, and dance back to place.

7 – 8 1st, 2nd, and 3 couples Cross over giving Right Hands. (All are on opposite sides)

9 – 14 1st, 2nd, and 3rd men Dance around their partners passing Right shoulder, and dance back to place (Opposite sides).

15 – 16 1st, 2nd, and 3rd couples Cross over giving Right Hands. (1st couple remain facing out)

17 – 24 1st couple Cast off 2 places, join nearer hands and Dance up the middle, and Cast off to 2nd place.

17 – 19 cast 2 places (2nd couple step up on 17&18)

20 – 22 dance up the middle

23 – 24 cast to 2 place

25 – 28 2nd, 1st and 3 couples Advance and Retire.

29 – 32 2nd 1st and 3rd couples Turn by the Right Hand.

At the end of 2 repetition 1st couple finish in 3rd place and step to the bottom The new 3rd lady dances up from the bottom. 3 man steps up on bars 1-2

Repeat having passed a couple

Devised in March 2010 at the St. Columba's Class in Greenbelt, Maryland. It's an easy wee jig for all levels and a good warm up dance.

Easily adapts to a 2 couple dance: 1-16 and 25-32 done by 1st and 2nd couple. Bars 17-24 1st couple cast off one place in 4 bars (dance in for one and out for one, then cast for 2), dance up to the top, and cast into 2nd place. (2nd couple step up on 19 & 20)

Suggested Tune: Ride the Wind (Tatsu-Do) (Muriel Johnstone)

Video: The Left-Handed Fiddler

The Left-Handed Fiddler

Howard Lasnik, A Tribute to Sally Dee

32 Bar Reel for 3 couples, devised by Howard Lasnik, 1997

Dedicated to Barbara McOwen, a right handed fiddler whose playing inspires so many dancers (and with thanks to Sally Dee for giving me so much encouragement).

1 – 4 1st couple turn by the left hand and cast into 2nd place (2nd couple stepping up on bars 3-4).

5 – 8 1st couple cross by the left hand and cast to the left, 1st man around 2nd woman and 1st woman around 3rd man, finishing in the center of the set, nearer hands joined, facing 2nd woman on the diagonal (as in The Montgomeries' Rant except the 1st woman is on the 1st man's right).

9 – 12 1st couple set to 2nd woman, change hands and set to 3rd man.

13 – 16 Set to 3rd woman, change hands and set to 2nd man. End facing 1st corners, 1st man having pulled back his left shoulder.

17 – 20 1st couple turn 1st corners by the left hand. 1st couple turn by the right hand to face 2nd corners.

21 – 24 1st couple turn 2nd corners by the left hand. 1st couple turn by the right hand to finish in 2nd place, own side.

25 – 32 Couples 2, 1, and 3 dance six hands around to the left and back to the right.

Sally Dee Project Committee: Howard Lasnik – MaryEllen Scanell – Marcie Rowland – Tom Pixton

Video: The Dancing Man

The Dancing Man

Roy Goldring, RSCDS Second Graded Book

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

1 – 4 1st and 2nd couples, giving right hands, turn once round.

5 – 8 1st and 2nd couples dance right hands across.

9 -16 1st, 2nd and 3rd couples dance reels of three on own sides. 1st and 2nd couples pass by the right to begin. At the end of bar 16, 3rd couple return to place while 1st and 2nd couples continue the reel to form a line across the set. (Fig.)

17 – 24 1st and 2nd couples dance a reel of four across the set.

On bars 23-24:

2nd woman crosses to first place on own side.

2nd man curves up to first place on own side.

1st woman curves down to second place on own side.

1st man crosses to second place on own side.

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

Repeat, having passed a couple.

Devised by Roy Goldring.

First published in 10 Social Dances by Roy Goldring.

© Doreen Goldring, printed with permission.

For Bob Campbell of Oakville, Ontario

Dances for July 16, 2025

Ottawa Summer Class

No Video

Bonnyton Woodie

RSCDS Imperial Book of SCDs – Volumes 1-3

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

1 1st, 2nd and 3rd couples dance one pas de basque on the right foot.

2 – 6 1st, 2nd and 3rd couples dance six hands once round to the left.

7 – 8 1st, 2nd and 3rd couples set.

9 – 16 1st and 3rd couples dance a double figure of eight around 2nd couple. To begin, 1st couple cast off and 3rd couple cross up. 1st couple finish facing out.

17 – 18 1st couple cast off one place. 2nd couple step up.

19 – 20 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples set.

21 – 22 1st couple, giving right hands, turn to finish 1st woman between second couple, all facing down and 1st man between 3rd couple, all facing up.

23 – 24 1st, 2nd and 3rd couples set in lines of three across the set.

25 – 30 1st woman and 2nd couple, 1st man and 3rd couple dance reels of three across the set. To begin, 1st woman and 2nd

man, 1st man and 3rd woman pass by the right. 1st couple finish facing each other up and down the set.

31 – 32 1st couple dance into the middle and, passing by the left, dance round each other to second place on own sides.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

Devised by Edna Russell and Jack McConachie.

Video: She's over Young to marry yet

She's over Young to marry yet

RSCDS Book 14

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

1 – 4 1st couple, joining nearer hands, set twice to 2nd woman,

5 – 8 1st couple and 2nd woman dance three hands once round to the left. 1st couple and 2nd woman finish in the middle of the set facing 2nd man.

9 – 12 1st couple and 2nd woman set twice to 2nd man.

13 – 16 1st and 2nd couples dance four hands round to the left, finishing in original places.

17 – 24 1st couple, followed by 2nd and 3rd couples, who dance up the sides to begin, lead down the middle to third place, cross over and dance up to partners' original places.

25 – 28 1st, 2nd and 3rd couples set. On bars 27-28, 1st couple cast off to second place, 2nd couple dance up to first place and 3rd couple continue setting.

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

Repeat, having passed a couple.

Thompson's Compleat Collection of 200 Favourite Country Dances
c. 1755.

Original tune: She's ower young to marry yet (Surrenne)

Video: The Provost Wynd

The Provost Wynd

RSCDS Second Book of Graded Scottish Country Dances

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

1 – 8 1st, 2nd and 3rd couples dance reels of three on own sides. 1st and 2nd men and 1st and 2nd women pass by the right to begin.

9 – 12 1st man and 2nd woman, giving right hands, turn once round.

13 – 16 1st woman and 2nd man , giving left hands, turn once round.

17 – 24 1st couple, giving right hands, cross over and cast off two places and, giving left hands, cross over and cast up one place. 2nd couple step up on bars 19-20.

25 – 28 1st and 3rd couples dance right hands across.

29 – 32 1st and 2nd couples dance left hands across.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

Devised by Roy Goldring.

First published in 24 Graded and Social Dances by Roy Goldring.

©Doreen Goldring, printed with permission.

Video: The Left-Handed Fiddler

The Left-Handed Fiddler

Howard Lasnik, A Tribute to Sally Dee

32 Bar Reel for 3 couples, devised by Howard Lasnik, 1997

Dedicated to Barbara McOwen, a right handed fiddler whose playing inspires so many dancers (and with thanks to Sally Dee for giving me so much encouragement).

1 – 4 1st couple turn by the left hand and cast into 2nd place (2nd couple stepping up on bars 3-4).

5 – 8 1st couple cross by the left hand and cast to the left, 1st man around 2nd woman and 1st woman around 3rd man, finishing in the center of the set, nearer hands joined, facing 2nd woman on the diagonal (as in The Montgomeries' Rant except the 1st woman is on the 1st man's right).

9 – 12 1st couple set to 2nd woman, change hands and set to 3rd man.

13 – 16 Set to 3rd woman, change hands and set to 2nd man. End facing 1st corners, 1st man having pulled back his left shoulder.

17 – 20 1st couple turn 1st corners by the left hand. 1st couple turn by the right hand to face 2nd corners.

21 – 24 1st couple turn 2nd corners by the left hand. 1st couple turn by the right hand to finish in 2nd place, own side.

25 – 32 Couples 2, 1, and 3 dance six hands around to the left and back to the right.

Sally Dee Project Committee: Howard Lasnik – MaryEllen Scanell – Marcie Rowland – Tom Pixton

Dances for July 9, 2025

Ottawa Summer Class

No Video

Campbell Chute

Craig Williams

A 32 bar Strathspey for 3 couples

1 – 4 2nd couple with 3rd woman & 1st man dance diagonal rights and lefts

5 – 8 2nd couple with 1st woman & 3rd man dance diagonal rights and lefts

9 – 16 2nd & 1st couples Helice,

1-2 2nd & 1st couple $\frac{3}{4}$ turn partners right hand, to finish in promenade hold, top couple (2nd couple) facing men's side, bottom couple (1st couple) facing women's side, forming a line up and down the dance

3-4 2nd & 1st couple promenade $\frac{1}{2}$ way round anticlockwise (not too close together)

5-6 2nd & 1st couple still in promenade hold, turn to finish in middle of set facing partners – 2nd couple below 1st couple, [top couple on own side (1st couple), bottom couple on opposite side (2nd couple)

7-8 2nd & 1st couple pull back right shoulder and cast into sidelines, 1st couple facing out on own sides

17 – 24 1st & 3rd couples dance a double figure of eight. 1st couple casting up, 3rd couple crossing down to begin. 1st couple finishing facing out

25 – 28 1st couple cast to their right, woman down around 2nd

man (in 3rd woman's place), 1st man up around 3rd woman (in 1st man's place) and pass giving right hands up/down the centre of the set to finish 1st man between 2nd couple facing 2nd woman, 1st woman between 3rd couple facing 3rd man

29 – 32 1st man with 2nd couple, 1st woman with 3rd couple, 1/2 right shoulder reel of 3 across the set. Finish in order 3, 1, 2 on own sides.

Originally named, Campbell Chute. after a local logger, it is now named Camel Chute. When surveyors arrived and asked residents the name of the place the local brogue was misheard as Camel

No Video

AUTUMN GOLD

John Morris, Vallin Collection Five

8x32 bar Jig – a 3 couple dance in a 4 couple longwise set

1- 8 1s, 2s & 3s dance a normal diagonal rights & lefts for 3 couples

[2s change place RH with 1st corner & LH to “middle” couple, then RH to 4th corner & LH to “middle” couple own side]

[finish 3-2-1, with 2s (no polite turns) facing down-out, own side and 3s & 1s on opposite side]

9 – 14 2s dance 3/4 figure of eight across by casting down behind 1s (bottom place)

[1s step up on bars 13-14]

[finish 3-1-2, all now on opposite side]

15 – 16 3s, 1s & 2s dance 1/2 RH turn to face up middle (W polite turn), ready for allemande

17 – 24 3s, 1s & 2s dance Allemande [finish 2-1-3]

[on last bar, 2s start to cast out-down, anticipating turn with 1s]

25 – 32 1s leading up (inside), turn 2s [finish 2-1-3, with 1s facing in-down]
then 1s leading down (inside) turn 3s,
[3s finish with polite turns in 3rd place to face 1st corner]
[finish 2-1-3-4, with 3s ready to start diagonal rights & lefts]

Repeat, having passed a couple

at end of 2nd sequence, 1s & 4s turn 1 1/2 to finish 2-3-4-1, with new 3W (old 4W) ready to start diagonal rights & lefts

This dance is for those dancers (including my wife and I) who have been Scottish Country dancing for at least fifty years. We started dancing in the fifties, which was the time when people were becoming interested in this form of “exercise” with its social connotations. On reflection, this era was possibly the heyday of folk dancing, both English & Scottish. So here’s to these mature dancers (“the golden oldies”) who are now in the autumn of their lives, enjoying what they love the most – Scottish Country dancing and hopefully encouraging the newcomers, whether they be young or retired !.

recommended music: colin dewar – “the Vallin Suite four” – track 14

dance 5.11 devised by John Morris

No Video

Gadie Reel

RSCDS Imperial Book of SCDs Vol. 1-3

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

1 – 8 1st couple and 2nd woman dance a reel of three across the set. To begin, 1st man and 2nd woman pass by the left and 1st woman dances down the side.

9 – 16 1st couple and 2nd man dance a reel of three across the set. To begin, 1st woman and 2nd man pass by the right and 1st man dances down the side.

17 – 20 1st couple set and cast off one place. 2nd couple step up on bars 19-20.

21 – 24 2nd and 1st couples dance right hands across once round.

25 – 32 2nd and 1st couples dance rights and lefts.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

Devised by Edna Russell and Jack McConachie.

No Video

The Boky Hound

Barry Priddy, Green Lady Book

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

The Boky Hound was a spectre that-haunted Noltland Castle on Westray, Orkney. Its howling announced the death of a member of the Balfour family.

1 – 4 1C set and cast a place; 2C step up on 3-4.

5 – 6 2C, 1C & 3C join hands on the sides and set.

7 – 8 1C dance a petronella turn to finish 1M between 3C, 1W between 2C, facing own sides, while 2C and 3C turn right about on the spot with two pas de basque to finish facing clockwise.

9 – 12 All chase clockwise half round to finish in lines of three across facing up and down.

13 – 16 1C dance half diagonal rights and lefts up and down the dance with 1st corners – 1M gives RH to 2M – 1W gives RH to 3W – to begin. All finish facing counter-clockwise.

17 – 20 All chase counter-clockwise half round to finish in lines of three across facing up and down.

21 – 24 1C dance half diagonal lefts and rights up and down the dance with 2nd corners. 1M gives LH to 3M – 1W gives LH to 2W – to begin. They finish with hands joined in lines of three across.

25 – 28 All set, then 1C turn RH $\frac{1}{2}$ round to 2nd place on opposite sides while 3C change places with 2C giving RH on the sides.

29 – 32 All set and cross giving RH to partner.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

Dances for July 2, 2025

Ottawa Summer Class

No Video

Willie with his Tartan Trews

RSCDS Book 14

40-bar jig for three couples in a four-couple longwise set

1 – 8 1st woman with 2nd and 3rd men and 1st man with 2nd and 3rd women dance reels of three. To begin, 1st woman crosses down to pass 3rd man by the left and 1st man dances across to pass 2nd woman by the right. (Fig.) On bars 7-8, 1st woman dances across to own place facing out, while 1st man dances diagonally from 2nd woman's place to own place to face down.

9 – 16 1st, 2nd and 3rd couples dance reels of three on own

sides. To begin, 1st and 2nd women and 1st and 2nd men pass by the right.

17 – 24 1st couple lead down, cross over below 2nd couple and dance behind 3rd couple to meet, lead up to the top and cast off one place on opposite sides to face first corners. 2nd couple step up on bars 23 – 24.

25 – 32 1st couple set to and turn corners, finishing between them.

33 – 40 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples advance and retire, and 1st couple, giving right hands, turn one and a half times to second place on own sides.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

Rutherford: Compleat Collection of 200 of the most celebrated Country Dances both old and new ...Vol 2, London, c. 1760.

Original tune: Willie with his Tartan Trews (Traditional)

No Video

Auld Robin Gray

Hugh Foss, Dances to Song Tunes
(Strathspey)

1- 4 1st couple turn by the right hand, once round, and cast off one place on own sides (2nd move up on 3-4).

5 – 8 1st couple cross over, giving right hands, turn back and, with both hands, turn once round.

9 – 12 They lead down to below 3rd couple, crossing back to own sides, and cast up to top place (2nd couple move down on 11-12).

13 – 16 1st and 2nd couples cross, giving right hands, form a circle and dance four hands round to the left (see Fig. 1).

17 – 20 1st couple set to first corners, approaching them (see Fig. 2), and turn them with both hands.

21 – 24 They set to and turn second corners, with both hands.

25 – 28 Half reels of three at the sides: to begin, 1st couple pass first corners left shoulder, at the end, corners circle into places.

29 – 32 1st couple turn once round by the right hand, while 2nd and 3rd cross over, giving right hands (see Fig 3). They all form a circle and dance six hands half round to the left.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

Copyright, 1966, by Hugh Foss, Dalry, Kirkcudbrightshire.

No Video

McGREGOR'S LEAP

ALEXANDER DANCES, BOOK 1 by Jean Attwood

Reel – 3 Couples – 32 Bars.

Tune – High Road to Linton.

1 – 8 1st, 2nd and 3rd couples dance reel of three on the wrong side.

9 – 12 1st couple cross, giving right hands, and cast off one place, 2nd couple moving up.

13 – 16 1st couple dance half figure of eight, 1st lady round 2nd lady, 1st man round 3rd man.

17 – 20 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples dance half reel of three up and down, 1st man passing 2nd man by the right, 1st lady passing 3rd lady by the right to begin.

21 – 24 All three couples set once and turn partner halfway round with the right hand to finish ready for Allemande.

25 – 32 3rd, 1st and 2nd couples dance three couple Allemande.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

No Video

The Black Craig Of Dee

Hugh Foss, The Galloway Album
(Reel)

1 – 4 1st woman casts off one place and crosses to below 2nd man, while 1st man follows, crossing, casting off and ending below 2nd woman (2nd couple move up on 3-4).

5 – 8 1st man casts off one place and crosses to below 3rd man, while 1st woman follows, crossing, casting off and ending below 3rd woman (3rd couple move up on 7-8).

9 – 14 All six dancers follow each other round once counter-clockwise to where they started (see Fig.).

15 – 16 1st couple lead up to face first corners (3rd couple move down).

17 – 24 1st couple set to and turn their corners, ending between them.

25 – 26 Taking hands at the sides, all six set.

27 – 28 1st couple turn each other half way round by the right hand, while 2nd and 3rd set again.

29 – 32 1st couple continuing their turn and 2nd and third couples taking partners by the right hand, all turn once to own sides.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

Tune: The Barren Rocks of Aden.

Copyright, 1964, by Hugh Foss, Dalry, Kirkcudbrightshire.

Dances for June 25, 2025

Ottawa Summer Class

No Video

West End Strathspey

Roy Goldring, Graded & Social Dances 2

32 bar strathspey for 2 couples

1 – 4 1st man and 2nd woman dance across the set passing their (standing) partners by the right and cast (man down and woman up) to change places.

5 – 8 All dance one place to the right (similar to a petronella turn) and set, facing in.

9 – 12 1st woman and 2nd man repeat bars 1 – 4.

13 – 16 All repeat bars 5 – 8. All are now back in original places.

17 – 24 Four hands round and back. The women finish in original places; the men finish side by side ready for:-

25 – 32 Tournée

Repeat having passed a couple.

For Chris and Adrian McDonald who met at the West End of Princes Street.

Recommended Tune: Mrs. Hamilton of Pencaitland (Traditional – Nathaniel Gow)

Recording: SSCD06 “Haste Ye Back” Track 12

No Video

Willie with his Tartan Trews

RSCDS Book 14

40-bar jig for three couples in a four-couple longwise set

1 – 8 1st woman with 2nd and 3rd men and 1st man with 2nd and 3rd women dance reels of three. To begin, 1st woman crosses down to pass 3rd man by the left and 1st man dances across to pass 2nd woman by the right. (Fig.) On bars 7-8, 1st woman dances across to own place facing out, while 1st man dances diagonally from 2nd woman's place to own place to face down.

9 – 16 1st, 2nd and 3rd couples dance reels of three on own sides. To begin, 1st and 2nd women and 1st and 2nd men pass by the right.

17 – 24 1st couple lead down, cross over below 2nd couple and dance behind 3rd couple to meet, lead up to the top and cast off one place on opposite sides to face first corners. 2nd couple step up on bars 23 – 24.

25 – 32 1st couple set to and turn corners, finishing between them.

33 – 40 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples advance and retire, and 1st couple, giving right hands, turn one and a half times to second place on own sides.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

Rutherford: Compleat Collection of 200 of the most celebrated Country Dances both old and new ...Vol 2, London, c. 1760.

Original tune: Willie with his Tartan Trews (Traditional)

Video: Tiptoe and sway

Tiptoe and sway

John Bayly, Imperial Book Vol. 3

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

1 – 4 1st couple, giving right hands, turn once round and cast off one place. 2nd couple step up on bars 3-4.

5 – 8 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples, giving right hands to partners, turn once round. 2nd and 1st couples cast off one place while 3rd couple lead up to first place and face out.

9 – 16 3rd and 1st couples dance a double figure of eight. To begin, 3rd couple cast off and 1st couple cross up between 2nd couple.

17 – 20 3rd couple, giving right hands, turn once round and cast off one place. 2nd couple step up on bars 19-20.

21 – 24 2nd, 3rd and 1st couples repeat bars 5-8 from new positions, to finish 1st and 2nd couples in the middle facing up and 3rd couple in original places.

25 – 32 1st and 2nd couples dance an allemande.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

Devised by John Bayly.

Note: This may also be danced as a strathspey.

No Video

McGREGOR'S LEAP

ALEXANDER DANCES, BOOK 1 by Jean Attwood

Reel – 3 Couples – 32 Bars.

Tune – High Road to Linton.

1 – 8 1st, 2nd and 3rd couples dance reel of three on the wrong side.

9 – 12 1st couple cross, giving right hands, and cast off one place, 2nd couple moving up.

13 – 16 1st couple dance half figure of eight, 1st lady round 2nd lady, 1st man round 3rd man.

17 – 20 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples dance half reel of three up and down, 1st man passing 2nd man by the right, 1st lady passing 3rd lady by the right to begin.

21 – 24 All three couples set once and turn partner halfway round with the right hand to finish ready for Allemande.

25 – 32 3rd, 1st and 2nd couples dance three couple Allemande.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

Dances for June 18, 2025

Ottawa Summer Class

Video: Whigmaleeries

Whigmaleeries

RSCDS Imperial Book of Scottish Country Dances, Vol. 1-3

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

1 – 4 1st couple set advancing and turn right about on the spot.

5 – 8 1st couple slip down the middle to below 3rd couple and cast up to second place on own sides. 2nd couple step up on bars 7-8.

9 – 12 2nd couple and 1st woman, 1st man and 3rd couple dance right hands across once round to finish 1st couple left shoulder to left shoulder in the middle of the set.

13 – 16 1st couple dance out and cast to the left around second corners to meet in the middle of the set and, taking promenade hold, face the women's side.

17 – 20 1st couple with 3rd couple dance a half reel of three across the set. To begin, 1st couple pass 3rd woman by the right and finish in the middle of the set facing up.

21 – 24 1st man with 2nd man and 3rd woman, 1st woman with 2nd woman and 3rd man dance half reels of three on sides, 1st couple dancing out and up to begin. 1st couple finish in the middle of the set, facing the men's side in promenade hold, 1st woman on partner's left.

25 – 28 1st couple with 3rd couple dance a half reel of three across the set at first place. To begin, 1st couple pass 3rd woman by the right and finish in the middle of the set facing down.

29 – 32 3rd, 1st and 2nd men, 3rd, 1st and 2nd women dance half reels of three on own sides, 1st couple dance out and down to begin and curve in to finish in second place on own sides.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

Devised by Derek Ivory.

Whigmaleerie –a whim, fanciful notion, fad

Scottish National Dictionary Association Ltd, Concise Scots Dictionary, 1985

No Video

The Crooket-Horned Ewie

RSCDS Book 14

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

1 – 4 1st couple lead down, cross over below 2nd couple and dance behind 3rd couple into third place on opposite sides, 2nd and 3rd couples step up on bars 3-4.

5 – 8 2nd couple lead down, cross over below 3rd couple and dance behind 1st couple into third place on opposite sides. 3rd and 1st couples step up on bars 7-8.

9 – 12 3rd couple lead down, cross over below 1st couple, dance behind 2nd couple into third place on opposite sides. 1st and 2nd couples step up on bars 11-12.

13 – 16 1st, 2nd and 3rd couples, giving both hands, turn partner one and a half times to own sides.

17 – 24 1st couple lead down, cross over below 2nd couple and dance behind 3rd couple to meet, lead up, crossing over to own sides at the top, and cast off to second place. 2nd couple step up on bars 23-24.

25 – 28 1st couple dance down between 3rd couple, divide and cast up to second place on own sides.

29 – 32 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples, giving both hands, turn partners once round.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

Original tune: The crooked horned Ewie (Gow, 1799)

No Video

Hidden Village

A 32 bar jig for 2 couples

Craig Williams, May 2025

1 – 4 1st couple dance in towards each other and cast off one place. 2nd couple step up on bars 3 – 4

5 – 8 1st couple cross up between 2nd couple and dance a 1/2 figure of eight around 2nd couple.

9 – 16 1st & 2nd couple Four hands across and back. 1st & 2nd men stay facing out.

17 – 24 1st & 2nd couples dance a ladies chain. 1st man stay facing out

25 – 30 1st man, followed by 1st woman, casts to up, around 2nd woman and dances across the top of the set. 1st man casts off on the men's side to 2nd place, while 1st woman dances down the middle to 2nd place on the women's side

31 – 32 1st & 2nd couples set.

Some of the native bands fleeing the Mohawk may have ended up in the Matawatchan area. The word Matawatchan meant “hidden village” in the Algonquin language. If the village was hidden then it was hiding from something. Historically, it was most likely hidden from the Mohawks who had driven most of the Algonquin from the Ottawa Valley.

Video: Tiptoe and sway

Tiptoe and sway

John Bayly, Imperial Book Vol. 3

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

1 – 4 1st couple, giving right hands, turn once round and cast off one place. 2nd couple step up on bars 3-4.

5 – 8 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples, giving right hands to partners, turn once round. 2nd and 1st couples cast off one place while 3rd couple lead up to first place and face out.

9 – 16 3rd and 1st couples dance a double figure of eight. To begin, 3rd couple cast off and 1st couple cross up between 2nd couple.

17 – 20 3rd couple, giving right hands, turn once round and cast off one place. 2nd couple step up on bars 19-20.

21 – 24 2nd, 3rd and 1st couples repeat bars 5-8 from new positions, to finish 1st and 2nd couples in the middle facing up and 3rd couple in original places.

25 – 32 1st and 2nd couples dance an allemande.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

Devised by John Bayly.

Note: This may also be danced as a strathspey.

Dances for June 11, 2025

Ottawa Summer Class

Video: The Lea Rig

The Lea Rig

Book 21 – No. 5

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

1 – 16 1st couple dance a petronella turn to face each other up and down the middle and set. 1st couple repeat this three times to finish in original places. On bars 1-2, 2nd couple step up and, on bars 3-4 set. 2nd couple dance petronella turns and set, following the 1st couple one place behind. On bars 15-16, instead of setting, 2nd couple dance a petronella turn to original places.

17 – 24 1st couple lead down the middle and up.

25 – 28 1st and 2nd couples dance right hands across once round to finish facing partners in a diagonal line across the set with 1st woman and 2nd man back to back in the middle.

29 – 32 1st and 2nd couples dance a half poussette.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

Collected from an old MS.

Original tune: The Lea Rig (Surenne)

TACNotes:'

17-24 1st cpl finish in original places on sidelines.

Video: Push about the Jorum

Push about the Jorum

RSCDS Book 14

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

1 – 4 1st woman and 3rd man, giving right hands, turn once round, 1st woman finishing in second place on own side and 3rd man in original place. 2nd woman steps up on bars 3-4.

5 – 8 1st man and 3rd woman, giving right hands, turn once round, 1st man finishing in the middle of the set at first place and 3rd woman in original place. 2nd couple and 1st woman step in on bars 7-8.

9 – 16 1st man with 2nd woman, 1st woman with 2nd man dance an allemande. 1st woman finishes between 2nd couple facing down and 1st man between 3rd couple facing up.

17 – 20 1st, 2nd and 3rd couples set twice. On bars 19-20, 1st couple turn left about to second place on own sides.

21 – 24 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples set twice.

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

Repeat, having passed a couple.

Skillern's compleat Collection of Two Hundred & four Reels and Country Dances c. 1789.

Original tune: Push about the Jorum (from Gow)

No Video

Hidden Village Jig

A 32 bar jig for 2 couples

Craig Williams, May 2025

1 – 4 1st couple dance in towards each other and cast off one place. 2nd couple step up on bars 3 – 4

5 – 8 1st couple cross up between 2nd couple and dance a 1/2 figure of eight around 2nd couple.

9 – 16 1st & 2nd couple Four hands across and back. 1st & 2nd

men stay facing out.

17 – 24 1st & 2nd couples dance a ladies chain. 1st man stay facing out

25 – 30 1st man, followed by 1st woman, casts to up, around 2nd woman and dances across the top of the set. 1st man casts off on the men's side to 2nd place, while 1st woman dances down the middle to 2nd place on the women's side

31 – 32 1st & 2nd couples set.

repeat having passed a couple

Some of the native bands fleeing the Mohawk may have ended up in the Matawatchan area. The word Matawatchan meant "hidden village" in the Algonquin language. If the village was hidden then it was hiding from something. Historically, it was most likely hidden from the Mohawks who had driven most of the Algonquin from the Ottawa Valley.

Video: A REEL FOR ALICE

A REEL FOR ALICE

A REEL FOR ALICE and OTHER SOCIAL DANCES devised by ROY GOLDRING

32 bar reel for 5 couples

1 – 8 Reels of three on the sides.

To begin, 1st couple cross down to 2nd place, 2nd couple dance out and up, 3rd couple dance in and up.

9 – 16 1st couple dance down the middle and up to the top to finish facing out – still on opposite sides.

17 – 24 1st woman progresses down the men's side changing places with 2nd man with left hands, 3rd man with right hands, 4th man with left hands and 5th man with right hands (each

change takes 2 bars). Similarly, 1st man progresses down the women's side with right hands, left hands, right hands and left hands. 1st couple finish in 5th place facing out.

25 – 32 2nd couple dance a figure of 8 on own side around 3rd and 4th couples, dancing down between 3rd couple to begin. Meanwhile 1st couple dance a figure of 8 on the opposite side around 5th and 4th couples. 1st couple cast up behind 5th couple to begin and cross down to 5th place on own side on bars 31-32.

Repeat with new top couple.

For Alice Murphy, a good and supportive friend as well as a great dancer and teacher.

Tune: The Harriot (Traditional)

Dances for June 4, 2025

Ottawa Summer Class

No Video

Hermann's Jig

Holly Boyd, A Shortcut to Happiness

32 bar jig for three couples in a longwise set

1 – 4 1st, 2nd and 3rd couples chase clockwise halfway round the set. 1st couple finish at the bottom, in the middle, facing up, nearer hands joined

5 – 8 1st couple dance up to the top and cast off, passing left shoulder to finish facing partner's first corner position

(their actual first corner person). 2nd couple step down on 5/6

9 – 20 1st couple Dance to Corners and Set (Courage Reels):

9 – 10 1C & 1st crns pass right, 1st crns pass right with % turn to face 2nd crns while 2nd crns set

11 – 12 1st crns and 2nd crns pass right, 2nd crns pass right with % turn as 1C set

13 – 14 2nd crns and 1C pass right, 1C pass right with % turn to face 4th crn position as 1st crns set

15 – 20 repeat 6 bars until crns are back in place and 1C face 1st crn position

21-24 1st couple dance clockwise right round each other doing a wide spiral out to second place their own side

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

Repeat having passed a couple

I wrote this for Hermann Koeppler just after he passed away. We miss him, especially his corny jokes and the twinkle in his eyes when he told them.

February 2015

No Video

The Bonniest Lass in all the World

RSCDS Book 14 – No. 10

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

1 – 4 1st couple set and, giving both hands, turn once round to face down.

5 – 8 1st and 2nd women, 1st and 2nd men set and, giving both

hands, turn once round.

9 – 16 1st couple lead down the middle, divide, cast up round 3rd couple to second place and set twice. 2nd couple step up on bars 11-12.

17 – 24 2nd and 1st couples dance rights and lefts.

25 – 28 1st woman with 2nd couple and 1st man with 3rd couple dance three hands round to the left. On bar 28, 1st couple pass each other by the right.

29 – 32 1st man with 2nd couple and 1st woman with 3rd couple dance three hands round to the right. On bar 32, 1st couple pass by the left to finish in the middle of the set facing the women's side, 1st man below his partner.

33 – 40 1st couple lead out between 2nd and 3rd women, 1st woman casting up and 1st man casting down. They meet in the middle of the set, dance out between 2nd and 3rd men and cast as before to second place on own sides.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

Thompson's Compleat Collection of 200 Favourite Country Dances
c. 1755.

Original tune: Miss Coxe's Strathspey (Mrs McIntyre)

Video: Tiptoe and sway

Tiptoe and sway

John Bayly, Imperial Book Vol. 3

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

1 – 4 1st couple, giving right hands, turn once round and cast off one place. 2nd couple step up on bars 3-4.

5 – 8 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples, giving right hands to

partners, turn once round. 2nd and 1st couples cast off one place while 3rd couple lead up to first place and face out.

9 – 16 3rd and 1st couples dance a double figure of eight. To begin, 3rd couple cast off and 1st couple cross up between 2nd couple.

17 – 20 3rd couple, giving right hands, turn once round and cast off one place. 2nd couple step up on bars 19-20.

21 – 24 2nd, 3rd and 1st couples repeat bars 5-8 from new positions, to finish 1st and 2nd couples in the middle facing up and 3rd couple in original places.

25 – 32 1st and 2nd couples dance an allemande.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

Devised by John Bayly.

Note: This may also be danced as a strathspey.

No Video

Skidaddle Ridge

Gale Cragg, New Brunswick Coll.

32 bar Jig for 3 couples in a 4 couple set.

1 – 4 1st, 2nd and 3rd couples dance back-to-back with partners.

5 – 8 First three couples dance six hands round to the left, ending on the opposite sides of the dance in the order 3-2-1.

9 – 12 2nd and 1st couples dance back-to-back with partners.

13 – 16 2nd and 1st couples dance right hands across half way round then, retaining partner's right hand cross to partners' sides of the dance, to end in order 3-1-2.

17 – 20 1st couple “‘skidaddles,’” 1st woman round 3rd couple, 1st man round 2nd couple. They dance a small step into the middle to face each other then, pulling right shoulder back, they turn and dance out through the space they just left to continue dancing around the person on their right. 1st woman ends facing down between 3rd couple at the top, 1st man facing up between 2nd couple in third place. (Figure 1)

21 – 24 1st couple repeats the “‘skidaddle”* to end in second place on their own sides of the dance. (Figure 2)

25 – 38 1st couple with 3rd woman and 2nd man dance half diagonal rights and lefts, the two women and the two men giving right hands to begin.

29 – 32 1st couple with 3rd man and 2nd woman dance half diagonal rights and lefts. 1st woman and 3rd man, and 1st man and 2nd woman giving right hands to begin.

Repeat having passed a couple.

N.B. On bars 25 – 26 and 29 – 30, 1st woman dances diagonally up while 1st man dances diagonally down.

Dance devised by Gale Cragg, 1982

Suitable recorded music: Old Nick’s Lumber Room

Skidaddle Ridge is almost due east of Florenceville near South Knowlesville in Carleton County.

Skidaddle Ridge Drop Cookies

Skidaddle Ridge, New Brunswick, came by its name because it was a hideout for draft dodgers. The “‘Skidaddlers’” were Democrats who, not in sympathy with the Republican party during the American Civil War, “‘skidaddled’” out of the country. Most of them returned home after the war, but many stayed to settle in New Brunswick and Southern Quebec. These

cookies are frequently packed in the lunch boxes carried by hunters of this region.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.

Grease a baking sheet lightly.

Sift or blend together

3 cups all-purpose flour

1 teaspoon baking soda

4 teaspoon salt

Cream together

3/4 cup butter

1 1/2 cups light packed brown sugar

1 teaspoon vanilla

Beat in

1 egg

1 cup well-drained canned fruit cocktail

Stir in dry ingredients.

Fold in

1/2 cup chopped walnuts

Drop batter from a teaspoon about 2 inches apart on a prepared baking sheet.

Bake in 350 degree oven for 10 to 12 minutes, or until golden brown.

Makes about six dozen.

The Laura Secord Canadian Cook Book

(Toronto: McClelland and Stewart, 1966), p. 125.

Dances for May 28, 2025

Ottawa Summer Class

No Video

Silver Darlings

Jean Attwod, Old Wick Castle & 3 more

Reel – 3 Couples – 32 Bars .

1 – 4 1st couple cross giving right hand and cast off 1 place, 2nd couple moving up.

5 – 8 Preparing the net – 1st man and 3rd lady turn once round with the left hand while 1st lady and 3rd man turn with the right, 3rd couple ending facing out.

9 – 16 The net – 1st couple dance “crossing” reel of three with 3rd and 2nd couples, who cast into the reel. (1st couple cross dancing down to 3rd place, cast up, cross dancing up to 2nd place and cast to finish in 2nd place on the wrong side facing up. 2nd and 3rd couples dance the reel on own side.

17 – 20 Hauling in the catch – 1st lady and 2nd man turn once round with the left hand, while 1st man and 2nd lady turn with the right.

21 – 24 1st couple dance half figure of eight round 2nd couple, ending in 2nd place on own side.

25 – 32 Boxing the fish – 1st and 3rd couples dance rights and lefts.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

“Silver darlings” was the nick-name the Scottish fishermen gave to the herring.

No Video

The Bonniest Lass in all the World

RSCDS Book 14 – No. 10

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

1 – 4 1st couple set and, giving both hands, turn once round to face down.

5 – 8 1st and 2nd women, 1st and 2nd men set and, giving both hands, turn once round.

9 – 16 1st couple lead down the middle, divide, cast up round 3rd couple to second place and set twice. 2nd couple step up on bars 11-12.

17 – 24 2nd and 1st couples dance rights and lefts.

25 – 28 1st woman with 2nd couple and 1st man with 3rd couple dance three hands round to the left. On bar 28, 1st couple pass each other by the right.

29 – 32 1st man with 2nd couple and 1st woman with 3rd couple dance three hands round to the right. On bar 32, 1st couple pass by the left to finish in the middle of the set facing the women's side, 1st man below his partner.

33 – 40 1st couple lead out between 2nd and 3rd women, 1st woman casting up and 1st man casting down. They meet in the middle of the set, dance out between 2nd and 3rd men and cast as before to second place on own sides.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

Thompson's Compleat Collection of 200 Favourite Country Dances c. 1755.

Original tune: Miss Coxe's Strathspey (Mrs McIntyre)

No Video

Autumn Gold

John Morris, Vallin Collection Five

8x32 bar Jig – a 3 couple dance in a 4 couple longwise set

1- 8 1s, 2s & 3s dance a normal diagonal rights & lefts for 3 couples

[2s change place RH with 1st corner & LH to “middle” couple, then RH to 4th corner & LH to “middle” couple own side]

[finish 3-2-1, with 2s (no polite turns) facing down-out, own side and 3s & 1s on opposite side]

9 – 14 2s dance 3/4 figure of eight across by casting down behind 1s (bottom place)

[1s step up on bars 13-14]

[finish 3-1-2, all now on opposite side]

15 – 16 3s, 1s & 2s dance 1/2 RH turn to face up middle (W polite turn), ready for allemande

17 – 24 3s, 1s & 2s dance Allemande [finish 2-1-3]

[on last bar, 2s start to cast out-down, anticipating turn with 1s]

25 – 32 1s leading up (inside), turn 2s [finish 2-1-3, with 1s facing in-down]

then 1s leading down (inside) turn 3s,

[3s finish with polite turns in 3rd place to face 1st corner]

[finish 2-1-3-4, with 3s ready to start diagonal rights & lefts]

Repeat, having passed a couple

at end of 2nd sequence, 1s & 4s turn 1 1/2 to finish 2-3-4-1, with new 3W (old 4W) ready to start diagonal rights & lefts

This dance is for those dancers (including my wife and I) who have been Scottish Country dancing for at least fifty years. We started dancing in the fifties, which was the time when people were becoming interested in this form of “exercise” with its social connotations. On reflection, this era was possibly the heyday of folk dancing, both English & Scottish. So here’s to these mature dancers (“the golden oldies”) who are now in the autumn of their lives, enjoying what they love the most – Scottish Country dancing and hopefully encouraging the newcomers, whether they be young or retired !.

recommended music: colin dewar – “the Vallin Suite four” – track 14

devised by John Morris

Video: Desperation

Desperation

Cliff Fryer, Imperial Book 6

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

1 – 8 1st and 2nd couples set and rotate to finish 1st man and 2nd woman facing out.

9 – 12 2nd and 1st couples dance right hands across once round.

13 – 16 1st and 3rd couples dance left hands across. 1st couple finish in second place, facing up.

17 – 24 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples dance reels of three on the sides. 2nd and 1st couples pass by the right to begin.

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

Repeat, having passed a couple.

Devised by Cliff Fryer.

The dance was devised in desperation as the deadline for competition entries loomed.