

The Ambulance Drivers' Choreography

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

Bars	Description
1 – 8	1 st couple cast off, dance down behind own lines, turn away from partner and dance up to original places.
9 – 16	1 st , 2 nd and 3 rd couples dance mirror reels of three on own sides, 1 st couple dancing in and down to begin.
17 – 24	1 st couple, dancing in to begin, turn 2 nd couple halfway (1 st man giving right hand to 2 nd man and 1 st woman giving left hand to 2 nd woman), then balance in line with 2 nd and 3 rd couples, then, releasing 2 nd couple hands and dancing out to begin, turn 3 rd couple halfway, and again balance in line with other couples.
25 – 28	1 st couple dance up to top and cast off one place, while 3 rd couple turn around on the spot with two pas de basque, 3 rd man pulling left shoulder, 3 rd woman pulling right shoulder (mirror movement), and step down.
29 – 32	All, giving left hands, turn partners once round.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

Anne Dejean - July 2021

During the months I was ill, I was driven by ambulance quite a few times. Once I was struck by the well-coordinated, accurate and mirroring movements of the ambulance drivers as they pushed the stretcher I was lying on into the ambulance and secured it. I found it interesting and beautiful and this title occurred to me. Then I wanted to devise a dance containing only mirror movements to refer to this particular moment.