

The Darlington Dancer

A medley of 2 x 40 bar strathspey and 2 x 40 bar reel
for four couples in a four-couple longwise set.

3rd and 4th couples start the dance on the opposite side.

Bars

- 1 - 4 1st couple dance towards each other, briefly join nearer hands facing up and cast off one place. Similarly, 4th couple cast up one place.
2nd couple step up and 3rd couple step down on bars 3-4.
- 5 - 8 1st couple dance a half figure of eight round 2nd couple while 4th couple dance a half figure of eight round 3rd couple.
- 9 - 12 1st and 4th couples dance left hands across once round. 1st couple finish facing up and 4th couple facing down.
- 13 - 16 2nd, 1st, 4th and 3rd couples dance half reels of four on the sides, passing by the right to begin.
- 17 - 20 1st woman and 2nd man, 2nd woman and 1st man, 3rd woman and 4th man, 4th woman and 3rd man, giving right hands, turn once and a quarter to finish facing this person in lines of four across the dance.
- 21 - 24 1st and 2nd couples, also 3rd and 4th couples, dance half reels of four across the dance, passing by the right to begin.
- 25 - 28 1st woman and 2nd man, 2nd woman and 1st man, 3rd woman and 4th man, 4th woman and 3rd man, giving right hands, turn once and a quarter to finish on the sidelines, with 1st couple facing up and 4th couples facing down.
- 29 - 30 1st woman and 4th man, also 1st man and 4th woman, giving left hands, change places. All finish facing partner.
- 31 - 32 3rd, 1st, 4th and 2nd couples, set.
- 33 - 36 3rd, 1st, 4th and 2nd couples, giving both hands to partner, turn halfway to finish in the middle of the set facing each other and, pulling right shoulder back, dance out, 3rd and 1st couples to opposite sides and 4th and 2nd couples to own sides.
- 37 - 40 All dance eight hands halfway round to the left.

Finish in the order 2,4,1,3 with 2nd and 4th couples on opposite sides.

Repeat once in strathspey time.

Repeat twice more in reel time but using right hand for the turns in bars 33-34.

For Pat Stevenson, to celebrate a significant birthday.

Devised by John Brenchley, March 2020.

Suggested recorded music: Stepping Hill, The Vallin Suite 4 CD, recorded by Colin Dewar and his Scottish Dance Band.