

Flowers of the West

A strathspey for four couples in a four couple set

(3rd and 4th couples start the dance on opposite sides)

Bars

- 1 - 4 1st and 4th couples turn partners with the right hand once round, then 1st couple cast off to second place while 4th couple cast up to third place.
2nd couple step up and 3rd couple step down on bars 3 and 4.
- 5 - 8 1st and 4th couples dance half rights and lefts. On bars 7 and 8, 1st man turns 4th lady and 4th man turns 1st lady with the left hand three quarters to bring the ladies into the centre of the set. At the end of bar 8, 1st and 4th ladies release hold of the men's left hands and prepare to join right hands with each other. 1st man finishes facing up and 4th man down.
- 9 - 16 1st and 4th couples dance the targe (see RSCDS Book 32, The Clansman). Finish with 1st couple in second place facing up on own sides and 4th couple in third place facing down on opposite sides.
- 17 - 24 All dance reels of four on the sides giving right shoulders to begin.
- 25 - 26 1st and 2nd ladies, 1st and 2nd men, 3rd and 4th ladies, 3rd and 4th men, turn with the right hand half way round. 2nd and 3rd couples finish facing in ready to dance left hands across. 1st and 4th couples finish facing clockwise round the set.
- 27 - 30 2nd and 3rd couples dance left hands across once round while 1st and 4th couples dance clockwise half way round the outside of the set.
- 31 - 32 1st and 3rd ladies, 1st and 3rd men, 2nd and 4th ladies, 2nd and 4th men, turn with the right hand half way round finishing on the sidelines in the order 2,4,1,3 with 1st and 3rd couples on opposite sides.
- 33 - 40 Joining hands on the sides, all set, then turn partners with both hands once round, opening out to dance four hands round to the left, 2nd couple with 4th couple and 1st couple with 3rd couple.

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

Repeat from new positions.

Western Australia is often referred to as the Wild Flower State due to the abundance of its wild flower species.

This dance was originally published by the Western Australia Branch of the RSCDS in 1992 in its book The Swan River Selection.