

MCGHIE SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SHEETS

COLLECTION 1

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CONTENTS

#1	<i>St Margaret's Knot</i>	S 3×32	3C:3C:LS
#2	<i>Sheila Gardiner's Strathspey</i>	S 4×32	4C:4C:LS
#3	<i>Bulling Boots</i>	R 4×48	4C:4C:LS
#4	<i>Bill Forbes' Rant</i>	S 3×32	3C:3C:LS
#5	<i>The St John's Jig</i>	J 8×32	3C:4C:LS
#6	<i>Bonnie Benbecula</i>	S 3×32	3C:3C:LS
#7	<i>Ann Gibb's Strathspey</i>	S 4×32	4C:4C:LS
#8	<i>Broomellon</i>	J 8×32	3C:4C:LS
#9	<i>Forsake Not The Lomonds</i>	S 4×32	4C:4C:LS
#10	<i>The Merrick Rant</i>	R 8×40	3C:4C:LS



ST MARGARET'S KNOT¹

S 3×32, 3C:3C:LS

BARS ²	INSTRUCTIONS
1–8	The 1st and 2nd couples dance a double figure of eight across the dance; 1st couple cross down to begin, 2nd couple cast up
9–12	The 1st and 2nd couples change places by turning one and a half times on the sidelines (right hands men; left hands women)
13–16	The 1st and 3rd couples change places by turning one and a half times on the sidelines (left hands men; right hands women)
17–24	The 2nd, 3rd and 1st couples dance Inveran reels on the sidelines. The 2nd couple dance in and down, 3rd couple out and down and 1st couple cross in and up to begin ³ ; at the top of the set the 1st couple cross down to second place on own sides on bars 21–22
25–32	Taking nearer hands, the 1st couple dance up to the top, divide and cast off one place on their own sides, on bars 29–30 they dance in under arches formed by the 2nd and 3rd couples who join nearer hands on own sidelines, the 1st couple meet, taking nearer hands, dance down to third place, divide and cast out to own sidelines making a polite turn ⁴

Repeat twice more from new positions each time

NOTES:

- 1 For Catherine and James Coutts on their wedding day, 18 June 2004 (they were married in St Margaret's Chapel, Edinburgh Castle)
- 2 Suggested tune: *Roseacre* (J. Scott Skinner)
- 3 The original print publication indicated the couples wrongly for bars 17–24, this version is correct
- 4 In the original publication two methods were proposed for forming the arches on bars 29–30. This version with single-handed arches on the sidelines is correct. On bar 32, the 1st couple make their polite turn by dancing just below third place and casting up into it

SHEILA GARDINER'S STRATHSPEY¹

S 4×32, 4C:4C:LS

BARS ²	INSTRUCTIONS
1–8	All four couples set, advance and retire and set
9–16	The 1st and 2nd couples, likewise the 3rd and 4th couples, dance a diamond pousette
17–20	The 1st and 4th couples cross over giving right hands, then the 1st couple cast off one place while the 4th couple cast up one place on opposite sides, the 2nd and 3rd couples step up and down respectively on bars 19–20
21–24	The 1st and 4th couples dance half rights and lefts, omitting polite turns to end 2413 all on own sides, 2nd and 1st couples facing down, 4th and 3rd couples facing up
25–32	Passing right shoulders to begin, all dance reels of four on own sidelines Repeat three more times from new positions each time

NOTES:

- 1 For Sheila Gardiner
- 2 Suggested tune: *Sheila Gardiner's Strathspey* (Muriel Johnstone)

BULLING BOOTS¹

R 4×48, 4C:4C:LS

BARS ²	INSTRUCTIONS ³
1–8	Eight hands round and back
9–16	Giving right hands the 1st couple, followed by the 2nd, 3rd and 4th couples, lead down the centre, cross over below fourth place and cast up to original places on opposite sidelines
17–20	All advance and stamp twice and retire and stamp twice
21–24	All cross over, the women dancing under arches formed by the men, all passing partners by the right shoulder and turning by the right to face in on own sides ⁴
25–28	All advance and stamp twice and retire and stamp twice
29–32	All cross over, the women dancing under arches formed by the men, all passing partners by the right shoulder and turning by the right to face in on opposite sides ⁴
33–36	The 1st and 2nd couples dance half rights and lefts
37–40	The 1st and 3rd couples dance half rights and lefts
41–44	The 1st and 4th couples dance half rights and lefts, ending 2341 all on own sides
45–48	All turn by the right (elbow hold) Repeat three more times from new positions each time

NOTES:

- 1 For Claude Gardiner
- 2 Suggested tune: *Cheeky Claude* (Muriel Johnstone)
- 3 This is intended as a ceilidh dance and can be done with a walking/running step
- 4 On bars 21–24 and 29–32 the cross should continue slightly over the sidelines, then, with the men dropping hands, all turn by the right shoulder just outside the set and come back to the sidelines in one movement

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BILL FORBES' RANT¹

S 3×32, 3C:3C:LS

BARS²

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1–8 Half reel progression. The 1st and 2nd couples turn partners three-quarters round by the right hand to form a line down the centre of the set, women facing down, men facing up, and dance a right-shoulder half reel of four ending with the men facing down and the women facing up, all turn partners three-quarters round by the right hand back to own sides in the order 213, the 1st couple continuing the turn to face their second corners, the 2nd couple ending back on side-lines
- 9–10 The 1st couple turn their second corners by the left hand
- 11–12 The 1st couple turn one and a quarter times by the right hand to face first corners
- 13–14 The 1st couple turn their first corners by the left hand
- 15–16 The 1st couple turn one and a quarter times by the right hand to own sides
- 17–24 Half reel progression. The 1st and 3rd couples turn partners three-quarters round by the right hand to form a line down the centre of the set, women facing down, men facing up, and dance a right-shoulder half reel of four ending with the men facing down and the women facing up, all turn partners three-quarters round by the right hand back to own sides in the order 231
- 25–32 Six hands round and back
- Repeat twice more from new positions each time

NOTES:

- 1 In memory of Bill Forbes (1921–2016).
- 2 Suggested tune: *Neil Gow's Wife*

THE ST JOHN'S JIG¹

J 8×32, 3C:4C:LS

BARS ²	INSTRUCTIONS
1–8	The 1st couple set and giving nearer hands dance down between the 2nd couple, divide and cast behind the 3rd couple, meet below 3rd couple and giving nearer hands dance up between them to end back to back in second place facing own sides. The 2nd couple step up on bars 7–8.
9–16	The 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples dance crown triangles, ending with the 1st couple back to back in the centre of the set the woman facing up, the man facing down
17–24	Reels of three across, 1st woman with the 2nd couple and 1st man with the 3rd couple, 1st couple begin by giving left shoulder to their first corners and end in second place own sides
25–28	The 1st couple turn by the right hand one and a quarter times
29–32	Left hands across, the 1st man with the 2nd couple, the 1st woman with the 3rd couple 1st couple end in second place own sides Repeat having passed a couple

NOTES:

- 1 In memory of Sheila Jupp who was honoured with life membership of the St John's Scottish Country Dancing Club, Wokingham, after 15 years' committee service including a period as club chairman.
- 2 Suggested tune: *The Gobbie O'* (trad.)

BONNIE BENBECULA¹

S 3×32, 3C:3C:LS

BARS²

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1–8 All three couples set, dance back to back and set
- 9–16 The 1st and 3rd couples dance the half reel progression³
- 17–24 Facing in on the diagonal while setting⁴, the 3rd and 2nd couples dance set and rotate, ending 231, all on own sidelines
- 25–32 Six hands round and back
- Repeat twice more from new places each time

NOTES:

- 1 In memory of Sheila Jupp, who spent her childhood on this Hebridean island
- 2 Suggested tune: *Crawhillock* (trad.)
- 3 The half reel progression: The 1st and 3rd couples turn three quarters round by the right hand, dance half a reel of four and turn three quarters round by the right hand, all ending on own sidelines
- 4 This figure symbolises the guarding of this beautiful island

ANN GIBB'S STRATHSPEY¹

S 4×32, 4C:4C:LS

BARS ²	INSTRUCTIONS
1–6	The 1st and 2nd couples and 3rd and 4th couples set facing in on the diagonal then dance right hands across
7–8	The 1st and 3rd couples cast off one place on own sides while the 2nd and 4th couples, retaining right hands, lead up to first and third places respectively, ending 2143
9–14	The 1st and 4th couples set facing in on the diagonal then dance left hands across
15–16	The 1st couple cast off one place on own sides while the 4th couple, retaining left hands, lead up to second place, ending 2413
17–20	Crossing down to begin, the 2nd couple dances a half figure of eight around the 4th couple while the 1st couple dances a half figure of eight around the 3rd couple to end on opposite sides
21–24	The 2nd and 4th couples and 1st and 3rd couples dance four hands round to the left
25–28	Crossing down to begin, the 2nd couple dances a half figure of eight around the 4th couple while the 1st couple dances a half figure of eight around the 3rd couple to end back on own sides
29–32	The 2nd and 4th couples and 1st and 3rd couples dance four hands round to the right
	Repeat three more time from new positions each time

NOTES:

- 1 For Ann Gibb, sometime secretary of the St Andrews Branch of the RSCDS
- 2 Suggested tune: *Mrs Kyd's Favourite*

BROOMELLON¹

J 8×32, 3C:4C:LS

BARS ²	INSTRUCTIONS
1–8	The 1st couple set, cross over giving right hands and cast off one place then turn by the left hand to face first corners; the 2nd couple step up on bars 5–6
9–12	The 1st couple dance half a reel of four with their first corners passing corners right shoulder to begin and passing left shoulders to face second corners
13–16	The 1st couple dance half a reel of four with their second corners passing corners right shoulder to begin and passing left shoulders to face first corners again (now on opposite sides)
17–24	The 1st couple set to first corners, set to one another across the set, set to second corners then facing one another up and down the set dance a petronella turn to second place on opposite sides
25–28	The 3rd, 1st and 2nd couples all set advancing to partners and turn by the right hand back to opposite sidelines
29–32	All three couples chase clockwise halfway round to end 213 all on own sides Repeat having passed a couple

NOTES:

- 1 For Ross and Howard Colwell (the title is the name of their house)
- 2 Suggested tune: *There Cam' a Young Man*

FORSAKE NOT THE LOMONDS¹

S 4×32, 4C:4C:LS

BARS ²	INSTRUCTIONS
1–2	All four couples, joining hands on the sidelines, set
3–8	The 1st and 3rd couples dance a petronella turn to the right to end in the centre of the dance, men facing up and women facing down, then set to partners and turn them once round giving both hands
9–12	Passing right shoulders to begin, the 1st and 3rd couples dance a half reel of four up and down the middle of the dance
13–16	Giving both hands, the 3rd and 1st couples turn partners three-quarters round to end facing up with nearer hands joined in 1st and 3rd places respectively, then divide and cast off one place on own sides; the 2nd and 4th couples step up on bars 15–16, to end 2341, all on own sides
17–28	The 2nd and 3rd couples and the 4th and 1st couples dance the figure of a ladies' chain, to begin 2nd woman and 3rd man and 4th woman and 1st man cross over giving right hands while their partners dance up or down the sidelines ready to turn by the left ³
29–32	All four couples dance a grand chain ⁴ , one step to each hand, ending with polite turns as appropriate Repeat three more times, from new positions each time

NOTES:

- 1 For Janice Creagh (in memory of the RSCDS Summer School Advanced Class of 1999)
- 2 Suggested tune: *Burn O' Cairnie*
- 3 There should be no polite turns by 2nd and 4th men or 3rd and 1st women at the end of the ladies' chain, all dancers flowing straight into the next figure
- 4 To begin the grand chain the 2nd and 1st couples cross over while the 3rd and 4th couples change places on the sidelines

THE MERRICK RANT¹

R 8×40, 3C:4C:LS

BARS ²	INSTRUCTIONS
1–4	Taking nearer hands, the 1st couple dance down the middle, divide below the 3rd couple and cast up into second place own sides; the 2nd couple step up on bars 3–4
5–8	The 1st couple turn their first corners once round by the right hand to end back to back in the middle facing opposite sides in double triangles formation
9–16	The 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples dance crown triangles, all four sides, ending with the 1st man facing up and 1st woman facing down
17–20	Giving right shoulders to second corners to begin, the 1st man dances half a reel of three across the dance with the 2nd couple while the 1st woman dances half a reel of three across the dance with the 3rd couple
21–24	The 2nd and 3rd couples continue to reel across while, giving right shoulders to first corners who are now on opposite sides, the 1st couple change reels, the 1st man dances half a reel of three across the dance with the 3rd couple while the 1st woman dances half a reel of three across the dance with the 2nd couple, the 1st couple end in second place own sides facing in
25–32	The 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples dance reels of three on own sides, the 1st man dancing in and up and the 1st woman dancing in and down to begin
33–40	The 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples dance six hands round and back Repeat having passed a couple

NOTES:

- 1 For Christine Merrick, on being elected chair of Dunedin Dancers
- 2 Suggested tune: *The Kemptown Ladies*