

One of a Kind

A medley for four couples in a four couple set

(1st and 3rd couples start the dance on opposite sides)

Bars

Part A - Reel

- 1 - 8 1st and 2nd men and at the same time, 3rd and 4th men set to each other then change places with a half turn and a twirl (*refer to page 8 – Christine's Fancy*) and facing out, cast to the right behind their partners and dance into the centre to form a line of four with 1st and 3rd men facing down and 2nd and 4th men facing up. The four ladies take a small step to the right on bar 6 so that 1st lady is opposite 2nd lady and 3rd lady is opposite 4th lady.
- 9 - 12 The men dance a half reel of four up and down the centre of the set.
- 13 - 16 All set and dance a petronella turn so that the four ladies are in the centre of the dance. 1st man will finish on the opposite side facing 2nd man who is on his own side mid way between third and fourth places. 3rd man similarly faces 4th man mid way between first and second places.
- 17 - 20 The ladies dance a half reel of four up and down the centre of the set.
- 21 - 24 All set and dance a petronella turn so that the four men return to the centre of the dance. 1st lady will finish on her own side facing 2nd lady who is on the opposite side mid way between third and fourth places. 3rd lady similarly faces 4th lady mid way between first and second places.
- 25 - 28 1st couple and 2nd couple, 3rd couple and 4th couple, dance right hands across just over once round to finish on the sidelines in the order 3,4,1,2 with 1st and 3rd couples on opposite sides. 1st and 3rd couples face down and 2nd and 4th couples face up.
- 29 - 32 All four couples dance half reels of four on the sides. To begin, 1st and 2nd couples, also 3rd and 4th couples, pass by the right shoulder.
- 33 - 36 1st lady and 2nd man, 1st man and 2nd lady, 3rd lady and 4th man, 3rd man and 4th lady, turn with the right hand once and a quarter. Finish facing this person in lines across the dance.
- 37 - 40 Passing right shoulder, dance half reels of four across the dance finishing in two lines of four across the dance, 1st lady facing 3rd lady, 2nd man facing 4th man, 1st man facing 3rd man and 2nd lady facing 4th lady. To assist with the end of the reel, 1st and 2nd men, similarly 3rd and 4th men should give a left hand in passing with 2nd and 3rd men finishing with a polite turn.

Part B – Strathspey

- 1 - 8 Joining hands in lines of four, all set, then the four men dance a circle to the left once round, pull back right shoulders to face the ladies on the corners of the dance (their “new” strathspey partners) and turn them three quarters with the right hand to finish all facing inwards in a circle with the ladies on the right of the men.
- 9 - 12 All circle to the left just over half way round to finish in a square set with 3rd lady and 4th man in first place, 4th lady and 3rd man in second place, 2nd lady and 1st man in third place and 1st lady and 2nd man in fourth place.
- 13 - 16 The dancers in first and third places change places with the opposite dancers by dancing La Baratte and remain facing out. If long steps are used, La Baratte can be danced in strathspey time in four bars as follows –
- Bar 1 dancers approach one another.
- Bar 2 dancers change places right hand – they retain hold of the right hand but dance sufficiently past one another to stretch the arms almost to full length.
- Bar 3 dancers return along the line they have just travelled, the lady dancing under the man's right arm (pulling her right shoulder back) so that she has her back to him. They then join left hands just above shoulder height (the man is now directly behind the lady and both hands are momentarily joined), release the right hand and the lady dances under the man's left arm (again pulling her right shoulder back) and retain hold of left hands.
- Bar 4 dancers change places left hand and face out towards opposite sides.

- 17 - 20 3rd lady follows 4th man anticlockwise half way round the outside of the set to return to first place in the square set. 2nd lady similarly follows 1st man.
At the same time, the dancers in second and fourth places dance right hands across once round and face out.
- 21 - 24 The dancers in first and third places dance left hands across once round.
At the same time, 1st lady follows 2nd man clockwise half way round the outside of the set. 4th lady similarly follows 3rd man.
- 25 - 28 The dancers in second and fourth places change places with the opposite dancers by dancing La Baratte. All dancers are now back in the same places as at the end of bar 12 but the ladies are now on the left of the men.
- 29 - 32 All circle to the right just over half way.
- 33 - 34 All turn strathspey partners three quarters with the left hand to put the ladies into the centre – the ladies pull back left shoulders to face inwards at the end of bar 34.
- 35 - 38 Ladies circle to the right once round and dance out to lines of four across the dance. 2nd man finishes opposite 4th man, 1st lady opposite 3rd lady, 2nd lady opposite 4th lady and 1st man opposite 3rd man.
- 39 - 40 All join hands in lines of four across the dance and set.

Part C – Reel

- 1 - 4 All dance half reels of four across the dance giving right shoulder to begin
- 5 - 8 1st lady and 2nd man, 1st man and 2nd lady, 3rd lady and 4th man, 3rd man and 4th lady, turn with the right hand once and a quarter. Finish facing this person on the sides of the dance. During these turns, the dancers should endeavour to return the set to its normal width.
- 9 - 12 All dance half reels of four on the sides giving right shoulder to begin
- 13 - 16 1st couple and 2nd couple, 3rd couple and 4th couple, dance right hands across just over once round to finish with the four ladies in a line of four up and down the centre of the dance in the order 3rd lady, 4th lady, 1st lady, 2nd lady. 1st man and 2nd man finish facing each other on the sidelines half way between third and fourth places with 1st man on the opposite side. 3rd man similarly faces 4th man half way between first and second places.
- 17 - 20 All set and dance a petronella turn so that the four men are in a line in the centre of the dance and the ladies are on the sidelines with 1st lady facing 2nd lady and 3rd lady facing 4th lady.
- 21 - 24 The men dance a half reel of four up and down the centre of the set.
- 25 - 28 All set and dance a petronella turn so that the four ladies are in a line in the centre of the dance and the men are on the sidelines.
- 29 - 32 The ladies dance a half reel of four up and down the centre of the set.
- 33 - 40 The ladies dance round their partners passing them by the right shoulder (2 steps) to finish with 1st and 3rd ladies on own sides and 2nd and 4th ladies on opposite sides. 1st lady and 2nd lady, 3rd lady and 4th lady change places by dancing a half turn and a twirl (4 steps). The men take a small step to their right on bar 3 to finish in original places. All four couples join hands on the side and set.

A dance presented to Ken Sumby by members of the RSCDS Western Australia Branch Demonstration Team on the occasion of his 60th birthday.