

The Whetherly Book of Scottish Country Dances

Number 13

By John W. Mitchell

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Original Introduction

Enclosed are a few more random dances, all devised between Easter and Whitsun 1983. Once again a few easy dances amongst the more difficult ones, or vice versa according to your standard. Happy dancing to all our readers.

John W. Mitchell (1983)

Introduction to the new edition

“Between Easter and Whitsun” is a period of a mere 50 days to devise 44 dances, implying a rate of one dance per day (except Sundays). Clearly this was a productive time for Scottish Country Dancing, if potentially not for other aspects of John’s life. As for the difficulty of the dances, I will merely comment that dances which appear deceptively easy can sometimes be the trickiest. Much as in music, the simplest and most famous tunes can be the hardest to play, because the audience knows exactly what it *should* sound like.

Alison M. W. Mitchell (2023)

John Wallace Mitchell - A Brief Biography

(31/05/1931 – 25/11/2012)

John Wallace Mitchell was born and raised in Brighton & Hove, Sussex. Following his school education, which took place against a background of war, he completed military service from 1949-1951 with the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (REME) army division. He then started work in accountancy, joining the Sperry Rand corporation in 1957 as a computer and business systems analyst. In 1958 he became a member of the British Computer Society, only a few months after its foundation. In the early 1960's, the focus of his career moved towards management consultancy, and he completed many assignments for several companies, often helping to set up their first computer systems, with work taking him to many locations both within the UK and western Europe, as well as to Saudi Arabia. Eventually he set up a private practice in 1972.

He was a keen cyclist, active in several clubs and competing at a local level from 1946 – 1956. When in the army, he would often cycle back to Brighton on free weekends, which could be up to 140 miles each way.

Although he first encountered Scottish Country Dancing in Dollar, Scotland in 1947, it wasn't until 1964 that he began to take it seriously, when he joined the Leeds clubs and RSCDS Branch. After moving back to the Brighton area, he became a member of the London branch in 1966 and in 1967 was the founder chairman of the Sussex Association of Scottish Societies, which was formed to ensure the future of the local Annual Scottish Charity Ball by connecting many clubs in the region. This led to the first day schools and teachers' training courses in the region. In 1972 he obtained a full RSCDS teacher's certificate and in 1975 became the founder chairman of the Hangleton Scottish Country Dance Club. From approximately 1968 to 1992 he devised some 828 dances, which were published in this series of Whetherly Books and Sheets. Whetherly is the maiden name of his paternal grandmother, after which the house in which he grew up was also named ("Whetherly House"). In 2010 he received the London Branch award for services to Scottish Dancing.

John passed away in 2012 after a two year battle with cancer.



Balkan Hills

A thirty-two bar Strathspey for three couples in a longwise set.

- 1-4 First and second man cross passing their own partners by the right shoulder and cast down behind their own partners, then cross back to original places.
- 5-8 First and second couples dance right hands across in a wheel.
- 9-12 First and second ladies cross dancing above their own partners, cast down behind their own partners and cross back to their original places.
- 13-16 First and second couples dance left hands across in a wheel.
- 17-22 Reels of three on own side of the set, to start first and second couples pass by the left shoulder.
- 23-24 All join hands on the side and set.
- 25-28 First couple cross giving right hand and cast off, second couple step up.
- 29-32 First couple dance a half figure of eight round second couple crossing up to commence.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: Balkan Hills

Bantry Lassies

A thirty-two bar Reel for three couples in a longwise set.

- 1-2 First couple set.
- 3-4 First lady casts off two places whilst first man dances down the middle to third place facing out and second and third couples step up.
- 5-8 First and third couples dance right hands across in a wheel.
- 9-10 First couple set.
- 11-12 First lady casts up two places whilst first man dances up the middle to own place facing out and second and third couples step down.
- 13-16 First and second couples dance left hands across in a wheel.
- 17-18 First couple cast off, second couple dance up to top place.
- 19-20 First couple turn three quarter with the right hand to finish man between third couple and lady between second couple.
- 21-24 Six hands round to the left in a circle.
- 25-32 First couple turn their second corners with the right hand, partner with the left hand, first corners with the right hand and partner three quarters with the left hand to own side of the set.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: Bantry Lassies

The Big Corral

A forty-eight bar Reel for four couples in a square set.

- 1-4 All set to and turn partners with the right hand.
- 5-8 All set to and turn partners with the left hand.
- 9-24 Schiehallion reels, ladies cast to commence as the men dance in.
- 25-32 Grand chain, one step to each hand.
- 33-36 Ladies dance right hands across in a wheel half way and turn the opposite man with the left hand.
- 37-40 Half ladies' chains: second and third ladies cross giving right hand to turn first and fourth men with the left hand, whilst first and fourth ladies cross giving right hand to turn second and third men with the left hand.
- 41-48 Eight hands round to the left in a circle and back to the right.

Repeat with new partner, but ladies' chains half way are done on the opposite diagonal:

- 37-40 Half ladies' chains, first and second ladies (new numbers) change right hand and turn fourth and third men whilst fourth and third ladies change right hands to turn first and second men. All ladies are now opposite their original partners.

Repeat twice more as above to return to original places, ladies having danced with each man in turn.

Recommended tune: The Big Corral

Note

If the second set of ladies' chains half way is danced on the same diagonal as the first set the ladies all return to their original partners. By alternating the chains the ladies progress.

Bonnie Strathmore

A forty bar Jig for three couples in a longwise set.

- 1-8 First lady casts off behind second and third ladies, then dances up the middle to own place facing out. Meanwhile first man dances down the middle and casts up behind third and second men to place.
- 9-16 First, second and third couples dance reels of three on own side of the set, first and second pass by the right shoulder to commence.
- 17-20 First and second couples dance right hands across in a wheel half way and set.
- 21-24 First and second couples cross to own side giving left hand in passing and set.
- 25-28 First couple turn their first corners with the right hand.
- 29-32 First couple turn with the left hand.
- 33-36 First couple turn their second corners with the right hand.
- 37-40 First couple turn with the left hand one and a quarter times to own side.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: Bonnie Strathmore

Calabria

A thirty-two bar Reel for three couples in a longwise set.

- 1-2 First couple cast off behind second couple who step up.
- 3-4 First couple turn three quarters with the right hand.
- 5-8 Six hands round to the left in a circle.
- 9-16 First couple pass first corners by the right shoulder to start reels of three across the dance, man with third couple and lady with second couple.
- 17-24 Reels of three on opposite side, first couple pass second corners by the left shoulder to commence.
- 25-28 First couple turn second corner with the right hand and partner with the left hand.
- 29-30 First and second men turn with the right hand whilst first and third ladies do the same.
- 31-32 First couple turn with the left hand.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: Calabria

Capt. H. Munro

A forty bar Reel for three couples in a longwise set.

- 1-4 First couple turn with the right hand and cast off, second couple step up on bars 3 & 4.
- 5-8 First couple turn one and a quarter times with the left hand.
- 9-12 First couple lead out between second and third ladies, first lady casts up and first man casts down, to finish facing up and down the set between second and third couples respectively.
- 13-16 First couple turn with the right hand once round.
- 17-20 First couple lead out between second and third men, first lady casts up and first man casts down to finish facing up and down as before.
- 21-22 First couple turn left hand to second place on own side.
- 23-24 All join hands on the side and set.
- 25-28 All slip down the middle, retaining nearer hands.
- 29-32 The three ladies dance three hands round to the left in a circle half way to finish facing out on own side, whilst the three men dance three hands round in a circle to the right half way to finish facing out.
- 33-36 All three couples slip up the middle, still retaining hands and facing out.
- 37-40 The ladies again circle to the left half way to face in, whilst the men circle to the right half way.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: Capt. H. Munro

The Chester Hornpipe

A thirty-two bar Hornpipe for four couples in a longwise set.

- 1-4 First and second ladies set and turn with the right hand, first and second man do the same, third and fourth couples also set and turn on the sides.
- 5-8 Second and third ladies set and turn with the left hand, second and third man do the same.
- 9-16 Reels of four on the sides of the set.
- 17-18 All set.
- 19-20 First and second couples right hands across in a wheel half way, third and fourth couples do the same.
- 21-22 Second and third couples cross giving left hand, whilst first and fourth couple dance left hands across in a wheel half way.
- 23-24 All join hand on the sides and set.
- 25-32 Eight hands round to the left in a circle and back to the right. Finish in the order 2, 4, 1, 3.

Repeat with new top couple.

Recommended tune: The Chester Hornpipe

Editor's note to the 2023 edition

Bars 17-20 have been modified to add an additional set for all couples, as right hands across in 4 bars is very slow, especially when followed by left hands across in 2 bars. The original instructions were:

- 17-20 First and second couples right hands across in a wheel half way, third and fourth couples do the same.

Cork Hill

A thirty-two bar Jig for four couples in a longwise set.

- 1-2 First couple cast off, second couple step up.
- 3-8 Reels of three across the dance, first couple pass first corners by the left shoulder to commence.
- 9-10 First couple cross down below third couple.
- 11-12 First man turns fourth lady with the right hand three quarters round whilst first lady turns fourth man left hand three quarters round. First couple finish between fourth couple facing up.
- 13-14 First couple dance up, with nearer hand, to second place, still on opposite sides.
- 15-16 First man turns second lady half way with the left hand, whilst first lady turns second man half way with the right hand.
- 17-24 Reels of four on the sides: first man dances a reel with second, third and fourth ladies passing second lady by the left shoulder to commence, third and fourth ladies also pass left; whilst first lady dances a reel of four with second, third and fourth men, passing second man by the right to commence, third and fourth men also passing right to start.
- 25-26 First couple cross down to second place on own side, second couple step up.
- 27-30 First and third ladies turn one and a half times with the right hand to change places, whilst first and third men turn one and a half times with the left hand to change places.
- 31-32 First and fourth ladies turn half way with the left hand to change places, whilst first and fourth men turn half way with the right hand to change places.
Finish in the order 2, 3, 4, 1.

Repeat with new top couple.

Recommended tune: Cork Hill

Dolphin Medley

A sixteen bar Reel, sixteen bar Strathspey Medley for three couples in a longwise set.

Reel

- 1-4 First and second ladies dance back to back, first and second men do the same.
- 5-8 First and second ladies turn one and a half times with the right hand, first and second men do the same.
- 9-12 First and second couples advance and retire.
- 13-16 First couple turn one and a quarter times with the left hand whilst second couple turn once with left hand.

Strathspey

- 1-4 First couple lead out between second and third men. First lady casts up to finish between first positions facing down and first man casts down to finish between third positions facing up. Meanwhile second and third couples dance half rights and lefts.
- 5-8 First couple turn one and a half times with two hands whilst second and third couples turn once with two hands.
- 9-12 First couple lead out between first and second men on the ladies' side of the set, first man cast up and first lady casts down to finish facing up and down. Meanwhile second and third couples dance half rights and lefts.
- 13-16 First couple turn one and three quarters to own side of the set with two hands, whilst second and third couples turn once with two hands.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tunes: Reel: Miss Monaghan; Strathspey: Lady Anne Hope

Donald Stewart

A thirty-two bar Reel for three couples in a longwise set.

- 1-2 First couple cross giving right hand to face out.
- 3-4 Second couple dance up to face out whilst first couple cast to finish behind second place facing down.
- 5-8 First man dances right hands across in a wheel with second and third ladies. Meanwhile first lady dances left hands across with second and third man.
- 9-10 Second and third ladies join two hands to make an arch on the side, second and third men do the same. First couple cross giving right hand passing under the two arches.
- 11-12 Second and third ladies turn half way with the left hand, whilst second and third men turn half way with the right hand and first couple cast into third place on own side; second couple finish facing out and down.
- 13-16 Half reels of three on own side of the set, first couple dance in and up to start.
- 17-20 First lady crosses down below second man and casts up behind him to finish between second couple facing down, whilst first man crosses down below second lady, casts down behind third lady and finishes between third couple facing up.
- 21-28 Six hands round to the left in a circle and back to the right.
- 29-30 First couple set.
- 31-32 First lady casts behind second lady into second place on own side whilst first man casts up behind third man into second place on own side.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: Donald Stewart (The Piper)

Downland Reel

A forty bar Reel for three couples in a longwise set.

- 1-8 First and second couples dance rights and lefts.
- 9-16 First couple cross giving right hand and cast off, second couple step up on bars 11 & 12; first couple then cross giving left hand, first lady casts up to finish between second couple facing down whilst first man casts down to finish between third couple facing up.
- 17-20 Half reels of three on own side of the set, first and third ladies pass right to start as do first and second men. First couple finish facing up and down.
- 21-24 First couple turn once with the right hand.
- 25-28 First couple dance half reels of three on opposite side of the set, first man and second lady pass by the right to start as do first lady and third man. First couple again finish facing up and down.
- 29-32 First couple turn one and quarter times with the right hand to own side of the set.
- 33-40 Six hands round to the left in a circle and back to the right.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: Clarence House

Elizabeth Donald

A forty bar Jig for three couples in a longwise set.

- 1-4 First couple dance a figure of eight round second couple, half way, crossing down to start.
- 5-8 First couple cross to own side giving right hand and cast off into second place, second couple step up.
- 9-16 First man dances a reel of three across the set with third couple, passing third lady by the left to start, whilst first lady dances a reel with second couple, passing second man by the left to start.
- 17-24 First man dances a reel of three with second couple whilst first lady dances a reel with third couple, passing second corners by the right to start. At the end, first couple dance in to finish back to back facing own side.
- 25-32 Double triangles.
- 33-40 Six hands round to the left in a circle and back to the right.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: Elizabeth Donald

Emerald Queen

A twenty-four bar Jig for three couples in a longwise set.

- 1-4 First couple cast off, second couple step up immediately, then first couple turn three quarters round with the right hand, pulling right shoulder back to finish facing up and down.
- 5-8 First lady with second couple and first man with third couple dance three hands round to the left in a circle.
- 9-14 Reels of three across the set, lady with second couple and man with third, passing first corner by the right to commence.
- 15-16 First couple turn half way with left hand to change places.
- 17-22 First man passes second man by the left to dance a reel of three with second couple whilst first lady passes third lady by the left to dance a reel of three with third couple, first finish in second place.
- 23-24 First couple cross back to own side giving right hand.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: Emerald Queen

Fiddler Play the Light Strathspey

A thirty-two bar Strathspey for three couples in a longwise set.

- 1-4 First man, passing first lady by the right shoulder to commence, turns second lady one and a half times with the right hand, whilst first lady turns second man one and a half times with the left hand.
- 5-8 First man turns third lady with the left hand whilst first lady turns third man with the right hand.
- 9-16 First couple dance a half figure of eight up through second couple, turn half way with the left hand; dance a half figure of eight down through third place and turn three quarters with the right hand to finish in the centre facing the man's side of the set; at the same time second and third couples dance rights and lefts, giving right hands on the sides to commence.
- 17-20 First couple, with nearer hands joined, dance out between second and third men, first lady casts up and first man casts down, they dance in to meet and turn half way with the right hand to finish facing the ladies' side of the set.
- 21-24 First couple, with nearer hands joined, dance out between second and third ladies, first man casts up and first lady casts down, they meet and turn three quarters with the right hand to own side of the set.
- 25-32 Six hands round to the left in a circle and back to the right.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: Fiddler Play the Light Strathspey

Hielan Brochan

A forty-eight bar Reel for three couples in a longwise set.

- 1-4 First and second men, with nearer hands joined, dance between their partners and cast round own partner.
- 5-8 First and second men cross between their partners, first man casting down and second man casting up to finish on own side with first man in second place. First man has priority in crossing.
- 9-16 First and second ladies repeat bars 1-8.
- 17-20 First couple turn first corners with the right hand, passing partner by the left shoulder.
- 21-24 First couple turn second corners with the left hand, and finish back to back facing own side of the set.
- 25-32 Double triangles, finish back to back facing own side of the set.
- 33-40 The three ladies dance three hands round to the left and back to the right, whilst the three men do likewise.
- 41-48 Reels of three on own side, first and third ladies pass left shoulder to commence as do first and second men.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: Hielan Brochan

Joan's Medley

A sixteen bar Strathspey, sixteen bar Reel Medley for three couples in a longwise set.

Strathspey

- 1-4 First and second men, with nearer hands joined, dance between their partners, first man casts up and second man casts down back to own side.
- 5-8 First and second men turn one and a half times with both hands to change places.
- 9-16 First and second ladies repeat.

Reel

- 1-8 Reels of three on own side of the set, first couple dance in and up to start.
- 9-16 Six hands round to the left in a circle and back to the right.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tunes: Strathspey: Lady Anne Hope; Reel: Joe Mackenzie

John Worth's Jig

A thirty-two bar Jig for three couples in a longwise set.

- 1-2 First lady casts off two places, whilst first man dances down the middle two places; second and third couples step up.
- 3-4 First and third couples dance right hands across in a wheel half way.
- 5-8 Second and first couples dance left hands across in a wheel.
- 9-16 Second, first and third couples dance reels of three on the sides of the set, to commence first and third ladies pass right shoulder on the men's side as their partners do the same on the ladies' side.
- 17-18 First and third couples dance right hands across in a wheel half way.
- 19-22 Third and first couples dance half rights and lefts.
- 23-24 First and third couples cross giving right hands.
- 25-32 Six hands round to the left in a circle and back to the right.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: John Worth's Jig

The Kitchen Maid

A thirty-two bar Jig for three couples in a longwise set.

- 1-8 First couple set, cross over giving right hand in passing; cast off and turn left hand to face first corners; second couple step up on bars 5 & 6.
- 9-16 First couple turn their first corners with the right hand in two bars, second corners with their left hand in two bars and partner with the right hand for four bars to finish facing their first corners.
- 17-22 Reels of three with corners, passing first corner by the left shoulder to commence.
- 23-24 First couple cross to own side giving right hand in passing.
- 25-32 Six hands round to the left in a circle and back to the right.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: The Kitchen Maid

Lady in the Boat

A sixty-four bar Jig for six couples in a longwise set.

- 1-4 First, third and fifth couples set and cross over giving right hand in passing.
- 5-8 All set and cross giving right hand.
- 9-16 First and second couples dance a ladies' chain, as do third and fourth couples, and fifth and sixth couples.
- 17-24 First, second and third couples dance right hands across in a wheel and back with the left; fourth, fifth and sixth couples do the same; to finish with first couple between second couple, all facing down and sixth couple between fifth couple facing up.
- 25-32 Second, third, fourth and fifth couples dance reels of four on the sides passing right shoulder to start, whilst first and sixth couples dance rights and lefts.
- 33-40 First and second couples dance a reel of four across the set; third and fourth couples dance rights and lefts and the fifth and sixth couples dance a reel of four across the set.
- 41-48 Twelve hands round to the left in a circle and back to the right to finish back on the side lines.
- 49-52 First, third and fifth couples cross over giving right hand in passing and set.
- 53-56 First and second couples dance half rights and lefts, as do third and fourth couples and fifth and sixth couples; first and third ladies and fourth man finish facing out.
- 57-60 First, fourth and third couples dance half reels of three on own side of the set, first and fourth passing by the right shoulder to start.
- 61-64 First, sixth and fifth couples dance half reels of three on own side of the set, first and sixth passing by the right to commence.

Repeat with new top couple.

Recommended tune: Lady in the Boat

The Little Lad

A thirty-two bar Reel for two couples in a longwise set.

- 1-4 First man and second lady dance back to back.
- 5-8 First man and second lady turn one and a half times with two hands to change places (travelling step).
- 9-16 First lady and second man repeat bars 1-8.
- 17-20 First couple dance a half figure of eight round second couple, crossing up to start.
- 21-24 Second couple dance a half figure of eight round first couple, crossing down to start.
- 25-32 First and second couples dance rights and lefts.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: The Little Lad

Lord of the Dance

An eighty-eight bar Reel for four couples in a square set.

- 1-4 Eight hands round to the left in a circle.
- 5-8 Retaining nearer hand with partner the men give left hands across in a wheel, to finish with the men back to back in the centre facing their partner.
- 9-16 Ladies dance petronella half way round the set, whilst the men dance Hello-Goodbye setting; on bars 11 & 15 all join hands in a circle as they set before men turn in to face their partners in new places.
- 17-24 Repeat 9-16 back to places.
- 25-28 All set and turn three quarters with right hand to original places and face corners.
- 29-32 All set to and turn corners with left hand to finish with first man and second lady back to back facing own partner on a diagonal line, third man and fourth lady do the same.
- 33-40 Reels of four on the diagonal line.
- 41-44 All set and turn right hand to place and face corners.
- 45-48 All set to and turn corners with left hand, second man and third lady finish back to back facing own partner as do fourth man and first lady.
- 49-56 Reels of four on the diagonal line.
- 57-60 All set and turn partner with right hand to original places and face corners.
- 61-64 All set to and turn corners with the left hand to finish with the ladies back to back in the centre facing their own partners.
- 65-80 Star chain once round, two steps to each hand:
To start all change places with partner, the men turning to face the next lady on their right with whom they then change places with the left hand, the ladies dancing in and turning to face the next man to their left; these four bars being repeated three times round the set.
- 81-84 Ladies give right hands across in a wheel, joining nearer hands with partners on the outside, men turning to the left to join hands with partner, and all dance half way round; on bar 84 men advance slightly as ladies dance out behind partner to join hands in a circle.
- 85-88 Eight hands round to the right in a circle half way, back to original places.

Recommended tune: Lord of the Dance

The Maids on the Green

A thirty-two bar Jig for three couples in a longwise set.

- 1-4 First couple turn with the right hand and cast off; second couple step up on bars 3 & 4.
- 5-8 First couple turn with the left hand to finish facing first corners.
- 9-12 First couple turn first corner with the right hand and partner with the left hand to finish facing the top.
- 13-16 First couple lead up between second couple and cast off (still on opposite side) to face second corners.
- 17-20 First couple turn second corners with the right hand and partner left hand to finish facing down.
- 21-24 First couple lead down between third couple and cast up into second place, still on opposite sides.
- 25-30 Six hands round to the left in a circle.
- 31-32 First couple cross back to own side giving right hand in passing.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: The Maids on the Green

Market Chorus

A thirty-two bar Reel for three couples in a longwise set.

- 1-4 First couple take a promenade hold, lady on the man's left, and pass second man by the right shoulder to dance a half reel of three with second and third man.
- 5-8 First lady completes the reel of three with the men whilst first man passes third lady by the right to dance half a reel of three with third and second ladies.
- 9-16 First couple again take a promenade hold, lady on the man's right, and complete the reel of three with third and second ladies.
- 13 - 16 First couple separate to dance half reels of three on own sides of the set, dancing up between third couple to commence.
- 17-24 First couple cross giving right hand and cast off into second place (third couple step up), cross giving left hand and cast off below second couple, then lead up to finish back to back in the centre of the set facing own side.
- 25-32 Third, first and second couples dance double triangles. Finish in the order 3, 1, 2.

Repeat from second place. At the end of the repeat, first couple finish double triangles in bottom place, with third couple stepping up, ready for the new top couple to start.

Recommended tune: Market Chorus

Menstrie Castle

A thirty-two bar Reel for three couples in a longwise set.

- 1-4 First lady dances down below second lady and then casts up behind second lady to finish between second couple facing down, second couple step up on bars 1 & 2. Meanwhile first man casts off below third couple to finish between third couple facing up.
- 5-8 All three couples join hands, facing up and down the set and advance and retire.
- 9-14 First couple pass their first corners by the right shoulder to dance reels of three across the set, lady with second couple and man with third couple.
- 15-16 First couple turn half way with the left hand to face third corner.
- 17-22 First couple pass their partner's first corner by the left shoulder to dance reels of three across the set, first man with second couple and first lady with third; first couple finish in second place on opposite sides.
- 23-24 First couple cross to own side giving right hand.
- 25-32 Six hands round to the left in a circle and back to the right.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: Menstrie Castle

Miss Judith Baillie of Dochfour

A thirty-two bar Reel for two couples in a longwise set.

- 1-8 First and second man dance a figure of eight round their partners, to start first man crosses in front of second man and casts behind second lady as second man casts behind first lady.
- 9-16 First and second ladies dance a figure of eight round their partners, first lady crossing in front of second lady to cast behind second man.
- 17-18 First and second ladies change places with right hand. First and second men do the same.
- 19-20 First and second couples cross giving left hand.
- 21-22 First and second ladies change places with right hand, first and second men do the same.
- 23-24 First and second couples dance right hands across in a wheel half way.
- 25-32 First and second couples dance rights and lefts.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: Miss Judith Baillie of Dochfour

Miss Rough of Longbank

A thirty-two bar Jig for two couples in a longwise set.

- 1-2 First man casts down and second lady casts up.
- 3-4 First man and second lady change places up and down the set giving right hands.
- 5-6 First man casts off behind his partner as second lady casts up behind her partner.
- 7-8 First and second ladies turn with the right hand, as do first and second men.
- 9-10 First lady casts down behind her partner as second man casts up behind his partner to face up and down.
- 11-12 First lady and second man change places giving left hand.
- 13-14 First lady casts down behind second lady as second man casts up behind first man.
- 15-16 Second and first couples cross to own side giving right hand in passing.
- 17-24 Four hands round to the left in a circle and back to the right.
- 25-32 Second and first couples dance rights and lefts.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: Miss Rough of Longbank

Muirhead Bobbie

A forty-eight bar Jig for three couples in a three couple set. First couple at the top facing down, second and third couples facing up, each man with his partner on his right, second couple have third couple on their right.

- 1-8 First man dances a reel of three with third couple, passing third lady by the left to start; whilst first lady dances a reel of three with second couple passing second man by the right to start. The reels are across the room in a straight line.
- 9-12 First man and third couple dance right hands across in a wheel; whilst first lady and second couple dance left hands across in a wheel: first couple cross (lady in front of her partner) to dance into the other wheel.
- 13-16 First man and second couple dance left hands across in a wheel as first lady and third couple dance right hands across: first couple cross back to original places at the end of the wheels.
- 17-24 First man and third couple dance a reel of three, third lady passing first man by the right to commence; whilst first lady and second couple dance a reel of three, second man passing first lady by the left to start. The reels are mirror reels up and down the room. Finish in original places.
- 25-28 Six hands round to the left in a circle.
- 29-32 Retaining partner's hand, the men swing in to dance left hands across in a wheel to place, the men finish back to back in the centre facing their partners.
- 33-40 The three couples dance a star grand chain, two steps to each hand:
To start all change places with partner, the men turning to face the next lady on their right with whom they then change places with the left hand, whilst the ladies dance in and turn to face the next man to their left; these four bars are repeated once more.
- 41-44 All set to new partner and turn with the right hand to finish with second lady and third man in first place, first lady and second man in third place, and third lady and first man in second place.
- 45-48 All set twice.

Repeat from new places with new partners.

Recommended tune: Muirhead Bobbie

Noo I Wear the Kilt

A forty bar Jig for three couples in a longwise set.

- 1-8 First man dances a figure of eight round second and third men, dancing in and down to start; whilst first lady dances a figure of eight round second couple crossing below second man (behind her partner) to start.
- 9-16 First lady dances a figure of eight round second and third ladies, whilst first man dances a figure of eight round second couple crossing behind first lady to start.
- 17-18 First man and second lady set to each other.
- 19-20 First man casts down (second man steps up) and second lady casts up (first lady stands still).
- 21-24 First man turns third lady with the right hand to finish in second lady's place, whilst second lady crosses above her partner and casts into second place on the men's side.
- 25-28 First lady and second man set and cast off, their partners step up on bars 27 & 28.
- 29-32 First and second couples dance four hands one and a quarter times round to the left in a circle to finish with first couple in second place on opposite sides and second couple in first place on own sides.
- 33-36 First couple dance a half figure of eight round third couple, crossing down to start.
- 37-40 All three couples turn partner once with the right hand.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: Noo I wear the Kilt

Old Man Dillon

A thirty-two bar Jig for three couples in longwise set.

- 1-4 Second lady casts down behind third lady, crosses and casts up into second place on the men's side, whilst first man crosses to second lady's place to follow her behind third lady and dances up into second lady's place; second man steps up on bars 1 & 2.
- 5-8 First man and second lady turn one and a half times with the right hand to own side of the set.
- 9-12 First man casts behind third man, crosses to opposite side end casts up into second lady's place, whilst first lady crosses to second man's place to follow her partner behind third man and dances up into second man's place; second lady steps up on bars 9 & 10.
- 13-16 First couple turn one and three quarter times with the left hand to finish facing their first corners.
- 17-22 First couple pass their first corners by the left shoulder to dance reels of three across the dance, lady with second couple and man with third couple, and finish in second place on own side.
- 23-24 First couple cross giving right hand to finish facing out.
- 25-30 First man casts down behind third lady, dances up between third couple, casts up behind second lady to finish between second couple. Meanwhile first lady casts up behind second man, dances down between second couple and casts down behind third man to finish between third couple.
- 31-32 First couple turn three quarters with the right hand to own side of the set.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: Old Man Dillon

Paddy Carey

A thirty-two bar Jig for three couples in a longwise set.

- 1-4 First and second ladies turn one and a half times with the right hand to change places, first and second men do the same.
- 5-8 Second and first couples turn with the left hand, second couple finish in first place on own side and first couple finish in the centre facing the men's side, lady on her partner's right.
- 9-12 First couple lead out between second and third men, lady casts up and man casts down.
- 13-16 First couple turn once with the right hand to face out on the lady's side, lady on her partner's left.
- 17-20 First couple lead out between the second and third ladies, lady casts up and man casts down.
- 21-24 First couple turn one and a quarter times with the right hand to second place on own side of the set.
- 25-32 Six hands round to the left in a circle and back to the right.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: Paddy Carey

Pavilion Medley

A thirty-two bar Strathspey, thirty-two bar Reel Medley for four couples in a longwise set.

Strathspey

- 1-8 Grand chain for four couples, one step to each hand.
- 9-12 First lady and second man set and change places giving right hand in passing; whilst third man and fourth lady do the same.
- 13-16 First and second couples dance four hands round to the left in a circle; third and fourth couples do the same; all finish facing own partner on the sides of the set.
- 17 All change places with partner giving right hand.
- 18-20 First and fourth men turn one and a half times with the left hand, second and third men do the same.
- 21-24 Half reel of four on the sides of the set.
- 25 Second man and third lady change places giving right hand, as do second lady and third man, first lady and fourth man and first man and fourth lady.
- 26-28 Second and third ladies turn one and a half times with the left hand whilst first and fourth ladies do the same.
- 29-32 Half reels of four on the sides of the set.

Reel

- 1-16 Repeat bars 17-32 of the Strathspey section.
- 17-20 First and second couples dance right hands across in a wheel; third and fourth couples do the same.
- 21-24 First man and second lady change places giving right hand in passing and set; third lady and fourth man do the same.
- 25-28 Second and third couples cross to own side giving right hand in passing and set. Meanwhile first and fourth couples dance half rights and lefts.
- 29-32 All turn partner once round with the right hand. Finish in the order 2, 4, 1, 3.

Repeat with new top couple.

Recommended tunes: Strathspey: Glen Caladh Castle; Reel: New Market House

Pig Town

A forty-eight bar Reel for four trios in a square set; each trio comprising a man with two ladies, one on either side of him.

- 1-8 Right shoulder reels of three, each man starts by passing the partner on his right.
- 9-16 Each man with his partners dances right hands across in a wheel and back with the left hand.
- 17-24 The four men dance right hands across in a wheel and back with the left hand. Meanwhile each lady turns her corner with the right hand and then turns the other lady on her own side of the set with the left hand.
- 25-32 Twelve hands round to the left in a circle, three quarters round (original second trio now in first place).
- 33-36 The men turn the lady on their right with the right hand, whilst the ladies on their left dance left hands across in a wheel.
- 37-40 The men turn the lady on their left with the left hand, whilst the ladies on their right dance right hands across in a wheel.
- 41-48 The men cast round behind their right hand partner's place to meet in the middle, pulling left shoulder back to then cast behind the next lady's place to finish having moved one quarter round the set (first man now between fourth ladies). Meanwhile the ladies join hands with corners and advance for two, join hand with side partner to retire for two and advance for two, then retire with corner partner.

Repeat with new partners, three times to original places.

Recommended tune: Pig Town

Port A'Bhodaich

A forty-eight bar Strathspey for five couples in a longwise set.

- 1-4 First and third couples cross giving right hands and cast down one place, second and fourth couples step up on bars 3 & 4.
- 5-6 All join hands on the sides and set.
- 7-8 All cross giving left hand to partner.
- 9-16 Second and first couples dance a ladies' chain, fourth and third couples do the same.
- 17-18 All join hands on the side and set.
- 19-20 All cross giving right hand in passing.
- 21-24 First and third couples set and turn three quarters with the right hand to finish facing up and down.
- 25-32 First and third couples dance a reel of four, at the end they continue to finish passing own partner by the right.
- 33-36 First lady and second couple dance right hands across in a wheel; first man, third lady and fourth couple do the same; third man and fifth couple also do the same.
- 37-40 First and third couples pass own partner by the right, first man dances left hands across in a wheel with second couple; first lady and third man dance the same; third lady and fifth couple also do the same; all finish on own side of the set.
- 41-44 First and third couples dance a half figure of eight round the couple above them, crossing up to commence.
- 45-48 First and third couples cross to own side and cast down one place, fourth and fifth couples step up on bars 47 & 48.
Finish in the order 2, 4, 1, 5, 3.

Repeat with new top couple and original first couple now in third place.

Recommended tune: Port A'Bhodaich

The Scuttle

A sixteen bar Strathspey, sixteen bar Reel Medley for three couples in a longwise set.

Strathspey

- 1-4 First couple cross giving right hand and cast off, second couple step up on bars 3 & 4.
- 5-6 First man turns third lady with the left hand, whilst first lady turns third man with the right hand.
- 7-8 First man turns second lady with the right hand, whilst first lady turns second man with the left hand.
- 9-16 First couple dance figures of eight on own side of the set, crossing down between third couple to start and finishing in second place on own side.

Reel

- 1-16 First couple dance a sixteen bar figure of eight round second and third places whilst second and third couples dance interrupted rights and lefts:
 - 1-2 first couple cross giving right hand, second and third couples do the same;
 - 3-4 first man casts down, first lady casts up, second and third couples set turning to face up and down on the sides;
 - 5-6 first couple cross straight over to own side whilst second and third couples change places on the sides giving left hand;
 - 7-8 first man casts up into second place, first lady casts down into second place; whilst second and third couples set turning to face own partner;
 - 9-10 first couple cross giving left hand whilst second and third couples cross giving right hand;
 - 11-12 first man casts up and first lady casts down, whilst second and third couples set turning to face up and down on the sides;
 - 13-14 first couple cross to own side whilst second and third couples change places giving left hand;
 - 15-16 first man casts into second place as does first lady. Meanwhile second and third couples set turning to face own partner.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: Strathspey: Miss Hutton; Reel: Miss Susan Cooper

Sheerhan's Reel

A forty-eight bar Reel for three couples in a longwise set.

- 1-8 First couple dance down the middle and back, to finish in first position facing out.
- 9-16 First couple cast off below third couple, cross giving right hand; cast up into second place and turn left hand three quarters to face first corners, second couple step up on bars 9 & 10.
- 17-24 Reels of three across the set, passing first corner by the left shoulder to start; first couple dance in at the end to finish back to back, first man facing the ladies' side of the set and first lady facing the men's side of the set.
- 25-32 Double triangles, first couple finish facing second corners.
- 33-40 Reels of three across the set, passing second corner by the right shoulder to start, first couple finish in second place on own side on bar 38 and set as second and third couples complete the reel.
- 41-48 Six hands round to the left in a circle and back to the right.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: Sheerhan's Reel

The Skillet

A sixty-four bar Strathspey, sixty-four bar Reel Medley for four couples in a square set.

Strathspey

- 1-4 First and third couples dance right hands across in a wheel, finishing between second and fourth couples in the centre of the set.
- 5-8 First man and third lady dance left hands across in a wheel with second couple whilst first lady and third man do the same with fourth couple.
- 9-12 Second and fourth couples cast away from own partners and dance in to meet in the centre of the set, then lead own partner out to original places.
Meanwhile, first man and third lady dance out behind second couple and cast to original place. Similarly, first lady and third man dance out behind fourth couple and cast to place.
- 13-14 First man and third lady cross giving right hand whilst first lady and third man do the same; second and fourth couples set.
- 15-16 Second and fourth couples lead into the middle and turn towards own partner to finish facing own place. Meanwhile first man casts into second man's place, first lady into fourth lady's place, third man into fourth man's place and third lady into second lady's place.
- 17-20 First man, third lady and second couple dance four hands round to the left in a circle; first lady, third man and fourth couple do the same.
- 21-24 First couple cast into third place, turning half way with the left hand as they pass; third couple cast into first place and turn half way with the left hand. Meanwhile second and fourth couples lead out to their original places and set.
- 25-28 All turn corners with the right hand.
- 29-32 All turn partners with the left hand. All now back in square formation, first and third couples having changed places.
- 33-64 Repeat the first 32 bars, with second and fourth couples leading, supported by first and third couples.
All finish back in square formation, second and fourth couples also having changed places.

Reel

- 1-64 Repeat Strathspey section now in Reel time, to finish back in original places.

Recommended tunes: Strathspey: Alex Heard; Reel: Angus Campbell

T. A. Norris

A forty-eight bar Jig for three couples in a longwise set.

- 1-4 First couple take a promenade hold (lady on her partner's left), dance down between second couple and then around third lady, giving right shoulder, to finish below third couple, facing up the centre of the set.
- 5-8 First couple lead up between third couple, divide and cast up to top place on opposite side of the set.
- 9-12 First couple take a promenade hold and dance down between second couple, out behind third man and in to finish facing the top.
- 13-16 First couple lead up between third couple, separate and cast up to first place on own side of the set.
- 17-24 First and second couples dance rights and lefts.
- 25-32 First couple cross giving right hand, cast off below third couple; cross giving left hand and cast up into second place; second couple step up on bars 27 & 28.
- 33-40 First couple pass their first corners by the left shoulder to dance reels of three across the set, lady with second couple and man with third couple.
- 41-48 First couple pass their second corners by the right shoulder to dance reels of three across the set, lady with third couple and man with second couple.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: T. A. Norris

To Dance To

A forty-eight bar Reel for three couples in a longwise set.

- 1-8 First lady dances a figure of eight on own side of the set, passing second lady by the left shoulder to start: first man chases his partner down behind third lady, crosses up between third couple and casts up behind second man to place.
- 9-16 First man dances a figure of eight on own side of the set, passing second man by the right shoulder to start: first lady chases first man down behind third man, crosses up between third couple and casts up behind second lady to place.
- 17-20 First and second couples dance right hands across in a wheel half way and set.
- 21-24 First and third couples dance left hands across in a wheel half way and set.
- 25-26 All three couples cross giving right hand to partner, first couple remain facing out.
- 27-28 First couple cast up behind third couple, third couple step down.
- 29-32 First couple turn with the left hand to finish facing their first corners.
- 33-40 Dancing couple turn first corners with the right hand, partner with the left hand; second corners with the right hand and partner with the left hand to finish facing their first corners.
- 41-46 First couple dance reels of three on opposite sides, passing their first corners by the left shoulder to start.
- 47-48 First couple cross back to own side giving right hand in passing.

Recommended tune: To Dance To

Editor's note to the 2023 edition

Bars 27-28 have been modified to remove an additional set for the second and third couples, due to the need for the third couple to step down. The original instructions were:

- 27-28 First couple cast up behind third couple, whilst second and third couples set.

Tune Up Your Fiddles

A thirty-two bar Strathspey for four couples in a longwise set.

- 1-2 First and third couples cross giving right hands.
- 3-8 All four couples join hands on the side and set, cross giving right hands and set.
- 9-16 First and second couples dance a ladies' chain, third and fourth couples do the same to finish all facing up or down on the side lines.
- 17-24 Reels of four on the sides, first and seconds pass left shoulder to start as do third and fourths.
- 25-28 First couple, followed by second couple lead down to fourth place; second couple dance up the sides to start. Meanwhile fourth couple followed by third couple, who dance down to follow, cast up to the top.
- 29-32 First and third couples make arches: second couple dance down under arch made by first couple, cross to own side and cast up to first place. Meanwhile fourth couple lead down under the arch made by third couple and turn one and a half times to own side with the right hand.

Repeat with new top couple.

Recommended tune: Tune your Fiddles

Vera Hughes' Fancy

A thirty-two bar Reel for trios of one men and two ladies in a circle round the room: ladies facing clockwise and men facing anticlockwise so that the men are facing their partners.

- 1-4 First man sets to his right hand partner and changes places with her giving right hand.
- 5-8 The two ladies set and change places giving left hand.
- 9-12 The original left hand lady and the man set and change places giving right hand, retaining right hand the man joins left hand with the other lady.
- 13-16 All set twice.
- 17-24 All dance right hands across in a wheel and back with the left hand.
- 25-30 Reel of three, the man passing the lady on his right by the right shoulder to commence, at the end ladies join nearer hand to make an arch.
- 31-32 All advance, men dancing under arch.

Repeat with new partners.

Recommended tune: Vera Hughes' Fancy

The Wicker Chair

A sixty-four bar Strathspey, sixty-four bar Reel Medley for four couples in a square set.

Strathspey

- 1-2 First and third couples advance whilst second and fourth face own partner.
- 3-4 Joining hands in lines of four all retire.
- 5-8 First man and third lady turn with left hand to finish between second couple, whilst first lady and third man turn left hand to finish between fourth couple.
- 9-16 Reels of four on the sides, finish in lines facing across with nearer hands joined.
- 17-24 All set, dance back to back with opposite person and set.
- 25-26 All turn corner with right hand to original place.
- 27-32 Six hands round to the left in a circle three quarters round.
- 33-64 Repeat with new first and third couples leading.

Reel

- 1-64 Repeat Strathspey section now in Reel time to finish in original places.

Recommended tunes: Strathspey: Tulchen Lodge; Reel: Kemnay House

Willie Cook

A thirty-two bar Strathspey for four couples in a longwise set.

- 1-4 All cross giving right hand in passing and set.
- 5-8 First and second couples dance half rights and lefts, third and fourth couples do the same. First couple finish in third place, first lady facing out, and fourth couple finish in second place, fourth man facing out.
- 9-16 Reels of four on the sides of the set.
- 17-24 Grand chain, to start second and fourth couples give right hands on the side as do third and first couples.
- 25-32 Eight hands round to the left in a circle and back to the right. Finish in the order 2, 4, 1, 3.

Repeat with new top couple.

Recommended tune: Willie Cook

Willie Maclean of Aulthea

A thirty-two bar Jig for three couples in a longwise set.

- 1-4 First couple cross giving right hand and cast into second place, second couple step up on bars 3 & 4.
- 5-8 First man dances a half figure of eight round third couple whilst first lady does the same round second couple, passing left shoulders to finish facing first corners.
- 9-12 Half reel of four with first corners.
- 13-16 Half reel of four with second corners, to face first corner people (in third corner positions).
- 17-20 Turn first corners by the right hand and pass right shoulder to face second corner people (in fourth corner positions).
- 21-24 Turn second corners by the right hand to finish on opposite side, facing out, taking promenade hold with first corner people.
- 25-28 The two couples promenade round clockwise half way to return first corners to place.
- 29-32 First couple pick up second corner people on their left in a promenade hold and promenade round clockwise half way to return second corners to place. First couple finish in second place own side.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: Willie Maclean of Aulthea

Wood's Hornpipe

A thirty-two bar Hornpipe for three couples in a longwise set.

- 1-4 First and second couple dance half rights and lefts.
- 5-8 First couple, followed by second couple, lead down the middle.
- 9-12 Second couple followed by first couple lead up the middle, second couple cross to first place on own side on bars 11 & 12.
- 13-14 Second couple cast into second place as first couple cross to first place on own side facing out.
- 15-16 First and second men turn half way with left hand to change places, whilst first and second ladies turn half way with right hand to change places.
- 17-24 First couple dance reels of three on opposite side with second and third couples, crossing below third couple to start, second couple casting to to start.
- 25-32 First couple again cross below third couple to dance reels of three on own side of the set.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: Wood's Hornpipe

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