

# The Whetherly Book of Scottish Country Dances

## Number 6

By John W. Mitchell

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## **Original Introduction**

The dances in this collection vary from the simple to the nearly impossible. One or two were designed specifically for the introduction of new concepts to beginner's classes and others for demonstration teams to perform. As is usual the instructions are far more complex than the dances, which may give the impression that they were designed for teachers who never stop talking. This is not true as most of them are intended for dancers in a long, wise set, pun intended. Slightly over half the dances are Strathspeys, not so much because there is a shortage of Strathspeys as because some of them would be impossible in any other tempo. As regular readers will realise this book forms part of the continuing saga developed through books four and five, and continuing into book seven, the dances having been devised over a period of two years and sorted alphabetically. There are one or two late late inserts, but more to come in our next issue folks.

*John W. Mitchell (1980)*

## **Introduction to the new edition**

Which dances are simple and which are nearly impossible I leave you to find out, either on reading the instructions or, at the latest, on attempting to dance them. A trademark of many of John's dances is that they are a lot easier if you have long legs. Fortunately, I seem to have inherited his height, and have noticed myself that some of his dances are considerably easier for me than for my fellow dancers. If he says that a dance would be impossible in any tempo other than Strathspey, it might be worth imposing a minimum height requirement on your set before even attempting it. You have been warned. Although the majority of the dances are named after the recommended tune, there are one or two exceptions for which some thought went behind the name. There is one dance in this book for which the name does not match the tune: "Miss Dheirdre Brown" to the tune "Miss Brown's Reel". Miss Dheirdre Brown is my mother's maiden name; with traditional Gaelic spelling. If it wasn't for her insistence that my name must be easier to spell than hers, John would have called me "Aisling" (pronounced Ash-ling), so I think I escaped lightly with only the number of l's to contend with.

*Alison M. W. Mitchell (2020)*

## **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.



## **Lady Madelaine Sinclair**

A thirty-two bar progressive Strathspey for four trios, each comprising a man and two ladies in a square set.

- 1-4        The four men dance right hands across in a wheel once round.
- 5-8        Each man dances left hands across in a wheel with the two ladies on his own side of the set. The men finish in the middle of the set facing out to their own side, their original right hand partners finish facing in and their left hand partners facing out.
- 9-16       The men set for eight bars whilst the ladies dance half an inverted Schiehallion Reel round the men to finish on opposite side of the set. The men should use a Highland setting step.
- 17-18      All set, the men turning to finish facing in, between the two ladies now on their side of the set.
- 19-22      Twelve hands round to the left in a circle half way.
- 23-24      All set opening out to the sidelines, ladies in their original places and men on the opposite sides.
- 25-30      Reels of three on the sides, the men passing the lady on their left by the left shoulder to commence.
- 31-32      The men advance one place clockwise round the square, dancing diagonally across the corner. (Thus first man finishes in fourth place).

Repeat from new places, the men having changed partners.

Recommended tune: Lady Madelaine Sinclair

## **Lady Mary Ramsay**

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

- 1-8 First man casts behind second man on bars 1-4, crosses over to the ladies' side and casts up to finish in his partner's place. Meanwhile second lady casts up on bars 1-4, crosses over to the men's side and casts off to finish in her partner's place. On bars 5-8 first lady and second man dance back to back, but finish with first lady in second place and second man in first place, both on their own sides.
- 9-16 Repeat bars 1-8, first lady following second lady's track and second man following first man's track, whilst on bars 13-16 their partners dance back to back to finish with first man in second lady's place and second lady in first man's place.
- 17-20 First and second couples set and cross over giving right hand in passing.
- 21-24 First and second couples dance back to back with their partners.
- 25-32 First and second couples dance rights and lefts.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: Lady Mary Ramsay

### *Editor's note to the 2020 edition*

The phrasing given in bars 1-8 wasn't specified in the original, a cast in four bars is suggested.

## **Leveneep Head**

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

- 1-6 Third couple cast off (without passing behind fourth place) meet and dance up nearer hands joined to first place on own side. Second couple cast to follow third couple up to second place and first couple cast to follow second couple and finish in third place.
- 7-8 All three couples join hands on the sides and set.
- 9-14 Repeat bars 1-6, all three couples casting off to follow first couple up the middle to original places.
- 15-16 All three couples join hands on the sides and set.
- 17-18 First man and second lady cross with the left hand to change places.
- 19-22 First couple dance a half figure of eight round second couple, crossing between second couple to commence and finishing on the ladies' side with first man in first place.
- 23-24 Four hands round to the left, a quarter round to finish with second couple in first place on own side and first couple in second place on opposite side.
- 25-32 First and second couples dance a ladies' chain.
- 33-40 Reels of three on the sides, first couple (on opposite sides) pass third couple by the right shoulder to commence.
- 41-48 First couple lead down the middle for four steps, with nearer hand; they turn to come up, the lady dancing under an arch made by their raised hands as the man dances round her to come up on own side and finish in second place.

Repeat from second place, on the repeat finish by leading up to the foot of the set, third couple stepping up on bars 43 & 44.

Recommended tune: Leveneep Head

### *Editor's note to the 2020 edition*

In the original instructions bars 17-18 were missing, whilst bars 23-24 were double counted. This led to dance instructions that would be two bars too long between bars 17-24. Bars 17-18 have been altered to a simple cross with the left hand - the original instructions are reproduced below.

- 17-20 First man casts off behind second man and crosses towards second lady's place, second lady crossing to first man's place.

## **The Lighted Ha'**

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

- 1-8 First couple lead down the middle and up to place.
- 9-16 First couple cross over giving right hand and cast off into second place (second couple stepping up on bars 3 & 4) cross over giving left hand and cast off behind third couple, then lead up to second place taking a promenade hold.
- 17-20 First couple in a promenade hold dance a half a reel of three with second and third lady passing second lady by the left shoulder to commence.
- 21-24 First couple, still in a promenade hold dance a half a reel of three with second and third man passing third man by the left shoulder to commence. First couple separate to finish in second place on own side.
- 25-32 Third, first and second couples dance a knot. First couple finish facing first corners.
- 33-40 First couple turn their first corners by the right hand, partner with the left hand, second corners with the right hand and cross back to own side giving left hand to partner.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: The Lighted Ha'



## **Lochaber Gathering**

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

- 1-8 Reels of three with nearer hands joined. To commence, first couple dance in and down passing under an arch made by second couple, then third couple dance up under an arch made by first couple. At the ends dancers turn towards their partners to change hands.
- 9-10 Third couple dance up to the top with nearer hands joined, to finish above first couple facing out at the sides.
- 11-12 First and third couples give nearer hands turning to commence a cast off, with third couple leading; second couple step up. Finish with first couple in second place and third couple in original places.
- 13-16 Second, first and third couples advance and retire.
- 17-24 First couple cross over giving right hand in passing, cast off behind third couple, lead up to the top crossing back to own side and cast off into second place.
- 25-30 Grand chain for three couples.
- 31-32 All turn partner with the right hand.

Repeat from second place, at the end of the repeat first couple cast to the foot of the set whilst the other couples are turning with the right hand.

Recommended tune: Lochaber Gathering

### *Editor's note to the 2020 edition*

The description of bars 9-10 has been simplified, as the movement of first couple is minimal.

Correspondingly, the description of the cast in bars 11-12 has been expanded. The original description of bars 9-10 is as follows.

- 9-10 Third couple dance up to the top with nearer hand joined, then turn first couple with nearer hand to finish facing out at the sides, third couple above first couple still with nearer hands joined.

## **Lass O' Gowrie**

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

- 1-2 First and second couples face up and down the set. The ladies join both hands, all dance across to the opposite side of the set with four slip steps, the ladies passing in front of their partners.
- 3-4 First and second couples set.
- 5-6 First and second couples slip back to own side, the ladies again pass in front of their partners.
- 7-8 First and second couples set.
- 9-14 Third couple cast off (to meet above fourth place) and lead up to first place, second couple cast off to follow third couple up to second place, first couple cast to finish in third place.
- 15-16 All set.
- 17-18 First couple dance up the middle with nearer hands joined and turn third couple to face out with nearer hand: to finish first couple above third couple all facing out.
- 19-20 First and third couples cast off, second couple step up, to finish with first couple in third place.
- 21-24 All join nearer hands and advance and retire.
- 25-32 First couple lead up between third couple crossing over to the opposite side and cast up to the top; lead down between second and third couples crossing back to own side and cast up into second place, third couple step down on bars 31 & 32.

Repeat from second place, at the end cross back to own side above third couple and cast off to the foot of the set.

Recommended tune: Lass O' Gowrie

## **Lord Wellington**

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

- 1-4 First couple turn with the right hand and cast off into second place, second couple step up on bars 3 & 4.
- 5-8 First lady dances up between second couple, crossing over, and casts off into second place on opposite side whilst first man dances down between third couple crossing over and casts up into second place on the opposite side.
- 9-12 First couple turn partner with the left hand and first corner with the right hand to finish facing their second corners.
- 13-20 First couple dance reels of three on the sides with their corners passing their second corner by the left shoulder to commence.
- 21-24 First couple turn their second corners with the left hand and partner with the right hand to finish in second place on own side.
- 25-32 Six hands round in a circle to the left and back to the right.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: Lord Wellington

## **Loudon's Bonnie Woods**

A thirty-two bar Strathspey for trios, each comprising a man between two ladies in a circle round the room, the trios facing alternately clockwise and anticlockwise.

- 1-2 All join nearer hands and set with Highland Schottische step right foot.
- 3-4 Change places with the person facing, giving left hands, using two travelling steps left foot and right foot. Remaining in the same direction with backs to the persons with whom each has changed places.
- 5-6 All join nearer hands end set with Highland Schottische step left foot.
- 7-8 Change places with the person facing giving right hands. Again remain facing in the same direction.
- 9-14 Reels of three, with own partners, each man passing his left hand partner by the right shoulder to commence.
- 15-16 Each man casts behind his left hand partner to finish facing the opposite man's right hand partner.
- 17-22 Reels of three with opposite man's right hand partner and own left hand partner, passing the opposite man's right hand partner by the left shoulder to commence.
- 23-24 Each man dances into the opposite man's place to change partners.
- 25-28 Six hands across in a wheel with the right hands once round, at the end release right hands but continue in the same direction ready for:
- 29-32 Left hands across in a wheel with the trio on the left, i.e. the trio backing on to your set. Finish opening out to face the trio with whom the left hand wheel was danced. Thus the men continue facing in the same direction as originally with their new partners, the ladies having changed partners and direction.

Repeat from new places.

Recommended tune: Loudon's Bonnie Woods

## **Lucky Scaup**

A three hundred and twenty bar Reel for four couples in a square set.

- 1-8 Eight hands round in a circle to the left and back to the right.
- 9-16 All set twice and turn partner with two hands.
- 17-36 The four ladies dance petronella round the inside of the set.

### ***Ladies' figure***

- 1-4 First couple turn one and a half times with the right hand.
- 5-8 First lady turns second man with the left hand and partner with the right hand.
- 9-12 First lady turns third man with the left hand and partner with the right hand.
- 13-16 First lady turns fourth man with the left hand and partner with the right hand to place.
- 17-20 The four ladies dance left hands across in a wheel half way and turn the opposite man with the right hand to finish in the opposite lady's place.
- 21-24 Half a grand chain, one step to each hand.
- 25-32 Repeat bars 17-24 to return to place.

This figure is repeated by second, third and fourth ladies in turn, each turning own partner, then the men in sequence moving clockwise round the set on the first sixteen bars.

### ***Men's figure***

- 1-4 First couple turn one and a half times with the right hand.
- 5-8 First man turns fourth lady with the left hand and partner with the right hand.
- 9-12 First man turns third lady with the left hand and partner with the right hand.
- 13-16 First man turns second lady with the left hand and partner with the right hand to place.
- 17-20 Men dance left hands across in a wheel half way and turn the opposite lady with the right hand to finish in the opposite man's place.
- 21-24 Half a grand chain, one step to each hand.
- 25-32 Repeat bars 17-24 back to place.

This figure is repeated by second, third and fourth men in turn, each turning own partner then each lady in turn moving anticlockwise round the set on the first sixteen bars.

- 1-16 The four men dance petronella round the inside of the set.
- 17-24 All set twice and turn partner with two hands.
- 25-32 Eight hands round in a circle to the left and back to the right.

Recommended tune: Lucky Scaup

## **Manchester Caledonians**

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

- 1-4 First and second couples dance half rights and lefts.
- 5-8 Four hands round to the left in a circle.
- 9-12 First and second couples dance half rights and lefts.
- 13-16 Four hands round to the right in a circle.
- 17-24 First man and second lady change places giving right hand in passing, they cross back to own side; first man casts up to place as second lady casts off to place and they then set to each other. At the same time first lady and second man set to each other and change places giving left hand in passing; they cross back to own side, then first lady casts up to place and second man casts off to place.
- 25-28 First and second couples cross over giving right hand in passing and set on the sides.
- 29-32 First and second couples dance right hands across in a wheel half way and set.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: Manchester Caledonians

## **The Man from Skye**

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

- 1-8 First couple turn with the right hand one and a half times; cast off into second place on opposite side and turn with the left hand to face their first corners.
- 9-14 First man dances a reel of three with third couple, passing left shoulder with third lady to commence. Meanwhile first lady dances a reel of three with second couple passing second man by the left shoulder to commence.
- 15-16 First couple turn with the left hand to face their second corners.
- 17-24 Corners pass and turn, first couple finish facing their first corners.
- 25-30 First couple dance reels of three with their corners, passing their first corners by the left shoulder to commence.
- 31-32 First couple cross back to own side giving right hand in passing.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: The Man From Skye

## **Margaret Cook's Fancy**

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

- 1-4 First couple turn with the right hand and cast off into second place on own side, second couple step up on bars 3 & 4.
- 5-8 First man dances a half figure of eight round second couple (crossing up to commence) whilst first lady dances a half figure of eight round third couple (crossing down to commence).
- 9-14 First couple dance a figure of eight round their corners, passing first corner by the left shoulder to commence.
- 15-16 First couple turn with the left hand to face their first corners.
- 17-20 First couple turn their first corners with the right hand, and then join left hand with second corners.
- 21-24 All set twice in triangle formation, pas de basque coupé.
- 25-28 First couple turn their second corners with the left hand, and then join right hands with first corners.
- 29-32 All set twice in triangle formation, pas de basque coupé.
- 33-40 Second and third couples dance rights and lefts, at the same time first couple cast clockwise round their first corner position and turn right hand to second place on own side.
- 41-48 Six hands round to the left in a circle and back to the right.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: Margaret Cook's Fancy



## **Merry Boys of Greenland**

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

- 1-8 First couple cross over giving right hand in passing and cast off into second place (second couple step up on bars 3 & 4); first couple cross down to third place on own side (third couple step up on bars 5 & 6), then first couple cast off into fourth place (fourth couple step up on bars 7 & 8).
- 9-16 Second and third couples dance right hands across in a wheel and back with the left hands; fourth and first couples do the same.
- 17-24 Second, third and fourth couples join both hands with partner to make arches. First lady casts up to the top on own side and dances down under the arches to fourth place whilst first man dances up to the top under the arches and casts off to fourth place.
- 25-32 First lady now dances up to the top under the arches and casts off to fourth place whilst first man casts up to the top and dances down under the arches to fourth place.

Repeat with new top couple.

Recommended tune: Merry Boys of Greenland

## **Milladen**

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

- 1-8 First, second and third couples dance a grand chain.
- 9-16 First couple lead down the middle (second couple step up on bars 11 & 12), on bar 12 they pull left shoulder back (retaining right hand) and join hands into allemande hold. They dance up for two steps, then turn left hand to face second corner.
- 17-24 Corners pass and turn with second and third corners, first couple finish in second place on opposite sides.
- 25-26 Six hands round to the left in a circle half way.
- 27-28 Each man turns the lady on his left with both hands.
- 29-30 Six hands round to the left in a circle half way.
- 31-32 First couple cross over to second place on own side giving right hand in passing.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: Milladen

### *Editor's note to the 2020 edition*

When a new top couple starts, third couple has to start into the grand chain from fourth place. Former dancing couple may continue to dance, casting to the foot on bars 1 & 2.

"Milladen" seems to refer to "Milladen Mill", a still existing company fabricating wool/fabric in Aberdeenshire.

## **Miss Ada Crawford**

A sixty-four bar Strathspey for three couples in a triangular set, each man with his partner on his right. First couple are at the top facing down, second couple on the ladies' side and third couple on the men's side both facing diagonally up.

- 1-4        The men dance right hands across in wheel.
- 5-8        All turn partner one and a half times with the left hand.
- 9-12      The ladies dance right hands across in a wheel.
- 13-16     All turn partner one and three quarters with the left hand to finish in original places with the men facing out and the ladies facing in.
- 17-28     Inverted triangular Schiehallion Reel: first lady crosses to second man's place, second lady to third man's place and third lady to first man's place, all passing by the right shoulder to commence. Meanwhile the men cast into their partners places. These two bars are repeated by the ladies casting and the men crossing to follow this track back to original places.
- 29-32     All set to partner with Highland Schottische step.
- 33-36     First man and second couple dance left hands across in a wheel whilst first lady and third couple dance right hands across in a wheel, one and a third.
- 37-40     First couple lead down the middle, followed by third man with second lady and second man with third lady.
- 41-44     First couple cast up to commence half reels of three on the sides, first man on the ladies' side with second couple and first lady on the men's side with third couple.
- 45-48     First couple lead up the middle to place, followed by third man and second lady and second man and third lady.
- 49-52     Second and third couples dance a half a ladies' chain.
- 53-56     First and third couples dance a half a ladies' chain. The men are now in their original places, but the ladies are now on their partner's left.
- 57-64     Grand chain, two steps to each hand. Finish in triangle formation with original first couple in third place, third couple in second place and second couple in first place.

Repeat with new top couple.

Recommended tune: Miss Ada Crawford

## **Miss Barbara Cunningham**

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

- 1-4 First and third couples set and cross over giving right hands in passing.
- 5-8 First man set to and turn second lady with the left hand, first lady and second man do the same as do also third lady and fourth man and third man and fourth lady.
- 9-16 Grand chain one step to each hand, first and fourth couples give right hands to partner to commence whilst third and second couples change places on the sides. Finish by opening out into a square formation, first couple facing down, fourth couple facing up. Second lady and third man form a couple in the square formation, as do second man and third lady.
- 17-24 The men dance right hands across in a wheel and back with the left hand.
- 25-40 Inverted Schiehallion reels, the ladies cross whilst the men cast anticlockwise to follow them.
- 41-48 The ladies dance right hands across in a wheel and back with the left hand.
- 49-56 The ladies dance right hands across in a wheel half way and turn the opposite man with the left hand; this is repeated back to place.
- 57-60 First and fourth couples dance half rights and lefts.
- 61-64 Second and third couples do the same.
- 65-68 All now are back in a longwise set in the order 4, 3, 2,1 with fourth and second couples on opposite sides. Fourth, third and second couples dance half reels of three on the sides, fourth and third couples passing by the right to commence.
- 69-72 Second and fourth couples turn with the right hand one and a half times to own sides.

Repeat with new top couple.

Recommended tune: Miss Barbara Cunningham

## **Miss Clementine Loughan**

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

- 1-8 First, second and third lady join nearer hands and with sixteen slip steps dance round their partners in an anticlockwise direction.
- 9-16 First, second and third men join nearer hands and with sixteen slip steps dance round their partners in a clockwise direction.
- 17-24 Quern for three couples\*: All three couples turn partner with the right hand once round (three steps) then dance six hands across in a wheel half way with the right hand (three steps) and cross back to own side giving right hand in crossing (two steps).
- 25-28 All three couples cross over with the right hand; third and second couples change places with the left hand on the side lines.
- 29-32 All three couples cross over with the right hand; third and first couples change places with the left hand on the side lines.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: Miss Clementine Loughan

\* A list of all new figures introduced in Whetherly books & sheets, together with a reference to the book where the figure first appeared and is best described, can be found in a separate file called "Whetherly Collection of New Figures" also available for download.

### *Editor's note to the 2020 edition*

The original description would have led to a shift of the entire set down the hall. A revision retaining the flow of the original movement has been made to the above description. The original description is as follows:

- 25-32 Second and first couples dance rights and lefts. Meanwhile third couple casts off into second place, crosses over giving right hand, casts off into third place and crosses back to own side giving left hand.

## **Miss Dheirdre Brown**

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

- 1-4 First couple dance a half figure of eight round second couple, crossing down to commence.
- 5-8 First couple cross over giving right hand in passing and cast off into second place, second couple step up on bars 7 & 8.
- 9-12 First couple cross over giving left hand in passing and turn first corners with the right hand to finish facing up and down the set.
- 13-16 First couple change places giving left hands in passing and turn second corners with the right hand three quarters to finish in second place on opposite side.
- 17-20 First couple cross over giving left hand in passing and turn partner's first corner with the right hand to finish facing up and down the set.
- 21-24 First couple change places giving left hand in passing and turn partner's second corner with the right hand to finish in second place on own sides.
- 25-32 Six hands round in a circle to the left and back to the right.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: Miss Brown's Reel

### *Editor's note to the 2020 edition*

In most cases, the name of the dance matches the name of the recommended tune. Here, an exception is made for Miss Dheirdre Brown - who would become John Mitchell's wife and my mother in due course.

## **Miss Dickson's Reel**

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

- 1-4 First couple cross over giving right hand in passing and cast off into second place, second couple step up on bars 3 & 4.
- 5-8 First and second couples join nearer hands and advance and retire.
- 9-16 First and second couples dance a ladies' chain.
- 17-20 First and second couples advance and retire.
- 21-24 First couple set and turn with the left hand to face their first corners.
- 25-32 First 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 out between second and third ladies. First lady is on first man's right, left hand in left hand.
- 33-38 First man dances a figure of eight round second couple whilst first lady dances a figure of eight round third couple, commencing by leading out between the ladies and finishing facing up and down.
- 39-40 First couple turn three quarters with the right hand to second place on own side of the set.
- 41-48 Six hands round in a circle to the left and back to the right.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: Miss Dickson's Reel

## **Miss Doreen Lambert**

A forty bar Strathspey for two couples in a circle round the room, first couple facing clockwise and second couple facing anticlockwise.

- 1-8 First and second couples dance a ladies' chain.
- 9-12 First and second couples dance half rights and lefts.
- 13-16 First and second couples dance right hands across in a wheel once round.
- 17-24 First and second couples dance four hands round in a circle to the left and back to the right.
- 25-28 First and second couples dance left hands across in a wheel once round to finish facing own partner.
- 29-32 First and second couples dance half rights and lefts.
- 33-40 First and second couples dance the knot:
  - 33-34 turn partner with the right hand half way into an allemande hold, first couple facing anticlockwise and second couple facing clockwise round the circle;
  - 35-36 each couple promenades anticlockwise, in allemande hold, second couple dancing to first man's place round the outside of the circle, whilst first couple dance round the inside of the circle to second man's place:
  - 37-40 releasing right hand, turn with the left hand half way round to finish with first couple facing clockwise and second couple facing anticlockwise. Each couple has their backs to the couple they have just danced with and is facing new couple.

Repeat from new places.

Recommended tune: Miss Doreen Lambert



## **Miss E. Lyall**

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

- 1-4 First couple dance a half figure of eight round second couple, crossing down to commence and finishing in first place on opposite sides.
- 5-8 First and second couples dance half rights and lefts.
- 9-16 First and second couples dance a ladies' chain up and down the set.
- 17-18 First couple cast up into top place, second couple step down and face out.
- 19-20 First lady and second man change places with the left hand whilst first man and second lady change places with the right hand.
- 21-22 First and second couples cross over giving right hand in passing.
- 23-24 First and second couples set.
- 25-32 First couple dance eight bars of petronella to return to own side, in second place.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: Miss E. Lyall

## **Miss French of Tayside**

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

- 1-4 First couple lead down between second couple and cast behind third couple into fourth place, whilst fourth couple lead up between third couple and cast up behind second couple into first place. The first couple taking precedence on bar 3. Meanwhile second couple cast up into first place and cross over into second place on opposite sides and third couple cast off into fourth place and cross over into third place on opposite sides.
- 5-8 Second and fourth couples dance a half a double figure of eight, second couple cast up to commence, whilst third and first couples do the same, third couple casting off to commence.
- 9-16 Repeat bars 1-8 to return to original places, first couple dancing up and fourth couple dancing down on bars 9-12 following each other's track from bars 1-4. Then half double figures of eight at the ends.
- 17-24 First and second couples dance an allemande to change places, third and fourth couples do the same. On bars 7 & 8, first and fourth couples turn partner with both hands to form a diagonal line in the centre of the set, whilst second and third couples retire to the sidelines.
- 25-28 First and fourth couples change places with a half poussette. Order now is 2, 4, 1, 3.
- 29-32 All join hands on the sides and set with Highland Schottische step.

Repeat with new top couple.

Recommended tune: Miss French of Tayside

## **Miss Knowles**

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

- 1-4 First couple cross over giving right hand in passing and cast off into second place, second couple step up on bars 3 & 4.
- 5-8 First couple turn partner with the left hand and first corner with the right hand to finish facing second corners.
- 9-16 Reels of three with corners, passing second corner by the left shoulder to commence.
- 17-20 Turn second corner with the left hand and partner with the right hand to finish facing opposite side in the centre of the set.
- 21-24 First man dances left hands across with second couple whilst first lady dances left hands across with third couple.
- 25-28 First man dances right hands across with third couple whilst first lady dances right hands across with second couple, passing left shoulder to commence.
- 29-32 First couple turn with the left hand to second place on own side of the set and then set to partner.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: Miss Knowles

### *Editor's note to the 2020 edition*

The original description had a right shoulder pass which might be too challenging to commence the following figure.

- 25-28 First man dances right hands across with third couple whilst first lady dances right hands across with second couple, passing right shoulder to commence.

## **Miss Maria Stewart's Jig**

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

- 1-4 First couple turn with the right hand and cast off into second place, second couple step up on bars 3 & 4.
- 5-8 First couple turn one and a half times with the left hand to face their second corners.
- 9-12 First couple turn second corners with the right hand to finish facing their first corners.
- 13-16 First couple dance a half reel of three with their corners, passing their first corners by the left shoulder to commence.
- 17-20 First couple turn their first corners (now in second corner position) once round with the right hand.
- 21-24 First couple dance a half reel of three with their corners passing their second corners by the left shoulder to commence, finish in second place on opposite sides.
- 25-26 First lady dances a petronella turn to third lady's place, second lady dances a petronella turn to second man's place and third lady casts up to first place on the ladies' side. Meanwhile the men set.
- 27-28 The ladies set. Meanwhile the men dance a similar petronella triangle, second man casting to third man's place, third man dancing a petronella turn to second lady's place and first man dancing a petronella turn to top place on the men's side.
- 29-32 Repeat bars 25-28 from new positions, following the same tracks.
- 33-36 Repeat bars 25-28 from new positions, following the same tracks.
- 37-40 First couple cross back to second place on own side giving right hand in passing and set.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: Miss Maria Stewart's Jig

### *Editor's note to the 2020 edition*

The "casting" movements in the triangular formation from bars 25-36 are suggested to be danced the quick way, directly into the new places, rather than a long "casting" turn while setting.

## **Miss Monaghan's Reel**

A thirty-two bar Reel for two couples in a circle round the room, first couple facing clockwise and second couple facing anticlockwise.

- 1-8 First and second couples dance a ladies' chain.
- 9-16 First and second couples dance rights and lefts.
- 17-20 First and second couples dance right hands across in a wheel once round.
- 21-24 Half reel progression: everybody passes the person opposite by the right shoulder, the next person by the left shoulder and the following person by the right shoulder: to finish having passed three couples and facing fourth couple round the circle.
- 25-28 Left hands across in a wheel with new opposites.
- 29-32 Back to back with own partner.

Repeat from new places.

Recommended tune: Miss Monaghan's Reel

## **Miss Thompson's Reel**

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

- 1-2 First and third couples cross over to second and fourth place on opposite side to face out, second and fourth couples step up.
- 3-4 All join hands on the sides and balance in line.
- 5-6 First and third couples turn their first corners once round with the right hand.
- 7-8 All join hands on the sides and balance in line.
- 9-10 First and third couples turn their second corners three quarters with the left hand.
- 11-12 First and third couples turn partner three quarters with the right hand to finish in second and fourth places on own side facing out.
- 13-16 First and third men cast up one place and dance into the centre of the set to face down, at the same time first and third lady cast off one place on the ladies' side and dance into the centre of the set to face up, first lady and third man passing left shoulder.
- 17-24 First and third couples pass partner by the right shoulder to commence a reel of four up and down the set.
- 25-26 First and third couples turn partner one and a quarter times with the right hand to finish in second and fourth places on the opposite side facing out.
- 27-28 First and third couples cast off one place, fourth and fifth couples step up.
- 29-32 First and third couples dance a half figure of eight round the couple above them to finish in third and fifth places on own side.

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

Recommended tune: Miss Thompson's Reel

## **Montrose Races**

A forty bar Strathspey for four couples in a longwise set.

- 1-4 First couple cross over giving right hand and cast off into second place, second couple step up on bars 3 & 4.
- 5-8 First couple dance a half figure of eight round second couple, crossing up to commence, to finish in second place on own side.
- 9-16 First and second couples dance rights and lefts. On bars 15 & 16 third couple step up into second place, third man turning to face out as he does so; at the same time first man completes his rights and lefts by dancing down the outside into third place whilst first lady completes her rights and lefts by dancing down the middle into third place but finishes facing out.
- 17-24 Third, first and fourth couples dance reels of three on the sides, first and fourth couples passing by the right shoulder to commence.
- 25-28 First and fourth couples dance right hands across in a wheel, first lady and fourth man finish facing out.
- 29-36 First and fourth couples dance a reel of four across the set, passing by the right shoulder on the sides to commence.
- 37-40 First and fourth lady turn one and a half times with the right hand to change places, first and fourth man do the same. Order is now 2, 3, 4, 1.

Repeat with new top couple.

Recommended tune: Montrose Races

## **Morag Hutton's Strathspey**

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

- 1-4 First couple take a promenade hold, the lady on her partner's left, and dance a half reel of three with second and third men.
- 4-8 First lady completes the reel with second and third men, whilst first man dances a half reel of three with third and second lady.
- 9-12 First couple meet to take another promenade hold, the lady on her partner's right, and dance a half reel of three with third and second lady.
- 13-16 First lady dances a final half reel of three with third and second lady whilst first man dances a half reel of three with third and second man. First couple finish in original places.
- 17-20 First and third couples dance half rights and lefts.
- 21-24 First and second couples dance half rights and lefts.
- 25-28 Third and second couples dance half rights and lefts.
- 29-32 All three couples turn partner once round with the right hand.

Repeat with a new top couple.

Recommended tune: Morag Hutton's Strathspey

### *Editor's note to the 2020 edition*

The reels in bars 1-16 are danced between second and third place, i.e. with reduced length on the sidelines. Only first couple enters first place, on bars 8 and 16.



## **Mount Stuart House**

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

- 1-8 Second and third couples dance an Allemande, to commence the men dance across to their partners on bar one and take a promenade hold, raising their right arms over the ladies' heads on bar two. On bars seven and eight instead of falling back to the sides second and third couples cross giving left hands in passing.
- 9-12 Third and second couples dance left hands across in a wheel.
- 13-16 First man and third lady turn with the right hand once round, first lady and third man do the same as do second man and fourth lady, and second lady and fourth man.
- 17-24 Reels of four on the sides of the set.
- 25-28 First and third couples dance right hands across in a wheel, second and fourth couples do the same.
- 29-32 Third and second couples dance half rights and lefts.
- 33-36 All join both hands with partner and dance down the middle with eight slip steps.
- 37-40 First couple raise their hands to make an arch in fourth place, second, third and fourth couples slip up the middle under the arch.
- 41-44 Second, third and fourth couples raise their hands to make an arch, first couple slip up the middle under the arches to the top of the set.
- 45-48 First couple cast off into fourth place.

Repeat with new top couple.

Recommended tune: Mount Stuart House

## **Mr Alex Menzies**

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

- 1-8 First couple lead down to the foot of the set, cross over to opposite side, cast up into third place and turn with the left hand to face their first corners. Meanwhile, fourth couple cross over giving right hand, cast up into second place, lead up to the top and cast off into sidelines, ending approximately between second and third place, still on opposite side. Second couple step up on bars 1 & 2 and third couple step down on bars 5 & 6.
- 9-12 First man turns third lady with the right hand once round and first lady turns second man with the right hand once round; at the same time fourth couple turn with the right hand to face their second corners.
- 13-16 First couple turn with the left hand to finish on opposite side of the dance facing out; at the same time fourth man turns second lady with the left hand three quarters and fourth lady turns third man with the left hand three quarters.
- 17-24 First couple dance reels of three on the sides with their corners, passing second corner by the left shoulder to commence. At the same time fourth man dance a figure of eight round second couples places passing second man by the right shoulder to commence, and fourth lady dances a figure of eight round third couples places, passing third lady by the right shoulder to commence.
- 25-32 First couple dance a figure of eight round their corner positions, passing second corner by the left shoulder to commence. At the same time fourth man dances a reel of three across the dance with second couple, passing second man by the right shoulder to commence, and first lady dances a reel of three across the dance with third couple, passing third lady by the right shoulder to commence.
- 33-36 First man turns second lady with the right hand and first lady turns third man with the right hand. At the same time fourth couple turn with the right hand to face their first corners.
- 37-40 First couple turn with the left hand to finish back to back in the middle facing opposite side of the dance. At the same time fourth man turns third lady with the left hand to finish on the ladies' side facing first man, and fourth lady turns second man with the left hand to finish on the men's side facing first lady.
- 41-44 First and fourth couples dance a half a reel of four across the set.
- 45-48 First and fourth ladies turn three quarters with the right hand whilst first and fourth man turn one and a quarter with the right hand. Finish on own sides in the order 2, 4, 1, 3.

Repeat with new top couple.

Recommended tune: Mr Alex Menzies

## **Mr Martin**

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

- 1-4 First and fourth couples cross over giving right hand in passing and cast into second and third places.
- 5-8 First and fourth couples dance half rights and lefts. First lady and fourth man finish facing out, third man and second lady also face out.
- 9-16 Second and fourth couples dance a reel of four across the dance, second man and fourth lady passing left shoulder to commence. First and third couples do the same, with first man and third lady passing left shoulder.
- 17-24 Grand chain for four couples, one step to each hand. To commence all change places on the sides giving right hand.
- 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: Mr Martin

## **Mrs Adie**

A thirty-two bar Strathspey for two couples in a circle round the room, first couples facing clockwise and second couples facing anticlockwise, each man with his partner on his right.

- 1-8 First and second couples dance rights and lefts.
- 9-16 Reels of three: each person passes the person they are facing by the right, then passes the next person they meet by the left, dancing round that person to return to original places passing left and right.
- 17-20 First and second couples dance right hands across in a wheel.
- 21-22 First and second couples dance left hands across in a wheel half way.
- 23-24 First and second man change places giving left hand in passing (to return to their original places). Meanwhile the ladies dance on (first lady proceeding clockwise and second lady anticlockwise) to change places with the lady in the adjacent set giving right hand in passing.
- 25-26 The ladies change back giving left hand to the lady they have just changed places with, at the same time the men cross back giving right hand. All finish with their backs to their original opposites, first couples still facing clockwise and second couples anticlockwise with the ladies on their partners left. All face new couple having progressed.
- 27-28 With new opposite couple dance left hands across in a wheel half way to finish in a diagonal line with the ladies back to back facing own partner.
- 29-32 Change places with a half poussette to finish facing in original direction with the lady on her partners right.

Repeat with next couples.

Recommended tune: Mrs Adie

## **Mrs Grace Bowie**

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

- 1-8 First couple cross down between second couple to dance a figure of eight round second and third couples on opposite side of the set, first couple finish in first place on opposite side.
- 9-16 First couple dance a figure of eight round second and third couples on own side of the set, crossing between second couple to commence.
- 17-24 First, second and third couples dance a grand chain.
- 25-32 First and second couples change places with a knot.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: Mrs Grace Bowie

## **Mrs Jimmy Shand's Strathspey**

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

On the second chord third and fourth couples cross over to opposite side of the set.

- 1-4 First man followed by his partner casts off behind second man. First man casts two places dancing in front of third lady to face up whilst first lady casts one place, dancing in front of second man to face up.  
Meanwhile, fourth man followed by his partner casts up behind third man. Fourth man casts two places dancing in front of second lady to face down whilst fourth lady casts one place, dancing in front of third man to face down.
- 5-8 First lady followed by her partner dances up, crosses to own side and casts off behind second lady. First lady casts two places, dancing round in front of third man to face him whilst first man casts one place, dancing round in front of second lady to face her.  
Meanwhile, fourth lady followed by her partner crosses over to the foot of the men's side and casts up behind third lady. Fourth lady casts up two places, dancing round second man to face him whilst fourth man dances round in front of third lady to face her.
- 9-16 Second couple dance a reel of four across the set with first man and fourth lady, whilst third couple dance a reel across the set with first lady and fourth man.
- 17-20 First couple dance right hands across in a wheel with second lady and third man, whilst fourth couple dance right hands across in a wheel with second man and third lady.
- 21-22 First couple dance left hands across in a wheel half way with second lady and third man, whilst fourth couple dance left hands across in a wheel half way with second man and third lady.
- 23-24 First lady followed by first man, second lady and third man dances up the ladies' side and crosses to mens side. Meanwhile fourth lady followed by fourth man, third lady and second man dances down the men's side and crosses to own side. All in original order with first and third couples on opposite sides.
- 25-28 First lady followed by her partner casts off and crosses to own side, second couple step up on bars 27 & 28. Meanwhile fourth lady followed by her partner casts up and crosses to the men's side, third couple step down on bars 27 & 28.
- 29-30 First and fourth couples dance right hands across in a wheel half way.
- 31-32 All four couples join hands on the sides and set. Finish in the order 2, 4, 1, 3 with first and third couples on opposite sides.

Repeat with new top couple.

Recommended tune: Mrs Jimmy Shand's Strathspey

## **Mrs Joseph Lowe**

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

- 1-4 First couple turn by the right hand and cast off into second place, second couple step up on bars 3 & 4.
- 5-8 First couple turn with the left hand, first lady casts up to finish between second couple facing down whilst first man casts off to finish between third couple facing up.
- 9-10 First couple change places giving right hand in passing.
- 11-12 First man turns second man three quarters with the left hand whilst first lady and third lady turn with the left hand three quarters.
- 13-14 First couple cross over giving right hand in passing,
- 15-16 First couple turn second corners with the left hand to face up and down the set.
- 17-18 First couple change places giving right hand in passing.
- 19-20 First couple turn their first corners with the left hand to face across the set.
- 21-22 First couple cross to own side giving right hand in passing.
- 23-24 First man turns third man with the left hand to finish facing third lady. Meanwhile first lady turns second lady with the left hand to finish facing second man.
- 25-30 First lady dances a reel of three with second couple whilst first man dances a reel of three with third couple. First couple pass their first corners by the right shoulder to commence and finish facing up and down the set.
- 31-32 First couple turn three quarters with the left hand to own side of the set.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: Mrs Joseph Lowe