The Whetherly Book of Scottish Country Dances

Number 9

By John W. Mitchell

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Original Introduction

Only the other day a fellow teacher said to me "Isn't it about time you had another book out?" Having beer, thinking sporadically about it for a few months previously I was able to assure him that it was being typed - and here it is. As most of my regular readers will have gathered I usually endeavour to fit a dance to a tune or vice-versa depending on your viewpoint. I choose the music by listening to records and seldom have copies of the original manuscript present. The dances are usually named after the chosen tune as has been customary for hundreds of years. The old tradition being that when a tune is announced dancers may dance any set of figures which they have learned which are devised for that tune. It appears that some tunes may be dedicated to living persons, others to dead persons and others to fictional persons or events. These dances are not so dedicated unless a dedication appears in the text- I used to write to composers to try and avoid problems but they never reply.

J. W. Mitchell (1981)

Introduction to the new edition

Once again, these dances appear to have been named after the tunes, except for where they haven't. In such cases, there may or may not be an explanation as to why the dance is so named. "Uscita" is presumably so called due to the dancers exiting at the end of the dance whilst the music continues, as opposed to a defined finish. "The Brighton Belle" is named after a train that ran between Brighton (where John Mitchell was based) and London from 1933 to 1972. "Butter the Horse's Ear" left us baffled and bemused for quite a while, before (after some digging) it became apparent that there was indeed such a ritual. On the first ploughing day of spring, horses' ears were anointed with butter. Somehow, I doubt this helped much with the ploughing. I have also not yet identified which parts of the dance represent the butter, and which the horse's ear.

Nevertheless, usually the name does not get in the way of a dance; more often than not, dances tend to be called: "the one we did in ..." (location of a dancing event); "the one with the ..." (a particular figure); or most commonly "oh, it's that one!" after a moment of enlightenment. Similarly, the recommended tunes are not generally adhered to. How fortunate, then, that both dances and tunes use eight bar phrases. (Except when they don't.)

TL;DR - the dances in book number nine are rather fine.

Alison M. W. Mitchell (2021)

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.

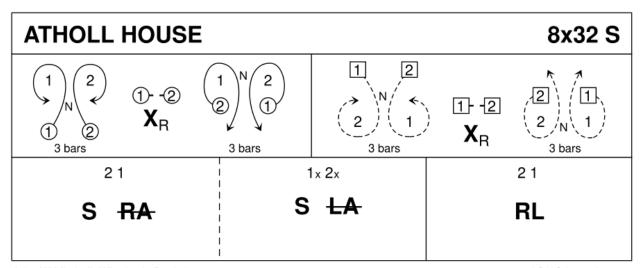
John passed away in 2012 after a two year battle with cancer.

Atholl House

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

- 1-8 First and second men lead with nearer hand between first and second ladies, first man casts up and second man casts down, they dance into the middle of the set and change places giving right hand in passing; then second man casts down behind first lady whilst first man casts up behind second lady to meet and lead back to own side of the set with nearer hands.
- 9-16 First and second ladies join nearer hand and lead between second and first men, first lady casts up behind second man whilst second lady casts off behind first man, dancing into the middle they face up and down then change places giving right hand in passing; first lady then casts up behind her partner whilst second lady casts off behind her partner, they meet and lead back to own side with nearer hands.
 - Note: approximate phrasing for the above eight bar figures is: Cross 1 bar, cast 2 bars, change places 2 bars, cast 2 bars and cross back 1 bar.
- 17-20 Second and first couples set and dance right hands across in a wheel half way.
- 21-24 First and second couples set and dance left hands across in a wheel half way.
- 25-32 First and second couples dance rights and lefts.

Recommended tune: Atholl House



John W Mitchell, Whetherly Book 9

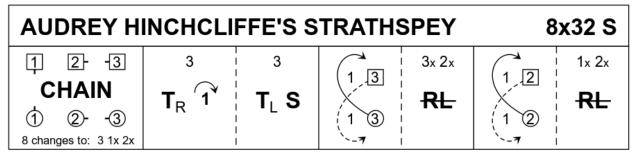
Audrey Hinchcliffe's Strathspey

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

- 1-6 All three couples dance a grand chain, one step to each hand.
- 7-8 They continue the chain for two more steps, to finish with first and second couples on the opposite side and third couple in first place on own side.
- 9-16 Third couple turn with the right hand, cast off into second place on own side, first couple step up; then third couple turn with the left hand and set.
- 17-20 Third couple dance a half figure eight round first couple, crossing up to commence.
- 21-24 Third and second couples dance half rights and lefts.
- 25-28 Second couple dance a half figure eight round first couple, crossing up to commence.
- 29-32 First and second couples dance half rights and lefts.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: Audrey Hinchcliffe's Strathspey



John W Mitchell, Whetherly Book 9

Auld Luckie Scaup

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

Strathspey

- 1-8 All four couples dance a grand chain, one step to each hand.
- 9-16 First couple lead down the middle and up to place.

Reel

1-8 All four couples dance reels of four on own side of set:

The ladies dance a right shoulder reel and the men dance a left shoulder reel. It will ease entry into the reel if the first couple finish the strathspey figure facing out and cast to start the reels. All give nearer hands to partners during the reels. At the end of the reel, first couple finish in the middle of the set facing the top with nearer hands joined, between second couple who face down the room: first and second men join left hand and first and second ladies join right hands.

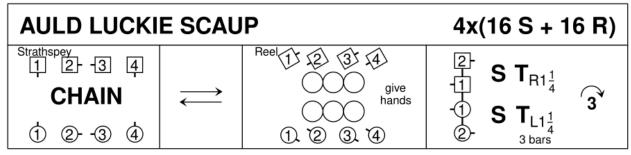
- 9-16 Spectacle Progression:
 - 9-10 first and second couples set;
 - 11-16 first and second men turn one and a quarter times with the left hand whilst first and second ladies turn one and a quarter times with the right hand approximately three bars) first couple finish facing out and cast off to fourth place. Second, third and fourth couples join hands and step up on the last two bars.

Repeat with a new top couple.

Recommended tunes: Strathspey: Auld Luckie; Reel: Luckie Scaup

Editor's note to the 2021 edition

The name "spectacle progression" is adopted as the figure roughly traces out the shape of a pair of glasses. It is unknown whether this term is in use elsewhere, or introduced here.



John W Mitchell, Whetherly Book 9

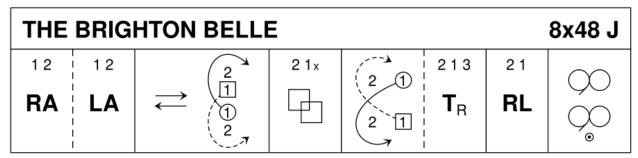
The Brighton Belle

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

- 1-8 First and second couples dance right hands across in a wheel and back with the left hand.
- 9-16 First couple lead down the middle for three steps, lead up to the top, cross and cast off into second place on the opposite side.
- 17-24 First and second couples dance a ladies' chain.
- 25-28 First couple dance a half figure of eight round second couple.
- 29-32 All three couples turn with the right hand.
- 33-40 Second and first couples dance rights and lefts.
- 41-48 Reels of three on own side of the set, first and third couples pass by the right to commence.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: Cantie Auld Man



John W Mitchell, Whetherly Book 9

3C/4C longwise set.

The Bucksburn Reel

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

- 1-8 First and second couples poussette. (If possible, third and fourth couples do the same.)
 All advance into the centre on bar 1, out to the sides on bar 2, turn on bar 3, travel and turn on bar 4 and continue as in a normal poussette. First couple finish back to back facing own side.
- 9-16 First couple dance double triangles with couples in first and third places. On bars 15 & 16 first couple only make a quarter turn to finish first lady between couple in top place facing down, and first man between couple in third place facing up.
- 17-20 All three couples join hands in lines across and set twice.
- 21-24 First couple turn three guarters with both hands to finish in second place on opposite side.
- 25-28 All three couples join hands in lines along the sides and set twice.
- 29-32 First couple turn to own sides with two hands.

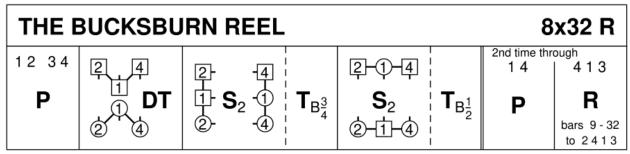
Repeat from second place: only first and second couples poussette. On next repeat all poussette to get original first couple to the foot of the set.

Recommended tune: Staney Hill

Editor's note to the 2021 edition (since v1.01)

The original description was vague in how to dance the 4 bar phrases in the second half; some hand-written notes made by John provided additional information on the 4 bar phrasing. The description above has been altered accordingly. The original bars 17-32 read:

- 17-20 Three couples join hands and set in lines across.
- 21-24 First couple turn three quarters with both hands to finish in second place on the opposite side.
- 25-28 All three couples join hands and set in lines on the sides.
- 29-32 First couple turn to own sides with two hands.



John W Mitchell, Whetherly Book 9

Butter the Horse's Ear

An eighty bar Strathspey, eighty bar Reel Medley for four couples in a square set.

Strathspey

- 1-2 All set to partners.
- 3-6 All dance four bars of petronella.
- 7-8 All turn partner half way with the right hand.
- 9-12 The four men dance left hands across in a wheel once round whilst the ladies dance half way round in a clockwise direction.
- 13-16 All turn opposites with the right hand one and a quarter times to finish with the men in their partners original places facing out and the ladies in the opposite man's place.
- 17-32 All dance Schiehallion reels, the ladies crossing diagonally to commence, whilst the men cast.
- 33-40 Eight hands round and back.
- 41-42 All set.
- 43-46 All dance four bars of petronella.
- 47-48 All turn half way with the right hand.
- 49-52 The four ladies dance left hands across in a wheel once round whilst the men dance half way round in a clockwise direction.
- 53-56 All turn partners one and a quarter times with the right hand.
- 57-64 All dance "Banana" reels of four round the set: pass partner by the right shoulder to commence, then pass corner by the left and opposite by the right before turning to retrace in the opposite direction.
- First lady and second man, third lady and fourth man dance half rights and lefts to original places.
- 69-72 Second lady and third man, fourth lady and first man also dance half rights and lefts to original places.
- 73-80 Grand chain for four couples, giving right hand to partner to commence.

Reel

1-80 Repeat whole dance as described above in Reel time.

Recommended tunes: Strathspey: Bob Johnson, Blin' Jamie; Reel: After the Battle, The Hopeful Lover

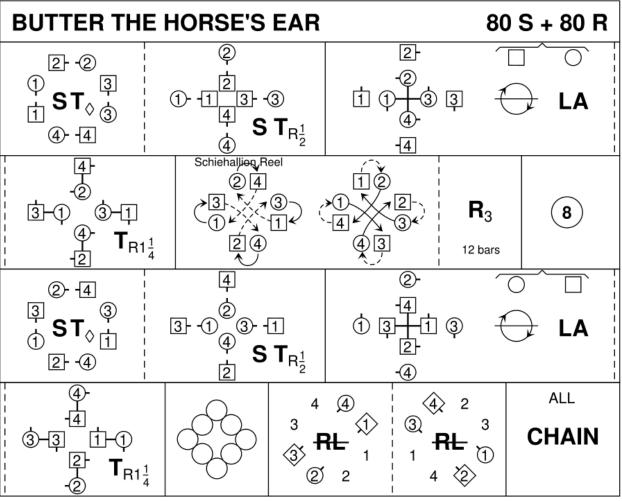
Note

To put butter in a horse's ear is an old Scottish Custom.

Editor's note to the 2021 edition

After searching for more information, apparently there was indeed a ritual custom in which horses' ears were anointed with butter on the first ploughing day of spring.

(diagram on next page)



John W Mitchell, Whetherly Book 9

4C/4C square set.

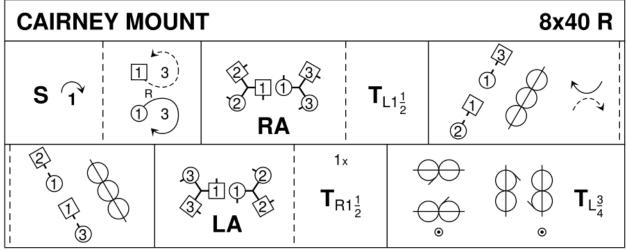
Cairney Mount

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

- 1-8 First couple set, cast off into second place (second couple step up); lead down between third couple and cast up into second place.
- 9-12 First lady dances right hands across with second couple whilst first man does the same with third couple.
- 13-16 First couple turn one and a half times with the left hand to face first corners.
- 17-20 First couple dance a half reel of four with their first corners, passing left shoulder to face their second corners.
- 21-24 First couple dance a half reel of four with their second corners to finish in second place on the opposite side.
- 25-28 First lady dances left hands across with third couple whilst first man does the same with second couple (who are in third place).
- 29-32 First couple turn with the right hand to finish facing their first corners (first couple facing own side).
- Passing first corner by the right shoulder dance half reels of three on own side of the set, first couple finish in second place facing out.
- 36-38 Passing first corner person (in fourth corner position) by the left shoulder, commence half reels of three across the set. First couple finish facing up and down, lady between second couple and man between third couple.
- 39-40 Dancing couple turn with the left hand into second place on own side of the set.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: Cairney Mount



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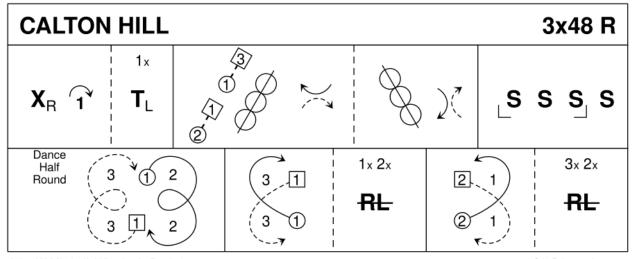
3C/4C longwise set.

Calton Hill

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

- 1-8 First couple cross over giving right hand, cast off (second couple step up) and turn with the left hand to finish facing first corners.
- 9-12 First couple dance a half reel of four with their first corners passing left shoulder to face their second corners.
- 13-16 First couple dance a half reel of four with their second corners passing left shoulder to face their first corner person in third corner position.
- 17-24 First couple dance Hello-Goodbye setting: set to first corner, set to partner across the dance, set to second corner to face up and down then set to partner to finish in second place on the opposite side facing out.
- 25-32 First couple pass half round: they cast round their first corner position, dance in to face up and down between second and third couples; then cast around fourth corner position into second place on own side of the set.
- 33-36 First couple, dance a half figure eight round third couple (in first place).
- 37-40 First and second couples dance half rights and lefts.
- 41-44 Second couple dance a half figure eight round first couple (in third place).
- 45-48 Third and second couples dance half rights and lefts.

Repeat with new top couple.
Recommended tune: Calton Hill



John W Mitchell, Whetherly Book 9

3C/3C longwise set.

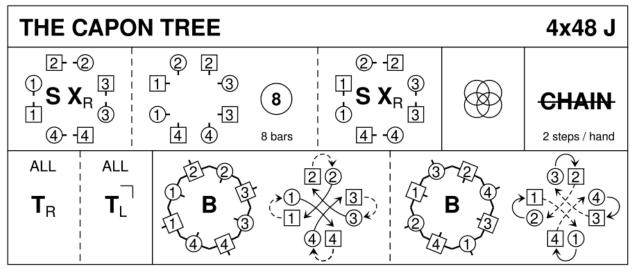
The Capon Tree

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

- 1-4 All set and change places with partner giving right hand.
- 5-12 Eight hands round to the left in a circle and back to the right.
- 13-16 All set and change places with partner giving right hand
- 17-24 Double men's chain, men dance left hands across half way, turn opposite lady with the right hand and repeat back to place.
- 25-32 Half grand chain two steps to each hand, giving right hand to partner to commence.
- 33-36 All turn partner with right hand.
- 37-40 All turn corner with left hand, join right hand with partner to form a circle with the ladies facing out.
- 41-42 All balance in a circle, with pas de basque step.
- Dance the first two steps of a Schiehallion reel: ladies cast into their partners' places whilst the men cross diagonally, all join hands to reform the circle in new positions.
- 45-46 All balance in a circle.
- 47-48 All dance two more steps of a Schiehallion reel: ladies cross diagonally whilst the men cast.

First couple are now in second place, fourth couple at the top. Repeat three times to return to original places.

Recommended tune: The Capon Tree



John W Mitchell, Whetherly Book 9

4C/4C square set.

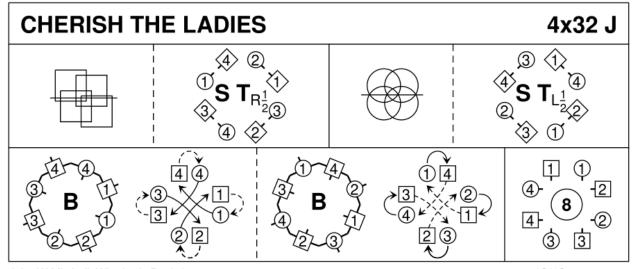
Cherish the Ladies

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

- 1-4 The ladies dance half a double ladies' chain: right hands across in a wheel half way, turn the opposite man with the left hand to finish on the opposite side all facing corners.
- 5-8 All set and turn corners half way with the right hand.
- 9-12 The men dance half a double men's chain: left hands across in a wheel half way and turn the opposite lady with the right hand to finish on the opposite side all facing corners.
- 13-16 All set and turn corners half way with the left hand, join right hand with partner in a circle with the ladies facing out.
- 17-18 All balance in a circle with pas de bas step.
- 19-20 Dance the first two steps of a Schiehallion reel: ladies cast into their partner's places whilst the men cross diagonally, all join hands to reform the circle in new positions.
- 21-22 All balance in a circle.
- 23-24 All dance two more steps of a Schiehallion reel: ladies cross diagonally whilst the men cast. First couple are now in second place, fourth couple at the top.
- 25-32 All dance eight hands round in a circle to the left and back to the right.

Repeat three times to return to original places.

Recommended tune: Cherish the Ladies



John W Mitchell, Whetherly Book 9

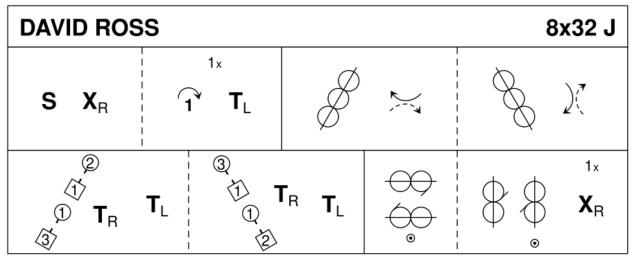
4C/4C square set.

David Ross

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 into second place (second couple step up) and turn with the left hand to finish facing first corners.
- 9-12 First couple dance a half reel of four with their first corners passing left shoulder to face their second corners.
- 13-16 First couple dance a half reel of four with their second corners passing left shoulder to finish facing their first corners (on the opposite side of the set).
- 17-24 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 their first corners.
- 25-27 First man dances a half reel of three with second and third ladies, passing third lady by the left shoulder to commence; whilst first lady passes second man by the left to dance a similar half reel with second and third men.
- 28-30 First man dances a half reel of three with third couple passing third man by the left shoulder to commence; whilst first lady dances a half reel of three with second couple passing second lady by the left to commence.
- 31-32 First couple cross to own side giving right hand in passing.

Repeat from second place.
Recommended tune: David Ross



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3C/4C longwise set.

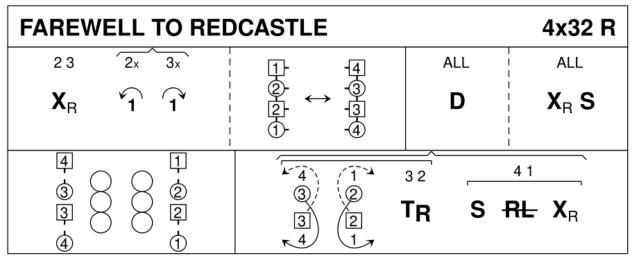
Farewell to Redcastle

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

- 1-2 Second and third couples cross over giving right hand in passing.
- 3-4 Second couple cast up behind first couple, and finish between first couple all facing down with nearer hands joined; whilst third couple cast down behind fourth couple to finish between fourth couple all facing up with nearer hands joined.
- 5-8 All advance and retire.
- 9-12 All dance back to back with person facing.
- 13-16 All change places up and down the set with person facing giving right hands in passing and set.
- 17-24 First and second couples dance a reel of four across the set; third and fourth couples do the same.
- 25-32 Third couple cross to second place on own side, cast up to the top and turn partner once with the right hand to finish in first place; second couple cross to third place on own side, cast to the foot and turn once with the right hand to finish in fourth place; at the same time first and fourth couples set, dance half rights and lefts and cross back to own side giving right hand in passing. Finish in the order 3, 1, 4, 2.

Repeat with new top couple.

Recommended tune: Campbell's Farewell to Redcastle



John W Mitchell, Whetherly Book 9

4C/4C longwise set.

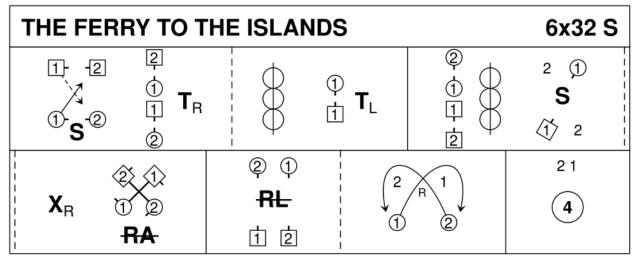
The Ferry to the Islands

A thirty-two bar Strathspey for two couples in a longwise set. It is suggested that sets of three couples be used for this dance.

- 1-4 First couple set advancing towards the setting second couple, crossing down to finish first lady facing second man and first man facing second lady. First and second couples turn with the right hand, finishing with first couple back to back between second couple.
- 5-8 First and second couples dance a half reel of four, on bars 7 & 8 first couple turn with the left hand to finish first lady facing second lady and first man facing second man.
- 9-12 First and second couples dance a half reel of four, on bars 11 & 12 first man (in second lady's place) and first lady (in first man's place) set.
- 13-14 First couple change places giving right hand in passing.
- 15-16 First and second couples dance right hands across in a wheel half way. Both couples are now on the opposite side, first lady and second man at the top.
- 17-20 First and second couples dance half rights and lefts.
- 21-24 First and second men giving right hand cross between second and first ladies, second man casts up to the top whilst first man casts down, then they cross back to own side of the set.
- 25-32 First and second couples dance four hands round in a circle to the left and back to the right.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: The Ferry to the Islands



John W Mitchell, Whetherly Book 9

The Firth Jig

A forty-eight bar Jig for six couples in a cross formation.

Couples number 1, 2, 3 and 4 form up in a conventional square set formation, each man with his partner on his right; the square being slightly larger than usual.

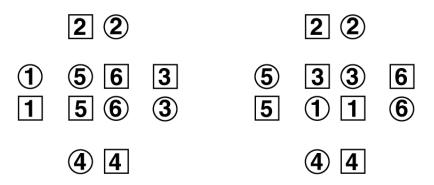
Couples 5 & 6 take up positions in the centre of the square, couple number 5 with their backs to the top facing couple number 6.

- 1-8 Fifth and sixth couples dance rights and lefts, giving right hand up and down the set to opposite to commence. They finish with their backs to their own partner facing the side couples.
- 9-16 Fifth couple dance a reel of four with second lady and fourth man, whilst sixth couple dance a reel of four with fourth lady and second man.
- 17-20 First man, second lady and fifth man dance right hands across in a wheel, second man, third lady and sixth lady do the same. Third man, fourth lady and sixth man do the same. Fourth man, first lady and fifth lady also do the same.
- 21-24 Fifth and sixth couples dance left hands across in a wheel to finish with fifth couple facing first couple and sixth couple facing third couple.
- 25-32 First and fifth men, sixth and third ladies dance reel of four, whilst first and fifth ladies, sixth and third men do the same.
- 33-40 Second couple dance a ladies' chain with sixth lady and fifth man, whilst fourth couple dance a ladies' chain with fifth lady and sixth man.
- 41-44 Third and sixth couple dance half rights and lefts, first and fifth couples do the same.
- 45-48 First and third couples dance half a ladies' chain to finish facing own partner. At the same time fifth and sixth couples set to own partner and change places giving right hand in passing.

Repeat from new places.

The set has effectively rotated through ninety degrees hence the original second couple will be first couple for the repeat and fourth couple will be third couple, both in their original places. Sixth couple will have become second couple in the original third place and fifth couple will have become fourth couple in the original first place, whilst third and first couples have become fifth and sixth respectively.

Positions at bar 1 (left diagram) and at the end of bar 48 (right diagram):

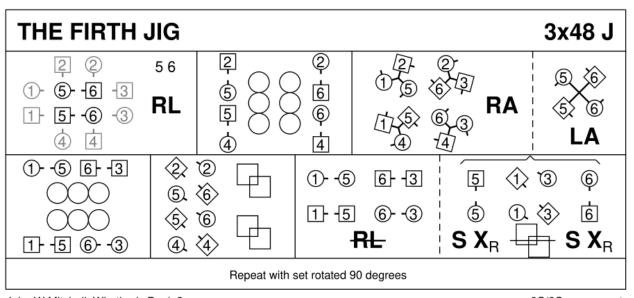


On the second repeat sixth couple in the original third place will have become first couple. At the end of this repeat all dancers will be found to be back in the same relative positions that they originally occupied, but with second couples having their backs to the top of the room.

It is suggested that three times through will be sufficient for this dance. However, purists who wish to terminate with all dancers back in the places they occupied on first joining the set may like to note that this can be achieved by performing the dance twelve times.

Recommended tune: The Firth Jig

(diagram on next page)



John W Mitchell, Whetherly Book 9

6C/6C square set.

HE-HO-Hiram

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

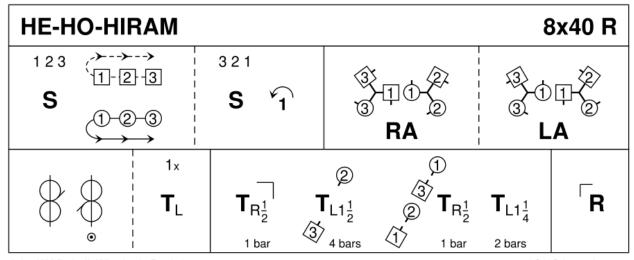
- 1-2 All three couples join hands on the side and set.
- 3-4 First couple, followed by second and third couples who dance up to follow, cast down into third place, second couple casting into second place and third couple casting into first place.
- 5-6 All three couples join hands on the side and set.
- 7-8 First couple cast up into second place, second couple step down.
- 9-12 First lady dances right hands across with third couple whilst first man dances right hands across with second couple.
- 13-16 First lady dances left hands across with second couple whilst first man dances left hands across with third couple. First couple finish facing first corner positions.
- 17-20 First man dances a half reel of three with second couple passing second lady by the left to commence; whilst first lady dances a half reel of three with third couple passing third man by the left to commence. First couple finish in second place on the opposite side.
- 21-24 First couple turn with the left hand to finish facing first corner position.
- 25-32 First couple change places with people in first corner positions giving right hand in passing, first corners turn one and a half times with the left hand then turn first couple into the middle with the right hand, first couple turn with the left hand to face second corners.
- First couple change places with people in second corner positions giving right hand, second corners turn one and a half times with the left hand then turn first couple in with the right hand, first couple cross to own side giving left hand.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: HE-HO-Hiram

Note

On bars 25-32 and 33-40: approximate phrasing: Turn corners in 1 bar, corners turn 1 1/2 times in 4 bars, turn first couple in 1 bar, first couple turn or cross 2 bars. Dancing couple should continue dancing out on bar 2 and commence dancing in on bar 5 whilst their corners are turning.



John W Mitchell, Whetherly Book 9

3C/4C longwise set.

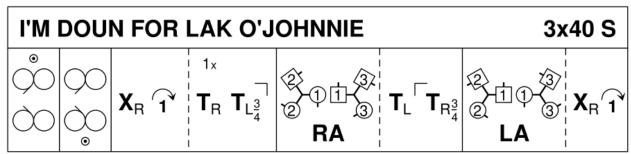
I'm Doun for Lak O'Johnnie

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

- 1-8 First couple dance reels of three on the opposite sides with second and third couples, left shoulder on the ladies' side and right shoulder on the men's side.
- 9-16 First couple dance reels of three on own side of the set with second and third couples.
- 17-20 First couple cross giving right hand and cast off into second place, second couple step up on bars 19 & 20.
- 21-22 First couple turn with the right hand to face their first corners.
- 23-24 First couple turn their first corners with the left hand to finish in second place on the opposite side.
- 25-28 First lady dances right hands across with third couple whilst first man dances right hands across with second couple.
- 29-30 First couple turn with the left hand to face their second corners.
- 31-32 First couple turn their second corners with the right hand to finish in second place on the opposite side.
- 33-36 First lady dances left hands across with second couple whilst first man dances left hands across with third couple.
- First couple cross back to own side giving right hand in passing and cast off into third place, third couple stepping up on bars 39 & 40.

Repeat with a new top couple.

Recommended tune: I'm Doun for Lak O'Johnnie



John W Mitchell, Whetherly Book 9

3C/3C longwise set.

Jim Barrie

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

- 1-8 First and second couples dance four hands round in a circle to the left and back to the right.
- 9-12 First and second couples set and cross over giving right hand to partner.
- 13-16 First and second couples dance right hands across in a wheel once round.
- 17-20 First and second couples dance half rights and lefts.
- 21-24 First and second couples dance left hands across in a wheel once round.
- 25-32 Reels of three on own side of the set: first and seconds pass by the left to commence.

Repeat from second place. Recommended tune: Jim Barrie

JIM BARRIE 8x32 R				8x32 R	
1 2	12	1 x 2x	1x 2x	2 1	00
4	S X _R	RA	RL	LA	

John W Mitchell, Whetherly Book 9

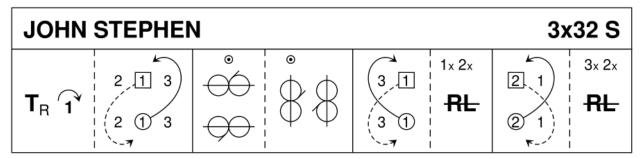
John Stephen

A thirty-two bar Strathspey 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.
- 5-8 First man crosses down between third couple and casts up into second place on the opposite side, whilst first lady crosses up between second couple and casts off into second place on the opposite side.
- 9-12 First couple dance a half reel of three with their corners passing their second corners by the right shoulder to commence.
- 13-16 First man dances a half reel of three with third couple (now in second place) passing third man by the left to commence, whilst first lady dances a half reel of three with second couple (now in third place) passing second lady by the left to commence; first couple finish in second place on own side of the set.
- 17-20 First couple dance a half figure eight round third couple, crossing up to commence.
- 21-24 First and second couples dance half rights and lefts.
- 25-28 Second couple dance a half figure of eight round first couple, crossing down to commence.
- 29-32 Third and second couples dance half rights and lefts.

Repeat with new top couple.

Recommended tune: John Stephen of Chance Inn



John W Mitchell, Whetherly Book 9

3C/3C longwise set.

Lord Darnley's Medley

A sixteen bar Strathspey, sixteen bar Hornpipe Medley for four couples in a longwise set.

Strathspey

- 1-8 Grand chain for four couples, commence by giving right hand on the sides first and third couples facing down and second and fourth facing up.
- 9-16 Reels of four on own side of the set. All clap twice on the last bar.

Hornpipe

- 1-8 First and second couples dance right hands across in a wheel and back with the left hand; third and fourth couples do the same.
- 9-16 First and second couples dance a poussette; first and fourth couples do the same: first couple and fourth couple pass to finish with fourth couple in second place and first couple in third place. All clap twice whilst falling back into place on the last bar.

Repeat with new top couple.

Recommended tunes: Strathspey: Alex Heard; Hornpipe: The Rocket Hornpipe

LORD DARNLEY'S MEDLEY 4x(16			6 S + 16 R)	
Strathspey 12 34	000	Reel 1 2 3 4	12 34	12 34
CHAIN	× ×	RA	LA	P **
① ② ③ ④			 	to 2 4 1 3

John W Mitchell, Whetherly Book 9

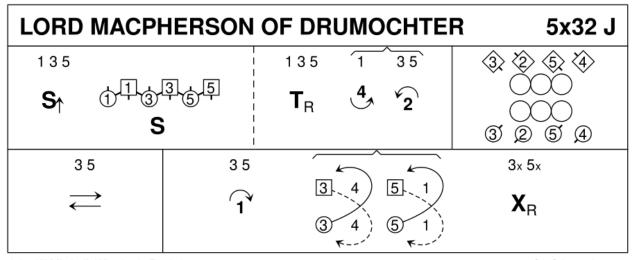
Lord Macpherson of Drumochter

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

- 1-4 First, third and fifth couples set advancing to join right hand with partner, first lady and third man, third lady and fifth man join left hands; all balance in line.
- 5-8 First couple turn with the right hand and lead down to fifth place whilst third and fifth couples turn with the right hand and cast up behind second and fourth respectively on own sides.
- 9-16 Third and fifth couples dance in and down to dance reels of four on own side of the set with second and fourth couples: left shoulder on the ladies' side and right shoulder on the men's side to commence.
- 17-24 Third and fifth couples lead down the middle and back.
- 25-26 Third and fifth couples cast off one place, second and fourth couples step up.
- 27-30 Third couple dance a half figure of eight round fourth couple crossing down to commence; whilst fifth couple dance a half figure of eight round first couple crossing down to commence.
- Third and fifth couples cross back to own side giving right hands in passing. Finish in the order 2, 3, 4, 5, 1.

Repeat with new top couple.

Recommended tune: Lord Macpherson of Drumochter



John W Mitchell, Whetherly Book 9

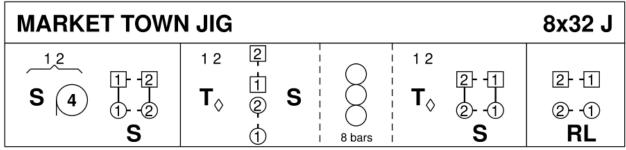
Market Town Jig

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

- 1-2 First and second couples join hands on the side and set.
- 3-6 First and second couples dance four hands round to the left in a circle to finish facing up and down in original places.
- 7-8 First and second couples set.
- 9-10 First and second couples dance a petronella turn into a line across the set with second man and first lady back to back in the middle facing first man and second lady respectively.
- 11-12 First and second couples set.
- 13-20 First and second couples dance a reel of four across the set.
- 21-22 First and second couples dance a petronella turn to finish facing up and down with second couple in first place and first couple in second place.
- 23-24 First and second couples set.
- 25-32 First and second couples dance rights and lefts giving right hands on the sides to commence.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: Market Town Jig



John W Mitchell, Whetherly Book 9

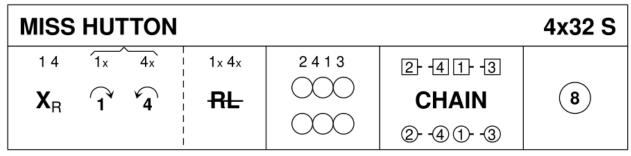
2C/4C longwise set.

Miss Hutton

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: first couple cast off into second place, second couple step up, fourth couple cast up into third place and third couple step down.
- 5-8 First and fourth couples dance half rights and lefts, first lady and fourth man finish facing out.
- 9-16 All four couples dance reels of four on own side of the set passing right shoulder to commence.
- 17-24 Grand chain for four couples giving right hand on the sides to commence, second and first couples facing down and fourth and third couples facing up, one step to each 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: Miss Hutton



John W Mitchell, Whetherly Book 9

Mervyn's Reel

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

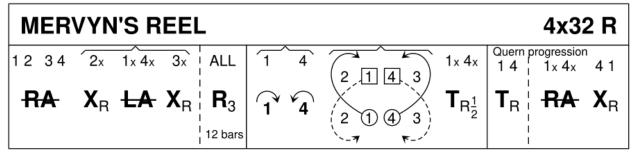
- 1-2 First and second couples dance right hands across half way in a wheel, third and fourth couples do the same.
- 3-4 First and fourth couples dance left hands across in a wheel half way whilst second and third couples cross over giving right hands in passing.
- 5-6 Second and fourth couples dance right hands across in a wheel half way, first and third couples do the same.
- 7-8 Second and third couples dance left hands across in a wheel half way whilst first and fourth couples cross giving right hands.
- 9-16 Repeat bars 1-8 to return to original places.
- 17-18 First couple cast off into second place, second couple step up, whilst fourth couple cast up into third place and third couple step down.
- 19-22 First couple dance a half figure of eight around second couple whilst fourth couple dance a half figure of eight round third couple.
- 23-24 First and fourth couples turn half way to own side of the set giving right hand.
- First and fourth couples change places with Quern progression*: turn with the right hand once round, right hands across half way and cross to own side of the set giving right hand in passing.

 Finish in the order 2, 4, 1, 3.

Repeat with new top couple.

Recommended tune: Mervyn's Reel

* 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.



John W Mitchell, Whetherly Book 9

Miss Macintosh

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

- 1-4 First and second couples turn partner with the right hand.
- 5-8 First and second ladies turn one and a half times with the left hand to change places, first and second men do the same, first lady and second man finish facing out.
- 9-16 Reels of three on own side of the set, to commence first couple and third couple pass by the right shoulder.
- 17-24 First and third couples dance right hands across in a wheel and back with the left hand.
- 25-32 First and second couples dance rights and lefts.
- 35-40 Six hands round in a circle to the left and back to the right.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: Miss Macintosh

MISS MACINTOSH 8x40 R						
1 2	12	\odot	1 3	13	2 1	
T _R	T _{L1½}		RA	LA	RL	6

John W Mitchell, Whetherly Book 9

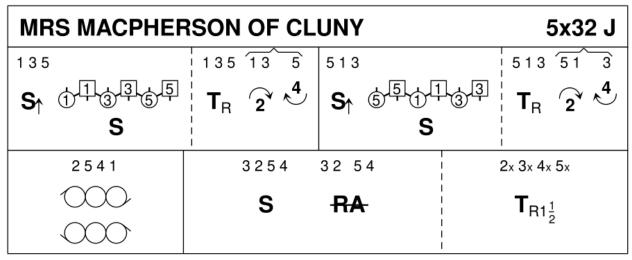
Mrs Macpherson of Cluny

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

- 1-4 First, third and fifth couples set advancing to join right hands with partner, first lady and third man join left hands, as do third lady and fifth man, all balance in line.
- 5-8 First and third couples turn with the right hand and cast off; whilst fifth couple turn with the right hand and lead up to the top.
- 9-12 Fifth, first and third couples set advancing to join right hands with partner, fifth lady and first man join left hands as do first lady and third man.
- 13-16 Fifth and first couples turn with the right hand and cast off whilst third couple turn with the right hand and lead up to the top.
- 17-24 Second, fifth, fourth and first couples dance reels of four on own side of the set; commencing by passing left shoulder on the men's side and right shoulder on the ladies' side.
- 25-26 Third, second, fifth and fourth couples join hands on the sides and set.
- 27-28 Third and second couples dance right hands across in a wheel half way, fifth and fourth couples do the same.
- 29-32 Second, third, fourth and fifth couples turn with the right hand one and a half times to own side of the set.

Repeat with new top couple.

Recommended tune: Mrs Macpherson of Cluny



John W Mitchell, Whetherly Book 9

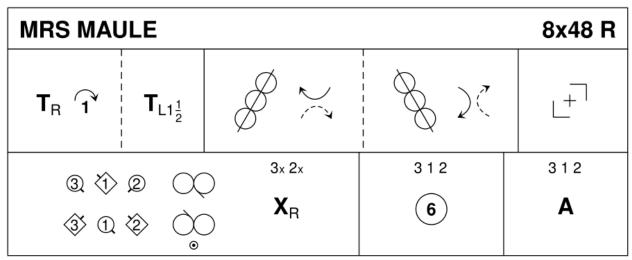
Mrs Maule

A forty-eight 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.
- 5-8 First couple turn with the left hand one and a half times to face their first corners.
- 9-12 First couple dance a half reel of four with their first corners, passing by the left shoulder to face their second corners.
- 13-16 First couple dance a half reel of four with their second corners passing by the left shoulder to face their first corners who are in third corner position.
- 17-24 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 in second place facing out on own side of the set.
- 25-30 First couple dance reels of three with their corners passing second corner by the left shoulder to commence.
- 31-32 Third and second couples cross back to own side of the set giving right hand in passing.
- 33-40 Six hands round to the left in a circle and back to the right.
- 41-48 Third, first and second couples dance an allemande.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: The Hon. Mrs Maule's Favourite



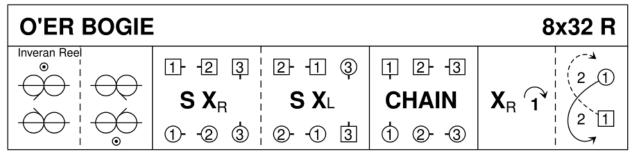
John W Mitchell, Whetherly Book 9

O'er Bogie

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

- 1-8 Inveran Reels: first couple dance a half reel of three on the opposite side of the set, then dance half reels of three on own side of the set.
- 9-12 First and second couples set and change places on the sides giving right hand in passing. Meanwhile third couple set and cross over giving right hand.
- 13-16 Repeat "back to place" giving left hand in passing.
- 17-24 Grand chain for three couples, to commence first couple cross at the top whilst second and third couples change places on the sides giving right hands.
- 25-28 First couple cross over and cast off into second place on the opposite side, 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: O'er Bogie



John W Mitchell, Whetherly Book 9

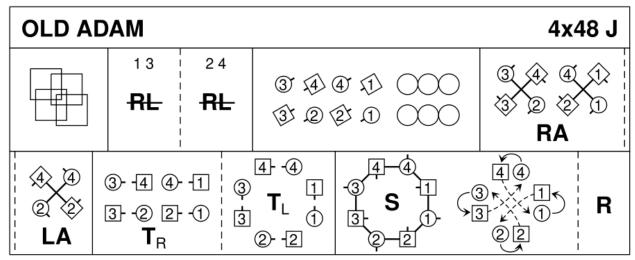
3C/4C longwise set.

Old Adam

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

- 1-8 Double ladies' chain; the four ladies dance right across in a wheel half way, turn the opposite man with the left hand and repeat back to place.
- 9-12 First and third couples dance half rights and lefts.
- 13-16 Second and fourth couples dance half rights and lefts to finish in the centre back to back with partner facing first and third couples.
- 17-24 Second couple dance a reel of four with first man and third lady whilst fourth couple dance a reel of four with first lady and third man.
- 25-28 First couple dance right hands across in a wheel with second lady and fourth man whilst third couple dance right hands across in a wheel with second man and fourth lady.
- 29-32 Second and fourth couples dance left hands across in a wheel.
- 33-36 All turn corners with the right hand once round to finish back in square formation still all on the opposite sides.
- 37-40 All turn partner once with the left hand, at end men finish facing out and join right hand with corners.
- 41-42 All balance in a square with pas de basque step.
- 43-44 All dance the first two steps of an Inverted Schiehallion reel: ladies cross diagonally to the left whilst the men cast into their partners places.
- 45-46 All join hands and balance in a square.
- 47-48 All dance a further two bars of an Inverted Schiehallion reel: men crossing diagonally to the left whilst the ladies cast. Original first couple are now in fourth place.

Repeat with new top couple.
Recommended tune: Old Adam



John W Mitchell, Whetherly Book 9

4C/4C square set.

Paddy's Dream

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

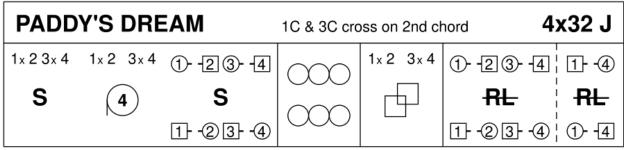
On the second chord first and third couples cross to opposite side of the set.

- 1-2 All join hands on the side and set.
- 3-6 First and second couples dance four hands round to the left in a circle to finish facing up and down on the sides: third and fourth couples do the same.
- 7-8 All set.
- 9-16 Reels of four on the sides of the set passing right shoulder to commence.
- 17-24 First and second couples dance a ladies' chain, third and fourth couples do the same.
- 25-28 First and second couples dance half rights and lefts, third and fourth couples do the same. To commence all give right hands on the sides, then cross giving left hand to partner.
- 29-32 First and fourth couples dance half rights and lefts, again giving right hands on the sides and then crossing giving left hand to partner.

Finish in the order 2, 4, 1, 3 with original second and first couples on opposite sides.

Repeat with new top couple.

Recommended tune: Paddy's Dream



John W Mitchell, Whetherly Book 9

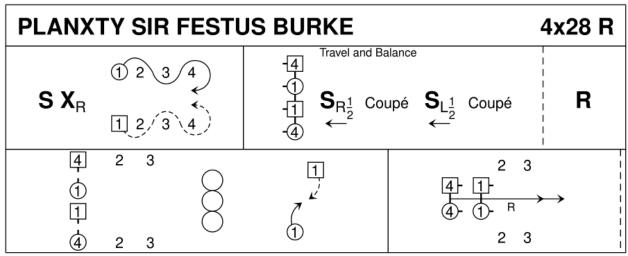
Planxty Sir Festus Burke

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

- 1-8 First couple set, cross over giving right hand in passing, cast off behind second couple, lead down in front of third couple, cast behind fourth couple and meet to finish between fourth couple, all facing the top with nearer hands joined.
- 9-16 First and fourth couples "travel and balance" to the top of the set: they dance one travelling step with the right foot then dance a coupé with the left foot before continuing with a travelling step left foot and coupé right foot; and repeat.
- 17-24 First and fourth couples dance a reel of four across the set, on the last bar first couple do not pass by the left shoulder but instead meet to be ready to lead down with right hand.
- 25-28 First couple followed by fourth couple lead down to fourth place, second and third couples step up on bars 25 & 26.

Repeat with new top couple.

Recommended tune: Planxty Sir Festus Burke



John W Mitchell, Whetherly Book 9

4C/4C longwise set.

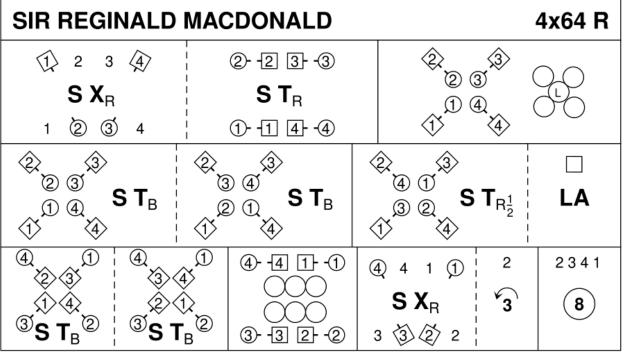
Sir Reginald MacDonald

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

- 1-4 First lady and second man set and change places giving right hand in passing, third man and fourth lady do the same.
- 5-8 All set to partners and turn with the right hand to finish with the men back to back in the centre of the set facing their partners at the four corners.
- 9-16 Double diagonal reels of four, first and third couple dance a reel of four, second and fourth couples do the same, all give left hands across half way in the centre. All finish facing partner.
- 17-24 All set to and turn corners with two hands: men set to and turn partner moving one place anticlockwise and repeat with next lady to finish facing the diagonally opposite lady to their own partner.
- 25-28 All set and turn half way with the right hand.
- 29-32 The ladies dance left hands across in a wheel once round to finish facing their corners.
- The ladies set to and turn corners with both hands, as previously described to finish facing their own partners on the diagonally opposite side of the set.
- 41-48 First and fourth couples dance a reel of four on the ladies' side of the set, whilst third and second couples dance a reel of four on the men's side of the set; all commence by passing own partner by the right.
- 49-52 Fourth man (in first lady's place) and third lady (in second man's place) set and change places giving right hand: whilst second lady (in third man's place) and first man (in fourth lady's place) also set and change places giving right hand.
- 53-56 Second couple (in fourth place) cast up to the top, third, fourth and first couples join hands on the sides and step down on bars 55 & 56.
- 57-64 Eight hands round in a circle to the left and back to the right.

Repeat with a new top couple.

Recommended tune: Sir Reginald MacDonald



John W Mitchell, Whetherly Book 9

4C/4C longwise set.

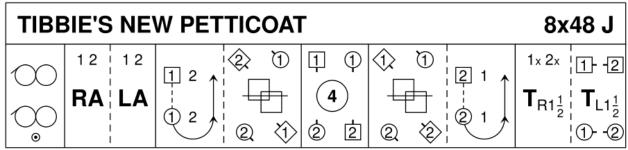
Tibbie's New Petticoat

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

- 1-8 First, second and third couples dance reels of three on own side of the set, first and second couples pass by the right shoulder to commence.
- 9-16 First and second couples dance right hands across in a wheel and back with the left hands.
- 17-20 First man followed by his partner casts off and crosses to the opposite side, second couple step up on bars 19 & 20.
- 21-24 First and second couples dance half a ladies' chain.
- 25-32 First and second couples dance four hands round to the left in a circle and back to the right.
- 33-36 First and second couples dance half a ladies' chain.
- 37-40 Second man followed by his partner cast off into second place and cross over to the opposite side, first couple step up on bars 39 & 40.
- 41-44 First and second couples turn partner one and a half times with the right hand to finish in original places.
- 45-48 First and second ladies turn with the left hand one and a half times to change places, first and second men do the same.

Repeat from second place.

Recommended tune: Tibbie's New Petticoat



John W Mitchell, Whetherly Book 9

3C/4C longwise set.

Uscita

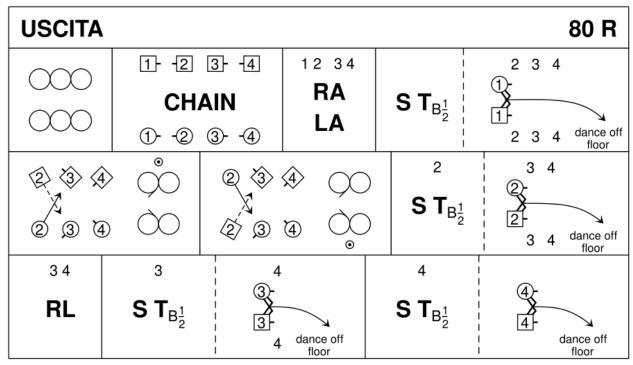
An eighty bar Reel for four couples in a longwise set.

- 1-8 All four couples dance reels of four on own side of the set.
- 9-16 First and third couples face down, second and fourth couples face up, all dance a grand chain one step to each hand.
- 17-24 First and second couples dance right hands across in a wheel and back with the left hand, third and fourth couples do the same.
- 25-28 First couple set and turn half way with two hands to face down.
- 29-32 First couple promenade down the middle of the set and off the floor.
- 33-40 Second couple cross between third couple to dance reels of three on the opposite side of the set with third and fourth couples.
- 41-48 Second couple cross back to dance reels of three on own side of the set.
- 49-52 Second couple set and turn half way with two hands.
- 53-56 Second couple promenade down the middle and off.
- 57-64 Third and fourth couples dance rights and lefts.
- 65-68 Third couple set and turn half way with both hands.
- 69-72 Third couple promenade down the middle and off.
- 73-76 Fourth couple set and turn half way with both hands.
- 77-80 Fourth couple promenade off.

Recommended tune: The Highland Brigade at Tel-El-Kebir

Note

To finish a demonstration the music should continue until all dancers have left the floor. At a Ball the dancers may Polka down the middle and continue with a Polka, until all the dancers are exhausted.



John W Mitchell, Whetherly Book 9

4C/4C longwise set.

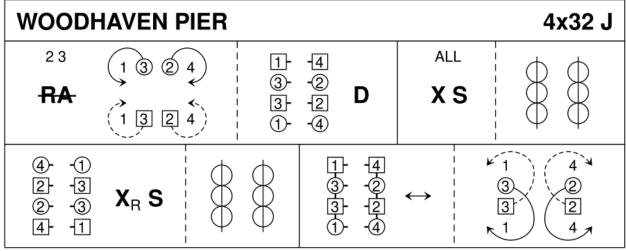
Woodhaven Pier

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

- 1-2 Second and third couples dance right hands across half way in a wheel to finish facing out.
- 3-4 Third couple cast up to finish between first couple all facing down whilst second couple cast down to finish between fourth couple all facing up.
- 5-8 All dance back to back, up and down the set.
- 9-12 All change places up and down the set, and set.
- 13-16 All dance a half reel of four across the set.
- 17-20 All change places right hand up and down the set, and set.
- 21-24 All dance a half reel of four across the set.
- 25-28 All join hands facing up and down and advance and retire.
- 29-32 Third couple cross back to second place on own side and cast up to the top, first couple step down on bars 31 & 32; whilst second couple cross back to third place on own side and cast to the foot, fourth couple step up on bars 31 & 32. Finish in the order 3, 1, 4, 2.

Repeat with new top couple.

Recommended tune: Woodhaven Pier



John W MItchell, Whetherly Book 9

4C/4C longwise set.

Version History

1.00 / 2021-05-31	First re-published version.
	This day marks what would have been John's 90th birthday.
1.01 / 2022-12-03	Description of "The Bucksburn Reel" has been altered. See notes.
1.02 / 2023-09-26	Correction of "Sir Reginald MacDonald" where bars 41-48 showed wrong couple
	numbers.
1.03 / 2023-10-13	Keith Rose's diagrams added.
1.04 / 2024-02-18	Keith Rose's diagram of "Uscita" corrected