

Riverside Dances

revised edition



Although we only ‘discovered’ Scottish Country Dancing in 2010, we can no longer imagine life without it. That we should be so bold as to start devising new dances just a few years after making our first inelegant attempts at pas-de-basque, however, may well raise a few eyebrows among more experienced dancers. After all, there are plenty of dances to choose from already. At first we sought merely to put together combinations of figures that our group in Dresden particularly enjoyed, or which we specifically wanted to practise. But soon ideas started to spring up more or less of their own accord, giving rise to quite a number of dances. Some were inspired by a desire to thank people who had contributed to our progress, such as Marie Stanzel from Prague or Carola Fischer from the Kuckucksnest in Schlüchtern. Sometimes it was interesting places in Scotland that generated a creative spark, and occasionally the stimulation came from a certain piece of music.



After first trying the dances out ourselves, we decided to ask some other groups to act as ‘guinea pigs’, testing the flow of the transitions, checking the written descriptions and providing critical feedback. We should like to take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks to Marie Stanzel and the Prague Caledonian Club, Anselm Lingnau with the Frankfurt SCD Club and Ralf Bolte with the Darmstadt group, as well as Eva Schiedrum and Janneke and Tobias Hüniger, for their helpful comments and suggestions.

Having accumulated 17 dances that appeared to work well, it seemed a pity to keep them to ourselves, and our Silver Wedding anniversary in February 2015 appeared to be a suitable occasion to make them available to a wider circle of dancers. The result is this booklet, which we hope other groups will enjoy using. The recommended music can, of course, be substituted, but in some cases, such as “The Drums of Duntulm Castle” and “Proud Lotus of the East”, we feel that it is definitely worth seeking out the cited CDs!

Incidentally, the view on the cover only just misses the venue, close to the bank of the Elbe, where the Dresden Scottish Country Dancers meet each Monday, which accounts for the title of this collection. With any luck the river will help carry the dances far and wide, hopefully providing some fun and enjoyment wherever they make landfall.

Happy Dancing!

Geraldine and Holger Schuckelt
Oberlichtenau, February 2015

17

Scottish Country Dances

devised
by

Geraldine and Holger Schuckelt



Gerry's Jig	J 4x48	The Standing Stones of Calanais	J 4x32
Diky Marie	S 3x32	Advance but no Retire	R 8x32
Snow White Strathspey	S 3x32	Flora's Cross	S 8x32
The Drums of Duntulm Castle	R 8x32	Promenade on the Brühl Terrace	S 4x32
Loch Snizort Beag	S 4x32	The Gingerbread Man	H 8x32
Proud Lotus of the East	R 8x32	Free Mountain Jig	J 8x32
Fifty-two Summers	M 4x40	The Saxonia Express	J 8x32
The Suitor	S 3x32	The Sixty-String Harp	R 8x32
		Twenty-three Two Ninety	S 3x32

Gerry's Jig

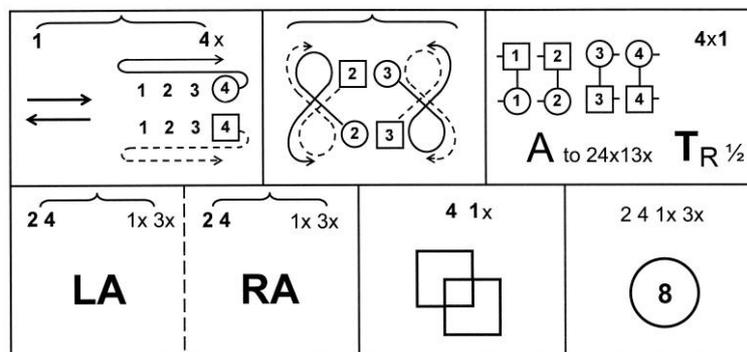
48-bar jig for four couples in a four-couple longwise set
 Two chords: on the second chord 3rd and 4th couples cross over to change sides

by Holger Schuckelt

recommended music:
 "Nellie the Elephant" (traditional)
 recorded (with only one chord) as:
 "Elephant's Stampede" on "Fisherman's Reel" by Marian Anderson's Scottish Dance Band

- 1-8 1st couple lead down the middle and up to finish in original places **while** 4th couple cast up, dance up behind own lines, turn outwards and dance back to places
- 9-16 2nd and 3rd couples dance figures of eight round end couples to finish in second/third places in the middle of the set facing up or down; 1st and 4th couples step in on bar 16 (all finish in promenade hold)
- 17-24 1st and 2nd couples and 3rd and 4th couples dance an interlocking allemande (1st and 2nd couples dance a normal allemande but end in third/first places, **while** 3rd and 4th couples dance an allemande down, up to fourth/second places); inner couples, giving right hands, turn halfway round on bars 23-24 to finish 2 4 (1) (3)
- 25-32 2nd and 4th couples and 1st and 3rd couples dance left hands across and right hands across back to places
- 33-40 4th and 1st couples dance ladies' chain
- 41-48 All four couples dance eight hands round and back

Repeat with a new top couple.



Devised to celebrate Geraldine's 49th birthday in June 2012.
 It was her idea to found the Dresden Scottish Country Dancers. The music recommended for this dance is a combination of various English children's songs, evoking many memories of Geraldine's childhood in Sale, Cheshire.



Geraldine
at the 40th Anniversary Ball of the Munich Scottish Association in Ismaning, July 2013



Marie
during a workshop of the Dresden Scottish Country Dancers, 20th November 2013

Díky Marie

32-bar strathspey for three couples in a three-couple longwise set

by Geraldine and Holger Schuckelt

recommended music:

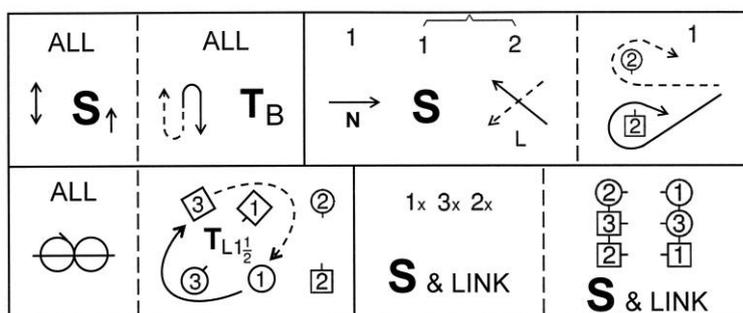
“Miss Trotter” by James McIntosh

recorded as:

“The Partnership” on “Vintage Goldring” by Muriel Johnstone and Keith Smith

- 1-2 All, taking hands on the sidelines, advance one step and retire
 3-4 All set advancing and pass by the left to finish back to back with partners
 5-6 All, pulling back by the right, dance back to original places
 7-8 All, giving partner both hands, turn once round
 9-12 1st couple dance down the middle with nearer hands and set **while** 2nd couple, giving left hands, cross up one place to opposite sides on bars 11-12
 13-16 1st couple dance up (1st woman in the middle, 1st man out between 2nd woman and 3rd man) and round 2nd couple by the right to finish (2s) 1s 3s
 17-20 1st couple with 2nd and 3rd couples dance half reels of three on sides of the set (1st couple pass 3rd couple by the left to begin) to finish 3s 1s (2s)
 21-24 3rd man turns 1st woman with the left hand one and a half times **while** 1st man and 3rd woman chase clockwise halfway to finish (1s) (3s) (2s)
 25-32 1st, 3rd and 2nd couples set and link twice

Repeat with a new top couple.



Devised for Marie Stanzel in October 2012

to thank her for teaching the Dresden Scottish Country Dancers.

Marie is an SCD teacher and active dancer from Prague and helped the Dresden group from the very beginning.

“Díky” is Czech and means “thank you”.

Snow White Strathspey

32-bar strathspey for 3 couples in a three-couple longwise set

by Holger Schuckelt

recommended music:

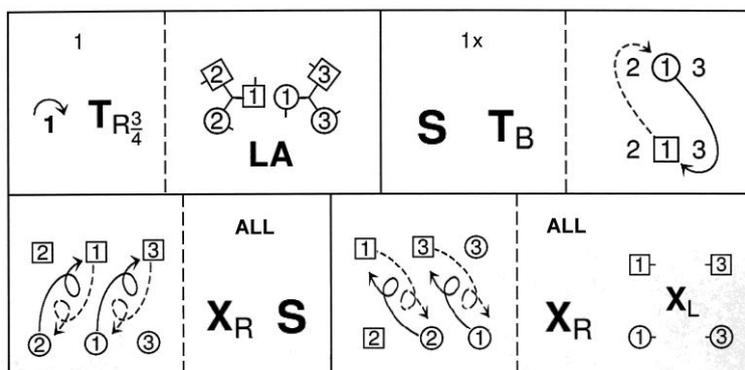
“Hallgerd the Beautiful” by Bob Mc Murtry

recorded as:

“The Slopes of Hlidarendi” on “The Devil’s Quandary” by Deby Benton Grosjean et al.

- 1-2 1st couple cast off one place **while** 2nd couple step up
 3-4 1st couple, giving right hands, turn three quarters round to finish in the middle of the set (1st woman left shoulder to 2nd couple and 1st man left shoulder to 3rd couple)
 5-8 1st woman with 2nd couple and 1st man with 3rd couple dance left hands across to finish 1st couple in second place on opposite sides slightly towards the middle
 9-10 1st couple set
 11-12 1st couple, giving both hands, turn once round
 13-16 1st woman dances a half figure of eight round 2nd couple **while** 1st man dances a half figure of eight round 3rd couple to finish in second place on own sides
 17-20 1st woman and 2nd man and 1st man and 3rd woman pass by the right, turn to face each other and turn about to dance into each other’s places
 21-24 All, giving right hands, cross over and, taking hands on sidelines, set
 25-28 1st woman and 2nd man and 1st man and 3rd woman pass by the right, turn to face each other and turn about to dance into each other’s places
 29-30 All, giving right hands, cross over
 31-32 1st couple, facing 3rd couple on the sides, giving left hands, change places

Repeat with a new top couple.



Written on the morning of 8th December 2012
 for the Christmas party of the Dresden Scottish Country Dancers that evening.
 The name of the dance was Geraldine’s idea, because it was a cold and snowy day.

The Drums of Duntulm Castle

32-bar reel for three couples in a four-couple longwise set

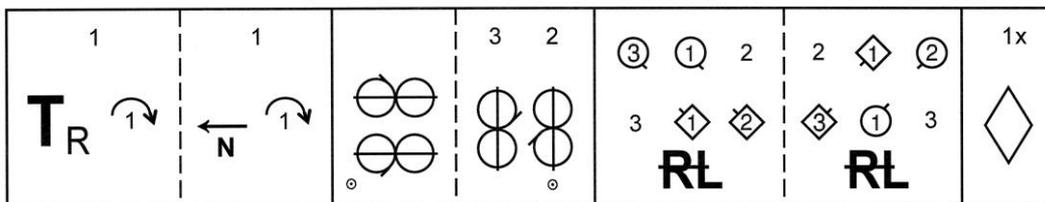
by Holger Schuckelt

recommended music:
 "Return from India" (traditional)
 recorded as:

"The Magic of Merrill" on "Dance for Joy!" by Reel of Seven

- 1-2 1st couple turn with the right hand
- 3-4 1st couple cast off one place **while** 2nd couple step up
- 5-8 1st couple dance up the middle and cast off to second place
- 9-12 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples dance half mirror reels of three on own sides
 (1st and 3rd men pass by the right to begin **while** 1st and 3rd women pass by
 the left)
- 13-16 1st woman with 3rd couple and 1st man with 2nd couple dance half reels
 of three across the set (1st woman and 3rd man and 1st man and 2nd woman
 pass by the left to begin) to finish (3) (1) (2)
- 17-24 1st couple dance diagonal rights and lefts (1st woman starting up and
 1st man down) to finish 1st couple in second place on opposite sides
- 25-32 1st couple dance half petronella back to own sides

Repeat, having passed a couple.



This dance was written by Holger in
 January 2013.

The drum solo in "The Magic of
 Merrill" reminded him of the
 crashing of the waves around
 Duntulm Castle at the northern coast
 of the Isle of Skye.



Duntulm Castle



Loch Snizort Beag with the Cuillin Hills

Loch Snizort Beag

32-bar strathspey for four couples in a four-couple longwise set

by Holger Schuckelt

recommended music:

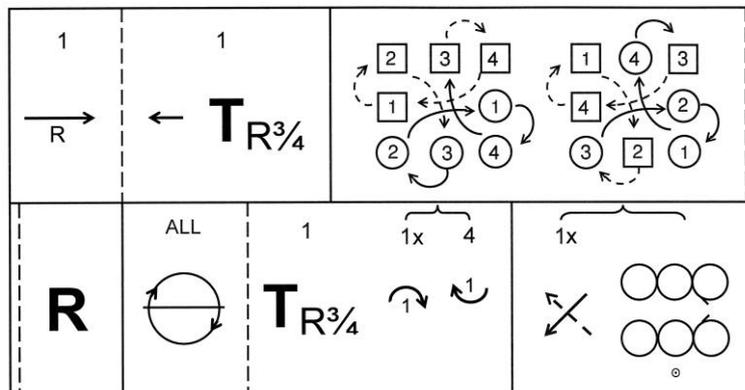
“Cha toir Iain Mor an nighean dhomh” (traditional)

recorded as:

“Eilean Ban” on “A Skye Collection” by Muriel Johnstone and Colin Dewar

- 1-4 1st couple lead down the middle
 5-6 1st couple lead up the middle to finish between 3rd couple
 7-8 1st couple, giving right hands, turn three quarters to finish 1st woman between 2nd couple facing up and 1st man between 4th couple facing down (3rd couple turn right about to face out on bar 8)
 9-16 All dance half Schiehallion reels
 (“corners” dance to the middle of the side beyond the corner to their right **while** “middles” cast to the corner next to them, on their right)
 17-20 All chase clockwise halfway
 21-22 1st couple, giving right hands, turn three quarters to finish in third place on opposite sides facing out **while** 2nd and 3rd couples take hands and step up
 23-24 1st couple cast off one place on opposite sides **while** 4th couple dance up into third place to finish facing down
 25-32 1st couple cross up into mirror reels of four on own sides (right shoulder on women’s side and left shoulder on men’s side) to finish 2 3 4 1

Repeat with a new top couple.



Devised in January 2013.

Loch Snizort Beag is a sea loch in the northwest of the Isle of Skye between the Waternish and Trotternish peninsulas.

In May 2012 we spent a lovely two-week holiday in a cottage overlooking the loch.

Proud Lotus of the East

32-bar reel for three couples in a four-couple longwise set

by Holger Schuckelt

recommended music:

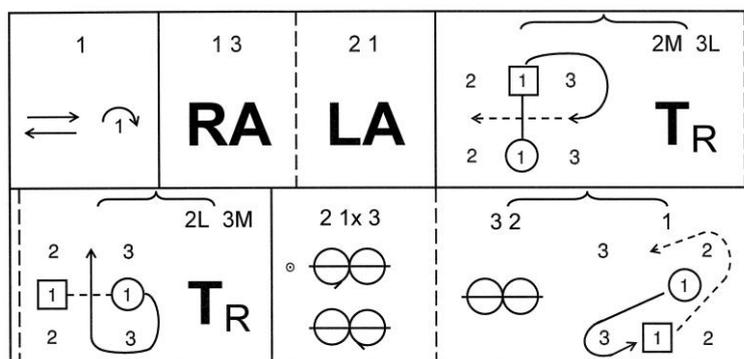
“Reel of the Royal Scots” by P.M. C. T. Clark

recorded as:

“Reel of the Royal Scots” on “Dance for Joy!” by Reel of Seven

- 1-8 1st couple lead down the middle, back to the top and cast off one place **while** 2nd couple step up on bars 7-8
- 9-12 1st and 3rd couples dance right hands across once round
- 13-16 1st and 2nd couples dance left hands across once round
- 17-20 1st couple, in tandem, and first corners dance corner pass and turn (1st couple dance round men’s first corner position to finish woman between 2nd couple and man between 3rd couple and turn right about to face down **while** 2nd man and 3rd woman turn by the right quickly and return to places)
- 21-24 1st couple, in tandem, and second corners dance corner pass and turn (1st couple dance round women’s second corner position to finish in second place on opposite sides **while** 2nd woman and 3rd man turn by the right quickly and return to places)
- 25-28 1st couple with 2nd and 3rd couples dance half reels of three on opposite sides (1st woman passes 2nd man by the left and 1st man passes 3rd woman by the right to begin)
- 29-32 1st woman dances a half figure of eight round 3rd woman’s position and 1st man dances a half figure of eight round 1st man’s position to finish in second place on own sides **while** 2nd and 3rd couples continue to dance reels of three on own sides

Repeat, having passed a couple.



Devised in July 2013

for Asmita, whose name means ‘pride’.

The figures in the dance are reminiscent of the flowers and tendrils of the lotus plant.



Asmita Majumder Schuckelt

Fifty~two Summers

40-bar medley (2S + 2R) for four couples in a square set

by Holger Schuckelt

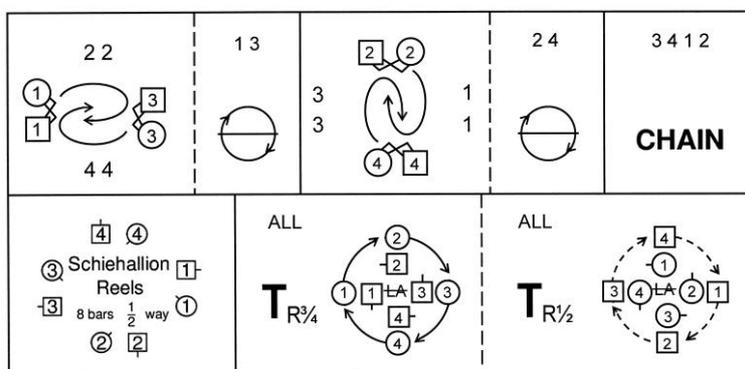
recommended music:

“Mrs. McInroy of Lude” by J. Lowe and “Laxoburn” by A. S. Robinson
recorded as:

160-bar medley on “The Macadians Dancing Master” by The Macadians

- 1-4 1st and 3rd couples, taking promenade hold, dance round each other passing right shoulder
 5-8 1st and 3rd couples, still in promenade hold, chase clockwise halfway round outside the set
 9-16 2nd and 4th couples repeat bars 1-8; in bar 16 all four couples turn about to face partner
 17-24 All couples dance a grand chain; at the end women look out, men in
 25-32 All couples dance half Schiehallion reels
 33-34 All couples turn partner three quarters with the right hand to finish women facing anticlockwise on an inner circle and men facing clockwise on an outer circle
 35-36 All women dance left hands across halfway round **while** all men chase clockwise one place
 37-38 All women turn nearest man half with the right hand
 39-40 All men dance left hands across halfway **while** all women chase clockwise one place to finish 2 3 4 1

Repeat with a new top couple.



Devised by Holger on his 52nd birthday in July 2013.
Geraldine suggested the name on account of the hot summer weather.

The Suitor

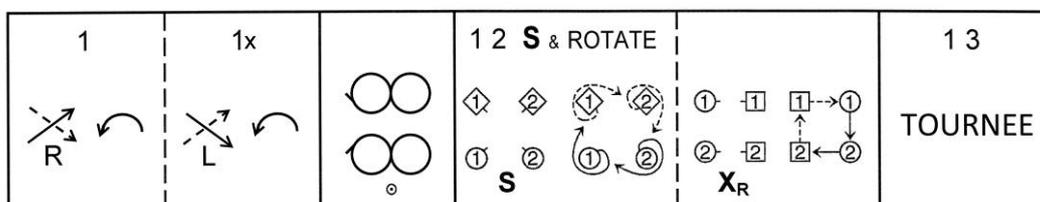
32-bar strathspey for three couples in a three-couple longwise set

by Holger Schuckelt

recommended music:
 “The Courting Couple” by Stefan Schatz

- 1-4 1st couple, giving right hands, cross down one place and then cast up to first place on opposite sides
- 5-8 1st couple, giving left hands, cross down one place and then cast up to original places
- 9-16 All dance mirror reels of three on own sides
 (1st and 2nd men pass by the right to begin **while** 1st and 2nd women pass by the left)
- 17-24 1st and 2nd couples set and rotate
- 25-32 1st and 3rd couples dance the tournée:
 (1st and 3rd couples dance into promenade hold [men with partner on the right, 1st couple face men's side and 3rd couple face women's side], couples wheel anticlockwise halfway and men turn women into the middle, both couples turn one and a half times [3rd couple by the right and 1st couple by the left] and dance out to places)

Repeat with a new top couple.



Holger was inspired to devise this dance in August 2013 by a conversation about flirting in Scottish Country Dancing.

The dancing couple repeatedly meet and separate, finally coming closer together in the tournée.

The Standing Stones of Calanais

32-bar jig for four couples in a square set

by Holger Schuckelt

recommended music:

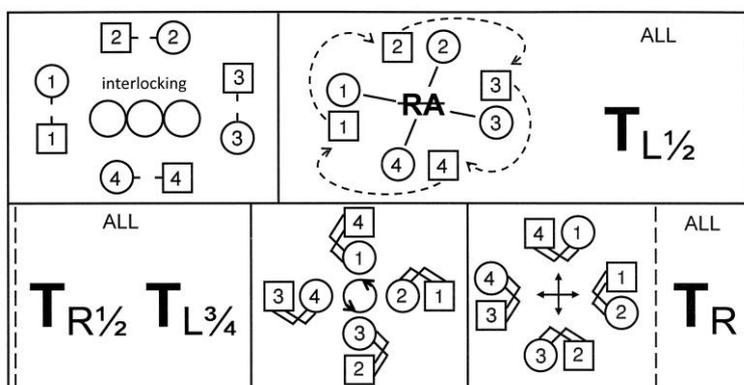
“Capt. Campbell of Lochnell’s Reel” by Robert Mackintosh

recorded as:

“The Diamond Jubilee” on “Heather Hills” by Mara Shea and Dave Wiesler

- 1-8 All couples dance interlocking reels of four, passing partners by the right to begin, to finish men facing in and women facing out
- 9-10 All men dance right hands across halfway round **while** all women cast one position to the right, to finish men in opposite man’s position and women on next woman’s position clockwise
- 11-12 1st man and 2nd woman, 2nd man and 3rd woman, 3rd man and 4th woman and 4th man and 1st woman, giving left hands, turn halfway round
- 13-14 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th couples, giving right hands on corner positions, turn halfway round
- 15-16 1st man and 4th woman, 2nd man and 1st woman, 3rd man and 2nd woman and 4th man and 3rd woman turn with left hands three quarters round, release hands and all four men swivel left about, to finish facing anticlockwise
- 17-24 All newly formed couples, taking promenade hold, dance anticlockwise round the set to finish all facing in
- 25-28 All couples advance and retire in promenade hold
- 29-32 All couples release left hands and turn partner with right hands

Newly formed couples repeat three times from new positions.



Devised in November 2013.

This dance was inspired by the Callanish Stone Circle on the west coast of Lewis in the Outer Hebrides, which combines both a cross and a circle formation.

Callanish is the English form of the Gaelic Calanais.



Callanish Stone Circle on the west coast of Lewis





Carola
during the autumn course at the "Kuckucksnest" in October 2013

Advance but no Retire

32-bar reel for three couples in a four-couple longwise set

by Geraldine and Holger Schuckelt

recommended music:

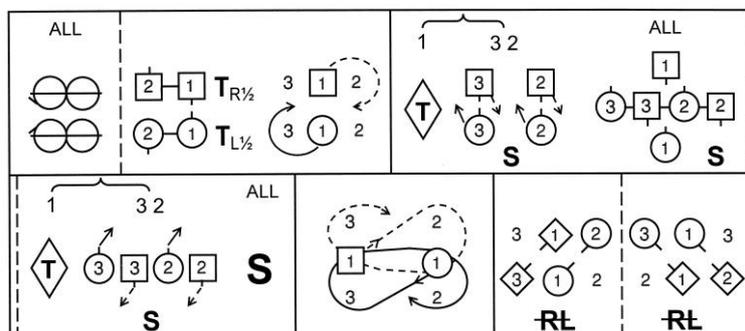
“Aileen’s Reel” by Neil Barron

recorded as:

“Dancing on” on “Vintage Goldring” by Muriel Johnstone and Keith Smith

- 1-4 1st, 2nd and 3rd couples dance half mirror reels of three on sides (1st and 2nd men pass by the right to begin and 1st and 2nd women pass by the left)
- 5-6 1st and 2nd couples turn half way round on the sides (1st and 2nd men with the left hand and 1st and 2nd women with the right)
- 7-8 1st couple dance round partner’s first corner by the right to finish 1st man between 3rd couple facing down and 1st woman between 2nd couple facing up
- 9-12 1st couple dance a petronella turn **while** 2nd and 3rd couples advance (pas-de-basque) slightly to the left to finish 1st couple in second place on own sides and 2nd and 3rd couples joining hands in a line of four in the middle of the set, all set
- 13-16 1st couple dance a petronella turn **while** 2nd and 3rd couples do not retire but advance (pas-de-basque) slightly to the right to finish in lines of three across the set (1st woman and 3rd couple facing down and 1st man and 2nd couple facing up), all set
- 17-24 1st couple dance round partner’s first corner by the right, pass partner by the right and dance round partner’s second corner to finish in second place on own sides
- 25-32 All dance diagonal rights and lefts

Repeat, having passed a couple.



Devised for Carola Fischer to thank her for her dedication and commitment to Scottish Country Dancing, and presented at the last joint course for beginners and intermediate dancers at the “Kuckucksnest” in March 2014. The idea for the dance was that Carola should ‘advance’ to new horizons but not ‘retire’ from dancing!

Flora's Cross

32-bar strathspey for three couples in a four-couple longwise set

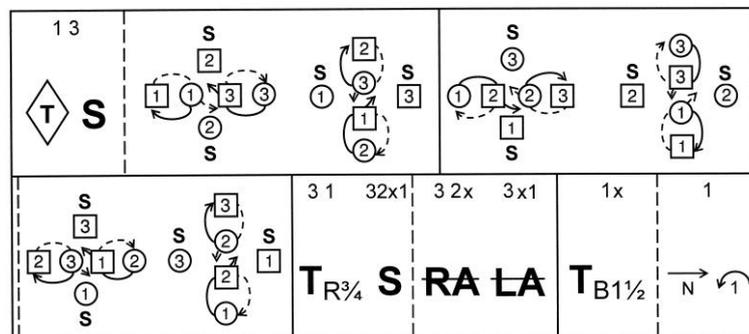
by Holger Schuckelt

recommended music:
 "Invercauld's Reel" (traditional)
 recorded as:

"Invercauld's Reel" on "Heather Hills" by Mara Shea and Dave Wiesler

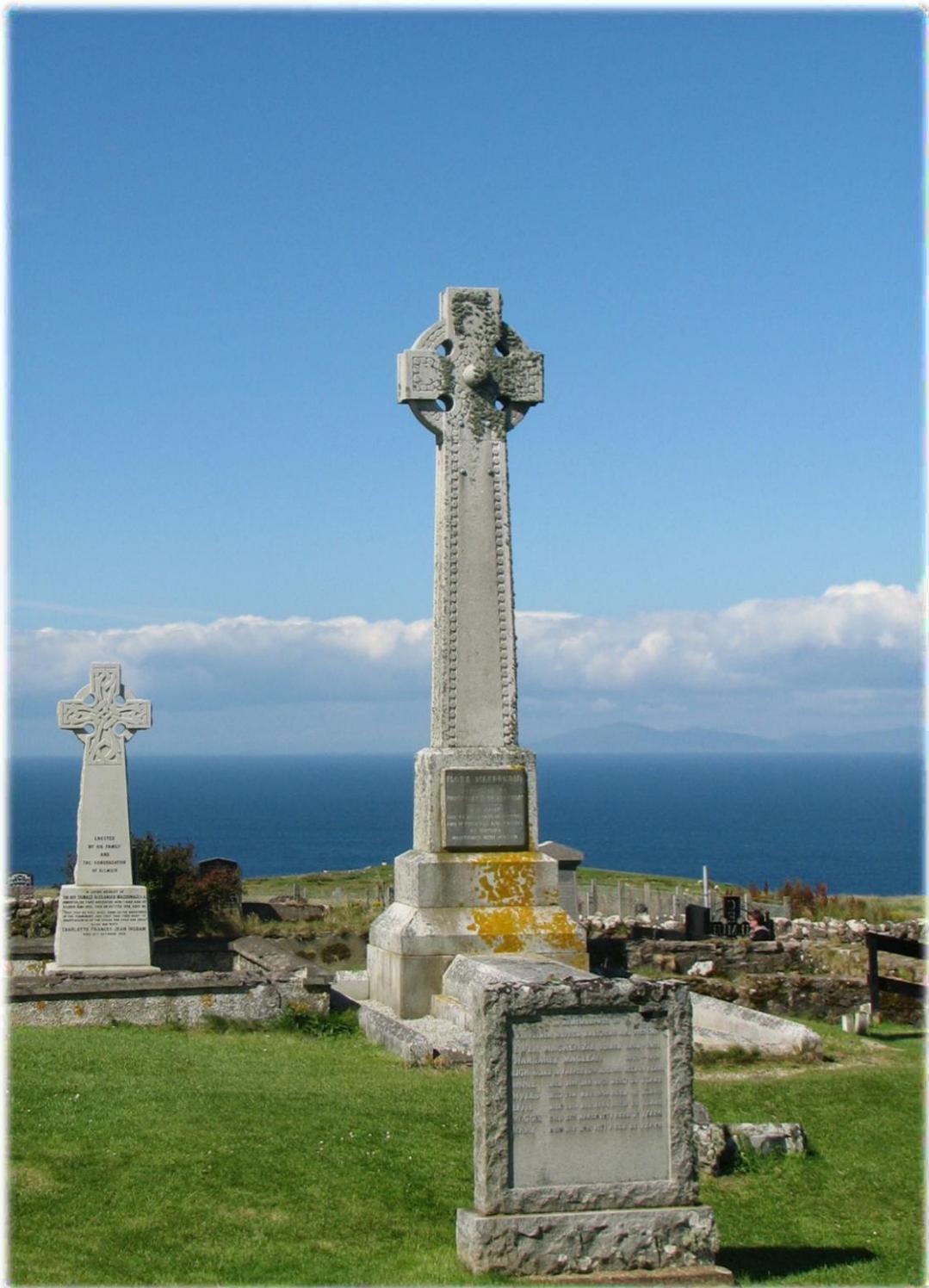
- 1-4 1st and 3rd couples dance a petronella turn and set to partners
- 5-6 1st and 3rd couples dance a quarter reel of four in the middle of the set **while** 2nd couple set to each other
- 7-8 1st woman, 2nd couple and 3rd man dance a quarter reel of four across the set **while** 1st man and 3rd woman set to each other
- 9-16 All three couples repeat bars 5-8 twice from new places
- 17-18 3rd and 1st couples turn with the right hand three quarters to own sides to finish 3 (2) 1
- 19-20 3rd, 2nd and 1st couples, taking hands, set on the sidelines
- 21-22 3rd and 2nd couples dance right hands across halfway round
- 23-24 3rd and 1st couples dance left hands across halfway round to finish 2 (1) 3
- 25-28 1st couple, giving both hands, turn one and a half times
- 29-32 1st couple dance down and cast up to second place on own sides

Repeat, having passed a couple: on bars 31-32, 4th couple step up into third place **while** 1st couple loop into fourth place instead of casting up.



This dance, devised in March 2014, was inspired by the monument to Flora MacDonald in Kilmuir Cemetery on the Isle of Skye.

The cross shape formed by the reels of four is reminiscent of the memorial stone.



Flora MacDonald's monument

The Gingerbread Man

32-bar hornpipe for three couples in a four-couple longwise set

by Geraldine and Holger Schuckelt

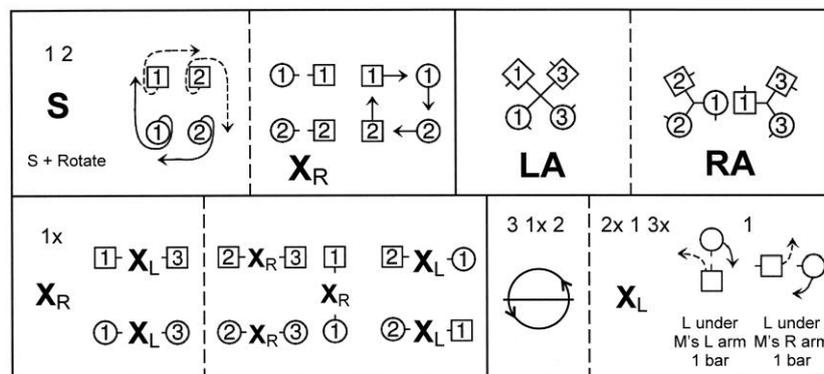
recommended music: "Jacky Tarr" (traditional)

recorded as:

"Fahyda" on "12 Scottish Country Dances devised by Mervyn Short" by Green Ginger

- 1-8 1st and 2nd couples set and rotate
 9-12 1st and 3rd couples dance left hands across once round
 13-16 1st man with 2nd couple and 1st woman with 3rd couple dance right hands across once round to finish 1st couple in second place on opposite sides
 17-24 All three couples dance a variation of progressive chain (1st couple, giving right hands, cross over; 1st and 3rd couples, giving left hands, cross down/up one place; 1st couple, giving right hands, cross over **while** 2nd and 3rd couples, giving right hands, cross down/up one place; 1st and 2nd couples, giving left hands, cross up/down one place) to finish 3 (1) 2
 25-28 3rd, 1st and 2nd couples chase anticlockwise halfway to finish (2) 1 (3)
 29-32 1st couple dance first four bars of a left-hand la baratte (1st couple cross by the left and retain hold with arms fully extended; cross halfway back, raising left arms so that woman can dance under partner's left arm and taking right hand with partner, finishing on the centre line, man behind woman, facing up; continue to cross, releasing left hands and raising right hands so that woman can dance under partner's right arm, finishing in second place on own sides) **while** 2nd and 3rd couples, giving left hands, cross over on bars 29-30

Repeat, having passed a couple.



Devised in July 2014.

Pulsnitz, our local town, is famous for its gingerbread. The dance references both the town and the traditional folk tale in which a boy made of gingerbread is pursued (hence the 'chase') by more and more characters (variation on 'progressive chain') and eventually eaten by a fox (symbolised by the 'baratte' movement at the end).

Free Mountain Jig

32-bar jig for three couples in a four-couple longwise set

by Holger Schuckelt

recommended music:

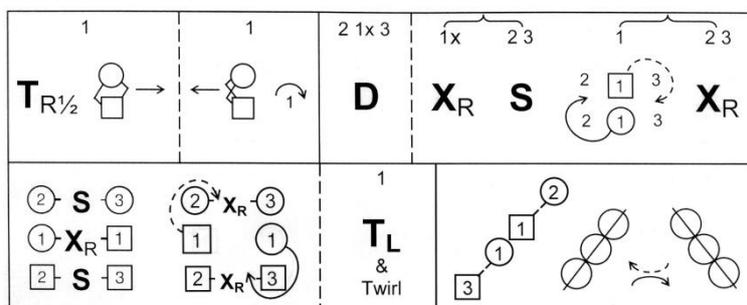
“Away to Chincoteague” by Jim Stevenson-Mathews

recorded as:

“The Abbot of Unreason” on “Dance for Joy! Encore” by Reel of Seven

- 1-2 1st couple turn by the right halfway, 1st woman continuing to turn on the spot under her partner’s arm, finishing on the centre line facing down in allemande hold
- 3-6 1st couple dance down the middle in allemande hold, turn inwards into promenade hold facing up and dance up the middle in promenade hold
- 7-8 1st couple release hands and cast off to second place on opposite sides **while** 2nd couple step up
- 9-12 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples dance back to back
- 13-16 1st couple, giving right hands, cross over and dance round partner’s first corner by the right **while** 2nd and 3rd couples set to partners and, giving right hands, cross over, to finish 1st woman between 3rd couple facing up and 1st man between 2nd couple facing down
- 17-20 1st couple, giving right hands, cross over and dance round partner’s second corner by the right **while** 2nd and 3rd couples set and, giving right hands, cross on the sidelines to finish (3) 1 (2)
- 21-24 1st couple, giving left hands, turn once round to face each other and turn left about to face partner’s first corner
- 25-28 1st couple dance a half diagonal reel of four with first corners, passing by the right to begin, and pass partner by the left
- 29-32 1st couple dance a half diagonal reel of four with second corners, passing by the right to begin, to finish in second place on own sides

Repeat, having passed a couple.



Written for the first joint weekend dance session of the SCD groups from Chemnitz and Dresden in Freiberg in June 2014.



Dancing in Freiberg on 21st June 2014

The Saxonia Express

32-bar jig for three couples in a four-couple longwise set

by Holger Schuckelt

recommended music:

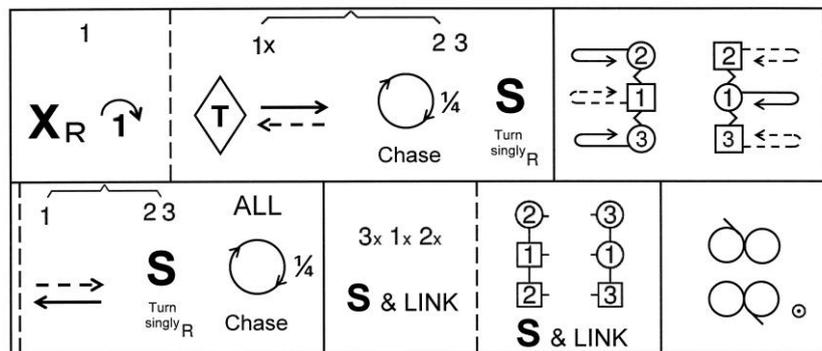
“Jig for the Jappys” by Muriel Johnstone

recorded as:

“Just in Time” on “Campbell’s Birl” by Muriel Johnstone and Keith Smith

- 1-4 1st couple, giving right hands, cross over to opposite sides and cast off one place **while** 2nd couple step up on bars 3-4
- 5-8 1st couple dance a petronella turn and advance two steps passing by the right **while** 2nd and 3rd couples chase clockwise one place and set turning right about to finish 1st woman and 2nd and 3rd men facing up and 1st man and 2nd and 3rd women facing down
- 9-12 1st woman leads 2nd and 3rd men up for two steps **while** 1st man leads 2nd and 3rd women down for two steps, releasing hands, 1st couple turn right about **while** 2nd and 3rd couples turn inwards and, rejoining hands in threes, all advance two steps
- 13-16 1st couple advance two steps passing by the right **while** 2nd and 3rd couples set (2nd woman and 3rd man turning right about) and all three couples chase clockwise one quarter to finish (3) (1) (2) on sidelines
- 17-24 3rd, 1st and 2nd couples set and link twice to finish 2 1 3
- 25-32 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples dance reels of three on own sides (1st and 2nd men and 1st and 3rd women pass by the left to begin)

Repeat, having passed a couple.

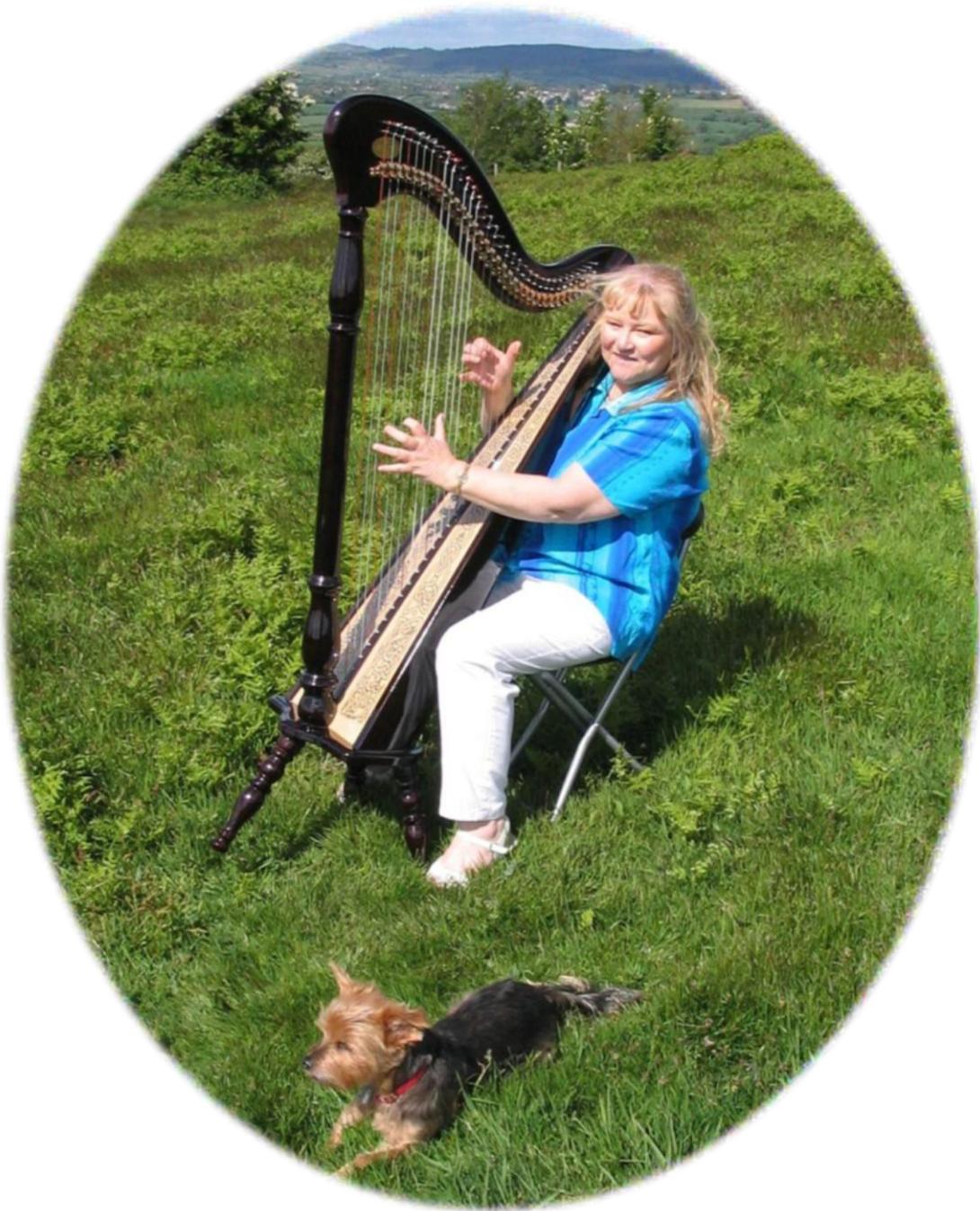


Devised in September 2014 for Keith Paterson who, commuting between Leipzig and Dresden, has danced with the Dresden Scottish Country Dancers since August 2013, helping the group a lot with his knowledge and experience. The name of the dance refers to the first operational German-built steam locomotive. It ran on the Leipzig-Dresden line, which opened in 1839.

An hourly rail service between the two cities is still called the Saxonia Express.



Keith dancing in Dresden, March 2014



Marilyn and Pip on Hope Mountain in North Wales

The Sixty~String Harp

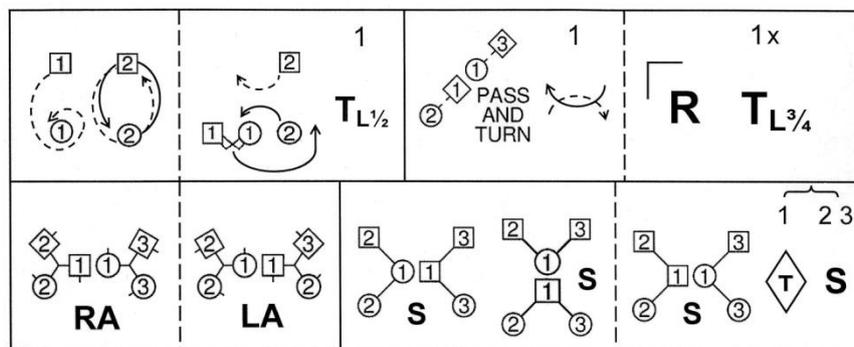
32-bar reel for three couples in a four-couple longwise set

by Geraldine and Holger Schuckelt

recommended music: "Marilyn's Hornpipe" by Bob Mc Murtry
 recorded as: "Marilyn's Reel" on "The Devil's Quandary" by Deby Benton Grosjean et al.

- 1-4 1st woman crosses over and dances by the left round partner to face out on men's side (1st man turns left about on the spot on bar 4 with partner on the right) **while** 2nd couple chase round anticlockwise to finish in own places
- 5-8 1st couple, taking promenade hold, cast off one place (**while** 2nd couple step up on bars 5-6), dance into the middle between 2nd and 3rd couples, release right hands and 1st man leads partner by the left to face first corners
- 9-12 1st couple and first corners dance corner pass and turn, 1st couple passing by the right at the end
- 13-16 1st couple and second corners dance corner pass and turn, at the end
- 17-24 1st couple, taking left hands, turn three quarters
- 17-24 1st woman with 2nd couple and 1st man with 3rd couple dance right hands across once round, 1st couple passing by the right at the end. 1st man with 2nd couple and 1st woman with 3rd couple dance left hands across once round to finish back to back, 1st man facing up to 2nd couple and 1st woman facing down to 3rd couple
- 25-30 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples dance a variation of crown triangles (bars 25-26 1st couple take hands with 2nd / 3rd couple and all perform pas-de-basque; bar 27 all drop hands and, **while** corners perform first bar of pas-de-basque rotating to face across the set, 1st couple perform it with a long movement diagonally right finishing back to back in centre of the set facing out on opposite sides and taking hands with corners; bar 28 all perform second bar of pas-de-basque normally; bar 29 repeat bar 27 from this position, corners rotating to face up/down and 1st couple finishing in centre of the set facing man down, woman up; bar 30 all perform second bar of pas-de-basque normally)
- 31-32 1st couple dance a petronella turn to finish in second place on own sides **while** corners continue setting

Repeat, having passed a couple.



Devised in November 2014 for the 60th birthday of Geraldine's sister Marilyn Hartley,
 an active dancer and musician. She is currently (2017)
 President of the Chester Caledonian Scottish Country Dance Society.

Twenty~three Two Ninety

32-bar strathspey for three couples in a three-couple longwise set

by Geraldine and Holger Schuckelt

recommended music:

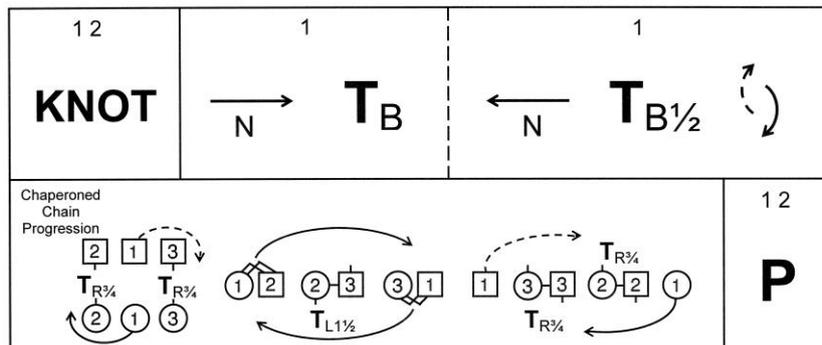
“Beneath the Willow” by Dave Wiesler

recorded as:

“The Silver Thistle Ball” on “Heather Hills” by Mara Shea and Dave Wiesler

- 1-8 1st and 2nd couples dance the knot
 9-16 1st couple dance down with nearer hands for two steps, turn once round with both hands, dance up for two steps, turn halfway round with both hands, release hands after bar 15 and pass by the right to finish in second place on own sides facing out
 17-24 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples dance chaperoned chain progression (2nd and 3rd couples, taking right hands, turn three quarters round to midline **while** 1st couple cast by the right a quarter round the set; 2nd man and 3rd woman, taking left hands, turn one and a half times **while** 1st man with 2nd woman and 3rd man with 1st woman, taking promenade hold, dance halfway clockwise round the set; 1st couple dance clockwise to second place on own sides **while** 3rd and 2nd couples, taking right hands, turn three quarters round to finish in first and third places on own sides)
 25-32 1st and 2nd couples dance a poussette right round

Repeat with a new top couple.



This dance combines some of our favourite figures while allowing the lead couple to dance together most of the time. This seemed apt for a dance devised to celebrate our 25th wedding anniversary in February 2015, and “Silver Thistle Ball” also struck us as a very suitable title as well as being an exceptionally graceful piece of music.



By the River Elbe in Pillnitz near Dresden on our wedding day,
23rd February 1990

