

**THE SHEAF BOOK
OF
SCOTTISH COUNTRY
DANCES**

40

Years of Dance

Sheffield Branch

1955 – 1995

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BARBARA'S JIG

A Jig for 2 couples in a four-couple longwise set

32 bars

Bars

- 1 – 4 1st man and 2nd woman set to each other and change places giving right hands.
5 – 8 1st woman and 2nd man set to each other and change places giving right hands.
9 – 16 1st and 2nd couples, giving hands on the sides, set, dance right hands across half way, then both couples turn their partners by the right hand for four bars.
17 – 24 1st couple lead down for four bars and up for four bars. They stay in the middle with both hands joined. 2nd couple step in on bar 24.
25 – 32 1st and 2nd couples dance a poussette.
Repeat, having passed a couple.

Suggested music:

‘Crown Court’ recorded by Jim McLeod and his Band, on Selected Scottish Dances, CDITV491 Track 5.

Dance devised by Bernard Harris.

Note: Barbara was Bernard's wife.

CORNER CAPERS

A Jig for 3 couples in a four-couple longwise set

32 bars

Bars

- 1 – 2 1st and 2nd couples change places with partners, passing right shoulders.
- 3 – 4 1st and 2nd couples dance right hands across half way round.
- 5 – 8 2nd and 1st couples turn partners with right hands:
– 2nd couple once round to finish in top place,
– 1st couple one and a half times to finish facing first corners.
- 9 – 16 Hello - Goodbye setting. On the last travelling step 1st couple finish back to back in the middle facing their **partner's** first corner.
- 17 – 20 1st couple dance a diagonal half reel of four with their first corners, passing each other right shoulder at the end to face their **partner's** second corner.
- 21 – 24 1st couple dance a diagonal half reel of four with their second corners to finish in second place on their own sides. The order is now 3,1,2, with 3rd and 2nd couples on their partners' sides.
- 25 – 32 1st couple dance diagonal rights and lefts:
- 25 – 26 1st man with 2nd man and 1st woman with 3rd woman cross over giving right hands,
- 27 – 28 1st man with 3rd woman and 1st woman with 2nd man change places on the sides giving left hands,
- 29 – 30 1st man with 2nd woman and 1st woman with 3rd man cross over giving right hands,
- 31 – 32 1st man with 3rd man and 1st woman with 2nd woman change places on the sides giving left hands.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

Suggested music:

'What Do You Want' recorded by The Glendaruel Scottish Dance Band, on Donside Records presents, CDR005 Track 3.

Alternatively:

'The Moray Reel' recorded by David Cunningham, on RSCDS Graded Book, RSCDSCD036/2 Track 3.

Dance devised by Ken Jones.

THE DOO'COT

A Strathspey for 3 couples in a four-couple longwise set

32 bars

Bars

- 1 – 8 1st and 2nd couples dance the Espagnol, 1st couple finishing facing their first corners.
- 9 – 12 1st couple dance a diagonal half reel of four with their first corners and finish by passing left shoulder to face their second corners.
- 13 – 16 1st couple dance a diagonal half reel of four with their second corners and finish in second place on their partner's side. The order is now 3,1,2, all on their partners' sides.
- 17 – 18 All three women (on the men's side) and all three men (on the woman's side) join hands and advance one step and retire one step.
- 19 – 20 The three women and the three men 'link for three' to finish 1st woman between the 2nd couple (at the top) facing down and the 1st man between the 3rd couple (in third place) facing up.
- 21 – 24 1st woman with the 2nd couple, and 1st man with the 3rd couple advance one step and retire one step, and link for three, to finish 2,1,3 on their own sides.
- 25 – 28 1st couple dance out between the couple on their right and cast to second place on their partner's side.
- 28 – 32 1st couple turn one and a half times with both hands and finish in second place on their own side.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

Suggested music:

'Caledonian Rant' recorded by Bobby Crowe and his Scottish Dance Band, on Book 16: Music for Twelve Scottish Country Dances, RSCDSCD049 Track 5.

Dance devised by Dulcie Bond.

Note: The Doo'cot is a structure built to house doves. Dulcie envisaged the doves flying around and into the doo'cot when she devised this dance.

THE KISSING GATES

A Strathspey for 3 couples in a three-couple longwise set

32 bars

Bars

- 1 – 4 1st and 2nd couples dance half rights and lefts. All finish facing diagonally to the centre, 1st man and 2nd woman having made polite turns.
- 5 – 6 1st man and 2nd woman set, whilst 1st woman and 2nd man change places diagonally, giving right hands.
- 7 – 8 1st and 2nd couples chase clockwise one place. 2nd couple are now in top place and 1st couple in second place.
- 9 – 12 2nd and 1st couples dance right hands across once round. 1st man finishes facing out on his own side in second place, ready for:–
- 13 – 16 1st and 3rd couples dance left hands across once round to finish facing partners across the dance.
- 17 – 24 1st and 3rd couples repeat bars 1 – 8.
- 25 – 32 2nd, 3rd and 1st couples dance six hands round and back.

Repeat, with a new top couple.

Suggested music:

‘The Silver Star’ recorded by Rob Gordon and his Band, on The Complete Caledonian Ball, LCOM9007 Track 8.

Dance devised by Ken Jones.

Note: A kissing gate is a gate which allows people to pass through, one at a time, but not livestock. The gate “kisses” the enclosure either side rather than needing to be securely latched. However, some people use the name as an excuse to kiss the following person before letting them through.

RUBY WEDDING STRATHSPEY

A Strathspey for 4 couples in a Square set

80 bars

Bars

- 1 – 8 All circle round and back.
- 9 – 16 Women dance right hands across, then dance left shoulder around partners back to place.
- 17 – 24 Men dance left hands across, then dance right shoulder around partners back to place.
- 25 – 32 All dance a double ladies' chain.
- 33 – 40 All set to partner and turn right hand. All set to corner and turn left hand.
- 41 – 48 All face partners and dance interlocking reels of four on the circle.
- 49 – 56 All dance double rights and lefts. (2nd and 4th couples start by giving right hands to partners).
- 57 – 64 Women dance a figure of eight around partners and corners. (Left shoulder around partner to start).
- 65 – 72 Men dance a figure of eight around partners and corners. (Right shoulder around partner to start).
- 73 – 80 All promenade anti-clockwise around the set. (Retain right hands and face partners for bow and curtsy).

Suggested music:

'The Robertson Rant' recorded by Jim McLeod and his Band, on Selected Scottish Country Dances, CDITV491 Track 4.

Dance devised by Bernard Harris.

Note: This dance was devised for Brenda and John Dawson on the occasion of their Ruby Wedding Anniversary – June 10th 1990.

ST JOHN'S OF ABBEYDALE

A Reel for 3 couples in a four-couple longwise set

32 bars

Bars

- 1 – 4 1st and 2nd couples dance half rights and lefts, 1st man and 2nd woman making polite turns.
- 5 – 8 1st couple dance half a figure of eight around 2nd couple, crossing up to begin.
- 9 – 12 1st couple dance half a figure of eight around 3rd couple, crossing down to begin.
- 13 – 16 1st and 3rd couples dance half rights and lefts, 3rd man making a polite turn. 1st woman finishes facing out on her own side.
- 17 – 20 1st woman, followed by her partner, dances up behind the line on her own side and across the top. 1st couple finish in top place on opposite sides. 2nd and 3rd couples join nearer hands and step down on bars 19 – 20. They retain hands ready to join up with the 1st couple.
- 21 – 24 1st, 2nd and 3rd couples set, then half turn their partners with right hand. 3rd couple return to places; 1st and 2nd couples remain in the middle and join both hands with partners.
- 25 – 32 1st and 2nd couples dance a poussette.
- Repeat, having passed a couple.

Suggested music:

‘Whistlin’ in the Kitchen’ recorded by Frank Reid, on Something Old – Something New, FRLP43 Track 1.

Alternatively:

‘Whistlin’ in the Kitchen’ recorded by Nicol McLaren and the Glencaig Scottish Dance Band, on Craigievar Dances, SHIELCD001 Track 13.

Dance devised by Ken Jones.

Note: The Sheffield Branch of the RSCDS regularly hold social dances in the Church Hall of St John’s of Abbeydale.

STEEL CITY STRATHSPEY

A Strathspey for 4 couples in a four-couple longwise set

32 bars

Bars

- 1 – 4 1st and 4th couples cross over right hand and cast to centre. 2nd and 3rd couples step up/down on bars 3 – 4.
- 5 – 8 1st and 4th couples dance right hands across once round.
- 9 – 12 2nd man with 1st woman, 2nd woman with 1st man, 4th man with 3rd woman and 4th woman with 3rd man turn left hand once round.
- 13 – 16 1st woman with 4th woman and 1st man with 4th man turn right hand on the sides.
- 17 – 20 1st and 4th couples cross over giving right hands and set.
- 21 – 26 All four couples dance 6 bars of a reel of four.
- 27 – 28 All four couples set (Positions now 4,3,2,1).
- 29 – 32 4th couple cast to third place;
3rd couple dance up to the top and cast to second place;
2nd couple dance up to the top;
1st couple turn with both hands once round.

Repeat, with a new top couple.

Suggested music:

‘Belle of Bon Accord’ recorded by Rob Gordon and his Band, on The Complete Caledonian Ball, LCOM9007 Track 15.

Dance devised by Elizabeth Serjeant.

Note: Sheffield is famous for developing the steel making process.

SUPERTRAM

A Jig for 3 couples in a four-couple longwise set

32 bars

Bars

- 1 – 8 1st couple dance down the middle and back and finish facing out.
- 9 – 16 1st, 2nd and 3rd couples dance reels of three on the sides, 2nd couple dancing in and up to start. 3rd couple curve into place. 1st couple finish facing out.
- 17 – 24 1st and 3rd couples dance a double figure of eight around the 2nd couple, 1st couple casting off and 3rd couple crossing up to start. 1st couple finish facing out.
- 25 – 26 1st and 2nd couples change places, 1st and 2nd men giving left hand, and 1st and 2nd women giving right hand.
- 27 – 28 All three couples set.
- 29 – 32 All three couples turn partner's right hand.
- Repeat, having passed a couple.

Suggested music:

'Saint Andrews Gardens' recorded by Jim McLeod and his Band, on Book 35: Music for Eight Scottish Country Dances, RSCDS28 Track 7.

Alternatively:

'Saint Andrews Gardens' recorded by Neil Copland and his Scottish Dance Band, on Book 35: Music for Eight Scottish Country Dances, RSCDSCD054 Track 7.

Dance devised by Elizabeth Serjeant.

Note: Sheffield Supertram commenced operation in March 1994.

TOTLEY TUNNEL CENTENARY (1894 – 1994)

A Strathspey for 5 couples in a five-couple longwise set

32 bars

Bars

- 1 – 8 Snowball chain:
- 1 – 2 1st and 3rd couples cross over giving right hands and face down.
- 3 – 4 1st and 2nd couples change places giving left hands, whilst 3rd and 4th couples do the same.
- 5 – 6 2nd couple (at top) cross over giving right hands, whilst 1st and 4th couples change places giving right hands on the sides, and 3rd and 5th couples do the same.
- 7 – 8 2nd and 4th couples change places giving left hands on the sides, whilst 1st and 5th couples do the same and 3rd couple (at the bottom) cross over giving left hands.

The order is now 4,2,5,1,3 with 1st and 2nd couples on their partners' sides.

- 9 – 16 1st couple dance down between 3rd couple, cast up around them, then dance a half figure of eight around the 5th couple to finish in fourth place on their own sides.

At the same time, 2nd couple dance down between 5th couple, cast up around them, then dance a half figure of eight around the 4th couple to finish in second place on their own sides.

- 17 – 20 All five couples set, then 4th couple with 2nd couple and 5th couple with 1st couple circle left half way round, **whilst** 3rd couple cross over giving right hands.

- 21 – 24 All set, then 2nd couple cross over giving right hands **whilst** 4th couple with 1st couple and 5th couple with 3rd couple circle left half way round, but remain in the centre facing up or down holding nearer hands with their partners.

- 25 – 32 1st couple with 4th couple and 3rd couple with 5th couple dance the rondel, to finish in the order 2,4,1,5,3.

Repeat, with a new top couple.

Suggested music:

'Scotch Mist' recorded by Drummond Cook and his Scottish Dance Band, on Highlander Music Scottish Dances Vol 6, HRMCD506 Track 3.

Dance devised by Hugh and Joyce Porteous.

Note: Totley Tunnel lies near Sheffield on the railway line to Manchester and is the longest tunnel under high ground in the UK. The first figure represents the passengers meeting and greeting each other. The second represents the train travelling along the track. The third represents the digits 1, 0, 0 for the centenary, and the last figure represents the tunnel itself.

THE WOODLAND REEL

A Reel for 3 couples in a four-couple longwise set

40 bars

Bars

- 1 – 8 1st, 2nd and 3rd couples dance Inveran reels.
- 9 – 16 1st couple lead down for three bars, lead up and cast off to second place. 2nd couple step up on bars 15 – 16.
- 17 – 24 1st couple, giving nearer hands, dance down between 3rd couple, cast up one place, then giving nearer hands, dance up to the top and cast off to second place.
- At the same time**, 2nd and 3rd couples face on the sides, set and change places giving right hands, face partners across the dance, set and cross over giving right hands.
- 25 – 32 1st couple dance a diagonal half reel of four with their first corners and pass right shoulder to face second corners. 1st couple dance a diagonal half reel of four with their second corners and pass right shoulder to own side.
- 32 – 40 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples dance six hands round and back.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

Suggested music:

‘Ladies of Dunse’ recorded by Jim McLeod and his Band, on Selected Scottish Country Dances, CDITV491 Track 9.

Dance devised by Bernard Harris.

Note: Bernard lived in Woodland Way, Rotherham when he devised this dance.