THE CANE TOAD COLLECTION

24 Scottish Country Dances
Devised by

Rod Downey

This collection may be downloaded as a pdf file from http://homepages.ecs.vuw.ac.nz/~downey

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## Notes and Acknowledgements

Dances are arranged in increasing order of difficulty, with early ones being teaching dances, and some later ones quite difficult.

I especially wish to thank Iain Boyd for lots of help in the preparation of this book. I would also like to thank Peter Elmes for lots of help with the music, and the dancers of Wellington particularly the Friday night group, and the Johnsonville Club for being good Guinea pigs.
THE DAISY CHAIN

A three couple, 32 bar strathspey.

1-8 First, second and third couples dance reels of three on the sides. First couple cross down between second couple, second couple dance out and up and third couple dance in and up to begin. First couple finish on opposite sides facing down while second couple finish in original places facing up.

9-12 First and second couples set twice.

13-16 First and second couples turn with left hands one and a half times. First and second men finish facing out.

17-24 Second and first couples dance a ladies’ chain across the set.

25-28 Second, first and third couples, with nearer hands joined on the sides, advance with two travelling steps and retire with two travelling steps.

29-32 First couple turns with two hands one and a half time to finish on own sides.

(29-32 (Alternative) Second, first and third couples turn with both hands to finish on own sides.)

Repeat having passed a couple.

Devised June 1998 as a teaching dance to introduce ‘ladies’ chain’. Recommended music is a strong strathspey such as “Bonnie Flowers o’er the Muir” with a suitable recording being by the Berkeley Players “None So Pretty”.

Daisy Macdonald Fanning is my niece. The dance celebrates her birth.
JEANETTE’S HORNPIPE
A three couple, 32 bar hornpipe.

1-8 First couple lead down the middle and back up again to finish back to back in the middle facing first corners. Second couple move up on bars 3-4.

9-12 First couple set to first corners and turn them with both hands and pas de basque. First couple finish facing second corners.

13-16 First couple set to second corners and turn them with both hands and pas de basque. First couple finish on opposite sides in second place.

17-20 Second, first and third couples, with nearer hands joined on the sides, advance with two skip change steps and retire with two skip change steps.

21-24 First couple turn with right hands one and a half times.

25-32 Second, first and third couples dance six hands round and back.

Repeat having passed a couple.

Devised September, 1999 in Wellington, as a teaching dance to introduce 'set to and turn corners.' Recommended tune - "Victoria Hornpipe". Suitable music would be "Mr Wilson’s Hornpipe," on "Scottish Dance Favourites" RSCDS CD 1.

Jeanette is a friend living in Wellington, New Zealand. We did our teaching certificates at much the same time.
SUSAN’S JIG
A three couple, 40 bar jig.

1-8 First couple cross over giving right hands, cast down behind second and third couples on opposite sides, cross over giving left hands, cast up round third couple on own sides and cross over passing by left shoulders to finish facing first corners.
Second and third couples move up on bars 3-4 and third couple move down on bars 7-8.

9-16 First couple dance a reel of four with first corners passing corners by right shoulders to begin. At the end of the reel first couple dance round each other by left shoulders to finish facing second corners.

17-24 First couple dance a reel of four with second corners passing corners by right shoulders to begin. At the end of the reel first couple pass by left shoulders to finish facing first corners.

25-28 First couple turn first corners with right hands once round. At the end of the turn first couple pass by right shoulders to finish facing second corners.

29-32 First couple turn second corners with right hands once round. At the end of the turn first couple pass by right shoulders to finish on own sides in second place.

33-40 Second, first and third couples dance six hands round and back.
Repeat having passed a couple.

Devised in Wellington in June 1997 as a teaching dance to introduce 'diagonal reels of four.' Suitable music is "Middling Thank You" recorded by Fiddlers Three Plus Two on "Scottish Dance Favourites, Volume 1" (RSCDS CD-3), Track 3.

Susan Dorricott dances for many years with the Johnsonville Scottish Country Dance Club.
JENNY FREEMAN’S STRATHSPEY

A two couple, 32 bar strathspey.

1-6 First woman, followed by her partner, casts down round second woman, dances across the set below second couple, casts up round second man and dances across the set back to original place. First couple finish facing second couple. Second couple turn to face up on bar 6.

7-8 First and second men and first and second women turn with right hands once round. First woman and second man finish facing out.

9-16 First and second couples dance a reel of four across. First man and second woman pass by left shoulders while first woman dances down the women’s side and second man dances up the men’s side to begin. At the end of the reel first woman and second man pass by right shoulders to finish in original places.

17-18 First and second men and first and second women turn with right hands once round.

19-20 First and second couples set once with nearer hands joined on the sides.

21-24 First and second couples dance four hands round to the left. At the beginning of bar 24 all drop hands and dance on to finish in original places.

25-32 First and second couples dance ’The Rose’ progression.

Repeat having passed a couple.

The Rose Progression is a new progression.

25-26 First man and second woman set to each other while first woman and second man change places with right hands to finish facing out.

27-28 First man and second woman half turn with both hands to finish facing each other on the diagonal with hands joined while first woman dances up to first man’s place and second man dances down to second woman’s place.

29-30 First man and second woman cast to the right and dance out to the side-lines to finish in each other’s place while first woman and second man half turn with both hands to finish facing each other on the diagonal with hands joined.
31-32 First man dances across to second man’s place
while
second woman dances across to first woman’s place
while
first woman and second man cast to the right and dance out to the
side-lines to finish with first woman in second woman’s place and
second man in first man’s place.
The movements should be danced is as round a shape as possible.

Devised in Wellington during November, 1993. Recommended tune - "The Brig
O’ Bervie" played ABAB.

Suitable music is "The Birks Of Invermay" recorded by Bobby Crowe and his
Scottish Dance Band on "Music For Twelve Scottish Country Dances Book 16"
(RSCDS 47), side 1, track 2.

Jenny is a good friend living in Wellington, New Zealand.
THE LADY IN PINK
A 32 bar jig in a 5 couple longwise set.
Active couples are 1’s and 3’s.

1-2 Active couples turn right hand.

3-4 Active couples cast off on own sides, second and fourth couples step up.

5-8 Active couples turn left hand to face first Corners.

9-10 Active couples and corners all set.

11-12 Active couples turn corners with right hand to finish with active couples taking partners left hand, hand to form a line

13-14 Active couples and 1st corners all balance in line.

15-16 Active couples turn with left hand to 2nd corners.

17-22 Active couples and 2nd Corners repeat 9-14.

23-24 Active couples turn with left hand about $\frac{7}{8}$ around to finish facing each other across the set, on opposite side but in from the sideline.

25-30 Active couples set, cross right hand, cast off one place (fourth and fifth couples step up)

31-32 All take hands on the side and set.

Repeat from new positions

Devised late 2002. It is a teaching dance to introduce 5 couple dances. There are enough delays in the dance to enable the fourth couple to get used to being corners in two parts of the set, and enough partner contact that experienced dancers can guide less so through the dance.

Recommended music is”Spiffin”, and a suitable recording is on the CD ”Kardinia Capers”, by David South and his band.

This dance was written for our treasured treasurer Yu Hayakawa, who loves to wear pink.
THE WORDSMITHS

A four couple, 32 bar strathspey.
Third and fourth couples begin on opposite sides.

1-2 First couple dance down the middle with nearer hands joined
while
fourth couple dance up the middle with nearer hands joined.
First and fourth couples finish facing partner - first man and fourth woman
and first woman and fourth man with nearer hands joined.

3-4 First and fourth couples set.

5-8 First couple dance up the middle with nearer hands joined and cast down
round second couple on own sides
while
fourth couple dance down the middle with nearer hands joined and cast
up round third couple on own sides.
Second couple move up and third couple move down on bars 7-8.

9-16 Second and first couples and fourth and third couples dance an all round
poussette.

17-20 First couple dance a half figure of eight up round second couple
while
fourth couple dance a half figure of eight down round third couple.

21-24 First woman and fourth man and first man and fourth woman turn with
both hands one and a half times.

25-28 Second, fourth, first and third couples, with nearer hands joined on the
sides, advance with two travelling steps and retire with two travelling
steps.

29-32 Second, fourth, first and third couples turn partner with both hands
once round.

Repeat from new positions.
Devised during May 1999 for David Naulls and Christine Williams and named
after their business.
The 'all round poussette' should be danced as a 'diamond poussette' - as descr
ibed in the original edition of RSCDS Book 19 - see "TAC Notes on RSCDS
Suitable music - "The Bob O’ Dowally".
ISLA’S FANCY
A three couple, 40 bar strathspey.

1-2 First, second and third couples set with nearer hands joined on the sides.

3-8 First, second and third women cross over, pass their partner by left shoulders and dance a chase down behind the three men, across the set below third place and up the women’s side-line to finish in the order - third, second and first women.

9-10 First, second and third couples set with nearer hands joined on the sides.

11-12 First man dances a “Petronella” turn to finish in the middle facing up while first woman dances a “Petronella” turn to finish in the middle facing down while second and third men dance ”Petronella” turns ’in tandem’ to finish side by side in third place facing up while third and second women dance ”Petronella” turns ’in tandem’ to finish side by side in top place facing down.

13-14 First, second and third couples set - third and second women and second and third men with nearer hands joined.

15-16 First man dances a “Petronella” turn to finish in first woman’s place while first woman dances a ”Petronella” turn to finish in third man’s place while third and second women dance ”Petronella” turns ’in tandem’ to finish on the men’s side-line - third woman in second man’s place and second woman in first man’s place while second and third men dance ”Petronella” turns ’in tandem’ to finish on the women’s side-line - second man in third women’s place and third man in second woman’s place.

17-18 First, second and third couples set with nearer hands joined on the sides.

19-24 First, third and second men cross over, pass their partner by left shoulders and dance a chase down behind the three women, across the set below third place and up the women’s side-line to finish in the order - second, third and first men.

25-28 Second, third and first couples advance and retire with nearer hands joined.

29-32 Second, third and first couples turn partner with both hands one and a half times.
Second, third and first couples dance six hands round and back.

Repeat from new positions.

Devised in late 2001 for Eric Norris to celebrate his ninetieth birthday. Eric and his wife Isla are very longstanding life members of the Johnsonville Club. They have been very kind to beginners (such as to me when I started) for many many years, and still dance regularly.

There is no recorded $3 \times 40$ strathspey that I find suitable. I would recommend either the Lover’s Knot or Snow in Summer (Berkeley Players) as suitable tunes, despite the fact that they do not have the correct number or repeats.
LIYALL BAY

A three couple, 32 bar strathspey.

1-4 First couple cast down round second couple and dance up between them with nearer hands joined to finish in the middle in first place facing up while second couple dance up the middle with nearer hands joined and cast down to finish in original places.

5-8 First, second and third couples dance half reels of three on own sides. First couple dance out and down, second couple dance in and up while third couple cast up to begin. At the end of the half reels third couple cast into first place while second and first couples finish in a line of four across the set between second and third places with second couple in the middle facing down with nearer hands joined and first couple on the outside facing up.

9-12 Second couple dance down and out to finish on the side-lines in third place, cast up round first couple, dance down the middle with nearer hands joined and cast into third place while first couple dance up and in to finish in the middle in second place facing down, dance down with nearer hands joined to finish on the side-lines in third place and cast up round second couple to finish in the middle in second place facing up with nearer hands joined.

13-16 First couple dance up between third couple with nearer hands joined and cast down round third couple on own sides.

17-18 Third and first couples turn partner with both hands just over once round to finish in the middle with the men facing diagonally down and the women facing diagonally up.

19-24 Third and first couples dance bars 2-7 of the all round poussette to finish in the middle with third couple facing down and first couple facing up.

25-26 Third and first couples, with nearer hands joined, set once passing each other by left shoulders to finish back to back in the middle with first couple facing up and third couple facing down while second couple turn with both hands to finish in the middle facing up.

27-28 First couple turn with both hands to finish in the middle facing down while third and second couples, with nearer hands joined, set once passing each other by left shoulders to finish back to back in the middle with second couple facing up and third couple facing down.
29-30 First and second couples, with nearer hands joined, set once passing each
other by left shoulders to finish back to back in the middle with second
couple facing up and first couple facing down
while
third couple turn with both hands once round.

31-32 Second, first and third couples turn partner with both hands once round.

Repeat having passed a couple.

Devised in 1994. Lyall Bay is a bay in Wellington. Suitable music "Lady
Glasgow", for example, as recorded by Muriel Johnstone’s Scottish Dance Band
on "A Dancer’s Miscellany - Volume III" (SS 8), side 2, track 3.
THE CANE TOAD JIG

A three couple, 32 bar jig.

1-8 First, second and third couples dance reels of three on own sides. First and second couples pass by left shoulders to begin. On bars 7-8 first and second couples pass by left shoulders to finish with first woman in the middle in second place facing third woman, first man in second man’s place and second couple in top place.

9-24 First couple dance a ”hello and goodbye” setting ’chase’ with corners. First woman dances the ”hello and goodbye” figure for bars 9-22 all the way round to finish between third couple facing up. On the last two bars, the first woman (who will be between the third couple) should turn once around on the spot, pulling back her right shoulder, to finish facing down. The first man does not begin the hello-goodbye figure until bar 11. Rather, on bars 9-10 first man advances across the set towards first corner before beginning to dance the figure. First man finishes in the middle in second place facing down. Corners set as appropriate. The figure is called a ”hello goodbye chase” because the woman is dancing the figure 2 bars in front of the man.

25-32 First woman dances up behind third woman, across the set below second couple, up behind second man, across the set above second couple and down behind second woman to finish in second woman’s place while first man dances down the middle, up behind third woman, across the set below second couple, up behind second man and down in front of second man to finish in second man’s place facing out.

Repeat having passed a couple.

Devised in Pomona, Queensland, Australia in May 1993.
The dance refers to the occasion when my sons Carlton and Alex chased and caught two cane toads during a visit to Pomona in 1993.

Symbolism -

1-8 The chase.

9-24 The toads in a bucket trying to escape.

25-32 The boys let the toads go but chase after them.

The dance is intended to be rather playful, with no touching, since who wants to touch a cane toad? It is good for teaching intermediate dancers setting to corner and partner.

At the end of the second time through, first couple finish in third place facing down. Fourth couple turn to face up. On bars 1-2 of the next sequence the
original first couple dance to the bottom passing the original fourth couple by left shoulders.

Recommended tune - "Juniper Jig" composed by C F Sherrit and played ABBA.

Suitable music - "The Lantern Of The North" recorded by Andrew Rankine and his Band on "The London Highland Club Diamond Jubilee" (LHC LPT), side 2, track 2 or "C'est L'Amour" recorded by Rob Gordon and his Band on "The Complete Caledonian Ball" (LDDL 8005), record 2, side 1, track 5.
WHITE ROCK
A three couple, 32 bar reel.

1-4 First couple cross over giving right hands and cast down round second couple on opposite sides. Second couple move up on bars 3-4.

5-8 First couple lead down and cross over between third couple with left hands, cast up round third couple on own sides and cross over passing left shoulders to finish back to back in the middle facing first corners.

9-16 First couple dance 'hello and goodbye' setting with corners. On bars
15-16 first couple dance a "Petronella" turn to finish on own sides in second place facing each other, while second and third couples cross over giving right hands to finish on opposite sides with second couple facing down and third couple facing up. Second woman and third man dance directly into places without dancing a courtesy turn.

17-20 First man casts up round second woman to finish in the middle in top place facing down while first woman casts down round third man to finish in the middle in third place facing up while second and third couples set and change places on the side-lines with left hands to finish facing counter clockwise.

21-24 First couple turn with right hands (twice round, if desired) to finish facing second corners while third and second couples dance a circular chase, counter clockwise, round the outside to finish back on own sides.

25-28 First couple turn second corners with left hands once round. At the end of the turn first couple pass by left shoulders to finish facing first corners.

29-32 First couple turn first corners with left hands once round. At the end of the turn first couple pass by left shoulders to finish on own sides in second place.

Repeat having passed a couple.
Devised in December, 1993.
White Rock is an interesting limestone rock formation at a black sand beach in the south Wairarapa, New Zealand.
At the end of the second time through first couple finish in third place facing out. On bar 64 the new first couple turn to face down. On bars 65-66, as the new first couple dance down behind second couple, the original first couple dance down behind fourth couple while fourth couple move up.
Suitable music - "Hey, Johnnie Cope" recorded by Peter White and his Scottish Dance Band on "Hey, Johnnie Cope" (BSLP 71), side 1, track 1.
TOFINO STRATHSPEY
A 48 bar strathspey for four couples in a longwise set.

1-8 First and third couples lead down the middle and back again to finish in original places facing out while second and fourth couples dance up the side-lines to respectively top and third places, lead down the middle, lead up again, cross over and cast down into second and fourth places, respectively, on opposite sides.

9-16 First and second; third and fourth couples dance double figures of eight. First and third couples cast down the side-lines while second and fourth couples lead up and cross over to begin. Give hands to lead up and cross over - for example, second couple with right then left, first couple with left then right. First couple finish facing out.

17-18 First man and second woman; third man and fourth woman turn with left hands once round while first woman and second man; third woman and fourth man turn with right hands once round. First and third couples finish facing out.

19-24 First and third couples cast down round second and fourth couples respectively on own sides, cross over giving right hands and cast up round second and fourth couples, respectively, on opposite sides.

25-32 First and second couples, third and fourth couples dance a modified 'tourbillion'.

25-26 First and second couples turn partner with both hands opening out to finish with first couple on the women’s side and second couple on the men’s side. (First man should be first ladies place, and second lady in second mans place.)

27-28 First and second couples set once with nearer hands joined on the sides.

29-30 First and second couples turn partner with both hands to finish on own sides in the middle - first couple in second place facing up and second couple in first place facing down.

31-32 Second and first couples set once with nearer hands joined with partner. Third and fourth couples dance 25-32 similarly.

33-40 Second, first, fourth and third couples dance reels of four on own sides. Second and first, fourth and third couples pass by right shoulders to begin. At the end of the reels all dance directly into places.
41-42 All set with nearer hands joined on the sides.

43-44 First and fourth couples, with nearer hands joined, set advancing to finish in the middle ready for a half poussette.

45-48 First and fourth couples dance a half poussette.  
    Finishing order 2,4,1,3.

Repeat with a new top couple.

Devised at Victoria, British Columbia, Canada in August, 1993 and modified to be a four couple dance in January 2001 in Chicago.

Suggested music: “Welcome to Queen’s Cross” AN ABERDEEN COLLECTION - CD or “The Nether Bow has Vanished” MUSIC FOR EIGHT SC DANCES BOOKS 13 and 14 - record.
THE WINDY LANE

A three couple, 32 bar reel.

1-4 Third couple turn with left hands one round.

3-6 Second couple turn with left hands one round.

5-8 First couple turn with left hands one round.

9-16 First and second couples dance a Birl (or Bourelle). On bars 15-16 first and second couples half turn with both hands and pas de basque to finish facing partner in a line of four up and down the middle.

17-24 Second and first couples dance a reel of four up and down the middle passing partner by right shoulders to begin. At the end of the reel second man and first woman pass by right shoulders.

25-32 Second, first and third couples dance six hands round and back.

Repeat having passed a couple.


The title was suggested by leaves swirling along a Titahi Bay street in a strong southerly.

Bars 1-8 represent the swirling leaves.

Suitable music - "The Inverness Country Dance" recorded by The Ron Gonnella Strings with George MacIwham on "The Lad O' Kyle" (AB 008), side 1, track 7.
A MARY SUMMER

A four couple, 32 bar strathspey.

1-8 First and second couples and third and fourth couples dance 'The Rose’ progression.

1-2 First man and second woman set to each other
while
first woman and second man change places with right hands to finish facing out.

3-4 First man and second woman half turn with both hands to finish facing each other on the diagonal with hands joined
while
first woman dances up to first man’s place and second man dances down to second woman’s place.

5-6 First man and second woman cast to the right and dance out to the side-lines to finish in each other’s place
while
first woman and second man half turn with both hands to finish facing each other on the diagonal with hands joined.

7-8 First man dances across to second man’s place
while
second woman dances across to first woman’s place
while first woman and second man cast to the right and dance out to the side-lines to finish with first woman in second woman’s place and second man in first man’s place.

Third and fourth couples dance similarly.

9-16 Second and first couples and fourth and third couples dance right hands across and back with the left. Second and first couples and fourth and third couples finish facing each other up and down on the side-lines.

17-18 Second and first couples and fourth and third couples set to each other.

19-22 Second, first, fourth and third couples dance half reels of four on own sides passing by right shoulders at the ends of the reels to begin.

23-24 Third, fourth, first and second couples set with nearer hands joined on the sides.

25-32 Fourth and first couples dance a Tournee.

Repeat from new positions.
Devised for Mary Stoker who spent much time during the New Zealand Branch Summer School in Wanganui (December/January, 1993/1994) teaching the Tournee and four hands across and back.

Recommended tune - "The Bob O’ Dowally" played ABAB. Suitable music - "The Bob O’ Dowally" recorded by Bobby Crowe and his Scottish Dance Band on "Music For Eleven Traditional Dances - Book 2" (RSCDS 11).
MAUREEN VIVINO

A three couple, 48 bar reel.

1-8 First, second and third couples dance reels of three on own sides. First couple dance out and down, second couple dance in and up while third couple dance out and up to begin. First couple finish in second place, second couple finish in top place while third couple finish in original places.

9-12 First couple dance half diagonal rights and lefts with second woman and third man. First man and second woman and first woman and third man change places with right hands to begin.

13-16 First couple dance half diagonal rights and lefts with second man and third woman. First and second men and first and third women change places with right hands to begin. First couple finish back to back in the middle facing the dancers in third corner positions.

17-20 First couple set to and turn first corners (now in third corner positions) with both hands and pas de basque. First couple finish facing the dancers in fourth corner positions.

21-24 First couple set to and turn second corners (now in fourth corner positions) with both hands and pas de basque while the first corners dance clockwise round the outside back to original places. First couple finish facing first corners.

25-28 First couple set to and turn first corners with both hands and pas de basque while the second corners dance clockwise round the outside back to original places. First couple finish facing second corners.

29-32 First couple set to and turn second corners with both hands and pas de basque. First couple finish back to back in the middle facing second corners.

33-40 First couple dance a reel of four with second corners passing corners by right shoulders to begin. At the end of the reel first couple pass by left shoulders to finish facing first corners.

41-48 First couple dance a reel of four with first corners passing corners by right shoulders to begin. At the end of the reel first couple loop round to finish on own sides in second place facing out.

Repeat having passed a couple.

Devised in Wellington during May 1993.
Maureen was for many years the tutor of the Ithaca Scottish Country Dance Club, Ithaca, New York. Maureen is a very energetic dancer, so the dance was devised with that in mind.

Suitable music - “The Birks Of Abergeldie” recorded by Bobby Brown and The Scottish Accent on “The Island Fling” (BRG 001), side 1, track 4.
KRISTIN MACDONALD’S STRATHSPEY

A 32 bar strathspey for three couples in a longwise set.

1-8 First couple dance in towards each other (1 bar), dance down the middle with nearer hands joined (1 bar) to finish in the middle in second place facing partner, turn with both hands once round (2 bars) dancing down the set to finish in the middle in third place facing down, cast up (dancing down to begin) and dance up the side-lines to finish in original places while second couple cast in and up to top place (2 bars), dance in towards each other (1 bar), dance down the middle with nearer hands joined (1 bar) to finish in the middle in second place facing partner, turn with both hands once round (2 bars) dancing down the set to finish in the middle in third place facing down and cast up (dancing down to begin) to finish in third place while third couple cast in and up to top place (4 bars), dance in towards each other (1 bar), dance down the middle with nearer hands joined (1 bar) to finish in the middle in second place facing partner and turn with both hands once round to finish in the middle in second place facing down.

9-16 First and third couples dance a Double Figure of Eight. First couple lead down with right hands and cross over while third couple cast up to begin. Dancers give right hands the first time they cross over and left hands the second time they cross over. Third couple finish on own sides in second place facing out.

17-22 First, third and second couples dance reels of three on own sides. First couple dance in and down, third couple dance out and up while second couple dance in and up to begin. Third couple finish facing out.

23-24 First couple dance down the middle with nearer hands joined to finish in the middle in second place facing down while third couple dance up the side-lines to top place while second couple turn with both hands once round to finish in the middle facing up.

25-26 Third couple turn with both hands once round to finish in the middle facing down while first and second couples set with nearer hands joined with partner.

27-28 Third couple set with nearer hands joined while first couple turn with both hands once round to finish in the middle facing
down
while
second couple continue setting.

29-30 Third couple dance down the middle with nearer hands joined and cast into second place
while
first couple dance down the middle with nearer hands joined and cast into third place
while second couple dance up own side-lines to top place.

31-32 Second, third and first couples set once with nearer hands joined on the sides.

Repeat with a new top couple.


Kristin is my wife. This was the first dance I ever wrote.

Recommended tune - "Ms Gillian McMullen Of Cambridge" composed by Ed Pearlman and played ABAB.

Suitable music - "Ms Gillian McMullen Of Cambridge" recorded by Ed Pearlman and Beth Robinson on "Boston Hospitality" (PAD101), side 2, track 3. Note that this music is played four times through.
CAYUGA REEL

A 40 bar reel for three couples in a triangular set.

1-6 All promenade counter clockwise round the set. On bar 1 the men turn partner into ‘allemande’ hold. On bar 6 the men bring their partner round to finish with the women back to back in the middle.

7-8 The women set while the men retire with pas de basque.

9-14 All dance ‘Crown Triangles’. The women move to the right on bars 1, 3 and 5 and set with hands joined on bars 2, 4 and 6 of the figure.

15-16 All change places with partner with pas de basque to finish with the men back to back in the middle.

17-22 All dance ‘Crown Triangles’. The men move to the right on bars 1, 3 and 5 and set with hands joined on bars 2, 4 and 6 of the figure.

23-24 All change places with partner with pas de basque to finish with the women back to back in the middle.

25-32 All dance two-thirds of a three-couple ‘Schiehallion’ reel. All pass partner by right shoulders to begin. All finish facing partner one position clockwise from original places.

33-36 All turn partner with right hands to finish facing corner.

37-40 All turn corner with left hands to finish facing partner.

Repeat from new positions.


Cayuga Lake is a beautiful ‘finger’ lake in upstate New York, with Ithaca at its southern end.

Recommended tune - "The Girl With The Blue Dress On".

Acceptable music - “Salute To Bath” recorded by Ian Muir and the Craigellachie Band on “Bath Scottish Dancers” (EO 838), side 1, track 4.
THE CELTIC ROVER
A five couple, 32 bar reel.

1-4 First couple dance down between second and fourth couples with nearer hands joined and cast up round fourth couple on own sides while third couple dance down between fourth and fifth couples with nearer hands joined and cast up round fifth couple on own sides. Second and fourth couples move up on bars 1-2.

5-8 First woman dances right hands across with second couple while first man and third woman dance right hands across with fourth couple while third man dances right hands across with fifth couple. First and third couples finish facing ‘first’ corner positions.

9-12 First couple dance a half reel of four with ‘first’ corners - second man and fourth woman while third couple dance a half reel of four with ‘first’ corners - fourth man and fifth woman. At the end of the half reeds first and third couples pass partner by left shoulders to finish facing ‘second’ corner positions.

13-16 First couple dance a half reel of four with ‘second’ corners - second and fifth women while third couple dance a half reel of four with ‘second’ corners - second and fifth men. At the end of the half reels first and third couples turn partner with left hands three-quarters round to finish facing ‘first’ corner positions.

17-24 First woman dances a reel of three across with fourth and fifth women in first place - first woman passing fourth woman by left shoulders to begin while first man and third woman dance a reel of four across with second woman and fifth man in third place - first man passing fifth man and third woman passing second woman by right shoulders to begin while third man dances a reel of three across with second and fourth men in fifth place - third man passing fourth man by left shoulders to begin. First couple finish in second place on own sides while third couple finish in fourth place on own sides. Second woman and fifth man complete the last loop of the reel of four to finish with second woman facing diagonally downwards and fifth man facing diagonally upwards.
25-28 Fourth and first women and first and fifth men dance half rights and lefts on the diagonal
   while
   second and third women and third and fourth men dance half rights and lefts on the diagonal.

29-30 First and third couples cross over giving partner right hands.
    First couple finish facing down. On bar 30 fourth couple turn to face up.

31-32 First and fourth couples change places on the side-lines with left hands.

Dancers finish in the order - fifth, fourth, first, third and second couples.
Repeat from new positions.
Devised during June, 1995. Recommended tune -"The Irish Rover”. There is no recording I am aware of played only 5 times through.
LORALEE HYDE
A four couple, 32 bar strathspey.

1-2 Second couple dance up the middle with nearer hands joined to finish facing each other between first couple.

3-4 First couple cast down to finish facing each other in the middle in second place while second couple turn with both hands once round.

5-6 Second couple turn with both hands once round to finish side by side in the middle facing down while first couple turn with both hands once round to finish side by side in the middle facing up while third couple dance down the middle with nearer hands joined to finish facing each other between fourth couple.

7-8 Second and first couples set to each other with nearer hands joined with partner while third couple turn with both hands once round while fourth couple cast up to finish facing each other in the middle in third place.

9-16 Second and first couples dance a Birl (or Bourelle) while fourth and third couples dance as follows -

9-10 Fourth couple turn with both hands once round to finish side by side in the middle facing down while third couple turn with both hands once round to finish side by side in the middle facing up.

11-12 Fourth and third couples set to each other with nearer hands joined with partner.

13-16 Fourth and third couples dance four hands once round to the left.

17-18 First, second, fourth and third couples set with nearer hands joined on the sides.

19-22 First, second, fourth and third couples dance half reels of four on own sides passing by right shoulders at the ends of the reels to begin.
23-24 Third, fourth, second and first couples turn partner with both hands once round to finish in the middle with third and second couples facing down and fourth and first couples facing up.

25-32 Third and fourth couples and second and first couples dance a rondel. Third couple dance down under the arch made by fourth couple to begin while first couple dance up under the arch made by second couple to begin.

Dancers finish in the order - fourth, third, first and second couples.
Repeat from new positions.
Devised in August 1996.

Loralee is a good friend living in Wellington, New Zealand.
Recommended tune - "Green Grow The Rashes" (or "Foote’s Vagaries") played ABAB ("Niel Gow’s Repository", Part 1)
Suitable music - "Green Grow The Rashes" recorded by Colin Dewar on "Music For TwelveScottish Country Dances - Book 12" (RSCDS 30), side 1, track 2.
PATRICIA LONDON
A four couple, 96 bar jig in a square set.

1-8 The four women dance a figure of eight round partner and the man on his left passing partner by right shoulders to begin. The four women finish back to back in the middle facing partner.

9-16 The four women dance 'hello and goodbye setting to finish back to back in the middle facing the opposite man.

17-20 The four women set to and turn this man with both hands and pas de basque to finish facing the man one place further round counter clockwise.

21-24 The four women set to and turn this man with both hands and pas de basque to finish facing partner - the men facing clockwise and the women facing counter clockwise.

25-32 All dance interlocking 'circular reels of four' passing partner by right shoulders to begin. The men dance clockwise round the set while the women dance counter clockwise round the set. At the end of the reels the four men pass partner by right shoulders to finish facing the woman on her right.

33-40 The four men dance a figure of eight round partner and the woman on her right passing this woman by left shoulders to begin. The four men finish back to back in the middle facing partner.

41-48 The four men dance 'hello and goodbye' setting to finish back to back in the middle facing the opposite woman.

49-52 The four men set to and turn this woman with both hands and pas de basque to finish facing the woman one place further round counter clockwise.

53-56 The four men set to and turn this woman with both hands and pas de basque to finish facing partner - the women facing clockwise and the men facing counter clockwise.

57-64 All dance interlocking 'circular reels of four' passing partner by right shoulders to begin. The women dance clockwise round the set while the men dance counter clockwise round the set. All finish in partner’s place.

65-68 The four women dance left hands across once round to finish facing partner.

69-72 All turn partner with right hands one and three-quarter times to finish with the women facing in and the men facing out.

73-80 All dance a "Schiehallion” reel half-way round. The men finish back to back in the middle facing partner.
All dance a poussette back to original places. Phrase the poussette as follows - away from the centre, a one-eighth turn, across the corner one place counter clockwise, a quarter turn, across the corner one place counter clockwise, a quarter turn then turn with both hands (2 bars) opening out to finish in original places.

All dance eight hands round and back.

Devised during June, 1993. Patricia London is my Mother.
Recommended tunes - "Dr J G Hunter of Aultbea".
Acceptable music is "Bonnie Ann".
ITHACA REEL
A three couple, 32 bar reel.

1-2 First and second men and first and second women change places with right hands.

3-4 Second and first couples dance right hands across half-way round.

5-6 First, second and third couples cross over giving right hands.

7-8 First, second and third couples set with nearer hands joined on the sides.

9-12 First woman dances a "Petronella" turn to finish in the middle in second place facing second woman then dances a "Petronella" turn to finish in third woman’s place while second man dances a "Petronella" turn to finish facing first man then dances a "Petronella" turn to finish in first woman’s place while third man dances a "Petronella" turn to finish facing third woman then dances a "Petronella" turn to finish in second man’s place while first man and second and third women set twice.

13-14 First, second and third couples set with nearer hands joined on the sides.

15-16 First couple dance "Petronella" turns to finish back to back in the middle with first man facing up and first woman facing down while second man dances a "Petronella" turn to finish in first man’s place facing down while second woman dances a "Petronella" turn to finish in first woman’s place facing down while third couple dance "Petronella" turns to finish in original places facing up.

17-24 First, second and third couples dance Double Triangles facing up and down the set. On bars 23-24 first couple dance out to own sides in second place. On bar 24 second man and third woman turn to face across the set.

25-28 First couple dance half rights and lefts on the diagonal with second man and third woman - first woman and second man and first man and third woman changing places with right hands to begin while second woman and third man dance clockwise half-way round the outside. Second man and third woman finish facing out.
29-32 First couple dance half rights and lefts on the diagonal with second woman and third man - first woman and second man and first man and third woman changing places with right hands to begin while second man and third woman dance counter clockwise half-way round the outside.

Repeat having passed a couple.


Given to the dance group at Cornell University. This group loves complicated and vigorous dances.

Suitable music - "Ye’re Welcome, Charly Stuart” recorded by Colin Finlayson and his Scottish Dance Band on "Music For Twelve Scottish Country Dances - Book 7" (RSDCS 9), side 1, track 6 or "Ye're Welcome, Charlie Stuart” recorded by The Berkeley Scottish Players on "None So Pretty” (Cabbage Records 405), side 2, track 2.
**BUTTERMILK FALLS**

A 32 bar strathspey for three couples in a longwise set.

1-4 First and second couples dance four hands round to the left while third couple set once and turn with both hands once round.

5-8 First, second and third men dance three hands round to the left while first, second and third women dance a half reel of three on own side - first and second women passing by right shoulders to begin.

9-10 First, second and third couples set with nearer hands joined on the sides.  

11-12 First man dances a "Petronella" turn to finish in the middle facing up while first woman dances a "Petronella" turn to finish in the middle facing down while second and third men dance "Petronella" turns 'in tandem' to finish side by side in third place facing up while second and third women dance "Petronella" turns 'in tandem' to finish side by side in top place facing down.

13-14 First, second and third couples set - second and third women and second and third men with nearer hands joined.

15-16 First man dances a "Petronella" turn to finish in first woman’s place while first woman dances a "Petronella" turn to finish in third man’s place while second and third women dance "Petronella" turns 'in tandem' to finish on the side-lines - second woman in first man’s place and third woman in second man’s place while second and third men dance "Petronella" turns 'in tandem' to finish on the side-lines - second man in third women’s place and third man in second woman’s place.

17-20 Second, third and first women dance three hands round to the left while first, third and second men dance a half reel of three on opposite side - first and third men passing by right shoulders to begin.

21-24 Second, third and first couples turn with both hands twice round.

25-26 Second, third and first couples set with nearer hands joined on the sides.

27-32 Second, third and first couples dance the La Baratte figure with partner.

Repeat with a new top couple.


Buttermilk Falls are a beautiful set of rapids new Cornell University, Ithaca. The figures are intended to represent the falls.
CARLTON AND ALEX
A four couple, 48 bar reel.

1-4 Second couple dance up between first couple with nearer hands joined and cast down round second couple on own sides to finish on the side-lines midway between second and third places while third couple turn upwards with both hands and pas de basque once round to finish in the middle in second place facing up with nearer hands joined.

5-8 Second couple turn with left hands twice round to finish on own sides in the middle with second man facing down and second woman facing up while third couple dance up between first couple with nearer hands joined and cast down round second couple on own sides to finish on the side-lines midway between second and third places.

9-12 Second woman dances a half reel of three across with first couple passing first man by left shoulders to begin while third couple turn with right hands one and a half times to finish on opposite sides in the middle with third woman facing up and third man facing down while second man dances a half reel of three across with fourth couple passing fourth woman by left shoulders to begin. Second couple finish on opposite side-lines midway between second and third places.

13-16 Third woman dances a half reel of three across with first couple passing first man by right shoulders to begin while second couple turn with both hands and pas de basque once round to finish with second woman facing first man and second man facing fourth woman - ie. 'first corners' while third man dances a half reel of three across with fourth couple passing fourth woman by right shoulders to begin. Third couple finish on own side-lines midway between second and third places.

17-24 Second and third couples dance "hello and goodbye" setting 'chase' with first and fourth couples.

17-18 Second couple set to 'first corners' and dance out to opposite side-lines while third couple advance with pas de basque towards 'first corners'.
19-20 Second couple set to partner across the set and dance in to finish back to back facing 'second corners'
while
third couple set to 'first corners' and dance out to opposite side-lines.

21-22 Second couple set to 'second corners' and dance up or down to finish with second man between first couple facing down and second woman between fourth couple facing up
while
third couple set to partner across the set and dance in to finish back to back facing 'second corners'.

23-24 Second couple dance a "Petronella" turn out to own side-lines midway between second and third places
while
third couple set to 'second corners' and dance up or down to finish with third man between first couple facing down and third woman between fourth couple facing up.

25-28 Second couple set twice
while
third couple turn with right hands once round to finish in the middle facing second man with hands joined in 'promenade' hold - third woman on her partner's left.

29-36 Third couple dance a reel of three across with second couple passing second man by right shoulders to begin. At the end of the reel second couple dance up the side-lines to finish in original places while third couple dance down the middle and out to own sides to finish in original places.

37-40 First, second, third and fourth couples set twice with nearer hands joined on the sides. On bars 39-40 all advance into the middle.

41-48 First, second, third and fourth couples dance a Poussette. First couple progress down the men’s side to fourth place while second, third and fourth couples progress up the women’s side one place.

Repeat with a new top couple.

Devised for my sons - Carlton (aged 4 1/2) and Alex (aged 2 1/2) - as a reminder of the night they attended the Ithaca Scottish Country Dance Club and 'joined in'. The couple who moves first represents Carlton while the couple who moved second represents Alex - who follows most of the time. The middle reel represents the two of them running in and out of the sets.
Recommended tunes - "Greenwoodside".
Suitable music - "Up Helly’ Aa" recorded by Ian Muir and the Craigellachie Band on "Bath Scottish Dancers" (EO 838), side 2, track 5.
LE MOYNE AND ROGER FARRELL OF ITHACA

A 160 bar strathspey for four couples in a square set.

FIRST FIGURE

1-8 All dance eight hands round and back.

9-16 The four women dance four hands round to the left half-way, dance in towards the middle and cast to the right, dance out of the set passing the opposite man by right shoulders and dance clockwise round the outside of the set to finish back in original places.

17-24 The four men (starting on the left foot) dance four hands round to the right half-way, dance in towards the middle and cast to the left, dance out of the set passing the opposite woman by left shoulders and dance counter-clockwise round the outside of the set to finish back in original places. All finish facing partner with both hands joined.

25-28 All set with the Highland Schottische setting step dancing into the middle to begin. The men begin with the left foot. The men change feet at the end of bar 28.

29-32 All turn partner with both hands one and a half times to finish with the women facing in and the men facing out.

SECOND FIGURE

1-8 All dance ”Schiehallion” reels half-way round the set - the men following their partner. The women finish facing in and the men finish facing out.

9-16 All dance a (modified) double Ladies’ Chain.

9-10 The four women dance left hands across half-way round while the four men dance clockwise to partner’s places.

11-12 The four women turn the opposite man with right hands half-way round.

13-14 The four women dance left hands across half-way round while the four men dance clockwise to partner’s places.

15-16 All turn partner with right hands once round (that is, extend the last turn to finish with men having partner on right. The men finish facing in and the women finish facing out.

17-24 All dance ”Schiehallion” reels half-way round the set - the women following their partner. The men finish facing in and the women finish facing out.

25-32 All dance a double Men’s Chain.
25-26 The four men dance left hands across half-way round while the four women dance clockwise to partner’s place.

27-28 The four men turn the opposite woman with right hands half-way round.

29-30 The four men dance left hands across half-way round while the four women dance clockwise to partner’s place.

31-32 All turn partner with right hands half-way round to finish in original places facing in.

THIRD FIGURE

1-2 All set with nearer hands joined with partner.

3-4 All dance a "Petronella" turn ’ in tandem’ with partner to finish on the corners of the square facing in.

5-6 All set with nearer hands joined with partner.

7-8 All dance a "Petronella" turn ’ in tandem’ with partner to finish on the sides of the square (one place round counter-clockwise) facing in.

9-10 First and third couples set advancing with nearer hands joined with partner.

11-12 First and third couples dance four hands round to the left half-way to finish facing partner.

13-14 First and third couples turn partner with both hands once round moving clockwise to finish with first couple facing fourth couple and third couple facing second couple.

15-16 All set with nearer hands joined with partner.

17-24 All dance reels of four up and down the set passing by right shoulders to begin.

25-28 First and third couples pass the dancer they began the reel of four with by right shoulders and dance a chase, clockwise, to finish back where they started the Third Figure facing partner.

29-32 First and third couples turn partner with right hands one and a half times to finish facing in.

FOURTH FIGURE

1-32 All repeat the Third Figure except that second and fourth couples dance bars 9-16 and bars 25-32. All finish facing partner.
FIFTH FIGURE

1-8 All dance interlocking reels of four round the outside of the square passing partner by right shoulders to begin. All finish facing partner.

9-16 All dance a grand chain changing places with partner with right hands to begin. All finish facing partner with both hands joined.

17-20 All set with the Highland Schottische setting step travelling counter-clockwise half-way round the set. The men begin with the left foot.

  17 All set on the spot rotating by pulling back the right shoulder one eighth of the way round to the left to finish with the men with their backs towards the middle.

  18 All dance on one place counter-clockwise.

  19 All set on the spot similarly rotating one quarter of the way round to the left to finish with the women with their backs towards the middle.

  20 All dance on one place counter-clockwise to finish back in original places.

         The men change feet at the end of bar 20.

21-24 All turn partner with both hands twice round.

25-32 All dance eight hands round and back.

Devised in August, 1996.

Le Moyne and Roger are friends in Ithaca, New York, USA. The dance is a gift for their hospitality.

Suitable music - "Kinfauns Castle" recorded by The Ron Gonnella Strings with George MacIlwham on "The Lad O’ Kyle" (AB 008), side 2, track 5 or "Scotch Mist" recorded by Ian Muir and the Craigellachie Band on "Bath Scottish Dancers" (EO 838), side 1, track 5.
AN TRI DARAICH
A four couple medley - 128 bars of strathspey + 128 bars of reel.
Third and fourth couples begin on opposite sides.

STRATHSPEY

1-2 First couple, with nearer hands joined, dance down the middle while
fourth couple, with nearer hands joined, dance up the middle. First and fourth couples finish facing partner - first man and fourth woman and first woman and fourth man with nearer hands joined.
Second couple move up and third couple move down.

3-4 First and fourth couples set.

5-8 First and fourth couples dance four hands round to the left. At the end of bar 7 all release hands and on bar 8 all turn right about on the spot to finish back to back in the middle with nearer hands joined with partner - first couple facing second man and fourth couple facing third man.

9-14 First and fourth couples dance 'hello and goodbye' setting 'in tandem' with second and third couples.

9-10 First couple, with nearer hands joined, set to second man while
fourth couple, with nearer hands joined, set to third man.
On bar 10, first couple release hands and dance out to the men’s side while fourth couple release hands and dance out to the women’s side.

11-12 First and fourth couples, with nearer hands joined with partner, set to each other across the set. On bar 12, first couple release hands and dance in to face third woman while fourth couple release hands and dance in to face second woman. First and fourth couples finish back to back in the middle.

13-14 First couple, with nearer hands joined, set to third woman while
fourth couple, with nearer hands joined, set to second woman. On bar 14, first couple release hands and dance down to finish between third couple facing up while fourth couple release hands and dance up to finish between second couple facing down.

15-16 Fourth couple, with nearer hands joined, dance down the middle, release hands and turn right about to finish facing up while
first couple, with nearer hands joined, dance up the middle, release hands and turn right about to finish facing down.
Fourth and first couples finish back to back in the middle. On bar 16, second couple dance into the middle on the left foot to finish facing down.
while third couple dance into the middle on the left foot to finish facing up.

17-24 Second, fourth, first and third couples dance reels of four up and down the set passing by right shoulders at the ends of the reels to begin.

25-28 Fourth woman passes second woman by right shoulders while fourth man passes second man by right shoulders then fourth couple, fourth woman followed by her partner, dance a chase, clockwise, a quarter of the way round the outside of the set while first woman passes third woman by right shoulders while first man passes third man by right shoulders then first couple, first woman followed by her partner, dance a chase, clockwise, a quarter of the way round the outside of the set.

All are now on the sides of a square set in the order - second couple, fourth couple, third couple and first couple - numbered clockwise from the top.

29-32 All turn partner with right hands one and a half times to finish with the men facing in and the women facing out.

33-48 All dance a 'Schiehallion' reel.

49-52 All turn partner with right hands one and a half times. First and fourth couples finish facing clockwise.

53-56 First couple, first woman followed by her partner, dance a chase, clockwise, a quarter of the way round the outside of the set and dance into the middle - first woman passing second woman by right shoulders and first man passing second man by right shoulders while fourth couple, fourth woman followed by her partner, dance a chase, clockwise, a quarter of the way round the outside of the set and dance into the middle - fourth woman passing third woman by right shoulders and fourth man passing third man by right shoulders.

57-60 First and fourth couples dance left hands across once round.

61-62 First man and fourth woman and first woman and fourth man change places on the side-lines with left hands. First and fourth women dance a courtesy turn into places.

63-64 Fourth and first couples cross over passing partner by left shoulders. All finish in two lines of four up and down the dance in the order - second couple, fourth couple, first couple and third couple.

65-128 Second and third couples repeat bars 1-64. All finish in two lines of four up and down the dance in the order - fourth couple, third couple, second couple and first couple.
1-2 Fourth and first couples set advancing to partner.

3-4 Fourth and first couples turn partner with both hands and pas de basque once round to finish with fourth couple facing up and first couple facing down - both couples with nearer hands joined with partner. Third couple move up and second couple move down.

5-8 Fourth couple cast down round third couple to finish facing third man while first couple cast up round second couple to finish facing second man.

9-52 Repeat bars 9-52 of the strathspey figure except that first and fourth couples advance towards each other with pas de basque during bars 15-16.

53-56 First and fourth couples dance right hands across three-quarters round.
   All finish in two lines of four up and down the dance in the order - third couple, first couple, fourth couple and second couple.

57-64 Third, first, fourth and second couples dance eight hands round and back.

65-128 Third and second couples repeat bars 1-64.

All finish in two lines of four up and down the dance in the order - first couple, second couple, third couple and fourth couple.

Devised as a demonstration dance during May 1999 for Philippa Pointon, David Naulls and Alastair Pain to celebrate their respective 40th, 50th and 60th birthdays.

The title means ”The Three Oaks”.

I cannot find suitable recorded music.

Recommended tunes - STRATHSPEY

”The Banks Of Spey” composed by William Marshall and played ABAB ("Glasgow Assembly and other Scottish Country Dances”, page 9) ”Green Grow The Rashes” (or ”Foote’s Vagaries”) played ABAB (”Niel Gow’s Repository”, Part 1)

REEL

”The Shetland Fiddler” - described as traditional - played AABB ("Glasgow Assembly and other Scottish Country Dances” page 9) ”The Sally Gardens” - described as traditional played AABB (”The Fiddler’s Fakebook”, compiled by David Brody, page 246)