

October Celebration

A 48-bar strathspey/48-bar reel medley for four couples in a longwise set

In this dance, 3rd and 4th couples start on the opposite sides of the set.

BARS

DESCRIPTION

- 1–8 1st and 4th couples set, cross over giving right hands, cast off one place and up one place, respectively, and cross back to their original places. Meanwhile, 2nd and 3rd couples stand for 2 bars, then set, cross up and down, respectively, and then cast back to their original place on opposite sides. [All couples are now in their original order but 1st and 3rd couples are on own sides, 2nd and 4th couples on opposite sides. Men are facing women and vice-versa.]
- 9–12 All set to their opposites using a suitable strathspey setting step, e. g., the Rocking Step.
- 13–16 All dance half reels of four on the sides, speeding up at the end and continuing the tracks of the reels to finish in lines of four across the dance, women in the centre facing out and men on the outsides facing in.
- 17–20 All set to their opposites using a suitable strathspey setting step, e. g., the Crossover (Huntly) Step.
- 21–24 All dance half reels of four across the dance as in bars 13–16 to finish in the sidelines in the order 4, 3, 2, 1, with 3rd and 1st couples on opposite sides, all facing in.
- 25–28 4th and 1st couples set and turn once round giving right hands while 3rd and 2nd couples join hands in the sidelines, set and link.
- 29–32 4th and 2nd couples, likewise 3rd and 1st couples, dance right hands across once round.
- 33–40 4th and 2nd couples, likewise 3rd and 1st couples, dance the Tourbillon (see, e. g., *The Sands of Morar*, RSCDS Book 45).
- 41–48 All dance eight hands round and back. Finish in the order 2, 4, 1, 3.

Repeat the dance from new positions in reel time with modifications as explained below, then once more in strathspey time and in reel time.

In reel time, use reel setting steps in bars 9–12 and 17–20, and dance a poussette during bars 33–40. This means that everybody gets to dance from every position but 1st and 4th couples will be »outside« couples in strathspey time and »inside« couples in reel time (and vice-versa for 2nd and 3rd couples).

For Ute Hoppmann-Lacour, on the occasion of her birthday in October 2010. Ute is really into display dancing these days, so this dance has more of a »display« than a »social« feel.

Devised by Anselm Lingnau, Frankfurt Scottish Country Dance Club, October 2010.



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