

Rowan's Welcome

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

BARS	DESCRIPTION
1–8	1st couple set, cast off (2nd couple move up), dance between 3rd couple and cast up to finish facing first corners.
9–10	1st couple and first corners set.
11–14	1st couple and first corners dance half a reel of four on the diagonal, 1st couple starting by pulling right shoulders back and dancing through the corner place behind them (similar to bars 11–12 of <i>Best Set in the Hall</i>). On bar 14, having passed their first corner person by the right shoulder, 1st couple start dancing round each other giving right shoulders (no hands).
15–16	1st couple continue dancing round each other by the right shoulder to finish facing second corners.
17–24	1st couple and second corners repeat bars 9–16. (On bars 23–24, 1st couple may attempt dancing round each other once giving right shoulders (no hands) but this is not mandatory.)
25–26	3rd, 1st, and 2nd couples (on opposite sides), set.
27–32	3rd, 1st, and 2nd couples dance six hands round to the left halfway. On bar 30, still with hands joined in a circle, they dance towards the centre of the set, raising their joined hands above their heads and shouting “BAAAAA”. On bars 31–32, dropping hands, they pull their right shoulders back and cast out to own sides to finish in the order 2, 1, 3.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

Devised to mark the visit of Rowan the sheep – the RSCDS Young Dancers’ mascot – to the Frankfurt SCD club on their trip around the world celebrating the Society’s Centenary.

Devised by Anselm Lingnau, Frankfurt Scottish Country Dance Club e. V., May 2023.

Notes: The movement in the middle 16 bars was inspired by Shinroku Gou’s dance, *Sweetfish of Neo River*, from the Tokai Branch’s *25th Anniversary Book*. On bar 30, dancers may substitute a more regionally appropriate ovine exclamation.



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Rowan's Welcome

Rowan's Reel (Am Sheep Will Travel)

Anselm Lingnau

The musical score for "Rowan's Welcome" is written in 4/4 time and D major. It consists of four staves of music. The chord symbols above the staves are as follows:

- Staff 1: D, G, A, D, Em, D, Em, A7
- Staff 2: D, G, A7, D, G, Em, A7, D
- Staff 3: D, A, D, Em, A, E7, A7
- Staff 4: D, A, D, G, Em, A7, D

The dance started out in life with Chris Duncan and Catherine Strutt's recording of *Alasdair's Reels* on their album, *Carriages at Midnight*. The Alasdair in question, of course, is the inimitable Alasdair Fraser, and while I could never presume to have the same dab hand for music, Rowan the Sheep eventually (around the time of the 2024 Frankfurt ball) acquired their own tune, which I hope is energetic and fun enough to serve as a poor replacement.