

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCES

Unit 2 Prescribed Dances

2018 edition

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Preface

The Syllabus for the Teaching Certificate, Units 1–5, was revised at the end of 2017, and the changes will take effect from July 2018.

This booklet contains the instructions for the Unit 2 dances which will be used in examinations from 1 July 2018. Two dances in the previous Unit 2 syllabus, *The Gates of Edinburgh* and *Woo'd and Married and A*, have been replaced by *Summer Wooing* and *Rodney's Rant*.

The words used to describe the dances have been taken from the latest edition of each dance and may differ in some cases from those used in the original publication.

We are grateful to Keith Rose for providing the “Pilling-style” diagrams that accompany the descriptions.

Malcolm Brown – Convenor, Education & Training Committee
February 2018

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No. 1 – Duke of Perth *or* Pease Strae *or* Broun's Reel

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

Bars	Description
1 – 4	1st couple, giving right hands, turn and cast off one place. 2nd couple step up on bars 3–4.
5 – 8	1st couple, giving left hands, turn to face first corners.
9 – 16	1st couple turn first corners with the right hand, partner with the left hand, second corners with the right hand and partner with the left hand to finish facing first corners.
17 – 24	1st couple set to and turn corners to finish between them facing first corners.
25 – 30	2nd, 1st and 3rd couples dance reels of three on the sides. 1st couple pass first corners by the left to begin.
31 – 32	1st couple, giving right hands, cross over to second place on own sides.
Repeat, having passed a couple.	

J P Boulogne: *The Ball-Room or the Juvenile Pupil's Assistant*, Glasgow 1827

Original tune: *Duke of Perth's Reel* (Bremner, 1757)

DUKE OF PERTH				8x32 R
T_R 	T_L		S T_B	 X_R

The Ballroom, 1827, RSCDS Book 1.8

3C/4C longwise set.

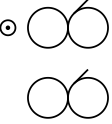
No. 2 – Summer Wooing

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

Bars	Description
1–4	1st and 2nd couples dance four hands once round to the left.
5–8	1st and 2nd couples dance clockwise two places to finish on opposite sides, 2nd couple in first place facing down and 1st couple in second place facing up.
9–16	2nd woman, 1st woman and 3rd man and 2nd man, 1st man and 3rd woman dance reels of three on the sides. 2nd and 1st women, 2nd and 1st men pass by the right to begin.
17–24	1st couple, followed by 2nd couple, lead down the middle for three steps. 2nd couple divide to allow 1st couple through and both couples lead up. On bars 23–24, retaining right hands, men dance in front of partners and women turn under own right arms to face partners in the middle of the set.
25–32	1st and 2nd couples dance a poussette.
Repeat, having passed a couple.	

Devised by Alan Macpherson, Larbert.

Original tune: *Miss Brooke* (J Scott Skinner, *The Miller o' Hirn Collection*, Elgin 1881)

SUMMER WOOING						8x32 R
1 2 	1 2 	2x 1x 3 	2x 1x  3 bars	1x 2x  3 bars	1x 2x  L under own R arm	1 2 P

No. 3 – General Stuart's Reel *or* The New Way of Gildon

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

Bars	Description
1–4	1st man and 2nd woman set to each other. 1st man casts off one place. 2nd man steps up on bars 3–4.
5–8	1st woman and 2nd man set to each other. 1st woman casts off one place. 2nd woman steps up on bars 7–8.
9–10	1st couple turn first corners with the right hand.
11–12	1st couple pass each other by the right to face second corners.
13–14	1st couple turn second corners with the left hand.
15–16	1st couple pass each other by the right to finish back to back facing first corners.
17–24	1st couple set to first corners, set to each other across the set, set to second corners, set to each other facing up and down the set and, pulling back right shoulders, finish back to back in the middle of the set, 1st man facing up and 1st woman facing down.
25–30	2nd, 1st and 3rd couples dance reels of three on the sides. 1st couple pass second corners by the right to begin.
31–32	1st couple, giving right hands, cross to second place on own sides.
Repeat, having passed a couple.	

The Register of Dances at Castle Menzies, 1749.

Original tune: *The Stuart's Rant* (Bremner, 1768 from *Gow's Repository*).

GENERAL STUART'S REEL				8x32 R

Castle Menzies, 1749, RSCDS Book 10.3

3C/4C longwise set.

No. 4 – The Westminster Reel

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

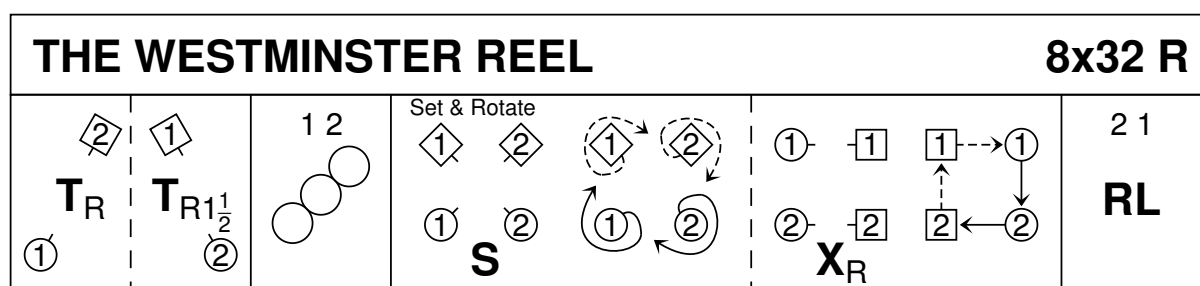
Bars	Description
1 – 4	1st man and 2nd woman turn with the right hand once round.
5 – 8	1st woman and 2nd man turn with the right hand one and a half times to finish in the middle facing partners.
9 – 16	1st and 2nd couples dance a diagonal reel of four, giving right shoulder to partner to begin. All finish in original places facing diagonally in.
17 – 24	1st and 2nd couples set and rotate.*
25 – 32	2nd and 1st couples dance rights and lefts.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

* Set and rotate normally begins with the couples joining nearer hands on the sidelines. In this variation, the couples face in diagonally and do not join hands.

Devised by Jeremy Hill, RSCDS London Branch, and originally published by that branch in *The London Jubilee* (1989).

Original tune: *Ian Murray's Reel* (David Griffiths).



No. 5 – Rodney's Rant

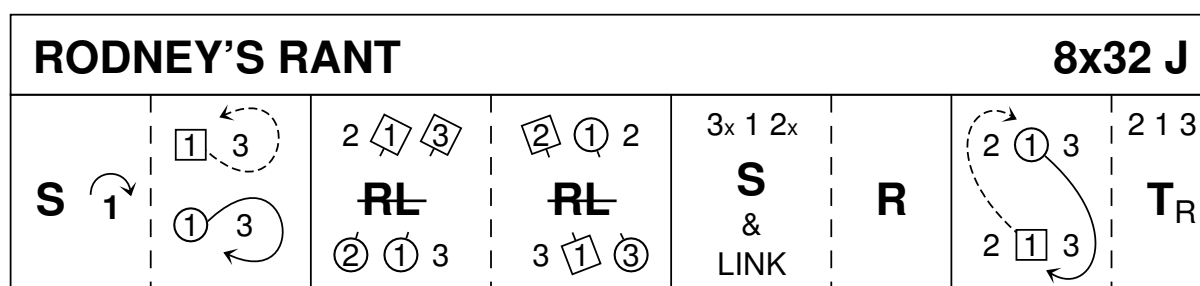
32-bar jig for three couples in a four-couple longwise set

Bars	Description
1 – 4	1st couple set to partner and cast off one place. 2nd couple step up on bars 3–4.
5 – 8	1st couple dance down between 3rd couple and cast up to second place.
9 – 10	1st man and 3rd woman, 1st woman and 2nd man, giving right hands, change places.
11 – 12	1st man and 2nd man, 1st woman and 3rd woman, giving left hands, change places.
13 – 14	1st man and 3rd man, 1st woman and 2nd woman, giving right hands, change places.
15 – 16	1st man and 2nd woman, 1st woman and 3rd man, giving left hands, change places.
17 – 20	3rd, 1st and 2nd couples dance set and link for three to finish in lines across the set, 1st man between 2nd couple facing down and 1st woman between 3rd couple facing up.
21 – 24	2nd, 1st and 3rd couples dance set and link for three to finish 1st couple in second place on opposite sides, 2nd couple in first place and 3rd couple in original place.
25 – 28	1st woman dances a half figure of eight, crossing up round 2nd woman to begin. 1st man dances a half figure of eight, crossing down round 3rd man to begin.
29 – 32	2nd, 1st and 3rd couples, giving right hands to partners, turn once round.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

Devised by Ann Dix, Berks, Hants, Surrey Border Branch, at the request of the Saltire Scottish Country Dance Club for Rodney Mount's 80th birthday.

Original tune: *Miss Grace Hay's Reel* (Robert Mackintosh)



Ann Dix, RSCDS QE Diamond Jubilee

3C/4C longwise set.

No. 6 – The Starry Eyed Lassie

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

Bars	Description
1 – 4	1st and 2nd couples dance right hands across once round.
5 – 6	1st couple cast off one place while 2nd couple dance up to top place.
7 – 8	1st couple set advancing and turn right about to finish back to back facing own sides.
9 – 16	2nd, 1st and 3rd couples dance double triangles. On bars 15–16, 1st couple turn right about, 1st woman finishing between 2nd couple, and 1st man between 3rd couple, facing own sides.
17 – 24	1st woman with 2nd couple and 1st man with 3rd couple dance reels of three across the set. To begin, 1st and 2nd women and 1st and 3rd men pass by the right shoulder. 1st couple finish in second place on opposite sides.
25 – 30	2nd, 1st and 3rd couples dance six hands once round.
31 – 32	1st couple, giving right hands, cross over to second place on own sides.
Repeat, having passed a couple.	

Devised by Martin Sprague, South Dorset Caledonian Society.

Original Tune: *Miss Elizabeth Ferguson's Favourite* (Petrie's 3rd Collection)

THE STARRY EYED LASSIE				8x32 J
RA				

No. 7 – Miss Hadden’s Reel

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

Bars	Description
1 – 8	1st, 2nd and 3rd couples dance six hands round and back.
9 – 12	1st couple set and cast off one place on own sides. 2nd couple step up on bars 11–12.
13 – 16	2nd, 1st and 3rd couples, giving right hands, turn once round to finish in allemande hold in the middle of the set, facing up.
17 – 24	2nd, 1st and 3rd couples dance an allemande.
25 – 28	3rd, 1st and 2nd couples advance and retire.
29 – 32	3rd couple, followed by 1st and 2nd couples, who dance up the sides to begin, cast off to finish in the order 2, 1, 3, 2nd couple curving into place. Repeat, having passed a couple.

Devised by members of the Publications Committee, 1967.

Original Tune: *The Stone Court* (Mrs M Rae)

Note: On each alternate repetition of the dance, 3rd couple cast to the bottom of the set and dance up to third place as 1st couple cast to fourth place.

MISS HADDEN’S REEL					8x32 J
	S	2 1 3 T_R	2 1 3 A	3 1 2 	

No. 8 – Mrs Stewart’s Jig

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

Bars	Description
1–2	1st couple set.
3–8	1st woman casts off two places, crosses below 3rd couple and dances up behind 3rd man to second place on opposite side, facing down. 1st man dances across the set, down behind the women’s side, below 3rd woman and up the middle to second place on opposite side facing down. 2nd couple step up on bars 7–8.
9–16	2nd, 1st and 3rd couples dance a grand chain. 2nd and 1st men finish facing out.
17–24	2nd and 1st couples dance a ladies’ chain.
25–28	2nd, 1st and 3rd couples advance and retire.
29–32	1st couple, giving right hands, turn one and a half times to own sides. Repeat, having passed a couple.

Devised by Frans Ligtmans, Eindhoven, 1986.

Original tune: *Captain Charles Stewart’s Jigg* (Malcolm MacDonald)

MRS STEWART’S JIG				8x32 J
S	2 1x 3 CHAIN	2 1x 		T _{R1¹/₂}

Frans Ligtmans, 1986, RSCDS Book 35.1

3C/4C longwise set.

No. 9 – Alltshellach

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

Bars	Description
1–4	1st and 2nd couples set to partners and, giving both hands, turn once round to finish in a diagonal line with 1st woman and 2nd man back to back.
5–8	1st and 2nd couples dance a half poussette finishing in the middle of the set facing down.
9–16	1st couple, followed by 2nd couple, lead down. On bar 12, 1st couple turn towards each other and lead up. 2nd couple divide and meet to follow 1st couple to finish in original places.
17–24	1st and 2nd couples dance a reel of four across the set, 1st woman and 2nd man passing by the left shoulder to begin.
25–32	1st and 2nd couples dance a tournée.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

Devised by Elizabeth D Gilroy, East Lothian Branch, with acknowledgement to Mr. R. Campbell, Ontario, Canada, for the tournée.

Tune: *Alltshellach* (Violet J C Palmer)

ALLTSHELLACH			8x32 S
1 2 S T_B	1 2 P		
Tournée 			

No. 10 – Miss Gibson’s Strathspey

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

Bars	Description
1 – 8	1st and 2nd couples set and, giving both hands to partners, turn once round, opening out into four hands once round to the left to finish in original places.
9 – 16	1st and 2nd couples dance the knot. On bars 15–16, 1st couple, retaining left hands, turn to face first corners. 2nd couple finish in first place.
17 – 24	1st couple turn first corner with the right hand, partner with the left hand, second corner with the right hand, and partner with the left hand, finishing in the middle of the set, facing opposite sides.
25 – 28	1st woman with 2nd couple, 1st man with 3rd couple dance right hands across once round. On bar 28, 1st couple pass by the right to finish in the middle of the set, facing opposite sides.
29 – 32	1st man with 2nd couple and 1st woman with 3rd couple dance left hands across once round. 1st couple finish in second place on own sides.

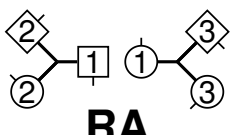
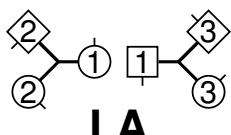
Repeat, having passed a couple.

Devised in 1979 by Derek Haynes, Headquarters member.

First published by the RSCDS as a leaflet in 1980.

Original tune: *The Music o’ Spey* (J Scott Skinner)

Inscribed to Miss Muriel Gibson, Secretary of the RSCDS between 1975 and 1988.

MISS GIBSON’S STRATHSPEY					8x32 S
1 2 S T_B		1 2 KNOT		 RA	 LA

Derek Haynes, 1979, RSCDS Leaflet 10

3C/4C longwise set.

No. 11 – Mrs Hamilton of Wishaw

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

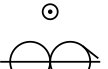
Bars

Description

- 1–8 1st couple set, dance down the middle, cast up round 3rd couple, and dance up to the top and face out.
- On bar 3: 2nd couple set, dance down the middle, and cast up round 3rd couple into second place.
- On bar 5: 3rd couple set, dance in to touch nearer hands (3rd man left hand, 3rd woman right hand), and cast out to own places and face out.
- 9–16 1st, 2nd and 3rd couples dance mirror reels of three on the sides. To begin, 1st couple cast down, 2nd couple dance in and up and 3rd couple cast up.
- On bar 11: 1st couple, giving right hands, cross down to third place on opposite sides to join the opposite reel.
- On bars 15–16: 1st couple, giving right hands, dance a half turn as they lead up up to finish in the middle of the set in first place facing down with 1st woman on 1st man's left.
- 2nd couple finish in the middle of the set facing up and 3rd couple dance out to places.
- 17–24 1st and 2nd couples dance a rondel. 1st couple finish in second place on own sides facing down.
- 25–32 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples dance a grand chain.
- Repeat, having passed a couple.

Devised by John Drewry, Aberdeen Branch.

Original Tune: *Mrs Hamilton of Wishaw* (Gow)

MRS HAMILTON OF WISHAW				8x32 S	
1: S 	 			1 2	2 1 3
2: S	 			RONDEL	CHAIN
3: S 					

No. 12 – Village Reel

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

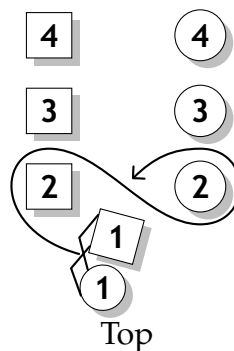
Bars	Description
1 – 8	1st and 2nd couples dance a poussette right round.
9 – 16	1st couple, taking promenade hold, dance a figure of eight round 2nd couple, passing 2nd woman by the right to begin, and finish in the middle of the set facing down. (Fig.)
17 – 24	1st couple lead down the middle and up to finish in the middle facing up. 2nd couple step in.
25 – 32	1st and 2nd couples dance an allemande.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

William Campbell's 8th Book of New and Favorite, Country Dances, & Strathspey Reels c. 1787.

Original tune: *Oor Auld Guidman is Noo Awa'* (*Köhler's Repository*)

Fig.: Bars 9–15



VILLAGE REEL			8x32 S
1 2 P			1 2 A