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## The Britannia Twostep

- Formation: in threes around the room facing anti-clockwise, man between two ladies.

Music: 6/8 pipe march.

Bars: Description

- 1: Nearer hands joined, touch the left heel then the left toe to the floor, bouncing on the right foot with each touch.
- 2: All skip to the left for one step.
- 3-4: Repeat 1-2 with the opposite feet.
- 5-8: Skip forward for two steps, then backwards for two steps.
- 9-10: Set on the spot facing forwards.
- 11-12: Still setting, the man raises his arms and the ladies turn underneath.
- 13-16: Skip forward for two steps, then backwards for two steps.  
Repeat ad lib.

## The Circassian Circle

- Formation: Large circle round the room, ladies on the right of their partner.
- Music: 32 bar Reels.
- Bars: Description
- 1-4: Hands joined in a circle, all advance for four steps, retire for four steps.
- 5-8: Repeat.
- 9-12: Drop hands, ladies advance and retire.
- 13-16: Men advance, turn round and walk out to the next lady CW (the one who was on their left; the one who is now to the right of their partner as they view).
- 17-24: All spin with new partners
- 25-32: Hands crossed in front (right to right and left to left), ladies on the outside, promenade ACW around the room.
- Repeat ad lib.

## The Canadian or Highland Barn Dance

• Formation: couples around the room facing anti-clockwise, ladies on the right.

Music: 2/4 or 4/4 pipe march (not 6/8) or scottische.

Bars: Description

1-2: Starting with the outside foot, walk forward for three steps and hop (or kick).

3-4: Walk backwards for three steps and hop.

5-6: Skip sideways away from your partner (men towards the centre of the room, ladies towards the edge) for two steps and clap.

7-8: Return to partner and join in ballroom (waltz) hold.

9-12: In ballroom hold, skip sideways to the man's left, lady's right for two steps then back again.

13-16: Use four step-hops to polka anti-clockwise round the room.

Repeat ad lib.

## The Dashing White Sergeant

- Formation: three facing three around the room, man between two ladies or lady between two men.

Music: The Dashing White Sergeant - 32 bar reels, starting and ending with "The Dashing White Sergeant".

Bars: Description

1-8: Join up in a circle of 6 and circle round to the left for 8 steps (4 bars) and back to the right.

9-12: The person in the middle turns to the person on their right and sets to them, then turns them once round right hand (variation - both hands). The other partner stands still.

13-16: Repeat with the other partner.

17-24: Using elbow grip, turn 1st partner, then 2nd partner, then 1st partner, then 2nd partner. (Variation - dance a reel of three, giving left shoulder to 1st partner to start).

25-28: In the lines of three, advance towards each other (two skip steps) and retire.

29-32: Both lines dance forwards, one line raising their hands in an arch and the other line dancing underneath, and dance on to meet the next set of three coming in the other direction.

Repeat with new three.

## The Eightsome Reel

- Formation: four couples arranged around a square, lady on the right of the man. Couple with their backs to the music are couple number 1, couple on their left number 2, couple opposite number 3 and couple on the right number 4 (ie numbering clockwise).

Music: Lively reels, played 40 bars for the first time through, plus 8 lots of 48-bar repetitions, plus a final 40 bars. "The Deil Amagn the Tailors" is commonly used for the first and last 40 bars; other tunes often used include "Soldier's Joy", "Mrs MacLeod of Raasay", "The Fairy Dance", "The Mason's Apron".

Bars: Description

Chorus:

1-8: All join hands in a circle and circle round to the left for 8 steps (four bars) and back.

9-12: Ladies join right hands in the middle, and hold partners around waist, and all dance right hands across in a star (wheel).

13-16: Swing round (couples still holding around the waist) so the men join left hands, and dance back with a left hand star.

17-20: Face partners and set twice.

21-24: Spin partners (turn RH).

25-40: Giving right hands to partner to start, dance a grand chain around the set (keep going in the same direction and give right hand, then left hand, then right hand, ... until you get back to place). If you get back early, spin until the end of the phrase.

Figure - repeat 8 times

1-8: 1st lady goes into the centre of the set and sets while the others circle round to the left and back.

9-16: 1st lady sets to partner, turns him, sets to opposite man and turns him.

17-24: 1st lady turns partner, opposite man, partner, opposite man (variation - dance a reel of three with partner and opposite man, giving left shoulder to partner to start).

25-32: Repeat bars 1-8.

33-48: Repeat bars 9-24 with side men.

Repeat Figure with 2nd lady, 3rd lady, 4th lady, 1st man, 2nd man, 3rd man, 4th man in the centre.

Chorus: Repeat the 40 bars of the start of the dance.

## The Flying Scotsman

- There are several versions of this, but one common one is:

Formation: Longwise sets of 4 couples, men on the right and ladies on the left as viewed from the band. Couples number from nearest the band.

Music: 32-bar Reels, either 4x32 or 8x32 - Freeland Barbour wrote "Duncan's Return" for it, but I don't think it's official.

Bars: Description

1-8 1st lady, followed by 2nd and 3rd ladies, dances across the top of the set, behind 1st man, in front of 2nd man, behind 3rd man and across the bottom and back to place.

9-16 1st 3 men repeat around the ladies.

17-24 1st couple join both hands and side-slip (gallop) down the room for 8 slip-steps (4 bars), then back up again TO THE BOTTOM OF THE SET (4th place).

25-32 All join hands on the sides and sideslip down the room and back up again.

Finish in the order 2, 3, 4, 1, ready to start again.

## The Gay Gordons

- Formation: couples around the room facing anti-clockwise, ladies on the right.

Music: 2/4 or 4/4 march. E.g. "Scotland the Brave", "The Gay Gordons".

Bars:     Description

1-2:     Right hands joined over lady's shoulder (man's arm behind her back) and left hands joined in front, walk forward for four steps, starting on the right foot.

3-4:     Still moving in the same direction, and without letting go, pivot on the spot (so left hand is behind lady and right hand is in front) and take four steps backwards.

5-8:     Repeat in the opposite direction.

9-12:    Drop left hands, raise right hands above lady's head. Lady pivots on the spot. (The man may set).

13-16:   Joining hands in ballroom hold, polka round the room.

Repeat ad lib.

For scottish country dancers, the grip in the first eight bars is allemande hold.

## Highland Schottische

- Formation: couples in a circle around the room, ladies on the outside, men on the inside, joined in ballroom hold with partners.

Music: Schottische.

Bars: Description

1-2 Men with left foot, ladies with right, point toe in 2nd, bring foot up in front of shin (3rd aerial), point in 2nd and bring foot up behind calf (3rd rear aerial). Bounce on supporting foot on each of these four beats.

3-4 Step onto that foot, close other foot behind, step onto the original working foot again, and close original supporting foot behind calf.

5-8 Repeat 1-4 with other leg.

9-10 Repeat 3-4 (ie step, close, step, hop).

11-12 Repeat 7-8 (ie 9-10 in other direction).

13-16 Polka as in Canadian barn dance - step, hop, step, hop - rotating clockwise and following line of dance anticlockwise around the room.

Repeat ad lib.

## The Military Twostep

- Formation: couples around the room facing anti-clockwise, ladies on the right.
- Music: 6/8 pipe march.
- Bars: Description
- 1-2: Lady with hand on man's shoulder, man with arm around waist, touch heel then toe of outer foot to ground twice, bouncing on the inner foot with each touch.
- 3-4: Walk forward for three steps then turn towards each other to face in the opposite direction.
- 5-8: Repeat in the opposite direction.
- 9-10: Facing partner and joining both hands, bounce on both feet, then kick the right foot across the body (to the left), followed by the left foot across the body (to the right).
- 11-12: The man raises his left hand and the lady turns underneath (dropping the other hand).
- 13-16: Polka around the room.
- Repeat ad lib.

## The Pride of Erin Waltz

• Formation: couples around the room facing anti-clockwise, ladies on the right.

Music: 32 bar waltzes.

Bars: Description

1-4: Nearer hands joined, swing the inner leg (and joined hands) forward and back, then walk forwards.

5-8: Repeat in the opposite direction.

9-10: Facing partner, both hands joined, and heading clockwise, cross trailing leg over leading leg (ie right over left for ladies, left over right for men), then point with leading leg.

11-12: Repeat in opposite direction.

13-16: Take four steps anti-clockwise, pulling leading shoulder back to face alternately away from and towards your partner with each step.

17-24: Joining both hands, swing together (slightly to the right of partner) and away, then change places, turning the lady under the man's left arm while doing so. Repeat.

25-28: In ballroom hold, take two steps anti-clockwise, then two clockwise.

29-32: Waltz round the room.

Repeat ad lib.

## The St. Bernard's Waltz

- Formation: couples around the room in ballroom hold heading anti-clockwise, ladies on the outside.

Music: waltzes.

Bars: Description

1-4: In ballroom hold, take three steps sideways towards the lady's right, man's left, then stamp both feet.

5-6: Take two steps sideways in the opposite direction.

7-8: Take two steps towards the centre of the room (lady heading forwards with right foot then left foot, man backwards with left foot then right).

9-10: Take two steps back out (same feet).

11-12: Lady turns about on the spot under the joined hands.

13-16: Waltz onwards round the room.

Repeat ad lib.

## Strip the Willow

- Formation: Longwise sets of 4 couples, men on the right and ladies on the left as viewed from the band. Couples number from nearest the band.

Music: 6/8 or 9/8 double jigs. E.g. "The Irish Washerwoman", "The Curlew", "The Jig of Slurs" for 6/8 and "Drops of Brandy" for 9/8.

Bars: Description

1-8 1st couple spin RH.

9-20 1st lady turns 2M LH, partner RH, 3M LH, partner RH, 4M LH.

21-24 Spin with partner RH to the end of the phrase.

25-36 1st man turns 4L LH, partner RH, 3L LH, partner RH, 2L LH.

37-40 Spin with partner RH to the end of the phrase.

41-52 1st lady works down men, while 1st man works down ladies, turning 2C LH, partner RH, 3C LH, partner RH, 4C LH.

53-56 Spin with partner RH to the end of the phrase.

Repeat ad lib.

## Orcadian (or Shetland) Strip the Willow

• Formation: Couples in a long line down the room, men on the right and ladies on the left as viewed from the band. Couples number from nearest the band.

Music: 6/8 or 9/8 double jigs. E.g. "The Irish Washerwoman", "The Curlew", "The Jig of Slurs" for 6/8 and "Drops of Brandy" for 9/8.

Bars: Description

1-8 1st couple spin RH.

9-... 1st couple work down the opposite line (ie of the people of the opposite sex) turning side person LH, partner RH, next side person LH,...

When 1st couple reach the bottom, they spin to the end of the phrase, then join the side lines.

A new couple starts every 16 bars.

## The Swedish Masquerade

- Formation: couples around the room in heading anti-clockwise, nearer hands joined, ladies on the outside.

Music: That tune...

Bars: Description

Slow march

1-8 With nearer hands joined, walk slowly along the line of dance

9-16 With nearer hands joined, walk slowly against the line of dance back to starting point

Waltz

17-20 With nearer hands joined, facing along line of dance, balance away from partner and back towards partner twice.

21-24 Waltz along line of dance.

25-32 Repeat bars 17-24.

Polka

33-36 With nearer hands joined, facing along line of dance, balance away from partner and back towards partner twice.

37-40 Polka along line of dance.

41-48 Repeat bars 33-40.

## The Virginia Reel

- This seems actually to be a family of similar dances - probably word-of-mouth having lead to variations. One variety is:

Formation: Longwise sets of 4 couples, men on the right and ladies on the left as viewed from the band. Couples number from nearest the band.

Music: "Hoedown" reels, e.g. "Turkey in the Straw".

Bars: Description

1-8 All advance and retire, then turn partners RH.

9-16 All advance and retire, then turn partners LH.

17-24 All advance and retire, then turn partners BH.

25-32 All advance and retire, then dance back to back with partners (do-si-do).

33-40 1st couple join both hands and side slip down the middle and back.

41-48 1st couple, followed by 2nd, 3rd and 4th couples cast off to the bottom; 1st couple make an arch and the other three couples dance up to new positions.

Finish 2,3,4,1, ready to start again.

## A Canonbie Ceilidh

- A 40 bar Reel for couples in a large circle around the room  
Couples in large circle round room, ladies on right of partners
- Bars 1-8: All circle round to left and back to right.
- 9-16: Men dance a figure of eight round own partner and lady on left, going in front of own partner to begin.
- 17-24: Ladies dance a figure of eight round own partner and man on right, going in front of own partner to begin.
- 25-28: Joining hands in a large circle, all advance and retire.
- 29-32: All advance and drop hand not attached to partner. Men retire while ladies turn to face partner and chase him out to place, both hands joined with partners.
- Finish with men facing centre and ladies with backs to centre.
- 33-36: All dance back to back with partner.
- 37-40: All look to the right for a new partner (the person with whom you have just passed right shoulder) and birl them, finishing back in a large circle round the room, ladies on right of new partners, to begin again.
- Repeat ad lib.

## Welcome to the Dance

• Sets of 4 in a circle around the room.

1-8 Four hands round and back.

9-16 Dance rt hands across and back by lft.

17-24 Turn opposite by right and by left.

25-28 Advance and retire.

29-32 Pass through by rt shoulder.

## Teviot Square

- A 4x48 bar Jig for 4 couples in a square set

Music: Mpho's Majority (Brockbank). (abc version).

Bars 1-8: All circle eight hands round to the left and back.

9-12: 1C and 3C change places, 1s dancing under an arch made by the 3s.

13-16: 3C and 1C repeat back to place, 1s making the arch.

17-20: 1M & 3L turn (or spin) R.

21-22: 1M & 2L, and 3L and 4M turn L (this was the person on their left before they started spinning).

23-24: 1M & 3L turn 3/4 R.

25-26: 1M & 3L turns partners L.

27-28: 1M & 3L turn 3/4 R.

29-30: 1M & 4L, and 3L and 2M turn L.

31-36: 1M and 3L turn (or spin) R.

37-40: All turn partners L into promenade hold.

41-48: All promenade round the set.

Repeat with 2M and 4L (2s and 4s doing arches), 3M and 1L (1s making the arch first), and 4M and 2L (4s and 2s doing arches).

Note: the turns on bars 21-32 should be danced with elbow grip, as in "Strip the Willow".

In writing this dance, I tried to come up with something which would be suitable for competent ceilidh dancers as well as enthusiastic SCD dancers.

## The Marmalade Sandwich

- A 4x48 bar Reel for 4 couples in a 4-couple longwise set

Music: The Black Bear.

Bars 1-8: 1st lady, followed by 2nd, 3rd and 4th ladies, dances across the top of the set, behind the men's line, across the bottom of the set and back to place.

Bars 9-16: 1st man, followed by 2nd, 3rd and 4th men, dances across the top of the set, behind the ladies' line, across the bottom of the set and back to place.

Bars 17-20: All dance back to back with partners.

Bars 21-24: All turn partners by the right hand.

Bars 25-32: 1st couple, joining both hands, slip down the middle of the dance and back up to the top.

Bars 33-36: 2nd, 3rd and 4th couples advance and retire (without giving hands) while 1st couple casts off one place and turns by the right hand.

Bars 37-40: Repeat bars 33-36.

Bars 41-44: Repeat bars 33-36.

Bars 45-48: All turn or birl partners.

Repeat from new positions.

Tune: The Black Bear

## The Packhorse Rant

- A 32 bar Reel for couple facing couple around the room
- Dancers arranged couple facing couple around the room, ladies on right of partners
- Bars 1-8: All dance right hands across and left hands back.
- 9-12: Ladies dance back to back.
- 13-16: Men dance back to back.
- 17-20: Joining both hands with partner and men passing back to back, slip step past the other couple and on round the room.
- 21-24: Return to place, ladies passing back to back.
- 25-28: All advance and retire.
- 29-32: Pass on to the next couple, one couple making an arch and the other couple dancing underneath.
- Repeat ad lib.

## THE FERRYBOAT

• 32J Circle

Bars      Description

1-8      All face the center of circle with ladies on their partners

rt.

Men advance & retire. All circle left

9-16      Ladies advance and retire. All circle rt.

17-24      Grand chain. Give rt hand to prtner, to begin and pass by 4

people.

Meet 5th person with two hands.

25-28      All slip toward center and back.

29-32      All turn new partner by rt and face center.

## KINGSTON FLYER

• 32R4

1-8 Women, following W1 cross over the top, dance behind the M,  
and

Cross back to own side into place.

14-16 Men, following M1, repeat bars 1-8

17-24 Cpl 1 lead down the middle and back

25-28 Cpl 1 cast to the bottom (2s, 3s, and 4s, step up)

29-32 Cpl 1 turn by rt.

## SHOTGUN WEDDING

• 3214

1-8 W1 casts, M1 follows, chase around the set back to original places.

9-16 M1 casts, W1 follows, chase around the set back to original places.

17-24 Cpl 1 slip steps down the middle and up.

25-32 Cpl 1, followed by all others, casts to the bottom of the set, makes an arch.

Cpls 2, 3 and 4 dance under the arch to progressed places.

## BRAMBLEBUSH

• Circle dance

1-8 All circle round and back.

9-16 Advance and retire twice

17-24 Turn partner by the right, turn the person on your right by the left

into promenade hold

25-32 Promenade

## TERRACE LOGGER

- 1-8 M1 & W1 cross, cast below 4s, high 5 in passing, back to 1st.
- 9-16 All couples do-si-do, twice.
- 17-20 All couples down the middle.
- 21-24 Cpl 1 make an arch, cpls 2, 3 & 4 down the middle
- 25-32 Cpls 2&3, and 4&1, right hands across & back

## THE FRIENDLY WALTZ

- 1-8 Large Circle around the room, lady on gent's left.  
Join hands and swing in and out, lady passes to gent's right  
Join hands and swing in and out, gent's turn to face the  
lady, ladies curtsy
- 9-16 Couple take two steps to gent's left, then two to the right.  
One complete waltz turn with partner and lady finished on the right.

## THE BOSTON TWO-STEP

• Couple Dance

1-8 P-de-B away and together, 4 steps fwd, turn and repeat back to place.

9-12 Face each other and P-de-B twice.

Gents take two steps to the left, while ladies make complete turn to the rt.

13-16 Join in waltz hold and turn together.

## THE FOUR-HAND STAR

- Circle – sets of 4
- 1-8 Right hand wheel, left hand wheel back.
- 9-16 Ladies Chain.
- 17-24 Dos-e-doh round person opposite, then Dos-e-doh round partner.
- 25-28 Advance and retire.
- 29-32 Advance again and move on to next couple, passing right shoulder.

## LEAP YEAR

• 32 bar for 2 cpls

1-8 Cpl 1&2, R hands across and L hands back.

9-16 Cpl 1, down the middle for 3, up for 3, cast to 2nd place.

17-24 Cpl 1&2, turn partner by the R hand for 4, then by the left for 4.

25-32 Circle 4 hands round and back (L 8 & R 8).