

GAELIC COLLEGE SCD BOOK #4: A Reel Dozen

4.1

BUILT FOR TWO

8x32 bar Strathspey

FORM: 3-couple Strathspey in 4-couple longways set)

Featured Formation

½ Tandem Reels of 3

BARS

1-8 1ST COUPLE SET & CHASE: 1st couple set, then 1st woman casts off two places, crosses over below 3rd couple and casts up to 2nd man's place AS 1st man chases her but ends by dancing up middle to face 3rd woman (2nd couple step up on bars 5-6);

9-24 ½ TANDEM REELS OF 3: 1st couple dances around each corner position in the following order: man's 1st corner, man's 2nd corner, woman's 1st corner, and woman's 2nd corner: 1st couple switch the lead at the head of each half reel of 3, AS the corners dance ½ reels of 3 (1st corners, then 2nd corners, 1st corners again, and then 2nd corners)(end with 1st woman on right hand of the 1st man);

25-32 1ST COUPLE LEAD OUT, DIVIDE & CAST TWICE: 1st couple nearer hands joined dance out through 2nd and 3rd women, divide and cast back to centre, then dance out through 2nd and 3rd men, divide and cast back to 2nd place on own side (on the second ending 1st couple dance do not divide on bar 29 and instead cast around 4th man to end in 4th place AS 4th couple step up).

REPEAT FROM 2ND PLACE

4.2

THE TANDEM REEL

4x32 Reel

Featured Formation

½ Tandem Reels of 3

FORM: Round the Room, Line of 3 facing Line of 3
as in Dashing White Sergeant numbered as follows:

2 - C#2 - 1 (facing anticlockwise around the room)

3 - C#1 - 4 (facing clockwise around the room)

BARS

1-8 CENTRES BACK-TO-BACK & 1+ ½ TULLOCH TURN: centres dance back-to-back, then turn each other with right arms 1+ ½ times round & 8 Tulloch steps to end with C#2 behind C#1 facing clockwise around the room;

9-24 ½ TANDEM REELS OF 3: centres dance ½ Tandem Reels of 3 going around each corner position in turn (#1, #2, #3 & #4) switching the lead at the head of each ½ reel AS the left hand corners dance a ½ reel of 3 (bars 9.12), right hand corners dance a ½ reel of 3 (bars 13-16), the left hand corners dance a ½ reel of 3 (bars 17-20), and the right hand corners dance a ½ reel of 3 (bars 21-24): (centres end in opposite places);

25-32 CORNERS BACK-TO-BACK & 1+ ½ TULLOCH TURN: corners dance back-to-back with opposite person and turn 1+ ½ times around with right arms and 8 Tulloch steps;

REPEAT WITH NEXT LINE OF 3 AROUND THE ROOM

4.3

FIVE ALIVE

5x32 bar Strathspey

FORM: 5-couple longways set

BARS

Featured Formations

Hello-Goodbye Setting

Reel of 4

1-8 DANCING COUPLES CAST & FIGURE OF 8: 1st and 3rd couples cast off one place (2nd and 4th couples stepping up on bars 1-2), and dance a figure of 8 around 4th and 5th couples, respectively;

9-16 HELLO-GOODBYE SETTING: 1st and 3rd couples set to 1st corners, then 1st couple set to each other across the set, 1st couple set to 2nd corners, and active couples face each other up and down the middle and set to partner;

17-24 REEL OF 4: 1st and 3rd couples dance a reel of 4 up-and-down the middle;

25-28 TURN & CAST: 1st and 3rd couples turn $\frac{3}{4}$ round with right hands and cast off one place (4th and 5th couples step up on bars 27-28);

29-32 ADVANCE, LADIES TURN & RETIRE: All advance towards partner and join right hands (1 bar), women turn under the arms (1 bar) and dance back to own side AS men retire (2 bars).

REPEAT 4 TIMES

4.4

PETRO-DA

3x32 bar strathspey

FORM: 3-couple Strathspey in 3-couple longways set

BARS

Featured Formations

Inveran Reels of 3

Petronella in Tandem

1-8 INVERAN REELS OF 3: dance Inveran Reels of 3 on own side (start with 1st couple crossing through 2nd place on opposite side; & back through 2nd place on own side on bars 5-6), AS 2nd & 3rd couple dance mirror reels of 3 on the side joining nearer hands with partner when possible (on bars 7-8 2nd couple nearer hands joined dance up the middle & face each other);

9-16 1ST & 3RD COUPLES SET & PETRONELLA IN TANDEM as 2ND COUPLE CROSSES & CASTS TWICE: 1st & 3rd couples nearer hands joined with partner set to other couple, & petronella one place to the right, & repeat to opposite side, AS 2nd couple crosses by the right hand, cast to the right (woman up, man down), cross by the right hand up and down, & cast to the right to opposite side in 2nd place (all are now on opposite sides);

17-24 SET & CIRCLE: In a circle, all set and circle for 2 steps, set and circle for 2 steps;

25-32 1ST COUPLE SET ADVANCING BACK-TO-BACK, $\frac{3}{4}$ FIGURE OF 8, & CAST: 1st couple sets advancing back-to-back, cast down round 2nd couple, dances up between 2nd couple, crosses and casts to 3rd place (2nd couple and 3rd couple step up on 31-32);

REPEAT TWICE

4.5

CELTICH CROSS

6/8x32 bar Strathspey

FORM: 2-couple strathspey in 3- or 4-couple longways set

Featured Formation

Celtic Reel

BARS

1-8 1ST COUPLE PETRONELLA & SET TWICE: 1st couple petronella into the centre, set, petronella between 2nd couple, and set pulling right shoulder back to end with 1st couple back-to-back in the middle facing 2nd couple who have stepped up on bars 1-2 (end with 1st man facing 2nd woman and 1st woman facing 2nd man);

9-24 CELTIC REEL: 1st and 2nd couples dance the Celtic Reel as follows:

Bars 9-16: 1ST COUPLE pass 2nd couple by the right shoulder (2 bars) and dance clockwise $\frac{1}{4}$ round the periphery (2 bars), pass 2nd couple by the right shoulder (2 bars), and turn each other $\frac{3}{4}$ round with the left hand, AS 2ND COUPLE pass 1st couple by the right shoulder (2 bars), turn each other $\frac{3}{4}$ round with the left hand (2 bars), pass 1st couple by the right shoulder (2 bars), and dance clockwise $\frac{1}{4}$ round the periphery (2 bars);

Bars 17-24: repeat Bars 9-16 ending with 1st couple between 2nd couple facing each other;

25-32 1ST COUPLE'S SOLO: 1st couple set to each other, then cross upwards passing right hands, & cast to 2nd place on own side and set.

REPEAT WITH COUPLE BELOW

4.6

A REEL NIGHTMARE

4x32 bar Strathspey

FORM: 4-couple strathspey in 4-couple longways set

Featured Formations

Intersecting Reels of 4
Highland setting

BARS

1-4 RIGHT HAND WHEELS: 1st with 2nd, and 3rd with 4th couples dance right hands across once around ending with 2nd man and 3rd woman facing out;

5-8 AROUND CORNER: 2nd and 3rd couples dance clockwise around corners (2nd woman round 1st woman, 2nd man round 1st man, 3rd woman round 4th woman, and 3rd man round 4th man);

9-12 CENTRES LEFT HAND WHEEL: 2nd and 3rd couples dance left hands across ending facing corners (2nd & 1st men, 2nd & 1st women, 3rd & 4th men, 3rd & 4th men);

13-24 INTERSECTING REELS OF 4: Diagonal reels of 4 (1st and 2nd men with 3rd and 4th women; 1st and 2nd women with 3rd and 4th men)(pass though the middle by dancing left hands across halfway for 2 bars, and take 4 bars to dance round the ends of the reels);

25-28 CENTRES HIGHLAND SETTING: 2nd and 3rd couples set with a stationary Highland Setting step (e.g. Rocking step, Back Step, Toe-&-Heel);

29-32 CENTRES THRO' ARCH & INTO END PLACES: 2nd couple dances under an arch made by 3rd couple, both couples dance to ends of the set, then divide and cast into end places (1st and 4th couples step into the middle places on bars 29-30).

Order is now 3rd, 1st, 4th, 2nd.

REPEAT 3 TIMES

4.7

THE GALLOVIDIAN

8x32 bar strathspey

FORM: 3-couple dance in 4-couple set

Featured Formations

Keppoch

Cross-over mirror reels of 3

(N.B. this dance may be performed as a 3-couple dance in a 3-couple set if 1st couple turn to 3rd place at the end of the dance ready to start again, i.e. 3x32 bar strathspey)

BARS

1-8 CROSS OVER REELS OF 3: 1st couple cross over through 2nd place on the opposite side to dance a reel of 3 with 2nd and 3rd couples all giving nearer hands to partners where possible;

9-12 TEAPOTS: dance three hands across in a wheel, 1st woman with 2nd and 3rd men using right hands, 1st man with 2nd and 3rd women using left hands;

13-16 DOWN MIDDLE: 1st couple followed by 2nd and 3rd couples dance down the middle nearer hands joined, at the end of bar 16 1st couple turn under arms to face up with nearer hands joined; and 2nd and 3rd couples begin to separate;

17-20 TEAPOTS: dance three hands across in a wheel, 1st woman with 2nd and 3rd men using left hands, 1st man with 2nd and 3rd women using right hands;

21-24 UP MIDDLE: 1st couple lead up left hands joined followed by 2nd and 3rd couples lead up the middle right hands joined, on bar 24 3rd couple dance into place AS 1st couple turn towards each other to face 2nd couple, and both couples lift right hands into allemande hold;

25-32 KEPPOCH:

Bars 25-28: 1st and 2nd couples dance forward on right, hop, backward on left, hop (as in the 1st bar of the Glasgow Highlanders setting step), then travel forward diagonally to the right (bars 1-2), forward on left, hop, backward on right, hop (as in the 3rd bar of the Glasgow Highlanders setting step), then travel forward diagonally to the left (bars 3-4): couples have now changed places, men passing left shoulders, and are now back-to-back;

Bars 29-32: dropping front hands, turn once to end on own side

REPEAT DANCE FROM 2ND PLACE

4.8

HEY FOR THE HIELAN' BODY

6/8x48 bar reel

FORM: 2-couple dance in 3- or 4-couple set

Featured Formations

Keppoch

Highland setting

BARS

1-8 **DOWN MIDDLE, TURN & BACK:** 1st couple dance down the middle nearer hands joined, then the woman going above man dance under man's arm to dance back up on opposite sides ending between 2nd couple;

9-12 **TURN:** 1st man turns 2nd woman with right hand AS 1st woman turns 2nd man with left hand ending with 1st couple in the middle back-to-back between 2nd couple;

13-16 **SET:** 1st couple sets to 2nd couple using set and spring points (or some other Highland Setting Step);

17-24 **REEL OF 4:** 1st and 2nd couple dance a reel of 4 (on bar 24 1st couple pass each other by the right shoulder to end in the middle with 1st woman at the top and 1st man below);

25-32 **WHEEL:** 1st and 2nd couples dance right hands across and back with left hands across ending with 1st couple turning an extra ¼ turn to end with 1st couple in the middle between 2nd couple in a line of 4 across the dance all facing down nearer hands joined;

33-40 **DOWN MIDDLE & BACK:** dance down the middle, on bar 36 1st couple turn under arms AS 2nd couple dance below them, then 1st couple lead up left hands joined followed by 2nd couple lead up the middle with right hands joined (on bar 40 1st couple turn towards each other to face 2nd couple and both couples raise right hands over women's head into allemande hold);

41-48 **KEPPOCH:**

Bars 41-44: 1st and 2nd couples dance forward on right, hop, backward on left, hop (as in the 1st bar of the Glasgow Highlanders setting step), then travel forward diagonally to the right (1 bar), forward on left, hop, backward on right, hop (as in the 3rd bar of the Glasgow Highlanders setting step), then travel forward diagonally to the left (1 bar): couples have now changed places, men passing left shoulders, and are now back-to-back;

Bars 45-48: dropping front hands, turn once to end on own side

REPEAT FROM 2ND PLACE

4.9

THE SCOTTISH BUTTERFLY

4x64 reel

FORM: Square set

BARS

Featured Formations

Tulloch Turn, Rights & Lefts

Ladies Chain, Promenade

1-8 BACK-TO-BACK AND TURN: Dance back-to-back around partner and turn each other twice around with right elbow grip and Tulloch steps;

9-16 HEAD COUPLES THRO' & BACK: Head couples nearer hands joined, dance across the set and back to place (1st couple dance between 3rd couple on the way over and 3rd couple pass between the 1st couple on the way back);

17-24 SIDE COUPLES THRO' & BACK: Side couples repeat bars 9-16;

25-32 HEAD COUPLES RIGHTS & LEFTS;

33-40 SIDE COUPLES RIGHTS & LEFTS;

41-48 HEAD COUPLES LADIES CHAIN;

49-56 SIDE COUPLES LADIES CHAIN: ending with the side women dancing anticlockwise to right hand side of corner AS the side men dance to their corner women;

57-64 PROMENADE: Promenade CORNER anticlockwise around the set ending with the men in original places and their corners on their right hand side.

REPEAT 3 TIMES

4.10

MAGGIE'S MEDLEY

64-bar strathspey + 64-bar reel

FORM: Square set

BARS

Featured Formations

Circular Reels of 4

Highland Setting

1-8 LADIES CHAIN: all dance a ladies chain, women dancing right hands across halfway through the middle to turn the opposite man by the left hand, and repeat back to place ending facing corner;

9-16 CIRCULAR REELS OF 4: all dance reel of 4 around the square (start by passing corner by the right shoulder, the next person by the left shoulder and the next person by the right shoulder; then turn to come back passing right, left and right shoulders) (end by pulling right shoulder back to face partner);

17-24 GLASGOW HIGHLANDERS SETTING to partner;

25-28 TURN: all turn partner $1 + \frac{3}{4}$ times with the right hand;

29-32 WOMEN WHEEL: women dance left hands across once round ending back-to-back in the middle);

33-40 MEN SET: men set to women with a Highland step;

41-44 TURN: all turn partner $1 + \frac{1}{2}$ times round with right hands;

45-48 MEN'S WHEEL: men dance left hands across once round ending back-to-back in the middle;

49-56 WOMEN SET: women set to men with a Highland step;

57-64 PROMENADE: all promenade around the set ending in original places;

REPEAT THE DANCE IN REEL TEMPO.

4.11

SCOTIAN TWASOME

64 bar strathspey + 32 bar reel

Featured formations

Highland setting, La Baratte, Allemande,
Diamond poussette, Petronella

FORM: One couple about 2 metres apart facing each other

BARS STRATHSPEY

1-8 REEL OF 3: dance the pattern of a right shoulder reel of 3, with an imaginary centre person giving right shoulder to the woman to start;

9-16 HIGHLAND SCHOTTISCHE SETTING & CROSS: set to each other with Highland Schottische setting step for 2 bars, cross over to change places with left hand starting with left foot (2 bars), set to each other with Highland Schottische setting step halfway starting on the left foot (2 bars), and cross over with right hand ending with the lady turning under man's right arm into allemande hold (2 bars);

17-24 HIGHLAND SCHOTTISCHE SETTING AND ALLEMANDE: Highland Schottische setting as a couple in allemande hold and dance a 4-bar allemande (dance anticlockwise around in two bars, turn the woman under and retire);

25-32 GLASGOW HIGHLANDERS SETTING, CAST AND TURN: set to each other with Glasgow Highlanders setting step for 4 bars, and pulling right shoulder back cast around to the right and turn each other once round with both hands;

33-40 REEL OF 3: dance the pattern of a right shoulder reel of 3 with an imaginary centre person giving right shoulder to the woman to start: use Highland Travelling steps;

41-48 SET ADVANCING AND TURN: set advancing to end back-to-back, pull right shoulder back and turn each other with both hands $\frac{3}{4}$ around for 2 bars, then repeat bars 41-44 to end on opposite sides;

49-56 SET AND LA BARATTE: set to each other and dance La Baratte;

57-64 DIAMOND POUSSETTE: dance the pattern of the all around poussette (diamond poussette) as 1st couple;

REEL

1-8 REEL OF 3: dance the pattern of a right shoulder reel of 3 with an imaginary centre person giving right shoulder to the woman to start;

9-16 SET: set to each other with coupe-pas de basque;

17-24 PETRONELLA: petronella into the middle, set, petronella to partners place and set;

25-32 TULLOCH TURN $1 + \frac{1}{2}$ & BACK-TO-BACK: turn each other $1 + \frac{1}{2}$ times around with Tulloch steps and right elbow grip, then dance back-to-back (do-si-do);

33-64 REPEAT BARS 1-32 in reel tempo but use Highland travelling steps in Bars 1-8 and a different Highland Setting step in Bars 9-16.

4.12 TAIGH NAN GAIDHEAL SRATHSPEIDH AGUS RUIDHLE

64-bar strathspey and 64-bar reel

Featured Formations

FORM:

Highland Setting, Petronella

1st Woman 2nd Man

La Baratte, Diamond Poussette

TOP

BOTTOM

Espagnole, Poussette, Ladies Chain

1st Man 2nd Woman

BARS SRATHSPEIDH

1-4 SET ADVANCING & ½ WHEEL: Nearer hands joined 1st woman with 2nd man, 1st man with 2nd woman, set advancing to end back-to-back, pull right shoulder back to dance right hands across halfway to end 2nd woman with 1st man, and 1st woman with 2nd man;

5-8 SET ADVANCING & ½ WHEEL: Nearer hands joined 1st woman with 2nd man and 1st man with 2nd woman, set advancing to end back-to-back, pull left shoulder back to dance left hands across halfway to end in original places;

9-16 SET & PETRONELLA: all set nearer hands joined (1st woman with 2nd man and 1st man with 2nd woman), and petronella into a line of 4 up-and-down the middle, set and petronella to opposite place;

17-24 SET & LA BARATTE: join nearer hands 1st woman with 2nd man and 1st man with 2nd woman, set and dance La Baratte with partner (end in original places);

25-32 DIAMOND POUSSETTE: dance all round poussette (diamond poussette) with partner;

33-40 ESPAGNOLE: face up and down and dance the espagnole (1st couple pass between 2nd couple, cross over 1st woman passing in front of partner, 2nd couple pass between 1st couple, cross over 2nd woman passing in front of partner, turn 1+ ¼ 1st man with 2nd woman by the left hand, 2nd man with 1st woman by the right hand to end in a line of 4 across the set, men back-to-back in the centre facing the person you just turned);

41-48 SET WITH HIGHLAND STEP;

49-56 REEL OF 4: dance a reel of 4, at the end the men turn to face their partner, omitting the last left shoulder pass;

57-64 HIGHLAND SCHOTTISCHE POUSSETTE: dance Highland Schottische poussette (men start with their left foot) (finish with a turn once round to end men in the middle in a line of 4, 1st couple at the right hand end of line, facing the audience);

REEL

1-8 SET WITH HIGHLAND STEP: set and spring points twice;

9-12 ADVANCE & RETIRE up and down;

13-16 TURN: turn partner with both hands once around;

17-24 ¾ POUSSETTE: start with ¼ turn clockwise; move along side, ¼ turn, move across set, ¼ turn, move along side, ½ turn to end with ladies on right hand side of partner facing the other couple across the set;

25-32 COUPE-PAS DE BASQUE TWICE;

33-40 LADIES CHAIN;

41-48 RIGHTS & LEFTS;

49-56 PROMENADE ANTICLOCKWISE AROUND SET: end by turning ladies back-to-back into a line in the middle;

57-64 SET TWICE & TULLOCH TURN TWICE AROUND BY RIGHT ELBOW.