FROM TWO BARNs

ANOTHER TEN COUNTRY DANCES

FROM RUTHERFORD, THOMPSON, WALSH & KYNASTON

Vol. 3 May 1985
FOREWORD

One thing inevitably leads to another and the more one looks at the books which our Eighteenth Century forebears left behind the more the 'Pop' music of the Seventeen Hundreds leaps back into life.

This volume contains another ten tunes, seven of which, to the best of my knowledge, have not been heard very often, if at all in recent years. The remaining three are not so uncommon, these are Bob in the Bed, which will be recognised as The Belfast Almanack, Sawney was Tall known to many of us as Corn Rigs, and The Weezle which can be found in The Charlton memorial book as The Howlett and the Weasle and probably other collections as well.

To these tunes have been added interpretations or modifications of the dances that were set to them in the books from which they were taken.


Again my thanks are due to all those dancers in Hertfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Gloucestershire on whom the necessary experiments were tried, to Diana Porteus who played her recorder over the telephone and introduced me to "Bob in the Bed", to Tom Cook for his continued most helpful advice and encouragement, and once again to John Graham who added the chords to the music.

Ken Sheffield

Hall Barn Eynsham Oxford

1985
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JUST A GOING

Longways duple minor

A1 1 – 2 1st couple set R. and L. to 2nd woman and fall back

3 – 4 1st couple and 2nd woman hands 3 once round to L.

A2 1 – 2 1st couple set R. and L. to 2nd man and fall back

3 – 4 1st couple and 2nd man hands 3 once round to L.

B1 1 – 2 1st man change places with 2nd man giving R.H. and then with NEXT 2nd man giving L.H. while 1st woman changes places with the 2nd woman giving L.H. and then with the NEXT 2nd woman giving R.H.

B1 3 – 4 1st couple and 2nd couple ABOVE them 3 changes circular hey (partners facing) to finish below their original 2nd couple in progressed place.

B2 1 – 2 1st couple and original 2nd couple all set in towards each other and turn single to progressed place.

B2 3 – 4 R.H. star once round to progressed place.


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BOB IN THE BED

3 couple set dance longways

A1 1st man set R. and L. to 2nd woman then cast off and turn 3rd woman (2 hands) finishing in 2nd man's place. 2nd man move up.

A2 1st woman set R. and L. to her own partner, who is in 2nd man's place, then cast off and turn 3rd man (2 hands) finishing in 2nd woman's place. 2nd woman move up.

B1 1st man whole hey with 3rd couple while 1st woman whole hey with 2nd couple. 1st couple finish proper in middle place.

B2 1st couple lead through 3rd couple, who face down and taking inside hands with 1st couple turn them round into middle place (gates down). 1st couple lead up through 2nd couple (at top) 2nd couple giving hands turn 1st couple round into middle place (gates up).

A3 1st man dance anti-clockwise round 3rd man who does not move, then anti-clockwise round 2nd woman returning down the middle to 2nd place on his own side, while 1st woman dances clockwise round 3rd woman and then clockwise round 2nd man returning down the middle to 2nd place on her own side.

B3 Circular hey all round. 1st couple (in middle) face down 3rd couple face up and 2nd couple (at top) face each other. 1st and 3rd couples one extra change to progress.


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SUGGAR CANDIE

Longways for 3 couples

A1 1st couple cast one place and turn single away while 2nd couple move up. 1st and 2nd couple R.H. star once round.

A2 1st couple cast one place and turn single away while 3rd couple move up. 1st and 3rd couple L.H. star once round. (1st couple now in 3rd place).

B1 1 – 2 1st couple dance up to place passing between 3rd couple and passing outside 2nd couple (with hands).

B1 3 – 4 All set R. and L. to partner.
1st couple cast, 2nd couple move up the middle, 3rd couple turn single away.

B2 1 – 4 Morris hey. 1st couple in middle start hey by moving between 3rd couple who cast up, 2nd couple at top start hey by casting down. 1st and 3rd couples one extra change to progress (i.e. 1st couple lead to bottom while 3rd couple cast up).


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THE DISBANDED OFFICER

Longways duple minor

A1 1 – 2  1st couple cross over into a line of 4 with 2nd couple facing down with 1st couple in middle.

A1 3 – 4  All 4 lead down a double in line.

A1 5 – 8  All in line set R. and L. then 2nd couple turn 1st couple round (gates down) 1st couple finishing improper above 2nd couple, all facing up.

A2 1 – 4  1st couple followed by 2nd couple lead up a double. All set R. and L.

A2 5 – 8  All turn partner to finish proper in original place i.e. 1st couple have an extra half turn to finish on their own side.

B1 1 – 4  1st and 2nd couple slipped ring to L.

B1 5 – 8  Slipped ring to R.

B2 1 – 4  1st man and 2nd woman cross over.
          1st woman and 2nd man cross over.

B2 5 – 8  3 changes circular hey starting along the line to finish progressed and proper.

THE WEEZLE

Longways duple minor

A1 1-4 1st man and 2nd woman set R. and L. and turn single to place.

A1 5-8 1st woman and 2nd man set R. and L. and turn single to place.

A2 Circle 4 hands L. and R.

B1 1st couple lead down the middle (inside hands) lead up to top and cast into 2nd place helped round by 2nd couple (gates up).

B2 4 changes circular hey, partners facing to progressed place.


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THOMAS AND SALLY

A

B

C

Longways duple minor

(Play A B C C)

A 1–4 1st man set R. and L. to 2nd woman and then to his own partner and hands 3 L. with 1st and 2nd woman.

A 5–8 1st woman set R. and L. to 2nd man and then to her own partner and hands 3 L. with 1st and 2nd man.

B 1–4 1st couple cross over R.S. dance round the 2nd couple who face out and hand them round. 1st couple cross over again and dance round the NEXT 2nd couple who also face out and hand them round.

B 5–8 1st couple lead up the middle to their original place and cast off one place and turn single (progression). 2nd couple move up as the 1st couple cast.

C1 Ring of 4 with NEXT 2nd couple (slipped) to L. and R.

C2 1st couple 4 changes circular hey with original 2nd couple (partners facing) to progressed place.

PAINTED CHAMBER

Longways duple minor  (Note: 4 bar A music- 8 bar B music)

A1 1 – 2  1st couple change places R.S. and turn to face.
A1 3 – 4  1st couple cast while 2nd couple lead up and turn to face down.
A2 1 – 2  1st couple and NEXT 2nd couple lead down in a line of 4 (1st couple on outside and improper).
A2 3 – 4  1st man and 2nd woman change places R.S. while 1st woman and 2nd man change places L.S.
B1 1 – 6  1st couple and 2nd couple with whom they are dancing a double figure 8 starting by 1st woman crossing in front of 1st man whilst moving up, the 2nd couple meanwhile casting down.
B1 7 – 8  1st couple move up changing onto their own side to stand between their original 2nd couple facing up.
B2 1 – 4  1st couple and their original 2nd couple lead up a double in line and cast round into their progressed place (gates up).
B2 5 – 8  All set and turn single.

Source: The Compleat Country Dancing Master
J. Walsh 1718.

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THE RECRUITING OFFICER

Longways duple minor

A1 1–8 1st man cast off round 2nd man and turn 2nd woman once round R.H. while 1st woman follows her partner and turns 2nd man once round L.H.

_1st couple are now improper below 2nd couple_

A2 1–8 1st couple and NEXT 2nd couple whole double figure 8 starting with 1st couple crossing over and dancing down through the 2nd couple who cast up. Finish by 1st couple dancing up the outside of the set to their original place improper.

_2nd couple finish the figure 8 proper_

B1 1–4 1st couple cross over and dance into 2nd couple’s place as 2nd couple move up the middle (progression)

B1 5–8 1st and 2nd couple R.H. star.

B2 1–4 All 4 set towards each other and turn single away.

B2 5–8 1st and 2nd couple L.H. star.

Source: Twenty Four New Country Dances for the year 1710 by Mr. Kynaston

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BLOOMSBURY MARKET

Set dance for 4 couples longways  (Play AA BB four times)

A1  1st couple cross over R.S. 1st man turns 2nd woman with L.H. once round while 1st woman turns 2nd man with R.H. once round. 1st couple cross over below 2nd couple, and 1st man turns 3rd man with R.H. once round while 1st woman turns 3rd woman with L.H. once round. 1st couple cross over below 3rd couple and 1st man turns 4th man with R.H. once round while 1st woman turns 4th woman with L.H. once round. 1st couple cross over below 4th couple and cast (man R. and woman L.) up the outside of the set to original place.

A2  Repeat for 4th couple who dance this movement from the bottom of the set (4th man turns 3rd woman with R.H. once round and 4th woman turns 3rd man with L.H. once round) returning down the outside of set to their original places.

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BLOOMSBURY MARKET

B1 1–4 1st man giving R.H. to his partner dances a double figure 8 with 2nd couple. (2nd couple start by casting up). WHILE 4th man giving L.H. to his partner dances a double figure 8 with 3rd couple (3rd couple start by casting down).

Finish with 1st couple proper in the centre of a line of 4 with the 2nd couple facing down and 4th couple proper in the centre of a line of 4 with 3rd couple facing up. (2nd and 3rd couples are also proper.)

B1 5 1st man and 4th woman cross over

B1 6 1st woman and 4th man cross over

B1 7–8 2nd couple cast to top, 3rd couple cast to bottom while 1st and 4th couple half turn to correct side.

Set is now back in longways formation with 2nd couple at top 4th couple in second place, 1st couple in third place and 3rd couple in fourth place, all proper. (progression)

B2 1–4 Mens hey for 4 and ladies hey for 4 at the same time (middles face out)

B1 5–6 All set and turn single.

B2 7–8 2nd and 4th couple ring of 4 to L. while 1st and 3rd couple do the same.

Set is now in same formation as at start of B2. After 4 sequences the set will be back in original position.

Source: The Compleat Country Dancing Master
J. Walsh 1718
SAWNEY WAS TALL

Longways duple minor

A1 1 – 4  All up and back a double
A1 5 – 8  All set to partner and turn single
A2 1 – 4  All back to back
A2 5 – 8  1st couple cast round 2nd couple (who move up) and all two rant steps on spot to partner. (Progression)
B1 1 – 4  1st couple half figure 8 up through 2nd couple
B1 5 – 8  All set to contra partner along line and turn 2 hands once round.
B2 1 – 4  2nd couple half figure 8 down through 1st couple.
B2 5 – 8  All swing partner finishing progressed and on original side.

Source: The Compleat Country Dancing Master
J. Walsh 1718
The reproductions above show the dance set from the frontispiece of four of the books from which this selection of tunes is taken. The upper picture is from Rutherford's Compleat Collection both Vol. 1 and Vol. 2. The centre is from Thompson's Compleat Collection Vol. 2 and the lower is from Thompson's Compleat Collection Vol. 5.

It is interesting to note that each set contains four couples, is apparently improper and that two couples are "turning two hands" while the other two couples are perhaps "footing it". The band is to the right of the dancers in the top and centre pictures and to the left of the set in the lower picture.