FROM TWO BARNS

TEN COUNTRY DANCES FOR 1988

From the collections of Preston, Walsh, Kynaston, Thompson and Wright

Vol. 5 May 1988
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FOREWORD

This selection for 1988 contains ten more tunes which have been taken from 18th century dance collections to be found in the Vaughan Williams Memorial Library. The dances as set down here are interpretations or modifications of the original often very brief instructions set out in the old books.

Five sources have been used, namely The Compleat Dancing Master 1718 by J. Walsh, Nathaniel Kynaston’s Twenty Four Dances for 1710, Wright’s Compleat Collection of Celebrated Country Dances Vol. I, Preston’s Collection of 24 Dances for 1793–4 and Thompson’s Compleat Collections Vol. I and Vol. 5.

It should be noted that these collections are not the only place where most of these dances can be found, nor is it necessarily the oldest publication as much “poaching” seems to have taken place particularly in Mr. Walsh’s Book.

I am indebted to many friends in Oxford, Bucks and Gloucester who have been involved in trying out the dances, to John Graham for his musical genius in adding the chords to the tunes, to Tom Cook for his continued help and to my wife, Pam, who in between entertaining grandchildren, has again typed and made readable my notes.

Ken Sheffield
Hall Barn
Bitterell
Eynsham, Oxford
May 1988

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Longways duple minor

A1 1–4 1st man and 2nd woman cast into each others place.

5–8 2nd man and 1st woman do the same.

A2 1–4 1st couple half figure 8 up through 2nd couple

5–8 2nd couple half figure 8 down through 1st couple.

B1 1–4 Hands 4 half round.

B1 5–8 Corners cross.

B2 1st couple lead down through next 2nd couple, cast up to progressed place then lead through own 2nd couple and cast into progressed place.

Source: J. Walsh The Compleat Dancing Master 1718
EAST INDIAN

Triple minor

A1 1 – 4  2nd woman and 1st couple R.H. star once round while 2nd man and 3rd couple do the same.

5 – 8  2nd woman and 3rd couple L.H. star once round while 2nd man does the same with 1st couple.

A2  1st couple lead down the middle, lead up and cast one place. (Progression)

B1  Slipped ring for 6 L. and R.

B2  Allemand R. and L. (i.e. partners giving R.H. half turn to each others place, continue the turn passing the woman under the man’s R. arm. Repeat with L.H.)

Source: Thompson's Compleat Collection Vol. V

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Set dance for 3 couples longways

A1 1st couple turn with R.H. and cast into 2nd place, 2nd couple move up.

A2 1st couple turn with L.H. man cast down and woman cast up while 2nd and 3rd couples cross over into lines of 3 facing up and down.

B1 In lines across set R. and L. twice. 1st couple moving to their R. dance a half hey, 1st man with the men
1st woman with the women
(Finish with 1st couple in middle place. All improper)

B2 In lines up and down set R. and L. twice. 1st couple moving to their R. dance a half hey with the ends finishing with 3rd couple at top, 1st couple in middle, 2nd couple at bottom. (All proper)

C Circle L. and R.

Source: Preston 24 dances for 1793–4

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LORD KILMURRAY’S DELIGHT

Longways duple minor

A1 1 – 8 1st couple half figure 8 through 2nd couple. 1st couple set and cast off. 2nd couple move up.

9 – 16 1st couple half figure 8 through next 2nd couple and turn 2 hands. (1st couple are now progressed 1 place)

A2 1 – 16 2nd couple do the same with their own 1st couple (now progressed) and then with the NEXT 1st couple.
   (Set is now back to original place)

B 1 – 4 All set R. and L. to partner and change places R.S.

B 5 – 8 Men turn with L.H. while women turn with R.H.

B 9 – 16 2 changes circular hey partners facing, 2nd couple cast while 1st couple move up. (Long cast)

17 – 20 1st couple set and cast off (progression) while 2nd couple move up.

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

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MISS MARGARET’S DELIGHT

Set for 3 couples longways

A1 1 – 2 All set R. and L. to partner and turn single to place.

3 – 4 R.H. star once round, 2nd man with 3rd couple and 2nd woman with 1st couple.

A2 1 – 2 All set L. and R. to partner and turn single L. to place.

3 – 4 L.H. star once round, 2nd man with 1st couple and 2nd woman with 3rd couple.

B1 1 – 2 1st couple change with 2nd couple passing down middle then with 3rd couple passing on the outside. 3rd couple pass outside 2nd couple who move down to their original place. (Half Grimstock hey)

3rd couple now at top, 2nd couple in middle and 1st couple at bottom.

3 – 4 All allemand – partners giving R.H. the man dances round the woman who moves forward and back.

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MISS MARGARET’S DELIGHT

B2 1 – 4 1st couple lead up to the top and cast into 2nd place (2nd couple move down) 1st couple turn single away from partner.

A3 1 – 2 1st couple turn R.H. corner 2 hands (man down woman up).

3 – 4 1st couple turn 2 hands.

A4 1 – 2 1st couple turn L.H. corner 2 hands (man up woman down).

3 – 4 1st couple turn partner 2 hands once and a half, while in bar 4 2nd and 3rd couples turn to face out.

B3 1 – 4 1st man leads out 2nd and 3rd women, while 1st woman leads out 2nd and 3rd men. Form rings of 3 and circle half way round. Open the rings out into lines of 3 facing with 1st couple in middle of line.

1st couple cross over while 2nd and 3rd couples turn to face out.

B4 1 – 4 1st man leads out 2nd and 3rd men, while 1st woman leads out 2nd and 3rd women. Form rings of 3 and circle half way round. Open the rings out into lines of 3 facing with 1st couple in middle of line. All turn single.

Source: Thompson’s Compleat Collection Vol. V
MISS SANDIE’S DELIGHT

Longways duple minor


A2 1–2 1st corners cross.

3–4 2nd corners cross.

5–8 2 changes circular hey, partners facing.

(Set now back to original position.)

B1 1–2 1st man lead his partner down the set.

3–4 Turn her under.

5–8 Lead back up to the top and cast round 2nd couple (who move up.

Progression)

9–12 All set and turn single.

B2 1–4 All allemand. Partners give R.H. man dances round woman

who moves forward and back.

5–8 All lead to respective wall and fall back and turn to face.

9–12 Circle L. for 4 once round.

Source: Thompson’s Compleat Collection Vol. V

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THE CORNER HOUSE

Duple minor longways

A1 1st man and 2nd woman set R. and L. and cast into each other's places, meet and turn 2 hands to place.

A2 1st woman and 2nd man do the same.

B1 1st and 2nd man lead through the women, cast back to place and all R.H. star once round.

B2 1st and 2nd women lead through the men cast back to place and all L.H. star once round.

A3 1st couple lead between the 2nd couple separate and dance round the NEXT 2nd couple, meet and turn 2 hands.

A4 1st couple lead up to the top, cast off and set and turn single. (Progression)

B3 Ring of 4 with NEXT 2nd couple R. and L.

B4 4 changes circular hey, partners facing to progressed places. (With original 2nd couple)

Source: Thompson's Compleat Collection Vol. I

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THE TEMPLE OF HEALTH

Set for 3 couples longways

A1    Hey on your own sides (Grimstock style) and one extra change to progress 1st couple.

A2    Circle 6 L. and R.

B1 1 – 2    Balance R. and L.

B1 3 – 4    All change sides.

B1 5 – 6    Balance R. and L.

B1 7 – 8    All change sides.

B2 1 – 2    2nd man and 1st woman change places R.S. while 1st man and 3rd woman do the same.

B2 3 – 4    2nd woman and 3rd woman change places R.S. while 2nd man and 3rd man do the same.

B2 5 – 6    1st woman and 3rd man change places L.S. while 2nd woman and 1st man do the same.

B2 7 – 8    All turn Single.

(3rd couple now at top, 1st couple in middle and 2nd couple at bottom.)

Source: Thompson’s Compleat Collection Vol. V

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THE WHITE JOAK

Set for three couples longways

A1 1 – 4 1st couple cross over and 1st man turn 2nd woman with R.H. once and a half while 1st woman turns 2nd man with L.H. once and a half.

5 – 6 1st couple turn 2 hands half way to own side.

A2 1 – 4 1st couple continue to turn 2 hands for half a turn and 1st man turns 3rd woman with R.H. once and a half while 1st woman turns 3rd man with L.H. once and a half.

5 – 6 1st couple turn 2 hands to finish improper. (1st couple now at bottom of set)

B1 1 – 2 1st couple cast UP one place.

B1 3 – 10 1st couple and 2nd couple 4 changes circular hey starting along the line and finishing with 1st couple IMPROPER in line of 4 with 3rd couple facing down.

B2 Line of 4 down a double, fall back and bend the line, 1st couple half figure 8 round 3rd couple and cast to bottom while 3rd couple move up.

Source: Wright’s Compleat Collection Vol. 1

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WILLY’S RARE AND WILLY’S FAIR

Set dance for 3 couples longways

A1 1st man and 2nd woman, 2nd man and 3rd woman set R. and L. and turn single and turn with R. H.

A2 1st woman and 2nd man, 2nd woman and 3rd man set R. and L. and turn single and turn with L. H.

B1 Hey contrary sides, hey on your own side:
1st man passing his partner in front of him dances a hey for 3 on the women’s side, while his partner dances a hey for 3 on the men’s side. As the 2nd and 3rd couple reach the top of the set the man passes his partner in front of him and continues the hey on the women’s side while the woman continues the hey on the men’s side. (All are now improper.) Continue the hey each couple crossing over as they reach the top of the set until all are back to their original positions.

B2 1 – 8 1st couple cross over and cast one place, 2nd couple move up.
1st and 3rd couples circle L. (1st couple are now improper in middle place.)

B2 9 – 16 1st man cross over R. S. with 2nd man, 1st woman cross over L. S. with 2nd woman. 1st couple cast to bottom of set while 2nd and 3rd couple turn 2 hands and move up to their progressed positions.

Source: Thompson’s Compleat Collection Vol. V