

# **TWELVE NEW SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCES**

**(1946-1957)**



**Black Ness**

**The old sporran**

**Lylestone house**

**The steps of Trool**

**The provost**

**Castle Campbell**

**Rosslyn castle**

**The last of the lairds**

**Suilean donn'**

**Suilean gorma**

**Far up the glen**

**The flying Scotsman**



*W. K. H. W. H.*

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## FOREWORD

Here are a dozen country dances, intended to be performed in the current Scottish style.

For each, two tunes are recommended. It is probably inevitable that sometimes other tunes will be used, because not every musician will have all the recommended tunes in his collection of music.

In all diagrams the top of the room is on the left. Men are represented by circles; women by squares.

A dance is three-couple unless marked "two-couple". Dances in strathspey rhythm are marked "strathspey". All dances not so marked are in the normal faster tempo.

We have enjoyed dancing these for some years now. We hope you enjoy some of them. I shall welcome any comments on them.

H.A. Thurston  
The University  
Bristol  
England.

## BLACK NESS

(Two-couple strathspey)

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| 1 - 2   | All four dance right-hands-across half-way. (Thus the first man ends in the second woman's place, and so on). |
| 3 - 4   | All four set to partners.   |
| 5 - 6   | The first man and second woman change places, giving right hands.   |
| 7 - 8   | All four set to partners.   |
| <hr/>   |   |
| 9 - 10  | All four dance right-hands-across half-way.   |
| 11 - 12 | All four set to partners.   |
| 13 - 14 | The first woman and second man change places, giving right hands.   |
| 15 - 16 | All four set to partners. (At this point the men are on the women's side and vice versa).                     |
| <hr/>   |   |
| 17 - 24 | The first couple dance a figure-of-eight round the other couple and cross to their own sides.                 |
| <hr/>   |   |
| 25 - 32 | The second couple do the same.  |

Recommended tunes : The laird of Drumblair  
Forbes Morrison  
(Both by J. Scott Skinner).



## THE OLD SPORRAN

(Two-couple strathspey)

The first couple cross over before the dance starts. (The dance can also be done as a Circassian Circle).

	The first couple join nearer hands and face down. The second couple join nearer hands and face up.
1 - 2	All four set, but on bar 2 (the left-footed half of the common schottische step) each man turns across in front of his partner (letting go her left hand and taking her right hand in his left) into the other man's place. (Each couple is now facing the other across the set).
3 - 4	All set, and the women turn similarly. (The couples have now changed places).
5 - 8	The four dance hands-round and
9 - 12	back again.
13 - 16	As bars 1 - 4. (All are now in their original places).
17 - 24	Each man takes both hands with his partner and they dance a poussette with the <i>highland schottische</i> step, the man starting with his left foot. The moves and turns are:- 17 Each couple turns (on the spot) through a right-angle clockwise. 18 The first couple moves to the men's side; the second couple to the women's side. 19 As 17. 20 The first couple moves down; the second up. 21 As 17. 22 Each couple moves to the centre of the set. 23 As 17.

24 All release hands and prepare for the next round of the dance.

Recommended tunes : The lad with the plaidie  
The bonnie breast-knot

## LYLESTONE HOUSE

(Two-couple strathspey)

1 - 4	All four dance half-right-and-left; and
5 - 8	right-hands-across (exactly once round).
9 - 12	All four dance half-left-and-right (i.e. change places with partners giving <i>left</i> hands and then change places with the person by your side giving right hands); and
13 - 16	left-hands-across. (All will now be in their original places).
17 - 20	All four set to partners (with the common schottische step); and
21 - 24	turn partners with right hands.
25 - 32	The two couples dance an allemande.

Recommended tunes : Lady Mary Ramsay  
The north bridge of Edinburgh

## THE STEPS OF TROOL

(Two-couple strathspey)

1 - 4	The first couple set to each other and
5 - 8	turn once-and-a-half with both hands.
9 - 10	Each couple, with nearer hands joined, sets to the other.
11 - 12	The first man and second woman turn once round with both hands, while the other two do the same.
13 - 16	All four dance hands-round.
17 - 24	The first couple lead down the middle (the woman will be on the man's right), cross over; and cast up to second place. (The second couple move up to top place on bars 19 - 20).
25 - 32	The two couples dance a right-and-left.

Recommended tunes : The laird of Thrums  
The iron man  
(Both by J. Scott Skinner).

## THE PROVOST

1 - 4	The first couple cross over, giving right hands; and cast off one, the second couple moving up to first place.
5 - 8	The first and third couples dance <i>left-hands-across</i> , exactly once round.
9 - 12	The first couple cross over, giving left hands; and cast up one, the second couple moving back to second place.
13 - 16	The first and second couples dance <i>right-hands-across</i> . (All are now in their original places).
17 - 18	The first couple set to each other; and
19 - 20	turn with both hands into each other's places.
21 - 22	The first man sets to the second woman while the first woman sets to the second man; and
23 - 24	turn with both hands into each other's places. (The first couple are now on "wrong" sides in second place).
25 - 30	All six dance hands-round (clockwise) exactly once round in the six bars.
31 - 32	The first couple cross to their own sides, giving right hands.

Recommended tunes : The gobyo  
I lost my love.

# CASTLE CAMPBELL

(Strathspey)

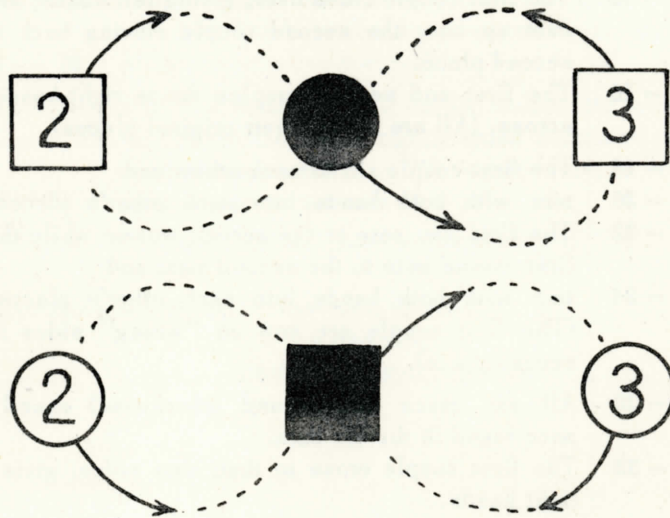


Diagram 1

- |         |  |
|---------|--|
| 1 - 8   | The first couple cross, giving right hands; cast off one (the second couple moving up to first place); cross back, giving left hands; and cast one (the man off, the woman up), finishing in lines of three with nearer hands joined, the man between the third couple facing the woman between the second couple. |
| 9 - 12  | All six set, but on the last bar the first couple release hands and turn across in front of their first corners to form lines of three at the sides, with nearer hands joined, the man between his two corners facing the woman between hers.  |
| 13 - 16 | All six set.   |
| 17 - 24 | All six dance a grand chain. To start, the second couple dance across, the first couple down, and the third couple up. (The men should meet women and the women men as they dance the chain).  |
| 25 - 30 | The first man reels with the third and second women (left-shoulder), while the first woman reels with the third and second men (right-shoulder). [See diagram 1].  |
| 31 - 32 | The first couple cross to their own sides, giving right hands.<br>(We recommend giving right hands in the reels).  |

Recommended tunes : Stirling castle  
The wife she brewed it.



## ROSSLYN CASTLE

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| 1 - 2   | The first man and woman set;                        |
| 3 - 4   | change places, giving right hands; and              |
| 5 - 6   | join nearer hands with the second woman and man.    |
|         | All four set to partners; and                       |
| 7 - 8   | change places with them, giving right hands.        |
| 9 - 10  | The second man and woman join nearer hands          |
|         | with the dancers on either side of them (who        |
|         | will actually be their corners). All six set; and   |
| 11 - 12 | change places with their partners, giving right     |
|         | hands.  |
| 13 - 14 | All six join nearer hands in threes again, advance  |
|         | slightly with the pas-de-basque; and                |
| 15 - 16 | turn their partners half-way round with both hands. |
|         | (The second couple are now on "wrong" sides;        |
|         | the others in their original places).               |
| 17 - 24 | All six dance a grand chain. To start, the first    |
|         | couple dance across, the second couple down,        |
|         | and the third couple up. (The men should meet       |
|         | women and the women men as they dance the           |
|         | chain).   |
| 25 - 28 | The first and second couples dance half-right-      |
|         | and-left.   |
| 29 - 32 | The first couple turn to their own sides with       |
|         | right hands.  |

Recommended tunes : Alan o' Fairfield  
 The fells of Campsie  
 (Both by Gordon Lawson).

## THE LAST OF THE LAIRDS

- |         |  |
|---------|--|
| 1 - 16  | All six dance a figure like the "Gates of Edin-<br>burgh" reels except that <i>every</i> dancer, on reaching<br>the top place in one reel, dances across to the<br>middle place in the other reel. I.e., every man<br>follows the same track as the first man, and every<br>woman the same track as the first woman, instead<br>of the second and third couples remaining on their<br>own sides. |
| 17 - 20 | The first couple cross over, giving right hands,<br>and cast off one, the second couple moving up<br>to first place.   |
| 21 - 24 | All six turn partners once round with both hands<br>(using the pas-de-basque).   |
| 25 - 32 | The first couple lead down one, crossing over<br>as they do so; cast up one (the man round the<br>third man, the woman round the third woman);<br>lead up one; and cast off one (round the second<br>couple).  |

Recommended tunes : There came a young man  
 The stool of repentance.

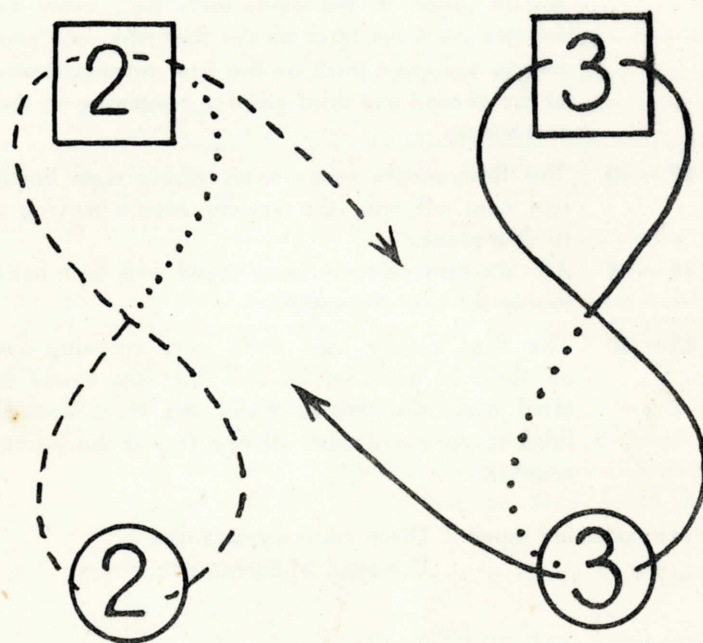


Diagram 2

# SUILEAN DONN'

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| 1 - 8   | The first couple cross over, giving right hands; cast off one (the second couple moving up to first place); meet in the middle of the set; and turn with left arms.   |
| 9 - 16  | Turn corners and partner (the well-known "Duke of Perth" figure).   |
| 17 - 24 | The first man reels with the third woman and man, while the first woman reels with the second man and woman: both reels are left-shoulder. The first couple, instead of completing the last quarter of the reels, change places by the right shoulder. [See diagram 2]. |
| 25 - 32 | The first man reels with the second woman and man, while the first woman reels with the third man and woman: both reels are right-shoulder. All finish ready for the next round of the dance.   |

Recommended tunes : Captain M'Intosh  
The breakdown.



# SUILEAN GORMA

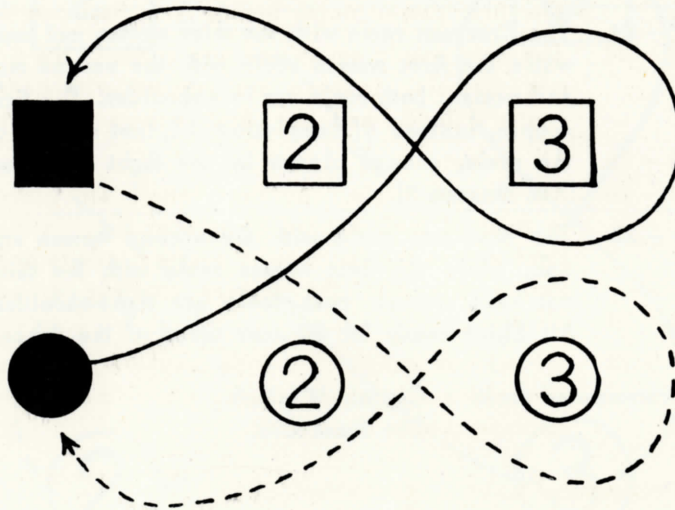


Diagram 3

- |         |  |
|---------|--|
| 1 - 8   | The first couple lead down one, crossing over as they do so; cast off one (round the third couple); lead up one; cast up one (round the second couple) [see diagram 3]. and turn half-way round with both hands. (Thus they finish ready for a poussette). |
| 9 - 16  | The first and second couples dance a poussette. The first couple finish facing their first corners.  |
| 17 - 24 | The first couple set to and turn corners, the first man finishing between his corners with nearer hands joined, and the first woman similarly.   |
| 25 - 26 | All six set.   |
| 27 - 28 | All release hands. The first couple turn across in front of their second corners to form lines of three across the dance (with nearer hands joined). During this turn the corners continue to set.   |
| 29 - 30 | All set.   |
| 31 - 32 | All release hands. The first couple turn to their own sides in second place, while the corners continue to set.  |

Recommended tunes : Australian ladies  
Hap and row the feeties o't.

# FAR UP THE GLEN

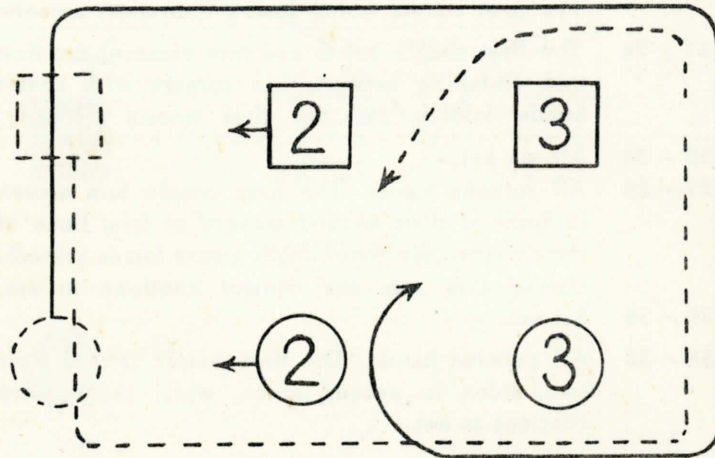


Diagram 4

- |         |  |
|---------|--|
| 1 - 8   | The first couple cross over, giving right hands; cast off two (the second couple moving up to first place); cross back to their own sides, giving left hands; and cast up one (round the third couple). [See diagram 4]. |
| 9 - 12  | The first man dances right-hands-across with the third couple, while the first woman does the same with the second couple.   |
| 13 - 16 | The first couple change places, passing by the right shoulder; and dance left-hands-across. (This figure is like bars 9 - 16 of "The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh").  |
| 17 - 24 | The first couple turn corners and partners (the well-known "Duke of Perth" figure).  |
| 25 - 30 | The first couple dance reels of three at the sides, the man with his corners and the woman with hers. Each starts by passing first corners by the left shoulder.   |
| 31 - 32 | The first couple cross to their own sides, giving right hands.   |

Recommended tunes : Far up the glen  
As a thoiseach.

## THE FLYING SCOTSMAN

- |         |  |
|---------|--|
| 1 - 8   | The first woman crosses over; casts off one (round the first man); dances in and round in front of the second man; casts off round the third man; crosses back to the women's side; and dances up to her original place. The second and third women follow her. [See diagram 5]. |
| 9 - 16  | The three men do the same round the women.   |
| 17 - 24 | The first couple join both hands and, using the slip-step, dance down the middle and up to second place, the second couple having moved up to first place on bars 19 - 20.   |
| 25 - 32 | The first couple join nearer hands with the dancers on either side, to form two lines of three facing each other. Both lines of three, using the slip-step, dance down the middle and up.  |

Recommended tunes : Roaring jelly  
Captain White.

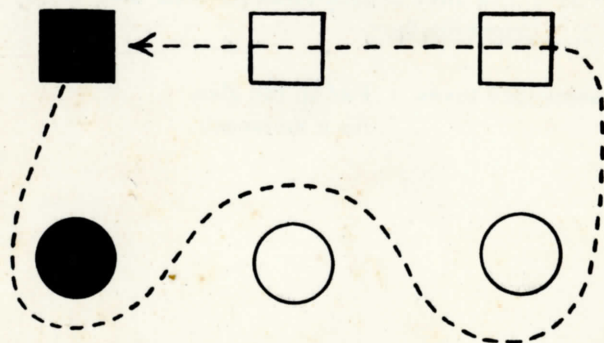


Diagram 5

21  
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9 11 7