# Leabhar Dannsadh an Sgairbh The Cormorant Scottish Dance Book 

- 1 -


Devised by Mats Melin

## Contents

| 1. | A'Dannsadh An Aghaidh An t-Sruith | $\mathrm{S} / 32 / 3$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 2. | A Strathspey for Mr \& Mrs John Day | $\mathrm{S} / 40 / 3$ |
| 3. | Ane Reel for Fionnghuala | $\mathrm{R} / 40 / 2$ |
| 4. | Wee MacIver | $\mathrm{R} / 40 / 4$ |
| 5. | Cearcan Frangach | $\mathrm{R} / 48 / 3$ |
| 6. | The Viking Longship | $\mathrm{J} / 32 / 4$ |
| 7. | The "Russian Fling" Reel | $\mathrm{R} / 32 / 4$ |
| 8. | The Caledonian Roundabout |  |
| Abbreviations: C. - Couple(s); diag. - diagonal(ly); W. - Woman; M. - Man; R- <br> Right; L - Left; F - Foot; Fig. - Figure; approx. - approximately |  |  |
| (C) Mats Melin, 1994. |  |  |

## A'Dannsadh An Aghaidh An t-Sruith

Strathspey - 32 Bars - 3 Couples in a 4 Couple Set
Music: Balquidder Strathspey, Stan Hamilton and his Flying Scotsmen as played on Scottish Dance Time Vol. 5
Bars
1-4 1st C. Set and Cast Off one place, advancing into the middle to finish facing 1st Corners. 2nd C. move up on bars 3-4.

5-8 1st C. Set to 1st and 2nd Corners. On last setting step (Bar 8), 1st C. pull left shoulder backwards to finish ready for -

9-12 Right Hands Across - 1st Man with 2nd C. and 1st Woman with 3rd C. 1st C. pass right shoulders at the end into;

13-16 Left Hands Across - 1st Man with 3rd C. and 1st Woman with 2nd C.
17-22 Reels of Three (Right shoulder, 6 Bars) on the opposite sides. To begin, 1st Man gives right shoulder to 2 nd Woman while 1st Woman gives right shoulder to 3rd Man.
23-24 1st C. Cross Over, passing Left shoulder, to own sides without giving hands.

25-30 1st Man - turn 3rd Man with left hand (2); partner with right in the middle (2); and 2nd man with left hand (2). while -
1st Woman - turn 2nd woman with left hand (2); partner with right in the middle (2); and 3rd woman with left hand (2).

31-32 2nd, 1st and 3rd C. join hands on the sides and Set.
1 st C. drop hands with 2 nd and 3 rd C., continue setting to begin the second time through the dance.
(A'Dannsadh An Aghaidh An t-Sruith - "dancing against the stream").

Devised in April, 1984.

## A Strathspey For Mr \& Mrs John Day

Strathspey - 40 Bars - 3 Couples in a 4 Couple Set
Music: Any good, flowing, Strathspey
Bars

| 1-2 | 1st and 2nd C., join nearer hands on the sides, Set. |
| :--- | :--- |
| 3-4 | 1st and 2nd C. dance Half Right Hands Across. |
| $5-6$ | 1st and 3rd C., join nearer hands on the sides, Set. |
| $7-8$ | 1st and 3rd C. dance Half Left Hands Across. (2nd and 3rd C. are now on <br> the opposite sides of the dance and 1st C. are in 3rd place on own sides. <br> 1st M. and 3 W., likewise 1st W. and 3rd M., finish facing each other, up <br> and down the dance, at the sides ready for: |
| 9-10 | 1st M. and 3 W., likewise 1st W. and 3rd M., Set changing places, i.e., <br> dance one common schottische diag. forward right, then the next diag. <br> forward left. All finish facing partners across the dance. Order now 2, 1, <br> 3. |
| $11-12$ | 1st C., facing each other, Set. |
| $13-16$ | 1st C. turn each other, both hands, 1 and 1/4 times round, so that 1st <br> Woman finishes between 3rd C. facing up; and 1st Man finishes between <br> 2nd C. at the top facing down. |

17-22 1st Woman with 3rd C. Set in a line of three, nearer hands joined, then dance Advance (2) and Retire (2); meanwhile 1st Man with 2nd C. Advance (2) and Retire (2) and Set. This is done facing up and down the dance.

23-24 2nd and 3rd Women change places on the sideline, giving right hands, 2nd and 3rd Men do likewise. 1st C. make a half turn riving right hands to finish facing opposite second corner place.
25-28 1st C. dance Half Reels of Four with opposite second corners, i.e., to begin, 1st W. gives right shoulder to 3rd M. and 1st M. gives right shoulder to 2nd W. 1st C. pass left shoulder in the middle to flow into:
29-32 Half Reels of Four with opposite first corners, i.e., 1 st W. right shoulder to 2 nd M. and 1st M. right shoulder to 3rd W. to begin. 1st C. end reel, on the last two bars, by turning left hands half way, to finish side by side in the middle, ready for:

33-36 Right Hands Across. 1st W. with 2nd C. at the top. 1st M. with 3rd C. at the bottom. On Bar 36, 1st C. pass one another right shoulder in the middle to change places ready for:

37-40 Left Hands Across. 1st W. now with 3rd C., and 1st M. with 2nd C. Finish in second place on own sides.

Repeat once more from second place.

Devised on behalf of the Stockholm Caledonian Dance Circle and performed for the first time at Burns' Supper, January 27, 1989, as a farewell present to Mr. and Mrs. John Day upon their departure from Sweden.

## Ane Reel For Fionnghuala

## R-40 Bars - 2 Couple Dance

Suggested Music: John Mortimer (Johnnie's Welcome Hame) R 8x40, Book 32, RSCDS 18.

## Bars

1-2 1st and 2nd C., joining nearer hands on the sides, Set.
3-4 1st C. turn right hands half way round, retains hold of hand. Meanwhile 2nd C. cast up, to finish in line across the dance as in fig. A. All use 2 Pas de Basque's.

5-6 Balance in line, 2 PdB's.
7-8 1st C. release R. hands, retaining and turning 2nd M. or W. with L. hand with 2 Pas de Basque's to finish in a straight line. Fig. B.

9-12 1st and 2nd C. dance a Half Reel of Four across the dance, giving R. shoulders to begin. When 2 nd C . meet L . shoulder in the middle, they dance straight on up or down the dance to finish with polite turns forming a diamond formation. 2nd W. at the top facing down and 2nd M. at bottom facing up; 1st C . on own sides.
13-14 All Set facing the middle of the set.
15-16 All dance a Petronella turn to their right, moving one place on in the diamond formation. Do not turn all the way round as right shoulder should be inwards ready for. (Fig. D).
17-20 Right Hands Across once round.
21-24 1st C. dance Back to Back, giving right shoulders in passing. Meanwhile 2nd couple dance halfway clockwise round the formation to change places. (Fig. E).

25-28 Left Hands Across once round.
29-32 1st C. dance half anti-clockwise round the formation to change places; 2nd C. dance Back to Back, giving left shoulders in passing.

33-34 1st C. turn R. hands into Allemande hold, facing up. 2nd C. Set. (finish as in Fig. G.)

35-40 Dance a 6-Bar Reel of Three across the dance. 1st C. giving right shoulders to 2 nd W. Finish with 2nd C. crossing up to top place own sides; and 1st C. release Allemande hold and dance into 2nd place as in Fig H .

Repeat with next couple.

Devised in 1985 and first danced at the SCDC's 10th Anniversary Ball, Stockholm.

## Wee MacIver

Reel - 40 Bars - 4 Couples in a Longwise Set
Music: Any good spirited Reel
Bars
1-8 1st, 2nd, and 3rd C. dance Mirror Reels of Three on own sides. To Begin: 1st C. dance in and down; 2nd C. dance out and up; 3rd C. dance in and up.
9-12 1st C. giving right hands, cross over and cast off one place on opposite sides. 2nd C. move up on Bars 11-12.
13-16 1st C. giving left hands, cross down between 3rd C. and cast up to second place on own sides.
17-20 1st W. dance Right Hands Across with 2nd C. 1st M. does likewise with 3rd C. Passing Right shoulders in the middle 1st C. dance:
21-24 Left Hands Across - 1st W. with 3rd C., and 1st M. with 2nd C. Finish on the sidelines in second place.
25-28 1st C. dance up through 2nd C. with nearer hands joined and cast off to second place own side.
29-32 Joining nearer hands, 1st C. dance down the middle to fourth place, ending by curving outwards and looping into fourth place (polite turns). 3rd and 4th C. move up on Bars 31-32.
33-40 4th and 1st C. dance Rights and Lefts.
Repeat three more times with a new top couple each time.

Devised as a practice dance combining some simple and flowing figures with the aim to practise the art of phrasing and covering.
Named in honour of the birth of a friend and fellow teachers son - Jonas Ivarson.

# Cearcan Frangach 

(Turkeys)<br>Reel - 48 Bars - 3 Couple Sets

Music: Any lively Reel.

## Bars

1-8 1st C. Set, Cross Over giving right hands and Cast Off to second place (2nd C. step up on bars 5-6), pass each other giving left hands to finish facing opposite first Corners. 1st M. facing 2nd M. and 1st W. facing 3rd W.

9-16 1st C. dance Hello Goodbye Setting to get halfway round, i.e., facing first Corners.

17-24 1st C. dance Reels of Three Across the dance, giving Left shoulder to first Corners. 1st M. with 3rd C. giving L shoulder to 3rd W; while 1st W. dances with 2nd C. giving L shoulder to 2nd M. Finish facing first Corners again.
25-32 1st C. Turn First Corner, Partner, Second Corner, Partner. Finish facing first Corners again.
33-40 Reels of Three on opposite sides, giving L. shoulder to first Corner to begin. 6-Bar Reel. 1st C. Cross Over giving R. hands at the end, but do not let go of hands.
41-48 1st and 3rd C. dance Half Rights and Lefts, then Turn Partners with right hands one and a half times. Finish in order 2, 3, 1.

Repeat the dance twice more.

This dance came about as an exercise in class as a means of sorting out some birdlike movements occuring among the dancers. Devised 1993.

## The Viking Longship

Jig - 32 Bars - 4 Couple Dance

Music: Traditional Shetland tunes such as "The Shaalds o' Foula" and "The Brig" played as Jigs.
Bars
1-2 1st C. Set advancing towards each other.
3-4 Joining both hands slip down the middle to the bottom. of the set. 2nd C. move up.

5-8 1st C. cast up round 4th and 3rd C. to finish in second place, in the middle, left shoulder to left shoulder. Man facing the women's side and the Woman facing the men's side.

9-10 Half Right Hands Across. 1st M. with 3rd C. and 1st W. with 2nd C.
11-20 1st Woman - Cast Off round 2nd W. place, Cross Down between 3rd C. dance a Figure of Eight round 3rd C. dance in to the middle and turn partner left hand to finish facing partner's First Corner (3rd M).

1st Man - Cast Up round 3rd M. place, Cross Up between 2nd C. dance a Figure of Eight round 2 nd C., dance in to the middle and turn partner left hand to finish facing partner's First Corner (2nd W).
These 10 Bars need careful phrasing and awareness of where you are going and what the others around you are doing.
Meanwhile - 2nd and 3rd C. dance Half Rights and Lefts (11-14); Set to Partner across the dance (15-16); Half Rights and Lefts back to place (17-20).

21-24 1st W. with 3rd M. and 1st M. with 2nd W. take Promenade hold, lead round behind their partners second corners and places them. in first corner position. 1st C. release Promenade hold and move onwards to finish slightly inside opposite sideline.
Meanwhile - 2nd M. and 3rd W. Set advancing, then change place giving right hands (2 Pas de Basque's and 2 Skip Change).
25-28 Half Reels of Three. 1st W. with 3rd and 2nd M., giving right shoulder to 2nd M. to begin; and 1st M. with 3rd and 2nd W., giving right shoulder to 3rd W. to begin. 2nd and 3rd C. end the reel with polite turns.

29-32 1st C. Cross Over to own side giving right hands in passing and Cast Off to fourth place. 3rd and 4th C. joining nearer hands, move up on Bars 31-32.

Repeat three more times with new top couples.
Note - Bars 9-24 should be danced as one figure.

Devised in 1981. The story of the dance is (Bars 1-8) The shape of the ship; (9-10) The stem posts, often curved or formed as dragons heads; (11-20) The sail; (21-24) Vikings sailing around Britain or crossing it on foot; (25-28) The shields hanging along the sides of the ship; (29-32) The ship sailing, with the water flowing along its side.

## The "Russian Fling" Reel

Reel - 32 Bars - 4 Couples in a Longwise Rotating Set.
Suggested Music - Reel Medley on Bobby Brown's "Grandfather Mountain Gala."
Bars
1-2 1st and 4th C. Set facing diagonally across the dance.
3-4 1st and 4th C. dance Half Right Hands Across. Finish approx. in diag. opposite places facing out.
5-6 1st and 4th C. Cast to the middle of the set, to face each other on the sidelines. 2nd and 3rd C. move up or down respectively.
7-8 1st and 4th M. turn once round giving right hands. 1st and 4th W. turn once round giving left hands; ready to flow into:
9-12 Half Reels of Four on the sidelines. To begin, 1st and 4th M. give left shoulder to 2nd and 3rd W. respectively; 1st and 4th W. give right shoulder to 2nd and 3rd M. respectively.
Finish in order 3, 1, 4, 2. 1st and 4th C. on opposite sides.
13-16 2 Half Double Figures of Eight. To begin - 3rd C. Cross Down; 1st C. Cast Up; 4th Cross Down; 2nd C. Cast Up. (Just continue from the Reels into the Figures of Eight). Finish in order 3,1,4,2. 3rd and 2nd C. on opposite sides.
17 - 20 1st and 4th C. Cross Over giving right hand to partner, Cast up or down on opposite sides (1st C. up and 4th C. down), and begin to dance in towards partner at top and bottom of the set (outside set).
Meanwhile - 2nd and 3rd C. dance - Set 1 Pas de Basque (RF) facing across the dance, Cross Over giving right hand to partner, 2 skip change LF and RF, Set 1 Pas de Basque (LF) facing partner.
21-24 1st and 4th C. taking right hand with partner lead up or down the middle to meet, and dance $1 / 4$ Right Hands Across to finish on own sides, with 4th C. in second place and 1 st $C$. in third place.
Meanwhile - 2nd and 3rd C., turning to face up and down on the sidelines, repeat Bars 17-20. Finish in order 2,4,1,3, all on own sides and facing across the dance.
25-28 All join hands on the sideline, Set 1 Pas de Basque RF; dance 6 Slip Steps to the Left making a circle. Circle halfway round.
29-30 All Set 1 Pas de Basque LF still holding hands on a circle, then dance 2 Slip Steps $1 / 4$ way round to the right. The Set having turned $1 / 4$ clockwise.
31-32 All Set 2 Pas de Basques RF and LF to forM. two straight lines ready to begin again.

Repeat the dance three more times, turning $1 / 4$ each time to finish in original positions.

Dance devised in April 1988 to commemorate the visit of "A Russian Fling" tour, led by Mr Bob Blackie, Canada, to Stockholm in May 1988.

## The Caledonian Roundabout

Reel - 32 Bars - Round the Room for any even number of couples. Suggested Music - Bobby Brown's Canadian Breakdown - Reel $4 \times 32$
Bars
1-4 Half Rights and Lefts with facing couple. No polite turns at end.
5-8 Half Rights and Lefts with next couple in turn. End with polite turns.
9-16 Ladies Chain with next couple in turn. End facing your partner.
17 - 18 Set 1 Pas de Basque to own partner, turn to face opposite person and dance another Pas de Basque on the spot.

19-22 Back to Back with the opposite person.
23-24 Change place, giving right hands, with opposite person.
25-26 Dance Half Left Hands Across with next couple in turn. End facing the opposite person.

27 - 28 Set 1 Pas de Basque to opposite person, turn to face partner, make another Pas de Basque.

29-32 Linking right arms, turn your partner one and a half times with four Skip Change, to finish side by side, as in the beginning of the dance, facing yet another new couple.

Repeat three more times, progressing round the room meeting everybody.
This simple dance was devised for the Stockholm Caledonian Dance Circle 10th Anniversary Ball in 1985.

