

Presented by Elinor Mackenzie Vandegrift

THE DIAMOND JUBILEE
Scotland

The Scottish Country Dance Society (now Royal) was founded in 1923 and published it's Book One of Twelve Dances in 1924. As Book 31 was to be published in 1983, a competition was held for devising a modern country dance to be entitled, "The Diamond Jubilee." This 32 bar, 6/8 jig was composed by Robert M. Campbell, of Oakville, Ontario (Canada) in November of 1981 and was set to the tune, "Captain Campbell of Lochnell's Reel" by Rae Mackintosh.*

MUSIC: Diamond Jubilee 1923-1983. Royal Scottish Country Dance Music for Eight Scottish Country Dances, Book 31. Rob Gordon and His Band (RSCDS 12). R.S.C.D.S., 12 Coates Crescent, Edinburgh EH3-7AF (Scotland), 1983. Side 1, Band 1 - 2'10" or mml18 (RSCDS standard is 2'12.5 or mml16).

FORMATION: Longways set for four cpls. Each cpl performs the dance once ending in a non-standard position after 32 bars (2413 4321 3142 1234).

STEPS: Skip change of step is used throughout unless a setting step is indicated. Hop on L as R extends fwd, step R fwd, close L to R heel, step R fwd.

Pas de basque (PDB) is used when setting is indicated, in which case two steps are required (bars 17-18, 21-22, 25-26, 29-30). Step R to R, close L to R instep, step R as L is extended diag L fwd.

Stepping up (or down) takes two bars and four cts. On ct 1, the dancer steps diag into the set with the ft of the direction indicated (ML WR). On ct 2, the dancer crosses one ft (MR WL) over the other in the direction indicated (up). On ct 3, the dancer steps back into line of the set (ML WR). And on ct 4, closes with the remaining ft (MR WL). In moving down feet are reversed.

PATTERNS: A reel of four is performed by four people along a single axis (here the two sides lines of the set) with cpls facing up or down the axis to begin. On odd numbered bars dancers pass R shldrs and on even numbered bars those in the middle of the reel pass L shldrs as those at the ends make a turn to the R. While this eight bar figure normally ends in the same pos as it begins, here (as in a Highland Reel) the orig inside dancers (cpls 1 & 4) will slow down on bars 7 & 8 to make a gentle curve to the R to face the dancers whom they have just passed (cpls 3 & 2) to progress (from positions 2143 to 2413). While from an audience viewpoint it is important for each cpl to cover across the set, the spirit of a reel would indicate that the primary interaction is between dancers in the same reel.

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METER: 6/8 (Jig) PATTERN

Meas (Bars)

INTRODUCTION:

DANCE:

- 1-4 1st & 4th cpls turn ptr 1-1/2 times by the R hand to end facing out on opp sides of the set.
- 5-6 As 1st cpl cast off (dances down the outside of the set) one place, the 4th cpl casts up (dances up outside of set) one place. the 2nd cpl steps up one place as the 3rd steps down.
- 7-8 1st & 4th M turn each other once round by the L hand as 1st & 4th W do the same (all end in line on the sides with 2nd & 4th cpls facing down and 1st & 3rd facing up. See Fig. 1.
- 9-16 All dance a reel of four on their own sides omitting the last L shldr pass to curve R to the ctr to form diag lines. End with 1st cpl in 3rd place facing diag down and out, 2nd cpl in 1st place facing diag down and in, 3rd cpl in 4th place facing diag up and in, 4th cpl in 2nd place facing diag up and out (1st & 4th cpls are back to back in ctr of set). This form a St. Andrews Cross. See Fig. 2.
- 17-20 1st & 4th cpls set to and change places with 3rd & 2nd cpls (taking R hands in passing).
- 21-24 All repeat bars 17-20 (taking L hands in passing) to end with 1st & 4th cpls facing each other diag in the middle and 2nd & 3rd cpls facing ptrs across the set.
- 25-28 As 1st & 4th cpls make a wheel once round (R hands across), 2nd and 3rd cpls set and cross (taking R hands in passing).
- 29-32 All set (with hands joined on the sides) (2 bars), and cross over to their own sides (taking R hands in passing) (2 bars) to end 2,4,1,3.

Repeat dance three more times the order being 2413 4321 3142.

- CUES: 1,4 turn 1-1/2 R / 1,4 turn L // Reel 4 sides (end diag facing corners) //
- All (with corners) set change R / rpt L //
- 1,4 wheel R as 2,3 set across R / all set across R //

Continued...



FIG. 1



TOP
End of Bar 8



FIG. 2



TOP
end of Bar 16

*Royal Scottish Country Dance Society, Pub. Diamond Jubilee 1923-1983:
The Scottish Country Dance Book 31. London: Patterson's
Publications Ltd., 1983.