

On The Other Side Of The Mirror

A 48 bar strathspey for three couples in a longwise set.

- 1-4 First couple cross over giving right hands and cast down round second couple on opposite sides.
Second couple step up on bars 3-4.
- 5-8 First couple turn with right hands one and a half times to finish on own sides in second place facing out.
- 9-16 Second, first and third couples dance a promenade chain progression (as in “Linnea’s Strathspey” (RSCDS Book47, number 2)). First couple finish back to back facing the dancers in first corner positions.
- 17-24 First couple and ‘first corners’ dance bars 9-16 of “Peter White” (“Twenty SCD by Alec Hay (Book 1)”, number 11). On bars 23-24, first couple turn with right hands just over halfway round to finish with first woman between the dancers in second place facing up and first man between the dancers in third place facing down.
- 25-32 First couple dance a figure of eight on own sides dancing round fourth corner positions by right shoulders to begin. First couple finish back to back facing the dancers in second corner positions.
- 33-40 First couple and ‘second corners’ dance bars 17-24 of “Peter White” (“Twenty SCD by Alec Hay (Book 1)”, number 11). On bars 39-40, first couple turn with right hands just over halfway round to finish on opposite sides in second place with all three couples facing clockwise.
- 41-44 Second, first and third couples dance a chase, clockwise, half way round.
- 45-48 Third, first and second couples turn partner with both hands.

Repeat with a new top couple.

Devised by Iain Boyd during April 2019 and completed on Saturday 27th April 2019 after several unsuccessful attempts to devise a dance with the corner movement from Alec Hay’s dance “Peter White” and Helen Greenwood’s dance “Best Set In The Hall” but without the awkward turn for first couple at the end of the first corner movement. Normally, I would continue the dance with fourth couple. However, I decided that an 8 x 48 bar strathspey would be a little too demanding.

Recommended tune: Any suitable strathspey in the style of the ‘suitable recorded music’ played ABABAB.

Suitable recorded music: Set of Strathspeys recorded by Robert Whitehead and The Danelaw Country Dance Band on “Strictly Scottish Volume One”, track 6 (CD).