

George's Strathspey

A 40-bar Strathspey for 4 couples in a 4-couple longwise set

Two Chords: on the second chord, 3rd and 4th couples cross to the opposite sides.



- 1-4 1st couple with 2nd couple and 3rd couple with 4th couple dance half reels of four across. To begin, 1st woman passes 2nd man by the right while 1st man dances across the set to pass 2nd woman by the right. Similarly, 4th woman passes 3rd man by the right while 4th man dances across the set to pass 3rd woman by the right. On bar 4, 1st couple and 4th couple give left hands in passing partners and retain hold in the middle in 2nd and 3rd places respectively while 2nd couple finish in 1st place on opposite sides and 3rd couple finish in 4th place on own sides. Fig.1
- 5-6 1st and 4th couples dance left hands across halfway.
- 7-8 1st man with 4th woman and 4th man with 1st woman turn left hand moving out to the sides to finish facing up and down. ie 1st man faces 3rd woman and 4th woman faces 2nd man on women's side, as 1st woman faces 3rd man and 4th man faces 2nd woman on men's side
- 9-16 All dance reels of four on the sides to finish with nearer hands joined to form a St Andrews Cross, all facing clockwise. As 1st woman and 4th woman finish the reel of four they turn to the left to face the direction they have come from and join 1st man, and 4th man who take right hands in the middle as 2nd man and 3rd man take nearer hands with 4th and 1st woman resp. 2nd woman and 3rd woman also take nearer hands with 4th and 1st man respectively, on the diagonal. Fig.2
- 17-20 All dance right hands across halfway to finish facing on the diagonal 3rd couple in 1st place facing 1st couple and 2nd couple in 4th place facing 4th couple. Fig.3
- 21-22 All set.
- 23-24 All turn right hands halfway to change places. To finish 2nd couple with woman leading facing 4th man and 3rd couple with woman leading facing 1st man. Fig.4
- 25-32 All dance reels of three in tandem on the sides passing by the right to begin. Couples in tandem change the lead at the ends to finish passing by the right, in the middle.
- 33-36 2nd and 3rd couples dance to the ends, women leading and parting to face across and turn both hands to finish 2nd couple on opposite sides in 4th place and 3rd couple on own sides in 1st place. 1st couple step down and 4th couple step up one place on bars 35-36.
- 37-40 All dance eight hands round halfway. Finish 2,4,(1),(3)

Repeat from new positions

Tunes: George Bateson's Strathspey and Alison Bateson's Strathspey by John Renton

Devised by Stephen Webb in April 2012

Devised to mark the 80th birthday of George Bateson on 20th April 2012. George along with his brothers founded the Berkhamsted Strathspey & Reel Club and with his wife Alison has steered the club on a steady course for sixty years. (This dance was first danced as a demonstration by club members for George on 24th April after the club AGM in 2012).

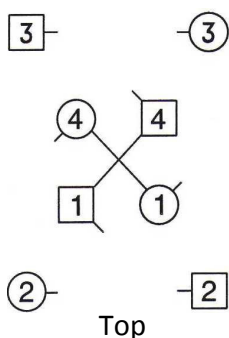


Fig. 1 End of Bar 4

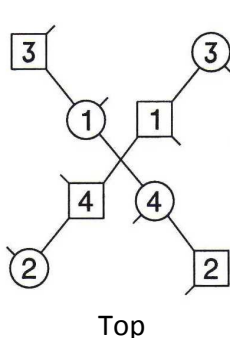


Fig. 2 End of Bar 16

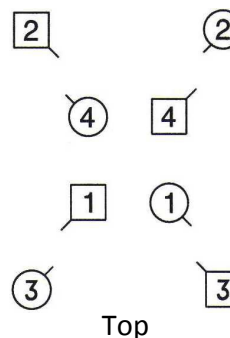


Fig. 3 End of Bar 20

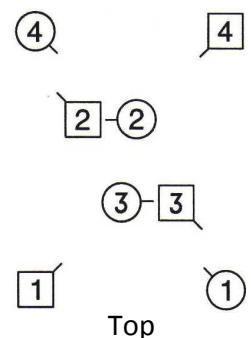


Fig. 4 End of Bar 24