

## Mill of Towie

- Dance for 3 couples in a 4 couple longwise set 8x32 bar Reel
- 1-8 1st and 3rd couples dance a double figure of eight, 1st couple crossing down and 3rd couple casting up to start.
- 9-16 1st and 2nd couples dance the knot, finishing with 2nd couple in first place and 1st couple in the centre of the dance facing first corners.
- 17-24 1st couple with 2nd and 3rd couples dance the millwheel:
- 17-18 1st lady with 2nd couple and 1st man with 3rd couple dance right hands across in a wheel half way round.
- 19-20 2nd and 3rd couples dance left hands across in a wheel half way round **while** 1st couple chase 1/4 of the way clockwise round the set.
- 21-22 1st lady with 3rd and 2nd ladies, 1st man with 3rd and 2nd men dance right hands across in a wheel half way round (i.e. on the sidelines).
- 23-24 1st couple turn 1 1/4 by the left hand to face first corners.
- 25-28 1st couple pass first corners by the right shoulder and dance round their position back into the centre, passing their partner by the right shoulder to face second corners **while** 1st corners advance into the middle of the dance, turn once round right hand, and return to place.
- 29-32 1st couple repeat the movement with their second corners, passing each other by the right shoulders at the end to finish in second place on their own sides.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

Note: Bars 17-24 benefit greatly from crisp, accurate phrasing.

This dance and 'The Geese in the Bog' came out of the concept of the alternating wheels, with 1st couple throwing the others into a muddle in the middle and drifting safely round the outside before taking pity and bringing them back out to place. They were my first Sunday-morning dances.

This dance was published in Dunedin Dances 4, with "The Old Road to Towie" as the tune because the name fitted the dance so well. When I heard it played for the dance, I realised my mistake, but by then the book had been published. I should have stuck with my original idea - "Milladen" which has 'Mill' in the name, and is a nice tune. It's also easier to come by. Some you lose. Consider Milladen now the original tune.

**Tune:** Milladen (Traditional)

(cc) Ian Brockbank, 1993 or thereabouts