

Golden Celebrations

Four couple longways set, 1st and 3rd couple improper.

Music: Ode to Whiskey (as waltz or jig)

A1 1-4 Taking hands in rings of four, balance in, out and circle left halfway.

5-8 New middle couples (original ends) dance half a draw poussette, while end couples, retaining hands, man leading, dance halfway around the outside of the set. Now 3412.

A2 1-8 Repeat to original places.

B1 1-4 Do-si-do neighbour.

5-8 Half straight hey for four on the sides with hands, starting right hand with neighbour. The set is now upside down.

B2 1-4 All eight circle left halfway round.

5-8 1st couple cast to the bottom of the set, while the other three couples two hand turn once round moving up one place.

For Ken and Sheila Whitfield's Golden Wedding, June 2004. Sheila was one of the founder members of Stockton Folk Dance Group in 1953. Ken was my geography teacher at grammar school in the 1960s and, as I later discovered, during the war he was a Spitfire pilot.

I like to dance this as a waltz first, then as a jig for the repeat. See music on page 2.

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Ode to Whiskey (play 4 times as waltz then 4 times as jig)

Turlough O'Carolan

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in treble clef, with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The piece is divided into two distinct sections: a waltz and a jig.

The waltz section begins with a 3/4 time signature. It consists of four staves of music. The melody is characterized by a slow, graceful pace with a mix of quarter, half, and dotted notes. The first staff contains 12 measures, the second 12 measures, the third 12 measures, and the fourth 12 measures, ending with a double bar line.

The jig section follows, marked with a 6/8 time signature. It also consists of three staves of music. The tempo and feel change to a more lively, dance-like character. The first staff contains 12 measures, the second 12 measures, and the third 12 measures, concluding with a double bar line.