

John Drewry

THE ANCIENT YEWdance devised by
John Drewry

At Fortingall, at the foot of Glen Lyon, there is a yew tree which is said to be the oldest living thing in Europe - over 3000 years old. It is also claimed that Pontius Pilate was born in Fortingall. If this claim is true, the yew would have been over a thousand years old at his birth!

Strathspey - 3 couples - 32 bars.

Tune - "Lady Caroline Montague" - See Kerr's 3rd Collection of Merry Melodies for the Violin page 14
See also S.C.D. Music collected by Winifred Bird Matthew page 9 (R.S.C.D.S.)

BARS

THE ROULETTE

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(A new progression)

- 1-2 1st and 2nd couples dance in petronella-wise to face partners.
- 3-4 1st couple turn with both hands half-way round opening up to face the women's side with nearer hands still joined, while 2nd couple turn similarly to face the men's side.
- 5-8 1st woman and 2nd man join right hands and the two couples dance round clockwise, in a line, for 1 step, then, dropping hands with partners, 1st man and 2nd woman dance round the outside to progressed positions, while 1st woman and 2nd man turn with the right hand just over once round to new positions. (i.e. 2nd couple are now in top place and 1st couple are in second place).
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- 9-12 1st woman dances right hands across with 2nd couple, while 1st man dances right hands across with 3rd couple. After three steps, all drop hands and 1st couple pass one another in the centre by the left to finish facing opposite sides, while 2nd and 3rd couples dance out to the side lines. (2nd man and 3rd woman stay facing out).
- 13-16 1st man dances left hands across on the women's side with 2nd and 3rd women, while 1st woman dances left hands across on the men's side with 2nd and 3rd men. 1st couple finish facing 1st corners.
- 17-20 1st couple set to first corners and then dance round one another by the right to face second corners.
- 21-24 1st couple set to second corners and then dance round one another by the left to finish back to back in the middle of the dance with the woman facing up and the man facing down.
- 25-28 1st woman dances three hands round with 2nd couple, while 1st man dances three hands round with 3rd couple. 1st couple finish in second place on own sides.
- 29-32 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples turn partners with both hands.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

1/2 w 1/2 m
2/5 0 2/5