

THE DEVERON REEL

dance devised by
John Drewry

The river Deveron is one of the major rivers of North East Scotland. It rises in the hills to the north west of Alford, and flows through Huntly, where it is joined by the Bogle. Huntly Castle, the traditional home of the chief of Clan Gordon, was built near the confluence of the two rivers. The Deveron reaches the Moray Firth between the twin towns of Banff and Macduff.

Reel - 4 couple set - 40 bars.

Tune - "The Deveron Reel" by Neil Grant, from the "White Heather Collection" as played by Ian Powrie (Kerr).

In this dance 3rd and 4th couples start on wrong sides of the dance.

BARS

1 - 8 1st man and 4th lady dance a figure of eight on the men's side round 2nd man and 3rd lady, who stand still; 1st lady and 4th man dance a similar figure of eight on the ladies' side round 2nd lady and 3rd man.

To begin:- 1st couple dance in and down, while 4th couple dance in and up. They can join inside hands very briefly with partners on Bars 1 and 5.

9 - 16 2nd couple dance a figure of eight across the dance round 1st couple, while 3rd couple, similarly, dance a figure of eight across the dance round 4th couple.

At the end:- 2nd man and 3rd lady, and 2nd lady and 3rd man, join inside hands as they dance in through the side lines to form a circle of four in the middle of the dance.

17-20 2nd and 3rd couples, retaining hold of hands in a circle, set once right and left, then, letting go of hands, they turn right about on the spot one and a quarter times with two pas de basque (those who find it preferable may just make a quarter turn to the right.)

21-24 2nd and 3rd couples dance left hands across and return to the side lines.

25-32 All dance reels of four on the sides. At the end 2nd man and 3rd lady, and 2nd lady and 3rd man, give left hands as they return to places, then 1st and 2nd men, 1st and 2nd ladies, 3rd and 4th men, and 3rd and 4th ladies, join right hands in the side lines.

33-36 All balance in line on the sides.

37-38 1st and 2nd men, 1st and 2nd ladies, 3rd and 4th men, and 3rd and 4th ladies, retaining hold of right hands, change places on the sides.

39-40 1st and 4th couples dance left hands across half-way round.

The finishing order is 2,4,1,3 and 1st and 3rd couples are on wrong sides.

Repeat from new positions.