The Cliffs of Moher

A 32 bar reel for three couples in a four couple longwise set.

This is for Steve Oakes, an enthusiastic member of the Gay Gordons group in London. Early in 2022 he had to spend a few months away helping to make a film set near the Cliffs of Moher in county Clare, Ireland. This dance was written to entice him back. Steve's pas de basque style is quite energetic and he likes twirls and wide loops. All those are exhibited here.

Bars	Description
1-4	1st couple cross giving left hands. They then cast off one place and end on the centre line, 1st man above 1st woman, as 2nd couple step up.
5-8	1st man with 2nd couple, also 1st woman with 3rd couple, dance right hands across. 1st couple pass each other right shoulder and, with an optional twirl, end back to back facing their 1st corner.
9-16	1st couple dance "hello goodbye" setting with their 1st and 2nd corners and end on the 1st diagonal facing their 3rd corner.
17-20	1st couple turn their 3rd corner with the right hand and end passing their partner right shoulder on the 2nd diagonal facing opposite sides. The corners dance for 4 bars.
21-24	All dance half a reel of three on the sides. 1st couple starting by passing their 1st corner right shoulder and pass their partner right shoulder to end on the 2nd diagonal facing their 4th corner position (now occupied by their 3rd corner person).
25-28	1st couple turn their 4th corner (occupied by 3rd corner person) with the left hand and end passing their partner left shoulder on the 1st diagonal facing opposite sides. The corners dance for 4 bars.
25-32	All dance half a reel of three on the sides. 1st couple starting by passing their 2nd corner (now occupied by their 1st corner person) left shoulder and pass their partner left shoulder to end in 2nd place own sides. The final order is 2,1,3.

Music
- Suggested tune: Thorp Haywood's Hornpipe (Traditional).
- Recording: Forever Friends (Ian Muir and the Craigellachie Band: The Blackwater Collection).

Diagrams for 1st couple's path (music at the bottom)

Bar 9	Bars 17-20	Bars 21-24	Bars 25-28	Bars 29-32	End