

Quarries' Procession

A 40 bar reel for four couples in a longwise set.

Bars Description

- 1-4 1st and 4th couples cross right hand, then 1st and 4th women cast in one place as 1st and 4th men cast in two places, passing right shoulder. 1st and 4th couples will be diagonally opposite their partners for most of the dance.
- 5-8 1st and 4th couples set, then dance half left hands across to balance in line position on the diagonals (St Andrew's Cross) retaining left hands in the centre and taking right hands with the corners: 1st with 2nd and 4th with 3rd men; 1st with 3rd and 4th with 2nd women.
- 9-12 All balance in line. Then 1st and 4th couples half turn the corners right hand, releasing hands quickly. 2nd and 3rd couples dance 1/8th anticlockwise and take left hands across in the centre while 1st and 4th couples dance 1/8th clockwise outside them ready to take right hands in a St George's Cross formation: 1st man, 2nd woman, 3rd man, 1st woman are on the centre line; 4th and 2nd men, 3rd and 4th woman are in a line across between 2nd and 3rd places.
- 13-16 All balance in line. Then 1st man and 2nd woman, also 1st woman and 3rd man, half turn right hand into promenade hold, 1st couple have their promenading partner on their right. Meanwhile 4th and 2nd men, also 4th and 3rd women, half turn right hand and dance up or down the sides to lines across. 1st man and 2nd woman face 2nd man, with 4th woman behind them in a line across at the top; 1st woman and 3rd man face 3rd woman, with 4th man behind them in a line across at the bottom. 1st couple are facing their 3rd corner.
- 17-20 1st couple with their promenading partners dance half a reel of three across, starting right shoulder to their 3rd corners, and end facing towards their 4th corners (the next corner anticlockwise). 1st couple need to keep the loop fairly small. The reels are danced slightly in from the ends of the set, between 1st and 2nd places and between 3rd and 4th places.
- 21-24 1st couple with their promenading partners each dance left hands across with the new 4th corner person in 2nd and 3rd places. Their old promenading partners (2nd woman and 3rd man) spiral out to the sides ready for the next half reel while 1st couple, retain left hands with their new promenading partners (3rd woman and 2nd man) and turn a bit extra into promenade hold, 1st couple on the left, to face their 1st corner position. 4th couple stand.
- 25-28 1st couple, with their new promenading partner, dance another half reel of three across, starting right shoulder to their 1st corners, and face towards their 2nd corner position. 2nd woman and 3rd man end in 1st and 4th places own side.
- 29-32 1st man and 1st woman, with their promenading partners, dance left hands across with 4th woman and 4th man. 1st couple end curving left into the centre to take right hands across the set. 4th couple follow them in and take right hands up and down. 2nd man and 3rd woman release hold early and end in 1st and 4th places own side opposite partners.
- 33-34 1st and 4th couples dance half right hands across. 1st couple retain right hands .
- 35-38 1st couple turn right hand once round moving up to end in 2nd place own side while 4th couple release hold and spiral out to 3rd place own sides. 4th man lets 1st man pass him.
- 39-40 All set on the sides. The progressed order is 3,1,4,2.

Music

- Suggested tune: Callum Dewar's Reel (Colin Dewar).
- Suitable recording: Callum Dewar's Reel (Colin Dewar and his SDB: Special Requests Volume 7).

Diagrams (music at the bottom)

Bar 5	Bar 9	Bar 13	Bar 17	Bar 21
Bar 25	Bar 29	Bar 33	Bar 35	End

Notes

This dance was written for David and Avril Quarrie on the occasion of their moving from Geneva back to the Hamburg area where they first met.

The dance includes St Andrew's and St George's cross figures. Then 1st couple make a metaphorical procession around the four corners of the globe dancing with various people for a while and then moving on to a new corner. This is supposed to reflect the Scottish and English backgrounds of Avril and David respectively and their successive sojourns in Hamburg (the centre) then Chicago, Virginia, San Francisco and Geneva before finally returning to the Hamburg area. They continually meet new friends but sadly leave old friends behind - after they have been trained up to be better dancers!

The dance starts with a little broken symmetry, appropriate for a particle physicist, as the men and women do something slightly different. It ends with 1st couple finally getting to dance more with each other, turning right hand into retirement to their new home in 2nd place surrounded by their most recent friends, 4th couple, who spiral out singly to 3rd place.

1st couple are the Quarries and 4th couple are mostly friends and family in the Hamburg area (the centre of the set). 2nd and 3rd couples are dancers in the other corners of the world that the Quarries have lived in.