## The Palindrome

## Dance for 4 couples in a square set

64 bar Strathspey +64 bar Reel

## Strathspey

1-8 All circle eight hands round to the left and back
9-10 1C and 3C set
11-12 1 M and 3L, and 1 L and 3 M cross giving RH and retain hands
13-14 3C and 1C dance right hands across half way.
15-16 1C and 3C pull back right shoulder and chase 1 further place clockwise, to finish 1 C facing 2 C and 3 C facing 4 C , all facing someone of the opposite sex.
17-18 1C and 3C pass facing person LS and loop round ACW to face back the other way while 2C and 4C pass facing person LS and do a reverse petronella turn to pass the opposite person RS
19-20 Repeat bars 17-18 from new positions.
21-24 Repeat bars 17-20. Finish back in the positions from the end of bar 16.
25-26 Joining nearer hands, all set.
27-28 1C \& 2C, and 3C \& 4C dance LH across half way.
29-30 Joining nearer hands, all set.
31-32 1C and 3C pull back LS and chase ACW round the set back to original positions while 2 C and 4 C pull back LS and chase ACW round the small square back to original positions.
33-64 Repeat bars 1-32 with 2C and 4C as the dancing couples.

## Reel

Repeat bars 64-1 in reverse (note 2C and 4C are dancing couples first)
65-66 1C and 3C pull back RS and chase CW around a small square to finish in the middle facing their partner's place while 2 C and 4 C pull back RS and chase CW around the set to finish 2C facing 3 C and 4C facing 1 C .
67-68 Joining nearer hands, all set
69-70 4C and 1C, and 2C and 3C dance RH across half way.
71-72 Joining nearer hands, all set.
73-80 4M, 1L, 3M \& 2L, and 4L, 1M, 3L \& 2M dance a reel of four, "twiddling" in the middle.
81-82 4C and 2C pull back LS and chase 1 place clockwise around the small square in the middle.
83-84 4C and 2C dance LH across half way.
85-86 4 M and 2 L , and 4 L and 2 M cross over LH to return to original place.
87-88 Joining nearer hands, 2C and 4C set.
89-96 All circle 8 hands round to the left and back.
97-128 Repeat bars 65-96 with 1C and 3C as dancing couples.

This dance was devised as part of a demonstration containing dances which are roughly palindromic (the same backwards as forwards). I decided to see whether I could write a dance which was completely palindromic, and this was the result.

