

Wee Reely Progressed

*A 4x32 Strathspey for 4 couples in a 4-couple longwise set
By Gordon Hayburn*

1-8 All 4 couples dance a RSh Reel of 4 on their own side of the dance (1s pass 2s and 3s pass 4s to begin. No polite or extra turns at the end of the reel) (order is 1,2,3,4)

9-16 1s and 2s dance $\frac{3}{4}$ Rs&Ls (2 bars per change) and set (taking hands) on bars 15&16 (order is 2,1,3,4)

17-24 1s and 3s dance the Knot (order is 2,3,1,4)

25-32 1s and 4s dance set & link (4 bars) then flow into 4 hands round to the left (clockwise) (order is 2,3,4,1)

(Note: the shaping at the end of the last figure should leave the bottom 2 couples facing each other on the sidelines ready for the reel of 4)

Video link: <https://youtu.be/fs0A1GovPac>

Gordon Hepburn writes: Thank you to all the dancers who have made my first year teaching SCD very enjoyable. I have had the pleasure of teaching the Newtonbrook group since the start of the year and led the Calvin group on a couple of occasions as a stand in. I have also been teaching the Rosedale Parents' Class, Saturday mornings in the nursery whilst youth classes are being taught upstairs in the Great Hall.

At Rosedale's end-of-season party May 9th, each of the youth groups did a demo dance. The parents, along with a couple of dedicated grandparents, who often join us when I need dancers to make up sets, demonstrated a brand new dance they had never seen or heard of until that morning (I had devised it the previous evening on a flight from Vancouver). My objective was to show how much their dancing had improved over the season. With that in mind, I named the dance *Wee Reely Progressed*.

The 4-couple dance starts with a "wee reel" and then has three progression figures. I attach the brief for anyone who wants to try it.

Thanks again to RSCDS Toronto for their support when I did my preliminary teaching certificate and to all the dedicated dancers who make Scottish country dance so much fun.