

Brochan Lom

(Gaelic for Smooth/Thin Porridge)

A 32-bar Strathspey for 3 couple in a 4-couple set

Devised by Iain Macfarlane

Bars Directions

- 1-4 1st, 2nd and 3rd couples set and dance a Petronella turn to face partners up and down the dance.
- 5-8 1st, 2nd and 3rd couples turn partners with two hands to opposite sides (3/4 turn) and all 3 couples set.
- 9-12 All 3 couples advance and retire twice (one step each way)
- 13-16 All 3 couples turn partners with two hands once round (still on opposite sides).
- 17-24 Cross Over Mirror Reel: 1st couple cross dancing in and down, 2nd couple dance out and up, 3rd couple dance in and up to begin the reel.
- As each couple reaches 1st place they cross in and down to finish the reel of three on own side of the dance.
- 1st couple finish nearer hands joined in the centre facing down. 2nd couples finish nearer hands joined in the centre facing up ready for:
- 25-32 1st and 2nd couples Rondel.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

This dance was first taught at a Teacher's Council Workshop in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, on March 20th, 1970. Iain writes, "The dance was not meant to be published and was one I wrote myself to work with a group of teachers on the Rondel which had just been devised about that time. I think I was also demonstrating the fact that some Strathspeys are what we called 'Highland' tempo, hence the use of the tune Brochan Lom."

Dance notes edited by Jo Hamilton 1987

Teresa's crib:

BROCHAN LOM

S 8x32 : 3C (4C set)

Iain Macfarlane, leaflet

- 1-8 1s+2s+3s Set & Petronella turn to face prtners up & dn;
All Turn prtner 2H ¾ to opp sides, All Set
- 9-16 All Adv x1+Ret x1 twice;
All Turn prtner 2H once round
- 17-24 Cross-over Mirror Reels: 1s cross thru 2nd pl,
2s out & up, 3s in & up to begin. As each cpl reaches 1st pl,
they cross to finish reel on own side. End: 1s in top pl ctr NHJ facing dn,
2s in 2nd pl ctr NHJ facing up
- 25-32 1s+2s Rondel