

KILDOWNET HALF SET

Documentation is based upon a workshops taught by Mick Mulkerrin at Ellenville, New York USA and at Malahide, Ireland.

■ This set is from Achill Island of Mayo County, Ireland. ■ Bar-counts for dance patterns are shown in **bold**. ■ The total bar count for each Figure includes an eight-bar introduction of music. ■ **Step pattern:** Gents begin forward on the left foot and ladies begin forward on the right foot; the movement is danced as shown with each Figure. ■ **Swing in ceili hold** in Figures 1 and 3 and in **waltz hold** in Figure 3; swing for six bars and dance-out the last two bars facing into the set. ■ **Chain: Low follow:** The gent takes **forearm hold** and follows the opposite lady around at his position.; ladies do not chain on the way to home. ■ **Visit crossover:** Holding crossed-hands in front, couples dance forward to face the position on the left, backward to opposite, forward to face the next left position and backward to home; this crossover must be danced fluidly with no delays at any position; the lady must move slightly ahead of the gent when visiting the first and third positions; the gent must move slightly ahead of the lady when visiting the second and fourth positions. ■ **Walkabout:** When all dance, turn to face anticlockwise and dance a **box (square)**; take one long step (gents begin left foot, ladies begin right foot) and one short step; dance on-the-spot and turn to the face the next **box-corner** dancing 1-2-3, 1-2-3, 1-2-3; gents begin the second and fourth long step with the **right** foot and ladies begin with the **left** foot. Also, gents only crossover dancing the walkabout step; they turn to-place instead of turning a **box-corner**. ■ **Sweetheart hold:** Two dancers stand side-by-side, facing the same direction (gent on the left) and he places his right arm behind on the lady's shoulder and they take right-hand-in-right there; they hold left hands in front.

FIGURE 1: REELS (112 BARS) Dance lift-2-3-4.

All couples: advance and retire twice, holding crossed-hands in front⁸;
crossover clockwise (*visit*, see heading)⁸;
swing in ceili hold⁸;
ladies chain⁸;
swing⁸;
first gent and second lady swing in center (2 bars in, swing⁴, reverse to home²) as first lady and second gent turn **once** in-place⁸;
(Turn by **leading with the inside shoulder** -- ladies thus clockwise and gents anticlockwise.)
visit (see heading)⁸;
second gent and first lady then swing in center as second lady and first gent turn **once** in-place as above⁸;
*visit*⁸;
ladies chain, dance around the opposite gent and he keeps the lady's arm and continues to *sweep*/turn her **to his left** into the *Little Christmas* position⁸;
*little Christmas*⁸;
advance and retire twice, holding crossed-hands⁸; swing⁸.

FIGURE 2: POLKAS (168 BARS) Dance down-2-3 and as shown.

All couples: house each other⁸;
walkabout (see heading)¹⁶;
swing in waltz hold⁸;
dance sevens (*Mayo-style* with beginning weight on the **leading** foot) to opposite and to home; **gents** dance back-to-back **to opposite** and **ladies** dance back-to-back **to home**⁸;
house each other⁸;
dance sevens to opposite and to home⁸;
house each other⁸;
ladies chain⁸;
swing in waltz hold⁸;
gents crossover left-shoulder-to-left dancing the *walkabout* step; (One long step to center 1, 2, 1-2-3, 1-2-3, 1-2-3, **bow**, one long step to opposite 1, 2, 1-2-3, 1-2-3, 1-2-3, 1-2-3 and turn anticlockwise to place on the last 1-2-3⁸;
swing in waltz hold⁸;
face and slide in and out, holding crossed-hands (1-2-1-2, 1-2-1-2)⁴;
pass through to **opposite**, ladies left-shoulder-to-left in the center with gents on the outside and all pass left-shoulder-to-left to place⁴;
face and slide in and out, holding crossed-hands⁴;
pass through to **home**, ladies left-shoulder-to-left in the center with gents on the outside and all pass left-shoulder-to-left to place⁴;
swing in waltz hold⁸;
gents crossover left-shoulder-to-left, again dancing the *walkabout* step⁸;
swing in waltz hold⁸;
*walkabout*¹⁶;
house each other⁸.

FIGURE 3: REELS (144 BARS) Dance lift-2-3-4.

All couples: ♣ lead around anticlockwise, holding crossed-hands in front⁶; turn the lady under clockwise with both hands²;
partners left-arm hook and dance around⁸;
swing in ceili hold⁸.

First couple: take *sweetheart* hold and advance and retire once as second couple stand holding right-hand-in-right at the lady's shoulder⁴;
advance and turn the lady **out** at second gent's left. Second gent take first lady's left hand at her left shoulder and first gent takes the ladies' *inside* hands for a *wheelbarrow* hold⁴;
trio-and-one advance and retire once⁴;
ladies cross left-shoulder-to-left and dance in beside the opposite man⁴;
swing in ceili hold⁸;
gents left-arm hook in center, doubling the last two bars, and dance in beside their own partner at the opposite position⁸.

Repeat from ♣ with the second couple leading⁵⁶.

All couples: lead around anticlockwise, holding crossed-hands⁶; turn the lady under clockwise with both hands²;
partners left-arm hook and dance around⁸;
swing in ceili hold⁸.

FIGURE 4: FLINGS (Variable BARS) All couples dance in a room-encircling ring.

All couples: take waltz hold and dance with gents turned slightly toward the wall and ladies turned slightly toward the center;
♣ lift (very slight *hop*) on the trailing foot (gents right, ladies left) and step on the leading foot - gents forward and ladies backward toward the wall;
lift on the *leading foot* above and step back on the **original trailing foot** - gents stepping backward and ladies stepping forward;
lift-1-2-3 sideways - gents left, ladies right;
repeat from ♣ except gents and ladies **dance the opposite directions**;
repeat the five lines above;
full house (*lift-2-3-4*)⁶; double²;
repeat from ♣ until either the dancers or the musicians decide to finish.