The Capstan

48 bar Reel: 4 couples

Music: The Capstan

1-4 1st couple with 2nd couple, and 3rd couple with 4th couple dance right hands across once round.

5-8 2nd and 3rd couples dance left hands across once round to finish in the middle facing out to the corners of the set, while 1st woman, followed by partner, casts down behind women's line to finish in 4th place on wrong sides, and 4th man, followed by partner, casts up behind men's line to finish in 1st place on wrong sides. Figure 1.

9-20 All four couples dance diagonal reels of 4. (As four dancers meet in the middle they give left hands then continue still on same diagonal.) Finish as in Figure 1.



21-24 All turn person facing $1\frac{1}{2}$ times with right hands to finish with 1st and 4th couples in the middle with left hands joined, whilst 2nd and 3rd couples in the corners of the set retain right hands. Figure 2.

25-26 All balance in line

27-28 1st and 4th couples drop left hands and all dance ½ turn with right hands to finish with 2nd and 3rd couples in the middle with left hands joined.

29-32 2nd and 3rd couples dance left hands across once round, while 3rd man, followed by partner, casts up behind the men's line to finish in top place on the wrong sides, and 2nd woman, followed by partner, casts down behind women's line to finish in 4th place on the wrong sides. Figure 3.



37-40 3rd couple with 4th couple and 1st couple with 2nd couple dance right hands across once round to finish still on wrong sides of the dance. Figure 3.

41-42 All four couples, holding hands on the side, set.

43-46 All four couples turn partners 11/2 times.

47-48 All four couples, holding hands on the side, set.

49-96 Repeat the dance from new positions.

Devised by Ros McKie

Hunter Valley Book of Dances

Dedicated to Captain Henderson. You can see the Capstan in one of the formations.

