

Round the House and Mind the Dresser

Fay McAlinden, 1982

Category: General, Irish style, Social Dance,

Formation: Couple facing couple, in a longways set for as many as will,
(1st couples have backs to the stage, 2nd couples facing the stage)

Music: 64 bar Jigs (6/8) **Stepping:** Promenade (Irish travelling step)

Introduction: 8 bars,

- A1** All take hands and with promenade step, **Circle Left** once around, (4b)
flowing into **Right Hand Star** once around, (4b)
(hands held shoulder high, with Ladies' joined hands on top of the Men's)
- A2** **Circle Right**, and **Left Hand Star**, (4+4b)
- B1** **Figure of Eight** – 1st couple individually dance a figure of 8 around the 2nd couple, finishing back in place, (1st L crosses *ahead of 1st M* between 2nd C, casting back up around them, crossing down between 2nd C again, and casting back up to place.) (8b)
- B2** 2nd couple dance **Figure of Eight** up around 1st couple, (8b)
- A3** **Half Ladies' Chain** and **Promenade Half Way** – Ladies' chain across the set to the opposite man, who promenades her half way around the set back to place, (8b)
- A4** **Repeat the Chain & Promenade** – Ladies chain across the set to their partner, who promenades her back to their original place, (8b)
- B3** **Circular Chain (Rights & Lefts)** – all change places with your opposite giving right hands, then with your partner giving left hands, opposite by the right, and partner by the left, finishing back in place, (8b)
- B4** 1st couple, holding inside hands, **Advance** toward 2nd couple, turn about and with other hand now joined, dance back, (*both couples are now facing the stage*) (4b)
- 1st couple **Cast Off** on their own side into second place,
while the 2nd couple **dance forward** to meet a new 1st couple. (*progression*) (4b)
- Repeat the dance from new positions,* (64b)
(couples stand out for one turn at either end of the longways set.)

Short Calls:

Circle Left, Right Hand Star, Circle Right, Left Hand Star,
Figures of 8 – 1's around 2's, 2's around 1's,
½ Ladies' Chain, & Promenade ½ way, repeat back to home,
Circular Chain, 1's Advance, dance back, & Cast.

Author's Note: The dance was composed in our old farm house at Waurn Ponds, where at times the caller would warn, " *around the house and mind the dresser* " - meaning be careful of the furnishings in the kitchen.