Side by Side with Roger

A 32 bar jig for three couples in a four couple longwise set.

This dance is for Roger Keeling who liked the Hand-in-hand reels in Kindness and Marmalade. These appear in several dances by Duncan and Maggie Keppie. Roger has for a long time helped run the London Highland Club and other groups in London.
The dance was originally called "Hand in Hand with Roger", but Roger preferred "Side by Side".

Bars	*Description*
1-2	1st couple cross over giving right hands and face out while 2nd couple set.
3-8	1st and 2nd couples dance three quarters of a double figure of eight. 1st couple start by casting off as 2nd couple cross up giving left hands. 1st and 2nd couples give right hands as they each cross up on bars 5-6 and 7-8 respectively. 1st couple end facing down in the centre in 2nd place with nearer hands joined.
9-16	1st couple dance a diagonal Hand-in-hand reel of three on the 1st diagonal, starting by passing 3rd woman left shoulder. The corners dance a normal reel of three. 1st couple, as they loop at the corners, drop nearer hands and each pull left shoulder back (bar 2) or right shoulder back (bar 6) and take nearer hands again to continue the reel. 1st couple each stay nearer their starting side and end in the centre facing 3rd man on the diagonal.
17-24	1st couple dance a diagonal Hand-in-hand reel of three on the 2nd diagonal, starting by passing 3rd man right shoulder. 1st couple end in the centre facing down with nearer hands still joined.
25-28	1st couple dance down below 3rd couple and cast up to 2nd place on their own sides.
29-32	1st woman with 2nd couple, also 1st man with 3rd couple, each dance right hands across ending on the sides in the order 2,1,3.

Music

- Suggested tune: Oh Tell na Me o' Wind and Rain (Traditional).
- Suitable recording: The Handsel (Green Ginger: 12 Scottish Country Dances - by Mervin Short).

CC BY-SA