



The Freiburg Corona Collection

This collection of dances was devised for the Freiburg Scottish Country Dancers. It developed during the first weeks after the lockdown in Germany was over, when dancing classes were possible again. All dances share the same feature – no giving hands is needed, so they comply with the basic hygiene and keep-your-distance rules issued by the government. Some of the dances contain formations, however, that actually require the giving of hands. So whenever the pandemic is over, they can be danced ‘properly’ as well.

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All dances devised by Kirsten Steinbach (*) and Jens Heckmann, July 2020

Hello in July

A 32-bar strathspey for three couples in a four-couple longwise set

1 – 4: First couple cast off behind the lines. Second couple step up on bars 3 and 4.

5 – 8: First couple cast up into second place finishing facing their first corners.

9 – 16: First couple dance right-shoulder reels of three on opposite sides (first lady starts up while first man starts down), finishing facing their first corners again.

17 – 24: First couple dance hello-and-goodbye-setting, finishing with a petronella turn into second place on own sides.

25 – 32: First couple dance a figure of eight around second couple.

This dance war meant as a welcome dance after weeks of lockdown due to the coronavirus, involving only figures which require no giving of hands throughout.

Special thanks go to Kirsten Steinbach for suggesting the title, being a play on words with the figure hello-and-goodbye-setting.



Dancing on the Green

A 32- bar reel for three couples in a four-couple longwise set

1 – 8: First couple set, cast off and dance a half figure of eight round second couple. Second couple step up on bars 3 and 4.

9 – 16: First lady with the men and first man with the ladies dance mirror reels of three on the sidelines, starting by first lady giving right shoulder to third man and first man giving left shoulder to third lady.

17 – 24: First couple dance half a Petronella to get back to own sides in second place.

25 – 32: First couple dance a figure of eight round third couple.

Another dance written for the Freiburg Scottish Country Dancers during the corona weeks in which no hands are given throughout the dance. The title refers to the venue, which is a partly overgrown parking lot outside the St. Georg church assembly hall in Freiburg - St. Georgen. Special thanks go to Kirsten Steinbach for suggesting the title of the dance.



Noli me tangere

A 32-bar strathspey for four couples in a longwise set

- 1-4 1st couple set and cast off one place (2s move up)
- 5-8 4th couple set and cast up one place (3s move down)
- 9-12 2nd lady and 3rd man petronella turn and set
- 13-16 3rd lady and 2nd man petronella turn, 2nd and 3rd couple set (all facing up or down in a line of 4 in the middle ready for)
- 17-20 2nd and 3rd couple dance half a reel of four
- 21-24 2nd and 3rd couple chase half way clockwise behind the standing couples back to places
- 25-28 1st and 4th couple set and link without giving hands (to 2 4 1 3)
- 29-32 All four couples dance back to back

Devised by Kirsten Steinbach, July 2020, on the occasion of the first post-Corona-lockdown open air social dancing of the Freiburg Scottish Country Dancers. Special thanks go to Jens Heckmann for suggesting the appropriate name.



Keep Calm and Carry On

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

1 – 4: First couple set and cast off. Second couple step up on bars 3 and 4.

5 – 8: First couple dance half a figure of eight round second couple.

9 – 12: First couple set and cast off again. Third couple step up on bars 11 and 12 and face out.

13 – 16: First and third couple dance half a double figure of eight, starting with first couple crossing up and third couple casting off.

17 – 20: Third and first couple set and dance a tandem petronella turn.

21 – 24: Third and first couple repeat bars 17 – 20.

25 – 28: First lady dances half a reel of three on the men's side, giving right shoulder to second man, while first man dances half a reel of three on the ladies' side, giving right shoulder to third lady. On bar 28, first couple pass each other right shoulder up and down.

29 – 32: First lady dances half a reel of three on own side, giving right shoulder to second lady, while first man dances half a reel of three on his side giving right shoulder to third man.

Yet another dance according to the coronavirus requirements – no giving of hands involved. The title echoing a British WWII motto was chosen as it seemed to fit the present climate.



Those Endless Winding Roads (A 'Reel' Nuisance)

A 32-bar reel for three couples in a four-couple longwise set

1 – 8: First couple cross right shoulder, cast off and dance half a figure of eight round second couple, finishing facing first corners. Second couple move up on bars 3 and 4.

9 – 16: First couple dance half a reel of four in the first diagonal, pass partner right shoulder in the middle and dance half a reel of four in the second diagonal.

17 – 20: First couple dance half reels of three on opposite sides, first lady giving right shoulder to third lady and first man giving left shoulder to second man to start.

21 – 24: First couple dance half reels of three across, first lady giving left shoulder to third man und first man giving right shoulder to second lady.

25 – 32: All three couples dance half a chase clockwise, pivot on bar 28 and chase back anticlockwise.

The dance was inspired by a car trip on a bendy country road up the Black Forest to reach the parking lot below the hiking trail leading to the Köhlergartenkopf, which offers a fantastic view into the Rhine Valley. And oh - pardon the pun, please.



Let's All Join In

A 48-bar strathspey for four couples in a four-couple longwise set

1 – 4: First and fourth couple, facing diagonally in, dance advance and retire.

5 – 8: First and fourth couple cast in and set. Second and third couple step out on bars 5 and 6.

9 – 12: Second and third couple repeat bars 1 to 4.

13 – 16: Second and third couple cast in, first and fourth couple step out on bars 13 and 14.
All four couples set.

17 – 20: First and fourth couple pass partner right shoulder and cast in. Second and third couple step out on bars 19 and 20.

21 – 24: First couple dance half a figure of eight round second couple while fourth couple dance half a figure of eight round third couple. First and fourth couple pass left shoulder on bar 24, finishing back-to-back on the sidelines, facing up or down.

25 – 32: All four couples dance reels of four on the sidelines.

33 – 36: Fourth, first and third couple dance set and link (no hands given).

37 – 38: Third, first and fourth couple set facing up or down the set (again, no hands given).

39 – 40: First couple dance a petronella turn into third place on own sides.

41 – 48: First and fourth couple dance the Espagnole (no hands given when crossing), doing Gypsy turns on bars 45 to 48.

This dance is compatible with coronavirus restrictions, but it can also be danced including the giving of hands, once the crisis is over. The title refers to the eventual involvement of all dancers during the first 16 bars.



Trixi's Favourite Toy

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

1-8: First couple set twice. At the end of the second setting, first lady pulls her right shoulder back and, followed by her partner, casts off behind second lady, crosses over to the men's side into second place while her partner finishes in second place on the ladies' side. Second couple step up on bars 7 and 8.

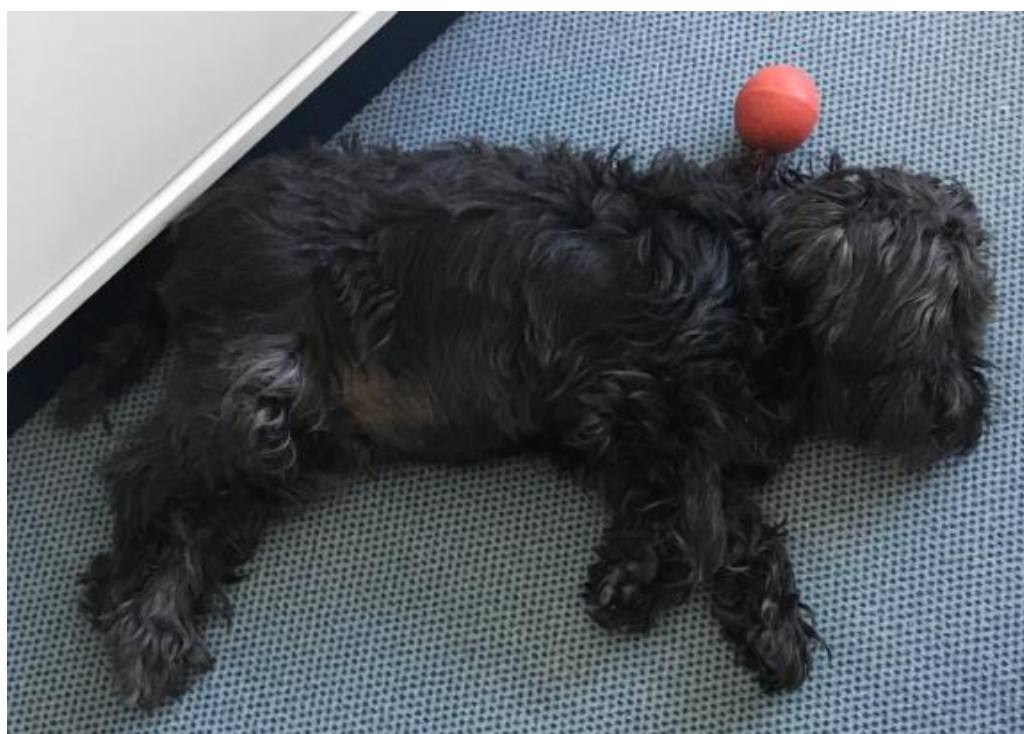
9-16: While the corners chase clockwise once round, first couple dance back to back and then join the chase for bars 13-16.

17-24: First couple dance advance and retire with their first corners and then with second corners (couples may slap, clap, clap).

25-32: First couple dance half a Gypsy turn, face their partner, pull right shoulder back, dance out into the opposite sidelines and chase clockwise round third or second couple respectively back to their own side into second place.

At the request of Kirsten Steinbach, this dance is dedicated to our late family dog Trixi, referring to its tug toy. The formations of chase, advance and retire mirror Trixi's behaviour when running after the toy as well as the to-and-fro movement when trying to pull it out of our hands.

Devised in view of the second post-lockdown dance of the Freiburg Scottish Country Dancers in July 2020.



Endless Summer

A 32-bar reel for three couples in a four-couple longwise set

1 – 4: First and second couple dance half set and rotate, finishing facing up or down.

5 – 8: First and second couple repeat bars 1 to 4.

9 – 16: First lady dances a reel of three on the men's side, giving right shoulder to second lady to start, while first man dances a reel of three on the ladies' side, giving left shoulder to third lady.

17 – 20: Second and first couple dance a tandem petronella turn and set (no hands given).

21 – 24: Second and first couple repeat bars 17 – 20.

25 – 28: First and second couple dance half an Espagnole (no hands given).

29 – 32: While second couple dance back-to-back, first couple dance back-to-back giving left shoulder to their partner.

The corona lockdown eventually led to the feeling of an endless summer – and a nice collection of photographs taken on one of countless bicycle tours, in this case of the village of Pfaffenweiler below the Batzenberg near Freiburg.



Tantalizing Treats

A 32-bar strathspey for three couples in a four-couple longwise set

1 – 8: Second lady sets to first man, dances advance-and-retire diagonally and sets again while first man dances advance and retire to second lady, sets and casts off one place. Second man steps up on bars 7 and 8.

9 – 16: Second man sets to first lady, dances advance and retire and sets again while first lady dances advance and retire, sets and casts off one place. Second lady steps up on bars 15 and 16.

17 – 24: First and third couple dance a double figure of eight, starting with first couple crossing down and third couple dancing up on the sidelines.

25 – 32: First couple dance mirror reels of three on the sidelines, first lady giving right shoulder to second lady and first man giving left shoulder to second man.

The title refers to the first 16 bars mirroring the vain attempt of contacting one's partner. Tantalizing as the circumstances of the corona crisis are, it seemed to cover the present situation many dancers are in.



... some tantalizing (?) treats (??)

If All the Snow Goes up in Flames Its Ashes Yet Remain

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

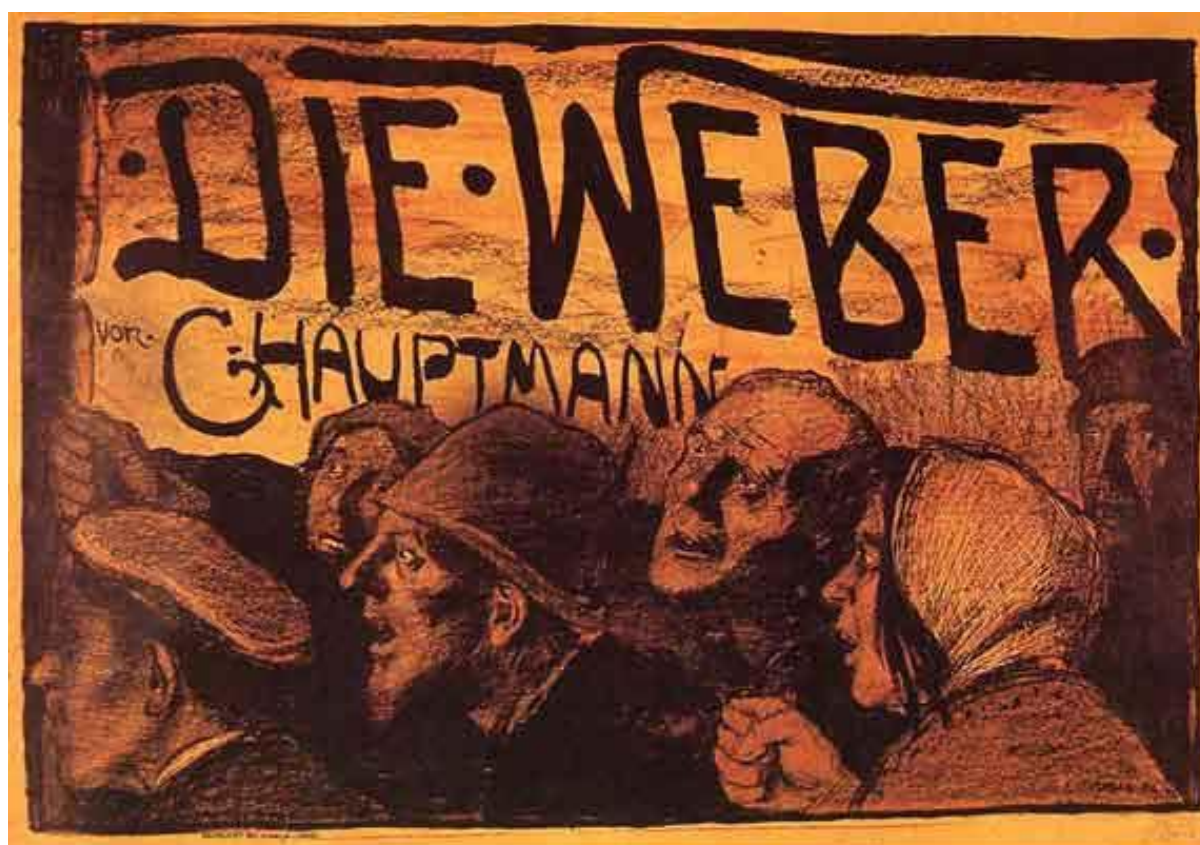
1 – 8: First couple dance mirror reels of three on opposite sides, first lady giving left shoulder to third man while first man gives right shoulder to third lady. First couple finish facing their first corners.

9 – 20: First, second and third couple dance to each corner and set.

21 – 24: First couple dance a 1 1/4 right shoulder Gypsy turn into second place on own sides finishing facing out while second and third couple dance half a chase clockwise.

25 – 32: First couple cast to their right, dance across, cast into second place and dance half a figure of eight (lady up, man down). On bars 25 – 28, second and third couple dance advance and retire diagonally into the centre and out again.

The title of the dance is a rough translation of a line from the play “The Weavers” by Gerhart Hauptmann, expressing desperate optimism – well needed in times of virus pandemics. The name of the play also mirrors the formations of the half figures of eight and the reels of three.



What's in a Name?

A 32-bar strathspey for three couples in a four-couple longwise set

1 – 8: First couple set, cast off one place in four bars and set advancing to first corners.
Second couple step up on bars 5 and 6.

9 – 16: First, second and third couple dance corners pass and Gypsy turn, first couple finishing in second place with first lady facing up and first man facing down.

17 – 24: First couple dance left-shoulder reels of three on opposite sides.

25 – 32: First lady crosses up, casts round second lady into a figure of eight on the ladies' side while first man crosses down, casts round third man and dances a figure of eight on his side.

The title, a line from “Romeo and Juliet”, cropped up while I was simply running out of ideas how to call yet another dance – and I didn't feel like choosing a name alluding to the corona crisis again. I hope Shakespeare will forgive me.



Diagrams

NOLI ME TANGERE				4x32 S
S				

Kirsten Steinbach, 2020

4C/4C longwise set.

TRIXI'S FAVOURITE TOY				8x32 J
S₂				

Jens Heckmann, 2020

3C/4C longwise set.

Taken from Keith Rose's diagrams.