

## THE JOHNSONVILLE DIAMOND

A two couple strathspey in a four couple set.

**1-2** Taking nearer hands, first and second ladies set advancing to first and second men who set back.

**3-4** First and second ladies cast left about back to place.

**5-8** Repeat 1-4 this time with the men advancing and casting.

**9-16** First couple dance a figure of 8 around the second couple crossing between them to begin.

**17-24** First and second couple dance a modified *la spirale*. (The Alec Hay Variation.)

La Spirale is a new progression. (describe here for 1C and 2C)

**1-2** First and second couple dance  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a two hand turn to finish in a line of 4 up and down, first man back to back with second lady.

**3-4** First man and second lady cast around each other (pulling back RS, beginning tightly and then opening out) to finish first man in second man's place and second lady in first lady's place, while first lady dances clockwise around the outside of the set to second lady's place and similarly second man to first man's place. (These dancers should not cast but dance straight onwards.)

**5-8** For this dance, 1C and 2C turn partners with 2 hands. (5-6) and, staying in the middle, cast back to place. (Full turn, hesitate and cast.)

**25-32** Second and first couples dance an all round poussette.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

Devised 18/10/2015. 2015 was the diamond jubilee of the formation of the Johnsonville club, as best we can tell. Recommended music is "The Braes of Busby" by Joseph MacFadyen played ABAB and a suitable recording is the RSCDS one for dances from Book 9, by Liam Stewart.

**Teaching Note** Note that in *La Spirale*, the cast of 1M and 2W should be *tight* else the covering will be lost. When teaching this formation, it is often helpful if the first lady retains right hand with first man's left momentarily at the beginning of bar 3, and similarly second man's right with second lady's left.

"The Alec Hay" variation is the modification of the last 4 bars, which are usually a 4 bar 2 hand turn. Alec Hay was a New Zealand devisor of dances who gave us half turn hesitate and cast, set and link, inverted double triangles, amongst other things, as well as shuttle step.