

## Wisp of Thistle

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

- 1-4 1st and 3rd couples dance petronella turns into the middle of the dance  
 (1st man and 3rd woman back to back) and set to partners.
- 5-8 1st and 3rd couples dance a half reel of four.
- 9-10 3rd and 1st couples dance petronella turns to own sides.  
 (3rd couple are in first place and 1st couple in third place.)
- 11-12 3rd, 2nd and 1st couples, joining nearer hands on the sides, set.
- 13-16 3rd, 2nd and 1st couples, giving right hands, turn partners to finish  
 ready for allemande.
- 17-24 3rd, 2nd and 1st couples dance an allemande.
- 25-28 1st couple, giving right hands, cross over and cast off one place.  
 2nd couple step up on bars 27-28.
- 29-32 1st couple dance a half figure of eight round 2nd couple.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

**Note:** At the end of their second turn of the dance,  
 1st couple finish the half figure of eight by dancing down to fourth place  
**WHILE** 4th couple step up to third place on bars 31-32.

*Choreographed by Pat Kent in honour of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, who, when she had seen the Scottish Country Dancers perform in the Tattoo in Nova Scotia, stated that they looked like "wisps of thistle".*

Recommended music: "Royal Wedding/Wisp of Thistle" on the CD *Spark O' Water, Music for Scottish Country Dancing* by Keith Smith and Muriel Johnstone.

Previously published in RSCDS Book 37. Reprinted with permission from RSCDS.  
 Also published in *Spark O' Water, Dances of Nova Scotia*.

WISP OF THISTLE				8x32 S	
1 3 T <sub>◇</sub> S	3 1 3 2 1 T <sub>◇</sub> S	3 2 1 T <sub>R</sub>	3 2 1 A	X <sub>R</sub> 1	

Pat Kent, RSCDS Book 37.4 & Spark O' Water

3C/4C longwise set.