

Opposites Attract

Margie Stevenson led a session with the intriguing title 'Opposites Attract.' Margie used various pairs of dances to emphasise different teaching points.

There were 'Flexible Pairs' where the formations introduced in simpler dances / warm up dances can then be practiced in set dances. Examples of other pairings were 'hands or no hands,' 'dancing with partner or not' and dances with whole formations or half formations. (Margie's Handout for the session is reproduced below)

Opposites Attract: Paired Dances

Flexible Pair		
Dance	Formations	Paired Dance(s)
<i>Prince of Orange</i>		<i>Mrs Stewart's Jig</i> <i>Johnnie's Welcome Home</i> <i>The Happy Meeting</i>
<i>Knot on a Ferry</i>	Adv, Ret, Slip left	<i>Portnacraig</i> <i>Kelloholm Jig</i> <i>Argyll's Bowling Green</i>
<i>Knot on a Ferry</i> <i>Circle of Cheer</i> <i>Wednesday Welcome</i> Alter phrasing	4 cpl grand chain or for R's & L's 3 cpl grand chain	<i>Admiral Nelson</i> <i>Eightsome</i> <i>Queen Victoria's Visit Quadrilles</i> <i>Mrs Stewart's Jig</i> <i>Broadford Bay</i> <i>Miss Mary Douglas</i>
<i>Alison's Round Reel</i>	Inverted Triangles	<i>The Nurseryman</i>
<i>Dufftown Jig</i>	½ turn, set	<i>Clutha</i>

Hands V No Hands Pair

	Hands	
Book 26	<i>New Waterloo Reel</i>	1L holds hands for all 32 bars
Book 21	<i>Loch Leven Castle</i>	Hands used for all 32 bars
Book 34	<i>Royal Albert Country Dance</i>	
Book 29	<i>Well Done Jack</i>	Good dance to practise handing
Book 21	<i>Marchioness of Blandford's Reel</i>	Hands used for 40 out of 48 bars
Book 22	<i>Miss Janet Laing's Strathspey</i>	Helpful hands needed
	No Hands	
Book 7	<i>Red House</i>	
Goldring	<i>Barton's Reel</i>	
Book 33	<i>John of Bon Accord</i>	
Cosh	<i>Mairi's Wedding</i>	
Charlton	<i>Spring in Helensburgh</i>	1c turn on last 4 bars 36-40 2c & 3c no hands at all
Book 45	<i>Catch the Wind</i>	1c no hands until last 4 bars

With Partner V Not With Partner Pair

With Partner	
<i>Tribute to the Borders</i>	Hold on to each other for 30 out of 32 bars
<i>Machine without Horses</i>	Lots of hands for beginners
<i>Miss Allie Anderson</i>	
<i>Old Way of Killiecrankie</i>	With & without hands
<i>Luckenbooth Brooch</i>	Dance with partner
<i>Cape Town Wedding</i>	2c & 3C dance with their partners too
<i>Maxwell's Rant</i>	With partner – with and without hands
<i>Flowers of Edinburgh</i>	With & without hands
Not with Partner	
<i>Caddam Wood</i>	Don't see partner at all
<i>Neil M Grant</i>	1st2 bars then – no partner at all (spoke doesn't count!)

1/2s of Whole Pairs

1/2 or parts of formations	
Book 48	<i>Sunshine & Sweeties Jig</i> <i>The Fireworks Reel</i>
Book 49	<i>Neil M Grant</i>
Book 36	<i>Anniversary Reel</i> <i>Portnacraig</i>
Book 48	<i>Farewell to Edinburgh</i>
Book 41	<i>Dancer's Wedding</i>
Book 44	<i>Silver Thistle</i> <i>Cocket Hat</i> <i>Silver Strathspey</i> <i>51st Traveller</i>
Book 39	<i>The Immigrant Lass</i>
Full Formations	
Book 19	<i>The Rakish Highlandman</i>
Book 8	<i>Jessie's Hornpipe</i>
Book 10	<i>Miss Mary Douglas</i>
Book 5	<i>Linton Ploughman</i>
Book 21	<i>Marchioness of Blandford's Reel</i> <i>Kingussie Flower</i>
Book 39	<i>Duke & Duchess of Edinburgh</i>

Doubles Pair

<i>Irish Rover</i>	1	<i>Irish Drover</i>
<i>Wee Cooper O' Fife</i>		<i>Wee Cooper's Wife</i>
<i>Hooper's Jig</i>	1	<i>Hooper's Double Jig</i>
<i>Wild Geese</i>	1 2	<i>Flock of Geese</i> <i>Wild Goose Chase</i>
<i>Mairi's Wedding</i>	1 1 1	<i>The Guests at Mairi's Wedding</i> <i>Mairi's Divorce</i> <i>Mairi's Hangover</i>
<i>Merry Lads of Ayr</i>	2	<i>Merry Lads Affair</i>
<i>Midnight Oil</i>	2	<i>Midnight Toil</i>
<i>The Nut</i>	1	<i>Mixed Nuts (round the room dance)</i>
<i>Corn Riggs</i>	1	<i>Riggs of Corn</i>
<i>Round Reel of 8</i>	2	<i>Rounder Reel of 8</i>
<i>Yes</i>	2	No
<i>Fire in the Rye (3 cple)</i>	1	<i>Fire in the Rye (6 cple)</i>
<i>The Happy Meeting</i>	2	<i>The Happier Meeting (round the room dance)</i>

N.B. 1 = based on the original 2 = pairs not similar

Margie Stevenson April 2018