

*Dance Directions for the
40th Annual New York Playford Ball
presented by Country Dance New York
April 11, 2026*

THE DANCES

Bel Canto	Mr. Edwards Maggot	Sapphire Sea
Dublin Bay	Mr. Hamilton's Inauguration	Sir Watkin's Jigg
An Early Frost	A New Leaf	Slof Galliard*
Easter Thursday	Newcastle*	Softly Good Tummas
Freers' Fortification	Prince William	Turning by Threes
Kensington Court	The Pursuit	
Key to the Cellar	The Ragg	
Michael and All Angels	Revelations	<i>* For Those Who Know</i>

NOTES ON THE DANCES

The dances in this booklet are arranged in alphabetical order for easy reference. The numbers in the second column are counts/beats, or the number of steps, to execute the described movement.

Unless otherwise specified:

- Setting is right and left.
- Turn singles are to the right.
- Rights & lefts (R&L) are with hands.
- A circular hey is without hands.
- Changing places or crossing over is by the right shoulder.
- Back-to-back is by the right shoulder.
- Hand turns, stars, and circles are once around.
- Leading or falling back with another dancer is with inside hands joined.
- Circles and 2-hand turns are to the left.
- Siding is Cecil Sharp/swirly style.
- Poussettes are forward & back style.
- L-file dancers are those on the left line when facing up.
- R-file dancers are those on the right line when facing up.

A New Leaf (2018, Brooke Friendly & Chris Sackett)

Source: *Impropriety VI*

Duple longways, triple meter

- A 6 Partners 2-hand turn
- 6 Circle-4 L
- 6 Circle-4 R
- 6 Neighbors 2-hand turn R (CCW – same direction as circle)
- B 12 Double mad robin CCW 1½, 2nd corners through middle to begin
- C 6 Partners balance with current 2nd corners moving forward
- 6 Neighbors gate with 1st corners forward & 2nd corners backwards
- 12 Partners set & turn single

Newcastle (1651 Dancing Master, 1st Ed, r. Cecil Sharp 1911)

Source: *The Playford Ball*

Square, duple meter

Part I

- A1 8 Join hands in a circle, all forward & back a double
- 8 Set to partner, set to corner
- A2 16 All that again
- B1 16 Partners arm R (4 steps), those facing CCW with L-hand free in middle, star L
while others skip CW around outside & back to place
- B2 16 Partners arm L, those facing CW with R-hand free in middle, star R
while others skip CCW around outside & back to place

Part II

- A1 16 Partners swirly siding, slow set & honor R, & pass L on to the next
- A2 16 Side with this person, slow set & honor, & pass L on to next (original opposite)
- B1 16 Sides lead in (4 steps), change hands, lead out & form an arch (4 counts)
while heads wait (4 counts), turn towards one another to face out, cast to nearest side, meet original partner, go under nearest arch & lead opposites back to place (12 steps)
- B2 16 Heads lead in, lead out & form arches
while sides wait, turn towards one another to face out, cast to nearest end, meet partners, go under arch & lead opposites to place

Part III

- A1 16 All arm R with this opposite (8 steps), then arm L 1½ & pass on to the next
- A2 16 Arm R, then arm L 1½ & face across, (*those on L, flip L to face across*), ending close in 2 lines of 4 with hands up & down the hall
*All are ½ way around from where they started,
heads facing partner at ends of lines, sides next to partner in middle*
- B1 16 All fall back a double, forward a double, turn single R, pass through the other line (4 steps) & turn to end close in lines of 4 across the hall
Ends become middles & middles are now ends
- B2 16 All fall back, forward, turn single R, pass through lines to home place & honor partner