

POLHARROW BURN  
(Scotland)

This reel is a relatively new Scottish country dance devised by Hugh Foss.

MUSIC: Record: Pasadena Recorders, Teachers Choice, Side 1,  
Band 2. 2/2 meter

FORMATION: 5 cpls in longways formation.

STEPS: Skip Change of step, Move up. Use skip change of step through-  
out and always start R (with preliminary hop L) unless otherwise  
stated.

MeasPattern

Chord & Upbeat INTRODUCTION. M bow, W curtsey to ptr.

I. CROSS, CAST AND HALF FIGURE OF EIGHT

- 1-4 Cpls 1 and 3, giving R hds to ptr in passing, cross over and cast off  
one place to finish in 2nd and 4th place respectively.  
Cpls 2 and 4 move up (meas 3-4).
- 5-8 Cpl 1 dance a half figure of 8 around cpl 2, W1 crossing in front of  
ptr to loop CW around W2 as M1 loops CCW around M2. Finish back  
in 2nd place on own side. Cpl 3 dance likewise around cpl 4.

II. TURN AND CHASE

- 9-16 Cpls 1 and 3 join R hds with ptrs and turn once CW (4 meas). Join  
L hds and turn CCW once and a little more to finish back to back in  
the ctr facing 1st corners (4 meas). Simultaneously cpls 2 and 5 (the  
end cpls), giving R hds in passing, cross over to ptr place, and W2  
and M5 only turn 1/2 CW to finish facing ptr (2 meas) and "chase" or  
follow ptr 1/2 CW around the outside to finish at the other end of the  
set on own side. Cpl 2 finish at the bottom and cpl 5 at the top  
(6 meas). Throughout entire Fig. II cpl 4 stand inactive in place.

III. THREE HALF REELS OF FOUR: TURN AND CAST

- 17-20 Cpls 1 and 3 dance a half reel  
of 4 with 1st corner.

- 21-24 Passing ptr L shoulders in the  
ctr and moving CCW around  
the set, cpls 1 and 3 dance  
a half reel of 4 with 2nd  
corners. (See diagram.)

- 25-28 Again passing ptr L shoulder  
in the ctr and continuing in a  
CCW direction, cpls 1 and 3  
dance a half reel of 4 start-  
ing with person who is now in  
ptr original 1st corner pos.

- 29-32 Cpls 1 and 3 turn ptr by L hd once around and cast off one place on  
own side, finishing in 3rd and 5th place respectively. Cpls 4 and  
5 move up (meas 31-32).

Repeat dance from beginning with new top cpl and cpl 1 active again  
in 3rd place. Dance goes through a total of 5 times.

Chord M bow, W curtsey to ptr.

Notes by Larry and Ruth Miller

