

Koonya Klap Kwodrilie – for the community of Koonya on the Tasman Peninsula, Tasmania

By David Wanless, Tasmania, Feb. 2008, for the second Koonya Folk Gathering.

Formation: Couples holding hands in a large circle (Robins (Rbs) on R of partners, Larks (Lks) on L).

Designed for a fairly large number of couples, filling out a hall, but could conceivably be done with only 8 couples (or even 4, doubling some figures).

Phras e	Bars	Call	Details
A1	8	Circle L & R	Slip steps
A2	4	Step kick, step kick, step kick, step kick	Step on R foot, kick L leg across in front of it Step on L, kick R Step R, kick L; step L, kick R
	4	Swing	Short swing partner in ballroom hold. During swing, decide whether you're a top or a side couple (moving to make the circle more of a rectangle)
B1	8	Tops gallop	Tops (both ends) gallop for 8 steps towards the other end and then 8 steps back
B2	8	Sides advance and retire	In a large hall: advance and retire once, 8 steps each way (or could do in for 6 and honour.) In a smaller hall: twice, four steps each way each time.
C1& 2	16	Lks in and clap – (in, in, out) x 16; Rbs weave	Lks step forward, clap own hands twice in front, then once out to both sides, clapping hands with neighbouring Lks. Clap high so that Rbs can dance underneath, dancing clockwise, starting in front of own partner, then behind next etc.
D1& 2	16	Polka	Polka around room with nearest person of opposite dancing role (but it doesn't matter if not – one of you just changes role), who becomes new partner

Music: 64 bar lively tunes (reels or jigs, pref. Australian, but US will be fine). Obviously 32 bar tunes can be used.

Notes:

1. After doing the dance many times through as written above, you can repeat the dance (although for less time) with the Robins clapping and the Larks weaving.
2. This dance was inspired by the old rural Tasmanian development of quadrilles from square sets of four couples into big sets filling the whole of small school halls or apple sheds.
3. It was written as a gift to the lovely community of Koonya, especially Cate and Chris, who run the Koonya Folk Gathering, a delightful tiny folk festival. We first danced it with music by a scratch band based on the Hobart Old Time String Band.

(calling card version)

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