

The Bonny Cuckoo

(England)

Created by Gail Ticknor, *Gail's Maggots*, 1996. Published in *CDSS News*, March-April 1986 and *The Blind Harper Dances*, Allison Thompson, ed. 2003. Paul Stamler says, "'Bonny Cuckoo' is a song, sung to the tune of 'Sheebeg and Sheemore,' hence the name of the dance. Shirley Collins recorded it on her 1959 debut album on Folkways."

Music: 3/4 meter CD: *English Dances presented by Bruce Hamilton*, Band 1
Tune: "Sheebeg and Sheemore."

Formation: 4-couple longways set.

Steps and Styling: Traveling waltz step except for "balance" which is a waltz setting step.

Meas Music: 3/4 meter Pattern

DANCE

4 meas INTRODUCTION.

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| A | 1-4 | 1s dance down the ctr past two cpls; cast up around one cpl (2s move up). |
| | 5-6 | 1s R-hand turn halfway and face down. |
| | 7-8 | 1s L-hand turn halfway with neighbor (3s). |
| | 9-12 | 4s dance up the ctr past two cpls; cast down around one cpl (1s, in 3rd place, move down). |
| | 13-14 | 4s R-hand turn halfway and face up. |
| | 15-16 | 4s L-hand turn halfway with neighbor (3s). The order is now 2431. |
| B | 1-4 | All circle L hands jooined in W-pos, shldr level. |
| | 5-6 | Balance twd the ctr and back. |
| | 7-8 | Release hands and W balance fwd and back, moving one place R, <i>while</i> M balance back and fwd, moving one place L. |
| | 9-12 | Rejoin hands and all circle R. |
| | 13-14 | All balance twd the ctr and back. |
| | 15-16 | All 2-hand turn ptr to own side (once or once and a half). The order is now 2341. |

Repeat dance three times from the beginning in new positions.

Presented by Bruce Hamilton