

# MORISON'S BUSH

A 40 bar reel for three couples.

- 1 - 8 First and second couples dance Rights and Lefts.
- 9 - 12 First couple cross over giving right hands and cast off one place on opposite sides. Second couple move up on bars 11 - 12.
- 13 - 16 First woman dances a half figure of eight round second couple while first man dances a half figure of eight round third couple.
- 17 - 20 First woman dances right hands across with second couple while first man dances right hands across with third couple. On bar 20 first couple change places passing by right shoulders.
- 21 - 24 First woman dances left hands across with third couple while first man dances left hands across with second couple.
- 25 - 28 First and third couples set twice - nearer hands joined with partner. On bar 28 first couple turn inwards to face second couple while third couple retire to original places.
- 29 - 32 First and second couples set twice - nearer hands joined with partner. Dancers retire to the sidelines on bar 32.
- 33 - 36 Second, first and third couples (nearer hands joined) advance and retire.
- 37 - 40 First couple turn each other once round with right hands.

Repeat having passed a couple.

"Morison's Bush" was devised by Ken Shaw in 1954.

Morison's Bush was one of the earliest outposts in the Wairarapa, taking its name from Duncan Morison (originally Morrison) who settled there in 1856. At first it was an isolated place, not for ten years connected, and then only precariously, by a coach service to Wellington over the steep mountain range of the Rimutakas. One hundred years later modern transport made light of miles and mountains, and from North and South dancers gathered to make Morison's Bush famous as the venue of the first Scottish Country Dance Balls ever held in New Zealand.