

# The Sandhurst Diggers

Ian McKenzie, 1981

**Category:** General, Scottish style with 'skip-change' travelling step,

**Formation:** Longways Set for 4 couples,

**Music:** 40 bar Scottish Jigs (3 x 8 bar + 1 x 16 bar phrases)  
eg Argyll's Fancy, The Golden Pheasant,

**Introduction:** Honour Partner, (chord or 4b)

- A1 Weave down the lines,** (8b)  
1st couple face down the set and separately weave down their own line, dancing in front of the 2nd couple, around behind the 3rd person, up between the 3rd couple and behind the 2nd person, to place, ie 'mirror' figures of 8 on your own line,
- A2 Circle,** (8b)  
1st and 2nd couples take hands and **Circle Left & Right** with slip-steps,
- A3 Down the middle and back,** (8b)  
1st couple taking both hands, slip-step down to the bottom of the set, and back up to place,
- B1+2 Progressive Stars,** (16b)  
1st & 2nd couples: **Right Hand Star half way**, (2b)  
and taking hands on the side, **Set**, (2b)  
1st & 3rd couples: **Left Hand Star half way**, and **Set**, (4b)  
1st & 4th couples: **Right Hand Star half way**, and **Set**, (4b)  
*the set is now improper, with 1st couple at the bottom,*  
**All Turn partner** by the **Right Hand 1½** times, *to finish on own side of set*, (4b)

*Repeat the dance for each new 'Top Couple' in turn*

## Short Calls:

Top couple: Weave your Line,

Circle Left & Right,

Down the middle & back,

Half Right Star & Set, Half Left Star & Set, Half Right Star & Set,  
All Turn Right Hand.

Note: Each of the movements of the dance represent actions on the diggings at the 'Sandhurst Goldfields'

Bars     1 – 8   Erecting the poppet legs  
           9 – 16   Setting up and using the winding gear  
           17 – 24   Going down and up the shaft  
           25 – 40   The diggers celebrating their good fortune.