

CONINGTON - a garland dance.

Source: As danced by Fen Nightingale. First danced by them in public in the village of Conington, near Huntingdon, in Cambridgeshire in 1982. Adapted as a garland dance by Wendy Crouch from 2 country dances in the 'Maggot Pie' collection (pub. EFDSS) - 'The Mock Match' and 'The Wickering Wench'. The original dances were made up in Cambridgeshire and first published in 1932.

Assistance with interpretation may be obtained from: Wendy Crouch, 44 Kelsey Crescent, Cherry Hinton, Cambridge CB1 4XX.

Music: AABB (8 bar/phrase) extra B to finish.

Set: for 6 dancers numbered thus:-

Top	
1	2
3	4
5	6

Step: Skip step or rant where specified.

Implements: garlands.

PART 1

A1 Diagonal rant 1&4, 3&6 face diagonally and dance 4 rant steps and star on the spot while 2 and 5 dance 4 rant steps turning round once on the spot. 1,4,3&6 then form a right-hand star, with their garlands and star to place.

A2 Diagonal rant 2&3, 4&5 face diagonally and rant on the spot and star while 1 and 6 rant turning on the spot. Then 2, 3, 4&5 star left.

B1 Cast, 8, Turn 1&2 cast in to middle place, 3&4 moving up, and do a half figure of eight round 5&6 (even nos. pass in front of odds in this figure), then half turn to place touching right hands.

B2 Cast, 8, Turn 5&6 cast up to middle place, 1&2 moving down, then dance half a figure of eight round 3&4 and half turn to place.

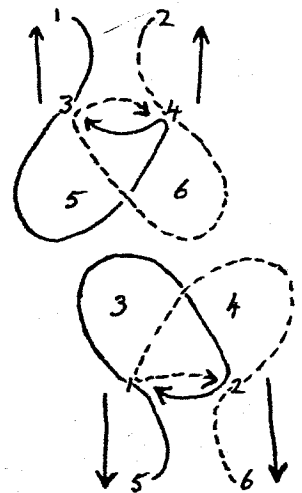
The set is now in the order:-

Top	
1	2
3	4
5	6

PART 2

A1 Rant, Round 3&5 dance four rant steps to 4 (who also rants but then stands); 6&2 rant to 1. Then 3 leads 5 (holding garlands with left hands) clockwise round 4 to place while 6 leads 2 anticlockwise round 1.

A2 Rant, Round 4&6 rant to 3; 1&5 rant to 2. Then 6 leads 4 clockwise round 3 and 1 leads 5 anticlockwise round 2 as A1.



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- B1 Cast, Circle 3 and 4 cast out to middle place, 5 & 6 move up.
1 and 2 cast to middle place, 3 & 4 move down.
5, 6, 1 & 2 circle once holding garlands.
- B2 Cast, Circle 5 and 6 cast to middle place, 1 & 2 move up.
3 and 4 cast to middle place, 5 & 6 move down.
3, 4, 5 & 6 circle.

The set is now back in the original order.

PART 3

- A1 Diagonal Rt & Lt Through 1 & 4, 3 & 6 face diagonally and dance 4 rant steps on the spot. They then cross passing and touching right hands on the diagonal, then left on the sides - 4 & 1 facing down, 3 & 6 up (ie $\frac{1}{2}$ a country dance rt and lt through). 6 2
4 3
5 1
Final order.
- A2 Diagonal Rt & Lt Through 2 & 4, 3 & 5 face diagonally and dance 4 rant steps on the spot. They cross passing right on the diagonal and left on the sides as in A1. 6 5
3 4
2 1
Final Order.
- B1 Turn and Cast All face across the set and turn with the person opposite touching right hands, 1, 2, 5 & 6 turning $1\frac{1}{2}$ times, 3 & 4 turning once so all are back to own sides. 5 & 6 cast back to their original places, the others following to their original places.
- B2/3 Final Cast Using a rant step, each side casts out, on meeting at the bottom of the set the dancers turn their garlands through 90° to form a circle in each pair.

