

ATHENE DOTH WIDGETS

Longways duple minor, proper.

Tune: 32 bar jig (Haste to the Wedding)

A1	1 st corners Set R&L moving forward, acknowledging, turn single Rt back to place (4 bars), then 2HT once round (4 bars).
A2	2 nd corners the same (8 bars).
B1	1s lead down the middle for 6 steps, turn alone to face back up with 2 steps (4 bars); then....Dance back up to place, 2s face up and gate the 1s round into progressed places (4 bars).
B2	All back-to-back Ptnrs Rt shoulder (4 bars); All clap own hands on beats 1 and 2 of bar 5, starting to move around the minor set anti-clockwise, then make a LH Star and take it round into progressed places (4 bars).

The title of this dance comes from a series of anagrams of dances from the 6 volumes of Sharp's Country Dance Books, set as a time-passer by Anne Welch during the coronavirus pandemic lockdown. The original dance is 'Haste to the Wedding'.

I really liked this anagram (the image of the Goddess Athene doing widgets just really appealed to me) and considered that it deserved a dance of its own, hence this dance. I have tried to base it reasonably closely on the Devonshire version of 'Haste to the Wedding' in Volume 1 of Sharp's Country Dance Book, but of course, being an anagram, it is not exactly the same.

In B2, bar 5, as everyone claps their hands, they should start a single file circle anticlockwise, to move 1 place round the minor set, then immediately make the LH Star and take it around the remaining 3 places in bars 6-8.

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