

# Log Driver's Waltz

Peggy Roe, Vancouver, BC

(tune by Wade Helmsworth)

*Four couple square*

Level of difficulty: beginner

*I love this great Canadian song, many people have seen the National Film Board video, and dancers like to sing along to the chorus. There are 4 verses (V), and the chorus repeats after each verse. (It's less complex than it looks.) P.R.*

## Verse One

- A1 1 – 4 Heads face opposite, sides face partner  
All step & honour right & left  
5 – 8 With that same person, back-to-back  
A2 1 – 8 Heads face partner, sides face opposite.  
Repeat A1 with that person

- Chorus B 1 – 8 All four women open ladies' chain: star right  
half-way to left hand turn opposite man; star right back  
to partner, left hand turn, keep left hands joined for  
9 – 12 four changes of a grand chain (lefts & rights)  
to meet partner on opposite side  
13 – 16 Promenade CCW (gents continue forward)  
back to home

## Verse Two

- A1 1 – 8 Face as in Vs 1, A1; set right & left, turn single  
right, arm right  
A2 1 – 8 Face as in Vs 1, A2; set left & right, turn single  
left, arm left  
Chorus B as before

## Verse Three

- A1 1 – 8 Face as in Vs 1, A1; head ladies pass left shoulders to  
begin hey for 4 WHILE sides do swirly siding (over by  
left, back by right) then reverse over by right, back left)  
A2 1 – 8 Face as in Vs 1, A2; sides hey WHILE heads swirly  
siding and reverse swirly siding  
Chorus B as before

Verse Four

A1 1 – 8 In a ring, set forward and step-close back;  
women gate their corners.

A2 1 – 8 In a ring, set forward and step-close back;  
men gate their partners

Chorus B as before

**Lyrics to Log Driver's Waltz**

Written by: *(Albert) Wade Hemsworth (1916-2002)*

If you ask any girl from the parish around,  
What pleases her most from her head to her toes;  
She'll say, "I'm not sure that it's business of yours,  
But I do like to waltz with a log driver."

*For he goes birling down a-down white water,  
That's where the log driver learns to step lightly;  
It's birling down, a-down white water,  
A log driver's waltz pleases girls completely.*

When the drive's nearly over, I like to go down  
To see all the lads as they work on the river;  
I know that come evening they'll be in the town,  
And we all want to waltz with a log driver.

To please both my parents I've had to give way,  
And dance with the doctors and the merchants and lawyers;  
Their manners are fine but their feet are of clay,  
And there's none with the style of a log driver.

Now I've had my chances with all sorts of men,  
There's none is so fine as my lad on the river;  
And when the drive's over, if he asks me again,  
I think I will marry my log driver.