

THE MINDEN ROSE

Steps: walk and skip, start onto right foot. Carry two sticks, one in each hand.

Tune: 100 Pipers - A music played with few notes in first 4 bars. Played slow.

Source: Clitheroe dance collected by Julian Pilling, modified by the Clitheroe Morris, changed for the Minden Rose and modified in practice.

Title: The 37th Regiment of Foot, later the North Hants Regiment, won the honour of wearing the Minden Rose during the 7 years war on 1 August 1759.

The Highland Piper is a Hampshire Regimental March tune.

Formation: two columns - for 12 only dancers - columns well apart as space allows.

The Dance: it starts and ends with a chorus and has four figures.

CHORUS - all face up - danced to A music played twice.

All walk backwards 4 steps, one per bar, arms straight down at sides, turn to face across towards partner on the last beat of bar 4 and raise both hands up by head, sticks pointing fore and aft past the ears. Move back about one place worth. Skip across to partners place, passing right shoulders, for 8 skips, shaking the sticks horizontally, and turn to face up on the last beat of bar 4 bringing both hands smartly down to sides.

All walk forward 4 steps, one per bar, arms down at sides, turn to face across on the last beat of bar 4, skip across shaking sticks, passing right shoulders again, and turn to face up on the last beat (4th) of bar 4, bringing hands down again.

FIGURES - danced to the B music, twice for figs 1 & 2, once for figs 3 & 4.

1, GYPSY: 1's dance on the spot, 2's move anticlockwise around the number 1 in front of them. All dancers use the following step sequence, 2 bars (ie 4 skips) moving to new position, skipping with knees up high on the hops, then 2 polkas, with forward foot crossed in front, on the spot. Hands at sides on the skips, and up by the ears shaking sticks on the polkas. The first move takes the dancers into a line of 4 across the set, the second move up into column, 2's ahead of 1's, the third back into lines of 4 across, and the fourth move to place.

2, ARCHES: Pairs change places, the rear pair coming between the leading pair, who retire. The retiring pair make an arch with inside sticks for the others to come under. Each change is done with the same stepping sequence as fig 1 & similar hand movements. Files must come in towards the centre on the first 4 skips and move out to place on the last 2 polkas. There are four changes.

3, BIG STAR: The top 3 on each side make half turn to right and face to the right, the other 6 make a half turn to the left, all raise both sticks & cross them with neighbour's to make lines along side of set. To form the star nos. 5 & 7 go straight forward to meet in the centre and the rest keeping their lines of 3 swing round and move forward. At the end of 3 skips a cross has been formed with the arms up & down and across the set, each 90 deg rotation of the star takes 3 skips (not 4). The music must be slow to allow long, travelling skips. The star breaks on the last 4 skips as the groups move out to starting places.

4, CAST : Top pair cast out, Number 1 to left, Number 2 to right and, followed by their file, skip a figure eight back to place. They move down, coming in a little, till they pass the bottom pair coming up, then they immediately turn out to lead their file back to place. The outside arm is up, sloping out at 45 degrees for each turn, and the inside arm sloped down at 45 degrees (like a child playing at aeroplanes). All change arms slopes when top pair turn back.

The dance ends on a chorus and all face up, feet together, both sticks crossed over the head.

LEADER'S SIGNALS

Chorus
walk back/forward - nothing
cross-over - sticks crossed

Fig 1 - point to where 2's
are to go

Fig 2 - sticks crossed in
front rather than
overhead

Fig 3 - arms outstretched
in a cross

Fig 4 - arms sloped like
aeroplane.

Gypsy

