

GORTON

Yus. 2/14

Source: PolyOlbian at Cheltenham 1978.

Music : "Little Brown Jug"

Style : quite rigid body ; kick up leg very straight, from pelvis. More like marching.

Walk-Up: up & back twice. Start left foot. Forward l, r, l, kick. Retire r, l, r, tap toe by side.
: arms : forward out, in, out, up&down. backward out, in, out, in.

Figures: all polka step, foot crossed & tap toe. Held both hands up, sticks horizontal, held in middle at low ear level, fore and aft.

1. Lines forward to meet "knuckle to knuckle", not shoulder to shoulder, and back once
2. Lines cross over and back, pass right shoulder, turn clockwise, cross back right shoulders.
3. Turn partners by the right hand - "knuckle to knuckle" again. :
4. Back-to-Back with partner.
5. Right hand star once round, in 4's
6. Diagonals cross, in 4's, 1st corner right shoulders 2 bars, 2nd corners 2 bars while 1st corner step on spot, 1st corner back 2 bars etc. In passing turn so pass face to face in bar 1, 2nd bar retire backwards to new place.
7. Outsides - "Peel Off" - all step on spot. Top pair cast off, as pass next pair they then cast out, so on progressively. Turn at bottom and come up middle, inside hands on shoulder, 7 bars. End 7th bar with a kick forward and in 8th bar 2 kicks forward to end.

GORTON

A dance taught by Margaret Aldridge at the November 1978 Forewoman's Instructional held by the Women's Morris Federation in Chippenham, Wilts. Notes taken by B. A. Butler.

Music: Soldiers Joy, Little Brown Jug

Set: For 8 dancers each carrying 2 decorated sticks.

Stepping: A North West polka step is used in the figures. The knee should not be raised too high in the polka step and the weight is kept over the ball of the foot. The heel is not used in this step. A lilting walk is used for the Step Up. NB. Good posture is important. L foot start in Step Up and Figures.

Hands: As given below, otherwise the hands are held up at shoulder height, with the elbows bent, at the front of the body so that the sticks are vertical.

1. STEP UP

All face up and starting on the L foot march forwards 3 steps and kick the R leg forward (not a caper). Starting on the R foot march backwards 3 steps and bring the feet together. Repeat.

The hands are swung out to the sides, then in to cross in front of the body at waist height, then out and then up and in to cross in front of the head for the kick. While marching backwards swing the hands out, in to cross at waist height, out and in to the sides.

2. LINES MEET

Face opposite. Using 8 polka steps advance to meet so that knuckles touch and retire to place.

3. STEP UP

As above.

4. LINES CROSS

Face opposite. Using 8 polka steps cross the set passing R shoulders. Turn clockwise to face back to place and return to place passing L shoulders.

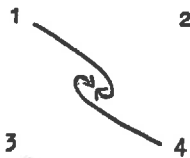
5. STEP UP

As above

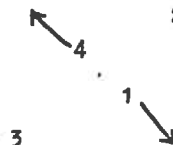
6. SWING PARTNER

Face opposite. Using 8 polka steps turn opposite, knuckle to knuckle, with the R all the way round to place.

7. STEP UP As above.
8. BACK TO BACK
Face opposite. Using 8 polka steps dance a back-to-back going both ways.
9. STEP UP As above
10. STAR In 4's dance a R hand star using 8 polka steps. Outside hand still held up at shoulder height. There is no L hand star.
11. STEP UP As above
12. CORNERS In 4's. First corners cross using 2 polka steps as follows:
1st polka step move forward passing R shoulders and turn clockwise through 180°, still facing the other first corner, so that you finish facing the way you have come. 2nd polka backwards into the other dancer's place.
Second corners cross similarly.
Repeat to place. When not moving step on the spot.



First polka step



Second polka step

13. STEP UP As above
14. OUTSIDES ("PEEL OFF")
All face up. First pair cast out and move towards the bottom of the set. As they move past the second pair cast out and follow the first pair. As the first and second pair pass the third pair they join the cast, and finally the fourth pair join the cast. This should take 8 polka steps. Everyone stepping on the spot when not moving.
Come up the centre of the set with arm round opposites shoulder, outside hand still held at shoulder height. Move forward to top of set using 7 polka steps.
Finish the dance with 3 straight-legged kicks (NB. the free foot from the last polka step is the first kick), ending with R leg in the air and arm still round opposites shoulder.