

ALTON BORDER MORRIS

- Source** : Alton Morris were first seen dancing at the Minden Rose Day of Dance on 27.6.92. The Alton Morris has gone from a men only side to a mixed one for the Border dances. A few of their dances reputedly owe something to a video of Silurian Morris. They have not been to a collected dance workshop and they have introduced useful changes to the dances.
- Policy** : Left foot start to movements and left arm waist swings. Calls, order, repeats of choruses, irregular as part of "style".

BRIMFIELD

- Set** : 8 dancers in two crossing lines facing in pairs, four with backs to the centre (men) and four at the ends facing in (women).
- Music** : "Jenny Lind"
- Sticking** : middles hold stick still in both hands in front in the "vulgar" position and the ends hit them alternately right to left, left to right, per bar, rather hard.
- ORDER** : Sticks, Hey, Sticks, Figure, several times.
- "Hey"** : Like Rogue Morris's version. The ends dance a figure eight across and back to place, while the inners just dance outwards and backwards to place.
Where "sticks" had to be reminded it was called "rest" or "lines".

FIGURES

1. "Set to the Right" - Open sidestep to right to meet the next person round so that dancers form a square, and back, open sidestep to the left to meet the next person in that direction to form a square, then back to partner.
2. "Arming" - Arm with partner right then left, stick held in free hand.
Women end in the middle.
3. "Swinging" - Link sticks to turn and free arms out to side, all the way round.
4. "Right hand star" - middle four star and the outsides join on to make it a double star.

Immediately followed by calling "Scatter" to the dancers or "This Time!" to the band, the music stopped and all dashed off in all directions at the end.

BROMSBERROW HEATH

- Set** : 6 dancers in single line, each with a long stick, facing in pairs, these are "partners".
- Music** : "British Grenadiers", should be the Leominster tune!
- Steps** : single steps.
- Sticking** : /x - x - / x x x - / three times then /x - x - / - - x -, hit in alternate directions. In 8th bar a large low swing into clash.
- ORDER** : sticks, hey (reel of 6), sticks, figure.

FIGURES

1. Pairs dance on the spot 2 bars, then a left arm waist swing of partner, for 6 bars.
2. Left hand star only by the middle four anticlockwise, while the other two dance clockwise around the outside of the star.
3. Start all dance out to their left and turn the easy way to face across in two lines, approach and left arm waist swing partner.
4. Pairs back-to-back right shoulder first, then clash 4 times, and then repeat the other way.
5. Starts like figure 3, out to the left, and then point the sticks horizontally into the middle and dance whole rounds clockwise and then dance off with the sticks on their shoulders.

DONKEY RIDING

Set : 8 dancers in two lines, facing, with short sticks.
 Music : "Donkey Riding"
 Sticking : / x - x - / x x x - / right to left for 4 or 8 bars.

Comment : this was an arrangement using different formations. The turns to change patterns are away from the centre, 1, 3, 6 & 8 to left, anticlockwise and other clockwise etc.

ORDER

In two lines down the set, 4 v. 4.

Sticks for 4 bars and then dance a loop on own, around to the left.
 Sticks for 8 bars.
 Set cast down inside and up the outside, lines well apart and then approach.
 Sticks for 4 bars and then ends cast out to face up and down and middles turn on spot to change the pattern and form a set 4 v. 4 across the set.



In two lines across the set, 4 v. 4.

Sticks for 8 bars.
 Right hand star in fours on the sides, and back with the left, changing the stick holding hand as necessary to keep the sticks up in the middle in both halves of the figure.
 Sticks for 4 bars and change pattern to form a quadrille, the inverse of before, the ends going to the other end and the middles facing and moving out a little.

In a quadrille of 4 pairs.

	2	8		4	6
	4	6		8	2
from			to		
	3	5		7	1
	1	7		3	5

Sticks for 8 bars in the pairs.

Heads cross, sides cross, heads come back, sides come back, 2 bars each crossing.

Sticks for 4 bars, loop away from partner and face the same person again.

Sticks for 8 bars in the pairs.

Circular hey in 8 bars, keep going till back to starting place.

Sticks for 4 bars, loop away from partner into lines of 4 across the set.

	4	6		8	2
	8		2		4
from			to		
	7		1		3
	3	5		7	1

In two lines across the set, 4 v. 4.

Sticks for 8 bars with person being faced.

Left arm waist swing of new partner 4 bars, right arm waist swing 4 bars.

Sticks for 4 bars, cast from ends and approach to form two lines along sides

	8	2				
	4	6		2	4	6
from			to			
	3	5		1	3	5
	7	1				

In two lines along the set, 4 v. 4.

Sticks for 8 bars with original opposite in original places.

Inside cast up the middle from the bottom, going once round, go down outside wide and approach an end.

Inside cast from the bottom and dance off.

DILWYN

Set : set of 8, each with a short stick, starting in two lines.

Music : "Not for Joe"

Sticking : / x - x - / x x x - / four times, all right to left, feet still.

Chorus : First 8 bars not really touching sticks at all, then the next 8 bars hitting noisily. The dance starts and ends with the chorus.

FIGURES

1. **Cross Over** : The dancers go straight across, not sideways as elsewhere. They pause when along the centre line in a single file, dancing in the pattern 1 bar travel, 1 bar on spot etc. Face up when on other side, then repeat all to place. Repeat it all again.
2. **Stars** : Top 4 star while the other four dance round them, going along their own side first. Then the Bottom 4 star and the other four go round.
3. **Into Line** : All dance into a single file along the centre line. Then all face up, odds in front, then change places odds moving bak a little while evens overtake left shoulders to end in front, repeat odds overtake right shoulders to end in front etc 6 times in all, then move out to place. Movement introduced to provide a potential processional figure.
4. **Cross Over** : as 1.

THREE JOLLY SHEEPSKINS

Set : 6 dancers in two lines facing, three hats in a line along the centre line of the set, about 8 feet apart. Each dancer has a pair of handks.

Music : "Speed the Plough", played A, (AB)7.

Comment : The team did not attempt a Sheepskin Hey, in fact they did not know what it was, although their teaching source clearly had a confused idea of what it should have been, and they expressed an interest in learning it.

ORDER : Once to Yourself.

Evens hey round the hats. Nos 4 & 6 go below their hats before starting reeling, and No. 2 goes above. Nos. 2 & 6 make extra loop at end but No 4 does not as has further to travel.

Odds hey round the hats.

Evens dance off to their right or the left as they fancy, turn and dance back on the other side of the hats, between the hats and their partners, ending facing partners and with their backs to the hats.

Odds dance of to the left or right as they fancy, turn and dance back on the other side of the hats and end back to back with the hats and to their partners.

Evens dance off to the right or left and back to starting place.

Odds ditto.

Evens Hey as before.

Odds Hey.

Evens back-to-back both ways with opposites who stand still. They hesitate momentarily when in the line.

Odds back-to-back both ways.

Evens Hey as before.

Odds Hey.

Both files dance off past the band, turn and come back linked in pairs on

the even's side of the hats.

Dance on the spot, facing down, waving outside hands.

A sort of reel back and dance off, from the bottom, the pairs follow each other by dancing round each hat, working up towards the band, and then off. All sort of follow the same track, which is up the odd side of the hats with a loop by each pair separately around each hat in turn. The pairs twizzle as a pair occasionally as well.

UPTON ON SEVERN HANDK DANCE

Set : set of 6 dancers with handkerchiefs, in two lines facing.

Music : "Bonnets So Blue"

Whole Rounds - take the long way turning out into it. Arms down & up.
Back-to-Back - in four bars, push both hands forward, dance on spot for 4 bars with left, right, left, right arms up in turn, back to back the other way for 4 bars and dance on spot etc.
Three Top - middles to the right and then repeat middles to the left.
Hey on side - tops go between first, go round twice (?)
Change - turn on spot and roll turning to the right into a set rotated 90° to stop the angle drifting back to starting one.

2	4	6		2	4
			to	1	6
1	3	5		3	5

Then follow with repeats from the new formation : Back to back both ways, three top both ways, hey twice started from right hand end, rounds, turning out the long way, and end in a circle, facing out, feet apart, arms stretched up and angled out.

WHITE LADIES ASTON

Set : 8 dancers in two files.

Music : "Buttercups & Daisies", "Lord of the Dance" and "Not for Joe"

Sticking : / x - x - / 4 bars or 8 bars.

The chorus choice and place in the order not too fixed and as below some usually suppressed.

CHORUS 1 - dance started with chorus.

Half Hey on the sides : progressive from the top, not a complete change ends.
 but 1 to 4, 2 to 3, 3 to 1 and 4 to 2.

Sticks with partners for 4 bars.

Half Hey on the sides back : in reverse, progressive from the bottom.

Sticks with partners for 4 bars.

CHORUS 2

3 bars sticking on the spot.

FIGURES

CHORUS 1.

1. Hey in linked pairs, start at top, progressively, sticks at half way and end, second half starts from the top position of the set also.
2. Procession Down, top pair down and back, top two pairs, top three pairs etc, accumulating, no sticking by anyone. Only go down far enough to form a line of four with the next pair below.

CHORUS 2.

3. Top four star right and left, transferring the stick to the inside hand for each half, so that the sticks are up together in the middle. During this star the bottom four stick with their partners.
4. Bottom four star and the rest stick etc.

CHORUS 1.

5. Procession Up, as 2, but in reverse.

CHORUS 2.

6. Cross Over - pass by the right shoulders, turn, then approach and stick.
7. Cross Back - right shoulders etc and stick.

CHORUS 1.

8. EXIT : Clash and off in pairs.