

## HOOK EAGLES MORRIS

This is Border style side based in Hook which is raising funds for the local St John's Church Development Fund by visiting each pub in the village three times this summer. It is essentially some Yateley men plus locals with a melodian and tuba. Seen at The Raven, Hook, Hants, on 19.6.92 and the Crooked Billet, on 26.6.92. Each occasion they performed the dances in the same order. They used a crib sheet. In general they used single stepping with the back and the forward kick of the Bedlams.

### DILWYN

**Set** : 8 dancers in two lines.  
**Music** : "Not For Joe"

**Order** : sticks, cross-over-&-back twice, sticks, star in fours, sing, sticks, cross-over-&-back twice, sticks & end.

**Sticks** : / x - x - / x x x -// four times. The first time through the tapping was very quiet, then in the repeat it was noisy and vigorous.

The dance is rather as published but the cross over is more of a dash across to ordinary hopsteps than a sideways chassez. They went about as far as possible in two bars, turned to face up and danced single step on the spot, then repeated to as far the other side. At the end of the second cross-over-&-back they had to approach some distance for the next sticking. An extra feature is a stopping to sing a verse or two half way through the dance. The words were similar to Shropshire Bedlams "Not For Joe", something like,

My friend Billy, had a 10 ft willy, & he showed it to the girl next door,  
She thought it was a snake & hit it with a rake & now its only 5 ft 4.  
Toora roora li doh, Toora roora li doh,  
Toora roora li doh, Played on the old banjo.

### NOT FOR JOE

**Set** : 6 dancers in one line. This is the Alton Morris' dance.  
**Music** : special tune used.  
**Sticks** : differed from Alton in that last hit was done with a long circular swing round in front.

**Rhythm** : x - x - /x x x - //3 times then x - x - / - - x -//.

Keep alternating directions so that second repeat is reverse of first time through.

**Order** : Sticks, Reel of 6, sticks, figure.

### FIGURES

1. Pairs dance on the spot facing for 4 bars, then left arm waist swing.
2. Middle four star the same direction throughout while outer two dance whole rounds clockwise around them.

3. Pairs back-to-back and stick 4 times, and repeat the other shoulder.
4. All dance off to their left, turn to their left to face back, now in two lines facing across, approach and left arm waist swing.
5. Finish with a complete reel of 6 and then off at the top into rounds and dance off from the end nearest the music.

### LIVELY JIG

Adapted from the handkerchief dance version taught to Yateley by Ilmington.

- Set** : 4 dancers with two medium length sticks each.  
**Music** : as collected.  
**Arms** : both arms swinging alternately throughout the dance whether clashing or not.  
**Order** : As the handkerchief dance. Rounds, half-gyps, met-&-clap, rounds, back-to-backs, met-&-clap, rounds & off.

#### Figures

1. In anticlockwise rounds the dancers hit both own sticks together twice per bar while stepping round, sticks moving one up and the other down alternately.
2. No sticking in back-to-back etc but when approaching to clash in met-&-clap hit both own and then right stick with opposite and repeat clashing, both then left sticks. No sticking while retiring.
3. The half-gyps and back-to-back were danced first corner first half, second corner first half, first corner second half, etc

### BRIMFIELD

- Music** : "Captain Pugwash"  
**Dance** : Dance almost as published.  
**Order** : sticks, Ho Figure 8, sticks, pairs swing with left then right elbow grip, sticks, reel of four and dancers change places in their pairs, sticks, left and right hand star for four, sticks, Ho Figure 8, sticks and immediately repeat sticks accelerating the music.

### WHITE LADIES ASTON

Dance much as published but with detailed differences. Used to end first half of show.

- Set** : 8 dancers in two lines.  
**Music** : special tune (or Sig Ship?)  
**Sticks** : two hits to the bar.  
**Order** : chorus, hey in pairs (taking twice normal length), chorus, star both ways for top four and bottom sticks, then repeat by bottoms, chorus, cross over and clash, cross back and clash, chorus, processional down in pairs, chorus, processional up, chorus, left elbow swing and stick, right elbow swing and stick, chorus, whole round ending by turning out and jumping into the middle.

**Chorus** : Half Reels of 4 danced as progressive ones started by the original top couple from which ever end they are. The first passing by the top pair is by the right shoulder. The rest start by facing these tops. It is not symmetrical. Pair 1 end at the bottom, pair 2 start going up and end in 3rd place, the 3rd and 4th pairs reel up and end in the 1st and 2nd places respectively, ie they do not reverse in order as one might expect.

### Figures

1. In the processional down, each pair dance in turn dance down to just between the next pair and retire back to place, but when in place they then stick tap with their opposite to the end of the phrase so that it builds up with first the top pair, then the top two pairs and finally the top 3 pairs etc.
2. There was an additional figure of top two pairs waist swing while bottom two pairs step facing (not sticking on this occasion) and a repeat in reverse, with the bottom pairs waist swinging. This was a mistake as at the Crooked Billet they did a star instead of the swing.
3. Ended dance with whole rounds clockwise and dance off.

## WHAT A LOVELY DAY

**Set** : 8 dancers in two rows each with a stick.  
**Order** : Sticking, Reels of four on the sides, Sticking, Figure.  
**Step** : single step

**Start** : All face up. No 1 starts by stamping alternate feet in the first bar, then the other dancers deliberately notice and join in, in turn one every bar, till all are doing it by end of phrase, then all break into single stepping on the spot facing up for a full phrase. Turn in at the end to face across the set.

**Sticking** : x x x x / x x x - / x - x - / x x x - // going alternately right to left and left to right, so that first hits in bars 3 and 4 are left to right. First the evens hold their sticks in the "vulgar" position and the odds hit, then the reverse in the repeat.

### Figures

1. Cross Over passing left shoulders, turn to the left to face back, and left arm waist swing with their opposite to end in starting place.
2. Whole rounds clockwise and dance phrase out on the spot in place.
3. Stars in 4's, the first half with the sticks upright together in the centre, knuckles touching, and coming back with the left hands in a Texas star, holding the in-front neighbour's wrist.
4. As 1.
5. As 2.
6. As 2 but at the end turn outwards to the left to face the centre and spring in for an all-in.

During the sticking after fig 4, sing,

"What a lovely day, what a lovely day, lovely lovely, what a lovely day."

During the sticking after fig 5, sing,

"What a boring song, what a boring song, boring boring, what a boring song."

or "what a lovely" dragged out instead of "lovely, lovely"

### FANNY FRAIL

**Set** : set of 8 each with short stick

**Music** : collected tune, ends on "Fanny Frail"

**Step** : / 1 h 2 h / 1 2 3 h / like Bedlams.

**Sticks** : left diagonal twice same direction, opposite twice same direction, opposite twice alternate directions, opposite twice same direction. Repeat other diagonal. Repeat all.

**Order** : Face Up and dance on spot, turning out to face across, face across, turn down and out to face across, sticks, cross over and waist swing, cross back and waist swing, sticks, cast out from top and ewaist swing when reversed, cast out from the bottom and waist swing when in place, sticks then singing,

"Fanny Frail if fair and handsome, Fanny Frail is my ideal,  
Fanny Frail is a pretty little thing, but Sally is the one for me,  
Sally is the one I fancy, Sally is the one for me,  
Fanny's all right on a saturday night, but Sally is the one for me."

Turn long way into rounds singing and waving stick overhead,

"Farewell, Farewell, Farewell my Fanny Frail,....."

### CLICK GOES THE SHEARS

**Set** : 6 dancers in two lines each with a short stick.

**Music** : music as title

**Chorus** : Hit opposite's stick twice right to left, then the diagonal to the right twice left to right, the diagonal to the left twice right to left, and the opposite once left to right. Repeat the opposite way round, start striking the opposite twice left to right, the diagonal to the left twice etc. When the end men have no diagonal to strike they can hit the ground with the tips of their stick to the side - spontaneous action? With a clash to start dance a loop round to the left to face across again. Repeat all.

#### Figures

1. Start - Face up for once to self and dance a whole phrase with single step on the spot, ending facing across by turning the easy way.
2. "Corners" - First corners cross in two bars passing right shoulders, then the second and then the third, all dance two bars on the spot facing across. Repeat to place.
3. "Stars" in 3's, first half with the sticks up and parallel in the centre. turn in and back with Texas star wrist grip. Middles go to the star to their right to start.
4. Three Tops as in Upton-on-Severn, here called "Tails" or "Hey" and done twice.
5. as 2.
6. Easy way into whole rounds clockwise, ending with an outward turn to the left and making a spring into the centre for all-in.