

RED STAG'S MORRIS

Source : Red Stag's New Forest Tour, May Bank Holiday 1992.

"GOOSE GREEN"

Derived from "Monkey" - a "dance of one musician versus 6 dancers".

Set : 6 dancers in two lines.

Stick : Short sticks, hit right to left, twice to a bar, with hopstep.

Chorus : An apology for a hey. Top pair cast down the middle of the set and turn out at the bottom to face across, 2 bars, rest move up a place, and all clash rest of phase, 2 bars. Repeated by the other two pairs. Then all face across and hit sticks for a full 4 bars.

FIGURES

1. Half Rounds : turn out into each half, and stick with opposite second half of each 8 bar phrase.
2. Set casts out and down to reverse set and sticks and then casts out and up to place and stick.
3. Half Rounds.
4. Double Cast : all face up and put inside arms around opposite's waist and dance a cast to left and up the middle to place, ending dance all up.

"BRIMFIELD"

Include a clashing hey : rhythm / x - x - / x x x - /, start with middles facing and only they clashing and pass by to stick with ends.

"THE WEOBLEY BEER MAT DANCE"

Set : 8 dancers in two lines.

Stick : Short sticks, all clashes right to left,

x - x - /x x x - /x - x - /x x x - /x x x - /x x x - /x x x x /x x x - //

ORDER

Sticks

Whole Reels of Four on the sides.

Sticks

Double Hey, linked with opposite.

Sticks

Circular Hey, starting along the sides, ends to the middle not across.

Sticks

Lichfield Hey, 16 bars long.

Sticks and end with sticks up in the air.

"THE PRISONER"

- Set** : 6 dancers in one line, > < > < > <, to start.
- Sticks** : Long sticks. Hit once per bar, tips, butts, tips, butts, all pushed, while double (side) stepping and turning the body a little into the hit (like Paradise Islanders)
- Step** : Skipsteps.
- Chorus** : 4 bars in pairs as once to self. Middle four turn to face in pairs, . > < > < . , but actually the pairs move away from each other as they turn ready for the end on the figure, and they stick for 4 bars. The ends cast to their left, going clockwise a quarter round the outside, to meet in the centre, at first facing across at right angles to other 4, for the second two bars, and quickly move, going round clockwise, into line of 6 in the centre by the end as other dancers do not turn. Repeat twice more, till set reversed.

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

FIGURES

1. All face to their left, dance out at right angles to the line of 6, turn to face back, approach and waist swing opposite to end in line of 6.
2. Set in two halves of 3, face to middle, > > > < < <, and dance past the other 3, passing right shoulders, turn in and dance back to place.
3. Whole Reel of 6.
4. Dance off, clockwise rounds 2 times round and then off in a single file.

"MORNING GLORY"

Made up on the tour, following an old Red Stag's tradition.

- Set** : 6 dancers in a line > < > < > <.
- Sticks** : hit tips / x - x - / x x x - / one or four times, with hopsteps.
- Order** : The following sequence is repeated with different figures.
1. "Sticks" along set four times.
 2. Sticks along the set once. "No.2" - bottom three face up, top three face down, and moving a little to their right form two lines of three facing, sticks across twice.
 3. A FIGURE.
 4. Sticks across the set once. "No.1" inverse of "No.2" into line of 6, sticks along the set twice.
 5. "No.3" is a Whole Reel of 6.

FIGURES

- A. Cross over with opposite, passing left shoulders and turning left to face back, and dance on spot. Cross back and dance on the spot.
- B. "J-Loops" - lines start by a back-to-back into line, passing right shoulders first and falling back into line left shoulders with opposite. Hold momentarily. Carry on round opposite, still facing across and therefore face-to-face, to end in line right shoulders with opposite, carry on to cross over to opposite's place and turn to left to face back. Repeat in same manner to place.
- C. Straight forward cross-over with opposite, passing left shoulders, turn and approach again and left arm waist swing. Sticks with opposite 4 times.
- D. Exit - first performance they left coming out of end of the reel of 6, second performance they did the sticks four times along the set.

"FIVE HANDED DANCE"

Entry : In a line of 5.

Chorus : Four stand in square, two facing two, and hit sticks.

Bars 1-2 : Hit ground with tips of sticks 4 times.

Bars 3-4 : Hit opposite tips, low down, 4 times.

Bars 5-6 : Hit opposite tips, high up, 4 times.

Bars 7-8 : All dance a loop clockwise to the right, and go into whole rounds. The 5th dancer is at the bottom and joins in.

Bars ? : All dance clockwise rounds and one of the others drops out.

Figures : Various figures for 4 and the 5th dancer moves around (or even through the set) often doing a Bampton Fool's Jig like stick passing under their own thighs.

"BEETHOVEN"

Set : Set of 6 in one line, > < > < > <.

Music : The Euro anthem, gradually speeded up.

Dance is based on Bromebarrow Heath

A : Walk a reel of six, stop and bow to one facing at half way.

B : Caper and clash sticks with one facing at end of reel. Start hitting right to left, left to right, two hits to a bar.

In the repeats speed up. The bow degenerates into a quick nod!

"FAR FROM HOME"

Set : Three dancers.

Music : No music, sang the words, leader the verses, all the chorus.

Step : Double step, and leading arm only up once per bar.

Dance : Alternate half rounds (turn out at half way) and reel of 3. Each dancer in turn starts reel by going between the other two. End on rounds and face in, legs apart and arms up and apart.

"NOT FOR JOE"— Ending Dance

Set : All the available dancers in two lines, sub-divided into groups of four along the sides as for a four hand reel.

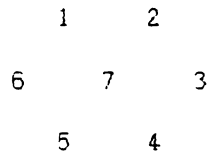
Sticks : Before each figure, along sets of four stick, hopstep and hitting stick tips right to left and left to right each bar.

FIGURES

1. Reels of four.
2. Waist swing of opposite, right arm round waist only, one way, stick in left hand.
3. Stars in the groups of four.
4. Reels of four.
5. Cross and Turn - all go to their left and turn to their right to face back, clash as they pass in the middle, repeat to place.
6. Whole hey along the side of the full set, however long it takes, and come off the columns when reach the top again. Dancers did cross from one column to the other at the bottom of the set and came up on the other side. Off into circle waving stick in arm and finally end with an all-in.

"BLAKE'S SEVEN"

Set : Seven dancers, six arranged in a circle (hexagon) with the 7th in the middle.



Chorus : Sticks - hit (push) tips right to left, hit (push) butts left to right, while slightly turned to the left with hopsteps, 2 bars, then all again while slightly turned to the right, 2 bars.
Repeat all again, 4 bars.
End with middle row (6,7&3) turn to face the other way and repeat all.

Sticking order :

Bars 1-2	7&1, 3&2, 5&6 or 5&4.
Bars 3-4	7&2, 6&1, 4&3 or 5&4.
Bars 5-6	as bars 1-2.
Bars 7-8	as bars 3-4.
Bars 9-10	7&4, 6&5, 2&3 or 1&2.
Bars 11-12	7&6, 3&4, 1&6 or 1&2.
Bars 13-14	as bars 9-10.
Bars 15-16	as bars 11-12.

Figures

1. Diagonal reels - 1,7&4, then 2,7&5. The pairs on the sides swing.
2. ?
3. Half Reels - Diagonals cross in turn while the centre threads a path backwards and forwards with them, start Nos 7,6&3, but No.7 does not loop back but joins in with next diagonal round etc. End with clockwise rounds for 1-6 around No.7 to get back to starting place.
4. Lines Through - dancers move into two lines

6 7 3 facing down *

5 1 2 4 facing up *

- then the lines of three and four dance past the other,

5 1 2 4 facing down *

6 7 3 facing down *

- then the middle two of the line of four dance through,

5 4

6 7 3

1 2

I dont believe that this is correct but it is consistent with my notes and is the only way that preserves something of the original position order, ie it leaves the set reversed.

R L Dommett © 1992