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Read this first!

Here follow some general notes on style and things-that-we-are-always-supposed-to-do-the-same:

Stepping:

The most important thing of all to get right is the stepping: enthusiastic and correct stepping by all is what makes a merely competent side into a great one. So read on...

- The stepping for all dances except Spotty Banana and Dilwyn is single step with a pronounced backwards and forwards kick of the free leg.
 - Always **left** foot lead for everything.
 - The first step of any movement is nearly always the biggest - i.e. **surge** into each figure.
 - The stepping must be large and exuberant, emphasised and flamboyant, or more simply, **give it welly!** If you don't finish a dance fighting for breath and dripping with sweat then you haven't been doing it properly.
 - All dances apart from Crooked Billet, Dilwyn and Lizzie Hall, start with a Left and Right foot stamp on the last bar of the OTY.
 - Whenever changing from stepping to standing, the last two bars of the stepping are: ...LhRhLRL- where the final **RL** means stamp on the right and left (exception is Stripy Cat chorus).
- Do not do this at any other time.**
- When not using the stick, it should be held in the right hand, sloped over the right shoulder. The left arm should **not** be simply kept still by your side but used to emphasise and add power to the stepping.

Lines:

The odd straight line now and again would be nice... Please?

The Performance:

There are three imperatives for dancing out, which are, in order:
1 - To have fun.
2 - To entertain any audience.
3 - To get the dances right.
Preferably, however, please try to do all three!

Crossovers / Shoulders:

After crossing over passing **Right** shoulders always turn **Right** to face back in with a sharp turn on step 5.
After crossing over passing **Left** shoulders always turn **Left** to face back in with a sharp turn on step 5.

Back to back:

In any figure called back-to-back, one side of the set dances (or stands in Sheepskins only) on the spot while the other side does back-to-back around them, thus: **Surge** across set on step 1, round back of partner and into line on his other side on steps 2 and 3,

step 4 on the spot still in line, 2 steps backwards back to place, 2 on the spot.

Dozy Doe:

In any figure called Dozy-Doe, all dancers do a back to back around their opposites, so there everybody moves together.

Rounds:

Always turn **out** into a Rounds. A rounds at the end of a dance can finish with out-and-in, in-and-out, or lead-off-into-the-pub-following-number-1, depending on what is called.

Music:

Most dances use slow, lazy, dotted hornpipes. Feel is given by pushing and pulling the rhythm jazz-style, ie bringing a note in slightly after or slightly before where it's written. Nothing at all is played as written. Well-known tunes are recognisable, but have had most of the hard bits and fast changes beaten out to give room for rhythmic development. There is a noticeable reggae feel to a many of the tunes, with the first note in a bar de-emphasised (or missing entirely) and emphasis on the third: "(one)-two-THREE-four. The net result of all this is near impossible to write down, but provides the basis for the distinctive Hook sound. The approach also tries to get away from the "play-it-through-once-then-do-it-again-louder" style of Morris by introducing rhythmic development, improvisation, counter melodies and accompaniment. Notes are often missed out for emphasis, and not all players play all the time (revolutionary, eh?)
In its full form, the Hook Eagle Wall of Sound consists of 4 melodeons, clarinet, trombone, banjo, fiddle, tambourine and various other things you bang. But no drum, because it's unnecessary and makes rhythmic development near impossible.

The Rotherwick Lead Miners' Stick Dance

Source:

Richard's warped mind.
(New for 1999 (the dance, not the warped mind))

Tune:

"Yellow Bird" - everybody's Caribbean favourite. The important difference about this dance compared to others is the each chorus and figure is 24 steps long.

Formation:

Set of 6 in two lines of 3. Start facing in.

Step:

Single step (cycle step). Left foot lead. Continuous stepping for whole dance.

Sequence:

Chorus (Tips)
Bottoms up (1)
Chorus (Tips and Butts)
Circular hey
Chorus (Top and bottom)
Dozy doe and cast
Chorus (Tips)
Weave
Chorus (Tips and butts)
Circular hey
Chorus (Top and bottom)
Bottoms up (2).

Chorus:

8 steps stepping and sticking
8 steps private loop round to left (with initial clash, as in Skirmish).
8 steps stepping and sticking.

Tips chorus: Hit stick tips with partner 8 times, on the beat. All hits are forehead.

Tips and Butts chorus: Hit sticks with partner 8 times on the beat, hitting stick tips and butts alternately. All hits are forehead.

Top and Bottom chorus: Hit stick tips with partner 8 times on the beat, hitting alternately high (eye level) and low (knee level), moving stick in a large arc between each hit. All stick hits are forehead.

Bottoms Up (1):

Bottom couple go up middle of set to the front on 4 steps, then **on step 5**, all do small loop outwards and downwards to move back one place on four steps. Repeat twice to get everyone back to place.

Dozy doe and cast:

Nos 2 and 5 cast out down to opposite end on 8 steps whilst rest do right shoulder dozy doe with person opposite and to the right - diagonally forwards on 2 steps, 2 on the spot, 2 straight back so odds move down one place and evens up one place. 2 on the spot. Repeat twice till everyone is back to place.

Weave:

Tops cast out and down outside of set to bottom, inside bottoms, outside middles back to place (8 steps); Bottoms cast out and up outside of set, inside tops, outside middles and back to place (8 steps);
Middles cross over passing right shoulders, then turn right to go all way round the end couple (i.e. 3 goes round bottoms, 4 round tops) and back to place (8 steps).

Circular Hey:

Circular hey started by tops passing right shoulders across set and 3&5 and 4&6 passing right shoulders along side of set. Keep passing alternately left

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and right shoulders till back to place - 4 steps to pass each person and to get to next set position: 1 in place, 1 to clash sticks with passee, and 2 to get on to next position.

Bottoms up (2):

As bottoms up (1), but all finish facing up and with sticks held up in two hands. The dance finishes with a STOMP-STOMP-OI!

Fresne Poret

Source:

RMW + Hook Eagle
(New for 1998)

Tune:

Random Hornpipe, taken from a pub session run by Florida. Believed to be based on Random Jig. Slowed down and given a heavy dotted hornpipe feel. Sounds epic on trombone and clarinet, with no effing melodeons.

Formation:

Set of 8 (or 6) in two lines of 4 (3).
Start facing up.

Step:

Single step (cycle step). Left foot lead.
Stand for sticking.

Sequence:

Foot up.
Sticking; hey; sticking.
Crossover
Sticking; hey; sticking.
Shrapnel.
Sticking; hey; sticking.
Swing
Sticking; hey; sticking.
Round.

Foot up:

Stepping on the spot facing up for 8 steps, surge up into crowd for 2 steps, 2 steps on the spot, reverse back to place and stomp-stomp to face partner - 4 steps.

Sticking:

F-L-FBF-L-F-BFB-
(repeat)
(F=forehand high;
B=backhand high
L=backhand low)

Hey:

Whole hey Adderbury style for 16 steps, i.e. middles turn out, all start with a right shoulder pass.
Variation for 6: hey on the side with end couples backing out for the first two steps, middles turn up to start.

Crossover:

Cross right shoulders to other side (4 steps), turn right 180° on 5th step, then 3 steps on the spot. 2 steps to **surge** right across at the crowd on opposite side (pass right shoulders - no clash, no swing), 2 steps on the spot facing crowd. Turn right 180° on step 5, step

6 on the spot, back to place on 7 and stomp stomp.

Shrapnel:

Two steps across set, passing Right shoulders into opposite's position (and **no** further), two on the spot, turning to face out in a direction directly out from the centre of the set, then 2 steps to **surge** out towards the crowd, and 2 on the spot facing crowd. Then 4 steps **BACKWARDS**, to set where you came from, turning round the long way to face front on the last one. Finally two steps back across set (pass right shoulders again), and turn right and stomp stomp on final 2.

Swing:

All do small loop round to the left (4steps), cross over to other side passing right shoulders and clashing sticks with partner on step 5, and continue to complete a figure 8 shape by looping round to right on the opposite side, ending up as if to pass partner by the left shoulder (8 steps in all so far). On the way past partner on step 9, link elbows and do elbow swing back to place (16 steps for whole figure).

Note that you cross the centre line of the set at an angle of 45°(ish), not 90°

Round.

Turn out into clockwise large rounds as normal for first 4 steps, then start to spiral in for next 8 steps, to end up in a very tiny round shoulder to shoulder for 2 steps. Explode out into crowd for last 2 steps.

Spotty Banana

Source:

Richard's warped mind.
(New for 1997)

Tune:

Banana Boat Song. What more can be said?

Formation:

Set of 6.
Long sticks.

Step:

1h2h123h.
In all figures (**except Square**), the 1h2h is on the spot and the 123h is used to move.
Stand for Chorus.

Sequence:

Bottoms up
Chorus
Lichfield Hey
Chorus
Sides around
Chorus
Square
Chorus
Sides Around
Chorus
Lichfield Hey

Chorus
Bottoms Out

Bottoms Up:

All start facing up. All do 1h2h on the spot, then bottom couple surge 123h up the middle to top position whilst rest do 123h backwards to move down 1 place.
Repeat 2 more times (to put all back to place). Final 1h2h to turn in to face partner and 1LR to stand for chorus.

Chorus:

Sticking whilst standing:
F-R-L-B-L-R-FFF-
Repeat.

Sides Around:

In the following, all turns are on the 2 of the 1h2h:
All 1h2h to turn to right on the spot.
123h to **SURGE** two sides in opposite directions.
1h2h to turn to left to face across set.
123h to surge across set.
1h2h to turn to left, on the spot.
123h to surge back to set shape, opposite to original place.
1h2h to turn left to face partner across set.
1LR to surge into place for chorus.
Everyone has swapped sides.

i.e.

```
2 4 6 > 2 4 6 >
1 3 5 > 1 3 5 >
1 3 5 > 1 3 5 >
> > 1 3
5 > > 2 4
6 > > 2 4 6 >
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Lichfield Hey:

In place on the 1h2h, move on the 123h:
Top 4 (nearest music both times) swap places across diagonal, bottom pair swap places across set.
New bottom 4 swap places across diagonal, top pair across set.
New top 4 swap places across diagonal, bottom pair across set.
1h2h1LR- in place to start chorus.
Everyone has swapped ends and sides.

Square:

Double length figure:
Middle couple left arm swing for whole figure and back to place.
Ends left arm swing partner round once for 1h2h123h, then use the next 1h2h to cross over to opposite side to form a big square, and 123h on the spot in the square. Then use the next 1h2h123h to swing next person round set, and 1h2h to next corner of square and 123h on the spot.
Continue twice more back to place, so we get 3 couples swinging along set, across set, along set, across set.

Bottoms out:

As Bottoms up, but as each couple come up to the top, on each of the

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123h they move out sideways rather than back, so that all end up in a line across set for the last 1h2h1LR to finish.

Hook Tandoori

Source:

Hook Eagle
(New for 1997)

Music:

Orlando's Return, inspired by Gas Mark 5 but played as a slow dotted hornpipe.

Formation:

Straight line of 6.
Single short stick each.

Step:

Single step. Stand for sticking

Sequence:

Sticking / Hey / Sticking
Ends Ho
Sticking / Hey / Sticking
Dozy doe
Sticking / Hey / Sticking
Middles Ho
Sticking / Hey / Sticking
Cross and round

Sticking:

First time in each sticking/hey/sticking: Top couple hit sticks F-B-FB-, whilst others keep sticks on shoulders. Then middle couple hit sticks, while top and bottom don't. The bottom couple hit sticks while top two couples don't. Then all three couples do.
Second time, as first, but starting from the bottom.

Hey:

Whole hey for 6, starting by passing right shoulders.

Ends Ho:

2&3 and 4&5 do right arm / left arm swings for 8 / 8 steps whilst ends do a Ho around them and back to place for 16 steps. Both ends start by passing right shoulders, and hit sticks as they pass through the middle on steps 4 and 12.

Dozy doe:

2 steps pass partner right shoulders to face someone else (except those now on the end, facing out, of course!); 2 steps hit sticks with person you are facing (FFF-); 2 steps complete dozy doe to face own partner; 2 steps hit sticks with partner (FFF-); 2 steps pass partner by left shoulder to face somebody else, as before; 2 steps sticking as before; 2 steps to complete dozy doe; step-stomp-stomp on the spot (no sticking).

Middles Ho:

1&2 and 5&6 do right arm / left arm swings for 8 / 8 steps while middles do a ho around them and back to place (start by passing right shoulders, hit

sticks as pass through middle on step 8).

Cross and round:

All turn out to left to form round (2 steps), 2 steps on the spot to turn to left, then surge into ANTIClockwise whole rounds, and finish with out-and-in, in-and-out, lead-off as called.

White Hart

Source:

Devised by RMW of Hook Eagle Morris Men. (1995)

Tune:

Buddy Holly hornpipe ("It doesn't Matter Anymore" played as a slow dotted hornpipe).

Formation:

Set of 4 dancers in a square, or multiples thereof.

Step:

Enthusiastic single step throughout.

Sequence:

Chorus
Stars
Chorus
Rounds
Chorus
Dozy Doe
Chorus
Twos round
Chorus
Hey off

Chorus:

Clash with partner three times for three steps, forehand on the beat, then pass right shoulder with partner and turn to face new partner (one step). Repeat three more times back to place.

Stars

All do right hand star for 8 steps, turn out and left hand star for 8 steps and back to position.

Rounds

All do 4 steps round clockwise to diagonally opposite position, spiralling out to enlarge set, then 1&4 swap places on two steps, followed by 2&3 on two steps. REPEAT, but circle anticlockwise.

Dozy Doe

Right and left shoulder dozy doe for 8 steps with partner across set (4 steps each shoulder), then left and right and left shoulder dozy doe with partner on side of set (8 steps).

Twos round

1&4 clash for 8 steps whilst 2&3 turn out and dance a whole round clockwise around them and back to place. Then 2&3 clash whilst 1&4 dance round.

Hey off

'Willy hey': all take 2 steps to dance into line right shoulder to shoulder with partner across set. Turn to face partner and dance 2 steps on the spot. Then all dance 8 steps whole hey back to place. Then on final 4 steps of dance 1&3 disappear off into the crowd going down, 2&4 going up, passing right shoulders.

Lizzie Hall

Source:

RMW (1995)

Tune:

Salmon Tails, with a "rock" feel. Rock Salmon?

Formation:

Normal set of 6 or 8.
Short sticks.

Step:

Enthusiastic single step throughout.

Sequence:

Each figure consists of:

- foot up or foot down
- sticking
- first half of figure
- sticking
- half hey
- sticking
- second half of figure
- sticking

Dance finishes with a final foot up and sticking.

Figures are:

Waistaround
Cross over
Stars
Rounds

Sticking:

FFF-FFF-FFF-FFF-

Forehand taps for 8 steps, each FFF- corresponding to two steps (LhRh).

Foot up / Foot down

Each sequence starts with a foot up or foot down for 8 steps, depending on which end No.1 is currently: if at top of set then foot up, if at bottom then foot down. All dance 4 steps up (or down) turning out on step 4, and then dance 4 steps back to place, turning in to face partner on the 8th.

Half hey:

Half hey on the side - 8 steps. For 6: middles start by passing right shoulders with original 1&2. For 8: middles turn out.

Waistaround:

Straight into 8 steps waistaround, and ending up in **opposite** position.

Crossover:

First half: 4 steps across passing right shoulders, turn to right to face in on step 5, step 6 on the spot, in to opposite's set position on step 7, step

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8 on the spot. Second half: same but cross passing left shoulders, and turn to left.

Stars:

First half: Right hand stars for 8 steps (middles go to the right) and back to place. Second half: Left hand stars (middles go to the left).

Rounds:

Turn out into clockwise half rounds, 8 steps.

What a Lovely Day

Source:

RMW. (1995)

Tune:

Rickett's Hornpipe, played undotted with a slight Caribbean feel. Tune known by many names, but this is what Ashley Hutchings used to call it.

Formation:

Set of 6,8,10,12... in two lines.

Step:

Single step (cycle step). Left foot lead. Stand for chorus. **In all figures**, clash sticks forehand once with partner, violence and a shout on step 8 (i.e. half way through each complete 16 step figure), and finish figure with STOMP-STOMP:

Sequence:

OTY
Foot up
Chorus
Right shoulders
Chorus
Cast
Chorus
Stars
Chorus
Dozy Doe
Chorus
Sides
Chorus
Left shoulders
Chorus
Rounds

OTY:

Once to yourself: stand for the OTY facing partner across set. On the final beat (what would be the last step) clash sticks violently once with partner, and turn to face up to go into foot up...

Foot up:

Four steps on the spot facing up, then take 3 steps to turn out and face partner across set and clash with him once on step 8. Immediately turn down (on the hop of step 8), and dance four steps facing down, then three steps to turn out and face partner again, but this time finish with STOMP-STOMP.

Chorus:

Knob-cracking, FBFBF-B-F-BFB.
Odds hit evens first (4 bars), then evens hit odds.

Right shoulders:

Cross over right shoulders, turn to right to face on step 5, step 6 on the spot, surge in on step 7, and clash loudly with partner on step 8. Then 8 steps waistaround back to place.

Cast:

Tops cast up and out, followed by their own sides, to reverse set (7 steps), and clash with partner in new set position on step 8. Then they cast down and in to put set straight again (8 steps).

Stars:

Right hand star round once back to place (7 steps), clash on step 8. Then left hand star round once back to place.

Dozy Doe:

Everyone does a right shoulder dozy-doe round partner (2 steps across passing right shoulders, 2 steps sideways behind partner, and 4 steps back to position, clashing sticks once with partner on step 8). Then everyone does a Left shoulder dozy-doe similarly (but without the clash)

Sides:

Each side turns to their **left** and surges 4 steps (i.e. odds go up, evens go down), **turning out** on step 4, and dance 3 steps back to place, to clash forehand with partner across set on step 8 and doing a 360 deg turn anticlockwise on the hop of step 8. Then all dance 4 steps to the right, **turn out** and back to place.

Left shoulders:

Same as right shoulders but pass by the left and turn to left.

Rounds:

Turn OUT, into half rounds for 7 steps to re-form set, clash with partner on step 8. Then turn OUT again for the second half rounds and finish with in-and-out, or out-and-in, as called.

Crooked Billet

Source:

RMW. (1996)

Music:

Queen of the Fairies. Based on - guess what - King of the Fairies, with the second and third parts mixed up and changed with a rather more major-ish feel than the original. Played as a slow dotted hornpipe.

Formation:

Normal set of 6.
Long sticks.

Sequence:

Stomping
Figure 8
Chorus
Back to back
Chorus
Eathorpe cross (1)
Chorus
Eathorpe cross (2)
Chorus
Stars
Chorus
Figure 8.

Stomping:

All start standing in set, facing up. No 1 starts stomping on bar 1 (L-R-), then no 2 joins in (L-R-), then no 3, then no 4, then no 6 (6 bars in all). Then all dance on the spot for 4 steps, still facing up, ready to go straight into...

Figure 8:

(Like Eynsham Figure 8):
All do a large hey for 16 steps, starting by nos 1&2 going up and out in a wide loop, whilst the middles come in to meet. Bottoms start by doing a couple of steps on the spot before joining in. For the first Figure 8, all finish facing front ready for chorus. For the second Figure 8, finish the dance with stomp-stomp and stick held horizontally, high above head in both hands.

Chorus:

Stand while sticking tips and butts thus for 4 bars:

T-B-T-B-T-B-TTT-

Then all forehand clash with partner on first step of individual small loop to the left for 4 steps back to place, surge across set, passing partner right shoulders and clashing once, then quick turn to right and stomp-stomp in opposite's position (4 more steps). REPEAT back to place, except keep stepping at end straight into next figure.

Back to back:

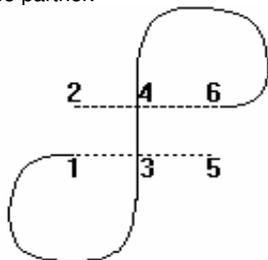
Odds do right shoulder back to back round evens, 8 steps. Then evens do right shoulder back to back round odds (8 steps).

Eathorpe cross (1)

All turn to their left. No 1 leads the odds by casting up and out in a loop so as to cross the set at right angles across the middle. Meanwhile No 6 leads the evens by casting down and out in a loop so as to cross the set at right angles across the middle. The two sides approach and pass right shoulders across the middle of the set, timing it so that Nos. 1 and 6 meet in the middle of the set on step 6, and clash sticks with each other as they pass. On step 7, 1&4 and 3&6 clash sticks; and on step 8, 1&2, 3&4, 5&6 clash sticks, by which time the two sides are now in two lines across the set. They then carry on dancing for a further 8 steps, with nos. 1 & 6 leading their respective sides in a loop to their

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right and back down the opposite side of the original set so that all end up in their partner's original position. Turn OUT (the long way) on last two steps to face partner.



Eathorpe cross (2)

Mirror image of Eathorpe Cross (1), with original 1 and 6 leading as before, but this time all start by turning to right, etc..

Stars:

Right hand stars in threes (middles go to the right) 8 steps, turning out into left hand star for 8 steps back to place.

Dilwyn

Sources:

Traditional dance - adapted from version by Silurian MM. (1992)
"The Dilwyn Stick Dance, from the village of...Stick Dance!"

Tune:

Not For Joe. Play tune very quietly for first sticking and loud for second sticking each time. Band shuts up during the song if you're lucky.

Formation:

Any multiple of 4 dancers, in two lines. Start facing partners across set.

Step:

High knee single step, NO forward or backward kicks with the free leg. Lots of stomp. Left foot lead. Stick on shoulder when not sticking.

Sequence:

Sticking.
Cross Overs.
Sticking.
RH Star
LH Star
Song
Sticking
Cross Overs
Sticking

Sticking:

F-F-FFF- F-F-FFF- twice, first time very gently. Second time with lots of welly.

Cross Overs.

Facing UP the set, do a cross over dancing sideways (keep in lines!), left side of set passing in front of partners, 8 steps. Belt across as fast as possible, then step on the spot. Repeat 4 times (new LHS passing in

front). On the last time finish by leaping back into set with a loud yell.

RH Star:

Each subset of 4 does a RH star for 8 steps (half the A music); then turns round into...

LH Star:

LH star for 8 steps, and back into place.

Song:

My friend Billy had a ten foot willy,
and he showed it to the girl next door.
She thought it was a snake,
So she hit it with a rake,
And now it's only five foot four.
Too-ra-loo-ra-li-do, Too-ra-loo-ra-li-i-do,
Too-ra-loo-ra-li-do, play it on the old banjo.

Then during the next lot of gentle sticking, continue singing:

Bum titty, bum titty, too-ra-li-do,
Bum titty, bum titty, too-ra-lay,
Bum titty, bum titty, too-ra-li-do,
Play it on the old banjo.

Brimfield

Source:

Traditional dance. (1992)

Music:

Nameless. Second part apparently heard in a pub session in Whitby but only remembered in a dream. Other people at the session didn't recognise it, so could be entirely dreamt. First part written when fully awake, so not as good.

Formation:

4 dancers (2 pairs) in a line, facing partners. Short sticks.

Step:

Single step (cycle step)). Stick on shoulder when not sticking.

Sequence:

Napping
Ho
Napping
Left arm swing / Right arm swing
Napping
Hey
Napping
Right hand star / Left hand star
Napping
Ho
Napping
Napping, getting faster to finish.

Napping:

In each pair, the one in the middle of the set stands still, holding stick knob-cracking style. Other partner (ends) keeps stepping hitting partner's stick alternately forehand and backhand, on the beat, for 16 steps/taps. When starting napping after a figure, the middles finish the figure with the

regulation Stomp-Stomp, ends just **keep stepping.**

Ho:

Middles start stepping and keep stepping on the spot for 16 steps. Meanwhile ends do a reel around the middle two, No 1 starting by passing right shoulders with No 2, No 4 starting by passing Left shoulders with No 3, so that they both go through the gap between 2 and 3 from the same side. No.1 goes through the gap first, both times.

Left arm swing / Right arm swing

Couples do a left arm swing for 8 steps, then turn round and do a right arm swing for 8 steps, swapping stick to left hand/shoulder.

Hey:

All 4 do a hey, starting by passing Right shoulders with partner. Do a whole hey plus a bit so that at the end partners swap places.

Right hand star / Left hand star

Two in the middle turn to their right and take two steps to get into a line across the set. Meanwhile ends move in on two steps to make the star, on step 3 all thrust hands into the middle and continue the star for the 6 steps (8 steps in all). The all turn round and do left hand star for 8 steps and back into place.

Upton Skirmish

Source:

A variation on the (traditional) Upton on Severn stick dance. (1995)

Tune

Brighton Camp, slow and ponderous, with lots of repeated notes and, if anything, a sort of Cajun feel.

Formation

Ordinary set of 6, as for normal Upton. Long sticks.

Step

Single (cycle) step.
Clash once with partner on first step of each figure.

Sequence

Morris
Chorus
Upton Hey
Chorus
Allemand Right
Chorus
Allemand Left
Chorus
Three tops right
Chorus
Morris and all in

Morris

Clash and back out for 4 steps, then rounds clockwise once for 12 steps and back to position.

Chorus

'Fighting chorus': Clash sticks high forehand and low backhand first in pairs 1&6, 2&4, 3&5, then 1&3, 2&5, 4&6, Then high, low, high - with partner. (High forehand, low backhand always). Then do individual loops to the left for 8 steps, clashing once with partner on first step.
REPEAT.

Upton Hey

(or 'sides'): All clash on first step and use the first 4 steps for ends to back out with 1&2 facing down, rest up. Then 1&2 dance between 2&3 and outside 5&6. All do whole hey back to place.

Allemand Right

Back-to-back but ALL moving: Clash on first step, and all back out on the first 4 steps to make WIDE set, then 4 steps on the spot. Then all yell loudly and SURGE into a right shoulders dozy doe for remaining 8 steps, clashing sticks to the right on second step as the lines pass.

Allemand Left

As for Allemand Right, but pass Left shoulders.

Three tops right

Clash on first step and all back out on first 4 steps, then surge into large three tops hey, with middles going to the right, round once (12 steps).

Morris and all in

As before: back out then whole rounds clockwise, but turn out and jump in to middle to finish.

Click Go the Shears

Source:

Chorus taken from video of Motley Morris. Figures invented by BAZ & RMW. (1992)

Music:

Strike the Bell (or Click Go the Shears if you're Australian).

Formation:

Set of 6 in two lines, facing up.
Long sticks, two handed for sticking.

Step:

Single step (cycle step), stick on shoulder when not sticking. Stand still for sticking.

Sequence:

Foot up
Chorus
Corners
Chorus
Stars
Chorus
Hey
Chorus
Corners
Chorus
Rounds

Foot up:

Dance on the spot facing up, turn to face partners on last four steps, and finish with stomp-stomp ready for sticking.

Chorus:

Consists of sticking, loop, sticking, loop.

sticking: FFRRLLB-BLLRRF-

F = forehand to partner,
R = backhand to opposite right
L = Forehand to opposite left
B = backhand to partner
- = pause

loop: dance in a smallish loop anticlockwise (start by going to your left!), each dancer doing his own private loop, but keeping in line with the other 2 on his side. Hit sticks with partner on first step with violence and a shriek.

Corners:

1 & 6 change places on first two steps, with a shriek, passing **Right** shoulders
2 & 5 change places on steps 3-4, with a shriek, passing **Right** shoulders
3 & 4 change places on steps 5-6, with a shriek, passing **Right** shoulders
All dance steps 7-8 on the spot.

Next 8 steps change places back again in the same way.

Stars:

Middles go to their **right**. Form 3-man stars, and do RH star for 8 steps; turn out into LH star for 8 steps and back to place.

Hey:

Middles go to their **right**, to form a hey at the ends, dancing between the two dancers to their right, e.g.: No 3 turns to his right and goes through space between nos. 1 & 2, to start the hey by doing a **left** shoulder pass with No. 1. Go round the hey **twice**, but you have to move reasonably fast in order to get back to place ready for the stomp-stomp.

Rounds:

All turn the long way into a normal clockwise rounds. Turn out and jump in on last four steps to finish.

Three Jolly Black Sheepskins

Source:

Adapted from version taught to us by Sarah Morland of Iffy Morris. (1994)

Music:

Three Jolly Black Sheepskins played remarkably straight and undotted.

Formation:

Set of 6.

Step:

Single (cycle) step. Stand for sticking.

Sequence:

Chorus
Back to backs
Chorus
Cross Overs
Chorus
Cross and rounds

Chorus:

Odds hit evens' sticks, knob-cracking style, 16 hits for first half A music. With evens remaining standing still, odds then dance a sheepskins hey around evens: No. 1 turns up and leads the odds off into the hey round evens, starting by passing right shoulders with No. 2. When the third odd (no. 5) passes the middle even for the first time, he turns round him so he now leads the other two. When the second odd (no. 3) passes the middle even for the second time, he also turns round him as before. Finally it is no 1's turn to turn round the middle odd when passing him for the third time. When the last odd has thus turned round the middle even, all three odds end up in line with the evens, each odd on the DOWN side of his partner. All this takes 20 steps, with the last one or two on the spot in line with the evens. The odds then take four steps to cross back to own position again (in a line!), turning UP the set to face partner again. Repeat, with evens hitting Odds' sticks, and evens dancing hey round odds, with a left shoulder pass first.

Back to backs:

Evens stand still, whilst odds do a **right** shoulder back to back around them (2 steps across, 2 sideways, 3 back, 1 on the spot in position), followed by a **left** shoulder back to back. Then odds stand still whilst evens do right then left shoulder back to backs around them.

Cross Overs:

All do right shoulder cross over (4 steps across, turn to RIGHT on step 5, 3 on the spot), then a waistaround for 8 steps back to position.

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Then all to a LEFT shoulder cross over (4 steps across, turn to LEFT of 5th, 3 steps on the spot), and a waistaround again for 8 steps back to position.

Cross and rounds:

All do right shoulder cross over for 4 steps, middles going out a bit further to form a round. Then all dance in a clockwise rounds, and off.

Stripy Cat

Source:

Adapted (by RMW) from incomplete video of dance by Motley Morris. (1993)

Tune:

William Taylor's Tabletop Hornpipe (Dave Shepherd/Blowzabella) but passed on to a new musician whilst drunk in a Wimborne backstreet. Now bears a less than perfect resemblance to the original, either musically or rhythmically. The band plays at least 4 different versions. Simultaneously.

Formation:

Set of six in two lines of three (or 8 in two lines of 4). Start facing up.

Step:

Single step (cycle step). Left foot lead. Stand for sticking. Stick on shoulder when not sticking.

Sequence:

Foot up
Chorus
Cross over
Chorus
Stars
Chorus
Back to back
Chorus
Three tops hey
Chorus
Final figure

Foot up:

16 steps on the spot facing up, turning to face partner on the last 4.

Chorus:

Top couple stick thus: F-B-FBF-, while rest stand still with sticks touching at eye level. Then top and second couple do the same, with third couple still standing still. Then all three couples do the same. On fourth bar all do left arm swing with partners for 1 1/2 revolutions (4 steps only, so you have to get on with it!), ending up back in partner's position. The stepping for the swing is LhRhLh-T, where the T means land on both feet together in the correct position after the last hop - i.e. do not attempt to do the usual stomp-stomp to finish.

REPEAT, with bottom couple starting the sticking and working up the set instead. After the second swing all end up back in position ready to start the next figure. In this case just keep

on doing the normal stepping back to place and carry on stepping into the next figure.

NOTE that after each sequence of sticking (the F-B-FBF_) you should either continue the final forehand stick clash round in a full anticlockwise loop ready to start the next sequence of sticking on the forehand, or, if going into the swing with partner, continue the swing round and back onto the shoulder.

Cross over:

Cross over with **right** shoulder pass, 4 steps, turn to the **right** on 5th step, 3 steps on the spot facing partner, then repeat back to position, clashing stick with partner on the second step when crossing back.

Stars:

Middles go to their **right**. Form 3-man stars, and do RH star for 8 steps; turn out into LH star for 8 steps and back to place.

Back to back:

Evens dance **on the spot** for eight steps, whilst odds dance a back-to-back around them, passing **right** shoulder first: two steps forwards, two steps sideways behind partner, two steps backwards back to position, two steps on the spot, remembering to keep in a line!!
REPEAT, with odds dancing **on the spot**, and evens dancing round them.

Three tops hey:

Middles go to their **right**, to form a hey at the ends, dancing between the two dancers to their right, e.g.: No 3 turns to his right and goes through space between nos. 1 & 2, to start the hey by doing a **left** shoulder pass with No. 1. Go round the hey **twice**, but you have to move reasonably fast in order to get back to place ready for the stomp-stomp.

Final Figure:

Middles cross over (right shoulder) to a bit beyond partner's position, to make set into a round shape (**two steps only**). **On the next two steps (3 & 4)** the end couples swap ends. On steps **5 & 6**, middles cross over back to own sides, and on steps **7 & 8** ends swap ends back to own end. Follow this with six steps danced on the spot, in a round, facing the middle (no twiddles please), and a feet-together-jump into the middle with a shout to finish.

Hay on Wye (8)

Source:

Adapted from notes supplied by Sarah Morland of Iffy Morris. (1994)

Tune:

Redesdale Hornpipe, gentle and dotted, with a bass line giving it a kind of Nat King Cole feel.

Formation:

Set of 8 in two rows of 4.
2 short sticks each.

Step:

Single step for figures. Stand for chorus.

Sequence:

Foot up
Chorus
Swap diagonals
Chorus
Inside out
Chorus
Back to back
Chorus
Inside out
Chorus
Swap diagonals
Chorus
Rounds and finish

Foot up:

8 steps on the spot, facing up, then turn out and down on the hop of step 8 to do 8 steps facing down, turning in to face partner on last 2 steps.

Chorus:

Sticking with partner:
RR LL RR LL RR LL RLR-
On the final - of the sticking, everyone raise sticks high above head with a shout.
Repeat sticking.

The sticking should be performed with an up and down motion of the sticks and in a slight arc, so that they swing up high above the head, and low down below the knees, with all clashes actually happening at about eye-level with a glancing blow as the sticks pass as they go up and down.

Swap Diagonals:

Always pass right shoulders:
1 and 3 change places with 6 and 8,
two steps.
2 4 6 8 becomes 2 4 1 3
1 3 5 7 6 8 5 7

2 and 4 change places with 5 and 7, on two steps
2 4 1 3 becomes 5 7 1 3
6 8 5 7 6 8 2 4

Middles change places on two steps:
5 7 1 3 becomes 5 8 2 3
6 8 2 4 6 7 1 4

Two steps on the spot, for middles to turn back to face in.
Repeat, so all end up opposite original position:

5 8 2 3 --> 5 8 6 7 --> 1 4 6 7
6 7 1 4 2 3 1 4 2 3 5 8

--> 1 3 5 7
2 4 6 8

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Variation for 6: do 'corners' as in **Click go the Shears**.

Inside out:

Middles dance out between ends (3&4 between 1&2, 5&6 between 7&8), and dance most of a figure 8 around the end two (like the ho in Brimfield: 4&5 go through their gaps before 3&6), and take 12 steps to dance round and finish in a line with the ends, thus:

2 4 6 8
1 3 5 7

becomes

4 6
2 8
1 7
3 5

...while ends keep stepping on the spot facing front. As the middles get to position to form wide set at right angles to original position, on step 12, all turn sharply to face new partner. Then all do 2 steps on the spot in wide set, 2 steps in to narrow set and stomp stomp.

Back to back:

Side nearest music do Right shoulder back to back round other side, who keep stepping on the spot: 1 step to surge across, 2 to get round partner and into line with the other side, 1 on the spot, 4 back to place.

Repeat, with other side moving and side nearest music on the spot.

Rounds:

Turn the long way into clockwise rounds and off, or rounds and out-and-in, as called. On the hop of step 8 of the rounds everyone raises both sticks above head with a shout, as in the chorus

Hay on Wye (4)

Source:

Modification by RMW from 8-man version.

Tune:

Redesdale Hornpipe, gentle and dotted.

Formation:

Set of 4 in two rows of 2.
2 short sticks each.

Step:

Single step for figures. Stand for chorus.

Sequence:

Foot up
Chorus
Swap diagonals
Chorus
4-tops Hey (1)
Chorus
Back to back
Chorus
4-tops Hey (2)
Chorus
Swap diagonals
Chorus
Rounds and finish

Foot up:

8 steps on the spot, facing up, then turn out and down on the hop of step 8 to do 8 steps facing down, turning in to face partner on last 2 steps.

Chorus:

Sticking with partner:
RR LL RR LL RR LL RLR-
On the final - of the sticking, everyone raise sticks high above head with a shout.
Repeat sticking.

The sticking should be performed with an up and down motion of the sticks and in a slight arc, so that they swing up high above the head, and low down below the knees, with all clashes actually happening at about eye-level with a glancing blow as the sticks pass as they go up and down.

Swap Diagonals:

Always pass right shoulders:

First corner swap places across the diagonal on 2 steps.
Second corner swaps places across the diagonal on 2 steps.
Everybody swap sides across set on 2 steps
Everybody 2 step on the spot.

REPEAT.

4-tops Hey (1):

The aim of this figure is to perform a 4-man hey ACROSS the original set position, and finish with everyone facing up and down instead of across, and having swapped sides and ends. To start the hey, the SECOND corner couple cross their diagonal, passing RIGHT shoulders and then make a big loop round to their right to form the ends of the hey. Meanwhile the other couple cross their diagonal passing LEFT shoulders and immediately turn left. This leaves all 4 dancers in a straight line across set, ready to enter the 4-man, right shoulders hey. How to finish the hey with everyone in their changed positions is easier to do than to explain!

Back to back:

Side nearest music do Right shoulder back to back round other side, who keep stepping on the spot: 1 step to surge across, 2 to get round partner and into line with the other side, 1 on

the spot, 4 back to place.

Repeat, with other side moving and side nearest music on the spot.

4-tops Hey (2):

The aim of this figure is to perform a 4-man hey UP and DOWN the original set position, and finish with everyone facing across the set, and having swapped sides and ends- i.e. back in their original set positions. To start the hey, the FIRST corner couple cross their diagonal, passing RIGHT shoulders and then make a big loop round to their right to form the ends of the up and down hey. Meanwhile the other couple cross their diagonal passing LEFT shoulders and immediately turn left. This leaves all 4 dancers in a straight line up and down the original set, ready to enter the 4-man, right shoulders hey. How to finish the hey with everyone back in their original set positions is easier to do than to explain!

Rounds:

Turn the long way into clockwise rounds and off, or rounds and out-and-in, as called. On the hop of step 8 of the rounds everyone raises both sticks above head with a shout, as in the chorus.

Far Canal

Source

Modification of Astwood Bank Long Ho Dance taught by a UK team at a USA workshop and emailed to Trellis 2002. Introduced 2002

Tune

Kingston Black
DTN composition, named after the cider apple and in remembrance of Ian Shaw

Formation:

Set of 6 in straight line.
1><2 3><4 5><6
1 long stick each.

Step:

Single step for figures. Stand for chorus.

Sequence:

Chorus
Hit & Ho
Chorus
Right shoulder
Chorus
Left shoulder
Chorus
Hey
Chorus
Windmills
Chorus
Hit & Ho
Right shoulder
Chorus
Left shoulder
Chorus
Hey off

Chorus

Forehand tips and butts 4 times each. Clash at top on 9 and loop round to left. 1 and six loop solo. 3 and 4 loop round each other in a circle 180 degrees opposed. 4 and five do the same as 3 and 4.

Hit&Ho

1 and 6 do figure of 8 Ho through middle of set beginning with right shoulder pass of 2 and 5. 2 and 5 turn left and do "fighting" (two hand grip stave fighting) with 3 and 4 respectively. 2 and 5 turn left out of "fighting" at end of figure to be ready for next chorus.

Right Shoulder

All pass partners (1 & 2, 3 & 4, 5 & 6) right shoulder for 2 steps. All turn left to face out of set in two columns of three and go backwards through set to form set of two columns of three. Step on the spot and then all do left shoulder dozey doe.

Left shoulder

All do left shoulder dozey doe. When back in place all turn to face right (1, 3, 5 face down set 2, 4, 6 face up set). All take two small steps forward and then side step to left to pass behind opposite (1 behind 2, 3 behind 4, 6 behind 5). Make two columns again on opposite sides still facing as before. All then step diagonally backwards to reform straight set.

Hey

All six do 1 1/2 hey. Starting right shoulders and ending with set inverted. 6 to 1.

Windmills

6, 5 and 3 make a right hand star at the top of the set using 5 as the pivot. 1, 2 and 4 put sticks in left hand and make a left hand star at the bottom of the set using 2 as the pivot. As the stars rotate top feeds into bottom star and bottom feeds into top, changing sticks over as they change. Top set leads. Order is 6 into bottom, 1 into top, 5 into bottom, 2 into top, 3 into bottom, 4 into top. As the stars continue to turn change back from the top; 1 into bottom, 6 into top, 2 into bottom, 5 into top, 5 into bottom, 4 into top. There is time for one complete revolution of re-formed stars before returning to inverted set - 6 to 1.

Dance then repeats from inverted position.

Hey off

All six do 1/2 hey starting right shoulders. 1 and 6 lead straight off at the ends.

**Rochester
Thistle**

Source

Witchmen workshop at Sidmouth 2002. Collected by Normski. Introduced 2003

Tune

La Jambé du Jean.
Written by Ed Rennie

Formation:

Set of 8 in two columns of 4.
1 short stick each.

Step:

Single step for figures. Stand for chorus.

Sequence:

Split sticks
Chorus
Right arming
Chorus
Dozey Doe
Chorus
Hey
Chorus
Upton round
Chorus
Fours up the middle
Chorus
Left arming
Chorus
Bottoms up and off

Split sticks

Starting position - 1 and 6 step back. Rest step in and all cross ticks in middle. As the music dictates 1 and 6 dance in swing sticks up from under other crossed sticks and through so all raise sticks. All do two "rounds" at speed keeping circle large. Back to set, two columns of four.

Right arming

All step across set in four steps, turn right on five and face back. Dance on spot and surge in on step eight to do right elbow swing back to correct set place.

Chorus

Knob cracking, FBFBFBF-B-F-BFB.
Progressive from top.
1 hits 2
2 & 4 hit 1 & 3
1, 3, & 5 hit 2, 4, 6
2, 4, 6, 8 hit 1, 3, 5, 7
8 doesn't get to hit back.

Dozey doe

All pass right shoulder, one very big step followed by one small and two side steps to the right to get into position for surging backwards back to place, one large step back to begin.

Hey (middles out)

Set turns to
2><4 6><8
1><3 5><7

Immediately start hey passing right shoulder to begin. At end turn single left and wave arm over head and go straight back into hey. Hey back to place.

Upton round

Middle four step back, all turn to face left and put sticks into middle. Go round clockwise for half figure turn out (left) to face anti-clockwise, wave stick over head and go back the other way to re-form set.

Fours up the middle.

All stepping. Top four, 1, 2, 3, 4 clash across set. 7 & 8 step up the set followed by 5 and 6. Cast out at the top and return to place, clash across set on step nine. At step nine 1 & 2 step down the set followed by 3 & 4. Cast out at the bottom and return to place.

Left arming

As for right arming but passing left shoulder, turning left and arming left.

Bottoms up and off

From the bottom cast up the inside of the set casting out form the top and forming a circle at the top of each column as 7 joins behind 1 going anti-clockwise and 8 joins behind 2 going clockwise. Circle round twice then 7 and 8 lead off at top of set.

