

## WATERWORKS ROUNDABOUT

- Source : Morris Federation & Open Morris weekend at Wantage, Berks, November 2-4th 1990, taught by Diggens Britch as an evolving idea, then about two week old, with the expectation of evolving a dance with five figures which might form the basis of a local tradition of dances all with odd numbers of dancers. Each set at the workshop were then asked to suggest another figure.
- Step : single steps.
- Set : five dancers, four standing in a square and the fifth as required.
- Dance : O2YS, (Figure, Chorus)<sup>4</sup>, Last Figure

### DANCE AS TAUGHT

#### CHORUS

- first part - eight hopsteps - four bars. Four dancers in a square and the 'spare' either at the bottom outside the set, or going down out through the bottoms. The four dance a 'right and left hand through' giving alternate hands at each passing starting right hand with partner, taking one bar for each change. The 'spare' dances through the group, clockwise, going out through the bottom gap, in through the side gap, out through the top gap and into the centre again through the other side gap, that is, always passing where the pairs are not crossing, in a 'peanut' shaped path.

- second part, five handed right hand star once around in 8 hopsteps, the 'spare' starting in the middle of the bottom, but go one place further than at start and a new 'spare', the one who was behind the 'spare' in the star, ends in the middle for the next figure. This is the progression, every one moves around one place each chorus.

#### FIGURES

- A. The 'spare' is in the centre for this figure and dances on the spot, exiting at the back at the end for the chorus. The four jump to face outwards along the diagonals with four skips, dance four polkas on the spot, two out and two turning to face in, four skips back to place.
- B. The 'spare' and the two tops dance a back-to-back in a three, passing right shoulders going forward, while the other two dance on the spot. The 'spare' then faces the bottom two and does a back-to-back in a three all passing left shoulders first. The 'spare' ends going out through the bottom.
- C. "The Hey" - would be the fifth figure. The 'spare' starts a whole reel of three on the left side starting with No.1 passing left shoulder first, like a "middle-to-the-right", then does a whole reel of three on the right side starting with No.2 passing left shoulder first.

#### SUGGESTED FIGURES

1. The four dance forward into the centre on a straight path, make a quarter turn (90°) clockwise on the spot, and dance out backwards on a straight path to the next place around the set clockwise. Repeat this movement three more times till back where started. The 'spare' starting from the middle, does a similar movement, but out of phase, backing out and then forward in along the same path between neighbouring pairs of

- dancers and turning a quarter anticlockwise at the centre and backing out a quarter round anticlockwise.
2. The 'spare' starts between the bottoms to form a line of three facing a line of two. The lines dance a cross over, passing right shoulders and then quarter turn to dance half rounds clockwise back to the starting position. The lines then cross over again (left shoulders) and dance half rounds anticlockwise to place.
  3. A reel of five up and down the set centre line. The 'spare' starts in the centre. Top and bottom pairs dance into a single line with the 'spare' in the middle by the right shoulders and then pass each other by the right to start the reel. This is a two loop reel (plain figure eight) not a three loop one (with another passing in the centre).
  4. The 'spare' bends down in the centre to form a leapfrog back over which the other four leapfrog in turn. The tops leap first, No 1 over then No 2 etc. The path of the four dancers is a single figure of eight across the set and all leaps are made going diagonally towards the back of the set, thus dancers come from the back up the outside to turn in for their leap.
  5. The 'spare' starts in the centre, turns and moves between the left side leading whole set into a foot-left-and-back, turns and moves between tops and leads a foot-up-and-back, then to right etc round the set clockwise.
  6. The 'spare' starts in the middle, but otherwise rather like figure 2. It is now possible to include cross overs across as well as up and down.
  7. The pairs dance half-gyps (four times) with their partners, always into line the same way along the centre line, left shoulders. The 'spare' dances a figure eight around them, to to the left first anticlock around the bottoms.
  8. The 'spare' starts in the centre and the other four face in along the diagonals. The 'spare' does a back-to-back with each corner in turn working around the set clockwise. The current "inactive" three dance on the spot.
  9. The 'spare' dances to the top of the set from the middle of the bottom and is dragged backwards by a pair linking elbows with the spare and moving down from the top. The pairs dance up the outside and cast in to go down the middle to take the spare down.

#### OTHER POSSIBILITIES

10. join hands in a circle of five and form a basket as in one of the three ways used in the Dummer Five Hand Reel.
11. move into a line of five facing up, bottoms between tops, who turn in to face up, the 'spare' puts hands on neighbour's shoulders and does a backwards somersault like as in the rapper dances.
12. move into a line of five, tops right shoulders to bottoms, with the ends facing round clockwise and the next inners facing anticlockwise (perhaps hands on neighbour's shoulders) and dance a complete rotation of the line of five with the 'spare' in the middle turning on the spot.