

## Hammersmith's Princess Royal Longborough

First of all, what the hell are you doing reading this before you watch the video?

GO AND WATCH THE VIDEO.

Have you watched the video? No?

GO AND WATCH THE VIDEO.

Have you watched the video? Yes? Finally.

Watching the video and reading this is no match for trying stuff out.

What I've written down is a sketch of the dance. It's a jig, you can do it almost anyway you like – you'll notice that I've a got slightly different notation to The Squire's dancing on the video. That's fine, that's his interpretation of the dance and this is mine (and some pointers as to how to do stuff).

Keep some basic parts of the dance in, but in things like the two double steps at the end of the chorus, you can sort of jazz it up anyway you like, as long as you try and keep it in the style of the tradition.

Dance notation....how we do it.....I'll try and follow(ish) the Bacon notation.

Soooooo, the jig is for one or two people.

### Structure:

The dance structure for one person is;

|OY|FU|Ch|FC|Ch|UC|Ch|

For two people it is

|OY|FU|FU|Ch|Ch|FC|FC|Ch|Ch|UC|UC|Ch|Ch|Ch|

Where person 1 is in red, person 2 is in green and when it is done together is in black.

I don't suppose there's any reason you can't do a 3 person version (one of the Longborough jigs was recorded as being done as a column dance....), which I suppose might go something like this

|OY|FU|FU|FU|Ch|Ch|Ch|FC|FC|FC|Ch|Ch|Ch|UC|UC|UC|Ch|Ch|Ch|Ch|

But it would be bloody boring.

Most 2 person jigs are dull, but what \*can\* be good about them is the variation that one dancer can bring to it, compared to the other dancer and also the competitive edge (trying to outdance each other).

But 2 people just going through the motions is dull as ditchwater. Anyway, onto the dance....

## OY:

Gather to start - Arms up snappily on second last bar of the music (i.e. when one would galley) and come in with the jump, gathering the arms to launch oneself into the jump.

### Figure 1: Foot-up (FU)

Feet:

|4-step|4-step|4-step|4-step|4-step|4-step|G|FTJ|

Arms/Hands

Hands shake/wave on the first beat of the double step, but remain stationary for the rest of the beats in those bars. They stay up during the galley, but then gather to launch oneself in the jump.

Or you can do what The Squire does in the video:

|4-step|4-step|4-step|4-step|4-step|FTJ|G|FTJ|

Or you can vary the stepping with something like

|4-step|4-step|4-step|4-step|G(R)|FTJ|G(L)|FTJ|

## Chorus (Ch)

Feet:

|LSR|SSL|x x x -|x x x -|x x x -|X fa T -|4-step|4-step|G|FTJ|

In the LSR, we bring the foot of the non-leading foot up (to make a 4 shape with the legs – as per The Squire on the video) but only on the first beat, otherwise stepping straight legged, similar for the SSL.

In the x's, you cross one leg in front of the other, tapping the heel as you bounce up and down. For the |X fa T|, it's as in the video, tap the heel, then legs apart and then bring them together, preparing for the next bit of the chorus.

Arms/Hands

In the LSR, right arm stays up, hand shakes/waves on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> beat of stepping. Left arm stays down

In SSL, left and right arm swap up/down, left hand shakes/waves on 1<sup>st</sup> beat of stepping. Right arm stays down.

Both arms come up for the crossing (x's) motion and |X fa T -|. Then as described above for double steps, galleys and FTJ.

## **Figure 2: Fore capers (FC)**

Feet:

|RTB|LTB|RTB|LTB| 2 double step; G; FTJ – or variations as above

Arms:

In RTB/LTB's the arms are driven up straight when kneeling, but return to normal position for the capers for the last two beats of the RTB/LTB's.

## **Chorus**

### **Figure 3: Upright capers (UC)**

Feet:

UC(R); UC(L); UC(R); UC(L); 2 double-steps; G; FTJ or, as we tend to do

UC(R); UC(L); Twizzle(R); Twizzle(L); 2 double-steps; G; FTJ

Or variations.....

Arms:

Arms stay up and do not shake in UCs. You'll need to bring them in to twizzle (the law of conservation of angular momentum comes to your aid if you do 😊)

## **Chorus**

### **End of dance**

And that's about it.....for one person. The only real difference with two people, is the doubling of the length of the dance and then the addition of a final chorus, where both dancers do the final chorus together.

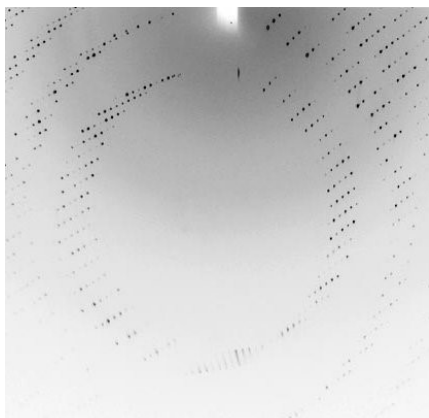
Go and take it away. DO something with it. Get it "right", get it "wrong", it doesn't really matter. You'll soon know if it looks pants. But you might find an interesting thing that could act as an addition to what we've got here. Can you get your legs akimbo in the chorus?

It's a jig, it's there for you to show off! So show off.

## Hammersmith Princess Royal Music notation

We don't have any. The tune is in the Bacon book and we will have tweaked it. But on asking our main musician his comment was "I haven't got dots for what we actually play, which I'm pretty sure has been folk processed/melodeonised compared to the collected tune".

But for those of you who want some dots here are some.



And those of you who want some notes



But I don't think you'll be able to dance the jig to them.

And this is what the black book says about the music

A.AB.(CB)<sup>2-3</sup>

Which is pretty unusual way to treat your matrices.