

## PORTSMOUTH

- Source** : films of mixed side dancing at Adelaide, Australia, 1983, and of White Rose of Wellington, New Zealand in 1990. Thought to have derived originally from Derby Crown via ex-dancers. Both occasions the side was unsure of the dance
- Sticks** : in Australia each dancer has two short sticks, held by the bottoms, vertically in the candle position, but forearms horizontal and diagonally out to the side so that they further apart than would be normal, as if holding a garland. In New Zealand each dancer had a U shaped garland.
- Step** : in Australia cross over polka, right foot in front first, with heel touch down, free foot well raised till thigh almost horizontal and brought down at an angle across the front of the supporting knee. In New Zealand a much lower step was used. All polka and break throughout the dance.
- Break** : done rather deliberately. Stamp right foot in front diagonally forward to the right side, stamp right foot across in front of the supporting left foot, then two stamps of the right foot alongside the left foot.
- Set** : four dancers in single file starting with the ends facing out,  
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## ORDER OF MOVEMENTS

1. Polka on the spot, facing in the starting position, the ends only polka the first two bars, the middles only the next two bars, all dance the 5-6th bars and end with the break, still facing their starting directions..
2. The ends turn clockwise on four polkas to face in for two polkas and a break. The centres turn each other clockwise (in Australia once, New Zealand twice), right hand on other's wrist, for six polkas, come out of the turn a little early to face the ends and dance the break. > < > <.
3. The pairs turn, right knuckles touching, going round in five polkas, and facing up and down, as at the start of this movement, for the sixth polka and the break.
4. Half Reel of Four in six polkas, passing right shoulders first, and break.
5. Half Reel of Four ending all facing up for the break. The top keeps facing up as they end the reel rather than turning back, but the third dancer has to do a half turn anticlockwise to face up.
6. The 2nd and 4th dancers dance two polkas diagonally forward to the right to be alongside the others forming two lines of two facing up. In this formation they dance four polkas and a break.
7. The now top pair separate and cast out and move down to be the ends of a line of four with the rear pair, who dance on the spot, in three polkas, and dance three polkas and a break in this formation. In Australia the ends were facing down and the middles facing up. In New Zealand the top pair turned in so all faced up in a line of four.
8. The same pair turn out half way round (Australia\_ or turn in a full turn (New Zealand) on one polka and return to the top, turning in and facing down towards the bottom pair, who continue to face up, in four polkas in all, and dance two polkas and a break on the spot.
9. First diagonals cross, passing right shoulders, and turning right to face across in two polkas, then the second diagonals cross ditto. Then with a ¼ turn to face up and down, neighbours pass left shoulders along the sides of the set and all turn in, the short way, to dance the break facing in along the set's diagonals.
10. First diagonals cross back, passing right shoulders and turning left to face along the sides of the set. Second diagonals cross, passing right shoulders and turning right to face up and down the set. Neighbours change, passing left shoulders and all turn inwards to face along the diagonals for the break.  
*The shoulder passing in the diagonals and direction of the subsequent turns seemed a little uncertain in the observed performances. It would be logical to chose them to make the movements as easy as possible.*
11. Right Hand Star with the inner sticks vertical and together in the centre or garland handles together, taking six polkas to go round once, and dancing the break still in the star formation facing clockwise with sticks / garland handles in the center.

12. Turn out quickly on the start of the next polka to come back with a left hand star once round.

In Australia - All face up for the break. No 1 turns clockwise to face up, the rest turn anticlockwise.

13. The first diagonals dance two polkas on the spot facing up while the other two stand still. The second diagonal dance two polkas on the spot facing up while the other two stand still, then all dance two polkas on the spot and a break.

In New Zealand - all come out of the star into a single column as at the start of the dance but all facing up, > > > >, for the break.

13. A repeat of figure 1, but all facing up.

End with feet together and both arms up in the air.