

## MILLBROOK (A VERSION OF ASHTON)

Millbrook is set in the foothills of the Pennines just East of Manchester.

This is the version of Ashton Processional as danced by the Stalybridge Morris of Stalybridge (Cheshire) approx 1906. It was a men's side up to WW1. It was one of the few men's teams to wear full trousers (as a 1902 photo shows). They danced in boots and had a "blackened up" Molly (man/woman) character who carried a pole surmounted with a bush of green foliage (one of the few teams to have extraneous characters, again shown in the 1902 photo).

SET - 8 people in two files of 4. Usually a processional dance but can be stationary.

IMPLEMENTS - Flexible slings.

MUSIC - 6/8 time Jigs (ie a fast polka).

STEP - Polka step and walking except as given in Step Ups.  
Start outside foot for Step Ups and Figures.

### HAND MOVEMENTS

Figures, using same hand as foot (ie left foot and left hand at same time) briskly flicking sling above head at full arm stretch in a small circle unless otherwise stated.

### DANCE STRUCTURE

Step Up is used to start the dance and comes between each figure. The dance ends with Final Figure. The other figures may follow in any/a set order at the discretion of the leader.

#### 1. STATIONARY STEP UP or 2. PROCESSIONAL STEP UP

- A. 4'S ACROSS
- B. 8'S ACROSS
- C. BACK TO BACK
- D. FACE TO FACE
- E. STARS AND TURN
- F. CROSS MOLLY
- G. FINAL FIGURE

#### 1. STATIONARY STEP UP

Starting with a step onto the outside foot take 3 steps forward and make a double kick with a scissor action so both legs are off the ground at the same time. Take 3 steps backwards starting with the leg that was in the air at end of kick (which should be the outside leg) coming back for the 1st of the 3 steps backwards then tap free foot beside other foot.

Hand movements: On walk forward, hands windmill, slings at sides.

On double kick, bend forward, flick slings around far end of outstretched leg at highest point of kick. Bring smartly back and windmill at side as walking back. On tap feet together bring slings down to sides. On polkas of Step Up alternate hands (same as foot) swing sling above head briskly.

#### 2. PROCESSIONAL STEP UP

Walk 3 steps, hop, knee up on 4th (inside leg). Walk 3 steps, (start inside foot coming down as 1st) hop knee up on 4th (outside leg).

Polka x4 (outside foot 1st). **REPEAT all through.**

Hand movements: On walk forward slings held out in front with fore arms out and elbows held into ribs. Slings are swung in a figure of 8 in front of body starting towards the knee that is raised, then across to other side as other knee is raised. On the hop both slings brought up to shoulder height. Repeat hands as walk is repeated and ditto for 2nd hop. On polkas, from shoulder position both slings are thrust up above head and circulated.

Thus: walk figure of 8  
 hop shoulders  
 walk figure of 8  
 hop shoulders  
 polka above head

A. **4's CROSS** - Hand movements as above.

Danced with partners across set. Take 3 steps (polkas) to change sides passing left shoulders, 1 step to turn back (turn via top of set). Take 3 steps back to place and 1 to face up).

B. **8's ACROSS** - Hand movements as above.

Danced with partners across set. All take 4 steps to change sides pass left, dance 2 steps facing out, on the spot 1 step facing up and 1 step facing partner. Return to place with 4 steps passing left, dance 2 steps facing out on the spot and 2 steps facing up.

C. **BACK TO BACK** - Hand movements as above.

Left column dance 3 steps facing across set to in front of partner, 2 steps out to behind partner then 3 steps backwards to place. The movement is repeated by the right column.

D. **FACE TO FACE** - Hand movements as above until \*.

Facing across the set dance 1 step forwards to meet right shoulders with partner. Use 1 step to turn to face partner. 1 step turn to come left shoulders with partner \*. Link left hands, free hand swings above head, then 2 steps to swing and change places (turn 1/2 circle). Dance 2 steps backwards to place and 1 step to face up using normal alternate hands again.

E. **STARS AND TURN**

Face partner on last step of Step Up. Then take 1 step into a right hand star, 2 steps to move 1/2 way round, 1 step to turn out into a left hand star. Take 2 steps to move 1/2 way back, 1 step to move out to place and 1 step to face up. Normal hands except in stars, then hands touching knuckles, outside hand swings sling about head.

F. **CROSS MOLLY**

Dance 2 steps facing partner on the spot, then 1 step to move into a right hand star, 3 steps to turn 1/2 way round, 2 steps backwards into diagonal partners place. Dance 2 steps facing partner, 2 steps into a right hand star, 4 steps to turn 1/2 way round, 2 steps backwards into place and 2 steps facing up. (Total of 20 steps.) Normal hands except in stars then as for Stars and Turn.

1 2 1 4 4 3 4 1 1 2 1 2  
 . 3.2 2.3 . 2.3 4.2 . .  
 3 4 4 1 2 1 1 3 3 4 3 4

G. **FINAL FIGURE**

a) **Diagonal** - Nos 1&4 - Use 4 steps to change places, 2 steps to turn and (In 4's) face back, 4 steps to own place and 2 steps to face up.

Pass left both times.

Nos 2&3 - Face up for 2 steps, 4 steps to change places, 2 steps to face back, 4 steps to return to place. Pass left both times. (12 steps in total). NB This is a staggered crossing over. Normal hand movements.

b) **Cast** All follow Nos 1&2 who use 1 step to turn out then 5 steps to dance outside the set to reach the bottom. The 1 step to turn in and 5 steps to return to place. (12 steps). On step 13 face partner, on steps 14 and 15 dance backwards to place and face up on step 16. Normal hand movements.

c) **Line of 4's** a) Second couples take 4 steps to come up inside first couples in each set of 4 (sideways then forwards). This forms 2 lines of four facing up. Normal hand movements.

b) All dance 4 steps on the spot with both hands held up.

c) Stand still for the equivalent of 4 steps with both hands by sides. NB During "standing still" music speeds up by at least 1/3rd, so last 4 steps to place are very fast.

d) Then 4 steps out to place and finish. Normal hands for first 3, on 4th smartly brought down to sides. End with stamp feet together.

End of dance.

## AUDENSHAW or DUNKENFIELD

A suburb just a short distance from the East of Manchester city centre.

KIT - No details

SET - A processional dance for eight person sets, in two files.

IMPLEMENTS - Garlands. Has also been danced with fluffy/carnival type shakers.

MUSIC - Was known to have been danced to The Begging Song - "I've been deaf at Dunkenfield and I've been blind at Shaw" etc. Suggest hornpipes.

STEPS - step is a slow single step, with a high knee lift. All start left foot.

### HAND MOVEMENTS

Garlands waved from side to side, going to the knee that is raised, whenever possible. Held stationary otherwise. Similar movements can be used when using shakers.

### DANCE STRUCTURE

Step Up is used to start the dance and comes between each figure. The dance ends with Star and Off. The other figure may follow in any/a set order at the discretion of the leader.

#### STEP UP

1. STAR
2. CHAIN AND CAST IN
3. TURN CORNERS AND CAST OUT
4. FIGURE 8
5. CENTRE 8
6. PARTNERS
7. STAR AND OFF

**STEP UP** - All movements done facing top throughout.

4 steps on the spot facing up, garlands waved above head.

When using fluffy sticks both held up above head arms stretched up and waved side to side.

4 steps into a single line facing top, left in front of right.

4 steps on the spot, in this position facing top.

4 steps back to place.

1. **STAR** (48 steps, 8 person star - very steady)

Steps 1- 4 Centre 4 create right hand star shaped as a cross, facing clockwise. Outer 4 join on the ends, 1 with 3, 2 with 4, 8 with 6, and 7 with 5, but facing counter clockwise.

Steps 5-20 Star turns clockwise half way round.

Note: dancers 1,2,7 & 8 dance backwards.

Steps 21-24 All turn single on the spot, leading by the left shoulder (all turn counter clockwise) end facing in the same direction as initial star.

Steps 25-40 Star turns counter clockwise back to place.

Note: dancers 3,4,5, & 6 dance backwards.

Steps 41-44 Move out to original set shape, facing top. Turn out on 1st step, move out towards side of set, turn to face up on 4th.

Steps 45-48 Dance in position facing top.

Hand movements: Garlands - stretch garland to touch knuckles with person next to you and in centre.

Shakers - outside hand on hip, nearest hands touching at chest height. In centre knuckles touching. Both hands on hips during turn single.

## 2. CHAIN (64 Steps, in pairs from rear of set)

Steps 1- 4 Dancers 7 & 8 dance to outside of 5 & 6

Steps 5- 8 Dancers 7 & 8 crossover in front of 5 & 6 to outside of 3 & 4

Steps 9-12 Dancers 7 & 8 crossover in front of 3 & 4 to outside of 1 & 2

Steps 13-16 Dancers 7 & 8 move forward in front of 1 & 2 without crossing over, to end at the top of the set, forming a new front couple. Dancers 5 & 6 move forward to outside of 3 & 4  
Dancers 7 & 8 now continue to dance on the spot until 5 & 6 have weaved through, crossing over in front of each couple to the front.

Dancers start from the back every 12 steps

thus: 7 & 8 move on steps 1 - 16

5 & 6 move on steps 13 - 28

3 & 4 move on steps 25 - 40

1 & 2 move on steps 37 - 52

The same pattern is repeated throughout, with the crossover always left in front of right.

At step 52 the set should be in the normal positions, having moved forward at least a full length.

Steps 53-58 Cast in from the top, all follow, shoulder to shoulder down the centre with partner.

Steps 59-64 Turn out at bottom and dance back to the top, and dance back to the top, along the original track of the set.

Throughout the figure the Garlands are held stationary.

Shakers are held up and moved side to side.

## 3. TURN CORNERS (32 steps, in groups of four)

Steps 1- 4 First corners (1 & 4, 5 & 8) move in to meet right shoulders in line with 2 & 3. Second corners (2 & 3, 6 & 7) dance on spot facing top.

Steps 5- 8 First corners: Swing right halfway round, end facing original position. Link R hands. Second corners: Dance on spot.

Steps 9-12 First corners: Move out to place end facing top. Second corners: move into meet right shoulder in a line between 1 & 4

Steps 13-16 First corners: dance on spot facing top. Second corners: swing

halfway round to end facing original position. Link R hands.

Steps 17-20 First corners: dance on spot. Second corners: move out to place end facing top.

Steps 21-26 Whole set casts out from the top, 1 & 2 lead.

Steps 27-32 Set moves back up original track to place.

Hand movements: Garlands as in Step Up, Shakers as in Step Up except where marked.

#### 4. **FIGURE EIGHT** (16 steps, in fours)

Steps 1- 4 Each four turn a right hand star halfway into diagonal position, turning to face partner in column.

1 2 goes to 4 3

3 4     2 1

Steps 5- 8 Change places on the sides passing left.  
Turn on 4th step to face back towards centre.

2 1

4 3

Steps 9-12 Turn a right hand star halfway into diagonal position.  
End facing up and down set.

3 4

1 2

Steps 13-16 Pass left on sides back to original position, end facing top.

Hand movements as in Step Up.

#### 5. **CENTRE EIGHT** (16 steps, inner 4 and outer 4)

Steps 1- 4 Inner four (3,4,5 & 6): turn to face partner and pass right.  
Outer four (1,2,7 & 8): turn to face partner and pass by the right, move down opposite side of the set, and meet dancer moving the other way at the halfway point.

4 3

8 2   7 1

6 5

Steps 5- 8 Inner four: pass in-line by the left.  
Outer four: swing halfway round by the right, turning in on 4th step ready for left hand.

Steps 9-12 Inner four: pass across set by the right.  
Outer four: swing halfway round by the left.

Steps 13-16 Inner four: pass in-line by the left to original position.  
Outer four: follow original path back to place passing left.

NOTE: THE INNER FOUR FIGURE IS NOT AS TAUGHT AT PURLEIGH IN 1986 WHERE A STAR, PASS ON THE SIDES, STAR, PASS ON SIDES WAS USED.

**6. PARTNERS (32 steps)**

Steps 1- 4 Turn in and dance to meet right shoulders in single line in centre of set.

Steps 5- 8 Pass back to back with partner, half way round.

Steps 9-12 Swing left with partner half way round.

Steps 13-16 Pass back to back half way round.

Steps 17-20 Swing right with partner half way round.

Steps 21-24 Pass back to back half way round.

Steps 25-28 Pass face to face half way round again (ie continue the move started in the back to back).

Steps 29-31 Move backwards to original place.

Step 32 All face top

**7. STAR AND OFF (at least 40 steps)**

Steps 1- 4 All eight move into an eight person right hand star, radiating from the centre of the set, i.e. 1 & 3, 2 & 4 etc.

Steps 5-20 Turn star one full turn.

Steps 21-24 Dancing on the spot, the outer four remain facing clockwise, while the inner four turn by the left to face counter clockwise, forming a left hand star.

Steps 25-32 Outer four dance clockwise, whilst inner four turn left hand star, half way round.

Steps 33 onwards dancer 1 leads off towards bottom, followed by 7 & 8 then 2, inner four continue to turn star until they reach the point where No 1 danced off, they then follow off.

Dance off should be slow enough to be close together in the line as it moves away.

## THE CARR-LODGE POLKA

The name of this dance comes from an estate owned by Carr at Horbury, near Wakefield. With the exception of the final figure, it is a series of figures originating from Slaithwaite near Huddersfield. The final figure from the original collection does not 'work', and this is an adaptation by Yorkshire Chandelier which is similar to the collected figure.

KIT - No details.

SET - A processional dance for eight person sets, in two files.

STICKS - These are based on the Horwich type, that is a short stick wrapped in ribbons with bells at both ends.

MUSIC - Salmontails or The Hurler's March/The Lodge Road

STEP - The principal step is a march step, with a high knee lift. There are two march steps per bar. The polka step is a Aoà step, ie crossing foot should only be lifted a small distance above the ground. One polka step per bar. Start outside foot.

HAND MOVEMENTS - Details are given under each figure.

### DANCE STRUCTURE

The March Up and can be repeated at considerable length between the figures. The figures may follow in any order.

### MARCH UP

1. STEPPING
2. UP THROUGH
3. OXO
4. CAST THROUGH
5. FIGURE FIVE
6. LEAD OFF

### MARCH UP

Exaggerated marching step forward for as long as required. (In multiples of 4 steps - frequently 16.) - NB 4 march steps = 2 bars.

The arms are circulating, as walking fwd, in two large opposite circles. The arm movement starts by pointing out to sides and down 45 deg.

- step 1 - beginning to move in and up so that on
- step 2 - they are crossed just about thigh height
- step 3 - an exaggerated flick up and out
- step 4 - moving down outside to starting position.

1. **STEPPING** - 32 bars, polka and march steps

bars 1-4 Lt side polka (facing front) diagonally across set in front of partner. Rt side march on spot, marking time.

bars 5-8 Lt side mark time marching on spot while Rt side polka clockwise around partner.



bars 9-12 Lt side dance (facing front) sideways back to original positions, but moving slightly fwd. Rt side march marking time. The two sides will be offset.

bars 13-16 Lt side as individuals polka a small counter clockwise circle. Rt side as individuals polka a small clockwise circle, back to starting position.

bars 17-32 Repeat with the Rt side polkaing diagonally across the set. Lt side polka counter clockwise around partner; etc

Sticks during this figure:

Polkas: sticks held horizontal, close in by ears, held in middle and shaken vigorously

March : arms pointing fwd above the shoulder, arms straight with sticks held vertical and flicked once per step.

## 2. UP THROUGH - 24 bars, polka and march steps

In groups of four. Facing front throughout.

bars 1 -2 dancers 3&4 in each group of 4 dance in between 1&2 , 3 moving in front of 4.

bars 3 -4 dancers 3&4 move diagonally fwd to in front of 1&2 on opposite side.

bars 5 -6 dancers 3&4 dance out sideways and bwd to outside of 1 or 2 on opposite side.

bars 7 -8 dancers 3&4 dance on sideways and bwd to below 1&2.

bars 9-10 dancers 3&4 in each group of 4 dance in between 1&2, 4 moving in front of 3.

bars 11-12 dancers 3&4 move diagonally fwd to in front of 1 or 2.

Whilst 3&4 are moving they polka, 1&2 are marking time marching on spot.

The move is then repeated with 1&2 moving around 3&4.

## 3. OXO - 16 bars, polka steps

This is a star figure with 2 groups of '3' in star.

bars 1 -4 Dancers 123 Rt hand star once around  
4&5 Cross over passing Rt  
678 Lt hand star once around

bars 5 -8 Dancers 125 Lt hand star once around  
3&6 Cross over passing Lt  
478 Rt hand star once around

bars 9-12 Dancers 126 Rt hand star once around  
5&4 Cross over passing Rt  
378 Lt hand star once around

bars 13-16 Dancers 124 Lt hand star once around  
6&3 Cross over passing Lt  
578 Rt hand star once around

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

All turns are the easiest way. Movement on steps 1,2,3 and then turn on 4th step each time to face the direction of next move.

Cross over - hands by ears; star very tight, nearest hand held out from shoulder to meeting, other hand by ear. Polka step throughout.

**4. CAST THROUGH** - 16 bars, polka and march steps

bars 1-4 Dancers 7&8 cast up in between 1&2.

bars 5-8 7&1, 8&2 then swing without linking to exchange places so that 1&2 end up as front couple, in the meantime 5&6 cast up.

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

bars 9-12 The move is then repeated by couple 5&6 turning 1&2 again ending with 1&2 as front, 3&4 cast up.

bars 13-16 The move is then repeated by couple 3&4 turning 1&2 again ending with 1&2 as front.

Couple casting up polka, hands at ears. Others mark time with march step, flicking sticks, including 1&2.

**5. FIGURE FIVE** - 32 bars, polka steps

This is described as a silly figure, only to be done when set is stationary, 'arena' type position. It is not suitable as part of the procession.

bars 1-2 Dancers 1&8 cross diagonally by Rt.

bars 3-4 Dancers 1&8 pass to opposite positions  
Dancers 2&7 cross diagonally by Rt.

bars 5-6 Dancers 1&8 continue to move in straight line away from set  
Dancers 2&7 pass to opposite positions  
Dancers 3&6 cross diagonally by Rt

bars 7-8 Dancers 1&8 continue to move in straight line away from set and disappear 'off'  
Dancers 2&7 continue to move in straight line away from set  
Dancers 3&6 pass to opposite positions  
Dancers 4&5 cross diagonally by Rt.

bars 9-10 Dancers 2&7 continue to move in straight line and disappear 'off'  
Dancers 3&6 continue to move in straight line away from set  
Dancers 4&5 pass to opposite positions

bars 11-12 Dancers 3&6 continue to move in straight line away from set and disappear 'off'

Dancers 4&5 continue to move in straight line away from set.

bars 13-14 Dancers 4&5 continue to move in straight line away from set and disappear 'off'.

bars 15-16 **GAP** There are no dancers in the 'arena' area, music continues.

bars 17-18 Dancers 1&8 start to move in towards the original set position.

bars 19-20 Dancers 1&8 move into cross by Lt. Dancers 2&7 start to move in towards the original set position.

bars 21-22 Dancers 1&8 continue past, back towards original position

Dancers 2&7 move into cross by Lt

Dancers 3&6 start to move in towards the original set position.

bars 23-24 Dancers 1&8 return to original position

Dancers 2&7 continue past, back towards original position

bars 25-26 Dancers 2&7 return to original position

Dancers 3&6 continue past, back towards original position

Dancers 4&5 move into cross by Lt.

bars 27-28 Dancers 3&6 return to original position

Dancers 4&5 continue past, back towards original position.

bars 29-30 Dancers 4&5 return to original position

bars 31-32 All dancing on spot facing front.

Polka step throughout, hands at ear.

## 6. **LEAD OFF** - 32 bars

Polka step throughout this figure, hands at ears.

bars 1 -8 Cast in and down into a line of 8 facing down the set. Lt in front of Rt, invert the set.

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

bars 9-16 Cast up and out the wrong side

2	1
4	3
6	5
8	7

bars 17-24 Cast in and down into a line of 8, Lt in front of Rt

7  
8  
5  
6  
3  
4  
1  
2

bars 25-32 Cast up out and back into the normal set position then continue off as follows:-

bars 33-36 3&4, 7&8 move fwd, crossing over Lt in front of Rt over to other side in front of 3&4, 7&8 thus:-

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

and repeat until 'off'.

## FAILSWORTH GARLAND DANCE

Failsworth is now a North Eastern suburb of Manchester.

SOURCE - One of a set of six dances collected from Sam Holt who danced with Failsworth Men and taught the Failsworth Garland Girls.

KIT - Pinafore dress in Lancashire tartan over a saffron blouse, Boater with red and white ribbons, saffron stockings and patent leather shoes.

SET - Column set, units of 8.

GARLANDS - No description given

MUSIC - Blue Bell Polka or similar

STEP - Cross Polka. All start outside foot start.

HAND MOVEMENTS - Unless otherwise given - Garlands held above head.

### DANCE STRUCTURE

Step Up starts the dance and comes between each figure. The dance ends with the Dance Off. The other figures may follow in any/a set order at the discretion of the leader.

#### STEP UP

1. STARS
2. GRAND CHAIN
3. SWINGS
4. BOWS
5. CHAIN AND SWING
6. FINAL FIGURE
7. DANCE OFF

#### STEP UP

There is no specific step up figure. Four polkas at the beginning and between each figure facing front can be used to create a "breather" and realign set.

#### 1. STARS 16 Steps

In groups of four:

- 2 steps into a right hand star touching knuckles ie stretching garlands out;
- 6 steps to turn one full circle;
- 1 step to turn by outside of star to form left hand star hands as above;
- 5 steps to turn star one full circle;
- 2 steps back to place.

#### 2. GRAND CHAIN (HORSESHOE HEY)

Nos 3,5,7 follow No 1 : Nos 4,6,8 follow No 2

Steps 1 & 2 - Nos 1 & 2 cross over by the right and come face to face with next dancers (1 faces 4, 2 faces 3)

Steps 3 & 4 - No 1 passes 4 by the left : No 2 passes 3 by the left

Steps 5 & 6 - Nos 3 & 4 cross over by the right.

(No 3 faces No 6, No 4 faces No 5)

No 1 passes No 6 by the right : No 2 passes No 5 by the right

Steps 7 & 8 - No 3 passes No 6 by the left : No 4 passes No 5 by the left

No 1 passes No 8 by the left : No 2 passes No 7 by the left

Step 9 & 10 - Nos 5 & 6 commence chaining by crossing by the right. At this point dancers 1 & 2 have come to the end and cross over by the right back to their original sides. Dancers 3 & 4 are now passing 7 & 8 by the right.

The move continues to progress round, with dancers chaining back to original position.

### 3. **SWINGS** 16 steps

1 polka to face partner across the set

1 polka to meet right hand with partner in line of eight

4 polkas to swing right hand one full circle

2 polkas backwards

2 polkas forwards (a U shape) to meet left hand with partner

4 polkas to swing left hand one full circle

1 polka backward to place

1 polka to turn to face top.

### 4. **BOWS** 20 steps - NB This figure is across the music!

2 polkas into lines of four all facing front ( 1+2, 5+6    3 1 2 4

move backwards in between couple behind)                    7 5 6 8

For the time of 2 polkas all bow garlands to front (1 down, 1 up)

4 polkas pivoting on outer dancer, swing to face bottom (1 swings around 3, 2 swings around 4)

2 polkas in line facing bottom

For the time of 2 polkas all bow

4 polkas swing inwards to face top (complete full circle)

For the time of 2 polkas all bow

2 polkas back to place.

### 5. **CHAIN AND SWING**

Steps 1 & 2

Dancers 1 & 2 dance to meet right shoulders

Dancer 3 turns out to face down and meet No 5 by the right

Dancer 4 turns out to face down and meet No 6 by the right

Dancers 7 and 8 turn to meet right shoulders

forming a cross thus:            1

2

5 3    6 4

7

8

Steps 3 to 6

Each pair swings right hand one full circle

2 polkas to pass on around in the direction faced to and meet next dancer, left shoulders  
Thus:

2 5 1 6

3 8 4 7

4 polkas to swing left hand,  
continue on passing in two and swinging in four,  
alternately left and right back to original position,  
eight swings altogether.

#### 6. FINAL FIGURE

1 polka to face partner

1 polka into a line, meeting partner by right

6 polkas to swing right hand with partner one and a half times

Music ends with a chord. All bow to outside (for the time of 2 polkas)

#### 7. DANCE OFF

Remain "bowed" till called "up", music restarts, call "front" (face front as one line of 8). Dance off as a line.

## GOLBORNE

Golborne is a pit township (nr Wigan). Up until WW1 this was a mixed dance then it was performed by the juvenile team in the 1920's. The dance was performed between 1900 and 1920 at Rose Queen celebrations in and around the Hindley and Golborne villages. It is interesting to compare it with Tony Dann's Hindley notations in the ED&S article (ED&S 46/3 Autumn/Winter 1984). (Also see ED&S 45 1 Spring 1983.) This is possibly a Hindley dance taken over by a team developing in Golborne itself. It was known to have been performed during the 1926 General Strike to raise money for miner's families.

KIT - Adult team:

Men wore shirts, ties, waistcoats, trousers and shoes. Women wore waistcoats, blouses, skirts and shoes.

- Juvenile team:

Boys wore caps, shirt and tie, waistcoat, britches, socks and shoes. Girls wore a tiara type headband, blouse, bolero waistcoat, skirt and patent shoes.

SET

Column set mixed as follows:            Male 1 2 Female  
   Female 3 4 Male  
   Male 5 6 Female  
   Female 7 8 Male

STICKS - Short sticks with fluffy ends, approx 12" long like carnival/fluffy shakers.

MUSIC - Hornpipes

STEP - Single step throughout. Left foot start.

HAND MOVEMENTS - Sticks brought both down and up with left foot. Both sticks move at the sametime, down and up between shoulder and waist.

DANCE STRUCTURE - Processional is used to start the dance and comes between each figure. The dance ends with Grand Chain and Off. The other figures may follow in any/a set order at the discretion of the leader.

PROCESSIONAL

1. FOURS AROUND
2. 4'S CHAIN
3. ACROSS AND BACK
4. GO ROUND
5. REEL
6. GRAND CHAIN AND OFF

**PROCESSIONAL** - (Step Up figure) - 16 steps

Steps 1-8 Dancers 1234 (as individuals) dance 2 steps to outside, 2 steps down, 2 steps to inside and 2 steps on the spot. Face direction of travel on 1-6, face top on 7 and 8.

Dancers 5678 dance 2 in to face partners, 1 to face up, 3 up middle of set, 1 to outside, 1 to face up. (ie each group of 4 exchange places)

Steps 9-16 repeat above, reversing roles to return to place.

1. **FOURS AROUND** - (Star) - 16 Steps

In groups of 4. Right hand star followed by left.



1  
2 steps into star, hands down. 3 + 2  
4

4 steps move once fully around right hand star with sticks crossed in the centre above heads, outside hand points down.

2 steps to turn by outside (turn out) on spot, hands down into a left hand star.

4 steps to move once fully around left hand star, inside sticks crossed in centre as in right hand star, outside stick pointing down.

2 steps out to sides, hands down.

2 steps on spot. (facing up)

## 2. 4's CHAIN - 16 Steps

Steps 1- 2 Women (2+3, 6+7) dance 4 steps around each other passing right shoulder. As this happens, men (1+4, 5+8) dance forwards or backwards to give 2 lines of 4.

1 2      1 2 3 4  
3 4

Steps 5- 8 Swing left hand in couples on ends once fully around.

Steps 9-10 Nos 2+3 pass by right shoulder changing places.

Steps 11-14 Swing on ends left hand once fully around.

Steps 15-16 Dance backwards to place and turn out to face up.

Both hands on shoulders when moving to in or out of place or not swinging. Link hands on swing, spare hand held up in air above head.

## 3. ACROSS AND BACK - 24 Steps - Hands down and up throughout.

Steps 1- 8 Dance 2 steps into middle and come face to face with partner.  
Dance 2 steps on the spot. 2 steps backwards to place.  
2 steps on the spot.

Steps 9-12 Cross over passing left shoulders, turn by top on 4th step to face starting position.

Repeat to place.

## 4. GO ROUND - (Back to Back) - 48 Steps

Steps 1- 8 In 4's    1 2  
                          3 4

Dance 4 steps into star shape, 4 around (forwards, sideways, backwards) to halfway. 2 steps backwards to place. Pass by right shoulder. This movement is like a back to back but with all 4 people moving at once.

Steps 9-16 Repeat passing left shoulders.

Steps 17-32 In couples on side of set, dance back to back passing right shoulders then back to back passing left shoulders.(4x4 steps)

5. **REEL** - (Square Hey)

In groups of 4, units of 4 steps per move. Pass right shoulders across the set with partners, left shoulders on the sides (of a square), pass right with partner again then left on the side to place. Touch sticks inside at thigh height on passing, spare hand pointing up (as Dambusters).

6. **GRAND CHAIN AND OFF** - (Horseshoe Hey)

Dancers 1+2 cross over (passing right shoulder) and remainder of the set moves slowly forward. 1+2 pass left shoulders with 3+4 then alternate right and left shoulders down to bottom. All follow. Pass right again at bottom and weave back up. Move straight off at end.

## GRAIN'S BAR

Situated to the North East of Oldham. Dance possibly similar to Oldham or Saddleworth "tradition" in style of performance. Dance last performed at Peace celebrations at end of World War I.

KIT - Flowered hats, shirt and tie, 2 red sashes, blue cummerbund, red (very dark) britches, blue socks.

SET - Column set, in two lines of 4.

STICKS - Approx 18" long. Held at one end, other end having a bunch of red, white and blue ribboning attached.

MUSIC - Suggest 'Salmontails up the Water'

STEP - Polka, either "jogging" walk or single step. All left foot start.

HAND MOVEMENTS - Throughout most of dance, held upright above head during walk and single step. Circled (L clockwise, R counter-clockwise) during polkas, flicked up on kicks.

### DANCE STRUCTURE

The Step Up is used to start the dance and comes between each figure. The other figures follow in any/a set order at the discretion of the leader. The dance ends with Dance Off.

#### STEP UP

1. TURN ABOUT
2. CORNERS CROSS
3. SWING IN LINE
4. ROUND THE SQUARE
5. CORNERS CROSS
6. FOURS AND CHANGE
7. CAST UP AND DOWN
8. CAST IN AND OUT
9. END IN LINES
10. DANCE OFF

#### STEP UP - 32 beats

- a) "walk" forward 3 steps, hop knee up on 4th, slide on upright leg.
- b) Polka 2 steps on spot.
- c) "walk" forward 3 steps changing sides with partner, left in front of right, hop/slide on 4th in partner's place.
- d) Polka 2 steps on spot.

(Repeat entire move back to place.)

#### 1. TURN ABOUT - 32 beats - In groups of 4.

- a) Walk 3 steps into a cluster,                    1 2  
facing into centre, 4th hop/  
slide in place.                    LRL'R    3 4
  
- b) Turn out by left and move round,  
facing back into centre in diagonal            1 2  
partner's place, 4th hop/slide in  
position.                    RLR'L    3 4

c) Turn out by L and move out into diagonal partner's place 3 steps, hop/slide facing out. LRL'R 2 1 4 3

d) Polka 2 steps change positions on side of set (1+3, 2+4) RL

Repeat entire move to place, starting R foot second time.

1 2 1 2 4 3 4 3 2 1 2 1 3 4 3 4 1 2  
3 4 3 4 2 1 2 1 4 3 4 3 1 2 1 2 3 4

## 2. CORNERS CROSS - 16 beats

a) Dancers 2,3,6 and 7 dance 3 steps forward diagonally one position, others stand still. Hop/slide in place on 4th. All do hand moves.

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

b) 1,4,5 and 8 dance diagonally forward 3 steps one position, others stand still. Hop/slide on 4th. All do hand moves.

2 1  
4 3  
6 5  
8 7

Repeat entire move back to own side. Figure progresses about 1/2 set length during figure. Everyone starts L each time through.

In a procession this would be gone though twice to fit 32 beats and to progress further up the road during the figure.

## 3. SWING IN LINE - 96 beats - In groups of 4.

a) Walk 3 steps then hop/slide (3+1) into line of 4. 2 polkas in position. LRL'R 4 4 RL 4

b) Swing 3+1 with partner R. 2 polkas in position. 4 RLR'L 4 3 LR 4

c) Swing 3+1 in middle L. 2 polkas in position. 1 LRL'R 4 3 RL 4

d) Swing 3+1 on ends R. 2 polkas in position. 3 RLR'L 4

1 LR 4

e) Swing 3+1 in middle L. 4

3  
2 LRL'R 4  
1 RL 4

f) Swing 3+1 on ends R. 3

2 polkas in position. 4  
1 RLR'L 4  
2 LR 4

g) Swing 3+1 in middle L. 3

2 polkas in position. 1  
4 LRL'R 4  
2 RL 4

h) Swing 3+1 on ends R. 1

2 polkas in position. 3  
2 RLR'L 4  
4 LR 4

i) Swing 3+1 in middle L. 1

2 polkas in position. 2  
3 LRL'R 4  
4 RL 4

j) Swing 3+1 on ends R 2

(with partner). 1  
2 polkas in position. 4 RLR'L 4  
3 LR 4

k) Move out to own original 1 2

position 3+1. LRL'R 4  
2 polkas facing out. 3 4 RL 4

l) Dance 3+1 to turn and 1 2

face top. RLR'L 4  
2 polkas facing top. 3 4 LR 4

#### 4. ROUND THE SQUARE - 16 beats

2 groups of 4 - outer 4 people and inner 4 people. The figure is a Right and Left Through, 3+1 steps per side of the square, 4 times through to reach own original position.

1 2	a 2 1	b 8 7	c 7 8	d 1 2
3 4	4 3	6 5	5 6	3 4
5 6	6 5	4 3	3 4	5 6
7 8	8 7	2 1	1 2	7 8

#### 5. ACROSS THE CORNERS - 32 beats

a) 1,2,7 and 8 dance 3+1 into a cluster facing into centre.

1 2

3 4      3 4  
            1 2  
            7 8

5 6      5 6

7 8

1,2,7 and 8 dance on 3+1, moving around by the R or clockwise to pass by, in diagonal partner's place facing out on 4th hop/slide.

b) 3 & 4, 5 & 6, passing R polka 4 times into partners place across set

Repeat entire move back to place, but pass L shoulder on way back. Stand still when not involved in part of figure, but all do the hand moves.

**6. FOURS AND CHANGE - 32 beats - Polka throughout.**

a)i) In groups of 4: star R 1/2 way      4 polkas  
          star L 1/2 way back      4 polkas

ii) End couples cross over R  
      Middle 4 star R 1/2 way      4 polkas

iii) Change position on side of set, L.      4 polkas

Thus:

1 2      1 2      2 1      6 5  
3 4 stars 3 4 cross 6 5 change 2 1  
5 6      5 6 or star 4 3      8 7  
7 8      7 8      8 7      4 3

b)i) In groups of 4: star R 1/2 way      4 polkas  
          star L 1/2 way      4 polkas

ii) Ends cross over  
      Middle 4 star R 1/2 way      4 polkas

iii) Change position on side of set, L.      4 polkas

Thus:

6 5      6 5      5 6      7 8  
2 1 stars 2 1 cross 7 8 change 5 6  
8 7      8 7 or star 1 2      3 4  
4 3      4 3      3 4      1 2

NB Set is inverted so the dancers can either dance Step Up and a Cast Up to regain normal position of set, or dance the rest of the figures in this changed position and dance Cast Up before the finale.

**7. CAST UP AND DOWN - 32 beats**

7 8  
5 6

From the inverted set position:     3 4  
  1 2

a) 7 and 8 cast down middle of set,     5 6  
turn out around 1 and 2 and end     3 4  
facing front alongside 1 and 2.     7 1 2 8  
6 polkas.

b) 5 and 6 cast down - starting on  
step 3, turn out around 1 and 2 and     5 3 4 6  
end up above 7 and 8 facing top.     7 1 2 8  
6 polkas.

c) 3 and 4 cast down - starting on  
step 5, turn out around 1 and 2,     3 4  
end above 5 and 6.                     5 6  
6 polkas.                                 7 1 2 8

d) 1 and 2 cast down, turn out     1 2  
around 7 and 8, end at top of     3 4  
set.                                     5 6  
6 polkas.                                 7 8

Thus:

7 and 8 move on steps   1 2 3 4 5 6  
5 and 6 move on steps   3 4 5 6 7 8  
3 and 4 move on steps   5 6 7 8 9 10  
1 and 2 move on steps   7 8 9 10 11 12

e) All dance 4 polkas (steps 13, 14, 15, 16) to  
realign set in original position.

## 8. CAST IN AND OUT - 48 beats

Steps 1-4 Dancers 1 and 2 cast outside and in to behind 3 and 4, facing front.  
3 steps to move, hop/slide in place on 4th.

Steps 5-8 1 and 2 cast inside and in to behind 5 and 6, face front.  
(3+1 steps as above)

Steps 9-12 1 and 2 cast outside and in to behind 7 and 8, face front.  
(3+1 steps as above)

Each new pair of dancers follows basic shape as above, but starts off opposite way at top, ie where 1 and 2 went out, in, out; 3 and 4 go in, out in; 5 and 6 go out, in, out; 7 and 8 go in, out, in. A new pair sets off each 8th step (steps 1, 9 etc). All do the hand moves, but stand still (don't dance on spot) when not involved in the move proper. Each dancer takes 12 steps/beats for their complete move. Move proper takes 36 steps/beats. Figure is completed by taking a further 12 steps/beats to do a form of cast in a triangular shape. The set works in a mirror image.

No 1 dances backwards diagonally out,  
to come level with No 7's position  
1 (3+1). Then turns to face towards No  
3 7's place and dances 3+1 into that  
5 position. Then dances forward up line  
7 of set to original place (3+1). Each

side of the set follows the same path, ie 3,5,7 move up and forward, down backwards, across sideways, up set to position.

**9. END IN LINES** - (Finale Figure) - 8 beats

3+1 steps into line R shoulder to partner. Line of 8. 3+1 steps across set into partner's starting place, remain facing out, but the final hop/slide is converted into a kick which is held up (this is the end of the dance). Music stops at this point.

**10. DANCE OFF**

From facing out in partner's place, dance 3+1 on the spot, turning to face up on the 1st beat. Cast in down the middle of the set, with dancers 1 and 2 turning on the 1st beat of steps 3+1. Dancers 1 and 2 proceed off down the set steadily, new couple turning in and following off each proceeding 3+1 steps. Lead off to a point (The Bar!) decided on by dancers 1 and 2.



## LOSTOCK - Nr Bolton

Originally this was a stick dance dating from about 1880 and later danced as a carnival dance, now generally used as a stick dance. This is from about 1921.

KIT - No details

SET - A processional dance for 8 person sets, in two files of 4.

IMPLEMENTS - Garlands or short sticks.

MUSIC - Hornpipes such as 'Speed the Plough' or Marches.

STEP - Single step, left foot start.

HAND MOVEMENTS - Garlands - held upright throughout.

Short sticks (when not using a hand in a figure - swinging etc) both hands are swung sharply up and down at the side of the body from hip to shoulder, facing ground at hip and upright at shoulder. Up with raising of L leg, down with R (sticks start upright). When in a figure involving use of one hand, the free hand is held, stick upright, close to body.

DANCE STRUCTURE.

The "Cross" starts the dance and comes between each figure. The other figures may follow in any/a set order at the discretion of the leader. The dance ends with Dance Off.

- CROSS
- 1. CAST
- 2. TWO'S AND FOUR'S
- 3. HEY
- 4. CHAIN
- 5. REEL
- 6. FINAL FIGURE
- 7. DANCE OFF

**CROSS** - 16 steps

Crossover passing L in 4 steps into a line: 4 2 3 1

Swing R in 3 steps, turn 1 step into L hand, swing 4, and back to place 4 steps facing front on last.

1. **CAST** - 16 steps

Whole set cast out 1 and 2 leading, down to bottom (6 steps), in at bottom, up centre shoulder to shoulder (6 steps). Face partner 1 step, 2 steps out backwards, 1 step face top.

2. **TWO'S AND FOUR** - 16 steps

End couples: 4 steps in to meet R hand, swing in 4 RH, change swing 4 LH, 3 steps backward to place, face up on 1 step.

Middle 4: 2 steps in RH star shape, 6 round RH, change, 6 back left, 2 out to place.

Alternative: Don't change hands but dance backwards around in 2nd half.

3. **HEY** - 16 steps

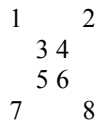
Reel on side of set, 1st 2 steps 1,6,2,5 turn to face person below then follow figure of 8 pattern. Pass R on ends, L in middle throughout. 2 steps to each meeting, last 2 steps to place.

**4. CHAIN - 32 steps**

First corners, 1 and 4, perform the figure first then 2nd corners repeat.  
 When dancing on the spot face across the corners/diagonal. 1 and 4 meet R - 2 steps; swing 1/2 way - 2 steps; dance L around behind corners - 2 steps, in front of corners to meet face to face. Pass R (2) and on to pass L around other corner (2), around other corner to come face to face (2), last 2 steps pass to original starting places facing in across diagonal.  
 2nd corners then repeat.

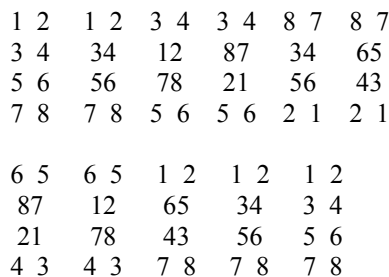
**5. REEL - 32 steps**

Using 4 steps:- 1,2,7 and 8 dance out to sides, 1 and 2 forward, 7 and 8 backward, spreading set, 3,4,5 and 6 into centre, all face along arm of X created either in or out. (ie 1--3, 2--4)

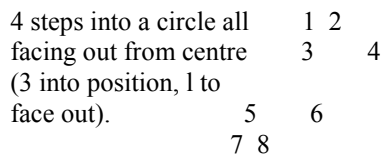


4 steps:- passing R, change places with person facing.  
 2 steps:- middle 4 turn 1/2 star L to diagonal's place, ends turn in to face centre.  
 4 steps:- move on pass R on opposite end of X to starting position.  
 2 steps:- middle 4 turn 1/2 star, ends turn in to face.  
 Continue this reel movement using 4 steps to pass, and 2 steps to 1/2 star or turn throughout until back in the original X positions at the beginning of the figure. Then 4 steps to place facing front.

Thus:



**6. FINAL FIGURE - 16 steps**



4 step and kicks (8 beats)(drop onto L, kick R

leg, drop onto R, kick L leg - x2).  
4 steps to turn single on spot turning by top of  
set, into centre, by bottom and out again.

## 7. DANCE OFF

Straight into a cast in down the middle, led by 1 and 2. Others dance to top of set, remaining in circle shape till at the top then in and follow off. (Turn to face top of set in first step, 2nd step No's 1 and 2 turn and come shoulder to shoulder and continue off.)

' '  
' '  
' '  
' '

## NEWTON LE WILLOWS

A small town between Liverpool and Manchester. The dance was collected from Carol Broadbent, St Helens in 1978. The dance was performed by a ladies side in the mid 1920s and has been danced by a 'fluffy' side up till the late 1950s. Carol Broadbent was the leader of a present day 'fluffy' side, having danced in the ladies in the 1920s. The ladies wore patent leather shoes.

**KIT** - It is thought that the womens side wore white blouses under a lancashire tartan short shawl. A navy skirt and dark stockings. No headgear noted.

**SET** - A processional dance for eight person sets, in two files.

**IMPLEMENTS** - Garlands or occasionally short sticks. The garlands were a wicker work box bent in a tight curve with a handle at each end. The wicker work created a hollow centre which was filled with flowers, originally fresh each performance. Sticks sometimes substituted, a short stick 12" held at lower end, with a thick bunch of ribbon at the other end.

**MUSIC** - The Girl I Left Behind Me. (Original tune was a political rally song called Seaur (sour) Pies, which is the original version of The Girl I Left Behind Me.

**STEPS** - The step is a vigorous single step, with a high knee lift. Start with the outside foot, hitting the ground is step 1.

### HAND MOVEMENTS

Garlands swing from side to side, garland above the raised knee or held above head as specified.

Sticks held, elbows tight to body, out front and flicked like a set of windscreen wipers to the same side as the raised knee.

### DANCE STRUCTURE

The Step Up can be repeated at length and the figures danced in any order. The Step Up appears after every figure, except the final figure.

### STEP UP

Sixteen steps on the spot (or moving forwards in processions) vigorous single step.

Garlands swing from side to side, garland above the raised knee.

Sticks held, elbows tight to body, out front and flicked like a set of windscreen wipers.

### 1. LADIES CHAIN - 32 steps, danced in groups of 4

Steps 1- 4 Dancers 1 & 4 meet Rt shoulders and 2  
and turn a half circle into a 4  
diagonal line. No 3 turns by 1  
outside to face down. 3

Steps 5- 8 Dancers 3 & 1, and 2 & 4, swing Lt 4  
turning a half circle retaining the 2  
diagonal line. 3

1

Steps 9-12 Dancers 3 & 2 swing Rt and turn 4

3

2

1

Steps 13-16 Dancers 1 & 2, and 3 & 4, swing Lt and turn. 3  
4

1

2

Steps 17-20 Dancers 1 & 4 swing Rt and turn. 3

1

4

2

Steps 21-24 Dancers 2 & 4, 1 & 3, swing Lt and turn. 1

3

2

4

Steps 25-28 Dancers 2 & 3 swing Rt and turn. 1

2

3

4

Steps 29-32 Dancers 4 & 3, 2 & 1 swing Lt and turn into original place. 1 2  
3 4

When dancing 'spare' at the end, dance on spot garlands held steady above head.

## 2. STARS AND CAST. - 16 Steps

### a. Steps 1 - 8

1 - 2 Dancers 3,4,5 & 6 turn into a Rt hand star

1 - 4 Dancers 1 & 2 cast out and down to meet dancers 7 & 8 who cast up and out

2 - 8 Dancers 3,4,5 & 6 turn in Rt hand star

5 - 8 Dancers 1 & 7 and 2 & 8 swing Rt and turn in

at Step 8 :  
3 4  
1 7 2 8  
5 6

### b. Steps 9 - 16

9 Dancers 3,4,5 & 6 turn out into Lt hand star

9 - 12 Dancers 1 & 7 and 2 & 8 swing Lt

10 - 14 Dancers 3,4,5, & 6 turn Lt hand star

13 - 16 Dancers 1,7,2,8 cast up/down back to place

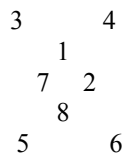
15 - 16 Dancers 3,4,5 & 6 dance back to place

## 3. STARS AND LINES - 32 steps

Steps 1 - 4 Dancers 3 & 4 move diagonally fwd 1 2 \_  
Dancers 5 & 6 move diagonally bwd 3 4  
Dancers 1,2,7 & 8 move into the centre 5 6

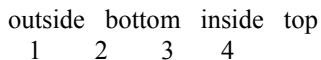
to form Rt hand star 7 8

Gives:



Steps 5 - 12 Dancers 3,4,5 & 6 dance half a 7  
 'Step Up' (8 steps) including 8 1  
 movement of Garlands. 2  
 Dancers 1,2,7 & 8 dance Rt hand  
 star for 1 1/4 turns.

Steps 13 - 16 Dancers 3,4,5 & 6 turn by single a full circle,  
 by the outside. 1,2,3,4 are facing:-



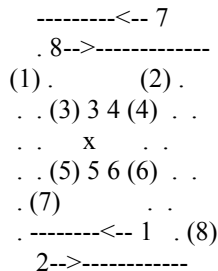
1 step is 1/4 turn. Swing garlands side to side.

Dancers 7 & 8 move fwd and face top between 3 & 4  
 Dancers 1 & 2 move bwd and face top between 5 & 6  
 Gives:



Steps 17 - 24 All dance half a Step Up (8 steps).

Steps 25 - 32 Dancers 3,4,5 & 6 turn into a Rt hand star  
 Once round and out into normal set position  
 Dancers 7 & 8 pass R and move out and down  
 outside of set, turn in and face up in  
 original position.  
 Dancers 1 & 2 pass R and move up and outside,  
 passing 7 & 8 by the L, into original place,  
 facing top.  
 Gives:



**4. UP AND DOWN CHAIN (FINAL FIGURE) - 64 Steps**

FIRST HALF OF FIGURE

Steps 1 - 12 Dancers 7 & 8:

. . In 4 steps; cast up the middle to the top,  
. . turn out around 1 & 2.  
. . Then in 8 steps; chain in and out to the  
. . bottom of the set, slightly below the  
. . starting place.  
Remain facing the bottom, dance on the spot.

Steps 13 - 22 Dancers 5 & 6:

. . In 4 steps; cast up the middle and turn out  
. . around 1 & 2.  
. . In 6 steps; chain to the bottom, remain  
. . facing bottom behind 7 & 8, dance on spot.  
. .

Steps 23 - 30 Dancers 3 & 4:

. . In 4 steps; cast up middle and turn out  
. . around 1 & 2.  
. . In 4 steps; chain to behind 5 & 6, dance on  
. . spot.  
. .

Steps 31 - 32 Dancers 1 & 2:

. . In 2 steps; turn in on spot to behind 3 & 4.  
. .  
. .  
. .  
. .

#### SECOND HALF OF FIGURE

Repeat steps 1 - 32 but start in reverse order, with 1 & 2 casting down the middle and chaining back to the top, ending with set in original position. On reaching original position dancers stand still with Garland above head, figure ends when 7 & 8 turn into place (steps 31 and 32).

At this point all dancers sing!

" Garland girls are bonny girls, Newton girls are gradely  
Smiling faces, clattering feet, We've danced the best of any"

Followed immediately by: 3 steps of step up, and a fourth step which is a jump land feet together, garlands/sticks touching down centre of set in a row of arches.

**DANCE OFF** - The musician holds a chord;

Then dancers dance a step up, followed by 1 & 2 casting out and down outside of set. Every 2nd step the 'new head' couple turn and follow off, i.e. the whole set reverses. Continue Step Up moves for garlands all the way off.

## ST HELENS GALA

St Helens is in South Central Lancashire between Manchester and Liverpool. Originally called the St Helens Wakes Processional Dance these figures date from approximately 1947, collected from a women dancer who danced in the 20s and 30s, with a female revival side of a pre 1914 mens side.

KIT - 1920s womens side:

Black patent leather shoes, Black stockings, green skirt with frill showing underneath, green bodice top with ribbons hanging from the waist. One rosette pinned on right shoulder. Saffron blouse with a floppy 'dickey bow' at the throat, and tied with ribbons at the cuff.

Pre 1914 mens kit:

Black shoes, the rest red and green, danced with slings. (Note that the hand moves have been altered, presumably by the women's side!)

SET - A processional dance for a tight set of eight persons, in two files.

STICKS - Short sticks with fuzzy ends ie carnival style shakers. Slings pre 1914.

MUSIC - Suggest Jigs.

STEP - Single step, all left foot start except for the eights figure which involves a change of step incorporating polka steps.

HAND MOVEMENTS - Sticks thrust out in front, held on waist or shaken above head as given. No details of sling movements.

### DANCE STRUCTURE

Step Up is used to start the dance and comes between each figure. It ends with Dance Off. The other figures may follow in any/a set order at the discretion of the leader.

- STEP UP 1. PROMENADE
- 2. EIGHTS
- 3. CASTS
- 4. REEL
- 5. NANCY
- 6. DANCE OFF

### STEP UP - 16 steps

4 steps on the spot facing front, sticks thrust out in front.

4 steps to swing partner by the right.

4 steps on the spot facing front, sticks thrust out in front.

4 steps to swing partner by the left.

### 1. PROMENADE - 24 steps - cast figure

Steps 1 - 2 Dancers 1 & 5 move to the right to link with partner.

Dancers 4 & 8 move to the left to link with partner.

Steps 3 - 4 Dancers 1 & 2 turnout together to the right.

Other dancers move forward in pairs.

Steps 5 - 6 Dancers 1 & 2 move down the outside. Dancers 3 & 4 turnout together to the left. Other dancers move forward in pairs.

Steps 7 - 8 Dancers 1,2,3 & 4 move down outside. Dancers 5 & 6 turnout



together to the right. Dancers 7 & 8 move forward.

Steps 9 -10 All dancers move down outside, except 7 & 8 who turn out together by the left.

Steps 11-12 Dancers 1 & 2 turn in together. All other dancers move downwards.

Steps 13-14 Dancers 1 & 2 move up the centre. Dancers 3 & 4 turn in together. Other dancers move downwards.

Steps 15-16 Dancers 1,2,3 & 4 move up. Dancers 5 & 6 turn in. Dancers 7 & 8 move down.

Steps 17-18 All dancers move up, except 7 & 8 who turn in.

Steps 19-20 Dancers move sideways back to original positions.

Steps 21-24 All dance on spot shaking sticks above heads.

Hand movements: Moving sideways, both hands on hips.  
In promenade, near hand on partners waist, other on own waist.  
On 4, on the spot crossed above head.

## 2. **EIGHTS** - 16 steps, 8 person Star

Steps 1 - 2 1 polka step (left foot) to make right hand star, hands on hips, touching elbows.

Steps 3 - 6 Right foot start to move star half way round, inside hand touching knuckles, outside on waist.

Steps 7 - 10 2 polkas (right then left) to turn star into left hand, hands on waist, turn by outside.

Steps 11 - 14 Right foot start, move star back.

Steps 15 - 16 1 polka (right) back to place, facing front, hands on waist.

## 3. **CASTS** - 32 steps - Hands on the waist throughout.

Steps 1 - 4 Dancers 1 & 2 turn in and cast down the middle to the bottom, to below 7 & 8, remain facing the bottom. Other dancers turn single by outside shoulder, to face up.

Steps 5 - 8 Dancers 3 & 4 cast in to the bottom, below 1&2 who remain facing bottom. All others turn single by outside shoulder again. End facing original position.

Steps 9 -12 Dancers 5 & 6 cast in to the bottom, below 3 & 4. All others turn single.

Steps 13-16 Dancers 7 & 8 cast in to the bottom, below 5 & 6. All others turn single.

Steps 17-20 Dancers 7 & 8 turn out and cast out up to the top of the set,

and remain facing up. All others turn single.

Steps 21-32 Repeat in 4 steps, 5 & 6 out and up, 3 & 4 out and up, 1 & 2 out and up, all dancers not moving turning single.

4. **REEL** - 16 steps, Hey figure - A reel on the sides.

1 & 2, 5 & 6 turn to face down, 3 & 4, 7 & 8 face up.

Passing in 2 steps, or turning at ends in 2 steps, 16 steps back to place. Turn by the right at the ends and by the left in the middle.

Touch knuckles on passing, other hand on waist.

5. **NANCY** - 16 steps, Nancy Dawson - (Beware change in rhythm!)

Steps 1 & 2 Move into an eight person cross. All dancers facing top

```
1
2
3 4 5 6
7
8
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Steps 3 - 8 Step the Nancy

step 3 left foot across (3) . . .  
4 left to side and slightly behind  
5 feet together (4) . . .  
6 right across  
7 right right to side and behind (5) . . .  
8 feet together

Steps 9 -10 All turn single and face bottom, by original outside shoulder

Steps 11-16 Step the Nancy facing bottom. End with a stamp, feet together.

All hands on waist throughout except the stamp then shaken shoulder high.  
Music continues and leader calls dance off

**DANCE OFF** - 12 steps, spiral

Steps 1 - 8 From the cross position for the Nancy, with hands on waist,  
middle four dancers dance right hand star twice around.

Outer four dancers dance counter clockwise circle round  
once.

Steps 9 - 16 Outer four, led by dancer 1, then 6, 8 & 3 spiral out and  
off, followed by the dancers in the star order 2, 4, 7 & 5.

Star turns on until they meet end of outer four and follow  
outer four off.

## WIGAN

An industrial town in Central Lancashire. Pat McLoughlin, headmaster of St John's (Catholic) School, taught and lead team approx 1910, via Tom Arkwright who danced as a child. The dance was a juvenile dance - the school boys made up the team.

**KIT** - Team: Britches and bolero waistcoat in dark green velvet, white shirt and socks. Green cap with crimson tassel. Cumberbund in crimson. Gold braid edging waistcoat and seam of britches. Black plimsolls. Leader: Colours opposite way round.

**SET** - Column set, units of 8 although the dance can be made to work in multiples of 4 for most of the figures.

**STICKS** - Long sticks (15"-17"). Spiral bound green and crimson, beribboned ends with bells.

**STEP** - Cross Polka. Slowish with a high knee. Outside foot start.

### HAND MOVEMENTS

Sticks rested on shoulders and tilted slightly forward. Held in middle for first 3 steps then raised to full arm stretch on 4th beat, highest point of stretch on the beat (ie as foot taps down in the polka) and shaken side to side! Brought smartly down immediately to coincide with foot coming back and end of step.

### DANCE STRUCTURE

Step Up is used to start the dance and comes between each figure. It ends with Dance Off. The other figures may follow in any/a set order at the discretion of the leader.

- STEP UP 1. GYPSY
- 2. TWO'S
- 3. FOUR'S
- 4. CHAIN
- 5. CAST UP
- 6. GRAND CHAIN
- 7. DANCE OFF

### STEP UP

Moving diagonally forward from columns into line of 8, left file in front of partners (the line will number in order from the top). 3 steps moving, 4th step in line of 8. Move on to partners side of set diagonally forward using 3 steps then dance 4th step on spot.

Repeat move to original side of set, progressing forward then out. New left person in front of new right.

### 1. GYPSY

First 2 polkas - dancers 1&2 (1 going in front) cross over and move between 3&4 to face bottom on wrong side of set.

3 2 1 4

Next 4 polkas - dancers 3&2 dance on spot while 1&2 dance a diamond around them.

3 2 1 4

1&2 move on to 5&6 in 2 steps, dance a diamond in 4 steps.  
(Repeating the move they've done with 3&4.)

Move on to 7&8 in 2 steps then diamond in 4 steps as above.

Cross back to own side facing front . . .  
in 2 steps, 1 goes in front.

New top couple 3&4 join in as 1&2 move from 5+6 to 7+8 etc.

(Set moves down backwards in the dance area.)

Hands down except during diamonds when they are held up by all four people involved.

## 2. TWO'S

2 polkas into a line of 8, right shoulders to partner, hands on shoulders.

4 polkas to turn one full circle  
around. First of these 4, nearest  
sticks crossed above head height,  
outside stick remains on outside  
shoulder.

2 polkas home, hands on shoulders (1 out, 1 home).

## 3. FOUR'S.

1

2 polkas into a right hand star 4 + 2 shape both hands on shoulders.

3

4 polkas to turn the star once fully around. On the first of these inside hands raised and sticks crossed in a cluster above head height. Outside hand remains on shoulder.

1 polka out backwards, 1 polka to face up. These 2 polkas with hands on shoulders.

## 4. CHAIN

7+8 dance 4 polkas outside to form line  
of 4 with 5+6 (7568) then 4 polkas into 1 2  
line of 4 in between 3+4. 4 polkas to  
the outside of 1+2 then 4 polkas to 3 4  
front of set.

5 6

New rear couple starts up each 9th step  
(Couples start on steps 1, 9, 17 etc). 7 8

Hand movements are as in Step Up (3 on shoulders, 4th up in air). 4 polkas with both hands up backwards to place when set has regained normal numbering, but progressed up the dance area.

## 5. CAST UP

7+8 dance 2 polkas forward in between 5+6. 5 7 6 8

4 polkas in a diamond shape around 5+6,  
face front throughout. 5 6

Move forward in 2 polkas to between 3+4. Dance 4 polkas around 3+4.  
2 polkas up between 1+2.  
4 polkas around them then 2 polkas forward to front of set.

New rear couple set off each 9th step (Steps 1, 9, 17 etc).  
Hands as for Gypsy (up in diamond shapes only).

## 6. GRAND CHAIN

1  
First 2 polkas 1+2, 7+8, 3+5, 4+6 move 2  
to meet right shoulders creating a large 53 64  
8 person star. 7  
8

Dance a back to back in 4 steps, both dancers moving, move on in 2 polkas to meet left with the next person around the circle creating two lines of 4.

Dance a back to back then move on into a star again and dance back to back etc. Continue until back with person started, dance one more back to back with this person.

Hands down when moving on but both up during back to back.

## 7. DANCE OFF

Keep the circular shape and concept but now just move around the circle weaving in and out without the back to back. 2 polkas to each meeting, alternating shoulders right then left, right left etc. Use 3+1 hands (same hand moves as in Step up).

When 1+2 approach at the bottom instead of coming side by side in the weaving pattern, do not pass by but turn and face bottom side by side. Dance off in twos from the bottom. As each new couple approach the bottom they follow off home as 1+2. This means you will not necessarily come off in the correct numerical order or the correct side or position.

These notations which form maybe half of my collection, were mainly amassed in the mid to late 1970'S. I suppose they are the official versions - not necessarily how they have been danced over the last few years but the original versions. They are based on memories of people involved in a peculiar and particular activity in a peculiar and particular time in social history. Dances evolve and any dance is correct at its time of collection (or creation) and was undoubtedly different from the day before and the day after.

Collection of dances is a dangerous activity and no doubt all of these dances have suffered from my ideas and thoughts of how NW Morris should be. It's very hard not to take down just what you want to hear, sifting out the bits the sources think you want to hear and getting realistic and danceable movements. To prompt and suggest or not to! We all get up in front of an audience and announce this is the..... dance, very few bother to find out the social history or development of any dance or The Dance in general. Any dance may have been collected in a particular town - this doesn't mean it came from there (there's an example of this in these notations), and strictly speaking the dance belonged to the Dance Leader/instructor of a team and if he/she moved the dance moved with him/her. Then the new instructor would take the parts of the dance he/she liked and add to or alter the rest. Evolution, it still happens and is probably a good thing. How much of our dancing is still ritual, why do we dance? Obviously a feeling and concern for the Tradition must be maintained but are we there to educate or entertain the public or what. We must realise the changes in society and thus the changes in reasons for dancing. I suppose some balance must be achieved though we all have a different perspective of just where that balance is. Maybe even the term Morris Dancers is defunct (how many times have NW Morris teams been called Clog dancers, a term really to be applied to Step dancers). How many of you call yourselves Clog Morris - there's no such thing, it' NW Morris and 85% of it was danced in shoes or boots not in clogs (maybe I shouldn't say that!). Think of context, clogs were worn in the Mill and the Pit, not for best and Morris Dancing was done in your best gear. Posh flamboyant styles of clothes - anything to get away from the constraints of working life. The balancing argument is that the dancers were the poorer element dancing to get out of the mundane life, but being poor used whatever was to hand (think of how easy it is to enhance clothes by use of braids and ribbons and the wearing of sashes!) Enough!

These notations have been put into a form which theoretically gives standardised explanations and instructions. Where there is historical information it is given, as is details of the kit of the original dancers. Some have more information than others. My thanks are due to many people for organising me enough and pestering me enough to tidy up my box file of dance notations. Most of the codification has been done by Sue Swift (Morris Federation) and Trevor Turner (Hoxon Hundred). These notes give my viewpoint of what Morris is about; but remember it's only my view, there are many others and my thoughts are bounded by my very limited and very specific knowledge.

The dedicate a work is notoriously difficult! In the mid 70's I danced with Horwich Prize Medal Morris then moving to the West Riding of Yorkshire I became involved in the eruption of what is now Wakefield Morris (once Horberie Shrogy's and Wakefield Ring O'Belles), without these two teams the inspiration for this book may not have happened! Dancing is almost a magical experience for me, but without a lot of help and support a lot of dances would have been lost. Chas Marshall has been endlessly prompting, Wakefield Morris endlessly patient as guinea pigs; my daughter Siobhan and son Rhys are probably the best reasons for this book as they are now getting involved in dancing and playing with Wakefield Morris; and Liz Higgs who makes my own dancing worthwhile and for many others reasons!

The list could go on and on but still someone important would be left out. Dance for the joy of dancing, for your own pleasure and the pleasure it gives others.

To be printed on the final page as the final item of the entire booklet.

English Dance and Song Vol 46 No3 Autumn/Winter 1984 contains an article by Tony Dann who has done a lot of work on dances and teams from Hindley. In it he quotes part of a letter between Maud Karpeles who was collecting dances in the area and Richard Porter who was the Leader of The Hindley Morris Dancers. I would also like to use this quote though slightly altered:-

"Now perhaps you have got my Dances, you may not want me again, but if we may never meet again you can always say that you have got some of the Best morris Dances from the Good Old North and always danced with great success whenever performed by Morris Dancers I have instructed."

Trefor Owen (1987).