

RYE DALE SWORD DANCE

based on Mss sources - Kirby Moorside, Helmsley & Beadlam
tune - Girl I Left Behind Me
step - a walk not springy (Kirby Moorside) or springy bounding
step much as Handsworth (Helmsley)

PART ONE

start stationary, facing round circle clockwise, sword over right shoulder. Team of six numbered clockwise.

3 taps on drum then

Clash - 4 bars (8 steps) clockwise and 4 bars anticlockwise

Open ring - 4 bars clockwise and 4 bars anticlockwise

3rd man over - No. 1 puts down sword & dancers cross in order

6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 - nos 5, 3, 2 go round 6 to place - no. 4, the

3rd man over, goes round 1 to place. This figure continues,

opening clockwise, sword being held down successively by 2, 3, ... 6

3rd man under - as above but sword held up

Three reel over - form two groups of 3, 123 & 456 linked hilt &

point. 1 & 4 lower sword & 2 & 5 jump over & turn to left round

3 & 6. Swords now form a triangle which rotates anticlockwise.

After one or more circles when 2 & 5 are back to place, 1 & 4

continue past to their place. Repeat lowering other swords in

clockwise order.

Three reel under - as above but sword up.

New Reel - no. 1 raises sword, 2 & 5 go under followed by 3 & 4

as 1 & 2 turn out under their sword, 1's & 4's sword are

carried over the heads as 123 & 456 move in small circle

on their side of the set, after a few circuits make open ring

Over own sword - all round set in clockwise order. Raise left

hand turn clockwise & leap over sword, in 4 steps in all.

Over Neighbour's sword - as above but raise right hand & turn

otherway. Clown slips into centre at end.

High Lock - all face centre close in a little, raise arms & make

half turn clockwise to face out & tie lock above head. On the

turn wrists should be crossed left under right, separate hands

& put own hilt under nearest sword point. Make half turn clock

to face centre & lower lock over clown's head. Then each holding

own hilt, dance round 8 bars & draw, putting sword over own right

shoulder. Clown falls down & feigns death. Cry for doctor, end with

revival etc.

PART TWO

Clash & ring as above - not if dance done continuously.

4th man over - No. 1 puts down sword & dancers cross in order

123456 - Nos 2, 3, 5 go round 1, 4 the 4th man, goes round 6

Repeat in clockwise order as above.

4th man under - sword up.

Weave - half pousette - line up in pairs 1&6, 2&5, 3&4. 1st & 2nd cu

change place then 1st & 3rd, then 2nd & 3rd etc till back in place

When changing, cu going down set draws out to no. 1's side, other

cu out to other side each & every time. The neutral couple spins

twice on spot, away from set, while other 2 cus change.

Roll - fast as Grenoside. End cus over middles, spinning as they go

over but not as they go under. Start at top. All spins are out,

neutrals do one spin out. Roll completed twice at least.

Shoulder lock - go round anticlockwise with own sword sloped over

right shoulder 4 bars, grasp point in front & continue circle.

All make $\frac{3}{4}$ turn clockwise to face front & make lock, points under.

Rose - leader raise lock in right hand - all move round clockwise.

8 bars - Then leader places lock on ground & gives 3 claps.

Reels of 3 - 123, 456 reel of 3 on sides.

Stepping - middles face top 4 bars, face bottoms 4 bars

Reels of three end by picking up lock, reel is stepped.

Draw - each holds own hilt, dance round very fast, music accelerating

at end of phrase all draw & stand facing round clockwise with

sword sloped over right shoulder. Bow.