

Fieldtown

Leafield, Oxfordshire. Dances number about 28, of which 6 are stick, 2 heel-and-toe, 1 processional and 8 jigs.

A very mixed tradition, allied to Bampton, it calls for strong phrasing. Feet and arms loose, with plenty of movement at the wrist and ankle. Emphasis on the anacrusis beginning each phrase.

Sources

Morris Book IV and V; Journal English Folk Dance and Song Society 1928, 2 (Dr. Kenworthy Schofield); Roy Dommett (MSS of Sharp, Dr. Kenworthy Schofield, Carey & Neal) ; The Travelling Morrice. There is uncertainty as to some of Kenworthy Schofield's material, of which the available manuscripts are incomplete. Field Town is Leafield on the map. This tradition may also include dances from neighbouring villages, e.g. Minster Lovell and Finstock.

Figures

Foot up, Half gip, Back to back, Half rounds and **Whole hey**. (**Whole gip** was also used.)

Foot up is stationary, up and down with $\frac{3}{4}$ turn on **Galley**(out) to face partner.

Half round the usual practice is to face into the circle and close in at the end of the 2nd bar in each half.

In **long** dances the figures are double length and the footing differs.

Steps

4-Step, Wide back, Galley, Side step, Plain caper, Fore caper and **Upright caper** are all used, as well as several special steps in individual dances. A feint-step nearly always precedes the first strong beat in each phrase.

Wide back is usually danced as a backward **2-Step**, with the free foot swing well across the other ankle.

Once to yourself is **Wide back, Foot together jump**.

Foot up is **2 bars 4-Step, Galley, Foot together jump**, repeat.

Half gip, Back to back, Half rounds and **Whole gip** are **2 bars 4-Step, Wide back, Foot together jump**, repeat.

Fore caper (beetle crushers)is

| **Toe forward**(right) **right LEFT right** | **Toe forward**(left) **left RIGHT left** |.

Upright caper is

| **Toe back**(right) **Jump Together right** | **Toe back**(left) **Jump Together left** |.

Long dances the stepping is

| **2 4-Step** | **2 Wide back** | **2 4-Step** | **Galley** | **Foot together jump** | repeat.

Inside foot in **Foot up** and **Half round**, left in all others.

Arm movements

Down and **up** with **4-Step** and **Plain caper**.

Point the leading hand in **Side step** about 6" above head.

Fore caper and **Upright caper** the arms are thrown up on the 3rd beat.

THE PROCESSIONAL

| **4-Step** | **4-Step** | **Galley** | **Foot together jump** |.

Single or **double** file. Alternating left and right. Start with outside foot if in double column.

An alternative is dance in column with normal figures until rounds off. If six men the chorus is **Hey**. If more than six the chorus is **Side step, 2 4 step** across set and **Galley**(right).

Stick dances

Once to yourself, Foot up, Chorus, **Half gip**, Chorus, **Back to back**, Chorus, **Half round**, Chorus

BALANCE THE STRAW

Chorus is **Sticking** and **Half hey**, repeat.

| **Dib - Dib** - | **Tip - Tip** - | **Dib - Dib** - | **Tip - Tip Tip** |.

BOBBY AND JOAN

Chorus is **Sticking** and **Half hey**, repeat.

| - - **Evens** - | - - **Odds** - | **Butts - Tips** - | **Butts - Tips** - |.

Strike is overhead, odds turning counter clockwise, evens clockwise (both turn upwards). Receiving stick is held by **both** ends. Butts and tips with **4 Plain caper**.

COUNTRY GARDENS

Chorus is **Sticking** and **Half hey**, repeat. As Bobby and Joan, but no turning receiving stick held forward.

| - - **Evens** - | - - **Odds** - | **Butts - Tips** - | **Butts - Tips** - |.

SHEPHERDS' HEY

Chorus is **Sticking** and **Half hey**, repeat.

| **3 Ground** - | **3 Tips** - | **3 Ground** - | **3 Tips** - |.

Ground with tips as in Bledington.

YOUNG COLLINS

Chorus is **Sticking** and **Half hey**, repeat.

| **3 Dib** - | **3 Butts** - | **3 Dib** - | **3 Tips** - |.

Handkerchief Dances

Once to yourself, Foot up, Chorus, **Half gip**, Chorus, **Back to back**, Chorus, **Half round**, Chorus

BANKS OF THE DEE

Chorus is **Dance in column** and **Half hey**, repeat.

1st time raise arms, 1st couple, 2nd, 3rd and all, **Half hey**. Repeat up 3rd couple, 2nd, 1st and all, **Half hey**.
2nd time **Galley**(right) and all **Galley**(left) **Half hey**, repeat.
3rd time **Fore caper**.
4th time **Upright caper**.

JUG BY THE EAR

Chorus is **Whole rounds** holding the ear of the dancer in front.

LEAPFROG

Also known as GLORISHERS

1st time walk briskly round clockwise, each man on reaching the top of the set dances a bar of **4-Step**.
2nd time with **Galley**(right).
3rd time **Fore caper**.
4th time **Upright caper** with leapfrog on 2nd beat.
 1 over 2, 5 over 3, 4 over 6, 2 over 1, 3 over 5 and 6 over 4.
 Last two bars **Galley**(left), **Foot together jump** to place.

SHEPHERDS' HEY

Also known as SIGNPOSTS

Standing or slow **Galley**(right) with arms up and out on last bar of each phrase. Chorus is **Whole hey**.

THE BLUE-EYED STRANGER

Chorus is **Side step** and **Half hey**, repeat. The tune for Bledington Morning Star may be used.

THE FORESTER

Chorus is **Side step** and **Half hey**, repeat. **Side step** presumably as in Step-Back.

THE OLD WOMAN TOSSED UP

Chorus is corners **cross, caper** and **cross**.

Cross is

| **Side step**(right) | **Side step**(left) | **Side step**(right) | **Foot together jump** |
| **4-Step** | **4-Step** | **Galley**(right) | **Foot together jump** |

Caper 1st and 2nd times | **2 Fore caper** | **4 Plain caper** |.
3rd and 4th times | **2 Upright caper** | **4 Plain caper** |.

THE ROSE

Once to yourself, Half round, Whole hey, Half round, Whole hey, Half round, Whole hey

Half round are

1st time **3 4-Step**.
2nd time **3 Fore caper**.
3rd time **3 Upright caper**.

Final step is replaced by **Foot together jump**, and a slow feint-step

THE VALENTINE

Chorus is corners **cross**.

1st time | **Side step**(right) | **Side step**(left) | **2 Salute** | **2 4-Step** | **Wide back** |.

2nd time replace **Salute** with | **Galley**(right) | **Galley**(left) |.

3rd time replace **Salute** with **2 Fore caper**.

4th time replace **Salute** with **2 Upright caper**.

Face **corner** on **Salute** pass and face on **4-Step** and **Wide back** to corners place.

TRUNKLES

Chorus is partners **cross**.

1st time | **4-Step** | **4-Step** | **Galley**(right) | **Foot together jump** | cross with partner **right** foot

| **4-Step** | **4-Step** | **Galley**(right) | **Foot together jump** | face partner **right** foot

| **4 Side step** | **Galley**(left) | **Foot together jump** | cross back on 1st **Side step**(left).

2nd time | **4 Plain caper** | instead of **Side step**.

3rd time | **4 Fore caper** | instead of **Side step**.

4th time | **4 Upright caper** | instead of **Side step**.

Side step, **Plain caper**, **Fore caper** and **Upright caper** are **left** foot first.

Handkerchief Dances Long

DEAREST DICKY

Chorus is corners **Side step**, **cross**, and **Galley**.

1st time

| **Side step**(right) | **4-Step** | **Side step**(left) | **Foot together jump** |
| **Cross**(strutting) | **Galley**(right) | **Foot together jump** |.

2nd time **cross** with **4 Plain caper**.

3rd time **cross** with **2 Fore caper**.

4th time **cross** with **2 Upright caper**.

3rd and 4th chorus use 'slow **Galley**', the normal **Galley** movements are done at half-speed, to augmented music, requiring careful poise and balance, and smooth controlled arm-movements.

(RD says slow **Galleys** are wrong. Should be the first **2** steps of a **Fore caper** or **Upright caper**, then the two hops of a **Galley**, **2 Wide back**, **Jump**.)

STEP-BACK

Also known as OLD MOLLY OXFORD

'Step-Back' was Sharp's descriptive name. The step-back usually danced is 'a forceful and robust form of the back step'.

Chorus is **Side step** and **Half hey**, repeat. Sometimes done as **4 Plain caper** instead of step-back.

| **Side step**(right) | **4-Step** | **Side step**(left) | **Foot together jump** |

Heel-and-toe Dances

Once to yourself, **Foot up**, Chorus, **Half gip**, Chorus, **Back to back**, Chorus, **Half round**, Chorus

OLD MARLBOROUGH

HEEL-AND-TOE

MRS CASEY

Jigs

The Jigs are all stationary.

NONE SO PRETTY

Once to yourself, Foot up, Jig, Fore caper, Jig, Upright caper, Jig

Foot up is | **4-Step** | **4-Step** | **Wide back** | **Foot together jump** | repeat.

Fore caper is | **Fore caper** | **Fore caper** | **4 Plain caper** | repeat.

Upright caper is | **Upright caper** | **Upright caper** | **4 Plain caper** | repeat.

Jig is

| **Clap**(front) | **Touch**(right cheek) | **Clap**(front) | **Touch**(left cheek) |

| **Clap**(front) | **Touch**(right breast) | **Clap**(front) | **Touch**(left breast) |

| **Clap**(front) | **Clap**(under right knee) | **Clap**(front) | **Clap**(under left knee) |

| **Clap**(front) | **Clap**(behind) | **Clap**(front) - |

| **4-Step** | **4-Step** | **Galley**(right) | **Foot together jump** |.

LUMPS OF PLUM PUDDING

Also known as MOLLY OXFORD and THE MONTH OF MAY.

Once to yourself, Foot up, Jig, Fore caper, Jig, Upright caper, Jig

Foot up is

| **4 4-Step** | **Side step**(right) | **Side step**(left) | **Wide back** | **Foot together jump** |.

Fore caper is

| **4 Fore caper** | **Side step**(right) | **Side step**(left) | **Wide back** | **Foot together jump** |.

Upright caper is

| **4 Upright caper** | **Side step**(right) | **Side step**(left) | **Wide back** | **Foot together jump** |.

Jig is

| **Side step**(right) | **4-Step** | **Side step**(left) | **4-Step** | **Side step**(right) | **Side step**(left) |

| **Galley**(right) | **Foot together jump** |.

PRINCESS ROYAL

Once to yourself, Foot up, Jig, Fore caper, Jig, Plain caper, Jig

Foot up and **Fore caper** as in Molly Oxford.

Plain caper is 16 very vigorous **Plain caper** with arms down-and-up, then as **Foot up**.

Jig is

1st time

| **Side step**(right) | **4-Step** | **Side step**(left) | **4-Step** | **Side step**(right) | **Side step**(left) |

| **2 Heel-and-toe** | **Side step**(right) | **Side step**(left) | **Galley**(right) |
Foot together jump |.

2nd time

| **Clap**(front) **Clap**(under right) **Clap**(front) - | **Clap**(front) **Clap**(under left)
Clap(front) - |
Instead of **Heel-and-toe**.

3rd time

| **Clap**(front) **Clap**(front) **Salute** (left) - | **Clap**(front) **Clap**(front) **Salute**
(right) - |
Instead of **Heel-and-toe**.

THE NUTTING GIRL

Once to yourself, Foot up, Jig, Fore caper, Jig, Upright caper, Jig

Foot up is

| **4 4-Step** | **Side step**(right) | **Side step**(left) | **Wide back** | **Foot together jump** |.

Fore caper is

| **4 Fore caper** | **Side step**(right) | **Side step**(left) | **Wide back** | **Foot together jump** |.

Upright caper is

| **4 Upright caper** | **Side step**(right) | **Side step**(left) | **Wide back** | **Foot together jump** |.

Jig is

| | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Side step (right) | 4-Step | Side step (left) | 4-Step |
| | | | |
| Side step (right) | Side step (left) | Hockle back | Hockle back |
| | | | |
| Side step (right) | 4-Step | Side step (left) | 4-Step |
| | | | |
| Side step (right) | Side step (left) | Galley (right) | Foot together jump |

LADIES' PLEASURE

Once to yourself, Foot up, Jig, Fore caper, Jig, Upright caper, Jig

Foot up is

| **4-Step** | **4-Step** | **Wide back** | **Foot together jump** | repeat.

Fore caper is

| **2 Fore caper** | **4 Plain caper** | repeat.

Upright caper is

| **2 Fore caper** | **4 Plain caper** | repeat.

Jig is

| | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| Side step (right) | Side step (left) | Hockle back | Hockle back |
| | | | |
| 4-Step | 4-Step | Galley (right) | Foot together jump |