

Lichfield

Staffordshire. There are 10 dances, of which 4 stick, 1 processional and 2 jigs.

Sources

Journal English Folk Dance and Song Society Vol.VIII No.2, 1957 (compiled by Alex Helm). This tells of the recovery of the Lichfield tradition, and contains most of the authentic material available: it derives mainly from notations of three unknown collectors in 1898-99, and from a 1924-25 dancer

Figures

Once to yourself, Swagger round, Heading up, Heading down, Heading out, Back to back, Lichfield hey, Step in line, Rounds in 4, Cross over and Doubling up.

Swagger round is **Odds** clockwise, **evens** counter clockwise. Passing **right** shoulders at **top**, **left** shoulders at **bottom**.

Heading up is all facing **up**, 1st and 3rd couple dance **together**, 2nd and 4th couple dance **outside** to form two lines of 4.

Heading down is same but all face **down**.

Heading out is first half of **Heading up**, then **couples** stay **together** to form **line of eight** facing **up**. 5, 6, 1, 2, 3, 4, 7 and 8. Usually to finish the dance.

Back to back is **4-step** round and into line then **Hockle backs** into place.

Lichfield hey is interesting. Described as; ones cross, twos cross, pause and we all cross.

In a numbered set the ones are 1 and 4, 5 and 8. twos are 2 and 3, 6 and 7. Ones and twos cross diagonally and right shoulder. All cross at ends and side of set, left shoulders. Depending on the dance finish with **caper** back to place.

Cross over is long.

Step in line is stationary **Foot up** and **down** turning out.

Rounds in 4 is top and bottom 4 dance rounds in **4-step**. Round 2 places then back to place across diagonally. 1st then 2 second diagonal as in hey.

Doubling up is **Back to back** in pairs up and down the set. 1 and 3, with 5 and 7, but 1 and 7 actually do the **Back to back**.

Steps

Walking, 4-step, 2-step, Side step, Plain capers, Lichfield capers, Scissors, Galley over, Hockle backs.

Lichfield caper is **RIGHT**(back) **left left RIGHT**(forward). **Hands** are **back, forward, forward** and **out**. Reversed if repeated.
(Bacon has **RIGHT LEFT Swing**(right back) and **RIGHT** onto it).

Galley over is step wide to side with right foot, caper onto left foot, turning half about and bending right knee behind left, caper right, caper left. Also described as an attempt to jump over your own leg.

Scissors capers are right behind, apart, left behind and **Left**. **Star capers** are often danced instead.

Hockle backs swing free leg wide and high. Hands out to balance.

Arm-movements

Down and **up** with **4-step** and **Plain caper**

Processional Dance

THE BOWER PROCESSIONAL

Two decorated sticks or branches.

Pre 1897 Pairs in wide double column.

1st figure is

| **Side step**(left) | **Side step**(right) | **Walk**(left) **Walk**(right) | **Walk**(left) **Walk**(right) | Almost stationary. Walk is turn single to right.

2nd figure is

| **4-step** | **4-step** | **Walk**(left) **Walk**(right) | **Walk**(left) **Walk**(right) | repeated.

Dance forward, walk towards partner, dance side by side, walk to other position, forward and turn single waving sticks.

1897 to 1934 At least two lines of four abreast.

1st figure is

| **Side step**(left) | **Side step**(right) | **Walk**(left) **Walk**(right) | **Walk**(left) **Walk**(right) | almost stationary. Walk is turn single to right.

2nd figure 1st half front 4 | **Side step**(left) | **4-step** | rear 4 | **4-step** | **4-step** |. All **walk** 4 steps to re-form line.

2nd figure 1st half front 4 | **4-step** | **4-step** | rear 4 | **Side step**(right) | **4-step** |. All **walk** 4 steps to re-form line.

Moving forward on all **4-step**.

Stick Dances

MILLEY'S BEQUEST

Once to yourself, **Step in line**, Chorus, **Back to back**, Chorus, **Cross over**, Chorus **Rounds in 4**, Chorus **Doubling up**, Chorus.

Stepping is | **4-step** | **4-step** | **Galley over** | except in **Back to back** and **Doubling up** when finish with **Hockle backs**.

Chorus is **Sticking** and **Side step**. Two large sticks.

Butt(right) - **Butt**(left) -	**Tip**(right) - **Tip**(left) -	
Butt(right) - **Butt**(left) -	**Tip**(right) - **Tip**(left) -	
Side step(right)	**Side step**(left)	**Galley over**

Finish up on **4 Plain capers** sticks crossed.

NUTS IN MAY

Swagger round, **Step in line**, Chorus, Chorus, Chorus, **Heading out**.

Swagger round A music twice each ends with **Step and caper**.

Step in line each half **4-step** and **Step and caper**. Only top 2 couples turn down.

Jack Brown Chorus

Outside 4 stationary while inside 4:

| **4-step** | **4-step** | **Scissors caper** | **Lichfield caper** | **Lichfield caper** |

Inside 4 Push away **sticks** and take up outside places while outside 4:

| **4-step** | **4-step** | **Scissors caper** | **Lichfield caper** | **Lichfield caper** |

forward to inside.

Repeat in **new** positions.

Inside 4 Push away **hands** and take up outside places while outside 4:

| **4-step** | **4-step** | **Scissors caper** | **Lichfield caper** | **Lichfield caper** |

forward to inside.

Repeat in **new** positions.

Inside 4 Push away **feet** and take up outside places while outside 4:

Catch inside 4 and **2 Lichfield caper** to inside.

Repeat in **new** positions, but **ALL** dance **2 Lichfield caper** facing partners.

Green Man's Morris Chorus

Outside 4 stationary while inside 4:

| **4-step** | **4-step** | **Scissors caper** | **Lichfield caper** | **Lichfield caper** |
Push |

Inside and outside walk to each others positions for 2 bars. Repeat in **new** positions.

Push is done for **sticks**, **hands** and **feet**.

Push away **feet** is spring to crouch **right** soles together and push away.

RING O'BELLS

Swagger round, Chorus, **Back to back**, Chorus, **Lichfield hey**, Chorus, **Heading out**.

Dance to **2-step**.

Swagger round is danced and ends with **Plain caper**.

Heading out is | **2-step** | **2-step** | **RIGHT LEFT** | **RIGHT** - |.

Back to back is

| **4-step** | **4-step** | **Hockle back** | **Hockle back** | **4-step** | **4-step** | **Hockle back** | **Hockle back** **RIGHT** |.

Chorus is **Sticking** and **capers**, repeat. Two large sticks.

| **Right**(Diagonal right) - **Left**(partner) - | **Right**(Diagonal left) - **Left**(partner) - |

| **Right**(Diagonal right) - **Left**(partner) - | **Right**(Diagonal left) - **Left**(partner) - |

| **RIGHT LEFT** | **RIGHT LEFT**| **Right**(right) **Right**(right) **Right**(right) - |

Capers are in a circle **up** and **out**. Last 3 strikes are to man to **right** on his **left** stick held horizontally.

VANDALLS OF HAMMERWICH

Swagger round, Chorus, **Heading up**, Chorus, **Heading down**, Chorus, **Back to back**, Chorus, **Lichfield hey**.

Swagger round ends with **Plain caper**.

Heading up and **Heading down** are

| **4-step** | **4-step** | **4-step** | **4-step** | **Hockle back** | **Hockle back** | **RIGHT LEFT** | **RIGHT** - |.

Back to back is

| **4-step** | **4-step** | **Hockle back** | **Hockle back** | **4-step** | **4-step** | **Hockle back** | **Hockle back** **RIGHT** |.

Chorus is **Sticking** and **Side step**, repeat. One stick, held diagonally across body.

| **Strike**(diagonal right) - - - | **Strike**(diagonal left) - - - | **Strike**(right) - **Strike**(left) - |
| **Strike**(right) - **Strike**(left) - | **Side step**(right) | **Side step**(left) | **RIGHT LEFT** | **RIGHT** - |

Show 1st time, clash 2nd.

Handkerchief Dances

THE BARE-FOOTED QUAKER

Once to yourself, **Step in line**, Chorus, **Back to back**, Chorus, **Cross over**, Chorus **Rounds in 4**, Chorus **Doubling up**, Chorus.

Stepping is | **4-step** | **4-step** | **Galley over** | except in **Back to back** when each half finish with **Hockle backs**.

Chorus is **Side step back to back**, **2 Lichfield capers** and **Galley over**.

Side step back to back 1 with 4 and 5 with 8. Then 2 with 3 and 6 with 7.

CASTLERING

Swagger round, **Heading up**, Chorus, **Heading down**, Chorus, **Back to back**, Chorus, **Lichfield hey**.

Swagger round outside foot, **Galley over** to finish.

Heading up and **Heading down** are

| **4 4-step** | **Hockle back** | **Galley over** |.

Back to back is | **2 4-step** | **Galley over** | repeat.

Lichfield hey finishes with **Galley over**.

Chorus is **advance** to centre in a ring, **Galley over** and **2 Plain capers** to place.

Outside 4 men, then inside 4 men and then all eight men.

Advance

1st and 4th time stamping with arms beating chest.

2nd time with 2 Bucknell type upright capers
| **Toe back**(right) **right Jump Split** | **Toe back**(left) **right Jump Split** |.

3rd time **Lichfield caper**(right) and **Lichfield caper**(left)

THE SHERIFF'S RIDE

Swagger round, Chorus, **Heading up**, Chorus, **Heading down**, Chorus, **Back to back**, Chorus, **Lichfield hey**.

Swagger round ends with **Plain caper**.

Heading up and **Heading down** are
| **4 4-step** | **Closed side step**(right) | **Closed side step**(left) | **Hockle back** | **Hockle back RIGHT** |.

Back to back is
| **2 4-step** | **2 Hockle back** | **2 4-step** | **Hockle back** | **Hockle back RIGHT** |.

Chorus is **2 shows** and **Lichfield caper**(right), repeat **left**.

Jigs

SHEPHERD'S HEY

ALL THE WINDS