Faculty of Science and Engineering

School of Engineering, Computing and Mathematics

2019-02-06

The Plymouth Morris Tradition

Plymouth Morris,

http://hdl.handle.net/10026.1/13279

ACMC Plymouth

All content in PEARL is protected by copyright law. Author manuscripts are made available in accordance with publisher policies. Please cite only the published version using the details provided on the item record or document. In the absence of an open licence (e.g. Creative Commons), permissions for further reuse of content should be sought from the publisher or author.



The Plymouth Morris Tradition Edited by John Summerscales and Plymouth Morris



SPIRIT OF



Contents

- 3 Early Morris: a broad perspective
- 4 Early records of dancing in Plymouth, and other records closely related to the tradition
- 6 Gog and Magog on the Plymouth Hoe
- 7 Plymouth Morris (PM) now
- 8 References
- 9 Plymouth Morris Tradition dances

11	Foreman's Fancy	6 dancers with swords
13	Hearts of Oak	8 dancers with swords
14	Jump for Jogi	4 dancers with wavers
15	Navy Blue Knickers	4 dancers with wavers
16	Ol' Barbican	4 dancers with sticks
17	Old Jerry Grumpwood	4 dancers with sticks
18	Rubiks	4 dancers with wavers
20	Shoelaces	4 dancers with swords
21	The Mayflower Remembered	4 dancers with swords

22 Tunes without dances

Acknowledgements

The editors are most grateful to John Humphreys for composing the tunes,

and giving Plymouth Morris (PM) permission to use them in perpetuity.

The music was converted into a consistent format by Terry Lane (ETCSS).

The electronic and PDF files are available:

- http://www.etcss.co.uk/Pdance/ABC/Plymouth.abc
- http://www.etcss.co.uk/Pdance/PDF/Plymouth.pdf

The cutlasses were obtained from the Sealed Knot Armourer.

The cover photograph was taken by Tim Ingram on Jersey on 26 May 2007.

Early Morris: a broad perspective

For a more complete history, the reader is recommended to consider John Cutting: *History and the Morris Dance* published by Dance Books, Alton – Hampshire, 2005 (ISBN 1-85273-108-7) and John Forrest *The History of Morris Dancing, 1458-1750*, published by James Clarke & Co, Cambridge, 2000 (ISBN 0-227-67943-1). The Black Book, an essential guide to the dances, is Lionel Bacon, *A Handbook of Morris Dances – second edition,* 1986 available from The Morris Shop, Bradford.

In 1381, John of Gaunt set up a Court of Minstrels at Tutbury in Staffordshire [1, 2]. This was presided over by an elected King and was allowed to exercise authority over all the craft in five of the midland counties. In 1386, John of Gaunt brought back a troupe of Moorish dancers from Spain. The combination of their practices with those proper to the English Fool's Dance is said to have provided a basis for the Morris Dance. It was in honour of John of Gaunt, therefore, that the Robin Hood and Morris dancers continued to wear his emblem of three ostrich feathers and the Red Lion on his shield after his marriage with Constance of Castile. These symbols provided the name of inns (eg Padstow and Kingston-upon-Thames) which were for centuries the starting point for ceremonial May Day dances. Note that although the name Morris may be a distortion of the word Moorish, there is not a direct line of descent but an intertwining of that culture with an older English tradition.

The Wardens' Accounts and Court Minutes of the Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths record a set of payments made to entertainers and for food and drink at their annual feast on St Dunstan's Day (19 May 1448 or possibly 1449) [3]. Careawey, the harper, received *xij d* (twelve pence), Iohan, the piper received *ij d* (two pence) and the *Moryssh. daunsers* received *vij s* (seven shillings).

The next direct references to Morris dancing refer to objects with representations of the Morris on them. A series of inventories from Sir John Fastolf's Caistor Castle in Norfolk describe a tapestry in the Winter Hall depicting a Morris dance [3]. In an undated (earliest?) list it is called a *morysch daunce*, in the October 1448 text it is a *morysk daunce* and in the 1462 list it is a *Morys daunse*.

In 1458, Alice de Wetenhale, the widow of a merchant from Bury St Edmunds who had thereafter married a London merchant, left in her will [4, 5]:

lego Caterine filie mee ... iij ciphos argenti sculptos cum moreys daunce cum unico cooperculo ad eosdem (I leave to my daughter Catherine 3 silver cups with a morris dance engraved on them and with a single cover to

them)

Also in 1458 at York, from the will of Sir Thomas Chaworth [4, 6]:

Sir Thomas praith his seid executors that ... thai delyvere to William Chaworth his aldest soon ... iij peces of silver ... the which oon of thaym coveryth, another with a flatt knoppe and with a Moresk yeron.

In the 1510 will of a Coventry fishmonger called Jackson [4] there is:

My cuppe wt the morres daunce

There was one Morris cup belonging to the royal family, which appeared in the records until Charles II disposed of it to the Netherlands where it was probably melted down - he was short of money at the time.

References to actual dancing do not occur until December 1466 and New Years Day 1467 in the household accounts at Lanherne in Cornwall as 'moruske' (morisk or moresque) [7]. Lanherne is on the current Ordnance Survey map in the village of St Mawgan (as are Higher Lanherne and Lower Lanherne at OS/SW80680 and OS/SW874674 respectively. A possible translation is pilchard (hernen) enclosure (lan)!. The Drapers' Guild records for London indicate dancing on the 28th June 1477 for a dance specifically called 'morisse' [8].

Early records of dancing in Plymouth and other records closely related to the tradition

The Receivers' Accounts of Plymouth recorded a payment for dancing in the streets of the city in 1482 [9]:

Account of the moneys, received by John Dawe, mason, for materials and labour in building an aisle on the south part of the church of St. Andrew of Plymouth, in accordance with the agreements of a certain indenture; amounting in all to £44 14s. 6d.

21. Edw. IV [i.e. 1482]... [Thomas] Tresawell [the mayor] received for "dawnsyng money" of "Agnes dowster of Kat'yn hoker," 11s "Johne s^ruant of Thomas Croppe," 11s "Jonett potter," 9s. 9d. "Johna filia Will Nycoll," and Roger Payne not stated.

This may be one the earliest records of actual Morris dancing in the country (after Goldsmiths 1448, Lanherne 1466 and Drapers 1477) although the specific word is not in the records. The reference in Worth is to Thomas Tregarthen's Book: the oldest book of account which had been preserved among the Municipal Records. The book was destroyed in the Plymouth blitz, with all the old records of the bills. On Friday 15 October 1982 the Deputy Lord Mayor of Plymouth, Mr Bob Bishop, made a presentation of the same amount in predecimal currency (four half-crowns and two sixpences) to the Plymouth Morris Men on the five-hundredth anniversary of the earlier event [10, 11].

Worth took extracts from various documents to compile a calendar of the municipal records [9]. In doing so he made "a selection from such entries as seem, for various reasons, of special interest. Many of the items, both of receipt and expenditure, recur with little change year by year over long periods, but many others have considerable general and local interest and the citations might have been largely extended, especially from the earlier years". In each entry the years are followed by the name of the receiver at that time.

In 1528-9 John Pers. recorded [9]:

Itm gyuyn in Rewarde to the duke of Suffolkes s^runt w^t the Daunsynge bere & the dausyng wyff xx^d

In 1540-1 John Ude recorded [9]:

Itm p^d for ix yards of cloth to make a coat for Tom hordson the floole pce the yard viij^d vj^s(6s.)

George Ferrers was born around 1500 AD, was a Member of Parliament for Plymouth, and a member of Lincolns Inn. He also served at court, and was left 100 marks in Henry VIII's will. In 1551, he was appointed to arrange entertainments to distract Edward VI after the execution of his uncle Somerset. He started his twelve days of authority as Lord of Misrule on Christmas Day and he arranged a 'Midsomer Wache' at Greenwich. Machyn [12] saw the Midsomer Wache procession arrive in the City (on Monday 4 January 1552!) and wrote:

".... and then came the mores dance dansyng with tabret"

Morris dancers appeared in Plymouth in 1564, 1567-1570, 1574, 1575, 1577, 1585, 1587, 1594, 1595 and 1605 [13-15] and in 1566, 1567 and 1568 [16, 17], and are mentioned in the City Accounts for May Day 1574-5 and 1576-7 [17-18].

In 1566-7 Edward Cocke recorded [9]:

Morice dancers 5s. for a breakfast; 20d. new cutting the Gogmagog

In the Widey Court Book No III for 1569-70 Walter Peperell recorded [9]:

Itm payed to Robert Sprye for payntyng of the maye pole and the balle at M^r Mayres vj^siiij^d (6s 4d)

In 1574-5, there was an additional payment:

Itm p^d to hym thatt played apon the hoby horsse vj^d (6d.)

On 11th June 1583, Sir Humphrey Gilbert left Plymouth for Newfoundland in an attempt to found a colony. The five vessels in the fleet were *Delight* (alias *The George*), the barke *Raleigh* (with the eponymous Walter in charge), *Golden Hinde* (not Drake's ship), *Swallow* and *Squirrill*. Edward Haies, a member of the company [18-20] wrote of the preparations:

"....for solace of our people, and allurment of the savages we were provided of Musike in good variety, not omitting the least toys, as morris dancers, hobby horse and Maylike conceits to delight the savage people, whom we intended to winne by all faire meanes possible."

Two days after leaving Plymouth, Raleigh turned back claiming illness, although other sources suggest inadequate provisions. Gilbert took possession of Newfoundland (including adjacent lands) for the English crown on 5 August 1583. However, the fleet departed within weeks due to lack of supplies, with no attempt to form a settlement. Morison [21] wrote

"Ashore the Morris dancers, hobby horses, and jack o' the greens cavorted, to the delight of the fishermen, many of whom joined in."

... but this may simply be speculation as Haies makes no mention of dancing at St. John's, nor is dancing mentioned in surviving letters written at St. John's. The Morris dancers may even have been on the largest ship, *Raleigh*!

Gog and Magog on the Plymouth Hoe

Worth [9] also found the ancient giant figure of Gogmagog carved onto the Plymouth Hoe of some interest as witnessed by his comprehensive recording of entries in the municipal records:

1493-4 Rauf Tywarne (corrected to Tylbarne in the City Library copy) to Cotewyll for y^e renewyng of y^e pycture of Gogmagog a pon y^e howe vij^d (7d.)

1500-1 John JosephItm pd for makyng clene of gogmagogvii

viij^d (8*d*.)

1514-15 Thomas Sayer 8d. for cutting gogmagog

1526-7 Christopher Moore Itm pd for Clensyng and ryddyng of gogmagog apon ye howe viij^d (8d.)

1529-30 Thomas SayerCleansyng of gogmagog8d.

1541-2 Wm Edgcombe Itm pd to William hawkyns baker for cuttyng of Gogmagog the pycture of the Gyaunt at hawe viij^d (8d.)

Plymouth Morris (PM) now

Plymouth Morris were founded as an all-male side in 1965 and were revived on 4th December 1969. PM are members of the Morris Ring and dance mostly Cotswold tradition with a few Border dances. Ladies formally joined as dancers in 2017.

In 1989, during a "thin" period, PM introduced the Plymouth tradition (mainly four-man dances in the Cotswold style) to entertain the crowds while the full team arrived! The main distinctive feature of the PM costume is blue wavers (handkerchiefs). Cutlasses were introduced around 1993.

The precision of the dancing varies with context of the performance. Webley Twizzle on a small floating pontoon on the River Hamble (1980s). Danced immediately after Bow Street Rapper (the Morris team of Birmingham Royal Ballet) in front of TV cameras to great acclaim (1991). Danced in the centre lane of the M5 northbound carriageway near Strensham Services to distract frustrated motorists while the police and air ambulance cleared an accident ahead (1999). Performed Jockey to the Wildlife Park (normally "to the Fair", animal impersonations during corners caused relabelling of the dance) at Jersey Zoo! (2007).

(manukereners).	Cullasses were introduced around 1995.	at Jersey 2001 (2007)	•		
	Sticks	Wavers (or none)	Dances in our repertoire		
Adderbury	Beaux (Shooting), Bluebells of Scotland, Brighton Camp Black Joke				
	Flowing Bowl, Good King Wenceslas, Lads A'Bunchu	m,			
	Postman's Knock				
Ascott-under	Balancy Straw, Black Joker	Country Gardens, Highland Mary,	Mrs Casey,		
-Wychwood	Constant Billy	Old Woman Tossed Up, Orange in	Bloom, Valentines		
Badby	Shooting	Broad Cupid			
Bampton		Banbury Bill, Bobbing Around, Bor	nny Green Garters, Highland Mary, Rose Tree		
Bledington	Young Collins	Cuckoo's Nest, Flowers of Edinbur	gh, Idbury Hill, Old Woman Tossed Up,		
	Trunkles, William and Nancy				
Border	Not For Joe, Upton-on-Severn stick	Three Jolly Sheepskins, Upton hand	lkerchief.		
Brackley		Jockey to the Fair			
Bucknell		Queens Delight, Saturday Night			
Fieldtown	Balance the Straw	Dearest Dicky, Forresters, Lass of Richmond Hill,			
	Mrs Casey,				
		Shepherd's Hey, Step Back, The Ro	se, Valentine		
Headington	Bean Setting, Constant Billy, Hunt the Squirrel, Rigs	Blue-Eyed Stranger, Laudnam Bund	ches, Off, Trunkles		
Ilmington		Bumpus O'Stretton, Cuckoo's Nest			
Lichfield	Abnells, Ring of Bells, Vandalls of Hammerwich	Sheriff's Ride			
Oddington	Young Collins	Highland Mary			
Plymouth	Ol' Barbican, Old Jerry Grumpwood	Jumping for Jogi ; Navy Blue Knick	kers, Rubiks		
Plymouth sword	Black Joker, Foreman's Fancy, Hearts of Oak, Shoelaces, Skirmish, The Mayflower Remembered				
Sherborne		Cuckoo's Nest, Monk's March, Ora	unge-in-Bloom		
Stanton Harcourt		Nutting Girl	-		
Page 7 of 24	First edition	n: 06-February 2019 The	Plymouth Morris Tradition, \odot 2019 Plymouth Morris		

REFERENCES

- 1 Percy M Young, A History of British Music, W.W. Norton, 1967.
- 2 Roy Dommett, What was Morris?,The [Morris Ring] Circular, February 1994, 23, p 3.
- 3 M Heaney, The Earliest Reference to the Morris Dance?, Folk Music Journal, 2004, 8(4), 513-515.
- 4 M Heaney, E-mail, Tuesday 5 April 1994 09:27:14.
- 5 Alice Wetenhale (Will), PRO Prerogative Court of Canterbury Stokton 24-25, 1458.
- 5 Sir Charles Chaworth (Will), Testamenta Eboracensia: A Selection of Wills from the Registry at York, Part II George Andrews, Durham, 1885. Publications of the Surtees Society 30(CLXXIX), 220-229.
- 6 H.L. Douch, Household Accounts at Lanherne, Journal of the Royal Institution of Cornwall (New Series), 1953, 2(1), 25-32.
- A.H. Johnson, The History of the Worshipful Company of the Drapers of London, Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1915, 2(ii), 273.
- 8 Richard Nicholls Worth, Calendar of the Plymouth municipal records, Plymouth, 1893, pp.87-88 M Heaney, E-mail, Friday 25 March 1994 12:29:04.
- 9 Western Morning News, Saturday 16 October 1982, page 3.
- 10 Western Evening Herald, Thursday 14 October 1982, page 9.

- Henry Machyn (ed J.G. Nichols),The Diary of Henry Machyn,Camden Society, London, 1848, no XLII p13.
- 12 John Wasson, Records of Early English Drama: Devon, University of Toronto Press, Toronto - Canada, 1987.
- 13 Mike Heaney and John Forrest, Annals of Early Morris, The Morris Ring and Sheffield CECTAL, 1991.
- 14 John Forrest and Michael Heaney Charting Early Morris, Folk Music Journal, 1991, 6(2), 169-186.
- 15 Llewellyn Jewitt, A History of Plymouth, Simpkin, Marshall & Co, London, 1873, pp 102-105.
- Edwin Christopher Cawte, Ritual Animal Disguise,D.S. Brewer, Cambridge, 1978.
- 17 Plymouth Receivers' Accounts, Plymouth Corporation Records, 1574-5, W132, f23.
- 18 Donald Barr Chidsey, Sir Humphrey Gilbert: Elizabeth's Racketeer, Harper & Bros., New York, 1932.
- 19 William Gilbert Gosling, The Life of Sir Humphrey Gilbert, Constable, London, 1911.
- 20 Richard Hakluyt, The Principal Navigations Voyages Traffiques and Discoveries of the English Nation, JM Dent, London, 1927, volume VI page 12.
- 21 Samuel Eliot Morison, The European Discovery of America: The Northern Voyages, AD 500-1600 Oxford University Press, New York, 1971, p. 574
- 22 May Littleton, private communication, 31 May 1997.

Plymouth Morris Tradition dances

The dances of the Plymouth Morris tradition were first performed in public during 1989. The tradition developed when a number of hard-core dancers left the city to pursue enhanced career prospects. The core dancers in the tradition are for four men to permit dancing to start before the full complement of dancers arrive at a venue.

Characteristics of the tradition (always left foot start).

The Dances are listed in the Table on the following page.

<u>The Style</u> is intended to be "naval". In particular, hockle-back steps have a side-to-side sway.

<u>The Common Figures</u> (**CF**), HCB (hockle back) to start, FU/HCB (foot-up/HCB), GP (gip), IL (into line, a.k.a. line ahead), BB (back-to-back), SQ (squares) and HO (Hoe). A common variant is for SQ to be called before BB.

<u>The Steps</u> are double step and hockle back with a "naval" sway (early records end plain caper then feet together jump).

<u>The Arm Movements</u> are hands forward and up to shoulder height on the first note of each of the first two double steps and pulled in to waist on the second note. Hands held out at waist height parallel with the body for the hockleback. The CF (mnemonic: Jogi Is Being Sick on the Hoe) are:

JP (jyp) is advance to partner and turn half-left to change places and hockle back to opposite position. Repeat to end in home position.

IL (into line/line ahead) is FU in single line (dancers 1 and 3 move diagonally forward while 2 and 4 go square in and turn to give a single line of 1, 2, 3, 4), hockle back in-line, repeat but hockle back to place.

BB (back-to-back) is pass right shoulders both times and hockle back to place.

SQ (squares) is one double step and quarter turn (out-of-set), repeat three times (turning the same way), double step to meet and hockle back to place. Dancers 1/2 start moving up the set, dancers 3/4 start moving down the set. For **multiple sets**, split at the line of symmetry (all dancers head for nearest end of group).

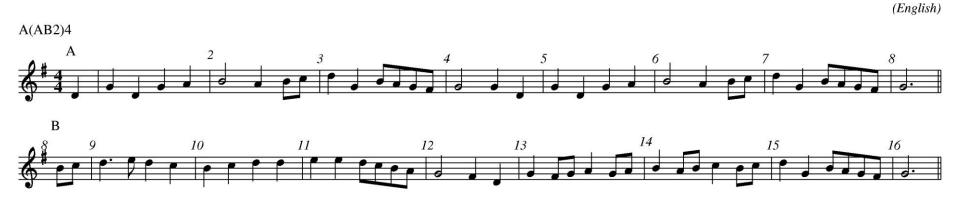
HO (Hoe) is GP across, GP first corners, GP second corners, GP on sides to home position. While one pair cross, the other pair hold position then move in and all hockle back to place.

Each individual dance is defined by Distinctive Features (**DF**).

Page	Dance	Choreographer	Wavers	Sticks	Swords	Sequence	Tune	Composer
11	Foreman's Fancy (6 men)	Jogi Chana	~	~	1/man	$(AB)^{3}.(3A).B.(AB).A$	Rony O'Mallett	Jogi Chana
13	Hearts of Oak (8 men)	Andy King	~	~	1/man	~	Hearts of Oak	William Boyce
14	Jumping for Jogi	Plymouth Morris	2/man	~	~	$(AB)^{3}.(2A).B$	Jumping for Jogi	John Humphreys
15	Navy Blue Knickers	Plymouth Morris	2/man	~	~	$(AB)^{3}.(2A).B$	Navy Blue Knickers	John Humphreys
16	Ol' Barbican	Plymouth Morris	~	2/man	~	$(AB)^{3}.(2A).B$	Grandad's Knock	John Humphreys
17	Old Jerry Grumpwood	Plymouth Morris	~	1/man	~	$(AB)^{3}.(2A).B$	Old Jerry Grumpwood	John Humphreys
18	Rubiks	Jogi Chana	2/man	~	~	$(AB)^4.A$	Kwai Teasy	Jogi Chana
20	Shoelaces	John Summerscales	~	~	2/man	$(AB)^{3}.(2A).B$	Double Scales	John Humphreys
21	Mayflower Remembered	Andy King	~	~	2/man	$(AB)^{3}.(2A).B$	Westering Home	Hugh Roberton
22	< no dance yet >	~	~	~	~	~	Cornwood Show	John Humphreys
22	< no dance yet >	~	~	~	~	~	Rachel's Jig	John Humphreys
23	< no dance yet >	~	~	~	~	~	Plymouth Hoe	John Humphreys
24	< no dance yet >	~	~	~	~	~	Plymouth On	John Humphreys

Plymouth Morris Tradition dances

The British Grenadiers



Bledington "Skirmish" (6 men) has been adapted to the Plymouth style with one cutlass/man, and hockle back steps. The ribbons imitating blood were inspired by the Plymouth Theatre Royal plays directed by Yukio Ninagawa.

Foreman's Fancy: Plymouth Morris Tradition cutlass dance



Rony O'Mallett Dance – Foreman's Fancy (6 Men)

For six dancers, each with one cutlass (composed and choreographed by Jogi Chana). Also known as Foreman's Folly.

DF: See following page.

Foreman's Fancy: Plymouth Morris Tradition cutlass dance (continued)

KEY: bh: back-hand, fh: forehand, H: high, L: low, M : middle (3 and 4), O: opposite (1 and 2 or 5 and 6) FU – DF – IL – DF – BB – Hoe-Down – DF – rounds – DF – Duel-and-up (NB: no JP)

Sequence:

DF: Bars 1, 2: #1 and 6 strike tips with Mbh – Ofh – MMbh – Ofh – Mbh – OOfh

#2 and 5 strike tips with Mbh – Ofh – MMbh – Ofh – Mbh – Ofh Bars 3. 4:

Hoe-Down strike opposite cutlass on first beat of bar

- 2 bars set move down
- 2 bars 1/4 crossover, 5/6 back out
- 2 bars 2/3 crossover, 5/6 to top of set
- 2 bars all cross over to for set in position

Repeat until #1 back in home position

Rounds

- 2 bars back out to form a circle with cutlass tips pointing to centre
- 4 bars dance round
- 2 bars to middle with cutlass tips rising to high basket position
- back out to form a circle with cutlass tips pointing to centre 2 bars
- 2 bars dance round
- 2 bars high basket
- back out into set 2 bars

Duel strike tips with opposite

- Lbh Hfh LLbh
- Hbh Lfh HHbh
- Lbh Hfh LLbh
- Hbh Lfh HHbh and up

Hearts of Oak: Plymouth Morris Tradition cutlass dance



Hearts of Oak

William Boyce

For eight dancers, each with one cutlass held erect in right hand during all moves.

To the tune of the official march of the UK Royal Navy. Tune by William Boyce (c.1711-1779). Choreographed by Andy King.

FU - DF - JP - DF - IL - DF - BB - DF - SQ - DF - HO - DF.

DF: 6 capers, starting Left (L,R,L,R,L,R) Clash cutlasses on each caper.

1st caper (L) face opposites and clash high; **2nd** caper (R) clash with opposites (low). All turn diagonally right except #2 and #7. **3rd** caper (L): facing dancer diagonally right and clash high; and on **4th** caper (R) clash low.

N.B. #2 and #7 face across the set and caper on the spot with cutlasses still and erect while opposites clash cutlasses diagonally.

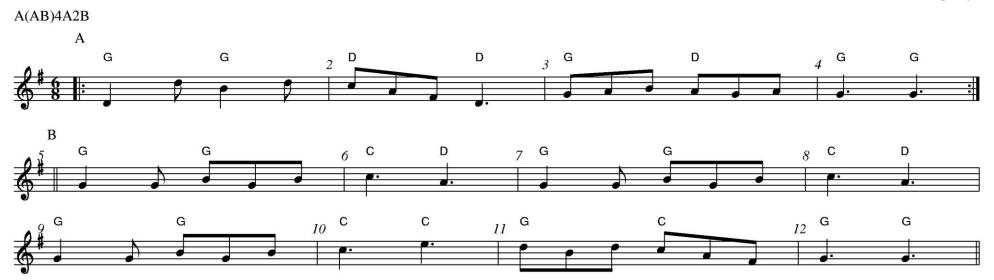
All turn to face the dancer up or down the line (#1 faces #3; #2 faces #4; #5 faces #7; #6 faces #8).

5th caper (L) clash high; **6th** caper (R) clash low

Turn and face across the set. Hold cutlasses erect with hilt at waist level for 1 beat. Raise cutlasses with forward motion on 2nd beat with hilt to shoulder level, and return to waist level on 3rd beat hockle back (4 steps starting left)

Final time 2 hockle backs step and jump and clash with opposite on final note. Leave cutlasses crossed.

Jumping for Jogi: Plymouth Morris Tradition handkerchief dance



Jumping for Jogi

John Humphreys

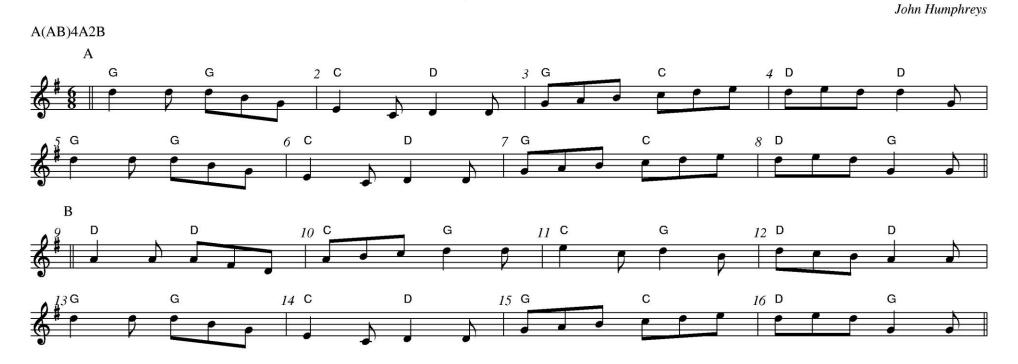
For four dancers.

DF: top couple double step up and jump. Bottom couple double step down and jump. Both couples double step in and jump. Hockle back to place. Repeat full sequence.

For eight dancers.

DF: top two couples double step up and jump. Bottom two couples double step down and jump. All four couples double step in and jump. Hockle back to place. Repeat full sequence.

Navy Blue Knickers: Plymouth Morris Tradition handkerchief dance



Navy Blue Knickers

For four dancers.

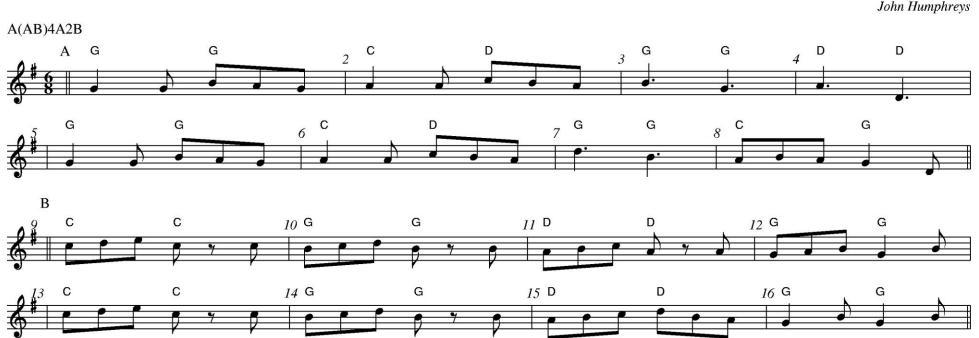
DF: Handkerchiefs are pulled straight down (as if climbing a rope!).

[A] Turn onto diagonal right for left hand and foot, then right hand and foot. Face forward for left then right [B].

Turn onto diagonal left for left then right. Face forward for left then right. Repeat A-B, then four hockle backs.

No hockle backs at the end of Squares: all continue to double step, facing up the set on the final double step.

Ol' Barbican: Plymouth Morris Tradition stick dance



Grandad's Knock Dance – Ol' Barbican

John Humphreys

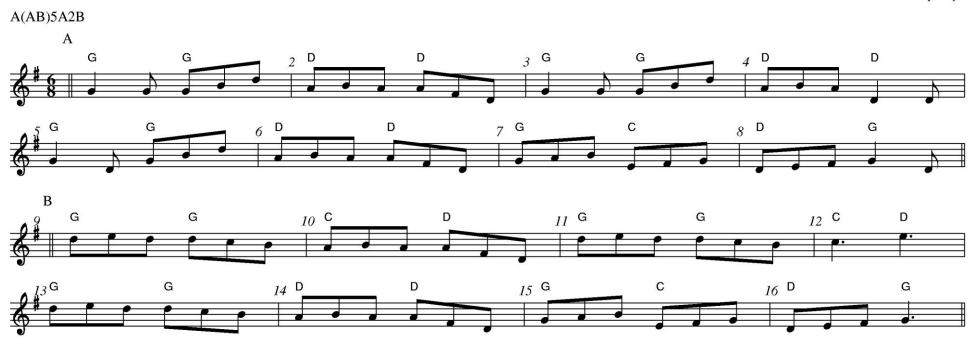
For four dancers, each with two long sticks.

DF: Hold both sticks parallel and rock gently from side to side while moving (like masts in the wind).

Sticks left high right low strike twice, right high left low strike twice, left high once, right high once, right high once, right high once. Repeat.

Plymouth Barbican is a part of the city that was relatively free of destruction during World War 2. The district is generally seen to correspond to the location and size of the medieval walled town of Sutton. The development of New Street was approved in 1584 by Mayor John Sperkes. The area has a number of real ale houses, so Ol' could be Old or Øl!

Old Jerry Grumpwood: Plymouth Morris Tradition stick dance



Old Jerry Grumpwood

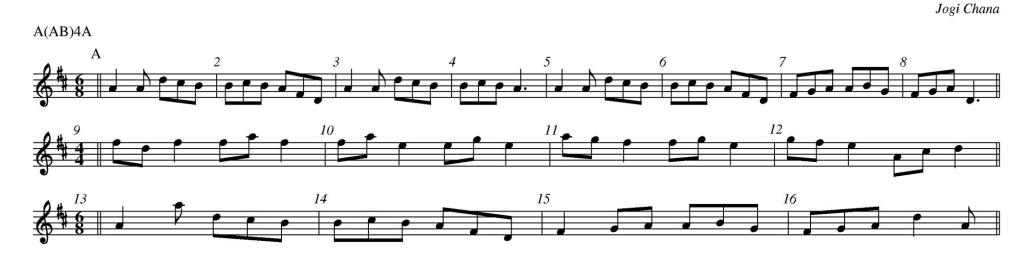
John Humphreys

For four dancers, each with one long stick.

DF: [A] Strike ground to right, strike partner right-to-left then left-to-right, jump and strike. Repeat from A but with dancer on own side. Repeat from A.

Occasionally performed with cutlasses when the first blow of the sequence is clash swords low rather than hit the ground.

Rubiks: Plymouth Morris Tradition handkerchief dance



Kwai Teasy Dance – Rubicks

For four dancers (composed and choreographed by Jogi Chana)

Ernő Rubik (born in Budapest in 1944) is an architect and inventor best known for the Rubik's Cube (1974) mechanical puzzle.

DF: See following page.

Rubiks: Plymouth Morris Tradition handkerchief dance (continued)

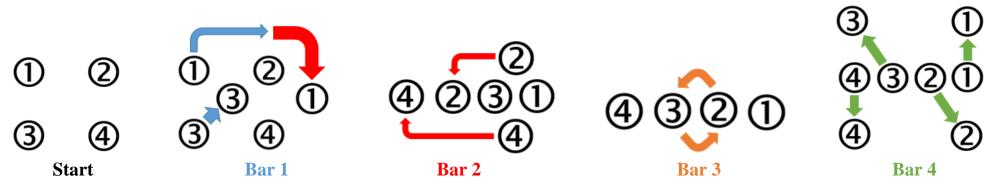
Figures: FU - DF - JP - DF - IL - DF - SQ - DF - HO (NB: no BB)

Common Figures are those normal to other Plymouth Tradition dances.

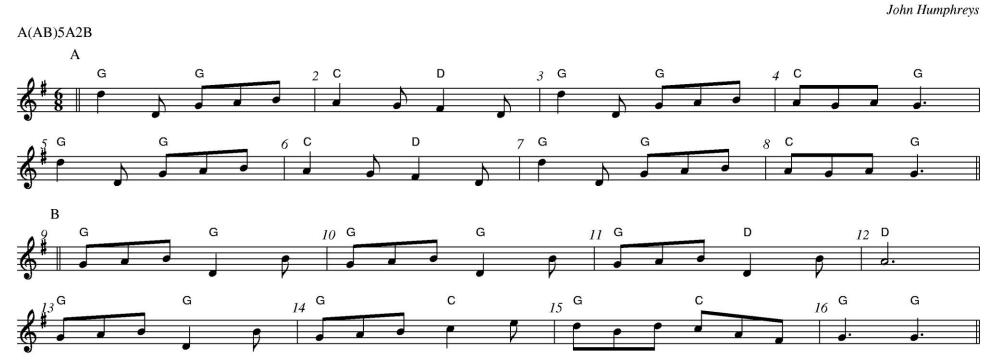
DF: the dancers progress clockwise from one dancing position to the next, then dance assuming the new position number. Two dancers move, the other dancers and number one move, everyone hockles back into the new position. The set rotates after every DF as shown below (the number is the dancer's initial starting position):

))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))	31	43	24))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))
34	4 2	21	13	34

- Bar 1 numbers 1 and 3 move
- Bar 2 numbers 1, 2 and 4 move
- Bar 3 numbers 2 and 3 swap places moving counter-clockwise
- Bar 4 all back out to the nearest corner of the set facing up ready for the next DF.



Shoelaces: Plymouth Morris Tradition cutlass dance



Double Scales Dance – Shoelaces

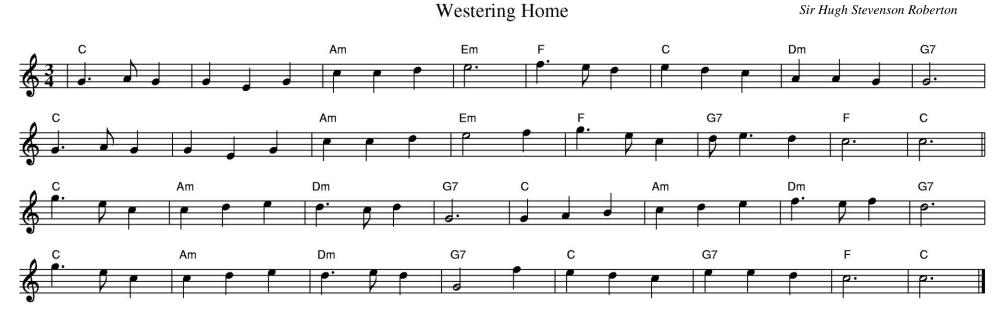
For four dancers, each with two cutlasses (tune: Double Scales)

DF: Strike own left sword with right sword at end of CF. [A] Strike right high to partner. Strike left to corner (first corners high, second corners low). Strike right to corner (first corners low, second corners high). Strike left high to own edge of set. Strike left to corner (first corners high, second corners low). Strike right to corner (first corners high, second corners low). Strike right to corner (first corners high, second corners low). Strike right to corner (first corners high, second corners low). Strike right to corner (first corners high, second corners low). Strike right to corner (first corners high, second corners low). Strike right to corner (first corners high, second corners low). Strike right to corner (first corners high, second corners low).

The dance features on the Traditional Dance Competition video recorded at Sidmouth Festival in 1993. The dance is named after an incident involving "the lovely Lynn" [22], a Magog lady, during an excellent weekend of drink, sorry dance, on the island of Jersey in May 1986.

Page 20 of 24

The Mayflower Remembered (tune: Westering Home): Plymouth Morris Tradition double cutlass dance for four persons



Figures: FU - DF - JP - DF - IL - DF - BB - DF - SQ - DF - HO. Left foot start throughout.

Common Figures are those normal to Plymouth Tradition dances. Cutlasses held erect in both hands during all moves. Strike own left sword with right sword at end of CF.

DF: Clash cutlasses as follows:

Facing partner across the set:

Clash self. Clash right high. Clash self. Clash left high. Clash self. Clash right low. Clash self. Clash left low. Facing up and down set:

Clash self. Clash right high. Clash self. Clash left high. Clash self. Clash right low. Clash self. Clash left low. Facing partner across the set:

[A] Double clash self. Single clash both swords opposite (forehand). Double clash self. Single clash both swords opposite (backhand).

2 hockle-backs on spot, step and jump, land feet together. Repeat line [A]. 2 hockle-backs, step and jump, and clash cutlasses. At end of dance, face up the set and clash with self, holding crossed cutlasses at shoulder height.

Plymouth Morris Tradition tunes with no dance



Cornwood Show

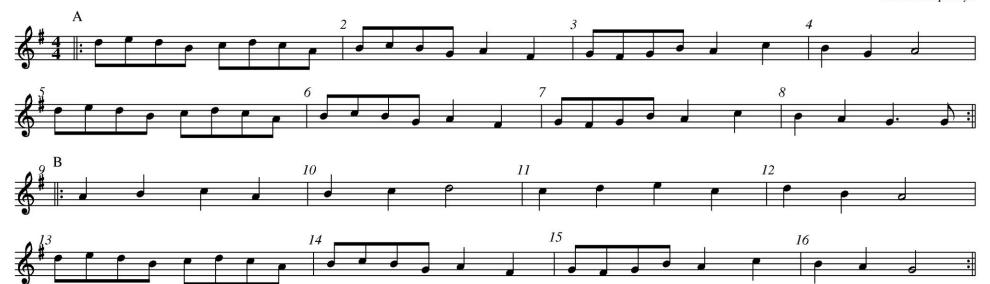
John Humphreys

Rachel's Jig

John Humphreys



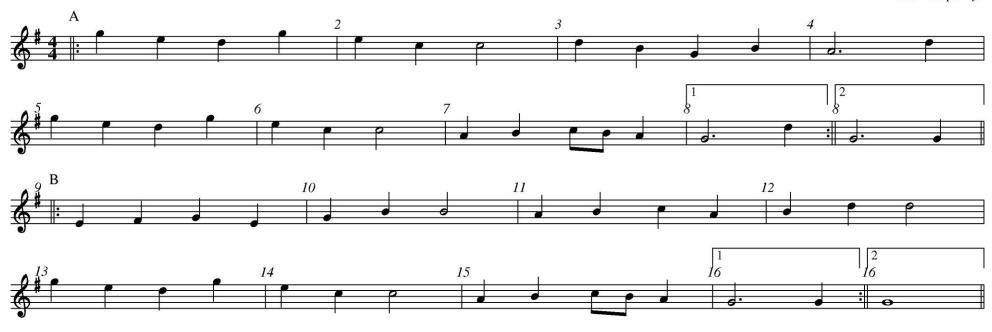
Plymouth Morris Tradition tune with no dance



Plymouth Hoe

John Humphreys

Plymouth Morris Tradition tunes with no dance



Plymouth On

John Humphreys





The Plymouth Morris Tradition

Edited by John Summerscales and Plymouth Morris www.plymouthmorrismen.org.uk

Plymouth Morris, Plymouth ~ England, 2018. ACMC Plymouth. ISBN 978-1-870918-05-3 (digital). ISBN 978-1-870918-06-0 (print).



First edition: 06-February 2019