

## THE FINDING OF GOLD

A dance composed for the opening of a replica of the Eureka stockade and first danced in 1981 by the Ballarat Morris, Victoria. The notation was provided by Anne McMahon of Ballarat and confirmed by filming a demonstration on Sunday, 3.4.83.

The odd side represent the miners and the even the troopers, the troopers have special peaked caps.

The steps used are the double step, open sidestep, hockle backstep and galley, danced in demonstration with only one hop.

Long sticks are used. There is a clash at the half point and ends of figures.

The dance sequence is Swagger Round, Foot Up and Down, Chorus, Cross Over, Chorus, Processional Across, Chorus, Hey and Chorus.

Once to yourself:- all face up. Nothing at end.

Swagger:- odds carry sticks across back of neck horizontal over shoulders holding ends in hands. Evens hold sticks sloped over shoulder as a gun. Odds walk round with a little touch of slouch, the evens march round with a touch of goose-step. Path as Lichfield Swagger Round, concentric rounds, odds passing outside evens at the top of the set and inside at the bottom. End with a feet together and jump and clash with opposite, both sides facing up. As sticks in right hand, evens reach across.

Foot Up and Down:- opposite sides dance in different directions. Hold stick vertical in right hand like Adderbury. Odds dance up towards music, retire backwards to place, with the sequence 2 double steps, hockle back steps and feet together, jump, turning to face across and clashing with opposite. Then the odds turn up and out, to their left, to face down and dance down, away from the music, retire backwards to place and turn out and up, to their right, to face across to their opposite for the clash. The evens do the opposite. They turn up and out to their right to dance down and back, turning the long way up to their left to face front for the half point clash, then dance up and back and jump to face front the short way.

Chorus 1 :- holding the sticks in both hands, like doubles Adderbury. All short open side steps to right and to left turning the body a little into the direction of travel. Two handed hold at bottom of stick and clash across the left diagonal ( 2&3, 4&5), then the right diagonal ( 1&4, 3&6 ), keeping the feet still, while the ends hit the ground at the end of the set. All jump in a little on both feet, and then all clash tips with opposite on the next beat. This all takes the first 4 bars.

Holding the sticks in both hands at the ends, the evens hold their stick vertically in front of them and the odds hit it with their stick held horizontally three times in the rhythm  $\text{♩} \text{♩} \text{♩}$ . Then the odds hold their stick vertical and the evens hit them with a horizontal stick three times. This is called the "Southern Cross". All galley left, moving back a little to place, holding the stick across the chest in a "doubles" hold again and face front with a feet together and jump

and clashing tips using a two handed grip.

**Gross Over:-** opposites cross the set, passing right shoulders, on two double steps, turning to right to face back during the second double step, carrying the stick in the right hand vertically as Adderbury. Then 4 big two handed clashes of tips in alternate directions, forehand, backhand, forehand, backhand with the feet apart and still. Repeat to place.

**Chorus 2 :-** as chorus 1 but replace the Southern Cross with shooting. First the odds shoot at their opposites, hip level, while the evens all dib three times by the side of their right foot, and all 6 stamp their right foot three times. This repeated with the evens shooting and the odds dishing. The written notation stated that the troopers (evens) shot first which would be more logical, but it depends on what view you took of the original event being commemorated.

**Processional Across:-** two of the troopers, 2 & 6, dance across the set towards the middle miner, 3, who retires a little, with a double step, feet together and jump. 2 & 6 hold their stick vertically in the middle and the no.3 holds his in both hands horizontally in front of his chest. On the jump 2 & 6 both hit the no.3 stick at the same time. Then they return to place on a hockle back step, feet together and jump and clash with opposite. The other 3 stand still till the clash with opposites. Then it is repeated with 1 & 5 going to no.4 etc.

**Chorus 3 :-** as chorus 1.

**Hey:-** For the ends a normal morris hey, turning out to start, 2 doubles going forward, turning the easy way into a hockle-back to complete travel, moving along the line of the set and turning to face across on the jump for the clash. Repeat to place. The centres go in opposite directions, no.3 up first and then down, and no.4 down and then up. They do not turn but face the same way throughout a half figure, going up/down the centre and retiring down/up the outside to place.

**Chorus 4 :-** as chorus 2 but end the galley with a step and caper into the centre for all-in with sticks up in the middle and yell "EUREKA".

**Musical:** play AB (A<sup>2</sup>B<sup>2</sup>)<sup>4</sup>

" In fifty one a tale was told  
 In many a town in Europe old  
 Of many found pastures sown with gold  
 Ho! Ho! have you heard of Ballarat?"

