

CLAYTON-LE-MOORS

Source: collected by Bernard Bentley in 1950's. Related to Whalley dance.
Sticks: 12" long with bells at end, probably held at other end.
Both files have the same footwork. 16 dancers in set.

Once to Self : mark time, hands by sides, start with left foot.

Introduction : used at start of dance and normally ahead of every figure.
Mark time for 8 bars facing up. Hands held above head, arms bent and both sticks waved about 6" each way, out and in, in each bar.

Fig.1 - All dance r/hr l/hl r/hr l/hl with hands up. The free leg on the hop is thrown out straight in front, nearly horizontal. The dancers face up, to right, down and to left in turn, one direction per bar, turning round to right. Repeat going round other way.

Fig.2 - In 4's. First corners (1&4) arm right the left (8 bars) then second corners (2&3) repeat (8 bars), all using a skip step. Mark time when not travelling, with arms by sides.

Fig.3 - Lines cross over into opposites' places with 8 skip steps and hands up, turn up to face back and 8 skip steps back to place turning up to face up at end. Right hand column of dancers always pass on up side, left shoulders pass each time. Could repeat to pad out to 16 bars.

Fig.4 - Outsides (16 bars). Cast out from top, skip with hands up. Return up centre with inside sticks crossed with partner.

Fig.5 - Long corners. First corners of whole set (1 & 16) skip to meet, arm right, arm left and skip back to place (8 bars). Other corner (2 & 15) repeat. In-active dancers mark time, hands by sides.

Fig.6 - Insides (16 bars). Cast in down middle from top with skip step and inside sticks crossed with partner. Return up outside with both sticks up.

Fig.7 - Hands Across. In 4's. Use skip step. 8 bars each way, first right sticks up in centre in a bunch and back with left sticks up in a bunch.

Fig.8 - Finish. End the Introduction figure all in a single file facing up, the odd of each pair in front of the even. With both hands up, 4 slips to left, 8 slips to right and 4 slips to left, back into centre (8 bars). In the single file all step,

Bar 1-2 right toe out to side, right toe in front, right toe to side again and right to behind left foot. Spring on supporting foot for each change.

Bar 3-4 repeat with weight on right foot, working left toe.

Bar 5-6 as bars 1-2

Bar 7-8 as bars 3-4 but end feet together.

If the slipping in fig.8 does not seem aesthetically satisfying then it is suggested that something like the following be tried:
Start in the two columns, 2 bars of mark time, all 4 slips away, ie out, then 8 slips into middle into one line.