



## 2017 Mass Dances

---

### Highland Mary *(tune and dance)*



**Bampton figures:** Foot up (and down), Chorus, Half gyp, Chorus, Whole gyp, Chorus, Half Rounds (and back)

Rounds is halfway and back - flip after the single steps and back up steps along the rounds direction, then half caper and move forward in the other direction, flipping again before backing to original place with caper. (Local variations have the flip in various places; as long as you keep moving in the same direction, timing of flip is variable.)

**Distinctive Figure (chorus):** DS up, slightly left, bending forward and gesturing with both hankies DS in place (facing up) hankies flick upwards Turn over R shoulder and repeat facing down Half Hey (Bampton style) (repeat all to return to place)

(Video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cm6ivyPwHxI>)

# Ragged Crow

(tune: Portobello Hornpipe)

A



B



Long stick dance for 4

Order of the dance: Foot Up and In; Chorus; Windmills; Chorus; Ragged Crow Hey; Chorus; Square Hey; Chorus; Plug Holes

**CHORUS:**

1 & 2 face down, 3 & 4 face up. 6 clashes forehand / backhand, then three quick forehand clashes  
Jump to face across the set (1 facing 2, 3 facing 4), repeat sticking with the person you're now facing

**FOOT UP AND IN:**

2 surging forward, 2 in place, 2 back to where you started, 2 in place, 2 in across the set (1 to 2, 3 to 4), 2 back, 1 into the set up and down (1 to 3, 2 to 4), 1 back and stomp in place RLR

**WINDMILLS:**

Sticks vertical in the center, single step clockwise 3 places in 3 single steps, then leap straight out on beat 4. Leaping in again on beat 1, repeat 4 times until back home.

**RAGGED CROW HEY:**

This Hey starts as a square, then forms a line, then back to a square, then a line, etc. for a total of 8 changes. First corners (1 and 4) dance in a diamond pattern, 2nd corners (2 & 3) dance in a modified W pattern. Each movement is a single step, followed by a single step in place.

First corners move in the following diamond pattern:

Forward Left, forward Right, Back right, Back Left (to home position), Forward Left, forward Right, Back right, Back Left to home.

Second corners move in the following modified W pattern

Forward Left, Forward Right, Back Right (not crossing the other 2nd corner), Forward Right, Back Right, Back Left, Forward Left (crossing other 2nd corner), Back Left to home.

**SQUARE HEY:**

This is a cloverleaf pattern all the way around. First corners will always turn over their right shoulders, 2nd corners will always turn over their left shoulders. All face up and down the set and cast out of the set, continuing all the way around, single stepping to cross right shoulders up and down the set (1 with 3, 2 with 4). Cross with a clash on beat 3. Continue the cloverleaf turn pattern 4 times around, clashing on each leg of the cloverleaf until you return to home.

**PLUG HOLES:**

Imagine water swirling down a drain. With stick on right shoulders, dance rounds in a clockwise fashion. After 4 single steps, move sticks (upright) into the middle. After 4 more, place your left hand onto the right shoulder of the person in front of you. At the end of the phrase, end facing out, sticks held horizontally over your head.

Video - <https://youtu.be/KbHRMfLAgfl>

# Shooting

(tune: *Beaux of London City*)

A



B



This version of the stick dance is based on the one collected in Adderbury, Oxfordshire. This is a corner dance in which 1 and 6 perform the Distinctive Figure immediately followed by 2 and 5 and then 3 and 4.  
**Formation;** Normal 6-person set.

**Steps;** Single steps starting on the right foot throughout. The music is in 12 beat phrases so end with feet together and jump, landing on the last beat of the last bar of the phrase of music, clashing sticks across the set (1 with 2, etc.). If you want, you can dance 9 single steps then step back on the left foot (beat 10) forward on the right foot (beat 11), jumping forwards onto the left foot (beat 12) leaving the right foot kicked forward as you clash sticks, usually ready to step off into the next part of the dance.

**Common Figures;** (Once-to-Yourself of 12 beats into figures which are 2 sets of 12 beats); Foot-Up (twice). Half-Gyp. Procession-Down. Procession-Up. Hands-Around. Adderbury-Hey.

## Distinctive Figures

1. 1 and 6 face and dib the bottom end of their sticks on the ground (beat 1), then hit the tip of their sticks on the ground (beat 2), then strike sticks (beat 3). This is immediately followed by 2 and 5 repeating the sequence (beats 4, 5 and 6), then 3 and 4 (beats 7, 8 and 9) then you repeat the sequence with your opposite across the set (beats 10, 11 and 12). Repeat. For safety, those not striking should step back and a decision should be taken on how strongly the striking should be performed. It helps to stride forwards on the 3 beats, right-left-right, before you strike so that you are closer. This figure is performed after Foot-Up and Half-Gyp.
2. 1 and 6 face and dib the bottom end of their sticks on the ground (beat 1), then hit the tip of their sticks on the ground (beat 2), then shoulder their stick as if it were a rifle and shoot at each other (beat 3). This is immediately followed by 2 and 5 repeating the sequence (beats 4, 5 and 6), then 3 and 4 (beats 7, 8 and 9) then you repeat the sequence with your opposite across the set (beats 10, 11 and 12). Repeat. This figure is performed after Procession-Down and Procession-Up.
3. This figure is the same as the previous one except that, instead of shooting at each other, the pairs shoot skywards. Repeat. This figure is performed after Hands-Around and Adderbury-Hey. It has become common at the very last shot for the dancers to round on the musicians and shoot them.

Video - <https://vimeo.com/42451322>

## Feathers

(tune: Fairy Dance)

Eynsham is a particularly vigorous tradition and unlike many other traditions the dance is broken into groups of 6 bars rather than 4.

The stepping is a standard morris step (1,2,3 hop) but is a closed side step. All dances start with a break comprising hopping on the left leg for six bars while the right leg goes in front of the left leg then out to the right then behind the left leg ending with a kick forward. The right leg is then in the air to start the stepping onto the right leg with the left leg coming up close behind the right.

The hands in the break come up to cross over above the head on the first beat then out on the second, on the third they touch the chest and are flung out in front and at 45 deg on the last beat. As the stepping starts they come down by the side then they are flung up to a high stretch above the head for the first bar, fitting into one bar of stepping to come down again to cross over below navel and then up high again for the second bar. This is repeated for the third, fourth, fifth and sixth bars.

Some dances have a Gatepost figure where the set opens up into line. In this case if the turn is 180 deg turn down, if it is 270 deg turn up to form the line that rotates round an end into a straight line.

Turns to face a different direction are done are on the break and are smart

FU - Foot Up, FD - Foot down, BB - Back to Back, Spts - Spots, WR - Walk Right, IO - Dance In and Out, Cst - Cast, UIL - Up in Line, UITL - Up into Line, WH - Whole, Hey, Cnr - Corners, AU - All up, DIS - Down into set, DITL - Down into Line

Dance	Sequence	Distinctive Figure	Comments
Feathers	FU, Fe, BB, Fe, Cocky, Fe, WR, IO	A pleasant more gentle dance. Feathers figure is 1,4 & 5 dance round right while 2, 3 & 6 come into middle and dance left facing in. Set is formed up after one dance round when 2, 3 & 6 dance round while 1,4 & 5 go in to meet	Pay special attention to the large circle of three in the feathers figure. Remember to always turn out when going outside in feathers figure

Video - <https://youtu.be/B9mnhTWmaAU>