

# The Celebration

*A North West style dance for one or more dancers, written in 2008 to celebrate the great variety of steps that can be found in North West dances.*

Music	Gallopede. Use an A for intro, then (ABC)x6 The left hand column of the notations shows how many bars of music each move takes (one bar being a polka's worth of music)
Sticks	Danced with short sticks, held at one end, but other implements may work just as well
Stepping	A multitude of different steps are used at some point in the dance, though crossed polka and single step are the basic steps. All figures and the chorus start with the left foot.
Figures	The figures should always be danced in the same order to remove the need for calling. Every dancer does exactly the same (no partners or different positions to worry about) so some interesting set formations can be used.
Hand positions	The right hand column of the notation shows the hand positions at each move in the dance, using the following key D both hands down at the sides U both hands up at ear height O both hands straight out to the sides F both hands out at the sides at 45° A 'alternate' hand up. Used for polkas, the same hand is up as the leg that's crossed in front, the other hand is down. X hands crossed in front of the body, pointing down at 45° C hands held against the chest B Hands clasped behind back P One hand one chest, the other held up and out at 45° to the vertical

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## Chorus

- |    |   |     |
|----|---|-----|
|    | Starting with hands out to the sides at a 45° angle   |     |
| 1½ | Walk 3 steps forward  | XFX |
| 1  | Polka to face left, bringing both hands up, stepping backwards at end and bringing hands half way down  | U   |
| ½  | Walk one more step backwards, hands down  | D   |
| 1  | Double kick, first facing 45° to left, both hands up, 2 <sup>nd</sup> facing another 45° to the left (i.e. now facing down), hands straight out to the side | UO  |
| 4  | Repeat above, starting right foot   |     |

## Figure 1 - Failsworth

- |   |                                    |   |
|---|------------------------------------|---|
| 1 | Walk 2 steps forwards              | D |
| 1 | Double kick, facing front          | U |
| 2 | 2 Polkas facing front              | U |
| 1 | 1 Polka to face right              | A |
| 1 | 1 Polka to face down               | A |
| 2 | 2 Polkas facing down               | U |
| 8 | Repeat above, starting facing down |   |

## Figure 2 – Walk and Stamp

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| 2 | Walk 4 steps to the left (facing direction of travel)  | D |
| 2 | 4 stamps on the left foot, but putting your weight back onto the right foot between stamps, facing 45° to the right for the first stamp, and turning slowly so the 4 <sup>th</sup> stamp is at 45° to the left. Leave your weight on the left foot after the final stamp | D |
| 2 | 4 single steps back to starting place (starting right foot), still facing left   | U |
| 1 | 1 Polka to face front  | U |
| 1 | Stamp the left foot, putting your weight onto it   | D |
| 8 | Repeat above, moving to the right with the right foot, then stamping with the right foot.  |   |

## The Celebration

### Figure 3 – West Bretton

½	1 Step diagonally forwards to the left	B
½	Drag the right foot to meet the left, weight still on the left foot	B
½	Step onto the right foot	B
½	Hop on the right foot, left thigh horizontal, foot below knee	B
1	1 Polka to face 90° to the left	B
1	Hop on the left foot, right knee up	B
4	Repeat above 4 bars starting right foot. This takes you further along the same diagonal as the previous move	B
8	Repeat the above 8 bars, bringing you back along the diagonal to place	B

### Figure 4 - Royton

½	Hop on the right foot, placing the left foot behind and to the left	O
½	Hop on the right foot again, placing the left foot behind and to the right	O
1	Hop on the right foot 3 times, tapping the left foot in front to the left, right then left	O
½	Change onto the left foot, placing the right foot behind and to the right	O
½	Hop on the left foot, placing the right foot behind and to the left	O
1	Hop on the left foot 3 times, tapping the right foot in front to the right, left then right	O
4	Perform 4 slow step kicks to face down, i.e. Step onto the right foot, turning 45° to the right, kicking the left leg forwards across the body, Step onto the left foot, turning 45° to the right, kicking the right forwards across the body, repeated.	O
8	Repeat the above 8 bars, starting on the left foot, but still turning to the right in the last 4 bars	O

## The Celebration

### Figure 5 – Slow Side Step

- |    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| 1  | Step sideways to the left, leaving the right foot where it was                                  | C |
| 1  | Step onto the right foot, placing it next to the left   | C |
| 2  | Repeat the above 2 bars   | C |
| 2  | 4 walking steps to turn on the spot 360° by the left shoulder,<br>left hand up                  | P |
| ½  | Step onto the left foot   | P |
| 1½ | Hop on the left foot 3 times, kicking the right foot forwards,<br>backwards then forwards again | P |
| 8  | Repeat the above 8 bars, starting on the right foot and<br>moving right                         |   |

### Figure 6 – Final Figure

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 2 | 4 single steps diagonally forwards to the left  | D |
| 2 | 2 Polkas backwards to place   | U |
| 4 | Repeat the above 4 bars, but travelling diagonally forwards<br>to the right               |   |
| 4 | Repeat the above 4 bars, but travelling forwards  |   |
| 4 | Perform half a Chorus on the spot, facing front. Finish with<br>the right leg in the air. |   |