

## **Ripon Nine Man's Morris**

Music used is Winstler Gallop, Three Around Three and Dorset Four Hand Reel. 3 times through each with A music for step up and 2 Bs for figures, there being a step up between each figure.

Starts with a set of eight plus a caller at the head of the set. Always left foot start, implements used are pirns and are held at waist height when not arming. Arms are down by the side during once to yourself, on the 15<sup>th</sup> beat, stamp left foot, on 16<sup>th</sup> bring pirns to waist height.

### **Step up**

Left foot start, walking forwards Left, Right, Left, Kick with right leg straight and parallel to the ground, throwing both arms straight up in the air (both feet leaving the floor too). Then step back Right, Left, Right, tap Left ready to repeat. Arms swing to left with a left step and to the right on a right step and back to the waist for the last tap.

The above is repeated.

### **Cast out**

Polkaing throughout with alternate arming i.e. left foot polka, left arm in the air (other arm at waist height). Both columns cast out as the dancer at the head of the set polkas to the bottom, as the two columns come back to the top the dancer at number 7 polkas up the middle of the set to be between 1 and 2 and the dancer who was at number 8 moves to between 3 and 4, the dancer who was at the head of the set moves in between 5 and 6. This dancer is now in the best place to call the dance. This takes 16 polkas in all and should be done as smoothly as possible to move into place ready for the next step up. The set should now be in a 3 x 3 formation.

### **Sides**

Polkaing and arming throughout. For the first 8 polkas the right hand column dance on the spot. Meanwhile, on the first polka the other two columns quarter turn to face each other. On the next 2 polkas they pass to each others place passing by the right shoulder. On the 4<sup>th</sup> polka the new middle column face down and the new left column face up. On the 5<sup>th</sup> polka they turn to face each other again, 2 more polkas to pass right shoulders back to place. On the 8<sup>th</sup> polka the middle column turn to face down, the left column turn to face up. This is repeated on the next 8 polkas with the left hand column polkaing on the spot.

### **Cross**

First polka, hands at waist height, the corner dancers turn to their right and the non-corner dancers also turn to their right but into the space between the corners and the middle dancer. (The middle dancer can do their own thing in this figure). On the second polka the 'arms' of the cross put their hands straight out to link with the other dancer and form a cross. The next 5 polkas move the cross round clockwise. On the eighth polka, bring the arms back to the waist and turn to the left with backs to the centre. On the 9<sup>th</sup> polka, quarter turn to the left to face back, anticlockwise. On the 10<sup>th</sup> polka arms out again and for the next 5 polkas take the cross back to the original position, use the 16<sup>th</sup> polka to bring arms back to the waist and return to place ready for the step up.

## **Fours**

1, 2, 4 & 5 do a right hand star, the rest stand still. Each star takes 4 polkas, arms out on the first and back in in the 4<sup>th</sup>. 2, 3, 5 & 6 do a left hand star, 1 & 4 continue dancing on the spot. Then 5, 6, 8 & 9 do a right hand star and finally 4, 5, 7 & 8 do a left hand star.

## **Arches**

The middle and left hand columns stand still for eight polkas while the left hand column cast through an arch formed by the other dancers. Their 'inside arms' go up on the 1<sup>st</sup> polka and down on the 1<sup>st</sup> beat of the eighth polka. The left hand column then stand still to form an arch for the right hand column to dance through. No arming.

## **Corners**

This figure is done in sequences of 4 polkas, arming on the first 3, arms to waist height on the 4<sup>th</sup>. The corner dancers are going to travel clockwise to each corner on each 4 polkas while at the same time the centres of each row are going to travel anti-clockwise. It is important to travel in a straight line to the next position and acknowledge the person you face, thereby keeping the set square. On the 16<sup>th</sup> polka everyone turns to face up. The middle dancer can do as they wish.

## **Clock face**

Arming while dancing, arms on the waist when stood still. On the 1<sup>st</sup> polka everyone turns to face the centre. Each dancer stops dancing in turn, number 1 first, followed by each dancer in a clockwise direction. This takes 8 polkas, on the ninth, number 1 starts dancing again, again followed by each dancer in turn, clockwise. It should be remembered that number 1 starts with a left foot polka, therefore each alternate dancer after this starts with a right foot polka. On the last polka everyone turns to face up. The middle dancer can gesticulate to the dancers when to stop and when to start!

## **Hey**

The left and right hand columns stand still while the middle column do a hey around them. They turn to the left first, traveling in front of the left hand column, round their backs and in front of the right hand column, round them and back to place (a figure of 8). This takes 8 polkas. Next, the front and back rows stand still while the middle row do a hey around them. They travel to the left of the front row, round them and to the left of the bottom row, round them and back to place. On the last beat of the figure the stationary dancers stamp their left feet ready for the step up.

## **Cast back**

The left and right columns cast out and back up the middle to form the original set. The centre column follow on as the outside columns pass them, the first dancer going left, the second dancer going right and the bottom dancer coming back to the top of the set as at the beginning. 16 polkas in all, arming all the time. After the last polka bring arms to waist height, the band play 3 chords and/or drum beats and the arms come down on the 4<sup>th</sup> beat to end the dance.

[www.riponcitymorrisdancers.org.uk](http://www.riponcitymorrisdancers.org.uk)