

Vandals of Hammerwich

Notes based on those by Jonathan Coxhead

Style: Lichfield

Tune: "Vandals of Hammerwich"

Foreman's notes;

Set of eight, long sticks, sticks are held across the front of the body in both hands when not in use.

Double steps. The normal sequence is 4 double steps and 4 hucklebacks (which are big, open, exaggerated backwards single steps with high knees) followed by 2 capers and a ``rest`` (during which there is a clash).

Sequence: Swagger round; chorus; heading up; chorus; back-to-back; chorus; heading down; chorus; hey; chorus ending all facing up. The dance is usually done with NO once-to-yourself. The music starts with 2 notes, and then the dancers are in.

A: Swagger round

1 3 5 7 lead up and turn R at the top of the set, then lead down the other side, turn R and walk back to place in time for the caper-caper-clash. At the same time, 2 4 6 8 lead up and turn L (passing the other line R), down the other side and back up (passing L at the bottom) back to place for their capers. This is walked (in time to the music).

B: Chorus

Stick is held at one end by both hands. Clash 2-handed on the R diagonal forehand, on the L diagonal forehand, then partner forehand, backhand, forehand; 2 sidesteps R, 2 sidesteps L, caper, caper, show; repeat replacing the show with a clash. For the very last chorus, all face up and replace the last clash with a show--everyone holds their stick above their heads in horizontal position.

A: Heading up

All face up. 3 4 take 1 or 2 double steps to stand outside 1 2 (respectively). Simultaneously, 7 8 do the same with 5 6. There are now have 2 lines of 4 facing up. The 4 double steps are completed in this position, and then everyone hucklebacks to place for the capers.

A: Back-to-back

In 2 double steps only, partners pass R then fall back L to make a line along the middle of the set. Huckleback from here back to place, then in another 2 double steps, do the entirety of a back-to-back L with your partner, ending in place for capers. (So the stepping sequence of 4 double steps, 4 hucklebacks is replaced by 2 double steps, 4 hucklebacks, 2 double steps for this figure.)

A: Heading down

Just like heading up, but head down...(1 2 dance down outside 3 4 while 5 6 dance down outside 7 8. At the end of the 4 double steps, everyone hucklebacks to place for the capers.)

A: Lichfield Hey (double A music)

Dancers 1 4 5 8 are 1st corners, 2 3 6 7 are 2nd corners. There is one sequence that repeats four times to finish the Hey. (faces, not places)

1st corners pass R (in pairs) in 1 double step; 2nd corners do the same;
all do 1 double step in place; then if you are in an end position, you cross the end of the set in 1 double step passing L; if you are on the side, you move up or down the side also passing L.
This is ? of the way through, and the sequence is the same each time except that 2nd corners start next time, then 1st again the 3rd time, and 2nd the 4th.

The music for this figure is double-length. After 14 double-steps of music, you are nearly home; but instead of the final pause and double step to get there, you do 2 capers instead (passing L) and clash when you get there---as you land.