

SALTINGTON (Syracuse, New York, USA)

Characteristics of the Style

A Cotswold-like style developed and performed by Salt Springs Morris of Syracuse, New York, USA from late 1999 to the team's dissolution in late 2001.

The Dances number 5, of which 1 is a stick dance and 1 is a hand-clapping dance. (Only 4 of the 5 were performed publicly. A few other dances were practiced a few times or proposed, but never entered the regular repertoire.)

The Style resembles that of Bledington and the other Stowe area traditions; initially the stepping, arm-movements, and figures (but not the dances) were based on those of Roy Dommett's reconstruction of Withington.

The Figures. The CF are foot-up, half-gip, whole-gip, and (half) rounds. FU is up, down, and up again. HG is really a kind of linear whole-gip, passing partner by lt shoulder across and back, then repeating by rt shoulder; the track is straight across the set and back twice. WG follows a more typical oval track, cl in first half and c.cl in second. HR is cl, then c.cl, then cl again, spiralling all in at end. HH used in some chorus figures, with usual morris mirror hey track. (For the first year a parallel hey was used.)

The Steps include 4-step, galley, step and jump, side-step, and plain capers. No movement in OY. All CF are 1 bar 4-step, G, 4-step, sj: rep. Start on rt foot for first half and lt foot for second. Turn around on G in FU, HG, and HR; G in place without turning in WG and HH. ss is closed.

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The Arm-movements are du in 4-step and sj. [Big, continuous swings with no flicks.] In G the arms are apart. Small waves in PC. Small upward flicks in front of chest with leading hand in ss, similar to Fieldtown Step Back.

Sticks are long and are held pointing slightly down when not in use, with abbreviated arm-movements. Strike with partner on last strong beat of CF (end of figure only, not at end of first half) and last strong beat of each HH. Do not strike during OY.

Stick and Hand-Clapping Dances

DONKEY RIDING (based on Bledington style dance by Binghamton Morris Men)

Sequence — OY; FU; DF; HG; DF; WG; DF; HR

DF — stick-clashing and half-heys

Stick-clashing: | L – T – | L – – – | M M M – | M M M – |

Here L is tips clashed low and backhand, T is tips clashed high and forehand, so (including striking at end of preceding figure) this is four “fencing” clashes. M is “quarterstaff” clashes, holding stick at both ends and striking middles against middles; rt hand high and lt hand low in bar 3, reverse in bar 4. (BMM let stick drop through loose rt hand at end of bar 2 so tip is in rt

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hand and butt is in It, but SSM simply raised tip up, around, and into It hand.)

NO RINGS (based on Adderbury style dance invented at Five Day Wonder in 1992)

Sequence — as Donkey Riding.

DF — hand-clapping. 13 beats:

1. Clap own hands together, to rt of center of body.
2. Holding hands together, strike back of It hand against back of partner's It hand (rt to It).
3. As 2, but with backs of rt hands (It to rt).
4. As 2.
5. Next 4 beats, hold back of It hand against back of partner's It hand:
6. Clap own hands.
7. Clap rt hand with partner, above the It hands.
8. As 5.
9. As 6, but below It hands.
10. Holding palm of rt hand against palm of partner's rt hand, clap It hand with partner, below rt hands.
11. Slap rt hip with rt hand.
12. Snap rt fingers.
13. Clap rt hand with partner's rt hand (rt to It).
14. Clap back of rt hand with back of partner's rt hand (It to rt).

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Repeat all the above for one DF. This apparently is based on a children's hand clapping game. The name refers to the fact that it is a good idea not to wear any rings while doing this dance. Not performed by SSM publicly.

Handkerchief Dances

YOUNG COLLINS

Sequence — as Donkey Riding.

DF — dance in position and half-heys. Face front and flick hkf to side: rt, lt, rt; then 2 PC (R, L); repeat flicks starting with lt hkf and and capers starting with L; then HH; then repeat all. Note catch step required before first HH.

GALLANT HUSSAR

Sequence — as Donkey Riding.

DF — Side-steps and dance in position — 2 bars ss(rt), 2 bars ss(lt), 4 bars 4-step with hankie flicks: rt to side, lt to side, both to both sides, both up (ready to come down at start of

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following CF.)

THE WEBLEY

Sequence — as Donkey Riding.

DF — Corners cross — 2 bars 4-step, G, 4-step, sj. Cross on first 2 bars, turn on G, and end facing in center. Back up to corner place with 4 walking steps while next corners begin crossing. (Last corners hold back to end in corner place instead of center.)

(Saltington)

Donkey Riding

(English)

A(AB)4

♩ = 108

A



B



Rhythm: Reel

Source: Binghamton MM

No Rings

(Saltington)

Rich Holmes

A



B



(Saltington)

Gallant Hussar

Trad.

A(AB)3A

A



B



Transcription: From Barrand's Six Fools and a Dancer, apparently from Bledington version as shown in Bacon.

(Saltington)

The Webley

(English)

A(AB3)3A

A



B



Rhythm: Jig

Source: Bacon (Jott 1956)

Transcription: From Bampton Webley Twizzle in Bacon's Handbook of Morris dances.