

RING O' BELLS

(England)

A Morris dance from the town of Lichfield as reconstructed by W. Everett and F. C. Phillips as told by Alex Helm. Traditionally done by men only.

Music: Live music best, or can be danced to Fools Jig, Record # 7EG8846.

Formation: Set of 8: 2 4 6 8
 1 3 5 7

Danced throughout with a single step (step hop) and with two sticks.

Meas.

1st Figure

- A 1-8 Odd line and even line dance around in a big circle led by #1 and #2 M. Odd line CW and even line CCW. Odd line pass outside of even line at the top and bottom. At the end of this figure, as in all the figures, you face your ptr and make two capers (leaps) in place and clash your stick in front of you on cts 13, 14, 15. On ct 16 pause, ft together.

Chorus -- Stick Clashing

- B 1-4 Sticks are clashed for each ct of the music. Everyone clashes R stick with the person diag to the R, L stick with your ptr, R stick diag to the L and L stick with your ptr and repeat. Those at the ends pretend you have someone there to clash with.
- 5-6 Everyone make four capers turning out in a circle to your R once around.
- 7-8 With your sticks at your side, strike the stick of the person on your R (at the ends of the set strike as though in a circle) three times on cts 13, 14, 15. Pause on ct 16.

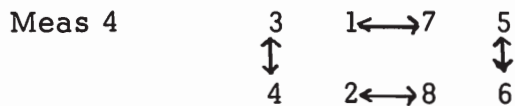
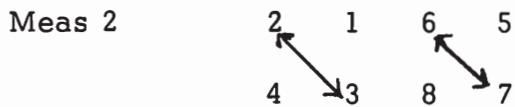
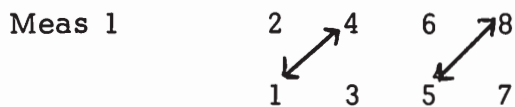
2nd Figure. Back to back and into line both ways.

- A 1-2 In 2 cts come fwd side by side with your ptr by the R shoulder and dance in place 2 cts.
- 3-4 Four swagger back steps to place (step hops bkwd with the leading ft going behind the other and the free leg swing up twd the posterior.)
- 5-6 In 2 cts come side by side with L shoulder, dance in place 2 cts.
- 7-8 Going bkwd to place, do one swagger back, one caper and land ft together with a clash of your own sticks on ct 15, pause for ct 16.
- B 1-8 Repeat Chorus

RING O' BELLS (continued)3rd Figure. Hey.

The hey pattern is repeated over four times until everyone is back in place.

- A 1 1 and 4, 5 and 8 change places with 2 step hops.
 2 2 and 3, 6 and 7 change places with 2 step hops.
 3 Two step hops in place turning to face the one you will next cross with.
 4 People at the ends cross (#4 and #3, and # 5 and #6) and people in the middle cross over with the people by your side (#1 and 7, #2 and 8).



- 5-16 Repeat three times the same pattern from your new places (as though you had new numbers).

The fourth time instead of pausing on the 3rd meas, cross right away with two capers and land ft together and clash on the 15th ct, to end like the other figures.

- B 1-8 Repeat Chorus

4th Figure. Heading Out

- A 1-2 On first 2 cts, #3 and 4, and #7 and 8 dance up two steps to stand with #1, 2 and #5, 6 in two lines of four facing up with #3, 4 and #7, 8 on the outside.
 3-4 Dance in lines.
 5-6 Four swagger back steps to place.
 7-8 Caper, Caper, and clash on cts 13, 14, 15. Hold ct 16.
- B 1-8 Repeat Chorus

RING O' BELLS (continued)5th Figure.

- A 1-4 Make one long line facing up, this time everyone moves with their ptr. #5, 6 go out to the far L of the line, #1, 2 are next in line, moving slightly L, #3, 4 are next moving fwd and slightly R, and #7, 8 end up on the far R of the line.
- 5-8 Dance in line with no caper and clash.

Finale

- B 1-8 Keeping dancing in line on the chorus music and end with a caper, caper, clash on cts 13, 14, 15, ending the dance facing fwd in a long line, with ft together and sticks crossed in front of each M.

RING O' BELLS

Play AB AB AAB AB AB

The musical notation consists of two staves. The first staff begins with an 'Intro.' section, followed by section 'A'. Section 'A' is marked with an asterisk and contains a sequence of eighth and quarter notes. The second staff begins with section 'B', which contains a sequence of quarter and eighth notes, ending with a double bar line.

Presented by Tom Kruskal