

Glen Elyre

4.2.60

Dear Tom,

I am staggered to find that it is so long since you wrote. I enclose notes on your last two lectures which I wrote as soon as I received your letter. Spaces with two non-vanishing homotopy groups have taken up my time since then. I have no comments on your scheme for the first lecture. I enclose brief notes for my lecture on step-dancing.

The last part, an English clog, will remain vague until I have seen Beryl this weekend and gone to Dorset next weekend. I hope to see the Humphreys and get lots more steps and reel steps. There may be something there which needs no trebles.

As for the practical sessions, I like the general idea. Let me have New Cal. Quad. I send a copy of the notes on two Lancashire Clog dancing. The shuffle off, single + double shuffles of Mary Wilson don't use trebles nor does heel + toe + sideways crunch of Frank Atkinson. The reel steps ought to be taken in conjunction with the dances.

I like the Westland steps + look forward to seeing the rest.

Sony to be in such a rush.

Yours

Frank

English Reels.

Buttered Peas (6 dances of Yorkshire Dales) should be considered as a reel in which hand clap replaces stepping. I saw it done near progressively 18 months ago just 2 miles from Buckden.

This links with Jacks the Lad collected by Alan Roughley, 55 High St, Uppermill Nr Oldham in Saddleworth Dec 1956. (Letter in C.S. library)

A1 1-2 Two outward circles R hand + three claps own hands.

3-4 _____ L _____

5 One outward circle R + partners clap R hands

6 _____ L _____ L

7-8 Two outward circles both hands + clap both partners hands 3 times

A2 Right + left step.

B1 Lt couple polka down + back.

B2. Pull push pouzette (c.f. Weaving lilt) progression.

The first half could be a reel and the second an intrusion. You need a pinch of salt with ~~that~~ ^{that}; but it's a pleasant dance. The tune is Sailors Hornpipe or College Hornpipe.

He asks for information about 'Pudding in a lantern', 'Quartermen's dance', 'Cold fellows holiday' and 'The freebooter'; dances which need to be done locally. I am putting a friend from Southampton, now at Denby, onto him.

See also Bricks and Mortar - contained in M.S. with no comment.

Reel for as many as will! head down middle all couples following,
and up outside to places (takes $A' + A''$). B' Partners "foot it" (like "setting"
only the front foot is brought up in front of the other foot and placed on the
ground on the 2nd beat) - like a ~~q~~ very quiet pas de basque. B'' partners
cross R shoulder (walking) and foot it ~~out~~. This has reversed heads
& tails of set - repeat from other end.

A 'Bricks + Mortar' has been published somewhere, (S.J. says) but I
have not yet seen it.

See F.M. Keather - The Folk Lore of Herefordshire p129 etc for dances
including 3 some reel, 4 reel some reel (standard) 6 some & 8 some.
(two 3 some side by side - cross over & back again, then repeat all).

See also Bronsberrow Heath Morris (ED+S Sept 59). Brimfield Morris
(in C.S. notes) is essentially this for 2 couples.

The Morris Reel (Headington), Morris book II, is also a strict reel.

Recall Nova Scotia 'Scotch Four' is a circle 'reel'.

You can't get away without mentioning the ordinary 8 some under 10 all.

Will you mention the Welsh Reel? There are notes of a lecture by Lois Blake in C.S. files
in which she mentions other reels. I have not yet made notes.

Glara Boyle in a letter to you in C.S. files mentions Westmorland 3 reel, 6 reel, 8 reel.

double 6 reel, though the original correspondence on these is lost (there are only notes on Cumberland)

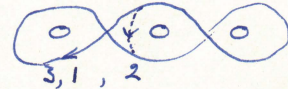
Social Dancing within living memory.

See EFDS Journal 2nd Series 1927 No1 for Thomas Hardy's distinction between Country dance and 'work-folk' dance. The essential parts of the article in EFDS news No12, Sept 1926 are quoted in the Journal.

Will you put dance-games into this? If so see FH leather - Hereford -
Three Sheepskins, a pub dance being a continuous reel for 3 round
3 skins or caps on the floor in which the last man peels off to become the
first



, similarly



so that the order is constantly changing. The first man to make a mistake
bought a round of beer.