

THE SEVENTEENTH

Music - **Speed The Plough**
6 dancers with twirling slings

Single stepping throughout with arms swinging by sides unless otherwise directed. Right foot start.

STEP UP

4 steps forward twirling sticks at head height
4 steps back - head down and sticks held down at sides

Figure 1 - CROSS KICKS

All dancers turn in to face partner - 4 steps across set to change places, passing right shoulders - to face outwards with right leg raised.

4 kicks with sticks twirling up and outwards in wide circles ending with right leg raised.

Swivel right to face partner. Cross right shoulders back to place, finishing facing outwards with right leg raised. Repeat kicks and arm circles to finish with right leg raised. Swivel to face front.

STEP UP

Figure 2 - LITTLE CIRCLES

Top couple circle anti-clockwise for 8 **with centre right** dancer. **Bottom couple** circle anti-clockwise for 8 with **centre left** dancer.

After 8 steps, both circles turn to move clockwise - **centre left dancer and centre right dancer pass right shoulder to swap circles** and complete the 2nd circle back to place.

STEP UP

Figure 3 - CAST FROM THE TOP

Top couple turn out and make their way down the outside of the set, followed by the rest of the dancers. At the bottom of the set, turn in and process up the centre, crossing inner sticks with partner and twirling outer sticks at head height. **Centre couple** will go forward for 4, back for 8 then forward for 4. **Bottom couple** will go forward for 8 then back for 8.

STEP UP

Figure 4 - BOTTOMS UP

Top couple - 8 sidesteps down the set facing partner, swinging arms - NB don't cross over the arms in front of the body but just keep swinging naturally with the side steps. At the bottom of the set, turn to face top and process up the centre as per Cast From The Top.

Centre couple - 4 sidesteps to bottom of the set, 8 normal steps as above up the centre then 4 more sidesteps back to place.

Bottom couple - 8 normal steps as above up the centre, then 8 sidesteps down back to place.

STEP UP

Figure 5 - MARGARET'S CAST

Top and centre couples turn out to face and move down the set, swinging sticks by sides until the point where they move into the file.

Bottom couple move straight into single file in the centre (beats 1&2), bringing sticks up to twirl at head height - stepping forwards - left hand dancer in front.

Centre couple as soon as able (beats 3&4) slot in behind, again left hand dancer in front and bringing sticks up to twirl.

Top couple as soon as able (beats 5&6) slot in behind in turn, and again left hand dancer in front and bringing sticks up to twirl.

All dancers should now be in a single file in the centre of the set, in the order 5,6,3,4,1,2 and stepping forwards with sticks twirling. Stay in this formation until the last possible moment of beat 8 before breaking in turn outwards down the outside (on own side) and back to place, continuing to twirl sticks all the way. Bottom and centre couples turn in to face up when back in place, top couple will already be facing forwards to go straight into

STEP UP

Figure 6 - CIRCLE HEY and CIRCLE OFF

Top couple turn to face each other. **Centre couple turn out and down to face bottom couple**. Dancers progress in the direction they are facing in a circle passing alternately right and left shoulders (and swinging sticks by sides) for 8 back to approximate place but stay in circle formation. Without pausing, and without a step up, dancers go into a clockwise circle - dancers 1, 4 and 5 are already facing in the right direction. **Dancers 2, 3 and 6 turn on the spot** to move as seamlessly as possible into the circle. At the same time, all dancers bring their sticks up to twirl at head height. Continue in circle until **top left dancer leads off**, all following in turn.