

Bonny Green Garters

Bampton, Handkerchiefs, Recessional 2016 Midwest Ale

NO Chorus between the Figures

Once to yourself, start moving back with “tag” = 2 step-hops and half caper (Left, right-right)

Foot up and down, turning inward toward partner before starting down

Half Gip across the set to partner’s original place, passing right shoulders first half, left shoulders second half

Whole Gip as if passing right shoulders first half, left shoulders second half, but stay mostly facing partner throughout; go all the way ‘round and return to original place each half.

Half Rounds, single steps forward in CW circle, turn out 180° and continue in the same direction backing up with the “tag”; go forward in CCW circle with single steps and continue in the same direction (end the phrase with a half caper) into...

Recessional, all sets joining in one long circle/line exiting performance space

Recessional (see note at end)

8 Half capers

8 Side steps (starting left) moving forward

Repeat half capers and side steps (one 8 bar phrase for each) until music stops!

Singing:

To sing at the beginning or not will be decided at the Ale on Friday evening.

Bampton stepping:

Left foot start for all figures. Basically *this is a single step tradition*.

Figures generally consist of 4 single steps forward and tag backward; repeat exactly.

Lots of variation in styling.

Bampton single steps are sometimes called hornpipe steps and are different from typical morris single steps. Free foot is brought up underneath body on ct. 1, kicked forward and low on ct. 2

Half caper (forrie or foré caper) is step on L, leap to R and hop on R [rhythm is slow, quick, quick]; if repeated, all are identical and begin with step on L.

The “tag” = action of bars 3-4 and 7-8 of the figures. The tag may be performed in various ways including:

2 step-hops (or step-bounces), then a step on L, followed by a step forward and hop on R (kick L forward);

2 step-hops, a sinking step on L, followed by a spring or surge forward and hop on R (kick L forward-low);

2 single steps (2 step-hops) and 1 half caper (Left, right-right).

Side Steps in the recessional are generally *forward*: step forward on L, step behind and slightly across in back on R, step forward on L again, small bounce or hop on L (ct. 4); repeat with opposite footwork.

Bampton Handkerchiefs:

Starting position for hands is loose fists held at waist height and close to front of body. During figures, and during the side steps of the recessional, arms are thrown up on the beat *before* the first count (on the 'and' before beat 1). The up-beat.

Figures: when moving forward the arms are thrown forward-up (fully extended about 45 degrees from vertical and from dead ahead) *before* each *left foot* single step, then return to the starting position.

During the tag many variations are possible including: bringing hand alternately in front/behind one's waist (e.g. right hand in front while left in back, then reverse); or keep hands in starting position during the 2 single steps, then throwing them out to sides (i.e. low) at the beginning of the half caper; et cetera.

Side Steps: use only leading arm (left arm for first side step, right arm for second side step); on the up-beat.

Half Capers: teams vary. Either bring arms forward-high on the leap from left to right foot and return to sides; or do two waves (usually one more energetic and larger followed by one more relaxed) per half caper. Do what your team usually does.

Note about the Recessional:

Written descriptions of the recessional (e.g. Bacon's Handbook) specify that it begins with half capers followed by alternating phrases of side steps and half capers. This has been the practice of some teams (including Minnesota Traditional Morris), but others have reversed the order of the side steps and caper sequence. The current description follows the original order.

In Bampton itself, the recessional once started uses only half capers; the first 8 half capers are done in the usual fashion, but the second and subsequent musical phrases of continuing half capers are done with the dancers holding their hats up off their heads.

[Minnesota Traditional Morris - description by Ed Stern]