

## **Country Gardens**

### **Tradition: Lichfield**

**Origin:** Chorus DL

8 dancers in 2 lines of 4

**Music:** Country Gardens

### **Formula:**

Face up (called north here). No 'once to yourself'. Two notes then start straight away right foot.

Dance Round - Set orientated to the North.

----- Chorus

Heading Up - Set oriented at 90 degrees to origin. Head to the East.

----- Chorus

Back to Back - Set oriented at 180 degrees to origin. Head to the South.

----- Chorus

Heading Up – yes up - Set oriented at 270 degrees to origin. Head to the West.

----- Chorus

Lichfield Hey - Set oriented as start. Head to the North

----- Final chorus - Second half:- walk and 4 capers, turning on third to have line facing up (similar to Basque Dance).

Finish: Finish in line of 8, facing up (north).

Dance off: At end of dance, wait for two notes, then cast off in SS from each end. Dance up to top, pair up with partner, then dance straight away from top. Last pair in line up will just be casting off as first pair dance through their position. Dance away from top until all dancers are clear of dance area.

### **Chorus:**

During this the key person is the individual at number one. They will remain number one throughout and define the top of the set. Numbers 3, 6 and 8 also retain their position numbers and their pair numbers throughout the dance. Numbers 2, 4, 5 and 7 change position and pair numbers as the dance progresses.

### **Chorus summary broken down bar by bar:-**

**BAR 1:-** Odds hit evens:- Evens present horizontal stick, held with two hands at about eye level. Odds raise sticks and strike the middle on beat 3 of the bar.

**BAR 2:-** Evens hit odds:- Odds present horizontal stick, held with two hand at about eye level. Evens raise sticks and strike the middle on beat 3 of the bar.

**Bar 3:-** Ripple:- forehand clash using 2 hands, sequentially:-

- First beat - first pair (tops),
- Second beat - second pair,
- Third beat - third pair and
- Fourth beat - fourth pair (bottoms)

**Bar 4:-** All clash forehand, using 2 hands, with opposite, on third beat

**Bar 5:-** Walk two paces towards and past your opposite, passing left shoulders.

**Bar 6:-** Continue to walk further 2 paces until you are fully past your opposite and facing a new partner.

**Bar 7:-** Ripple as before though you may have changed which pair you are. The top of the set, and starting point for numbering, remains number one dancer of the set

**Bar 8:-** All clash forehand with new opposite on third beat. Re-set your number in the set and which pair you are to reflect the new orientation of the set.

**Notes on bars 5 and 6:-**

For the ends, this is a circular path traversing a quarter circle until you meet people from the other end of the set.

For the middles this is a move to go left shoulder with your partner, turn (the correct way) and step forward or back to align the set. Easier to do in set, than explain.

- Original numbers 1 and 7 will be new first pair
- Original numbers 3 and 5 will be the new second pair
- Original numbers 4 and 6 will be the new third pair
- Original numbers 2 and 8 will be the new fourth pair

Note: half of these people have changed from odds to evens and have changed which pair they are part of. So you will need to think about where you are when you strike. NOW adjust your number to your new location.

**Original orientation**

1	2
3	4
5	6
7	8

**Orientation after first chorus**

2	4	3	1
8	6	5	7

**Features:**

Apart from dance round and dance off, all stepping is right foot start double steps. All figures and final chorus end with 4 capers. Left foot on ground, right foot raised.

GET THE TIMING OF THE RIPPLE TO MATCH THE MUSIC

Clash sticks high forehand at the end of each figure.

Don't race the music during the sticking.

Sticks to be held high, and not brought back over the shoulder (risk of hitting person behind) in chorus.