

LET'S SQUARE DANCE

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EDITOR SAYS.....

A great lot of reports from you all this month. Things really seem to be livening up. Two 'New Caller' dances, both well supported show that we are beginning to get the future under control and dancer recruitment seems to be improving as well.



The UK's Callers' Club will be holding it's 70th Birthday celebrations in November - see the details on Page 10.

Please read Paul's 'Callers' Corner' (P 9). This possible change to the Callerlab dance programmes will affect us all.

Finally, Two appeals for your co-operation - P 14 and P 18. Can you help ?

Peter

Please note that all items contain the views of the person submitting them and are not necessarily endorsed by BAASDC

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Everybody.

I am pleased to say that at the last Council meeting we were able to co-opt Paul Mee as Treasurer. Thank you Paul for volunteering. We still need someone to take on the role of President at the AGM in October.

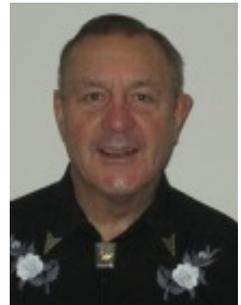
With few exceptions, the building blocks of the square dancing activity have remained relatively unchanged for almost 40 years. Ted Lizotte will explain a proposal that is currently being discussed at CALLERLAB and why it is felt necessary at this time. The proposal is what amounts to the first step to help elongate the existence of our activity for future generations.

The above is the publicity for a presentation by the Chairman of the Callerlab Board of Governors at the 73rd Milwaukee National Convention in June. It will be very interesting to read the transcript to see exactly what is being proposed and learn how it will affect us.

.....how does it affect us?:

If what Paul Bristow outlines in his article (page 9) comes about then a great deal of recorded music, which I feel we are going to have to rely on more in the future, and choreography will become obsolete. I do not see the point. SSD already exists and can be used if so desired and there will be the same calls in the two proposed programme as at present. So I think most will carry on as before. Enjoy your dancing.

David



Musings from your Public Relations Officer

Many journalists are claiming that 2024 could be The Ultimate Election Year. Globally more voters than ever in history will head to the polls in at least sixty-four countries. It equates to 49% of the world's population being eligible to vote. That's a lot of paper and a lot of pens!

Of course the United Kingdom must have a General Election before 25th January 2025 and the United States of America will have a possible rematch of their last Presidential Election assuming of course that the same protagonists will be Joe Biden and Donald Trump.

The British Association of American Square Dance Clubs has an elected Council with a President, Secretary and a Treasurer and other officers. Our web master and the Editor of the Let's Square Dance magazine also sit on the council.

On October 26th there will be the Annual General Meeting for the B.A.A.S.D.C. Our resident President, David Eagland is stepping down and we will be looking to elect a replacement. Have you ever considered coming onto the Association's Council? In these days of dwindling numbers of clubs and dancers we still need a ruling body to oversee the management of dancing in the United Kingdom.

The very first President was a lady Mildred Buhler who held the post in 1953. Since then there have been thirty Presidents, only five of whom were women. Here is the association's Mission Statement;

The B.A.A.S.D.C. provide a forum of affiliation for nearly 80 Square and Round Dance Clubs operating within the U.K. and a resource for dancers. We aim to provide support by way of expertise, advice assistance and information for existing and new start-up Clubs. We try to develop co-operation between Clubs and dancers through our publication Let's Square Dance magazine. We also aim to promote and encourage Square and Round dancing to a wider audience within the United Kingdom and beyond.

There is lots of interesting information on our Website. If you go to the 'Heading' Contact Us you can see a 14 minute video of Mildred Buhler calling to dancers of an American Club called the Red Wood City Docey Doe Club. It's a delightful insight into what dancing was like in the 1950's. Moving on to the 'Heading' Gallery there is another video filmed in 2001. It features the song 'Reach for the Stars' and features 7 callers, five of whom are still calling and a square of dancers a few of whom are still dancing. There are other video clips on these sites and they are well worth looking at. So when it's pouring with rain, blowing a hoolie or we're in the grip of a torrid heat wave then allow yourself a few minutes to have a look at some of these videos. You'll be glad you did!

Let's make Square and Round dancing great again!

Susan





Chuckle Zone

For those who don't want Alexa listening in on all your conversations, they're bringing out a male version - it doesn't listen to anything !

Got up this morning and ran round the block five times. I got tired, so I picked up the block and put it back in the toy box

Chocolates come from cocoa, which comes from a tree, which is a plant. Chocolate is salad.

I had a hen who could count her own eggs: she was a mathemachicken

Every morning when I get out of bed, everything in my body snaps, crackles and pops. I'm going to give up Rice Krispies!

My Grandchildren asked what it was like growing up in the 60's. So I took their phones away and turned off the internet

Parents today don't seem to be able to control their children in public. All my Mum had to do was to give THAT look.

Vaping back in my day was a bit of Vicks up each nostril.

If you're ever with me and someone come up and starts talking to me and I don't introduce you, it's usually because I don't remember who they are. So please feel free to introduce yourself, then they'll say their name and I can pretend I knew it all along !

I stopped by this roadside stall the said 'Lobster tails £2. So I gave the guy two pounds and he said " Once upon a time, there was this lobster"

"Point Of View of Dogs vs Point Of View of Cats"

A dog thinks: Hey, these people I live with feed me, love me, provide me with a nice warm, dry house, pet me, and take good care of me... They must be Gods!

A cat thinks: Hey, these people I live with feed me, love me, provide me with a nice warm, dry house, pet me, and take good care of me..... I must be a God!

From the Kiwi magazine (New Zealand)

AN OUT-OF-TOWNER DROVE HIS CAR INTO A DITCH IN A DESOLATED AREA. LUCKILY, A LOCAL FARMER CAME TO HELP WITH HIS BIG STRONG HORSE NAMED BUDDY. HE HITCHED BUDDY UP TO THE CAR AND YELLED, "PULL, NELLIE, PULL!" BUDDY DIDN'T MOVE. THEN THE FARMER HOLLERED, "PULL, BUSTER, PULL!" BUDDY DIDN'T RESPOND. ONCE MORE THE FARMER COMMANDED, "PULL, COCO, PULL!" NOTHING. THEN THE FARMER NONCHALANTLY SAID, "PULL, BUDDY, PULL!" AND THE HORSE EASILY DRAGGED THE CAR OUT OF THE DITCH. THE MOTORIST WAS MOST APPRECIATIVE AND VERY CURIOUS. HE ASKED THE FARMER WHY HE CALLED HIS HORSE BY THE WRONG NAME THREE TIMES. THE FARMER SAID, "OH, BUDDY IS BLIND AND IF HE THOUGHT HE WAS THE ONLY ONE PULLING, HE WOULDN'T EVEN TRY!"

A WIFE WAS MAKING A BREAKFAST OF FRIED EGGS FOR HER HUSBAND. SUDDENLY, HER HUSBAND BURST INTO THE KITCHEN. 'CAREFUL,' HE SAID, 'CAREFUL! PUT IN SOME MORE BUTTER! OH MY GOSH! YOU'RE COOKING TOO MANY AT ONCE. TOO MANY! TURN THEM! TURN THEM NOW! WE NEED MORE BUTTER. OH MY GOSH! WHERE ARE WE GOING TO GET MORE BUTTER? THEY'RE GOING TO STICK! CAREFUL. CAREFUL! I SAID BE CAREFUL! YOU NEVER LISTEN TO ME WHEN YOU'RE COOKING! NEVER! TURN THEM! HURRY UP! ARE YOU CRAZY? HAVE YOU LOST YOUR MIND? DON'T FORGET TO SALT THEM. YOU KNOW YOU ALWAYS FORGET TO SALT THEM. USE THE SALT. USE THE SALT! THE WIFE STARED AT HIM. 'WHAT IN THE WORLD IS WRONG WITH YOU? YOU THINK I DON'T KNOW HOW TO FRY A COUPLE OF EGGS?' THE HUSBAND CALMLY REPLIED, 'I JUST WANTED TO SHOW YOU WHAT IT FEELS LIKE WHEN I'M DRIVING.'

*(My apologies - Jenny sent me this in good time for Spring, but I
mislaidd it until now ! Editor)*

SPRINGTIME

"No birds, no bees, no flowers, no trees – November" I quote
This is the rhyme that Thomas Hood wrote.
After dull and drech days, we longed for no rain
But here it comes again and again.
Don't despair, here's the thing
Around the corner here comes the Spring.

Some days are warmer and dryer too.
We can walk out, me and you.
More gardening, plant some flowers.
Bend our backs for hours and hours

And God said they'll be rebirth
And we can see it in our earth.
Little green shoots hopeful and bright
The days get longer and shorter the night

Spring has come with expectation
Long awaited with anticipation
We feel warm and happy and run about
Lambs will frolic and children come out.

It's so bright and things seem more yellow
Life is good and we are mellow
Birds are singing and there are leaves on the trees
Flowers bloom and happy are the bees.

But spare a thought for those at war
Who cannot enjoy what we're thankful for
With earthquakes and fire some have to cope
Is this what God means when he sends us hope?

But come my friends do not dismay
Let us enjoy this beautiful day.

Jenny Jones

Caller's Corner
By **PAUL BRISTOW** (CALLERLAB
Accredited Caller Coach)

UK CALLER
TRAINING FOUNDATION

CALLERLAB: The "Proposal" - a major change to the lists we use for Dancing.

The lists of Calls to which we refer, when we are dancing (also known as: "levels" and "programs"), were originally published by CALLERLAB, (the International Association of Square Dance Callers). In a previous article, I spoke about this process - how the lists are maintained and why the lists are occasionally altered. If local associations wish to write their own lists and definitions and use them, they can do that - but choose not to, so that the Square Dance lists are the same on a universal basis, if you travel overseas!

The original primary objective of CALLERLAB was to standardise Square Dancing - by creating a common nomenclature: that is to ensure that the names by which the Calls are known follow one common list and are based upon one set of Definitions. As a part of this process CALLERLAB tried to identify the Calls that were most commonly used for Dancing, which became known as the Mainstream List. However, there were also a few popular Calls that quite frequently cropped up at Square Dances, these became known as the "PLUS" Calls and were separated into two lists: "Plus One" and "Plus Two".

I have been told that each of the two Plus lists were originally regional lists; so - if you were dancing in one part of the U.S. you might be able to use the Plus One Calls - and in another part of the U.S. you could use the Plus Two Calls; as this made little sense to people outside of the U.S. the Plus Call lists very quickly became one very small divisive program, as Mainstream became (for no good reason) several times larger than Plus.

CALLERLAB has recently started discussing the "Proposal": an attempt to consolidate all of the lists into a revised format by creating a series of lists that Dancers can follow and that Callers can utilise, without throwing anything away from what we currently have.

The first list will comprise 50 Calls (as a maximum) with the intention that the "Degree of Difficulty", would be kept very simple, so that the program could be taught quite quickly and (like SSD) be completed several times during a twelve month period. The second list would be at least 60 Calls (or more), it would be named "Plus" and would include all of the Basic and Mainstream Calls that are not included in SSD, together with all of the Plus Calls, as well as the "Extended Applications" of the Calls from the 50 list. The next list would be larger still (75 to 85 Calls) and could be named "Advanced"; (this is already there if you simply add A1 and A2 together) followed the Challenge lists!

These proposals have been put forward by the E.C. (i.e. the Executive Committee) of CALLERLAB and will be the primary subject for discussions at both the "Minilab" (to be held in Germany later this year) and also at the 50th National CALLERLAB Convention to be held in South Carolina in 2025. You do not have to be a member of CALLERLAB to attend and speak at these meetings, where discussions prior to a vote by all CALLERLAB members about changing the lists that we currently use, into this new format will occur.

Callers can only vote on a CALLERLAB issue, if you are a member of CALLERLAB. Being a member of a National Association does not entitle you to a vote, so SDCCGB members will not get a vote on this subject, unless they are also full members of CALLERLAB.

The Square Dance Caller's Club of Great Britain www.Callersclub.co.uk
Callers Club 70th Anniversary Weekend

Plans for the 70th celebration of the SQUARE DANCE CALLERS CLUB of GREAT BRITAIN (SDCCGB) continue to develop, and we hope many of you will join us for the weekend of Square & Round Dance between the 1st and 3rd November, 2024.

This THREE-DAY event, across 3 dance halls, will feature many of our Members with Squares from SSD to A2, and Rounds from Phase II to IV. So you can plan your weekend with us you will find an program outline below.

This event will be taking place in St Ives, Cambridgeshire (near Huntingdon) just off the A1(M).

70th Dance Program We hope you'll come and join us to enjoy the talents of our Caller and Cuer Members. The Dance Program can be viewed on the websites and the following members, in alphabetical order, will be taking part, Rob Branson, Trevor Day, Simon Fielding, Trudy Fielding, Di Green, Paul Hart, Teresa Hart, Emma Horsfield, Kevin Lovell, Philip Mee, Judi Read, Granville Spencer, Steve Sturgess, Gene Turner and Nick Wright.

Get Your Tickets at the Special Early Bird Prices

"Early Bird" Weekend Tickets can still be purchased for £30 until the end of July. Day Tickets are also now available from £6, details on the booking form which is available on the SDCCGB and BAASDC websites.

Accommodation A PDF document which has links to a number of local accommodations is also available on the website. It is meant as a guide only and is not exhaustive. It will be updated as often as possible. Please contact the properties directly to confirm details and make your bookings.

Brief outline of program see detail on the SDCCGB and BAASDC web sites.

Friday The Burgess Hall sessions run from 4:30 to 10.30 pm with SSD, Plus and rounds.

The Drama Studio open from 5.30 to 9.30pm will have A1/A2 sessions with one SSD/mainstream

The Dance studio from 16.30 pm one session of plus, then rounds up to 8 pm.

Saturday The Burgess Hall 11.30 am until 10.30 pm - SSD, Mainstream, Plus.

pause for food 6.00 to 7:30 pm. NB dancing continues in Drama studio. then SSD, Plus and Rounds with Presentation and Thanks at 8.00pm then SSD, Plus and Rounds through to close at 10:30pm

The Drama Studio will have a mix of SSD and A1/A2 with a little mainstream from 11.00am through to 9.45pm, with breaks 1-2pm and 3-4pm and at 8pm for the presentation/thanks.

The dance Studio will be open from 11.00am until 6.00pm with mostly rounds and two sessions of SSD/Plus and one Plus/A1.

Sunday The Burgess Hall is open from 10.30am through to 3.00pm close

The Drama Studio open from 10:30 am to 2:30pm with SSD/Plus, SSD/Mainstream and A1/A2.

The Dance Studio will have rounds from 11.30 am to 2.00pm.

Tilehurst Square Dance Club Spring Dance 2024

On Saturday 27th April we held our first afternoon dance of the year when we welcomed Terry Chapman calling for the club for the first time.

A little over seven sets enjoyed a wonderful and entertaining afternoon with a mixture of Mainstream and Plus tips there was something to keep everyone happy and lovely atmosphere was enjoyed by all.

It was lovely to meet up with friends old and new and we were also joined by some club members who have moved away from the area. Refreshments half way through the afternoon were supplemented by cakes kindly made by our chairwoman and were thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Among the dancers enjoying the afternoon were some of our regular callers and it was lovely to be able to share a tip dancing with them as opposed their more usual role as callers on the stage.

While it might have been the first time we have enjoyed Terry's calling for Tilehurst, hopefully it won't be the last and we look forward to welcoming him again in the future.

The dance also provided the perfect opportunity for the Club's new Banner (kindly made by one of our members) to make its first appearance for the club replacing the previous aging banner.



Ray Turner

Hogsmill Early Bird SSD Celebration



Congratulations to all those dancers who were awarded their Early Bird Badges in recognition of their progress through the Social Square Dance Programme.

Badges were awarded to Diane, Gill, Margaret, Leona, John, Kay, Roger, Sue and Kathy, many of whom attend both morning and evening sessions at the club. Nick received his badge the following

week when he had recovered from his cold.

John Mee proved to be a brilliant choice to call for our celebration SSD Morning Dance and the Basic and Mainstream Evening with great choreography that suited our dancers perfectly, some lovely singing calls and a lot of fun.



Over five squares of dancers dressed up in red and white for a memorable St Georges Day party. Nearly every Early Bird was there to support the newly qualified dancers and a square of guests joined us to share in the celebration and the excellent lunchtime pot-luck.

John was the White Rose Caller in Harrogate, who with his wife Terri, welcomed Granville and me into Square Dancing almost a quarter of a century ago. Since then, we have all moved South, so it was very pleasing that he was available to call this Celebration Dance for our new dancers who are just setting out on their Square Dance journey.

Wendy

6 New Callers travel to Call at a Dance organized by Testvale Squares

Dancers from seven clubs including Testvale Squares, Pieces of Eight, Minster Squares, Water-side, Spetisbury Squares, Waggoners and Rocking 8' supported six New Callers at a recent dance organized by Carol Gerrey.

The new Callers who had all picked up the mike since returning to dancing after Covid attended a workshop organized by Carol prior to the dance.

The Callers each had the opportunity to call twice during the evening. First on stage was John Jenkins, a regular new Caller from Testvale Squares and known to many of the dancers. Next was Penny Warner, from Waggoners who had travelled down to Southampton from Hertfordshire for the weekend. Also from Testvale Squares was Paul Sillence who enjoyed interacting with the dancers with a little banter ahead of his singing call.



Halfway through the evening Neil Anderton bravely took to the stage for his first ever singing call which received huge applause.

Sarah Thomas a regular new Caller from Spetisbury Squares proved that even more modern songs could be used in Square dancing while Shirley Gibson also from Spetisbury Squares had everyone laughing with the title of her song and suggested a new move - "Shake your tail feathers!"

Many thanks go to Alan Gerrey who provided technical support on stage and to those in the kitchen who made the very welcome refreshments during the interval.

Carol hopes that this will be the start of many more dances to be held for New Callers to practice calling to a floor.

Penny & Bob Warner

Magazine Content

We're always looking for ways to make the magazine more readable and enjoyable and of course, rely entirely on readers / dancers sending articles in.

I'm sure that many of you will have interests, activities or hobbies that you enjoy outside your Square Dancing sessions. Why not put 'pen to paper' and tell us about them ?

Around 450 words fills a page in the mag and its surprising how easy it is to put that many words together once you get going about something that interests you.

Please think about it and get in touch if you need any help. Email: lsdmag@talktalk.net

Editor

Don't you just feel for any foreigner learning English

I take it you already know
Of tough and bough and cough and dough
Others may stumble, but not you
On hiccough, thorough, laugh, and through.

And cork and work and card and ward
And font and front and word and sword
Well done! And now if you wish, perhaps
To learn of less familiar traps,

Beware of heard, a dreadful word
That looks like beard and sounds like bird.
And dead: it's said like bed, not bead—
For goodness sakes don't call it deed.

Watch out for meat and great and threat,
They rhyme with suite and straight and debt.
A moth is not a moth in mother,
Nor both in bother, broth in brother.

And here is not a match for there,
And dear and fear for bear and pear.
And then there's dose and rose and lose —
Just look them up — and goose and choose,

And do and go, then thwart and cart.
Come, come, I've hardly made a start!
A dreadful language? Man alive!
I'd mastered it when I was five.

Author unknown

Cheltenham Swinging Squares New Caller's Dance

On Saturday 4th May at 2pm in the afternoon, Cheltenham Swinging Squares hosted the second New Caller's Dance to be held in the Gloucestershire area. After the success of the first dance held in Cirencester last year we wanted to continue to support the development of people willing give up their time to learn how to stand on a stage and call a tip for dancers to dance to.

And, it seems - dancers want to lend their support too. Amazingly more than 50 people attended the event, giving at least 5 squares for every tip, and sometimes 6! And what's more – we had people travel from several hours away to join us.

All told there were an amazing 8 new callers on stage during the three hour dance.

Jon Pearson opened the afternoon with a 30 minute set (two full tips). I do not plan to list every piece of music used, but Jon selected a beautiful singer "I Heard The Bluebirds Sing" which matched the duet theme of the dance as the music included a female semi-lead vocal which he matched beautifully. Jon started calling in 2017, and has become an excellent teacher of new dancers, but has not yet had the chance to spread his wings and reach outside the local club.

Next came Alan Edwards and Mike Gaskins who performed a single singing call duet called "Let It Rain (but who cares – the football's on)", to the tune of "Let it Snow", but mourning the relegation of Cheltenham Town FC. Mike is a really new caller in Cheltenham and must be lauded for his bravery. More on Alan later.

Colin Turvill from Hogsmill SDC followed with an excellent two tip set where he performed his patter without notes (as a new caller, the thought of sight calling without notes is akin to performing without a safety net – and is really scary). Colin's mentor Granville Spencer was present at the dance and was very strict about the use of pre-prepared material. But the wisdom of that certainly showed in the quality of Colin's calling.

Then came the tea break – and wow what a tea break, with a fantastic selection of cakey nibbles made by Cheltenham members that added mightily to the festive spirit of the afternoon.

After the break it was the turn of Suzanne Fletcher-Mallinson (Cheltenham Swinging Squares) and Penny Warner (Waggoners) to perform another single singer duet – "Show Me The Way To Go Home". Suzanne and Penny looked like sisters in matching blue dresses and soon had the hall singing along with them.

Then came Shirley Gibson and Sarah Thomas from Minster and Spetisbury Squares, resplendent in coordinated black and red outfits, for another two tip

Continued on following page

set. Sarah performed a solo tip using Star Wars music for her patter, reminding us "May the Fourth be with you". Shirley then performed a singer before the duo finished together with a fantastic version of "What Shall We Do With A Drunken Sailor". I am sure we will soon be thirsting for more G 'n' T.

Closing the afternoon was Alan Edwards. Alan is a Cheltenham local and has been calling for about two years. The less said about his 30 minute set the better (well I am writing this article you know) – suffice it to say Alan performed some patter and three singers, including "Copa Cabana" and finishing with "Wink And A Smile". And, yes – I guess it went down well enough...

Probably the most notable feature of the afternoon was just how much Fun everyone had. Fun in meeting old friends from around the country, Fun in the easy mingling of dancers wanting to be together in our community, Fun in dancing to styles of calling which were unfamiliar, Fun in the interesting and sometimes amusing choice of music and songs. **Fun in dancing**. There was a real buzz amongst the dancers – and the callers too (at least once the nerves had worn off).

Overall the dance was extremely successful in highlighting our new caller talent – giving them the experience of calling to a larger audience of dancers than they normally get and to give them visibility outside their local areas. The dance was one of an emerging trend of new caller showcase dances that are being organised across the country, recognising the reality that if Square Dancing is to grow and prosper – we need to help new callers to develop their technical skills, confidence and ability to entertain.

I am an enthusiastic new caller and I am working with my friend Suzanne Fletcher-Mallinson to try and build a community of people wishing to learn the trade with a view to sharing experiences and opportunities. I think we all know that in addition to the excellent training being provided at a national and local level – it is really important that we gain experience calling in different situations and to different dancers. Please, if anyone is in a similar position of learning to call, feel free to drop us an email – we do so want to hear from you.

*Alan Edwards
Corinium Squares and Cheltenham Swinging Squares*

Do You Want to Be Part of History?

Dear friends,

I have a dream to make a video biopic about Terry McCann. To do this, I need your help.

I know many dancers in England have danced to his great calling, attended a convention he helped organize and oversee, used his taped recordings to start or fortify your club, or gone to camping square dance events where he was the camp host or shared that duty.

If you have any photos, recordings, stories, booklets, or other input you think might enrich this biographical sketch, I would be grateful to get them. I will, of course, return them to you. If you are interested in being interviewed or taped for this biopic, contact me and I will figure out how to make that happen.

Are you a member of one of the clubs he still calls for regularly? Did you know him when he was first starting out as a caller? Did you know his wife Marge to whom he was married for over 40 years? His kids?

Have you watched the partnership between Terry and Di Green blossom? Did you encounter Terry through zoom dancing? Please tell me your memories.

I hope you will consider contributing any material you have. This project is intended to strengthen our history and enlighten us, to shine a light on the backstage part of square dancing (creating choreography, practicing singing calls, driving to dances and setting up the sound system, etc., etc., etc.) and entertain those not familiar with the activity we love.

It's been great getting to know and dance with so many of you. Thank you!



Robin Alpenglow

p.s. please get all "hard copy" material such as tapes and videos to Di Green. You can contact her at digreen21@gmail.com to arrange the best way to get the materials to her. Everything else that can be scanned such as photos or music files should be sent to me at sqdnznut@outlook.com

Aberdeen Kilt Kickers

Aberdeen Kilt Kickers went Orange when they handed over a cheque for £2,442 to Maggie's Aberdeen which was their chosen charity for last year.

Every year we choose a local charity which means something to the members. We chose Maggie's as a wee tribute to Terry Mathieson who died with Lung cancer in 2022 and had support from Maggie's Aberdeen. Maggie's support people who have been diagnosed with cancer and the people who love them. There are Maggie's centres through the country and they do amazing work.

This is how Maggie's will use the money we raised:



"The £2,442

that was raised

will make a tremendous difference at Maggie's. It's enough to pay for two separate activities that are in demand now: firstly an eight-week Mindfulness Course to support our centre visitors to feel more relaxed, encourage focus and acknowledge what they're experiencing as they come to terms with their diagnosis and its implications, and also a Family Day at a centre, which gives families coping with cancer an opportunity to meet programme staff for support and guidance as well as hearing from other families going through a similar experience. As you know we work hard to

provide the very best cancer support to anyone who needs it, and we also work hard to raise the funds needed to pay for this support to be available. The latter part we can't do without people like you and the Kilt Kickers and on behalf of the team we are sincerely grateful."

To raise money the Kilt Kickers have monthly raffles, a bonus ball draw and one member makes and sells tablet/toffee. Derek/Moira have a Christmas village display in their house each year and visitors can view the display, have coffee and leave a donation. Donations instead of Christmas cards and just donations.

AKK have a membership of twenty eight at present which makes it an amazing amount of money to raise but like square dancing it's all about team work and helping each other.

So proud to be president of AKK, an amazing bunch of people, and they square dance as well. Xxx



Gwen

(Editor's note: this was compiled many years ago from various sources but most of the 'rules' are still valid)

Ten Ground Rules of Square Dancing

1. BE ON TIME FOR CLUB AND CLASS:

In square dancing, one late couple or person may mean that three other couples or seven people must sit out.

2. DON'T LEAVE EARLY:

By leaving early, you are telling the other dancers and caller that you did not have a good time at the dance. The "wind-down" tip is just as important as the first or middle tips.

3. BE A THOUGHTFUL DANCER:

Personal cleanliness is important in Square dancing. Use your DEODORANT. Don't forget to use something to sweeten your breath. Don't drink. Your coordination must be at its very best.

4. GET INTO SQUARES QUICKLY:

When the caller announces to square your sets, join the square nearest to you that needs a couple. If your square is not full, raise your hand with as many fingers extended as couples are needed. If couples are squared up and do not have a hand up, it indicates that they are waiting for someone who has promised to dance with them. Do not arrange squares more than once in an evening. It is best not arrange a square at all. Do not get on the floor and expect the caller to find you a partner.

5. BE A GOOD LISTENER

Talking during the course of square dancing is distracting to you and others. Remember there is room for only one teacher at a time. You can help others best by being in the correct place at the correct time. Pointing or a hand motion is always the better way to direct someone that is going in the wrong direction.

6. BE A COURTEOUS DANCER:

Always introduce yourself and your partner to others in the square if you don't know them. Thank them for dancing with you after the tip. Don't use extra twirls and kicks that interfere with others in our square. It is considered "bad manners" to pass a square needing dancers in order to fill another.

Beware of the unpardonable sin: never leave a square once you have joined it until the tip is over. If you must leave in an emergency, try to fill your spot with a substitute. By all means, tell the others why you must leave.

Continued on next page

7. BE A COOPERATIVE DANCER:

Square dancing is an activity where everyone is responsible for everyone else's happiness. A square is not made up of eight individuals working independently, but rather in one unit with no individual person attempting to show off or be a star. The real pleasure comes when each person does his share making the square run smoothly.

8. TAKE IT EASY:

Don't overdo it. Square dancing can be strenuous exercise. If you are too tired to dance, sit out. It is sometimes best to remove yourself from the hall — but not into the coffee room. Sometimes you can learn a great deal just by watching and listening. Be considerate. If another dancer is watching and listening, don't insist upon talking. Square dancing is a social event but not a place to socialize during tips or rounds even if you are not dancing.

9. BE A FRIENDLY DANCER:

"Friendship is square dancing's greatest reward." Take the opportunity to get acquainted with others in the square. Make it a point to dance with as many different dancers as possible each evening. It has been said that "Square dancing is friendship set to music."

10. ENJOY YOURSELF — HAVE FUN:

Come to the dance expecting to have a good time and you'll have it. Come to the dance with the attitude that it is the caller's job or someone else's job to show you a good time and chances are you will have a poor evening. When you applaud at the end of a tip, you are thanking the caller and the other dancers in your square, but you are applauding yourself too for a good job well done.

Don't forget:

"A SMILE ON YOUR FACE HELPS YOUR FEET WORK BETTER."



ROBIN HOODLIVE!

Who would have thought that Robin Hood would make a special appearance at Yorkshire Coast Waves' 2nd Birthday Dance? Now living in California, rather than in Sherwood Forest, Robin flew all the way to the UK to celebrate with us again. That's a long way for a robin to fly!

At the dance, Robin, a fully 'fledged' Square Dancer, was presented with a commemorative Robin Hood hat and took a bow! Di Lincoln-Green then gave a rousing rendition of the



Ange and Robin



The 'Zomers' - in person at last !

singing call "Robin Hood" with some lyrics of her own, customised especially for Robin. The dancers sang along heartily.

To make that tip extra special, Robin danced in a square of dancers who virtual dance together every Wednesday on Zoom a rare opportunity for them to actually dance together. *(for all the English grammar pedants, a split infinite definitely required there!)*

So many dancers, you could hardly see the forest for the trees! Amongst the magnificent British oaks there must have been a lot of Horse chestnut and Hazel trees, as there seemed to be a lot of nutters around!

Joking apart, my heartfelt thanks to everyone who came to celebrate our birthday. My sincere thanks to everyone who helped behind the scenes, in the kitchen and with the raffle and especial thanks to my partner, Ian,

Continued on following page



Not too easy, but can you spot Robin Hood among all the attendees ?

for his unwavering support in running Yorkshire Coast Waves. He's my roadie, our treasurer, our front of house and, when necessary, our chef and our bouncer! A man of many talents.

Group photos courtesy of Barry Malin from Wolds Weavers. Much appreciated, Barry.

Thanks again Di for coming over with Terry and Robin and providing us with a splendid afternoon's dancing and entertainment. Indeed an afternoon of 'fun and friendship set to music'!

Ange Alexander

Worthing Squares Spring Dance – 18th May 2024

We decided that it was time we held another dance and chose the afternoon of Saturday 18th May. It turned out to be a very good date to pick as it was a beautiful day and lots of people were free to come and join us! We invited Terry Chapman to call for us and he and Katrina brought ten dancers with them across the Solent. We were very pleased to welcome dancers from a good portion of the southeast of the country from as far afield as Wimborne in Dorset; Bexhill in East Sussex; and a good number from our friends in Hogsmill Club, in Surrey.



The weather was kind enough to grant us a warm and sunny afternoon so we could have doors and windows open to help keep everyone cool. A good afternoon's dancing was had by all, with seven squares for most mainstream tips and six for plus. Terry was in fine voice, and no one had any trouble hearing him even at the back of the hall. Even our newbies were dancing most of the time and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Terry introduced a new move (well, new to most of us I think) in the form of Grand Parade, which he first taught and then included in the tip. It looked to me as though everyone had 'got' it!

We had a splendid tea in the interval, provided by Worthing Squares ladies, and I think just about every taste was catered for. The food certainly disappeared fairly quickly, and dancers were coming back for 'seconds'. Terry had to come down and roust dancers out of the tea room so that he could start the second half!

The photo was taken at the end of the afternoon – if you were there, I hope you can find yourself. If you missed us this time then look out for the ad for our next dance, which will be on Saturday 14th September 2024. This will be a special event as it will commemorate the Club's 40th Birthday. We're hoping to make it a grand occasion.

The Seeds of New Square Dance Clubs

I wrote last year about attending the Yorkshire Coast Waves first birthday dance. That was great fun, but if you read Ange's piece elsewhere in this issue you can get a real feel for the second birthday celebration which I flew over to attend. I had a blast with six squares of dancers, including a tip with some of the 11 folks I meet on Di Green and Terry McCann's zoom dances joining me.

But I want to take a moment to thank Ange Alexander, not only for the Robin Hood hat, but for her tireless efforts to create a club of very good dancers out of thin air. There are only 3,000 people in Hunmanby, yet there are 36 dancers in her club. Now 36 dancers may not seem like a lot, but if Leeds had the same ratio of square dancers, they would have 8,000 dancers.

It takes a lot of work and a real effort to start a club, but if we are to save our beloved activity we need to plant and nurture the seeds of new clubs.

Ange is not only promoting square dancing, she has created a network of contacts where she can recruit new folks. She has cajoled and wheedled to get the club into the town paper under the events listing. She has made friends with the venues where she holds the classes and dances and has gotten the Yorkshire Coast Waves onto their website. She talks the activity up with everyone she meets. She also teaches the classes and calls for the club. She even takes those who are interested to other local dances, thus building up and strengthening the whole square dance activity.

Because of her long friendship with Di Green, Ange has her SSD graduates dancing on zoom with Di calling from Mansfield.

It was very rewarding to see the improvement of the dancers from last year's birthday party, both in executing the calls, and in their confidence levels. Their smiles and good humour said it all.

Like Jesus, Ange tends her flock assiduously, and will go in search of each lost sheep. She knows where each of her dancers struggle and gives extra assistance to them. All this without one angel or experienced dancer to help or guide them.

David Eagland, President of the BAASDC, told me he is working on materials to help folks succeed in forming clubs, and dancers succeed on the dance floor.

Now all we need is you. If you live 40 miles or more away from the nearest club, please consider starting a new club in your area. It will be challenging—but you will be rewarded beyond your fondest dreams.

Humbly, Your American correspondent

Robin (Hood) Alpenglow



Six of the Best

Reviews of Square Dance releases
from other labels by

PAUL BRISTOW

(owner and producer of STING & SNOW records)



Don't it Make My Brown Eyes Blue ~ Jennifer Davis

Rhythm School RS 744 (Original Artists: Crystal Gayle)

Written by Richard Leigh in 1977, this was the first single released from Crystal Gayle's album: "We Must Believe in Magic"; the album received Platinum status (the first by a female country singer) and in 1978, the song won a Grammy Award for "Best Female Country Vocal Performance". Rhythm have done a superb job on the instrumentation - (using the Bridge section for the Middle break), the vocal is well performed by Jennifer!

Mainstream: *Heads Promenade Half, Heads Left Hand Star, with the outside two Right and Left Thru, Veer Left, Ferris Wheel, Square Thru Three, Swing.*

Summer Sounds ~ Mike Seastrom

Riverboat RIV 1373 (Original Artist: Robert Goulet)

The title track (written by Sid Tepper and Roy C. Bennett) taken from the 1965 album by Robert Goulet, who had found fame by playing Sir Lancelot in the Broadway version of Camelot, who also released a large number of singles and albums. This version is completely different from the older Square Dance recording, using a faster rhythm in a "Samba" style; some terrific music, with a first class vocal, delivered by Mike Seastrom!

Mainstream Choreography: *Heads Square Thru Four, Right Hand Star Heads Star Left, Right and Left Thru, Swing Thru, Swing Thru, Swing.*

Ruby Red Dress ~ Brian Freed

Gold Wing GWR 213 (Original Artists: Helen Reddy)

The better known title for this track is "Leave me Alone (Ruby Red Dress)", it was sung by Helen Reddy on her 1973 album: "Long Hard Climb"; both the Single and the album earned Gold certification for sales (more than 500,000). The song tells the tale of a girl known as "Ruby Red-Dress" who has a whole bundle of problems... Gold Wing Records have done an outstanding job with both the music - and the first-class vocal from Brian!

Mainstream Choreography: *Square Thru Four, Swing Thru, Boys Trade Boys Run, Bend the Line, Square Thru Three, Swing and Promenade.*

I Wouldn't Have Missed it for the World ~ Chris Froggatt

Knee-Deep KDM 177 (Original Artist: Ronnie Milsap)

A song written by Charles Quillen, Kye Fleming and Dennis Morgan that was released in 1981 as the second single from the album: "There's No Gettin' Over Me"; it became one of Ronnie's biggest hits, during the peak of his "crossover" success - and was his 19th No. 1 hit on the Billboard Hot Country Singles chart. Knee Deep music works really well on this track (a real Nashville sound) - supported by a terrific vocal from Chris Froggatt!

Mainstream Figure: *Heads Square Thru Four Hands, Swing Thru, Boys Run Bend the Line, Reverse Flutterwheel, Slide Thru, Swing and Promenade.*

I Got Lucky ~ Gary Smith

Solid Gold SG 1052 (Original Artist: Elvis Presley)

The title track from Elvis Presley's 1971 compilation album - that originally appeared in the 1962 film: "Kid Galahad"; written by Dolores Fuller, Fred Wise and Ben Weisman. A smooth, slower feeling tune with a steady Rock 'n' Roll beat - and a simple message: "I got lucky, when I found you". The music is well recorded and provides a really good dance rhythm, Gary Smith does a first class job on the vocal, adding a lot to the track!

Mainstream Choreography: Heads Square Thru Four, Right Hand Star Heads Star Left, Eight Chain Four, Swing and Promenade.

I Can't Give You Anything but Love ~ Hans Pettersson

Silver Sounds SSR 430 (Original Artists: Adelaide Hall and Aida Ward)

An American popular jazz song by Jimmy McHugh (music) and Dorothy Fields (lyrics), it was introduced by Adelaide Hall at Les Ambassadeurs Club in New York in January 1928 in Lew Leslie's Blackbird Revue, which opened on Broadway later that year as the highly successful "Blackbirds of 1928". In the 100-most recorded songs from 1890 to 1954, it is No. 24. Outstandingly good music from Silver Sounds; Hans Pettersson on the vocal!

Mainstream Choreography: Heads Square Thru Four Hands, Swing Thru Spin the Top, Spin the Top, Swing Thru, Swing and Promenade.

Hear and buy all the newest Square Dance releases - by "clicking" on "Recent Additions" at:

www.musicforcallers.com



web-site - web-site

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June STING RECORDS Release:

(from the Ambassador Club 2022 Edition - and a 2024 tune from Snow...)

STING 22214 Scusé Moi My Heart (Uli Shingen)

(a 1991 song - written and recorded by Collin Raye - wishing he could speak French!)

SNOW 22402 A Dedicated Follower of Fashion (David Cox)

(a 1966 song from the Kinks - written by Ray Davies - making fun of British fashion!)

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Further information from Bernard Murphy

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www.uksquaredancing.com

LET'S SQUARE DANCE ~ June 2024

In the right hand column of the listings, the abbreviations are:
TO = Ticket Only, RA = Raffle, PL = Pot Luck

OPEN DANCES June 2024		
Sun 2nd Afternoon	ALL SQUARE AT ZERO SUMMER DANCE Kevin Lovell SSD/MS and Plus TEL. 07796 695575 (Annika)	Beds LU6 3RJ
Sat 8 th	CHELTENHAM SWINGING SQUARES Summer Dance Neil Whiston MS, P (2:1) Email jpearsons@talktalk.net	PL Glos GL51 3NU
Sat 8 th	BISHOPS EIGHT Brian Summerfield, Paul Preston Amy Richardson MS, P, R Tel: 01949 860843 (Kath)	RA Notts NG14 7BD
Fri 14 th to Sun 16 th	PIECES OF 8 - Midsummer Weekend of Dance & Campout Rob Branson P, A Tel: 07973 270319 or 07954 400872 (Rob / Chris)	CV37 8PE
Sat 22 nd Aft / Eve	Northern Area Dance Event Terry Chapman MS, P, A1,2 Tel. 01163487762 (John) or 01400 281497 (Judy)	Notts NG12 5AN
Sat 22 nd	WHIRL & TWIRL Summer Dance Suzanne Baldry & Stephen Pearson PHhII - IV Tel. 07914 266 596	CB24 8TA
Mon 24 th To Fri 28 th	AERON VALLEY DIAMONDS SYMONDS YAT Week Johnny Preston P, A1,2 Tel: 01545 561159 / 07866 890987 (Roy)	TO Hereford HR9 6BL

REGULAR VIRTUAL (Zoom) DANCES June 2024

Every Monday 4 pm Except 3rd & 10th	Di Green & Terry McCann C1 workshop and dance https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89035956452?pwd=VTYraWdmbUlT5EE5SDRqNE1UNIR0UT09 Contact Di on digreen21@gmail.com
Every Tues 8.30 pm Except 4th & 11th	Di Green & Terry McCann A2 https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89812836418?pwd=aHJoMERFVnM3ZG53TVZ0cTF0Rk1qZz09 Contact Di on digreen21@gmail.com
Every Wed 4 pm Except 5th & 12th	Di Green & Terry McCann Plus https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81744783048?pwd=djFqNWxtS0dmeGtJb0FzR3B0eGxkUT09 Contact Di on digreen21@gmail.com

OPEN DANCES July 2024		
Sat 6 th Afternoon	Tudor Squares Caller not specified A1, A2 Tel: 07803 752360 (Paul)	SOLD OUT
Sat 6 th Afternoon	Yorkshire Federation Summer Sounds SSD Dance Philip Mee & Gene Turner SSD Tel 07856 884432 (Gene)	RA Yorks LS23 6HY
Sun 7 th Afternoon	L&HC RCA Summer Friendship Dance Caller TBA SSD, MS Tel 07796695575 (Kevin)	LU6 3RJ
Sat 13 th Afternoon	White Rose Squares Summertime! Dance Trevor Day MS, P Tel. 01943-878066 (Ann)	RA N Yorks LS23 6HY
Sun 14 th Aft	HOGSMILL SDC - Advanced Teach and Fun Granville Spencer A1, A2 Tel. 07867 802355	KT11 3BN
Sun 14 th Aft	ASAZ A dance / workshop KEVIN LOVELL A1,2 Tel: 07796 695575 (Annika)	LU6 3RJ
Sat 20 th Afternoon	Centre Squares Summer 'Cream Tea' Dance Mike Belsten & John Boxall MS, P Tel 01454 773370 (Margaret)	Glos BS36 1QG
Sun 21 st	UKCTF New Caller Dance New Callers w Paul Bristow MS Tel. 07801 440955. (Paul)	UB9 4DW

OPEN DANCES August 2024

Sat 17 th Afternoon	Travaux Twirlers & Beulah SDC Aug Tea Dance Simon & Trudy Fielding MS, P Tel. 07756 954422 (Alison)	E Sussex TN40 10A
Sun 18 th Aft	ASAZ A dance / workshop KEVIN LOVELL A1,2 Tel: 07796 695575 (Annika)	LU6 3RJ

2024 Square Dance Holidays and Weekend Breaks

J U N E	Fri 14 th to Sun 16 th	PIECES OF 8 - Midsummer Weekend of Dance & Campout Rob Branson P, A Tel: 07973 270319 or 07954 400872 (Rob / Chris)
	Mon 24 th to Fri 28 th	AERON VALLEY DIAMONDS Symonds Yat Week Johnny Preston P, A1,2 Tel: 01545 561159 / 07866 890987 (Roy)
J U L	Thurs 25 th to Sun 28 th	EUROPEAN CONVENTION Denmark www.ec2024.dk
S E P T	Fri 20 th To Sun 22 nd	BLACK ARROWS - Torquay A2 Weekend Paul Bristow & Bronc Wise A2 Tel: 01202 872135 / 07763 414383 (Doreen)
	Fri 27 th to Sun 29 th	HOGSMILL SDC Bournemouth Bonanza 2024 Granville Spencer & Ian Turvill P, A!, (A2) Tel. 020 355 567499 / 07742 881439 (Wendy)
O C T	Fri 4 th to Sun 6 th	LVOW & ChAin Reaction NW & Lakes Weekend Paul Bristow, Di Green & Terry McCann MS, P, A1,2 Tel. 01524 811444 or 07981 743959 (Brian/Carol)
	Fri 1 st to Sun 3 rd	SDCCGB 70th Anniversary Celebration Multi-Caller & Cuer e-mail: susie@graybo.co.uk (Susie)
O V	Fri 15 th to Mon 18 th	PILGRIM PROMENADERS - 39th Coast Weekend Tom Miller (USA) & Bill Harrison (USA) See advert P 28 Tel: 01752 668078 / 07752 569609 (Bernard)
	Sat 24 To Sun 26 th	AERON VALLEY DIAMONDS - Torquay Weekend Mike Belsten & Leah Tinsdeall MS, P Tel. 01545 561159 / 07866 890987 (Roy, Elaine)
M A R	Fri 14 th to Mon 17 th	PIECES OF 8 Fun Weekend Rob Branson & Wendy Shipton MS, P Tel. 07973 270310 or 07954 400872
	Fri 28 th to Sun 30 th	HOGSMILL SDC Bournemouth A2 Neil Whiston A2 Tel. 0203 556 7449 (Granville)
M A Y	Sat 10 th to Sat 17 th	ASAZ Square Dance Cruise MSC Virtuosa Kevin Lovell P, A1 Tel. 07796 695575 (Annika)

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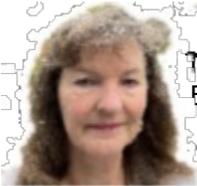
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The BAASDC Council is supported by a small Support Team who have offered to fulfil specific tasks because of their expertise. Details of these together with contact details for the autonomous Area Federation representatives are given on the following page.

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Geoff Holdcroft 9 Station Road, WOODBRIDGE, IP12 4AU.

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Obituaries - 23rd of the month preceding the publication month. (as early as possible would be appreciated) with an accompanying photo if possible. Forward details direct to the editor (LSDmag@talktalk.net).

Free listing of open Dances – Club contacts are expected to check the events calendar on the BAASDC website (www.uksquaredancing.com) to avoid clashes and then submit details using the website's EVENT SUBMISSION FORM found under 'help' and then 'Forms' at least **TWO weeks** before the publication month.

Short letters relevant to this edition - 23rd of the month preceding the publication month, direct to the editor (LSDmag@talktalk.net).

All other items including advertisements - 20th of the month preceding the publication month. Forward details direct to the editor (LSDmag@talktalk.net).

All items submitted will be reviewed and assessed for suitability for inclusion but their publication cannot be guaranteed . Authors should be aware that the editor may modify text and layout according to relevance and the space available.

ACCEPTABLE FORMATS

For text submissions - Hand written, typed or e-mail, (ODT, Rich Text or Word). Note that this publication uses Verdana 9pt font as a default.

For graphics submissions - gif, jpeg, jpg, png, tif and bmp.

As the mag. is no longer printed, photo resolution is not so important. A 1Mb file is adequate. **Please avoid mixing text and graphics in an email.**

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When submitting adverts, please ensure that your advert fits into the size and shape that you require. (¼ page is 60 x 90 mm, ½ page is 125 x 90 mm and full page is 125 x 185 mm) particularly if you are sending it as a .pdf or Word file. If you have any difficulty with this, the Editor will be able to advise and help to compose or recompose as necessary.

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