

LET'S SQUARE DANCE

August 2024 : Volume 71 : No 8

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EDITOR SAYS.....

Firstly, I must apologise to our PRO ! The blank page last month was not deliberately inserted in her 'usual spot' - that was just the way that the page layouts came out. I was aware that Susan wouldn't be sending anything in for July and am very grateful for her continuing articles.



I didn't get our President's message this month until it was too late to get it in the mag, but fortunately, I finally got our new Treasure (Paul Mee)'s resume which had evaded me for a couple of months - it kept getting lost in the email jungle, so it conveniently filled the space ! Welcome Paul.

I guess that most of our Clubs will close for August - that seems to be a legacy of when we all had children on holiday - but many will be organising other events, picnics, BBQs, rambles etc. Do let us know what you've been doing.

I think that I've mentioned it before, but I really would appreciate any Square Dance related photos (portrait format) that we could use for the 'cover' of the magazine.

Happy Dancing (and all your other activities !)

Peter

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

Introducing our new BAASDC Treasure - Paul Mee

Firstly let me thank your Council for inviting me to become your new Treasurer, I am sure that I will fit into a great team.

I have been involved with square dancing for over 50 years, I first started in the folk dance world, with the Camping and Caravan Club folk group at a small village called Blockley at one of their Easter Rallies. It was a very enjoyable experience and provided the need to find a local folk dance club, so in 1965 I joined the YMCA group in Nottingham. Learning to dance and later standing in as MC for the group. I kept up my involvement with the folk group at many rallies and as we were all learning to dance, I started to pick up the dances that our caller Eddie Cammock would teach at his evening dances I was encouraged to play my tape machine during the daytime to that we could all practice the dances in a grass camp field.

It soon became apparent that I needed to expand my knowledge and joined my first square dance club in 1967, "Newton Eight" with caller Ronnie Vizard latterly changed its name to "Rainbow Squares". It was at a dance in Leicester where I met my soon to be wife Marion, and later we married in 1972 and have 2 children , Helen And Adrian and latterly a grand daughter Emelia.

In late 1971 I was invited to call for the Catharine Wheelers S.D.C. along with Alan Sherriffs and John Patrick. Latterly I have called for the club for the last 50+ years.

We have attended numerous dances and festivals over the years including the 50th, 60th, IPAC, Danish Summer Dance and Sweden's Ulricehamn weeks to name a few.

After the in origination of the Northern Area I was chair for a few good years. Marion and I now support 6 dance groups in the East Midlands area, 4 of these that I call at on a regular basis, from fun level to Challenge

Musings from your Public Relations Officer

Contrary to rumours circulating around the Square Dance World I have not died. Neither did I 'forget' to write anything nor were my Musings for July eaten by my dog (I don't even have a dog). To continue as I'm in full flow now with excuses; I didn't give our wonderful Editor, Peter Wright, any cause to get out his Red Pen to censure any libelous, blasphemous, foul language or phrases which could be construed as indecent or inciting violence in my monthly article.

I informed our Editor that I was having a 'two month' break from writing. In olden days pre-Covid the magazine was only printed for ten months. It was during Covid, when there was no dancing at all that Peter offered to produce a magazine every month in order to keep dancers in touch with each other. A wonderful idea and ever since there has been a magazine every month. However, with the benefit of hindsight, I should have written a short statement informing the readership of my decision. I must say I was a little surprised to see a blank white page. So now you know. Thank you for missing me!

And so, as the phrase goes, I've started writing my Musings for August so I may as well finish and give you the full 450 words.

At the end of this month are the Olympics Games in Paris. This year sees the introduction of five new sports; surfing, sport climbing, 3x3 basketball, skate boarding and breaking i.e. break dancing.

How, I hear you asking is break dancing scored? It is based on a set of criteria that judges use to evaluate performances, These criteria include technical elements, vocabulary, execution musicality and originality.

When trying to explain to non-dancers exactly what Square Dancers is, it is often confused with Line Dancing, but never will it be compared to Break dancing. Have you seen Break dancing? I shall certainly be looking out for it at the Games. Perhaps we should make our beloved activity competitive? I merely toss the idea out for your contemplation. Points for accurate demonstration of the moves, I worry that that could lead to minus points. Points for presentation, some dancers really need to sort out their petticoat issues, and as I've warned you many times in the past the horrors posed by loose elastic.

Of course the competitive edge doesn't stop merely at the dancers and their performances; Consider our Callers? I'll stop there before I inflame any sensibilities and I wouldn't want to do that, would I? Perish the thought!

Enjoy the summer and see you in September!

Let's make Square and Round dancing great again!

Susan





Chuckle Zone

A few actual announcements that London Tube train drivers have made to their passengers...

- 1) 'Ladies and Gentlemen, I do apologize for the delay to your service. I know you're all dying to get home, unless, of course, you happen to be married to my ex-wife, in which case you'll want to cross over to the Westbound and go in the opposite direction.'
- 2) 'Your delay this evening is caused by the line controller suffering from E & B syndrome: not knowing his elbow from his backside. I'll let you know any further information as soon as I'm given any.'
- 3) 'Do you want the good news first or the bad news? The good news is that last Friday was my birthday and I hit the town and had a great time. The bad news is that there is a points failure somewhere between Mile End and East Ham, which means we probably won't reach our destination.'
- 4) 'Ladies and gentlemen, we apologize for the delay, but there is a security alert at Victoria station and we are therefore stuck here for the foreseeable future, so let's take our minds off it and pass some time together. All together now.... 'Ten green bottles, hanging on a wall.....!'
- 5) 'We are now travelling through Baker Street ... As you can see, Baker Street is closed. It would have been nice if they had actually told me, so I could tell you earlier, but no, they don't think about things like that!'
- 6) 'Beggars are operating on this train. Please do NOT encourage these professional beggars. If you have any spare change, please give it to a registered charity. Failing that, give it to me.'
- 7) During an extremely hot rush hour on the Central Line, the driver announced in a West Indian drawl: 'Step right this way for the sauna, ladies and gentleman... unfortunately, towels are not provided.'
- 8) 'Let the passengers off the train FIRST!' (Pause) 'Oh go on then, stuff yourselves in like sardines, see if I care - I'm going home....'
- 9) 'Please allow the doors to close. Try not to confuse this with 'Please hold the doors open.' The two are distinct and separate instructions.'
- 10) 'Please note that the beeping noise coming from the doors means that the doors are about to close. It does not mean throw yourself or your bags into the doors.'
- 11) 'We can't move off because some idiot has their hand stuck in the door.'
- 14) 'May I remind all passengers that there is strictly no smoking allowed on any part of the Underground. However, if you are smoking a joint, it's only fair that you pass it round the rest of the carriage.'

Visual Chuckles

**If you get a LOAN at a bank, you'll be paying it back for 30 yrs.
If you ROB a bank, you'll be out in 10 yrs.
Follow me for more financial advice**

I found that I have been happier since I changed from coffee in the morning to orange juice. My doctor explained that it's the vitamin C and natural sugars but I really think it's the Vodka

**Pulled a nose hair out today to see if it hurt!
Judging by the screams of the guy asleep on the bus next to me! Yes it did hurt!!**



My apologies to Westerners,. Half of this report was included in the July mag, but I had lost the other half, so here it is in it's entirety Editor

Isle of Wight News

Over the winter we lost our much loved Devil's Chimney, I'm sure many will have enjoyed this attraction and the surrounding 'Landslip' walk when visiting the Isle of Wight. The once welcoming café at the end of the walk now hangs on the edge of a cliff, its beautiful lawns gone!

Fortunately Square Dancing on the island is on a firm footing and growing. Our 12 student dancers have now completed the full Mainstream program and are fully integrated into our normal club evenings; we now have over five squares if everyone attends on the same night. Our thanks go to the fantastic group of Angel's who came every week to dance with the new dancers until April 1st when we changed to three hours of mixed Mainstream and Plus from 6 to 9pm for the whole club. Our club hall is packed on a Monday evenings and if we do take on any more student dancers it will have to be at a separate session – ideas already being discussed.

Westerners have also been lucky enough to welcome yet another experienced dancer who moved here from the 'North Island' –Marion Parkinson from Tilehurst Squares.

As Westerners are now enjoying dances on the 'North Island' we decided a new banner was needed to display at the venues



It is already well travelled, together with many Westerners to Hogsmill Spring Dance, Spetisbury New Callers Dance, Tilehurst Spring Dance and most recently Worthing Square's Dance, with more than a square of dancers at a time, meeting new dancers, enjoying the friendship of square dancing and returning to club nights with extra enthusiasm and new ideas . We

already have at least a square booked in for the Callers Club 70th Celebration which we are all looking forward to in November. Our thanks go to the organisers of the above clubs for arranging these fantastic dances.

We have boosted our dancer's confidence in Plus dancing with Plus Sundays – working through the program revising and ironing out any

problems, nearly all our original club members attended and enjoyed these afternoons of challenging all position Plus.



Following more regular ventures across the Solent by some of our dancers to Peter Sykes A1 classes and Granville's A classes it seemed now is the time to start our own A1 group at Westerners to practice and perfect all the moves we have learnt! Our first session kept us on our toes and introduced some of the first 'A' dancing on the Isle of Wight for very many years. Apart from dancing, our annual dinner in March was a fun social day with an excellent meal followed by light-hearted entertainment including some magic tricks by Terry and quizzes & activities to test intellect, memory and team spirit! An afternoon of fun & laughter was had by all. Don't forget if you are visiting the Isle of Wight during the year, drop in and have a dance with us, you will be most welcome. (We are open EVERY Monday)

From Westerners SDC



The Square Dance Caller's Club of Great Britain

www.Callersclub.co.uk

As a caller (albeit one new to the scene) I have been aware of Hiltons since I first took up the mic. Hilton is a brand of Public Address amplifier that has been specifically designed with the needs of Square Dance calling in mind. Classic Hiltons combine a record player with microphone inputs along with the essential music volume control knob on the microphone handset, the Hilton then combines these inputs and sends the music and callers voice to a loudspeaker. In the classic days of Square Dance, the Hilton was an essential piece of every caller's equipment.

When I first started my calling journey I obtained, for fairly cheap (£100), a Hilton 201 showing some wear and tear (for example the knob for controlling music volume on the microphone handset never worked properly), which seemed to be a reasonable thing to get started.

With use and time, the Hilton 201 more noticeably started suffering intermittent problems.

I considered what to do. It looked tatty with its turntable foam showing signs of degradation and it was clearly developing mechanical/ electronic faults.

The last straw was during a dance, when I found that the inputs for both music and microphone were "loose" and that either or both inputs would cut out intermittently. We ended up bending cables and taping them to the table so they would put tension on the sockets that kept them functional. My calling buddy declared that it was "a useless piece of equipment" (he used different words) that "deserved to be thrown away".

However, as an engineer, I did not want to give up on what was once a fine piece of engineering and electronics. I asked around seeking someone who could, within my budget, bring it back to a fit state.

I finally found John Mee, who agreed to take a look to assess what he thought needed work and to provide an estimate of cost and duration to repair. I thought his estimate and professional approach was agreeable and asked him to repair/ maintain my Hilton as he saw best. John provided a very clear and precise description of what he had done and I was very happy to pay for his efforts.

Continued on next page

On the day of my Hilton's return, I was attending a dance, where a key piece of equipment was forgotten by one of the callers and so my refurbished Hilton got put to use straight away. It not only performed perfectly, but looked the part of a professional piece of callers equipment. My calling buddy (see above) was very complimentary of this "excellent piece of equipment" and was amazed at the transformation that had been wrought.

The reason for this article is to flag up that the Hiltons are great pieces of equipment, but are getting old. Many components are well past their design life, are failing or otherwise need replacing. Some clubs and users are losing confidence in their Hiltons. I also strongly suspect that there may be some Hiltons collecting dust in the cupboard due to a club closing or regular guest callers using different equipment. But before abandoning these iconic pieces of equipment, we really should consider giving them the expert maintenance that they deserve.

My calling buddy (OK I'll name and shame) Alan and I so far think the refurbished Hilton is better than ever. If your old Hilton is showing signs of degradation or even if it has just been sat gathering dust, you might want to consider refurbishment/ repair. Though there may be other people around the country with the relevant expertise, I can personally recommend John Mee. I thought his cost was reasonable and John showed me all the replaced components and explained why he replaced each. He also PAT tested the Hilton and provided a certificate. (Just to give you a ballpark cost estimate, I paid around £85 to have my Hilton transformed, though costs will vary depending on model and what needs doing.)

John is not affiliated with Callers Club so anyone, whether caller or club custodian, can seek his advice. John can be contacted via email at: JohnMee18@gmail.com.

Happy dancing...

Suzanne Fletcher-Mallinson

On the Lighter Side

This appeared in our local U3A magazine and Christine kindly gave me permission to to reproduce it here. (Editor)

The Fairy Door



'So', I said to my youngest granddaughter. 'Is there anything particular you'd like for your birthday?'

'Yes please Granny, there is,' she replied. 'If it's not too expensive, I'd really like a fairy door.'

Well, of all the things I'd expected this certainly was not it. A bead set maybe. Fancy stickers, a notebook, a book of fairy stories - the usual things that little girls like. But a fairy door?

I dismissed images of me lugging a door out of B and Q and I tried to pretend that I knew exactly what she was talking about. She wasn't fooled.

'It's a little door that you fix on your skirting board, so at night the fairies can come into your house when everyone has gone to bed.'

'I see,' I said not seeing at all.

'They sprinkle magic dust round the house when everyone is asleep.' she added helpfully.

What could I say? A fairy door it had to be.

My first foray into a toy shop found me trying to explain to Saturday boy what I wanted.

'I'd like to buy a fairy door,' I said without a trace of irony.

'Don't think we've got any,' he mumbled. 'I'll ask my boss. What is it exactly?'

'It's a door you fix on the skirting board. It lets fairies into the house at night to sprinkle magic dust.'

He gave me a look only the young can master.

I couldn't resist it. 'I've wanted one all my life and I've decided to get one before I'm too old to appreciate it.'

Five minutes later he returned with the manager. 'Sorry, dear. (do **not** call me dear) We've got fairy dolls, fairy costumes, books about fairies, children's cookery books with fairy cake recipes but no fairy doors. Have you tried that Toy Supermarket on the ring road?'

No I hadn't tried that toy supermarket on the ring road but let me tell you that

once in anyone's life is enough. Lots of beeping, flashing things whose purpose eluded me, harassed families wheeling trolleys stashed with massive boxes, towering piles of menacing-looking soft toys, but surprise surprise no fairy doors. 'Why don't you try the internet love. (do **not** call me love) Get one of your grandkids to help you.' I ignored the implication that because I'm old I couldn't possibly understand how to order from Amazon, because actually he had a point. Why hadn't I thought of that in the first place?

There were at least three pages of fairy doors on Amazon not to mention sachets of magic fairy dust to sprinkle at night. Who'd have thought? After a pleasant hour of browsing, I settled on a pink one with lots of flowers and butterflies and two sachets of fairy dust. Feeling very pleased with myself I wrapped it in butterfly paper and tucked the fairy dust into my bag. I'd give it to my daughter to sprinkle round when everyone had gone to sleep.

Well, the present went down a treat. She absolutely loved it and got her dad to fix it on her skirting board straight away.

'Thanks so much, Granny. I'm going to go to bed extra early tonight and try to stay awake until they come.'

When I rang the next morning, she was full of it. Apparently they'd been in the night after she'd fallen asleep and in the morning there was glittery dust all round her breakfast place. My daughter came on the phone and I thanked her for taking the trouble with the fairy dust. She was quiet for a few seconds then said, 'But mum, I didn't. I was so tired, I went to bed and forgot all about it.'

Well, that was my mind made up. Amazon has a button which says '*buy me again*' over your previous purchases. I realised that what I'd said to the youth was true – I had wanted one all my life. I just hadn't realised it.

I pressed re-order, thinking about exactly where I would put it for maximum magic effect.

I didn't order the dust though.

Clearly the door works very well without it!

© Christine Griffin

Christine Griffin is a Gloucestershire writer whose poetry and short fiction is widely published.



Six of the Best

Reviews of Square Dance releases
from other labels by

PAUL BRISTOW

(owner and producer of STING & SNOW records)



Volare ~ Greg Moore

Rhythm School RS 728 *(Original Artist: Bobby Rydell)*

An English version of the song: "Nel blu, dipinto di blu", with music composed by Italian singer-songwriter Domenico Modugno who (along with Franco Migliacci) wrote the lyrics in Italian (the English lyrics were written by Mitchell Parish). It was released as a single in 1958 and was covered by several artists. Dean Martin (who sang it with both English and Italian lyrics) had the most success - Rhythm music, with Greg Moore on the vocal!

Mainstream Choreography: *Heads Promenade Halfway, Square Thru Four Swing Thru, Boys Run, Ferris Wheel, Square Thru Three, Swing.*

Crazy Train ~ Leo Catt

SharpShooter SS 1090 *(Original Artist: Ozzy Osbourne)*

Ozzy was one of my favourite artists when I was younger; I have always been a big fan of Heavy Metal - although I seriously doubted that it would be possible to create a good Square Dance from this style of music. Here is the exception that proves the rule! I am not sure how popular this track will become - but SharpShooter have created a fantastic version of this song; Heavy Metal Guitar, a Square Dance beat - and a first class vocal!

Mainstream: *Square Thru, Right and Left Thru, Veer Left, Couples Circulate Chain Down the Line, Pass the Ocean, All Eight Circulate, Swing.*

Looking for Love ~ Kip Garvey

Eureka EUR 1025 *(Original Artist: Johnny Lee)*

A song written by Wanda Mallette, Bob Morrison and Patti Ryan and released in 1980 as part of the soundtrack to the film: "Urban Cowboy"; the recording achieved No.1 on the Billboard Hot Country Singles Chart and was certified "Gold" for shipments of 1,000,000 units by the Recording Industry Association of America. Eureka have done an excellent job with both the music - and a first-class vocal, from top Music Producer Kip Garvey!

Mainstream Choreography: *Heads Square Thru, Swing Thru, Boys Run Tag the Line, Cloverleaf, Girls Square Thru Three, Swing and Promenade.*

We're All Alone ~ Chris Froggatt

Knee-Deep KDM 179 *(Original Artist: Rita Coolidge)*

Written by Boz Scaggs from his 1976 album "Silk Degrees" and put out a single in 1977. However, this song became a hit for Frankie Valli in 1976 and was also a "top-ten" hit in 1977 for Rita Coolidge in the US and the UK, when it was released as a single, from her album "Anywhere"; her version had the greatest sales success. Knee Deep use the Big Band Style music, as played in the original song; Chris does a great job on the Vocal!

Promenade Half, Lead Right, Right & Left Thru, Veer Left, Couples Circulate Chain Down the Line, Pass the Ocean, Boys Circulate, Girls Trade, Swing.

MIA Down in MIA ~ Tom Miller

ESP ESP 370 (Original Artist: George Strait)

Released as a single by George Strait in May 2024, this track will be part of the list for his 2024 album "Cowboys and Dreamers", due for release on 6th September; the song was written by Adam Craig and Dean Dillon. In case you are not sure what the title of this song actually means it refers to the term Missing In Action and to an abbreviation for Miami. Excellent music from ESP, with Tom Miller doing a great job on the Vocal!

Mainstream Choreography: Heads Square Thru Four Hands, Swing Thru Boys Run, Bend the Line, Right and Left Thru, Pass the Ocean, Recycle.

Old Days ~ Dean Singleton

Arrowhead ARROW 1167 (Original Artists: Chicago)

A song written by James Pankow for Chicago, released on their album "Chicago VIII" in 1975, with lead vocals by Peter Cetera; it was the second single to be released from that album. James Pankow was quoted as saying that the song uses "key phrases that, although they date me, are pretty right-on in terms of images of my childhood"; a great piece of music from Arrowhead, with another outstandingly good vocal from Dean!

Mainstream Choreography: Heads Promenade Halfway, Square Thru Four Swing Thru, Boys Run, Ferris Wheel, Square Thru Three, Swing.

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

UK CALLER
TRAINING FOUNDATION

Callers Corner - Flow Modules: what they are - and why they are important!

Jerry story was the first person that I heard use the term: "Flow Module". He began to talk about them during the period when he was trying to put into words the system of Calling that he personally used to control the Dancers and resolve the Squares; this was the subject that most of the Student Callers he had been asked to coach, wanted him to explain. He published a full explanation of the methodology that he used to use when he was Calling (now extremely well known as CRaMS) and references to: "Relationship Calling, when you are using Flow Modules", was a major part of this explanation.

A Flow Module is a series of Calls that fit together really well - and give the Dancers a smooth, purposeful dancing experience. It is not so much a question of the individual Calls that are used - but the way that they fit together as part of the overall traffic pattern of the sequence - and the choreographic objective that they achieve. A really good Flow Module will use a combination of Calls that are unique (and perhaps unusual) to create an interesting choreographic effect, that achieves a specific purpose.

To create this type of choreography - so that it can be used in an effective, successful manner - Callers need a very good understanding of the ideas behind three essential CALLERLAB Curriculum subjects: "Body Flow", "Timing", and "Degree of Difficulty"

Body Flow (includes the following ideas):

- Direction of Turn (if any) – *which way are the Dancers turning at the completion of the Call (some Calls do not present a Direction of Turn)?*
- Hand Availability – *which Hand (or Hands) are free at the completion of the Call - and which hands need to be free at the start of the Call, in order to Dance it?*
- Counter Dancing – *what effect does the Call have (if any) on people to whom the Call is not directed?*
- *Which Calls provide a form of assistance to help Dancers complete them correctly?*

Timing (includes the following ideas):

- A correct understanding of: Command Time, Reaction Time and Execution Time

Degree of Difficulty (includes the following ideas):

- A correct understanding of: the inherent complexity that exists in certain Call uses and some Call combinations; which are the easiest/ most difficult to Dance?

Callers need to carry out a considerable amount of research - to answer these questions correctly and effectively, the required research is best indicated on the CALLERLAB "Call Analysis Sheet" (as I mentioned last month); this research must consider both Standard as well as Extended applications. If you take the time to create as many "Flow Module" ideas as possible, you will eventually build up a formidable repertoire of Calls that could be used for Dancer Success at any point during an extemporaneous Calling operation; thus it is the absolute best way to develop modules associated with microprogramming.

A Point of Clarification - from Paul Bristow

I have not "quit Calling" (apparently there is a rumour that I have). I still Call regularly for my clubs, which adds up to more than one hundred nights a year - and I am happy to Call at any events - Saturday or Weekend (or longer) anywhere in the World, if I can.

I think that the confusion may have arisen because - as things stand - I have no more bookings in the UK this year, except for those events that I have put on myself; in fact, my next UK booking to Call a Saturday dance for another Club, is in April 2026! (the one exception is the "North West and Lakes Weekend" in October; an annual festival) I have never refused to take a booking, if I could - so it would be more accurate to say that the groups who used to book me are the ones that have "quit calling" (me)!

However, this does not worry me too much; the fact is I am not "crying out" for work! I have been Square Dancing for 50 years and Calling for 48 years - and it may be that my time "in the spotlight" has come to an end. Maybe, I have had my "fifteen minutes of fame" (as Andy Warhol predicted) and perhaps the Carbon-Arc lamps (the footlights on the stage, referred to as the "Limelight") that light the stage, have (as happens with the flame of a match that burns brightly until it fades away) come to an end and "gone out..." But if that is the case all I can say is: "thank you" to all of the Dancers, Clubs and other organisations that have supported me over the years it's been great fun!

So where did this rumour about me deciding to "quit Calling" come from?

It is true to say that - for some time - I have found it more difficult to travel in the UK. Many years ago - due to various medical problems, I had to stop driving long distances - and my wife, Hazel took over the task of driving me to the places where I had been booked to Call. Unfortunately, due to Hazel's mobility problems (partially due to her having been "knocked down" crossing the road a while back), she finds it too difficult to continue doing all the driving for me, which has given me a major problem. I did try to drive longer distances on two recent events but realised that it would be unsafe to do this on a regular basis; I even had to stand down from being a Club Caller at Tilehurst!

I am pleased to say that there have been many offers of help from my friends, who are happy to transport me over long distances, for longer events which is a practical option for weekends etc.. On occasion, when it is just me that has to get there, I have made use of the National Express coaches to transfer me. However, it should be noted that is not possible to take my Square Dance sound equipment by this method so, when I take the bus, groups have to find someone from whom they can "borrow" equipment for me to use (usually from the Club Caller); although, not all Callers are happy with this idea.

So why am I writing this? Recently, (as many of you will be aware) Johnny Preston - following a fall - was unable to attend the Symonds Yat week and a replacement Caller had to be found. We usually close our weekly Clubs during this week, because a large number of my Dancers like to go and Dance with Johnny. They asked me if - as I was not Calling anywhere else - I would be prepared to take Johnny's place, I said I would. However, the decision was made to ask Neil to cover the spot, which is fair enough BUT my Dancers (and several other people) told me that I had not been asked because I had "quit Calling"! So I felt that I should clarify the situation. BTW - as you may know my younger daughter Cherish gave birth to my first Grandson on Tuesday of that week!

Meet Your BAASDC editor...

A trim, energetic, cheerful chap of a certain age, Peter Wright has been involved with square dancing since 1970. He has been a dancer, a club leader, a caller, and for about ten years the man who makes this magazine possible. He took over for the prior editor when he unexpectedly passed away.

In order to do that, he must wear many hats. He collects information about upcoming dances from clubs and callers and organizes it so you can easily see which events will fit into your schedule. He gets the monthly submissions from Susan Ellis (now the publicity chair and recently the president of the BAASDC). I hope you catch her upbeat, funny, and informative submissions every month. He is in contact with David Eagland, the current president, who always has something interesting to say about his plans for supporting clubs and individuals to grow our activity.

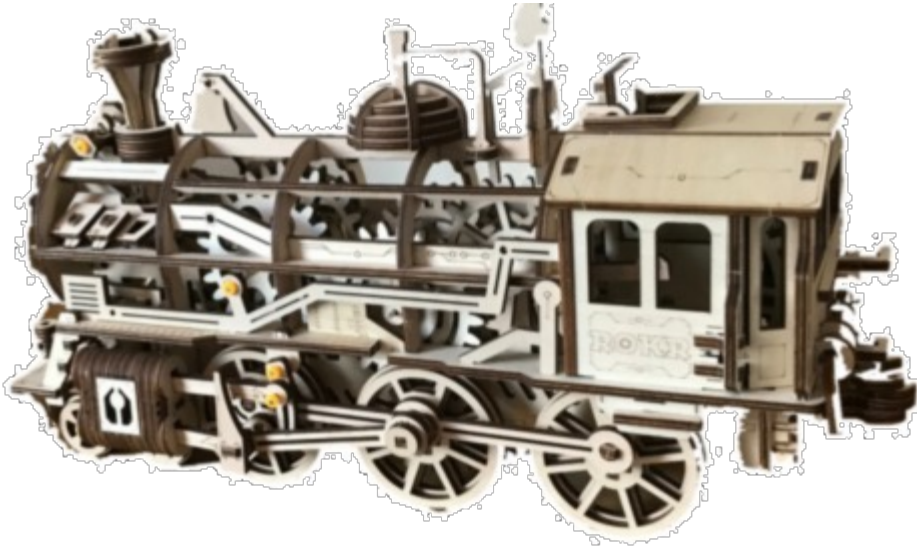
Peter's wit and wisdom come through in the jokes he collects in the chuckle zone. He also makes sure Paul Bristow enlightens readers about new music, and occasionally talks about his career as a travelling caller. Others contribute news about dances and milestones, dancers we have lost, and success stories about dancers who have joined us.

And that is all before he wrestles with the software that makes the BAASDC magazine the organized, readable, informative publication we look forward to every month.

I recently visited him in his lovely home in Cheltenham. I "met" Peter on Di Green and Terry McCann's plus zoom session over three years ago. We have become friends as I have contributed occasional articles to the magazine and chatted with him during the zooms. ***By the way, if you are looking for more opportunities to dance plus, Di and Terry are still zoom calling. It has made us better dancers and enlarged our circle of square dance friends.***

I was enchanted by Peter's home, which is surrounded by the delightful gardens his daughter maintains for him. His wall of books was impressive. His hospitality was generous and exactly what we needed.

Then we met his models.:



This train, which had over 400 pieces, was amazing, and just one of the models he assembled.

Robin Alpenglow California USA

Symonds Yat 2024

What a sensational week of dance we enjoyed at Symonds Yat this year with Neil Whiston calling, and standing in for Johnny Preston who had injured his hip just 2 weeks earlier. Johnny's injury caused the organisers something of an unexpected last minute headache, but Neil was happy to be invited and gave us an incredible week of cheerful and slightly challenging Plus, A1 and A2 calling. The weather was wonderful, the atmosphere was so friendly and everyone had a great time. Thank you so much Neil, we would all love you to come again.

Neil contacted Johnny during the week and the dancers all sent their best wishes for a speedy recovery. Johnny assures us that he will be with us again next year, all being well. If not, Neil will be willing to stand in again. We look forward to next year with bated breath.

All the dancers who stayed in the hotel will be able to re-book for next year if they get their bookings in before the end of July. Any remaining rooms will then be up for grabs. They are limited. But of course there will also be plenty of dancing space for those staying outside the hotel, so get those applications in.

Thanks again Neil, and all the dancers. Get well soon Johnny.

*Elaine
Aeron Valley Diamonds*

Tudor Squares

TERRY CHAPMAN AND HOME MADE CAKES

What a great event we had on Saturday 6th July with Terry Chapman of Westerners SDC, Isle of Wight calling A2 and A1/A2 at an afternoon dance! It was held at Warners End Community Centre, Hemel Hempstead, and almost 60 people attended including a significant number of Callers. It was good to meet up with square dancing friends from around the country and to have up to 6 squares on the dance floor. Unfortunately a few people were unable to join us because of illness or transport problems. The weather conditions that morning were very challenging and we were extremely fortunate that Terry and his wife Katrina made it in time coming all the way from the Isle of Wight.

It was the first dance that Paul Godley, now Chairman of Tudor Squares, had organised and was so well received that almost half of the dancers have already put their names down for next year's dance planned for March – actual date to be confirmed. Terry is a really excellent Caller and there was music to sing along to and some new moves for some of us to learn including the Beer Mug Chain which caused much laughter as we kept going wrong!



To quote one of the dancers after the event "Terry Chapman calling and home-made cakes, what's not to like?"

Paul was very grateful to a great team of helpers who baked cakes and carried out a wide range of jobs that made the whole event such a success.

Linda Tomkinson Tudor Squares



MINSTER SQUARES
AMERICAN SQUARE DANCING
OAKHILL VILLAGE HALL | CANNON HILL ROAD | WINDSOR | MK21 2LB

AUTUMN DANCE

SATURDAY 19th OCTOBER 2024

CALLER **TERRY CHAPMAN**

11:30am to 1:30pm A1 and one A2 **£5**

2:30pm to 5:30pm MAINSTREAM and PRE-ANNOUNCED PLUS **£6**

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED
RAFFLE

CONTACT: SHEILA SHORT 01202 889110



SQUARE DANCING • FRIENDSHIP SET TO MUSIC



Tilehurst Square Dance Club



Present their

Autumn Charity Dance

Saturday 5th October 2024

14:00 – 17:00

At

Bearsheaf Community Centre

Linear Park

Charrington Road

Calcot,

Reading

RG31 7AW

Featuring

Granville Spencer

Calling Mainstream & Plus

Tickets £ 7.00

Light Refreshments & Raffle

For Tickets please contact Paddy Davis : 0118 9471360
or 07866 633168

TROUVILLE
HOTEL

FESTIVE SQUARE DANCE AT THE TROUVILLE

Join us at the Trouville Hotel for our
'Taste of Christmas' Square Dance weekend

with Di Green

calling Mainstream & Plus, featuring guest callers

Friday 06 December to
Monday 09 December 2024

for just **£244** per person

Now also
includes Caller
Workshops

The weekend includes:

- Half board accommodation
- 'Taste of Christmas' programme
- Tuition sessions & evening dancing
- Return car ferry* from your choice of ports
(Portsmouth/Lymington or Southampton)

Get in touch with a member of our friendly team today on:

01983 402141

*minimum 2 adults per car

+44 (0) 1983 402141

info@trouvillehotel.co.uk

www.trouvillehotel.co.uk

10-16 Esplanade, Sandown, Isle of Wight, PO36 8LB



PRESENTS



39th COAST WEEKEND

Tom Miller

Bill Harrison

Calling a weekend of PLUS & 'A' packed full of dancing mornings, afternoons and evenings to suit you.

In beautiful Somerset with very comfortable, ensuite, half board accommodation at a 3* hotel

Wessex Hotel, 15 High St, Street, Somerset BA16 0EF

Friday evening 15th – Monday 18th November 2024

Three nights half board £352pp



Further information from Bernard Murphy

callerbernard@blueyonder.co.uk

Phone 07752 569609 & 01752 668078

www.uksquaredancing.com

PILGRIM PROMENADERS SDC 39th COAST WEEKEND

TOM Miller (USA) & BILL HARRISON (USA)

BERNARD MURPHY

WESSEX HOTEL, 15 High Street, STREET, Somerset, BA16 0EF

FRIDAY 15th to MONDAY 18th November 2024

PLUS, A1 & A2 (SEE PROGRAMME FOR DETAILS)

HALF BOARD EN-SUITE ROOMS (SOME WITH WALK-IN SHOWERS)

PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS & USE ONE FORM PER ROOM

FIRST NAME(S) SURNAME Address (including Post Code) Special Requirements

Home Phone: _____ Mobile Phone: _____

Email(s): _____

.....No. Before 31st July @ £272 EACH (Friday & Saturday night).....£.....

.....No. After 1st August @ £292 EACH (Friday & Saturday night).....£.....

.....No. NON-DANCER(S) before 31st July @ £212 EACH.....£.....

.....No. NON-DANCER(S) after 1st August @ £232 EACH.....£.....

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT £20 per night.....£.....

.....No. SUNDAY NIGHT DB&B (DANCERS & NON-DANCERS) @ £80pp.....£.....

.....No. THUR EXTRA NIGHT DB&B (DANCERS & NON-DANCERS) @ £80pp.....£.....

SUB TOTAL £.....

LESS DEPOSIT(S) @ £40.00 per person.....£.....

BALANCE DUE £.....

Deposits non-refundable after 30th July - Balance to be paid by 1st Sept please

PLEASE MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO:

B MURPHY - 8 CULME ROAD, MANNAMEAD, PLYMOUTH, PL3 5BJ

INTERNET BANKING: PILGRIM PROMENADERS SDC Sort Code: 09 01 27 a/c No: 96803761

Tel: 01752 668078 Mobile: 07752 569609 Email: callerbernard@blueyonder.co.uk

INSURANCE COVER FOR THE WEEKEND IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED

LET'S SQUARE DANCE ~ August 2024

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

OPEN DANCES August 2024

Sun 4 th 6.45 pm	HOGSMILL SDC London Visitors David Heffron USA, Kevin Lovell, Granville Spencer <div style="text-align: right; padding-right: 20px;">P, A</div> e-mail: spencer8@tiscali.co.uk (Wendy)	KT4 8SW
Sat 17 th Afternoon	Travaux Twirlers & Beulah SDC Aug Tea Dance Simon & Trudy Fielding MS, P Tel. 07756 954422 (Alison)	E Sussex TN40 1QA
Sun 18 th Aft	ASAZ A dance / workshop KEVIN LOVELL A1,2 Tel: 07796 695575 (Annika)	LU6 3RJ

REGULAR VIRTUAL (Zoom) DANCES August 2024

Every Monday 3 pm	Di Green & Terry McCann C1 workshop and dance https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89035956452?pwd=VTYraWdmbUltSEES5SDRqNE1UNIR0UT09 Contact Di on digreen21@gmail.com
Every Tuesday 4 pm	Di Green & Terry McCann A2 https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89812836418?pwd=aHJoMERFVnM3ZG53TVZ0cTF0Rk1qZz09 Contact Di on digreen21@gmail.com
Every Wednesday 4 pm	Di Green & Terry McCann Plus https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81744783048?pwd=djFqNWxtS0dmeGtJb0FzR3B0eGxkUT09 Contact Di on digreen21@gmail.com

OPEN DANCES September 2024

Sat 7 th	SPETISBURY SQUARES Simon and Trudy Fielding B, MSD, P, A½ Tel. 01202 731012 (Andy & Angela)	BH21 2LR
Sat 14 th Aft	WORTHING SQUARES - 40th Birthday Dance Simon & Trudy Fielding MS, P Tel. 07577 220161 (Mike)	BN12 4HD
Sat 14 th	STEEPLE STEPPERS 37 th Birthday Dance Philip Mee & Emma Horsfield B, MS, P Tel. 01159 528343	NG14 7BD
Fri 20 th to Sun 22 nd	BLACK ARROWS A2 Torquay weekend Paul Bristow and Bronc Wise A2 Tel 01202 872135 / 07763 414383	TO Devon TQ2 5HS
Fri 27 th to Sun 29 th	HOGSMILL SDC Bournemouth Bonanza 2024 Granville Spencer and Ian Turvill P, A1 spencer8@tiscali.co.uk (Wendy)	TO Dorset BH1 3AB
Sat 28 th Aft	HARMONY SQUARES - Birthday Dance Simon & Trudy Fielding SSD, Plus Tel: 07856 884432 (Gene)	RA LS23 6HY

OPEN DANCES October 2024

Fri 4 th to Sun 6 th	L.V.O.W & Chain Reaction N.W & Lakes Weekend Paul Bristow and Di Green MS, P, A1, A2, C1 Tel. 07981 743959 (Carol)	RA Lancs LA2 6NB
Sat 5 th Aft	TILEHURST SQUARES Granville Spencer MS, P Tel: 0118 9471360 (Paddy) (See advert P 22)	RG31 7AW
Sat 5 th	CORINIUM SQUARES Rob Branson MS, P (2:1) Tel. 01285 885507 (Huw) or 07384 563960 (Alan)	RA Glos GL7 7HA
Sat 12 th Aft	WAGGONERS - 50th Birthday Celebration Tea Dance Simon & Trudy Fielding MS Tel: 07719 961611 (David)	RA SG2 2LX
Sat 12 th	VIKING SQUARES Autumn Dance Philip Mee & Amy Richardson MS, P, R Tel. 01400 281497 (Judy) or 01476 561087 (Carol)	PL RA Leics NG13 0BG
Sat 19 th Morn/Aft	MINSTER SQUARES Autumn Dance Terry Chapman A1,2 (Morn), MS, P (Aft) Tel. 01202 889110 (Sheila) (See advert P 22)	Dorset BH21 2LR
Sat 19 th	WHITE ROSE SQUARES Yorkshire Federation Dance Granville Spencer SSD Tel 01943-878066 (Ann)	RA PL N Yorks LS23 6HY,
Sun 27 th Aft	CONTROUND EIGHTS SDC Tea Dance Eric Webb SSD, MS Tel. 01235 834778	PL OX13 6RR

2024 Square Dance Holidays and Weekend Breaks

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)
N O V	Fri 1 st to Sun 3 rd	SDCCGB 70th Anniversary Celebration Multi-Caller & Cuers e-mail: susie@graybo.co.uk (Susie)
	Fri 15 th to Mon 18 th	PILGRIM PROMENADERS - 39th Coast Weekend Tom Miller (USA) & Bill Harrison (USA) See advert P 24 Tel: 01752 668078 / 07752 569609 (Bernard)
D E C	Fri 6 th to Mon 9 th	Festival Square Dance at the Trouville Di Green MS, Plus Tel 01983 402141 See advert P 23
J A N	Sat 24 To Sun 26 th	AERON VALLEY DIAMONDS - Torquay Weekend Mike Belsten & Leah Tinsdeall MS, P Tel. 01545 561159 / 07866 890987 (Roy, Elaine) Waiting List
	Fri 14 th to Mon 17 th	PIECES OF 8 Fun Weekend Rob Branson & Wendy Shipton MS, P Tel. 07973 270310 or 07954 400872
A R	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)
	Fri 16 to Sun 18 th	TELEMARKS Harby Round Dance Weekend Teresa & Paul Hart Ph II-IV Tel: 07305 220978 (Paul)
	Fri 23 rd to Mon 26 th	VIKING SQUARES - 13th Fun & Friendship Festival W/E Simon & Trudy Fielding + Nick Wright MS, P, R 01476 561087 Carol / Pete or 01400 281497 Judy / Mick

BAASDC COUNCIL MEMBERS



President - **DAVID ENGLAND**
Tel: **01949 831022**
email: baasdc.president@gmail.com

Vice President Position vacant



Secretary - **GEOFF HOLDCROFT**
Tel **07952 309723**
email: baasdc.secretary@gmail.com

Treasurer - **PAUL MEE**
Tel. **01400 272673**

Email: baasdc.treasurer@gmail.com



Public Relations Officer **SUSAN ELLIS**
Tel. **07794 096145**
Email: baasdc.pro@gmail.com

Member - **ROY EVANS**
Tel. **01545 561159**



Member and Webmaster
MALCOLM GIRDLER
e-mail: baasdc.web@gmail.com

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.

British Association of American Square Dance Clubs
Geoff Holdcroft 9 Station Road, WOODBRIDGE, IP12 4AU.

AREA FEDERATION CONTACTS

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Tel. **01908 281802** email; annika_lovell@hotmail.com

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DEADLINES FOR COPY

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.**

ADVERTISEMENTS

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.

ADVERTISING RATES			
Size/Entry	Club Rates	Size/Entry	Club Rates
¼ page	£10	½ page	£15
Full page	£20.00		

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