

# LET'S SQUARE DANCE

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## *EDITOR SAYS.....*

By the time you read this, I hope you'll all be back dancing at your regular Club nights having enjoyed our glorious Summer break !

As I keep saying, please let us know what you've been up to.

I'm a bit disappointed that no-one has responded to my invitation to submit something about your non-square dancing activities / hobbies. I do get short of material at times ! Incidentally, I'm also getting short of 'Chuckle Zone' items; if you come across any funnies that you think might be worth sharing, please do share !

Happy Dancing



*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 Everyone

We are rapidly approaching the AGM of the BAASDC, which will be held via Zoom on the 26<sup>th</sup> October. I will be retiring from the position of President at the meeting. That means there is a vacancy for President, which, to enable the proper functioning of the Council, must be filled. Sadly, to date, no one has come forward. I ask you to consider filling the position. Without a functioning Council the BAASDC is on a downward spiral which will lead to, amongst other things, no group insurance and no Lets Square Dance magazine.

Over the past three years, the Council has tried to sow the seeds that will enable square dancing to continue in this country. Without a functioning Council this will be to no avail. Surely there is someone who cares enough about our hobby to come forward and take on the role.

To all of you who read this, please ask around your club to see if anyone will volunteer.

Enjoy your dancing

*David*



## Musings from your Public Relations Officer

Earlier this week I spent a few hours of my life, well two hours to be precise, talking to a techie at a high-tech company trying to explain what I wanted, not what they wanted me to have and how we were going to achieve this in an amicable and civilized manner. I am delighted to report that common sense shone through eventually, but not before I must have apologised a million times!

I kept on APOLOGISING for being old, for being deaf, (although I'm not) daft (well the jury is still out on that one) for asking them to repeat slowly what they said, for not fully understanding all that high tech jargon. Could you repeat that slowly? What exactly does that mean? I could go on but I'll spare you even more reasons why I find myself constantly apologising.

In my youth it was different; I only apologised if I was late for an appointment, caused a spillage or had let my team down. Now I seem to be apologising for being alive and it's got to stop.

Over the years there have been some famous apologies.

Bill Clinton in 1998 apologised to the American nation over his affair with Monika Lewinsky. "I misled people, including even my wife, I deeply regret that."

Tiger Woods in 2020 in a 14 minute statement admitted " I have let my family down and regret those transgressions with all my heart."

Boris Johnson in 2022 had to apologise in the House of Commons admitting that he did attend a Downing Street party while telling the nation they must isolate.

Adele in her second most popular song 'Hello' in 2015 sings "I must have called a thousand times to tell you I'm sorry for everything I've done " and "at least I can say that I've tried to tell you I'm sorry for breaking your heart."

Now that a huge percentage of our communication with others is through text messaging we don't even need to mention that word, just sent an emoji!

Square Dancing is an exact science. There is only one way to interpret the Calls if they are called correctly. So you either dance the call correctly or incorrectly. Dancing in a Square many dancers including myself all admit when they go wrong, however you are not obliged to admit to going wrong. All I would say is this; that when mistakes happen and they will, you are not one of those dancers who tut, comment in a negative way or inflict a hard stare on the culprit. Let's not play the 'blame game'. Let's try to be positive, encouraging and patient and I guarantee we'll enjoy our dancing a lot more; and isn't that what it's all about after all, FUN AND FRIENDSHIP set to music.

Let's make Square and Round dancing great again.

*Susan Ellis*





# Chuckle Zone

John decided to go skiing with his buddy, Keith. So they loaded up John's minivan and headed north.

After driving for a few hours, they got caught in a terrible blizzard. So they pulled into a nearby farm and asked the attractive lady who answered the door if they could spend the night.

'I realize it's terrible weather out there and I have this huge house all to myself, but I'm recently widowed,' she explained. 'I'm afraid the neighbours will talk if I let you stay in my house.'

'Don't worry,' John said. 'We'll be happy to sleep in the barn. And if the weather breaks, we'll be gone at first light.' The lady agreed, and the two men found their way to the barn and settled in for the night.

Come morning, the weather had cleared, and they got on their way. They enjoyed a great weekend of skiing.

But about nine months later, John got an unexpected letter from an attorney. It took him a few minutes to figure it out, but he finally determined that it was from the attorney of that attractive widow he had met on the ski weekend.

He dropped in on his friend Keith and asked, 'Keith, do you remember that good-looking widow from the farm we stayed at on our ski holiday up north about 9 months ago?'

'Yes, I do.' Said Keith.

'Did you, er, happen to get up in the middle of the night, go up to the house and pay her a visit?'

'Well, um, yes!,' Keith said, a little embarrassed about being found out, 'I have to admit that I did.'

'And did you happen to give her my name instead of telling her your name?'

Keith's face turned beet red and he said,

'Yeah, look, I'm sorry, buddy. I'm afraid I did.' 'Why do you ask?'

'She just died and left me everything.'

# Worthing Squares

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**Mainstream & Plus  
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worthingsquares@gmail.com

## ASAZ in Denmark

Where can you go and join a square and come away with a circle of friends? A square dance convention of course!

And that's just what eight of us did from our dance club, **ALL SQUARE AT ZERO**. We went "ON TOUR" to the European 2024 convention in Ikast, Denmark.

I initially thought I would go along mainly for the social side of things and to support our awesome caller, Kevin Lovell, who had been selected to call this year. I thought I'd dance a little and do some people watching, but NOPE... We danced a LOT!!!



Having recently learned "PLUS," I was able to dance in a couple of the halls and enjoy watching the dancers at higher levels. There were often up to 20 squares in each hall at various levels from Basic through Challenge. I even got to watch a little Round Dancing. Dancing to lots of different callers and watching others dance is what makes being at a convention such an amazing experience.

We took part in the Opening & Closing Ceremonies, The Grand March,





and an "Open Air" dance in a local shopping centre. We came together from around the globe and the number of registrants was just over a thousand. As well as dancers from the Scandinavian countries, the UK, and mainland Europe, I met dancers from Australia, USA, Canada, China, and Japan!

I am proud to be a member of our club and to have the support and leadership of our Caller, Kevin, and his wonderful wife, Annika, together with the guidance and friendship of our Angels.

As a group, we took the opportunity to have a little tourist time in Copenhagen and Odense, which really made for a great trip and special memories to treasure!

I believe everyone who square dances should take the opportunity to attend a convention as it really is QUITE THE EXPERIENCE. Hopefully, you will be inspired by reading this and consider the next European convention being held in Barmstedt, Germany in July 2026. We hope to meet you in a square soon!

*Jacquie Collins A happy dancer from ASAZ, England*

*(The cover photo is of Jacquie; Happy Birthday !)*



## **Waggoners Square Dance Club**



# **50<sup>th</sup>**

## **Birthday Celebration Tea Dance**

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**Dancing Mainstream to**

## ***Simon & Trudy Fielding***

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**Phone David 01992 441083 / 07719 961611**



## **The Square Dance Caller's Club of Great Britain**

<https://www.Callersclub.uk>

The Callers Club organized a one-day Callers School on 10th August in Steventon, Oxfordshire.

The event was designed by Simon and Trudy Fielding with support from Kevin Lovell when it was necessary to split into different groups. Attending for the training were eleven new and experienced callers who had travelled from far and wide: Yorkshire and West Yorkshire, Dorset, Hertfordshire, Berkshire and Hampshire.

Simon and Trudy led two presentations with time for questions. The morning one focused on 'Smooth Dancing' while the afternoon one focused on 'Standard Position verses All Position'. In addition to the lectures, worksheet exercises were given to the attendees to work through before the end of the day.

After each lecture session the eleven trainees were split into two groups for mic-time activities with one group lead by Simon and Trudy, and the second group lead by Kevin in the adjacent smaller hall. These sessions first had the trainees practice "smooth" calling, then after lunch had them thinking on their feet as they took dancers through increasingly complex permutations of specific moves (you might be surprised at how many formations and arrangements Zoom, for example, can be called from.)

As with all mic-time caller training activities, the essential ingredient for learning is a set of willing, patient dancers. Since the organizers wanted two separate groups, the day needed enough dancers for two squares. Thus, a BIG THANK YOU goes to the 16+ dancers (a small few were partners of the attendees) who enabled each group of callers to practice. Dancers who attended were allowed to sit in for the presentations (which some found interesting!) and were provided with a free fish & chips meal with the organizers and attendees in the early evening.

The number of dancers was just enough, but more would have been appreciated as this would have allowed an opportunity to rest during the mic-time sessions. So, a general plea goes out to dancers – to support any of the caller development and training sessions, days and dances, as these are essential for callers on their calling journey. Car shares can often be arranged with attending callers or other dancers.

A further thank you goes to the various support persons helping to set-up and repack equipment, manage the drink and food and other tasks required to run such an event.

Happy Dancing!

*Suzanne Fletcher-Mallinson, (Shadow Secretary of SDCCGB)*

## **A Point of Clarification (and an apology to David Eagland) -**

from Paul Bristow

I have discovered that I am to blame for the rumours that I have quit Calling in the UK!

First, I must apologise to David Eagland, President of the BAASDC - a man for whom I have the greatest respect; he does a colossal, amount of work for Square Dancing in the UK - and I consider him to be one of the best friends that UK Square Dancing has ever had (and a really good friend of mine). I am very sorry to have upset you David.

When David read my previous article in last month's LSD, he took it to be a personal attack - in that he believed I had told him that I would no longer Call for UK Clubs.

The reason that David believed I had quit Calling (and passed on this message, in good faith, to the people who helped to organise the Symonds Yat week) came about because in March I had written emails to him one of which included this statement:

' David, there is no way that I can continue to Call at events in the UK '.

David actually asked me to reconsider this action, during my trip to Australia (as well as wishing me good luck), which I did. In another of these March emails, with the title: "My Final Decision" I intended to tell David that I had decided not to quit Calling in the UK. Unfortunately, I seem to have somehow lost my way trying to write this email and ended up expressing myself very poorly; this is where the real problem lies. I thought that I had told David that I would not quit Calling but quite clearly I did not do that.

My sincere apologies to David for causing him any embarrassment in my previous article s a result of my misleading him on this matter - this was entirely my error.

In my defence, I would like to mention some "mitigating circumstances" in that what happened was made worse by certain factors about when this happened; it was early March, I was moving house, two days before I went to Australia and Germany to Call - for almost three weeks (we didn't plan it that way but that is how it happened)! As a result of this I was simply "spinning" too many "plates"... and as a consequence failed to communicate my wishes correctly. I thought that I had told David that I would not quit Calling in the UK but - looking back at the text - I completely failed to do that!

*Paul*

## Steeple Steppers Square Dancing Club Celebrate the Olympics 2024 in Style

You can always count on Steeple Steppers to step up to a challenge. The committee had asked members to decorate their tables, as part of our Olympic Celebrations, either to represent a Country, competing in the Olympics or alternatively to showcase an Olympic Sport of their choice. Members certainly deserved a gold medal for their efforts. Among the decorated tables there featured a great shout out for Australia, with many native stuffed animals, flags, balloons featuring kangaroo, a boomerang, table mats with pictures of Australian animal as well as an Australian Olympic Yahtzee competition no less! Competition being a feature of another amazing table decoration;



Marguerite and Alan's offering to the sport of table tennis was second to none. As well as a call out for team GB they had a brilliant competition (with a prize no less) on guessing the number of table tennis balls in the pot. They even had pictures of the Olympic mascot as well as the opportunity to try out our skills with table tennis bats and balls available.

One table was dedicated to the many countries competing in the games with numerous flags, as well as hand-made Olympic rings and an excellent interpretation of larger than life Olympic medals. Janet and Roxanne even had a life sized hand-made Olympic flame taking centre stage. We were surprised to see our Secretary, Eileen and her husband Rob, donned in fencing attire, complete with real fencing swords, although I was not sure whether they were foils, epees or sabres! They gave the masks a miss, on this occasion, lest anyone felt intimidated! I was particularly taken with one table decorated with 'playmobil' figures of an equestrian event with jumps handmade of twigs and fences made

*Continued on next page*

of sticks. This too was decorated with Olympic rings and flags supporting team GB.

Emma, our caller, had the unenviable task of judging these masterpieces, however, always up for a challenge, she didn't flinch from the task. Her choice, of first prize, was to go to the masterpiece produced by Graham and Christine; a table dedicated to the sport of badminton, something Graham has dedicated much of his life to, both as player and coach. They wore 'Carlton' club badminton uniforms and as well as making their own interpretation of the Olympic rings, Graham had hand-crafted beautiful flowers from shuttle cocks and painted them red white and blue. I am sure that it was this vase of original blooms that clinched it for them in the end. They also had an original little model of a badminton player complete with racket and hand-made shuttle cock.



The club provided some delicious cream and jam scones topped with strawberries, during the break and this was followed by an Olympic quiz. Great knowledge of the Olympics was demonstrated; our members certainly had been enjoying watching the superb coverage which has been foremost on our televisions over the past weeks.

As well as decorating her stage, Emma had brought an original replica of the Olympic torch used in the London 2012 Olympic Games. She told us that it had been given to her nephew, as he had taken part in the journey of the torch when it toured around the UK.

This celebration followed on from the most amazing workshop and dance hosted by Steeple Steppers the weekend before. Our grateful thanks go out to Emma for all her hard work and patience and for putting on yet another workshop to enable our 'Mainstream' and 'Learner dancers' to progress onto 'Plus'.

*Kay Parkinson, Steeple Steppers Square Dancing Club, Nottingham*

## US Visitors for Hogsmill SDC

Twelve enthusiastic US visitors posed by the Thames before taking the train to our dance. Unfortunately, storms on departure left them without sleep for 36 hours and without their Caller, Dave Heffron.

However, they were still smiling as they joined us in a fast Plus and A evening with Kevin Lovell and Granville calling.



With many local dancers on holiday, we were delighted to be joined by friends from across the South of England for a truly international friendship dance.

Dave and his party arrived the next day and took the train to Harrogate where they danced to Cliff and Gene, the Harmony Duo and Dave called too. Hopefully we will hear Dave call on his next visit!



*Wendy Spencer*



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

**UK CALLER**  
TRAINING FOUNDATION

### **Callers Corner - Showmanship: That's Entertainment (- at least in part...)!**

One of the principal talents required of a Caller, is the ability to entertain the Dancers: to put on a "show" each time that they are "on the stage" Calling - this talent is usually referred to as: "Theatrical Showmanship" and is one of the three types of Showmanship that Callers need to consider when learning how to Call; it is a very important skill that must be developed as it is quite often the main reason why Dancers keep coming back!

The other types of Showmanship are: "Choreographic" i.e. to use Flow Modules that the Dancers enjoy (this is a much easier talent to consider, as it is a Mechanical skill and can easily be developed on a scientific basis: i.e. without Dancers). The number three type of Showmanship is "Musical", which requires a combination of both Mechanical and Judgemental skills (Callers can work on this scientifically choosing the best music to use and the best way to present it - but you need Dancers to carry out a true analysis).

Theatrical Showmanship however, is primarily a Judgmental, skill and as such needs to be developed on a much more artistic basis; I've often felt that the best way to describe this is by the title of the old song; "Do What You Do Do Well", which could be taken to mean that: whatever you are able to do, do it the best that you can - and (to make the best of that philosophy) work out in advance what it is that you do best and then try and improve that aspect of your talent; to put it differently: know your weaknesses and your strengths and improve your existing talents and skills for entertaining the Dancers.

A great way to look at this question is to consider the entertainers by whom you enjoy being entertained the most and work out what aspects of their show (if any) you could use. Your individual preferences in this area will be a great way to discover what you find entertaining and what ideas Dancers might find entertaining - when incorporated into your show. If you enjoy and appreciate a certain style of entertainment there is a good chance that you understand how it works - and have a good idea how to copy it.

For example, you might enjoy the type of comedy that Morecambe and Wise use - or perhaps you prefer the Two Ronnies - or the quick-fire humour of Ken Dodd. You may prefer some of the more modern comedians and entertainers. Whoever you find to be entertaining is where you should look. For example, when I was growing up, I used to see a lot of shows on television similar to the "Sunday Night at the London Palladium" show, with an MC and a series of various different acts entertaining the TV public. The role of the MC was a great influence upon my personal ideas for entertaining Dancers; for many years I would start my Saturday night dances by using Bruce Forsyth's: "Nice to see you... To see you..." and - most of the floor - would respond by saying: "nice"!

Entertainment is an essential aspect of Calling and it is important to analyse what you are doing; as a Caller you need to work out the best way to entertain the Dancers so that they will come back and dance again! The first priority for any Caller is to make sure that the Dancers succeed, but the second priority is to entertain them and - if we are in a "New Dancer" situation - perhaps those two items should be flipped around, so the first priority is to entertain and Dancer success should become the second priority?



## Six of the Best

Reviews of Square Dance releases  
from other labels by

**PAUL BRISTOW**

(owner and producer of STING & SNOW records)



### **That's Rock and Roll ~ Steve Turner & Paul Long**

Aussie Tempos A 1042 (Original Artist: Eric Carmen / Shaun Cassidy)

Written by Eric Carmen (who originally recorded and released this song - in 1976), this tune went on to be a popular Billboard top 10 hit in 1977, for Shaun Cassidy (on his first self-titled album); it was his longest-charting hit (peaking at No.3 on the U.S. Billboard Hot 100) and the second of three consecutive Top 10 hits. Aussie Tempos use superb instrumentation on the music - with Steve Turner and Paul Long excelling on the vocal!

**Plus Figure:** *Lead Right, Swing Thru, Girls Circulate, Boys Trade, Boys Run Wheel and Deal, Pass Thru, Trade By, Single Circle, Star Thru, Swing.*

### **A Matter of Trust ~ Pat Carnathan**

Shakedown SD 359 (Original Artist: Billy Joel)

A song written by Billy Joel, from his 1986 album: "The Bridge"; the second single from the album, it became a top ten hit. This tune differs from most of his songs in that it is based on electric guitar rather than piano, which gives it a rock edge; Billboard called it "refreshingly untidy rock" with "elegant song structure". Shakedown have created a top version of this song using an electric guitar, a good steady beat - and a first class vocal!

**Mainstream Choreography:** *Heads Promenade Halfway, Square Thru Four Right and Left Thru, Pass Thru, Trade By, Touch a Quarter, Scootback, Swing.*

### **You are the Woman ~ Kip Garvey**

Eureka EUR 1026 (Original Artists: Firefall)

Released as the second single from Firefall's self-titled debut album in 1976, the track is distinguished by the performance on Flute of band-member David Muse; it was written by the group's frontman Rick Roberts and was their first single to break into Billboard's Top 40, on the "Hot 100" chart. Eureka have done an excellent job with the music, it is a great instrumental - together with a first-class vocal, from Music Producer Kip Garvey!

**Mainstream Choreography:** *Heads Promenade Halfway, Square Thru Four Right and Left Thru, Veer Left, Ferris Wheel, Square Thru Three, Swing.*

### **Gonna Get Along Without You Now ~ Henna Yauger**

Lone Star LS 614 (Original Artist: Roy Hogsed - and many others)

A popular song written by bandleader and occasional songwriter Milton Kellm; the first known recorded version was released in 1951 by Roy Hogsed in a "Boom-Chuck" style. Since then it has been done in several styles and tempos. This version is quite close to the Viola Wills release in a "Disco" style, with a slower tempo - and an electronic orchestral backing. Great Rhythm Records music, with Henna Yauger on the Vocal!

**Mainstream Choreography:** *Heads Square Thru Four, With Sides make a Right Hand Star, Heads Star Left Hand Star, Swing Thru, Boys Trade, Swing.*



**Shut Up and Kiss Me ~ Patty Greene**

Chic CHIC 3095 (Original Artist: Mary Chapin Carpenter)

Written and recorded by American country music artist Mary Chapin Carpenter in 1994, this was the first single from her album: "Stones in the Road" becoming her only "No.1 hit" on the Billboard Hot Country Singles & Tracks charts; the song won her a Grammy Award in 1995 for Best Female Country Vocal Performance. As you would expect, Chic have "gone to town" on the music, which has Patty doing a terrific job on the Vocal!

**Mainstream:** Promenade Halfway, Square Thru Four, Right and Left Thru Veer Left, Couples Circulate, Chain Down the Line, Square Thru Three.

**Sold! ~ Jason Raleigh**

Riverboat RIV 1386 (Original Artist: John Michael Montgomery)

"Sold (The Grundy County Auction Incident)" to give the song it's full title, is written by Richard Fagan and Robb Royer, it was released in 1995 as the second single from John Michael Montgomery's self-titled album. This track hit No.1 on the country charts in the United States and Canada and was Billboard Hot Country Singles & Tracks' No.1 single for that year; some really great music from Riverboat - and a fine vocal from Jason!

**Mainstream Choreography:** Promenade Halfway, Pass the Ocean, Extend Swing Thru, Spin the Top, Right and Left Thru, Square Thru Three, Swing.

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

**www.musicforcallers.com**



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## Reflections of a New Caller

I started square dancing at Tilehurst SDC in 2007, when I lived in Reading. You may be surprised to learn that I gave it up after a few months – not for any strong reasons, but just because I was doing full-time work, and because of the effort of driving from one side of Reading to the other. In 2010, when I was unemployed, I thought “Why don’t I go back to that square dance club?”, and I’ve never looked back since.

In 2015 I relocated to Eastleigh near Southampton, and danced with Merryoaks, Waterside and Testvale Square Dance Clubs. This year I have been in the process of moving to Uxbridge, on the western edge of Greater London, which is near where I grew up.

My early experiences of calling were gained with Testvale SDC in 2018, when I was invited to do a singing call, and later some patter. The singing call was much-rehearsed, and went successfully as a result. My attempts at patter at this stage were a lot less successful. Carol and Alan Gerrey kindly gave me a copy of the “Winhash” program, with which it is possible to compose sequences of moves on the laptop, which I still find extremely useful.

In the Spring of 2022 my journey into calling got going again, when I was invited to the caller training sessions which Kevin Lovell leads about once a month. I was invited to come onto the stage and just “move the dancers about”, and if I called something that wasn’t possible, Kevin would just say “Can’t do that”. He made it seem easy, which in my opinion is the sign of a good teacher. One of the main things that we were taught was how to resolve a square (get dancers back to their original positions) using the “Friends and Enemies” technique – a solid and reliable method that works.

In June 2023 Kevin invited me to call a tip at a Sunday afternoon dance at Ken-sworth (near Whipsnade Zoo). Things didn’t all go smoothly! It was a very hot day and I drove there from Eastleigh and back. The hall was under siege from local teenagers (we didn’t think they were interested in learning square dancing), and my new laptop refused to connect to the amplifier. I did just a patter call using music from a vinyl record belonging to the main caller. It went “all right on the night”.

In early 2023, at Waterside SDC, I filled in on several midweek nights when their caller, Keith Lovegrove, wasn’t available. I think I gave the dancers an enjoyable evening (which is a caller’s number one objective), but my “happy amateur” style was in marked contrast to Keith’s professionalism. I gave the dancers a fair dose of electronic dance music (house / trance), and received some very positive feedback from this.



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I was greatly helped in this by using books of modules, which Marilyn Holloway, the widow of Lynn Holloway, had given me. I also write my own modules, and read them when calling. However, I need to progress from this to true sight calling, where the caller has in mind what they want to do, but is just watching the dancers, not a piece of paper or computer screen (for the patter).

I've already learnt that it doesn't pay to plan the calls in too much fine detail. Dancers rarely perform the moves exactly in accordance with the number of beats "officially" allocated. It is always a balance between the caller leading, but also adjusting in response to what the dancers are doing.

Another example of the superb help that I've received is that I was given an old Hilton (mixer and amplifier) by Simon Fielding, in return for an optional donation to the Callers Club. I used it in April 2024 when calling for the evening at Rockin' 8s SDC, when their caller, Paul Bristow, was away. Over the years I have kept my collection of vinyl records; I have also bought the performer's licence which allows me to play any commercially-available music. Fortunately, I like the kind of music that is suited to square dancing, with a good steady beat.

I would like to give my thanks to Di Green, who ran caller training sessions and allowed new callers to call some of the evening tips, on the Isle of Wight weekend in December 2023. I would also like to thank Simon and Trudi Fielding for their work in caller training. Trudi said to me that calling is like driving a car; when you're learning there seem to be so many things to do at once, and it's a bit of a panic, but when you're experienced you can take it all comfortably in your stride.

How do I feel when calling? I can honestly say that I enjoy it, but it's enjoyment combined with a certain amount of nerves and apprehension. I think that this is probably a good thing, as it wouldn't do to be too complacent. I'm used to being on stage, as a result of having played in wind bands and orchestras, especially the recorder group at primary school with an over-strict teacher (it wasn't Music for Pleasure)!

There are currently many of us new callers in the process of learning the trade, and of course there is tremendous camaraderie between all of us.

What does the future hold? At present I am still a long way off calling for the whole of an open dance. Some people in Uxbridge want me to start a new club there, and want me to get on with it sooner rather than later! We'll see... I've already thought of a name for the club. By the way, these people have been very interested in hearing about "square dance attire", and seeing pictures of people wearing it.

In 2024 I have been going to two-monthly training sessions run by Paul Bristow at New Denham (in Buckinghamshire, near Uxbridge). These consist of a seminar in the afternoon and a New Callers Dance in the evening (7 to 9.30). The dance is a fun event, with good choreography, and the only disappointment that we've experienced is the very low numbers of dancers coming to these events, despite being listed in LSD. The next dance will be on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> September, so come on dancers – do give us new callers some support; do not deprive yourselves of an enjoyable evening!

*Peter Garratt – Rockin' 8s SDC*

## Tilehurst SDC Charity Skittles Night

During August our regular hall is closed for two weeks of maintenance. Rather than not meet at all it was decided to organise a Skittles evening and help raise some funds towards our charity for this year. Pat (our chairperson) booked a skittles alley at a nearby social club. Approximately 24 members enjoyed a fun evening with a pot luck supper mid-way through the evening. Prizes for highest scores ladies and mens were awarded as well as a knockout competition at the end of the evening. Combined with a raffle the evening raised £87.50 to add to monies already raised through the year.



*Ray Turner*



# OTTER SQUARES

## TORQUAY WEEKEND

18th – 20th July 2025

THE CARLTON HOTEL

TORQUAY TQ2 5JJ

DANCING MAINSTREAM & PLUS

WITH:

**NEIL WHISTON**



**COST: £190/PP**

**DINNER/ B&B**

**OPTIONAL THURS & SUN NIGHT EXTRA £60 PPN INCL DINNER**

**SINGLE SUPPLEMENT £30 FOR WEEKEND**

**CONTACT: JANET 01297 33019**

[janet.bulpin35@talktalk.net](mailto:janet.bulpin35@talktalk.net)

*Holiday cancellation insurance strongly recommended*

# LUNE VALLEY OCEAN WEVERS SQUARE DANCE CLUB

**NORTH WEST & LAKES WEEKEND -  
FRIDAY 6th – SUNDAY 8th OCTOBER 2024**

Lune Valley Ocean Wavers & Chain Reaction are a little lonely, being a long way from other clubs, but

we have the advantage of being right beside the M6, the venue being only 5mins from Junction 34.

We are in a very diverse area of outstanding beauty and historical interest. We are very near to the Lake District and the Yorkshire Dales and in a little more than an hour you can be in Gretna Green Scotland, or visit Hadrians Wall. By planning ahead you can even go to the Isle of Man, as the ferry is only 10 mins away.

So why not come and combine a holiday in our beautiful neck of the woods, with a great weekend of

dancing MS, Plus, A1 & A2 and even a little C1, with Paul Bristow & Di Green

There is also MS/Plus open mike dance on Sunday for all you budding and visiting callers to practice your art.

We are looking forward to welcoming dancers from clubs from all over the country from Aberdeen to London, Yorkshire and Warrington and catching up with long time dancer friends. No one from abroad this year but there is still time.

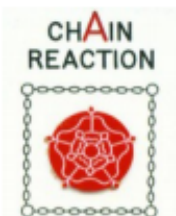
There will be lots of home made cakes and a raffle on Saturday evening. Dress code. Square dance or smart casual.

The weekend doesn't completely stop there, you are welcome to join us on Monday as well, with our SSD & beginner dancers celebrating our 29<sup>th</sup> Birthday Dance 7.30pm – 10.00pm with Trevor Day.

There are loads of close by attractions in the information pack on SQ Dance and Lune Valley websites or contact Brian on 01524 81444 or text 07981 743959 or email [brian204holman@gmail.com](mailto:brian204holman@gmail.com) for tickets and info.

**2025 Advance info - N.W. & Lakes Weekend  
10,11,12 October 2025**

*Carol Holman*



21<sup>st</sup> Birthday

# **NORTH WEST** **BIRTHDAYS** **WEEKEND**



Caton & Halton  
Lancaster

29<sup>th</sup> Birthday

## **4th to 6th OCTOBER 2024**

# **Paul Bristow & Di Green**

**MS – PLUS – A1 – A2- C1\***

**Friday 6.30pm to Sunday 1.45pm**

**Friday, Saturday & Sunday dances for MS & PLUS**  
The Sunday Farewell Dance will inc. callers from the floor.

**Friday workshop A1**

**Saturday workshops MS/Plus & C1**

**Saturday dance A1/A2**

**Sunday Workshop A2 with C1\***

Full weekend Dancing £31.00 - MS & Plus only £21.00 – MS only £15.00  
see programme for more details.

**The Centre @ Halton, Low Road, Halton on Lune.**

**LA2 6NB (5mins from M6 Jct 34, nr Lancaster)**

Pre Event Tickets:- [brian204holman@gmail.com](mailto:brian204holman@gmail.com) or text 07981 743959

Contact: L.V.O.W. - Sheila 01524 411439, C.R. - Val 01253 700534

email :- [oceanwavers@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:oceanwavers@hotmail.co.uk)

websites :- <http://www.oceanwavers.co.uk> <http://www.chainreactionsdc.co.uk>



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



## **Obituary ~ Neville John Harper**

4 July 1939 – 23 July 2024

Members of Cheltenham American Square Dance Club sadly announce the peaceful passing of Nev, in Gloucester Royal Hospital, after a short illness.

Having been introduced to square dancing while working in Cyprus, Nev and his wife Brenda, joined the club in 1994 and graduated the following year under the tuition of John Boxall. They consolidated their skills with Colin Pett, while spreading their wings visiting other clubs in the UK. Square dance holidays in Cyprus, Spain and the USA followed, by which time they were enjoying plus dancing.



Nev served on the club committee putting his technical and linguistic knowledge to good use.

In recent years, aches and joint pains dimmed Nev's enjoyment of dancing, but Brenda continued to dance for a while, until ill health slowed her down too.

Nev will be remembered not least for his sense of humour, participation in club theme evenings and general helpfulness.

*Mike Gaskins*

## LET'S SQUARE DANCE ~ September 2024

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

### OPEN DANCES September 2024

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

### REGULAR VIRTUAL (Zoom) DANCES September 2024

Every Monday 3 pm	<b>Di Green &amp; Terry McCann</b> C1 workshop and dance <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89035956452?pwd=VTYraWdmbUltSE55SDRqNE1UNIR0UT09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89035956452?pwd=VTYraWdmbUltSE55SDRqNE1UNIR0UT09</a> Contact Di on <a href="mailto:digreen21@gmail.com">digreen21@gmail.com</a>
Every Tuesday 4 pm	<b>Di Green &amp; Terry McCann</b> A2 <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89812836418?pwd=aHJoMERFVnM3ZG53TVZ0cTF0Rk1qZz09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89812836418?pwd=aHJoMERFVnM3ZG53TVZ0cTF0Rk1qZz09</a> Contact Di on <a href="mailto:digreen21@gmail.com">digreen21@gmail.com</a>
Every Wednesday 4 pm	<b>Di Green &amp; Terry McCann</b> Plus <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81744783048?pwd=djFqNWxtS0dmeGtJb0FzR3B0eGxkUT09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81744783048?pwd=djFqNWxtS0dmeGtJb0FzR3B0eGxkUT09</a> Contact Di on <a href="mailto:digreen21@gmail.com">digreen21@gmail.com</a>

## OPEN DANCES October 2024

Fri 4 <sup>th</sup> to Sun 6 <sup>th</sup>	<b>L.V.O.W &amp; Chain Reaction</b> N.W & Lakes Weekend <b>Paul Bristow and Di Green</b> MS, P, A1, A2, C1 Tel. 07981 743959 (Carol) <b>(See advert P 23)</b>	RA Lancs LA2 6NB
Sat 5 <sup>th</sup> Aft	<b>TILEHURST SQUARES</b> <b>Granville Spencer</b> MS, P Tel: 0118 9471360 (Paddy)	RG31 7AW
Sat 5 <sup>th</sup>	<b>CORINIUM SQUARES</b> <b>Rob Branson</b> MS, P (2:1) Tel. 01285 885507 (Huw) or 07384 563960 (Alan)	RA Glos GL7 7HA
Sat 12 <sup>th</sup> Aft	<b>WAGGONERS - 50th Birthday Celebration Tea Dance</b> <b>Simon &amp; Trudy Fielding</b> MS Tel: 07719 961611 <b>(David)</b> <b>(See advert P 9)</b>	RA SG2 2LX
Sat 12 <sup>th</sup>	<b>VIKING SQUARES</b> Autumn Dance <b>Philip Mee &amp; Amy Richardson</b> MS, P, R Tel. 01400 281497 (Judy) or 01476 561087 (Carol)	PL RA Leics NG13 0BG
Sat 19 <sup>th</sup> Morn/Aft	<b>MINSTER SQUARES</b> Autumn Dance <b>Terry Chapman</b> A1,2 (Morn), MS, P (Aft) Tel. 01202 889110 (Sheila)	Dorset BH21 2LR
Sat 19 <sup>th</sup>	<b>WHITE ROSE SQUARES</b> Yorkshire Federation Dance <b>Granville Spencer</b> SSD Tel 01943-878066 (Ann)	RA PL N Yorks LS23 6HY,
Sun 27 <sup>th</sup> Aft	<b>CONTROUND EIGHTS SDC</b> Tea Dance <b>Eric Webb</b> SSD, MS Tel. 01235 834778	PL OX13 6RR

<b>OPEN DANCES November 2024</b>
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Fri 1 <sup>st</sup> to Sun 3 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>SDCCGB</b> 70th Anniversary Celebration Multi-Caller & Cues SSD to A2 Contact: Susie e-mail: susie@graybo.co.uk	PE27 6WU
Fri 15 to Mon 18 <sup>th</sup>	<b>PILGRIM PROMENADERS</b> - 39th Coast Weekend <b>Callers TBD</b> Tel: 01752 668078 / 07752 569609 (Bernard)	TO Somerset BA16 0EF
Sat 23 <sup>rd</sup> Afternoon	<b>LHC RCA/Hogsmill SDC</b> - New Callers Dance <b>New Callers MS</b> Tel: 07867 802355 (Colin)	RA KT19 9OY
Sun 24 <sup>th</sup>	<b>UKCTF</b> Open Dance <b>New Callers</b> with <b>Paul Bristow</b>	UB9 4DW

## 2024 Square Dance Holidays and Weekend Breaks

S E P T	Fri 20 <sup>th</sup> To Sun 22 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>BLACK ARROWS</b> - Torquay A2 Weekend <b>Paul Bristow &amp; Bronc Wise</b> A2 Tel: 01202 872135 / 07763 414383 (Doreen)
	Fri 27 <sup>th</sup> to Sun 29 <sup>th</sup>	<b>HOGSMILL SDC</b> Bournemouth Bonanza 2024 <b>Granville Spencer &amp; Ian Turvill</b> P, A!, (A2) Tel. 020 355 567499 / 07742 881439 (Wendy)
O C T	Fri 4 <sup>th</sup> to Sun 6 <sup>th</sup>	<b>LVOW &amp; ChAin Reaction</b> NW & Lakes Weekend <b>Paul Bristow, Di Green &amp; Terry McCann</b> MS, P, A1,2 Tel. 01524 811444 or 07981 743959 (Brian/Carol)
N O V	Fri 1 <sup>st</sup> to Sun 3 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>SDCCGB 70th Anniversary Celebration</b> <b>Multi-Caller &amp; Cuers</b> e-mail: <a href="mailto:susie@graybo.co.uk">susie@graybo.co.uk</a> (Susie)
	Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> to Mon 18 <sup>th</sup>	<b>PILGRIM PROMENADERS</b> - 39th Coast Weekend <b>Callers TBD</b> Tel: 01752 668078 / 07752 569609 (Bernard)
D E C	Fri 6 <sup>th</sup> to Mon 9 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Festival Square Dance at the Trouville</b> <b>Di Green</b> MS, Plus Tel 01983 402141 <b>See advert P 24</b>
J A N	Sat 24 To Sun 26 <sup>th</sup>	<b>AERON VALLEY DIAMONDS</b> - Torquay Weekend <b>Mike Belsten &amp; Leah Tinsdeall</b> MS, P Tel. 01545 561159 / 07866 890987 (Roy, Elaine)
M A R	Fri 14 <sup>th</sup> to Mon 17 <sup>th</sup>	<b>PIECES OF 8</b> Fun Weekend <b>Rob Branson &amp; Wendy Shipton</b> MS, P Tel. 07973 270310 or 07954 400872
	Fri 28 <sup>th</sup> to Sun 30 <sup>th</sup>	<b>HOGSMILL SDC</b> Bournemouth A2 <b>Neil Whiston</b> A2 Tel. 0203 556 7449 (Granville)
M A Y	Sat 10 <sup>th</sup> to Sat 17 <sup>th</sup>	<b>ASAZ</b> Square Dance Cruise MSC Virtuosa <b>Kevin Lovell</b> P, A1 Tel. 07796 695575 (Annika)
	Fri 16 to Sun 18 <sup>th</sup>	<b>TELEMARKS</b> Harby Round Dance Weekend <b>Teresa &amp; Paul Hart</b> Ph II-IV Tel: 07305 220978 (Paul)
	Fri 23 <sup>rd</sup> to Mon 26 <sup>th</sup>	<b>VIKING SQUARES</b> - 13th Fun & Friendship Festival W/E <b>Simon &amp; Trudy Fielding + Nick Wright</b> MS, P, R 01476 561087 Carol / Pete or 01400 281497 Judy / Mick

*Waiting List*

## BAASDC COUNCIL MEMBERS



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

Vice President Position vacant



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

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Tel. **01400 272673**

Email: baasdc.treasurer@gmail.com



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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

East Anglia ~ **RICHARD MOTLEY**

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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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