



THE AUSTRALIAN SQUARE DANCE REVIEW

A NATIONAL COVER OF SQUARE AND ROUND DANCE NEWS PRODUCED BY

- ★ The Square Dance Society of N.S.W.
- ★ The Jim Vickers-Willis Group of Victoria
- ★ Square Dancing Society of Queensland
- ★ The Colin Huddleston Group of South. Aust.
- ★ The Square Dancers' Society of Tasmania

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Editorial Towards National Square Dancing

For many years Australian Square Dancing was in the doldrums, because each club went its own narrow-minded way and there was no co-operation. Suddenly something happened — societies and groups were formed. The formation of these societies and groups meant an exchange of ideas, visits to other clubs, and a better understanding all around. There is now another sign—an Australasia-wide co-ordination.

Commencing with this issue of the magazine, the Jim Vickers-Willis group of Victoria, Colin Huddleston group of South Australia, the Square Dancing Society of Queensland, and the Square Dancers' Society of Tasmania, are combining with the Square Dance Society of N.S.W. (which represents New South Wales, Australian Capital Territory, and

VIC. CALLERS OFF THE BEAT

Jim Vickers-Willis, who is now once more the centre of a Square Dancing boom in Melbourne and Adelaide, with weekly radio and television shows, is very serious when he talks about life assurance, one of his favourite business activities.

Jim says: "Most people need life assurance, but very many people who get it don't get the best advice on the type of life assurance they need most. Over the years this costs people hundreds of pounds paid into the wrong type of policy. Australians generally don't have nearly enough life assurance, and they have a negative attitude towards it due to too much high pressure selling and too little attention to making sure people get the right policies for their needs. The vast majority of the people are unaware of the terrific financial benefits available through

Melbourne Teenagers Flock to Square Dancing

One of the most significant features in the renewed popularity of Square Dancing in Melbourne is that teenagers are flocking to the Jim Vickers-Willis shows. Teenagers also predominate at Jim's big Monday night "Hall's" Square Dance in Adelaide.

This has done much to revitalise Square Dancing and it is most noticeable that the dances most popular with the young people are the traditional Square Dances, such as the Virginia Reel, Strip the Willow, John Brown's Body, etc.

Round dances such as the Canadian Barn Dance, the Georgia Polka, and the Pattacake Polka are also very popular, and it seems to point to the fact that, in recent years, young people have been starved for this happy mixing with people of all ages.

study, because over there numbers are growing against the monster of television. TV has only been in operation for twelve months in Adelaide, and is at the stage where it gobbles up picture theatres and all other entertainment in its path, but Square Dancing has maintained very healthy crowds.

One of the other important factors in the growth of Square Dancing in Melbourne and Adelaide is that sponsors, impressed with the happiness and wholesomeness of Square Dancing, have helped considerably with publicity,

Magnificent Radio & TV. Response

During recent months, radio and television stations have at last realised the popularity of Square Dance programmes.

This is a copy of a letter which was sent to Jim Vickers-Willis from the managing director of Hall's Soft Drinks, sponsors of Square Dancing in South Australia, following Jim's first television direct half hour telecast in Adelaide this year:—

"You will no doubt be pleased to hear that there has been a wonderful response to Australia's first direct telecast of Square Dancing.

"In fact we believe we did something for the viewing audience which will be long remembered.

EARL'S COURT, ST. KILDA

Everybody's doing it. Why not YOU?

SQUARE DANCING with

Jim Vickers-Willis
Tuesday: Beginners
Thursday: National Square Dance Club.
Members and Friends.

Full of Flavour, Full of Fruit,

TARAX is the Drink that's beaut.

It's TARAX for Square Dancing,

And TARAX for the Top Ten Flavours in Soft Drinks.

LOOSE TALK

(By Square Joe)

Square Dancer is just an older rock 'n roller with a built-in shuffle.

★ Overheard at the Dundas Roundup:

"No wonder they dance so well together. He has two left feet and she has two right feet."

★ Romance is in the air. The engagement has been announced of Frances Irwin to that well-known square dance caller Ron Jones. Congratulations and all the very best, Frances and Ron.

★ On Six Hour week-end when the Sydney dancers visited Newcastle the admission was 5/- dancers, 2/6 non-dancers. One Sydney couple brought along their dog. Naturally, he paid the spectator's fee. He should have paid the dancer's fee, however, as, when his mistress danced, he insisted on jumping up and down on the sideline, howling an accompaniment to the caller. He only "sings" to square dance numbers says the owner. His favourite is "I saw your face in the Moon."

★ One of the responses received from people wishing to learn to call was from a caller's son. Seems Pop doesn't want to wear out his equipment. Well, that sounds reasonable to me. Maybe old "Square Joe" will join the son. How about more of you? (N.S.W. news item only).

HOW TALENTED ARE WE, REALLY?

Congratulations to Channel 2 for "Let's Go Square Dancing". It's such a gay, happy half hour for all TV viewers.

Orchids to the very wonderful person Jim Vickers-

Australian Dancing Championships

Festival Hall, Melbourne

Tuesday, 6th December, 1960

All Australian leading professional and amateur dancers will be competing for Australian titles.

THIS IS ONE OF THE LARGEST CHAMPIONSHIPS IN THE WORLD.

TERRIFIC EXCITEMENT.

ATTENDANCE APPROXIMATELY 6000



Photo of 1959 A.D.S. Australian Championships

PROGRAMME

Dancers at the 1959 Australian Championships in Melbourne.
CHAMPIONSHIPS COMMENCE 7 P.M. SHARP

Beginners are persons who have never danced in Victorian or Australian championships.

We feel sure there will be a record entry for this year, 1960.
Address your entry to - - 79 BOURKE STREET, MELBOURNE.
MICKEY POWELL, Organiser.

CASUAL DANCERS FURORE IN MELBOURNE

The stormy petrel of Melbourne dancing, Mr. Bon Gibbins, has had a torrid time at the hands of critics over his statements in recent months condemning "casual dances." At these affairs, held in small, dimly-lit locations, young people are allowed to come dressed in any style and act in a so-called "relaxed" manner.

Even the ballrooms in Melbourne appear to be at loggerheads with each other as to the merits or otherwise of this style of entertainment. On one hand we have some ballrooms openly advertising that their locations do not conduct "casual dancing", while others openly invite teenagers to special "casual nights".

The first group feel that ballroom dancing over the years has established its standards and they should not be broken down. The second consider that rather than have teenagers attending what has been classed as "most unsavoury" establishments, it is better for the ballrooms themselves with proper supervision to conduct casual dances.

These managements further claim that these teenagers could eventually accept the established standards for dancing and ballrooms.

Square Dancers — Turn to Page — for important E.M.I. advt.



Sydney T.C.N. TV send up on 'casual types' (Kathie Lloyd, Roger Climpson, Buster Fiddes)

Sydney Teenage Nightclubs

With the large increase of social activities for teenagers, Sydney has recently opened a series of nightclubs for this age group with the one exception — there is no intoxicating liquor.

The Reverend Alan Walker, of the Central Methodist Mission, Sydney, has created headlines now for some weeks with the teenage cabaret held at the Mission's Fellowship House, Castlereagh Street, Sydney. The Reverend Walker has even added a floor show that includes a choir who sing "hymns

entertainment for dancing teenagers.

Another club has opened at Sylvania Heights and will be the first in the Sydney suburban area to cater exclusively for teenagers. It has been organised by accordionist Lou Campara at the old 'Stork Club'.

Good Dressing

Mr. Campara said, "We won't allow jeans or leather jackets, and will expect boys to wear coats until the warmer weather. As long as they are reasonably dressed they will be welcome."

Both these locations ac-



CALLING ALL TEENAGERS
Your Friendly Bottler of
COCA COLA
presents



ANOTHER GREAT TEENAGE DANCE

SATURDAY, Nov. 19, Dec. 17

TROCADERO
Starring GEORGE STREET, SYDNEY

JOHNNY REBB and the REBELS

WITH TOP RADIO — RECORDING — TV STARS

Dancing 2 p.m. till 5 p.m.

Admission 4/- at Door

Seen at I.D.M.A. Festival
at Sydney

Left:
Victorian Professionals,
Arch Watson and Marge
Carrol.

Right:
N.S.W. Amateurs,
Dick Foley, Kay Waterman

Results:
Professional:
1st: Charles Froulop & Ivy
Paton (N.S.W.).
2nd: Norma Beryle Ewers
(N.S.W.).
3rd: Arch Watson, Marge
Carrol (Vic.).

Amateur:
1st: Dick Foley, and Kay
Waterman.

2nd: Barry Keegan, Freda



Club in New Zealand. This year, the first Australian National Square Dance convention was held in Canberra and was so successful that another one is planned for next year. More recently, Jim Vickers-Willis made a series of 14 TV shows, which have either been or are being shown in every state over Channel 2.

Perhaps the best examples yet to come, as at the moment there are negotiations going on for the bringing of American Square Dance caller Ricky Holden to Australia next year for a tour of five States.

The results of the recent boom in Victoria, created by a relative few, prove that all that is needed is co-operation. This national trend can only lead to better things. We say "Square Dancing is Fun." There is another saying—an older one—

**"UNITED WE STAND,
DIVIDED WE FALL."**

TO NEW READERS:

We invite you to write letters to the editor, articles on Square Dancing, club news and, if you wish, "Loose Talk." Please address all correspondence to the Square Dance Editor of your State.

VICTORIA: Jim Vickers-Willis, 23 Wolseley Grove, BRIGHTON BEACH, S5.

QUEENSLAND: Graham Rigby, Square Dancing Society of Queensland, 14 Eagle Street, ALDERLEY HEIGHTS.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA: Colin Huddleston, 12 Elmore Street, FERRYDEN PARK.

TASMANIA: Fred Byrne, Square Dancers' Society of Tasmania, 48 York Street, BELLERIVE.

N.S.W., A.C.T., N.Z.: Jim White, Square Dance Society of N.S.W., 26 Osborne Road, LANE COVE.

resentatives. Jim, who also writes music and plays for puppet pantomimes which are produced throughout Australia, manufactures puppets and also baby (safety) barriers of his own invention, says that, next to Square Dancing, life assurance is his favourite occupation, because, he says, "While going about this business there is a wonderful chance to do people a good turn by giving them the correct advice".

In our next issue we will tell you some of the humorous things that have happened to him in his puppet business.

NEW PRESSINGS JUST RELEASED!

Microgroove recordings of Australia's leading Square Dance Caller, Jim Vickers-Willis.

Microgroove No. 1 includes **Alabama Jubilee, Manana, Little Angeline, It's a Precious Little Thing Called Love, Five Foot Two, Teddy Bear's Picnic, Put Your Arms Around Me, Honey, Impromptu, When You're Smiling.**

Microgroove No. 2 includes: **Hi Lili Hi Lo, Lili Marlene, Bye Bye Blackbird, Redwing, Red River Valley, Hello Square, John Brown's Body, Somebody Stole My Gal, Four Leaf Clover, Wabash Cannonball.**

Available by mail (post free) 36/- each.

Send cheque or money order to **AUSTRALIAN SQUARE DANCE**, 23 Wolseley Grove, Brighton Beach, Victoria, and your records will be sent to you within a week.

MARYLANDS GUEST HOUSE

Marysville, Vic. chosen for square dance holiday week-ends because of its wonderful facilities and superb low-cost year-round holiday service.

Jim Vickers-Willis was the first to introduce the Madison to the ballrooms of Melbourne, and this did much to interest the younger generation in Square Dancing, but although the Madison is very much in demand, it seems that the youngsters mostly want Square Dancing with strong off-beat and good band and caller.

When Square Dancing re-opened at Earl's Court on March 15, 1960, it was strongly predicted that it would not last three weeks, but, throughout a very cold and wet winter, numbers have steadily increased, until now there is no doubt in anyone's mind that Square Dancing is back to stay.

One of the reasons for these doubts, of course, was that Jim Vickers-Willis' health would not stand the rigours of continuous Square Dance calling, but he has proved those doubters wrong by the full programme he manages to cram into one week, and he also seems to be in better health than ever.

Here is Jim's programme:

Monday: Fly to Adelaide. Call at Palaise Royal. Radio broadcast over 5DN.

Tuesday: Fly back to Melbourne. Call for beginners at Earl's Court. Wednesday: Record Saturday morning programme for 3KZ. Rehearsal at Channel 5 for television show.

Thursday: Call for National Square Dance Club at Earl's Court. Radio broadcast over 3KZ.

Friday: Rehearse and do live television show. "Let's go Square Dancing" at Channel 2.

Plus casual engagements. Square Dancing in Adelaide is a very interesting

but interesting stage, where variety is added by using different melodies and different combination of figures, rather than trying to make the figures more complicated and involved. This means that a dancer is now able to stay away for as long as he likes and still be able to come back and join in the dance, without again going through a learning period just to learn all the figures he has missed by his absence.

This method is also adding a lot more spirit and enjoyment to Square Dancing because concentration is not so intense.

The National Square Dance Club has been re-established in Melbourne, and Badge tests are held for membership, but these tests emphasise the need to be a proficient Square Dancer, rather than an expert.

To celebrate the re-establishment of the National Square Dance Club a holiday week-end has been organised at MARYLANDS Guest House, Marysville, on October 28, and it promises to be a very exciting time.

Tournaments for tennis, table tennis, golf, bowls, croquet and billiards will be run, and on Friday and Saturday nights Square Dances will be held. The response to this week-end has been tremendous, and it looks as though other week-ends will be held to cater for everyone who wishes to go.

All in all, Square Dancing in Melbourne is on a much healthier basis than it was before, and from what was learned by the mistakes made during the last Square Dance boom, it would be no rash statement to say that Square Dancing is back stronger than ever.

had a rating of 32 against 22 for the show "Naked City" on NWS9. This high rating for a one-night show presented at 10 p.m. must certainly make television stations give serious thought to promoting further such entertainment.

"With so much response and after many requests our company re-played the telecast on Video Tape on Sunday afternoon.

"We are very happy to be associated with Square Dancing in Adelaide and look forward to our Monday evenings when so many families come along and get to know each other during the evening."

As well, among the deluge of letters and phone calls on TV and radio stations and in the papers were the following, appearing in the daily newspapers in Melbourne relating to the Channel 2 telecasts:—

HE LAUGHED AND DANCED AT ONCE

Orchids to Jim Vickers-Willis. He's the most. I mean he's way out there, man.

With two other cats I cadillac'd down to where the King holds his Square Court, and, Daddio the joint was really jumping.

Before you could Hi-Fi, a pretty little cat grabs me and takes me into this roundup jazz. Now I think this crazy little mixed up kid has blown a gasket, when suddenly I'm dancing like crazy.

Man, I'm telling you this Vickers-Willis knows more tricks than O'Keefe and Johnny Reb put together. It's a gas. It's the first time I laughed and danced at the same time.

"A REAL COOL SQUARE" HI-HOE

May we add more orchids to time for "Square

many dull singers, so much so that one cannot help wondering just how untalented we Australians really are.

**"A VIEWER",
(Carrum Downs)**

Square dancers everywhere should seize the opportunity to back up Square Dance TV and radio programmes. If you like the shows, write and tell the TV stations and the TV papers and daily papers. Otherwise they think no one is interested. This type of support by Melbourne folk has made a great difference.

Channel 2 telecasts are as follows:—

Melbourne . . 9 p.m. Frid.
Sydney . . 9.30 p.m. Frid.
Brisbane . . 10 p.m. Sat.
Adelaide . . 10 p.m. Sat.
Hobart . . 10.30 p.m. Sat.
The A.B.C. advises that these times will be changed in November.

In addition, Sydney square dancers are featured in the Ray Acuff Open House series telecast in some States.

Weekly radio programmes by Jim Vickers-Willis are as follows:

3KZ, Melbourne: Saturday, 12.15 p.m.
3KZ, Melbourne, Thursday, 8.30 p.m.
5DN, Adelaide, 1.45 p.m. Hall's Square Dance).

As well, Sydney caller Bob Price conducted sessions over 2KA, Katoomba, on Sundays, 4.15 p.m.

Another JIM VICKERS-WILLIS PRIVATE SQUARE DANCE CLUB IS OPENING.

Those wishing to obtain details should fill in name and address below and post to: Australian Square Dance, 23 Wolseley Grove, Brighton Beach, Victoria.

Name
Address
Telephone

the young people Square Dancing at places like St. Ives. I doubt that in Square Dancing they will ever hear the word "Teenager" spoken in reproach.

★ What's this???

1st Beatnik: "Man you look beat, where you been?"

2nd Beatnik: "Man—I've been to a Holler dance."

1st Beatnik: "Now what's that, man?"

2nd Beatnik: "Well man, I'll tell you. They line up four cats and four chicks in a square circle and this one smooth cat on the stage he hollers. First he hollers "Alley man right and left." Then the two chicks on each side of you turn you all ways but loose. Then he hollers "Gran right and left" and you make like milkin' a cow round the ring and then — "Fore! Ladies charge" and the chicks scatter every which a way till one hits you and spins you around, and right there this smooth cat hollers "Box the mat and flee taxi style" and you get under backward through and out man."

1st Beatnik: "That's terrible, man. I bet you'll never go back there again."

2nd Beatnik: "What do you mean, man. A week on my pad and I'm a goin' back. That holler dancin' is the coolest."

★ Closing thought: You may not like flowers, but they'll eventually grow on you.

★ Next month Square Joe will come from Melbourne. Square Joe.

Have you tried HALL'S New Drink Sensation . .

ZESTA COLA?
Hall's bring—Fine Drinks and Square Dancing for your Enjoyment.