

SOUTH PACIFIC SQUARE DANCE REVIEW

A ROUNDUP OF
COUNTRY-WESTERN
DANCING

Produced by:

- ★ The Square Dance Society of N.S.W.
- ★ Square Dancing Society of Queensland
- ★ Square Dance Society of Victoria
- ★ The Colin Huddleston Group of South Australia and Clubs in
- ★ New Zealand, Papua and the Fiji Islands

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JANUARY-- FEBRUARY

1964.

1964 . . . To Be Year Of Change

It is predicted that 1964 will see many changes in the square dance scene in Australia. In fact, in some circles, it is forecast that this year could even see a change in the very name of our pastime.

Square Dance Review last year suggested that square dancing could be promoted as "Country-Western". Since then, square dancing has been promoted as "Country-Western" as an experiment in Adelaide, Newcastle and Brisbane, and already there are some interesting results.

In Adelaide, Colin Huddleston advises that this year he will be advertising all his square dances as "Country-Western", whilst in Brisbane Graham Rigby is advertising "Go Gay the Modern Way", Square Dancing Country and Western Style."

Radio and TV

On the television front, Colin Huddleston will continue his square dancing on the Country-Western hour and in Sydney the TV show "Country-Style", featuring the Le Garde Twins and the Waggon Wheel Square Dancers will commence shortly on a national basis.

In Sydney, the Square Dance Society of N.S.W. is planning to participate in a saturation type advertising campaign on a radio station, probably in March, to coin-

cide with many clubs scheduled to be opened throughout the metropolitan area.

Teenagers

Whilst there are still some callers around who insist on "hot rod" calling for the few dancers who remain in that category, there has been a definite trend to the simpler, more relaxing type of square dancing and there is evidence to show that this trend will continue in 1964.

Of considerable note is the great increase of teenagers interested in square

dancing, despite the constant derogatory remarks made of "squares". Increasing numbers are finding in this pastime the true relaxation and sociability they have been seeking. In N.S.W. quite a number of teenagers have enrolled in the next callers' class.

Yes, indeed, 1964 promises to be a year of great changes in the square dance world.

REMEMBER: SQUARE DANCING OFFERS MORE
... .. IN '64!

HOW MANY PEOPLE
are you planning to bring square
dancing this year?
Let's have more in '64!

Editorial

Your "New Look" Magazine

This year we commence the ninth year of publication. With it you will notice several innovations. For many years we have endeavoured to improve this magazine as our resources permit. For the very first time it is felt that we have achieved what we have been seeking.

To start with, the name of this magazine is now "The South Pacific Square Dance Review". The reason is that in the last few years we have gradually increased our coverage, first to New Zealand and then to Papua and the Fiji Islands. Moves are afoot to increase this area to the entire South Pacific, giving this magazine the greatest coverage of any square dance magazine in the world.

The second thing you may notice is that we call the magazine "A Roundup of Country-Western Dancing". Some quarters of the square dance world feel that, just as square dance movements change, so the name is changing.

You will also notice better layouts, different and more attractive type, which will make reading easier. The quality of paper is better, smoother, and will not stain with age.

We hope you enjoy the new look!

Outstanding TV Programme

Early in January the National Television Network released a TV programme entitled "The History of the Dance." This programme, which was the first national show produced by Western Australian TV station TVW-7, was an outstanding success.

Of particular note was the excellent way in which the square dance segment was presented. It would seem that someone must have known the producer, or the producer was of slightly different character to those usually operating the Eastern States TV stations. There was no barn, "corn likker", idiot in oversize overalls, or some other stupid barnyard gimmick which is nearly always foisted on square dancers appearing on TV in the East. Instead they had the Square Dance Band in check shirts and hat (not overdone) and the dancers in their normal square dance dress. The square dance segment was tastefully presented on a plain set and in keeping with the rest of the programme.

Anyhow, congratulations on an excellent presentation, W.A. dancers and caller—whoever you are.

Unfortunately we are unable to advise who the dancers and caller were, as there were no sub-titles. Western Australia has quite a good following of square dancers and they have a Society. However, attempts by several Eastern States in recent years to contact ANY square dance society, caller or even dancer in Western Australia have always met with absolutely no reply. If anyone can assist in this matter, please advise, as readers of Square Dance Review would like to know how the other side fares.

QUEENSLAND'S STATE SQUARE DANCE CONVENTION IN MARCH

(By Graham Rigby)

Well, it's on again—Queensland's Third State Square Dance Convention at fabulous Binna Burra Lodge, Beechmont, high in the Lamington National Park, 2,600 feet above sea-level. Our first State Convention was held there in 1959 and the second in 1962. Both were huge successes and, with the programme we have planned for next month, this could be the greatest of them all.

Convention dates are March 13, 14 and 15!

Highlights include a Feature Dance, Hiking, Picnic, Sports, Roundup Breakfast, Discussions, After Parties, and many surprises. Accommodation is in comfortable log cabins which surround the lodge itself which is the centre for meals and entertainment. Binna Burra is just 60 miles south-east of Brisbane and can be reached either via Nerang or Canungra. The road is first class.

Meals are a particular feature at Binna Burra, both in quality

and quantity—and you'll find there are no less than seven meal-times daily listed on their schedule. Dancers from many clubs are expected to attend, and the dancing will be led by the State's top callers.

Cost of the entire week-end will be only £3/15/0, and nominations may be lodged with either Arthur Steele, Peter Johnson or myself.

"You'll never forget Binna Burra", they say, and we heartily agree. Join us for one of the most wonderful square dance experiences you'll ever enjoy!

Planned Publicity

In a recent article entitled "Be Sensational" Square Joe emphasised the need for more modern style publicity to revive interest in our pastime. Apparently, probably to Joe's amazement, he set a few cogs in motion, for at the annual half-yearly meeting of the N.S.W. Society, it was decided that a radio advertising campaign should be instigated to take place early in March.

The exact form of this campaign has not been definitely fixed, but the general idea is for all interested callers to plan a beginners' night in their area to start mid-March. The locations of these dances, together with items of general interest about square dancing, will then be advertised on at least one and possibly two radio stations for one week on a "mild saturation" principle. This means spot 20/30 second advertisements throughout the day, including peak listening periods.

Fifty per cent of the cost of this scheme will be met by the society, the balance being split over the callers participating.

The Society executive was particularly optimistic of the results such a scheme could produce. If this optimism is justified by the first effort, week-long radio advertising campaigns each six or even three months, could become a regular item in the Society's budget.

In order to make final arrangements, a special meeting of callers and promoters has been called for Sunday, February 16, and will be held in Room C, First Floor, Y.M.C.A., at 8 p.m.

In the meantime, keep your fingers crossed and tell your friends to listen to the radio for news of square dancing.

Alan Blackwell Memorial Night

A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

Wednesday, March 18

NORTH SYDNEY ANZAC MEMORIAL HALL

Bellevue Street, Cammeray

ALL DANCERS CORDIALLY INVITED

DANCE WITH EASE, STYLE AND CONFIDENCE WEARING

Pro-lite and Pampere Non-Skid Square Dance Shoes

Worn and Recommended by
All Leading Professional and Amateur Dancers
LEARN EASIER :::: DANCE BETTER
Enquiries from your Dance School or Teacher
or contact

PERCE JUPP
Orpheum Ballroom
Cremorne Junction

Evenings
WEEK-ENDS
XY-7140

Do You Enjoy Square Dancing ?

IF SO, WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO KEEP IT GOING ?

Alan Blackwell

Memorial Night

The fourth annual Alan Blackwell Memorial Night, set down for Wednesday, March 18, at Cammeray R.S.L. Hall, is a night that no thinking Sydney square dancer will miss.

Four years ago Alan Blackwell died. He was one of the pioneers of square dancing in Australia and certainly its hardest-working and most widely-known personality. He was survived by his widow, Edna, two daughters, and son John.

Over the following three years square dancers contributed £379, proceeds of the annual Memorial Nights, to assist with John's education. This year the proceeds will be given to a charity yet to be decided upon.

John Blackwell, now working for an advertising agency, recently made local news headlines when he won £1000 in a competition run by the Sun newspaper. This involved the solving of a cross-word, the winning solution being the fourth of 32 submitted by John. A lot of hard work, John, and you certainly deserve your prize.

As an interesting sideline John was quoted in publicity as saying that the nearest he had ever come to winning anything before was an occasion when he *almost* won a pair of cuff-links. The following day the Sydney firm of Hickok invited him to select a set of cuff-links from their range as their special guest.

So come to this night, meet Edna and John (if you haven't already done so), dance to every available caller in Sydney, meet dancers you probably haven't seen for years, and a charity will benefit.

SQUARE DANCE SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

Special Meeting

for

Callers, Trainers, Promoters, Dancers

To be held at

Room C, First Floor, Y.M.C.A., Pitt Street, Sydney,
SUNDAY, 16th FEBRUARY, AT 8 P.M.

Business:

- (1) Proposed Publicity Campaign Organisation.
- (2) Bundanoon Weekend Competition.

Square Dance

Sydney viewers lifted their eyebrows on Sunday, January 19, when they noted that ABN2, ABC 3, ABHN 5 were screening a play entitled "Square Dance" at 8 o'clock that night.

No doubt many were caught with this title. What the "Square Dance" had to do with this most morbid, dull, sick play heaven alone knows. Other States, BEWARE!

A Message to All Ladies

Many male dancers have recently experienced considerable damage to their nylon and other light shirts which they wear during the summer months.

This damage has been caused by bangles, watch bands and various other ornaments worn by the ladies. Many of these ornaments have very sharp points and they catch on pockets or sleeves or on the small threads that go to make up the shirt. The result is a tear which cannot be repaired.

It is suggested that all ladies pay very careful attention to see that all items that could cause damage to shirts are not worn to square dances—at least during the hotter months. Their co-operation would be greatly appreciated.

Concert Performance

After being in existence for just over a year the United Teenagers' Square Dance Club (Labasa, Fiji) was asked to put on a display at the Red Cross concert in Labasa on November 2.

One square, in the club uniform of black and white checked dress, orange sash, orange shirt and black trousers) danced three dances in two appearances on a stage covered with tarpaulin.

The team consisted of: First couple: Henry Fong, Nea Storey. Second couple: Sakuisa Fong, Katherine Moku. Third couple: Arthur Robinson, "Cookie" Fong. Fourth couple: Charley Qui, Emily Simmons. In reserve: Israil Simmons, Diana Simmons.

This was their first square dance performance in public, and all dancers did very well.

Magdalena ("Cookie") Fong was the belle of the evening, being the Red Cross Queen, having raised £83 in aid of this society. She later modelled Chinese clothes in the fashion parade and danced the Twist—one item before the square dancing.

Her brother Henry, partnered her in the Twist (they are the Twist champions of Labasa, I believe), only two items after participating in a judo demonstration. Henry is a White Belt holder.

Sakuisa Fong and Israil Simmons were also in the judo demonstration, and Emily Simmons was another "Twister". So members of the Square Dance Club had a rushed and energetic night.

United Teenagers' Square Dance Club,
NEA E. STOREY, Instructor,
LABASA, FIJI.

REMEMBER: If every dancer brought along just ONE beginner in March, we would DOUBLE the number of dancers. The success of our pastime is IN YOUR HANDS!

Square Dance Diary

NOTE: As this diary has to be reorganised for 1964 season, ring before attending.

CARLINGFORD (B) — Harry Jackson, 2nd and 4th Mondays, Soldiers' Mem. Hall, WL 1549.
DUNDAS (Allemanders) — Harry Jackson, 1st, 3rd Mondays, Town Hall, WL 1549.
PUNCHBOWL. Old R.S.L. Hall. Ron Jones. Mondays. UY7118.

RHODES, N.S.W.: Sea Scouts' Hall, under Ryde Bridge. Caller, Roy Welch. LY 9208.

WAYVILLE — Roger Weaver and Brian Townsend. Mondays. Institute Hall, 9-2670.
There are several private clubs in operation as well.

MONDAY

ROSE BAY — Lucky Newton, Les Bridge. LY 9208.
Hitchin, Tuesdays, Church Hall, Cnr. Dover Road, Old South Head Road.
CAMBERWELL — Les Schroeder, Tuesdays, Football Pavilion, Camberwell Road. MX 4921.

TUESDAY

BELMORE — Bev. Pickworth, Wednesdays, Scout Hall, Lark Street. UW4166.
COORPAROO — Jack Mitchell, Wednesdays (Weekly), Scout Hall, 6-4262.
HOLLAND PARK* — Peter Johnson, Wednesdays (Weekly), Marshall Road School. C/- 36-0161.
CAULFIELD — Ron Whyte, Wednesdays, Fortnightly from 1st May, Tennis Club, Balaclava Road. XL 1496.

WEDNESDAY

RHODES: Round Dance. Sea Scouts' Hall, under Ryde Bridge. 4th Wed. Avls and Jack Nimmo. 85-3180 (R. Dickson).

THURSDAY

CAMPBIE (B) — Ron Jones. Thursdays, Empire Hall, Beamish St. UY 7118.
NORTH SYDNEY. Vince Spillane. Fortnightly, in Manresa Hall, Carlow St. 94-4186.
NEUTRAL BAY (B): Wal Crichton, Terry O'Flaherty. Weekly. Bear Ballroom, Military Road.
CAMBERWELL: Round Dancing Thursdays. In Football Pavilion. Tele. 50-1470.
RIVERWOOD, N.S.W.: Scouts' Hall, Bond St. Caller, Bev Pickworth. UW 4166.

FRIDAY

COLLAROY PLATEAU: Len Woodhead. Weekly. Progress Hall, Hall Ave. JF 1205.
ASHGROVE — Graham Rigby, Saturdays (Fortnightly) St. Barnabas' Hall (A.M.). 56-1251.

DECEPTION BAY — Graham Rigby, Fridays (Fortnightly), School. 56-1251.
SANDGATE: Peter Johnson. Fridays (weekly). British Ladies' Hall. 31-0161.

SLACK'S CREEK — Merv. Henderson, Fridays (Weekly), Progress Hall.
HAMILTON — Hank Johannessen, Fridays, Transport Hall. 61-1503.

SATURDAY

BELMORE* — Ron Jones, 3rd Saturday, Scout Hall, Lark Street. LU 5415.
BELROSE (B) — Vince Spillane, 1st Saturday, Ralston Ave. 94-4186.
BELROSE — Vince Spillane, 2nd Saturday, Ralston Ave. 94-4186.
CHATSWOOD (B) — Wal Crichton, Terry O'Flaherty, Saturdays, Congregational Hall, Anderson Street. XJ 5832.

BELMORE RAMBLERS: Scout Hall, Lark Street, 4th Saturday. Caller, Ron Jones. UY 7118.

DUNDAS — Harry Jackson, 4th Saturday, Town Hall. WL 1549.
GREENWICH* — Ron Jones, 1st Saturday, Community Centre. XM 2292.

BROADVIEW — Alan Frost. Saturdays, monthly. C. of E. Hall. 46-4889.
MITCHAM — Colin Huddleston, Saturdays, fortnightly as from July 13. Methodist Church Hall. 45-4556.

ASHGROVE — Graham Rigby, Fridays (Fortnightly), St. Barnabas' Hall. 56-1251.
DECEPTION BAY (B) — Charles Fullwood, Saturdays (Weekly), C.W.A. Hall (A.M.).

UPPER MOUNT GRAVATT* — Vic. Dean, Saturdays (Weekly), Progress Hall (Afternoon). C/- 49-2481.

CLOINTARF — Jack Mitchell, Saturdays (Fortnightly), Tennis Club Hall. 6-4262.

COOPER'S PLAINS — Graham Rigby, Saturdays (Monthly), Progress Hall. 56-1251.

BRISBANE GRAMMAR* (B) — Graham Rigby, Saturdays (Monthly), School Gymnasium. 56-1251.

GREENSLOPES (B) — Peter Johnson, Saturdays (Weekly), Scout Hall. 36-0161.

INDOOROOPILLY* — Graham Rigby, Saturdays (Monthly), 69 Blackstone Street. 78-2977.

WOODFORD (B) — Rodney McLachlan, Saturdays (Monthly), Methodist Church Hall. 96-3302.

WYNNUM — Rodney McLachlan, Saturdays (Monthly), Scout Hall. 96-3302.

KOTARA* — Hank Johannessen, 2nd Saturdays, C. of E. Hall. 57-4371.

CAULFIELD: Ron Whyte. Wednesdays. Bowling Club, Queen's Ave.

WILLISON — Les Schroeder (Happy Valley), Saturdays, Scout Hall, Fordham Avenue. MX 4921.

SQUARE YOUR SETS



(Queensland News in Brief)

SOCIETY PICNIC

The Society's most successful picnic ever was staged at Deception Bay on Sunday, 3rd November, 1963, with over 200 attending from many areas. And the hosts, "Double Boomerangs", certainly provided a big welcome, with swimming, sports, picnicking, dancing and a barbecue. Just on dusk a huge bonfire was lit and fireworks filled the air. Yes, this picnic had everything!

CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

Hemmant Progress Hall was the venue of the 1963 Christmas Festival organised for the Society by Wynnum dancers. The barbecue was lit at 6.30 and entertainment followed until 8 p.m. Dancing of all standards to a variety of callers kept everyone on the move, with plenty of live entertainment between brackets. Queensland's representative junior team which attended the National Convention, gave a very attractive display.

NEW YEAR PARTY

Sandgate really swung into action on New Year's Eve when the "B-Bar-L Hoedowners" presented a "Pyjama Party" which was well-attended. Many came along in their best night attire and dancing got under way about 9 p.m. The New Year was ushered in with "Auld Lang Syne" with further dancing until the "we sma' hours."

"SURFIN' HOOTENANNY"

The world's latest dance craze, the Country and Western "Hootenanny" is being featured everywhere and another big night has been planned at St. Alban's Church of England Hall, Wilston, for Saturday, February 1. With two big successes already to their credit, the organisers will present a "Surfin' Hootenanny" with a beach-style atmosphere being the keynote.

VISITING DANCERS

Over the holiday period a number of interstate and overseas dancers have visited Queensland, including a couple from the United States who are making a world tour. Among the visitors were the New South Wales Society president, Laurie Spalding, and

his wife, who spent some time in Brisbane and then on the Gold Coast.

GREENSLOPES REOPENING

One of last year's most successful clubs, Greenslopes, reopened strongly after a short recess, on Saturday, January 11, to the calling of Peter Johnson. In spite of humid conditions, the night swung along in fine style with a bright, friendly atmosphere. This club meets every Saturday night and looks forward to a prosperous 1964.

SUMMER MEETING

Sunday, February 24, is the date set for the Society committee's Summer Meeting, and the location — the beautiful "Oasis" Gardens, Sunnybank. Quarterly meetings such as this will be held at similar resorts throughout the year and will create more interest and attention. Big events for the autumn season will be discussed.

AMATEUR CALLERS' CHAMPIONSHIPS

All prospective callers, both ladies and gents, are invited to appear in the 1964 Queensland Amateur Callers' Championships at Ashgrove on Thursday, March 26. Open to any dancer who has not called professionally, these championships will be keenly contested as in previous years. Any singing call or three-minute hoedown may be called.

COOPER'S PLAINS RE-OPENING

A big re-opening night is expected on Saturday, February 8, for the Cooper's Plains Club, one of Brisbane's best square dance locations. With capacity crowds right up to the Christmas party, which was a huge success, organisers are confident of further progress in the new year. The club meets monthly on Saturdays.

IPSWICH "SWINGING"

Ipswich has become a real square dance stronghold once again, but the club there has a problem—"to swing, or not to swing", that is the question. Sponsored by the Lutheran Church, the elbow swing is currently being used instead of the conventional waist swing. Morally, several leaders maintain, this is more satisfactory, but opinion is well divided at this stage. Time will tell!

SQUARE WHIRL



The tumult and the shouting dies—and we settle into another year. May it be a prosperous one for square dancing and all who enjoy it throughout Australia.

Ron Jones' new number "Click Go the Shears" (October S. D. Review) received a "star plus" rating in December's "Sets in Order". The record is now available in America, reference Lore 1049. Congratulations, Ron. Perhaps we should appoint you "director in charge of international relations."

And whilst on the subject — Jim and Bernyce Fogarty, from Southern California, arrived in Sydney just before Christmas, to spend three months in Australia as part of a world cruise. Their programme was to spend Christmas and New Year in Brisbane and the Gold Coast,

returning for two months in Sydney from the end of January. Hope you enjoyed yourselves up north and that you are finding plenty of time to dance with us in Sydney.

The old story of Constantinople and Istanbul has repeated itself. Now it's the Belmore Ramblers, not the Croydon Club. The change in location and night was followed by the change in name at the annual general meeting held late in October. The top office-bearers

for the next twelve months are: Charles Poulton, president; Frank O'Mara, vice-president; Trevor Cameron, vice-president; Marg. Turnbull, treasurer; and Denise Cameron, secretary. So, just to tie it all up, it's now the Belmore Ramblers who dance at the Belmore Scout Hall, Lark Street, Belmore, on the fourth Saturday of each month.

The old "Down Under" seems to be growing in popularity as a mecca for American tourism. A little bird tells me there's another couple from Artaca, North California, arriving in July. The more the merrier, as long as they're fond of square dancing.

Wedding bells rang once more to a square dance beat when Sandra Kelly and Johnny Blondell (St. Ives) took the plunge on Saturday, December 7, at Greenwich. After a honeymoon trip which took them "somewhere north of Brisbane", they're back in town and settling down nicely. Down Waver-

lon way just ask for THE Blondells of Bank Street.

Belmore Circle 8 Christmas Party Close-down Party Night, with 12 squares to enjoy the fun, was a roaring success, according to reports filtering through. With a large percentage of the crowd in fancy dress, caller Bev Pickworth literally laughed himself off the air on several occasions, managing to regain control only with much assistance from the committee. Bill (Burton) and Dorrie (Liz) Rolph seem to be the most remembered as Nero and Cleopatra. It's nights like these that make us realise that we must square dance in '64.

As a parting gesture — some dates for your diary. Mark 'em down, and—see you there!

March 18: Alan Blackwell Memorial Night, Cammeray.

Feb. 28: Bundanoon Weekend.

May 30: Annual Society Ball. Sept. 18: National Convention at Melbourne.

October 10: Waratah Festival.

VICTORIAN JOTTINGS

SUNNYSIDE NEWS

Now that our Christmas and New Year festivities are over, we can settle down to our normal club nights. We finished up the year with a wonderful party at Ron Whyte's on New Year's Eve. Our sincere thanks must go to Ron and Ella for these party nights.

The Sunnyside dancers surprised Ron Whyte on his birthday by sneaking back to his house after the dance on Saturday, January 11. Was he surprised when he entered the completely dark house and switched on the light, to see 60

people all singing "Happy Birthday"?

TENNIS CLUB NEWS

This club meets Wednesdays fortnightly. The next nights for February are 5th and 19th. Everyone welcome.

Two of the young people who danced in the set for Vic. at the Convention have since announced their engagement. Good luck! and our very best wishes to Val Old and Bernie Leonard. They will be married shortly after the Convention in Melbourne this year.

SPECIAL NOTICE

Victoria was robbed regarding the number of people at the Convention. There were 40—not 36. It appears that some Victorians spend a lot of their time in Queensland, and sent their bookings from there; so that explains the mistake.

Colin Huddleston paid a flying visit to Victoria in January for a week. Unfortunately he did not have time to do any squaring, but did manage to find time for a chat with Ron Whyte regarding the Convention this year.

1964 Convention

The 5th National Convention to be staged in Melbourne on October 3 and 4, 1964. We, the people of Victoria, cordially invite all square dancers and callers to participate in the forthcoming Convention to be held in Melbourne this year.

All callers and club secretaries will be notified of all information. We look forward to meeting all our interstate friends again in Melbourne.

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SOUTH AUSTRALIAN DIGEST

Colin Huddleston's Country and Western Style Dance for complete beginners will commence on Monday, April 6, at the Assembly Hall, Thebarton. Brian Townsend will continue with his dance at Walkerville, also on the Monday nights. Roger Weaver, who will this year be calling at some of Colin's dances, is expected to have a fairly busy season, and Allan Frost will have a far

tigger and better year than last year.

The television show Country and Western Hour is still running in South Australia, also in other States; and is expected to continue for some time. Country and Western Style dancing is also being demonstrated at quite a few Hootenanny shows and has proved quite popular.

Bigger attendances are ex-

pected at complete beginners' dances this year, and it should be a very good season in South Australia.

Colin would appreciate any information from other callers in S.A. re dancers, and they are asked to contact him if they have any information available for the magazine. Also, would they please forward data re dates and locality of dances now in progress? Further news in next issue from this State.

THE SUCCESS OF SQUARE DANCING DEPENDS ON BEGINNERS. We DEPEND ON YOU FOR BEGINNERS. HOW MANY ARE YOU BRINGING ALONG THIS YEAR?

WHEN YOU HAVE FINISHED READING THIS, PASS IT TO A NON-SQUARE DANCER

Summertime Dancing

During its relatively short history many very controversial subjects have been thrashed about in the pages of the "Review." Problems relating to competition dancing, publicity, convention organisation and national style are only a few, yet the pros and cons of summertime square dancing seem to have had very little airing.

Over the past four years or so there has been a tendency for clubs to shorten their Christmas break to perhaps only two or three weeks compared with eight or ten weeks of the immediate post-boom years. The reasons for this swing and its effect on square dancing in general require close study.

During a long break dancers may be inclined to seek alternative entertainment on their regular square dance night and thus the caller/promoter is tempted to hurry them back before his attendances are too far reduced by *changing interests*. Furthermore, good halls are anything but plentiful and their owners are not particularly interested in holding them for more than a few weeks when offers for permanent bookings are easily obtained.

The more obvious disadvantage to short close-down periods is the discomfort of a fairly active, close contact recreation on a hot, humid night. Most dancers have experienced one of those "even your best friend won't tell you" situations which can, and do spoil the whole evening and many good friendships.

A second disadvantage, perhaps not quite so obvious,

is that many club members are absent on annual holidays around this time, and this, coupled to the fact that many people simply refuse to dance until cooler weather is about, results in decreased attendance. This in turn can result in *loss of* that somewhat elusive quality of square dances—"atmosphere"—which can cause such *loss of interest* that the club must be closed.

A possible solution to this problem may be to interest those club members who dislike hot weather dancing in attending on the normal nights purely for the social aspect and not to dance. In this way change of interest, loss of "atmosphere" and loss of interest may be avoided.

Any comments on this subject would be most welcome and you are invited to forward them to your State editor.

Rhodes Round Dance

Enjoy Round Dancing at its best with Jack and Avis Nimmo
SOME SQUARE DANCING
Everybody welcome. Every 4th Wednesday at Sea Scouts' Hall
RYDE BRIDGE — 8 to 10.30

R. DICKSON.

85-3180

Queensland Plans A Big 1964

(By Graham Rigby)

On Sunday, November 24, 1963, the Ninth Annual Meeting of the Square Dancing Society of Queensland was held at the Windsor Council Chambers, in Brisbane, with twenty-two dancers and callers present. Reports were received and the 1963 committee was congratulated on a job well done. Election of officers for 1964 followed, and a committee of ten is now active.

NEW COMMITTEE

This is the new committee:— Patron, Mr. Jim Iliffe (QTQ, Channel 9, Brisbane); president, Graham Rigby (Alderley H'gts.); senior vice-president, Peter Johnson Senr. (Clontarf); junior vice-president, Rodney McLachlan (Wynnum); secretary, Christine Jannock (Red Hill); assistant secretary, Val Rigby (Alderley Heights); treasurer, Arthur Steele (Clontarf); asst. treasurer, Colin Scholfield (Wynnum); publicity officer, Syd Leighton (Sandgate); asst. publicity officer, Brenton Wilson (Wynnum); public relations officer, Betty Pearce (Red Hill).

STATE CONVENTION

Plans were then laid for the four major events of 1964. The Third State Square Dance Convention will be staged at Binna Burra Lodge, Beechmont, high in the Lamington National Park, on March 13, 14 and 15. The Fifth Square Dance Car Rally will move off on Sunday, May 24, for an unknown destination, whilst on Saturday, July 4, the Seventh Annual "Sunshine State Round-up", the ball of the year, will be held at the spacious Red Cross Recreation Centre, Greenslopes, in Brisbane. The Society's Eleventh Annual Picnic will be staged on beautiful Bribie Island on Sunday, November 1.

FINANCE

All of these major functions will be organised by the en-

larged Society committee and not by individual clubs as was the case last year. Finance was an important topic, with higher magazine and running costs generally confronting the Society this year. Accordingly, a ladies' auxiliary was set up to assist financially, and Joe Pearce, Eweyn Johnson, Val Steele and Val Rigby were elected to office.

Queensland's square dance strength for 1964, then, is solid, and the new year will be a very happy one, and, we trust, most successful. This State will be represented as strongly as possible in Melbourne for the Fifth National Convention in September. The next annual general meeting will be held at Windsor on Sunday, November 29, when the year's activities will be reviewed. Very definitely square dancing will "offer more in 64."

KIWI CORNER

(from Page 7)

Wheel Club, Dunedin, but an intense interest in squaring arouses some comment re the suggestion of losses of square dancers to the "cult", so may earn forgiveness for what may be considered an intrusion in an Australian problem.

Some comments, please, to help sort out "muddled thinking".

(Editor's comment: This situation of many dancers leaving square dancing actually did happen when the late Alan Blackwell retired.)

A HOLIDAY TO REMEMBER!

WHEN IN SYDNEY STAY AT THE FABULOUS

MANHATTEN HOTEL

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Sydney Daily Telegraph Refuses to Publish Article

WHY?

Last year the Sydney Daily Telegraph ran a series of "Letters to the Editor"—letters concerning the problems confronting teenagers of to-day. Several theories were put forward. The debate became quite interesting. One of the Sydney dancers forwarded an article which was not published. After a week, the correspondent rang the

Square Dance Review asks: WHY? Was the article touching on a subject "too delicate"? Surely the freedom of the press permits the expression of all views? The article is published hereunder so that you may decide whether it should have been published or not. What do you think?

Sir,

Recent correspondents have expressed concern at the availability of suitable entertainment for the youth of our community. Several have said that in their opinion facilities are available and it is just a matter of seeking them out. Perhaps it would be more accurate to say "sorting" them out from the myriad entertainments advertised.

The last decade has seen the growth of an industry which has tied together popular music, forms of dancing, etc., and even our wearing apparel. It has reached the stage where this industry is controlling the very way in which we live. Promotion campaigns are created to introduce new fashions, styles, etc., in a never-ending progression.

This can be regarded as good business provided it does not get out of hand. However, it

would seem to me that the entertainment field of to-day is degenerating to the stage where it relies more and more on the mass hysteria medium.

The days of the hit parade, suitable for all ages, has gone. In the dancing world, crazes such as Twist, Stomp and now Hootenanny provide little room for the establishment of any sort of solid basis on which to establish normal social activities for the younger generation.

Big business has so monopolised the forms of publicity available that the organisers of the more recognised forms of good social activities no longer stand a chance. Nowadays something has to be new before it is publicised. May I give the pastime of square dancing as an example?

When promoters left square dancing back in 1954, they branded the word "square" as meaning a person who just was

paper, only to be told that it was "lost". Undaunted, the correspondent forwarded a copy. He advised the paper that he preferred to go under a pseudonym, but if necessary his name could be published. Still the letter was not published, despite the fact that several items still appeared concerning teenagers.

not with the current trends. This slur has persisted right up to the present day, despite the fact that many of the basics of Rock 'n Roll, Twist and Stomp are derived from square dance movements. The correct definition of "Hootenanny", the latest craze, is a "folk song and square dance evening."

Square dancing is far from dead in Sydney. It is rapidly increasing in popularity with over half the numbers being teenagers who have at last found a recreation which includes all the gimmick movements of the crazes and at the same time gives them the social basis they have been seeking. Here they can let their hair down a little, find new friends, and mix a little in small clubs throughout Sydney without having to follow the whims of big business, which has forced them to stand in the middle of a dance floor, wriggling in some nonsensical fashion.

However, does anyone ever hear of square dancing nowadays?

In recent months square dancers have packed out the Paddington Town Hall for the

175th anniversary of Australia Square Dance Ball, overflowed the Lane Cove Town Hall in a function to raise funds for the Dogs for the Blind appeal, held the Fourth National Square Dance Convention in Newcastle with over 400 people from all over Australia, and conducted a Square Dance Mardi Gras around the Archibald Memorial in Hyde Park, at which some 20,000 spectators attended.

Practically every radio station, TV network and newspaper was advised of the functions, yet the amount of publicity received was negligible. However, I suppose if a Hootenanny Square Dance had been advertised, things might have been different.

I am led to believe ballroom organisations have experienced similar difficulties.

I realise entertainment is a large industry and that we must follow the world pattern. However, must this be to the exclusion of the very activities which can assist in providing the correct social atmosphere for our youth of today?

May I suggest that if those concerned could give a little more publicity to these more recognised social activities instead of "fly-by-night" crazes, many of the problems concerning our teenagers might be overcome.

Kiwi Corner

(Carrie Hirt)



(This article missed the Christmas deadline by one day.—Ed.)

Year 1963 draws to a close and marks the end of a very successful year of squaring in this part of the world — quite eventful for the Waggon Wheel Club, which passed the crown of the "most southern club" with high glee, in extending a hearty welcome to the newly-formed Brighton Club into the world of square dancing.

Parties, picnics and barbecues will bring the season to a close, and we shall look forward to the re-opening at the end of January.

We had a visit from a delight-

ful American couple — Bernice and Jim Fogarty, who will dance with you lucky Australians for quite a time whilst they see what Australia has to offer in scenic attractions. Aussies, you will love Bernice and Jim; we were sad to say goodbye to them after enjoying their company for only three days.

The writer cannot understand why people want to go to the moon — just circling the globe and meeting up with other square dancers would be the answer to this square dancer's dream.

With this par. go greetings to all square dancers the length

and breadth of Australia. Special greetings to all we have been lucky enough to meet — Myee, Vince, all at Balgowlah, Dundas, and Ron and Ella in Melbourne.

Good cheer this Christmas, Year from "The Waggon Wheelers".

Note comments re the departure of the popular Gary Cohen from the Sydney scene, and the suggestion that this may spell the loss of some of his "fans" to square dancing. Preference for a style of a particular caller is understandable, but to suggest this preference develops to the point of being "married" to a certain caller is surely beyond the realms of credibility. You Australians may think this is a subject quite out of the province of the Waggon (See Page 6 for balance of story)

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Bundanoon Week-End

February 28-29 & March 1

Those who enjoyed the Bundanoon Week-end last year are going to need wild horses (and lots of them) to keep them away this year. At the same time, those who missed out last year are dying to find out what everyone is raving about.

So it looks like a tremendous crowd must be catered for with strictly limited accommodation. Conclusion? Simple! Time is running out for your application to be accepted. Please contact Bill Rolph at 7 Somerset Street, Hurstville (LU5415) immediately and avoid a disappointing twelve months wait.

The popularity-proved competition dancing will be on again in the usual three sections. The dances to be used this year are:

Bronze	Doodle-do Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer
Silver	Whoopie Ragtime Cowboy Joe
Gold	Wooden Heart Somebody stole my Gal. (New version)

The records which will be used for the competition are available from Ron Jones at nominal cost. Trainers and promoters are asked to note that entries close on Sunday, February 16, when a meeting will be held at the Y.M.C.A. to discuss last-minute arrangements.

In a bid for unity and fairness the Society executive has drawn up a set of rules for the running and judging of square dance competitions under its control. These rules have been accepted by all trainers and will be strictly adhered to at Bundanoon. For the guidance of all interested we print them here and welcome your comments and/or criticism.

Ashgrove Returns to Weekly Dancing

(By Graham Rigby)

Queensland's "S-Bar-B" Club, of Ashgrove, Brisbane, now in its eleventh year, is happy to announce its return to weekly dancing every Friday night as of January 31, at St. Barnabas' Hall, from 7.30 to 11.00 p.m. Many innovations are planned.

"Square dancing is fun for all the family in a bright Country and Western atmosphere". This is our theme to attract many new members of all ages and fifteen hundred large attractive posters are now on display in prominent stores throughout Brisbane. Old Jim, Round and Novelty dances will be included in a well-balanced programme with square dancing for all standards. A generous supper will be provided free whilst other features include Lucky Spot, Lucky Door Prize and a Monte Carlo. A different guest caller will be featured on

COMPETITIONS Rules For Competitors and Judges

- Competitions run shall be by records or tapes. Stroberoscope to be used to set the tempo, etc., i.e., 33, 45, 78 r.p.m.
- Competitions in grades will be known as Bronze, Silver, Gold.
- Any team that has won a Bronze Competition cannot dance again in a Bronze Competition, but can dance in Silver and Gold Competitions.
- Any team winning a Silver Competition cannot dance again in a Silver Competition, but can dance in a Gold Competition.
- 75 per cent of dancers in a team must be eligible to dance in each of the sections—Bronze and Gold.
- A protest may be lodged with the secretary of the Society, in writing, upon the payment of £1 within 15 minutes of announcement of the winning team of a competition and will be discussed by at least three of the executive on the spot.
- Entrances onto the floor shall be no longer than 12 bars of 4/4 music and will not be judged. Exit from the floor will be no longer than 8 bars of music and will not be judged.
- Heats shall be drawn by executive of the Society.
- Team arrangements on the floor may or may not be drawn for, depending on circumstances.
- Teams may or may not be asked to change places on the floor, depending on circumstances.
- Only first and second placings will be announced and further results will be available to team trainers only.
- Record of competitions will be kept by the Society.
- Rules regarding Open Style, Exhibition and Round Dance sections to be considered at a later date.
- Judging and competitions shall be arranged by the executive of the Society.
- Team trainers will not be allowed to judge or dance in competition.
- Judges, when adjudicating on the floor, will not enter into conversation with each other, members of the audience, or dancers in the competition, and will stand on the floor away from the audience.
- Judges' cards can be altered by the judges on the floor but cannot be altered after marshals have received them.
- Judges must sign cards and any incomplete card will automatically be cancelled.
- Marshals must give cards immediately to scrutineers.
- Two scrutineers must be appointed by the Society to calculate points, and their findings to be handed to the President of the Society only for announcement. Alternatively, marshals will act as scrutineers.
- Judges' decision will be final and no discussion whatsoever shall be entered into by judges, team managers or dancers.
- All judging shall be based on standard movements and figures laid down by a Callers' Advisory Council.
- No less than five judges will judge Society-run competitions and not more than ten judges.
- Receiving of money by square dance teams of eight persons for performances of any kind will not affect their amateur status.

the programme each week.

And what a line-up of special party nights!

The club will re-open on Friday, January 31, with a big "South Pacific" special. Two weeks later on February 14, it will be "Valentine's Night"! Four weeks later many members will attend the State Square Dance Convention at Binna Burra, while on Thursday, March 26, we'll present the annual "Easter Parade", which includes the Amateur Callers' Championships.

Yes, many wonderful occasions are in store, and, with club attendances already very strong, our hopes for a really big year are high. Join in the fun. We'll see you at Ashgrove.

EDITORS

Information re square dancing should be obtained from your State editor, as follows:—
N.S.W.: John Chambers, 19 Penrose St., LANE COVE, JB 3969.

PAPUA, NEW GUINEA, NEW ZEALAND, A.C.T. Jim White, 26 Osborne Rd., Lane Cove, N.S.W.

QLD., TASMANIA, W. AUST. Graham Rigby, 14 Eagle Street, ALDERLEY HEIGHTS, LM1251.

S. AUST.: Colin Huddleston, 12 Elmore Street, FERRYDEN PARK, JL4556.

VIC.: SQ. DANCE SOCIETY OF VIC.: Ron Whyte, Wickham Rd., MOORABBIN EAST, XL 1496.

JIM VICKERS - WILLIS GROUP: 23 Wolseley Grove, BRIGHTON BEACH, XB5172.