

SOUTH PACIFIC SQUARE

DANCE REVIEW

A
ROUND-UP
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

Vol. 9. No. 3.

April, 1964

“The Stomp Is Easy — Let’s Square Dance”

(By James White)

A recent article in an Australia-wide magazine said: “There is a new dance craze in Australia. It’s called the Stomp. It’s easy to do. All you do is take off your shoes and just stomp around to the tune of the music. That’s all there is to it. Soon thousands of Australians will be dancing to this new craze”.

Haven’t we heard this before? When square dancing first started it became a craze overnight. People had never heard of Bend the Line, Strip the Line and every other new-fangled line. They simply square danced. And what did they dance? “Oh, Johnnie,” “Sioux City Sue”, “Redwing”, etc. Even now people will say: ‘Square dancing—oh, yes, I loved it. ‘Oh, Johnnie was terrific.’” Surely there is a lesson in this. For something to be popular it has to be simple. Certainly there are exponents of any art, but if we only cater for these exponents then we can only expect to have limited numbers.

In more recent years I have seen teenagers who really enjoyed their square dancing go back time and again to a beginners night. They were simply interested in enjoying dancing. They were not interested in advancing to higher fields of movements. I have even known of dancers who would retire from a club once it reached a certain stage and not come back again until a new beginners night was commenced.

Only the other day a friend of mine, one of the first to ever square dance in Sydney, said to me: “If you want square dancing to become the rage again you must make it simple; so simple that anyone can walk in off the street and enjoy themselves immediately and continue to enjoy themselves without hours of instruction”.

He no longer dances, for this very reason.

In a recent letter Jim Vickers-Willis, of Melbourne, wrote:

“As you know, over a number of years I have believed that the whole future success of square dancing is tied up with eliminating complicated dancing and keeping it so simple that everyone can join in on all occasions. It might interest you to know that I have experienced in different districts with charity shows the fact that where I teach a group and keep it very simple, these people come back and don’t mind the repetition of dances. However, once some of them go off to another caller who is teaching more advanced classes, they become what you might call ‘spoiled’.

“After this, they’re no longer satisfied with the simple dances, and they go through the old process of wanting more and more until they finally brown themselves off and disappear from square dancing. I am quite certain that it’s only failure to realise this that is keeping square dancing out of big time”.

So, then, we have two extremes. Jim Vickers-Willis at one end and the nightmare hot-rod caller who simply must call new numbers and movements earlier and quicker than anyone else. The majority of our callers are what may be termed the “middle of the roaders”. In fact, many of our callers ignore new American movements until they become common movements in several dances and have proved themselves. In this



way we miss many of these new-fangled here-today-gone-tomorrow moves that are plaguing American square dancing. However, is the middle of the road good enough? It still requires many nights of teaching and to a stranger it is still complicated.

The question to ask is this: Is it not possible to have beginner nights made simpler? Is it possible to have two distinct types of square dancing—one for the person who just likes to shuffle around and the other for the one who wishes to become an expert?

I feel sure this is one of the great problems of our time. It should be possible to walk in off the street and commence dancing. What do you think?

Bundanoon Report



The 1964 Bundanoon Week-end has come and gone and certainly proved to be a credit to all concerned. Some 240 attended this year, which, though not a record, demonstrates the popularity of this annual event. Two minor complaints were registered: one from the four unfortunates who "just happened" to be placed in the guest house rooms immediately adjacent to the Friday night dance room; the other from "Whelan the Wrecker", who attacked part of the rickwork round the garden with his car at 1.30 a.m. on Saturday and was promptly told to keep quiet about it. The competition was held during the main dance on Saturday night. This is now recognised as the Society's annual competition, and it proved very entertaining and colourful. The Society wishes

especially to express its gratitude to these teams and their trainers. The time and effort obviously spent in training for this event led to a very creditable performance. The judges, Bundanoon Club members, all visibly aged at the thought of having to make their decision. Nevertheless they accepted the challenge and the official results were:

Bronze: Starlighters (Ron Jones, trainer)

Silver: Waggonwheelers (Ron Jones, trainer).

Gold: Billabong Rovers (Cyril Coxhell, trainer).

Our very sincere thanks go to Bundanoon Club members for their warm welcome, perfect organisation and last, but by no means least, their beaut. supper. We'll be back again next year if they'll have us.

Queensland Convention "Terrific"



(By Graham Rigby, Queensland)

Yes, it was terrific—Queensland's Third State Square Dance Convention at Binna Burra Lodge, Beechmont, high in the Lamington National Park, on March 13, 14 and 15. Two days and nights of fun unlimited, with lots of square and round dancing, discussion groups, hiking, sports, etc. Let's take the programme from the beginning.

The Convention swung into action on the Friday evening with a "high level" dance (2,600 feet high), which moved along nicely. It was followed by a "Bings and Wogs" party and, in what seemed no time at all, dancers were assembled for their "roundup breakfast" — a short dance session, after which each gent. escorted his partner to breakfast.

TV COVER

Don Higgins then presented his round dance session which was later followed by the fascinating "Progressive Squares" called by Graham Rigby. The dancing was televised by BTQ Channel 7. of Brisbane, and this, together with a radio and press cover, made first-class publicity. An interesting discussion panel was chaired by Peter Johnson senior immediately after lunch, and this was followed by a hike to Flat Rock with guide Les Newman leading the way.

The Convention Feature Dance draw a crowd of one hundred and fifty to the large Beechmont Public Hall on the Saturday night. At the microphone were callers Graham Rigby, Peter Johnson, Rodney McLachlan, Don Higgins, Eric Wendell and Johnny Wilkinson —with a special appearance of Gary Cohen! Interstate visitors from New South Wales were Jack and Claire Coles and Allen Fairweather. A fabulous hike to the Coomera Falls on Sunday,

followed by a table tennis tournament, completed the line-up.

Then there were many side-lights to the Convention which all who attended will long remember. Gary Cohen, for instance, after his introduction, accidentally stepped on the microphone cord, breaking it and causing temporary difficulty, and then called, appropriately enough, "You Do Something To Me". Then there was the television cameraman who climbed a ladder to obtain better shots, only to find, to his horror, that the ladder had been freshly painted.

These, then, were the scenes at the Third State Square Dance Convention at Binna Burra—forty-three hours of fun which passed all too quickly. When will the next one be held? In 1966; but perhaps you had better register now — the rush will certainly be on.

Glen Innes Calls

Laurie and Kit Spalding have asked that we pass on to all our readers a recommendation to travel north on their next holiday trip.

Situated on the New England Highway, about 350 miles from Sydney, Glen Innes is a major wool and fruit growing centre. It has every facility to entertain and amuse the holiday-maker and—oh, yes—it's the home of past-president Brian Eade and wife Pat.

CALLERS CLASS



Applications are being called for enrolment in the New South Wales Society's

CALLERS' CLASS, commencing SATURDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 2)

(thence weekly)

Applications must be made through a club and be countersigned by a recognised caller

THE SQUARE DANCE SOCIETY OF N. S. W.

Proudly announces the Ninth Annual

Square Dance Ball

Saturday, May 30 — 8 p.m. to midnight

at Paddington Town Hall

Tickets now available from club secretaries.



Two Sides to a Coin

(By Tom McGrath)

On one side of the coin you have the square dance caller. Here is a fellow who took up calling as a hobby. Then he thought he might even make some money at it.

Well, what he *did* find out was that he had to buy and maintain expensive equipment, buy records, practise and practise in his free time. He must be the first person in the hall and the last to leave the hall. He worries and frets about pleasing the dancers. Gives freely his own spare time to back up the clubs and Society in all events that are held during the year. He works harder than anyone to bring in new dancers and to hold the old dancers. Yes, he took up calling as a hobby, and he still loves the work, only he knows now that he will never get rich. So, on your next dance night, square dancers, when you are getting ready to leave the hall for home, go up to that hoarse, tired caller who is packing up his equipment, and say: "Good night, Mr. Caller, we had a wonderful time to-night", and by his smile you will know he has found some payment for his labours.

On the other side of the coin you have the square dancers who took up square dancing as a hobby. They went to beginners' classes and pushed and pulled for months until they learned square dancing, and will still, on occasion, help out with a new beginners' class, and push and pull some more. They always think *their* caller is the best caller in square dancing, even if others do refer to him as "Old Foghorn". They are very loyal to their caller and club. On those cold, rainy nights or hot, sweltering nights they don't stay home. No, they show up at the dance because they won't let the others down. So next dance night, Mr. Caller, when you see the tired but happy square dancers getting ready to go home, add one last smile to see them on their

way by saying "Good night, friends, I am happy that you came."

There are only two sides to a coin, so it must be on the edge of the coin that we place callers and square dancers who volunteer to serve as executives and committee members for their club and society. They know that when they take the job they can't please everyone, and yet no activity nor organization can exist without someone to take the helm. These jobs pay nothing except some inner satisfaction, but they take up lots of free time, cause personal worry and expense. Ask an executive officer of a club or society why he does his job and he will say "Someone has to do it."

No there isn't room on either side of the coin for these people, but at the next annual meeting of your club or society why not go and demonstrate to them that you appreciate their efforts on your behalf?

So all these people go into the "make-up" of the wonderful pastime of square dancing, whose motto is: "Square dancing is fun for everyone" — and it contains something for everyone, from the excitement of a big gala evening to the quiet social side of a women's club; a place for shy people, and a place for people who love to mix with everyone. A togetherness seldom found anywhere in these modern days. The morals of a Sunday school class and yet a tolerance of others' faults you will not find at just any old dance. All these things, then, are square dancers and square dancing; and someday when these square dancers meet old St. Peter, he will smile and say, "Come in friends, you are just in time for the round up".



Convention News

The Convention is now only six months away, and it is time to start thinking about those bookings. Newcastle will be well represented. They have the right idea: they are chartering a bus, and have a good number at this stage. This is an excellent idea and may even catch on in other States. We are including a rough programme at this stage as it is too early to give it in detail.

Friday, October 2: Entertainment to be announced.
Saturday afternoon: Short tour, opening of Convention and other features.

Saturday night: Gala Convention Dance.

Sunday; all day and evening: Convention discussions, round dancing and square dancing.

Accommodation: Private Hotel. £1/17/6 and £2/2 0

Bed and Breakfast per person per day

Motel: From £2/10/0 per person per day

Early Bookings will be greatly appreciated.

Special Sydney Information

(1). As mentioned in the Newcastle News, Newcastle Club is planning to charter a coach for the round trip. If there is difficulty in attaining the required numbers, Sydney dancers will be called on to fill the empty seats.

(2). For those wishing to travel to Melbourne from Sydney by train, the Society willing to handle bookings on a bulk scale, there obtaining the following turn rates:
1st Class £8 19
2nd Class £3 15
Sleeper (optional) £1 17
extra each way

The Night You Have Been Waiting For

"THE RED CENTRE"

A FILM EVENING

by Jim White

Scenes of Alice Springs, Palm Valley, The Olgas, Ormiston and Glen Helen Gorges and Ayers Rock, and Aborigines in their native state.

Friday, 17th April, 8 p.m.

At the home of Edna Blackwell,
2 Victoria Avenue, Middle Cove



EVERYONE EXCEPT THE

BEATLES

Should have a "Bolot" Tie
PRICED FROM 10/6 TO 15/-
PACIFIC SQUARE DANCE SUPPLIES
BOX 55, SWANSEA, N.S.W.

Your Dance Diary



* Denotes a restriction on numbers applies; ring the number shown before attending. (B) denotes beginner standard.

MONDAY

NEW SOUTH WALES

- PUNCHBOWL**—(B). Ron Jones. Old R.S.L. Hall. UY7118.
CARLINGFORD—(B). Harry Jackson. 2nd & 4th. Soldiers' Memorial Hall. WL1549.
DUNDAS—(Allemanders). Harry Jackson. 1st & 3rd. Town Hall. WL1549.
RHODES—Roy Welch. 2nd & 3rd. Sea Scouts Hall. Ryde Bridge. LY9208.
NEWCASTLE—Brian Hotchkiss. Y.M.C.A., King St. 2-1035.

TUESDAY

- ROSE BAY**—Lucky Newton and Les Hitchen. Church Hall, corner of Dover Road and Old South Head Road. (Also, beginners in Lower Hall, i.e., 2 dances).

WEDNESDAY

- BELMORE**—Bev Pickworth, Scout Hall, Lark Street. UW4166.
RHODES ROUND DANCE—Jack & Avis Nimmo. Fourth Wed. Sea Scout Hall, Ryde Bridge. 85-3180. (R. Dickson).
NORTH RYDE—(B). Tom McGrath. North Ryde School of Arts.
MACQUARIE ROUNDUP CLUB—Hank Johannessen. Whitebridge Community Hall. Alternate Wednesdays. Phone Swansea 643.

THURSDAY

- CAMPSIE**—Ron Jones. Empire Hall, Beamish St. UY7118.
HURSTVILLE—(B). Bev Pickworth. Laurie Leich Memorial Hall, Donald Street. UW4166.
NEUTRAL BAY—(B). Wal Crichton and Terry O'Flaherty. Big Bear Supermarket Ballroom, Military Road. XJ5832.
NAREMBURN—Vince Spillane. 1st & 3rd. Congregational Hall. 944186.
KOGARAH BAY—(B) Doug Edwards. Progress Hall. LU5415.

FRIDAY

- COLLARROY PLATEAU**—(B) Len Woodhead. Progress Hall, Hall Avenue. JF1205.
ST. IVES—(B). Roy Welch. Methodist Church Hall. LY9208.
HAMILTON—(Newcastle). Hank Johannessen. Transport Hall. 57-2771.

SATURDAY

- BELMORE**—* Ron Jones. 3rd Saturday. Scout Hall, Lark Street. UL5330.
BELMORE—(Belmore Ramblers). Ron Jones. Fourth Sat. Scout Hall, Lark Street. UY7118.



Victorian Jottings

WHERE DOES THE MAGIC COME FROM?

Sunnyside Club on Saturday night is always good, but now and then something happens—take last week for instance. Ron told us that Bev and Jess Pickworth were coming from Sydney for the week-end, and although it was a holiday week-end there would be no leave passes for that night. Everyone took him at his word and turned up to make it the usual bright night.

The evening started off with perhaps a slight feeling of nervous excitement. We had two sets dressed most attractively, and everyone else donned their best just to show that square dancing at the Sunnyside Club is not cracking up (like the bridge).

There it was, early in the evening; we were all experiencing that something extra, the magic of square dancing; we were all having ourselves a wonderful night. Next thing we knew, Bev was on stage calling for the next round up, and the thrill of dancing to a great caller capped off a great night. Thanks again, Ron and Ella. Kathie Penhalluriak.



TENNIS CLUB NEWS

This club meets every Wednesday fortnight. This year the club has been fortunate in bringing in a few more beginners, and the dancing is of intermediate standard. Nights for April: 8th and 22nd. All welcome.



VISITORS TO MELBOURNE

We hope the Pickworths' next visit to our lovely Dandenongs will be a little cooler. Bev experienced the feeling of being on fire, and realized that a box of matches in his shirt pocket had exploded with a bang. These Sydney callers sure do get a bit hot under the collar—the result: one ruined shirt. Fortunately everyone, including Bev, had a good sense of humour.

Had a most enjoyable night of square dancing with Jim and Bernyce Fogarty from California on their one-night stay in Melbourne. We were sorry that their stay was so short, but the most was made of this night.

Ken Johnson was another visitor for one night, on his way through to Tasmania on holidays. Hope you enjoyed your tour, Ken.

Square dancing is certainly a delightful way to make friends.



HAPPY VALLEY CLUB

Party Night, May 2. (Come along to our Super Mystery Night!

We have been very happy to welcome Western Australian caller Don Shadforth and his dainty little wife, Elsie, to our club. This pleasant couple stayed in Melbourne for a fortnight, and were able to join in the fun at the Moomba Square Dance as well as visit Ron Whyte at Caulfield, the Round Dance Club, Eric Clarke at Frankston, and our sister club at Camberwell. We enjoyed the calling and the company, and wish the Shadforth's a safe trip home, and send greetings to all our West Australian friends. Keep those circles squaring!



CAMBERWELL CLUB

Our members are looking forward to our annual week-end away at The Cumberland Guest House, Marysville, on June 29. Bookings are filling rapidly, but ring 694921 if you are interested, just in case. We wish we could take more, but 74 is the most we can squeeze in.

Ring the above also if you wish tickets for our theatre party night for Camelot at Her Majesty's on Thursday, May 28. Proceeds will be in aid of our sixth Melbourne High Gala Night.



HAPPY NIGHT AT FOX HILL

On February 29 the committee of the Box Hill and District Hospital conducted a special Leap Year square dance in aid of its candidate, Miss Werdy Newett, who is an entrant in the Miss Box Hill Quest. The dance was held in the new R.S.L. Hall to the calling of Ron Mennie, and twelve sets joined in the fun of squaring and roundup. The night was voted a success, and the committee hinted that further nights may follow.



SUNSHINE CLUB

On April 25 the square dance to be conducted at the Sunshine Presbyterian Church, Anderson Road, Sunshine, will re-open for the current year. The club is run on the last Saturday of each month and the caller will be Ron Mennie.

SQU WE

A Round-up

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N.S.W. News

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commandeered all the glow worms when they blew a fuse in their car and all the lights went out. This just doesn't sound like them. No moon, no lights, can't drive the car?

☆ ☆ ☆
Len and Rene Woodhead left Sydney on March 17 for a six weeks cruise to Japan. Len has promised to write a feature article for the Review when he gets back, entitled "Swing Your Geisha" or "Square Dance in the Tea House". Ron Jones has offered to look after Len's Colorado Platters Club during his absence.

☆ ☆ ☆
Jim White will be showing his fascinating colour slide series entitled "The Red Heart" on April 17 at Edna Blackwell's, 2 Victoria Avenue, Middle Cove. These slides were taken on Jim's visit to Alice Springs and district late last year and are a real eye opener to those who haven't been there. A 3/- admission will be charged and proceeds will go to the Society.

☆ ☆ ☆
It seems than many square dancers will soon be using a new excuse for giving the game away. It's too dangerous! Marge Darke (Rose Bay) was knocked out at a dance recently and was told by her doctor several days later that her nose was broken.

☆ ☆ ☆
The other week Bev Pickworth decided to see how Roy Welch's new show at St. Ives was progressing. He turned up at the St. Ives Masonic Hall instead of the Methodist Church Hall, complete with Bolot tie, etc.,

unaware that a Stomp show was in progress.

About half-way to the stage Bev noticed some peculiar looks being levelled at him, and said to one fellow, "I'm looking for a square dance; seems like I'm in the wrong hall." "I'll say so", was the reply. Whereupon Bev crawled out without further comment.

☆ ☆ ☆
Tom McGrath, you had better watch out at your new North Ryde show. That big fella called Ernie who brought along a square is a fair cop.

Ernie may be seen any day of the week in Pacific Highway, North Sydney, helping children cross the road. Last year he jumped on a runaway bulldozer and stopped it. Careful, Tom!

Nice to see you and Elva back after so many years, Ern.

☆ ☆ ☆
That Adelaide TV show shown on TCN-9 Sydney on Sundays sure had some effect. Within one hour someone rang the Square Dance Society of N.S.W. asking for a beginners' night. There were also several follow-ups later in the week.

☆ ☆ ☆
Incidentally, what about some clubs putting in their telephone number as well? The success of the Society telephone number proves that having a number in the phone book is a definite must.

☆ ☆ ☆
A special request has been received from Bundanoon member Dennis Taylor for anyone knowing anything about a square dance club in the Wollongong district. Dennis moved there recently from Bundanoon and has to travel quite a distance for his entertainment.

☆ ☆ ☆
DATES TO REMEMBER

- April 17: Slide night at Edna Blackwell's.
- May 30: Annual Ball.
- June 14-16: Newcastle Queen's birthday week-end. Full details next month.
- October 2-4: National Convention, Melbourne.
- October 10-11: Waratah Festival week-end. Annual Society Picnic at Audley.

Your Dance Diary

N. S. WALES—Continued

- BELROSE—Vince Spillane. 2nd Sat. Ralston Avenue. 94-4186.
- BELROSE—(B): Vince Spillane. 1st Sat. Ralston Avenue. 94-4186.
- FENSHURST—(B). Arthur Gates. Scout Hall, Connelly Street.
- CHATSWOOD—Wal Crichton and Terry O'Flaherty. Congregational Hall, Anderson Street. XJ5832.
- DUNDAS—Harry Jackson. Fourth Saturday. Town Hall. WL1549.
- GREENWICH—*Ron Jones. First Saturday. Community Centre, Greenwich Road. XM2292.
- KOTARA (Newcastle)—Hank Johannessen. 1st & 3rd. Church of England Hall, Grinsell St. LU3910.

QUEENSLAND

FRIDAY

- ASHGROVE—Graham Rigby. St. Barnabas' Hall, Tram stop 12. 56-1251.
- SANDGATE—Peter Johnson. Scout Hall. 96-3813.
- SLACK'S CREEK—Mervyn Harrison. Square Dance Barn.

SATURDAY

- GREENSLOPES—Peter Johnson. Scout Hall. 96-3813.
- COOPERS PLAINS—Graham Rigby. Monthly. Memorial Hall. 561251.
- IPSWICH—Graham Rigby. Monthly. North Ipswich Scout Hall. 561251.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

MONDAY

- THEBARTON—Colin Huddleston and R. Weaver. Assembly Hall. 454556.
- WALKERVILLE—(B). Brian Townsend. Druids' Hall.

THURSDAY

- CLARENCE PARK—*Clarence Park Institute Private Club. Colin Huddleston. Country & Western Style Club. Colin Huddleston and Allan Frost. 45-4556.

FRIDAY

- CAMDEN—(B). Colin Huddleston. Fortnightly. Camden Hall. 45-4556.

SATURDAY

- COLONEL LIGHT GARDENS—(B). Colin Huddleston and R. Weaver. Monthly. Methodist Hall. 45-4556.
- TORRENSVILLE—(B). Colin Huddleston and R. Weaver. Monthly. Methodist Church Hall, Hayward Avenue. 45-4553.
- BROADVIEW—(B). Allan Frost. Fortnightly. St. Phillip's Church of England Hall. 63-1351.

VICTORIA

TUESDAY

- CAMBERWELL—Les Schroder. Football Pavilion, Camberwell Rd. 69-4921.

WEDNESDAY

- CAULFIELD—Ron Whyte. Fortnightly. Tennis Club, Balaclava Road. XL1496.

THURSDAY

- CAULFIELD—Round Dance. Edna Batchelor. Tennis Club, Balaclava Road. 501470.

SATURDAY

- CAULFIELD—(Sunnyside). Ron Whyte. Bowling Club, Queen's Avenue. 95-1496.
- WILLISON—(Happy Valley). Les Schroder. Scout Hall, Fordham Avenue. MX4921.

bourne's Mystery Car Trial

SUNDAY, APRIL 12, at 2 p.m.

starting at Royal Ballroom Exhibition Buildings

TEA (bring your own). SQUARE DANCE in the Evening

IES: Ron Mennie, Ray Saunders, 884834. Ron Whyte 951496.

ATION 10/- PER CAR.

BE IN THE FUN!

SQUARE YOUR SETS



(Queensland News in Brief)

"SOUTH PACIFIC" PARTY

Friday, April 24, is the date set for Ashgrove's eleventh annual "South Pacific" party, and a big night is planned. The hall will be lavishly decorated in "South Pacific" style, and dancers are invited to dress in their most attractive beachwear. The programme includes dancing, films, novelties and surprises. Don't miss it.



SQUARE DANCE BARN

Something new has been added to the square dance scene in Queensland and is creating considerable interest in the area. When the hall rental was increased at Slack's Creek, it became impossible for the club to dance at the local hall; but, fortunately, a farmer offered his barn, and installed a brand new floor for dancing. Is there another square dance barn in Australia?



SANDGATE BIRTHDAY

The "B-Bar-L Hoedowners", of Sandgate, celebrate their third anniversary on Friday, April 3, and a night of fun is in store. This friendly club, which meets weekly at the British Ladies' Hall, Sandgate, extends an invitation to all square dancers who may wish to join in the gaiety.



MILTON "SPECIAL"

It was, indeed, a special night at Milton on Thursday, March 12, when caller Don Higgins hosted an evening of square dancing in honour of interstate guests Jack and Claire Coles, of Sydney. All of Brisbane's callers and many top dancers gathered for the occasion, and the programme swung along at a merry pace.

FORTNIGHTLY

The highly successful Cooper's Plains Club, which has been dancing monthly on Saturday nights, now meets fortnightly at the Memorial Hall. Two competitions are creating great interest—firstly, the naming of the club, and the poster contest; there are prizes for the winning of each.



SOCIETY CAR RALLY

Advance notice is given of the Society's annual Car Rally, which will move off from the Windsor Council Chambers on Sunday, May 24, for a destination unknown. It will be an all-bitumen course, with the rally commencing at 1 p.m. There will be a barbecue, bonfire and fireworks upon arrival.



NEW PUBLICITY OFFICER

It was with regret that Syd Leighton was forced, through private commitments, to resign his position as publicity officer. A meeting of the Society executive was called, and Greg Hutson was unanimously returned to office. Thanks, Syd, for the fine job you did, and congratulations, Roy, on your reappointment.



MEET THE NELSONS

There are ten of them — Bob and Mavis Nelson and their eight children — who recently made a square dance comeback at Ashgrove. And what a wonderful family they are! The Nelsons are preparing for demonstrations in the near future. We're proud of them and they are Queensland's answer to the Sydney caller who had taught his family of eight children to square dance.

Square Dance Society of N.S.W.



Report of annual general meeting, March 15, 1964.

The 1964/5 executive of the above Society shall be:—

President	Laurie Spalding
Treasurer	Bev Pickworth
Secretary	Felicity Raymond
Senior Vice-President	Tom McGrath
Vice-Presidents	Terry O'Flaherty
	Milton Hall
Public Relations	Jim White
(N.S.W. Editor "Review")	John Chambers

In his report Laurie Spalding emphasised our good standing financially and spoke of the variety and the effect of our many activities over the past twelve months. He warned of the dangers of over-confidence and of the need, in some quarters, for a tactful tightening of control, particularly where younger teenage groups are concerned. In closing, Laurie expressed optimism in the future of square dancing in N.S.W., but stressed that since the Society represented the dancers its strength could only grow with the individual dancer's support.

will be able to offer financial assistance to any member who is in need of it through circumstances beyond his or her control.

The financial position was further improved by the receipt of a cheque from Bundanoon Club for approximately £27, being the profit, after expenses, of the Bundanoon Dance. A further amount was promised if negotiations were successful to reduce the rent on the hall.

It was decided that any financial member would be able to receive a copy of the "Review" each month by direct post on the payment of a 5/- postage fee. This means that an annual subscription of 7/6 will cover membership of the Society and the direct postage of this magazine each month. All interested are asked to forward this amount to the secretary without delay.

The meeting went on to discuss the Bundanoon week-end and it was decided that this would be held again next year, as would the annual picnic at Audley and the annual ball incorporating competition dancing.

It was suggested, and adopted by the meeting, that an Alan Blackwell Memorial Fund would be set up to control the proceeds from the annual Alan Blackwell Memorial Dance. Through this fund, the Society

The meeting closed on a light note with discussion of Len Woodhead's late arrival in company with a certain young female dancer. (Name and address withheld to avoid recurrence)

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Melbourne Gets Off To An Early Start

There is a simmer of expectation and excitement starting to invade us square dancers in Melbourne: it is what I will have to describe as "Convention Fever".

On Australia Day we had a gathering of square dancers at Carrum and raised a tidy little sum toward Convention expenses. Some of those who came expecting to square dance found themselves helping me net fishing. We got some nice bay trout and mullet and a few of those present had some fish to take home. We were well supplied with callers that day. Ron Whyte had charge of those in the front, and Terry Bainbridge was calling in the back garden.

We were also favoured with a young up-and-coming folk singer, Robert Liersch, also a nice hill-billy song by a teenager, Jan. Other high spots in the entertainment were a recitation and some impromptu singing.

Another thing that was very apparent on this day was that licorice is popular with square dancers young and old.

We hope to meet again in Melbourne some of the friends my wife and I met in Newcastle, particularly Dorothy and Dan Thomas. (Hope they read this).

Chris Penhalluriak.
Caulfield, Melbourne.

Society Art Union Success

The Square Dancing Society of Queensland, in its need of further finance, last November formed a ladies' auxiliary for that purpose. This auxiliary recently guaranteed the success of its Easter Art Union with two thousand tickets being offered for sale, the prize being a giant Easter Egg valued at £10/10/0.

The period allotted for the sale of tickets was six weeks, with all Society clubs and selected Brisbane shopping centres to be visited in turn. The "Easter Bunny" offered his assistance and appeared at each location, entertaining with his "Bunny Hop", which created great interest. Members of the committee joined the ladies in this big undertaking, and the art union was such a success that all tickets were sold in only four weeks. The Society has profited to the extent of nearly £100, and heartiest congratulations are extended to the ladies' auxiliary, headed by Joi Pearce.

This, then, is a success story which other States may wish to use for their benefit. It can be done—with teamwork all the way. To all who assisted the Society says: "Congratulations! You were magnificent!"

RHODES SQUARE DANCE CLUB SQUARE DANCING

8.00 to 10.30 p.m.

2nd and 3rd MONDAY each month
SEA SCOUT HALL, RHODES

Caller ROY WELCH and GUEST CALLERS

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RYDE BRIDGE — 8 to 10.30

R. DICKSON.

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N.S.W. Society "OPERATION BEGINNERS"

The N.S.W. Society's "Operation Beginners" commenced on Monday March 19, with no less than nine new classes in Sydney plus one at Bundanoon being started between this date and March 20.

We sincerely believe that the effects of this campaign will be evident for many years to come. More of these "smash" programmes are necessary to stimulate our activity and build our strength in numbers.

Of the 10 clubs started, only two were not successful. These were the Penhurst and Kogarah Bay Clubs, where attendance was not sufficient to warrant further attempts at the present. The remaining eight groups reported good attendance and interest and, with promises of further support, express confidence.

It is very interesting to note that five of the callers participating in this campaign are graduates of the last two callers' classes. The Society executive firmly believes that more callers mean more dances, and more dances mean more dancers. For this reason, the new callers' class which has been under consideration for some time is to be started at the earliest opportunity. The actual date has been set for Saturday afternoon, May 2. Applications for enrolment are sought from all interested people and are to be made through clubs and countersigned by a recognised caller.

We regret that the radio publicity campaign in which the Society placed so much faith was very disappointing, one or two clubs reporting very little response from this source, the

remainder reporting nil. Nevertheless, the lesson has been learned and another avenue of thought has been investigated and rejected. The Society has pledged itself to increase its membership by any means and as long as we are actively experimenting in this way results must be forthcoming.

In the follow-up operation we need your support more than at any other time. Hundreds of interested beginners are needed to maintain our new groups. Can we rely on you?

Beginner dances are now in operation at:

Punchbowl: Ex-Servicemen's Hall, Rossmore Avenue, Mondays.

North Ryde: North Ryde School of Arts, Wednesdays.

Hurstville: Laurie Leich Memorial Hall, Donald Street, Thursdays.

Neutral Bay: Big Bear Super Market Ballroom, Thursdays. Collaroy Plateau, Hall Avenue, Fridays.

St. Ives: Methodist Church hall, 1st, 3rd and 5th Fridays.

Rose Bay: Church Hall, Corner Dover and Old South Head Roads, Tuesdays.

Bundanoon: Alternate Saturdays.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

for
N.S.W. SOCIETY MEMBERS

Please note that we now have TWO annual subscriptions:—

- (1) 2/6 per annum—membership only.
- (2) 7/6 per annum—membership plus one copy of the "Review" posted direct to you each month.

Whichever you choose forward it now to:
The Secretary, Box 1430, P.O., Sydney.

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Newcastle News



Office-bearers for 1964 for Newcastle Square Dance Club are: President, Arthur Hearne; secretary, Betty McCauley, 104 Victoria Street, New Lambton; treasurer, Mick McCauley.

☆ ☆ ☆

Club members Ivor and Caroline Vivian were congratulated on their recent wedding and were the recipients of a 'weighty' wedding gift at the club's weekly dance in February.

☆ ☆ ☆

All members were very happy to see Winnie Hearne, wife of President Arthur, dancing again in March after a few months rest due to a broken foot.

☆ ☆ ☆

A hearty welcome was extended to Roy and Nancy Weich and to Betty and Norm Johnstone, who recently visited us from Sydney. Fortunately their visit coincided with the opening night of 1964 of Kotara Club, and a happy night was enjoyed by the local club and by the visitors.

☆ ☆ ☆

The Y.M.C.A. Square Dance Club was featured on Friday, March 6, by a Newcastle TV station, and, though many last-minute arrangements had to be made, all went well, and already there has been a telephoned inquiry as to learners' classes.

☆ ☆ ☆

On Saturday, March 7, the Y.M.C.A. Club held a barbecue and dance. With a cyclone blowing on South Newcastle Beach, we are afraid the barbecue was a washout in more ways than one, but the enthusiasm of those who attended the evening dance at the Y.M.C.A. was most heartening.

☆ ☆ ☆

Church Demonstration

On Tuesday, March 10, a demonstration group of three squares attended the Waratah Methodist Church Hall, and, judging from the interest shown by other dancers in the hall, we are hopeful of obtaining some new members.

Too many cooks Spoil the Broth!

Angus Cook recently won a cottee pot as a lucky door prize. This was subsequently claimed by his charming wife, Audrey, but we understand that their daughter Susan, whose marriage will take place in January, has lodged her claim for possession of this article.

☆ ☆ ☆

Brisbane Visitors

We were extremely pleased to greet Peter and Evelyne Johnson, from Brisbane, at one of our recent Friday night functions, and also to receive from them both messages of kind regards from a number of our Brisbane friends who attended the Newcastle Convention.

Peter also completed a very successful evening by calling two brackets.

☆ ☆ ☆

Convention Capers

At the present time two of our members are in course of organising a bus to attend the Melcourne Convention, and from the required number of 30 have already been able to secure 16 potential starters.

☆ ☆ ☆

It DOES Pay to Demonstrate

As a result of a demonstration given last year we were able to welcome 11 new dancers.

☆ ☆ ☆

Combined Picnic

A combined picnic of all Newcastle district clubs has been suggested, and at this stage the favourite spots nominated are: Freeman's Waterholes, Taree, Mount Sugarloaf, Nobbys Beach. Should any dancers from Sydney or other States ever visit Newcastle in future, would they please contact our secretary, Betty McCauley (52-2771) who could then advise them if there is a dance on that night?

☆ ☆ ☆

If there is no dance officially organised we can assure you that Betty will organise one for our visitors.

Where are We Going?

by Bill Castner, Lafayette, California)

Republished by courtesy of American Squares

PART II, continued from last month

In 1947 Dr. Shaw, Herb Gregerson and Jimmy Clossin were the touring callers of the day. During his travels one year, Dr. Shaw picked up some new dances. As he continued his travels he passed them on wherever he went. He planted some new ideas, including allemande thar, waggon wheel, weather vane and harlem rosette.

These new dances were taught as dances, not as basics. They were taught in whole, not in part. Allemande thar consisted of the whole call with the allemande, the right and left, the forming of the star, the get out and into another star, and finally the get out and finding of partner and the promenade home.

These were new dances, not new basics. In fact, the idea of allemande thar, or waggon wheel or Alamo style being interrupted by a grand right and left was not thought of until six or seven years later.

What lovely fuel for the doom criers' fire. In many of the national magazines of that day new dances and the purveyors of them were burned in effigy. Nationally we may have had 10,000 dancers.

Then in 1948 Fenton (Jonesy) Jones recorded an album of four excellent singing call sides, two excellent patter call sides, and a two-sided record for callers. Soen Imperial, Columbia, Capitol, Folkraft, and Folk Dancer were all recording callers and square dance instrumentals for the caller.

In 1950, several years after AMERICAN SQUARES was founded, Bob Osgood started a new magazine called Sets In Order and began publishing a new dance or basic each month. One of these was red hot. As the story goes, Bob had heard Ray Smith of Dallas call it at one of Ray's dances. Bob's remembered version was different from the one Ray had published in his book and soon two different versions of the same call were being done all over the country.

This mish-mash, coupled with the hassle of do-ci-do and dopa-so and the regional arguments over cross trail thru, must have brought forth paeans of exultation from the doom criers. "Too many new basics". "Too many variations of new basics". "Where will it ever stop?" Of course by this time we had over 25,000 dancers nationally.

Beginner classes, until this time, had ranged from six to ten weeks in length. We taught them the things we teach them now, such as grand right and left, pass thru, and ladies' chain. In other words, the basic basics. Now, as time went on, the caller had to increase the length of his classes a little and add weather-vane, allemande thar, waggon wheel, harlem rosette and even three versions of red hot.

As callers' associations sprang up and began presenting (for free) new dances which could be choreographed by anyone wanting to do so, much material became easily available. You could have all the material you wanted by belonging to a callers' association.

Most callers felt they had to give all or most of the new stuff to their dancers and so they increased the length of classes to the unheard-of length of fifteen weeks and some brave souls even went so far as to have advanced classes. The doom criers wept bitter tears.

Square dancing was growing by leaps and bounds, both in the number of callers and dancers and in the sophistication of the movements. People began to complain about bad choreography. Instead of a candle flame we had progressed to and through the oil lamp stage and had entered the electrical age.

At the National Convention in Detroit in 1961 over 18,000 dancers registered. It was conservatively estimated that there were more than 150,000 square dancers.

(To be concluded next month)

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