

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

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AUGUST, 1964

An American viewpoint that could apply equally well to Australia

The odds in favour of an average American knowing the true nature or potentials of our national folk dance are less than ONE in THREE SO

Shall We Continue To Deprive the Public of Square Dancing?

BY KEN SMITH Bethesda, Md.
(Reprinted by courtesy of American Square)

The square dance caller who each year does not convince several "new" people that square dancing would be an excellent vehicle for recreation, fellowship and relaxation fails to meet one of his important responsibilities. This states the situation mildly.

This is usually because they are preoccupied with the more profitable engagements, lack the know-how to work successfully with beginners, or may have become enchanted with competing for the attention of the eager, aggressive dancer who learned square dancing from someone else.

If we pause to analyse the facts as they actually exist, we have to conclude that the odds in favour of an average American knowing the true nature or potentials of our national folk dance are less than one in three.

Sober consideration will give an idea of the opportunities which wait at our very door. I refer, of course, to opportunities to reach the public and attain better understanding concerning what square dancing actually is, its values, and its adaptability to serving the needs of many people of all ages.

At the heart of attaining better public acceptance of square dancing is the matter of motivation. By motivation I mean the impelling force that attracts individual callers and dancers to square dancing, and I am confident it is a highly-variable factor.

It seems evident that the motivation of individual callers and dancers produces some sort of aggregate which tends to mould the character or "image" of the square dance movement, or any given segment of the total movement.

We cannot expect the more discerning element of the public to be impressed if it is evident that commercialism is the main core of square dance motivation. Nor can it be assumed that clever cover-ups will fool all of the people for all time. This suggests that sensible solutions have to be found for numerous problems, including such things as caller fees, use of public facilities for profit, undue emphasis on clothing and gadgets — to mention just a few.

There are ample opportunities in most localities for callers to improve their technical competence, provided they have the required natural talent. It seems to be true, unfortunately, however, that more emphasis ordinarily is given to the whims of the established dancer than mastering techniques to win prospects and beginners. The cure for egoism and vanity which may plague a caller is not always easily defined.

Whenever square dancing thrives both in terms of numbers and quality it indicates there is a well-rounded programme of selling, training and maintaining. Unfortunately, many callers, possibly a majority, contribute very little selling or training effort.

Pappy Shaw advocated pre-occupation with the giving of one's self in service to others as the best preventative. Dr. Shaw was a man of great wisdom and vision; his motivation above reproach.

We have not yet advanced very far in the art of making all square dancers good emissaries for square dancing. Most of these people adore square dancing and wouldn't hurt it intentionally for the world. But it is evident that many of them need help. This is probably the most challenging problem that faces the informed leadership of square dancing to-day.

The power of enthusiasm among the converts to this activity is almost beyond comprehension. But it is a power to retard or even destroy if it is not channeled wisely. We must refuse to be satisfied with expediency and find solid answers to solve this delicate matter in a statesmanlike fashion if we are to see square dancing truly come into its own.

The correctives needed are more numerous than we are prone to concede. To point up specifically the problem areas which frequently are created by unguided enthusiasm among

dancers, I am going to bring this to an end with a series of interrogatives.

The order of presentation does not necessarily indicate the rank in importance. To anyone who has experienced the conditions assumed in the questions posed, they will be quite meaningful.

Do the competition and rivalry among square dance groups help advance square dancing?

Do over-committed square dancers (who drop most other activities and interests) convey a favourable impression of square dancing to others, both in and out of square dancing?

Where it occurs among square dancers, is neglect of work, family, and other responsibilities good publicity for what square dancing can do for people?

Are the frivolous and exciting ventures of square dancing receiving too much emphasis at the expense of neglecting the greater, more subtle values that underlie it?

Can something be done about the many fine people who leave square dancing in frustration or bitterness, frequently with good

(Continued on Page 2)

(Continued from Page 1)

cause?

Can the organizations of square dancing which claim to be "professional" be brought into genuine professional stature in terms of standards, objectives and ethics?

Can we persuade the five-nights-a-week enthusiast to recognize that the person who fits one or two nights of square dancing a month into a busy schedule is a very important adjunct of square dancing and a legitimate square dancer in every sense of the word?

Can inferior, boastful, unsubtle publications be improved or else eliminated?

Can we develop our skills suf-

ficiently and muster restraint to the point of overcoming the popular misconception that square dancing is of necessity violent exercise?

It is almost impossible to estimate the thousands who have refused to even try square dancing or have ultimately dropped it because of this.

One good reason—a rather compelling one—for not giving the answer here is that this writer is frank to admit he does not have them. Of greater significance, however, is the fact that no one individual can provide the answers in any event. They will have to come from the hearts and minds of many people. Let's hope they will be the right ones! ●

Square Dancing, Mountain Style

A square dancing weekend to be remembered was that organised by The Blue Mountains Club of Rose Bay on 27th and 28th June. Much of the credit for its success must go to the organizers, who devoted a great deal of thought to prior advertising and planning; which proved so beneficial to the venture.

As in previous years, the Palais Royale at Katoomba in the Blue Mountains was chosen as the venue, and 112 dancers registered prior to the final date of arrangements. A full weekend programme was arranged featuring a "Howdy Dance" on Saturday afternoon followed by an evening square dancing during the Mayor of the Blue Mountains welcomed the guests and officially opened proceedings, while Radio 2KA broadcast the festivities from 9 till 10 p.m.

It was pleasing to note that the Mayor was still present at the conclusion of the dance, which continued into the wee small hours. Blue Pacific president, Yvonne Thompson, very capably thanked the Mayor for his welcome and

good wishes and, in the absence of his wife, who was unable to attend, asked him to accept on her behalf a beautiful sheaf of flowers.

The broadcast arrangements were in the hands of Bob Price, who not so long ago was one of Sydney's well-known dancers, callers and Society officials. Thanks, Bob, for a good job well done.

Sunday morning was devoted first to a delightful session of round dancing under the instructions of Jack and Avis Nimmo, followed by Contras initiated by Les Hitchins, and an interesting talk and practical demonstration on styling by Lucky Newton. A further bracket of square dancing brought the weekend proceedings to a reluctant conclusion before lunch and the return journey to Sydney.

All who attended were grateful to Les and Lucky for their tireless efforts and to their supporting callers, Roy Welch and Tom Chambers, while congratulations must go to all members of The Blue Pacific Club for a most successful and enjoyable week-end.

Trainee Callers Night

at

THE WHIRLAWAY SQUARE DANCE CLUB
Congregational Church Hall, Anderson Street
CHATSWOOD

on SATURDAY NIGHT, AUGUST 8, at 8 o'clock,

and then

every Second Saturday Night of each Month

GREENWICH COMMUNITY CENTRE
Greenwich Road

A new Beginners' Class for Adults

commencing

TUESDAY, 1st SEPTEMBER, 8 P.M.

Caller—Tom McGrath

WARATAH FESTIVAL NIGHT

Announcing

The 11th Annual Dundas Docey Doe

ROUNDUP

Saturday, 10th October

At the North Sydney Anzac Memorial Hall

An excellent night of Square Dancing is assured

ADMISSION 6/-.

Harry Jackson and other
Guest Callers

Proceeds to Square Dance Society of N.S.W.

"Roundup" Really Shone

It was a "Sunshine State Roundup" which really sparked from start to finish, with four and a half hours of fun unlimited for dancers from four states!

Here are the vital statistics:

Date: Saturday, July 4.

Place: Red Cross Centre
Greenslopes, Brisbane.

Occasion: Seventh Annual
"Sunshine State" Roundup.
Celebration: Society's Tenth
Anniversary.

Attendance: Over two hundred persons.

The Result: A "Ball".

All standards of dancing were catered for, with no less than nine callers sharing the programme. All Society clubs were represented, including Goondiwindi in the west, and the round

ups were filled in rapid fashion. Junior dancers of Holland Park gave a fine display, this being their first public appearance.

Visiting dancers arrived from three states and included Graham Norman and Pat and Brian Eade (N.S.W.), Jack and Dot Broman (Victoria) and Noelene, Elaine, Lynne and Kath from South Australia. A special demonstration by a national team drawn from four states created great interest.

A balloon drop right on midnight brought to an end possibly the most wonderful "roundup" ever staged. And so another success story has been added to an already most successful year. Yes, everyone heartily agreed that the 1964 "Sunshine State Roundup" was great!

The Square Dance Society of New South Wales

Half-Yearly Meeting

will be held on

Sunday, August 30, 1964, at 8 p.m.

At the Y.M.C.A., Pitt Street, Sydney

All Dancers are requested to make every effort to attend

REMEMBER—This is YOUR Society. To function properly we must hear YOUR point of view.

"WARANA SPORTING PRINCESS"

With spring now just around the corner, much of Queensland's interest turns to the "Warana Festival"—our annual pageant of fun in the sun—a time of gaiety, with parades, displays, sporting attractions and carnival for everyone.

And, this year, the Square Dancing Society of Queensland has been invited to submit nominations for the "Warana Sporting Princess" Quest. We should like to have six entrants representing the Society. Here are the conditions of entry:

1. Open to all single girls who are over the age of fifteen years by June 1, 1964.
2. Girls must have participated in organised sport or associated activities in Queensland in 1964.
3. Entry is free.
4. No raising of money.
5. No beauty parades.
6. Girls will be judged in business dress or uniform, and finalists in evening dress.
7. Girls will be judged on simple conversation, ordinary deportment, and daily manners.
8. Crowning of Princess in City Hall on Tuesday, September 29.
9. Twenty girls will go to the final.
10. Anyone may nominate a girl, provided the girl signs the nomination form.
11. Marching Girls and Square Dancers are eligible.
12. Judging is always at convenient times—you have not to miss work at any time.

Arrangements will be made for your photo to appear in the Sunday "Truth".

All finalists will receive a sash and an enlarged photograph and be entertained at the 1964 Warana Dinner on Thursday, October 1.

The Princess will receive a week's holiday in Sydney, flying by Trans-Australia Airlines.

Tuesday, September 29, the night of final judging, is the date of one of the major "Warana Festival" attractions at the Brisbane City Hall. A big variety programme is planned, featuring square dancing on two occasions. This will be a night too good to miss—see you there!

Graham Rigby, President,

Square Dancing Society of Queensland.

AGE NO BAR

I heard a whisper about the activities of the Marrickville Old Age Pensioners' Amenities Centre, so on Monday night I went on the way of a "prowler", and what do you think I saw? Yes, SQUARE DANCING.

Here is a group of about 16 "old-young" ladies (approximate ages 60 to 84) square dancing, but with the usual trouble—NO MEN! This doesn't seem to worry them particularly because the ladies dance as men, with a *blue tag* for distinction. Every Monday night from 7.30 to 9.30 they come along and enjoy their dancing with Mrs. MacLean, their teacher and caller.

They have been operating for about 12 months now, but of course they are restricted to dancing the slower numbers, such as "Red River Valley" and "Captain Jinks", etc. As for the floor—even an experienced dancer would find it difficult to dance on! Talk about being fast!

It would certainly do your heart good to see the way they enjoy themselves. No wonder they say "Square Dancing is Fun!"

—Bev Pickworth.

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

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Orpheum Ballroom
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WEEK-ENDS
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NORTH SIDE BEGINNERS' DANCE

EVERY THURSDAY NIGHT

Commencing August 27

St. John's Church Hall

Pacific Highway and St. John's Avenue

GORDON

FOR DANCERS 25 AND UNDER

Callers—Wal Crichton and Terry O'Flaherty

ADMISSION: 5/- Enquiries: 94 8554

First Night Free!

A HOLIDAY TO REMEMBER!

WHEN IN SYDNEY STAY AT THE FABULOUS

MANHATTEN HOTEL

GREENKNOWE AVENUE, POTTS POINT

THE LARGEST LUXURIOUS HOTEL OVERLOOKING
BEAUTIFUL SYDNEY HARBOUR

Suites, Rooms with Showers and Baths
Single, Double and Family Rooms

TARIFF: Bed and Breakfast from £2/2/- p.p. Daily

Phone: 35-1283

Your Dance Diary



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

NEW SOUTH WALES

MONDAY

- PUNCHBOWL—Ron Jones. Old R.S.L. Hall. UY7118.
- 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 Street. 2-1065.

TUESDAY

- ROSE BAY—Lucky Newton and Les Hitchen. Church Hall, corner 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 and Avis Nimmo. Fourth Wed. Sea Scouts Hall, Ryde Bridge. 85-3180. (R. Dickson).
- BELMONT NORTH—(B). Milton Hall. Belmont Community Hall, Swansea 643.
- MACQUARIE ROUNDUP CLUB—Hank Johannessen. Whitebridge Community Hall. Alternate Wednesdays. Phone Swansea 643.
- NORTH RYDE—(B). Tom McGrath. North Ryde School of Arts. 85-3821.

THURSDAY

- CAMPSIE—Ron Jones. Empire Hall, Beamish Street. UY7118.
- RIVERWOOD—(B). Bev Pickworth. Scout Hall, Bonds Road (rear of Total Service Station).
- NEUTRAL BAY—(B) Wal Crichton & Terry O'Flaherty. Big Bear Supermarket Ballroom, Military Road. XJ5832.
- NAREMBURN—Vince Spillane. 1st and 3rd. Congregational Hall. 94-4186.

FRIDAY

- COLLAROY PLATEAU—(B) Len Woodhead. Progress Hall, Hall Avenue. JF1205.
- ST. IVES—Roy Welch. 1st, 3rd and 5th Fridays. 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 St. UY7118.
- BELROSE—(B). Vince Spillane. 2nd Saturday. Ralston Avenue. 944186.
- BELROSE—(B). Vince Spillane. 1st Saturday. Ralston Avenue. 94-4186.
- CHATSWOOD—Wal Crichton and Terry O'Flaherty. Congregational Hall, Anderson Street. XJ5832.
- DUNDAS—Harry Jackson. Fourth Saturday. Town Hall. WL1549.

Pants — Long or Short

By Gladys Gehrke and Faye Rathburn

(The following is an extract from an article appearing in the Oregon Federation News, published monthly by the Oregon Federation of Dance Clubs)

A recent issue had a letter on the very controversial subject of women's underpinnings—or what has happened to modesty? While styles of pants vary from one section of the country to another, I have always felt they are as much a part of our "costume" as the dress and petticoat.

Because of the interest in the subject, we asked people dancing in different parts of the state how they felt about it.

Frank Bishop said "Square dancing is fun, and a certain amount of dignity should be displayed; therefore, brief panties and bare legs should never be seen on our dance floors—no more than on any public dance floor."

"I, personally, think that a lot of the fuss of leg show comes from a lot of women wishing they could hide a lot of women's legs from their husbands' eyes," Mildred Miller says. "If my husband likes what he sees from the sidelines, more power to him! If he doesn't, he can get up and dance. If more dancers spent more time dancing and less time concentrating on 'inspection', there wouldn't be cause for comment."

Warren Miller had a contribution to make: "The ladies should wear a half-slip and pantalettes or something similar to cover their legs and not expose themselves to criticism from older non-dancers. This is especially important when dancing in an exhibition."



Ted Hiatt, past president of the Oregon Federation, had this to say on the subject: "What is your reaction when you see a high-flying skirt with a large expanse of bare legs showing? What is the public's reaction at seeing such a picture on the front page of the society section, representing square dancers and square dancing? Personally, I get a ha-ha out of it, being a male animal—but at the same time I have a bad taste in my mouth when thinking how it looks to our public; and, let's face it, we are in the public eye very frequently."

Rita Hiatt, his wife, gives this way: "Let's give dancers a favourable impression. Square dancing is a wholesome recreation, paint a pretty picture of lovely dresses, complete slips and underpinnings on TV, in parking school are not the place for shows. Let's be ladies."

Verna Wilder, wife of land caller, said: "My would rather not have bare legs above my knees he might take a second look at some other woman's bare legs."

Anna Piazza spoke as follows: "A wide expanse of bare legs is shapely or otherwise, it is a distracting influence at a dance. Modesty and dignity is just as important as square dance hall as in a room. Style and comfort are attained by sensible choice of dress and underpinnings."

These are the opinions of people from people to whom the future of square dancing in Oregon is important.

I asked my husband for his opinion about wearing sissy britches.

His reply was: "Whether this is a typical or not might depend whether it was his own that of some other fellow was doing the twirling."

If you are in a position to have a mind what to wear under petticoats, why don't you wear the sidelines for a while keep your eyes—and your mouth—wide open?

(Next month the report of this article will be printed)

South Australian News

The Country and Western Style Dance held on the first Saturday in every month at the Methodist Church Hall, Colonel Light Gardens, is attracting anything up to twelve sets, and caller Roger Weaver has this dance moving along nicely. Colin Palmer, the person responsible for this dance being held at Colonel Light Gardens, is to be commended and congratulated on his organizing ability.

Colin Huddleston's Friday night dance at Camden Community Hall has now developed to a Happy Medium night, so if any dancer of to-day can make contact with dancers of yesterday, please inform them that it is now a Happy Medium night at Camden. At the moment there are approximately 14 sets dancing there and we would

like to make it 20 sets. TV stars Merylyn Hawke and Norm Koch, from the Country and Western Hour Show, together with John Beale and Ossie Atkinson, really get your feet a-tapping to their music.

Approximately 56 persons from South Australia have already booked to attend the convention, and the total will not be far short of 70. Quite a few of these dancers attending have only commenced dancing this year and are wondering if they will be good enough to dance at the convention. That is something that will have to be worked out by the organizers and callers.

Doug Colquhoun was back in harness again the other night, calling to a group at St. Matt-

thew's Church, Kensington. It could be that Doug is back in the groove again that he and his wife are at Elizabeth, what about organizing a dance up to Doug?

Colin Huddleston of Legacy, Port Adelaide, taking the place of Weaver, who was rushing to Australia in the Antrim Trial. Colin reports that the dance is for the children and was a little pointed that there are more children in attendance than boys seem to be the main item here—not enough boys or so to come Legacy Hall, this could be quite a good little dance if the children were very well

Letter to the President

President,
Square Dance Society.

Dear Laurie,

This donation to the Square Dance Society is an appreciation of many happy and delightful evenings spent around the various clubs and the many wonderful friends made while square dancing.

I will be happy to double this donation provided all the other square dancers collectively donate a similar amount, and I do not want any of the Society officers or the callers to donate, because I know they are already more than pulling their weight.

(Sgd.): Name withheld at donor's request.

(Note from Laurie Spalding, President, Square Dance Society of N.S.W.:—"I sincerely thank this person for the donation of £50 and the appreciation of this wonderful pastime.")



Convention News

The programme for the Music Bowl has not yet been completed; however, all callers will receive a list of the dances that will be called on the programme shortly.
Convention Tickets

Convention tickets are available now at 30/- per ticket. They must be bought and paid for no later than a fortnight before the Convention. Early purchasing would be greatly appreciated, as we will have to know how many

to cater for. Order your tickets through your caller or secretary. The cost will include Saturday afternoon at the Music Bowl, Saturday night Gala Dance, Sunday Lunch and Dinner, Sunday evening Dancing.
Accommodation

There is still some accommodation available but do not delay too long, as bookings are coming in very fast, so don't miss out.



took an interest in their dancing, and listened attentively to whatever Colin had to say. The committee put on a terrific supper and Colin said he has never seen so much food disappearing so quickly. All the best to Legacy, and we hope you can get a few more boys along to boost your dance.

☆ ☆ ☆

The Fancy Dress Night held at the Druids' Hall, Walkerville, on July 6 was a great success. Caller Brian Townsend must be congratulated on organizing such an evening. The stage and hall were decorated to suit the occasion. Over 50 people arrived in fancy dress ranging from the Organ Grinder to a Grecian Maiden. There were

a number of spectators as well as the eight sets dancing. Guest artists performed between each bracket of dancing. Artists included a balancing act, trick cyclist, electric piano accordionist, hillbilly guitarists, banjo player and comedian. Prizes were given to best-dressed lady and gent, most humorous, and most original lady and gent. Everyone voted the night a tremendous success. Waitresses at a certain all-night cafe got a surprise when Zorro dropped in for some chips on the way home. This dance is building up nicely with quite a lot of young chaps recently coming along to learn this entertaining pastime.



NEW SOUTH WALES, Continued

GREENWICH.—* Ron Jones. First Saturday. Community Centre, Greenwich Rd. XM2292
KOTARA (Newcastle) — Alternate Saturdays. C. of E. Hall, Grinsell Street. Ring 57-4371 or 57-3910.

QUEENSLAND

TUESDAY
ASHGROVE—* Workshop Night. Graham Rigby. Monthly. St. Barnabas' Hall (Tram stop 12). 56-1251.

WEDNESDAY
HOLLAND PARK—Graham Rigby. Marshall Road State School (Junior Club). 56-1251.

FRIDAY
WYNNUM NORTH—Rodney McLachlan. St. Oswald's Hall, Prospect St. Monthly. 96-3302.
ASHGROVE—"S-Bar-B". Graham Rigby. St. Barnabas' Hall (tram stop 12). 56-1251.
SANDGATE—"B-Bar-L Hoedowners". Peter Johnson, British Ladies' Hall. 96-3813.
SLACK'S CREEK — Jack Mitchell. Phone Number 6-4262.

SATURDAY
GREENSLOPES—Peter Johnson. Scout Hall. 96-3813.
COOPER'S PLAINS—Graham Rigby. Fortnightly. Memorial Hall, Rookwood Avenue. 56-1251.
IPSWICH.—* Graham Rigby. Monthly. North Ipswich Scout Hall. 56-1251.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

MONDAY
WALKERVILLE—Brian Townsend. Druids' Hall. (Learners, 7.00 - 8.00).

THURSDAY
CLARENCE PARK INSTITUTE — * Colin Huddleston and Allan Frost. Fortnightly. 45-4556.

FRIDAY
CAMDEN HALL—(B) Colin Huddleston. Fortnightly. 45.4556.

SATURDAY
COLONEL LIGHT GARDENS—(B). Roger Weaver. Monthly. 9-2670.
BROADVIEW—(B). Allan Frost. Fortnightly. St. Phillip's C. of E. 65-1351.
ST. LEONARD'S—(B). Colin Huddleston. Monthly. Methodist Church Hall. 45-4556.
ADELAIDE—(B). Colin Huddleston. Fortnightly. S.A.P.A. Hall, Hanson St. 45-4556.
TORRENSVILLE — (B). Colin Huddleston. Monthly. Methodist Church Hall, Hayward Avenue. 45-4556.

VICTORIA

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

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

THURSDAY
CAULFIELD—Round Dance. Edna Batchelor. Tennis Club, Balaclava Road. 50 1470.

SATURDAY
CAULFIELD.— (Sunnyside). Ron Whyte. Bowling Club, Queen's Avenue. 95-1496.
WILLISON—(Happy Valley). Les Schroder. Scout Hall. Fordham Avenue. MX 4921.

Victorian Jottings



SUNNYSIDE NEWS

There has been a lot of 'flu and sickness this month, but we have still kept a good crowd each Saturday. Believe Dot and Jack Broman got caught up in all the heavy rain on their way to Queensland. Managed to attend a dance at Newcastle, though. Nice to see Merle Webb back after her recent illness. Vi Hawker is home from hospital after an operation. Hope to see you again soon, Vi.

SQUARE DANCE

CABARET

A wonderful night of dancing was enjoyed by 311 people who danced until 1 a.m.

Our new guest artist, Don Allan, really wowed them with his singing of Elvis Presley numbers and many other favourites.

It was Jeff Pickford's last big night before leaving for Denver

Colorado, in the United States, where he hopes to do some square dancing. All the best to you, Jeff.

Great to see so many club members at our own dance the following night. Shows we must have stamina.

CAMBERWELL CLUB

Our members were given the full treatment the other night at our Recuperation Party, which was designed to tone everyone up after a wonderful but energetic weekend at Marysville. Dancers were administered pills (sweet ones) and tomato juice by Nurse Pat Schroder, who also took temperatures and counted pulse rates, and Dr. Les Schroder prescribed medicine right, left and centre, and even performed an emergency operation on Syd Neale, who has since left hurriedly for Sydney. Ella and Ron Whyte, Myrtle and Charles Stone were welcome visitors.

HAPPY VALLEY CLUB

August 29 will be our CINDERELLA PARTY NIGHT. So come along in fancy dress! There will be prizes for best costumes, also for the best pumpkin coach; and a very special prize for the lass whose dainty feet fit the Cinderella slippers. Visitors very welcome.

TRIP TO TASMANIA

(By Ron Mennie)

Just recently a Melbourne square dance set visited Tasmania for the long week-end, on the invitation of Barry Atkins, who runs a regular square dance on Sunday nights in Georgetown. The set was delighted to find a happy square dance club, although dancing was done to tapes. The visitors were given a warm welcome and a special dance was held on the Saturday night. Visiting square dancers and caller Des Webber from the Launceston Square Dance Club were also present. On Sunday Ron and Ella Whyte flew in from Melbourne and during the afternoon demonstrations of the later squares and rounds were given. With the interest and enthusiasm shown, it is now certain that Tasmania will be represented at the Convention this year. On Monday the Melbourne visitors were shown over the giant aluminium works of "Comalco". Many thanks to the Tasmanian square dancers for their wonderful hospitality.

MELBOURNE PICNIC

Wet or Fine
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18
commencing 11 a.m. and
continuing until 9 p.m.
at Heatherton Reserve

Programme provides free pony rides and races for children. Novelty races for adults. Other novelties yet to be arranged.

SQUARE DANCING IN
THE HALL, OF COURSE.

For further particulars,
contact —

RON WHYTE

Wickham Road

Moorabbin, Vic.

Phone: XL 1496

MELBOURNE HIGH SCHOOL

PROUDLY PRESENTS

ITS

SIXTH ANNUAL SQUARE DANCE

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1964

WITH

CALLER LES SCHRODER
AND GUEST CALLERS

IN

THE SCHOOL MEMORIAL HALL

DANCING — 8-11.30 P.M.

DRESSED SETS, ROUND DANCING, AND BALLET SEQUENCE

TEA PROVIDED.

ADMISSION 6/-.



Square Whirl



The Bexley Bowling Club's K9 beginner series got off to a very promising start on Saturday, July 4, with eleven squares of folk wishing to try themselves out as square dancers.

The pleasing feature of the Bowling Club's effort is that the night is given wholly to square dancing and is not the usual social evening with square dancing thrown in as an entertainment. Everyone attending was there to learn square dancing. Caller Arthur Gates had a very full hall and did a really creditable job of teaching.

★ ★ The dancers showed their appreciation by returning the following week with another 11 square roundup. Thanks are extended to Carss Park Club for transferring its usual dance to Bexley Bowling Club to help the beginners.

★ ★ Speaking of clubs: On July 25 Jim White realised a nine year ambition when, as president of the Lane Cove Country Club, he called on the Mayor of Lane Cove to officially declare his club open. Jim originally started

the idea of a Country Club in Lane Cove nine years ago. Since then, it has grown to a £55,000 venture with the construction of a bowling green, golf course and clubhouse. It opened with a full membership and waiting list of 200! The opening day saw the biggest traffic jam in the history of Lane Cove, with over 500 people attending.

This club already has as members at least one square of square dancers, and one recognised caller. Seems a possibility of a Square Dance Night, doesn't it?

★ ★ Another thought is a square dance bowling day. Laurie and Kit Spalding were talking about this the other day when playing with Jim at the Country Club. Seems as though we have many square dancers who are bowlers. If you are interested, mention it to Laurie.

★ ★ Well, this month's Square Whirl is coming to you from

Melbourne, where I've been transferred for a couple of weeks. Boy, is it a cold hole! I went out to Ron Whyte's dance at Caulfield the other night and got hopelessly lost en route because I couldn't see through the ice on the windscreen!

That wasn't the real reason I got lost, but it's a good lead to this next titbit.

★ ★ On Friday, July 3, the Home-cush Ice Skating Club ran a Western night, featuring a square dance exhibition on ice! Led by Gordon Hearne, son of the president of the Newcastle Square Dance Club, who was the only one of the group who had ever square danced before, two squares practised two numbers for two weeks and put on a very entertaining show on the big night. I don't know if it is planned to run this on a regular basis or not, but I've been told to ring 76-7004 for more information.

★ ★ The Greenwich Club's Open Night on Saturday, July 4, was a very successful evening with about eleven squares dancing. Ron Jones was in fine form as usual and kept the big crowd happy with lots of new numbers intermingled with the old favourites. Club president Len Woodhead donated £10 to the Society on behalf of the club.

★ ★ At the annual election of officers for Blue Pacific Club, Margaret Kane resigned from her position as secretary, a post which she has very ably filled for the past two years. The new secretary is Warren Langley, 187 Alison Road, Randwick, phone 39-2000.

St. Colomba Church at Wool-lahra recently held a "family day" at the charming home of Mr. and Mrs. A. Lamb, of Bellevue Hill. Stressing family aspects, square dancing, being an activity in which the whole family may participate, added to the success of the function.

Blue Pacific Club was able to feature two demonstrations during the afternoon and drew many interested spectators from the neighbouring hillside homes as well as all those actually attending the function.

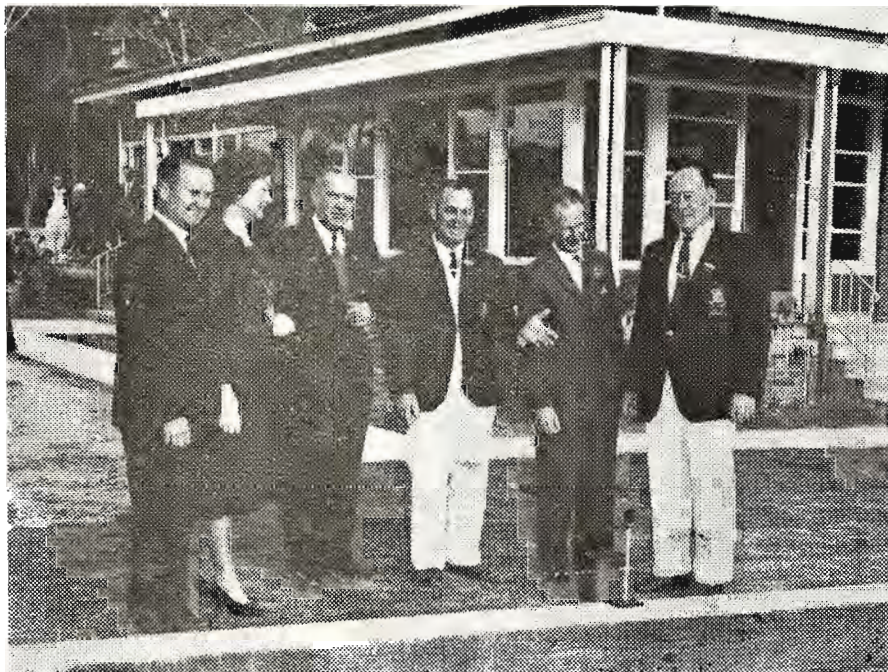
★ ★ Saturday night, July 11, was the night of the Whirlaways' first birthday party. It was so crowded that an extension speaker had to be placed out in the back room and a square had to dance out there. Wal Crichton, doing a bit of a crawl, told me that the good attendance was entirely due to the excellent publicity coverage given in the "Review." Thanks for the compliment, Wal, but I'm afraid I know the real reason for it: the Whirlaways are now in direct competition, having just recently published their first monthly "Square Dance News". This means WAR!

★ ★ The magnificent Goodman Hall at Bondi Junction was the venue of a "Festival of Dancing" held recently and featuring 14 different types of dancing. Ranging from Dutch, Irish, Tap, Ballroom, Modern and Classic Ballet, Acrobatic Stage Dancing, the audiences saw many top-line dancers including Ivy Paton and Charles Froulop, Alistair and Iris Macintyre, Pamela Smith and many others.

Square dancing was also included in the programme in the form of a bright medley which was called by Les Hitchins, backed by Wyn Austin on piano accordion. The Blue Pacific dancers received a big ovation for what proved a very popular spot on the programme.

The North Ryde Club visited the Chatswood Club on its party night. All had a very good night of dancing and, to make it even better, Roy Smith brought his famous sandwiches. It is a real contest every Wednesday at North Ryde to see who is the first to try Roy's sandwiches. Last week Nev and Frank set up the supper table half an hour early. This could become the first club to start eating supper at 8 p.m.

★ ★ Co-ordinating Editor's Note: This will be John Chambers' last Square Whirl. Since writing it, he has been advised that he will be transferred to Melbourne. You stuck your neck out, calling it a cold hole, John! Hope they don't cold shoulder you too much for it.



Jim White showing the Mayor and guests over the Lane Cove Country Club

Square Your Sets

(A Roundup of
Queensland News)



ASHGROVE "SPRING FESTIVAL"

The annual "Ashgrove Spring Festival" will be staged on September 11 and 18, with two big nights of fun for "S-Bar-B" dancers and friends. The club's eleventh anniversary will be celebrated on Friday, September 11, and, a week later, the "Rosebowl Hoedown" will attract great interest. Both are festive nights with a big line-up of features.

☆ ☆ ☆

GOONDIWINDI CALLING

The Society's newest square dance group at Goondiwindi, in the far south-west, opened sensationally last month with an attendance of over seventy. Instructress Esme Baltzer led the fun with dances on tapes supplied from Brisbane. This group now meets fortnightly at the State High School on Friday evenings, and we wish them every success.

"Dear Editor"

Sir,

We would like to express our thanks and appreciation to the good folk of Sydney and Brisbane who gave us such a wonderful time on our recent visit to Australia.

Particular mention must be made of the efforts of Val and Graham Rigby, in Brisbane, and Kit and Laurie Spalding, in Sydney, who really went out of their way to show us around.

It was a pleasure to meet the Waggon Wheelers in Brisbane and some of the hundreds at the Square Dance Ball in Sydney. The ball was a real highlight of our tour and we thoroughly enjoyed it.

Thanks again, and we hope that we can return the hospitality some time.

Sincerely,

Rae and Frank McKenzie.

61 Mechanic St.,
Dunedin, New Zealand.

"CARNIVAL OF FLOWERS"

Ashgrove dancers will make their annual visit to Toowoomba's "Carnival of Flowers" on September 19 and 20, and a full programme of activities has been planned. The party of thirty-four will dance in Ruthven Street prior to the parade and during the street carnival at night. Sunday's appearances will be in the Botanical Gardens and at Helidon Spa Park.

☆ ☆ ☆

SPASTIC SHOW

Square dancers were invited to appear at the "Country and Western" Carnival at the Spastic Centre, Fig Tree Pocket, in Brisbane, on Sunday, July 5, and thoroughly enjoyed the cutting. After the show there was a barbecue, square dancing for everyone, and films. We look forward to appearing again at their annual Christmas party at New Farm in November.

GATTON GOES COUNTRY-WESTERN

Sixty miles west of Brisbane lies the town of Gatton, in the rich Lockyer district, where the Mercury Theatre Group staged a huge barbecue and square dance on July 18. It was "country style" at its best — folk came in from miles around for this informal night of do-cidings with Graham Rigby, of Brisbane, at the microphone.

☆ ☆ ☆

NEW SOUND

Two young up-and-coming callers, each with a definite future in square dancing, last month purchased new sound systems of very high quality, and are, naturally, very proud of their new "toys". Sid Leighton, of Sandgate, and Rodney McLachlan, of Wynnum, are the young men of the moment, and both possess really first-class sound—an investment in better dancing. The best of luck to you both!

☆ ☆ ☆

GRADUATION DANCE

The 1964 Society Callers' School has been most successful to date with enthusiasts Kay Bienen, Evelyn Johnson, Sid Leighton, Brenton Wilson and Ricky Pearce, each taking their turn at the microphone. The series concludes this month and a big graduation dance has been planned for Tuesday, August 18, at St. Barnabas' Hall, Ashgrove. Come along and support these callers of the future. It's going to be quite a night!

COUNTRY MUSIC ASSOCIATION

Contact was recently established between the Square Dancing Society of Queensland and the Modern Country Music Association which mutually share an interest in Country and Western entertainment. A close bond of friendship has already been established between the two bodies. The benefits are many—more public appearances for square dancers and more entertainment on party nights.

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"FESTIVAL OF NATIONS"

Brisbane's Royal National Show, this month, will have an added attraction—the "Festival of Nations", featuring the colourful folk dance sequences from many countries of the world. And Peter Johnson's "B-Bar-L Hoedowners", of Sandgate, will represent the square dance fraternity during this series.

The show will be presented each evening in the Wool Pavilion on stage before a seated audience of many hundreds. A bright, lively performance is assured, with square dancing well to the fore, and all who are visiting the Show this year should make the "Festival of Nations" a *must!*

ST. IVES

Country & Western Style Dance

(1st, 3rd and 5th Fridays)

Married Couples Especially Welcome
Learn to Square Dance Modern Style
at Methodist Church Hall

Dancing 8-10.30. Caller: Roy Welch. LY 9208.

RAIL SEATS AND SLEEPERS

Final Bookings for Melbourne

MUST be in to Bev Pickworth — 57 Chelmsford Avenue, Belmore, UW 4166, with MONEY, by 31st AUGUST. Any dancers requiring bookings please contact Bev as soon as possible, as there are ONLY 18 1st Seats and 2 Double Sleepers available.

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