

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 Q'land.
- ☆ Square Dance Society of Victoria.
- ☆ Square Dance Society of S. Aust.
- ... and Clubs in
- ☆ New Zealand, Papua

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SQUARE DANCING FOR ORDINARY PEOPLE

At the request of Les Schroder, with whom most of my experience in dancing has been gained, I just want to say a few things which I consider important for the benefit of square dancing in general, and more particularly for the enjoyment of the vast majority of the community of dancers who could be described as ordinary people.

Lest I be misunderstood, let me say that these people are not just ordinary because of any lack of interest, or ability to dance, or for any reason which may sometimes be given as pertaining to ordinary people. Rather, I would describe them at a square dance as the great majority of folk who are

There is certainly nothing wrong with enthusiasm when properly used or controlled, and it is possibly true to say that it is because of the continued interest of the enthusiasts (at least some of them) of the 1950 era, that square dancing is still going, and that in fact conventions such as at Adelaide are still possible. However, it might well be time that the case for the ordinary dancer be put forward, in the light of some experiences at Alphington.

A club was started in 1956, a time when many other clubs had folded up. The Alphington Club continued very successfully until 1961, but because of diminishing support, closed in that year. It is now apparent that the reason Alphington closed was not because our people did not enjoy themselves, but rather that the majority either did not have the time to devote, or were not prepared, to dance at regular intervals, such as weekly or fortnightly. This was the history of a club comprised of ordinary people, who however were the happiest, friendliest, and most tolerant people who ever trod a floor.

It is now 1966, and we are five years older. Many people would say that there would be too many "oldies" to ever start a dance again. But surprisingly, at the request of a number of former members, a one-night stand was organised, and in late March we had the distinct pleasure of having 12 sets on the floor, practically all the dancers being ordinary people who had not danced for at least five years. So successful was this night that a further enjoyable dance was held in May. We have even interested some people who have not danced for 10 years or so, but who now can see that square dancing can be a real pleasure when the conditions are right.

A number of people are now watching our experiment with much interest, and because others may desire to experiment in a similar way, I set out what I believe to be some of the necessities to ensure a new interest in the square dancing we so much could enjoy.

1. The real enthusiast and skilled dancer is best accommodated at a club which encourages only experienced dancers. Alphington is not

the happy, tolerant, and sociable types, but many of whom became heartily fed up of square dancing very soon after the boom in the early 1950's. And these were the people who should not have given it up, nor would they have done so except for the situations created at the average club dance in those days. Here again, do not let me be misunderstood, for in those days there were many fine people who were enthusiasts, but who were still concerned that square dancing was missing out in the opportunity of becoming one of the pleasant social graces, similar to the way ballroom dancing had been regarded for many a day.

one of those clubs, but we do have experienced dancers who come to enjoy themselves as a pure relaxation.

2. The club for ordinary folk should not meet at close, regular intervals, but rather should be at suitably spaced occasions, so that in no way does the member feel regimented or forced to attend.

3. Each member should be advised of or invited to the next dance, the best way being by circular letter. This means a little job of work for someone, but it is certainly the best and cheapest form of advertising.

4. The caller most suitable for this type of club should be a happy and interesting type of person who calls a dance well within the capacity of the ordinary dancer. More particularly he should use tuneful numbers, and his main concern should be to keep sets going in a good flowing dance. Most people prefer to do a moderate standard of dance well, rather than a tricky or difficult dance badly.

5. Endeavour to create in the minds of members that square dancing is one of the social events of the year, and that it takes its place amongst

all the other forms of entertainment.

6. Don't press your members too hard. Let the real enjoyment of the night of dancing and fraternising be the means of creating the desire for more of it in due course.

Those are some of the points which I believe could assist in a new interest in the dance. Not all will agree with my viewpoint, but many will concede that square dancing will have made its rightful comeback when ordinary people can come to a dance without worrying about possible inability to cope with the caller, but rather can come on to the floor quite as confident as they would when attending a ballroom dance. This they can do, without any thought of dancing standards. Only then will it be realised what a pleasure they can receive from this square dancing. It is fun, it is sociable, it is real pleasurable entertainment, and there should be more of it. And for those who say that they have forgotten how to dance, remember that like swimming you never really forget. No matter how long ago your last dance, it will soon come back to you.

LEN. NAISMITH.

Victorian Jottings



VALETTA

The showing of convention films during supper the other night was well received and brought back happy memories of Adelaide. Many thanks to Frankie Cook and Alex Parkes for bringing along their films.

Nice to see Ed and Mary Fuller, Dan and Peg Green and Jim and Jean Mallon back after bouts of illness. Although still absent through sickness in the family, Hope Grey remembered her annual wager with Wally and deputised Twinkle Toes Jack Cromwell to collect her booty; not to be outdone, Hope sent along a consolation prize for Wally — a bottle of whisky. Cold nights are no worry this winter at Mimosa Street with a nice warm fire to greet everybody when they walk in.

Date to remember — Square Dance Weekend — Marysville, 8th and 9th October.

CAMBERWELL

Both Camberwell and Happy Valley spent a wonderful weekend at Marysville. In fact, several found it necessary to stay on a few days to recuperate, viz., Pat and Les Schroder, Bill and Val Humphries, Olyve Cowan and Chris Penhallurick. We were sorry that the Perrys were not able to be with us due to a family bereavement and that illness prevented Bob and Brenda Mann from participating.

We found a fine square dancer at the Cumberland — Lyle Edwards. We know it's a long way from Cranbourne, but here's hoping we see you, Lyle.

HAPPY VALLEY

Dancers are looking forward to seeing slides of the convention and our weekend at Marysville. Whilst there, Marj Coates found a nice screw-driver and Win. Pennington (Mrs. Miller) managed very well with one arm in plaster.

We arrived back to find Nancye Newman had injured her ankle fence-climbing . . . it's a long story!

We've been told Frank Blackham is fond of a swim after the dance — temperature? — 40 degs.

BOX HILL NEWS

The first club night after

the convention was attended by Queenslanders Eric and Dot Wendell, Elva and Charlie Hoppe. Ron and Ella Whyte and members of the Sunnyside Club were there, including Bert and Margaret Hewish, — everyone had a wow of a night.

Nice to see the folk from the Blackburn Club at our Fancy Hat Nite. Eileen Roseman won the lady's prize and Ron Hooper the men's. Everyone had us guessing over their hats, which were all representing song titles. Quite a shapely hat or two about, too.

By the way, whose face was red at the Jasper Motel at Adelaide? Maybe Ron can tell us, or Marlene. Some people just don't knock any more these days.

Date to remember: Tuesday, September 20. It's our 2nd Birthday and the Roaring Twenties will be in full swing again. All "rods" are to be checked at the door, so be prepared for another wild night at Box Hill.

SUNNYSIDE NEWS

Interstate visitors still abound at Sunnyside. Dot and Eric Wendell, Elva and Charlie Hoppe, and Bernie Kennedy and his group all danced with us on their way home to Queensland. Later had Paul, Barry and Jim from the Waggon Wheel Club from Sydney, then from Adelaide we had the pleasure of meeting Arnold and Clarice Ernsshaw and their friends, Jim and Molly. Keep coming, folk. We love to have you.

Eric Kielly will be missing from his usual seat for a few weeks as he has gone on a trip to Darwin.

Bob Stevens and Evelyn Ingram were given a kitchen tea at the Whytes' home this month. A beautiful supper was provided by Val Leonard, Betty Wilson and friends. The guest of honour unwrapped many useful gifts and the wedding is set for August 6. All our best wishes go to this popular young couple.

When the three couples from the Waggon Wheelers came from Sydney to appear on the television show, "Showcase '66" in July, we had the pleasure of their company on the Saturday night.

We extend our sincere sympathy to Jim Dundon on the loss of his mother last month. **IMPORTANT DATE, FRIDAY, AUGUST 26: SQUARE DANCE DINNER and CABARET DANCE.** Tickets are on sale now. Book your tables early; all welcome.

Yes, square dancing. What a terrific pastime it is. It surely must change the lives of many people; I know it changed mine, and the more you dance the more you like it. I have yet to find anybody who is not willing to help you. I hope my fellow beginners

take this hint and get up and dance as many times as you can. You make lots of mistakes at first, but if you keep at it you will find as I found, after a while that you are not the only one that makes mistakes.

There is nothing like a square dance convention to boost your ego. I had a marvellous time and would like to thank all the Adelaide people for making us so welcome.

MICHAEL SCHEEN,
Sunnyside, Vic.

SPECIAL NOTICE!

THE VICTORIAN SQUARE DANCING ASSOCIATION.

A meeting is to be held on August 19 at 1 Grevillea Road, East Doncaster, at 8 p.m. All Square Dancers welcome. Information, phone Pat Saunder 842-2221.

THANK YOU!

Thank you to all friends for your thoughts and sympathy extended to me on the loss of my mother recently; also to Ron and Jean Mennie who looked after the Sunnyside Club in my absence. RON WHYTE.

LETTER TO EDITOR

Dear Sir,

Re "Evil Ned's" article, "Callers, Do We Need Them?" "Review," July, 1966.

Week by week and month by month we read of the many ways to keep square dancers happy, but Evil Ned has come up with a "corker." That big a "corker" that if tried it will backfire and the cork will go back on the bottle and stop square dancing flowing forever and six months after that.

Why the outcry for more callers? How about an outcry for more dancers? All callers are screaming for more dancers and if the average cannot handle three clubs a week, he should give it away and start selling matches.

Ned says, "Let's face it, who needs them." I take it the "them" means us callers. Doesn't Ned realise that square dancing is traditional and it is traditional to have a live caller. Where does the challenge go when you dance to the same record hoedown or singing call after once or twice?

Admittedly, there are many groups who dance to records only. They, I would say, are unfortunate not to have a caller. Does Ned mean sack the callers here in Australia and just use records? Remember, Ned, you have callers on disc and those callers are quite alive, to their own dance

ers back in the States, at their own clubs. If anything like what you suggest was tried in the States you would find callers wouldn't make discs and if they didn't make recordings, brother, you would be in trouble! Now — what do you think of that, my dear fellow?

Your article does not impress me. It annoys me, and I think you should do something more concrete to help square dancing and not devote your time to writing rubbish like this where it only leads to argument and argument is something the better people in square dancing have been trying to stop since the start of time (square dance time, that is).

Then your article may just be a gimmick to arouse interest to create material to fill the pages of the "Review." There is plenty to fill these pages about the good things in square dancing without writing "war material."

Who knows? Next thing you will be suggesting to have the convention run by recordings. No, Ned, you've stood on many toes this time and I only have little feet and it hurts.

Let's face it. Who needs you and your literature? Apparently you don't like live things and just do things in reverse. For instance, your pen-name, "Evil Ned," spelt backwards, is "Live Ned."

ERIC WENDELL.

That Wonderful Convention

That Was . . .

By Square Joe

Much was said on standardisation, but perhaps the greatest point of all was lost. Since the inception of conventions, we have completely revolutionised square dancing in all States, anyhow, and square dancing is more uniform in Australia than it has ever been. This has all been brought about by the mixing of dancers from every State and the trying out of the various ways movements are made. There is not one State that has not taken something from another in these seven years.

Did you also notice a considerable warming up of callers? Seven years ago they walked around each other like dogs on the warpath. This year there was the friendly barter or quips, even to the extent of ribbing Ron Jones for wrecking singing calls. Incidentally, Ron admitted to me several weeks ago that half the time he turns a singing call into a hoedown; it's because he forgets the call, anyhow!

How nice it was to walk into a hall some thousand miles from home and know half the people there. How

nice to meet folks you made friends with last year or the year before—to dance with them and enjoy their company.

There was, however, one point—the opportunity of a lifetime missed by Colin. On the Sunday, the police arrived and wanted to stop the dance. Colin negotiated and all ended quietly. Colin! Where was your imagination? Here was the chance—the chance to put the convention on the map for good and all.

Firstly, Colin should have objected and been arrested and taken to jail. Then Ron Whyte could have taken over and after he was taken off, Ron Jones, Les Schroeder, Graham Rigby, etc., until we ended up with all our callers in jail. They could have then gone on a hunger strike!

Let us imagine Tuesday morning in peak hours with the Adelaide dancers having a sit-down strike in the middle of King William Street. Finally the Government capitulates, honour is restored and world-wide publicity achieved. . . . Well . . . it's good to have a vivid imagination, anyhow.

Once again, Adelaide — thanks.

Demonstrations

Requests for demonstrations and floor shows, by the Country and Western Style Dancers from Channel 9 are becoming more frequent and "The Planets" (top rhythm set in South Australia) have recently performed at Unley Town Hall, Windsor Ballroom, Williamstown, Loveday and Renmark, the latter two towns being approximately 140 and 170 miles from Adelaide. This set has been well received wherever and whenever they have appeared and their dancing has improved tremendously. The younger set, "The Sapphires," has also been active and recently gave a de-

monstration of rhythm country style dancing at Moorook and further engagements are assured. It would be interesting to work out just how many miles "The Planets" have covered appearing in cabarets, etc., but they are a wonderful group and if you mention that there looks like a trip coming up and a weekend away from home, they accept it as a challenge and get all steamed up to go. Their behaviour on these trips on and off the floor are a credit to them and I'm sure that they are going to be in even more popular demand now that they have hit the top.

COLIN HUDDLESTON.

IT'S ON AGAIN!

WHIRLWAYS -- PROMENADERS
ANNUAL PICNIC . . . BAR-B-Q

SUNDAY, AUGUST 28, 1966

Callers: Tom, Terry, Wally.

Donations: Only 40 cents this year, due to increased price of admission to Park because of their Zoo.

Proceeds will be donated to the Square Dance Society of N.S.W.

WHERE?

Why? Hollywood Picnic Grounds,
Lansvale, of course!

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Sunday, August 14, 9.30 a.m.
Executive meeting at Bill Rolph's home.

★
Sunday, August 28, picnic and dance at Hollywood Park. Proceeds to the society.

★
Saturday, October 1: Newcastle Six-Hour weekend.

★
Saturday, October 8: Waratah Festival float.

★
Friday, November 25: Competitive and general dancing, Lane Cove Town Hall.

Yours squarely,
BILL ROLPH,
President.

say their piece and represent their clubs or groups and thus allow their views to be heard. By no means scrap the "Senior Citizens"; they are a great help; but at least please let the ideas of the "with it set" escape to the society. Or perhaps I am wrong.

COLLECTIVE, COMMON-SENSE, CO-OPERATION

On our way home from Central Australia we shared a day with Val and Brian Townsend and family. Thank you for your hospitality.

★
Sunday, July 10, 40 club representatives and executive members assembled at Ron Jones' Hall. Decisions made were tables for ball, float for Waratah procession, competition and dancing, Lane Cove Town Hall, Friday, November 25.

★
Thanks to Marge Hislop, Lucky Newton and Cyril Coxhell for preliminary work done on the design of a float for the Waratah Festival.

★
Thursday, July 7, attended first birthday party of Miranda Square Dance Club. A very good night with Arthur Gates and guest callers. Thanks for the invitation, Miranda.

Attention, Young Dancers

By Graeme C (Evil Ned) Edmonds
(Club Representative, Whirlways Group)

Recently I attended a meeting of representatives of all clubs in Sydney and Newcastle organised by the New South Wales Society, the purpose of which was to discuss between the society executive and the clubs certain major issues affecting dancing in New South Wales for the ensuing few months. About half way through the meeting I suddenly realised that I was the youngest person present at the meeting. This set me thinking. Was I the youngest New South Wales dancer? Was my club one of the youngest in New South Wales? Was I really representing all the teenager and younger dancers of the society? The answer to all these questions was obviously NO. I know many people younger than myself who dance and I know clubs with substantial numbers of people all younger than I. I was merely representing the interests, and expressing the

opinions of my own club; not all young dancers. This situation appeared to me to be wrong.

As all society members are members on an equal status and each and every member is entitled to his or her opinion and views on society matters I feel that perhaps the younger clubs could have younger spokesmen (or spokeswomen, of course). If we want the true views of the dancers on the floor then we must surely have young representatives.

Why, then, were there mostly only representatives in the over 25 group, why not more young people present? Is it because the older generation wish to suppress the ideas of the youngsters as being only childish nonsense? No I don't think so. It is just that we, the younger dancers, are prepared to sit back and let the "oldies" do all the organising. Let them arrange and do the work and let us merely sit back and complain and criticise. Instead, teenagers should

SQUARE YOUR SETS

ROUND-UP OF QUEENSLAND NEWS



"SUNSHINE STATE ROUND-UP"

July is traditionally "Round-up Month" in Queensland, and hundreds of dancers and callers are expected to gather at the Kedron Memorial Hall on Saturday, July 9, for our "ball of the year." The State's leading callers will be featured, with special guest appearances by this year's "Amateur" winners and dressed teams will again be wanted to dance on stage while their club caller is at the microphone.

★

JUNIOR BOYS' CALLERS' CONTEST

Completing the 1966 State Amateur Callers' Contest, the "Junior Boys' Section" was staged last month, with the final presented on television. Thirteen-year-old Rodney Childs, of "Western Stars," West End, took out the title with his fine calling of "Putting On The Style," whilst 10-year-old Ian Murray, of "Marshall Stars," Holland Park, was runner-up. Congratulations, boys, and our sincere thanks to judges Bette Pearce and Sid Leighton.

★

BONFIRE SUCCESS

It was certainly a great day at Nudgee Beach on Sunday, May 22, when over one hundred and fifty attended the big "Square Dance Bonfire" to aid convention funds. Topline entertainment included appearances by "The Wanderers," vocalists Johnny Greenwood, Peter Burrows and Pat Lusk and the "New Faces" Revue Company of Redcliffe. Highlight was, of course, the bonfire on the beach, which was followed by dancing in the hall.

★

CLUB WITHOUT A HOME

They've found a new home — Brisbane's "Cross Trail Twirlers," formerly of Greenslopes—and it's the attractive, centrally situated Coorparoo Scout Hall in Cavendish Road. This group was referred to in last month's "Review" as the "Club Without a Home," but organiser Jack Clayton lost no time in correcting the position. So, now they're the "Cross-Trail Twirlers," of Coorparoo, dancing fortnightly on Saturdays to the calling of Johnny Wilkinson.

STATE CONVENTION

Just two months away is Queensland's State Square Dance Convention to be staged in Toowoomba on September 17 and 18, to coincide with the "Carnival of Flowers." This will be our fourth State Convention, the previous three having been at Binna Burra Lodge, Beechmont, in the Lamington National Park. Callers and organisers are asked to check on numbers attending as block bookings of accommodation have been arranged. Further details next month!

★

KENMORE BARBECUE

Square dancing is always an excellent medium of fund-raising, and, as the Kenmore Church of England is in need of a new tennis court, a square dance barbecue has been arranged for Saturday, July 30, with Graham Rigby calling. This parish has conducted several highly successful square dances previously and a big night is expected on the "thirtieth!"

★

"PLUS TWENTY CLUB"

At time of writing, Brisbane's Methodist Plus Twenty Club is looking forward to their next square dance at Ashgrove Memorial Hall on Saturday, June 25, with Rodney McLachlan at the microphone. "Plus Twenty" include several square dance evenings in their yearly overall programme of activities and are most enthusiastic. A special demonstration by the junior "Western Stars" of West End, will be featured on June 25!

★

"SPRINGLANDS BARBECUE"

Sunday, August 7 is the date set for the second annual "Springlands Barbecue" and hopes are high for an even bigger success than last year when over two hundred attended. Hosts will be organiser Sid Porter and caller Jack Mitchell and a big programme of dancing and "western" entertainment is being planned. The location — Springlands Barn, Slacks Creek — don't miss it!

"SQUARE YOUR SETS" "B-BAR-L HOEDOWNERS"

This active club, which dances fortnightly on Friday evenings to the calling of Peter Johnson, has now formed its own social committee to plan special activities and parties. The club had so much fun at its last picnic that another is planned for Sunday, August 7. This sister group, the "Teen Twirlers" of Greenslopes, are looking forward to another appearance at Brisbane's "Warana" Festival later in the year.

TO FLOAT OR NOT TO FLOAT

Application has been made to the City of Sydney Committee to enter a float in this year's Waratah procession. The theme is Pageant of Gaiety which is suitable for square dancing. This, if permission is granted, will mean much work for many people. If you are prepared to help in any way, please let the secretary or some other executive officer or caller know you are willing and we will organise working bees.

BILL ROLPH,

President.

NEW SOUTH WALES

RHODES SQUARE DANCE CLUB

SQUARE DANCING

8.00 to 10.30 p.m.

2nd and 3rd Mondays

Everybody Welcome Advanced Standard

Callers — Roy Welch and Arthur Gates

Round Dancing only 3rd Thursday in each Month

Queensland Congratulates Adelaide on Successful Convention

By Graham Rigby

The fifty Queenslanders who journeyed to Adelaide for the National Convention travelled in many different ways. Those fortunate enough to arrange their annual holidays motored independently, others flew, others again travelled by charter coach, whilst Bernie Kennedy's "Bar K Ramblers" drove in their own Volkswagen bus.

And what a tremendous convention it was! The warm welcome at Thebarton on Friday night made us all feel completely at home and what wonderful sight-seeing tours we enjoyed on Saturday! That night at the "Palais," the pleasure of live music, the spectacle of thirty-one dressed sets on parade and the thrill of being part of the record attendance of seven hundred and thirty-seven dancers — these made it all an unforgettable experience. The many wonderful doings of Sunday and Monday brought too quickly to an end our delightful stay in Adelaide.

For those travelling in our chartered coach the return trip was full of incidents, a

highlight of which was our enforced stay in Forbes (Western New South Wales) for two nights through a broken axle.

The people of Forbes were so friendly we could have stayed there for ever. On our second night, they assembled a fleet of cars and drove us to a dance in Parkes, 20 miles away, where we demonstrated Square Dancing and the "Hootenanny" and, in return, were taught a number of ballroom and novelty dances, including the Spanish "Pasa Doble." In every respect this was "country style" hospitality at its best!

On behalf of all Queensland dancers and callers, we wish to congratulate Colin Huddleston, Brian Townsend and all other callers and dancers of South Australia who, together, made this such a memorable convention. Next Easter, it will be our pleasure to host the Eighth "National" in Brisbane, and we look forward to the same type of "all-in" co-operation so evident this year. Meanwhile, once again, we salute you in saying: "Congratulations, Adelaide — you were tremendous!"

**WHIRLWAYS SQUARE DANCE GROUPS
ANNUAL ROARING TWENTIES DANCE**

August 13, 1966

Chatswood Congregational Church Hall, Anderson Street
Prohibition Period Dress.
Knock thrice—ask for Evil Ned



**N.S.W.
SQUARE AND
ROUND
DANCING**

SCOUTS' HALL, LARK STREET, BELMORE

2nd SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH

Round Dancing — Avis and Jack Nimmo.

Everyone Welcome. Basket Supper.

Enquiries 78 4166, 632 6685

**A CALL(ER) TO
ARMS**

Has Evil Ned hit the nail on the head or has the nail hit Ned in the head? Maybe he should have renamed his article, "Callers are the most harmful to square dancing."

If we do stop to seriously study his article, we could perhaps try to find the answer to Ned's thinking. From the dancers' side, I am wondering if he has reason to think of callers as a queer lot and has cause to feel rather despondent and frustrated at their attitudes to the dancers and dancing in general. It is often noticed that some callers can carry an air of superiority above the dancers, and other callers live on past reputations to maintain their status among the dancers, without exerting themselves into the fostering and encouragement of square dancing. Yet these callers are naturally accepted at all big events and nights because of their reputation.

Other callers maintain a too serious outlook on the dancing, whilst forgetting the most important aspect of the square dance, which is the enjoyment and relaxation and to have fun.

From the callers' side, serious consideration should be given to the amount of work which is shouldered by callers, willing to give that extra to the dancing without giving any

thought to their own personal gain or reputation. At any club or dance there must be an M.C. This person must accept the responsibility of running the night and making it a success. Societies and associations can organise and do run dances, but if these organisations were to go the continuance of that dance or club is in the hands of the caller. It is his own personality, ability, helping hand and hard work which is the hub of the activity within the club. He is the one person to set the atmosphere within the club, to teach the dancing and to maintain harmony within the square dance circle. He is responsible to the dancers for their behaviour and he alone, can set the example of good dance etiquette.

In summing up, I would like to say that with our square dancing everyone of us is responsible for the welfare of this recreation; we cannot have dancers without the callers, and least of all we cannot have callers without dancers. It is from the dance floor that the caller can emerge, but each is dependent on the other, and we should strive to achieve a happy relationship between the caller and dancer and in doing so we attain a clearer understanding of the problems which can arise with our square dancing.

RON MENNIE,
Box Hill Square Dance Club.

Tasmanian Topics

Sincere thanks, Colin, Brian and all your helpers for a wonderful weekend of square dancing and Adelaide hospitality. The McGraths said all there is to say in last month's Review; the only thing I can add is "Why didn't you have some spare legs and feet?" I could have used a new pair. Special thanks to Val and Brian Townsend, Margaret McCarthy and Trevor Shaw for entertaining me during the remainder of my stay in Adelaide.

SHIRLEY CASBOULT,
Launceston (Tas.).

LAUNCESTON. — Things are looking up at our club here. During my trip to Adelaide there has been quite an increase in dancers at regular club nights, both new comers and "oldies." The only thing that worries me is, "Was it a coincidence or was it just because I was away that these folk decided to join our ranks?" Our thanks to Bronc and "Tommy" Keefe for their hard work in recruiting so many new dancers.

Guess Des Webber won't

**THE '66 ADELAIDE
CONVENTION**

The convention's done, the weekend's gone,
The visitors who were here
From interstate, and across the Strait,
We'll not see again 'till next year.
We took the floor on Friday night,
The Thebarton Hall was jam-packed tight;
We met old friends from the year before
And danced with new ones by the score.
Saturday night was the big event
To the Palais, for the opening hundreds went;
Twenty-nine dressed sets showed their paces,
Starlighters took the honours for graces.
At the Shandon Hotel, for all of Sunday,
We had Adelaide's biggest

KIWI CORNER

June was quite an eventful month one way and another. With the return of Ken and Eva Kennedy, and Rae and Frank McKenzie from their Australian tour, the Waggon Wheel Club members in Dunedin, were very interested to hear all about square dancing in Australia and especially of the convention.

A showing of coloured slides taken during their travels of square dance interests in

have fond memories of Adelaide as he was laid up with the flu for several days after he returned from the convention. Some of the Adelaide hospitality sent home with him?

Our Practice Set is busy preparing for a demonstration at a Junior Farmers' Ball, Sidmouth in July. After seeing Ron Jones' sets at the convention we wouldn't dare call ourselves an exhibition set.

How I wish the rest of our dancers could have seen those sets of Ron's, Graham Rigby display, Victoria's fine effort and all those dressed sets. I'm sure it would have given them a lot to think about; I know I was impressed. I didn't even have any photos to bring home as the flashlight decided I didn't like my new camera and refused to work. I do think it might have picked a more convenient moment.

ULVERSTONE AND COOEE

Recent advertisements have shown that beginners' classes have started at both these towns and I shall try to get some news of their progress before next issue.

private party;
Seven hundred and thirty seven strong
Made the rafters rock (and this was wrong!)
Monday was Ashton's farewell picnic,
The poor S.A. weather didn't worry us a bit;
That night the Bar-B-que danced at Camden
Closed the doors on Adelaide's convention.
The success was due to Brian and Col,
With us they top the popularity poll;
For untiring efforts and unselfishness
The hearts of all square dancers wish them the best.
One final word, a cheerio,
To a really nice couple I got to know,
On or off the floor their charm a lesson
From Sydney's Starlighters Robyn and Don.
"PINKY" DENNIS.

N.S.W., Victoria and the convention, was very much appreciated. One feature mentioned was the friendship and warmth shown by square dancers in Australia towards them.

This club was very pleased to welcome two girls from the B. Bar K. Ramblers, Brisbane Judy Innes and Desleigh Morrison, who are on a working holiday in N.Z. On July 2, special dance was held in Christchurch and nine Waggon Wheel members journeyed 23 miles to participate

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



In the July issue of the Square Dance Review an article was written with a title which read: Callers — Do We Need Them? I intend to show this well-known character a few reasons why we do, and convince any misled reader of the great necessity of more good callers. The idea of square dancing is to dance known steps as they are called, not to learn a dance, and be able to perform it without a caller, and this is exactly what would happen if there were no callers, for then there would be no hoedowns. I am sure that only those who are unable to follow a call (I would want this) and each recorded dance would soon be learnt off and become boring.

A dance run only on "canned music" would still need an M.C. to officiate and also someone who would be willing to give up their time to promote the dance and train new members — a job that would become very difficult, as the record would have to be stopped and re-started as the beginner made all of these inevitable mistakes. Many callers take the most popular dances and substitute movements to suit the standard of those present. This way the most advanced dancer, as well as the beginner, can enjoy any tune they are dancing to at their own level. If callers were abandoned, as suggested, none of this would be possible and the chaos mentioned by "Evil Ned" would be a lot more evident than on a caller's "off" night. It is also obvious that the writer of the above-mentioned article, has never taken the time to really listen to some of the records around, or he would find that his point about them being "well balanced to music" is not precisely accurate, and that often the timing is erratic. However, disregarding all of these technicalities, I am sure that anyone attending advance, run on all "canned dances" will find something lacking for there is a totally different atmosphere which cannot be described, but must be experienced, before one can realise that callers are absolutely necessary.

CAROL B.

Sir — We would like to thank you for the opportunity to take this trip on behalf of the West Australians who travelled to Adelaide for the Seventh National Square Dance Convention to congratulate the South Australians on the magnificent way in which they organised and staged the 1966 Convention.

Our trip was very enjoyable and made doubly so by the various square dancers we met in Sydney and Melbourne, and, of course, the convention in Adelaide, where we met so many with kindred interests.

We would especially like to thank Bill and Dorothy Rolph, Terry O'Flaherty, Wally Crichton and Ron Jones in Sydney and Ron and Ella Whyte, Maisie Archer, Norm and Iris Clark, of Melbourne, for helping to make our stay so memorable.

It was a great pleasure to meet the "names" we had read about in the "Review" and now the various notes will have real meaning to us.

We hope that we may see many Australian square dancers over here in New Zealand when we will be able to offer our hospitality in return.

EVA & KEN KENNEDY.
RAE & FRANK McKENZIE.

Jim: Thanks again for advising us of this situation. We were very pleased to meet you and were sorry we didn't have more time to yarn.

Regards,
FRANK McKENZIE.

The Square Dance Review:

The four dancers from Newport who travelled to Adelaide for the convention certainly had a marvellous time and we would like to place on record the marvellous welcome we received both from Colin Huddleston and Brian Townsend, who made himself available to take the visitors on picnics and sight-seeing tours prior to the convention.

The accommodation at the Del Monte was first-class and they made us feel very welcome; the permanent guests were very interested in what was going on and we were made to feel one happy family, also when we booked into Del Monte it was on the understanding that we were paying £10 flat rate, which we were very happy about, but imagine our surprise when we came to settle our account after having been there six days to only be charged £7/10/-. I feel some thanks should be passed on to these people.

BETTY & NORM JOHNSTON.
MARGE & BARNEY McKAY.

In his comments on the recent convention, Colin Huddleston says he thinks that the meeting itself was far too long and that future organisers should take warning.

I feel that quite the opposite is true and that more time should be allowed for the discussions and general business. We have only one chance each year to discuss our problems with other dancers and callers, and it seems a pity to have to do this all in the space of an hour or so. Surely the fact that so many people join in these discussions and the fact that each year they take longer than planned, shows that a large section of the dancers wish to make the most of this time. We all know that many of the younger dancers are not interested in the discussions and have simply come to dance. No one blames them for this, and we agree that it does seem a pity to waste good dancing time. Therefore I think the idea of earlier conventions of having the meeting on the Sunday morning was better, as the whole afternoon was then free for dancing.

I'm sure many dancers would agree with me that they look forward to the convention meetings just as much as they do to the dancing, and that's saying something.

MARGARET HOLT.

FRED NOTLEY.
White Gum Valley Squares,
West Australia.

N. S. W.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I have been square dancing for approximately 14 years and up to recently have always enjoyed this pastime, but now the biggest percentage of new dances completely lack the rhythm of the old dances, and the quickened tempo results in the movements being done in a lot (if not most) cases haphazardly.

What a joy it was at Belmore last Saturday night to dance once again to some of the old numbers (superbly called by our No. 1 caller) — it temporarily gave me a new interest in dancing instead of wanting to "give it away" as I have been contemplating doing.

I spoke with quite a few other members of my vintage, and all were of the same opinion, and also some of the newer members to square dancing commented that they had never heard the numbers before, and how they enjoyed them.

I have not lost sight of the fact that I am getting older myself and perhaps "slowing up," but I could have the same interest in square dancing that I had ten years ago, if there was still the rhythm there used to be.

I still enjoy a night of ballroom and old-time dancing, and even after a lapse of a month or so, I know I can go back and find no noticeable change — but not so with square dancing — if you miss a couple of months you find new movements have popped up, and you feel like a beginner again. Because of this factor I do know for certain that some ex-members would be tempted to come again, but their comments have been they "can't be bothered learning all over again," and this is readily understandable in these times when most of us have busy lives in other directions, we want dancing to be a relaxation and not a chore.

"JUST ANOTHER SQUARE."

REPLY TO "JUST ANOTHER SQUARE"

By Tom McGrath.

I have read this type of letter in one form or another time and time again in several square dance magazines. This time I thought that this may be a good time to explain one caller's viewpoint on the subject.

First, the tempo of the recorded music has never changed from 128 beats to 132 beats per minute from the earliest singing calls until now. Each movement takes so many beats so you can't put any more in. As for rhythm, any professional musician can tell you the recordings are better now than they ever have been. What the problem really is, and I think that I am right in this, is that "Just Another Square" and others dancers of that vintage learned to square dance in the days when the complete repertoire of all the callers combined was only 25 to 35 numbers. They all called these same singing calls over and over again until the square dancers knew them as well as the caller. And he thinks he misses these numbers because he knew them so well he could dance them in his sleep. But! How does a singing call become an old favourite? Simply by being called to a boring death and ending up on the shelf. Oh, yes. In the old dance days these callers kept it up until they managed to bring a peak of 10,000 dancers down to a few hundred. Have you noticed that the callers who

never advanced past the 25 to 35 old numbers are no longer with us?

Put it this way. You have not worn the same tie once a week for 14 years or read the same book or read a newspaper dated July, 1952 once a week for 14 years. Remember where the girls' skirt lengths were? Somewhere down by the ankles. Notice where they are now? We are caught up in an ever-changing world in all fields of endeavour, including square dancing. People are like that. Yes, it is nice to have the old numbers once in a while, but you just can't stay with them all the time. The caller would like to agree with you. How nice it would be to only have to own 35 records instead of having to buy a never-ending supply of new ones and not to have to spend his free time constantly learning new movements and numbers. Still he realises he would also become bored after a while. If a poll were taken right now you would find that the majority of square dancers support at least one weekly club, plus one or two monthly clubs, plus at least one visit a month to a sister club. This means they square dance five to seven times a month. How long would you keep them on a steady diet of 25 to 35 old numbers? Fourteen years? Not even 14 months! Because people are people and they have this ever-present drive for change. And what about the ex-members who drop out and wish to come back? Do

N.S.W.
NEWPORT SQUARE DANCE CLUB
 EVERY FRIDAY
 in Surf Club Hall
 8.00 p.m. to 10.30 p.m.
 Everybody Welcomed — Beginners' Standard
 Caller: Roy Welch

N. S. W.
Belmore Ramblers
 Every Fourth Saturday at Scout Hall
 LARK STREET, BELMORE
PUNCHBOWL WAGGONWHEELS
 Old R.S.L. Hall, Rossmore Avenue
 Every Monday. Standard: General
 70-7118. Caller: Ron Jones.

they really believe that the people who stay in and keep the square movement alive are going to just keep on dancing the same old numbers and movements year after year so these ex-members can make this glorious return to square dancing. Sorry, they should realise if they are adult enough and "the promenaders are fortunate to have several couples who are adult enough" to realise that they must learn all over again. "Just another square" has been square dancing for 14 years, which means he has been a backbone for the square dance movement. He has gone through more changes than he realises, with more to come. He really wouldn't like all the old numbers as a steady diet. He must get the enjoyment out of square dancing that the rest of us do or he wouldn't be still going.

By all means, keep your fond affection for the old numbers. Try to have the callers use them once in a while to please you, but don't try to force him to stick to the same old numbers all the time and run everyone else away. Never look on square dancing as a chore; instead, regard the new changes as a challenge. You will find a challenge can be relaxing, too.

Finally, I believe "Just Another Square" has one very good reason to go another 14 years. This is contained in one of his statements I wholly agree with. You were right. Your caller is undoubtedly "Number One."

"To Help or Not to Help"

—THAT IS THE QUESTION.

By Peter Johnson (Q'd.)

The life and expansion of square dancing in general depends largely on new dancers coming into the clubs, and what better way to chase them away and lose them than to have experienced dancers who will not help during their first few nights until they find their dancing feet!

There are some who will not dance with them because, they say, they will spoil their fun and break up the set. Now, if these people would change their attitude and help the new dancer, the set would not break up. The new dancer wants to learn and is willing to be helped. They do not wish to spoil the set and, unless the rest of the set show a little understanding, the new member will fall by the wayside and be lost to square dancing.

The new dancer comes to the club to learn square dancing and make new friends, and, if met by willing, friendly assistance from other dancers, he will surely come again and again, and, in no time at all, he will become experienced and able to take his place in any set.

Always remember: We all had to learn, and, if it hadn't been for the help of the other dancers and an understanding caller, maybe we would not have made it!

From South Australia

By Colin Huddleston.

I wish to thank all those folk who wrote to me personally and also those who had letters published in the magazine congratulating the committee and myself on the success of the convention. Now, let it be said that no convention is better than another. In Tom McGrath's words, they are "all the best." I will never forget the first convention I attended. Melbourne, 1964. I had a marvellous time at the next, Sydney, 1965, and I know I'm going to "have a ball" at the next one, Brisbane, 1967. No, I'm quite sure that all conventions "are the best." I do not believe in one State trying to outdo another, but what I do believe in (and this is a friendly hint to the Queensland organisers), that when you think you have raised enough money to cover the costs of a convention then go for another \$200, at least. You will be surprised how some little detail has escaped your notice, particularly covering transport, decorations, etc. I think it's much nicer if you can suddenly send a bus to a certain hotel, etc., and pick up dancers instead of them trying to find their own way there and back, avoiding parking difficulties and what have you and if you have that little extra money put aside there is no problem when you suddenly find you have to spend a few extra dollars.

I wish to make it known that at the end of this season I will be resigning as State editor of South Australia re the magazine, and I will be handing over to Brian Townsend in November. I would also like it to be known that I do not intend to call above happy medium standard again and that I have closed my club on a Wednesday night at Clarence Park. I am also hand-

ing over an occasional Church Club dance booking to another caller as I was advised to cut down drastically on my activities in the square dance field, but with South Australian callers (except one) apparently not interested in promoting on their own initiative a square dance for learners, I find myself again in the position of trying to start up another learners' class, or to see a decline in numbers towards the end of the season because you can't expect the same dancers over and over again to be holding the fort. Age creeps on, you know, or are you kidding yourself? So once again I'll try for more learners and keep my fingers crossed. Also from now on dancers will not be allowed to form their own sets at any of my dances. If a caller intends to have dancers forming their own sets then I feel sure he must make it a closed club — I have had plenty of experience in this field, and I do not intend to have a closed club operating this year. I have five sets that I would like to bring to a standard where they will be able to demonstrate or dance on TV. Three of these sets are already doing this and I hope that in about four or five months another two or three sets will be dancing well enough to dance at cabarets, etc. These sets will be learning rhythm style, of course. I have found lately that some of my dancers seem reluctant to go into round-ups, and dance with learners, thank goodness it only applies to the odd few and I don't care if they should be a top dancer or not I will have no hesitation in telling them they are not wanted if they cannot help a learner along. As pointed out before, you cannot expect the same dancers year after year to keep patronising one's

dance — they have done a mighty job in the past, but it's a very poor state of affairs if callers starting out or branching out on their own will not have a shot at getting some beginners. I know it's much easier to commence a happy medium dance or perhaps even an advanced dance to call to and I know that some callers won't attempt to find learners, because there is plenty of work involved, but if their thoughts are centred on how to keep the numbers up, surely they must realise that unless you get new dancers that square dancing will reach an all-time low. Eventually it boils down to this. Without new faces, the square dance movement in South Australia will fall by the wayside and about the only dances that will be held will be in private homes, at parties or some similar function. One realises that "Evil Ned's" article in the magazine about "Do we need callers?" was to get a few bites, etc., but remember this, if the four callers in South Australia don't use a bit of initiative and get out and look for learners off their own bat, they will find that we don't need callers because there won't be enough dancers left, anyway. Who knows, we may not be able to get any beginners, but, at least, let us try and make contact instead of placidly sitting at home hoping something drops in your lap.

It's nice to see learners' classes springing up and advertised in New South Wales, I feel sure their numbers will increase, but unless the callers here wake up to the fact that the dancers they have now cannot keep on going indefinitely, then as "Evil Ned" suggests, will there be any need for callers?

COLIN HUDDLESTON.

ROGER WEAVER.

Letter to Editor

Having only been teaching at church dances on a monthly basis, there has not been much news from me for this magazine of late. However, after the wonderful seventh National Square Dance Convention, I would like to congratulate Colin and all those who made it such a terrific show.

I read somewhere it would not be over-organised, but I feel this is wrong, for how else could it have swung into gear so smoothly. I'm sure that anybody who didn't enjoy themselves have only themselves to blame, and how about the variety of callers, dancing and music, especially the latter, and surely all callers and musicians will benefit from those who presented this Seventh National Square Dance Convention for its all beneficial success.

Now for a few words for "Evil Ned":

Have no fear, fellow callers and teachers, for this chap evidently doesn't know the lot of a caller and his work when he says to let the canned caller and music take over dances. If ever you confront this fellow, just ask him these few things, for instance:

Who would teach new dances and figures, and beginners and who would pay for amplification — arrangements and payments for halls, advertisements, etc. — arrangements for new dances and demonstrations — phone bills — petrol bills — practices — stationery, etc. etc., and talks to undesirable cliques and individuals who sometimes aggravate a good dance, and just fancy dancing the same hoedowns and singing calls over and over for a season as would be the case unless a club was very financial.

No — in my opinion it would be very limited and after all, variety is the spice of entertainment. I think the live caller has it all over, and I can say: Can Evil Ned for trying to throw over the versatility of the live caller and music.

N. S. W.

A HOLIDAY TO REMEMBER!

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Square Dancing Programmed

(Reprinted from Square Dance Gazette)

Today we are directed toward scientifically programmed educational techniques of ready comprehension of any subject. Immediately my thoughts were geared toward square dancing and how that wonderful activity could be easily digested by the individual if he pursued the course enthusiastically. The program follows:

1.1. Square dancing is a wonderful activity enjoyed by thousands of people all over the world. It provides relaxation from the daily grind of work. It is a dance performed by at least four couples whose actions are governed by an individual identified as the "caller."

Now answer the question:

QUESTION: What is square dancing and what is the minimum number of couples required for it?

- (a) It is like hullabaloo and two girls perform it. Go on to 1.3.
- (b) It is like the Lloyd Thaxton Show with lots of teen-agers. Go to 1.4.
- (c) It is a wonderful activity performed by at least four couples. Go to 1.5.

1.2 You should not be reading this paragraph. These are programmed instructions for square dancing, which differs from receiving actual instructions in a class such as George Lawrence conducts at Timonium School on Friday nights. Go back to 1.1 and follow instructions exactly.

1.3 Your answer: It is like hullabaloo and two girls perform it. No. . . . Go back to 1.1 and re-read the paragraph paying close attention to the first and third sentences—particularly the 4th, 9th, and 10th words in the 3rd sentence and then reconsider your response.

1.4 Your answer: It is like the Lloyd Thaxton Show with lots of teen-agers. No. . . . That is wrong. Teen-agers do participate in square dancing but not as portrayed on the Lloyd Thaxton Show. Go back to 1.1 and re-read the paragraph again.

1.5 Your answer. It is a wonderful activity performed by at least four couples. Wonderful! You have read the paragraph intelligently, and have given the correct response when asked to do so. This is the basic principle of modern education of which we are so proud. Keep up the good work and soon you will

discover the wonderful fun and enjoyment you can receive from square dancing. Now go to 1.6 and we will continue our training.

1.6 We have discussed the basic idea of square dancing being a wonderful activity and you are now ready to read more about it, so go on to 1.8.

1.7 You should not be reading this paragraph. Nowhere in the discussion have you been instructed to "go on to 1.7" which is where you are now. Don't worry about it because you have probably gone through life reading paragraph after paragraph, so it's just natural for you to read this one. Now if you arrived here from paragraph 1.6, please go back there and proceed as instructed, otherwise, go back to paragraph 1.1 and read and digest carefully.

1.8 Square dancing isn't what it used to be. The music is recorded, the CALLER used a microphone and the calls are as intricate as a quarterback's and the modern sets glide with the precision of the ice follies.

QUESTION: Is square dancing like it used to be?

- (a) Yes. Go on to 1.10.
- (ab) No. Go on to 1.11.
- (c) Don't know. Go on to 1.12.

1.9 Why are you reading this paragraph? This paragraph was inserted as an organisational device to show that you are not following directions clearly. Now go back to 1.1 and read carefully or you will really foul up some square one day.

1.10 Your answer: Yes. That is wrong. Did you notice the trick that some programmers like to do? The word isn't was underlined; CALLER was printed in capital letters. These were purposely done to sway your opinion. Can you see now what was wrong with your answer? Good! Now go back to 1.8 and reconsider your response.

1.11 Your answer: No. Excellent! You have proved your ability to read for content, grasping the key concepts and retaining what you read under the strain and stress of questioning. It's almost like the fifth degree, isn't it. But it's worth it to be able to answer correctly when called upon to do so. For instance, I remember in the sixth grade I was asked to spell tuberculosis. I didn't know what to do — I knew it was a disease because

of the Christmas seals I used to put in my stamp book, and then the answer hit me. So I responded "T.B." Too bad; it got a laugh from my classmates and a bad mark in the teacher's book. But I'm getting away from the subject. I'm sure you are happy in the way you are progressing in this lesson, so please go on to 1.13.

1.12 Your answer: Don't know. Well, that is a good answer. It's better to admit it than to grope around for an answer like I did back in 1.11. Of course, when you do grope for an answer it suggests that you are reaching blindly for an answer which seems to imply your eyesight might not be too good. That is really a pre-requisite when you start to practice your square dance steps because if you can't see where you are going, why start in the first place! Huh? Why don't you just go back to 1.1 and see if you can't do better?

1.13 Gone is the atmosphere of the barn, the hayseed and the straw hat. Stomping and yelling are as out of date as the Philadelphia Athletics. Boy, that was a good club. Remember Bob Johnson who hit a single, double trip and a home run in succession one Sunday back in '35? But the old-fashioned barn dance was a routine, the caller just lending atmosphere. The figures which were always the same might be as well known in one country as the latest gossip but undanceable in the next.

Question: Who is Bob Johnson?

- (a) Bob Johnson is a caller

from New England area. Go on to 1.14.

(b) Bob Johnson is the President of the United States. Go on to 1.15.

(c) Bob Johnson is a baseball player who played with the Philadelphia Athletics. Go on to 1.16.

1.14 Your answer: Bob Johnson is a caller from the New England area. Well, he might be, but the only caller with that familiar name that I recall is Earl Johnston from Connecticut. He's really a fine caller, so try to attend some of his dances after you get through this course. Please go back to 1.13 and read the paragraph again because I'm sure you will get the right answer since you have progressed this far.

1.15 Your answer: Bob Johnson is the President of the United States. Wrong! The President of the United States is Lyndon Johnson; please remove your hat and stand at attention while the band is playing "Hail to the Chief." Please go somewhere — if not 1.13 back to 1.1. You have missed something along the way. Boy, I'm glad you aren't in my corner!

1.16 Your answer: Bob Johnson is a baseball player who played with the Philadelphia Athletics. Correct. You have followed this program faithfully and correctly. Even though this last question didn't tie in with the previous discussion, I feel it is better to a sporting note.

By Roger Saltzgaver.

CONVENTION BULLETIN, No. 1

"THE 1967 NATIONAL SQUARE DANCE CONVENTION

BRISBANE, QUEENSLAND"

All square dancers and callers are cordially invited to attend Australia's Eighth National Square Dance Convention to be staged in Brisbane, Queensland, over the Easter weekend — March 25, 26, and 27, 1967.

The committee, organising on behalf of all Queensland dancers, is as follows:

- (1) Convenor, Graham Rigby, 14 Eagle Street, Alderley Heights, Brisbane, Q'ld. Telephone 56 1251.
- (2) Secretary (for nominations and all general information): Val Rigby, 14 Eagle Street, Alderley Heights, Brisbane, Q'ld. Telephone 56 1251.
- (3) Accommodation Chairman, Bill Leighron, 14 Second Avenue, Sandgate, Brisbane, Q'ld. Telephone 69 3678.

(4) Transport Chairman: John Wilkinson, Easton St., Banyo, Brisbane, Q'ld. Telephone c/o 91 1148.

(5) Programme Chairman: Jack Mitchell, 42 Balmain St., Woolloowin, Brisbane, Q'ld. Telephone 6 4262.

(6) Publicity Chairman: Rodney McLachlan, 9 Hannam St., Wynnum North, Brisbane, Q'ld. Telephone 96 3302.

With the convention just eight months away, we feel that now is the time to start planning for the fun in store next Easter. Please address all queries to the relevant officer listed above who will be pleased to advise further and assist in every possible way. This is the first of a series of Convention Bulletins which will be included monthly in the "Review" for your information.

Join us for "National Number Eight" in the Sunshine State!"

SQUARE WHIRL

PROMENADERS

has been a good month. Promenaders are coming in. In June we were by Charles and Elva of the Wheeling Eight Brisbane; also two members of the Bar-K-Ramblers names we are sorry we out on. days this month: Cecily

Promenaders are rapping a club of nick. We now have hot lips, pants, Bert, Smiley, and Fairy. Big plans the works now for our party night on September 6 and car trial September plus the picnic dance day, August 28.

ROY PLATEAU

ers were pleased to receive an influx of minor scouts who are very good progress, is has raised the number dancing squares. There great consternation on when Len Woodhead's ke down en route to nce and it was necessary call the N.R.M.A. as get a message to the at caller and three would be delayed. Due ingenuity of the presill Booth, when the dearty arrived at 9.10 ere pleased to see a throng dancing under idance to square dance Thank you, Bill, for the fort.

e members attended toomba weekend and very happy time with ption of Mavis Birtles, d the misfortune to her left shoulder. At y dance of Belmore s, Mavis broke two she is having a run luck. Plans are in hold the fifth birthday 7 September 16.

la's first birthday ght was a great suc- re hall was gaily de- and everyone had the t. We had many visi- uding Roy Welch and d Tom McGrath, who the splendid calling wn Arthur Gates. Our ee callers, Doug and o did a good job. who attended had a e square dancing and happy people come visit us again some

delayed them in Sydney overnight on the return trip from the convention, we were fortunate to have several members of the Bar-K-Ramblers from Milton, Queensland, at our weekly dance on June 22. The party consisted of Bernie Kennedy, Lyn Knight, Jan Glosop, Olive Hill, Colin Timmons, Norman Hill, Leighton Bloomfield, and Frank Morgan; all were in good form, and introduced us to a catchy little round dance, which was very popular. The Katoomba weekend organised by the Blue Pacific Club, attracted about 14 Circle 8 dancers. Several others had planned to attend, but unfortunately became victims of the 'flu.

In hospital this month is Doris Quimby. We wish you a speedy recovery, Doris and look forward to seeing you back with us soon.

DUNDAS PROMENADERS

Birthdays this month: Peter Jackson and Joan McLellan. On Wednesday, the 14th September, we reach our first birthday and looking back, everyone agrees that we have had a very happy year. Our biggest night was our Christmas dance, when we had 18 squares in the hall. Besides our upcoming birthday night, Hollywood picnic and car trial, we are looking forward to our New Year's Eve dance. It should be a corker. At our July 3rd Saturday dance we were visited by Perce Gallop of Les Schroder's Happy Valley Club in Victoria; also several members of the Seven Hills Club. This night continues to be very successful.

PUNCHBOWL WAGGON WHEELS

There was a great deal of excitement in the club this month over the appearance of the Waggon Wheel Square on Showcase 66, Channel 10. The team put on one of their famous exhibitions and did a very good job. We are sorry that the Channel wasn't interested in plain straight-out square dancing, but you can't win them all and every little mention we get on TV or radio helps. Monday night continues to be the big night out for just about every young dancer in Sydney.

CHATSWOOD HOEDOWNERS

Yet another new club is now firmly established on the North Shore. This dance commenced at Lindfield and has progressed from basic beginner standard to a stage where the dancers now have a firm idea of square dancing. Under

CIRCLE 8

SQUARE DANCE CLUB

SCOUTS HALL, BELMORE

EVERY WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Visitors Welcome Basket Supper

Caller: Bev Pickworth

Enquiries: 78-4166, 789-1663

the capable calling of Terry O'Flaherty, assisted by Owen Edmonds, the dancers have progressed well and show great promise for the future of square dancing on the North Shore. The dancers have decided to call the club The Hoedowners. Unfortunately after only a few weeks of operation the club was dealt what would normally be a disastrous blow. The floor was virtually dropped from under them when they were told that the building in which they danced had been sold and that they would have to move. This did not deter them, however, and ever alert, resourceful Terry O'Flaherty quickly rallied round and organised a new hall not far from the old one. The club now meets at Chatswood at the Congregational Church Hall, the same hall as the second Saturday night Whirlaway Club. All new beginners

coming to this dance are requested to try to be there by 7.30 p.m. so that they may be coached on the basic movements.

At the time of this writing of the Square Whirl our annual ball has not been held, but due to the efforts of Heather Colley, a charter member of the Dundas Promenaders, the society has been promised 3000 cigarettes to be used as we wish (prizes, etc.) at the ball by Gallaher International Ltd., makers of some mighty fine smokes.

Editor's Note: Last month's diary was not the fault of the State or co-ordinating editors. We think the printer's devil was on a toot, but aren't sure. However, we will try to see that it doesn't happen again.

New Zealand

CHRISTCHURCH—

Tuesdays. Beginners. Central Y.M.C.A., Oxford Tce., 7.45 to 10.15 p.m.

Thursdays: Beginners. Bryndwr, Y.M.C.A., 7.45 to 10.15 p.m.

Saturdays: Beginners, W.E.A. Centre, Gloucester Street, 8 to 10.30 p.m.

KAIAPOI—

Thursdays. Kaiapoi Petone Group, 8-10.30 p.m.

DUNEDIN (Wagon Wheel Club). Jim Donaldson, St. Clair Gymnasium. Every Wednesday and fourth Saturday. Ring 38-039.

Tasmania

LAUNCESTON—

Wednesday. Des Webber, Milton Hall, Frederick St., 31-1563.

BEACONSFIELD—

Thursday. Des Webber. Alternate Thursdays. Area School Hall, Beaconsfield. 25.

PACIFIC SQUARE DANCE SUPPLIES

- Bolo Ties
- Jewellery
- Callers' Books
- Basic Books
- Car Stickers
- Transfers
- L.P. Records
- Callers' Records

P.O. Box 55, Swansea,
New South Wales

HAVE MIKE . . .

WILL TRAVEL
TERRY O'FLAHERTY
For Rates and Dates
Phone: 94-8554

Printed by Parramatta and Hills News for Square Dance Society of N.S.W., Box 1430, G.P.O., Sydney, N.S.W.

8, BELMORE

car trouble which

Newcastle News

1966 CONVENTION NOTES

Our nineteen dancers have now returned from the Adelaide 7th National Convention and have brought back glowing stories of the marvellous hospitality and friendship extended to them by their Adelaide hosts.

Mick McCauley read the Newcastle report on our behalf and concluded with these words, "Adelaide has always been renowned for its churches and parks and now it is quite evident that they also have the prettiest and most gorgeous and most beautiful girls in Australia!" (Boy oh Boy — won't he cop it when Judy, Bernice, Christine, Cherie and his other pin-up girls read this).

Len Bailey submitted our views on the standardisation of singing calls and yearly or two-yearly conventions. A motion taken on convention resulted in an overwhelming vote for yearly conventions.

1968 CONVENTION

A successful bid was made in Adelaide to stage the 1968 National Square Dance Convention in Newcastle.

In order to raise money to defray our initial expenses for this convention which will be held on the 8th, 7th and 10th of June, the following function has been arranged:

On Sunday, 21st August, we will be holding a monster barbecue and square dance function at Bolton Point Community Hall, and it is suggested that all of those participating should arrive at Bolton Point Park about 4 p.m., bringing their own steak, sausages, etc., hot water and drinks will be available. Dancing will commence about 5.30 p.m. and finish about 9 p.m.

With the personal participation of every square dancer in the Newcastle area, this can be a most successful day.

LEARNERS' CLASS

The new series of learners' nights, which started seven weeks ago, has proven to be very successful. Four to five squares of new dancers are attending regularly. A gala night will soon be held at which all new dancers will have the opportunity to become acquainted with representatives of the existing clubs and to join the club of their own choosing.

OCTOBER WEEKEND

Final arrangements are almost completed for the October weekend which is run for the N.S.W. Square Dance Society. Two of the largest

halls in the Newcastle district have been tentatively booked for Saturday, 1st and Sunday, 2nd October, and will comfortably accommodate any number of dancers attending.

For enquiries regarding accommodation, contact the secretary of the Newcastle Square Dance Club:

ARTHUR HEARNE,
36 Dumaresq Street,
Hamilton. Phone 61 1503

FOOTNOTES

Jean and Len Bailey celebrated their 22nd wedding anniversary in Adelaide on the 12th June with champagne and cheese twisties.

Cherie, Sandra and Merrie have decided that going to bed is a waste of precious talking time.

We are sorry to hear that Gordon and Peg Kibble from Whitebridge Club are on the sick list, also Cyril Edmonds. We hope to see you all fit and well soon.

We were happy to see quite a few friends from Brisbane who visited us on their return journey from the Adelaide convention and look forward to renewing the acquaintance at the Brisbane Convention.

At the time of writing approximately 60 Newcastle dancers will be attending the annual square dance ball in Sydney.

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

We recently read an interesting verse on personal club participation headed, "Are YOU an active member or do you just belong?"

CAR RALLY

The second annual car rally will be held on Sunday, 4th September. The organisers have told us this year will be bigger and better than last year, but they will really have to go all out to beat last year's tremendous effort. The rally will commence between 1-2 p.m. from Woolworths Kotara Fair. Here you will receive all the necessary instructions with the final destination being in the Redhead area. Dancing will commence at 5 p.m. and continue until 9 p.m.

All winners will be announced during the night and the prizes will be awarded. It has been decided by the Hunter Valley Square Dance Committee that all the proceeds will go towards the initial expenses for the 1968 Convention. If you missed the last car rally be sure not to miss this one as a good day is assured.

Special Note to All N.S.W. Dancers

ARTHUR HEARNE

36 Dumaresq Street
HAMILTON, N.S.W.

Telephone 61-1503

You are requested to contact Arthur for bookings for the 6-Hour weekend. Let us try to get as many Sydney Dancers to Newcastle on this weekend as we can possibly get.

CARAVANS:

4 Vans available — 4 persons each van.

3 Vans available — 3 persons each van.

At \$4.00 per night per van.

6 Vans available — 4 persons each van.

At \$3.50 per night per van.

MOTELS AVAILABLE for \$8.50 to \$10.75 for 2 and 3 persons. Breakfast included.

GET YOUR BOOKINGS IN EARLY

N.S.W. BEGINNERS' NIGHT

Thursday, September 1, 1966

at CARLNGFORD COMMUNITY HALL

PENNANT HILLS ROAD — 8 p.m.

between North Rocks Road and Murray Farm Road

Caller, ED. THOMAS. :: 86 5225

N.S.W. HUNTER VALLEY SQUARE DANCE COMMITTEE

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

Starting time, 1 - 2.00 p.m.

AT KOTARA FAIR

Entry Fee \$0.50.

PROCEEDS FOR 1968 CONVENTION

N.S.W. ANNOUNCING TWO BIRTHDAY PARTY NITES

Greenwich Promenaders

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, GREENWICH HALL

Greenwich Road — 8 p.m.

Costume Dress — "HARD TIMES"

Prizes for the poorest, most sorrowful looking creature

DUNDAS PROMENADERS

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

DUNDAS TOWN HALL, Marsden Road, 8 p.m.

Surprise Prizes.

Tea provided both clubs. Bring your own cups

Your Dance Diary

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

All Dances Weekly unless stated otherwise.

New South Wales

MONDAY:

PUNCHBOWL: Ron Jones, Old R.S.L. Hall, Rossmore Ave. 70-7118.

DUNDAS (Allemanders): John Blackwood, 1st and 3rd, Town Hall, Marsden Road. 86-5219.

RHODES*: Roy Welch and Arthur Gates, 2nd and 3rd, Sea Scouts' Hall, Ryde Bridge. LY 9208.

NEWCASTLE: Brian Hotchkies, Y.M.C.A., King Street. 2-1065.

TUESDAY:

GREENWICH (Promenaders): Tom McGrath, Community Centre, Greenwich Road. 85-3821.

ROSE BAY: Lucky Newton and Les Hitchen, Church Hall, corner Dover Road and Old South Head Road. 30-5075.

WEDNESDAY:

BELMORE (Circle 8): Bev. Pickworth, Scout Hall, Lark St. UW 4166.

MACQUARIE (Roundup Club): Henk Johannessen, Community Hall, Whitebridge. Alternate Wednesdays, Swansea 643.

DUNDAS (Promenaders): Tom McGrath, Town Hall, Dundas, Marsden Road. 85-3821.

CHATSWOOD (B) Hoedowners: Terry O'Flaherty, Congregational Church Hall, Anderson Street.

THURSDAY:

MIRANDA: Arthur Gates, Kindergarten Hall, opposite station. 57-7404.

RIVERWOOD (Bev Pickworth, Bill Sweetman): Scout Hall, Bond's Road (rear of Total Service Station). 602-5427, 78-4166.

RHODES: Round Dance only, 3rd Thursdays, Sea Scouts' Hall, Ryde Bridge. 50-9208.

BEXLEY NORTH (B): Frank O'Mara and Bob Woolcock, Catholic Hall, Bexley Road. 57-5415.

NEWCASTLE (B): Brian Hotchkies, Scouts' Hall, Fleet Street, New Lambton. 57-1015.

FRIDAY:

COLLARROY PLATEAU: Len Woodhead, Progress Hall, Hall Avenue. JF 1205.

NEWPORT BEACH (B): Newport Surf Club. Roy Welch, 50-9208.

NEWCASTLE: Henk Johannessen, Transport Hall, Hamilton. 57-2771.

SATURDAY:

DUNDAS* (Promenaders): Tom McGrath, Third Saturday, Town Hall, Marsden Road. 85-3821.

DUNDAS (Docey Doe): Bev. Pickworth, Fourth Saturday, Town Hall, Marsden Road. 85 3646.

BELMORE (Square and Round): Bev. Pickworth and Avis and Jack Nimmo, second Saturday, Scout Hall, Lark Street. 632-6685, 78 4166.

NEWCASTLE (Merewether Surfside 8 Club): Esmae Edman. 63-2170.

NEWCASTLE: Henk Johannessen. Alternate Saturdays, C. of E. Hall, Grinwell Street, Kotara. 57-4371 or 57-3910.

NEWCASTLE: Brian Hotchkies. Alternate Saturdays, C. of E. Hall, Naughton Avenue, Birmingham Gardens. 55-8515.

BERRISFIELD (B): Bob Piper (Juniors), Community Centre, Tarro. 3 to 6 years, 4 p.m.; 7 to 15 years, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

PARRAMATTA: George Bishop. Alternate Saturdays, Y.W.C.A., Campbell Street. 635-9723.

BELROSE (*): Vince Spillane. Second Saturday, Ralston Avenue. 94-4186.

CHATSWOOD (Whirlwinds): Wal. Crichton and Terry O'Flaherty. Second Saturdays, Congregational Hall, Anderson Street. 94-8554, 94-5832.

BELMORE (*) (Ramblers): Ron Jones, fourth Saturday, Scout Hall, Lark Street. UY 7118.

BELMORE (*): Ron Jones, third Saturday, Scout Hall, Lark Street. UL 5330.

GREENWICH (*) (A): Ron Jones, first Saturday, Community Hall Centre, Greenwich Road. XM 2292.

Canberra, A.C.T.

THURSDAY (Lakeside Club): Hughes Community Centre. Alternate Thursdays, Laurie Edgar, Roy Hegarty. 81-2875.

Queensland

WEDNESDAY:

WEST END, State School, fortnightly. Junior. "Western Stars". Graham Rigby. 56-1251.

THURSDAY:

HOLLAND PARK ("Marshall Stars"): Graham Rigby (Juniors), Marshall Road State School. 56-1251.

MILTON ("Wheeling Eights"): Eric Wendell, Workshop and Rounds. 95-5606.

FRIDAY:

ASHGROVE ("S-Bar-B"): Graham Rigby, weekly. St. Barnabas' Hall (Tram Stop 12). 56-1251.

GORDON PARK: Sid Leighton, monthly. Methodist Hall, Beaconsfield. 69-3678.

SANDGATE (B-Bar-L Hoedowners): Peter Johnson, fortnightly. British Ladies' Hall. 96-3813.

SLACKS CREEK: Jack Mitchell, weekly. Sringlands Barn. 6-4262.

WYNNUM ("Wheeling Eights"): Eric Wendell, weekly. Guardian Angel's Hall. 95-5606.

SATURDAY:

COOPER'S PLAINS ("Ace Square Dancers"): Graham Rigby, monthly. Memorial Hall, Rookwood Avenue. 56-1251.

GREENSLOPES* ("Teen Twirlers"): Peter Johnson, monthly. 96-3813. Scout Hall.

MILTON ("Bar K Ramblers"): Bernie Kennedy, fortnightly. 78-1340.

MILTON ("Wheeling Eights"): Eric Wendell, weekly. 96-5606.

IPSWICH: Graham Rigby, monthly. North Ipswich Scout Hall. 56-1251.

MARGATE: Graham Rigby, monthly. Humpybong Scout Hall, Oxley Avenue. 56-1251.

TOOWOOMBA: Graham Rigby, monthly. Lutheran Church Hall, Neil Street. 56-1251.

COORPAROO ("Cross Trail Twirlers"):

Scout Hall, Cavendish Road, fortnightly. Johnny Wilkinson, c/o 91 1148.

Victoria

MONDAY:

MOORABBIN: Ron Whyte, Private Beginners' Classes. 95-1496.

TUESDAY:

CARNEGIE ("Valetta"): Wally Cook, Scout Hall, Mimosa Street. 24-5518.

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

MOORABBIN: Ron Whyte, Private Beginners' Classes. 95-1496.

BOX HILL: Ron Mennie, Scout Hall, Elgar Road. 88 4834.

WEDNESDAY:

CAULFIELD: Ron Whyte, fortnightly. Tennis Club Hall, Balaclava Road. 95-1496.

THURSDAY:

CAULFIELD (Round Dance): Edna Batchelor, Tennis Club Hall, Balaclava Road. 50-1470.

FRIDAY:

ALPHINGTON: Beginners' welcome. Monthly. Youth Centre, Lower Heidelberg Road. 69-4921.

BRIGHTON: Wally Cook (Teenagers). Congregational Hall, second Fridays. 24-5518.

CARNEGIE: Wally Cook, R.S.L. Hall, Rosanna Street, third Saturday. 24-5518.

SATURDAY:

CAULFIELD ("Sunnyside"): Ron Whyte, Bowling Club, Queen's Avenue. 95-1496.

WILLISON ("Happy Valley"): Les Schroder, Scout Hall, Fordham Avenue. MX 4921.

FOREST HILL: Jack Murphy, "Teenagers" first Saturday, St. Mark's Church of England Hall, Canterbury Road. 89-6971.

BLACKBURN: Jack Murphy, "Teenagers", second and fourth Saturdays. Progress Hall, Canterbury Road, Forest Hill (near Springfield Road. 89-6971.

South Australia

MONDAY:

WALKERVILLE, Druids' Hall. Brian Townsend. 51-3559.

WEDNESDAY:

CLARENCE PARK (*): Colin Huddleston, fortnightly. Institute Hall. 45-4556.

LARGS BAY (B): Colin Huddleston, fortnightly. Sailing Club Hall. 45-4556.

WALKERVILLE, Druids' Hall (B). Brian Townsend. 51-3559.

THURSDAY:

WAYVILLE (Round-Up Club): Colin Huddleston, 1st Thursday each month. Institute Hall. 45-4556.

FRIDAY:

CLOVELLY (B): Brian Townsend, weekly. Community Hall. 51-3559.

SATURDAY:

MYLOR, Mylor Hall (B), (fortnightly). Brian Townsend. 51-3559.

DUNLEATH (B): Allan Frost, monthly. Methodist Church Hall.

TORRENSVILLE (B): Colin Huddleston, fortnightly. Methodist Church Hall, Hayward Avenue. 45-4556.

BROADVIEW, Broadview Methodist Church (B). Brian Townsend. 51-3559.

Continued from Page 12.