

LET'S SQUARE DANCE

(Email version)

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EDITOR SAYS.....

Welcome to March.

There's not a lot of Square dance news around at present and it looks as if we've got a few more months to wait until we can dance together again. I guess we'll have to put up with virtual dancing on Zoom until then. I must say though, that on Zoom, we're seeing and getting to know lots of new dancers and some old friends that we haven't seen for years !



Judi's Round dance instruction classes seem to be going well (see page 9) and please do look at the appeal for Council members (page 12) and think about whether you could help.

Our webmaster, David Collinson, sent the February magazine out as a .pdf file to all subscribers and all Club contacts (who have the responsibility of circulating the mag to their Club members). However, he had a number of rejections which caused him considerable problems, and in future he will only be sending out the link to the website version of the mag. I know that some readers prefer to have access to the .pdf file and if there are any Club contacts who would prefer to distribute that .pdf file, you can get it by following the instructions on page 3 of the February issue. If you have a problem, please contact me.

Keep well, be good and follow the rules !

Peter

Presidential Musings for March 2021

Restricted as I am to Dancing Virtually this has had an unexpected spin-off. My knowledge of world geography is at best rudimentary. However dancing regularly with folk of like persuasion, and considering myself a member of a global dancing fraternity, I wanted to find out where my fellow dancers live. I decided to search out my large Map of the World. This forced me to go up into my loft and explore its dark recesses. My immediate reaction was, well, who would have thought I had kept those, did I really buy that with real money? My friends and family know only too well that I find it very hard to part with anything that might come in handy. However, even I surprised myself at the vast variety and amount of odd stuff up there I digress. So after a stroll down memory lane I found the Map and I'm having a great time 'doing geography'.

I have always been interested in other folk, call it nosiness, but I like to call it being a good neighbour. However, on Zoom I admit to being guilty, when I 'Pin' dancers, to taking sneaky peeks at their dancing spaces. Recently I was intrigued when a couple in Texas were forced to dance around their beautiful honey-coloured Labrador who had wandered into their dancing space and sat down! A word of caution for any newbie Zoom participants; be mindful of what people can see in Your space. You might consider removing that pile of unwashed laundry and other detritus from the space. It is clear that when the professionals 'Zoom' they have given considerable thought to their backgrounds. They want their choice of books and objet d'art to reflect the kind of person they would like us to think they are. I often find myself turning my head sideways in order to read the book titles and realise that I haven't been listening to a word being said but far more interested in their back drops.

I dance in my dance studio (ok my dancing space) and have rigged up my Christmas lights and the Union Flag, patriotic if nothing else. Hopefully, should anybody take a peek it will distract from observing my actual dancing which ranges from perfection to inventive and shambolic. But really, who cares? Nevertheless, you have been warned!

A date for the diary 20th March is the International Day of Happiness so remember to wake up with a smile and try to do some things that make you happy (complying with government restrictions of course).

Now is the time to search and listen out for S.O.S.'s - Signs of Spring - and enjoy the extra minutes of daylight. The question of dancing again with real people is unanswerable, but until then keep safe and sane, but not necessarily in that order!

Let's make Square and Round Dancing great again!

Susan Ellis



Hello Peter,

Many thanks for your reference to Jeanie Preston. Carol and I have many happy memories of Jeanie, or Mother Goose as she was affectionately known.

We must have been one of the few dancers who round danced first and moved to squares later.

We were proud to be associated with Jeanie, and to help run both her clubs. A lovely lady.

Should you wish for a tribute for her, Dave Clay worked alongside Jeanie from many years.

Regards,



Keith and Carol Sutcliffe.

Former members of Dial A Square and Dial Around Round Clubs

Dear Editor

I was sorry to hear of the passing of Dick Taylor in December, he was a smashing man, quietly spoken and a true gentleman, I will remember him with affection.

Rest in peace Dick.

Brian Summerfield.



Chuckle Zone

A Senior's version of Facebook

Like those of my generation who do not, and cannot, comprehend why Facebook exists, I am trying to make friends outside of Facebook while applying the same principles.

Therefore, every day I walk down the street and tell passers-by what I have eaten, how I feel at the moment, what I have done the night before, what I will do later and with whom. I give them pictures of my family, my dog and of me gardening, taking things apart in the garage, watering the lawn, standing in front of landmarks, driving around town, having lunch, and doing what anybody and everybody does every day. I also listen to their conversations, give them "thumbs up" and tell them I "like" them.

And it works just like Facebook. I already have four people following me: two police officers, a private investigator and a psychiatrist.

This is a transcript of a radio conversation between a US Aircraft Carrier and Canadian authorities.

CANADIANS: Please divert your course by 15 degrees to the South to avoid a collision.

CARRIER: Recommend you divert your course by 15 degrees to the North to avoid a collision.

CANADIANS: Negative. You will have to divert your course by 15 degrees to the South to avoid a collision.

CARRIER: This is the Captain of a US Navy ship. I say again, divert your course.

CANADIANS: No. I say again, you divert your course.

CARRIER: THIS IS THE CARRIER USS LINCOLN OF THE US ATLANTIC FLEET. WE ARE ACCOMPANIED BY MANY SUPPORT VESSELS. I DEMAND THAT YOU CHANGE YOUR COURSE BY 15 DEGREES, THAT'S ONE FIVE DEGREES NORTH - OR COUNTER-MEASURES WILL BE UNDER TAKEN TO SAFEGUARD THIS SHIP!

CANADIANS: This is a lighthouse - your call.



Puzzle Time

Not really a puzzle this month, but you might like to see if you can find out why it works

Get your thinking caps on there *is* an explanation

A farmer died leaving his 17 horses to his three sons. When his sons opened up the Will it read:

My eldest son should get $1/2$ (half) of total horses;

My middle son should be given $1/3$ rd (one-third) of the total horses;

My youngest son should be given $1/9$ th (one-ninth) of the total horses.

As it's impossible to divide 17 into half or 17 by 3 or 17 by 9, the three sons started to fight with each other.

So, they decided to go to a farmer friend whom they considered quite smart, to see if he could work it out for them.

The farmer friend read the Will patiently, and after giving due thought, he brought one of his own horses over and added it to the 17. That increased the total to 18 horses.

Now, he divided the horses according to their father's Will.

Half of 18 = 9. So he gave the eldest son 9 horses.

$1/3$ rd of 18 = 6. So he gave the middle son 6 horses.

$1/9$ th of 18 = 2. So he gave the youngest son 2 horses.

Now add up how many horses they have:

Eldest son 9 Middle son 6 Youngest son 2 TOTAL IS 17

Now this leaves one horse over, so the farmer friend takes his horse back to his farm.

Problem Solved!

The next episode of Koli's Kryptic Kwiz - the answers are all Square Dance moves. (Solution on Page 19)

- 1 Golden State revolution
- 2 Fasten the cable
- 3 What a Trotter would do
- 4 Ignore lockdown measures
- 5 Chartreuse without its plan

Do C Do Campout

Hello everyone.

We would like to thank everybody who has supported us over the 35 years of running our Annual Campout, from the various callers, such as Shawn Page who did our first ever, followed by Roy Howells, Rob James, Dave White, Lynn Holloway, Terry McCann, Kevin Evans, Dave Whittington and lastly Rob Branson and cuers Judi Read, Teresa Hart and Nick Wright. Hopefully I haven't forgotten anybody!

Also to all the dancers that came along either for the Saturday Dance only or who camped with us for the weekend.

We started out in a field just outside Banbury at Milcombe with about 7 caravans. We had to travel into Banbury for the Saturday night dance as we opened this up for any dancers who wanted to come. We then moved to Broughton and North Newington Social Club which we used for two years. We had a few more caravanners at that one, but still needed to use a school hall in Banbury to accommodate the Saturday night dance which was once again open to all dancers. We then moved to the old Rugby Club in Banbury, which served us well for 3 years until they sold the land and built themselves a new Rugby Club. Sainsbury's supermarket then moved on to the old rugby club. We still travelled to the school for the Saturday dance to accommodate the dancers.

Finally, we moved to Bodicote Playing Field in 1991 and have been there up until 2019. Still using the school hall for the first few years and then as numbers dwindled, we were able to use the Village Hall on site.

We started out with a team of 4 couples and lots of club members helping on the Sunday for the lunch and ended up with two couples running it and an extra two couples helping out on the Sunday morning to sort the lunch.

Do C Do has not been a club since 2011, but we decided to continue with the annual campout weekend, with the four of us running it.

We have however thought long and hard and have decided that it is now time for us to retire.

Thank you once again everyone for all your support. We have thoroughly enjoyed our time running the campout and hope you have too!

Sheila, Peter, Margaret and Ron

Round Dance Instruction Website:

We have heard today that it will be a few more months before we can hold any dances, classes or workshops in person, so it is the perfect time to learn or brush up your Round Dance skills using the website. When we are able to do so safely, we will try to arrange some workshop sessions to practice what you have learned.

We are delighted to tell you that the Introduction to Rumba is now live. Also the typos we found in Cha have now been corrected – apologies for that. Roger has done a super job creating the music for the Rumba modules; it really helps define the action of the Rumba figures. Rumba is a particularly good rhythm to practice in a limited space but as the weather improves we may be able to dance outdoors and practice Waltz more comfortably.

Now we have an introduction to the four core rhythms on line, we would like some feedback as to what should be the next step. Do please let us know what you would like. Would it be helpful to add more figures in any rhythms or would you prefer us to create some licensed CDs of choreographed dances to complement the existing information?

For access to the website please visit www.rdinstruction.com or for more information please e-mail Judi & Michael Read at:

RD_instruction@outlook.com

Do take a look and give it a try. We welcome any comments and suggestions to help us to improve your experience of long distance learning: the website is still evolving.

We look forward to meeting some of our newer dancers on the dance floor before too long.

Meanwhile, stay safe and Happy Dancing.

Judi



Six of The Best

Reviews of Square Dance releases
from other labels by

PAUL BRISTOW

(owner and producer of *STING & SNOW* records)



Help Me Make it Through the Night ~ Jerry Story

Royal RYL 632 (Original Artist: Kris Kristofferson)

A country music ballad - originally written and composed by Kris Kristofferson - that was released on his 1970 album "Kristofferson"; winning him a Grammy Award. However, it was female vocalist Sammi Smith's cover, released later in the same year that became the most successful version of the song. Royal Records offer a first-rate, faster feeling version with fantastic instrumentation, powered by the irrepressible voice of Jerry Story!

Mainstream Figure: *Heads Promenade Halfway, Square Thru Four, Right and Left Thru, Veer Left, Couples Circulate, Half Tag, Scootback X 2, Swing.*

Don't Let the Sun Go Down On Me ~ Jake Shimada

Rhythm International RI 950 (Original Artist: Elton John)

A 1974 song, written by English singer Elton John and his lyricist Bernie Taupin - it was released as a single from the album "Caribou". The song found further success in 1991 when released as a duet by Elton John and George Michael, which had been recorded at the "Live Aid" concert in Wembley Stadium in 1985. Top instrumental from Rhythm - as you would expect - with Jake Shimada from Japan, doing a terrific job on the vocals!

Mainstream Choreography: *Heads Promenade Halfway, Square Thru Four Right and Left Thru, Veer Left, Ferris Wheel, Square Thru Three and Swing.*

Love You Too Much ~ Gene Turner

Shindig SP 1159 (Original Artist: Brady Seals)

A track from the second album by Brady Seals, named: "Brady Seals" and released in 1998. It tells the story of a young man, so in love with his girl that - no matter what she does or how she treats him - he can't think straight! This is a great song offering a marvellous melody that has been beautifully recreated by Shindig (from South Africa); it also features our own Gene Turner on the vocal, who makes excellent use of the music!

Mainstream Figure: *Promenade Half, Pass the Ocean, Extend, Swing Thru Boys Run, Bend the Line, Right and Left Thru, Pass the Ocean, Recycle.*

Eighteen Wheels and a Dozen Roses ~ Tac Ozaki

Riverboat RIV 1106 (Original Artist: Kathy Mattea)

American country music artist Kathy Mattea recorded and released this song in 1988 as the second single from her album "Untasted Honey"; it was written by Paul Nelson and Gene Nelson. The lyrics tell the story of a truck driver named "Charlie" - who is retiring after thirty years - to spend more time with his wife. It is an up-tempo piece of music, which keeps it close to the original; Tac Ozaki has done a fantastic job with the Vocal!

Mainstream Figure: *Heads Promenade Halfway, Sides Right and Left Thru Heads Square Thru Four, Do Sa Do, Eight Chain Four, Swing, Promenade.*

Falling Feels Like Flying ~ Charlie Robertson

Lou-Mac LM 309 (Original Artist: Jeff Bridges)

The correct title for this song is: "Fallin' and Flyin'". Lloyd Bridges performed this song, written by Stephen Bruton and Gary Nicholson, for his Academy Award-winning role as Otis "Bad" Blake in the movie Crazy Heart (2009). The film soundtrack features a solo version from Bridges and a duet with Colin Farrell, who performed the song with him at the end of the movie. Great Harmonica, a full sound, a strong beat, with a good vocal!

Mainstream Choreography: Heads Promenade Halfway, Square Thru Four Right and Left Thru, Veer Left, Ferris Wheel, Square Thru Three, Swing.

Happy Does ~ Tom Manning

Solid Gold SG 233 (Original Artist: Kenny Chesney)

Produced by American country music artist Kenny Chesney - with Buddy Cannon, this song was written by Brock Berryhill, Brad Clawson, Greylan James, and Jamie Paulin; it was recorded by Kenny Chesney and released in July 2020, as the third single from his 2020 album "Here and Now". Using the lyric: "Laugh and you live with a half-full cup", it is an up-beat tune with a smooth country feel, offering hope... Good vocal by Tom.

Mainstream Figure: Heads Promenade Halfway, Square Thru Four, Right and Left Thru, Veer Left, Couples Circulate, Half Tag, Scootback and Swing.

Hear and buy all the newest Square Dance releases - by "clicking" on "Recent Additions" at:

www.musicforcallers.com



web-site - web-site

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February
& March

STING RECORDS Releases:

(Originally included on the 2019 Edition of the Sting Productions Ambassador Club)

STING 21915 More Questions Than Answers (Maarten Weijers)

STING 21912 Small Town Southern Man (Tommy P Larsen)

STING 21910 Eleanor Rigby (Paul Bristow)

STING 21914 Summer Holiday (Cherish Bristow)

STING 21901 98.6 (Mike Davey)

STING 21952 Smidgen / Malarkey (Patter: Double Sided Instrumental)

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e-mail paul@stingproductions.co.uk

YOUR COUNCIL NEEDS YOU!

Well O.K. I'll admit it, over the past twelve months there hasn't been an awful lot to do. However, we need a British Association of American Square Dance Clubs to oversee the activities of our member Clubs. Despite the title we also look after Round Dancing Clubs. We sort out Insurance and the Let's Square Dance Magazine as well as dealing with other issues as and when they arise.

At present our Council comprises; President Susan Ellis, Vice-President Stephen Pearson who also offers Technical support, Secretary Barbara

Scott, Treasurer Koli Pluck and Webmaster David Collinson. Our Magazine Editor Peter Wright is an ex-officio member of the Council.

However at the next A.G.M. our Secretary is standing down and our Webmaster is retiring. We also have a vacancy for a Public Relations Officer and also two vacancies for ordinary members.

During the Pandemic all our Council meetings, and the A.G.M. and O.B.M. will be held using Zoom. We intend to continue doing so for the foreseeable future so you won't have to travel to any meetings.

All our Council Members came onto the Council with a desire to give something back to an activity that is giving them so much pleasure. Do you feel that way? Give it some thought; we really need your support. Thank you !



Susan



The Square Dance Callers Club of Great Britain

www.Callersclub.uk

BREXIT CAN BE FUN! (Pt II)

Last month I promised to let you in on the definition of my Call of 'Brexit' which I 'invented' to use in a Singing Call to the tune 'Ode to Joy'. This was to

mark the UK finally leaving the EU. My approach to its construction was to try and be symbolic of that enormous change in the political and commercial life of the country; and to Keep It Simple (something for which I am not always known!).

You may remember that BBC News had a Brexit 'logo' consisting of a star from the EU flag but with one Union-flag-coloured arm moving away from it. I constructed 'Brexit' by starting with Normal Facing Couples in a Box. At the Call of 'Brexit', all four make a Star (Right-handed of course because that is the default) around to their diagonally opposite position and face out. Simple, and with the symbolism of turning one's back on the star (the EU).

As I said previously, I would be most surprised if Brexit is a new Call. Unfortunately the Encyclopedia of All Possible Calls is only available in hard-copy form, and so it is not easy to search to confirm (or deny) the pre-existence of this Call. If it exists it will definitely have a different name. If anyone comes across it, I would be very interested to know what you find – please. (h.k.nichols@btinternet.com)

Given that Brexit starts with a Right-hand Star, there is clearly a 'Left Brexit' which produces the same end result but can help with body flow. (Perhaps this might have been the default definition if it had been the Labour Party who had taken us out of the EU!)

'Brexit' is quite versatile, e.g. from a Box of Normal Facing Couples the effect of 'Ladies Brexit' is obvious. Starting from Normal Facing Lines, 'Ladies Brexit' and 'All 4 Ladies Brexit' are possible like 'Ladies Chain' and 'All 4 Ladies Chain'; 'Men' could be substituted for 'Ladies' in all of those cases; and so on and so on.

Rabbie Burns said "The best laid schemes o' mice an' men go aft a-gley". The New Year Party at which I planned to use the Brexit Call did not take place. However, just as in Square Dancing we sometimes have 'Christmas in July', I might forgo chronological relevance; so if you are in a Square, and you hear 'Ode to Joy' when I am about to Call for you, then you just might find that Brexit can be fun.

Stay Safe Howard

Next in the series of articles by Ed Foote.

SECRET HINTS TO KEEP FROM BREAKING DOWN

(1) Always have your set lined up with the walls. The human race is straight-line oriented, and most square dance calls end in parallel formations. It is much easier to see formations if the set is parallel with the walls in the hall, instead of at an angle.



Often a set will become slightly offset from being lined up with walls as a result of doing a series of calls. Then a Cast Off or other turning motion call may cause some people to become disoriented and break down on a call they would normally do well. Also, if the caller says to Promenade and then has the heads or sides Wheel Around, it is almost certain that the set will not be lined up with walls.

Solution: Take it upon yourself to make slight adjustments on the next one or two calls to get the set aligned with walls. One person can cause the whole set to adjust, so you be that person. How do you do this? An example might be to overdo the Courtesy Turn on a Right & Left Thru to add a few degrees, or you could do slightly less than a full Courtesy Turn on the call. Another example might be to do Touch 1/4 slightly more or less. An easy way is just to adjust yourself and partner in facing lines, because the others will usually go along, especially if they have been trained to take hands.

An obvious sign of good dancers is that they make an adjustment to become lined up with walls any time the set is not this way. When I call and I see dancers making an adjustment to line up with the walls, I know these are the stronger dancers and will watch them the rest of the dance.

Unfortunately, many dancers have never been told the importance of being lined up with walls. If this idea was taught in beginners class, there would be far fewer breakdowns all along the way.

(2) When the caller says "Promenade, don't slow down," whisper to your partner whether you are heads or sides. This is primarily the

(Continued on next page)

boy's responsibility, because at Mainstream and Plus the girls assumes the identity of the boy with whom she is dancing.

Why the whisper? Because you know that 99% of the time the next call will be "Heads (or sides) Wheel Around." If you do not know what you are, you will be slow in reacting to the call, which could result in the square breaking down on the next call because you are not in position to do it. I see these breakdowns happen all the time, and they could be eliminated simply by being prepared when you know the caller is going to say for someone to Wheel Around. Also, if you know whether you are a head or side and you are NOT told to Wheel Around, then you will be ready to tell the couple in front of you to do the call if they are slow in reacting.

INSPIRATIONAL QUOTES

(from the collection of Ed Foote)

"A beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you." ... B. B. King

"Ideas come from curiosity." ... Walt Disney

"When you can't change the direction of the wind, adjust your sails." ...H. Jackson Brown, Jr.

"I don't know what my calling is, but I want to be here for a bigger reason. I strive to be like the greatest people who have ever lived." ... Will Smith

"Never mistake knowledge for wisdom. One helps you make a living; the other helps you make a life." ... Sandra Carey

Caller's Corner

by **PAUL BRISTOW**
(CALLERLAB Accredited Caller Coach)

How it all started - My first attempt at creating a course for Training Callers

In the mid 1980s, Dave Whittington and I (President and Vice President) were given the task to continue Caller Training after Pete Skiffins (Training Director), asked Callers Club Council for a "sabbatical" from the role. Pete had been teaching new Callers, at each of the six bi-monthly Caller Club meetings, by using a separate classroom at Bounds Green School. Pete's sessions ran parallel to the main meeting, where presentations of more general items were provided (quite often by Dave and I). As Dave and I could not be in two places at the same time - we had to find 6 more Sundays, when we were available, when the Caller Training could take place; logically these should be as close as possible to the second Sunday of each of the months when there was no Callers Club meeting... Looking at our calendars, we found 6 Sunday's that came close to fitting this pattern!

I put together a Curriculum for the school - based on the newly released CALLERLAB Curriculum (this was the initial 62 page document, which simply contained a few pages on each topic, as well as several pages on the general format for a 5-day School). It was relatively simple to modify this to fit the 6 Sunday School-Days; NB - if you obtain a copy of the CALLERLAB Curriculum today it comprises the original document, as well as the "Technical Supplement" (a further 172 pages of text). However, I had to create my own supplement, from the just released: "Sets in Order American Square Dance Society Caller Text" - a large 638 page book that collected all the "Caller Text" articles published over 37 years (444 issues) in their magazines. I purchased a copy and began reading...

To obtain all the information that was mentioned in the CALLERLAB Curriculum, I had to read this book through twice; first to familiarise myself with the content and the second time to make detailed notes - and add "Post-it" tags to various chapters. Based on this research, I wrote a "6-Sunday School Curriculum" - and put together handouts for each session as an aide-memoire for the Callers - to help them remember the topics covered.

The training sessions were held at a Northolt Community Centre - from 10:00 a.m. until 5 p.m. - with a 1-hour lunch break (which was very much a "working lunch" situation). We were pleased to see that Callers from all over the UK joined us, many of whom were very experienced. Dave and I shared the presentations and provided examples - both as a rhetorical device, based upon our own experiences - and by using Dancers, invited to join us in the afternoon. We utilised a "lecture" format - and encouraged questions; this format was extremely successful - and led to a second year run along similar lines. Many years ago, Callers Club stopped holding bi-monthly National meetings, effectively removing the opportunity for any National Experienced Caller Training in the UK. The idea had been to replace the six bi-monthly meetings with an annual weekend Caller Training event, to include the SDCCGB AGM; unfortunately, this idea was not pursued.

Looking back, I realise how successful the sessions that Dave and I ran actually were - and it leads me to wonder: would these - as a replacement for the National meetings -work again? Could Caller Training in the UK for Callers of all levels of experience (along the lines that Dave and I used) be useful? If you think it might - please let me know...

One Day

Today, I dared to let myself dream,
That the world will one day open again.
That the locks will loosen, the walls will fall,
The doors will fly open and reunite us all.

I dared to imagine the warmth of a cuddle,
A group of my friends all locked in a huddle.
I felt all the heartbeats, drumming with mine,
I heard all the laughter, I tasted the wine.

I thought of the feelings I've missed for long,
The room full of music, united by song.
The freedom to roam, to plan and to meet
To hold someone's hand, to meet, to greet.

Just for a moment I dared to dream of,
The flights I would board to the places I love.
The moment those eyes would meet mine at the gate,
The feeling of joy after so long a wait.

Today, I dared to let myself dream,
That the life we once had would happen again.
That we'd no longer fear the danger of air,
That our lives would not depend on such care.

They say that we mustn't wish time away,
But it's hard, my friend, when faced with a day,
So long in blank hours and so wiped of laughter,
It's tempting to drift away to thereafter.

So yes, I dared to dream just a while,
Of life coming back, it brought me a smile.
One day I know, this will be in the past,
And hugs will be free, again, at last.

Donna Ashworth



How Children perceive their grandparents. Pt 1

1. I was in the bathroom, putting on my makeup, under the watchful eyes of my young granddaughter, as I'd done many times before. After I applied my lipstick and started to leave, the little one said, "But Grandma, you forgot to kiss the toilet paper good-bye!" I will probably never put lipstick on again without thinking about kissing the toilet paper good-bye....

2. My young grandson called the other day to wish me Happy Birthday. He asked me how old I was, and I told him, 68. My grandson was quiet for a moment, and then he asked, "Did you start at 1?"

3. After putting her grandchildren to bed, a grandmother changed into old slacks and a droopy blouse and proceeded to wash her hair. As she heard the children getting more and more rambunctious, her patience grew thin. Finally, she threw a towel around her head and stormed into their room, putting them back to bed with stern warnings. As she left the room, she heard the three-year-old say with a trembling voice, "Who was THAT?"

4. A grandmother was telling her little granddaughter what her own childhood was like. "We used to skate outside on a pond. I had a swing made from a tire; it hung from a tree in our front yard. We rode our pony. We picked wild raspberries in the woods." The little girl was wide-eyed, taking this all in. At last she said, "I sure wish I'd gotten to know you sooner!"

5. My grandson was visiting one day when he asked, "Grandma, do you know how you and God are alike?" I mentally polished my halo and I said, "No, how are we alike?" "You're both old," he replied.

6. A little girl was diligently pounding away on her grandfather's word processor. She told him she was writing a story.

"What's it about?" he asked.

"I don't know," she replied. "I can't read."

7. I didn't know if my granddaughter had learned her colours yet, so I decided to test her. I would point out something and ask what colour it was. She would tell me and was always correct. It was fun for me, so I continued. At last, she headed for the door, saying, "Grandma, I really think you should try to figure out some of these colours yourself!"

(from Barbara Scott)

Holidays

*I don't think my wife is dishonest
But when we stay at hotels overnight,
She believes when we leave it's OK to thief
Yet somehow it doesn't feel right.*

*Cotton wool, shampoo and shower caps,
The biscuits they leave for a snack,
Notepads and biro's and hangers,
And anything else she can pack.*

*It's a wonder we don't get arrested!
One time when we went on a cruise
She got nail files and clippers and warm woolly slippers
Plus a shoehorn that she'll never use.*

*On that ship she behaved like a looter -
I remember the look on her face.
I think she'd have taken the trouser press
But it just wouldn't fit in her case.*

*The last time we went up to London
We stayed at a Park Lane hotel.
Then I saw the rate. I didn't feel great.
So we took the curtains as well.*

(Des O'Connor - submitted by David Collinson)

Solutions to puzzle on page 7

Koli's Kryptic

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| 1. California Twirl | Golden State - California, Revolution - twirl |
| 2. Chain Down the Line | Fasten - chain down, cable - line |
| 3. Wheel and Deal | A Trotter - Del Boy in "Only Fools and Horses" |
| 4. Circulate | Mix freely - circulate |
| 5. Recycle | Plan - Chart. Chartreuse without chart/plan = reuse i.e. recycle. |

Tribute to Jean Preston

The passing of Jean Preston has come with great sadness for many people. I have so much to be thankful to Jeany for not only in the dancing world but also as a dear friend.

I remember when my family decided they were going to learn how to round dance at Dial-A-Round on Sunday evenings. I was jealous that my siblings were going and it wasn't planned for me to learn yet (I can't remember how old I was exactly but I was definitely no older than 10). It was at a weekend camp out and I remember telling my Nan I wanted to learn too. My Nan's response was "If you want to learn you can go and ask Jean if she will teach you." I was terrified. Jean was this important lady who stood up on stage looking all glamorous and I was expected to go up and say more to her than just 'hi'. In the end I plucked up the courage and I asked her. Of course she was as warm as ever and didn't hesitate to say yes.

As years went by Jean would try to persuade my siblings and myself to take over the club when the time was right. Her original plan was for my sister to be the cuer and my brother and myself do the demonstrations and teaching. Year by year we would convince Jean to stay 'just one more year'. Jean then took to trying to get me to cue but I politely refused. One evening she advised a dance that I should learn to cue and naively my reply was "no if I was to ever cue any dance it would be 'All Shook Up' as I know that one off by heart". Without me knowing Jean got the record out straight after our conversation and put it as her last one of the three she would cue in that tip. At the end of the second dance Jean announced to the club "right-e-o then next up we have a 2 step and Amy is going to cue it" - this was the first I knew about it! At that everyone started cheering and I had no choice but to do it whether I wanted to or not. That was Jeany, and that's why we loved her.

Jean really was a beautiful person inside and out. I know she will be fondly remembered for many reasons from her infectious smile and lipstick covered microphone, to her beautiful choice in music which she would dance to on stage whilst cueing, and not to forget her famous statement "pretty to watch". Jean was one of the most patient people I have come to know and she would go over and over the same move until you learnt it - and if you were lucky enough for her to take you in the corridor at a dance for a private lesson, you could guarantee you'd come back an expert!

Jeany, thank you for beautiful memories we have made, from laughter at dances to chats we had over Chinese takeaways on Wednesday evenings. I will do all I can to make you proud. Keep dancing in the stars. Until we meet again.

Amy Richardson, Peek-A-Round

Obituary ~ Jean Preston 1929-2021

Mum, Jean, Jeanie, Mother Goose.

Despite her achievements, Mum remained humble throughout her Square and Round dancing life, avoiding any form of praise or tribute and would perhaps have given us an 'over the top of her glasses' look if she knew we would be writing here. Sorry Mum....

Mum first danced in the 1960's at Rainbow Squares in Nottingham and quickly convinced Dad ('Arry) to upgrade from taxi driver to dance partner. Soon all the family were enjoying many square dance holidays and dance events. Square Dancing had become an important part of our family social life.



When Dad decided he would like to try calling, friend Dave Clay encouraged Mum and Dad and they soon spent more time dancing and calling at social dances (One Night Stands) and other square dance holidays and events.

On January 2nd 1967 Mum and Dad opened their own club dancing on the top floor of the multistorey Walton House, occupied by GPO Telephones (with views over the city of Nottingham) – the very successful Dial A Square ('Dial A') was born. Mum gave everybody a one-to-one warm welcome in the building's lobby and escorted dancers to the dance floor via a lift that had a mind of its own! The Jean and 'Arry line-up provided a great blend of fun and sound, light-hearted teaching and dancing, attracting all ages (including a group of teenagers that are still meeting up socially today)! Mum was keen to make it fun! Dial A party nights were frequent and the place to go, and many dancers said that every club night was a like a Saturday party night. Dial A danced with sets in double figures for many years due to the great combined personalities and skills of 'Arry and Jean. Inspired by Mum's bubbly, engaging approach to leading a club, other club leaders have also taken a cue, so to speak, and gone on to have their own similar successful square dance clubs. Mum and Dad were soon travelling the county doing birthday dances and similar – and a five-year booking diary quickly appeared by the telephone!

When Dad died in 1979 Mum was devastated, but with the help of square dance friends found the courage to learn how to teach round dances, spending hours on the 'kitchen dance floor' honing her skills with daughter Debbie as a partner.

A determined Mum soon opened Dial A Round in the local village hall. With her ready smile, bubbly yet clear cuing style, she quickly received bookings and was soon on the programme at many Saturday nights, weekends and holiday events, ably assisted and supported by Heather and Debbie. And of

course, Mum also enjoyed cuing at Charnwood round dance club, spending a happy 13 years there, with help from ever supportive friend of over 50 years Dave Woolerton to make the travel enjoyable and possible. Meanwhile, Mum was also a founder member and enjoyed dancing at ACES SDC; and also taught new square dancers at Dial A Square, who remember her keenness to get things correct whilst having a laugh. Mum's dancer friend Les had become a partner and they shared time together on long dog walks in the Peak District and watching sport.

Whilst Mum had an assured teaching, cuing and personality style she shied away from any adulation, so it was great for friends and family to see Mum accept her well-deserved Hall of Fame award from the Round Dance Council in September 2013. And of course, Mum was so grateful for the long-standing presence and help from Keith and Carole Sutcliffe (Dial A) and Charnwood's Brian and Dorothy Chapman.

With a lifetime of dancing experience including 38 years of cuing experience Mum was delighted that she was able to hand over Dial a Round to the very able Amy Richardson who had been shadowing Mum for a number of years and at the end of 2017 Mum retired from her very natural home of dance leadership. Dad died at just 54, so they will have a lot of enjoyable catching up to do now!

Callers have said how easy it was to share the stage with Mum – a professional. She had developed a deep understanding of the mechanics and deft microprogramming required to make a square and round dance an atmospheric event. Mums contribution to an evening went beyond the straightforward presentation of a popular round. She had a sixth sense for the required atmosphere throughout the dance and ensured a synergy between the callers' choices and her own presentation. An unseen skill that many callers have enjoyed whilst sharing a stage.

We have received so many comforting words from dancers cuers and callers and it won't surprise anyone to know that many comments received include 'a lovely lady' and 'like a big sister'; 'she was just there for you'; 'unique in every regard'; 'irreplaceable'. With her animated and cheerful, light hearted and engaging persona – and her very own catch phrase 'pretty to watch', Mum will be missed and remembered for many years.

Dancers remember Mum's reassuring presence and guidance both on and off stage and she became known as 'Mother Goose' to many, or simply a fond 'Jeanie' to others. We are proud that Mum is regarded by some as a luminary in the Square and Round Dance world – more than a guiding 'Twinkle' to round dancers.

Rest in peace Mum.

Heather, Debbie, Paul Preston

Obituary ~ Pearl Lambden

27th March 1937 – 15th December 2020

Following an invitation to attend one of Julia's Friends and Family evenings we quickly became 'hooked' on something called Square Dancing, Pearl particularly so as she was a keen tap dancer. She was learning tap dancing at the Maria Anderson Dancing School at the Conservative Club in Ickenham. By coincidence Doug Porter was starting a beginners class at the same venue.



We started right at the beginning with Doug. A friend hearing of this pointed out that a Paul Bristow was also starting a beginners class at Chalfont Grand Squares. Pearl pointed out that Paul was calling at another club, Rocking 8s closer to home. So we were dancing two nights a week.

Pearl was not one who wanted to travel overseas but she did want to discover what dancing was like in Denmark. Their conventions were soon followed by others in America, Holland and Canada.

She quickly gained all the square dance regalia with frilly petticoats, full skirts and hand crafted blouses. To her, Square Dancing kept her body and mind active. She had no interest in climbing the ladder to higher levels, Plus was perfect.

In her latter years she would dance every other dance and was content to sit and chat to fellow dancers. She was a very kind and loving wife who I, Barry will greatly miss. She fell victim to Covid 19.

Her favourite Square Dance song was of Julia singing 'On the Sunny Side of the Street'

Barry Lambden

Obituary ~ Trish Winstanley

With the consent of Trish's family, we, the Aberdeen Kilt Kickers with heavy hearts, would like to pay a tribute to Patricia (Trish) Winstanley, who died on Monday, December 28th, 2020, at Kingswells Care Home, Aberdeen, following years of suffering from Alzheimers and Vascular Dementia, adored wife of Derek, until widowed just 58 days earlier, 2 days short of their 63rd wedding anniversary.



Trish and Derek started square dancing in 1998 and continued to dance until 2016 when Trish was unable to attend due to her progressing Alzheimers and Vascular Dementia.

The club could always rely on Trish to help out at club nights and special events. It's members like Trish that are the backbone of a club who just do what's required, quietly getting on with it, she was missed when she stopped being able to dance.

Over the years they made many friends at the club and were great ambassadors for Aberdeen Kilt Kickers. We have many happy memories to treasure and look back on.

It's difficult to say anything about Trish without including Derek as that's the way it always was, the two of them together, just being that lovely couple The Winstanley's.

Our hearts and sympathy go out to their family, as big as our loss is, it will never be as big as theirs.

We will miss you.

Gina Mathieson Aberdeen Kilt Kickers

REGULAR VIRTUAL DANCES

Every Monday 5 pm	Zoom Dance Di Green & Terr McCann Plus https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81339537507?pwd=VVdGRG51VURqdM5kbHFPMTloaXp0UT09 Meeting ID: 813 3953 7507 Passcode: MonPlusT&D Contact Di on digreen21@gmail.com
Every OTHER Monday 3pm	Zoom Dance Di Green C1 review https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86292362662?pwd=cUhaMExrWCtITUI3Q1FENE0vdzJZUT09 Contact Di on digreen21@gmail.com
Every Tuesday 2.30 pm A1 3.45 pm A2	Zoom Dance Di Green A1, A2 https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89348598305?pwd=VVBwNkJXeWRUb1BLZ3F3ZzhsVElyZz09 Contact Di on digreen21@gmail.com
Every Friday 8 pm	Zoom Dance Di Green C1 https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85359681095?pwd=NUI0NzUxcVFOY1A1T2pmNEx4N01DQT09 Contact Di on digreen21@gmail.com
Every Friday 6 pm Basic 7 pm MS	Zoom Dance Julianne Burr and Guests Basic & MS https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8751237862?pwd=Y2EwcDIKRThJenZFUKVTc0pmOG03dz09#success Contact Walt Burr on waltburr@web.de
Every Saturday 4.30 pm to 6.00 NOT on 6 th	Zoom Dance Kevin Lovell Plus https://us02web.zoom.us/j/71441264031?pwd=bVAzSlZjdN3c2xKMzhrSDdOWXFQQT09#success (ID 714 4126 4031, Password: ASAZ-VSD) Contact Kevin on kevin_lovell@hotmail.com

BAASDC COUNCIL MEMBERS



President (and PRO) - **SUSAN ELLIS**
Tel. **07794 096145**
e-mail: baasdc.president@gmail.com

Vice President - **STEPHEN PEARSON**
Tel. **07914 266596**
e-mail: baasdc.vp@gmail.com



Secretary - **BARBARA SCOTT**
Tel: **07985 644335**
e-mail: baasdc.secretary@gmail.com

Treasurer - **KOLI PLUCK**

The Garden House, St Leonards Avenue, Blandford Forum,
Dorset, DT11 7PA Tel. **07570 976926**
e-mail: baasdc.treasurer@gmail.com



Official Webmaster ~ **DAVID COLLINSON**
'Cobwebs', 118 Potton Road, Biggleswade. SG18 0EJ
Tel. **07740 395286** email: baasdc.web@gmail.com

Ex-Officio member (Magazine editor) ~ **PETER WRIGHT**
59, Salisbury Ave. Cheltenham GL51 3BT
Tel. **01242 526823** e-mail: lsdmag@talktalk.net



British Association of American Square Dancing Clubs
International House, 776-778 Barking Road, BARKING, London E13 9PJ

AREA FEDERATION CONTACTS

East Anglia ~ **RICHARD MOTLEY**

22 Summer Close, Framingham Earl, Norwich, Norfolk, NR14 7TN

Tel: **01508 495320** e-mail: r.g.motley@btinternet.com

London & Home Counties ~ **ANNIKA LOVELL**

16 GableThorne, Wavendon Gate, Milton Keynes MK7 7RT

Tel. **01908 281802** email; annika_lovell@hotmail.com

Northern Area ~ **JOHN WEBB**

31 Facers Lane, Scraptoft, Leicester Leicestershire, LE7 9FS

Tel: **0116 348 7762** e-mail: JohnWebb338@aol.com

Yorkshire Area ~ **CLIFF ANDERTON**

Flat 1, 3 Lancaster Road, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, HG2 0EZ

Tel: **01423 500275** e-mail: Cliff.Anderton@btinternet.com

Square Dance Callers Club of Great Britain

For enquiries and membership
applications contact

Susie Kelly

2 Crossbridge Cottages, Thornborough
Road, Thornton, Bucks, MK17 0HE

Tel: 01280 816940

e-mail: susie@graybo.co.uk

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Obituaries - 23rd of the month preceding the publication month. (as early as possible would be appreciated) with an accompanying photo if possible. Forward details direct to the editor (LSDmag@talktalk.net).

Free listing of open Dances – Club contacts are expected to check the events calendar on the BAASDC website (www.uksquaredancing.com) to avoid clashes and then submit details using the website's EVENT SUBMISSION FORM found under 'help' and then 'Forms' at least **TWO weeks** before the publication month.

Short letters relevant to this edition - 23rd of the month preceding the publication month, direct to the editor (LSDmag@talktalk.net).

All other items including advertisements - 20th of the month preceding the publication month. Forward details direct to the editor (LSDmag@talktalk.net).

All items submitted will be reviewed and assessed for suitability for inclusion but their publication cannot be guaranteed . Authors should be aware that the editor may modify text and layout according to relevance and the space available.

ACCEPTABLE FORMATS

For text submissions - Hand written, typed or e-mail, (ODT, Rich Text or Word). Note that this publication uses Verdana 9pt font as a default.

For graphics submissions - gif, jpeg, jpg, png, tif, ppp and bmp.

Photographs should be to the highest possible resolution.

Please avoid mixing text and graphics

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