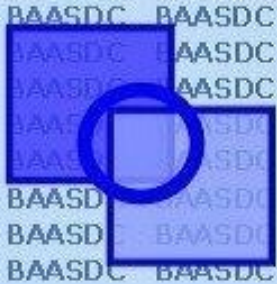


LET'S SQUARE DANCE

(Email version)

June 2021 : Volume 68 : No 6

Published by the British Association of American Square Dance Clubs



This month featuring

Guidance on the Reopening of Square Dancing in the UK



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EDITOR SAYS.....

Well, June is here and hopefully in a few weeks we will be released from all Lockdown restrictions, meaning that if all goes well, we can start dancing again before too long. In this magazine we include a set of 'Guidelines on the re-opening of Square dancing'. For the latest updates to this, look in the BAASDC / Callers Club site at <https://drive.google.com/file/d/19TQ7MbvLEBrPSOLBtekTlez-Vv4SyU26/view?usp=sharing>



I was saddened to hear of the resignation of our Webmaster, David Collinson. David has done a wonderful job creating and maintaining the BAASDC website and we must offer him our sincere thanks for all his hard work. Until we find a replacement, it will not be possible to update the website (including the dance calendar and listing of Club details), though emails addressed to the webmaster will be redirected.

All Club contacts will be informed as soon as we have a new webmaster up and running. Until then, if Clubs would like to send details of any dances planned for the next 3 months (July - Sep) directly to LSDMAG@talktalk.net, I should be able to include them in the listings pages in the magazine.

There was an error in last month's Puzzle Page. The solution to Numbers puzzle #2 was incorrect. The answer should be 6 (In each row, add 1 to column 1, then multiply by column 2 to get column 3). My apologies and thanks to Di for correcting me. Also thanks also to Nick Bedford who identified last month's cover picture as a firecrest rather than a blackcap.. It's good to see that some folk are reading the magazine ! I should also mention that the 'Square Dance Update article on page 12 last month, should have been attributed as a joint BAASDC / SDCCGB production.

In a number of previous issues I have included some 'Quotes attributed to our Callers' from Barry Wonson's 'Around the Square'. I have just discovered though, that the quotes had been randomly attributed to Callers without their permission, so I will not be including any more of them.

Keep smiling.

Peter

Presidential Musings for June 2021

As we creep cautiously into June, I am hopeful that on 21st June all restrictions will be lifted, and we may be able to start Square Dancing again. My fingers are crossed and I'm holding my breath ! Dare to hope ? Dare to dream ?

However, what exactly does that mean for dancers? For me, after 14 months of a lot of staying in, wearing a face mask and only allowing members of my family indoors with whom I bubbled up, I am going to have to shape up and face the reality of meeting people again. Normal life?

I am sure that I am not alone in admitting that I have at times allowed standards of personal daintiness, hygiene and respectability to lapse into casual or downright laid back. So here are a few light-hearted suggestions for making an impact when showing up at your Club nights and dances.

Study your appearance, reach out for the make-up, perfume and deodorant and perhaps without the need for a face mask, a lipstick!

Locate your dance paraphernalia, take it out of mothballs and try it on. Does it still fit, does it need ironing? Honestly though, did anyone actually do any ironing during lockdown? I didn't do much before and I can see my first problem will be in locating the iron.

Having greatly enjoyed months dancing on Zoom, it is clear that very little of you, below the belt, even shows, but that will not be the case with real dancing. So ladies I suggest a close inspection checking for loose elastic and droopy hems and gentlemen go and root out those bolos and collar clips. Don't leave it to the last minute. You know it makes sense! Then there is footwear. I am happily tripping the light fantastic in scruffy stuff; however they are certainly not smart enough for a President who needs to set a shining example of sartorial elegance. So I know how I will be spending my time before meeting up with you at your Club nights, dances or dancing holidays once again. I can't wait to get back to traveling around the country again to Square Up with you and enjoy a Yellow Rock; in Covid parlance that's a Hug !!

Finally, I must mention that, like last year Peter Wright the Editor of our Magazine Let's Square Dance has agreed to publish editions in July and August, two months when he usually takes a well-earned rest. Thank you Peter!

Let's make Square and Round dancing great again.

Susan Ellis





The following letter was sent to our President.

Dear Barbara

It is with regret I have inform you that Rustlers SDC will not be reforming .This is due to domestic, health and dwindling numbers. We wish to as a club thank the Association for their work and wish them a successful future. Over the years Square Dancing has given us all fun and friendship we will all miss it.

Kind Regards

Colin Haines



Chuckle Zone

The Way to Hell?

A drunken man gets on the bus late one night, staggers up the aisle, and sits next to an elderly woman. She looks the man up and down and says, 'I've got news for you. You're going straight to hell.' The man jumps up out of his seat and shouts, 'Oh no, I'm on the wrong bus, I wanted to go to Baltimore.'

Last week, Vicky, a distraught wife went to the local police station in Wigan, Lancashire, along with her next-door neighbour, Pauline, to report that her husband was missing. The policeman asked for a description of the missing man. Vicky described him clearly and in detail, 'He is 35 years old, 6ft 4inches, has dark eyes, dark wavy hair, an athletic build, weighs 185 pounds, is softly-spoken and is fabulous with the children. Pauline interrupts her protesting, 'Why Vicky, your husband is 5 ft 8 inches, corpulent, bald, has a big mouth, and is horrid to your children. Vicky replied, with a sigh, 'Yes, but who wants HIM back?'

A Scotsman, an Irishman, and an Englishman are each sentenced to a year in solitary confinement; before being locked away, each is to be granted a year's supply of whatever he wants to help him get through the long, long spell alone.

The Scotsman asks for a year's supply of whisky; it's given to him and he's locked away.

The Irishman asks for a year's supply of Guinness so he's locked up with several thousand bottles of it.

The Englishman asks for a year's supply of cigarettes and he's given a pile of cartons and the cell door is shut on him.

One year later, the doors are all unlocked.

The Scotsman staggers out and shouts, 'I'm free!' and then keels over dead from alcohol poisoning.

The Irishman is dragged out into the light, whereupon he promptly dies of liver failure.

When the door to the Englishman's cell is opened, everybody watches eagerly to see what sort of a wreck the man has made of himself. To their surprise, he walks right out the door, sidles up to the first person he sees, and asks, 'I say, you wouldn't happen to have a match, would you?'

Directory amendments.

The following Clubs have notified us of changes to their Directory entries

Page 4 Hampshire and Page 14 : Delete Rustlers SDC entry

Page 4 Gloucestershire Delete Thursday Around 2000

Page 5 Somerset. Delete Nailsea Diamonds

Page 8 Delete: Thursday Around 2000.

Amend : Sunday Around 2000 to read:

Around 2000 Phase I to IV Sunday Caller/Cuer Judi Reid
Gloucestershire

Meet: 1.30pm At The Greenfield Centre, Park Avenue, Winter-
bourne, Bristol BS36 1NJ Contact: Richard Ward Tel: 01454
413985 Email: richardward@talktalk.net

Fourth Sunday each month

Page 13. Delete Nailsea Diamonds

All Square At Zero

Square Dance CRUISE

May 2022

7-day Norwegian Fjords

Sailing from Southampton, 13th May 2022



Plus & A1 (and a little A2)

called by

**Kevin
Lovell**

£50 per person for the dancing

+ Discounted Cruise from £699pp

(£200 below normal cost per cabin)

Full board with drinks package and gratuities

£50pp non-refundable deposit

(refunded if cruise cancelled) (Limited cabin availability)

Non-dancers welcome to come along

More info at www.allsquare.uk

e-mail: info@allsquare.uk call/text: 077 966 955 75

Guidance on the Reopening of Square Dancing in the UK

Introduction

Square Dancing is friendship set to music. This phrase embodies why dancers have had to wait so long before they can dance. The friendship, social interaction and physical contact all form a vital part of the activity.

Shortly after the start of the pandemic in July 2020 Callerlab released a statement about reviving square dancing. It covered staying connected, conditions for resuming and a plan for returning to dance. This matched a discussion that the Callers Club of Great Britain and the British Association of American Square Dance Clubs were having over how best to help their members return to dance. The production of this joint set of guidelines to help clubs with the process of re-opening in the UK was one of the measures agreed. Further references to the organisations within it will be as 'Callers Club' and 'The Association'. In February 2021 the UK Government announced a 4-step plan to ease the lockdown in England. The plan is a roadmap documented at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-response-spring-2021/covid-19-response-spring-2021-summary> The progress of each step is evaluated so that the next step is not implemented until it is safe to do so. This also allows adjustments where necessary.

These guidelines will provide advice on how club leaders can achieve a safe and successful resumption of Square Dancing. The section below sub headed the 'Present Situation' gives a brief outline of the situation as of the date at the bottom of the page. If you are using the guidance for reference, please refer to the latest update on the BAASDC/SDCCGB websites or at this link::

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/19TQ7MbvLEBrPSOLBtekTlez-Vv4SyU26/view?usp=sharing>

Following this are the three main topics that will need to be considered in order to ensure a safe resumption. The first is the interaction and engagement with the dancers, the second is the connection with the hire provider and the third is what the club needs to put in place.

Present Situation

From the 17th May restrictions across the UK will continue to ease. You will be able to meet up with friends and family indoors with each individual deciding on the appropriate level of risk for their circumstances. However, for dancing in a public venue COVID-secure rules, including social distancing, continue to apply, as they do in the workplace and in businesses. Sse:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/covid-19-coronavirus-restrictions-what-you-can-and-cannot-do>

Squares will be able to restart under step-4 from the 21st June with all restrictions removed. A word of **caution** however is that this is the point at which a setback is most likely to happen and that may delay the restart date.

Contact Your Dancers

If you have not been in contact with your dancers, now is the time. The feedback they give you will allow you the opportunity to plan for a return to dancing. Try not to fix a date initially rather gather their thoughts on when and under what circumstances they would return. Callers club has produced and made available a survey for this very purpose, should you need it.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1auOvYhE3IWdyXRbS2Aa4h8JdO7TfgEFR/view> Take a look and use it for inspiration or even adapt it so it is relevant to your club circumstances. Once you have examined the responses you will be able to put together a plan. This should be presented to the dancers, along with any explanations that are needed, so that they can feel a part of the process. Once you have

(Continued on next page)

examined the responses you will be able to put together a plan. This should be presented to the dancers, along with any explanations that are needed, so that they can feel a part of the process.

A committee run club will need to have a discussion with the caller about their availability. Agreement may also be needed in a number of other areas. All of us have suffered the loss to varying degrees of mental and physical well-being. A gradual re-introduction will be needed to ensure no one is left behind. A number of problems that may arise are covered later in this document, with suggested action that may help you solve them.

Contact Your Hall Provider

To confirm that your venue is available for hire you will need to contact the hire provider at the earliest opportunity.

Anyone with control of non-domestic premises (such as a community centre, village or community hall) has legal responsibilities under health and safety law, and must take reasonable measures to ensure the premises, access to it, and any equipment or substances provided are safe for people using it, so far as is reasonably practicable. For example, this would include suitable toilet facilities. If it is also a workplace, then the relevant organisations will have responsibilities as employers and a duty of care to volunteers. Once the hire is offered you will need to action any new requirements before accepting the booking. As the hirer you will have a responsibility to ensure the venue is as safe as can be reasonably expected for your dancers use. It may be a good idea to arrange a visit to the venue for a tour, before confirming the booking

Club Best Practice

During the period of Government restrictions, a number of good practices have become clear. All of these need to be carefully considered and put in place. Remember as a user and hirer of a venue you have a responsibility for managing the risks arising from your own activity. This **duty of care** is to yourself, your dancers and other users in the venue.

Risk Assessment

All dance clubs should have one; they are now often required for insurance and hire purposes. We recommend that dance clubs should take the opportunity to both check that their risk assessment is both relevant and up to date.

Both the association and callers club have examples of a risk assessment on their website. An example of a specific COVID-19 one can be found at

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1IyAy6Zl6NQj2c43n4pOtRo_Flw4nTqnM/view

Cleaning

All touch point surfaces should be cleaned before each session, using standard cleaning products. This would include door handles and light switches. A table should be set up at the entry point with hand sanitizer and suitable wipes for the dancers use. The wipes will allow them to clean any touch points they feel necessary.

Ventilation

Good ventilation can help reduce the risk of spreading infections, so where possible you should increase the supply of fresh air, for example by opening windows and doors (unless fire doors). If using air conditioning you should ensure it circulates air from the building, not to another room.

(Continued on next page)

Refreshments

Dancers should be encouraged to bring their own necessary refreshments, or at the very least their own mug. This will reduce the amount of time needed in the kitchen and cut down on the use of plastic in-line with the associations drive to cut down on single use plastic.

Hall Layout

The caller where possible should be located in an area/stage that is not too close to pinch points/exits. The equipment will often be for their sole use. Any additional equipment, for example extra microphones should be sourced prior to the session.

The layout of chairs and tables should be carefully considered.

Contact Records

To assist with NHS Test and Trace you should keep a record of all attendees for 21 days in case they need to be contacted. At the very least it should be a name and contact phone number. If using club records, it will be necessary to check that they are up to date.

Health Reminder

Individuals who do not have coronavirus symptoms can request free rapid lateral flow tests via the post at <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests> . If you have symptoms, you should get a PCR test done.

Individuals must take responsibility for their own health; however, a club must also remind its members that the club will politely turn people away if they have the following Coronavirus symptoms, a persistent cough, a high temperature and or a loss of taste or smell

'Remember if you are unwell, Stay Home & Dance Another Day.'

In Conclusion

This guidance is national guidance for all UK Square Dance Clubs, that are members of the BAASDC, and Square Dance Leaders, who are members of the SDCCGB. It is general in nature and should be treated as a guide. In the event of any conflict between any applicable legislation and this guidance, the applicable legislation shall prevail.

It is important to check if any local restrictions have been put in place. Any lawful restriction will take precedence over these guidelines when they indicate a different outcome.

During the return to dancing, you may encounter some of these issues.

Reduced Numbers

This is a problem that many clubs have faced in the past and it should not mean necessarily that a club should close. Callers do not have to insist on four couples they can adapt a session to suit those in attendance. If you require any help with suggestions and implementation of this, contact Callers' Club. It might also be necessary to adjust fees hopefully temporarily to ensure that a club does not get into financial difficulty. It may be possible to negotiate a reduction with your facility manager to help get through this difficult period.

No Caller ?

If you have dancers who want to dance this may require temporary solutions before a replacement can be found. The possibility of having a virtual caller to fill the gap is being examined and was the subject of a presentation at the recent association OBM. Callers club offer caller training and advise on using recorded material. Contact them at susie@graybo.co.uk to find out more.

The Dancer

It is important to remember that it may take some time to encourage some dancers back. They may

LET'S SQUARE DANCE ~ June 2021

lack confidence or feel unsafe. Try to engage with them and keep them up to date with what the club is doing, giving them support and reassurance. Dancers may also need a dance refresher and may have reduced stamina, so plan for a phased return, simple dances and shorter tips.

Sustainability

This may be the right time for you to look at some changes in order to help promote the activity and increase numbers.

Introducing different social elements to the club may help. It might be a quiz, outside social or even another activity. Many successful clubs have found that this improves member involvement and helps with retention.

If considering recruitment this may be the time to consider a condensed core of moves. This could help with new dancers and callers. A shorter programme is simpler to deliver and offers a quicker turn around for recruitment. New dancers and potential new callers are often turned off by the present high demand on commitment. Any reduction in this demand will help. Contact Callers' Club (susie@graybro.co.uk) for more information on this.

Grants

Should you be in the need of financial assistance during the return to dancing a number of grants are available. For details and qualification requirements, contact the Association at:

BAASDC.secretary@gmail.com. Both organisations have already provided substantial savings in membership costs to help ease any initial financial concerns.

Inclusivity

There is no place for discrimination in any social activity such as square dancing. Assessing an individual' level of immunity is not easy and cannot be relied on to guarantee they are safe. The best way to cope with the situation is to ensure that everyone is aware that they have a duty of care for their own health and the health of their fellow dancers and callers. Anyone who has any symptoms of a possible contagious illness should stay home.

Holding a Dance

Extra care will be needed when planning your dances. They are different from club sessions and will require additional health and safety considerations. You may need to restrict numbers and consider pinch points which might include toilets and the entry/exit points. The legal hall/venue capacity may be too high.

Insurance

It may also be advisable to consider **insurance to cover event cancellation, as neither the association nor callers club underwrite any of their membership events**. Both organisations are providing cover for their members public liability only.

Amendments:

The amendments list only has a basic outline to the changes, they do not include any previous content.

- The First Publication – May 24th 2021

The Association and Callers Club would like to acknowledge the very real contribution to this guidance, that was made by members of both organisations and those that gave advice over the last year and have explored and developed material that will be needed to restart squares. They also wish to thank those that have run zoom dance sessions which have provided dancers with the opportunity to enrich their lives at a very difficult time.

We wish you all a happy and safe return to dancing.

(This is a Joint document by the BAASDC and the SDCCGB)

Keep Square Dancing (Virtually)

It is amazing how many high quality dancing opportunities there are for anyone having a go at virtual Square Dancing.

The Girl Power 2 dance in April 2021 featured three excellent callers, Di Green from the UK, Ett McAtee from the USA, Juli Burr from Germany plus Amy Shotting cuing Rounds. Not only was there Mainstream Plus and A available in different rooms on Zoom but you could move between rooms if you wanted to try a different dance programme. It was a fun evening with dancers from Europe, UK and the USA. I am sure that even when we are back to normal dancing there will be a place for international multi caller multi programme events via Zoom.

We were invited recently to join a Mainstream session for a lady from Germany who wanted to practice prior to graduation called by Johnny Preston from the USA. Johnny is also an excellent fun caller.

My wife and I have been dancing on Fridays with Warren Loewen in Manitoba in Canada. Warren is also an excellent caller and the Friday sessions are Mainstream with some Plus moves as well. However these sessions have finished for the Canadian summer break. Our Canadian dancing friends have also been dancing to different american callers so there are many chances to dance with the wider Square Dancing family.

On Mondays we have been dancing Virtual Plus with Di Green and Terry McCann from the UK with dancers from around the world as well as UK dancers. Di and Terry are accomplished inventive callers and there is the added bonus that they call, sing and dance as number 3 couple so that you can look at your Zoom screen if you break down and repair your square.

Virtual Square Dancing has shown us the potential for using international links and caller skills plus it is a good way to brush up on the definition of moves although you can turn your camera off if you want to sit down for a rest.

The day when we will hopefully be dancing with real people again is getting closer but until we meet again I would like to thank the Callers and everyone helping to put on the Virtual Square Dancing sessions.

Nick Tillotson White Rose Squares



Guernsey Square Dancers

At the end of April, I asked Guernsey Square Dancers' Maria Ozanne how things had gone at their planned restart on 12th April. Maria replied :

Yes the Club restarted Square Dancing on 12th April as planned. No problems apart from a few brains a bit rusty. Everybody came back. We dance Mainstream one week (two sets) and Plus the following week (just one set). Last year our lockdown lasted three months with 267 cases of Covid but this year we had 555 cases but only two months on lockdown. Though the second lockdown was shorter, being in the winter (23rd January to 21st March) it felt just as long and did not help.

Most of our members are also U3A members. On 22nd January, about 150 U3A members were attending a 1960's dance function reminiscing and dancing to the music we knew in our teenage years. The evening went very well. Next morning: immediate lockdown. Luckily none of the U3A members had to isolate although the virus did spread at the big Guernsey dance festival (with hundreds of people attending).

Apart from travelling out of the island and quarantine on the way back, everybody can go back to their own activities now. We don't gloat about it as we know that it is obviously more difficult to control a whole country than an island and wish you all square dancers a return to square dancing as soon as possible.

All the best to everybody

Maria Ozanne

VERY URGENT

Following the resignation of our webmaster David Collinson, we urgently need someone to offer to fill this post. Most immediately, no updates to the dance calendar or Club details can be made until the post is filled. If you have any experience of maintaining websites, or know anyone who does, and would be willing to pick up this important task, please contact our secretary, Barbara, at baasdc.secretary@gmail.com. David has expressed his willingness to help any new incumbent with the handover.

BAASDC Ordinary Business Meeting Goes International

—

Virtually!

This year the Council decided we should go ahead with the OBM via Zoom and embrace the current situation rather than delaying or postponing as we did last year. So, we were delighted to welcome Club Representatives and dancers from far and wide in the UK together with visitors from overseas.

30 Clubs were represented and we were joined by 54 screens in total. This probably represents the largest turnout ever for an OBM! Susan Ellis the President welcomed everyone and invited Di Green and Kevin Lovell to give presentations covering some of the highs and lows of virtual square dancing. We must bear in mind that Virtual Square Dancing using Zoom is a very recent incarnation of our activity. It has provided exercise, entertainment and engagement with others during the difficult time of various lockdowns throughout the world and we are hugely grateful to those Callers and Cuers who have been prepared to provide this for us.

For those who have never experienced Virtual Square Dancing, Di explained that you can participate as a single or a couple and the dancing is called to mini squares of four dancers. This is particularly useful as many will be operating in their lounge or kitchen with restricted space, rather than in a hall. Callers will encourage and help to facilitate dancers by workshopping moves and helping dancers with definitions. It is most likely that those who have been joining in the Virtual Square Dances will have more confidence when returning to 'real' dancing.

Kevin explained how the use of remote callers might work i.e. dancers in one hall and caller in a remote location. He advised that this could be a solution where a caller is temporarily unavailable or when a Club wishes to engage a caller from abroad. It appears there would need to be specific technology at both ends (though he stressed this was not insurmountable) and was unlikely to be better than the 'real' thing! However, while we live in such uncertain times it allows the possibility in the short term, of expanding our dancing repertoire.

It was then time to experience the 'proof of the pudding' and Di, Terry and Kevin gave us a taster of dancing at different programmes

and to different styles. It was particularly gratifying to learn that some of those who stayed logged in for the dance had never tried VSD previously – and they thoroughly enjoyed it! We received a number of emails expressing appreciation of the opportunity and experience and wanting to learn of future VSD dates.

As a means of communicating with our Clubs and dancers, I have no doubt the BAASDC will be using VSD again.

Barbara Scott Honorary Secretary BAASDC

A couple of letters were received following the OBM on May 15th

Hi Everyone

Nice to see a few of you at the BAASDC zoom meeting. It's a great way to keep in touch even if you don't dance. It's good so many dancers and callers are doing such a lot to keep dancing going. At Chain Reactions we should be very proud of what Di Green and Terry McCann are contributing. As time goes by it becomes increasingly obvious that dancing keeps us fit and we have missed the exercise, laughs and socialisation it brings. As yet we still don't know when or how we can resume but we are listening carefully to Boris and we have prepared our risk assessment forms to comply with the hall requirements should we still need them.

Thanks

Val

Dear Barbara

Thanks so much for your email and I did join in this afternoon at the meeting and with the virtual dancing. I was not sure how it was going to work but Di and Kevin explained everything so well and made one feel welcome and relaxed. I really enjoyed it. A huge thank you to all concerned.

Sue Force



Six of The Best

Reviews of Square Dance releases
from other labels by

PAUL BRISTOW

(owner and producer of STING & SNOW records)



If You Could Read My Mind ~ Johnny Preston

Arrow ARROW 1150 *(Original Artist: Gordon Lightfoot)*

Canadian singer-songwriter Gordon Lightfoot included this song as one of the tracks on his album "Sit Down Young Stranger" released in April 1970. Later in the same year, he released the track as a single; the single became so successful that it was decided to re-name the album, to match the song! Arrow have produced a great interpretation of this song, wonderful music and rhythm structure and a fantastic vocal from Johnny Preston!

Mainstream Figure: *Heads Square Thru Four, Do Sa Do, Step to a Wave Ladies Trade, Recycle, Star Thru, Right and Left Thru, Square Thru Three.*

Hell of a View ~ Gene Turner

Shindig SP 1132 *(Original Artist: Eric Church)*

Eric Church, Casey Beathard and Monty Criswell wrote this song, it was released in 2020 as the lead single from Eric Church's album: "Soul" (part of a triple album set). Joanna Cotten is featured on the backing vocals. The lyrics are said to "depict the thrill of a life on the move, with the one you love". Shindig have followed the feel of the original and produced an outstanding version for Square Dancing, with Gene Turner on the vocals!

Mainstream Figure: *Heads Square Thru, Swing Thru, Swing Thru (again) All Eight Circulate, Swing Thru, Swing Thru (again), All Eight Circulate.*

Beer Never Broke My Heart ~ Charlie Robertson

Lou-Mac LM 327 *(Original Artist: Luke Combs)*

A hit song from 2019, the single was taken from the album: "What You See is What You Get". Luke Combs co-wrote the song, with Randy Montana and Jonathan Singleton and first performed it live in January 2018; the lyrics list all the things in the singer's life that really hurt him - but points out that Beer was the exception! The music has a pounding beat in a country Rock style and the vocal, with Charlie Robertson is quite outstanding!

Mainstream Figure: *Heads Promenade Halfway, Pass the Ocean, Extend Swing Thru, Spin the Top, Slide Thru, Touch a Quarter, Scootback, Swing.*

Cruel to be Kind ~ Brian Freed

Sharpshooter SS 1067 *(Original Artist: Nick Lowe)*

From 1979, taken from the album: "Labour of Lust" and written by Nick Lowe - working with Ian Gomm (while they were still playing together in "Brinsley Schwarz"). Curiously, the song peaked at number 12 on the charts that summer in the UK, US, Canadian and Australian listings! It is a smooth but rhythmically profound track; there is a great beat to which you can dance and good music. Brian Freed does a superb job on the vocal!

Mainstream Figure: *Heads Promenade Halfway, Pass the Ocean, Extend Swing Thru, Boys Run, Ferris Wheel, Pass Thru, Star Thru, Square Thru Three.*

The More I See You ~ Glenn Wilson

Knee Deep KDM 144 (Original Artist: Dick Haymes)

This song, composed by Harry Warren (with lyrics by Mack Gordon), was originally sung by Dick Haymes in the 1945 film "Diamond Horseshoe". In 1966, Chris Montez released the most commercially successful and well-known recording of the song; his version has been used many times in films. Knee Deep have used the slow rhythmic Latin style feel of the 1966 release, using horns and orchestral sounds; featuring Glenn Wilson's vocal!

Mainstream Figure: Heads Promenade Halfway, Square Thru, Swing Thru Boys Run, Couples Circulate, Half Tag, Scootback, Swing and Promenade.

All Shook Up ~ Jack O'Leary

Silver Sounds SSR 412 (Original Artist: Elvis Presley)

Elvis Presley's first No. 1 hit on the UK Singles Chart, remaining there for seven weeks in 1957, it was composed by Otis Blackwell (who also composed: "Don't Be Cruel" and "Return to Sender", for Elvis, as well as "Great Balls of Fire" for Jerry Lee Lewis). This is a "Rockabilly" tune for which Silver Sounds have produced a very fine instrumental, Jack O'Leary provides a technically perfect vocal; the whole package is "First Class"!

Mainstream Choreography: Heads Square Thru, Swing Thru, Girls Circulate Boys Trade, Boys Run, Bend the Line, Slide Thru, Square Thru Three.

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

www.musicforcallers.com



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The Square Dance Caller's Club of Great Britain

<http://www.Callersclub.uk>



JUST WHAT IS THE SSD PROGRAM ALL ABOUT

Those initials stand for SOCIAL SQUARE DANCING. You could add another S and make it Sustainable Social Square Dancing. Putting it simply it's just the Basic program plus seven Mainstream moves added in to give just enough variety. The real difference is the order in which the moves are introduced and this is what could be difficult for callers whose regular material follows the teaching order that has been developed over the years. They could be termed as the foundation moves of square dancing, ones that have formed the basis of the activity for fifty years or more.

Having immersed myself in the program during the last Autumn and winter I have had to rewrite most of the material I had developed over the thirty five years or so that I have been calling. The new order allows for much more variety in the choreography almost from the start.

The program was written to be taught in 12 weeks, though I think that's a bit ambitious. But it doesn't matter if it takes 20 weeks, it will take as long as it takes. But using a different order it brings in the shape changing choreo much sooner.

It is also planned to be kept much simpler, not so much stretching of each definition. The aim is have a club where it won't matter if the dancers take three week holidays 2 or 3 times a year; If they go abroad to see their grand children for 3 months; or if they have to take 4 or 5 months off to have a knee or hip operation, the club will still be there to welcome them back and help them slot right back in again.

Using the moves in a different order was actually quite interesting, a bit of a challenge, different combinations made for a different feel to the movements. Even the singing calls had to be quite different too. I enjoyed playing with the combinations and seeing how I could make it easy for the dancers to understand especially if they were a new group.

Using the material I prepared will still require the caller to do some work before hand. The evening's program will still need planning and of course once in front of the dancers it is the caller's job to judge how to present the material. How much repetition is needed, what words to use to explain the moves. The Caller needs to understand how the moves feel to each person and how to present it in a light hearted way so it's an enjoyable experience. Learning some of the modules will allow you to watch the dancers and to get the timing right so the feet keep moving in time with the music.

Today's caller will need to research unusual but easy additions to the program, fun, games, and ways that the club members can participate fully themselves. Find the hidden strengths that the dancers can contribute to make the evening go with a swing.

I learned a lot from exploring the new order suggested by the program. Give it a try and you can start by looking at what I prepared earlier.

Happy dancing and calling.

Susie

Caller's Corner
By **PAUL BRISTOW** (CALLERLAB
Accredited Caller Coach)

UK CALLER
TRAINING FOUNDATION

A History of CALLERLAB: The International Association of Callers!

CALLERLAB is not an elected legislative body, it is simply an International Association of Callers, who care about the future of Square Dancing and choose to follow the lists and definitions published by CALLERLAB; its members are NOT required to follow the lists.

CALLERLAB the International Association of Square Dance Callers was setup in the early 1970s at the ASILOMAR Institute in California. The original members comprised several of the top Callers in the United States at that time. Their primary purpose was to try and establish a common "nomenclature" (naming convention) for all the different Calls being used by Callers around the world; some Calls had the same definition but were known by different names and many Calls had slightly different definitions, depending upon where you danced. It was a fairly simple objective - that led to the establishment of the organisation that we have today, in which every Caller in the world can be a part of the "decision making process" that consider changes to the Call lists and definitions.

After some investigation and discussion, a standard list of Calls named "Mainstream" (- because these Calls were the ones that most people were Dancing) was released, it was accepted throughout the whole of the Square Dancing world. A consequence of this is that - if you go to any country and attend a Mainstream dance - you will already know every Call on that list and how it is defined; the same now extends to the other lists - so (in simple terms) CALLERLAB has been 100% effective in achieving their primary role.

As the membership of CALLERLAB grew and the Caller and Dancer associations all over the world decided - of their own volition - to follow these lists - and use the definitions, it became obvious that every Caller needed to be able to join and become a part of the decision making process. CALLERLAB membership is open to all Callers; changes and reviews to lists and definitions are voted upon by the whole CALLERLAB membership.

CALLERLAB has established links with all the National Caller Associations, to which they send copies of the lists, definitions, as well as other documents they have issued; this allows all Caller (and Dancer) association members to know what is happening.

The one thing which seems to be not too well understood is that - if you want to have a vote on a CALLERLAB issue you must be a member. Just being a member of a National Association does not entitle you to a vote. None of the National Caller Associations are entitled to a vote on any CALLERLAB discussion; an association may have 600 members (or more) all of whom may have an opinion, although CALLERLAB will listen to all of the Callers and Associations - only CALLERLAB members, will be able to vote on the topic.

If local associations wish to write their own lists and definitions and use them - they can do that, this will work just fine on a local basis - but will cause a great deal of confusion if you ever travel outside of that local area. My personal opinion on this is: if you care about Calling you must be a member of CALLERLAB - but that is just a personal opinion!

URGENT APPEAL FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

In five months time, October 2021, the British Association of American Square Dance Clubs will need a new SECRETARY.

PLEASE READ ON

On the next page of this magazine you will see a job description. If you think you could fill the vacancy then please get in touch. We will give you lots of support and help. As an optimist I'm sure that there is someone out there who can fit the bill. All meetings are done on Zoom - No traveling !

Any chance it could be YOU ? Thank you
Susan Ellis

As you will have seen from the appeal on the previous page, the Council will need a new Secretary after the AGM in October. Retiring Secretary Barbara has produced a list of the Secretary's duties, so that any volunteers can see what is involved.

Prepare Council meeting Agendas (in consultation with President) and circulate.

Record Zoom Council meetings and transcribe Minutes; circulate.

Maintain data base of Club Contacts.

For 'Let's Square Dance' Magazine, maintain data-base of overseas readers, Club Contacts and (previous) subscribers.

Liaise with distributor of Magazine.

Keep oversight of website and Facebook site.

Respond to email/telephone queries.

OBM (Zoom) - arrange agenda and distribution.
Record and write Minutes for distribution to all Clubs.

AGM (Zoom) – arrange agenda and distribution.
Record and write Minutes for distribution to all Clubs.

Administration of all Council appointments.

Please consider whether you could serve our activity in this way and contact Barbara (baasdc.secretary@gmail.com) if you need any further details.

SSD – Why the hype?

Many of you will have heard the “buzz” about SSD... But do you know what it is and why it could be a “game changer”

SSD is the abbreviation for Social Square Dancing, the recently approved new dancer program. Comprising of a selection of about 50 of the Basic and Mainstream moves, many callers and clubs around the world use it to recruit and have fun with new dancers, and plenty of UK callers and clubs are looking to do the same when we re-start this year.

Whether you are caller, a club leader, or an interested dancer, you are welcome to join an **online discussion** of the program, its benefits and how it can be used for recruitment from **10:30am on Saturday 3rd July** Contact Susie Kelly, the Caller' Club Secretary, on susie@graybo.co.uk for details of the zoom meeting.

Kevin Lovell on behalf of Callers Club.

Dance once more

With sincere apologies to Sydney Carter

We danced in the evenings and we danced through the day
We danced at weekends and at places far away
We danced with our friends and we swung around the floor
Then Covid came and we danced no more

Dance then, wherever you may be
In garage or in kitchen but with VSD
But soon, God willing, soon we'll dance once more
All eight in a square on a real dance floor

Peter Wright

Calling For Levity – Fun stuff to do No 3

This is the third in a series of articles fashioned out of my presentation as part of the Callers Club of Great Britain's AGM. April and May editions featured fun unlisted calls, whilst this month I share some games that dancers and callers could play as part of a patter call.

You like a good shout out in response to the caller, don't you? Oh yes you do! 'Whooo Woo' 'chase me, chase me' 'Ferris 'wheeee' etc. So, I thought that you may be interested in a couple of shouty ideas that I have enjoyed playing around with over the years.

Simon Says

I don't know why but the universe has decided that everyone I currently know should be named Simon, which reminded me of a bit of square dance fun based on the Simon Says game. The caller chooses a letter – let's say F for example, and tells the dancers 'for this tip, any call beginning with 'F' e.g. Flutter Wheel, Ferris Wheel, Forward and Back, requires me to say 'Simon Says' before you carry out the call. If I do not say 'Simon Says' then shout 'Whoa' and do not dance it (or shout out some other random word – such as 'Nibble' or something related to a club's 'in joke' Callers could obviously change 'Simon' to their own name – unless their name is Simon of course.

Double!

At some point mid patter, a caller could tell the dancers that move that is called from now until further notice should be danced twice. This idea obviously requires the caller to string together a combination of calls that can all be danced twice and provide flow. Dancers should shout 'DOUBLE' every time that a call is called and then dance the move twice. So, for example if the caller calls Swing Through, dancers shout out 'double' and do two Swing Throughs, then on the next call (let's say it is Boys Circulate - dancers shout out 'double' and the circulating boys go twice. And there is a reward for completion, Stack The Wood! (Double !)

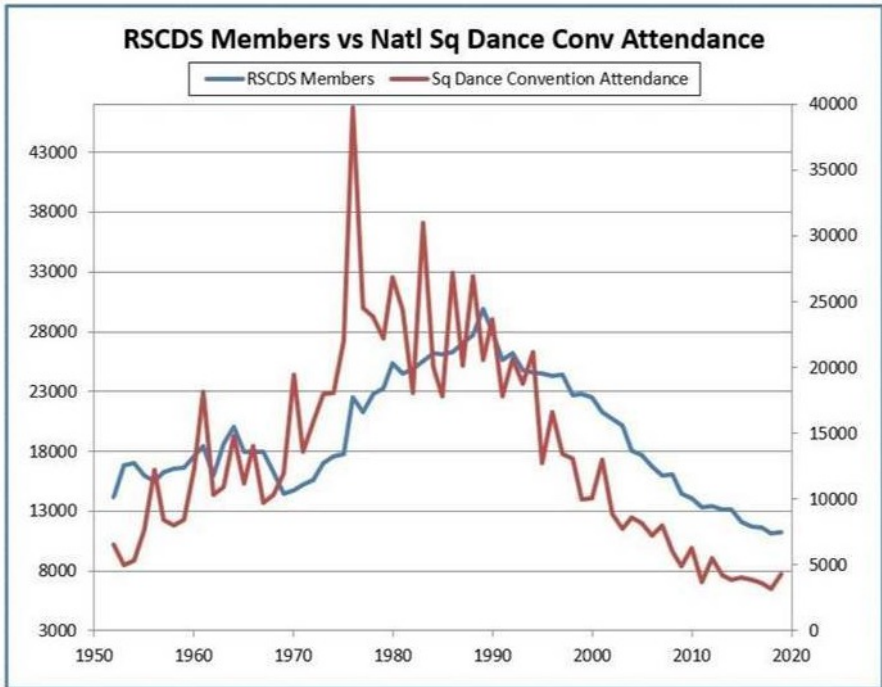
Name Change

Something as simple as temporarily renaming the familiar is enough to convert the ordinary into something amusing. The caller could play around with this as much or as little as they wish. 'or this tip only, Swing Through has been renamed 'Biscuit' and/or 'for this tip only the Heads are called George' (I confess that I pinched that bit from a caller note several years ago). So, the call could be 'George Square Through, Biscuit, Just Boy George run....' The sides could also be renamed with a funny name. Sticking with the renaming theme: If for example it's Bill's birthday, then perhaps rename Grand Square in his honour. 'Sides Face, Bills Birthday'. Just have fun!

Paul Preston

Dear Editor,

I enjoyed reading Susie's article in the May issue about the history of square dancing and the potential for the Social Square Dancing program to help with revival of square dancing. I am a leader with the Happy Hoppers square dance Plus club in Vancouver Washington USA. <https://happy-hoppers.com> and also the local branch of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society <http://www.rscds-swvs.org> . Very interesting to read your timeline for the growth and decline of the activity. I gathered data to generate



the chart below.

The chart displays attendance to the USA National Square Dance Convention 1952-2019, and also displays membership in the international Royal Scottish Country Dance Society. The correlated measure of the independent dancing activities suggests the causes of declining square dancing are common to all team-dancing activities. A significant cause for the decline in social activities has been advancing communication technology with declining in-person interaction and more sedentary activities. My interpretation of the trends is: square dancers increased 1970-1980, stabilized 1980-1990, and began the 30-year decline 1990 - present. An interesting coincidence was the year 1951

when Princess Elizabeth and Prince Phillip were photographed square dancing during their Royal tour of Canada, which was the same year the title 'Royal' was conferred on the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society by King George VI.

I authored an article about the fixed mindset that is the main factor why over 95 percent of the public do no dancing of any kind: 'Growth Mindset and Identity in Recruiting and Retaining Dancers.' (See : <http://documents.happy-hoppers.com/news/stories/mindset-identity.pdf>) New dancers are frequently nervous about trying square dance, evidenced by clammy palms or clinging grip while dancing. People are afraid of feeling stupid or looking stupid, especially men. We can communicate emotionally compelling marketing messages that avoid triggering feeling or looking stupid, and instead focus on other beneficial feelings. We can also encourage the Growth Mindset to nurture a sense of accomplishment.

The Happy Hoppers Plus club has ranked number one in Washington State with 107 members, versus one would expect a Plus club to be struggling. I authored a paper for our club leaders to evaluate ideas for Happy Hoppers to continue to grow square dancing in our area: 'Happy Hoppers Growing Square Dancing.' (See <http://documents.happy-hoppers.com/news/stories/grow-sd-hh.pdf>) I am particularly curious to explore innovations by other clubs who have succeeded to grow square dancing. For example, I studied innovations by the North Shore Squares SSD and Plus club. The paper includes information about the Happy Hoppers club's success with starting lessons every eight weeks with a Multi-Cycle lessons plan that club caller Jim Hatrick has successfully operated for 15 years. The paper displays attendance data for dances and lessons for the past six years, and club membership history for the past 15 years. Three assumptions described in the SSD FAQ document are not factors with the Happy Hoppers Plus club: 1. escalator pressure, 2. starting new lessons only once a year, 3. tedious stop-and-go Learn mode. The Happy Hoppers (and North Shore Squares) club has been able to successfully counteract the global trend.

You might know this already, but Scottish country dancing has many similarities with square dancing. My spouse and I learned Scottish dancing in 1997 and then learned square dancing in 2009. I authored a July 2010 newsletter item titled 'Scottish and Square Dancers Are Friends' (see <http://www.rscds-swws.org/news/stories/scd-sd-friends.htm>) that explored some similarities and differences for readers who are already familiar with one of the dance forms. (I later appended some newer content related to learning dancing skills.) Soon afterwards I tested myself by simultaneously learning four related folk dance forms for a total of six.

Best wishes, Tom Halfpenny

REAL OPEN DANCES June 2021

<p>Sat 25th 7pm</p>	<p>BISHOPS EIGHT First Dance after lockdown Brian Summerfield & Amy Richardson MS, P, R Free admission, incl. Coffee / biscuits Tel. 01949 860843 d.williams514@btinternet.com</p>	<p>Notts NG14 7BD</p>
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REAL OPEN DANCES July 2021

<p>Fri 27th to Sun 1st Aug</p>	<p>SHEFFIELD GEMINI SQUARES Swanwick Plus weekend Emma Horsfield & Robert Hurst Plus Tel. 07867 616149 or 01142 642266 (Emma)</p>	<p>Ticket only Derby DE55 1AU</p>
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REAL OPEN DANCES August 2021

PLEASE NOTE

Until we have a new webmaster 'up and running', please copy any new dance submissions that are sent to the webmaster's email to LSDmag@talktalk.net so that they can be included in the free dance listing on these pages of the magazine.

REGULAR VIRTUAL DANCES June 2021

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 3 pm	Zoom Dance Di Green C1 review https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86292362662?pwd=cUhaMExrWCtITUI3Q1FENE0vdzJZUT09 Contact Di on digreen21@gmail.com
Every Tuesday 7.30 pm A1 8.45 pm A2	Zoom Dance Di Green A1, A2 https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89348598305?pwd=VVBwNkJXeWRUblBLZ3F3ZzhsVElyZz09 Contact Di on digreen21@gmail.com
Ever 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
Sat 6th and 20th 6 pm to 7.30	Zoom Dance Kevin Lovell Plus https://us02web.zoom.us/j/71441264031?pwd=bVAzSIZjdzN3c2xKMzhrSDdOWXFQQT09#success (ID 714 4126 4031, Password: ASAZ-VSD) Contact Kevin on kevin_lovell@hotmail.com

Obituary ~ Ron McConnell

It is with great sadness that we have to report the death of Ron McConnell, aged 91, on 27 April 2021. He first started dancing with his wife Sylvia at Harlow Folk and Square Dance Club in the 1960s before work and other commitments forced him to take a break. He re-entered the world of dancing around 1985 by taking a refresher course and learning Plus with



Badger Sets in Hoddesdon. He was then able to join the rest of the family at Country Roads SDC in Much Hadham, where his son Ian was the caller and his wife Sylvia became the cuer. He soon took over responsibility for all the refreshments in the club and could be found every Tuesday making the teas and supervising a friendly team of male washer-uppers. He learned A1 at the club and he and Sylvia attended round dancing classes with Jan Farnell at Jubilee Rounds. They went to many dancing holiday events, particularly at Hemsby & Lytham, where they also enjoyed line dancing. When Sylvia later started running her own line dancing club, Ron was indispensable to her - the perfect host, making the tea, collecting the money and being the 'roadie' In their 50 odd years of dancing, they made many friends who shared their love of square, round and line dancing. We will miss him greatly.

Ian & Wendy

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Please note that any text or image printed in the magazine may be used freely by any other Square Dance publication, subject only to acknowledgement of the origin and author's name.

DEADLINES FOR COPY

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

ADVERTISEMENTS

When submitting adverts, please ensure that your advert fits into the size and shape that you require. (¼ page is 60 x 90 mm, ½ page is 125 x 90 mm and full page is 125 x 185 mm) particularly if you are sending it as a .pdf or Word file. If you have any difficulty with this, the Editor will be able to advise and help to compose or recompose as necessary.

ADVERTISING RATES

Size/Entry	Club Rates	Size/Entry	Club Rates
¼ page	£10	½ page	£20
Full page	£30.00		

If you know of any dancer not receiving the email copy of the magazine, please get them to contact the editor on LSDmag@talktalk.net



**Paul
Bristow**

SUNSHINE DANCE

Gran Canaria 2022

If we have enough bookings by the end of June...



**Bronc
Wise**

When Corona finally is over The success continue

Do you want to get away from the cold, and spend a week or two at Hotel Colina Mar in Puerto Rico on Gran Canaria, square dancing in November and December with the following program

First Week:

Plus-A1
From Nov 27
Until Dec 4

We offer 2 workshop sessions for 2 hours on each level and the other sessions comprise P-P-A1 and A1-A2-A1-C1

Second Week :

A1-A2-C1
From Dec 4
Until Dec 11

If you want to join with square dancers from different parts of the world, spend a week or two, basking in the sun, taking in the sights, as well as Square Dancing.

Here's what you need to do to join the fun

1. Send an email to sunshine-dance@lemamusik.se to book your dance ticket. Dance tickets are 130 Euro per week, you can pay on arrival.
2. Book your travel and accommodation at hotel Colina Mar in Puerto Rico on Gran Canaria, through your travel agency. Due to hotel rules you must stay at hotel Colina Mar

Event Manager: Leif and Ellinor Ekblad

(sunshine-dance@lemamusik.se) Tlf +46 708 510355

UK: Local contact for updates and questions about the event
Susan Ellis (susanellis701@yahoo.co.uk) Tlf. +44 7794 096145