

LET'S SQUARE DANCE

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EDITOR SAYS.....

Lots of newsy items this month, though rather overshadowed by the sad news about James.

We're still getting letters about dancing without a Caller; please let us know your thoughts.

Don't forget to book your place at the BAASDC's 70th Anniversary Celebration weekend (July 21/22)



Peter

STOP PRESS

So sad to hear the news of James Wyatt's death.

If you would like to write your own tribute to this much loved Caller, please send it in and we will have a section in the June magazine for them. If we have any special photos of James, we could include those too.

PRESIDENT' MESSAGE.

Hello Everybody

I am very pleased to say that Terry Pine has accepted the position of BAASDC Treasurer. We all look forward to working with him.

The 70th Birthday event in July is fast approaching and volunteers are needed for tasks such as:

Setting up on Friday evening.

Serving tea and coffee.

Maintaining a supply of drinking water.

Car parking.

if you can help with any of these tasks please contact me.
(My contact details are on P 34)

It is with sadness that I learn of the death of James Wyatt. James brought great enjoyment to square dancers in the UK. Our thoughts are with Brenda and her family.

Enjoy your dancing.

David



Musings from your Public Relations Officer

I'm pleased that many of you enjoyed my article last month and have expressed an interest in finding the secret of eternal life. By doing so we can extend our dancing life and that can only be a good thing. Professor Pallo Flori is thrilled at the take-up response. Thank you ! One of the letters I received in reply to my request I would like to share with you.

Hi Susan

I apologise for my lateness in replying for your plea to participate in the anti-aging trial. It is obvious that your previous encounter with Professor Pallo Flori of Oxford University was such a success. I would like to be put forward as a guinea pig in his next study. Yours hopefully

Dorian Gray

to which I replied

Hi Dorian

Lovely to hear from you and thank you for noticing my 'youthful appearance' as I have noticed your 'younger look'. Professor Pallo has been working with the Simpson family and you may have noticed that Bart, Lisa and Maggie have refused to age. I think this is testament to Pallo's successful continuing research project. I have passed your details to Pallo who was particularly pleased that you are his 'guinea pig' to live in Wales.

Congratulations and Best wishes

Susan

Recently I was listening to a programme about our new King Charles. It reported that his figure and weight have changed very little over the years and he will present as a slim man at his Coronation.

That got me thinking about how our figures have changed over the years. Not just our weight but our shape and size. Have a think back to what you wore when you first went Square and Round dancing. It might have been several decades ago and if so can you remember the outfits you wore? Can you still fit into those sometimes frilly and stylized outfits. Perhaps you and your dancing partner wore matching outfits complete with acres of petticoat and fabric. Do you still wear them? Perhaps you have photographs to prove that you do. Maybe you could consider sharing your thoughts and photos with our readers ?



Well as a Royalist I'm looking forward to celebrating the King's Coronation.

Long live the King !

Let's make Square and Round dancing great again !

Susan Ellis

Pieces of 8 Fun Weekend on March 17th - 20th 2023

Over 70 dancers attended the fun weekend at the Carlton Hotel in Torquay and fun it was too with Rob Branson calling Mainstream and Plus in his own inimitable style. Assisted by Wendy Shipton who got the weekend off to a flying start with her friendly range of circle dancing.

It is always good to meet up with friends we have met in previous years and this year, with many new people attending for the first time, gave opportunities for new friendships to be formed. We also welcomed two very new dancers who thoroughly enjoyed their first dance weekend experience. There was such a lovely atmosphere generated in the ballroom with nine squares dancing and Rob's excellent calling.

Friday evening kicked off with an optional fancy dress celebrating St Patrick's Day and a good laugh was had by all who participated.



On Saturday morning there was a very interesting workshop on some of the ordinary moves done from some very odd positions and yes it does help if you know the definitions!

Saturday evening dance featured a charity raffle with many lovely prizes.

On the Sunday evening there were Spot Prizes to be won which again was a lot of fun.



Monday morning farewell dance featured some guest callers as well as Rob, everyone is encouraged to have a go if they so wish.

This weekend has never failed to deliver on all aspects and is unbelievably such good value, we can't recommend it enough. I'm sure Rob would be the first to say that these weekends run so smoothly because of Chris who organises everything so brilliantly. She also spoils us at the meet and greet session on the first day with slices of her delicious home made cakes to enjoy with our tea and coffee.

Our thanks go to Rob and Chris (Management) and Wendy for an excellent weekend, can't wait for the next one.

Alan & Lynda Cox (Plym Valley Squares)

BAASDC 70th Birthday

SATURDAY DAY PROGRAMME

| TIME | HALL 1 | HALL 2 |
|---------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 10.00 - 10.45 | MS/PLUS Paul Bristow | A1 Neil Whiston |
| 10.50 - 11.35 | MS/PLUS Mike Belsten | ROUNDS Paul Hart |
| 11.40 - 12.25 | MS/PLUS Kevin Lovell | Plus Di Green |
| 12.30 - 13.15 | ROUNDS Paul Hart | A2 Paul Bristow |
| 13.20 - 14.05 | MS/PLUS Neil Whiston | C1 Di Green |
| 14.10 - 14.55 | MS/PLUS Leah Tinsdeall | ROUNDS Amy Richardson |
| 15.00 - 15.45 | SSD/MS Kevin Lovell | A2 Neil Whiston |
| 15.50 - 16.35 | ROUNDS Amy Richardson | MS Claudia Kloid |
| 16.40 - 17.30 | SSD/MS Granville Spencer | A1 Paul Bristow |

NEWS FROM WHITE ROSE SQUARES

"Oh, Happy Day!" – Our 45th Birthday Dance – 18 February, 2023

The club was delighted to welcome back Emma Horsfield to Call this, our 45th Birthday Dance. Emma has Called our Saturday Dances a number of times over the years, the most recent being our 42nd Birthday Dance in 2020, and so we knew we would enjoy the afternoon.

Emma songs spanned the years, and gave us such a range to dance to, from Creedence Clearwater Revival's "Proud Mary" from 1969 and Abba's "Take a Chance on Me" from 1978, to Billy Gilman's song "Shamey, Shamey, Shame" from 2001. Then back to the 60s for The Hawkins Singers "Oh, Happy Day" and a slower pace for the 50s hit by The Spaniels "Goodnight Sweetheart". And more songs! It showed what a versatile Caller Emma is.



To ensure plenty of dancing for everybody this Dance alternated SSD with Mainstream and Plus, and it seemed a popular choice, giving newer SSD Dancers the chance to experience a Saturday Dance with another Caller. We had 5 squares dancing SSD and 3 for Mainstream and Plus tips. Dancers came from throughout Yorkshire and Lancashire and we were delighted to also welcome two dancers from Cirencester - one who had learned to dance in the second class! at White Rose Squares in the late 70's.

Clifford hall was decorated in celebratory fashion, and we held a raffle and pot luck afternoon tea with 70's style food. But we all thought everybody would bring the cheese and pineapple hedgehogs for the buffet – and nobody did!!

White Rose Squares Graduation Evening and a Fond Farewell

– 26 March 2023

Having completed the Social Square Dancing Course, our Beginners worked hard to learn the remaining Mainstream moves, and we had a happy evening checking that they knew their stuff! To calm those nerves, the evening started

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off with some gentle square dancing Called by Gene Turner. Then, the Judge arrived - club member Peter Threadgold, complete with cowboy hat, and accompanied by our Caller Cliff Anderton, who had taught our Beginners, sporting a White Rose in his buttonhole.

Then our Graduation Caller Philip Mee took over. The evening was organised by our Secretary, Ann Tillotson, who insisted that the Angels in the Graduation squares had to be identified of course. So they wore Mexican hat hairbands, and our Beginners could not be seen by the Caller, so they were asked to wear L-Plates! That was better. For the next half hour there was much concentration and a lot of accurate dancing! Practice had paid off. Our Judge walked to and fro writing something – his shopping list? No – he was noting who wasn't wearing their club badge! Keeping a weather eye on the dancers he concluded that they should all be awarded their Club Badges – they had passed!



After presentations to Callers, Judge, and our 9 New Graduates, we held the traditional Candle Ceremony, where dancers are welcomed into the wonderful world of Square Dancing. Supper, with a celebration cake, and more dancing, followed.

We had a lovely evening. It was made particularly special because our Caller Cliff Anderton was able to join us to see his most recent students Graduate. This evening marked the last night with Cliff as White Rose Squares Club Caller. He has Called for the club since 2006. To mark the occasion we held a presentation to Cliff which included a framed photograph of everyone in the club. We have been fortunate to secure Gene Turner as White Rose Squares new Club Caller. and club member Nick Tillotson is starting to train to Call.

Ann Tillotson

See you at White Rose Squares "Sunhats" Dance,

Saturday 15 July 2023, 2pm to 5pm.

Leah Tinsdeall Calling Mainstream & Plus

Clifford Village Hall, Albion St, Clifford, Wetherby, North Yorkshire LS23 6HY

£7 / Raffle / Tea & Cakes provided / Wear Your Sunhat!!

Contact Ann: 01903-878006



Six of the Best

Reviews of Square Dance releases
from other labels by

PAUL BRISTOW

(owner and producer of STING & SNOW records)



I Love You and Don't You Forget It ~ Chris Froggatt

Knee Deep KDM 160 *(Original Artist: Perry Como)*

What a fantastic choice for a Square Dance Singing Call! One of those tunes where - if you know the title - you know most of the lyrics... The song was released in 1963 with music by Henry Mancini and lyrics by Al Stelman; the single credits the "Mitchell Ayres Orchestra & Ray Charles Singers" with the music and backing. Knee Deep have really done an excellent job turning this into a Singing Call, with a great vocal by owner Chris!

Mainstream Figure: *Heads Promenade Halfway, Sides Right and Left Thru Sides Flutterwheel, Sweep a Quarter, Pass Thru, Do Sa Do, Eight Chain Four.*

Green River ~ Elmer Sheffield

ESP ESP 1191 *(Original Artists: Creedence Clearwater Revival)*

A song by American rock band Creedence Clearwater Revival; written by John Fogerty (their lead vocalist, guitarist and songwriter) and released as a single in July 1969, one month before the album of the same name was released. Green River is actually based on "Putah Creek" - a river alongside which Buffalo Bill Cody used to live! The musical arrangement and quality is excellent; the track includes an outstanding vocal by Elmer!

Mainstream Figure: *Heads Square Thru Four Hands, Right Hand Star Heads Star Left, Right and Left Thru, Rollaway, Touch a Quarter, Scootback.*

You Gave Me a Mountain ~ Hunter Keller

Lou-Mac LM 350 *(Original Artist: Frankie Laine, Marty Robbins, Elvis Presley)*

The title track from Frankie Laine's 1969 album, it was written by Marty Robbins, who also released a version (as did several other artists); Frankie's was the most successful. The song tells of all the trials that the singer has had to endure throughout his life, as the tag line says: "this time, Lord, you gave me a mountain / A mountain you know I may never climb" - some first class music, with a "first-class" vocal by Hunter Keller!

Mainstream: *Heads Promenade Half, Square Thru Four, Square Thru Three Trade By, Touch a Quarter, Scootback, Scootback, Swing and Promenade.*

Daybreak ~ Brian Freed

Gold Wing GWR 206 *(Original Artist: Barry Manilow)*

An uptempo pop song by Barry Manilow, which he wrote with Adrienne Anderson; the song first appeared on Barry Manilow's 1976 studio album: "This One's for You". It was a top ten hit on the "Adult Contemporary Chart"; Billboard described the song as: "lively, upbeat, [and] irresistibly buoyant"! Gold Wing have done a very nice job on the music, which has a steady walking beat - and includes a terrific vocal from Caller Brian Freed!

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

Scarborough Fair ~ Heather Reynolds

Riverboat RIV 1273 (Original Artist: Simon and Garfunkel)

Based on a traditional English ballad, (first published in 1891 - in "Traditional Tunes" by Frank Kidson); Paul Simon learned the song from folk singer Martin McCarthy and - with reworked lyrics and a new melody written by Art Garfunkel - the song was released as the lead track on their 1966 album: "Parsley, Sage, Rosemary and Thyme". Riverboat have created a good instrumental, with some outstanding vocals by Heather Reynolds!

Mainstream: Heads Promenade Halfway, Pass the ocean, Extend, Swing Thru, Boys Run, Bend the Line, Right and Left Thru, Flutterwheel, Slide Thru.

Honky Tonk Side of Town ~ Chuck Simpkins

R&D Recordings R&D 1017 (Original Artist: Randy Travis)

From Randy Travis' 1994 album: "This is Me"; written by Eddie F. Setser, Jerry Phillips and Troy Harold Seals. A kind of "upbeat song", saying that no matter how bad things may be, if you want to feel better, go to a Honky Tonk...; the tag line says: "The blues can't do no business - on the honky tonk side of town"! R&D offer some great "Honky Tonk" style music - slow, steady and lots of piano, with Chuck Simpkins on the Vocal!

Mainstream Figure: Heads Square Thru Four, Swing Thru, Boys Run Right Ferris Wheel, Pass Thru, Touch a Quarter, Scootback, Swing and Promenade.

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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May **STING RECORDS** Releases:

(Singles from the 2022 Edition of Sting Productions Ambassador Club)

STING 22218 Yummy, Yummy, Yummy (Bronc Wise)

(A song by Arthur Resnick and Joey Levine, first recorded by Ohio Express in 1968)

STING 22251 Dither / Dawdle (2 Instrumental Patters)

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Sixteen new tunes for ONLY \$95.00 (£75.00)

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Caller's Corner

BY PAUL BRISTOW

(CALLERLAB
Accredited Caller Coach)

UK CALLER

TRAINING FOUNDATION

Callers Corner - Part of my Legacy to Square Dancing... free choreography!

As time marches on and as all the Square Dance Caller Groups - responsible for Caller Training in the UK - have banned me from attending their meetings for five years now, I'd like to offer choreography as a part of my legacy (contact me if you want more...!)

In previous articles I have expressed my personal feelings about Reading choreography when Calling; it is not something I would recommend - especially for newer Callers who need to develop an appreciation of all the Calling skills by watching what the Dancers do in response to the Calls that they deliver, as much as possible - if not all of the time. It is essential that Newer Callers "track" the Dancers as closely as possible - in order to try and realise when a mistake might be made - that a few extra words of instruction might rectify; in other words to anticipate where things might go wrong - before it does!

Although I am very much against the idea of Callers reading choreography, I do believe that it is necessary to take the time to Write choreography; the more time that is spent "researching" choreography, either by creating your own or by reading the reams that are available in publications like: "Behind the Mike"; as my good friend Bronc Wise says:

"if you wanna Sight - you've gotta write"

I also recognise that - when Callers begin working with C2 upwards (having presumably "honed" their Calling skills to perfection, Calling Basic through to A2 (or C1 - depending upon how your brain works!)) - "Reading" may be necessary to achieve success.

Although you will never catch me reading choreography, when I am Calling, I have written quite a lot - and some of it is in - what you might call - the "public domain", as it is freely available to read (or copy) on the Sting Productions website, this exists in the form of the Singing Call lyrics that I have recorded on the Singing Calls on which I have done the vocal. I pride myself on having used a lot of different figures on most of my Singing Calls (although - for a number of reasons - there are a few exceptions to this rule...); this choreography includes figures at Basic, Mainstream and at Plus. There are now more than 150 Singing Calls featuring my Calling on the Sting website (a few are on other labels) these are available for "research"; in addition to the lyrics, you will also find the complete vocal there; you can listen to this and (if you wish) make a copy.

Here is how you find the lyrics etc.:

- 1) visit www.stingproductions.co.uk
- 2) to find the lyrics on my recordings, click on the CALLERS button - that will bring up details of all the Callers who have recorded on Sting and Snow.
- 3) click on the Caller to see a list of the tracks that they have recorded. You will see a short "biography" of each Caller, followed by an interactive list of their Singing Calls.
- 4) to the right of each title are a group of small buttons; the lyrics can be found using the LYRICS button, vocals can be found using the VOCAL button, just click to activate.

**Reference BAASDC President David England's reference to
Community Dancing in April 2023 Lets Square Dance**

The Callerlab Community Dance Programme (CDP) was developed in the years up to 1990 by many (small C) conservative callers who were concerned about the way the activity was developing.

Three of the main leaders published a collection of dances called Dancing for Busy People. They were Bob Howell from American Square Dance Magazine, Ken Kernan from Sets in Order Magazine and Calvin Campbell from Lloyd Shaw Foundation.

This programme comprised a limited number of Square Dance "Basics" and encouraged their use in other formations, in some ways mirroring the programmes of clubs during the "heyday years" of the 1950s

The CDP is aimed at people who are not able to make the commitment of attending regular, say weekly, classes. but who would still be able to enjoy the fun and friendship of the activity. With the possibility of moving on to Mainstream classes if their circumstances change.

Sorry to say Callerlab's attitude seems to be one of benign tolerance rather than encouragement.

CDP first saw the light of day in UK at Mini Lab in 1994 with presentations by callers from USA, Germany, and UK

I think that CDP could be useful in these difficult times.

Al Green

A Way Forward/Dancing Without a Caller

I was very interested to read Kevin Lovell's comprehensive article and can understand much better why Callers Club have, as a professional body, to take a very strict line about the complex issues of copyright particularly when they apply to the music itself and then to the music with the calling added. However, I cannot imagine that whoever polices these laws would bother to take action against a very small group using the material for their own pleasure and with no financial gain. For many years I was unaware of the laws, I wonder too how "legal" are the CD's bought from AACE with one hundred tips featuring twelve callers, for some of these I have a CD but later ones have been downloaded and purchase cannot be proved!



Setting aside this legal stuff, I was glad to see that the views expressed about teaching are very much in line with mine when applied to beginners in that it is not only very difficult to produce a stand-alone audio (or video) lesson when so much of the basic teaching needs a degree of demonstration and person to person help. However, what the leader does need is "support" material in the form of a series of recorded patten and singing calls which progressively use more and more calls to match the progress of the students until the course is complete. The students would then have the means of enjoying what they have just learnt with a "proper dance". I'm sure these would be much easier to produce as they would not involve teaching and therefore involve much less recording time and editing.

I don't think the technical quality needs to be too high, I don't think that any of the material we have bought over the years has been done in a studio and the results, even with the odd mistake, are quite acceptable.

If it were decided to promote the encouragement of dancers to start Mini Clubs(carpet squares) we are looking at very small numbers and small halls, or large rooms, so there is no need for expensive equipment:- a computer to run MP3 recordings, probably a small extension speaker, a remote control and the associated software, no need for a microphone for one or two squares. If support tapes could be produced they could be loaned to the leaders and returned at the end of the course in a totally legitimate manner. The point is that, if the group does not flourish, the leader has lost practically nothing; there is very little risk in having a go. If successful, there is plenty of recorded material available from Mainstream onwards and the group, maybe would grow into a "proper club" and perhaps enthuse a member to become a caller.....Hooray!

We need to give our full support to both BAASDC and Callers Club to work together to turn decline into growth, I'm sure it can be done.

John Petty

Another Dancing without Caller



I have read over the past few months a few articles on this subject and can condense the information into several bullet points.

- "Teaching tapes" are becoming a necessity for many clubs.
- Rightly, copyright is an issue for Caller club.
- Caller club have already secured various permissions

This means that single source legal "teaching tapes" cannot be economically produced. However a twin source player can be produced to take the Music (non called) from a producer and a vocal (no music) from a caller, and combine them at the player with some form of synchronisation. If you have a legal right to both then there is no copyright infringement. To this end I have produced a quick and dirty player which can be accessed for no cost by square dance clubs. This beta version will be available on the internet from 10th May. If anyone is interested in helping with this project by donating materials or ideas, please contact me mick.jarvis@talktalk.net.

On a personal note has anyone got a called version of Seven Spanish Angels on vinyl they are willing to sell me.

Mick Jarvis

Bring me sunshine!

Minster Squares hosted a brilliant afternoon event at Greyfriars hall in Ringwood on Sat 18th March. and my thanks go to all the helpers including Andy and Angela Brackstone. It was lovely to catch up with all those I had not seen since the Covid shut down.

What a joy it was to welcome Terry Chapman and his wife Katrina back to the mainland to call. Many believe it is close to 20 years since Terry was tying us up in knots on the dance floor. To most dancers he is a 'new' phenomenon but he drew a number of supporters with long memories such as Maggie Sewell, Shirley and Tony Buttle, Sheila Short and Alan Gerrey. Both past and present BAASDC Council members came out in support with Barbara and Malcolm Girdler, Koli and Ron Pluck and myself. I had only just completed mainstream when Terry retired from the circuit and in this scenario, the others could be termed 'newbies' despite their experience!

Terry had brought with him 14 new dancers from the Isle of Wight (a mission in itself) and I believe it was their first formal dance. Sheila also had a number of newer dancers keen to enjoy the experience.

There is no doubt Terry has lost none of his skills to entertain and challenge us and within minutes we were having to deal with progressive squares and a variety of moves that many had not come across before. Cries of 'we've never done it from there' could be heard along with 'how on earth did I get back to my partner?'

The room was buzzing when Terry got to the famous Morecombe and Wise finale –he certainly had brought us 'sunshine in our smiles' and I hope he will be back to call on the mainland again very soon!

Barbara Scott





Chuckle Zone

A group of chaps, all aged 40, discussed where they should meet for lunch. Finally it was agreed that they would meet at Wetherspoons in Cambridge because the waitresses were attractive and wore mini-skirts.

Ten years later, at age 50, the friends once again discussed where they should meet for lunch. Finally it was agreed that they would meet at Wetherspoons in Cambridge because the food and service was good and the beer selection was excellent.

Ten years later, at age 60, the friends again discussed where they should meet for lunch. Finally it was agreed that they would meet at Wetherspoons in Cambridge because there was plenty of parking, they could dine in peace and quiet with no loud music, and it was good value for money.

Ten years later, at age 70, the friends discussed where they should meet for lunch. Finally it was agreed that they would meet at Wetherspoons in Cambridge because the restaurant was wheelchair accessible and had a toilet for the disabled.

Ten years later, at age 80, the friends discussed where they should meet for lunch. Finally it was agreed that they would meet at Wetherspoons in Cambridge because they had never been there before.

A man and woman were having a meal in a rather classy restaurant when suddenly the man slid under the table.

The waiter was quite concerned and came over to the woman saying "Excuse me Madam but your husband has just slipped under the table."

"No" she replied "My husband has just walked through the door".

WIFE: "There is trouble with the car. It has water in the carburettor."

HUSBAND: "Water in the carburettor? That's ridiculous"

WIFE: "I tell you the car has water in the carburettor."

HUSBAND: "You don't even know what a carburettor is. I'll check it out. Where's the car?"

WIFE: "In the swimming pool".

Thanks Judy

VIKING SQUARES

On Tuesday 28th March Viking Squares threw a party to celebrate the significant achievement of two of their club members Barry and Irene Gardiner reaching their 70th Wedding Anniversary.

This very well loved couple were joined by their many club member friends and guests who raised a toast to them in this wonderful accomplishment.

As they did 70 years ago Barry and Irene cut their anniversary cake together and then the two of them took to the floor to led the anniversary waltz

Barry and Irene continue to dance regularly at Viking Squares and Barry can be persuaded to do a guest calling tip from time to time.

Our congratulations to them both and may they continue to square dance and do all the things they enjoy together for as long as they are able.



Judy and Mick

BAASDC 70TH BIRTHDAY

Session tickets now available.

£10 per Session

Booking form at

www.uksquaredancing.co.uk

BREAKING NEWS!!

VIKING SQUARES CAMPOUT WEEKEND 2023

Viking Squares are pleased to announce that the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight is providing a Fly Past of both the Spitfire and the Lancaster during our camp out weekend. This is the **Bank Holiday weekend Friday 26th – Monday 29th May 2023.**

Weather permitting the BBMF Spitfire will do a fly past on Saturday 27th May

The BBMF Lancaster fly past will be on Sunday 28th May

Flight times are not yet known.

So dancers if you would like to join us in the day time on either or both of these days you will be made very welcome. Also please join us for the dances in the evenings. Both Saturday and Sunday night dances will be from 7.30 – 10.30 p.m. Dancing Squares to Simon and Trudy Fielding and Rounds to Nick Wright.

Please contact: Carol and Peter Baker 01476 561087 or Mick and Judy Grummitt 01400 281497 for more information.

WAGGONERS OPEN MIC NIGHT

Waggoners held their annual Open Mic night on Monday 3rd April with six volunteers, David H, David S, Jacqui, Penny, Michael and Julie, taking part. From the stage Simon introduced each participant while Trudy gave behind the scenes support, calming any last minute nerves. She also acted as a human microphone stand for David S who had neglected to bring a stand with him for when he accompanied himself on his electric ukulele for his singing call "You Never Can Tell" but had remembered to make himself a balloon hat!



Being the Monday before Easter we all enjoyed buttered Hot Cross Buns during the break.

Although Simon and Trudy sometimes sing a duet for us at the end of a special night, our evening had a surprise ending when Simon and Penny gave us a duet of "Fly Me to the Moon" which they had been working on together.

Janet Hewitt

Waggoners celebrate the Coronation

As Waggoners meet on Monday evenings, but not Bank Holidays, we held our celebration for the Coronation on Monday 24th April.

Members came dressed in patriotic "red, white and blue" or with a "royal" theme and brought Pot Luck for our (indoor) "Street Party". We decorated our dance hall with patriotic bunting and had a table where members



could show memorabilia from previous Coronations and photos of themselves, or family members taken around June 1953. We are very fortunate at Waggoners to have a balloon artist among our members and he made numerous red, white and blue balloon crowns which added to the decorations.



Half way through the evening we went to the Dining Hall, where the tables had been arranged in a long line, decorated with Union flags, red, white and blue napkins and Coronation celebration cakes and enjoyed our Pot Luck. After the meal Simon, our Caller, proposed a loyal toast and we all raised our glasses to King Charles III. Although by now very full from the Pot Luck, we returned to dancing for the rest of the evening which even included some

"Hot Hash" for our more experienced dancers.

Janet

Steeple Steppers holds its Easter EGGstravaganza

Just short of 50 dancers joined together to celebrate Easter in great style. Everyone had made a great effort; some wearing square dancing attire, others decorating their tables with Easter bunnies, decorated eggs, palm crosses and colourful tablecloths. Many dancers wore highly decorated Easter bonnets or donned bunny ears. We even had the Easter bunny generously giving out mini Easter eggs, courtesy of our very own Rob, who can't resist dressing up and making the most of any celebration.



After a tip for all levels of dancers, (Emma now calls beginners, mainstream and 'Plus' dances so diverse is our group), we held the first of our egg and spoon races. This featured our most loved dancers, our octogenarians (Barry Gardiner can even boast to passing 90!) As a mere 70 year old, they gave me great hope for an active future as I watched them hurtling down the hall with their eggs finely balanced on their wooden spoons; the competitive streak clearly doesn't fade! Obviously square dancing is the tonic; so as the late great Bruce Forsyth once said; 'Keep Dancing!' Many members took up the challenge and five further heats were raced and numerous Easter eggs and plants were given out as prizes. A break was then taken so that the members could enjoy sandwiches, generously supplied by John Wingad, to celebrate his 89th birthday, and hot cross buns donated by the club. After more dancing the club held a free prize draw for all, giving away 16 Easter eggs and 10 spring plants.

It always gives me great pleasure watching all ages of square dancers enjoying themselves each Sunday evening. Even if you go wrong nobody worries - laughter is the response! What a tonic Square dancing truly is! I would like to take this opportunity to thank all callers out there; you are doing an amazing job and you are much appreciated by us all.

Emma Horsfield

Steeple Steppers February Dance, 2023.

It really was a most enjoyable evening and Paul Bristow, the caller, made it such fun. I really liked how we had the different dances arranged so we weren't sitting out for a long time during longer sessions of Plus and rounds. It was only the second dance I have been to as a Graduate to Mainstream. To see the floor full of seven sets of dancers and colourful skirts swishing to the music was a lovely sight. The evening went so smoothly with the helpers arranging things to make it a special evening.

It was interesting to follow the moves which were cued by Amy Richardson for the Rounds dances. She called some interesting dances including a rumba, and did splendid cueing for the round dancers.

Also, a big thank you to our wonderful weekly caller Emma Horsfield. It was so enjoyable to be able to dance Mainstream at the dance and to realise how far the beginners have come.

Helen Beeby



AUTUMN DANCE
with MINSTER SQUARES

CALLER **TERRY CHAPMAN**

SATURDAY 7TH OCTOBER

12:15 – 1:45pm AI

2:00 pm – 5:00 pm

MAINSTREAM & PRE-ANNOUNCED PLUS

At COLEHILL VILLAGE HALL

CANNON HILL RD, BH21 2LR

Admission £3(A) & £5 (MS&P)

Refreshments provided

RAFFLE

Call Sheila on 01202 889110

The poster features a small illustration of a tree with autumn leaves in the bottom left corner.

Why did the Cuer say THAT?

As dancers we are taught to follow the instructions given by the Cuer, but did you ever stop to wonder why they said a specific word or phrase in a particular way?

UK Cuers follow the standard cue terms recommended by Roundalab, the RD governing body. Over time these may change following more rigorous definitions of the figures, to ensure consistency within and between rhythms. *Example:* **DOUBLE HITCH** is now used rather than **FORWARD AND BACK HITCH**, or even **HITCH 6**. The term is unambiguous, easy to say and is less likely to be misheard. We endeavour to update old cue sheets to avoid obsolete or misleading terms, but don't always catch them all, especially in old, familiar or Classic dances.

Where split cues are used to tell the Man and Lady to do different steps at the same time, the rule is the first term relates to the Man and the second to the Lady. *Example:* **HITCH/SCISSORS**. The Man will **HITCH** while the Lady executes a **SCISSORS** to finish in a designated position. However, when the Man needs advance information in order to lead the Lady to execute the next figure the terms will be reversed. *Example:* **TWIRL/VINE 3** is used in preference to **VINE/TWIRL 3**.

Dancers sometimes ask why we say in TwoStep **SCISSORS THROUGH** but in Waltz we say **THROUGH TWINKLE**, although they are analogous figures. The reason is that if the first word you hear is the first step you take, the dancer can prepare to step in the right direction, even before hearing the remainder of the cue. In TwoStep rhythm, many figures commence with a **SIDE, CLOSE**, preparation followed by a step in a defined direction – in this example both dancers step through. However in Waltz, the directional step often precedes a **SIDE, CLOSE**, to complete the figure, so it is more helpful to hear **THROUGH** first.

Sometimes Cuers will give additional information, often a position or facing direction, especially when cueing to newer dancers, to help them to keep up with the dance. *Example:* **WHIP** to face Centre. Here the facing direction is not essential. By definition the dancers change places to face the opposite direction, but if some dancers are out of position at the start of the figure, it may be helpful to get everyone facing the correct direction. Unfortunately, occasional hints may become an unthinking habit, which may later be picked up by

Continued on next page

newer Cuers and even assumed to be part of the cue term, if not checked against the RAL definitions and standards.

This article was prompted by a question from one of the members at a Round Dance Council training session (Thanks Shirley). Why do we say **SLIP PIVOT to BANJO**, when the definition states the figure ends in Banjo position? This led me to go back to the definitions to check usage of **SLIP PIVOT** and **SLIP**. Having clarified these, I looked back at old cue sheets for clues. As far as I am aware **SLIP PIVOT** has never had any other finish position, so I had to conclude this was a helpful hint which became a habit – I am open to correction if anyone has any further information. I suspect that “back in the day” as dancers began to progress beyond the basic Waltz figures, the first dances they would have learned would include Classics such as “Answer Me” This includes the sequence **TELEMARK; HOVER FAL-LAWAY; SLIP PIVOT; MANOEUVRE;** . The SLIP PIVOT changes position from SCP to Banjo, so an extra reminder might well have been used. I am aware I tend to add “to Banjo” by habit, so my New Year’s resolution was to stop doing so when cueing to experienced dancers.

Judi Reid

Emma Horsfield Calls for Hogsmill SDC

Emma Horsfield gave Hogsmill dancers two great dances on Saturday. In the afternoon we danced SSD with newer dancers well supported by the Mainstream and Plus dancers. In the evening she upped the pace to entertain the Mainstream and Plus dancers.

Emma has years of experience teaching square dancing and gently eased the newer dancers into their first Saturday Dance, gradually increasing the speed and complexity of the moves. She has a beautiful "bluesy" voice, powerful and clear and we loved her choice of songs. Novices and experienced dancers all said they had a great evening and look forward to hearing Emma call again.

We were very pleased to welcome visitors from Travaux Twirlers, Worthing SDC, Tudor Squares, Cuffley SDC and Chalfont SDC as well as Emma's parents Elaine and Tony and also Paul Barnes (a former member) who was conveniently in the area to attend a very special first birthday party.

Team Hogsmill came together again helping to set up, help with teas and clear up after, making the whole event run smoothly. The event finished at 10.00pm and by 10.15, the decorations were down and we were ready to vacate the hall!

A big thank you to all those who supported the newer dancers at both SSD and Plus and to Ian who has run extra teaching sessions so that everyone can feel confident and enjoy the dance, to Colin who has supported him and to Granville, the sole SSD teacher and main Club Caller.



Thank you to Emma for such a lovely evening and to everyone who danced.

The Square Dance Caller's Club of Great Britain

<http://www.Callersclub.uk>

There is definitely a place for SSD in the programs, but there are still many callers and dancers who think the SSD is a distraction from the regular programs we are used to.

For the last 20 years I have had a lovely group of dancers from my U3A group who vary, according to the possible mixes of new dancers who join us, to whom I wouldn't try to teach the full MS program. It would worry them too much and our alternate Monday afternoons would cease to be fun for them. Bearing in mind that all my group are aged over 75, and if they have to miss our afternoon to attend a hospital appointment; they would not have danced for 3 weeks.

I have dancers who are even older than me who come regularly

Knowing now the moves that even the most experienced dancers sometimes find tricky I can list a dozen or so moves I won't even attempt.

I don't want to see puzzled frowns on the faces of my friends, I love to see them laughing and enjoying what I call.

I can call with clear directions who does the walk and who does the dodge.

I can call circle four 3/4 instead of circle to a line, the result is close enough. There are too many small unimportant rules for an 85 year old to remember.

But it does keep me on my toes coming up with different but simple ways to give variety to their dancing experience. So I insist there IS a place for the SSD program especially if it keeps people dancing to great music for longer.

It may cost me a bit extra buying more great music tracks and extra effort in finding ways to please everyone but YOU'RE WORTH IT.

Susie

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Club of Great Britain**
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Road, Thornton, Bucks, MK17 0HE
Tel: 01280 816940
e-mail: susie@graybo.co.uk

James Wyatt - one of our brightest stars:

A Facebook message from Brenda Wyatt - 26th April 2023

It is with great sadness that I must tell you James sadly passed away peacefully earlier today surrounded by his family. He had been ill for nearly 7 years and his health saw a steep decline in the past couple of months. Nite nite darling - **Brenda Wyatt**



James was a fantastic Caller and a great friend. When health problems forced him to retire from Calling, in 2016, we lost one of our best; here, in his own words, is his story: *(taken from James' autobiographical details, on the Sting and New Beat web-sites)*

"It was in 1981 that James gained his first positive experience of Square Dancing, by attending a one-night-stand sponsored by Pairs n' Squares S.D.C of Basingstoke, little did he know how this was going to affect the next 35 years of his life. "Bitten by the bug", James couldn't get enough Square Dancing; he started Dancing up to 7 nights a week and - very soon - started to show an interest in, dare I say it..... Calling !!

In 1982 James got hold of his first couple of singing calls, he practiced and practiced until he could Call them off by heart. James would always carry his records with him and would seize on any opportunity to Call them. Even though, deep down James was a very shy and private person - and all this attention and fuss was one of the things he found most difficult to deal with - he did find the courage to pick up the mike and Call!

At the end of 1982 James was invited to Call a student class for Happy Hoedowners of Bournemouth; James readily accepted (this was the break he had been waiting for). It wasn't long before James was travelling sometimes 3 times a week to Bournemouth to Call. James was invited to become one of the Club Callers at Southampton Squares and soon after became Club Caller for Chiltern S.D.C; he also Called, on a regular basis, for Adepts S.D.C., Tadley Squares and Tilehurst Swingers.

James soon found himself Calling on most weekends, as a regular staff Caller at week-long festivals and many weekend events throughout the U.K. as well as Scandinavia and Europe. James Called in many countries - including: U.S.A., Germany, Sweden, Denmark Norway, Switzerland, Holland, Scotland, Wales and Guernsey. James was an Accredited Member of Callerlab and a member of the Square Dance Callers Club of Great Britain.

James often mentioned that two of the highlights in his Calling career were: Calling to 150 Squares at the 2001 National Convention in Anaheim U.S.A., while being backed by the Ghost-riders Square Dance Band - and Calling on top of a mountain in Switzerland, 10,000 feet above sea level, with nothing more than a walking stick to make the music!

In 2000 James was invited to become a Recording Artist for Sting Records and (as the Associate Producer) made 3 trips to Nashville to produce music; he recorded vocals on 10 Sting tunes. In 2005, he helped establish New-Beat: a label for whom he was one of the co-owners; where he recorded a further 20 Singing Calls and 5 Called Patters".

James lived in Basingstoke, Hampshire, England. He is survived by his wife Brenda, his daughter Lori-Ann, his son Rocky and his one year old grandson Emerson.

Compiled by Paul Bristow

Obituary ~ Dave Mackman 1/5/1938 - 18/3/2023

We at Cheltenham Swinging Squares sadly announce the passing of Dave Mackman in Cheltenham General Hospital.

Dave, together with his wife Pat, graduated in 1981 following lessons from Colin Pett.

Dave was a career draughtsman at Smiths Industries, Bishops Cleeve and he readily applied his innate skills to his dancing. He and Pat, as regular attendees, worked through the programmes reaching A2 and thus became widely known as an accomplished and experienced couple.

At home, they danced at Nuclear Electric with the late Dick Taylor and at Centre Squares with the late Dave Pettican. Abroad, he and Pat danced widely at conventions in North America, and often with Dave's friend and favourite caller the late Jerry Storey. New Zealand was also a familiar stomping ground on visits to family. Dave had an eclectic appreciation of music and particularly enjoyed Jazz and Big Band pieces.

Happily, he continued to attend dances until quite recently, but sadly his participation gradually decreased as his illness advanced. The many that knew Dave will miss him, not least for his willingness to help others and share his wide knowledge of dancing.

Thank you Dave.



Mike Gaskins

(I'm pleased to tell you that Pat intends to continue with her dancing.)

LET'S SQUARE DANCE ~ May 2023

In the right hand column of the listings, the abbreviations are:

TO = Ticket Only, RA = Raffle, PL = Pot Luck

OPEN DANCES May 2023

| | | |
|--|--|-------------------------|
| Fri 12 th to Sun 14 th | Aeron Valley Diamonds Holiday W/E with Squares Mike Belsten & Leah Tinsdeall MS, P Tel. 01545 561159 | TO Wales SA46 0HF |
| Fri 19 th to Sun 21 st | Hose Rounds Weekend Teresa & Paul Hart Ph II - IV Tel. 07738 717716 | TO LE14 4JR |
| Fri 26 th to Mon 29 th | Viking Squares Fun & Friendship Campout Simon & Trudy Fielding, Nick Wright MS, P, R Tel. 01400 281497 (Judy & Mick) or 01476 561087 07973270310 (Pete & Carol) | TO Lincs |
| | | |

REGULAR VIRTUAL DANCES May 2023

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Every Monday 4 pm | C1 Zoom Dance Di Green & Terry McCann C1 workshop and dance https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89035956452?pwd=VTYraWdmYUltSEE5SDRqNE1UNIR0UT09 Contact Di on digreen21@gmail.com |
| Every Tuesday 4 pm | A2 Zoom Dance Di Green & Terry McCann A2 https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89812836418?pwd=aHJoMERFVnM3ZG53TVZ0cTF0Rk1qZz09 Contact Di on digreen21@gmail.com |
| Every Wednesday 4 pm | Plus Zoom Dance Di Green & Terry McCann Plus https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81744783048?pwd=djFqNWxtS0dmeGtJb0FzR3B0eGxkUT09 Contact Di on digreen21@gmail.com |

OPEN DANCES June 2023

| | | |
|--|--|-------------------------|
| Fri 9 th | CONTROUND EIGHTS - Extended Club Night Eric Webb MS, P Tel. 01235 834778 (Eric) | Oxon OX13 6RR, |
| Sat 10 th | WAGGONERS - Summer Dance Trudy & Simon Fielding MS Tel. 01992 441083 / 07719 961611 (David) | RA PL |
| Sat 10 th (Afternoon) | WESTERNERS Isle of Wight Dance Terry Chapman with Ray Winter and Andy & Angela Brackstone MS, pa P Tel. 07752879976 | I.O.W PO40 9UU |
| Sat 10 th | Bishops Eight 14th Birthday Dance Brian Summerfield, Paul Preston, Amy Richardson MS, P, R Tel. 01949 860843 (Kath) | RA Notts NG14 7BD |
| Sat 17 th | Wessex Regional Callers Association Area Dance Simon & Trudy Fielding MS, p/a P Tel 07736 285341 (Peter) | Hants SO40 3RS |
| Mon 19 th to Fri 23 rd | Aeron Valley Diamonds Symonds Yat Johnny Preston Plus, A1, A2 Tel. 01545561159 | TO Hereford |
| Sat 24 th | Another Night with Neil Neil Whiston P, A1, A2 Tel. 07985 644335 (Barbara) 07860 467842 (Maggie) | RA HP1 3QG, |
| Fri 23 rd to Sat 25 th | Pieces of 8 Midsummer Weekend of Dance Rob Branson Plus, A1 & A2 Tel. 0797270310 (Rob) | TO CV37 8PE |
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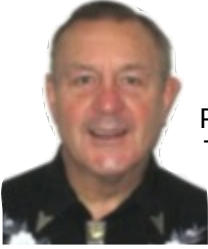
2023 Square Dance Holidays and Weekend Breaks

| | | |
|---------------------------------|---|--|
| M A Y | Fri 12 th to Mon 14 th | AERON VALLEY DIAMONDS Wales Holiday weekend Mike Belsten & Leah Tinsdeall MS, P Tel: 01545 561159 (Roy & Elaine) |
| | Fri 19 th to Sun 21 st | HOSE ROUNDS WEEKEND Teresa & Paul Hart Ph II - IV Tel 07738 717716 |
| | Fri 26 th to Mon 29 th | VIKING SQUARES - 11th Fun and Friendship Camp Out Trudy & Simon Fielding & Nick Wright MS, P, R Tel: 01400 281497 (Judy/Mick) or 01476 561087 (Peter/Carol) |
| J U N | Mon 19 th to Friday 23 rd | AERON VALLEY DIAMONDS Symonds Yat Week Johnny Preston P, A 1,2 Tel. 01545 561159 (Roy / Elaine) aronvalleydiaminds@yahoo.co.uk |
| J U L Y | Friday 21 st to Sat 22 nd | BAASDC 70th Birthday Event Multiple Callers / Cuers MS, P, A, R e-mail: baasdc.secretary@gmail.com |
| S E P T | Fri 1 st to Sun 3 rd | GEMINI SQUARES Swanwick Plus Weekend Emma Horsfield & Robert Hurst P Tel: 07867 616149 (Emma) |
| | Fri 8 th to Sun 10 th | BLACK ARROWS - Torquay A2 Weekend Paul Bristow & Bronc Wise A2 e-mail: potplant38@yahoo.co.uk (Doreen) |
| | Fri 22 nd to Sun 24 th | HOGSMILL SQUARES Bournemouth Bonanza Weekend Granville Spencer & Ian Turvill Plus, A1, A2 taster Tel. 07742 881439 (Wendy) |
| O C T O B E R | Fri 6 th to Sun 8 th | LVOW & ChAin Reaction NorthWest and Lakes Weekend Paul Bristow, Di Green & Terry McCann MS, P, A1,2 Tel. 01524 811444 / 07981 743959 (Carol) |
| | Fri 13 th to Mon 16 th | Pilgrim Promenaders 38 th Cornish Weekend Tim Crawford & Tommy Heeberger P, A1, A2 callerbernard@blueorder.com (Bernard) |
| | Sun 15 th to Sun 22 nd | ASAZ Cruise from S'hampton visiting France & Spain Kevin Lovell P, A1 (A2) Tel: 07796 695575 (Kevin) |

CANCELLED

CHANGED

BAASDC COUNCIL MEMBERS



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The BAASDC Council is supported by a small Support Team who have offered to fulfil specific tasks because of their expertise. Details of these together with contact details for the autonomous Area Federation representatives are given on the following page.

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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.

As the mag. Is no longer printed, photo resolution is not so important. A 1Mb file is adequate. **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.

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| <i>Size/Entry</i> | <i>Club Rates</i> | <i>Size/Entry</i> | <i>Club Rates</i> |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| ¼ page | £10 | ½ page | £20 |
| Full page | £30.00 | | |

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