

# NEW SOUTH WALES



## *Let's Go Dancing*

**MARCH  
2020**

**Volume: 4**

**Issue: 2**



**ENQUIRIES  
1800 643 277**

# Australian Round Dance Association

'ARDA stands committed to the ongoing education and support of its members, all round dancers and the future of round dancing.'



## ARDA CONFERENCE 2020 plus Two Dance Party Nights

### ARDA EDUCATION CONFERENCE 2020

Monday 6th APRIL & Tuesday 7th APRIL 9.00 - 4.45 pm

Wednesday .. 9.00 - 12 pm HALF DAY

We unwind with an afternoon 'mystery event' cost not included.

Conference registration includes entry to the two dance party nights

### PARTY DANCE NIGHTS 7 - 9 PM

\$10 pp per night FOR ALL WHO LOVE DANCING. Just coming to watch FREE!

There will be dancing for EVERYONE plus MYSTERY dance bracket!!

Dance party nights will be held at St Hilda's Hall see details below.

FREE ENTRY for CUERS/CALLERS and partners unable to attend the Conference.

The ARDA Education Conference 2020 will be held at

St Hilda's Anglican Church Hall, 68 Katoomba Street, KATOOMBA

ARDA Education Officers Paula & Warwick Armstrong, assisted by guest presenters (TWO from USA) will provide you with the latest and greatest techniques/information to take your knowledge/dancing to the next level.

*'see you at the Conference?'*

ARDA Members \$65.00 pp Non ARDA Members \$95.00 pp

REGISTRATION FORMS available from [arda.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:arda.secretary@gmail.com)

## SHOWCASE and EXPERIMENTAL sessions

As per DRAFT round dance program ...

Review of the 2019 Showcase nominations

commence at 12.30 pm Sunday 12 April.

Your opportunity to dance and VOTING will follow.

Presentation of the 2020 Showcase nominations

will be presented at approximately 7.20 pm Sunday 12 April.

Presentation and Teaching of the 2020 Experimental nominations

are programmed throughout the day of Saturday 11 April.

PLEASE CHECK YOUR PROGRAM BOOKLET for CONFIRMED SESSION TIMES

ARDA Website: [rounddancing.org.au](http://rounddancing.org.au)

# What's Happening

Welcome to this month's edition of Let's Go Dancing. As mentioned last issue Mother Nature has definitely thrown the gauntlet down and given us a taste of all types of weather and hopefully those in the dancing fraternity have come through relatively unscathed.

As you would be aware New South Wales is hosting the National Convention and it would be wonderful if we had a large contingent of dancers from our state. If you haven't registered there is still time. Also, if anyone is in need of accommodation please contact me as we have had some dancers who have had to cancel due to medical issues. Included this month is an update on the 61st ANSDC and a biography of Maree Huffadine.

It would be excellent if dancers are free on the 5th April to join us at Katoomba to demonstrate to the Blue Mountains what a great activity Square & Round Dancing provides. Wear square dance attire of casual clothes to join in the fun. Contact Louise if you can make it. (details on page 5).

Lots of clubs celebrating birthdays this month and many starting new dancer classes which helps to keep our activity alive and thriving. Don't forget to tell your friends some of the benefits of dancing as well as the fun you have.

Thank you to all those who assist by sending articles and information. Now, find a comfortable chair, sit back and enjoy reading the March issue of Let's Go Dancing. Till next time.

Ros



"Dance is your pulse, your heartbeat, your breathing. It's the rhythm of your life. It's the expression in time and movement, in happiness, joy, sadness and envy."

– Jaques D'Ambroise



# Square & Round Dance Association of NSW Inc.

## 2018 Committee

President:	David Todd	0411 888515	presidentsarda@gmail.com
Vice President:	Ed Coleman	02 9875 1975	
Vice President:	Ted Thomas	0409 986 583	tedandlyn@bigpond.com
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M'ship Secretary	Barbara Doust	02 96026377	owen.doust1@gmail.com
Publicity Officer			
Country Officer Nth	Frances McAlister		johnfran53@hotmail.com
Country Officer Sth	Helen Hodalj		helen_hodalj@yahoo.com

## General Committee

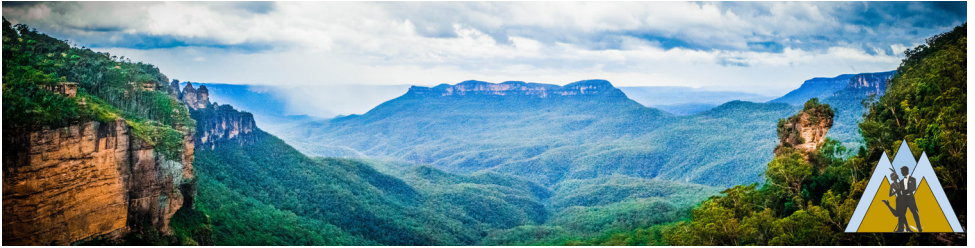
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ACF Vice Chairman	Barry Wonson	02 4229 4069	bjwonson@gmail.com
NSW Coordinator	Frances McAlister		johnfran53@hotmail.com
ACF Treasurer	Gary Carpenter		Gary.Carpenter@de.com.au
<b>National Square Dance Society</b>			
Public Relations	Pauline Hansford	02 96244396	
Review Executive	Rosalind Todd	02 4753 6382	jarodd@bigpond.net.au



<https://www.facebook.com/NSWSquareDancing/>



## 61st ANSDC Update

I hope you are faring well after the fires and then the floods. What a challenging season it's been. Amongst it all our committee have been working tirelessly and things are ramping up now in the final lead-up to the 61st Australian National Square Dance Convention!

We are honoured to have the internationally renowned American caller Randy Dougherty as one of our callers. We are very grateful indeed to all of the callers and cuers who have put their hand up to be a part of the Convention and help to make it a fun and memorable time! Thank you all so much!

A basic outline of our program was in issue 8 of the Ritz Rag and can be viewed on our website by clicking on the "Other" tab on the home page. Thanks Barry and Helen for your time and expertise in setting up the program.

The decorations and stage sets are looking fabulous, thanks Owen and Maree! Their great work will really set the scene as we Put on the Ritz for your pleasure and entertainment.

Do you have your 1920's glad rags sorted for our theme night on Monday 13th April and then our afternoon Garden Party on 14th April? Our theme colours are Black and Gold! Flappers and gangsters, guys and dolls will abound as we celebrate the glamour, decadence and frivolity of that bygone era of the 1920's!

If you're coming to our Convention you would have received an expression of interest survey as we are organising catering on site at the Convention. There are snacks, lunches and an all you can eat three course smorgasbord dinners. Please reply so we have an idea of numbers for our caterer. This is not a commitment on your part, just to assist our ordering.

You still have time to join either of our Post Convention Tours to view the details and make a reservation visit [www.fantastic-aussie-tours.com.au/2020-square-dance.aspx](http://www.fantastic-aussie-tours.com.au/2020-square-dance.aspx) or Ph 1300796651.

If you or your friends haven't registered for our National Convention there is still time and there is still available accommodation in the local area. It will be seven years before

Continued page 5

# Club News

## **CARPENTER & CO**

Caller: Gary Carpenter

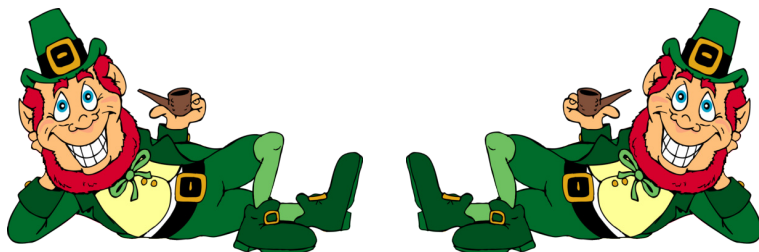
What a great weekend the bunkhouse is: Though numbers were down a little from two years ago we still had 45 people joining us for our 41st birthday, with over a square from other clubs. Despite the recent bush fires and the lingering drought, mother nature put her best foot forward. Recent downpours had the paddocks green and the river running. I won't say it didn't rain but most of Saturday was sunny and if it did rain it was when it didn't bother us at all. Food was plentiful and well cooked by a great team. New birds (for the area) were sighted by an eager bunch of bird watchers. Julie cued and taught a new round, Wendy, Wayne, James and Don helped with the calling and it was only Daniele who thought we didn't dance enough. The best bit is that there is limited mobile access so we can all enjoy relaxing in a back to nature setting.

As for club nights; big thank you to Wendy & Wayne filling in while I'm off on a few jaunts. Everyone seems to be in the groove again and we look forward to welcoming new dancers in March. We've had separate visits from Janette & Martin who are always very welcome. Life goes on and dancing is great.

## **HENRY KENDALL SQUARES**

Caller Les Heaton

Happy New Year to all. We hope that Santa gave you all the things your heart desired, we also hope that 2020 will be a great and rewarding year for all. Our club finished on a high in December and we are looking toward a very good year, although our first night back didn't happen as with the storms, no power, many phone calls to dancers and a note on the hall door to inform the dancers that the dance was cancelled for the night. We start back now on 17th February and with luck we'll have all the dancers attending after a very long break. Birthday wishes to many dancers who had birthdays over the break. Henry Kendall's 28th birthday in March, the dance has been going longer than just about any resident at the village. New dancers starting in March and like all clubs we will be hoping for an intake of many dancers. Keep dancing and we will see you on a dance floor sometime.



## SAVE THE DATE

**11am 5th April 2020  
Carrington Place  
Katoomba**

**Square Dance attire or  
casual dress  
FLASH MOB  
DEMONSTRATION**

Contact Louise 0413 774 897



**SQUARE DANCE  
ACCESSORIES**

**Jouko**



**Phone (02) 9625 9900**

**Email: [squaredance@hotmail.com](mailto:squaredance@hotmail.com)**



## NSW Lucky Membership Draw

**Metro:** Kneedeep Squares 201255

**Country:** Carpenter & Co 4169

### Previous winners

Pegg Edwards Hillbillies

Ross Mc Rae Cloverleaf Dancers

Winners please contact Barbara Doust on (02) 9602 6377

or write to: 12 St Pauls Crescent, Liverpool NSW 2170

## 61st ANSDC Update Continued

we have another National Convention in NSW so it's especially a great opportunity for all of our local folk to attend!

Please visit our website and Facebook page to keep up with all of the latest information and to check out more local attractions! Any queries please contact Louise: [secretary2020sdconvention@gmail.com](mailto:secretary2020sdconvention@gmail.com) or Susanne: [publicity2020sdconvention@gmail.com](mailto:publicity2020sdconvention@gmail.com) . We look forward to tripping the light fantastic with you!

[www.2020sdconvention.com](http://www.2020sdconvention.com)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/434857693607535/>

# Club News

## **HILLBILLIES SQUARES** Beecroft.

Callers: Vickie and Steve

Ted and Lyn went cruising and while they were on the ship somebody recognised Ted's voice. It was Pat Cook from square dancing in the early sixties. Kath and Bill went to Tasmania by ship and they had a great time. Pam is trying to get a refund from a cruise to Singapore and China. Annette is going to Antarctica I know she'll have a good time. For those whose health is not great at the moment we send our best wishes. Happy birthday to all the people who are having birthdays this month.

## **KNEE DEEP SQUARES**

Chris & Linda Froggatt

What a start to the year. It was great to still have good crowds, despite the wild weather, ranging from 40-degree heat to monsoonal rain and humidity. Lovely to have Janice Alexander and Des Dickinson visiting from Melbourne. Everyone enjoyed Janice's calling, and the duet with Chris. Love was in the air with so many love songs for Valentine's Day. A big thank you to Shirley Findlay for her thoughtful hand-made roses she brought for everyone to wear.

A big welcome to our new beginners. We look forward to helping you enjoy our wonderful activity. Thanks to those who came along to our demo at the local markets.

Plenty to look forward to in the near future: the National Convention in the Blue Mountains, our 30th Birthday Party and Holbrook Halfway Dance in June.

Happy birthday wishes to Chris, Terry, Wal, Lynn, Nita, and Margaret. Happy Anniversary wishes to Jeanette & John (celebrating on a wonderful cruise), Linda & Chris. Congratulations to Alex & Katie on the safe arrival of Angelina Emily !!

## **MOUNTAIN DEVILS**

Caller: David Todd

Thank you to all those visitors who came from far and wide to join our 24th birthday celebration. You really had to look hard to recognise some of our dances who cleverly transformed themselves into Indian squaws or cowboys. We also had the very elegant Vietnamese and German ladies plus a host of others. A big thank you to Molly for making a delicious cake and to Ron who devised the guess the flag competition. Jens was the Flag Master and Renate the best dressed in our Small World. Not to forget our caller, David who entertained us with brackets from around the world. Guest included Ed Coleman cueing rounds and Lynda & Maree backing up with some singing calls. Happy birthday Juliana and Ron.

Our Australia Day was lots of fun with great Aussie numbers to dance too.



# **SUTHERLAND SHIRE - NSW**

## **LEARN TO DANCE PLUS**

Class starting soon!

Full Mainstream experience required

RSVP today

**Email:** shiredancelessons@gmail.com

**Phone:** 0415 222 150

# **SUTHERLAND SHIRE - NSW**

## **Monthly Social Dance Dates:**

**Saturday 14th March (2nd Saturday)**

24th Club anniversary (Blacks & Whites)

**Saturday 4th April (1st Saturday)**

Gold coin donation entry for experienced dancers

1 night introduction to Square Dancing &

1 night introduction to Waltz

**Saturday 9th May (2nd Saturday)**

Singing Call Requests

**Email:** shiredancelessons@gmail.com

**Phone:** 0415 222 150

# Club News

## OUTBACK GRAND SQUARES

Arthur Johnson

Great to see our dancers back really enjoying it all, because we only dance fortnightly it seems to take so long getting to M/S but all are enjoying our Sundays with the dancing and the social bit sitting around talking. Years ago there were several clubs in this area so we have dancers travelling from Dubbo, Wellington and Mudgee to dance with us at Gulgong, Thanks to all of the dancers who support us.

## PANTHER SQUARES

Caller: Maree Huffadine

Glad all the fires are contained but now with the rain, flooding occurs! We can't win but we Aussies are very adaptable! Panthers will celebrate their 29th Birthday this month with a colour theme - first initial of your name is the colour for the night ! Several of our members enjoyed a group booking to the Seniors Concert in Sydney- always a wonderful day of fellowship and entertainment. Good to have Sally and Jane back after their cruise as well as June and Vince back from their travels to Caloundra, Queensland. Had a lovely visit from Eddie Pollard-an ex-dancer from Arizona USA. Some of our dancers attended the Bunkhouse weekend via Scone..good time. Ron H. celebrated a "big" birthday last month....says he doesn't feel like 90 ?? 61st National Square and Round Dance Convention rapidly approaching. Happy dancing everyone!

## SUMMERLAND LARRIKINS & NORTHERN WAVES

Caller: Frances McAlister

Both clubs advertised for beginners during January, with two beginners starting at the Waves club and six beginners at the Larrikins club. All the beginners are enjoying their time. After the drought, came the floods which kept a few people away, as well as few illnesses. The Larrikins birthday in March. Happy birthday Jean.



<b>NSW METROPOLITAN CLOGGING</b>				
<b>THURSDAY</b>	WEST PYMBLE	Hillbillies Cloggers	Vickie Dean	9979 5736
<b>FRIDAY</b>	HURSTVILLE	Hillbillies Southsiders	Vickie Dean	979 5736
<b>SATURDAY</b> Morning	GUILDFORD	Strictly Cloggers	Jason Nicholson	Colleen 9727 3483



## Solo Dancers

Throughout the “Square Dancing World” in Australia, March is usually the month when clubs welcome new dancers. Many of these dancers will be without a permanent dance partner (widely known as “Solo Dancers”). They may, at first, feel nervous and hesitate to join a square-up. Some clubs provide “Angels” (experienced dancers) who help the new dancers to settle-in and provide assistance if they are without a partner. There are many “Solo Dancers” throughout Australia and no one needs to feel alone. Learning to square dance takes a fairly long time – two years is usually the required time to graduate as a Mainstreamer. New dancers often pull-out after only a couple of months because they think they are slow learners. Taking time to fully understand the moves and regularly attend the club sessions (practice makes perfect) is the best way to learn and become good at square dancing. The benefits gained by becoming a square dancer are – social contact, exercise, brain power (listening and activating the calls), travel (attending conventions and other club functions), co-ordination (understanding right from left), keeping fit and healthy (body, mind and soul). A huge welcome to all the new dancers and if you are a solo dancer don’t be afraid to ask for help, and enjoy every step you take.

I’m so looking forward to the National Convention at Wentworth Falls. Please give me a call, or email, if you would like to participate in the Solo Dress-Set. Any Solo Dancer who is not in their club Dress-Set and would like to “give it a go” can be in the Solo Dress-Set. (Men – Black Shirt and Trousers; Ladies – Yellow Skirts and Black Tops)

Keep on Smiling. Phone 0409457342 or email - ejboyd@bigpond.com

Eileen Boyd  
(Tamworth Cloverleaf Dancers)



## Riddle?

A woman shoots her husband. Then she holds him under water for over 5 minutes. Finally, she hangs him. But 5 minutes later they both go out together and enjoy a wonderful dinner together. How can this be?

hung it up to dry.

The woman was a photographer. She shot a picture of her husband, developed it, and

**Answer:**

# NSW Calendar of Events

## March

6th	Top Cats - Square Dance Beginners Wk 2	Sutherland
8th	Cloverleaf Dancers 12th Birthday	
8th	Clovelly Dancers - SD Beginners Wk 1	Clovelly
11th	Panther Squares 29th Birthday	Surveyors Creek
13th	Top Cats SD Beginners Intake	Sutherland
14th	Top Cats 24th Birthday Dance	Sutherland
15th	Clovelly Dancers - SD Beginners Wk 2	Clovelly
20th	Top Cats SD Beginners Intake	Sutherland
21st	Summerland Larrikins Birthday	Alstonville
20-22	18th Classified A's weekend	Toukley
28th	Top Cats Intro to Two step	Sutherland
30th	Southside Rounds 31st Birthday	Beecroft

## April

4th	1 night Introduction to Square Dancing	Sutherland
	1 night introduction to the Waltz	Sutherland
6-8th	ACF Conference/ ARDA Conference	Leura/Katoomba
9th	Randy Dougherty Dance	Blackheath
10-14th	61st ANSDC	Wentworth Falls
17th	Knee Deep's 30th Birthday	

## May

4th	Learn the Rumba (4 week start date)	Sutherland
23	Victory Rounds Benefit Night	Gymea
30	SARDA Matinee, AGM, Dinner Dance	Emu Plains





## NSW CLUB DIARY WEDNESDAY

### **B-BAR-H**

Caller: Brian Hotchkies 0407-290-010 02 4392 0336

Warnervale Community Hall Cnr Warnervale & Virginia Roads, Warnervale

Weekly 6:30 A1. 7:30 Mainstream & Plus

### **CLOVERLEAF DANCERS**

Contact: Max

0411 501646

Kootingal War Memorial Hall 8A Denman Avenue Kootingal NSW 2352

Weekly 7.30pm Basic & Mainstream

### **DANCE AROUND**

Cuer: Terry Lee

0418 275 409

West Ryde Public School 6 Endeavour St West Ryde NSW 2114

Weekly 7pm School terms only Easy/Intermediate/High

### **FOREST FROLICKERS**

Contact: Helen

02 9451 8777

Forest Kirk Uniting Church Cnr Fitzpatrick Ave West & Warringah Rd Frenchs Forest 2086

Weekly 7.30pm Basic & Mainstream CD Club

### **GUYS & DOLLS**

Caller: Tedda Brooks

0412 835 685

Corrimal Uniting Church Hall Cnr Russell & Underwood Streets Corrimal NSW 2518

Weekly 7.30pm Basic, Mainstream & Plus

### **PANTHER SQUARES**

Caller: Maree Huffadine

02 9610 2523

Surveyors Creek Community Ctre Ballybunnion Terrace Glenmore Park NSW 2745

Weekly 7.30pm Basic & Mainstream

### **SUSSEX/SHOALHAVEN**

Caller: Jan Johnson

02 4402 9038

Wandandian Progress Hall Princes Hwy Wandandian NSW 2540

Weekly 7pm Rounds & Squares-Basic, Mainstream & Plus

### **THE RED BARONS**

Caller: Barry Wonson

02 4229 4059

East Hills Baptist Church Cnr. Forrest Road &, Lehn Rd, East Hills 2213

Weekly 7.30pm A1 & A2

### **TARTAN PROMENADERS**

Contact: Geoff

0407 449 384

Cardiff Senior Citizens Hall, 52 Harrison Street, Cardiff NSW.

Weekly 7pm Mainstream & Plus

### **WESLEY SENIORS**

Contact: Margaret McAlpine

02 9389 3191

220 Pitt Street, Sydney NSW 2000 CD's Daytime

Weekly Mainstream 10am till Noon Teaching Rounds and Basic Experienced Square Dancing 12noon - 1pm. Beginners 1pm - 3pm

## NSW CLUB DIARY THURSDAY

### **CARPENTER & CO**

Caller: Gary Carpenter

0429 827 793

9 Anzac Road Tuggerah NSW 2259

Weekly 7pm

Basic & Mainstream

### **NORTHERN WAVES**

Caller: Frances McAlister

0407 663 017

Lismore Heights Sports Recreation & Community Centre 181 High Street Lismore 2480

Weekly 4.30pm

Basic, Mainstream & Plus

## NSW CLUB DIARY FRIDAY

### **KNEE DEEP SQUARES**

Caller: Chris Froggatt

0421 133 518

Jannali Community Hall Cnr Jannali Avenue & Mary Street Jannali NSW 2226

Weekly 7.30pm

Basic & Mainstream

### **MOUNTAIN DEVILS**

Caller: David Todd

0411 888 515

Glenbrook Public School Woodville St, Glenbrook NSW 2773

Weekly 7pm

Mainstream & Plus

### **SAINTLY DEVILS**

Caller: Margaret Piper

0402 227 966

Drummond School Hall Cnr Rusden & Niagara Streets Armidale NSW 2350

Weekly Rounds 7pm Squares 7.30pm Basic, Mainstream & Plus

### **SUMMERLAND LARRIKINS**

Caller: Frances McAlister

0407 663017

Alstonville Uniting Church Hall 60 Main Street Alstonville NSW 2477

Weekly 7.30pm

Mainstream & Plus

### **WESLEY SENIORS**

Contact: Margaret McAlpine

02 9389 3191

220 Pitt Street, Sydney NSW 2000 CD's Daytime

Weekly 10am-12noon

Plus

## NSW CLUB DIARY SATURDAY

### **CLASSIFIED A**

Caller: Brian Hotchkies

Lynn Ed 0429900454

Berowra Uniting Church 4/6 Alan Rd, Berowra Heights NSW 2082

3rd Saturday 8pm

A1 & A2

### **TUMBI COUNTRY**

Caller: Brian Hotchkies

0407-290-010 02 4392 0336

Kariong Community Hall Cnr. Woy Woy Rd and Dandaloo Street, Kariong NSW 2250

2nd Saturday 8pm

Mainstream & Plus

## NSW CLUB DIARY SUNDAY

### OUTBACK GRAND SQUARES

Caller: Arthur Johnson 0427633841

Gulgong RSL 64 Herbert St, Gulgong NSW 2852

1st and 3rd Sundays 1.30pm ring to check. Basic and Mainstream

## 61st Australian National Square Dance Committee

### Introducing our Artistic Director Maree Huffadine



How you first got involved in square dancing: I saw a demonstration in the shopping centre, got a leaflet took it home and lost it. Some years later I was in hospital and a friend visited me and told me she and her husband were going square dancing and that's how Ron and I started square dancing.

We started square dancing in 1987 at Smithfield after dancing for about 12 months we joined competition teams and danced in different teams until about 2000.

**Calling experience:** I completed a caller school in 1992 with Chris Froggatt and started Union Square Dance Club one month later, and had that club for almost 10 years.

I was the caller for Ghostriders club at Campbelltown from 2000 till 2003 and I trained competition teams from 1994 till 2001. I was the junior MC and trophy secretary for about 5 years. I took over Panther Squares in 1995 and am still running that club. I have been calling for 26 years and dancing for 31 years.

**Favourite singing call:** Too many to say

**Interests outside of square dancing:** Any type of craft eg patchwork, crocheting, card making, leather work, genealogy and family.

**Favourite Movies:** Old classic movies and T.V. shows like Home and Away, documentaries and true crime.



# **LEARN HOW TO DANCE? YOU KNOW YOU WANT TO!!**

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**Come as you are or with a friend / partner + No experience required**

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**shiredancelessons@gmail.com or 0415 222 150**

**\*DISCOVER THE FUN & FRIENDSHIP OF DANCE\***

**LEARN TO SQUARE DANCE!!**

**\*\*\* NEW LEARNERS WELCOME \*\*\***

**FRIDAY 28TH FEBRUARY AND 6TH, 13TH & 20TH MARCH  
WEEKLY CLASS - NO PRIOR EXPERIENCE REQUIRED**

**LEARN THE CHA-CHA BASICS**

**4 WEEK COURSE - COMMENCING TUESDAY 3RD MARCH**

**LEARN TO SQUARE DANCE (A ONE NIGHT INTRODUCTION)**

**SATURDAY 4TH APRIL**

**LEARN THE WALTZ (A ONE NIGHT INTRODUCTION)**

**SATURDAY 4TH APRIL**

**LEARN THE RUMBA BASICS**

**4 WEEK COURSE - COMMENCING MONDAY 4TH MAY**

**DANCING IS GREAT FOR THE MIND AND BODY  
THE FUN WAY TO EXERCISE!**

**Contact: shiredancelessons@gmail.com or 0415 222 150**

# Smile — Dancing Is About the Relationship

by Harold & Meredith Sears

When we first learn a new figure, a new dance, it is natural to focus on the steps and the figures? But if we want to feel good and look good, we need to go beyond technical accuracy and incorporate into our dancing a relationship with our partner. Without a relationship, the dance is just steps, just exercise, just earnest, unsmiling locomotion. But if the dance contains emotion and communication, then we have something more than exercise. We have art.

Of course, we need to execute the steps, but the steps only make up the foundation of a dance. Built on top of the steps, we need to feel the fun, the story that the dance might be telling, or the picture that it's painting. If we can show that we enjoy our partner, if we can play off our partner and respond emotionally to the music and to the movements of the dance, then we can achieve a richness that goes well beyond the dance routine.

## Fred and Ginger —

Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers made ten movies. Of course, Fred and Ginger dance beautifully, but the beauty emerges especially because those dances are more than their steps. Many are wonderfully fun. Some are serious and dramatic, and some are even tragic. Their dances are physically and emotionally rich. Each dance embodies a human relationship.

One of the lightest Fred-and-Ginger dances, from *Follow the Fleet*, 1936, is "I'm Putting All My Eggs In One Basket," a goofy, clowning, clumsy, and silly dance. But they are having fun, and they show it. They smile at the pleasure of their own movements. They make eye contact. They laugh. They aren't just working through a sequence. They aren't working at all. They are relating to each other with body language, facial expression, and gesture. They're doing it to the music, but there is life, relationship, and emotion in every move.



Another fun dance is "I'll Be Hard To Handle," from *Roberta*, 1935. This one is a flirtatious meeting between old friends. He pokes some fun and teases, she raises her fists as if to strike back, he grabs her wrists, and they laugh and begin to move. They pivot, feint, and spar — challenge and reply. They watch each other carefully, keep up with each other, match step for step, and are obviously excited to be able to do it — having a great time. There are sweeping dips, slides, and rapid pivots, with delight and satisfaction in their every gesture.

"Never Gonna Dance," from *Swing Time*, is a dance of parting. They cannot be together. He cannot dance with her, so he

feels that he will never dance again. Their expressions are tragic, eyes cast down, movements slow. There is wistful yearning. They sway like grasses in a soft breeze. She turns and walks away, head down. The tempo picks up a little and he snatches her arm and turns her. They gaze at each other intently. There is a rock-4 with great pleading, and then explosive but bittersweet exuberance, and they part.



Fred danced with many, many partners in a dancing career that spanned more than 60 years, but no one was better than Ginger. She wasn't the most highly trained, technically proficient, agile, or athletic, but she was the most human, charming, and responsive. She showed that she loved dancing with Fred. In the thirties, they were top box office draws, and then and long after, thousands, maybe millions, wanted to dance like them. Why? Not because they were skilled, though they certainly were. Not because the dances were complex and the steps tricky, though they were. Not even because the music was beautiful, though it certainly was. We love their dancing because they love their dancing and the passion shows. Women would dream of dancing with Fred because Ginger made it clear that there was no experience that was better. Men would dream of dancing like Fred because they wanted women to feel about them as Ginger obviously felt about Fred.

Other Astaire partners were more highly trained, but maybe for that reason, their dances were more about the steps. Ginger's dancing was about the relationship. The familiar joke is that Ginger did everything that Fred did but backwards and in high heels. She did that, but her greater contribution to their dancing was her response to Fred. They responded to each other, and those relationships make their dances thrilling.

We can do it too. We can work to get the steps right, but we can also think about developing emotional responses that are complementary to the music and to the dance. We can think about communicating those emotions through posture and expression. We can create a relationship with our partner. We can at least smile.



## Internet Sites

SQUARE DANCE AUSTRALIA

ARDA

ACF

ACT SQUARE DANCE SOCIETY

SARDA NSW

NORTHERN NSW

QLD SQUARE DANCE SOCIETY

SQUARE DANCE VICTORIA

SA SQUARE DANCE SOCIETY

TAWS

NEW ZEALAND S & R

CANADIAN S & R

BRITISH SQUARE & ROUND DANCING

EUROPEAN WEB SITES

TRAVELLING IN EUROPE

JAPAN SQUARE DANCE ASSOCIATION

CALLERLAB WEBSITE

SQUARE DANCE CHOREOGRAPHY PROGRAM

A Great Website For Dancers To Use Between Classes

<http://www.tamtwirlers.org/tamination/info/index.html>

<https://squaredanceaustralia.org/>

<http://www.rounddancing.org.au/index.html>

<http://www.aussiecallers.org.au/>

<http://www.squaredancecanberra.org>

<https://www.sardansw.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/NSWSquareDancing>

<http://www.nnswsda.com/>

<https://www.squaredancingsocietyofqueensland.org>

<https://www.vstda.asn.au>

<http://www.squaredancingsa.com/>

[www.taws.info](http://www.taws.info)

<http://www.nzsquaredance.webs.com>

<http://www.squaredance.ca>

[www.ukssquaredancing.com](http://www.ukssquaredancing.com)

<http://eaasdc.de>

<http://www.benzcenter.de/RouteSDC/locations.html>

<http://www.squaredance.or.jp/>

<http://www.callerlab.org>

<http://www.callarama.com>

## Australian National Square Dance Conventions

61st Co-Convenors David & Rosalind Todd

10th-14th April 2020

Blue Mountains Grammar School

Wentworth Falls New South Wales

62nd Convenor: Marilyn Van Sambeeck

24th-28th June 2021 Marrara Stadium Darwin

63rd Adelaide

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL SQUARE DANCE CONVENTION BOARD

Chairman: Nev McLachlan Qld Email: [nevbevmlachlan@outlook.com](mailto:nevbevmlachlan@outlook.com)

Executive Secretary: Anthea Matthews, 18 Sinai Place, Lockridge WA 6054 (08) 6278 1957

Treasurer: Bev McLachlan, Qld, (07) 5445 1238

ALL WEB SITES WILL BE ACCESSED FROM THE NATIONAL HOMEPAGE (SEE BELOW)

SQUARE DANCING AUSTRALIA HOMEPAGE

URL: <http://www.squaredanceaustralia.org>

E-mail: [admin@squaredance.org.au](mailto:admin@squaredance.org.au) or

Info Line 1800 643 277 Free Call from Mobiles & Landlines

**JOIN US**  
**SATURDAY 28TH MARCH 2020**  
**FOR AN**  
**INTRODUCTION TO PLUS**

**LOCATION: SUTHERLAND (SYDNEY)**

**TIME: 7.30PM**

**ATTIRE: NEAT CASUAL**

**ADMISSION: \$15**

**RSVP BY 20TH MARCH**

Phone: 0415 222 150

Email: [shiredancelessons@gmail.com](mailto:shiredancelessons@gmail.com)

Suitable for existing Plus dancers who would enjoy some revision + those keen to take a step up & learn the Plus program

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1/3 page	\$21	\$40	\$57	\$71
1/4 page	\$16	\$30	\$42	\$50

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If you wish your advertisement to be included in both the electronic and printed Review a full page would be \$65 and a half page would be \$37 for square dance events.



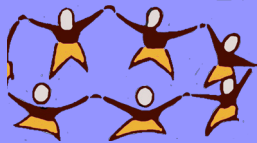
## SQUARE DANCING AUSTRALIA HOMEPAGE

URL: <https://squaredanceaustralia.org>

E-mail: [admin@squaredance.org.au](mailto:admin@squaredance.org.au) or

Info Line 1800 643 277 Free Call from Mobiles & Landlines

### EMERGENCY CALL FOR MEDICAL AID



- 1 When a dancer goes down, a second dancer attends him/her.
- 2 Remaining couples join hands and take a step backward. This will allow the injured person and attendant air and room.
- 3 Raise joined hands as high as possible in the form of an arched circle.
- 4 On seeing this signal, the caller or hall monitor will immediately place an Emergency Call for Medical Aid.

### REMINDER

The electronic copy of the Australian Square Dance Review is available **FREE** **if you wish to be notified when it is available go to** <https://www.squaredanceaustralia.org/nat-soc/publications/review/subscribe/>. Available February, May, August and November

### DISCLAIMER

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**Carpenter and Co's 41st Birthday at Riverwood Downs**





Max and Margaret cutting their respective club cakes at a combined birthday



Mountain Devils 24th Birthday