

Jacinta Lowry and Nonie Crozier to help them confuse the boys. Greg Pridmore, Howard Noble, Brian Weybury and John Venaskie. We almost needed traffic lights. Inverlock weekend, 14th-16th November.

LATER DAY SAINTS

Due to popular demand, this happy Moorabbin Club, organised by Noel Foreman, is now dancing regularly each month with Wally Cook handling the calling in his usual easy style. The standard is quite good and improving every month. Good to see former caller George Moore coming out of retirement to give us a call. Maybe the old itch is returning, and we might soon have another active caller in our ranks.

The Editor, Square Dance Review

(From Ida O'Shea, Vic.)

My friends wanted to give me a party,
Because I was seventy-five;
And were shocked when I said,
"No thank you,
I would rather play 'duck and dive'."
My sister came down from Bendigo,
And to Sunnyside Club we came;
Now she knows why I love square dancing,
As young and old all feel the same.
They gave me a lovely birthday
And thanks so much to everyone,
If you are old and want to feel young,
The Sunnyside Club is the place to come.

DON'T—be over-exuberant. Your yells might drown out the Caller's next command for everyone around you. Learn to be "noisy" at the right intervals, i.e., during a right and left grand but not at the allemande left or during an allemande thar patter but not at the change of command point.

DON'T—be a "know-it-all". Let the Caller be the instructor unless you are asked personally after the tip is over.

DON'T—cut in or out of a set unless you know how. If you are cut out, leave gracefully.

DON'T—be guilty of "horse-play" unless you know the set would not be offended—or the club.

DON'T—take that extra swing with your partner. It might make her late for the left allemande with her waiting corner.

DON'T—forget to trade a dance, especially with the guests. And don't overlook the Caller's wife. She might like to dance rather than sit all the time. At least, ask her.

DON'T—sit like a bump on a log when another couple is needed for a set. If you want to sit out a tip, disappear into the washroom or some place where you are not seen. This saves embarrassing the three couples waiting for a "friend" to join them.

DON'T—cry about the hall, the sound, the crowd, the tacky floor. Think positive thoughts so that others around you aren't affected. They might be having the best time ever.

DON'T—spin or twirl the ladies unless you know she likes it. Let her decide if she wants that extra twirl. No one ever got a sore arm by not spinning.

DON'T—set up sets of four couples pre-arranged to go out on the floor. You insult the ability of the other dancers around you and defeat the democratic quality of square dancing itself. If you are sincere about dancing with friends in the same set, stand across from each other and allow any two couples to join you that happens to come along.

DON'T—insist on dancing YOUR way when visiting other areas. If these people dance palms up in the alamo, go along with it. If you do or do not stir the bucket, do as the Romans do, but keep your opinions to yourself unless asked.

COMFORTABLE DANCING

"Comfortable Dancing" would refer not only to "styling" to be taught, but also to comfortable, dancable figure combinations. Also as part of comfort in square dancing, some of our acceptable "etiquette" rules should be passed on to the dancers by their instructor. Some DO and DON'T rules recently listed in the Square Dance Magazine are as follows:

DO—be aware at all times that square dancing is a "courtesy" recreation rather than one of competition.

DO—keep smiling even if you're angry with yourself for goofing." The other seven people in the set might think you're frowning at them.

DO—recognise your corner, not only what she's wearing, but who she is. Next to your partner, she's the most important person in your square.

DO—be quiet and attentive to your Caller during instructions even though you know what he's trying to explain. Perhaps someone else in your set needs to be briefed.

DO—wear proper square dance attire—long sleeves for men, ladies' full skirts.

DO—remember to treat all the ladies as you would want other men to treat your own wife. The ladies always seem to treat other men a little gentler than their own spouse.

DO—wear a name badge at all times. It might surprise some of the oldsters to learn that they are not as well known or important as they think they are to others.

DO—accept or admit that you "goofed" this time. Next time it could be someone else's turn, so don't feel bad. And when you goof — goof gracefully and try to recover the best you can in order to save the set from breaking up entirely.

DO—remember who you are every time you square up, heads, sides, what couple, and in some cases whether or not boy or girl. The latter can be determined by stooping down. If you see daylight, you're a boy.

DO—end each dance with a flourish, applause and thanks to all in the set and mean it.

DO—support a club as a faithful member. The life blood of the square dance picture flows thru this avenue and is the backbone of the recreation. If everyone was a "free loader" there would be no one to pay the bills of the activity.

DO—make it a practice to thank visitors for coming, the caller for his efforts, the club president where you're visiting. In general, thank everyone who made your evening out a pleasant one.

DO—pretend to be having a good time, even if you are bored. Perhaps the other seven are thoroughly enjoying themselves. If you want a real challenge, try dancing with the seven weakest dancers there and pull them through a dance single-handed. Maybe you are that good.

DO—take your turn at responsibility in the square dance picture as officers in a club, on the serving committee, and any way that you can help others rather than be catered to always.

DON'T—be a "competitive" dancer, i.e., selfish rather than co-operative. It takes eight people to make a good set.



N.S.W.:

ATTENTION, ALL SQUARE DANCERS

BOOMERANG PARTY NIGHT

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17, EASTWOOD TOWN HALL

Callers: JIM ALLAN, PAUL JOHNSTON, and
GUEST CALLERS