



AUSTRALIAN ROUND DANCE ASSOCIATION



~ QUICK REFERENCE ~

Volume 2025/3 Edition AUGUST - 3/2025

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IMPORTANT Attachments to be emailed with this ARDA Newsletter:

- **QRDA Rounds By The Sea 2026 flyer**

ATTENTION ALL ARDA MEMBERS - Change of Domain

We have been requested by the internet authorities to change the domain for the ARDA website. The new Domain is:

rounddancing.au

The new address for the ARDA website is ...

<https://www.rounddancing.au>



~ **DISCLAIMER** ~

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PRESIDENT'S PAGE

The ARDA conference proved (again) to be a big success with both first-timers and regulars attending the two and a half days of interactive learning, and dancing and (hopefully) taking home lots of information for themselves or their dancers. As usual, Paula and Warwick provided a wide variety of topics and there was even time for some one-on-one cuer assistance. The two evening dances were extremely well attended and it was terrific to have a number of square dance callers either up onstage cueing or on the floor dancing.

Our conference was followed by the National Convention (ANSDC) and it was pleasing to see all States nominating showcase level dances. The full day of round dancing on Wednesday, although tiring, was an interesting and I believe successful way for our round dancers to get their fill of dancing.

The ARDA AGM saw a number of important steps:

1. Progress towards incorporation with the adoption of motion to incorporate in Victoria and the draft constitution to be submitted to Consumer Affairs Victoria.
2. The SOP Manual was also adopted and this will go along way towards aiding the association in its day-to-day working.
3. Adoption of the proposal to re-structure which dances are 'on' the National List and how the new list is used for programming at the Convention.

There a number of upcoming dance weekends and Carol has included a flyer (where provided) as part of this newsletter. Do try and support these weekends whenever possible.

I do hope that you have updated the address for the ARDA website - this change was forced upon us and not one we chose to make.

Happy dancing,

Chris Heyworth, ARDA President



ARDA CONFERENCE 2025

through my eyes - Carol Simondson



It took a lot of researching to find a suitable venue for the 2025 ARDA Conference but perseverance won out and our President, yes, our President Christopher found a suitable venue.

The Farmers Assembly Hall, Upper Caboolture, with ample parking, large kitchen, meeting room, GREAT DANCE HALL, and set amongst the gum trees was ideal for the annual ARDA Conference.

Held over 2.5 days and with two very successful dance party nights, a group of enthusiastic round dancers came together to listen, learn and dance.

Attendees were not only from Queensland but New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia. For some it was their first ARDA Conference and for others it was their 11th.

The first ARDA Conference was held in Hobart, Tas in 2012.

Apart from the 'covid cancellations' and no venue available in Darwin in 2024, this has been a 'not to be missed' event prior to every ANSDC.

Every Conference has been well structured to meet the needs of the attendees, whether it be a trainee cuer, experienced cuer, leader/teacher, 'want to be cuer', dancer or persons wanting to simply learn more about our wonderful discipline of dancing.

There is information, guidance and support for every attendee. If of course, you are a Cuer/Leader Teacher, attendance at this most valuable event is considered part of your annual education. Winner, Winner.

It was very rewarding this year to bring together both experienced and newer cuers that will ensure round dancing continues into the future. Now what we need to focus on are more round dance clubs as without round dance clubs, where can folks to learn? We are not alone in this endeavour.

Another excellent session. via the wonders of zoom was held with Bill Davenport, US and the brains behind the amazing Dance Wizard program. Several cuers are already using this super program and this session was a benefit to both these cuers and those wishing to set up Dance Wizard on their laptops. Many thanks to Warwick for organising this and our sincere thanks to Bill Davenport for sharing time with us.

At the conclusion of day one of learning, it was time to head back to refresh, add some sparkle and return for the evening of dancing. Perhaps the men didn't need to sparkle up.

And, oh how super was it to have so many visitors, former dancers, current dancers, onlookers, one of our interstate caller/cuer and his partner together with our own contingent of cuers.

More over the page...



ARDA CONFERENCE 2025

through my eyes - Carol Simondson
Cont'd.



ARDA CONFERENCE DANCE PARTY NIGHTS

And, we were not disappointed the second dance party night when again, the hall was full of enthusiasm, dancing and friendship.

How super was it to have one of our Life Members, Phyllis Stewart come along to dance and bring many dancers and friends. Some of these former dancers had not only danced rounds with Phyllis but had danced in that very hall, as teenagers, some 60+ years ago. It was lovely to have Phyllis cue 'Could I Have This Dance' - one of our all time Golden Classics.

Two dance party nights x 2 hours each (well, we did go a tad over) = 4 plus hours and sixty, yes 60 round dances were presented by a wonderful cast of cuers.

One could say, a 'smorgasbord' of rounds were delivered. Had we been able to 'bottle and cork' the enthusiasm we would have had a cracker of a product to sell.

I hope you are now putting this in your 2026 diary ... ARDA Conference - Hobart,.

Now, WE NEED YOUR HELP to ensure this happens. If you are a local Tasmanian, or know someone who resides in or close to Hobart and you happen to have any information about an activity held in a hall close to Hobart - with a good dance floor - and is able to be hired for 2.5 days (8.30-5.00) plus 2 evenings (6.45 to 9.45 pm), would you please email our President, Christopher Heyworth and have a chat with him?

arda.pres@gmail.com

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Sincere thanks to both Paula and Warwick Armstrong, who prepare and deliver the majority of the topics and figure clinics, delivered at every ARDA Conference.

Sincere thanks to Christopher Heyworth who took on the role of venue and catering manager as the Secretary was heavily involved with the upcoming ANSDC. The lunch menu along with morning and afternoon goodies satisfied us all and Christopher was supported by many of the attendees who just 'got in and helped'. THANK YOU to all involved.

There will always be a need for volunteers and attendees - so what can you do to help?

- 1) As soon as the registration form for the ARDA Conference are available - REGISTER.*
- 2) If you would be prepared to give assistance with the catering - let the committee know.*
- 3) If you cannot attend the Conference but would like to attend the Dance Party Nights - then also let the committee know.*

Looking forward to seeing YOU at the 12th ARDA CONFERENCE in 2026.



T A N G O (Part 2)

Warwick Armstrong, Education

At the risk of looking like this newsletter is sponsored by Tango, I have a follow up piece. I mentioned in Part 1 (ARDA April Newsletter 2025) that the Phase III level Tango movements are predominantly American style and simple Argentine. Phase IV Tango, until last year, was just an extension of the Phase IV Waltz/Foxtrot figures as well as a couple more American style figures. International Tango only started in Phase V.

Last year, changes were agreed to by the Roundalab membership to drop five figures from Phase V into Phase IV, to allow an introductory International Tango dance to be rated as Phase IV. This opens up the opportunity to choreograph a Phase IV dance with some International Tango.

Back Corte, Closed Promenade, Progressive Link, Promenade, Promenade Link, and Rock Turn have all now been added to Phase IV. Back Corte & Rock Turn are related in their definitions. All of the Promenades are related, leaving just the Progressive Link.

BACK CORTE **SQQ; S**

MAN: Back left with left shoulder lead, -, back right commencing turning 1/4 left face continue left face turn side and forward left; close right to left, -,

WOMAN: Forward right with right shoulder lead, -, forward left commence turning 1/4 left face, continue left face turn side and back right; close left to right, -.

NOTE: Closed Position throughout. Figure turns 1/4 left face.

CLOSED PROMENADE **SQQ ; S**

MAN: Side and forward left, -, thru right, side and forward left; close right, -,

WOMAN: Side and forward right, -, thru left, side and back right turning left face to Closed Position; close left, -.

NOTE: Starts in Semi-Closed Position. Man has no turn. Woman turns 1/4 left face to Closed Position between steps 2 and 3. Usually starts in Semi-Closed Position Line of Dance and ends in Closed Position Line of Dance and Wall.

PROGRESSIVE LINK **QQ**

MAN: Forward left, turn body right face small side and back left to Semi-Closed.

WOMAN: Back right, turning right face small side and back left to Semi-Closed.

NOTE: Starts in Closed Position, ends in Semi-Closed with lead foot tapped forward. The side and back steps are small so that progression is made.

PROMENADE **SQQ ; S**

MAN: Side and forward left, -, thru right, side and forward left; close right, -,

WOMAN: Side and forward right, -, thru left, side and forward right; close left, -.

NOTE: Semi-Closed Position throughout.

Don't stop now as there is more to be found over the page...

ARDA MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



2025 - 2026

PRESIDENT

Christopher Heyworth, QLD.
arda.president@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Helen Hodalj, NSW.
arda.vicepres@gmail.com

TREASURER/RECORDS OFFICER

Anna-Lee Hodalj, NSW
arda.treasurer@gmail.com

SECRETARY

Bev McLachlan, QLD.
arda.secretary@gmail.com

EDUCATION ***

Warwick Armstrong, Qld.
arda.education@gmail.com
*** *This position has one vote*

GENERAL COMMITTEE

These positions are not voted in they depend on the incumbent.

Education Team

Warwick & Paula Armstrong, Qld. ^^^

Editor

Carol Simondson, Vic

Historian

Christopher Heyworth, Qld.

Web Manager

Tony McDonald, ACT
Refer to page 2 for Website Domain

^^^ Please note:

While this position/role is held by both Warwick and Paula Armstrong,
please note **Warwick** is the designated **contact person**.

ARDA SHOWCASE & INTERMEDIATE Dances
Presented at the 65th ANSDC Square Dance Convention
Morayfield, Qld - 2025

Showcase Nominations 2025

Ahi Ahi Ahi **CH PH III**
Choreographer Monika Grunder
Nominated by South Australia

A Song In Your Heart **TS PH II+1 [strolling vine]**
Choreographers Richard & Heather Muir
Nominated by Western Australia

I'm From The Country **TS PH II+1 [fishtail]**
Choreographer Richard & Frances Matthews
Nominated by Tasmania

River Town **TS PH II+1 [fishtail]**
Choreographers Paula & Warwick Armstrong
Nominated by Victoria

Forever I Do **WZ PH II**
Choreographer Yuka Hayami
Nominated by New South Wales

Queen Of Hearts **TS PH II+1**
Choreographer Chris Burdick
Nominated by Queensland

*For all who are attending the 66th ANSDC in Hobart, Tas in 2026
You will be given the opportunity to dance these 2025 nominations prior to voting.*

Meanwhile we all hope you have the opportunity to dance these at your Club.

*Again, a big THANK YOU to all involved in the sourcing, nominating and presenting the
2025 Showcases. More about Showcase & Intermediate nominations in next issue.*

INTERMEDIATE NOMINATIONS

Mr. Lonely **RB Ph IV+1 [Op Hip Twist]**
Choreographer Kevin Klein
Nominated by South Australia

Steal My Show **RB PH III** *****
Choreographers Jim & Kathy Kline
Nominated by New South Wales

SAM, SAM **RB PH IV**
Choreographers Bill & Carol Goss
Nominated by Queensland

***** This nomination is a Category A dance ie. Ph III+1 and below.
ARDA Committee will decide where this dance is listed.

See over the page for the winning 2024 Showcase dances.

2024 Showcase *Nominations* and the *Winners....*

Presented in Darwin at the 64th ANSDC.

Take Me Away TS PH II+1
Nominated by Victoria

You're The One TS PH II
Nominated by South Australia

I Can't Let Go WZ PH II+1
Nominated by New South Wales

Follow That Dream TS PH II+2
Nominated by Queensland

WINNER of 2024 Showcase as voted by the **CUERS/TEACHERS & CALLERS**

I Can't Let Go WZ PH II+1
Choreographer J Cook
Nominated by New South Wales

WINNER of 2024 Showcase as voted by the **DANCERS**

YOU'RE THE ONE TS PH +1
Choreographers Paula & Warwick Armstrong
Nominated by South Australia

2026 Showcase & Experimental Nominations

*Your State/Territory is invited to put forward 2 to 3 Category A dances for consideration, for the Showcase session held at each ANSDC. Category A rhythms are *Cha Cha, Foxtrot, Jive, *Rumba, Two Step and Waltz. These must be Phase III and below. Exception to this rule are the *Cha Cha and *Rumba which may be Phase III+1 [Alemana or Aida]*

ARDA has a Criteria for Showcase Nominations. This is available from the ARDA Secretary, upon request, and will be printed in the next ARDA Newsletter.

*Hoping this process with your State/Territory has commenced for 2026 as the deadline for nominations is **30th September, 2025** Just over one month away.*

Nominations must be submitted to the ARDA Management Committee for consideration by the State/Territory Representative. Experimental nominations must be Ph III+1 to Ph IV +2 and be of a dance rhythm already on the National Convention Dance List.

ARDA MEMBERSHIP



Supporting ARDA is support for round dancing in Australia.

We know you are an ARDA member or you would not be receiving this Newsletter.

However, when our ANSDC and STATE CONVENTIONS are held each year, there always many dancers on the dance floor.

If you are aware of any person/s who you believe may not know who or what the Australian Round Dance Association is,

- 1) would you try to encourage them to join?
- 2) would you enjoy seeing them at the next ARDA Conference?

Ask the question and help build ARDA Membership numbers.

ARDA MEMBERSHIP and ARDA MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORMS

Our Education Officer Warwick has been working tirelessly to establish a new data base that will ensure generating renewal forms will be a much more efficient system than was previously used. 2025-2026 renewal forms have either been sent or are almost ready to be sent. If YOU have not received such a renewal or if YOU are aware of a person who would wish to become a member, would YOU please contact any ARDA committee member and ask for a registration form to be sent ...

THANK YOU Warwick.

Email addresses for all ARDA Committee are on pg. 9

News from ALL OVER AUSTRALIA

VICTORIA

The RDAV Inc. is now in the 'count down days' to the 15th Spring Festival which is being held at

*St Patrick's Community Centre, 33 Jones Street, Lilydale, Vic
5th, 6th and 7th September 2025*

*It is not too late to register/attend. For more details please contact
Convenor Coral Wegmann cozweg@bigpond.com OR
Program Manager Allison Tuddenham pandarounds@gmail.com
The theme for this 15th Spring Festival is **SPARKLE***

QUEENSLAND

*Queensland Round Dance Association (QRDA) will again be conducting the Rounds By The Sea weekend in beautiful Coolum Beach on the Sunshine Coast in 2026. See **attached flyer** with the dates and be sure not to miss this super weekend teach weekend.,*

*Rounds By The Sea - **15, 16 and 17th May 2026***

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

See Pg. 10 for photos taken at the SARDA Dance when the Life Membership Award was presented to Shirley Bates. Once again Congratulations to Shirley and well done to SARDA for recognising the contribution Shirley has made over a long period of time.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

For those of you who attended the ARDA Conference in July you may recall the sudden departure of the lovely Maureen. Maureen had been waiting for admission to hospital to sort a medical condition, and this came whilst she was in Queensland. A quick exit from Queensland happened.

Thanks to Marilyn Van Sambeek for the good news that all is great.

The surgery is in the past and Maureen is on the mend. Take care Maureen and we all look forward to seeing you in Tasmania at the next ARDA Conference?

Marilyn did not necessarily need a plane to get her back to WA as I am sure all the excitement, learning, cueing and dancing at the Conference along with actually being able to attend the ANSDC would have given her 'wings of power' to have walked back to the west. Marilyn's commitment to keeping round and square dancing going forward in WA, is quite infectious.

TASMANIA

Di Ashton and Paul are still on the 'frog and toad' after heading north following the ANSDC. No doubt they both will be busy on their return with the very special event they are a part of, (the weekend following the 66th ANSDC) Launceston Square Dance Club's 70 year celebration.

Hope you happy travellers are adapting to the cold weather as you make your way back through Victoria to the ferry terminal.

NEW SOUTH WALES

*Top of the list must be **CONGRATULATIONS** to Helen Hodalj who recently took on the role of President of the NSW SARDAs. I was at the AGM the year the joint association was mooted. Again, I was at the following AGM when this became a reality. It is a first in Australia and both disciplines of dancing come under the New South Wales Square And Round Dance Association banner. NSW State Convention is happening the last weekend in August and there will be 52 rounds programmed along with a Mambo teach conducted by Paula and Warwick Armstrong. See you there????*

I'm On A Committee

*Oh, give me your pity, I'm on a committee,
Which means that from morning to night,
We attend, and amend, and contend, and defend
Without a conclusion in sight.*

*We confer and concur, we defer and demur,
And re-iterate all of our thoughts.
We revise the agenda with frequent addenda
And consider a load of reports.*

*We compose and propose, we suppose and oppose,
And the points of procedure are fun!
But though various notions are brought up as motions,
There's terrible little gets done.*

*We resolve and absolve, but never dissolve,
Since it's out of the question for us.
What a shattering pity to end our Committee,
Where else could we make such a fuss?*

Author UNKNOWN

Thanks to my dear friend for sending this to me when, after many years I did not re nominate for the role of ARDA Secretary (2023) .

ARDA Management Committee

Management Committee: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Education Officer
Other Positions: (non voted roles) Historian, Records Officer, Editor Website Manager.

2026 being the even numbered year will see the positions of President and Treasurer due to be voted on. (Odd year the positions of Secretary & Vice President are voted on.)

As per the Operating Procedures, the Secretary will notify **ALL** financial members of this election.

Positions on the ARDA Management Committee are for a two year period. Non voted roles are up to the incumbent

More about this in the next edition.

**Just another reminder ... the deadline for
2026 Showcase and Experimental nominations is
30th SEPTEMBER 2025.**



Rest In Peace



LESLEY LEWIS

Sincere condolences and heartfelt sympathy go to Doug Lewis (NSW). Doug's beautiful wife and dancing partner, Lesley Lewis passed away peacefully a few weeks ago. Lesley and Doug were ARDA members for a number of years and were a joy to watch on the dance floor.

ROBYN ANN GROVE

Sincere condolences are offered to Helen and Christopher Heyworth following the passing of their loved sister-in-law, Robyn.

Saying farewell to our loved ones is never easy and our thoughts and wishes are with you both together along with your brother, Tony.



If you know of any of our members who may be unwell or in need of a special hug, please let me know. I can have my eyes peeled and ears open and still miss something.
My name is Carol Simondson and I am currently the Editor.
carol_simo@bigpond.com or send info to arda.pres@gmail.com

Editor's Note ~~

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