



**January 2018**

## **Wanted Poster**

**Happy New Year !**

*We hope you had a super Christmas and Santa brought you everything you wanted.*

*We had a lovely Christmas, quiet as you would expect, but very enjoyable. I know this may come as a shock but, yes it's true, it's the start of another year of fun line dancing. Classes resume on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January at 'The Spotlight' in Hoddesdon. I'm not sure I will remember anything but firstly, I'm hoping I can remember how to get there!*

*Before we go any further can we say a huge THANK YOU for all the Christmas cards, e mails, gifts, hugs and kisses and kind words. All of which give us the confidence we need going into 2018.*

*We both have a few tests and hospital visits to get through in the first half of January but afterwards, fingers crossed, we will be able to make firm plans for a bumper dancing year.*

### **Christmas Line Dancing On TV**

*Yes there was even more line dancing on the TV over Christmas.*

*On Christmas Eve day at 9.05am the animated movie 'Planes' featured a bar scene with aeroplanes line dancing. I was a little disappointed not to be asked to take part but I suppose I'm not surprised. With all the food that I ate over the festive period they would have had me depicted as a Jumbo jet !*

## **The Spotlight**

### **February Cancelled Classes**

*It seems that most, if not all, Friday classes at the Spotlight have been cancelled. I understand this is for new seating to be installed. I know this is upsetting for lots of you but one must look of the positive side. If they are investing money in the Spotlight, they must see a future for it. Having said that we are trying to hire premises so as to provide some dancing during February.*

*Favourite at the moment is Halsey Hall, if it is possible. We know this is not ideal, we know it isn't as big as the Spotlight but it is certainly better than closing Friday classes for all of February.*

*There is no problem in parking and with a little 'give and take' we will survive until the Spotlight can welcome us back.*

*We will let you know as soon as we can.*

### **Wormley Community Centre**

*As at going to press we have not heard anything regarding Wormley C.C.*

*The meeting should have taken place on the 6<sup>th</sup> December but having heard nothing we can't be sure it even took place.*

*As soon as we have any news we will pass it on.*

### **It's That Fun Time of Year**

*As the festive holiday melts away in a haze of food and drink our thoughts turn to even more fun.*

*I can't believe you are struggling to think of what that fun involves !*

*Why, it's the time of the year for completing our tax returns!*

*As I sit in our 'office' I am ankle deep in paper. Bank statements, receipts, building society statements, paying in books, cheque books, credit card statements, I can hardly contain my joy and excitement!*

*Lavinia, knowing how much I love to immerse myself in such fun, just leaves me to it. The government tells me I still have until the end of January to enjoy myself!*

## What's **Hot?** What's **Not?**

***With the demise of Linedancer magazine it is a little more difficult to get a balanced view of how line dancing is going.***

*Obviously the magazine 'Up Country' has a leaning towards Country music and that scene. The Best Western Dance Academy magazine has a similar stance although, having said that, it does entertain a certain mix of music genre.*

*Line dancer magazine did have more of a 'broad brush' approach and its circulation was much, much bigger. Indeed there were some that complained that its focus was too much on global clubs, music and events and should have had more of an eye on 'home'. This is not a view to which we subscribed as we always enjoyed seeing what our line dancing neighbours were up to, wherever they were.*

*So, having explained that, you can see that with less information, less interaction with ALL those involved with line dancing, us teachers may find it more difficult to keep our finger on the pulse, whatever that pulse is?*

*It is also difficult to know if this is going to bring a benefit or not.*

*With fewer magazines there may come a time when there will be fewer dances on the scene, something lots of people have been calling for. (For years!)*

*If this does happen it may be a bit of a 'throw back' to when line dancing first took off. In the mid to late 1990's it was possible to go to any line dance club or social and dance for most of the evening. And dare I say it, it was mostly Country and Western music.*

*With fewer magazines, most focused on Country music, will that impact on the dances we do? My personal opinion is that, although there may be fewer dances, and, this may mean we can dance more at other clubs and socials, I can't see us, or*

*most clubs, dancing solely to Country & Western music.*

*I think line dancing in this country, and most of the world, has embraced all genre of music. I can't see it changing but one never knows. Personally I love to dance to all types of music but, maybe my favourite, is a leaning towards pretty much anything with a Latin feel.*

*It is going to be interesting to see how it all pans out in the next few years.*

*Maybe, if the music does lean towards Country & Western there will be a resurgence in line dancing towards the way it was in the 1990's.*

*Maybe there will be a boost towards 'New Line' and we'll all be taking to the dance floor A La Saturday Night Fever!*

*Maybe things will remain pretty much as they are but it would be nice to hear that line dancing is once more 'on the up'!*

*What would be nice to hear is that line dancing has become an acceptable form of dance in its own right be it to Country & Western, or any other type of music.*

*When you say line dancing to anyone you don't want to hear 'Yee Ha!'.*

*Line dancing provides health benefits be they physical or mental. It provides social benefits, promotes friendships and overall well being. It can be graceful, joyful, exciting, touching or just down right lung bursting excitement! Or put another way. **An acceptable form of dance in its own right.** I rest my case.*

**Happy Stomping  
Dance Like No One Is Watching  
Lavinia & Mick**

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**PS:** *Since Lavinia has been in her surgical boot and crutches I have made numerous discoveries The conversation usually went like this....*

*'So this is how the cooker works'*

*'So this is how the washing machine works'*

*'So this is how the dish washer works'*

*'So this is how the iron works'*

*'So this is how the heating works'*

*'So this is how the coffee machine works'*