



# AUSTRALIAN ROUND DANCE ASSOCIATION

~ QUICK REFERENCE ~

Volume 2026/1 Edition MAY - 23/05/2026



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**Attachments** to be emailed with this ARDA Newsletter:

\*\* **La Ronde - round dance news from the review**

**Editor Note:** Apologies however, I could not insert this article in the Newsletter.

- **ARDA Conference 2027 Registration Form**
- **SARDA 'Roaring '20's 2026 Festival Form**

## **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>**

You will need to update the addressing for any bookmarks you may have to pages on the website.



AUSTRALIAN ROUND DANCE

ASSOCIATION

~ Newsletter ~

Volume 2026/1 AUGUST Edition 23/05/2026



~ DISCLAIMER ~

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# ARDA CONFERENCE 2027

The ARDA CONFERENCE **2027** - bookings are being taken NOW.

YES, the ARDA 'booking office' is now taking registrations for this event.

YES, a registration form is attached to this NEWSLETTER.

YES, there will be 'dance party nights' again in 2027.  
There may even be a third 'dance party night'.

By registering for the ARDA Conference, you will be showing support for the continued success of this initiative.

On behalf of you the wonderful ARDA members, I wish to take this opportunity to pass on best wishes to our long standing member, Nev McLachlan.

Until earlier this year Nev was walking, dancing and living life to the full until his hip 'gave out' and required surgery. Of course, there is always a 'waiting period' and recently, Nev underwent surgery to give him back his 'life'. Sincere best wishes to you Nev for a speedy return to enable you to once again enjoy and live life without pain.





## ARDA PRESIDENT REPORT

**ARDA PRESIDENT ...** Christopher Heyworth

The ARDA meeting saw the following elected as the inaugural management committee for the recently incorporated association:

President:	Christopher Heyworth (Qld)
Secretary/Treasurer:	Bev McLachlan (Qld.)
Education	Warwick Armstrong (Qld)
Vice President	Helen Hodalj (NSW)
Vice President (2)	Glen Cass (Vic)

Also formally adopted was the draft constitution submitted for incorporation.

The state associations and non-executive reports shows round dancing continues successfully, although numbers ebb and flow at times. ARDA now provides some financial assistance to states hosting round dance functions.

ARDA Conferences before the ANSDC provides the once-a-year opportunity for both teachers and dancers to learn in a relaxed social environment. Next year's conference will feature Randy & Marie Preskitt from the UA - they were here in Buderim, Qld for the 2016 ANSDC and ARDA Conference. Randy Preskitt is both a square dance caller and round dance teacher/cuer. Evening dances welcome any dancer who enjoys rounds.

The website will be expanded and revamped to include a member only section, allowing the secretary to post information once rather than send it out by email to our slowly expanding membership.

As to the National Dance List (NDL) which provides the basis for the rounds danced at the ANSDC. The structure has changed considerably in the past 12-18 months so dancers attending next years' ANSDC will have the ability to input into the dance programme.

Chris Heyworth  
**ARDA President**

### ARDA General Committee Members

<b>Editor</b>	Carol Simondson (Vic)	<b>Historian</b>	Chris Heyworth (Qld)
<b>Website Manager</b>	Tony McDonald (ACT)		

As a former ARDA Executive committee member, I am fully aware of the valuable time that is given, without any form of payment, and I would like to sincerely THANK, Anna-Lee Hodalj for serving as the ARDA Treasurer since 2020. Anna-Lee did not re-nominate for this role for another two year term, as this young lady is now wearing 'many other hats' and on behalf of the ARDA Executive and ARDA members ....

*THANK YOU* Anna-Lee and we wish you well for the future.

# ARDA Conferences since 2012

Carol Simondson,

2012	<b>Inaugural</b> ARDA Conference.	Hobart, Tas (53rd ANSDC)
2013	Conference #2	Central Coast, NSW (54th ANSDC)
2014	Conference #3	Canberra, ACT (55th ANSDC)
2015	Conference #4	Adelaide, SA (56th ANSDC)
2016	Conference #5	Buderim, QLD (57th ANSDC) *
2017	Conference #6 + Dance Party Nights	Bendigo, VIC (58th ANSDC)
2018	Conference #7 + Dance Party Nights	Perth, WA (59th ANSDC)
2019	Conference #8 + Dance Party Nights	Deloraine, TAS (60th ANSDC)
2020	No Conference or ANSDC due to COVID	Blue Mountains (61st ANSDC) **
2021	No Conference or ANSDC	due to COVID
2022	Conference #9 + Dance Party Nights	Goulburn, NSW (62nd ANSDC)
2023	Conference #10 + Dance Party Nights	Adelaide, SA (63rd ANSDC)
2024	No Conference due to no suitable venue	Darwin, NT (64th ANSDC)
2025	Conference #11 + Dance Party Nights	Morayfield, Qld (65th ANSDC)
2026	Conference #12 + Dance Party Nights	Hobart, Tas (66th ANSDC)
2027	Conference #13 + Dance Party Nights	Ballarat, Vic (67th ANSDC)

- 2016 This was the year we had Randy and Marie Preskitt attend. Randy is both a Caller and Cuer and together with partner Marie Preskitt they have choreographed and taught some wonderful dances. Randy and Marie will be attending the ARDA Conference and 67th ANSDC in Ballarat, Vic in 2027. **WILL YOU BE THERE?**

\*\* 2020 This ANSDC and ARDA Conference was cancelled due to COVID however the convention was recognised as being conducted due to the late Government advice.

# 2026 ARDA Conference wrap up.

## ARDA Education - Conference wrap up

Another Conference completed and I thought it was a really good one. A mix of newer dancers and teachers gave us the opportunity to demonstrate teaching methods to a real crowd and not just the people who already knew the material, A big thanks to Carol for taking on the kitchen during the conference, that helped a lot and for Chris looking after the venue key. I also need to thank Glenn for driving across Melbourne at the last minute so that we had a speaker for the conference.

Focus rhythms were Jive and Tango which was taken from feedback leading into the event. In fact, most sessions were based on what attendees wanted to see. We had a few sessions go over time which then turned the Tango into a clinic session rather than dance teaches, but that is fine as well. Thanks to Les & Anne for taking us through the Classic 'Let Me Show You How' Phase IV Jive to complete the Jive sessions.

Paula took us through a different look at choreography in putting together modules for teaching rather than a complete dance. I believe that Paula is putting all the modules developed by the attendees into a Word document for those interested.

The two night time dances were fantastic with great atmosphere. Thanks to all of the Cuers who participated in making the nights successful. It was also promising to see the Jive dances taught during the conference danced so well at night. And for those who were curious, the ad hoc session on Dance-Wizard looking at the issue with Bev's computer led to the fix a day or so later due to the input of those who were there. Or at least the program was behaving a day or two later, we will need to check with Bev to see if it is still working. For the record, it was the data that DanceWizard was looking for that was too many sub-folders into the directory.

Thanks for the people who did submit a review of the conference. I do take these seriously in case my own ego gets in the way of a proper analysis. So far it is looking like Slow Two Step will be one of the focus rhythm's by the feedback.

Glenn & Leanne in Victoria have the venue well and truly covered for the conference next year in Ballarat. We have Randy & Marie Preskitt from the USA joining us. Randy & Marie have taught all over the world and it promises to be a great three days.

Warwick Armstrong  
ARDA Education



# FUTURE EVENT for you to diarise ""

GREAT NEWS just in case you have not heard. The South Australian Round Dance Association (SARDA) will again be conducting their Showcase/Teaching/Dance weekend in 2026.

## SARDA

Over the weekend of **2, 3 & 4th OCTOBER, 2026.**

While not at the venue previously used, this super weekend will be in the same area where accommodation is plentiful. Paula and Warwick Armstrong, Qld & ARDA Education Team will be doing a teach session and of course, there will be the presentation of the Choreographer Showcase nominations and plenty of dancing across many rhythms and phases.

YES, you can book immediately. Contact President Shirley Bates, for a registration form. Shirley\_b3@bigpond.com Flyer attached to this Newsletter.

Well now for all of us who danced last weekend into the history books, I am thrilled to advise ... **ROUNDS BY THE SEA** will again be a 'not to be missed weekend'. Paula and Warwick taught, and I mean thoroughly taught, the following dances.

## QRDA

## QBDA

ROCKIN' YOU BABY [Parker] JV Ph III+1 [pretzel turn]

IN TIMES LIKE THESE [Gloodt] WC Ph IV+2+2 [sd whip, trip travel w/roll, UNPH push back & turkey walks]

HORCHAT HAI CALIPTUS IV [lto] WZ Ph IV+2 [dble rev spin]

AMISTAD 4 [Kenny] BO Ph IV+1 [half moon]

ISN'T IT ROMANTIC [Preskitt] FT PH IV+2 [nat hvr cross, check & weave]

MY ONLY ONE [Foral] RB PH IV

BROKE [Buchanan] WC Ph V+2

PSICFONIA 4 [Davenport] TG PH IV

Plus we danced between 52-60 round dances, of a variety of phases and rhythms and a good night's sleep was assured with all this wonderful dancing, laughter and a wonderful atmosphere.

A very sincere THANK YOU to Paula and Warwick ARMSTRONG for their devotion to the round dance activity and for QRDA for organising the venue and delightful snacks and drinks to ensure we kept hydrated and energised.

YES, this weekend will be on again in 2027 and a registration form can be obtained from Christopher Heyworth, QRDA (& ARDA President) arda.pres@gmail.com

**ROUNDS BY THE SEA 2027 Dates 14, 15 & 16 May 2027**

# FUTURE EVENT for you to diarise ""

Something **NEW** - Something **DIFFERENT**

The Square & Round Dance Association of New South Wales presents ... just for YOU

**NSW SARDAs**

**Matthew Mills**

&

**Paula & Warwick Armstrong**

On **SATURDAY 29th AUGUST, 2026**

**Bombaderry, NSW**

*More details will be advised when received.*

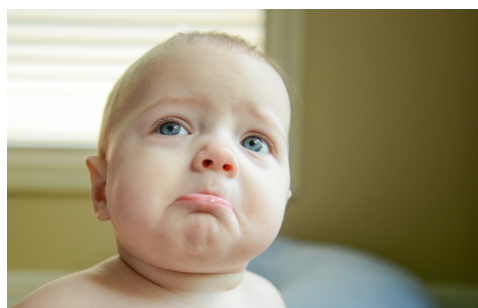


AN APOLOGY from Editor, Carol

In an attempt to have this ARDA Newsletter to all members 'sooner rather than later', and as I am heading interstate very soon, I have taken the easy way out and attached a document from our super education officer, Warwick Armstrong.

My apology is that this document should have been included in the Newsletter, but as happens, technology just sometimes, makes life difficult.

My apologies Warwick.... Your article "**La Ronde - round dance news from the review**" is attached. Editor Carol



# Rounds By The Sea 2026

With the weather looking grim and the prospect of a small crowd, we were a little worried coming into this year. But it was a great weekend. Numbers were a little lower, but the atmosphere was terrific and having lower numbers gave us the opportunity to work more closely on the individuals. Dancer experience ranged from relatively new in the activity up to very experienced. We covered Phase III up to Phase V dances. Even the newer dancers had a go and had some success with the harder ones. Thanks to our members Bridget, Catherine, Everton, Loretta, Chris and Helen for all your help in making this weekend a success. Also a big thankyou to those who travelled from interstate to dance with us.

Dances looked at as cue-and-do were Phase III Jive & Rumba, "**Rockin' You Baby**" Jive by the Parkers and "**My Only One**" by the Florals. The Floral Rumba has been well taught through ICBDA clubs over the last 10 months as it was presented for the Phase III/IV dancers at the ICBDA Convention last year.

Saturday was the easier day. We started with a revision session on West Coast in preparation for the Sunday. The Bolero "**Amistad 4**" was an intro level dance by the Kennys'. This was one of the last they wrote before Jack passed away through Covid. We covered the Phase IV Waltz "**Horchat Hai Caliptus IV**" by the Ito's and Phase IV Foxtrot "**Isn't It Romantic 4**" by the Preskitt's. Horchat has been danced extensively over the last 12 months with the Preskitt dance coming out 3 or 4 years ago. Both have been popular.

Sunday saw us start with the West Coast "**Broke**" by the Buchanan's. I was impressed that virtually everyone came along for this. We gave the attendees the opportunity to sleep in on the Sunday morning if they didn't want to do West Coast, but even the newer dancers turned up. And they pretty much danced the dance. This has been the most popular dance through ICBDA clubs over the last 6 months and has been topping popular dance lists all over the USA. Sunday afternoon saw us covering the Tango "**Psicofonia 4**" by the Devenports. This is an entry level dance into International Tango and was popular 2 or 3 years ago.

I say this every year, but this is one of the best locations to stay and dance that you find. Accommodation ranging from camping up to 5-star resort within walking distance to the Civic Centre. The climate of the Sunshine Coast in May and being right on the water makes for a wonderful backdrop. For those staying around for a holiday there is plenty to do, and it is only 15 minutes to the Sunshine Coast Airport. The weather was kind to us and really only rained once we had finished the weekend. Looking forward to next year.

Warwick & Paula Armstrong.

## ROUNDS BY THE SEA

The 2027 Rounds By The Sea weekend, held annually in Coolum, Qld,  
will definitely be held in May 2027

Watch this space for the dates as soon as confirmed....





## ARDA Showcase 2025 Results

Following the dance through of the Showcase dances presented at the 65th ANSDC, Morayfield, Qld 2025, all present were invited to vote. As a result ARDA advises ...

### Leader/Cuer/Caller vote-

Winner: **FOREVER I DO WZ Ph II**  
Choreographer: Hayami, Yuka  
Presented by **NEW SOUTH WALES**

Runner Up: **RIVER TOWN TS PH III+1 [fishtail]**  
Choreographers: P & W Armstrong, Qld.  
Presented by **VICTORIA**

Following the dance through of the Showcase dances presented at the 65th ANSDC, Morayfield, Qld 2025, all present were invited to vote. As a result ARDA advises ...

### Dancers vote-

Winner: **FOREVER I DO WZ Ph II**  
Choreographer: Hayami, Yuka  
Presented by **NSW**

Runner Up: **RIVER TOWN TS PH III+1 [fishtail]**  
Choreographers: P & W Armstrong, Qld.  
Presented by **VIC**

### CONGRATULATIONS

**New South Wales and  
Victoria.**

**Thank you to the dancers  
and Choreographers.**

*Sadly, many Callers and Dancers  
were unable to vote as they were  
dancing at the other venue.*



### DEADLINE FOR NEXT ARDA NEWSLETTER .....

Please have your flyers/information/stories, etc. to the Editor no later than  
**15th July 2026.** *Thanks Carol S*

### EDITOR'S NOTE:

*All articles and photos in this Newsletter have been printed as a matter of courtesy and interest for all members. Refer to the 'disclaimer' on the front page.*

*In order to reprint articles from this NEWSLETTER/and or TELEMAIL, and as a matter of courtesy, permission should be sought from the Editor.*

*If permission is granted the appropriate recognition should be given to the author/  
source of that information.*

*Editor 2026-2027*