

# 2020 ACF

## CALLER CONFERENCE

**LEURA**

**Blue Mountains, N.S.W.**

**LOOKING FORWARD, LOOKING BACK.....**

**APRIL 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> 2020**

The 61<sup>st</sup> Australian National Square Dance Convention in 2020, will proudly be hosted by New South Wales over the Easter Weekend (April 10 -14 2020), Come and dance and enjoy the wonder of Australia's majestic Blue Mountains.

Prior to the National Convention, the ACF will be presenting its regular "4-Yearly Conference". This event is aimed at bringing all our Australian Callers together, along with many callers visiting from overseas. This regular Conference initially began many years ago as a means by which callers could come together for a few days of educational opportunities, social interaction and just plain fun.

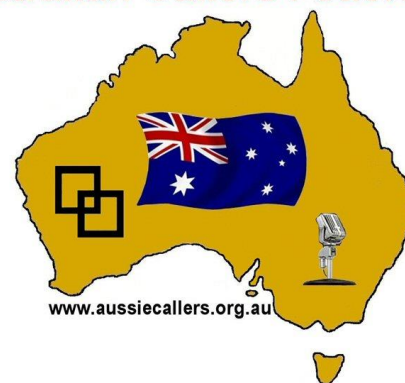
In 2020 our conference will be held from Monday April 6<sup>th</sup>, through to Wednesday April 8<sup>th</sup>, at The Fairmont Resort in the town of Leura, in the heart of the Blue Mountains. There are a number of special features for this Conference including a special dance featuring our general membership on Sunday April 5<sup>th</sup>, and finishing with a special dance with our overseas guest caller Randy Dougherty on Thursday April 9<sup>th</sup>.

To enhance the educational opportunities available for attendees, we will also have a very special guest on staff. A professional Voice Coach, who will present us with information to assist, enhance and improve our vocal techniques.

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### Australian Callers Federation



The Feature Presenter

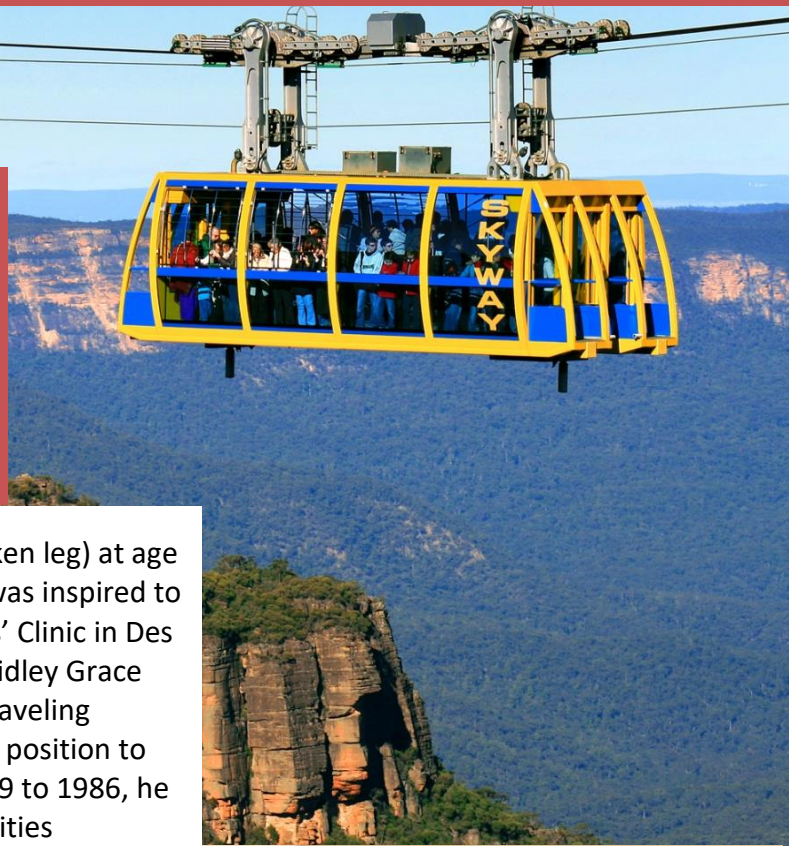
# RANDY DOUGHERTY

Randy began dancing at age nine, but a football injury (broken leg) at age 15 created a boring six-month lay-up. During this time, he was inspired to give calling a try. He attended the 1967 Central Iowa Callers' Clinic in Des Moines, Iowa. In 1972, Randy took a teaching position at Fridley Grace High School. During his summer breaks, he found himself traveling farther and farther from home. In 1979, he left his teaching position to devote full time to his professional calling career. From 1979 to 1986, he called on a regular basis for seven home clubs in the Twin Cities (Minneapolis–Saint Paul, Minnesota) area and broadened his traveling circuit to include much of the United States and many foreign countries. In 1986, Randy left Minnesota for the warmer climate of Arizona.

Currently, Randy runs a busy dance program in Texas during the winter season. In the summer he tours the United States and books many foreign calling trips; recently including such countries as Canada, Mexico, Sweden, Denmark, Netherlands, Japan, Saudi Arabia, England, Germany, Australia and New Zealand.

To date, he has attended, and called for, nearly 40 National Conventions. He is an accredited Callerlab Caller Coach. He has served three terms on the Board of Governors of Callerlab, served on the Executive Committee for two years, and many instructional panels. Randy has been honored with a Special Recognition Award from Chairman Mike Seastrom for his assistance in taping all the sessions at the 1993 National Convention in order to establish the frequency count in use today. Throughout his career, Randy has recorded hits for many record companies.

**Randy is an Accredited  
CALLERLAB Caller Coach**







The Fairmont Resort is situated in the picturesque township of Leura, just a few kilometers from Katoomba and the many attractions that this area has to offer. Located at 1 Sublime Point Road, right on the cusp of the sublime dramatic Jamison valley, in the heart of the Blue Mountains National Park.

The Fairmont Resort is alongside Leura Golf Club (the white building in above photo), the oldest established course in the Blue Mountains.

There are lots of activities within the resort, from swimming pools, tennis courts, a garden maze, a ten-pin bowling alley, cinema, billiards room, library and lots more. The local explorer bus also stops at the Fairmont as part of its regular round trip visiting all the local scenic attractions that the areas has to offer.



## THE FAIRMONT RESORT

*For information on the Fairmont Resort, check their website:*

<https://www.fairmontresort.com.au/>





Just where are we heading with this?

Plans started to take shape shortly after the last conference at Mooloolabah in 2016. Lots of ideas came up, but the main concern by all involved was to present a programme that flowed from one topic to the next. We did not want just a jumble of great, but unrelated topics; rather we wanted to take a holistic approach, based on a general theme. It was felt that all callers should have the same opportunity for to attend each session presented, hence a 3 pronged approach was to be undertaken. This meant that each topic presented would be actually done 3 times, with each version aimed at a different knowledge base by the attendees. Thus we would have a specific topic for the newer callers, same topic with emphasis changed to a more experienced group and lastly a third group that would be for the callers with the most experience.

This also worked into the concept of limited numbers for the sessions with our Voice Coach, allowing each caller to have the opportunity to have individual time with the Coach

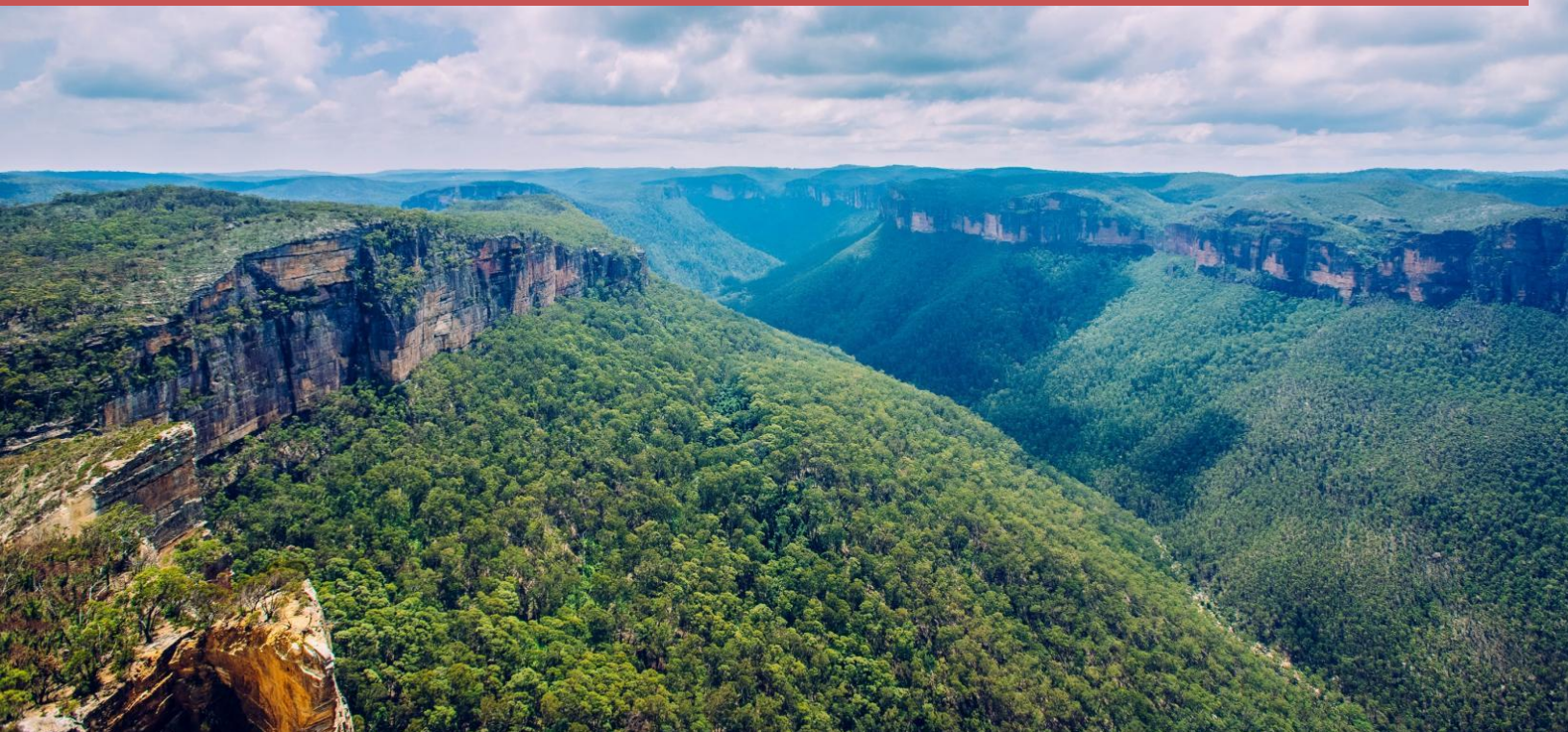
Our committee for this Conference is a relatively small one, enabling good communication and discussion. The one who has been doing most of the running around and general organization is Barry Wonson. He has had numerous meetings with the management at the Fairmont as well as many others in the area.

The programme is in the hands of Steve Turner and Barry Wonson. They are continually adjusting the blueprint as new ideas and suggestions are made.

The person looking after the financial side with registrations and all that other stuff is Gary Carpenter. One of the major features we hope to have very shortly is our own website. This is being handled by our IT guru, Jaden Frigo

1. Attendees at the conference will have the following:
2. Welcome cuppa each morning
3. Morning tea each day
4. A full buffet luncheon .
5. Afternoon Tea each day.
6. All materials from our guest presenters.
7. A number of free pieces of square dance music.
8. Opportunities to socialize with friends
9. Unique educational opportunities to gain from the experience of our special presenters.
10. Hands-on opportunities with our special Vocal Coach...he is there to assist you to bring out the best in your most important calling tool.
11. Sessions catering specifically for your experience level rather than sitting there having no idea what the instructor is talking about, or being bored to tears with knowledge learnt years ago.
12. A truly great experience that will be remembered for years to come.





So, what we have planned is this:

Sun 5 Apr	Mon 6 APR	Tue 7 Apr	Wed 8 Apr	Thu 9 Apr
Check In	ACF Conference	ACF Conference	ACF Conference	Special Dance - Randy Dougherty

Normally, on the last night of the conference all attendees get together at a banquet. Although this has not been mentioned earlier; we **WILL** be having a banquet on the Wednesday Evening. We are planning something very special and unique, however as of present date (14/04), this has not been finalized and therefore we have not been able to put a cost for this special function. It is hoped that this will be finalized within next few weeks following the Convention in Perth.

**REGISTRATION:** At the end of this newsletter you will find a registration form for the Conference along with an accommodation booking form for the Fairmont Resort.

**ACCOMMODATION** is to be booked directly with the Fairmont Resort. They have given us a very good rate for the callers attending the conference. Current rates are actually more than those quoted us for 2020. **BOOK EARLY** – it is important to remember that this area is one of the most visited in NSW. During Easter the most accommodations, including the Fairmont run at 100% occupancy. **It would be advisable to register and book accommodation as early as possible.**

The 61<sup>st</sup> National Square Dance Convention will follow the ACF Conference. The venue is Blue Mountains Grammar School at Wentworth Falls; the next village south from Leura...about 6 minutes away.



Steve Turner



Gary Carpenter



Jaden Frigo





**PRESENTERS:** Our feature Presenter is Randy Dougherty, however we will have other presenters. Our current plan is for at least two other presenters / callers offering insights, ideas, and guidance within the framework of specific topics requested by callers.

**PROGRAM:** At the moment we have a basic outline of all the sessions for the conference. Although not all sessions have been fully defined as yet; it is hoped that we will have further details for everyone within the very short term, following the National Convention in Perth. We will update all the information on a regular basis.

**VOCAL COACH:** A vocal coach was first used back in 1981 at CALLERLAB. The coach featured was Arden Hopkin, who became a regular contributor to CALLERLAB's line-up of sessions until his retirement a few years ago. The tapes from these sessions are in our library and are available for our ACF members to listen to at any time. Arden's presentations are the base for what we are aiming for in 2020 – an introductory session followed by a series of sessions with small groups in order for each attendee to have mic time. We believe that these sessions will be something really special for all attendees.

**COST:** We have attempted to keep our costs as low as possible in order for all to be able to attend. The ACF is subsidizing all attending by a very large amount as the actual costs involved are more than double the amount given for each caller.

**JUST ACF?** This Conference is open to ALL callers from around the world, not just our Australian ACF members.



**BARRY WONSON**  
**ACF PRESIDENT**

(02) 42294059

[bjwonson@gmail.com](mailto:bjwonson@gmail.com)



2020

# ACF CALLER CONFERENCE

Monday April 6<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday April 8<sup>th</sup>, Leura, NSW

PLEASE ENTER YOUR DETAILS BELOW

NAME(s).....

ADDRESS.....

PHONE.....EMAIL.....

No. of **ACF** Member/Spouse/Partners @ \$225.00 each.....Total.....

No. of **NON ACF** Members/Spouse/Partners @\$255 each.....Total.....

No. of Spouse/partners attending Lunch Only option @42.00 each.....Total.....

(Please note that the above Lunch Only option is only available for those spouses/partners who are not attending the Conference as delegates)

POST-CONFERENCE Dance with Randy Dougherty @\$20.00 No.....Total.....

(venue to be confirmed for Post-Convention dance)

GRAND TOTAL \$.....

## BANQUET

No. attending the banquet (assuming between \$85.00 and \$100.00 each).....

(As we do not have a specific costing at the moment, no monies are expected, this is just to give us an idea of numbers. We are aiming at something quite special and very unique for this function)

**PRE-CONFERENCE DANCE** This is a free dance for all delegates and partners.

**PLEASE SELECT ONE OF THE PAYMENT OPTIONS AND FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS**

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**DIRECT BANKING:** BSB: 064420. Account 10028195 Name: Australian Callers Federation

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**CHEQUES :** payable to **Australian Callers Federation** and posted to **GARY CARPENTER**, PO Box 97, The Entrance, 2261 NSW. Send copy of receipt to: [gazacarpenter@gmail.com](mailto:gazacarpenter@gmail.com)

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**GENERAL ENQUIRIES:** Barry Wonson - PO Box 1819, Wollongong NSW 2500. [bjwonson@gmail.com](mailto:bjwonson@gmail.com)





## Accommodation booking request form ACF Callers Conference 6th, 7th and 8th April 2020

### Booking Details

Title \_\_\_\_\_ Surname \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

\*Please ensure all is legible

### To secure your booking we require:

A \$100.00 non-refundable deposit. Then 14 days prior to check in full prepayment of your accommodation will be processed on the credit card supplied., unless otherwise requested.

Please circle: VISA / MASTERCARD / DINERS / AMERICAN EXPRESS

Credit card No. \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Card Holders name \_\_\_\_\_ Card holders Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Arrival Date \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Date \_\_\_\_\_

No of Adults in Room \_\_\_\_\_ No of Children \_\_\_\_\_

For wives/partners/spouses the Buffet Luncheon can be booked separately on the Conference registration form.

Please note that check-in times and all other information is available on the Fairmont Resort website noted on page 3.

Please note the credit card holder must be present upon checking in.

### Room rates - Accommodation required during conference

- **Fairmont Room (1 guest)** \$169.00 per night Includes breakfast for 1 person. Number of rooms: \_\_\_\_\_

Sunday 5th ☐ Monday 6th ☐ Tuesday 7th ☐ Wednesday 8th ☐ Thursday 9th ☐

- **Fairmont Room (2 guests)** \$198.00 per night includes breakfast for 2 people. Number of rooms: \_\_\_\_\_

Sunday 5th ☐ Monday 6th ☐ Tuesday 7th ☐ Wednesday 8th ☐ Thursday 9th ☐

All rooms are subject to availability and will be allocated upon first in first serve basis

**Accommodation Cancellation Policy:** Cancellations for accommodation received more than 14 days prior to arrival will forfeit \$100.00 deposit. Cancellations within 14 days of the designated arrival date, or non-arrival of guests, will forfeit all monies paid.

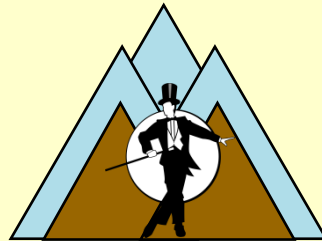
Please email [reservations@fairmontresort.com.au](mailto:reservations@fairmontresort.com.au)

This is a booking request form only. Your booking is not confirmed until confirmation has been received from Fairmont Resort. For booking enquiries please call **02 4785 0000**

**For Post Accommodation requirements please call the hotel direct.**



**61st Australian National Square Dance  
Convention  
Wentworth Falls  
10th-14th April 2020**



What do you think of when you imagine the Blue Mountains?

- The serene blue haze of eucalyptus oil rising from distant gum trees,
- the grand Three Sisters rock formation at Katoomba's Echo Point lookout,
- the star of many a pretty postcard?

You can tick off all these exciting encounters in New South Wales' famous, World Heritage listed district, but there's more to the Blue Mountains. So come and relive the golden era of Australia's first holiday destination at the 61st Australian National Square Dance Convention.

A reminder to all that this is also the Easter and school holiday period so we recommend that you **book your accommodation early**. Accommodation can be found at <https://www.bluemts.com.au/accommodation> or check out our accommodation list.

**Contact:** Convenors David & Rosalind Todd [convenor2020sdconvention@gmail.com](mailto:convenor2020sdconvention@gmail.com)

Expression of Interest Tear of the section below and place in the box

Tear of the section below and place in the box



Name..... Club.....

Contact Postal address or Email.....

State: Please circle

ACT NSW VIC QLD WA SA TAS OVERSEAS (\_\_\_\_\_)

**Puttin' on the Ritz**

Relive the glamour of the 1920's at Australia's first tourist destination