

# SQUARE DANCING SOCIETY



## OF QUEENSLAND INC.

(FOUNDED 1954)

[www.squaredancingsocietyofqueensland.org](http://www.squaredancingsocietyofqueensland.org)



## Bugle - January / February 2015

Come and Join us at the  
**Society AGM Dinner, Meeting & Dance**  
**Saturday 28th March 2015**

**Hosted by Gumdale Grandsliders Square Dance Club Inc**

**WHERE:** Alexandra Hills Community Hall  
Cnr. Windemere & Finucane Rds, Alexandra Hills

**TIME:** 5.30pm Dinner - Dinner Cost: \$5.00  
First Course: Pizza, salad & garlic bread.  
Second Course: Fruit salad & ice cream  
Tea & Coffee

6.00pm AGM Meeting

7.00pm Dance - 7.00pm Rounds  
7.30pm Squares from Basic to Plus level

*The Society is seeking dancers to be on the committee for the coming year.  
Come along and get involved*

Dance Admission \$10.00 or  
\$8.00 on presentation of Membership card

There will be Raffle and Door Prizes  
A supper would be greatly appreciated

Callers and Cuers – If you would like to be considered to be programmed to call  
Please see Registration Form on Page 4 of this Bugle.

**REPRODUCED COURTESY OF:**



## Writing for the Bugle.

I have been asked to underline some of the issues which need more detailed understanding when writing articles and advertisements for the Bugles. Some changes have been made and I ask all Club Presidents, Secretaries, Publicity Officers and dancers who wish to contribute to your magazine to please note these.

Firstly. All articles and advertisements are to be emailed to the Bugle editor. This is [squaredanceqld.bugle@gmail.com](mailto:squaredanceqld.bugle@gmail.com).

Please try to ensure that all articles and ads are well written. Documents should be sent as computer files, preferably in Microsoft "Word" format. If Word is not available, the full text may be written in the body of the email. Please do not Scan or format as a picture file or convert it to a pdf file. These formats generally do not reproduce well in the Bugle without much work by the editor.

Clubs that are affiliated with the society, that is they have paid an affiliation fee, may advertise in the Bugle without charge. Non Affiliated Clubs will be charged \$40.00 Full page, \$20.00 Half page & \$10.00 ¼ page.

Advertisements sizes are :-

**For Society and QCA sponsored functions**, ie Sunshine State Round up or the State Conventions, a Full page advertisement is acceptable, e.g. A4 Portrait with 5 mm borders.

**For affiliated clubs**, one half A4 page is the maximum size. Page orientation of the Bugle is PORTRAIT but your advert or article orientation is to be in LANDSCAPE eg to fit on the top or bottom half of the portrait page. Several clubs have expressed the view that the bugle is too many pages. We may consider limiting club ads to ¼ page if the size continues to create problems.

Please consider when you design an advertisements that Bright Colours and Fancy Fonts may look good on a Noticeboard Flier, they may not reproduce well on a Bugle page. Consider a 12 point font for general information and restrict the use of large fonts to Headlines and Sub headings. Don't use a background colour for the whole item. Good quality photos used to report on an event usually reproduce well, but please attach the file rather than scanning a picture. All items for publication must be submitted to the editor by 25<sup>th</sup> of each month.

## DISCLAIMER

The opinions expressed in this publication are those of the individual contributors and may not necessarily agree with the opinions of the Editor, the Square Dancing Society of Queensland Inc. or the individual Clubs affiliated with the Square Dancing Society of Queensland Inc., nor are we responsible for any goods advertised for sale.

## Publicity Officers report to all Bugle correspondents

First Edition for 2015

I would like to wish you all a happy new year. I hope that your Christmas break was worthwhile and that you are refreshed and ready to plan for 2015. Several clubs are planning to hold "Come & Try Square Dancing" sessions. Is your club planning or have you started to do this?

How are you making contact with potential dancers? Club members are a wonderful point to start with. It seems that the newer the dancers, the greater chance they have to recruit more new ones. Are you advertising in local shopping centres on their notice boards? Are you planning a letterbox drop in your area? Most local Members of Parliament or Councillors will do some photocopying if you approach them nicely, explaining that it is for a community activity. Likewise local newspapers will sometimes put an article about "New Learners Classes" in their community section, (if they have one).

You should have read in previous Bugles and society minutes that the Square Dancing Society of Qld. Inc. would love to see your club notices for beginner's classes on their web site. Details are on the site to tell you what to do. The society will also consider subsidising publicity costs for classes to clubs who make an appropriate application.

It is important that all club members are kept abreast of changes to the Society's constitution and guidelines. All members are invited to management meetings and general meetings. If you want your clubs ideas put forward you have the opportunity at the meetings.

There is much information on the Society website

<http://www.squaredancingsocietyofqueensland.org> . Have a look at it and see the progress your society is making, how it can help you and what you can do to help promote our activity.

## Beginners Class Advertising

Is your club currently running or planning to run a beginners class in the near future? You are welcome to advertise this class on the Society Website.

Please submit any flyers or information via the Secretary.

The information will then be located under the **"LEARN TO DANCE"** tab on our Website.

**[www.squaredancingsocietyofqueensland.org](http://www.squaredancingsocietyofqueensland.org)**

## Society AGM Dance - Caller / Cuer Registration

I wish to be considered to call/cue at the Qld Society AGM Dance on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2015

Name..... Squares (.....) Rounds (.....)

Club .....

Please Post to Alan Evans...30 Paradise Rd Forestdale 4118

Or email [jane.evans33@bigpond.com](mailto:jane.evans33@bigpond.com)

Please remit this nomination by: 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2015

# Wavell Whirlaways have a new home from Wednesday 28 January 2015



## Enoggera Bowls Club



**72 PICKERING STREET, ENOGGERA**

**OPPOSITE MAGURA STREET**

**ADMISSION - \$8.00**

**DANCING - 7PM TO 10PM**

**BRING A PLATE FOR SUPPER**

**~ GREAT PARKING ~ GREAT VENUE ~ GREAT NIGHT OF SQUARE DANCING ~**

Join us to celebrate the  
**11<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**  
Of the opening of  
**Logan City Square Dance Centre**  
161A Magnesium Drive, Crestmead

**Valentine's Day**  
**14<sup>th</sup> February 2015**

Featuring caller  
**Mike Davey (Vic)**  
**Red & White theme**

**Programme**

Saturday 1.30 – 4pm Plus  
7pm Rounds  
7.30 Mainstream Squares

**Admission**

Afternoon session \$8.00 per person  
Evening session \$10.00 per person  
Combined sessions \$16.00 per person

*(square dance attire for both sessions please)*

*Supper will be approximately 10pm. A food contribution will be sincerely appreciated.  
The hall will remain open between sessions. BYO a basket tea if desired or there are several food outlets nearby. Showers available.*

**Enquiries; Jane Rayner 0405 316 469 Email; [lcsquaredancers@bigpond.com](mailto:lcsquaredancers@bigpond.com)**

**SUNCOASTERS SQUARE DANCE CLUB**  
**Invite you to our PYJAMA PARTY WING DING**

It will be held at **The SQUARE DANCE CENTRE 260 DIXON ROAD, BUDERIM -on SATURDAY, 21 MARCH, 2015**

**Come in your pyjamas as we are having a sleepover in the hall after the dance. (Bring sheets and pillow or your sleeping bag).**

**We are starting with a social get together at 5pm and will enjoy chicken wings and wine for dinner and Nev will cook breakfast for us the next morning after a fun night of dancing and socialising.**

**Please RSVP by 14 March to Bev McLachlan, at [BevMcL54@gmail.com](mailto:BevMcL54@gmail.com).**

## **“Square Dancing – Come and Try”**

Rambling Eights Square Dance Club are planning “Come & Try” evenings

Organise your group or come on your own!

Partners are not necessary, Experience is not required,

Bring your Friends, Bring your Family - Get ready to Dance each week!

Join the **fun**

Feel the **exercise**

Experience the **friendship**

**Where:** St Pius X Primary School Hall

Golda Ave. Salisbury (Behind Tennis Courts)

**When:** 7.00 -9.00pm, Friday Nights Commencing January 30<sup>th</sup>

**Cost:** Only \$8.00 a lesson, Children \$4.00

**Dress:** Neat Casual (with comfortable shoes)

**It's easy! It's Fun! Give it a Go!**

Inquiries and bookings: David or Faith Phone (07) 32631408 or 0458215504 or check out our website [www.ranblingeights.org](http://www.ranblingeights.org)

**PS: Check out U Tube links on our website:-Square Dancing Keeps you Young” & more at “ramblingeights.org”**

## **Rambling Eights- Birthday Dance**



# **"Party"**



***We are Celebrating 29Years of Dancing in Brisbane & You are Invited to join us***

***Our birthday falls on close to Valentine's Day,  
So our theme will feature Red, Hearts and lots of Love  
You are welcome to join us on:- Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2015***

***Dancing Starts 7.30pm at  
St. Pius Primary School Hall, Golda Ave. Salisbury***



***Come Along and Join the Party  
All Dancers & Visiting Callers Welcome***



***Supper will be provided. Additional contributions will be welcome***

***Admission \$8.00 (Children \$4.00)***

***Fun dancing for Basic, Mainstream & Plus levels, Monte Carlo, Lucky Door and a Raffle  
For more information please contact David or Faith 07 32631408 or  
check our Web Site :[www.ranblingeights.org](http://www.ranblingeights.org)***



# SUNSHINE COAST Square Dance Centre

**Home of Suncoasters Square Dance Club Inc.,**

260 Dixon Road, Buderim Qld

Dixon Road exit of the Motorway

## SPECIAL ACTIVITIES FOR 2015

January 26 <sup>th</sup>	Australia Day Parade , Demo in the Park and Evening Dance
January 31 <sup>st</sup>	For those interested in learning to Square Dance a "Come & Try" Dance
March 21 <sup>st</sup>	WingDing, Pyjama Party, Dance & Sleepover
May 16 <sup>th</sup>	45 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations for Suncoasters & Nev "Black & Red Cabaret"
July 4 <sup>th</sup>	Red, White & Blue Social Dance
July 31 <sup>st</sup> August 1 & 2	30 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the "Centre" with James Reid & Graham Elliott
August 29 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup> Saturday Soup & Spring Social Dance
October 31 <sup>st</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup> Saturday Melbourne Cup Social Dance

**CALLER Nev McLachlan .. Assistant Gary Petersen**

**Rounds & Clogging Cuer Bev McLachlan**

Tele: (07 5445 1238 .. 0427 135 442 .. 0417 729 263

Email: [nevbevmlachlan@bigpond.com](mailto:nevbevmlachlan@bigpond.com) or [BevMcL54@gmail.com](mailto:BevMcL54@gmail.com) Website: [www.suncoasters.com.au](http://www.suncoasters.com.au)

Caravan/Tent sites available at "The Centre" for Square Dance Travellers.

### Suncoasters - Callers Nev McLachlan and Gary Petersen

Since our last Bugle, many dancers from various clubs around Queensland greatly enjoyed a fabulous weekend of dancing at Mothar Mountain run by Gary Petersen. It was a truly great weekend. The next fun weekend was the Society Christmas Party held at Bundaberg hosted by Matthew Mills' club Cane Country Squares. This was another great weekend and we all appreciated the great effort put in by Matthew and all of the callers and other club members. The dances were very well attended by dancers from many parts of Queensland.

Suncoasters had our own Christmas Party on 6 December and this was another very enjoyable night and was well attended. We then had our New Year's Eve party run by Gary and the night was so much fun. We had many lovely visitors from Gary's Bribie Island club, Caboolture club, Gene Medford's club and also Dougal's club. Gary put in much effort to make the night so memorable - thank you Gary.

## **Bugle Co-Ordinator**

Do you have an interest in “Desktop Publishing”? Are you good with Computers and Email ? Do you enjoy working as part of a team.

The Society is calling for Expressions of Interest in the position of Bugle Co-Ordinator. This is a position appointed by the Executive.

If you are interested in this role or would like more information on what is involved with the co-ordination of our monthly Bugle, please contact Lynette - [squaredanceqld.president@gmail.com](mailto:squaredanceqld.president@gmail.com)

## **Advertising in the Australian Square Dance Review**

New sizes and costings for advertising in the Review have been approved and published.

The new details for payment and submission of all material for the Review have been sent to all affiliated clubs.

If your club has not received these updates please request a copy and direct your question to the Queensland Review Editor.:-

[squaredanceqld.review@gmail.com](mailto:squaredanceqld.review@gmail.com) .

## **Calendar of Events**

Due to the number of events clubs wish to be promoted; a maximum of two lines is allowed for each event.

Please ensure that a contact is included in the details, this may be a phone number or a web site address.

All items for inclusion in the Calendar should be emailed to the Publicity Officer: - [squaredanceqld.publicity@gmail.com](mailto:squaredanceqld.publicity@gmail.com) .

The calendar will display events for the next twelve months from the date of issue.

## Cane Country Squares

Happy New Year to all members.

Cane Country Squares would like to thank all members who attended the Society Dance hosted by our club in Bundaberg at the end of November. We were very pleased with the number of sets dancing all weekend with lots of visitors arriving for our Club dance on the Friday night giving our learners a boost to see so many people enjoying themselves. Sorry it was such a hot weekend but hope you found the cold water supplied some help. It would have been hot wherever you were.

We have been trying very hard to gain new members and to speed up the learning process during the year with our "Jump Start into Square Dancing". Nev McLachlan kindly broke away from one of his favourite pastimes with the turtles to assist on the first sessions held on 10th January.

Matthew then repeated the programme on 24th January. We were hoping to have more families as we promoted it as a holiday activity which can be continued into the year. We will be very pleased if these new ones join us when we recommence soon. Thank you to Nev and Bev and all the "Angels" who assisted, including many of our latest learners.

Pam Garson

# ROUND DANCING

Learn

Waltz

Two-step

Cha Cha

Rhumba

Foxtrot



Class Commencing

Saturday

31st January 2015

12.15 pm

at

Clontarf Community Hall

34 Cornelius Street, Clontarf

\$5.00 per dancer

### Bookings & Information

Lynette Macpherson - 3204 2335

Sid Leighton - 0418 724 636

### What is Round Dancing?

**Round Dancing** is a choreographed and cued form of social dancing, similar to **Ballroom Dancing**, that progresses in a circular pattern around the dance floor.

**SATURDAY 21ST MARCH 2015**

**WingDing, Pyjama Party, Dance & Sleepover**



*Start the year off with a Bang!!!  
Come join us at "The Centre" at 5.00 pm  
Serving Chicken Wings, and Wine*



**SUNCOASTERS SQUARE DANCE CLUB, INC**



**Cost \$ 8.00 each**

**Financial Suncoasters Members \$ 7.00**



**R.S.V.P**— To Secretary Bev by the 14th March.

Phone: 5445 1238 or 0427 135 442

Email [bev@suncoasters.com.au](mailto:bev@suncoasters.com.au) or [scsdc260dixon@gmail.com](mailto:scsdc260dixon@gmail.com)

**Sunshine Coast Square Dance Centre, 260 Dixon Road Buderim.**



**SUNSHINE COAST Square Dance Centre**

**Home of Suncoasters Square Dance Club Inc.,**

260 Dixon Road, Buderim Qld Dixon Road exit of the Motorway

**WEEKLY PROGRAMME AT A GLANCE**

1 <sup>ST</sup> 3 <sup>RD</sup> & 5 <sup>TH</sup> SATURDAYS	7.00 pm ROUNDS, 7.30 pm SQUARES (MAINSTREAM)	
EVERY SUNDAY	4.30 pm – 7.00 pm THE 'A' PROGRAMME	
EVERY MONDAY	6.30 pm – 7.15 pm LEARNING TO ROUND DANCE	
	7.30 pm – 9.30 pm PLUS DANCE	
EVERY TUESDAY	6.00 pm LEARNING BASICS & MAINSTREAM	
	7.30 pm MAINSTREAM WORKSHOP	
EVERY WEDNESDAY	9.30 am – 11.30 am BASIC WORKSHOP	IN THE LARGE HALL
	11.30 am – MAINSTREAM WORKSHOP	
	1.00 pm – 2.30 pm PLUS WORKSHOP	
	5.45 PM - CLOGGING	IN THE SMALL HALL

**CALLER Nev McLachlan .. Assisted by Gary Petersen**

**Rounds Cuer Bev McLachlan, Clogging Cuers Bev & Carol Murdoch**

Tele: (07 5445 1238 .. 0427 135 442 .. 0417 729 263

Email: [nevbevmlachlan@bigpond.com](mailto:nevbevmlachlan@bigpond.com) or [BevMcL54@gmail.com](mailto:BevMcL54@gmail.com) Website: [www.suncoasters.com.au](http://www.suncoasters.com.au)

Caravan/Tent sites available at "The Centre" for Square Dance Traveller

We recommend ringing before travelling to one of our dances as we may be away also..

## Cairns City Square Dance Club

A happy and healthy New Year to all other square dancing club members.

Cairns City Squares ended the year with an enjoyable Christmas Dance on 28<sup>th</sup> November with members of Ulysses and U3A Clubs visiting. We also held a break-up Dinner at a local Chinese restaurant the following week. Bev gave us quizzes to complete, the winners of these received a jar of her home made sweets.

From the members I have been in contact with most have had a quiet holiday period here in Cairns. Allison and Graham however are away on their yearly trip to NSW.

Friday night dancing recommences on 6<sup>th</sup> February and we are all looking forward to the year ahead.

Janet Hansen - Publicity Officer

## Hervey Bay Square Dance Club Inc.

Happy New Year to everyone. We do hope it's a very healthy and fun year for us all.

Hervey Bay had Christmas celebrations in a magnificently decorated hall. A scrumptious dinner on Wednesday night was followed by party games. Then our Saturday afternoon and night dance turned out to be most successful when Elaine Davis gratefully filled in for Sid Leighton who was unable to attend. Thanks to all our visitors. You made it all the more fun. We had mixed dancing as well as being serenaded by Elaine with her guitar.

We are doing a demo on Australia Day at our local park, a demo at our Nikenbah Markets on Sunday, 1st February and another demo at Stocklands, Hervey Bay in the lead up to our Come and Try morning on 7th February at 9.30 a.m.. David Smythe is coming up to run the morning so we are hoping for a good roll-up. We are trying for new members so lets hope all our efforts will not be in vain.

In the afternoon on the 7th February, David is calling Plus 2 to 4.30p.m. and a dance at 7 p.m. for Mainstream. Please join us if you can. Our events calendar is at [www.squaredancingherveybay.com.au](http://www.squaredancingherveybay.com.au).

Bye for now from all of us.

## STEPPING OUT WITH CLOGGING

After a joyous, relaxing Christmas break, it is back to the keyboard (computer that is), organising the start of Clogging twenty fifteen and doing personal date claimers via our diaries for the special events scheduled to occur during the year.

Some opening dance dates for 2015 are:

EZ CLOGGERS at Caboolture on Sunday evening 1<sup>st</sup> February; HOOKED ON CLOGGING, Bribie Island, 2<sup>nd</sup> February; CHUG-A-LUG CLOGGERS will hit the floor at Coorparoo on Tuesday night, 3<sup>rd</sup> February; DOUBLE JINGLE at Lutwyche on the following Thursday morning being 5<sup>th</sup> February; and SUNSTATE at Runcorn that night. DOUBLE UP start on 27<sup>th</sup> January at Warner. Club contacts for all Clubs Australia-wide can be found on [www.cloggingaustralia.com](http://www.cloggingaustralia.com) or in the ACA Newsletter.

Very pleased to be receiving enquiries regarding the Monday morning Clogging classes at the 50+PLUS Activities Centre in the Brisbane City Hall, lower ground floor. Dance-off date is Monday morning, 2<sup>nd</sup> February. Olive and I will be joined on the rotation panel of Teachers by Maureen, with Dian on emergency standby.

A smile-maker in itself is the clever renaming of one of our Clogging Clubs; the Bundaberg Club, formerly known as 'Fancy Shuffle' is now called (wait for it) GOODY2SHOES. New name, new location at Norville, and now dancing of a Monday night; what a super way to start the year. WELL DONE, PATTI.

STORM KING dates are 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> March at a new venue, Luther Heights Youth Camp, Coolum Beach on the Sunshine Coast. Checkout registration info with Edith (07 5482 2306), and Jenny (0409 121 749), or the ACA Newsletter, to join us for another great three days of Clogging. If you haven't been before, then make this year your start to being part of the STORM KING experience.

Not exactly Christmas in July, but it sure will be PARTY TIME at one of Clogging's long running events, when, on the 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> July at Kindilan at Redland Bay, AUSSIE CLOG, led by the irrefrangible Olive B. will be happening. Call 07 3345 3066 for a rego. form which is also in the ACA Newsletter.

The 20th ACA National Clogging Convention will be held at Gosford on the New South Wales Central Coast on the weekend on the 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> September. Not only will it be a top weekend of dancing, teaching and socialising, but the NSW Central Coast is a very enjoyable region to visit. Full info and registration form is in the ACA Newsletter, on the ACA website [www.cloggingaustralia.com](http://www.cloggingaustralia.com), or email [2015enquiries@gmail.com](mailto:2015enquiries@gmail.com)

**WORD OF WARNING:** Book your accommodation ASAP as this promises to be a very popular Convention.

The ACA is conducting a Choreography Competition. Check out the details, conditions and rules on [www.cloggingaustralia.com](http://www.cloggingaustralia.com)

Clubs here, there and everywhere will be performing at venues such as Retirement Villages, Shopping Centres, Social Clubs, Festivals and Expos to publicise our wonderful activity. If you aren't already involved in this area of Clogging life, maybe a call to the Activities Officer/Manager at some prospective venues near you will see your Clogging efforts rewarded by the response from very appreciative audiences.

Received a lovely email from Zillah Duplock, who, with her late husband, Merv., did a monumental amount of work for not only Clogging, helping amongst other things to found one of our long standing Clubs, but also for Square Dancing and Round Dancing. Zillah has moved from her private piece of Heaven at Walloon to a Retirement Village just outside Brisbane. If you would like to contact Zillah, please 'phone or email me and I will give you the necessary details.

Let me know of any Clogging news in your area so that it can be included in future BUGLES, e.g. Anniversary dates such as CHUG-A-LUG CLOGGERS 28<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebrations on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May.

**Please copy the BUGLE and give it (or email) to your Club members and Clogging friends.**

"There are short cuts to happiness, and dancing is one of them".

Best Wishes,  
Frances

FRANCES LOOK O.A.M. PH: 07 3391 6526; MOBILE 0429 851 891  
EMAIL: [lookdonfrances@bigpond.com](mailto:lookdonfrances@bigpond.com) WEBSITE: [www.cloggingaustralia.com](http://www.cloggingaustralia.com)

## Taigum Twirlers

The dancers of Taigum Twirlers have hit the floor running this year and have already danced with 3 bumper nights.

Our first night back was the Summer Social on 10th January. What a fun night - Beach Towels, Beach Balls and of course, the Beach Boys. Dancing to Summer Songs and playing games like Beach Ball bumper soccer kept everyone on their toes.

A lovely surprise to have Charmaine Jameson from Victoria come to visit us on our second night back. Thanks for calling Charmaine. Despite the heat we had a great night dancing all night at full Mainstream level. Third night back saw a full floor in our new venue at Clontarf with great dancing and great atmosphere.

We are all looking forward to our Super Saturday sessions of Round Dancing and Basic Dancing starting again on 31st January.

**EZ SQUARES CABOOLTURE**

**INVITES ALL SQUARE DANCERS**



**TO HELP US CELEBRATE**  
**OUR 25<sup>TH</sup> (SILVER) ANNIVERSARY**



**AT THE TIN SHED CABOOLTURE SHOWGROUND**  
**ON SATURDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2015 AT 7.30PM**



**DANCES SUITABLE FOR ALL LEVELS**

**Supper will be provided**  
**Entry \$7.00**  
Contact Geoff 0428 682 194 or John 0419 538 827

## Food for thought.....

**Permission to include this article in the Bugle was granted by the author - Paul Cote.**

**\*\*DISCLAIMER\*\*** The following thoughts are mine and mine alone. What qualifications do I have to give advice to a prospective new caller? NONE. I am accredited at "Absolutely Nothing". I am not a qualified "Caller-Coach" by any organizations standards. I believe, however, that sometimes we, as callers, might be just a little too "nice" in our replies to this question. YES...I want to encourage more people to pick up a microphone and call square dances, but this ain't Karaoke folks, and picking up the microphone at a square dance comes with a responsibility to the activity. These are all things that I believe must be considered when you decide you want to call. That said, these are only my opinions, and if you don't value them...well, you can stop reading now. **\*\*DISCLAIMER\*\***

### So...you wanna be a square dance caller? Well? Do ya?

This "open letter" is really directed toward the one person who asked in particular, but as I sat down to write it, I realized that it applies to almost anyone asking the same question. No...not every case is the same, but each person interested in calling will have to consider most of these thoughts as they decide if square dance calling is for them. Yes, there are always exceptions, but most folks will have to find a balance of the things I talk about below.

It ain't easy folks. Yes, most people can get up on the stage and muddle through a song or two, but there's a lot more to square dance calling than a decent singing voice. Here are just a few of the skills necessary for you to succeed as a caller.

#### **1. Basic Skill Set (NOT All-Inclusive)**

- a. A strong, clear voice.
- b. An understanding of music. Most importantly timing, but also being able to recognize the melody, and possibly harmonies of a song.
- c. The ability to carry a tune. Yes...some people can get away without this skill, but those are the best of choreographers who provide their entertainment through the puzzle more than the show. MOST callers will have to provide a balance of both.
- d. A good memory...or being disciplined enough to know you don't have a good memory and using the proper tools to make up for that shortcoming.
- e. A "mathematical" mind. Choreography is a math puzzle folks...geometry even. If you've got that "thing" that allows you to "see" numbers, and you're the type of person who loves a puzzle.....you've got a leg up on those of us who don't. (Yes...I include myself.)
- f. Showmanship! You're on stage. You're putting on a show. Go for that standing ovation.
- g. Promotional skills. You've got to sell yourself and the activity well.
- h. Leadership skills. Square dance callers, by default, must be leaders in the activity. You've got to step up and be willing to take the reins when necessary.  
Teaching skills. Not all good callers are teachers. Not all good teachers are good callers.
- j. A sincere love of the activity and the people of the activity.
- k. Judgment. Above all...judgment. You've got to understand and adapt to your audience. They will not adapt to you. You need to be able to recognize that what comes easy or natural to you may NOT come natural to your audience.
- l. The ability to self-evaluate...or have someone who you respect...who will also be honest with you about your skills and performance.

## **2. Confidence vs. Arrogance**

- a. You've got to have confidence in yourself and your skills, but not to the point of arrogance.
- b. Be true to yourself when you sell yourself over the microphone. Your calling persona is an extension of who you are off mic. It might be the same person you are, but bigger, and louder, and bolder. It might be the exact opposite of who you are...an "Alter-Ego". Whatever it is...do what comes naturally. Don't try to be someone you're not. Don't contradict yourself. Your dancers will recognize when you are being "true".
- c. Your audience needs to "trust you" to lead them in the dance. If they don't trust you, they won't be willing to stay in an unusual position or formation. They will start second guessing themselves and then start second guessing you. They'll try to "fix" things that aren't necessarily broken. Your confidence gives them the ability to "trust" you.
- d. Don't let your confidence turn to Arrogance. Yes, you'll know more than most of your dancers...but don't ever let them feel like you're talking down to them. Stretch them to their limits, but not beyond. Give them the opportunity to impress themselves with what you just got them through, but don't beat them up.

## **3. Do You Have What It Takes To Be A Caller? Some tell-tale signs...**

- a. Do you have at least a square of people who would step up and allow you to use them as your "live dolls"? If you don't have a square of willing friends...perhaps that is a hint about how people feel about you wanting to be a caller.
- b. Do you have a thick skin? It doesn't matter how many nice things are said to you during the course of a dance...it's that one negative thing that is going to stick with you and bother you when you try to get to sleep that night.
- c. Are you willing to put in the work? Wayne Morvent, one of the best "technicians" in calling said he often took TWO hours to prepare for each ONE hour he performed. He said that until he retired...and it showed. Even if you're lucky enough to have a strong grasp of one part of the square dance caller puzzle, very few people have all of the skills necessary. They don't come naturally.
- d. Are you prepared to INVEST in yourself? You need to be willing to invest in your skills through multiple callers schools. You need to invest in quality equipment. You need to invest in popular, current music, and vary that music so that it doesn't become repetitive for your dancers. You have to invest in advertising and marketing and promotion. You've got to be willing to invest TIME that will cut into your family and work, and social time. You've got to invest in yourself for others to invest in you too.

**4. Please Understand In Advance...**

- a. Most of us are “local Joe” callers. That means we work locally, a few times a month, maybe for a club or even two. We have day jobs. We have families. We have other priorities. Very few callers ever make it past the “local Joe” level... and that’s not necessarily a bad thing. “Local Joes” are the heart of the activity.
- b. Very few callers, even those national traveling callers that we all admire, can afford to just call square dances. Those days are gone folks. Very few callers travel any more, and even fewer of those do it full time. Yes, there are successful callers out there running money making home programs, weekends, and festivals, but they are the exception rather than the rule.
- c. The step in between “local Joe” and “full time traveling caller” has been virtually destroyed by the economy. As they say in Maine, “You can’t get there from here”. Mid- range travel has become the most cost prohibitive booking a caller can make. You’ll be asked to call for clubs 5-6 hours away for not much more than you can earn locally. Clubs simply can’t afford that 3 tanks of gas, time you miss from work, wear and tear on your vehicle, not to mention your 12 hour round trip worth of your time...and that’s assuming you’re willing to stay in whatever accommodations they are willing to share with you. Your average daily cost to work on the road is \$250.00...and that doesn’t include missed work or anything more than a two star hotel. Add those costs onto what you can make locally...and now you’ve priced yourself out of the market for most clubs.

**5. A Dose of Reality....**

- a. You’re not “all that”. Get over yourself. There will always be someone bigger and better, and you need to figure out where you’re going to fit in pretty quickly. Square dancers and square dance callers are, overall, an outstanding group of people, but as the activity continues to dwindle, even outstanding people become fiercely protective of their turf.
- b. Give more than you take. You’ve got a LOT of work ahead of you. You’re going to be relying on friends to help you hone your skill. Don’t take advantage of those friends. If you can sing a decent singing call...sing a few to them...THEN ask them to allow you to practice your patter for 10 or 15 minutes. Then sing to them some more. If you can’t sing for them either...then at least have some snacks and drinks for them, and maybe buy a couple pizzas at the end of your session. (All part of investing in yourself.)
- c. It’s going to take YEARS for you to get DECENT and longer to get GOOD. And it will never happen without a ton of work and investment. Every dancer who dances to you until you get GOOD is doing YOU a favor. Remember that...and remember them.
- d. Attend schools. Notice that schools is plural. You can’t get enough school. Period. When you DO go to schools, DON’T go to show off the few things you’re good at. Instead focus on the stuff you’re bad at. You’re not going to impress a veteran with a high note.

## 6. Pay It Forward – Sooner, Rather Than Later

- a. Don't wait a generation to start paying it forward. As soon as you are working regularly, start cultivating new talent for the health of the activity.
- b. Encourage new callers. Inspire them. Point them in the right direction to learn.

## 7. Finally...

Contrary to the popular school of thought...DO NOT...I repeat...DO NOT inflict yourself and your developing skills on the general public and non-dancers. For years, the sage advice has been to go out and buy a couple of records and grab a few non-dancers and teach them how to dance. The logic has always been described as...well, you're guaranteed to know more than someone who has never danced before.

Where that logic is flawed is by not considering the long term health of the activity. Square dancing has long thrown it's most inexperienced, least qualified callers and leaders at the general public, and that is a good portion of the problems our activity has with public image. Non-Dancers and the general public deserve nothing less than the best our activity has to offer, and as long as we try to attract them with our novices, we're going to keep driving them away. For each and every bad experience a potential dancer takes away from their introduction to our activity, they tell two friends, and so on.

PLEASE...keep away from potential dancers and fun nites and the general public until you can put on a quality performance sure to make these people want more. New dancers and potential dancers are extremely fragile, and deserve the most delicate of touches.

That's my two cents. If you want to call...commit, invest, work, take constructive criticism, give back, pay it forward. Put the needs of the activity ahead of your own personal needs. If you do all of those things, then good luck to you, and hope to dance to you or call with you someday soon!

Paul Cote

**\*\*RECAANT OF DISCLAIMER\*\*** The previous thoughts were mine and mine alone. What qualifications did I have to give advice to a prospective new caller? Actually...I have all of the qualifications I listed. These are mostly observations from MY experiences as a caller. These are the mistakes I've made. These are the things I wish I could have a "do-over" on. These are things that were told to me by people that I should have respected more, that I largely ignored, and caused myself years of struggle in the process. Even today, almost 27 years later, I have work to do on many if not MOST of the items I list above. So, yes, nobody is more qualified to say these things more than me. I'm still a work in progress. **\*\*RECAANT OF DISCLAIMER\*\***



ABN 93 632 718 761

# 57<sup>th</sup> Australian National Square Dance Convention June 29<sup>th</sup> – July 3<sup>rd</sup> 2016

## UPDATE OF OUR PROGRESS.

1. Our Registration Form has been designed and ready for release at the Adelaide National. If you are not going to Adelaide have you completed the "Expressions of Interest" Form? This will enable you to save \$ 25.00 per person on the next Convention Ticket price.
2. Our aim for this Convention is for a relaxed social convention. We plan to commence on Wednesday afternoon with a Social "Meet & Greet" and to conclude the Convention on Sunday late afternoon with a "Hooroo" social for all attendees.
3. Keep up to date with our happenings via our website [www.squaredancenational2016.com](http://www.squaredancenational2016.com) or our Facebook page.
4. Did you know that prior to our National there will be a 3 day Caller Cues Conference with international Callers/Cuers Ken Ritucci, Paul Bristow and Randy Preskitt. They have agreed to stay for our Convention and will be the featured callers at the "Independent 4<sup>th</sup> July Dance".
5. Volunteers will be required to help greet our visitors, marshalling, and even packing the Convention packages. If willing to help let us know. Contact Secretary Carmel by email at [secretary2016aussienat@gmail.com](mailto:secretary2016aussienat@gmail.com) or phone (07) 3269 8519

## **EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST ARE "U"**

**INTERESTING IN LEARNING "A"**  
**If so register your interest  
with us & we will organise  
a "Boot Camp"**

Sunshine Coast Square Dance Centre  
Nev & Bev McLachlan

Phone 5445 1238 or 0417 729263 or 0427 135 442

Email: [nevbevmclachlan@bigpond.com](mailto:nevbevmclachlan@bigpond.com)

## Logan City Square Dance Centre

2014 was seen out and 2015 welcomed in at our new year dance with 7 squares enjoying the calling talents of Alan Evans and round dancing with Jane Rayner. The theme was fancy dress with quite a few dancers dressing in a variety of costumes.

Our dancing year is now under way with the Thursday night session already commenced and Tuesday night beginners/mainstream session starting on January 27<sup>th</sup>. Our Monday night Basic sessions have ceased.

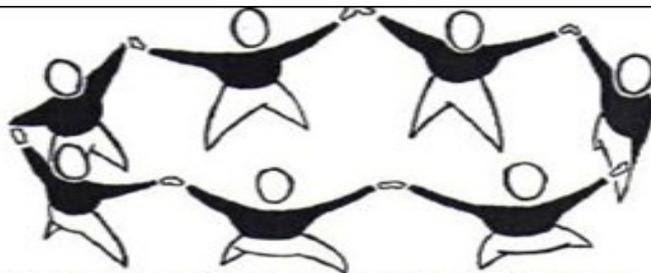
Our next special event is the 11<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the opening of the centre on 14<sup>th</sup> February featuring caller Mike Davey from Victoria.

Our regular Saturday dances will continue this year with various callers entertaining dancers through the year. Also, this year we will hold a Saturday dance during the month of the national convention for those who are not travelling to the convention.

Unfortunately, our Plus and A Level weekend will not be happening this year but there are plenty of other events around the square dance scene for dancers to enjoy.

For those interested in learning to Round Dance, classes will commence on 16<sup>th</sup> February at our centre, 161A Magnesium Drive Crestmead. Beginners from 6.30-7.15pm and Experienced dancers from 7.30-9pm. Round dancing is a simplified form of ballroom dancing. As with ballroom, a partner is required. For information please contact Jane Rayner on 0405 316 469 or email [lsquaredancers@bigpond.com](mailto:lsquaredancers@bigpond.com)

**E  
C  
M  
A**



### EMERGENCY CALL for MEDICAL AID

- 1** When a dancer goes down, a second dancer attends to him/her
- 2** The remaining couples join hands and take a step backward. This will allow the injured person and the attendant air and room
- 3** Raise joined hands as high as possible in the form of an arched circle
- 4** On seeing this signal, the caller or hall monitor will immediately respond and place an Emergency Call for Medical Aid if required. Caller and Dancers should continue as usual while aid is administered.

## Kandy Kloggers

Kandy Kloggers started at a beginners day in the backyard of George and Carmel Mathieson's under a mango tree on boards in 1988. Phyllis Stewart was the teacher and early dancers were Carmel Mathieson, June Lambert, Margaret Casey, Marie Hannan, Rachael Sampson, Dawn & Joanne McGrath and Doreen Heness.

We quickly moved to the Sandgate Senior Citizens Hall at Sandgate where the club went from strength to strength. Our first demonstration was at an old people's home. Our original skirt was white with coloured spots and then our red and white candy cane pattern hence the name Kandy Kloggers.

Two years into the club, Phyllis was moved to day work so Margaret Casey took over. Scary enough when beginners appeared every week for the first 7 weeks. Along the way, members attended camps, Club birthday parties, Toowoomba Festivals and conventions where both Phyllis and Margaret were included in the cueing.

Our youngest clogger was Gayle Casey at 4 years old in the Candy skirt demonstrating "old time rock and roll" with her parents at her future school. Demonstrations were also well received at the Sandgate Einbunkin Lagoon Festival.



The club closed in July 1995 due to family reasons but in the 7 years of the clubs we at one stage had 20 members who always enjoyed themselves. Kandy Kloggers thanks will always go to Phyllis who started us on the road to an enjoyable style of dancing.

Margaret Casey.



~LOOKING FORWARD~  
~LOOKING BACK~  
LEGACY ~ RESPONSIBILITY ~ DESTINY

# Adelaide 2015 Come to the Cabaret



56th Australian National Square Dance Convention  
The Gardens Recreation Centre, Parafield Gardens

2nd to 6th APRIL  
ONLY TWO  
MONTHS TO GO!



Great  
calling

Great  
dancing

Great  
company



## Registration forms:

Website: [www.adelaide2015.com](http://www.adelaide2015.com)

Email: [reg@adelaide2015.com](mailto:reg@adelaide2015.com)

Phone: Jan Stephens (08) 8445 2580  
or ask your caller or cuer

**Don't Delay - Register Now**

# DATE CLAIMER

**Graham Elliott & James Reid**

**For the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary,  
Camping & Caravanning Week-end**

**at the Square Dance Centre BUDERIM  
31<sup>st</sup> July – 2nd August 2015**

*Complete details to follow*

Enquiries please contact

Nev & Bev McLachlan

(07) 5445 1238, 0417 729 263, 0427 135 442

[www.suncoasters.com.au](http://www.suncoasters.com.au)

Email: [NevBevMcLachlan@bigpond.com](mailto:NevBevMcLachlan@bigpond.com)



**SUN CITY SQUARE  
&  
ROUND DANCE  
CLUB**

**40th BIRTHDAY DANCE**

**FEATURING**

**TONY OXENDINE**



**11th, 12th & 13th September 2015**  
**Wulguru Community Centre**  
**14 Edison Street, Wulguru**  
**TOWNSVILLE**

Please send any enquires about the 40th Birthday Dance to  
the following Emails . Thank You and Hope to see you there.

Darryl Burrows— 0488752843/ 0747752843

[learntosquaredance@bigpond.com](mailto:learntosquaredance@bigpond.com)

<http://learntosquaredanceintownsville.weebly.com/>

Jodie Williams—0747740263



**SQUARE DANCING SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND INC.**  
**CALENDAR OF EVENTS – 2015 – AS AT 30<sup>th</sup> December 2014**

**Calendar of Events**

Due to the number of events clubs wish to be promoted; a maximum of two lines is allowed for each event for Society Affiliated Clubs. Please ensure that a contact is included in the details, this may be a phone number or a web site address. All items for inclusion in the Calendar should be emailed to the Publicity Officer: - [squaredanceqld.publicity@gmail.com](mailto:squaredanceqld.publicity@gmail.com) . The calendar will display events for the next twelve months from the date of issue.

Please ensure that the requests are for special events and not just regular club nights. Refer to the notices and ads in this month's edition of the Bugle for further details.

**2015**

- 10 Jan Taigum Twirlers "New Venue" Summer Social at 7.00pm.** Dancing for everyone.  
Contact Lynette Macpherson -3204 2335 /Sid Leighton – 0418 724 636
- 11 Jan Dance Day with Kay** - Graceville - MS, Plus and A-level  
contact Kay [07 33740226](tel:0733740226) or Aaron [07 33780825](tel:0733780825)
- 14 Jan Gumdale Grandsliders.** Are holding a Summer Dance -7.30 -9.30pm. Contact Heather 3219 1725 or Dorothy 3820 9666
- 26 Jan Suncoasters Square Dance Club Inc.** Australia Day Parade , Demo in the Park and Evening Dance. Tele: (07 5445 1238 .. 0427 135 442 .. 0417 729 263 or [www.suncoasters.com.au](http://www.suncoasters.com.au)
- 31 Jan Suncoasters Square Dance Club Inc** For those interested in learning to Square Dance a "Come & Try" Dance Tele: (07 5445 1238 .. 0427 135 442 .. 0417 729 263 or [www.suncoasters.com.au](http://www.suncoasters.com.au)
- 13 Feb Rambling Eights, Salisbury –29<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party**  
Contact: David or Faith Pearce – 3263 1408 or [www.ramblingeights.org](http://www.ramblingeights.org)
- 14 Feb Logan City Square Dance Centre.** 11<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dance. Afternoon session – Plus. Evening session – Rounds and Squares Feature Caller Mike Davey contact Jane Rayner 0405 316 469 or Email [lcsquaredancers@bigpond.com](mailto:lcsquaredancers@bigpond.com)
- 28 Feb EZ-Squares Caboolture,** Invites all Square Dancers to help us celebrate our 25<sup>th</sup> (silver) anniversary. At the tin shed Caboolture showground at 7.30pm
- 21 Mar Suncoasters Square Dance Club Inc** WingDing, Pyjama Party, Dance & Sleepover. 07 5445 1238 . 0427 135 442 . 0417 729 263 or [www.suncoasters.com.au](http://www.suncoasters.com.au)
- 16 May Suncoasters Square Dance Club Inc.** 45<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations for Suncoasters & Nev's Calling. "Black & Red Cabaret" 07 5445 1238 0427 135 442 . 0417 729 263 or [www.suncoasters.com.au](http://www.suncoasters.com.au)
- 4 July Suncoasters Square Dance Club Inc.** Red, White & Blue Social Dance 07 5445 1238 . 0427 135 442 .0417 729 263 or [www.suncoasters.com.au](http://www.suncoasters.com.au)
- 24 July Rambling Eights, Salisbury –Christmas in July Party Night.**  
Contact: David or Faith Pearce – 3263 1408 or [www.ramblingeights.org](http://www.ramblingeights.org)
- 31 July - 2 August Suncoasters Square Dance Club Inc.** 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the "Centre" with James Reid & Graham Elliott 07 5445 1238 ..0427 135 442 .0417 729 263 or [www.suncoasters.com.au](http://www.suncoasters.com.au)
- 29 Aug Suncoasters Square Dance Club Inc.** 5<sup>th</sup> Saturday Soup & Spring Social Dance 07 5445 1238 .0427 135 442 .0417 729 263 or [www.suncoasters.com.au](http://www.suncoasters.com.au)
- 11-13 Sept Sun City Square and Round Dance Club** (Townsville), will celebrate their 40<sup>th</sup> birthday with a weekend of dancing to Tony Oxendine from USA. Contacts are Darryl Burrows 0488 752 843/07 4775 2843 or Jodie Williams 07 4774 0263.
- 31 Oct Suncoasters Square Dance Club Inc.** 5<sup>th</sup> Saturday Melbourne Cup Social Dance. 07 5445 1238 .0427 135 442 .0417 729 263 or [www.suncoasters.com.au](http://www.suncoasters.com.au)

**Society Date Claimers for 2015:**

28 March 2015 - AGM Dance and Meeting.

23-24 May 2015 - Sunshine State Roundup and Social

28 November 2015 - Society Christmas Party.