

The Banana Benders Bugle

Oct. – Nov. 05

My Scribble

Calendar of Events

When the Bugle started one of my aims was to include an article in each edition which would be of interest to the dancers. I wanted these articles to get all of us thinking about various aspects of dancing and its future. **Let's look at getting new dancers.**

Rounds have had a very successful year and the Cloggers have quietly moved along very nicely thank you.

Recruiting new square dancers seems to be a problem. It should be our prime activity apart from dancing. How should we go about it? We all have our ideas on what is the best way to attract new dancers.

There is an overabundance of articles on the subject telling us 'how to'. I was trying to make up my mind what article to use when I received an email from Gillian Axelson. When I read it, problem solved.

It is on the back page. Please read it, examining your past practices and start planning how YOUR club is going to operate and get new dancers. It may help other clubs if you published your methods and results. I am not saying this is the 'ultimate' way to run a club but it is a sight better way than how some clubs operate at present.

Look at the average age of any gathering of square dancers. The majority of the dancers will not see sixty again and every passing year exacerbates the problem.

Now is the time to plan your recruitment drive for 2006.

Wayne Bennett wrote in the Courier Mail a couple of years back, "At days end a group working together can accomplish more things than any individual would dare to dream of."

Dream a little and let all see how good your club goes ahead in 2006.

Noel Miller.

OCTOBER

- 8 Heritage City Hoedowners with A. Evans
- 14 Rock 'n' Roll Squares Fun Night
- 20 50th. & final Ashgrove Rosebowl Hoedown. S Bar B Square Dance Clubs
- 29 **Meeting to discuss proposed Constitution.**
9.30 am. Red Cross Hall , Greenslopes.
- 28 Salad Bowl Squares Halloween night
- 27 S Bar B Square Dance Clubs 53rd.
Halloween Party

NOVEMBER

- 1 Gumdale Melbourne Cup 10am – 2.30 pm.
Ulysses Square Dance Club Annual
Melbourne Cup & Fashion Hat Parade
- 11 Rock 'n' Roll Squares Main Stream.
- 25 Salad Bowl Squares - Ice-cream surprise-tropical night
- 27 **Society AGM 9.30 am. Red Cross Hall, Greenslopes**

DECEMBER

- 9 Rock 'n' Roll Squares Closing Night.
- 10 Salad Bowl Squares Christmas break-up party
- 14 Gumdale Christmas Break-up.

Contact The Bugle:- burtrax@bigpond.net.au

Noel Miller, 29 Bluegrass Crest. Eight Mile Plains
4113 Ph. 3841 6619

Reproduced courtesy of

Norm Wyndham
Councillor for McDowall Ward
Phone: 3403 7690 Fax: 3403 7693
Email: mcdowall.ward@ecn.net.au

SQUARE DANCING SOCIETY OF QLD INC CHRISTMAS DANCE

HOSTED BY NORTHSIDE PROMENADERS & PINE RIVERS SENIOR CITIZENS
CLUB INC. (SQUARE DANCERS.)



LIONS CLUB HALL, LAWNTON SHOW GROUNDS, GYMPIE ROAD, LAWNTON

SATURDAY 26 NOVEMBER 2005

COMMENCING AT 7:00PM



ADULTS \$8.00

STUDENTS \$4.00

TEA AND COFFEE FREE SUPPER PROVIDED

SOFT DRINKS ON SALE

RAFFLES & LUCKY DOOR PRIZES

PH. MARGARET BAINES 3285 2130 OR RUSSELL / HELEN 3865 4748

CALLER / CUER REGISTRATION FORM: MUST BE RECEIVED BY 31ST OCTOBER 2005

SEND TO: RUSSELL MOLE, 35 WETHERBY STREET, GEEBUNG QLD
4034

NAME: _____ CONTACT PH: _____

N.B. REGISTERING TO CALL DOES NOT
GUARANTEE YOU WILL BE PROGRAMMED



Mackay & District Square Dancing Club.

Our 32nd Birthday in February,
is one not to be missed with

Guest Caller: Michael Mills Bundaberg

*" Old age is like everything else.
To make a success of it, you've
got to start young."
Fred Astaire*

Rocky Square 8's

Come help us do a sound check for 2006
State Convention and **celebrate our 6th.**
Birthday at a Dance in the Rockhampton
Heritage Village.

12th November 2005

All callers to be invited to call.
Great Bush Supper, Billy Tea and Damper.

Maryborough Heritage City Hoedowners

Come Dance With Us, 8TH. October 2005.

Enjoy an afternoon of Plus: 3pm. – 5pm. \$4.00

Following with a Free B.B.Q. Tea.

Mainstream Dancing 7pm. – 11pm. \$5.00

Host Caller :- ALAN EVANS.

Venue :- Woocoo Shire Community Hall,
Oakhurst Gardens,
Biggenden Road, Maryborough.

Please Advise for BBQ numbers only.

Contact :- President Daniel Ph. 4122 3334
Secretary 4121 4617
Treasurer 4121 6419
Email. kmeyerco@big.net.au

In memory of Jeanette Maddalena

The members of Salad Bowl Squares have been deeply affected by the sudden death of Jeanette Maddalena and her daughter, Roxanne, in a tragic car accident on 13th August. Many members have danced with Ray and Jeanette for over twenty years. Jeanette always had a friendly smile and lent a helping hand whenever it was needed. Her cheerful, caring nature and compassion have helped many of us. She will be missed by all who were privileged to know her. Our thoughts, love and sympathy are extended to Ray and his family at this time.

Letter to the Editor.

It was with great interest that I read the letter from Don Fenton of Cairns City Squares.

I also wear a hearing aid but only in one ear as the other one has no hearing at all. I have difficulty hearing the correct call at times with the microphone & outer noises all around me but my dance partner knows this and helps me through.

Many thanks to the friendship of Square Dancers. I agree with you Don, I am deaf not dumb, and will continue to enjoy the comradeship given to me as long as I am able.

Betty Steemson,
Community Square Dancers, Bundaberg.

Heritage City Hoedowners Square Dance Club.

Come along and dance to
Andrew Reid

St, Thomas' Church Hall,
Pallas & Garden Streets. Maryborough,
Saturday 5th. November.

Plus 2pm - 4.30pm. Mainstream 7pm. - 11pm.

Rock 'n' Roll Squares at Bald Hills will not be re-opening in 2006.

When the club started there was a need for a monthly dance in the Northern suburbs. That doesn't seem to be the case any longer.

We've had a great time and I want to thank all the people that made the club what it has been.

The club may be resurrected some time in the future should the need arise again. It's been a great 4 years but our Christmas dance on the 9th December (Combined Night) will be our last.

Glenn Wilson.

Mackay & District Square Dancing Club.

On Saturday September 3rd, the Club hosted a Thank You Bar-B-Q at the Klibbe residence, for the dancers of the Mackay & District Square Dancing Club, for the support they gave, enabling the Martin Klibbe Memorial Dance to be such a success.

Guests were Frank and Joan Kennedy and their dancers Irene and Jim. Frank Kennedy was Guest Caller for our Club on Friday 2nd September.

September 9th saw Caller: Ron Reiman and his wife Heather from the Merrymakers N.S.W., as our guests. We were very fortunate to have Ron call for us that evening and it was enjoyed by all. The fans we were given by this couple are being put to good use as the weather gets warmer.

Our social calendar includes a "Country" Demonstration and Social at the General Gordon Hotel, Homebush, 29th October. A Demonstration and Social at Porters Hardware Mackay. 26th November, and some dancers from Mackay, travelling to Rockhampton for the halfway Dance with Bundaberg, 1st October.

I am honoured to have been the one to instigate this, by suggesting to the then Caller for Rocky Twirlers Dorothy Kelso, that Rockhampton was halfway between Bundaberg and Mackay. The rest is history. I shall see you all there next year.

A very bright spot in the future is the possibility of children learning Square Dancing after school under the Active After-school Communities Program, run by the Australian Sports Commission, by the Federal Government. The approach has been made to us and is on hold until I recover from an ankle injury suffered in the accident.

See you on the dance floor somewhere in 2006.
Yours in the cause,
Dawn

*"Age doesn't matter, unless you are cheese."
Billie Burke*

Town and Country Square Dance Club

Thursday club night at Logan City Council's Hall in Narida St. Roachedale is going well and still managing to get two sets of a night time.

The Booval Club which dancers at All Saint's Hall, 144 Brisbane Rd. is up and going, dancing one square, sometimes two but that is a rarity.

We are still advertising and will keep it going and see what happens in the New Year.
Noel and Merle Mckenzie

LOGAN CITY SQUARE DANCERS INC.

24th September saw the wedding of members Des Morrisby & Norelle Ebert. What a wonderful day it was. Beautiful weather, lovely service and terrific reception held at Logan City Square Dance Centre. The Bride looked beautiful and the Groom was just as proud as he could be. Our best wishes to them both.

Our Saturday dances are going well with reasonable attendance. Two more to finish off the year. Watch for feature callers in the new year.

Looking forward to our "space theme" New Year's Eve Dance. Should be a real blast. See our ad for details.

2nd Anniversary dance coming up in Feb '06. Yes, the Centre has been operational for almost two years now & still going strong.
Jane Rayner.

GUMDALE MELBOURNE CUP DAY.

1st November.

10 am – 2:30pm.

Sweeps, Raffles, Dancing, Fun and Games

BUNDABERG COMBINED NIGHT.

Hosted by

CANE COUNTRY SQUARES

Friday 14th October,

7PM with MS & Plus.

IT IS A GREAT NIGHT.

Noryville Hall, Maynards Road.

Shirley 4159 2308, Rachele 4152 0207.

Rambling 8's Camp

Rambling 8s hold a camp each year. For the last few years we have taken over the Lake Perseverance Recreation Lodge at Crows Nest. These weekends have included lots of fun, dance workshops, (Square and Round) sports activities, general dancing and a memorable After Party on the Saturday Night.

Each year we have a theme for the weekend. In past years we have had Back to the Bush, Ides of March, and Wild West. This years theme was "Ship Ahoy" and dancers dressed for the party in elaborate outfits and brought props of sailing ships and ocean liners. Frank Perkins even built a wharf complete with a clock tower.

The food is supplied and prepared by professional catering staff, so more time is available for dancing and other fun.

The advertisement for the next year's camp in March 2006 is in this edition of the BBB.

Registration forms may be obtained from David & Faith

Our Phone No. is 3263 1408

Our address is 12 NEMIRA ST CARSELDINE QLD. 4034

Rambling Eights Camp 2006

The Theme will be – "Movie World"

Camp Dates March 24-26

Registration Forms available October

CANE COUNTRY SQUARES.

Annual Christmas Party.

Members of all local clubs invited to

Noryville Hall, Maynards Road.

Starts with easy MS then MS & Plus

7pm 19th. November 2005.

Entry is free with lucky door and raffles.

For more info ring Shirley 4159 2308

Rachele 4152 0207.

Salad Bowl Squares.

Future dates worth remembering.

Halloween night Friday 28th. October.

Tropical night with ice-cream surprises

Friday 25th November

STEPPING OUT WITH CLOGGING

The adrenalin has sure been pumping in Queensland, firstly with high excitement as the Brisbane Combined Clogging Group went through the heats of SENIOR IDOL only to be pipped on the post in the final by half a point.

Then the TOYOTA COUNTRY MUSIC MUSTER at Amamoor (near Gympie) where Clogging devotees mixed it with raw recruits, all falling under the spontaneous charm of JOSH KING. It may not be 5-star facilities at this truly rural setting, but it is one of life's great dance experiences- keep time free for next August. Quite a number of "where-can-I-learn" enquiries were received.

Then to the BIG ONE- the 10th AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL CLOGGING CONVENTION in Gympie on the second weekend in September.

Lulled into a relaxed state of mind with Thursday's Mary Valley Train trip 70's party and picnic lunch in the park, it was wake-up and get those twinkle toes moving at the trail-in dance on Thursday night. Friday saw a late afternoon Civic Reception hosted by the Mayor of Gympie, Mick Verados and his wife, Tina. (They sure love Cloggers in Gympie).

And away we go with the Banner Parade that night and Clogging crazy like you wouldn't believe. Saturday kept everyone busy with workshops (although the shop-til-you-drop brigade had the Gympie shops ching-chinging merrily away), and the night was so excitement-packed hands were stinging from clapping, throats were dry from cheering as the Showcase entries were presented. Congratulations to Western Australia whose entry ("Jailhouse Rock") topped the voting.

Then a "Night At The Movies Show" (opening with a spot-on Elton John take-off) where the talented innovative dance routines gave truth to that popular expression "and the crowd went wild." The after-party was a RIOT with not a dry eye in the house as we laughed ourselves silly at, shall we say, some very original skits.

Sunday morning saw more Workshops in three halls, lunch, and home we go!

Cont'd

Congratulations to Guest Instructor JEFF DRIGGS, the organising Committee and the many helpers who made this Convention one to remember. Apart from the synchronised sound of taps on wooden floors, the next overwhelming sound was LAUGHTER as we all had a great time of dancing and socializing. FANTASTIC? You better believe it!

A word to the wise- **BOOK EARLY FOR TASMANIA** in August next year where it will be dance levels to suit everyone's Clogging talents.

Seek and peek at www.cloggingaustralia.com our Clubs are very user friendly.

As we dance into the Ho! Ho! Ho! Season some great Christmas Parties will once again be the go- see you there!

Keep dancing, keep happy

Frances

(You can contact me at: lookdonfrances@bigpond.com)

PINE RIVERS SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB
5th. Saturday Dance.
Halloween Theme
29th October. at 7p.m.
\$5 Includes supper.

PINE RIVERS SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB

*"A Rolling Stone Gathers No Moss But Remember
A Moving Body Gathers No Fat".*

Come Square Dancing.

Our fifth Saturday dances will continue in October and December. New Year's Eve is on the fifth Saturday in December so that should be a good night. (See our ads.)

Square Dancing is only a part of the activities available at our Senior Citizens Club and our club break up on the 14th. December.

Our Conveynor / Caller Margaret Ph. 32852130 can be contacted for further information.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish Square Dancers everywhere a very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year, with lots of dancing.

PINE RIVERS SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB5th.Saturday Dance,**New Year's Eve, 31st December. at 7p.m.**

\$6 Includes supper.

**Hervey Bay City Squares
Christmas dance.**

Wednesday November 30th.2005.

7.00 pm to 10.pm

459 Boat Harbour Drive, Torquay

For enquiries Ph. : Chris 42150833

Jocelyn 41241419.

Hervey Bay City Squares would also like to
thank Maryborough Heritage Hoedowners for
their support during 2005.

Thank you.

LOGAN CITY SQUARE DANCERS INC.**Saturday dance.****OCTOBER 8** Graham Rigby**NOVEMBER 12** Alan Evans / Rod Dinte.**NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE**

OUTER SPACE THEME

ADMISSION \$6.00 – 8PM.

Come in space or alien costume.

Please bring a plate for supper

Ulysses Square Dance Club,

Cairns, Nth. Qld.,

Tuesday, 1st. November, 2005,

Annual 'Melbourne Cup Dance'.

Bundaberg City Promenaders.**Annual Black & White Night**

Avenell Heights Progress Association Hall.
Thabeban Road.

Guest Caller: Sid Leighton
Plus 2.00 p.m. - 4.30 p.m
Mainstream 7.00 p.m. - 10.30 p.m.

Heritage City Hoedowners

New Year Eve Dance

St Thomas' Church Hall,

Pallas Street, Maryborough

EZ SQUARES'**!Gold & Silver Night !**Sat. Oct 8th 2005**! Dress Theme: Gold & Silver. !**

Wear your best glittery outfits -
a chance to really dress up !

! Program: Non Stop Dancing!

*** Alternating Learners & M/S *Mixer * Plus
Bracket * Rounds***

7 pm Rounds with *Phyl Stewart*

7.30 pm Squares with *Glenn Wilson, Rod Dinte
& Peter Clarke*

Lucky Door * Raffle * Lucky Spot

Supper: Sandwiches, saveloys, sausage rolls

And slab cake provided:

Please bring plate to add variety.

Caboolture Show Grounds Hall .

Don't Miss the Wonderful :**"Snakes Alive Weekend" .**18, 19, 20th March 2006 !

At Morayfield Community Centre, hosted by
EZ Squares.

! Squares: Superb Dancing as**Brian Hotchkies weaves his spells. !**

* **Friday: 7.30 "Irish Magic Night"** Prize for Best Male ,
Female & Couple dressed to Irish theme

* **Sat: 10am "M/S with a Difference"** May be hexagons,
progressives, dip & dive . All light hearted & fun !

* **Sat: 1pm "Plus with Pleasure"** See Plus in a new light.
The spells continue to challenge & amuse.

* **Sat: 7.30 "Gala Night"** Magic continues with the Master
of Squares. Supper & Monster Raffle

* **Sun: 9am "Sunday Funday"** Anything could happen !
Ideal for the newest dancers, fun for the experienced &
hilarious for all ! Casual dress if you wish !

! Rounds: Hosted & organised by the lovely**Phyl Stewart !**

* **Frid & Sat: 7pm to 7.30 pm & bracket/s during the night.**
Sat: 3pm to 5pm All levels

! Clogging: Hosted by the dynamic**Stephen Hope !**

Sunday 2pm – 8pm

Food: Free Sausage Sizzle: 12pm Sun Supper: Sat Night.
Canteen: All Weekend

**Prices: Weekend tickets: \$25 Friday Night : \$8 Satur-
day Night : \$9**

Sat & Sun am : \$7, Rounds or Plus : \$7 , Clogging : \$5

Round Dancers Corner: News from Q.R.D.A.

We are still enjoying our pleasant memories of the visit by Dick and Karen Fisher in August. They presented two great teaching weekends and we all enjoyed the way they taught and interacted with all the dancers present. Another international weekend is planned for 2006- more details next year.

Valentine Rounds will be holding their "Fundraiser Dance" on 29th October at the Camp Hill School of Arts, commencing at 7pm. This will be a dance for all levels of dancing, including all the dancers who started learning this great pastime this year.

We have already started thinking about the break up Christmas dance 12th November (it gets too busy after that), and it will be held in St. Agnes Hall, Logan Rd. Mt. Gravatt. Last year's Christmas dance was the biggest dance of the year and we are looking forward to another great night on the 12th. The dance will start at 7pm.

Plans have been made to start next year's activities with a Murder Party. This will be held in Caloundra on Sat. 21st January, and, if last year's party was any indication, over 50 people will have a great time acting and eating the night away. Contact the secretary for details.

David Pitt

Secretary, Q.R.D.A.

d.pitt@optusnet.com.au

Ulysses Square Dance Club, Cairns, Nth. Qld.,

Graham Durose started Ulysses Square Dance Club & was owner / caller for 13 years. Graham retired from calling at end of November 2004. A 'Special General Meeting' was held and a committee was formed to take over the management of the club.

We all greatly appreciate the commitment & dedication Graham and Alison have for square dancing & for the Ulysses club. We know that they are enjoying some well-earned relaxation and we are pleased that both are still dancing with us.

C'td.

Robb Hooper is now our club caller - when work commitments permit. When Robb is busy at work, several of our dancers take it in turns to program a night's dancing - using tapes, CD's & records, thus producing a good variety of 'callers' & dancing.

We wish one and all a very happy Christmas.
Helen Gregor, - Secretary.

Rocky Festive Dancers

Christmas Party 17/12/2005
New Years Eve Dance 31/12/05
Australia Day Dance 26/01/2006
All at the Square Dance Centre,
72 Fitzroy St Rockhampton

GUMDALE GRANDSLIDERS SQUARE DANCE CLUB INC.

Alexandra Hills Community Hall,
Cnr. Finnucane & Windemere Rd.
Christmas break-up: 14th December. 7.30 pm.

David: 3324 9324

Betty: 3843 3838

GUMDALE'S "LET'S GO COUNTRY"

Around 50 members and visitors attended the club's special dance 23rd. September at the Alexandra Hill's Community Hall.

Alan Evans, our caller invited Peter Storey & Graham Brandon to call & David Rogers closed the night with "Louisiana man" which is close to our club's signature dance. (It's a pity that Caller lab chops & changes movements including shifting "Spin Chain Thru" from Mainstream to Plus.)

Anne Usherwood & helpers prepared a rustic display with hay, 'animals' & country artifacts. Thank you to all members who contributed their time & items for the display.

Jack & Lillian brought a beaut. Squatter's chair. They also brought their granddaughter Jessica who line-danced Alan to a near standstill & acquitted herself exceptionally well in the square dances. Jessica shows the advantage of fast-learning youth.

Tables & chairs were set up after the dance for a 'sociable' supper.

We all want to say a special thank you to the ladies who supplied the soup [Mavis W, Lesley, Ruth & Pat].

Dale Andrew 23-9-05.

**ROCKHAMPTON, THE CITY OF
EXCITEMENT AND CHALLENGE
AND OF SQUARE DANCERS, PREPARED TO
GET UP AND BE COUNTED.**

Firstly congratulations Leighton and the committee for the 49th National Convention, we are looking forward to dancing at Chandler, and also to helping in any way that we can to make this one of the best yet.

Rocky woops (Rockhampton) continues to prosper as a square dance area, with up to three squares and some times a few more attending the three nights a week that we dance.

With the flu season hopefully over our numbers continue to stabilize. Another 11 new dancers have not long started and they are asking why the break over Christmas.

All three clubs have a busy end of the year coming up, with Christmas, New Year and Australia Day dances all ahead of us. Naturally all three clubs will be combining for these events and the dates for these and our closing and opening dates are elsewhere in the Bugle.

Don't forget Rocky Square 8s 6th Birthday on the 12th of Nov at the Rockhampton Heritage Village, Old Wool Shed. We are using this Dance as a test for both dancing and sound testing for the 2006 QLD State Convention, so if you are in the area please come along, as bigger numbers will give a more realistic test.

**DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER FOR THE
27TH QLD STATE CONVENTION IN
ROCKHAMPTON.**

We have had a smattering of visiting Callers as well as Dancers visiting lately and have all enjoyed their company.

By the time this goes to print we will have had our halfway dance. Last year we had 8 callers and 7 + squares. This year we are looking forward to more of both and that will test the Rockhampton Square Dance Centre.

Hopefully some of us will see you at the Society Xmas Party. If not, have a fantastic Christmas and a Safe New Year. We'll see you all in the New Year. Until then.

Keep Dancing
from the dancers of Central Queensland.
Capricorn Waves,
Rocky Square 8s
Rocky Twirlers.
And from me, Rob Fry

**The 27th State Convention
Rockhampton**

September, 8, 9, 10, 2006

Be sure to get all your Information
and Registration Form in 1st Edition
of the Bugle 2006

**Early Bird Registration Closes 31st
March, 2006**

CONVENOR: June Dalliston Ph 07 4922 6042

Dance on Water

"If you dare."

6th September,

2006

Around Keppel Island Aboard a Freedom Fast Cat. This is a dance with a difference - we are going to dance on board one of the Freedom Fast Cats. This is the Wednesday night just prior to the 2006 Qld State Convention in Rockhampton. Callers for this cruise will be Alan Evans, Rod Dinte, Graham Rigby, Michael & Matthew Mills, Laurie Miles, Rob Fry & Bevan Titmarsh.

The programme for the night will be:

Depart from Keppel Bay Marina at 6.00pm & cruise to Keppel Island.

Watch the sunset over the mainland as we cruise the secluded coves & enjoy a delicious Dinner served on board from the Water Line Café. For this cruise the Café & Bar will be open for your indulgence. After Dinner, dance the night away. Yes, There will be room to dance on board. (We will not be getting off the boat). Returning to Keppel Bay Marina at 10.00pm

For the cost of \$65.00 per person you will receive The Cruise, Dinner & Dance like only happens in Central Queensland.

All drinks and extra nibbles you may want are at your cost. "Numbers for this are definitely limited so the first to pay will be on board. There is also a minimum number required for this Cruise to proceed."

R.S.V.P. April 30, 2006. With \$20.00 deposit.

Full payment by May 30th, 2006

CONTACT: Rob 49267075 Laurie 49226042

Bevan 49227482

Please make all cheques / money orders payable to: CQ Callers Fund,

P.O. Box 2174,

Wandal, Rockhampton, Qld 4700

Name.....Ph. No.

No. of dancers.....Amt \$.....

| | Closing | Opening | Christmas Party New Year Party |
|----------------------|------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| Alan's Allemanders. | 9/12/2005 | 20/01/2006 | 9/12/2005 |
| Capricorn Waves | 15/12/2005 | 2/02/2006 | |
| Gumdale | 14/12/2005 | 17/01/2006 | 14/12/2005 |
| Heritage City | 16/12/2006 | 23/01/2006 | |
| Hoedowners | | | |
| Mackay & District. | 25/11/2005 | | Dinner 23/12/05 Party 31/12/05 |
| Pine River SQ. D'ing | 13/12/2005 | 24/01/2006 | |
| Rambling 8s | 9/12/2005 | 3/02/2006 | |
| River City Rounds | 24/11/2005 | 2/02/2006 | |
| Rocky Square 8s | 12/12/2006 | 31/01/2006 | |
| Rocky Twirlers | 14/12/2005 | 1/02/2006 | |
| Salad Bowl Squares | 9/12/2005 | 3/02/2006 | |
| S Bar B 15/12/2005 | 12/02/2006 | 15/12/2005 | |
| Town & Country | | | |
| Roachdale | 17/12/2005 | 16/01/2006 | |
| Booval | 14/12/2005 | To be decided | |

CAN I HAVE A WHINGE?

You may not believe it but some of us are really trying to get Square Dancing up and going, not to what it was thirty years back, but a bit more than it is at present. Sometimes we feel we are belting a dead horse. **Let me give you a few examples.** The Review of Dancing Sub Committee took eighteen months to get a forty percent club reply to a simple survey. I email the Bugle to about seventy dancers / callers. A short time back I asked the recipients to tell which club they danced with, did they hold a position in the club and a couple of other simple bits of info. About ten replied. In the May minutes, last paragraph there was a request; 'Clubs are requested to provide the Society Secretary with an email

IT IS NO ACCIDENT

To the Square Dance community I am the public face of the Banana Benders Bugle but there is a lot of help behind the scenes you never see.

I have thanked the contributors before and I will continue to do so because those of you who send in the articles make the Bugle.

I rearrange and condense your information and fit it into place as best I can.

If you ever saw my writing before spell check became available on the computer you may not have been able to make sense of my letters. Just ask Marjie, she'll tell you. After I have done my bit I send the contributions to Don Look. This bloke corrects what I send him and makes it presentable and readable.

I would like to record my thanks to Don for this and the services, assistance and advice he provides to me and many others.

**A very sincere THANK YOU DON.
Noel Miller.**

ROCKHAMPTON'S HALFWAY DANCE.

Those who couldn't make the Annual Rockhampton Halfway Dance missed a fabulous weekend. Callers were Graham Rigby, John Casey, Michael Mills, Matthew Mills, Laurie Miles, Bevan Titmarsh, Rob Fry and Margaret dusted off her records for the first time in a while.

The walls of our hall really bulged this weekend. Dancers came from the Gold Coast Brisbane, Harvey Bay, Bundberg, Mackay, Gladstone and Rockhampton.

Friday night saw the beginning of a WOW weekend. John, Michael and Matthew did the finale with a call that would do any Convention proud, forget the scheduled

Less than ten percent did so. In the covering letter with the same minutes a request for people to consider being involved with a promotion committee. No replies.

The Society receives plenty of stick about a number of issues and some of it is deserved but some of us are trying to improve the organisation but

WE NEED A LITTLE COOPERATION AND WE ARE NOT GETTING IT.

"We build too many walls and not enough bridges"
Isaac Newton.

We are not asking you to tear down walls or build bridges but it would be nice if you supplied some of the tools to assist in doing the job. eg. email addresses and requested information.

It is tough enough putting up with the troglodytes and egomaniacs of this world without wearing indifference. **Whinge over.** And thanks for reading it. Noel M.

Saturday morning in excess of a dozen Cloggers joined Michael and Matthew Mills along with Margaret Harvey and rattled the hall as it has never been rattled before. We are looking forward to more combined dances with them. Some of the public all enjoyed the display as well. Saturday afternoon saw Contra and Squares fill the hall again.

Saturday night was a another full hall. Unfortunately Matthew, who had struggled with the flu all weekend, was unable to call. The dancers really missed him and wish him a speedy recovery.

The finish time was again ignored with John and Michael calling the last bracket.

Sunday morning brunch and more dancing with general feeling that if this was a forerunner to the State Convention, **bring on 2006 State Convention.**

Thank you one and all for making this another success for Rocky. Teamwork will always win out in the end. We will see you on the dance floor soon.

Rob Fry, Laurie Miles and Bevan Titmarsh.

**There is constant discussion about what we do wrong in Square Dancing.
But why not concentrate more on what we did right !**

Getting New Dancers:

Why did they come ?

1. How did you get your last intake of new dancers ? **Why** did they start in the first place ?
Survey them ! Our enquiries show these are common reasons:
 - a. They saw it at a demo and it looked like the dancers were having fun
 - b. They have friends who dance, who convinced them to try
 - c. They were new to the area and wanted to make friends.
 - d. They have lost a partner and needed to get back out into society.
 - e. They wanted exercise that would be fun.
 - f. The kids have grown up and they want something to do together.
2. Your survey will help you plan future recruitment drives. Also how to run your club to cater to your people's needs. Based on our survey, our "Write ups" & Ads in papers always mention fun, friendship & health.

How did they hear about you ?

1. Find out how new Dancers heard about Beginners Classes. Our dancers either were brought along by friends, saw a write up/ad in the Papers or talked to dancers at a Demo
2. So based on our survey, this is what we do:
 - a. Members are the best recruiters, so we give them 'hand out" brochures.
 - b. We put ads & write ups in papers – usually January, when people plan their year.
 - c. We don't do the Demos we used to do, mainly due to availability of Dancers, so we may need to look at this aspect next year.

Keeping Dancers

Find out what keeps your Dancers dancing ? We can't just rely on Members' loyalty. This is their recreation time. What do they want from it ? The main comments we get are Friendship & Fun:

1. The friendship. It is all too easy for Clubs to get "Clicky" (Clique), everyone needs to work hard to make sure all dancers are integrated into Club. Our Club tries to do this with mixers & contras, so everyone dances with everyone, by combined nights with alternating M/S & Basics once a month, by having supper together, etc.
2. The fun: It is easy to get into a rut, especially with M/S. Many people learn, dance a while, then leave – been there, done that. Why ? Because it got boring doing the same thing. Our Club is not perfect but we do try to review Club activities regularly, teach fun moves, different formations, plan social activities, theme nights, etc.

The idea is find out what you do right and do more of it !

Gillian Axelsen, EZ Squares.

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