

### **PINE RIVERS SENIOR CITIZENS—Farewell to this club**

The dancers congratulated Margaret Baines on receiving a silver microphone award for calling for a period of 25 years. They were all very proud of her for her commitment to calling, and the promotion of square dancing.

The Square Dancing component of the Pine Rivers Senior Citizens Club has closed. The last day of dancing was 28<sup>th</sup> May 2019. The numbers had been dropping over the previous 18 months and it was no longer viable for the club to continue to have Square Dancing as one of their activities.

Square dancing started at the Club around 1987 in the Marsden Hall at Kallangur with Jack Mitchell as its caller. At the completion of the “new hall” in Anzac Avenue in the early 1990's the club moved its activities there and had remained there since. Margaret started her caller training under Jack Mitchell, and when his health failed, took over the calling of the club. Jack required oxygen at all times and Margaret used to collect him and drive him to the club (with his oxygen cylinder) where he would continue to mentor her. Margaret then mentored Janet Burton, who won the Amateur Callers Competition in 2000 and then yours truly who won it in 2003. Margaret and I have been together since then, and over the past few years, with Margaret's health problems, I have taken the lead, with Margaret calling when she was well enough.

Many will remember the 5<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month dances and New Year's Eve dances. Margaret hosted over 50 of those, and the club celebrated Glenn Wilson's 50<sup>th</sup> birthday at one of them, and also had a wedding of two dancers at another, which wouldn't have happened at too often around the place.! Glenn Wilson and Gary Petersen called at all of the dances, and Leighton and Sandra Bloomfield were in attendance each time. There were occasions when three generations of Bloomfields attended. Dancers attended from many clubs including the club at Russell Island. They had to make sure they got away in time so as to catch the last ferry.

For many years Margaret had a demonstration group that would dance for the residents of numerous local (and not so local) nursing homes. The dancers in that group got as much pleasure out of that activity as the residents did.

There have been a lot of dancers pass through our club over the last 32 years and many friendships have been made. There are many happy memories of our Tuesday afternoons at Kallangur.



Happy dancing

Jan Hay