

SQUARE DANCING.

It is with great difficulty & a lump in my throat, that I write this article.

Square-dancing started in 1988 when the club was at Marsden Hall. The President, Arnold Hicks asked if anyone could introduce something different to the club? Jack Mitchell offered his knowledge of teaching square-dancing, it was gratefully accepted. This really took off with a wow factor. I then became a trainee caller & when we moved to the Kallangur Community Hall in the nineties, we were dancing 9-10 squares each week.

When Jack became ill & needed oxygen, I took the club on "It was quite scary, I wondered if I could maintain it". Jack passed away not long after that.

However the club continued to blossom with 12 squeezy squares. We held big dances every time there was a fifth Saturday in the month & that really boosted the clubs finances.

We always had a different theme to dress the stage & that was another wow factor. Dancers & Callers came from as far as the Gold Coast, the Sunshine Coast & Russell Island, we always had a rolling supper so as to allow more room for dancing.

At that time we had a meeting room at the back of the stage, where Margaret Longmore, her belated husband Ray & her sister Joyce, looked after the small children & kept them amused. This was a really a great help.

We held approximately 50 dances in all, which was great financial means for the club.

We were awarded a plaque "Roll of Honour" from the Square-Dance Society of Qld.

Unfortunately a number of dancers passed away & some were now unable to drive at night, so numbers started to drop.

It was then decided we should try to have them in the afternoons for a year. However this was not successful. So this was the end of a wonderful era.

Thankyou Jan for stepping into my shoes for the last 3 years.

I feel sorry for our remaining loyal dancers. I sincerely apologise & thank them, especially long time dancers Graham Lawson & Sue Rippis. All the best for the future. 30 years of calling is gone, but a lot of great memories stay on.

"Those were the days my friends, we thought would never end, ah yes those were the days"

Margaret Baines.