

## **Allabout Squares – Club History**

From June 1998 until June 1999, I (Andrea Braun) was fortunate to travel extensively around the world and spend 9 months working in the UK. During my traveling, I attended several training courses for calling, attended and called at numerous National and State conventions and called at many clubs in countries such as England, America and Sweden.

On my return to Australia, I was keen to start my own club and as I have travelled “all about” the world decided this would be an appropriate name for my club, hence “Allabout Squares” was born.

My first night of calling was for a “Bluey Day” charity event which I continued on an annual basis for several years. My first official club night was held in October 2000 at a hall in Grovedale, Geelong. To commemorate the opening of my club, a special “Celebration” dance was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2001 with special guest caller Gene Turner from the UK. It would be a night well remembered as storms had caused severe flooding and even though Melbourne road was closed many dancers still travelled down to help celebrate this milestone.

My Geelong club ran successfully for 5 years until I decided to close due to the birth of my son James. By this stage I had married Jeff in February 2004 and moved to Mount Gambier in South Australia and had run the club from South Australia for the last 2 years.

In January 2008 I began the South Australian version of “Allabout Squares” at the Glenburnie Hall in Mount Gambier and we have just celebrated our 2<sup>nd</sup> birthday.

During my years of club calling I have found it to be a privilege and extremely rewarding teaching new dancers and introducing this wonderful activity to many people.

*As reported in “Squares Around Victoria” 2010*