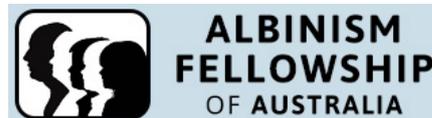


## Having a go and taking up leadership opportunities – life is great!



By Ted Thomas, 2019.



Square Dancing has been a large part of my life. I was introduced to it in 1953 when a real caller came to teach us dance in a PE class at school. This made me interested in calling.

After I left school I went square dancing in Parramatta and started calling in 1959, dancing in Square Dance Teams and training competition dancers. I danced at the 1960 National Eisteddfod in Canberra and called at the dance that evening. This was the first of our National Square Dance Conventions, of which I have attended thirty-five. I've called for a number of clubs close to home, filling in for callers who are on holidays or ill and been on various Square Dance committees. At present I am one of the Vice Presidents of the NSW Square and Round Association.

I joined the Masonic Lodge where my father was a member when I was 19 and became Master of my lodge in 1987. That was a great experience, as it helped me with public speaking and also with my work with staff training.

I have had a variety of jobs during my life, including on an assembly line, in a newspaper press-room and with a cleaning company, where I became a leading hand and eventually site manager.

In 2006 I was introduced to the Albinism Fellowship Of Australia and became a committee member in 2008, President in 2009, Treasurer in 2011 and still hold that position.

**There isn't much I have not had a go at:** Water skiing and surfing (lots of lost glasses), fun rides with my sons, and recently tackling the flying fox on a cruise ship this year. I'm the family handyman, mechanic, plumber, painter and gardener. Ted will fix it!

**Life is great – Regards, Ted.**

