

LOW DOWN



A **'Homestead'**

**Country Music Club
Publication**

Issue No #9: December 2015

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- [Refer Homestead Web page for further information and email addresses](#)

Quotes for Month:

“The earth has music for those who listen”.... William Shakespeare (1564 – 1616).

“If you think you’re too small to make a difference, you haven’t spent a night with a mosquito..... African Proverb.

“My Say” Segment

The year is fast coming to a close and in no time at all, we will be toasting the beginning of 2016 and in Homestead’s case, our 20th year and the celebrations that will ensue as a result thereof.

What were you doing twenty (20) years ago?.....
And more importantly, what do you have planned for the future?

Nonetheless, it needs to be individual in context.
Separating yourself from the crowd is most important.
Don’t be afraid of solitude, of silence, of being alone with your thoughts.
Remember, numbers are for crunching and audiences for ratings.
Like shoaling fish, we seek safety in numbers..... but it kills individuality and self-expression.

But inspiration and creative action are usually determined in a private state of mind. It follows on from what I eluded to last month... ‘making up your own mind, questioning what you read and hear and coming to your own informed and definitive decision’

You may be labelled an eccentric, but at least you will be able to justify your position. Music will allow you to maintain your dogma, stability, self-image and self-esteem. Singing the blues is much more palatable than visiting the local medico.

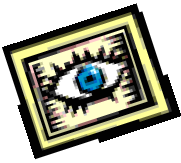
All that is left is to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



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PS: As mentioned at the AGM, someone needs to take over the reins of the Magazine/Newsletter, even if only on a temporary basis, as we will be travelling a fair bit during 2016.

TT Editor

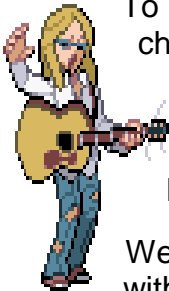


EYE ON STAGE



Three great Homestead nights have taken place since our last magazine, two in October and our regular November concert. Two stand-out performances in October, were Gabby with her original song “Mud Sticks”.... [*definitely should be recorded*] and Joe with his rendition of “Coward of the County”. It was also good to see Geoffrey back after an absence due to work commitments.

Then it was Halloween! - Thanks must go to Trevor in seeing the potential in presenting a night in the Halloween theme and secondly organising said event. Stage was set with bats and black cats and the Hall draped in cobwebs. Everyone in costume – hard to recognise some folk. Even most of our patrons came in costume – one might think there was a prize for best dressed!



To the music- what a great night! Most numbers were chosen in keeping with the theme, with many song lyrics rewritten for laughs. Song of the night for me was ‘Devil went down to Georgia’ with Nathan on fiddle while Janet gave a strong female rendition vocally. Halloween is now a fixture in Homestead’s calendar.

We followed with another great concert three weeks later, with our crowd numbers coming back up after winter. We were treated to some lovely lead guitar from Liam Kennedy Clarke who was standing in for Steve while he was away. Liam opened the night with Floyd Crammer’s ‘Last Date’. What a great variety of songs from “King of the Road” to “Hot Canary” on Violin to Bev’s “Grandma’s Feather Bed”;the night rocketed along and everyone wanted more when it was over. The majority of our patrons were still there at the end of the night.



On the night we featured the winners and place getters from 'Champion of Champions' which was conducted at Kedron Wavell Services Club earlier in the month.

Homestead can be extremely proud of all the members who competed in the various festivals throughout the year and the results



reinforce the fact that we remain a strong, vibrant club within the Country Music scene in Queensland. Homestead's February concert is one to look forward to with Gabby Kerr's blue grass band 'Mullet Gut Strings' being featured with a half hour guest spot.

Anonymous

HI-NOTES - FROM THE PRESIDENT



HI Folks,

What a great year Homestead has had! I must thank all our members for their friendship, comradeship and the excellence shown toward myself, my committee and toward each other - I have really enjoyed being President this last 12 months and looking forward to our 20th year celebrations in July 2016.

A year of mostly highs but a couple of lows with the passing of Gerry Morley – husband of Kay – an excellent drummer around the traps, a comedian and really lovely man. He will be sadly missed. I have to mention my own beautiful daughter in law – Emma Bowker (who helped Hanjo with photography at the Homestead EXPO a few years ago and was present at the Xmas concert last year). Emma passed away on October 8th of cervical cancer – of an estimated 885 women diagnosed in Australia in

2015 – an estimated 250 (like Emma) will die. Let's start talking about cancer in women below the navel – cervical cancer is one of these - get those pap smears done ladies. A few minutes discomfort could save your life!

I know there are other articles in this magazine about the recent Champs festival at Kedron Wavell but I will offer my congratulations also to all of the Homestead members who did so well. Special congratulations to Mikara Grant Freeman on her achievement of 'Champion of Champions'. What a great year she has to look forward to, starting with Tamworth in January. I know she will be a worthy ambassador for Champs and Homestead. Have a great year Mikara.

Our Xmas dinner at Palmwoods was an overwhelmingly great night with fifty seven adults and four children making the drive to spend time together away from club. Some of us stayed on to watch the Mick Lindsay band with Liam Kennedy Clarke on key boards – is there nothing this young lad can't play or sing? Also with the band, was a very grown up Cohen Brew on bass guitar. Cohen has come a long way from the shy young Homestead junior hiding behind a long fringe, so he didn't have to make eye contact! What a delightful young man he has become.

One of our fledglings has flown the country – Teagan Austen headed over the ditch and is now residing in Wellington, has a job and buskers licence and thoroughly enjoying herself. Highlight so far was Hobbiton and meeting some of my weird and wonderful Whanua(family) and friends.

Thanks to all of our loyal patrons who turn up month after month to support Homestead. Without your support, Homestead Hall would be empty. Thanks people and look forward to sharing our birthday celebrations with you all.

Have a great festive season and Safe travel wherever you go. We will see you all in February (No concert in January).

Cheers Barbara



Reg Lindsay's Country Homestead

All four (4) words (above) ring a bell in my subconscious and the majority of us who are fifty (50) years or older will remember the Television show of the same name produced in Brisbane's Channel 9 Studios. Those who are younger will at least have heard of Homestead Country.

Reg Lindsay's success may have been modest compared to that of Keith Urban and Olivia Newton-John but as a trail-blazer, he prepared a path for all who now find success in our preferred music genre.

Yet, this icon of Country Music was ostracized by some within the local country music scene because they perceived him as being too American.

Born in Sydney and raised in rural New South Wales around Parkes and the Hunter River Valley, Reg Lindsay's roots were very much Australian.

The 'McKean Sisters', a successful duo were to ultimately connect Slim Dusty and Reg as Brothers' in Law with Slim marrying Joy and Heather becoming Reg's first wife. Reg tied the knot and married again in 1988 to Roslyn Winfield whom he met at the Cootamundra Rodeo.

Reg Lindsay, singer, songwriter, multi-instrumentalist, producer, entrepreneur and radio and television personality will be remembered for his contribution to the industry and those he helped on their road to success.

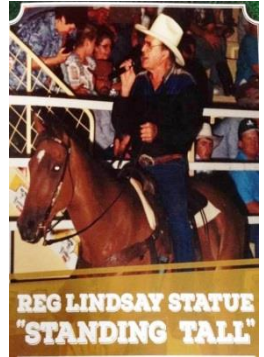
He won three (3) Golden Guitar Awards and wrote more than 500 songs. Reg is best known for his song "Armstrong", penned by John Stewart of 'The Kingston Trio', which reached No #8 on the charts in 1971. The vinyl single is now part of a time capsule at the US Space Center in Houston, Texas, to be opened in 2069.

In 1995, Reg was struck down by a cerebral aneurysm. This was followed, after a prolonged recovery, by a heart attack and a resultant triple bypass. A fourteen (14) year battle with health issues ended at age 79, 2008.

Coincidentally, he died on 5th August. This also happened to be Neil Armstrong's birthday.

.....The legend will live on!!!

T.T. R4A E&OE



Champs at Homestead !

We're always proud of those who 'fly the Homestead flag' at local festivals. A number of members competed at the Queensland Champion of Champions festival at Kedron Wavell Services Club recently and the weekend could only be described as a huge success for Homesteaders. And the honours were shared across all age groups. Hannah, Janet, Cassie, Gabby, Olivia and Alison all performed strongly in their junior sections on Saturday and most proceeded through to the Sunday finals concert. Bek, Peta-Maree, Jennifer, Liam and Mikara represented the club in the senior sections and Bev and Sandy both made it through to the finals in the Masters sections.

Bob Cole

<u>OVERALL CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS 2015</u>		MIKARA GRANT-FREEMAN	
	<u>LYN DRAGE AWARD</u> FELICITY KIRCHER		<u>JIM MITCHELL AWARD</u> SANDY BRYANT
<u>JUNIOR CMAA SCHOLARSHIP</u>	MATHEW MUNRO	<u>SENIOR CMAA SCHOLARSHIP</u>	CHARLIE SCOTT
<u>SENIOR OVERALL</u>	LIAM KENNEDY CLARK CASSIE HILBERS	<u>MASTERS/GRAND MASTER OVERALL</u>	JANET HEATH
<u>JUVENILE OVERALL</u>	SOPHIE VOLP	<u>JUNIOR OVERALL</u>	HEATH MILNER
<u>EVENT</u>	<u>1ST</u>	<u>2ND</u>	<u>3RD</u>
<u>SENIOR INSTRUMENTAL</u>	CHARLIE SCOTT	JULIANN LYNCH	LIAM KENNEDY CLARK
<u>MALE MASTER</u>	CLARENCE HART	PETER HULME	GREG BALDOCK
<u>JUVENILE VOCAL</u>	SOPHIE VOLP	PHOEBE FOSTER GRIFFITH	FELICITY KIRCHER
<u>JUNIOR INSTRUMENTAL</u>	GABRIELLE KERR	CASSIE HILBERS	HANNAH AUSTEN
<u>FEMALE GRAND MASTER</u>	JANETTE HEATH	SANDY LEWIS	DALE NEILL
<u>JUNIOR FEMALE VOCAL</u>	JANET CUFFE	TIARNA SHEPPARD	HANNAH JONES
<u>JUNIOR MALE VOCAL</u>	MATTHEW MUNROE	HEALTH MILNER	
<u>FEMALE MASTERS</u>	KIM COPE	BEVERLEY SWEEPER	JEANEL DALGRIN
<u>SENIOR MALE VOCAL</u>	BARRY VOLP	LIAM KENNEDY CLARKE	ANTHONY QUINSEE

<u>SENIOR FEMALE VOCAL</u>	JULIANNE LYNCH	VISA VOLP	MIKARA GRANT FREEMAN
<u>JUNIOR DUO</u>	HANNAH JONES TIARNA SHEPPARD	PHOEBE/OWEN FOSTER GRIFFITH	GABRIELLE KERR OLIVIA DOWSE
<u>SENIOR DUO</u>	LIAM KENNEDY CLARKE CASSIE HILBERS	LISA / SOPHIE VOLP	BEK/PETA-MAREE THORNTON
<u>OPEN GROUP</u>	SINGLETS BEK/PETA/LISA/JULEZ	COUNTRY CRUSH	
<u>MALE GRAND MASTER</u>	TOKO WHATUIRA	GERRY MCCANN	TERRY HILTON
<u>SENIOR SONGWRITER</u>	MIKE FARRELL	ASHLEY WILLAMSON	JOHN VAN FLEET
<u>JUNIOR SONG WRITER</u>	BRIDIE MIDDLETON	KASEY KILSBY	PHOEBE FOSTER GRIFFITH

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'TURN UP 2015'



'TURN UP 2015', a symposium on the local music industry was held in October at the Nambour Civic Centre.

Peta-Maree and I attended the conference which consisted of six (6) packed hours of the foremost National and International Artists and Guest Speakers, a Workshop on Guitar, and 'Lend Me Your Ears' which was some of the how's of song-writing.

The Song-writing session included amongst a distinguished panel, Peter Koppes ['The Church'] who contributed considerably to the discussions. Although it is essential to have original material, it was emphasised that you need to find the 'right songs' to suit you, your line up and your particular style/vibe so that you can emulate it on stage 'live'. Suggestions to build a tune off a drumbeat, lyric or riff and continually look for fertile territory for inspiration to create and express your ideas; were well received. And the obvious question was asked..... Which comes first??

As almost the oldest form of communication, song was passed down via the jesters of the court from castle to castle and its growth to what it is today can be traced directly back to such areas of melodic story-telling. It is and always will involve connecting with our individual environment. This is because it is the first language we encounter as an infant and the last one we lose in old age. We witnessed a number of fine acts in between guest speakers (e.g. Barry Bull, ex Toombul Music) and the various sessions.

One of Australia's finest guitarists Owen Van Larkins shared the stage with Phil Emmanuel where they duelled on a piece that I believe one of them had never heard or seen before. Needless to say, we were all mesmerized on a later solo when Owen's hands moved up, down, across and around the fret board, sometimes in a blur; and one would have thought their ears were playing tricks on them when sounds similar to that of a grand piano, concert pianist began to flow. I got my money's worth from that session alone!!

Dennis Dunstan ex Manager of Fleetwood Mac provided an insight into Music Management and his experiences and the current state of the Music Industry.

Country appears to be leading the way!! Why? ... because it has adapted/evolved encompassing complementary parts of other genres be they Rock or Jazz, etc. to be more relevant in its modern format.



Nashville is now the centre of the Music Industry in U.S.A.

Vegas and New York can no longer claim the title.

Big things are starting to happen once again!..... although he was up-front in stating that, for the past 25 years, Australia had not had an international headline band.

“No Great City can survive without Music” was my pick of the quotes of the day.

‘The need for music to thrive and grow...’.....

‘Opportunity knocks for good live music...’...

‘Good Bands are the backbone of the industry...’...

‘Use “Harmony Law” to remain relevant ...

‘move and grow with your audience, change and develop overtime.’



Longevity and survival are entwined within the Music Industry by being true to yourself and your audience.

The Music Industry is and will always be a cultural barometer of our time (the day). It can be emotive, chilled out, a tell-all communicae, inspirational, vibrant, cutting and/or affable.

But Music must always be there as society would not survive without it!

Trevor

PS: I have always maintained that “Under the Milky Way”, The Church; is one of the finest pieces of music ever written in Australia. T.T.

Printing of ‘LOW DOWN’

Courtesy of

Moreton Bay Regional Council



COUNTRY Music CLUBS - Monthly Date Claimers

First Friday Pine Rivers	Kallangur Community Centre	7:00 pm
First Saturday Brigalow Redlands Mod. Country Roundup	Wagner St., Eagleby Sports Reserve, Thornlands Narangba Community Centre	6:45 pm 5:30 pm 12 noon
First Sunday Coal City Gold Coast Sundowners	Booval Bowls Club Southport Bowls Club Geebung Bowls Club	1:00 pm 1:00 pm 12.00 Noon
Second Saturday Blue Denim Northern Suburbs	Progress Hall, Clontarf Memorial Hall Gympie Rd. Bald Hills	7:00 pm 12 noon
Second Sunday Maroochy River Golden Wattle Twin Rivers	Bli Bli Hall Cedar Street Wynnum Wagner St., Eagleby	1:00 pm 12:30 pm 11.00am
<u>Third Friday</u> Homestead West Moreton	Stanmore Hall, Caboolture Ipswich Showgrounds	7:00 pm 7:30 pm
Third Saturday Boonah	Boonah Golf Club	7.00 pm (even months)
Third Sunday Guanaba Redcliffe	Heritage Park, Pimpama Redcliffe Showgrounds	12 noon 11:00 am
Fourth Friday Redcliffe	Redcliffe Showgrounds	7:00 pm
Fourth Saturday Country Flavour Min Min	54 Rinto Road, Eagleby Kruger Hall Ann St, Kallangur	12 noon 7.00 pm
Fourth Sunday Blue Denim Roadhouse Bribie Island	Progress Hall, Clontarf Wagner St., Eagleby Bribie Island Recreation Hall 158 First Ave Bribie Island	1:30 pm 12:30 pm 11.00 am
Last Sunday Cane Country Laidley	Jacaranda Avenue, Kingston Exchange Hotel, Laidley	1:00 pm 1:00 pm