

# LOW DOWN



A **'Homestead'**

**Country Music Club**  
**Publication**

**Issue No #13: December 2016**

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

Front Cover: *Jill on Keys*...Our Jill does more behind the scenes than many realise!!

### Quotes for Month

“Imagine a place... where music sings in every breeze of a summer night and the wind twirls you in a waltz that lasts until dawn.”

- Author Unknown

## **“My Say” Segment**

### **Reflection 2016**

Homestead Country Music, in its 20<sup>th</sup> year, has proven once again why it continues to go from strength to strength as a vibrant club and part of the Caboolture community.

Highlights from our regular monthly concerts included our Blue night where we raised monies for Beyond Blue, our 20<sup>th</sup> Birthday Bash and the Halloween Spooktacular Social. Many members participated and were successful at other Country Club Festivals and once again we took part in the “Relay for Life” weekend at Kilcoy and raised money for cancer research.

It was also our 10<sup>th</sup> Youth Expo in 2016 and was so successful that we already have many seeking to participate in 2017. As a result of our ongoing efforts, within Country Music circles, Homestead is recognised as THE club championing the up and coming, aspiring youth in Country Music. This is a feather in our cap that we, every year, have lived up to. Roll on 2017 !! No pressure ! Peter and his team did a great job this year !! To this end, our junior membership has once again increased in 2016 and existing junior membership continues to develop and surprise us all.

Nonetheless, senior membership has also increased and I, for one, do not prescribe to the suggested notion that Homestead is only for fostering the young. There are many seniors, old and new, who strive to improve and are not content to produce the ‘same old’ every time. Without being inflexible, maybe we can focus on both membership areas, be more proactive with all members at rehearsals and use experienced members as mentors. The introduction of a buddy system could also make for a more inclusive environment within Homestead membership.

I see such as a means of making the club ever stronger and better !!

TT Editor

### **Want to read more!!**

For those interested in copies of previous editions, go to the Homestead website <http://www.homesteadmusic.org> and then check out the Magazine page by clicking in the top left. You will find copies of “LOW DOWN” in Newsletter format.



## **PRESIDENT'S PRATTLE**



Hello everyone and welcome to the last concert of the year.  
Hasn't it been a great year!

I must start off and thank all our valued and loyal audience members some who have been rocking up for 15years through thick and thin, ill health (Fred) and well-ness, work and leisure, travel and home. Fancy arranging your trips away so that you don't miss a concert (Helen and Brian)!. The applause, love and fellowship from our audience are reasons why we strive to please every month.

There have been some great moments throughout the year but the one that stands out for me is our Junior Talent EXPO. We had a record number of entries, so was a busy day for the contestants and volunteers. Although it was a busy day, a lot of the contestants have already put up their hands to return in 2017, not only to compete but also help out as band members etc. Overall champion was Cassi Hilbers – whose major prize is attending the Tamworth Academy, (sponsored by Homestead). Put the date in your calendar for next year, 5<sup>th</sup> August 2017– if you would like to volunteer, sponsor or help out in any way, contact Peter Bigg (coordinator) or Bob Cole (assistant coordinator). Your help is greatly appreciated.

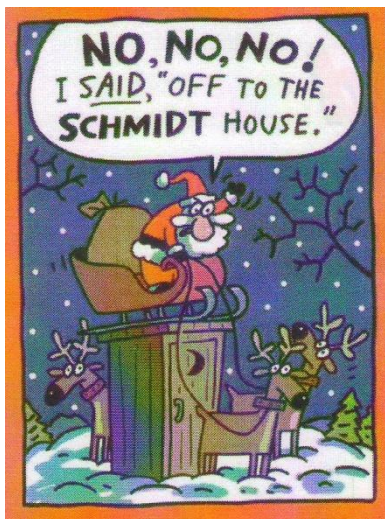
Just a reminder, that the new Caboolture River Country Music Festival is well underway for April 28/29/30 2017. This festival is in place of Urban but is community owned – for the Community – by the Community. Many Homesteaders have already put up their hands to volunteer their help in various areas of running the festival. If anyone would like to participate in volunteering, sponsoring, being an artist or entering the Talent Search, Go to the website and join. Only requirement is a blue card (which can be obtained easily through any club, school or church membership). Website: [www.caboolturerivercountrymusicfestival.com](http://www.caboolturerivercountrymusicfestival.com)

A big thankyou to Steve Fraser, who is back on board, but sailing the high seas for Xmas. Steve has been helping out on practice nights even though he couldn't be here for the concert. Also, many thanks to Liam Kennedy-Clarke, who has kept his busy schedule free to play for Homestead in Steve's absence the last few months.

We have seen some members leave but others join so the status quo at Homestead is still very high in membership and friendship. Love seeing the new juniors strutting their stuff and being balanced out by the 'oldies' who have joined the 'Homestead Ship'. We are sailing into the great sunrise of 2017 with a very happy and healthy ship. The sign on the fence says it all.... 'great people – great music - great fun.

Have a great festive season and stay safe. All the best for 2017. Remember, there is no concert in January so see you all back here on third Friday in February (17<sup>th</sup>).

Cheers Barbara



### **ON THE NOTICEBOARD - 2017**

<b>Tamworth C. M. Festival</b>	<b>January, 20<sup>th</sup> -29th</b>
<b>Australia Day</b>	<b>January, 26<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Rehearsal 2017</b>	<b>January, 31<sup>st</sup></b>
<b>Concert</b>	<b>February, 17<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Caboolture C.M. Festival</b>	<b>April, 28<sup>th</sup> -30<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Homestead Junior Expo</b>	<b>August, 5<sup>th</sup></b>



# Reindeer

I have always found 'History' something that constantly aroused my sense of amazement. It continues to this day and as a result, I often ponder 'what if' when I learn something new, re yester-year happenings of time gone by.

Santa Claus is one character whose history is equally remarkable and worthy to explore.

Initial references to this character are based on St Nicholas of Myra and Sinterklaas of Dutch lore. Both of these figures travelled on horseback via a noble white steed.

However, a habitat in the North Pole and abundant herds of reindeer resulted in a not so unnatural transition which became the more accepted within western culture. A reindeer-drawn rather than horse-drawn sleigh was followed up with verse written by Clement Clarke Moore\* in 1823, where Santa's eight (8) reindeer were named.....

Dasher, Dancer, Prancer & Vixen

Comet, Cupid, Dunder & Blixem

'Dunder and Blixem' literally translated to 'thunder and lightning' and was a popular Dutch-American expletive in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century.

This was swiftly altered to 'Donder' which is the more acceptable spelling of the colloquialism 'Dunder' meaning thunder and 'Blitzen', which is said to better rhyme with 'Vixen' and is a German word meaning 'flash', 'sparkle' & 'lightning'.

The later change to 'Donner' was instituted by publishers, instead of one word Dutch and one German.



However, there was NO Rudolf !!!

116 years were to pass before Rudolf the Red Nosed Reindeer was created under the pen of copywriter Robert May as he peered at the thick fog that drifted off Lake Michigan and enveloped Chicago.

He envisaged a reindeer with a luminous nose guiding Santa and his sleigh through the dense and murky atmospheric conditions.

However, history would have seen his efforts destined for the company's archived files or a dingy library shelf; had it not have been for his Brother-in Law, Johnny Marks, penning and setting the story to music.

Bing Crosby reportedly turned down the opportunity to record the song.

Hence, Gene Autry, the singing cowboy, recorded it; sold two million copies in the first year, 1949, and the rest is history.

How many million times is it sung, every Christmas, around the world?... !!!!

Trevor Tinworth

PS: Do you realise that your grandparents, as children, grew up never knowing of a Rudolf the Red Nosed Reindeer !!!  
TT

\*Clement Clarke Moore[1779-1863], NY American Professor of Oriental & Greek Literature, Divinity & Biblical Learning - "A Visit from St Nicholas" widely known as "Twas the Night before Christmas".  
R4A E& OE

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## GLENN SHORROCK



Little River Band

I recall seeing Glenn Shorrock in concert in 2005 long after Little River Band had shone and gone with amazing hits that received world recognition. He was still able to mesmerize the audience with his vocal prowess and shared the stage with the likes of Doug Parkinson and Wendy Matthews also renowned for their solo singing careers. Glenn Shorrock turned 72 this year and I was amazed to find him still performing in Melbourne and producing what can only be described as brilliant vocals. Further, when you analyse the material he has written and still performs; it is not for the faint of heart. These are complex and difficult songs to sing with tricky intonation, complicated chord progressions and with a wide-spanning vocal range. Yet, at the ripe old age of 72, he takes each challenge with ease and a finesse that many a young artist would balk at.

Having arrived in South Australia (1954), at age 10, from Kent, England, he found initial success with "The Twilights" (1964) and 'I'll Be Where You Are' co-written by Shorrock and Britten. They had eight consecutive hits including 'What's Wrong with the Way I Live' and 'Needle in a Haystack'. In 1969, he formed the group "Axiom" with Brian Cadd on keyboards as well as vocals. Top 10 hits included 'Arkansas Grass', 'Little Ray of Sunshine' and 'My Baby's Gone'. Little River Band (formed 1975), was to inject Glenn Shorrock and its members into international stardom with hits such as 'Emma', 'Help is on its Way' and 'Cool Change' all written by Glenn.

Whilst still a member of LRB, he released a cover version of Bobby Darin's "Dream Lover" which peaked at No #8 on the charts.

In 2004, Glenn Shorrock was honored and inducted into the Aria Hall of Fame.

If you get the opportunity to see him perform live, I highly recommend you do so.

T.T.

R4A E& OE



**We would like to recognise and thank the following Sponsors:**



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## **MEMBER BIOGRAPHY**

### **April Bishop – by Sacha Bishop**

April was born in February 2011; she is a very cheerful, kind little girl who has always shown interest in music from a young age.

From the moment she could move she loved to sing and dance..... singing in the lounge room to the radio and dancing to entertain her family. Musical instruments & music have been around April from birth, listening and watching Nana and Poppy play guitar/bass and playing alongside Nana on the piano.

By two years old April's music collection was very vast and wide, requesting the Wiggles - to Bruno Mars, and never misses a car trip where she asks for the radio to be turned up loud. She attended a Taylor Swift concert during the year and announced to everyone around her that she was going to be famous like Taylor Swift (or a midwife).

One day last year at Nana's and Poppy's farm, April was singing and playing the tambourine while Poppy played bass, very much in her element. Nana asked if she would like to come to Homestead to sing. April was very excited and eagerly attended and sang at her first concert at the end of 2015 as a four year old. April also started prep not long after, so this year has been a new big adventure. April's love of music was recognized at school after being awarded the music award of the month for the Prep students. Her music teacher acknowledged April's love of music and her eagerness to learn.



Homestead ran the Junior Talent Expo in August 2016 and April, as the youngest contestant, was very pleased and surprised to learn she had been awarded 'The Encouragement Award'.

April's first year at Homestead has been an amazing one. Not only watching her confidence grow, but also seeing her building relationships with other members who encourage and support her and make her feel right at home.

April is very much a part of the Homestead family and not only does she look forward to her time on stage on social nights, but is excited to see all of the warm and familiar faces. And also to take her seat (without her parents), next to the stage with her Nana.



## **EYE ON STAGE**



An 'Eye on Stage' has one major shortcoming. Unless you are blind in one eye there are actually 'Two eyes on Stage'. In the real sense, there are literally hundreds of Eyes on Stage and the critique of one, given the task to do so, needs to be balanced, constructive and in the main progressive and positive.



Rehearsals are provided to allow performing members time to hone their song(s) arrangement(s) so that the concert performance is fine.

In a majority of cases, this works a-treat, but where it does not, if you are not in time, not in tune, it must be addressed prior to your next attempt. Correction and improvement go hand in hand !!

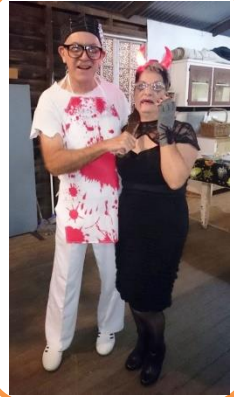
This being said, our last two concerts were vastly different, one with a Halloween theme and the second reverting back to the standard schedule. As with last year, many (including our audience) dressed up for Halloween and the blend of Halloween and Country songs made for an interesting and enjoyable program. Who will forget Johnathon and his version of "I told the Witch Doctor"? Then there was 'Devil in Disguise', 'Freaker's Ball', 'Little Red Riding Hood' and 'I Feel a Sin Coming On', to name but a few. The November Concert, Allan had the audience eating out of his hand as they sang along whilst he gave us his rendition of 'The Wayward Wind' on harmonica. By some accounts, it was a good, enjoyable, layback night. At least, that was the view at the recent meeting. I and a few, who were not at the meeting, felt different. But that is another viewpoint and another Eye(s) on Stage, hence my opening remarks. Nevertheless, it does highlight the vast disparity between those who intend making music their career, such as Cassie and Liam, and many of us who are sheer amateurs. A balanced program of known and unknown or lesser-known songs is also difficult to manage when most have only one song due to roster constraints.

As we look back at our individual performances, it remains of more importance that we cast our own eye on stage, (so to speak), and analyse our ongoing monthly results. If we give ourselves a tick, there is a good chance others will also. Why?

Because we tend to be our own worst critic!!

TT





*The members of Homestead have indicated that they do not require the Low Down of everything Homestead in a magazine/newsletter in its current format. Hence, 2017 will be a recovery year for me, devoid of any official capacity, and far from some of the stresses that have impacted on my health and wellbeing. TT Ed.*

# Homestead

**Country Music Club** Est. 9/7/96



*Check out our website ...*

<http://www.homesteadmusic.org>

More **LOW DOWN** on happenings at **Homestead..**

Locate us on Facebook '**Homestead Country Music**'



## ***COUNTRY Music CLUBS - Monthly Date Claimers***

<b>First Friday</b> Pine Rivers	Kallangur Community Centre	7:00 pm
<b>First Saturday</b> Brigalow Redlands Mod. Country Roundup	Wagner St., Eagleby Sports Reserve, Thornlands Narangba Community Centre	6:45 pm 5:30 pm 12 noon
<b>First Sunday</b> Coal City Gold Coast Sundowners	Booval Bowls Club Southport Bowls Club Geebung Bowls Club	1:00 pm 1:00 pm 12.00 Noon
<b>Second Saturday</b> Blue Denim Northern Suburbs	Progress Hall, Clontarf Memorial Hall Gympie Rd. Bald Hills	7:00 pm 12 noon
<b>Second Sunday</b> Maroochy River Golden Wattle Twin Rivers	Bli Bli Hall Cedar Street Wynnum Wagner St., Eagleby	1:00 pm 12:30 pm 11.00am
<b><u>Third Friday</u></b> <b>Homestead</b> West Moreton	<b>Stanmore Hall, Caboolture</b> Ipswich Showgrounds	<b>7:00 pm</b> 7:30 pm
<b>Third Saturday</b> Boonah	Boonah Golf Club	7.00 pm (even months)
<b>Third Sunday</b> Guanaba Redcliffe	Heritage Park, Pimpama Redcliffe Showgrounds	12 noon 11:00 am
<b>Fourth Friday</b> Redcliffe	Redcliffe Showgrounds	7:00 pm
<b>Fourth Saturday</b> Country Flavour Min Min	54 Rinto Road, Eagleby Kruger Hall Ann St, Kallangur	12 noon 1.00 pm
<b>Fourth Sunday</b> 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
<b>Last Sunday</b> Cane Country Laidley	Jacaranda Avenue, Kingston Exchange Hotel, Laidley	1:00 pm 1:00 pm