

LOW DOWN



A **'Homestead'**

Country Music Club
Publication

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

Front Cover: Lead Guitarist: Steve & Drummer: Bill
Two incredibly talented artists iconic on the Homestead Stage

Quotes for Month

‘Music should strike fire from the heart of man,
and bring tears from the eyes of woman.’

Ludwig van Beethoven





‘My Say’ Segment



Hi Everyone

Well it’s a bit of an honour to stand in as acting editor in Trevor’s absence this month. I’m sure you will all agree that he does a great job keeping us informed and entertained with his creative input into this publication.

My focus this month is ‘behind the scenes’ between concerts. We have a dedicated band of members who turn up early every Tuesday night to set up for our practices. Frank (our Treasurer) is always there to collect our weekly fees and we really appreciate the time and effort that he puts into ensuring the finances of ‘Homestead’ are well administered. Each month we have a meeting where Peta-Marie diligently takes the minutes while our President Barbara chairs the proceedings. A big thank you to the many members and committees who regularly take an active role in ensuring the ongoing success of our ‘Homestead Country Music Club’.

Here’s a big shout out to the Band Members...Have you ever stopped to think how many different styles and songs they have to learn month after month! I for one am just so thankful for this support and for the assistance they give to our members in helping to bring out the best in each performer.

As performers we all have different strengths and weaknesses. Encouragement is a beautiful word and the best gift any one musician can give to another. I appreciate the different styles and talents of our members and it is great to see how much they all enjoy getting up there on stage to entertain our wonderful audience.

There is a great deal of camaraderie amongst our members. Our Tuesday practice nights are full of conversation and good cheer and we all look forward to sharing the music with our monthly concert audience.

We see many regular faces each concert and thank you so much for supporting our club. We do hope that you enjoy coming to listen and interact with our Homestead Family... because really that’s what we are... a Family of people who love music and the joy that it brings!

Good Job Everyone!

Beverley Sweeper – Editor’s Assistant

PRESIDENT'S PRATTLE

Hi Folks,

Welcome to our June and probably coldest concert night of the year. Numbers in the audience are a bit down but that is to be expected when we are competing with the rain (May concert) and Cold (June/July concerts). Many thanks to our 'stalwarts' who come out rain, hail or shine.

Congratulations to Liam Kennedy-Clarke who has become one of Lee Kernaghan's backing band members for Lee's 25th Anniversary tour that kicked off in March and will be ongoing for the next year. The downside of that is – we won't have him available at Homestead very often. Good work for such a young lad, proud to have him as a member of Homestead.

Lovely to see Steve and Heather Fraser back again, after their holiday in Europe and UK. Did miss Steve bossing us around on the harmony line ☺ . We did miss him also, for all the time and effort he puts in to making the rest of us sound as good as possible too. That also goes for our other great band members – their task isn't always easy but by concert night, we turn out some pretty good songs.

Young Bek Thornton has been over in Indonesia again – 6th visit. Bek is a sponsor for 4 underprivileged children in a poor area of Indonesia. If you want to know more about the project or even sponsor a child, please see Bek – I'm sure she will welcome the interest.

Homestead's 'Bunnings sausage sizzle' was held at Morayfield on Saturday 27 May and was a great success. Many thanks to all volunteer members who manned the stall and of course the people who bought the snags. Between this event and sponsorships we have now raised enough funds to cover the cost of the major prize for Homesteads 'Junior Expo' which will be on 5th August. This Expo has to stand alone in the finance department and the major prize is the much coveted Tamworth Academy award worth \$2500. Homestead is always looking for sponsorship. If you or anyone you know would like to sponsor in any small way (either monetary or prizes for the rolling raffle on the day) please ask a member and we will point you in the right direction. The major raffle is up and running so if you don't have a ticket, please see Queenie – the prizes are certainly very well worth a few dollars spent and go to a worthy cause.

Have a great night folks!

Cheers Barbara

ON THE NOTICEBOARD - 2017

Concert

June, 16th

Concert

July, 21st

Homestead Junior Expo

August, 5th



RAFFLE RESULTS



April 2017

Prize	Sponsor	Winner
Dream Catcher	Sandy	Mario Camilleri
Show tickets	101.5 Harriet	Rosemary Harold
Show tickets	101.5 Harriet	Rose
Cleaning Set	Marion Boetje	Vern
Planter	Marion Boetje	Shelley Howe
Mug	Sacha Bishop	Sandy
Mug	Sacha Bishop	Ted Bakke

May 2017

Prize	Sponsor	Winner
Picnic Blanket	Jill Cuffe	Bernie Austen
Truck Planter	Jill Cuffe	Bill Turgeon
Childrens Garden Set	Jill Cuffe	Shelley Howe
Handbag Glass Vase	Jill Cuffe	Jill Cuffe

Spotlight on Our Concerts





~Member Biography~
~Barbara Hall~

I was born in a little town called Opunake in the province of Taranaki, New Zealand. My parents were dairy farmers so we moved around a lot, until they bought their own farm that nestled under a Mountain called Egmont/Taranaki. It snowed every winter and even though it was a miserable time for the animals, we loved waking up to see the snow on the paddocks. I was a very shy and introverted child but taught myself guitar and sang within the confines of my room.



In the late 70's, I moved with my then husband and two babies to Melbourne, for a two year working holiday - we never returned to New Zealand. Eventually, 45 towns, 55 houses, failed marriage and five children (whom I raised on my own) later, brought me to QLD and it has been my home ever since.

A midlife crisis in the early 90's took me to Jim's barn at Narangba and eventually, I plucked up courage to sing. Jim's barn was exactly that – a barn that opened up on one side, had bales to sit on and a big fire burning on the hill. I met Marianne Harth (also a sole parent) at this time and we became a duo called 'lace'. We trekked around all the country music venues with our 8 children in tow and had a ball for a few years. We travelled to Gore(NZ) with Desiree Ilona Crawford and toured the South Island, entertaining in different venues and also taught the Kiwi's how to line dance in a trio called 'Satin and lace'.

Marianne, Peter Bigg, and I (with five other people) went on to be co-founders of Homestead Country Music in 1997 and as they say 'the rest is history'. I was the first president and to date, the current President. Homestead is near and dear to my heart and I am proud of the great club it has become. We pride ourselves on being friendly and family based and one of the very few clubs that welcome juniors.

I am very proud of my five children and the successful adults they have become.

.Although my younger children sang as juniors, they soon gave it away when teenage years took over. I'm pleased that my granddaughter April is enjoying her music and hopefully, will keep singing as she grows up. Maybe a few more grandies will follow suit in the future.



~Feature Article~
MY KIND OF MUSIC by Murray Eilola



When Bev asked me (sweetly) to write something about my favourite artists I was rather at a loss, as I don't really lean towards any particular performer when it comes to choosing songs to sing or, for that matter, to listen to. Nevertheless, when Bev asks (sweetly) for one to do something, how can one refuse? So here goes!

I didn't have a music influence in childhood. My parents didn't sing or play an instrument, we only heard music on the radio – 2MW Murwillumbah, then the stations of Brisbane when we moved to Queensland, so it was mainly pop music. There was some music in the primary school curriculum, but terrible stuff as I recall, but I did like to sing, and sixties pop and rock and roll were the go. Bill Haley, Elvis, Col Joye, Johnny O'Keefe, The Beatles, then Folk music hit the scene with Peter, Paul and Mary, The Kingston Trio, Bob Dylan and others and I was hooked! I was in my first year of teaching by then, and our favourite haunt was a folk music centre in the basement of a building in Ann Street, where they had open microphone even then. I remember singing My Old Black Billy, a duet with my girlfriend (a Sonny and Cher song) Tom Dooley, and Sounds of Silence (with a friend whom I met up with again recently, and perform with as Crosstown Country). A transfer to the country broke my link with my “folk” friends, but opened another door when I started singing with a dance band at country dances in the Lockyer Valley. This band morphed into a 7-piece outfit (lead, rhythm, and bass guitars, drums, sax, trumpet and trombone) which was quite successful. Then another transfer, marriage and career put paid to that frivolity, and apart from dabbling in school musicals and singing in church groups I lost touch with music for decades until I retired. When I expressed an interest in country music to a friend with whom I played tennis, I was invited to go to Homestead with them, and again I was hooked!

Once again, music plays a huge role in my life in retirement. My response to Bev's request is that I don't have a favourite performer, but a kind of music that I can relate to. It should tell a story that I can identify with, and can communicate to an audience with some authenticity. To that end, my repertoire contains songs by such performers as Merle Haggard, George Strait, Charlie Pride, Alan Jackson, John Denver and Ricky van Shelton and many others. I enjoy singing them, and I sincerely hope my audiences enjoy listening to them.



EYE ON STAGE



For the first time in a long time, the ‘eyes on the stage’ were a pair of sparkly blue eyes who thoroughly enjoys Homesteads concerts, delightful and cheeky grinned members and patrons and the sweet tasting beverages of Coconut Rum.

Since as long as I can remember, the audience was lucky enough to hear 2 songs from every artist, during the May concert. And what a night it turned out to be! While attendance from both artists and audience was down due to horrid weather and personal commitments, the night was a great one, with some outstanding songs from those young and..... not so young. Our junior members performed some beautiful songs covering a variety of styles. We had a beautiful acoustic cover of “The Territory” from Miss Hannah, a “tweedily deedily dee” number from the gorgeous little April and Merle Haggard’s “Today, I Started Loving You Again”, performed by the sweet voice of Cassi. We ended the night on a high with some rocking Elvis numbers from our own modern day Elvis (Boppa) and some harmony filled classics like “Shake Rattle and Roll” that had everyone movin’ and groovin’ and the crowd cheering for more. Perfect end to a great night!

Not to forget the incredible work our band does for us each month. Where would we be without them?!?! Billy, the one keeping us all in time and making sure we get each song right from the get go; Peter and JB, giving the songs some heart and soul with the beautiful bass, Norm and Boppa, adding to the insides, giving it some extra layers; Steve, the icing on the cake, the extra sparkle the song needs, and last but definitely not least; Jill, adding something just a little different but definitely for the better, with some kickin’ keys. And of course not to forget Jonathan on the sound desk who ensures it all comes together for our listening pleasure.

I must say, I feel that we are so privileged here at Homestead with the wonderful people we see each month, both in the audience and on the stage. I’m honored to be part of a great group of people.

- Eyes out ☺ Peta-Marie

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	12 noon 12:30 pm 11.00am
Third Friday 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 1.00 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
First Sunday Velvet CMC	Corner of Queen and Ulm Street Caloundra	12 noon

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Homestead

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