

# LOW DOWN



A **'Homestead'**  
Country Music Club  
Publication

Issue No #23: June 2019

## Index ...

🎵	<u>Editorial</u>	“My Say” Segment	P 3
🎵	<u>President’s Prattle</u>		P 4-5
🎵	<u>Beerwah’s Got Country</u>		P 5
🎵	<u>Gold Coast Cruise – at last!</u>		P 6-7
🎵	<u>Noticeboard Date Claimers</u>		P 7
🎵	<u>Concert Spotlights</u>		P 8-10
🎵	<u>Eye on Stage</u>		P 11
🎵	<u>Feature Article- Playing in a Music Band</u>		P 12-16
🎵	<u>Raffle Results</u>		P 17
🎵	<u>Member Biography</u>	Faye Cotter	P 18-19
🎵	<u>Social Timetable</u>		P 20



## Contacts ...

President	Barbara Hall	Ph: 07 5496 1487 or 0411 602 613
Vice-President	Bek Thornton	
Secretary	Kaitlyn Elton	Ph: 0402 620 846
Treasurer	Frank Moroney	Ph: 5493 0974
Webmaster	John Boetje	Ph: 3889 1185
Magazine Editors	Trevor Tinworth	Ph: 3886 1880
	Beverley Sweeper	Ph: 0407 957 057



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

### FRONT COVER:

Fay Cotter ...Long Standing Homestead Performer

## Quote for Month

*"Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination and life to everything."*

*-Plato*

# ‘My Say’ Segment

Constructive criticism is by definition giving feedback to another in such a way that it allows that person the opportunity to take on alternative ideas or suggestions and discover a different approach to improving their performance.

It is always best to remember that the person may not know that they are falling short in their delivery and as each of us is different, criticism should be offered in such a way that it will not offend the person on the receiving end of it. Watch your motivation! If you genuinely want to help someone, talk to them about what you enjoyed about their performance and ask if they would appreciate some feedback from your own experience. As with most things in life... it is all about the delivery.

What criticism should never be is destructive. If you give negative feedback without offering your assistance or some achievable solutions then you are simply bringing the person down and it would be better to say nothing rather than lower their self-esteem.

A good rule of thumb when you think the person has many issues that could do with improving is to focus on one thing that you know you can help with and build on that, otherwise it may be too overwhelming.

I find that constructive criticism is received well when it compliments what is already working and offers achievable ways to improve areas that may be falling short.

Delivered with kindness and generosity of spirit it is a gift that we can give to each other so that the whole club may benefit.

Have a great week everyone!

*Beverley Sweeper – Editor*



## PRESIDENT'S PRATTLE



Dear Members and Patrons

Hope you have all brought your winter woollies with you as it will be cold after 10pm. I always think that as much as we all love this old hall, we might as well be sitting in a paddock under the stars – just as well we have our trusty bar persons and canteen crew to keep the fires burning brightly inside.

I have just had a great week up in Northern Territory with one of my daughters and had a ball. We hired a camper and headed into Kakadu, down to Nitmiluk (Katherine Gorge) and then through Litchfield National Park and back to Darwin. Nights were a bit cold, but the days were lovely, and we were kept on our toes croc spotting wherever we went. Melanie and I both swam at a few waterholes but were always on the lookout in case the rangers had missed a salty!

Bill T is away this month with health issues but is well on the way to recovery and should be back with us in July. We have Mike Spencer standing (drumming) in so a big thankyou to Mike. Some people will know him from other country music venues around and about.

EXPO is almost upon us and things are well on the way to another cracker day with the young up and coming country music stars. If you have a free day and want to see some talented kids strutting their stuff, come along here on the 10<sup>th</sup> August. If you would like to sponsor a section, talk to Bek or myself and we will give you the information. If you would like to donate to the multi-draw raffle, we are always happy to accept whatever you would like to offer. The big raffle is now open and tickets are available from Queenie and Frank – great prizes again this year and many thanks to our sponsors Yamaha, Janet Claydon and Bunnings for their generosity. Many thanks to all our sponsors to date as without them, we couldn't run EXPO.

Many thanks to Jenny Jones and her crew of helpers for the recent trivia night. It raised \$1800 for the EXPO coffers. The bar was in full swing, there were plenty of items to choose from in the cent action and a light supper was provided. Many Homesteaders hadn't attended a trivia night before so came along with trepidation but are now firm converts. What a fun night we all had. A very big thank you to Darryn Robinson for compering on the night!

A few new faces making their debut on the Homestead stage this month, so give them a warm Homestead welcome when they step out. We are back in the predicament of having the practice list full to overflowing so any potential new members will have to wait for a vacancy before they can practice. Homestead must be one of the few country music clubs faced with this dilemma. A dilemma we are happy to work with.

Next month our theme is gone but not forgotten so expect some oldies but goodies in the repertoire. Keep warm and have another great night. Many thanks for your company.

Cheers Barbara

---

## ***BEERWAH'S GOT COUNTRY***



*Just to the north of our Caboolture Homestead base & Mt Tibrogargan and nestled in the hinterland in front of its mountain namesake is the Beerwah Hotel. Here among the beauty and tranquility of the countryside and around 8pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday night of the month, a*

*buzzing atmosphere of both recognizable and unconventional rhythms are reinvigorated and released. This is "handmade" music in a "homey atmosphere" played by groups and country bands with aspirations of creative muse. That all says....*

***BEERWAH'S GOT COUNTRY*** 53 Beerwah Place

### Upcoming Events:

Nirvana (Tribute Show)	6 <sup>th</sup> July	Beerwah Hotel
Beerwah's Got Country	13 <sup>th</sup> July	Beerwah Hotel
Beerwah's Got Country	10 <sup>th</sup> August	Beerwah Hotel
Beerwah's Got Country	14 <sup>th</sup> September	Beerwah Hotel

*This place is a-jumpin: well supported with dining and non-dining custom as well as a fabulous band and great supporting acts. See you there soon!*

# Gold Coast Cruise ... at last!

From our previous experience on a bright sunny day and with moderate passenger numbers, Marion and I recommended this trip as a Homestead outing, not knowing what dramas the future would hold!

Homestead's first booking, last October, was cancelled at the last minute owing to a strong wind warning. Getting everything aligned for the deferred booking was a challenge, but all systems were 'GO' for June 8.

At the departure point, the situation looked less appealing. The weather wasn't exactly bleak, but certainly dour looking, with grey cloud and intermittent showers. The accommodation was a bit crowded, with nobody wanting to go onto the external decks. We headed off down the Brisbane River all a bit subdued, listening to the skipper's commentary and seeing what we could ...

It was Carmel who saved the day! Dressed in full pirate paraphernalia, she 'volunteered' for the flogging sequence in the story about St Helena Island, and laid five of the best across Boppa's back and another five behind the knees.



After we all enjoyed coffee and a gigantic blueberry muffin, the weather fined up a bit as we threaded our way south through the islands. Although the foredeck was marked 'Crew Only', we were encouraged to move onto the bow to alter the trim of the vessel and help it to negotiate the shallow spots.



From then on the foredeck became a favourite vantage point.

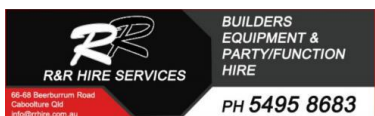
With cutlass and flintlock, Carmel challenged every passing vessel!

Lunch was a feast, with sausages and steak, a smorgasbord of salad vegetables and fruit for dessert. While the number of passengers required attending the lunch in controlled groups, there was plenty for all, and we were invited back for ‘seconds’ if we were still hungry.

On the way we visited all the well-known spots ... Jumpin Pin Bar, Tippler’s passage with its on-again off-again resorts, the Gold Coast Seaway and its Wave Break Island ... before berthing at Mariner’s Cove.

Despite every attempt, keeping our group together for the trip back to Brisbane proved impossible, and we were split between vehicles. Father bear, Mother bear, and Baby bear in buses, however, all arrived back at the car park in reasonable time, and we joined back together for a farewell, all having enjoyed a great day! JB.

We would like to recognise and thank the following Sponsors:



**R & R Hire**



**Beerwah Hotel**



*Chainsaws, Grass Trimmers,  
 Mowers & More...*

**Stihl Shop Morayfield**

**MORAYFIELD**



*for all instruments, lessons and service  
 Morayfield Road,*

**NOTICEBOARD**

**Date Claimers for your Calendar**

Concert  
 Junior Talent EXPO  
 Concert  
 Concert

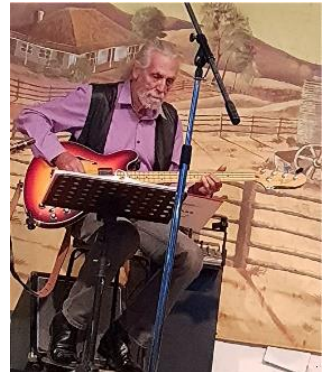
19<sup>th</sup> July  
 10<sup>th</sup> August  
 16<sup>th</sup> August  
 20<sup>th</sup> September



Stanmore Hall  
 Stanmore Hall  
 Stanmore Hall  
 Stanmore Hall



# CONCERT SPOTLIGHTS







# CONCERT SPOTLIGHTS



And then things got groovy...







## EYE ON STAGE



Flower Power was most definitely happening at our May concert with a wide selection of songs and colourful characters!

With a 60's and 70's theme the audience was treated to many well-known songs from the era with many singing along and interacting with the performers.

As usual the band did a fantastic job of backing each artist and many of the performers dressed up as characters of the era. Austin Powers made an appearance in the guise of Trevor and Jenny looked like a model in her bright jumpsuit. Murray and Norm were sporting new long hair for the occasion and many of the ladies wore flowers in their hair.

The audience was taken on an extraordinary journey visiting an Octopus's Garden with April and then doing the Locomotion with Carmel. We got to do the Hucklebuck with Murray and our Boots went walking with Lorraine.

Norm took us back in time with Snoopy and the Red Baron, while Steve sang a classic Beatles song 'Please Please Me'. Peter rocked 'Crazy Little Thing Called Love' and JB entertained with 'Brown Sugar'.

Other performers sang songs from Suzi Quatro, The Monkees, Stones and Olivia Newton John. With song's from the past (Patsy Cline) to the more recent (Lady Antebellum) the band kept the pace and showed their versatility and there was something for every taste on the night.

It was great to see the photos from yesteryear displayed at the side of the canteen and many folk stopped and tried to figure out who was who.

As there was no concert in April due to the Easter break, everyone was fired up and ready to perform on the night and a good time was had by all.

The comedic shenanigans of some of our members added laughter to the evening and let's face it... who doesn't like a good dress up! Congratulations to all involved.

There certainly was plenty to keep our Eyes on Stage ☺

Beverley.

### Playing in a Music Band

By [Tom Combs](#) | Submitted On December 14, 2009

#### 1. Being a team player:

Is about playing together, getting along and having fun. Being a great musician is good, but unless you are a Jimmy Page and in constant demand, then it's really more important, when playing in a music band, to know how to work with a group of people and get along, be able to trade idea's and have some fun. Some musicians are the, my way is the only way type, making your life miserable and a little more difficult. Working with a good team can be real good and very rewarding. When you pull off that near perfect gig together and then reflect after the show, it's a feeling that always gets to me. The team effort from everyone is what makes playing in a music band rewarding.

#### 2. The people and place

Associating with people outside your band is very important. Get to know your bartenders because if they like you, they can be a big promoter of yours, and also the owners (the ones with the cash) and your patrons and followers (the ones that are there to watch you). Always try to find out what kind of bar or establishment it is, so you know what kind of genre it is before your get there so you are prepared. At your breaks, talk to the people, and treat them as friends. Your audience will notice not only your music but also your demeanor and the way you socialize with them. It is great to get that reward of your audience liking your music but when you hear that they also think you are also just a nice bunch of guys, then you can say that playing in a music band is really worth it. When playing in a band, there is a few things to consider:

**1. Your stage presence** (begins at the start of the gig whether you look like a bunch of amateurs or whether you look like you know what you are doing).

**2. Playing with feeling** (you know when you have it and know when you don't). Even an easy song played with feeling will sound awesome when you're all together.

**3. Association with the crowd** (do not snub your audience, talk to them, they are the ones that will come back to see you the next time).

**4. The music itself** (how it sounds, your song selection, how you play together (that team thing)).

**5. Stay in your comfort zone** (if a song is not ready to play out, don't play it and risk the band's reputation) and if someone requests a song that you do not know, then be honest and tell them. Playing in a music band is about giving. I think the guideline above is a great start for any band that is looking to enhance their performance. If you really enjoy the music you play, you will find getting the feeling of playing together gets easier all the time, and when the feeling is there your stage presence will follow. Stay in your comfort zone.

### **3. Practice**

Practice is time, but very rewarding. If you want to get that feeling, practice!! With the internet and all the magazines today, there are a number ways to learn new things. Online programs are one of the best learning tools, because you can learn and watch on your own time whenever you want. Magazines have all kinds of great articles and also the cheap guitars today are very playable and an excellent value. It does not cost a lot of money to get started playing in a music band. "So belly up to the bar", as they say, and get that first guitar and an online lesson program and get started today. So practice, practice, practice, if you aren't making mistakes you're not learning.

### **4. Knowing the material**

When playing in a band, there's more to learning a song than working out the chords, solos and lyrics. It is all about the feeling, whether a song is easy or hard... Know what the songs are about, and tell the story. You have everything you need at your disposal to create the feeling, and make each song unique. Effects are OK for short periods; subtle effects are good for long periods. I am partial on this as I play in an acoustic band and like the clean sound. Using a little reverb and chorus on the vocals is fine.

## **5. Don't Blame Anyone**

Always Remember that playing in a music band is a team effort and nobody is to blame. Don't be upset or put blame if your audience does not dance or if they do not applaud. Do not blame if you do not get asked back, because it could be list of different things. Do not blame other band members if something goes wrong or a mistake is made, because it does happen from time to time and ends up just creating tension which you do not need at a gig. Do not blame anyone for equipment problems or the way it sounds in the monitors or mains, because everyone is trying to do their best. All of these things will happen and putting the blame on anyone will just make everything worse. All of these things can be solved in a positive manner that also can be a learning experience for the next show or even learning a new song.

## **6. Have Fun**

It is all about the fun and enjoyment, the chances are good that you are having fun or you would not be doing it. One of the biggest things in showing your audience you're having fun, is looking at them and making eye contact and maybe even give them a little smile, its ok. If you're having fun, so will the people around you and you will feed off of their energy and they will feed off yours and that makes for a successful show. The practices should be fun because you're getting together with the band and friends for some socialization, to talk about songs, learning new ones or just thinking about how playing in a music band is what you always wanted to do. Having fun just pushing yourself to be better at what you love to do.

## **7. The Song List**

When playing in a music band your song selection is very important. For instance, if you are a dance band playing covers then your song list should be:

1. well known songs that the audience can relate to
2. have a danceable beat
3. songs that you, yourself, like to play, because the feeling is a lot easier to capture when you enjoy the song.

Deciding what songs to play is, again, a team effort and if anyone in the band has a problem with a song then you should come up with a different song. It should be a band decision. The front man or lead singer will know if he or she can sing it or if it should be changed to a different key to be sung or if it is a song that he/she do not think they can sing, then the band should take a look at the song because it will show to the audience. If any player has a rational strong objection to a song, then find another song, it is not worth trying to sell it to him because it will just end up being a song that will not capture the feeling.

### **8. Mix While You Play**

When the band is playing and singing all together, listen to what you're doing and see if it fits into the total band sound. If you think that you can do whatever you want and have the sound man fix it, then you are not playing as a team, you are playing solo. Nothing can fix an over played guitar or an over played keyboard. You have to listen to the band sound and make adjustments as you go. Some things to think about: am I leaving enough room for the other musicians to do their thing, am I turned up too loud making it hard for the rest of the band to hear themselves, is what I am doing fitting in with the band sound. There is a lot on this subject, but you really have to listen to the band sound as a whole and do a little mixing as you go. Playing in a band is not easy when you have to try to listen to everybody and just not yourself and the sooner you can do this, the sooner you will be playing in a music band together. When you achieve that, who knows where it will go. Remember it is all about the feeling and the music as a band.

### **9. Be Positive**

You only have to prove this to yourself. Just like being physically fit, this is also about being mentally fit. Just like you run your life, you try to be as positive as you can, and work toward your goals and I know it is not as easy as me writing this article. You have to trust yourself to do what you have to. When playing in a music band you also need to keep positive, this is what will keep you moving forward. Don't get discouraged when you cannot get the gigs you want or when you want. The positive way of thinking is that we now have more time to practice and learn more songs

before the next gig. Life in general is too short to not be positive. Everything tends to work out in its own way. If you try this approach, I hope it helps you as it has helped me. Think about the old saying, the glass is half full, and don't think of it as half empty.

## 10. State of Mind

If you are serious about your music and playing in a band, know your own state of mind and what is good for you. Some people have to have a drink before they start because they say it relaxes them, others may need a smoke, but the point is know your limitations your gig depends on it. Playing is more physical than many people think. They always say why are you so tired all you did was play music, but the fact is playing in a music band is very physical and you need to be able to be in the right state of mind and physically fit enough to get through the gig. Speaking for myself, I am in good shape but at the end of a gig I am exhausted, and sometimes sore, from the banging on the floor with my foot or just kind of dancing around and getting into the feeling. The more you give the more sore you get, but it is a good and satisfying sore.

**B.L. Promotions** Proudly Presents  
**BRIAN LETTON**  
*"In Concert"*

"Don't miss this opportunity to see Australia's Number One Country Crooner perform live during his 2019 National Concert Tour"

**SENIOR CITIZENS HALL - CABOOLTURE**  
**THURSDAY: 11TH JULY @ 2PM**  
Enquiries: Telephone: 6408 659 182  
\*\*\*Tickets: Adult: \$25.00 Concession: \$20.00 Available At The Door\*\*\*

**DON'T MISS THIS SHOW!**

For more information go to: [brianletton.com.au](http://brianletton.com.au) Find us on Facebook

## SUPPORTING COUNTRY MUSIC ARTISTS...

### Hi Everyone

We've just received a request to share a flyer from a visiting country artist ... Brian Letton will be In Concert on:

**Thursday 11 July 2019 - 2pm**  
**Senior Citizens Hall**  
**Hasking St, Caboolture**

Enquiries: Telephone: 0408 659 182

Tickets:

Adult: \$25.00 Concession: \$20.00

**Available At The Door**




  
 ~ **RAFFLE RESULTS** ~

**May 2019**

<b>Prize</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>Winner</b>
Hogs Breath Voucher	Hogs Breath	Cathy Miles
Stihl Pack	Stihl	Sandy
Soda Glasses	Kerry	Sandy
Blanket	Lorraine Austen	Beverley Sweeper
Candles	Janelle Groves	Kaitey's mum
Cosmetics	Pam Matthews	Robyn Dean



*Homestead thanks those that sponsor prizes for our monthly raffles as its intended fund raising finances our ongoing community involvement and especially our Junior Expo each year.*

*We also congratulate all those winners who, once the draw is announced, have the correct, coloured, ticket number. Winners are grinners!!*



**Homestead Country Music** weekly rehearsals are held at Stanmore Hall every Tuesday Night



**Attention: All Members & Patrons**

**Recycling to boost Youth Expo Fundraising.**

Homestead has an ID C10134337 for you to quote and moneys will go straight into the bank if you drop your cans and bottles into your own recycling depot. If not, Barbara has advised 'Peter and I are still happy to do it if you get your cans etc. to the hall.'



## MEMBER BIOGRAPHY

### ✿ FAY COTTER ✿



I was born in Sydney's St. Margaret's Hospital, 18<sup>th</sup> October.1945. I grew up with an older brother, Raymond in Sth Granville, NSW. I came to realise very early in my childhood that Ray kinda was from another planet. We were so very different in many ways. I also came to realise I had this amazing, compelling desire to sing. I believe I was singing before I could talk! There was

never enough moments free in any day to just sing. Car trips with me on the back seat, I'd be singing to myself the entire journey, just to get to bed early at night so I could sing quietly in my bed at night. Walking to school each day I'd sing along the way, spent long bathing times just singing, dreaming of being a singer with a microphone held in my hand.

My childhood games were always under the suggestion to play microphones ... rolling pieces of paper to resemble a mic then singing into them with such great pretense. At family party celebrations if a piano player was there I was glued to the piano in absolute fascination. But, sadly, unfortunately for me my parents were not musical in any way, never did they recognise this child needed guidance or direction to develop this love for singing. There was no opportunity in those years for me to pursue a life in music.

I married very early in life and started a family of my own so developing this love of singing never eventuated. But, I kept singing and singing to my babies, wherever I might be. Through song I came to experience something that lifted me through hard times and gave me utter joy when times were not so hard. Then, with children turning into adults and grandchildren arriving, the one person in my life who had been my rock, since the day I was born, the person who gave me love and devotion, whose very presence was comfort and absolute pleasure, my dad, steadfast and solid, passed away quite suddenly leaving me a pain to endure like I could never imagine. This time in my life was when I sought refuge, I found the amazing love of God. I was truly blown away by the truth of the gospel of His grace and His mercy for me ... a sinner. My life changed and still today some 32

years on, my Christian walk is my passion. This love of music and love of singing suddenly burst forth. I was singing, I held a real microphone in my hand for the first time, and I tell you, it felt so cool. Not only did I hold, but I sang, not only did I sing, people listened. I began regular singing in church, solo's for weddings, heavy duty classical choirs, leading church worship.... and people listened.

I began radio announcing and then my first introduction to country music. Wow!!! I fell in love with the sound of country music vocals.

On moving to QLD in 2010, to settle with my youngest daughter and her family and following a trip to East Timor with my work with Dentistry for our Australian Defence, I was introduced to Homestead Country Music Club. My voice didn't lend itself well to singing country music, but, I longed to give it a go ..... Having the wonderful privilege of being nurtured by Homestead and the brilliant musicians and the willingness they show to help me along the way has been everything this singer has ever desired and needed .... thankyou team for your excellence and your valuable time and patience with me. Love you all to bits .... Looking forward to many more experiences and growth with our music hand in hand.

Pleased to say, today, I have a delightful, loving and caring friendship with my dear bro, Ray

Your friend in music

Blessya all heaps

Fay L Cotter

x x x



# Country Music - Social Timetable



<b>First Friday</b> Pine Rivers	Kallangur Community Centre	7:00 pm
<b>First Saturday</b> Brigalow Redlands Mod.	Wagner St., Eagleby Sports Reserve, Thornlands	6:00 pm 5:00 pm
<b>First Sunday</b> Coal City Gold Coast Sundowners Velvet CMC	Booval Bowls Club Southport Bowls Club Geebung Bowls Club Queen/ Ulm Sts Caloundra	12:30 pm 11:00 am 11.45 am 12 Noon
<b>Second Saturday</b> Blue Denim Northern Suburbs  Country Roundup	Progress Hall, Clontarf Memorial Hall Gympie Rd. Bald Hills Caboolture Senior Citz Hall	7:00 pm 12 Noon  12 Noon
<b>Second Sunday</b> Maroochy River Golden Wattle Twin Rivers	Bli Bli Hall Cedar Street Wynnum Wagner St., Eagleby	12 Noon 1:00 pm 12 Noon
<b>Third Friday</b>  <b>Homestead</b>	  <b>Stanmore Hall, Caboolture</b>	  <b>7:00 pm</b>
<b>Third Saturday</b> Boonah	Boonah Golf Club	7.00 pm (even months)
<b>Third Sunday</b> Guanaba Redcliffe West Moreton	Heritage Park, Pimpama Redcliffe Showgrounds Ipswich Golf Club	12 Noon 11:00 am 1.00 pm
<b>Fourth Friday</b> Redcliffe	Redcliffe Showgrounds	7:00 pm
<b>Fourth Saturday</b> Min Min	Kruger Hall Ann St, Kallangur	1.00 pm
<b>Fourth Sunday</b> Blue Denim Bribie Island	Progress Hall, Clontarf Bribie Island Recreation Hall 158 First Ave Bribie Island	12:30 pm 11.00 am
<b>Last Sunday</b> Cane Country Laidley	Concerts on hold Exchange Hotel, Laidley	TBA 1:00 pm

## 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.

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



## Printing of

### **'LOW DOWN'**

Sponsored by

**Moreton Bay  
Regional Council**

