

LOW DOWN



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

Issue No #18: March 2018

Index ...

♪ <u>Editorial</u>	<u>“My Say” Segment</u>	P 3
♪ <u>Origins of Musical Phrases</u>		P 4
♪ <u>Rhythmic Precision & Feel</u>		P 5
♪ <u>President’s Prattle</u>		P 6-7
♪ <u>Feature Article</u>	- <u>“The ‘27’ Club”</u>	P 8-9
♪ <u>Member Biography</u>	- <u>Bob Cole</u>	P 10-11
♪ <u>Concert Spotlights</u>		P 12
♪ <u>Eye On Stage</u>		P 13
♪ <u>Monthly Date Claimers</u>		P 15



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FRONT COVER:

Marion Boetje ...our amazing Homestead Canteen Convenor
.....who does so much preparation and hard yakka behind the scenes!!

Quote for Month

*“Music for me has always been something to close your eyes to,
to have your own exclusive, personal picture.”*

— Eric Clapton



‘My Say’ Segment



We live in a world of *give and take* and the degree by which such occurs is largely dependent on whether you live in a first world or a third world country for obvious reasons. *Take*-ing advantage of the opportunities that are on offer is nearly always the easy, straightforward part.

In Australia, the opportunities are almost inexhaustible and in the case of music involvement, clubs exist for almost all sectors and genres. **Involvement** is a key word in this instant as it determines the degree of **commitment** one is prepared to make and is seen as a balance or equilibrium of *give and take*. To what extent? This is up to the individual and will vary from factors specific to everyone. These may include the number of organisations/clubs one is involved with (incl. P&C, sporting, church and other musical etc.), as well as availability, travel distance and so on. But one should always remember every event requires set up and pull down and considerable behind the scenes time and effort!

It is interesting to note that ‘giving back’ is deemed to be good for our health. A joint study by John Hopkins University and University of Tennessee revealed that ‘giving back’ also lowered blood pressure, maintained physical health and improved longevity. This was partially due to what is described as ‘Endorphins’ (chemicals) in the brain becoming excited by your actions to make you feel amazing.

At the end of the day, if you are reaping the (*take*) rewards from involvement, some form of commitment to ‘*give back*’ will ensure not only that your life remains in balance/equilibrium but also your club and others within will be enhanced by your actions.

As a final note, this quote from “The How of Happiness” by Lyubomirsky where she portrays “kindness and giving...” as to “...foster a heightened sense of interdependence and cooperation in your social community.” Such actions promote trust and engender teamwork that strengthens our ties to others that have been proven to be central to good mental and physical wellbeing.

‘Give and take’ has never been a One Way Street!

TT – Editor

R4AA... E & OE

ON THE NOTICEBOARD - 2018



Concert	-	April, 20th
Concert	-	May, 18 th
Concert	-	June, 15 th



Common Phrase Origins ... (with a Musical Theme)

The phrase “Elvis has left the building” is believed to have been first espoused in 1956 as Elvis was exiting a Concert Hall and patrons were leaving their seats trying to get a glimpse of the superstar. Horace Logan, the MC, in an attempt to allow the concert to continue and get everyone seated again, announced:

“Alright, alright, Elvis has left the building. I’ve told you absolutely straight up to this point, you know that he has left the building; he left the stage and went out the back with the policeman and he is now gone from the building.”... unquote.

Part of our language today, the phrase now means that something or someone has ended or attained completion.

Jenny



RAFFLE RESULTS



15 DECEMBER 2017

	PRIZE	WINNER
1.	Punchbowl Christmas Hamper	Lana McCallum
2.	Christmas Cone Tree	Lana McCallum
3.	Christmas Bag	John Gorton
4.	Napkin Set	Elaine Cody
5.	Cookie Jar	Bernie Austin
6.	Christmas Tray	Bernie Austin
7.	Christmas Bowls	Gay Gibson
8.	Christmas Plate	Sacha Bishop
9.	Chill Factor Jelly Maker	Daryl Scheiwe
10.	Napkin Set	Bernie Austin
11.	Secret Parcel Candle	Bek Thornton
12.	Christmas Bag	Fay Lake
13.	Naughty Cup	Jan Smith
14.	Little Miss Hug Cup	Jessica Hullah
15.	Cookie Cutters	Sue Coyne

*****Many Thanks to all that donated prizes for the December 2017 Raffle*****

16 FEBRUARY 2018

	PRIZE	SPONSOR	WINNER
1.	Glasses Set	Jill Cuffe	Rod Lougheed
2.	Stihl Pack	Stihl Morayfield	Jenny Jones
3.	Pinecone Flowers	Linda Steer	April Bishop
4.	Cups Set	Jenny Jones	Boppa (Graham Curtis)
5.	Avon	Michelle Anderson	Vern Duncan
6.	Tongs and Tea Towel	Heather Fraser	Barbara Hall

Thanks also to Homestead for donating the Lucky Door Prizes for this quarter.

When we are new to learning a musical instrument, we want to learn the cool stuff; the stuff that has a bunch of notes in it. We want to show off to our peers how good we are getting by playing complicated stuff filled with a whole lot of notes. In the process, we overlook the silence or the rests in music.

It is a phase we all go through, and it is necessary and valid. However, when we start maturing and comparing our playing with professional musicians, it hits us, and we start realizing what makes the difference between a professional sounding player and an amateur musician.

It is phrasing and rhythmic precision; the space in between the notes and between the phrases. It is not how many notes they play, but the ones they don't. It is not how they play the notes, but how they play the rests. It is the way they place the notes within the time that matters the most.

Yes, we should play the rests as well, they are there for a reason, and it is our interpretation of them that gives music the rhythmic feel.

If you've ever wondered why you learned a piece of music from another musician and it never sounded quite like the original, perhaps you're playing the notes right, but not the spaces in between them.

Rhythmic Feel

Have you ever listened to an amateur drummer and compared the difference to a drummer like Don Henley or Jeff Porcaro? Of course, these are unfair comparisons. But if you take a good listen you are going to notice a difference in the feel. Among other things, that gap is defined by the placing of notes within the time and the spaces in between them. This is more evident in layback and less up-tempo tunes and ballads.

The space in which we don't play is as valuable as the one in which we do. Notes create the sound. Rests and space create the rhythmic feel.

Rhythmic Precision

The concept of rhythmic precision is all about having the control to perform rhythms accurately every time we play. People argue that good, organic music has a loose feel, and I agree with that. But even that loose feeling needs to be accurately executed for it to sound loose at all times.

To sound authentic within the style, we need to find that groove including the rests and spacing articulations and stay in there. That requires a lot of rhythmic precision. . You just need to practice and bound yourself to the style of music you want to learn and perform. Constantly listen for the gaps so you too can sound the same! Importantly, this applies to all instruments including voice. So yes, feel is possible to learn and improve upon.

Editor's comment: *Listen carefully to Billy Turgeon. See if you too can incorporate the feel he is able to create.*



PRESIDENT'S PRATTLE



Good Evening folks,

Welcome to the first magazine for 2018. We look forward to your company throughout the year. Tonight is a theme night for St Paddy's day – hope you brought your Irish with you. I'm sure Frank has a bit of Guinness in the bar.

For those who couldn't make it to February's concert, I trust that you had a peaceful and trouble free break and welcome to Homestead for the New Year.

Just to recap a few events that have occurred since the last magazine in December:

- EXPO – the organising is well underway, with two meetings under our belt. Make sure you put the date in your calendar (4th August) and I will reiterate my words in last magazine – feel free to offer your support in any way. If you would like your name advertised as a section sponsor – monetary donations can be given to Frank. If you would like your name advertised as a raffle sponsor – gifts will be gratefully accepted.
- Homestead youth (and backing band) performed at the Caboolture Christmas carols in the Hub. What a great turn out it was and our 20 minute spot was excellent. The money raised went toward fund raising for EXPO.
- Homestead youth (and backing band) also performed at Bribie for Australia day. There were a lot of people there enjoying the day and Homestead's 40 minute spot was well received. We all had a fun afternoon in spite of the heat!

Peter and I enjoyed a white Christmas in Germany with his son Warwick and family. Was great getting to know Lenny (18months) and teaching him a lot of English words (he is bilingual). The snow was beautiful and I enjoyed making many a snow man for Lenny's pleasure (even though he ended up kicking their heads off haha) Next visit will definitely be during summer as the sheer effort of putting on winter gear (thermals/coat/hat/gloves/scarves/boots) to step outside the door was exhausting. White Christmas now ticked off bucket list ✓

The February concert was a beauty with everyone excelling in their presentation of songs and backing from our various Musicians was fantastic (as always). What a great way to start the New Year! Steve will be away for March so we have the pleasure of Liam Kennedy Clark available to help out on lead guitar and keyboard. Have a great night. *'Put some whiskey in my coffee because it's Ireland somewhere'*

Cheers Barbara

We would like to recognise and thank the following Sponsors:



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Did you know ? :

The 'Perkins Brothers' featuring Carl Perkins & James Buck Perkins, known & listed on recordings as 'JayB', played their first gig at the Cotton Boll Tavern, 12 miles south of Jackson in 1946. Ten years later, after the runaway success of *Blue Suede Shoes*, and on their way to perform in New York on the Perry Como Show, they were involved in a serious road accident which resulted in the death of the other driver and almost killed both Carl & JayB.

Although only the younger, Carl, did return to performing after a month's convalescence in 1956, hopes of greater success forever eluded him. JayB, on the other hand, was not to be seen again on the stage with his younger brother. However it does prompt a query.....

Was this an alter-ego and catching up on lost time in a previous life that may be attributed to our own JB ?

Correction: The last issue of *LOWDOWN* the results from Yandina Festival were incorrect.

Please note: Sandy Lewis (Velvet CMC)

3 Firsts, 2 Thirds & Most Outstanding Act

THE “27” CLUB

For those of you who don't know the above, the “27” Club is a reference to a supposedly “supernatural” list of popular musicians, actors and artists who died in their 27th year often as a result of alcohol or drug related abuse or violent accidental or criminal causes. The deaths of several 27yo popular musicians between 1969 and 1971 led to the belief that such deaths are common at this age. The “club” has been repeatedly cited in music magazines, journals and the daily press. Several exhibitions have been devoted to the idea, as well as novels, films and stage plays. There have been many theories and speculations about the causes of these deaths and their possible “connections”. (Hence my reference to “supernatural”.) The names quoted often include: Hank Williams; Buddy Holley; The Big Boppa; Richie Valence; Eddie Cochran; Sid Vicious; Marc Bolan; Duane Allman and three other members of the Allman Brothers Band and Bon Scott, **none of whom died at 27 year of age.**

Some who were in their 27th year when they died were: Robert Johnson (legendary jazz musician); Jimi Hendrix; Janis Joplin; Jim Morrison; Brian Jones (of The Rolling Stones); Kurt Cobain and Amy Whitehouse. There were a number of lesser lights in arts and the music and film industries who also died at that age. Nor should we forget the persistent rumour of the death of Paul McCartney in 1969 when he would have been conveniently 27yo.! Of those mentioned who did die at 27 the only one who died from more natural causes was surprisingly Jim Morrison whose cause of death was shown as heart failure. (Of course his years of addiction to drugs and alcohol were a major contributing factor!)

Cobain and Hendrix biographer Charles R. Cross wrote in 2007, “The number of musicians who died at 27 is truly remarkable by any standard. [Although] humans die regularly at all ages, there is a statistical spike for musicians who die at 27”.

Numerous studies have totally failed to find any unusual pattern of musician/artist deaths at this age, comparing it to equally small increases at ages 25 through to 32.

In total rebuttal, a study published by the *British Medical Journal* in December 2011 concluded that there was no increase in the risk of death for musicians at the age of 27. Although the sampled musicians faced an

increased risk of death in their 20s and 30s, this was not limited to the age of 27. The study also concluded, “Fame may well increase the risk of death among musicians, but this risk is **not** limited to age 27”.

Statistical evidence was provided.

A 2015 article in *The Independent* also provided statistical evidence that popular musicians are not more likely to die at the age of 27.

Well, based on the studies completed, the statement by Cross appears to be in the words of Henry Ford, “Total bunkum”, and the risks associated with fame apply to all members of the musical family no matter what age. The pressure of a famous lifestyle seems consuming!

There is a fairly comprehensive list of musicians/actors/artists deaths in Wikipedia for the decades 1950s to 2010s if you are of a morbid frame of mind.

So you are probably asking yourself what's the purpose of this article. Well I have an idea that a number of conclusions could easily be drawn from this information but I think we can confidently say:

1. Musicians/artists who are dedicated to their art are under sometimes significant strains in addition to and other than the obvious day to day concerns.
2. Those of us who are fortunate enough to have what it takes to make it to the top levels of the music/artistic industries will find those strains exacerbated by the fame and that goes with those exalted heights.
3. Without firm grounding and family and friends' support, such fame and lifestyle could take over and lead us to a long downhill slide.
4. People look for patterns in everything even where there are none. It's part of the human condition. But, don't believe everything you read just because it “sounds credible”. Check out all sources before you stake your life and future on something like The 27 Club.

Norm S



MEMBER BIOGRAPHY



The Cole Family – proud Homesteaders...

I first met up with Homestead's 'men in black' while attending an ACMA festival at Yandina in 1998. They encouraged me to come down to a Homestead social night and the rest is history for me and my family – we never left!

Fiona, Michael, Jennifer and I have thoroughly enjoyed the music, the fun and the genuine friendships that Homestead has provided over almost 20 years. We all have the utmost respect for the musicians who work so hard to back the singers and for the committee members that do the hard yards to make sure the club continues to treat all members fairly and respectfully.

I first picked up a guitar when I started uni in Newcastle in the late 70s. It's also where I met Fiona. I found myself playing in local pubs and restaurants to earn a bit of drinking money within a year. Fi would often be seen sitting at the end of the bar waiting for me to finish. After a couple of years of playing mostly solo, I totally lost interest in playing music. I still loved music but clearly playing solo was not for me. To me, music is something that I enjoy through sharing the experience with others. For many years, the guitar was put away in a cupboard.

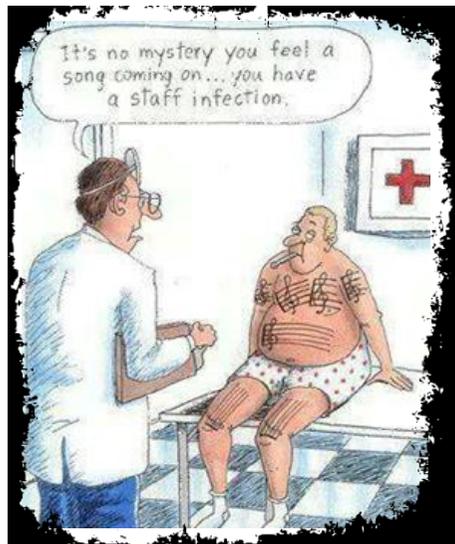
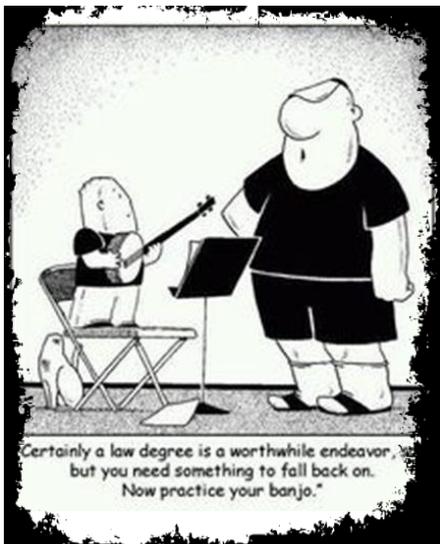
Our teaching careers eventually took us to Cape York, the Torres Strait, Mackay and Moranbah. In each of these places there were opportunities to join others to play a bit of music. I joined the Moranbah Country Music Club in 1994 and we had 4 great years playing in a couple of bands and getting thoroughly hooked on country music. The next move was to Gympie in 1998 and we were lucky enough to find Homestead later that year. Some thought we were a bit mad travelling so far when there were perfectly good country music clubs much closer to home. But, for us, it was all about the 'feel' of the place. It was clear that Homestead is a club that looks after its people, is tolerant of beginners or people who like

to play different styles, and is well supported in return by its members.

Our kids, Michael (now 27) and Jennifer (now 22), benefitted greatly from Homestead's willingness to nurture their interest in performing. Michael earns his living within the music industry these days and Jennifer retains her passion as a singer/songwriter. This club should be extremely proud of the support it has provided to young country performers through the Homestead Youth Talent Expo over the past 11 years. I regularly hear from juniors telling me that, of all the festivals, Homestead is the one they most want to attend and win!

Finally, I am really disappointed that my current duo, The Rock n Roll Boys, has kept us away from Homestead's social nights during 2017. But that's the way life is at present. The Coles will get to Homestead at every opportunity in 2018. I look forward to catching up with everyone when we do.

Best regards to all...
Bob





CONCERT SPOTLIGHTS





EYE ON STAGE

Concerts 15/12/17 & 16/02/18



Hi Everyone!

I'm so glad I've been asked to pen the 'Eye on Stage' segment this edition!

In December we had a fabulous turnout with some of our members and guests donning Christmas clothing and/or decorations and others just getting into the celebrations. Several members sang well known Christmas Carols with a highlight being 'The Holy City' sung by Allan H (a departure from his usual instrumental fare). Our younger members treated us to some Carols and Christmas songs under the direction of our lovely Jill and they all did a marvelous job which was enjoyed by all. We had the comedic with Jan singing 'Harry I'm Planning to Marry' and Pam with 'Grandma Got Run Over'. All our performers did a great job on the night keeping the audience entertained and even Santa made an appearance with his little helper Peta-Marie! We were all well fed at half time with yummy Christmas Fare from the fabulous canteen ladies.

The February 2018 concert did not disappoint either. With the return to the stage of our amazingly talented band and a new member Chas joining in on keys for some of the songs the performers were well supported.

Some of the highlights of the night were Olivia singing 'Hell on Heels' and Norm waking us all up with 'Your Mama Don't Dance' and 'Rockin All Over the World'. You may have noticed that during some of our songs different members hop up on stage to do harmonies and other supporting vocals which really enhances the performances. We were very fortunate to have such a talented group of people in our club. It really is a team effort!

For those of you who stayed to the end, we were not disappointed with Peter B singing 'Let's Twist Again' and Steve with 'Shake Rattle and Roll'. Toes were tapping I can tell you! Though there isn't room to mention them all, the performers on the night were all in very good form and I personally found the concert very entertaining; so thanks to everyone who participated.

With My Eyes on Stage – Beverley Sweeper

Homestead Country Music weekly rehearsals are held at
Stanmore Hall every Tuesday Night from 7.00 pm



46th Country Music Awards of Australia – The Toyota Golden Guitar Awards

The 2018 Country Music Awards of Australia – The Toyota Golden Guitar Awards topped off an incredible year for Australian country music with a production showcasing the talent and diversity of this year's nominated artists at the Tamworth Region Entertainment and Conference Centre on Saturday, 27 January 2018.

It was The McClymonts night picking up three Awards from their six nominations, including the prestigious **Country Music Album Of The Year** Award for their #1 ARIA Country chart album Endless along with **Contemporary Country Album Of The Year** (Endless) and **Country Music Capital News Group or Duo Of The Year**.

Travis Collins & Amber Lawrence are celebrating after also collecting three awards from their six nominations.

Kasey Chambers became the 51st person and the youngest at age 41, to be honoured with the industry's most prestigious Award - The Australasian Country Music Roll of Renown during the show. Presented by last year's winner, Troy Cassar-Daley said Kasey had earned the admiration and respect of both her industry peers and fans all over the world. Time and time again, Troy said, she has demonstrated her extraordinary ability to connect with country and mainstream audiences in both Australia and overseas. Kasey has been behind a microphone, having spent most of her life on stage, (from age 10), when she joined her parents, Bill and Diane Chambers in their 'Dead Ringer Band'.

Album of the year award went to Ashleigh Dallas with her album Lighthouse awarded the inaugural **Traditional Country Album Of The Year**.

Male and Female Artist Of The Year went to Shane Nicholson and Aleyce Simmonds.

Qantaslink New Talent Of The Year went to Brad Butcher and **Bush Ballad Of The Year** to Dean Perrett (Henbury Blues).

2018 Sanity Top Selling Album Of The Year Golden Guitar Award went to country super-star Lee Kernaghan for 'The 25th Anniversary Album'.

For those Homesteaders who attended this year and any who are contemplating the Golden Guitar Awards next year, Tamworth 2019 is only 10 months away !!

COUNTRY Music CLUBS - Monthly Date Claimers

First Friday Pine Rivers	Kallangur Community Centre	7:00 pm
First Saturday Brigalow Redlands Mod.	Wagner St., Eagleby Sports Reserve, Thornlands	6:45 pm 5:30 pm
First Sunday Coal City Gold Coast Sundowners Velvet CMC	Booval Bowls Club Southport Bowls Club Geebung Bowls Club Cnr Queen & Ulm Streets Caloundra	1:00 pm 1:00 pm 12.00 Noon 12.00 Noon
Second Saturday Blue Denim Northern Suburbs Country Roundup	Progress Hall, Clontarf Memorial Hall Gympie Rd. Bald Hills Caboolture Senior Citizens Hall	7:00 pm 12 noon 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 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



Printing of *'LOW DOWN'*

Courtesy of

Moreton Bay Regional Council



Homestead

Country Music Club Est. 9/7/96



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.



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