

# LOW



# DOWN



A **'Homestead'**

Country Music Club  
Publication

Issue No #26: **March 2020**

## Index ...

🎵 <u>Editorial</u>	“My Say” Segment	P 3
🎵 <u>Noticeboard... / ... Recycling</u>		P 4
🎵 <u>President’s Prattle</u>		P 5- 6
🎵 <u>Homestead Sponsors</u>		P 6
🎵 <u>Eye On Stage</u>		P 7
🎵 <u>Feature Article</u>	“ Patsy Cline ”	P 8- 9
🎵 <u>Raffles</u>		P 9
🎵 <u>Concert Spotlights</u>		P 10-11
🎵 <u>Member Biography</u>	- Hanjo Smith	P 12-13
🎵 <u>Beerwah’s Got Country</u>		P 13
🎵 <u>The Roaring 20’s</u>	<u>The Decade of Change</u>	P 14-15
🎵 <u>Monthly Date Claimers</u>		P 16



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**FRONT COVER:** Hanjo Smith

## **Quote for the Month**

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

- Plato



## ***My Say* Segment**



We have entered a new year and a new decade and with that, there is in some context an aura of *'the new broom sweeps clean'*.

Or is that a *'clean slate'* as my mother and father used to say!

In the December issue of ***LOWDOWN***, Bev advocated the need for home run-throughs and warm-up exercises. This is very sound advice and if you didn't note her editorial, I suggest you give it another read.

The beginning of any year is the time, with a clean slate, to set goals and members both longstanding and especially newer colleagues should be asking themselves; "What do I want to achieve, Homestead-wise, by the end of this year." It may be to articulate and phrase better, it may be to improve your chord strumming and vocal coordination. It may be to improve timing or keep in tune and listen to the band's backing more intently. However, if you do not set any goals, your chances of improvement will not only suffer, but you will end up disappointed with yourself come year end. It is important to remember that goals give you direction, (*...better than no direction at all*).

Enjoyment should always be at the forefront of your performances, so if you set challenging but achievable goals and work out 8-10 incremental, small steps to the achievement of your goal(s), there is every chance you will end the year self-fulfilled and ready to address another year with invigorated enthusiasm. These steps may also involve the songs you choose to perform with the more difficult one later in the year. Sometimes setting just a few incremented steps will lead to the evolvement of others. But in the process, the need for home run-throughs and warm-up exercises, which are almost always part of the steps, cannot be emphasised enough.

I have found that if you write your goals down and then structure them with the steps you need to take to reach attainment, you tend to keep on track but if you fall behind, as I sometimes have, you can make slight adjustments and get back on track to goal achievement. A 'do nothing' phase will end in failure.

We all have direction whether we know it or not. We're either a bottle in the ocean letting the tides and currents decide our path or we are the captain of our own personal ship.

Nonetheless, 2020 will undoubtedly provide challenges and opportunities for each and everyone.

**TT – Editor**

## NOTICEBOARD

### Date Claimers for your Calendar

Concert	17 <sup>th</sup> April <b>Cancelled</b>	StanmoreHall
Concert	15 <sup>th</sup> May <b>OnHold TBA</b>	StanmoreHall
Concert	19 <sup>th</sup> June <b>OnHold TBA</b>	StanmoreHall

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



Homestead thanks those who 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 !!



### **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. Alternately, drop your cans, bottles etc. off at the hall on a rehearsal or concert night.





## PRESIDENT'S PRATTLE



Hi Folks,

I start my segment with the sad news of the passing of Marion Boetje on 1/03/2020. Initially Marion's prognosis had improved with the tumour shrinking but after a short respite, she took a turn for the worse and passed away with John by her side. She was one of Homestead's valued family members and she always gave the club 100%. An absolute gem who will be greatly missed. Our thoughts and condolences are with



John and his family at this distressing time. RIP lovely lady.

Thanks for your patience at our February concert when one of the front-of-house speakers blew up, so concert couldn't start on time. Many thanks to Steve for going home and bringing back one of his speakers. Homestead is lucky having so many patrons who come along to enjoy our music and who stay until the last song. We appreciate your enthusiasm and support.

Everyone has been great with recycling and returning all cans/bottles etc. back to bar area but I would like the audience to also assist the canteen and return your reusable plates/trays to kitchen so they can be washed, reused and/or packed away. If anyone can help with keeping your table tidy and/or doing a few dishes, please don't wait to be asked. Volunteering in some way is a requisite of all Homesteaders and your assistance in the smallest way, is always appreciated.

With the outbreak of COVID-19, please use the hand sanitisers that are in the hall – one at the bar and one at entry. Also, wash hands well out in ablutions. We want members and patrons to stay healthy this winter.

The EXPO planning is well under way with a trivia night raffle/auction planned on 30th May. A lot of fun that night will be with Darryn Robinson as guest MC. IF you can donate anything to the auction/raffle or want to book a table, please see Jenny Jones. We have major sponsors back on

board for EXPO and a few new ones already on the books but if you would like to sponsor in cash or kind, please speak to Bek Thornton or myself. Nice to see Bob and Fiona Cole back in the fold. Bob is returning to our stage after a 2 year long foray into Rock and Roll. He is still involved in the group 'Rock n Roll Boys' (as is Chas) but hopes to set aside concert nights for Homestead. Fiona and Bob have just become grandparents for the first time to Albert (Albie) Stephen Cole (28/2/20). Audience will remember a young Michael Cole on our stage as a 14-year-old budding guitarist. Mike now lives in Tamworth with his wife Karlee Simmonds and although he has a 'regular' job, is still involved around the country as a great lead guitarist. Congratulations to all.

If you see our friends the possums sneaking around the rafters, please don't encourage them by feeding them – they are wild animals and several times over the years have urinated on members and patrons. They also have the potential to ruin our electrical equipment by the same means. Have a great concert folks and a great 2020.



Cheers Barbara

**WE RECOGNISE AND THANK THE FOLLOWING SPONSORS:**

*Please support them with your custom wherever possible.*

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 <p><b><u>The Garden Shed</u></b></p> <p><b>STIHL</b></p> <p><b>Mowers, Chainsaws, Grass Trimmers, &amp; More.....</b></p> <p><b>Morayfield Road, MORAYFIELD</b></p> 	 <p><b>JANET C'S ART (JANET CLAYDON)</b></p> <p><i>Australian Artist. Inspired by the Vast Richness of our Planet</i></p> <p>..... Look for me on Facebook</p> 



## EYE ON STAGE



Well, here we are again - on for another year of fun and frolic with country, (and other), music from the guys and gals of Homestead. I hope everyone had a great Christmas and are already completely into their New Year modus operandi. And, if the quality of entertainment for this concert is anything to judge by, there will be some very fun times ahead for our members and patrons.

During the concert I conducted a very informal straw poll of some of our patrons and members and all those I spoke to agreed that the beach theme for the night and the sound, music and vocals were top class. Even a group of Italian(?) backpackers had a good time. (Possibly the consumption of alcohol may have had a small amount to do with the appreciation?)

There were some ripper performances including:- Liam singing, "A Whiter Shade Of Pale"(a song based on a Bach classical piece written in about 1720 for violin called "Air on a G String"); Steve Fraser singing a Neil Diamond version of an Elvis song, "I Can't Help Falling in Love" and let us not forget the duet by Bec and Luke of, "Islands in the Stream" a famous country song written by some pseudo-Australians - The BeeGees.

Bob and Fiona Cole were back after a long absence and it was wonderful to have them with us again and Bob's version of "Beach House in the Blue Mountains" was very well received. We also saw Gabby again playing fiddle and singing beautifully and we do not see her enough either.

We have just seen the fruits of our purchase of a new sound desk with sound of very high quality being produced for our February concert. Fortunately we had the knowledge and advice of Liam and Luke to assist us tyros and smooth the transition from our old desk.

There was also a fire (well smoke anyway), from one of our Front of House speakers which had decided to quit right at the start of the night. Fortunately Steve Fraser rose to the occasion and sped home to pick up one of his speakers to allow us to continue with the concert albeit a little late in the starting.

On our first night back after last year, it was an absolute pleasure to see how the various club members who make up the performing members of the stage band, combine so well in so many variations to provide such excellent backing for our vocalists.

All together, an eventful start to the year and one full of the promise of better things.

Thanks. See you all at the club.

N.S.



## Feature Article - 🎵

# ★ Patsy Cline

**Born:** Virginia Patterson Hensley on 8 September 1932

– Grew up in Winchester, Virginia, USA

**Died:** In a plane crash 3 March 1963 in Camden, Tennessee, USA at the age of 30.



I've just spent the day reading up on the life of the very talented Patsy Cline and it occurs to me that she was born for the stage and born to be a leading lady on the Country Music Stage in particular. Her life was not one of privilege; in fact Patsy's father and mother divorced early on (perhaps because of his heavy drinking) and at the age of fifteen Patsy decided to leave school to help her mother support the family. Her mother bought her a piano when she was only eight years old because it was obvious that her daughter was gifted musically. Patsy couldn't get enough of music and after singing each week in the church choir, she approached a local radio station WINC for an audition which resulted in her singing there regularly. She was only fourteen. Patsy knew what she wanted and pursued it with vigour and at the tender age of fifteen she was earning money singing in clubs at night and working in a pharmacy during the day. On 7 March 1953 she married Gerald Cline and soon after made a demo tape which resulted in her being offered a recording deal by Four Star Recording contract in September 1954. During those years radio was very popular and it was a radio show called 'Town and Country Jamboree' which invited Patsy to make regular appearances which would have undoubtedly helped to build her following. Patsy's first success of being on the top ten chart list of Country and Pop music happened in 1957 after she won a talent quest that was broadcast on television. The winning song was 'Walking After Midnight'. Fame often comes with a price though and due to the heavy schedule of her music there simply wasn't enough time to spend with her new husband and the marriage ended in divorce not long after her television appearance. Love came twice though and in the late 1950's Patsy married and had two children with



Charlie Dick. That marriage also suffered on the weight of Patsy's musical commitments. The Grand Old Opry invited Patsy Cline to join them in 1960 and she brought out her next single 'I Fall to Pieces' in 1961 which was instantly popular. Patsy was well and truly at the height of her career when she decided to travel to Kansas City to participate in a benefit concert for the family of Jack McCall a disc jockey who was tragically killed in a traffic accident. Who could have known that when she boarded that plane back to Nashville that the plane would crash and her short but memorable life would come to an end. The shock to her family and friends must have



been devastating. A bright light burning fiercely for a short time is how I would describe Patsy Cline's musical career. 1973 was the year that Patsy Cline was inducted in the Country Music Hall of Fame. Ten years after her death she was the first female soloist to be given the honour. Personally I love her songs and hope to sing more of them. I've listed some of the better known ones below for your interest.

- 1957 Walking After Midnight
- 1961 'I Fall to Pieces' and 'Crazy'
- 1962 She's Got You
- 1963 Leavin' On Your Mind



*Beverley Sweeper*

## ~RAFFLE RESULTS~

### February 2020

**Prize**

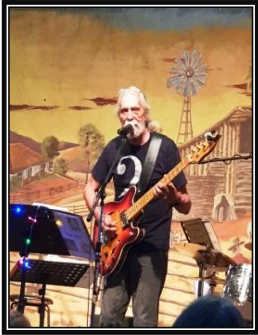
- Stony Creek Mini Muster Family Pass
- Slow Cooker
- Personal Fan
- Stihl Pack
- Hogs Breath Voucher
- Elephant Plaque
- Feather Lounge
- Plate
- Cushion
- Rock & Roll Boys CD
- Rock & Roll Boys CD

**Winner**

- Mary-Anne Pratt
- Helen Edward
- John Leeson
- Heather Fraser
- Robert Jarvis
- Fiona Cole
- Coral Woodman
- Darryl Scheiwe
- Shirley Kropp
- Michelle Anderson
- Shirley Kropp

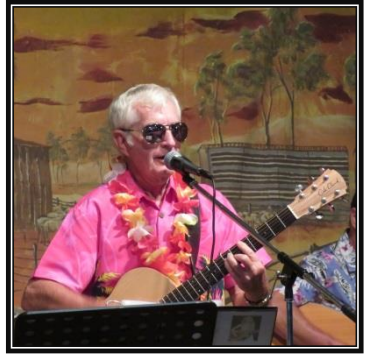


# CONCERT SPOTLIGHTS





# CONCERT SPOTLIGHTS





## MEMBER BIOGRAPHY

HANJO SMITH

Hanjo 'on-Stage'

My earliest 'musical' memories are of my father bringing home a HMV Record Player. It was a beautiful looking cabinet, as I remember. We were a religious family, so there was often spiritual music playing, but Burl Ives was in there as well as I recall. My dad also used to attend auctions, and one day, an old piano that he had purchased was delivered. I remember taking some interest, but neither of my parents could play, and although there was some encouragement from them, I never really took to it.

While still at high school, I somehow took in an interest in playing the trumpet, and once again, my parents encouraged me, bought one, and I started lessons. Joining a Brass band, I never got to play lead trumpet, but did enjoying performing.

The late 70's found me pursuing a Nursing career in Sydney, and several new friends I made there were into music. None of them played the drums, so as we wanted to form a band, this seemed like a good instrument for me to take up. Of course, the biggest issue was practising, and seeing as how I was living in dormitory type quarters at the hospital I was training at some of the other residents got pretty sick of hearing me, especially when they had been on night duty, and were trying to get some sleep.

It was soon after I completed my Nursing Diploma, that I married, and Glenda and I moved to Amamoor (a small town in the Mary Valley). As we were still church goers at the time, and music is always an integral part of that scene, I eventually took on the role of worship leader. It was during this time that I picked up a Harmonica, for the first time, and started to incorporate it into our church band, as well as another group that I played with from time to time. This experience also gave me the confidence to get up in front of a group of people and 'perform'. I also started Guitar lessons during this period, but with the pressures of work and a young growing family (and possibly a degree of laziness on my part also) I never really put enough time into becoming proficient. I still have a guitar at home, so maybe there is still hope for that yet.



My musical taste has always been reasonably broad, however over the past decade or so my preference has been towards Blues music. This has, of course provided me with a great outlet for my harp playing. Although it is not a 'lead' instrument, it does feature in much of traditional and modern blues music. As part of a group formed from Gympie Blues Club members, it has also provided me the great opportunity of performing, on a couple of occasions over the past few years, on one of the main stages at the Gympie Music Muster.

So, although I would love to have been more proficient at playing instruments than I am now, music has always been something that moves me (or grates on my nerves, depending on what is playing, of course). And although LISTENING to people who have developed their musical talents gives me great enjoyment, being able to PARTICIPATE in making music is something that is really special.

Hanjo



The Home of Live Music  
in Beerwah!



*Make the trek to Beerwah, ...[53 Beerwah Place], ... you won't regret it!*

## **BEERWAH'S GOT COUNTRY**

Upcoming Feature Shows:

Dire Straits Experience	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Mar
ABBA Experience	4 <sup>th</sup>	April
ACCA-DACCA	2 <sup>nd</sup>	May



*See you there soon!*



## THE ROARING 20's - THE DECADE OF CHANGE

The 1920's were before our time but were considered the most influential in terms of change and especially for women.

Recently, I read in the Sunday Mail of 5/1/2020, "*There has never been a better time to be a female...*". Is History repeating itself?

If we look at the 1920's,

Electricity was extended from the major cities to regional towns and remote farming communities and after dark, there was no more need for candles and kerosene lamps or the need to compete household chores and homework in such poor light.

The Model T Ford had made the automobile affordable to more and more of the population.

Cinemas opened across the country and going to the movies became a popular form of entertainment for the whole family. However, with 95% of all movies coming out of Hollywood, the emerging dominance of U.S.A. began to ingrain itself into our society.

Consumer inventions such as the Gramophone, Refrigerators, Vacuum Cleaners, Washing Machines and the Wireless (Radio), began to become common place and appear in homes as they could be afforded. (In 1923. 2SB, Australia's first radio station began transmission.)

Women received the Vote. This resulted in greater freedom of expression. Many found work outside the house, especially the young and this independence and autonomy led to better education and employment opportunities.

In New York, the 'Harlem Renaissance', as it was called, provided a reawakening of like minds never seen before involving cultural and artistic creativity as a means of self-assertion. It brought together poets, photographers, writers, musicians, artists and scholars, male and female and both black and white. One of the many outcomes was the legitimisation of Jazz as the most popular music of the 1920's. Although trendy and in vogue in southern states, it now became acceptable in the north and by all Americans. Thousands flocked to venues in Harlem like the Cotton Club to see Duke Ellington, Louis Armstrong, Coleman Hawkins, Bessie Smith, Billie Holiday and Ella Fitzgerald; all Afro-American. With this came a strong sense of identity and racial pride.

Country nevertheless remained the other major influence, musically and although today, the vast majority of it would be classified as Ragtime, it retains its country genre status. The demarcation between genres has always been clouded as to what is country, modern or rock. When such tunes as the 1926 "Dance all Night with a Bottle in your Hand" were played by a Big Band, it was considered Jazz, but its original recording by The Skillet Lickers is definitely Ragtime Country with distinctive fiddle, guitar and banjo rudiments.

Implications were felt world-wide from the Harlem Renaissance (reawakening), not least in Australia, where, with the Anzac and Aussie digger embodied into our culture after World War 1, a sense of belonging and anti-colonial lobby emerged. Thus the Aussie identity received a much needed boost and an individual prowess of self-assertion empowered people to succeed.

The other familiar symbol to emerge in the Roaring 1920's was the Flapper. Considered at the time scandalous, young, liberated women, they bobbed their hair, wore short skirts, (to the knee), drank, smoked and said what might be termed 'unladylike things.

In Australia, the flapper moniker did not stick. They were classified as 'The Modern Woman'. Fashion, at the time, encompassed all that was popular. As a result, with aviators holding rock star status, the Charleston, the favoured dance and the Model T Ford, the car to own; ladies wardrobes included driving/aviators flying suits complete with over-sized goggles and Charleston dresses, short to the knees with decorated, jangling beading.

It is said that the 1920 came in with a roar of optimism and expectation after World War 1 and came to a crash in 1929 when the Stock Market imploded and the Great Depression followed.

Hopefully, we can see a resurgence of optimism and opportunities in 2020 but be a tad wiser for its finale in 2029. I have no doubt women will continue to come to the fore.

T.T.





# 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 Laidley	Booval Bowls Club Southport Bowls Club Kallangur Bowls Club Queen/ Ulm Sts Caloundra Exchange Hotel, Laidley	12:30 pm 11:00 am 11.45 am 12 Noon 1:00 pm
<b>Second Saturday</b> Northern Suburbs	Memorial Hall Gympie Rd. Bald Hills	12 Noon
Country Roundup	Caboolture Senior Citz Hall	12 Noon
<b>Second Sunday</b> Maroochy River Country Links Golden Wattle Twin Rivers Maleny	Bli Bli Hall Bribie Indoor Bowls, First Av Cedar Street Wynnum Wagner St., Eagleby Bryce Lane, Maleny	12 Noon 1:00 pm 1:00 pm 12 Noon 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 Laidley	Heritage Park, Pimpama Redcliffe Showgrounds Ipswich Golf Club Exchange Hotel, Laidley	12 Noon 11:00 am 1.00 pm 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> Bribie Island	Bribie Island Recreation Hall 158 First Ave Bribie Island	11.00 am
<b>Last Sunday</b> Cane Country	Concerts on hold	TBA

## 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'**



... and that is WHY the chicken crossed the road.

## LOW DOWN

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