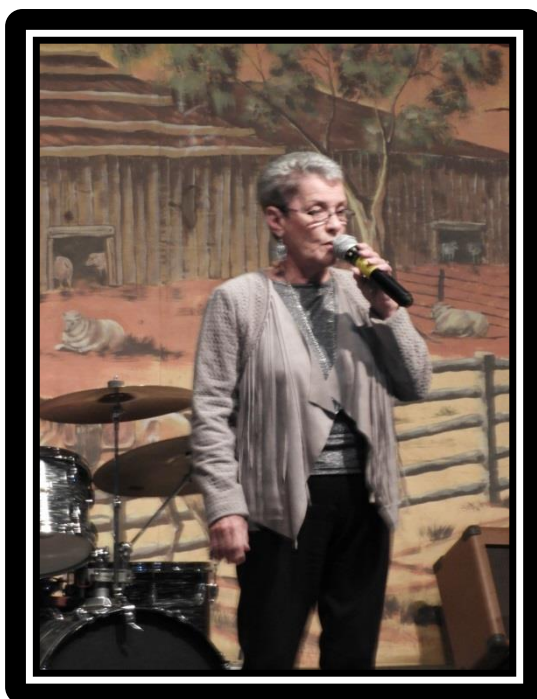


# LOW



# DOWN



A **'Homestead'**

Country Music Club  
Publication

Issue No #27: **May 2020**  
Zero Personal Contact – Covid -19 Issue

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## Contacts ...

President	Barbara Hall	Ph: 07 5496 1487 or 0411 602613
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 Beverley Sweeper	Ph: 3886 1880 Ph: 0407 957057



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

**FRONT COVER:** Jan Smith *long-time Homesteader*  
..... *the 'sweet & mellow' Songstress*

## **Quote for the Month**

*"Life is not about waiting for the storm to pass. It's about learning to 'Sing and Dance' in the rain..."*

*- Vivian Greene*



## ***‘My Say’ Segment***



‘Life wasn’t mean to be easy’ so the saying goes and we all have had a *wake-up call* with the norm now being **Isolation**. It reminds me of another pearl-saying that my father used to quote.... ‘Don’t take life for granted’.

Our changed lifestyle is one that is not easy to accept... but accept we **must** in managing this deadly Virus, Covid -19, which has killed so many worldwide. The various governments around the world are grappling with how to deal with its impacts..... medically, socially and economically and in Australia, we are better placed, to date, than virtually the entire rest of the World.

However, the big test will be in how we manage the next few months with restrictions being slowly relaxed and the onset of winter, where the virus is said to be at its deadliest.

It has been especially difficult for those who have lost their jobs but even more-so for full-time musicians who exclusively rely on gigs to make a living. Having no single employer or longevity of employment means government assistance packages designed to help those out of work, are not applicable. I can imagine the difficult situation those like Liam Kennedy-Clark and many others in that industry are in, who rely solely on crowded venues and the provision of entertainment to make a living.

The longer Isolation remains, the more difficult societal normality will be able to be achieved and the more different we will emerge thereafter. The new way of socialising via a computer screen and keeping our distance from others will become engrained in many; especially those considered ‘the vulnerable’ and it may have considerable impact on attaining a viable audience for many a venue. This and its severity are dependent on how long isolation continues.

Being deprived of our freedom to mingle is more important than ever and a freedom that has for many, been taken for granted. However, when we emerge from this, music and music venues will play a large part in pacifying society getting back on its feet.

Music is a powerful medium. It plays a large role in our everyday lives influencing our moods, motivation, health, wellbeing and happiness. It can soothe you to sleep, cheer you up and make you want to get up and dance.

I cannot wait to see your faces from up on stage !

*TT – Editor*



## NOTICEBOARD

### Date Claimers for your Calendar

All Concerts remain 'On Hold' and Cancelled until further notice.  
Rehearsals will be advised as soon as Clubs are given  
the Green Light to re-commence.



## PRESIDENT'S PRATTLE



Dear Members,

Hope you have all found plenty to keep busy during semi-lock-down. All I can say about COVID-19 is that I am grateful that I live in such a wonderful Island paradise. With what is happening everywhere else in the world (except New Zealand), I think missing out on the beach, parks, pubs etc. is a small price to pay for health and in some cases, life. In saying that, I do take on board the financial hardships that this pandemic has created through lack of incomes especially to the younger generation. Several members of Homestead are in this category because of employment in music and/or hospitality and I do hope that life will return to normal sooner than later.

A casualty of these uncertain times is Homesteads EXPO 2020. The committee decided that because of uncertainty surrounding social distancing and time constraints, that it would be better to cancel the event rather than put on a poor festival just for the sake of having one. I thank this year's coordinators – Bek, Liam and Luke and other committee members for their efforts to date and hopefully, we can put on a festival of festivals in 2021.

Another very important event that was side lined because of COVID-19 was ANZAC day. Peter and I lined up at the footpath at 6am and with our neighbours listened to a live service. The national anthems of Australia and New Zealand followed by the last post were just as stirring and the significance of the morning was not lost. My father and his five brothers all served in WW11, but all came home. A great uncle wasn't as fortunate in WW1 and is buried in Kandahar farm in Belgium. Peter and I were going to make a pilgrimage to his grave in June but that has been sidelined for now.

We haven't cancelled Homestead dates for June but I'm not holding my breath as to whether we will be using them. Some of the social distancing 'rules' are only being trialled now so I think it will be some time before

large gatherings are permitted. When we do get up and running again, we will keep up strict hygiene of microphones and I do ask anyone who is not well even with the most minor snuffle to please stay home. The hygiene practices implemented recently will be in place to stay.

I will let everyone know of future developments as they come to hand.

Stay well.

Cheers Barbara



## **EYE OFF STAGE**



Little did we know after our great concert in February that virtually the whole world would soon be living in lock-down with very little chance to participate in our normal lifestyle activities to the same extent as before the virus hit.

There are so many from the music and entertainment industry, even aside from the performers, who are doing it very tough without work to earn a crust. Costs of living do not go away just because the effect of a pandemic virus is crippling our economy. I can only imagine the difficulty in describing their work and recent working experience to complete application forms involved in trying to have support granted via Centre-link. Their applications would be way more frustrating!

There have been some quite superb performances via Skype, Zoom and other applications of that ilk by recording artists, musicians, and performers that have been transmitted over TV and on the internet.

Unfortunately, I find that I do not have the computer/digital skills to enable me to perform in that live situation. I have tried, but there is a very disconcerting delay involved in the transmission and that destroys the timing of the various instruments and vocals. I imagine the professionals have some way around this (possibly by recording each of their performances separately similar to different tracks on a studio recording

session, and then presenting the final mixed down product as a “live” performance).

I personally greatly miss our Homestead family and friends and making music with others. Yes it is obviously possible to record and video and broadcast results on the web via Facebook etc., but by golly, I do miss the interaction of playing music live with other musos. Their interaction adds so much “spice” to the music. Solo rehearsal and practice at home although good for one's playing abilities, are so bland by comparison.

Presently, I do not see there is any choice except to follow the rules and recommendations of the medical experts for the personal hygiene, distancing and self-isolation designed to allow the medical staff to treat fully anyone who becomes infected. They need to work without having a tsunami of infected cases that could over-tax the system to such an extent as has happened in other countries.

Nor do I see a valid choice to give in to the “back to work” protesters. I'm sure no one would like to see the equivalent of the three separate waves of infections in Australia as happened in the 1918 – 1920 so called Spanish Flu pandemic. Australia then suffered approx. 15, 000 deaths in all with, at that time, a small population of approximately 5.4 million.

So it will be some months yet and we will all have to grin and bear it. And really my friends our “deprivations” are microscopic when compared to the suffering of those who have been hospitalised with the virus and the loss of those who have lost family and friends because of it.

So, until we see each other in the convivial company of friends at a Homestead Concert again, stay safe, stay well and God bless.

N.S.

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During the Great Depression, ‘Procter & Gamble’ were to achieve considerable growth and come out of the whole ordeal smelling better than they had in 1929. They beat the Depression by increased advertising of their cleaning products and promoting what became known as ‘Soap Operas’ aimed at the homemaker, their core market.

Washing your hands is important but has a newly discovered significance !



### ***GENE AUTRY***

Orvan Grover ‘Gene’ Autry (1907-1998) , [The Singing Cowboy] was an American singer, songwriter, actor, musician and rodeo performer whose career spanned three decades beginning in the early 1930’s during the Great Depression. His hits in that time included:

- 1933                    *The Last Round-Up*
- 1934                    *That Silver-Haired Daddy of Mine*
- 1935                    *Tumbling Tumbleweeds*
- 1937                    *Gold Mine in the Sky*
- 1939                    *Back in the Saddle Again*

But he is remembered more for his biggest hit in 1949 “*Rudolf, the Red-Nosed Reindeer*”. This Christmas connection was to become his major legacy after hearing a spectator shout ‘Here comes Santa Claus’ at a Christmas Parade in L.A. After writing and recording the song, the rest is history and due to public demand, the Singing Cowboy was to become the Christmas Crooner and went on to record ‘Frosty the Snowman’ and ‘Up on the House Top’.

Gene Autry distinguished himself during World War II as a C-109 Transport Pilot where he flew, as part of the dangerous airlift operations, over the Himalayas between India and China, nicknamed the Hump.

During the Depression he personified the straight-shooting hero; honest, brave and sincere and touched the lives of millions worldwide. His popularity saw him appear in 93 films and he was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame and the Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame. He is the only person to be awarded stars in all five categories on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, for Film, Television, Music, Radio and Live Performance.



# CONCERT SPOTLIGHTS



## *Remember the Days*



October 2015 Murray



December 2014 Bec & Peta-Maree



August 2018 Peter



March 2017 Barbara



July 2016 April



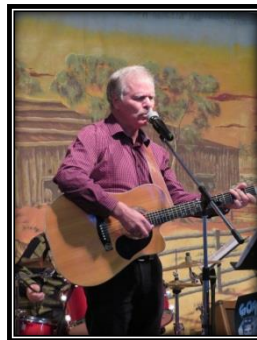
December 2017 Jenny



December 2018 Lorraine



October 2015 Boppa as Elvis



July 2019 Steve





**CONCERT SPOTLIGHTS**

*May the Good Times Return*



June 2017 Janelle



July 2019 Peter & TT



August 2018 Hannah



December 2017 JB



October 2015 Carmel



November 2015 Gabrielle



April 2017 Frank



June 2017 Janet



Feb 2018 Kaitey



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:  
*(ON HOLD UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE)*



*We reassuringly await a re-opening !!*

*Hope to see you there soon!*



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### **Martin Guitars in the 1930's**

Like Movies, Clubs, Pubs and Restaurants, musical instruments would seem to be a vulnerable industry in a down economy, but acoustic guitar manufacturer, Martin, made it through the Great Depression using various strategies. They reduced wages, operated on a three day week and manufactured everything in demand that they could, from violin parts to wooden jewellery. Their principle and policy of 'no high-volume retailer discounts' maintained their relationship with smaller shops and cemented their image as a straight and honest dealer.

Martin also started offering new, less expensive guitar models that went on to enjoy immense popularity. Martin introduced the first arch-top guitar in 1931 and revolutionised its designs by using 14 fret necks on its guitars.

The 'Dreadnought' was another triumph, its larger, deeper body providing more volume and bass resonance.

Such measures allowed it to prosper and emerge the 1940's with increase market share.

TT R4AA Wikipedia

# 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'**



"For goodness sake, can't you just sing in the shower like everyone else?"

**Bill never ceases to amaze us with his dedication !**

## LOW DOWN

Sponsored by  
**Moreton Bay  
Regional Council**



and

**Rosenbauer Australia**



It is very much hoped that this Social Timetable will be operational and able to be used again, in the not too distant future.

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

*Please support them with your custom wherever possible.*

 <p><b>BUILDERS EQUIPMENT &amp; PARTY/FUNCTION HIRE</b></p> <p><b>PH 5495 8683</b></p> <p><b><u>R &amp; R Hire Services</u></b> <i>Beerburum Road CABOOLTURE</i></p>	 <p><b><u>Beerwah Hotel</u></b> 53 Beerwah Place, Beerwah <i>Home to the Sounds of live Country Music</i></p>
 <p><b><u>The Garden Shed</u></b></p> <p><i>Mowers, Chainsaws, Grass Trimmers, &amp; More.....</i></p> <p><b>Morayfield Road, MORAYFIELD</b></p>	 <p><b>JANET C'S ART (JANET CLAYDON)</b> <i>Australian Artist. Inspired by the Vast Richness of our Planet</i> ..... Look for me on Facebook</p>

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



**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.



...0000000...

**Life can be tough at times, but Homesteaders will rise again and perform enthusiastically !!**