

LOW DOWN



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

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Index ...

♪ <u>Editorial</u>	“My Say” Segment	P 3
♪ <u>Eye on Stage</u>		P 4
♪ <u>Fiddlers Fiddle</u>		P 5
♪ <u>Ray Price</u>		P 6
♪ <u>Youth Talent Expo</u>	- 2016	P 7-8
♪ <u>Country Music Date Claimers</u>		P10
♪ <u>President’s Prattle</u>		P 11-12



Contacts ...

President	Barbara Hall	Ph: 07 5496 1487 or 0411 602613
Vice-President	Bob Cole	Ph: 07 54838236
Secretary	Peta-Maree Thornton	
Treasurer	Frank Moroney	Ph: 5493 0974
Webmaster	John Boetje	Ph: 3889 1185
Magazine Editor	Trevor Tinworth	Ph: 3886 1880



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

Front Cover: Carmel struts her stuff on the Stanmore Stage for Homestead

Quotes for Month:

“Our minds and souls need constant stimulation and music makes us remember the beauty that lies within.” *A. Matthews*
“Sometimes it’s not the song that makes you emotional....it’s the people and things that come to mind, as a result thereof, when you hear it.”
..... *Anonymous*

“My Say” Segment

Do you really know the difference in dissection or genre represented by any particular song? It may have classical roots, it may be classified soft rock, country, pop, bluegrass or folk, dependent on the artist and whether it is his/her particular version or an alternate cover.

Do you, alone, know how it should sound? Are there other possibilities? What if someone prefers a pop version or that of the original country version or visa-versa?

As children, we learn to distinguish between colours. Yet there are many subtle variations on basic hues and shades. It is not just grey that comes in 50 shades. So does green, red and blue! And so, to someone with a sensitive eye, there is simply no way any one of these can serve as a slapdash substitution for any other.

Thus, sweeping generalisations about colours, music and even our everyday lives, maybe deserve a more precise and particular allocation and explanation. Near enough may not be good enough!

But, on the same level, such demarcation is really in the eye, (or in the case of music, the ear) of that of the beholder.

Appreciation varies from person to person and not only should we respect that, but also, if appropriate, where a specific adaptation is requested; (and... as long as it is musically correct), compromise, adapt and accommodate, what is, an individual's version and prerogative. [Advice as to whether it is thought a song is being presented too slow or too fast, or needs to be lowered in key as the vocalist is straining their voice to reach notes, is always in the best interests of providing a more polished performance.] But there is nothing wrong with putting your individual stamp onto a song!

Nevertheless, remember, just because many professionals do this, they also have the talent and resources to make it happen successfully. We, on the other hand, may need to tread carefully, at times.

TT Editor

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.





EYE ON STAGE



In the words of Perry White, (Editor of a great metropolitan newspaper), “Great Caesar's Ghost”! we had another Super Concert for September. This concert was: - faster than a speeding bullet, more powerful than a locomotive and able to leap tall buildings in a single bound! Or was that some other super entity?

In any case those who attended were treated to a marvelous night of great entertainment, music and in one instance exciting dancing. Jonathon Sweeper was again in full Gene Kelly mode!



It was truly a wizard concert that Harry Potter would have been proud to conjure up.

Our stage band musicians were again restrained and conscious of the necessity of keeping the stage sound levels allow our excellent sound equipment to do its job sound clearly but at an easily listen-able level to the hall.



contained to and convey the every corner of

All of our performers were at the top of their show skillfulness and our audience was very appreciative.

However, there were a couple of occasions when members of the audience were somewhat noisy in their exuberance during particular performances and the distraction made it harder for others listening to be able to appreciate the entertainment.

As I see it, there is little point in having great singers, musicians and sound and then for audience members not to be able to hear the performance clearly because of superfluous noise. It is great to express your appreciation at the end of a performance but it is definitely off-putting to have excess noise during the performance.

I also commend the excellent work by Joe, (he of the glistening white smile), as stage hand for the evening.

Similarly, it was satisfying to see our keyboard being used in so many numbers to such good effect.

An all-round fun evening! Roll on October and Halloween.

NS



Fiddlers Fiddle



One of the most demanding instruments to master, the fiddle predates the banjo and guitar in country music. Almost all fiddle styles in Australia, Canada and U.S.A. evolved from the British Isles (England, Scotland, Wales & Ireland).

Today, it is a predominant Irish blend of music that has made the fiddle player a prerequisite for band membership but all forms and genres have embraced its melodic, rhythmic and sawing sounds and qualities to add that extra dimension to any tune. There were humble beginnings on the east coast of America. In Australia, it began at Sydney Cove and as with cultural development, change, evolution and individual adaptation, a particular style would often become part of a fiddler's repertoire. The most notable changes were reflected in bowing techniques, rhythmic application and embellishment. One style might involve long, bow strokes and flamboyant enhancement, whilst another might play the same melody with short rhythmic strokes and little variation or adornment.

The invention of the radio and the recording of music assisted those who could not make it into orchestras but still required an outlet for their creativity. Two of the band leaders of the late 1930's were fiddlers (Roy Acuff & Bob Wills) and they introduced fiddle solos to their arrangements.

Country Music was to endorse different styles and these, in part, differentiated various sub-genres such as Western Swing with Wills & Cliff Bruner; where Bluegrass owes much to the influence of French swing violinist Stephane Grappelli; and Honky-Tonk Country emerged around Nashville after 1945 with session fiddlers like Tommy Jackson & Dale Potter.

Today, the fiddle remains a key instrument in bluegrass and old-time country and has remained more in than out of fashion in mainstream country music due to its versatility to portray smooth sounds in ballads or can be loud, bright and bouncy, making people want to dance to the adrenalin of sound. The modern fiddler has much to live up to and can draw inspiration from Bluegrass, Texas Styles, Bush Ballads, Blues, Jazz and Rock music.

Who said genres were incapable of cross-fertilisation or even merging ??

RAY PRICE - 1926-2013

'Born on a farm in Wood County Texas' is akin to the likely first line of a song.

Nevertheless, such meagre beginnings were off the story of some of the greats of Country Music.

Ray Price was no different, but with his parents divorcing when he was three years' old, he spent his childhood in a state of flux between Dallas and Wood County via a shared parent arrangement. Despite taking up the guitar as a teenager, he was far from proficient in the art and was drafted during World War II and served in the Pacific Theatre.



After the war, he commenced singing around Abilene (with some radio performances), whilst working on his father's farm and soon became noticed for his vocal aptitude and flair.

Aided by his songwriting skills and wide-range baritone voice, he was to be acclaimed in later years as the best male voice in Country Music. Hits such as 'Release Me', 'Heartaches by the Number', 'Night Life' and 'You're the best thing that ever happened to me', remain as part of his legacy.

An early association during his successful career was Hank Williams and he managed Hank's band "Drifting Cowboys" after Hank's death. In 1953, he formed his own band "The Cherokee Cowboys" and members included such names as Roger Miller, Buddy Emmons, Darryl McAll and the great Willie Nelson. Willie wrote "Night Life" and Roger Miller the 1958 classic "Invitation to the Blues".

1970 Single of the Year "For the Good Times"

1996 Inducted into the 'Country Music Hall of Fame & Museum'

I wonder if he ever contemplated 'Born on a farm in Wood County Texas' as a likely line for one of his songs.

T.T.

R4A E& OE

WHAT AN EXPO!

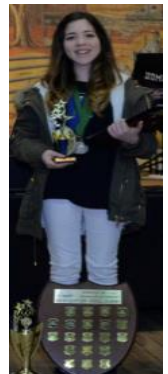
The 2016 10th Anniversary Homestead Youth Talent Expo on 6 August was the biggest, busiest and most hotly contested event we've ever hosted. A **HUGE THANK YOU** is extended to all members who contributed to the success of this very special event. The wonderful expo committee, the willingness of members to take on all sorts of roles on the day and the generosity of so many sponsors all combine to make our expo one of the very best Country Music 'nurseries' in Australia.

Sponsors this year were extremely generous allowing Homestead to offer excellent prizes to our young competitors including 3 guitars (2 from our newest sponsor, Yamaha Music Australia) and a mandolin. Homestead CMC made the decision to purchase and sponsor a place at the Tamworth CMAA Junior Country Music Academy for the overall winner and a parent.

The 2016 Junior and Overall Champion was Cassi Hilbers. Cassi was a consistently high performer throughout the day and now adds a Junior (13-17yrs) win to her Juvenile (up to 12 yrs) success in 2014. Runner-Up was Mason Hope who combined his vocal and drumming talents to impress the judges. Mason took home a beautiful Yamaha APX700 slimline guitar. The Juvenile Champion was Mya Volp from Garden City CMC. Mya also performed consistently well across many sections on the day and was really excited to add her name to the Juvenile winner's shield that was also won by her sister, Sophie, in 2015. Phoebe Foster-Griffith from Bundaberg, Alison Jensen from Homestead and Felicity Kircher from Redlands also scored very well finishing not far behind our winners.

Competitors ranged from 5 year old April Bishop and 6 year old Jay Hullah to a number of seemingly quite experienced and polished 16 and 17 year olds. They can all be proud of their performances and Homestead CMC is certainly proud to be able to host an event that is so well supported by other clubs and individuals. We hope to do it all again on the first Saturday of August 2017.

Congratulations and thanks to everyone involved...
Bob Cole



HOMESTEAD YOUTH TALENT EXPO 2016 - RESULTS

SECTION	1st	2nd	3rd
Juvenile Vocal	Briana Dinsdale - Independent	Mya Volp - Garden City	Felicity Kircher - Redlands
Junior Vocal	Cassi Hilbers - Homestead	Reanna Ogilvie - Downtown CS	Phoebe Foster-Griffith - Bund.
Juvenile Australian	Mya Volp - Garden City	Keely Sliwka - Bundaberg	Felicity Kircher - Redlands
Junior Australian	Phoebe Foster-Griffith - Bund.	Alison Jensen - Homestead	Cassi Hilbers - Homestead
Open Gospel	Matthew Munro - Bundaberg	Phoebe Foster-Griffith - Bund.	Alison Jensen - Homestead
Own Composition	Cassi Hilbers - Homestead	Mason Hope-Kassulke - Independent	Natalya Lee - Homestead
Instrumental	Mason Hope-Kassulke - Independent	Felicity Kircher - Redlands	Alison Jensen - Homestead
Group	Todds & Volps	Country Cuzins	2 Moro
Juvenile Duet	Mya Volp & Felicity Kircher	Amira & Sarah Hamze	
Junior Duet (SC Award)	Eleanor Todd & Sophie Volp	Maggie Moro & Beth Wight	Natalya & Kiannah Lee
Juvenile C Rock	Mya Volp - Garden City	Felicity Kircher - Redlands	Briana Dinsdale - Independent
Junior C Rock	Phoebe Foster-Griffith - Bund.	Mason Hope-Kassulke - Independent	Cassi Hilbers - Homestead
Anything Goes	Georgia Lutton - Independent	Mason Hope-Kassulke - Independent	Matthew Munro - Bundaberg
Best Dressed	Sarah Hamze		
Backstage Award	Briana Dinsdale		
Band's Choice	Hannah Austen		
Juvenile Encouragement.....	April Bishop	Junior Encouragement.....	Ricardo Hamze
Juvenile Champion	MYA VOLP - Garden City		
Junior Champion	CASSI HILBERS		
RUNNER UP	MASON HOPE-KASSULKE		
OVERALL WINNER	CASSI HILBERS		

We would like to recognise and thank the following Sponsors for their ongoing support :



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Moreton Bay Regional Council



COUNTRY Music CLUBS - Monthly Date Claimers

First Friday Pine Rivers	Kallangur Community Centre	7:00 pm
First Saturday Brigalow Redlands Mod. Country Roundup	Wagner St., Eagleby Sports Reserve, Thornlands Narangba Community Centre	6:45 pm 5:30 pm 12 noon
First Sunday Coal City Gold Coast Sundowners	Booval Bowls Club Southport Bowls Club Geebung Bowls Club	1:00 pm 1:00 pm 12.00 Noon
Second Saturday Blue Denim Northern Suburbs	Progress Hall, Clontarf Memorial Hall Gympie Rd. Bald Hills	7:00 pm 12 noon
Second Sunday Maroochy River Golden Wattle Twin Rivers	Bli Bli Hall Cedar Street Wynnum Wagner St., Eagleby	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

PRESIDENT'S PRATTLE



Hi everyone,

Must send out a big Hi to Steve Fraser, who is recovering from Open Heart surgery. He is doing really well but will be recuperating for the next month or so. Thanks to Liam Kennedy Clarke for stepping up to the plate. Liam's mum Nicky and little brother Tate are in town from across the ditch, so a big Homestead welcome to them.

Homestead participated in the "Relay for Life" at Kilcoy again this year and managed to raise over \$1,200:00 – thanks to those who donated to our money box in September. Many thanks also to the Cuffe/Brown, family, the Austen family, Boetje's Smith's, Peter Bigg, Peta-Maree Thornton and Jonathon Sweeper for keeping the baton going for the 18 hours. We

managed to fill in Homestead's music spot from 3 – 6 with assistance from a few ring in musicians and feedback was all positive. Our camp was adorned with an old wooden bass as our 'letterbox' and the huge Homestead banner – which netted first prize for 'best banner'. All and



all a fun weekend was had by all but more importantly; a lot of money was raised for cancer research.



The AGM was held in August and committee members remain as per last year; (as listed Page2.)



Launch day for the new festival 'Caboolture River Country Music Festival' happened on 25th September. A free concert was held on the Oval at the show grounds with a top line-up of artists from 8am to 3pm.

If you want to become involved in this festival – ‘For the Community, By the Community’ - which will be held over the long weekend of 28/29/30 April 2017 – go to their website www.caboolturerivercountrymusicfestival.com and register your interest. Hoping you have a great night for Halloween!!

Cheers Barbara



Where does it say **TENT UP ??**

RELAY FOR LIFE



Briefing !!

Homestead

Country Music Club Est. 9/7/96

Check out our website ...

<http://www.homesteadmusic.org>

More **LOW DOWN** on happenings at **Homestead..**

Locate us on Facebook 'Homestead Country Music'

