

# LOW DOWN



A **'Homestead'**

Country Music Club  
Publication

Issue No #34: December 2021

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

**FRONT COVER:** Lorraine Austin

## Quote for the Month

Music can be sold like a commodity, but it is never merely consumed, and it is appreciated in an entirely different way than a simple disposable commodity.

*Michael McCall*



For the vast majority of us, the idea that a pandemic would arrive on the doorstep of every state and country on the planet, causing our lifestyles to be turned upside down, curtailing our social interaction and sending us into various forms of lockdown was totally unexpected and the last thing on our minds. But almost two years down the track, we can now look back and ponder on how we have adapted to change, coped with daily environmental updates... and survived.

We collectively, as a human race, can tackle adversity and provide solutions to major catastrophes. It has been said that we are made of toughened matter and can do the 'hard-yards'. There is never a rule book available to tackle these events but there are bolstering backups. And that definitely includes family! It was recently said that 'You've won the lottery if you have a loving family... and ... until the pandemic we took it for granted'. But since 2019, due to Covid, many have lost their elderly parents and grandparents and realise that life is too short to ignore our 'close family' and friendships.

We have been advised that Immunisation is the 'Key' to winning this war against Covid' 19. In fact, vaccines & the practice of immunisation date back hundreds of years to Buddhist Monks in the east and Edward Jenner in the west who, after years of research and development, produced the Smallpox vaccine in 1798. Louis Pasteur in the 1800's, developed the Cholera and Anthrax vaccines saving millions of lives worldwide. The vast majority of us would not be here today if not for vaccines provided to protect and save the lives of our forebears.

According to the United Nations, Immunisation is a global success story saving 2-3 million lives every year from diseases like diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, influenza and measles. Our top doctors state that our immune system is strengthened by the vaccine's boosting of our body's natural defences, helping us all, of all ages, live longer, healthier lives.

Wishing everyone a Safe, Happy and Healthy Festive Season and Prosperity for 2022 and onwards.

TT Editor

Note: For further research, visit Ian Musgrave Snr Lecturer in Pharmacology, South Australia:  
*"Toxins in vaccines: a potentially deadly misunderstanding."*

## ON THE NOTICEBOARD - 2022



No Concert	-	January
Concert	-	February, 18 <sup>th</sup>
Concert	-	March, 18 <sup>th</sup>



### **Attention: All Members & Patrons**

#### **'CONTAINERS FOR CHANGE'**

#### **Recycling to boost Youth Expo Fundraising.**

Homestead has an ID C10134337 for you to quote and money redeemed 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,

Welcome to the last concert and magazine for 2021. What a year of uncertainty it has been and no doubt 2022 will still see a great deal of the same uncertainty, as we come to grips with how regulations surrounding Covid-19 affect members and patrons. I won't dwell on this issue as I'm sure that the goal posts will keep shifting and as they do, I will inform everyone when/where I can.

A big shout out to all our members for their support and hard work during the year. We have managed almost a monthly concert with increasing attendances as the year has progressed. A big thankyou to everyone who holds a position on committee and/or helps in the bar, canteen, door, raffles, onstage, settling up and packing down and a big thankyou to our hard working band members who do a superb job getting our music in order for the concerts.

Steve Fraser is retiring from his lead guitar role in the New Year but is still a member and hopes to attend the occasional concert. Steve joined us in August 1998 and has been our lead player since, so on behalf of members and patrons; we thank you so much for the friendship, time and expertise you have given to everyone over the years.

On the same subject, Bill Payne will be coming on board in the New Year to replace Steve as lead guitarist. Bill was a member many years ago and more recently, has filled in for Steve on occasions. Welcome aboard Bill, we hope you enjoy your time with Homestead.

I would also like to thank everyone for donating their containers to Homestead for recycling. The money raised is put aside for EXPO – which unfortunately hasn't been held in recent years due to Covid-19. I can't thank everyone personally, but I do need to thank Walkers Garage at Woodford. They have donated many dollars over the last couple of years – in fact over half of the containers Peter takes down to the recycling depot are from Walkers Garage. If your vehicle needs repairs look these guys up: 14 Chambers Rd, Woodford QLD 4514, Phone: (07) 5496 1399.

A big thank you to you - our patrons, because if you guys didn't show up month after month, we wouldn't have an audience. Thanks for a splendid year. Have a great time tonight with some excellent music, food and friendship. Stay safe over the festive season and we will see everyone back in 2022. Remember, we don't hold a concert in January, so the first concert for 2022, will be 18<sup>th</sup> February.

Always look on the bright side of life.

Cheers Barbara

## **FEATURE ARTICLE**

### **The Rock 'n' Roll Boys (2017 – present)**



In 2017, a friend, Andrew Stokes, asked Bob to team up with him to form the Rock 'n' Roll Boys duo. This duo worked much harder than was originally intended for the next three years at clubs and festivals around SE Qld. The duo was fortunate to be invited to such great events as the Gympie Muster, Caloundra's Beachfest and Waterhole Rocks. During 2019, young Chas Whitling joined the team to make it a trio but it wasn't long before Covid-19 enforced a lengthy layoff for the band. During this time, Andrew decided to leave the Rock n Roll Boys due to other work commitments. This made way for John Mitchell who joined the trio in 2020.

**John Mitchell (lead guitar/vocals)** – Originally trained in classical guitar, John's band career started in 1988 with a 50s/60s group called O'Aces. Since those days, he has played countless venues, cruises, festivals and theatres across Australia and NZ. Since 2010, John has performed in many Urban Rush tribute shows including Bee Gees, Eagles, Cliff Richard and the Shadows and ELO. He is perhaps best known for his role as rock god, Bjorn, in AbbaLive. John considers himself very lucky to have shared the stage with the likes of Phil Emmanuel, Kevin Borich, Johnny Gray, Michael Gant, Michael King, Johnny Morris and John McSweeney. Sticking closer to home these days, John is enjoying being an important part of the Rock n Roll Boys trio. His outstanding guitar skills and high harmony vocals contribute to a polished 60s sound.

**Chas Whitling (piano/vocals)** – Chas was originally a bass playing Science teacher around various parts of Victoria from the 60s through to the mid-90s. Around 1995, Chas set up an electronics and communication business in Bairnsdale and became a keyboard player, working as a soloist and with bands of various sizes. Chas migrated to Caboolture, Qld, in 2014 and was immediately in demand for his exceptional keyboard skills, performing with a

number of duos and groups. He is now a popular member of the house band at Playitt, Woodford every Thursday night. In 2019, Chas added his keyboards and vocals to the Rock n Roll Boys. His cheery personality, top shelf piano skills and beautiful low harmonies make him an indispensable part of the Rock n Roll Boys trio. Chas has also quickly become the sex-symbol of the group - he certainly has the sexiest snow-white mini baby grand piano!

**Bob Cole (lead vocals/rhythm guitar)** – Bob is also a former school teacher. His music started back in Uni days playing solo and an occasional duo around the pubs and restaurants of Newcastle, NSW. After meeting and marrying Fiona, teaching took them all over Qld and the guitar became a useful tool in meeting people and making friends. Country music clubs became a focal point in places like Mackay and Moranbah and when they moved south in 1998, Homestead became the club of choice for the Cole family. Both children, Michael and Jennifer, showed interest in music and enjoyed their time at Homestead and music still plays a big part in their lives today. The Rock n Roll Boys has certainly been a welcome change of musical focus for Bob, the band's lead vocalist, over the past five years. It has been a real pleasure to play for big crowds on some great stages during that time.

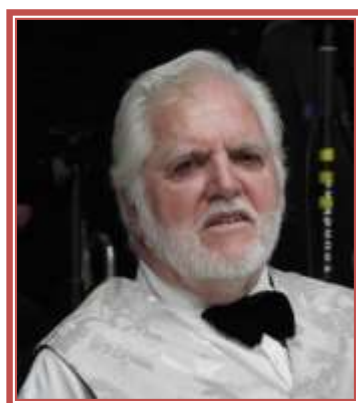
Since 2017, the **Rock n Roll Boys** have played almost 300 gigs from Brisbane to Mackay. Their favourites are the big festivals and the visits to the many and varied rock and roll dance clubs across Qld that create such a great atmosphere with their beautiful outfits and enthusiastic dance moves. Who knows how long they can keep this up for, but 'the boys' are still enjoying learning and playing music and that's really all that matters. Chas (a very wise man) says "It keeps us young!"







## CONCERT SPOTLIGHTS







## CONCERT SPOTLIGHTS





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## **BEERWAH'S GOT COUNTRY**



Upcoming Feature Shows:

*(Check the Web Page for up-coming guest artists & shows)*



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## MEMBER BIOGRAPHY LORRAINE AUSTIN



Hi Everyone,

I was born in Wynnum, Brisbane and moved to Margate, Redcliffe when I was eight years' old.

After joining the Marching Girls aged nine, some of us got together and started singing at beach concerts at Woody Point, a year later. This fun time continued for around five years in which time, I entered the 4KQ Talent Quest and reached the second heat.

Dressing up as Nuns and Clowns when I was in the choir are some of my fond memories between aged 12-14 where we all tap danced whilst displaying our vocal talents.

Tammy was and still is my favourite song. Favourite singers include; Becky Cole, Patsy Cline, Debbie Reynolds, Doris Day and Anne Murray.

However, with work commitments, marriage and having children, I did not regain my passion for singing until I joined Homestead about ten years ago. Homestead is 'kinfolk' to me and I really enjoy giving my best effort to our audience of very supportive regulars who come to enjoy Homestead Concerts.

Close personal family is of extreme importance to me and I love watching my grand-daughters when they appear on stage and perform their favourite songs. Have a wonderful night and all the best to all for 2022.

Love to all,

Lorraine.



# 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	Banjos Bar Ipswich Mermaid Beach Bowls Club Kallangur Bowls Club <b>On Hold</b> Queen/ Ulm Sts Caloundra except Jan.	12:30 pm 11:00 am 11.45 am 11.00 am
<b>Second Saturday</b> Country Roundup	Caboolture Snr. Citizens Hall	12 Noon
<b>Second Sunday</b> Maroochy River Golden Wattle Maleny	Yandina ACMA Hall Cedar Street Wynnum Pioneer Village Bryce Lane, Maleny	12 Noon 1:00 pm 12 Noon
<b>Third Friday</b>  <b>Homestead</b>	<b>Stanmore Hall, Caboolture</b> except Jan.	<b>7:00 pm</b>
<b>Third Saturday</b> Boonah  Northern Suburbs	Boonah Golf Club  Memorial Hall Bald Hills	7.00 pm (even months) 12 Noon
<b>Third Sunday</b> Guanaba Redcliffe West Moreton ACMA Hall of Fame	Heritage Park, Pimpama Redcliffe Showgrounds Ipswich Golf Club Yandina ACMA Hall	12 Noon 11:00 am 1.00 pm 12 Noon
<b>Fourth Friday</b> Cane Country	Sherwood Magpies Club	7:00 pm
<b>Fourth Sunday</b> Bribie Island	Bribie Island (relocating) - TBA	11.00 am
<b>Last Sunday</b> Caloundra Country Music & Blues	Yandina ACMA Hall	12 Noon (except Dec.)

## **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'**



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