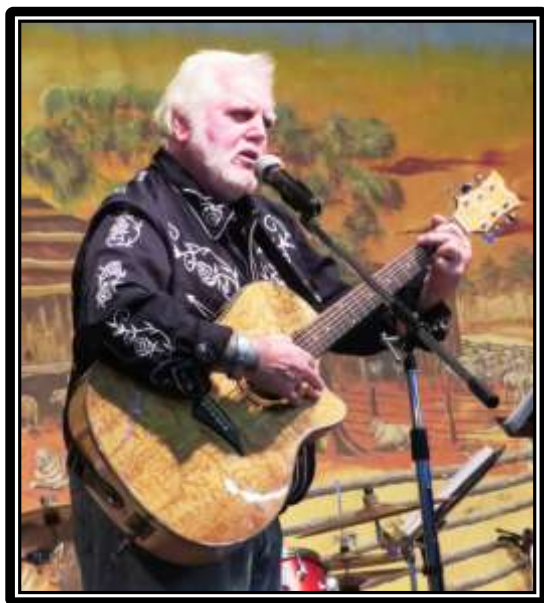


LOW DOWN



A **'Homestead'**

Country Music Club
Publication

Issue No #33: **September 2021**

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

FRONT COVER: John Donnelly

Quote for the Month

"Music and Rhythm find their way into the secret places of the Soul."

Plato



‘My Say’ Segment



Sir Winston Churchill was in public life for a considerable amount of time, in fact many decades. Since his early days during World War I when the Anzacs landed at Gallipoli (1915) and the fact that he led Britain during World War II, it is not surprising that such a prominent figure and learned individual left a legacy that is often quoted and has inspired people the world over.

During the Second World War, he was the glue that kept Britain together especially during the London bombing blitz when many doubted the nation's ability to absorb any more death and destruction. His inspirational speeches convinced thousands to ***“...Never give up...”*** and fight on in the face of devastation and defeat.

When we, today, face Turmoil as in the case of Covid, Disappointment in the form of a cancelled Homestead Junior Expo, Frustration at measures that lock us down from what was once considered *‘the norm’*; we can look to many of Churchill's quotes to inspire us to soldier on and do the right thing.

“Success is not final, failure is not fatal; it is the courage to continue that counts.”
“Now is not the end. It is not even the beginning of the end. But it is, perhaps the end of the beginning.”

These two quotes are sufficient fodder for all of us to strive to succeed and especially when things are not going the way we would like them to! Over the years, I have seen many at Homestead faced with disappointment and challenges that required tenacity, dedication and courage and just as we have witnessed with the Youth Expo cancellation, we can be buoyed by another Churchill quote: ***“Attitude is a little thing that makes a big difference.”*** I take my hat off to the fortitude of this year's Expo committee and all the effort that has been undertaken.

To emphasise the power of Sir Winston Churchill's legacies, I provide the following quotes:

“All the great things are simple and many can be expressed in a single word: freedom, justice, honour, duty, mercy, hope.”

“We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.”

“The farther backward you can look, the further forward you can see.”

Two of my favourite, impressive Churchill quotes are:

“If we open a quarrel between past and present, we shall find that we have lost the future.”

The history of the past cannot be changed; they were different times with different values and norms and as such we need to concentrate on the future to the benefit of generations to come.

“To build may have to be the slow and laborious task of years. To destroy can be the thoughtless act of a single day.” The blatant destruction by ISIS in the name of religion of historical artefacts and relics immediately comes to mind when I hear this quote but is a lesson we all need to heed .

“Relish the thoughts and hopes of what tomorrow might bring.”
Sorry that mine, a TT quote.

TT Editor

ON THE NOTICEBOARD - 2021



Concert	-	October, 15 th
Concert	-	November, 19 th
Concert	-	December, 17 th



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,

Well, once again I find myself (happily/voluntarily) in the captain's chair at Homestead. I thank everyone who supported my nomination at the AGM and the Thornton lasses for stepping back into Vice President (Bek) and Secretary (Peta-Maree). Only a few changes to the rank and file but the major one, is Frank's retirement as Treasurer. Sue Morbach (who has been a club member for a while now) has accepted the position and Frank will support her for as long as she needs to make the transition. The other big change is a new face on the door – Pam has retired, and Shirley has kindly accepted the position.



Frank and Pam have been Treasurer and Door person for over 20 years, so on behalf of everyone at Homestead and visiting patrons, I thank you both for the years you have happily dedicated to the club. When they first came to Homestead, neither of them sang but Frank played a bit of bass and they were affectionately referred to as part of the 'Darwin Mob'. In those days, six expat Darwinites moved to Glasshouse, discovered Homestead, and joined our ranks. Although Pam and Frank are the only two remaining of the original six, they have firmly established themselves into the 'Homestead story' as dedicated, loved, and valued members. Frank will still be in the bar, and you can catch up with Pam in the audience.

The Covid-19 story is still raging around us, and I don't anticipate it going away any time soon. In fact, I feel it will soon be over the border and playing havoc in Qld. Homestead has been fortunate in being able to hold practices and the odd concert during the year, whereas other clubs have not been so lucky and have had to close or are struggling to reopen. Members and patrons have adapted and changed with each new 'rule' as it has been issued and it this willingness to follow our 'Covid-safe plan' that has kept us all Covid-19 compliant and seen a huge drop in colds, flues, and other winter ailments. Good hygiene, social distancing and the ever-present masks are small conformities to ask, and everyone's compliance is appreciated.

That's it from me and I hope you all have a fantastic night.

Cheers Barbara

FEATURE ARTICLE

BARRY THORNTON, or Grandad to us, was and always will be a legend in his time. Born on June 14 1934, Grandad was one of many kids! From what I have been told (and if the genes are anything to go by) Grandad was always up to mischief, even though his adult life. I think that's how he became such a great comedian, playing the role of Mulga Dan on Slim Dusty's tours around Australia and New Zealand. Before Mulga Dan, Grandad was a popular yodeller at local shows and talent quests around Sydney, where Slim would attend to search for new opening acts for his tours. After some negotiating, Grandad agreed to join Slim on tour and was known as 'Barry Thornton - The Southern Swiss Yodeller', which then progressed into the comic act, Mulga Dan. One day in 1954, Grandad and Slim were fiddling around on guitar when Grandad played some lead over the top of Slims pick and strum. 'The Bush Ballad Guitar' as it became known, was a feature in Slims sound for another 19 odd years. Over the next 10 years or so, Grandad met my Grandma (Pauline), got married and had 2 kids, all still while playing on tour with Slim. In 1970, Grandad released his first solo album 'Talking Guitars'. It was not long after this that, Grandad decided to stop touring with Slim as he wanted to spend more time with his family and work on his own music. Grandad had many successes over this life such as Australian Country Music Roll of Renown, Country Music Hands of Fame, Golden Guitar, multiple records as well as his wife, 2 children and his 5 grandchildren (Peta-Maree being his favourite). Sadly, grandad passed away on 28th July 2002 but his legacy still shines on through his music and unique guitar sound as well as his bronze bust in Tamworth's Bicentennial Park.



Peta- Maree



CONCERT SPOTLIGHTS





CONCERT SPOTLIGHTS



MEMBER BIOGRAPHY JOHN DONNELLY

I am originally from Flagstaff, Arizona' a very, very long time ago. My parents travelled in a Western Show before my birth and put me on the stage as a Tap Dancer age four (4) yo.



At the age of eleven, I rebelled and told my mother I would no longer do this and she sent for a mail order “Guitar 24” books on ‘easy to play lessons’ and a set of pitch pipes which I have never been able to tune a guitar with.

I learned two songs, “The Wayward Wind” and “Tom Dooley” which I played for my mother and put the guitar away in pursuit of girls and the other interests of a young boy growing up.

Of the six chords I initially learnt, I still remember most of them. About thirteen (13) years back I found myself at an ‘Open Mic’ and thought I would borrow a guitar and do a couple of songs. Since then I have continued to perform on stage and have had the pleasure of meeting some very talented and friendly people which has really added to my life.

During my time at Homestead, I have enjoyed the support shown to me by club members especially the band who have always gone that extra mile in assisting all the artists reach their potential. The atmosphere in the club has always been friendly and makes being a member a pleasure.

John (JD)

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COUNT ME IN

by Bill Turgeon

Hi Folks,

What are the benefits of being able to count your songs? They are too numerous to mention here, but the most important to you, as a performer, is that you will always sing and play in “time”. You will also know if the band is in “time”, or not!

COUNTING YOUR SONGS: This is something you can practice at home, while listening to music. It is not hard to do. About 90% of people can feel rhythm naturally. Children are especially good at it. How many youngsters do you recall seeing at a ‘Homestead’ concert that had a “time” problem?

LISTENING: Playing old Rock and Pop music – such as Bill Haley, Chuck Berry, Elvis, The Beatles, Cliff Richard.. etc. is a good place to start. Listen

to the whole song; band and vocals and try counting it. Often, the count of [1] is a little heavier or more prominent. Most song structure is in multiples of four, so if you can count 1,2,3,4, you can do this.

More on song structure in another article. **An Example:** On “Lucille” by Little Richard, the band starts on [1], plays the intro ‘riff’ and the vocals come in on [1] also. These are both counting cues for you to start on. The bass drum is on [1] and [3] and the snare drum is on [2] and [4]. Once you can count several tunes this way, it becomes very easy and you hear the “time” instinctively in almost any 2/4 or 4/4 song. It’s simply counting to four, over and over. And you thought this was going to be hard! It’s simple. With practice virtually anyone can do it. As you get better at finding [1] you will do it all the time and you should never have a “time” problem again.

TIPS: When clapping along to a rock/pop song, clap on [2] and [4] ... not [1] and [3]. The roots of rock/pop music are blues and gospel and originated with black America. They clap on [2] and [4] naturally because clapping on [1] and [3] sounds awful. Tap your foot on [1] and [3] (the Down Beat) but clap your hands on [2] and [4] which is called (the Back Beat). In Country/Pop the same methods would apply. Bluegrass music is often in a [2] feel and can be quite fast, much like European Polka music. Clapping to a fast [2] feel works well on the numbers 1. 2. 1. 2. Etc.

KEEP AN OPEN MIND: Good luck and don’t forget... People in Show Business are learning all the time, to improve their skills and to perform better. Don’t be afraid of learning. Do it with a great sense of fun. Pretty soon you will be counting every song you listen to. Counting bars will keep you in time and you will experience a wonderful boost in your confidence. Song Breakdown: “When the Saints go Marching in” is a [2] feel tune with a sixteen bar structure... repeated over and over. I think it was originally a gospel tune which then became a march, (used for funerals in New Orleans) and now is a Jazz standard. Check it out!

FINALE: See how popular music is all based on simple arithmetic. Some songs can get tricky but you have more than enough here to get started. If you’re learning, avoid the tricky songs for now! Also don’t slavishly copy every detail of a well-known performer. Let’s see a little of ‘you’ in your performances. Bon Voyage... and enjoy the journey! Good luck! Keep smilin’....

Bill T

Country Music - Social Timetable

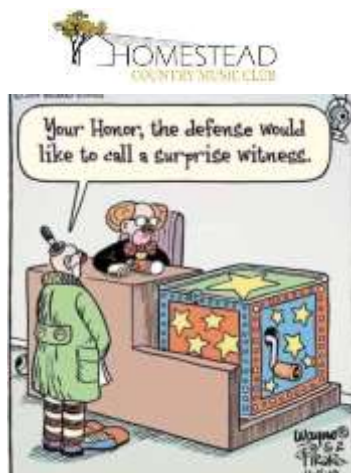


First Friday Pine Rivers	Kallangur Community Centre	7:00 pm
First Saturday Brigalow Redlands Mod.	Wagner St., Eagleby Sports Reserve, Thornlands	6:00 pm 5:00 pm
First Sunday Coal City Gold Coast Sundowners Velvet CMC	Banjos Bar Ipswich Mermaid Beach Bowls Club Kallangur Bowls Club On Hold Queen/ Ulm Sts Caloundra	12:30 pm 11:00 am 11.45 am 12 Noon
Second Saturday Country Roundup	Caboolture Snr. Citizens Hall	12 Noon
Second Sunday Maroochy River Country Links Golden Wattle Maleny	Bli Bli Hall On Hold Bribie Indoor Bowls, First Av Cedar Street Wynnum Pioneer Village Bryce Lane, Maleny	12 Noon 11:00 am 1:00 pm 12 Noon
Third Friday Homestead	Stanmore Hall, Caboolture	7:00 pm
Third Saturday Boonah Northern Suburbs	Boonah Golf Club Memorial Hall Bald Hills	7:00 pm (even months) 12 Noon
Third Sunday Guanaba Redcliffe West Moreton	Heritage Park, Pimpama Redcliffe Showgrounds Ipswich Golf Club	12 Noon 11:00 am 1:00 pm
Fourth Friday Redcliffe Cane Country	Redcliffe Showgrounds Sherwood Magpies Club	7:00 pm 7:00 pm
Fourth Sunday Bribie Island	Bribie Island Recreation Hall 158 First Ave Bribie Island	11.00 am
Last Sunday		

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**'



Low Down

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