

LOW DOWN










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

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Resources
Magazine

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FRONT COVER:

Rod Loughheed



Quote for the Month

"Music is the greatest communication in the world. Even if people don't understand the language, they still know good music when they hear it."

Lou Rawls



Music makes the world go round. (*or so the saying [and song] goes!*)
If life is a song to you, you probably sing in the shower.
Upbeat music can make you feel more positive and optimistic about life.
A slower tempo has been known to quiet one's mind and mood; relax your muscles, sooth you and release stress. Then there is the theory that the people around you are typical of music genres. The friendly ones fit your idea of pop music and the energy of your favourite songs, the hot-headed ones are like rock 'n roll, the calm ones, rhythm and blues; the drinkers, reggae and the ones that talk a lot like rap music. If this sounds somewhat like how you tend to view things, there is nothing wrong with you. You're just music minded, apparently!

Without the joy and connection that music brings to our lives through other cultures and the people we meet, the world would be a poorer place. Without music, we would miss out on a vital ingredient of our everyday lives: the ability to relate to others and most importantly, bring people together.

Music is fun and undeniably creative: It provides a universal means of expression, taps into your imagination and expresses thoughts and feelings vibrantly.

*“Music makes the world go round.. Music gets me high & keeps me on the ground.
Music lifts me up when you're not around,
In music, I feel safe and sound..... Get lost and still be found.”*

Music is a Mobile Art. Every footstep you take is a beat. The words you hear as you bounce along are fodder for lyrical input. Every trip, enough musical bars to record a sound track, and the environment and faces you see, a video in your mind. It is also mobile in that it crosses cultural, linguistic and political boundaries and as a result is constantly changing. However, the dramatic displacement of people, sometimes by force and no choice from faraway places, can result in a healthy and encouraging curiosity, when people from another culture bring their music along with them. This provides a sense of identity and comfort for them in an unfamiliar environment on the one hand and engenders and fosters understanding on the other. A win-win solution for all !

‘Tis no wonder we can spin, as Music makes the world go round !!

TT Editor

ON THE NOTICEBOARD - 2023



Concert - July, 21st
Concert - August, 18th
Concert - September, 15th



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear Friends,

Welcome to Homestead's first winter concert. Hope you have all come with spare rugs because as the night progresses, I am sure it will get a tad chilly – the heaters help these days.

Firstly, my apologies for the change of date. It's never an easy decision to change from the third Friday as we are creatures of habit and have arrived at Homestead on the third Friday forever. Unfortunately, there was a mix up with double bookings and changing the date was the only solution. Let's hope it doesn't happen again.



As most people know, I recently returned from a month in UK and Europe with my eldest daughter Melanie. The highlight of our trip was going on an ANZAC tour of the Western front and finding my great uncle's grave in Belgium. Poor Uncle Tom Hall was only 'on the field' for five days before being injured, dying and being

interred in a small graveyard called Kandahar Farm near Wulvergem, Belgium. Melanie and I were the first relatives to visit Tom in 106 years so it was a very emotional day. The bus then went into a ditch, so we all sojourned to the local pub for a few unplanned ales while the tour company sorted the bus catastrophe – thank you Uncle Tom. We attended a dawn service at Polygon Wood and a night service at Menin Gate (Ypres). The cemeteries are meticulously kept by the Commonwealth War graves Commission and are amazing to visit.



Covid-19 is still around but I rarely saw a mask anywhere on my travels. Unfortunately, I foolishly never kept up my vaccinations and succumbed on the trip home. It really opened my eyes to the seriousness of this disease so please follow the protocols of good hygiene and physical distancing when in a crowd (a bit hard on a bus or plane). We have sanitiser at the bar and at the canteen so please feel free to use it if you are in these areas. Influenza is also running rampant in the community so please stay home if you are unwell and hopefully, we will all stay well over the next few months.

We have a Christmas in July coming up on 29th July at the Woodford Bowls Club. There will also be a bit of fun trivia thrown in so put the date in your calendar. Our AGM will be delayed until September 19th as Peter and I will be away visiting his son in Germany, after a bit of a pub crawl along the west coast of Ireland with Bob and Fiona Cole – we do intend to see a great deal of scenery during the day on this spectacular Isle but looking forward to the nights filled with blarney and Guinness. All seats become vacant at the AGM so if you aspire to become the next President, Vice, Treasurer, Secretary etc., make sure you put it your calendar.

Cheers Barbara

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JANET C'S ART (JANET CLAYDON)

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One's favourite female vocalist will change over the years. Back in the day it was, of course, Linda Ronstadt. At that time I bought every one of her cassette tapes!

Since that time I have been, and remain, a fan of many awesome and talented singers. Emmylou Harris, Alison Krauss, Shania Twain, Sheryl Crow, Mary Chapin Carpenter, among others.

A recent random sweep of YouTube lucked me onto this track ...
[THEUNS JORDAAN, JUANITA DU PLESSIS - Country Medley - YouTube](#)

The fresh impact of this performance led me to do some research into the career of Juanita du Plessis

Juanita was born in 1972 in Windhoek, then South Africa, now Namibia. She released her first album in 1998. Since then, 22 albums and 3,000,000 sales have ratified her status as a local superstar.



Her live shows cram the 8500 seat capacity of Sun Arena in Time Square, in South Africa's capital Pretoria.

Juanita owns her own record company, and the consistent quality of her musical productions indicates she maintains a degree of creative control.

Unfortunately, her English-language releases have had very little impact worldwide. They have principally been 'covers' of popular country-style numbers .. Kenny Rogers, Alan Jackson, Bee Gees, Tammy Wynette .. and the YouTube graphics are mostly only static images of album covers. The very familiarity of these song titles have made these releases relatively 'invisible'.

However, where Juanita's quality shines through is in her live shows. I have never known another with such expressive body language and vocal talent.

Until his death in 2021, Juanita often shared the stage with contemporary singer/songwriter Theuns Jordaan. Although their English-language songs are popular with audiences, she understandably shows up best in her own songs, penned and sung in native Afrikaans.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9tp3lgr4hsc>

OK, this is a 'big production' track, but it is 'live' ... vocal expression, harmonies and body language are all there. Awesome!

What comes across clearly is how everybody is having such fun!

Juanita has a wide range of writing credits. Her two most popular albums have been of Gospel music. Two of her children, Ruan Josh and Franja have followed her into music, and harmonise in the tradition of some of the early US family groups. Here's one of the rare 'covers' with a good video clip!
[Just an illusion - ft Juanita du Plessis, Franja du Plessis, Ruan Josh \(Official Music Video\) - YouTube](#)

I find it OK to watch the videos even without understanding the language .. worthwhile to hear the harmonies and to watch the expressive body movements .. little dance steps across the stage. Her pitch control is faultless, her timing exact.

There are on-line resources to translate Afrikaans to English. While they lack the subtlety of that native language, it is sometimes interesting to see the translation and map the lyrics to the on-stage body language ... it can be revealing!
[Juanita du Plessis - Kaalvoetkind \(OFFICIAL MUSIC VIDEO\) - YouTube](#)

Cheers, JB.



CONCERT SPOTLIGHTS





CONCERT SPOTLIGHTS



MEMBER BIOGRAPHY: ROD LOUGHEED



I recall the piano accordion, Mum n' Dad, Uncle Joe, Ron n' Pat singing, the drinking till all hours The Platters, The Great Pretender; Nat King Cole and so many others through the fog of time.

I tried out for the school choir...then there was the annual travelling Scouts Gang Show for two years playing in theatre at West End.

I tried out for the neighbourhood garage band with high school kids Noel Lindsay and "Geoffrey Rush". Singing Easy Beats "She's So Fine"...resulting in a..... 'Don't call us we'll call you'.

I bought a cheap guitar, had some lessons but it had terrible action and sound...couldn't have been me... ha ha!! ..

I discovered a Ukulele out of the kid's toy box. It wasn't a toy but a Soprano Sanchez.

In 1984, for my birthday, my dear Annette upgraded me with a Suzuki Hummingbird Law Suit Gibson knock off and I had lessons until career and paying the bills took priority and I got tied up with major projects as a Process Instrument Electrical/Project role at Amoco Oil Refinery.

The Guitar sat in cupboard for years until dear friend Bazz Warrington instilled a passion...Bazz claimed he couldn't strum and only played open chords on the first three frets....but man did he have a voice for ballads and country and carry a tune.....He played in skiffle bands and learned his music from street corner Salvation Army with his family.

2015 was the "Day the Earth Stood Still" ! My dear Annette was diagnosed with MND. We made a pact that I should pick up with my guitar so I restrung the Suzuki, set the action and joined U3A at Bribie.

Annette passed in 2017 and I searched on line and discovered Kung-Fu martial arts, the Cardigan bar, Jallas Cafe and Homestead. I wandered in one night to watch rehearsal...bearded and dishevelled.

I have been happy to "Belong" and have helped re hall and back stage, setting up concert...specializing in tables and chairs, gradually moving onto front of stage as a stage hand.

The introduction to Jill was a significant development. I learned the vocal basics and was terrified of having to perform in the end of year concert with "Autumn Leaves"

I joined CRAMS a Caboolture Acoustic group...I played with passion, lack of timing and key...and with gentle persuasion from folk, worked to become half acceptable. CRAMS introduced me to a host of songs and the experienced individual members helped me appreciate so many genres.

Looking for more experience, I joined Shirley's group, a great opportunity to practice a bunch of songs eventually being able to perform at end of each term. I look back with great fondness in performing in front of folk at the community centre...tough crowd! all the old dears had Scissors and Arts 'n Craft weaponry.

I worked on turning a poem about Friends, written specifically for Annette's funeral service, into something looking like a song; special mention to Jill, Bazz and Bill.

Now bringing it all forward ...with key Homestead band members, my apprenticeship "finishing school" for understanding music, chord charts guitar technique, performance and confidence...a special mention to Norm, Bill, Jill, Shirley, Pete, JB, Murray, Jenny, Carmel, Stephen [Steves x2]..too many others to mention for their support and encouragement. I wear my white Gloves for hand protection and have inadvertently created a persona of sorts. Our stage hands motto;
"No Covid On Our Watch".

One more guitar purchase CBG Cigar Box Guitar, three strings, at the Eumundi markets for Blues 'n Bo-Diddley.

Reached a point in my life where I have an amazing relationship with Jenifer, a matriarch of a musically-talented and artistic family dynasty....who reminds me constantly to practice, practice.

Rod

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 except Jan.	12:30 pm 11:00 am 11.45 am 11.00 am
Second Saturday Country Roundup	Caboolture Snr. Citizens Hall	12 Noon
Second Sunday Maroochy River Golden Wattle Maleny Phoenix	Yandina ACMA Hall Cedar Street Wynnum Pioneer Village Bryce Lane, Maleny Community Hall, Burpengary	12 Noon 1:00 pm 12 Noon 11.00am
Third Friday Homestead	Stanmore Hall, Caboolture except Jan.	6:30 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 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
Fourth Friday Cane Country	Sherwood Magpies Club	7:00 pm
Fourth Sunday Bribie Island	Bribie Island (relocating) - TBA	11.00 am
Last Sunday Caloundra Country Music & Blues	Yandina ACMA Hall	12 Noon (except Dec.)



*"A nation has needs good. Answering us can afford
the extra bus to have your musicians."*

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