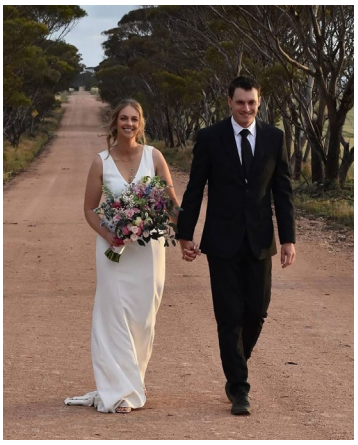
"A Town Like Blyth"

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Newsletter NO 166. October, 2026

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* Congratulations to Kristin Carling & Callum Trifonoff (left) who were married on October 3rd. They held their wedding at Kristin's parents, Wayne and Valerie Carling's farm at Bowilia.

* During the past 3 months, our community have said farewell to 4 of our more elderly gentlemen.
Our sympathy is extended to the families of Bob Juett, Jeff Pratt, Jeff Clark and Barry Kennett. You can find all eulogies at the end of this newsletter.

Dates to remember:
October 25th- *Town Garage Sale*
November 2nd- *Blyth Golf Club AGM*
November 11th- *Remembrance Day*
November 15th- *Blyth Hotel 150 years celebrations*
December 11th- *Term 4 ends*
December 17th- *Blyth Xmas Street Party*

Please forward all newsletter content to:
aschultzprogress@outlook.com

* Congratulations to Kate Wandel (right) who was awarded the Tennis SA Rural Volunteer Achievement Award at a lavish Dinner at "The Drive" in July. The award honours and recognises the contribution volunteers make to Tennis. Kate has been and continues to be the Blyth Tennis Club Junior Coordinator and committee person. Kate is certainly a worthy winner of this award!





* A reminder to all when parking in a 10-15 minute parking space in the Blyth Main Street, to move on after the timed minutes or if parking for a much longer time, please park in the Hall/Cinema Car parking area.

* Once again the Wandel family headed down to the Adelaide Royal Show from 5th September til 13th September. On Sunday 6 September it was judging and took out Champion and Junior Large White and a few other ribbons on that day. For the first time they came third in the Commercial pork. They also took out Most Successful Large White Exhibitor. It was a good Adelaide show for the Wandel Family.





RV COMMENTS:
- Thankyou for providing this large, safe space for travellers. The toilet showers were immaculately clean.
- Great facilities – Bummer we got Grand Final night but congrats to the Premiership teams.!!
- 5 Stars camp ground
- Great place to stay and walked around the town and the many beautiful gardens.
- Best RV Park around –highly recommended
- thankyou to all your volunteers who do such a great job









* It was a great day for the Blyth Snowtown Football and Netball club at the recent Grand Final held at Riverton. 4 teams took home the win.
Top photo- B2's defeated RSMU 44-37.
Second photo- A1's defeated RSMU 59-57.
Third photo- B Grade defeated BSR 49-32.
Fourth photo- J1's defeated RSMU 40-20.

Congratulations to all who played, coaches and team managers!

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*** Blyth Netball Club AGM Report**

Thank you for everyone attending our AGM and welcome.

In Nov 2025, Blyth celebrated 150 years. Thank you to Janet who ensured our history was shared with a display of photos and memorabilia. Thank you to Tracey and Alycia for your help and pack up throughout the day also.

On April 12th, we held a busy bee, thank you Alycia for coordinating and for everyone who attended to prepare the courts for the 2026 season.

Also, early in the year someone tried to break into the shed, not sure why, nothing valuable in there. Consequently, when trying to break in they got something jammed in the padlock. Thank you, Nathan Zweck, for angle grinding the padlock off and replacing with a new one.

If you're here at nighttime, you may have noticed the new sensor light. Thank you very much to Joe Nitchke who volunteered his time to install the light. Thank you, Nathan and Alycia, for sourcing and purchasing.

Thank you Mathew Noble who screwed in the grates our front which had lifted and were a tripping hazard for months.

Huge appreciation to community and committee members for ensuring the clubrooms were tidy, locked, court lights off etc after home matches and trainings. I did not keep tabs on this at all; I appreciate those who did. Great team effort. Thank you to those who quietly completed jobs throughout the year.
The Blyth Netball Club is all our responsibility to ensure it's maintained for our families and the community. It's very valuable to the community and just picking up rubbish, spraying weeds, general tidy up whenever you are here makes a difference. Remind me to take the bibs home to wash & I'll take can and bottles to the depot!

Massive thank you to our secretary (& treasurer) Alycia Zweck. Alycia has been the person behind so much of what happens here. She has given her time, her energy and her commitment to making sure things get done. From organising working bees, applying and winning grants, keeping everyone on track throughout the season, and taking care of the countless little details that others may never even notice — Alycia has consistently stepped up and done whatever was needed, taken ownership, shown initiative and put in so much effort to make things better for our community. I have done nothing. Thank you Alycia, it is very much appreciated.

Alycia took on coordinating the 6x bench seat project around the courts – a joint initiative with the Blyth Tennis Club. Thank you to Noel Heinrich, Jason Palmer, Alycia and myself for constructing the benches. Ben Schramm and Jake Weckert for digging the holes, Adam Conradi for delivering the cement mix and Nathan Zweck, Matthew Williams, Rob Dall, Mat Noble and Bradley Williams for helping with the installation, they look amazing!

On a sadder note, the Blyth Netball Club extends our condolences to the family of our oldest Patron, Dorothy Eckermann, who passed peacefully in June this year, one month shy of her 98th birthday. Dorothy loved netball and watching her grandchild and even her great grandchildren play, recently, from the comfort of her car. Dorothy has been a patron since 1974 and a special presentation was made by the club in May 2021 by Kerry-Lee and Kate on behalf of the club. In the end, she was our patron for 52 years, thank you for your many years of support Dororthy.

Our club also extends our condolences to one of our Life Members and Patron, Marlene Pratt, and family on the passing of husband Jeff in August. Both incredible supporters of Blyth sports, the community will miss seeing Jeff around all the sporting grounds.

Lastly, congratulation to the BSNC on their most successful year in netball with all junior and senior netball grades making finals. The A1, B1, B2, C1, Inter 1 and Junior 1's all played in the grand final with three grades becoming premiers – Junior 1's, B2's and the spectacular A1 Champions winning in double overtime at Riverton on the first hot day in months!

Look forward to everyone's continued support of the Blyth Netball Club.
Hayley Zweck
President

The Blyth Netball Club committee consists of Hayley Zweck President, Alycia Zweck Secretary & Treasurer, Elise Honner, Kristin Carling, Kerry-Lee Welke, Belinda Angus, Alex Welke, Cherie Stirling, Holly Otten & Abby Andriske.

*** Blyth Development Board**

The AGM of the Blyth Development Board was recently held with the following elected:
Chairperson: Sue Pratt
Deputy Chairperson: AJ Wood
Secretary: Natalie McElroy
Treasurer: Lesley Randolph
Borad Members: Ian Roberts, Gavin McElroy, David Pratt, Lyn Barr, Barry Spinks, John Wood.

During the 25/26 year, the Board approved grants for Blyth community groups including the Progress Association, Golf Club, Management Committee and Community Hall. We are very pleased with the improvements these grants have helped these groups to make and we look forward to supporting other Blyth community groups as well in the 26/27 grant cycles. Keep an eye on the Blyth "Around the traps" Facebook page for the dates of the next grant round or contact Chairperson Sue Pratt on 0428 445 171.

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*** Blyth Golf Club**

Closing Day held on Sunday27th of September, 3 Person Ambrose, 3 stick completion. Thank You to Grant and Kerryn Mugge and Rooster and Cathy Agnew for their kind sponsorship.
Great roll up for last day of the season ,8 teams.



Winners: Kaylene Richards, Jenny Bishop and Andrew Sheridan, with nett 57.2



Runner Up: Paul Gibson, John Pomfret and Trevor Victor, with nett 57.9.

Third Place: Hugh Drum, Mark Hendry and Jim Barrnett, with nett 58.



BLYTH BUSINESS & FARMERS GOLF DAY

After a 10-year absence, there were 13 Teams (52 players teed off) who played in the Blyth Business & Farmers Golf Day on Friday 21st August.



Winner: Clare Hotel gross 61 nett 53, great effort.
Runner/Up: Christian White Carpentry gross 68 nett 56.375.
Third: Local Donava Holsteins gross 67 nett 57.25, above photo with Odea Farm Finance AJ Wood,

A day like this is always better for the support of all the sponsors. Our heartfelt thanks to you all for making the day possible and a great success.

O'Dea Farm Finance, Perry's Fuel Distributor's, Eime Contracting, Pato's Hire, Clare Valley Meats, Jacka Bros Transport, Clare Valley auto Electricals, ND& AM Jaeschke Family Farm, Blyth Hotel, CK Building, Welke Transport, Clare Hotel, Andriske Air, Hitch Haulage, C&C Trucks, Donava Holsteins, Mid Nth Party Hire, Eime Metal Fabrication, Tad's Embroidery Services, Christian White Carpentry, and Elders Real Estate Clare.

The Blyth golfing ladies enjoy their end of season trip to Kadina Croquet courts to try their hand in Golf Croquet. While dressed in our vintage croquet/golf attire, the Kadina ladies showed the Blyth golfers the seat/plaque the Blyth Croquet Club had donated to their club in 2009. All welcomed the rest after a hectic game of golf croquet. Thanks to the Kadina Croquet Club for their hospitality.







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*** Blyth Tennis Club**

With the summer tennis season just around the corner, there is plenty happening at Blyth Tennis Club. Our first junior and senior matches for the 2026/2027 season will be played on Saturday, 24 October.

A successful off season for Blyth Tennis Club

The off season has been an exciting one for our club, with several wonderful achievements and events taking place. We were incredibly proud to share that Blyth Tennis Club, Junior Coordinator Kate Wandel and Club Coach Sam Clayson were announced as finalists in their categories.

Blyth Tennis Club in the Most Outstanding Club – Rural category, Kate Wandel a finalist in the Volunteer Achievement Award – Rural, and Sam Clayson as Most Outstanding Rural Coach.

The awards night was held on Saturday, 4 July at the Adelaide Convention Centre, and it was a fantastic opportunity to have our small country club represented at a state level. We were particularly excited and proud when Kate Wandel and Sam Clayson were both announced as winners of their respective categories.



These awards are a wonderful recognition of the dedication and commitment shown by the people who contribute to our club. We are extremely fortunate to have so many hardworking volunteers, both past and present, who have helped make Blyth Tennis Club the friendly, welcoming and inclusive sporting community it is today. Above photo: Sam and Kate with their Tennis SA awards

Getting the Courts Ready for the Season

A working bee was held at the courts on Saturday, 19 September, to prepare the grounds for the upcoming season. A huge thank you to everyone who came along and helped with the long list of jobs. Your assistance was greatly appreciated, and it was fantastic to see how quickly the courts and surrounding grounds were transformed. Everything was looking clean, tidy and ready for the start of another season.



Season Opening

Our Season Opening Day was held on Thursday, 24 September. Senior and junior members were invited to come along for a hit and catch up with fellow players before the season commenced, followed by a sausage sizzle.
It was a fantastic afternoon, with many players joining us at the courts. It was great to see everyone enjoying some tennis and reconnecting with teammates and friends ahead of the new season.

Welcoming Our New Groundskeeper

This season, we are pleased to welcome Callum Trifonoff as our new groundskeeper. We would also like to sincerely thank our previous groundskeeper, Noel Heinrich, for everything he has done to maintain our courts over the past few years. We greatly appreciate the time, effort and care he has put into keeping our lawn courts in fantastic condition throughout each season, alongside Nathan Zweck and our Grounds Committee.

Our 2026/2027 Committee

We are very fortunate to have a dedicated committee who work tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure Blyth Tennis Club continues to be a thriving and welcoming sporting community. The 2026/2027 Committee is:

- President: Sarah Dall
- Vice President: Kylie Pearce
- Secretary: Helen Hay
- Treasurer: Carrie Hayes
- Junior Coordinator: Kate Wandel
- Committee Members: Alycia Zweck, Cheryl Palmer and Barb Hayes
- Grounds Committee: Nathan Zweck
- Sponsorship Coordinator: Barb Hayes
- Senior Captain & Coaching Coordinator: Alycia Zweck

We would also like to acknowledge Alycia Zweck, who stepped down from her role as Club President after three years of dedicated service. We are extremely grateful for everything Alycia has contributed during her time as President and for the commitment and dedication she continues to show towards our club and its players. We are delighted that Alycia will remain on the committee while continuing in her roles as Coaching Coordinator and Senior Captain.

Junior Tennis

Blyth Junior Tennis is off to a fantastic start following our fun social night on 24 September. It was wonderful to see everyone back on the courts, enjoying some tennis and a BBQ dinner together. The junior season officially begins on 24 October, with Blyth fielding seven junior teams this season.

We are looking forward to welcoming Sam Clayson back for coaching on Monday nights, with junior training held on Thursday nights. (cont..)

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**** Blyth Tennis Club continued***

We are also excited to welcome back Billy and Caitlin, who will continue to support our junior training sessions.

A special congratulations goes to Hugo, Isla, Emilee, Leni, Billy and Jimmy, who represented Lower Northern at the Foundation Cup. It was fantastic to see our young players representing their region and enjoying some great tennis.

Senior Tennis
This season, Blyth will field a senior team consisting of six men and six ladies.

We are looking forward to welcoming several new players to our senior team, as well as seeing many familiar faces return for another season.

Alycia Zweck will once again captain the senior team. We sincerely thank Alycia for the time, organisation and effort she puts into bringing the senior team together each week and supporting our players throughout the season.

There is a real sense of excitement around Blyth Tennis Club as we head into the 2026/2027 season.

We would like to thank all of our players, coaches, volunteers, committee members, sponsors and supporters for the contribution they make to our club. It is the combined efforts of our wonderful tennis community that make Blyth Tennis Club such a special place to be.

We look forward to another successful season and to sharing plenty more news, achievements and updates with our members and the wider community as the season progresses. Good luck to all of our junior and senior players for the season ahead. We look forward to seeing you on the courts!

*** Blyth Management Committee**

The Blyth Management Committee held their Election of Offices Meeting on 28 July 2026

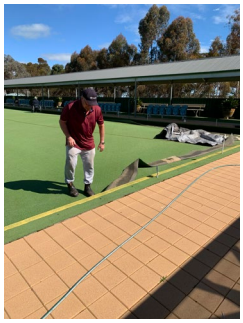
The new Chairperson is Matt Stewart, Vice Chairperson Kerry Lee Welke, Secretary Tracey Andriske, Treasurer Kristin Carling. Thanks to Kerry Lee Welke for her role as Chairperson for the last 2 years.

The next meeting of the Blyth Management Committee will be held on Monday 26 October 2026.

Each sporting club and community group continue to have a representative on the committee and provide updates on their clubs / groups each meeting. Blyth Management Committee also support groups with letters of support when applying for grant funding and provide ongoing communication from Wakefield Regional Council.

Pigeon Control
Blyth Management Committee with the support of Blyth Development Board and property owners in Blyth have contracted Wildlife Management Group to assist with the culling of pigeons in the town. Amer and his friend have travelled to Blyth on approximately 4 occasions over the last 9 months and commenced a pigeon cull in the township. This has greatly reduced the number of pigeons in the area and an were able to cull between 100 and 200 pigeons each time. We appreciate the community for their patience during this time.

*** Blyth Bowling Club**









Ready to get back into BOWLS
It's that time of the year again so things are underway.
For a start, the Green had to have a fresh set of lines. Greens Manager Brian Eime had everyone organised. Jim Barrett up the ladder, checking the misters. Barry Spinks operated on the aged pergola and the patient made a great recovery - recovered in shade coth. Splash of paint by Chris Sutton, and Noel helped with the clean-up. The banks and ditches needed work, all done by Noel, Steven Werfel and Brian Eime. The Clubhouse windows inside and out have had Bruce shining them up, and the gardens have new plants, weeding and Zan, Pete and Chris worked at that. The rose gardens will soon get a name in memory of the late Jeff Pratt. Watch this space.

Friday Night Fish Teas have been a hit and we had another one last night, with live music! Lots of good fun - visitors and newies along to enjoy the friendly atmosphere. Eat in or Takeaway.
Soon to enjoy, our Fun Night.
Everyone is welcome to join in. Noel Heinrich is organising it all, and we'd love to see you there. Then when we have some nice warm summer evenings you'll know where the jack goes and how much fun Bowls is!
Dates For all this:
Season Opens: Thursday October 1st at Clare
Our Annual Tournament: October 20th
Hosting the State Mixed Pairs Knockout Nov 1st: Top bowls to watch!
Our Fun Night: October 2nd. Starts 6 pm. Noel 0438 804 813

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*** Blyth Snowtown Netball & Football Club Awards**

Blyth Snowtown Football and Netball Club celebrated the 2026 season in style at its annual senior awards night, The Catlow, held at the Blyth Town Hall on Friday, September 18 whilst the Junior Awards day was held on Sunday 13th September at Blyth.

A packed house of 160 Cats members came together at the Catlow to recognise the achievements of the season including the B Grade, A1, B2, & Junior 1 premierships and celebrate the people who make the Cats such a strong community club.
Ash Catering provided a fantastic meal for the sold-out crowd, before Sparks DJ Tony Clarke took over after the awards and kept the dance floor pumping well into the early hours.
The club also extends a sincere thank you to everyone who helped make the night possible, particularly those who volunteered behind the bar, assisted Ash Catering in the kitchen and who helped deliver meals throughout the evening.

One of the most significant moments of the Catlow was the induction of Derryn Stringer as the Blyth Snowtown Football Club's newest Life Member, recognising his outstanding contribution and service to the club for over 20 years.
The club also recognised two people who have gone above and beyond throughout the season, with Braydon Keech named Football Volunteer of the Year and Sam Mackay named Netball Volunteer of the Year and also Billy Wandel for BSFC Junior Volunteer of the Year.

Beyond the trophies and individual honours, The Junior & Senior Award event were an opportunity to recognise the enormous amount of work that happens behind the scenes throughout a football and netball season and acknowledge the efforts by its volunteers.

BSFC Darren Pratt Memorial for Best Club



The Darren Pratt Memorial Trophy for Best Club Person is proudly awarded to Braydon Keech.
Braydon is someone who continually gives his time and effort to our club in so many different ways. This season, Braydon has taken on the role of B Grade Team Manager, while also helping out in the kitchen with our Snowtown teas. He has also taken over Derryn's famous deep fryer duties, making sure the hot chips and meals keep coming!
Braydon has been a valued member of our Social Committee, including leading the committee for many years and playing a major role in organising and supporting the club's social events. Braydon is always one of the first to offer to help out at the easter races behind the bar.
On top of all this, Braydon is also part of our Snowtown maintenance crew, helping to keep our facilities and grounds looking their best.

Now, we can't talk about Braydon without mentioning his football career! Every couple of years, Braydon somehow finds the motivation to get himself fit and ready for another crack at playing. Unfortunately, this usually ends with his body reminding him why he only does it every couple of years, and maybe team managing is his extent of onfield contribution!
This year, however, he managed to make it onto the field and, with his very first kick of the game, produced what can only be described as a perfect 30-metre kick… unfortunately in completely the wrong direction! It was a kick that showed great technique, confidence and absolutely no concern for where his teammates were standing.

And just when we thought things couldn't get any better, Braydon decided he would take on Tim Dalla. What followed was less of a tackle and more of a reminder that Braydon's body really does prefer retirement — resulting in Braydon spending the next couple of weeks with his arm in a sling!
But that sums up Braydon perfectly — he is always willing to have a go, always willing to help and never afraid to put his hand up for the club. Congratulations, Braydon — and thank you for everything you do for our club!

BSNC Volunteer of the Year



The Blyth Snowtown Netball Club Volunteer Award was an idea put forward by Life Member Heather Griffin to recognise and celebrate the special contribution made by those who generously give their time, energy and heart to our club.
Since the award's inception in 2000, Heather has generously donated towards this award, helping us acknowledge the wonderful volunteers who work behind the scenes and give so much to our netball community.

Volunteers are the heart of our club. Whether it is helping on game day, supporting our players and teams, organising events, taking on a committee role, or simply being there when needed, every contribution makes a difference.
One of the most special things about this award is seeing how many of its early recipients continue to be involved with and contribute to our club today. Their ongoing commitment is a wonderful reflection of the strong community spirit, friendships and sense of belonging that make the Blyth Snowtown Netball Club so special.

This award is a heartfelt thank you to those who continue to give their time and make a difference — because it is through the generosity and dedication of our volunteers that our club continues to grow, thrive and remain a place we are all proud to be part of.
This years award winner is Sam Mackay for Volunteer of the Year in recognition of her outstanding contribution and commitment to our club over many years.
Sam is someone who continually goes above and beyond, giving countless hours of her time across all areas of the club.

She doesn't just take on one role – she is always willing to step in wherever she is needed.
Sam's contribution includes:
Committee Member – 2021, 2022 & 2026
Club President – 2023
A2 Coach – 2019 & 2023
Sub Juniors 2 Coach – 2025 & 2026
Umpires Coordinator for multiple years
Organised the club's match-day rosters in 2026
Regularly umpires more than one game on a Saturday
Represented our club umpiring at Country Champs in Adelaide and volunteering to umpire country champs trainings and trials
Mentors and supports developing umpires. Organised C Grade umpiring testing, helping umpires progress and develop their skills. Organised numerous netball trips, helping build team connection and club culture. Has organised club merchandise over a number of years, including umpire jackets, Shirts and Jumpers. Regularly assists with match-day duties and steps in wherever help is required. Volunteered to organise police checks for the club. Parent representative for the Cats Creche for many years and so much more.

Sam's contribution goes much further than simply filling roles. She leads by example, supports those around her and has had a genuinely positive impact on our club culture. Her commitment to developing our junior players and umpires is particularly valuable, helping ensure the future strength of our club both on and off the court. She goes above and beyond for our juniors, for example this year she donated prizes for a coloured training the juniors had.

Sam is more often than not found setting up the courts every Thursday at both Blyth and Snowtown and then seen packing this away after trainings.

On any given Saturday, Sam can be found umpiring multiple games, coaching, helping wherever needed and then pulling on the dress to play herself. She is someone who doesn't just ask others to volunteer – she gets in and does the work alongside them.

Sam has contributed to almost every aspect of our netball club, often without recognition and without expecting anything in return. The fact that it is difficult to even list everything she has done says a lot about the type of volunteer she is.
Congratulations Sam!

BSFC Newest Life Member

The BSFC would like to recognise Derryn Stringer for the incredible amount of time, energy and commitment he has given to the Blyth Snowtown Football Club and the Snowtown Football Club over many, many years.
When you look at the list of achievements and roles Derryn has taken on, it really does make you wonder when he ever found time to go home!



1999 - 2018
184 Senior games
2005, 2006, 2013, 2014, 2015
Social Committee Member
2007
Social Committee Vice President
2008, 2009, 2010, 2011. 2012
Social Committee President
2008-2017
Blyth Snowtown Football Club Committee Member
2009, 2010, 2011
Snowtown Football Club Committee Member
2012- 2026
Snowtown Football Club Vice President
2010, 2011
B Grade Captain
2014, 2015, 2016
NEFL player advocate
2018 – 2025
Joint Sponsorship Coordinator for Football Club
2016, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026
B Grade Runner
2015 – 2026
Snowtown Pavillion Tea organiser and cooker.
2021 – 2026
Snowtown Canteen Manager.

One of the major achievements that deserves special mention was the work involved in establishing the new pavilion and changerooms.

That project took a power of work, and it required plenty of time, effort, organisation and persistence. It is something that the club and our members continue to benefit from today.

So, if there's a football game happening, chances are you'll find Derryn somewhere nearby – either on the oval, in the committee room, in the canteen, in the pavilion, running for the B Grade, organising sponsors, cooking food, or probably fixing something that nobody else even realised needed fixing!

Derryn has given his time freely, he has helped build the club we have today, and his contribution will continue to be appreciated by the players, volunteers, supporters and families who come through our club in the future.

On behalf of the Blyth Snowtown Football Club, the Snowtown Football Club, our players, members and supporters, it is our absolute pleasure and privilege to recognise Derryn's outstanding contribution to our club.

For 20 years of service, 184 senior games, countless hours of volunteer work and an enormous contribution both on and off the field, we are delighted to award Life Membership of the Blyth Snowtown Football Club to: DERRYN STRINGER
Congratulations, and thank you for everything you have done – and continue to do – for our club.

Football Club Awards

In the A Grade, 18-year-old Coby Bigg claimed the Best & Fairest, narrowly edging out Cooper Pugliese in the last round, with three-time Best & Fairest winner Will Pratt finishing third.



A Grade Best & Fairest
Coby Bigg



A Grade Runner-Up Best & Fairest, Cooper Pugliese



A Grade 3rd Best & Fairest
Will Pratt



A Grade Coach's Trophy
Zachary Still



A Grade Best Team Man
Shannon Upton



A Grade Leading Goal Kicker
Seth Angus



Most Improved A or B Grader
Carter Pratt



B Grade Best & Fairest
Nathan Pengilly



B Grade Runner-Up Best & Fairest, Jack McRae



B Grade 3rd Best & Fairest
Jace Andriske



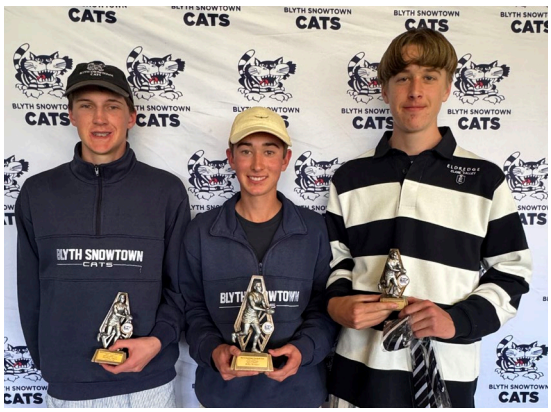
B Grade Coaches Trophy
Adam Wegner



B Grade Best Team Man
Hamish Roberts



B Grade Leading Goal Kicker
Terry Baker



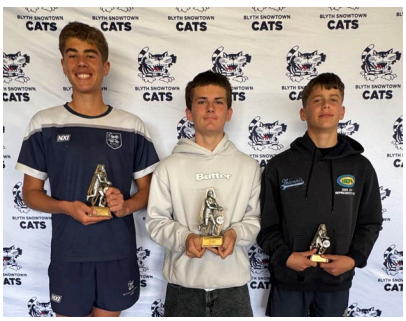
U17 Best & Fairest Runner-Up: Nathan Angus, **U17 Best & Fairest:** Billy Wandel, **U17 3rd Best & Fairest:** Levi Fabian



U17 Rising Star: Harrison Jamieson, **U17 Best Team Man:** Henry Welke, **U17 Most Improved:** Jacob Swift, **U17 Coach's Trophy:** Jack Hayes



U14 Most Improved: Lachlan Hayes, **U14 Best Team Man:** Henry Fabian, **U14 Rising Star:** Dejshan Lawrie



U14 Best & Fairest Runner-Up: Josh Hentschke, **U14 Best & Fairest:** Lincoln Zubrinich, **U14 3rd Best & Fairest:** Sam Hayes

Netball Club Awards

The awards capped another strong season for Cats netball, with all 10 sides making the finals and 6 progressing through to the Grand Final.



A1 Best & Fairest, Kasey Bigg,
A1 Runner-Up Best & Fairest, Leah Edmunds



A2 Best & Fairest, Olivia Carslake (middle), **A2 Runner-Up Best & Fairest,** Sophie Angel (right) & Tayler Nelson (left)



B1 Runner-Up Best & Fairest, Olivia Burgess



B2 Best & Fairest, Kristin Carling (right), **B2 Runner-Up Best & Fairest,** Ava McCauley (absent) & Belinda Stringer (left)



C2 Best & Fairest, Maddy Ward (middle), **C2 Runner-Up Best & Fairest,** Charlotte Welke (right) & Caitlin Hayes (left)



Inter 1 Best & Fairest, Georgia Schramm (middle), **Inter 1 Runner-Up,** Zahara Bernhardt (left), **Inter 1 Coach's Trophy,** Olivia Muchan (right)



Inter 2 Best & Fairest, Mikayla Eime (second left) & Georgia Edmunds (second right), **Inter 2 Runner-Up,** Lucy Wandel (left), **Inter 2 Coach's Trophy,** Layla Zubrinich (right)



Junior 1 Best & Fairest, Elsie Angus, **Junior 1 Runner-Up,** Matilda Manhood (absent) **Junior 1Coach's Trophy,** Ruby Kells



Junior 2 Best & Fairest, Florence Fabian (middle), **Junior 2 Runner-Up,** Leni Ottens (right), **Junior 2 Coach's Trophy,** Amity Weber (left)

Congratulations to Lyn (nee Gerschwitz) and Brenton Stirling on celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary in September.



Their romance certainly didn't get off to the smoothest start. Lyn was a farmer's daughter from Cungene while Brenton was a farmhand on a farm at Cungena. Apparently Lyn disliked Brenton so much that she wouldn't even sit at the same dinner table as him!

But Brenton eventually worked his charm, because in 1976 they were married at the Cungena Church, followed by their reception in Streaky Bay.

When they moved to Blyth they had 3 children Troy, Cory and Lisa. Soon to arrive at Blyth Hospital was their fourth child Shannon. Heart breakingly, Shannon had health problems and lost this battle at the age of 4.

They eventually bought their home in Blyth and built up their own and successful truck business. From the early days Lyn and Brenton both worked incredibly hard and the rest is history as they continue to live in Blyth. Lyn is now waiting for Brenton to retire from trucking to start a new chapter in their lives.

Thanks to their favourite daughter, Lisa, for providing the above info and photo.

Trinity Blyth Lutheran
WORSHIP
35 South Terrace, Blyth

Times are subject to change – check church notice board. All welcome to attend and enjoy a morning cuppa after 9 and 9.30am Services.

Nov 1st`- 9.30am LR
Nov 8th- 11.00am HC Pr R Schubert
Nov 15th- 9.00am HC Pr R Zadow
Nov 22nd- 9.30am LR
Nov 29th- 9.30am LR Parish Service
Dec 6th- 9.30am LR
Dec 13th- 11am HC Pr Rob Schubert
Dec 20th- 9.00am HC Pr R Zadow



BLYTH cinema

SCAN ON YOUR SMART DEVICE FOR SESSION TIMES & MORE INFORMATION

15 MOORE STREET, BLYTH.

- *Fri 23 Oct 8.00pm* **DIGGER (M)** 3.5 stars Tom Cruise Drama/ Satire Comedy
The most powerful man in the world embarks on a frantic mission to prove he is humanity's savior before the disaster he's unleashed destroys everything
- *Sat 24 Oct 8.00pm* **HEART OF THE BEAST (M)** 3.5 stars Brad Pitt - Survivor Drama
- *Sat 24 Oct 8.00pm* **DIGGER (M)** 3.5 stars Tom Cruise Drama/ Satire Comedy
- *Sun 25th Oct 2.00pm* **DIGGER (M) 3.5** stars Tom Cruise Drama/Satire Comedy
- *Tues 27 Oct 2.00pm* **DIGGER (M)** 3.5 stars Tom Cruise Drama/Satire Comedy
- *Fri 30 Oct 8.00pm* **A SOCIAL RECKONING (M)** 3.5 stars Biography/Drama
- *Sat 31 Oct 8.00pm* **DIGGER (M)** 3.5 stars Tom Cruise Drama/ Satire Comedy
- *Sat 31 Oct 8.00pm* **A SOCIAL RECKONING (M)** 3.5 stars Biography/Drama
Follows Frances Haugen, a young Facebook engineer, who enlisted the help of Jeff Horwitz, a Wall Street Journal reporter, to blow the whistle on the social network's most guarded secrets.
- *Sun 1 Nov 2.00pm* **DIGGER (M)** 3.5 stars Tom Cruise Drama/ Satire Comedy
- *Sun 1 Nov 2.00pm* **A SOCIAL RECKONING (M)** 3.5 stars Biography/Drama
- *Tues 3 Nov 2.00pm* **A SOCIAL RECKONING (M)** 3.5 stars Biography/Drama
- *Tues 3 Nov from 2.00pm* **Melbourne Cup Carnival** - $2 entry
- *Thurs 5 Nov 6.30* **PRESSURE (M)** 4 stars Brendan Fraser Andrew Scott
In the tense 72 hours before D-Day, General Dwight D. Eisenhower and Captain James Stagg face an impossible choice--launch the most dangerous seaborne invasion in history or risk losing the war altogether
- *Fri 6 Nov 8.00pm* **PRESSURE (M)** 4 stars Brendan Fraser Andrew Scott
- *Sat 7 Nov 8.00pm* **PRESSURE (M)** 4 stars Brendan Fraser Andrew Scott

YOUR WEDDING WINGMAN
www.yourweddingwingman.com

BLYTH POST OFFICE
Licensee: Ian Wandel
Bank@Post
Ph/Fax 8844 5212

EIME
METAL FAB
21 Harley St.
Mobile: 0402755586

*** Blyth Progress Association AGM Report**

When sitting down to write this report, I was reminded of what a busy back half of 2025 the Progress Association had, and therefore, I think we had a well deserved rest from major projects in 2026.

Our amazing team of volunteers continued to work tirelessly to get our community mosaic completed before our 150th event in November. And of course, they completed the project with time to spare. I think it's safe to say that people were blown away with the mosaic on it's opening day, and visitors continue to stop at it frequently. A special mention to Ian and Kerry who ran the project and gave up so much of their time, and home, to get it finished.

Of course, that brings me to the 150 years of Blyth celebration that we held on November 2nd last year. Although the weather wasn't on our side that day, I think it was still a great success. Current and past residents, as well as visitors from afar, came together to reflect on our history, and to see just what has changed in 150 years. I was so impressed with the displays that all of the community groups spent so much time putting together and was incredibly thankful for all the volunteers that day who ran the bar, helped in the kitchen, sold books, helped set up and pack down, and helped out in any way. As we all know, events like this don't happen overnight, and our 12 months of planning, really paid off.

While on the topic of history, a big thank you must go to Ro- whose tireless efforts both in the history room and getting the 150 years of Blyth booklet made, did not go unnoticed. I'm sure there were a lot of sleepless nights, but people truly loved seeing what Ro had achieved.

The history room are (I believe) still waiting on their new scanner to assist with photo archiving.

Our annual events prove to be a hit as always. Our annual Christmas Street Party saw approx. 400 people come along to meet Santa. A special mention must go to our CFS crew who went to great efforts to source the water carts for the kids, an absolute hit- especially in the warm weather! Shane Clark was the winner of the giant stocking, and then generously donated the contents to all the kids that were still there that night. Deb & Troy Noble took out first place in the Christmas lights once again, putting on an incredible display for the community.

Australia Day saw pretty extreme temperatures forecast, so we opted to move the evening into the Bowling Club- which was a fabulous choice. Mayor Rodney Reid was in attendance to present the Progress Association with the Event of the Year award for our 150th celebrations. A lovely evening was had by all and a bit thanks to the bowling club for having us and for running the bar.

Anzac Day saw a slightly lower crowd this year, given early morning sport had started. The address was delivered by Bryce and Ian, prayer was led by Janet, and the ode was read by Brian. We were also lucky enough to have the Clare cadets attend which was a lovely addition, and one that we hope continues.

The Blyth newsletter continues to be a great read every 2 months. Thanks to Tracey for organising printing and Janet for collating and distributing.

There are a couple of projects that are still lingering while we await action from council- such as the bike track, fencing around the playground near the cinema car park, and the south terrace upgrade. Projects that we will keep on the agenda while we wait for any updates.

Lastly, I'd like to say a big thank you to all committee members. Everyone lives incredibly busy lives, so it's not lost on me the time and efforts everyone go to to volunteer in their community. From event set ups, grant writing, communicating with council, watering community gardens, cleaning up and simply coming to meetings- a big thank you to everyone here.

A special mention to Tracey for being Vice Chairperson, Cheryl for being secretary, and Kristin for being treasurer. All roles that take considerable time and effort, so it's much appreciated.

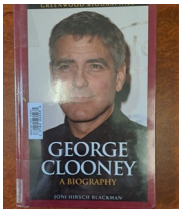
I wish our committee and office bearers all the best for the next 12 months.
Thanks.

Ashley Schultz
Blyth Progress Association, Chairperson

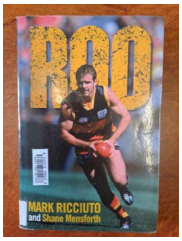
BLYTH COMMUNITY LIBRARY
EVERY FRIDAY 2-5:00PM
Blyth Community Hall, Blyth Main Street

Library Operator: Narelle Roberts, 88445175 or 0458128932. Narelle is happy to deliver books if opening times are not suitable.
The library is a FREE service to all residents in the Wakefield Regional Council area.
Come in and register and enjoy reading again.

General / Autobiography - "George Clooney - A Biography", "Dawn Fraser", "Roo" - Mark Ricciuto, "The Living Planet" by D. Attenborough, "Australians At War - the Western Front 1916-1917"

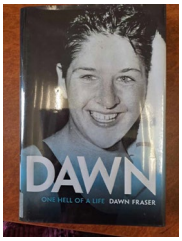


Gardening - "Australian Gardening", "The Veggie Gardener's Answer Book", "The Rose", Gardening Australia magazines.



Cooking- "8 Week Cholesterol Cure", "Miracle Juices", "Classic Dishes Made Easy", "Gourmet Cooking", "Eat Better, Live Better"

Magazines - "Diabetic Living", "Wheels", "Kids National Geographic, "Grass Roots",



Plus Adult Fiction & Childrens fiction, kids books, DVD's & more

Blyth Progress Association Committee

Ashley Schultz (Chair), Tracey Andriske (Vice Chair) Cheryl Wandel (Sec), Kristin Carling (Treas), Ian Roberts, Helen Bennie, Kym Schultz, Janet Zweck, Kerry Smith, Dean Smallcombe, Brian Eime

Weddings, Birthday Parties, Meetings, Workshops, Family Celebrations



Wow! $300 Includes modern
- Tables & chairs
- Crockery & Glassware
- Cutlery & Utensils
- Large Kitchen with commercial dish washer

Blyth Community Town Hall

All proceeds go towards ongoing improvements

BLYTH HALL Venue Hire

Managed by volunteers

Owned by the community

Contact - Marie Parker - 0407 449 111

parkermarie503@gmail.com

ALSO Wow! Includes
- PA system
- Bar with large double glass fridge
- Permanent fairy lights
- Need anything else?
- Mid North Party Hire is just across the road!



Don't need the whole hall? Hire separate spaces from $70!

Blyth Playgroup

Mondays
during school terms
9am-11am

Location: Blyth Primary School

0-4 year olds

Join us for fun activities, a safe environment to explore and play, and a space to catch up with other parents/caregivers of young children. Join our Facebook group for more information.



Chantelle THOMAS MP
Member of Narungga
Contacts:
Ph: 8832 2455
narungga@parliament.sa.gov.au
37 Graves Street, KADINA



43 Taylor Street, Kadina, 93 Florence Street, Port Pirie & 45a Playford Ave, Whyalla.

Coffee 'n' chat
Every Friday
@10am at On the Plains Cafe
Harley Street



Contact Narelle
0458 128 932
for more information

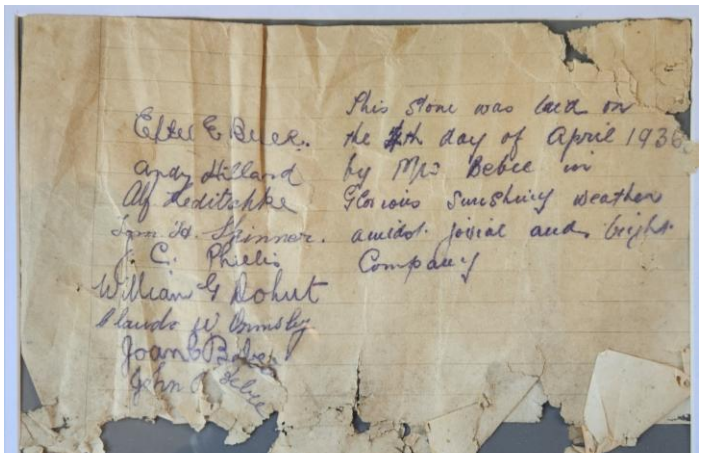
District Rainfall

	Blyth Post Office	*Kybunga AJ Wood*	*Hart Nathan Zweck*	*Bowillia Wayne Carling*
2025 August	37.2mm	48.8mm	37.5mm	42.4mm
2026 August	52.6mm	83.6mm	69.5mm	67.2mm
2025 September	30.2mm	31.6mm	21.5mm	28.2mm
2026 September	3.4mm	0.0mm	6.0mm	4.8mm
2025 YTD	187.6mm	209mm	170mm	169.4mm
2026 YTD	288.8mm	386.2mm	353mm	295.2mm





The History Room has an **A3 Scanner** installed, which will be a huge asset with recording large photos and documents. **Thankyou to the WRC for a Grant** towards purchasing the Scanner and to Ian Roberts for his expertise in using the equipment to its best specifications.



Thankyou to Jane Willaims who shared a very old piece of paper! While Jane was having the front wall of her home renovated,17 Harley Str Blyth, the stone mason discovered a bottle with a message.

"This stone was laid on the 4th day of April 1936, by Mrs Bebee in Glorious sunshiny weather amidst jovial and bright company"

Ester E Bebee, Andy Hillard, Alf Leditchke, Tom Skinner, C Phillis, William G Dohnt, Claude W Ormisby, Joan Bebee, John Bebee

100 YEARS

On Saturday evening June 12 the Blyth Hotel will celebrate its Centenary with proceeds from the Barbecue and Dance to be held in conjunction, going towards the erection of toilets at the Institute, the President Mr B.E. Eime said.



120 YEARS





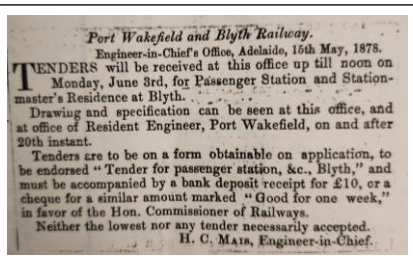
"As the Blyth Hotel celebrates its 120th year, a big thankyou to all patrons and friends, you've made the Blyth Hotel a place where fun and laughter never ends!"

150 YEARS



The 150 Years Committee - Susan Santella (nee Winter), Deb Stirling, Jacqui Kraft and Mande Jayne Knight are organizing lunch, entertainment and memorabilia for the day. **The Blyth Progress Assoc are sponsoring a booklet in recognition for the Blyth Hotel 150th Celebrations.** The booklet lists Licensees, photos of the Hotel, Owners and Events. If anyone has photos that could be included, Ro and Ian would be very pleased to scan and return them to you.

Thankyou to the Clare History Room who were holding copies of the Original Tender system for the Blyth Railway Station.



Port Wakefield and Blyth Railway.

Engineer-in-Chief's Office, Adelaide, 15th May, 1878.

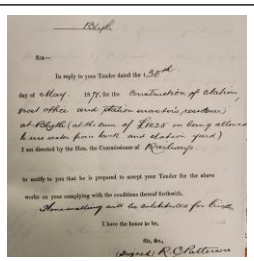
TENDERS will be received at this office up till noon on Monday, June 3rd, for Passenger Station and Station-master's Residence at Blyth.

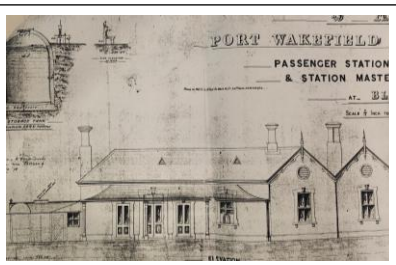
Drawing and specification can be seen at this office, and at office of Resident Engineer, Port Wakefield, on and after 20th instant.

Tenders are to be on a form obtainable on application, to be endorsed "Tender for passenger station, &c., Blyth," and must be accompanied by a bank deposit receipt for £10, or a cheque for a similar amount marked "Good for one week," in favor of the Hon. Commissioner of Railways.

Neither the lowest nor any tender necessarily accepted.

H. C. Mais, Engineer-in-Chief.





- Thankyou to Daryl Andriske for sharing a poem that was written for the 120th Blyth Hotel Celebrations.
- Thankyou to Doug Salter who shared Blyth Football Club memorabilia that his brother, Bill, had collected.

Eulogy:
ROBERT JOHN JUETT

Bob was born on the 5th of July 1938 to Alexander and Ivy Juett in Adelaide. He was one of five children — Valerie, Elizabeth, Robert, William and Ken. Bob attended Thebarton Primary School and later Thebarton Technical School, where he apparently did very well. Which is probably where things started to go downhill…Because instead of using all that education to get himself a nice, safe, respectable office job, Bob decided that what he really wanted to do was drill holes in the middle of nowhere. And not just little holes. Deep holes!

Bob loved tinkering with electrical equipment, radios, welding, and just about anything else that could be taken apart, modified, repaired or, preferably, made slightly more complicated than it needed to be. His father, was a well-drilling contractor, and Bob loved going along with him and helping with the work. Around the time of the 1956 floods, a call came from the outback around Wilcannia looking for a well borer. And this is when the beginning of Bob's life in the bush began. He started drilling bores, rigging up windmills and generally doing the sort of work that required you to know what you were doing…

Then came Dorathea.
Around 1957 , Bob decided he needed his own boring plant. The excitement for Robert to build his own boring plant came into action. At the time, Bob was living at Hardy's Road in Torrensville, and his Auntie Chris lived diagonally across the road. Bob spent a lot of time over at his aunties place.
And then, next door to Auntie Chris, a new family moved into number 23. The Wagner family. And they had a daughter, Dorathea.

Now, Bob had never had a girlfriend before. But he had heard this lovely, sweet, melodious voice coming over the fence:
"Dad, come for tea." And Bob apparently thought: "Sounds like this person can cook… I'll see if I can get to know her.
And there we have it, this was Bob's first dating strategy.

Forget romance. Find out if she can cook.
Luckily for Bob, his brother Ken was friends with Dorathea's brother Leon. Ken regularly went over to the Wagner house to play Monopoly with Leon. So, Bob started going along too and took brother Bill along with him for moral support.
Eventually Bob discovered that every Friday night Dorathea went to St Stephen's Lutheran Church for choir practice.

So Bob came up with a plan. He'd go over to the Wagners' house and spend time with Dorathea's mum until Dorathea came home. A perfectly innocent plan. Nothing suspicious about that whatsoever. Eventually Dorathea came into the room and the three of them started chatting. Dorathea's mum asked Bob: "What are you doing tomorrow?" Now, Bob was apparently famous for being very slow at answering questions. Dorathea eventually got tired of waiting and said: "You're taking me out, aren't you?" And that, as they say, was that.

The first date was the Royal Show. Then the drive-in. Then visits across the road. And whenever something went wrong for the rest of their lives, Bob apparently had the perfect response:
"Your fault — you asked me out." That's romance, Bob-style.

The Proposal:
Eventually came Dorathea's 18th birthday on the 6th of January. Bob finally plucked up enough courage to tell her he loved her. This was a big moment. Bob waited nervously for her response. And Dorothea responded…
I luv you, I luv you said the little blue man,
I luv you, I luv you to bits.
I luv you, I luv you said the little blue man
And frightened me out of my wits.
Not exactly the romantic declaration Bob had been hoping for. Dorathea explained that she'd only known him for a couple of months — and most of that time he'd been away. So they decided to wait until Bob turned 21 on the July 5th 1959 -
Which gave Bob plenty of time to go back to the bush and think about where he'd gone wrong.
The wedding: On the 22nd of October 1960, Bob and Dorathea were married at St Stephen's Lutheran Church. Pastor W.W. Fritsch officiated. They had a lovely afternoon wedding and reception at the church hall. Afterwards, they headed off on their honeymoon, travelling through Mount Gambier, Melbourne and Sydney with their car and caravan.

Life in the bush
Their first trip to the bush after the wedding involved towing the caravan which was to become their first home. The River Darling was in flood, so the trip to Emaroo Station that should have taken around 14 hours ended up taking almost a week.
Bob's mum was convinced Dorathea would never want to go back. But Dorathea apparently thought it was an adventure. Which was fortunate…because she had married a man whose idea of a good career was driving into the middle of nowhere and drilling holes. Bob absolutely loved it. He loved the freedom, the peace and the challenge of getting good water flows to remote outback stations.

Eventually, the family began to grow.
Gregory was their first born, arriving 27th Jan 1962, followed by Diana on Nov. 18th 1963, Tricia 14th Aug 1965 and Virginia on 16th Nov 1966. Brenton came 8 yrs later on 14th Oct 1974. Five children. A wife. A caravan. A boring plant. And the Australian bush. What could possibly go wrong? Well…quite a lot, as it turned out.

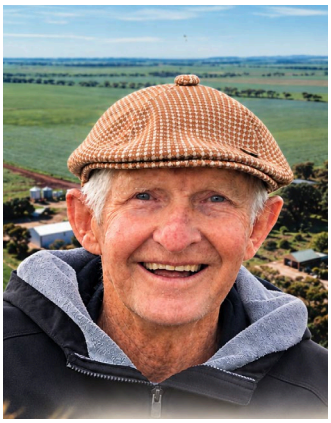
Bob's Boring Plant Stories
There are many stories about Bob's years working with his boring plant. And some of them probably shouldn't be called "boring" at all. One time, nephew Brian was holidaying with Bob in the bush. Bob was giving Brian some very sensible safety advice: "Don't get too close to any moving parts." Sound advice Excellent advice. The sort of advice you would expect from an experienced professional. Unfortunately, shortly afterwards, Bob got his jumper caught up in one of the belts. So Brian learned two valuable lessons that day:
One — stay away from moving machinery.
And two — don't necessarily copy everything Uncle Bob does. Another time, Bob was waiting for the slush pump to come out of the bore hole. He thought he'd make good use of the time and do a bit of reading. A lovely peaceful moment. Bob reading a book. The bush around him. The boring plant ticking away. Then suddenly… the slush pump decided it had other plans. It came up and went straight over the top of the boring plant. Apparently, Bob's reading session was over. Bob always had a Primus stove, billy and mugs on board. Because no matter how bad things got, there was always time for a cuppa tea. You could be stuck in the middle of nowhere. The boring plant could be bogged. The weather could be terrible. The machinery could be misbehaving. But Bob would still be thinking: "Righto… who's for a cuppa?" Bob was also very practical. He always made sure he could put up a clothesline. If there were trees, he'd tie a line from tree to tree. If there weren't any trees, he'd dig two holes. And if necessary, he'd use part of the boring equipment to hold the clothesline up. Because apparently even in the middle of the outback…the washing still had to be done.
You could have been 500 kilometres from the nearest town, but Bob wasn't going to let a lack of infrastructure interfere with laundry day. Then there was the washing machine. An old Simpson washing machine was purchased, and Bob did what Bob did best. He modified it. He changed the electric motor over to a petrol-driven motor. It could be kick-started like a motorbike, or you could wrap a cord around the pulley and pull it to start it. One had to be creative when there was no power to run normal electric whitegoods.

The farm
Time came for Gregory to start school. This was when it was decided to purchase a home. Bob liked the idea of raising the children in the country so Corcoran's Corner at Blyth was purchased in 1967. Don Zweck was the first local on the scene to help the family move in and also help the city couple learn how to milk cows and take care of their newly acquired farmlet. They started with two cows, two calves, a pig, and lots of ducks and chooks. And Bob continued doing what Bob did best — fixing things, building things, working things out and generally keeping himself busy.
He picked up part-time work at Mid North Engineers in Clare, drove the Blyth school bus and continued doing windmill repairs in the area.
Eventually, he returned to the bush for well-boring while Dorathea and the family stayed on the farm. He continued going away for work until 2003 and then carried on with windmill repairs in the mid north area. Later, Brenton became involved with the farm and the Zweck dairy. And eventually Bob slowed down a little. Although I'm sure if you asked Bob, he'd say: "I haven't slowed down. I'm just working more efficiently."

Bob and Dorathea
Bob and Dorathea also enjoyed travelling once the children had grown up. They travelled with the caravan to the Flinders Ranges, Darwin, Alice Springs and Kangaroo Island. They travelled to Cairns and Tasmania and went on trips with Bute Buses, including the famous 4WD trip to Birdsville and beyond. After a lifetime of hard work, Bob and Dorathea enjoyed church outings, spending time with friends and visiting family. And after everything they had been through together…after the bush… the caravans…the boring plants…the cows… the children…the windmills…and 65 plus years of marriage…Bob finally got to slow down. He often said he didn't want to downsize any other way than in a wooden box. Bob also had said that when his time came, he wanted to go out like a light and on 30th July, at home, Bob's light went out.
And, as it turns out…Bob got his wish. Bob was a husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather, brother, uncle and friend. He was a farmer, a mechanic, a well borer, a bushman and, quite frankly, a man who could turn almost anything into a piece of machinery. So, Bob…thank you for the memories. Thank you for the laughs. Thank you for the stories. And thank you for giving us plenty of material to talk about today.

Goodbye, Bob.
May you rest in peace, and may you finally be free from boring plants, bogged machinery, broken windmills and washing machines that you can start like a motorbike. And if there's a clothesline in heaven…I'm sure you'll find a way to improve it. Rest peacefully, Bob. You will be loved, remembered and missed.

Eulogy:
BARRY DESMOND KENNETT
16/6/1937 - 20/09/2026









Barry Desmond Kennett was a devoted husband to Joan, loving father to Julie, Christine and Steven, much-loved brother to Malcolm and Robert, and proud Pop and Great Pop to nine grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

Born in Kadina on 16 June 1937 to Beulah and Harold, Barry grew up with a cheeky sense of humour and a love of adventure. After moving to Blyth, he left school at 14 and a half to work alongside his father on the family farm.

He played football for Blyth, celebrating a premiership in 1956, and Enjoyed motorbikes, dances and time with mates.

It was at a dance at Stanley Flat that Barry met his beloved Joan. They married on 23 May 1959 and built a wonderful life together on the farm Barry had purchased with his brother Malcolm. There they raised their three children, established the dairy and created a home filled with love, laughter and memories.

Barry loved the land, his animals and especially his dogs. For his grandchildren, the farm was a place of adventure - pony rides, tractors, motorbikes, learning to drive and plenty of mischief with Pop. A keen golfer and bowler, Barry served as president of both clubs and valued the friendships and community spirit they brought. He loved a good yarn, a laugh and the occasional drink with mates.

As life allowed, Barry and Joan enjoyed travelling Australia in their caravan. In 2009, they celebrated 50 years of marriage before Joan sadly passed away later that year. Barry later found companionship with Faye, sharing several happy years before losing her too.

Hardworking and determined, Barry continued milking cows until he was 83. Even as dementia affected his independence, his humour and stubborn spirit remained. Barry's greatest pride was always his family. He delighted in his grandchildren and great-grandchildren, including little Etta, whom he was able to meet over FaceTime.

Barry will be remembered for his kindness, generosity, wonderful smile, cheeky humour and the countless memories he gave those he loved.

After 17 years apart, we take comfort in imagining Barry reunited with his beloved Joan.

His work is done, his rest well earned, and the love he planted will continue to grow for generations to come.

BLYTH TOWN GARAGE SALE

OCTOBER 25TH 2026

9:00AM – 1:00PM



$10.00 Cost to be on the town map

Hub at the Cinema Carpark for 'out of towners'

Maps to be collected on the day from On The Plains Café.

Organised by the Blyth Progress Association.
To book your spot or any further information – please contact Kristin Carling
Phone: 0400 739 337
Email: carling.kristin@yahoo.com

Eulogy:
JEFFREY RAYMOND CLARK
9/7/1936 - 5/10/2026

Born on the 9th July 1936 at the Blyth hospital, to Aver & Doris Clark, Dad grew up on the family farm at Kybunga with his younger brother Adrian. He attended the Kybunga primary school until year 6, when he left to work on the family farm after grandpa became seriously ill.. He would have been about 11 years old. Dad knew what hard work meant from a very young age. Years later they purchased the Wiech's farm which was to become Dad & Mums home where they would raise their family.

Dad first laid eyes on Mum at a dance in Auburn, Mum spoke to Dad in passing & in Dad's own words, he thought she was a bit of alright. From that moment on he couldn't get her out of his mind. 2 weeks later on a Saturday, Dad drove around from one sporting ground to another to look for her. He didn't know her name or where she came from, but he was determined to find her. He eventually found her at Watervale. It was her 16th birthday & she had just finished a game of basketball. Dad asked Mum to join him at a dance the following weekend, so began a long true love affair.

Dad never formally proposed to Mum - they just knew they were meant to be together. Mum and Dad married on the 8th of April 1961 and began their life together on their farm at Kybunga. In 1962 Sharon was born, followed by Kerri in 1964 and David in 1968. Their little family was now complete. Dad could be a persuasive man; Mum went from not going near the chook house at her parents place as 'she didn't want to get her nails dirty', to rising to the challenges of farm life. Us kids also chipped in with chores, like; picking paddy melons, stone picking, hoeing artichokes and tailing lambs, although our motivation was more from getting to drive the ute, and MAYBE getting to go out Saturday night.

Dad was a man who wore many hats, he was a hard worker with a strong work ethic, he was a loyal friend & a very proud husband, father, & poppa. But to us, he was simply our dad.
…our Dad, who's somewhat embarrassing laugh we have each inherited!

One story that captures Dad so well was when he & Mum were dating. Dad was at Leasingham helping his future father in law & brother in law prune their fruit trees. It was bitterly cold, so they decided to buy a flagon of port to warm themselves up while they worked. Our Grandpa & Uncle were up on ladders & it was Dad's job to keep their cups full. Inevitably, he was drinking 2 cups to their one & when it was time for Dad to pick Mum up from work, he was a little bit pickled! Needless to say, Mum was not happy! She was a tee totaller, & he had some serious explaining to do. When we think of that day, we can picture Dad so clearly, eager to help, keen to please, always up for a laugh, but somehow getting himself into trouble along the way.

He gave that same energy to his community, serving on many voluntary organisations. He drove the Blyth community bus for many years, assisting the elderly residents with their weekly shopping. Dad & Mum moved to Balaklava in 2005, after they leased their farm & Dad immediately became involved with the Balaklava Lions Club. He loved helping people, & after the Pinery bushfire they were indeed very busy for a long time, clearing debris, mending fences & being there to support the farming families affected by the bushfire.

Even though Dad was busy with his voluntary work, he always found time to help Wayne, Sharon, Ben & Sam on the farm. One time we had finished harvest at Blyth & the men were very keen to get the machinery back to Brinkworth. There were a multitude of field bins & machinery to move. Never fear, Jeff is here, again he took control. Mum was in the lead to warn us of oncoming traffic, followed closely by Dad, constantly on the CB radio telling us what to do. There were 8 of us shifting this convoy back to Brinkworth; Dad, Wayne, Mum, Sharon, David, Adam, Ben, & Sam. He gets on the CB radio asking us to pull in closer together, which we did, then we were too close. This continued for 40 km, with Dad in total control & no-one was game enough to challenge him otherwise. He was quite proud of himself.

After Mum passed away, Dad was heartbroken & lost. At 78 years old he had to learn how to clean, wash, shop, garden, pay bills & cook (not very well at the beginning we might add - with many a meal ending up in the bin) "but" his cooking skills did improve overtime with help & guidance from Sharon & Kerri.

We approached Dad to see if he could help out through harvest, hoping that it would help him fill the void left by Mum. He loved the buzz & excitement of harvest, and would even take the caravan up to Sharon and Wayne's to stay. One day he left lunch early to load the truck. He was so proud of himself for being so helpful, to his amazement the truck filled very quickly. Not realising the tarp hadn't been rolled back. He was loading the grain directly onto the tarp.

He also had that wonderful farmers trait of leaving all the doors open of every vehicle he drove during harvest, so you can imagine what state the vehicles looked like inside.

Dad loved sport, playing football, tennis & cricket in his younger years, then lawn bowls in his latter years. He followed in his father's footsteps with his love for woodworking, creating many pieces of furniture for family & friends. He had a clear passion for farming, and driving his beloved trucks. He enjoyed going for Sunday drives, motorbike rides & fishing with his mates, & in his retirement, his vegetable garden. We all loved his home grown fruit, vegies & tomato sauce that he & Mum would make together. A tradition that Kerri & Sharon continued after Mum passed away & before Dad went into fulltime care, in June 2019.

Dad had a real strong love & affection for animals, having had many pets in his lifetime, mainly dogs, cats & later his beloved Cocky, gifted by David after Mum's passing, that went everywhere with him. The animal whisperer, we used to call him, & while that affection for animals was passed down to all us kids, it's never been more evident than in our brother David & his nephew Sam. Ben & Sam's dogs adored Dad, never leaving his side during seeding & harvest. He would even let them sleep in the caravan with him.

Dad was passionate about caravanning, camping & having adventures; Mum and Dad's travels taking them through many rural & remote areas of Australia. They shared this wonderful time of their life with beautiful friends, Barry & Joan, Sue & Kevin, Barry & Winsome, Noel & Maureen, Jeff & Carly, Leon & Dora, David & Maxine, Charles & Vicki, Max & Yevonne, Ian & Jenny; and many others, creating lasting memories. Something that our family are so grateful for.

Sadly, months after Mum passed away, it became evident that Dad wasn't travelling well, it was difficult in the beginning to know if it was grief, or was there something else going on. Dad was eventually diagnosed with Alzhiemers Dementia, & from that day moving forward, he took our family on a journey. After a couple of falls, Dad spent some time in hospital recuperating . This led to him having respite at Carinya on a couple of occasions before making the decision to stay permanently. This was a challenging time, to say the least. Dad was still able to enjoy his independence under supervision, our family would take him out regularly.

During this time, Kerri & Andrew had promised to take Dad over to Wallaroo for fish & chips on the beach. When they took Dad over it was an absolute cracker of a day – perfectly calm. They had recently purchased a paddle board, so thought they would give it a try. After Kerri & Andrew each had a go, they asked Dad if he would like to lay on it. Keeping in mind that he was 85 years old at the time, after a bit of a struggle & a few laughs, Dad eventually got up on there. On his hands & knees catching his breath, he told Kerri to lay it still - as he was going to stand up! "No you are not standing up" Kerri said. Dad's response was "Why." After being told, "Because you will hurt yourself," he just laughed at Kerri & said "water doesn't hurt yourself". In true Jeffrey style, while he was still on his hands & knees, he started to rock the paddle board from side to side & was trying to stand up. After they all had a few giggles & a few more words, and threatening to take Dad back to shore if he didn't behave himself; they eventually persuaded Dad to finally just sit his butt on the board so Kerri could take him for a little paddle. This was a wonderful day spent with Dad that Kerri & Andrew will always treasure.

Sadly, over time his disease progressed to the point where we couldn't take him out anymore. One evening Sharon went down to give him his evening meal, she hadn't had a good day. Dad had his stitchy, witchy, bitchy pants on. He started rolling his food around in his mouth, all the while staring at Sharon. Then came the almighty spit. Sharon looked at dad angrily & said "do that again & I'll go home". He reacted to the tone of her voice & hung his head in shame.

We would like to sincerely thank all the staff at Carinya, who, lovingly cared for dad & us, through many challenging times. The compassion, support & empathy you showed our family is truly a gift. True inner beauty comes from a heart that is kind & warm, & shows genuine human connection. Thankyou again for being our extended family over these years. Dad's legacy will always be his family, who he loved very much. He leaves behind Wayne & Sharon, Andrew & Kerri, David & Mandy. His grandchildren, Ben & Emma, Tim & Nikki, Sam & Michelle, Emma & Locky, Jack & Megan, Denae & Josh, Matthew & Kylie, Zane, Tyron & Estelle, Olivia & Scott. His great grandchildren, Ava, Riley, Max, Elsie, Fletcher, Ivy, Elly, Archie, Quinn, Flynn, Hayden, Tyler, Levi, Isla, Harry, Ella, Grace & Sophia.

On the 5th of October at 4pm, Dad passed away peacefully in Carinya, aged 90 years & 3 months. We will miss his sense of humour, his cheeky, quirky ways, & the love & loyalty he gave us, his family. We would like Dad to be remembered as a man of great character, strength, loyalty & integrity. He was stubborn in life, & stubborn in death. Rest easy Dad, sleep the long sleep. You have certainly earned it. We love you longtime.
A life well lived.
A love well shared.
Reunited with the love of his life.

Eulogy (edited):
JEFF PRATT
Rob Pratt & Deb Heinjus read their father Jeff's Eulogy:
"Dad has actually written part of his own eulogy … and seems to have been working on it for some years now! …. We've been going through pages and pages of yarns…

Jeffery Russell Pratt was born on 25th May 1937 to Lindsay & Ethel Pratt at the Blyth District Hospital. He was the youngest of 3 boys, a brother to Gerald who was 10 years older than him & Ross, who was 5 yrs older.
When Dad was 2 years old, it was a very hot summer with an 11 day heatwave of 117 degrees F, or 47 degrees C, so his auntie Beatie looked after him in the cellar at their farmhouse, "Boskey Dell" about 7kms west of Blyth.

In his early years, Dad went to Blyth Primary School & boarded with Barrie Mugge's grandma in Blyth x4 days/week because the distance, 7 kms, was too far to travel every day. This was the beginning of a life-long friendship with Barrie Mugge. Jeff later went on to gain his Intermediate Certificate at Clare High School. Generations haven't changed much it seems… some of our kids loved to play 'Ding, Dong, Dash' in Blyth & Clare when they were young & Dad & Barrie were up to the same antics 80 years ago! – Barrie would tie a string to the back door-knocker of the local policeman's house, Mr Fowler, & Jeff would tie a string to the front door- knocker …. they would then alternate pulling the string to knock on one door after the other, whilst hiding in the bushes – this drove the poor man crazy! They thought they were pretty smart because as an alibi, they would then go to Doug Lloyd's house to play pool … however, one day… when they arrived home at Grandma Mugge's, the cop was waiting for them, 'scaring the daylights out of them'!

Dad remembered when he was 7, the terrible drought of 1944 and the horrendous dust storms which were ever present. It would be dark on some days at 4pm, the chooks would go to sleep & regularly Papa Lindsay, would wheelbarrow top soil from their back porch.
When Dad was 8 years old there was great excitement around the world when the war ended! He writes "Our Australian fighter planes celebrated by flying low from Mallala to Pt Pirie, Dad (Lindsay) was frightened they were going to hit the chimneys on Boskey Dell!

During his younger years, Dad had a love for birdnesting, collecting many different eggs…. Also rabbiting with guns & dogs. Every year he would pick quandongs on back roads, & when Tyson was small, he would sometimes accompany his papa, returning to "Boskey Dell" & excitedly telling mum "Nanny, we've been picking condoms!"
Dad dearly wanted to be a farmer so he left school in 1952 at the age of 15 to help his father, Lindsay, & his 2 brothers. 1956 was a year to remember: record flooding of the River Murray, the first bulk handling of wheat at the Blyth Railway Station and the Melbourne Olympics which the 3 brothers & Barrie attended, you can just imagine!

In 1959, there was a terrible drought… so dry, the men could not finish seeding, cows were dead in dams & there was very little water. In August 1959, Dad & Gerald decided to venture north to Adelaide River & Borroloola, NT … into the great unknown. Many Blyth people had doubts if they would see us again!
They didn't have any experience in the outback - weather conditions, crocodiles, snakes, buffalo and the roads were terrible, very rough with patches of bull dust 2, 3, 4 kms long .

Severe droughts were present through the 60s and 70s and there were times when Jeff would reap all day with a 15' Massey auto header to fill the box for only 28 bags of grain. But following the bad years there would quite often be good rains, creeks flowing and the promise of more profitable times ahead. 1960 was a bumper season, so the Pratts bought an 18 foot John Deere header for $5280 to reap their big crops. Gerald had a set pattern & this was their general day at seeding time: starting at 3am, he would cook bacon & eggs & all would have to have a schooner of Coopers beer for breakfast. Dad writes, "We would work til 8pm with poor lights, the idea was we would have to be the last ones to turn the lights off, & in the mornings, the first ones to turn the lights on" …very long days! "The nights were freezing - no cabins, army coats & a piece of canvas over your knees to keep the cold out". During many hot harvest days, we remember Dad with no cab on the header, out in the itchy barley dust, a wet towel around his neck to keep him cool, arms bleeding from the sweat & clipper barley chaff.

We find it amazing for people in Dad's generation, just what changes they have seen. Most people here would not remember a time without a mobile phone. He has gone from riding horses, to these days, driverless cars; horse-drawn equipment, to computerised automated machinery and GPS.
Dad & his 3 brothers always worked hard & played even harder! … a motto installed into all of us from a young age.

While Dad was playing tennis at Saddleworth during the summer of 1960, he met the love of his life, Marleen Behn. She was from a hard-working German-descent farming family, 1 of 7 children, & was employed at Eudunda Farmers in Saddleworth at the time - he said she was pretty & had a kind nature which he took a liking to. He would often tell us that it was love at first sight for him, thought she was a good "sort", and they were married in the evening on 2nd Sept 1961. That day, Dad played football at Redhill in the afternoon where he claims he kicked the winning goal!

That year, Mum & Dad moved into the Pratt homestead, "Boskey Dell", where they lived until 1997, Dad residing there for 60 years, 7 weeks & 1 day. Over the course of 6 years, they had 4 children…Darren, myself (Debbie), Kevin & Robert… life was very busy revolving around the farm, sport & church. Since then, Dad has been blessed with 12 grandchildren & currently 9 great grandchildren, all of whom he loved so much.
We used to be more or less self-sufficient on the farm when we were young – we had cropping, sheep, Hereford cows, pigs, chooks, geese, pet rabbits, guinea pigs, peacocks & dogs.

Dad loved farming… he was excited with new innovations & kept expanding where he could. He was always down the shed modifying some piece of equipment! In 1962, he was most proud to introduce Festuguy wheat to the Blyth District. That year, dad along with Ross, brother-in-law Rob Behn & Keith Glazbrook went on a road trip to visit brother Gerald who was growing Festuguy wheat then & said it was an excellent variety, high yielding & rust resistant. While in Crooble, Jeff became ill & was forced to fly home. In his place in the car on the trip back to SA, was a bag of Festuguy wheat instead! Later, that variety spread throughout the district giving everyone confidence to grow a rust resistant wheat.

Some of our best family times were spent on holidays at Wallaroo where, in 1963, Dad & Ross had a shack built on North Beach amongst the sand dunes. The brothers eventually bought a boat together & we all had so much fun water-skiing, fishing & snorkelling. We had many parties & lots of great times until we sold the shack in 1997. All of the family regularly attended St Margaret's Anglican Church in Blyth where Dad was a warden for 42 years. Services were held every fortnight at 8am!! Believe me, even if we kids were severely under the weather. There was definitely no sympathy & we were dragged out of bed to attend!
By 1983, Dad had 2 sons home on the farm, Darren & Kevin. Robert joined Cav Power & I (Debbie) was employed at the Reserve Bank in Adelaide.

In 1992 our family was devasted by Darren's terrible accident. Dad writes, "thanks to the family and community for helping me through this very difficult time'. Following Darren's accident, Robert returned to the family farm & Dad decided to retire, handing over control to Kevin & Robert
In his later years, Dad continued to stay involved on the farm, & in 1985, he also took on the role of a district crop assessor, aided by mum helping to complete the huge amount of paperwork involved, the dynamic duo! When hail storms, fire, over-spraying or stock intrusion occurred across statewide farming communities, they would be called upon to assess the extent of the damage. Dad did this for 30 years and enjoyed immensely the networking with other farmers, only retiring from that role when the bookwork went digital. Technology did him in! Dad & Mum built a house in Clare and moved off the farm on 16th July 1997. The house is situated on a 2-acre block on the side of a hill in the Golf Club Estate, complete with a sign "East Blyth" at its entrance, which caused quite the stir when it was erected. Mum & Dad took great pride & immense pleasure in establishing a beautiful garden which was opened on occasion to the general public, also used for the odd wedding photos.

When Dad first retired, he took up grape pruning in the Clare Valley. He was there for 4 years, was more productive than the other workers so thought he should be paid more. He approached the boss & said "I think I'm worth another couple of bucks an hour extra. I know I can get it somewhere else!" …. trying to bluff his boss. With that the boss said, "Ok, go & get it!" and sacked him on the spot! He claims it was "the first time he'd ever been hired & the first time he'd ever been fired!"

Dad took a very keen interest in local history, as you can tell, and in 2015, helped Helen Perry signpost all the old schools in the district. He has also supplied a great deal of memorabilia to the Blyth History Room and many photos for the 2 Blyth books.

Football was a huge part of Dad's life, being heavily involved with Committees & working bees. He was awarded a 300 A Grade game Merit Award and in 1966 a Life Membership of the Blyth Football Club. He coached Blyth teams to premierships, and also played in Blyth premierships. Many life-long friendships have been formed through this connection. There was some hard footy played in those days, and there were a lot of fights on and off the field. Dad had the nickname, "Snotty Nose Pratt" as he carried a hanky in the front of his shorts, still not sure why. I think Dad had a bit of white line fever and didn't mind a bit of biff… he had some fierce run-ins with guys like Graham Ashby, (Gulnare) Sid Weckert, (Brinkworth) and the Ottens brothers, (Redhill) but Dad had the confidence because he had Bruce Hentschke and Ross on his side. But after the game, all was forgotten and they would all get together and drink some long-necks …. until their next meeting, and it would happen all over again.

When Blyth joined Snowtown to form the Cats, Dad became one of their biggest supporters…. so much so that he's actually buried wearing his white Cats shirt & Club tie! He was always getting out there amongst it with the boys on the weekends, shaking hands, having a chat, enjoying a beer and tooting his car horn from the sidelines all from the comfort of his reserved parking space.

He also had granddaughters playing netball and would follow them just as much, shouting encouragement from the side lines with Mum. He loved seeing the girls win a couple of premierships and would punch the air with his signature, '"You Beauty or a Whoo Hoo!".
Dad played footy in winter and tennis in summer. He & mum played many Saturdays together with Jan & Neville Roberts, Max & Yvonne Carling…. Dad & Shorty were champion doubles partners. They loved playing in the Easter Carnival at Blyth that ran over 4 days, coming up quite often against the Lamond brothers from Kybunga. Dad was patron for many years, also receiving a Life Membership for his services.

After retiring from football in 1974, Jeff began playing bowls and became President in 1985 & a Life Member in 1986. He won a lot of premierships with the club and used to especially enjoy the road trips with the "boys" to play in other towns. For those familiar with the game of bowls… it is quite rare to hold 8 shots on an end while playing 4s. If this occurs you get a badge to pin on your hat. Dad has 6 of them pinned to his bowls hat and loved the fact that he and his mates had pulled the feat off more than once! He played until his legs gave up on him and was quite upset to be forced to stop – he did however, continue to go to bowls teas to catch up with his mates.
He wrote that over the 25 years of his work in these 3 Blyth sporting clubs, he was very grateful to Mum for her tremendous support, especially with fundraising events.

During Dad's involvement with sport, mum started flower designing as a hobby and Dad was Mum's assistant, making flower stands, welding things together, collecting and buying plants and flowers for the arrangements. He helped Mum take this hobby all around Australia & the world, to International Flower shows and exhibitions in Canada, New Zealand & India. In Africa, they met & shook hands with Nelson Mandela! In 2010, dad was so chuffed and proud when Mum was awarded an OAM for her service to floral art plus her community service to the Blyth district.

Mum and Dad accomplished so much travel during their life together, with dad's eye for photography, you can imagine how many albums he has filled over the years! He even took a closeup photo of the Queen at the 'Changing of the Guard' in London. It is indeed a blessing that he took so many photos & was keen to record history to such an extent, not only for the family, but future generations of the Blyth District.
Last year, Dad suffered a number of falls at home resulting in a fractured hip & an operation in Calvary Hospital. Following this, we were very fortunate to get a room for Dad at Walara Nursing Home in Riverton where he made some very special friends. This was his new community.

Dad fell ill and spent a week in the Lyell Mc hospital. He would wake up and see Mum and say "you still here Mum?" She would say "yes I'm still here". He would then pucker up for a kiss and get a kiss. He would fall asleep for a while and then wake up and say it to Debbie and pucker up for a kiss again. He'd fall asleep again, wake up and say "Kathy dear you're still here and pucker up again. This went on all day; he was definitely lapping up the attention.
We got him back to his room at Walara on Tuesday morning which was great to get him back to familiar surroundings. Typical Dad, the nurse would come in and say "Hi Jeffery, how are you going?" He would say "Oh I'm alright dear, how are you going?"

Debbie, Kath and I were very privileged to be with Mum and Dad when he passed. So many people don't get that opportunity and while it was sad, it was also very nice. We could tell he was nearing the end, and then all of a sudden, he opened his eyes and looked at Mum. I'm sure he was trying to pucker up for another kiss but he couldn't. He then shed a silent tear, I knew he was sad to leave Mum, the love of his life. He then closed his eyes and passed away at 12.30 am on Wednesday 12th August.

Dad has had many close and cherished friendships over his life-time – as well as those already mentioned …. Merv Smitham, Trevor Kellock, 6x Longmire & Eckermann boys, Maureen & Noel Wiech, Dean & Molly Eldredge, Mick & Joy Martin, John Woods, & his neighbours: Frosty & Dorothy Eckermann, the Kennett families, Trevor & Anna Eime, Woodsy, just to name a few. We thank them for their contribution to his life.

We need to acknowledge the part Mum has played over the course of their marriage, particularly the last few years with dad's deteriorating health. Dad lost his licence about 3 years ago, after a couple of small incidents…

Mum has therefore been his 'wheels' ever since. She was also on a constant roller-coaster of Drs appointments with Jeff, sometimes on a weekly basis! She travelled to Riverton a few times each week to visit him & also tackled the huge amount of paperwork involved with aged care placement … Marleen is one of those people who always takes things in her stride, thank you, Mum, for your unwavering love & support of dad, you were definitely his soul-mate.

In conclusion, Dad writes, "I have been so fortunate to have lived in such a wonderful country, with a loving family and great friends. My life has been so full that I feel like I've lived for 200 years!

RIP Dad, you will be missed by so many!"





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