

Power Generation Board Games a Hit with Students

Power generation board games sponsored by NRG are proving a real hit with Year 7 students from Gladstone South State School.

Year 7 Science Coordinator and former NRG Sciences Technician Sandra McLeod said the students had been studying a unit on electricity and the board games had proved to be brilliant hands on activity.

“The unit is one of our key units of work and the students not only learn about power generation alternatives but also about teamwork using construction as a motivational tool,” Sandra said.

The unit involves students designing a board game with questions about a chosen electricity generation type and listing multiple choice questions about this topic. Lights, buzzers and motors are wired up to the correct responses making the game interactive and lots of fun for the students.

“We have been using the boards now for a couple of years and we would like to thank NRG for their generous donation towards the costs of the boards,” Sandra said.



Gladstone South State School Year 7 Science teacher Sandra McLeod and her students proudly display one of the power generation boards sponsored by NRG.



The students enjoyed showing off their new power generation boards.

NRG Victorious in Cricket Challenge

NRG’s cricketers proved they were up to the challenge after snaring a convincing victory over Cement Australia in the third annual Industries of Gladstone 20/20 Cricket Challenge held at the Boyne Tannum Cricket Club last month.

The NRG team comprising Lachlan Perkins, Mitchell Inwood, Shelton Haywood, Dylan Stitt, Joshua Worley, Cameron Phillips, Steven Heit, Ryan Fawzi, Steven Heard, Cameron Smith and Ken Wogandt made a respectable total of 214 while Cement Australia could only manage a 178 in reply.

Team captain Lachlan Perkins top scored with 60 runs while versatile all rounder Ken Wogandt was the pick of the bowlers with three wickets.

This year teams from QAL, BSL, Rio Tinto Alcan Yarwun, QGC, Orica Cement Australia, GPC as well NRG competed in the two day competition which featured guest invitational Bulls legends Jimmy Maher, Michael Kasprovicz, Ashley Noffke and Chris Simpson.

“This is the first time NRG has entered a team in the competition and all the boys enjoyed the camaraderie and the friendly rivalry

while at the same time raising money for a good cause,” Lachlan said.

BITS Cricket spokesperson Nev Judd said over \$4,500 had been raised from the weekend for the McGrath Foundation which provides breast care nurses for women in rural and regional Australia.

Upcoming Rec Club Events

- 21-23 October - Cania Gorge
- 5-6 November - Heron Island
- 18 November - Adults Christmas Party at the Gladstone Golf Club
- 4 December - Kids Christmas Party at the Western Suburbs Pool

From Shoey's Desk

The Importance of "Keeping the Lights On"

Dear Folks

Electricity is something that you and I very much take for granted here in Gladstone in the 21st Century. Flicking the switch and the lights just come on is something we do not give a moments thought to. We do not stop and think about how electricity has changed the world we live in. It is this safe, clean, convenient and cheap



An all too familiar image that is currently being played out in The Horn of Africa today.

energy form that arguably has changed many things about our lives. At its most basic level it is electricity that pumps the water that flows through our taps, it is electricity that cooks our food, it is electricity that allows us to store things in refrigerators, it is electricity that keeps us cool in summer and can heat us in winter and it is electricity that provides us with light. Today, it is electricity that powers the computers and the "Information Age" in which we live.

However, today 1.6 billion people - a quarter of humanity lives without electricity. In developing

countries some 2.5 billion people are forced to rely on biomass - fuelwood, charcoal and animal dung - to meet their energy needs for cooking. In sub-Saharan Africa, over 80 percent of the population depends on traditional biomass for cooking, as do over half of the populations of India and even still China. Indoor air pollution resulting from the use of solid fuels (by poorer segments of society) is a major killer. **It claims the lives of 1.5 million people each year, more than half of them below the age of five: that is 4,000 deaths a day.** To put this number in context, it exceeds total deaths from malaria and rivals the number of deaths from tuberculosis. There are many things that contribute to the level of real poverty in our world; one of those is a lack of safe, clean, convenient and cheap energy.

Electricity, this safe, clean, convenient and cheap energy form has the power to change the world as well as sustain our own little bit of it.

So next time you flick the switch, think of what electricity has done and what it will do in the future.

GPS – Keeping The Lights On

Regards
SHOEY
Glenn Schumacher
GENERAL MANAGER

Ethan's off to WorldSkill Nationals

Third year fabrication apprentice, Ethan Horrocks is off to the WorldSkills Nationals after taking out first place in the welding category at the Central Queensland WorkSkill competition held at the Gladstone TAFE College last month.

During the competition Ethan was required to demonstrate his proficiency in positional mig and stick welds.

Ethan was well pleased with his efforts and is looking forward to attending the national competition to be held in Sydney in May 2012.

"I went in the competition to get some experience and was pleased that I am able to make it to the next level," Ethan said.

Ethan wished to thank his fellow tradesmen and work mentors for their support in leading up to the competition.

NRG Boilermaker Craig McGuinness also acted as a judge for the competition.

The WorldSkill competition is held across Australia every two years and provides an excellent opportunity for apprentices to showcase their skills and put in practice what they have learned.

Other apprentices who competed in the regional competition were Kris Fleming (fabrication), Brodie Huth and Aaron Hanrahan (fitting).

Congratulations to all the apprentices who competed.



Ethan will be attending the WorldSkill Nationals in Sydney in May 2012.

Earthwatch Scholarship Winners Announced

The opportunity to participate in an all expenses paid two week environmental experience awaits NRG employees Kelvin Bebendorf and John Dickfos who were recently announced as this year's Earthwatch winners.

Kelvin said he was looking forward to taking up his two week scholarship on the Charles Darwin Reserve in the south west Botanical Province of Western Australia. The area is an internationally recognised "hotspot" for biodiversity requiring urgent conservation. The region covers only 4% of Australia but has 52% of the nation's rare and threatened plant species.

"The trip will give me a greater appreciation of the impact feral and introduced animals have in this area, and how we can preserve our unique environment for future generations."

The project Kelvin will be working on involves evaluating the feral animal control program on the reserve and exploring alternative methods that may be more financially and ecologically effective.

As a volunteer Kelvin will be involved in conducting biodiversity surveys and helping to deploy camera traps.

John Dickfos will spend two weeks in Cape Otway which is located at the southern tip of Victoria's western coast. The region has a rich fauna featuring high densities of koalas, ring tailed possums and swamp wallabies.

With climate change expected to have a significant adverse effect on koala populations an understanding of the response of koalas is critical for conservation of their populations. The project will focus on koala population density, sex structure and productivity for the major forest types in the Cape Otway region.

"As volunteers our role will be to assist in the search for koalas, recording information on data sheets and identifying eucalyptus trees," John said.

John said some other reasons for applying to be an Earthwatch volunteer included

- being an ambassador for GPS and Gladstone

- meeting other people and having time to hear about their backgrounds
- gaining more knowledge about koalas
- visiting a part of Australia I have not yet had the opportunity to explore

Earthwatch Institute is an international non-profit organisation, which engages people worldwide in scientific field research and education. Each year Earthwatch enables approximately 4000 volunteers to assist in 65 field research projects in more than 35 countries. These projects focus on climate change, cultural heritage, ecosystem services and oceans.



Manager Maintenance, Martin Thomas congratulates John Dickfos and Kelvin Bebendorf who were announced as this year's Earthwatch winners.



Around the Traps

George Creed Bust Unveiled

NRG Unit Controller and well known local sculptor Paul Adamson was invited to attend the unveiling of his latest work, a bronze portrait bust of former Gladstone Regional Council Mayor, George Creed OAM.

The bust, commissioned by local businessman Graeme McVean was unveiled in a special ceremony held at the local council chambers early last month. As well as the Gladstone regional councillors, the ceremony was attended by members of the Creed family and local media.

Having worked on the bust for over six months Paul said he was very happy with the final result and pleased that the bronze likeness was universally praised by the Creed family members.

"I was a little nervous before the unveiling. When you produce a likeness of a person and there are living family members present it will always come under close scrutiny."

"I spent a lot of time getting the detail right with his distinctive Akubra hat, beard and

glasses but winning the approval from the family is always the best compliment a sculptor can receive," Paul said.

Paul's bronze bust of George Creed now sits proudly in the Council Chambers opposite another of Paul's commissions, the bust of former Gladstone Mayor Col Brown.

Paul has been sculpting now for 34 years and was twice awarded "Best Local Artist" at the Annual Martin Hanson Memorial Art Awards. Other works included busts of Matthew Flinders, Henry Lawson, The Overseer (Cedar Galleries), Robert Mackay Brown (a Rockhampton Grammar School benefactor) and a portrait of John Lennon which is on permanent display in "The Beatles Story", a Liverpool museum only one kilometre from where Paul was born.

Paul has also produced a life size kangaroo for Gladstone's Sister City which takes pride of place in the "Australia Garden" on the Island of Onyujima off Saiki, Kyushu, Japan.

Paul said he had always been interested in sculpting since taking lessons from a Russian born Sculptor named George Virine shortly after arriving in Brisbane in 1976.

"The thought of taking a pile of clay and rearranging it into a likeness of someone has always fascinated me. I get a great deal of satisfaction from taking 'an idea' and then being able to transform that idea into a finished bronze that will be around for possibly thousands of years.

Paul has his own foundry but is limited by how much molten bronze one person can lift safely, so larger sculptures are taken to Brisbane for casting.

Paul uses the traditional "Lost Wax" method of casting with modern "Ceramic shell" materials.

A portrait bust starts with clay built up on a wooden support called an armature. After many hours modelling, a plaster mould is taken from the bust. From the plaster mould, an identical plaster copy of the bust is produced. Next another mould, this time made from Silicone rubber is taken from the plaster bust. The moulds are taken to the foundry where a wax copy of the bust is formed inside the silicone moulds. Wax rods called sprues are attached and the wax bust is coated in alternate layers of refractory sand and clay slurry (Ceramic shell). When the shell is built up to the desired thickness, the wax is melted out of the Ceramic shell leaving a void into which molten bronze is poured. When the bronze has cooled, the sprues are cut off and the surface refined. Heat and chemicals are applied to give the finished bronze a patina before sealing the bronze with a protective coating of wax.

Employees interested in viewing Paul's work can go to his Facebook page aptly named "Paul Adamson Sculptor".



Paul works on an early rubber mould of the George Creed bust.



The completed bronze bust now takes pride of place in the council chambers.

Downer Stalwart Retires

Popular Downer electrician Rodney Anderson was farewelled by friends and workmates last month after 10 years working at the power station. Rodney had worked on many upgrades to the switchrooms and switchgear.

"I really enjoyed working on site particularly with many of the NRG employees such as Steve Lewis, Graham Long and Scott Ferrier," Rodney said.

Rodney is planning to do a lot more fishing as well travelling overseas in his retirement.

Rodney is pictured with Steve Lewis and Downer Site Supervisor Jason Ford.



Major Refurbishment Contracts Signed in September



Nev O'Connor and Michael Heap discuss plans for the upgrade of the control room.

During September two major refurbishment contracts were signed as part of the continued refurbishment of GPS. A contract was signed with Invensys Process Solutions the company that supplies the Foxboro Control System that has been controlling the GPS units since 1995 for an upgrade of the control processors. Another contract was signed with Siemens Australia for a Generator Stator Mid-Section.

NRG Manager Major Projects, Stephen Lewis said "The Foxboro Control System at GPS has several components that have become obsolete and unmaintainable so a project was initiated to replace the operator interface and the controllers". Stephen said "The scope of the project was then increased to include a new operating system / operator interface graphics as the modern controllers are no-longer compatible with the existing operating system". The project is scheduled to be undertaken in 2012 and 2013 with the first Unit to be upgraded being Unit 1 during its overhaul in July 2012. The project also includes a rearrangement of the control room with Units 1 and 2 moving to the northeast corner, Units 3 and 4 moving to the northwest corner and Units 5 and 6 moving to old station desk location. The south end of the control room will become the PTW/Outage room.

A decision was recently made to order another spare generator stator mid-section as part of the continued ongoing refurbishment of GPS. "Given the lead time for the manufacture and delivery of a generator stator mid-section is two years, the exposure of not having a spare available (should the existing spare be required) prompted the decision" Stephen commented. The spare will be delivered in late 2013.

Service Register October 2011

The NRG Service Register recognises employees who have completed 10 years service or more in the Queensland electricity industry and who have been employed at GPS since the Sale of the Station (31/3/94). This register is for employees whose anniversary falls during the month of October.

- 33 years Cheryl Jackson
- 32 years Rod Brown, Michael Richters, Brian O'Sullivan
- 30 years Noel Cleary
- 29 years Garth Liddell, Peter Vouvoulis
- 27 years Bruce Green
- 24 years Bruce Janson
- 21 years Bruce Slatter, Barry Albeck, Neil Grother, Glen Kiernan
- 10 years Graeme Hawke

Black Swans Settle on Retention Pond



For years now a number of black swans have made their home on the northern run off settling pond. The swans feed off the water weeds and nest in the bulrushes. Our roving photographer recently caught up with a new batch of baby swans which have taken up a home on Unit 5/6 settling pond.

A ZIP Focus on the Tri Nations

It was with great excitement and anticipation my family and I attended the Tri Nations game between Australia and the Mighty All Blacks on August 27. With the Bledisloe Cup already in the bag for the Kiwi's after winning the first game of two games this year, heading to Suncorp to win the Tri Nations was expected to be achievable but tough for the All Blacks.

The game started at a frenetic pace with the Wallabies focussed and doing all the hard yards in attack, and had it not been for some good defensive work at times the half-time score of 20 – 3 could have been a lot greater for the Aussies. We copped our fair amount of jibes in the first half that's for sure. But at half time I asked a couple of guys "do you think your lead is big enough?" They both said "not against the All Blacks, we needed another try."

While the players are professional sportsmen, fitness and strength is just one component of the game. Ultimately each player must focus their 7 Units on their task and make constant risk management decisions whether that is in offence or defence. Sure, they have to know where the ball is, but hey must also expand their vision to know and foresee what else is going on around them.

The second half saw the All Blacks take control of the game and do what the Aussie's had done to them in the first half. The game became locked up at 20 all, until the Wallabies scored a try to lead it 25 – 20 which would be the final score. Quade Cooper did have the chance to extend the lead to a converted try, but after hooking an earlier penalty shot to the left like a Sunday hacker, he then sprayed the try conversion to the right. My first thought was to turn around to the guys behind and rev it up them and say "the next one will be down the middle" but thankfully he didn't get the opportunity.

In the impending minutes before the final siren there was one last opportunity from a line out for the All Blacks, and on reflection this is how I saw it as a spectator.

The line out was a set play. With immediate run and a couple of cut out passes the Wallabies were caught short. Enter the risk! The Wallabies defence was compressed to the eastern side of the park, and the All Blacks had a three on one over lap on the Western side,



Derek, Maddie and Kath Smith cheering on the Kiwi's in the recent Tri Nations game.

the ball made its way out there. Quade Coopers' options, run up and put pressure on the passer, or stay back and hope he got help making the required tackles. I don't think waiting was going to work, there was too much space to guard. He chose to run up and put the pressure on, which for those who saw it, caused the final scrum for a knock-on. The scrum never had to pack as the last few second ticked by and the siren went. The crowd went crazy, the Wallabies had finally won the Tri Nations again "after 10 years".

Coopers' decision to rush and put pressure on would be based on his Attend, Link, Frame process. I attend to a 3-1 situation, link it back to my "caught short out-wide in defence" CD in my subconscious, and based on my skills and experience, I frame up the situation as a danger and within 0.25seconds I'm choosing to rush the player in an attempt to force the mistake.

As we know the try never happened and the Wallabies have some bragging rights!!

Getting Personal with Warehouse Officer Barry Albeck



In the 21 years you have worked at the station what have you enjoyed the most?

I've enjoyed working with the stores crew - people like Tubby (Trevor) Hughes, Peter Callow, Ib Otteson, Terry Foale, Bob Egan, Lynda Casey, Bill Whitmore and Les Harding.

How have you found working with the other employees in the warehouse crew?

I have enjoyed the funny moments in the warehouse with Tubby Hughes, Bob Cruise "It's a jungle out there" and Terry Foale.

Tell us about your previous roles and experience.

I started work with Clyde Riley Dodds on construction of Units 5/6 at GPS. I then worked for six years on construction at Tarong Power Station. In 1989 I returned to GPS working as a temporary for Kev Taylor in the burner crew. I also worked in the mills area with Peter Barton and with Glen Rowe in the coal plant. After a further 12 month stint with Mika Engineering I got a permanent job in the warehouse in 1990.

What do you like about working at Gladstone Power Station?

I enjoyed working with some of the older faces such as Ray Mantle, John Newby, Peter Wendt, Peter Filtness, Kev Taylor and Glen Wroe.

Tell us about some of your interests and hobbies.

I like fishing, shooting, punting on the horses and keno.

What do you like about living in Gladstone?

I like the great weather for fishing.

Where were you born and where did you do your early education?

I was born in Toowoomba and went to Alpha State School to Year 4, and then to Central State School and Gladstone State High.

Tell us a little bit about your family.

My father trained race horses and worked as a station master for Queensland Rail. During his 36 years with QR he worked in various places such as Alpha, Ambrose, Blackwater and Julia Creek. Mum and dad are now retired at Nasby Farm in Wallumbilla.

When I was a child I wanted to be... A race horse trainer.

As a kid I hated... Eating sheep's brain – mum said they were cheap.

When I'm in front of the TV I like to eat... Steak and red wine.

Bought to you in the Interests of Better Health

Five Quick Ways to Combat Fat

- **Get on the ball:** Sitting on stability ball at your desk or at home whilst watching TV can burn up to 85 calories every 30 minutes. *based on a 59kg woman
- **Spring Cleaning:** Replace high fat salad dressing with balsamic vinegar, swap butter for omega 3 filled olive oil and ditch white rice for fibre packed brown.
- **Lights Out:** Experts say 6-8 hours of sleep per night revs fat burning. Being tired can lead to making poor food choices or skipping exercise/workouts altogether.
- **Fat Fix:** Fuel up with healthy fats from fish, olive oil and nuts. Studies show you'll burn more fat when cells are fuelled with essential fatty acids.
- **Stay Hydrated:** You're likely more thirsty than hungry when your tummy moans. Drink water before every meal to curb craving.

Make the Time for Breakfast

Saying that you don't have time for breakfast is like saying that you don't have time to put petrol in your car and then expecting it to run.

Recent studies show that eating a morning meal will keep you fuller and more energised throughout the day. Pack your morning meal with carbs and protein.

- Make a shake or a smoothie. Blend fruit and yogurt and then drink it in the car. If you have exercised early in the morning, add a scoop of protein powder to help your muscles recover. (See easy yummy recipe below.)
- Prepare a casserole the night before. Pop it in the microwave when you wake up and it will be ready to go when you are.
- Incorporate complex carbohydrates, such as whole wheat toast and bagels. Spread peanut butter and raisins on top of either for added flavour.

- Bake bran muffins early in the week, then grab one or two each morning. Or check out a local bakery for healthy varieties.

Pink Smoothie

- 1 cup frozen berries (strawberries, blueberries, raspberries, blackberries)
- 1 banana
- 1/2 cup vanilla yogurt
- 1/2 cup water

Optional

- 1 scoop whey or soy protein instead of yoghurt
- 1 Tablespoon ground flax seeds
- additional 1/2 cup water if using the protein powder

Getting Personal with Electrician Steven Heard

You did your apprenticeship here at GPS what's been the main difference you have noticed since coming back.

I completed my electrical apprenticeship at the station in 1999. After 12 years away, the first thing I noticed were the additional street signs around site and reception which had moved from the admin building to near the front gate.

What have you enjoyed about working in your new role in Station Electrical?

I enjoyed the fact that everyone gets on and that you can have the occasional laugh.

Tell us about your previous roles and experience.

After completing my apprenticeship I spent a year on the construction of the shale oil plant and a further two years at the Moura Mines. I then moved to Adelaide to take up athletics full time while working part time as a self employed contractor.

What attracted you back to NRG and Gladstone Power Station?

I like the variety of work the power station has to offer.

Tell us about some of your interests and hobbies.

I have recently returned to hockey after nine years and also enjoy motor sport, water sports, woodwork and keeping fit.

What do you like about living in Gladstone?

I have enjoyed being closer to my family and the fact that everything is so close. There are plenty of opportunities for weekend escapes and no traffic to contend with. Gladstone also has great community spirit and the people are very supportive of community events.

Where were you born and where did you do your early education?

I was born in Brisbane and completed my schooling at Clinton Primary and Chanel College.

Tell us a little bit about your family

My immediate family all live in different cities and really enjoy catching up when we can. Good family values. I will be getting married in November to my fiancée who will be moving up from Adelaide.

My worst habit is... spending money and enjoying it.

At home I like to cook... on the barbeque. Dim Sims go well.

The best holiday I've ever been on was to... Amsterdam and Thailand with my fiancée.

You wouldn't know it but I'm no good at ... saying no to a rum and coke.

The hardest thing I've ever done was... letting go of my dream to become a professional athlete.



Where are they now? – Yvonne Cooper



John and Yvonne Cooper on their property at Iveragh.

What period did you work at GPS?

I started at GPS in March 1982 and left in October 1989 to work at the new ICI (ORICA) Chlorine / Cyanide Plant at Yarwun. I had previously enjoyed working for ICI in Sydney and it was a difficult decision to leave GPS but I felt I had to try something different after seven years at GPS. There were 21 employees in the GPS Science section when I started and only 13 when I left.

Tell us about your roles at the station.

Initially I was a Science Technician working in the laboratory doing water, coal and oil analysis and training staff. I climbed the fuel tanks with a back pack to collect samples and was also the Sciences representative on the site safety committee.

I did a very interesting compulsory control room training package on the simulator when Joh Bjelke-Petersen had fond ideas that we could operate the units during the industrial disputes.

In 1985 I was the first of the female Science Technicians to work outside the laboratory in the operating areas. I went to the wet racks for boiler/feedwater control first and then to the outside chemical plants and demin plants. I had to walk or ride a pushbike around as the sciences motorbike was always being used by the blokes and I did not have a licence (although I did threaten to get one). I was involved with shutdowns and chemical cleans and climbed inside the condensers. I was in the Environmental and Investigations area of the sciences section when I left.

What are your fondest memories of working at the station and who are some of the people you enjoyed working with?

I really enjoyed working at GPS. I made so many friends so quickly after arriving in Gladstone in February 1982. We went on industry tours and attended meetings of

the Central Qld Chemists Association on our own time. The Sciences section had a great social life with families involved in activities outside of work. We had parties and barbecues and formed a women's basketball team made up of employees and family and friends. Our boss, Barry Harris (S.O.G.) coached us and my husband, John, refereed for us when he wasn't playing in his own team. We won a grand final one hot December afternoon and a photo of us appeared in the Gladrag.

Some of the people I worked with were, Cameron Hoare, Paul and Mariee Vanderlist, George Bennetts, Beth Ward, David Knights, David Greinke, Karen Harvey, Kathy Gartland, Rhonda Truscott, Carlene Stone, Ettore Tiraboschi, Bob Dennien, John Mann, Lloyd Woodward, Bill Lee, David Millican, Alistair Brown and Matthew Wegrzyn (who always did a perfect job on repairs to the wet racks for me).

I was encouraged to return to study and completed an Associate Diploma in Applied Chemistry from CQU while working at GPS. I enjoyed the opportunity to apply what I had learnt in the course in the power station.

Tell us about your involvement in Quality Circles at the station.

The "Scientific Quality Circle" was the first Quality Circle at GPS and it was set up in 1983. I was the leader from October 1983 until April 1985 and also trained as a facilitator. In July 1984, Beth Ward and I were sent to Melbourne to do a Quality Circle presentation. It was so cold that we were not sure if we had been rewarded or punished for our Quality Circle efforts. Ken Lister was our very patient facilitator.

Your husband John also worked at the station for many years. How is he enjoying his retirement?

John enjoys disappearing into his shed making all sorts of useful things and some surprises. John is the President of the Totally & Permanently Disabled Soldiers' Association (Gladstone) Inc. and I am the secretary. He represents Gladstone at the two State Conferences each year. He enjoys watching and listening to the numerous native birds and loves our Labrador dog, Bella.

What do you enjoy about living in Iveragh?

We can't see any houses and its very peaceful here. We enjoy having a lot of native wild birds around as well as two horses, green frogs, occasional wallabies, the odd snake and sometimes, the

neighbour's cows. The weather is not as hot as Gladstone and there's always a nice breeze.

What have you done since leaving Gladstone Power Station?

I worked in the Chemical Plant laboratory at the ICI (Orica) Chlorine / Cyanide Plant at Yarwun from October 1989 to November 2001 when my position was made redundant. I then decided to join John in retirement.

Since 2002 I have been more involved with the Genealogical Society Gladstone District Inc. and was their secretary for three years. Currently I volunteer and assist people with their research and do some training presentations. I continue to improve my computer skills and help other people to do likewise.

I am also the editor of their journal "Timeline" which I produce three times each year. It is sent all over Australia and to England. I am still researching our family history and I communicate with people all over the world. One day I may produce a few books.

I am a blood donor and I volunteer at the Gladstone Blood Bank three times a month or more often when required. Previously, I helped out each month at the mobile blood bank at Boyne Island.

I am a member of the Partners of Veterans Association of Australia and we have lunch in Gladstone or Tannum Sands each month to support each other. John and I frequently visit our extended family in Sydney and a lot come to visit us also.

Do you still keep up with any GPS employees?

I hear from many of the GPS people at Christmas and via email and occasionally bump into them around Gladstone, especially at the Blood Bank.

Tell us a little bit about your family?

Our son, David, worked at GPS on shutdowns before working for BSL. David died in a car accident on 30 August, 1997 and we still miss him very much.

Our daughter, Joanne, studied for a degree in Applied Science (Chemistry) and followed it up with a Graduate Diploma in Education. She has worked at GPS, QAL, BSL, Tior Cyanide plant and Orica Chemical plant. She has also worked as a Science teacher at Gladstone and at Tannum Sands State High Schools and in England. She is currently teaching Chemistry and Science at Toolooa State High School.