

Employees Celebrate Production Milestone

Power station employees last month got to celebrate a significant milestone in the station's history.

At 12.18 pm on Friday 19 December 2008, GPS generated its 250 millionth Megawatt-Hour since the first unit, (Unit 2) was commissioned August 1976.

To mark the occasion NRG employees celebrated with a barbecue in the mechanical turbine workshop.

Our longest serving employee Don Shambrook shared some of his memories before cutting the specially decorated power station chocolate cake prepared by canteen caterers Eures. Prior to the presentation each employee was presented with a memento of a coffee set and flask.

In his address to the employees NRG Manager Health, Safety, Environment and Communities, George Bennetts, said the milestone was a significant achievement in the life of the station and reflected the hard work and dedication of both past and present employees.

"On behalf of the GPS Joint Venture owners and the management team I would like to thank all of those who have contributed over the years to this significant milestone," George said.



Gladstone Power Station's longest serving employee Don Shambrook cuts the cake while Health, Safety, Environment and Community Manager George Bennetts looks on.

NRG Engineering Scholarships Presented



Superintendent Mechanical Services, Rob Wemyss and General Manager Gladstone Operations, Glenn Schumacher congratulate Joshua Ward and Jessica Ryan on winning the NRG Engineering Study Scholarships.

Local students Jessica Ryan and Joshua Ward have been rewarded for their hard work and academic excellence when they were recently presented with the 2009 NRG Engineering Study Scholarships.

Jessica was a former student of Chanel College while Joshua attended Tannum Sands State High School.

The scholarships will provide each student with \$2,000 during each year of their engineering degree. The students were awarded the scholarships based on their senior high school academic results, community involvement and interview performance.

Both students said they were appreciative of the financial assistance provided by NRG and were looking forward to their time at University.

Jessica received an OP1 and intends studying a Bachelor of Ocean Engineering at the Australian Maritime College, University of Tasmania in Launceston. Jessica said she was excited about the new course but feeling a bit nervous about the big move. She said the scholarship would be used to help purchase a new computer and text books for her studies. Jessica is the daughter of Units Electrical technician, Kev Ryan.

Joshua has been accepted into the Bachelor of Engineering Co-op degree at the Central Queensland University.

From Shoey's Desk

Dear Folks

At 12.18 pm on Friday 19 December 2008, Gladstone Power Station generated its 250 millionth Megawatt-Hour (MWh.) since the first Unit (Unit 2) was commissioned in 1976. This is a significant achievement in the life of GPS and reflects a lot of hard work over many years and was a great way to finish of 2008.

This achievement is something of some note and one which we all should celebrate and be proud of and in doing so we think of all of those who over the years have contributed to GPS. Whilst we look back on those years since 1976 we naturally think of those people who have played such an important part in the stations' life. Many of them have moved onto other power stations or retired and indeed some are not with us any more. We must celebrate their contribution to the station along with our own celebration. However, the challenges we face here at GPS today such as Climate Change are about creating a future for GPS (and ourselves). Those who have gone before us may well have an expectation that we will face those challenges and turn them into opportunities for this station. But, as I have indicated on a number of occasions, I am very strongly of the view that we here at GPS have got the capability to meet our challenges. We must just remember that "We are all in this Row Boat Together".

So, now let us celebrate. I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of NRG Energy Inc, the GPS Joint Venture, NRG Gladstone



Operating Services, the Senior Management Team and myself to express our thanks to all those over the years who have contributed to this important milestone.

Well done! Now the next 250 million MWhrs.!

Regards
SHOEY

Glenn Schumacher
GENERAL MANAGER

New Safety Slogan Announced

A new slogan has been announced to reinforce the safety message across site for the next 12 months.

During February all managers and safety representatives on site voted for a new safety slogan from a list of six nominations.

Safety and Environment Officer, Dave Greinke said that the new slogan, "Safety - A Way of Life" was devised by Katherine Kuppen. Congratulations Katherine and thanks for your efforts.

"The purpose of the new slogan is to draw attention to the safety message and to get employees thinking about safety in everything they do, at work, home or play."

"The new slogan was a clear choice winner and will now be used on all safety agendas, meeting minutes and safety promotions on site," Dave said.

"We are intending to develop some posters to advertise the new slogan and to get the message out there that safety really is a way of life and not just something to focus on while at work," he said.

Prior to 1995 the safety slogan for GPS was "Safety - Live It." From 1995 - 2009 the safety slogan that has been used on site was "There is no job we do, or service we perform, so urgent that we can not take the time and use the necessary equipment to do it safely."



Katherine and Dave display the new safety slogan which will be used on site during the next 12 months.

New Apprentices Welcomed

Ten new apprentices, including one adult apprentice, kick started their working careers at NRG on 27 January.

The new employees are Ryan Fawzi, Sam Leschniok, Dayle Arlt, Jordan Wex, Ian Reed (mechanical) Lachlan Perkins, Nelson Corones, Tyler Stross, Matt Stark (electrical) and Ethan Horrocks (boilermaking). The ten apprentices were selected from 150 applications

The apprentices will initially spend three weeks at the Gladstone College of TAFE learning about safety, the correct use of hand and power tools and manual handling techniques.

Upon returning to NRG they will learn about the technical aspects of their trade as well receiving additional training in first aid, safe working at heights, fire extinguishers, confined space and road safety awareness. To assist them in their working life the apprentices are also provided with training in financial planning, drug and alcohol awareness and school to work transition. Technical training is also provided by various local companies Enerpac, Swagelok, Loctite and SKF.

NRG Specialist Maintenance Training, John Marxsen said the apprentices had

fulfilled all the selection criteria as well as demonstrating an enthusiasm and commitment to pursuing a trade.

"We're committed to providing jobs for young people and it's a great opportunity for the apprentices to develop a career for the future. Employing apprentices is not only beneficial for NRG but for the Gladstone community in the long term," John said.

During their time at the power station the mechanical apprentices will be rotated

through the Fuel Processes, Units and Auxiliaries workgroups every four months while the electrical apprentices will rotate through the Units Electrical and Station Electrical areas.

This year marks the thirty second year that Gladstone Power Station has been providing highly skilled tradesmen for the Gladstone region. The induction of the ten new apprentices brings the total number of apprentices on site at Gladstone Power Station to 33.



NRG's newest apprentices are Matt Stark, Ian Reed, Nelson Corones, Jordan Wex, Dayle Arlt, Ryan Fawzi, Lachlan Perkins, Sam Leschniok, Tyler Stross and Ethan Horrocks.

Personal Protection Equipment Being Trialled



Mick is trialling the new Uvex Unidur Dyneema gloves.

A number of trials on Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) are currently being undertaken on site.

Safety & Environment Officer, Dave Greinke said the PPE trials are being conducted on gloves from Uvex, Ansell and Advanced Technology Gloves.

"The gloves on trial are mainly medium to high cut resistance gloves that can be used to reduce the risk of cuts and abrasion to hands while handling sharp parts. We're also trialling some new safety glasses from Uvex along with hearing protection," Dave said.

"When new PPE products become available we conduct trialling to evaluate the suitability for use in particular work environments. New PPE is only introduced for use if it provides greater protection and comfort than the product currently used," Dave added.

Mick Harvey is trialling a new Uvex Unidur Dyneema glove with polyurethane coating.

"These knitted safety gloves are very flexible and provide outstanding dexterity and cut resistance," Mick explained.

The gloves have been designed for use by electrical workers who require feel in their finger tips while working on electrical wiring and other electrical components. Mick is also trialling the Uvex i-vo vented safety glasses.

Getting to Know Power Systems Engineer Keith Jenkins

In the short time you have worked at the station what's been your impression of the plant and people so far?

I've been at Gladstone Power Station now for about four months. The station has a co operative work culture and I've found everyone to be friendly and helpful. There's a lot of knowledge and experience held by the people who work here. The sheer size of Gladstone Power Station is quite impressive but then of course this is Queensland's largest power station.

What have you enjoyed about your new role?

I've enjoyed the people, the technical aspects of the job and the nine day fortnight. The wellness programs are very good and there's plenty of support for health and fitness.

How have you found working with the other employees at the station?

Not having a background in power generation, it's been a new and interesting experience for me and I've enjoyed building my knowledge of power station processes and operation. I'm fortunate to be working with some knowledgeable and experienced people whom I've been able to draw on for support.

Tell us about your previous roles and experience.

My engineering career began with the railways in Melbourne. It included various electrical design, planning, maintenance and construction engineer roles within the Traction System, Substations and Lighting and Power sections. From there I joined Sinclair Knight Merz where I worked as a Consultant Engineer before taking time off to go back to uni to get a Graduate Diploma in IT. A brief career in IT convinced me that I preferred engineering. So I returned to

engineering with the electricity distributor TXU/ Tenix Alliance in Melbourne working in network performance, electrical protection and incident investigation roles. I had a short stint as the Construction Engineer responsible for electrical works on the Glenelg Tramline Refurbishment project in Adelaide. I then moved to Gladstone where I spent three years as a Power Systems Engineer with Welcon Technologies. Highlights included design of secondary systems for Gladstone North Bulk Supply Substation and Port Curtis Zone Substation and electrical design for upgrade projects at Kareeya Hydro Station.

What things attracted you to NRG and Gladstone Power Station?

I was keen to expand my horizons by venturing into power generation. I like the fact that there was strong support for further study and health and wellness programs.

Tell us about some of your interests and hobbies.

I like bushwalking, travelling, eating mangos, reading, drinking wine, playing chess, playing cards and sometimes even going to the gym. (By the way the new Gladstone Chess Club meets every second and fourth Thursdays at 7:30pm at the Gladstone and District Darts Club, 10 Moura Cres, Barney Point).

What do you like about living in Gladstone?

I like the friendly people and never having any trouble finding parking. Having a tropical island just a few hours cruise away and not having to endure the 40 degree plus days they're having down south is also a positive.

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

I was born in Melbourne and I lived there until 2005. I went to Bennettswood State School and Burwood High School but these schools no longer exist. What was Burwood High has become the Deakin University Burwood Campus.

Tell us a little bit about your family.

My parents, one brother and three sisters all live in Melbourne. I also have twelve nephews and nieces.

At home I like to cook....

As little as possible

What was your first car....

A white Mini.

If you could take three things to a deserted island what would they be and why

A yacht, a fishing rod and a woman. ... Well I just told you I don't like to cook.

The hardest thing I've ever done was....

Maybe the hardest thing I've ever done was to walk away from you... (a good line from a Jackson Browne song -thanks to Google).



Kathryn Looks Forward to Traineeship



This month we welcome new administration trainee, Kathryn Giles.

Kathryn will spend the next 12 months in reception and assisting with recruitment in the human resources area. Since starting earlier this month Kathryn has enjoyed learning new skills and getting to know some of the people at the station.

'I'm really loving it but the early mornings are a bit tough,' Kathryn joked.

Kathryn is looking forward to spending the next 12 months in reception.

Kathryn is looking forward to completing her Certificate 111 in Business (Office Administration) this year.

Born in Gladstone, Kathryn attended Gladstone State High School. She will move down to Brisbane to study a Bachelor of Arts at UQ next year after she completes her traineeship at NRG.

'I've always been keen to work in a large industry and would like to get as much experience as I can before I head off to uni in the future,' Kathryn said.

Brought to You in the Interests of Better Health

(Article supplied by the Wellness Committee to mark World Glaucoma Day on 12 March)

What is Glaucoma?

Glaucoma is a group of diseases that damage the eye's optic nerve and result in vision loss and blindness. Glaucoma results from a build up of pressure inside the eye that is caused when the fluid that nourishes the iris cannot drain away. This pressure can damage the optic nerve and cause vision to narrow or blank areas to appear. However, with early treatment, you can often protect against serious vision loss.

The optic nerve is a bundle of more than one million nerve fibres. It connects the retina to the brain. The retina is the light-sensitive tissue at the back of the eye. A healthy optic nerve is necessary for good vision.

Over 300,000 Australians have glaucoma. While it is more common as people age, it can occur at any age. As the population becomes older, the proportion of glaucoma patients is increasing.

What are the symptoms?

Initially there are no symptoms of glaucoma. Vision stays normal and there is no pain in the early stages. However, as the disease progress, a person with glaucoma may notice his or her side vision gradually

failing. That is, objects in front may still be seen clearly, but objects to the side may be missed.

As glaucoma remains untreated, people may miss objects to the side and out of the corner of their eye. Without treatment, people with glaucoma will slowly lose their peripheral (side) vision. They seem to be looking through a tunnel. Over time, straight-ahead vision may decrease until no vision remains

Vision loss may be permanent

Studies have shown that the early detection and treatment of glaucoma, before it causes major vision loss, is the best way to control

the disease. Early detection of glaucoma is vital. So, if you fall into one of the high-risk groups for the disease, make sure to have your eyes examined and pressure test done every two years by an eye care professional.

Who is at risk?

Those most at risk of glaucoma include people who have:

- a. A family history of the eye condition
- b. Diabetes
- c. An injury to the eye
- d. Used steroids regularly over a long period of time



Normal Vision



The same scene as it might be viewed by a person with glaucoma

Farewell Michelle Holmes

Friday the 13th February might have been a Black Friday for some but it also meant the celebration of a very creditable career for one of the key members of the Fabulous Finance Team, Michelle Holmes.

Michelle had been at the station since July 1992 starting as a Para Professional Trainee working under Dave Coucil in the Commercial Department. In fact Michelle was the first (and last) person to be offered the four year traineeship which saw her complete a Diploma in Business.

Remembering her first day on the job Michelle was surprised by the lack of computers available for employees at the time.

"I'd come from school and university where computers were freely available so it was a surprise to me that there was only one stand alone computer in the office. Most of the staff were using the Uniplex system or Omax computers that required you to wind down the screens so they didn't leave an imprint on the screens," Michelle recalled.

After her initial training in the accounts payable area she spent time in records

section, reception and also booked the travel for the station. Michelle spent two of her most rewarding and challenging years in the store as a Purchasing Officer with Gary Coleborn as Superintendent before moving back to the ledgers area for five years working with Russell Beard. In more recent years Michelle has been relieving in the role of Accounting Officer in the payments area, working with accounting support and relieving as Payroll Officer.

"I was pretty green when I first arrived here but I've spent half my life here and the people here have been very supportive. Everyone has always been very open to pass on their knowledge so it's been a privilege to have worked in the finance team."

"I've made some of my best friends here and though some have moved on those people have always been only too willing to help me whether it's been career wise or on a personal level," Michelle said.

Many of those friends will be pleased to know that Michelle is not leaving town as she has taken up a new role as Accounts Payable Officer Contracts at QAL.

Michelle said the new role would allow her to gain some valuable experience at a supervisory level.

"There's a lot of challenges ahead of me and I intend to go back to uni to do further study. Both my children will be at school this year so it's a good time for me to challenge myself again," Michelle said.

We wish Michelle all the best in her new career and thank for her commitment over the past 17 years.



Michelle is looking forward to new challenges ahead in her working career.

Work Continues on Hazard Reduction Program

Since the Sale of the Station in 1994 NRG has instigated a planned project based program to try and reduce or eliminate hazards on site.

Safety & Environment Officer Dave Greinke said that during the period from 2005 to 2008 the Hazard Reduction Program had focussed on eliminating hazards associated with working from heights and manual handling.

“These two issues present some of the greatest risks associated with operating the station so we have spent a lot of time and money on projects to reduce or eliminate the hazards. The solutions to the identified hazards are not always obvious and the best solutions come from discussions with the work group employees that work in that environment.”

“The projects have focussed on providing better access to plant and equipment, reducing the need to manually handle valves and doors and reducing the likelihood of tools and equipment falling from heights,” Dave said.

During the four year period 35 hazard reduction projects have been completed at a cost of more than \$1.5 million. Some of these projects have included:

- Condenser valve access, hydrogen detector access and alternator terminal cubicle access platforms.

- Spray water valves access platforms and monorail beams.
- Lifting devices for C53 & C54 counterweights.
- Safety anchor points for open trench work.
- Boiler and turbine walkway handrail meshing program.
- Nitric oxide probe lifting devices.
- Boiler access door pivots and boiler access door monorail beams.
- Walkway modifications and Tower 19 stair modifications.
- Improved access to C & D Pulverisers.

Manager Major Projects, Steve Lewis said each year the projects team select the safety

projects with the greatest risk score and then conduct the planning and design prior to the project implementation. Generally projects that were planned and designed in 2008 will be implemented in 2009 and some of these projects include:

- Repairs and modifications to handrails and kick boards throughout the station.
- Sciences suspended ceiling upgrade.
- NOx safety escape ladder.
- Boiler and turbine handrail meshing.
- Conveyor C# tripper access ladder.
- Demin plant vessel internal access improvements and harness points.
- Undercladding of Conveyors 55 & 56.
- Lifting device for C51 counterweights.



Dave Greinke inspects some of the mesh that has been installed around the boiler handrails.

NRG Ready to Unveil Secret Weapon at Great Raft Race

Watch out QAL, BSL and Goldings Contractors, NRG is planning to get

among the \$5,000 prize money on offer at this year's NRG Great Raft Race.

line but this year we're shooting for one of the big money prizes," Luke said.



Luke Richards, Kris Ivermee, Michael Zimmerlie, Bill Taylor, Jamie Mclean, Craig McGuinness and Luke Halliwell are planning to unveil NRG's secret weapon at the Great Raft Race.

Team Captain and NRG fourth year apprentice Luke Halliwell said plans had begun early to ensure that this year's raft was bigger and more colourful than anything built before.

“We expect this year's raft to stack up very well against the others and stand out from the crowd. Last year we picked up some minor prize money for coming third across the

Some of the major prize winning categories this year include

- First, second and third Most Creative Raft
- Most Creatively Dressed Crew
- Most Entertaining on the Day
- Titanic Award
- Best Juvenile Entry

This is the eleventh year NRG has sponsored the Great Raft Race which has seen a major increase in the prize money up for grabs.

With thousands of people to cheer them on, the NRG Great Raft Race will be one of the highlights of this year's Harbour Festival.

The race will kick off at 10am on Good Friday 10 April at the Goondoon Street boat ramp in front of the Yacht Club.

Quilters Chip in for Bush Fire Appeal

NRG employees, Kris Petersen, Cheryl Jackson and Karen Gibbins have thrown their support behind the Victorian Bush Fire Appeal by making quilts for school children.

The trio, who are all passionate quilters were keen to help out after receiving an email from a local fabric shop in town.

"We had heard that there were at least two large primary schools that had been lost in the fires and as it was already starting to

get cooler we thought the quilts would be greatly appreciated by the children," Kris said.

Cheryl said the goal of the local quilting community was to make 100 quilts over a four week period. Julie from the Fabric Palette said this was achieved within six days and quilts are still coming in daily.

"Doug Thomas's wife Jan is also assisting us," Cheryl said.

According to Kris this was not the first time the girls had got together to help in a crisis.

"Two years ago the NRG quilting girls got together to send 10 quilts to India following the tsunami so it's great that we can do our little bit to help those in need," Kris said.

Karen, Kris and Cheryl display one of the quilts which will be donated to primary schools devastated by the bush fires in Victoria.



Getting Personal with Operator Trainee Allan DeAraugo

In the 12 months you have worked at the station, what's been your impression of the plant and people so far?

I have found the people here to be friendly, helpful and mostly positive about the station. The plant is aging with some equipment that doesn't function and some that needs upgrading but the Siemens units are very well engineered and reliable. Hopefully with planned upgrades and some capital spending in the future plant availability will improve.

What have you enjoyed about the Operator Traineeship?

The traineeship is well structured with good facilities, staff and reference material. The time on the simulator is interesting with the random faults challenging. I learnt to watch Lundy very carefully as he would often casually alter things to cause chaos, always with a poker face.

How have you found working with the other employees at the station?

The operators I have worked with have gone

out of there way to help me learn and have bravely let me have control of units under supervision, explaining what to look for and actions to take. Any contacts I have had with other departments have been good.

Tell us about your previous roles and experience.

I had nine years service in the RAAF as an instrument fitter, eight years at ALCOA Anglesea's brown coal power station where I did an adult apprenticeship as an electrician, two years as an underground electrician, time with Ergon Energy and one year at Rio Tinto Yarwun.

What things attracted you to NRG and Gladstone Power Station?

I find power stations interesting places to work with a large variety of equipment and processes. The roster here is the best I have seen with the traineeship giving me an opportunity to move into a different field in a way that would have been difficult without it. The number of long term employees here was also a good thing.

Tell us about some of your interests and hobbies.

I like to play squash, tennis, golf, fish and ride motorbikes (squash is a bit hard with no courts in town now). Spending time with my wife and four kids is my main interest.

What do you like about living in Gladstone?

It's big enough to have most things without the crowding. After coming from Mackay driving around is a breeze. A beach, islands and lake are close by with many trails to go riding on.



Farewell Morgan



Morgan is intending taking up fulltime study next year.

She may have only been here twelve months but former Administration trainee, Morgan Fallon will be missed by those who had come to enjoy her cheerful outlook and bright personality.

Morgan said she had really enjoyed working with everyone at the station and would like to thank everyone she has met for their support and friendliness over the last year. She is looking forward to taking up full time studies at CQU next year.

"The experience I have gained has taught me a lot about business so I'm planning to do a business degree next year majoring in events management. In the future I would like be able to manage big events like The Big Day Out," she said.

Morgan said she hoped to continue her interest in basketball as well as working part time at the Aldon Tutorial Centre in town.

We wish Morgan all the best in her future career.

Access to Brisbane is a quick flight away if needed.

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

I was born in Bendigo, Victoria and attended primary school there.

Tell us a little bit about your family.

I am married with two boys and two girls aged six to fifteen.

When I was a child I wanted to be.....

A pilot.

At home I like to cook....

As little as possible but banana prawns in garlic butter on the BBQ are nice.

A song that means a lot to me is.....

Bow River by Cold Chisel.

The hardest thing I've ever done was....

Going through with my wife 25 hours of labour and the difficult birth of our first child which ended up requiring an emergency caesarean.

Where are they now? - Russell Cooper

The Gladrag has introduced a new column titled "Where are they now" which aims to seek out former employees and find out what they've been up to since leaving GPS. If you know of a former employee who may be interested in participating please forward their contact details to Gary Macnamara ext 504.

What period did you work at the station?

I started as an electrical apprentice in January 1985 and left the station in May 1989 around nine months after completing my apprenticeship. The policy was to put off the apprentices after three months as a tradesman but because I'd spent so much time away from the station during my apprenticeship they allowed me to stay on for an extra six months to gain a bit more experience.

Tell us about your apprenticeship and who were some of the other apprentices you enjoyed working with at the time?

There were six other electrical apprentices - Paul Houston, Peter Hamilton, Paul Ford, Ross Crosisca, Lyle Humphreys, Kelvin Beendorf and five mechanical - Simon Evans, Kerry Millard, Steve Lund, Ian Gough, Rob Sweeney and one boilermaker - Adrian Pashley.

There were a few other guys that came to Gladstone to complete their apprenticeships from other stations that had shut down such as Collinsville and Callide. We had a great time working together with the other apprentices from around the state at the Northgate training facility.

What are your fondest memories of working at the station?

My fondest memory would have to be using the emissions from the stacks as an indicator for wind strength and direction to

see if it was worth the trip to Tannum for a windsurf after work!

Tell us about your achievements in the Workskill Competition.

Jeffery Hunt our electrical trade trainer asked if we would like to enter a small skills competition in Rockhampton. We all thought it was a good excuse to get a night away on the company. From there a few of us qualified for the regional finals at Emerald which I ended up winning. I then represented Central Queensland at the national finals in Adelaide. After the national final I was grouped with all the other gold medal winners and they announced that this was the team to represent Australia in the International Skill Olympics in Sydney. (I started to work out then what I had gotten myself into.) I eventually realized that this was a once in a lifetime opportunity so I gave it my best shot and ended up winning the gold medal at international level.

How did the success at the International Workskill Olympics change your life?

It gave me lots of great experiences and opportunities to travel. I visited Darwin for training, Taiwan for competition experience, Canberra to have morning tea with Bob Hawke (PM at the time) and had numerous trips to Sydney and Brisbane for training and functions, as well as a trip to Perth to judge the next national finals.

What do you miss about living in Gladstone?

I miss the ability to shoot down to Agnes Water for a camping, surfing and windsurfing weekend. (That might have more to do with things I miss about being a young single bloke!)

What have you done since leaving Gladstone?

I worked on Hamilton Island as a maintenance electrician for a few months

then got into a bit of construction and maintenance work on a few different projects. I ended up getting into gas pipelines and am currently working for APA Group who own and operate gas pipelines from Roma to Brisbane and South West Qld to Mt Isa. I work in an Asset Management and Engineering Team, managing electrical and instrumentation facets of projects, upgrades and modifications.

What do you enjoy about living in Brisbane?

The weather is great and there are lots of options for things to do.

Do you still keep up with any GPS employees?

I catch up with an old mate Mitch Brown every now and then. We had some great times blasting around Gladstone Harbour in a 12 foot skiff years ago.

Tell us a little bit about your family?

My wife Tania is a part time school teacher at Wynnum North High School. I have two children Rory who is eight and Lucy who is nearly six. They both go to a school not far from home in Wynnum West. My father, Don (also ex GPS) now lives at Buderim and my sister lives at Caloundra. My brother lives in Gladstone and works at QAL.



Russell Cooper enjoys spending time with his family in Brisbane.

Service Register - February/March 2009

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 February and March.

38 years Greg Nugent

35 years Graham Bloomfield

34 years Noel Else

31 years Simon Sutton

30 years John Marxsen

29 years Jeff Norris, Nev O'Connor

28 years

Tony Padget, Allan Pease, Alan O'Rourke, Dale Hempseed, Neville Beckman, Paul Lowry, Paul Hedland, John Hunt, Paul Cupitt

27 years

Mick Chadwick, Mark Sandland, Ken Harris, Ian Dodd

26 years

Keith Brown

25 years

John Leinster

24 years

Graham Lester

23 years

Errol Geary, Greg McDiarmid

22 years

Kev Ryan, John Lynch

14 years

Ruth Searston, Derek Jarram