

New Dust Monitoring Facility Set up

A new dust monitoring facility set up just west of the slot bunker at the southern end of the station will help NRG more effectively manage community concerns about dust, according to Superintendent Health, Environment and Community, Paul Vander List.

"The emission of coal fine dust is a major concern for the Gladstone community and we are committed to reducing dust levels on site," Paul said.

The dust monitor samples and analyses the different fractions of air borne dust which are released from activities associated with the handling and storage of coal. The weather station reads wind direction and speed, temperature and rainfall. A solar panel and battery provide the power to operate the system and this allows the facility to be moved and operated remotely.

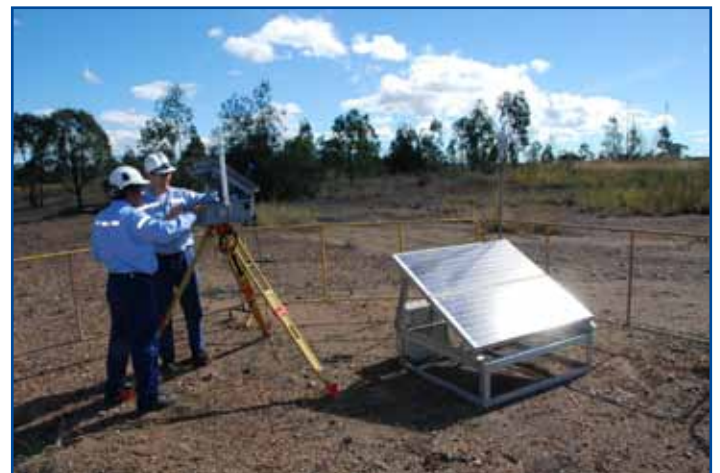
The development of the dust monitor and weather station was an initiative of Control Systems Engineer Murthy Peetha and Station Electrical Technician Kelvin Beberdorf.

"The benefit of this dust monitoring facility is that it provides information in real time and the information is sent by telemetry to the power station where it can be monitored and viewed by the coal plant operators and environmental personnel. The simplicity of the set up allows for easy maintenance of the system," Kelvin said.

"Having the data stored at the power station will allow any community complaints received from the Department of Environment and

Resource Management (DERM) to be investigated and managed more effectively," Paul said.

Further work on the system is being done so that an alarm panel will inform the coal plant operators whether the current wind speed and direction being experienced would cause any air borne coal dusts to be carried to the nearby community. A check on the dust suppression systems would then be carried out.



Murthy and Kelvin inspect the new dust track monitor set up west of the slot bunker.

NRG Kicks into Red Shield Appeal



NRG provided a major kick start to this year's Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal by donating \$5000 to the appeal.

NRG Manager Human Resources, Kylie Parker presented the Salvation Army's Captain Sharilyn Bush with the donation at this year's Red Shield Appeal launch held at the Gladstone Entertainment Centre.

The Salvation Army helps more than one million needy Australians each year including people who are hungry, homeless or abused. This year the Salvos are hoping to raise \$110,00 from the Gladstone region.

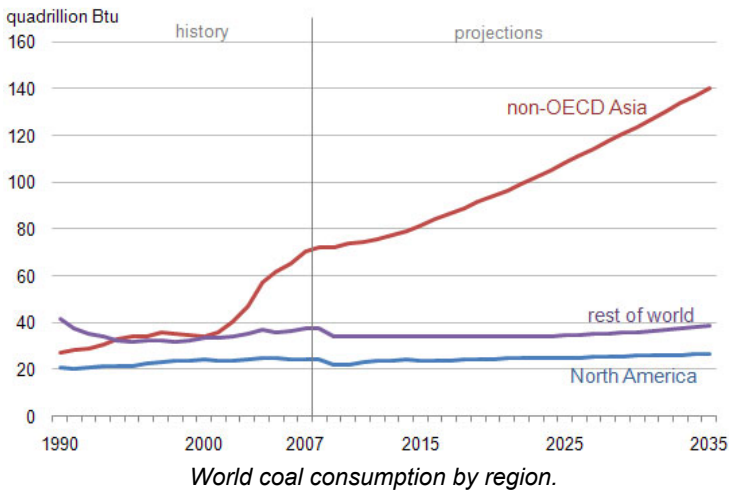
In Gladstone the Salvation Army has a Community Service Centre which assists people in financial crisis through food vouchers, clothing and emergency accommodation.

Manager Human Resources, Kylie Parker presents Captain Sharilyn Bush with a \$5,000 cheque for the Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal.

From Shoey's Desk

Dear Folks

Earlier this year I wrote a couple of Gladrag articles on Climate Change. Well, there is another side to this issue and that is the demand and need for energy. I think as a general point those of us lucky to live in countries such as Australia are pretty wasteful of the energy that we have available to us. There is great room for each and every one of us to improve on our own energy efficiency. But, it is not the Australias of the world which are now driving the demand for energy. I am sure you are all well aware of the growth in demand for electricity in China and India. By the way, it is interesting to note that much of that new electricity generation is being based upon coal.

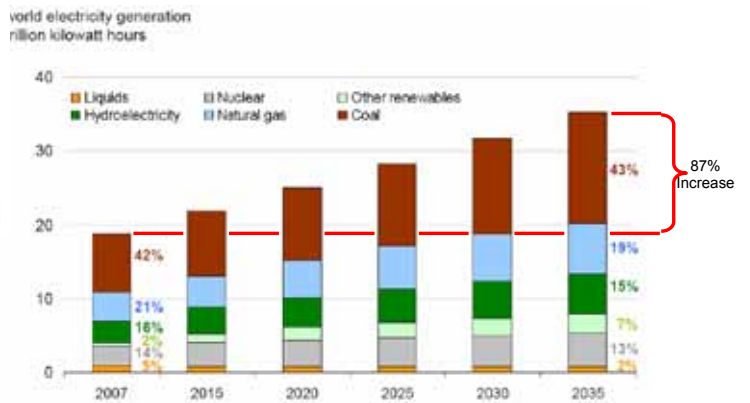


Anyway, back to the issue of the importance of energy. When we think about the changes that have occurred in this country over the past three or four generations, it is obvious the role of relatively cheap, safe and reliable energy has had to play in changing how we live. Just take the electric light for example. Today we take for granted that we can just switch on the switch at anytime of the day or night and have good and abundant light. This has allowed us to have a more active day. No longer are we forced to go to bed just after sundown (although those with little kids may wish for a return to that situation!). But, to have cheap, reliable and safe lighting is more than just allowing us to stay up and “party”.

Having good lighting opens up opportunities to do a whole range of things long after the traditional day is over. We can read, do

the house work, study and so on. In effect the electric light has of itself changed our lives. But, beyond just lighting, think of your life without electricity, no computer, no television and no refrigerator. Indeed our water supply and sewage systems run on electric powered pumps. So, life would be very different would it not?

Well, if our lives have been changed for the better by cheap, reliable and safe energy in the form of electricity, how can we then assume people all around the world do not have a right to the same opportunities to change the lives they live. The challenge for us is, how do we help solve the problems of delivering that cheap, reliable and safe energy in a manner that does not put our planet at risk? My view is that whilst coal is currently being seen as the “problem” in terms of Climate Change, it is equally an important part in meeting the demand for energy by the whole world. The demand for coal for electricity generation is forecast to grow some 89% between 2007 and 2035. Our opportunity is how do we help find solutions to coal’s role in the Climate Change Challenge and ensure that coal can effectively be part of meeting the world’s hunger for energy. Whilst we may not be able to export electricity around the world, we can export ideas and solutions.



Source: EIA, International Energy Outlook 2010

GPS OUR FUTURE

Regards
SHOEY
Glenn Schumacher
General Manager

Sentis Site Visit

NRG recently hosted a visit from senior Sentis staff Ken Ludden and Jade Hindmarsh.

As employees are aware Sentis is the company responsible for conducting the ZIP (Zero Incident Process) two day and half day seminars aimed at enhancing safety and leadership performance on site.

Ken, who has only recently been appointed as the Chief Operating Officer for Sentis in the United States, was touring Australian operations to gain a good understanding of how the business operates.

Superintendent Safety Systems, Allison Hutton said Ken was keen to visit one of the foremost ZIP sites in Australia and Sentis

Wayne Franks and Bob Bowden discuss the Zip program with Jade Hindmarsh and Ken Ludden

recommended GPS as one of the most progressive sites in implementing the ZIP program.

Both Ken and Jade spent time discussing the program with Allison, George Bennetts, Martin Thomas and members of the ZIP Implementation Team.

“Ken and Jade were particularly impressed by the ZIP posters around site and the Safety Sharepoint website,” Allison said.



Bunker Repairs Underway

Work is currently underway to repair sections of the coal bunkers. Project Manager, Ross McKenzie said that in 2008 the coal bunkers were identified as having holes and the question was asked “in what conditions are the bunkers.”

Last year Rockhampton based company, High Point Access and Rescue externally thickness tested six coal bunkers that had the most visible holes to determine the extent of the damage. The work that High Point undertook allowed engineering studies to confirm that the bunkers were still structurally sound. The studies did however recommend the upper section of the bunker wall be replaced to ensure continued reliable cooperation into the future.

Ross believes the holes, which formed in the conical section of the bunker, were caused by localised internal corrosion. Of the six bunkers tested, Unit 6B was found to be in the worst condition and a major O&M project to repair the upper conical section was approved for this year. Given there are 36 bunkers the current work involves identifying the safest, most efficient and economical way to repair all the bunkers.

High Point returned to site last month to access 6B Coal Bunker internally and measure the wall thickness of an area that could not be inspected from the exterior. The exercise was a success with the results confirming that the wall thickness of the area in question was acceptable. This means that all repairs can now be done externally via scaffolding.

The thinned sections of bunker will be cut out and replacement segments will be welded into place.

“We decided that replacement segments would not be welded on top of the thinned areas due to the risk of corroded pieces of bunker wall dislodging and blocking the bunker outlet or damaging the coal feeder and pulveriser below,” Ross commented.

Due to the cutting and welding associated with the work and the presence of coal dust in the area, special controls will be implemented to manage the risk of a fire or explosion.



Ross McKenzie inspects the corrosion on the coal bunkers.

Canteen Encourages Pre-orders



Compass employees Kerrie, Kylie and Suzanne are keen to encourage employees to preorder their food.

Employees using the canteen are being encouraged to pre-order their meals to help reduce food waste and eliminate the impact food waste has on the environment.

Compass Manager Kylie Mansfield said the group had introduced new brochures for employees which outlined the canteen menu and the advantages associated with pre-ordering their meals.

“We’re trying to encourage employees to pre-order so that at the end of the day we’re not having to throw food out. It will make our job a lot easier as well,” Kylie said.

Kylie also pointed out that pre-ordered food would not be made up hours before it was required.

“It doesn’t mean it will be sitting in the hot box for an hour or two. We will be making it up just prior

to collection so it will remain fresh,” she added.

Kylie also encouraged employees to submit their own recipes or ideas for foods that were not on the menu.

“We recently introduced pizzas on the menu at the request of an employee and we will also be offering loyalty cards on salads, soups, muffins and sandwiches, she said.

Kylie said the new brochures will not only include the current week’s menu but also the following week’s menu.

Some Facts on Food Waste

- The decomposition of food waste in landfills forms the greenhouse gas methane which is 20 times more potent than carbon dioxide in terms of contributing to the greenhouse effect
- Australians waste close to three million tonnes of food per annum or 136 kgs per person.



EcoFest Draws Huge Crowd

The twelfth annual EcoFest on Sunday 6 June was a great success with around 8,000 visitors flocking to the Tondoon Botanic Gardens. The day provided an ideal opportunity for NRG to showcase and promote environmental sustainability and build awareness of our efforts to reduce our carbon footprint.

The EcoFest celebrations kicked off on the Saturday night with 17 employees attending the EcoFest "Under the Stars" Sponsors Dinner with guest presenter Ranger Tim and a showcasing of the Greenscenes Environmental Films.

This year's theme was "Many Species, One Planet, One Future." NRG's display featured information on environmental initiatives being undertaken at the station.

As an extra bit of fun the children were able to make their very own power station from a cardboard template and paint a picture

of the power station. The seed sticks of basil, parsley and thyme proved a popular giveaway with the adults.

NRG was one of 80 businesses and community organisations who set up and manned environmental displays on the day. EcoFest also showcases products that promote improved energy efficiency and alternative energy sources.

Naturally the day would not have been a success without employee volunteers and special thanks must go to our team of Paul Vanderlist, Dave Greinke, Archie Lowe, George Bennetts, Martin Thomas, Ben Hayden, Sandy Hunt, Cherie Cavanagh, Sarah Maynard, David Lahey, Ruth Searston, Kev Johnson, Rob AhShay, Natalie Hurst, Kev Ryan, Gary Macnamara and Shoey who helped organise and man the display.



New Graduates

Four NRG employees have recently completed their studies through CQ University. Congratulations to Cameron Williams (Bachelor of Business – Advanced Procurement and Supply), Chris McMurtrie (Bachelor of Engineering Technology and Bachelor of Business), Paul Cupitt (Graduate Certificate in Maintenance Management) and Neil Pease (Bachelor of Engineering Technology – Electrical and Electronic Engineering).

Cameron, who joined GPS as Purchasing Officer in May 2009, has had to juggle raising a young family and fulltime work to complete his degree.

While he admits that it has sometimes been difficult to find the right work life balance Cameron has already decided to continue his learning having just enrolled in a Masters of Management at CQUniversity. Cameron has also taken up lecturing one of the business classes at the university.

Having completed a double degree over nine years Chris McMurtrie has been able to put his skills and knowledge to great use in the Station Electrical area.

Welcome Sean Pieper

This month we welcome new second year electrical apprentice, Sean Pieper.

Sean started work last month in the Units Electrical section after transferring his apprenticeship from his previous employer JTB Electech Services.

Sean said he was really appreciating working in a large industry after having come from a small business.

"I'm just starting to get to know the place and it's been a real eye opener for me," Sean said.

Sean spent his early years in Toowoomba before completing his final school years at Toolooa State High. His hobbies include jet skiing, surfing and working on the car.



Sean is appreciating working in a large industry.

"I've gained a lot of skills in research and as part of my studies I completed a thesis on Cooling Water Plant Overhauls which has proved to be beneficial to the station," Chris said.

Depending on what new opportunities arise at NRG, Chris is also considering furthering his studies in electrical engineering.

After a long career on the GPS Rescue team and the local State Emergency Service Paul Cupitt has spent many years studying and upgrading his skills.

Paul said his Certificate in Maintenance Management had taught him a lot about plant management strategies and manning levels for maintenance.

"I've also learnt a lot about what you can expect from machinery and what you can do to improve it. It's also helped me understand how management make

decisions in relation to the life cycle of machinery," Paul said.

Like Paul, Station Electrical Technician Neil Pease has spent many years involved in continuous learning. Having completed his three year degree through the University of Southern Queensland Neil said he now felt he had a greater knowledge base to draw upon.

"The additional knowledge has helped to change the way I approach technical problems and I now feel more confident in dealing with complex issues." Neil said.

Neil said he would now have a break from study before considering further studies in engineering.

All four graduates were grateful to the financial support provided by NRG in helping them to complete their studies.

NRG General Manager Gladstone Operations, Glenn Schumacher was the guest speaker at the CQU awards ceremony. Glenn told the graduates their learning journey was only just beginning as they started to practice their new skills in the real world.



General Manager Gladstone Operations, Glenn Schumacher congratulates Chris McMurtrie at the graduation ceremony.

Enhancing Risk Awareness

Remember our ZIP course where we watched a video of people passing basketballs between them? This showed how we can miss information even when it is right in front of us. It is a perfect example of how our human awareness is sometimes incomplete. We use the term "Gorilla" to describe blind spots that happen due to the natural limitation of our brain.

Our conscious mind uses its seven units to assess if a risk occurs. If all of our seven units are trained on the one item a "Gorilla" or blind spot will be created. Some typical examples of this are:

Driving the car and wondering if the iron was turned off will not allow seven units to concentrate on the road fully. Mobile phones are a bad one to break people's concentration at a meeting and miss important information.

Heavy hot annoying PPE can consume one's seven units resulting with missing something in the job being performed.

We all know of an occasion that we have experience with a "Gorilla". I sure have!

It is our frames of thought that create Gorilla's for us. For example if you get a job that must be finished quickly, safety may slide. You will be so focussed on the finish time that safety becomes less important and a gorilla can run riot.

Frames around time and other distractions can become "Gorillas" and steal away our seven units. What is truly most important to us is going home safely to our Personal Big 5. The more we can control our frames, the more likely we can manage the risks around us.

Bob Bowden

Rec Club Weekend at Lake Monduran

The GPS Rec Club held a very successful weekend at Lake Monduran last month with around 70 people trekking out to the lake, which is about 20km north of Gin Gin.

While many employees bought their own tents and camper trailers some chose to savour the comforts of one of the hired cabins.

The winter woollies proved to be the fashion throughout the weekend especially on Friday night with the temperatures plummeting to a cool one degree.

Throughout the weekend there was plenty to keep both the adults and children interested with fishing, skiing, tube riding and soccer proving to be the popular activities. A few happy campers also took time out to enjoy the afternoon wine tasting and outdoor movies.



Allan Timm, Rob Wemyss, Archie Lowe, Mick Mann and Andrew Sibley enjoyed sharing a chat at Lake Monduran.

On Sunday a number of the crew ventured off to Mt Perry to explore the historic Boolboonda Tunnel. The 192m tunnel is the longest unsupported tunnel in the Southern Hemisphere. The tunnel was constructed in 1883/1884 as part of a railway from North Bundaberg to Mount Perry.

Thanks to the barbecue boys Rod Brown, Archie Lowe, Ken Williams and Phil Hayne who cooked up a storm for breakfasts and dinners throughout the weekend. Special thanks also to Rod and Grant Sutherland for organising the weekend.

Next month the Rec Club is planning to hold a breakfast barbecue at the marina with a trip to Cania Gorge planned for September following the overhaul.



Lyn Schouten and Aileen Dennien had a relaxing time at Lake Monduran.

Checker Plate Installed on Boiler Drum Floor

Checker plate has been installed on all Unit Boiler Drum floors to reduce the potential for objects falling through the grid mesh during overhauls.

Safety Officer Dave Greinke said plywood hoarding was previously installed on the flooring at each end of the Boiler Drum at level 7 and at the Fabric Filter penthouse entry prior to the commencement of each Unit overhaul.

"It was decided to weld 1 mm checker plate to the grid mesh flooring in these high work areas during overhauls so that we would have a permanent solution to objects falling through the grid mesh," Dave said.

The fabric filter penthouse entry areas will be completed in future years prior to fabric filter bag changes.



Dave Greinke checks out the checker plate that has recently been installed around the boiler drums on each unit.

For Sale

- Iron Frame Piano Victor Artist Model– Good condition - \$600 (Reduced from \$1,000)
- Westinghouse Bar Fridge – Excellent Condition \$60

Phone Gary 4976 5504 wk or Mob 0439 993 496

25 Years for Kris Neaton

Senior Contracts Officer Kris Neaton has come a long way since starting as a relief receptionist in May 1985.

"I was initially employed for a couple of months to relieve Trish Warburton who was on maternity leave. At that time the reception was located where the Finance and Accounting department are now," Kris recalled.

Following her short stint on reception Kris moved into the Supply where she worked as an expeditor for three years.

"I worked closely with the purchasing officers to make sure that ordered goods and materials arrived in the Warehouse on time. It was a very busy time as we didn't have the systems in place that we have today."

In 1988 working as an acting Purchasing Officer Kris was offered a "fantastic opportunity" to work on the Plant Improvement Project which resulted in major improvements to the burner front.

"For 18 months I worked remotely from the Control Systems area and got to learn a lot about the plant and the way contracts are managed," Kris said.

Following nearly a year on maternity leave Kris returned to the Supply in 1991 as a permanent Purchasing Officer supporting the engineering, projects and management workgroups.

With the impending sale of the station Kris began a transition into the contracts area which had become a major focus of her work.

"At the time of the sale Garry Coleborn and I were involved in rewriting the terms and conditions for how NRG would conduct our commercial business. Prior to 1994 everything we did had to be approved by

QEC head office in Brisbane. This was a very challenging but exciting time for the procurement group as we moved to becoming a stand alone business."

"Post GPS sale another extremely interesting project I worked with Garry was the introduction of the Pulveriser Kits. We formed a project team that included employees from the Pulveriser Maintenance crew and the Engineering group. From that team we instigated a Partnering Agreement with the Foundry."

"The time Garry and I spent time at the Foundry reviewing their processes and cost structures was invaluable in achieving an economical outcome for GPS. The pulveriser kits also eliminated a massive amount of manual handling by our Warehouse Officers and eliminated many potential injuries to our employees," Kris said.

Kris continued to work in the warehouse as a Contracts Officer until 2001 when she relocated back to the administration building. During this time NRG supported the Young Achievement Australia (YAA) Business Skills Program. Kris worked with YAA and the Gladstone State High School on several business projects. The aim of this program was to give young people hands on experience and to gain skills needed in the world of business. One of the projects won the State award and represented Queensland at the Australian Award finals in Sydney.

In recent years another improvement Kris has been involved in is the establishment of a Contractor Qualification and Contractor Management System, which has provided support for GPS Superintendents and Specialists to help manage their contracts.

Outside of work Kris is well respected for her 10 years with the Gladstone Chamber of Commerce of which she was a past President. During this time Kris also spent five years on the organising committee for the Gladstone Region Business and Management Awards.



Kris is always pleased to have something new and different to do each day.

Kris believes the experience gained in these roles has helped her gain a better understanding of the impacts large industry can have on small businesses.

Kris is proud of having achieved 25 years at the station and credits her longevity to "having something new and different to do each day" and the opportunity to work with many wonderful people.

"This is not just a job, this has been a lifestyle and one that I am very grateful for," she said.



Writers Group Thanks NRG

The Gladstone Area Writers Group has recently thanked NRG for their contribution towards a permanent display case for local authors.

Group President Mike Lunan said the cabinet had been installed in the Gladstone City Library.

"The purpose of the cabinet is to display published works of local authors and sell the work through the library," Mike said.

Mike checks out the new display case which will be housed at the Gladstone Library.

"The closure of Dymocks Bookstore meant writers in Gladstone had nowhere to display and sell their books. The cabinet will be for any writer in the Gladstone region," Mike added.

While Goldings provided the bulk of the funding, the group were very appreciative of the financial support provided by NRG, QAL and local businessman Graham Wilson.

Where are they now? – Don Carter

What period did you work in the electricity industry? Tell us about your roles prior to coming to GPS.

It's been a life sentence! I started as an electrical apprentice in Townsville then and moved into the power industry at Collinsville from 1969 to 2003. Joe Ganley was in charge and Don Kerr was an engineer. I worked in the electrical workshops with Steve Mackie and Cliff Heidenreich and then went on to the operating staff in 1971 as a Unit Controller. Some of the ex-Collinsville people included Nev Poole, Les Beauchamp, Doug Hogan, Tony Fraser, John Briggs, Ron Fraley and Peter Morrison. I then left to go to GPS in 1981 where I worked through all the operating positions and was a Unit Controller when I took voluntary redundancy in July 2003.

What were your roles at GPS and who were some of the other people you enjoyed working with at the time?

As well as all the operating positions, I was involved in several projects. The first was the upgrade of the fire systems and Brian Chalmers was the fitter in charge. The most significant project however, was the control systems upgrade which involved setting the standards for the graphics, the layout of the control room, moving the controls for Units 5 & 6 into Number 1 control room and most significant for me, the drawing of the graphics for the Station Plant and Coal Plant.

What are your fondest memories of working at the station?

I enjoyed the camaraderie of the fellows I worked with over the 21 years on all shifts. The fishing and crabbing expeditions (internal as well as external) forged many lasting memories of old salts such as Peter Vouvolis, Ian O'Donoghue, Alan Pease, Gary Matthews and Wayne Franks. Other shift characters I particularly appreciated were John Dickfos (mostly for his culinary prowess on our Sunday day shift lunches) and my separated-at-birth-twin-brother, Kerry Moffitt, who copied my life achievements at exactly the same time, but at the opposite end of the state until we ended up on the same shift in Gladstone. I also enjoyed working with Bob Bowden and Roy Jones for their friendship, constant good humour and gentlemanly ways. It was also great to work with all those on the Control Systems upgrade because there was such a diversity of backgrounds - Engineers John James and Steve Lewis, Instrument Technicians Wes Machen and Russell Ivers, Operators Nev O'Connor,

Chris Swift and Rod Augusten to name a few. Being part of the shift indoor cricket team and social golf teams brings back great memories of Allan Thwaite, Ross Kohn, Bob Corkill and Lizard. Outside the operations area Trevor Heard has been a great mate.

What did you enjoy about living in Gladstone?

We found Gladstone a great place to live, especially after 13 years living away from the coast in Collinsville. When we first arrived, Gladstone had a poor reputation based on its too rapid expansion but we thrived on all it had to offer – especially the fishing, sporting and social lifestyle. It was a great place to bring up our two children who took good advantage of all there was available both academically and sporting wise. Glenne also had a very good position with the Port Authority, which gave us some very good friends outside the power station.

What have you done since leaving GPS and what are you enjoying in your retirement?

After doing renovations to our house and flats in Gladstone we moved to Mandurah, Western Australia – a spectacular place to live and where our kids had already set up camp. I worked for a while for a locksmith, before going to work for Worsley Alumina in their powerhouse for three years. I retired so that we could devote more time to one of our hobbies, gold prospecting. Areas that were not profitable to the larger companies are now in great demand. We are in a cycle club, doing rides from Mandurah to Augusta, Albany and Busselton as well as the weekly excursions. Due to a shoulder injury I couldn't play golf so I had a go at bowls and it has taken over my life! Just recently I had the shoulder replacement operation and am now fighting fit, or certainly fit enough



Don and Glenne with their two grandchildren Liam and Alyssa

to keep up with our two beautiful grandkids Alyssa (6yrs) and Liam (5yrs).

Do you still keep up with any GPS employees?

I try to keep in touch with several people from GPS and have visited them when we come back to Queensland. Bob Bowden, Alan Pease, Wayne Franks, Kerry Moffitt and Trevor Heard are the main ones still working at GPS and I have also kept in touch with Roy Jones.

Tell us a little bit about your family?

Both our son and daughter moved to WA for employment in the 1990's and have put down firm roots, so it was only to be expected that we would follow, since the better prospecting grounds were here. Our first grandchild Alyssa, was born two days after we arrived in WA followed 14 months later by a grandson, Liam. Both Michael and Kristy live within 45 minutes travel and we get to see them very regularly. Our house is in a suburb just south of Mandurah and is right on the Peel Inlet with a wonderful view of the inlet and a beautiful lake two steps from the front door. I only have to walk about 60 metres across a park and I can be in the water scooping sand crabs or on a Wednesday night, running my fishing net for a feed of fresh mullet.

If you know of a former employee who may be interested in participating please forward their contact details to Gary Macnamara ext 504.

Service Register – June 2010

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 June.

38 years	Clifford Heidenreich	28 years	Russell Curtis,
33 years	Dave Brown		Ken Fischer,
31 years	Gary Harmer		Phillip Hayne
30 years	Peter Lamb,	26 years	Col Johnston,
	David Pendreigh		Don Lodding
29 years	Peter Van Nimwegen,	25 years	Edward Somerfield
	Trevor Williams	17 years	Jodie Patchett
		16 years	Adrian Taylor