

Spare Generator Sails into Town

After nearly two months at sea the spare stator and rotor that has been purchased for Gladstone Power Station arrived into Gladstone Harbour early on the morning of the 26 October.

Electrical Projects Specialist Graham Long was assigned the job of coordinating the transport of the generator from Germany to Gladstone.

The ship carrying the generator, the "Sampogracht" is a dedicated heavy lift ship. It has special auto ballasting and crane systems which allowed it to lift the generator off the ship and onto the special trailer located on the wharf.

The moving of the generator from the Auckland Point No 4 berth to GPS was undertaken by ECR Group. The auxiliary equipment, which was in three shipping containers and the rotor arrived during normal working hours. The 210 tonne stator was moved to site early on Sunday morning 31 October.

The equipment has been positioned in a specially constructed stator and rotor storage facility near the back of the mills workshop. This facility currently being constructed by Dodds Constructions has

the slabs presently laid. It will only be completed once the stator and rotor are in position. It is expected the civil works will be finalised later this year and the roof erected over the rotor and stator early next year.

Manager Major Projects, Stephen Lewis said the stator and rotor would be in storage for several years.

"They are not planned to be used until 2016 unless there is an unexpected failure of one of the generators onsite," Steve said.



Manager Major Projects, Steve Lewis was on hand to inspect the new generator that arrived at Auckland Point wharf last month.

Ladies Enjoy Pink Ribbon Breakfast



NRG ladies enjoyed a sumptuous breakfast at the Gladstone Golf Club to raise money for Pink Ribbon Day.

The ladies from GPS enjoyed breakfast at the Gladstone Golf Club on Friday, 15 October to raise funds for the Cancer Council of Queensland.

In total, twenty NRG ladies enjoyed a sumptuous breakfast of eggs and bacon with all the trimmings. The girls spent up big on raffle tickets and won several prizes for the table.

Cancer Council Volunteer Cheryl Jackson was extremely pleased with the morning.

"The guest speaker was Fei Matheson. Fei spoke about the many cultural differences of living in Australia, compared to her home country of China.

The annual breakfast raised \$3,000 which will be spent on breast cancer research, which is a great outcome," Cheryl said.

Remembering Paul Borchardt

Friends and workmates from the power station were saddened to hear of the passing of Paul Borchardt last month at the age of 61.

Paul had retired from GPS in December 2008 after a 42 year association with the electricity industry.

Paul's career began in January 1967 when he was recruited to the Southern Electric Authority of Queensland (SEAQ) as a cadet engineer in Brisbane.

During his five year cadetship Paul spent time at the Apprentice Training School in Brisbane as well as working at Bulimba, Swanbank and Tennyson Power Stations.

Paul completed his mechanical engineering degree at the Queensland Institute of Technology's Gardens Point campus. While studying he also had the opportunity to do vacation work at the Southern Cross Foundry in Toowoomba, Evans Deakin in Brisbane and Vales Point Power Station in NSW.

Late in 1971 he joined Swanbank Power Station as an efficiency engineer but his career was put on hold shortly after when he was called up for National Service training. He went on to graduate from his army training as a Second Lieutenant in the Royal Corp of Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers. During his 18 months in the "Nashos" Paul spent much of his time refurbishing land rovers brought back from the Vietnam War and writing maintenance procedures.

Following his National Service training Paul returned to SEAQ where he did short stints as an efficiency engineer at Swanbank and Tennyson Power Stations before joining GPS in December 1975.

"My first job was working as a support engineer for John Broekstra and my role was to commission and test the plant. Early on we found out the computers weren't up to speed and many things on the plant didn't work as designed. At the same time we coped with moving into a new house, having our first child and Cyclone David which passed through soon after we arrived," Paul recalled at the time.

A major highlight for Paul came in 1978 with the installation of the Westinghouse computers which were installed in the control system of Units 5 & 6. As part of training Paul spent three months in Pittsburgh, USA learning the software for the new system.

In 1985 Paul was promoted to the role of Performance Engineer where he was in charge of a small group of technical officers and clerical support people responsible for producing performance data for the station. During this time Paul was involved in setting up and improving the performance of the precipitators and sulphur trioxide plants.

Following the sale of the station in 1994 Paul was appointed to the role of Specialist Engineer Operational Analysis working for Graeme Watts. Much of the information supplied in the "Due Diligence Process" was based on systems that Paul had developed for monitoring the plant.

In more recent times Paul took on the role of Specialist Analyst Support which saw him involved in providing analytical support relating to the commercial aspects of the National Electricity Market.

At the time of his departure Paul said there were many highlights of his career including the station opening in 1976, his trip to Pittsburgh, working on the "Due Diligence Process", the Open days



in 1991 and 1993 and the Working Together Training conducted following the sale of the station. Paul was also the original Vice President of the Recreation Club which was set up in 1976.

Paul was a keen cyclist riding his bike to work daily rain, hail or snow.

Fellow workmate Kris Petersen remembered Paul as someone who was a born leader with a brilliant mind and a valuable team member in Production Commercial.

"Paul led a fit healthy organised lifestyle and was always happy to share a joke. The way Paul lived his life and loved those he cherished demonstrated he was a hearty soul. It was his strong heart which allowed him to steal as much time with his loved ones as he could, defying medical predictions. Paul's passion for bridge, daily crosswords, Sudoku, classical music, wood turning and his strong commitment to the Masonic Lodge moulded his every being. The last hand Paul was dealt was completely unexpected but he fought for life with courage until the very end and his spirit did not bend," Kris said.

Former GPS General Manager Don Kerr said Paul was always very helpful and cheerful and had a good understanding of the station operation.

"I recall he joined the Gladstone Staff at the end of 1975. At the interview he impressed me with his thermodynamic knowledge and his willingness to join the Gladstone Operations group. At that stage a lot of the Brisbane staff were concerned about moving to Gladstone, but this was not a problem for Paul."

"The computer system for Units 1- 4 was a PDP 11/45 system. Looking back from today's computer capacity, it was extremely small. Paul was able to quickly understand the system collate any data we needed for plant fault analysis. The same applied to the Westinghouse computers supplied for Units 5 & 6. Apart from these unit computers, our only other computer access on site was the head office terminals, which were of little use for plant fault analysis. The QEGB had a policy of not allowing Personal Computers on site and this did not change until the end of the 1980's. Once Paul had access to a PC, his ability to collect and display data was greatly enhanced and such data was of great value to the station," Don said.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to his wife Astrid and his children Andrew and Clair.

Superman Flies in for Bike-n-Brekky Day

Even Superman (alias Doug Thomas) didn't mind riding to work to support the GPS Bike-n-Brekky Day on 13 October.

"It was once again an outstanding success with 37 employees taking up the challenge to ride their bike to work. While the numbers were slightly down on last year it is still encouraging to see employees wanting to take up an active lifestyle," Doug said.

Those who rode were rewarded with a healthy breakfast when they arrived on site. As an added bonus employees had the opportunity to win a \$50 voucher from M1 Cycles. Congratulations to Ged Carter and John Mann who were the lucky winners of the \$50 vouchers.

This year is the seventh year we've supported the Ride to Work promotion and it was good to see a few new riders taking up the challenge," Doug added.



Doug congratulates Ged Carter on winning a \$50 voucher from M1 Cycles.

Specific task employee Ged Carter who was a new rider this year said the promotion was a great way to promote cycling and fitness in the community.

"I think it is a great idea as it promotes healthy living and having Superman there only added to the colour of the occasion. Thanks to Doug for organising the event – he is a true superhero," Ged said.

The Ride to Work promotion is a national behaviour change program which encourages employees to feel good and have fun by commuting to work by bike.



Bruce Green, Joshua Young and Joel Otley enjoy a healthy breakfast following their ride to work.

Stores Floor Successfully Repaired

On Monday 27 September the fire line which runs under the store's floor ruptured causing water to flood the stores and neighbouring workshops.

Civil Projects Specialist Alan Timm said the concrete floor had been lifted nearly 200mm when the fire system pipe burst underneath the slab.

"The pipe was originally outside the store but when the store was extended in the early eighties the new floor was layered over the pipe" Allan said.

"We've had to pull out the pellet racking and relocate items in the stores into containers. Repairs to the floor have been completed by Oaka Engineering and we are currently in the process of putting load bearing equipment back on the slab," Alan said.

The work is now complete except for painting of the floor which cannot be done until the concrete is fully cured which takes about 28 days.

The fire system pipe work is currently being relocated to run across the roof of the stores to avoid any further damage to the main slab," Alan added.

Walz Maintenance are undertaking this work and it is hoped that the store will be back to full functionality by mid November.

Alan praised the efforts of Garry Coleborn and Ken Williams for their efforts in keeping the stores open while the repairs were being completed.



Oaka Engineering employees repair the concrete slab that was damaged following a pipe rupture last month.

Graham Bloomfield Retires

After a 48 year working life with 36 continuous years career in the electricity industry Power Systems Technical Officer, Graham Bloomfield has decided to call it a day.

Graham originally started his career in the electricity industry in January 1962 as an apprentice electrician with the Capricornia Regional Electricity Board in Rockhampton. After completing his apprenticeship Graham worked for a variety of companies including the Utah Construction Company at Blackwater, the Papua and New Guinea Electricity Commission at Lae, Bougainville Copper (Paguna Mine), Norris Electric (Moranbah sub-station), and Otis Elevators (Durban, South Africa).

Returning to Australia Graham rejoined the electricity industry at Kareeya Power station in 1974 working as a control room operator. In 1979 he transferred to GPS as an electrician.

"The main electrical workshop run by Claude Powe and John Newby was my starting point," Graham recalled.

He remembers vividly his first day on the job at GPS. Arriving in stubby shorts, T-shirt and thongs and tool box in hand he was told to attend a union meeting in the control systems workshop.

"As I didn't have my safety boots on I was told to leave the workshop but a fellow union member pushed me into the packed meeting room out of the supervisor's way. Eventually I was able to get a start," Graham said.

July 1982 saw Graham make a radical change to his career when he took up a position with Generation Development as a construction electrical inspector. This led him to Tarong Power Station where he assisted in the commissioning of the 350 MW turbo-generator and associated plant.

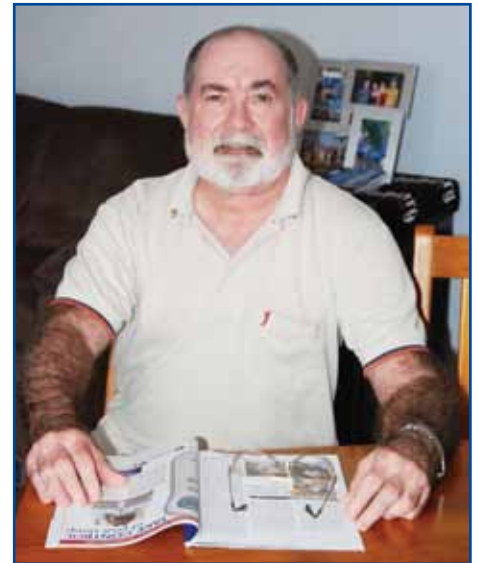
Early 1986 saw a return to GPS to work in the Electrical Engineering section with John Wakefield, Steve Fewtrell, Thi Ngyuen, Nev Beckman and Brett Handley with Ken Lister as the Boss.

In 1991 Graham moved into the Operations section working with Jeff Bowers and Steve Bridges conducting performance investigations into plant efficiency. Later the section included Paul Borchardt, Ronda Rowe and Gordon Lawrence.

"Our early work focused on finding air leaks in the Feed Heating and Condensing plant as well as doing studies on clinker build up in the Boilers and Mills rejects," Graham said.

After several more organisational changes Graham began working for Power Systems Engineer Steve Fewtrell until his departure in 1998. There were a number of Power System Engineers Graham had to train (tongue in cheek) over the next decade, namely Wayne Martin, Nathan Balanathan, Francesco Machado and Keith Jenkins.

"With the introduction of the Electrical Safety Act in 2002 Graham's role was to implement its intent at GPS working with the Electrical Safety Committee. This involved formulating new work methods,



Graham is hoping to do a lot more travelling in his retirement.

procedures and training for the electricians and ensuring that there policies in place to meet the new regulations," Graham said.

Another highlight for Graham came in 2005 with the introduction of the Permit Administration System (PAS). Along with Lindsay Prizeman and Ken Harris, Graham was involved in integrating the High Voltage Switching and HV Permits into the system.

Graham said he was looking forward to "taking things easy" in his retirement. Over the past few years he has enjoyed travelling throughout New Zealand, China, Great Britain and Europe and if all goes well South America and Canada remain high on the agenda as future holiday destinations.

Karate Success for Jon

Third year electrical apprentice Jon Redshaw has achieved another personal milestone in his karate career after gaining his 3rd Dan black belt at the National Shotokan Karate Tiles held in Melbourne in September.

To achieve his new grading Jon was put through an intensive two hour session in front of Japanese instructors.

Shotokan Karate is normally characterised by deep long stances that provide stability as well as sparring techniques. It also incorporates the principles of humility, respect, compassion and inner calmness.

A veteran of 12 years in the sport Jon spends about six hours each week honing his skills at the local PCYC.

"My parents got me involved at a very early age and I have always appreciated the fitness and discipline that goes with learning a very structured sport like karate," Jon said.

Given his success so far Jon is training to be selected for the national squad to compete in the world titles in Australia in 2012.



Jon – honing his skills at the local PCYC.

Getting Personal with Asset Management Specialist Cameron Philips

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

I'm pretty comfortable with the plant as it is fairly familiar to me. There are some areas that are in need of special attention but as a whole it is good reliable plant. The people here are very friendly and I have found the transition very easy. Given the length of service that many have here, their experience is extremely valuable and again has made my job much easier. It reminds me of Callide in the good old days.

What have you enjoyed about your new role?

The most exciting part for me has been broadening my experience base. In my time at Callide I spent most of my time working on the ash and boiler draft plant, so it has been great to step outside these areas and have a look at different plant.

Tell us about your previous roles and experience.

I'm a fitter and turner by trade and did my time at Launchbury's Engineering, a small engineering shop in Biloela. I spent six years at Launchbury's before moving to Callide Power Station as a maintenance fitter. During my time as a fitter I worked predominantly on the ash and boiler draft plant and managed the air heaters, boiler duct work and occasionally the burners during overhauls. Also during this time I was seconded to work on a number of projects including the SAP role out and the handover of Callide C.

After the Callide C project I began a Bachelor of Mechatronics engineering degree and moved to the technical services department to build asset strategies for the new Callide C plant. I then worked as a technical officer managing the ash and boiler draft plant along side the plant engineer for a number of years. When the plant engineer moved on my role was

enlarged to cover the completion of the dry ash and other projects.

The dry ash project entailed replacement of the existing wet impounded ash hoppers with Magaldi dry ash conveying systems and a pneumatic conveying system to transport the dry ash to a storage silo. The HCSD project involved taking blended dry furnace ash and fly ash, mixing it to a precisely controlled moisture content and pumping it 2.6km to the ash dam. Both projects had numerous difficulties but in the end were very rewarding to complete.

What things attracted you to NRG and Gladstone Power Station?

The current culture of NRG was the biggest attraction to me. I knew or had heard of a number of the managers and the place reminded me of Callide in the late 90s when things were working well. Being close to the coast was also a real attraction.

Tell us about some of your interests and hobbies.

Most people would have gathered by now that I'm a pretty keen fisherman. I also love cricket in summer and footy in winter and play touch footy (not very well given my current fitness level). All of these interests have more significance to me now with both my boys and my wife Robyn becoming involved with junior sport and family camping/fishing trips.

What do you like about living in Gladstone?

There are lots of opportunities here and it won't be long before my son Lochy will be looking for work. Again being close to the coast is very attractive and there are lots of things to do here in comparison to Biloela.

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

I was born in Murgon, but moved to Brisbane when I was still very young. From Brisbane my family moved to the Atherton Tablelands



where I did all of my primary school (a great place to live. Someone needs to build a coal fired power station up there). My family again moved to Biloela when I was in Year 8 and I lived there until now.

Tell us a little bit about your family.

My wife Robyn is a Biloela local and until now has never lived anywhere else. She has similar interests to me and really enjoys family camping trips. Robyn is a very good cook, which I blame for my current physique. I have two boys, Lochlan 14 and Benten 8. They both love cricket, footy and fishing along with computer games and riding scooters at the skate park. Lochy attends Tannum State High while Ben goes to Tannum State Primary. Both appear to have settled in very well.

How did the nickname Flippa come about?

I think it was a fill in junior footy coach who was having trouble remembering everyone's name and made the association of Philips and Flippa.

My worst habit is...There are so many it is hard to choose one.

At home I like to cook...On the barbie. Other than this I'm completely hopeless at cooking.

The best holiday I've ever been on was to...Europe to a mate's wedding. Awesome!!!

The hardest thing I've ever done was...Studying for my engineering degree - still not quite complete yet.

Safer Access to K30 Tripper

As part of the hazard reduction program access to the Slot Bunker K30 tripper has been recently been improved.

Mechanical Projects Specialist Rick Thomason said in the past fuel handling and maintenance personnel were required to climb over hand rails to access the ladder to K30 tripper.

"Safer access to the tripper was required to reduce the risk of potential injuries from occurring when accessing the ladder to the tripper," Rick said.

Total Drafting Services prepared the drawings for the new ladder which was installed by Walz Maintenance.

The hazard reduction program has been ongoing since the early 1990's and aims to improve access for maintenance and production to conduct their work in a safe manner.

Fuel Plant Operator Trevor Pearce is pictured trying out the new improved access ladder.



Getting Personal with Production Unit Controller Joshua Young

In the 21 months you have worked at the station what's been your impression of the plant and people so far?

Twenty one months, gee wiz time flies when you're having fun. People are friendly - very approachable and willing to help.

What have you enjoyed about the Operator Traineeship?

Definitely not filling out the hundreds of pages of the competency based log books. Seriously though, it was very well structured and delivered. We knew months ahead what was expected of us. I enjoyed the time on the simulator which was instrumental to my development. I must thank both Darryl Kropp and Alan O'Rourke for their time and effort in delivering such a professional program. I couldn't have got to where I am without them.

Tell us about your previous roles and experience.

I left school and completed electronics in a communication apprenticeship with Nixon Communications. I then furthered my knowledge by completing an electrical engineering degree at CQU before working for Connell Wagner and Bechtel as a Graduate Engineer on local industry projects. I then joined QAL as a Major Maintenance Project Leader for the Raw



Materials and Electrical sections. I am now very fortunate to be employed as an operator at NRG.

What things attracted you to NRG and Gladstone Power Station?

I liked the work life balance NRG provides and the opportunity to become a boiler and turbine operator in my home town.

Tell us about some of your interests and hobbies.

I enjoy camping, fishing, golf, kite surfing and touch football.

What do you like about living in Gladstone?

I like Gladstone's location to the reef, Tannum Sands beach, the great weather and work opportunities.

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

I was born in the Gladstone Hospital and attended West Primary School and Gladstone State High School.

Tell us a little bit about your family.

My Mum and Dad (David and Alison Young) live in Tannum Sands. I have two sisters Anna Werder and Avril Guy. I have been married to Annie Young (Hargreaves) for nearly three years. No children yet - did have a dog named Disco but gave it away as he had too much energy for our little yard.

If I wasn't a Unit Controller I'd probably be... Still working at QAL as a Project Leader.

At home I like to cook... As little as possible.

Someone who makes me laugh is... My wife, Annie

You wouldn't know it but I'm no good at... Buying flowers

The hardest thing I've ever done was... Having to turn around whilst leading the last heat of the National Sailing Titles after realising I had just sailed around the wrong buoy. I lost all chance of winning the titles and went home with a ninth overall. To make things worse, half of my South Queensland team mates followed me.

Where are they now? – Les Beauchamp

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

I worked on construction of the Collinsville Power Station from 1966 for two years before joining the operating staff when the first unit was put online in 1968.

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

I worked in all operating roles at GPS. Although I enjoyed working with most of the people at GPS names that come to mind are Ray Mantel, George Ryan, Peter Morrison and many, many others.

What are your fondest memories of working at the station?

I enjoyed the quality of the guys I worked with, particularly on a cold night when it was pouring rain and all the mills were blocking up and the station was slowly going down the tube.

What did you enjoy about living in Yarwun?

I love the lifestyle – there are no neighbours, plenty of water and good soil to grow things.

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

My three main interests are fishing, farming and family – always have been and always will be.

Do you still keep up with any GPS employees?

Occasionally I meet up with some ex-workmates and catch up on all the gossip

Tell us a little bit about your family?

Whilst I lost my wife in 2001, I have been blessed with two sons and families. I am a Grandfather to five grandchildren ages ranging from 12 – 6 months. I enjoy the day to day life of seeing my family and sharing the wonderful lifestyle that comes with living in the country.

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



Les enjoys taking time out to go fishing in his spare time.



Over recent years, the media has been constantly promoting work-life balance as the be-all and end-all to achieving wellbeing. However, research which inspired a recent book by social researchers Tom Rath and Jim Harter, *Wellbeing: The Five Essential Elements*, suggests that there is more to wellbeing than work-life balance.

According to their research across more than 150 countries, five universal elements of wellbeing were identified:

1. **Career wellbeing** - Liking what you do every day
2. **Social wellbeing** - Having strong, close relationships
3. **Financial wellbeing** - Managing your financial life so that it isn't a source of stress or insecurity
4. **Physical wellbeing** - Having enough energy to complete the day's tasks
5. **Community wellbeing** - Being engaged in

the area in which you live

While two thirds of people surveyed in the research were satisfied in at least one area, only 7% were doing well in all five.

It may not always be possible to be doing well in all five elements all of the time, but recognising the importance of the elements, and taking steps to do better in each is important to growing your wellbeing. Find out which elements are most important to you and how you can improve them, and you will be well on your way to a more satisfying and fulfilling life.

Everyone's wellbeing takes a hit from time to time. If you're having trouble getting out of a rut, you might benefit from speaking with one of Converge International's experienced counsellors. Counselling is free, and can be arranged by calling Converge International anytime on 1800 337 068.

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Best Practice Visit – Ergon Energy

ZIPIT members Derek Smith and Bob Bowden recently paid a visit to Ergon Energy in Townsville to understand what processes they employed to embed the ZIP Process and culture into their organisation. The information from this visit will be reviewed with our ZIPIT group to further enhance strategies to continue embedding the culture here at GPS.

Ergon first commenced their journey with ZIP (Sentis) in 2004, rolling it out to almost all of their 5500 employees all across Queensland. Whilst we are a smaller organisation with 280 odd employees plus the on site contractors, being all on one site made it a little less challenging for us. For Ergon the location and remoteness of some of their teams meant there were logistical hurdles to overcome. To date there are still some employees who have not been through the initial training, whilst they are already underway with the refresher training.

"Ergon in this respect are no different to us here at GPS. Sure they have had some losses, and people who are yet to get on the court,

but they also have had some major wins. There are many people who are on the court and have chosen to take responsibility to ensure they work safely and not put their PB5 at risk. It is all about the journey," Derek said.

With regard to Risk Management, Bob stated one simple strategy they employ in their Task and Work Process Review (a Work Method Statement as we know it), is for the employees to identify the tasks and process, then to use at least one of the BIG5 Safety frames or even a Team Focus Statement as a review tool.

"These ZIP tools are available to you and I here at GPS. It's all about prompting your RAS and breaking the cycle of just doing it that way because it is the way we've always done it," Bob said.

With other sites to visit in the future, the focus for the ZIPIT team is to learn and understand what strategies can be applied to our own ideas thereby making it more meaningful to our people and further consolidate our ZIP culture.

Hypochlorite Pipe Relocation Underway

Relocation of the Hypochlorite pipe near the Units 1-4 CW pumps is currently underway.

Project Manager Rick Thomason said the pipe needed to be replaced following an incident where hypochlorite leaked into the railway easement between Units 1-4 and Units 5&6.

"Hypochlorite is dosed into the system before the CW pumps to control the marine growth in the CW system. It is produced near the Units 1-4 cooling water pumps and pumped via a pipeline over to the Units 5&6 pumps. After inspection we found that the pipework needed replacing as the existing ABS material was nearing the end of its service life," Rick said.

"The current route between Units 1-4 and Units 5&6 via the railway corridor was not considered appropriate as maintenance work on the pipe required a track outage and any spillage could contaminate non NRG property," Rick explained.

The new pipe route was designed by Total Drafting Services and remains on NRG property.

"This saves the need for people to enter the railway corridor for inspections of the pipeline," Rick added.

The new pipe route will use a newly installed culvert under Beach Avenue on the CW side of the railway overpass bridge.



Rob Brown and Rick Thomason inspect the hypochlorite pipework.

Where are they now? – Dave Millican



Dave and his wife Leslie have enjoyed spending time travelling throughout Europe.

What period did you work at the station?

I started at GPS as a Sciences Laboratory Assistant in 1977, after working as a Civil Engineering Technician for three years. I then left GPS in 1979 for a position as a Civil Engineering Lab Manager. This was to earn better money, get married and purchase a home. I returned to GPS in 1983 and worked there until January 1992. On returning to GPS General Manager Sid Durrington quietly said to me "didn't you like it out there in the big bad world!"

Tell us about your roles at the station.

I started as a Lab Assistant which involved various duties including coal sample preparation and analysis. From there I moved to the Laboratory where daily and weekly unit cycle water samples had to be analysed. After serving my time in the lab I rotated into chemical plant operations and maintenance, which included the Demin Plant, Ammonia Dosing, Sodium Hypochlorite Batching and Dosing and Wetracks Instrumentation areas.

What are your fondest memories of particular events and working with the employees at the station?

The best memories are the times spent with the crew I worked with. I think we started with about 20 people in the group but numbers dwindled over the years with natural attrition. This turned out to be a good situation for when the mass redundancies hit, I don't recall any losses from our group. Maybe Barry Harris was a wise master after all letting positions go quietly.

I also remember the social side with golf on RDOs and the horseplay (water fights etc) with the likes of Manny, Bob, Dave Greinke and muscle man George Bennetts. Not sure whether Van der Lusty was involved at the time?

Another memory I have was venturing out in the station dinghy to survey the Calliope

River and Harbour for temperature and other parameters. I don't know how mud crabs and fish ended up in the boat on those trips. I think the job was supposed to take about three hours of the morning not two to three days! On the serious side the Sciences group were very professional and a great crew to work with.

What do you miss about living in Gladstone?

I've always been a keen fisherman and I miss the close vicinity to the harbour and other water ways. I will be moving to Yeppoon shortly. As a number of my family and friends still live in Gladstone I miss catching up with them as often as I should.

What have you done since leaving Gladstone?

I moved to Stanwell Power Station as a Chemical Technician in 1992 when the station was still under construction. I was about the tenth person employed full time by Stanwell and my first role was to commission all the chemical plants prior to units starting up. I enjoyed all the challenges of this role even though it was very busy and stressful at times. I am now the Chemical Plant Area Coordinator at Stanwell which requires me to spend more time at the desk, but I still fill in on plant operations when necessary. When we moved to Rockhampton we built a new home on a couple of acres of land outside Gracemere. We have just sold this property and have purchased a sea view block of land at Yeppoon where we are in the process of getting a home designed and built.

What do you enjoy about living in Gracemere?

I enjoy being able to catch up with our family here. I like to venture out on the water at Port Alma and Yeppoon with friends in my boat at every opportunity.

Do you still keep up with any of the GPS employees?

I tend to catch up with a few of the old mates occasionally when in town and at chemical conferences. Have not caught up with my old mate Greinke for a while.

Tell us a little bit about your family?

Leslie and I have been married for 31 years. We have raised four great kids - two sons and two daughters to adulthood with the last daughter moving out of home last January. Our oldest daughter Leisa (School Teacher) has given us two grandchildren and now has the privilege of us moving in with her short term till our

new home is built. Ha! Ha! Sweet revenge. Our other daughter Jennifer is a nurse at a Rockhampton Hospital. Our oldest son Ashley lives at Emerald and works as an Exercise Physiologist while Anthony is a spray painter at Gracemere.

My wife Leslie has just resigned as Director of Nursing at Eventide Nursing Home in Rocky after six years there. She is going to spend more time with grandkids and family. The family still get together for Keppel Island camping most years.

In the future we are planning to do more travelling, boating and fishing. I have recently had six weeks in Europe, enjoyed holidays to NZ and will be in Hawaii this November for a few weeks.



Dave at the helm of his boat.

Service Register November 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 November.

33 years	Wayne Franks
32 years	Michael Palmer, Trevor Pearce
31 years	Tony Harris
30 years	Graham Sparrow, Ivan Robinson, Cheryl O'Callaghan, David Greinke
29 years	Darryl Kropp
26 years	Gary Underdown, John Deno
17 years	Cameron Poole
15 years	Pauline Sagnol