



---

<b>President:</b>	<b>Bart Lynch</b>	25 Dolphin Street, Scarborough, 4020 Ph.(07) 3203 4922 E-mail: <a href="mailto:bart@worldoptions.com.au">bart@worldoptions.com.au</a>
<b>Secy/Treas.</b>	<b>Bob Rowe</b>	12 Narwin Grove, Ferny Hills, 4055 Ph.(07) 3351 5214 E-mail: <a href="mailto:bob.rba@ihug.com.au">bob.rba@ihug.com.au</a>
<b>Newsletter Editor:</b>	<b>Elwin Falk</b>	4/27 Cambridge Street, Carina Heights, 4152 Ph.(07) 3398 2631

---

**Sub Branches:**

<b>Gold Coast:</b>	<b>President:</b>	Peter Lenton	Tel: 07 5539 3048	E-mail: <a href="mailto:plenton@bigpond.net.au">plenton@bigpond.net.au</a>
<b>Sunshine Coast:</b>	<b>President:</b>	Ken Evans	Tel: 07 5476 8494	E-mail: <a href="mailto:cageymammy@optusnet.com.au">cageymammy@optusnet.com.au</a>

---

**VISIT RETIRED OFFICERS WEB SITE:** [www.picknowl.com.au/homepages/stanbatten/default.html](http://www.picknowl.com.au/homepages/stanbatten/default.html)

---

**Presidents Report on March Meeting**

We started off the new year with a good attendance of 24 which included **Ray Robson**, who we had not seen for some time, a good number of ladies and new member, **Keith Hayman** and **Jenny**. We always enjoy ourselves and would love to see many more of you to further bolster the club spirit.

**Tony Sorenson** was also in attendance and opportunity was taken to thank him for news of his travels to exotic places, printed in the last newsletter. Anyone else with interesting tales is invited to have them published

Apologies were received from **John King**, **Peter Brennan**, **Geoff Taylor**, **Kathy Male** and **Heather Stephenson**, **Charlie Wray**.

As you will appreciate new retirees are a dwindling species with obvious long-term consequences to our Club. **Graham Robbins** is therefore looking to suitably amend our Constitution to more adequately cover the changed circumstances and will put proposals to the Club for consideration further down the track.

The Bowls Day was cancelled due to the extreme heat around at that time, but in any event **Graham** advised that there were no ANZ players anyway. The event will be better publicised next time with hopefully improved interest.

**Elwin Falk** co-ordinated the mail-out of the Newsletter ably assisted by **John Price** and **John Collins** (the latter two extended

their trip to the city to include lunch and drinks, or is that drinks and lunch?) and Elwin has undertaken to work through a roster to post out future newsletters. I am sure she could use more names on this list, so anyone who can assist please let us know. Thank you everyone.

Mention must be made that our Secretary/Treasurer, **Bob Rowe** is definitely into his last year in that position. We need to ease a successor into the job towards the end of the current year. We look to hear from anyone who has a little computer knowledge to take up these light and interesting duties. I ask you all to give the matter consideration. Bob will be more than happy to assist you improve your computer skills – a win-win situation!

Good to speak to my former working mate from Rocky the other day, **Trevor Elsebach**, and we may meet next at the Darwin Cup on 2<sup>nd</sup> August – any others interested. **Meeting closed 2.00pm**

**2004 YEAR MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE NOW DUE – Please send your cheque for \$5.00 to Secretary, Bob Rowe. Your subscription will be acknowledged in later newsletters.**

**From the Editor:**

I wonder how many of you, like me, were reminded of the 1974 cyclone “Wanda” during the deluge and strong winds in Brisbane on Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> March. We certainly are experiencing some extremes here in Queensland, especially of heat and our summer this year is reminiscent of the conditions which applied during my ‘younger’

days. Maybe weather does go in cycles. One thing seems to have changed though. Monday's Courier Mail referred to the loss of power during the 'storm' on Friday. I think of storms as the electrical type and I was confused for a while, until I realized that the reference was to the gales and rain which occurred that day.

Most of you would have experienced extremes of weather and it is hard to define which is worse – heat, cold, rain, drought, fire, gales or no wind at all and sultry. Biting cold can be a killer but so then can extreme heat as evidenced in the recent heatwave when 28 people, mostly elderly, died in Brisbane. Anyway such amazing events stay etched in the memory or are recorded in diaries as mine are and I will tell you about them.

Whilst living in London and working at our West End Branch, I experienced four days of smog from 4/12/1962 and my London workmates told me that forever afterwards, I would be able to say 'Yes, I was there for the 1962 Smog'. This exhibits the sense of humour which enabled the Londoners to cope with the awful conditions. For me, walking from the tube station to my 'digs' after work in the dark with swirling fog, poor visibility, deadened sounds and crossing roads with traffic scarcely visible was alarming. The buses ran until the last night when smog density beat them. During daylight (limited at that time of the year) the fog lifted to the first floor of buildings only making the atmosphere quite claustrophobic. After this smog, the Authorities brought in strict regulations to ensure that there were no more smogs, just fogs. London lies in the Thames valley which makes it prone to the vagaries of the weather.

On my last trip to the UK in early 1996, I drove 40 miles alone in a large hire car through dense fog from Charteris across the fens to Peterborough to catch a train to London. I was frightened. It was eerie and scary but what I could see through the 50 metre visibility was breathtaking. It was a magical white world of frost with the stark bare trees, fences, fields and everything else outlined in icicles. I followed the tail-lights of the car in front to get my directions. On reaching Peterborough the fog was not as thick but I had trouble locating the railway station where I had to return the car and, in my anxiety, I entered a roundabout to find myself going the wrong way and facing oncoming cars. I stopped immediately and so

did they and gave me time to do a 'U' turn and exit. Eventually I found a car park and asked a woman there for directions and so reached the station.

On that holiday, whilst on a train in southern Denmark traveling from Odense to Svendborg, I thought that I was going to be stranded in a snow storm but on my arrival at Svendborg I was relieved to find it clear of snow. The snow scenes had been fantastic, so I appreciated this experience.

Snow falls are enchanting and I recall the joy I felt on first seeing it and hearing it fall in London. However, another event I was there for was the 'deep freeze of 1962/3' – began 26/12/62. The temperature in London did not rise above freezing for 6 weeks and it was a white world of snow and ice. I recall being out sightseeing when I was so miserable and in pain from the cold, that I just wanted to sit down on the gutter and cry. Even though we wore thick overcoats, lined boots, lined gloves and head coverings, it was miserably cold out of doors, hot in the tube trains and shops and warm at work. I developed painful chilblains as did lots of others but overall, I managed quite well despite having only a one bar heater in my room and about 6 blankets on my bed – plus a hot water bottle! Now when I stay with my friends in London and the UK their homes are centrally heated and so comfortable. Those who still have fireplaces like me to sit close to the fire and they really are so cosy!

Another problem of the deep freeze was that the points on the underground froze and one could be stuck for some time in a tube in a tunnel with the sounds of the other tubes flying through adjoining tunnels and one would just hope that when one heard a train coming, that it was not in the same tunnel. A lot of my workmates travelled to work by train and these were overcrowded because people chose to travel by public transport rather than drive in the awful conditions. I was told a couple of amusing experiences they had. On one train someone began to 'moo' as though they were a mob of cattle and the laughter of fellow passengers broke the tension. To one girl's shock, in the crush she found that she was caressing a stranger's arm and not that of her boyfriend!

Maybe these chilly stories will make you feel a bit cooler in the heat we are experiencing. Perhaps being hot is better than being cold –

that is why so many people come to live in Sunny Queensland.

#### **From the members:**

**Allan Emslie** writes that every time he sees **Graham Robbins'** name in the Newsletter, he is reminded of when Graham started as a Junior in Maryborough. Allan says "He was a cheeky little bugger, even then, sorry Graham. One day as we left the back of the Bank, we saw two legs sticking out of the top of the bale where we put scrap paper. Graham had upset **Terry Clark**, Terry grabbed him and dumped him head first into the bale. That was in 1959, but I still get a laugh when I think about it"

When sending in their dues, the following members wished to be remembered to members - **Bryan O'Callaghan, Reg Jillett, Geoff Poulsen** (now 80), **Moya Morgan, Peter Evans, Mike Kunkel, Margaret Keating, Peter Clark, Noel Gilvarry, Allan Emslie, Norm Peters** (now 80), **Kathy Male**, and **Glenda Liddell**. Glenda hopes to make it to a meeting this year as it is over 12 months since she has seen anyone. Glenda and her brother had a great time traveling around Australia last year and were away 8 months. They plan to go north in the winter this year as there is still plenty to see.

**Geoff Hankinson** is still with the Queensland Teachers' Credit Union as their 'Business Development Manager'. He is hopeful of attending a monthly lunch and says he enjoys the Newsletter.

**Bill Saw** writes that he never seems to fit in a trip to the meetings up the Sunshine Coast and, to come to Brisbane would mean having to cope with shoes & socks! He says that a ride along the bike/ walking paths on Bribie or Redcliffe/ Sandgate with a picnic lunch in the mini 'Eskies' on the back is more to their way these days. They do not like Cities any more – the rush and bustle and general bad manners evident is not to their liking. However they actually braved a trip to Sydney for an Antique and Collectables Fair at Hurstville. The foreign dealers turned up in droves with bucketsful of cash and took back container loads. Bill says that the Newsletters remind him of some of the 'damn nice people' he associated with over the years.

**'Til next time ,Elwin Falk, Editor**

---

#### **GOLD COAST BRANCH MARCH MEETING**

Will be held on Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> March at the Surfers Paradise Sports Club (was The Surfers Paradise Bowls Club) cnr Ferny Avenue and Whelan Street, Surfers Paradise. They will meet for pre lunch drinks on the first floor in the bar area at 12.00 pm followed by a sit down lunch at 1pm. The cost is \$11.00 per person and will cover a two course meal, some drinks and tea or coffee. Wives/ partners are most welcome, as are visitors from other areas. Parking is available in the Club's basement. Dress requirements - open neck shirt.

Please give **Peter Lenton** (President) a call on 5539 3048 **by Wednesday 24th March**. Numbers attending must be advised to the Sports Club for catering purposes, in advance.) You can email at [plenton@bigpond.net.au](mailto:plenton@bigpond.net.au)

#### **Brisbane/Sunshine Coast members can catch the following City-trains:**

- Depart Central 9.56am change Nerang to Rail Link bus at 11.03 arrive Surfers Paradise across road from Club at 11.34am or
- Depart Central 10.26am change Nerang to Rail Link bus at 11.33 arrive Surfers Paradise at 12.04.
- Depart Surfers Paradise 2.10 arrive Nerang 2.36pm arrive Central 3.56pm. Buses then depart Surfers Paradise approx every 30 minutes to Nerang Station.

#### **BIRTHDAYS - April**

For many years, we have included a list of upcoming birthdays in the monthly newsletter. If you do not want your birthday to appear in the newsletter, **or if does not appear and you want it included, please advise the Secretary.**

**We are pleased to list the following Honorary Members who have birthdays on April: 12<sup>th</sup> Bill Walsh, 18<sup>th</sup> Brian Thompson.**

**Vince Cox will join our Honorary Members list on April, 19<sup>th</sup> - congratulations Vince .**

Member		Member	
01	Winton Grieve	01	Brian Lee
02	Frank Drouyn	03	Brian Perry
03	Colin Yates	04	Don Bradford
07	Ron Grant	07	Ken Lingard
08	Peter Reid	09	Jack Connolly
09	Bill Sallaway	10	John Peters
11	Bob Heidrich	12	Harold Thomas
13	John Horn	13	Harley Kropp
14	Brian Monson	14	Clyde Williams

15	Geoff Taylor	16	Brian Downs
16	Doug Hamilton	16	Peter Sullivan
17	Dennis Cook	18	Tony Travers
19	Mick Barry	20	Mark Downey
21	Bob Rowe	22	Gordon Duckworth
22	John Neighbour	22	Frank O'Dea
22	Alan Phillips	22	Ray Robson
22	Jackie Spooner	23	Lyle Brady
25	Peter Evans	26	Don Kiorgaard
28	Jack Butler	29	Bernie Mason

### **INTEREST RATES - Retired Staff Cheque Accounts**

#### **As at 7/1/04 are:**

Under \$20,000 - 3.43%%

\$20,000 and over – 4.46%

### **SUBS RECEIVED this month:**

<b>Member/Paid to</b>	<b>Member/Paid to</b>
Norm Peters 04	Zita McAleese 04
Peter Coleman 05	Peter Clark 04
Margaret Keating 04	Mike Kunkel 04
John Burdon 04	Peter Evans 04
Phil Loveday 04	Moya Morgan 04
Allan Emslie 04	Geoff Poulsen 04 Plus donation \$5.00 - Thanks Geoff, Bob R
Ken Shears 04	Reg Jillett 04
Bob Petty 04	Roy Vockler 04
Tom Edwards 04	Bryan O'Callaghan 04
Noel Garvey 04	Greg Dickens 04
Alex Bawden 04	Ken Hoar 04
Glenda Liddell 04	Dave Wilson 04
Peter Lenton 04	John Pobar 04
Phil Apelt 04	Geoff Hankinson 04
Don Peever 04	Ron Phillips 04
Les Godfrey 04	Bevan Baidon 04
Bill Martin 04	Lester Rodgers 04
Keith Andrews 04	John Brass 04
Ray Bowen 05	Bruce Arthur 04
Jim Devlin 04	Allan Rivers 04
Robin Kelly 04	Thelma Cusack 04
Leo Aldridge 04	John Blaik 04
Tony Travers 04	Ian Monks 04
Ken Evans 04	Peter Mackay 04
Lyn Roberts 04	Vince Hooper 04
Bob Clark 04	John French 04
Bill Buder 04	Tony Sorensen 04
Bill Saw 06	Bob Nean 04
Gary Carew 05	Heather Stephenson 04
Jackie Spooner 04	Elwin Falk 04
Dorothy Woodhall 04	Marilyn Atthow 04
Allan Wiles 04	Frank Heenan 04
Marley Holberton 04	John Price 04
John Collins 04	Raylene Tilbrook 04

Bart Lynch 04	Don Wyld 04
Dallas Diggins 04	Bob Rowe 04
Bryan Drane 04	Dana Bell 04
Brian Moore 04	Ken Rushworth 04
Neville Skelton 04	Ian Dunsdon 04
Graham Macklin 04	Graham Mitchell 04
Max Walker 04	Graeme Young 04

### **Yeah don't mess with us....The CIA Test**

The CIA had an opening for an assassin. After all the background checks, interviews, and testing were done, there were three finalists... two men and a woman. For the final test, the CIA agents took one of the men to a large metal door and handed him a gun. "We must know that you will follow your instructions, no matter what the circumstances. Inside this room, you will find your wife sitting in a chair. Kill Her!!!"

The man said, "You can't be serious. I could never shoot my wife."

The agent said, "Then you're not the right man for this job. Take your wife and go home."

The second man was given the same instructions. He took the gun and went into the room. All was quiet for about five minutes. Then the man came out with tears in his eyes. "I tried, but I can't kill my wife." The agent said, "You don't have what it takes. Take your wife and go home."

Finally, it was the woman's turn. She was given the instruction to kill her husband. She took the gun and went into the room. Shots were heard, one shot after another. They heard screaming, crashing, banging on the walls.

After a few minutes, all was quiet. The door opened slowly and there stood the woman. She wiped the sweat from her brow.

"This gun is loaded with blanks", she said. "I had to beat him to death with the chair."

**Moral: Women are evil. Don't mess with them.**

Until next month, Bye from your Committee.