

"A Town Like Blyth"

~ Progressive and Community Minded ~
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Newsletter NO 140. June, 2022

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**MID NORTH SANDBLASTING
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Anzac Day & Murray Cook Memorial Garden unveiling

The Anzac Day service was held at the Blyth War Memorial and saw a healthy crowd of 150 attended.

Local current service member Bryce Eldredge (right) gave the address, which can be found at the back of the newsletter. Special thanks to Brian Eime for delivering a prayer, and to Ian Roberts for officiating the service.

Wreaths were laid by WRC, Army Cadets, school children from both Blyth Primary and St Joseph's schools and local community members.

After the service, the Blyth Progress Association invited attendees to enjoy morning tea at Padnaindi Reserve.

Following the Blyth ANZAC day service the gathering moved to Padnaindi Reserve to unveil a plaque at the "Murray Cook Memorial Garden" donated by the Blyth Development Board.



Dates to remember:

June 13th- Queens birthday public holiday
June 26th- Blyth Golf Club Ambrose
July 8th- Term 2 ends
July 25th- Term 3 commences
July 29th- August newsletter deadline



Murray Cook, a WWII veteran, farmer and bachelor, bequeathed to the Blyth community 50 per cent of the sale of his farm on his death in 1995.

The native plant garden was planted in 2021 by the Blyth Progress Association, and in the next few years this area will develop into a walking path through the many native species.

Peter Paterson and Graeme Wandel gave a short view of their memories of Murray and his brother Viv who farmed approx 10kms west of Blyth.

Photos by plaque: Graeme Wandel, Ian Roberts (BDB), Jeff Pratt, Peter Paterson, Barry Kennett.



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Kymette Schultz

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Please forward all newsletter content to:
aschultzprogress@outlook.com

Mid North
Sandblasting
88445154 0429445154

* Congratulations to Deni & Mick Agnew (below) who welcomed Jed Barrie Agnew into the world on May 30th. Jed was born at Ashford Hospital at 9:45am weighing in at 3.2kg (7 pounds) and 48cm long. Mum and Dad are smitten with the new addition to the family.



* Congratulations to Luke Mugge (son of Kerry & Grant Mugge) and Rahni Stephens (below) who were married at Cobbs Hill Estate on April 2nd. The pair celebrated with close family & friends.



The Blyth community and district are now being spoilt with three great Blyth businesses offering a variety of food & drinks.

Waffle Ward

Fresh Waffles and great coffee, slinging mouth-watering waffles and delicious coffee from the original dining room in the Old Blyth Hospital.

Run by the owners, Max & Nicole Haitana, of the award-winning Blyth Breakout Escape Rooms, this family friendly café offers both sweet and savoury selections, paired with freshly brewed coffee, milkshakes and smoothies. Indoor and outdoor seating available.

Waffle Ward, 3 South Terrace, Blyth SA 5462
 P | 08 8844 5250
 E | admin@blythbreakout.com.au
 W | <https://blythbreakout.com.au/>



The Blyth Hotel

Mark and Robyn Conroy have recently taken ownership of The Blyth Hotel. A great old fashioned pub situated in the heart of Blyth, and now are Front & Lounge Bars are now open plus a delightful Beer Garden. The Blyth Hotel is Open Thursday – Sunday from 4pm till close. Meals from 5.30pm. Keep an eye out for the great dining/take away specials during opening hours.

The Blyth Hotel, 20 Harley St, Blyth SA 5462
 P | (08) 8844 5004
 E | robyn@theblythhotel.com.au
 W | <http://www.theblythhotel.com.au>



The Blyth Cafe

Thanks to Jess & Iddy Rowan who developed The Blyth Café in June 2019, and now are taking a well earned rest. Blyth now welcomes the Sanjay Family who took over the café on May 24th and opened the door to a flurry of customers. The Blyth Café continues to be a family business and is still offering a great array of delicious sweet and savoury pastries, croissants direct from "Clare Rise Bakery", great coffee plus other hot drinks & cold drinks, freshly made salad/meat rolls, fresh loaves of bread, plus a small array of groceries. Open: 7.30am to 4pm Monday to Friday; Saturday 8.00am – 3pm.

6 Harley Street, Blyth SA 5462
 P | 0498 190 763



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Blyth Snowtown Football Club

Season 2022 is progressing quickly with 5 games down and 9 remaining. Teams have had a mixed start with our senior teams in particular feeling the effect of covid and many injuries.

We are very pleased to be overloaded with numbers across the Auskick, U9 and U12 with the Saturday 9am timeslot a mass of family, juniors and their siblings, it's a fantastic sight. With at times 4 games happening, it takes many coaches, umpires and other volunteers to make this happen, we are very lucky at the Cats to have a very large group of encouraging and supportive families coming through the ranks to make this happen.

The U14 have had a good start considering they have minimal appropriate players and have had 2 wins and a couple of close loses. The U17's had a fantastic start with a massive win over North Clare followed by the BSR bye, they've since beaten BBH and had losses to Eudunda and Min Man.

A grade are improving each week as players return covid and injuries and had a great game against Eudunda on the weekend. B Grade are benefiting from players filtering back from the A's and are increasing their win loss ratio and climbing the ladder after recent good wins. Both senior teams have a great mix of youth and experience and each week they are growing in confidence and remain positive that good things are to come.

Last weekend the trip to Eudunda looked very different for 3 out of teams with the U14 coach & team manager, U17 coach, A grade coach and Head Trainer all stuck in isolation. I was however extremely proud of how our club stood strong with many very capable volunteers stepping up to fill the gaps. Each week I am amazed how players and non playing members just get on with it and do their bit to make this a great club.

For those new to the area playing are or not, if you want to get involved and meet the community volunteering or just coming along and supporting our teams is a great place to start.

We have had some wonderful achievements this season so far;

- Shay Clifford played his 300th Cats game. (right)



- Justin Zweck (below) & Jason Agnew 200th Cats games.



- Drew Bertelsmeier and Tyler Bigg being selected in the Woodville West Torren Eagles U16 2022 squad and being selected to play. Joel Bertelsmeier also selected for the Eagles in the U18.
- Nick McElroy and Riley Stirling being invited as young U18's to participate in a development program during the holidays.
- Nathan Angus represented the Mid North zone at SAPSASA.
- Rhys Baxter joining the umpire ranks and after only a few games promoted to do the A grade.
- Jack Welke, Austin Altmann & Tyler Bigg (captain) selected in the Clare High yr 9/10 side and have progressed to the next round
- Billy Wandel, Jack Hayes, Seth Angus & Coby Bigg (captain) selected for Clare High yr 7/8 teams and have progressed to the next round. Charlie Kells also played but represented St Joes.

Association football has started with the U15 team which saw Austin Altmann & Ricky Phelps being selected in the carnival @ Kadina. The U17 trials are currently underway with Riley Stirling, Carter Pratt, Nick McElroy, Beau Warner, Drew Bertelsmeier & Tyler Bigg in the mix and all making it past the first cut.

Good luck over the weekend where they will have a final training and teams will be announced. The U14 carnival will be held later in August and the Cats will have another group of young lads ready to step up to the challenge. Congratulations to Will Pratt, Wilson McShane & Dylan Foulis who have been selected in the Nutrien Cup squad; this is a huge honour and we wish them all the best in the selection process.

The next home game is Blyth 18th June, hope to see you all there.

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Blyth Golf Club

The Club's Opening Day was held on Sunday 24th April with 37 golfers playing a 2 person Ambrose. Conditions were dry and tough with a blustery north easterly blowing all day. Thanks to our Life Members Max and Yvonne Carling who continue to sponsor this day.

Winners for the day was husband and wife duo Grant & Kerryn Mugge (right) 71/64, R/up were young guns Tyson Eime and Alistaire Michael (below right) with an impressive 65 off the stick nett 64.75; 3rd John Huersler & Rob Howe 72/66 of Hamley Bridge; Simon Helbig & Travis Gebauer 73/66.25.



Wednesday & Sunday competitions are in full swing and with the recent rains, players welcome the greenery on the fairways.

"Tee off for Breast Cancer" fundraiser was held on Wednesday 1st June when 13 ladies (below) enjoyed a game of golf, plus pink nibbles and pink raffle prizes raising \$240.



The Club's annual Open 4 person Ambrose sponsored by Clare Financial Services will be held on 26th June. Teams of 4 to register by 9.30am of the day of competition.



THE BLYTH HOTEL
Est 1876
88445004

BLYTH GOLF CLUB
4 person Men & Mixed/Women
OPEN AMBROSE
Sunday 26th June 2022
"Team of 4" Registration closes at 9.30am on 26th June
Sponsored by
CLARE FINANCIAL SERVICES



9.30am for 10.00am Shot Gun start
Max Handicap capped at Men: Daily Hcp 27; Women: Daily Hcp 36

Entry fee \$20 per player.
Includes morning cuppa, sausage sizzle during play,
& Afternoon tea after 18 holes.

Licensed Bar available during the day (NO BYO)

ENTRIES to
blythgolfclubsa@gmail.com
Kerryn—0428445232

My Golf

For the first time the MyGolf program has started at the Blyth Golf course.

MyGolf is Australia's junior golf program, providing lessons for beginners with a focus on games-based activities and fun, and supported by Golf Australia and the PGA of Australia.

The MyGolf program is run voluntarily by Barb Hayes who got accredited to be a Golf Community Instructor this year. There were 12 spots and they got filled up very quickly! The first session started on a very dry course, but that didn't effect the fun that the kids had. Hopefully MyGolf will be a program that the Blyth Golf Course will run annually.



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A/H 8844 5025

Blyth Progress Association Committee

Kerry Smith (Chair), Cheryl Wandel (Sec), Janet Zweck (Treas), Kym Schultz, Tracey Andriske, Ian Roberts, Deb & Jeff Hatfield, Graham VanDeere, Ashley Schultz, Dean Smallacombe, Helen Bennie

BLYTH SNOWTOWN CATS SOCIAL CLUB PRESENTS

Settlement Ball

TICKETS \$80

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 BLYTH SNOWTOWN CATS SOCIAL CLUB FACEBOOK PAGE
 OR CONTACT 0428462023

JULY 2ND | 6:30PM UNTIL LATE | BIGG'S SHEARING SHED

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PLEASE COME IN FORMAL ATTIRE

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 Member for Narungga
 8832 2455
narungga@parliament.sa.gov.au

ROWAN RAMSEY MP
 Fed Member for Grey
 1300 301 742
 PO Box 296, Port Pirie 5540



**BLYTH TRINITY LUTHERAN
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 35 South Terrace, Blyth

June 12th 11am HC with PR Greg
 June 19th 9am HC with PR Greg
 June 26th 9:30am LR
 July 3rd 9:30am LR
 July 10th 11am HC with PR Mike Semmier
 July 17th 9am HC with PR Robert Wiebusch
 July 24th 9:30am LR

*Confirm times on Church
 notice board or check
 Blyth Lutheran Trinity
 Church Facebook Page*

District Rainfall



	Blyth Post Office	Kybunga AJ Wood	Hart Nathan Zweck	Bowillia Wayne Carling
2022 April	5.6mm	2.4mm	5.5mm	18.4mm
2021 April	9.0mm	9.2mm	6.5mm	2mm
2022 May	42.8mm	49.2mm	48.5mm	37.2mm
2021 May	29.4mm	35.0mm	35.5mm	31.8mm
2022 YTD	91.6mm	107mm	88.5mm	109.2mm
2021 YTD	72.4mm	83.4mm	74.5mm	59.0mm

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Blyth Bowling Club

The season was over in the beginning seeing Blyth Bowling Club having the Grand Final in Mid North Saturday Pennants, with around 100 spectators during the day. Division One Grand Final against Clare Gold vs Auburn seeing Clare Gold winning the Premiership for season 2021-2022. Division Two Grand Final against Spalding vs Clare Green, seeing Spalding winning by 1 shot at winning their second Premiership in a row. Thank you to those who helped throughout the day, it was a great fundraiser for the club.

April 9 the club held the club wind up at the bowling club, with club catering with the help of Marie Spinks and Cheryl Wandel. Over the day the club presented the trophy and a game of Celebrity Heads organised by the President and Secretary was played during the day.

Winner of Champion Single Mens and Ladies was Ray Wallis (men's) and Cheryl Wandel (ladies), Runner up Champion Singles Bruce Farley (men's) and Maureen Eime (ladies), Championship Men's Pairs John Bradbury and Bruce Farley, Club Pairs winners Ian Wandel and John Bradbury and Runner up Club Pairs Damien Philp and Alan Hornsby, Shot up winner Brian Eime and Handicap Singles winner David Lamond and Runner up Perry Stirling. Thanks to everyone for attending and working on the day.

On May 11 the club held its Annual General Meeting, seeing a new President and Secretary was elected. President Ian Wandel, Vice President Ray Wallis, Secretary Damien Philp and Treasurer Cheryl Wandel, the remaining committee is Brian Eime, Maureen Eime, Alan Hornsby, Peter Errey and Bruce Farley. The Club would like to thank Brian and Maureen Eime for holding the position of President and Secretary over a few years.

May 21 the club was the polling booth for the Federal Election and the club held a BBQ from 8.30 am till 1.30pm, it was a great little fundraiser for the club. I would like to thank those who came over to help for the day. Also the club will be catering on June 15, once again the group Coffee and Chat.

During May, Brian and Maureen Eime have been holding activities with persons for Reclink which is a local group supporting local people with disabilities, physical and mental, and they will be conducting this in June also. Thank you very much to Brian and Maureen Eime for all their help running these days.

During the winter the club will hold the Winter Bowls "Scroungers" on Tuesday afternoons for 1.30pm starting at 2pm. If anyone would like to have lawn bowls everyone is welcome.

The Club Bar will be closed for the next 6 weeks, but it will be open back on Friday 15 July.

The United Archers



Every 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sunday of each month from 1.30pm.

If you would like to come and try or would like more information please call Paula on 0438987200 or email us at unitedarchers.outlook.com or message us through our facebook page.

BLYTH COMMUNITY HALL BOOKING OFFICER

Main Hall, Annexe, Supper Room, Kitchen, Library room

Marie Parker

M: 0407449111

E: parkermarie503@gmail.com

CLARE TABLE TENNIS

Become a player or fill in.

7pm Thursday nights at Vineyard Stadium. Join our Facebook Group for more info 'Clare Table Tennis Association'

The Blyth Community has 3 organisations that consider town matters:

Blyth Progress Association; organises community social events, community publications/newsletter, develop community ideas/infrastructure, preserves town history. Committee is elected at September AGM each year.

Blyth Town Management; representatives from all clubs & community groups meet 4 times a year to tell each other about their projects, liaise with Wakefield Council, manages the RV "park", & is the overseeing body for the Water Retention Scheme. Representatives are elected from their club & community groups yearly at the July meeting.

Blyth Development Board; was originally the Blyth Hospital Board – now manages funds from sale of buildings & a community bequest, & offers grants to clubs & community organisations. Also looks to develop Blyth by encouraging development of residential & light industrial allotments. Develops a town strategic plan every 5 years. Members are elected to the Board at the BDB AGM – usually held in August each year.

66 Main North Rd, Clare
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Graeme Wandel
8842 2391

Bryce Eldredge's Anzac Day Address.

I had an entirely different speech prepared for this morning. It was a nice reading about the sacrifice of men and women from conflicts of the past.

But somehow, that speech just didn't feel right, given our own hardships during the pandemic of the last couple of years, the Russian invasion of Ukraine and the near peer international tensions, so I kept writing my thoughts until the early hours of this morning.

When I was growing up and in my early 20's I was fortunate enough to travel the world. And as I saw the consequences of conflict and the destruction it brings—I came to the hard truth that we as individuals can't just do nothing. Each and every one of us can do small acts to help make this a better world.

If we are going to save the world from pandemics, war, poverty, racism, extremism, intolerance— then we have to know our past to understand our future.

And given today's significance, looking at the spirit of the ANZAC's and the qualities Australian men and women from past conflicts is a great place to start.

First, to make the world a better place we must have courage. WW1 Australian General Sir John Monash once said that courage was the most important quality of all because it guaranteed all the rest. He was not just talking about the physical courage to charge the hill, run into a burning building, or stop a madman with a gun. He was also talking about moral courage. The courage to stand up for your convictions. Physical courage has long been the hallmark of a great soldier, but I would offer that the moral courage to stand up for what's right has an equal place.

If we hope to make the world a better place we have to stand by our convictions. Just like the men on the Kokoda track, who stood up to the advancing Japanese Empire, we have to challenge the zealots with reason. We have to confront the ignorant with facts. And there will always be those who don't want to hear your convictions. Particularly if they are true.

Speaking the truth can be dangerous at times. Like WW2 Special Agent Nancy Wake, code named the White Mouse, who having witnessed the brutality of the Nazi regime first hand as a journalist, left

Sydney to join the French Resistance as one of Churchill's Top Secret Special Operations Executives. Nancy helped seek the truth in the chaos of war and by the end of 1945 she was credited with saving hundreds of lives through providing truthful information back to the Ally's.

People like Nancy, those tellers of truth, helped make the world a more knowledgeable place, a more compassionate place, a more human and livable place. If we are going to make the world a better place, we will need to seek the truth like Nancy. If we are going to make the world a better place we must persevere through the difficult times.

Life as an ANZAC soldier in the Somme was all about perseverance. They made it through year's of family separations, exhausting trench warfare, the emotional loss of mates in combat. Sometimes making the world a better place is just about holding on. Never quitting no matter what obstacles face us.

To make the world a better place, we must have compassion. Like Simpson and his Donkey on the beaches of ANZAC cove we must fear for the vulnerable. We must pray for those who are without hope. We must be kind to the less fortunate. For what hero gives so much of themselves, without caring for those they are trying to save.

Finally, If we are going to make the world a better place, we will need to be humble. Sharing a piece of my own experience, I found in my time in the military, that no experience on earth is more humbling than the first someone shoots at you. Working in a country in conflict teaches you that you are not invincible—that like in my case, the enemy, with his bare feet and ragged robes, can point an old Kalashnikov Rifle to the sky and could sometimes get lucky in damaging the aircraft and endangering the lives of all the airmen inside.

And it's moments like that make you think... If you do not approach the world with humility, it will find a way to humble you quickly.

Making the world a better place is up to each and every one of us. So let's each everyday use Monash's words of Courage. Stand by our convictions like the men on the Kokoda track. Seek the Truth like Special Agent Nancy Wake. Persevere like the ANZAC's in the Somme and be humble. It is up to each of us. As you leave this service this morning, remember the spirit of the ANZAC's and the qualities of the brave men and women from all wars who made the ultimate sacrifice. And do whatever you need to do to make the world a better place.

Thank you



Bryce (bottom middle) and his squadron, Middle East, 2018

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Government of South Australia
Department for Education

June 2022

ANZAC DAY 2022 Some of the students of Blyth Primary School attended the Anzac Day Memorial Service in Blyth on the 25th April at 9:30am. The children laid a wreath on the memorial statue, as part of the community service. We have been learning about the sacrifice the Anzac soldiers made in past wars, as well those who continue to serve presently.



Hot Milo Monday's Our brilliant STAR team served their peers milo's along with a special treat each fortnight.



JAPANESE 5/5/22 Children's Day is a holiday in Japan, created to celebrate all children and for friends and family to bestow good wishes for their health, courage and to fulfil their destinies. There are many customs associated with this special day, and so for our own celebrations at Blyth Primary we were able to participate in some activities related to this custom.



The Samurai helmets (above) are associated with Children's Day as they are revered as icons of strength, determination and courage.

Children also received a certificate, on which they wrote their name in English and in Japanese hiragana, they measured their height, and recorded their age and date of birth.



We were fortunate to have our online Japanese sensei visit for the day. They brought a popular Japanese children's toy, kendama for us to have a play with. We also dressed up in Happi (a coat worn during festivals) and Hachimaki (headbands worn as a symbol of courage and determination).

This is one of our school koi no bori. The scales show our individuality as students and staff coming together to create a beautiful masterpiece and memento of our day.



Walk Safely to School Day 20/05/22



AG LESSONS

It's been another busy start to the term in Agriculture. The students have been developing their knowledge of different grains that are grown in the local area. Both classes have been looking at Wheat, Barley, Oats, Lupins, Vetch, Beans, Canola, Lentils, Peas and Chickpeas. They have looked at how the seeds are different in size and colour.



Blyth Primary School
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Creative Leisure & Fun

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OSHC is available every school day from 3.20-6pm at Blyth Primary School. If you would like an enrolment form or further information please contact Deb Noble or the front office ph: 8844 5195.



Gus Dejong Eulogy

Gysbert was born in Dordrecht, Holland on 21st September 1942. He was later joined by siblings Wilhelmina and Jacob. In 1952 they sailed on the ship The Fairsea with their parents Cornelius and Margaretha to Melbourne to start a new life.

We are told that our Opa Cornelius, who didn't speak English, hitchhiked to the small country town of Georgetown, South Australia where he found work with a local builder. Oma Margaretha and the three children stayed in a migrant camp in Melbourne waiting for him. Oma became quite ill during this time and while she spent some time in hospital the children were well looked after by some local nuns.

When the family arrived at Georgetown the children attended the local primary school and this is how they all learnt to speak English. After a few years Gysbert decided his name was way too complicated for the poor Aussies so changed it to Gus.

In the same year level at school as Gysbert was a cutie named Julia Crawford. At age 12 he asked one of his friends Fritz Smallcombe to ask Julia if she would be Gysbert's girlfriend. The reply was a blunt NO and she then had to wait a further 10 years for him to ask her out again. Amongst other things he was quite captivated by Julia's long slim legs and in later years he often reminisced how she looked in her VERY short engagement and going away dresses. Gus and Julia were married in the Georgetown Baptist Church on 12th April 1969 and they have been inseparable ever since. Coincidentally this date is also the anniversary of the passing of our dear Nicole.

Dad started his working life on a chicken farm before joining his Dad to work for a local farmer at Georgetown. Farming life certainly changed significantly during the years he was involved. We have a very early photograph of him sitting on a header with an umbrella for shade. A vast contrast to the header he drove at the end of his farming career.

In 1979, now with daughters Nina, Rachael, Nicole and Sarina in tow, our family moved from Georgetown to a property near Farrell Flat as Dad had won the managers position there. We never asked Dad if he liked the job or not, we were just happy living in a magnificent homestead, with a designated 'dancing/singing room', creeks, climbing trees, motorbikes, pets and so much freedom to roam, play and have fun. We had a constant stream of visitors - Mum & Dad were great hosts! There was always an abundance of food and plenty of laughs available. Dad stayed in this job for about 20 years before deciding his farming days were over and a new forever home was built at Blyth. This new home soon welcomed a stream of family and friends and of course it didn't take long for him and his green fingers to get the garden established and blooming. Over the years the deJong family has slowly multiplied. Four son in laws joined the crew, then ten precious grandchildren - 5 boys and 5 girls. A whole new generation for Dad to tease and tell tall stories to! And a whole new generation of head scratchers...

At the end of Dad's farming life he decided to become a celebrant. He married each of us four girls and performed many other wedding ceremonies and funerals, always with the intention of making a difference in someone else's life. Dad was Mr DIY. Before Mum & Dad were married he spent many hours constructing furniture for their house, from bedroom furniture to the lounge suite, to enormous speakers for his record player which are still in use today - and must be played loudly! In recent years he had a fascination with building model ships. His chunky fingers were not always ideal for putting together tiny fiddly pieces but he was persistent and spent many hours perfecting them.

After his family and the church Dad's greatest love was his garden. In each house he lived in the first plants to go in were fruit trees and a veggie patch. Consequently Mum has spent many hours creating jams, preserves, stewed fruit etc and there has always been a freezer full of produce to hand out to anyone who called in for a meal or to say hi.

For a small guy Dad was always the winner at the 'all you can eat buffet'. We don't know where he put it but he could certainly eat, and never put on an ounce! He loved having his head scratched.

The four of us daughters spent many hours doing this, mostly unwillingly, always with the promise of a 1 million dollar payment which to date has never been paid. We hope you have a good savings acc Dad, because you've incurred a very large debt!

As much as he loved having his head scratched he HATED having his feet tickled. This was always a good payback option if he was teasing us. Three of us would sit on him and one would tickle his feet. Although it was Nicole who always weakened and would end up helping him. Dad was a great sleeper. After a meal he could be found in his chair, on the floor, anywhere, having a nap before heading off to his next task for the day. We could walk over him, yell and squeal and go about our daily living and he wouldn't stir. The grandchildren thought this was hilarious and would often line up next to him on the floor. Reading was another great love. As a child when his family first moved to Georgetown Dad managed to put a single bed up in a tree near their farmhouse so he could climb up and read his books in peace.

Cooking certainly wasn't Dad's forte. We remember as kids when Mum was in hospital at one stage we had leftover apple pie for breakfast and lunch orders for school. This must've been a huge treat as we still remember it. I don't think Mum was very welcome when she came home from the hospital - no more apple pie for breakfast. Sorry Mum! A few years ago Mum came with us to visit Nicole in QLD. She left him plenty of food, but this ran out just before her return so dad resorted to microwaving slices of ham and a tomato for dinner.

Dad was always very involved in the church. He taught Sunday school, sang in the choir, preached, held many of the leadership roles, carried out maintenance, was a part of the ministers fraternal, mentored and anything else you can possibly think of. He was always up for a discussion about Christianity and would preach for hours to anyone who would listen. His faith was unwavering and his commitment to his savior was steadfast. He had no fear of death as he knew he was going to a better place.

We can't conclude without mentioning Dad's other great loves: Cadbury 70% dark chocolate, Nutella, and I don't know if you're aware of the fact that he actually invented pink gin! (only joking) Dad would have turned 80 in September this year. Until the last few weeks he remained a very fit and mobile man and only stopped doing things like climbing ladders and getting on the house roof because we constantly told him off for doing so! It's difficult to fit 80 years of one mans life into a short eulogy and this is just a small snapshot, but we look forward to hearing some of the many stories and memories you all have about our Dad. He is now with our beautiful Nicole and he has been sent with strict instructions to smother her in hugs and kisses. Rest in peace Dad.

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