



# QUEENSLAND VETERANS CRICKET INC. MAGAZINE

AS ACTIVE AS YOU CAN-AS SOCIAL AS YOU WANT

INCORPORATING THE LOCKYER VETERANS CRICKET NEWSLETTER



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# CRICKET

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JOHN SALTER – AN HONORARY VICTORIAN  
WINNER EASTERN SUBURBS D.C.C.  
CLUB BATTING AVERAGE 67.25





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## November 2021: Edition 30/10/20 Guest Editor: John Salter



I was born in January 1955 and my younger brother Mark in April 1956- we grew up in the eastern suburbs of Brisbane, at Akala St, Camp Hill, our parents having contributed to

Brisbane's urban sprawl, building there after their marriage in 1949. I am part of the Salter family after which Salter Oval in Bundaberg is named- my namesake, **John Robert Salter** was my great uncle, the mayor of Bundaberg and a State member of parliament who was instrumental in the original construction of a range of sporting facilities in Bundy.

### Camp Hill SS-

I attended the Camp Hill State School where my dedication to sport was ignited. Camp Hill has quite an impressive sporting alumni including **Jack and Peter (Bench) Evans** who contributed so much to the Eastern Suburbs DCC which I eventually played for, Socceroo **Ron and his younger brother Gus Millman**- father and uncle of current tennis pro John Millman, both Easts first graders and the **Dunstall brothers Harry, Nick and Jason** (also an Easts premiership player in the 1981 under 19's). All of this sporting pedigree was expertly nurtured by very dedicated teachers like QC life member, former Easts cricketer and international umpire, **Mel Johnson**.

### Cricket is instilled-

In the 1960's many young aspiring cricketers who lived in the eastern suburbs would travel by tram to Langlands Park at Stones Corner, primarily to watch

**Peter Burge** bat for Easts and only a few stops further on was the Gabba where of course the Queensland Sheffield Shield team played. Easts were very strong in that era, boasting several first class players – **Jumbo was captain of course, Ross Duncan, Tony Dell, Dennis "Beetle" Lillee, Cocky Paulsen and Darryl King**. These youthful experiences created a burning passion for the game generally and an aspiration to play for Easts.



Row: R.Koppenol, G.Swain, T.Hohns (Capt.) D.Skinner and K. De Jonge  
Row: J.Moore (Coach), G.Cooper, T.Fink, J.Sims, P.Cunningham, P.Rykoff, N.Clarkson and J.Salter

### Brisbane North undefeated Interstate Carnival winners, December 1967. John is on right of front row.

I was also one of those lucky enough to attend Saturday morning Gabba coaching clinics organised by the great **Syd Redgrave**, where first grade and first-class cricketers gave their time to coach and inspire kids. My fascination and a good deal of any skill I possess with finger spin bowling (particularly flight, drift and best use of the prevailing breeze) was created by Qld and test spinner **Tom Veivers** at these clinics.

### State High-

In 1966. I was selected in the Brisbane primary schools cricket team led by Trevor Hohns. I am forever indebted in having John Stewart as a coach at Camp Hill in 1966 as he recommended me for a sporting entry into Brisbane State High School which I attended from 67 to 71, playing in its First XI from 1969 and



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being captain in my final year 1971. In 1970 I was chosen in the Qld Under 18 side captained by **Martin Kent** to play a NSW side which included the likes of **Ray Phillips, Ian Davis and Alan Border**.



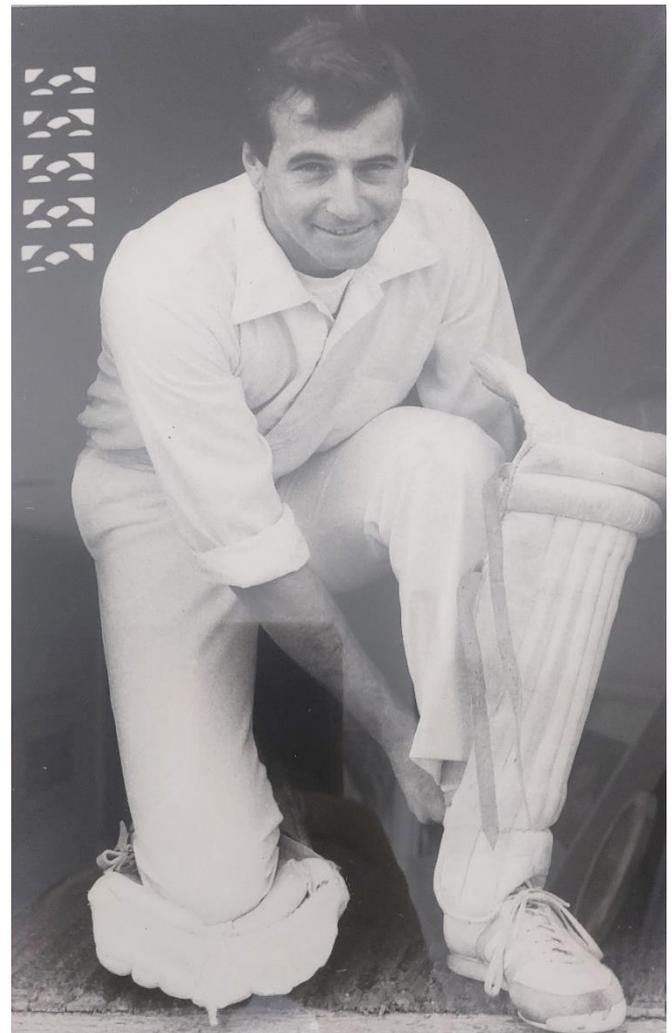
**ATCA Premiers, Premier Grade 1996/97. John is on right of front row. He must like that spot.**

I have had two interstate cricket stints- at premier club Northern Districts (ND'S) in Sydney in the early 90's and at ATCA club St Peters Old Collegians (SPOCO's) in Adelaide from 95 to 99 - both those experiences demonstrated to me that on a % basis, the density of dickheads within society generally, hugely exceeds the comparative level of same amongst those who have cricket as their chosen sport. I used that line when, after retirement in 2015, I went back to State High and helped former foe, the incredibly dedicated **Wayne Niven**, coach the First X1. I trust my advice was as well received as the likes of **Ross Lever, Greg Dux and Martin Sullivan** provided me as cricket coaches at State High.

Martin Sullivan in particular was a superb educator who stimulated my life-long interest in literature and the power of the spoken word. Marty was destined to become an English professor at the ANU, but in the

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early 70's he was only a young man embarking on his career, and was involved in two pieces of sage guidance I shall never forget.



**Padding up for his 1<sup>st</sup> Grade debut as captain at Trevor Hohns Oval 1984**

By 1970, my appreciation of the co-ed method of education at State High had accelerated very quickly and the previous hesitancy I had experienced in communicating with those students in white tunics and black stockings was rapidly dissipating. Ever alert Marty had clearly noticed this, took me aside at cricket practice and his deep baritone brogue indicated **“women are the same as words son- choose both very, very carefully!!”** Marty ended up being married four times. That year Marty had also



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arranged for me to be the attendant in the Australian dressing room for the Gabba Ashes test of the famous 70/71 series (Chappell, G Australian 12<sup>th</sup> man because they played two spinners at the Gabba!!! Mallet and Jenner). **This caricature 1983 Easts and QCA batting average winner**

On the last day, **Geoffrey Boycott** had been dismissed cheaply in the second innings and even though the game was petering out to a draw, he threw a huge tantrum in the dressing room, including giving me a horrible serve about why I was in their room. I was in fact watching in awe as **Allan Knott** was shadow batting into a mirror, preparing for his turn at bat— he turned to me and pointing to his own image in the mirror said **“He is always my best judge lad- and not just in cricket”**.

## **Heroes of my youth?-**

I think I became very socially aware at quite a young age, due the influence of my parents and some excellent educators at both Camp Hill and State High. At that time, the Vietnam War, conscription of 20 year old male Australians into military training and all the associated protest based music (*I am a Dylan tragic*), inspired a huge ground swell of social change. **Gough Whitlam** originally caught my attention as early as the late 60's- in my view (*and with the appreciable benefits hindsight always produces*) I find it inarguable he made a massive contribution to the vast range of social improvements which my generation of Australians had the privilege to experience, enjoy and benefit. Whilst I acknowledge he was not absent of flaws, I admired then and still do his innovation, vision, courage, passion, intellect and brilliant wit.

When looking back its interesting to note that I was a captain of cricket teams for many seasons on the way through, and in my youth, **Ian Chappell** seemed to me to be the epitome of what leadership was all about.

## **Easts and the journey**

I commenced club cricket at Eastern Suburbs DCC in 1967 and played my final grade game there in

1994. I made my first grade debut in January 1974 against Wynnum under Captain **Grant Law (Stuart's dad)**, and I was/am an all- rounder (*middle order, left hand bat and right arm off spin*). At various times of my career one of the other dominated, but I was more a batting all- rounder preferring coming in at 6.

My highest grade score was 130 odd v Norths at Windsor Park 1973 and best bowling 7/7 in the 1985 one day first grade comp v Warehouse rep team- to this day my good mate and Easts colleague **Evan “Banger” Bancroft** asserts these cannot be claimed as “real” first grade wickets- very hard to accept that assertion from a bowler who claims to have taken 12 “test” wickets.

I am often posed perennial questions testing my memory of my time in grade cricket.

## **Best players and performances-**

### **Quicks-**

**Tony Dell**- remarkable stamina and deadly effort ball.

**Billy Albury** – as clever and variable as they come.

**Carl “Mocka” Rackemann** – he always had my measure- I never handled pace and bounce all that well but I was not alone!!

**Dan Mullins**- highly underrated and had a superb bouncer- particularly on the Windsor ridge at Norths.

### **Spinners-**

**Trevor Hohns, Grimace Whyte and Malcolm Franke**- all wonderful competitors. In my time as the first grade captain at Easts, **Greg Ward, Wayne Hayes and Steve Storey** were very good contributors.

### **Bats-**

One very hot morning at Bottomley Park in 1985, Bruce Deem ran **Kepler Wessels** out for 28 with a direct hit from the fine leg boundary – that was indeed fortunate, because it was 10.20 am and I had already assessed that by about 3 pm he would be in the vicinity of 228! **Martin Kent and Greg Ritchie** are



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the other two- graceful to start an innings and so powerful once they took control.

### **Keeper-**

Its interesting how there is so much consistency in the response to this question amongst my generation of cricketers- **Peter Anderson**- quite simply a remarkable talent.

### **Best Innings-**

Both against Valleys at Ashgrove.

In 1975, **Jeff Langley** scored 110\* against Valleys on a damp wicket in a rain delayed first grade game against **Geoff Trivett, Malcolm** etc. – I learnt an enormous amount that day about how to bat , vividly recalling Grant Law sitting with our younger players explaining how Gilbert was expertly using variable depths within the crease. In 1985 fellow State High old boy, **Tony "Fowl" Brown** played the finest 1<sup>st</sup> grade innings I had the displeasure of witnessing - 110 in about 60 balls!!

### **Particular teams I looked forward to playing against?**

**Norths** - the likes of the Healys, Dan Mullins, Sting Charles, Grimace Whyte, Fergal Sharkey, Duck Mainhardt, Stanley Calabrese, Kel Ingram, Bruce Ibbottson, Brad Inwood, Bryan Phelan etc engaging with Bench and Jack Evans, Al Kennedy, Delly, Banger, Darryl King, Rowdy Freeman, Col Campbell , Gandhi Surti, Kent Waddell, Gilbert Langley et al – it gets no better.

### **Most memorable cricket moment**

**Lords 2019** – Trevor Hohns and I watched Jofra Archer's spell against Steve Smith at his top- When Archer felled Smith he was in something like his 28 th over of the innings and 18 th of the day- unforgettable display of sustained fast bowling against an unfazed bat at the top of his game.

### **Best wins involved with**

Unquestionably the 1989/90 Easts first grade premiership win against Toombul at the Gabba- I was East's President that season and we had our best ever season, winning the club championship and two lower grade premierships. I witnessed what I regard as the best ever grade final performance- **Craig Jesberg's- 111\* and 11 wickets was remarkable**. On the final day, I also witnessed an extraordinary exchange between an extensively mattedressed Toombul number 11, **Malcolm Francke** and our fine leg fieldsman, **Gregory "Sco" Ellis**, who warmly welcomed Malcolm to the field of battle, escorting him with clearly audible commentary all the way to the middle. I suspect this was not a new, unique experience for Malcolm and he did not exactly refrain from retort, casting serious doubts on every possible characteristic of Sco's personality, heritage, sexual preferences, batting acumen and hairstyle.

### **Present and future**

In 2016, I was approached to nominate for election as a Director of Qld Cricket with my recent retirement creating time to devote in changing the perception amongst some, that the premier clubs needed fresh representation at QC. It has been an enlightening and enjoyable experience and I am now in the middle of my third term. I am also the Board member assigned to the Premier Grade subcommittee which essentially organises and oversees all the grade scheduling, playing conditions, grievances and disciplinary processes.



**The 2019 May northern tour squad. John in blue daks**



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Modern sport is a complex business, the extent of which I underestimated when I was first elected and the range of complicated matters which regularly find their way before us is extensive. **John batting on May tour.**

On occasions I am asked if I alone were running cricket in Australia, what would be my priority to ensure it remains strong and successful?. I constantly grapple with and seek regular guidance from my children (**Ashlea 30 and James 27**) on the challenging issue of what generations below we baby boomers are entitled to inherit from us to ensure the longevity of sport generally and cricket in particular- I suspect administrators of all past generations have grappled with similar conundrums.

Some will say I live in a time warp of fantasy, but if I was able to initiate one major initiative I would immediately **ban all betting on team sport** because



### **Batting on the Northern tour.**

the extent of gambling turnover in lower level televised games is staggering and highly questionable in terms of its origins and gambling produces so many undesirable social outcomes, totally anathema to what we want sport to contribute to the life path of young people.



**Cooper Findlay, Tamworth March 2021**

I also coach the local Palm Beach Currumbin CC under 17 s and still play and enjoy vets cricket, captaining one of the Gold Coast Div 1 sides. Jane and I thoroughly enjoy the general camaraderie and look forward eagerly to interstate cricket related journeys as part of cricket. **John Salter**

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## WG's Quotes

"A failure is not when you are dismissed cheaply, a failure is when you make a start and don't go on." Roger Woolley

"A test match is like an old masters painting. A one day game is like a Rolfe Harris painting." Ian Chappell

"Part of the art of bowling spin is to make the batsman think that something special is happening when it isn't."  
Shane Warne

## QVC Looking back.

### Article contributed

5 years ago

**Grand Final Div 1 21 August 2016 at Maroochydore CC** Brisbane def Lockyer Valley

Lockyer Valley 8 for 182. G Bichel 49no, W Sander 41ret, M McGovern 32.

R Towner 3 for 18, K Christiansen 2 for 26, M Wise 2 for 39.

Brisbane 9 for 184.

K Meikle 47no, M Wise 43, M Gaskell 42ret.

A Gillam 2for 19, G Zirbel 2 for 21, G Bichel 2 for 31, R Kratzmann 2 for 33.

### Teams

**Brisbane.**, J Stackpoole (c), R Adams, M Gaskell, W Broad, K Christiansen, M Wise, K Meikle, G Egan, P Mather, I World, R Towner.

### Lockyer Valley.

R Kratzmann (c), G Zirbell, J Dowe, M Werth, W Sander, L Martin, G Bichel, M McGovern, A Gillam, D Lyons, A Billsborough.

10 Years Ago

**Cooper Findlay Div 1 Round 1**

Tuesday 29 March 2011.

NSW City Blues def Qld City

Qld City 8 for 131

J Bell 36, R Gregory 22, L Barney 20, G Chapman 17.

P Boyd 3 for 5, M Cashman 2 for 14.

NSW City Blues 4 for 139

Virgen 41 ret, C Barton 35.

C Cooke 2 for 13, D Lillie 1 for 16, R Tiley 1 for 21.

Qld Team D Lillie, J Bell, R Myatt, L Barney, J Stackpoole, G Chapman, R Gregory, R Tiley, C Cooke, G Dymock, J McMahon.

## 43 Years Ago

### Sheffield Shield 1978/79

Qld v Tasmania

15-18 December 1978

Qld 1st Inns 177

Ogilvie 70, Gaskell 30, Buchanan 27, Broad 20, JC Bell 4. J Simmons 7 for 59.

Tas 1st Inns 219

Norman 53, Hampshire 32, Boon 22. Schuller 5 for 40, Balcam 3 for 47.

Qld 2nd Inns 6 dec for 300.

Johns 84no, Ogilvie 77, Buchanan 38, Broad 29, Gaskell 12. Whitney 2-71.

Tas 2nd Inns 2 for 105

Maguire 2 for 19

Match Drawn.

Debuts David Boon and John Buchanan.

## Ninety Years Ago

(First Test played at Gabba)

Australia v South Africa

1st test- 27 November 1931

Australia 1st Inns. 450

Bradman 226, Woodfull 76, Oldfield 56, Bell 4 for 120, Vincent 3 for 100

South Africa 1st Inns 170



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Mitchell 58, Taylor 41, Ironmonger 5 for 42,  
Wall 2 for 39, Grimmett 2 for 49  
South Africa 2nd Inns 117.  
Taylor 47, Wall 5 for 14, Ironmonger 4 for 44,  
Grimmett 1 for 45.  
Australia won by an innings and 163 runs.

yesterday. Full details of George's VDCC career can be found here  
<https://www2.cricketstatz.com/ss/show/player.aspx?mode=0&club=23914&playerid=323375&mininns=&minruns=&minovers=&team=&captains=&grade=0&pool=&season=00&finals=0&mtype>

## Val George Blazak

We lost one of our current playing members in November. George Blazak (pictured next page with Ross Towner and Brian Kratzman) who was a member of the victorious Over 70's team to win the Nationals at Albury Wodonga a couple of years back has sadly passed away.

QVC and all its members extend their sincere condolences, love and best wishes to all of George's family.  
Rest in Peace mate.

Rod

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We are saddened to hear of the death of former VDCC 1st Grader George Blazak on Friday 12th November. George was born in Rendsburg, Germany in 1946 before immigrating as a child to Australia. In all he played exactly 100 premierships matches for VDCC taking 295 wickets at 14.07 and twice took 8 wickets in an innings. The 5th Grade sides from VDCC and Norths held a minutes silence at the game



George with Ross Towner & Brian Kratzmann

## Cooper Findlay 2022 o70s

President Rod Rice needs to inform NSW how many teams Queensland will have in the **Over 70 Division for Cooper Finlay played in 2022**. Sounds a long way ahead, but time will surely fly. We have a home venue next year as Cooper Finlay will be played on the Gold Coast on the 28th and 29th March. Please let me know if your present



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intention is to play or not play, As usual please reply ASAP.

If you have not let me know re your intention to play the Over 70 practice game at Everton Park CC. I am eagerly awaiting your reply.

Cheers  
Ian Pethers

## Cooper Findlay 2022 o60s

This is a request for those who are interested in playing in the annual competition against NSW, on Monday 28 and Tuesday 29 March, 2022. I am collecting the Over 60 names of players who are interested. This will be for players who are turning 60 to 69 next year. If you are turning 70 or older please do not forward me your name. For those in the over 60 age bracket, please forward me your interest with the following information:

.Name:

.DoB:

.Region you play for:

.Division you play in:

There should be up to 8 over 60 teams with 4 divisions of 2 teams in each divisions.

Teams will be selected by the end of the

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first week of March next year. Hopefully there will be some practice games. However, if not there will be both intra and inter regional games along with ongoing practice.

I look forward to hearing from all the interested Over 60's for 2022 Cooper Findlay.

Regards  
Ross Adams

## Cooper Findlay 2022 o50s

Over 50s will also be competing in Cooper Findlay at the Gold Coast next year.

All regions are asked to send details of those players wishing to participate.

Next year is shaping up as a big year in Veterans cricket, and this is the first representative event of the year.

## QVC President's Report



**This will be my last report for 2021 as there is very little happening.**

Veterans Cricket Australia (VCA) had their AGM in November and President (David Head) and Secretary (Cathie Clack) have stood down after their two-year term. On behalf of QVC, I would like to thank both David and Cathie for all their assistance during their term of office. There is a bit of a changing of the guard at the moment with Greg Johnson (VIC), Ian Fraser (TAS) also stepping down from their delegate's role to VCA. Mike Gandy



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(Umpires Coordinator) will also be stepping down after the Over 50's and Over 70's Nationals in February.

The new Committee is:

- President: Rob Sims (WA)
- Secretary: Matt O'Hara (WA)
- Treasurer: Nev Crane (VIC)
- Vic President: Murray Harrison (ACT)
- State Delegates:
- QLD: Rod Rice
- NSW: Simon Lyon
- VIC: Michael Whitehead
- TAS: Rick Reid
- SA: Gary Marshall
- WA: TBA

On behalf of all QVC members, I would like to thank Kerry Emery for everything he has done for Veterans Cricket at a National level, Kerry is also standing down as past president and advisory member on the VCA board and will be missed.

The dates for the Over 60's World Cup on the Sunshine Coast have been confirmed: 2<sup>nd</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

The QVC age delegates have sent out an email to their members asking for expressions of interest for any players that would like to participate in the 2022 Cooper Finlay Carnival (State of Origin) on the Gold Coast on the 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> March 2022. It is imperative that we have a rough idea of teams before Xmas, so we can advise NSW and move forward.

The QVC AGM will be held at Alan Border Field on Friday the 11<sup>th</sup> of March and the 2022

Regional competition will commence on Saturday the 9<sup>th</sup> of April with finals scheduled for the weekend of the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> August.

On behalf of the QVC Management Committee, I would like to wish all members and their families a very safe and prosperous Xmas and New Year and hope we see you all back in 2022.

Rod Rice

QVC President

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## Changing of the SSC Guard



### " SUNNY COAST UPDATE"

Sunshine Coast Veterans Cricket has entered a new era, following their recent AGM. Gary Madsen, the go to man for all things cricket on the Coast has decided to

step away from any leadership roles moving forward into next season.



Gary has been at the helm since long before the inception of the Sunshine Coast into the QVC regional competition.

Members have realised that Gary's knowledge and experience was irreplaceable, and therefore have



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voted to replace Gary with a team of 5. The new Committee consists of John Bourke as Regional Coordinator, Peter Wright as the assistant R/C, Barry Anderson as Operations Manager, Ross Madsen as Registrar and Michael Rattenbury as Finance Manager.

Gary will not be lost to cricket as he has made it very clear he is keen to continue as a player with us up here. We members all extend the biggest of thankyou to Gary for his past involvement and we wish him every success with both bat and ball as the next season unfolds. **John Bourke**

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See the link below for a fund raiser raffle for **Lord Taverners**.

Lord Taverners is a very worthy cause and does a lot for Community Cricket.

[https://rafflelink.com.au/ltgabbabox202](https://rafflelink.com.au/ltgabbabox2021)

[1](#)

Good Luck and Merry Xmas to everyone.

Rod\*\*\*\*\*



# Lockyer Veteran's Cricket Newsletter



As Active As You Can – As Social As You Like

## Lockyer Birthdays in December.

Col Taylor

Birthdays in January.

Ken Young; Bob Kratzmann; Andy

Billsborough; Noel Cox.

O50s. Dave Neumann

Recently I was asked by the Editor of the Lockyer Independent newspaper to write a monthly column on mental health, starting in November.

This is the article to coincide with International Men's Health Day.

## International Men's Health Week 13-19 November 2021

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> is International Men's Health Day and is an appropriate time for all men to think about their physical and mental health.

In this current time of greater stress in the community, depression has grown exponentially and we need to think about the measures that we use to deal with uncomfortable or difficult situations.

Depression can affect anyone, anytime. So many things can cause the onset of depression, including poor physical health. The male of the species historically does not show their inner emotions to any significant degree; we are not as good as the female at talking out issues and getting a resolution.

Unusual aggressiveness towards your partner, excessive drinking, and diet changes to extremes are  
2 March 2022

just some of the indicators that suggest all is not well in your mind.

Beyond Blue data shows that on average, eight Australians take their own life each day, and males dominate this statistic. But the good news is: depression, whether it be suicidal or anxiety depression, can be beaten.

**All that is needed is for us to acknowledge that a problem exists, and that we need professional help. You are not alone.**

**At some stage in our lives, more than 20% of the total population will suffer from some form of depression.** The issues that you have are not unique to you.

One may ask, why would a normal, intelligent, rational person take their own life? Well, I can tell you, there is nothing rational about the depths of the mental black hole that is suicidal depression. The Black Dog has almost complete control over you and taking your own life is offered as the only way to end that torment. It is not you thinking those thoughts. It is the depression.

Have the courage to recognise that you need professional help. GPs and clinical nurses deal with these issues all the time, and are very knowledgeable. Counselling and current medications can make a huge difference to your life. **But you have to want to fix your issues.** Do not blame others.

**Remember, it is not what goes wrong in your life that matters. It is what you do about it that counts.**

**Beyond Blue Support: 1300224636**

**Life Line Support: 131114**

We thank the following for their continued generous sponsorship:





# Lockyer Veteran's Cricket Newsletter



As Active As You Can – As Social As You Like

## Joint venture ends after two years.

On the 10<sup>th</sup> November, Lockyer received notice that Ipswich no longer wished to continue in the joint venture with **Lockyer**. In the 2022 season, the two regions will be separate identities.

I would like to commend the Ipswich players who combined so well with the Lockyer players in o60s during the past two seasons. Game time was enjoyable and many friendships were made on the field. This resulted in a premiership in 1<sup>st</sup> Division in 2020, a very competitive season in 2021 and for 2<sup>nd</sup> Division, very competitive in both seasons.

As Lockyer is by far the smallest of all the regions, especially in terms of population to draw from, the going could be a little tough next year. However, it was tough when Lockyer started and we built a competitive club up from limited resources.

We will do it again.

Lockyer Veterans have moved to be more closely imbedded with the Lockyer Cricket Association, which has a new progressively minded president, and the feeling is that the maximum will be made out of our limited resources. Having a very supportive editor in the local weekly newspaper is also a great advantage. **MN**



Narda Lagoon, Laidley with main road bridge just passable. An unusual sight.

**On behalf of Lockyer Veterans, I would like to wish every QVC playing member and magazine reader a relaxing and peaceful Christmas and New Year.**

**2022 is shaping as a very big year for QVC (subject of course to everything that can go wrong!!)**

**For both Christmas and 2022, don't forget to look after your mental health.**

**Best wishes to everybody. MN  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX**

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