



Founded 1970 Newsletter of the Silver Fawn Club Inc. July /Aug 2014

President Davenal Flanderka 44 Newcomen Street Indooroopilly 4068 Ph: 3878 1667 Email: president@silverfawn.com

Vice President Egerton De Fransz 19 Ackland Drive Strathpine 4500 Ph: 3889 6661

Hony. Secretary Deanna Misso PO Box 250 Zillmere 4034 Ph: 3216 2980 drmisso@bigpond.com

Asst. Secretary Claude Gonsalves 57 Parklands Circuit Boondall 4034 Ph: 3265 4791

Hony. Treasurer Shiran Seneviratne 1/6 Roseberry Street Highgate Hill 4101 Ph: 0449 217 035

Asst. Treasurer Gamini Amarasiri 1/70 Emperor Street Annerley 4103 Ph: 0416 120 772

General Committee

Newsletter & Member Records Dennis Arnolda 23 De Mille Street McDowall 4053 Ph: 3353 3896 Email: dennisgay@aapt.net.au

Social & Sports Basil Britto P O Box 222 Salisbury 4107 Ph: 0433 559 131

Eric Ferdinands 6 Robel Street Strathpine 4500 Ph: 3205 2850

Gerard Fernando P O Box 5005 Brendale 4500 Ph: 3285 2111

Basheer Omar 239 Anzac Avenue Kippa Ring 4021 Ph:0409 265 322

Isadore Storey 22 Lyrebird Street Loganlea 4131 Ph: 3805 8018



#### \*\*\*DATES FOR YOUR DIARY\*\*\*

2<sup>nd</sup> August > Club Night Gala Anniversary Dance

24<sup>th</sup> August > Family Sports Day and Food Fair

13<sup>th</sup> September > Have a Chat (Eric's Birthday)

27<sup>th</sup> September > Outing for Seniors

25<sup>th</sup> October > Club Night (Rock 'n Roll)

6<sup>th</sup> December > Golden Years

**20<sup>th</sup> December > Carols** 

31<sup>st</sup> December > New Year's Eve Gala Dance.

#### **IMPORTANT NOTICE TO MEMBERS**

Memberships expired on 31 January 2014. If you have not renewed your membership to date and wish to continue receiving this Newsletter, please send your renewal for 2014/15 without delay. A Membership Subscription Form with details is available on page 15.

#### From the Editor's Desk

Dear Fellow Members,

Well, we are certainly in the grip of winter. Having just returned from Melbourne in the hope of warmer weather here in Brisbane, I was sadly disappointed. Out came the track pants and jumpers, but at least there is the sunshine to bask in which is scarce down south. I experienced some blizzard conditions that only Melbourne can deliver - brrrr!

Most of our committee are or have been away in the past weeks and our president has been laid up following a knee operation. Although he is still hobbling around we wish him a speedy recovery. I look forward to some travel tales from our jet-setting friends for future publication. It will be down to business when all are back on deck to bring to you the functions that are planned for the future. A list of events are on the front page - "Dates for Your Diary". Please support these events as this is your club and it's success depends on you.

Our next function is our 44th Anniversary Gala Dinner Dance on the 2nd August see the flyer within this newsletter. The dance sub-committee headed by Gerard & Basheer are working hard to make it a night to remember.

It is with great sadness we learned of the passing of Mr Stan Sparkes in Brisbane aged 92. Our sincere condolences go to Wendy and Family.

We also mourn the loss of Life Member - Mr Albert Schokman. Albert was President of the club for many years, an active committee member and strong supporter with wife Cherry. Our sincere condolences go to Cherry and her Family.

On a lighter note, Special Birthday Wishes go to Penhrod Kelly who will celebrate his 90th. We wish you many more happy years Penhrod.

My thanks go to all those who have contributed to our newsletter and I do hope that it keeps you entertained and abreast of what's happening within the club and the broader community. With that in mind I invite you to submit items of interest, bouquet's or brickbats for consideration.

Till the next time - Cheers & Best Wishes

#### <u>Dennis</u>

#### **New Members**

The Management Committee would like to extend a warm welcome to the following new members. We look forward to your support and patronage at our functions and hope you will have a long association with the Club and that you receive the same enjoyment and pleasure it has been able to provide to many of our members these past 44 years.

#### Vicki White John & Esther Duncan

#### WE REMEMBER THOSE WHO HAVE LEFT US BUT WILL ALWAYS BE IN OUR HEARTS

**SCHOKMAN, Albert Merrill** passed away peacefully into God's care on the 8<sup>th</sup> July 2014 aged 76 years. Albert was the cherished and greatly loved husband of Cherry, adored father and father-in-law of Graeme & Ellen, Melissa & Ryan and much loved grandfather of Kaleb & Kiana.

Albert joined the Club in early 1970 and was elected Treasurer in 1973. However his work commitments took him to Melbourne and he returned to Brisbane in 1981. He was elected President in 1986 and held this position for the next 10 years.

Albert was devoted to the Club and spent many hours at the helm organising all the social and sporting activities which were at their peak during that time. It is fitting to call that decade "The Golden Years" of the Club.

Albert was ably assisted by his wife Cherry who also devoted much of her time and effort helping in the running of the Club thus enabling the members to enjoy countless hours of entertainment, fellowship and comradeship which led to many lasting friendships. Their devotion was rewarded when Albert & Cherry were elected life members in 1995

Albert & Cherry enjoyed 49 years of happy married life and they were proud of their son Graeme & daughter Melissa who was the apple of his eye. He doted on his children who in turn loved and adored him.

Albert was a devout Christian, a very sincere, honest, loving and caring person. He was a true friend who was always willing to advise or lend a hand to anyone in need. He was very popular and well loved by all who knew him and this was apparent by the large crowd that turned up to bid him farewell. He will be sadly missed.

# **REST IN PEACE** - TILL WE MEET AGAIN *Leslie*

Cherry and her family wish to convey their sincere thanks to all members who attended Albert's funeral, for all the phone calls, cards, floral tributes and expressions of sympathy.





Life is a journey of sweetness and sorrow Of yesterday's memories and hopes for tomorrow Of pathways we choose and detours we face With patience and humour, courage and grace Of joys that we've shared and people we've met Who have touched us in ways we will never forget

Author Unknown

# Silver Fawn Club 44<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala Din 191 Dance SATURDAY 2<sup>™</sup>AUGUST

7.00PM TILL LATE **MUSIC BY LAURENSZ MANRICKS &** 

CRYSTAL FIRE & DJ

DINNER - EAST / WEST CUISINE

PRIZES & SURPRISES

VENUE

ENOGGERA BOWLS CLUB, 72 PICKERING STREET, ENOGGERA DRESS - SMART CASUAL MANAGEMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT OF ENTRY

MEMBERS-\$40.00

GUESTS

- \$50.00

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\*\*\*\*\* FOR TICKETS CONTACT \*\*\*\*\* GERARD FERNANDO - 3285 2111 BASHEER OMAR - 0409 265 322 ISADORE STOREY - 3805 8018 OR ANY COMMITTEE MEMBER - BOOKINGS CLOSE 26TH JULY

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CONTACT:Isidore Storev0435 570 047Gerard Fernando0407 453 535Bsheer Omar0409 265 322	Herby Tucker0402 115 871Dennis Arnolda0411 293 553Egerton De Fransz0402 068 172Bookings close Friday 26Th July
An older, tired-looking dog wandered into my yard. I had a home and was well taken care of. He calmly ca he then followed me into my house, slowly walked do asleep.	me over to me, I gave him a few pats on his head;



An hour later, he went to the door, and I let him out ..

The next day he was back, greeted me in my yard, walked inside and resumed his spot in the hall and again slept for about an hour. This continued off and on for several weeks.

Curious I pinned a note to his collar: 'I would like to find out who the owner of this wonderful sweet dog is and ask if you are aware that almost every afternoon your dog comes to my house for a nap.'

The next day he arrived for his nap, with a different note pinned to his collar: 'He lives in a home with 6 children, 2 under the age of 3 He's trying to catch up on his sleep. Can I come with him tomorrow?'



# <u>Cutting for seniors</u>

# AND FAMILIES"

A picnic for Seniors and Families At BULLOCKY REST, Joyner.

**On Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September.** Morning Tea and BBQ lunch provided BYO drinks, Cutlery & Crockery

# **Transport**

Bus pickup from Westfield Shopping Centre, Chermside. 10.00AM

Cost - \$10.00 per person.

Numbers limited – deadline for registration 13<sup>th</sup> September.

For Reservations Please Contact Deanna Misso - 3216-2980 Gerard Fernando - 3285-2111 Egerton De Fransz - 3889-6661 Basheer Omar - 0409-265-322

# Have-a-Chat & Uncle Eric's Birthday

13th September at Enoggera Bowls Club 72 Pickering Street, Enoggera 10.00AM - 2.00PM





COME ALONG, MEET OLD FRIENDS AND MAKE NEW ONES SING "HAPPY BIRTHDAY" TO UNCLE ERIC (Founder Member)

For more information call Claude Gonsalves on 3265-4791 or see next Newsletter

#### <u>SPOTS. (The continuing story)</u> <u>By Trevor LaBrooy.</u>(2014)

The next day, I drove back to my estate and without a doubt, my house seemed empty without Spots and even my servants said that they missed him. However, I knew that I would visit Colombo again in a few months time and I would renew my friendship with the leopard.

About five months later, I had occasion to travel down to Colombo and this time, I was accompanied by two Cobras in individual boxes, which I was donating to the Zoo. I had temporarily defanged both snakes and placed the boxes on a blanket on the rear seat.

On arriving in Colombo at about two O'clock in the afternoon, I decided on heading straight for Rod's house at the Zoo. This would give me a chance of dropping off the two Cobras and then having a cooling shower, as it was really hot and humid. On the outskirts of Dehiwala, a few miles short of the Zoo, as I was driving along, I noticed a tall young girl standing by herself in the sun at a bus halting sign. Being an upcountry planter, I very rarely if never, had to consider giving a stranger a lift, but acting on the spur of the moment, I suddenly felt sorry for this girl standing there in the blazing sun and impulsively slowed down and stopped near her and offered her a lift. I told her that I was heading to Rod's house at the Zoo and that if she lived anywhere near there, I would be happy to drop her off near where she was heading.

The girl took a good long look at me and may have decided that I didn't look like someone waiting to abduct her and then hesitantly thanked me for the offer and got into the car, saying that she lived in the same direction in which I was headed. After she had settled herself, I started off and during the course of some awkward conversation. I told her who I was and my purpose in coming to Colombo. She looked at me in surprise and then told me that she too was a Miss.LaBrooy, but neither of us could establish any relationship from the names of our parents.

Just before stopping near this girl, I had glanced back at the rear seat of the car to check the Cobras in their boxes and to my consternation, I noticed that one of the boxes had it's lid askew and the Cobra had escaped. I knew that the Cobra was harmless as I had defanged it, but still there was a shock situation to contend with. If by some chance the wretched reptile slithered it's way near this girl, anything could happen, so I decided on quietly telling her not to be afraid and explain to her that there was a stupid harmless Cobra loose in the car, hopefully in the back seat.

By this time I knew the girl as Louise and she knew my name was Trevor. In a very nonchalant manner I then told her about the Cobra and played it down as much as possible. I did notice though that, she immediately sat bolt upright staring straight ahead, very stiffly with her legs together and her hands in her lap. Suddenly, she said quite forcibly, "Stop the car". Before I could say anything, she again requested me to stop the car, so I drew over to the curb and stopped the car. In an instant she had opened her door and sprang out, slamming the door behind her. She then told me that she lived fairly close by, thanked me for the lift and started walking away. That was the last I saw of Louise until fifty six years later and I will conclude the ending to this little adventure at the end of this story.

(Continued on page 8)

#### (Continued from page 7)

I arrived at Rod's house and recovered the recalcitrant Cobra from a corner of the rear seat. I then gladly gave them over to the care of the Zoo. I was now most anxious to go and see Spots and see if he remembered me after all these months of separation. Letting myself out through the small latch gate at the rear of Rod's house, I headed for where Spots was. However, on approaching the cage, I noticed that the leopard inside the cage looked a lot bigger than expected and was also a much darker colour. Still, I was so glad to see Spots again that I threw caution to the winds and approached the cage calling out to Spots. The leopard inside the cage glared at me and snarled when I held my hand out. Until then, I had every intention of scratching the leopard I thought to be Spots, behind the ear, but the leopard suddenly spat at me and lashed out with a fore paw. If my hand or fingers had been in the way, I would have had a nasty wound to deal with.

I heard running footsteps and recognized one of the Zoo keepers rushing towards me shouting out that the leopard in the cage was not Spots, but was another wild leopard which had been placed there. My face must have assumed a few shades paler than usual and the keeper told me where to look for Spots in another area. Talk about a narrow shave. I was a bit shaken by my little adventure, but shook off the portent of it and headed for where Spots was in his new enclosure. There were a group of cages in one area and when I got near them, I noticed one particular leopard slouched near the bars and beyond doubt, I knew that this was Spots. I called out to Spots and had the satisfaction of seeing the animal stand up and look around until it saw me. The leopard then rubbed itself against the bars and raised it's tail high in the air, looking directly at me all the while. Without any thought of danger I went up to the bars and scratched the leopard behind it's ear, like I used to do and I knew that I had been reunited with my dear pet. I was surprised at how much taller he had grown, although he was still quite slim, but I knew that he would fill out in time. Just then Rod appeared and told me that he had heard about my little adventure from the Zoo keeper. Rod then told me that he would meet me at the Elephant enclosure in about half an hour's time and we could have a Kurumba (young coconut) to drink together.

After spending a bit more time talking to Spots, I wandered off heading for the Elephant enclosure, which was situated not too far from the crocodile enclosure and I spotted Rod walking towards me with some black object in his hand. The black object turned out to be a dead crow which Rod had shot with a .22 rifle a little earlier and he invited me to go over to the croc enclosure as he wanted to show me something.

On reaching the croc enclosure, I noticed that about ten feet below us was a large pond filled with water and then saw what looked like a five metre croc, lying stationary about one metre under the surface. Rod then told me to watch and after dangling the dead crow over where the croc's head was, he flung the crow out over the croc. When the crow was about one metre above the surface of the water, the huge croc erupted out of the water and grabbed the crow, before splashing back into the pool and disappearing under water with the crows feathers protruding from a side of it's mouth. Here indeed was a grim lesson of what an Estuarine crocodile, a proven man-eater, was capable of and I always remembered this little lesson, during all my future escapades with crocodiles, some of which were pretty risky, under the circumstances.

(Continued on page 9)

#### (Continued from page 8)

Rod and I returned to the Elephant enclosure and shortly after, we were joined by Mr. Aubrey Weinman, the Superintendent of the Zoo. Rod introduced me to Mr. Weinman, who immediately told me that he knew my father. He also thanked very much for donating my pet leopard Spots to the Zoo, as well as for various Cobras that I had presented.

The three of us then enjoyed drinking a young coconut drink, which proved to be most refreshing, as it was a warm and humid afternoon.

All this took place many years ago and in 1965, I emigrated to Australia with my wife and two young children, originally settling in Brisbane. After many years of service in the Commonwealth's Department of Aboriginal Affairs in Queensland and then in the Northern Territory, firstly as a Superintendent, then as District Officer on Groote Eylandt, and finally, I retired as Deputy Director of the Aboriginal Development Commission in Darwin, on secondment from the Federal Government. My wife and I then decided to retire in Queensland and settled in Brisbane, so that we could be close to my wife's aging parents.

Quite by chance I met a gentleman named Ardi LaBrooy and his wife Mirabelle and in exchanging family histories, we found that our paternal grandfathers had been brothers, which meant that we were indeed distant cousins. One day, we received an invitation from Ardi to visit him for lunch, as he had a few visitors who were anxious to meet me. Accordingly, my wife and I drove out to Ardi's house which was out in a rural area named Karana Downs and on arrival there we were ushered in to his house. I was introduced to Ardi's brother, who was also visiting his brother from Melbourne and then I was introduced to a lady who was Ardis's sister, named Louise. She immediately said, "You devil, can you remember me as the young girl who accepted a lift from you many years ago when you were on your way to the Dehiwala Zoo and you had a Cobra running around loose in your car?" To say that I was delighted to meet her would be an understatement and we all had a good laugh at what had happened. They all knew of my reputation with snakes and Louise had never forgotten the incident, always hoping that she would meet me again somewhere in the future. Here then was the truth of it all.

#### The End

Thank you Trevor for an interesting story — Ed

#### **MY TRIP TO SRI LANKA**

A Sri Lankan, visiting the land of her birth after 45 long years. shares her observations in the form of a 'Letter to Mother Lanka'', which she considered to be the ideal format in which to put together her thoughts and feelings.

#### Dear Mother Lanka,

There was a sort of unexplainable "sacredness" that walked with me, and permeated and surrounded my being, as I journeyed to rediscover you and reconnect with you physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually, after almost 45 years.

After 20 days on this Fairest Isle, the joy of rediscovering you could only match my thrill of reconnecting with you: the land of my birth, the land of my father and my mother, the land of my ancestors before them, the land that bore me, nurtured me, moulded me into the type of person I am today....

Resplendent Isle, graced with unsurpassed natural beauty of hillside and plain, ocean and river, warm winds and rain....

Just to walk on your soft golden sands, feel the warmth of your wind in my hair, your soft rain upon my face.... to hear your mighty ocean roar, watch the luminous power of lightning spread its tendrils across your darkened sky; the familiar rumble of thunder overhead and the crash when it peaked far

(Continued on page 10)

### \* \* \* FOR SALE \* \* \*

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- The complex is pet friendly.
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- This two level townhouse is a fantastic home or investment.

#### Contact DAVID GARTH on 0412 262 992 for further information.

#### (Continued from page 9)

above in your clouds beyond your hills; to witness again your heavy tropical showers, to hear the pelting rain upon the roof as it fell to the earth again, to water your land and transform your hills; to wash your leaves, and polish your flowers until they shone with a brilliance rarely seen....

To meet with your people, the salt of your earth...gentle souls that overflow with love, hope and the warmest of welcomes....their generous hospitality that overflows in abundance in city, town, suburb, and village, never changing......their smiles that greet you, and their smiles that bid you goodbye...

To visit with them in their homes and to share with them their longings and strivings, hope and dreams, successes and failures, smiles and tears...and to partake of their hospitality in terms of food and drink, warm hugs and genuine concern for the weary traveller within you...

To see you in your diversity....of animal and bird, of foliage and food....to see exactly how nature intended that they march or fly, two by two, or sometimes as a herd, or a swarm, or a flock, to travel across natural forest tracks at sundown, after a hot, humid day, to drink long and peacefully from the same waterhole....

And then to watch the sun go down on this Paradise Isle...brilliant sunsets of red and yellow, pink and orange, dark purple and magenta.... as your tall, slender, palm trees cast their silhouette against a deepening sky.

Mother Lanka, ravaged by civil war, wrecked by monsoons and tsunamis, burnt by unrelenting sun (Continued on page 11)

# COME ALONG AND ENJOY A DAY OUT IN THE GORGEOUS BRISBANE WEATHER

at the

# **Family Sports Day and Food Fair**

Sunday 24th August

10.00AM — 4.00PM





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Power is available onsite for microwaves etc. Ground Fee \$10.00 per stall

(Continued from page 10)

that beats down from cloudless skies, day after day....

Your riches lie on your fertile earth where green tea bushes dot the landscape, and where trees of clove and cinnamon, teak and rubber, sandalwood and pine, and plants and flowers of every hue, flourish and grow over your undulated hills and stretch further out into your flat, green plains: and deeper still into this same earth, where rare gems and precious stones lie, unequalled in beauty, sparkle, texture and value. But most of all, your riches lie deep in the hearts of your gentle people. A hardworking people who ask for no more than what is due to them....a just wage for a day's work, hope for the future, freedom of speech, and peaceful, safe surrounds in which to raise their families....

They do not ask for, nor do they deserve, inequality, exploitation, poverty and suppression, unrest and despair. With proper, fair, honest and <u>transparent</u> financial management, proper channelling of resources into your roads, public transport, infrastructure, schools and hospitals, and a totally <u>new</u> and revamped <u>fair</u> system of education without discrimination and with equal opportunity....perhaps <u>less</u> millions spent on unnecessary gigantic billboards displaying smiling images of egoistical politicians at almost every street corner and hillside, and <u>more</u> spent on the very necessary, important and urgent things that <u>really</u> matter....will see you, once again, regain the top spot in SE Asia, and excel as the 'Pearl of the Indian Ocean'.

Mother Lanka, it was my great honour and privilege to meet your acquaintance once again after all these years, and I know I will come back again to you some day." **Yasmin. March 2014** 

## In Aid of Cancer Council Qld Adriana presents

" Groovy Dance Night

# To the Swinging Sounds of Brisbane Symphonic Band

### On

Saturday 16 August 2014 From 7.30 - mídníght CWA Hall, Redclíffe Pde, Redclíffe (Next to Court House)

Entry:

Dress: Cateríng: \$15 per head (book a table of 10 and pay for 9) (Limited tables first come first served )

Smart Casual Spicy finger foods Sweets, Tea, Coffee (all available at very reasonable prices to fundraise) Prize: Wast Wast Wast

Raffles; Door Príze: Yes! Yes! Yes!

BYO: Alcohol (soft drinks can be purchased), a smile and lots of small change to support the cause

Bookings: Adriana 0478198194 (ado.silva.bigpond.com) Chan 0412 880 886 Yvonne 0405168093 Bernadine 0409647995

(All net proceeds to Cancer Council Qld) (Visit Adriana Silva on Facebook to make a Donation to Cancer Council Qld)

# Just For Laughs

#### \*\*\*\*\*

The owner of a business was confused about paying an invoice, so he decided to ask his secretary for some mathematical help.

He called her into his office and said, "You graduated from University and I need some help. If I was to give you \$20,000, minus 14%, how much would you take off?"

The secretary thought a moment, and then replied, "Everything but my earrings."

#### \*\*\*\*\*

A senior citizen in Louisiana was overheard saying, "When the end of the world comes, I hope to be in Louisiana ..."

When asked why, he replied, "I'd rather be in Louisiana 'cause everything happens 20 years later in Louisiana than the rest of the world."

#### \*\*\*\*

A young man from Mississippi came running into the store and said to his buddy, "Bubba, somebody just stole your pickup truck from the parking lot!"

Bubba replied, "Did'ya see who it was?"

The young man answered, "I couldn't tell, but I got the license number."



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**DEADLINE:** Friday 5th September

(Items for inclusion in the next edition of Silver Scene should be submitted by this date)

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