



# Pipe Dreams

Gas Advisory Services  
Pty Ltd  
0431 533 252

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## Living the Dream

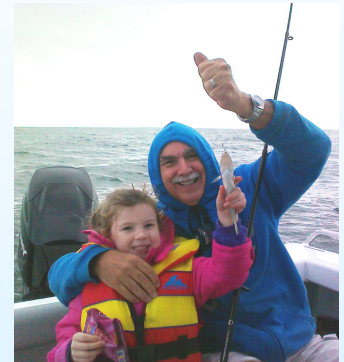
My great, great grandfather, William Fleming of Kilmarnock, Scotland was an artist—no, not that kind, but a painter of some renown. Apparently he painted the town characters as they passed by and then offered the paintings for sale. The story goes that, in the early 1830s, he and a local poet got into a discussion about the worth of their professions, with the poet claiming he could write a verse equal in beauty to William's paintings.

The challenge was taken up and, some 60 years later, on 8th September 1894, a story of William's life was printed in the *Kilmarnock Gazette* which included the now famous poem written (tongue in cheek) about William himself.

Lo! Fleming next in genuine worth appears,  
A name each lover of the arts reveres,  
Who, Hogarth-like, disdaining all restraints,  
The droll, the fair, alike with justice paints.  
How artfully he draws the crowded street;  
The hues how bold, the figures how complete:  
Even ancient Greece, with all her grand array  
Of varied talent, never could portray  
Such antique forms, nor with such skill divine  
Show such proportion, colouring and design,  
Already Zeukes shrinks into the shade,  
The laurels won by old Timanthus fade;  
For, all eclipsed by Fleming's genius bright  
No more they flourish in immortal light!

There are some unkind folk who say that, for the Flemings, it's been all downhill from there.

Your personal message:



"Life is not all work"

### Clients to date:

- AE&E Australia
  - AGL Ltd\*
  - APA Group\*
  - APIA
  - Bechtel/Rio Tinto\*
  - BizMatrix Pty Ltd\*
  - BOC Gases\*
  - Brisbane City Council\*
  - Cairns Harbour Lights
  - Cervetto Courtice
  - Changhong Australia P/L
  - Cookon Ltd
  - Dalby Regional Council\*
  - DeLonghi Australia Ltd\*
  - Electrolux Ltd\*
  - Elgas Ltd\*
  - Emerald Gas Supplies
  - Energex Pty Ltd
  - Enerflex Process Pty Ltd
  - ERM Ltd
  - Fluor Australia Pty Ltd
  - GAF Control Australia
  - Gameco Pty Ltd
  - Global Mark Ltd
  - GHD Ltd\*
  - Hafele Pty Ltd
  - Haier Australia Pty Ltd\*
  - Indisit Ltd
  - Integral Logic Pty Ltd
  - Johnno's Campervans
  - Kleenheat Bundaberg
  - Kleenheat Gas\*
  - LPG Australia\*
  - New Hope Coal
  - NSW Dept Trade & Investment
  - Queensland Gas Association\*
  - Queensland Nitrates Pty Ltd
  - RJW Gas Services\*
  - Rheem Australia\*
  - Santos Ltd\*
  - Sharp Corporation
  - Simtars
  - Smartgas Ltd
  - Sparke Helmore Lawyers
  - SPL Wholesale Pty Ltd
  - University of Queensland
  - Vintec Australia\*
  - Western Downs Council
  - Whirlpool Australia
  - Watch this space
- \* Repeat Business  
New this issue

"They say a car is stolen every 20 minutes. It must be a really good car."

NOTE: A pdf copy of this newsletter is now on my website — [www.johnfleming.com.au/GAS](http://www.johnfleming.com.au/GAS)



On Monday 19 June 1961 a fresh-faced youngster turned up at the smelly West Melbourne Gas Works in Flinders Street Extension, Melbourne to start work as a Trainee Physicist. And so began my life in the gas industry, which, on 19 June 2011 passed 50 years. I reckon in another 50 years or so I'll get to enjoy that smell.

Gas Advisory Services has achieved an enviable reputation for providing reliable and independent advice and services on time and at reasonable cost. These services include:

- ◆ Safety Management Plans and Reports;
- ◆ Independent audits and accident investigations;
- ◆ Certification of small Type B gas devices including HC refrigeration systems;
- ◆ Research and technical investigations;
- ◆ Assistance with legal and legislative issues;
- ◆ And now, approval to undertake risk assessments where use of unodourised gas is proposed.

Gas Advisory Services can help in any gas-related issue\*. If we can't answer the question, we can put you in touch with someone who can.

\* Note: Or even management consultancy (see P4)

Announcing the

### NEW GAS GIVEAWAY

The GAS paperweight men - endless fun while waiting for work to come in :-). Like its predecessors, if you don't get one, you're not trying hard enough!



### APIA PE CODE OF PRACTICE:

Readers who have been hiding under a rock for the past year or so will be delighted to learn that the Australian Pipeline Industry Association (APIA) has published a new Code of Practice covering the use of polyethylene (PE) in the coal seam gas industry, which includes pipes used for both gas and water transport. Covering such issues as materials, construction, testing, commissioning and operations, it gives a solid technical basis to many areas. In particular the training of people involved in pipeline construction and pipeline testing will bring increased safety awareness into the industry. There is a section devoted to the de-rating of pipes which are subject to high temperatures and particular attention is paid to safety during pneumatic testing. See [www.apia.net.au](http://www.apia.net.au) for more details.

A good read for all you CSG guys and gals.

### NOSTALGIA CORNER:

Thanks to Marshall Holmes for passing on copies of the "Historic Gas Times", a UK publication which revels in the "good old days" of gas works, retorts, tar pits, carbon monoxide, gas lights and wonderful old cast iron appliances. The picture shows the York Gas Company's Travelling Showroom. A closer look will reveal a flue coming out the side, so there must have been live demonstrations. Wonder how they stored the gas. Could that be a gas-bag between the wheels?

HAZOP anyone?





IF YOU HAVE GAS EQUIPMENT WHICH CAN USE A COMBINED TOTAL OF 50 000 MJ/HR, THEN YOU NEED A SAFETY MANAGEMENT PLAN. CALL G.A.S. FOR A CHAT ABOUT YOUR OBLIGATIONS AND HOW TO MEET THEM. G.A.S. OFFERS A VARIETY OF SERVICES RANGING FROM SETTING YOU ON THE RIGHT PATH UP TO A FULL SCALE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT. IF YOU ALREADY HAVE A PLAN AND WANT AN INDEPENDENT AUDIT, DON'T BE SHY. LET'S HAVE A TALK ABOUT YOUR NEEDS.

CALL 0431 533 252 FOR A "FREE MEASURE AND QUOTE"!

## Isn't it great being in the gas business?



Thanks to Ian and Rene for these memorable photos

### GREAT QUOTATIONS OF ALL TIMES

- ◆ "History will be kind to me, for I intend to write it" Sir Winston Churchill
- ◆ "Do you realise that if it wasn't for Edison, we'd all be watching TV by candle-light?" Al Boliska
- ◆ "An undefined problem has an infinite number of solutions" Robert A Humphrey
- ◆ "Think before you say something, think twice before you do something, think three times before you write something" Bob Fleming (*my Father*) *More true every day*
- ◆ "The eagle is not concerned with the buzzing of the flies" Ancient proverb
- ◆ "'Don't worry, things could be worse'. So they didn't worry and, sure enough, things got worse"  
*Anon Somehow that cheers me up*

### CONGRATULATIONS TO

- ⇒ Barry Adams for an outstanding career and a well-earned retirement.
- ⇒ Samantha McKenzie on her appointment as Senior HSE Advisor with Arrow Energy.
- ⇒ Wil Waters of GHD on being accepted for a volunteer project in Cambodia.
- ⇒ Lyndsie Mewett of Great Southern Press for those many useful entries on LinkedIn.
- ⇒ John Tame for his long contribution to gas safety in the Cairns region.
- ⇒ David Norton of Santos for making my day with his ongoing possum adventures.
- ⇒ Alan Coulson, the exceptional National Safety Manager for Elgas on his retirement.
- ⇒ Steve Reynolds for his well-deserved appointment to fill those big shoes left by Alan Coulson.

**"By all means reach for the stars, but use tongs. Stars are very hot!"**



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Page 4

### On the Lighter Side

S G Flint

And when the people had gathered together in the one place as the General Manager had commanded them, he spake unto them in a loud voice saying— “Fear not, neither be ye afraid, for I send amongst you a wise man, yea, even he who men calleth a Management Consultant shall come into your midst and lo, he shall prepare a plan.”

And many of the people were sore vexed in their heart and sayeth secretly one to the other, “Is this a false prophet who cometh in sheep’s clothing but is really a cranium whose name thereof is Richard?” But others of their number beseeched them saying “Be ye not in haste to condemn, neither call ye him a bludger for whom none can find use, but rather let us giveth him a fair go.”

So it came to pass that the Consultant came and dwelt amongst them and spake with words of honey. Verily, he listened unto the cries of the people and mighty were the notes he took thereof. And lo, the people were impressed. The Consultant worketh on the plan and laboureth long into the night, even unto the dawn did he labour thereof. And after forty days and forty nights he summoned the people together and delivered unto them the plan. But his words were of guile and false were the images which he sheweth them, yea even unto the walls did these images appear.

The people arose in anger saying, “What manner of plan is this, for it will make our lives bitter with hard bondage? And the people went unto the leading hands and protesteth saying, “Deliver this illegitimate one unto the hands of the taxidermists, for his plan cometh from a bull, even from the bowels of many cattle doth it arise, and it stinketh”.

The leading hands arose in haste and went unto their supervisors and spake in a loud voice “Stoneth the fiery crows, there is a plan and it is a festering pail of dung and we cannot abide the odour thereof”.

The supervisors entered into the office of the engineers, yea even unto the inner sanctum of the drawing office went they and crieth out saying. “Behold, even as the lizards starveth, so too yonder plan is a container of excrement and it reeketh exceeding sore”.

The engineers spake at the monthly meeting of the Managers and sayest unto them, “Bleeding place of damnation, this plan is a vessel of fertiliser and none can endure its strength”.

The Managers went unto their Group Managers and bowed low before them saying. “Mighty Ones, the plan contains that which promotes plant growth and it is very powerful”.

The Group Managers went unto the Assistant General Manager and kneeled down upon their knees and sayeth “All hail, Master, this plan encourageth growth and hath great potency”.

The Assistant General Manager went unto the General Manager, fell down before him and sayeth “Lord, live forever, this powerful new plan will promote growth and efficiency”.

And the General Manager looked upon the plan and knew that it was good.

**“Pipe Dreams” is published each March, July and November and is delivered to more than 100 unsuspecting stalwarts of the petroleum and gas industries.**