

**NO cruises booked ..  
Unless you count the  
open deposit with  
Seabourn**

**This Week @Foxland  
22 May 2011**

## **HERE I AM !!**

Not much of a surprise to those of you that expected to hear from me today .. but it almost wasn't going to happen .. almost .. I had a lot to do and was girding myself to the reality that the newsletter may be 'passed up' in favour of a bit of reconnaissance on my competitors.

You see this is the Franchise Expo weekend in Perth, and it only happens once a year. For the past 2 years I have actually manned the stand but this year we are trying a different methodology. This year the Jim's Group has taken a stand and they are representing .. well, everyone !

{Who's everyone ? take a look <http://www.jims.net> }

This suits me quite well, because it's one of those things you kinda have to do, but it takes up at least 3 days of valuable time, so someone else doing it is okay – and the piece de resistance is that we have an information night booked for tomorrow and everyone that stops at the stand gets invited along to .. **Which Jim Are You ?**



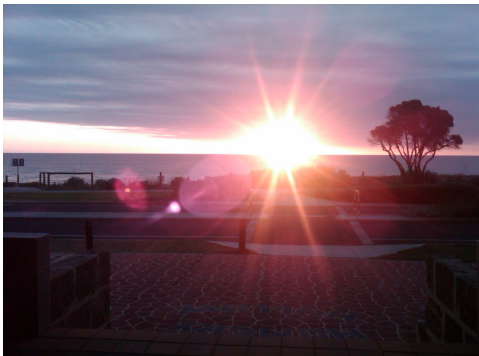
And my competitors .. not particularly impressive .. but I'll keep an eye on them.

## **So, What's been happening ?**

**I was impressed** in the efforts that the WA Police took in trying to catch the scum of the earth that stole my wallet and violated me, by stealing from my bank account. No less than 8 or 9 phone conversations and updates with Sergeant Allen.

*But* alas my bandit knew where the only ATM in Perth is located that doesn't have a built in camera, ergo no identification possible, no recompense, tough !!

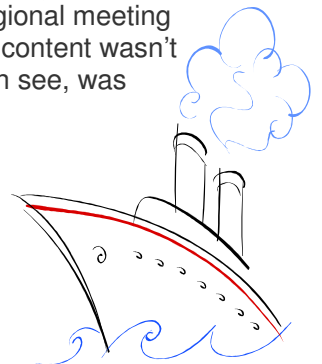
**The weather is changing** and we've seen some rain this week for the first time in I don't know how long, but it's been a while. As I always say to Robyn "It can rain every night as far as I am concerned – just don't rain during the day".



Although rain doesn't necessarily stop play. A client of mine on Friday was happy to make room for me to detail the vehicle in their warehouse, even if it was raining outside.

**I visited Bunbury** to spend the day with one of my Franchisees and we both went along to the regional meeting being held by the mowing group. The meeting content wasn't particularly stimulating but the view, as you can see, was simply stunning !

You wouldn't be dead for quids, would you ?



**Caught up with an old friend** when I was working recently. He's an Alpaca [I think] and wanders around the garden having a quiet munch wherever he wants.

I was a bit concerned when we first met but we seem to have an amicable arrangement now whereby we ignore each other – he wouldn't smile for the camera !

\*\* Apparently he was a birthday gift for Dad a few years ago. The sons thought it would be a bit of a wind up to get the old man an oversized sheep. Whoohoo !!



**Grabbed a great new screen saver** when Robyn showed me the Seabourn Facebook page with no less than 3 ships together in the Mediterranean.



*This is the cut down version.*

You know, I now read the Seabourn Cruise Critic boards with a completely different perspective. Having been on Seabourn why would you want to go on anything else ? and what's with all the dumb questions about Dress Code ? Buy a Tuxedo, dress up, have a good time, you're amongst friends and you're on holiday.

**I edited the Seabourn Cruise Report** recently, by taking out the photos and posting them separately. I couldn't get past page 5 when I tried to read it on-line.

*Why was I reading it ? .. I know I was there but it's nice to wander down memory lane some days .. Try it and let me know how you get on ..*

**Spare a thought for Blackpool FC** who are facing Manchester United FC today. Blackpool has to take points off MUFC to have any chance of staying in the Premier League. Fortunately MUFC, currently on top of the league, have a big game later in the week against Barcelona [final of the Champions League] so may field a *less-than* 1st Team.

Of course some say that it's unlikely to make much difference.

## **Love a Good News Story ..**

**Headlines in today's** paper say that WA has to re-train all of their hospitality staff before the CHOGM [Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting] later this year. By all accounts we're just a bit too convivial for the likes of them CHOGM folks. Get off, what us, no shit sheila !!

**Billionaire Philip Anschutz**, who owns David Beckham's LA Galaxy football team, and whose AEG company rents London's O2 Arena for about £1.5 million a year, has agreed to pay \$39 million (£25 million) for Windstar Cruises, which was placed in administration at the beginning of April. Sounds like a bargain to me.

**Plankers have been sacked** .. <http://www.news.com.au/business/whyalla-santos-plant-workers-sacked-for-dangerous-planking-60m-up-in-the-air/story-e6firm1i-1226060411456> sorry I think I misspelt that, it should be wankers ..

**And so ends another fun packed Sunday .. go Blackpool .. and Mark Webber !**

## **Allan & Robyn**

*The World is 70% water ... how much have you travelled if you haven't cruised ??*

