

A Gentleman and a Rascal



Autobiography
by
Brian Buzzard

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**FOREWORD
by
SIR ERNEST LEE-STEERE, K.B.E.**

Front Cover: I wish to thank artist Laura Cole for her kind permission to use the second painting from the triptych **Kimberley Grasses**.

Disclaimer: Every effort has been made to contact the people mentioned in this book, we apologise if any omissions have been made.

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FOREWORD

SIR ERNEST LEE-STEELE, K.B.E.

20 July 1997.

It is with a very great delight that I write of Brian Sheridan Buzzard, a friend for almost half a century, with our lives being paralleled by so very many mutual things.

There is only one qualification that I have to express, and that is in regard to the title he has chosen for his autobiography.

Throughout this long association, I have seen a lot of the "Gentleman", in the very best sense of the word, but have not bumped into the "Rascal". So under score this remark may I include a true parable. When I was President of a Country Race Club, Brian was on the Committee. In the lightened financial circumstances of the time, we never received takings commensurate with crowd numbers. Brian suggested we should do it ourselves, which was quite an onerous task. Up early to collect the takings, all day working the gate etc, to hand the takings to Brian, at about dark. From then on our takings kept up to the expected figure, and the Race Club prospered. This occurred some time after Brian and I returned from the war.

From army and air force service, where I had the chance to see the brave work of The Catalinai, rescuing servicemen and others, from all sorts of hazardous circumstances, mostly at sea, to Brian's service ~~in~~ ^{to} the Pastoral and Grazing Industry of Australia, where his fore sight, and imagination very much made its mark, I have known him and admired him, and his family.

He is a good family man, and a first class example of one brought up in the older days, when thrift was necessary, and good principles, the natural outcome of a close family environment.

Ernest H. Lee-Steele

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There is only one qualification that I have to express, and that is in regard to the title he has chosen for his autobiography.

Throughout this long association, I have seen a lot of the "Gentleman", in the very best sense of the word, but have not bumped into the "Rascal". To underscore this remark may I include a true parable. When I was President of a Country Race Club, Brian was on the Committee. In the tightened financial circumstances of the time, we never received gate takings commensurate with crowd numbers. Brian suggested we should do it ourselves, which was quite an onerous task. Up early to collect the cash, all day working the gate etc, to hand the takings to Brian, at about dark. From then on our takings leapt up to the expected figure, and the Race Club prospered. This occurred some time after Brian and I returned from the war, from army and air force service where I had the chance to see the brave work of the Catalina's, rescuing servicemen and others, from all sorts of hazardous circumstances, mostly at sea, to Brian's service to the Pastoral and Grazing Industry of Australia, where his foresight, and imagination, very much made its mark. I have known him and admired him, and his family.

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