



April 2006

Prelude Festivals Galore



Well known singer, songwriter and comedian, Owen Blundell who is a special guest at Port Pirie



Check out our website
www.saccm.com

Inside this issue:

<i>Frankie Goes A Roving</i>	2
<i>Upcoming Festival Information with Tammy Lee</i>	3
<i>Jeanette Wormald's New Album Released</i>	3
<i>Slim Tops 7 Million Sales</i>	3
<i>List Family Show</i>	4
<i>De Gruchy Showcase</i>	4
<i>Returning Guitars</i>	4

Country music lovers in this state certainly have a lot to look forward to in the first half of the year. They have a selection of the many club shows plus a plethora of festivals throughout the state.

Once Tamworth is over the major festival season in South Australia really gets under way. We have had Mount Gambier, Lake Charlegrark and Port Lincoln and now we are looking forward to Port Augusta, Port Pirie and Barmera.

The next major festival is this month at Port Augusta from the 21st to the 23rd. They kick off with a cabaret at the South Augusta Football Club on the Friday night featuring Jodi and Craig Stringer and Kimberley Rodgers. On the Saturday they run their talent quest in the same venue starting at 9.00am. A BBQ breakfast is available from 7.30am. The Football Club also hosts an Awards Party on the Saturday night starting at 7.00pm featuring Graeme Hugo and Ironbark, Emily Reed and Tiffney Stroh.



2005 Senior Champion of Champions, Emily Reed who is appearing at Port Augusta Festival

On Sunday the 23rd the Port Augusta Festival present their 'Entertainer of the Year' show at the Eastside Foreshore commencing at 11.00am. Guests include Jodi and Craig Stringer, Kimberley Rodgers, Emily Reed and Tiffney Stroh. During the day the talent quest winners will battle it out for the Entertainer of the Year title.



Leighton B Watts, who is appearing at Port Pirie

The Southern Flinders (live) Music Festival at Port Pirie, runs from May 17th to the 21st and features a wide range of entertainment and artists from all over Australia.

It starts with a line dancing day and night on the 17th at the NCMA Hall followed by a concert featuring Cactus Martens and friends. On the Thursday night Don Coster will appear at the same venue.

The Friday afternoon will feature the usual Golden Oldies Concert at the Northern Festival Centre Ballroom followed by a concert featuring all the stars.

On Saturday the NCMA will host their annual talent quest during the day in the Festival Centre Ballroom followed by the Awards Presentation and Concert that night.

Reg Poole and Owen Blundell

will appear in concert at the NCMA Hall on Saturday afternoon.



Yodelling sweetheart, Angela Hayden is a special guest at Port Pirie

Sunday will kick off with a Bush Poets Breakfast in Memorial Park. The heats for the Telstra Country Wide Road to Tamworth will be held in the NCMA Hall.

Eleven am will see the start of the Gospel Show in the Festival Centre Ballroom followed by the NCMA Roundup.

Special guest artists at Port Pirie include Amos Morris, Amber Lawrence, Dean Perrett, Leighton B Watts, Reg Poole, David Croser, Murray Mac & True Grit, Bill Bedford, Wally Sparrow, Jimmy & The Boys, Brad Lee, Angela Hayden, Sandra Humphries, Don Costa, Owen Blundell, Frankie J Spencer, Bernie & The Bandits, Southern Reign and Cactus Martens.

You can contact Port Pirie Tourism on 1800 000 424 or Roma on 08 8633 4417.





Country Music Radio

If you enjoy good country music and all the latest country music news then tune into:

Radio Adelaide 101.5 FM

Country Brekky with Wally & Ben Sparrow
Saturday 6.00 am to 9.00 am

Country Café with Sarah Tomlinson
Sunday 6.00 am to 8.00 am

Bluegrass Unlimited with Bill Lawson
Sunday 11.00 am to 12 mid day

Listen on line: www.radio.adelaide.edu.au

Frankie Goes A Roving

Over the past month I have had a great time in Rural Australia seeking out Country Music events and seeing our wonderful landscape. For those who can't travel further a field, let me say the farmland is in great shape from what I saw. Broad acre crop farming with silos full, fat sheep and cattle with plenty of hay to cover the dry season.

Now to the music scene without being too clinical, Mt Gambier hosted the "Blue Lake City Muster Feb 10th - 12th". The headline acts were the trio of Bella, Golden Guitar winners in Tamworth 2005, Carter and Carter, Allan Webster, Leah Briggs and Lee Forster & the Furrabreds from Bal-larat. The shining star of the talent quest was Tiffney Stroh (full results on the SACCM website) who is a dedicated young rising star to be watched.



Tiffney Stroh with her awards from Mount Gambier Festival - Ian Fisk

The event was worth the trip, well organized and had the stars but was poorly attended. Although boosted by people who travelled from Adelaide, of whom many stayed over for the Lake Charlegrark Country Music Marathon the following weekend. (The Lake, readers is a myth, as this year it was dry, the bottom was flat and hard enough to land a light plane on!)

Lake Charlegrark is 150 km North of Mt Gambier and 30 Km into Victoria. There is no town, it has a caravan park in the middle of nowhere, but has bush, trees and hot showers and a lake with a jetty!

The event kicked off on the Friday evening with bush poetry and Peter Horan on keyboard. Fish and chips were available.

The entertainment on Saturday was for 8 hours, Sunday 7 hours. The artists included Beccy Cole, a very pregnant Yodelling Laura Downing, Ronni Rae Rivers (W.A.), Shane Teinaki, Peter Horan, Graeme Hugo and Ironbark Band, The BC Boys from Whyalla, and Wild Card/ Cruisers backing some artists and on their own. Wally Sparrow was the MC, ably supported by Kristal Collins (15yrs old!). I must mention the stall holders and the fantastic catering. The lamb roast hot rolls were "delicious". The attendance was around a thousand happy campers for the weekend plus a full bus load from Adelaide on a Harris Coach. Well done organizers and volunteers.

There were five days to fill in before my next commitment so 400Km North East took me through many small rural towns like Natimuk, Minyip & Quambatook to Barham, NSW on the River Murray between Swanhill & Educa. The Arapilies looked magnificent in the morning sun.

Barham Country Music Stampede is held in the Services Club with acts alternating between the 300 seat auditorium and the 60 seat coffee lounge. It's a huge complex, wall to wall pokies and bars and restaurants. The air conditioning was great as two days were 38 degrees! There were 20 acts running over 12 hours each day between the two venues. Ten AM to six PM was free. The evening shows of 3 hours were \$10.00.

The venue was packed. The huge auditorium dance floor was always crowded. South Australia was well represented with a three hour evening show by Brian Letton, Bradley Bergen doing backing vocals and guitar for Alby Pool. Jeanette Wormald was also there. Some of the other artists there included Sweeney and Killeen, Lee Forster, Olive Bice (well known for her regular attendance at Barmera and Mildura), Roger Tibbs a Yodeller from New Zealand and Hank Sasaki a Cowboy from Japan. The next Stampede is in August. On the programme are Allan Webster from Millicent, Laura Downing, Peter

Horan and The Costa Brothers. Harris Coaches will take a bus load from SA. The 800 Km round journey was certainly worth it with the bonus of sleeping under the stars surrounded by huge gum trees on the banks of the River Murray.

The next stop was Frances, SA. Frances is on a narrow road which follows the SA/Vic border between Bordertown and Naracorte. Frances is a small town of 40 people with a corrugated iron Pub. The Frances Folk Gathering attracts a thousand people to see and participate in a weekend of poetry, workshops, jam sessions, ballad-eering and competitions. Total prize money available was \$9,500 mostly donated by Coopers. Leah Briggs got her start here years ago. The Davidson brothers were one of the features. Hamish had a successful weekend winning both the 5 string Banjo Bluegrass Style prize and the Fiddle section each for a \$500 cheque! Lachlan Davidson is the partner of our own Kristy Cox, SACCM 2002 Champion of Champs. This was a great three day event.



Kristy Cox and Lachlan Davidson at Frances Folk Festival - Ian Fisk

I'll sign off now - as Wally says I've had too much space in Prelude. He has a deadline to meet. Six more days and I would have reported on The Eyre Toyota Western Country Music Festival in Port Lincoln, maybe next Prelude. Special mention goes to Ian Fisk who took his own campervan to all these events (and typed this up!). Thanks for the company on my travels mate.

Frankie Baker



Nathaniel O'Brien was caught by his mother in Bella's dressing room at Mount Gambier

Upcoming Festival Info

Port Augusta & Districts Country Music Festival - April 21st-23rd

A great weekend coming up with appearances from Graeme Hugo & Ironbark and last years Senior and Junior Champion of Champions Emily Reed and Tiffney Stroh. Don't forget the scrumptious BBQ breakfast that starts at 7.30am on Saturday morning before the talent quest... The talent quest band is Jodi & Craig Stringer, Kimberley Rodgers and Mathew Nitschke, whom you all know and love, so please go along and support the great talent. I'm really glad the festival is continuing the "Entertainer of the Year" award. It is a great way to support and encourage the young entertainers to perform to the best of their ability, and you have a great deal of fun on the day! If you need any more info, there's links to upcoming festivals on our website at www.saccm.com or you can give Graham or Kay a call on 86410147 or 8643 6006

SOUTHERN FLINDERS LIVE MUSIC FESTIVAL - PORT PIRIE MAY 17TH-21ST

Incorporating the Telstra Road to Tamworth 2007 in their annual festival, Port Pirie has a great program consisting of artists like Amos Morris, Sandra Humphries, Owen Blundell, Angela Hayden and a great deal more! I had a great talk with Roma Sampson who says the committee has reviewed competition entries to better support the younger talent, with a section for under 10's, 11-12's, and 13-15's which I think is a great idea! Congratulations go to the committee for their encouragement and assistance to the younger performers! Contact Roma on 86334417 for more info.

Telstra Road to Tamworth

If you are interested in registering or learning more visit www.telstra.com/countrywide/countrymusic/roadtotamworth

South Australian Country Music Festival & Awards - Barmera 2nd-12th June

Not til June, but you had better buckle your seatbelts... Riverland is now the biggest Country Music Festival in South Australia and this year you can expect a great one. National and local artists along with the best South Australian talent will appear at some ninety shows over ten days in twenty venues. A sneak peek of what you can expect artist wise... [Col Elliott](#), [Stuie French](#), [Camille Te Nahu](#), [Trev Warner](#), and lots of SA bands like Crosswind, [Rustlers](#), and [True Grit](#) along with winners of the 2005 Champion of Champions. New and young talent is discovered every year and the professional presentation night is terrific. Winners of sections also compete for the South Australian Award of Excellence. If you're heading along to the festival, make sure you've got accommodation sorted soon, or you may miss out. If you want any more info, visit our website or call Dot on 82410979

Tammy Latham



Opal Blue Jeanette Wormald Lindene Music - One Stop

It was only two months ago that I wrote a glowing report on Jeanette's new DVD and now I have her new CD on my desk.

I can remember many years ago reviewing Jeanette's first musical effort - a collection of songs she had written about life in the Mallee and at the time I thought it was alright for a local girl but she was competing in a hard market. Since then I have watched her mature and every recording she has made has been better than the last.

Her latest offering Opal Blue is, in a word, spectacular. She has taken eleven of her songs (two she co wrote with Peter Pratt) to her new producer Michael Christian and come away with a product that would stand proudly beside any recording from any genre or any part of the world.

Michael Christian has done an excellent job producing the album and has in fact added that touch of 'country' to what Jeanette has traditionally produced with more of a 'folk' sound. Her voice is really beautiful and as clear and crisp as a church bell on a frosty morning. The more I listen to the album the more I love it.

The songs are as one would expect very Australian and the one duet she does with Peter Pratt is excellent. Her first release off the album, 'If This Isn't Country', ran up the country charts and I am sure we will see at least four or five hits follow it. If Tamworth wants quality this is the album that will shake the establishment. Well done Jeannette and Michael!

Wally Sparrow

Slim Tops 7 Million In Sales

In 1942, at the ripe old age of 15 the Nulla Nulla farm boy, David Gordon Kirkpatrick, decided he would send a letter to the Registry Office to register his new name "Slim Dusty". He dreamed of his becoming Slim Dusty in reality and one day leaving the Nulla Nulla farm to perform around Australia and record for the great Regal Zonophone label (now EMI Music). He soon took the next step and with his Dad in tow (and his new name!) boarded the North Coast mail train, heading for Sydney and an audition with the Columbia Graphophone Company people.

He didn't get a recording deal this time but he was allowed to record two of his songs in the famous Columbia Studios at Homebush. With his father's help, he scraped together the 25 pounds needed to purchase 25 copies of these custom pressings of his recordings. Back on the farm with his first precious 78rpm recordings he decided promotion was the next step for Slim Dusty...and proceeded to send his 78rpm vinyl discs to various radio stations around the country and being cheeky enough to ask the radio stations to forward the discs on to another radio station when they had finished playing it!

What followed was an exceptionally successful career full of Australian music and entertainment industry landmarks; a career which no doubt was even more amazing than David Gordon Kirkpatrick, who became Slim Dusty, dreamed of over 60 years ago. In fact, he could never have believed that the name he adopted as a farm boy in an isolated valley would become a household name in his beloved Australia.

Over his long career, the real extent of Slim Dusty's massive popularity was often underestimated and only now, with the official announcement that his record sales have passed a remarkable 7 million units, do people look beyond the iconic Aussie #1 hits like *The Pub with No Beer* and *Duncan* and his 100 plus album releases to understand the meaning of his close connection with all Australians.



ABIA

Australian Business Insurance
Advisers (ABIA) Pty Ltd

Prelude is published monthly
by the
South Australian
Council for Country Music Inc.
PO Box 843
Noarlunga Centre SA 5168
Secretary/Membership
Tammy Lee Latham
Phone: 0410 323 811
Editor Wally Sparrow
0419 591 894

The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the editor or the SACCM Committee and no responsibility will be taken for the same.

Diary Dates

Port Augusta - April 21st to 23rd
Port Pirie - May 19th to 22nd
Barmera - June 5th to 12th
City Muster - July 22nd
Champs - July 29th
SA Showcase - November 25th

Kingfield Home Loans
1st Floor, Safeguard House, 285
Anzac Highway Plympton
Email: fil.q@bigpond.com



A Message From Wally

I have resigned from the Board of SACCM and as editor of Prelude. My medicos insisted that I drop some of my many commitments and find a little more time for 'Wally'. A lot of people panicked thinking I had some form of terminal illness, but this is not true - I just needed to slow down a bit.

May I say thank you to all those people who have supported me over the years. I will still be on Radio Adelaide and wandering around the clubs and festivals. If you need to do so you can contact me at new my home below.



Another Top Barn Show

The List family have a great reputation for presenting quality shows in their famous One Tree Hill Barn. There has however been a gap in the program with Travis List pursuing a career in the USA.

Travis is currently home for a short period of time so they have invited their good friends Alby and Melody Pool to come over and join them for a concert on the 29th April. This will be a top night of traditional and modern country music, so make sure you order your tickets early. You can ring Trade Wind Caravans on 08 8250 8545 to book tickets.

DeGruchy Showcase #5

Adelaide Hills guitar maker, Brian DeGruchy has over the years developed a reputation as one of the finest craftsmen in Australia. This is supported by the fact that almost every major country artist has at least one DeGruchy guitar in his collection.

In 2001 Brian decided to run a showcase in 'The Pub' at the Tamworth festival and this show has expanded out to become one of the most popular shows in Tamworth. The audience can sit and over a two hour period watch the cream of Australia's country talent perform in the one venue.

Of the special guests at this years show, five picked up Golden Guitars at the Awards Night. They must be good guitars!

Guests this year included Bill Chambers, Trev Warner, Kasey Chambers, Beccy Cole, Troy Cassar - Daley, Rod McCormack, Gina Jeffreys, Kevin Bennett, Craig Giles, Michelle Rose, Sandra Humphries, Stueie French, Camille Te Nahu, Jeanette Wormack, Leah Briggs and Darren Coggan. The audience was lined up around the hotel and down the street for several hours prior to the doors opening.



Troy playing his De Gruchy guitar

The Returning Guitars

A couple of years ago the Lee Family from Broken Hill, had all of their music equipment stolen in Tamworth. Being a family band they didn't have a lot of money so the industry gathered around them and replaced everything they lost. They have since then been watching out for their stolen property.

They managed to buy back a stolen mandolin for \$100, which was worth a lot more than that and when they were walking down the main street of Tamworth this year they spotted some buskers playing two of their stolen guitars a Maton and a Fender. They called the police and are now waiting for the guitars to be released from the police station.

There was still a De Gruchy guitar missing however, they have just received a phone call from a musician in Tamworth who had bought it for \$160 at a second hand store and then realized who the owners were.

The Lees have now moved from Broken Hill to Parkes and have just released their new album, 'Time To Kill', which was produced by their friend Bill Chambers. They had a very successful trip to Tamworth this year and have a heavy year of touring ahead of them promoting their new album and showing Australia what they can do musically. Contact is enquiries@thelees.com.au



Budding compere & singer Crystal Collins did a support for Tracy Coster at the Southern Club, which was the last show on Tracy's South Australian tour.



Government of South Australia
Arts SA

The SA Council for Country
Music is supported by the
Government of South Australia
via Arts SA