

Greg Champion Newsletter

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NEWSLETTER
XVIIIBW

How Are Yas??

Friends, bogans, countrymen and women, I hope things are peaceful for you all, 'cos it's all been one bucketload of a kerfuffle in my world!

Anyway, can't complain. It's all been grist for the mill, fruit for the sideboard, one big character building experience, and a good cack.

At the time of writing The Second Cricket Test is about to begin in Adelaide. The cricket authorities asked me a while back if I'd come up with some (polite, 'friendly') Pom-bagging songs, to be sung on the ground at The Test matches. With my expat Pom pal David Brooks, we wrote *You Can't call Australia home, You All Live in a Boring Rotten Place, Who Do You Think You're Kidding Freddie Flintoff*, and the subsequently mildly controversial *The Lion sleeps Tonight [They Whinge Away]*, etc.

It looks like we'll be doing these songs at all Tests this summer, in five States, which represents a wonderful travel opportunity, plus the chance to see a fair bit of Test Cricket. It's what you might call a 'plum job' - as Sir Les might say.



An ABC Coodabeens photo

Since September's newsletter, I have had the great fortune to have sung in Gundagai, Bendigo, Wilpena Pound, Lameroo, Maldon, Sydney, Canberra, Wollongong, Brissy and Ballarat. Before Christmas there are gigs in Sale, Victor Harbour, and Perth for the cricket. At New Year we, The Coodabeen Champions, will broadcast in Hobart for ABC radio. If any of you are in any of those places, maybe we'll meet and have a Festive light beverage.

I hope to give a fuller account of the cricket 'controversy' soon, as there's been a fair bit of curiosity about it.

May your Christmas involve sharing love with family, friends or whomever, and may the New Year be a happy fulfilling one for you.

Highest regards, bestest wishes, greg

THE WINNING SET LIST - 1ST PLACE

Rhonda and Greg Astill, Cessnock NSW

- Come this far
- Too Many Bridges
- Banks of the Condamine
- Walk Along Side of You
- Been There Done That
- North Bourke Bridge
- Cooee Motel
- Further Up The Mountain
- Jesus Knockin
- Singing Bird
- Walk Across The Line
- Stoney Ground
- See You Again Sometime

Congratulations to Rhonda and Greg Astill from Cessnock in New South Wales for winning the Champs Set List Competition!

It was a difficult but fun task for Champs to select the winning Set List - he enjoyed going through all the Set Lists sent in from fans - a huge thank you from Champs for all the entries sent in - stay tuned for the next Champs Newsletter competition.

Rhonda and Greg Astill selected as their prize the Champs show at the Southern Cross Club in Canberra on November 18.

2ND PLACE

CLARE FERRY, ALBANY, WA

- BEEN THERE, DONE THAT,
- YOU CAN ARRESTED FOR THAT
- YOU CAN'T WIN EM ALL
- WALK ACROSS THAT LINE
- ANOTHER DAY ANOTHER TOWN
- NORTH CALLS
- UNDER AN AUSTRALIAN SUN
- WHEN I KICK THE BUCKET
- THOSE DEADLY KOALAS
- BACK THIS WAY AGAIN
- SOMEBODY NEEDS ME
- SATISFIED

3RD PLACE

Lance Lloyd, Syndal Vic

- Out to Winchelsea
- Stratford to Yarram
- Melbourne Town
- Satisfied
- Somebody Needs Me
- Big Country Town
- Further Up The Mountain
- Walk Across That Line
- Never Turn Right at Burke Road Malvern
- Been There Done That
- Isn't That Something
- Under an Australian Sun



Greg at 2006 Boyup Brook Country Music Festival

Your Letters

FROM KUWAIT:

Thought I should let you know of a of magic moment, courtesy of the BBC. That was seeing Champs (and not sure who else) on BBC World news - and hearing a few bars of "Whinge-away", an apparent new cricket ditty. I hope to be out of Kuwait and back in "the big country town across the river" by early December, which will make hearing the shows a bit easier. Keep up the great work Phil

FROM NEW ZEALAND:

I know its an old recording (1992) but I had "Teddy Bear magic" - a compilation made by Greg Champion and others -which we (parents and kids) love .AND WE'VE LOST IT !! Any chance of tracking down another one Regards John & Mandy Bowen Westport New Zealand
[yes, Don Spencer has evidently provided one for them]

JUST FOR RICKY

My Dad is turning 60, and has asked if I can find a recording of "Members of the MCC" for him... actually, he asked for the song about "driving through Balwyn taking your kids to private school"...It's not on any of my CDs, but the words are up on your web site. Is there any way that I can beg, bribe, or blackmail you into helping me? Would it help to mention that I am bedridden with a painful and nasty disease which could kill me? Even if I really am? The disease has to be good for something, and I'm too old for make-a-wish :) Please let me know if you reply on-air, as I can't listen to everything due to the aforementioned painful and nasty disease. Warmest regards, r
[Please excuse mistakes/brevity, typed via on-screen keyboard due to disability]



PERSISTENT MUM:

my mum has been annoying the hell out of me and I thought I would go straight to source. did you ever do a parody version of the 12 days of Xmas. if so, what was it called and where can I get her a copy from. please save me.

Cheers steve allen

The Coodabeens, ABC Shop, Darwin

[yes, it was on an 80s cassette, which was able to be supplied]

FROM W.A.:

I am the principal of a small rural school and I am looking for the music to "I made a hundred runs in the back yard at mums". I have contacted music stores but no luck - Can you Help?? Cheers Jemma Trueman Principal Yealering PS

[yes, words and chords supplied]

ANOTHER SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

I am the Principal and also French teacher at Kongorong PS (sth of Mount Gambier). I would really like to get a copy of your song The French Song for my Upper Primary class. I am having difficulty finding a copy of the album it's on (Stand Back Australia). I would like them to hear the audio version as I'm not too good in the singing stakes! Thanks, Susan Chadwick Principal Kongorong Primary School

AND ANOTHER W.A. SCHOOL:

Dear Greg, Our Year 3 class is doing an assembly on 'Football' and we want to sing "What I like about Football" but our teacher, Mrs Stotter can't find the words. Can you email her the words so we sing it properly. Thank you, Year 3 class Upper Swan Primary School Perth WA

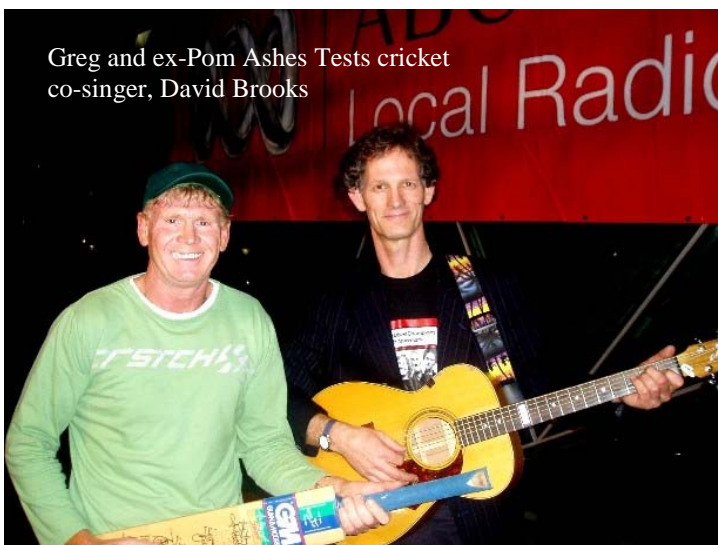
[yes, words supplied]

MOONS CLOUDS

Many years ago I met you at I think Jamberoo. I told you that I did a version of your Cloud on the moon, still my favourite song of yours. Today I was going through my old set lists and came across that song. Picking up my guitar seems I have forgotten most of the lyrics. I would love to do the song again if I could get a copy of the words. Regards Chris Fraser.

FROM S.A.

We have an old cassette with 'The French song', 'Take me back to Innaminka', 'Carpet Laying man', Gardening song sung to 'I've been everywhere man', 'Good hard look at yourself'...do you know the one? We love it all! Can you please let us know if it is available? We've been listening to you since '88, driving home to the Southeast after a big weekend. Great songs, great memories. Cheers big ears Todd & Anne Woodard [yes, able to supply]



....AND MORE SCHOOLS:

Dear Champs I am a primary school teacher. My group has been doing heaps of work based around National Parks/Flora and Fauna. Yesterday I was playing "Gotta do the gardening" to them. Trying to find something a little quirky to perform in front of their Parents / grandparents. They have searched the website and couldn't find the words. As you can imagine we are having trouble keeping up with the song. Could you please help us? Thanking you

Susan Leayr

travel dates

December 1

On ground Second Ashes
Cricket Test
Adelaide Oval, Adelaide

December 2

Knox City Carol Night
Melbourne

December 10

Encounter Bay Football Club
South Australia

December 14

On ground Third Ashes
Cricket Test

December 26

On ground Fourth Ashes
Cricket Test
MCG Melbourne

December 31

Constitution Dock, Hobart
ABC broadcast