

# Greg Champion

## Newsletter

Issue 9AD  
February 2006

No. XVVICIVX

**Win a free flight to  
see Champs live—  
to play your set!  
See page 2**

### Cheers from Champs

*Greetings you hard rocking Australians, battling daily to hold this country together from the goodness of your own hearts.... Did that get your attention?*

*Welcome to newsletter No. XVVICIVX, courtesy of our kindly editors, Andrew & Del, of Perth.*

*Tamworth has come and gone again. It's still the highlight of the year, and long may it remain so. Nine days is just long enough to lull you into believing you're living the dream.*

*That's the beauty of Tamworth.*

*The new CD *The Shack Tapes* was launched there, on the charming verandah of June Smyth's pleasant abode, where we sang without PA with the backdrop of a tropical storm.*

*I only saw copies of *The Shack Tapes* when I arrived in Tamworth. The production of it was so close to the Festival deadline that it was freighted there from Sydney the day before it all began. I've tried harder and dug deeper with this record than any other. To me, that's evident in the listening.*



*People often ask: is this CD 'funny' or 'serious'? It's a 'straight' album – like the last two. There's now a small backlog of novelty/Australiana songs so the next CD may swing that way.*

*A tardy Happy New Year to you for 2006. May you have a fine time of it. For this new newsletter we've got heaps of fresh photos and stuff....*

*The past few months have been rippers for good action and fun travel. Between October and Christmas I was lucky to sing in Warrnambool Naracoorte Renmark Burnie Mt Buller Goulburn Hobart and then a real highlight, the Spencer Gulf country Music Festival, 25k from Pt Augusta.*

*In the New Year I've seen the sights of Briagolong, Bairnsdale and Boyup Brook, and coming up it's the incomparable Port Fairy Folk Festival, The Murraylands Country Music Festival in Tailem Bend S.A., and the National Folk Festival in Canberra. Boyup Brook Country Music Festival in W.A. was a real hoot 'cos it's not often I get to go three hours south-east of Perth for a great weekend.*

*I'll leave the rest of the newsletter to Andrew & Del and wish you well in your travels. Until we meet again, stay cheerful,*

*regards, greg*



### The Boyup Brook Country Music Festival.

For Champs fans the highlight of this weekend was Friday night when Greg hit the stage and filled the balmy twilight with a set that included some old favourites, a humorous tribute to John Williamson and a few great ideas for the national anthem. When Greg was joined part way through his set by the band we were treated to some classics like "I made a hundred" and "Don't call Wagga Wagga Wagga" as well as his new single from the Shack Tapes, "Been there done that (like to do it again)". Champs finished the night with his Golden Guitar winning song "May your fridge be full of coldies".

You shoulda been there!

## CHAMPS WANTS YOU !

**WINNER ANNOUNCED  
IN JULY**



YES CHAMPS WANTS YOU TO PUT TOGETHER YOUR DREAM SHOW OF CHAMPS SONGS.

SELECT YOUR FAVOURITE SONGS THAT YOU WOULD LIKE CHAMPS TO PERFORM AT A SHOW, THEN PLACE THEM IN ORDER OF PERFORMANCE AT THE SHOW - INCLUDING ENCORE!  
MAKE IT ABOUT 12 SONGS.

SEND YOUR LIST TO  
ANDREW@ARACH.NET.AU  
OR  
"CHAMPS SET LIST COMPETITION"  
AT CHAMPS NEWSLETTER,  
PO BOX 110 COMO WA 6952

**The Prize!**  
We will fly the winner to see Champs perform at a venue later this year to be announced.

# Your Letters

From MELBOURNE:

Joan rang the ABC on a Sunday night, requested Greg's song **never turn right at Burke** and then sent this email:

**Road Malvern, and**

I got married in the church on the corner about 40 years ago. As the bridal party stood on the steps, church bells ringing, confetti everywhere, a semi came down the hill and screeched to a halt at the lights. The driver alighted, stood on his step and yelled "you stupid buggars". Never a truer word was said. The marriage ended in tatters - a nasty heap on the divorce court floor! but I'll remember that moment forever. Joan

From SOMEWHERE ELSE:

Hi Champs. I was listening to one of the shows from last year where your old band TideWater was mentioned. It made me wonder whether that album which I do remember hearing at the time it was released has ever or will ever be released on cd? You may find that either amusing or embarrassing however you look at it. Adrian. *[yes, Greg's first album in 1976 was by his band Tidewater. Embarrassing is not a strong enough word.....]*

From WANGARATTA:

Hi Greg, Love your songs, but I can't get the video clip, loved it, I even got Landline to replay it. Can't get out these days as I'm confined to a Wheelchair now and would really love to have it. "I was a little farm girl" before this. I live in Wangaratta love to see you there SOON.

Take Care Anne

*[ABC kindly provided a DVD of **the fridge full of coldies** clip for Anne]*

From THE BLUE MOUNTAINS:

Dear Greg, What have I been missing?!! Until we saw you perform at the opening concert at Tamworth, I had never heard of you (as I embarrassingly told you as you signed your cd for me). But I did recognise talent when I saw it and we headed out to the Longyard to see you that weekend. It was just a totally wonderful experience. There would not have been one person that left that performance that didn't walk out with a smile on their face and a lightness of heart. Thank you. Wishing you all the very best, thank you once again for sharing your music and talent with us at Tamworth. Jill Gaibor



From MOSMAN:

Dear Champs, I just got through the door after a hard slog at the office with the CD in my hot little hands, and whacked it straight on the stereo. Just breezed through the first six tracks and might I say...A VERITABLE TOUR DE FORCE! Boppin' away to "This Train I'm On" even as I speak. Congrats again! Superb listening... another one to prove the Aussies are the best! Joe PS And I haven't got to the rest of it yet!

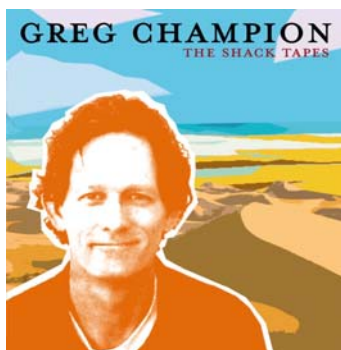
From CANBERRA:

Just a memory jogger as I'm sure you get lots of emails, you sent me the words of "I'm not all that good" some time ago. I have been out of circulation for some time having lost my son in the Sea King crash in Nias. The anniversary is 2nd April and the Navy is taking some of the kin to the crash site for a memorial service. I will keep an eye on your web site for any concerts that you might have in Canberra. Won't prattle on Greg, hope life treats you well. regards Peter Davey

From SOMEWHERE:

Hey Greg, I used to have a tape of cricket songs when I was a kid and I've been trying to find them again but I can't even remember who sang them. I saw an email in your September 2005 newsletter that mentioned cricket songs from the 80's. I was looking for a couple of parody songs one was about Merv Hughes I think it might have been called the "new fast bola" a parody on the lola song and one on Pakistan a parody on Barbara ann. If you have any idea what I'm talking about, it would help me sleep at night because I can't remember all the words and its killing me!! I'm clutching at straws and hope you can help. Stuart Knight

*[yes, this was Greg & The Coodabeens' late 80s cassette, which was happily sent to Stuart]*



# GREG CHAMPION

## THE SHACK TAPES

12 awesome news tracks from Champs (or is that 13 tracks??)

Come this far

Keep the kettle boiling

Walk alongside of you

Out to Winchelsea

Been that done that (Like to do it again)

Somebody needs me

This train I'm on

Stratford to Yarram

Undying flower

Melbourne town

Big country town

Satisfied

??



*Champs launching the new album The Shack Tapes*

## travel dates

**March 10 - 13**

Port Fairy Folk Festival  
Victoria

**March 15**

Moe Gippsland  
Victoria

**March 25**

Murraylands Country Music Festival  
South Australia

**March 30**

Bordertown  
South Australia (TBC)

**April 6**

Hepburn Springs  
Victoria

**April 14**

National Folk Festival  
Canberra

**May 12**

South Warrnambool Football Club  
Victoria

**June 10**

Alexandra Truck Show  
Victoria

**June 17**

Penguin Football Club  
Tasmania

**June 23**

Sydney Eagles Football Club  
Sydney

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