

Greg Champion Newsletter

Issue 13AD
June 2007

NEWSLETTER
XIIVCHMPS

NEWSLETTER XIIVCHMPS

Dear folks -- how yas doin', how are yas, how yas been, and how yas goin'?

I hope the leaves of autumn have not clogged your gully trap.

Welcome to Newsletter XIIVCHMPS, compiled in Perth by Andrew & Del.

Trusting that your winter is not too cold, and hoping that you have received some rain. The Jamieson River is running again. The Goulburn River is flowing into Lake Eildon. Bourke had 80 mils of rain in 24 hours. This is the blood that runs through the veins of our country. May the rivers keep running, for the sake of all of us.

We have a brand new footy (AFL) CD out. It's called Greg Champion, The Coodabeen Champions: Footy Songs, 98-07. It's in ABC centres and JB Hi-Fi, especially in the AFL states – or from me, via email. There are twenty-six songs, and all but one are new.

The next four weeks see trips to Perth, Adelaide, Mildura, Hobart and.... Rupanyup (in the Wimmera). Oh well, I feel fortunate to be busy. As The Highwaymen sang: The Road Goes On Forever And The Party Never Ends.

We lost Neil Beeby, the longtime Canberra Country Music writer, and we lost Don Smyth, husband of Tamworth Festival Director friend June Smyth, in recent weeks. May they travel on happily, and may you travel on well too,

best wishes, greg



Greg live in action on air

Q CHAMPS

Q your live shows are always enjoyed by fans – are there any plans for a live album or dvd?

Everybody has a DVD out these days. I should have one out too. It hasn't quite happened yet, but i'll call up DVDs ARE US and get someone to come along and video some shows....

Q you perform shows all over this big country, are there any spots that you have not played at yet and you would like to?

The big hole in my Aussie travels would be north-west Western Australia. I still haven't been to Broome or The Kimberley. That's a major gap in my CV. The other is Central Queensland. Haven't yet been to Longreach, Mt Isa, Cloncurry, or Chartes Towers. Would still like to go to Norfolk Island, as well as south-west Western Australia, meaning Albany, Esperance - and Kalgoorlie. I've had the pleasure of going to Weipa, Uluru, Kakadu, Emily Gap, Ceduna, Kangaroo Island, Coober Pedy, Cape Conran, the South West wilderness of Tasmania, King Island, Broken Hill, Blinman, Cunnamulla....St Kilda -- like to do them again.....

Q over the many albums that you have recorded and different styles of songs written – do you have a top 6 of your personal favourite songs?

Well, let's see, I'd like to have a go, so let's do it:

- 1 (listening to the) earthbeat [not on any CD - written around 1995]*
- 2 the north calls*
- 3 further up the mountain*
- 4 keep the kettle boiling*
- 5 under an Australian sun*
- 6 more bad weather*

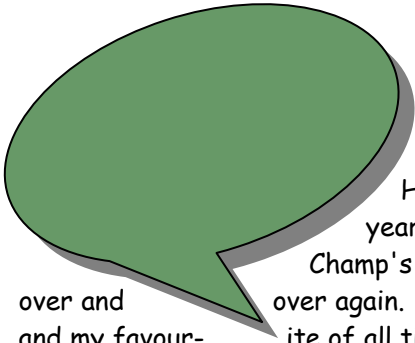


If you have any questions for the
Champs - just send them to an-
drewm@arach.net.au

And we will put them to the Champs!

Double Champs Live

Letters Letters Letters Letters Letters



FROM TASSIE:

Hi, I am 17 years old, live in Tasmania and every week for the past 2 or 3 years I sit down in front of my radio on Saturday between 12 and 1 and record Champ's songs about footy onto a cassette and listen to them over and over and over and over again. My personal favourites are the Greek song during the Athens Olympics, and my favourite of all time... 'EVERYBODY SLIPS AT THE DOME!' There is however one song I am dying to hear. Everybody who listens to the show who I know says that ... 'DEEP IN OUR HEARTS EVERYONE BARRACKS FOR FITZROY' is quite good. Please play it !!!!!!! Regards, David Ingram.

FROM THE STATE HERBARIUM:

DEAR Greg Champion I am a botanist working at the State Herbarium in Adelaide. I am assembling an anthology of **Australian plants in verse**. I believe you have a song composed of the names of plants. I would very much like to get a copy if possible. If you agree any copy right would be dealt with later by our librarian. Yours hopefully, David Symon. [lyrics were duly supplied]

THE DROUGHT:

Dear Champs, Niangala Parents and Citizens Association is organising a **Family Fun Trivia Night** to assist families of the school to enable these country children to participate in a proposed excursion to Sydney or Canberra. As with many rural committees Niangala families have been experiencing hardship due to the drought. Niangala Public School currently has 11 enrollments and is situated 80k's east of Tamworth and 50k's south of Walcha NSW. I am asking you to consider donating a cd which we could use as a prize. Yours sincerely, Jennie Alley [CDs supplied]

My name is Lynette and I have a younger brother Michael, whose **birthday** is coming up in June. Michael has epilepsy and consequently also has brain damage. He owns a tape of yours "That's what I Like About Football Vol II." He absolutely loves his football, and any and all music relating to it. He would sing for hours on end to your tape, over and over, until unfortunately it wore out and broke. I would really like to buy him the CD (or another tape) for his birthday, but I have had no luck in finding where I can purchase it, I was hoping you would know where I could purchase a copy. Thank-you for your time Your Sincerely, Lynette Boorer [replacement CDs were happily supplied free]

CAMPBELL THE SWAGGIE:

Hi Greg! I hear from Ted Egan that you have a song about Campbell Irwing. I cant find the lyrics on your website. I have been looking under "Where ya goin Campbell?" I am doing a small write-up of the Cobargo Folk Festival and was going to include a paragraph on Campbell who seems to be at every festival I turn up at. Much appreciated GaryB [*Where Ya Headin' Campbell*, about that festival fixture Campbell The Swaggie, is on the CD *Champs*. Lyrics supplied]

FROM ADELAIDE:

G'day Greg, I noticed on your web-site that you have re-issued early CDs. I had a copy of Live in Studio 320 that has long since been lost/stolen/lent. How do I go about ordering another copy. P.S. One of the highlights of my very short-lived broadcast career was interviewing you for Adelaide Uni student radio a bit over a decade ago. Kyam Maher South Australia

Dear Greg, have always enjoyed listening to your songs on the Sunday night show. I picked up your "Champs" tape at an Op Shop for far less than it was worth. I knew you wrote good music, but this album shows your song writing skills off to the max. You are not just a musician; you are a **story-teller**. The tunes are often the background to my thoughts at the moment. I especially love "Lights out in Violet Town". I never thought I'd like country music, but I like your country music, Champy! I went with my family to see you & the boys at the Commonwealth Games. You made a fuss of my little boy. Cheers! Christine Weston. [*Champs* was released in 1992]

Song lyrics of the month

88K From Alice

© Greg Champion

1.
well I been building it about bringing the boys to the heart
I had it all worked out to take that town apart
they got us stayin' at the Gap Hotel
it's no dump but it's sure no palace
and I'm still 88k from Alice and the truck won't start

2.
we had smiles on our faces as we drove out of Barrow Creek
that was only this morning but it seems more like a week
I saw a squashed goanna on the road back there
I tell you I know how he feels
88k from Alice, and no damned wheels



BR.
and it's only a couple of hours till we start the show
will we tie it up with wire just to keep the show on the road
can you fix it for someone to come out and give us a tow?
88k from Alice and the truck won't go

3.
well I been building it about bringing the boys to the heart
I had it all worked out to take that town apart
and we've been all pumped up to play
but I think we just ran out of luck
88k from Alice in a broken truck

Some of Greg's travel dates

June 21 Mildura
June 30 Rupanyup, Wimmera, Vic
July 6 Hobart
July 28 McLaren Vale SA
August 5 ABC Concert Federation Square

