

Karen's Korner

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MARTIN LOUIS WINS AUSTRALIAN BANJO CHAMPIONSHIP

Our success at the Tamworth Country Music Festival continued with Martin (aka my hubby!) winning the Australian National Banjo Championship (for the third time!) in a field that included the top players in Australia. The contest was judged by Australia's best Bluegrass musicians who also performed a blistering set of bluegrass before the judging. As the Championships were sponsored by Fender, the prize was a fantastic Acoustic Amplifier (of which William has delighted in playing with

EASTER

Hi all!, December seems a lifetime away, I must say I've been struggling a bit of late, with all those life changes that take their toll eventually. Physically with being so busy & tired and a few extra pounds (come on ladies?.. any hints on how to move those post baby kilos!??), mentally with the loss of time for doing my 'job', but with much humility, that I have been allowed to pursue this dream and share my life, work & music in this way. I also feel a little sad with the realisation that dreams rarely come true and my shot at it is nearly over, I guess I just hope I've touched plenty of souls along my journey. I guess we all have been there sometime, thanks for all the emails and letters and keeping in touch, it's said 'that which does not kill us makes us stronger' & stronger I shall be! Anyway, enough of that,... first, a special apology to Nazif & his lovely lady and the Bokenham Family who came along to one of our gigs at Jamberoo Pub early last year. It was lovely that they came and I took some nice photos,.. then promptly lost them!, The card in our digital camera got switched without me knowing and when I went to put them in my newsletter I couldn't find them & thought that I must have somehow deleted them?.. Eventually as you can see I went through the old cards & bingo! ,... found them (see below), another lost photo was one of Lyn Vaughan &

Warren Smith, who were our lovely billets for the Cobargo Folk Festival,.. sorry guys! Anyway, I've lots of nice news for you all, so stay tuned!..
Karen x



it, we do all the real hard work. More and more the major artists seem to just swan in and do their one big concert,.. and then with money bags under their hats, swan out again!,.. not us,.. we are in for the long haul,.. we do gigs day in, day out, under not always the best conditions, sweltering in the heat and the rest,.. what would this festival be without the likes of artists such as us? Amazingly, the weather was unseasonably comfortable!,.. for the major part of the festival, the best weather I've experienced in 23 years! I look back on my first Tamworth photos and I can't believe that bright young face with the world at her feet was really me?.. so much hope, energy and enthusiasm ,... and how the industry has changed over that time,.. where did those 20 something years go?? I've learnt a lot, sometimes trying hard just isn't enough, sometimes you just can't give them what they want, sometimes the cost is too great or you just don't have what it takes. I guess it's then we just give what we have and hope that someone appreciates it,.. thankyou to all out there who do! It is

INDUCTION INTO THE AUSTRALIAN COUNTRY MUSIC "HANDS OF FAME"



I was very surprised and honoured to be one of the 2008 Inductees to the Tamworth "Hands of Fame" at the Tamworth Country Music Festival this year. It meant getting my hand 'immortalised' in concrete in the Hands of Fame Cornerstone at the 'Hands of Fame Park' on Australia Day along with five other inductees (from left in picture above) Wally Sparrow, Mick Antonio, (Me) Kevin Knapp, Jim Muir & Warren H Williams (not present). I thought it was just nice enough to sing at the 'Roll of Renown' Concert,..but as you can imagine the surprise induction was the icing on the cake. Due to not being able to get out of a late gig at the Illawarra Folk Festival the night before, I was forced to do an overnight drive from Wollongong to Tamworth to attend rehearsals etc (baby & all!.. not that he minded, he slept all the way!), and after such an effort I must say this award was indeed heartwarming. I'm getting a bit 'long in the tooth' to make the magazine photos, banners, posters & cookbooks anymore,.. but this really was special and made me realise that my contributions to Australian Country Music were worth something,.. I

funny how dreams kind of 'grow up' as you do, they change,.. your life journey puts them in perspective,.. I remember a time when I couldn't have gone to my grave without a 'Golden Guitar'!! and yet today,.. it's the farthest thing from my mind! Thanks to Andrew Clermont, Sam Smythe, Merelyn & Dave Carter, Rod McCormack, Bruce Howat, Joan Douglas, Marilyn Morgan, Bill Arnett, Davidson Brothers & Bob Howe for all the gigs,.. Val, Tracey, Jenny and my Dad for the babysitting & Accommodation, ... we couldn't have got through Tamworth without you.

It's a sad day indeed when an



Getting my Handprint in the Australian Country Music "Hands OF Fame",....

(Gee, I must be getting old?)

TOUR NEWS

2008 marks the 23rd year for me attending and performing at the Tamworth Country Music Festival, Australia's biggest Country Music Festival. Once again huge thanks for everyone who came to our shows in Tamworth,.. it is really important to support the indies at this festival as, let's face



artist has to cancel a gig but losing some of our WA gigs made the tour costs simply outweigh the fees, therefore it meant the cancellation of our trip to Nannup Festival. Still,.. I'm determined to get there! so we are madly trying to rearrange this trip for 2009,.. so of course any help with promoters, venues, organisers etc etc would be appreciated. It was also a shame I was not able to attend the 'Shoestring Christmas Gig' as little William was sick (I must admit after watching the horrendous weather unfold that day, I wasn't so disappointed!) and also for not doing a guest spot at the Bluegrass Championships as hoped, they just ran out of time. We have gigs coming up in Nelson Bay, Dubbo, Canowindra, Goulburn, Wollongong, Bomaderry, Canberra & Lightning Ridge,... Please catch up with us if we are passing!... we also need to slot in some extra gigs in the surrounding areas of Nelson Bay & Lightning Ridge, so if you can give us venue details or help us set up a gig, please let us know. Thanks to Greg Williams for doing my charts & finding a replacement 'Talent Quest' judge for me when one of my gig times clashed with this commitment, to Athol Coleman for the Shorty Ranger song, Rod McCormack, Trev & Kym Warner, & Mick Albeck & Marty for backing me at the Bluegrass night,.. to Rod & Hugh for backing me at the Carter & Carter Gospel concert, Alan Caswell & Pat Drummond for guest spots,... & to Nicki Gillis for the shoes!! (don't ask!, where HAS my brain gone!),... and if anyone has photos or videos of any of the Tamworth (or other gigs), I'd love a copy as I haven't got any! (Too busy to take photos)



Travis Collins, Kirsty Lee, Frank Ifield, Me, Wayne Horsborough

**2ND MOST POPULAR
NO.1 SINGLE
IN UK/EUROPE**

Frank Ifield reports that the numbers have been crunched & my winning single 'Blue Mountain Rain' (which was released last year in UK & Europe in conjunction with my 'International Spur Award') officially stands as the Second most popular & played Number 1 Single in 2007,...not bad for a little Aussie bluegrass tune, hey! After an enjoyable night performing at the Canterbury Country show in Sydney to 'hand the baton on' to the 2008 winner, Kirsty Lee Ackers, it was great news & made the long drive home all the nicer!

GIG GUIDE (BASED ON CURRENT INFO KNOWN - DETAILS MAY CHANGE)

- Thurs, 13th Mar, 8pm Karen Lynne, Guest Spot & 'Album Launch' as part of Frank Ifield's '2008 International Spur Award' Announcement, Cant/Hurlstone Park RSL Club
- Sun, 16 Mar, 1pm Pat Drummond & Karen Lynne, Jamberoo Pub, Jamberoo
- Sat, 23rd March, 4pm, Pat Drummond & Karen Lynne, Family Hotel, Katoomba
- Fri, 4th April, Pat Drummond & Karen Lynne, Taste Canowindra NSW, Cnr Ferguson & Tilga St, Canowindra, Dinner/Show
- Bookings ph. 02 6344 2332 <http://www.tastecanowindra.com.au>
- Sat, 5th April, Pat Drummond & Karen Lynne, Trundle Hotel, Hotel
- Sun, 6 Apr, Karen Lynne and Pat Drummond at 'Lazy River Estate' Dubbo, For details Phone Glen Wilde, Lazy River Estate Old Dubbo Rd, Dubbo (02) 6882 2111
- Sun, 13th April, 1pm, Pat Drummond & Karen Lynne, Jamberoo Pub, Jamberoo (To Be Confirmed)
- Fri 25th-Sun 27th Apr, Karen Lynne & Acoustic Shock AND Karen Lynne & Pat Drummond Duo, Mount Beauty Music Muster
- Fri, 2nd May, 8pm Karen Lynne & Bluegrass band, Goulburn Bowling Club, Hosted by Community Radio 103.3Fm, tickets \$16
- Sat 3rd May, 4pm 'Back to Basics' Campout Music Session & Campfire weekend, Muffets Road, Quialigo. A fundraiser for Windellama Rural Fire Brigade, they will be there serving tantalizing meals and snacks at reasonable prices. Situated within a couple of hours from Sydney, Wollongong and Canberra (Half hour from Goulburn) Follow the signs from Windellama Road, Goulburn, Tarago or Bungonia. NOTE - No bar facilities, BYO chairs, torch, bring ALL WEATHER GEAR + LONG JOHNS, Phone 4844 7118 Adult \$15. or email Carolyn on countryradio_carolyn@hotmail.com
- Sat, 10 May, 7.30 pm, Greater Southern Country Music Association, Bomaderry RSL Club Auditorium
- Sun, 11th May 1pm, Pat Drummond & Karen Lynne, Jamberoo Pub, Jamberoo
- Wed, 21st May, (Arrival 10.30 for an 11am start), Karen Lynne, South Coast CM Assoc. Luncheon, Albion Park Bowling, tickets \$18 (includes 2 course luncheon) BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL Ring Bruce (02) 42953452
- Sat, 7th June, 8.30-11pm, Pat Drummond & Karen Lynne, Nelson Bay Diggers club, Shoal Bay Road 13th June
- Pat Drummond & Karen Lynne with Craig Dawson & Simone Olding, Merry Muse Folk club (Venue to be Advised) 14th June, 2pm,
- Bellconnon Soccer Club, Belconnon, ACT, (New Club) 2PM (to be confirmed)
- 15th June 1pm, Pat Drummond & Karen Lynne, Jamberoo Pub, Jamberoo
- Sat, 9th August, 7pm, Pat Drummond & Karen Lynne, Lightning Ridge Hotel Motel, Lightning Ridge

**SECOND DUET ALBUM
DUE FOR RELEASE MAY 08**

Good news from myself and long time duo partner Pat Drummond,.. we've actually done it!, Yes indeed, we have finally stopped talking about it and are about to release our second duet album 'Long Journey Home'. It's been many years since our first joint album 'Six Days in December' hit the streets in 2000 and far too long to wait for a follow-up, but it's finally here. Most performers go through many different phases in their 'evolution' as artists and we both realise that circumstances in both of our lives have meant that we will not be able to tour like we have done in the past so instead of moping about it we think it's time to Celebrate our ten years singing & touring together and this album is just that. It contains many of the songs that we sing in our shows (including "Spirit of the Southern Shore" & "David's Watch" of which we constantly get asked for on CD!) and whilst some songs are tracks from Pat's past solo albums, the duet versions of these songs are very different. We will of course be doing a little touring together to promote the new album, where we can manage it, so please don't miss us if we are visiting your town.

**Hard work
this recording
business, ...
hey Pat!!**



William's favourite



**William helps with our Interview
at 2TM (Photo by Nick Erby)**

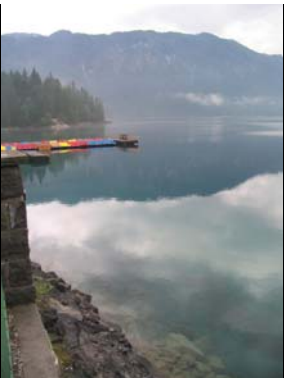


And the Journey continues!,.....

It's been a few newsletters since I have continued telling you about our wonderful UK/EUROPE Tour with the Bluegrass Band a few years ago,... so I thought I'd continue with that,.. but please understand it **IS** the trip we did a few years back - not any trip we've done recently (as someone had thought). I think we'd made it as far as Germany last time I wrote, as we'd been performing in the beautiful Southern German town of Ulm. After a few gigs we headed off to the Bavarian Alps and some of the surrounding towns etc.,... for some true 'touristing'! where the views were nothing short of magnificent! (even if it was a rather wet & misty few days).

Thanks to our hosts Dieter & Lauraine Popp, we didn't get lost as they offered to show us some beautiful villages including the beautiful Alps town of Garmish-Parten Kircken, where we sampled welcoming rich coffee and scrumptious afternoon tea,!! ... (yeah, yeah,....so I had the cheesecake!). All too soon we were back on the Autobahn and off to the Netherlands to perform,... and believe me, driving at 150kms p/hr can make it quite a quick trip! (in the slow lane mind you!),... although Nigel still insists he wasn't going that fast!.. (I beg to differ!).

Next it was off to The Netherlands or 'Holland' as it was called back in my youth. Again we had a few days to do some sightseeing and took the opportunity to look around Rotterdam & Amsterdam (a very interesting place!),.. of course this included a trek down to the slightly 'seedier' part of the town (where you certainly could purchase any 'seed' you wished for and a nice young lady for some company as well!),.. yes,... those stories we hear about are all true!. Nigel did well by finding us a lovely canal cruise which ended up being the perfect way to see Amsterdam, as most of the city is built around a canal system and it was well worth it. We then set off for 'Nieuwkoop' to perform at a wonderful concert with an excellent US Country singer/songwriter Billy Yates, before flying off to the stunning mountains of Norway for a festival to die for!!! I have included here some lovely shots of Germany, I'll put some Netherlands Pics in next edition, KaZ



Mountain & Lake views, Bavarian Alps & Pupster (our Mascot) relaxing



Bavarian Alps - Picture postcard views even on a misty day!



Village Murals, Garmish-Parten Kircken



Marty, Quentin, (Our hosts) Eberhard & Monica Finke & a friend, Dannys Restaurant, Ulm



Liz, Quentin & Lauraine, Bavarian Alps



Special thanks to Bruce Packard who played Bass for us at Harrietville last year... Due to our long run of illness last year Marty had lost his voice completely and while mine was there but struggling, it disappeared completely whilst pushing it a bit hard - only three songs into our set! Hats off to our wonderful six piece version of Acoustic Shock (Jim Rush surprised us by coming to Harrietville at the last minute!) who didn't miss a beat while I recovered and to Bruce who sang Marty's harmonies ef-

FIFTH 'CHANGES' SINGLE HITS RADIO:

Thanks to all those DJs who spun my little sad winter ballad 'The Healing Kind' and to those supporters who requested it, it enjoyed many weeks wandering through the Top 30. April 2008 brings the release of the fifth & final Radio Single from my beautiful 'Changes' album, truly my best album to date, its an original (co-written with Richard Porteous) and rather snappy little number called 'Blue Mountain Rain', to remind us all what good bluegrass music is about! It's already been a certified Number 1 on the UK/Europe chart,.. let's see if Oz Radio can give me the same support!



Myself, Frank Ifield, Michael Carr at the Canterbury Country Show in March

2007 International Acoustic Music Award

Another wonderful surprise this month for me was not a Win, but a 'Runner Up' position in the 'Country/Bluegrass' Section of the International Acoustic Music Awards, a competition that is run worldwide specifically for acoustic performers. The winner was well-known USA Artist Randy Kohrs, and unlike many competitions these days which are run for 'glory' and not much else, this one actually comes with a prize including cash, strings, a Management & Consulting Evaluation & other good stuff! The competition promotes excellence in Acoustic Music Performance & Artistry & judging is based on excellence in performance, production, songwriting or song choice etc and as well as the prize, I was named as a Top 10 Finalist in the 'Best Female Artist' Section. Not bad for a little known Indie Artist from Downunder!

ALBUM ORDER FORM



LABOUR OF LOVE
(1998)
Karen Lynne
First Solo Album
(16 Tracks)
KLF0704 - 001/SR 15
Contains a mix of both
Traditional &
Contemporary Country,
Folk & Bluegrass
(3 originals).



**SIX DAYS IN
DECEMBER**
(2000)
Karen Lynne &
Pat Drummond
Duet Album
(11 tracks)
KLF0704 - 002/SR18
Contains a number of
Duet & Solo tracks from
Karen & Pat . All tracks
are Australian (10 Orig)
Country/folk in style



BLUE MOUNTAIN RAIN
(2001)
Karen Lynne
& Martin Louis
Collaboration Album
(18 tracks)
KLF0704 - 003/SR 20
Genuine Australian
Bluegrass!, featuring
Acoustic Shock Bluegrass
Band & many great
Aussie players
(1 original & 2 instrumtl)



SECOND WIND
(2003)
Karen Lynne
Solo Album
(14 Tracks)
KLF0704 - 004/SR 38
Contains a mix of
Traditional & Contempo-
rary Country Music
including a duet with
Grant Richardson.
(3 originals)



CHANGES
(2006)
Karen Lynne
Solo Album
(13 tracks + Bonus Mix)
KLF0704 - 003/SR 55
Contains a mix of
Traditional Bluegrass &
more contemporary
Acoustic Style Ballads
(2 originals)



THE SINGLES
(2007)
Karen Lynne
Solo Compilation Album
KLF0704 - 004/SR ??
(15 tracks + Bonus PC
Playable Video Clip)
Contains a mix of Tradi-
tional & Contemporary
Bluegrass & Country.
NB.Contains all previ-
ously released material.
All tracks have been
released as
Singles to Aust. Radio

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Please send me a Copy of the Album/s (Shown as per the ticked boxes above)
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