

◆ Karen's Korner ◆

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WHAT A TRIP!!

.... and what a trip it was!. Firstly, Welcome back to you all!, hope you haven't given me up for dead?, what a year this has been,.. not so much in forthcoming product I agree, but one of the biggest for covering ground. A BIG! apology for this Newsletter being so late but we didn't get home until August and then Marty & myself took a rare chance to escape on a real holiday for a few weeks. A chance to go somewhere and do absolutely nothing,.. which I thought would be hard for a busy person like me to get used to!,.. but I found sleeping late, beach walks, tennis, DVDs, pizza and ice cream didn't take long to get used to at all!,.. no seriously, the trip was wonderful but very busy, so a chance to do nothing was quite refreshing.

So where does one start!?!,.. so much to tell! After so many long months of planning we are proud to announce the great success of our overseas tour. Whilst I have crossed the big pond a couple of times previously to work in England as a solo act, this was the first time we've taken a full band and covered so many countries. The trip proved to me more than anything else I have ever done, that there is a huge wonderful welcoming audience who - unrestrained by the invisible 'pecking order' in Australia's Country Music Industry, appreciate great music just because it's great music and not because of who you are.

The tour proved to be a much larger event that I ever imagined,.. I possibly even bit off a little more than I would usually chew, but what's that they say,.. "Bite off more than you can chew,.. then chew it!,.. plan more than you can do,.. then do it!,.. Take on more than you can bear, then bear it,.. plan your castle in the air and then build a ship to take you there,..". well,.. actually we took a plane, but the result is the same, it was a mammoth achievement and something we won't forget in a very long time. Most amazingly it went off with very few prob-



Relaxing in Denmark

TOP 10 SINGLE SUCCESS ONCE AGAIN - AUSTRALIA

Thanks to all who rang & requested the latest Australian single. This was the fourth single released from the "Second Wind" album, "Heart of a Heartache". I didn't think it would get much notice with me being out of the country & all, but I was very wrong. It recieved some very strong airplay & reached Number 4 on the Aust. Country Music chart.

TOP 10 SINGLE SUCCESS EUROPE & UK

Due to the tour we also thought it would be a good opportunity to try a world release for a couple of songs from the 'Blue Mountain Rain' album being that we were taking Australian Bluegrass to the world. Self penned track 'This Ring' was released along with a slower track, the lovely old Hank Lochlan track 'Send me the pillow that you dream on' - to the world radio market in July and both singles did very well recieving lots of great airplay. I wasn't here to keep track of how 'Send me the Pillow' went on the charts but I was informed that 'This Ring' made it to Number 2 on the UK/ Europe Hot Disc Chart which was great & hopefully motivated some people to come along to our shows & hear the live version. Thanks to everyone who did, I know you had a good night!

LATEST AUSTRALIAN GIG & TOUR NEWS

As you'll read, we had a fantastic trip overseas, but I have had an awful lot of wonderful trips within Australia lately so I might just give you a catch up on them also. I'm sorry this newsletter is going out so late - especially for those in the Illawarra, Sydney, Central Coast &

(Continued on page 2)

lems really,.. the only casualties being Nigel's lost camcorder, my lost earring, a few bruises for Liz and one of our UK gigs being cancelled at very short notice,.. however that was pretty good considering the things we did and the miles we covered. We did start out thinking the trip was doomed for failure when on arrival in London, Marty's banjo & it's neck seemed to have been separated!,.. (yes, literally!),.. but



Touring party with Dave (our host) & friend of many years Fran at gig in Nettlebed,

this story luckily had a happy ending. After breaking a banjo neck while flying back from Brisbane 3 days before, Marty had to resort to taking his "spare" banjo (of course everyone has one,..don't you??), however to prevent any similar accidents on such a long flight he temporarily disassembled the banjo for safety, flying it in two parcels. Of course the worse case senario was that the airline would lose one of the parcels and true to form - they did!,.. which made one very unhappy Marty for the first few days!!! At last it finally arrived after doing a world tour on it's own,.. calm and happiness then descended and we had nothing but great gigs, met great people and enjoyed loads of



Performing in Germany

great sightseeing. Wow!,..we are still enjoying the memories!,.. every gig just got better and better,.. encores everytime!,.. even a standing ovation in Norway!,.. and the highlight you ask?,.. I guess it

(Continued on page 2)



Meeting Ricky Skaggs at the Norsk Country Treff, Norway



WHAT A TRIP*(Continued from page 1)*

had to be standing next to Ricky Skaggs singing "Will the circle be unbroken" he even threw to me for a verse!! (pity I couldn't think of another one!). Briefly we started in Denmark and did a number of great gigs there including a wonderful festival in Skagan which is a beautiful fishing village & wonderful place for sightseeing too! - and that's a good thing too, cause it only gets dark for a couple of hours a day so you really may as well make the most of such long days. We then travelled to Germany and performed there and then after some time spent taking in the beautiful Southern German towns & their architecture we headed off to the Bavarian Alps,... where the views were nothing short of magnificent!. Then it was back on the Autobahn and off to the Netherlands to perform next (and when you're driving at 150kms in the slow lane it can be quite a quick trip!). On arrival in Holland we took the opportunity to look around Rotterdam & Amsterdam - a very interesting place!... (and yes,... those stories you hear about are all true!) and then off to a wonderful concert with Billy Yates, before flying off to the stunning mountains of Norway for the festival to die for!!! where we experienced the highlight of the trip - playing support to "Ricky Skaggs and Kentucky Thunder". This was a 4 day trip never to be forgotten, not only for the amazingly beautiful scenery (like nothing we'd ever seen),... but for the chance to play to such an appreciative audience and then to sit back and watch Bluegrass at it's best (from Ricky and the band!). Of course we also got a great kick out of meeting them and for the boys to have a late night pick with them,... what can I say,... it couldn't get any better than that! Then it was back to England for a number of gigs there - including the amazing Wolvestock Festival where the linedancing goes on rain, hail or shine!?!... (we're still not sure whether that's actually a good thing,... but each to his own we say!!!),... and a fabulous finale at the 'North Wales Country Music Festival' where we played in place of Billy Jo Spears who had unfortunately been taken ill. It was certainly a great experience and

we met many wonderful people and collected many great memories we won't forget in a long time!

(GIG UPDATE & TOUR NEWS - Continued from page 1)

Hunter areas as there were some nice gigs that you may have come to... but there's not enough hours in the day for all I do. The month of May took us to Victoria and a chance to do some gigs with Merelyn & David Carter. Thanks to all those supporters who came along. The double-act worked really well and lots of people commented on what a great show we presented. Sorry for the problems we encountered for those who attended the gig at the Cornish Arms, unfortunately some gigs are 'difficult' to say the least but I think we did a good job regardless of the difficult circumstances. Then it was out to western NSW to entertain at the Moree Trade Fair... & where I 'saved the day' and did almost the entire days gig on my own when Pat was stricken with a nasty dose of food poisoning which kept him bedridden for a good day... was scary, but kinda nice to do all those old songs I haven't sung for a while!. June took us to QLD and although just a flying visit, we had a really enjoyable day at the Kalbar show which included seeing a rare performance from Chad Morgan - who still manages to get a great response from the crowd! and then a spot at the Boonah Country Music Club which was excellent also. Then it was back home to prepare for our big ocean hop.

GIG GUIDE

Sat, 13th Aug, 8pm, Karen Lynne Duo - Private Party, Anthill Park Golf Club, Picton

Sun, 21 Aug, 11.30am, Pat Drummond & Karen Lynne, "Sails Stage", Lakes' Entrance, Lakeside Mall

Thurs, 1st Sept, 12noon, Pat Drummond & Karen Lynne, Parramatta Mall, Church Street, Amphitheatre,

Sat, 3rd Sept, 3pm, Karen Lynne & Acoustic Shock, "Bluegrass & Traditional Country Music Society", Monthly Get together, Annandale Community Centre, Johnston St, Sydney

Sun, 4th Sept, 3pm, Karen Lynne & Acoustic Shock, 'Songbird café', Bulli, Senior Citizens Centre, 8 Hospital Road, Bulli

Sun, 18th Sept, 1pm, Karen Lynne Solo, Blacktown Country Music Club, Lucky Australian Tavern Concert, Forrester Road, St Marys

Sat, 24th Sept, 11am, Pat Drummond & Karen Lynne, "Feast of the Olives" - Gartelmans Winery, Lovedale Road, Lovedale, Hunter Valley

Sun, 25th Sept, 1pm, Pat Drummond & Karen Lynne, Wisemans Ferry Inn, Wisemans Ferry

Sun 4th Oct, 2pm, Karen Lynne Solo, Country Cabaret Show, Smithfield RSL Club, Cumberland Highway, Smithfield

Thu, 20 - 23 Oct, Times TBA, Karen Lynne & Pat Drummond, Tooleybuc Murray Muster Festival, Tooleybuc, VIC (See official Programme for performance times)

Fri, 4th Nov, 8pm, Karen Lynne Duo with Ron Wiggins, Anthill Park Golf Club, Picton

SECOND WIND - Track Listing & Reviews

1. This Man I love
2. When she smiled at at him
3. Till you loved me
4. I'll Just pretend
5. Heart of a Heartache
6. Hopelessly yours
7. I found you
8. Try Telling my heart
9. Angel
10. Second Wind
11. The Outback's been getting the rain
12. When you put it like that
13. Wall of Tears
14. You just don't get it



REVIEWS - cont next page,.....



Me, Pat, Merelyn & David, Geelong gig

Performing at the Soul Cafe, Maidstone

SECOND WIND - Reviews

"...one of the surprise albums of the next 12 months..... (her) previous albums have opened a lot of ears to her crystal pure vocals, this new release takes Karen into mainstream country, and it's a delight,... 14 tracks of terrific listening...."(Cap News).

"To say she can put a song over would be an understatement of the highest order,.... there are no bad tracks, just a few that stand out from the rest." (Pathfinder mag - UK)

" (this album) finds her crystal pure voice on gutsier form than previously as it forages into mainstream country..... fine originals and classic covers,.... a fine, high quality album. " (Maverick Mag - UK) Rating ★★★★★

"....(She) has a genuine feel for country music,....." (Country Music People - UK).

"..one of Australia's finest female vocalists.... a return to the traditional country sound that first bought her notoriety,... an outstanding album " (Toowoomba Chronicle, QLD)

THANKS & WELCOME!.. Firstly to all the new friends getting the newsletter. Many of you are from our recent visits to WA, VIC, QLD and of course Europe & Britain. Thank you for coming to gigs & buying albums, such support is very important to indie artists. Sorry the newsletter is late,.. it normally IS a mid year newsletter but there was just too much going on to get it done. Thanks to the gig organisers including Cor, Michael, Penna, Peter, Peer, Jim, Richard, Sue & Robyn and the Boonah CM club (we had such a fun night!). Thanks to Michael for the video, photos & CDs, Gina for photos, to everyone that made the effort to come to gigs both in Australia and UK/Europe, it was lovely to meet you all,.. and impressed me greatly that you came!.. a special mention to Kaylene (thankyou for the chocolates!), Tracey, Roger (Hi to Alecl), Colleen for coming so far, Judith, Michael & Brenda, Mike & Kate, Diane & Paul and all those others who came up and said Hi!, I wish I had the space to recognise you all here,.... Thanks to Tina for the postage \$, thankyou so much!, to Peter & Pam, Dave, Eberhard & Monika, Gerry & Maria, David & Merelyn for the use of your homes while we were travelling, Rick and Di Banfield for accommodation,.... to Jorgen, Paul & Ove and all our new friends from Norway, Peter, Friedrich & Mandy & all our new friends from 'Friends Kotz' in Germany, Phil & Dave from the BBMA, Senan for the big effort to get us to Ireland,.. (we didn't quite make it this time but next time it will be a must!). .. to our tourguides including, Fran, Monika, Patrick, Laureine & Deiter,.. and lastly to Billy Yates, Joni Harms, Mandy Strobel, Ken & Barbie (Texana) and Loris & Lefty who shared the shows with us during our travels, it was a pleasure!



Sharing our gig with Billy Yates in Holland, a great night was had by all

... And the Journey Continues,.....

Well, this is the column I get to tell you a bit about who I am and how I got here,.. well, I don't quite go back *that far* but I think we were up to the years that followed the "Second Wind" release and they were hard yet great in many ways. They were hard in that everyone in the industry was saying to me how it was a real 'breakthrough' album,.. & how it would really 'go places' and no one had ever said that kind of stuff to me before,.. and still after all that 'talk', it was really only recognised in the independent CM world,.. the real industry movers and shakers once again, didn't give it a second look.. However, what I learnt from it all was priceless. For the first time in my career, I realised that it really didn't matter. More than anything this reaction made me understand that the glass ceiling between indies & signed acts will never break, it will always be there,.. & that's OK. The really 'great' part of it all is that I knew I had a killer album and along with that great friends, family, loyal supporters (like you all), and really having awards such as Golden Guitars were really quite unimportant in the scheme of things. I was then - & am now, finally free of all that. I love my life, I love making the music I do best and I will continue to do so for as long as I can,.. & I hope you will stick with me for the ride.

DEBUT VIDEO CLIP RELEASE

Yep!, I never thought there'd come a day when I would find the confidence to actually do it, but I've done it. I've never really considered myself "video clip" material,.. but it seems that it has become "standard" practise for Country Music artists & pretty well expected of all the signed acts and high profile independents. I hope you'll enjoy it - and when you see it, ... let me know what you think (be gentle,.. I'm new to all this technical stuff!). The track will be the title track - "Second Wind" and will be released together with the radio single to give it a boost,.... it's such a big step for me,.. I never thought I would see the day! Thanks to Pat & Carol for their lounge room, John Lee for being our fiddle player and Ross for his wizardry behind the camera!

NEW ALBUMS UPDATE: - The biggest mystery of the year seems to be what's happened to my solo Bluegrass album?.. well, I am happy to say that after a few severe hitches,.... it is back on track and I am really working hard to ensure that it will be released in early 2006, sorry for the wait!... I know it will be worth it. Recording continues on the new Collaboration album with Country/Folk duo partner Pat Drummond. This album also stalled due to both myself, Pat and our bass player not being available for sessions but I'm hopeful that the final bed tracks will be finalised before the end of the year.

The Country album is still in the pre-production phase (the most difficult phase!) and it will take some time, however, if all goes well, our planned Gospel Bluegrass album will start in the studio soon. I'm also working on a collaboration project with my singer/bass player sister Liz Frencham, which we will be putting together slowly. Liz and I have both been into music for many years although our tastes have been in slightly different, yet intercepting segments of the musical spectrum.

While my music crosses the Country, Folk & Bluegrass genres, hers crosses the Jazz, Folk & Acoustic Pop genres, but we discovered that after spending time on the recent tour together (when she joined us as Acoustic Shock's bass player), and each being singer/songwriters,.... there was a lot of common ground about what we do and love. There are also a lot of supporters out there who know us both and who have commented to me over the years that we should consider a collaboration project, so, it will take a little while but it will happen!

APDLOGIES!.. a few late ones,.. to those who came to the Maidstone gig thinking - as we did, that we were the only act on - by the time I found out it was too late to advertise,.. also to those who wanted to come to the gig at Darlington, it was rudely cancelled at short notice - even we don't know why!, some people just do that!.. to those who were inconvenienced by the late cancellation of the Jamberoo Pub gig 22/5/05,.. again it was a double booking by the venue - for these reasons it's good to get on the Emailing list - then I can notify you of short notice changes. Finally to apologise for the lack of updates on the web site, I have found someone to help me and will be training them up on it and it should be looking much more up to date by early next year if all goes



"JERICHO",.... and while we're on the subject of my talented sister Liz, she herself has just released her first CD baby, a lovely album called Jericho. It's a great 'singer/songwriter album that holds a mix of jazz, folk and acoustic/pop songs mostly written by herself. It's \$30 and you can purchase it by contacting me.



Some of our friends in Germany - from Left - Mandy, Me, Friedrich, Monika, Eberhard, Liz (with tour mascot pupster!), Nigel, Quentin, Peter & Marty.

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

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Please send with Cheque/Money Order ("Karen Lynne Music") or Credit Card Details (NB. We take MC, BC & VISA).



ALBUM ORDER FORM

SECOND WIND - (2002)
Karen Lynne - Second Solo Album
KLF0704 - 004/SR 38 (14 Tracks)
Contains a mix of Traditional & Contemporary Country music including a duet with Grant Richardson. (3 originals)

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SIX DAYS IN DECEMBER - (2000)
Karen Lynne & Pat Drummond - Duet Alb.
KLF0704 - 002/SR18 (11 tracks)
Contains a number of Duet & Solo tracks from Karen & Pat. All tracks are Australian and pure Country!.

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Please send with Cheque/Money Order ("Karen Lynne Music") or Credit Card Details (NB. We take MC, BC & VISA).



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

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Please Send _____ Copy/s @ \$25 ea + \$2 Postage (\$3 for multiple or O/Seas orders)
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