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## STINKY CREEK Folk Festival

WEDNESDAY, 4 October: We just got back from beautiful Port Lincoln. Honestly, they must have laid the weather on especially, just for us, because it was just one of those 'Perfect one day, perfect the next' experiences ... a bit chilly at nights, but a well-placed red soon put that to rights!



The Folk Festival happens at North Shields, on the Lions Hostel site, 11km this side of Port Lincoln and just across from the Wheatsheaf Hotel. Stinky Creek is just up the road: yes, it really is a creek and no, it

didn't stink - not while we were there, anyway! Thanks to **Ron Higgins** and the tireless Lincolnites for your terrific hospitality, catering efforts and (above all) comfy beds!!!

### Every night a feast

FRIDAY, 29 September was a massive beast-on-aspit affair at the Wheatsheaf Hotel, where Legends Dave Lambert and Kate Battersby joined a host of guest performers in giving a taste of the festival to come.



'The Legends Unplugged': Kate and Dave, Sunday night at Stinky Creek

The big SATURDAY and SUNDAY NIGHT shed concerts featured Keith Potger of The Seekers and more feasting, combining the savour of bush stews and more roast beasts cooked slowly in camp ovens throughout the afternoon, with performing beasties of every flavour singing and playing the night away. Acts included The Legends Unplugged, Sultans of String, Linda Rankin, Dave and Kathy, Dan Burt, to name but a few. Even Spiral Dance managed to reappear on Sunday, despite that afternoon having polished off the festival's entire supply of oysters Kilpatrick, proving themselves true Legends in their own right!!!

In between, the program was packed with instrument and singing workshops, sessions and performances galore. Kate's 'scariest fun' was joining a panel of three (along with the celebrated Keith Potger and Adelaide songwriter Des Wade) to field - with musical examples - challenging questions on the art of songwriting posed by quizmaster Leigh Newton.

#### Songwriting Workshop

All the hard work beforehand to make ready this two-part songwriting workshop was repaid a million times by the fantastic results. We called it 'Can I Really Write A Song In A Weekend?' and can report the answer is a resounding 'YES!'

Within 28 hours of the first session everyone came back with something new. Impressive final presentations ran the gamut from a truly original idea to be developed later, through an incredibly moving lyric ready for the perfect melody, to a finished song able to be performed in concert on the Sunday night by its creator. Most of the group signed on for follow-up contact, so our fingers are crossed we really are going to hear the rest of those songs finished!!!

Our 'songwriter's showbag' also seemed to hit the mark: distributed to all participants its goodies included articles on subjects like writing for particular ranges, tips and tricks for 'breaking the block', a handy transposing wheel, a go-anywhere notebook and pen and a whole swag of examples of excellence (in our opinion) in song lyrics.

Not to let the side down, even Kate and Dave each came up with a substantial start to a song that we swear we had **not** prepared earlier! Who knows, these newborns might even join the **The Legends** setlist in due course?

# Quick Quiz: How does a Legend both steal the show AND avoid the long drive home?

A: By falling off a cliff, surviving a long cold Tuesday night alone on the rocks and being winched out by 'Helicopter In Cliff Rescue Drama'.

We are extremely thankful Dave survived, and it's a bloody miracle, but survived he has with all faculties intact and just a few broken bones, now mending nicely. Our very own 'cover boy' is now reclining gracefully (and gratefully) in the Royal Adelaide Hospital, knitting himself back together and likely to be home soon. Click on the link to read the archived story from *Port Lincoln Times*, 5 October, where it made front page news ...

http://portlincoln.yourguide.com.au/detail.asp?story\_id=514675 ... and you can be sure there will more from us next month!!!

#### the Legenos October GIG Guide

Many thanks to former Legends Rob and Dean for stepping in at short notice to play up a storm with Kate and Istvan on SATURDAY, 7<sup>th</sup> October at the Brecknock Hotel.

Now we're having a quiet few weeks off, while we wait for Dave to get better and all of us recover from the drama!

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