

TOSH MEETS MARLEY

Reggae fans will be over the moon, mon, to hear that some of the legends of the genre will be in concert at Brothers Leagues Club on December 8. The Jamaican 'Tosh Meets Marley' show, which has already toured Europe, features the legendary Fully Fullwood, who worked with Peter Tosh and Bob Marley, and The Wailers' giant of a guitar man, Junior Marvin (pictured). British superstars Steel Pulse are being talked about for the same venue in February. In other reggae news, the Bali Reggae Festival, scheduled for the Indonesian island on December 16 & 17, will feature the likes of Maxi Priest, Lucky Dube, Third World and the Skatalites, in addition to Tosh Meets Marley. Special travel packages are available to include flights/hotels/festival entrance.



LADIES 'N' JAZZ

Cairns jazz singer Anita Darling (pictured), with her Miles Away Trio, will take the spotlight in a show running over two nights, at Port Douglas' Clink Theatre. Ladies 'n' Jazz, performing on November 10 & 11, also features Bev Murray, Helene Johnson and Pauline Bradshaw, and saxman Michael Star. Tickets are \$30. Call 0409347471 to make a booking.

AMPHITHEATRE MAGIC

A big crowd at the Kuranda Amphitheatre's 25th anniversary on Sunday October 15 was richly entertained by some of the finest musicians in the Far North. Those who sidestepped the afternoon session missed seeing some outstanding bands, including The Bridge (featuring the McKay clan who'll be in action again, at the Machans Beach Sporting Club, on Sunday November 5), Koahlition, Juice and The Trio. Between them, these four acts covered a gamut of styles. Evening headliner Ash Grunwald was so enamoured with the venue he vowed to return next year on a solo mission. John Butler made his feelings known via a letter, which was read out on the day: "The Kuranda Amphitheatre is one of the best venues in Australia ... for our band and I know many other artists it is hallowed ground."

HUDSON-HOWARD DUET

Cairns didgeridoo master and man for all seasons, David Hudson, who now has his own record label, took advantage of Shane Howard's recent visit to the Far North — for the Kuranda Amphitheatre silver anniversary bash — to record a guest spot from the singer-songwriter for his upcoming album. A revamping of Goanna's mega-hit 'Solid Rock' might have been on the cards we hear.



FUNDRAISING BUSHDANCE

A night of toe-tapping, knee slapping and hand clapping will be had by all at the Yorkeys Knob State School fundraising bush dance, on Saturday November 4 (5-9pm). In addition to BBQ, bar and band (Bush Remedy), there'll be a jumping castle and giant slide for the kids. Come dressed in tropical or country style (there are prizes for the best dressed families). Tickets: \$10 (adults), \$5 per child or \$25 per family (children under 5 free entry). Book on 4080 0333.

SCREAMFEEDER COMING

Following Ash Grunwald's standing room only concert at the Barrier Reef Hotel on October 13, this happening venue have snared southern grungesters Screamerfeeder for a spot on Saturday, December 9. Tickets are already on pre-sale release (\$15), but only at the venue's evening music sessions.

V FESTIVAL DOWN UNDER

Virgin Group chairman Sir Richard Branson, who made his mullah out of music (principally Mike Oldfield's mega-selling *Tubular Bells* album), has confirmed that his highly popular V Festival will debut in Australia next March. It'll be a single day event taking in two or three cities, most likely Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane.



SPENCER'S HITS

Sixties superstars the Spencer Davis Group will be performing at Brothers Leagues Club on Saturday November 11 en route to a berth at the Queenscliff Festival in Victoria. The popularity of the band's songs continue to live on, Spencer Davis having recently accepted an award from BMI in London for over 3 million broadcast performances of 'Gimme Some Lovin'.

BIRDY TATTOOED

The West Australian newspaper reports that while Perth's Little Birdy were recording in Los Angeles, their charismatic singer, Kate Steele, got the word 'melody' tattooed in Cyrillic text on her wrist while guitarist Simon Leach got an Egyptian feline god modelled on his Abyssinian cat. Little Birdy are booked for two nights at John's (Nov 28 & 29).



GRANT-WRITING WORKSHOPS

All manner of government grants are available for musicians — for touring and recording purposes — but only well-thought-out and well executed applications succeed. A series of two hour information sessions are being conducted by Carrie Bies in FNQ, on successive Wednesdays in Cairns (Nov 1, 2-4pm), Mareeba & Kuranda (Nov 8 10am-12 & 2-4pm) and Innisfail (Nov 15, 10am-12). Bookings are essential at Arts Nexus (ph 4051 4433).

INNISFAIL KARNIVALE: Docs, Dan, Dya & co.

The 2006 Innisfail Karnivale, scheduled for Saturday November 4, will blow your docs off.

Women in Docs (pictured) will share the spotlight with Seaman Dan, Phil Emmanuel and Dya Singh on Innisfail's riverfront.

The popular duo will back up from their performance at the Yungaburra Festival to join fellow North Queenslanders in celebrating the community spirit of the region.

Roz Pappalardo and Chanel Lucas are regulars on the Australian touring circuit and have performed at Innisfail many times before. Phil Emmanuel will also make a return to Innisfail after his performance in March as part of a Cyclone Larry benefit.

ARIA Award winner Seaman Dan will make the trip from Thursday Island to add his unique blend of Torres Strait and world music to the Karnivale's melting pot of musical styles.

Dya Singh will add to the cultural soundtrack of the event, which incorporates the Kulture Karnivale.

The headline acts of the Innisfail Karnivale will be supplemented with other musical performances including Fade to Black, Tulca Mor, Bahgah, 2005 Innisfail Idol winner Sam George-Allen as well as the finals of both the Battle of the Bands and the 2006 Idol competition.

Heats for the 2006 Idol will be held on Saturday, October 28 at the Canecutter Court Community Stage with finalists progressing to the main event at the Innisfail Karnivale.

Queensland's longest-running festival will on November climax in a visceral parade fiesta through the streets of Innisfail.





AUGIE march to their own beat

Augie March, playing the Tanks Arts Centre on Friday October 27, have been making up for lost time.

The Melbourne quintet have never catered to mainstream obsessions. Their music is as unique as it is original and as appealing as it is diverse, but since the release of their first album in four years, *Moo, You Bloody Choir*, they seem to have crossed the divide between cult and popular.

Moo, You Bloody Choir has already achieved gold status and a Triple J Award nomination, and the band is multi-listed in the 2006 ARIA Awards, which will be handed out a couple of days after their Cairns gig.

Augie March have also headlined some of the country's biggest festivals and toured with some of contemporary music's most popular names.

This year they've even appeared on *The Footy Show*, where Paul "the Chief" Harragon declared himself a big fan.

Yet Augie March, in their own bio, describe their music as being "leather bound volumes" opposed to the "tatty magazines" of the commercial music scene.

Augie March have never banded to what is popular in music, opting rather to portray their songs and tunes in a way they see fit.

This outside-the-square approach has earned them deep respect and a loyal following from Triple J.

THE HERMITS' hit parade

The mid-'sixties music scene was dominated by British Acts; The Beatles, The Rolling Stones and Herman's Hermits.

Herman's Hermits, who will be in concert at Brothers Leagues Club on Thursday & Friday (Oct 26 & 27), chalked up over 23 hit singles, and ten hit albums, three movies and countless television shows and concert tours all over the world. To date they have total record sales of over 75 million.

Peter Noone departed in the early 'seventies but the band hasn't stopped working. Original member Barry (the Bean) Whitwam, has guided Herman's Hermits from strength to strength. They still average more than 200 one-night stands per year — much to the enjoyment of their fans, who can't resist singing along to hits such as 'Mrs Brown You've Got A Lovely Daughter', 'Silhouettes', 'No Milk Today', 'Henry VIII' and 'Into Something Good'.



MURRAY time

Neil Murray's music embodies the spirit of Australia.

From his recordings in the early 'eighties with the Warumpi Band to five albums released under his own name, the singer-songwriter has searched for a deeper understanding of the country's original inhabitants.

Murray's 'journey' has yielded some memorable songs, most notably 'My Island Home', which was voted ARIA Song of the Year in 1995.

Murray will be sharing his vision of Australia and specifically his understanding and appreciation for the Aboriginal culture at the Yungaburra Folk Festival this weekend (Oct 27-29) and at an afternoon concert at Tanks Art Centre on Sunday (Oct 29).

As weighty as some of his songs are — and he has been tagged Australia's counterpart of America's Woody Guthrie — Murray is a good entertainer, who incorporates humour and anecdotes in his live shows.

SIMPLY Graeme Connors

Graeme Connors' intimate new solo show *Simply Graeme Connors* travels *A Little Further North* to Cairns for one night only this Saturday (October 28).



The show features hits from his immense back catalogue, including *Cyclone Season*, *Let The Cane Fields Burn* and *Sicilian Born*, plus material from his latest release *It's All Good* to the stage.

Connors' 13th album *It's All Good* is a celebration of his solo career and is a combination of tweaked originals, timeless tracks, new compositions and classic covers.

The McKay-based singer-songwriter has a dozen Golden Guitar awards under his belt, not to mention one Platinum and three Gold albums, and MO, APRA, ARIA and PPCA Awards. Earlier this year he was inducted into the Tamworth Hall of Fame this year.



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