

ShowBiz!

Observer Overnights No 86

News about the 3AW Overnights program with Keith McGowan

Footy fever begins!

Working at 3AW, it's fairly difficult to miss the 2007 footy fever.

Overnights host Keith McGowan, a life-long St Kilda fan, can't wait for the season to start on Friday, March 30, with the very first match of the fixture to be between Melbourne and the Saints.

The siren for the night game is due to sound at 7.40pm is just 44 days away.

In the meantime, the NAB Cup fixture sees St Kilda listed to play the Brisbane Lions at the Cazaly Stadium in a night game on Saturday, February 24.

Keith laughs that wife Angela has a St Kilda membership, but Ange has long been a Tigers supporter.

Richmond's first match in the NAB round



Overnights host Keith McGowan (Saints) and wife Angela (Tigers) look forward to the 2007 AFL season - complete with club caps.

is against Geelong in an afternoon match on Sunday, February 25 at Skilled Stadium (Kardinia Park).

The Tigers' first match in the regular AFL fixture

is against the revigorated Carlton in a twilight match at the MCG on Sunday, April 1.

The real test for McGowan family unity will be in Round 13 on Saturday, June 30 when St Kilda and Richmond meet at the Telstra Dome.

3AW has a giant coverage of AFL season matches in 2007, headed by Rex Hunt, and with a team including Gerard Healy, Wayne Russell, Tony Shaw, Tony Leonard and Clinton Grybas.

Best wishes to Keith



Best wishes to Keith Scott (pictured with wife Julie) who is currently in Box Hill Hospital. Our thoughts are with Keith (father of entertainer Brendan Scott) who is courageously fighting illness.

Auction in April?

The Antiques and Collectables Show has returned to radio for 2007 at 12.05am on Friday mornings on 3AW. Popular panel member Rick Milne said his first People's Paraphernalia auction for the year is planned for April, probably after the Easter break.

Condolences to Ian

The sympathy of the Overnights is extended to long-time Antiques and Collectables Show panel member, Ian Armstrong, on the recent loss of his younger brother Ted. Host Keith McGowan took time in Friday's program to mark the passing of Ted Armstrong in January.



Ian Armstrong

For bird enthusiasts

The Weekly Times newspaper is to include five glossy posters on the Birds of Australia incoming editions.

New John Howie tour

Long-time friend of the Overnights, John Howie, has an Outback tour of Queensland planned for Sunday, May 13-27. Keith McGowan was able to announce the details of the tour, in Monday morning's program. The 15-day tour starts in Brisbane and finishes in Cairns, visiting centres such as Charleville, Longreach, Winton and Mt Isa. The tour takes in the Gulf of Carpentaria, and is listed as seeing sights by day, and music by night. Details are available from Travelrite International, 182 Canterbury Rd, Heathmont. Phone: 1-800 033 436.



John Howie

Lightning Ridge intro.

Amongst the interviews recorded by Keith McGowan on his recent 7460-km journey through country New South Wales and Victoria is a chat with Ian and Sandra Boadle of Lightning Ridge. The couple, who purchased a walk-in mine, as part of their own 'sea change' talk about life in the outback in the radio chat which is due to be repeated over the coming week.

Overnight moments

Some of the fun in the first week of the new series of the Overnights radio program for 2007 was the playing of British comedian Max Miller with 'The Forces', "somewhere in England". The saucy show is included in Masterpieces of Music Hall Mirth. Miller addressed his audience as "Ladies and Gentlemen" ... then corrected himself - "You know what you are."

A tribute was paid to musician Smacka Fitzgibbon in Monday morning's broadcast.

Alan well-known by fans

Overnights host Keith McGowan's holiday took in a visit to country music centre Tamworth, and a visit to country music radio identity Nick Erby. Keith says that wherever he went in Tamworth, and was introduced as being from 3AW, people would comment on weekend Over-



Alan Pearsall and his support of the country music industry in Australia.

A Fortunate Life

In his radio appearance with Keith McGowan last week, John Howie made mention of the book, A Fortunate Life. The book was written by A.B. Facey who was born in 1894 and grew up on the Kalgoorlie goldfields and in the wheat-belt of Western Australia.

His father died before he was two and he was deserted by his mother soon afterwards. He was looked after by his grandmother until he was eight years old, when he went out to work. His many jobs included droving, hammering spikes on the railway line from Merredin to Wickopin and boxing in a travelling troupe.

A.B. Facey was in the 11th Battalion at the Gallipoli landing; after the war, he became a farmer under the Soldier Settlement Scheme but was forced off the land during the Depression. He joined the tramways and was active in the Tramways Union. Facey, who had no formal education, taught himself to read and write. He made the first notes of his life soon after World War I, and filled notebooks with his accounts of his experiences.

Finally, on his children's urging, he submitted the hand-written manuscript to the Fremantle Arts Centre Press. He died in 1982, nine months after A Fortunate Life had been published to wide acclaim.

Quote of the Week

"These jokes were told to your grandfather - they were good enough for him, they are food enough to you."

- Comedian Max Miller on the Overnights

100th episode played

The 100th episode of The Castlereagh Line serial was played on Friday morning last week in the 3am spot on the Overnights radio program. The Grace Gibson serial traces the life of Lottie Long, and the development of an outback Australia coach line.

See Long Shots (Page 4) and Overnights Extra (Page 21) for more Overnights news. The Observer Mates section is on Page 29.

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On This Day

Wednesday, February 14

St Valentine's Day. Norman 'Nugget' May, Aussie sports caller, was born in 1928 (79). He is famous for his 'Gold, Gold, Gold' call. He actually said "Gold, Gold, for Australia, Gold," in the 1980s Moscow Olympics broadcast.

Thursday, February 15

Comedian Roy Rene (Henry Van Der Sluys) 'Mo' was born in Adelaide in 1892. He died, aged 62, in 1954. TV-radio star Graham Kennedy was born in St Kilda in 1934, and died aged 71 in 2005. Simpsons creator Matt Groening was born in 1954 (53).

Friday, February 16

Colin Hayes, horse trainer and breeder, was born in Adelaide in 1924. He died aged 75, 1999. Malcolm Blight, former VFL/AFL player and coach, was born in 1950 (57). Alyssa-Jane Cook was born in Papua-New Guinea in 1967 (40).

Saturday, February 17

Andrew 'Banjo' Patterson was born in Narambla, NSW in 1864. He died aged 76 - 1941. Barry Humphries was born in Camberwell in 1934 (73). Ray 'Slug' Jordon, football and cricket identity, was born in 1937 (70), often working on Radio 3UZ.

Sunday, February 18

Ivan Deveson, former Lord Mayor of Melbourne, was born in 1934 (73). US actor John Travolta was born in Englewood, New Jersey, in 1952 (53). Actor Brian Nankervis (Raymond J Bartholomuez) is 51 today.

Monday, February 19

Former Hawthorn footballer Peter Hudson was born in Tasmania in 1946 (61). News journalist Jim Waley is 59. He was replaced by Channel 9 in 2005. Prince Andrew was born in London in 1940. The Duke of York is 47 today.

Tuesday, February 20

Actor Sidney Poitier was born in Miami, Florida, in 1927 (80). TV vet Dr Harry Cooper was born in Sydney in 1944 (63). Actress Kimberley Davies was born in Ballarat in 1973 (34). She was an actress in Neighbours.