



The Dusty Journal



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490 Macleay Valley Way, Kempsey, NSW • www.slimdustycentre.com.au

Slim Dusty Memories Week 2014

Organisation of the successful Slim Dusty Country Music Memories Week in Kempsey is to run from this year under the umbrella of the Slim Dusty Foundation, operators of the Slim Dusty Centre.

The Foundation is now planning and organising the 2014 event, “with sincere thanks to the incredible long term efforts of Bruce and Trish Woods and the Rotary Club of Kempsey West for establishing such a wonderful activity,” said Foundation Chief Executive Officer Kathryn Yarnold.

“The success of this tremendous festival for our community can only continue with the kind assistance of the committee members that dedicate their time and expertise to the running of the event.”

Bruce and Trish, who will remain as key players in Memories Week, said that after 10 years, they had seen it grow from strength to strength but had been obvious for some time that ownership and organisation of the event in Slim’s home town and birthplace should rest with the Slim Dusty Foundation.

“Our involvement with the Slim Dusty Memories Week has been a very rewarding and enjoyable experience, meeting so many people, country music singers/songwriters and music fans from all states of Australia. We will continue to work with the committee in the coming years and would like to wish the Slim Dusty Foundation and its volunteers all the very best with this wonderful event, long into the future.”

Preliminary details of the 2014 Slim Dusty Country Music Memories Week have been announced, with Ray Kernaghan, patriarch of the Kernaghan country music dynasty, announced as one of this year’s special guests together with daughter Tania.

“Slim and his music have always been a huge part of the Kernaghan family musical heritage,” Ray said. “I am truly looking forward to being a part of this year’s

great event and paying tribute to Australia’s King Of Country.”

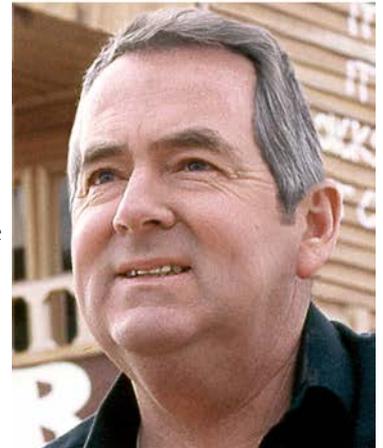
Tania said: “It is a great honour to be performing alongside the stellar lineup of artists appearing at the Slim Dusty Music Memories Week in October. If you love Australian country music, you will love this terrific family event.”

Also appearing will be Luke O’Shea, a major new Australian country star on the rise following his second and third Golden Guitar wins this January with the song paying tribute to Joy McKean as *Lady Of The Land*.

A full rundown of guest stars at this year’s Slim Dusty Country Music Memories Week will be announced shortly. In the meantime, organisers say, bookings are now open for the week-long event, including for campsites.

Slim Dusty Country Music Memories Week 2014 will run at the Kempsey Showground from Monday October 20 to Sunday October 26.

Bookings can be made via the website (below).



Slim Dusty Centre website • www.slimdustycentre.com.au

Slim and Joy statues unveiled

Following several years of lobbying and fund-raising, the lifesize statues of Slim Dusty and Joy McKean have been unveiled.

NSW Premier Barry O'Farrell and John Williamson unveiled the statue in a ceremony before a crowd of about a thousand onlookers and special guests including Joy and family members.

Tamworth Region Mayor Col Murray said the statue was "welcome recognition of two great Australians – a much deserved tribute to Slim and Joy who not only played a key role in establishing Australia's country music industry but who supported and helped build Tamworth as Australia's Country Music Capital."

The statues are the result of more than 12 months of work by the Slim and Joy Statue Appeal Committee, a community-based organisation. It formed to raise the funds to recognise Slim and Joy's contribution to the development of the Australian country music industry and their role in making Tamworth Country Music Festival one of the world's major music events.

The committee commissioned Newcastle-based sculptor Tanya Bartlett (who also sculpted the Smoky Dawson statue and Don Bradman in Bowral, among others).

The funds raised included a \$50,000 donation from Tamworth Regional Council, \$40,000 from the NSW Government and a \$30,000 Australian Government grant through the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development.

The unveiling of the statue was one of a series of special events which started with the Slim Dusty Tribute Concert on the Wednesday night of this year's Festival.



Slim Dusty Foundation and TAFE to support skills development for local youth

The Slim Dusty Foundation and North Coast TAFE will sign an agreement at the Slim Dusty Centre on Tuesday April 15 to formalise their collaboration in supporting workplace training and building community participation and regional success.

Key people from both organisations will be present, along with special guest Joy McKean OAM and a range of community leaders. "Slim supported youth and learning," Joy said, "and I believe he would be really pleased to see this Centre contributing to skills development for students in our community."

"The Slim Dusty Foundation is looking forward to working

with North Coast TAFE to achieve tangible outcomes that will benefit the Centre, TAFE and its students."

Chief Executive Officer for the Slim Dusty Foundation, Kathryn Yarnold says that the partnership is aiming to build regional capacity.

"Together, we will be providing students, including long term unemployed, young people and Aboriginal community members with opportunities for training and work experience."

A series of agreed projects will help the Slim Dusty Centre become a community asset as a regional cultural centre.

The Institute Director for North Coast TAFE, Elizabeth McGregor, says that the organisations would work cooperatively on those projects by supporting workplace training in a variety of skill areas.

"The areas could include, for example, construction, tiling, carpentry and joinery, shop fitting, landscaping...even media, hospitality and events management."



Have you signed up to the new Slim Dusty Foundation Facebook Page yet? Do it now...

We'd love to have you follow us!

www.facebook.com/SlimDustyFoundation

Renew Mates Membership now

It's membership renewal time for the Mates of Slim Dusty.

Renew now and enjoy the many benefits of membership... including...

- By renewing year to year, you keep your support of the Slim Dusty Centre alive.
- You retain your membership card and number as well as your certificate, showing that you are one of the "Mates of Slim Dusty" and you are supporting this long held dream that Slim himself was working on prior to his passing.
- Access to special discounts, as well as 10 percent off all Slim Dusty merchandise sold through the Slim Dusty Centre, including a new range soon to be released. Just quote your membership number when ordering!
- A "Mate of Slim Dusty" will receive early invitations and priority booking access to select events at the Slim Dusty Centre, or Slim Dusty Foundation events that may be held in other locations.
- "Mates of Slim Dusty" will also

receive Newsletters to keep them informed of the progress of the Slim Dusty Centre project that they are helping to support.

- A raffle ticket valued at \$10 in a draw to win:

1st Prize: A rare opportunity for four people to join with members of the Slim Dusty Family for a private luncheon, who will then take you on an exclusive and personal guided tour of Slim Dusty's boyhood home at Nulla Nulla, NSW, "Homewood".

Prize includes two nights accommodation with Golden Chain.

2nd Prize: A rare Slim Dusty Poster

signed by Slim. This special poster has been donated by Mr Steve Pandel and is framed in Nulla Nulla Red Cedar from Slim's boyhood home. The frame is handcrafted by Mr Brian Irvine.

3rd Prize: A copy of the Collector's Edition of "I've Been There and Back Again" by Joy McKean OAM, and is personally signed by the author.

The winners will be drawn on Australia Day 2015.

- Renew for 3 years and receive a free copy of Another Day Another Town valued at \$20.

CONGRATULATIONS KRISTY CHANNELS OF PORT MACQUARIE!!! Kristy was the winner of the 2014 Tamworth Country Music Festival Accommodation & Entertainment Package Raffle Sponsored by Watson's Caravans Port Macquarie.....Congrats again Kristy!!!

You can become a

"MATE OF SLIM DUSTY"

For \$50 you can become a "Mate of Slim Dusty".
Member Benefits you will enjoy, include:

- A special Membership Card and Certificate
- Access to special discounts and offers
- Early invitations and priority booking access
- Ongoing Newsletters
- A Fridge Magnet
- A free ticket in select raffles

Thanks, Mate!

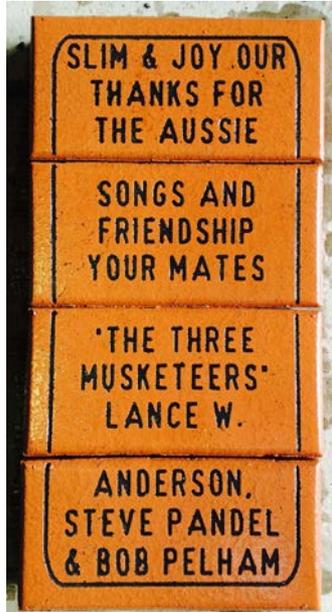
Please support the Slim Dusty Centre and join the MATES MEMBERSHIP MUSTER



BE A MATE! GO TO SLIMDUSTYCENTRE.COM.AU
OR CALL 1800 18 SLIM AND BE A SLIM'S MATE TODAY.

Follow us on **Facebook** 

Pavers arrive!



All of the pavers donated into the General Paver Program have now been fully engraved and delivered and will soon be laid at the Slim Dusty Centre.

The Truckies Tribute to Slim Paver Program is still open while we ensure we build enough support within this display to make it a fitting tribute from the truckies to Slim.

For a tax deductible donation of \$50, all truckies can have their name and the name of their rig engraved into a paver which may then become part of the 'Truckies Tribute' in the Slim Dusty Centre, celebrating the unique relationship and mutual respect between Slim and the Truckies of Australia.

Visit www.slimdustycentre.com.au for details.

Memories of Tamworth



TOTAL COUNTRY PRESENTS

THE 2014 SLIM DUSTY BIRTHDAY BASH

Hosted by **RAY HADLEY OAM** and featuring the elite of Australian Country Music

THURSDAY 12 JUNE | ROOTY HILL RSL

STANDARD SEAT - \$120 (includes Dinner & Drink) | CORPORATE TABLE - \$3,000 (per table - 8 seats to a table)*

BOOK ONLINE AT WWW.ROOTYHILLRSL.COM.AU OR CALL (02) 9677 4916

INCLUDING: LEE KERNAGHAN - ADAM HARVEY - TROY CASSAR-DALEY - ANNE KIRKPATRICK - DAVID KIRKPATRICK - JARED PORTER - LUKE O'SHEA - AMBER LAWRENCE - ALEYCE SIMMONDS

Rooty Hill RSL | WWW.ROOTYHILLRSL.COM.AU OR CALL (02) 9677 4916

AKUBRA

Here we have just a few photos from our time at the recent Tamworth Country Music Festival... clockwise from top: the Country Music Queens raised just over \$2,000 by taking buckets around the crowd at the huge concert in Bicentennial Park; young Slim fan Felicity Kircher; "Mate" Rex G Miller; young fan

Amethyst Duffy; bush poet Mark Thompson with Foundation CEO Kathryn Yarnold (bush poets are going to have a major presence at this year's Slim Dusty Country Music Memories Week in October); and Kathryn again with fan Dave Harvey from Florida (Slim Dusty Mate No 109), staff member Linda and volunteer Joan.