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Radio News

The Gold Coast's very own **Ben Hannant** has returned to the airwaves with a brand-new local morning show, *Deadset Legends with Elliott Lovejoy & Ben Hannant*, which airs Saturdays 8-11am on **92.5 Triple M Gold**.



Former **KIIS** Melbourne breakfast hosts **Jason 'Jase' Hawkins** and **Lauren Phillips** are now to be heard on **NOVA 100** Melbourne breakfast. They replace Nova 100's current breakfast show team, **Ben, Liam & Belle**. The trio now host a new national show, *Late Drive*, from 6pm to 8pm weekdays. Nova 100 will no longer take the hour of **Fitzy & Wippa with Kate Richie** highlights from Sydney between 6-7pm.

91.9 SEA FM Sunshine Coast have a new breakfast program for 2024. **The Big Breakfast with Foz & Brooke** commenced at 5am on Monday 12th February. **Foz (Luke Forrest)** is a former SCA radio talent from Triple M Melbourne. **Brooke**, is Sunny Coast local born and bred.

Rod Henshaw Takes On New Radio Role

Rod Henshaw has been appointed to head up the **Coastal Broadcasters Pty Ltd** network of radio stations in Far North Queensland. Henshaw started his new role in late January combining two executive roles, General Manager and Sales Manager. He has spent the past nine years in Canberra, at **Talk Radio 2CC**, variously as on-air presenter, journalist/newsreader, and program producer. Prior to that, Henshaw was Director of Media in Nauru, where he re-established the near-defunct radio and television stations after they fell into disrepair over the years. Henshaw's name is still remembered by many Queenslanders following his thirty-odd years in Brisbane radio and television, with both ABC and commercial stations.



4BC Brisbane Content Director **Max Dudley** has resigned. He finished up at the Brisbane talk station on Friday January 19. It's believed he has accepted a new position as a communication manager. Nine appointed Max Dudley in June 2020 to oversee 4BC's radio content. Dudley spent almost 10 years with **Southern Cross Austereo**.

Star 102.7's new breakfast team in Cairns is headed by **Johnny & Inkie** as Johnny Wilson takes over from **Dave Warner**. Warner retired after more than 20 years with the station 'Inkie' has been part of Star for 16 years.

Sydney's **104.1 2DayFM** has appointed **Mike Etheridge** and **Emma Chow**, to host Mornings from 9 – 11am. Etheridge and Chow are no strangers to Sydney radio, starting their journey together in 2010 hosting Breakfast on **The Edge 96.1**.

After five years presenting Melbourne breakfast news on **Triple M** and **The FOX**, **James Lake** has been named SCA's National News Operations Manager.

KIIS drive duo **Will McMahon** and **Woody Whitelaw** have signed with **ARN** and **The KIIS Network** for three more years, until the end of 2026. Will & Woody joined KIIS in 2018. They currently broadcast on 42 stations across Australia.

ABC South West WA has announced that **Stan Shaw** has returned to the region to present the breakfast program in 2024. Stan was a favourite on South West radio for years before doing a stint at ABC Radio Perth.



Keegan Brown has been appointed as the new breakfast host of **92.7 Zoo FM** Dubbo. Zoo FM Program Director **Bret 'Muz' Murray** had been filling in on the station's breakfast slot for nearly two years since the departure of the previous breakfast duo **Dan & Sarah**.

Esther Carlsen is the new Digital Commercial Director for **Nova Entertainment**. Carlsen has more than two decades experience, most recently as Commercial Director for **Nine Digital Audio**.



Ian Holland



Highlands Breakfast

Your childhood dreams

- I had two, one to fly aeroplanes and the other to work on radio.

First paying job

- Executive trainee at the Medical Benefits Fund.

Radio training

- One week at Max Rowleys and then I got my first job.

How did that come about?

- Me and a mate decided to pop into Max Rowley's radio school in Sydney. We all had to do an audition tape and I wanted to apply for this job in Moree – so Max sent it off to 2VM and I actually got the job. I was about 19 at the time.

Ex-stations

- 2VM, 2DU, 7LA, 3UZ, 2UE, 2CH, 2GB, 2WS, 4KQ, 4GR, 4AK, 2SM. Some of these I've worked at twice, some even three times.

So you've been a pilot of the airwaves – when did you become an official pilot?

- About 1986.

How long have you been running your aviation business?

- I started the business when I was doing traffic flying for the Australian Traffic Network that was in about 1998.

How many times in a week do you now take to the skies?

- Very rarely.

You are now hosting breakfast at 2ST ... what are your normal weekday waking hours?

- I get up at half past three. I go to bed about 9.30 or 10 o'clock. I'm in there about 4am and do a couple of hours show prep.

What is your normal breakfast?

- That varies as to whether I'm on a health kick or not. Always start with a coffee. Then I'll have some scrambled eggs on toast which I make at work. I might have a banana and I always have fruit juice when I'm doing a shift.

What station that you've worked at would you consider to be the most fun time?

- First station I worked at was 2VM and I had an absolute ball. That would rate highly. I had fun at 2SM doing the country music format. Of course having fun and job satisfaction are two entirely different things.

A favourite concert that you've attended?

- Glen Campbell, the last time he was in Australia in 2008 and performed with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra. At the end of the show the entire orchestra stood up and applauded him. I met with him that day before the show and he was really struggling with dementia. I asked him if he could do a few bars of 'True Grit' but he couldn't remember the words.



A memorable celebrity interview

- Once again I think it would be Glen Campbell. I went and saw him at a casino in Las Vegas and I sat right down the front. I remember he had a broken wrist and yet was still managing to play the 12 string guitar. I had an interview with him in his dressing room afterwards. When I got to the dressing room his mother and father were there as well as his current girlfriend Tanya Tucker. He actually said – "do you mind if we watch this ball game and then we can do the interview." So I watched the ball game with him.

A favourite movie

- Recently it would be Sully. It starred Tom Hanks and was directed by Clint Eastwood. I actually met Chesley 'Sully' Sullenberger.

Sports passion or sporting idol

- Not really. I have just started a radio segment with a guy called Geoff Prenter called The Prenter Report. He used to be the editor of Rugby League Week. We first worked together at 2UE in 1973.

A book that you'd recommend

- Well at the moment I'm reading the biography of Bernie Taupin. I strongly recommend that. There's also a book called the Wichita Lineman by Dylan Jones. And once again we've come back to Glen Campbell.

What was your first record that you bought?

- It was 'Higher and Higher' by Jackie Wilson.

What's a song you wish you could play on radio?

- Some Enchanted Evening from South Pacific

A bucket list holiday destination

- Antarctica.

Are you a collector of anything and what is your prized possession?

- Dye cast model aeroplanes. Prized possession - my real aeroplane. It's a Piper Cherokee.

Best radio mate

- It's a bloke I haven't seen for 4 years. I worked with him at 2VM. At that stage his name was Wayne Kernic. He's changed his name a few times and worked at stations such as 4BK and 3AK.

It's your last shift ... you can play any song. What would it be?

- Some Enchanted Evening from the original movie soundtrack of South Pacific.

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Academy Awards Trivia

94th Academy Awards will be held on Sunday 11h March (USA)
Mon 12th March (Aust time).



- ★ **Most Awards** (won - not just nominated) (film):
"Lord Of The Rings: The Return Of The King" (2003), "Ben-Hur" (1959) , "Titanic" (1997) - each with 11 wins.
"West Side Story" (1961) won 10 Academy Awards.
- ★ **Most Awards** (individual):
Walt Disney won 22 Oscars between 1932 and 1969.
- ★ **Host of most Academy Awards:**
Bob Hope hosted the ceremonies a record 18 times. Next is Billy Crystal - 9 times.
- ★ **Longest Academy Awards ceremony in history.**
It was the 74th Annual Academy Awards in 2002, honouring the films of 2001.
It ran 4 hours and 23 minutes. The first ceremony in 1929, lasted just 15 minutes.
- ★ **Most Nominations (film):**
Three films achieved 14 nominations each. "Titanic" (1997) - (won 11 awards),
"La La Land" (2016) (six awards), "All About Eve" (1951) (won six awards)
- ★ **Most Nominations without winning an Oscar for Best Actor**
Peter O'Toole and Glenn Close - both with 8 nominations.
- ★ **Most Best Actor awards:**
Daniel Day-Lewis stands alone in this category with three Best Actor awards.
- ★ **Most Best Actress awards:**
Katharine Hepburn stands alone in this category with four Best Actress awards.
Next is Frances McDormand with three. She won her 3rd in 2021 for Nomadland.
- ★ **Most Nominations without a win (film):**
"The Turning Point" (1977) and "The Color Purple" (1986) both garnered 11 nominations and went 0-for-11.
- ★ **Oldest Oscar Winner (Best Actor)**
Anthony Hopkins - 83 years 115 days - "The Father" (2020)
- ★ **Oldest Oscar Winner (Best Supporting Actor):**
Christopher Plummer - 82 years 75 days - "Beginners" (2012)
- ★ **Oldest Oscar winner (Best Actress):**
Jessica Tandy - 80 years 292 days - Driving Miss Daisy (1989)
- ★ **Youngest Oscar Winner (acting):**
Tatum O'Neal - 10 years 148 days - Paper Moon (1973)
- ★ **Most Best Supporting Actor awards:**
Walter Brennan took home three Best Supporting Actor awards between 1936 and 1940.
- ★ **Most Best Director awards:**
John Ford won four Best Director awards between 1935 and 1952.
- ★ **Longest Best Picture Winner:**
Gone With The Wind (1939) runs 3 hours and 58 minutes.
- ★ **Shortest Best Picture Winner:**
Marty (1955) starring Ernest Borgnine. It runs 91 minutes.
- ★ **Actors who have rejected their 'Best Actor' Oscars:**
Marlon Brando (The Godfather 1972) and George C. Scott (Patton - 1970)
- ★ **When the phrase "And the winner is..." was discontinued**
In 1989 the trademark phrase - "And the winner is..." was replaced with the phrase - "And the Oscar goes to..."



Academy Awards

The only 3 animated films nominated for Best Picture:

- *Beauty And The Beast* (1991), *Up* (2009) and *Toy Story 3* (2010).

Actors Nominated Twice For The Same Character

- Bing Crosby as Father Chuck O'Malley in *Going My Way* (1944) and *The Bells of St. Mary's* (1945)
 - Paul Newman as Fast Eddie Felson in *The Hustler* (1961) and *The Color of Money* (1986)
 - Peter O'Toole as King Henry II in *Becket* (1964) and *The Lion in Winter* (1968)
 - Al Pacino as Michael Corleone in *The Godfather* (1972) and *The Godfather Part II* (1974)
 - Cate Blanchett as Queen Elizabeth I in *Elizabeth* (1998) and *Elizabeth: The Golden Age* (2007)
 - Sylvester Stallone as Rocky Balboa in *Rocky* (1976) and *Creed* (2015)

Most Nominated Actor

- Jack Nicholson with 12 (Three wins)



Most Nominated Actress

- Meryl Streep with 21 (including best supporting actress) (Three wins.)

First Woman To Win Oscar for Best Director

- Kathryn Bigelow - *The Hurt Locker* (2009)

The Artist (2012) became the first silent feature to win an Academy Award for Best Picture since 1927's

Wings, the inaugural winner in 1929. (Although the film does have sound effects, a music score and brief dialogue at the end.)

Sports Films. Only three sports films have won Best Picture in Oscar history: *Rocky* (1976), *Chariots of Fire* (1981) and *Million Dollar Baby* (2004).



Most Nominated Australian At Oscars:

Cate Blanchett has been nominated for eight Oscars, more than any other Australian. She has won two awards - Best Actress : *Blue Jasmine* and Best Supporting Actress: *The Aviator*.

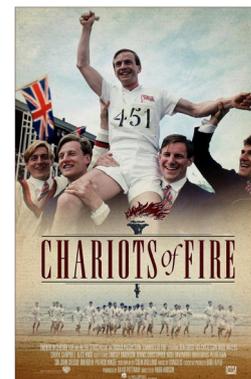
Shortest Speech: The Oscar winner with the shortest speech by far is Patty Duke, who upon

receiving the Best Supporting Actress award in 1963 for *The Miracle Worker* simply said, "Thank you."

Only woman to be nominated twice for Academy Award for Best Director: Dame Jane Campion. *The Piano* (1993) was nominated but didn't win but she won the Oscar for Best Director for *The Power of the Dog* (2021).

'BEST' PICTURE FILMS (1964 - 2023)

1964 *My Fair Lady*
 1965 *The Sound Of Music*
 1966 *A Man For All Seasons*
 1967 *In The Heat Of The Night*
 1968 *Oliver!*
 1969 *Midnight Cowboy*
 1970 *Patton*
 1971 *The French Connection*
 1972 *The Godfather*
 1973 *The Sting*
 1974 *The Godfather Part 2*
 1975 *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*
 1976 *Rocky*
 1977 *Annie Hall*
 1978 *The Deer Hunter*
 1979 *Kramer vs. Kramer*
 1980 *Ordinary People*
 1981 *Chariots of Fire*
 1982 *Gandhi*
 1983 *Terms of Endearment*
 1984 *Amadeus*
 1985 *Out of Africa*
 1986 *Platoon*
 1987 *The Last Emperor*
 1988 *Rain Man*
 1989 *Driving Miss Daisy*
 1990 *Dances with Wolves*
 1991 *The Silence of the Lambs*
 1992 *Unforgiven*
 1993 *Schindler's List*
 1994 *Forrest Gump*
 1995 *Braveheart*
 1996 *The English Patient*
 1997 *Titanic*
 1998 *Shakespeare In Love*
 1999 *American Beauty*
 2000 *Gladiator*
 2001 *A Beautiful Mind*
 2002 *Chicago*
 2003 *Lord Of The Rings: Return Of The King*
 2004 *Million Dollar Baby*
 2005 *Crash*
 2006 *The Departed*
 2007 *No Country For Old Men*
 2008 *Slum Dog Millionaire*
 2009 *The Hurt Locker*
 2010 *The King's Speech*
 2011 *The Artist*
 2012 *Argo*
 2013 *12 Years A Slave*
 2014 *Birdman*
 2015 *Spotlight*
 2016 *Moonlight*
 2017 *The Shape Of Water*
 2018 *Green Book*
 2019 *Parasite*
 2020 *Nomadland*
 2021 *CODA*
 2022 *Everything Everywhere All At Once*



Jocks' Journal Fun Files

QUEENSLAND'S HISTORIC FIRST ISSUED NUMBER PLATE owned by Gold Coast hairdressing mogul Stefan Ackerie has sold for \$5.655 million at auction. Mr Ackerie, who bought the plates at the Great Plate auction in 1985, said it felt like the right time to sell. He said: "I used to have it on a Porsche and the number one girl (employee) of the month used to have the Porsche with Q1 on it." It was sold at auction alongside the first ever plate issued in Australia, the heritage number plate NSW 1, which went for \$11.505 million when bidding closed.

(Over \$11 million?! I have a question. Would you prefer five cars worth a million dollars each plus \$6 million in the bank or a number plate with 3 letters and a number?)

A DEDICATED SWIFTIE from Pakistan broke a Guinness World Record by correctly identifying 34 Taylor Swift songs from their lyrics in one minute. The 20 year old named Jhandir had to listen to the lyrics being read aloud by a man without any accompanying music to identify each song. The record attempt included Swift's 50 best-selling songs arranged in random order. He managed to identify 34 songs in one minute, breaking the record of 27 set by Dan Simpson in 2019. He also previously set records for the most animals identified from animal sounds in one minute (23).

(And we're talking 'animals' as in pets ... not as in Eric Burdon & the Animals. Now, I could definitely name a few of their hits.)

A CZECH REPUBLIC MAN who earned a Guinness World Record for the largest collection of Lego sets turned his love into a museum with four locations. Miloš received his first Lego set as a Christmas present when he was 5 years old. His collection was verified by Guinness as owning 6,005 different Lego sets. He said his collection became too large to store at his home, leading him to open the first Museum of Bricks location in Prague. The museum now has three more branches. The collector said his favourite set is the Statue of Liberty, which he received on a sightseeing boat tour to the real Statue of Liberty in New York.

(Ah ... but the question is ... has he assembled the biggest Lego set? I believe it's a world map that has 11,695 pieces.)

A CALIFORNIA MAN who has been travelling frequently since the 1990s earned a Guinness World Record with his collection of 1,136 hotel key cards. Morten Soerensen said his collection began when he started traveling for business in the '90s and discovered most hotels allowed him to keep his key cards as souvenirs. His collection, stored in alphabetised albums, earned him the world record for the largest collection of key cards when Guinness verified he had 1,136 from different hotels.

(Key cards? Well that's different. How many naughty people in the past have kept hotel towels and not key cards as souvenirs during their holiday travels?)

A POLISH WOMAN spent 3 hours, 6 minutes and 45 seconds standing in a box filled up to her neck with ice to set a Guinness World Record. She officially set the world record for the longest duration full body contact with ice (female). Throughout the record attempt, her body temperature and state of consciousness were regularly monitored to ensure she was fit to continue. Katarzyna now plans to attempt more ice-related world records and prove that women can perform at a similar – or even higher – level than men.

(As a kid I occasionally copped 'brain freeze' sucking on my favourite icy pole so I certainly won't be attempting to beat her ice record.)

A SURVEY OF PLUMBERS found some of the most unusual items removed from pipes in Britain include a two-man tent, Lego toys and another pipe. One of Britain's largest manufacturers and distributors of plastic drainage pipes, surveyed plumbers in the country for its annual State of the Nation report. Some of the other unusual items removed from pipes by plumbers included rubber ducks, socks, teeth, turkey bones, Brussels sprouts, bananas and a pipe stuck inside another pipe.

(Now why didn't I think of that when I was a kid? I should have tried shoving the Brussels Sprouts down the sink. Much better than hiding them under the table cloth.)

TRAVEL SEARCH ENGINE SKYSCANNER quizzed 400 international hotel workers to draw up a list of the top ten unusual grumbles. Most unusual complaints revealed by hotel staff:

- 1) The sheets are too white
- 2) The sea was too blue
- 3) Ice cream too cold
- 4) Bath was too big
- 5) Girlfriend's snoring kept guest awake
- 6) Guest's dog didn't enjoy his stay
- 7) Hotel had no ocean view (in Mayfair, London)
- 8) There was no steak on vegetarian menu
- 9) Waiter was too handsome
- 10) Mother of groom wasn't given the honeymoon suite.

(I would think the biggest gripe would come from guests at the Hotel California where you can check out any time you like, but you can never leave! " Now does that sound fair?)



A MELBOURNE MAN has listed a life-sized titanosaurs dinosaur replica on Facebook Marketplace. It's one of three models with another soon

being displayed at the National Dinosaur Museum in Canberra. The 4.5-metre tall dinosaur is priced at \$58,000. Mark Jacobson prides himself on his collection of life-sized models, from various dinosaurs to lions and even gorillas. He says: "These are well-built, and a lot of work goes into them — about three months to make."

(So how do you make a dinosaur (diner sore)? Just charge them twice the price for their meal!)

A ORGAN TASKED WITH PLAYING A MUSICAL COMPOSITION "as slow as possible" is living up to the challenge. It just changed chords—for the first time in two years. Crowds recently gathered at a church in Germany, to observe the instrument as volunteers added a pipe to slightly alter its song. The wooden-framed organ is currently 23 years into a performance of American composer John Cage's composition "Organ?/ASLSP (As Slow as Possible)." The piece began playing in 2001 and will conclude in 2640. Cage, who died in 1992, was known for his experimental works. He once wrote a composition entitled "4'33"," which calls for 4 minutes and 33 seconds of musicians' silence.

(And if you want to enjoy the silent composition 4'33" there is actually a couple of performances on YouTube that you can well watch ... as there's nothing to listen to.)

More JJ Fun Files

KITKAT has been named the “most influential chocolate bar of all time” in a survey of experts and historians by Time magazine. The wafer-filled chocolate is regarded as the first confectionery to successfully sell in every market around the world. It enjoys particular cult status in Japan. America’s Hershey bars came in second and Toblerone, a chocolate bar that dates back to 1908, came in third place.

(And in case you’re wondering where Kit-Kat came from. Use of the name “Kit Kat” or “Kit Cat” for a type of food goes back to the 18th century, when mutton pies known as a Kit-Kat were served at meetings of the political Kit-Cat club in London. The bar launched in 1935 in the UK, under the title of “Rowntree’s Chocolate Crisp”.)

A FRENCHMAN has spent the last eight years piecing together 706,900 matchsticks to make a 7.19 metres model of the Eiffel Tower. But, he says, the Guinness Book of World Records said he used the wrong type of matchsticks to qualify for a record — because they weren’t commercially available. Richard Plaud’s dream of breaking a world record is, in fact, still alive after Guinness said that it may have been “heavy-handed” in judging this record attempt and would review it. Plaud began work in his living room in December 2015 and finished Dec. 27 last year, the 100th anniversary of the death of Gustave Eiffel, the French civil engineer renowned for the tower in Paris that bears his name.

(But there is a happy ending! A short time later Guinness said it is was happy to award Richard with the title of the world’s tallest matchstick sculpture. They have corrected some inconsistencies within the rules which now allow the matchsticks to be snipped and shaped as the modeller sees fit. So basically you don’t need to strike 706,900 matches just to get rid of the sulphur heads.)

IF PIGS CAN’T SWEAT, why do we say “sweat like a pig?” The term is actually derived from the iron smelting process in which hot iron poured on sand cools and solidifies with the pieces resembling a sow and piglets. Hence “pig iron”. As the iron cools, the surrounding air reaches its dew point, and beads of moisture form on the surface of the “pigs”. “Sweating like a pig” indicates that the “pig” (ie iron) has cooled enough to be safely handled.

(So now you know. Or maybe I should say – “sow” now you know!)

THE WORLD’S LARGEST CRUISE SHIP, Royal Caribbean’s Icon of the Seas, recently set sail from Miami on its maiden voyage. The ship, built over 900 days at a shipyard in Finland, is a monument to enormity, longer than the Eiffel Tower is tall, with 20 decks and room for more than 5,600 passengers and a crew of 2,350. To ensure no one goes bored or hungry, the monster ship, has seven swimming pools including a 40,000-gallon “lake,” six water slides, a carousel, and more than 40 dining venues and bars.

(It also has a 220 square foot movie screen that presents first-run movies. So ... don’t expect to see re-runs of the Poseidon Adventure or Titanic.)

3-YEAR-OLD BOY recently became trapped inside a claw machine at a Brisbane shopping mall. A video shows the toddler sitting inside the glass-walled box filled with plush toys, blissfully unaware of his predicament. The boy’s father, Timothy Hopper, said his son had disappeared into the claw machine’s prize dispenser and inside it in a “split second.” He was rescued by police who carefully shattered a section of glass and the 3 year old clawed his way out of the claw machine.

(Well not quite, a policeman safely lifted him out and we’re pleased to say that all the ‘Hello Kitty’ plush toys remained uninjured.)

10 FACTS ABOUT THE MAKING OF “WE ARE THE WORLD”



1. “We are the World” began with actor/singer Harry Belafonte in late 1984. Belafonte saw a BBC report about the devastating famine in Ethiopia. Feeling compelled to help, he contacted music manager Ken Kragen and suggested a fundraising concert. Kragen

proposed they instead record an all-star charity song.

2. Lionel Richie and Michael Jackson wrote the song with an ear for history. Richie wrote the song with Jackson within a two-week window. They were careful to avoid lyrics that would make the song sound dated.

3. The recording of “We Are the World” could have only happened on one particular night. How do you get dozens of America’s biggest musical stars in one studio at the same time? You hold the session on the night of a major awards show. The historic session that yielded “We Are the World” took place at in Los Angeles on January 28, 1985, right after the American Music Awards

4. Prince was notably absent from the proceedings. In 1985, there were few artists on the planet bigger than Prince. Prince picked up three trophies at the 1985 AMAs, but he was a no-show later that night at A&M Recording Studios. His absence likely had something to do with his rivalry with Michael Jackson.

5. Madonna was also missing—though not by choice. Amazingly enough, she was not invited to sing on the recording. Why would the organizers not want Madonna? “Because they didn’t think she could sing,” said Like a Virgin producer and legendary Chic guitarist Nile Rodgers in a recent interview.

6. Dan Aykroyd was there “totally by accident.” Aykroyd explained that he and his father were interviewing business managers on the day of the session. They somehow wound up in the office of a talent manager, which is not what Aykroyd needed. But the guy invited Aykroyd to come and join the “We Are the World” session.

7. Bob Dylan had kind of a rough time. According to Lionel Richie, Dylan was having a “nervous breakdown” over how to handle his solo portion of the song. “He was trying to sing it,” Richie told The Hollywood Reporter. And we said, ‘No, we don’t want you to sing it, just do it like Bob Dylan.’”

8. Eddie Murphy missed his chance to be there. On the day of the epic “We Are the World” recording, comedian and sometime singer Eddie Murphy was in Stevie Wonder’s studio, working on some music.

9. Not everyone liked “We Are the World.” Hours before the “We Are the World” session, Cyndi Lauper tried to wriggle out of the whole thing saying: ‘My boyfriend heard the song and he doesn’t think it will be a hit, so I can’t come.’ She wound up participating, though and she says in a documentary, nobody knew the song would be such a smash.

10. “We Are the World” was a resounding success. Credited to USA for Africa, “We Are the World” spent four weeks atop the Billboard Hot 100 and was certified quadruple platinum on April 1, 1985, less than a month after its release. It raised \$63 million for the cause.

(But who remembers the 2010 recording “We Are the World 25 for Haiti” – recorded by Artists for Haiti. It was panned by music critics and was criticised for its use of Auto-Tune, the choice of recording artists, and for the song’s rap. It only made 18 on the Australian chart.)

Birthday Bulletin

Friday 1st March 2024

Births

HARRY BELAFONTE born in Harlem, New York - 1927. (Died aged 96 - 2023)

* US singer/actor. He helped to popularise calypso music with the 1950s hit songs *Jamaica Farewell*, *Banana Boat Song (Day-O)* and *Island In The Sun*. His films include *Carmen Jones* ('54), *Island In The Sun* ('57) and *Uptown Saturday Night* ('74).

ROGER DALTRY born in London, England - 1944 (80)

* UK singer. Lead vocalist for The Who. Their hits include - *My Generation*, *I'm A Boy*, *Substitute*, *Happy Jack*, *Pictures Of Lily*, *Pinball Wizard* and *Who Are You?* He's acted in stage plays and also appeared in several movies including the film version of The Who's rock opera *Tommy* ('75), *McVicar* ('80) and *The Hunting Of The Snark* ('87).

MIKE D'ABO born in Surrey, England - 1944 (80)

* UK singer. He replaced original Paul Jones as Manfred Mann lead vocalist in 1966. Nowadays he plays in various bands including The Manfreds which also includes Paul Jones and other original Manfred Mann members. He wrote the hits *Build Me Up Buttercup* (Foundations) and *Handbags And Gladrags* (Rod Stewart/Jon English).
* His daughter Olivia D'Abo played Karen Arnold in the US TV series *The Wonder Years*.

LEIGH MATTHEWS born in Frankston, Victoria - 1952 (72)

* Australian Rules footballer and coach. The Hawthorn champion played 332 games from 1969-1985 and took part in four of the team's premierships. In 1986 he joined Collingwood as a coach and in 1990 led the Magpies to their first premiership flag in 32 years. In 1999 he took over as Brisbane Lions coach and in 2001 they won their first flag (as 'Brisbane Lions') followed by successive flags in 2002 and 2003.

CATHERINE BACH born in Warren, Ohio - 1953 (71)

* US actress. She played Daisy Duke in the TV series *The Dukes Of Hazzard* ('79-'85).

RON HOWARD born in Duncan, Oklahoma - 1954 (70)

* US actor and director. He has been shooting his latest film, *Eden*, in Queensland. *Eden* is the second Howard film to be made in Queensland following the 2022 release *Thirteen Lives*. *Eden* will star Jude Law.

* In the early 1960s he played Opie in *The Andy Griffith Show* - but the series that brought him greater fame was as the star of *Happy Days* playing Richie Cunningham. He's directed films including *Cocoon*, *Splash*, *Parenthood*, *Backdraft*, *Far And Away*, *Apollo 13*, *The Grinch*, *A Beautiful Mind*, *Cinderella Man*, *Nixon/Frost* and *Rush*.

NIK KERSHAW born in Bristol, England - 1958 (66)

* English singer. He had three hits in 1984 with *Wouldn't It Be Good*, *I Won't Let The Sun Go Down On Me* and *The Riddle*. He wrote *The One And Only* - a No 1 hit in the UK for Chesney Hawkes in 1991.

IVAN CLEARY born in Sydney, NSW - 1961 (63)

* NRL player and coach. He is the head coach of the Penrith Panthers. In 2023, Cleary won his third NRL Premiership in a row as coach of Penrith when they defeated the Brisbane Broncos in a famous come from behind win. His son Nathan is a co-captain for the Penrith Panthers. Nathan also took part in their 2021, 2022 and 2023 NRL Grand Final victories.

GERARD HEALY born in Victoria - 1961 (63)

* Australian rules footballer. He played with the Sydney Swans and Melbourne and won the Brownlow Medal in 1988. Since 1996 he's been the co-host of 3AW's *Sports Today* program and also hosted *On The Couch* on Foxtel. For several years he was a part of the Channel 7 AFL commentary team.

ZACK SNYDER (Zachary Snyder) born in Wisconsin - 1966 (58)

* US film director, producer, and screenwriter. He made his feature film debut in 2004 with a remake of the 1978 horror film *Dawn of the Dead*. His other films include *Man of Steel* (2013), and its follow-ups, *Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice* (2016) and *Justice League* (2017).

GEORGE EADS born in Fort Worth, Texas - 1967 (57)

* US actor. For 15 seasons he played the role of Nick Stokes in *CSI: Crime Scene Investigation*. He also played Jack Dalton in *MacGyver* (2016-2019).

PETER BELL born in South Korea - 1976 (48)

* AFL player and radio announcer. A former ABC Perth breakfast announcer, he stepped down from the role in 2018 when he was appointed general manager of football at Fremantle. He played with Fremantle (as captain) and also with North Melbourne.

WILL POWER born in Toowoomba, Queensland - 1981 (43)

Australian motorsport driver. In 2018 he became the first Australian to win the Indianapolis 500. He won the 2002 Australian Drivers' Championship by winning seven times and achieving three pole positions. He also won the Indy Car series in 2014.

KE\$HA (Kesha Rose Sebert) born in Los Angeles, California - 1987 (37)

* US singer. Her debut single, *Tik Tok*, was released in August 2009 and reached No 1 in five countries including Australia. Her debut album, *Animal*, was released in early 2010 and debuted at No 1 in the US. In 2014 she had a major hit with *Timber* recorded with Pitbull. Her biggest hit in 2017 was *Praying* - co-written and produced by Ryan Lewis.

BEN STRATTON born in Western Australia - 1989 (35)

* AFL player. He made his debut for Hawthorn in 2010 and served as captain in the 2019 season. He retired at the end of season 2020.

JUSTIN BIEBER born in Ontario, Canada - 1994 (30)

* Canadian singer. He's had nine No 1 hit singles in Australia - most of those include featured artists. Four of his albums have made No 1 including his 2021 release *Justice*. In 2019 his biggest hit was *I Don't Care* which he recorded with Ed Sheeran. In 2015 he had two No 1 hits in Australia with *What Do You Mean?* and *Love Yourself*. *Sorry* peaked at No 2.

* In 2022 he sold his music catalogue for an estimated \$200 million.

* On November 23, 2018, Bieber admitted he was married to Hailey Baldwin, daughter of actor Stephen Baldwin.

Events

First **PARACHUTE JUMP** from a moving aircraft was made over Missouri in America by Captain Albert Berry - 1912.

America's first fully licensed **COMMERCIAL FM STATION** (W47NV) began broadcasting in Nashville, Tennessee - 1941.

EVERLY BROTHERS recorded *Bye Bye Love* in Nashville - 1957.

K-MART opened their first store in the US in Michigan - 1962.

* The 'K' in K Mart comes from the name of the founder Sebastian S. Kresge. The first K Mart opened in Australia in Victoria in 1969.

THE BEATLES recorded the Little Richard song *Long Tall Sally* - 1964.

JOSEPH & HIS AMAZING TECHNICOLOUR DREAMCOAT, written by Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice, was first performed in London - 1968.

PINK FLOYD's album *Dark Side Of The Moon* was released worldwide - 1973.

COLOUR TELEVISION officially began in Australia - 1975.

SOUND UNLIMITED, hosted by Donnie Sutherland, debuted on Australian television in colour - 1975.

THE POLICE made their debut concert at the Alexandria Club in Newport, Wales - 1977

* The gig only lasted ten minutes.

PAUL McCARTNEY arrived in Australia as a part of his New World Tour - 1993.

* He had previously toured Australia in 1975 with Wings. He also toured in 2017 and 2023.

KARRIE WEBB won her first tournament in Australia winning the Australian Ladies' Masters golf tournament on the Gold Coast - 1998.

MIKE WILLESEE, Australian TV journalist and host and brother of Terry Willesee, died aged 76 of throat cancer - 2019.

MICHAEL GUDINSKI, Australian music entrepreneur, died aged 68 of mixed drug use, with 12 drugs including cocaine, oxycodone and morphine found in his system - 2021.

Birthday Bulletin

Saturday 2nd March 2024

Births

DR SEUSS (Theodore Seuss Geisel) born in Springfield, Massachusetts - 1904. (Died aged 87 - 1991)
* American children's author and illustrator. He wrote more than 40 children's books. His personal favourite was *Horton Hatches The Egg*.

JOHN CORNELL born in Kalgoorlie, WA - 1941. (Died aged 80 - 2021)
* Australian producer and film director. A good friend and business partner to Paul Hogan, he played 'Strop' in Hogan's '70s television programs. His wife Delvene Delaney was also in the show. Cornell directed Hogan in the movies *Crocodile Dundee II* ('88) and *Almost An Angel* ('90).

LOU REED (Lewis Reed) born in New York City, New York - 1942. (Died aged 71 - 2013)
* US singer/songwriter. A former member of the group The Velvet Underground, his biggest solo hit was in 1973 with *Walk On The Wild Side* - taken from his album *Transformer*, co-produced by David Bowie. The follow up album *Berlin* is considered to be one of his best recordings.

JEFF KENNETT born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1948 (76)
* Former Premier of Victoria. He was in power from 1992-1999. From 2005-2011 he was President of the Hawthorn Football Club and then resumed the role in 2017. He's also the founding chairman of beyondblue.

DR CARMEN LAWRENCE born in Northam, WA - 1948 (76)
* Former Premier of Western Australia. In 1990 she became the first woman Premier of an Australian state but was defeated at the 1992 state election. She became the first directly elected Federal President of the ALP in 2003. Her term ended on January 1st 2005.

PHIL MANNING born in Latrobe, Tasmania - 1948 (76)
* Australian guitarist. He played lead guitar with Chain. Their two biggest hits were *Black and Blue* ('70) and *Judgment* ('70). Nowadays, he mostly works as a solo performer.

KAREN CARPENTER born in New Haven, Connecticut - 1950. (Died aged 32 - 1983)
* US singer and drummer. Karen and her brother Richard had their first big hit as The Carpenters in 1970 with the Burt Bacharach/Hal David song *Close To You*. They ended the decade as the most successful duo of the '70s.

BELINDA GIBLIN born in Tamworth, NSW - 1950 (74)
* Australian actress. In the mid '80s she replaced Rowena Wallace as the resident 'nasty' in the TV soapie *Sons And Daughters*.

JOHN COWSILL born in Newport, Rhode Island - 1956 (68)
* Drummer/vocalist with Beach Boys touring band. He joined the group playing keyboards in 2000 then moved to drums in 2008. He's a part of the famous Cowsills musical family.
* He married Vicki Peterson (Bangles) in 2003.

JON BON JOVI (Jon Bongiovi) born in New Jersey - 1962 (62)
* Lead singer for US rock band Bon Jovi. Their chart hits include: *Always* (No 1 in Australia in 1994), *Livin' On A Prayer* ('87), *Bad Medicine* ('88), and *It's My Life* (2000). He had a No 1 solo hit in 1990 with *Blaze Of Glory*. It was taken from the film *Young Guns II* in which he had a cameo role.

ANTHONY ALBANESE born in Sydney, NSW - 1963 (61)
* Australian Prime Minister. At the 2022 election, he led the ALP party to victory. Albanese is the first Italian-Australian to become Prime Minister and the first divorcé to be appointed Prime Minister. On Valentines Day 2024 he announced his engagement to his partner, Jodie Haydon.

DANIEL CRAIG born in Cheshire, England - 1968 (56)
* UK actor. He made his debut as James Bond in the 2006 movie *Casino Royale*. Also starred in the Bond films *Quantum of Solace*, *Sky Fall*, *Spectre* and his final outing - *No Time To Die*. He starred as private detective Benoit Blanc in the 2019 movie *Knives Out* as well as the 2022 film *Glass Onion*. His first film appearance was in *The Power Of One* ('92).

HAYLEY LEWIS born in Brisbane, Queensland - 1974 (50)

* Australian swimmer. At the age of 15 she became the first Australian female swimmer to win five gold medals at the Commonwealth Games. She also won silver and bronze medals at the Barcelona Olympic Games.

CHRIS MARTIN born in Devon, England - 1977 (47)

* Lead singer, rhythm guitarist and pianist with UK band Coldplay. In 2014 they had top 10 hits with *A Sky Full of Stars* and *Magic*. Their other hits include *Yellow* (2001), *Clocks* (2003), *Fix You* (2005), *Speed Of Sound* (2006), *Viva La Vida* (2008) and *Paradise* (2011). Their album *A Rush Of Blood To The Head* (2002) is currently their best seller. In 2017 Coldplay combined with the Chainsmokers on the hit *Something Just Like This*.
* He wed actress Gwyneth Paltrow in 2003. They split in 2014.

ANDREW STRAUSS born in Johannesburg, South Africa - 1977 (47)

* English cricketer. The former captain of England captained the England team to a 2-1 victory in the 2009 Ashes, scoring a series total of 474 runs, more than any other player on either side.

TEMPANY DECKERT born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1978 (46)

* Australian actress. She played Selina in the TV soapie *Home And Away* (1994-1997).

REBEL WILSON (Melanie Bownds) born in Sydney, NSW - 1980 (44)

* Australian comedienne and actress. Shortly after moving to the United States, Wilson was cast as Brynn in the feature film *Bridesmaids*. She also had a starring role as Fat Amy in the 2012 US movie *Pitch Perfect* and appeared in the sequels. Her 2019 films include *The Hustle* (also producer) and *Jojo Rabbit*.

JAMES ARTHUR born in Yorkshire, England - 1988 (36)

* UK singer. He won the UK's *The X Factor* in 2012. He had a No 1 UK hit in 2013 with *Impossible*. It peaked at No 2 in Australia. In 2016 he made No 1 in Australia with *Say You Won't Let Go*.

LUKE COMBS born in Charlotte, North Carolina - 1990 (34)

* US country singer and songwriter. He had four chart hits in Australia in 2023 with his revival of Tracy Chapman's song *Fast Car* peaking at No 2 on the ARIA chart.

Events

PORKY PIG made his debut in the cartoon *I Haven't Got A Hat* - 1935.

GARY SOBERS, West Indies cricketer, scored 365 runs not out against Pakistan at Kingston, Jamaica - 1958.

GEORGE HARRISON met **PATTIE BOYD** during the filming of *A Hard Days Night* - 1964.

* They married in 1966. Pattie married Eric Clapton in 1979.

THE SOUND OF MUSIC movie premiered in New York - 1965.

* It won five Academy Awards including Best Picture and Best Director (Robert Wise).

COMPACT DISC (C.D.) was launched in the UK and North America - 1983.

McDONNELL & EAST ceased trading after 93 years - 1994.

* The first department store opened in Brisbane in 1901.

JOHN HOWARD's coalition won the Federal elections in a landslide victory - 1996.

DUSTY SPRINGFIELD, English singer, died aged 59 after a long battle with cancer - 1999.

SPEEDO closed down their one remaining Australian factory in Sydney - 2001.

AUSTRALIAN cricket team won a record 12 straight One Day International games beating the mark set by the West Indies in the mid-'80s - 2003.

GRILL'D, Australian food chain, was founded by Simon Crowe in the Melbourne suburb of Hawthorn - 2004.

ONE DIRECTION's entire 2012 Australian tour (April) sold out in just three minutes through Ticketek - 2012.

ELLEN DEGENERES' OSCAR SELFIE beat President Obama's re-tweet record on Twitter - 2014.

* The selfie picture shared by Oscar host DeGeneres reached 779,295 re-tweets in approximately half an hour, and so beat a record previously held by the US president.

NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE declared for the first time in eight months that there were no active bush or grass fires in NSW - 2020.



Birthdays Bulletin

Sunday 3rd March 2024

NRL Season Commences (in Las Vegas)

Births

MARGARET FINK (Margaret Elliott) born in Sydney, NSW - 1933 (91)
 * Australian film producer. She produced the 1979 film *My Brilliant Career*. She was once married to Leon Fink, entrepreneur of Sydney's Luna Park fame.
 * Her son Ben was a member of The Whitlams.

HARRY TRIGUBOFF born in China - 1933 (91)
 * Australian billionaire residential property developer. He is the founder and managing director of Meriton and is colloquially known as "High-rise Harry". In 2016 he was named as the wealthiest person in Australia by net worth in the annual BRW Rich 200 list.

MIKE PENDER (Michael Prendergast) born in Liverpool, England - 1942 (82)
 * Vocalist and lead guitarist with the British band The Searchers. Their '60s hits include *Needles and Pins*, *Sweets For My Sweet*, *When You Walk In The Room* and *Don't Throw Your Love Away*.

HARRY WHITE born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1944. (Died aged 78 - 2022)
 * Australian jockey. In his 35 year career he won almost 200 feature races including four Melbourne Cups in the '70s riding Think Twice (twice), Hyperno and Arwon. He rode his last race in 1995, aged 51, and then resided with his family on a 200-hectare beef farm near Gisborne in Victoria. Two of his horses – Think Big and Hyperno – were buried there.
 * White went blind in his left eye after falling at the Caulfield Cup, a condition he disclosed only after retiring.

DR GEORGE MILLER (George Miliotis) born in Chinchilla, Queensland - 1945 (79)
 * Australian director. He is responsible for creating the *Mad Max* movies including the 2015 feature *Mad Max: Fury Road*. He directed the 2006 animated movie *Happy Feet* and sequel as well as *Babe* (1996) and the 1999 sequel *Babe: Pig In The City*. His other credits include the mini series' *The Dismissal* and *Bodyline* and the US movies *The Witches Of Eastwick* ('87) and *Lorenzo's Oil* ('92).

JENNIFER WARNES born in Seattle, Washington - 1947 (77)
 * US singer. She combined with Joe Cocker on the hit *Up Where We Belong* ('82) and with Bill Medley on (*I've Had*) *The Time Of My Life* ('88) – No 1 in Australia.

MIRANDA RICHARDSON born in Lancashire, England - 1958 (66)
 * British actress. Her feature films include the role of Rita Skeeter in the *Harry Potter* movies, *Enchanted April* ('92), *Damage* ('92), *The Crying Game* ('94), *Tom And Viv* ('94), *The Apostle* ('98), *Spider* (2002), *The Young Victoria* (2009) and had a starring role in the 1998 TV mini-series *Merlin*. She also played Elizabeth I in the *Black Adder* comedy programs.

STONE LOC (Anthony Smith) born in Los Angeles, California - 1966 (58)
 * US rapper and actor. He had hits in 1989 with *Wild Thing* and *Funky Cold Medina*.

BRIAN COX born in England - 1968 (56)
 * English physicist and former musician. He is best known as the presenter of science programmes, especially the *Wonders of...* TV series. Before his academic career, Cox was a keyboard player for the bands D:Ream and Dare.

CARLA BONNER born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1973 (51)
 * Australian actress. She played Stephanie Skully in TV's *Neighbours* (1999-2010).

DAVID FAUSTINO born in Los Angeles, California - 1974 (50)
 * American actor. He played Bud Bundy, son of Al, in the US TV comedy series *Married ... With Children*.

RITA PANAHİ born in Pine Bluff, Arkansas - 1976 (48)
 * American-born Australian opinion columnist and TV presenter. She writes for The Herald Sun and is the host of The Friday Show on Sky News and is also a contributor to *Sunrise* on the Seven Network. She is also heard on radio stations 3AW and 2GB.
 * She is the child of Iranian parents. In 1984, they were accepted by Australia as refugees and settled in Melbourne.

RONAN KEATING born in Dublin, Ireland - 1977 (47)

* Irish singer. A vocalist with Boyzone, he's also had solo success with *If Tomorrow Never Comes* (2002), *We've Got Tonight* (2003) – a duet with Lulu, *When You Say Nothing At All* ('99), *Life Is A Rollercoaster* (2000) and *Lovin' Each Day* (2001). His last album *Twenty Twenty* was released in 2020. From 2010-2015 he appeared as a judge on the Australian version of *The X Factor*. In 2016 he was a judge on *The Voice Australia*.

* He married Australian-born fashion designer Storm Uechtritz in 2015.

JESSICA BIEL born in Ely, Minnesota - 1982 (42)

* US actress and wife of Justin Timberlake. Star of the TV series *The Sinner*. Her films include *The Texas Chainsaw Massacre*, *The Illusionist*, *The A Team* and *Hitchcock* (as Vera Miles). She is also known for her television role as Mary Camden in the family-drama TV series *7th Heaven*.

STACIE ORRICO born in Seattle, Washington - 1986 (38)

* US singer. She had her debut pop hit in 2003 with *Stuck*. It peaked at No 3 in Australia. Her other chart hit in 2003 was (*There's Gotta Be*) *More To Life*.

JOEL TURNER born in Mullumbimby, NSW - 1987 (37)

* Australian singer. His band Joel Turner & The Modern Day Poets (made up of his brother Tim and his cousin Chris) had a No 1 hit in 2004 with *These Kids*.

CAMILA CABELLO (Karla Camila Cabello Estrabao) born in Eastern Havana, Cuba - 1997 (27)

* Cuban-American singer and songwriter. She rose to fame as a member of the girl group Fifth Harmony, formed during the second season of *The X Factor*. In 2019 she made No 1 in Australia with *Senorita* - a duet with Shawn Mendes. In 2017 she had her biggest solo hits with *Havana* (#1 in Australia) and *Never Be The Same* (#7 in Australia).

Events

City of **MELBOURNE** was named (after the then British Prime Minister) - 1837.

FLEMINGTON racecourse in Melbourne held its first race meeting - 1840.

TIME magazine first went on sale in US - 1923.

STAR SPANGLED BANNER became the US national anthem, 117 years after it was written - 1931.

OIL was discovered in Saudi Arabia - 1938.

* This discovery changed Saudi Arabia and the world.

ELVIS PRESLEY made his TV debut on the country show *Louisiana Hayride* - 1955.

JAMES BROWN's first single *Please, Please, Please* was released - 1956.

LOU COSTELLO (Abbott & Costello) died aged 52 of a heart attack - 1959.

IRAQ agreed to Allied Ceasefire terms of United Nations Security Council, ending 100 hours of land fighting - 1991.

WARREN BEATTY, 55, married actress **ANNETTE BENING**, 34, - 1992.

* It was Beatty's first marriage.

MELBOURNE STORM recorded one of their biggest wins with a 70-10 victory over St. George - Illawarra at the MCG - 2000.

STEVE FOSSETT, 60 year old US billionaire adventurer, became the first person to fly solo around the world without stopping or refuelling - 2005.

MARTIN CROWE, NZ Test and ODI cricket captain as well as a cricket commentator, died aged 53 - 2016.

NINTENDO SWITCH was released worldwide - 2017.

TOILET PAPER sales soared across Australia causing major supermarket chains to begin rationing rolls - 2020.

* The COVID-19 pandemic resulted in some Australians to panic buy toilet rolls as they feared there might be a shortage.

ED SHEERAN attracted more than 109,500 fans to the MCG to break the Australian record for the most tickets sold to a single concert, passing the record set just 24 hours earlier by Sheeran himself - 2023.

* This concert was the biggest he had ever played. During his performance he paid tribute to Melbourne icons Shane Warne and Michael Gudinski.



Birthday Bulletin

Monday 4th March 2024

Labour Day (WA)

Births

DIETER MEIER born in Switzerland - 1945 (79)

* Lead singer for Swiss duo Yello. Their hits include *Oh Yeah* ('87) (featured in film *Ferris Bueller's Day Off*) and *The Race* ('88).

MIKE SHEAHAN born in Victoria - 1947 (77)

* Australian sports journalist. He was Chief Football (AFL) Writer and Associate Sports Editor for the Herald Sun for 18 years and a former Media Director for the VFL (now AFL). He was the host of *Open Mike* on Fox Footy.

SHAKIN' STEVENS (Michael Barratt) born in Wales - 1948 (76)

* Welsh singer. 1981 was his big year in Australia with the hit songs - *This 'Ole House, You Drive Me Crazy* and *Green Door*.

LINDY CREIGHTON (formerly **CHAMBERLAIN**) born in New Zealand - 1948 (76)

* Mother of nine-week-old Azaria who was killed by a dingo at Ayers Rock in 1980. As the result of a fourth inquest in 2012, a coroner made a ruling that a dingo had taken baby Azaria from the campsite in 1980 and had caused her death.

* She divorced her first husband Michael in 1991 and in 1992 married 35-year-old American Rick Creighton in Los Angeles. Michael died in January 2017. He was 72.

BARRIE CASSIDY born in Wangaratta, Victoria - 1950 (74)

* Australian political journalist. He was the host of the political commentary program *Insiders* from 2001 to 2019.

CHRIS REA born in Middlesbrough, England - 1951 (73)

* British singer/songwriter. His first hit was *Fool (If You Think It's Over)* in 1978. His other big sellers in Australia include *Diamonds* ('79), *Let's Dance* ('87) and *Driving Home For Christmas* ('86).

RONN MOSS (Ronald Moss) born in California - 1952 (72)

* US actor and musician. He played Ridge Forrester in the TV soapie *The Bold & The Beautiful*. He's also a member of the band Player who are best known for the hit *Baby Come Back* ('78).

RAY PRICE (Raymond Price) born in Sydney, NSW - 1953 (71)

* Australian rugby union and league player. He captained the Parramatta Eels and retired in 1986 after they won the premiership. In 1979 he won the Rothmans Medal and the Rugby League Week Player of the Year award.

* In 2020 he announced that he and his wife of 20 years (Sandy) were both fighting cancer (life threatening melanomas).

SCOTT HICKS (Robert Scott Hicks) born in Uganda - 1953 (71)

* Australian film director and screenwriter. His best known film is *Shine* ('97) - based on the life of pianist David Helfgott.

CATHERINE O'HARA born in Toronto, Canada - 1954 (70)

* Canadian actress. From 2015-2020 she played Moira Rose in the Canadian TV comedy *Schitt's Creek*. She played the role of Macaulay Culkin's mum in *Home Alone 1* ('90) and *2* ('92).

REV. TIM COSTELLO born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1955 (69)

* Australian Baptist Minister and former chief advocate of World Vision Australia. He was ordained as a Baptist Minister in 1984. He's the brother of Peter Costello.

PATRICIA HEATON born in Bay Village, Ohio - 1958 (66)

* US actress. She played Debra, the wife of Raymond, in the long running TV sit-com *Everybody Loves Raymond* (1996-2005). It ran for nine seasons. She starred in the TV sit-com *The Middle* which debuted in 2009 and ended in 2018 after nine seasons.

RICK ARDON born in Perth, WA - 1959 (65)

* Australian TV news presenter. Since 1985 he's presented the Seven News in Perth with his co-presenter Susannah Carr.

KAREN KNOWLES born in Richmond, Victoria - 1964 (60)

* Australian singer. The former *Young Talent Time* performer made the Australian charts in 1981 with *Why Won't You Explain*.

* In 1990 she replaced Julie Anthony as The Seekers lead vocalist but a short time later resumed her solo career.

DWAYNE RUSSELL born in Brighton, SA - 1965 (59)

* Australian AFL TV/radio reporter and former VFL footballer with Geelong. He's a football commentator on Foxtel. For many years he was heard on 3AW weekdays on the *Sports Today* program. In 2019 he signed with SEN as the host of the afternoon program *Dwayne's World*.

STEVE BASTONI born in Rome, Italy - 1966 (58)

* Australian actor. He played 'Angel' in the TV drama series *Police Rescue*. His film credits include: *The Heartbreak Kid*, *On The Beach*, *South Pacific* and *Matrix Reloaded*.

MICHAEL CHEIKA born in Sydney, NSW - 1967 (57)

* Australian rugby coach and a former rugby player. He is head coach of Argentina in rugby union and Lebanon in rugby league. He was the head coach of the Australian national team from 2014-2019 and is the only coach to have won the major rugby club competition in each hemisphere.

TIM VINE born in Surrey, England - 1967 (57)

* English comedian. His stand-up act consists primarily of a series of quick-fire one-liners and puns. He appeared in the UK TV comedy series *The Sketch Show* and co-starred with Lee Mack from 2006-2012 in *Not Going Out*.

* In 2004, he broke the Guinness World Record for the most jokes told in an hour with 499.

PATSY KENSIT (Patricia Kensit) born in England - 1968 (56)

* English singer and actress. She appeared with David Bowie in *Absolute Beginners* ('86) and with Mel Gibson in *Lethal Weapon II* ('89).

GEOFF HUEGILL born in Gove, Northern Territory - 1979 (45)

* Australian swimmer. He won a bronze medal at the 2000 Summer Olympics and competed in the 2004 Summer Olympics. Huegill is a previous world record holder in the 50 m butterfly.

BOBBI 'KRISSTI' BROWN born in Livingston, New Jersey - 1993. (Died aged 22 - 2015)

* Daughter of Whitney Houston and Bobby Brown. She was found unresponsive in a bathtub in late January 2015. She suffered massive brain damage and died six months later in hospice care.

Events

'**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU**' song was published - 1924.

* It was written by sisters and school teachers, Mildred J Hill and Patty Smith Hill in 1893. It was first titled *Good Morning To All* (later *Good Morning to You*) and was a classroom greeting. The words were: "*Good morning to you, Good morning to you, Good morning, dear children, Good morning to all.*" With *Auld Lang Syne* and *For He's a Jolly Good Fellow*, it is among the three most popular songs in the English language.

PEOPLE magazine was first published in US - 1974.

HALL & OATES recorded *Rich Girl* - 1976.

BEE GEES were responsible for four out of the top 5 singles on the US chart with hits by Andy Gibb, Samantha Sang and two of their own - 1978.

JOHN CANDY, Canadian-born comedy actor, died aged 43 of a heart attack - 1994.

ANSETT AIRLINES ceased operations permanently - 2002.

PHIL COLLINS, citing health problems and other concerns, announced that he was taking time off from his career - 2011.

* A UK representative told the press, "*He is not, has no intention of, retiring.*" In 2019 he toured Australia with his son playing drums. For most of the concert Collins performed seated on stage.

RUPERT MURDOCH, aged 84, married US former model **JERRI HALL**, aged 59, - 2016.

* They divorced in 2022. From 1990-1999 Hall was married to Mick Jagger. It was Murdoch's fourth marriage.

LUKE PERRY, US actor best known for his starring role in *Beverly Hills, 90210*, died aged 52 - 2019.

SHANE WARNE, Australian cricketer and FOX sports commentator, died aged 52 of a suspected heart attack at a Thailand resort - 2022.

ROD MARSH, Australian cricketer, died aged 74 - 2022.

* He suffered a heart attack in Queensland and was placed in an induced coma before being transferred to Adelaide where he died.

Birthday Bulletin

Tuesday 5th March 2024

Births

JAMES B SIKKING (James Barrie Sicking) born in Los Angeles, California - 1934 (90)

* American actor. He played Lt. Howard Hunter in TV's *Hill Street Blues*. His film credits include *Von Ryan's Express* ('65), *Star Trek III* ('84) and *The Pelican Brief* ('94).

MIKE WALSH born in Corowa, NSW - 1938 (86)

* Australian TV/radio host and businessman. His daytime TV program *The Mike Walsh Show* ran from 1973 to 1985. It was produced by his company Hayden (his middle name) Productions. After leaving television he began producing theatre shows across Australia and on London's West End. He has been the owner of Her Majesty's Theatre in Melbourne since 2000, and has funded and overseen its restoration.

* He began his career as a D.J. at 3SR Shepparton in 1960.

PAUL EVANS born in Queens, New York - 1938 (86)

* American singer/songwriter and jingle writer. In 1959 he had a hit with *(Seven Little Girls) Sittin' In The Back Seat*. 20 years later he had his next big hit with *Hello This Is Joanie*. He co-wrote the hits *When* (Kalin Twins) and *Roses Are Red* (Bobby Vinton).

MURRAY HEAD born in London, England - 1946 (78)

* UK singer and actor. He had a hit in 1970 with *Superstar* and further chart success in 1985 with *One Night in Bangkok* (from the musical *Chess*). It made No 1 in Australia.

* He's the brother of actor Anthony Head.

EDDY GRANT (Edmond Grant) born in British Guyana - 1948 (76)

* Guyanese-British reggae singer/songwriter. In the 1960s he was a member of The Equals who had a hit with *Baby Come Back*. His '80s solo hits include *Electric Avenue* and *I Don't Wanna Dance*.

ELAINE PAIGE (Elaine Bickerstaff) born in England - 1948 (76)

* English singer and actress. She had hits in 1985 with *Memory* (from *Cats*) and *I Know Him So Well* - a duet with Barbara Dickson.

BERNARD ARNAULT born in France - 1949 (75)

* French business magnate. He is the founder, chairman, and chief executive officer of LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton, the world's largest luxury goods company. He has surpassed Elon Musk to become the world's richest person.

STEVE PRESTWICH born in Liverpool, England - 1954. (Died aged 56 - 2011)

* English-born Australian drummer. He was the drummer and a founding member of the band Cold Chisel which formed in Adelaide 1973. He wrote their hit songs *When the War Is Over* and *Forever Now*. He died from a brain tumour two months before his 57th birthday.

JENNIFER BYRNE born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1955 (69)

* Australian radio/TV presenter. She's the voice of *10 News First* providing intros and promos. From 2006-2017 she hosted the *First Tuesday Book Club* (later renamed *The Book Club*) on ABC TV. In recent times she has been a regular panellist on *The Project* and has guest starred on *Talkin' 'Bout Your Generation*. In 2019 she began hosting *Mastermind*.
* She married Andrew Denton in 2003. They have a son, Connor.

PENN JILLETTE born in Greenfield, Massachusetts - 1955 (69)

* US magician. He is best known for his work with fellow magician (Raymond) Teller as one half of Penn & Teller. The duo has been featured in numerous stage and television shows such as *Penn & Teller: Fool Us*. Jillette serves as the act's orator and raconteur whilst Teller remains silent.

ANDY GIBB born in Manchester, England - 1958. (Died aged 30 - 1988)

* Australian singer. The youngest of the famous Gibb brothers, he had his first big seller with *I Just Want To Be Your Everything* in 1977. It was followed by *Love Is Thicker Than Water* and *Shadow Dancing*. All three singles went to No 1 in the US. Despite his years of drug and alcohol abuse, his early death was attributed to a heart infection.

CRAIG REID born in Scotland - 1962 (62)

* Scottish singer. The Reid twins - better known as The Proclaimers, had two hits in 1989 with *I'm Gonna Be (500 Miles)* and *I'm On My Way*. They took a 7 year break from recording to spend time with their father (who died in 1997) and also to raise a family.

* The Proclaimers toured Australia in 2023.

CHARLIE REID born in Scotland - 1962 (62)

* Scottish singer. The Reid twins - better known as The Proclaimers, had two hits in 1989 with *I'm Gonna Be (500 Miles)* and *I'm On My Way*. They took a 7 year break from recording to spend time with their father (who died in 1997) and also to raise a family.

NICOLE PRATT born in Mackay, Queensland - 1973 (51)

* Australian tennis player. She was ranked No 1 Australian player in 2001. Her best Grand Slam showing was at the Australian Open in 2003 when she reached the 4th round.

EVA MENDES born in Miami, Florida - 1974 (50)

* Cuban-American actress. Her films include *Training Day* (2001), *2 Fast 2 Furious* (2003), *Out Of Time* (2003) and *Hitch* (2005).

MATT LUCAS born in London, England - 1974 (50)

* UK comedian. He co-starred with David Walliams in the British TV comedy program *Little Britain*. Played the roles of Tweedle Dee and Tweedle Dum in *Alice In Wonderland* (2010) and Nardole in *Doctor Who* from 2015-2017.

FIFI BOX (Fiona Box) born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1976 (48)

* Australian radio and TV presenter. She is a co-host with Brendan Fevola and Nick Cody on the FOX FM Melbourne breakfast show. Prior to that Fifi hosted a national drive show with Jules Lund. She has also been a guest presenter on the Seven Network's *Sunrise* program.

* She finished runner-up in the 2007 season of *Dancing with the Stars*.

JAKE LLOYD (Jacob Lloyd) born in Fort Collins, Colorado - 1989 (35)

* US actor. He played Anakin Skywalker in the 1999 *Star Wars* prequel *Phantom Menace*. He reprised this role in subsequent *Star Wars* video games.

Events

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY was established in Australia - 1854.

Thomas Watson's Computing, Tabulating, Recording Corporation became **IBM** (International Business Machines) - 1924.

WINSTON CHURCHILL on a US tour made the quote - "*An iron curtain has descended across Europe*" - a reference to the Russian threat to take the west - 1946.

DONALD BRADMAN played in his final first class cricket innings, scoring 30 runs for SA (v Victoria) - 1949.

ELVIS PRESLEY was released from his two years service in the US Army - 1960.

PATSY CLINE, US country and western singer, died aged 30 in a plane crash - 1963.

* She died with fellow country artists Hawkshaw Hawkins and Cowboy Copas while returning home from a string of benefit concerts. She had her biggest hits in 1961 with *I Fall To Pieces* and *Crazy* (written by Willie Nelson).

THE BEATLES recorded *From Me To You* - 1963.

2CBA FM (now Hope 103.2), Australia's first Christian radio station, began broadcasting in Sydney - 1979.

BOB HAWKE was elected Prime Minister of Australia - 1983.

* He stayed in power until December 20, 1991 and was replaced by Paul Keating.

KEVIN KLINE married actress **PHOEBE CATES** - 1989.

THE BOY FROM OZ stage musical, based on the life of Peter Allen, premiered in Sydney - 1998.

ANSETT's last flight AN152 touched down in Sydney from Perth at 6.45am - 2002.

HARRISON FORD, US actor, suffered a broken pelvis and broken ankle when his vintage plane crash landed when making an emergency landing on a Los Angeles golf course - 2015.

DOLPHINS won their first NRL game defeating the Sydney Roosters 28-18 before a crowd of 32,177 at Suncorp Stadium in Brisbane - 2023.

Birthday Bulletin

Wednesday 6th March 2024

Births

LOU COSTELLO (Louis Cristillo) born in Paterson, New Jersey - 1906. (Died aged 52 - 1959)

* US comedian. One half of the Abbott & Costello comedy team. They appeared in more than 30 films from 1940-1956. They also starred in their own television program which went to air in the early 1950s. One of their best known routines was the "Who's On First?" sketch.

NORMAN COBURN born in Sydney, Australia - 1937 (87)

* Australian actor. He is best known for playing Donald Fisher in *Home And Away*. He was one of the original cast members since the show's beginning in 1988. He left the series in 2003.

MARY WILSON born in Greenville, Mississippi - 1944. (Died aged 76 - 2021)

* US singer. She was an original member of The Supremes. Their biggest success was in the US where they had 12 No 1 hits - five in a row! She wrote the 1986 best seller book *Dreamgirl: My Life As A Supreme and Supreme Faith; Someday We'll Be Together*.

DAME KIRI TE KANAWA (Claire Rawstron) born in Gisborne, New Zealand - 1944 (80)

* New Zealand operatic soprano. Born Claire Rawstron, she was adopted at 5 weeks and given a new name. She retired from the opera stage in 2004, but continues to perform in concert halls.

* She appeared in the TV series *Downton Abbey* playing Dame Nellie Melba.

DAVE GILMOUR born in Cambridge, England - 1946 (78)

* UK vocalist/guitarist with Pink Floyd. The group's classic album *Dark Side Of The Moon* went on to become one of the biggest-selling albums in music history. Their biggest selling single is *Another Brick In The Wall*. It made No 1 in the US, UK and Australia.

* In 2005 he reunited with Pink Floyd band members Roger Waters, Nick Mason and Rick Wright for the Live 8 charity concert. It was the first time that all four members had played together since 1981.

KIKI DEE (Pauline Matthews) born in Bradford, England - 1947 (77)

* English singer. She was the first English girl to be signed by Tamla Motown records in 1970. However her first successful song wasn't until 1974 when she recorded *Amoureuse* on Elton John's Rocket record label. In 1976 she combined with Elton on *Don't Go Breaking My Heart* (No 1 in US and UK).

KEVIN BARTLETT born in Carlton, Victoria - 1947 (77)

* Australian Rules footballer. The Richmond champion known as 'Hungry' played in five premierships and once held the record for playing the most AFL games (403). He also played Richmond from 1988-'91. For many years he has worked in the media. He's worked for radio stations Sport 927 and 1116 SEN.

ROB REINER born in New York City, New York - 1947 (77)

* American actor, director and son of actor/writer/director Carl Reiner (who died aged 98 in 2020). His latest venture is the podcast *Who Killed JFK?* on Apple. Rob played Mike - Archie Bunker's son-in-law in the TV sit-com *All In The Family*. He directed *When Harry Met Sally*, *Stand By Me*, *The Princess Bride*, *This Is Spinal Tap*, *Misery* and *A Few Good Men*. * He was once married to *Laverne & Shirley* star Penny Marshall.

DENIS NAPHTHINE born in Geelong, Victoria - 1952 (72)

* Former Premier of Victoria. On 6 March 2013, Baillieu resigned as state leader of the Liberal Party and hence as Premier of Victoria. Naphthine - who had turned 61 that day - was elected his successor. His party lost the Victorian state election on 29 November 2014.

STEVE VIZARD born in Richmond, Melbourne - 1956 (68)

* Australian TV presenter, producer, comedian and businessman. He hosted *Tonight Live* which debuted in 1990 and ended in 1993. Prior to that he appeared as various comic characters on *Fast Forward*.

* He made his TV debut impersonating Don Lane at the TV Week Logie Awards. In 1991 he won the TV Week Gold Logie.

TOM ARNOLD born in Ottumwa, Iowa - 1959 (65)

* US actor. His movies include *True Lies*, *Nine Months*, *McHale's Navy* and *Happy Endings*. In 2017 he appeared as a celebrity contestant on the Australian edition of *I'm A Celebrity...Get Me Out Of Here!* He was the first evictee from the jungle, after 17 days.

* A former husband of Roseanne, he was a cocaine addict when she recruited him to work on her TV program as Arnie Thomas.

SUZANNE CROUGH born in Fullerton, California - 1963. (Died aged 52 - 2015)

* American actress. She played young Tracy in the '70s TV program *The Partridge Family*.

BETTY BOO (Alison Clarkson) born in England - 1970 (54)

* English singer. She had her biggest hit in 1990 with *Doin' The Doo*. It was the best selling dance single in Australia for that year. * Her stage name was taken from the cartoon character of the 1930s, Betty Boop, whom people thought she resembled. However, due to copyright she could not use Betty Boop, so she dropped the "p" and became Betty Boo.

SHAQUILLE O'NEAL born in New Jersey - 1972 (52)

* US basketball champion. At 216 cm (7 feet 1 inch) tall, weighing 147 kg, he was one of the heaviest players ever to play in the NBA. He played for six teams throughout his 19 year career. He led the Lakers to NBA finals victories in 2000, 2001 and 2002.

* In 2004 he was traded from the Los Angeles Lakers to the Miami Heat. He also played for the Boston Celtics in the 2010-11 season before retiring.

* He appeared opposite Nick Nolte in the 1994 film *Blue Chips*.

LARA COX born in Canberra, ACT - 1978 (46)

* Australian actress. She played the role of Anita Scheppers in the TV series *Heartbreak High* ('96-'99). She has also had roles in *All Saints* as Cathy Maxwell (2008), *State Coroner* as Kelly (1998) and *Home and Away* as Bianca (1998-1999).

SHAUN EVANS born in Liverpool, England - 1980 (44)

* English actor. He is best known for playing a young Inspector (Endeavour) Morse in the drama series *Endeavour*. The program debuted in 2012.

Events

OREO, an American cookie, was introduced in America - 1912.

The word **JAZZ** was first used in print in a story written by Peter Tamony which appeared in the San Francisco Bulletin - 1913.

BIRDS EYE FROZEN FOODS, developed by Clarence Birdseye, went on sale for the first time in Massachusetts - 1930.

SILLY PUTTY went on sale in US - 1950.

EVERLY BROTHERS recorded *All I Have To Do Is Dream* - 1958.

* It was written in just 15 minutes by Felice and Boudleaux Bryant.

THE DRIFTERS recorded *There Goes My Baby* - 1959.

* It was their first US top 10 hit.

CASSIUS CLAY changed his name to **MUHAMMAD ALI** - 1964.

THE BEATLES' singles were all re-released by EMI records - 1976.

* The 23 recordings all entered the UK charts including *Yesterday* which had not been previously released in the UK as a single.

BRISBANE BRONCOS made their debut in the NSW Rugby League competition - 1988.

* They beat Manly-Warringah 44-10 at Lang Park in Brisbane.

MICHELANGELO VIRUS affected computers worldwide - 1992.

ADRIAN EDMONDSON (who played Vyvian in *Young Ones*) walked off stage after 3 minutes at Waikato University in New Zealand, after taking exception to chatter from the audience - 1996.

STADIUM AUSTRALIA opened at Homebush Bay in Sydney - 1999.

MELBOURNE experienced severe wind gusts and hailstones up to 10 centimetres - 2010.

* A number of sporting events and festivals were postponed or cancelled including the AFL NAB Cup game (Geelong v Brisbane). On average, hail was between 2 centimetres and 5 centimetres.

JEFF ST JOHN, Australian singer, died aged 71 - 2018.

* His biggest hits were *Big Time Operator* (1967), *Teach Me How to Fly* (1970), and *A Fool in Love* (1977).



Birthdays Bulletin

Thursday 7th March 2024

AFL Season Commences (Swans vs Dees)

Births

DANIEL J. TRAVANTI born in Kenosha, Wisconsin - 1940 (84)

* US actor. He starred as Captain Frank Furillo in the '80s TV program *Hill Street Blues*.

MARIA VENUTI born in Sydney, NSW - 1941 (83)

* Australian entertainer. She began her career as a performer on Brian Henderson's *Bandstand* and was a regular on *The Mike Walsh Show* in the 1970s and 1980s. From 2000-2007 she starred in the SBS comedy, *Pizza*, where she played the role of Bobo's Mama. In 2003, she had a role in the film *Fat Pizza*.

HANS POULSEN (Bruce Poulsen) born in Chelsea, Victoria - 1945. (Died aged 77 - 2023)

* Australian singer/songwriter. He had his biggest hit in 1970 with *Boom-Sha-La-La-La* - which he co-wrote with Seeker Bruce Woodley. He also wrote the hit songs *Monty & Me* (Zoot), *Rose Coloured Glasses/Jamie* (John Farnham), Russell Morris (*It's Only A Matter Of Time*, b-side of *The Real Thing*), The Strangers (*Lady Scorpio*) and *She's So Beautiful To Me* (Cliff Richard). His career was cut short in the '70s when he was diagnosed with cancer and had a stroke.

* He had a couple of strokes, the first where he was found unconscious in his apartment after a number of days and remained in a coma for a month. Having no medical insurance and bills piling up to \$100,000, he fled America in a friend's private plane. He says: "I did a runner in a wheelchair!" He then returned to Melbourne and spent two years recuperating.

JOHN HEARD born in Washington DC - 1946. (Died aged 71 - 2017)

* US actor. His films include *Home Alone 1 and 2*, *The Pelican Brief* and *The Client* TV series. Heard was nominated for an Emmy Award in 1999 for guest starring on *The Sopranos*.

PETER WOLF (Peter Blankfield) born in The Bronx, New York - 1946 (78)

* US singer. He was lead vocalist with the J Geils Band from 1967-1983.

* For five years he was married to actress Faye Dunaway.

REX HUNT born in Mentone, Victoria - 1949 (75)

* Australian rules footballer and radio/TV presenter. He played 202 senior VFL games with Richmond, Geelong and St Kilda, playing in two premierships with Richmond. When Rex retired from football, he pursued a career in both fishing and football broadcasting. He called over 2,000 games on radio.

* In 1992 Rex started up a TV fishing show called *Rex Hunt's Fishing World*. He also hosted Sunday morning panel shows on the Seven Network including the *Sportsworld Footy Panel*.

SIR VIV RICHARDS (Isaac Vivian Richards) born in St. Johns, Antigua - 1952 (72)

* West Indies cricketer. He achieved the Test cricket record for the fastest recorded hundred in terms of balls received. His highest score is 291 which he scored against England in 1976. He made the century off 56 balls in 81 minutes in April 1986. He played in over 100 Test matches.

DAVID KOCH born in Adelaide, SA - 1956 (68)

* Australian TV presenter, business and finance guru. 'Kochie' co-hosted Channel 7's early morning *Sunrise* program from 2002-2023. He is Australia's longest-serving breakfast television host. His last broadcast was on 9 June 2023. He has also co-hosted Seven Network's annual Christmas TV special *Carols in the Domain* eight times between 2014 and 2022.

* Since 2012 he's been the chairman of the Port Adelaide football club.

BRYAN CRANSTON born in San Fernando Valley, California - 1956 (68)

* US actor. He played Hal in the TV sit com *Malcolm In The Middle* and starred as Walter White in the TV series *Breaking Bad*. His movies include: *Argo*, *Godzilla*, *Trumbo* (nominated for Best Actor) and *The Infiltrator*. He played the dentist Tim Whatley on the TV sitcom *Seinfeld*.

MARK RICHARDS born in Newcastle, NSW - 1957 (67)

* Australian surfer. 'MR' won four successive world surfboard-riding titles from 1979 to 1983.

RIK MAYALL born in England - 1958. (Died aged 56 - 2014)

* English comic actor. He played Rik in the '80s TV comedy *The Young Ones*. He's also starred in the TV sit-coms *The New Statesman*, *Bottom* and the 1992 US movie *Drop Dead Fred*.

IVAN LENDL born in Czechoslovakia - 1960 (64)

* Czechoslovakian tennis player. He ranked world No 1 for 270 weeks. He won every major tennis event except Wimbledon and retired in late 1994.

TAYLOR DANE (Leslie Wonderman) born in New York - 1962 (62)

* US singer. Her hits include *Tell It To My Heart* ('88), *Love Will Lead You Back* ('90), *I'll Be Your Shelter* ('90) and *Heart of Stone* ('90).

CAMERON DADDO born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1965 (59)

* Australian actor and radio presenter on Smooth FM. He got his first showbiz break as host of *Perfect Match*. He played Vice President Mitchell Hayworth in the US TV drama 24. In America he also appeared in the TV series *Models Inc* ('94), and starred in the 1996 FX TV series.

* His brothers Andrew and Lochie are also in showbiz.

RACHEL WEISZ born in London, England - 1971 (53)

* UK actress. She won an Oscar in 2006 for Best Supporting Actress for her role in *The Constant Gardener*. Appeared in *The Mummy* and *The Mummy Returns*.

SIMON PRYCE born in Sydney, NSW - 1972 (52)

* Australian singer. He joined the Wiggles organisation in 2002, beginning as one of their main voice artists but didn't join their regular tour until in 2011. He became the 'Red Wiggle' in early 2013.

JENNA FISCHER (Regina Fischer) born in, Indiana - 1974 (50)

* American actress, film director and writer. She has appeared in several films including *Blades of Glory* but is best known for playing Pam Beesly in the US version of the sitcom *The Office*.

TAMSIN WEST born in Australia - 1974 (50)

* Australian actress and singer. She played Emma Gordon in *Neighbours* ('87-'91) and Linda Twist in *Round The Twist* ('89). She also sang the theme song to *Round The Twist*.

Events

JOHN and **WILL KELLOGG** served their first **CORNFLAKES** to patients at their Battle Creek sanitarium in Michigan - 1897.

CENTRAL FLYING SCHOOL was established at Point Cook, Victoria - 1913.

* It was the forerunner of the Australian Flying Corps and in 1921 became the Royal Australian Air Force.

The first **JAZZ** record, Nick LaRocca's Original Dixieland Jazz Band recording of *The Dixie Jazz Band One Step*, was released in America - 1917.

ELTON JOHN became the first rock musician since the Beatles to be immortalised at Madame Tussaud's Waxworks Museum in London, England - 1976.

JEFF FENECH (Australia) won the World Boxing Featherweight championship to become the 11th boxer to win world titles in three divisions - 1988.

EDMAR FREITAS, a Brazilian weight-training instructor, performed a then record 111,000 sit-ups in 24 hours - 2002.

* Freitas carried out the feat on a stage mounted in a busy street in Brazil and ate an energy bar and drank coconut milk every hour.

GARUDA INDONESIA FLIGHT 200, a Boeing 737, overshot the runway and crashed killing 22 of 140 the people onboard, including three Australians - 2007.

CHARLIE SHEEN was axed from the TV sit com *Two And A Half Men* because of what TV executives called his "dangerously self-destructive conduct" - 2011.

GRAHAM NORTON, UK TV host, broke the Guinness Book of Records for 'The Most Questions Asked On A TV Chat Show' - 2013. * He asked 175 questions and helped raise over £1 million for Comic Relief with his BBC Three show *Big Chat*.

OPRAH WITH MEGHAN AND HARRY, a US television special hosted by Oprah Winfrey, aired in the US - 2021.

* The interview came the year after Harry and Meghan announced they would step down as working members of the British royal family in January 2020.



Birthday Bulletin

Friday 8th March 2024

International Women's Day

Births

GERARD KENNEDY born in Perth, WA - 1932 (92)

* Australian actor. For several years he starred as Sgt. Frank Banner in *Division 4*. His first major acting role was playing Kragg in the '60s drama series *Hunter*. His film roles include - *The Mango Tree*, *Eliza Fraser* and *Newsfront*.

SUSAN CLARK (Nora Golding) born in Ontario, Canada - 1943 (81)

* Canadian actress. She played Katherine in the '80s television series *Webster* and had the female role in the 1968 movie *Coogan's Bluff*.

MICKY DOLENZ (George Michael Dolenz) born in Los Angeles, California - 1945 (79)

* US actor, vocalist (and sometimes drummer) with The Monkees. With the death of Mike Nesmith in 2021, he is now the only remaining Monkee. He sang lead on their '60s hits *I'm A Believer*, *Last Train To Clarksville*, *She, Randy Scouse Git* (which he wrote), *Goin' Down* (which he co-wrote) and *Pleasant Valley Sunday*.

* He toured Australia in late 2016 with Peter Tork on the Monkees 50th anniversary tour. The group also released a new album *Good Times*. It made the top 20 in America and Australia.

* From 1956-1958 he starred as Corky in the TV series *Circus Boy*.

RANDY MEISNER born in Scottsbluff, Nebraska - 1946. (Died aged 77 - 2023)

* US musician. He was an original member of Poco and also played in Rick Nelson's Stone Canyon Band. From 1971-'77 he was bass player with the Eagles. He wrote their 1976 hit *Take It To The Limit*. He left the group to pursue a solo career and had a couple of minor hits in the US.

CAROLE BAYER SAGER born in Manhattan, New York - 1947 (77)

* American songwriter and singer. She had a No 1 hit in Australia in 1977 with *You're Moving Out Today*. She co-wrote the hits - *A Groovy Kind Of Love*, *Arthur's Theme*, *Nobody Does It Better*, *That's What Friends Are For* and *When I Need You*.

* In 1982 she married Burt Bacharach. They divorced in 1991.

LITTLE PEGGY MARCH (Margaret Battivio) born in Lansdale, Pennsylvania - 1948 (76)

* US singer. 'Little Peggy' was only 147 cm tall and 15 when she had her one hit with *I Will Follow Him* - a No 1 in the US in 1963.

CHERYL BAKER (Rita Crudgington) born in London, England - 1954 (70)

* Vocalist with UK group Bucks Fizz. They had several hits in the '80s including *Making Your Mind Up* and *The Land of Make Believe*. After leaving the group she moved into television and hosted the programs *Eggs & Baker* and *My Secret Desire*.

GARY NUMAN (Gary Webb) born in London, England - 1958 (66)

* English singer. His big year was 1979 with the hits *Are Friends Electric* and *Cars* which both made No 1 in England and were big sellers in Australia.

AIDAN QUINN born in Chicago, Illinois - 1959 (65)

* American actor. His films include *Stakeout*, *Desperately Seeking Susan* and *Legends of The Fall*.

CAMRYN MANHEIM (Debra Manheim) born in Caldwell, New Jersey - 1961 (63)

* US actress. She played Ellenor Frutt in the TV drama *The Practice* and Delia Banks in *Ghost Whisperer*.

SHAWN MULLINS born in Atlanta, Georgia - 1968 (56)

* US singer. He had a huge pop hit in 1998 with *Lullaby*.

ANGIE HART born in Adelaide, SA - 1972 (52)

* Vocalist with the group Frente. Their hits include *Accidentally Kelly Street* (No 3 in Australia) and *Bizarre Love Triangle* (which charted in US). From 1998-2004 she was in the duo Splendid with her then-husband.

CHERYL SALISBURY born in Newcastle, NSW - 1974 (50)

* Australian soccer player. She's a former captain of the Matildas. She is Australia's highest female international goal scorer of all time. In January 2009 she retired after the team played Italy at Parramatta Stadium.

FREDDIE PRINZE JR born in - Los Angeles, California - 1976 (48)

* US actor and son of the late Freddie Prinze. He played Cole Ortiz in the 2010 TV season of *24*. He had a starring role in the film *Scooby Doo* and sequel. In 2002 he married Sarah Michelle Gellar who also starred in the film.

ALEXANDRA DAVIES born in England - 1977 (47)

* Australian actress. She played Cate McMasters in the TV series *All Saints*. In her breakthrough role, she played Donna Parry in *Young Lions* in 2002. Also appeared in the sit-com *Flat Chat* (2001). She was a Most Popular New Female Talent nominee at the 2003 Logie Awards.

JAMES VAN DER BEEK born in Cheshire, Connecticut - 1977 (47)

* American actor. He played Dawson Leery in TV's *Dawson's Creek* and starred in *CSI: Cyber* as FBI special agent Elijah Mundo.

CHARLI ROBINSON (Sharlene Robinson) born in Newcastle, NSW - 1980 (44)

* Australian singer and radio/TV presenter. She was one of the original members of the children's group Hi-5 (as Charli Delaney) and was a member from 1998-2008. She's been a reporter on TV's *Getaway* and was a host of *Cruise Mode*. She's also a former SEA FM Gold Coast breakfast host.

JOHNNY RUFFO born in Calcutta, WA - 1988. (Died aged 36 - 2023)

* Australian singer. He finished third during the third season of the Australian version of *The X Factor* in 2011. He won the twelfth season of *Dancing with the Stars* in 2012. His singles include *On Top* (#14 in Australia), *Take It Home* and *Untouchable*. He had acting roles in the *Home and Away* (as Chris Carrington) soapie and *Neighbours*. He died on November 10, 2023 after being diagnosed with a rare brain cancer in 2017.

PETRA KVITOVÁ born in Czech Republic - 1990 (34)

* Czech tennis player. Her career-high ranking of world No. 2 was reached in 2011 by the WTA. She won the 2011 and 2014 Wimbledon Championships as well as the 2011 WTA Tour Championships singles titles, becoming the first Grand Slam event winner born in the 1990s, and the third player to win the WTA Championships in her first attempt.

Events

First **AUSTRALIAN TELEPHONE BOX** was installed at the Sydney G.P.O. - 1893.

MITCHELL LIBRARY opened in Sydney - 1921.

MUHAMMAD ALI lost his first professional fight when he was defeated by **JOE FRAZIER** at Madison Square Garden - 1971.

WHISKY AU GO GO nightclub in Brisbane was deliberately set on fire resulting in the deaths of 15 people - 1973.

XPT (express train service) commenced in NSW - 1982.

NATIONAL LIBRARY in Canberra suffered damages estimated at \$4 million due to fire - 1985.

SALIM MALIK, Pakistan cricket captain, and team coach **INTIKHAB ALAM** were sacked over bribery allegations by Australian cricketers - 1995.

TELSTRA paid \$636 million for the **TRADING POST** newspaper - 2004

CRAIG PARRY played one of the most spectacular winning shots in PGA history to win the US PGA Championship with an eagle in a sudden death play-off against American Scott Verplank - 2004.

* He won \$A1.19 million) and an expensive sports car for his victory.

MALAYSIA AIRLINES Flight 370 mysteriously disappeared en route to Beijing - 2014.

* 227 passengers plus 12 crew all disappeared. It's believed that the plane was lost in the Southern Indian Ocean 2,500 km southwest of Australia.

ROSS HANNAFORD, Australian guitarist with Daddy Cool, died aged 65 of cancer - 2016.

ICC WOMEN'S T20 WORLD CUP FINAL was played at the MCG to a crowd of 86,174 - 2020.

* This set several records including the largest for a women's cricket match and the largest for a women's sporting event in Australia.

TOPOL (born Chaim Topol), Israeli actor/singer, died aged 87 - 2023.

* He is best known for his portrayal of Tevye, the lead role in the stage musical *Fiddler on the Roof* and the 1971 film adaptation, performing this role more than 3,500 times from 1967 through 2009.

Birthday Bulletin

Saturday 9th March 2024

Births

LLOYD PRICE born in Kenner, Louisiana - 1933. (Died aged 88 - 2021)

* US singer. He had three big hits in 1959 with *Stagger Lee*, *Where Were You On Our Wedding Day?* and *Personality*.

MICKEY GILLEY born in Natchez, Mississippi - 1936. (Died aged 86 - 2022)

* US country singer. In Australia he had a huge country hit in 1974 with *Room Full Of Roses*. Gilley died in May 2022.

* His Gilley's nightclub club inspired the movie *Urban Cowboy*

* He's a cousin of singer Jerry Lee Lewis and evangelist Jimmy Swaggart.

MARK LINDSAY born in Cambridge, Idaho - 1942 (82)

* American singer. He was lead singer for Paul Revere & The Raiders before going solo and charting with *Arizona* ('69) and the follow-up *Silver Bird* ('70).

BOBBY FISCHER (Robert Fischer) born in Chicago, Illinois - 1943. (Died aged 64 - 2008)

* US world champion chess player. (He was an Icelandic citizen at the time of his death in January 2008.) He is believed to be the all-time greatest chess player.

* In his later years he lived in seclusion and semi-secrecy for decades.

Laurie Allen born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1944. (Died aged 58 - 2002)

* Australian singer. Bobby (Bright) & Laurie had '60s hits with *I Belong With You* (which he wrote) and *Hitchhiker* and in 1970 with *The Carroll County Accident*.

CHRIS THOMPSON born in England - 1948 (76)

* English singer. Lead singer for Manfred Mann's Earthband. They had hits with *Blinded By The Light* ('76), *You Angel You* ('78) and *Davey's On The Road* ('78). In 1979 he left the group to form Night. They had a major hit in 1979 with *Hot Summer Nights*.

* He was a co-writer of the John Farnham hit *You're The Voice*.

* He was born in the UK but was raised in New Zealand.

ALAN CASWELL (David Alan Caswell) born in England - 1952 (72)

* Australian country singer and songwriter. He penned *On The Inside*, theme to the TV series *Prisoner*, and an international hit for Lynne Hamilton.

JOHN DOYLE born in Lithgow, NSW - 1953 (71)

* Australian comedian and writer. He's well known for playing 'Rampaging Roy Slaven' - a character he created for the radio show *This Sporting Life*. The team of "Roy and HG" (played by Greig Pickhaver) made their debut on Triple J in early 1986. After 22 years at Triple J in 2009 the pair joined Triple M to host the drive program *The Life* on Monday and Friday. They are currently heard on ABC radio presenting *Bludging On The Blindside*.

* A former schoolteacher, he wrote *Changi* that was made into a TV mini-series in 2001.

MARTIN FRY born in Manchester, England - 1958 (66)

* Vocalist with English group ABC. They had two hits in 1982 with *Poison Arrow* and *Look Of Love*. Their biggest hit overseas was in 1987 with *When Smokey Sings* - a tribute to singer Smokey Robinson.

JULIETTE BINOCHE born in Paris, France - 1964 (60)

* French actress. She starred in the 2001 hit *Chocolat* and won a best supporting actress Oscar for her role in *The English Patient* ('96).

TONY LOCKETT born in Ballarat, Victoria - 1966 (58)

* Australian rules footballer. "Pluggger" played 263 games with St Kilda ('83-'94) then joined the Sydney Swans in 1995 and played 98 games. In 1997 he shared the Brownlow Medal award with John Platten (Hawthorn).

* In 1999 he broke the record for the most goals kicked by an VFL/AFL player when he took his tally to 1,306. After a 2 year absence, he made a comeback with Sydney in 2002 but only managed to play 3 games and kick 3 goals. He ended his career kicking a record 1,360 goals.

* He is also a successful greyhound trainer and breeder.

MARTIN JOHNSON born in Solihull, England - 1970 (54)

* English rugby player. Former captain of England's rugby team. He led England to Triple Crowns, Grand Slams and the World Cup. Retired in January 2005.

EMMANUEL LEWIS born in Brooklyn, New York - 1971 (53)

* US actor. At the age of 12, the 102 cm (3 feet 4 inches) tall actor starred in the *Webster* '80s TV series. When the series ended in 1987 he continued with his school studies and earned a theatre arts degree.

DANNY GREEN born in Perth, WA - 1973 (51)

* Australian boxer and health and fitness trainer. In February 2017 his record stood at 36 wins (28 by TKO) and 5 losses. On 3 February 2017, Green and Anthony Mundine held a rematch at the Adelaide Oval. In a controversial fight during which both boxers were deducted points, Green was declared the winner, despite most commentators awarding the fight to Mundine.

BOW WOW (Shad Gregory Moss) born in Columbus, Ohio - 1987 (37)

* US rap artist and actor who was originally known as Lil' Bow Wow. He had a major chart hit in 2001 with *Puppy Love*.

* He made his movie debut as the star of the 2002 movie *Like Mike*. His other films include *The Fast And The Furious: Tokyo Drift* and *Lottery Ticket*.

Events

NAPOLEON BONAPARTE, 26, married his fiancée **JOSEPHINE**, 32 - 1796.

A patent for **FALSE TEETH** was granted to Charles M Graham of New York City - 1822.

MELBOURNE MUSEUM was established - 1854.

* It was originally located (along with the State Library and the old state gallery) in Latrobe St.

BARBIE DOLL made its debut in New York - 1959.

* Ruth Handler, who created the Barbie Doll, died aged 85 in 2002. She co-founded the Mattel company with her husband in 1945. Barbie was named and modelled after her daughter Barbara (who is now 81). Ken, created in 1961, was named after her son. He died in 1994.

THE SUPREMES released their first single *I Want A Guy* - 1961.

* It bombed! So did the follow up *Buttered Popcorn* and their third single only made it to No 95 in the US charts! It wasn't until 1964 that they finally went to No 1 with *Where Did Our Love Go*.

COUNTRY PARTY changed their name to the **NATIONAL PARTY** - 1974.

BAD COMPANY played their first gig in Newcastle, England - 1974.

* The group featured Paul Rodgers ex-Free on vocals.

About **34,000 PEOPLE** marched through the streets of Sydney in protest against continuing strikes in Australia - 1981. (Unconfirmed date).

U2 released their 5th album *The Joshua Tree* - 1987.

* It's the band's best selling album. In 2019 they toured Australia and their concert featured all the tracks off the album.

GEORGE BURNS, American comedian, died aged 100 - 1996.

DOCKLANDS STADIUM (now Marvel Stadium) held its first AFL game with Essendon playing Port Adelaide - 2000.

LONDON EYE (aka the Millennium Wheel) opened to the public in England - 2000.

ALAN BOND left jail having served little more than 3 years behind bars for Australia's largest corporate fraud - 2000.

* He was released after a ruling overturned an earlier appeal that had increased his original sentence from 4-7 years.

ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S *Love Never Dies* opened at the Adelphi Theatre in the West End - 2010.

* It is a sequel to the Lloyd Webber musical *The Phantom of the Opera*.

JERRY LEE LEWIS, US rock 'n roll musician, married his 7th wife Judith in Mississippi - 2012.

* It was his cousin's ex-wife. He was once married to his cousin Rusty's sister Myra. They stayed together until his death in 2022.

JON ENGLISH, Australian singer and actor, died aged 66 - 2016.

ITALY became the first country to implement a nationwide quarantine in a bid to stop the spread of COVID-19 - 2020.

Birthday Bulletin

Sunday 10th March 2024

Births

GRAHAM "POLLY" FARMER born in Western Australia - 1935. (Died aged 83 - 2019)

* Australian Rules footballer. The East Perth player joined VFL club Geelong in 1962 when he was 27. The father of the "handball game" played 101 games for the Cats including their 1963 premiership. * He was given his nickname as a six-year-old, when people said he chattered like a parrot.

CHUCK NORRIS (Carlos Norris) born in Oklahoma - 1940 (84)

* American actor and former world middleweight karate champion. He starred in the TV series *Walker: Texas Ranger*. (He also sang the theme song.) His action films include *Return Of the Dragon* ('73), *Missing In Action* ('83) plus the sequels, and *Delta Force* ('85).

DEAN TORRENCE born in Los Angeles, California - 1940 (84)

* US singer. One half of the US duo Jan (Berry) & Dean. They scored their biggest hit in 1963 with *Surf City* written by Beach Boy Brian Wilson with some help from Jan. Their other '60s hits include *Dead Man's Curve*, *Little Old Lady From Pasadena* and *Sidewalk Surfin'*. He sang lead on the Beach Boys 1965 hit *Barbara Ann*.

TOM SCHOLZ born in Toledo, Ohio - 1947 (77)

* US guitarist/keyboard player. He's the founding member of the band Boston. Their biggest hits were *More Than A Feeling* ('76) and *Amanda* ('87).

TINA CHARLES (Tina Hoskins) born in Whitechapel, England - 1954 (70)

* English singer. She had her three big hits in 1976 with *I Love To Love*, *Dance Little Lady Dance* and *Dr Love*.

SHARON STONE born in Meadville, Pennsylvania - 1958 (66)

* US actress. One of her first major roles was opposite Arnold Schwarzenegger in *Total Recall* ('90) but she gained most attention for her role as a murder suspect in *Basic Instinct* ('92). Her other films include *The Quick And The Dead* ('95) and *Casino* ('95).

NENEH CHERRY born in Stockholm, Sweden - 1964 (60)

* English vocalist and daughter of jazz trumpeter Don Cherry. She had a top 10 hit in 1988 with *Buffalo Stance* and also had a huge hit in 1994 with *7 Seconds* (a duet with Youssau N'Dour).

PRINCE EDWARD (Edward Antony Richard Louis) born in London, England - 1964 (60)

* The Duke of Edinburgh and the youngest child of Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip. On Edward's 59th birthday in 2023, his brother Charles III granted him the title Duke of Edinburgh as a life peerage, a dukedom previously held by their father, who died in 2021, then briefly by Charles himself.

* In 1999 he married Sophie Rhys-Jones. In November 2003 they had their first child, a daughter, Louise Windsor. A son, James, Viscount Severn was born in December 2007.

CRAIG RIDDINGTON born in Manly, NSW - 1964 (60)

* Australian ironman. The Manly lifeguard began competing in Ironman competitions in 1983. The book titled *The Greatest Surf Life Savers in History* hailed 'Riddo' as the 'greatest surf swimmer ever' and amongst the top 25 competitors in the history of the movement.

EDIE BRICKELL born in Oak Cliff, Texas - 1966 (58)

* US singer. Edie Brickell (pron: 'bree-kell') & the New Bohemians had a hit in 1988 with *What I Am*. * In 1992 she married Paul Simon. In 1993 they had their first child.

FELICE ARENA born in Kyabram, Victoria - 1968 (56)

* Australian actor and author. He played Marco Alessi in the TV series *Neighbours*. Arena also co-wrote with Melbourne AFL footballer Garry Lyon the *Specky Magee* children's books.

REBECCA HARRIS born in - 1968 (56)

* Australian TV presenter. She spent 6 years as a reporter on *Getaway* and then joined the Nine Network's *Animal Hospital* program. Also reported on *Burke's Backyard* and *Renovation Rescue*.

JO SILVAGNI (Joanne Bailey) born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1970 (54)

* Australian model, TV reporter and assistant to Glenn Ridge on the TV quiz show *Sale Of The Century* (1991-1994).

* In 1996 she married AFL Carlton footballer Stephen Silvagni. Their son Jack plays for Carlton.

TIMBALAND (Timothy Mosley) born in Virginia - 1971 (53)

* US rapper, singer, producer and composer. He had No 1 solo hit in Australia in 2007 with *Apologise*. He's featured on several hits since the mid-90s including Madonna's 2008 hit *Four Minutes*. He released three volumes of the album titled *Shock Value*. He co-wrote Justin Timberlake's 2013 hit *Mirrors*.

ROBIN THICKE born in Los Angeles, California - 1977 (47)

* American-Canadian singer songwriter. He is the son of actor Alan Thicke and *Days Of Our Lives* star Gloria Loring. He made No 1 in Australia with the 2013 single *Blurred Lines* featuring T.I. and Pharrell.

CARRIE UNDERWOOD born in Muskogee, Oklahoma - 1983 (41)

* US country singer and songwriter. She won the fourth season of TV's *American Idol* and won the Grammy Award for Best New Artist 2007. Her debut album, *Some Hearts*, became the fastest selling debut country album in US history. It is also the best-selling solo female debut album in country music history. *Some Hearts* yielded three number one hits on the country charts in the United States.

* In 2021 she released her first gospel album *My Saviour*. In 2022 she released her 9th album *Denim and Rhinestones* that made No 1 on the Australian country chart.

EMILY SANDE (Adele Emile Sande) born in England - 1987 (37)

* Scottish singer/songwriter. In 2012 she had top 10 hits with *Next to Me* and *Beneath Your Beautiful* a collaboration with Labrinth. Her album *Our Version of Events* became the best-selling album of 2012 in the UK.

EMILY OSMENT born in Los Angeles, California - 1992 (32)

* American actress and singer. She played Gerti Giggles in *Spy Kids 2: Island of Lost Dreams* and *Spy Kids 3-D: Game Over*. She appeared in the TV sitcom *Hannah Montana* playing Lilly Truscott as well as the series movie, *Hannah Montana: The Movie*.

Events

ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL made the first phone call - 1876.

* The first words were spoken to his assistant (John Watson) - "*Watson, come here I want to see you.*" This was made 3 days after he patented the telephone.

D W Griffith's **IN OLD CALIFORNIA**, the first movie made in Hollywood, was released - 1910.

APEX was established in Australia in Geelong - 1931.

Adelaide's first **PARKING METERS** began operating in Rundle and Hindley Streets - 1958.

On his 41st birthday, **JAMES EARL RAY** was sentenced to 99 years in prison for killing **MARTIN LUTHER KING JNR** - 1969.

* Ray died in 1998 still proclaiming his innocence.

WILLIAM McMAHON became Australia's 25th Prime Minister - 1971.

SYDNEY and the **NSW** south coast were shaken at 5.09 am by an earthquake which registered 5.5 on the Richter scale - 1973.

ANDY GIBB, Australian singer, died aged 30 of a heart infection - 1988.

FORMULA ONE GRAND PRIX returned to Melbourne - 1996.

* Melbourne took over from Adelaide as the host of the Australian Grand Prix. It was first held in Melbourne in 1928.

AMY GRANT married country singer **VINCE GILL** - 2000.

MANDY MOORE, 24, married fellow singer **RYAN ADAMS**, 24, - 2009.

COREY HAIM, Canadian actor, died aged 38 of a prescription drug overdose - 2010.

MARVIN GAYE's family was awarded \$7.3 million after a jury voted unanimously that Robin Thicke, T.I and Pharrell Williams had copied the late Marvin Gaye's song *Got To Give It Up* in composing Thicke's hit *Blurred Lines* - 2015.

JERRY SAMUELS, who as **NAPOLEON XIV** wrote and recorded the novelty hit *They're Coming to Take Me Away, Ha-Haaa!* ('66), died aged 84 - 2023.

Birthday Bulletin

Monday 11th March 2024

Labour Day (VIC), Adelaide Cup, 8 Hour Day (TAS), Canberra Day

Births

GEOFFREY BLAINEY born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1930 (94)

* Australian historian and academic. He is prominent in academic circles and as a conservative political commentator. He's written about 40 books.

RUPERT MURDOCH (Keith Rupert Murdoch) born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1931 (93)

* Australian-born businessman. He became a US citizen in 1985. He's the founder of News Corp. Murdoch is the world's largest newspaper publisher whose company spans the world. He also owns 20th Century Fox Film and Fox Broadcasting. He is the 31st richest person in the US.

* On 11 January 2016, Murdoch announced his engagement to former model Jerry Hall in a notice in The Times newspaper. They wed on March 4, 2016 a week before his 85th birthday. Hall was then 59. It was her second marriage. From 1990-1999 she was married to Mick Jagger. They had four children. It was Murdoch's fourth marriage. Hall filed for divorce on July 1, 2022, citing irreconcilable differences. The divorce was finalised in August 2022.

* His son Lachlan is Executive Chairman of News Corp.

GEOFF HUNT born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1947 (77)

* Australian squash champion. In 1965, at 18, he became the youngest player in history to win the Australian national title, winning seven national titles in total. Geoff also won every major international squash tournament, including the British Open eight times between 1969 and 1981.

* He was ranked No 1 in the world from 1975-80 and won the inaugural World Open Championship in 1976. He went on to win the World Open four times. Back trouble forced him to retire in 1982.

BOBBY McFERRIN born in Manhattan, New York - 1950 (74)

* American singer. He had a worldwide No 1 hit in 1988 with *Don't Worry Be Happy*. He was also the voice behind the *Cosby* TV show theme.

SAM KEKOVICH born in Manjimup, WA - 1950 (74)

* Australian Rules footballer and media personality. 'Slammin Sam' played for North Melbourne ('68-'76) - including their 1975 premiership team and also played 4 games for Collingwood ('77). On radio he worked for 3AK on the breakfast program and Triple M. * He is well known for appearing in the Australia Day TV commercials promoting Australian lamb.

SUSAN RICHARDSON born in Pennsylvania - 1952 (72)

* US actress. She played Susan Bradford in the TV series *Eight Is Enough* ('77-'81). * She has suffered three mini strokes.

ALEX KINGSTON born in London, England - 1963 (61)

* British actress and former wife of actor Ralph Fiennes. She played Dr Elizabeth Corday in the US TV drama *ER* and Dinah Drake Lance in the TV drama series *Arrow*.

LISA LOEB born in Bethesda, Maryland - 1968 (56)

* American singer. Her biggest hit is *Stay*. It made No 1 in America in 1993 making her the first singer to have a No 1 hit single without having signed a major record deal. She has recorded several children's music albums.

* Lisa had a guest starring role in the series finale of the TV program *Gossip Girl*.

SIMONE BUCHANAN born in Marrickville, NSW - 1968 (56)

* Australian actress. She played Debbie Kelly in the Australian TV sit-com *Hey Dad!* and had a regular role in *Pacific Drive*.

* She was one of the cast members of *Hey Dad!* that accused star Robert Hughes of inappropriate sexual actions and comments. Hughes served time in prison.

JOHNNY KNOXVILLE (Philip Clapp) born in Knoxville, Tennessee - 1971 (53)

* US actor. Co-creator and principal star of the TV program *Jackass*, *Jackass 3D*, *Jackass Forever* and others. His films include *Men In Black II*, *The Dukes of Hazzard* and *Walking Tall*.

* He voiced Leonardo in the *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles* movie in 2014.

ADAM BANDT born in Adelaide, South Australia - 1972 (52)

* Australian politician. He became the leader of the Australian Greens in February 2020 after Richard Di Natale stood down. He is the first member of the Australian Greens to be elected to the House of Representatives at a general election.

JOEL MADDEN (Joel Combs) born in Waldorf, Maryland - 1979 (45)

* US vocalist. In 2014 Joel and his twin brother Benji had a No 1 hit as the Madden Brothers with *We Are Done*. Joel and Benji also headed the group Good Charlotte. * He was a judge on *The Voice Australia* for five seasons beginning in 2012. In 2013, Joel won the Logie Award for Most Popular New Male Talent for his role as coach on the program.

* He wed Nicole Richie in December 2010. They have two children: a daughter Harlow and son Sparrow.

BENJI MADDEN (Benjamin Combs) born in Waldorf, Maryland - 1979 (45)

* US guitarist and vocalist. In 2014 Joel and his twin brother Benji had a No 1 hit as the Madden Brothers with *We Are Done*. Joel and Benji headed the group Good Charlotte. In 2007 they made No 2 in Australia with *Dance Floor Anthem (I Don't Want to Be In Love)*.

* In January 2015 he married actress Cameron Diaz.

* From 2015-2016 he was a cocah pn *The Voice*.

Events

FRANKENSTEIN, written by Mary Shelley, was published - 1818.

* She started writing the story when she was 18, and the first edition was published anonymously in London.

The first **APPENDECTOMY** in Australia was performed in Toowoomba, Queensland - 1893.

* The patient was a 30-year-old mother of four. She went on to live into her 80s.

CHARLES VAN DOREN finally lost on the US TV game show *'Twenty-One'* - 1958.

* In 1959 he confessed that he had been given the correct answers by the producers of the show *'Twenty One.'* This incident formed the basis for the film *Quiz Show*, directed by Robert Redford and starring Ralph Fiennes as Van Doren.

KEN (doll), boyfriend of Barbie, first went on sale - 1961.

* His full name is Kenneth Carson. Ken is two years and two days younger than Barbie. He is named after the son of Mattel founders Ruth and Elliott Handler. The first Ken doll wore red swim trunks, sported cork sandals and carried a yellow towel.

Music publisher Dick James announced that **THE BEATLES** song *Yesterday* had been recorded by 446 artists - 1967.

MARGARET THATCHER became the first woman leader of a British political party - 1975.

JANET JACKSON signed a \$30 million three-album deal with Virgin records - 1991.

* It was the largest record deal ever - until a week later when her brother Michael signed with Sony.

The three surviving **BEATLES** turned down a \$225 million offer to do a reunion tour - 1996.

PAUL McCARTNEY was knighted by the Queen - 1997.

In **MADRID**, more than 1800 were injured and 191 people were killed when 10 bombs detonated within 16 minutes of each other in four commuter trains - 2004.

THE GREAT EAST JAPAN EARTHQUAKE occurred - 2011.

* It was the most powerful known earthquake to have hit Japan. The earthquake was a magnitude 9.0-9.1. It triggered extremely destructive tsunami waves of up to 40.5 metres. There were 15,799 deaths, 5,927 injured and 4,041 people missing.

KEITH EMERSON, Emerson, Lake & Palmer fame, died aged 71 (self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head) - 2016.

HAL BLAINE, US drummer, died aged 90 - 2019.

* As a session musician, he played on 40 No 1 hit singles, and 150 top ten hits. By his own accounting, he played on over 35,000 recorded tracks.

WHO (World Health Organization) declared the COVID-19 outbreak a pandemic - 2020.

SAMANTHA ARMYTAGE quit as the host of the TV program *Sunrise* live on air after more than eight years of appearing on the Seven Network's breakfast show - 2021.

Birthday Bulletin

Tuesday 12th March 2024

Births

BARBARA FELDON (Barbara Hall) born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania - 1933 (91)

* American comic actress. She starred as Agent 99 in the '60s comedy *Get Smart* and was also in the first five programs of *Laugh In*. * She wrote a self-help book in 2003 called *Living Alone and Loving It*. She divorced in 1967 and never remarried although she was in a relationship for another 12 years.

AL JARREAU (Alwyn Jarreau) born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin - 1940. (Died aged 76 - 2017)

* US singer. His most successful songs were *We're In This Love Together* ('81) and *Mornin'* ('83). He also sang the theme to the *Moonlighting* television series.

JIM SHARMAN (James Sharman) born in Sydney, NSW - 1945 (79)

* Australian stage producer and son of the late Jimmy Sharman (who used to tour Australia with his famous boxing shows.) At the age of 24 he directed the Australian stage production of *Hair* which was followed by *Jesus Christ Superstar*.

LIZA MINNELLI born in Los Angeles, California - 1946 (78)

* American singer and actress. Daughter of actress Judy Garland and director Vincent Minnelli. She won an Academy Award for Best Actress in *Cabaret* in 1972. Her other films include - *The Sterile Cuckoo* ('69), *New York, New York* ('77) and *Arthur* ('81).

* She was married briefly to Peter Allen.

JOHNNY YOUNG (John De Jong) born in Rotterdam, The Netherlands - 1947 (77)

* Australian singer/songwriter and TV/radio host. As a pop singer he had '60s hits with *Step Back/Caralyn*, *Kiss Me Now* and *Craise Finton Kirk*. From 1971-1989 he hosted and produced the very successful *Young Talent Time* program. He wrote the hit songs *The Real Thing*, *The Girl That I Love* (Russell Morris), *The Star* (Ross D Wylie), *Smiley* (Ronnie Burns) and *I Thank You* (Lionel Rose).

* On radio he's been a host on 3XY Melbourne, 2CH Sydney and 6IX Perth.

JAMES TAYLOR born in Boston, Massachusetts - 1948 (76)

* US singer/songwriter. In 2015 he had his first No 1 hit album in the US with *Before This World*. It came 45 years after his debut release. His two biggest hits are *Fire and Rain* and *You've Got A Friend*. His first album *James Taylor* was released in 1968 on Apple records. His first single *Carolina In My Mind* had Paul McCartney playing bass guitar. When he sang the lyric - "*a holy host of others*" - he was referring to The Beatles.

* From 1972-'82 he was married to Carly Simon. They revived *Mockingbird* - a hit in 1974.

JON PROVOST born in Los Angeles, California - 1950 (74)

* US actor. He played Timmy Martin in the *Lassie* TV series from 1957-1964.

PIM VERBEEK born in The Netherlands - 1956 (68)

* Dutch football manager. From 2007-2010 he was head coach of the Australia Socceroos soccer team.

* His brother Robert Verbeek is also a soccer coach.

JOHN ANDRETTI born in Indianapolis, Indiana - 1963. (Died aged 56 - 2020)

* US racing driver. He was a member of the famous Andretti family of motor racing drivers. His father Aldo is Mario Andretti's twin brother. In 1991 John won his first Indy Car race at the Australian Grand Prix. Andretti's son, Jarett, was a USAC sprint car driver and a driver in the GT4 America Series. He died aged 56 of colon cancer.

SUZIE WILKS born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1970 (54)

* Australian TV presenter. Her TV career began as a model on *Sale of the Century* before replacing Tracey Dale on *Our House*. She also hosted the home renovation program, *Changing Rooms*, plus other special programs, such as *Guess Who's Coming To Dinner?*

JASON SINGH born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1974 (50)

* Australian singer and musician. A member of the trio Taxiride. Their hits from 1999-2002 include *Get Set, Everywhere You Go* and *Creepin' Up Slowly*.

STEVE PRICE born in Dalby, Queensland - 1974 (50)

* Australian rugby league player. A former Canterbury Bulldogs player, he played in their 1995 premiership. Due to injury he missed out on playing in their 2004 premiership team. In 2004 he accepted a 3 year deal to join the New Zealand Warriors and was appointed their captain in 2005.

GARETH WIDDOP born in West Yorkshire, England - 1989 (35)

* English born Australian rugby league player. He captained the St. George Illawarra Dragons from 2014-2019 and the Melbourne Storm from 2010-2013, with whom he won the 2012 NRL Premiership. He is also an England national and World All Stars representative. In 2023 he joined the Castleford Tigers.

MALINA WEISSMAN born in New York City, New York - 2003 (21)

* US child actress and model. She played the role of Violet Baudelaire in the Netflix TV series *A Series of Unfortunate Events*. She is also known for her roles as young April O'Neil in *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles* and young Kara in *Supergirl*.

Events

First bottles of **COCA-COLA** went on sale in America - 1894.

* It first went on sale in 1886 at Jacob's Pharmacy in Atlanta, Georgia. It was initially sold as a patent medicine for five cents a glass at soda fountains, which were popular in the US at the time due to the belief that carbonated water was good for the health.

JULIETTE 'DAISY' GORDON LOW founded the **GIRL GUIDES** (later Girl Scouts) in America - 1912.

CANBERRA was officially named at a ceremony on Capital Hill - 1913.

* Canberra is an Aboriginal word meaning "meeting place."

DENNIS THE MENACE comic strip began - 1951.

THE CAT IN THE HAT, written by Dr Seuss, was published - 1957.

THE SEEKERS performed at the Myer Music Bowl in Melbourne to a record crowd of approximately 200,000 - 1967.

* It remains as the largest ever concert crowd in Australia and equated to approximately 10% of the city's population.

PAUL McCARTNEY married **LINDA EASTMAN** - 1969.

* Paul's best man was his brother Mike McGear. No other Beatles were present. Linda died in 1998.

* According to Paul, he and his late wife Linda only spent a few nights apart in their 29 years of marriage.

GEORGE HARRISON and his wife Pattie were arrested and charged with possession of 120 marijuana joints - 1969.

JOHN LENNON's first solo single *Power To The People* was released (credited to John Lennon/Plastic Ono Band) - 1971.

JOHN LENNON and **HARRY NILSSON** were thrown out of the Troubadour Club in LA - 1974.

* A drunken Lennon had been swearing and interrupting a show by the Smothers Brothers.

MARGARET THROSBY became the first woman to present the ABC television news nationally - 1978.

FLORENCE BJELKE-PETERSEN, wife of the Queensland Premier Sir Joh Bjelke-Petersen, became a National Party Senator - 1980.

HOPSCOTCH was played for 202 hours by ten students from Yale University beginning on this day - 1982.

MELINDA GAINSFORD became the first Australian to win gold in a world sprint title in more than 30 years - 1995.

* She won the 200m event at the indoor championships in Barcelona.

A **BATHTUB PUSHING** world record was achieved by 25 members of Adelaide's Tea Tree Gully Baptist church who from March 11-12 pushed a bathtub 513 km in a 24 hour period - 1995.

STELLA McCARTNEY's cut-price clothing range went on sale at Target causing a shopping frenzy at their Australian stores - 2007.

MURRAY BALL, NZ cartoonist and creator of *Footrot Flats*, died aged 78 after a long battle with Alzheimer's disease - 2017.

* The strip ran in newspapers from 1976 until 1994, and spawned a musical, an animated film and a theme park.

DON BURROWS, Australian jazz musician who played clarinet, saxophone and flute, died aged 91 - 2020.

Birthday Bulletin

Wednesday 13th March 2024

Births

MIKE STOLLER born in Long Island, New York - 1933 (91)

* US songwriter. He's one half of the famous Leiber/Stoller songwriting team. They wrote numerous rock 'n roll hits including - *Hound Dog*, *Jailhouse Rock* (Elvis Presley), *Charlie Brown*, *Poison Ivy* (Coasters) and *Save The Last Dance For Me*, *Up On The Roof*, *On Broadway* (Drifters). Their hit songs were featured in the Broadway musical *Smokey Joe's Cafe*.

NEIL SEDAKA born in Brooklyn, New York - 1939 (85)

* US singer/songwriter. His big hits include *Oh Carol*, *Happy Birthday Sweet Sixteen*, *Breaking Up Is Hard To Do*, *Calendar Girl*, *Star Crossed Lovers* and *Standing On The Inside*. * He's co-written songs for other artists such as - *Workin' On A Groovy Thing* (5th Dimension), *Is This The Way To Amarillo* (Tony Christie) and *Love Will Keep Us Together* (The Captain & Tennille). * In 1974 he signed up to Elton John's record label Rocket records. Elton can be heard on backing vocals on his 1975 hit *Bad Blood*. * His songwriting partner Howard Greenfield died of AIDS in 1986.

GEORGE NEGUS born in Brisbane, Queensland - 1942 (82)

* Australian TV journalist. He's hosted *Foreign Correspondent* and worked as a reporter with *60 Minutes* (original team) and as the co-host of the *Today* program. He also presented *6:30 with George Negus* on Network Ten, the SBS *Dateline* program and *George Negus Tonight* on ABC television. * His son Mikey was one of the stars in *Crocodile Dundee In Los Angeles* (2001). * In 1992 he made No 1 on the best selling book list with *The Red Unknown*.

WILLIAM H MACY born in Miami, Florida - 1950 (74)

* US actor. Some of his best known starring roles include those in *Fargo* (1996), *Air Force One* (1997), *Magnolia* (1999), *Jurassic Park III* (2001), *Seabiscuit* (2003), and *The Lincoln Lawyer* (2011). From 2011 to 2021 he played Frank Gallagher in the British television series *Shameless*.

JOE BUGNER (Jozsef Bugner) born in Hungary - 1950 (74)

* British heavyweight boxer. For many years he's lived on the Gold Coast and is now an Australian citizen. He won 19 consecutive fights. His 32 year boxing career ended in 1999 when he defeated American "Bad News" Levi Billups on a disqualification.

GEOFF COX born in St Kilda, Melbourne - 1951 (73)

* Australian radio/TV presenter and drummer. He was the host of Channel 7's *Coxy's Big Break* travel program. It debuted on April 17, 2004 and ended in 2015. Prior to that he was a reporter on the *Postcards* program. Coxy was also heard on Melbourne radio station 3MP hosting *Jukebox Saturday Night*. His first radio show was in 1977, *The Smithy & Cox Show*.

DANA DELANY born in New York City, New York - 1956 (68)

* US actress. She starred in the US TV drama *China Beach* (as Colleen) and co-starred with Steve Martin and Goldie Hawn in the 1992 film *Housesitter*. From 2007-2010 she played Katherine Mayfair in the TV series *Desperate Housewives*.

DIRK WELLHAM born in Summer Hill, Sydney - 1959 (65)

* Australian cricketer. The former Queensland, Tasmanian and NSW cricket captain is the only player to have captained three states in the Sheffield Shield competition. He scored a century on his debut in first class and Test cricket.

ADAM CLAYTON born in Oxfordshire, England - 1960 (64)

* Bass guitarist with Irish rock band U2. U2 formed in 1976 when all the members were teenagers. The group has gone on to sell more than 170 million albums worldwide and have won more Grammy Awards than any other band.

* In 1996 he and U2 drummer Larry Mullen had a hit with the *Mission: Impossible* movie theme. * A former alcoholic, he gave up drinking in 1993.

ANNABETH GISH born in New Mexico - 1971 (53)

* US actress. She played Special Agent Monica Reyes in *The X Files* (2001-2002).

PHIL BURTON (Phillip Burton) born in Sydney, NSW - 1974 (50)

* Australian singer with the vocal group Human Nature. For many years the group have been based in Las Vegas. However, early in 2021 he announced he had left Human Nature's long-term residency in Las Vegas to return to Australia with his wife and their two children Willow and Xavier. However he will re-join Human Nature whenever they are performing in Australia.

KAYA SCODELARIO (Kaya Humphrey) born in Haywards Heath, England - 1992 (32)

* English actress. She was the female lead in the 2017 movie *Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales*. She is also known for her performance as Effy Stonem in the teen drama *Skins* and as Teresa Agnes in the *Maze Runner* film series.

JACK HARLOW (Jackman Harlow) born in Kentucky - 1998 (26)

* US rapper. His 2022 album *Come Home The Kids Miss You* made No 2 in Australia and No 1 in NZ. He's had two No 1 single hits in Australia with *First Class* and *Loving' On Me*.

COCO GAUFF (Corey Gauff) born in Delray Beach, Florida - 2004 (20)

* US tennis player. At 15 she was the youngest player ever to qualify for Wimbledon. She has won seven WTA Tour singles titles, including a major at the 2023 US Open, and eight doubles titles.

Events

HARVARD UNIVERSITY was named after English clergyman John Harvard - 1639.

URANUS was discovered by William Herschel - 1781.

"**UNCLE SAM**" made his debut as a cartoon character in the New York Lantern - 1852.

STARTING GATE for horse racing was invented by J.J. Johnstone of England - 1894.

PLUTO was discovered by American astronomer Clyde W. Tombaugh at Lowell Observatory in Arizona - 1930.

ADELAIDE FESTIVAL OF ARTS was held for the first time - 1960.

RICK NELSON recorded *Travelin' Man* - 1961.

ERIC CLAPTON left the **YARDBIRDS** (on the eve of their third single *For Your Love*) to join John Mayall's Bluesbreakers - 1965.

* He was replaced by Jeff Beck.

WOODFORD FOLK FESTIVAL (then known as Maleny Folk Festival) was first held - 1987.

ANDY THOMAS became the first Australian to walk in space - 2001.

LUCIANO PAVAROTTI, 68, made his final appearance in *Tosca* at the New York Metropolitan Opera - 2004.

SHANE WARNE claimed his 1,000th first class wicket - 2005.

ADELAIDE notched up its 11th consecutive day of 35 degrees Celsius, a record for an Australian capital city - 2008.

BRISBANE ROAR won the A-League soccer grand final defeating Central Coast's Mariners in a penalty shoot-out at Suncorp Stadium - 2011.

* Brisbane, who were undefeated all season, was 2-0 down with 3 minutes to go in extra time.

POPE FRANCIS, aged 76, was elected as Pope of the Catholic Church - 2013.

A 44 year old man was found guilty of the murder of Sunshine Coast schoolboy **DANIEL MORCOMBE** - 2014.

* He was sentenced to life imprisonment.

CASEY DONOVAN won *I'm A Celebrity ... Get Me Out Of Here* on Network Ten becoming the first ever 'Queen of the Jungle' - 2017.

COVID-19 VIRUS resulted in the cancellation of the Melbourne Grand Prix and Comedy Festival, with the AFL announcing there would be no fans allowed into the first Round of matches - 2020.

MARK MCGOWAN's Labor government won the WA election with the biggest victory ever achieved by a political party at state government level since Federation, with a landslide result of 53 out of 59 seats - 2021.

WILLIAM HURT, US actor, died aged 71 of prostate cancer - 2022. * A four-time Academy Award nominee, he starred in such films as *Body Heat*, *The Big Chill*, *Kiss of the Spider Woman* and *Broadcast News*.

Birthday Bulletin

Thursday 14th March 2024

Births

QUINCY JONES born in Chicago, Illinois - 1933 (91)

* American music producer. He had his first No 1 hit single as a producer in 1963 with Lesley Gore's hit *It's My Party*. He is also responsible for the production on many of Frank Sinatra and Michael Jackson's recordings including his 1984 best selling album *Thriller*.

* He was once married to Peggy Lipton of *The Mod Squad* fame. She gave birth to Rashida Leah Jones. Rashida is well known for playing Ann Perkins in the comedy series *Parks and Recreation*.

SIR MICHAEL CAINE (Maurice Micklewhite) born in South London, England - 1933 (91)

* English actor. His more recent films include *Interstellar* (2014), *Inception* (2010), *Harry Brown* (2009) and the role of Alfred in *Batman Begins* (2005), *The Dark Knight* (2006) and *The Dark Knight Rises* (2012). His other films include - *Zulu* ('63), *Alfie* ('66), *The Italian Job* ('69), *Get Carter* ('71), *Sleuth* ('73), *The Man Who Would Be King* ('75), *Educating Rita* ('83), *Hannah And Her Sisters* ('85), *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* ('88), *The Quiet American* (2002) and *Austin Powers: Goldmember* (2002) - as Austin's father. His first role as an American, was playing a doctor in *The Cider House Rules* ('99).

* In 2000 he was knighted under his real name Maurice Micklewhite.

* He was broke until he was 30. At 32 he bought his first car - a Rolls-Royce.

* He's appeared in several flop films including *The Swarm* ('78), *The Hand* ('81) and *Jaws: The Revenge* ('87).

WALTER PARAZAIDER born in Chicago, Illinois - 1945 (79)

* Saxophonist/woodwind player with US band Chicago. The original group first got together at his apartment in 1967. He is still a part of the original line up. Their hits include *If You Leave Me Now*, *25 or 6 to 4*, *Saturday In The Park* and *Make Me Smile*.

MICHAEL MARTIN MURPHEY born in Dallas, Texas - 1945 (79)

* US country singer. His biggest hit was in 1975 with *Wildfire* (recorded as Michael Murphey).

PAM AYRES born in Oxfordshire, England - 1947 (77)

* English folk poet. She is well known for her light, amusing, anecdotal poetry. She got her start in showbiz after performing on the TV show *Opportunity Knocks* in 1975.

JONA LEWIE born in Southampton, England - 1947 (77)

* English singer. He had his two biggest hits in 1981 with *Stop The Cavalry* and *Louise (We Get It Right)*. He also charted with *You'll Always Find Me In The Kitchen At Parties*.

BILLY CRYSTAL born in New York City, New York - 1948 (76)

* American actor and comedian. His films include - *Running Scared* ('86), *Throw Momma From The Train* ('87), *When Harry Met Sally* ('89), *City Slickers* ('91) plus sequel, *Analyze This* ('99), *Analyze That* (2002) and *Parental Guidance* (2012).

* In 2012 for the 9th time he was the host of the Academy Awards.

RICK DEES (Rigdon Osmond Dees III) born in Jacksonville - 1950 (74)

* US radio announcer. He had a novelty hit in 1976 with *Disco Duck*. His weekly *Top 40 Countdown* and *The Rick Dees Weekly Top 40 Countdown* were heard on hundreds of stations worldwide.

PRINCE ALBERT OF MONACO (Albert Grimaldi) born in Monaco - 1958 (66)

* Son of Prince Rainier of Monaco and his wife, the late Grace Kelly. His sisters are Caroline and Stephanie.

GARRY JACK born in Wollongong, NSW - 1961 (63)

* Australian former rugby league footballer and coach. His sons Kieren and Brandon both played AFL for the Sydney Swans.

TARA BROWN born in Sydney, NSW - 1968 (56)

* Australian TV reporter. She joined the *60 Minutes* team in 2001. Her first job was in Channel Seven's Sydney newsroom. By June 1992, she had moved to the Nine Network where she worked at *Nightline* before joining the team at *A Current Affair*.

LOCHIE DADDO (Christopher Lachlan Daddo) born in Sydney, NSW - 1970 (54)

* Australian TV presenter. He's one of the famous showbiz Daddo brothers. In the '90s he was a reporter on *Getaway* as well as *E! News* and *Animal Hospital*.

* He is married to actress/TV presenter Karina Brown.

PIETER VAN DEN HOOGENBAND born in The Netherlands - 1978 (46)

* Dutch swimmer. His career record at the Olympics stands at three gold medals, two silver medals and two bronze medals.

JORDAN TAYLOR HANSON born in Tulsa, Oklahoma - 1983 (41)

* US singer and musician with Hanson. They had their debut hit in 1997 with *Mmm Bop* (No 1 in Australia) followed by *Where's The Love* and *I Will Come To You*.

ESTE HAIM born in San Fernando Valley, California - 1986 (38)

* US singer and musician. She plays with her sisters Danielle and Alana in the band Haim. Their 2013 debut album *Days Are Gone* made No 2 in Australia. The single *The Wire* was also a hit in 2013.

JAMIE BELL (Andrew James Bell) born in Tees, England - 1986 (38)

* English actor. He is best known for playing the title character in the film *Billy Elliot* (2000). He played the comic strip character Tintin in the 2011 film release *The Adventures Of Tintin*.

STEPHEN CURRY (Wardell Stephen Curry) born in Ohio - 1988 (36)

* US basketball player. He's widely regarded as one of the greatest point guards of all time and as the greatest shooter in NBA history. A six-time NBA All-Star, he has been named the NBA Most Valuable Player twice.

MASON COX born in Highland Village, Texas - 1991 (33)

* US born 211 cm tall AFL player. He plays for Collingwood and was in their 2023 premiership team. He first played Australian rules football in 2014 before making his AFL debut two years later in 2016.

SIMONE BILES born in Columbus, Ohio - 1997 (27)

* US artistic gymnast. She has won 25 World Championship medals making her the most decorated gymnast in history. Simone has also won seven Olympic medals. In 2022, Biles was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Events

JACK RUBY was found guilty of killing Lee Harvey Oswald - 1964.

* It was the first courtroom verdict to be televised in US history. At least three of Ruby's employees said that Oswald had visited Ruby's Carousel Club and sat with Oswald. They said it under oath.

* Ruby was awaiting a retrial when he died in prison in 1967.

The P&O cruise liner **ORIANA** sailed from Sydney for the final time - 1986.

Sydney's **SUN** newspaper and the national newspaper **TIMES ON SUNDAY** both ceased publication - 1988.

THE LONGEST-LASTING RAINBOW was visible for 6 hours continuously from 9am to 3pm over Sheffield in England - 1994.

First **POWER MACINTOSH** computer was unveiled to the world in a gala event at Lincoln Center in New York City - 1994.

* This day saw the release of the Power Mac 6100 and the first Power Mac (along with the 7100 and 8100).

THE PLAYROOM on the Gold Coast held its last music concert - 1999.

MANLY suffered their worst defeat in 41 years when they lost 46-0 to **SYDNEY CITY** - 1999.

The **MICROSOFT 'X BOX'** (game machine) was launched in Australia - 2002.

SPACE EXPLORATION TECHNOLOGIES CORPORATION (SpaceX), was founded by Elon Musk - 2002.

GOLD COAST TITANS played their first rugby league game at Skilled Park at Robina on the Gold Coast - 2008.

SOUND RELIEF CONCERTS were held at MCG and SCG - 2009.

* The concerts raised more than \$5 million for the victims of the Victorian bushfires and the Queensland floods. Artists included Coldplay, John Farnham Crowded House, Kings of Leon, Midnight Oil and Barry Gibb who sang *Islands In The Stream* with Olivia Newton-John.

STEPHEN HAWKING, English physicist and author of *A Brief History of Time*, died aged 76 - 2018.

Birthday Bulletin

Friday 15th March 2024

Births

JIMMY SWAGGART born in Ferriday, Louisiana - 1935 (89)

* US television evangelist and gospel singer. He is a cousin to rock 'n' roll singer Jerry Lee Lewis who died in 2022. Jerry Lee's last album was a gospel recording with Jimmy called *The Boys From Ferriday* recorded as Jimmy Lee & Jerry Lee.

JUDD HIRSCH born in New Orleans, Louisiana - 1935 (89)

* American actor. He starred as Alex Rieger in the TV series *Taxi*. He's also appeared in the films *Ordinary People*, *Running On Empty* and *Independence Day*.

HOWARD GREENFIELD born in Brooklyn, New York - 1936. (Died aged 49 - 1986)

* US lyric writer. He is best known for his songwriting collaborations with Neil Sedaka from the late 1950s to the mid-1970s including *Happy Birthday Sweet Sixteen*, *Breaking Up Is Hard To Do*, and *Oh! Carol*. He also co-wrote *Is This The Way To Amarillo* (Tony Christie) and *It Hurts To Be I Love* (Gene Pitney).

MIKE LOVE born in Los Angeles, California - 1941 (83)

* Vocalist and percussionist with the Beach Boys. He co-wrote many of their biggest hits including *Good Vibrations* ('66). He's a cousin of the Wilson brothers. The Beach Boys (with Brian Wilson) toured Australia in 2012 as a part of their 50th anniversary tour.

* The Beach Boys made No 1 in Australia in 1989 with *Kokomo* from the soundtrack of *Cocktail*.

* He has nine children.

VAL LEHMAN (Valerie Willis) born in Perth, WA - 1943 (81)

* Australian actress. She played the character Bea Smith in the local television drama *Prisoner*. She was one of the contestants on the 2016 season of *I'm A Celebrity Get Out Of Here*.

SLY STONE (Sylvester Stewart) born in Dallas, Texas - 1943 (81)

* American singer. He led the band Sly & the Family Stone who had several chart hits in America in the '70s including *Family Affair* and *Everyday People*.

RY COODER born in Los Angeles, California - 1947 (77)

* American guitarist. He had a minor hit with *Little Sister* in 1979. * He composed the music to the film *Paris Texas* ('85).

JOHN SWAN born in Glasgow, Scotland - 1952 (72)

* Australian singer and brother of Jimmy Barnes. His group Swanee had their biggest hits in 1981 and 1982 with *If Were A Carpenter*, *Temporary Heartache* and *Lady What's Your Name*. In 1987 he joined up with the Party Boys and sang on the hit song *He's Gonna Step on You Again*.

RENNY HARLIN (Lauri Harjola) born in Finland - 1959 (65)

* Finnish-born Hollywood film director. In 1993 he married actress Geena Davis. They divorced in 1998. She starred in his movies *The Long Kiss Goodnight* ('96) and *Cut Throat Island* ('95). His other films include *A Nightmare On Elm Street 4* ('88), *Die Hard 2* ('90) and *Cliff Hanger* ('93).

FABIO (Fabio Lanzoni) born in Italy - 1959 (65)

* Italian male model. He's appeared on over 250 romance novel covers.

* In 2005 he appeared on the Australian version of the TV reality show *Celebrity Overhaul*.

PHIL WALSH born in Hamilton, Victoria - 1960. (Died aged 55 - 2015)

* AFL coach and footballer. Walsh played for Collingwood, Richmond and the Brisbane Bears in the Victorian Football League (VFL) between 1983 and 1990. He was appointed as the head coach of the Adelaide Football Club for the seasons 2015-2017. On July 3, 2015 he was murdered by his son following a domestic dispute.

ANN SANDERS born in Australia - 1960 (64)

* Australian TV journalist and news presenter. She is seen on Seven Morning News and Seven Afternoon News. She previously presented hourly news updates on *The Morning Show* with Kylie Gillies and Larry Emdur from 2007 until 2015. She began her broadcasting career with SAS-7 in Adelaide as a weather presenter before moving to Seven Perth.

TERENCE TRENT D'ARBY born in New York - 1962 (62)

* American singer. His first hit was *Wishing Well* in 1987. In 1988 he made No 3 on the Australian charts with *Sign Your Name*.

BRET MICHAELS (Bret Michael Sychak) born in Butler, Pennsylvania - 1963 (61)

* Vocalist with heavy metal US band Poison. They had one of their biggest hits in 1988 with the ballad *Every Rose Has Its Thorn*.

CHRISTINE ANU born in Cairns, Queensland - 1970 (54)

* Australian singer and ABC radio presenter. In 1995 she released her debut album *Stylin Up*. It won an ARIA award for Best Australian/Islander album. One of her best known songs is *My Island Home*. In 2000 she charted with *Sunshine On A Rainy Day*.

WILL.I.AM (William James Adams, Jr.) born in Los Angeles, California - 1975 (49)

* American rapper, songwriter and singer. Will.i.am (pronounced "will-eye-am") is best known as a founding member of the hip hop group The Black Eyed Peas. Black Eyed Peas scored their first worldwide hit with *Where Is the Love?* in 2003, which topped over ten charts worldwide. They had the biggest selling single in Australia in 2009 with *I Gotta Feeling* and in that same year made No 1 with *Meet Me Halfway*. * He started rapping aged 16 in late 1991 under the name "Will-1X".

* He made No 2 in Australia in 2012 with *Scream And Shout* (featuring Britney Spears) and in 2014 with *It's My Birthday* which he recorded with singer Cody Wise.

EVA LONGORIA born in Corpus Christi, Texas - 1975 (49)

* US actress. She played Gabrielle in the TV series *Desperate Housewives* which debuted in 2004. Also appeared in the soapie *The Young And Restless*.

TRENT ROBINSON born in Sydney, NSW - 1977 (47)

* Head coach of the Sydney Roosters in the NRL and a former rugby league footballer. He has previously held coaching positions at Toulouse Olympique, Newcastle Knights and the Catalans Dragons. He played 3 games from the bench for the Wests Tigers in 2000 and 2001. In 2002 he joined the Parramatta Eels, playing in a solitary game.

Events

FATS DOMINO recorded *Ain't That A Shame* - 1955.

MY FAIR LADY opened on Broadway - 1956.

* The first performance of the Lerner/Loewe musical starred Rex Harrison and Julie Andrews.

BILLY GRAHAM preached at the MCG in Melbourne to a crowd of more than 130,000 people - 1959.

* It is the biggest crowd that has ever assembled at the MCG.

RICHARD BURTON married **ELIZABETH TAYLOR** for the first time - 1964.

* They divorced in 1974 and remarried in 1975 but then divorced again in 1976.

DONNY OSMOND's hit *Puppy Love* was played by US disc jockey Robert W Morgan for 90 minutes straight! - 1972.

* Police mistakenly raided the station studios after receiving numerous calls from listeners. Confused, the officers left without making any arrests.

THE GODFATHER movie premiered in New York - 1972.

* It won the Academy Award for Best Picture. The 1974 sequel also won the Oscar for Best Picture.

ARISTOTLE ONASSIS, Greek shipping magnate, died aged 69 - 1975.

JOHN BUTLER TRIO made No 1 on the ARIA album chart with their third album release *Sunrise Over Sea* - 2004.

2006 COMMONWEALTH GAMES opening ceremony was held at MCG in Melbourne - 2006.

CRUISE SHIPS were barred from docking in Australia for 30 days and all travellers arriving in or returning to Australia from overseas were required to self-isolate for 14 days - 2020.

AFL MEN'S AND WOMEN'S SEASON was suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic - 2020.

DOUG PARKINSON, Australian singer, died aged 74 - 2021.

* With his band In Focus he had hits with *Dear Prudence* and *Without You*. As a solo artist he had hits including *Everlasting Love* and *The Sun Ain't Gonna Shine Anymore*.

Birthday Bulletin

Saturday 16th March 2024

Births

JERRY LEWIS (Joseph Levitch) born in Newark, New Jersey - 1926. (Died aged 91 - 2017)

* US comedian and actor. He teamed up with Dean Martin in the '40s and they went on to make several successful films until their split in 1956. They were the world's top box-office earners from 1950-56. Without Martin he went on to star in films including *The Nutty Professor* ('63), *The Geisha Boy* ('58), *The Sad Sack* ('57) and *The Bell Boy* ('60).

BERNARDO BERTOLUCCI born in Italy - 1940. (Died aged 77 - 2018)

* Italian director. He directed *The Last Emperor* that won nine Academy Awards including Best Picture for 1987.

JERRY JEFF WALKER (Ronald Crosby) born in New York - 1942. (Died aged 78 - 2020)

* American singer/songwriter. He is best known for his composition *Mr. Bojangles*. The biggest hit version was brought out in 1971 by the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band.

PETER HARVEY born in Sydney, NSW - 1944. (Died aged 68 - 2013)

* Australian TV news reporter. Harvey was a long-serving correspondent and contributor with the Nine Network from 1975 to 2013. He worked from 2003-2013 on *60 Minutes*.

* On 11 October 2012, Harvey announced that he had been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. He died on March 2, 2013.

ERIK ESTRADA (Henry Enrique Estrada) born in New York City, New York - 1949 (75)

* American actor. He played Officer Frank 'Ponch' Poncherello in the police TV drama series *CHiPS* ('77-'83).

* He made his film debut in *The Cross and the Switchblade* ('70).

VICTOR GARBERBORN in Ontario, Canada - 1949 (75)

* Canadian-American film and stage actor. On television, he is best known for playing Jack Bristow in the series *Alias* (2001-2006). His movies include *Titanic* (1997), *Sleepless in Seattle* (1993), *The First Wives Club* (1996), *Legally Blonde* (2001) and *Argo* (2012).

KATE NELLIGAN (Patricia Colleen Nelligan) born in Ontario, Canada - 1951 (73)

* Canadian actress. She can be seen in the films *Eye of The Needle* ('81), *Frankie and Johnny* ('91), *The Prince of Tides* ('91), *Wolf* ('94) and *The Cider House Rules* ('99).

GRAHAM COLE born in London, England - 1952 (72)

* English actor. He played the role of PC Tony Stamp in *The Bill* from 1984-2009.

NANCY WILSON born in San Francisco, California - 1954 (70)

* US singer and musician. Nancy and her older sister Ann are the nucleus for their band Heart. They made the Australian charts for the first time in 1976 with *Magic Man*. In 1987 they had their biggest hit with *Alone*. It made No 1 in the US and became their first hit in the UK reaching No 3.

* From 1986-2010 she was to married film director/writer Cameron Crowe.

BRETT KENNY born in Gerringong, New South Wales - 1961 (63)

* Australian rugby league footballer. He was a five-eighth for the NSW Blues representative side and the Parramatta Eels in the '80s and '90s. He played in 17 Tests, made 17 State of Origin appearances and won four premierships with Parramatta.

LAUREN GRAHAM born in Honolulu, Hawaii - 1967 (57)

* US actress. She is best known for playing Lorelai Gilmore in *Gilmore Girls* (2000-2007) and appeared in the Netflix series *Gilmore Girls: A Year in the Life*. She also played the role of Sarah Braverman in the *Parenthood* TV series.

* Since 2010 she's been married to actor Peter Krause - who also appeared in the TV series *Parenthood*. Her other TV credits include: *Newsradio*, *Law & Order* and *Caroline In The City*.

WOLFGANG VAN HALEN born in California - 1991 (33)

* US musician and son of Eddie Van Halen (who died in October 2020). He joined Van Halen as bass player in 2006. He replaced Michael Anthony.

* He was named after Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.

Events

The site for the **ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS** in South Yarra, Melbourne was established - 1846.

* The gardens are widely regarded as the finest botanical gardens in Australia and among the best in the world. They are 94 acres of landscaped gardens consisting of a mix of native and exotic vegetation including over 10,000 individual species.

F A (Football Association) **CUP** was played for the first time at the Kennington Oval in London - 1872.

* The Wanderers defeated the Royal Engineers 1-0.

ASIO (Australian Security Intelligence Organisation) was established - 1949.

LIFE LINE was established in Australia by the Reverend Alan Walker (who died in 2003) - 1963.

* Lifeline was inspired in 1958 by the suicide of a 38-year-old man who left a note addressed to Walker that read - "*A job and £150 would have saved me, but I just don't believe I am worth it, I am a failure. I am leaving the world unwanted, unloved and without hope.*"

TAMMI TERRELL, US singer, died aged 24 of a brain tumour - 1970.

* Between 1967-1968 she had four Top 10 singles in the US with duets recorded with Marvin Gaye.

SIMON & GARFUNKEL won Grammy Awards for Record of the Year and Album of the Year for *Bridge Over Troubled Water* - 1971.

The new **LONDON BRIDGE** was opened by Queen Elizabeth - 1973.

* The old one was sold to a US oil tycoon for £1 million and was rebuilt piece by piece in the US.

TERRY ANDERSON, chief Middle East correspondent, was abducted by gunmen in Beirut - 1985.

* He was eventually released on December 4, 1991 after 2,454 days in captivity.

JOHNNY CYMBAL (born John Blair), US singer/songwriter, died aged 48 of a heart attack - 1993.

* He had a novelty hit in 1963 with *Mr Bass Man* (which he wrote when he was 17) and as Derek he charted in 1968 with *Cinnamon*. He co-wrote *Rock Me Baby* which was a hit in Australia for John Farnham.

DUMB & DUMBER, starring Jim Carrey and Jeff Daniels, opened in Australian cinemas - 1995.

* Carrey received a salary of \$7 million. His co-host Daniels was only paid around \$50,000.

MARIAH CAREY and **BOYZ II MEN** spent a 16th record week at No 1 on the US singles chart with *One Sweet Day* - 1996.

* This was equalled in 2017 by the single *Despacito* recorded by Luis Fonsi and David Yankee featuring Justin Bieber. Whitney Houston's hit *I Will Always Love You* and *I'll Make Love To You* by Boyz II Men both spent 14 weeks at the top.

ROBERT BLAKE, US actor, was found not guilty of the 2001 murder of his wife of six months, Bonny Lee Bakley - 2005.

* He died aged 89 at his home in 2023.

COMMONWEALTH GAMES commenced in Melbourne - 2006.

* Australian ended on top of the medal tally with 221 medals: 84 Gold, 69 Silver and 68 Bronze.

SACHIN TENDULKAR, Indian cricketer, scored his 100th international century - 2012.

* He became the first cricketer in both ODI and Test cricket to score 100 international cricket centuries.

DICK DALE (born Richard Monsoyr), US guitarist known as The King Of The Surf Guitar, died aged 81 - 2019.

* One of his best known recordings was *Misirlou* which was used by Quentin Tarantino in the film *Pulp Fiction*.

THE MOUSETRAP, the Agatha Christie stage play, which commenced in November 1952, finally came to an end - 2020.

* It was the world's longest running stage play. It ended on this day when the stage performances had to be discontinued due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Christie gave the stage rights to grandson Matthew Prichard on his 9th birthday.

DOW JONES INDUSTRIAL AVERAGE fell by 2,997.10, the single largest point drop in history and the second-largest percentage drop ever at 12.93% - 2020.

SASKIA POST, US-born Australian actress, died aged 59 - 2020.

* She appeared in the 1986 mini-series *Return To Eden* and played Anna in the film *Dogs In Space*.



Birthday Bulletin

Sunday 17th March 2024

St Patrick's Day

Births

NAT KING COLE (Nathaniel Coles) born in Montgomery, Alabama - 1919. (Died aged 45 - 1965)

* US singer and jazz pianist. Some of his biggest sellers in Australia were *Fascination* ('57), *Ramblin' Rose* ('62) and *Those Lazy, Hazy, Crazy Days Of Summer* ('63). He returned to the pop charts in 1991 with *Unforgettable* - a duet with his daughter Natalie Cole (who died in 2015). His original vocal track was re-mixed with Natalie's vocals.

* He died of lung cancer most likely because he used to smoke three packets of cigarettes every day.

JOHN SEBASTIAN born in New York City, New York - 1944 (80)

* Lead singer for the US band the Lovin' Spoonful. Three of their biggest hits were in 1966 with *Summer In The City*, *Daydream* and *Did You Ever Have To Make Up Your Mind*. Their other '60s hits include *Do You Believe In Magic* (debut hit - 1965), *You Don't Have To Be So Nice* and *Darlin' Be Home Soon*. In 1976 he had a solo hit with *Welcome Back* which was the theme song to the TV series *Welcome Back Kotter*.

PATTIE BOYD born in Somerset, England - 1944 (80)

* English model and a former wife to George Harrison (they met on the set of *A Hard Day's Night*) and Eric Clapton. She inspired the Eric Clapton songs *Layla* and *Wonderful Tonight* and Harrison's composition *Something*.

LITTLE PATTIE (Patricia Amphlett) born in Sydney, NSW - 1949 (75)

* Australian singer and singing teacher. Her biggest hit was in 1963 with her first single *He's My Blond Headed Stompie Wompie Real Gone Surfer Boy/Stompin' At Maroubra*. Her other '60s hits include - *Pushin' A Good Thing Too Far* ('64) - released on her 16th birthday, *Dance Puppet Dance* ('65) and *I'll Eat My Hat* ('67).

* Her cousin Chrissie Amphlett was lead singer with the Australian band The Divinyls.

* She was once married to Keith Jacobsen - brother of Col Joye.

* In 1990 she became the first Aussie vocalist to perform in China.

PATRICK DUFFY born in Townsend, Montana - 1949 (75)

* American actor. He played Bobby Ewing in the TV series *Dallas*. He went on to appear in the TV programs *Step By Step* and *The Bold and The Beautiful*.

KURT RUSSELL born in Springfield, Massachusetts - 1951 (73)

* American actor. As a young boy he appeared briefly in the Elvis' film *It Happened At The World's Fair*. Years later he played Elvis in the TV movie *Elvis!* Also starred in the movies *Backdraft* ('91), *Tango & Cash* ('89), *Stargate* ('94) and *Guardians Of The Galaxy Vol 2* (2017).

* He and his longtime girlfriend Goldie Hawn became romantically involved during the making of the *Swing Shift* ('84). They also teamed together in *Overboard* (1987).

LESLIE-ANN DOWN born in London, England - 1954 (70)

* British actress. Her acting credits include the movie *Moonraker* ('79), the TV series *Upstairs, Downstairs* and the US mini-series *North And South*.

AUSTEN TAYSHUS (Alexander Gutman) born in Sydney, NSW - 1954 (70)

* Australian comedian. He is best known for his 1983 No 1 hit single *Australiana* (penned by Billy Birmingham).

GARY SINISE born in Blue Island, Illinois - 1955 (69)

* US actor. He starred in the TV series *CSI: NY* and *Criminal Minds: Beyond Borders*. He appeared in the Tom Hanks-starring films *Apollo 13*, *Forrest Gump* and *The Green Mile*.

ROB SITCH born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1962 (62)

* Australian comic actor and director. He played Mike Moore in the comedy *Frontline* and appeared on radio and TV as a part of the *D Generation*. He also starred in the comedy series *Utopia* - which he created. He's a part of Working Dog film and television company that is responsible for the local films *The Castle*, *The Dish* and *Any Questions For Ben?* - which Rob directed.

* He's married to actress and radio presenter Jane Kennedy.

JOHN PLATTEN born in South Australia - 1963 (61)

* Australian Rules footballer. The Hawthorn rover and four time premiership player was co-winner (with Tony Lockett) of the 1987 AFL Brownlow Medal. 'The Rat' retired from AFL football at the end of 1997.

ROB LOWE born in Charlottesville, Virginia - 1964 (60)

* US actor. He played Sam Seaborn in the TV series *The West Wing* and Chris Traeger in the TV sit-com *Parks And Recreation*. He can also be seen in the films - *Hotel New Hampshire*, *St Elmos Fire*, *Masquerade*, *Wayne's World* and *Austin Powers: The Spy Who Shagged Me* and *Goldmember*.

BILLY CORGAN born in Chicago, Illinois - 1967 (57)

* Lead singer with Smashing Pumpkins. Their best selling album is *Mellon Collie & The Infinite Sadness* (1995).

CAROLINE CORR born in Dundalk, Ireland - 1973 (51)

* Irish singer and musician. She's a member of the family music group The Corrs. She plays the piano, drums and bodhran. Their biggest hits are *Runaway*, *Forgiven Not Forgotten*, *Love To Love You* and *Breathless*.

AARON BADDELEY born in New Hampshire - 1981 (43)

* US born Australian golfer. Aged just 18, he won his first Australian Open in 1999. He also became the first amateur to win the Open since Bruce Devlin in 1960. In 2000 he again won the Australian Open - only his second tournament as a professional. He won his second PGA Tour tournament in early 2007.

RORY SLOANE born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1990 (34)

* AFL player for the Adelaide Football Club. He is a former club captain and stood down from the role in February 2023. Sloane is a dual Malcolm Blight Medallist and was selected in the All-Australian team in 2016.

KATIE LEDECKY born in Washington, D.C. - 1997 (27)

* American swimmer. She has won seven Olympic gold medals and 15 world championship gold medals, the most in history for a female swimmer. Leducky is the world record holder in the women's 500, 800, 1000 and 1500-meter freestyle (long course).

Events

RUBBER BAND was patented in England by Stephen Perry - 1845.

BIG BERTHA, world's oldest cow, was born in Ireland - 1944.

* She gave birth to a record 39 calves. Bertha died in 1993.

BEE GEES made their US TV debut on *The Ed Sullivan Show* performing *To Love Somebody* and *Words* - 1968.

RUBIN 'HURRICANE' CARTER, American-Canadian middleweight boxer, was granted a retrial, thanks in part to Bob Dylan's hit song *Hurricane* - 1976.

AUSTRALIA v ENGLAND CENTENARY cricket Test ended at the MCG with the result the same as the first Test - a 45 run win to Australia - 1977.

SYDNEY experienced an earthquake registering 4.8 on the Richter scale - 1999.

* The epicentre was at Appin, 65km south of the city.

HMAS SYDNEY battle cruiser was located off the WA coast 2.47 km below sea level - 2008.

* It was lost in 1941 in a sea battle with the German auxiliary cruiser Kormoran. All 645 crew members perished.

ALEX CHILTON, Box Tops lead singer, died aged 59 of a heart attack - 2010.

* The Box Tops hits include *The Letter*, *Neon Rainbow* and *Soul Deep*.

L'WREN SCOTT, US fashion designer, model and long time girlfriend of Mick Jagger, died aged 49 (suicide) - 2014.

* She left her entire estate, estimated at about US\$9 million, to Mick Jagger. At the time the Rolling Stones were in Australia on tour. The tour was postponed.

FRENCH OPEN became the first Grand Slam tennis tournament to be postponed due to COVID-19 pandemic - 2020.

PETER BOWLES, English actor, died aged 85 - 2022.

BLAKE JOHNSTON, 40 year old Australian surfer, achieved the record for the longest continuous surfing session after catching waves for more than 30 hours at Cronulla Beach - 2023.

Birthday Bulletin

Monday 18th March 2024

Births

CHARLEY PRIDE born in Sledge, Mississippi - 1934. (Died aged 86 - 2020)

* US country music singer. He had two of his biggest sellers in 1971 with *Kiss An Angel Good Morning* and *Me And Bobby McGee*. He is the most successful African American country singer. He had 36 No 1 hits on the Billboard Hot Country Songs charts.

* In his autobiography, *Pride: The Charley Pride Story*, he reveals that he had struggled for years with manic depression.

F W DE KLERK (Frederick Willem de Klerk) born in South Africa - 1936. (Died aged 85 - 2021)

* President of South Africa from 1989-'94. He and Nelson Mandela were the joint winners of the 1993 Nobel Peace Prize. De Klerk released Mandela from prison in 1990 after Mandela had spent 27 years in jail. De Klerk died in November 2021.

WILSON PICKETT born in Prattville, Alabama - 1941. (Died aged 64 - 2006)

* US soul singer. He had his biggest sellers in the '60s with *In The Midnight Hour*, *Land Of A Thousand Dances* and *Mustang Sally*. Died of a heart attack in January 2006.

DICK SMITH (Richard Smith) born in Roseville, NSW - 1944 (80)

* Australian businessman and adventurer. In 1968 he began his Dick Smith Electronics business. It was sold to Woolworths in 1982 for around \$20 million. In February 2016 it was announced that the Dick Smith shops would all be closing down. In 1999 he launched Dick Smith Foods. In 2018, he announced the closure of the business in 2019.

* He completed the first solo flight around the world in a helicopter in 1983. In 1987 he also became the first person to reach the North Pole flying solo in a helicopter.

* In 2000 he made history when his balloon touched down on a northern NSW beach after successfully crossing the Tasman Sea. He made the journey with his co-pilot John Wallington.

* In 1986 he founded the Australian Geographic magazine.

DI MORRISSEY (Diane Roberts) born in Wingham, NSW - 1948 (76)

* Australian author and former TV presenter. She's written about 25 best selling novels as well as four children's books. Most of her novels were written at Byron Bay. In the '80s she co-hosted *Good Morning Australia*.

LARRY PERKINS born in Cowangie, Victoria - 1950 (74)

* Australian racing driver and father of V8 supercar driver Jack Perkins. A six-time Bathurst champion, in 2003 he raced the Bathurst 1000 for the final time. He was inducted into the V8 Supercars Hall of Fame in 2008.

IRENE CARA (Irene Cara Escalera) born in The Bronx, New York - 1959. (Died aged 63 - 2022)

* American singer and actress. Her three biggest hits were *Fame* ('80) - No 1 in several countries, *Flashdance* ('83) and *Why Me* ('83). Her last chart hit in Australia was *Breakdance* in 1983. Cara died at her home in Florida, on November 25, 2022.

* She played Coco in the film *Fame* which spawned the television series.

* Her minor hit *Out Here On My Own* (also from the film *Fame*) was written by '60s pop singer Lesley Gore.

VANESSA WILLIAMS born in Millwood, New York - 1963 (61)

* African-American singer, model and actress. In 1992 she had a No 1 hit in the US and Australia with *Save The Best For Last* and in 1995 charted with *Colours Of The Wind* from the animated movie *Pocahontas*. She played the role of Wilhelmina Slater in the TV sitcom *Ugly Betty*.

* In 1983 she became the first African-American to be crowned Miss America but lost her crown after it was revealed a pornographic magazine had published nude photos of her.

QUEEN LATIFAH (Dana Owens) born in Newark, New Jersey - 1970 (54)

* US singer and actress. She had a starring role in *Chicago* (2002) and co-starred with Steve Martin in *Bringing Down The House* (2003).

* She provides the voice of Ellie in the *Ice Age* movies.

BROOKE HANSON born in Manly, NSW - 1978 (46)

* Australian swimmer. She made her Olympic Games debut in 2004. She won Silver for her 100m breaststroke performance and Gold in the 4x100 medley in Athens.

ADAM LEVINE born in Los Angeles, California - 1979 (45)

* Lead singer with Maroon 5. In 2019 they charted with *Memories* that made No 2 in Australia. They had a No 1 hit single in Australia in 2004 with *She Will Be Loved*. In 2011 they made No 2 in Australia with *Moves Like Jagger* feat. Christine Aguilera. In 2016 they made No 6 in Australia with *Don't Wanna Know*. The single features Kendrick Lamar. In 2018 Maroon 5 feat. Cardi B made No 2 in Australia with *Girls Like You*.

PATRICK CRIPPS born in Perth, WA - 1995 (29)

* AFL player. He is the captain of the Carlton Football Club. In 2022 he won the Brownlow Medal for best and fairest. He won by one vote becoming the first Carlton player to win the medal since Chris Judd in 2010.

* On the 31st of December 2022, he married his partner Monique Fontana in Perth.

Events

AMERICAN EXPRESS company was established in New York by Henry Wells and William Fargo - 1850.

HARRY HOUDINI made what is believed to be the first controlled powered flight of an aeroplane in Australia at Digger's Rest in Victoria - 1910.

14 **SUFFRAGETTES** were arrested and fined in Perth for wearing unsheathed hatpins - 1914.

ELECTRIC RAZORS were first manufactured by Schick Inc in Connecticut - 1931.

BING CROSBY re-recorded *White Christmas* - 1947.

* He originally recorded the Irving Berlin song in 1942 but his 1947 version is the best known and went on to become the best selling single of all time.

EVERLY BROTHERS recorded *Cathy's Clown* - 1960.

* It was written by Don and was one of the biggest hits of their career making it to No 1 in the US and UK.

ALEXEI LEONOV, Russian astronaut, became the first man to walk in space when he left the Voskhod 2 for 12 minutes - 1965.

CLASS OF '74 began on Australian television - 1974.

* The following year it was retitled the *Class of '75*. 290 episodes were produced. The theme song became a pop hit for Brian Cadd.

NEIGHBOURS went to air for the first time on Channel 7 - 1985.

* It was a flop in its first year of production but was resurrected the following year when it went to the Ten Network and also became a huge success in Great Britain - where it has succeeded like no other Australian series before it.

* The final episode screened in July 2022. However, it returned to Channel 10 and Amazon Freevee in September 2023, just over a year after it officially ended.

JOHN PHILLIPS, US singer/songwriter with the Mamas & Papas, died aged 65 - 2001.

The **TOP 3 ALBUMS** in Australia were all local recordings: 1. *Barricades And Brickwalls* (Kasey Chambers), 2. *Polyserena* (George) and 3. *Spin* (Darren Hayes) - 2002.

MIKE RANN was returned as Premier of SA and **PAUL LENNON** as Premier of Tasmania - 2006.

NEWCASTLE KNIGHTS defeated Canberra Raiders 70-32 to set the record for the most points ever scored for a rugby league match in Australia - 2006.

* The previous record was set in 1935 when 97 points were scored during St George's 91-6 thrashing of Canterbury.

GOLD COAST TITANS played their first official rugby league game against St George Illawarra at Suncorp Stadium - 2007.

NATASHA RICHARDSON, UK actress and wife of Liam Neeson, died aged 45 following a freak skiing accident in Canada - 2009.

CHUCK BERRY, US rock n' roll singer/songwriter/guitarist, died aged 90 - 2017.

* His hit songs include *Sweet Little Sixteen*, *School Days*, *You Never Can Tell* and *Johnny B Goode*.

EUROVISION SONG CONTEST 2020 was cancelled due to COVID-19 in Europe, the first cancellation in the contest's 64-year history - 2020.

Birthday Bulletin

Tuesday 19th March 2024

Births

TOMMY COOPER born in Wales - 1921. (Died aged 63 - 1984)
* Welsh comedian and magician. His trademark was his fez and catch phrase, "just like that." He died in 1984 of a heart attack while performing on the live television show *Live From Her Majesties*. Most of the 20 million viewers thought it was part of his act.

URSULA ANDRESS born in Bern, Switzerland - 1936 (88)
* Swiss-German actress. Her first starring role was in the first James Bond movie *Dr No* ('62). She was also in the Bond spoof *Casino Royale* ('67) and the Elvis Presley movie *Fun In Acapulco*. Most of her later films were made in Italy.
* She was married to actor John Derek from 1957-'66.

CLARENCE 'FROGMAN' HENRY born in Algiers, Louisiana - 1937 (87)
* American singer. He had one top 10 hit in 1961 with *But I Do (I Don't Know Why)*.

RUTH POINTER born in East Oakland, California - 1946 (78)
* US singer. She was a member of the US group the Pointer Sisters. They first made the Australian charts in 1974 with the country-styled hit *Fairy Tale*. Their 1980s best sellers include *Fire, Jump* and *Neutron Dance*.

VINCE LOVEGROVE born in Perth, WA - 1947. (Died aged 65 - 2012)
* Australian journalist and singer. He was lead singer for the band the Valentines who charted in 1969 with the Vanda-Young song *My Old Man's A Groovy Old Man*. He died in a car accident near Byron Bay, NSW in March 2012.

GLENN CLOSE born in Greenwich, Connecticut - 1947 (77)
* US actress. Her first major film was *The World According To Garp* ('82). Some of her other '80s films include *The Big Chill*, *The Natural*, *Jagged Edge*, *Dangerous Liaisons*, *Fatal Attraction* and *Albert Nobbs*. She also starred (as Mel Gibson's mother) in *Hamlet*, played Cruella in the 1996 update of the *101 Dalmatians* (plus sequel) and was one of the stars of the 1997 Bruce Beresford film *Paradise Road*.

DEREK LONGMUIR born in Scotland - 1951 (73)
* Drummer with the UK band Bay City Rollers. His elder brother Alan played the bass guitar. He retired from the music industry in the early 1980s and trained as a nurse.

BILLY SHEEHAN born in Buffalo, New York - 1953 (71)
* Member of American band Mr Big. They had a No 1 hit in 1992 with *To Be With You*.

GABRIEL GATE born in France - 1955 (69)
* French TV chef. He trained and worked as a chef in some of his homeland's best restaurants before moving to Australia in 1977 where he became a household name. He was a regular guest on Bert Newton's *Good Morning Australia*, appeared on *Fun In The Kitchen* and *What's Cooking* and is also the author of over a dozen bestselling cookbooks.

BRUCE WILLIS (Walter Bruce Willis) born in Germany - 1955 (69)
* US actor. His first starring role was playing David Addison in the '80s TV series *Moonlighting*. He beat 3000 actors for the role. His most successful films include: *Die Hard* and sequels, *Pulp Fiction* ('94), *The Fifth Element* ('97), *Armageddon* ('98), *The Sixth Sense* ('99), *Moonrise Kingdom* (2012), *Looper* (2012), and *Red 2* (2013).
* In 2022 it was announced that Willis would be "stepping away" from his career. The family noted that aphasia, which causes a person to lose the ability to understand or express speech, "is impacting his cognitive abilities."
* He's appeared in 6 movies with numbers in the title.
* From 1987 to 2000 he was married to Demi Moore. He's been married to his second wife Emma Heming since 2009.
* He has dabbled in musical recording and had a minor hit in 1986 with *Respect Yourself*.

KAREN ROBSON born in Malaysia - 1957 (67)
* Australian actress. Her only major acting role was playing Irma in *Picnic At Hanging Rock* ('74). She's now living in America and is a partner in the successful US law firm Pryor Cashman Sherman and Flynn.

NATALIE BARR born in Bunbury, WA - 1968 (56)
* Australian TV presenter. Since March 2021 she has been the co-host of *Sunrise*. She was previously the newsreader on *Sunrise*. In July 2008, she began presenting *Seven Early News* alongside Mark Beretta at 5.30am, which lead into *Sunrise*.

SIMMONE MACKINNON born in Mt Isa, Queensland - 1973 (51)
* Australian actress. She played Zoe Alexander in *Neighbours*. She also played Stevie Hall in the TV series *McLeod's Daughters* and appeared in *Baywatch* (1999-2000) as Allie Reece.

LIVINIA NIXON born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1975 (49)
* Australian TV presenter. Her TV credits include *Hey Hey It's Saturday*, *Postcards* and *Bark Off*.

MATTHEW RICHARDSON born in Devonport, Tasmania - 1975 (49)
* AFL player. The former Richmond forward is the son of Alan 'Bull' Richardson who also played with the Tigers. He has the second most goals in the history of the Richmond Football Club (800 goals) and is 12th on the list of players who have kicked the most goals in the history of the VFL/AFL competition. He was Richmond's leading goal kicker 13 out of his 17 years of playing.

DANIEL HARFORD born in Victoria - 1977 (47)
* Former AFL player and now radio presenter and commentator. He played 153 games for Hawthorn and 9 games for Carlton. In November 2016, he resigned from Melbourne radio station 1116 SEN and is now a breakfast host on RSN 927.

BRETT ROSEBURY born in Armadale, WA - 1980 (44)
* AFL field umpire. He has umpired over 500 career games in the AFL since his debut in Round 13, 2000. Rosebury umpired the AFL Grand Final on nine occasions - the second most by any umpire in VFL/AFL history.

Events

SYDNEY HARBOUR BRIDGE was officially opened - 1932.
* The bridge took nearly nine years to build. The Premier Jack Lang was to cut the ribbon at the official opening but a horseman named Captain De Groot charged forward on his horse and beat the Premier to it.

ACADEMY AWARDS were televised for the first time in the US - 1953.
* The Master of Ceremonies was Bob Hope. He would perform this role 13 times up until 1978.

THE BLACKBOARD JUNGLE premiered in New York - 1955.
* The film starring Glenn Ford and Sidney Poitier is best known for helping to launch rock 'n' roll by including *Rock Around The Clock* as the film's theme song.

ELVIS PRESLEY purchased Graceland on the outskirts of Memphis - 1957.

SIMON & GARFUNKEL, then known as Tom & Jerry, released their first single *Hey Schoolgirl* - 1958.

BOB DYLAN released his debut album *Bob Dylan* - 1962.
* It didn't chart in the US. All the track featured just Dylan on vocals, guitar and harmonica.

ROBIN GIBB announced he was leaving the Bee Gees to pursue a solo career - 1969.
* He rejoined his brothers in 1970 and they resumed their career as a trio with *Lonely Days*.

JEFFERSON AIRPLANE became **JEFFERSON STARSHIP** - 1974.

EDWARD PLATT, US actor who played the 'Chief' in *Get Smart*, died aged 68 - 1974.

MICHAEL JACKSON bought a \$28 million ranch in California which became the site for his own personal zoo and amusement park named Neverland Valley Ranch - 1988.

PRINCE ANDREW and **SARAH FERGUSON** officially separated - 1992.
* On this same day 1976 **PRINCESS MARGARET** and **LORD SNOWDON** announced they were separating.

First **AFL MATCH** under a closed roof was played at Docklands in Melbourne - 2000.
* The Western Bulldogs hosted the Brisbane Lions.

ROB READINGS, Brisbane and Gold Coast news reader and reporter, died aged 79 after a long illness - 2022.
* He worked in radio at three Brisbane commercial channels, but most notably as newsreader on *Eyewitness News* at TVQ0/10 in the 1980s.

Birthday Bulletin

Wednesday 20th March 2024

Births

DAME VERA LYNN (Vera Margaret Welch) born in London, England - 1917. (Died aged 103 - 2020)

* British singer. She was dubbed the 'Forces Sweetheart' of World War II. Her best known song was *We'll Meet Again*. In 1952 her single *Auf Wiederseh'n, Sweetheart* became the first record by a British performer to top the charts in the United States remaining there for nine weeks.

* In September 2009, aged 92, she became the oldest living artist to make No 1 in the UK album chart with her collection *We'll Meet Again: The Very Best of Vera Lynn*.

CARL REINER born in New York City, New York - 1922. (Died aged 98 - 2020)

* American actor, writer and director. He's the father of actor/director Rob Reiner. He created and appeared in the 1960s comedy series *The Dick Van Dyke Show*. He directed the Steve Martin comedy films *The Jerk*, *All of Me* and *Dead Men Don't Wear Plaid*.

* He was very good friends with Mel Brooks. In his final years they would meet for an evening meal just about every night at his place.

HAL LINDEN (Harold Lipshitz) born in The Bronx, New York - 1931 (93)

* American actor. He starred as *Barney Miller* in the US television series of the same name which ran from 1975-1982.

DAVID MALOUF born in Brisbane, Queensland - 1934 (90)

* Australian author and poet. He became a full-time writer in 1977 and moved to Tuscany, Italy. He remained in Italy most of the time until 1985 when he returned to Australia. His novels include *The Great World*, *Remembering Babylon* and *Fly Away Peter*.

JERRY REED (Jerry Reed Hubbard) born in Atlanta, Georgia - 1937. (Died aged 71 - 2008)

* US country singer, guitarist and actor. He had two novelty hits in 1971 with *Amos Moses* and *When You're Hot, You're Hot*. In 1968 Elvis Presley recorded his songs *Guitar Man* and *US Male*.

* Reed was one of the stars in the series of *Smokey And The Bandit* movies and appeared in *The Waterboy* (1998).

RICHARD ZACHARIAH born in - 1945 (79)

* Australian radio and TV broadcaster. He co-hosted TV's *Home Show* for four seasons with his former partner Maggie Tabberer. He also compered the national current affairs program *11AM* for two years on the Seven Network and the 6.30pm news on ATN 7 Sydney with Anne Sanders.

* He has lived in London, Sydney and Melbourne, and now lives in South Australia with his partner, Sarah, on a vineyard and horse breeding property in the Adelaide Hills.

CARL PALMER born in Birmingham, England - 1950 (74)

* English drummer. He played with Emerson, Lake & Palmer. After their demise he joined Asia.

WILLIAM HURT born in Washington, District of Columbia - 1950. (Died aged 71 - 2022)

* US actor. *Kiss Of The Spider Woman* ('85) - won him an Academy Award for Best Actor. He was also an Oscar nominee for the 2005 movie *A History of Violence*. His major '80s movies include - *The Big Chill*, *Children Of A Lesser God*, *Broadcast News*, *Accidental Tourists* and *History Of Violence*. His '90s films include *The Doctor*, *Lost In Space* and *Sunshine*. In his latter years he played Thunderbolt Ross in *The Incredible Hulk*, *Captain America: Civil War* and *Avengers: Infinity War*.

PHIL JUDD born in Napier, New Zealand - 1953 (71)

* NZ singer, musician and actor. He was an original member of the band Split Enz. After leaving the group in the early '80s he formed The Swingers who had a No 1 hit in 1981 with *Counting The Beat*.

IAN MOSS born in Alice Springs, NT - 1955 (69)

* Australian musician. Guitarist with rock band Cold Chisel. He sang lead on their hits *My Baby* and *When The War Is Over*. In 1989 he released his debut solo album *Matchbook* that made No 1 on the Australian album charts. It includes the hits *Tucker's Daughter*, *Telephone Booth* and *Out Of The Fire*.

* In 2019 Cold Chisel notched up their first No. 1 record in 21 years with the album *Blood Moon*.

SPIKE LEE (Shelton Lee) born in Atlanta, Georgia - 1957 (67)

* US film director and actor. His films include *She's Gotta Have It*, *Do the Right Thing* and *BlackKkKlansman*. He directed and produced *American Utopia* a concert film from a screenplay by David Byrne.

HOLLY HUNTER born in Conyers, Georgia - 1958 (66)

* US actress. She starred in the 1993 Academy Award winning film *The Piano*. Her other movies include - *Swing Shift* ('84), *Raising Arizona* ('87), *Broadcast News* ('87), *The Firm* ('93) and *Batman v Superman: Dawn Of Justice* (2016). She starred in the TV series *Saving Grace* (2007-2010).

RICHARD DRUMMIE born in London, England - 1959 (65)

* UK singer. One half of the duo Go West. They had two hits in 1985 with *We Close Our Eyes* and *Call Me*. In 1990 they returned to the charts with *The King Of Wishful Thinking* from the *Pretty Woman* soundtrack.

SLIM JIM PHANTOM (James McDonell) born in Brooklyn, New York - 1961 (63)

* US drummer with the Stray Cats. They had their biggest hit in 1990 with *Runaway Boys*. He married actress Britt Ekland on his birthday in 1984. They divorced in 1992.

KATHY IRELAND born in Glendale, California - 1963 (61)

* US model and actress. She was a supermodel in the 1980s and 1990s, initially known for appearing in 13 consecutive Sports Illustrated swimsuit issues. She played Brittany in four episodes of the TV series *Melrose Place*.

CHESTER BENNINGTON born in Phoenix, Arizona - 1976. (Died aged 41 - 2017)

* US musician and singer-songwriter. He is best known as the lead vocalist and songwriter of Linkin Park. In July 2017, Bennington was found dead at his home in California. His death was ruled as suicide (by hanging).

DEAN GEYER born in South Africa - 1986 (38)

* Australian singer and actor. He came third on *Australian Idol* in 2006. He had a top 10 hit in Australia with his debut single *If You Don't Mean It*. From 2008-2009 he played Ty Harper in *Neighbours*. In 2016 he was a contestant on *I'm A Celebrity Get Me Out Of Here!*

Events

ELVIS PRESLEY recorded *Stuck On You* - 1960.

* It was Elvis Presley's first hit single after stint in the US Army.

RICKY NELSON recorded *Hello Mary Lou* - 1961.

* It was written by Gene Pitney.

JOHN LENNON married his second wife **YOKO ONO** on the Island of Gibraltar - 1969.

VOTING AGE was lowered in Australia from 21 to 18 - 1973.

ALICE COOPER married 19 year old Sheryl Goddard who was a dancer on his *Welcome To My Nightmare* tour - 1976.

* They are still together.

BOB HAWKE, Australian Prime Minister, wept on national television after confessing to adultery - 1989.

GLORIA ESTEFAN was seriously injured in a bus crash - 1990.

* She broke several bones in her back and five members of her band the Miami Sound Machine were also taken to hospital.

ERIC CLAPTON's 4-year-old son **CONOR** died when he fell from the 53rd floor of a Manhattan apartment building - 1991.

REX HUNT began his Sunday morning involvement with Channel 7 when he inherited the hosting role on *Sportsworld* - 1994.

CYCLONE LARRY struck North Queensland with winds of up to 295 km/h ripping through Innisfail and surrounding communities - 2006.

RINGO STARR was knighted for his services to music - 2018.

KENNY ROGERS, US country singer, died aged 81 - 2020.

TERRY NORRIS, Australian actor and politician, died aged 92 - 2023.

* He played Joe Turner in *Bellbird* and Senior Sgt Eric O'Reilly in *Cop Shop*. He also spent ten years in state politics, for the ALP.

* Husband to actress Julia Blake. They wed in 1962.

JOHN SATTLER, Australian rugby league player, died aged 81 - 2023.

* He captained South Sydney to four premiership victories from 1967 to 1971 and played four Tests for Australia - three as captain.

Birthday Bulletin

Thursday 21st March 2024

Births

KEITH POTGER born in Colombo, Sri Lanka - 1941 (83)

* Australian vocalist/guitarist with The Seekers. The group formed in 1962 and officially broke up in 1968. Following their split he formed and managed the New Seekers. The original Seekers finally reunited in 1993 for a 25th anniversary tour, made further national tours and again in 2003 they farewelled Australian fans with their 'Never Say Never Again' tour. In 2013-2014 the Seekers the group took part in their Golden Jubilee Tour.

* In 2003 The Seekers sold their catalogue of songs, film footage and their band trademark to the highest bidder.

RAY DORSET born in Middlesex, England - 1946 (78)

* Lead singer with UK band Mungo Jerry. The group had their biggest hit with *In The Summertime* ('70). (It was covered in Australia by The Mixtures.) Their other hits include *Lady Rose* ('71) and *Alright Alright Alright* ('73).

TIMOTHY DALTON born in Wales - 1946 (78)

* Welsh actor. He played James Bond in *The Living Daylights* and *Licence To Kill* and Rhatt Butler in *Scarlett* - the sequel to *Gone With The Wind*. His earlier movies include - *The Lion In Winter* ('68), *Wuthering Heights* ('70), *Agatha* ('79) and *The Tourist* (2010).

* He's the voice of Mr Pricklepants in the *Toy Story* movies.

PATSY BISCOE born in India - 1946 (78)

* Australian singer. She has hosted a variety of children's programmes, recorded several children's music albums and appeared on children's television shows including *Here's Humphrey* and *Fat Cat and Friends*.

BRYAN DAWE born in Adelaide, SA - 1948 (76)

* Australian comedian, actor and writer. He is best known for his comic interviews with John Clarke on *A Current Affair* (1989-1994) and on ABC television for *The 7.30 Report*. They also starred in the ABC comedy *The Games* (1998-2000).

ROGER HODGSON (Charles Roger Hodgson) born in London, England - 1950 (74)

* Guitarist and vocalist with UK band Supertramp. He sang the majority of the band's hits, including *Dreamer*, *Give a Little Bit*, *Breakfast in America*, *Take the Long Way Home*, *The Logical Song* and *It's Raining Again*. Their hit albums include - *Crime Of The Century*, *Breakfast In America* and *Even In The Quietest Moments*. He left the group in 1981.

RUSSELL THOMPSON JR born in Pennsylvania - 1951 (73)

* Lead vocalist with the US vocal group the Stylistics. They had their biggest hits in the '70s with *You Are Everything*, *You Make Me Feel Brand New* and *I'm Stone In Love With You*. As of 2022, Russell Thompson Jr. & The New Stylistics are still performing and touring.

GARY OLDMAN (Leonard Gary Oldman) born in South London, England - 1958 (66)

* British actor. He won the Oscar for Best Actor for his role as Sir Winston Churchill in the 2017 movie *Darkest Hour*. He has played a variety of roles in films including *JFK* ('91), *Bram Stoker's Dracula* ('92), *The Fifth Element* ('97), *Lost In Space* ('98), *Tinker Tailor Spy* (2011), *Dawn Of The Planet Of The Apes* (2014) and *Mank* (2020). He also can be seen in the *Harry Potter* movies (as Sirius Black) and *The Dark Knight* (Batman) trilogy (as James Gordon).

* His second wife was Uma Thurman ('90-'92). In 2015 he filed for divorce from his 4th wife.

VINCE SORRENTI born in Punchbowl, Sydney - 1961 (63)

* Australian comedian. His most famous comic piece is the '*I see it, but I don't believe it*' routine. He hosted the short lived 1991 Australian game show *Let's Make A Deal*.

ROSIE O'DONNELL (Roseann O'Donnell) born in Long Island, New York - 1962 (62)

* US actress and comedienne. She played Betty in *The Flintstones* ('94) feature film and appeared in *A League Of Their Own* ('92) and *Sleepless In Seattle* ('93). Rosie has been a regular panel member on the US TV talk show *The View*.

MATTHEW BRODERICK born in Manhattan, New York - 1962 (62)

* US actor and son of actor James Broderick. His films include - *Ferris Bueller's Day Off* ('86), *Wargames* ('83), *Biloxi Blues* ('88), *The Cable Guy* ('96), *Godzilla* ('98), *Inspector Gadget* ('99), *The Producers* (2005) and *Deck The Halls* (2006). He's also appeared in numerous stage productions.

* At the 2014 Super Bowl they featured an ad with Broderick (as Ferris Bueller). It's based on his famous 1986 movie.

* In 1997 he married actress Sarah Jessica Parker.

RHYS DARBY born in New Zealand - 1974 (50)

* NZ comedian and actor. He is well known for playing Murray, the band's manager, on the *Flight of the Conchords* TV show and for playing the role of Norman in the 2008 Jim Carrey film *Yes Man*. Appeared in the TV program *A Series Of Unfortunate Events*.

MATTHEW PRIDDIS born in WA - 1985 (39)

* AFL footballer. He played 240 games with the West Coast Eagles. In 2014 he won the AFL Brownlow Medal for best and fairest. He retired at end of 2017.

ERIN HOLLAND born in Cairns, Queensland - 1989 (35)

* Australian model, and sports presenter. She won her national title, Miss World Australia, in 2013. She featured as a sports presenter at the Pakistan Super League covering the matches on ground plus post-match ceremonies.

* She married Australian cricketer Ben Cutting.

MAKYBE DIVA born in England - 1999 (25)

* English born Australian horse. She's the winner of a record three Melbourne Cups (2003, 2004 and 2005) - all ridden by Glen Boss. She arrived in Australia from the UK in 2000. She was immediately retired at end of 2005 Melbourne Cup.

* Makybe Diva was named after five women who used to work with the horse's owner Tony Santic. They were: MAureen, KYlie, BElinda, DIanne and VAnessa.

MARTINA STOESSEL born in Argentina - 1997 (27)

* Argentine actress, dancer, singer and model. She gained popularity for her debut role as Violetta Castillo on the Disney Channel Latin America original series *Violetta*.

Events

PERSIA changed its name to **IRAN** - 1935.

THE BEATLES played at the Cavern Club for the first time - 1961.

* The Liverpool club finally went into debt and closed in 1966. It reopened at a new site in 1973.

ALCATRAZ PRISON closed in San Francisco Bay - 1963.

JAN & DEAN recorded *Little Old Lady (From Pasadena)* - 1964.

* It was written by Don Altfeld, Jan Berry and Roger Christian. The session musicians who played on this record (who were collectively known as The Wrecking Crew) included Leon Russell on piano; Tommy Tedesco, Bill Pitman and Billy Strange on guitar; Ray Pohlman and Jimmy Bond on bass; and Hal Blaine and Earl Palmer on drums.

HARRY H CORBETT, English actor who played Harold in *Steptoe And Son*, died aged 57 of a heart attack - 1982.

All copies of America's **TIME** magazine were recalled because of a front cover typing error, which had the word "contol" instead of "control" - 1983.

DEAN MARTIN JR, son of Dean Martin, died aged 36, in a plane accident - 1987.

***NSYNC's** *No Strings Attached* was released and sold 2.41 million copies in one week achieving the record for the greatest first week's sales of an album - 2000.

QUEENSLAND BULLS won the first Pura Milk Cup (formerly Sheffield Shield) at Brisbane's Allan Border Field - 2000.

* They also went on to win the next two Cups.

DELTA GOODREM released her debut album *Innocent Eyes* in Australia - 2003.

First **TWEET** was sent via Twitter - 2006.

* It was sent at 3.50pm by co-founder Jack Dorsey. He wrote "*just setting up my twttr.*" (It was formerly twttr.)

ANNA BLIGH became Australia's first popularly elected female premier when the Labor Party won the state election in Queensland - 2009.



Birthdays Bulletin

Friday 22nd March 2024

World Water Day

Births

WILLIAM SHATNER born in Quebec, Montreal - 1931 (93)

* Canadian actor. He is best known for playing Captain Kirk in the *Star Trek* television series and the films that followed. In the '80s he starred in *T.J. Hooker* (1982-'86) and was the narrator of the drama program *Rescue 911* ('89). He played Denny Crane in the TV series *Boston Legal* (2004-2008). He also appeared in the TV travelogue program *Better Late Than Never* (2016-2018).

* He toured Australia in 2018 presenting his *Shatner's World* stage show. In 2011 he presented his stage show *Kirk, Crane and Beyond: William Shatner Live*. He also toured Australia in 2015.

* In 1999 his 40-year-old-wife Nerine Shatner was found dead at the bottom of their swimming pool - an apparent drowning. She had been drinking heavily and taking Valium on the night she died at their LA home. In 2001 he married his 4th wife, 42-year-old Elizabeth Martin. They divorced in 2020.

ROGER WHITTAKER born in Nairobi, Kenya - 1936. (Died aged 86 - 2023)

* African-born British singer. He had his biggest hit in Australia in 1975 with *The Last Farewell*. His other big sellers were *Mexican Whistler* ('68), *New World In The Morning* ('70) and *I Don't Believe In If Anymore* ('70).

* In 1986, he published his autobiography, *So Far, So Good*, co-written with his wife, who became his manager in 1989.

* After living in Ireland for some years, he retired with his wife to France in 2012. He died in France on September 13 2023, aged 87.

JEREMY CLYDE (Michael Jeremy Clyde) born in Buckinghamshire, England - 1941 (83)

* UK singer and actor. One half of the duo Chad (Stewart) & Jeremy. They were more successful in the US than their homeland making it big in 1964 with *Yesterday's Gone* and *Summer Song*. He's also acted in many TV programs including *Midsomer Murders* and *Downton Abbey*.

* Since 2018 he's been performing with Peter Asher of Peter and Gordon fame.

GEORGE BENSON born in Pennsylvania - 1943 (81)

* American jazz guitarist and vocalist. His two best selling singles in Australia are *Give Me The Night* ('80) and *On Broadway* ('78). His 1976 album *Breezin'* became the biggest selling jazz album of all time.

* He was struggling to meet his mortgage every month but when his album *Breezin'* became a hit in 1976 he became a millionaire before the end of the year, owned a house and seven cars.

* He has seven children. His eldest son was shot and killed in 1991, aged 29. It involved an argument over a jukebox record selection in a Philadelphia nightclub.

HARRY VANDA (Johannes Vandenberg) born in The Hague, Holland - 1946 (78)

* Australian musician, songwriter and producer. He was guitarist with Australia's most successful '60s rock band the Easybeats. In the 1970s he and ex-Easybeat George Young (who died in 2017) wrote and produced a string of hits for artists such as John Paul Young, William Shakespeare, Ted Mulry, ex-Easybeat vocalist Stevie Wright and others.

* Vanda and Young had a hit in 1971 with *Lazy River* as well as the singles *Hey St Peter* and *Down Among The Deadmen* which they recorded under the pseudonym of Flash And The Pan.

BARON ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER born in London, England - 1948 (76)

* English songwriter. His successful musicals include *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Evita*, *Joseph And The Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat*, *Cats*, *The Phantom of the Opera* and *Sunset Boulevard*. One of his most recent musicals was *Cinderella* that debuted in 2021.

* The musical *Love Never Dies* is a sequel to *The Phantom of the Opera*.

* His musical *Whistle Down The Wind* opened in London in 1998. Boyzone charted with one of the songs, *No Matter What*, which Andrew co-wrote with Jim Steinman.

* *The Wizard Of Oz* musical debuted in 2011. It features original songs as well as new songs that he penned with Tim Rice.

TOM RICHARDS born in Brisbane, Queensland - 1948 (76)

* Australian actor. He is best known for his roles in *Matlock Police* and *Sons and Daughters* (as David Palmer).

STEPHANIE MILLS born in Queens, New York - 1957 (67)

* US singer. Her only Australian hit was in 1981 with *Never Knew Love Like This Before*.

MATTHEW MODINE born in Loma Linda, California - 1959 (65)

* US actor. His films include - *Mrs Soffel*, *Birdy*, *Married To The Mob* and *Full Metal Jacket*.

* He played Dr Martin Brenner in the Netflix TV series *Stranger Things*.

REESE WITHERSPOON (Laura Jeanne Reese Witherspoon) born in New Orleans, Louisiana - 1976 (48)

* US actress. She played the role of June Carter Cash in the 2005 movie release *Walk The Line*. For the part, she also sang. It won her an Oscar for Best Actress. She is also well known for starring in *Legally Blonde* plus the sequel and the movies *Mud* (2012) and *Hot Pursuit* (2015). She is one of the stars of the TV series *The Morning Show* (known as *Morning Wars* in Australia) along with Jennifer Aniston and Steve Carell that premiered on Apple TV+ in 2019.

* Reese is her mother's maiden name.

AMY STUDD born in London, England - 1986 (38)

* English singer and pianist. She had her debut hit in Australia in 2003 with *Misfit*.

LISA MITCHELL born in Canterbury, England - 1990 (34)

* Australian singer-songwriter. She grew up in Albury. In 2009, she released her debut album *Wonder* which debuted nationally on the Australian Charts at No 6. Her best selling single is *Coin Laundry* (2008).

Events

THE KING'S SCHOOL, Australia's oldest independent school, was founded at Parramatta in NSW - 1831.

* Later the school relocated to the crown land on the banks of the Parramatta River.

First British **TAXI CABS** with meters began operating in London, England - 1907.

LANCE HILL patented the **ROTARY CLOTHES LINE** (Hills Hoist) - 1956.

CARL PERKINS, US singer/songwriter and musician, was injured in a car crash - 1956.

* He wrote and recorded *Blue Suede Shoes* in 1955. The Beatles recorded his songs *Honey Don't* and *Matchbox*.

BEE GEES released their debut single *The Battle of the Blue And Grey* - 1963.

* It was a Barry Gibb song based on the story of the American Civil War. It wasn't a hit but it did make the 2SM Sydney singles chart. It was recorded at 4BH Brisbane.

MOVING PICTURES made No 1 in Australia with the single *What About Me* - 1982.

* It remained at No 1 for 6 weeks.

THE PIANO, Australian/New Zealand film, won three Oscars - 1994.

* It won three Academy Awards out of eight total nominations. Best Actress for Holly Hunter, Best Supporting Actress for Anna Paquin, and Best Original Screenplay for Jane Campion. Paquin was 11 at the time.

DAN HARTMAN, US singer, died aged 43 of a brain tumour - 1994.

* His biggest hits were *Instant Replay* ('79) and *I Can Dream About You* ('84). He also played with the Edgar Winter Group and sang on their 1973 hit *Free Ride*.

BOB CARR, NSW ALP leader, was returned to power in NSW for a historic third term - 2003.

* It was the first time that a NSW government had won a 3rd four-year term.

IAN THORPE was disqualified from competing in the 400m freestyle Olympic event in Athens after he started before the starting signal - 2004.

* He qualified again on April 27 when the 400m berth was relinquished by Craig Stevens.

SCOTT WALKER (born Scott Engel), US singer with the Walker Brothers, died aged 76 - 2019.

* The Walker Brothers hits include *Make It Easy On Yourself*, *The Sun Ain't Gonna Shine Anymore* and *No Regrets*.

PUBS, CLUBS, RESTAURANTS, CINEMAS and indoor sporting venues across Australia shut down indefinitely in a bid to curb the spread of Covid-19 - 2020.

Birthday Bulletin

Saturday 23rd March 2024

Births

BETTE NESMITH GRAHAM born in Dallas, Texas - 1924. (Died aged 56 - 1980)

* US inventor of Liquid Paper, and mother of musician Michael Nesmith of The Monkees. In 1979 she sold "Liquid Paper" (first called 'Mistake Out' in 1956) to the Gillette Corporation for US\$47.5 million. At the time, her company employed 200 people and made 25 million bottles of Liquid Paper per year. Her son Mike inherited half of the \$50+ million estate of Liquid Paper upon her death.

SIR ROGER BANNISTER born in Harrow, England - 1929. (Died aged 88 - 2018)

* English athlete and physician. In 1954 he became the first man to run the mile in under four minutes (3.59.4). He went on to become a distinguished neurologist before retiring in 1993. When asked whether the 4-minute mile was his proudest achievement, he said he felt prouder of his contribution to academic medicine through research into the responses of the nervous system.

BOYD ROBERTSON (William Boyd Robertson) born in New Zealand - 1941 (83)

* New Zealand singer. One half of the music duo Bill & Boyd. His partner Bill Cate died aged 80 in 2020. They had their biggest hit in 1975 with *Santa Never Made It To Darwin* and also had chart hits with *Put Another Log On The Fire* and *It's A Small World*.

RIC OCASEK (Richard Otcasek) born in Baltimore, Maryland - 1944. (Died aged 75 - 2019)

* Guitarist/vocalist for The Cars. Their hits include - *Let's Go* ('79), *Shake It Up* ('82), *You Might Think* ('84) and their biggest seller *Drive* ('84). Ric had a solo hit with *Emotion In Motion* in 1986.
* He had a brief part in the comedy film *Hairspray* ('88).

CHAKA KHAN (Yvette Stevens) born in Illinois - 1953 (71)

* American singer. Her biggest hit in Australia was the Prince song *I Feel For You* ('84). Her 1978 hit single *I'm Every Woman* was revived in 1993 by Whitney Houston.

PETER O'DOHERTY born in Auckland, New Zealand - 1958 (66)

* NZ-born Australian musician and artist. Former bass guitarist with Mental As Anything. Their biggest hit is *Live It Up*. His brother Reg Mombassa (born Chris O'Doherty) also played in the band. Reg and Peter have also recorded together as Dog Trumpet. Four of the five members of the Mentals met at Sydney's National Art School.

PETER MOCHRIE born in Sydney, NSW - 1959 (65)

* Australian actor. He played Ric Moran in the TV soapie *The Restless Years*. In 2006 he accepted the offer to play Dr Callum McKay on the NZ TV series *Shortland Street* and appeared in 637 episodes.

RICHARD GRIECO born in Watertown, New York - 1965 (59)

* US actor. He played Booker in *21 Jump St* ('88-'89) and then starred in his own TV series *Booker* ('89-'90).

MARTI PELLOW (Mark McLoughlin) born in Scotland - 1965 (59)

* Lead vocalist with Wet Wet Wet. He left the group in 2018. They had one of the biggest hits of 1994 with a revival of the Troggs' song *Love Is All Around*. They also had a top 10 hit in Australia in 1990 with *Sweet Surrender*.

MIKE ATHERTON born in Lancashire, England - 1968 (56)

* English cricketer. He was England's Test captain for 52 Tests.
* His greatest innings was a 10 hr 45 min marathon as he scored 185 against South Africa in 1995.
* He was fined \$A5037 in 1994 when TV cameras caught him rubbing dirt into a ball during the Test against South Africa.

PETA CREDLIN born in Wycheproof, Victoria - 1971 (53)

* Australian political commentator and former political advisor. Since 2016, she has been the host of *Credlin on Sky News Live* and is also a columnist for The Australian newspaper. She served as Chief of Staff to Prime Minister Tony Abbott from September 2013 to September 2015. She was previously chief of staff to Abbott as Leader of the Opposition.

REGGIE WATTS (Reginald Watts) born in Germany - 1972 (52)

* German-born American musician, singer, beatboxer, and comedian. His improvised musical sets are created using only his voice, a keyboard, and a looping machine. He led the house band for *The Late Late Show with James Corden*.

KERI RUSSELL born in Fountain Valley, California - 1976 (48)

* US actress. She starred in the TV series *Felicity* and now stars in *The Americans* as Elizabeth Jennings a KGB officer. She had a starring role in the 2014 film *Dawn Of The Planet Of The Apes*.

* She appeared in Bon Jovi's video clip of their hit *Always*.

CLAYTON WATSON born in Sydney, NSW - 1977 (47)

* Australian actor. He played Mickey Steele in TV's *Always Greener*. Appeared in the movies *The Matrix Reloaded* and *The Matrix Revolutions*.

TAYLOR HENDERSON born in Ceres, Victoria - 1993 (31)

* Australian singer. He rose to fame after placing third on *Australia's Got Talent* in 2010. Three years later, he became the runner-up on the fifth series of *The X Factor Australia*. In November 2013, Henderson released his self-titled debut album, which debuted at number one on the ARIA Albums Chart. It contained the single *Borrow My Heart* which also made No 1. His second album *Burnt Letters* also made No 1 locally. His version of *Girls Just Want To Have Fun* made No 1 in Australia. His second album *Burnt Letters* also made No 1 locally.

Events

First **JAZZ CONCERT** was held at Carnegie Hall - 1891.

ORVILLE WRIGHT applied for a patent for a 'flying machine' - 1903.

* The patent was eventually granted in 1906.

Melbourne's **CITY BATHS** opened in Swanston St - 1904.

AMPOL Petroleum Ltd, Australia's first public petrol company, was established - 1936.

* AMPOL stands for 'Australian motorists petrol'. Caltex Australia was born after a merger between it and Ampol. However in June 2020 the name reverted to Ampol.

JOHN LENNON's, *In His Own Write* book of poetry and short stories, was published - 1964.

* Among the most popular poems in the collection are *No Flies on Frank*, *Good Dog Nigel*, *The Wrestling Dog*, and *Deaf Ted, Danoota, (and me)*".

ABBA's hit *Knowing Me, Knowing You* was recorded in Stockholm - 1976.

* During recording sessions the song had the working titles of *Ring It In* and *Number 1, Number 1*.

THE BOLD & THE BEAUTIFUL debuted on US television - 1987.

TITANIC won 11 Oscars equalling the record set by *Ben-Hur* (1959) - 1998.

* This was equalled by *The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King* (2003).

Microsoft's **XBOX 360** went on sale in Australia - 2006.

PLAYSTATION 3 (PS3) launched in Australia - 2007.

BURNLEY TUNNEL catastrophe occurred in Melbourne - 2007.

* Just before 10 am, a pile-up occurred in the tunnel involving three trucks and four cars. The crash resulted in an explosion and a subsequent fire. Three people died in the accident.

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST opened in Australian cinemas - 2017.

* The Disney live action remake was the No 1 box office movie of 2017.

WINX won her 32nd race in a row in the George Ryder Stakes at Rosehill - 2019.

ASH BARTY, Australian tennis champion, announced her retirement saying "*I achieved my dreams*" - 2022.

KEITH REID, English musician, died aged 76 - 2023.

* He wrote the lyrics to Procol Harum's classic hit *Whiter Shade Of Pale* and is also one of the co-writers of John Farnham's hit song *You're The Voice*.

PETER SHELLEY, UK singer/songwriter, died aged 80 of cancer in Canada - 2023.

* His two biggest hits were *Gee Baby* ('74) and *Love Me Love My Dog* ('75). He wrote *My Coo Ca Choo* (and sang lead vocals on the single) and *Jealous Mind* - both hits for Alvin Stardust in 1974.

Birthday Bulletin

Sunday 24th March 2024

Births

STEVE McQUEEN (Terence McQueen) born in Indianapolis, Indiana - 1930. (Died aged 50 - 1980)

* American actor. His first starring role was in *The Blob* ('58). His major films include - *Magnificent Seven* ('60), *The Great Escape* ('63), *The Sand Pebbles* ('66), *Bullitt* ('68), *The Getaway* ('72), *Papillon* ('73) and *The Towering Inferno* ('74).

CAROLE KAYE born in Everett, Washington - 1935 (89)

* US bass guitarist. She played on an estimated 10,000 studio recordings in a 55 year career with a group of studio musicians who came to be known as the Wrecking Crew. Some of the hits she played bass on include: *Homeward Bound* (Simon and Garfunkel), *California Girls*, *Sloop John B*, *Help Me, Rhonda*, *Heroes and Villains* (The Beach Boys), *I'm a Believer* (The Monkees), *Midnight Confessions* (The Grass Roots), *Wichita Lineman*, *Galveston*, *Rhinestone Cowboy* (Glen Campbell), *River Deep - Mountain High* (Ike & Tina Turner), *Scarborough Fair/Canticle* (Simon and Garfunkel), *Somethin' Stupid* (Frank and Nancy Sinatra), *These Boots Are Made for Walkin'* (Nancy Sinatra) and *The Beat Goes On* (Sonny & Cher).

PATRICK MALAHIDE (Patrick Duggan) born in Berkshire, England - 1945 (79)

* English actor. He played the Chief Inspector in the *Minder* TV series from 1979-'94.

COLIN PETERSEN born in Kingaroy, Queensland - 1946 (78)

* As a young boy he starred in the 1956 Australian film *Smiley*. From 1967-1969 he was a drummer with the Bee Gees and later worked in Sydney as a manager of musicians and singers.

ALAN SUGAR born in East London, England - 1947 (77)

* British business magnate, media personality, and politician. A billionaire, he is also known for being the host and "Boss" for the UK TV reality series *The Apprentice*. He also assumed the role for *The Celebrity Apprentice Australia* for the Nine Network in 2021.

NICK LOWE born in Suffolk, England - 1949 (75)

* English singer/songwriter and record producer. His hits include *I Knew The Bride* ('86) - first released in 1977 and *Cruel To Be Kind* ('79).

NENA (Gabriele Kerner) born in Germany - 1960 (64)

* German singer. She had a No 1 hit in 1984 with *99 Luft Balloons* (or *99 Red Balloons*).

KELLY LeBROCK born in New York City, New York - 1960 (64)

* US model and actress. She is best known for playing the title character in the 1984 Gene Wilder comedy film *Woman In Red*.

DEAN JONES born in Coburg, Victoria - 1961. (Died aged 59 - 2020)

* Australian cricketer. He played in 52 Tests and 164 limited-over internationals and also captained Victoria as well as Derbyshire. He died aged 59 on 24 September 2020 in Mumbai due to a stroke.

LIBBI GORR (Lisbeth Gorr) born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1965 (59)

* Australian comedienne. She became famous via radio and TV as the character Elle McFeast. In 2012 she became a regular presenter on ABC 774 in Melbourne. However she resigned from the ABC in December 2021. She can now be heard on Disrupt Radio.

THE UNDERTAKER (Mark Calway) born in Houston, Texas - 1965 (59)

* American wrestler. He is widely regarded as one of the greatest professional wrestlers of all time. Calaway spent the vast majority of his career wrestling for WWF/E.

SHARON CORR born in Ireland - 1970 (54)

* Vocalist and violinist with The Corrs. Their biggest hits include *Runaway*, *Forgiven Not Forgotten*, *Love To Love You* and *Breathless*. In 2010 she released her debut solo album *Dream Of You*.

LARA FLYNN BOYLE born in Davenport, Iowa - 1970 (54)

* US actress. She played Helen Gamble in the TV series *The Practice*. Her movies include - *Baby's Day Out* ('94), *Wayne's World* ('92), *Dead Poets Society* ('89) and *Men In Black II* (2002).

JIM PARSONS (James Parsons) born in Houston, Texas - 1973 (51)

* US actor. He plays Sheldon in the TV sit-com *Big Bang Theory* that debuted in 2007 and finally ended in 2019. He has received several awards for his performance, including four Emmy Awards for Outstanding Lead Actor in a Comedy Series.

* He is the narrator of the TV series *Young Sheldon*.

JESSICA CHASTAIN born in Sacramento, California - 1977 (47)

* US actress. She received Academy Award nominations for her roles in *The Help* (2011) and *Zero Dark Thirty* (2012). She portrayed Tammy Faye Bakker in the biopic *The Eyes of Tammy Faye* (2021), winning the Academy Award for Best Actress, and in 2022 played country singer Tammy Wynette in the mini-series *George & Tammy* (2022).

DARREN LOCKYER born in Roma, Queensland - 1977 (47)

* Australian rugby league player. He was captain of the Brisbane Broncos and was appointed in season 2006 and in that same year they won the premiership. He also played in their premiership winning teams of 1997, 1998 and 2000. He's played more games and scored more points than any other Bronco. He retired at end of season 2011.

KEISHA CASTLE-HUGHES born in Donnybrook, WA - 1990 (34)

* Australian born NZ actress. Star of the 2003 movie *Whale Rider* that was her debut film. Her other movies include: *Red Dog* (2011), *Star Wars: Episode III - Revenge Of The Sith* (2005) as Queen Of Naboo and the role of the Virgin Mary in *The Nativity Story* (2006). She also appeared in the TV series *The Almighty Johnsons*.

Events

AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENT sat in Melbourne for the final time before moving to Canberra - 1927.

WUTHERING HEIGHTS, starring Laurence Olivier and Merle Oberon, premiered in Hollywood - 1939.

* It earned nominations for eight Academy Awards, including Best Picture and Best Actor.

SYLVESTER THE CAT made his debut in the Warner Brothers animated short called *Life With Feathers* - 1945.

HAMLET became the first British film to win the Academy Award for Best Film - 1949.

* Lawrence Olivier won the Oscar for Best Actor.

BRITISH MUSIC CHARTS for the first time ever had an all British Top 10 on its singles chart - 1964.

* No 1 song was *Anyone Who Had A Heart* by Cilla Black. Surprisingly there was not a Beatles song among them!

ALEX MITCHELL, a 50 year old English bricklayer, literally died laughing while watching an episode of *The Goodies* - 1975.

OUT OF AFRICA, starring Meryl Streep and Robert Redford, won eight Oscars including Best Picture and Best Director (Sydney Pollack) - 1986.

BOB HAWKE became the first Labor Prime Minister to win four consecutive elections - 1990.

DICK SMITH opened his first **AUSTRALIAN GEOGRAPHIC SHOP** in Sydney - 1991.

ELTON JOHN broke **ELVIS PRESLEY'S** record of having a single in the US Billboard Top 40 each year for 23 years straight when *Simple Life* entered the chart making it his 24th year of successive chart hits - 1993.

THE FOOTY SHOW (Melbourne AFL edition) began on Channel 9 - 1994.

* 'Sam' Newman was with the program up until the end of 2018. Due to poor ratings the show was axed in 2019.

AUSTRALIA'S cricket team won the World Cup cricket final defeating India - 2003.

* They were unbeaten in the World Cup. This was their 2nd successive win. In the final they made their highest one day score of 2-359.

GERMANWINGS FLIGHT 9525 crashed in the French Alps - 2015.

* All 144 passengers and six crew members were killed. The crash was deliberately caused by the co-pilot.

NETFLIX launched in Australia - 2015.

OLYMPIC GAMES in Tokyo scheduled for 2020 was postponed by Japan as well as the International Olympic Committee - 2020.

Birthday Bulletin

Monday 25th March 2024

Births

JOHNNY BURNETTE born in Memphis, Tennessee - 1934. (Died aged 30 - 1964)

* American singer. He is best remembered for his 1960 hit *You're Sixteen*.

* He's the father of Rocky Burnette who scored two hits in 1980 with *Tired Of Toein' The Line* and *Fallin' In Love (Bein' Friends)*.

TOM MONAGHAN born in Ann Arbor, Michigan - 1937 (87)

* Founder of America's Domino's Pizzas. In 1960, Tom and his brother Jim borrowed \$900 to buy a pizzeria named Dominick's in Michigan. By the late 1970's, Domino's was up to over 200 locations. The 1980's proved to have phenomenal growth. In 1985, sales topped \$1 billion and just three years later, sales hit over \$2 billion. In December 1998 he sold his company.

ANITA BRYANT born in Barnsdale, Oklahoma - 1940 (84)

* American singer. Her biggest hit was *Paper Roses* in 1960. (It was revived in 1974 by Marie Osmond). * She was second runner-up in the 1958 Miss America quest.

ARETHA FRANKLIN born in Memphis, Tennessee - 1942. (Died aged 76 - 2018)

* US singer. 'The Queen Of Soul' had '60s hit success with *Respect*, *I Say A Little Prayer* and *A Natural Woman (You Make Me Feel Like)*. Her best selling single is the 1987 release *I Knew You Were Waiting*, which she recorded with George Michael. It made No 1 in Australia, US and UK. She also recorded duets with the Eurythmics, George Benson and Keith Richards.

* The 2021 film *Respect* is a biographical musical based on her life. The film starred Jennifer Hudson as Franklin.

* First woman inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

PAUL MICHAEL GLASER born in Massachusetts - 1943 (81)

* American actor and director. He played 'Starsky' in the '70s TV cop series *Starsky And Hutch*. His acting partner David Soul ('Hutch') died aged 80 in January 2024. Glaser also had a major role in the 1971 film *The Fiddler On The Roof*.

SIR ELTON JOHN (Reginald Dwight) born in Middlesex, England - 1947 (77)

* English singer/songwriter. He's had over 50 major hits beginning in 1970 with *Your Song*. Most of his songs have been written with lyricist Bernie Taupin. In January 2023 he concluded his Australian Farewell Yellow Road Brick Tour concerts. In total he played 236 shows in Australia over his entire career. Elton's first-ever Australian tour commenced in October 1971 in Perth.

* In 2022 he had a No 1 hit in Australia with *Hold Me Closer* - recorded with Britney Spears. In 2021 he made No 1 in Australia with *Cold Heart* that he recorded with Dua Lipa. It was produced by Australian trio Pnau. It became John's first UK No 1 single since *Ghetto Gospel* featuring 2Pac in 2005.

PETER O'BRIEN born in Murray Bridge, South Australia - 1960 (64)

* Australian actor. He played Sam Patterson in *The Flying Doctors*, Shane Ramsay in *Neighbors* and was also in the TV programs *White Collar Blue* and *Casualty*.

STEVE NORMAN born in London, England - 1960 (64)

* Rhythm guitarist and saxophonist with UK band Spandau Ballet. They had several hits in the '80s including *True*, *Gold*, *Only When You Leave* and *Round And Round*.

SARAH JESSICA PARKER born in Nelsonville, Ohio - 1965 (59)

* American actress. Star of the TV series *Sex and the City*. She's now starring in the revival series *And Just Like That*. Her movie roles include *L.A. Story* ('91), *Honeymoon In Las Vegas* ('92) and *Hocus Pocus* ('93).

* In 1997 she married actor Matthew Broderick.

COLIN LANE born in Perth, WA - 1965 (59)

* Australian comedian. He's one half of the comedy duo Lano & (Frank) Woodley. Lano & Woodley have starred on stage in several productions and also in the ABC TV series *The Adventures Of Lano & Woodley* (1997-1999).

* From 2011 to 2013 he was host of *Ready Steady Cook* (replacing Peter Everett).

JUDITH LUCY born in Perth, Western Australia - 1968 (56)

* Australian comedienne. In 2014 she starred in the ABC TV series *Judith Lucy is All Woman*. She has appeared on radio and TV programs including *The Panel*, *Rove Live* and *The Big Gig*.

MELANIE BLATT born in London, England - 1975 (49)

* Half-French, half-English vocalist with the UK band All Saints. They had a No 1 hit in 1998 with *Never Ever*.

WLADIMIR KLITSCHKO born in Kazakhstan - 1976 (48)

* Ukrainian heavyweight boxer. He's the longest reigning IBF, WBO and IBO heavyweight champion. Overall, he became the second longest reigning heavyweight champion of all time.

RYAN LEWIS born in Spokane, Washington - 1988 (36)

* US DJ/producer and photographer. He has worked with Macklemore (born Ben Haggerty) as Macklemore and Ryan Lewis since 2008. Their No 1 hits in Australia include *Can't Hold Us*, *Thrift Shop* and *Downtown*.

TEGAN HIGGINBOTHAM born in Dandenong, Victoria - 1988 (36)

* Australian writer and comedienne. In 2016, she was a regular cast member for the Australian TV version of *Whose Line Is It Anyway?* She was a co-host and regular panellist on the sports comedy panel show called *Sideliners* which premiered on ABC TV in 2017.

* She married Australian broadcaster/writer Paul Verhoeven in Paris in July 2019.

Events

FROM HERE TO ETERNITY won eight Oscars at the Academy Awards - 1954.

* The awards include Best Picture, Best Supporting Actor - Frank Sinatra and Best Supporting Actress - Donna Reed.

COLOUR TELEVISION sets produced by RCA began selling in America for about \$1000 each - 1954.

CLIFF RICHARD recorded *Please Don't Tease* at Abbey Road studios - 1960.

* It became his third No 1 UK hit.

ROY ORBISON recorded his first major hit, *Only The Lonely* - 1960.

JOHNNY CASH recorded *Ring Of Fire* - 1963.

* The song was co-written by his wife June Carter along with Merle Kilgore.

CHUCK BERRY recorded *No Particular Place To Go* in Chicago - 1964.

THE POLICE became the first western rock band to play in Bombay - 1980.

MIKE TYSON, US boxer, was released from jail after serving three years of a six year sentence - 1995.

'ENGLAND' DAN, one half of the US duo England Dan and John Ford Coley, died aged 61 - 2009.

* He's the brother of Jim Seals of Seals & Crofts fame.

JEREMY CLARKSON was informed by the BBC that it would not renew his contract after he verbally and physically attacked a *Top Gear* producer over a dispute at a hotel while filming on location - 2015.

ONE DIRECTION announced that **ZAYN MALIK** was leaving the group - 2015.

BUDDY FRANKLIN, Sydney Swans full forward, kicked his 1000th AFL goal at the SCG - 2022.

* He was mobbed by teammates and hundreds of supporters as the Foo Fighters' classic *My Hero* was played over the speakers. Franklin was eventually able to leave the field, forcing his way through a crowd in delirium to join his teammates in the rooms.

AUSTRALIA won its first cricket Test series in Asia since 2011 with a 115-run victory over Pakistan in Lahore - 2022.

* In the final session of the final day in Lahore, Australia sealed a 1-0 Test series victory against Pakistan on their first tour of the country since 1998.

TAYLOR HAWKINS, Foo Fighters drummer with whom he recorded eight studio albums between 1999 and 2021, died aged 50 - 2022.

* He died of cardiac arrest from overdosing on antidepressants and heroin. Hawkins had a history of drug use. A heroin overdose in 2001 left him in a coma for a period.

BRISBANE LIONS v MELBOURNE night game at the Gabba was postponed by about 35 mins when the flood lights cut out - 2023.

Birthday Bulletin

Tuesday 26th March 2024

Births

LEONARD NIMOY born in Boston, Massachusetts - 1931. (Died aged 83 - 2015)

* American actor and director. He is best known for playing Mr Spock in the *Star Trek* television series and films. He also appeared in episodes of the *Mission Impossible* TV series. He directed the 1987 hit movie *Three Men and A Baby*.

ALAN ARKIN born in New York - 1934. (Died aged 89 - 2023)

* American actor. He made his film debut in the 1966 comedy *The Russians Are Coming, The Russians Are Coming* ('67). A year later he starred in *Wait Until Dark* - which is considered to be one of his best films. His other films include *Little Miss Sunshine*, *Get Smart* (as The Chief), *Marley And Me* and *Argo*.

JAMES CAAN born in New York - 1940. (Died aged 82 - 2022)

* US actor. One of his best performances was in *The Godfather Part 1* ('72) playing Sonny Corleone. His other movies include: *Funny Lady* ('75), *Rollerball* ('75), *Misery* ('91), *Honeymoon In Las Vegas* ('92) and *Elf* (2003). He starred in the TV series *Las Vegas* playing Big Ed.

RICHARD DAWKINS (Clinton Richard Dawkins) born in Nairobi, Colony of Kenya - 1941 (83)

* British evolutionary biologist and author. He is a prominent critic of creationism and intelligent design. * In 1992 he married his 3rd wife, actress Lalla Ward (Romana in *Dr Who*). They divorced in 2016.

DIANA ROSS (Diane Earle) born in Detroit, Michigan - 1944 (80)

* American singer. She was lead vocalist for the Supremes who had 15 consecutive US hits. She left the trio in 1969. Her solo hits include *Ain't No Mountain High Enough*, *Touch Me In The Morning*, *Upside Down*, *Endless Love* (with Lionel Richie), *Why Do Fools Fall In Love* and *Chain Reaction*. She's acted in three films - *Lady Sings The Blues*, *Mahogany* and *Wiz*.

JOHN ROWLES born in New Zealand - 1947 (77)

* New Zealand singer. His biggest hits are - *If I Only Had Time* ('68), *Cheryl Moana Marie* ('70) and *Tania* ('78).

STEVE TYLER (Steve Tallarico) born in New York - 1948 (76)

* Lead vocalist with US rock band Aerosmith. The group had one of the biggest hits of '98 with *I Don't Want To Miss A Thing*, written by Diane Warren, and featured in the film *Armageddon*. His daughter Liv played the female lead in the film. In 1990 Aerosmith had their first No 1 hit single in Australia with *Janie's Got A Gun*. Their album *Pump* also topped the Australian charts. Their other hits include *Walk This Way* and *Dream On*.

JON ENGLISH born in England - 1949. (Died aged 66 - 2016)

* Australian singer and actor. He had several hits in the '70s including *Turn The Page*, *Hollywood Seven*, *Words Are Not Enough*, *Six Ribbons* and *Hot Town*. He was also well known for his stage performances with Simon Gallaher in the musical *The Pirates of Penzance*. The pair also toured in *The Mikado*. He starred in the '70s TV series *Against The Wind*.

VICKI LAWRENCE born in Inglewood, California - 1949 (75)

* American singer. She had three hits from 1973-1974 with *The Night The Lights Went Out In Georgia*, *He Did With Me* and *Ships In The Night*.

* She married songwriter Bobby Russell (who died in 1992).

DENNIS COMETTI born in Geraldton, WA - 1949 (75)

* Australian TV and radio sports commentator. A former West Perth player and coach, he worked in the media for over 40 years. He is the only television broadcaster to have spanned the entire duration of the VFL/AFL competition (Seven Network, Nine Network and Broadcom). He retired from calling AFL matches on TV following the 2016 AFL Grand Final.

MARTIN SHORT born in Ontario, Canada - 1950 (74)

* Canadian comic actor. His movie roles include the comedies *The Three Amigos* ('86), *Three Father Of The Bride* ('91) and the sequel. They also all featured Steve Martin. Short and Martin star in the TV series *Only Murders in the Building*.

* His only wife died in 2010.

RICHARD 'ROCKPILE' JONES born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1952 (72)

* Australian singer and rhythm guitarist. He plays with 'Ol 55. Their '70s hits include *On The Prowl*, *Stay (While The Night Is Young)*, *Feels Like A Summer Night* and *A Rockin' Christmas*.

CLIVE PALMER born in Footscray, Victoria - 1954 (70)

* Queensland businessman and politician. He is most widely known as owner of Mineralogy and for his investments in other natural resource companies. He was the member for Fairfax between 2013-2015.

* In 2018 he revived the party and changed its name to the United Australia Party. The following year he ran for a seat in the Senate but was defeated.

JENNIFER GREY born in Manhattan, New York - 1960 (64)

* US actress and daughter of actor Joel Grey. She co-starred with Patrick Swayze in *Dirty Dancing* ('87). She's an ex-girlfriend of actor Matthew Broderick. She played his sister in *Ferris Bueller's Day Off* ('86).

BILLY WARLOCK born in Gardena, California - 1961 (63)

* American actor. He played Eddie Kramer in *Baywatch* and also appeared in over 200 episodes of *General Hospital* as A J Quartermaine.

ALANNAH HILL born in Franklin, Tasmania - 1962 (62)

* Australian fashion designer. Alannah began her fashion career at the Indigo Boutique in Chapel Street South Yarra in 1980.

LARRY PAGE (Lawrence Page) born Lansing, Michigan - 1973 (51)

* American businessman. He is best known as one of the co-founders of Google, along with Sergey Brin. In 2021 he won the right to live in New Zealand.

MANU FEILDEL (Emmanuel Feildel) born in France - 1974 (50)

* French-born Australian chef. He is best known for his participation in TV cookery competition programs *Ready Steady Cook*, *MasterChef Australia* and *My Kitchen Rules* (MKR).

AMY SMART born in Topanga Canyon, California - 1976 (48)

* US actress. She played Ruby in the TV series *Felicity* (1999-2001). and can be seen in the TV series *Star Girl* (2020-2022).

Events

FUNNY GIRL, starring 21 year-old Barbra Streisand, premiered on Broadway - 1964.

JEFF BECK replaced **ERIC CLAPTON** as The Yardbirds' lead guitarist - 1965.

THE YOUNG AND THE RESTLESS began on US television - 1973.

* The soapie is still running.

\$100 notes were released in Australia - 1984.

A letter penned by **'BANJO PATERSON'** confirming his authorship of *Waltzing Matilda*, was sold at a Christie's auction in Melbourne for \$34,500 - 1996.

* This is considered to be the only confirmation by Paterson that he penned *Waltzing Matilda*.

YO-YO world record for the most number of tricks in a minute was broken in Melbourne by Ben McPhee, aged 25, - 2004.

* He broke the previous record performing 40 tricks including walk the dog, shoot the moon and three leaf clover.

JAN BERRY, one half of the '60s US music duo Jan & Dean who had hits with *Surf City*, *Sidewalk Surfin'*, died aged 62 - 2004.

* Berry had been in poor health since a 1966 car crash.

DOCTOR WHO returned to BBC TV after 16 years with Christopher Eccleston as the 9th actor to play Doctor Who and Billie Piper playing his companion Rose - 2005.

PAUL HESTER, former drummer with Crowded House, died aged 46 (suicide) - 2005.

* Hester, who had a long battle with depression. He wrote in his diary in October 1967 that he wanted to "*become the leading drummer in the world and have a successful pop group.*"

NIC CESTER, frontman for the Australian band **JET**, announced that they had discontinued as a group - 2012.

THE BLACK PANTHER, starring Chadwick Boseman, became the highest grossing superhero film in America earning \$630.9m - 2018.

COVID-19 cases in America exceeded all other countries with 81,578 cases and 1,180 deaths - 2020.

Birthday Bulletin

Wednesday 27th March 2024

Births

MICHAEL YORK (Michael York-Johnson) born in Fulmer, England - 1942 (82)

* English actor. He made his movie debut in 1967 in *The Taming Of The Shrew*. Some of his major films include *Cabaret* ('72) - opposite Liza Minnelli, *The Three Musketeers* ('73), *Lost Horizon* ('73), *The Four Musketeers* ('74), *Murder On The Orient Express* ('74) and *Logan's Run* ('76). He's also appeared in the *Austin Powers* comedy movies playing Basil Exposition.

ANDREW FARRISS born in Cottesloe, WA - 1959 (65)

* Guitarist and keyboard player with Australian rock band INXS. The group began in 1977 as the Farriss Brothers and made their debut at Tim Farriss' 20th birthday party. Tim plays lead guitar and Andrew's other brother Jon is the drummer. The group's career was put on hold in 1997 when lead singer Michael Hutchence died. However the group went back on the road again in 2002. During a concert on 11 November 2012 at the newly opened Perth Arena, while supporting Matchbox Twenty, INXS announced that they would no longer be touring.

JANN ARDEN born in Alberta, Canada - 1962 (62)

* Canadian singer. Her biggest hit single is *Insensitive* (1996).

QUENTIN TARATINO born in Knoxville, Tennessee - 1963 (61)

* US film director, actor and writer. His 2019 movie *Once Upon A Time In Hollywood* received 10 nominations at the 92nd Academy Awards. Brad Pitt won Best Supporting Actor and it also won for Best Production Design. His 2012 film *Django Unchained* was nominated for five Academy Awards and his 2009 film *Inglorious Basterds* was nominated for eight Academy Awards. He's also directed several violent movies including *Pulp Fiction* ('94), *Kill Bill* (2003) plus sequel.

PAULEY PERRETTE born in New Orleans, Louisiana - 1969 (55)

* US actress. She is best known for playing Abby Sciuto on the US TV series *NCIS* (2003-2018).

MARIAH CAREY born in Huntington, New York - 1970 (54)

* US singer. Her song *All I Want For Christmas Is You* remains as Carey's biggest international success and is the 11th best-selling single of all time. Carey co-wrote the song. She is the third-best-selling female artist, with shipments of 74 million albums.

* In 1995 she became the first recording artist in history to have two consecutive singles debut at No 1 on the US singles chart. *Fantasy* and *One Sweet Day* (recorded with Boyz II Men) both went straight to No 1.

* In 2005 she made No 1 in Australia and the US with the single *We Belong Together*. It was from her album *The Emancipation Of Mimi* - which also made No 1. By the end of 2005 she had registered 17 No 1 hits in the US. * She has a five octave vocal range.

JARROD McCracken born in New Zealand - 1970 (54)

* NZ and Australian rugby league player. He is a former captain of the New Zealand national rugby league team. McCracken is the son of New Zealand rugby league international, Ken McCracken. In Australia Jarrod played with the Parramatta Eels, Canterbury, Sydney Bulldogs and the Wests Tigers.

DAVID COULTHARD born in Scotland - 1971 (53)

* Scottish Formula One racing driver. He won 13 Grands Prix in 15 seasons including the Australian Formula One Grand Prix in Melbourne 2003. He is now a BBC F1 TV commentator.

STACY 'FERGIE' FERGUSON born in Whittier, California - 1975 (49)

* US singer, actress and TV host. Joined the group the Black Eyed Peas in 2003 replacing background singer Kim Hill. In 2006 she released her debut solo album *The Dutchess*. Her hits include *Big Girls Don't Cry* and *Glamorous*.

MELISSA LEONG born in Sydney, NSW - 1982 (42)

* Australian food and travel writer. She is currently a judge on Network 10's *Dessert Masters* and was previously a judge on *MasterChef Australia* from 2020 to 2023.

KIMBRA born in Hamilton, New Zealand - 1990 (34)

* NZ singer. She is featured on the 2012 worldwide hit song *Somebody That I Used To Know* by Gotye. In February 2013 she won two Grammy Awards for Record of the Year and Best Pop Duo/Group Performance for *Somebody That I Used To Know*. She also Won Best Female Talent at the 2011 ARIA Awards.

JESSIE J (Jessica Cornish) born in Essex, England - 1988 (36)

* UK singer and songwriter. In 2011 her single *Price Tag* topped the charts in nineteen countries including the UK and was followed by the release of her debut album *Who You Are* (2011), which charted at number two in the UK. In 2015, she became the judge and mentor of *The Voice Australia* and made No 2 in Australia with *Flashlight*.

SOPHIE NELISSE (Marie-Sophie Nelisse) born in Ontario, Canada - 2000 (24)

* Canadian actress. She played the role of Liesel Meminger in the movie *The Book Thief*. In 2015 she starred as Gilly Hopkins in the movie *The Great Gilly Hopkins* and also had a lead female role in *The Kid Detective* (2021).

Events

First international **RUGBY** game was played between Scotland and England in ScotlanD - 1871.

* Scotland won, 1-0.

FINGERPRINT evidence was used for the first time in Britain to solve a murder case - 1905.

SINGIN' IN THE RAIN premiered at Radio City Music Hall - 1952.

* The musical movie starred Gene Kelly, Donald O'Connor and Debbie Reynolds.

THE BEATLES held the top six positions on a Sydney Top 40 chart - 1964.

YURI GAGARIN, Russian astronaut and first man in space, was killed in an aircraft accident in the Soviet Union - 1968.

YOUNG RASCALS recorded *Groovin'* - 1967.

ANNIE HALL, starring and directed by Woody Allen, premiered in US cinemas - 1977.

* The film won four Oscars including Best Picture. Allen won for Best Director.

574 people lost their lives after two **JUMBO JETS** (Boeing 747s) collided on the runway at Tenerife in the Canary Islands - 1977.

ERIC CLAPTON married **PATTIE BOYD** - 1979.

* They divorced in 1987. Pattie was formerly married to George Harrison. They met on the set of *A Hard Days Night*. (She played the part of a schoolgirl). Pattie was the inspiration behind the Beatles' hit *Something* and the songs *Layla* and *Wonderful Tonight* which were written by Eric Clapton.

UNLEADED PETROL went on sale for the first time in Sydney - 1985.

* The rest of Australia received the unleaded option a few months later.

ROSCO MCGLASHAN, Australian drag racing record-holder, achieved the Australian land speed record at 500 mph (802.6 km/h) - 1994.

* This record was set on the dry salt flats of Lake Gairdner, South Australia, 440 km northwest of Adelaide.

GEOFFREY RUSH won an Oscar for best actor for his role in the Australian film *Shine* - 1997.

* The biographical drama was based on the life of David Helfgott and was directed by Scott Hicks.

LACHLAN MURDOCH married **SARAH O'HARE** - 1999.

IAN DURY, English singer, died aged 57 of cancer - 2000.

* Dury, who was struck by polio at 7, also lost his first wife to cancer. He is best known for the hit songs *Hit Me With Your Rhythm Stick* and *I Want To Be Straight*.

AUSTRALIAN CRICKET team recorded their 9th straight Test win - 2000.

LONGEST TV COMMERCIAL was an ad for Lipton Ice Tea Green which ran for 24 minutes when it was broadcast on a TV channel in the Netherlands - 2005.

CRICKET AUSTRALIA announced that as a result of the preliminary investigation Steve Smith, David Warner and Cameron Bancroft had been charged with bringing the game of cricket into disrepute regarding ball tampering - 2018.

HOME AND AWAY 8000th episode aired on Australian television - 2023.

Birthday Bulletin

Thursday 28th March 2024

Births

MICHAEL PARKINSON born in Yorkshire, England - 1935. (Died aged 88 - 2023)

* English TV talk-show presenter, radio broadcaster and journalist. He was one of Britain's best known television interviewers. He hosted the chat program *Parkinson* ('71-'82). In 1998 the BBC resurrected *Parkinson*. The final program went to air in 2007. He's one of the celebrities on the front cover of the Wings' album *Band On The Run*.

* In 1960 he married his only wife Mary, whom he first saw on a bus. He says she was wearing a red duffle coat and he thought she had a face that he could look at forever.

* He once said: "*Sinatra was the one that got away. Otherwise, I've met everyone I have ever wanted to meet.*"

TONY BARBER born in England - 1940 (84)

* Australian TV host and singer. He was the host of *Sale of the Century* from 1980 to 1991. In 1993 he hosted a short-lived revival of *Jeopardy* for the Ten Network. In July 1996 he took over as host of *Wheel Of Fortune* but was replaced by Rob Elliott in 1997.

JOHNNY FAMECHON (Jean-Pierre Famechon) born in Paris, France - 1945. (Died aged 77 - 2022)

* Australian boxer. He became the featherweight boxing champion of the world in 1969 when he defeated Cuban boxer Jose Legra. In that same year and again in 1970 he successfully defended his title against Japan's Fighting Harada. In 1997 he was inducted into the World Boxing Hall of Fame.

* In 1991 he was injured when hit by a car outside Sydney's Warwick Farm Racecourse.

DIANNE WIEST born in Kansas City, Missouri - 1948 (76)

* US actress. Her films include *Parenthood* ('89), *Edward Scissorhands* ('90), *The Mule* (2018) and the Woody Allen pictures - *The Purple Rose of Cairo* ('85), *Radio Days* ('87), *Hannah And Her Sisters* ('86) and *Bullets Over Broadway* ('94). She won Oscars for Best Supporting Actress in the latter two films.

JAN CHAPMAN born in Newcastle, NSW - 1950 (74)

* Australian producer. She produced the 2001 AFI award-winning movie, *Lantana*. Her other films include: *The Piano* ('93), *The Last Days of Chez Nous* ('92), plus the mini-series *Come In Spinner* ('90). She was formerly married to director Phillip Noyce.

REBA McENTIRE born in Chockie, Oklahoma - 1955 (69)

* American country singer. She holds the record for the most Country Music Association Female Vocalist of the Year Awards. From 2001-2007 she starred in the TV series *Reba*.

* In 1991, seven members of her band, along with a road manager and two pilots were killed when their chartered plane crashed in the California mountains.

IAN 'DICKO' DICKSON (Ian Perrygrove) born in Birmingham, England - 1963 (61)

* Australian record company executive. He became famous as a judge on the *Australian Idol* TV program. In January 2013 he became the co-host of the 2UE breakfast show with Sarah Morice. They moved to afternoons in 2014 but the show was axed 6 months later. In 2016 he was a judge on *Australia's Got Talent*.

* From 2005-2010 he worked on breakfast radio on Vega 95.3 and Vega 91.5.

CHERYL 'SALT' JAMES born in Brooklyn, New York - 1966 (58)

* US singer with the hip hop group Salt-N-Pepa. The group consisted of Cheryl James ("Salt"), Sandra Denton ("Pepa") and originally Latoya Hanson, who was replaced by Deidra Roper ("DJ Spinderella"). They formed in 1985 and was one of the first all-female rap groups. Salt-N-Pepa had a No 1 hit in 1988 with *Push It*.

VINCE VAUGHN born in Minnesota - 1970 (54)

* US actor and comedian. His films include *The Lost World: Jurassic Park* (1996), *Wedding Crashers* (2005), *The Break-Up* (2006), *Couples Retreat* (2009), *The Internship* (2013) and *Hacksaw Ridge* (2016). He plays Freddy Funkhouser in the TV comedy *Curb Your Enthusiasm*.

TAMARA OUDYN born in Brisbane, Queensland - 1977 (47)

* Australian television presenter and reporter. She presents *ABC News Victoria* from Sunday to Thursday. In 2018 she took on the role following the retirement of Ian Henderson.

NATHAN CAYLESS born in Sydney, NSW - 1978 (46)

* Australian rugby league player. Former captain of the Parramatta Eels. He's also a former NZ skipper and took part in 18 Tests for NZ including the 2000 World Cup.

JULIA STILES born in New York City, New York - 1981 (43)

* US actress. She played Nicky in *The Bourne Identity* (2002) and the sequels that followed. Also played Kat in *10 Things I Hate About You* ('98) and a hippie flowerchild in the TV mini-series *The '60s*.

LADY GAGA (Stefani Germanotta) born in Yonkers, New York - 1986 (38)

* US singer/songwriter and musician. Her first No 1 hit came in 2008 with *Poker Face*. She played Ally in *A Star Is Born*, a 2018 remake of the 1937 film of the same name. She co-starred with Bradley Cooper. Gaga and Cooper co-wrote and produced most of the songs on the soundtrack for *A Star Is Born*. The lead single, *Shallow*, performed by the pair, reached No 1 in several countries. In 2020 she made No 2 in Australia with *Rain On Me* that she recorded as a duet with Ariana Grande. It made No 1 in the US and UK.

* In 2014 she made No 7 on the Australian album chart with *Cheek To Cheek* which she recorded with Tony Bennett.

MATTHEW RENSHAW born in England - 1996 (28)

* English-born Australian cricketer. Renshaw scored his first Test century, 184, against Pakistan at the Sydney Cricket Ground in his fourth match. He became the 133rd Test centurion for Australia. He also plays for Queensland and the Adelaide Strikers in the Big Bash.

JEMMA DONOVAN born in England - 2000 (24)

* Australian actress. She's the eldest daughter of actor/singer Jason Donovan and his wife Angela. In 2019 she joined the *Neighbours* TV series playing the role of Harlow Robinson in 374 episodes. She also played the same role in the series *Erinsborough High*.

Events

SINGING COMMERCIALS were banned by US radio station WQXR New York City after yielding to complaints from offended listeners - 1944.

* Most other stations accepted the new advertising concept, however, rationalising that "singing" commercials were less offensive than "no" commercials.

EDDIE COCHRAN recorded *Summertime Blues* - 1958.

* It was his biggest hit.

VAN MORRISON recorded *Brown Eyed Girl* - 1967.

ELVIS PRESLEY recorded *Burning Love* - 1972.

EARTH'S POPULATION reached 4 billion - 1976.

* In 2024 it is now over 8 billion.

CANTERBURY and **NEWTOWN** played a scoreless rugby league match - 1982.

* This was the first time the NSW competition had recorded a scoreless result.

RON GRANT began a record 217-day run of 13,383 km around Australia in Brisbane - 1983.

QUEENSLAND cricket team won their first ever Sheffield Shield when they defeated South Australia - 1995.

* It took 68 years to win the shield. On 13 occasions they were runners-up.

PAUL SIMON's musical *The Capeman* closed on Broadway after just 68 regular season performances - 1998.

A **JET ENGINE** (a NASA scramjet) set a world record when it flew faster than seven times the speed of sound over the Pacific Ocean - 2004.

* That's Mach 6.8 - about 8,000 kph.

DAVID WARNER was banned by Cricket Australia from all international and domestic cricket for one year and from any leadership positions permanently - 2018.

* This was in regard to his involvement with ball tampering in the Third Test of Australia's 2018 Tour of South Africa. Steve Smith and Cameron Bancroft were also suspended and charged with bringing the game into disrepute.



Birthdays Bulletin

Friday 29th March 2024

Good Friday

Births

TONI LAMOND (Patricia Lamond Lawman) born in Sydney, NSW - 1932 (92)

* Australian entertainer. Half-sister of Helen Reddy. She was a regular performer on TV's *I.M.T* and was Australia's number one musical comedy star of the 1950s. She relocated to the US in the mid 70's through to the mid 90's. Her theatre credits include *Mame*, *Oliver*, *Cabaret*, *Hello Dolly* and *Nunsense*.

* On US TV she's appeared in *Starsky & Hutch*, *Eight Is Enough*, *Murder She Wrote* and *Days Of Our Lives*.

TERENCE HILL (Mario Girotti) born in Italy - 1939 (85)

* Italian actor. He co-starred with fellow actor Bud Spencer in the series of 'Trinity' comedy/western movies such as *They Call Me Trinity* ('70), *Trinity Is Still My Name* ('72) and *My Name Is Nobody* ('73).

EDEN KANE (Richard Sarstedt) born in Delhi, India - 1940 (84)

* English singer. His biggest hit in Australia was in 1964 with *Boys Cry*. In the UK it was *Well I Ask* - a No 1 in 1961.

* His late brother Peter Sarstedt had two hits in 1969 with *Where Do You Go To My Lovely* and *Frozen Orange Juice*.

JULIE GOODYEAR (Julie Kemp) born in England - 1942 (82)

* British actress. From 1970-1995 she played the role of Bet Lynch in the long running TV soapie *Coronation Street*.

ERIC IDLE born in County Durham, England - 1943 (81)

* British comic actor. He was one of the stars of the UK comedy program *Monty Python's Flying Circus* as well as their feature films. * He co-wrote the music and lyrics to the stage comedy *Spamalot*.

* He appeared in the US TV series *Suddenly Susan* (1999-2000) and also had a major role in the Hollywood films *Dudley Do-Right* (1999), *National Lampoon's European Vacation* ('85) and the 1989 mini-series *Around The World In 80 Days*.

* He wrote and sang the theme to the British comedy series *One Foot In The Grave*.

VANGELIS (Evangelos Odysseus Papathanassiou) born in Greece - 1943. (Died aged 79 - 2022)

* Greek musician and songwriter. He composed the music for *Chariots Of Fire*. He also scored music for the movies *Blade Runner* and *Conquest Of Paradise*. He recorded an album with Jon Anderson. They charted with the single *I'll Find My Way Home* ('81).

SIR JOHN MAJOR born in Wimbledon, England - 1943 (81)

* Former Prime Minister of England. He was elected to government in 1990 and became Prime Minister at the age of 47. Remained in power until 1997.

TERRY JACKS born in Winnipeg, Canada - 1944 (80)

* Canadian singer. His biggest hit was in 1974 with *Seasons In The Sun* (No 1 in Australia, US and UK). Prior to that he'd had success with his then-wife Susan in the Poppy Family with the hit songs *Which Way You Goin' Billy* ('70) and *That's Where I Went Wrong* ('70).

BILLY THORPE born in England - 1946. (Died aged 60 - 2007)

* Australian singer/songwriter and guitarist. At 18 he had his first No 1 hit with *Poison Ivy* ('64) recorded with his band The Aztecs. With a different Aztecs lineup his biggest hits came in 1972 with the single *Most People I Know Think That I'm Crazy* and *Aztecs Live At Sunbury*. His last top 40 success in Australia came in 1976 when he charted with *It's Almost Summer*.

CHRISTOPHER LAMBERT born in New York - 1957 (67)

* American-French actor. He starred in the *Highlander* films and also had the lead role in *Greystoke: The Legend Of Tarzan* ('84).

ELLE MacPHERSON (Eleanor Gow) born in Killara, NSW - 1964 (60)

* Australian model and actress. Known as 'The Body', she was "discovered" at the age of 18 while holidaying in Aspen, Colorado, and was promptly signed to the Click modelling agency. She hosted the TV reality series' *Britain Next Top Model* and *Fashion Star*.

* Appeared in the films *If Lucy Fell* ('96), *Batman & Robin* ('97), *The Edge* ('97) and was also seen in the TV sit-com *Friends* ('94).

VIKA BULL born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1966 (58)

* Australian singer. She often performs with her sister Linda. The duo scored their first No 1 album in Australia in 2020, with their retrospective album *Akilotoa: Anthology* (1994-2006). Vika And Linda were both a part of the band the Black Sorrows. Vika sang lead on their hits *Chained To The Wheel* and *Never Let Me Go*.

LUCY LAWLESS born in Auckland, New Zealand - 1968 (56)

* NZ actress. She is best known for starring as *Xena, Warrior Princess* - a TV spin-off of *Hercules: The Legendary Journeys*. In recent times she's been starring as Alexa in Australian/NZ TV series *My Life Is Murder*.

OSHER GÜNSBERG born in London, England - 1974 (50)

* Australian TV and radio host. Since 2013 he has hosted the Australian version of *The Bachelor* and *The Bachelorette*. He is also well known in Australia as being a co-host of *Australian Idol*, hosting *The Masked Singer Australia* and narrating *Bondi Rescue*.

* He was once known as Andrew G - and then Andrew Günsberg - but he has returned to his birth name of Osher Gunsberg.

* On radio he hosted the Australian radio chart countdown program *Take 40 Australia* as well as *The Hot Hits Live from LA*.

JENNIFER CAPRIATI born in New York City, New York - 1976 (48)

* US tennis player. She won her second successive Australian Open in 2002. In 2001 she defeated Martina Hingis to win the title in just 63 minutes. In that year she also won the French Open.

AMY MATHEWS born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1979 (45)

* Australian actress. In 2006, Mathews she joined the cast of *Home and Away* as Rachel Armstrong and appeared in 331 episodes. She received a Logie Award for Most Popular New Female Talent in 2007.

MIRUSIA born in Brisbane, Queensland - 1985 (39)

* Australian soprano. She has been touring with the Dutch violinist and conductor André Rieu since 2007 as his star soprano. In 2008 her album *Waltzing Matilda* (with Andre Rieu) made No 1 in Australia. She sang with the Seekers in 2019 as Mirusia And The Original Seekers and released the album *A Salute To The Seekers*.

Events

ROYAL ALBERT HALL opened in London - 1871.

* It was officially opened by Queen Victoria in honour of her late husband Prince Albert.

COCA-COLA was launched as an "esteemed brain tonic and intellectual beverage" - 1886.

* It wasn't until 1894 that mass production bottling began.

QUEENSLAND NATIONAL ART GALLERY opened in Brisbane - 1895.

CAPTAIN ROBERT SCOTT, Antarctic explorer, made his last entry in his journal. He and his starving party perished only a few miles from a food depot - 1912.

THE KING AND I musical opened on Broadway - 1951.

JUDY GARLAND divorced her first husband, director **VINCENTE MINNELLI** - 1951.

* They were married six years and had a daughter Liza.

The last US troops left **SAIGON IN SOUTH VIETNAM** - 1973.

DR HOOK appeared on the cover of the Rolling Stone magazine fulfilling their hit song wish of being on the 'Cover Of The Rolling Stone' - 1973.

AUSTRALIA'S FUNNIEST HOME VIDEOS made its debut on Channel 9 - 1989.

* The first compere was Graham Kennedy. It ended in 2014.

PHIL COLLINS left Genesis to further his solo career - 1996.

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND became the first nation to **BAN SMOKING** in all closed public places - 2004.

TOM JONES, 65, became Sir Tom when he was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II - 2006.

* He was invested as Thomas Woodward, his real name.

93,013 CRICKET FANS attended the biggest single day of cricket at the MCG to watch Australia defeat New Zealand in World Cup - 2015.

PATTY DUKE, US actress, died aged 69 - 2016.

* In the '60s she starred in her own TV show, *The Patty Duke Show* and starred in the 1962 film *The Miracle Worker*.



Birthday Bulletin

Saturday 30th March 2024

Easter Saturday

Births

JOHN ASTIN born in Baltimore, Maryland - 1930 (94)

* US actor. He played Gomez in the '60s TV comedy series *The Addams Family*. With the passing of Lisa Loring (who played Wednesday) in 2024 - Astin is now the last surviving cast member. He had a role in the 1961 musical film *West Side Story*.

* His son Sean Astin is an actor and can be seen in the series of *Lord Of The Rings* movies.

* He was married to actress Patty Duke from 1972-1985.

WARREN BEATTY (Henry Warren Beaty) born in Virginia - 1937 (87)

* US actor/director and brother of Shirley. His major films include - *Bonnie and Clyde* ('67), *Heaven Can Wait* ('78), *Reds* ('82), *Dick Tracy* ('90) and *Bugsy* ('91) - which co-starred his wife Annette Bening whom he married in 1992. They also starred in *Love Affair* ('94).

ERIC CLAPTON (Eric Clapp) born in Surrey, England - 1945 (79)

* British guitarist and vocalist. Before going solo he was lead guitarist with the bands - The Yardbirds, Cream and Blind Faith. One of his biggest solo hit singles was in 1974 with the Bob Marley song *I Shot The Sheriff*. In 1993 he won six Grammy Awards including - Record Of The Year (*Tears In Heaven*), Album Of The Year (*Unplugged*) and Rock Song (*Layla*).

ALAN FLETCHER born in Perth, WA - 1957 (67)

* Australian actor. He plays the role of Dr Karl Kennedy in *Neighbours*. The program ended in 2022 but was revived in 2023.

* He married TV newsreader/radio presenter Jennifer Hanson in 1990.

DEBRA BYRNE born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1957 (67)

* Australian singer and actress. From 1970-'74 she was a member of the *Young Talent Time* team. In 1974 she had a No 1 hit with *He's A Rebel*. After overcoming a drug addiction she returned to showbiz in the '80s and from 1987 to 1990 she played Grizabella in *Cats*. She also played Fantine in *Les Miserables* and starred in *Sunset Boulevard* which opened in 1996.

PAUL REISER born in New York City, New York - 1957 (67)

* US actor and comedian. He starred with Helen Hunt in the TV sit-com *Mad About You* ('92-'99). In recent times he's played Dr. Sam Owens in the Netflix series *Stranger Things*. His films include *Beverly Hills Cop* and *Aliens*.

MC HAMMER (Stanley Burrell) born in California - 1962 (62)

* US rap singer and preacher. He had his two biggest hits in 1990 with *U Can't Touch This* and *Pray*.

TRACY CHAPMAN born in Cleveland, Ohio - 1964 (60)

* US singer/songwriter. The winner of the 1988 Grammy Best New Artist award had her first hit in 1988 with *Fast Car*. She performed the song at the 2024 Grammy Awards last month with Luke Combs. Combs revived her hit in 2023. In 1996 Chapman charted with *Give Me One Reason*.

PIERS MORGAN (Piers O'Meara) born in Surrey, England - 1965 (59)

* British journalist. He is the host of *Piers Morgan Uncensored* that debuted in 2002 and is seen in Australia on *Sky News*. From 2015-2021 he was a co-presenter on *Good Morning Britain*.

CELINE DION born in Charlemagne, Canada - 1968 (56)

* French-Canadian singer. She topped the charts worldwide in 1998 with *My Heart Will Go On* (theme from *Titanic*). It won Grammys for record and song of the year. Her other big sellers include: *Because You Loved Me/The Power Of The Dream* ('96), *It's All Coming Back To Me Now* ('97) - written and produced by Jim Steinman, *Beauty And The Beast* ('92) - a duet with Peabo Bryson, a revival of Jennifer Rush's 1986 song *Power Of Love* and *Think Twice* ('95).

* She has been keeping a low profile since being diagnosed with Stiff Person Syndrome in 2022, which has caused her to take a break from performing.

SHANE DUNDAS born in Canberra, ACT - 1971 (53)

* Australian comedian. He's one half of The Umbilical Brothers with David Collins. They started performing in the 1990s.

MARTIN LOVE born in Mundubbera, Queensland - 1974 (50)

* Australian cricketer. In 2003 he became the first player to score a triple century for Queensland. He amassed in excess of 10,000 first-class runs at an average of 50. Retired at end of 2010 season.

PATRICK BRAMMALL born in Canberra, ACT - 1976 (48)

* Australian actor and writer. Alongside his wife Harriet Dyer, he is the co-creator, co-writer, and co-star of the comedy series *Colin from Accounts* (2022). He is also known for his roles as Leo Taylor in *Offspring* and as Sergeant James Hayes in the ABC series *Glitch*.

NORAH JONES born in New York City, New York - 1979 (45)

* US jazz singer and daughter of Indian sitar player Ravi Shankar. Norah was the major winner at the 2003 Grammy awards winning five Grammys. Her debut album *Come Away With Me* made No 1 in Australia and the US. The follow up album *Feels Like Home* also made No 1 in the US as well as her third album *Not Too Late*.

SAMANTHA STOSUR born in Brisbane, Queensland - 1984 (40)

* Australian tennis player. She is a former World No. 1 in doubles. She won the 2011 US Open, defeating Serena Williams in the final and became the first Australian woman since Evonne Goolagong Cawley in 1980 to win a Grand Slam singles tournament. Stosur won a total of five Grand Slam titles; one in singles at the 2011 US Open, two in women's doubles; and two in mixed doubles. She retired following the 2022 Australian Open.

MOLLIE McClymont born in Grafton, NSW - 1987 (37)

* Australian country singer. She sings with her older sisters Brooke and Samantha in The McClymonts. Their first studio album *Chaos and Bright Lights* was recorded in Nashville and peaked at No 37 on the Australian ARIA Albums Chart.

Events

First **ANAESTHETIC** for a surgical operation was administered by Dr Crawford Long who removed a cyst from the neck of a student, James Venable in Georgia - 1842.

Hyman Lipman of Philadelphia patented the **PENCIL** with the **ERASER** at the end - 1858.

UNITED STATES purchased **ALASKA** from Russia for \$7.2 million - 1867.

AUSTRALIA and **NEW ZEALAND** finished their first official Test cricket match - 1946.

* Australia won by an inning and 103 runs in Wellington, NZ.

HELEN KELLER, US blind and deaf author, arrived in Australia - 1948.

CHARLES COURT became Premier of WA - 1974.

* He stayed in power until 1982. His son Richard Court also became state Premier. Richard married tennis star Margaret Smith.

PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN was shot at and wounded by would-be-assassin John Hinckley Jnr - 1981.

SALLY-ANNE ATKINSON was elected Liberal Lord Mayor after 24 years of Labor Lord Mayors in Brisbane - 1985.

* She also was the city's first female mayor.

GARY GLITTER, UK glam singer, was charged in London with 50 child pornography offences - 1998. * In 2015 he was jailed for 16 years in prison for sexual crimes.

LAWS, hosted by John Laws, made its debut on the Foxtel talk channel - 1998.

QUEEN MOTHER (Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon) died aged 101 - 2002.

FIVE JOCKEYS crashed to the turf and were injured when hundreds of seagulls flew into horses racing down the home straight at Sandown racetrack in Melbourne - 2005.

* One jockey suffered a broken arm.

GEOFF HARVEY, Australian pianist, conductor and musical director who worked at the Nine Network for 38 years on programs such as *The Mike Walsh Show* and *Midday*, died aged 83 - 2019.

BILL WITHERS, US singer died aged 81 - 2020.

* He had his biggest hit in 1971 with *Ain't No Sunshine*.

ERNIE CARROLL, best known for his character Ossie Ostrich on *Hey Hey It's Saturday*, died aged 92 - 2022.

* He wrote comedy for Graham Kennedy on the *In Melbourne Tonight* TV program. He was also a cartoonist, producer and writer.



Birthday Bulletin

Sunday 31st March 2024

Easter Sunday

Births

RICHARD CHAMBERLAIN (George Richard Chamberlain) born in Beverly Hills, California - 1934 (90)
* American actor. In the early '60s he starred in the *Dr Kildare* television series. He even had a hit with the theme song *Three Stars Will Shine Tonight* ('62). He also starred in the television mini-series *The Thorn Birds* ('83) and *Shogun* ('80). He also starred in the Peter Weir Australian film *The Last Wave* ('77).

SHIRLEY JONES born in Smithton, Pennsylvania - 1934 (90)
* American actress and singer. She played the mother in the '70s TV sit-com *The Partridge Family*. In real life she is actually the stepmother to David Cassidy who played Keith Partridge. Only Shirley and David were featured on the Partridge Family recordings.
* Her films include *Oklahoma* ('55), *Carousel* ('56), *April Love* ('57), *Elmer Gantry* ('60) and *The Music Man* ('62).

HERB ALPERT born in Los Angeles, California - 1935 (89)
* US musician. Herb Alpert and the Tijuana Brass had a string of instrumental hits beginning with *The Lonely Bull* in 1962. Although it was only Alpert and a group of professional US studio musicians (Wrecking Crew) who played on the recordings. He had a vocal hit in 1968 with *This Guy's In Love With You* which went to No 1 in Australia and US. It wasn't until 1979 that he had another big hit with the instrumental *Rise*.
* Alpert and Jerry Moss (who died in 2023) are the founders of A & M records.

CHRISTOPHER WALKEN (Ronald Walken) born in Queens, New York - 1943 (81)
* American actor and dancer. He won an Oscar for Best Supporting Actor in *The Deer Hunter* ('78). His other films include - *A View To A Kill* ('85), *Biloxi Blues* ('88), *Batman Returns* ('92), *Blast From The Past* ('99), *Catch Me If You Can* (2002), *Hairspray* (2002) and *The Jersey Boys* (2014). He features with Robert Di Nero in the 2020 film *The War With Grandpa*.
* In most of his movies he's seen dancing.

GABE KAPLAN born in Brooklyn, New York - 1945 (79)
* American actor. He played Mr. Kotter in the '70s television comedy series *Welcome Back Kotter*.

RHEA PERLMAN born in Brooklyn, New York - 1948 (76)
* US actress and wife of actor/director Danny DeVito. She starred in her own TV series *Rhea* but is best known for playing Carla Tortelli in *Cheers* ('82-'93).

THIJS VAN LEER born in Amsterdam, Holland - 1948 (76)
* Vocalist/organist with Dutch band Focus. They had their biggest hit in 1973 with *Hocus Pocus*.

GRAHAM CORNES born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1948 (76)
* Adelaide radio/TV broadcaster and former coach of the Adelaide Crows. He played over 350 games in the SANFL and VFL, and coached South Australia for thirteen years. He was also the Adelaide Crows first coach. He coached the club from 1991 until the end of season 1994. For many years he was heard on Fiveaa Adelaide's drive program.
* His sons Chad and Kane are both AFL footballers and at one time both played with Port Adelaide.

ANGUS YOUNG born in Glasgow, Scotland - 1955 (69)
* Lead guitarist with AC/DC. He's now the only surviving original member. His brother Malcolm who played rhythm guitar had to leave the group in 2014 due to illness (dementia) and died in 2017. Malcolm was replaced by his nephew Stevie Young. Angus' eldest brother George (who also died in 2017) played with The Easybeats. AC/DC played their first official gig on New Year's Eve 1973. In 2020 they released their 17th album *Power Up*. For this recording Brian Johnson, Cliff Williams and Phil Rudd rejoined the group for the recording.
* It was his sister Margaret who suggested that Angus wear his school uniform on stage since he usually wore it doing his guitar practice after school.
* He chain-smokes but has always been a teetotaler and likes to relax by painting watercolour landscapes.

PAUL NORTON (Paul McNaughton) born in Melbourne, Victoria - 1961 (63)
* Australian singer. The former Channel 9 soundman had a top 10 hit in 1989 with *Stuck On You*.
* He has been married to singer Wendy Stapleton since 1990. They could be heard singing on one of the former versions of the *Neighbours* TV theme song.

PAUL MERCURIO born in Swan Hill, Victoria - 1963 (61)
* Australian actor, dancer and dance teacher. The son of Gus Mercurio starred in the 1992 movie *Strictly Ballroom*. It was his first acting role. He was the host of the TV cooking show *Mercurio's Menu*.

EWAN MCGREGOR born in Perthshire, Scotland - 1971 (53)
* Scottish actor. His film credits include the role of Obi-Wan in *Star Wars Episode 1, 2 and 3*, *Moulin Rouge* (2001), *Brassed Off* ('96), *Emma* ('96), *Big Fish* (2003), *Miss Potter* (2006), *Salmon Fishing In The Yemem* (2012) and *Beauty And The Beast* (2012). He also played two roles in the 2017 *Fargo* TV series.
* In 2001 he had a hit with *Come What May* - a duet with Nicole Kidman (from the soundtrack of *Moulin Rouge*).

CHLOÉ ZHAO (born Zhao Ting) born in Beijing, China - 1982 (42)
* Chinese-born filmmaker. She is best known for her western film *Nomadland* (2020), that earned four Academy Award nominations. Zhao won Best Picture and Best Director, becoming the second woman and first woman of colour to win the latter. One of her recent films is the film *Eternals* (2021), which she co-wrote and directed.

JACK ANTONOFF born in New Jersey - 1984 (40)
* US musician and singer. He played guitar and drums for the group Fun. Their hits *We Are Young* (2011) and *Some Nights* (2012) both made No 1 in Australia. They have only released two albums.

CONRAD SEWELL born in Brisbane, Queensland - 1988 (36)
* Australian singer. In 2015 he made No 2 on the ARIA chart with *Start Again*. In 2014 Kygo feat. Conrad charted with *Firestone*. His biggest hit in 2018 was *Healing Hands*.
* His sister Grace Sewell made No 1 in Australia in 2015 with *You Don't Own Me* feat. G - Eazy.

Events

EIFFEL TOWER, named after the engineer Gustave Eiffel, whose company designed and built the tower, opened to the public in Paris - 1889.

ZIPPER was patented by Whitcomb L Judson of Chicago - 1896.

DAIMLER company built a motor car for Emil Jellinek and named it after his daughter **MERCEDES** - 1901.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME was introduced in the USA - 1918.
* The first country to ever use DST was Germany in 1916.

AUSTRALIAN GRAND PRIX was held for the first time at Cowes, Phillip Island - 1928.

EMI (Electrical and Musical Industries Ltd) was formed when HMV (His Master's Voice) and Columbia Records merged - 1931.

OKLAHOMA, the musical written by Rodgers & Hammerstein, opened on Broadway - 1943.

JIMI HENDRIX burned his guitar on stage for the first time at Finsbury Park Astoria - 1967.

HARD ROCK CAFE opened in Sydney - 1989.
* It was the first Hard Rock Cafe to be opened in Australia.

BOB CARR claimed victory in the NSW election after 7 years as the ALP Opposition Leader - 1995.

SELENA, 23 year old Grammy award winning Tejano singer, was shot dead - 1995.

CLINT EASTWOOD, 61, married his 4th wife, 30 year old newsreader **DINA RUIZ** - 1996.
* Divorced in 2014.

MARTINA HINGIS, aged 16 years and 182 days, became the youngest woman to be ranked world tennis No 1 - 1997.

SILVERCHAIR's album *Diorama* was released and debuted at No 1 on the Australian charts - 2002.

The last **BLOCKBUSTER** video store in Australia closed in the Perth suburb of Morley - 2019.
* The first Blockbuster business in Australia opened in Melbourne in 1991. The only store still open is in America at Bend, Oregon.

2014

March

Jocks' Journal

Radio News from 10 Years Ago



Toni Pipicelli, Group Music Operations Director at **dmg Radio Australia**, is leaving after 13 years with the dmg network. It was only in June 2013 that she returned to the station to this new role after 12 months maternity leave.

Jason Wolfram is taking up the position of Content Director for **Sea FM** Burnie and Devonport as well as **7AD/7BU** in the North of Tasmania from Monday 17th March. In other news from Tasmania, **Steve Segale** is leaving as Program Director for **SEAFM** Devonport/Burnie and **7AD/7BU** and moving to Launceston as PD of **Chilli/LAFM** from March 3.

Matty MacCarthy is the new drive announcer at **2TM** Tamworth. He's previously worked at **GGGFM** and **Power FM**.

WAVE FM Wollongong has a new announcer – **Chris Sewell**. Chris has been part of the **POWER FM** Nowra breakfast show for the past couple of years. He will commence in mid-March joining **WAVE's** workday on-air lineup, plus work tackle their station Image Production.

Maz Hakim, FM 104.7 Canberra afternoon announcer, is moving to Dubai in April. She has accepted a role as morning announcer on **Virgin Radio**. Maz came out to Australia with her family who were Afghan refugees. Apart from her radio role she is also a Refugee Week Ambassador and a 'Welcome To Australia Ambassador.'

Ben Parsons is leaving **Southern Cross Austereo** after 16 years with the company. Parsons, who was the Head of Television and General Manager of the Entertainment Media Unit of SCA, will leave at end of February after 16 years.

Dave Ferguson has been appointed as the new Operations Manager at **Magic 1278** Melbourne. Longtime employee **Darelle Kearins** is Music Director. The station is now playing: "the songs you know and love." **96FM** Perth Program Director **Brad McNally** is overseeing the station's new development.

Sara "Polly" Polanski has joined **Morro** in breakfast for 'Breakfast with Polly & Morro' on **98Five** Perth. **Christine Layton** has moved to Drive (3pm to 6pm). **Tim Long** has jumped into the Mornings chair (9am to noon weekdays). **JD** (John Donoghue) is producing and presenting Sunday Live as well as weeknights.

Dan Robinson, former host of **ACE Radio's** The Drop Zone night program, has been filling in on breakfast at **3TR FM**. However he has now been joined by former Big Brother contestant **Mikkayla** (Mossop) and **Kaycee**.

Corey Layton is leaving the radio industry. After 20 years in broadcasting he has taken a job with **Ensemble** as a national creative strategy director. His most recent role was Response and Activation Director with **SCA**.

Alisson Longhurst is the new senior producer for **Kyle and Jackie O's** breakfast show at **Kiis 1065**. She was previously EP for **Nova 106.9** Brisbane breakfast.

After 3 years, the breakfast team of **Aaron Wright** and **Dan Widdowson** returned on **Hope 103.2** Sydney just after Australia Day.

Chris Nairn, a 2013 **AFTRS** graduate, makes his radio debut as a breakfast announcer/copywriter at **5CS** Port Pirie.

Matt Bern is now **Territory FM's** Content Manager and MD, and will also continue to host the drive program. Matt has previously worked at stations **Nova 937, 92.9** and **K-Rock** and has been at **Territory FM** in Darwin about 3 years.

Luke Lum, Hot 100 Darwin, has accepted the role as workday announcer at **Hot FM** Townsville.



Mix102.3's **Jodie Oddy & Jason "Snowy" Carter** have been joined by **Mark "Soda" Soderstrom**. "Jodie, Soda & Snowy" go to air each weekday morning from 6am till 9am on **Mix102.3**. **Matt Gilbertson** has been filling in over the past few weeks.

Sam Hargreaves, former **3BO** Bendigo announcer, has accepted a new position at **Triple M** Brisbane as Assistant Music Director and as a sports producer.

ABC local radio is introducing a new one hour show on Sundays hosted by **Sunil Badami** from 6.30-7.30. **James O'Loughlin's** program will now be heard from 7.30-9pm. **Celine Foenander** is leaving **ABC Gippsland** and the morning show from February 28 as she's going to work at Latrobe regional hospital.

Cato & Coasty are heading the all new brekky show on **Live FM** Townsville. **Coasty** left **Zinc's** brekky team earlier this year.

Light FM Melbourne drive co-host **Dan Lyons** recently left the station. He joined the station in 2013 however his contract wasn't renewed for 2014.

Mark Jeffery is now presenting the **ABC** program **Riverland Today** for the SA Riverland, Murraylands and Mallee regions. Over the last 18 months he has produced for **891 ABC** Adelaide and statewide evenings with **Peter Goers** as well as presenting mornings in Port Pirie and working as a presenter and producer on mornings in Mt Gambier. Mark is keeping the seat warm for **Narelle Graham** who is expected back from maternity leave in late May.

Nick Slater has been appointed to the role of **Nova Network Night's** Imaging Producer. **Brad Leask** has been appointed to the role of **Nova Network Imaging** Producer. The role of **Nova Network Imaging** Producer will see him working closely with the Group Production Director and Group Programming team.

Nic Nolan can be heard filling in for **Mix 102.3's** morning newsreader **Maria Bradshaw** who has taken maternity leave. Nic is a former PD of **Fiveaa** Adelaide and also worked for several years in the **Mix 94.5/92.9** Perth newsroom.

Fairfax Radio have appointed former TV executive **Liz Illidge** as their new Sales Director for **4BC** and **Magic 882**. She has previously been GM of **WIN NBN** Television in Brisbane and also worked for the **Seven Network** and **Nine Network**.

Former WA announcer **Andrew Crothers** has died aged 40. He had been working in Singapore as a part of **987FM's** **The Don and Drew Show**. He had suffered a heart attack and passed away in February. He leaves behind his wife, **Nora Neo-Crothers**, and a one year old son. He started radio with community broadcaster **101FM** in Rockingham, WA.

More Radio News



Vision Christian Radio celebrated 25 years of broadcasting on February 1. Vision was first heard in just one local community – on 88.0FM in Beaudesert, in southeast Queensland

– but progressively, the network has grown to over 800 cities, towns, and remote and indigenous communities on AM, FM – and now on DAB+ in Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane. On Thursday, February 1st, Vision went back to where it all began... with **Fel and DJ** hosting the Rise and Shine breakfast show live from the Beaudesert Café. ('Robbo' - now Content Director - and 'DJ' pictured above.)

The Community Broadcasting Association of Australia has appointed **Diana Burnett** as General Manager. Burnett most recently worked as the Studio Manager for **Animal Logic**.

Robbie Von is now the breakfast announcer for **Triple M WA** covering all of regional Western Australia. Von was previously producing **92.9 Triple M's** Rush Hour with **Embers and Katie** in Perth, also working for the **Red FM** Network across Regional WA and **Gold 104.3** in Melbourne.

Spiro Christopoulos has been appointed Sports Presenter and Producer of **Ben Fordham's 2GB** show. Christopoulos has been with **Nine Radio** and **2GB** for three years working as a sideline commentator and producer for their Continuous Call Team.

Ronnie Stanton has joined Virgin Radio International as Chief Content Officer. During his time on Australian radio he worked with **Grant Broadcasters** in Geelong, **Prime Radio** on the Sunshine Coast and **dmg media** across NSW, QLD and Victoria. He moved to Canada in 2008.



Legendary sports broadcaster, **David 'Thirsty' Morrow** has retired from his commentary role on the **Continuous Call Team** effective immediately. **2GB** morning announcer **Ray**

Hadley announced that Morrow had recently been diagnosed with brain cancer and would be ceasing all commentary duties to focus on his treatment and spend time with his family and loved ones. **Luke Davis**, 2GB Head of Content, said: *"For more than five decades, David Morrow's voice has been the soundtrack of some of the greatest sporting moments Australia and the world has seen. His knowledge and passion for sport has burst through Australian radios each and every weekend – a familiar and iconic sound."* Following Morrow's retirement, **Mark Levy** has stepped up as lead commentator for the Continuous Call Team's 2024 season.

Chris Martin left **PositiveMedia** (aka 89.9 **TheLight**, aka **LightFM**) on 1 February. He started there in July 2017 as ICT Director, with no prior experience in radio. In departing he said: *"Thanks to Jarrod Graetz for taking a huge chance with me."*

Broadcaster, writer, filmmaker and farmer **Phillip Adams** has announced he will step down from his **ABC Late Night Live** hosting role later this year. One of the ABC's best known raconteurs, Phillip joined the ABC in 1991 when he took up the Late Night Live microphone for Radio National. Phillip's last program will be in June.

The **ABC** has announced three key senior audio appointments in its Content division. Leading radio executive **Mike Fitzpatrick** will be the ABC's new Head of Capital City Network and Sport, reporting to Head Audio Content, **Ben Latimer**. Double J Executive Producer **Phoebe Bennett** is the new Content Director for triple j Double j and **Beverley Wang**, the *Stop Everything!* and *Life Matters* host will be the ABC's first National Culture Correspondent.



Golden Days Radio Victoria presenter **Loretta Simmons** (pictured) received a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) in the General Division. These were for services to the community through a range of roles including Golden Days Radio and the Victorian Branch of Royal Commonwealth Society. **Frank Avis** received the Order of Australia

Medal for his service to broadcast media, particularly radio. He was the News Chief at Sydney's **2GB** from 1954 to 1996. **Kath Letch**, **3RRR** General Manager from 1995-2009 and a manager with **CBAA**, was awarded an Order of Australia Medal in the General Division. Others include: TV presenter **Craig Bennett** – now on air at Gold Coast community station **94.1FM**. He was recognised for his service to broadcast media as an entertainment journalist. **Majida Abboud-Saab** was recognised for service to the Arab community, **SBS Radio** and the media. **Fiona Campbell**, an **ABC Classic** radio presenter, was honoured for services to the performing arts through music.

2GB morning host **Ray Hadley** was honoured at the **52nd Golden Guitar Awards** with the special Country Music Capital Award for his passionate and sustained support and promotion of Australian country music. This is one of only a handful of times the Country Music Capital Award has been handed out since its inception at the Golden Guitars in 1977. Throughout his career, Hadley has been a major supporter of the Australian country music industry, convincing station management the Country Music Countdown deserved to be heard on capital city radio. Hadley has now presented 533 editions of the **Country Music Countdown** program across the country, providing a platform to both emerging and established country music artists. The show continues to be the number one rating radio program on Sydney radio each week.

Australians' love affair with podcast listening continues to deepen, while listeners flocked back to radio podcasts, and a new title took the No 1 podcast position, the January **Australian Podcast Ranker** has revealed. Australians downloaded 90.3 million podcasts in January, up 33% from January 2023's 67.8 million, and up 11% from 81.2 million downloads in December 2023. The **Shameless** podcast produced by Shameless Media was the podcast ranked highest for listeners for the month, with 516,000 listeners, up three places from December 2023.