

The Dangers of Being a Musician



Earlier this year, I was made fully aware of the need for musicians to take health and safety into account when playing on stage.

In Sydney, Singer **Jimmy Buffett** was performing a final encore when he fell off the stage onto the concrete floor. He lay unconscious for quite some time. The performance was stopped and patrons were asked to leave the premises while Buffett was treated.

As a person who is normally somewhat aware of health and safety issues, I took up the task of investigating events of accident and the cause of death of musicians.

My web search revealed that there have been in excess of **12,900,000 accidents involving people falling off the stage... Yes, playing and performing music can be dangerous...**

Here are some additional findings.

The cause of death of musicians falls into one of **three main categories: Substance Abuse (drugs/alcohol), Homicide/Suicide, and Transportation related.**

Homicide/suicide:

Sam Cooke
Marvin Gaye
Brian Jones (according to some)
John Lennon
Kurt Cobain

Transportation:

Buddy Holly(plane)
Big Bopper(plane)
Richie Valens (plane)
Otis Redding (plane)
Jim Croce (plane)
Harry Chapin (car)
Stiv Bator (Hit by car)
Marc Bolan (T. Rex, car crash)
Stevie Ray Vaughn (helicopter crash)
Lady Gaga went on a trip

Substance abuse:

Jimi Hendrix
Janis Joplin
Jim Morrison
Brian Jones (according to some)
Keith Moon

Exceptions:

Elvis (heart attack, no drugs involved?)
Roy Orbison (heart.)
Karen Carpenter (anorexia)
Mama Cass Elliot (heart)
Freddie Mercury (AIDS)
George Harrison (cancer)
Michael Hutchence (Unsure)

**Your life is in your hands and here is a useful saying... Remember it!
'Everyone is their own Health and Safety Officer'.
Lady Gaga....Take a tip from Gawler Country Music Club!**

For our young **Country Music** performers, and also for those who are not so young.... I do encourage you to be aware of the potential **hazards in the Music Industry.**

In 2010 there was a serious accident on stage in London.....

Lady Gaga took a tumble. She fell off her platform shoes!

Just as there are in Farming, The Building Industry, Transport, Office Work.... and sitting at a computer all day etc... there are hazards.... Avoid them by being careful and fully aware....

Chad Morgan 'Not Dead Yet' New Documentary...

60 years after kicking off his career on *Australia's Amateur Hour*, 78 year old **Chad Morgan** is still on the road performing throughout regional and outback Australia.

The documentary follows **Chad's** and his wife **Joanie** on their travels, blending in archival footage and claymation scenes inspired by Chad's most famous songs.

The joke of the title relates to the many times **Chad Morgan** has been reported dead by the media. In January 2008, he mentioned that the death claims were getting annoying saying "People might have wanted to book me for a show but then think, 'Oh, he's dead'." The documentary is narrated by **Tex Perkins** and will premiere at the Sydney Film Festival on Tuesday 14th June. **Source: [Sydney Film Festival](#)**

Beautiful Equality

A husband and wife are shopping when the husband picks up a case of beer and puts it in their cart.
'What do you think you're doing?' asks the wife.
'They're on sale, only \$10 for 24 cans he replies.
'Put them back, we can't afford them demands the wife, and so they carry on shopping.
A few aisles further on along the woman picks up a \$20 jar of face cream and puts it in the basket.
What do you think you're doing?' asks the husband.
'It's my face cream. It makes me look beautiful,' replies the wife.
Her husband retorts: 'So does 24 cans of beer and it's half the price.'

He never knew what hit him.

Anon Member Errol



Keith Sings For Slim

Keith Urban recently paid tribute to the late **Slim Dusty's** musical influence and historical legacy at his Sydney Entertainment show.

Keith played an acoustic guitar made of 300-year-old cedar wood from Slim's property.

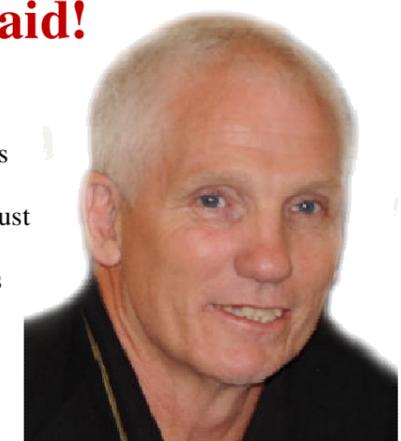
The auction date is yet to be confirmed with monies from the auction to be directed to the **Slim Dusty Foundation** for the **Slim Dusty Centre in Kempsey, New South Wales.**

The especially commissioned handcrafted **Maton** guitar is a replica of the first Slimline guitar Maton made for Slim, and features a fingerboard with Slim's signature in mother-of-pearl.

There is a one-dollar coin embedded into the cedar headstock and this represents the one Slim fastened to his own original model as a lucky token.

Keith Urban played the guitar during 'Making Memories of Us', which he dedicated to **Slim Dusty and his wife Joy McKean.** The relationship with Slim and Joy dates back to Urban's early career when they took him on the road to tour with them.

Fred Said!



Hi Folks

At last month's Music Workshop I must admit I was thinking it was going to be the lowest attendance for some time, but come twelve thirty everyone started to roll in and by one fifteen we had just over forty people in the hall.

It seems that the playing of ukulele has been revived and is becoming the fastest growing played instrument; with large groups forming all over the world. Some of you may have seen the documentary some weeks ago on television.

Well the workshop is not missing out with three ukulele players turning up. This will make Garry happy when he is next able to come along.

We also had some other new faces turn up wanting to learn how to play guitar and sing; in fact Raelz has now got her hands full with a large group now going into the back room for vocal lessons.

Les and George were sadly missed due to illness, but Kevin Smith kindly filled in on bass and also helped out in the workshop mode teaching guitar.

It is also starting to keep me on my toes at the mixing desk as more and more people want to have a go up front. This I don't mind as it is showing that more people are gaining confidence.

I would like to thank big Ken for his help in fixing the bass drum and also for his generous donation towards the cost.

We also received donations towards a new urn as the old one suffered a burnt out switch. No one was asked to donate, they just took it on themselves to do it, so **thank you** very much it is greatly appreciated.

Fred Payne
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