

National Report

NSW REPORT

Compiled by John Adams
info@drumcraft.com.au

Although winter has not been the warmest time of year, the drumming seen in Sydney has been hot as ever.....check out the following.

First mention would have to go to Sydney-sider **Andrew Hewitt**, who left the audience in tears and a standing ovation with his performance at AUDW in Melbourne. More of that elsewhere in this issue...

Around town, **Davo Fester** has been super busy this year touring with *Ginhouse* and recording the third album on kit with *The Bluetongues*. Davo was also responsible for the successful 9th Bondi Music Festival which had an AMAZING atmosphere of Blues, Reggae and Funk at Australia's most famous Beach (in the pavilion). Some highlights this year were *Kingtide*, *Craig Calhoun & the Brothers of OZ* and *Red Slim* cutting out a sharp silhouette of Jimi Hendrix sounds.

Pete Kostic is off to tour Japan with *Regurgitator* in September and is currently working on new material for the new *Hard-Ons* full length album. Pete

has also been doing some shows with experimental musician *Lucas Abela* in Lucas' trio *Rice Corpse*.

Mick Hogan has been playing at CCCRYde, *Close To You - The Karen Carpenter Story* www.meerabellthomson.com, working on original projects including *Elle Kennard*, *Damien Enemark* and *Jon Reichardt* and assorted private sessions, along with teaching from the home studio.

Peter Schultz is in his fourth year with *Ron Denny's Combo* at Souths Juniors Old Time/New Vogue dance club Thursday nights, some jazz gigs with *Billy Williamson*, *Graham Lockwood*, *Jimmy Mitchell*, *Dave Smith*, *Chris Bell*, and backing acts around Sydney and Illawarra Clubs with old mates *David Huntsman* and *Mike Walsh*.

Sunil De Silva has been celebrating various things, he has also been playing with *Doug Williams* and will be involved in the *Michael Jackson Tribute* with **Kere Buchanan**.

Young jazz drummer and icon to be **Tim Firth** has been touring Korea and Japan with *Mark Isaacs Resurgence Band*, then a tour of Japan with *The Hipstones*, performing around Sydney with *James Muller Quartet*, *Phil Stack Trio*, *James Morrison*, *Mark*

Ginsburg, *Craig Scott Quintet* and others. Yes, Tim does find time to eat food during the day too.

One of the hottest drummers on the planet, **Gordon Rytmeister**, has been covering all corners of the field with his bag of tricks with bluesman *Steve Edmonds' Band*, pop sensation *Wa Wa Nee*, *Luke Dickens*, Australian jazz stalwart *James Morrison*, doing 3 big shows including the Enmore Theatre in Sydney with "*Whole Lotta Love*" - a tribute to Led Zeppelin and also doing "*Joni*" a tribute to the legendary *Joni Mitchell* featuring 10 great Aussie female singer/songwriters at the Opera House in Sydney, QPAC in Brisbane and Hamer Hall in Melbourne. If that wasn't enough, he's also on the highest rating TV show in this country in the frame of *Australian Idol* series 7.

Logan McCrory has been doing the *Peter Byrne Neil Diamond Hot August Night Tribute* with 30 piece Sydney International Orchestra across Sydney and Canberra, and plenty of other gigs in the Sydney pub and club scene.

Peter Fitzgerald has been playing with Original Blues rock outfit *Odyssey* who are currently recording their EP with *Pete Northcote* and enjoying getting to