

SCOTT BIRD TIMELINE 1977 TO 2011

1977 Began drumming. Thanks Reg.

1977-1978 BLUE HAZE, Penguin Tasmania - Drummer

My first band.....12 bar blues rules ok

1979 - 1981 or thereabouts TUSH , Penguin Tasmania - Drummer / Vocalist

Cool song, never really knew what the word meant. Seemed like a good idea at the time. We did sock dances, footy clubs and blue light discos. Played on Channel 9's Tasmanian New Faces twice. Did 'Long Way to the Top' and 'Living after Midnight' - a self fulfilling prophecy.....lol

1981 - 1982 Gordon Buchanan, Tasmania - drummer

Learned so much from Gordon. Ex-pat Canadian with a big old F100 truck. Taught me how to put on a show....and how to drink!

1983 - 1984 U CLAP 2, Tasmania - Drummer

This is where I really started to get involved with song writing and recording. Very professional outfit, learned a lot from them. What a classic bunch of old hippies. We played for bikers, at beer barns and old shearing sheds. First line-up included Alan Archer, Mick Hales and Warren Chisholm.

1985 TOURING INFERNOS, Queensland - Drummer / BV's

The Surfers Paradise TAA building was our headquarters. More song writing and recording. Cancelled due to lack of interest.

1986 SHEEP WEATHER ALERT, Tasmania - Drummer / BV's

Very 80's, like a cross between B52's and Violent Femmes....WTF

1986 TO 1988 OZ-X-PRESS, Tasmania - Drummer / Vocalist

As Jake & Elwood said "We're putting the band back together and we're on a mission from God"... lol. Big trucks, big crews (we kidnapped Simon), big PA's, big supports, big shows, big manager...good onya Benny, big hair, big trouble with the licensing board, bigger crowds, a big whirlwind that lasted for 2 years before relocating to Sydney. It was seriously big fun in little Tasmania.

1988 OZ-X-Press, moved to Sydney

Far out.....Rock'n'Roll heaven wasn't what we thought it would be. We few, we happy few, we band of brothers. Met Russ and Marsh at DG's....been workin with them ever since.

1988 OZ-X-Press recorded a single 'Big Boyz' & 'Don't Go Away'

Vinyl....cool. Produced by Kim Thraves. Used to be on the jukebox at the Neptune Grande Hotel, which by the way, my grandfather helped build.

1988 OZ-X-Press 'Off the Rails' Tour with Linda Barnes

Another self fulfilling prophecy. A Classic Rock'n'Roll circus tour....crew and band...pirates all the way...aaarrggh

1989 Trude became manager

Trudi put us back on the rails and paid to put us back on the mainland. ...I don't think she knew what she was getting herself into....then again, maybe she did. Trude always believed in the band, from the get go.

1989 OZ-X-Press toured NT, Darwin & Katherine

Lessons learned - Never rent a wreck or drink a garbage bin full of punch with the staff.

1990 - 2001 PALE RIDERS

"We are Pale Riders from the North West Coast of Tasmania. This has been 100% Original, 100% Australian and 100% Independent. Thanks for being with us my friends."

Aahh....where to start. After dragging ourselves all around Sydney doing what Pete Wells so eloquently described as "Cowboy Rock" we settled into a 6 month residency in Kings Cross at Springfields and honed what would become Pale Riders, acoustic roots. Chrissy Amphlett regularly joined us on stage along with Charlie Drayton and whoever else was around at the time. The Hurricanes, Baby Animals, Screaming Jets, The Poor, Judge Mercy, Jeff Lang in leather and heaps more were all coming through at the time. Exciting times.

The House became the stop over for all and sundry and the kitchen table became the jamming centre of our universe. John Brewster was always dropping in and along with Alan Lancaster became Trudi's self appointed mentor.

Ray Smith and Steve Hands were the best co-managers you could hope for and Sam Righi and Michael Browning made a reasonable offer which we declined. Didn't agree with their vision for the band at the time. Brent Eccles wanted everything for nothing....needless to say he got nothing. Our agent on the North Coast Amanda Condon was a great woman, sadly she is no longer with us. Michael Mullens from Made It Happen tried his best to make it happen. Tony Grace and Sam Righi at the Harbour Agency gave us some great gigs. Michael Chugg from Frontier Touring was on board for a nanosecond until Steve blew his cool. Marty Clapp, Wazza, Penny, TBor and Charlie, all gave us great support. Mandy, Kiwi, Jake and Hagar made us part of their family when we toured north. Pete, Wayno, Leisa, Kath, Kim and Squash didn't miss a beat! Kath, Marty and Steve turned us into an institution at the Frog. Karl, Dave and Steve always pulled a great sound, and Julie Cameron made sure that everyone could see us. ...sadly she is no longer with us. Pig the legendary roadie and Tod the rooster wrangler kept things pretty colourful along the way!

To everyone who came out and supported us in the audience and bought our CDs...I can't thank you enough....much appreciated my friends. And last but definitely not least, Manno, Garry and Trude; thank you so much....we had a pretty decent crack at it....live long, grow strong. I reckon I've forgotten more than I remember and if I left you out it was not by design. Don't hesitate to drop by and jog my memory....cheers.

1990 'Rock into 91' Pale Riders, Tas Tavern Tasmania

Bigger than Ben Hur

1993 Pale Riders album 'From the Lighthouse to the Cross'

Compilation of demos recorded between 1989 and 1992. Limited release. When we got the album delivered we had to go and buy a CD player so that we could hear it....classic. Pat Grieve's original art made the cover. At the time he was a struggling artist, now he's caning it...goodonya Pat.

1993 We built a stomp box

Our latest addition to the band came complete with a genuine lead based blundstone boot....all the better to stomp with. Ended up with one leg like a gladiator! As far as I know, this was a first especially when teamed up with Garry's hand made washboard.

1994 Pale Riders line-up experiment - Paul DeMarco and Chris E Thomas

Short and sweet. Heaps of fun but couldn't afford to keep it on the road.

1994 Pale Riders Self Titled album - Produced by Dave Steel at Damien Gerards, Sydney

Got to work with Dave Steel and had a bunch of friends help out on additional tracks. Thanks Chris E, John, Bucky, Paul, Bernie and Randall. Would love to release all the songs that didn't make it onto the album.....one day....the Rooster companion!

1995 Pale Riders live film clip 'Down to the River', Jolly Frog, Windsor NSW

Wendy McDougall filmed it and Intergalactic pictures edited it. We had a great shooting party at the Frog. Check it out on youtube at <http://youtu.be/j4WsNIFwVOw>

1995 Pale Riders Self Titled album - Mixed by Randall Waller at Rich Studios, Sydney

Finished the album and released it independently. One of the first Digipaks in OZ...you beauty. A lot of people were wondering what the cover was.....it's a rooster folks....Henry was part of the show.

1995 Pale Riders Canadian tour, Vancouver

Part of the Australian contingent for Music West in Vancouver. Other artists performing were Tommy Emmanuelle and Vicka and Linda Bull. Thank you Visa.

1995 Pale Riders on the world wide web

When we came back from Canada Trude set up a home for us on this thing called the world wide web, inspired by what we saw was happening in North America. There weren't many people living there in our neck of the woods in them days. How things have changed.

1996 Pale Riders signed publishing deal with Warner/Chappell

Woo hoo....somebody in the industry finally put their money where their mouth was...stable mates with Yosemite Sam, Bugs Bunny and Foghorn Leghorn....cool.

1996 Pale Riders toured New Zealand, North Island

Two shows a day, shopping centres, pubs and some big televised event....I can't quite recall. We all lived in a tiny caravan for a week. Tour presented by mars bar and pepsi!! Trude came back with a streak of grey hair.

1996 Pale Riders on the Midday Show performing Long Rider

The PM John Howard opened for us. Check it out on youtube at http://youtu.be/TIL_5g5icRA

1996 Pale Riders recorded 'Moonsong' EP

Produced by John Brewster and band. Recorded to 16 track 2" tape at Buckys mums place.....beautiful. Mixed by Randall Waller. Publisher hated it....we loved it...nuff said.

1996 Pale Riders industry showcase - Saloon Bar, Camperdown

Profits from the night went to the Port Arthur appeal. The industry turned up in force all except our publisher! The Hawkesbury got bussed in to the city...the chooks came along for the ride and hijacked the bar and the stage....goodonyas

1997 Pale Riders Live Album 'Strait Up' released with bonus EP 'Moonsong'

Strait Up was from a live recording at the Fitzroy Hotel in Windsor. Trudi came across this obscure desk tape, had a listen and thought...shit, this has a great vibe. So we mastered it and made a record. Steve Nagy....what a great live engineer...thanks mate.

1997 - Pale Riders award winners Australian Blues Music Awards

Best New Band!! Best Harmonica Player. Trophies all round and not a football in sight!

1997 Pale Riders Travellin' Jack Tour

We often toured the East Coast between Sydney and Brisbane and would travel back to Tasmania frequently. This tour covered a lot of miles. The amount of live work we did over the years was a great achievement considering we were 100% original and independent.

1998 Pale Riders 'Dust Covered Man' EP

Recorded Dust Covered Man at Paradise Studios in Kings Cross, produced by the band. We then created an EP including this single and samples from our previous CD releases as a radio promotion to coincide with the Redneck Wonderland Tour.

1998 Pale Riders guests on Midnight Oil's national Redneck Wonderland Tour

Big stages.....big band....3 guys with a couple of acoustic guitars, a stomp box, washboard and harmonica.....we creamed it. Thanks to all our family and friends who accommodated us along the way. Thanks to Craig for giving us a rider so we could eat each day. Thanks to Glen and Chris for keeping us sane and well lubricated! Thanks to the Oils for inviting us along. Thanks to Simon the likeable from Show Travel for carting our gear around. Thanks to all cast and crew.

1999 Pale Riders recording session with Peter Blyton

Producer experiment.....didn't want to die wondering. Recorded three tracks 'Still here Loving You', 'Henry Rooster' and 'Autumn Valley'.

1999 SXSW Music Festival in Austin Texas & Meetings in LA

Trudi visited the US on a fact finding mission!! The facts were blurry, didn't want to die wondering! Thanks to Roger Sovine for showing her around in Austin. Thanks to Marshall Cullen for guiding her to the best place to stay in West Hollywood.

1999 Started teaching music on the Central Coast NSW

I trust you've all learnt as much from me as I have from you.

1999 - 2000 Pale Riders 'Dust Covered Man' receiving airplay in US and Europe

From our press release back when...."The song Dust Covered Man has been released to Country Music Radio across Europe and the USA on the Comstock Records international sampler. The response to the Pale Riders sound has been very positive with radio airplay reports indicating that Pale Riders have been play listed in several states across the US (Mid West Prominent) and European Countries; Denmark, Belgium, Sweden, France, Italy, Austria, Germany, The Netherlands, Scotland and England. Pale Riders debuted at #28 on the Indie World Top 30 report out of Tennessee and within three weeks had moved to #17. The report reflects national play across the USA. At the beginning of 2000 they debuted at #22 on the ECMA Top 40 charts in Europe. Also, The Big Backyard has added DCM to their international radio series #6...more to come."

1999 - 2000 EMI Records heard Dust Covered Man and loved it.....

Leon Concannon met with Trude and it was decided to try demoing some stuff with a young Nash Chambers. Whilst we worked well together, Nash didn't think he could hear the next single. The band was losing interest at a time when other people were getting interested...bugger. I think we'd run out of steam....too long in the trenches.

2000 Pale Riders decided to call it a day.

"The heart won't pump when the wells run dry"bugger. Thankfully the songs can live on. For me it was always about the songs.

2001 March - Forth Blues Festival, final Pale Riders Tasmania show

2001 May 11 - The Basement, final Pale Riders Sydney show

2001 May 12 - Hawkesbury Panthers, final Pale Riders show

Shaved my head for the Leukaemia Foundation. See footage here <http://youtu.be/TPn8nJzzz1Y>

2001 Went full time teaching music

2002 Went down to the Crossroads!!

2003 Began Zen gardening and Jedi Knight training

2006 Started writing songs again

2008 Moved my teaching business and created Riversong Music Studio

2009 Decided it was time to record the album

2010 Recorded, mixed and mastered the Riversong Album

Continued on Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/scottabird>