

# Dave Bootle returns from adventurous life down under

## Lifestyles

By BRIAN MacLEOD  
Herald Staff

After three years of singing and dancing, tickling the ivories in cocktail bars, diving off cliffs and throwing himself through plate glass windows, the lure of a white Christmas brought Dave Bootle home from the land down under.

And the few inches of snow which fell on Christmas Eve made the Dec. 3 trip across the world worth while.

The Georgetown native headed for Australia with his new wife Kathy in the fall of 1985, after a year of "jumping off a ship and doing crazy things like that" at Canada's Wonderland.

In Australia, the pair performed similar stunts, and eventually Dave drifted into a singing and dancing rock and roll revival show at a theme park called Australia's Wonderland.

Both are physically talented people. Dave was a gymnast at Georgetown District High School, and Kathy was on the Canadian gymnastics team set to travel to Moscow for the 1980 Olympics. But Canada's boycott that year, attributed to the Soviet Union's invasion of Afghanistan, ended any hopes of an Olympic performance.

After two seasons there, Dave decided it was time to put his musical talents to a different use.

Using an extensive keyboard set-up including synthesizers, he performed Top-40 hits interspersed with much of his own material in various nightclubs throughout Sydney. "I was getting quite a good reputation around Sydney," he said. "People were enjoying my original stuff just as much, if not more, than the Top-40 stuff."

With music in hand, Dave approached Warner Brothers Publishing about a possible recording contract. They liked his music, but with no band, the deal fell through. "I've always stayed away from bands. (In a band) you have to worry about a whole bunch of other people," said Dave.

So, in November of 1987, Dave got a band together and started "gigging" around Sydney near the Kirribilli district where the pair lived.

After a few months of performing, Dave - who said his music is



David Bootle

The couple were married just two weeks before they left for Australia in 1985. "We decided to get married just for fun. It was a marriage of convenience. It really worked well." (Kathy's parents are Australian and the marriage allowed both to work in the country).

They have now purchased a house in East York. Dave is starting up a music career in the Toronto area, but has dreams of parlaying that into acting.

"Ultimately I would like to be an actor. If it turns out that I become prominent in the music business, and if I have a choice between that and acting, possibly I'll choose acting," he said.

"The first thing I've got to do is make some money."

To that end, he knocked on a few doors and he has already set up a solo gig at Mulligan's on Dundas Street in Mississauga on Jan. 14.

His father, Fred, a former singer and dancer, is his manager. Citing the importance of good guidance Dave said, "I don't think you could ask for a better manager than your father. He looks out for your interests."

### Careless charge

An Acton man is charged with careless driving after his 1985 Nissan struck a parked car on McDonald Boulevard in Acton early Friday afternoon. Police say the Nissan was westbound on a long curve when it went out of control on the slush and hit a 1984 Datsun owned by an Erin man.

### Infant saved

Halton Regional Police say a restraining seat saved the life of a baby in an Oakville accident Sunday afternoon. Two cars collided at Ninth Line and Burnhamthorpe Road at about 4 p.m. and were demolished. An Oakville man, 33, is in hospital in critical condition.

## Bootle finds Aussies 'laid back'

Of all the different characteristics Dave Bootle encountered in Australia, the most distinct was the "relaxed atmosphere."

"I think it's too relaxed for me," he said. "Sydney, they say, is a very fast-paced city... compared to Toronto, I think it's a quarter of the pace."

The service is very slow. People there will pick up the phone

and wait 10 to 15 minutes on hold because that's the way it is there," he said. "It's all 'no problem, everything will be okay' attitude."

Musically, homegrown rock bands INXS and Midnight Oil are as big there as they are half a world away, he said. But watch out for a band called the Cockroaches - they'll be big in North America one day, he added.

And what of everyone's favorite Aussie, Paul Hogan?

"A majority of the country is just loving it. The Americans are eating it up."

"But there are Paul Hogan fans that dislike his movies," he said. They preferred his old television show, which was much like the Benny Hill show.

## More families enjoy Christmas

By RICH FLAHERTY  
Herald Special

Almost 200 families felt the spirit of Christmas giving in Georgetown as a result of the generosity of the community and the volunteer efforts of the Lioness Club, the Salvation Army and the Kinettes.

"It was a lot of hard work," said Joyce Gosling, co-chairman with Madeline Collier of the Good Neighbor Service, recently taken over by the Lioness Club of Georgetown.

The Lioness Club followed the usual system of organization for the collection and distribution of canned food, hams and turkeys for their hampers. There were over 20 people sorting and compiling the packages, and about 15 - including members of the fire department - who helped out with the distribution.

Applying for assistance was not difficult in Christmas of 1988.

"If they (the applicants) fill out the form, we don't check them," said Ms. Gosling. Many of the applicants for food hampers depend

ed on the good faith of the Good Neighbor Service. The Lioness Club did not notice an abuse of the service in this respect. They managed to reach 108 families in the Georgetown area.

The Good Neighbor Service also received assistance from the welfare department in determining the needs of the families receiving aid.

On plans for the new year, Ms. Gosling feels, "There is no reason to change it."

"People over the years have perfected it," Ms. Gosling said, and she feels confident that the service will run successfully.

Similar goals were also achieved by the Salvation Army, who handed out 40 large hampers in Georgetown, and about the same in the Acton area.

Working with St. Vincent de Paul, the Rotary Club, and the I.O.D.E., the Salvation Army's annual Christmas hampers included toys, clothing, and food. The quality of the donations this year were very good, many containing hand-

knitted clothes, and good quality toys.

Applications for the Salvation Army food hampers were similar to that of the Good Neighbor Service.

"We're here if anybody is in need," said Ms. Williams, concerning the Salvation Army's efforts for the new year.

The Kinettes toy drive, aside from the food hamper service also brought happiness to 115 kids in Georgetown.

"It went great," said organizer Jane Leonard. "We had enough toys." The quality of toy donations also improved over previous years. "The number of new toys was the highest ever received."

About 25 of the kids who received gifts at Christmas were teens. The monetary donations of \$145 were used to finance their gifts.

Five Kinettes and two Kinsmen devoted their time to the toy drive.

The Kinettes Club Toy Drive is an established project in Georgetown. "We've been doing it for 10-15 years," said Mrs. Leonard.

On plans for future toy drives, Mrs. Leonard says that they will follow the same system of organization as in the past. The only suggestion she made was that people save their gifts over the year until next Christmas, as storage space is limited.

## Sons of Scotland help overseas

The local Sons of Scotland Benevolent Association could follow the trend of its country-wide counterparts and donate money to the survivors of the recent plane disaster in Lockerbie, Scotland.

Association organizer Alice Gray of Georgetown said the local Sons of Scotland contacted the Toronto office which said it would donate \$5,000. Mrs. Gray said she talked to "two or three people" in the local association who agree that \$1,000 of the group's account should go to the survivors.

"But we have to have a meeting," said Mrs. Gray. The Association meets again the second Friday of January. But Mrs.

Gray was optimistic that the \$1,000 donation would go through after she spoke with the association's chief, and its treasurer, "It's a jolly good idea," she said.

The Dec. 21 plane crash killed 259 aboard a Boeing 747 departing from London and heading for New York near the border of England and Scotland, after a bomb exploded on board.

Chapters of the Sons of Scotland around the country will donate funds to the survivors of the tragedy, said Mrs. Gray.

GEORGETOWN SPA & FITNESS CENTRE  
"EXCLUSIVELY YOURS"  
877-1924

**ALPHA BBQ** The Great Taste of B.B.Q. Chicken

**HONOLULU SPECIAL**  
- INCLUDES -

1/4 B.B.Q. Chicken  
Alpha Special Sauce  
Bun & Fresh Cut Fries

**\$3.35**

A REAL FULL MEAL DEAL!

232 Guelph Street Georgetown.  
873-1646 (873-1647)

**SPECIAL**

24 Exp. Photo Finishing \$9.99

Valid With Same Day or Next Day Service

WE USE KODAK PAPER FOR QUALITY PRINTS

**CRAIG'S PHOTO**

100 HURONTARIO PLAZA  
Next to Kowalsky Fried Chicken 877-5945

**\$ BULK FOODS \$**

*Save You Money*

<b>Robin Hood All Purpose FLOUR</b> 33¢ Lb.	<b>White Fine SUGAR</b> 33¢ Lb.	<b>Australian SULTANA RAISINS</b> 99¢ Lb.
--	------------------------------------	--

Buy Any Other Item - \$2.00 or More and Receive the Prices Above

SPECIALS IN EFFECT UNTIL WED., JAN. 18 (Sat. not included)

Seniors Day Every Wed. 10% OFF

10 Mountainview Rd. South 877-5570

**BULK FOOD** Next To MAC'S MILK

For all your Baking Needs: Candles, Snacks, Nuts, Dried Fruits, Spices, Soups, Muffin Mixes, Gourmet Coffee, Flavoured Teas, Etc.