



What's the Bzzzzzzzzzz?



September 2009

Spring is in the air, everywhere I look around (.....or is that love?) I've seen lambs, ducklings, cygnets (baby swans), smelt the gorgeous, uplifting fragrance of jasmine and I can feel the temperature rising.

This will be my **last newsletter from Auckland**. I'll be back in my hometown at the beginning of October and have lots of workshops and gigs and Gala's and a trip to Christchurch schools in between! And a house to sit with a gorgeous view, chickens, pigs, ducks and a poodle.....could be very inspirational. I'll be a bit sad to leave Auckland.....but I'll be back next year!!

Firstly – watch “**Good Morning**” on **Tuesday 29th September** because I'll be singing and being interviewed. Woohoo!!

I have a new “**Things to Do**” **page on my website**. Just click the button and find some cool activities to go with my songs and other websites to visit with some cool things to do.

This month I have performed with the kids at **Royal Road** and **Manuka Schools**, **Peninsula Montessori Peschool**, **Princess St Childcare** and **Kids' Forever Preschool**. I also wrote a song with the Middle Syndicate at Western Heights School. It's called "Western Heights! for me and you". I took a workshop with the whole middle school, we did lots of brainstorming and came up with lots of ideas, talked about the different parts in songs and rhyme and rhythm - they had a great understanding already because they have at least one amazing teacher who takes them for music - Isla Noakes. Go Isla!! I'm looking forward to hearing the school sing it one day!

I've helped with some school fundraising by offering my CDs at a reduced price, the school keeps some money for various projects. At **Birkenhead School**, each class is doing a project to make the school a nicer place visually for the children. The money raised is going towards a mosaic for the Junior School. We have also done a fundraiser at **St Joseph's in Pukekohe** and at **St Joseph's School in Orakei**. If you'd be interested in doing this for your school or community project, please **let me know by return email**.

I took some time off to spend with my daughter who came up for a few days from Nelson. We went **ice-skating** (I only almost fell over once and Sian managed to let go of the handrail quite a few times 😊) We also visited **Kelly Tarltons** – I thought the penguins were amazing – the beautiful bright orange colouring on the Emperor Penguins' faces stunned me.





We also went shopping together – my daughter is the person I'd pick every time to go shopping with. We ate lunch in the revolving restaurant up the top of the **Sky Tower** so got a view of Auckland from all directions. I felt kinda sea sick for the first 5 minutes, but got used to it and it was a nice meal too.

We also **filmed part of my music video for "Individuality"** – we sang the song over and over, did the actions, laughed a lot and generally had heaps of fun in the park at Western Springs! Sian was a little freaked out by the black swans (memories of what she likes to call, 'the black swan attack' in Taupo when she was a child.....). I'm not too keen on them when they hiss – but how else do they let people know they're getting too close for comfort?! Did you know they carry their babies on their back at the base of their neck, nestled in their wings – it's very cute.



We filmed part of the video at **Royal Road School** too – all the year 1-6's participated – sang the song several times out in the playground and then a few kids stayed and helped out with some extra filming. Thanks to Kelly, Helen and all the teachers for your help and to all you Royal Road kids – thanks for your **"Individuality"!!**

I have another retailer to add to the list - **"Grasshopper" in Takaka, Golden Bay** – I'll be doing a **shop gig there in January**, will let you know details closer to the time. Also, visit www.smokecds.co.nz for some great Kiwi music and you can purchase my CDs from them online too. Don't forget you can download your favourite tracks of mine, or of any Kiwi artist, from www.amplifier.co.nz for just \$1.99.

Suzy Cato showed me around **BigFM** last week. They have the BEST view of Auckland city from their studio! **Fresh FM** are now featuring **The Great Big Kids Show** from **7 - 8am on Sunday mornings**, so all you Nelson kids, tune in your radios to 108.4; in Golden Bay 95.2 and 89.2 in Blenheim and listen in!! Suzy will be **giving away a couple of my CDs** in the next few weeks so keep an ear out and you could win one!!

The **special price of \$20 (plus P&P) for "Bee-Tees"** will be finishing at the end of **October**. Get in early for **Christmas** – they'd make great pressies to post overseas. From November they will be \$25 plus P&P.

That's about it for this month! Don't forget to keep your eyes; ears and noses open to the sights, sounds and smells of spring



"Spring sees new life all around, it's like a song without a sound....."