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La Trobe University Union Entertainment & Events April 29-May 27

Tuesday May 4th
Comedy!! 1pm
Agora Cinema
Luke Whitby



Thursday May 6th
Bar Night @
The Eagle Bar!!
DJ Lackey playing all
your requests

Friday May 7th
Live Acoustic
@ the Eagle Bar, 5-8pm
'The Baby Boomers'

Tuesday May 11th
Comedy!!
1pm Agora Cinema

Wed May 12th
Free Matinee Movie!!
12pm Agora Cinema
'28 Days Later'



Thursday May 13th
Bar Night
@ The Eagle Bar!!
DJ & cover band

**Tuesday
May 18th**
Comedy!! 1pm
Agora Cinema
**La Trobe Uni
Comedy
Competition!!**
6pm Eagle Bar



Wed May 19th
Free Matinee Movie!!
12pm Agora Cinema
'West Side Story'



Thursday May 20th
Bar Night
@ The Eagle Bar!!
DJ Lackey playing all
your requests

Tuesday May 25th
Comedy!! 1pm
Agora Cinema

Wed May 19th
Free Matinee Movie!!
12pm Agora Cinema
'Peter Pan'



Thursday May 20th
Bar Night
@ The Eagle Bar!!
DJ & cover band

On Tuesday 6th April TRIPOD arrived at Latrobe University to perform for a packed Moat Amphitheatre.

Before the show I was able to have a quick chat to Gatesy, an ex La Trobe student, and key part to the comic brilliance that is, Tripod!!

Theo Please give me a little history up until you came to Latrobe Uni?

Gates I went to a co-ed private school in Box Hill called Kingswood College. It was a fairly liberal minded school. There was still a smoking room for the kids to smoke in, casual clothes in the last two years (laughs). Yeah it was full on. It was fantastic but it didn't prepare me for anything like university, so when I did get to La Trobe it really f*#ked me up. Having to be places at a certain time. The school was really relaxed. My parents didn't realize that they were spending all this money for a private school that was pretty slack at the time. There was just too much freedom, 17, 18 yr olds trying to decide for themselves, it's impossible. I couldn't do it. The whole uni thing was very hard. Very hard to adjust. The signing up for courses and stuff, couldn't work it out.

Theo You were at a liberal high school, did you do much music?

Gates Yeah that was my main love, yeah a little bit of drama and theatre sports. I was really shit at footy so playing in bands at lunch time was more my thing. When I got in to La Trobe I was very keen to hook up with some dudes, and like, play music!!

I didn't really find many people doing that at La Trobe. I did music 1A experimental music, I just wanted to get my guitar and play, not listen to Johnny Cage or anything like that.

Theo Did you do much theatre while you were at La Trobe?

Gates While I sort of did uni for one and a half years then and I came back in the middle of the next year and did first year drama. I really screwed up my course. Drama was pretty cool though.

Theo Were you involved with student theatre and do stuff like the moat festival?

Gates Not really. I did amateur theatre, in the south eastern suburbs, I lived in Mitcham so I had my life there and only came to uni for, what about 12 or 13 hours a week

Theo You performed at Dracula's, where you played Dracula in the stage show, how did you get involved?

Gates Yeah I was, that was my first acting gig, I was working at a newsagents at Northlands and I wanted to get something started, I wanted to do everything, actor, direct, make movies, you know what it's like when your 21. I was reading the newspapers that I was selling I tried out and it was so much fun. It was like a year and a half of staying out late, sleeping in and playing video games all day and going in again and dressing up like bloody Kiss. It was ace fun.

Theo Did you have any bands going at the same time or anything like that?

Gates The idea was to have my days free so I could write music, but that never really happened it was pretty much the slackest period of my life. Once I'd left that, Scod and Yon asked me if I'd like to sing with tripod, I thought that was a great idea, see tripod's being going on longer than I've been in it. It's had a couple of line ups.

Theo You joined it in which year?

Gates Start of 96, and that came as a part of me knowing Yon through the amateur stuff that we'd done and Scod being a mate of Yons.

Theo Are you involved in any solo stand up?

Gates Nah, we're just a singing group, we'd get up and sing our favourite songs and some of them were quite questionable whether or not they were entertaining, but they were fun to us. Then people would come and laugh at our gigs, we weren't setting out to be funny but that's what happened. We put ourselves in to the Comedy Festival and people started calling us comedians. That's pretty much how we fell in to it. After that we thought bugger we'd better come up with some jokes and stuff as well. Now though were back to focusing on the musical side of it, cool key changes and chord progressions, rather than the comedy side of it.

Theo Tripods gotten very big over the last 8 years. How do you see that?

Gates Yeah this is probably the year we've sat back and gone wow, S*#. it's been really gradual though.

Theo You've been doing a lot of stuff on Triple J, how'd that come about?

Gates Well I was mates with Peter Hellier when he was doing a show in the arvo with Merrick and Rosso every week. One of his challenges was to right Bevan the Musical. I gave him a hand with that and so M & R wanted to make it a regular thing with Tripod and the song in an hour challenge. They started it and so we've been doing that ever since with Triple J. Adam and Will took over from that and it's been fun. We've got a few albums out of it too (laughs).

Theo What about Skit house and Stuff with Roving Enterprises?

Gates We started out in comedy around the same time so we've all just travelled through it together. And when Rove wanted to put together a sketch show, Tripod was one of his first choices to get involved. He's good that way Rove, he's great.

Theo Regarding time, do you have your own time? Your own space?

Gates Ha, we're shocking with our time; we complain all the time that we don't have any time. It is pretty good though. We're stuffed on Tuesday because we have to get up at 6 for this Triple J thing and it kills us for the rest of the week. One day of not being able to sleep in. We're useless, we're big pansies like that.

Theo The future?

Gates No idea, driving the car into the ground, we're just going to keep doing it while it's fun. Feature films though, that's one of the main things that we'd like to do. As well as try to convince everybody that although we love our songs and our music it's not all that we can do!!

Theo Looks like you're about to go on, thanks for the interview.

by Theo Willetts