

# HERE AND NOW

compiled by  
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A PROUD mum is back home in Sprowston after a 30,000 mile trip to see her pop star son married and later presented with his first gold disc.

Mrs. Betty Friend left her Allen's Lane home last October and set sail for Australia to see son Keith Lamb for the first time in five years.

Keith emigrated with a friend to start a new life and found fame and fortune . . . he's lead singer in Australia's most popular and highly-paid group, Hush. A far cry from his days with Norwich band, Mr. Todd.

## Fan fervour

"It was such a thrill to see him again, waiting at the quay for the ship to dock. It was very emotional, but after that we just couldn't stop talking," said Mrs. Friend.

Twenty-three-year-old Keith married Australian blond Jan Allen in December and later that month Hush received their first gold disc for the album "Got Backed."

Betty was guest of honour at the presentation and toured with the group on her visit. She had never seen Keith on stage before.

She saw a TV show being made by the group in Sydney, where they are based, but told

# TOP OF THE POPS DOWN UNDER

us that her most vivid memory was the night the band played to an audience of 8500 screaming teenagers.

"It brought tears to my eyes. It wasn't till then I really realised just how popular Hush have become," she said.

Keith is now living in a suburb outside Sydney in quite a modest house.

"He has to live somewhere the fans won't find him," said Mrs. Friend. "Keith has had to move home five times already because of the fans."

"But he doesn't really mind. He accepts it is all part of being a pop star and takes it in his stride."

Although the group are earning a lot of money they draw a weekly wage which enables them to live comfortably, said Mrs. Friend. The rest of the money is invested for them.

While Mrs. Friend was travelling back from Australia the group went on a tour to New Zealand and negotiations are now going on for a U.S. tour.

"My wildest dream is that they will come to Britain," said Mrs. Friend. "The boys all

realise they will be unknown here, but would love to tour this country."

The group's latest album "I'm not taking over" is already well on its way to another gold award. They have also had a No. 1 in the singles charts and several in the Australian top ten.

Hush success is based on rock music aimed at the 11 to 17-year-old audience.

As their publicity material proclaimed: "Hush insist you enjoy them . . . Hush make you dance . . . Hush force you to sing . . . Hush defy you to ignore the feeling."

For a group with such a quiet name Hush certainly seem to be making a big noise Down Under. Nothing would please Keith's mum more if they could do it here.

After all, what has come out of Australia since the Bee Gees?

**AUSTRALIAN** pop idols head with their gold discs, left to right — Les Gock, Norwich-born Keith Lamb, Smiley Pallishepe and Rick Lum.

