

### MORE INTERNATIONAL SONGWRITING ACHIEVEMENTS

Australians have achieved success in the Gospel/Christian category of the International Songwriting Competition (ISC).

This is the competition in which mainstream Aussie singer Kate Miller-Heidke has won the grand prize for her song *Caught In The Crowd*.

The ISC is arguably the most prestigious songwriting competition in the world.

Michael W. Smith, Jeremy Camp, Natalie Grant, and Matt Thiessen (Relient K) judged the Gospel/Christian category this year.

Nashville's Anadara Arnold and Stephanie Lewis took out first place for their song *What Do I Do With Your Time*. Lewis has previously written songs for Plus One, Jump 5, Avalon, and Jaci Velasquez.

Wade Ledema from Lismore NSW secured second place for his song *We're Not The Losers*. He was the runner up last year in the same category for his song *Wildflower*.

Wade is the 31 year old lead singer, songwriter and guitarist with Lifetone, a group that aspires to making fresh praise music for the church.

Wade says the recognition is "very encouraging".

"It's not easy to get your songs heard," Ledema says.

"So to think that the judges liked the song means we're probably doing something right."

Roma Waterman's *I Need A Miracle* and Paris Well's *Grace Baby* gained honorable mentions.

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### NEWBOYS NEW RELEASE RESONATES WITH AUSSIES

Newsboys this week release its latest CD *In the Hands of God*.

The CD with Peter Furler on lead vocals was recorded just before Michael Tait took over the vocal reigns.

Furler says this is the last Newsboys album with him as lead singer.

"It felt good to make just one more record," he says.

"It's a good record... and what we'll do is go back and get Michael to record a few [of them] as time goes on," Peter suggests.

Highlights include newsboys' cover of Brooke Fraser's song *Lead Me To The Cross*, and a song that will resonate with many Aussies, *RSL 1984*.

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### BEST IS YET TO COME FOR CREED

One of the most successful rock bands of the past decade has reformed.

Since its formation, Creed has sold close to 35 million albums and millions of concert tickets.

The original line up of Scott Stapp, Mark Tremonti, Scott Phillips and Brian Marshall will undertake a US tour this summer.

Singer Scott Stapp says, "It's amazing how life can change and bring you full circle". He believes "the best is yet to come"!