

13TH TOOWOOMBA LEONARD COHEN CELEBRATION:

SAT, 24TH & SUN, 25TH SEPTEMBER, 2005

(SPONSORED BY 'THE DANCING BEAR CAFÉ' SOCIETY IN CONJUNCTION WITH
THE TOOWOOMBA CLUBHOUSE)

Hi there friends!

The years of our celebratory event just keep ticking over, so we would now like to invite you to attend our 13th Leonard Cohen birthday celebration event here in Toowoomba! Throughout the course of this unique spring celebration, we will be indulging ourselves in the work and spirit of this inspiring and statuesque artist, who has with a certain singularity, forged a unique musical style - one that continues to be discovered by a new generation of musicians/fans. It certainly has found its rightful place in that more serious genre within 'popular music', though his work is by no means devoid of humour. Tributes to Cohen's work abound (such as at the "Came So Far For Beauty" concert at this year's Sydney Festival) and will undoubtedly continue to grow over time.

Proceedings will again start with the now extended Saturday afternoon session, which will feature various *noteworthy DVDs/videos of Cohen interviews, his poetry/prose and his music video clips* (with coffee, tea etc. available throughout the afternoon). This afternoon session will be closely followed by the evening session.

The Saturday evening session, apart from having a catered-for three course meal, will again have an *emphasis on live music*. We are pleased to feature two fine performers for this main evening session: Michael Rhoddy (who many will recall fondly from last year) and of course our own adept and charismatic performer, John Gallagher. To back them up we will also have some other local talent, including Beata Stenzel with her wonderful voice. We also hope to squeeze in some LC poetry/prose readings during the evening. As well as this, there will be the customary draw for the lucky door prizes. The earlier part of the night will be built around a three-course meal catered for and served by Toowoomba Clubhouse personnel, who are generously collaborating with us again this year, after their splendid effort last year. Alcohol, whilst not for sale at this venue, can be purchased nearby - with coffee or tea available on site.

The Sunday lunch session will be held from about 12 noon onwards at "Alpenhof" Restaurant on the northern outskirts of Toowoomba. This Germanic theme restaurant is superbly located on the eastern escarpment of the Great Dividing Range, with pleasant garden and valley views afforded from its verandah area. It will certainly lend itself to some *Cohen poetry/prose readings and laid-back acoustic guitar performances* - in what has proven to be a relaxing and enjoyable conclusion to the weekend.

We look forward to seeing you at this special event!

Yours in celebration,
Andrew Darbyshire & organising group members (from Dancing Bear Café Society & Toowoomba Clubhouse)

PROGRAM:

- ❖ 1.30pm, SAT, 24th - DVD/Video session
 - Various engrossing DVDs/videos that will both inform and entertain.

- ❖ 7.00pm, SAT, 24th - Main evening performance session
 - 3 course meal (including vegetarian)
 - LC's video hits
 - Live performances of LC's music, featuring Michael Rhoddy and John Gallagher, along with other local performers
 - Poetry/prose readings
 - Lucky door prize draw

***** BYO alcoholic drinks *****

- ❖ 12 noon, SUN, 25th - Lunch session at 'Alpenhof' Restaurant
 - Choice of 2 main courses (including one vegetarian option)
 - Choice of 2 deserts
 - Coffee/tea
 - Poetry/prose readings + acoustic guitar performances

VENUES:

Saturday sessions - Toowoomba Clubhouse, Taylor Memorial Institute, 112 Russell Street (diagonally opposite Mort St junction)

Sunday session - "Alpenhof" Restaurant, 242 New England Highway, Toowoomba

COST:

Saturday afternoon - no charge

Saturday night - \$25 for 3 course meal & live entertainment, or \$15 concession rate

\$10 for live entertainment only

Sunday lunch - \$21 (flat charge: 2 course lunch, with coffee/tea)*

** Licensed alcoholic drinks at extra cost*

ACCOMMODATION:

Numerous motels, guest houses, B & B's (including 'Alpenhof')

Phone Tourist Information Centre - 4639 3797

Cheaper billet arrangements may be negotiable (contact Andrew)

RSVP:

Please RSVP by Wed, 21st concerning the Sat & Sun meals (unless you are only a Saturday night entertainment admission)

Phone Andrew: 07 4638 0727 (Home) or 0408 751 541 (Mobile)

E-mail Andrew: darby50@ozemail.com.au