

## We The People

Program 165

Australia Day Poem 2015



Good Day to you on this Australia Day.

Listeners will know that I have a strong penchant for democracy and freedom of speech. This is the essence of democracy in Australia and so on the 26<sup>th</sup> of January I feel very patriotic and proud of who we are. I am proud of our heritage, laws and customs and proud of the colonial DNA which has spawned a unique Australian culture. In striving to be a successful nation we must protect our national identity and so when 4CRB asked me to put my thoughts to verse I was pleased to do so. It's in this nationalistic light I offer the following impression of Australia Day through the eyes of We The People, at least as I see it.

### 4CRB Australia Day Poem

#### Tethered to the Land

I ask myself what is it that strikes the green and gold  
Why do we unfurl the flag and reflect on days of old,  
How come we all tear up at the mention of its name  
Australia Day has come again amidst drought and flooding rain.

Why is it that we relish a chance to celebrate  
Why is that the nation calls both men and women mate,  
What is it that binds us, what drives this arid nation  
More so than Melbourne Cup Day or regal adoration.

The answer lies in history being written as we speak  
Its sheltered in the land we love from plains to snowy peak,  
For all these complicated reasons the answer is at hand  
Our struggles and our history keep us tethered to this land.

Yes that's it, we're tethered to the things we count the most  
We value one another and the land that keeps us close,  
We are fiercely all Australians and reject all other folk  
Who want to change the way we are and send our culture up in smoke.

We may have multi cultural roots but we set aside that notion  
We have but one Australian custom an undivided nation,  
One large community of folk who choose to integrate  
If not then leave us now and shut the flamin the gate.

We are tethered to each other and those who have long passed  
We are tied to Aussie history a nation unsurpassed,  
Those of political correctness who would try and keep us down  
Can leave, for that era's ended along with bureaucratic clowns.

For those who do not celebrate and call this invasion day  
Then let history rewrite itself for they have lost their way,  
You cannot change the past my friend and we must live without affray  
The countries better for it on this Australia Day.

Indeed, we are tethered to this land of green and gold  
We are tethered to the principles we love and firmly hold,  
We must have unity of nation and so this Australia Day  
Stay tethered to the flag we fly that represents our way.

**Happy Australia Day and until next time this is Kent Bayley**

