

SCATTERED PEOPLE



SONGBOOK

Introduction

From various countries they came – El Salvador, Chile and Colombia – some escaped from Ethiopia, Eritrea and Russia – they arrived from Bosnia, Iran, Sri Lanka, East Timor, Afghanistan, Iraq and elsewhere. They had in common their experience of believing in and standing up for human rights in their countries only to encounter intimidation and often torture at the hands of oppressive regimes. After much struggle they arrived at what they perceived to be a safe country – seeking asylum for themselves and their children.

They gathered at the Asylum Seeker's Centre in West End which offered counselling, resource information, emergency relief and general support. Their situation was desperate – while they waited for their applications for a protection visa to be processed (often longer than two years) they were not eligible for government financial support, Medicare, work permission, English classes etc. Their dream of finding security and a future was already beginning to crumble. From somewhere within the midst of this turmoil, singing emerged as a form of self-expression, comfort and solidarity.

The idea began to take shape "what if this gathering of people could express their own thoughts and feelings in their own music - one of the very few mediums in which they felt comfortable – and have it heard across the airwaves? Maybe then the general public would understand that the asylum seekers were flesh and blood people, not abstract statistics to be demonised and cast aside".

'Workshops' were conducted with asylum seekers, Centre staff, volunteers and the Lifeline community development team. Potential 'lyrics' began to fill the whiteboards – lyrics which spoke of their nostalgia, their fears and need to escape - frustrated hopes and resilience. Overwhelmingly, solidarity with those who believed in them was identified as a sustaining force.

'Kindred-spirited' musicians and songwriters were invited into the gathering. Songs were crafted and sung to one another - Eritreans singing with Ethiopians, Sinhalese together with Tamils transcending the cultural hostilities as they sang of their commonalities – a desire for peace, safety and a future for their children.

The self-titled Scattered People album was produced - a celebration of diversity and the 'common ground' accessible via music. The asylum seekers were able to share their message of struggle, hope and strength across the airwaves. At last in their music their voices are being heard. Membership of Scattered People has been fluid – many of those who were part of those initial song construction sessions were returned to their countries not to be heard of again. Others took their places – new people, new songs.

Weekly visits to the Pinkenba BITA (Brisbane Immigration Transit Accommodation) began on June 9, 2011 and continue to this day. The Scattered People musicians have been taking guitars, mandolins and percussion instruments into the Centre where detainees from Iran (formerly Persia – the land of Rumi and poetry), Afghanistan and Sri Lanka scribbled their poems on scraps of paper and asked for music to be added.

Here is a collection of songs.

Sing them with us in solidarity imbibing the spirit of Arthur O'Shaughnessy (1844-1881)

"We are the music makers, and we are the dreamers of dreams ...
yet we are the movers and shakers of the world forever it seems".

Credits

In recognition of and great respect for the collaborative process
in which ideas were shared with open and trusting hearts
by un-nameable asylum seekers
enabling these songs to come to life,
the key composers are hereby acknowledged:

Robbie James
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Chris Anderson
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www.scatteredpeoplefilm.org



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The tuft of green that pushes defiantly through the wasteland of broken glass and rubble will take your breath away – it is so beautiful.



Alafiah ... Freedom

Am **Dmin7 E7**
 My land has been scorched and my people shattered
Am **C G**
 Our lives have been lost - you could hear us cry
F G E7 Am
 For our homes were burnt and our bodies broken
Dmin7 E7 Am
 But the spirit within us ... will never die

Alafiah ... alafiah ... alafiah ... alafiah

Our children have grown in a web of tension
 Their dreams have been spoiled watching old men cry
 Their hearts though young have been forged in sadness
 But the spirit within them will never die

Am **Dm7**
 Take our comradeship and courage, our thirst for peace - our hopes for all
F G
 Take these fruits bought through our struggles
Dmin7 Am F E7 Am
 Let these same fruits feed us all

Take our efforts for survival through the pain that we endure
 Take these fruits bought through our struggles
 Let these same fruits feed us all

Alafiah ... alafiah

Our futures unknown lives forever altered
 You brothers and sisters have heard our cry
 For you share our hopes as we stand together
 And the spirit within us, the spirit within us ... will never die

Take our comradeship and courage our thirst for peace - our hopes for all
 Take these fruits bought through our struggles, let these same fruits feed us all

Take our efforts for survival through the pain that we endure
 Take these fruits bought through our struggles, let these same fruits feed us all

Dm7 Am F E7 Am
 Let these same fruits feed us all

All We Hope For

C

Clothes on our back, food on the table
Children at school, willing and able

F G Am F G C

It's all we hope for, all we hope for

Go out at night, freedom to wander
People accept that we need a home
It's all we hope for, all we hope for

C

F G7

We will it, we will it, we will it

I look in your eye and see you're not frightened
Your greatest surprise is a cake with your name
It's all you hope for, all you hope for

We will it, we will it, we will it

Walk in the sand and breathe in a new life
Where you understand our need to feel safe
It's all we hope for, all we hope for



The world turns yet some things stay the same. We Scattered People have been joined by others from the Congo, from Afghanistan and Tibet, from Iraq and Burundi. They too seek safety while many of our original companions have been sent back to the countries from which they originally escaped.

We have lost contact with them.

Others of us still wait year after year for a response to our applications for protection.

Our needs are simple - we are not asking for much ...





A Normal Day

Dm **C**
I wake into a new world looking for rest from pain that I feel
Dm **C**
There is no turning back, nowhere to go this life is unreal
Gm **F**
Tonight I will remember all of the things I loved and left behind
Gm **F** **Fdim**
Tonight I will remember all of the people the fear in their eyes

C **Am** **D**
(Can I live) can I live one normal day (can I feel) can I feel some peace I pray
F **C**
(Will I find) will I find an open door to normal days I'm longing for?

Dm **C**
I wait so far from home wait for a future that's out of my hands
Dm **C**
I'm tired and alone frightened of words I don't understand
Gm **F**
Tonight I will remember the family, the home we made all that we planned
Gm **F** **Fdim**
Tonight I will remember walking in darkness through alien lands

Chorus: (Can I live one normal day ...)

Middle Chords: (**Bb - Am - Bb - C** - Repeat 4 Times)

Rap section:

On a tightrope seeing no hope when I hit the ground I'm on a slippery slope
I've got a lot to give got a lot to give you all I need is a chance to live
With security for my family but everywhere I go I face hostility
Takin' my life away takin' my time away I'm living on the edge with no place to stay...

Gm **F**
Tonight I will remember heavenly words of hope living in song
Gm **F** **Fdim**
Tonight I will remember all of the people keeping me strong

C **Am** **D**
(Can I live) can I live one normal day (can I feel) can I feel some peace I pray
F **C**
(Will I find) will I find an open door to normal days I'm longing for?
C **Am** **D** **F** **Am**
Can I live one normal day? can I live one normal day? can I live one normal day?

We look around us – we see people travelling to work to earn their living – their skills being valued. We see students on the buses and the trains on their way to broaden their world and develop their capacities. We see mothers and children shopping and laughing together – people getting on with their lives – having normal days. We yearn to blend in amongst them...



A Ship Called Liberty

A A7 D B A E ADAE
Take us away to a new history on a ship we'll call it Liberty

A D A D
Dreaming of a ship that could take us all away from here
A D A E
A home away from home upon the sea
Em D
They could fit us all our families together
F#m D Bm
Far beyond the reach of the smuggling industry

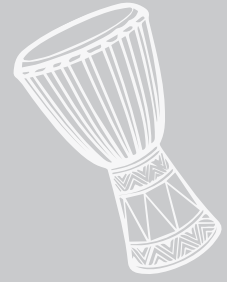
A A7 D B A E ADAE
Take us away to a new history on a ship we'll call it Liberty
A E F#m D A
Honour those before us who were lost to the sea so that we
E ADAE
could sail the Liberty
A A7 D B A E ADAE
Liberty oh Liberty we sail on a dream called Liberty

Raise the flags of the signatories compassionate societies
Process all our claims with dignity
The fare is free for families with safety the priority
On a ship that we call the Liberty

There is room for all our families together
Way beyond the reach of the smuggling industry

Take us away to a new history on the ship - we call it Liberty
Honour those before us who were lost to the sea so that we
could sail the Liberty
Liberty oh Liberty we sail on a dream called Liberty

Liberty oh Liberty we sail on a ship called Liberty
Liberty Liberty



Sometimes we dream together – collective dreams can be very powerful. 'As has been said by the American Clairvoyant Edgar Cayce 'nothing significant happens in our lives until we dream of it first'. Will you dream with us?





The boat trip was frightening – our children cling to us. The waves are at times enormous. The winds are fearsome. All we have are our hopes and our dreams – they sustain us like the moonlight and give us a glimpse as to where we need to go.



Escaping Dreams Pray Far From The Boat

C Am F C G Am D D

C Am F C
Beyond politics life slows on and on
G Am D
New world beyond the darkness, the sea and the sky
D

D
They've become one
C Am F C
Now we're sailing to the largest island so far away
G Am D
We're surrounded by horizon with nothing more to say

C G C F G F
Among the choir of memories, untouchable escaping dreams they pray so far
C G

From the crowd
C G C F
On the edge of forever there is such a restless sleep
G F C G
But escaping dreams they pray so far pray so far from the boat

C Am F C G Am D

C Am F C
We could write our stories and put them in a song
G Am D
Music can change the world one person at a time
C Am F C
It might open doors on unknown distant shores
G Am D
A song can change a mind one person at a time

F C F C G
Pray so far, pray so far pray so far pray so far from the boat

Eyes Are Windows

G C G D G C G D
Eyes are windows I can see a welcome waiting here for me, though
G C G D G C G D G C G D
Talk and custom different be, eyes are windows I can see

Eyes are windows I can see a welcome waiting here for me
Though talk and custom different be, eyes are windows I can see

Em C
At banquets we learn how to be

G D
Like flavours of the table

Em C
The colours and their symmetry

G D
Come join us if you're able

Eyes are windows I can see kindness waiting here for me
Though talk and custom different be, eyes are windows I can see

Football fever swallows me
I'd watch and play forever
Strap on your boots and follow me
We can play together

Eyes are windows I can see understanding here for me
Though talk and custom different be, eyes are windows I can see

Eyes are windows I can see understanding here for me
Though talk and custom different be, eyes are windows I can see

In music feel us celebrate
Our dance infectious
It comforts & commiserates
Let song connect us

Eyes are windows I can see friendship waiting here for me
Though talk and custom different be, eyes are windows I can see (x 2)

And in our eyes you'll see it too our wish to live in peace with you



When language is awkward, when historical touchstones are out of reach and when cultural reference points are bewildering, we rely on our instincts about who is there for us.





Our choices made sense back then – painful though they were. In our rational moments in the light of the day they still make sense.

But not at nights.



For Choices We Pay So Dearly

G Gmaj7 C G
For choices we pay so dearly
C G D
Like leaving home and family
C G C G
To find our way across the sea
Am D7 G
And settle in Australia

Decisions of necessity
We set our sights and prayed that we
Would soon be safe and feeling free
In this fair land Australia

D D7 G
Now won't you come and sing with me
C G
Our hearts are torn apart you see
D D7 G Em
One half lives with our families
Am D7 G
The other in Australia

Ask us now and we'll agree
Our leaving really had to be
A choice for which we pay dearly
To live here in Australia?

At nights secretly
In dreams we fly to family
Embrace them momentarily
Then wake up in Australia

Now won't you come and sing with me
Our hearts are torn apart you see
One half lives with our families
The other in Australia

For choices we pay so dearly
Our hearts are torn apart you see
One half lives with our families
The other in Australia

For The Children

D **Bm** **Em7** **A7**

Say hello my darlings smiling kids

Em7 **A7sus** **D**

Dawn again the sun is waiting

D **Bm** **Em7** **A7**

Open up the windows hear the chicks

Em7 **A7sus** **A7** **D**

Sprinkle grain and water at their feet

Start the day my darling happy kids

Splash some water on your smiling face

Comb your hair and brush it strand by strand

D **D7**

Time to dress and face the day

G **A7** **D**

Breakfast here it's time for school

G **A7** **D**

Hurry so you won't be late

G **A7** **D** **Bm**

And then you must be so quiet for learning

Em7 **A7sus** **A7**

Pay attention and appreciate

Say hello my darlings smiling kids

Today will happen just like yesterday

Do the things you know you have to do

And then it will be time to cheer

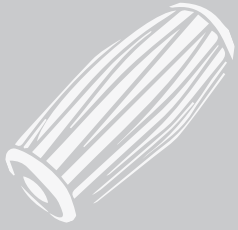
D **Bm** **G** **A7** **G** **A7** **D** **D** **Bm** **G** **A7** **G** **A7** **D**

Teach our children all we know hold them close then let them go



We've shielded our children from as much of the torment as we can. We nurture ourselves with their optimism. It is after all, for their futures that we have made such painful decisions.





Someday it will happen, we hold on to our hopes, we will not only be free to be ourselves but we will be free to repay the many kindnesses that we have experienced along the way.



Free Like Butterflies

Am Dm
To dee ari ke pana ha aa hemun shodeh
E Am
Hameh gu she – hush omeeee de mun shodeh X2

Am Bb
Life is much more than clocks ticking
Am G Am
More than habits that pound in the night
Bb
Life is not calm it takes courage
Am G F
No more cages to lock us in tight

Dm Am
Life is the right of all creatures
Dm G Am
Escape to the safe place we need
Bb
This land has become our refuge
Am G F
In each corner there's hope we can see

C Bb Am
There are butterflies around us forever
Dm Dmb5 C
And angels hearing our cries
C Bb F
Keep us safe and hold us together
G F G
'Til we're free like those butterflies

To dee ari ke pana ha aa hemun shodeh
Hameh gu she – hush omeeee de mun shodeh X2

Where does our pain go our sadness?
Every moment of my life I seem to be wishing that all I think of
Will be real not a mirage or dream

All different with beautiful colours
My wish is that someday I'll be more able to give than be given to
This wish is important to me

There are butterflies around us forever ...

To dee ari ke pana ha aa hemun shodeh
Hameh gu she – hush omeeee de mun shodeh X3

Hometown

Am Dmin7
 We belong – never lonely we belong
 F G Am
 Safe and warm this is our hometown ... we belong

We belong – never lonely we belong
 Safe and warm this is our hometown ... we belong

Am Dm7
 My hometown how I love the summer lotus plants and buffalo
 F G Am
 We are fishing swimming this is life in my hometown

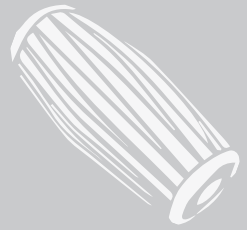
My hometown working with my hands and I feel proud of what I do
 I support my family this is life in my hometown

We belong – never lonely we belong
 Safe and warm this is our hometown ... we belong

My hometown work the land 'til harvest feel the sweat then celebrate
 Let the seasons turn for this is life in my hometown

My hometown how I yearn to be there lotus plants and buffalo
 Lay me down there someday let me sleep in my hometown

We belong – never lonely we belong
 Safe and warm this is our hometown ... we belong



We are from Iran, Sri Lanka and Afghanistan. Some of us have escaped from Ethiopia, Eritrea and the Sudan. We have come seeking safety from Syria, Iraq and East Timor. Many of our families and friends have escaped to other countries.

We are refugee claimants – asylum seekers. We are the scattered people. Our lives were not always like this – a big part of our pain is that we remember well what it was like to have a hometown where we once belonged...





We sit together and we busy ourselves with our crafts. We speak of our hopes and things of the heart – is it any surprise that our sewing machines have produced the hope bag?



Hope Bag Makers

Am

We are the hope bag makers

With simplified artistry

We craft our hopes and sorrows

Somehow mysteriously

Dmin7

They carry our dreams

Acceptance - sweet acceptance - our dreams are all about sweet acceptance

Am

And things of the heart

Be welcome we yearn for welcome - our dreams embrace us we feel so welcome

Dmin7

They carry our dreams

F G

Am

And precious keep-sake things - things of the heart

We are the hope bag makers

Our crafts we offer to you

'Cause when your dreams are contents

Your dreams will surely come true

Deposit your love

Your mercy and understanding 'cause love is mercy and understanding

And things of the heart

Be gentle with all be gentle 'cause love will teach us to all be gentle

Deposit your love

And precious keep-sake things

Things of the heart

(We celebrate things of the heart)

If

A

If our homeland was a democracy where ears would hear and eyes would see

G6

We'd claim the right to disagree no fear for the lives of our families

A

We'd choose our religion and practise freely, travel to destinations overseas

G6

The rule of law could be guaranteed and safety is a priority

Dmaj7

Emerge from hiding into the street embrace one another each time we'd meet

Gmaj7

We'd co-construct an economy and a future with opportunities

Dmin7

Put aside our need to run away, we love our country, it's here that we would stay

A

A

G6

If our homeland was a democracy if our homeland was a democracy

If our homeland was a democracy if our homeland was a democracy

If our religious leaders kept the faith practised love and preached of liberty

If our police force was accountable their squads of death consigned to history

With equality for men and women that's the world we dream that it should be

If our homeland was a democracy where ears would hear and eyes would see

We'd claim the right to disagree no fear for the lives of our families

We'd choose our religion and practise freely, travel to destinations overseas

The rule of law could be guaranteed and safety is a priority

Out from hiding come into the street embrace one another each time we'd meet

We'd co-construct an economy and a future with opportunities

Put aside our need to run away we love our country and it's here that we would stay

If our homeland was a democracy if our homeland was a democracy

If our homeland was a democracy if our homeland was a democracy

If our media was independent open windows for the rest of the world to see

Encourage curiosity and let our children find where their dreams may lead

Contentment our old age would bring if our homeland was a democracy

If our homeland was a democracy if our homeland was a democracy

If our homeland was a democracy if our homeland was a democracy

We would stay - if only, we would stay - if only



If our homeland was a democracy where our freedoms, our rights and our safety could be guaranteed, we would not now be struggling with a complex new language, we would not be bursting with frustration that our qualifications and experience are not being recognised, we would not be navigating all forms of unfamiliarity – we would be in our beloved homelands at the feet of our parents and in the arms of our friends.





Politics and religion – so intrusive as they bully their way into the sacred space of our love for each other. We are now forcibly separated by oceans. Are they happy now?



I Wish

Asus9 **Bmsus4**
I wish I'd not understood I wish I'd never seen

E7sus **E7** **Asus9**
I wish your scent was not a part of me

Asus9 **Bmsus4**
I wish at night my sleep would ease you being so far from me

E7sus **E7** **Asus9**
But you're my world I'm wakened constantly

F#m7 B7 G#m7 C#7 F#m7 B7 **E7sus E7**
My darling I'm dying I'm lonely for you and I'm crying

If my untamed heart could let you go then I would stay
But I would not survive even a day
In this blossom season flowers will embrace the seed
And all I think about is you and me

I tell you I'm with you I gaze at you longingly it's true

You and I together oh if you don't come to me
In the silent moments of my dream
Butterfly of loneliness you flutter deep in me
To which voice to which sound will I lean?

My darling my sorrow if only you could come tomorrow

Kite Running

(Capo on 1)

Chorus Chords:

C Am Dm Dm Dm/G Dm/G G C
C Am Dm Dm Dm/G Dm/G G C

Verse Chords:

Dm Dm F G Dm Dm
Dm Dm F G Dm Dm
Dm Dm G C

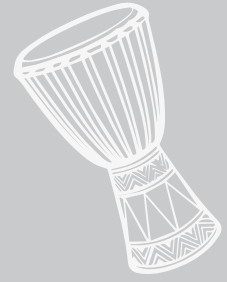
We ride on the wind like a kite over land
So far from our past we cling while we can
To that string from our heart to Afghanistan

We watch from the land kites soar in the sky
We charter our course as we live so we die
When our hearts and our kites forever will fly

Kite running fast with the wind
Kite running together we win

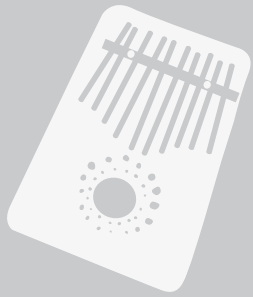
Kite running fast with the wind
Kite running together we win

Kite running fast with the wind
Kite running together we win



In Afghanistan we
watch our kites
soar in the sky –
our hearts and our
thirst for freedom
fly with them.





In East Timor as well as in the countries of our brothers and sisters, our sadness is especially for the children who become victims of a madness that they don't understand.



Labarik Sira Hotu

(Capo on 3)

C **G** **F** **C**
Labarik sira hotu, la'o ba rai sorin
C **G** **F** **C**
Labarik sira hotu, ema falun deit ho lona
C **G**
Tan sa'a mak sei terus?
F **C**
Tan sa'a mak ami sussar?
(Repeat last two lines of verse)

Lolon liman be la to'o, la temi tan nia naran
Lolon liman kaer la hetan, la hatene se'e mak inan
Tan sa'a mak sei terus?
Tan sa'a mak ami sussar?
(Repeat)

Am **F** **Am** **F**
Gave my hand so far to reach – did not mention his name
Am **F** **G** **F** **C**
Gave my hand so far to touch – did not know her mother

Sira la'e hare'e sanulu, la hatene sa'a mak moris
Sira la'e hare'e sanulu, ema falun deit ho lipa
Tan sa'a mak sei terus?
Tan sa'a mak ami sussar?
(Repeat)

Sei sussar ... ami sussar ... sei sussar ... ami sussar

All the children who have gone to the other side
All the children who have been wrapped in rags
Why does the suffering continue?
Why are we still struggling?

Gave my hand but too far to reach – he did not say his name
Gave my hand but too far to touch – she did not know her mother
Why does the suffering continue?
Why are we still struggling?

They have not reached ten – they don't know what life is
They have not reached ten – they've been wrapped in rags
Why does the suffering continue?
Why are we still struggling?

Light A Candle

Dm **F** **G** **Dm**
Our lives they move but in slow motion we have fading futures
Dm **F** **G** **Dm**
Our dreams are filled with cold emotion we are in suspension
C **Dm** **F** **G**
Our hearts are trapped between the oceans - law of the sea

D **F**
We light a candle watch the flame
G **D**
And slowly learn to hope again
D **F**
We light a candle watch the flame
G **D**
And slowly learn to live again

We seek a haven not rejection end this animosity
Ever present is oppression only changing scenery
Like a blanket our depression weighing upon us heavily

We light a candle watch the flame
And slowly learn to hope again
We light a candle watch the flame
And slowly learn to live again

(Asylum seekers in their own languages)

One step followed by another sleepers be awoken
Let our rage become a whisper then let it be spoken
When we stand and shout together silence will be broken

We light a candle watch the flame
And slowly learn to hope again
We light a candle watch the flame
And slowly learn to live again



Hearts are hardening – fear and suspicion point out people like us who are different and accuse us of perpetrating the very terrifying things from which we too are desperate to escape. We pray that heads will clear and that hearts will soften.





Soft music may be soothing and beautiful but it cannot contain our frustration, our years and months in detention – locked away while the world goes by. We draw on the musical traditions of Afro-Americans who have long ago travelled similar pathways in their quest for equality and acceptance.

Limbo

A

You save my body, you're savin' my skin, you've saved me the bed I've been sleepin' in

D

A

But who'll be savin' my heart while I'm waiting here in Limbo?

Big clock tickin' the pendulum's still, we'll hang on somehow we always will
But who'll be savin' my heart while I'm waiting here in Limbo?

E G D

You saved my neck

E G D

A

You saved my skin ... but not my heart

I miss my family embrace my friends, I had to leave and now the pain won't end
But who'll be savin' my heart while I'm waiting here in Limbo?

You saved my neck, you saved my skin ... but not my heart

Em

D

A

Well I'm a camel lost and lonely far from the herd – that's how I'm feelin'

Em

D

F#m

E

When the hunter takes aim and brings down that bird - that's how I feel

I love this country I bring my skills, an open heart but I'm standing still
But who'll be savin' my heart while I'm waiting here in Limbo?

You saved my neck, you saved my skin ... but not my heart

A

Who'll be savin' my heart?

Who'll be savin' my heart?

Who'll be savin' my heart?

Who'll be savin' my heart?

Love and Sorrow

Gmaj7

Until very late at night we gather 'round the table

Amin7

D7

Amin7

D7

Gmaj7

In this place we all embrace and talk about the day

Accents and complexions vary sometimes we're not able

To find our words so easily – like doves they fly away

In the glowing night light talking turns to love and sorrow

Differences evaporate we all know what to say

Until very late at night we gather 'round the table

Welcome one another at the closing of the day

As the shadows lengthen talking turns to love and sorrow

We huddle close and make the most of everything we say

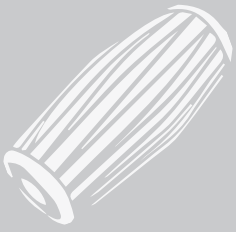
We talk of love, talk of love, talk of love and sorrow



Our backgrounds and languages both intrigue and entertain us. We all have things that sustain us and sadden us – we connect with one another when we speak of this together.



Milpera - Meeting Place



We are boys and girls still at school. We've seen terrible things and lost many of those whom we love. We have escaped from those places but those memories won't escape us. Here in Milpera we paint our recurring thoughts hoping they will stay on the paper and out of our heads. This is a healing place. Warm-hearted people are guiding us into a future. We are very grateful

A **D** **F** **G** **A**
Milpera moh weh oh it's a meeting place for sisters and brothers
A **D** **F** **G** **A**
Milpera moh weh oh it's a meeting place for us

Am **D**
Get up in the morning get up and go (eeyeah eeyeah)
Am **G**
Got to move along got to get up and go (woh oh)
Am **D**
Got a better feeling got a safer place to stay (eeyeah eeyeah)
Am **G**
Got a brighter future want to bring it on today (woh oh)

Milpera moh weh oh it's a meeting place for sisters and brothers
Milpera moh weh oh it's a meeting place for us

Am **Dmin7**
Came along to Milpera from our homeland and our people
F **G** **Am**
Came along to this country to begin another life
Am **Dmin7**
Meet a lot of different people here who welcome us amongst them
F **G** **Am**
Earn a lot of what we need to help us make a better life

Milpera moh weh oh it's a meeting place for sisters and brothers
Milpera moh weh oh it's a meeting place for us, a meeting place for us

F **G** **A**
Woh - oh - oh - oh Milpera

Need One Another

D6
Need one another when we're downhearted
A7sus A7
Need one another when we're so low
G Gm
Need one another help us move on
D A7 D6
Need one another now

Am D
Feels like autumn has descended
C G D
All these changes in our lives
F#min7 B7 A7sus A7
We need to reach out somehow to someone

Need one another when we're downhearted
Need one another when we're so low
Need one another help us move on
Need one another now

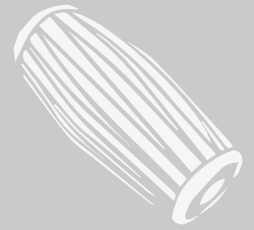
Feels like winter on the inside
As we shiver in our fears
We need to reach out somehow to someone

Need one another ... etc

Is that spring around the corner
With some new life breaking through?
We need to reach out somehow to someone

Need one another ... etc

E
Need one another when we're down hearted
B7sus B7
Need one another when we're so low
E A Am
Need one another help us move on
E B7 E
Need one another now
E B7 E
Need one another now
E B7 A E
Need one another now



We believe there is a place for us where we can settle, contribute and feel welcomed. We don't want to be passengers – we have skills, wisdom and determination. They ache for lack of use and without a place to go. We thank you for your attention. You would not be here if you did not feel something for us. For this we will always be more grateful than you know.

We are your brothers and sisters. We are fellow travelers. We need one another.





Patience Is A Remedy

Am Dmin7 E7sus E7 Am
Patience is a remedy when no solutions can be seen (x4)

Dm7 Am
Hear the seabirds sing in the morning light, it's the sort of thing
gets us through the night

Dm7 E7sus E7
'Til the shadows fade in the morning sun let's be patient everyone
Hear us stranger no need to sob old pain for a broken heart has to mend again
We're all aliens who have had to run let's be patient everyone

Patience is a remedy when no solutions can be seen (x2)

Keep our hopes alive when we're feeling low, put regrets aside let our spirits grow
'Til our children laugh once again have fun let's be patient everyone
Let our weary hearts somehow find their way to a warmer place and a better day
'Til our homes are filled with our loved ones let's be patient everyone

Patience is a remedy when no solutions can be seen (x2)

And we know we'll cry in the evening rain, let our patience remedy the pain
'Til our dreams and new lives have begun let's be patient – everyone

Dm7 F G AmGF E E7sus E7 Am
Patience is a remedy when no solutions can be seen

In the meantime we wait – will word come through to-day advising us that we have finally been granted protection? Our lives can begin again? No – only silence and more silence – we learn to keep our hearts still – we learn to be patient – it is our survival.

Precious Water

D G A G D G A G
Oooh – oooh, oooh – oooh

D G A G D G A G
Water precious water
Water precious water

D A D A
People thirsty rains are late, lakes and streams evaporate
D A D A
Dusty lands our throats are dry, in our arms Bakita cries for

D GA D GA
Water precious water
Water precious water

People elsewhere wash their cars, not a second thought for us
Worlds apart no need to think could you pour us all a drink of

Water precious water
Water precious water

D A G D G A G D A G D A
Hear the sound – underground, hear the sound - underground

In my heart I hear the sound, precious water underground
Wash me over set me free, hope and freedom come to me I hear

Water precious water, water precious water

(Guitar solo 8 bars)

May the rain fall may it come let it fall on everyone

Thirsty country need to flee, will you make some room for me

Oooh – oooh, oooh – oooh

Keep our legs strong let them run safer place for everyone

In my heart I hear the sound, precious water underground
Wash me over set me free, hope and freedom come to me

Water precious water, water precious water
Water precious water



There is much that we can bring to a new country – besides our many experiences and skills, we bring an awareness of what is important – things that have been in such short supply for us – things that can so easily be taken for granted.





Like the seed which grows into a mighty tree, there are times when we find within ourselves the determination, the defiance and the belief that somehow we will survive...



Resilience

A G6 A G6 A G6 A G6
We sing of tomorrow, we shout it from roof-tops, we sing of our hope for us all
A G6 A G6 F G A
We sing from our sorrow, the depths of our sorrow and shout in defiance of all

A G6 A G6
Resilience – one step and then another
Resilience – we fight another day
Resilience – with sisters and with brothers
Resilience – we claim another day

D G A7 D G A7
We bend and we weave in rhythm with all creation
We fall and we rise we tumble and we rise again

Resilience – we are the cactus flower
Resilience – we are the sun through clouds
Resilience – the rock within the river
Resilience – we are the fire in snow

We seek one another hold on through the lonely hours
Believe in ourselves that somehow we'll get through it all

Resilience – we are the heart still beating
Resilience – we are the seed in bloom
Resilience – we are the light in shadow
Resilience – the lonely sailor's moon

We sing of tomorrow, we shout from the roof-tops, we sing of the hope in us all
We sing from our sorrow – the soul of our sorrow and shout in defiance of all

Resilience – we shout it from the roof-tops
Resilience – we sing of hope for all
Resilience – we're rising from the ashes
Resilience – we shout our song for all
Resilience – beautiful cactus flower
Resilience – we are the seed in bloom
Resilience – rock in the raging river
Resilience – we are the sailor's moon
Resilience – one step and then another
Resilience – we sing of hope for all
Resilience – with sisters and with brothers
Resilience – we shout our song for all – we shout our song for all

Sky

D6

I looked up to the sky

There were clouds, there was sunshine

A7sus A7

D6

And its colours caused me to wonder at its beauty

Then a voice whispered low from the sky

A7sus A7 D6

A reminder - colours change in the sky

G

D

Sometimes sun, sometimes cloud

A7sus

A7

G

Then it's fine, then there's thunder in the sky

D

A7sus

A7

Colours change in the sky, colours change –

D6

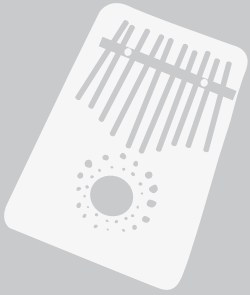
And so do I



When we lose all the trappings of our lives – things we thought we could not survive without, we look to the sky and the changing colours, the thunder and the rainbows. Are we then looking at ourselves? There is comfort for us in our broadening identity.



Somewhere In Australia



We can hear it – we can feel it - your welcome to country – it embraces us in our fragility - are we imagining it?

C F Am F G Am F G Am...
(Intro Instrumental)

Am F Am F
I'm not from around here but now I'm here to stay

Dm F Am
The spirit of the sandstone flowers steal my breath away

Am F Am F
(Instrumental)

Dm Am Am G
Kangaroo to Uluru, it's a wide open sky

Bb F C
Somewhere in Australia

Gm F C
There'll be a place you've dreamed

Bb F C
You'll never be a stranger

Bb F C
'Cross mountain, desert and sea

C F Am F
Hundred thousand years or more but ever still so young

G Am F G Am
When the sun goes down the day has just begun

Am F Am F Dm F Am G
(Instrumental)



Somewhere In Australia (cont)

Bb F C Gm F C
Somewhere in Australia, there'll be a place you've dreamed

Bb F C Bb F C
You'll ne-ver be a stranger `cross mountain, desert and sea

Bb F C F C G
Somewhere in Australia, I know a place we've dreamed

Bb F C Eb Bb F
Somewhere in Australia, I'll find you in me

F Bb Dm Bb C Dm Bb C Dm
(Instrumental)

Am F Am F
Tomorrow's come before the sun as I walk out the door

Dm F Am
Trail across this old bush land it's the way to her door

Am F Am F
(Instrumental)

Dm F Am G
Wallaroo to Uluru, it's a wide open sky

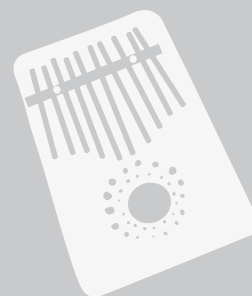
C Am F C F Bb F G F C G
(Instrumental)

Bb F C Gm F C
Somewhere in Australia, there'll be a place you've dreamed

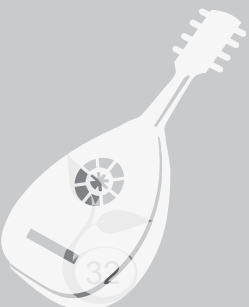
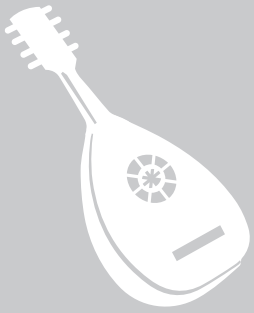
Bb F C Eb Bb F
You'll ne-ver be a stranger `cross mountain, desert and sea

Bb F C Eb Bb F
(Instrumental)

F Bb Dm Bb C Dm Bb C Dm C Dm Bb C Dm
(Instrumental)



Surely in this great southern land of open spaces and opportunity, there is a place for us where we can settle, contribute and feel welcomed. We don't want to be passengers – we have skills, wisdom and determination. They ache for lack of use and without a place to go.



SCATTERED PEOPLE



SONGBOOK

Stand With Us

A **G6**
 Calling all you thinkers that you might understand
A **G6**
 Calling all you dreamers artists and schemers, you workers on the land
Dmaj7 **Gmaj7**
 We're calling those of you who care, have other people in your life
Dmin7 **A**
 Just listen if you can and stand with us tonight

Calling all believers, school-leavers, achievers and those you leave behind
 You sisters and you brothers, fathers and mothers and others you may find
 We're calling those of you who play, enjoy those moments of your life
 But listen if you can and stand with us tonight

We're calling those who know of pain – have felt a sadness in your life
 Please listen if you can and stand with us tonight

A
 Stand with us East Timor, Kosovo
G6
 Stand with us Sri Lanka, El Salvador
A
 Stand with us Chile, Ethiopia
A
 Stand with us China, Colombia

Stand with us we dissent and we are tortured
 Stand with us we are brutalised and broken
 Stand with us we've lost our homes and families
 Stand with us are our voices just a whisper?

Stand with us for justice and compassion
 Stand with us protection for our children
 Stand with us you brothers and you sisters
 Stand with us for a chance to live again

Stand with us Turkey, Eritrea
 Stand with us Russia, Kenya
 Stand with us Iran, Liberia
 Stand with us Tibet, Bulgaria



Like the morning sun which brings warmth into the chill of dawn, there are those of you who believe in us, who support us and stand with us – we salute you for you make our journey possible – in spite of whatever happens to us, you will always live in our hearts ...8



We breathe in the night air of an unfamiliar country but cannot sleep. Our families and our homeland are somewhere out there across the sea. Are they in trouble? Are they thinking of us? We have access to computers – for this we are grateful.



Surf the Net at Night

D
Sleep all day
Dmaj7
Surf at night
D6 **Dmaj7**
The internet is a lonely light
 G **A7**
On all we know
 G **A7**
And our tears will flow
 G **A7** **D** **Dmaj7** **D6** **Dmaj7**
As we surf the net at night

So powerless
So far away
Lives at stake
We couldn't stay
We hope and pray that they'll be alright
As we surf the net at night

G **D** **A7** **D**
Homeland is weeping
 G **D** **A7sus** **A7**
News of the day
 G **D** **A7** **D**
Stories we're reading
Em **G** **A7sus** **A7**
Break our hearts but we can't turn away

Sleep all day
We surf at night
Internet – a lonely light
On all we know
And our tears will flow
As we surf the net at night

It shines on all we know
And our tears will flow
 A7sus **A7** **D**
While we surf the net at night

Sweet Marmanya

D **G** **A**
Here we are in this land, it's a big and brown and green,
D **G** **A**
Creeks are full of sand, the world forgets we sometimes it seems
D **G** **A**
Kangaroo and the Crow know the timing of the day
D **G** **A**
The Urandangi pub seems to take our money away

D **G** **A7** **D** **G** **A7**
Sweet Marmanya, Sweet Marmanya, Sweet Marmanya, Sweet Marmanya

There's a story in the dust as old as time we trust
And that story says we must speak so our hearts don't turn to rust
And there's a truck that goes to Two Stacks and we hope it's coming back
We've gotta have our tucker but that won't happen just by luck

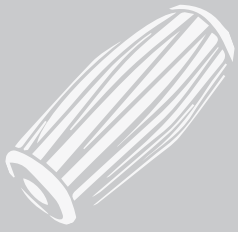
Sweet Marmanya, Sweet Marmanya, Sweet Marmanya, Sweet Marmanya

There are those that help, there are those that hide there are those that hold us back
There are those pretended and most have lied and all share the lack
Of the stories of old, the Dreaming Dance and how the future causes fear
And the manager says don't you worry about that while she sinks another beer

Sweet Marmanya, Sweet Marmanya, Sweet Marmanya, Sweet Marmanya



Who was it who came to visit us in the Detention Centre and welcome us to their country? Aboriginal brothers and sisters saw that we too had been forced from our lands and separated from our loved ones. They looked at us closely and saw themselves.



There are many stories within each of us – some are too painful to tell yet they burst within us if we keep them to ourselves. We seek those who listen quietly when we speak for it is when we are with them that our healing takes place.

To Be Heard

D Bm A
A time for talking for sayin' it all
D Bm C
To feel the tears - let them fall
G
Let them fall

D Bm A
Lost inside the hurt and the sorrow
D Bm C
Wishing there was no tomorrow
G
No tomorrow

D
Many stories burn way down inside
Em A D
With a thousand pictures behind every word
D Bm
Any time, any place, no one can deny
Em A D
How it frees, what it means to be heard

D Bm A
Dreams in pieces thrown about
D Bm C
First a whisper then a shout
G
Then a shout

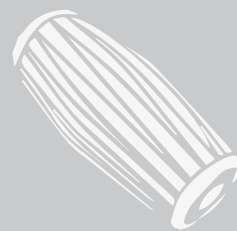
D
Many stories burn way down inside
Em A D
With a thousand pictures behind every word
D Bm
Any time, any place, no one can deny
Em A D
How it frees, what it means to be heard

Bb Gm
The more we turn away,
Ab Fm
The more things stay the same,
Bb Eb D Gm Eb Eb D
The more we turn to hear, the less we fear.....the more we hear ...

D Bm A
A time for movin' through the pain
D Bm C
To find our voice - sing again
G
Sing again

D
Many stories burn way down inside
Em A D
With a thousand pictures behind every word
D Bm
Any time, any place, no one can deny
Em A D
How it frees, what it means to be heard
Em A Bb
How it frees, what it means to be heard

D
To be heard
To be heard
To be heard





How long does it take to leave our sadness behind and begin to live again? At times we feel we are 'on our way' but then as if a fellow-traveler in our journey through sorrow, the rain comes ...



Will Rain?

C – Fmaj7

Will rain ... will rain return me to sorrow?
Again ... will rain remind me of sorrow?

F G7 C F G7 C
Or will it flow down with my tears, a sturdy salty stream
F G7 C Am Dmin7 G7
To bathe my memories, wash my sadness, soothe my loneliness

Will rain ... will rain retrieve all my sorrows?
Again ... will rain remind me of sorrow

Or will it saturate me through, a soaking healing stream
Dilute my bleeding, disbelieving, float my burdened heart

Will rain ... will rain release all my sorrows?
Again ... will rain return me to sorrow

Or will it join my flow of tears, embrace me to itself
And understand my thirst to have my home again ...

My home again ... my home again

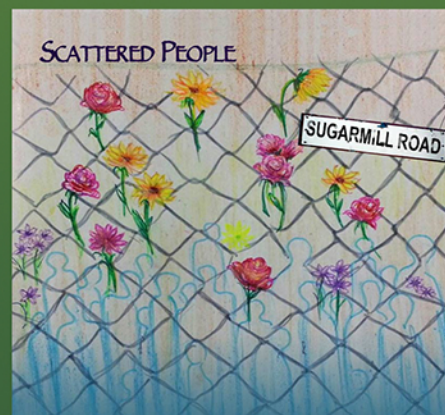
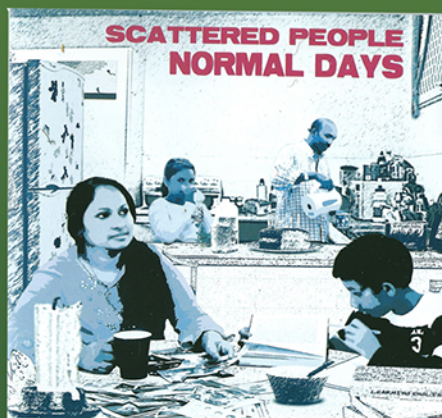
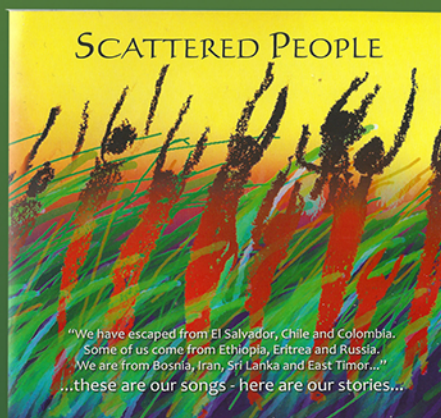
Scattered People is comprised of asylum seekers, refugees and kindred-spirited locals who use music and art to engage on a level of significance with one another, to say what needs to be said, to navigate trauma in solidarity and to fortify wavering hopes.



The Scattered People albums are a celebration of the diversity and the common ground accessible via music. The asylum seekers are able to share their message of struggle, hope and strength across the airwaves.

Perhaps in their music their voices will at last be heard.

This songbook includes songs from the first 3 Scattered People albums



The songbook was made possible via the generous sponsorship of the QUT Staff Community Development Fund and Buddies from Buderim

