

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

# **The Rockdogs are coming!**

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Four Aussie rockers, a tumbledown house full of drums'n'guitars, a clingy girlfriend, a scheming manager and a big dream of rock'n'roll stardom... this is the world of the RockDogs. Preening lead singer Zeke describes them as "The baddest band in the world". That's not far off the truth – but it would be more grammatically correct to say "worst". Constantly squabbling about the music, the chicks, and whose round it is, the RockDogs may be a small-time band but they have some seriously big egos.

*RockDogs* is the brainchild of cartoonist Martin Hill and music industry veteran Greg Shaw (previous management Keith Urban plus tour manager for Burt Bacharach, Leo Sayer, Dionne Warwick, John Waters and Lee Kernaghan), who've been developing the knockabout rockers and the eccentric characters who surround them for the best part of two decades. Back at the beginning, Zeke, Jamie, Smegs and Spike existed as a cartoon strip, then came to life in a stop-motion animated short, and finally they've made the jump to full live action comedy webisodes with a cast of the East Coast's finest up-and-coming and established comedians breathing life into the characters.

If you've seen the crowds on *Big Brother*, *Australian Idol* and *The Footy Show* all pumped up, that's down to the efforts of comics like Dave Eastgate (Zeke) and Steve Philp (Smegs), who not only warm up the audiences before those shows go live, but also pen some of the funniest material that goes to air – with *RockDogs*, they've decided to jump in front of the camera for once and strut their stuff. Sharp-witted stand-up Damien Power (Jamie) has been bringing the funny to comedy club crowds for years now, while Andrew Thompson (Spike) and Baz McAlister (The Manager) are both fast-talking, fast-rising newcomers to the stand-up scene. Rounding out the cast is hot young actress Hayley Jones as the band's very own Yoko figure, the neurotic groupie Trendi.

*RockDogs* hits the internet this October as a series of punchy webisodes directed by guerrilla filmmaker Ben Gibbs, available on [www.rockdogs.com](http://www.rockdogs.com), Facebook and YouTube, allowing viewers a glimpse into the lives of these ebullient musos as they set out on the path to stardom.

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