



Do Ya 'one of their best'

Screaming Jets return to their old classic rock sounds

By DANIEL BURDON

AN EIGHT-year hiatus from the studio helped make The Screaming Jets new album *Do Ya* one of the rockers' best.

Primarily written by lead singer-songwriter Dave Gleeson, *Do Ya* is a return to the classic Screaming Jets' sound of earlier albums such as *World Gone Crazy*, with a huge rock guitar presence of intricate rhythms and powerful riffs.

Although Gleeson, now a father of two children under the age of five, is still as powerful a vocalist and lyricist as ever — he says his days of hard living may be coming to an end.

He said: "We had some great times over the last 19 years, pulling all-nighters and touring.

"I used to come home and just lay on the couch for a few days to recover from some of our touring.

"But now I think I'm starting to grow up a bit more, I come home from a tour and help out the wife and spend time with my kids."

And it seems that time spent at

home with this family has brought a bit more reality and reflection in some of his new lyrics, returning to "normal life"

The 40 year-old Aussie rock legend said: "After more than 10 years continuously touring, recording and more touring, I think we started to lose touch with everyday life.

"So we made the decision as a band to go back to normal jobs for a while, and just gain some of that normality and then come back after a while." The band spent four years not touring or recording following its previous release, *Skam*, and with *Do Ya*, they have certainly turned up the amplifiers and are hoping to bring Aussie rock back to the mainstream.

Songs that really stand out on the album include the lead single and title track, *Do Ya*, the ferocious and empowering *Change the World*, and the technical, brilliance of *Heaven Help Me*.

Although the Jets have already

tested much of the album's material live, the real test for Dave comes at the first gig of the bands' upcoming national tour.

The Jets will open the Indy 300 in Brisbane, before continuing across Australia, with potential to expand the tour to Canada.

Gleeson said the band also plans to return to the "Darwin audience we love", and possibly hit larger regional centres like Alice Springs, but said it was not yet confirmed.

Next year, the Jets will celebrate its 20th birthday — a milestone few Australian heavy rock bands can claim, and the Jets do not appear to be slowing down.

Gleeson said: "We definitely want to get back in the studio as soon as we've finished touring this album — I'd really like to have 10 Screaming Jets albums out by 2010."

The Screaming Jets' eighth studio album, *Do Ya* is in stores now.



ROCKERS: Screaming Jets have just released their eighth studio album after a four-year break