

# **Victorian and National Country Music Awards**

## **Whittlesea 2006**

Entertainer of the Year "2006

At a star studded Dinner and Presentation night of the Victorian and National Country Music Awards , held at Whittlesea on the weekend of February 10, 11 and 12, Rodney Vincent was awarded the "Victorian Entertainer of the Year" for 2005.

A "shell shocked" Vincent accepted his award from Country Music star Beccy Cole and for once was speechless , never having won an award in the music industry ever , this was his first .

Being around for "a year or three" as Rodney puts it, he served his apprenticeship from the country dance hall days in particular the Bonegilla Hall where he played his first paying job , to the biggest and best venue's in Australia .

One of the first congratulatory emails was from American Rock'n'roll legend Gene Pitney with whom Rodney has toured Australia many times , and been special guest to other great performers including The Delltones , 4 Kinsman , Col Elliott , Freddie and the Dreamers, Gloria Loring , to mention just a few .

Two years ago Rodney released his best ever CD "Here I Am" (produced by Michael Cristian) which received a top 10 nomination in the Victorian awards , featuring many songs he wrote or co wrote , including "Let's not make the same mistake again" with Gene Pitney , and with some 25 minutes of comedy, of which has become part of his in concert show .

Over the past few years Rodney has gone from strength to strength with his booking calendar full with commitments all over Australia, he puts his hand to country , comedy, old time standards, and rock'n'roll, it makes him the consummate versatile entertainer that is, and now an achievement of an award he richly deserves, well done Rodney Vincent , "Victorian Country Music Entertainer if the Year" 2005

Bill Davidson