

Speed Limit

Angie Clark and Tony Kolleng are the duo known as Speed Limit who hail from March in Cambridgeshire. Their partnership together started back in 1991 shortly after they met at a club where Tony was playing in a jam session.

Tony Kolleng originates from a musical background, his

Yugoslavian father was a violin and accordion player while his brothers played various other instruments which made for the Kolleng household being continually filled with music as the family held regular jam sessions together.

Eventually, and carrying on the family traditions, the brothers Kolleng founded the County band, Southern Breeze. The band became well travelled and equally well respected, especially for their covers of the top Merle Haggard and Waylon Jennings material of the day. Surprisingly Tony's own earliest influence was Chuck Berry but when it comes to steel playing then Ralph Mooney remains his favourite. As well as playing steel guitar he also plays lead and is learning to play the dobro.

Born in Calne, in Wiltshire, Angie Clark was the only musical member of her family. Her earliest recollections were being a member of the school choir and taking the lead roles in school musicals. She has Judith Durham of the Seekers to thank for being a large influence in her life and giving her the ambition and motivation to carry on and perform professionally. The most magical memory for Angie was when she actually got to see Judith in a live performance. Angie started her singing career by first joining the middle of the road band, Stroom who were based in Germany, they played extensively on the Continent. In spite of three very successful years with Stroom, Angie wanted to come back to England and so made the break and returned to front a showband called Phoenix, where she was to stay for the next 12 years.

Once Angie and Tony got together they only played semi-professionally, still keeping their day jobs, Angie as a financial



controller and Tony as a scientific glass blower but this was soon to change as their popularity rose and just over 12 months after

joining forces the decision was taken to go the whole hog and become a full time professional duo.

They have never looked back. The working set up now is that Angie's clear and

powerful vocals are supported by Tony's distinctive and talented pedal steel playing. He also writes and prepares their backing music which is all transferred to the latest in disc technology.

Their first debut album, Say Hello! was released in 1995 and proved to be a big seller at their gigs. Other albums released by the pair are Dream Maker, Farmers Daughter, Special World, Keeping The Peace, No 7, Nowhere Train, Raymond The Tribute Album which they joined together to make with Merv & Maria, Darren Busby and Stubby followed by the Early Years.

Their recently released album, Cousin Norman consists of 13 tracks, all chosen by Angie and Tony, of music that will hopefully suit all tastes. If you are a listener or a dancer or just a lover of good Country music then this album is for you.

I suppose the song which everyone associates with Speed Limit is their excellent version of Voices Of The Highlands, composed by Robert Danova, for which there is the extremely popular partner dance, The Flying Scots. The song can be heard at most events, festivals and clubs around the country.

The success of Speed Limit lies in their unique quality of being able to tailor their performance to the venue they are playing and having that special stage presence which keeps their audiences wanting more.