Music Composed by
Chris Harriott

Original Songs Composed by
Chris Harriott and Dennis Watkins

(Cast as indicated in track listing below)

Music Producer        Chris Harriott
Music Consultant       Christine Woodruff

Orchestrated and Conducted by       Christopher Gordon
Additional Orchestrations       Larry Muhoberac
                                 Nerida Tyson-Chew

Music Preparation
Peter Mapleson
Laura Bishop
Jessica Wells
Rob Workman

Orchestral Contractor       Coralie Hartl
Concert Master       Phillip Hartl

Recorded at       Studios 301, Sydney
Recording Engineer       Richard Lush
Assistant Engineer       Nicholas Cervonaro

Additional Musicians
Drums       Hamish Stuart
Guitars       Peter Watson
Keyboards       Rob Workman
Keyboards/Programming       Chris Harriott
Harmonica       Peter Edwards
Additional Recording       Sunstone Music, Sydney
Backing Vocals Arranger       Tony Backhouse

Music Mixed at       Trackdown Digital
Recording Engineer       Simon Leadley
Music Editor       Tim Ryan
Additional Music Editor       Damian Candusso
Music Mix Engineer       Kathy Naunton

SONGS

"It's A Wonderful Day"
Written by Chris Harriott and Dennis Watkins
Performed by Geoffrey Rush
"My Heart Beats"
Written by Chris Harriott and Dennis Watkins
Performed by Toni Collette
Published by Energee Licensing

"Albert, The Magic Pudding"
Written by Chris Harriott and Dennis Watkins
Performed by John Cleese, Sam Neill, Geoffrey Rush, Hugo Weaving, Dave Gibson, Greg Carroll & Chorus
Published by Energee Licensing

"The Puddin' Owner's Song"
Written by Chris Harriott and Dennis Watkins
Performed by Hugo Weaving, Sam Neill, Geoffrey Rush
Published by Energee Licensing

"It's Worse Than Weevils"
Written by Chris Harriott and Dennis Watkins
Performed by Hugo Weaving, Sam Neill, Geoffrey Rush
Published by Energee Licensing

"In The Underground Tonight"
Written by Chris Harriott and Dennis Watkins
Performed by Jack Thompson, Mary Coustas & Chorus
Published by Energee Licensing

"Save The Town"
Written by Chris Harriott and Dennis Watkins
Performed by Sam Neill, Geoffrey Rush, Hugo Weaving & Chorus
Published by Energee Licensing

"Friends"
Written by Merril Bainbridge and Sam Melamed
Performed by Merril Bainbridge, Published by Mouth Music Pty Ltd
Produced by Siew, Bolwell & Melamed
Mixed by Tony Espie, Under License from BMG Australia Limited

Soundtrack available through BMG
BMG Australian Limited - logo
Lyrics:

There’s a repeat of the opening scene where the wombat villain is in the Antarctic. Buncle slams into an iceberg, then sits gibbering on a broken off piece as a red cloth flaps down and falls over his head. He flops back down on the ice, which begins to slide off across the sea, while birds flap overhead.

Fade to black and an end song begins over the credits roller. Lyrics as heard in the film:

He’s a never ending source of inspiration
No recipe on earth he doesn’t know
He’ll never make you crook with indigestion
You’ll never starve
You’ll never thirst
You’ll stuff yourself
Until you burst

I’m what you want
Chorus: He’s what we want
I’m what you need
Chorus: He’s what we need
There’s always enough
For a darn good feed

His gastronomic repertoire’s enormous
You can cut and come again
’Til kingdom come
He never ever ceases to amaze us
Just whistle twice
And in a trice
He’ll change from steak and eggs to rice

He’s what you want
Chorus: He’s what we want
He’s what you need
Chorus: He’s what we need
There’s always enough
For a darn good feed

He’s what you want
Chorus: He’s what we want
He’s what you need
Chorus: He’s what we need
There’s always enough
For a darn good feed

(Buncle crashes into iceberg)

Buncle: P-p-p-p-Pud, Pud, Pud, Pudd - ding

(A new song begins as end credits roller continues):

There may come a time
When you leave this life behind
To discover one that seems so very new and exciting
Like a dream it carries you away
Getting closer day by day
All at once I see you everywhere
And even though it takes so long
All my troubles are so far behind me
Because I know that we belong
You were there to remind me...

Once you find your friends, don’t let them go
Hold on tight and if they run
You should follow them, and all their dreams
That is what true friendship means
And when it’s time they’ll do the same for you
Never let you down
But if they do, know that you can work it out
That is what true friendship’s all about

Trembling inside, so afraid of what I’d find
You always knew the courage I had
Deep inside me
Now I know no matter where we are
Through the dark I see a star
All at once
Suddenly, you are there
And even though it feels so hard
All my troubles are so far behind me
I know we’ll never be apart
You’ll be there, to remind me

Once you find your friends, don’t let them go
Hold on tight and if they run
You should follow them and all their dreams
That is what true friendship means
And when it’s time they’ll do the same for you
Never let you down
But if they do, know that you can work it out
That is what true friendship’s all about

And even though it takes so long
My troubles are far behind me
I know that we belong,
You’ll be there to remind me

Once you find your friends, don’t let them go
Hold on tight and if they run
You should follow them and all their dreams
That is what true friendship means
And when it’s time they’ll do the same for you
Never let you down
But if they do, know that you can work it out
That is what it’s all about

And when you find your friends, don’t let them go
Hold on tight and if they run
You should follow them and all their dreams
That is what true friendship means
And when it’s time they’ll do the same for you
Never let you down
But if they do, know that you can work it out
That is what true friendship’s all about …

(The song does a quick fade out on the final extended “abooout”)

**CD:**

A CD of the soundtrack was released:
01: It's A Wonderful Day - Geoffrey Rush
03: If I Had You - Kate Ceberano
04: I Want You Back - N Sync
05: The Puddin' Owner's Song - Sam Neill, Geoffrey Rush & Hugo Weaving
06: My Heart Beats - Toni Collette
07: Flying Without Wings - Westlife
08: Sister - Sister2Sister
09: It's Worse Than Weevils - Sam Neill, Geoffrey Rush & Hugo Weaving
10: Save the Town - Sam Neill, Geoffrey Rush & Hugo Weaving
11: Eternal Flame - Human Nature
12: In the Underground Tonight - Jack Thompson, Mary Coustas, Dave Gibson & Chorus
13: Friends - Merril Bainbridge
14: The Magic Pudding - Rolf Harris
15: Now I Can Dance - Tina Arena
16: A Slice of Pudding - The Magic Pudding Orchestra
With some of the CDs, there was a giveaway as an incentive to purchase:

The DVD offered a song selection menu for the songs in the film:
Urban Cinefile CD review:

Brad Green reviewed the CD release for Urban Cinefile, available here, backed up to the Wayback Machine here.

"Norman Lindsay was partial to a bit of pudding. Just take a peek at the thighs and buttocks of the not-so-svelte sirens he painted.

A less salacious outlet for this pudding predilection was the enduring children's fable starring Albert, the infinitely edible buffet in a bowl. It's a veritable banquet of inspiration for musical creativity, and here an impressive collection of talent cooks up a storm from Lindsay's magical ingredients.

For entree, there's some choice theatrics from Geoffrey Rush, Hugo Weaving and Co., who transcend their musical limitations with delicious phrasing and characterisation.

Not all the thespian contributors are a compromise in the singing stakes, however. Anyone who's seen Cosi won't be surprised that Toni Collette adds an equally flavoursome offering to sizzling songs by local superstars Kate Ceberano, Human Nature and Tina Arena.

Another local success story, Merril Bainbridge, provides a subtler side-serving with her irresistibly sweet paean to friendship. While the piece-de-resistance of the dramatic fare would have to a tie between spicy servings from Rolf Harris and a Weaving, Rush, Neil ensemble.

The venerable old virtuoso of the wabble board has never been in better form than with his delightful rendition of the protagonist pudding's song. And the thespian fellows are pure magic on the cleverly cute The Puddin' Owner's Song; a slightly warped history lesson that reminds me of the keen observations exchanged by Andrew L. Urban and a reader over the value of not being condescending to children (Letters to the Ed June 2000). This delightful ditty will probably teach kids more in under three minutes than a year of formal education. And it's an instant tutorial in irreverence to boot.

Finally, The Magic Pudding Orchestra puts the icing on a fabulous CD with a scrumptious sonic dessert rich in whimsical melodic figures, colourful arrangements and delicious dynamic diversity. It's the perfect finish to an infinitely tasty soundtrack that is guaranteed to satisfy all ages and musical palates."

Composer Chris Harriott:

Chris Harriott was in the ABC music publishing stable, and they had this CV for him here:

Chris is a self taught Composer and Musician who dropped out of Art School in 1977 to pursue a "career" in rock and roll. Forming the Adelaide band 'Scandal' with like minded students and friends, he basically learned how to play keyboards after deciding to form a band. Not the ideal way to do things, but why
let mere technicalities get in the way.
Six months after their first gig ‘Scandal’ signed with Mushroom records, released several singles and an album. They toured constantly, appearing regularly on Countdown and supporting 10cc and E.L.O. on their national tours.
After ‘Scandal’ and various post ‘Scandal’ bands finally bit the dust, Chris found himself in Sydney - and with a new musical direction. Theatre! During the 1980’s Chris, along with lyricist Dennis Watkins wrote four musicals - Dingo Girl, Beach Blanket Tempest, Pearls Before Swine (directed by Geoffrey Rush), and Burger Brain (Toni Collette’s debut).
During this period Chris became the first Mr. Music for Theatresports, improvising music scores on stage every Sunday at Belvoir St Theatre. He also was international Mr Music for Theatresports at Expo 86 in Canada, playing for all the teams - not just Australia.
Theatresports led to TV, where he became composer for several Network Ten childrens’ shows, before immersing himself in the world of Comedy at the ABC. Blah, Blah, Blah, Money or the Gun (yes, he was responsible for all those Stairways to Heaven) Live and Sweaty, McFeast and more. At the same time however, were major documentary series such as Nobody’s Children, the Big House and Without Consent - going back to back with several series of Bananas in Pyjamas and Bananas CD’s.
Near the end of the 90’s, Posie Graeme - Evans - for whom he had scored Elly & Jools, Miraculous Mellops and Mirror Mirror - and Helena Harris - from Bananas in Pyjamas - asked him if he could write Top Ten pop songs for the 2-6 age group.
With that simple challenge Hi-5 was born. Twelve series later the show is as popular as ever, with American and British versions on, and more countries to follow. In the midst of the Hi5 frenzy, the prime time Channel 9 series McLeod’s Daughters got the go ahead. A long time ambition of Chris was to write original songs for a drama series. With Posie the producer morphing into Posie the lyricist, this became a reality. The songs were written to forward the plot, or to give emotional background to the characters, and were woven in and out of the score. So popular in fact that the first Soundtrack album has sold over 75,000 copies - achieving Platinum, and the second has gone Gold.
On top of all this he composed the songs and score for the feature film “The Magic Pudding” which reunited him with his old theatre friend Geoffrey Rush, and gave him the opportunity to work with a lifelong idol - John Cleese.
And now full circle, with the new Bananas in Pyjamas series going global, and a New Musical "100 Feats of Strength" in development.

Aria Awards - Best Comedy Album, Stairways to Heaven
Multiple Gold & Platinum albums (Hi5, Bananas, McLeods, Stairways )
APRA music awards - Most performed childrens work

Chris has Produced over 30 Albums. He has his own recording studios in
Sydney’s inner-west, and The Blue Mountains

(Below: Chris Harriott)

Dennis Watkins:

As noted in Chris Harriott’s CV above, Dennis Watkins, who did the original songs for The Magic Pudding with Harriott, also worked with Harriott on a variety of shows, including Beach Blanket Tempest - a surf rock musical; Burger Brain: the fast food musical; and The Emerald Room, set in a nightclub, and concerning “the relationships between a singer, the club manager and a songwriter, with a female impersonator doing Billie Holiday, Janis Joplin and Bette Midler. Paul Capsis was the drag queen, Judi Connelli the club manager, Nick Carrafa the songwriter, with Helen Buday the singer.” (here)

Watkins worked on Madiba the Musical, as associate director, and its website here had this short bio:

Dennis Watkins is a writer, producer and director and has also been an actor and broadcaster. His directing credits include: Sydney Opera House 40th Anniversary Concert; Jorn Utzon State Memorial; the first five annual Helpmann Awards; the arena spectacles Cavalcade, The Saddle Club, and the Main Arena at the Royal Easter Show; Santa’s Kingdom in Melbourne and Sydney; and The Titanic Experience at Fox Studios.
He introduced Theatresports to Australia and directed its inaugural seasons in Sydney, Perth, Adelaide and Melbourne.
Artistic Associate at Newtheatricals, Director of the Palais Theatre’s Music on Film Festival, Head of Public Programs at Sydney Opera House, Co-Artistic Director of the Festival of Dangerous Ideas, producer of the Message Sticks...
Festival, and has also been Associate Director at Sydney Theatre Company and Artistic Counsel at both Belvoir St Theatre and the State Theatre of South Australia.

He has produced Family Concerts for the Sydney Symphony, was a Commissioning Editor and broadcaster at ABC Radio, and Head of Comedy at ABC Television where the shows he commissioned included Good News Week, The Games, The Micallef Program, The Adventures of Lano and Woodley, McFeast, and Roy and H.G.’s Club Buggery.

He was Artistic Director of Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras and the Orange Festival of Arts.

(Below: Dennis Watkins)

Music in the ‘making of’:

Music and composer Chris Harriott features in the ‘making of’ on the DVD release. He’s interviewed about the songs - for example, introducing the pudding via a song, and a song which shows him always being chased - and Hugo Weaving and Sam Neill are shown recording a song, and there’s a little footage of the orchestra recording to playback: