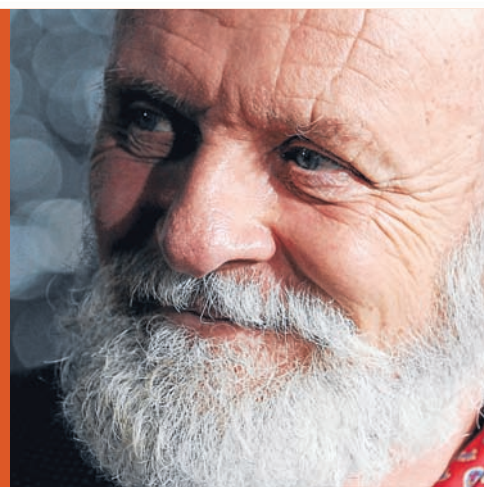


# Focus

## THE OLD MASTER

Anthony Hopkins on his new passion – and an old feud, C4



EXCLUSIVE

## FALLEN IDOL

**Phil Judd, founding member of Split Enz and frontman for The Swingers, was last year charged with stalking underage girls. He speaks for the first time about the trauma of jail and why he's not a paedophile. By TIM HUME. Illustration by PHIL JUDD.**



Phil Judd, centre, with Tim Finn, far right, and Split Enz. Above, a self-portrait he gave the *Sunday StarTimes* of his jail time called *Cell 24*. "It was hell. I wouldn't recommend prison to anybody."

**PHIL JUDD** was indeed "a pop star once", as he boasted to a teenage girl in a drunken, damning Facebook message that blew his life apart at the end of last year.

A founding songwriter, guitarist and vocalist for Split Enz, and frontman for The Swingers, the new wave band behind the 1981 Australasian chart-topper "Counting the Beat", Judd's musical talents won him critical and commercial success, and the enduring affections of a loyal fanbase during his later years as a solo artist.

Things are very different now. This summer, while his former Enz collaborator Tim Finn tours the country's vineyards with Dave Dobbyn and Bic Runga, basking in the adulation that comes with being a certified cultural treasure, Judd has been holed up in his Melbourne home: isolated, publicly reviled. For nearly four months, he has been dealing with the ignominy of being labelled a paedophile, losing custody of his 10-year-old son, thrown in jail, and ultimately left "broke and broken".

"I've had a year of disaster," he said during an

exclusive, in-depth interview with the *StarTimes*, his first since news of his conviction broke last year. "You know how many famous people... come unstuck in the end. It seems it was my turn to come unstuck."

He's through with Facebook, he says. "The internet has cost me a lot of money, and a lot of humiliation, and ruined my life. I'm done."

Judd's unravelling began in November, when an Australian newspaper broke the news that he had been convicted for stalking three young sisters in his Melbourne neighbourhood. Judd had been sentenced in March after contacting one of the teenage girls on Facebook, telling her that he had been admiring them from afar. The girls were "very special" and had an "Amazon beauty", he said; he stressed he was "not a pervert" but "an aesthete". The girls knew him as the "creepy stalky man", who they said had been watching them since 2004, when the eldest was in Year 6 and the youngest in Year 2.

To Focus, C2



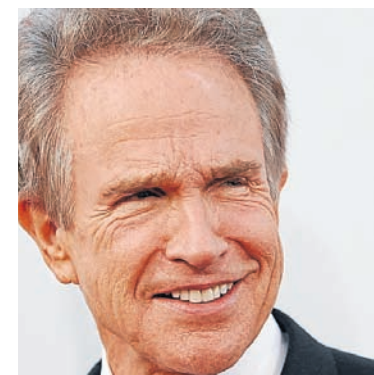
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The homegrown doco wowing the world, C3



### Photography masterclass

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### He's so vain

Who is Warren Beatty, plus Sweden's prince of gloom, Henning Mankell, in Sunday's best books pages, C6-8

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