

## Wheelie Bin Joke

Jack and Frank were neighbours in a Sydney outer suburb with limited education. Jack wheeled out his nice new Wheelie Bin on garbage day just as Frank carried up his old plastic garbage can.



“Hey Frank” calls out Jack, “Where’s Ya Bin?”

“I bin in Queensland” says Frank “Nah ya drongo”, says Jack “Where’s ya Bin, Where’s Ya Wheelie Bin?”



“Oh, all right” says Frank, “I wheelie bin in prison but I just tell everyone I bin in Queensland”.



Back in 1984 the Wheelie bins were just being introduced into Australia in place of the old round steel or plastic carry garbage bins. As the councils rolled them out they became a massive talking point and there was a sense of pride in having a new bin which was akin to getting a new car. Due to people not being at home or access to the property being unavailable, the situation occurred that most houses had a new wheelie bin, but some missed out on the initial roll out.

There was heated discussion during the introduction as the new wheelie bins now needed to be wheeled out to the footpath for collection rather than the old ‘Garbo’ coming under your house or ‘around the back’ to pick up your bin, carry it to the truck and emptying it and either returning it to it’s place or in later years they left the empty bin on the footpath for you to bring in. Even this was considered inconsiderate by the generations that were used to the bin being removed and replaced with the need for it ever being touched.

This joke has been around since the introduction of wheelie bins in the mid 80’s and when I first heard it, the characters were a bit more ethnic specific, which is important for the flow of the joke as you would not have a well spoken person saying “Where’s Ya Bin” or “Where you bin” to be grammatically correct, they would have said, “Where



PO Box 7224, Redland Bay 4165, QUEENSLAND AUSTRALIA

Phone: +61 (0)7 3807 6113

Email: [info@askequipmentsalesqld.com.au](mailto:info@askequipmentsalesqld.com.au)

Fax: +61 (0)7 3807 8113

Web: [www.askequipmentsalesqld.com.au](http://www.askequipmentsalesqld.com.au)

have you been?”. I have tried to relay the mix up in the grammar by using under educated Australians in an attempt not to offend any ethnic mix and I apologise to any people who may take offence to the joke.

Many people say the punch line everyday or every time they see a Wheelie Bin and “Where’s ya Wheelie Bin” has made its way into the Australian vernacular which means, “The everyday language of the people in a country or region, as distinct from official or formal language” which is important to this joke.

I am unsure if Wheelie Bin is the term given to the wheeled garbage bin around the world. I have heard them referred to as MGB’s which is an acronym for, Mobile Garbage Bins and they are called ‘Trash Cans’ in other parts of the world which would make the joke only relevant in Australia.

The punch line of the joke; “Where’s Ya Bin” or “Where you bin” can completely change the origin of the speakers. “Where you bin” sounds more like an Islander whereas Where’s Ya Bin comes across a little more Australian, maybe from North Queensland and NT where the use of “Bloke” and “Hey” are more common. A typical sentence would start something like. “Hey Bloke....” And the ‘hey’ is often used at the end of sentences almost to make every sentence a question even if it was not meant to be, like, “Hey Bloke I’m headin out now hey”. It is only whether the tone goes down at the end or up at the end that identifies it as a statement or a question.

As I carry around my loads of Wheelie Bins in my trailer, I always see people asking their passengers at traffic lights; “Where’s ya Wheelie Bin”. I have seen it so often that I finally had it signwritten on the tailgate of the trailer. Now that I am back in Queensland, I can tell everyone when they ask me “Where’s ya Wheelie Bin”, I can say “I’ve bin in NSW but I’m back home in Queensland now!!”



*Just "ASK"!*

**Mob: 0411 51 21 51**



**PO Box 7224, Redland Bay 4165, QUEENSLAND AUSTRALIA**

**Phone: +61 (0)7 3807 6113**

**Email: [info@askequipmentsalesqld.com.au](mailto:info@askequipmentsalesqld.com.au)**

**Fax: +61 (0)7 3807 8113**

**Web: [www.askequipmentsalesqld.com.au](http://www.askequipmentsalesqld.com.au)**