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Songwriter Dave hits new high note in life

There's a new arrival in a very musical family, writes a **Daily News Reporter**.

DURBAN musical maestro David Marks has hit a new high note in his life.

The composer of that charming international chart-topper of yesterday, Master Jack, has become a grandfather.

It would seem inevitable that music is going to play an important part in the life of his granddaughter, Cheyenne Donnelly.

Just about everyone in the family is musical.

David's daughter Lisha is Cheyenne's mum, a classical piano student. And her dad is Greg Donnelly, a guitar player with a popular Cape Town band.

And then there's Cheyenne's great-grandmother, Leonie Downing, Durban choir mistress and music teacher.

David's wife Fran is a speech and drama teacher — and also a pianist.

Cheyenne was born earlier this week, and the musical family got together for the wedding of the

happy parents, Lisha and Greg, at Durban Magistrate's Court.

David has many strings to his bow. Songwriter, sound engineer, "alternative" record company director and co-organiser of the Splashy Fen music festival, he has been a tireless crusader for homegrown music.

He recently turned 50, and after becoming a grandfather it would seem fitting that he plans to bring out a record, Rocking Chair.

He will get some of the well known musical artists he has worked with over the years to contribute to the record, a compilation of his songs.

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Festival will go on, says injured organiser

KINDNESS is not always repaid, as Splashy Fen organiser Mr David Marks has found out.

About 10 days ago Mr Marks assisted in the rescue of a woman from rough seas off Durban's Battery Beach.

Having just recovered from a severe chest infection, Mr Marks

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was only too glad to do the good deed. However, the physical strain of being a gallant hero caught up with him and now he finds himself flat on his back in bed with a slipped disc, unable to move.

Mr Marks assured all Splashy

Fen fans that no matter how many discs he slipped, the four day concert in the Drakensberg would go ahead at the end of April.

He hopes to be back on his feet to make sure the event is a success.

"No more Superman tactics from me," he said.