

## CERVANTES FESTIVAL OF ARTS 2019 – Written Bush Poetry

### RESULTS

1<sup>st</sup>

Highly Commended

Highly Commended

### Poets

Glenny Palmer

Tom McIlveen

Terry Piggott

### Poems

*Faith*

*Pappinbarra Dreamtime*

*Daydreams*

### JUDGE'S OVERALL COMMENTS RE COMPETITION

Although the number of entries was not high, overall the poems were well written demonstrating a good understanding of the Bush Poetry requirements of accurate rhyme and metre. While some poems were too short, the majority were well constructed leading to satisfying conclusions. There was a variety of subject matter from Aboriginal dreaming and praise for the land, to heart-warming tributes relating to war, farming, family and personal concerns. While, in some cases, language usage was inclined to be everyday rather than expressive, most of the poems told stories that were distinctly Australian or reflected the Australian sense of humour. Most of the light-hearted poems showed promise of holding an audience's attention if performed.

### JUDGE'S COMMENTS RE WINNING POEMS

1<sup>st</sup> Place -- FAITH by Glenny Palmer

This is a moving story of Man, native or migratory, turning to and having faith (or not) in the supra-physical forces of their belief systems, for salvation from drought. There is a graphic sense of the vulnerability of individual creatures, plants and humans and the subservience of lives and of man-made, earth-time dynasties to Nature's power. The duplication of images in context and the repetition of words using descriptive and alliterative language, together with the final powerful line of each stanza, adds impact and poignancy. A beautiful poetic piece.

Highly Commended – PAPPINBARRA DREAMTIME by Tom McIlveen

This poem has both mystery and mystique, evoking the sense of the Aboriginal dreamtime and the indigenous belief in the one-ness with the land. The poem's conveyance that this reverential relationship between Man and Nature has been eroded, provides a stark and sad contrast between those in harmony with, and those who abuse the earth. All the technical aspects and language skills which allow a poem to flow unimpeded, are skilfully employed. The poet is completely in control of our *genre*.

Highly Commended – DAYDREAMS by Terry Piggott

Written with a simple rhythmic flow, this nostalgic poem paints lovely word pictures through images of an idealised past that can now only exist in memories. It's obvious sincere authenticity, aptly conveys the writer's sense of personal loss.

Thank you to all who entered the competition for expressing the outpourings of your hearts and minds.

*Brenda Joy*

Judge – Cervantes Festival of Arts 2019 – Written Bush Poetry