

## ***Queensland Bush Poetry Championship***

***Over three days the Queensland Bush Poetry Championship was held in Beenleigh, Logan. September 6, 7 and 8<sup>th</sup>.***

The **'Meet and Greet'** at Beenleigh Tavern was attended by ninety people both poets and members of the community. With all these events you are never sure how many will attend but as a reflection of how much bush poetry is loved, the room that had been set for 60 started to bulge at the mid-riff as poets and guests kept arriving. Poets had come from all states except S.A. and Tasmania.

Bob Kettle and the Logan Poets gave their 'unofficial welcome', and then the official opening was given by Melissa McMahon State M.P. for the area and Uncle Brian an elder of the Yugumbeh aboriginal tribe who gave us a 'Welcome to Country'. Following this Tom McIlveen and Susan Ashton sang some rousing 'Australian' songs till it was back to Bob Kettle who was MC for the night.

Bob sprinkled all present with stories of the area famous for its sugar cane and Beenleigh Rum, and of our sponsors. Then it was the poets turn with walk-ups and a one-minute poem competition which was really fun! Before supper Gerry King rang Peter O'Shaughnessy in Perth so everyone could share his win of both written competitions in the championship. Peter was so excited and stunned that he rang back the next day to verify what he'd won.

**'The Competition'** Saturday saw us at the Beenleigh Showground hall with Jim Tonkin as MC entertaining us all throughout the day. There were four events, the Novice the Classical, the Modern and the Original. It was a long day as we had approximately 24 competitors in most open events but we did get away tired and poetreed out by 6.30pm. **The judges did a brilliant job!**

**Sunday, 'the Wind Down'**, again with Jim Tonkin as the MC, was at the Beenleigh Historical Village (the Logan poet's poetry home). Poets performed walk-ups to entertain the crowd. Fifty-six poets and their partners, many in costume, were present and among the crowd who were at the village for 'Heritage Day'. Tom and Susan then finished off the championship with some light musical numbers. Guests were then able to take in the village as it was open and alive with other displays and entertainment.

A Great Weekend and very well done all winners and competitors, and of course it couldn't have happened without the work of 'all' **THE LOGAN PERFORMANCE BUSH POETS, their partners, and their poetry groupies.**

## WINNERS:

**One Minute Poem:** Greg Joass from W.A; closely followed by Ruth Savage (Logan).

**Novice:** 1<sup>st</sup> Carolyn Maxfield; 2<sup>nd</sup> Ruth Savage; 3<sup>rd</sup> Andrew Ryan

**Classical:** 1<sup>st</sup> Ralph Scrivens; 2<sup>nd</sup> Gerry King; 3<sup>rd</sup> Janine Keating

**Modern:** 1<sup>st</sup> a tie - Ralph Scrivens and Jeffrey Dowlan; 3<sup>rd</sup> Paddy O'Brien

**Original:** 1<sup>st</sup> Paddy O'Brien, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ralph Scrivens, 3<sup>rd</sup> Andrew Pulsford.

**The Overall winners** receiving both the highest points and the Queensland Championship were:

**MALE: Ralph Scrivens** and **FEMALE: Janine Keating**

**Highest Point Logan Member: Bob Kettle.**

**Most Popular Poet Award:** went to Paddy O'Brien.

**Foot Note:** This was a very tight competition and poets were so close throughout. So keep going **everyone** with a bit more effort, results could easily change in your favour.

We'd really like to thank **Robin Sykes, Tom McIlveen and Jack Drake**. The scrutineers were watching all day, and there were no anomalies. So these judges can be guaranteed for future competitions. **A special thanks** goes to Jack Drake and Stella, they stayed all day despite the Stanthorpe area being all ablaze.

## Written:

### Serious:

1 <sup>st</sup>	Peter O'Shaughnessy	WA	<i>Dreamtime Breakaway</i>
H.C.	Shelley Hansen	Qld	<i>The Trial of Harry Redford</i>
H.C.	Brenda Joy	Qld	<i>The Deluge on the Plains</i>

### Humorous:

1 <sup>st</sup>	Peter O'Shaughnessy	WA	<i>The Mulga Cup</i>
H.C.	Shelley Hansen	Qld	<i>Budget Hotel</i>
H.C.	Glenny Palmer	Qld	<i>Bladder's Revenge</i>