



# The Australian



## Bush Poets



# Association

No 8 AUGUST 1995.

# Australian Bush Poets Association

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# The Man From Snowy River Centenary Celebration 14-22 October 1995

**\*On Tour\***

## The Man From Ironbark

Starring

Geoffrey Graham

August.

2nd Casino

3rd Grafton

4th Lismore

6th Ocean Shore

7-8th Ballina

9th Murwillumbah

11-12th Armidale

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for

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## LET'S TALK ABOUT... CONSTITUTIONS.

At this point of time, the **A.B.P.A. DOES NOT HAVE A CONSTITUTION.** No one person can give an Organisation a Constitution. At the Annual General Meeting held January, 1995, a Sub-Committee was formed to DRAFT a Constitution for the A.B.P.A., and to present it to our next A.G.M. in January, 1996, to be rejected, amended, or adopted by a majority of the Members present. We **MUST** have a suitable Constitution if we wish to be **INCORPORATED** and in this age of "SUE!" mentality, Incorporation is a vital protection measure. Many of our A.B.P.A. Members are Business and Professional people who have day-to-day contact with the legalities of organisations, but many are more isolated, and live happily where trust still exists on a handshake. I hope these Members find the following interesting!

Statements heard recently include **"I got hold of a Constitution from xxxxxx. We can use that one!"** and **"The Justice Dept. gave us a Constitution. It'll do!"** Now, obviously the Constitution of one Organisation does NOT suit another **TOTALLY**, or they might as well be the same Organisation, and not bother forming a new one! And, **SAMPLE CONSTITUTIONS**, as handed out by the Justice Dept. and Solicitors are **FULL OF BLANKS** which the Organisation is required to fill in! One I have in front of me at present reads...

### 1. NAME

The name of this Association shall be " \_\_\_\_\_ Association"  
hereinafter referred to as "The Association".

and so on through all the Clauses! It's not even a **PROPOSED** Constitution until it's filled in!

The Constitution of an Organisation sets the guidelines under which that Organisation can operate. It is a document with legal standing that informs other Bodies and Organisations of the **COLLECTIVE WILL** of the Members of your Organisation. It must, therefore, **BE** the collective will of your Organisation, so **MUST BE ADOPTED** by a majority of the Financial Members either at an Annual General Meeting, or at a Special General Meeting called for the purpose.

A new Organisation needs to **ADOPT** a Constitution as soon as practical after the Organisation is formed so that the Meeting and Organisational Procedure being followed can best reflect the needs/desires/wishes of the Members. In the meantime, "Standing Orders" are used. These are very general customs in Meeting Procedure, and can act as a stop-gap.

Some of the decisions which must be made in drawing up a Constitution include...

1. The **OFFICIAL TITLE** of the Organisation
2. What its **OBJECTIVES** are.
3. How the Members wish it to **FUNCTION**. Is it to be **ONE UNITED ORGANISATION**? Or is it envisaged as being **STATE BASED** with a **CENTRAL COMMITTEE**? Or shall **BRANCHES BE FORMED** and **ACCREDITED**?
4. **WHO** shall be eligible to be **MEMBERS**? Will there be **ASSOCIATE MEMBERS**? Or **EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS**? Or **HONORARY MEMBERS**? Or will **OTHER ORGANISATIONS** be accepted as **MEMBERS**? Will there be **LIFE MEMBERS**?
5. **WHEN** shall the Annual Membership Fee be able to be **SET** or **CHANGED**?
6. **WHO** keeps the **REGISTER OF MEMBERS**? (President, Secretary, Treasurer?) Only **FINANCIAL MEMBERS** entitled to vote?
7. What **OFFICE BEARERS** are to be elected? Is the position **PRESIDENT** or **CHAIRMAN**? **TREASURER** and **SECRETARY**? Or, **SECRETARY/TREASURER**? ....cont'd over....

- One or two VICE-PRESIDENTS? Or SENIOR Vice-President and JUNIOR Vice-President?  
 What PUBLICITY OFFICERS are desirable? Can one person hold TWO POSITIONS CONCURRENTLY? Is there a MINUTES (or ASSISTANT) SECRETARY?  
 What are the DUTIES of these OFFICE BEARERS?
8. Are RETIRING OFFICE BEARERS eligible for RE-ELECTION? (Many Organisations have a 2-term limit on one person in any particular position.)
  9. Under what conditions may an Office Bearer RESIGN? Or, BE REMOVED FROM OFFICE? Or BE REPLACED if removed from Office?
  10. What SUB-COMMITTEES shall be formed? Will these be AD HOC? Or ON-GOING? What access shall they have to FUNDS? (eg. Their own BANK ACCOUNT?)
  11. May HONORARIA be paid to Office Bearers? (An HONORARIUM = Money paid as a grant for services rendered.)
  12. Policy re... ACCOUNTS, SIGNING of CHEQUES, AUDITING of Accounts, and CONTINUITY through change of Office Bearers. Must Accounts be PASSED FOR PAYMENT before being paid? Are CASH payments allowed? Or CHEQUE ONLY?
  13. FREQUENCY of MEETINGS? How MANY and WHEN ---other than the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING? Who shall PRESIDE? Availability of CASTING VOTE in the event of an equality of votes? MANNER of VOTING? (SECRET BALLOT or SHOW of HANDS.) What MAJORITY shall be required for a MOTION to be PASSED... Simple, ie. 50%? Or 2/3 MAJORITY?
  14. Who shall comprise the EXECUTIVE? Under what circumstances shall they MEET and/or ACT?
  15. What shall be considered the FINANCIAL YEAR for the Organisation? (Calendar, Fiscal, or other.)
  16. What QUORUM is necessary for an ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING? A SPECIAL General Meeting? An ordinary Meeting?
  17. What are the REQUIREMENTS for calling a SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING?
  18. How much NOTICE OF MEETING is required? And, by WHAT MEANS shall this notice be given? (Public Press? or Poets' Magazine? or by Circular Notice?)
  19. WHO shall be deemed suitable to AUDIT the finances of the Organisation? HOW OFTEN is this required to be done? WHAT SHALL then HAPPEN to the AUDITED STATEMENT?
  20. Under what circumstances may the Constitution be AMENDED?
  21. What shall be the procedure if the ASSOCIATION is DISOLVED? What becomes of any FUNDS?

So, come next January, Members attending the A.G.M. will be required to ADOPT a Constitution for A.B.P.A.. Copies of the PROPOSED Document should be available to you beforehand. The Sub-Committee may chose to MOVE THE ADOPTION OF THE CONSTITUTION AS A WHOLE. If you disagree with any part of it, you should vote against such a move. They will then submit it CLAUSE BY CLAUSE. Some Clauses, eg. the NAME, will probably be passed without debate, but others that might be contentious can become the subject of MOTIONS eg. "I MOVE that Clause 14 relating to the Financial Year read **The FINANCIAL YEAR of the Association shall end on the 15th January.**" Then, as with all Motions, someone will have to SECOND it, it will be OPEN FOR DISCUSSION, and then PUT TO A VOTE. Of course, as with all Meetings, the President does not MOVE Motions....they come from Members.

While some might perceive all the above to be an unnecessary waste of time and paper, sadly it is all ESSENTIAL if we are to have the viable, legal, smoothly-functioning Association we all desire! Please consider!



### Another thought on Meeting Procedure:

The MINUTES are the Official Record of what happens in a Meeting. They record Administrative details, Correspondence, Financial Report, Motions and their fate, Sub-Committee Reports. If someone eg. the President or a Guest Speaker addresses a Meeting, this fact may be recorded in the Minutes, but this does not imply that the Meeting endorses all that Speaker's content. eg. consider an address by a Politician, or an Organiser of a Bush Poetry Festival in Tinbucktu, or the personal hopes and wishes of a chairman. Unless the subject matter is subsequently presented as a Motion by a Member, duly seconded, opened for discussion, and put to the vote..... and therefore recorded in the Minutes....., it is not binding on the Organisation and its Members. A perusal of June 1994 Minutes shows no Motion re Judges to be approached for Winton. The Sub-Committee Meeting Minutes of December, 1994 name Bruce Simpson, Laurie Kavanagh, Hugh Sawrey, Stan Coster, Ted Egan, Eddie Hackman, John Laws, Ian MacNamara (Macca) with Brian Howard of Tamworth as Guest M.C. as the "People so far approached by the President".

### A SEAGULL'S VIEW OF THE BELLARINE PENINSULA.

Somewhere, south of Melbourne and east of Geelong, under the permanent winter cloud cover, bucketing rain, and very, very low temperatures from the wind's uninterrupted surge from Antarctica, burns the sort of flame that warms the heart of any Bush Poet. This is the home of the LIVING POETS' SOCIETY.

The very active Membership of this small Group is dedicated to enthusing the Younger Generation for speaking Poetry aloud. They regularly visit Schools-- Public and Private, Primary and Secondary -- performing and encouraging the performance of Poetry, both Australian and European. As part of their strategy for encouraging the students to read, select, and perform Poetry, they believe in holding the book that they found the poem in while they present it, even if they have memorised the text, so that the students will be encouraged to seek poetry in books, and realise that they, too, can convert the printed words on the page into an interesting performance.

I first heard of the Living Poets' Society in Tamworth in January, 1995, when some of their Members "found" Bush Poetry and Bush Poets for the first time. Like so many others, they realised it was addictive, and went home armed with the printed works of several A.B.P.A. Members! Now, having met this Group of Business and Professional people, Poets, Writers, and Performers, I am once again reminded of the depth of talent that exists in pockets in Australia that we are not yet aware of!

Now for the good news! The Bellarine Peninsula only appears this inhospitable in Winter! In Spring, Summer, and Autumn, it is a delightful seaside area, Gateway to the Great Ocean Road, full of delightful Camping Areas and noted for its fishing! It's handy to Geelong where A.F.L. (and only A.F.L.) is spoken. Now, why do I mention this? Because next MARCH, the Living Poets' Society hope to hold their very first Bush Poetry Festival. It will probably be the week before the Port Fairy Festival (where Jim Haynes has been running Bush Poetry doings for the last couple of years). For those who don't know Mexican Geography, Port Fairy is at the other end of the Great Ocean Road....which is really worth the drive, but allow at least two days to see it! So, if you journey to this end of Australia, there will be TWO good excuses to come!

If you would like to be kept up-to-date with this proposed Festival....

1. Watch this Magazine for further details, or ..
2. Send S.A.E. to THE LIVING POETS' SOCIETY,  
P.O. Box 300,  
OCEAN GROVE. 3226

P.S.Be extremely careful of the foreshore at Lorne! The plaster cast is very heavy! (Carmel Randle.)

## WHAT DO YOU MEAN "BUSH" ?

by Gary Harding

What is The Bush and, dare I ask, a "Bush" Poet?? Was Henry Lawson a Bush Poet - always or sometimes, depending on his subject matter? How about C.J. Dennis with the Bloke and various city characters. How would one qualify as a Bush Poet; and what "qualifications" does one need to be a Judge of "Bush" Poetry (oops! better leave that one for another day).

Let me answer the first. I would refer to comments by the late Jack Moses (wrote Nine Miles From Gundagai). He draws a definite line between city and country. (He even entitles his book Beyond the City Gates). Is the Bush then everything "beyond the City Gates." (I suggest it is). He sees the Bush as that glorious, bountiful, cruel and kind countryside, the actions of whose occupants enshrine all that is big-hearted, noble and virtuous.

In the larger view, the battling efforts of the pioneers against climatic adversity reflect the glory of Jack's Spirit of Mother Bush. In the Australian countryside are to be found heroes aplenty set against a backdrop of "rugged mountain peaks, fertile plains to the west. The good folk who live in Sydney....most of them know little of the Australian Bush. Too frequently does the city-dweller fail to appreciate the fact that his whole existence depends upon the generosity of the great hinterland." A bit over the top, but thanks anyway Jack.

Accepting this it follows that The Bush is very distinct from The City, both geographically and I suggest in its outlook. As to exact boundaries and philosophical differences, Bush to City, let us assume they truly exist but we cannot find them. No problem.

It would follow that a Bush Poet is one who writes poetry about The Bush as defined, descriptive and narrative, in a form traditionally dictated by the rigorous ballad. The writer need not have originated from the Bush.

There is nothing to stop the Bush Poet writing about other subjects but when he does he is surely being an Australian Poet, not a Bush Poet. Bush Poets are by definition also Australian Poets if you see what I am driving at. I believe being an Australian Poet is to be revered equally with being a Bush Poet, setting aside the stupidity of so-called free-verse, which as we all know is random gibberish, not poetry.

Lawson and all rhyming Master Ballad Poets wrote brilliantly on a range of subjects, not necessarily Bush ("What's the use of writing Bush though editors demand it...H.L.). Therefore it is a pity in my humble view that we feel obliged to narrowly restrict ourselves to being exclusively Bush Poets.

Why do we not embrace ourselves more as Australian Poets and elbow out these fringe "poets" who are only too happy for us to self-pigeonhole as Bush Poets and who have perennially attempted to pass themselves off as reflecting the popular genre. Most Competitions and performances demand Bush Poetry which leaves a treasure-trove of rhyming verse in no-mans-land, neither Nonsense nor Bush. A great literary pity.

That then is Bush Poetry and that is my gripe.

GARY HARDING

CAIRNS Queensland

**Bush Music Fest '95  
Australian Pioneer Village,  
Wiberforce NSW**

**8th to 10th September 1995**

Waltz your matilda out to Australian Pioneer Village and join Australia's oldest folk club The Bush Music Club celebrate once again Bush Musicfest in September.

Poets Breakfasts, Music, Dancing,  
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**For further information Phone  
Sue O'Donoghue 02 631 9533**

**HOTLINE.**

**The Snowy River Hotline**

To phone for information is

**060 762 120 — 1800 805 455**

**Sandra Beirs — Co-ordinator.**

**Fred Turnham — Chairman.**

**Man from Snowy River  
Centenary —1895-1995**

**Corryong Celebrations 14-22 October**

After months of planning and discussions with the Victorian Government it has now been confirmed that the 100th Anniversary of the publication of Banjo Patersons Man from Snowy River book will be celebrated at Corryong Victoria — believed to be the main inspiration for the original ballad.

The Victorian Government will support the Centenary through financial and professional help provided by Tourism Victoria as the Centenary fits into the State's plans to preserve Australian Heritage and promote tourism.

The Towong Shire is also supporting the Centenary with generous financial and professional support providing offices and officials to work on the project.

POETS BY THE RIVER.      NEPEAN ROWING CLUB N.S.W.

Readings held on the LAST Thursday of the Month.

INFO; June Lal. ph (02) 625-8577.

## Bush Festival at Camden

The dust will rise in September in Camden when the bush bands come to town for the first Cowpastures Bush Music Festival. The fun begins on Friday 15th September with Ted Egan's Bush Dance Party with The Currency Lads Bush Band and the Australian Heritage Dancers. Ted Egan will perform and compere and Parmy's Good Time Bush Band with surprise guests, will keep the Dance Hall hopping into the night.

### Bush Poetry

Poetry is specially featured at the festival with the Breakfast on Saturday and Sunday mornings, and The Banjo Paterson Poetry Challenge which is open for entries now. Geoffrey Graham's One man show "The Man from Ironbark," a big hit at Winton, will be staged on Friday night at a separate venue and seats are limited so tickets should be secured early. Saturday morning begins with the Poet's Breakfast with well known and local poets followed by a program where the winners of the Banjo Paterson poetry competition will recite their poems and receive their prizes.

There's entertainment events for the kids, a 'lagerphone' knockout, [bring yours - any one can enter!], whip cracking, sheep shearing, workshops and more. Bush bands, like The Bushragers and Eureka! and Wongawilli, will perform during the day as will an Aboriginal music and dance group. There'll be exhibitions of bush dancing and various workshops, the Bush Band finals, and Ted Egan's

Bush Tucker Lunch and concert. Another performance of "The Man from Ironbark" will be on in the afternoon.

**Folk Jam** On Saturday night, the main concert will feature Col Buchanan, the Bushwackers, Greg Champion and Beccy Cole. The night ends with a big bush dance with Wongawilli and friends. Sunday's poets breakfast is followed by the festival finale jam session, so bring your instruments.

Other performers are yet to be announced, and there'll be puppets, wagon rides for big and little kids and various displays including a hand made musical instrument display and workshop. Festival co-ordinator, Ralph Graham, describes the festival as a "Celebration of Bush music and culture," a "festival of fun with something for everyone."

A special event for the kids will be the Faber Castell Bush colouring competition with great prizes.

It seems Bush Festivals are on the rise; possibly the latest announced is 'The Great Aussie Bush Festival' at St Arnaud in Victoria. The more the better!

The festival committee is offering a 10 percent discount to Bush Poets Association members. Please use the "rate payers" discount on the enclosed insert. Contact Cowpastures Management, 25-29 Dumaesqu St, Campbelltown 2560 Enquiries and credit cards: 046 254 400 Fax: 046 286 699

See you at Camden.

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## The Festival

*The Bushwackers Col Buchanan Greg Champion Ted Egan Eureka! Bushragers  
Mungandi Aboriginal Music and Dance Beccy Cole Whip cracking - display and workshop  
Parmy's Good Time Bush Band Geoffrey Graham The Wongawilli 'Big Band' Noel Cutler Australian  
Heritage Dancers Denis Kevans Graeme Johnson Dingo Dryden Currency Lads Greg Dimmock  
Wongawilli Colonial Dancers Bush Dance Party with Ted Egan - (Fri night with surprise guests)  
Bush Band Finals Faber Castell Bush Colouring Competition with great prizes Poet's Breakfast Saturday and  
Sunday with National and Local Poets Bill Baloney the Swaggy Puppets Wagon rides Fun fair  
Lagerphone knockout (bring yours - you can enter!) Ted Egan's Bush Tucker Lunch and concert  
"The Man from Ironbark" - one man theatre Banjo Paterson poetry competition Festival Finale Jam session -  
bring your instrument. 'Poets Brawl' Poets Workshop Hand made musical instrument display and workshop  
and lots more!*

# JIM HAYNES

**Media Release  
June '95**



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KINGSFORD NSW 2032  
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FAX:(02) 663 4791**

## **Bush Poetry Festival Success for The Longyard**

The fifth Bush Poetry Fireside Festival saw the Longyard Hotel in Tamworth overflowing for the Poets in the Pub evening on Friday night, and booked out days in advance for the 'Galah Evening' on Saturday. Publican John Gibson and Festival organisers June Smyth and Jim Haynes were stunned by the response, "Moving the festival from the long weekend to a weekend of it's own was a great move," said June.

Once again it was a real family weekend with school children involved in reciting poetry and hilarious events like the Bush Poetry State of Origin (NSW defeated O'land again !!) and the 'Yarnavent' and 'Poets' Brawl'.

The Festival also had a serious side with seminars on writing and publishing and the investiture of two Bush Poets into the Wall of Renown. This year well-known ABC poet Bob Magor and Queensland poet Bruce Simpson were present to receive the honour.

It was a very emotional moment when Nick Erby announced the investiture of Bruce Simpson. Bruce is a real link to the droving days and a man much respected by all bush poets and performers. His poetry has been recited at the Longyard since the beginning of the bush poetry revival and it was great to have him there to be honoured in a special presentation by Nick, John Philipson, Marion Fitzgerald and Jim Haynes.

The other recipient of the honour for 1995, South Australian Bob Magor, performed a special segment of his own poetry and many other great performers were present, including Murray Hartin, Frank Daniel, Ray Essery, Bobby Miller, Shirley Friend, Carmel Randle and Gary Fogarty.

Jim worked with the school children in the week leading up to the festival and the excellent standard of performances from the kids was a high point of the weekend for the large audience, the kids and their parents, "The kids are really the highlight for me every year," said Jim.

**SCHOOL AWARDS 1995:** Senior Primary Recitation - 1st Paddy Ryan (Duri)  
Runner Up - Kendall Thompson (Moonbi)  
Junior Primary - 1st Jarod Keech (Duri)  
Runner Up - Catie Mc Hugh (Sth Tamworth)

**OTHER AWARDS:** Poets Brawl - Graham Watt (Kyabram Vic)  
Yarn Event - Marie Kildey (Tamworth)  
Best New Voice - Jan Franklin (Casino)

HENRY LAWSON DIAMOND SHEARS POETRY COMPETITION.

1995 RESULTS.

- 1st.... "The Limestone Stags"  
Geoff Allen. Balgowlah NSW.  
2nd....: "Just a Woman of The West"  
Carmel Randle. Preston QLD.  
3rd.... "The Loudest Noise"  
Bob Magor. Myponga S.A.  
H/C. "When Uncle Did The Rain Dance."  
Veronica Weal. MT Isa QLD.

The organisers would like to thank all poets who entered the competition. The high standard of poetry sent in makes it very difficult to narrow it down to the final winners.

NOT the Good News...  
As this Magazine goes  
to print, we, sadly, have  
to report that our good  
friend and loved Poet,  
Charlee Marshall, is in  
Rockhampton Base Hospital  
where his condition is  
causing grave concern.  
Our thoughts are with  
Charlee and Beryl, as  
we are sure yours will  
be, too.  
Hang in there, Charlee!

**The**  
**Ernie Setterfield**  
**Poetry Awards**

Closing Date 30th September'95

**\$50.00**  
**prize money for**  
**'The Poet Of The Year'**

**Entry Fee \$2.00**  
per poem

All profits go towards  
the running of the  
**Mapleton Yarn Festival**  
21st, & 22nd, Oct. '95



**AUGUST 25**

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## The Trackrider Poems

by Roy Briggs

"Roy's poems are authentic and always great entertainment."

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University of Queensland Press

"Roy Briggs reflects the spirit of the outback through his own unique style; his style emanates from his experiences, hence the warmth and sincerity of his writings, which I am happy to commend to the reader."

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Member for Crows Nest

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Terry O'Connor  
Literary Editor, The Courier Mail

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8th Floor 371 Queen Street Brisbane  
GPO Box 2927 Brisbane Q4001

RRP \$14.50:  
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## The Trackrider Poems.



*NOT* Actual size. 148 pages of authentic bush prose and commentary with many of them. Cover is gold with blue outlined photo.

MUDGEE COUNTRY MUSIC JAMBOREE

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WIN  
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HYUNDAI



## **Leigh Brown ——— Jeff Brown. Keeping our Heritage alive.**

Leigh Brown was brought up in Inverell, her heritage rich in tales of the shearing sheds, the bush and rural Australia. She loved to hear these stories as a child, but it was not until she had grown up and left home that she began to realize what a rich heritage it was. In an attempt to share these yarns with others, she began to submit them to verse.

A friend entered her very first attempt at Bush Poetry in the Henry Lawson Bush Verse Competition of 1981, and it received a Highly Commended Award.

This provided the encouragement to continue writing. Leigh published her first book of Bush Verse in January 1994, and the very first public performance of her poetry was at the Longyard Bush Poets Breakfast in Tamworth that year.

Since then, Leigh has performed at various Folk Festivals and heritage functions around N.S.W. She was the winner of the 'Best Original Poem' Award given at the Goulburn Heritage Awards in 1994, and also the coveted 'Reciters Award' at the 1994 National Folk Festival in Canberra.

This year has included performances in the Jim Haynes 'Best of the Bush' weekend at Murrumburrah-Harden, and the 'Country Characters' show that she and a fellow poet presented at the National Folk Festival. In Tamworth Leigh was finalist in the Imperial Hotel Poetry Competition.

For many years Leigh has been a member of a number of Bush Bands in areas such as Bathurst, Swan Hill, Canberra and Yass, as a vocalist and percussionist.

'Here's Cheers, Wheel' is the title of her book which is dedicated to the memory of her father who was a well known and respected bushman in the north of the state. The characteristic humour of the shearers, shearers cooks and rouseabouts is epitomised in her works which are mostly based on stories handed down from her father, the late Don Bartlett of Inverell.

Leigh and her husband Jeff live on the land at Yass where they have raised four children. Jeff himself being a talented and gifted artist in his own field of bush music. He has played the Harmonica for over twenty years, at one time with the Bandy Bills Bush Band from Inverell, and now at home with 'Rusty and Rough' where they entertain around the Yass and Canberra Districts.

Jeff has conducted a number of workshops in the Harmonica at a number of Folk Festivals, including Glen Innes, Canberra and Majors Creek. Jeff won first place in 1991 in the Australian Harmonica Championships (Amateur) and was placed third in the Open Section. Jeff has conducted for many years now, his one-man show from private parties to major festivals; has played for the Canberra and Yass Repetory Societys, for Theatrical productions and for Radio.

Leigh and Jeff performed at the Kiok in Brisbane in July along with Frank Daniel. Leigh and Jeff Brown may be contacted at 12 Rossi St Yass or by Phone. 062 263231.

"Refused! refused Buk - bail," the mother cried,  
"why? sarjint - tell me - why?"  
"well - for many crimes," the sarjint sez  
"an' dear lady - I don't lie!"

"For as you wander - 'round - these city streets,  
on each fence an' buildin' tall,  
all freight trucks - church an' houses,  
you will find - graffiti scrawl."

"All have drawin's - by the dozens,  
wif writin's - by the score,  
while those authors - must feel very proud,  
for - they-re autographed - wot's more."

"Though - this practice - is unlawful,  
that's much frowned on - by the police,  
who forever - do their damnedest,  
to make - this practice - cease."

"Now a name - that is most prominent,  
on these buildin's - so defaced,  
after obscene words - or paintin's,  
the tag - of Buk - is placed."

"Up high - on tallest structures  
an' down - storm water drains,  
the three letter word - of Buk - appears,  
most out-standin' - 'moungst - all names,"

"Whilst all payers - of those council rates,  
were quite angry - this is true,  
sent petitions - to the city hall,  
demandin' - wot - their mayor will do."

"For - after scrubbin' down - their buildin' walls,  
of graffiti - so defaced,  
they-ve found - that Buk - returns that night,  
wif his works - of art - replaced."

"So we formed - a special squad of men,  
to stop - this scoundrels luck,  
police by the score - watchmen galore,  
to catch - this vandal - Buk."

"From the minister - of all police force,  
passed down - all through our rank,  
station chiefs - detectives - sarjints,  
all constables! must catch - this paintin' crank."

"The pressures - wot - 'ee's brought to bear,  
wif abuse - of every kind!  
those loudest sighs - of deep relief,  
now there's bars - wot - Buk's be'ind."

"So there ain't no bail!" the sarjint sez,  
for I must - inform you - dear,  
that your son's - so irresponsible  
an' the Buk - stops here!"

Johnny Johanson.

## Teen graffitist found guilty

By MATTHEW HORAN

A TEENAGE graffitist found guilty of vandalising 200 buildings and trains laughed outside court after he was given a six-month suspended sentence yesterday.

Baby-faced Theodore Allan Porter, 17, of Worongary on the Gold Coast, spraypainted his nickname "Buk" across Brisbane in a two-year rampage which cost more than \$42,000 to repair.

When he was finally caught by police and shown footage from a video surveillance camera of him vandalising a railway subway he said: "Yeah, what else have you got?"

Porter pleaded guilty in Brisbane District Court to 18 charges of wilful damage, but had another 93 offences taken into account — which amounted to more than 200 instances of vandalism.

Crown Prosecutor David Groth had asked that Porter be given the maximum amount of community service so he could clean up his own mess.

But Porter escaped a work

order, getting six months in jail, suspended for two years, and two years' probation for offences he committed while a minor.

Outside the court he laughed and pulled faces at passers-by before sneaking out a back door in a bid to elude television cameras.

Judge Michael Forde said he would have liked to fine Porter's parents to help pay for the clean-up of the graffiti.

"While you were out doing these things one wonders what sort of parental control was being exercised," he said.

"I've often said parents should be responsible for this sort of behaviour."

The judge dryly noted that Porter's talents as an artist had a long way to go.

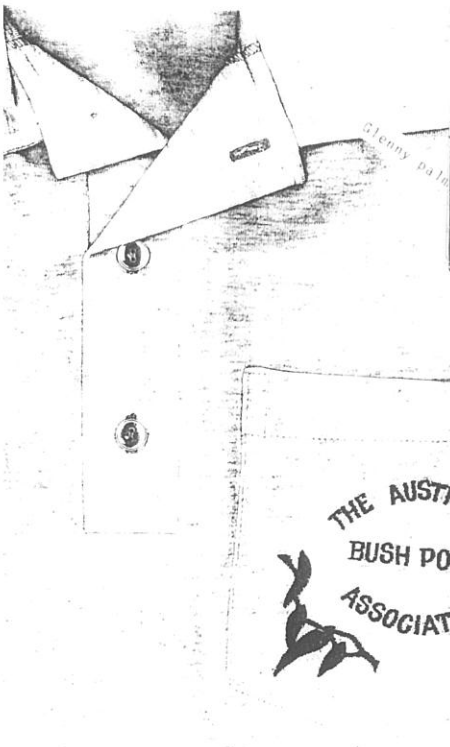
"It is limited to you writing the word 'Buk' on those premises, which reflects upon your character as a graffiti artist."

Frank Lippet, for Porter, said he had finished school after Year 10, with average results, "except in art, where he seemed to show some ability".

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Thank you for the info on how competitions are scored by judges. Has anyone got any clues as to how this info could be supplied to contestants in all competitions, (without driving the organisers and judges nutty?) The details of how I scored in a comp gives me the most valuable info I could ask for, as it shows me where I need to improve. I think it is important to mention also, that I know of some poets (pen pals I've made, interstate) who become so upset when they don't know why they didn't do well in a comp, that they start to lose heart and consider giving their writing away. After seeing how the judges score (May issue of our magazine) one realises how very little can separate a place getter from the rest of the entrants. If the rest of the entrants are aware of this, it could encourage rather than discourage the writers. If the main purpose of competition is to foster improvement in writing/performing skills, surely this is an area that warrants some investigation.

Glenny palmer. Cedarvale QLD.



Member Lyn Ride has designed and produced a shirt with The Aust. Bush poets on the pocket. They are available in sizes, sm, med, lge & xlge and choice of Apricot, Sand & Oatmeal.

The price is \$25.00 ea plus postage. available from;

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THE AUSTRALIAN  
BUSH POETS  
ASSOCIATION



*Lyn Ride*

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PALMWOODS, QLD. 4555  
ph. (074) 45 9848

Manufactured in Queensland

Well, I never thought I'd see it  
thought the day would never come,  
when someone matched me word for word  
this fight was gonna be fun.

In he strode with his stripey braces  
he'd been training, I could see,  
I'd have to call on all my wits  
hone my speech ability.

He threw a verb, I ducked and weaved  
I hit him with a noun,  
he uttered two profanities  
as he tumbled to the ground.

But he grabbed me by the ankle  
with a clever preposition  
I landed flat on top of him  
as we strained in opposition.

And then he split infinitive  
it threw me for a six,  
but I got a whole damned sentence in  
and put him in a fix.

But up he got with a paragraph,  
I could scarce believe my ears  
and he even paused to take a breath;  
I near broke down in tears!

This fight was getting nasty  
but we had a referee  
good old Al sat patiently  
ten times he said "'scuse me".

But it didn't do him any good  
he fainted in the end,  
from looking left to right too fast  
at me and then my friend.

The second day we began to fade  
started using euphemisms  
we'd used up all the adjectives  
and sunk to altruisms.

Al recovered, took a breath  
and screamed "odds on, I'll lay 'em  
give up the fight now Glenny, you've been beat, by Geoffrey Graham!"

## • Poets at the Carnival

Tamworth, Winton and Longreach are just three of the towns where big crowds attend bush poets' sessions in large numbers.

This is the third year in a row for bush poets to compete and entertain at Toowoomba's Carnival of Flowers, and a solid following has developed in a short space of time.

The Poets at the Carnival committee, chaired by Carmel Randle, has now developed a whole new program, with new components and new venues to cope with the crowds. There is now even stronger support from the Carnival of Flowers, with big new venues organised at City Hall, the Big Top in Queens Park and the Downs Room at the

Burke and Wills Hotel, Cobb and Co Museum, Rudds Pub at Nobby, Southern Cross Sporting Club, Southern Hotel/Motel and the Portadown Hotel.

Poets' breakfasts will be held at 8am on Thursday and Saturday of Carnival week in the big top marquee in Queens Park.

Each session will be followed by a competition heat at 10am. Two special sessions sure to attract big crowds will be the "Bards of the Bush" concerts at City Hall.

## **Profile. Charlee Marshall.**

Charlee Marshall was born in the days of the Great Depression, was educated at Upper Ulam, near Rockhampton, Queensland and later by correspondence and the State High School in Rockhampton.

Training as a teacher he taught at various schools around Central Queensland and the Callide Valley.

Once a farmer and always a dreamer, he finally quit the profession and settled on the land at Yaparaba, raising Shetland Ponies, Charolais cattle and four children as well as flooding the nations waste-paper bins with his hilariously funny short stories.

His Cricketing exploits are well-known in Queensland Country areas, where he holds the record for the most Bowling Aggregate wins in Brisbane Country Week, as well as being a long-time member of many Central Queensland teams.

Since publishing his first novel, **'I Couldn't Bowl For Laughin'** in 1988, Charlee has become renowned for his wins in story and verse competitions around Australia, and his recitations on stage at festivals, including the National Folk Festival at Karunda and Adelaide.

Charlee is a life member of *Network Magazine* and has been a successful entrant in many literary contests.

**'Bowlin' and Laughin' and Dreamin,'** published in 1991, is the title of Charlee's second book which contained much of his poetry work up to that stage. It was such a success that it was quickly forced into reprint.

Health problems persuaded Charlee to publish a third volume, **'One Last Shot,'** as a tribute to the cares and prayers of his many artistic friends.

Charlee was inducted to the Wall of Fame at the Fireside Festival in Tamworth, June, 1993.

Charlee lives at Poets Corner, Thangool Qld. 4716 with his dear wife and best friend, **Beryl**, from where you may order one or all of his books of verse, stories and yarns. A great poet, and great mate of many many people.

## Death of a Kelly. —Charlee Marshall.

(winner, Banjo Paterson Award, 1987)

The Praste has been to see me, so I know me toime is near,  
We knelt beside the window while we prayed:  
Fruitless prayers — forgive me, Father — for the place I go from here  
Is beyond your jurisdiction, I'm afraid;  
And here's Milord the Warder and his henchmen comin' down,  
They're goin' to teach a Kelly how to die!  
But I showed 'em how, and when, and where, that night outside Glenrowan;  
The only lesson left to learn is why.  
They'll never hang Ned Kelly, though the law will take its course  
With this worthless lump of clay bound up with chain;  
Go out in the Warby Ranges, look at every mounted horse —  
There the Spirit of Ned Kelly rides again.

How can the hang a concept, hang a waking nation's pride,  
That will win the North and civilise the West?  
There's a little bit o' Kelly fiercely beating there inside  
Every miner, every lonely settlers breast;  
In the heart of every duffer, from Strathbogie to Tatong,  
And the bushmen in the valleys further North,  
The same 'Die Game' defiance of the free against the strong  
Is waitin' for the chance to gusher forth.  
It will motivate the armies of this Nation-with-no-name,  
Win them honours in the battles yet to come;  
For these young colonial heroes, the prospect of dyin' game  
Is a stronger spur than British fife or drum.

Well now, I guess I'm ready, there's a hangin' to be done;  
I hope ye've measured out the length of fall —  
There's no need to bind me ankles, no true Kelly ever run,  
And I'd loike to meet me maker standin' tall;  
I'd loike to say I'm sorry, but that won't bring Mother back,  
It won't lift up Trooper Scanlan from the grave,  
Or put Joe Byrne beside me on some vagrant mountain track,  
Or stand me on the gallows doubly brave —  
Perhaps, if I should live again, I'd walk a different ground,  
Buy a farm, and build a house, and take a woife;  
Lose meself in corn and praties wi' the children runnin' round —  
But ye only get one chance...ah-h, Such is Loife

## SLOSHED.

Ray ought to be home said her old man without there's something amiss.

He only went to the Golf club he ought to be back by this.

He would take that rotten Pulsar, he would have his wilful way  
and here he's not back at sundown and what will his Maisie say.

He was always poor Maisie's idol since ever she caught his eye  
and there isn't a drink in the Golf club that he wasn't game to try  
but that reckless barmaid's vicious and if once he starts to drink  
she hasn't the strength to stop him and what will his Maisie think.

Her old man walked to the sliprail and peered down Myocum track  
he looked and longed for the boozer that would never more come back.

And then Maisie came and clutched him in sudden spasmodic fright.

Raymond where is my Raymond, why isn't he home to-night.

Away in the gloomy Golf club at the foot of a tall bar stool  
our bonnie winsome Raymond was lying stiff and cool.  
For that reckless barmaid sloshed him with a bottle of Bundy rum  
and his comely face was battered, he was lying on his bum.

And a broken hearted women and an old man worn and grey  
searched all night in the Golf club till the sunrise bought the day.

And Maisie kept feebly calling with a hope that would not die  
Raymond you mongrel Raymond but how can the drunk reply.

Though far and wide they sought him they found not where he fell  
for the Golf club held him precious and guarded it's treasure well.

And our Maisie pined and faded and cried and took no rest  
she drove each day to the Golf club in her hopeless weary quest.

I know that sooner or later I shall find my Ray she tossed  
But she came not home one evening and they found her lying sloshed  
and stamped on the poor pale features as the spirit homeward passed  
was an angel smile of gladness she had found her Ray at last.



Adapted, (with apologies to 'Banjo' Paterson) by The Larrikin for  
Ray and May Essery. Legends in the Mullimbimbi Golf Club.....



## **Bush Festival at Camden.**

The dust will rise in **September in Camden NSW** when the bush bands come to town for the first Cowpastures Bush Music Festival.

The fun begins on Friday 15th. September with Ted Egans Bush Dance Party with The Currency Lads Bush Band and the Australian Heritage Dancers.

**Bush Poetry** will be specially featured at the Festival with the Breakfasts on Saturday and Sunday mornings, a poets brawl and a poets workshop and the the Banjo Paterson Poetry Challenge which is open for entries now. **Geoffrey Graham** will be performing his one man show **'The Man from Ironbark'** on the Friday Night.

The Saturday morning begins with the Poets Breakfast with well known and local poets followed by a program where the winners of the Banjo Paterson poetry competition will recite their poems and receive their prizes.

For further information on the **Cowpastures Bush Music Festival** phone 046 254 400 Fax 046 286 699.

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## **Bourke Mateship Carnival.**

### **Bush Poets Night '95.**

Where? — Out the back of the **North Bourke Pub.**

When? — **Friday September 22nd, Start 8P.M.**

Cost? — Hat passed around for a donation .

Tucker? — Damper & Cockies Joy with Billy Tea

Why? — Heck! Just for the fun of it.

Who? — Anyone who likes to read or recite **Australian Bush Poetry.**

Write your own Poetry?— Well bring it along and 'give us a listen'

Proessionals only?— Nope! None allowed.

Can I just come and listen? — Yes, of course you can.

Family night?— Sure is, remember it's out the back of the Pub.

Like to be involved?— **Give Dianne Tyson a call on 068 722 333.**

P.S. Our spy **Bob Magor** was in **Bourke** last week and says that 'Pro's' are welcome. They would love to see some of the Bush Poets come along to encourage the other new voices and writers. Bob says that every one will get a go and that no preferencial treatment will be bestowed on any budding poet or otherwise. Sounds like a great night at the **North Bourke Pub.**

## DOINGS ON THE DARLING DOWNS....SEPTEMBER 1995

Saturday, 23rd -- Sunday 24th

### **THE ROTARY CLUB OF ALLORA announce their INAUGURAL BUSH POETRY COMPETITION**

OPEN SERIOUS PERFORMED POETRY: Original, Traditional or Established  
1st \$100 2nd \$70 3rd \$30

OPEN HUMOROUS PERFORMED POETRY: Original, Traditional or Established  
1st \$100 2nd \$70 3rd \$30

NOVICE PERFORMED POETRY: Original, Traditional or Established  
1st \$50 2nd \$30 3rd \$20

JUNIOR PERFORMED POETRY: Original, Traditional or Established  
Trophies.

PROGRAM.... Sat. AM Junior Sections

Sat. PM Open Serious, Novice, Open Humorous.

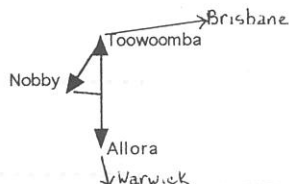
Sun. AM Sausage Sizzle Poets' Breakfast

*CAMPING* is available. *Limited Hotel Accommodation*, so ring and book!

Railway Hotel Ph.(076) 663402 Royal Hotel (076) 663139

Further Info. from Rotary Club Secretary, Lex Ellwood,  
Phone (076) 663163 P.O. Box 67, ALLORA 4362

### **POETS AT THE CARNIVAL TOOWOOMBA CARNIVAL OF FLOWERS JOIN US IN TOOWOOMBA FROM 27th - 30th September**



Featuring, this year...

PERFORMANCE WORKSHOP with Mark Gliori, Wed. Evening 27th

TRADITIONAL POETS' BREAKFASTS Thurs. & Sat. 28th, 30th. 8am

JUNIORS' COMPETITION, Sat. 30th 10am.

THE HICK-CUP, run in HEATS throughout the Carnival

NOVICE PERFORMED POETRY (Original or Established) Thurs 28th 8pm

HEATS of OPEN SERIOUS (Original or Established) and OPEN

HUMOROUS (Original or Established) at Noon Thursday, and 2pm  
and 7pm Fri. 29th

FINALS of OPEN SERIOUS, OPEN HUMOROUS, and HICK-CUP Sat.  
30th 1pm

Two "BARDS OF THE BUSH" Concerts will be held during the  
Carnival...Friday 29th at 9.30 am Saturday 30th at 7.30pm

IF YOU ARE NOT ALREADY ON OUR CARNIVAL MAILING LIST and would like more  
info about "POETS AT THE CARNIVAL", send s.a.e. to C.Randle "Splendacrest"  
M.S.852, PRESTON via Toowoomba Mail Centre 4352

**NOBBY, SUNDAY 1st OCTOBER**

9.30. POETS' BRUNCH with Gary Fogarty at RUDD'S PUB.