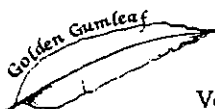


The Australian Bush Poets Association Inc.

Monthly Newsletter

No 7 Volume 5

July 1998



1999 BUSH LAUREATE AWARDS

The Bush Laureate Awards for Australian Rhymed Verse are presented annually at the Tamworth Country Music Festival. These awards are intended to encourage the publishing and recording of Australian Rhymed Verse, to improve the standard of published and recorded Australian Rhymed Verse and to focus media attention on such work.

Sponsored by the *Tenterfield Saddler*, the Bush Laureate Awards contain four sections. The four sections are:-

1. Published Original Australian Rhymed Verse in book form. (**Book of the Year**)
2. Recorded Album of Australian Rhymed Verse for commercially produced cassette tape or CD. These albums are to contain at least 80% spoken word, not songs. (**Album of the Year**)
3. **Recorded Performance** of a particular piece of Australian Rhymed Verse - a single or single track from any album released between the specified dates. (**Recorded Performance of the Year**)
4. **Heritage Award** - for a publication in book form with an emphasis on Australian Heritage; Historical, Geographical, or Social, which includes a reasonable amount of original verse.

To be eligible for the Bush Laureate Awards, product must be published / released between 1st November, 1997 and 1st November, 1998. Entries for all sections close on 3rd November, 1998

The judges will be drawn from the media, publishing and recording industries and they will be given the following guidelines for judging.

1. The quality of the verse.
2. The entertainment value.
3. The presentation and production quality.
4. The 'Australianess' of the verse.
5. The variety of styles and moods.
6. The quality and appropriateness of illustrations, photos and or art work (5 and 6 do not apply to category 3).

Finalists will be selected for all sections and will be advised in writing and announced in the media during December.

Winners will be announced and awards presented at a special function during 1998 Country Music Week in Tamworth.

4 copies of each book or recording are required regardless of how many categories are entered or how many entries are made. (Recordings may be in either CD or cassette) FOR EACH ENTRY IN ANY CATEGORY AN ENTRY FEE OF \$10.00 IS REQUIRED.

Cheques should be made payable to Golden Gumleaf Enterprises and forwarded with entries to **Golden Gumleaf Enterprises,**

112 Crescent Road, HAMILTON QLD 4007



Secretary's Notes

Well, half the year has gone and I wonder where. We have had two firm expressions of interest in holding the Australian Championships and I am sure that each of those would make an excellent venue, but there can only be one.

Best wishes to Johnny Johanson who has not been well.

Copyright is a serious matter and if you send poems in to the Editor, please be sure to give your permission in writing for them to be printed.

With probably almost all the memberships paid in, our bank balance stands at \$5,209.02 and that has to see us

through to the end of the year. Next month I will let you know more about our costs.

It's good to get feed-back on the 'props' issue. If you have an opinion of interest to other members on any part of writing or performing, don't hesitate to air it. Send it to the Editor or me.

Ron Selby will be looking for your poems for the ABPA Annual any time from now on, so please consider this. We need quality poems to keep up the standard.

That is about my bit for this time. Write a poem while you sit in front of the fire on these cold winter nights. Best wishes and fond regards. *Olive Shooter*



GYMPIE MUSTER '98

The National Country Music Muster is on again at Gympie from Tuesday 25th August to Sunday 30th August and will include a Poets Breakfast on each day of the six day festival featuring Marco Ghori, Bobby Miller, Ray Essery, Shirley Friend, Gary Fogarty, Murray Hartin, Neil McArthur, Glenny Palmer, Ellis Campbell, Guy McLean and Carmel Dunn.

A performance competition with substantial cash prizes will be held and offers opportunities to perform both Original and Traditional Bush Verse with the finals scheduled for Sun. 30th.

Undoubtedly a highlight for all Bush Poetry groupies at this year's Muster will be the performances on Friday 28th and Saturday 29th of the "Naked Poets". This group of seasoned entertainers will guarantee laughter for those who attend.

BUSH LANTERN RESULTS

1. Graham Fredricksen, Kilcoy, Q
2. Joan Strange, Merredin, WA
3. Ellis Campbell, Dubbo, NSW

BUNDY MUSTER RESULTS

Juniors 12 - 17 Years

1. Caitlin Pickering
2. Libby Pickering
3. Crystal Williams

Novice Traditional

1. Wally Finch
2. Harry Pickering
3. Merv Webster Snr.

Novice Contemporary

1. Merv Webster Snr.
2. Wally Finch
3. Maxine Ireland

Open Traditional

1. Ron Bates
2. Guy McLean
3. Carmel Dunn

Open Contemporary

1. Ron Bates
2. Carmel Dunn
3. Chris Webster

Open Original

1. Guy McLean
- 2nd Carmel Dunn
3. Ron Bates

Duo Performance

Tom Dunn & Carmel Dunn

Encouragement Award

Max Strong

Overall Champion

Ron Bates

Dark and Stormy One Minute Cup

Noel Stallard

Over 40 Poets Performed at the Muster

MORE NEWS NEXT MONTH

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Bitz & Pieces from Members About the Use of "PROPS"

Sharon Anderson, Ocean Grove Vic writes "I read with interest the article about props by Liz Ward. Liz said, "The experienced judge is there to judge the performance". Performance being the operative word. The true performance poet (I believe) will do all in their power to enhance the poem. It's all about impact. Some performers use simple props like a hat or cane - other times more elaborate props are needed. The goal either way, to create a visual picture to accompany the words they speak. Props are the cosmetics of performance poetry - the choice lies with the poet whether they use them.

JOHN BISHOP from Tamworth, NSW writes on "PROPS" in Performance Competitions.

"Perhaps competition organisers could clarify their rules to enable entrants to see whether or not props can or cannot be used.

For example, the rules could state the poems entered will be judged on their poetic merit alone or that the use of props may be permitted etc.

Personally, when I am judging I keep my eyes off the competitor and concentrate on the technicalities of the poem to score it's worth.

If a competition permits the use of props, I think the organisers need to be wise enough to select judges that know the difference between scoring with or without props. What do other members think?"

Presidents Report

Just returned from a wonderful week-end at Bundaberg and the Bundy Muster, a great event ably handled by the crew from the Bundy Mob with plenty of good poetry from a lot of talented poets, especially the excellent performances from the novice competitors.



Being at Bundaberg brought to mind the discussion on the subject of props in competitions. Quite a few poets are now using props to enhance their performances. Not that props have not been used in the past. Noted poets such as Milton Taylor, who uses a stick when performing 'Mulligans Missus', John Major sometimes uses a billy can when performing 'Dingo Jo', Noel Stallard wear a priests habit and performs wonderful poems from 'Father John O'Brien', Max Jarrott has used props for as long as I have been involved in this art. Even the average poet who wears a hat or a vest, is still using a prop.

When these type of props are used to enhance the performance and they also increase the audience enjoyment, then they are also increasing the popularity of our art. At Bundy, we were treated to an hilarious performance from Chris Webster and Merv Webster Snr and some props when they performed 'Vera' by Carmel Randle in the 'Duo Performance' section of the competition.

So where do you draw the line on the type of prop allowed? Do we need to draw the line at all? Competitions are not only for the competitors, they are also for the enjoyment of the audience and if a prop is used to full advantage and it is appreciated by the audience ... Well what more could you want? I just hope that someone isn't writing a poem about the Jolly Green Elephant with Diarrhoea !!!

The subject of props is also closely related to the discussion about a 'Code of Ethics'. All poets should be able to distinguish between what is right and wrong when it comes to performing in front of an audience and what type of performances are expected from them.

Do we really need all these regulations and rules to clutter up our enjoyment of this art? I think not ... The A.B.P.A. was formed for the advancement of Bush Poetry as an Art Form, not as a governing body to lay down strict rules or laws, though as such we can pass on the views of the member and what the audience wants from us as performers. Though I think the common courtesy of acknowledging the author when performing another poets work should be adhered to by all poets. Well with those few words I had better put away the soapbox and get on with things about the association.

Membership is steadily increasing and membership from now to the end of the year has been reduced to \$13.00, so tell your friends!!

Olive Shooter is doing a great job as our Secretary and ably handling everything that comes along. Maureen Garner continues to produce a great newsletter and between these two stalwarts of the association, they don't leave me much to do!

1998 is half gone now and it's time to think about this years Annual. Firstly, do enough members want the Annual to continue? Do we have enough members who would like to contribute to this years Annual? If so please send your poems to the Secretary or to me at PO Box 77, DRAYTON NORTH, QLD 4350. Closing date will be **20th October, 1998**. All poems to be signed and giving the A.B.P.A. permission to publish in the Annual.

Ron Selby

PRODUCT SHELF ADVERTISEMENTS
\$5.00 for TWO MONTHLY
NEWSLETTER SPOTS !!!!!



EZY SPELLING

Good news for bad spellers ... but bad news for your computer's spell-checker. The European Commission has just announced an agreement that English will be the official language of the European Union, rather than German, the other possibility.

As part of the negotiations, Her Majesty's Government conceded that English spelling had some room for improvement and has accepted a five year phase-in of the new rules which would apply to the language and reclassify it as Euro-English.

The plan is as follows;

In year one the soft 'c' would be replaced by 's'. Certainly, this will make the sivil servants jump for joy. The hard 'c' will be replaced by 'k'. This should clear up konfusion and keyboards kan now have one less letter.

There will be growing publik enthusiasm in the sekond year when the troublesome 'ph' is replased by 'f'. This will reduse the word fotograph by 20%.

In the third year, publik akseptanse of the new spelling kan be expekted to reach the stage where more komplikated changes are possible.

Governments will enkourage the removal of double letters, which have always been a deterrent to akurate speling. Also al wil agre that the horrible mes of the silent 'e' in the language is disgraseful and they should eliminate them.

By year four, peopl wil be reseptiv to lingwistik korektions such as replasing 'th' with 'z' and 'w' with 'v' [saving more keyboard spas].

During ze fifz year, ze unesesary 'o' kan be dropd from vords kontaining 'ou' and similar changs vud of kors be aplid to ozer kombinations of leters. After zis fifz year, we wil hav a rel sensibl riten styl. Zer wil be no mor trubls or difikultis and evrirun vil find it ezi to understand ech ozer. Ze drem vil finali kum tru!

Taken from "NOTES", the newsletter of the Roland Gregory Orpheus Singers of Orange, NSW, with thanks.

BUSH POETRY IN NATIONAL PARKS



The recent success of the second Bush Poetry performance at the annual bonfire/bush dance in the Cattai National Park, NSW, led to an invitation for Warren (Arch) Bishop, Terry Gleeson and Terry Regan to perform at an 'Open Day' at the Quarantine Station at North Head, NSW, Sun. 28th June.

The Quarantine Station, which is part of the Sydney Harbour National Park (North), commands spectacular views of the harbour and the City Skyline.

This was a great setting for the Bush Poetry which was well received by an audience that was constantly changing.

The two hour session also included performances by another ABPA member, Bill Lasham, and Mick Griffin on Didjeridoo.

POETRY AGAIN TRIUMPHANT AT THE NATIONAL IN 1998

The poetry at the National was again a wonderful success - the four Poets Breakfasts were marvellous, as usual, with well known bush and non-bush poets rubbing shoulders, taking their turn with first timers. I must say I enjoy the non-competitive atmosphere of these Breakfasts, where no one has to top the person before them.

As Queensland was our featured State this year, it was fitting that the coveted Reciters Award - now in it's 16th year! - went to a Queenslander, Mark Feldman. Sadly, though, Queensland lost out against the Rest of the World in the phenomenal Third World Poetry Debate. I thought the Queensland Team of Martin Pearson, Ann Bermingham and John Dengate was robbed, but the popular vote was judged by moderator Bernard Bolan to go to the Rester's Team of Roy Bailey, Enda Kenny and S.A. Poet Geoff Goodfellow. Maybe it was Geoff's strip on stage that had something to do with it! These Debates remain the highlight of the Festival - this year the auditorium was packed a half hour before the start, as people fought for seats.

Other poetry and storytelling highlights at the Festival were the featured *Poets with Attitude* concert, solo presentations by Geoff Goodfellow, Jim Smith and Jan Wositzky and the annual Bush Yarnspinnners and City Liars presentations in the Wine Bar. I also launched my new *Bugger the Music, Give Us a Poem!* album, which was a hoot.

At some stage the other Festival organisers will wake up that we poets are taking over - every year we occupy more of the Program slots, and if we play our cards right the musos will wake up one year and find themselves in all the back venues in the dead timeslots just like they used to put us poets! Just joking - but we *have* assumed a roll as equal partners on the Festival program, something that a year or two ago was just a dream.

If you missed the National this year then get out next year's diary, circle Easter, and write in bold letters,
NATIONAL FOLK FESTIVAL, CANBERRA.

Keith McKewry



Grenfell Henry Lawson Festival of the Arts Inc.

Congratulations to ABPA Members who received awards in this competitions
RHYMED VERSE SECTION



Highly Commended

- Ellis Campbell, Dubbo NSW "Accused"

Commended

- Bill Kearns, Grafton NSW "Spirit Land"

- Ellis Campbell, "Angus"

- Brian Bell, Glenbrook NSW "No Free Lunch"

This section of the competition received 132 entries.

NEWS FROM THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN BUSH POETS

G'day to All Bush Poets,

Bob Magor, Terry Anderson and I journeyed to the Riverland Country Music Festival at Barmera. Bob hosted the Bush Poets Breakfast and got a good time slot in on the local news. There were a good number turned up on Thursday and Friday mornings 4th and 5th June and the audience were asking for more.

The Festival management are already looking at revamping for next year with more Bush Poetry on the agenda and the S.A. Bush Poets have been asked to assist next year.

I have approached Tom Penna and Jeff Cook to support the Riverland Country Music Festival and they have expressed a keen interest in doing so. Bob is already firmly committed.

A spoken word competition is already planned for next year and with the experience of Bob, Jeff and Tom, Bush Poetry will really take it's place in the public spectrum at Barmera in 1999.

Our group will also support the Willunga Almond Blossom Festival and our shows will be hosted by Tom Penna.

We welcome visitors to our meetings which are held on 3rd Wednesday of each month at the Alma Hotel, Willunga SA starting at 7.30pm. No matter how small you may think you are, take the opportunity to have a go. The first jump is also the scariest, but after, it's a real buzz with no life threatening side effects. *Peter Chapman*, Chairman

BRADLEY'S GIFT

(c) Brad Mills, Willunga SA.

Life is uncertain, at time so unkind,
We search for the answers, but some we won't find,
Like why has this happened, from nowhere a tree,
I'm in control so I thought, so how could this be,
My friends are unhurt, Thank God they're alive,
But what of "My" fate, how will I survive,
I dozed for a moment, now when will I wake,
So much damage sustained, my life is at stake,
Alone and afraid, I can't make them hear,
I need courage and strength, to combat my fear,
I'm not ready to go, though the hurdles are high,
I won't leave my loved ones, I refuse to die,
Their hopes are low, keep your faith in me,
I'll be joining you soon, just wait and see,
I may be somewhat different, though my heart remains whole,
So much wiser of life, I'm in touch with my soul,
Life is a privilege, I know this first hand,
If I can share this with others, help them understand,
Then my life will have purpose, I possess a gift so rare,
A gift "oh" so special, nothing else can compare.



BUSH POETRY AT VICTOR HARBOUR FOLK FESTIVAL - SA

Programming is almost completed for the annual Festival to be held on 2nd - 5th October this year.

Part of the Festival is the Spoken Word Program and this year we will feature the hilarious Les Barker from England, Geoffrey ('The Man from Ironbark') Graham and Tom Penna who is truly a local, living in the Fleurieu Peninsula town of Strathalbyn.

The Poets Breakfasts begin each morning, Saturday to Monday at 9am and give both experienced and aspiring poets the chance to share their poetry during the daily two hours.

On Saturday 3rd there are two other events for poets. The Poetry Writing Awards Presentation will be held during the afternoon where entries gaining commendation will be read, if possible by the writers, and the winners in each category will be announced. The Poets Cocktail Hour (and a half) will kick off at 6pm and is a programmed event including the official performer poets and a number of others invited to present their work.

Storytelling also plays a part in the Spoken Word Program. On Monday 5th October storytellers are invited to compete for the Storyteller's Cup, a trophy which has been won in recent years by some very talented young people. Stories can be presented in either prose or poetry and should take no longer than five minutes. Both performance and originality of the entries are taken into consideration in judging. Applications will be accepted during the Festival.

Competition details can be found on page 17

WHITEHORSES

(C) Doris Crain, South Australia.



On the crest of a wave white horses are dancing
Touching the sand and quickly advancing.
Capping the waves, trimming them white
Teasing the seagulls, majestic in flight.
You won't ever catch us, they seem to say
Having such fun, we just want to play.
We're coming, we're coming to capture your land
We're coming, we're coming to play on the sand.
We have a good time, just full of fun
Bubbling with gladness, warm from the sun.
Don't touch us, you know, or we'll disappear
Get lost in the deep, with water will clear.
We live on the surface to embroider the sea
Won't ever catch us, we'll always be free.



WRITERS NOTE:

Did you see that Europe has decided on a common financial system and that the basic monetary unit is to be called the "EURO" "Skew Wiff" Watt had jumped at the news and has taken the bait!

THE EURO (C) Grahame Watt, Kyabram Vic.

Did you see the news on T.V?
The European Flash!
A new financial system,
The "Euro" will be cash.

What a ripper idea,
The answer to our wish,
For currency in Europe,
They're going to use our flamin' fish!

No more we'll curse those monsters,
We'll catch 'em by the ton,
And send 'em off to Europe,
By cripes! It will be fun.

Two "Euros" for a slab of beer,
We can purchase things on terms,
We'll make a fortune fishing
With just a tin of worms.

A sort of barter system,
It really does seem strange,
Ten "Yabbies" to a "Euro",
And a "Bardie Grub" for change.

Just imagine, in a restaurant,
The waiter does a flip,
When you pay the bill with three dead fish,
And leave a yabbie for a "tip".

The European bank notes,
So crisp, so clean, and new,
Will have a picture of a whiskered fish
All coloured "algae blue".

The dollar will go out of style,
The Yanks will cry "foul play",
Us fishin' blokes, from up the creek,
We'll rule the world one day.

No more catchin' cod fish,
No more nettin' cray,
It's "Euros", stinkin' "Euros",
They've saved the flamin' day!

NOTE: For "Euros", read European Carp

RED EMBER (C) 1998 Glen Muller, Toowoomba Q

The Ruby is the Birthstone for those born in July

Ruby in your reds divine,
With the craftsman's cut so fine,
And whitish silk just shimmering,
Bursting forth with all your pride
To face the world — in full stride,
Your shape superb and colours bold!

Destined some jewellery to enrich,
Maybe for someone famous or rich,
Or a battler's — true token of love.
This burning red ember of passion and fire!
To give such a gift, the heart's desire,
For it tells of a love so deep.

Like a rare twelve point star,
Those born a ruby will go far —
They're destined for fame and fortune.



KYABRAM BUSH VERSE GROUP - Vic.

The Kyabram and District Bush Verse Group met again on 1st June and after a busy business session discussing our incorporation we had a great night of bush verse and yarns from locals and visitors. As well as Mick Coventry our president, "Skew Wiff" Watt, Denis Attwood, Herb McCrum, Bev Williams, Les Parkinson, we had many visitors from out of town.

Peter "Whipstick" Worthington and Ray Stuchberry from Bendigo, Des Ginnane from Numurkah, Johnny Johansen from Yarrawonga and Jim Jeffries from Shepparton.

Our group instigated a project in conjunction with the local library to endeavour to establish a section for contemporary bush verse.

We have appealed for books of verse and yarns and so far the response is not as good as we hoped. We are asking ABPA members to forward 2 copies of each book to us.

As well as being available to local people, these copies will be a reference library for all ABPA members. It is hoped that this will be the start of an Australian Bush Poetry Library. We thank the poets who have responded so far.

One interesting item is that the Kyabram group has gone international with Mary Ann Pont from UK joining our ranks. She is a song writer and poet and is interested in Australian Poetry. Also Mary Ann is interested in joining the ABPA.

We meet on the first Monday of every second month at the Kyabram Fauna Park Kiosk at 7.30pm and we warmly welcome all. Next meeting is on 3rd August, followed by 3rd October and 7th December. Why not pay us a call?

We can be contacted by mail at PO Box 331, Kyabram, Vic., 3620 or phone Mick Coventry (Pres.) 03 5853 2265, Les Parkinson (Sec.) 03 5852 2281 or Grahame Watt 03 5852 2034.

Your poetic pal,

Grahame Watt

KYABRAM (VIC)
BUSH VERSE GROUP

CREDIT CARD

MURRAY
BANK

No: 041 - 0412

Valid from Today till Whenever

Signature: _____



FOR USE IN AUSTRALIAN BUSH.

THIS CARD ENTITLES BEARER TO:

1. A FREE PANNIKIN OF TEA AT ANY CAMPFIRE.
2. TO RECITE BUSH VERSE OR TELL A YARN IN ANY COMPANY.
3. THE RIGHT TO TELL LIES TO MAKE A GOOD YARN.
4. TO ASSOCIATE WITH OTHER KNOWN LIARS.
5. FREE BEER AT ANY B.B.Q.

A BUSH POET ON TOUR

In my endeavour to popularize the poetry of John O'Brien (Fr. Patrick Hartigan), I toured the towns in southern NSW during March and April this year. Previously I had contacted schools and obtained engagements at Wagga, Albury, Lavington, North Albury, Jerilderie, Tocomwal, Tumbarumba, Urana, Narrandera and Tarcutta. In addition, there was the annual John O'Brien Festival held in Narrandera from 20th to 22nd March.

To experience the genuine enjoyment of the students in these towns to the presentation of these poems, was a marvellous experience for me. You can't con young people. If they don't like something, they and their body language let you know immediately. So for them to sit on the floor for 45 minutes, reflecting pleasure and enjoyment, told me that Bush Poetry is alive and well and is enjoyed as much by this generation, as it was by the early generations in their slab huts 'around the boree log' fireplaces.

At Wagga, Urana, Jerilderie, Narrandera and Tumbarumba, I performed evening concerts for the parents and citizens who demonstrated the same enjoyment and enthusiasm as the students. The poems recall so many rich memories of times past and characters, as much with us now as they were then.

At Tumbarumba, where I was the entertainment for a P & F dinner, one husband sitting opposite me said, "Hey mate, are you the entertainment for tonight?"

"Yes", said I, "I present the poems of John O'Brien, Around the Boree Log and the Parish of St. Mel's."

"Listen mate, I'm not much into this poetry stuff, the wife's brung me along tonight. Do yah mind if after a few minutes, I get up and go to the bar?"

"No", said I, "You go right ahead, you won't upset me one bit."

Throughout my presentation, both after the main course and dessert, he didn't move from his seat, and when I had concluded he came up to me, shook me by the hand and said,

"Hey mate, that was good stuff. I really enjoyed that. As a matter of fact, I said to me mate (the local electrician). Hey Sparky, cultures finally come to Tumbarumba."

Another experience I had was on a sheep property at Urana. The drought was shocking with no grass, the dams dry, water having to be pumped or hauled from neighbours' properties and the stock hand fed. Well, it's Sunday afternoon and the owner, his eleven year old daughter and myself set out to hand feed the sheep from the back tray of the old ute.

We reached the dust-bowl of a paddock and Barry and I were on the tray with bags of grain ready to run it on to the barren ground for the waiting sheep. MaryBeth, his daughter, was sitting up confidently behind the wheel. She had steered the ute on a couple of occasions, but none of us anticipated how heavy her little foot could be.

"Way yeh go," yelled Barry and go she did. She planted her foot. He left the tray airborne, never touching the ute, with both hands still firmly agrip of the bag of grain. Barry and bag bounced on the rock hard ground. Spontaneously, at catapult time, my left hand shot out for the protective grill behind the ute's cabin. Fortunately, with left arm extended, I held on while the air pressure around me did it's best to hurl me after Barry. I know exactly how Mike Doohan feels at the start of a Grand Prix race!

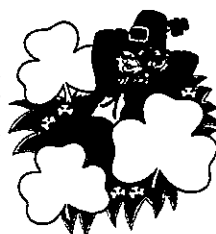
To complicate things more, the accelerator had stuck. MaryBeth was steering in circles, dust and dirt obliterated the sky, the ute was bouncing off rocks on the barren paddock, I'm hanging on for grim death (and that seemed imminent), while Barry and the grain are motionless on the ground hundreds of meters away.

I was never stationary long enough to consider climbing into the cabin to assist MaryBeth, and my only hope was that we would run out of fuel real quick. My biggest relief was to see Barry sit up, shake his head and bang his hat on the ground. Fortunately we could all laugh at the incident, particularly when we considered what could have happened.

Despite the terrible drought conditions in that area, I at no time heard Barry complain. His attitude was that if rain doesn't come today, it probably will come tomorrow, and if not tomorrow, then probably the next day. I certainly think twice now before I complain.

It does one good to get out, away from city life, to get a fleeting glance at what pioneering people had to confront, endure and conquer. Our heritage is certainly something which we can claim with pride.

Noel Stallard



BUSH XMAS IN JULY - CESSNOCK NSW

Ho! Ho! Ho! Well, we all know it's not Xmas yet, but try telling that to motel proprietor and Bush Poet Len Knight (genial host at the 'Traveller's Rest Motel, Cessnock).

Len's decided to start celebrating early by inviting all his fellow bards to join him in recreating the spirit of a good old fashioned "Aussie" Xmas Dinner on Fri. 24th & Sat. 25th at his motel set in the heart of the Hunter Valley Wine Country NSW.

Len has cobbled together a Fantastic Dinner/Show package which includes a 3 course meal (+coffee) + 2 hours of entertainment for only \$30.00 per night. Bush Poetry and Yarnspinning will be provided by Len himself as well as his invited guests Gary Lowe and Graeme Johnson. An open mike session is also planned.

For those who may like to stay over and do some wine tasting/sightseeing during the day, Len is also providing accommodation packages. \$78 pp twin share will get you the Dinner Show + Bed + Breakfast. Not bad hey! Further discounts are available for "Backpacker" style bunk accommodation. For further details & booking (essential) contact Len on 02 4991 2355.

Jo Swallow



Welcome to New Members

LEO KEARN, Hughesdale Vic
JANET HOWARD, Gawler SA
RICHARD MILLS, Dulwich Hill NSW
DON ANDERSON, Leeton NSW
MARGARET LYSON, Hallett Cove SA
JENNY HARRIS, Port Fairy Vic



THE GREAT AUSTRALIAN PUMPKIN ROLL (c) Judith Bandidt, 1998

I've been over many highways,
up and down the country byways
And I've had a few adventures on the way,
I've met some interesting faces,
seen some very different places,
And I'll tell you all about one here today.



There's a tiny little town
where it's mighty dry and brown
'Tho the locals say that it's the best around,
The economy is strained there
for it hardly ever rains there
But it's there Goomeri Gold is to be found.

Where's Goomeri? Don't you know -
it's where the giant pumpkins grow
And the size of them is really somethin' scary.
It's also where they hold
the Great Australian Pumpkin Roll
So head on down - I'll see you in Goomeri.

There was a likely lad named Don
who was keen to come along,
And get the pumpkin rolling under way,
He'd grown a mighty whopper
but it came a dreadful cropper -
The pothole in the road's still there today.

And a local Jack and Jill
thought they'd climb up Policeman's Hill
To view the whole proceeding from on high,
But when some flying pumpkins
hit those poor old country bumpkins
We all agreed it was a dreadful way to die.

Then a fancy gourd named Scot
who was feeling pretty hot
Thought he'd fool the police constabulary.
He knew he'd draw attention -
get an honorary mention -
If he said that he was rolled in old Goomeri.



That's when the steward gave a wink
(he is smarter than you'd think -
The kind of bloke who likes a joke or two),
He said "Try this one for size
if you want to win the prize,"
And handed out a bonza Queensland Blue.

This year they've come from near and far,
by hovercraft and car,
And the favourite is still open to debate.
Is it the local hero
in his stubbies and his speedos
Or the city gent who entered rather late?

Now if you've come here on a mission
to win this competition,
then here's a tip that's worth a tenner so I'm told,
If a pumpkin can be found
that's nice and fat and round
Then for sure you're gonna win Goomeri Gold.

So head on down Goomeri way
on the 31st of May
Tell all your friends about Goomeri Gold,
When those gourds they start a-rollin'
and the locals start a hollerin'
At the Great Australian Pumpkin Roll.

WHAT? WHEN? WHO? WHY? WHERE?

(C) Kev Barnes "The Legend",
Millmerran, Q 1998



It's almost time! It's almost time!
To miss it would be such a crime.
'Cause we all know bush poetry's great,
Especially in September 1998.

So join the crowd at the Ram's Head Hotel
We'll have a ball! We'll give 'em Hell!
Closing date is August Twenty Eight
Where's your entry? Don't be late!

Great prizes and trophies for all to win
To miss this 'Comp' would be a sin!
The towns booked out for this Event
If you plan to stay, bring ya tent.

There's not much more for me to say
'Cept I hope to see you on the day.
The Cancer Fund will appreciate
The money we raise on that date.

So come along, one and all,
On September 6th, and have a ball
Let's show these folk we really care
And at Millmerran, all be there.

The performance competition at the Rams Head is almost upon us with entries closing on 28th August. Anyone requiring accommodation please notify me as soon as possible. The business people of Millmerran have sponsored this event almost to a man, and quite a few others have helped out as well, donating various things for raffle prizes etc. Even Orlando Wines and XXXX have come up with some 'Give Aways'.

Our competition details can be found on page 16 of the newsletter. In addition we plan a Yarn Spinning Contest and a Poets Brawl. In case of a 'Tie' there will be a 'Play Off'. We will start at 8.30am with the Poets Breakfast and I expect to continue until 5pm.

There will also be some great country music provided by a few of our local lads and Ned Winter is cooking a three course Camp Oven Lunch which we will all enjoy.

Remember all proceeds go to the Queensland Cancer Fund. So come along and join me at the Rams Head Hotel, Millmerran on Fathers Day, 6th September.

WHERE'S GOOMERI ?

from Merv Webster, "The Goondiwindi Grey"

"So might you ask!" but it seems hundreds of festival goers had no trouble in finding their way to the Goomeri Pumpkin Festival held on Sunday 31st May. For those still in the dark, it is due west of Gympie on the Burnett Highway in Queensland.

I was asked by Judith Bandidt and the Pumpkin Festival committee would I come over for the day to entertain the many visitors who took advantage of the bus trips out to the historic homesteads of Boonara and Boobyjan, which have been preserved by the various family members, and I must say that both homesteads are a credit to them.

My Dad Merv Webster and my wife Christine joined me for the day and with the help of their enthusiastic renditions of verse, visitors thoroughly enjoyed the time spent travelling to the sites and back. It is good to see that folk still love to hear the stories of our Australian way of life told in bush verse along with the odd yarn or two.

We were joined by Ron Selby in the afternoon as part of the concert with the Ridgy Didge Bush Band held in Dickinson Park, and it was obvious by evenings end, that Bush Verse had found a new home at the Goomeri Pumpkin Festival.

CAN YOU HELP?

ABPA member, Lorraine Richards is a member of a Drama Group at Twin Towns University of the Third Age.

This enthusiastic group meets for 2 hours each week to read and discuss plays.

Lorraine is asking any fellow ABPA members who may have written plays, if they would be prepared to lend scripts for reading and discussion by the group.

Please reply direct to
Lorraine Richards,
20 Scenic Dr.,
Bilambil Heights NSW 2486

NIMBIN AGRICULTURAL & INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY INC.

POETRY COMPETITION - BUSH VERSE or BUSH THEME - Maximum 28 lines

CLOSING DATE 14th August, 1998 - ENTRY FEE - \$3.00 per entry.

Send Entries to PO Box 165, Nimbin, NSW or Phone Phillip Utting 02 6689 1174



REPORT FROM MT ISA

The Inaugural Mt. Isa Bush Festival was very successful.

Poets Shirly Friend, Ray Essery and Graham and Louise Dean were wonderful. Ray and Shirley conducted a workshop at Barkly Primary School on Friday morning and the kids loved it.

They also performed at a lunch time concert on the lawn in front of the Civic Centre, organised by the Folk Club, with visiting musicians and vocalists.

The Poets Breakfasts on Saturday and Sunday were entertaining and humorous.

The Performance Competitions were good and gave our locals a chance to perform. I am sure we shall see more of them in the future.

Congratulations to Louise Dean who won the Open Original section and to Graham Dean who won the Open Traditional section. Daie Laird won our Queensland Poem section with "The Debutante".

The Maher Family of whip crackers from Warwick gave a fine exhibition of their skills, their ages just 6, 9, 12 and 15 years. Very competent.

Other visiting poets were Campbell from "Anywhere", Greg Hastings from WA and Ken Read from Charleville.

The atmosphere was so friendly that people couldn't help but enjoy themselves. I bet we can do even better next year.

Thanks to the Folk Club for the use of their facilities and generous assistance, and to everyone who helped, and there were many, to make it successful.

Best wishes, *Fay Sloman, Writers Mt. Isa.*



BILOELA COUNTRY CAMPOUT

Once again the Biloela Country Campout was host to the Bush Poets Breakfasts on June 6th and 7th. As a prelude to the Breakfasts Mark Gliori and John Major spent time with the Redeemer Lutheran School and the Biloela High School. It is always great to reach out into the community and include the younger Australians.

Both Breakfasts were very popular, the organisers were run off their feet catering for the hundreds of breakfasts sold over both days.

Making his first appearance at the Campout was Bobby Miller, who performed dreadfully and sold no books (not bloody likely). He was also joined by an array of performers including talented poets Trevor Shaw from Thangool and Margie McCardle from Rockhampton.

Winners of the Written Awards in honour of Charlee Marshall were:

The Golden Cockatoo - Adult

Ron Hayward - "Dee Stands For Dawson"

The Silver Budgie Award - Junior

Carmel Dunn - "Lest We Forget"

If you are looking for a relaxed and informal weekend (no competitions), the Biloela Country Campout cannot be recommended highly enough. Great entertainment and warm country hospitality.

See you there in 1999.

Marco Gliori



The mini skirt is neat and trim
but something else I've found.
Although they make a girl look slim
they make a bloke look round !!

"Hipshot"
(C) 1998

WHAT IS I.S.B.N. ?

The International Standard Book Number is a unique code for the identification of books.

This code is used throughout the world for the identification of books, pamphlets, microfiche publications, educational videos and cassettes, software and multimedia kits. The ten digit number is used whenever information on these products needs to be recorded or communicated. The system co-ordinates and standardises internationally the use of the numbers so that a single number identifies one title, or edition of a title, from one publisher anywhere in the world. As a unique code assigned to a title, an ISBN can:

- * be used to identify books in orders, stock control etc.
- * be used in the processing of book orders
- * incorporate the Australian Product Number (bar-codes) for books

An ISBN is **NOT** compulsory and does **NOT** provide copyright.

An ISBN should be allocated for the first time an item is published. A new ISBN must be allocated to every edition, but **NOT** to an unchanged reprint of a publication.

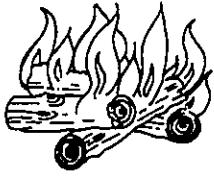
A publication is considered a different edition if

- * it appears in a different format (larger print etc.)
- * it has a different binding (paperback or hardback)
- * there has been a change in size of text illustrations
- * the type has been reset
- * the publisher has changed

Once allocated, an ISBN should never be used again, even if the title to which it was originally allocated has long been out of print.

Enquiries about ISBN should be directed to
ISBN AGENCY,

Locked Bag 20, Port Melbourne, VIC., 3207
Phone 03 9245 7385 or Fax 03 9245 7393



Fireside Festival 1998

The "Wonderful Women of Verse" were saluted at the ninth annual Fireside in Tamworth on the last weekend in May. Veteran performers Carmel Randle from Preston, Q and Shirley Friend from Morayfield, Q were inducted to the 'Bush Poets Wall of Renown' at the Galah Concert on the night of Saturday, 30th May and tributes were paid to Gertrude Skinner and Marion Fitzgerald - two of the earliest poets to fly the flag for women in the Bush Poetry movement.

Glenny Palmer and Zita Horton, both Australian Champions, gave of their best during the Festival, ably supported by Sally Mitchell and Alli Ryan. The audience was enthralled by performances of eight year old Kelsey Horton and the "Three Generations of Verse" featuring Kelsey, her mother Zita and grandmother, Carmel Randle.

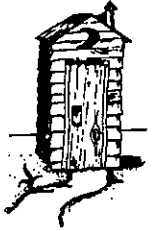
Fourteen kids from the Duri School presented a one hour show of poetry and songs interspersed with a collection of their latest school yard jokes, censored by host Jim Haynes.

The Festivals token blokes Tim McLoughlin, Tony Parry, Paddy Ryan and Jim Haynes put up a brave showing in the Battle of the Sexes Poets Brawl, but were rolled by Carmel Randle's clever one minute poem.

A plethora of potential performers participated in the Yarn Event, New Voices and Getupanhaveago Shows. Warwick Mitchell from Ellerston in NSW told the winning yarn and Sandra Conway from Murrumbidgee, Victoria was selected as the Festivals Best New Voice.

Judith Hosier

LAUGHTER and TEARS from the BUSH



In previous years it has been my experience that folk who take advantage of our Queensland weather and head North for the winter months, love nothing better than to sit around a campfire at night with a bit of billy tea and damper and enjoy bush verse and yarns.

Earlier this year, my Dad, Chris and myself tried out our new show, "Laughter and Tears from the Bush" over the Easter period in Miles, Roma, Goondiwindi and Tenterfield with a lot of success.

In August we will be taking our show on the road again starting with the Battered Bugle Bush Poetry Competition in Surat, and over a two week period will take in Roma, Charleville, Blackall, Barcaldine, Winton, Cloncurry, Mt. Isa and finally to Camooweal where we will join in the festivities at the Annual Drovers Reunion. Then we'll work our way back to Kynuna, Barcaldine, Charleville and Roma.

Kelly Dixon will be running the Bronze Spur Performance Bush Poetry Competition, which includes Traditional, Original and Humorous categories over the weekend along with the Bronze Spur Award for Written Verse. Entries for the written competition close on 7th August and will be \$3.00 per entry with the usual conditions applying.

Last years festival was a lot of fun and brought back a lot of memories of bush hospitality. Why not make it part of your itinerary?

Hope to catch you on the track somewhere.

Merv Webster, "The Goondiwindi Grey"

DOG-GONE (c) Frank Daniel, Canowindra NSW 6.7.95

In a far-off town of 'Somewhere' where the drifters come and go
There's half a town of locals, and the half that no-one knows.

There's characters that are of note, and there's leaders in the town,
Druggos, drunks and lay-about, and bludgers hanging 'round.

This makes up all the populace and, be that as it may,
There's always something going on every single day.

One character well known to all's been there since time began,
He's known by all the citizens as 'that dirty man', Old Dan.

He's never been known to take a bath, or ever wash his hands.
The smell of him is always more than any one can stand.

Now Jimmy Mack the fencer, had a heeler that was bad;
With a double dose of rabies who was always going mad.

When Dan walked by one evening Jimmy's dog broke from it's chain,
And bolted head-long after Dan who was traipsing down the lane.

He savaged Dan around the legs and bit him on the hand
Till Jimmy fetched him home again in time to save old Dan.

The St. Johns bloke attended Dan, the stench near made him cry,
Odds were laid at the Royal Hotel on the time that Dan would die.

The town was in a frenzy, but when morning brought another day,
All were surprised to find the dog, not Dan, had passed away.

NORTH BY NORTH WEST NEWS

At our June meeting the Wheeze 'n' Suck Band knocked our socks off again, as we sang, clapped hands and stamped our feet. Poets June Redmond, Noel May, 'Arch' Bishop and Estelle Borrey entertained us and Yuri captivated us with a story while in July poets Brian Bell, Robert Lennard, Arch, Jenny Carter and Mick Gallagher performed.

At our next meeting on August 6th, Greg Dimmock of Speewah will demonstrate an array of unusual musical instruments - bring your own and jam. On September 3rd we can liven ourselves up with a performance from the 'Beat Around the Bush Band'.

On Saturday September 19th at 2pm we will be holding a come-all-ye afternoon of poetry and song at the Cornucopia Cafe, which is in the grounds of the old Gladesville Hospital, cnr Victoria and Punt Road, Gladesville - entrance in Punt Road. Come and sip a cappuccino and do your thing in a relaxing coffee shop atmosphere. BYO's are allowed. We may make this a regular event if it proves popular in addition to our regular meetings on the first Thursday of each month at the Uniting Church Hall, 2 Cutler Pde., North Ryde at 7.30pm. Enquiries Jenny on 02 9887 1856 or Mob 015 227 479 or Graeme 02 9874 7653.

Never try to trick the fairies
Keep your Tic-Tacs on the shelf
Or just like Haelie, you could find
That you've been tricked yourself.



The book is well presented with a very inviting cover which Bill has designed and produced himself. Also from the same author "Bullitude's Dog". Both books are keenly priced at \$11.00 pp and are available direct from Bill Kearns, 44 Kent Street, Grafton, NSW 2460.



BRONZE SPUR AWARDS 1998 - Camooweal Qld.

The Drovers Camp Association Inc. will again conduct Bush Poetry Competitions this year for both Written and Performance sections.

First placegetters for both competitions will receive as their prize a valuable replica of the famous Wave Hill stockmans spur, crafted in bronze by North West Queensland's leading bush sculptress, Miss Jaye Daley, of Caiwarra Station, Julia Creek. Placegetters in the performance competition will receive a sash and certificate while written competition placegetters will receive cash awards.

The aim of this written competition which closes on 7th August is to foster good bush verse and organisers have requested that late entries be sent as soon as possible. The subjects of submitted work must be keyed to the land, it's people, its animals, the way of life on the land or in the country, and NOT

'dunny' language strung together in rhyme form. If entrants do not have an entry form, please send work on a separate sheet of paper.

The performance competition will be held as part of the Annual Drovers Reunion and Festival, which will feature Traditional, Original and Humorous sections and will be judged by Bruce Simpson and Kelly Dixon. It will be held at the Drovers' Camp Grounds at the western end of town on Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th August.

The Wave Hill spur is a very significant award, because of the history of the spur. It was made on Wave Hill station in the Northern Territory by an early-day station blacksmith, Fred Gutt, who designed the spur after consulting with many top drovers and stockmen, as to what those men sought in a spur's design.

The heel bracket was tapered to allow the spur to "sit" right on a man's boot, and the spur needed no tie-down strap to keep it in position. The old charcoal forge was used by Fred Gutt to heat, shape and weld his product.

Fred made the spurs from old spring leaves at first, but later changed to top grade mild steel. It is thought he made the first of these highly prized spurs about 1936/7, and any stockman who did not own a pair was soon converted to use them. Today, the spurs are a collectors item, an artifact from the droving and ringing days of the Northern Territory and North West Queensland.

The bronze replicas were of course chosen for their integrity, and will remain a permanent trophy at this Festival. Any winner of such shall be able to admire the beautiful workmanship by Jaye Daley, the daughter of two of Australia's best bush horse people, Noel and Dallas Daley.

More details on page 16.

BITZ and PIECES from MEMBERS

BRIAN BELL of Glenbrook, NSW writes "I had the experience of entering a competition for the International Library of Poets, who at the time were working on a book called "The Liquid Mirror".

I was notified that I was a semi-finalist and that 'in view of your unique talent, we wish to publish your poem in our forthcoming anthology'. All I had to do was sign the enclosed author's release. I did this, later receiving many offers to buy the book, have my poem framed etc., but decided I could not spend the kind of money the publishers were asking.

Those who ordered the book were featured in local newspaper articles, celebrated for their being published. No mention was made of my reaching the semi-finals or my poem. What made me quite sure that this was just a mammoth exercise in vanity publishing was that a friend who did buy the book told me he looked in his copy and my poem does not appear.

Recently I met another author who had won a \$50 prize in the competition, who told me she was invited to America to read her poem. (I didn't find out who was to pay her fare)."

On the "CODE OF ETHICS" Brian also comments

I am continually amazed that people come up to me after I've recited and ask who wrote my material, and I always clearly name the author. I am sure it is just ego that stops reciters from having enough respect to give due credit, but we have to allow that everyone is different and even laws cannot make people change when self-interest is the driving force.

Kevin J. Barnes of Millmerran, Q wrote last month (June) "I have read with interest the various articles in the "monthly" about the 'Code of Ethics'. I agree with those who believe that our own 'Moral Fibre' should be enough and that the 'Code' should not put

specific limitations on a poet's performance. He or she will soon discover what a particular audience likes or dislikes.

I am equally sure that if those people who recite (either in competition or at performances) another poet's work without giving credit to the author and/or without the said author's permission, would be the first to 'jump up and down' if it happened to them.

Since I joined the ABPA some three years ago, I have read some great poetry and met some great poets. I would no sooner think of using their work without their permission as fly to the moon. Maybe that's the way I was brought up?? I have heard poets in competition and in performance recite a poem or part of a poem but they have always given credit to the author, and so it should be.

There is one thing that does concern me though, and I guess if there is to be a 'Code', then perhaps some thought should be given to it's inclusion.

When someone or some group are organising a competition or event, and they ask for a 'well known' poet to help out either as a judge, compere or just a brief appearance, and are told "YES" then because of some unforeseen circumstances the said poet can't make it, I feel that the poet in question should notify the group or person as soon as possible so they can (1) perhaps arrange someone else, or (2) save money on advertising the particular poet.

I have experienced this situation myself when organising competitions and after you have put in a lot of time and effort it can be very frustrating, I assure you. Comments anyone??

FAW Wollondilly Literary Competition 1998

Congratulations to new member **Liz Vincent** who received a **Highly Commended Award** in Sec. 10, Wollondilly Rural Traders Humorous Verse Award for her poem "Granny Brown's Funeral"



2nd BIG CITY BUSH POETRY MUSTER

The 2nd Big City Bush Poetry Muster on Saturday 12th September will be part of the NSW Writers' Centre's 1998 Spring Writing Festival. The Writers' Centre in Balmain Road, Rozelle, NSW is part of the Callen Park complex, and despite its close proximity to the city has a lovely rural atmosphere. There will also be a weekend of literary events in which visitors are welcome to participate.

This year there will again be the competitions for performed humorous and serious verse, and, as it is an international writer's festival, there will be a special section for those writers who are not yet confident enough to perform their work without reading.

An innovation will be a section for "The Greatest of the Greats", those poets who have won, or been placed in a competition who may feel uncomfortable about competing against newcomers.

There will not be a written section this year as the intention was not to compete with other established events but to have a synergistic effect giving the opportunity to favourably showcase Bush Poetry at a City event. Participants are welcome to bring their books or cassettes to sell.

Presenters for 1998 are Adrian Bryden, "Arch" Bishop, Noel Cutler and Joye Dempsey.

Noel, who is well known as a skilled poet and presenter, will demonstrate his whip cracking skills. The locals have been told to put their high boots and leather away, it will be pure country goodness.

As with last year the poets will Muster on Saturday 12th September at 9.00 for 9.30 start (participants will register then) until approximately 12 noon. This will be followed by a \$5.00 Poets Pasta which will include a Poets Brawl at Balmain Leagues Club.

The event was not sponsored last year and funds were raised independently for the presenters fees and prize money. The NSW Writers' Centre were pleased with last years event and have voted \$500.00 towards sponsorship.

Like any first event, there were a few tremors leading up to it. An interesting spin off was that Joye Dempsey raised part of the funds by writing 'sponsorship poems'. A Telstra representative who was there for the opening of the Festival sat in on the Bush Poetry. He contacted her on 1st April this year regarding a substantial commission for the writing and performance of verse to Telstra specific data. This was no April Fool and a contract for a series of poems and the performance of the same was the fortunate outcome.

For further information about the Bush Poetry event, call Joye Dempsey on 02 9797 7575 or write to PO Box 257, Croyden Park, NSW 2133. For Festival information contact the NSW Writers' Centre on 02 9555 9757 for a newsletter.

read their own poetry or read work by their favourite poet. Cost is \$5.00 per person which includes entry fee, sausage sandwich, juice, plus tea and coffee.

As this is the group's first Poets Breakfast, it would be appreciated if those coming could advise us so we can cater for the numbers. For further information please phone the group's Secretary, Liz Vincent on 02 4677 2044 or fax 02 4677 3289 or write to PO Box 385, Picton NSW 2571.

Visitors are most welcome to join our group for our regular meetings which are held on the second Sunday of each month at 1.30pm in the Community Rooms, Menangle Street, Picton. We also hold regular workshops and provide information on writing competitions and publishing opportunities. We also conduct "Writers at the Imperial" on 3rd Thursday each month at 7.30pm in the Imperial Hotel, Menangle Street, Picton NSW.

Liz Vincent



PALMA ROSA REPORT

from Trisha Anderson

What a fabulous evening we all had at our recent Palma Rosa Poets Gathering on 24th June.

The brilliant singer / songwriter Mark Tempany kept us enthralled with his magnificent voice and beautiful lyrics and we also paid tribute to two grand old "masters" - "C.J. Dennis" and "Father John O'Brien"

Wally Finch, dressed in his dapper three piece suit was a wonderful C.J. Dennis, bringing many of the old favourites to life - as well as some surprises.

Noel Stallard as always, made a marvellous Father John O'Brien, giving quite a few people a surprise as he arrived on stage as the priest himself. It certainly was a night to remember.

We also paid tribute to another couple of "masters" when Trisha introduced the father of bush poetry, Bill Hay and he accompanied her on his harmonica as she performed "Lost" by Banjo Paterson.

Our next poetry evening at Palma Rosa will be on Wednesday 29th July when we showcase the talents of Michael Darby. Michael, who can perform anything from light comedy to Shakespeare, will have various guest poets appearing with him.

Unfortunately, our next guest poet, scheduled for 23rd August, Milton Taylor is unable to be with us on that date (after Michael Darby on 29th July), will be North Pine Bush Poets on Wed. 14th October.

We are also delighted to announce Mark Tempany will join Guy McLean and "Nugget" for our final performance of the year on Wed. December 2nd on the beautiful lawns of Palma Rosa - the Heritage listed headquarters of the English Speaking Union.



FIRST POETS BREAKFAST FOR WOLLONDILLY FAW

As part of the Wollondilly Waratah Festival, Wollondilly Fellowship of Australian Writers is sponsoring a Poets Breakfast on Monday 5th October 1998. The event will be at the Imperial Hotel, Menangle Street, Picton, NSW, opposite the entrance to the railway station. The event will start at 9am and run until we're all recited out. Performers are welcome to

WOLLOMBI (C) Graeme Johnson 1997

The dusty boots that pace my stride,
scuff clouds along the winding track.
Past the snaking twist of post and rail,
and lumber cut for winters stacks.
This Great North Road that paved the way,
From Wiseman's Ferry to Wallis Plains.
Testament to the skill of Morrisett,
and the laboured push of his convict claims.
Through the western slopes of Warrawalang,
beneath the Wattagan Mountains scented sky.
Past the sheltered gullies and valley floors,
lays the village they call Wollombi.



Tucked away in quiet seclusion,
a century or so in time.
A snapshot of bygone age,
its charm alluring and sublime.
Where history's sepia overtones,
display a future and a past.
Built by hardy pioneers,
the march of progress to outlast.
Scots and Poms and Irish settlers,
like Hatfield, Barclay, Finch and Byrne.
Wat veterans and squatters granted land.
New ground to break and skills to learn.
Its fertile soils were tilled and planted.
Fields grew thick with wheat and corn.
Arable pastures put to the plough,
saw commerce birthed and crudely born.
Huts were built from slabs of timber,
with sheeted bark on rafters tied.
Lean-to's, barns and cottages,
were bound with rind and workman's pride.
Strong forthright and masculine,
stark and free of frippery.
That their still standing to this day,
bears witness to their yeomanry.



In contrast to the flimsy skin,
of the humpy peeled from the Stringybark tree.
Home to the pitch black tan of King Boni,
and the Darkinung aborigines.
Nomadic gatherers and hunters,
wandering within tribal territories.
Feasting on mussels and catfish and wombats.
Mother earth their hunger to appease.
Spirituality governed their lifestyle.
Manhood's initiations and ceremonies.
Carvings marked out the rights of their passage.
In inherent caretakers of proud centuries.

Marauders were prevalent in the 1840's
Bushrangers and half-castes like "Yellow Billy White".
Horse thieves and "Duffers", "Robbery Under Arms".
Ill-using their victims with thuggish delight.
Highwaymen pillaging teamsters and travellers.
Like Edward "The Jew Boy", who robbed with the gun.
Jailed and lashed by the sting of the "scourger".
Hung by the neck in 1841.
Inns had sprung up for the needs of the travellers.
Like Kenny's "Harp of Erin" and the "Old Fitzroy Inn".
Ministering to their saddle sore bodies,
whose prodigious thirst led to boozing and sin.

There came word at the end of the 20th Century.
In the year of our Lord, 1979.
An intent to build dams at the site of Paynes Crossing.
The death knell for a struggling town in decline.
But the residents banded together and fought it.
Supported by calls, "Preservation's a Must".
The ghosts not quite ready to swallow the sandstone,
and darken its walls with their neglect of trust.
Colourful stories and interesting anecdotes.
Its traditions and buildings have won it acclaim.
It's weathered the storms of nature unrepentant.
Where others have perished. Wollombi now remains.

This poem was awarded at Wollombi Folk Festival, 1997

WOLLOMBI FOLK FESTIVAL

The Historic township of Wollombi NSW will again host it's Annual Folk Festival on 25-27th September this year. The village comes alive as in days of old as folkies of all descriptions descend on this charming haven to enjoy a weekend of music, poetry and all things fun.

Poets Breakfasts will be held at 9am Saturday and Sunday as well as the ever popular "Champions of Verse" that occurs at 2pm each day. Saturday evening will also see a very relaxed and informal Poets and Storytellers Supper whiling away the night. Don't worry, there'll be plenty of "sessions" too.

Featured poets will be Gary Lowe, Ron Brown and Bob Skelton plus assorted others (more to be announced).

Weekend tickets are available for a very affordable \$65 and day tickets cost is to be announced.

There will also be a written competition. Entry forms, details and weekend bookings contact Ron Brown on 02 4951 6186.

Jo Swallow

THE CABBIE'S PRAYER

(C) Glen Muller, Toowoomba Q. 1997

Our Guardian Angel who takes care of us
Blessed be thy cause
Give us this day, our daily fares
And forgive them their sins
As we (try to) forgive those who swear at us and abuse us
Lead us not into danger
And deliver us from the evil
(drunks that waffle and dribble)
For thine is the kingdom
But ours the power (or is it) and glory
(To be able to chuck out, those who get far too gory)
(And may the wheels turn), forever and ever !! Amen

Editors Note: Glen Muller earns his living as a Cabbie!



GALSTON COUNTRY MUSIC FESTIVAL

Sunday September 13th - Fagan Park, Galston NSW
9am Poets Breakfast featuring Murray Hartin, Len Knight,
Terry Gleeson, 'Arch' Bishop, Gary Lowe, Graeme Johnson
POETRY COMPETITION & TOP LINE COUNTRY MUSIC
Poetry Enquiries Terry Gleeson 02 9851 1012 - Festival 02 9653 2483

NEWSLETTER COPY IS DUE BY 10TH EA MONTH



POET'S CALENDAR OF EVENTS AND COMPETITIONS

- July 24-25 **Bush Xmas in July.** Cessnock NSW Bush Poetry with Dinner - Open mike session P6
 July 25 **Closing Date. Bards of Bowra Open and Junior Written Competition.** Ph/Fax 02 6568 5269 P17
 July 25 **Poets in the Pub.** 7.30 pm Bowra Hotel, Bowraville NSW - Featuring Bobby Miller
 Ph/Fax 02 6568 5269. Reciters and readers welcome. P17
 July 25-26 **Bards of Bowra Bush Poetry Workshops.** Bowraville, NSW. Tutor, Bobby Miller, Bookings
 essential - Ph/Fax Maureen Garner 02 6568 5269 P16/17
 July 27 **Closing Date. National Poetry Comp.** Royal Queensland Show. Details page 17
 July 29 **Palma Rosa Poets. Michael Darby & Friends** 9 Queens Rd., Hamilton, Bris., Q. \$15 per head incl
 Supper. Bookings essential Ph. Trisha Anderson 07 3268 3624 or 07 3262 3769 Pages 12 & 16
 July 31 **Nanango Sesquicentennial Poetry Comp closes.** Entry forms and details from Jim Mangan,
 124 Drayton St., Nanango QLD 4615. Phone 07 4163 1681 P 16
 July 31 - **Bards of the Outback, Hungerford QLD.** Yarnspinning Comp & Poetry Recitals & Comp
 Aug 1 Ring Bob McPhee 07 5466 5269 or write to PO Box 162, Gatton Qld 4343 P 18
 Aug 5 **Closing Date. World Peace Bell Written Comp.** P17
 Aug 7 **Closing Date. Bronze Spur Bush Poetry Written Competition.** P 11 & 16
 Aug 14 **Closing Date. Victor Harbour Folk Fest Poetry Writing Awards.** Ph 08 8271 0524 P17
 Aug 14 **Closing Date. North Pine Bush Poets Written Competition.** P 17
 Aug 14 **Closing Date. Nimbin A & I Soc Written Comp.** Phone Phillip Utting 02 6689 1174 P7
 Aug 15 **National Poetry Competition.** Exhibition Grounds, Fortitude Valley, Q. Details P17
 Aug 15 **Third Settlement Folk Fest Poets Brunch.** 12.00 - 1.30pm Ph. Denis Kevans 02 4757 3119 P18
 Aug 15-16 **Surat Battered Bugle Competition Trad. & Original Perf. Poetry.** Ph Jan Ritchie 07 4626 5103 P16
 Aug 22 **Poets in the Pub.** 7.30 pm Bowra Hotel, Bowraville NSW - Featuring Glenny Palmer.
 Ph/Fax 02 6568 5269. Reciters and readers welcome. P17
 Aug 22-23 **Trundle Bush Tucker Day.** Trundle, NSW Ring Frank Daniel AH 02 6244 1477
 Aug 28 **Closing Date. Rams Head Hotel Performance Competition.** Millmerran Qld, Details P 16
 Aug 28-30 **Gympie Muster Bush Poetry Performance Competition.** Details Pages 1 & 18
 Aug 28-30 **Annual Drovers Reunion & Fest. Camooweal, Q.** Phone 07 4748 2155 or 07 4748 2153
 Bush Poetry, Music, Meals, Camping Sites. P11 & 16
 Sept 6 **Rams Head Hotel Performance Bush Poetry Comp.** Perf. Comp., Yarns, Brawl, Meals available
 Phone Kev Barnes 07 4695 4209 Page 16
 Sept 10 **Budburst Fest.** Cessnock NSW. Bush Poetry Concert & Comp. Ring Bob Skelton 02 4953 2751 P19
 Sept 12 **Big City Muster Performance Comp.** 9-1pm NSW Writers Centre, Balmain Road, Rozelle NSW.
 Part of the Spring Writers Festival. Ph Joye Dempsey 02 9797 7575. P12 & P18
 Sept 13 **Kempsey All Star Country Music Fest. Bush Poetry Performance Comp** Details P 16
 Sept 13 **Galston Country Music Festival.** Galston NSW Poets Breakfast Terry Gleeson 02 9851 1012 P13
 Sept 19-20 **Gulgong Country Music Fest.** Poets Breakfast Enq. Frank Daniel Ph ah 02 6344 1477 P18
 Sept 23 **Bush Poetry Performance by Noel Stallard.** Selections from John O'Brien. Mt Maria Senior College
 Auditorium, 67-69 Osborne Rd. Michelton. Q. P18
 Sept 26-27 **Mapleton Yarn Festival.** Enq. Jacqueline Bridle 07 5478 6263 P17
 Sept 27 **Bards of Bowra Bush Poetry Perf. Comp., Bowraville, NSW** Phone 02 6568 5269 P 17
 Sept 25-27 **Wollombi Folk Festival.** Wollombi NSW. Poets Breakfasts, Yarn/ Storytelling Ph 02 4951 6186 P13
 Oct 3 **Victor Harbour Folk Fest Poetry Writing Awards** Ph. K & M Edgecombe 08 8271 0524 P 17
 Oct 3-4 **Camp Oven Bush Poetry Festival.** North Pine Country Park. Written and Performance Comp.
 Ph John or Patti Coutts 07 3886 1552 P 17
 Oct 3-5 **Boorowa Wool Festival.** Poets Breakfast Ph Frank Daniel ah 02 6344 1477 P18
 Oct 3-5 **Warnervale, NSW - Country Music Fest.** Bush Poetry Comp. & Performances.
 Oct 5 **Wollondilly Waratah Fest.** Poets Breakfast 9am Imperial Hotel, Menangle NSW Please phone and
 book in Liz Vincent, 02 4677 2044. Pages 12 & 19
 Oct 8 **Poets' Breakfast at Nanango.** Nanango Shire Council, PO Box 10 Nanango QLD 4615 P 16
 Oct 14 **Palma Rosa Poets.** 7.30 pm 9 Queens Rd., Hamilton, Bris. Q, North Pine Bush Poets. \$15 per head
 incl Supper. Bookings essential Ph. Trisha Anderson 07 3268 3624 or 07 3262 3769 P 12 & 16
 Oct 17-18 **Dungog Heritage W'end.** Dungog Bush Poetry Conc & Comp. Bob Skelton 02 4953 2751 P19
 Oct 31- **Land of the Beardies Festival, Glen Innes NSW.** Poets Breakfast. Write to Nell Perkins,
 Nov 3 **Closing Date. 1998 Bush Laureate Awards.** Golden Gumleaf Enterprises, 112 Crescent Rd,
 Hamilton Q 4007. See Pages 1 & 19.
 Nov 8 **Land of the Beardies Festival.** Nell Perkins, 3/125 Church Street, Glen Innes, NSW 2370 P18
 Dec 2 **Palma Rosa Poets.** 7.30 pm 9 Queens Rd., Hamilton, Bris., Q. Guy McLean & "Buddy" \$15 per
 head incl Supper. Bookings essential Ph. Trish Anderson 07 3268 3624 or 07 3262 3769 P12 & 16
 Feb 13 '99 **High Country Poets Performance Competition.** Ph. Jack Drake 07 4683 7169 P18

REGULAR MONTHLY EVENTS

- - - - If you happen to be passing through these areas, tell 'em Joe sent ya!

- 1st. Monday** **Aroma's Restaurant & Coffee Shop.** Toowoomba Q. Ron Selby 07 4630 1106
Tuggerah Lakes Poetry Group. 7 pm Beachcomber Hotel, Main Rd Toukley,
 Ph Laurie Nicholson 02 4390 8595
Kyabram & District Bush Verse Group, Meet every second month at Kyabram Fauna Park
 at 7.30 pm - next meeting 3rd August. Phone Mick Coventry 03 5853 3365
- 1st Thursday** **North By North West Poetry & Folk Club.** 7.30 pm Uniting Church Hall, North Ryde
 Ph Graham Johnson - 02 9874 7653 or Jenny Carter 02 9887 1856 or 015 227 479
Red Kettle Folk Club. Mapleton Hotel, Mapleton, Q. 8.30-11pm. Poetry and Music.
 Enq. Jacqueline Bridle 07 5478 6263 P4
- 1st. Sunday** **Poets Get-together.** Traders Restaurant - Mt. Coolumb Qld. (074) 491 991
North Pine Bush Poets Breakfasts. North Pine Country Park, 9 am at Dad & Daves Billy Tea
 and Damper Ph. 07 3285 2845 or 07 3886 1552
Gold Coast Poets, 10 am Cascade Gardens, Broadbeach, Q. All welcome, audience participation
 Recite or sing a song. Graham Brunckhorst, 07 5579 4816
Poets in the Making, 12-4pm Performance Workshop, Casula Powerhouse, 1 Casula Rd, Casula
 Ph David Price 02 9825 0402 or Mob 018 971 2264
- 2nd. Monday** **Parakeet's Poets, Katoomba.** Parakeet Cafe at 7pm, Katoomba St, Katoomba, NSW
 Everyone welcome. Phone Denis Kevans 02 4757 3119
- 2nd Tuesday** **Hunter Bush Poets - 7pm - Tarro Hotel, Anderson Dr., Tarro NSW.** Bob Skelton 02 4953 2751
- 2nd Thursday** **Tamworth Poetry Reading Grp.** 8pm 4 Illoura St. Sth T'worth 02 6766 4164 or 026765 6067
Golden Pen Poets. Old Gympie Town Hall, Gympie, Q. 7 pm Ph Phil Morrison 07 5486 1171
- 2nd. Friday** **The Monaro Leisure Club.** 7 pm, Vale St. Cooma. Bush Poetry and Country Music.
 Mrs. Elaine Schofield "Green Hills" Jerangle, 2630 Ph 02 6454 3128
- 2nd. Sunday** **'Interludes' Ashfield Civic Centre, Ashfield - Joye Dempsey** 02 9797 7575
Wollondilly Regional FAW. 1.30pm Community Rooms, Menangle Street, Picton. Phone
 Liz Vincent 02 4677 2044, Vince Morrison 02 4684 1704 or Jenny Pilottos 02 4631 1419
- 3rd Tuesday** **Norther Rivers Bush Poets.** Rous Hotel, Lismore Ph. Col Hadwell 02 6685 7064
- 3rd Wed'day** **Sth Aust. Bush Poets.** 7.30 pm Alma Pub Long Room, Willunga SA, Ph/Fax 08 8370 2460
- 3rd Thursday** **Queanbeyan Bush Poets.** Phone David Meyers 02 6286 1891
- 3rd. Friday** **Poetic Folk** 24 Finisterre Ave, Whalan 2770 Arch Bishop (02) 9625 7245
Junee Bush Poetry Group. 7.30pm, Junee Community Centre, Brian Beasley, PO Box 82,
 Junee, 2663 Ph. 02 6924 1317
- 3rd Saturday** **Poets in the Club, Urunga Golf Club.** 1.30 - 4pm Ph 02 6568 5269 or 02 6655 6835 ah.
The Original Avocado, Tamborine Mt. Q. Phone 07 5545 3066
- 3rd. Sunday** **North Pine Bush Poets Breakfasts.** North Pine Country Park, 9 am at Dad & Daves Billy Tea
 and Damper Ph. 07 3285 2845 or 07 3886 1552
- 4th Tuesday** **Poets in the Pub with Grafton Live Poet's Society.** Roches Hotel 7.30pm Ph 02 6642 2772
- 4th Thursday** **Golden Pen Poets.** Old Gympie Town Hall, Gympie, Q. 7 pm Ph Phil Morrison 07 5486 1171
- Last Tuesday** **Spaghetti Poetry Group.** Tourist Cafe, Mann St., Gosford. Dinner at 6.30, Poetry at 7.30
 Ph. Bob & Ester Sennett 02 4325 2590
- Last Friday** **Kangaroo Valley Folk Club.** Bush Poets welcome. Phone Carl Leddy re venue 02 4465 1621
- Last Thurs.** **Writers on the River, Caddies Coffee Shop, 2-3 Castlereagh Street, Penrith, NSW.** Everyone
 welcome, come and recite, read or just listen to the poets. Ph. Brian Bell, 02 4739 2219
- Last Sat.** **Aust Christian Writers Fellowship, Hunter Div.** Morisset Baptist Church Hall 1.30 -
 4pm. Contact J. Bray - 11 Rhodes Pde, Windermere Pk. NSW 2264

ATTENTION

*Group or Club Organisers Your events belong here.
 Send your details to the Editor*



ABPA

**MEMBERSHIP IS AVAILABLE TO NEW MEMBERS FOR THE
 REST OF 1998 FOR JUST \$13.00 - ASK A FRIEND TO JOIN NOW !!**



NANANGO SESQUICENTENNIAL Poetry Competition

Open \$100.00
Secondary School \$250.00
Primary School \$100.00

Entry, \$5.00, 1 - 3 poems Open Section.
\$2.00, 1 - 3 poems for School Sections

Closing Date - 31st July, 1998.

Entry Forms & details from Jim Mangan,
124 Drayton St. Nanango, Q., 4615
Phone 07 4163 1681

Winners will be announced at Poet's
Breakfast on Thursday, 8th October, 1998
at Nanango Belvedere Gallery



ANNUAL DROVERS REUNION and FESTIVAL at CAMOOWEAL 28th - 30th August '98 BUSH POETRY

Fri 28th 7pm Walk up poetry in park
Sat 29th 9am Heats Bronze Spur Award
Performance Competition
Sun 30th 10.30am Finals of Perf. Comp.

BRONZE SPUR AWARD - WRITTEN COMP

Max 100 lines and 4 entries pp
Entry Fee \$3.00 - Closes 7th August, 1998
Enquiries - The Secretary

The Drovers Camp Written Poetry Competition
PO Box 4, Camooweal Qld 4828
Enq. Ph 07 4748 2155 or 07 4748 2153



SURAT BATTERED BUGLE 5th ANNUAL BUSH VERSE COMPETITION

in conjunction with Cobb & Co Festival

15th & 16th August, 1998

Original and Traditional Performance Poetry
Jan Ritchie, PO Box 45, Surat, Q. 4417
Ph 07 4626 5103

Accommodation Bookings - Ph 07 4626 5164



BARDS OF BOWRA

BUSH POETRY WORKSHOPS
25th and 26th July, 1998

10am - 3pm Bowraville CWA Hall

Tutor: Bobby Miller, "The Larrikin"

Australia's foremost Performer of Bush Poetry will
cover all aspects of writing and performance.
Beginners Advanced Students Welcome
Course Notes Supplied

Cost: \$25.00 - Bookings Essential

Phone / Fax Maureen Garner 02 6568 5269



RAMS HEAD HOTEL BUSH POETRY

PERFORMANCE COMPETITION

Fathers Day, Sunday, 6th September, '98
Ram's Head Hotel, Millmerran, QLD

ENTRIES CLOSE 28th August 1998

ENTRY FEE \$5.00 per poet for day - Juniors free.

Traditional and Original Sections in All Classes
JUNIORS 8 -15 Yrs

NOVICE, OPEN MALE & OPEN FEMALE

COUNTRY STYLE BREAKFAST - \$3.00

AND CAMP OVEN LUNCH - \$8.00

Enquiries - SSAE to Kev Barnes

PO Box 64, Millmerran, QLD 4357

or Phone 07 4695 4209



PALMA ROSA PERFORMANCES

Wed. 29th July 1998

7.30 pm Michael Darby and Friends

Wed. 14th October, 1998 - 7.30 pm

North Pine Bush Poets

Wed. 2nd December, 1998 - 7.30 pm

Guy McLean and "Nugget"

See Poets Calendar for further details



BUSH POETRY COMPETITION

& Aussie Humour Show
Compere - RAY ESSERY

in conjunction with
KEMPSEY ALL STAR COUNTRY MUSIC FESTIVAL

PERFORMANCE COMPETITION

Original & Traditional Sections
9.30am, Sunday

13th September, 1998

MOON RIVER MOTEL, KEMPSEY NSW

Entry Forms from The Secretary,
P.O. Box 102, Kempsey NSW 2440

NEWSLETTER COPY

Please send copy by 10th day of each month



MAPLETON YARN FESTIVAL 26th - 27th September 1998

Poetry, Yarnspinning, Storytelling
Light Hearted Competitions
Enq. to Jacqueline Bridle - 07 5478 6263



BARDS of BOWRA

Part of the Back to Bowra Festival" BOWRAVILLE NSW

Written Competition - Open

Section 1 - Any topic Section 2 - Nambucca Valley Subject
Section 3 - Alternative House Building

Junior Written

Section 1 - Primary to Year 6 Section 2 - High to Year 12
(Junior to 18 yrs not at school may enter Sec 2)
Entries Close 25th July, 1998

Performance Competition - 27.9.98

Bowraville Ex-Services Club - 10am

Section 1 - Trad. or Established Work Section 2 - Original

Bush Poetry Workshop - 25/26.7.98

Bowraville CWA Hall - 9.30am - 3pm

Tutor: Bobby Miller - Cost \$25.00

POETS IN THE PUB

Bowra Hotel, High St. Bowraville NSW

Saturday 25.7.98, 7.30pm Bobby Miller

Saturday 22.8.98, 7.30pm Glenny Palmer

Enquiries and entry forms

Maureen Garner - Ph / Fax 02 6568 5269

TRUNDLE, NSW BUSH TUCKER DAY

22nd & 23rd August

Join the Bush Poets for "Tons of Fun"

More Details from

Frank Daniel Ph. AH 02 6344 1477

NORTH PINE BUSH POETS

3rd ANNUAL CAMP OVEN BUSH POETRY FEST.

North Pine Country Park, Petrie, Q.

Saturday 3rd & Sunday 4th October, '98

WRITTEN COMPETITION - Closes 14.8.98

PERFORMANCE
COMPETITION &
CONCERT

Enquiries to
John & Patti Coutts
Phone / Fax
07 3886 1552



NATIONAL POETRY COMPETITION

TOTAL PRIZE MONEY OVER \$2,000

Royal Queensland Show

Stockman's Rest - Exhibition Grounds

Gregory Terrace, BRISBANE

Saturday, 15th August, 1998

BUSH POETRY PERFORMANCE COMPETITION

'Original' & 'Traditional or Established Work' Sections

ENTRIES CLOSE ON 27TH JULY, 1998

Entry Forms and Conditions from

National Poetry Competition, Royal Queensland Show,
Exhibition Grounds, Gregory Terrace, Fortitude Valley 4006

AUSTRALIAN CHAPTER OF THE WORLD PEACE BELL ASSOCIATION POETRY COMPETITION

SPONSORED BY "THE COWRA GUARDIAN" -

THEME OF POEM IS "PEACE" Entries Close 5.8.98

Section 1. Primary Student - Max. 10 lines.

1st - \$40, 2nd - \$10. ENTRY FREE

Section 2. Secondary Student - Max. 20 lines.

1st - \$40, 2nd - \$10. ENTRY FREE

Section 3. Open - Max 48 lines.

1st - \$600, 2nd - \$200, 3rd - \$100. ENTRY \$5.00

Please send SSAE and result sheet will be forwarded.

Details - Ph AH 02 6342 2975 - Fax 02 6341 1217

Send Entries to

AUST. CHAPTER OF WORLD PEACE BELL ASSN,
12 Kendall Street, COWRA NSW 2794

1998 VICTOR HARBOUR FOLK FESTIVAL Friday 2nd - Monday 5th October, 1998

Poets Breakfasts Every Day at 9am

Presentation of Awards - Saturday 3rd

Poets Cocktail Hour - Saturday 3rd 6pm

Storytellers Cup - Saturday Monday 5th

POETRY WRITING AWARDS

Open Verse Style

Primary School Student \$25.00

Secondary School to 18 yrs \$25.00

Adult \$75.00

Entries in the above may be presented in any verse style

Bush Verse - \$75.00

Entries in this section must be rhyming and
metered in the narrative style of the traditional
Australian Bush Ballads.

No Entry Fee - Limit 2 Poems per author

Entries close on 14.8.98

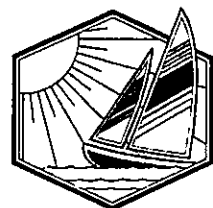
Program Details and Information from
Festival Poetry Writing Awards

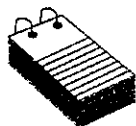
C/- K & M Edgecombe

12 Lochness Avenue

TORRENS PARK SA 5062

Phone 08 8271 0524





Claiming the Date **HIGH COUNTRY POETS**

In conjunction with the
Granite Belt Tourist Association's
WINE AND FOOD AFFAIR, 8th-14th Feb. 1999

Bush Poetry Performance Comp.

Sat 13th February, 1999 at 4pm

O'Mara's Hotel, Maryland St, Stanthorpe Q

Open & Novice Original & Traditional Sections

POETS IN THE PARK - Sunday, 14th February.

Enquiries - Jack Drake - Ph - 07 4683 7169

1998 BARD OF THE OUTBACK POETRY COMPETITION Hungerford Qld.



Fri. 31st July and Sat. 1st August, 1998

Royal Mail Hotel, Hungerford, Q.

YARN SPINNING COMPETITION WILL OGILVIE POETRY RECITAL OPEN, TRADITIONAL, NOVICE AND JUNIOR EVENTS

Enq. Bob McPhee

PO Box 162, Gatton Qld. 4343

or Phone 07 5466 5269

3rd SETTLEMENT FOLK FESTIVAL Toongabbie NSW. Sat., 15th August 1998

POETS BRUNCH 12.00- 1.30PM

Enq. Denis Kevans - 02 4757 3119



WOLLONDILLY WARATAH FESTIVAL POETS BREAKFAST

9am Monday, 5th October, 1998

Imperial Hotel Menangle St. Picton NSW

(opposite railway entrance)

Cost \$5.00 incl Entry Fee, Sausage Sandwich, Coffee

Please Book In - Ring Liz Vincent

Ph 02 4677 2044 Fax 02 4677 3289

CALLING ALL POETS GYMPIE MUSTER is on AGAIN

25th - 30th August, 1998

POETS BREAKFASTS EVERY DAY

PERFORMANCE COMP 28th - 30th Aug. '98

Traditional & Original Secs. Standard Rules Apply
11am Start - Enter on the Day

"NAKED POETS" Performance Fri. 28th & Sat. 29th

For details and programs please phone 07 5482 2427

or write to PO Box 616 Gympie, Q 4570



GULGONG Country Music Festival

Bush Poets Breakfast - Trophies & Prize Money

19th & 20th September 1998

Compere - Frank Daniel Ph. AH 02 6344 1477

BOOROWA WOOL FESTIVAL

3rd - 5th October, 1998

Bush Poets Breakfast and Performances

ATTENTION CENTRAL COAST BUSH POETS Country Music Weekend WARNERVALE NSW Bush Poetry Performance Competition and Performances

October Long W'end - More Next Month

COUNTRY MUSIC BY THE SEA

MERIMBULA NSW 23rd - 25th October '98

Bush Poets Breakfast & Performance Poetry.

Compere - Frank Daniel Ph. AH 02 6344 1477

BUSH POETRY PERFORMANCE

Wed. 23rd September, 1998

7.30pm - 10 pm

Mt. MARIA SENIOR COLLEGE AUDITORIUM

67-69 Osborne Rd., Michelton, Q.

(Beside Brookside Shopping Centre)

NOEL STALLARD as Fr. John O'Brien

Presenting selections from

"Around the Boree Log" and

The Parish of St. Mel's"

Supper served 8.30-9pm

Adults \$10.00

Pensioners/Students \$7.00



WANTED BUSH POETS



TO PERFORM AT POETS BREAKFAST

LAND OF THE BEARDIES FESTIVAL

31st October - 8th November 1998

GLEN INNES NSW

Expressions of interest to Nell Perkins

3/125 Church Street, Glen Innes NSW 2370

Dates to be announced soon !!

2ND BIG CITY BUSH POETRY MUSTER

in Conjunction with 1998 Spring Writing Festival

Saturday, 12th September 1998 - 9am

at NSW Writers Centre, Balmain Rd., Rozelle

(Callen Park - Rozelle Hospital Complex) - Refer P 12

Performance Competition - Register on the Day

Poets Brawl - Guest Presenters

Enq. Joye Dempsey,

PO Box 257 Croyden Park NSW 2133

or Phone 02 9797 7575

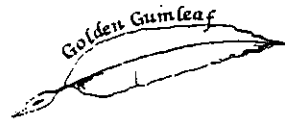


BUSH LAUREATE AWARDS 1998

For work produced from 1.11.97 to 1.11.98

Four Sections

1. Book of the Year - Published Original Rhymed Verse.
2. Recorded Album of Australian Rhymed Verse (on commercially produced cassette tape or CD.)
3. Recorded Performance of the Year (A single, or single track from any album)
4. Heritage Award (Publication in book form emphasising Australian Heritage; historical, geographical or social - including a reasonable amount of original verse.)



Fee \$10 per entry - Closes 3.11.98
Send SSAE for Entry Forms to

GOLDEN GUMLEAF ENTERPRISES
112 Crescent Rd. Hamilton Q 4007

**BUDBURST FESTIVAL - Cessnock NSW**

Thursday, 10th September, 1998

Pres. at and by Cessnock Dist. Rugby League Supp. Club.

Annual Bush Poetry & Tall Yarns**Concert and Performance Competition**

Free Competition Entry - Enter on the Day

Contact Bob Skelton, Old School Hill, Minmi NSW 2287

Phone 02 4953 2751 or Mob 018 668 795

DUNGOG HERITAGE WEEKEND - NSW

17th & 18th October, 1998

Bush Poetry and Tall Yarns**Concert and Performance Competition**

Contact Bob Skelton, Old School Hill, Minmi NSW 2287

Phone 02 4953 2751 or Mob 018 668 795

THE PRODUCT SHELF**TEN FEET TALL AND BULLETPROOF
by Betsy Chape is now Available**

IF YOU ENJOYED "THE WASHING UP WILL HAVE
TO WAIT" YOU WILL ALSO ENJOY THIS NEW
COLLECTION OF BUSH VERSE



Purchase Price \$11.00 pp
Order from Betsy Chape
MS 979 Monto, Qld. 4630
or Phone 07 4166 1846

The Gettoknowabloke Collection

get-to-know-a-bloke

South Australian livestock auctioneer Tom Penna has written two books containing short stories and rhymes from his experiences titles *A Bit Coasty*, which was shortlisted to the finals of the National Bush Laureate Awards 1997 and *Along the Track*. Tom's material has been played on ABC radio and he has appeared on the MIDDAY show with Kerri-Anne. Written in 'Dingo-Lingo' they are sure to 'put a smile on your dial'. Please contact Tom on 08 8552 1719 to order the pack which includes both books + 2 Aussie colour in books for \$24.00 pp with 60 cents going to "Make-A-Wish Foundation".

**THE PRODUCT SHELF****A MUSTER OF VERSE & YARNS**

MERV WEBSTER (THE GOONDIWINDI GREY)

RELEASED AT THE BUNDY MOB'S POETS MUSTER

HIS THIRD BOOK OF VERSE. THE BOOK INCLUDES

23 SELECTIONS OF VERSE AND 9 YARNS.

- * REMINISCING WITH HENRY * PICCANINNY DAWN
- * TO HAVE LOVED A FRIEND * WHO'S ME DAD
- * THE COURAGE OF THE GREY * A PIG DOG TALE
- * FOR I'VE HIS BLOOD IN ME * A FISHING TALE
- * THE WIFE'S REVENGE * THE LARRIKIN'S SCHEME

ALSO "TALES OF UNCLE JIM" & "IN DAYS GONE BY"

\$12.00 EA INCLUDING POSTAGE AVAILABLE FROM

MERV WEBSTER,

8 HAWAII COURT, BARGARA Q 4670

ANOTHER DAY IN PARADISE

Sixty Poems by Graham Fredriksen

Winner of 1998 Bronze Swagman Award
for Written Verse at Winton Q.

- * Featuring the Awarded Poem *
- "Battle of St Quentin Canal"

Send \$12.00 pp to

G. Fredriksen, C/- P.O. Kilcoy, Q 4515

Bronze Swagman Book of Verse

10 x Assorted - \$70 + \$8 pp

5 x Assorted - \$40 + \$5 pp

Back Issues \$10.00 ea + \$1.50 pp

Current Issue 1997 \$11.00 + 1.50pp

1998 Issue available about November

The Secretary,

Vision Winton Inc.

PO Box 44, Winton, Qld. 4735


**HERE'S "THE LOWDOWN" on
AUSTRALIAN BUSH VERSE
from GARY LOWE**

Cassette Tapes

THE LOWDOWN 1 & 2 - \$12 ea pp

Book - THE LOWDOWN IN PRINT - \$12 pp

OR all 3 for \$25 pp

Send Cheque or Money Order to

11 Magnolia Place, CHITAWAY BAY NSW 2261

Phone 02 4389 7873

**** PLEASE NOTE NEW ADDRESS !!**

Australian Bush Poets Association Inc.

2/8 Salamander Pde., Nambucca Heads NSW 2448 Ph/Fax 02 6568 5269

Print Post PP 242018 / 0013

July, 1998

**SURFACE
MAIL**

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