

## NSW Champions crowned in Binalong

Poetry, music, yarns, patter and more...the weekend's Binalong Bush Poetry Prize had it all, including the ABPA NSW Championships. Classical, original and contemporary bush poetry took the audience, many of whom had travelled from afar, on a journey to remember.

The championships, held over two days, set a scintillating standard. Saturday night's Celebrate Australia Concert saw the packed hall enthralled by seven top-class acts.

It was standing room only in the hall on Sunday morning when the kids stole the show. Binalong and Bowning schools plus individual junior competitors performed to standing ovations.

"It was such an exciting weekend," Binalong Arts Group Inc President Robyn Sykes said. "Fabulous poets, enthusiastic crowd and a wonderful atmosphere. "Huge thanks to the many people, community groups, sponsors and others who helped make it happen."

Rhonda Tallnash (Violet Town Vic), Terry Regan (Blue Mountains) and (in absentia) Glenny Palmer from Queensland won the Bubbles Garry, Adrian Sykes and Isobel McDonald Awards respectively (Women's, Men's and Written ABPA NSW Champions).

Community groups including the Tennis Club, Red Cross, Hall Committee, CWA and P&C fed travellers and locals alike. Open mic and One Minute Poem events meant the shy, the novices and the suddenly-inspired could have a go.

The rustic scenery and decorations made the Mechanic Institute feel like a bush camp, highlighted by a wooden cockatoo on a stand, painted by Binalong's local Archibald Prize winning artist, Janet Dawson. Cockatoo-inspired trophies from Peter Minson Art Glass complemented the theme.

Gold sponsors ABPA, Mylora Pastoral, Sibelco and Yass Valley Wind Farm top the list of more than 30 sponsors.

## **Binalong Bush Poetry Prize 2016**

ABPA NSW Championships

NSW Written Champion (Isobel McDonald Award):

**Glenny Palmer**

NSW Women's Performance Champion (Bubbles Garry Award):

**Rhonda Tallnash**

NSW Men's Performance Champion (Adrian Sykes Award):

**Terry Regan**

### **Written Prizes**

#### **Written Serious**

**1st Glenny Palmer – The 9th of June**

**2nd Will Moody – Moonlight on Menindee**

**3rd Tom McIlveen – Bobby**

HC – Tom McIlveen – A Terrible Dream

HC – Helen Harvey – Young, Naive and Ten

C – Helen Harvey – Our Forgotten Heroes

C – Leonie Parker – Tomorrows

#### **Written Humorous**

**1st Shelley Hansen – Elixir of Life**

**2nd David Campbell – 'Oo'd Wanna be an Aussie Bloke?**

**3rd Glenny Palmer – Committee Ditty**

HC – Tom McIlveen – When Irish Hearts are Happy

HC – Tom McIlveen – A Simple Colonoscopy

HC – Brenda Joy – The Road Ahead

C – Arthur Green – Of Young Travis McGee and Sweet Mandy McPhee

C – Arthur Green – Halley Through 'Down-Under' Skies

C – Brenda Joy – Boots and All

#### **Best Novice**

Brendan Pierotti

## **Performance Prizes**

### **Women's Classic**

Sue Pearce  
Rhonda Tallnash  
Heather Searles

### **Women's Original**

Rhonda Tallnash  
Heather Searles  
Sue Pearce

### **Women's Modern**

Rhonda Tallnash  
Heather Searles  
Sue Pearce

### **Men's Classic**

Terry Regan  
Ken Potter  
Ted Webber

### **Men's Original**

Terry Regan  
Ted Webber  
Ken Potter

### **Men's Modern**

Ralph Scrivens  
Ken Potter  
Terry Regan

### **Junior performance**

Best Original: Ivy Saunders  
Best Individual: Holly Regan  
Best Group: Ella Young, Grace Miller, Isabella Jarrett  
Encouragement: Mason Williams

### **One Minute Poems**

Gwen Hinchliffe  
Will Moody