

TO OUR YOUNG POETS AND THEIR FAMILIES

The Townsville Eisteddfod has just concluded, the Bush Poetry Sections being held on 14th September, 2017.

Those familiar with Eisteddfods will be aware of the following –

Organisers' Notes

“An eisteddfod (plural eisteddfodau or eisteddfods) is a festival of performing and visual arts and literature. It is a Welsh tradition that dates back to at least the 12th century.

The Townsville Eisteddfod is open to competitors up to the age of 18 years. It is held annually in September. In a typical year, about 2000 entries are received in about 300 competitive events (called "Sections") held over 19 days. Altogether, these result in about 18,000 individual performances.”

Three sections for Bush Poetry were included for the first time in 2015 – ages 10 and under, ages 11-13 and ages 14-18. For the first two years the adjudicator was Carmel Lloyd with support from John Lloyd and this year I took the reins with Hal Pritchard as the very helpful ‘penciller”. The sponsor for prizes and certificates was the Townsville Bush Poetry Mates and the TBPM President, Barry Graham, made the impressive trophies.

There were 6 entrants in the first section, 8 in the second and (due primarily to overseas school excursions for the holiday period) only one in the 14-18 category. However, the Bush Poetry sections took place just prior to the Literary Awards Presentation Ceremony and so, by default, there was a very large audience to hear the delightful presentations from the young poets. This was also an ideal chance to tell people a little about bush poetry.

The committee of the Townsville Eisteddfod were happy with the Bush Poetry component and are going to promote these three sections with the hope of increasing participation in 2018.

Eisteddfods offer great opportunities for our talented youth and if you are not already involved in your area, it could be worth pursuing this potential outlet for both performers, adjudicators and volunteers from the Bush Poetry *genre*.

Brenda-Joy Prichard
2017 Bush Poetry Adjudicator
Townsville Eisteddfod
www.townsvillleeisteddfod.org.au

Section 228 Australian Bush Poetry 14 to 18 years		
First:	Macey Bennett	
Section 229 Australian Bush Poetry 11 to 13 years		
First:	Lachlan Denman	
Second:	Melanie Leslie	
Third:	Nathaniel Barton	
H Commended:	Lance Howell	
Section 230 Australian Bush Poetry 10 years & under		
First:	Katelyn Denman	
Second:	Brook Anderson	
Third:	Alani Takai	
H Commended:	Sarah Stephen	
	Macie Clark	

RESULTS FROM THE TOWNSVILLE EISTEDDFOD – Bush Poetry held 14th September, 2017

www.townsvillieisteddfod.org.au Adjudicator – Brenda-Joy Pritchard, Penciller – Hal Pritchard