

Muster 2017
Friday 6th – Sunday 8th October
Benalla Bowls-Club. Victoria

Once again, the Benalla Muster incorporating the Victorian Song Championships, was a huge success. Friday evening saw a large crowd swelled by the Euroa Uke Orchestra led by Diane Mackrell, who performed two very happy sets to the appreciative audience. Also featured were well known poets, Maurie Foun, Carol Reffold and the amazing Sue Pearce from Tumut NSW who delighted the crowd with her evocative, emotive recitals of classical and original poems. The poets breakfasts, very ably MC'd by Ken Jones from Bendigo, featured all of the poets there, Carol Reffold, Val Kirley, plus some very talented Henry Lawson Society members including; Jan Lewis, Colin Carrington, Maggie Somerville, Stephen Whiteside, Liz Dorsett, Kelvin Wilson and HLS President Maree Nikolaou also attended.

Workshops and performances were held; with an evening concert that featured 'Elysium' (Shez, Michelle and Tony), Sue Pearce, Carol Reffold, Colin Carrington, Tim Sheed, Jill Meehan, Christine Middleton and the amazing Jeff Mifsud with his haunting tunes and words.

Results:

Poet of the Muster: (Chosen by the audience) **Sue Pearce**

Ross Noble Novice poet award:

- 1-**Liz Dorsett**
- 2-**Kelvin Wilson**
- 3-**Bryan Southall**

Original Song:

Winner-**Michelle Ferguson**
Runner up-**Richard Bushnell**
Third-**Kelvin Wilson.**

Non-Original Song:

Winner-**Liz Seaton**
Runner Up-**Richard Bushnell**
Third- **Maurie Foun.**

Music Champion Overall: Richard Bushnell

Congratulations to all winners and contestants... Thank you to the organisers, assistants, stall-holders and all helpers, who so willingly contributed and enthusiastically pitched-in and a special thanks to Cath O'Connor.

Looking forward to our next major gathering on behalf of VBPMMA at Corryong on 5th-8th April 2018, Mark in your diaries now....

Carol Reffold via Jan Lewis.