



The Australian



Bush Poets

Association



Merry Christmas

NO 11 DEC 94

P.O. BOX 77

DRAYTON NORTH.

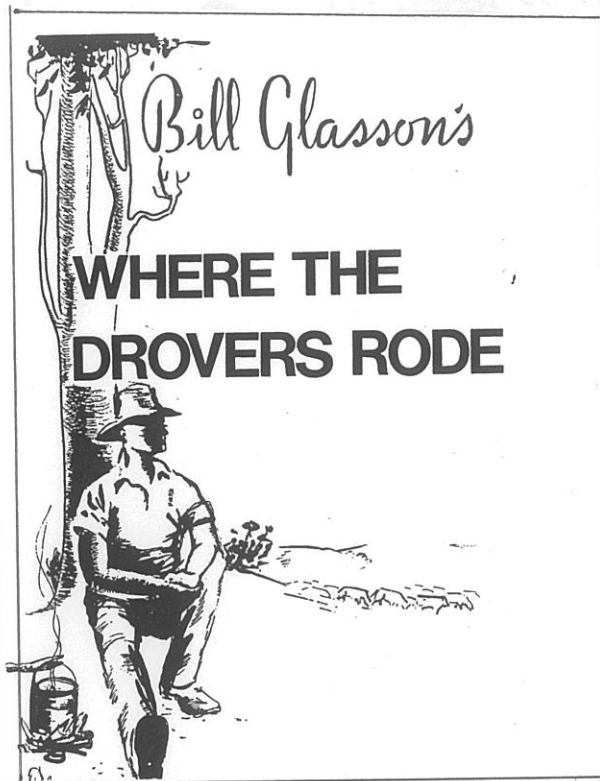
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MEMBERSHIP

\$20.00



● **Poem search:**

Mr Jock Robertson is looking for a Mary Gilmore poem, and asks if anyone can help him.

"With the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II coming up next year, my very patriotic sister Mrs J. Spence, of Muttaborra, 4732, wrote to say she would like to obtain the words of the Mary Gilmore poem *No Stranger Shall Gather Our Harvest*.

"I have searched high and low for the poem without success, so could you or your readers please come to the rescue," Mr Robertson asks.

Answers can either be sent to Mrs Spence or to Column 4 for us to publish.

● **Thought for Today:**

Before I built a wall I'd ask to know what I was walling in or walling out — Robert Frost, American poet (1874-1963).

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The Chronicle
Your good morning daily

TOOWOOMBA,

**AUSTRALIAN BUSH POETS ASSOCIATION
INVOLVEMENT
WALTZING MATILDAS BIRTHDAY
100 YEARS CELEBRATION
EASTER 6TH APRIL - 17TH 1995
10 DAY FESTIVAL**

FIRST PROMOTION - 28TH DECEMBER

Malaney Folk Festival - three days - 50 thousand attendance. A tray back truck carrying huge cubby house 2 metres by 3 metres, fully furnished and functional. valued at \$5000. To be raffled throughout Queensland full promotional space available. This float will travel throughout all major towns in Queensland in three months. To be drawn at Winton celebrations. Charity Queensland Drought Appeal.

SECOND VENUE

Tamworth Country Music Festival. Attendance 58 000. We are entering a cavalcade of six floats in the opening procession. This is nationally televised.

FLOATS ENTERED: Two mini buses carrying P.A. announcements.
Huge brahman bull pulling a carriage.
Two horse teams drawing drays.
Bush Poets theme float.
Truck carrying cubby house - drought appeal raffle prize.

ON SHOW ALL WEEK

1/ Swaggie Walk, Cairns to Brisbane, in land to Winton, nightly stage show at a major venue different town each night, (80 in all), poets collect for drought appeal, cover entire town with posters bearing sponsors name, our cavalcade procession received by the mayor of the town, poets perform at local schools during the day, schools arranged to run art competition Waltzing Matilda theme prizes. Winners collect prizes that night on stage.

2 buses courtesy services. Sign written marquee bearing sponsors name. Sponsors banners on stage with product display.

MEDIA COVERAGE:

Rupert Murdoch's general manager Ken Cowley has instructed his media outlets to give full coverage leading up to and covering the event, ABC T.V. taking out their biggest mobile studios to Winton, ABC radio broadcasting are doing a series of profiles on the artists and the theme, local media interviews and coverage in each town, weekly progress of Swaggie Walk phoned to John Laws radio program. ABC program Australia All Over. Request sessions and talk back programs. Newspaper columns details and picture stories for monthly magazines.

POSTERS AND LEAFLETS BEARING SPONSORS NAME

As a major sponsor all monies collected for the drought appeal to be presented to the Queensland Drought Relief by sponsors.

**LETS DO IT TOGETHER
KEEPING THE TRADITION ALIVE!**

Mervyn (Bluey) Bostock.
Waltzing Matilda
Promotions Officer and
President Aust.
Bush Poets Association.
Ph: (07) 801 3082 Mbl: 018 772613
Fax: 801 3082





Australian Bush Poets Association

Promoting Waltzing Matilda Centenary Celebrations

SWAGGIES WALK TO WINTON



FEBRUARY.

Sat. 11th CAIRNS.
 Sun. 12th Rostered day off.
 Mon. 13th ATHERTON.
 Tue. 14th MAREEBA.
 Wed. 15th BABINDA.
 Thu. 16th INISFAIL.
 Fri. 17th TULLY.
 Sat. 18th MISSION BEACH.
 Sun. 19th R.D.O.
 Mon. 20th INGHAM.
 Tue. 21st Travel to C.T.
 Wed. 22nd CHARTERS TOWERS.
 Thu. 23rd Travel to T/ville
 Fri. 24th " " " " "
 Sat. 25th TOWNSVILLE.
 Sun. 26th R.D.O. (Magnetic isle)
 Mon. 27th AYR.
 Tue. 28th HOMEHILL.

MARCH.

Wed. 1st
 Thu. 2nd
 Fri. 3rd COLINSVILLE.
 Sat. 4th BOWEN.
 Sun. 5th R.D.O.
 Mon. 6th PROSERPINE.
 Tue. 7th SEAFORTH.
 Wed. 8th
 Thu. 9th SARINA.
 Fri. 10th MACKAY.
 Sat. 11th MACKAY.
 Sun. 12th R.D.O.
 Mon. 13th ST LAWRENCE.
 Tue. 14th YEPOON.
 Wed. 15th MT MORGAN.
 Thu. 16th ROCKHAMPTON.
 Fri. 17th GLADSTONE.
 Sat. 18th
 Sun. 19th R.D.O.
 Mon. 20th
 Tue. 21st
 Wed. 22nd
 Thu. 23rd
 Fri. 24th BUNDABERG.
 Sat. 25th MARYBOROUGH.
 Sun. 26th BRISBANE.

N.B.

**PROPOSED
 ITINERARY
 ONLY.**

**DATES AND
 VENUES MAY BE
 ALTERED
 BEFORE
 OFFICIAL
 ITINERARY
 IS SET.**

A Drought Appeal Concert will be arranged with the BRISBANE CITY COUNCIL when the two teams reach Brisbane on Sun. 26th. This will be held in the GARDENS as a "FREEPS" CONCERT. Many businesses have been approached to donate prizes for a full day of competitions.

The concert will also have some BIG country names to support it.

All media will be invited.
 We collect for the Drought Appeal and promote Waltzing Matilda.

A team of poets may also be transported, (by Flight West Airlines) to Mount Isa, Cloncurry, Julia Creek, Richmond, ~~Hughenden~~ and back to Winton before the celebrations begin.

If you are considering joining the SWAGGIES WALK for the full time or joining in at any venues, urgently contact Bluey Bostock so a full itinerary can be set out.

The team will be divided at MACKAY on Sat. 11th. The first team to follow above agenda -- 2nd team, as below.

Mon. 13th MORANBAH.
 Tue. 14th CLERMONT.
 Wed. 15th BLAIRATHOL.
 Thu. 16th ANAKIE.
 Fri. 17th EMERALD.
 Sat. 18th BLACKWATER.
 Sun. 19th R.D.O.
 Mon. 20th SPRINGSURE.
 Tue. 21st MOURA.
 Wed. 22nd MONTO.
 Thu. 23rd KINGAROY.
 Fri. 24th GYMPIE.
 Sat. 25th NAMBOUR.
 Sun. 26th BRISBANE.

JOIN IN THE FESTIVITIES!! WALTZ YOUR MATILDA TO WINTON IN 95.

MERV (Bluey) BOSTOCK. ph (07) 8013082. Mobile 018 772613 fax (07) 8013082

Busy Times and New Directions for Jim Haynes

Jim Haynes has shaved his beard and released a new album, an exciting collection of 16 songs, 14 of which are originals. Australian Country music fans who are not yet aware of Jim's scope as a songwriter, the quality of his baritone voice and his ability to present lyrics with maturity and excitement are about to be surprised by this Kookaburra/EMI release, **"Here I Am"**. Jim has already completed two video clips from the album, one of which is a duet with Felicity Urquhart, **"Kangaroo Moon"**.

Jim says, "These songs are the result of lots of travelling, observing our land and finding out what makes us laugh, cry and be proud to be Australian. I've also recorded a Johnny Ashcroft song and a Jack O'Hagan song, and Producer Steve Newton has given the record a nice 'old-fashioned' feel with beautiful fiddle playing by Pixie Jenkins and Marcus Holden and some wonderful piano, dobro, harmonica, guitar and mandolin playing by the likes of Garry Steele, Lawrie Minson and Andrew Clermont."

Jim has also been busy with projects like **"The Bridge of Love"** for the Year of the Family, touring his very popular school show, **"Singabout Australia"**, and songwriting with school children in the Harden-Murrumburrah District. This project was so successful that, with Jim's help, the kids have recorded their own album!

Bush Poetry continues to grow with Jim's help. The Queensland Events Corporation have invited Jim to take **"The Best Of The Bush"** Show to Winton next April for the Waltzing Matilda Centenary Celebrations and there are plans to make Bush Poetry bigger at the Longyard in January with extra afternoon sessions and a new programme for the famous **"Bush Poets Breakfasts"**.

Jim recently travelled to Christmas Island, via Indonesia, where he was special guest for 'National Territories Day', and also to Kynuna, Outback Queensland, where he sang the original version of 'Waltzing Watilda' to mark the exact centenary of the death of Hoffmeister (The Swaggie of the story) as the sun set over the waterhole. Then it was a show at the famous 'Blue Heeler' pub and a 7 hour light plane flight back to perform at the Mudjimba Festival. (He made it with 10 minutes to spare!)

He also performed at The Bundaberg Arts Festival, The Maldon Festival in Victoria and the Australian Music Festival at Glen Innes. He also toured his **"Best Of The Bush"** show to sellout crowds in Brisbane and Northern NSW. Jim's car is 18 months old now and has clocked up 70,000kms - he says he's getting sick of aeroplanes too!

For EMI Press Kits, photos, interviews or more information contact:

Chris at,	Robyn at,
Matthews Music/Kookaburra	Singabout Australia
75 Denison St ROZELLE 2039	PO Box 183 KINGSFORD 2032
Ph 02 555 1066 fax 555 1301	Ph 02 663 4791

"Splendacrest"
PRESTON. 4352
10th December, 1994

The Editor,
A.B.P.A. Magazine,

Dear Ron,

Congratulations to Charlee Marshall on "November"! It's a truly beautiful poem, skillfully crafted! I'm sure that mine were not the only eyes that were moist when they read it! And yes, Charlee, you DID start some interesting "airing-of-ideas" with your report on the Gypmie Muster in the September issue!

I would also like to congratulate Mark Gliori on his detailed exposé of his vision of where the Bush Poetry movement is heading! It contains much to agree with! eg. 'All Poets should be looking to improve the quality of their verse' etc.. I can appreciate his view of Competition too. 'Performers of note' (or Professionals) do tend to be 'dammed if they do and dammed if they don't'! But let's look at Professional (individual) Sportsmen, say Greg Norman or Steffi Graaf -- Should they give DEMONSTRATIONS ONLY? Will they maintain their adrenalin rush by doing a 'Personal Best' each time? Or do they continue to hone their skills through competition? It's a lonely life at the top! But then, Golf and Tennis have Pro-Am Competition!

Mark also brings up the subject of Eisteddfaux. As an Eisteddfod Adjudicator, I suggest that any Bush Poet who wants to learn about Performance should take pen and notebook to an Eisteddfod...yes, the WHOLE of the Speech and Drama section... buy a Program, and sit in the audience and pretend that YOU are the Adjudicator. Give each performer a mark, work out WHY you preferred one to the other, then take note of the Adjudicator's comments. If you don't understand what he/she is talking about, buy a book about it (or ask someone who does know). Then, stand in front of a mirror and critically appraise your own performance. It will prove a most worthwhile experience! You'll realise just how important breath control, intonation patterns and inflections are, and perhaps revise your opinion of the Judges of Bush Poetry Competitions! (They usually are part of a Panel. Therefore the most accurate and knowledgable can easily be over-ruled! The result is, hopefully, the COMBINED opinion of that particular group of people on that day!)

I guess what I'm trying to say is "Don't denigrate the Eisteddfod Movement!" I've seen BRILLIANT performances there, both Original and Established material, and NEVER A SCRIPT IN SIGHT unless the schedule specifies a READING eg. "BIBLE READING".

I have had the pleasure of meeting Carolyn White both in Longreach and Toowoomba, and found her letter (November Issue) raised two contentious issues:-

1. CATEGORIES. Certainly, the Organisers of Competitions should look to appropriate variations to the Categories that they wish to stage at their Festival, BUT... More Categories = More Prizes (or Awards) = More Money = More Fund Raising = More Work = Less Time = Less Enthusiasm = Give Up!

7
NO ONE (not even A.B.P.A.!) can inflict on any of the Organisations running Poetry functions that they MUST HAVE CERTAIN CATEGORIES! If the Categories advertised by a particular Festival don't happen to suit your liking, well...you don't have to compete, do you? The A.B.P.A. can, however, set the Categories and Rules for Australian Championships!

(Incidentally, Carolyn, did you perhaps mean your second category suggestion to be 'Writers who READ their own material'? that is, ORIGINAL POETRY READING?)

2. RULES. Poetry is an ART FORM. It needs a large dose of creativity, and scope for development of ideas, even about Competitions! What suits one situation/town/competition might be quite unsuitable in another. eg. N.O.P.A. Longreach up till now has given a 7 minute time slot in which you could perform one or more poems. (Up until 1994, a limited number of Poets went to N.O.P.A., so that worked). Now, with 62 poets at Toowoomba, most entered in both major sections, the mind boggles at the time it would have taken to give every entrant 7 minutes! We settled for 4 minutes. The present move to push for a maximum length of Poems performed in competitions to be determined as 'a certain number of words' presents new problems eg. copies of the poems WILL HAVE TO BE IN "IN ADVANCE", and it's yet another job to count the words. 'WORDS' (for length) is feasible for WRITTEN Competition, but

Sure, there must be Rules! The SAME rules everywhere will lead to a monotony of presentation....and results! A variety in STYLES of competitions organised gives EVERYONE a chance..and DIFFERENT PEOPLE a chance to shine. Let the individual Committees set their own rules. If the Rules don't suit, the Competitors won't come!

From the Poet's point of view...Read the Rules. If you don't like them, stay away! Or go, and don't compete! Pick and choose what suits you best! BUT...why not STRIVE TO WORK WITHIN THAT GIVEN FRAMEWORK, and extend your own ability?

Carolyn, PLEASE DON'T GIVE UP! We'd love to see you and your poetry in Toowoomba again!

Australia is a jolly big place! While we are one, we live in a wide variety of different environments and see even our beloved Bush Poetry Movement from different perspectives. What works in an Upper Class Area of Suburban Brisbane with a Business/Professional Clientele is a world away from the reality of the towns of Australia! Perhaps the most consoling comment I can make on Judith Hosier's letter is that her ideas are unenforceable-- Thank Heavens! Sadly, I feel they have dealt a serious blow to our very precious Brotherhood. Judith does sterling work in the entrepreneurial field. Perhaps if she were a performer....

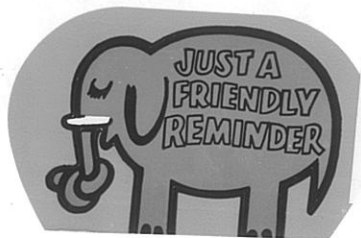
So please, let us 'cool' this discussion, realising that we are all entitled to our own opinion. UNITED, WE STAND! We've a big year coming up in 1995! May I wish you a Happy and Holy Christmas!

See you in...

Tamworth/Winton/Longreach/Tamworth/Jondaryn/Toowoomba/Gympie!

Eh? (That's because I'm a Queenslander!)

(Carmel Randle)



1995 Fees due JANUARY.



WOOLSHED ASSOCIATION

Jondaryan Woolshed Historical Museum & Park Association
A.C.N. 009 372 229

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Geoffrey W. Graham
Post Office, Bealiba, Vic. 3475

Ph. (054) 69 1312
Fax avail

BREADCRUMBS FROM THE BULLADEER.....

The end of our first year draws to a close. A little more happening down South recently. Maldon Festival came and went. A successful turn in an historical setting. It is called a Folk festival, though it has anything but just Folk music. Everything from Blues to Swing and Country. Some very talented people. Bushpoetry and Yarnspinning is only a small part of this festival, but as is happening elsewhere, it is growing steadily from year to year.

MAJORS CREEK Festival had such a good write up last issue, it hardly needs a comment from me. Except to say it's an example of just how a festival can grow quickly with the weight of a good committee and support from the locals. 1994 was the first one there and support was not great. Maybe the locals a bit wary of a feral nightmare. This year the locals got behind it and groups like army cadets and S.E.S rallied to the cause. The festival drew as many people as the National did in 1984. Not bad eh!

This year has been my first real Festival year and I must say I'm still a little overawed by it all. It has been a fantastic experience for me, and I trust 1995 will be an exciting year for us all....Merry Xmas

.....Geoffrey Graham.



**Merry Christmas
to You!**



Geoffrey W. Graham
Post Office, Bealiba, Vic. 3475

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Dear Ron,

I'd like to add some comments on the continuing saga commenced by Charlee on Poetry...Performing versus the written word. You asked for it Charlee.

Writing is something I have just started to get my teeth into, so I consider myself a rank beginner. Having witnessed such an array of original performers in 1994 made me realise I must start writing, and this I have valiantly attempted with great difficulty, and probably the age-old problem of "I just can't find the time!!".

To watch the audiences watching the Poets perform at Tamworth this year was a spectacle in itself. It is obvious people are flocking to this form of entertainment in droves. The same could not be said for people clamouring to buy books of poetry. (hopefully changing). Publishers in the not too distant past have steered clear in the main from poetry compared to the rest of the books published.

I feel the average person in recent times if given the invitation to "come to the pub and see a bit of poetry" would find something really important to do, like the washing. Why? Maybe one of the reasons is a lot of us were brought up on the poetry of Keats, Donne and the like and perhaps the magnetism was not overpowering, and the empathy a trifle low. As Judith Hosier points out there has been a total mental block over the years, and at last this is breaking down.

"Poetry readings" have cropped up from time to time, and have I suspect been attended by primarily other writers, and a select few. But performing, now that's different. Watching performance poets I find tremendously exciting, particularly if it strikes some chord with me, whether it be humour, pathos, or something to touch me emotionally. I was amused recently hearing a couple of young Bucks, perhaps unlikely poetry watchers, comment to the effect of "Hey man this stuff is really cool, I never knew this poetry stuff even existed...hey it's shit hot".

At Tamworth this year I bought many books of Poetry, mainly when the poets performance connected with me. I must admit in some cases I felt disappointed reading the poems as they didn't do as much for me as witnessing the performance. However, I'm still trying to work out what is "good" writing and what is not. Is it good if I like it? or is it based on technical parameters that I haven't discovered yet.

I presume the goal of a Poet is to write a masterpiece that will stand up to being read or "watched" with equal accolades.



However Charlee, I also believe it is performance that will bring audiences to buy the books, rather than vice versa.

Sometimes I've been witness to what I might call elitist poetry or poetry for the few people who understand or pretend to understand it. If I have to read a poem 50 times to determine what the hell it's about...well....I'd rather read or hear something that clicks if not the first time certainly the second.

I believe this is why Banjo and Henry and other traditionalists were so popular and why the crop of contemporaries is taking the country by force. We understand it, we don't get sick of it, we laugh, we cry, we relate. And Yes Charlee to some it may be "the too obvious" forms.

I applaud Marco and Carolyn White on their comments on the state of Bush Poetry competitions and Performing.

For me performing is terrifying, however immensely enjoyable. Now that I have started performing my own poems, it has given terror a whole new meaning. I take my hat off to every person who climbs that stage. It does take guts, and every person who does is a winner in my book. Marco mentioned climbing that ladder of professionalism, and to me that's what it is all about. I believe there is a common goal amongst most Bush Poets I have met to be the very best we can be at performing and writing, to constantly improve, to preach the gospel of Bush Poetry, and to give a lift to those hitching a ride on that road. If that is the road we are travelling, there is plenty of room, and it sure won't be lonely.

Competitions I believe can be healthy in developing our talents, and helping us reach goals. Thankfully, I think in the band of Bush Poets there appears to be a lack of Prima Donnas. Comparisons however, can be a sinister enemy, and whether performance is competition based or not, to me it's about following your destiny and doing the best that you can do.

What constitutes Bush Poetry and Traditional Poetry are areas that do need to be defined. I trust some poets may get a giggle out of my enclosed poem! "WHAT IS BUSH PO-ETRY".

I do sympathise with those in the situation of writing but not performing. In fact Carolyn, many singers do not write the songs they record and perform. So perhaps one answer for poets in the above category is to hassle the performing poets to perform their works.

I'd like to finish by agreeing with Judith's comments on fellowship. To me the Bush Poets I have come into contact with have been the most genuine, giving, delightful group I have come across. I dips me lid to'em all. Cheers

Geoffrey Graham

What is Bush Po-etry?

Being judged at Tamworth for my Bush Poetry
I did my piece, performed it like, seemed alright to me
Never in the race Sport, I missed out in the heat.
I thought, Oh well, I'll get some help, I need to get this beat.

A Judge then comes across to me and this is what she said.
"That was not Bush Poetry, this morning what you read"
Now I'm not academic, when it comes to writing verse
I'm just a blooming amateur, aiming for the purse.

"Bush Poetry", I says to her, "Whats it sposed to say?"
Well blow me down, she turned around right then and walked away
You could have knocked me over Mate, I felt like I was nude,
She might be academic, but she's awful bloody rude.

Then I stumbles over to the Judge fraternity
"Excuse me Folks can You tell me, What is Bush Po-etry,?"
They ummed and ahed and scratched their heads, I thought well
strike me Blue
Is it a Judge pre-requisite, This "haven't got a clue!"

I'll help em out, I then declared, "Does it have to rhyme?"
"Well not necessarily, at least not all the time."
Steer you clear of free verse, and all that writing meter
It should be individual, but neater rhyme is sweeter"

"Not so much didactic or satirical light verse
Or Epigrams, or Epitaphs and Elegies are worse
Not dactyl hexameter, Odes or Terza rima
But if it is Italian verse of course it has to rhyme"

"Does it have to be about the bush or Rural life?"
"It's best if it relates to words akin to country strife.
Farmers, dogs and droving, wild horses, droughts and sheep,
Nothing scientific, vulgar, or in fact too deep."

"What about the Chinese and the Aborigines?",
"Well, that's a sticky one, You need to tread softly.
Don't stir up the possum friend, or take a soapbox stance
Not too Greenie, Right or Left, or abject dissonance".

"What about the struggle of the working factory man?
The housewife in the city or the street kids in a jam?"
"You need to be selective, with our man upon the land"
"But didn't cities all start out on farms, and not that grand."

"Don't rock the boat mate, or else it could capsize,
And if you're standing in the boat, you'll get a wee surprise
We want Poetry that's nice and right appropriate
So mind your P's and Q's boy, now, please get on with it."
"Can I write on Judges of that Bush Poetry?"
"Look Geoffrey, read it out, and then you'll quickly see".
"It's far too late", I words to him, "My poems at an end."
Right now I need to grab a beer, I'll catch you later friend."

© Geoffrey Graham

Glen Innes Festival. 25 - 27 Nov. 1994.

More drought breaking rains threatened the viability of the Fifth Annual Glen Innes Australian Bush Music Festival. However, after about an inch on the Friday, the weather cleared for what proved to be a great weekend, although numbers were down on last years attendances.

Known as the most beautiful showground in N.S.W. (ask Blue the Shearer — he said so on ABC radio a week before he ever saw the site,) this superb 150 year old venue, with its' tree lined avenues, beautifully maintained gardens, lawns, and splendid old buildings, is a credit to the local Show Committee.

Naturally enough, the public bar was the most popular area throughout the Festivities, with the Main Stage set in a large marquee which was attached to this building.

Bush Poets came from as far as Lithgow, Newcastle, Warwick, Wollongong, Brisbane, Tenterfield and Glen Innes. (Not forgetting Wellington and Canowindra.)

Mark Gliori was as popular as ever with his 'Granny and the Snake,' and 'One-eyed Joe,' to mention a couple, and was kept busy for the two days compering and running segments of the busy schedule.

He had just finished a successful two nights at the Kiosk Boil-over in Brisbane, and then had to rush back to Warwick to catch a plane for an engagement in Bowen, North Queensland.

Jim Haynes also Boiled-over at the Kiosk and was pleased to settle down to some regular rest and recreation, doing what he does all year round, singing and entertaining and worrying about Bush Poets.

He too, had a busy time at the 'Glen,' compering, singing, and telling his favourite Wheelabarrabak stories, as well as launching his new C.D. **'HERE I AM'** from EMI. which was well received and is selling well. Jims' new adventures of Dipso Dan were popular.

Shirley Friend was another big attraction in the Tea Rooms and on the Main Stage, and kept many people laughing at her stories about herself, which she has put to rhyme. Shirley is a laugh a second, a real rude sheila, and is readying herself for an onslaught on Winton in '95.

God help 'em up there.

The 'Mayor' of Tamworth, John Philipson, told some pretty good lies, and managed to take out the Tall Tales competition with his yarn about his dog, 'Engineer.'

Shirley came second with some story about 'womens troubles.'

Blue the Shearer, with his apprentice in tow, was besieged with requests for his ever popular 'Cross-eyed Bull' and his run of hate poems, such as the 'Trailer' and the 'Chainsaw.'

Blue came second in the Poets Brawl which was a very entertaining section of the programme led by John Philipson and yours truly, with Marco being the outright winner.

During the Festival, David Mulhallan, from ABC Radio National, hosted four sessions which were recorded for his new programme, 'Swag of Yarns,' which will go to air in January, 1995.

Again the Bush Poets and Tall Tale Tellers were the greatest attractions and the Tea Room was filled to capacity for every performance.

Milton Taylor travelled up from Portland, near Lithgow for the weekend and gave a couple of rousing performances and told a few good yarns about his shearing days.

We should be hearing a lot from this bloke in the future, although I'm not too sure what he meant in one of his yarns when he mentioned something or other about 'some old cove in his fifties.'

Age shall not weary us, Milton.

Aphrodisiacally speaking, (how's that for a newy?) Gertrude Skinner had a good weekend and told a good few stories about her life in the North-west of N.S.W. where she spent over thirty five years of her life with her husband in and around the Mungindi area.

Her poem, 'The Avacado,' is probably her most requested.

For the benefit of readers who are not familiar with Gertrude, she did not start writing poetry until she was in her seventies, and now at a spritely eighty two years is going stronger than ever. Gertrude, who lives in Tamworth, has recorded much of her work and has enjoyed a lot of success.

The next big gathering of Poets will be at the Maleny Folk Festival during the Christmas-New Year period, followed by the Country Music Festival in Tamworth in January where we will again be mustering at the Longyard for our Poets Breakfasts, as well as the Imperial Hotel verse competitions.

Regards, Joe.

Holiday Greetings

OCTOBER 9.

Biscuit Tin Portrait

A picture of mother
 a daughter behind
 One looks to the looker
 the other beyond
 But they are together
 a family bond
 Enjoying the scenery
 and summer's bird song
 Remaining an aura
 of time endlessly
 A portrait ~~resides~~
 in my lounge room
 with me

Justin Goble
Justin Goble



WALTZING MATILDA'S BIRTHDAY
 100 YEARS CELEBRATION
 EASTER 6TH APRIL - 17TH 1995
 10 DAY FESTIVAL

HAPPY CHRISTMAS

POETS PANDEMONIUM.

Saturday, 4th February, is the date of our next Gone Bush poetry convention.

It is being held at Cania Caravan Park, Monto, which is a lovely quiet setting with lots of walks up the gorge - kangaroos in the park, birds to feed, peace and quiet everywhere.

Plans for the Saturday include a bush tucker 2-course dinner provided by Beryl and Charlee at a cost of \$7.00 with billy tea, a camp fire and plenty of recitation from 6.30 till late.

Dingo's Breakfast (\$4.00) is at 8.00 on Sunday.

When you book with Ian or Erin on (071)678188 please advise what meals you will require and pay where possible on booking.

The following nightly prices will pertain:-

Cabins with Ensuite:- \$43.00 for two persons. Extra person \$6.00. Child under 5, \$3.00.

Standard Cabins:- \$32.00 for two persons. Extra \$6.00, etc.

Powered Sites:- \$13.00 for two persons. Extra person \$5.00. Child under 14, \$3.00.

Unpowered Sites:- Adult \$5.00 Child under 14, \$3.00.

There is a Bunkhouse with 15 beds still available at posting date. Cost is \$8.50 per person. You are required to bring linen, towels, blankets, etc. or these may be hired from the office. Pillows will be supplied. After breakfast on Sunday your time is your own to explore, make friends or just sit and natter.

See you there -

Beryl.

THE BUNDABERG POETRY MUSTER BUSH VERSE COMPETITION 1995

Sponsored by Discount Stationery.
Targo St Bundaberg.

1st Prize \$100 and trophy.

2nd. Prize \$70

3rd. Prize \$30

Conditions-of-entry.-

1. Poetry to be bush verse (Aust. Heritage) on one side of paper only and must be entrant's own work.
2. Name Address and telephone number of entrant must be on separate page from entry.
3. Entries shall not have won a prize or been published in any literary competition.
4. Entries close 5th Feb. 1995.
5. Judge's decision is final. No correspondence will be entered into.
6. Winner to allow to be, or will perform winning poetry at the Bundy Mob's Poetry Muster. 5th March 1995.
7. Winners will be announced at Finals of Bush Poetry Competitions on Sunday morning. 5th March 1995.
8. Entries will not be returned.
9. Entry fee \$3.00 each entry.
10. Limit of three entries per person.
11. No entry form necessary.

Send Entries to: The Co-ordinator.
Bundaberg Poetry Muster Competition.
63 Crofton St
Bundaberg. 4670.

THE QUEENSLAND SPASTIC WELFARE LEAGUE



Christmas



wishes



"Christmas is coming! Christmas is coming!"
Came the small voice filled with glee
"Look at the Santa! Look at the toys!
Look at the Christmas tree!"

And it made me think of my own childhood
And how I used to know
That the Christmas season was drawing near
And the signs that told me so.

The first sign came when winter had gone
And the east wind blew from the sea
Bearing with it the sweet perfume
Of the Frangipanni tree.

For the wind from the east with it's perfume sweet
Seemed to me like the Three Wise Men
Bearing their gifts of incense and myrrh
From the east -- to Bethlehem.

Then the sky would be filled with the purple robe
Of the Jacaranda flowers,
And the Silky Oaks with their golden crowns
Stood like majestic towers.

And those royal colours of purple and gold
Had a special message to bring
Of wonderful tidings of great joy --
The birth of a new-born King.

The next sign came with the storm bird's calls
As they raised their songs to the sky --
"Noel! Noel!" they seemed to sing
And "Noel" came back in reply.

The Cicadas would join in the chorus song
Like the angel hosts above
Singing "Glory to God and Peace on Earth!"
They welcomed the God of Love.

So next time you feel the cool east breeze
And smell it's sweet perfume
And see the Oaks with their golden crowns
And the Jacarandas bloom.

And you hear the song of the old storm bird
Joining Cicadas as they sing --
Remember, like me, that they herald the birth
Of our Saviour --- Christ the King!

Coral Stollznow.





Tiny Hall: a big winner in archery – and life.

Tiny hits the big time

Story: MEGAN DOHERTY
Photo: BARRY SMITH

TAMWORTH – Tiny Hall's name reflects her stature but not her zest for life.

That's huge.

Her latest achievement has been at the World Masters Games in Brisbane where she won two gold medals for archery in the 60-plus age group.

Miss Hall travelled to the Games in Brisbane earlier this month in her 4WD with her constant companions Mardi the cattle dog, Lucky the dachshund and Smokey the 17-year-old Persian cat.

She took up archery two years ago and hasn't looked back.

Not even a fall in the backyard in June when she broke three ribs could put Miss Hall off competing in the Games.

"I'm not going to sit in a rocking chair," she explained.

"I reckon (archery's) good medication. I haven't had an asthma attack since I took up

archery. Before I was in hospital two, sometimes three times a year."

At the Games, Miss Hall was up by 5am ready to shoot more than 140 arrows a day in the target and field events.

"When the others pulled out their big bows and sights it was like they were driving a Mercedes Benz and I was driving a little mini-minor," she laughed.

Before the Games, Miss Hall was confronted with bushfires along the Bruce Highway.

Afterwards she relaxed by helping friends build cattle yards on their property in Queensland.

Last weekend she took home another three gold medals from the Dubbo Veterans Games.

And she has no intention of slowing down.

Miss Hall wants to be at the next World Masters in America in the year 2000.

"I'm looking for a job so I can make some money and go and defend my title," she said with a grin.

**** AUSTRALIAN BUSH POETS ASSOCIATION, MEMBERS BOOKS AVAILABLE, ****

- THE LARRIKIN RETURNS...& AUSSIE POEMS.... Bob Miller.
2 Pilerwa Rd MUNGAR QLD..... \$10. post free or both books., \$12.
- BLOOD ON THE BOARD. & BLASTED CROWS.... Bob Magor.
Bob Magor Post Office MYPONGA, S.A, 5202. \$11 for one, both books \$21
- A TOUCH OF HISTORY...& A LIGHTER TOUCH OF HISTORY.. Ron Stevens.
14 Eden Park Av DUBBO NSW 2830. \$12 each, post free.
- THE KILLARNEY KID... Max Jarrott.
15 Palm st KILLARNEY QLD 4373.... \$9.00 plus \$2. Postage.
- JUST WAIT TILL I GROW UP..... Jacqueline Hilary Bridle.
c/o MAPLETON POST OFFICE 4560 \$10. Post free.
- STRAIGHT FROM THE HEART..... Brian Gale.
25 Georgette Drive MARGARET RIVER W.A. 6285. \$9.00
- THE MULLUMBIMBY BLOKE.... Ray Essery.
MYOCUM via MULLUMBIMBY NSW 2482. \$10.00
- YOU'LL FIND IT IN THE BUSH..... Gary Fogarty.
35 Warden st GOONDIWINDI QLD 4390. \$10.00
- WHIPCRACKERS EAT HUMBLE PIE TOO..... Noel Cutler.
RMB 1130 MILAWA VIC. 3678. \$10.00
- POEMS OF PERISTALSIS..... Ian Mackay.
P.O. Box 115 KENILWORTH QLD. 4574. \$7.00 Post free.
- POETS NEVER LIE. THE CAKE MAKERS REVENGE.... Mark Gliori.
Saddlesaw Productions P.O. Box 999 WARWICK QLD 4370. \$12 & \$10 post
free... also POETIC JUSTICE. (cassette) \$15. post free.
- THE WASHING UP WILL HAVE TO WAIT..... Betsey Chape.
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M/S 544 CLIFTON QLD 4361. \$7.00
- AMONG UDDER THINGS...& some MORE UDDER NONSENSE... Marion Fitzgerald.
C/o 'Mount Carmel' NORTH STAR NSW 2408. (price unavailable)
- AGE OF INNOCENCE. Janet O'Brien Vize.
P.O. Box 5310 ROCKHAMPTON QLD. (price unavailable)
- LOVE IN THE MIST..... Lisa Gerhard Plucknett.
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- JOHN PHILIPSON RECITES..volume 1,2 and 3. John Philipson.
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- COBB & CO - THROUGH THE EYES OF A POET. Various poets.
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- A.P.A.
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OUR OWN SUPER SPECIALS!