



**The Australian**

**ART WORK  
WANTED**

**Bush Poets**

**Association**



NO 1 FEBRUARY 1994

IMPERIAL HOTEL .... TAMWORTH.

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Minutes of the Inaugural meeting held 28/1/1994.

The meeting was opened at 12.45 when Merv (bl ey) Bostock invited those present, who wished to be involved, to remain after the Imperial Hotel Original and Traditional Bush Poetry Heats.

Merv welcomed those present and outlined his vision of the need for a unifying representative association for Bush Poets.

Those present at this meeting were::

M.Bostock. CAIRNS QLD. R.Selby. DRAYTON QLD.  
G.Graham. BEALIBE VIC. M.Jarrott.KILLARNEY QLD.  
B.Magor. MYPONGA SA. J.Johansoo.WYNNUM QLD.  
T.Hall. TAMWORTH NSW. N.Cutler. MILAWA. VIC.  
R.Begg. FORSTER. NSW. P.Begg. FORSTER. NSW.  
B.Miller. MUNGAR. QLD. B.Dickman.CHINCHILLA.QLD.  
B.McConnell .SHELDON.QLD. J.Philipson.T/WORTH. NSW.  
J.Major. Baralaba.QLD. J.Rennick. FORBES. NSW.  
C.Irving. TRURO. SA. P.Powell. BLACKVILLE.NSW.  
R.Essery. MULLUMBIMBY.NSW. B.Hay.CHINCHILLA. QLD.  
C.Randle. PRESTONS.QLD. R.Bates. GATTON. QLD.  
P.Roberts. TAMWORTH.NSW. F.Daniel .CANOWINDRA. NSW.  
D.Broad. COOMA. NSW. D.Walker. FORBES. NSW.  
S.Edwards. BILGOLA PLATEAU. NSW.  
J. Obrien Vize. ROCKHAMPTON. QLD.

A proposal that such an Association be formed was passed unanimously on a show of hands.

Nominations were called for an Interim Committee

Acting PRESIDENT. Merv Bostock.

Moved ..Noel Cutler. Seconded ... Ried Begg  
ELECTED.

"Acting Secretary/Treasurer. Ron Selby.

Moved ..Carmel Randle. Seconded ..Bob Miller.  
ELECTED.

Executive Member. Max Jarrott.

Moved ..Carmel Randle. Seconded. Bob Miller.  
ELECTED.

Executive Member. Geoffrey Graham.

Moved ..John Philipson. Seconded. Ron Selby.

The acting President outlined his proposed aims for the Association. These were discussed and enlarged, Generally they were agreed to be .....

1. The publication and circulation of a newsletter on a regular basis to keep members informed on,
  - A. Upcoming events.
  - B. Progress within the Assoc.
2. The registration of the Association with the Justice Department.
3. The promotion of Bush Poetry, both performance and publication. So that more Australians may be made aware of, and enjoy this art form.
4. The formation of a body that can represent all Bush Poets at state and national levels so that poetry may become a recognized art form in both print and performance.

An Interim membership fee of \$20. per annum was set, payable to the treasurer forthwith.

It was unanimously decided the next Annual General meeting would be held following the Friday heats at the Imperial Hotel, TAMWORTH. January 1995

The acting president thanked all for their attendance and closed the meeting at 1:30 pm.

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\*\*\* INVITATION TO ALL POETS. \*\*\* 9/4/94.

In conjunction with the official opening of the Birdsville Working Museum, The opening of the Diamantina Shire Council Caravan Park and the Birdsville Hotel.

We are having a full event for poets including Poets Breakfast, Best Performance of Traditional Bush Poem, Yarn Spinning Competition and also a Poets Brawl. Co-ordinated and chaired by BOB MILLER. (The Larrikan)

Travel out with flight West or drive and see the west. Accommodation at the Hotel or camp at the Caravan Park.

Contact and enquiries to JOHN MENZIES .....

(076) 563259. Let us know if you can make it.

We hope to make this an annual event ....

BE AT BIRDSVILLE 9th APRIL 1995.

# Beating around the bush



with  
John Morris



## • Bush poets at Tamworth

At the recent Australian Country Music Festival at Tamworth, bush poets gained even greater recognition than in previous years when three of Australia's best were invited for the first time to recite at the Australia Day concert.

Around 12,000 rose to give a standing ovation when Queensland Bob Miller recited his original poem, *What Makes a True Australian?*

The theme of Miller's poem was that mateship was not just confined to the bush, and that real Australians were everywhere.

Toowoomba bush poet Carmel Randle was there, and said the standard of competition was extraordinarily high in both the original and traditional competitions.

People lined up for 1½ hours before the opening for the poets' breakfast. Many had to bring their own chairs.

## • Bush poets winners

Here are the winners of the Tamworth Imperial Hotel Bush Poets Competition for performance:

ORIGINAL POEMS - Mark Giori, Warwick 1; Ray Essery, Mullumbimby, NSW 2; Bob Miller, Mungar, Old 3.

TRADITIONAL POEMS - Ray Essery 1; Noel Cutler, Victoria 2; Geoffrey Graham, Victoria 3.

## • Bush poets organisation

A steering committee was elected at Tamworth to form an Australian Bush Poets Association, with Cairns bush poet Bluey Bostock as acting president and Toowoomba's Ron Selby as secretary.

Among other things, the organisation will notify members when festivals are held and organise book publishing.

If you write or perform bush poetry, you can join by writing to Ron Selby, 9 Gipps Street, Drayton, 4350.

## • Drunk story

A drunken man staggered into his front yard at Chinchilla and collapsed just as police were driving past.

They stopped and stood the man on his feet, asking him what he was doing there. He told them that he lived there.

"They all say that," said one of the two policemen.

"I'll show you," said the drunk.

He opened the door of the house and waved his arm around, saying, "This is my house, and over there is my lounge chair."

He walked up the staircase: "And this is my staircase in my house."

He threw open the bedroom door and pointed to a woman asleep in bed: "And that is my wife."

Pointing to the man lying beside her, he said: "And that's me!"

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NEWS  
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of the TOOWOOMBA CHRONICLE.

INTERIM MEMBERSHIP. \$20.00 Due Now.



# THE LARRIKIN RETURNS



**Australian Bush verse  
by  
Bob Miller**

Available from;  
2 PILERWA RD MUNGAR  
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\$10. post free or both books \$12.

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\*\*\*SECRETARY/TREASURER REPORT. \*\*\*

May I first thank all who supported my nomination to this position and say that I will do my best to fullfil my obligations.

This Association will undoubtedly go ahead in leaps and bounds with the vast and diverse talents of its members.

YOU! the member are in the box seat to place the AUSTRALIAN BUSH POETS ASSOCIATION to a pinnacle of success, where we should gain the recognition of our form of poetry, be it serious or humourous but all-ways uniquely Australian, to where it deserves.

Bush Poetry has enjoyed a meteoric rise in the past two or three years, where most venues have trebled in public attendance.

BUT! This Association can only fullfil its aims and ambitions with the complete backing of its members. That is INPUT, by YOU the member on ideas and information on coming events, no matter how small,

Remember you may not want to attend a certain event, But other members may be only too willing to attend and support all and any events.

As editor of your news letter, I will only be able to pass on to other members, the information I recieve on anything that may be happening around the country. I will need the Name of the event, the Date, Times and Contact name. Or if there is an article in your local paper concerning Bush Poets send it in, there may not be enough time to contact other members, but it may be noted for mention in next years calandar.

We have events happening all over from TAMWORTH to TOOWOOMBA, LONGREACH to BIRDSVILLE, MALANEY to ORANGE.

Written Competitions such as the BANJO PATTERSON AWARDS of ORANGE, (entries closed 31/1/94) may not interest you but may be of great interest to other members. A letter from our association to the organizers of this event should supply us with much earlier notice should the event be held again next year.

I have been a member of a variety of other clubs (car clubs; Golf. Fishing Motor racing ect) that have existed on a mundane level mostly due to a

lack of support and involvement by its members like Joe blow saying " I was going to do that job but I thought Somebody Else would do it" Or "I could'nt find an envelope or a stamp to send my entry in!"

In each news letter I propose to include some information on books ect available from other poets, Where to get them or a postal address to order them from. So if you have a book on the market or wish to buy another poets book, you will be able to do it through this association.

Information on publishers, where to get the best deal, Who to talk to, Where best to sell your book Who to see about illustrations, ect ect ..

This is all information that can be passed on to other members through this association.

REMEMBER:: The more input the better info.

The postal address, (for the first 12 months)

\*\*\* THE AUSTRALIAN BUSH POETS ASSOCIATION.\*\*\*

PO Box 77 DRAYTON NORTH.  
QLD. 4350.

Telephone enquiries. (076) 301106.

ps. Drayton is on the edge of TOOWOOMBA.

NATIONAL OUTBACK PERFORMING ART FESTIVAL.  
(In conjunction with the RINGERS MUSTER)

LONGREACH .... 28th APRIL ..to ..1st MAY.

PO Box 518 LONGREACH QLD. 4730.

JIM HAYNES WORKSHOP.

	Thur. 28th	6.30	....	9.00 pm
\$le. per sess.	Sat. 30th	9.30	....	12.30 pm
	Sun. 1st	9.30	....	12.30 pm

SUNDAY NIGHT DINNER. \$20. Bookings needed.

open sessio s of Singing, Instrumental, Poetry  
yarn spinning and Annual Poetry Cup.

For Info. Pres. TIM BUTLER. (076) 581477. BH.  
(076) 581544. AH.

REGIS. FORMS. DAVTD SELL. (076) 583601.  
WORK SHOP. HELEN AVERY. (076) 581718.

The Banjo Paterson Festival  
ORANGE NSW  
17th February to 13th March 1994

**"Banjo" Paterson  
Writing Awards**

The aim of these awards is to honour "Banjo" Paterson a great Australian writer and the famous son of Orange, with a competition to foster writing of prose or poetry with an Australian theme.

## CONDITIONS

1 The Competition will be judged to select, in the opinion of the judges, the best entries of poetry and prose with an Australian theme. First prize will be \$1,000.00, second \$400.00 and third \$200.00 in each of the two sections.

2 Entry Forms are available from:-

The Banjo Paterson Festival Committee, C/- P.O. Box 194, Orange, NSW, 2800.

3. Entries close last mail on 31st January, 1994

4. Entry Requirements

- Entries must be the unaided work of the entrant
- There is no limit to the length of poetry while prose must not exceed 4,000 words.
- Entries do not have to be written in the same style as the work of Banjo Paterson or in 'bush' style as the awards are aimed at promoting all forms of Australian writing and all writers.
- Entries previously published will be considered by the judges providing no payment was received.
- An entry fee of \$10 must accompany each entry, along with an entry form and stamped self addressed envelope. The entry forms can be photocopied.
- Entries with Entry Form, fee and stamped self addressed envelope must be received by the last mail on 31st January, 1994, at Banjo Paterson Festival office, P.O. Box 194, Orange, NSW, 2800.
- NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE CONSIDERED
- All entries are to be available for reproduction or publication by the Banjo Paterson Festival Committee with copyright being retained by the author.
- Judging - a panel of judges will be presided over by Mr John Miller, chairman of the Banjo Paterson Festival Committee.
- The Judges' decision will be final.
- The winners will be notified by phone call and all entrants will be notified of the results by mail.
- Members of the Banjo Paterson Festival Committee and their families or judges and their families are not eligible to enter.
- There is a separate competition for children 16 and under for which separate entry forms and conditions are available from the above address.

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provided by OCTEC

THE BANJO PATERSON FESTIVAL

IS PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY:

  
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