




The Australian



**Bush Poets
Association**



No.8. Vol.3.
August. 1996.

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER.

Australian Bush Poets Association Inc.

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The Camp Oven Bush Poetry Festival

31st Aug. - 1st Sept. 1996

North Pine Country Park

Petrie - Queensland

Enq: John Coutts 07 3886 1552

'The Selection'

by

'Blue the Shearer'

\$15.00 incl PPH .

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Wellington NSW 2820

HELP!

**A HANDBOOK FOR WRITERS AND PERFORMERS OF
RHYMED VERSE — Carmel Randle T.L.T.C.L.(Effect Sp)**

\$10 Post paid

'Splendacrest' MS 852 PRESTON Q 4352

From the pen of **Claude Morris**. Born in Watsonville, Qld. 1908.

The Solution.

**Poor Isaac was restless, and couldn't sleep,
And Rachel asked him why?**

**"I'm due to pay Cohen the money I owe
And I can't." was the sad reply.**

**Rachel was silent and deep in thought,
Then solving the problem, she said:**

**"Telephone Cohen and tell him at vonce - -
Let him stay awake, instead.**

Presidents Letter.....Dear Members of the ABPA.

Judging by the number of letters, feedback and phone calls I am receiving nowadays, the 'Bush Poetry' ball is really rolling.

I received a welcome invitation to attend a Public Meeting in Perth WA. where Anne Farren, Community Arts Officer of the City of Melville had banded a group of enthusiasts together with intentions of forming the 'W.A. Bush Poets and Yarn Spinners Association'.

To create the right atmosphere and enthuse those attending, a concert was organised with performances by Kel Watkins (National Champion Yarn-spinner), Roger Montgomery (The People's Poet), Constance Herbert ('96 winner Wireless Hill Yarn Spinners Event) the inimitable Peter Capp, Melville's own Jeff Swain and Keith Lethbridge ('96 Winner Wireless Hill Poets Cup).

Being unable to attend, I passed on all relevant information regarding the ABPA, and have since received a reply from Rusty Christensen.

Rusty informs me that the timely arrival of my letter was encouraging and the accompanying information was well received and will be put to much use.

Thirty five enthusiasts turned up and were treated to some excellent demonstrations of Bush Poetry and Yarn Spinning. Most of them have indicated their keen-ness to form an association and a further meeting is scheduled for these foundation members who are all set to get the show on the road.

Exchange of newsletters between associations should see further development of the network of contacts between the States.

Let's hope this continues on to bigger things, we need it, and it is our only way of way of keeping in touch.

Continuing efforts from the Sydney area by Joye Dempsey and Rex Hockey are seeing newer developments in taking the Bush to the City. With the year 2000 approaching and the Olympic games, much is being done to corner some of the entertainment programme in the 'Big Smoke'. More news about this later.

Lovers of Australian Bush Poetry in Cunnamulla have united and established the Paroo Poets Society. The Paroo Poets are working with young people in local communities in outback Queensland to encourage and develop their writing skills and interest in bush poetry.

Another great development in Queensland has been the formation of the Charleville Bush Balladeers. Only six weeks old and already a written and a performance Competition scheduled for August 31st. during the local Festival Week.

Further news to hand has it that Neil Hulm, Bush Poet and Author, from

Lavington in Southern NSW has been appointed Secretary/Treasurer of the newly formed Snowy Mountains Bush Poets Association.

This is what I like to hear from people, and I ask that no matter how small or large your gathering is, there will always be someone who is interested to hear about it.

So! Put pen to paper and keep sending your news to us so that we may help you share it around. Tell us about your next function, and then when it is over, send us the results so that we may tell others.

Further to my letter of last month regarding media attention to Bush Poetry, Australian Lady Champion Glenny Palmer went to air on ABC Radio last month with Andrew Lofthouse and is scheduled to appear in the "Australian Story" which is seen on Wednesdays' around 8pm on ABC Television.

Keep an eye out in the next month or so for more coverage on the popular Television show, "Healthy Wealthy and Wise" where presenter Jim Brown reports on his visit to Canowindra NSW and the 'Marti's Hot Air Balloon Fiesta'. Jim was one of the Poets recorded on the first "Bush Voices" cassette at the National Outback Performing Arts Festival in Longreach.

Keep writing - keep reciting, Regards. *Frank Daniel.*

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Diamond Shears.

The results of the 1996 Diamond Shears Henry Lawson Poetry Competition were announced recently from Longreach, Qld. They are...

- 1st. Veronica Weal of Mt. Isa Q. "The Night I Caught the Rat"
 - 2nd. Geoff Allen of Balgowlah Heights, NSW. "Old Mulga Bill"
 - 3rd. Tony Hammill of Cairndale, Q. "Jim and Charles"
- Commended. Ron Stevens of Dubbo, NSW. "Offensive Care"

Veronica Weal's name first became familiar to Bush Poet when she won the Bronze Swagman Award in 1987. Over the past few years, she has been frequently a placegetter in the Write-in Competitions conducted in eastern Australia including 3rd. in the same Competition last year.

Our congratulations to her on this well-deserved win!

Camp Oven Bush Poetry Festival.

Entries are rolling in for this inaugural Event at Petrie, Q. on 31st. August and 1st. September. Poets intending competing at this Festival are asked to submit entries in advance where possible. Late entries will be accepted if time permits.

And, if you do not want to compete, there will still be plenty to see, hear, and do!

----- 00000 -----

The Snowy Mountains Bush Poetry Club.

The spirit of the bush and the tradition of bush poetry in the Snowy Mountains received a push along on May 11th. last, with the Announcement that the Snowy Mountains Bush Poetry Club held it's inaugural meeting at the Woomergama Hotel.

Dick Shanahan of Woomargama NSW was elected President with Poet extraordinaire, Neil Hulm taking on the role of Secretary - Treasurer.

Vice-Presidents elected were Jan Lewis of Walwa Vic. and Brenda Wiggett of Tumberumba NSW. The Committee will meet half-yearly.

Neil Hum has already immortalised the mountain stockmnen in his collections of poems and has twice organised bush poetry competitions at Tumberumba.

Plans are afoot for a Quarterly Newsletter and for regular meetings and poetry recitals to be held in towns throughout a broadly defined Snowy Mountains Region.

Neil Hulm is the contact person for the new organisation and will be delighted to hear from intending members or those who are 'just interested in the bush and Bush Poetry'.

Neil may be contacted by phoning (060) 253 845.

PERFORMANCE WORKSHOPS

with **JOHN DERUM.**

Have you ever wanted to share the joy you felt on reading a wonderful poem or short story and then felt the frustration that came when what you read aloud didn't sound as exciting as it did when you first read it?

Here's your chance to become confidant reading and reciting to small or large groups. To share your enthusiasm and all the fun of the great stories and poems of Lawson, Paterson, Dennis, O'Brien and many more.

You will learn how to get the most from the rhyme and rhyming patterns of your favorite poem or story.

The sessions will concentrate on Australian writing but participants will be encouraged to work with their favorite pieces from wherever they choose.

If any clubs or groups in the Brisbane or Toowoomba areas would like to know more about these exciting workshops contact Trish Anderson (Brisbane) on (07) 32683624. or Ron Selby (Toowoomba) on (076) 301106..... night time.

New Bush Poetry Group — Charleville Qld.

The newly formed Bush Poetry Group, **Charleville Bush Balladeers**, have been very busy since their formation just six weeks ago.

During that time, they have planned and organised a written and performance competition to be held on August 31st. during the local festival week. They have also managed to raise a considerable amount of money from local businesses to help finance this venture.

A spokesman for the club said that the interest shown by people in the town has been very encouraging.

Club members cannot praise their very efficient, hard working secretary, Glenys Bently enough. Along with her husband Col (President), Terry Hanley (Treasurer) and Dale Leard (Publicity Officer), they have eaten, slept and dreamt Bush Poetry for the past few weeks.

This new member of the Bush Poetry family was the brain-child of Dale Leard, formerly of Longreach who was runner-up to Glennie Palmer at the Waltzing Matilda Bush Poets Championships at Winton this year.

Returning to Charleville after a twenty year absence, Dale began to push the Bush Poetry barrow with radio interviews, school visits and other voluntary performances for church and charity groups. A local man, Colin Bently, had nurtured a similar idea for several years and was then responsible for getting the club up and running.

John Major from Baralaba Q. will be the compere for the inaugural competition and several well known poets have agreed to attend as performers. Included among these are, Milton Taylor of Longreach Q. - Liz Ward of Mount Perry Q. - Michael Darby of Cloncurry Nth.Q. and Billy Hay who now resides in Brisbane.

Glenny Palmer has a new role in this competition as a judge. She says she is really looking forward to the challenge. The hard working ABPA Secretary/Treasurer/Editor, Ron Selby of Drayton Nth. Q. will also assist with the judging of some sections along with Tim Butler from the ABC in Longreach and Alan Palmer of Cedar Vale, Q.

The major trophy will be 'The Charleville Cup' for the most outstanding performer. Two local Silversmiths have created a miniature Mulga Tree from Silver which is mounted on a polished Mulga wood base. (The Charleville district is well know for the huge areas of Mulga forests that are used as a major source of fodder during times of drought).

The winner in each category will receive a cash prize and a medal, and placegetters will receive medals.

It is encouraging to see the Bush Poetry family tree spreading it's branches to different areas of Australia, and it is hoped that this competition will be the first of many in the South West Queensland area.

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Queanbeyan (NSW) Bush Poets. Australia's oral history and traditions received a shot in the arm when the Queanbeyan Bush Poets held a 'Christmas in July' function at the Captains Flat Hotel on Saturday 27th.

Thirty three Bush Poets and guests took part in preserving traditions as old as the country itself. Now this isn't just scoffing down a luscious three course meal with all the trimmings and swilling back some wine and beer — Australians are well enough known for being good at that. And it wasn't the rustic atmosphere of the cosy pub dining room with its stout timber tables, real cutlery and two open fires casting a friendly, rosy glow over proceedings.

No! It was after all this that the poets set about preserving the heritage, suitably fortified. Picture a crowd of thirty three people retiring to a sitting room, with overstuffed chairs and another log fire, and sharing what Australians are really well know for - - Poems about the country and the bush, about people, places and long-ago faces. And spinning a few yarns as well.

Australia may be known for its wool, but Australians are also known for the stories they tell. It's probably a "touch of the Blarney" inherited through many of our Irish settlers, though today it has an Aussie name — 'Bull'.

There was a lot of 'Bull' in some of the yarns told, but it preserves a heritage of tale-spinning and poetry that is woven into the fabric of the land, from Banjo Paterson and Henry Lawson to all the unsung poets of today.

Some original works were well received. Elaine Delaney provided backing sounds of the Currawong, the Bellbird and a Galah.

Music flowed late into the night with squeeze-boxes, harmonicas, a guitar and a bodhran, providing backing for some polkas.

The Queanbeyan Bush Poets meet every fourth Thursday at the Rhubarb & Muscat Coffee Shop - Queanbeyan. Ph. Elaine Delaney. 06 297 6770. — (A.G.)



RUMOURS THAT
BOBBY MILLER'S SMILE
IS HELD IN PLACE
BY A COAT HANGER
PROVEN TRUE BY CANDID CAM!

MAPLETON YARN FESTIVAL.

Preparations are well under way for the Mapleton Yarn Festival at the end of October. now in it's sixth year, the festival has long been a favorite for it's friendly atmosphere and great performers

The original "What Cheeses Me Off " was born at Mapleton, as a competition sponsored by Kenilworth Cheese. That competition lives on, and like others on the day, is conducted with tongue-in-cheek and light hearted rivalry.

Performers already confirmed include, Jan Wositzky, Martin Pearson, Shirley Friend, John Philipson, Neil McArthur, Jacqueline Bridle, Greg Young, Ian Mackay but the list grows daily.

The Festival begins at several venues in Mapleton (In the beautiful Sunshine Coast hinterland) on the evening of Saturday October 19th and is followed on Sunday 20th by a day jam packed with Yarns, Poets and Tall Tales in the glorious setting of the Mapleton Lillyponds.

There will be a Poets Breakfast, a yarn spinning contest "The king of Liars, (sponsored by R.M. Williams) and a Busking Competition. (sponsored by Lilyponds C' Park)

This years Festival will see the launching of the Ernie Setterfield Club Challenge, (as reported in last months mag) Sponsored by A.N.Z. Bank Nambour,) for which poet groups are invited to send their best poet contenders to vie for the Trophy.

The venue of the Lilyponds is a beautiful one but inclined to be cool. Bring your own chair and a rug and be prepared for a great week-end. Entry prices are just \$5.00 for Adults and \$2.00 children also accomodation, (caravan park , Motel etc is available nearby.

For more information write to Jacqueline Bridle,
The Mapleton Yarn Festival
c/o Mapleton Post Office
Mapleton QLD 4560

Please note !

BUSH POETS TURNOUT

CANOWINDRA R.S.L NSW (as reported last month)
Has had a date change to **OCTOBER 5th & 6th.**
Enquiries: Frank Daniel (063) 441 477 ah.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Well done the Australian Bush Poets monthly journal. Clearer print that old eyes like mine can read without a mag' glass. Contents great, ideas excellent, never forget the juniors for they will be the adults of the next century closing so fast on the elders of the tribe. I agree that writers must write about the heroes of today as well as yesteryear. The problems of the people and the triumphs of our land

As the Bulletin was in my fathers day, so our monthly could become for our grandchildren. This would incur greater expense and an increase in the workforce. Our monthly journal is a gift at \$1.60. As a pensioner I would gladly pay \$2.00 or twenty four dollars membership per year, so press on in your pursuit of excellence on our behalf.

Harry Bowers. Warragul Vic.

(editors note; Fees will rise to \$25. next year. 1997.)

It looks like the ABPA is going from strength to strength especially in the performance and junior categories. The correspondence is always interesting and many Bush Poets must own 'soap boxes' on which they deliver their orations, as it's all so 'parliamentary' at times.

You probably have reached the stage of the Associations expansion working as to how big this mega fledgling will grow. What with overseas aspects looming large at this point.

Dr Len Dawson. Wingham NSW.

*HEAR YE, HEAR YE,*CHRIS FOLEY of

KOALA RIVER SOUND STUDIO'S MARYBOROUGH QLD.

wishes to congratulate Bob Miller on the release of his new album.

THE LARRIKAN LIVE.

Chris offers special rates for all ABPA members. His studio has the latest 16 track recording equipment and technical know how that helped win 'Album of the Year' for The Larrikan in Tamworth, January 1996.

PHONE CHRIS FOLEY(071) 22 4588.

A LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT.....FRANK DANIEL.

I found the information in your letter (July issue) very motivating. Creative enthusiasm can be hard to maintain when we are all isolated from each other. Your advice on the great progress being made in the media, really encouraged me to keep chipping away at my efforts to promote "our baby".... Bush Poetry.

During the recent performances at the QLD Art Gallery, a number of enquiries emerged about our Association. Andrew Lofthouse, (ABC Radio) interviewed me and gave out our Secretary's phone number, (you can thank me later, Ron.)

Channel 2 filmed me for " Australia Story" and channel 9 filmed me at Trish Anderson's new poetry venue, "Palma Rosa ", for their " Brisbane Extra " show. Hopefully, all of this will generate more membership for our Association.

May I encourage members to push for media coverage of any of their achievements, however large or small, they may perceive them to be. It all adds up to a wider appreciation of our craft, and a wider support. (Some writer's magazines have a " credits" section where members successes are recorded..... perhaps such a column in our magazine would be encouraging.)

May I also thank the folks who have sent their good wishes and congratulations on my win at Winton.... in particular, Valerie Lopez, for her kind and generous gesture, and Ellis Campbell, whose letters (July issue) show an obvious intricate understanding of some of the difficulties that accompany the perceived " Prestige " of winning a competition that was promoted as a major event.

The prize I have so far been promised, consists of one return flight to Los Angeles. I am appreciative of the promised prize, and honoured to have been chosen to represent Australia, but obviously, substantially more expense is involved in my taking the trip. To this end, Alan and I are organising any and every revenue raising function, and working hard and saving madly. If I find that it is possible for me to earn the balance of the funds necessary to represent Australia in Nevada, then I shall be doing my very best to do Australian Bush Poetry proud!

I have decided to temporarily minimise my involvement in (cost incurring) festivals, in order to focus on income producing ventures. I will miss my mates, and the festivities, (particularly Gympie) but duty calls, and don't fancy camping out in Nevada in winter! (The real truth is, that as a woman, I find something inherently discouraging about entering an open competition called .." The KING of Verse")..... but thats another story.

Love and thanks to all. Glennie Palmer. CEDARVALE QLD.

BUSH POETS INVADE VICTORIA.

Two Queenslanders and one New South Welshman loaded their Drizabones and woolen sweaters and headed south for a tour of northern Victoria in June. Noel Cutler had organised and promoted the tour and invited Gary Fogarty, John Major and John Philipson to join him.

Entitled "Poets in the Pub" they performed with roving microphones in a bar room setting. Approximately thirty poems were presented during the show, many written by Col Wilson, Murray Hartin, Joe Mannion, Bob Miller, Bruce Simpson, Charlee Marshall, Jim Haynes and Will Ogilvie.

The backdrop was created by the Wangaratta TAFE College and sound and light man, Ian Enders, travelled with the gang throughout the tour. Performances in Wangaratta, Maldon, Beechworth, Bright, Mullengandra, Albury, Shepparton and Milawa were well attended and members of the audience were most impressed with the set. Comments such as "I felt I was really in the bar of a country pub" were often heard and speculation was rife about the liquid which the poets quaffed during the show. I have it on good authority that, though they would have preferred Bundaberg Rum, it was actually cold tea!!

Judith Hosier. Brisbane QLD.

JIM HAYNES SIGNS WITH ABC RECORDS.

That man from weelabarabak, Jim Haynes, has signed to do his new comedy album with ABC Music. "The ABC was our link to the world when I was growing up in Weelabarabak," said Jim, "So you can imagine what a thrill it is for a humble bush lad like me to be associated with such an Aussie institution!"

Jim's humorous songs, comic recitations and Aussie yarns have won him a strong following at festivals and on the concert tour and he has taken out 'Comedy song of the year' at Tamworth for the last two years. He is now hosting the Tamworth Country Theatre program on the Hoedown Network across Australia-- So his fame is steadily spreading.

Jim's new album, "It's Nothing Serious", is due for release in October and contains 16 of his most requested comedy songs, including, "Don't Call Wagga Wagga Wagga", "Cheryl Went Feral" and the ridiculous "Chook From Snowy River".

To be produced in Melbourne by Jim's multi-talented mate, Greg Champion, the album will include comic cameo performances from the likes of Dobe Newton, Ted Egan, Beccy Cole and of course Greg himself

TOOWOOMBA.

The 'Poets at the Carnival' that has been held mid September will not be on this year. BUT a smaller version will be held at the Downs Hotel at Drayton on the 28th of September. This will be a non competitive event and there will be no entrance fees. Some sponsors have put up prizes for the winners of the Traditional, Original, Novice and Junior but these will be minor prizes only. The day will start at 10 o'clock and continue until all poets are 'poeted' out? The final winners will be decided by a 'Clap-ometer'. This event is a fun day and we would like to know if you intend to attend so please drop me a note (PO Box 77 DRAYTON NORTH 4350) or a call (Ron Selby) on (076) 301106) after 7pm any night. Gary Fogarty will be the compere on Saturday at the Downs Hotel (which is only 5 ks from Toowoomba GPO)

Gary will also be conducting an open session at Rudds Pub.....NOBBY. (about 35 ks from Toowoomba) on Sunday the 29th Sept. starting at 12 o'clock. A BBQ lunch will be available. All poets are welcome to attend for a relaxing round of poetry. Enjoy the hospitality of your hosts, Eugene & Vicky Hollis-neath. At Rudds pub one can sit in the same room STEELE RUDD used when writing some of his famous Dad & Dave stories. Soak up the atmosphere and view the photos of yesteryear that bedeck the walls.

BOB MILLER

'The Larikin'

Australian Bush Poet & Entertainer



2 Pilerwa Road
Mungar Qld 4650

071-296 422
018-798 896

RUDD'S PUB



NOBBY,
QLD. 4360

"Home of Dad & Dave"

Sat. 23rd Dec. — Top entertainer — Mike Collier

Sun. 24th Dec. Gary Fogarty & Co. 12-2.30 p.m.

Bush Poet luncheon — Rib fillet buffet \$9.00

Karaoke — Mr Gold Coast 4 p.m.-7 p.m.

NEW YEARS EVE

Ridgy Didge Bush Band — 8 p.m. till late

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and other humorous verse

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MATESHIP HONOUR.

Tamworth poet Mr John Bishop has been honoured by an invitation to attend The Bourke Mateship Festival and Drovers Reunion, to be held 20th - 22nd SEPTEMBER 1996.

John has strong connections with the land having been raised on his parents grazing property north west of Walgett and spent his primary school days in Brewarrina and secondary schooling at Forbes.

John has enjoyed tremendous success with his poetry over the last ten years and even published a small book of Bush Verse in 1989. This book titled "Beneath the Western Sky" has since been sold out.

For more info on the Festival contact Mr Harry Hart at 115 Anson St Bourke, NSW 2840. or Paul Roe (068) 722982.

BUSH POETS OLYMPIC VERSE GAINS WIDE ACCLAIM

Earlier this year Robert Raftery had a chance encounter with Laurie Lawrence, the official motivator for the Australian Olympic Team, Laurie was so impressed with Roberts writing he asked him to write a sport specific poem for use at the games in Atlanta. The poem entitled "We're goin' for Gold" was so well recieved that Laurie contacted Robert and requested more.

During the course of the games robert wrote and forwarded a further nine poems. The International media have focused their attention on these sport specific poems and Australian audiences will have an opportunity to hear some when channel 7 screens it's post Olympic specials.

Robert recently broke new ground for the Bush Poets when he wrote the Mission Statement for BHP's Norwich Park Mine in central Queensland.

Robert was "on tour" with John & Joy Major and after they had performed at the Dysart Bowls Club, Mr Clem Suttle, the chief Surveyor for the mines, asked Robert to write their Mission Statement in rhyme and metre. The poem includes information about BHP's involment in the Central Queensland venture. The Norwich Park Mine management are delighted with the poem.

Robert has been writing poetry for many years but has only recently joined the ranks of the performance poets. However he is held in such high regard as a writer that many performance poets choose to present his work.

Judith Hosier. BRISBANE QLD.

WE'RE B.H.P. AUSTRALIA COAL.

We're B.H.P. Australia coal cross linked with Q.C.T.
With the might of Mitsubishi and Australia's A.M.P.
And threads Pan Continental we work the ancient ground
To mine the mighty seams of coal Ludwig Leichhardt found.

We're stationed on Blackwater, Goonyella and Peak Downs
At Saraji and at Norwich Park where the dense black coal abounds
Where our draglines, trucks and dozers toil by time worn rivers curled
On iron rails our bounty sails through Hay point to the world.

Our sense of pride runs deeper than the deepest of our sites
With strident love of country and respect for human rights
Alert, informed, professional, badge of friendship on our gates
Like a family, fellow workers soon become our closest mates.

And that currency of mateship that was minted through the wars
Like a fossil is embedded by the tracks of dinosaurs
Ever mindful of the dangers, ever watchful, safety first
Flags of innovative excellence are fluttering on the burst.

Technical, responsive, sensitive to all
Our role to feed the furnace when the turbines start to call
A prodigious global prayer, a small town in the scrub
A sanctuary and a nurturing for Dingo, Wren and cub.

A thinking giant, a cogwheel in the schemes of life and nation
Working for a stronger homeland and for power generation
A mission and a purpose of grit and global worth
At BHP Australia coal.....we strive to move the earth.

Robert Raftery. Wacol Brisbane QLD.

NORTH PINE BUSH POETS GROUP.

(BRISBANE)

Breakfast and recitals; 1st & 3rd SUN of each
month. Starting 7th APRIL 96 9am.

THE VENUE;

**DAD and DAVES BILLY TEA AND
DAMPER HUT IN THE PARK.**

NORTH PINE COUNTRY MARKETS.

contact; John Coutts (07) 3886 1552.

ALL WELCOME !

A SMALL SELECTION OF AUSSIE POEMS by JOHNNY JOHANSON.

\$15.00 Includes postage & handling.
P.O. Box 358 YARRAWONGA
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THE DROVING BOSS.

His hat and his boots and his kelpie cross
Will tell you that he is the droving boss
And if your looking for someone, who knows the job
Then he is the bloke, who can move your mob
And it's, over the ridges and it's, over the plains
And it's, chasin' a pick, wherever it rains

The droving boss, with his hat and his boots
And, his dogs that are always , running loose
He rolls his swag and he rolls the break
And he lets the stock, their own pace make

From the north, to the south, to the setting sun
There isn't a route, that he hasn't run
And if you need a bloke, to travel a mob
He is the man, to do the job
And it's, over the black soils, over the reds
Chasin' a pick, to the watersheds

The droving boss, With his hat and boots
And his dogs, that are always running loose
He rolls a smoke and he rolls the break
And he lets the mob, their own pace make

Now, his plant and his gear, may not be neat
But it's the droving stock where he's hard to beat
And if you want a man, who can do the job
Then , he is the bloke , you can trust with a mob
And it's, over the ranges, over the peaks
And it's, chasin' a pick by valleys and creeks

The droving boss, with his hat and boots
And dogs that are always running loose
He rolls a damper and he rolls the break
And, he lets his mind, it's own pace make.

John Bishop. Tamworth NSW.

THE 'PALMA ROSA POETS'.

The first performance of the Palma Rosa Poets was a raging success— a sellout crowd, wonderful entertainment and an alround enjoyable evening.

Doug Murray (of the 'Pork Pie" hat) from Brisbane Extra Television show was there to showcase our Glenny Palmer and he also gave the beautiful heritage listed venue, the Palma Rosa some great exposure.

Glenny's performance, as usual, was outstanding --- Robert Raftery inspired all with his thought provoking poetry, especially the wonderful poem "Going For Gold" which is one of a series of motivational poems commissioned by Laurie Lawrence for the Australian Olympic Team.

Trevor Kuchel had people laughing and crying with his stirring performances, in particular the Bruce Simpson favourite "Gold Star". Unfortunately our 'Father of Bush Poetry, Bill Hay, was unable to attend due to ill health, we all missed you bill and wish you a speedy recovery. The evening was co-ordinated by Trisha Anderson.

The next planned evening of the Palma Rosa poets will be a performance by renowned actor Mr John Derum from Sydney. John Derum has been an actor, writer, producer and director for theatre, television and radio for more than thirty years. John's experience with Australian prose and poetry has made him one of our foremost exponents of the performance of Australian writing. John is well known for his tribute to C.J. Dennis "More than a Sentimental Bloke" that has been performed throughout Australia, recorded for radio, television and published

John Derum will be performing another masterpiece by C.J.Dennis— 'The Glugs of Gosh'. Not just an Australian masterpiece, and not just a C.J. Dennis masterpiece, but a masterpiece of our language.

The **Glugs of Gosh** is part fable, part allegory that describes the journey of our socieity in the twentieth century -all the more remarkable that it was written and published so early in the century. Dennis could already see the problems in our systems of education, trade, defence and democracy.

In a comprehensive social satire that touches all the major social issues from the nature of government and justice, to education and trade, dennis's observations about domestic possessions are possibly the earlist of the kind that were developed nearly half a century later.

Trish Anderson HENDRA. QLD.

The PALMA ROSA proudly presents,
THE GLUGS OF GOSH α C.J.DENNIS MASTERPIECE.

BY MR JOHN DERUM.

at the **PALMA ROSA**

9 Queens Rd **HAMILTON BRISBANE.**

OCTOBER 4th and 5th

Time: 7.30 am Price: \$15.00

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL R.S.V.P. 20th SEPTEMBER.

enquiries (07) 3262 3769 or (07) 3268 3624.

KYABRAM & DISTRICT BUSH VERSE GROUP. News.

The APEX Club of Kyabram presents;

AROUND THE CAMPFIRE '96.

Bush verse and tall tales evening
compared by.....Grahame 'Skew Wiff' Watt

WHERE?.....The Commercial Hotel, Allen St, KYABRAM.

WHEN?.....Thursday 12th SEPTEMBER. 7.30 pm

COST?.....\$10 Adult, \$5 Child with adult, \$25 Family.

price includes supper, Drinks at bar prices.

Enquiries and bookings to John Martin (058) 52 2555.

or after hours to Andrew Dohrmann (058) 52 3959.

Following last years successful competition we again offer encouragement awards to young Australian Poets.

The awards are restricted to verse with a distinctly Australian flavour written by **Primary** and **Secondary Students**. Primary Students' entries to be no longer than 150 words, Secondary Students entries to be no longer than 200 words. Entries to be marked "**BUSH VERSE COMPETITION**" and sent to: P.O. Box 194 KYABRAM no later than 7th SEPTEMBER 1996. Winners announced at "Around The Campfire" night on 12th September.

The Kyabram & District Bush Verse Group have had a change of Secretary / Treasurer retiring Sec/Treas. Mrs Betty Olle has handed the task over to Mr Denis Attwood and any budding Victorian Poets can now forward any correspondence to; **P.O. Box 169 KYABRAM VIC. 3620.**

The Group has bi-monthly meetings (every 2 Months) and is going well with over 20 members and would like to hear from any interested poets in the area.

Contact President Grahame Watt on (058) 52 2084 or Secretary / Treasurer Denis Attwood on (058) 52 2245 or drop a line to the above address.

GREETINGS FROM VICTORIA.....

Some new blood from the north made it's way to the South in the form of Bush poets. Gary Fogarty, John Major and John Philipson teamed up with Noel Cutler to present a **balladrama**. The tour was successful and was presented in several Victorian towns and in two towns in NSW. I can see in a few years time, there will be teams of bush poets crisscrossing Australia. Good to see!

August is a big month in Queensland, and I'm heading back with "**The Man from Ironbark**" to the infamous Gympie Muster. Looking forward to my first time at this event as I've heard a pile of good reports about it. Then onto Jondaryan, Toowoomba, the Gold Coast, Ballina, Petrie, Beerwah, Kingaroy and Tambo. If anyone wants dates and venues give me a call on 015 425 470.

Also at the Jondaryan Woolshed on the 31st August will be held a **Bush Poets Afternoon**. Held from 3.0 pm to 5.0 pm you are more than welcome to throw your swag down and camp for the night.

Regardless of who you are, experienced or total newcomer, everyone is welcome. If you participate it's free entry to the festival for the whole day, free evening tucker, and the chance to pick up a trophy for the best poem of the day relating to the Jondaryan festival or our Australian Heritage. I'll be compering the day, so if you are interested give me a call or call the woolshed direct.

Also Sunday 15th September will see a **Bush Poets Breakfast at Tambo**. Once again all welcome to help celebrate part of the Major Mitchell celebrations.

Keep Smiling Geoffrey Graham.



NAME BADGES.

SEND ORDERS TO;
B & B BADGES
8 MCGREGOR STREET
TOOWOOMBA QLD 4350
OR PHONE (076) 33 4888
COST PER BADGE \$5.00
(INCLUDES POSTAGE.)

SADDLESAW PRODUCTIONS.

Australian Poet Mark Giori has recently released his latest cassette **'THE WHOLE TRUTH'**

This collection includes Mark's latest most popular poems including **'Sparky'**, the tale of a dog addicted to electricity, and **'The Rappin' Cowboy'**, a poem set to change the public's perception of 'Bosh' Poetry.

Mark also sings "Folk Style" on the compilation, introducing his original peices, **'The Four Wheel' Driving Maniac'** and **'No more Piccaninny'**.

A special treat on the album is Mark's heart stirring rendition of his award winning poem **'Swaggie'**, recipient of the 1995 'Spirit of Matilda' Award held in conjunction with the 100 year celebration of Waltzing Matilda.

The album was produced by Restless Records and includes several musical interludes by Roger Illiot, plus the refreshingly feminine voice of Penny Davies singing the Mac. Cormack / Slim Dusty hit 'Moon across the Bushland' which is sung immediately after Mark's recital of 'The Love Of My Life'.

'The Whole Truth' is offered to you as much more than a 'collection' of poetry, but as an entertaining package containing humour and sincerity, spoken word and song and a flavour that is uniquely Australian.

In sharing this predominately original Album with you, Mark thanks you for the support and encouragement you have offered in the past, and looks forward to further celebrating with you the preservation of Australia's culture.

CASSETTES AVAILABLE.....\$15.00 (post inc)

P.O. Box 999 WARWICK QLD 4370.

also available,

BOOKS.....\$12.00 ea.

CASSETTES.

\$15.00 ea.

1. POETS NEVER LIE.

inc. A Sick Story, One Eyed Joe,
The Busker, Roo and the Blue.

3. POETIC JUSTICE.

Granny & the Snake,
One Eyed Joe, Hoopers
Hill.

2. KITCHEN REVOLT.

Poetry for PRIMARY CHILDREN
Sparky,

Granny And the Snake, The
The Kitchen Revolt.

4. THE WHOLE TRUTH.

Rappin' Cowboy,
Four Wheel Driving
Maniac.

Poets Calendar. Events and Competitions.

"Charleville Bush Balladeers" — Aug 31- Sept 1.

Performance Poetry — Competitive: Open, Novice, Junior, Male, Female, Humorous.
Contact. Dale Leard. 31 Wildie St. Charleville Qld 4470. Ph. 076 54 2265

"Camp Oven Bush Festival"—North Pine Country Park, Petrie Q. August 31 - Sept 1.

Competitive and non-competitive - Junior, Novice, Local, Open, Male, Female,
Serious, Humorous. Poets Breakfast [Trad. Style] & Camp Oven Dinner.
Community Support Unit. Pine Rivers Shire Council P.O. Box 5070, Strathpine Qld. 4500.

"Paroo Poets Society" — Inaugural 1996 Challenge — Cunnamulla. Q. Sept. 10.

Supporting the Cunnamulla-Eulo Opal Festival Enq. Telephone 076 552 440

"Bourke Mateship Festival" — Sept. 20 - 25

Fri. 20th. Performance Poet's Night — Sun. 22nd. John Meredith Aust. Bush Poetry
Contact. Paul Roe. Bourke NSW. Ph. 068 722 982 — Fax. 068 722 305

"Canowindra Bush Poets Turnout" — OCT 5+6TH Non-competitive

Sat. 5TH — Poets Smoko, Tall Tales, Poets Brawl, Juniors — Concert 7.30pm.
Breakfast Sun. 6TH Canowindra RSL Club. Ph. Frank Daniel 063 441 477 Ah.

"Heart of the Hinterland" - Maleny Performing Arts Festival - Sept. 27 - 29

Competitive — Novice, Open, Traditional, Pathos, Hilarious, Yarn Spinning,
Contact. Jackie Bridle. c/- Mapleton Post Office. Qld. Ph. 074 45 7760

"Moncrieff U3A Literary Competition" Closing date. Sept. 30.

Written Competition. Rhyming Poetry to 40 lines.
Enq. with SSAE. Literary Comp. U3A P.O. Box 64 Paradise Point Q. 4216

"Maroochy Arts Festival" — Nambour Civic Centre. Oct. 16 - 20.

Performance Poetry. — Written Competition closes Sept. 20.
Enq. Maroochy Arts Festival. P.O. Box 5255 SCMC Nambour Q. 4560

"Brekkie with the Bush Poets" Toowoomba Country Music Festival

Oct. 19-20 — Clifton Showground — (9-11am) Performance Poetry
Join Mark Gliori, Bobby Miller, Gary Fogarty and Carmel Randle — Line dancing!
Talent Quests! Gina Jeffries, Lee Kernaghan etc... Enq. Ph. 076 32 4955
Top Entertainment Promotions P.O. Box 980 Toowoomba Q. 4350

"The Mapleton Yarn Festival" — Lilyponds Park Mapleton Oct. 19 - 20

Performance Poetry - Largely Non-competitive.
Includes "The Ernie Setterfield Club Challenge" (2-Poet Team)
Enq. Mapleton Yarn Festival c/- Mapleton Post Office Q. 4560

"Festival of the Valley" — Lithgow NSW — Nov. 16

Workshops - Competitions - Breakfasts. Phone. 063 523 636

"Snowy Mountains Bush Poetry Club" - Dec. 31- Tumbarumba NSW

Annual Get-together Tumbarumba Bowling Club. Ph. 060 205 232

Submit your Festival and Competition details to the ABPA Secretary Ron Selby,
or Frank Daniel as early as possible for inclusion in the Poets Calendar.