

No 1 Vol 4. January 1997.

The Australian



Bush Poets

Association Inc.

Newsletter

Australian Bush Poets Association Inc.

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Second

Cobargo Folk Festival

Yuin Folk Club Inc.

21st - 23rd February

A weekend of Poetry, Yarnspinning, Tall-tales, stories, Blues, Jazz, Country, Bluegrass, Folk, dancing and workshops.

Wongawilli - Claire Hayes -

Enda Kenny - 'Blue the Shearer'

Frank Daniel - Gillespie Brothers and many, many more.

Enquiries: Jim 044 73 5464 - Cec 064 92 7258

Bungendore

Country Muster

Saturday 1st Feb. 1997

Bush Poetry Competition

8am. "Elmslea Homestead" 8am

Sunday 2nd. February

Bush Poets Breakfast and

Poets Brawl at the Muster Grounds

Guest Poet - 'Blue the Shearer'

Compere - Frank Daniel

Enq. Toni Flanagan 062 381 651

Poets Gathering BUNDANOON

HOTEL BUNDANOON

(Near Moss Vale NSW)
SUN. 2nd. FEBRUARY

4pm - 6pm

Enq. Mrs. Nea Hayes

048 836 005

Bush Yarns and Poetry

Stories and Verse

by FRANK DANIEL

(Finalist - 1996 - Bush Laureat Awards)

\$12.00 Posted from

Truthful Publications

P.O. Box 16 Canowindra NSW 2804

WOODFORD FOLK FESTIVAL

AN EYE AND EAR-WITNESS REPORT. by Ian Mackay.

The following report is for those who weren't a part of this years Woodford Festival.....a six day event where the spoken word has a very high profile. Visiting bush poets were accomodated in the "Poet's Hilton", a fine bamboo common room constructed by Bob Wittholtz, on the shores of Woodford Waters.

The Larrikin was there, as was Ray Essery and of course Shirley Friend, and making his first appearance at Woodford, Neil McArthur. (It was great to have Neil actually, as he has just been recalled to Victoria.) Jacqueline Bridle and Ian Mackay from the Mapleton Yarn Festival were there, in fact Jackie had the task of organizing all the spoken word events for the festival. Mark Gliori and Murray Hartin dropped in for a flying visit and Mark Both made a welcome return, The Stand Up Poets from northern N.S.W. performed to large and appreciative audiences and, of course, what festival would be complete without Australia's most mobile swagman.....Campbell.

Poet's Breakfasts in the Troubadour were packed and daily spilled out onto the mound alongside. From the original breakfasts in the corner of a bar, these have come a long way with heaps of talented people taking part. On several mornings there were more poets than time.

Shirley Friend and Ian Mackay presented a 'Poet's little Lunch' in the kid's festival, where all had a ball.

Neil McArthur launched his excellent tape of love thongs, immediatly after which he made an amazine metamorphosis from a bush poet to a dreadlocked Rasta. He managed to intersperse his performances with some serious market research for festival sponsor , Guinness, and was almost induced to shave his head to mark the occasion of Peter Garret & Midnight Oil's appearance on the opening night.

Bob Miller and Ray Essery joined Neil to gain some valuable life experience in how audiences are different on New Years Eve. It has the makings of a wonderful poem, but probably won't, as they would rather forget it.....particularly Ray and Bobby's novel approach to that Blue the Shearer favourite 'The Poker Machine'.

The 'Poet's Brawl' was very popular with thirty poets presenting their one minute performances before a capacity crowd, with a chronometrically astute (and totally unbribable) time-keeper....Des Lee, and three hard working judges, Tim Bowden, Dorris Lee and Doug Smith.

As usual, audience response was a big component in the judging and the audience was very clearly voting for the younger performers. Winner was a six year old, Chloe Fryar from Sydney with her delightful poem, 'I Wish I Was an Adult'.

Shirley Friend presented her melodrama 'Trip of a LifetimeStark Horror for Bonnie T bay' which featured Martin Pearson (the very funny man who is described as "a festival in himself") as narrator and freelance add-libber as well as heroes and villains from the Mapleton Yarn Festival organising committee.

Highlights of the Poet's Breakfast on the closing day was the now annual 'Cross-over Challenge' between the Stand Up Poets and the Bush Poets. This year's task was to present a childrens story in the style of the other.

If you've not been to a Woodford Festival, next year would be a good time to change the habit. It is a colourful, exciting and remarkably peaceful event with some thirteen venues offering a wide range of top quality performers. And of course there'll be no shortage of the spoken word.

OFFICIAL BOOK LAUNCH OF A UNIQUE HISTORICAL
AUSTRALIAN COLLECTION.

BILLY WYE

The Last True Australian Bush Poet.

On Australia Day week-end, Saturday 25th January 1997, a book titled "Billy Wye, The Last True Australian Bush Poet" will be launched in OMEO, Victoria at the R.S.L Memorial Shrine, Day St OMEO at 3pm.

(for more info contact Dianne Carrol (03) 5159 1535.)

The 'Bulletin' said in the 1920s -- "Mr Wye is probanly the greatest of all horse poets - greater than Henry Lawson"! No poetic literature as appealing has been seen since "The Man from Snowy River" and "While the Billy Boils". Billy Wye's verses were written in the saddle, whilst he travelled Australia on horseback, detailing first hand experiences. He never sought fame and fortune like his counterparts Henry Lawson and Banjo Paterson, he just loved writing. Billy's writings were so unique that he recieved correspondence from the Head Librarian of the Mitchell Library, requesting that his poems and reminiscences be placed in the Institution, to be preserved for prosperity. *They never arrived!* The book on the life and times of Billy Wye is available from the author, Dianne Carrol at P.O. Box 30 OMEO VIC 3898 for \$30. plus postage. Cheques made payable to "The Pioneer".

Cheryl is Number One Feral

After a rapid climb up through the charts, Jim Haynes first single from his new album "It's Nothing Serious!" has reached number one on the Country Music Charts. "Since Cheryl Went Feral" made it to the top on Sunday's edition (Dec. 22nd) of Nick Erby's Country Music Jamboree.

This is a great breakthrough for Jim and his new album, with 'Cheryl' actually topping the very popular "Don't Call Wagga Wagga Wagga".

Jim is delighted with the results and is more than pleased with the sales so far of the new album.

Three of Jim's "It's Nothing Serious Concerts" will be held at the Longyard Hotel during Tamworth Country Music Week featuring all the songs and poems from the album with special guests Beccy Cole, Marcus Holden, Dean and Carruthers and Greg Champion.

Times for this show are Sunday 19th. 7pm. - Wednesday 22nd. 1.30 pm. - Sunday 26th. at 1.30 pm. Admission is free.

More Poetry for Bungendore Country Muster.

The third Bush Poets Breakfast at the Bungendore Country Muster will incorporate yet another Bush Poets Competition which will this year be held in the grounds of the historic 'Elmslea Homestead'.

'Elmslea' is situated on the outskirts of the Bungendore Village on the Tarago Rd. Once a large pastoral property, Elmslea is now owned by Myles and Toni Flanagan who conduct a Bed and Breakfast cum function and catering service in this busy little tourist town on the Southern Tablelands of NSW. 'Elmslea Homestead' was the winner of the 1996 Southern Tablelands Tourism Awards for Excellence. Special rates will apply to interested poets.

The Breakfast starts at 8am and a courtesy bus will be operating from the Village. A Poets Brawl will be conducted as part of the Poets Breakfast at the Muster Grounds on the Sunday.

Guest Poet will be the ever popular 'Blue the Shearer' who is well known to ABC Radio listeners in the southern regions. Compere will be Frank Daniel of Canowindra NSW.

For accommodation or other enquiries, contact Mrs. Toni Flanagan

"I'M LANDED GENTRY."

Good - conditioned riding horses,
Reads the sign upon the gate
 Childrens' ponies too - at prices keen,
Fresh tomatoes, eggs and strawberries,
 Cattle pups to give away
Advertising in the way you must have seen !

Through the gate across the gully
 There's a farmhouse, falling down,
With outbuildings old, and smelling of decay.
 Half-a-dozen scrawny chickens'
In the ash-heaps near the boiler
And those cattle pups they seek to give away.

Another sign screams "Honey - Fifty cents
 And bring your tin --"
The size of that they seem, to leave to you ---
From the kitchen someone's shouting,
 "Come and 'ave a cuppa tea--
Stop that fightin' -- Fix that kid up --
 Come 'ere Blue."

So I climb down from me Falcon
 And a dozen dirty kids,
Scatter chooks aside and thumb their nose at me --
A floorboard breaks beneath me
 As I step into her kitchen --
Where she offers me a pannikin of tea !

Well -- She's big, and fat, and fifty,
 And there's washing in the sink --
She rolls her own - and smokes too much, she said --
She raves about the government,
 And says " We need some rain "
Then mentions that her husband's six months dead.

Me - I try to change the subject
 But she's having none of that
And she berates me, with her tale of lonely nights --
While the blue pups work the chickens
 Up and down the chookyard fence --
And the eldest daughter referee's three fights !

Then she ups and boils the billy,
 Makes another mug of tea,
 Smooths the hairdo ---- and enquires
 What I think --
 Almost chokin' on a biscuit,
 I attempt to be polite --
 Lookin' past her -- at the washing in the sink.

My escape route was denied me,
 By the mother of those pups,
 And the owner of a brawny female arm --
 Now I've horses here for hire --
 Cattle pups to give away --
 A partner, fat and fifty -- and a farm !

And she never has believed me 'though I told
 Who I was --
 And just how I came to call on her that day,
 I simply called to check, on the condition
 Of her livestock --
 'Cause I'd been workin' for the RSPCA !!

Kelly Dixon CAMOOWEAL QLD.

TWO GOSSIPS

The Breaker.

One fox-faced virgin, word for word,
 Repeats each sland'rous thing she's heard,
 And sourly smiles as scandal slips
 With gusto from her thin white lips.

She's bad enough ! -- but list a minute
 Beside her mate she isn't in it.
 This latter lady 'pon my word,
 Repeats things. she has never heard.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

I must congratulate Gary Fogarty on his letter re Australian Bush Poetry Championships. I thought he raised some very valid points. I also wish to congratulate Gary on being a past National Champion.

Firstly, one swallow does not make a summer. A champion poet would need to have composed more than one or two good poems - probably a hundred or more. By 'good' I mean poems that had won recognition in literary competitions Australia wide or been published in anthologies or periodicals, other than local papers, etc.

Some poets excell at short poems, others are masters of the longer works. I believe a champion should be capable of writing good poems of any length between 12 and 300 lines. I would expect him/her to recite at least ten of their poems at any given time and place without prior warning.

I believe points should be allowed for variation in rhyming patterns from poem to poem, providing there are no irregularities in said pattern. I think most good modern day poets resemble some of our past masters in their writing. If I read 20 poems by an author and discover poems that remind me of Paterson, Lawson, Ogilvie, Kendall and C J Dennis, I regard that poet more talented than one whose whole work reminds me of Lawson, for example.

A champion's poems would need an interesting or arresting opening stanza and a satisfactory conclusion; be it humorous, unexpected or thought provoking. The body of the poems should be built in to fill the poem as necessary, not being 'padded' to reach a certain length or drawn out unnecessary stanzas that add nothing to the poem. Every poem has an ideal length and finding that is an art only a few poets achieve.

I would expect a champion to write perfect rhyme and rhythm--more rare that many poets realize, and often unappreciated. I would also expect a champion to have no glaring errors in spelling, grammar or punctuation. Neither would I expect any inverted phrases or forced rhyming. I would appreciate absense of cliches and archaisms. A candidate worthy of championship consideration would surely write with consistent tense and diction. I dare say there is much more that might be considered when choosing a worthy champion.

Gary's suggestion as to Recitation Championships as well as Poetry Championships has much merit. It would be bordering on a miricle to expect the best poet to also be the best reciter.

- Idle thoughts of an idle fellow.

Ellis Campbell. DUBBO NSW

BULLOCKY BILL.

by ANON

This is one of the earlier versions of the ballad, made popular by Jack Moses, about the dog which sat on the teamster's tucker-box at an old time camping site near Gundagai NSW. The story is known to all Australians. Now dogs which sit on their masters' tucker-boxes are hardly likely to make history. The teamster's final misery, after a day of great trials and tribulations, was that his dog *shat* on his tucker.

Our sympathies go out to this old timer.

As I came down Talbingo Hill
I heard a maiden cry,
'There goes old Bill the Bullocky ---
He's bound for Gundagai.

'A better poor old bugger
Never cracked an honest crust,
A tougher poor old bugger
Never drug a whip through dust.'

His team got bogged on Five mile Creek,
Bill lashed and swore and cried,
"If Nobby don't get me out of this
I'll tatoo his bloody hide!"

But Nobby strained and broke the yoke
And poked out the leader's eye;
Then the dog shat in the tucker-box,
Five miles from Gungagai.

(Copy of poem requested by P Paterson ---- Mermaid Waters QLD)

**A.B.P.A. 1997 FEES
NOW DUE.
\$25.00 YEARLY.**

Editors Note. I recieved a book from Year 7 at Goombungee State School

It shows that poetry is still alive and doing well.

(from the kids point of view!)

The Great Australian Dunny

The Australian Dunny is an Aussie tradition,
Most of the time in rough condition.
Found at the back of old outback homes,
At night in the dark it creaks and groans.
Can be a frightening place especially at night,
Infested by spiders, gives you a fright.

Commonly made of old fashioned wood,
Rusty tin and slabs hold it up good.
The seat is covered in sludge and grime,
If you clean it well, it would be the first time.
It would not be uncommon to find creepy crawlies,
Look under the door, and you'll find empty talleys.

The box under the floor is filled with sawdust,
To get it out might take some thrust.
When you finally get settled on the old thunderbox
It's so peaceful you could knit a pair of socks.
If you get a chance, don't think me funny,
You must go and see the Australian Dunny.

By Daniel Peters.

(note. Tallies, Large QLD beer bottles.)

SNAKE BATTLE. (a bush yarn)

When I was a young whipper snapper, I could still see, hear and talk. I even had all my teeth.
One day out in the back paddock, I was riding around on my tricycle when I came across what
I thought was a Cobra, but it really was a pit viper. I reckon it was longer than 2 miles and as
fat as a tree trunk. My tricycle ripped the bugger clean in half. The half that had the head on it
swung around and tried to attack me. I pulled out my knuckle dusters. I put up a great fight, I did.
I'm not trying to put one over you, I'm telling ya the honest truth. I smashed one of it's eyeballs,
that part of the snake died. Then the back half of the snake wrapped around me. Luckily I just
got new boot knives. I began to slice and after 2 agonizing weeks and 556 pieces I had finally won.
by William Parsons.

BUSH TALES.

As the bullets whistle through the bush,
And the Line Dancers shake their tush
As the roos hop happily through the outback,
Swaggies make some stew on the track.

As a swaggy shot a roo behind the ear,
Something sloppy come out his rear,
As the pigs run wildly in the scrub,
At the end of the day we rock up the pub.

The pie I bought was really tough,
The pig I caught was really rough,
As the outback race horses go around,
There's free beers in the pub in town.

As lots of different animals run wild,
The bus trip to Sydney would take a while,
At night we always have lots of fun,
We stay up for the sun.

The bush has a lot of features,
But hardly any has any teachers,
Country life is the life for me,
Run around wild and free.
by Matthew Gipps.

IN THE BUSH.

T'was in the bush, I did shoot,
50 cockatoos and a bandicoot.
It tried to hop so I hit it with the mop,
Failing that, I squashed it with the mat.
Its guts flew out of its nose as it started to decompose,
So I had to wash it off the concrete with the hose.
By Kane Kalisch.

INDIGENOUS

They call him midnight, abo and coon,
It's like water flowing over the back of a spoon,
'Cause my old mate, Boyo, takes it all in his stride
As we work together, side by side.

A really good bloke, and quick with a joke,
Even at his own people, the fun he will poke.
Respected by all and very religious,
He didn't choose to be born Indigenous.

He said, "Now listen here bloke, they got it all wrong,
If they give us a chance, we can all get along
From out-back Australia --- down to the coast,
Teach us the right way and we'll work better than most".

But I'd just jeer him, saying, "Get real man!
Our taxes and government are doing all they can,
And look what's happened ---- see what they've done,
They've turned it all racial --- and that's no fun!"

"It's all wrong bloke, they went the wrong way,
We don't want pity or hand-outs each day.
Some self respect and to earn a living,
None of this bloody government giving."

We'd talk for hours and hours on end,
About his fallen culture and how to make amends.
"Just help us get started --- back on our feet,
So once more we can hold our heads high out on the street."

Anthony Gleeson PORT FAIRY VIC.

1997 CLAYPAN BOOGIE COUNTRY MUSIC FESTIVAL.

BLACKALL SHOWGROUNDS

Friday 28th February to Sunday 2nd March 1997

Sunday Bush Poetry Competition.

Traditional, Original and Humorous

Talent quest --- Free camping --- good amenities --- B.B.Q. --- Food.

Contact; Secretary PO Box 113 BLACKALL QLD 4472

Ph: Pat (076) 5740745.

To the Editor:

Dear Sir,

Happy New Year to you, and all Members of A.B.P.A.!

A.B.P.A. Inc. on the Internet is an interesting development that I hope will promote Bush Poetry products and Festivals to a wider audience. It does, however, lead to some interesting questions particularly regarding Copyright.

I will presume that the A.B.P.A. will not put a Member's poem on the Internet without his or her specific permission to do so. My experience with this technology has shown just how easy it is to 'lift' someone else's work off there! Why bother buying the Product when it can be obtained free from the Internet?

Also, some Performers would be done a disservice if their material was so freely available. Much of it does not 'stand up' so well in print as it does in performance. Undoubtedly there will be teething problems!

Those who, with the President, lamented the fact that the Winning Poems from the Written Competitions in 1996 had not been generally available will be pleased to know that Ron Stevens and I both now have Cassettes released. Ron's is called "Winners in Rhyme", and is a Finalist in the "Golden Gumleaf Album of the Year" Award to be announced in Tamworth this Month. Mine, "There and Back!", is now available, and includes the Diamond Shears Winner from Veronica Weal, too.

The "Conditions of Entry" for Written Competitions vary considerably. Submitting Poetry for inclusion in the Magazine does present problems when, if published, the poem could then become ineligible for a future Competition.

So.... Keep writing! Regards..

Carmel Randle

JUST RELEASED

There and Back!

A Cassette of Bush Poetry and Entertainment from

Carmel Randle and Friends

Your chance to hear nine prize-winning poems, including 1996 successes: "The

Darkest Hour" (Bronze Swagman Winner), "Seasons" (Moncrieff U3A Charlee Marshall Award Winner), "In Custody" (Arts and Crafts Across Australia Winner), "Veteran" (Charleville Bush Balladeers Winner), and Veronica Weal's "The Night I Caught The Rat" (Diamond Shears Award Winner).

With performance contributions from Roger Ilott, Chris Jensen, and Kelsey and Russell Horton, and incidental music from Roger Ilott, "There and Back!" brings you variety, and the best of today's Bush Poetry.

Cost... \$15 from "Splendacrest", MS 852, Preston via Toowoomba 4352

New Monthly Gathering — Bundanoon NSW

The Historic Bundanoon Hotel, set in the beautiful Southern Highlands of NSW not far from Moss Vale, is now the setting for yet another Bush Poet's gathering.

Following a pit stop at Bundanoon as part of the final leg of his Australian Tour, World Champion Yarn Spinner, Tammy Muir of Picola Vic. encouraged Mrs. Nea Hayes, hostess of the Bundanoon Hotel, to become a member of the ABPA Inc. - and so she did. Welcome to our association Mrs. Hayes.

In a letter to the President, Mrs. Hayes advised that the Bundanoon Group meets on the first Sunday afternoon of each month from 4 - 6pm.

The next meeting at Bundanoon is on Sunday February 2nd. This should prove a worthy stop-over for some of the Poets returning from the Bungendore Country Muster. All are welcome and Mrs. Hayes may be contacted on 048 836 005.

LEGENDS OF CAMPFIRE & COMEDY

Two Great Concerts Featuring

Gary Fogarty - Marion Fitzgerald

Shirley Friend - Bobby Miller

With Special Guest Singer

Tracy Fogarty

Tickets
\$10

Tickets
\$10

Fri 21st Feb Gatton Senior Citizens Hall at 7:30 pm
(Bookings Ph; (075) 623355)

Sat 22nd Feb Millmerran Cultural Centre at 7:30 pm
(Bookings Ph; (076) 951829)

A.B.P.A. THIRD ANNUAL.

The latest Annual of poems sent in to the Editor is now available to members and friends. 48 pages with poems from 29 poets. From days gone by, 'When Steam was King' from the father of Bush Poetry, Bill Hay, to a trucking poem 'Bye Bye Clarissa' from SCONE poet Tony Parry and this poem from Kev Barnes.

BEWARE OF THE DOG.

You arrive at a farm and your doing no harm
Course you've lost your way, you see,
Then this flamin' big dog bounds over a log
And say's " You won't get past me !"

With a bark that's rough, he say's " Far enough "
And your not even out of your car !
But he's there beside you and you know he'll bite you,
And you really don't need the scar !

Then a voice calls his name --- it's like playin' a game,
'Cause the barking has stopped, you see .
But you know he's still there and you bloodywell swear,
'Cause the blighter is still running free !

There's just one more shout as you try to get out,
And the dog, he stands by his master.
As you step from the door there's an almighty roar
And you know that this means disaster !

There's yellin' and barkin' and no-ones skylarkin'
And the dog's got your leg ! So you wail !
And you shake and you dance like you're into a trance
And you give him a kick in the tail.

Now, your leg's pretty sore but you've evened the score
'Cause the poor dog now see's through a fog !
And you would have been fine had you just read the sign,
"Cause it said 'Beware of the Dog !!!!

K. Barnes MILLMERRAN QLD

The Third Annual is only \$3.00 each to members, (\$5 to non-members) and will be on sale at Tamworth and after from our P.O. Box number.

New Books from Kelly Dixon.

Camooweal Qld. based cow-cockie, former truckie, noted lyricist, acknowledged poet and novelist, Mr. Kelly Dixon has announced two new publications for Tamworth this month.

On January 20th. at the Country Music Festival, he will release his latest novel "Behind the Wheel", a trucking story which could be called 'Faction' — 268 pages of faction, which tell the story of two truckies and their experiences on the road, including the 'downside' of the industry.

The setting for this novel is the Northern Territory Cattle-haulers routes and the Interstate highways. Humour, tragedy and drama, penned by a bloke who put in 20 years 'on the track', driving cattle-trains, flat-tops, and fridges from Perth to Darwin.

In response to his many enquiries, Kelly will also be releasing "From a Drifters Pen" — his deluxe edition of Bush and Contemporary verse. Critics have stated that the art-work on the covers of both books is worth the retail price alone!

"Behind the Wheel" is available at \$20 plus \$4.20 postage and the book of poems is \$13 plus \$3.00 postage.

During late January through to mid-March, Kelly will be travelling throughout N.S.W. and Vic. taking in of course, the Tamworth Country Music Festival and the Bungendore Country Muster as a small part of his busy itinerary.

Kelly Dixon may be contacted on his Mobile 019 620 345 or by calling Carmel Williams on 077 482 153.

Invite him to your festival or group meetings.



NAME BADGES.
SEND ORDERS TO;
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OR PHONE (076) 33 4888
COST PER BADGE \$5.00
(INCLUDES POSTAGE.)

(Actual size 55 mil.

THE EXPERT.

by J. D. McDougall.

I called into me local pub to sit and have a beer,
When the local expert wandered up and began to bash me ear.
He's the bloke in every pub that's done it all before,
From running in a marathon to fighting in the war.

He'll tell you all about the time he was droving way out west,
His expertise in gardening or some exotic pest.
Now he is a champion punter who never does his dough,
He has never backed a bad one and is always in the know.

He knows a bloke who knows a bloke who can get it on the cheap.
And the bulldust that he waffles is enough to make you weep.
Now as a well worn traveller he's been around the world and back,
From Katmandu to Russia he's rode every railroad track.

He has fought in wars and raced a car, he's got a law degree,
He has even climed up Everest with a bloke called Hillary.
He is a champion at football and at tennis he's an ace,
He was even called to NASA to take a trip in space.

He has got to be a hundred to do what he has done,
But I kinda get the feeling that he's only forty one.
He is in every pub you go to and always has the floor,
But when it comes to shouting he starts heading for the door.

So when you want a cold one and avoid this loud mouth lout,
Just turn around and tell him.....He is just about to shout!

DATE CLAIMER.

The Macfie Clan Society of Australia will be conducting their 1997 written poetry competition and are considering including a recital competition. They are looking at holding this event at an outback venue probably on Saturday 2nd August at The Royal Mail Hotel in Hungerford (about 200 ks from Cunnamulla QLD and the same from Bourke in NSW. (Dates and Venue plus details yet to be confirmed.)

We will keep you up to date as more info comes in but you can get the info from Mr Bob McPhee, QLD Vice President
8 Jahn Drive, Glenore Grove QLD 4342.



CLONCURRY BUSH FESTIVAL & Mary Kathleen Reunion

Queen's Birthday Weekend, Thu 5th to Mon 9th June 1997

- ◆ Greyhound Pioneer Written & Performance Bush Poetry Challenge
- ◆ Greyhound Pioneer Continuous Country Music and Talent Quest
- ◆ Inaugural Australasian Performance Poetry Championship
- ◆ Lynne Darby Memorial Award includes \$1,000 cash prize
- ◆ Muldoon Linehaul Triathlon → Individual athletes and teams
- ◆ Historic Vehicles ◆ Gymkhana ◆ Ernest Henry Mining Rodeo
- ◆ Go-Kart Races ◆ Outdoor Market ◆ Antiques ◆ Mine Tours
- ◆ Goat Racing ◆ North West Queensland Line Dancing Championships
- ◆ Working Dogs Exhibition ◆ Buskers ◆ Street Organ ◆ Extreme Fun
- ◆ Damper Feast ◆ Fred Brophy's Boxing Tent ◆ Whip-cracking
- ◆ Country Music Concert & Barbecue at Mary Kathleen on Monday 9 June
- ◆ Free camping (good facilities) ◆ Free admittance to all major events
- ◆ Live broadcasts will include the ABC's "Queensland Sunday"

For the Festival Program and entry forms & rules for the Country Music Talent Quest, for Written & Performance Poetry, for Line Dancing and for the Muldoon Linehaul Triathlon, please send a stamped addressed envelope to:

Cloncurry Telecentre, PO Box 455, Cloncurry Q. 4824.

Fax 077 42 2199. email ccurryt@tpgi.com.au

Convenor: Michael Darby, phone 077 42 2366

TALES OF UNCLE JIM



AUSTRALIAN BUSH VERSE
BY
THE GOONDIWINDI GREY
ILLUSTRATED BY DOUG HEATHCOTE

CONTENTS

30 DIFFERENT TALES

INCLUDING

- * THE BENEFICIAL DUFFING
- * JIM'S FEAR OF MUTTON
- * THE WITNESSES
- * SNEAKY SNOOPY
- * THE ART OF MILKING

\$12.00 [INCLUDES POSTAGE]

THE GOONDIWINDI GREY
& HAWAII COURT
BARGARA QLD 4670



I THOUGHT I WAS AN AUSSIE. (and more Aussie Verse)

Another new book has been released from the pen of Kincumber poet, Sandra J. Queensborough Binns. A hard cover publication with 56 good Aussie poems from Winning the Pools to the Garage Sale Granny and The Mammogram. This is Sandra' third book and she has a limited number of "Somewhere Beyond" and "Full Circle" left. All books are available for \$10 each (Post Paid) from; Sandra J. Binns

P.O. Box 13
KINCUMBER NSW 2251.

Poets Calendar. Events and Competitions.

- January 31 — Closing date — Written Poetry “**The Bronze Swagman Awards**”
Contact Winton Tourist Promotion Association P.O. Box 44 Winton Q. 4735
- February 1 - 2 1997 - **Bungendore Country Muster.** (NSW) ‘Blue the Shearer’
Sat. 8 am - Poets Breakfast and competition - - Compere- Frank Daniel
Sun. 2nd - Poet’s Breakfast at the Muster. Enq. Toni Flanagan 062 381 651
- Sunday 2nd. February 4 - 6 pm. **Bundanoon Hotel - Bundanoon NSW.**
Poets get-together. (Held on first Sunday each month).
Enq. to Mrs Nea Hayes 048 836 005.
- February 7th. Closing date - **Gympie Golden Pen Poets** - written competition
Enq. Elisabeth Esprester. Doonan Rd. Eumundi Q. 4562 Ph 075 449 1991
- February 21 - 23 1997 - **Yuin Folk Festival** — A weekend of Poetry - Music -
Song and Dance in the Historic Working Village — **Cobargo NSW.**
Frank Daniel - Blue the Shearer - Early - bird tickets \$20 close 31-1-97
Enq. Yuin Folk Club Inc. Ph. Cec 064 927 258 — Jim 044 735 464
- February 14th to March 2nd. **The Banjo Paterson Festival Orange NSW**
Writing Awards for Poetry and Prose with Australian Content. Entries close
Feb. 10th. First \$1000 - 2nd \$400 - 3rd \$200 in each section plus \$500 for
the first time in comic poetry. SSAE to Banjo Paterson Festival Committee
c/ PO Box 194 Orange NSW 2800 for entry forms etc.
- March 2nd. 1997 **Charlton Vic. Country and Bush Music Festival** -
Poets Breakfast etc. Contact Geoffrey Graham. 054 691 312
- March 12 - 16 1997 **Jamberoo — Illawarra Folk Festival** — The largest
celebration of Folk Music, Song, Dance, Tall Tales and Poetry in NSW.
Enquiries; Ted or Cheryl 042 93 7826
- March 21 - 23 1997. **JOHN O’BRIEN FOLK FESTIVAL** Narrandera NSW
Ph 069 591 766 — 069 592 788- -
- March 20 — Closing date — “**Little Swaggies’ Awards**” Written Poetry
Primary and Secondary School Students. Entry forms from Organiser:
P.O. Box 7714 Toowoomba Mail Centre Q. 4352
- March 27 - 31- **The National Folk Festival Canberra.** Easter in Canberra
Folk Music, Dance, Stories and Poetry. Enq. 06 249 7755
- March 31— Closing date. **Charleville Bush Balladeers** written competition
Performance Competition April 19 - 20
Enq. Marion Moore P.O. Box 146 Charleville Qld. 4470 Ph. 076 541 658
- April 24 - 27. **Winton Qld.** Competitive Performance Poetry-
‘**Junior Bush Poetry Festival**’ Years 1 - 12 Individuals and Groups
‘**QANTAS -Waltzing Matilda Bush Poetry Championships**’
Entries close March 24. - Organiser P.O. Box 7714 Toowoomba Qld. 4352

Have your Festival included in this Calendar..... Ring Ron!!