

The Australian Bush Poets Association Inc.



Monthly Newsletter

Volume 10

October 1999

AROUND THE REEF © Bill Glasson, Clifton Q

A day on the water is marvellous fun,
Among tropical islands, enjoying the sun.
Where the pale golden sand like a necklace, surround
All the flora, with which all the island is gowned.
Thick patches of rainforest shading a creek,
And giant trees topping a mountainous peak.

How fortunate we are with this to be blessed?
The result of the art of the Lord at His best.
Walk over an island, your dreams to appease,
Thrill to colourful birds in the beautiful trees.
You may meet one or two of that fortunate breed
Who came here long before fashion decreed.

Away out to sea where the world is so clean,
And the water's as blue as you ever have seen;
While further on out to the east you will see
Teams of white horses rearing up out of the sea.
Is it pain turns them white or the sheer disbelief
Of kicking their toe on a spur of the reef?

Up here such beauty is not hard to find,
With its colourful coral and fish of all kind.
You might see a turtle swim silently by
With a comical face and a quizzical eye.
If you snorkel, you'll know what the ocean is worth,
And will never be closer to Heaven, on earth.

The jewel of our country, a marvel indeed,
That must never be wrecked by humanity's greed.
Man is much like a child with a beautiful toy,
And must never be given the chance to destroy
This wonder, that brightens a world filled with grief,
Our magnificent pendant, The Barrier Reef.

Results for Surats' Cobb & Co. Battered Bugle Poetry Competition held in conjunction with the Festival of Lights to celebrate 75 years since the running of the last Cobb & Co from Yuleba to Surat; 14 & 15 August.

Traditional Section

- 1st Bill Glasson--Clifton
- 2nd Victoria Nason--Gympie (tie)
- 2nd Chris Webster--Bundaberg (tie)
- 3rd Carmel Dunn--Warwick

Original Section

- 1st Carmel Randle--Preston
- 2nd Carmel Dunn--Warwick
- 3rd Merv Webster Snr.--Bundaberg

BATTERED BUGLE Award for Overall Score
CARMEL DUNN--WARWICK.

GYMPIE MUSTER WRAP-UP

It is one of those festivals you just have to be at to understand the atmosphere. The sporadic rain and occasional mud-slide did nothing to dampen the atmosphere of the tens of thousands of Country Music (and Poetry) fans who not only flocked to Amamoor State Forest, but actually camped there.

The six x 2-hour Poetry Breakfasts from the Tuesday to the Sunday had a tremendous following. Hosted by myself, and co-compered over the first three days by the likes of Milton Taylor, Bob Magor and Bob Miller, the crowds were in early and the Muster Tent was rocking with laughter. Janine Haig, Col Hadwell and Joy Major were popular, but John Major was revealed as the snoring monster that he is, when the Poets (having taped him the night before) played the recording over the microphone to a stunned audience, who refused to accept it was John Major snoring, and not a bloody chainsaw.

These first three days were also blessed with impromptu performances by Carmel Dunn, Wally Finch, Tony Strauss, and Gary Lowe.

Some of the Poets were also lucky enough to travel and recite on the Steam Engine traveling through the Hinterland from Gympie. The crowds were thrilled with their performances.

On Friday, Saturday and Sunday, the usual Yobbos, Murray Hartin, Glenny Palmer, Shirley Friend and Ray Essery made their presence felt, and rather than get paid for performing, Guy McLean had Nugget leave a deposit on the stage that was much appreciated by the Poets following him. Thanks Mate!

The Poets Brawl was received well for the first time at Gympie and was won by Stuart Nivison of Brisbane.

The Winners of the Poetry Competition were -

Traditional 1st Wally Finch 2nd Guy McLean 3rd Carmel Dunn
Original 1st Gary Lowe 2nd Col Hadwell 3rd Guy McLean

Naked Poets CD Launch

Gympie was first exposed to the naked Poets in 1998. This year, they brought back a live album with them. All the cast from the show, Shirley Friend, Marco Gliori, Bob Miller, Ray Essery, and Murray Hartin were joined by the producer and sixth cast member, Pat Drummond (singer/songwriter), in the Theatre at the Muster, to perform all the tracks off the album.

The Theatre was packed to capacity and they sold a bundle. For your very own copy of **Naked Poets Lie...ve**, send \$30.00 plus postage to P.O.Box 999 Warwick QLD 4370.

Gympie will be on again next year, and watch this space early next year for details.

See ya, Marco Gliori

Australian Bush Poets Association Inc

email: abpanews@hotmail.com
www.westserv.net.au/~bushpoet

President:

Ron Selby
PO Box 77
Drayton North Qld 4350
Phone 07 4630 1106

Vice Presidents:

RJ (Bob) Miller
Lot 2 Pilerwa Road
Mungar Qld 4650
Phone/Fax 07 4129 6422
Mobile 015 741 336

Secretary/Treasurer:

Olive Shooter
"Willow Bend" MS 765
Talgai West Road
Allora Qld 4362
Phone/Fax 07 4666 3474

Elizabeth Ward
PO Box 61
Mt Perry Qld 4671
Phone/Fax 07 4156 3178

Editor: Jennifer Priest PO Box 2343
Mansfield BC Qld 4122 Fax 07 3849 5844

email: abpanews@hotmail.com

DEADLINE: 20th of Each Month

NOTICE: No part of this newsletter, either in part or in whole, may be reproduced, transmitted or utilised in any form or by any means, electronic, photographic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording or by any information storage system, without written permission from the Australian Bush Poets Association, Inc.

Olive Shooter, Secretary

ABPA Membership - \$25 per annum January to December
PLEASE SEND ALL MONEY TO SECRETARY/TREASURER



CAN YOU HELP, PLEASE?

Member Ray Mitchell is still looking for a poem titled "Yowies of Woodenbong".
If any member can help, please phone Ray on (07) 4121 2152

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Bush Poet and ABPA member **Bob Skelton** recently took place in the Morpeth Medicine Ride, from Raymond Terrace to Morpeth, to raise money for the John Hunter oncology unit and the Riding for the Disabled. Joining with 760 other riders, Bob recited bush poetry along the way, and the public responded generously by filling his billycan with donations. The annual horse ride is one of the biggest in the country. At a presentation dinner held at the Morpeth Bowling Club, Bob was awarded the Dulcie Knight Memorial Trophy for raising the most money for charity for this year's ride.

Good on ya, Bob!



Notice the membership application in the August newsletter. Please promote A.B.P.A. as much as you can. We have more than 400 members at the present time, but can handle more.

Any matter for consideration by the Association should be sent

to the Secretary, not the Editor. Of course that is not to stop anyone writing to the Editor with an opinion or comment, but the matters of the running of the Association should be forwarded to the Secretary.

Do we want to print an annual book of poems? We do not seem to be able to sell in great amounts and with a print of

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



The months just seem to be flying along and the Association keeps on growing. With 400 members now, and the end of the year approaching, it will be soon be time to think of our AGM in Tamworth. There have been many points raised over the last year via the

Newsletter and many subjects will need to be attended to at the AGM. The system of how to award the rights to the Australian Championships will be a major item on the agenda, and also whether or not we should continue with our Annual.

Should we in fact, as a large proportion of the bush poetry movement, have more to say about the running of competitions and various sections of those competitions?

For instance, should a competition separate modern poetry from traditional (as in the works of "traditional" poets such as Paterson, Lawson, Ogilvie, etc. from the more recent poets)? Can we in fact control the input of competitors and lay down the law on what they are or are not permitted to recite in a competition? I personally do not think we can make a law along these lines.

When a person enters a competition they will recite a poem that they consider they have the best chance of winning with, and whether it be a traditional poem or a more recent poem, they try to present that poem to the best of their abilities.

The comments in last months Newsletter ask for entrants to pay for the right to use other poets' work/s. Well these comments have a very short memory. It is not so long ago that we all used other poets work and were asked to acknowledge the poem's author as "payment" for the use of that poem. There have been, and still are, many non writing reciters around. Our old mate and master poet John Philipson, for example, didn't write, but he certainly was a master at presenting a poem and always acknowledged the author. He recited a lot of the great works of Bruce Simpson and probably helped to sell many a book for Bruce.

When a poet recites another poets' work, it must in a small way promote that poet and his or her work. Most poets would be thrilled to know that another poet thought their work worthwhile material to present in a competition. If they happen to win that competition then it is not only the poem but also the delivery that is the deciding factor.

The enjoyment of our bush poetry, and the satisfaction of knowing you are bringing a lot of enjoyment to others, should be enough recognition without this preoccupation of somehow getting a quid out of it.

Ron Selby, President

500, they are just piling up under my spare bed, at least four cases of them.

This month we welcome the new Editor, **Jennifer Priest**, and hope she enjoys her time as Editor. You will see her address in the top listing.

Financially, we are holding our own so I feel that the membership will stay at \$25 for a while longer yet. Quite a few people have taken advantage of the new member bonus of 15 months for the first subscription.

The Annual Meeting will be held at Tamworth in January. Next month I should have details of that.

It is a growing concern for me that we find it so hard to meet during the year. I have tried a couple of times to get together but haven't been successful. We are so far flung.

That seems to be all for this time. Regards, *Olive Shooter*

AND NOW PRESENTING, CENTRE STAGE.....

NEIL MCARTHUR - THE RATBAG OF RHYME

An interview with the one and only "Ratbag of Rhyme"

1. If you were a tree, what kind of tree would you be?

If I were a tree, I would probably be the daggy gum at the end of the street that all the dogs visit frequently. That would be about my luck! Probably a ringbarked one, at that!

2. Who is your favourite Bush Poet?

My favorite poet is Barcroft Boake followed closely by Henry Lawson and Blue The Shearer.

3. What has been your most embarrassing moment on stage?

My most embarrassing moment was recently at my wife's 40th birthday when my inebriated performance of my new poem 'Boot-Scootin' Billy' turned into the 'Full Monty' and some mongrel had a video camera. But it wasn't my fault. They encouraged me!

4. How tall are you?

I am 5' 11", but taller on stage.

5. What would you do if you had \$1,000,000?

If I had \$1,000,000 I would gamble half to try and double it. That would leave me \$500,000 because I always lose. I would spend \$450,000 on grog, parties, wild women and fancy cars, but would probably just waste the other \$50,000.

6. How long did your latest cassette tape take to record?

My latest tape, 'UNTHONGED!!' took me two nights to record. The first night I recorded all the poetry in five hours, and the second night I recorded the intro, songs and guitar dubs in four hours.

7. Any advice for anyone contemplating doing a cassette?

My advice to anybody set to record a poetry tape, is number one 'Know your work!' Don't waste time in the studio as you are wasting money. Enter the studio with a definite concept in mind. Also try to be inventive and use initiative when laying out your tape format. The last thing you want to do is bore the pants off the listener. Add some yarns or little one-liners or some music to break it up, because a full tape of verse can be extremely overbearing, no matter how good a poet you are.



One of the 'new breed' of Australian Stand-Up Comic Poets, Neil McArthur brings a new aspect to Bush Poetry, concentrating on more contemporary and modern themes than his predecessors.

His work has been accepted all around Australia at both Country and Folk festivals, and more recently in the Corporate sector. As his poems grow more outrageous, so too does

the laughter of the audience and he has started converting a lot of 'un-exposed' Victorians into converts of Aussie Poetry.

He can turn any simple situation into a yarn of tragic yet comical proportions and no subject is sacred.

To this date he has released two books, 'Trouble at The Thong Factory' and the recently released 'Tragic Tales From The Thong Factory' which was launched with great success at this year's Tamworth Country Music Festival. His cassette 'Love Thongs' has sold a multitude of copies and is played on many radio stations all through Eastern Australia. He has just released his second album, 'Neil McArthur - UNTHONGED!!' which contains poems such as Shopping Trolley Rage, Shootin' Swaggies, Look What The Cat Dragged In and How I Topped McDougal's Score. It went on sale for the first time at the Mildura Country Music Festival and almost sold out.

Although in great demand throughout N.S.W. and Queensland, he is quite content to settle back in Victoria, at present, and balance his Interstate commitments with appearances throughout Victoria.

He recently took out the best original performance at the 1999 Australian Bush Poetry Championships at Yarrowonga/Mulwala and now numerous poets are performing his works.

Where he'll pop up next, no-body knows, but rumour has it that he may be slinging a guitar in some future shows and cutting loose with a touch of satirical, lyrical warblings.

So beware, you have been warned. If you love Australia, its traditions and its characters, or simply love poetry or comedy, then try catching this Ratbag of Rhyme when he shows up at a venue near you!!

REVIEW Neil McArthur - UNTHONGED!! (Cassette)

*Rock stars are putting out albums unplugged
But me, I don't have a plug to unplug
My thongs have plugs to stop the straps pullin' through
So I'll kick off my thongs and I'll bare my soles to you ...*

So begins the new album from the Ratbag of Rhyme, Neil McArthur. It's a little beauty!! Neil performs a dozen of his wacky original comic verses, interspersed with short songs, quips and guitar music. Along the way, he shows himself to be not only a rhymer of renown, but also a talented guitarist.

His eccentric sense of humour and his ability to take any ordinary situation to extra-ordinary poetical lengths makes his poetry distinctive. His tales with a twist are sure to bring a laugh! Who could hold a straight face throughout the 'Shopping Trolley Rage', or anticipate the next turn to 'Shootin' Swaggies'? Although purists of rhyme and rhythm may have many valid tips to offer Neil, this does not distract from his performed poetry.

You may have heard other talented performers presenting Neil's work, now take the opportunity to hear the author himself.

REVIEW Tragic Tales From The Thong Factory (Book)

This reviewer also had the opportunity to read the 'proper Australian poetry' contained in Neil McArthur's recently released book 'Tragic Tales From The Thong Factory'. This is Neil's second book, and shows yet another facet to the Ratbag of Rhyme. The book includes some of the poems recorded on the UNTHONGED cassette, plus such gems as 'Mulligan's Missus', and 'The Gay Farmhand', fast becoming bush poetry classics.

However, as well as his much-requested comic poetry, Neil has included some of his more serious original verse. His eloquent tribute to the late Charlee Marshall, 'God's Own Bard', the sobering tale of 'Waltzing With His God', and the thoughts on the Eureka Stockade expressed in 'Catch-Cry of a Nation' demonstrate Neil's poetic ability to a far greater extent than his better-known rhymes.

Here we see the lyrical rather than the satirical; the flip-side to the flippant. It's certainly a book worth grabbing for your collection.

Dear Editor

As a long time member of the ABPA I would like to add my comments to Frank Daniel's and Bob Miller's suggestions that poetry writers should be recognised for their talents, when a performer recites their work.

One has only to tally the amount of Neil McArthur poems performed at festivals, which gain points for the performer. I have yet to attend a poetry gathering where Neil's poetry has not been performed to great elation of the audience, and Neil is rarely aware of it, let alone paid for his talent.

I especially have reason to be grateful for Neil's wit, as I scored undeserved points at the recent Bundy Mob's muster because I hadn't realised that the rules prevented me performing my own work in the Modern section, so as a last resort, I read a personal poem Neil had written for Col and me when we moved temporarily to Melbourne, not expecting any accolades, but was amazed to find the poem helped me get into the finals, and as writing is my forte, I know it wasn't my performance that pleased the judges.

As a writer, I have known the disappointment when a non-writing performer earns trophies for performing my work, without asking permission or giving acknowledgment for same.

Perhaps if performers had to pay royalties to writers, or as suggested, the show organisers diverted a percentage of any winnings to the writer, poets like Neil McArthur and Bob Miller could sit back and rake in the profits. God knows they deserve to.

I also agree with Frank's statement that too many non-writing performers are walking off with accolades without lifting a pen. Bush verse is gaining popularity at a frightening rate and modern day writers need to be encouraged to keep it growing.

Let's get together and set some rules for the future of every talented writer.

Bette Shiels, Bundaberg Q

Dear Editor

Please allow me space in your magazine to express some of my views.

After entering in a number of competitions around the country, I have observed a great variance in criteria, especially in traditional sections. Some say poems must be 50 years old or more, some say poems must be by dead poets, whilst others define traditional as anything other than original.

Personally I believe that there should be a uniform set of rules made up by the A.B.P.A. This will allow the A.B.P.A. to act as a sanctioning body, so that any competition officially sanctioned by the A.B.P.A. will have standard rules and regulations.

The Macquarie dictionary defines "tradition" as "the handing down of statements, beliefs, legends, customs, etc. from generation to generation, esp. by word of mouth or by practice", and "traditional" as "pertaining to tradition". A poem written in recent years hardly fits this criteria. The problem with saying a poem that must be 50 years old or more, is that it is impossible to know when it was written. For example, who knows whether a poem written by Charlee Marshall was written in his youth or his later years.

May I suggest that the criteria be works of poets who died 50 years ago or more. The reason I suggest this is because all Copyright becomes null and void 50 years after ones' death. (This information comes from the Copyright Council of Australia, as well as Angus and Robertson publishers.) This will save many arguments as it is not hard to find out when an author died, and it also fits the definition of "Traditional" in the Macquarie dictionary. Apart from traditional and original sections, a separate section could be included for modern/contemporary works, à la Bundaberg's Bush Poets Muster.

It is not my intention to stir up any ants nests, and I no way imply that this is the only way, but please consider the benefits to all if one can know in advance the rules and regulations of any particular competition.

Tony Strauss, Tannum Sands Q

On My Soapbox

Your contributions to "On My Soapbox" are welcomed. Please keep to a maximum of 300 words, and include your full name. Preference will be given to short, neatly typed letters or emails.



Dear Editor

I, like all other competitors at Mulwala received a copy of the competition judging sheet.

To me, they indicate that a better system of judging must be found. It can be argued that personalities are influencing some judges. It is interesting to read where, in a field of 15 competitors, one competitor can be placed first by one judge, and equal last by another. Reading the Mulwala judging sheets, a person could be excused for believing that some judges write down the first number that comes into their head.

To witness a competitor give a very polished performance at a competition the standard of Mulwala, and then see four of the judges place that competitor within the first three, and the fifth judge place that competitor last, shows bias.

For the good of Bush Poetry, I feel that a standard format must be set, using a judging sheet that gives points for various facets of each performance.

Nobody should act as a judge if they have a grudge against a competitor. A judge should judge the performance only - he should not be influenced by a personal like or dislike for a competitor, or the material used.

Much has been written in past Newsletters re judging, hopefully something will be done. I suggest a committee of say, five of our Associations' more experienced members be formed to seek opinions. Distance being a problem, they could communicate by fax. Anybody got any suggestions?

Don Anderson, Leeton NSW

EDITOR'S NOTE

The role of the ABPA is not that of a governing body. It is a member's forum, with all member's views welcomed. As Don indicates, much has been written about judges and judging methods in the past, however the ABPA cannot dictate to event organisers how to run their event.

Bob Miller and Frank Daniel both commented on "Who Judges the Judges" in the August 98 and September 98 editions of this Newsletter. Bob also commented on bias in judging, and Frank commented on the specific criteria. Worth a read!

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Miles Blake, The Gums, Q
Dalby Country Music Club, Quinalow, Q
Mary A Davies, Russell Island, Q
Mary E Mott, Runaway Bay, Q
Max Ellis Marketing, Tamworth, NSW
National Folk Festival, Civic Square, ACT
Sue Sedman, Sale, V
Tom Strickland, Coffs Harbour, NSW
William F Crosbie, Cardross, V
David Edwards, Elanora, Q
Pam Moore, Bogangar, NSW

Dear Editor,

Regarding letters in the September issue of the ABPA magazine: what's happened to the fellowship and camaraderie that once existed amongst Bush Poets? It appears that it has taken off to chase the filthy lucre. A fortunate few receive their just rewards, whilst many of the other good poets receive very little money for their efforts (many perform because they love Bush Poetry).

Who are these naughty poets who are raking in \$500 every week?

Whilst big prizes in competitions may attract poets there is also a negative side. Usually the same big guns come in first, second and third in all sections in a particular competition, albeit in a different order.

I believe it would be far better to offer smaller prizes plus some travelling expenses as they do in Surat. Fuel prices are rising as we are being ripped off by the multinationals.

Like Frank, I don't like competitions. For the life of me I cannot see how you can compare pretty Carmel Dunn with Frank Daniel. All poets are different and unique in their own style. I am sick and tired of being congratulated by members of the audience only to have the 'Judges' relegate my performance to the rubbish bin.

I, for one, am flattered if someone thinks my poems are worth reciting providing they give credit. Perhaps the poets who object to having their poems used in competitions or elsewhere can be listed in the magazine, then we can stick their books in the bottom drawer.

What do we do with the work of poets who have passed on? Are Charlee Marshall's marvellous poems to be rejected or do we chase up Beryl to ask her permission to recite them?

What about if no relatives or likely copyright holders can be found? And what about the good poets who don't recite very well or maybe not at all? Let us know how you feel!

Let's bring back the right spirit, or the great modern Bush Poetry Movement will sow the seeds of its own destruction.

Max Jarrott, Killarney Q



FROM OUR ROVING REPORTERS

For the past thirty years, Broome has held the SHINJU MATSURI - FESTIVAL of the PEARLS -

to celebrate the multi-cultural place that Broome has become as a result of the pearl industry. Events over the week include float parades, gala balls, billy cart derbys, and dragon boat races plus, of course, an evening of poetry. The poetry this year was held at Matso's Art Gallery/Restaurant, which proved to be a great venue. The audience of approximately one hundred, either sat under the stars or on the restaurant's raised verandah, and all enjoyed a good view and a well set up sound system. The poetry was Open Mike and again I was amazed at the range of different topics and styles. About half of the presenters were travellers like myself, whilst the others were either Broome locals or from the surrounding Kimberly area.

During the evening, the winners of the "Local Wordsmith" competition, for short stories and poetry were announced. The prizes of a complete computer system and color printer were an indication of the support from the local businesses. There was no charge for entry to the event and Matso's provided free finger food. Apart from festival time, a poetry night is held at Matso's approx every three months. Give Jacqui Wright a call at her work number 919 25560 for details. June and I are presently swimming the crystal waters of the Exmouth area before working our way down to Carnarvon, where we have been invited to a Poets' Corner. Bye for now.

June and Ted Webber

Phone 1414 844831 or Email juneted@yahoo.com

KYABRAM BUSH VERSE GROUP

The Kyabram Bush Verse Group along with the Ky Lions Club conducted the annual "Around The Campfire" at the Ky Club on Thursday 2nd September. It was a great night. Good crowd, good venue, and tip-top Poets and Yarn Spinners.



The night opened with Betty Olle, our President, presenting trophies to the winners of the Primary School Bush Verse Competition.

Winners of the schools comp were Kathy Werner of the KY Haslem Street School with a poem entitled "The Chase", and Donald Campbell of the Stanhope School with "Stanhope Sam". There were 131 entries from 6 schools. *The winning poems can be found on page 7 of this issue.*

Then followed a night of Bush Verse and Yarns compered by Mick Coventry, Les Parkinson, and "Skew Wiff" Watt. Winner of the night was the ever popular John Johansen from Yarrawonga who is a member of the Ky Bush Verse Group. Winner of the "Skew Wiff" Award was local girl Molly Sparks. It was a ripper of a night.

The next venture here is on October 28th when Jan Wositzky is to perform his "White Fella Learns To Dance" show. This is the second visit by Jan, and we are looking forward to another good night.

Congratulations to Mulwala for gaining next years' Aussie Championships. See you there.

Submitted by Graham "Skew Wiff" Watt

PLEASE NOTE: CANCELLATION!!

Brunswick Valley

Written Poetry Competition

The Brunswick Valley Written Poetry Competition closes **December 21st 1999**. With over \$2000.00 in Prize money to be won, poets need to start getting their entries in **NOW!**

Ages open for the written competition are: Open, Secondary School, and Primary School in the following categories: Humorous, Serious, Romantic, and Bush. Entry fee is \$3.00 per poem entered.

Due to unfortunate circumstances the Brunswick Valley Bush Poets Brekky and Performance Competition along with the Brunswick Valley Country Music Fair has been cancelled. For further information please contact Margaret Mitchell at the following:

Brunswick Valley Poetry Competition
PO Box 41, Brunswick Heads, NSW 2483

Phone 02-6685 1901 Fax 02- 6685 1960

E-mail: woodchop@linknet.com.au

DROVING DAYS AGAIN

© Graham Fredriksen

from his new book

"Paradise Revisited"



There's a double-headstall bridle that is hanging on the gates,
with a snaffle bit and pair of standing rings;
a "Barcoo" - been three months idle - with a red-hide "Bronco Bates"
is now waiting by a post along the wings.

There's a cream Onkaparinga saddle-cloth upon the fence
that is flapping in the early morning breeze;
smells of well-oiled leather bring a warm familiar ambiance -
there's the saddle-bag and quartpot on the dees.

A packsaddle sits there waiting with the swag beside the rails
and the bags are packed beside the water-drum;
cattle dogs anticipating now with eagerness the trails
they will follow in the crowded weeks to come.

There are ropes and greenhide halters that will soon be gracing heads
as the rainy season's spell comes to an end;
hobble-chains for colts and bolters; for the tamest of the neds
comes the reassuring hand of an old friend.

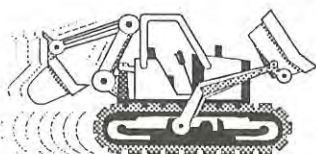
"Wave Hill" spurs, now slightly rusty, grace a pair of Santa Fes
with their Cuban heels imprinted on the pound;
with the mud now turned to dust, he has been counting down the days
for the droving days again to come around.

Then the sound of drumming drumming through the piccaninny haze,
as his boy upon the night-horse brings them down
with the moon - his horses coming: first the ghost-white of the greys,
then the blazes on the chestnuts and the brown.

And he singles out a clumper as they circle in the pen -
the big strawberry roan today will take the pack;
then the flaxen-mane buckjumper feels the cold steel once again -
he will work her down the first day on the track.

There's the tightening of surcingles as another horse complains,
rearing backwards, but the boy has got a halt;
there's the camp-ware jangle-jingle to the tune of hobble-chains,
and the taffy mare pigrooting in revolt ...

disapproves of life together all her demons all resign -
she surrenders one more season to the fates;
iron hooves and slapping leather and the bells of dawn combine
with the bellow as the mob below awaits;
the plant moves off through the heather through the sedge and turpentine
and the plains again are silent at the gates.



*"Our trees are disappearing!"
said the shearer to his mate
"The rivergums, and coolibahs
at a most alarming rate!"*

*"It's those bloody caterpillars!"
yelled the Rousie from the pens
"You know, those yellor fellers
The D8's...9's.. and 10's!!!"*

© Hipshot

The Winner of the Bundaberg Dark and Stormy 1-Minute Cup

I'm Not A Sexist

© Ron Selby, Drayton, Q

*I'm no flamin' sexist, fancy giving me that name!
To me ALL women are beautiful - But some you'd call 'Fair Game'
I believe that age old saying "You call a spade a spade"
But some of these flamin' sheilas, just never make the grade.*

*Now blondes are known as 'Dippy', but some can take a joke,
When it involves their grade of intelligence, from a macho, he-man bloke.
Some women are pathetic, but you know it is quite sad.
That you never marry a redhead - 'cause they talk like flamin' mad.*

*From East or West or from North to South
The only mistake the Good Lord done was give a women a mouth!
They are always bitchin' and won't stay in the kitchen,
So treat all women the same and shorten the bloody chain!*

*And these mongrel politicians - they really went too far,
When they allowed a flamin' sheila to drive a bloody car.
And the answer to a question, I'll bet nobody knows,
Why do they stop at traffic lights, and begin to powder their nose?*

*I don't think I'm a sexist or a male chau-van-ist,
'Cause these words, you see, are just not on my list!
But to double check, and because I value my life,
I think I better go and check - with my darlin' wife.*



Millennium Fever

© Sandra J. Queenborough Binns, Kincumber, NSW

*I've been hearing about the millennium
and how it's about to end
but I keep getting into arguments
as my opinion I seek to defend.*

*They say in the year two thousand,
on New Years Day will begin
the next millennium. But I think
this is one debate I must win.*

*If you take a period of time -
say a decade, just for example,
it ends at the end of the tenth year, right?
I consider my argument ample.*

*But still there are some who dispute it -
tell me, where did they go to school?
Do they just want to celebrate twice,
or am I the one who's the fool?*

Sandra J. Queenborough Binns has released her new book **"No Bull!!"** (see advertisement in "The Product Shelf") Sandra writes ... *"I'm more than happy to exchange with anyone who would like to send me one of their books (it's a beaut way to build up the library); for those I've already swapped with, if you haven't a new book, I'm happy to swap with another of the last - they always come in handy for last minute presents or donations to the local waiting rooms (doctors, dentist, etc.)"*

Sandra may be contacted at
PO Box 6013, Kincumber, NSW 2251
Phone/Fax 02 4368 2288.

New-Chums Hill

© Tom Stonham, Nambucca Heads, NSW

Near the little town of Kiandra in the Snowy River region of NSW, Australia, is a spot known locally as "New-Chum's Hill" and here is how it got it's name.

Three young men from Mother England, in Australia only weeks,
with the Pomegranate pinkness slowly fading from their cheeks,
They had come to find their fortune 'way Down Under', diggin gold
even now, a century later, it's a story to be told.

They were New-Chums, brand-new bloody tools,
They were New-Chums, April bloody fools.
Tho' they've been called 'Up Yonder'
You can hear 'em laughin' still ...
First of April, near Kiandra, high on New-Chum's Hill.

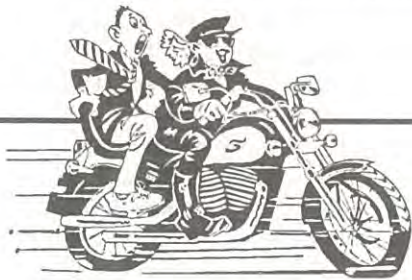
When they reached the Snowy River, where the frost can freeze your nose,
It was on the First of April when you MUST be on your toes,
There they asked some Aussie miners where gold nuggets might be found
And one joker pulled a poker-face 'n' looked a-bloody-round.

"Take yer picks 'n' bloody shovels, 'n' climb up that bloody 'il,
Better take a bloody chaff-bag which yer BOUND ter bloody fill"
And the April Fools believed him, full of innocence and trust,
with the funny bloody Aussies laughin' fit ter bloody BUST!

Well ... they climbed that bloody hillside, found that LUVVERLEE bloody
stuff,
And their silly bloody chaff-bag wasn't big e-bloody-nuff,
When they'd made a bloody million, then they spread their bloody wings,
Sailin' back to bloody England where they lived like bloody kings!

Rich 'n' rare, gold's where you find it, luck had laughed at heavy wit,
Think of David and Goliath, of the Biter bein' bit ...
Cut the cards or spin the pennies, some'll win and some'll lose,
Like them lucky English lions licked us Aussie Kangaroos!

They were New-Chums, brand-new bloody tools,
They were New-Chums, April bloody fools
First of April, near Kiandra, if you make like Jack and Jill...
THERE'S A WISP OF POMMY LAUGHTER IN THE WIND...
ON NEW-CHUM'S HILL!



WINNERS - KYABRAM BUSH VERSE PRIMARY SCHOOL COMPETITION

The Chase by Kathy Werner

He would not be shaken from the saddle as he rode down the steep
mountain path,
Even though he rode with joy he certainly could not laugh,
For behind him rode the soldiers and after him they did chase,
His horses steps were growing weary it was hard to keep her pace.

He was an escaped convict jailed for stealing sheep,
He just had to get away so he urged his horse to lep.
With one final bound his horse cleared the rail,
It was the very last fence at the Port Arthur jail.

So it was that he'd got away,
The troopers chase would have to keep for another day.

Stanhope Sam by Donald Campbell

There was an old swaggie I used to know,
His name was Stanhope Sam.
He dressed really weird and he smelt like horse dung,
And everyone told him to scam.

He was supposed to live at Wallenjoe Swamp,
Among the birds and the trees.
His bed was the land and his roof was the sky,
I the winter you would think he would freeze.

No one ever knew how old Sam was,
Or when he first moved in.
Some said he'd been here about 50 years,
Some said their grandparents remembered him.

His face was the colour of muddy dirt,
His clothes were tatty and torn.
The hat on his head was an old diggers' slouch,
He wore them from dusk through to dawn.

His boots were holed and way too old,
His gloves were woolly and warm.
His music was the sound of Kookaburras,
Which told of a coming storm.

Shifty Sue From Broken Hill

© Brian Bell, Glenbrook, NSW

'Twas Shifty Sue from Broken Hill who sauntered through the
store
With EFTPOS having paid her bill, she calmly went next door
To choose a shiny Harley bike, but paid the man in cash.
He said "I'll teach you, if you like, to ride, or you may crash".

She put her leather jacket on, said "Helmets are for sooks.
I'd only have one on my scone for rounding up the chooks.
I've ridden on the wildest horse. I've broken pigs and bulls.
There's nothing I can't tame with force. Let's see how this thing
pulls."

'Twas Shifty Sue could do no wrong. While mounting that ma-
chine,
She hummed an ancient Beatles song about a submarine.
She turned the key, then raised her leg to give a hefty kick.
Before her foot was on the peg, she felt a mighty flick.

The Harley bounced across a hole, as in the air Sue fought.
No way could she take full control, in spite of what she'd
thought.

It rallied over Cactus Flat, and down through Stoney Creek,
Squashed possums and a feral cat, which gave a piercing
shriek.

That Harley circled 'round the dam for almost half a hour,
Midst shouts of "Holy Abraham, release me from its power".
The tank, the seat, the handle bars, had started working loose,
But Sue was spared from major scars. The bike ran out of juice.

'Twas Shifty Sue who struggled back, her muscles weak and
sore.
She'd had a minor heart attack, and as she crawled, she swore
To leave those Harley bikes alone forever and a day;
She swapped hers for a mobile phone, a draft horse and a dray.

NEVER FORGET YOU

"Your friends will never forget you",
the fluttering leaflet said,
"Your friends will never forget you",
and then o'er the valley spread,
The wide sky cowed in sorrow,
and the eyes of the angels wept,
For a promise made by the soldiers
that their leaders never kept.

For soldiers are there when you need 'em,
they're there to suffer and die,
And make the eyes of the angels weep
in the depths of the tropical sky,
And the soldiers are there to laugh it off,
and shoulder their blistering gun,
And fight anew, in the mud like glue,
and the sweat of the tropical sun.

And soldiers were there, and their mates were there,
their mates, the East Timorese,
Who fought and died beside them
in the night of the jungle trees,
Who bled and fought and suffered,
so Australia might still be free,
And the Aussies cried, when their leaders lied,
and poisoned the Timor Sea.

"Your friends will never forget you",
the fluttering leaflet said,
Dropped from the biscuit bomber,
and then o'er the valley spread,
"Your friends will never forget you",
and the eyes of the angels wept
For a promise made by the soldiers,
that their leaders never kept.

© Denis Kevans

(This poem was read by Ian MacNamara on "Australia All Over", ABC Radio, 5/9/99)

CONGRATULATIONS

to A.B.P.A. members who received awards in the
F.A.W. Hastings Regional 1999 Competition
as follows:

Cat. 4: Glad Stanford Award for Rhyming Verse.

1st & 3rd Ellis Campbell, Dubbo, NSW
H.C. Brian Beesley, Cherrybrook NSW

Cat. 6: Gilbert Mant Award for Australian Bush Verse.

1st Ellis Campbell
2nd Brian Beesley
H.C. Kenn Dean, Marangaroo NSW
C. Ellis Campbell, Brian Beesley
Don Adams, Paraparaumu Beach,
New Zealand.

Australians nationwide got a real treat on Saturday 2nd October, when Guy McLean appeared on the "Red Faces" segment of "Hey Hey It's Saturday!" performing Col Wilson's "The Poker Machine". Guy won the session, walking off with the \$800 prize. Other Bush Poets who have previously appeared on "Red Faces" include Mark Thompson and Carmel Randle.



URUNGA'S AUSTRALIANA NIGHT

An Australiana Night of Bush Poetry and Song will be hosted by the "Urunga Poets in the Club" at Urunga Golf Club on Saturday 23rd October, 1999. Scheduled to commence at 6.30pm, the program will begin with a two course dinner to be followed by a concert featuring the multi-talented Bush Poet and Folk Singer, Russell Churcher from Wauchope.

Russell's special brand of entertainment has proved very popular with those who have attended his performances in the area in recent years. He has been a regular performer at folk and country music festivals and has of recent times been manager and performer at Wauchopes's "Timbertown", where he delighted and entertained many visitors. Additionally, Russell was a co-compere at the successful Kempsey Country Music Club's Bush Poetry Brunch in September.

Russell performs his recitations of traditional and contemporary bush verse and song from the heart and again will be accompanied by "The Limberjacks", Russell's 'little people' who are often seen to upstage his efforts.

Local reciters, who have been so evident at recent bush verse events, are invited to perform during what promises to be a great evening of truly Australian entertainment.

Admission for the evening will be a very reasonable \$6.00 which will include a two course meal. Further information is available from Maureen on phone 02 6568 5269 or Keith on phone 02 6655 6835 ah.

Submitted by Maureen Stonham

Palma Rosa Poets

We are delighted to announce our next Palma Rosa Poets evening! Two brilliant poets, **Graham Fredriksen** and **Michael Darby** will be our guests on **Wednesday 4th November, 7pm for 7.30pm**

Graham Fredriksen, fourth generation cattleman, farmer and bush poet from Kilcoy, will be launching his second book "Paradise Revisited". This promises to be a fabulous read, as last year Graham won the coveted Bronze Swagman Award, and also the Bundaberg Bush Lantern Award for written verse.

Supporting Graham in the launching of this book will be fellow North Pine Bush Poets - Anita Reed, Carol Stratford, Jill Perren, and John Coutts.

**"It gets in your blood when
You've worked with the dirt,**

**And felt the warm soil
Fall away in your hand,**

**And growing things green,
It will never desert**

**The subconscious of those
Who have worked with the land."**

Our other guest on this special evening will be the "larger than life" Michael Darby. Michael is one of our very favourite poets who has previously enthralled us all at Palma Rosa - a writer, Shakespearian actor, and poet - it certainly promises to be a night to remember.

Please book early - bookings are essential.

\$15 (supper included). BYO Drinks.

Phone 07 3262 3769

Submitted by Trisha Anderson

COUNTRY ON THE TWEED FESTIVAL REPORT

Near capacity crowds filled the Tweed Heads Civic Centre for the Poet's Breakfast/Competitions on 14-15th August 1999.

Held in conjunction with the "Country on the Tweed" Festival, the audience was entertained by a diverse mix of Country Music Artists and Bush Poets, while feasting on a scrumptious fare provided by local service groups.

The entire festival was a huge success with thousands attending over the nine days, ensuring the event will stay on the Tweed calendar.

Poetry Judges and Featured Artists, Gary Fogarty, Shirley Friend, and Milton Taylor had their work cut out for them because of the tough competition and the high standards set by the competitors.

An aggregate score of the Traditional and Original sections was used to decide Male and Female winners, and then the Humorous section was judged by the audience voting on slips of paper. The large crowd enjoyed the Humorous section, particularly when they discovered that convenor Lorraine Richards had entered the three judges (who we hear not only had to fill in entry forms, but also pay entry fees!).

Our thanks must go to the Tweed Head Bowls Club and Target Australia, who donated the prize money and perpetual trophies.

Results were as follows

Bush Poetry in Primary Schools 12 years and under
Winner Kelsey Horton (aged 9)
 Christian Outreach College, Brisbane
 Kelsey's school received \$1000 from Target Australia & Trophy

Performance Bush Poetry 17 yrs and over
 Original and Traditional Aggregate score
Female Winner Anita Reed, Holland Park, Q
Male Winner Wally Finch, Kallangur, Q
 Winners received \$500 & Tweed Head Bowls Club Trophies

Performance Bush Poetry Humorous any age
Winner Roderick Williams, Murrurundi NSW
 Rod received \$500 and the Tweed Heads Bowls Club Trophy

Submitted by Lorraine Richards and Graeme Johnson

SHOPPIN

I went shoppin the other day - well, the missus 'ad me in tow
 Huntin all the antique shops, even tho we 'ad no dough
 She checks out all this ol' time gear, sez this or that looks great
 But most of all this antique stuff, to me looks out 'o' date.
 The Manager then appears, fancy suit and polished shoes
 And inquires to us all dainty like, if we would like to choose.
 We have our dining tables over there, the chairs are solid oak
 Those stands would grace any hall, of course to hang your cloak.
 The side mirrors on display, well, they're really all the go
 The best of houses have one or two - people in the know.
 So I sez to this manager bloke, in me smoothest kinda voice
 That we was only browsin and 'ad yet ter make a choice.
 Take all the time you need my dears, and then away 'e went
 Gawrd stone the bloody crows I says, 'es like that row 'o' tents.
 Hush yer mouth, me missus sez, 'e ain't done you no 'arm
 If only you, yer Boofhead log, 'ad 'alf 'es flaming charm.
 Now 'bout this time this shoppin, was getting neath me skins
 And me patience and me 'umor, was wearin pretty thins.
 Lets go me little Shopalcoholic, I was feelin bloody sour
 I need ter be down at the pub, ter play pool in 'alf an hour.
 Ya don't fool me with yer pool, me missus spat out with a sneer
 Yer just wanna be there with yer mates, talking footy 'n' drinkin beer.
 Well I must admit she had a point, when she sighed a frightful moan
 That Grandfather clock is just beautiful, if we could only get a loan.
 Now 'ang on there 'ol girl, I sez, I felt me ticker miss a beat
 We don't need no Grand dad clock an I quickened our retreat.
 But we were cut off near the antique rugs - by a voice that made me sick
 That Grandfather clock is on special Sweetie, it really is quite chic
 It was made in France in '34, by a cousin of the King
 And on the hour, every hour, you can hear the swallows sing.
 How much would that cost us my wife inquired, her voice seemed far
 away
 Ten thousand dollars, the Hoof replied, my head in disarray.
 T T Te Ten thousand dollars, I stuttered, now I was really feelin faint
 Next ter you, yer mongrel thief - Ned Kelly was a saint.
 Oh I like it when you get angry, you're so strong and manly like
 I 'ad this sudden sinkin feelin, I was being courted by the dyke.
 'e moved real close an grabbed me 'and, then 'e kissed me on the scone
 Me missus finally saw me fear, an knew that 'e was on the con.
 Stay away from 'im, yer little squirt, 'es married an I'm 'is bride
 So much as lay a 'and on 'im, an I'll tan yer flamin hide.
 Now go on Darl, she sez ter me, off yer go and play yer pool
 I'm gunna 'ave some nasty words, ter this hi falutin fool.
 You bloody little beauty, quick as a flash, I take me leave
 When I spin this yarn down at the pub, I bet they won't believe
 How an affectionate little manager got me missus so irates
 She orders me down to the pub, ter play pool with all me mates.



© Dennis Carstairs, Stratford 1999

G'DAY FROM GIPPSLAND

My enthusiasm since returning from the Championships at Yarrawonga-Mulwala in May has not subsided. In fact I think my love of Australian Bush Poetry and the performance of the art has increased.

We do not have an organised Bush Poetry Club in this neck of the woods, although spasmodic bouts of Bush Poetry happen every now and then. I am about to advertise in the local press to gauge the interest of forming the "Gippsland Bush Poetry Club". I am very hopeful that we will be able to get a Club up and running. Since the Championships I have kept in touch with Peter Worthington, and I am sure if any assistance or advice is required he, and many other fine Victorian Bush Poets, would pitch in to help the "Poets of the South". If any member of the A.B.P.A. living in the Eastern part of Victoria would like to help form a Gippsland Club, give me a ring on 5145 6128.

I believe Bush Poetry has a fine future in Victoria, the more organized clubs, the more performers we have, the greater our chances of success.

Yours in Bush Poetry, Dennis Carstairs

MILLMERRAN BUSH POETS ROUND-UP REPORT

The sun shone and so did the 38 poets that competed at the ROUND-UP. A few of us got together in the Ram's Head on Friday night for a 'Warm Up', had an Open Mic session that created a few laughs! Saturday, after the Sausage Sizzle, saw a dozen Juniors (10 from one class of the Millmerran State School) line up to compete, most for the first time. The standard was very high, and it's great to see the interest from the younger generation.

The Novice competition went well, the winning poem in the Original, The EULOGY by Wendy Harth was a popular choice. Many thanks go to 'Arch' Bishop, and Maureen Stonham who helped me so much over the weekend.

The Poet's Breakfast went down well, with heaps to eat, we even made the 2nds free, and tea and coffee flowed freely all day.

The Open competition was hotly contested, and I'm glad I wasn't a JUDGE! The Shire Mayor, Cr George Ezzy presented the trophies and didn't mind the ribbing he copped in the brawl (one of the topics was 'A Mare Called George'). I congratulate all the poets who were there as well as the winners, and I thank you all for supporting the Round-Up. A cheque for \$650 has been sent to the Qld Cancer Fund.

The following are the Competition Results:

	First	Second	Third
Junior Original	Blake Hall	Nikita Fraser	Jodie Handley
Junior Traditional	Jodie Handley	Nikki Gibson	
Novice Original	Wendy Harth	Ken Hood	Ross Keppel
Novice Traditional	Ken Hood	Nell Perkins	Brian Perren
Open Female Original	Maxine Ireland	Anita Reed	Lee Miller
Open Female Traditional	Maxine Ireland	Anita Reed	Mary Finch
Open Male Original	Bill Kearns	Jack Drake	Bill Glasson
Open Male Traditional	Wally Finch	Bill Glasson	Ron Leikfett
Yarn Spinning	Ken Hood	Graham Murchin	Bill Glasson
Duo Performance	Ron Leikfett & Bill MacClure	Wally & Mary Finch	Ross Keppel & Lee Miller
Brawl	Ron Leikfett	Anita Reed	Lee Miller
Over All Champion	Wally 'The Bear' Finch		

Once again congratulations to all, see ya round the 'Traps'

Kev J Barnes 'The Legend'

Snowy Mountains Authority 50th Anniversary Celebrations

We have been asked by Angela Horsley of Tumut if we could run a concert in the old Montreal Community Theatre on Saturday 23rd October at 2pm, as part of the Celebrations.

There will be a door charge of \$5.00 for the public, which would include a light afternoon tea. \$1.00 would go to cover the afternoon tea, and \$4.00 would go to our Club.

The Theatre holds 500 people and the town will be bustling with visitors and ex Snowy employees looking for entertainment.

This could be a great opportunity to perform in such a grand old Theatre so I hope we have a good roll up of Poets, Yarn Spinners and Musicians. The show should run until 5 or 5.30 with a half time break.

If you intend coming to perform, please ring Sue, or Fax her with a personal profile to be used for the advertising for the event as soon as possible.

This will also enable us to compile a program.

Phone/Fax 02 6025 3847

Reprinted from The Snowy Mountains Bush Poetry Club Inc Newsletter

O'MARA'S HIGH COUNTRY POETS

Saturday 12th February, 2000

A GRAND in the HAND,
Is a SCORE in the CLAW
Of a Poet with talent and wit.
For HIGH COUNTRY POETS,
You'll all have to go it
And try to write phrases that fit.

Bob's at his best
When he's writing the cheques.
So when on the 12th there you stand,
Use your words and your guile,
Make those old judges smile,
And you'll leave with a GRAND in your HAND!



It's on again! Bigger and better in 2000. "O'Mara's High Country Poets" - the big one header where one lucky poet walks off with a grand in the hand in the Open Original. Mark this date in your diary - **Saturday 12th February** - and come to O'Mara's Hotel, Stanthorpe, QLD. Further updates as the event draws closer, or for more details and entry forms, contact:

Jack Drake on 0746 837169,
or Box 414 PO, Stanthorpe, QLD 4380

POEMS WANTED!

Send poems to be included in the A.B.P.A.
Bush Poetry Annual

to Ron Selby, PO Box 77, Drayton North, QLD 4350

Also contact The Secretary to purchase past Annuals.

See advertisement in "The Product Shelf"

PALMA ROSA POETS WORLD CONFERENCE

On Sunday 5th September at the end of another exciting day of touring, the visiting delegates of the World Conference of the English Speaking Union experienced our Queensland hospitality when we gave them a barbeque dinner and later, a lamington supper while being entertained by some of our Brisbane Bush Poets - **Trisha Anderson, Robert Raftery, Wally Finch, Anita Hendrie, George Lovejoy, and Stuart Nivison**. All this poetry was beautifully balanced by the amazing voice of **Mark Tempany**.

Submitted by Trisha Anderson

Brunch with the Bards in Kempsey NSW

Bush poetry fans from around the mid north coast of NSW enjoyed a fantastic morning of verse at the Kempsey All Star Country Music Festival's Poets Brunch on Sunday 12th September.

Held at beautiful Netherby House on the banks of the Macleay River, the Brunch attracted some fifty or so folk who simply did not want to leave at the end of a most successful session which was led by Ray Essery, "The Mullumbimby Bloke" and Wauchope's versatile bard and folkie, Russell Churcher.

A surprise visit by "Arch" Bishop added to the merriment of the morning and "Arch" was joined by none other than Bill MacClure who was on the 'track' heading south for the Snowy Mountains Authority 50 Year Anniversary Celebrations.

A total of 11 locals breasted the mike during proceedings, some of whom had not shared their work before. They included a great duo performance by Ed and Margaret Parmenter of Coffs Harbour, Dorothy Carmody of Warrell Creek, Robin Daveney of Lauriton, Shirly Korzuch, Sam Smyth, Bridget Plunkett and Allen Wade of Kempsey, Marj Trotter of Bowraville and Paul Adams of Ipswich who just happened to be on the track and used opportunity and the ABPA Poets Calender to catch up with other members.

Young Bridget Plunkett, who was around 11 years old, was chosen to receive the "Sue Mayne Award for Encouragement" and showed her appreciation with a great read of John O'Brien's "The Day The Inspector Comes", just as I am sure the author intended it to be said.

Submitted by Maureen Stonham, Nambucca Heads, NSW

Holbrook Hostel

On Friday morning July 16th, Eric Crain from Wagga, Sue Gleeson and Neil Hulm from Lavington travelled to Holbrook to the Holbrook Hostel to entertain the residents. They did this for a good hour and a half, with plenty of old and new traditional style bush poetry, Sue, who was having her first try at reading to an audience, was a little on the shaky side, but still came through with excellent renditions.

Reprinted from *The Snowy Mountains Bush Poetry Club Inc Newsletter*

Manuka Services Club Bush Poetry Night

Although the audience at Manuka Services Club on Saturday, September 11th was not large it was one of the best and most relaxed functions ever held by the Snowy Mountains Bush Poetry Club.

As in previous years, the organising was carried out by Canberra delegate Jim Weatherstone. Backed by Neil Hulm doing the Secretary's work in the absence of Sue Gleeson, Jim carried out the M.C.'s work in a very capable manner. No doubt the quality of the performers and their writing was the key to such a successful night.

Jim opened the night, followed by Claude Woodbridge on guitar. Others to perform were Ian Thomas, Martin Boland, Jane Weatherstone, David Meyers, Leo Hill and Neil Hulm. The performers produced another full round of reciting and singing which, once again, was highly appreciated. A great night!

Submitted by Neil Hulm, Snowy Mountains Bush Poetry Club.

MUSING AT MILDURA

The Mildura Country Music Festival was run with great success again this year from Sep 24th until Oct. 3rd and once again the Bush Poets were at the fore and an integregal part of the festival. The poet's breakfasts were compered most ably by John Ley and Danny O'Rourke, each morning at the Grand Hotel. The crowds were hanging out the door and the quality of poetry did not let them down. With Bob Magor, Lindsay Laurie, J.J., Geoffrey Graham, Whipstic Wortho and Doug Burns, as well as a host of other walk-up poets from all over Australia, it proved a great formula. Luckily I was there to lower the standard with my rubbish!

The quality of poets is improving each year and the breakfast at Wentworth drew between two and three hundred people. Bob Magor's 'Caravaning Bliss' had them rolling in the aisles, but I advised all caravaners not to listen to it in the car on the way home! There was no shortage of venues for Poets in the evening with Hudaks providing walk-ups every night during the festival and the poets stole the show each night! And with people such as Mark Tempany and Pat Drummond dropping in for impromptu performances, it was a great mix for the huge crowds.

Well done to the organisers and to the public down here who are starting to get that 'taste' for Bush Poetry that we have worked so hard to establish in the northern states. S.A. were well represented and their poetry movement also continues to go from strength to strength. The festival will be even bigger and better next year, and with 750 hours of completely free entertainment, what more could the Country Music and Bush Poetry Fan want! Bring on next year!!

The Ratbag of Rhyme, Neil McArthur

Mark Tempany and Trisha Anderson in Talwood



On Saturday the 11th September, Mark Tempany and Trisha Anderson entertained about 80 locals (and a few visitors) at a concert at the Talwood Community Centre. People came from properties and surrounding towns to listen to the beautiful music of Mark Tempany and Trisha's sometime serious, sometime humorous poetry.

Talwood, 100 kilometers west of Goondiwindi, turned out in force to support these two entertainers, and a great night was had by all.

Mark, who often performs with the Bush Poets in Brisbane and on tour, has just returned from his second overseas tour this year - this one to Europe and the U.K. His visit to Talwood was the first leg of a six week southern tour to Mildura in South Australia.

It's been a big year for Mark - earlier this year he was placed second in the Unisong Competition against 4,200 entries from 28 countries, and just four weeks ago at the Queensland Recording Artists (Q.R.A.) Sunnies Awards he won Song of the Year for his beautiful haunting anthem "Australian Child". Well Done Mark! Catch Mark at the Palma Rosa Poets in Brisbane on December 1st & 2nd.

For details phone 07 3262 3769.

Submitted by Trisha Anderson

POET'S CALENDAR OF EVENTS AND COMPETITIONS



- Oct 1-3 **"Big Doo" at Brymaroo, Q** Performance Comp. Cash Prizes.
Entry forms from Gwen Bowtell Ph. 07 4692 1347
- Oct 1-4 **Victor Harbour (S.A.) Folk Festival.** Poetry performances - Ph. 08 8340 1069.
- Oct 1-4 **Wagga Wagga Folk Society Festival.** Uranquinty NSW Poetry, Music, Sessions, Concerts.
Phone Tracey for more details 02 6920 2533 P14
- Oct 4-6 **Back 'O Bourke Poets Trek.** Bourke Tourist Info Centre Ph. 02 6872 1222 or Fax 02 6872 2305
- Oct 8 **Poets & Mates.** 7.30 Kallangur Community Centre, 1480 Anzac Ave, Kallangur Q Featuring Bobby Miller
- Oct 8-9 **Toongabbie (NSW) Folk Festival.** Poetry performances. Enq. Ph. 02 9636 2216.
- Oct 16-17 **Mapleton Yarn Festival.** Mapleton Q Perf. Comp, Yarnspinning etc. Enq. Jacqueline Bridle 07 5478 6263 P14
- Oct 23 **Bush Poetry Performance & Dinner Concert.** 6.30 pm, Urunga (NSW) Golf & Sports Club. Cost \$6 inc. meal P14
- Oct 23 **Snowy Mountains Performance.** 2pm, Montreal Community Theatre, Tumut NSW Ph Sec 02 6025 3847
- Oct 23 **Camp Fire Poetry Evening** from 6pm, Red Gum Ridge Q Jake Drake phone 07 46 837169 P14
- Oct 31 **Poets in the Pub.** 1.30pm Dorrigo Hotel, NSW Dorrigo Spring Fest. Ph. Murray Suckling 02 6657 2139 P14
- Nov 3 **Palma Rosa Poets.** 7 for 7.30pm Graham Fredriksen & Michael Darby \$15.00 per head incl supper. Bkgs req. P14
- Nov 5-7 **Majors Creek Folk Festival.** Braidwood NSW Breakfasts, Performance Poetry. Ph Peter Gillespie 02 4842 2443 P14
- Nov 5-7 **Steel City Country Music Club Festival.** Club Macquarie, Argenton, NSW PO Box 124 Boolaroo NSW 2284 P15
- Nov 7 **Land of the Beardies Festival.** Glen Innes NSW Poets Breakfast & Performance Competition P14
- Nov 10 Closing Date **Bush Laureate Awards.** For Recorded & Published Australian Rhyming Verse. P14
- Nov 13-14 **Glengallan Homestead Talent Quest** Tom Dunn, M.S.623, Ogilvie Road Warwick 4370 P15
- Nov 27 **Aust. Heritage Music Fest.** Annandale NSW Expression of interest sought. Richard Mills P/F 02 9568 5596 P14
- Nov 30 Closing Date **Blackened Billy Verse Competition** for Written Australian Bush Verse. Details P14
- Dec 21 Closing Date **Brunswick Heads Written Competition.** Margaret Mitchell, Ph 02 6685 1901 Fax 02 6685 1960 P14
- 2000**
- Jan 6th **Brunswick Heads Festival of the Fish & Chips & Woodchop Festival,** Ph 02 6685 1901 Fax 02 6685 1960 P14
- Jan 25 **Bush Laureate Awards.** 2pm Tamworth Town Hall For Bookings and Info Ph. 02 6766 1577 Fax 02 6766 7314 P14
- Jan 26-29 **Tamworth Bush Poetry Competition.** Imperial Hotel Performance Competition. Details P14
- Jan 29 **Blackened Billy Presentation of Awards.** Imperial Hotel, Tamworth NSW P14
- Jan 31 Closing Date **Bronze Swagman Award.** Entry forms available from Vision Winton Inc, PO Box 44, Winton Q 4735
- Feb 12-13 **High Country Poets.** Stanthorpe Q Performance Competition Ph Jack Drake 07 4683 7169 Fax 07 4683 7069
- Mar 6-8 **Redgum Festival.** Swan Hill, Vic. Bush Poetry Performances. Arts Swan Hill, Box 488, Swan Hill Vic. 3585.
- Mar 15-19 **Jamberoo (NSW) Folk Festival. Breakfasts and Performances.** Phone Dave de Santi 02 4257 1788.
- Apr 13-16 **Oracles of the Bush.** Tenterfield NSW. Perf. & written comp. Patti Ainsworth Ph 02 6736 1082 Fax 02 6736 3388
- Apr 19 **Waltzing Matilda Junior Bush Poetry Festival,** Winton Q
- Apr 22-24 **QANTAS - Waltzing Matilda Bush Poetry Championships,** Winton. PO Box 7714 Toowoomba Mail Centre Q 4352
- Australian Bush Yarnspinning Championships,** Winton Q P15
- Apr 25-26 **Charters Towers Bush Poetry Competition,** Charters Towers Q

The 10th Mapleton Yarn Festival - 16th and 17th October 1999

Bush Poets Concert on Saturday Evening 7.30pm to 10.30 pm at the Mapleton Bowls Club. Entry \$3. Ian Mackay, Jacqueline Bridle and Mark Feldman introduce a top line up of Raconteurs and Guests.

Sunday Programme in the Mapleton Hall.

From 9am - **GOOD DAY MATE!**
Poets Breakfast with Wally and Mary Finch.
The Ernie Setterfield Club Cup Challenge Championship.
All poetry clubs are asked to send their bravest poets armed with one humorous and one sentimental poem (2 poems per club) for the challenge of the year!

From 11.30am - **MID-DAY LAUGHS**
Shirley Friend, popular comedienne and poet.
Fudge (Bernadette Savage). A delightful Classical Piano recital by one of Mapleton's talented teens.
The Great Debate - with Wally Finch, Mark Feldman, Ian Mackay, Arcadia Flynn, Jacqueline Bridle and Shirley Friend.

From 1pm - **BARDS FROM THE BUSH**
Wally Finch, Mark Feldman, Carmel Randle, and Ian Mackay present a collection of original poetry.
Daniel Conrow (11yrs) presents original Country Rock **The King or Queen of Liars.** (Sponsored by R.M. Williams)
All story tellers and yarn spinners are invited to come forward for this challenge.

From 3.30pm - **GRAND FINALE CONCERT**
The Lilyponds Talent Quest (Sponsored by the Lilyponds Holiday Park, Mapleton 0754 457238).
A fun competition for professionals and novices.
The Hairy Nose Wombats and other Festival Musicians.

Presentation of Festival Awards.

Sunday Programme at the Old School House, Obi Obi Rd, Mapleton.

11.30am - 12.30 pm - **BUSH POETS WORKSHOP**
Join distinguished, multi-award-winning Bush Poet, Carmel Randle, as she presents a poetry workshop on the balcony. This is an opportunity not to be missed, as this talented poet shares poetry writing skills and techniques.

Also at the Old School House -
Ian Hallmond & Friends present a unique display of photographs and art celebrating Mapleton and her neighbours.
Rebecca Hood - The Celtic Harpist - will perform.
The Social Club will have tea, coffee, cake, and board games available.

Submitted by Jacqueline Bridle

REGULAR MONTHLY EVENTS

--- If you happen to be passing through these areas, tell 'em Joe sent ya!

QUEENSLAND

- 1st Monday** **Bon Amici's Restaurant & Coffee Shop.** Margaret St, Toowoomba Ron Selby 07 4630 1106
- 1st Thursday** **Red Kettle Folk Club.** Mapleton Hotel, Mapleton 8.30-11pm. Poetry and Music. Jacqueline Bridle 07 5478 6263
- 1st Saturday** **Poets & Musicians at Eumundi Markets** in courtyard outside Rob's Bakery. Ph. Elizabeth 07 5449 1991
- 1st Sunday** **North Pine Bush Poets Breakfasts.** North Pine Country Park, 9 am at Dad & Daves Billy Tea and Damper Ph. 07 3285 2845 or 07 3886 1552
- 2nd Wednesday** **Bush and Brisbane Poets.** 7.30 pm Club Sangria, Mt. Gravatt Phone Anita Reed 07 3343 7392
- 2nd Thursday** **Golden Pen Poets.** Old Gympie Town Hall, Gympie 7 pm Ph Phil Morrison 07 5486 1171
- 2nd Friday** **Poets & Mates** 7.30 pm Kallangur Com. Centre, 1480 Anzac Ave, Kallangur. Ph Wally Finch 07 3886 0747
- 2nd Saturday** **Bundaberg Poets Society Inc.** Ring Liz Ward 07 4156 3178
- 3rd Sunday** **North Pine Bush Poets Breakfasts.** North Pine Country Park, 9 am at Dad & Daves Billy Tea and Damper Ph. 07 3285 2845 or 07 3886 1552
- 4th Thursday** **Golden Pen Poets.** Old Gympie Town Hall, Gympie 7 pm Ph Phil Morrison 07 5486 1171
- Last Wednesday** **Millmerran Bush Poetry Group,** 7pm. Millmerran Bakery. Ring "The Legend" Kev Barnes 07 4695 4209.
- Every Wed** **Writers in Townsville** 7.30pm, Hodel Room City Library, Thuringowa Dr, Thuringowa. Phil Heang 07 4773 4223

NEW SOUTH WALES

- 1st Tuesday** **Tuggarah Lakes Poetry Group.** (except Jan) 7pm The Entrance Leagues Club, 3 Bay Village Road, Bateau Bay. Contact Joan Johnson - 02 4332 5318 and Judy Stanton 02 4388 5972
- 1st Thursday** **North By North West Poetry & Folk Club.** 7.30 pm Uniting Church Hall, North Ryde. Ph Graeme Johnson - 02 9874 7653 or Jenny Carter 02 9887 1856 or 0412 222 690
- 1st Sunday** **Poets in the Making,** 12-4pm Performance Workshop, Casula Powerhouse, 1 Casula Rd, Casula Ph David Price 02 9825 0402 or Mob 018 971 2264
- 2nd Monday** **Parakeet's Poets,** Katoomba. Parakeet Cafe at 7pm, Katoomba St, Katoomba. Phone Denis Kevans 02 4757 3119
- 2nd Tuesday** **Hunter Bush Poets - 7pm - Tarro Hotel,** Anderson Dr, Tarro Bob Skelton 02 4953 2751
- 2nd Thursday** **Tamworth Poetry Reading Grp.** 8pm 4 Illoura St, Sth Tamworth 02 6766 4164 or 026765 6067
- 2nd Friday** **The Monaro Leisure Club.** 7 pm, Vale St Cooma Bush Poetry and Country Music. Mrs. Elaine Schofield "Green Hills" Jerangle, 2630 Ph 02 6454 3128
- 2nd Saturday** **Poets in the Club,** Urunga Golf Club. 1.00 - 4pm Ph 02 6568 5269 or 02 6655 6835 ah.
- 2nd Sunday** "Interludes" Ashfield Civic Centre, Ashfield - Joye Dempsey 02 9797 7575
- 3rd Thursday** **Wollondilly Regional FAW Writers in the Pub** 7.30pm George Hotel, Old Pacific Hwy, Picton. Liz Vincent 02 4677 2044, Vince Morrison 02 4684 1704 or Jenny Pilotto 02 4631 1419
- 3rd Friday** **June Bush Poetry Group** 7.30pm, June Com'ty Cntr, Brian Beasley, PO Box 82, June 2663 Ph. 02 6924 1317
- 4th Tuesday** **Poets in the Pub with Grafton Live Poet's Society,** Roches Hotel 7.30pm Ph 02 6642 2772
- 4th Wednesday** **Inverell Wednesday Writers.** 7.30pm, Empire Hotel. Ph Ida Morse 02 6722 2425
- 4th Thursday** **Queanbeyan Bush Poets.** Poets Lane, Queanbeyan. Phone David Meyers 02 6286 1891
- 2nd Last Mon** **Live Poets Society of Great Lakes/Manning Valley.** Meet at 7.30pm in private home Ring Jackie 02 6555 3720 or Reid 02 6554 9788 for details of venue each month. See poets calendar
- Last Tuesday** **Spaghetti Poetry Group.** Gee Kwong Restaurant, 197 Mann St, Gosford. Dinner at 6.30, Poetry at 7.30 Phone Bob & Ester Sennett 02 4325 2590
- Last Thursday** **Writers on the River,** 7pm Caddies Coffee Shop, 2-3 Castlereagh St, Penrith Phone Brian Bell, 02 4739 2219
- Last Friday** **Kangaroo Valley Folk Club.** Bush Poets welcome. Phone Carl Leddy re venue 02 4465 1621
- Last Saturday** **Australian Christian Writers Fellowship,** Hunter Div. Morisset Baptist Church Hall 1.30 - 4pm Contact J. Bray - 11 Rhodes Pde, Windermere Park 2264
- Every 2nd Friday** **Pheasants Hut Folk Club.** Bundeena Ph Yuri 02 9527 0955 or Mob 041 941 2093
- Every 2 months on 2nd Saturday.** **Cornucopia Cafe.** Poets & Folkies Get Together. Old Gladesville Hospital Grounds, Punt Rd. Jenny - 02 9887 1856 or 0412 222 690, or Graeme 02 9874 7653. Check Poets Calendar for dates.
- Every 3 months** **Poetic Folk,** 24 Finisterre Ave, Whalan 2770. Ring "Arch" Bishop (02) 9625 7245 Check Poets Calendar for nx mtg

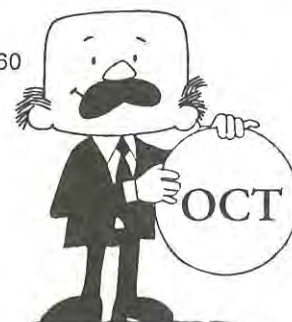
VICTORIA

- 1st Monday** **Kyabram & Dist. Bush Verse Gr,** Every 2nd mth, Kyabram Fauna Park, 7.30 pm Ph. Mick Coventry 03 5853 2265

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

- 3rd Wednesday** **South Aust. Bush Poets.** 7.30 pm Alma Pub Long Room, Willunga Ph/Fax 08 8370 2460

Editors Note: Poets from TASMANIA, WEST AUSTRALIA, and THE NORTHERN TERRITORY are encouraged to let me know when any local poets gatherings may be occurring. If you have a regular get-together, why not advertise it here, FOR FREE!!!



WHAT'S ON AROUND THE TRAPS



MAPLETON YARN FESTIVAL

Sat 16th & Sun 17th October, 1999 - Mapleton Hall Q
Performance Competitions - Yarnspinning - Work Shops
Jacqueline Bridle, C/- PO Mapleton Q. 4556. 07 5478 6263

WAGGA WAGGA FOLK SOCIETY FESTIVAL

1st - 4th October, 1999 at Uranquinty, NSW Poetry,
Concerts, Workshops, Markets. Tracey - 02 6920 2533

BUSH POETRY PERF. COMP. & BREAKFAST

in conj. with CALLIOPE COUNTRY MUSIC FESTIVAL
Sunday, 17th October, 1999 - Port Curtis Historical Village

on the banks of Calliope River, Bruce Highway,
JUVENILE, JUNIOR AND OPEN SECTIONS

Entries Close 1st October, 1999 and no late entries will be
accepted

Enq. Margy Mac 18 Emperor St., Gladstone Q 4680
Ph 07 4979 0909 or Mob 0413 978 748

BUSH POET PERFORMANCE & DINNER CONCERT

6.30 pm, Saturday 23rd October, 1999

URUNGA Golf and Sports Club, Morgo St., Urunga NSW

Featuring RUSSELL CHURCHER - Bush Poet and Folkie

Admission \$6.00 - includes Roast Dinner & Coffee

Open Mike Session with special guests and segments

Enquiries to Maureen Stonham - Phone / Fax 02 6568 5269

or Keith Haycraft - Phone / Fax 02 6655 6835

POETS IN THE PUB 1.30 pm Saturday 30 October, 1999

in conj with Dorrigo Spring Festival (30 - 31 October, 99)

At DORRIGO HOTEL (Top Pub), Cudgery, St. Dorrigo NSW

ALL POETS & YARN SPINNERS INVITED to Read or Recite

Entry Free - Refreshments & Afternoon Tea Available

Novel Prizes for Best Publicly Acclaimed Performers

Enq Murray Suckling, PO Box 403 Dorrigo, NSW 2453

Ph 02 6657 2139 or Ph. Liz Bennet 02 6657 2124

PALMA ROSA POETS - 9 Queens Road, Hamilton. Q 4007

7pm for 7.30pm, Wednesday, 3rd November, 1999

GRAHAM FREDRIKSEN & MICHAEL DARBY

\$15.00 - including supper - BYO

Ring ESU 07 3262 3769 or Trisha 07 3268 3624

MAJORS CREEK FOLK MUSIC FESTIVAL

Friday 5th - Sunday 7th November, 1999

Poets Breakfasts & Performances

Peter Gillespie 02 4842 2443 Jim Macquarie 02 4474 2736

LAND OF THE BEARDIES FESTIVAL

7.30 am 7th November, 1999 - Glen Innes, NSW

Poets Breakfast and Performance Competition

King Edward Park - (if rainy - Glenn Innes Town Hall)

Sect. 1- Original. Sect. 2 - Traditional or Established Works

Prizes per section: 1st - \$150, 2nd - \$100, 3rd - \$50.

For entry forms and accommodation information write to

Nell Perkins, Flat 3, 125 Church St., Glen Innes NSW 2370

TAMWORTH BUSH POETRY COMPETITION

Imperial Hotel, Tamworth NSW

HEATS - Wed. 26 - Fri. 28 Jan, 2000. FINALS: Sat. 29

Please send SSAE to Jan Morris, PO Box 1164, Tamworth

NSW 2340 or Phone 02 6765 7552 (h) 02 6768 5178 (wk)

CAMP FIRE POETRY EVENING

"Red Gum Ridge"

Eukey Road, Eukey via Stanthorpe on

Saturday 23rd October from 6pm

Camp Oven Dinner followed by coffee and
damper. Guest poets performing. Licensed bar.

Cover charge \$15 p/p

RSVP 16 October Jake Drake ph 07 46 837169

STEEL CITY COUNTRY MUSIC CLUB FESTIVAL

5th-7th November 1999

Club Macquarie, Main Road, Argention, NSW

Friday night: Poets Section, which is restricted to Poets who
have not had material published for payment.

Sunday morning: Songwriters and Poets Breakfast, with
special appearances by poets Ron Brown and Bob Skelton.

Sunday noon: 'Spin A Yarn' contest at the Commercial Hotel.

Entries close 10th November.

Steel City Country Music Club PO Box 124 Boolaroo NSW 2284

AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE MUSIC FEST Sat 27th Nov 99

Annandale Neighbourhood Centre, Annandale NSW

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST SOUGHT FOR WORK-

SHOPS, CONCERTS AND PARTICIPATION

Richard Mills, 6/39 Herbert St., Dulwich Hill NSW 2203

Phone/ Fax 02 9568 5596 or email: Ausfest@excite.com.

BLACKENED BILLY VERSE COMPETITION 2000

CLOSING DATE 30th November, 1999

Written Australian Bush Verse Entry Fee \$5.00 OR

3 for \$10.00 - extra entries \$3.00 each

Presentation of Winner and Highly Commended at Imperial

Hotel, Tamworth NSW - Saturday 29th January, 2000

Entry Forms from Maureen Quickenden

PO Box 1164, Tamworth NSW 2340

BRUNSWICK VALLEY WRITTEN COMPETITION:

Entries Close 21st December

Humorous, Serious, Romantic and Bush Sections for

Open, Secondary and Primary School. PRIZES: All Sections

1st - \$100 + Trophy, 2nd- \$50 + Cert., 3rd - \$25 + Cert.

Brunswick Heads Festival 2000, Written/Perf. Poetry Comp.

Margaret Mitchell, PO Box 41, Brunswick Heads NSW 2483.

Phone: 02- 6685 1901 Fax: 02- 6685 1960

or Email: woodchop@linknet.com.au

BUSH LAUREATE AWARDS 2000

For work produced from 1.11.98 to 10.11.99

Entry Fee - \$10 per section entered

Four Sections - Closes 10th November, 1999

1. Book of the Year - Published Original Rhymed Verse.
2. Recorded Album of Australian Rhymed Verse
(on commercially produced cassette tape or CD)
3. Recorded Performance of the Year
(a single, or single track from any album)
4. Heritage Award to be awarded to a person for
outstanding achievement in nurturing and promoting
the heritage of Australian Rhyming Verse to be
selected by the Bush Laureate Committee.

To enter, send 4 copies of each book or recording to
Bush Laureate Awards 2000, C/- Max Ellis Marketing P/L,
PO Box 1577 Tamworth NSW 2340

Enq. Ph 02 6766 1577 Fax 02 6766 7314

Email: mem@mpx.com.au

WHAT'S ON AROUND THE TRAPS

GLENGALLAN HOMESTEAD TALENT QUEST

to be held at Allora Community Hall on
13th and 14th November 1999

Bush Poetry Sunday morning 8am

Classes: OPEN TRADITIONAL
OPEN ORIGINAL
OPEN HUMOROUS
JUNIOR under 16 years

Nominations \$5 per entry. Entries will be accepted on the day or contact Tom Dunn, M.S.623, Ogilvie Road Warwick 4370
1st 2nd and 3rd Trophies and prize money.

WINTON 2000 - Preliminary Information

The Waltzing Matilda Bush Poetry Festival

JUNIOR BUSH POETRY FESTIVAL

Wednesday 19 April

CONCERT

Friday 21 April

QANTAS-WALTZING MATILDA CHAMPIONSHIPS &

CHRISTINA MACPHERSON NOVICE AWARDS

Saturday 22 April - ROUND ONE

Sunday 23 April - ROUND TWO

Monday 24 April - FINALS

CLOVER NOLAN JUNIOR FINALS

Monday 24 April

AUSTRALIAN BUSH YARN SPINNING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Saturday 22 - Monday 24 April

Other novelty poetry events and non-competitive bush poetry

Saturday 22 - Monday 24 April

Information Circulars re this Festival (and entry forms for the 2000 Bronze Swagman Award for Written Bush Poetry) will be sent this month to those poets on the regular mailing list.

Those wishing to be added to this list should send a SSAE to:
The Organiser, PO Box 7714, Toowoomba Mail Centre, Q 4352

"No Bull!!" - More Aussie Verse by Sandra J. Queenborough Binns

Also a limited number of previous hard cover
volumes (see below) still available.
Only \$10 each., postage paid

SOMEWHERE BEYOND
I THOUGHT I WAS AN AUSSIE
FULL CIRCLE
NO BULL!!

To order, contact

S Binns, PO Box 6013, Kincumber, NSW 2251 Ph/Fax 02 4368 2288

Neil McArthur - UNTHONGED!!

His newly released Album, including:

Shopping Trolley Rage
Shootin' Swaggies
Look What The Cat Dragged In
How I Topped McDougal's Score

Books \$10 Tapes \$15 or \$20 for BOTH!

Available from

'Thong Factory Productions'
c/o 201 Shire Ave
Mt. Helen Victoria 3350
Email: macpoet@netconnect.com.au.

Also available from Neil wherever he is performing



THE PRODUCT SHELF

Product Shelf Advertisements
\$5.00 for TWO MONTHLY
NEWSLETTER SPOTS!

John Barclay The Rambling Poet

A new book of original verse
\$12.00 post paid
30 Wetherill Street,
Narrabeen NSW 2101

LAUGHTER & TEARS FROM THE BUSH

by Merv Webster
'The Goodndiwindi Grey'

A Book of Bush Verse incl.
* The Curing of Young Fred McAlpine
* I'll Not forget That Day Old Mate
* Sarah plus
* Let's Keep alive the Drover's Day
* Sweet Madeline
* The Ballad of the Blowfly
* Waltzing Matilda - An Allegory
Yarns & Many More

CHRIS & THE GREY

present

A Cassette of Bush Verse incl.

* Basher Brogan's Pride
* For I've His Blood In Me
* An Ethereal Encounter
* Reminiscing With Henry
* Crazy Kate * Racing Widows
* The Wife's Revenge
* The Tragedy of Emma's Dream
* Bush Justice * Bitter Sweets
* The Curing of Young Fred McAlpine
* To Have Loved a Friend

Book - \$12 pp, Cassette - \$17 pp, Both \$22 pp avail. from
Chris & Merv Webster, 8 Hawaii Court, Bargara Q. 4670

PARADISE REVISITED

The new book by GRAHAM FREDRIKSEN
featuring "BEYOND THE FARTHEST FENCES"

1998 Winner of the Bush Lantern Award
plus "BATTLE OF ST QUENTIN CANAL"

1998 Winner of Bronze Swagman Award

and 45 new poems -To be Launched at Palma Rosa 3.11.99

also still available - his first book

ANOTHER DAY IN PARADISE

Send \$12.00 pp for one book or \$20.00 for both books to
G. Fredriksen, Monsildale Road, Kilkoy Q 4515

GOODBYE GUNSYND

A BOOK OF AWARD WINNING BUSH POEMS
AND AUSSIE BUSH BALLADS

BY STEWART HOPPER

"THE BARD OF THE COW BALES FROM BELL"

FULL COLOUR COVER PHOTO OF GUNSYND

WELL ILLUSTRATED BOOK PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

PRICE - \$10 PP (CHEQUES OR MO PLEASE - NO BANKCARD)

FROM STEWART HOPPER, MS 360, BELL, Q. 4408 OR HELEN

CAMERON, PO BOX 143, KINGAROY, Q. 4610

MOUNT ISA 1998 BUSH FESTIVAL

A Volume of Bush Verse published by Mount Isa Writers
Association to Celebrate the 75th Anniversary of Mount

Isa. Contains poems including prize winners from our

1998 Festival and poems from our Guest Poets

Cost 7.00 pp - available from Fay Sloman,

PO Box 2781, Mount Isa, Qld. 4825

ABPA ANNUAL BOOKS OF VERSE

1995, 1996, 1997, 1998

Now Available from The Secretary

Members Price \$3 each.

Post - \$1.10 for up to 4 books, 12+ Post Free

Australian Bush Poets Association Inc.

PO Box 2343 Mansfield BC Qld 4122 Fax 07 3849 5844

Email abpanews@hotmail.com

Print Post PP 242018 / 0013

October 1999

**SURFACE
MAIL**

**POSTAGE
PAID**

UNAUTHORISED READING OF THIS NEWSLETTER WILL NOT BE TOLERATED!

Are you sick of your friends, family, neighbours and workmates "borrowing" your ABPA Newsletter, then having to hunt them down to get it returned?



Stuck for a great Christmas Present?



Well, have we got a deal for you!!

For only \$25 per subscription you can arrange for these "borrowers" to receive their own copy each month from now until December 2000!

Just think of how grateful they will be! It's really easy, too! And you will look wonderful!!

1. Pop \$25 (cheque or money order made out to ABPA) into an envelope
2. Make sure to include the name and address of your soon-to-be best friend, and
3. Mail it to: **Olive Shooter, Secretary/Treasurer, ABPA**
"Willow Bend" MS 765, Talgai West Road
Allora Qld 4362



**Thank you to our
Contributors**

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Don Anderson | Graeme Johnson |
| Trisha Anderson | Denis Kevans |
| Kev J Barnes | Sandra J |
| Brian Bell | Queenborough Binns |
| Jacqueline Bridle | Neil McArthur |
| Donald Campbell | Lorraine Richards |
| Dennis Carstairs | Ron Selby |
| Jack Drake | Bette Shiels |
| Maureen Dunn | Olive Shooter |
| Graham Fredriksen | Maureen Stonham |
| Bill Glasson | Tom Stonham |
| Marco Gliori | Tony Strauss |
| Hipshot | Graham Watt |
| Zita Horton | June & Ted Webber |
| Neil Hulm | Kathy Werner |
| Max Jarrott | |

THE LAST WORD FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Members,

This month has involved in steep learning curve on my behalf, as I take over the reins from Maureen Stonham. I am very open to any suggestions members may have about the Newsletter, and look forward to your comments.

As it is impossible to print details of when events are on if I am not notified in advance, please make sure that your event details are sent to the fax number or email address as listed on Page 2 of this edition. *The new deadline for each month's edition is the 20th of the previous month!!* This will be adhered to in order to facilitate delivery of each Newsletter to the members as early in the month as possible.

If you have an email address, I would love to hear from you via that medium. Please send me your email address anyway, as I am compiling a list of members with email access. I'm at: abpanews@hotmail.com

I would particularly like to thank Maureen, who has done such a wonderful job as Editor for our Association. Now that I know the work that goes into producing this Newsletter, I fully understand the dedication she has shown to the task.

I also thank Olive and Ron for their assistance this month, and many thanks to all who sent their best wishes and offers of help: including Maureen Dunn, Janine Haig, Frank Daniel, Bob Miller, Zita Horton and June & Ted Webber.

Best regards, Jennifer Priest

