

The Australian Bush Poets Association Inc.

Monthly Newsletter

No 1 Volume 8

January 2001



Tamworth

Kathy Edwards, Merewether, NSW

Have you ever been to Tamworth?
Heard country music played?
Have you seen the 'Hands of Fame'
Or watched the cavalcade?
Listened to the many bands
That come from far and near?
To the Country Music Festival
At Tamworth every year.

Maybe you've seen the pyramids
Or the Alps in Switzerland –
Even the great Niagara Falls
London Bridge – or Disneyland.
You may have travelled 'round the world
In a giant jumbo jet
But if you haven't been to Tamworth
Man! You ain't seen nothin' yet.

When you go to Tamworth
(and it isn't very far)
Go out to the Longyard
And see the big guitar
If you ever want to have
The best time on this earth
Go to 'Country Music Capital'
A place we call 'Tamworth'.



Don't forget to wear your hat
And maybe take a seat
So you can sit and listen
To the buskers in the street.
Then toss a coin, and watch them smile
As they sing their ballad tales –
In the city in the country
Tamworth – New South Wales.



WANTED

One editor (male or female, or both). Ability to type an asset - good spelling an optional extra. Fax machine provided. Must have own computer. Apply to PO Box 2343, Mansfield BC, 4122 (include photo of computer).

Geoffrey Graham '100 Not Out'

Geoffrey will present a dynamic two-hour performance on Federation in 2001.

'100 Not Out' will have its debut at Tamworth during the Country Music Festival. Following his amazing success with 'The Man from Ironbark', Geoffrey's 'Banjo' Paterson show; the time is right for a new show.

"100 Not Out illuminates events leading up to Federation, the occasion itself; and the events following which have helped shape our identity" says Geoffrey.

All lovers of music, comedy, and verse will love this new show.

Also, 3 performances of The Man from Ironbark for those punters who still haven't had a chance to experience this performance, or those who wish to relive the performance.

Country Comfort (293 Marius St) will be the new home for Geoffrey at Tamworth, and all shows will be held in the Dawson room.

To book early please phone Gwen at Country Comfort on 02 6766 2903 or contact Geoffrey as below.

Geoffrey Graham

Ph (03) 5446 3739

PO Box 36 Eaglehawk VIC 3556 Fax (03) 5446 2639

Email: dinkumoz@bigpond.com Mobile 0412 725 470

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ABPA INC

WILL BE HELD AT
ST. PETER'S HALL, VERA STREET,
TAMWORTH, NSW
ON 27TH JANUARY, 2001
AT 2.30PM SHARP.

THIS WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A GENERAL
MEETING OF MEMBERS. IF YOU WISH TO HAVE A
PARTICULAR TOPIC DISCUSSED, PLEASE CONTACT
OLIVE SHOOTER IN ADVANCE!

Australian Bush Poets Association Inc

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DEADLINE: 20th of Each Month

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Olive Shooter, Secretary

ABPA Membership - \$25 per annum January to December for Single, Family or Club membership.

Juniors \$10 per annum (students to year 12 education). NEW members joining after July 1, \$13 through to the end of December. Those who have NOT been a member previously may join after October 1 and receive up to 15 months membership for the first year's subscription of \$25 PLEASE SEND ALL MONEY TO SECRETARY/TREASURER

WANT TO JOIN THE ABPA?

**JUST SEND A CHEQUE OR MONEY
ORDER FOR \$25, MADE OUT TO
"ABPA", TO:**

**OLIVE SHOOTER,
SECRETARY/TREASURER
(ADDRESS AS ABOVE)**

**BE SURE TO INCLUDE YOUR NAME,
ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER!**

**MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS INCLUDE RECEIVING
THIS NEWSLETTER 12 TIMES A YEAR!**



Dear Members

My dear Friends, 2001, how strange that rolls off the tongue. I remember as a small girl thinking that the year 2000 would never come, but it has now come and gone. Where do the old years go? They lodge in our

memories and never go away. Perhaps I would like to forget a bit of 2000, but its' trials have probably made me stronger. And I'm happy. That is worth a lot. Anyway, don't they say that if everyone's

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



This Association has been going for seven years now and we have seen a tremendous growth in membership and various competitions across the continent. In the last year we have maintained our membership to around 400, but there have been quite a few of the minor competitions that have dropped out for various reasons. Maybe the poetry scene is levelling off, though the established events such as Tamworth are still knocking back the entries.

We have had an exceptional response via the "Letters to the Editor" in the magazine in the past year, covering a whole range of topics. Although we might not fully agree with the responses to some letters, it just proves that the magazine and the Association are on the right track and the members are still interested in keeping the Association alive.

The all important AGM will be on in Tamworth in a few weeks and a new Committee must be elected to keep this Association in existence. There have been many calls via the magazine for interested members to fill the various positions on the Committee, but very little response so far.

The Association is a vital link for the poets and organisers of the many poetry events, and it would be a crying shame to see it decline. We must have responsible members to head our Association and steer our art of Bush Poetry in the correct direction.

Without a doubt, our Secretary, Olive Shooter, has been the driving force behind the Association for the past four years, and a 'Thank you' seems to be a very small word to express our gratitude for all the work she has put into maintaining the ABPA..

Our Editor, Jennifer Priest, has maintained the great quality of our magazine. Our Committee, Liz Ward and Wally Finch, have been totally diligent in the execution of their duties and have kept the aims and direction of the ABPA on the correct level.

Thank you again to all members of the Committee for a wonderful year and thank you to all the members who have contributed to the Association. May be continue to grow and keep this great art of Bush Poetry where it belongs.

Ron Selby, President

troubles were put in the centre of a room, most would be happy to pick up their own and go. Have fun over the holidays. A Happy, healthy New Year to you all. Bless you for your thoughtful gestures shown me and many thanks for the greetings I received with your subscriptions. The Annual book of poems is soon available, and certainly will be at Tamworth. I hope you will all buy at least one. If you have missed any of the others, we still have available the last four books. They are still only \$3.00 each and \$1.10 will post up to 4. I am looking forward to seeing a lot of you poets in Tamworth. Subscriptions are now due ... \$25.00 to me please. If your address is not quite correct on your Newsletters, please let me know. It is easy to fix as long as we know. For the Annual meeting, voting will be by the blue members' card given out with membership receipts.

Fond regards, Olive Shooter

AND NOW PRESENTING, CENTRE STAGE.....

BRIAN GALE

Brian Gale was born and raised in a farming community in the small district of Kudardup in the South-West of Western Australia. He left home at the age of twelve for high school in Bunbury, then a friendly town of 8,000 people. Hairdressing, cycling, badminton and boxing took up the next few years of his life, even during a term of three years Army service. But the love of the open life from his childhood years was foremost, and he spent many years pine logging. It was during this time that he started writing poetry. The first of his poem "The Battle with the Grey" was an epitaph written after a stand-up fight with a kangaroo over possession of a waterhole. Camping in the bush for many years on a worksite has given inspiration for much of Brian's verse. He came 2nd in Australia in the 'Gone Bush' competition in 1994 with his poem 'Back to the River', and has also been published in the 1994 Bronze Swagman Book of Verse.



Brian attended the Cowboy Poets Gathering in Pincher Creek, Alberta Canada in 1995 and 1999, where he cycled the Rockies each time, and Montana as well in 1999 as far as Custers Battlefield and back. He cycled 4,000 kms in 3 months. During these visits, he made frieds with the Shuswap Indians and camped with them on different occasions. He describes them as "great people with a great sense of humour". Brian has self published two books and also produced three cassettes of his poetry.

What's your dream job?

I reckon I had it for 25 years. I got out of hairdressing and society and went pine logging. Camping in the bush, on the job in a camper away from all life's cares. Singing to the chain saw, and poetry writing any time.

What's your least favourite food?

Tripe. I remember vividly boarding in my teens. Midday Saturday was tripe day, that was always my slowest ride home.

Which three people would you invite to dinner?

Johnny Cash, Slim Dusty, and Susan Aglukark, an Inuit lady from Canada. I love the way these people tell stories in their songs and have been great influences in my life.

What one item would you want if you were stranded on a deserted island?

Someone to share it with. Preferably of the opposite sex.

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

Share it. Money is nice, but can only bring happiness if used wisely and to help others.

What's your favourite movie?

Jim Thorpe - All American (A.k.a. Man of Bronze). The legendary Pentathlon and Decathlon winner in 1912. Closely followed by "Crazy Horse" and "Geronimo". Legends in a lifetime.

What song do you never want to hear again?

I'm not sure of their names, but they're all on Hot F.M.

What did you have for breakfast this morning?

Health food - an apple, toast, coffee, and of course - Weeties. A proven stayer in the bush.

REVIEW:

"Closer to the Heart" (Book)

This slim volume of poetry contains 22 poems by West Australian poet Brian Gale, and includes 2 poems written by a young friend, Renae Bessell, aged 11.

Brian is a strong advocate for the bush and the simple way of life, whether that is life in Australia, or in the USA or Canada. His poetry is uncomplicated and clear in its expression of pleasure in the great outdoors and 'the sun on your back and the wind in your hair'. He tells humorous tales of shearing and dogs and chooks, interspersed with reflections on the past and the rapid passage of time. His humble and sincere tribute "The Anzacs" touches a subject dear to the heart of many Australians.

As though in keeping with the uncomplicated style of his writing, Brian's poetry has a good natural rhythm. However, it does stray from a regular beat here and there, and is possibly more suited to performance than reading.

Perhaps the most engaging segment of Brian's book is the four poems written about historical events in the history of the Native Americans. These are a curious contribution from an Australian bush poet, and are obviously events that have deeply touched this writer's heart.

In keeping with its title 'Closer to the Heart', this collection of poetry does express the heartfelt values and opinions of this bushman. Thanks for your reflections Brian.

The Shearing is Over

Brian Gale, Margaret River, WA

The shearing is over
That's another year gone,
As they pack up their swags
Then they wander along.

From all walks of life
They come and they go,
Hit the road once again
It's the life that they know.

The heat, dust and flies
Has been with them so long,
Now it's back to their loved ones
How can it be wrong.

Some hit the towns
For the time of their life,
While others go back
To their family and wife.

With cheers and backslaps
They're up and away,
Off to the big smoke
To drink and to play.

They're off to the pubs
That's what you'll see,
When the shearing is over
They all have a spree.

The season's behind them
They've made it somehow,
Look forward to next year
And let's drink for now.

Dear Jennifer

I read with interest a letter in our November issue from Corry de Haas of Helensvale, Q. Her comment, "2. Diction, Diction, Diction ..." was familiar indeed! I too have had the privilege of judging performance poetry competitions and agree with the thoughts. May I add my two cents worth?

Many problems with diction and 'difficult to hear' performances are associated with the incorrect use of the most important thing on stage (other than the performer), i.e. the MICROPHONE! Valuable competition points are often lost simply because the performance is not audible and many of these can be attributed to poor microphone technique.

Here are a few tips, which may help -

Don't cover your face with the microphone! People attend venues to see performers, which includes their face. It is the face, which shows the personality of the performer, their facial expressions and, to a large degree, conveys the meaning and feelings within the performance. It can be frustrating for the audience to see the butt of a microphone and the knuckles of the hand holding it.

The correct manners in which to hold and use a microphone so an audience can enjoy the performance to its full extent is to hold the microphone with a relaxed grip; don't strangle it. It should be held at an angle of no more than 45 degrees positioned under your bottom lip and no closer than about 3 centimetres to your face.

The easiest way to achieve this position is to support the microphone with the thumb and then lightly hold it with four fingers, but only to the second joint, not in the palm of your hand. The line of the forearm should be down to the side with the elbow lightly tucked in to give total control.

Each venue's sound system will vary and it simply is not possible, for financial reasons, to ask for a sound technician to be available to adjust the equipment for individual performers. However, your powers of observation can offer some help by watching those who perform before you do. You can then ascertain the levels at which the system may be set in preparation for your time on stage.

Also, a few words of greeting to the audience at the commencement of your performance will often allow you to hear your voice from either the fold back speakers (the small speakers which often face the performer at the front of the stage) or the house speakers. This will help you determine the levels at which the venue's system is set.

By practicing and perfecting the method of passive microphone control, the performer is always in control and maintains the respect of their audience who *are there to listen*. Turn and the microphone turns with you, smile and the audience smiles with you.

Practice in front of a mirror and if possible record your work at home. Listen to the tapes and you may well find areas of diction, microphone distortion and voice animation on which you can improve.

Correct microphone technique will enhance a performance so much you will be amazed at the effect on your confidence and overall performance plus the additional appreciative response and enjoyment from your audience.

An interviewer once asked Frank Sinatra if he played an instrument. His reply was "Yes, the microphone!" *Ain't it the truth.*

I hope these thoughts are of assistance and my thanks go to all those whom I have seen perform and compete over the years - I luvs yers!

Maureen Stonham, Nambucca Heads, NSW

Dear Jennifer

I'm enclosing a poem 'Fire' written by my 9-year-old grandson Elliott Lovejoy, currently living on Thursday Island. All pupils at his school were invited to write a poem about fire and firefighters. Although Elliott is only in Grade 4, his adjudged the best and he won the award. You may decide that his poem is worth of inclusion in the Bush Poetry magazine.

George Lovejoy, Wishart, QLD

Ed Note: Elliott's poem appears on Page 7

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. The opinions expressed in this Newsletter are the opinions of individuals, and not necessarily that of the Australian Bush Poets Association



Dear Jennifer

Greetings from the Towers. After heaps of u-beaut rain, the country has a nice green tinge, and we hope to get some follow up rain soon.

Plans for 2001 Festival of Bush Poetry are progressing ok - just waiting to see what funding we can get before the programme is finalised.

Regards, Arthur Rekow, Charters Towers, QLD

Dear Jennifer

I would like to personally thank everyone for the great response re received for our request for the words to "Somebody's Mother". Our old friend was immensely pleased to be able to refresh his memory. But equally, an important issue came out of our request with regards to the name of the author. As in many cases, the name of the author often gets lost along the way and the poem becomes 'anonymous'. Well thanks to Rex Hockey from Windellama in NSW for doing a little research at the local library, for he discovered that "Somebody's Mother" is not anonymous as suggested, but was written by Mary Bow Brine in America in the mid to late 1800's.

Perhaps the people who now perform this poem can give long overdue credit to the Author.

Thanks for all your help,

Louise Dean, Prairie, QLD

Dear Editor

I would sincerely like to thank you for allowing me to have so much input into this, our Newsletter. I understand that some of the issues that I have raised may seem a little extreme, and I accept that 'talk' of sponsorship can be a touchy subject, but my intention is not to create a business, rather to incite thought and discussion between us all. Our association is at risk of becoming stagnant, with only one real meeting a year and less than half of our members attending. There seems to be little forward momentum.

Even our membership numbers have fallen and it has been suggested to me that other than this Newsletter, our Association has little to offer. Well, I would suggest that it's not about what this Association can do for me, rather what I can do for this Association. It's all in the nature of our art. The honest integrity and innocent revelry of bush poetry is evident in every member that I have met, some more than others, but as I say, it's the nature of our art. And, to a degree, it's the nature of being Australian.

We are truly the lucky country and it's our nature as a people that makes us that. The strength and courage of our forefathers is carried in the image of 'The Man from Snowy River' and 'Clancy of the Overflow'. Our ability to laugh at ourselves is beautifully portrayed in 'Mulga Bill's Bicycle' or even the 'Loaded Dog'. But, without bush poetry and yarn, there would be a huge void in our culture, and so it is up to us to see that this most interracial part of Australianism is allowed to flourish and grow, and the best way to do that is to support our organisation. For as its' name suggests, it is THE AUSTRALIAN BUSH POETS ASSOCIATION. So — see you at Tamworth and see you at the General meeting, 'cause your Association needs you!!

Craig A. Gascoigne, Singleton, NSW

To Poets who performed at the Tamworth City Bowling Club last January 2000.

Happy New Year to you all! This note is to advise that I am not involved in the 2001 City Bowling Club bush poetry gigs. Just to clear the air, I notified Michael Darby last January, April and November that I would not be going to Tamworth in 2001, but he persists in listing me on his latest web site "Tamworth 2001" programme. Are you listed incorrectly too? My apologies to everyone re his other web site advertising all of you individually. I have tried my hardest to encourage the deletion or completion of it, but to no avail. I suggest that individuals approach him by phone after you have seen the web site, with your own requests for action. Please not, the Post Office Box at Woodridge East CLOSED DOWN last April 2000.

Good luck at Tamworth, and with your poetry work. Best wishes, and thinking of you. I will be with my partner Doug Hutcheson at Brisbane South Bank on Australia Day.

Carol Stratford

Dear Jennifer

The Millmerran Bush Poets Round-Up will again be on in 2001. The dates set will be Aug 31st, 1st & 2nd of Sept ie. Fri, Sat & Sun. The Friday night will again see the Yarn-Spinning competition and the traditional Aussie Bar-B-Q. I'm not sure of the venues at this time, but it will most likely be the same as last year. The Millmerran Tourist & Progress association has formed a sub-committee to organise and run the 5th Annual Round-Up. I will be the adviser to that sub-committee as far as the poetry competition is concerned, and will have a BIG say in what goes on. There are five members on this committee so surely they can make the 5th Round-Up a success. I know a lot of our members are waiting for this news, but I only got the facts yesterday myself. I will however send in an article regarding the event as more news comes to hand. One thing, this year (2001) we will run HEATS! I will be looking forward to seeing all my friends and fellow bards here in Millmerran for the SPRING.

Yours in bush poetry, Kev J Barnes, Millmerran, QLD



FROM OUR ROVING REPORTERS

Hi there from Esperance

We have travelled thoroughly over the whole south-west, and enthusiasm for poetry here is high.

The ordinary blokes and ladies who come along to the meetings express surprise and delight at how great a form of entertainment this is. I'm sure this year many people around Australia have been introduced to Bush Poetry and its performance for the first time in their lives.

As Bush Poets it behoves us to find ways and means of taking our entertainment to the people rather than waiting for them to come to us. If anyone would like me to visit a group, please contact me on e-mail: jgbarclay@hotmail.com.

This tour of Australia has shown me that Bush Poetry is indeed alive and well, and appreciated in the city and the bush, among adults and children alike.

Have a great Christmas, and may the new year, century and millennium bring you all much joy and many blessings.

I hope to see many of you in Tamworth in January.

John Barclay, the Rambling Poet, signing off.

**Sex, Lies and Bush Poetry
At the Tamworth Golf Club
(air-conditioned;
meals and refreshments available)
Saturday 20th January,
Sunday 21st January,
Wednesday 24th January
With Gary Fogarty, John Major,
Neil McArthur, and Rupert McCall.
Special Guest - Laura Downing
Tickets \$12.00
Details and bookings
phone 6765 9393**

**THE THIRTIETH BRONZE SWAGMAN
AWARD FOR BUSH VERSE 2001. ENTRY
FORMS NOW AVAILABLE FOR THIS
PRESTIGIOUS COMPETITION. PLEASE
CONTACT THE SECRETARY
VISION WINTON INCORPORATED
PO BOX 44 WINTON, QLD 4735
PH: 07 4657 1466
FAX: 07 4657 1886
ENTRIES CLOSE APRIL 30TH 2001**

Ed Note: Our sincerest thanks must go to John and Gaye Barclay for keeping us all up-to-date with their travels over the past year. I know that I have found John's monthly contributions interesting and insightful, and hope that all ABPA members take the time to thank him when next you run into the Barclays.

MANY THANKS!!!!

All things Australian await visitors to South Bank on 26 January.

Celebrate Australia Day with a fun-filled day of entertainment, face painting, kids activities and, of course, fireworks, at South Bank.

The Lord Mayor's Australia Day Celebrations promise to be a fabulous family day out. Look out for uniquely Australian activities such as the bush ballads and poetry competition and the cattle dog and kelpie club of Queensland dog show.

Children can show their true colours by making their own creations and participating in a variety of great activities at the Children's Creative Australiana Activities.

Everyone will feel like a proud Australian when the ENERGEX Australia Day Parade passes along Grey Street from 4pm.

Starting from 9am, the Lord Mayor's Australia Day Celebrations will culminate with a you beaut, 20 minute fireworks display, set to a stirring soundtrack.

O'Mara's High Country Poets

O'Mara's Hotel, Stanthorpe, will open its doors for the third year, to all the fun of the High Country Poets, from Friday evening 16th March through to Sunday 18th March, with the big competition day on St. Patrick's Day, Saturday 17th March, 2001.

The prize money offered in this Performance Bush Poetry Contest is the biggest around, and has been increased for 2001. Total prize pool is \$2,650.

Four Sections include Junior, Novice, Open Traditional, and Open Original. The first place prize for the Open Original is \$1000. Two extra awards are judged throughout all 4 categories. An Encouragement Award is given to the poet showing the most potential, and, this time, there will be a special St. Patrick's Day Prize for the best rendition of an Irish inspired bush poem in any section.

This year, the event has been expanded to include: "Meet the Poets" session in the Public Bar on Friday evening 16th. "Breakfast with the Poets" was very popular last year, and will be held again at 8am on Sunday 18th. \$11 per person. Booking by 15th March at O'Mara's if possible. "Open Mike Session" will follow on Sunday for those who want to keep going.

Entry forms and more details are available from either Jack Drake Ph 07 4683 7169, or O'Mara's Hotel Ph 07 4681 1044



MAN FROM SNOWY RIVER BUSH FESTIVAL FRI 6TH - SUN 8TH APRIL, 2001

The Legend of Jack Riley

Irish born Jack Riley made his home in the Kosciusko Ranges on becoming manager of the Tom Groggin cattle station in 1884 and soon acquired a reputation as a skilled horseman and stockman.

In 1890 Banjo Paterson visited Jack's high country hut and spent a night with him while Jack told the story of a ride where he daringly pursued a thoroughbred stallion on horseback through rough mountain country. That was the year that the Bulletin published 'The Man from Snowy River' the famous poem which has since become part of Australia's history.

Jack Riley is buried in Corryong cemetery and each year 'The Man From Snowy River' Bush Festival recreates the imagery of the poem with a bush gathering. There's plenty of exciting horse events - Riley's Ride simulates Jack's last days and the legendary 1914 trek from Tom Groggin to Corryong (43 rugged miles).

The 'Man From Snowy River' Challenge to find the modern 'Man' has real bush action with bareback obstacle, whipcracking, shoeing, brumby catching, and buck jumping over three spectacular days. Add to these a Street Parade, Art & Photography, Family Food Feast, a good old fashioned Bush Dance and re-enactment of Banjo's poem.

Celebrate with us at Corryong - where the myth began, the spirit of 'Banjo' and Jack Riley live on, and the Bush Poetry and Storytelling gain more popularity each year.

We have 10 sections, entries \$5 each, Juniors \$1 each, closing 7th March with these prizes:

1. \$200 Original Poem (own work)
2. \$200 Traditional (50 years)
3. \$200 Song (original, solo or group)
4. \$200 Yarn (original or other)
5. \$50 Juniors - Under 17 years
6. \$300 Jack Riley Heritage Award
for best original Bush Poetry/Yarn/Music/Skit in MFSR theme (not chosen from other sections).
7. \$300 Clancy's Choice Award
for best overall performer at Festival. (Points, no of sections entered & at least 3)
8. \$200 Banjo Paterson's 'Man From Snowy River'

Entry \$5 ON TAPE 3 finalists notified by 31st March to perform.

WRITTEN SECTION (Judged prior to Festival)

9. \$200 OPEN ORIGINAL
10. \$50 JUNIOR (u/17) ORIGINAL

Entry \$1 per entry

All work to be based on Australian theme (Sect. 6 specifically MFSR theme)

The competition will be on Saturday, but plenty of opportunities for walk-ups during three Poet's Breakfasts & Friday Campfire at Banjo's Block, fun nights Friday & Saturday and other events.

'Top of the Murray Poets & Bush Storytellers' is the Bush Poetry arm of the Man From Snowy River Bush Festival. - contact Jan Lewis 0260774332 or email poetfarm@corryong.albury.net.au

Entry forms and full colour festival flyer from The Man From Snowy River Bush Festival (website at www.corryong.albury.net.au/mfsrbf) PO Box 144 (76 Hanson St), Corryong, Vic. 3707 Phone 0260761992 or email mfsrbf@corryong.albury.net.au

NOTE FROM THE MFSR POETRY COMMITTEE:

The 'Silver Brumby Poetry Championship' to be held Friday 6th April at the Bottom Pub Fun Night has been personally organised by Neil Hulm and is entirely separate from the official MFSR poetry categories.

Bush Laureate Awards 2001, Tamworth

The judging of the 2001 Bush Laureate Awards is now underway, and the winners will be announced at the Award Presentations at 2pm Tuesday January 23, in the Tamworth Town Hall, during the Tamworth Country Music Festival.

The winner of the Judith Hosier Heritage Award will also be announced at this time. Tickets for the Awards are now available from the Tamworth Information Centre on (02) 6755 4305

Bill Scott

Finalists are -

Book of the Year

<i>Book</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Publisher</i>
The Gloss of Bush	Ellis Campbell	Ellis Campbell
An Australian Heritage of Verse ✓	Jim Haynes	ABC Books
Damper and Tea	Keith Lethbridge	Keith Lethbridge
The Picture Writer -		
Home, Heroes, Humanity and the Bush	Robert Raftery	Boolarong Press
A Thousand Campfires	Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria	Pan Macmillan

Single Recorded Performance of the Year

<i>Single</i>	<i>Artist</i>	<i>Record Company</i>
Scots Of The Riverina	Michael Darby	Jingle Machine
The Stew	Ray Essery	Shoestring Records
Buckalong	Drew Forsythe	ABC Audio
The Other Homebush Games ✓	Marco Gliori	Shoestring Records
Dr Death	Murray Hartin	Shoestring Records

Album of the Year

<i>Album</i>	<i>Artist</i>	<i>Record Company</i>
Australian Bush Poetry with Trisha Anderson	Trisha Anderson	Taramalin Sound
An Australian Heritage of Verse	John Derum, Drew Forsythe, Jim Haynes, Kate Roberts	ABC Audio
Talking to the Bar	Brian D Lee	Select Sound Studio
The Naked Poets 2 Newdirections ✓	Naked Poets	Shoestring Records
Tales From the Bush	Tony Strauss	Russack Records

The Lord Mayor's Australia Day Celebrations at South Bank

Australian Bush Poetry

Competition

Friday 26 January 2001

1pm-4pm at the Boardwalk at South Bank, Brisbane

Categories

1. **Best Junior** (up to 16 years)
For humorous original poem or any other poet
First Prize: a trophy
Second Prize: a certificate
Third Prize: a certificate
2. **Best Humorous Original Poem** (Male or Female)
First Prize: \$200 + a trophy
Second Prize: \$100 + a certificate
Third Prize: \$ 50 + a certificate
3. **Best Humorous Reciting any other poet**
(Male or Female)
First Prize: \$200 + a trophy
Second Prize: \$100 + a certificate
Third Prize: \$50 + a certificate

All categories must have rhyme and rhythm.

"Original" means written by the performer, and

"Reciting any other poet" means written by a poet from the past or present other than the performer. Time limits apply: 8 minutes for adults and 5 minutes for juniors. Bush poetry is family entertainment - obscene or offensive language will not be tolerated. Entry: free
For further information, please phone Verity Clisby at South Bank on (07) 3867 2034

Fire

Elliott Lovejoy (aged 9), Thursday Island, Qld

We're just kids looking for some fun
The day is windy, hot is the sun.
We strike a match just for a lark
And it's oh so small
A tiny little spark.
But it gets stronger, bigger and bold.
And before we know it
The fire takes hold.
It's glowing and raging and soaring and sailing
And in the distance the sirens are wailing.
The trees are crackling
The animals run in fright
And as we look up
The whole bushland is alight.
It's blazing and burning and hot and alive.
We wait in shame for the fire fighters to arrive.
They're here and they struggle
To put this fire out
And all around us people scream and shout.
Finally it's over
The flames are all gone
And we are so sorry to cause so much wrong.
So be a bright spark
Please use your brain
Cos fire is deadly
And not a kid's game.

(c) Both Genders On Judging Panels

Ideally both genders should be on all Judging Panels, particularly when it is not practical to have separate Categories for Male and Female Competitors.

(d) Competitor status unchanged after an entry is submitted.

A competitor's competition status shall remain unchanged from what it was when any entry form was submitted irrespective of that competitor qualifying for higher category after the entry was sent.

(e) Closing Date

To allow organisers to publish catalogues and other tasks, a reasonable closing date could be two weeks or more before a competition.

(f) Late Entries

Late entries may be taken or rejected at the organisers' sole discretion.

(g) Entering Several Categories

Ideally Competitors should be encouraged to enter in one class only, i.e., Novice, or Intermediate, or, Open. However, Competitors may enter more than one Category at the sole discretion of the organisers. In competitions, competitors must always perform a different poem for each Category entered. This also applies for Heats and Finals. *See Repeated Poems in Part 3 Section 7 (i) and Part 3 Section 7 (k)*

(h) Entry fees

Organisers, at their discretion, may nominate appropriate entry fees to cover administration costs and raise funds.

(i) Deductions From The Score

(i) Reading

Although Competitors may read their work in some categories, unscripted performances are encouraged by automatic deductions as follows:

Novice 10 points

Intermediate 20 points

Open Category competitors are expected to be able to perform without help and reading will mean a disqualification.

(ii) Exceeding Time Limits as detailed in these guidelines will incur a penalty of 5 points for every 15 seconds or part thereof.

(iii) Repeated Poems carry a 10 point penalty. *See also Part 3 Section 7 (k)*

(iv) Bush Poetry is family style entertainment. Obscene or offensive material will be automatically disqualified and scored zero.

(j) Qualifying Score

A score meeting all of the following conditions is a qualifying score which elevates the competitor to the next level of competition:

(i) a score of 80% or better of a possible total score from all judges; with

(ii) at least 80 points from each judge; and,

(iii) no section of the Score Sheet scored below 12 points.

This system should eliminate Novices being compelled to enter Open Competition through winning by default by being the only competitor in that Category. It also allows for elevation of deserving competitors who come second, third or even are not placed.

(k) Repeated Poems

Where a competitor repeats the same poem at a competition a 10 point penalty applies for each repetition. For instance, a poem performed in Novice Category and again in Intermediate or Open. This also applies to poems performed in the Heats performed again in the Finals. Although repeating a poem performed by another competitor is not preferred it carries no penalty.

(l) Judging Panel

(i) Ideally all bush poetry judging should be by a panel of three ABPA approved Judges and judging by others should be discouraged.

(ii) Judges names should appear with literature forwarded to the competitors.

(iii) In the case of State and National Championships, names of the Judging Panel should be forwarded to the Secretary of the ABPA 3 months in advance.

(iv) At their sole discretion, the organisers may substitute judges when unavoidable situations occur.

(m) Judges Decisions Are Final

Judges' decisions are final and absolutely no further discussion on the matter will be considered.

(n) Return of Judges' Sheets

At the sole discretion of the organisers, Judges' Score Sheets will be given to Competitors either after all results have been announced or they will be posted later. In the case of the latter a Stamped, Self Addressed envelope may be requested

(o) Deciding On Overall Champions

Overall Champions shall be decided as in Part 4 -Section 11 of these guidelines.

(p) Offensive Material

If in the majority opinion of the Organisers Executive Committee a performance is offensive and/or objectionable, the score sheet shall be deemed null and void. A performance must be G rated entertainment as per the FACTS Code of Practice.

(q) Competitors Can't Enter Lower Categories

Competitors can't enter competitions a levels lower than their qualification, e.g., a competitor qualified for Intermediate Category cannot compete in Novice Category

8. Yarn Spinning

(a) Categories

At the discretion of the organisers any or all of the following classes may be offered to competitors either singularly or in combination:

(i) Junior (20 to 50 Years)

(ii) Senior (50 to 70 Years)

(iii) Master (70 years plus)

(b) Not Verse

Yarn spinning is not verse. Therefore Verse must not be used.

(c) Not Jokes

Yarn spinning is not merely the telling of jokes.

(d) Time Limit

A time limit of 8 minutes shall apply for all classes.

(e) Gender

This competition is open to men and women.

(f) Performance Poetry Competition Guidelines Apply

Where applicable guidelines for Part 3 Section 7 Performance Poetry Competition shall apply.

Part 4 Organisation

9. Conduct of Competitions

Any organisation adopting these guidelines will have ABPA approval to publish the following notation on the advertising of approaching competitions:

"Conducted under the Guidelines of the ABPA"

Organisations not adopting these guidelines will not be given such approval,

ABPA members can seek that notation confident in the knowledge competitions where it appears will have no unfamiliar rulings or unwelcome surprises.

10. Judging Criteria

Please see Appendices 5 and 6.*

11. Criteria for Selecting Overall Winners

Overall winners shall be chosen by a total of the aggregate points from all Categories entered.

12. Tie Breakers

Where equal scores occur, scrutineers shall recall the Judging Panel to vote on which competitor should win.

13. Duties of the Time Keeper

To accurately time all events and by some clearly audible but reasonably subtle means signal that a time limit has been reached and repeat that signal at 15 second intervals until the competitor is finished.

14. Duties of the Compere/M.C.

(a) Overview

To ensure smooth running of the programme and filling in silent spots between competitors while judges are deliberating. Such "filling" should not waste or add undue time to the programme.

(b) Presentations

Presentations are the highlight of a competition and should be made as informative and entertaining as possible:

- (i) give names of winners in reverse order, e.g., 3rd, 2nd, 1st;
- (ii) include the name of the poem performed in the announcement;
- (iii) try to choose presenters with personality.

15. Duties of the Competition Co-ordinator/Manager

To ensure smooth running of all facets of the competition, people are on time, all equipment works, etc., etc.

16. Duties of the Scrutineers

Collect Judges' Score Sheets, total scores, subtract deductions. Recall Judges if required for a tie breaker. Where Organisation policy permits, collate Judges Score sheets to give to competitors after awards have been presented.

Part 5 Conclusion

17. Accuracy

Accuracy of score totals is vital. Where an error is found it must be corrected even if results have already been declared and prizes distributed. Such errors must be publicly announced and the rightful winners or place getters given their correct prizes.

18. State Championships

States are encouraged to conduct their own State Championships may conduct them under these guidelines. No arrangements have yet been made to co-ordinate State Championships with the Australian Bush Poetry Championships.

19. Australian Bush Poetry Championships

The Australian Bush Poetry Association Inc. (ABPA) is the only organisation with the right to use name of "Australian Bush Poetry Championships" in which the National Champion Poets (Male and Female) are chosen.

20. Tenders for Australian Bush Poetry Championships

The ABPA at its sole discretion may permit others to conduct the Australian Bush Poetry Championships and tenders for the privilege are invited annually through the pages of the ABPA monthly Newsletter.

21. Cases Not Covered by These Guidelines

Cases not covered by these guidelines may be determined by the committee of the Organisers' it sees fit.

* Please Note: Appendices 5 and 6 will be made available on request.

On behalf of the Guidelines Sub-committee these guidelines were respectfully submitted for approval by Wally Finch

Appendix 5

Name of the Group

ABPA Judge's Score Sheet Cover

Please place a copy of this sheet on top of blank score sheets and in prominent locations at the place of competition

Judging is not an exact science. Please remember it is a carefully considered opinion.

Points are awarded on the following criteria:

Perfect	20;
Excellent	18+;
Very Good	16+;
Good	14+;
Average	12+;
Needs work	10+;
Keep trying	up to 10 points;
Disqualification	= 0 points.

Deductions:

Reading	10 points for Novice; 20 points for Intermediate; Disqualified for Open.
Overtime	5 points for every 15 seconds or part thereof
Repeating	10 points if this poem has already been performed by this competitor

Bush Poetry is family style entertainment.
Obscene or offensive material will be automatically disqualified and scored zero.

Qualifying Score

- (i) a score of 80% or better of a possible total score from all judges; with
- (ii) at least 80 points from each judge; and,
- (iii) no section of the Score Sheet scored below 12 points.

Appendix 6

Name of the Group

ABPA Judge's Score Sheet

Judging is not an exact science. Please remember it is an opinion.

Obscene or offensive material will be disqualified and scored zero.

Performer	Poem
Category	Author
Judge	(Judges please mark boxes thus <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes or <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No)
1. Preamble	
(a) <input type="checkbox"/> sets the appropriate mood?	(b) <input type="checkbox"/> enhanced audience enjoyment?
(c) <input type="checkbox"/> performer's initial impact	(c) <input type="checkbox"/> Other
(20 points available) Score <input type="checkbox"/>	
2. Start (up to the first one or two stanzas only).	
(a) <input type="checkbox"/> gets immediate audience attention and interest?	(b) <input type="checkbox"/> stance
(c) <input type="checkbox"/> body language	(d) <input type="checkbox"/> facial expression (e) <input type="checkbox"/> Other
(20 points available) Score <input type="checkbox"/>	
3. Body of the poem	
(a) <input type="checkbox"/> holds attention throughout	(b) <input type="checkbox"/> storyline/thought easily followed?
Choice of poem: (c) <input type="checkbox"/> suitable for the performer? (d) <input type="checkbox"/> suits performers vocal range?	
(e) <input type="checkbox"/> suits the occasion?	(f) <input type="checkbox"/> Meets entry requirements? (g) <input type="checkbox"/> Other
(20 points available) Score <input type="checkbox"/>	
4. Presentation	
(a) <input type="checkbox"/> props appropriate? (b) <input type="checkbox"/> memorized well? (c) <input type="checkbox"/> microphone technique	
(d) <input type="checkbox"/> voice? (e) <input type="checkbox"/> diction? (g) <input type="checkbox"/> Other	
(20 points available) Score <input type="checkbox"/>	
5. Conclusion:	
(a) <input type="checkbox"/> appropriate climax? (b) <input type="checkbox"/> punch line clearly delivered?	
(c) <input type="checkbox"/> performer achieved his/her aim?	
(d) Audience was: <input type="checkbox"/> Enthusiastic; <input type="checkbox"/> Very good; <input type="checkbox"/> Good; <input type="checkbox"/> Mild or less	
(e) <input type="checkbox"/> Other	
(20 points available) Score <input type="checkbox"/>	
Deductions <input type="checkbox"/> Reading poem <input type="checkbox"/> Units of 15 seconds <input type="checkbox"/> Repeated poem	
Judge's Initials	Total <input type="checkbox"/>

South Bank on Australia Day

For poets in South-East Queensland or Northern New South Wales who won't be making the trek to Tamworth at the end of January - come along to South Bank!

The well-known South Bank Parklands development on the South Bank of the Brisbane River is a wonderful place to bring the whole family and celebrate Australia Day on 26th January. There will be markets, rides for the kids or grand-kids, and a wide variety of entertainment including the Bush Poetry

Competition. Access for out-of-towners is easy, with regular bus and train services delivering you right to the Parklands, and lots of parking as well. For more details, see the ad also in this issue, or contact Verity Clisby on (07) 3867 2034

South Bank Results

Sometimes the weekly open microphone sessions at South Bank were light on in numbers but as we only started in August in the middle of a busy time for poets we didn't do too badly. On the last session for the year, we had over 15 poets at the microphone through the day and an audience of around 60 people at the finish. Hopefully in the New Year it will get even stronger. Because South Bank has many events in January 2001 we won't be back in action until the big Competition on Australia Day, Friday 26th January (see the advertisement elsewhere in this Newsletter). Please note the competition will be open to everyone not just winners of the monthly heats. If you're not going to Tamworth it's worth having a go. Results from November:

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Original Male: | 1. Doug Hutcheson |
| | 2. Carl Cree |
| | 3. Rob Spence |
| Original Female: | 1. June Hanson |
| | 2. Red Cree |
| Any Other Poet Male: | 1. Gordon Hanson |
| Any Other Poet Female: | 1. Carol Stratford |
| Junior: | Kissty Ann Fisher |

South Tweed Bowls Club Inc. is proud to announce that, as part of our Australia Day celebrations, we will be inviting local poets and writers to enter our Australiana Poetry Competition on Saturday 27th January 2001.

This performance competition will incorporate two categories:-

- 1. Free verse*
- 2. Rhyming verse*

And writers may enter both, as long as they are accompanied by an official entry form. Closing date 15th January 2001.

For entry forms and more information, contact Lesley Rose ph:(07) 5524 3655 fax: (07) 5524 4523

Or write to Lesley Rose, Entertainment Co-Ordinator, South Tweed Bowls Club, 4 Minjungbal Drive,

Tweed Heads South, NSW 2486

The Naked Poets

Tamworth Golf Club, Mahony Ave
(ph) 6765 3232

Mon Jan 22, Tues Jan 23,
Thurs Jan 25, Fri Jan 26,
Sat Jan 27

7pm for 7.30pm start
(Finish 10.15 pm)

\$15. Booking advised to avoid disappointment

The Best Bits of the Naked Poets

Venue: Tamworth Golf Club,
Mahony Ave (ph) 6765 3232

Tues Jan 23, Wed Jan 24,
Thurs Jan 25, Fri Jan 26

**\$10. 11am for 11.30pm start
(2 hours)**

Note: Poets and Poetry Groups

Regarding Dunedoo's Bush Poetry Festival

Entry forms received for this competition need to be corrected. Section 2 and section 4 should read as below:

1. Novice section

Written and recited by Poet who has not won a prize in poetry competition before

2. Original section - serious

Written and recited by the poet

3. Original section - humorous

Written and recited by the poet

4. Traditional section

Traditional poem performed

5. Original Poem/Song with Dunedoo Theme

Written and recited or performed by author.

National Bush Poetry Championships Caloundra 2001

As the millennium officially closes and we prepare ourselves for a second celebration of the start of the 21st Century, many of us are planning what we're doing next year. Here in Queensland there's heaps happening in the middle of the year starting up mid June with the National Bush Poetry Championships at Caloundra.

Information kits will be available soon and details of the programme and good places to stay etc. will all be included. Have a great Christmas break. There's a great New Year coming. For any information required in the meantime please contact Lion Bob Hislop (07) 5491 3653 or Wally Finch (07) 3886 0747.



G'day
From
Geoffrey
Graham



Greetings,

Have finally done my 'Man from Ironbark' show at the Bendigo Regional Arts Centre. There 'aint' nothing like a real theatre to strut your stuff in, except perhaps a woolshed. One I performed at recently was a beauty, made of stone with all the atmosphere you could possibly wish for. Complete with brands covering the walls.

Things are getting quiet now in preparation for Xmas, and then before you know it, it'll be the Tamworth Country Music Festival.

The Kyneton Country Music Festival, has had a change of name and venue. It will be now held at Whittlesea, and will be called the Whittlesea Country Music Festival. Held on February 9,10,11 at the Whittlesea Showgrounds it will feature Kasey Chambers, Adam Harvey, Normie Rowe, Colorado, Noel Watson and a host of others. Bush Poetry will once again be present on Sunday morning, 8.30 to 10.00 am. I'll be compering the session, and hope to see a good showing from the Southern Poets. Give me a call if you can make it.

At Tamworth this year, besides doing three shows of "The Man from Ironbark" I will have a totally new show '100 Not Out', This is a celebration of our Federation and a look at some of the events that have shaped our identity.

The venue is the Country Comfort:

Man from Ironbark shows

Thu 18th 11.00am, Mon 22nd 3.00pm, Thu 25th 11.00 am

100 Not Out:

Fri 19th, Wed 24th, Fri 26th, Sun 28th at 11.00 am

Tue 16th, Sun 21st, Thu 25th at 3.00 pm

Wed 17th Thur 18th 8.00pm

Best wishes to everyone for Xmas and the New Year, and congratulations to the committee for another top years work

Keep smiling, Geoffrey Graham, Eaglehawk

Ph 03 5446 3739

The 2001 'Great Dunny Classic' Bush Poetry Competition will be held at the Dunedoo Golf Club on the 17th March 2001 at 7:30pm. This year we have prize money totaling \$1000.00 to be awarded, a special Trophy for the winning Original Poem/Song with a Dunedoo theme, and again this year, "The Great Dunny Classic" Trophy will be awarded to Overall winner. A weekend of activities is planned including a Bush Yarn Competition and a Poets Brunch in the park. Bush Poetry Workshops with Milton Taylor will be on offer over the weekend, and an Arts and Craft Market on Saturday. For further information, and for entry forms, contact Marie Hensley on (02) 6375 1975 or (02) 6375 1015, fax: (02) 6375 1422 email: dndgroup@coolahddg.com.au

The First Fleet

Dennis Carstairs, Stratford, VIC

King George picked Arthur Phillip
Said "This man will not fail us"
Plant the British flag on southern soil
On the land of Terra Australis.
Eleven ships made up the fleet
They left ol' England shores in May
The year was seventeen eighty seven
And they were bound for Botany Bay.
For seven hundred and fifty convicts
Would see their land no more
Banished from home forever
To a far off distant shore.
The fleet ventured out of Portsmouth
In all, thirteen hundred and fifty head
As the British mainland slipped behind
I'm sure a tear was shed.

It was an epic voyage
Of raging seas and gales
Of mutiny, rape and misery
Broken hearts and ripping sails.
'Twas over eight months later
The fleet at last arrived
Not all that started saw our shore
Some forty-five had died.
Botany Bay proved unworthy
For what Phillip had in mind
So he sailed up to Port Jackson
And found a harbour fine.
As he sailed into Port Jackson
Phillip said "In all my time
I've seen no grander harbour
Could hold a thousand ships of line."
At a cove named after Sydney
The first white Australians stepped ashore
To raise the flag and build a nation
That's in my heart forever more.



POET'S CALENDAR OF EVENTS AND COMPETITIONS

Jan 23	Winners announced and Trophies presented for Australian Bush Laureate Awards , Tamworth Town Hall
Jan 24-26	Tamworth Bush Poetry Competition Heats. For entry form send SSAE to Jan Morris PO Box 1164 Tamworth 2340
Jan 27	Tamworth Bush Poetry Competition Finals. For entry form send SSAE to Jan Morris PO Box 1164 Tamworth 2340
Jan 27	The Blackened Billy Verse Competition Presentation of Award 11 am at the Imperial hotel, Tamworth NSW
Jan 19	Closing Date for Chinchilla Melon Festival Written Comp. Entries Ph 07 4662 7088
Feb 9-11	Whittlesea Country Music Festival. Whittlesea Showgrounds, Bush Poetry enquiries Geoffrey Graham ph 03 5446 3739
Feb 16-18	Chinchilla Melon Festival. Poets Breakfasts, Melon Field Day. For more information, phone 07 4668 9564
Mar 10	Urunga Bush Poets Showcase 6 pm Urunga Golf Club. Dinner & Show \$8, Ph Maureen 02 6568 5269 or Keith 02 6655 6835 ah.
Mar 15-18	John O'Brien Bush Festival. Poets Brekkys Saturday and Sunday, Enquiries to Julie Briggs 1800 672392
Mar 16-18	Yackandandah Folk Festival Contact 0260269224 Email yackfolk@netc.net.au
Mar 16-18	Dunedoo Bush Poetry Festival Details from Marie Hensley bh : (02) 63 751975 ah : (02) 63751015
Mar 17-18	High Country Poets, O'Mara's Hotel, Stanthorpe, Q. Cash prizes for Original and Traditional Ph Jack 07 4683 7169
Mar 17-18	Country Music Rush Bush Poetry Competition, Oakey Community Hall, Qld. Phone Dell 07 4635 6429 (a/h)
Mar 30	Closing Date Eulo Mother's Day Written Competition. Phone Janine 07 4655 4862 or Helen 07 46554849
Apr 6	Junior Bush Poetry Festival, Winton Q. Enquiries and entries to The Organiser, PO Box 84, Hughenden Q 4821
Apr 6-8	Man From Snowy River Festival. Phone/fax Jan Lewis 0260774332 email poetfarm@corryong.albury.net.au
Apr 20-22	NSW Bush Poetry Championships, Tumut NSW. Ph Neil Hulm 02 6025 3845 Entries close 31 st December, 2000
Apr 20-22	Tenterfield Oracles of the Bush Applications PO Box 372 Tenterfield NSW Or Phone 0267 361082
Apr 20	Closing Date Ludwig Leichhardt in the Bush written competition, Enq to Cecil Plains Homestead, Cecil Plains Q 4407
Apr 30	Closing Date for Bronze Swagman Bush Poetry written competition.
May 12-13	Eulo Annual Mother's Day Fair, Written & Performance Comps. Ph Janine 07 46554862, Fax 07 46554901
Jun 8-	Australian Bush Poetry Championships, Caloundra, Q Ph Wally Finch 07 3386 0747 or Bob Hislop 07 5491 3653.
Jun 29 - Jul 2	Waltzing Matilda Bush Poetry Festival, Winton, Q. Enquiries and entries to The Organiser, PO Box 84, Hughenden Q 4821
Jul 6-8	Bundy Muster week-end. Performance & written competitions. Ph Joan 07 41529624 or Sandy & John 07 41514631

TUMUT PREPARATIONS WELL UNDERWAY

NSW Bush Poetry Championships-20th-21st April, 2001

A big vote of thanks to the many poets, both writers and performers from across the country who have entered the NSW Bush Poetry Championships.

The preliminary planning of this prestigious blue ribbon event on the bush poetry calendar is now complete. Organisers are delighted with the support which has been forthcoming from over 50 sponsors from throughout the local area, many of whom have donated a large array of products which will be used in fundraising raffles throughout the weekend to defray the administrative expenses of the competition.

Tickets will soon be offered for \$2.00 in a Monster Raffle to be drawn at the Gala Concert on the evening of 21st April. Five draws will be made for five prizes, each valued in excess of \$60.00 and anyone purchasing five or more tickets will be given a souvenir coffee mug which celebrates the NSW Bush Poetry Championships and Tumut's Festival of Falling Leaves. If you would like advance tickets, or won't be in Tumut to purchase them, please contact the Co-ordinator.

Throughout the Championship weekend we will need some help with the many and varied incidental chores which are required for the smooth and successful running of the proceedings. If you are coming and can assist in any way it would be greatly appreciated-as the old saying goes, 'many hands make light work'.

At the time of writing this article, entries are yet to close and prospective entrants in the performance competition, which is open to residents of all states, are advised that late entrants will be accepted if time allows. As preparation time is now growing short and you are an entrant in the performance competition, please be aware that you can avail yourself of the Judging Criteria to help with your preparations.

Please contact Neil Hulm, 361 Cheyenne Avenue, Lavington NSW 2641 or phone/ fax 6025 3845 for any information or email Maureen Stonham - maureenandtom@tsn.cc

Submitted by Neil Hulm and Maureen Stonham, 17.12.2000

NAKED POETS!!

The Naked Poets are back at the Tamworth Golf Club in January with a brand new night show, a revamped daytime show and their outrageously coloured second album.

Bobby Miller, Shirley Friend, Ray Essery, Marco Giori, Murray Hartin and newly crowned Australian Independent Country Music Artist of the Year Pat Drummond have miraculously survived another 12 months and are ready for action.

For 2001, Bush Poetry's answer to The Young Ones have invited Wollombi comedian Alan Glover to be a special guest on each of the five night shows. (Jan 22nd, 23rd, 25th, 26th, 27th)

Glover was a big hit at last year's Golf Club breakfasts but along with his partner in crimes, Nimbin's S Sorenson, found the early starts a bit disagreeable.

For this reason The Best Bits of the Naked Poets - a sort of highlights package of previous years plus new material as well as bits of Glover and Sorenson - will be a two-hour brunchtime format starting at 11:30 am. Each of the four two-hour shows will be different and will feature last year's popular limerick competition. (Jan 23rd - 26th)

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 & 4th Thursday** **Golden Pen Poets.** Old Gympie Town Hall, Gympie 7 pm Ph Phil Morrison 07 5486 1171
- 2nd Saturday** **Bundaberg Poets Society Inc.** Contact Joan Lane 07 4152 9624 or Sandy Lees 07 4151 4631
- 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
- 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
- Every Wed** **Matilda Country Caravan Park,** Winton, evenings 'Pinki and her Pee Wee Poets'
- 1st & 3rd Wed** **Kilcoy Unplugged,** 7.00 p.m. Kilcoy Gardens Motel Restaurant, Gold Coin Entry Ph Graham 07 5497 1045
- Every Saturday** **South Bank Poets** 1pm, Board Walk Theatre on the river, near the Maritime Museum. Ph Wally Finch 07 3886 0747
- Last Saturday** **South Bank Poets,** Mini Competition. Winners to compete at Lord Mayors Australia Day Bush Poetry Competition

NEW SOUTH WALES

- 1st Tuesday** **Tugarah 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 Wednesday** **Dorrigo Mountain Top Poets,** 7pm April, June, August, October Phone Murray 02 6657 2139
- 2nd Thursday** **Tamworth Poetry Reading Grp.** 8pm Unit 2, 8 Illoura St, Tamworth Ph Keith 02 6766 4164 or Maureen 6765 6067
- 2nd Friday** **The Monaro Leisure Club.** 7 pm, Vale St Cooma Bush Poetry and Country Music. Ph Elaine 02 6454 3128
- 2nd Saturday** **Poets in the Club,** Urunga Golf Club, 1-4pm 12 May, 14 Jul, 13 Oct. Ring Maureen 02 6568 5269
- 2nd Sunday** **"Interludes"** Ashfield Civic Centre, Ashfield - Joye Dempsey 02 9797 7575
- 3rd Thursday** **Wollondilly Regional FAW Writers** 7.30pm "The Hideaway" Davison Ln, Picton Liz 02 4677 2044, Vince 4684 1704
- 3rd Friday** **Junee Bush Poetry Group** 7.30pm, Junee Com'ty Cntr, Brian Beasley, PO Box 82, Junee 2663 Ph. 02 6924 1317
- 4th Tuesday** **Poets in the Pub with Grafton Live Poet's Society.** Roches Hotel 7.30pm Ph John Walker 02 6555 8122
- 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** **The Mid-Coast Sundowners - Bush Poets** meet in a private home, Ring Reid 02 6554 9788, or Phil 02 6552 6389 for details of venue each month
- 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
- Monthly** **Top of the Murray Poets & Bush Storytellers.** Contact Jan Lewis 02 6077 4332
- 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.
- Every 3 months** **Poetic Folk,** 24 Finisterre Ave, Whalan 2770. Ring "Arch" Bishop 02 9625 7245

VICTORIA

- 1st Monday** **Kyabram & Dist. Bush Verse Gr,** Every 2nd mth, Kyabram Fauna Park, 7.30 pm Ph. Mick Coventry 03 5853 2265
- 6 weekly, Thursdays** **Gippsland Bush Poets.** Rosedale Hotel, Rosedale, 7.30pm Ph Dennis Carstairs 03 5145 6128

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

- 3rd Wednesday** **South Australian Bush Poets.** 7.30 pm Alma Pub Long Room, Willunga Ph/Fax Maurie O'Brien 08 8326 8788
- Last Tuesday** **Whyalla Writers Group.** Phone Colby Maddigan 08 86451771

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

- 1st Friday** **WA Bush Poets and Yarnspinners,** 7.30pm Raffles Hotel, Canning Bridge. Ph Rusty Christensen 9364 4491

Editors Note: Poets from all states and territories 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



CHINCHILLA MELON FESTIVAL "Bush & Melon Poetry Writing" Competition. Section 1: Bush Poem, Section 2: Melon Theme Poem. These two sections are each split into Open, High School, and Primary School Categories. Entries close **Friday 19th January 2001** Announcement of Winners and Prize Presentations will take place at a Poets Breakfast at the Chinchilla Museum on 18th February 2001. Entry forms may be obtained by contacting Browns Furniture, Chinchilla, on 07 4662 7088, or writing to Melon Festival Committee Inc. PO Box 556 Chinchilla 4413

TAMWORTH BUSH POETRY COMPETITION 2001

Featuring "The Golden Damper Awards", At Tamworth Imperial Hotel, Brisbane & Marius Streets, Tamworth. **Heats January 24-26, Finals 27th January.** 2 sections: Original, and Traditional or Established Works. Entry fee \$5 per section. For entry form send SSAE to Jan Morris PO Box 1164 Tamworth 2340

AUSTRALIANA POETRY COMPETITION, Sat 27th January

South Tweed Bowls Club Inc.

This performance competition will incorporate two categories:-

1. Free verse
2. Rhyming verse

Closing date 15th January 2001

For entry forms and more information, contact Lesley Rose ph:(07) 5524 3655 fax: (07) 5524 4523

Or write to Entertainment Co-Ordinator, South Tweed Bowls Club, 4 Minjungbal Drive, Tweed Heads South, NSW 2486

LARGER THAN LAKES. A celebration of lines, laughs and larrikins ... this is a family day celebrating Australian verse, jokes, yarns and song with cash prizes and billeted accommodation for those of you who think you can make it. Australia Day, **26 January 2001**, at Lakes Entrance, East Gippsland. \$5 entry fee. Contact Penny Kerr, PO Box 587, Lakes Entrance, 3903 or phone 0402 333368

WHITTLESEA COUNTRY MUSIC FESTIVAL

February 9,10,11, Whittlesea Showgrounds

Bush Poetry enquiries Geoffrey Graham ph 03 5446 3739

CHINCHILLA MELON FESTIVAL 16 - 18 February 2001

Poets Breakfast on Saturday 17th and Sunday 18th

Melon Field Day, Melon Parade, Concert, lots of Festival Activities.

For more information, phone 07 4668 9564

WOLLONDILLY REGIONAL FELLOWSHIP OF AUSTRALIAN

WRITERS Literary Competition 2001

Closing date **28th February 2001**, Entry fee \$5 per entry

Open section

1. Short story up to 2500 words
2. Free Verse poetry up to 60 lines
3. Traditional Rhyming poetry up to 60 lines

Regional section (Open to residents of Wollondilly Shire only or members of Wollondilly FAW)

1. Short story up to 2500 words
2. Free Verse poetry up to 60 lines
3. Traditional Rhyming poetry up to 60 lines

Entry forms and enquiries - Liz Vincent (02) 4677 2044, or PO Box 385, Picton NSW 2571

THE GRENFELL HENRY LAWSON FESTIVAL OF ARTS INC

Entries forms now available for the 2001 Verse, Short Story & Song Competitions. Prize money \$2,500 total, plus 3 statuettes. Entries close **7th March 2001**. Entry fee \$6 (\$2 juniors)

For entry forms and further information, contact Mrs. Marion Knapp, Verse, Song, Short Story Co-Ordinator, The Grenfell Henry Lawson Festival of Arts Inc, PO Box 77, Grenfell NSW 2810. Ph: (02) 6343 1284, (02) 6347 8147

Email: knappdm@telstra.easymail.com.au

URUNGA BUSH POETS SHOWCASE March 10, 6 pm Urunga Golf Club.

Dinner and Show \$8. All NSW Mid North Coast and visiting poets invited to perform. Come along, show off and have a great night. Ring Maureen 02 6568 5269 or Keith 02 6655 6835 ah.

THE DUNEDOO BUSH POETRY FESTIVAL, March 16-18, 2001

Friday 16th - Yarn Spinning Competition.

Saturday 17th - "The Great Dunny Classic" Bush Poetry Competition - Dunedoo Golf Club.

\$1000 in Prize Money and other awards. Categories are: Novice, Traditional/Established, Original - Serious, Original - Humorous, Original Poem/Song with Dunedoo Theme. MC for the evening is Milton Taylor.

Sunday 18th - Poets Brunch and Junior competition.

There will be Bush Poetry Workshops run by Milton Taylor. ~~Workshops are held on Saturday 17th for the Bush Poetry Competition and Yarn Spinning please ring the festival coordinator - Marie Hensley bh : (02) 63 751975 ah: (02) 63751015~~

O'MARA'S HIGH COUNTRY POETS, 17-18 March 2001.

Traditional and Original performance competitions, as well as a Poets' Breakfast and Open Mike Session. Cash prizes totalling \$2650. Contact Jack Drake 07 4683 7169

JOHN O'BRIEN BUSH FESTIVAL 15-18th March, 2001

Celebrates the rural pioneering spirit and pays tribute to John O'Brien of "Around the Boree Log" fame. Poets Brekkys Saturday and Sunday, Bush dance, Some beaut shows at night, and big day in the street on Saturday. Enquiries to Julie Briggs 1800 672392 or Narrandera Visitors Centre, PO Box 89, Narrandera. 2700 email touristcentre@narrandera.nsw.gov.au

YACKANDANDAH FOLK FESTIVAL (NE Vict)

16th - 18th March 2001 Run by volunteers. Music, Dance, Sessions, Workshops & Top of the Murray Poets and Bush Storytellers & friends hosting Poets' Breakfasts etc. Contact 0260269224 Email yackfolk@netc.net.au

COUNTRY MUSIC RUSH BUSH POETRY COMPETITION

Oakey Community Hall, Queensland, **17 - 18 March 2001**

Written poetry competition judged prior to the weekend Phone Dell (07) 4635 6429 (a/h)

WALTZING MATILDA JUNIOR BUSH POETRY FESTIVAL

Friday 6 April, 2001. Contact The Organiser, PO Box 84, Hughenden QLD 4821

MAN FROM SNOWY RIVER FESTIVAL 6 - 8 April 2001

The Man From Snowy River Challenge - horse event over 3 days, Riley's Ride, novelty events, lots of family fun - Ph 02 6076 1992. Top of the Murray Poets and Bush Storytellers organise the poetry events. Poets interested in performing/judging/helping or donating products for encouragement awards please phone/fax Jan Lewis 02 6077 4332 or email poetfarm@corryong.albury.net.au

NSW BUSH POETRY CHAMPIONSHIPS 2001

Tumut R.S.L. Club - **20th, 21st, 22nd April, 2001**

The Written Championships will comprise separate sections for Ladies and Men, as well as a Champion Book Section.

The Performance Championships will also offer separate sections for both Ladies and Men, as well as Champion Yarnspinner and a "Best Country Singer" section which will be judged during a Gala Night Saturday 21st April, 2001. \$1,000 trophies - \$900 Prize money. Categories for Mens Original and Traditional/Established, Ladies Original and Traditional/Established, Book, Yarnspinning, Junior Bush Poets, All Rounder. Entry fee \$5.00 per section, except 'All Rounder', which is Free. Entry forms and program are available together with a list of venues and phone numbers for accommodation. Enquiries to Neil Hulm, 361 Cheyenne Drive, Lavington NSW 2641, Phone/Fax 02 6025 3845.

TENTERFIELD ORACLES OF THE BUSH \$2001 in 2001

"Legendary Masters" **20 to 22 April 2001**

Entertainers "The Naked Poets". The Federation Year in Tenterfield is huge with \$2001 for the Amateurs. For applications PO Box 372 Tenterfield NSW Or Phone 0267 361082

FESTIVAL OF AUSTRALIAN BUSH POETRY Presented by

Gold City Country Music Club Inc And Gold City Bush Poets Charters Towers, Qld. Tentative dates - **Tuesday 1st May to Thursday 3rd May 2001**

Programme will include 2 Bush Poets Breakfasts, Workshops,

Newsletter for more details. For further information, contact Arthur on (07) 4787 2944 (after hours) Fax: (07) 4787 1439

EULO ANNUAL MOTHER'S DAY FAIR

12-13 May 2001. Written and Performance Poetry Competitions for adults, primary and secondary children. \$1500 in prize money plus trophies. Inaugural "Dangerous" Dan Smith Memorial Trophy. Written competition closes at the end of March. Entry forms not available as yet. Enquiries: Janine Haig "Moama" Eulo Q. 4491. Ph. (07) 46554862, Fax (07) 46554901 or email: janinehaig@bigpond.com. Put the date on your calendars and come and see that Eulo really does exist!

Performance Competition closing date is 4 May 2001.

CATEGORY ONE: Junior: Secondary School Students

CATEGORY TWO: Junior Junior: Primary School Students

CATEGORY THREE: Open: Serious Traditional or Modern

CATEGORY FOUR: Open: Humorous Traditional or Modern

CATEGORY FIVE: Open: Serious Original

CATEGORY SIX: Open: Humorous Original

CATEGORY SEVEN: Open: Yarn Spinning

THE LUDWIG LEICHHARDT PAGEANT FUN DAY - 2001,

Sunday **30th May 2001.** Written Competition open to adults Unpublished poem not exceeding 50 lines. Closing date Sunday 29th April 2001 Topic - "Ludwig Leichhardt in the Bush". Please keep a copy of your poem, and put personal details (i.e. name, address, phone/fax no) on a separate sheet. Judged independently, and announced at the Fun Day. Entries to:- Cecil Plains Homestead 'Leichhardt Poetry Competition', Cecil Plains Qld 4407

THE AUSTRALIAN BUSH POETRY CHAMPIONSHIPS will be on from **Friday 8th June 2001** at the new Basketball Court, Golden Beach. For more details, phone Wally Finch (07) 3386 0747 or Bob Hislop (07) 5491 3653.

WALTZING MATILDA BUSH POETRY FESTIVAL

Friday 29th June - Monday 2nd July, 2001

QANTAS - Waltzing Matilda Championships, Christina McPherson Novice Awards, Australian Bush Yarnspinning Championships, Novelty Poetry Events, Concerts. This event is the highlight on the Queensland Bush Poetry Calendar, and Winton puts on a great welcome for all comers! For more information, contact The Organiser, PO Box 84, Hughenden QLD 4821.

BUNDABERG POET'S SOCIETY INC. Bush Lantern Award for Bush Verse 2001. Entry forms available from: Mr. Ross Keppel, Bundaberg Poet's Society Inc., P.O. Box 4281, South Bundaberg 4670. Entries close for written competition on **May 31 2001.**

BUNDABERG POET'S SOCIETY INC. present Bundy Bush Poetry Muster, **July 6-8, 2001.** Competitions: Opens, Intermediates, Novices, Juniors and Under 12's. N.B: Intermediate Category: Anyone who has not been placed 1st, 2nd or 3rd in any open competition or 1st in Intermediate. Entry forms available from: Bundaberg Poet's Society Inc., P.O. Box 4281, South Bundaberg, 4670 Enquiries: John & Sandy (07) 41514631



THE PRODUCT SHELF

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\$5.00 for TWO MONTHLY NEWSLETTER SPOTS!

REVERSALS

poems by Ron Stevens, also **IDENTITY** and **A LIGHTER TOUCH OF HISTORY**

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THE LAST WORD FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Members

I hope that all of you have a wonderful 2001! This issue of the magazine is a little late, due to printing problems and my additional workload prior to departing for Europe. As I am unable to continue as Editor after the February issue, there will be no March issue unless someone volunteers to take over the task. It's a great opportunity for anyone wishing to gain experience in page layout and design. Please consider!!!!

I was hoping to get to Tamworth this year, but it looks like I won't be able to... too much tidying up of loose ends at home! As I would like to publish the Tamworth results in the February issue, it is imperative that all venue and event organisers get these results to me ASAP! I will hold over the February deadline until Wednesday 31 January, to ensure that you all have time to get the information to me. Please assist with this request, as I will not be able to collect the results myself, as planned.

Best of luck to all in Tamworth, and thank you for your support over the past 16 months. The job of Editor has been a huge learning curve for me, and your input has been greatly appreciated.

Best regards, Jennifer Priest



Australian Bush Poets Association Inc.

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Email abpanews@hotmail.com

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January 2001

**SURFACE
MAIL**

**POSTAGE
PAID**



Heritage Corner

**This space devoted to
preserving the character of our
Australian Heritage**

Compiled and submitted by Holly de Dikard

First Recorded Australian State Nicknames

- Queenslanders – banana-landers, or banana-benders
- New South Welshmen – cornstalkers, a term applied to all colonial young men and women.
- Victorians – gum suckers or cabbage patchers, referring to the size of the State
- South Australians – crow eaters, taken from the piping shrike in the coat of arms of that State.
- West Australians – sand gropers; they in turn refer to all others as Easterners.
- Tasmanians – Taswegians, Shackle Islanders, or Apple Islanders

Things To Know

From *'The Weekly Courier', 1 October 1914*

To preserve meat in hot weather, wash over in very weak vinegar and water, and then cover with slices of raw onion and rinse meat in cold water.

To remove tar stains, rub the spot first with lard and then with soap. Leave for an hour, and then wash in hot water softened with ammonia. If traces still remain, rub with turpentine.

When making a steamed pudding put a piece of well-greased paper over the top before tying on the cloth. This will prevent the cloths from becoming greasy, and they are no trouble to wash.

A few drops of castor oil will be found most beneficial to drooping ferns. Drop the castor oil on the roots, and soak the ferns in a pail of water all night. In a week a marked improvement will be noticeable.

JAN 2ND 1856 - NAME 'TASMANIA' REPLACED VAN DIEMAN'S LAND

JAN 16TH 1889 - HIGHEST TEMPERATURE EVER IN AUSTRALIA 127.7°F (53.1° C) RECORDED AT CLONCURRY, QLD (AND THAT WAS IN THE SHADE!)

JAN 19TH 1970 - METRIC MEASUREMENTS INTRODUCED



JOIN THE AUSTRALIAN BUSH POETS ASSOCIATION, INC.

The Australian Bush Poets Association Inc. was formed at a meeting in January 1994 at the Tamworth CM Festival.

The purposes of the Association are to:

- * Foster the publication of a Newsletter on a monthly basis to keep members informed of coming events and past results.
- * Promote bush poetry as an art form in the entertainment field, both in the spoken word form and as published verse.
 - * Encourage competitions, both written and spoken.

Please complete form and send payment to the ABPA Secretary, Olive Shooter, "Willow Bend", MS 765, Allora Q 4362

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

I wish to become a member of the Australian Bush Poets Association Inc. *(Please use block letters)*

Name.....

Home Address.....

Postal Address.....

Signature.....

Amount Enclosed..... Cheque / Cash / Other.....

Membership fee \$25.00 Single, Family or Club member. Juniors \$10.00 (Students to year 12 of education). NEW members joining after July 01, \$13.00 to end of December. Those who have NOT been a member previously, may join after October 01 and receive up to 15 months membership for the first years' subscription of \$25.00 Financial year Jan to Dec.