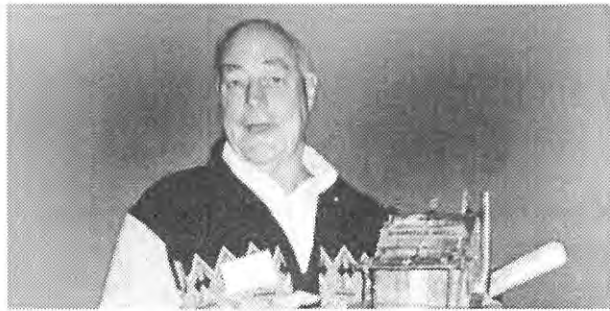


The Australian Bush Poets Association Inc:



Monthly Newsletter:

3:

March

2001



Many ABPA members will be saddened by the loss of fellow poet and friend Mr Johnny Johanson who passed away on 26th February at Yarrowonga. John's funeral was held on the 1st March and attended by friends and relatives.

Johnny Johanson, born in Fitzroy, Melbourne in 1934 at the tail end of the Great Depression and the beginning of the Second World War. Life was fairly tough in those days and like many Australians born in that era, he lived life hard gathering experience as he trudged the trails of hard knocks. He traveled down many of life's highways with plenty of side streets as well. Johnny had a very colourful and chequered life and took a lot of life's hurdles in his stride, a very private bloke in his latter years and not too comfortable in crowds. You could never miss that cheeky gleam in his eye and his fair dinkum, 'she'll be right mate' grin. Johnny could hold his head up high when it came to competitions at Winton and Tamworth or any other place he appeared. He could recite poems such as "The Old Master" by CJ Dennis or one of his own works about what it takes to be a true Aussie. That about sums up in a few words the character of Johnny Johanson...A True Blue Australian.... Just like CJ Dennis. Johnny wrote the way he talked and some of his verse was hard to decipher but if you forgot about the spelling and just concentrated on the lines, his verse was very down to earth and pleasant to read. From his award winning poem 'Just A Wife' to his tribute to Kathy Freeman, 'The Proud & The Prejudiced' or his cheeky 'One Fong The Swagman' and 'The Dinkum Aussie'. John's poetry was pure Australian.

John was a proud member of the ABPA, member of Kyabram & District and The Snowy River Mountains Bush Verse Groups. He leaves behind two sons and a daughter and many many friends.

"Rest in Peace Johnny".

'Au Revoir'

Do not weep for me dear loved ones,
For my suffering is no more.
Whilst, it's not farewell forever,
Just a parting "Au Revoir".

We will meet again-again my dear
ones

In those heavens up above,
Where there's happiness forever
more,
With it's everlasting love.

Feel my presence all around you,
For I'm there without the pain,
With my hand held out to guide you,
'til once more we meet again.

As you think; I'll be there with you,
When you dream or heave a sigh,
You have photograph's, memento's,
For in spirit, there'll be I.

So, please don't weep for me dear
loved ones,

For I suffer - not - no more,
Whilst, there's no farewell forever,
Just a parting, "Au Revoir".

© Johnny Johanson February
2001.

Australian Bush Poets Association Inc:

Home Page : www.bushpoetry.com.au

Editors email address : bbliss@hotmail.com

(as this is my private address always name subject ABPA)

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Capalaba Qld 4157

Vice President:

Elizabeth Ward

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Mt Perry. Qld 4671

Telephone/fax: 07 4156 3178



Presidents Report:

Our year has not started off well. Our February newsletter is late and may not happen and then, the unthinkable, the organisers of the Australian Bush Poetry Competitions decided to pull out. (see the notice elsewhere.). Although this was upsetting for them after so much hard work it left us with some pretty tough choices. To their credit our committee responded well and an alternative plan was quickly put into place.

Naturally there will be some inconvenience beyond our control. That is sincerely regretted and we humbly apologise. Hopefully

from here we can focus on positive things for the future. Without dwelling on the negatives we should look to ourselves and ask what we can do better next time. One suggestion has been to call for tenders two years ahead. Another is to be sure there are sponsors supporting submissions. Your thoughts on this would be very much appreciated.

From this issue you will notice our newsletter has changed a bit. We have a new editor, Bernie Bliss. Welcome to the team Bernie. You'll see Bernie's contact details on the appropriate page. Help him keep up the high standard. Send all your news and details on coming events.

Some interesting ideas have been put forward and again your input would be appreciated. Some members are on the "net". Would you prefer to receive your newsletter by 'email'? If so - let us know. Keep on preserving our KULCHA.

Regards

Wally Finch - President

Australian Bush Poets Association Inc.

An Urgent Stop Press Notice:

Australian Bush Poetry Championships Change Of Date & Venue.

With regret, Caloundra Lions Club has advise they are not going to continue with their plans to host the Australian Bush Poetry Championships on the Queens Birthday Weekend 2001. Naturally, we are very upset about this and sincerely regret the inconvenience it will cause. On receiving the news the matter was hastily discussed by Committee and alternative plans were quickly put in place. The original submissions for the event were re-considered and the resulting vote favoured Winton. Vision Winton were then approached and asked if they would like to take over. Fortunately they generously agreed. The amended details are:

The QANTAS - WALTZING MATILDA BUSH POETRY CHAMPIONSHIPS being held in WINTON will now also be the

"Australian Bush Poetry Championships".

Friday June 30th - Monday 2nd July 2001. Please contact: The Organiser - P O Box 84
Hughenden Qld 4821: (Please send a S.A.S.E.) or telephone 07 4741 5041:

What's Goin' On?

North Pine Bush Poet's Camp Oven Award 2001 for written Verse.

Must be Bush Verse and a maximum length of 120 lines.

Open Competition - 1st Prize, Trophy & \$300: 2nd prize \$150: 3rd Prize \$75:

Junior Competition - (13 - 16 years old), 1st Prize \$50: (9 - 12 years old), 1st Prize \$25: (8 years & under),
1st Prize \$10:

Entry fee \$5.00 or three for \$10.00: Juniors free: Entries close 15th July 2001

For enquiries or entry forms:

Contact the coordinator Mary Hodgson, Diamond Valley Road, Mooloolah Qld 4553.

Telephone 07 5494 7260

A Thank You To Jennifer

I would like to take a minute out from typing news clips, ad's and letters to thank Jennifer Priest for the effort that she has put into the newsletter while she was the editor. I'm sure that I speak on behalf of all members in saying that without that effort, we would certainly be out of touch with the great big Australian Bush Poetry world out there. I, at the moment am starting to appreciate the work she has done, and certainly hope that I can do as good a job as has been done in the past.

Once again Jennifer - Thank You:

Bernie Bliss - Editor.

"On Ya Soapbox"

**Award Winning Poet:
Gallops Punter and Dog
Lover. Teller of Tall
Stories & Lies.**

Kev J Barnes
P O Box 64 Millerran.
Telephone 07 4695 4209
25 hours a day.
"The Legend"

**Ex Member of R. A. E.
Member of the A.B.P.A.
and known to Sympathise
with The "Millmerran
Mongrel".**

Dear Editor:

For the first time in four and a half years I've been a member of the ABPA, I can afford to go to the Australian Championships as they are being held on the Sunshine Coast.

However, after reading the entry form, I have decided NOT to go. Perhaps my reasons are selfish, but I work hard at my poetry and have written hundreds of poems, some not bad and some fit for "file 19". I have competed with some success in both written and performance competitions in both Queensland and New South Wales, I have produced a book and a tape of my works. I have organised the Millmerran Bush Poets Round-up, now in it's fifth year. I have performed my poems and those of others in Queensland and New South Wales and have written and judged written and performance competitions in those states. I class myself as a POET!

This competition is for RECITERS of poetry. You DO NOT have to be a poet to win the Australian Bush Poetry Championship! I, for one, did not realise this fact. I, for one, do not regard myself as just a reciter of poetry and therefore until there are changes made to the competition for the Australian Bush Poetry champion, I will not enter.

I am very disappointed as I was really looking forward to the event, but I can not bring myself to go to a competition of this level that I believe could be won by anyone who has a good voice and memory and uses other Poet's talents. SO WHO NEEDS POETS?:

It seems strange that the only competition that the ABPA claims as it's own can be won by a RECITER OF VERSE!

Yours in bush poetry

Kev J Barnes
"The Legend"

Festival of Australian Bush Poetry.
Charters Towers.

Tuesday - Thursday 1 - 3rd May - 2001 - Written and Performance sections for all ages.

Guest Poets: John Major & Bob Burgess.

Enquiries : 07 4787 2409 - 07 4787 2944 after hours - fax 07 4787 1439

P O Box 797. Charters Towers Qld 4820

Dear Editor:

Just kick started the year with a visit to Bungendore Country Muster so I thought a short report for the ABPA magazine would be a great way to start the year.

Bungendore Country Muster-4.2/2001.

Special celebrations were the order of the day at Tony and Miles Flanagan's "Elmslea Homestead" during this years Bungendore Country Muster. Always a serenely beautiful spot to perform, (The Poet's Breakfasts are held there annually), the year 2001 saw the dedication of the newly constructed "Elmslea Pavilion" a purpose built space and reception/function venue.

Opened by local MP and Poet, Peter Webb (also known to his friends as Barry) the new pavilion was quickly commandeered by MC Frank Daniel and his featured artists, Blue the Shearer, Warren Bishop and Vivienne Sawyer who kept the audience begging for more.

Saturday night saw a special opening concert for the venue where featured Poets interspersed with local musicians and the popular folk duo "Us Not Them" entertained the crowds. The Saturday breakfast was attended by approx 250 - 300 punters who heard the wares of a gaggle of Poets including, Cass Van Loon, Barry Martin, Laurie McDonald, Ted Webber, John Lay, Barry Cole, Terry Regan, Barry Lake, Margarite, Clare Reed, Arthur Garner, Lenny Morris, Dave Myers, Lorraine McCrimmon, Chris McGinty, Sid Reynolds, MJ and others. (Sorry I didn't catch all the names). I even managed a little spiel myself. My advice, put it on next years Calendar,

Yours

Graeme Johnson.

The Editor:

ABPA

Re: Naked Poet's At Tamworth Country Music Festival.

The Naked Poets were again treated to sellout audiences at the Tamworth Gold Club this year. The challenge of writing and performing a new night show each year is a big one, but we were elated with the response from our fans and we look forward to doing the same again next year. The hits of the show was Bobby Miller's performance of "Once A Jolly Geisha" - Shirley Friend's "Underarm Hair Removal Tragedy" and Pat Drummond's "Marilyn Monroe Was A Size 14".

As well as the five night shows, and due to popular demand, we did four completely distinct "Naked Poet's Best Bits" lunch-time shows which also were filled to capacity and enticed a lot of "first timers" to a poetry/comedy venue. The addition of comedians Alan Glover and S Sorensen may have had some Poetry stalwarts up in arms, but we figured diversity maintains interest for both the audience and the performers. Who knows next year we may have a chainsaw juggler (if the bloody when'll start).

This year also saw The Naked Poet's receive two of the four awards at the Bush Laureate awards for The Best Album and Best Single Recorded Performance Of The Year for "The Other Home Bush Games". I would also take this opportunity to thank all those Poets and their families and friends who have supported us from our modest beginnings by manning doors, and just being there in general. We really do hope those of you who know the journey we have taken realise how much you are appreciated, and although it is often difficult to thank each helper personally, we offer talk of how lucky we are to receive both your assistance and mate ship.

It has been so exciting to see other shows like "Sex Lies & Poetry" getting off the ground and attracting strong audiences. If Poets begin to team and produce quality shows in quality venues, then the audience, all be it slowly at first, will come in quality numbers.

Marco Giori

The Naked Poets

O'Mara's High Country Poets

O'Mara's Hotel in Stanthorpe will open it's doors for the third year to all the fun of the High Country Poets, from Friday evening, 16th March through to Sunday 18th March. The big competition day will be St Patrick's Day, Saturday 17th. The prize money offered in this Performance Bush Poetry Contest is the biggest around and has been increased this year to a total of \$2,650.00

Four sections include Junior, Novice, Open Traditional & Open Original. The first place prize for the Open Original is \$1000.00. Two extra awards are judged throughout all four 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 poem in any section. This year the event has been extended to include: "Meet The Poets" session in the Public bar on Friday evening 16th March. "Breakfast With The Poets" was very popular last year, and will be held again at 8.00 am on Sunday 18th. The cost is \$11.00 per person. Booking by 15th March at O'Mara's if possible. An "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 on 07 4683 7179 or from O'Mara's Hotel on 07 4681 1044.

New Bush Poetry Groups:

Two new Bush Poetry groups are about to be launched in South East Queensland. The first will be at 7.00 pm on the first Friday of each month. Starting on 2nd March at the "Point of View Café" 1 Main Road, Wellington Point. Telephone 07 3824 8589 or 07 3824 1790.

The second will be at "Vino's Wine Bar", Stewart's Hotel, Alexandra Headland's on the first and third Mondays of the month starting up on the 3rd Monday in March.

More info available from Rick Kay 07 5443 1811.

W.F.

"Palma Rosa Poets Live"

Double CD. Featuring 15 Poets and Singer/Songwriter Mark Tempny. Available through the English Speaking Union - 9 Queens Road - Hamilton - Brisbane Q 4007 or P O Box 1 - Lutwyche Q 4030. Cost is \$30.00 - per double CD plus \$3.50 postage. A total of \$33.50.

Featured artists include: Trisha Anderson, Carmel Dunn, Graham Fredriksen, Wally Finch, Bill Hay, Anita Hendrie, George Lovejoy, Bobby Miller, Stuart Nivison, Glenny Palmer, Robert Raftery, Anita Reed, Noel Stallard, Ron Selby, Milton Taylor and Mark Tempny.

The money raised from the sale of this great double CD goes towards the ongoing upkeep and restoration of the beautiful "Palma Rosa", headquarters of the English Speaking Union, at Hamilton in Brisbane.

Regular Monthly Events

If you are passin' by - call in and say giddy.....

Queensland:

- 1st Mon Bon Amici's Restaurant & Coffee Shop. Margaret Street, TOOWOOMBA. Ron Selby 07 4630 1106
1st Thurs Red Kettle Folk Club. Mapleton Hotel, MAPLETON 8.30 - 11.00pm Poetry & Music Jacqueline Bridle 07 5478 6263
1st Sat Poets & Musicians @ Eumundi Markets in Courtyard outside Rob's Bakery. Elizabeth 07 5449 1991
1st Sun & 3rd Sun North Pine Bush Poets. North Pine Country Markets, 9.00am @ Dad & Dave's Billy Tea & Damper. 07 3285 2845 or 07 3886 1552
2nd Thurs & 4th Thurs Golden Pen Poets. Old Gympie Town Hall. GYMPIE. 7.00pm. Phil Morrison, 07 5486 1171
2nd Sat Bundeburg Poets Society Inc. Joan Lane 07 4152 9624 or Sandy Lees 07 4151 4631
Last Wed Millmerran Bush Poetry Group. 7.00pm. Millmerran Bakery. "The Legend" Kev Barnes 07 4695 4209
Every Wed Writers in Townsville. 7.30pm, Hodel Room City Library, Thuringowa Drive, THURINGOWA. Phil Heang 07 4773 4223
Every Wed Matilda Country Caravan Park, WINTON, evenings 'Pinki & her Pee Wee Poets.
1st & 3rd Wed Kilcoy Unplugged, 7.00pm. Kilcoy Gardens Restaurant. Gold Coin Entry. Graham 07 5497 1045
1st Friday every month. 7.00pm. "The Point of View Café" Main Road Wellington Point. Rob 0419 786 269

New South Wales:

- 1st Tues Tugarah Lakes Poetry Group. 7.00pm The Entrance Leagues Club. 3 Bay Village Rd, Bateau Bay. Joan Johnson 02 4332 5318, Judy Stanton 02 4388 5972
1st Thurs North by Northwest Poetry & Folk Club. 7.30pm Cornucopia Café. (Grounds Old Gladesville Hospital - off Punt Rd-follow signs). Graeme Johnson 02 9874 7653 or Jenny Carter 02 9887 1856 or 0412 222 690
1st Sun Poet's in the Making. 12 - 4.00pm Performance Workshop, Casula Powerhouse, 1 Casula St, Casula. David Price 02 9825 0402
2nd Mon Parakeet's Poets, Katoomba. Parakeet Café @ 7.00pm. Katoomba St, Katoomba. Denis Kevans 02 4757 3119
2nd Tues Hunter Bush Poets. 7.00pm, Tarro Hotel, Anderson Dr, Tarro. Bob Skelton 02 4953 2751
2nd Wed Dorrigo Mountain Top Poets, 7.00pm, April, June, August, October. Murray 02 6657 2139
2nd Thurs Tamworth Poetry Reading Grp. 8.00pm, unit 2, 8 Illoura St, Tamworth. Keith 02 6766 4164. Maureen 02 6765 6067
2nd Fri The Monaro Leisure Club, 7.00pm, Vale St Cooma. Bush Poetry & Country Music. Elaine 02 6454 3128
2nd Sat Poets in the Club. Urunga Golf Club, 1 - 4.00pm, 12 May, 14 July, 13 Oct. Maureen 02 6568 5269
2nd Sun "Interludes" Ashfield Civic Centre, Ashfield. Joyce Dempsey 02 9797 7575
3rd Thurs Wollondilly Regional FAW Writers. 7.30pm, "The Hideaway" Davison Ln, Picton. Liz 02 4677 2044. Vince 02 4684 1704
3rd Fri Junee Bush Poetry Group. 7.30pm, Junee Community Centre. Brian Beasley PO Box 82 Junee. 02 6924 1317
4th Tues Poet's in the Pub with Grafton Live Poet's Society. Roches Hotel, 7.30pm. John Walker 02 6555 8122
4th Wed Inverell Wednesday Writers, 7.30pm, Empire Hotel. Ida Morse 02 6722 2425
4th Thurs Queanbeyan Bush Poets. Poet's lane, Queanbeyan. David Meyers 02 6286 1891
2nd last Mon The Mid-Coast Sundowners - Bush Poets meet in a private home. Reid 02 6554 9788. Phil 02 6552 6389 for details of venue each month
Last Tues Spaghetti Poetry Group. Gee Wong Restaurant, 197 Mann St Gosford. Dinner @ 6.30pm. Poetry @ 7.30pm. Bob & Ester Sennett 02 4325 2590
Last Thurs Writers on the River, 7.00pm, Caddies Coffee Shop, 2 - 3 Castlereagh St Penrith. Brian Bell 02 4739 2219
Last Fri Kangaroo Valley Folk Music Club. Bush Poets welcome. Carl Leddy re venue 02 4465 1621
Last Sat Australian Christian Writers Fellowship, Hunter Div, Morisset Baptist Church Hall, 1.30 - 4.00pm. J Bray 11 Rhodes Pde, Windermere Park 2264
Every 2nd Fri-Pheasants Hut Folk Club. Bundeena. Yuri 02 9527 0955 or 0419 412 093
Monthly Top of the Murray Poets & Bush Storytellers. Jan Lewis 02 6077 4332
Every 2 months on 2nd Sat Cornucopia Café, 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. "Arch" Bishop 02 9625 7245

Victoria

- 1st Mon Kyabram & District Bush Verse Gr, every 2nd Month, Kyabram Fauna Park, 7.30pm. Mick Coventry 03 5853 2265
6 weekly, Thurs Gippsland Bush Poets. Rosedale Hotel, 7.30pm. Dennis Carstairs 03 5145 6128

South Australia

- 3rd Wed South Australian Bush Poets. 7.30pm, Alma Pub Long Room, Willunga. Maurie O'Brien 08 8326 8788
Last Tues Whyalla Writers Group. Colby Maddigan 08 8645 1771

Western Australia

- 1st Fri WA Bush Poets & Yarnspinners, 7.30pm, Raffles Hotel, Canning Bridge. Rusty Christensen 08 9364 4491

**Don't Forget the change of date
and location of the Australian
Bush Poetry Championships.**

**See the article elsewhere in this
newsletter for details.**

New South East Brisbane Venue

On the first Friday of every month you can join in the poetry group at "The Point of View Café" at the point of - yes - Wellington Point. It is situated on Main Road Wellington Point and starts at 7.00pm.. If you need more information - call Rob Spence on 0419 786 269

The Electronic Age is Here

Are you on the internet? Are cyber-minded? Do you email your friends?

Then we would like to offer you the monthly magazine through cyber space. That's right. If you are interested in having our monthly publication emailed to you, all we need is your email address. I'm not sure if this is a first for Bush Poetry organisations, but anyhow, we think it is a good idea. Not only that - it will save the association a few dollars every month and you will have it the same day as the publisher gets it.. And of course you can store it on your hard-drive or even print it out if you want to keep a hard copy. If you need to know more, just drop me an -- that's right -- email..

Editor.

In Brisbane for the weekend? Check out if it's either the 1st or 3rd Sunday and if it is come on out to the North Pine Bush Poets day at the North Pine Country Markets. Held at Dad & Dave's Billy Tea and Damper it usually gets away at 10.00 am and ends about 12.00 noon. Come along and join us and hear some real good performers. You can even join in if you want to.

Editor



Contact details for your new Editor:

Telephone #'s 0408 486820 - 07 3348 6820 (a/h)

Postal address: P O Box 5208 - Manly Qld 4179

Email: bbliss@hotmail.net.au

(as this is my private email address could all emails please state in the "subject" - ABPA).

All contributions are welcome. Send to an above address.

Your new editor - Bernie Bliss. Located - Manly on Brisbane's Bayside.

Short History..

Member of North Pine Poets,

ex Professional Firefighter of 20 years.

Scuba Diving Instructor for 10 years.

Currently a Real Estate Consultant, (fancy name for a salesman).

Writes & performs own works only.,

Be Seein' Ya

Hooroo now! Be seein' ya! I'm on me way old mate
't hang 'round and yap today, Some blokes waitin' at the gate
He's a funny sort of codger, I ain't seen him before
He's got a long white dress on, and he's got long hair what's more.
And 'struth! The gate is all lit up, like Luna Park at night
It musta cost a bob or two, (I suppose they'll come the bite?),
This joker says "Come in John", (now how'd he know me name),
He said "We all know 'bout you, your life and all your fame".

"You've been a balladeer," he says, "Not me" I says "You're wrong".
"I've been a rouser in the shed, at Burke and Corryong".
"I've humped the bluey, been around, I've shanked it far and near,"
"I've told a yarn and lied a bit, but I ain't no Bally-deer".
Then the bloke who works the gate, he said his name was Pete,
He gives a sort of grin and says, "there's people here to meet".
"There's a Mister Lawson and Patterson, Mr Dennis too,
"Great Poets of Australia, they're waiting here for you.

"I know the blokes you're talking of", I says "but they've all gone",
"They cashed their chips a long while back, something must be wrong",
And then you know it dawned on me, all in a sort of flash,
This dying' caper it ain't real good, I think I've done me dash,
But before I join the Geebung Mob, and Ginger Mick, Doreen,
I'll think of all the people, I've met and where I've been,
My pals at Yarrawonga, at Tamworth, we'd fun,
At Corryong, Kyabram and on the Poets Run

So hooroo mates, I'm through the gate, but think of me each day,
My name is John Johanson, and I won't be far away.

By Grahame "Skew" Watt:

I have read some good poetry in my time, I think that this is a ripper.
Editor:

Bush Poets At The EKKA

The Australian Bush Poets have again been invited to perform at the EKKA.

The Brisbane Royal Show and Exhibition, (alias "The EKKA"), is held each year in August.

The Bush Poets have been performing for the past three years in the wool pavilion to enthusiastic audiences.

We have been invited again this year and I am asking for any interested Poets to please contact me. Once I receive the days and times, I shall work out a roster - we will probably have 15 minute segments 5 or 6 times daily.

When are you available??

Thursday 9th August -
Saturday 18th August.

Please contact:
Trisha Anderson
113 Manson Road,
Hendra Qld 4011
or Fax 07 3268 3624

N.S.W Bush Poetry Championships - 2001

With a strong line up of entries and participants in the NSW Bush Poetry Championship events at the Tulmut RSL Club on April 20th - 21st & 22nd, the organisers have put together the best event of its kind in the Snowy Mountains region. Champion poets, mainly from NSW & Victoria will be competing for \$1000 in prize money & \$1000 value in beautiful trophies. Championship performance sections will be held from 10.00 am on Saturday, 21st & Sunday 22nd. Admission is free to these sessions. Registration of competition entrants is at 7.00 pm Friday 21st & will be followed by one of the many highlights, a Country Music Concert. This will commence at 8.00 pm. There will also be a Gala Concert at 8.00 pm on Saturday night & the presentations on Sunday night. Poet's Breakfasts will be offered on each weekend morning at 7.30 am to 9.00 am. All prices for the weekend are affordable.

Many thanks must go to those who have volunteered time to assist with many chores attached to these events. The invitation to help out is still available so if you can spare a few hours, please let us know.

Details contact Neil Humm, 36 Cheyenne Drive. Lavington, NSW 2641
or telephone/fax 02 6025 3845

Two Weeks To Spare

They did a roaring trade in folding chairs at Tamworth.
People carried forth everywhere.
In the streets and in the parks they tarried.
We were glad we had two weeks - to spare.

There were entertainers busking on street corners;
Some with music, some with poems to share;
Award winners and various other talent.
We were glad we had two weeks - to spare.

Enthusiasm and happiness explode.
The boot scooting really made us stare!
Line Darling sure appeals to thousands.
We were glad we had two weeks - to spare.

We drove home exhausted ----absolutely.
'Twas good we'd seen much talent-some so rare.
We've booked, again next year to go to Tamworth
We hope we'll find two weeks again - to spare.

© Jill Perren 9 February 2001

2001 "Great Dunny Classic"

Bush Poetry Competition will be held at the Dunedoo Golf Club on the 17th March 2001 at 7.30 pm. 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 the 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 & 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

Finalist - Australian Bush Laureate - Album of the Year 2001

"Australian Bush Poetry" with Trish Anderson.

Cassette - \$15.00 - Postage - \$2.50

Contact Trish Anderson - 113 Manson Road - Hendra - Brisbane Q Telephone/fax 07 3268 3624

The Product Shelf:

Product Shelf Advertisements: \$5.00 for Two Monthly Newsletter Spots:
How good a bargain is that?

Reversals

Poems by Ron Stevens, also **Identity &
A Lighter Touch Of History.**

(All poems included are prize winners.)

Cost \$12.00 each or \$30.00 for all three.

Prices includes packaging & postage.

How cheap is that?

Contact:

Ron Stevens 14 Eden Park Avenue, Dubbo NSW 2830

"Bush Humour"

Neil Humm's latest book of bush poetry.
\$10.00 (includes postage).

Available from:

Neil Humm

361 Cheyenne Drive,

Lavington NSW 2641

Ph/Fax: 02 6025 3845

You've read the books (or you should have!)

I Hope Yer Sheep Get Flyblown

&

Always Wear Clean Knickers.

Now listen to the tape: **"Where's Eulo?"**

(and it's nowhere near Kyabram, Skew Wiff!)

Books & tapes available from.

Janine Haig, "Moama" Eulo Qld 4491.

\$12.00 each, \$20.00 for 2, \$30.00 for 3: P.P

"Of War And Other Things"

\$15.00

"Little Red Book"

\$10.00

plus \$1.25 postage.

Joye Dempsey

P O Box 257

Croydon Park. NSW 2133

or Telephone: 02 9797 7575

"On The Lighter Side"

Humorous Verses and other Light Reading by Keith Ireland

\$12.00 plus postage:

165 Kerrigan Street

North Rockhampton Qld 4701

Want to sell your Books, CD's or Tapes?

Then place an advert in your magazine: If ya got something to sell, ya gotta tell the buyers. If ya don't - how will anyone know that they are for sale.

Quite simple ain't it!

Man From Snowy River Bush Festival

Friday 6th - Sunday 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 Patterson 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 station on horseback through the 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 miles).

The 'Man From Snowy River' challenge to find the modern 'Man' has real bush action with bareback obstacle, whip-cracking, shoeing, brumby catching and buck jumping over three spectacular days. Add to these a street parade, Art & Photography, family Food, 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 \$5.00 each. Juniors \$1.00 each with a closing adte of March 7th 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 old
6. \$300 Jack Riley Heritage Award for best original Bush Poetry/Yarn/Music/Skit in MFSR theme (not chosen from other sections).
7. \$300 Clancey's Choice Award for best overall performance at Festival. (Points, no sections entered & at least 3).
8. \$200 Banjo Patterson's 'Man From Snowy River'. Entry on tape notified by March 31st to perform.

Written Section (Judged prior to Festival)

9. \$200 Open Original.
10. \$50 Junior

Entry \$1.00 per entry.

All work to be based on Australian theme (Section 6, MFSR theme).

The competition will be on Saturday, but plenty of opportunities for walk-ups during three Poet's Breakfasts & the 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 on 02 6077 4332 or email poetfarm@corryong.albury.net.au

Entry forms and colour festival flyer from The Man From Snowy River Bush Festival.

(website at www.corryong.albury.net.au/mfsrbf) P O Box 144 (76 Hanson Street) Corryong, Victoria 3707. Telephone 02 6076 1992 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 Humm and is entirely separate from the official MFSR poetry categories.

Towers Poetry Fest.

The 3rd Annual Festival of Australian Bush Poetry is being hosted by the Gold City Bush Poets from Tuesday to Thursday 1 - 3rd May - 2001. While final plans are almost complete, it is anticipated that more than \$1000.00 in cash prizes and trophies will be on offer for the various sections with all age groups catered for.

The program will entail a 'Meet & Greet' evening, Bush Poets Breakfasts, (2), Workshop, Competitions and Performances. Professional Poets, Bill Burgess of Cairns and John Major from Baralaba have been engaged for the event - both blokes well credentialed in the 'art' of performance and entertaining.

Special attention will be directed to school aged students for written verse, with a number taking in a workshop.

A number of venues will include the Stock Exchange courtyard, Dalrymple Stadium (sale yards), RSL Club and at St Patrick's Hotel. The Gold City Poets are confident of receiving ample patronage from Poets, visitors and local residents to ensure a successful venture. Entries for the written sections will close 18th April, performance sections 1st May. Enquiries can be directed to Gold City Poets, P O Box 797 Charters Towers Qld 4820 or telephone Arthur on 07 4787 2409 or Sandra 07 4787 2944 after

Millmerran Bush Poets Group.

The 5th Annual Millmerran Bush Poets Group Round-up will take place on 31st August, 1st & 2nd September - 2001. The Yallambee Retirement Village, Millmerran will benefit from the proceeds.

The round-up will commence on Friday 31st at 7.00 pm a Bar B Q and Yarn-spinning competition at Blandy's Tavern, Millmerran. The cost of the nights entertainment is \$5.00 per head. This includes a steak burger. Entry into the competition is \$5.00 and there is a trophy plus \$100.00 for the winner. This part of the round-up is open to all-comers. You only have to be able to spin a good yarn.

Saturday 1st in the Millmerran Cultural Centre starting at 9.00 am. We will run the Novice & Intermediate categories in both Traditional & Original bush verse. The Duo competition will be followed by the Open Female heats & a lunch break, (sausage sizzle & drinks available). After the heats in the Original, Traditional & Humorous bush verse, the Open Male heats will commence.

Saturday at 7.00 pm at Blandy's Tavern, the Open Male heats will be completed and we will hold a State Of Origin show. . There is a \$5.00 entry fee for this for non-performers. There is no charge for the events being held in the Cultural Centre.

On Sunday at 9.00 am at Blandy's Tavern we will hold the Poet's Breakfast which will be our normal hot meal for a cost of only \$5.00 per head. The Open Female and Male finals will follow. Last but not least will be the Poet's Brawl. The Round-up culminating with the trophy presentations. There will be cash prizes, trophies and certificates in the Open categories, Yarn-spinning and Over-All Champion. (who will be selected from the Open Competition).

Major sponsors this year include; **Blandy's Tavern, Millmerran Shire Council & Stan & Kate Gorton.** Feature Poets this year include Mark Feldman, Wally Finch, Gary Fogarty & Kev Barnes. There will not be a Junior performance competition this year but a written competition will be run instead. It will carry certificates and cash prizes for the three place-getters.

Please book accommodation early. The Millmerran Hotel is booked out and there is no B & B. It has closed. The Millmerran Caravan Park has powered and un-powered sites, o'night vans & cabins. Call Dawn or Kev on 07 4695 1572. The Ram's Head Hotel, now under new management, has been cleaned up, doors fixed but again has only limited single & twin rooms. Call Ken or Margaret on 07 4695 1488. The Millmerran Village Caravan Park has SC cabins, o'night vans, powered & un-powered sites. Call Phill or Bernadette on 07 4695 1332. Blandy's is next to the Millmerran Village Caravan Park. Any enquiries call Kev Barnes on 07 4695 4209. See you at the Round-up.

Signed Kev J Barnes. "The Legend"

What's a gunna happen 'round the traps!

Waltzing Matilda Junior Bush Poetry Festival

Friday 6th April - 2001.

Contact 'The Organiser' P O Box 84

Hughenden Qld 4821

Man From Snowy River Festival

6th - 8th April - 2001.

The Man From Snowy River Challenge - horse event over 3 days, Riley's Ride, novelty events, lots of family fun - Telephone 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 call/fax Jan Lewis 02 6077 4332

or email poetfarm@corryong.albury.net.au

Festival Of Australian Bush Poetry

Presented by 'Gold City Country Music Club Inc' & 'Gold City Bush Poets' of Charters Towers.

Tentative dates:

Tuesday 1st May to Thursday 3rd May 2001.

Program will include 2 Bush Poets Breakfasts, Workshops.

Contact Arthur on 07 4787 2944 (after hours).

Fax 07 4787 1439:

EULO Annual Mothers Day Fair:

12 - 13 May - 2001

Written & Performance Poetry Competition for adults, primary & secondary children. \$1500 in prizes money plus trophies. In augural "Dangerous" Dan Smith Memorial Trophy. Written competition closes at the end of March. Enquiries: Janine Haig, "Moama" Eulo Qld 4491. Telephone: 07 4655 4862 Fax 07 4655 4901. email janinehaig@bigpond.com Put the date on your calendars and come and see that Eulo really does exist!

Category 1: Junior; secondary School Students

Category 2: Junior; Primary School Students

Category 3: Open; Serious Traditional Original

Category 4: Open; Humorous Traditional or Modern

Category 5: Open; Serious Original

Category 6: Open; Humorous Original

Category 7 Open; Yarn-spinning

New Members:

If you know someone who may like to be a member of our association, send their name to us and we will send them a complimentary copy of our magazine. They do not have to be writers or Poets, just some one who enjoys Bush Poetry and maybe attending our competitions. The more members we have the better our association will be.

Better still - if you know their email address, forward that and we will surprise them with an emailed version.

Help make our membership bigger - spread the word.

New South East Brisbane Venue

On the first Friday of every month you can join in the poetry group at "The Point of View Café" at the point of - yes - Wellington Point. It is situated on Main Road Wellington Point and starts at 7.00pm.. If you need more information - call Rob Spence on 0419 786 269

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: P O Box 372 Tenterfield NSW. Telephone 02 6736 1082.

The Ludwig Leichhardt Pageant Fun Day 2001:

Sunday 30th May - 2001:

Written Competition open to adults. Unpublished poem not exceeding 50 lines. Closing date is Sunday 29th April - 2001: Topic - "Ludwig Leichhardt in the Bush". Please keep a copy of your poem and put personal details (ie: name, address phone/fax) on a separate sheet. Judged independently and announced at the Fun Day. Entries to: Cecil Plains Homestead 'Leichhardt Poetry Competition' Cecil Plains, Qld 4407.

Bundaberg Poet's Society Inc:

Bush Lantern award for best verse 2001.

Entry forms available from:

Mr Ross Keppel, Bundaberg Poet's Society Inc., P O Box 4281, South Bundaberg Qld 4670.

Entries close for written competition on May 31st 2001:

Bundaberg Poet's Society Inc:

Presents the Bundy Bush Poetry Muster
on July 6th - 8th, 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 any intermediate competition.

Entry forms available from:

Bundaberg Poet's Society Inc.,
P O Box 4281, South Bundaberg Qld 4670.

Enquiries: John & Sandy on 07 4151 4631

If you have any news worthy items about our members, send it to us. WE need to know what is going on around the place and we also need to know what our members are up to.

Harry ----- is publishing a new book, George ----- is touring Victoria and is looking for bookings. Anything, let us know and we will publish. Just send us an email or letter.....

Waltzing Matilda Bush Poetry Festival:

Friday 29th June - Monday 2nd July - 2001:

QANTAS - Waltzing Matilda Championships, Christina McPherson Novice Awards, Australian Bush Yarn-spinning Championships, Novelty Poetry Events & Concerts. This event is the highlight of the Queensland Bush Poetry Calendar and Winton puts on a great welcome for all comers. For more information contact:

The Organiser: P O Box 84, Hughenden Qld 4821 :

\$2001 in 2001

Tenterfield Oracles of the Bush -
Legendary Masters

19 - 22nd April 2001

Featuring "The Naked Poets"

Federation Year in Tenterfield will be huge with \$2001 in prize money.

Barrington Estate "The Banjo" Looming
Legend Poetry Competition

Applications P O Box 372

Tenterfield NSW 2372

OLD BOOKS WANTED

Have had a request from person who collects old books to ask around amongst our members if they have any old "Australian Nautical" books that they wish to sell. If you have some that he may be interested, send the details to: The Editor P O Box 5208 Manly Qld 4179.

Australian Bush Poets Association Inc
P O Box 5208
Manly Q 4179 March 2001
Print Post PP 242018/0013

Surface
mail

Postage
Paid

Cay Fletcher
2 Kawana Ave
Blue Haven NSW 2262

A Lost Moment in Time.

It was on December 23 - 1900 that an announcement was carried in *Perth Morning Herald* that one Mr. P.F. Pelly, or Major Pelly had died from the affects of poison, self administered, but taken by mistake. Major Pelly was reputed to be none other than the infamous or famous, which ever way you may view him, Captain Starlight. This notorious bushranger roamed and terrorised the area of Northern New South Wales and Queensland in the mid-1800's. Captain Starlight had an amazing history. He was convicted of murder, was sentenced to hang, had this changed to life imprisonment, and later in life after another prison term ended up in Western Australia. The book, "Robbery Under Arms" by *Rolf Boldrewood* immortalised Captain Starlight and although many were sure that "Pelly" was "Starlight", a great deal of mystery surrounded the man. But "Lost Moment in Time", remembers that the supposed "Starlight" died accidentally by his own hand, just 100 years ago last December.

Join the Australian Bush Poets Association Inc

The Australian Bush Poets Association Inc was formed at a meeting in January 1994 at the Tamworth Country Music 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 form and as published verse. * Encourage competitions, both written and spoken.

Please complete the form below and send with payment to the ABPA Secretary.

Membership Application Form: I wish to become a member of the ABPA Inc. Please use block letters.

Name: _____

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). 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 is January to December.