

The Australian Bush Poets Association Inc

Monthly Newsletter:
8 - August 2001



2001 Qantas Waltzing Matilda Australian Bush Poetry Championships

We wish to give a huge thank you to everyone who made the weekend an outstanding success. We were overwhelmed with the support and co-operation from Competitors, the Audience, Judges, comperes, Volunteers and many others who contributed to three days of exceptional Bush Poetry that would have made Banjo shiver in his boots !

Congratulations to all the competitors and the winners and may we see you, and many more of your friends, next year.

Results are as follows.

Junior - 10 years & under:	<i>Winner:</i>	Julian Luke, Clermont
	<i>Runner-up:</i>	Jack Kennedy, Winton
Junior - 11 - 17 years:	<i>Winner:</i>	Sunny Mutton, Winton
	<i>Runner-up:</i>	Holly Mutton, Winton
Junior Encouragement award:		Jack Kennedy, Winton
Junior Encouragement medals:		Sarah Sorensen, Winton
Larrikin award:		Gary Lowe, Berkeley Vale
Federation Frolics:	<i>First:</i>	The Wild & Woolly, Weird & Wonderful, Winton Federation
	<i>Second:</i>	Federation Freaks
	<i>Third:</i>	2 Pot Screamers
Individual Frolic Medals:		Fairy Best Costume - John Best
		Best rendition of an original Cats theme song - Sunny Mutton
		Best recovery - Mark Neilsen
		Perpetual idiot award - Graham Dean
Waltzing Matilda Award:		Carmel Dunn, Warwick
Australian Bush Yarn-spinning awards:		<u>20 - 50 Years:</u>
	<i>First:</i>	Tony Strauss, Tamum Sands
	<i>Second:</i>	Anita Hendrie, Brisbane
	<i>Third:</i>	Graham Dean, Prairie
		<u>50 - 70 years:</u>
	<i>First:</i>	John Rennick,
	<i>Second:</i>	Milton Taylor, Portland
	<i>Third:</i>	Frank Daniel, Canowindra
		<u>70 plus years:</u>
	<i>First:</i>	Mary Hodgson, Brisbane
	<i>Second:</i>	Billy Hay, Brisbane
Christina MacPherson Novice Awards:		
	<i>Female winner:</i>	Lisa Johnson, Winton
	<i>Female runner-up:</i>	Mary Hodgson, Brisbane
	<i>Male winner:</i>	Geoff Beach, Falls Creek
	<i>Male runner-up:</i>	Brian Perren, Brisbane

Qantas - Waltzing Matilda Australian Bush Poetry Championships:

<i>Female winner:</i>	Carmel Dunn, Warwick
<i>Female runner-up:</i>	Jennifer Haig, Julia Creek
<i>Male winner:</i>	Milton Taylor, Portland
<i>Male runner-up:</i>	Garry Lowe, Berkeley Vale

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(as this is my private address please name subject ABPA)
DEADLINE DAY - 17th day of each month.

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ABPA MEMBERSHIP

\$25 per annum, January -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 a first years subscription of \$25. (see page 10 for a membership application form).



Giddy - Isn't it great to see some new faces coming through and winning some of the performance competitions. Being an occasional performer myself, I know how frustrating it can be when the same people get up and win all the time.

Now don't get me wrong, I love to listen to them and I think that their poetry is absolutely first class and is worthy of the prizes that they get. BUT - maybe now,

with all of the "Fulltime Professionals" that we have doing the circuits, it is time to have a class for these performers and another class for the run-of-the-mill bloke who gets to only a couple of competitions a year. I know we have the 'novice' events for the beginners. I am talking about a class for the bloke who may have won a novice competition 10 years ago, 15 years ago, but has won something and is now - completely outclassed by the professionals. I don't think I am being unfair to the professionals, there is still a terrific amount of competitions out there. BUT I feel that for those performers who are at it every weekend, and most likely doing paid sessions a couple of times during the week, there is a grossly unfair advantage over the "occasional" performer. Is there any harm in having a "Professional" section. Have it the best prize money. Have it with the best trophy. Have it the highlight of the gathering - I don't mind, but lets get a class in there that recognises the little guy. **They are our backbone!**

I would love to have comments from members regarding this subject to publish as '*letters to the editor*' or even just send me something that is not for publication, but comments would be appreciated.

This month you will see that there is no "application to join" form in the publication. There is a loose leaf one. Reason - you can now pass it on to a friend to join our association without having to destroy your magazine. So - don't just ~ "*Wow - what a great idea*". Get out and give it to someone. Remember the vision that someone had an issue or two back. Let's get 500 members this year..... **Regards Bernie/Editor**

President's Report:



G'day Everyone,

The National Championships at Winton was, as Winton always is, a wonderful experience for those who could get there. Congratulations to the winners and a hearty well done to those

who took part. Without any intention of discrediting those who won (which can't be done), there were so many real champions among those who competed and any one of them would have done us proud as an outstanding representation of Australia's finest at Elko - USA. A more detailed report will come soon but the Australian Champions and Runners-up were:

Men - Milton Taylor & Garry Lowe
Women - Carmel Dunn & Jennifer Haig.

In spite of the huge distances involved, people came from many interesting parts of Australia to be part of this event and that kind of commitment shows the level of enthusiasm there is for bush poetry all over Australia. They came from Western Australia, Tasmania, Northern Territory. I spoke to a bloke from Marble Bar.

Some requests were made which I could not answer and hope there is someone who could help.

The first is:

Does anyone know the story behind the familiar willow pattern which is often seen on crockery? I remember hearing as a boy but have since forgotten.

The second is:

Who knows any poets in Tasmania? A lady from there asked me to find some while we were at Winton.

Have a great month

Keep on preserving our Kulcha:

Wally Finch
President.

Back to the Bush

Bush Dancing & Bush Poetry
Mooloolah Hall Saturday August 14 - 2001

Entry - Gold Coin plus a plate to share for luch.
Tea & Coffee supplied

Contact - Mary Hodgson
for more information 07 5494 7260

TOYOTA
National Country Music
MUSTER 2001

Location -: Amamoor State Forest via Gympie

Dates-: Tues 22nd – Sun 26th August 2001

BUSH POETRY EVENTS

Bush Poetry Breakfasts hosted this year by Marco Gliori, Neil McCarthur, Gary Fogarty, and The Naked Poets.

Naked Poets Concert and launch of the 'Naked Poets Live Vol 3' album.

Poets Brawl 1 minute poetry competition. Enter on the day. The first 25 entries drawn on the night perform. (No-one missed out last year.) Great Prizes.

The Musterbeenbloodygood Poetry Award. An opportunity over two series of heats for Muster campers and Poets to perform a poem in the general format of a Poets Breakfast (1 poem). Three performers from each heat (6 in total) will be invited to perform on the Sunday Musterbeenbloodygood concert where each person will be paid \$50.00 to perform a two poem bracket on Sunday, and the performer voted most entertaining on Sunday will receive a cash bonus of \$400.00 plus the inaugural 'Musterbeenbloodygood Poetry Award souvenir Trophy. Entries taken at the festival (Poets Breakfasts) from Tuesday 22nd. Those who don't make it through in the first heats are welcome to try again if there is room in the second heats.

POETRY PROGRAM DETAILS

Tues – 2 hr Poets Breakfast.

Wed – 2 hr Poets Breakfast.

Thurs - 2hr Poets Breakfast

Fri – 2 hr Poets Breakfast

Fri Lunch – Heat 1 Musterbeenbloodygood Poetry Award

Friday Night – Poets Brawl (enter on the day/great prizes)

Sat- 2 hr Poets Breakfast

Sat Lunch - Heat 2 Musterbeenbloodygood Poetry Award

Sat Night – Naked Poets Concert and album launch.

Sun- 2hr Poets Breakfast

Sun Lunch – Musterbeenbloodygood Poetry Concert and Award

Poets performing will be Marco Gliori, Neil McCarthur, Gary Fogarty, Shirley Friend, Bobby Miller, Ray Essery, Murray Hartin, Carmel Dunn, Jack Drake, Gary Lowe, Jackie Bridle, Bill Kearns.

Muster Tickets and enquiries -: 07 5482 2099

Mount Isa Writers' Association Inc.,

Details are as follows.

Open Short Story, any theme, up to 3000 words.

First Prize \$300, second prize \$100.

Bush Verse, not exceeding 60 lines, in traditional bush verse style.

First prize \$200, second prize \$50.

Open Verse. Poem in any form, on any theme, not exceeding 50 lines.

First Prize \$150, second prize \$50.

For entry forms send SSAE to:

The Secretary, Mount Isa Writers Association Inc.,

PO Box 2781, MOUNT ISA QLD 4825.]

Closing date is 31st July 2001. \$5.00 per entry or 3 for \$10.00

**All the best,
Veronica Weal**

Sunset On The Isa

I sat and watched the centre's brilliant sunset
that fired the barren hills in scarlet flame.
And once again I marveled at it's grandeur,
a picture window in a twilight frame.

And I fancied that by silent observation
I could feel the faintest heartbeat of the land,
where once the massive mouth of volcanoes
spewed forth the granite boulders in the sand.

And I, but the frailest atom in the vastness
grew still, to better hear its native tongue,
so strange at first, yet strangely familiar
relating stories from the days the world was young

Could it be that in another life span
when time was measured by a million years -
I traveled sacred grounds exploring planets
that posed no threats, anxieties or fears?

And later when the outback's fiery colours
had faded into shades of early dawn,
faint breezes stirred the sleepy air around me
announcing that another age was born.

© Corry de Hass September 1993

"On Ya Soapbox"

The Editor:

Due to lack of time and inspiration, I am forwarding a poem copied from a very old book titled "Bush Recitations 6" produced by *Bill Bowyang* who once wrote the "On the Track" column in the "Northern Queensland Register" newspaper (Townsville).

Mother, who is 91 years young, obtained the book from her Mother. My Grandmother would recite bush ballads at every opportunity and my Mother has continued the tradition and instilled a love of this genre in me.

There are no Poets named in the anthology, I imagine some of our readers may be able to put a name to this poem. Some poems are full of pathos, others are humorous as is typical of bush poetry. It surprises me how little the language has changed over the years.

I hope you may find space to include the poem in a future newsletter and that you continue to enjoy the task of editing.

Olive Dorey

The poem is called "Newchum's Farewell to Queensland" and is elsewhere in the newsletter this month. Thanks very much Olive. Ed

Dear Bernie,

As you know, I have just received my first newsletter by email, and it sure is the way to go!

It was so relaxing, sitting back watching the printer spitting out page after page, and thinking of all those still waiting for the postman.

Seriously though, I cannot recommend it too highly, and I will be watching my email closely in future around the middle of the month.

Full marks, mate!

Cheers,

Ron.A. Munro.

Dear Bernie:

Thanks for being a wonderful Editor. As an avid reader of the "Newsletter" I appreciate your skills and wish you all the best. I would like to inform ABPA members I have picked myself up and dusted myself off after two years on inclement health to organise, once more, with the support of my group of Poets & Writers on the Tweed, a fair dinkum Bush Poets Brekkie. Please refer to "what's goin' on 'round the traps"

Yours in Laughs, Lies & Tears

Lorraine Richards.

What does each Committee Member do? (plus me as the Editor of your Newsletter).

Membership applications, advertising and anything that has money attached to it - send it to our Treasurer, Rosemary Baguley. (Once Rosemary has actioned the financial part of advertising she then sends the advert on to me).

Results, poems, articles, letters to the Editor - send straight to me. This can be via mail, fax or better still - email on either Word or Publisher.

All correspondence must be sent to the Secretary, Ron Selby.

If at any time you feel the need to discuss something with one of the committee members directly, then by all means contact them if you want.

Dear Editor,

For the past four years I've been an unpaid manager of Poetry and Bush Music events at Corryong's Man From Snowy River Festival in April, because

- a. I was known to be a poet and
- b. because I live here and
- c. because I was willing.

Unfortunately, I'd had no experience in running competitions!

I suppose most of the Poetry comps around Australia are organised by similarly inexperienced, but willing people and we are all doing our best for the good of our communities (geographic as well as poetry). Good on us.

It's usually a hard and steady slog with meetings all year and mostly fairly thankless, muddling along trying to get sponsorship, prizes, media attention, working out programs, judges etc etc and any kind of help to improve our event is welcomed by me.

After this year's festival in April, I received a number of letters from entrants with constructive suggestions for next year's event, and I'd like to say that I appreciate the thoughts and consideration, not to mention the time taken to put it all in writing. Thanks fellas, and please, poets, you're the experts in knowing poetry, so don't be shy to tell organisers what they did well, what else is needed and what works well in other events.

P.S. - 2002 Man From Snowy River Festival is April 6th - 8th.

Jan Lewis email poetfarm@corryongcec.net.au

Bush Poets Get Together

The organisers of the inaugural Mid North Coast Bush Poets get together at Barbara's Café Port Macquarie would like to thank all those who attended and performed, you all made the day a huge success.

Special thanks must go to my co-organiser Rod Worthing who did most of the work by organising the great venue and most of the performers. I would also like to sincerely thank those great performers and supporters of Bush Poetry, Margaret and Ed Parmenter who traveled from Coffs Harbour to entertain the crowd with their performances, To Jordan Durbridge (9), Amber Stewart (8) And Emily Breckell-Smyth (9), congratulations on your terrific performances, it's great to see one so young performing Bush Poetry. I must thank Barbara for providing the venue and such friendly hospitality so if any one is visiting Port Macquarie I heartily recommend Barbara's Café in Short St for top tucker and great hospitality. Last but by no means least I thank all those who performed, you made the day the success it was, and by unanimous demand we are arranging another Bush Poets get together for the 18th August, I hope to see you all there for another great afternoon of Bush Poetry,

See ya then, Sam Smyth

Dear Bernie,

Well the muster has finished - hooray!!! Thought I'd give you a little paragraph on the week-end for you to print if space is available.

The Bundy Poets' Muster week-end held on July 6th, 7th & 8th saw lots of new poets entering the performance competition for the very first time. The Bush Lantern Award for written verse attracted 169 entries from all over the country as well as New Zealand. A record number of 54 poets performed their poetry over the three days at Across the Waves Sports Club. The Overall Champion Poet for the week-end was John Best from Whiteside - North Pine Poets Group, (just outside Brisbane) and the Bush Lantern winner was Ron Stevens from Dubbo for his poem "Marooned and Blue". Congratulations to both winners as well as to the winners from other sections. The Friday and Saturday night concerts were once again lots of fun and thoroughly enjoyed by those who attended. We would like to thank most sincerely the poets who traveled to Bundaberg for the week-end as your support was greatly appreciated. Thanks must also go to the judges who traveled to Bundaberg for this event, namely, Milton Taylor, Shirley Friend, Noel Stallard, Ron Selby, Trisha Anderson and Wally Finch. The support of all concerned certainly made our week-end a successful one.

Keep happy, keep smiling and above all keep writing and reciting poetry."

Results are as follows

Bush Lantern Award:

1st: Ron Stevens - "Marooned and Blue"
2nd: Ken Dean - "Spirit of Adventure":
3rd: Bronwen Hickman - "The Ballad of McNally's Pub"
" Ken Dean - "Beyond the Darling's Run"
" Brian Beesley - "Diamantina Rose"

Novice Modern :

1st - Gordon Hansen, Tiaro
2nd - Mary Hodgson, Mooloolah
3rd - Sam Dye, Bundaberg

Intermediate Original:

1st - Lynden Baxter, Calliope
2nd - Pam Fox, Beaudesert
3rd - Geoff Beach, Falls Creek

Open Traditional :

1st - John Best, Whiteside
2nd - Wally Finch, Kallangur
3rd - Carol Stratford, Woodridge

Open Modern :

1st - John Best, Whiteside
2nd - Roderick Williams, Oxley Island
3rd - Garry Lowe, Berkeley Vale

Open Original:

1st - Col Newsome, Glen Innes
2nd - Carol Reffold, Melbourne
3rd - Laree Chapman, Bundaberg

Performance Competition

Overall Champion Poet:

John Best, Whiteside
Juniors 12 - 17 years :
1st - Evan Schnalle, Rockhampton
2nd - Zoe Grills, Bundaberg

Novice Traditional:

1st - Mary Visser, Bundaberg

Novice Original:

1st - Faye Leach, Bundaberg
2nd - Pam Fox, Beaudesert
3rd - Heather McKee, North Maclean

Intermediate Traditional:

1st - Marilyn Gregory, Bundaberg
2nd - Geoff Beach, Falls Creek
3rd - Lynden Baxter, Calliope

Duo Performance :

Wally & Mary Finch, Kallangur

Dark & Stormy One Minute Cup:

1st - Ellis Campbell, Dubbo
2nd - Roderick Williams, Oxley Island
3rd - Garry Lowe, Berkeley Vale

Dear Editor:

Most Novocastrians know Bob Skelton as the "Minmi Magster". I was amused to see him referred to in the July issue as the "Minmi Master"

Please do not take this as a criticism, (Yes I do read the magazine from cover to cover). Hope you can print this poem I penned for him.

Thanks - Kathy Edwards.

"G" it made a difference.

I read it in the A.B.P.A.
It was there for all to see
The Minmi Magster is a Master
So he must have a degree.

"G" it made a difference
Bobby Skelton will agree
Now the Magster is a Master
When you delete the letter "G".

I'm sure we will hear something from the Minmi Master over these comments ?

To the Editor

I received the ABPA magazine last week and as usual took note of your editorial, in which you stated that so many poems sent in, do not fall under the heading "Bush Poetry."

It has always been my understanding, poems printed in the Bush Poets publication should have Australia as their subject and theme. But I KNOW Australia is so much more than 'bush' and 'beach.' Ours is a very spiritual country and it's poets should be free to write about any subject relating to the country as a whole.

Poetry is first and foremost about emotions and interpreting these as best we can.

A Bush Poet could live in one of the high-rises in Surfers and still write what he sees and experiences. What hold s us all together is the love we share for this country and although I am not Australian born I have been a member of the Association from the start.

When we visited Adelaide a few weeks ago, I wrote a poem about this city (I believe I sent it to you) and when we were in Mt Isa a few years ago I wrote about the most magnificent there I had ever seen. This won first prize in a competition.

I also have saved many poems published in the magazine, written by brilliant men and women, and I do miss their contributions lately. Not everyone can travel to weekend gatherings, so if any of the greats read this, please let us read some of your new work.

Who can forget Marco Gliori's poem "Tough" in which he wrote of children battling cancer, Frank Daniels "Solace", Robert Rafferty's "The Stone Walls of Windsor are Wailing Tonight" about Princess Diana's death, or Carmel Randle's "Just an Isolated Case". Helen Avery's "Love Song". I can go on and on.

If we dictate too narrow a view a lot of wonderful writing will be lost.

I've discussed the above with several poets and they agree with me. What do you poets think? Give us your views, please.

With best wishes

Corry de Haas.

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

**I like my steak so rare that a good vet
could probably save it !**

Bush Poetry Event - Woodford

The Woodford Lions Club will present a 1 - 1½ poetry event in Woodford on the third Sunday of each month commencing in May - 2001. This will coincide with the local markets. The aim is to promote and encourage both local and visiting talent in the field of Bush Poetry, as well as to bring further interest in the town of Woodford and its artistic and historical features.

The venue is **Shop # 1 - 95 Archer St, Woodford** - situated halfway between **Clews News-agency and Woodford Pharmacy** (so if the news makes you crook, grab some medicine and join the Poets for an even better cure - laughter!). Also in the same row of shops is **Jalla's Café** - where you will get some really good service for tea/coffee/cold drinks and U-beaut tucker.

The "**Lairs, Larrikins and Liar's Lunchtime Laughs & Laments**" (what a gob-full) will kick off at 10.30 am and conclude approximately 12.00 noon). Mark Feldman will host the event and will be joined by locals Pat Markey & Lance Reason, to present guest poets and encourage amateurs, veterans and young and old alike to participate in keeping this Aussie tradition alive and well.

For further information, please contact Mark Feldman on Phone/Fax 07 5496 1157 or mobile 0407 625408

"Poets on the Tweed helping local Kids in Need"

On Sunday August 26th at 8.00 am at the Tweed Head Civic Centre which is at the corner of Wharf & Brett Streets Tweed Heads NSW.

Poets on the Tweed are back after an absence of two years with a fundraiser ~ Bush Poets Brekkie.

No competitions, no prizes, just a menu jam packed with local talented original Poets, plus performers presenting other Poets work with their kind permission. Country Music & Song courtesy of the Guanaba Country Music Club from the Gold Coast. Lucky Limerick door prizes. A hot Bush Brekkie including Damper & Billy Tea.

Admission is \$6.50 per head.

Standup Bush Poets welcome on the day, time permitting, or contact Convener Lorraine Richards if you would like to be included. Phone 07 5590 9395 - write to Poets on the Tweed, 20 Scenic Drive Billambil Heights NSW 2486 - email poetry@fan.net.au

Entire profit to "Kids in Need"

Marooned and Blue

In bygone days they kept the score
and rang the bell for lemons or
the second half to start and end
Those men (and women) who'd attend
the games each week, without a fee
and lacking any stats degree
would sit adjacent to the line
on hardwood benches, rain or shine
Sometimes a wealthy club produced
a beach umbrella which reduced
the rain that fell on records, though
officials suffered sleet or snow.

Tonight I watched the telly screen
and marveled at the complex scene.
The game itself was fair enough,
with gladiators fit and tough.
But what statistics for each team'
And such an analytic stream!
The tries and goals were shown, of course
and re-played doubly for discourse
by commentators who decreed
in retrospect who had been kneed,
each forward pass and players who
had held opponents toeing through.

Squiggles, arrows, mystic signs
criss-crossed like battle-planning lines
upon each movement held on *still*
to illustrate a try Or kill.
The camera caught each sigh and frown
as from their eynes gazing down,
the coaches wired for instant sound,
transmitted orders to the ground.
Where trainers, *zambucks* in platoons
relayed instructions to *Maroons*
and *Blues* alike -- a frantic farce
upon the multi-coloured grass

A host of annalists behind
the scenes translated grunt and grind
out on the field digits flashed
upon the screen goal records smashed;
how many *hit-ups*, passes dropped
or tackles made and movements stopped.
I half-expected they'd highlight
the furthest distance spat that night
or longest injury pretence
and such like vital measurements
Fatigued by numbers, *stats* galore,
I drowsed and missed the final score.

© Ron Stevens 2001.....

The winning poem from the Bundy
Muster written section.

2nd Spirit of the Outback Writing Competition.

An initiative of The Australian Workers Heritage

First prize \$500.00

**There are a lot of rules and requirements so the
best idea - if you are interested is to get hold of:**

**The Competition Coordinator
Wendy Johnston - on 07 3224 4838
email - heritage@tgp.com.au**

**The closing date is Friday October 5 - 2001
so there is plenty of time - so don't panic.**

Regular Monthly Events

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

Queensland:

- 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 & North Pine Bush Poets. North Pine Country Markets, 9.00am @ Dad & Dave's Billy Tea & Damper. 07 3285 2845 or
3rd Sun 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
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 Tuggarah Lakes Poetry Group. 7.00pm The Entrance Leagues Club. 3 Bay Village Rd, Bateau Bay. Joan Johnson 02 4332 5318, Judy Stantonn 02 4388 5972
1st Thurs North by Northwest Poetry & Folk Club. 7.30pm Comucopia 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, 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 Tuesday - Poets & Writers on the Tweed. 1.30 pm in the meeting room at the Tweed Heads Library. Corner of Wharf & Brett Streets. Visitors welcome. Phone: 07 5590 9395 - Lorraine Richards.
Every 2 months on 2nd Sat Comucopia 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 5852 2097
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

To All Members:

Please note that I have bought the "Deadline" date forward by a couple of days. This is so I can get the copy to the printers on the 20th. Now this should not be a problem, just get your contributions to me a day or so earlier. Simple as that. **BUT** - if you wait until the 14 - 15th to send it to me - then it may get in - it may not.

Please note - I will not , "remove" someone else's article just to fit someone in who is late in sending in their contribution - even if they are a regular contributor.

"IT WILL BE FIRST IN FIRST SERVED".

So if you are - or you want to be a regular contributor, get your copy to me early in the month.

All articles can be emailed to me at bbliss@hotmail.net.au or posted to

B.J.Bliss - P O Box 5208 MANLY Q 4179.

Emailed contributions, I would prefer it to be in 'Publisher' not 'Word', but if Word is all you have, then you are more than welcome to send it in that format.

For those who would like their newsletter sent to them via email, you will need to have 'Publisher 2000' to be able to open it. (forgot to

Newchum's Farewell to Queensland

Queensland, thou art a land of pests,
From flies and fleas one never rest,
Even now mosquitoes revel,
In fact they are the very devil.

Sand-flies and hornets just as bad,
They nearly drive a fellow mad:
The scorpion and the centipede
With stinging ants of every breed.

Fever and ague with the shakes
Triantelopes and poisonous snakes,
Goannas, lizards, cockatoos
Bushrangers, logs and Jackeroos.

Bandicoots and swarms of rats,
Bulldog ants and native cats,
Stunted timber, thirsty plains,
Parched up deserts, scanty rains.

There's rivers here, you sail ships on
There's nigger women without shifts on,
There's humpies, huts and wooden houses,
There's men who don't wear trousers.

There's Barcoo rot and sandy blight,
There's dingoes howling half the night,
There's curlews' wails and croaking frogs
There's savage blacks and native dogs.

There's scentless flowers and stinging trees,
There's poison grass and Darling peas,
Which drive the cattle raving mad,
Make sheep and horses just as bad.

And then it never rains in reason.
There's drought one year and floods next
season,
Which wash the squatter's sheep away,
And then there is the devil to pay.

To stay in thee, oh land of mutton!
I would not give a single button,
But bid thee now a strong farewell,
Thou scorching, sun burnt land of Hell.

The Wild Brumby

She was Queen of the bull oak forest, fiery eyed, lean legged and swift.
She displayed the strength of her sire, golden mane from her dam was a gift.
Like a ghost she would flash through the timber with never a fault to her stride,
Defying the horsemen to catch her, to rope her, to saddle, to ride.

For three summers she ran with the west wind, on ridge and gully and stream,
Unaware that the well-mounted horsemen had made her the prize of their dream.
For her coat was like sand on the beaches, and her tail like moonbeams at play,
Of a night she took flight like an angel, and she roared like a fire by day.

She held her head proudly, the grace of a swan, eyes trusting and kind.
The stockmen who saw her pass by, held a vision of her in their mind.
Those who had seen her had loved her, and some had ambitions to ride,
But no rope could tie down her freedom, no saddle would seat stain her hide.

Then one day to the peace of the forest came the smells and noises of man,
And the Brumby King used all his cunning to protect every horse in his clan.
The weeks that followed were madness, every second was readied for flight,
And the only reprise for the Brumbies was the darkening veil of the night.

No time for the colts to be sparring, no time for the old mares to feed,
Just fear for the sound of the stock-whip, and thanks to the Gods for their speed.
But the desire of man is relentless, and the wings of the trap yards were wide,
And the cunningness used in the muster left no place for the Brumbies to hide.

Now the Brumby King snorted defiance as he rushed his mob through the spears,
Then realisation struck at the Brumbies and their whinnying echoed their fears.
For their freedom was gone in that instant, their free spirit yarded and beat,
Their future lay broken to saddle, put to work with steel shoes on their feet.

But the Golden Filly would not be taken, her future was not under rein,
She thought of nights by the rock pool, and swift moonlight runs on the plain.
Then she sized up the height of the trap yard, defying the horsemen about,
She sprang for the top rail and struck it, a six inch rail and stout.

Well the rail it snapped as her heart did, and both fell worthless to ground,
But the Brumby mob saw now an opening, and followed their King from the pound.
As she lay in the shade of the trap yard, the last dying beat of her heart,
Was free from the confines of mankind like the courage that set her apart.

She was Queen of the bull oak forest, fiery eyed, lean legged and swift
She displayed the strength of her sire, golden mane from her dam was a gift.
Like a ghost she would flash through the timber with never a fault to her stride,
Defying the horsemen to catch her, to rope her, to saddle to ride.

©Kelly Fogarty 2000

The winning poem of the intermediate section of the "Golden Horseshoe Awards" (written), at the Beaudesert Country & Horse Festival

North Pine Bush Poets Group Inc

It's on again. The Camp Oven Bush Poetry Festival

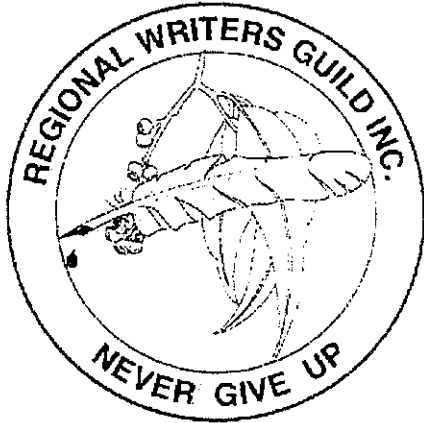
Where: At the North Pine Country Park, Dayboro Road, Petrie. (30 minutes north of Brisbane).

When: August 17 - 18 & 19 2001.

When is everything: Friday night is the Novice. Saturday; Junior, Open Serious (female), Open Humorous (men) & Original. Sunday; Open Serious (male), Open Humorous (female) & the Duo.

The Saturday night sees a dinner at the Pioneer Village Country Music Hall followed by a concert.

Want to have a great weekend, well get to the Camp Oven Festival.



The Regional Writers Guild

is a newly formed self help group for writers and self publishers.

For more information contact:

**Wally Finch 07 3886 0747 or Pauline Rekindin
07 3285 2887**

Mid-year Sale:

Special Offer to Members:

\$10.00 - (including postage) gets you 4 copies of back issues of the Annual. We have stocks of the 3rd - 4th - 5th & 6th issues, so why not snap up a bargain.

Offer closes 30.09.01- Contact the Treasurer.....

Do you have a book to sell?

Are you about to publish and want to "spread" the word?

Then you need to place a couple of advert's in your newsletter.

Just \$5.00 for two months adverts is good value. If you've got something and you want to sell it - ya gotta tell the buyers.

Send your advert & money to the "Treasurer" and she will forward it to the editor.

18th August

**Mid North Coast Bush Poets Get Together
@ Barbara's Café Short St Port Macquarie,**

2.00 to 5.00 pm - Junior's and visitors most welcome.

Job Evaluations...

Great lines from job evaluations:

1. I would not allow this employee to breed.
2. This associate is really not so much of a has-been, but more definitely a won't be.
3. Works well when under constant supervision and cornered like a rat in a trap.
4. When she opens her mouth, it seems it is only to change whichever foot was previously there.
5. He would be out of his depth in a parking lot puddle.
6. This young lady has delusions of adequacy.
7. He sets low personal standards and then consistently fails to achieve them.
8. This employee is depriving a village somewhere of an idiot.
9. This employee should go far and the sooner he starts, the better.
10. Not the sharpest knife in the drawer.
11. Got into the gene pool when the lifeguard wasn't watching.
12. A room temperature IQ.
13. Got a full 6-pack, but lacks the plastic thingy to holds it together.
14. A gross ignoramus - 144 times worse than an ordinary ignoramus.
15. A photographic memory but with the lens cover glued on.
16. A prime candidate for natural de-selection.
17. Bright as Alaska in December.
18. One-celled organisms outscore him in IQ tests.
19. Donated his brain to science before he was done using it.
20. Fell out of the family tree.
21. Gates are down, lights are flashing, but the train isn't coming.
22. Has two brains: one is lost; the other is out looking for it.
23. He's so dense, light bends around him.
24. If brains were taxed, she'd get a refund.
25. If he were any more stupid, he'd have to be watered twice a week.
26. If you give him a penny for his thoughts, you'll get change.
27. If you stand close enough to him, you can hear the ocean.
28. It's hard to believe he beat out 1,000,000 other sperm.
29. Some drink from the fountain of knowledge, he only gargled.
30. Takes him an hour and a half to watch 60 Minutes.
31. Wheel is turning, but the hamster is dead.
32. Since my last report, this employee has reached rock bottom and has started to dig.

The Country and Horse Festival

The Country and horse festival is here again,
It's held each year but it's never the same,
The Beaudesert district comes alive,
With activities everywhere, just take a drive.
From the mountains down to the town
A thousand hooves will parade around.
There will be floats and displays to catch your eye
So much to do the ten days will fly.
So come along and enjoy the fun,
The Country and Horse Festival - it's for everyone.

© Rachel Thomas 2001

**Beaudesert Country & Horse Festival
"Golden Horseshoe Awards"
Winner of the Junior Section (Written Verse)**

Some little sayings that may help you get through the day - or at least put a smile of your dial...

I am so busy - I don't know whether I have just found a rope - or lost a horse !

You should always mince your words - it makes them a lot easier to eat later !

Don't be afraid of sharks in the ocean, you are more likely to get taken by the ones on shore !

You always have to remember 100% of the lies you tell, but none of the truth !





596 David Low Way - Pacific Paradise,
Sunshine Coast Qld.
Brekkie & open microphone every second &
fourth Saturday of the month,
from 9.00 am to 11.30 am. Free admission.
Tucker at great prices.
Bring your favourite or latest poem and have a
go or just sit back and enjoy.
Telephone: 07 3886 0747 or 07 5448 7155

NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS:

The Australian Bush Ballads Association
monthly magazine may publish any of
your poems you feel would suit being put
to music. Send them to ~ Blue Bostock -
32 Redruth Road. Alexandra Hills Q 4161
for consideration each month.

The Sheepdog Trials.

My Putih is no working dog,
Not black and white and quick.
Golden Retrievers don't run sheep,
He couldn't take a trick.

I took him to the sheepdog trials
In town last Saturday.
And though we didn't know the rules,
I knew he'd like to play!

We watched them work from frosty morn
Until the sun was low,
Though every dog was keen to please.
The sheep were much less so!

Chased out in threesomes on the field,
They stood and wondered why.
They muttered idly to themselves
And gazed around the sky.

Within the ring the trainer waved
His dog to wait apart,
Until the judge's bell was heard
To indicate the start.

This dog is black and tan and small,
He doesn't have the size,
To bully and outwit three sheep
To hope to win the prize.

He lay, taut as a wound-up spring,
His focus on his prey,
And setting out the path he'd race
Along to start the fray.

Then with the bell he fairly flew
To outflank those three sheep
And quickly cut their best escape,
So to his will they'd keep.

Advancing like a hunting cat
Upon his skittish prey.
And feinting first to left then right
He made them back away.

They stopped! They froze and stamped
their feet
They didn't like this game!
The little dog was unimpressed
His aim remained the same!

Mind games! The sheep were adamant
That they weren't going to play!
The dog must make them move again
The clock brooks no delay!

A half a dozen lightning moves
A few feet to each side
The nervous sheep have moved again,
The trick has turned the tide.

Eventually he gets them through
The gate and through the chute
And finally into the yard.
The crowd claps their tribute!

A few more dogs now try their luck
Most end with some offence
One dog attempts a frontal charge
The sheep leap through the fence.

Another cuts across between
The trainer and the sheep,
Which blows the game entirely
And makes the trainer weep!

My dog and I were going back
To head out home for tea.
And passed that small black clever dog
Tied to a shady tree.

And while they passed the ribbons out
And trophies to display,
He lay there dozing in the sun
Day-dreaming of the fray.

He knew he'd made the day worthwhile
And proved that he was versatile
I fancied that I saw him smile
He KNEW he'd won the day!!

© Frank Halliwell 2001
South Maclean, Qld
Public Domain.

**Neil McArthur coming to
Palma Rosa.**

Our next Palma Rosa Poet's night will be
on the 28th August, (a Tuesday night),
when the one and only Neil McArthur from
Ballarat in Victoria will take the stage.

*Neil will be supported by award winning
Junior Bush Poet Stuart Nivison from
Brisbane.*

Come and join us at the beautiful Palma Rosa
on Tuesday 28th August.

**\$18.00 per head includes supper.
BYO Drinks.**

Booking & enquiries:

Trish Anderson ph/fax 07 3268 3624
Or Palma Rosa Ph 07 3262 3769

Australian Bush Poets Association,

is calling for expressions of interest, in writing, from clubs or groups for the organising
and holding of the

2002 Australian Bush Poetry Championships.

Separate expressions of interest are also call for the

2003 Australian Bush Poetry Championships.

*Please apply before 31st July 2001 to
The Secretary, ABPA Inc
P O Box 77
Drayton North Qld 4350*

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.

News Flash: From the one they call "The Legend"

Thanks to some late sponsorship, we are pleased to announce that we have some extra prizes in the form of weekend holidays. Prizes are as follows: Yarn-spinning (Friday night at Blandy's) \$100.00 cash, a unique trophy plus dinner for two (\$50.00) at Banjo's Restaurant - Toowoomba and a night for two with continental breakfast in the Honeymoon Suite at the Bronco's Motor Inn - Warrago Highway, Charlton (just out of Toowoomba). Open Female Original: \$100 cash, trophy & a weekend for two at the **Historic Homestead at Cecil Plains.** Open Male Original: \$100 cash, trophy & a weekend for two at the **Murray Gardens at Stanthorpe.** Over-all champion: \$100 cash, trophy & two by \$100 vouchers at the **Islander Resort at Surfers Paradise.** There are other cash prizes, trophies and certificates for other categories.

Performance entries close 24th August, entries on the day only if time permits.

If Only Walls Could Talk.

There's a silence in the shearing shed, an almost ghost like feel -
The sounds and smells of yesterday that once were vital, real
Have vanished; gone the tread of feet, the lost lambs plaintive call.
The whir of combs and cutters and the clanking rise and fall
Of the handle of the old wool press as bins of top class wool
Are ready to be moved afar in bales pressed firm and full.
Gone, too, the many tales and yarns, the whit sharp as a hawk
Exchanged while on the smoko break - if only walls could talk.

There's nothing in the hayshed now, a few spilt bales of hay
Are all that's left of harvesting, it would be nice to say
And cut the lucerne on the flats, the excess pasture too,
Then fill the shed up to the roof to see the winter through.
The wheat that filled the silos once is sold to those who'd buy
While triticale, lupins oats will other's needs supply.
Considered planning went along with grain and stalk;
Maybe those thoughts would be made known if only walls could talk.

The workshop and machinery shed are empty so it seems,
As empty as the aching heart that held a farmer's dreams.
A neighbour calls the tractor his, the harvester went west
The welding gear's in strangers hands, and as fall all the rest
It's scattered, well, to who knows where, and there's a hollow sound
Where hammers, saws, electric drills and other tools were found.
What happened to the axe, the spade, and where's the garden fork?
Each played a part out on the farm - if only walls could talk

'Please come in for a cuppa' was the welcome always there
But now the house is not the same, each room is lifeless, bare
No bubbling saucepans on the stove, the smell of cakes and pie,
The furniture has all but gone, perhaps we wonder why
There's little left to talk about, no news that was today,
Or decisions for tomorrow, nor who might come and stay.
It holds so many memories, the door post's marked with chalk
Denoting how the children grew - if only walls could talk.

Yes, 'sold'. The signboard tells the world, it's home to someone new
Who'll think and act to alter things as fresh folk often do,
The plans and aspirations that had struggled hard to grow
Through fifty years had been fulfilled, and now it's time to go
With heart that's tinged with saddened thoughts, and just a touch of pain
For they are thankful for their lives, they'd do it all again.
The day has come to press ahead, and to the future walk,
What stories of the past would flow if only walls could talk.

© 2001 Joyce Alchin

Palma Rosa Poet's

Another great night of poetry and song when poet Greg Scott from Scone - NSW, and singer/songwriter Mark Tempany from Brisbane took the stage on the 18th of July.

Greg took us on a wonderful of discovery with his fabulous poetry full of both pathos and humour, while Mark's beautiful voice, as usual, kept us enthralled.

Inviting fellow Poets to drop into the Lawson Room TARRO HOTEL Q.

We are the Hunter Bush Poets, a small and friendly bunch. You'll find us at the old TARRO Pub on the second Tuesday of each month.

So come along and enjoy the night of Bush Poetry and Yarns. It's a beaut night and it's all about our love of this great country.

Bob Skelton - The Minmi Master.

Hi Bernie,

My name is Claire Van Baalen
I'm a Gippsland Bush Poet and I thought you might like to use
the poem below in your publication.

If you like I can attach the entry forms for the comps. or you
might like to download and print one of each type from the
website.

www.vicnet.net.au/~gipwrite

Thanks for your help,
Claire

Gippsland Bush Poet's Breakfast

In Australia's right hand corner
(North of Tassie, by the way)
In a place we call God's country
some still gather to the fray

Yeah, the poets come a Waltzing
Though it's not so sunburnt there,
See our ninety miles of beaches-
Breathe our fresh clean mountain air-

In October down in Stratford
The new festival's first run
Be they writers, jourmos, novelists
We know they all will come

At a spot down by the Avon
Be it wind or hail or shine
Folk'll verbalise their version
Of what's happened in their time

Or they'll take us back to Clancy,
Mulga Bill and Hanrahan
Back to where our
Aussie sorta poetry began

There'll be billy tea and damper
They'll have come from far and near
To do their piece or listen
'Til the laughter rings out clear

It's a way to pass a morning
Blow the dust right off the soul
And Gippsland Writers' Festival
Is calling one and all

© Claire Van Baalen Friday, 6 July 2001

Do you read the newsletter - find the occasional boo boo and read on -
or do you sit back and criticise.

Well - it is now time to let you all know ~ there really was no intention at
all to include mistakes. They were there - of course they were. You can
even get them in the local paper, so how true was that letter to the editor
last month. How easy is it to find fault with the works of others?

"The Write of Reply"

I'm bloody sick & tired of Ellis Campbell
& I've had enough of Ronnie Stevens too.
& Milton flamin' Taylor, with his "Queenie" drives me mad,
they're floggin' mortal poets black & blue !

It's hardly worth the entry fee we're payin'
to try & earn a dollar from our verse,
they enter every competition known to all mankind
they're the modern day aspiring writer's curse !

Now seein' how as we can never match 'em,
I got this good idea in my sleep,
let's send them on a holiday to China or Japan,
for two bob each (one way) it would be cheap !

The only other thing that I could think of,
is to change the rules so they don't qualify,
say they have to lose a competition nine times out of ten,
and they're not allowed to ever make us cry !

If their rhyming pattern's good & meters better,
they're penalised for idiot-syncrasy,
no talk of Mum or horses, dogs, nostalgic garden gates
human nature, droving or Gallipoli !

'cause even though he's winning, Ellis whinges,
seems he wants to leave his work stuck on a page
inside a moulding book upon an ageing library shelf
when it could have had life eternal on the stage !

He tells us all the masters weren't performers,
& then he says that they're alive and well,
of course they are you silly bugger, Ellis,
because performers spread the tales they tell !!

You should be glad you're not a rat-bag redhead,
a headless chook, man bashing female rat,
when I win a major written prize, the people shake their heads,
& wonder how the flip head managed that !

It may be true that I may be remembered,
for performing utter rubbish all the while,
but I pay a heavy price for compromising subtleties,
to leave the weary hearted with a smile.

So it seems the penny has two aspects,
& both are worthy to the eyes that see,
for you are seen as master, but "true poet" surely means,
a soul that gives his best to poetry.

So don't go getting whingey now & cranky,
& write reply to kick me in the bum,
I'm just amazed that you don't see how high you're esteemed,
Yours truly, from your rat-bag redhead chum.

© Glenny Palmer 2001

Tongue in cheek is far better than foot in mouth:

It's only work if someone makes you do it !

Procrastinators should always wait until tomorrow comes before making a decision. !

Enjoy life - there are no refunds !

What's goin' on 'round the traps!

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

'Gippsland Bush Poets'

will be running a Australian verse written competition as part of the

'Gippsland Writers Festival'

To be held over the weekend of October 27th & 28th
Entries close Sep. 28th. Sections are:

Open - Secondary students - Primary students
Weekend will include Poets Breakfast, a Poetry workshop
and Poets in the Pub on Sunday afternoon.

Guest Poet - Neil McArthur

For more information/entry forms send SSAE to:
Claire Van Baalen PO Box 186 Heyfield 3858 Vic.
entry forms available on our Web page:
www.vicnet.net.au/~gipwrite
or e mail claire@i-o.net.au

For more information ring Dennis Carstairs
(03) 5145 6128 - email carstairs@i-o.net.au

KYABRAM

"Around the Campfire"

Lion's Club & Ky Bush Verse Group.
Thursday 20th September at KY Club - 7.30 pm.
WANTED: Bush Poets & Yarn Spinners

Good Prizes, Good Fun.

Enquiries: 03 5852 2084

Anyone from Eulo admitted free.

POETS BRUNCH & AUSSIE HUMOUR SHOW

PLUS Blackboard Concert

in conj. with Kempsey Country Music Festival
8.30 am - 12 midday, Sunday 9th September 2001
Moon River Motel, Pacific Hwy, Kempsey NSW

Feature Poet - Frank Daniel

Open Mike Session at Blackboard Concert

Admission \$11.00 - Bookings Preferred

Ring Gwen 02 6562 2937

DORRIGO MOUNTAIN TOP

BUSH POETS ROUND UP

in conj. with Dorrigo Spring Festival

1 pm - 4 pm, Saturday 27th October 2001

Local and Visiting Poets Welcome

Feature Poet - To be Announced

Admission Gold Coin - Ring Murray 02 6657 2139

Camp Oven Bush Poetry Festival

August 17 - 18 & 19

@ North Pine Country Park - Brisbane Qld.

Novice performers on the Friday night.

Youth & Open performances in Serious, Humorous and
Original on the Saturday & Sunday.

Huge concert on Saturday Night featuring Marco Giori,
Carmel Randall, Neil McArthur & Milton Taylor.

Applications from The Secretary P O Box 131 ARANA
HILLS QLD 4054

Irish Heritage Festival

KILLARNEY QLD

Irish & Aussie Fun - Saturday & Sunday September 15 & 16

POET'S BREAKFAST Sunday @ 8.00 am.

WANTED - POETS - REWARD ??

(Sprout your blarney - Little People welcome).

Enquiries please telephone

Max Jarrott 07 4664 1115 - Judy Bell 07 4664 1818

Camping area available.

Gilgandra Coo-ee Festival

Poetry Competition

Closing date: 31st August 2001

Total Prize Money: \$1490

Entry Fee: Adults \$5 per poem - Students \$2.50 per poem

or information can be obtained from the Cooee Festival website at www.skyboom.com/cooee festival.com

Send entries to:
The Secretary
Cooee March Poetry Competition,
PO Box 71 Gilgandra NSW 2827

SOAPBOX

The Fellowship of Australian Writers Qld Inc

Article writing competition.

Closing date is September 30th - 2001

Climb on your soapbox and write an article on any theme to a maximum of 2000 words

For an entry form, contact the Secretary.

Fellowship of Australian Writers Qld Inc.

Young Adult Poetry Competition.

Entrants must be between 16 & 25 years old. Closing date is 30th September.

For an entry form - contact the Secretary

Millmerran Bush Poets Group.

The 5th Annual Millmerran Bush Poets Group
Round-up 31st August - 1st - 2nd September....
Saturday at 7.00 pm at Blandy's Tavern

There is a \$5.00 entry fee for this for non-performers.
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.

Any enquiries call

Kev Barnes (the old bloke) on 07 4695 4209.

Mount Isa Writers Association Inc

Literary Competition

Open short Story (any theme)
Bush Verse (traditional)
Open Verse (any theme)

Good prizes.

Entries close July 31st .

**Entry forms - Contact The Secretary P O Box 2781
Mount Isa Qld 4825**



Gilgandra Coo-ee Festival

Poetry Competition

Closing date: 31st August 2001

Total Prize Money: \$1490

Entry Fee: Adults \$5 per poem - Students \$2.50 per poem

Section 1: Coo-ee March Traditional form poem with the theme of the famous Coo-ee March. The Coo-ee March Book by John Meridth is available for sale from the Gilgandra Visitor Centre for \$15 (inc postage and handling) or information can be obtained from the Cooee Festival website at

www.skyboom.com/cooee festival.com

1st \$250 2nd \$150 3rd \$50

Section 2: Federation

1st \$150 2nd \$100 3rd \$50

Section 3: Humorous

1st \$150 2nd \$100 3rd \$50

Section 4: Open

1st \$150 2nd \$100 3rd \$50

Section 5: Open High School Student

1st \$50 2nd \$30 3rd \$10

Section 6: Open Primary School Student

1st \$25 2nd \$15 3rd \$10

CONDITIONS:

- Adults 100 line limit; High School Students 60 line limit; Primary School Students 20 line limit
- No limit to the number of entries
- No entry form required but a cover sheet must be included showing author's name, address, phone number, title of poem, line limit and the section it is to be entered in
- No names on poems
- Two copies of poems is required as well as large stamped self addressed envelop for return of poems
- Presentation night the 28th September 2001
- Winners will be advised by phone
- All entries are to be available for reproduction or publication by the Cooee Festival Committee with copyright being retained by the author
- Judges decision is final
- Send entries to: The Secretary

Cooee March Poetry Competition,

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

Surface
mail

Postage
Paid

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The Union man turned up at the farm one day checking on the farmer who was suspected of underpaying his workers. He was taking the man around and introducing him to his staff.

"This is Harry. He milks the cows, and looks after the dairy. I pay him \$400 a week with room and food chucked in" said the farmer.

"That's good," said the Union man, "he's getting more than he should, but that's OK".

The farmer then walked over to a young lady weeding in the garden. "This is Mary," said the farmer, "she cooks and does the washing and looks after the chooks. I pay her \$300 a week as well as free board and food".

Well the Union man was impressed and after looking around to see if there were any more people working that he had not been introduced to, turned to the farmer and said, "is that all of the people you pay around here that work on the farm?"

"Well no," said the farmer, looking a little embarrassed and uncomfortable.

"Ah" the Union man thought, "I've caught him out here".

"There is the half-wit," he said, "he works for about \$25 a week, does about 80 hours of work, although he does have room and food supplied".

"Ah," said the rep, "I'd like to talk to this man is you don't mind."

"You are talking to him right now mate." said the farmer.

Poets Calendar of Events and Competitions:

31st July 2001- Mount Isa Writers' Association Inc Literary competition closes - Contact the Secretary, Mount Isa Writers Association Inc., PO Box 2781, MOUNT ISA QLD 4825.

9th August - Bush Poets at the EKKA. Trisha Anderson telephone/fax 07 3262 3769

17 - 18 & 19th August - Camp Oven Bush Poetry Competition - North Pine Brisbane Qld. Secretary Box 131 Arana Hills 4054

31st August - The 5th Annual Millmerran Bush Poets Group Round-up - contact Kev Barnes on 07 4695 4209.

9th September - Blackboard Concert - Moon River Motel Pacific Highway - Kempsey NSW

15 - 16th September - Irish Heritage Festival - Killarney Qld - Telephone: 07 4664 1115 or 07 4664 1818

20 September - Kyabram "Around the Campfire" Enquiries - 03 5852 2084

28th September - Closing date of inaugural ' Gippsland Bush Poets' Australian Verse written competition.

To be run as part of the 'Gippsland Writers Festival'

27th October - Dorriggo Mountain Top Round-up - Contact Murray 02 66657 2139