**The 2007 WA State Championships were planned for September 30 / October 1but unfortunately insufficient entries made the Performance Section not viable.
The Written Section was extended and Closed on November 30th comments and results are below.**

Judges Comments (Open Section)
It is a rare privilege to share the reflective thinking of creative minds, especially when that thinking is in the form of rhyming verse.

The wonderful collection of wit, nostalgia, concern, subtlety and delightful disarming vulgarity reflects a richness of the Australian spirit, which is clearly alive and well.

The competition provided a healthy balance of the humorous, with the sad and painful, which invariably led to a greater understanding and awareness of what it means to be human. And therein lies, for me the greatest value of the writingsï¿½an exploration of some aspects of the human condition.

Our cherished values that are closely connected to family, friends and animals with which we share our lives are more than worthy of the time and effort that it takes to properly describe them. And so it is in the winners poem. This poem is so apparently simple in essence, yet establishes those emotional links that we experience with those we love in a most graphic and poignant reality.

**Brian Wolfenden**

Junior Competition: The numbers of entries was disappointing. It would seem that even though information about the competition was made available to the WA Education Dept, it never got to the students. It is also disappointing that there were few entries from other states even though the competition had been advertised through the ABPA The standard was very mixed.

While the subject matter was surprisingly broad and most entries had good to excellent rhyme, consistent rhythm defeated all but a couple of the under 13s. It many cases it would have been better to have written a shorter poem rather than start well but lose the rhythm as the poem progressed. In some cases, the topic along with the length are perhaps a bit too ambitious..

We would like to congratulate all prize winners.

To all entrants, Well done for your interest, participation and the effort that you have put into your poems. You have all started on a journey which if you continue will give you and others great enjoyment and satisfaction. We wish you all success in the future and hope you continue your obvious love of Australian Rhyming Poetry.

**Brian Langley & John Hayes**

**Under 13 Junior**—1st Alanna van Mierlo (The Tigers’ Tale)

 2nd Hannah Th’ng (The Prime Ministers of Australia)

 3rd Joshua Th’ng (Robert and the Gold-Rush Bunyip)

**Under 13-17 Junior**—1st Violet MacDonald (Ballad of the Soldier Crabs)

 2nd Violet MacDonald (Akubras on Windy Days)

 3rd Celina MacDonald (Cyclone Leslie)

**Open - Prizes** 1st VP Read (A Tribute to Jillie)

 2nd VP Read (A Chat Between Two Old Mates)

 3rd Keith Lethbridge (John Crothers)

**Open—HC** - John Hayes (More Care For Esperance)

 Keith Lethbridge (Lamboo Station)

 VP Read (Grievances of a Babbling Brook)

**In the junior competition,the Under 13 entrants were all from WA while the 13 - 17 were all from other states.**

**The Results were**

**A HUGE THANK YOU to all of the entrants for making a worthwhile competition**