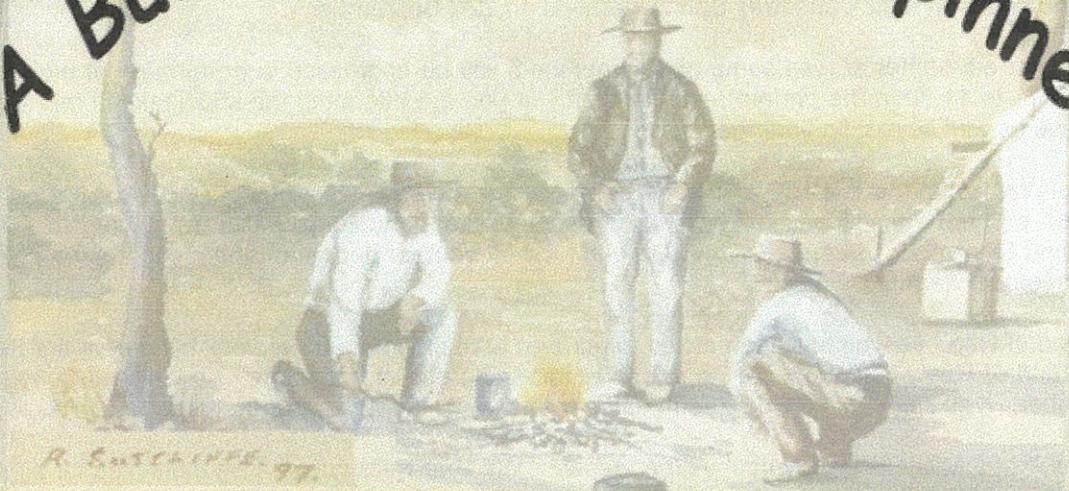


\$2.50

WA Bush Poets & Yarn Spinners



Newsletter : September 2002

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY



"Come All Ye" at the Raffles Hotel
cnr Canning Highway and Canning Beach Rd Applecross
(Upstairs in The River Room)

Next Meeting Friday 6/09/2002 at 7:30pm

L'Orelie's Letters



Our first Come All Ye for the new year was extremely well attended. We hope many of the new folk became financial members and hence will be reading this their first newsletter. It was good to see a group from the Victoria Park Community Association. They are planning to have some poetry at their Causeway Spring Carnival on 22nd September.

When your next newsletter arrives some of our members will be engrossed in performing at the Royal Show each day at about 11 to 11.30 in the performance pavilion. If you are attending the show take in this segment and lend your applause as well as resting your feet.

We are planning to have a LADIES ONLY performance for the first half of the COME ALL YE on 4th October, so ladies please prepare your pieces. This will be a practice opportunity if you are planning to enter the heats in November and December. A suggestion....Do enter the November heat and then if you are not successful you still have the December heat to try again.!

We are proud of Rod Lee who has been asked to perform at the big annual Seniors' concert at the Burswood on 17th September and of Rusty Christensen who will be entertaining etc. at the Harvey Agricultural College's big night on 13th September. It all spreads the word of the value of Australian poetry to our heritage.

We wish Geoff and Michelle a very happy time abroad. We shall miss you and we thank you for all the preparations you have made to keep the wheels turning while you are away. Have fun!

Lorelie.



Michelle's Musings

Dear Members,

Here we are at the beginning of a new year for the WA Bush Poets, with a real treat in store by having Ron Evans this coming CAY.

Geoff and I should be off next week, God willing, and the next two newsletter editorials will be coming to you via Switzerland and Canada via the marvels and magic of e-mail and the internet.

I hope to get Geoff to compose a poem from our travels to send to you. You can now say that the WA Bush Poets have gone international. We certainly have a number of our poets reciting abroad. I believe Beth Scott is heading to the USA this year as well.

I need to thank several *real people* as well who will make these next two newsletters come about. From our association, **Edna Westall, Joan Donaldson and Maxine Richter** who are doing the compiling stapling and dispatching. And **Rod Lee** who will be entertaining you with the CAY's section in the November and December issues. It will be great to have a change from my musings I'm sure. Geoff's daughter **Rachael Bebb** will be compiling and printing so please get your information via my e-mail to her before the 2nd last weekend in the month.

A little reminder to members who have not yet paid subs. for the coming year.

That small \$15 (i.e. about \$1.20 per month) means :-

- You can keep up to date with all events, gossip and new poetry of the WABP and you're reminded of all the special dates and CAYs.
- You can share your poetry and special events with others.
- You get a \$2 discount each time you come to the CAY – this means you effectively get the newsletter free after 7 visits to the Raffles.
- You can recite at the CAY to your heart's content and compete in the Wireless Hill Challenge.

Surely it's worth supporting the association and getting a tremendous newsletter even if you don't make it to the CAY's regularly? As one of our members suggested it's a "steal" at that price.

Cheers,

Michelle Sorrell

Come All Ye August 2002

What a night, over 2 ½ hours of non-stop entertainment by **Rod Lee** our MC / entertainer with a host of new poetry from contemporary Eastern States Poets like Glennie Palmer, Donny Lloyd and Mark Gliori. The trip East certainly gave the Lees new impetus. **Kerry Lee** voiced our modern concerns about technology through her exploits shopping with her new granddaughter + new-fangled-folding pram and our B-Pay frustrations from Glennie.

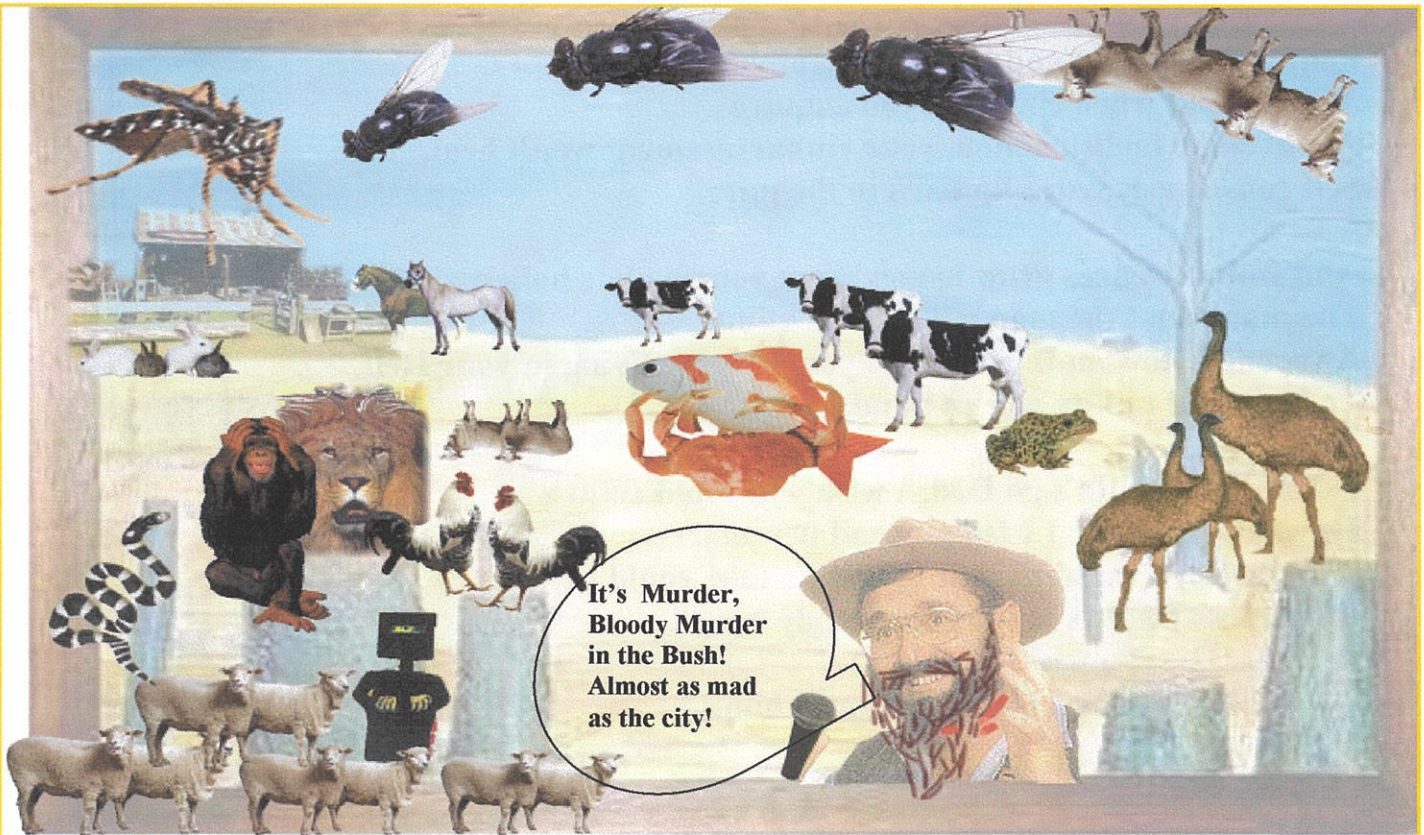
We had the new faces of **Ivan Ritchie** with his authentic 1950's, Kiwi shearer's poems on an ancient choc. wrapper and **Bob Phillpot** with new innovative poetry plus props as well. These included a Ned Kelly suit and dragon balls. What a night of variety and entertainment! Thanks to our two brave newcomers.

The evening even contained poetry from overseas with **Arthur Legget's** (Rudyard Kipling) Tommy Atkins in Chelsea Barracks lamenting his Burma girl on "The Road to Mandalay". The whole room was singing along with him at the end. **David Sears** took us to the Malamute Saloon in Alaska with Dangerous Dan McGrew; a tale of loneliness, lust and revenge. **Rusty Christensen** couldn't help bringing out his American Accent to complete our trip round the world with "Life Gets Tee-jus" by Carson Robinson.

However Rusty did remind us about our duty to 'heritage' (He takes his task as Ambassador for the Year of the Outback extremely seriously). Thus the majority of the rest of the night was devoted to just that; **The Outback** with special dedications to the *bloody* hard working Drovers, Roustabouts, Strappers, Shearers, would be Suiciders!!!! and their animals who received too little thanks for their labour.

Amongst our traditionalists, with new material, were; **Peter Drayton** – our best dressed poet, who took us to a "Mountain Station" with Paterson. **Trish Joyce** who took us on a "Night Flight" of her own and **Connie Herbert**, - fresh from her Queensland trip- who took us back to the hard old days of her mum and her 13 siblings. Meanwhile **Geoff Bebb** took us back to the traditional barber shop with "The Man From Ironbark" by Paterson and MURDER , BLOODY MURDER!!!! ... What passion!

Although we had fewer Poets we somehow had more poetry and many witty and interesting preambles, which took us through a very packed and lively night. Here is my impression, in pictures, for there were too many poems to write about.



Acknowledgement and Apologies to Sydney Nolan, Salvador Dali and Bob Magor

I hope you all had a Happy Horse's Birthday celebration. See you next month with special guest Ron Evans.

Cheers,

Michelle

DAD

I wish you wouldn't go, Dad, I wish you'd stay around,
It hurts to see you slipping, bit by bit,
Away from those who love you, and as you're losing ground,
You're a puzzle, Dad, whose pieces now don't fit.

Those eyes that shone with love and pride now glare with deep suspicion
At actions we consider quite mundane.
Frustration haunts us daily, as resenting the position
We find you in, we reach for you again.

And the sullen, hostile stranger now dwelling in your brain
Seldom pays the courtesy you're due.
Infrequently he sets you free to talk with us again,
Recalls you quickly; times like these, too few.

In those lovely, lucid moments on the precious, brief occasions
Returned to us, you easily converse
On subjects all familiar, emotional abrasions vanish.
How I wish you could reverse.

Pain of realisation and bewilderment you feel
Are evident, when chatting, you enquire
About some foolish action, your embarrassment won't heal,
Self consciously, you slip back in the mire.

And your absences grow longer from your body's hollow shell,
The man is not the man without his mind.
Awareness now more ours than yours, we're living in your Hell,
To logic and reality you're blind.

I wish you wouldn't go Dad. I wish you could return
To what you were; I wish a brand new start
Was readily available, that time, like tide, could turn.
Unfairness Dad! It breaks my bloody heart!

And it does. Because I loved him.



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71 Ridge St.
Portland 2847 N.S.W.

Coming Events - Date Change

Re: the **Campervan and Motor Homes Club Poetry Event**
 Its on **2nd - 5th October 2002**
 I put in the insignia from Edna to show how different a Camper is to
 a Caravan as I called the club the caravan club last issue.
 Sorry Kerry! Thanks Edna. Now I do believe I've got it at last.
 Happy journeys campers all.



From Our Roving Reporter - on the Halls Creek "Year of the Outback" Bush Poet's Breakfast

"Judging by the feedback from this event, it was a special day for the locals and tourists who attended on the Saturday 20th July. I got the invite from Cobber to attend the 'Inaugural' Annual Bush Poet's breakfast and after a lengthy bus trip, I was met at 4:40am on the Wednesday prior to the big day. I met quite a few of Keith's friends including the Shire Clerk who was a mate of mine in Derby about 40 yrs ago. I was shown around the district and enjoyed the busy atmosphere of the tourist season in the town. Crystal, Cobbers eldest daughter prepared a magnificent breakfast (free - curtesy of the shire) the night before. At 7am on the Saturday the audience started arriving and Cobber and I 'loosened up' with a few poems whilst cooking commenced.

Billy tea, kangaroo, bacon, sausages, eggs, home made fruit salad and a choice of four cereals - they spoil them up there!. Cobber encouraged a few locals to do their pieces. The morning flowed along well with a couple of tourists contributing too. It was great to hear all the compliments on such a good morning. Keith and I enjoyed having such an appreciative audience. Keith thanked the Shire clerk and his staff and all the helpers for their great efforts all round. I was certainly glad to have made the trip and I thank Keith and Maricor and family for their hospitality. I plan to do the trip next year all going well."

Ron (the late) Evans

Our Barry Fights for King Neptune

Spotted in the West Australian was this picture and article of our own **Barry Higgins**. At first I thought they were crowning him king of Yanchep and handing him over the new development proposals, and keys to the city, *then* I read the article:-
 As president of the Two Rocks/Yanchep Residents Association: he and his association have been fighting to keep the Statue of Neptune on site when the Fini group plans to redevelop the 17ha site as an urban village. As Barry says the locals loved King Neptune when the Marine Park opened in 1981. "The community believes it is an icon and it must reside at Two Rocks at its present location." It seems the developers are listening for once. Keep up the good fight for you community Barry, we're proud of your hard work. I hate to see communities lose their character, special features and identities that can become 'heritage' if allowed. That's what Bush Poetry is about too.



Thanks to the West Australian: article and picture from the 31st July 2002

A Voice For Poetry

With the heats coming up and many of our members limbering up for the Wireless Hill Challenge we thought that this little bit of news may help you all become champions. It's actually an ad. for 2 UWA Extension Service Workshops coming up, which may give you an edge. "**A Voice Makeover and Tune Up**"; the 1st workshop is on **September 4, 11, 18, and 25th** at 6-8pm at a cost of \$109 for the 4, 2hr sessions of theory and exercises to develop a strong and relaxed voice.

The 2nd is "**Enjoy Your Voice and Sound Great**" to be held on **October 14 and 21** at a cost of \$54. "Did you know that the sound of your voice accounts for 34% of the impact you have when you speak? Give your voice new life and make it work for you. Learn four powerful ways to enhance your voice and discover 5 inappropriate speech patterns to avoid." Look up extension.uwa.edu.au or Ph. **9380 2433** for further details.

WABP&YS attend Banyandah Toastmasters 'Bush Bash' Tuesday 30th July 2002

Peter Williamson was the MC for the evening and invited **Geoff, Lorelie and I** to represent the WABP at their Bush Bash. **Geoff** recited the very moving "An Old Master" by C J Denis. Some of their members also recited poetry on the night as well as giving very interesting talks on various bush themes. Some of their members reciprocated and came to our CAY. I think there is a very healthy cross-pollination of ideas that could happen here. Their Commend/ Recommend/Commend (CRC) method of encouraging people to improve their performance is especially valuable.

The Post Cup Tale

I 'ad the money in me 'and!
 Fair dinkum! Right there, by the stand.
 I tole me wife at breakfus' time,
 Straight out: "Trivalve, " I sez, "is prime.
 "Trivalve, " I sez, an' all the week
 I swear there's no one 'eard me speak
 Another 'orse's name. Why, look,
 I 'ad the oil straight from a Book
 On Sund'y at me cousin's place
 When we was torkin' of the race.
 "Trivalve, " 'e sez, " 'is chance is grand.
 I 'ad the money in me 'and!

Fair in me 'and I 'ad the dough!
 An' then a man 'as got to go -
 Wot? Tough? Look, if I 'adn't met
 Jim Smith (I ain't forgave 'im yet).
 'E takes an' grabs me be the coat.
 "Trivalve!" 'e sez. "That 'airy goat!"
 (I 'ad the money in me 'and
 Just makin' for the bookie's stand)
 "Trivalve!" 'e sez. "Ar, turn it up!
 'Ow could 'e win a flamin' cup?"
 Uv course, I thought 'e muster knoo -
 'Im livin' near a trainer, too.

Right 'ere, like that, fair in me fist
 I 'ad the notes! An' then I missed -
 Missed like a mug, fair on the knock
 Becos 'is maggin' done me block.

"That 'airy goat?" 'e sez. " 'E's crook!"
 Fair knocked me back, 'e did, an,' look,
 I 'ad the money in me 'and!
 Fair in me paw, an,' un'erstand,
 Sixes at least I coulder got -
 Thirty to five, an' made a pot.
 Today, I mighter been reel rich -
 Rollin'in dough! Instid o' which,
 'Ere's me - aw! Don't it beat the band?
 I 'ad the money in me 'and!
 Put me clean off. That's wot 'e did...
 Say, could yeh len' us 'arf a quid?

C J Dennis



Here is a little trademark C J Denis to welcome Ron Evans back to Perth to be special guest for our Come All Ye this month and a complimentary little racing poem from Val Read.

My Little Brumby Mare.

I was doing country races on a little brumby mare,
 She had a lot of courage, not a thing she wouldn't dare.
 And though very small in stature, she would always have a go,
 We always took the trophies handed out at every show.

I loved that little brumby, though not classed a thoroughbred,
 She had a gentle nature and a proud tilt to the head.
 When racing on the dirt track she would go like all let out,
 I never tried to hold her. She was boss without a doubt.

We made a tidy fortune from those dusty country towns,
 They knew us well at Birdsville; just as well at Roxby Downs.
 Then some bastard did the dirty 'cause he couldn't bear to lose,
 He dosed her up with something that no decent man would use.

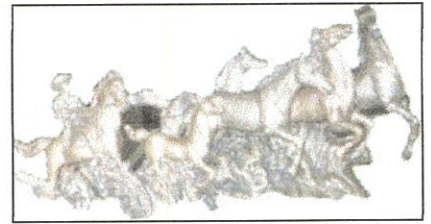
I found her barely conscious when I checked her out that night,
 She was moaning something awful, real distressing was her plight.
 You should have seen the bastard when she staggered to her place,
 The look of devastation wrote his guilt upon his face.

And just to show the blighter, she took every cup that day,
 But by ten o'clock that evening she had quietly slipped away,
 O'er a lifetime I've remembered how I loved that brumby mare,
 Hoping when I go to heaven she'll be waiting for me there.



Congratulations ! Val

Val Read has won the "Bronze Horse" prize in the "Yarrawonga Australian Poetry Championships". This is the written competition. Her poem was "The Twentieth Century Drover". Fantastic Val, keep poeting. We'd love to hear more of your poems as well at the CAY's ; even at the heats perhaps?



It's wonderful to see so many of our poets gaining a national reputation. I 'm sure that W..A.'s 'splendid isolation' is a contributing factor to this great creativity.

Advanced Notice for The Coming Heats of our Wireless Hill Challenge

Lorelie Tacoma is going to be our coordinator for the heats. It is important that members wishing to compete advise Lorelie of their intentions to compete and the title of the piece they wish to perform. This is not an idle request. By making known to the coordinator the chosen works we can avoid 10 people reciting 'The Man from Snowy River' in the one heat. It also allows the coordinator to provide the judges with partially filled in judging details. See the calendar on the back page for dates and details.

Rusty's Double Booked - Help!

Talking of "the Man From Snowy River", the play is on at the Burswood Dome. **Rusty has a set of 2 concession tickets for the evening of Friday 13th of September he wishes to sell** as he has double booked with his duties as Ambassador for the Year of the Outback. If you would like to go and see this fabulous show for a very low cost please ring Rusty on **9364 4491 ASAP**.

Advanced notice – Keep the weekend of the 16th November Free

The Famous Rod and Kerry Lee Bush Poetry Show is on again on their selection. They have new poetry and poets lined up already for the Saturday and Sunday. See this space for further notice in later issues.

Vale Mrs Betty Skinner

A few of our bush poets may remember when Kerry brought her mum to the CAY's while on holidays from the East. Kerry Lee's mum **Betty Skinner** passed away a few weeks ago. We'd like to pay our condolences to the Skinner and Lee families at this time.

Committee Contacts Year 2001 – 2002

Name	Address	Position	Phone	E-Mail
Lorelie Tacoma	16 Gratwick Terrace Murdoch, WA 6150	President	9310 1500	tacoma@tpg.com.au
Joan Macneall	14 Arbour Place Kelmscott, WA 6111	Vice-President	9451 6008	macneall1@iinet.net.au
Michelle Sorrell	Unit 1, 8 Hill St South Perth, WA 6151	Editor	9367 4963	msorrell@iinet.net.au
Peter Williamson	Unit 4, 176 Fern St Wilson, WA 6107	Secretary	9258 5773	willo@wiredcity.com.au
Kerry Lee	160 Blair Road Oakford, WA 6113	Treasurer	9397 0409	daverodkerry@bigpond.com
Rusty Christensen	51 Coogee Road Ardross, WA 6153	Committee	9364 4491	
Rachel Dockery	124 Hollis Road Wilson, WA 6107	Committee	9356 7426	raedockery@yahoo.com
Peter Nettleton	3 Ashwood Place South Lake, WA 6164	Committee	9417 8663	stinger@iinet.net.au
Constance Herbert	Unit 6, 5 Crabtree Mews O'connor, WA 6163	Committee	9331 2321	

WA Bush Poets and Yarn Spinners Assoc Inc

Receipt

[00285]

Received from Edna Westall

**the sum of Fifteen Dollars
being Members' Subscriptions of
WA Bush Poets and Yarn Spinners Assoc Inc
Until 30/06/2003**

\$15

Howell

WA Bush Poets and Yarn Spinners Association Inc

Coming Events

Date	Event	Co-ordinator
Frid 6 th Sept. 2002	CAY special guest Ron Evans + supporting cast	Peter Williamson – 9258 5773
Fri. 4 th Oct. 2002	CAY special ladies performance night	Lorelie Tacoma – 9310 1500
Wed 2 nd - Sat 5 th October 2002	National Rally in Northam (Caravan and Camping Club)	Rod and Kerry Lee – H. 93970409
Sat. 12 th Oct. 2002	Yealering Bush Poetry Heat	Peter Nettleton – 9417 8663 evenings
Fri. 1 st Nov. 2002	Heat 1 of Wireless Hill Challenge	Lorelie Tacoma – 9310 1500
Fri. 6 th Dec. 2002	Heat 2 of Wireless Hill Challenge	As for heat 1 above

Return Address

The Editor
WA Bush Poets and Yarn Spinners Assoc.
Unit 1, 8 Hill St
South Perth WA 6151

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Edna Westall

**Unit 2, 10 McKimmie Rd
PALMYRA WA 6157**