# BULLY TIN



□Next Muster June 3rd, 2011 7.30pm MC Lorelie Tacoma Auditorium, Bentley Park, 26 Plantation Dve Bentley 6102,

June is

Start of Winter, Winter Solstice
Foundation Day, D-Day,
Red Nose Day,
World Blood Donor Day,
Potty Training awareness
month

June is the Birthday month of Henry Lawson, so here's one of his lesser known poems written 100 years ago this month to celebrate the coronation of King George V and Queen Mary.

To that time, King George (who ascended the throne in May 1910) was the only British monarch ever to have been in the southern hemisphere. This occurred in 1901 when as the Duke of York and Cornwall, he came, accompanied by his wife, Mary, to Australia to open the First Federal Parliament in Melbourne.

#### THE KING

And now a son has come again
To keep the peace or strike the blow,
And have a long, great, glorious reign,
Through calm or tempest, weal or woe.
And strange things set me wondering —
As man and youth, we knew him here,
The one the only British King,
To see his Southern Hemisphere.

'Midst pealing bells and cannons' din The countless thousands cheer and strive To catch one glance of their new King And queenly Mary, his fair bride; 'Til on their knees, within the Fane, The Royal couple meekly kneel, The Great God's clemency to claim, And pray Him for their people's weal.

And so I see, in vision clear,
The long reign of this noble line,
How on and on, from year to year
The star of peace shall brighter shine,
How men and nations, without fear
Shall hope and labour, strive and sing:
"The day of liberty is here!
The King is Dead! Long Live the King"

# THE FUTURE OF the WABP&YS Assn? ON COUNTDOWN TO OBLIVION? JUST OVER A MONTH TO GO

With the annual "Geriatric Gypsy" northward migration well underway many will be stopping off at Wallal located between Pt Hedland and Broome, That is of course the place we know as Ninety Mile Beach

# On Ninety Mile Beach

By Peter Hopegood

I saw three crosses in the dunes
Of driftwood, rough and brown,
And one leaned East, and one leaned West
And one had tumbled down.

One had a name cut with a knife, The other two were bare; Unless that name were written false No lies at all were there---

No virtues posthumously hewed Though hitherto ignored; Stark humble as the Holy Rood Was each unlettered board;

No promises to meet again, Nor hints of future bliss---Yet, as I set them plumb, I thought, "There's not much now amiss!"





# Scratchings

Here we are again, a month closer to our AGM and still no-one has stepped forward to do anything other than the Bully Tin—Yes, we do have a couple of volunteers for that (one person compiling while the other collects from the printer, folds and posts them — see elsewhere in this

newsletter re getting it by

But what about Musters? Dot and I wont be there in August or September - Who will get there early around 6.40pm and set up the P.A? Who will take the trailer home—you can't leave it at my place - Sure we can remove all but the actual PA gear we use at musters, but it's all too heavy and bulky to put in the back of a car, so the trailer is essential. Who knows how to turn on the lights, or the air-conditioning? be there early too. Will there be musters. This needs to be planned NOW, not wait until after the AGM and then sit around scratching heads.

As for the Management side of the Assn, perhaps we need to consider a year or two almost in 'mothballs' doing only the essentials, Having a committee that meet about quarterly (perhaps on the internet? As the current Australian Bush Poets management committee do) We do have sufficient funds to tide us over, while still paying essentials (eg. Insurance) for a couple of years. But this will mean having to start almost over again with member recruitment, getting back into musters (assuming they too have been in limbo-land) when some people come along who are willing to put in the 'hard yard' - It also needs to be SEVERAL PEOPLE SHARING THE WORK-LOAD otherwise you will rapidly end up with the current situation — BURN-OUT of the few doing the brunt of the work adding to their health issues and unwillingness to continue ......

I have listed elsewhere in this newsletter, the essential jobs that need doing, and who traditionally does them

PLEASE RE-READ MY SCRATCHINGS from last month's Bully Tin regarding this crisis.

Last month I indicated that we needed to look at membership and other fees. Last Month your committee looked Bully Tin:— there is currently around \$400 shortfall between the costs of producing the Bully Tin and what we receive in Membership Fees. Muster entries, and donations at events are effectively the ONLY income we have to cover this shortfall and all our other expenses. As we have around \$2500 that we have to pay (mostly Insurance and Muster Venue Hire) you can see that we need to look seriously at our budgeting.

Consequently, the Membership renewal form which accompanies this newsletter will show you that we made a decision NOT TO INCREASE membership fees but to ADD a \$3 levy if you want your newsletter sent via Australia Post - If you are happy to have it e-mailed to you, then you will not have to pay this levy.

The other worrying thing is the gradual reduction in Muster attendees. Last month was the lowest we have had for a very long time, just 38 in total - Are Musters still viable? They wont be if members and friends don't come along. Then What's left? It's no good putting up the entry fee to cover the low numbers, that will likely reduce the attendance further.

I realise that as time goes on, peoples interests change, typically being in the range of 5—7 years sticking with any particular interest before your focus goes elsewhere, That is why we NEED NEW MEMBERS

With AGM almost upon us, I am prepared to remain on the committee (mainly in an advisory role if needed) but I

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## **Walking Different Tracks**

Vera Newsom Poetry Prize (1st \$500, 2nd \$200) max 32 lines, Open topic and style, Entry \$10 Closes 30 Sept. open to all Australians, excludes poems previously published (inc. internet) or prize winning or currently entered in a competition. - Send poem (minus your name) on A4 with separate cover sheet giving your details and poem name to "Younstreet Receiving Officer, PO Box 71 Avalon NSW 2107 Winners notified ASAP—Send SSAE for results

**Stop Press**—BIG POETRY COMP (\$2300 in prizes - go to

www.daylesfordonline.com/poetryprize/WELCOME.html

Poetry Australia has certainly lifted the general profile of Poetry and is continuing to come up with innovative ideas. The poetry i-phone Ap (that's 'Application" for the non technocrats) mentioned last month has had a lot of downloads, Threre's an artist over t'otherside who is combining poetry on her textile art, And also on t'otherside there is a poet appearing with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra - maybe not all "our thing" but we are part of the overall poetic scene and any improvement in public awareness is welcome. You can joun poets Australia and get their weekly newsletter by going to http://poetryaustralia.com/

**N BRIEF** With the changing technology, printed books are being superseded by electronic ones, here's some info on one in our line:-

New Rhyming Poetry e-book "Rhyming Australian Poetry" by DJ. The website for the book has also just been launched, and features a 15-minute YouTube documentary on DJ (on the "LINKS" page): <a href="http://dj-poetry.webs.com/">http://dj-poetry.webs.com/</a> The new e-book (containing 100 poems written by DJ) is also available on Lulu.com, for \$5. (A link to the new anthology is on the website)

DJ has been called "the living Henry Lawson" by his many fans. You can read more on DJ, and additional samples of his poetic works here: <a href="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Danilo">http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Danilo</a> Jovanovitch

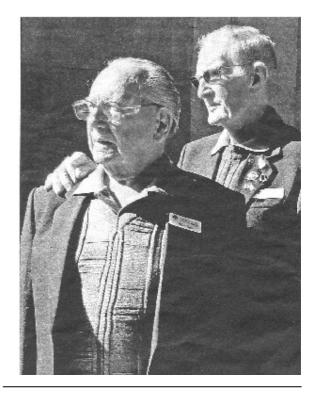
## **Geraldton Brekky**

President Brian, with wife Dot last month took a trip to Geraldton to take part in the 2nd Geraldton Motor Heritage Festival's Bush Poet's Brekky.

Along with Corin Linch and Irene Connor from Jurien and locals Roger Cracknell and Tony Turner, they got up bright and early to get underway at the appointed start time of 9am. It was unfortunate that the advertising literature had only given the Motor show start time !0 am and so the first half was not as well patronised as it could have been. However, the audience did pick up in numbers. As well as the performers, we had one "walk-upo" in the person of Geraldton's Jim Robinson

Having been to many such events, it would seem that those organised totally by Poetic people, and I include here such events as the Albany and Esperance brekkies, and most definitely the Boyup Brook long weekend are far better organised than others for which the Poets Brekky seems to be some sort of very loose attachment. It was unfortunate that Catherine McLernan, our Geraldton "go-getter" had a clash of events and found herself many hundreds of km away from the brekky.

While in Geraldton, Brian presented a 4 hour workshop on Writing and performing Bush poetry. This was appreciated by the small but enthusiastic attendees. Again there had been a problem with advertising the workshop Ah Well! next time perhaps.



WA Bush poets "Living Legend" Arthur Leggett, accompanied by Bill Taylor have recently been to Greece at the Invitation of the Greek Government to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the German invasion during WWII. They will join 6 other Australian service men

Arthur and Bill, were both members of the 2/11 Btn's ill fated attempt to halt the German advance and both were taken prisoner by the Germans. Arthur, not wishing to remain a "guest of Adolf" made 7 escape attempts during his incarceration, finally succeeding only a few weeks before the end of the war.

From Sunday Times, Aug 31 1902

He: "I see the Federal Senate have placed a 5 per cent, duty on wool yarns.

" She : "It ought to be more. What do we want with sheep-shearing stories

# A Matter of Computer Security PLEASE READ

While I don't usually put this sort of stuff in the Bully Tin, I'll make an exception this month as the scam is running riot—I am getting almost 1 call each day. And I know that some of my friends have been caught by it - I only hope this warning is not too late for you.

It works as follows - You get a phone call, supposedly from Microsoft, an Internet Security company, your ISP or similar and they tell you that your computer is infected with viruses, or other nasties and they can fix it for you. You are then asked to go to a particular website, This is where the trouble starts, for they then tell you to press a certain combination of keys on your computer - THIS ALLOWS THEM TOTAL CONTROL OF YOUR COMPUTER and access to every bit of information in it as if they were sitting in front of it with the mouse in their hand.

It has been reported that so far, many thousands of people have been compromised in this way and many of those have lost a significant amount of money. It also means that once they have gained access to your computer, they can continue to do this forever as during their initial access, they install the appropriate software. - The only way to fix this is to reformat your hard drive and start again. (or get a new computer).

HOW ARE THEY ABLE TO DO THIS? They rely on most people being trusting of "experts" They also rely on the fact that many people are lazy and get their computer to remember their login details etc.

In addition, they utilise a feature of modern computers whereby you can receive technical help from some remote location by allowing a legitimate technician to access your computer - This requires you to make a conscious decision via key clicks and key combinations to allow this and the scammers are relying on your gullibility.

A further addition to this scheme is that while all this is going on, they offer to fix the viruses (that you likely don't have) and sell you a contract for Virus protection. Should you agree to this, they sit (effectively alongside you) while you make the necessary financial transaction, recording every keystroke –so giving them future access to YOUR BANK

So you've paid. - You're unlikely to ever get any technical assistance or computer protection AND you have given them "Carte Blanche" to go into your computer and do whatever they like and maybe also into your bank and transfer all your money out of it

## WHAT CAN YOU DO TO PROTECT YOURSELF? —- BE ALWAYS SUSPICIOUS, DILIGENT AND ALERT

First off, be aware that NO ISP, Legitimate Security Company, Microsoft or anyone else in that game will call you "out of the blue" to fix your computer.

**NEVER respond** to these (see also 'playing their game' below)

Listen carefully to any possible suspect phone call, TREAT ALL unsolicited phone calls from anyone you don't know as highly suspicious. Believe NOTHING until you are sure you are dealing with a "Real" company

### HANG UP if at all concerned

Should you find yourself in a situation where it may be a legitimate call, but you are not sure, Ask for their Company name and main phone number, their department and their name and say you will ring back to confirm it - If you do get the info, DO IT, RING THE COMPANY (get their name from the phone book or Directory enquiries—don't rely on the number they give you).

If they don't give this info and try and put you off, there is a 99.9999% chance it is a scam HANG UP

I would also recommend that you DO NOT save any sensitive passwords in your computer, not even in a file called "Login details" etc)

I have a such a file (I am a member of many websites and can't remember all my logins) but I do not put in the full password if it is at all sensitive but only enough to recognize it - example if my password is the 6 digits of my Birthdate followed by my pets name - In the document, I simply put BdayPet

"Playing their game" - If you are savvy enough, (and only if) you can "play their game" and waste their time - pretend to go along with the scam without actually doing anything (in terms of going to the website etc, just say you are there) and appear confused when they say it hasn't worked - You can keep them busy for quite a while doing this, playing the "dumb blonde" You can also exclaim at length how wonderful technology is, and how fortunate you are that they are so diligent and caring - also as they inevitably have a considerable accent, you can them to repeat everything several times as you've not been able to understand them - (I sometimes ask to talk to someone else with less accent this means 2 of the scammers are wasting time - they will eventually hang up, but hopefully not before you have told them in good Aussie expletives what they can do and where they can go

# This "double" page is removable - It contains a couple of "Tear off" parts

WA Bush Poets & Yarn Spinners Assn Annual General meeting July 1st 2011 Notice of AGM (in accordance with our Constitution) and proposed agenda

Members are advised that the Annual general meeting of the WA Bush Poets and Yarn Spinners Association (Inc.) will be held at the Auditorium, 26 Plantation Drive, Bentley Park, commencing at 6.30pm. All available members are asked to attend.

AGENDA

(Members Present please ensure you sign the Registry of attendance)

- Notification of apologies,
- 2 Minutes of the previous AGM held July 2nd 2010 and the Special General Meeting (constitution change) held November 5th 2010
- 3 Business arising from either of these meetings.
- 4 Treasurers Report Presented by Shan-Rose Brown
- 5 Presidents Report: Presented by Brian Langley
- **Election of Management Committee** for 2011 12 All previous Management committee positions will be declared vacant and elections held for the new committee positions: (see "Duties" over the page.)

Positions are: President

Vice president Secretary Treasurer

Committee members (4—6 positions)

(Members can nominate themselves or another member prior to the meeting on the form below (particularly if they will not be attending the meeting) or they can nominate on the night (using the same form).

- 7 Determination of who the bank signatories will be (This is not a legal requirement of the Assoc. but is a requirement of one of the banks with which we have an account)
- 8 Other Business of an Annual Nature



# Current "Duties and Jobs" (some may be changed / deleted with the new administration)

**All Management Committee People** Seek opportunities to fulfil the Aims and Objectives of the Association. (primarily to Preserve and Present "Australian Rhyming Poetry")

#### **President**

- Represent the Assoc in all dealings with other organisations, Government, Councils, etc.
- In association with the Treasurer prepare any grant documentation deemed necessary
- Be the main "Point of Enquiry" for questions from the community at large regarding the Association, its activities, availabilities .....
- Liaise with Country member re events in their regions

#### **Vice President**

Act in place of the President in his/her absence (See also below— Advertising & Events management)

#### Secretary

- Record the management activities of the Association
- Receive and send out all correspondence
- Keep on file and available, all documentation associated with the WABP&YS Assn

#### **Treasurer**

- Maintain the financial records of the Association,
- In conjunction with the President, prepare grant and budget documentation,
- Receive and pay monies on behalf of the Assoc.
- Organise finances associated with events held by the Assoc (Musters and Special Events)

#### Jobs which are distributed among committee members: (or other volunteers)

#### Registrar

Maintain an up to date record of Membership and Assets

# Muster Management:

- Arrange Annual program including MCs, guest artists etc
  - Set up and operate PA system (including its storage)
- Set up venue, lighting, furniture, decorations
- Liaise access etc. with venue owner where required
- Arrange amenities (supper etc)
- Arrange routine advertising in papers, radio (traditionally V Pres)

(Cont from previous page)

• "Meet and Greet" (Welcome new people, visitors ).....



2011—2012 WABP&YS Assoc Management Committee Nomination Form on other side

•	If deemed necessary do "write up" for newsletter	
Special Events  Management (traditionally mostly Vice Pres)  •	Arrange Grants with Council etc (President's Job) Arrange suitable artistic and associated talent Set up necessary PA system, On site Advertising, shelters etc Arrange Advertising and promotion	
Librarian • • • • •	Acquire suitable material Store and maintain library materials Maintain a listing of all books etc Issue and retrieve library items to members and others	
Newsletter • • • •	Compile the monthly Newsletter Arrange Printing and e-mail distribution to members. Print Envelopes or stickers Collect from Printer, Fold newsletters into envelopes and post	
Website •	Maintain Association Website , be responsible for the payment of Hosting and Name registration	
Equipment maintenance	Keep all Association physical assets in good operating order.	
Training,	Arrange venues, personnel, printing etc	

Junior Development

Liaise with schools, Councils etc , arrange personnel

other "Ad hoc" activities

as required

EMBERSHIP RENEWAL VA BUSH POETS & YARNSPINNERS ASSOC. 2011—2012	
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ay at Muster or Send Payment to <b>Treasurer WABP&amp;YS C/- 9 Jupiter St, Carlisle 6101</b> eceipts / membership Badges will be issued once the new Treasurer is established. ake cheques payable to "WA Bush Poets & Yarnspinners Assoc. "	

## From THE AUSSIE DUNNY author unknown - possibly Dave Smith )

They were funny looking buildings, that were once a way of life, If you couldn't sprint the distance, then you really were in strife. Some were nailed, while some were wired, but most were falling down, There was one in every yard, at every house, in every town.

They were given many names, and some were even funny, But to most of us, we knew them as the outhouse or the dunny. I've seen some of them all gussied up, with painted doors and all, But it really made no difference, they were just a port of call.

Now my old man would take a bet, he'd lay an even pound, That you wouldn't make the dunny with them turkeys hangin' round.. They had so many uses, these buildings out the back, You could even hide from mother, so you wouldn't get the strap.

That's why we had good cricketers, who didn't mind the bumps,
The pathway was the wicket and the dunny door the stumps.

Now my old man would sit for hours, the smell would rot your socks,
He read the daily back to front in that good old thunderbox.

And if by chance that nature called sometime throughout the night, You always sent the dog in first, for there was no flamin' light. And the dunny seemed to be the place where crawlies liked to hide, But never ever showed themselves until you sat inside.

There was no such thing as Sorbent, no tissues there at all, Just squares of well read newspaper, a hangin' on the wall.

If you had some friendly neighbours, as neighbours sometimes are, You could sit and chat to them a while, if you left the door ajar.

The dunny man came once a week, to these buildings out the back, And he would leave an extra can, if you left for him a zac. For those of you who've no idea what once was called a zac, Then you're too young to have ever had, a dunny out the back.



# MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL ON OTHER SIDE



#### "The Kalamunda Crew"

On Mother's Day, May 8th WA Bush Poets were up at Stirk Park Kalamunda with another "Poets in the Park" With a quite respectable and appreciative crowd (albeit scattered a bit under the autumn leaves of the trees around the perimeter) Pres. Brian, his "good wife" Dot, Barry Higgins, John Hayes, Arthur Leggett and Robert Gunn gave an afternoon of our usual mixture of "Make 'em laugh, make 'em cry and make 'em think", poetry, both Contemporary and traditional. Robert also bought along his guitar to include a bit of music and singing in the program.

Robert was also the winner of the "Poet's Brawl" at Boyup Brook,last Feb. With his "Those Bloody Eastern Tourists " - here 'tis

Those Bloody eastern tourists We know about them, mate. 'Cause we went round Australia Before it was too late

The Vics are all in Queensland, Strut like stars from Hollywood Cultured clowns, they're abound And most from Collingwood.

And the only time they venture west Is to poach or steal or both If you question their integrity They'll answer "Bloody Oath!"

Now I've always been for secession It's not just for the greed Stop them at the border And see them bloody bleed

'Cause Canberra counts the cash From our gold and iron ore Props up the bigger cities Along the eastern shore

Now he claims I'm the wingin' mongrel And he says "So shut yer cake hole mate " You don't like daylight saving, And you're already two hours late

OK, I'll stop the sledge and baggin' Come over and have a beer, Remember, I'm from West Australia, The place I love so dear. 100 years Ago (Friday June 2nd 1911) Scanning through the local papers I see that building blocks are for Sale on the highest hill in North Perth for £25 or £1 per month. If you were a bit wealthier, for just £40 you could buy a fenced block on high ground in South Perth. And if you're looking to take up the life of a poultry farmer, you could buy a working business for just £350 (half cash) which consisted of 30 acres with a brick house several sheds and 700 laying chickens.

And from the Pen of Dryblower last Sunday we had this little gem:

## **OUR PROMISE**

She was angry, she was red,
There was terror in her tread.
As she panted up the editorial stairs.
As she'd spurn a hollow log
Swept she past the office dog
Who intercepts all poets and their wares.

To the sanctum strode she in, And a breath suggesting gin
Smote the senses of the inoffensive staff;
Who as one affrighted bloke
To the safety ladder broke
And scattered like the blizzard driven chaff.

"Who's the miscreant?" shrieked she, In a high soprano key, "Who puts the marriage notices in print?" Waving round her as she spoke Thirty inch -of heavy oak That threatened fractured skulls and doctors' lint.

"Whoffor ?" the poet breathed,
As the waving weapon wreathed
Round her bonnet like a halo round a head;
"I want to stop," she yelled.
As her cudgel high she held,
"The notice of my daughter -being wed."

Said the poet, growing calm,
"There can surely be no harm
In publishing the notice that a bride
To aid her in the strife
Of this all too-sordid life
Will have a husband sturdy by her side?"

Said the dame who reeked of gin,
"It ain't a-goin' in;
If it does there'll be some trouble in the camp."
And to emphasise her swear,
On the poet's empty chair
She pounded with her cudgel and her gamp.

"Too late," the poet said,
"For the proofs are pulled and read,
In half-an-hour they'll have the sheet in Perth;
But until you give a hint
We promise not to print
A syllable about the baby's birth!"

## Wrap-up of May Muster - by Dot

Our MC for the night was John Hayes filling in for June Bond who was ill. We wish her a speedy recovery.

With our theme for the night, "Relationships" **Brian Langley** started us of with his new one, "Animals and Me" in which he talks about his "inafinity" with them. Throughout his life his attempts to get on with animals has been fraught with pain and injury. There was the bull that chased him and when he ran away he jumped the neighbours fence and landed in his prize rose garden that had just been recently given a mulching with chook poo. But after all his troubles he has gone and bought himself a farm and he is very happy with his thousands of composting worms.

**Grace Williamson** had a new poem by John O'Brien, "One by One". This is a story of a woman and her life. For years she taught her children and then they left her but she called them back again as her time was near. As they all came back to see her they gathered One by One, the refrain that is a chorus at the end of this lovely poem.

The dynamic due of **Kerry Bowe** and **Barry Higgins** had one of Kerry's poems that Barry had helped by adding other bits. "The Lotto Winner" tells of the dear old lady who had won the lotto. As her family was hanging around waiting for her demise she decided to spend the lot. After travelling the world she came home and bought herself a car. The salesman warned her to go slow and learn the gears but she ignored him and took off like a bat from hell her foot flat to the floor. The old lady was a driving maniac, she came back complaining about an awful smell. The salesman wasn't too happy going out with her and he was terrified about her driving skills but when she tried to out run a train and get across the line before it did, she finally said NOW can you smell it. Lady I can smell it now because I'm sitting in it!!

With Banjo's "Bunch of Roses" **Ron Ingam** told of the memories that the scent from the roses bought back. The face of a loved one who was the queen of the ballroom but now her memory is all that he has left as her young life was ended. And with head bowed the old man worn and grey holds a bunch or roses. Then with a delightful song he burst into "Mamma" singing it in Italian, where the glow of her love that nothing can ever replace until the day we are together once more.

**Carolyn Sambridge** had two new poems for us tonight. The first A Modern Day Version of "My Country", "I Love a Concrete Country," that is filled with flats and bitumen pads where the water holes have all been filled in killing all the fogs and toads and the scenery is not pretty. So to all the land developers, drink up and raise a toast. The second is about the "Tooth Fairy and the Awful Truth". She doesn't leave the kids any money, she doesn't weave any magic. She has gone into Real Estate so she doesn't care about the kids.

**Teresa Rose** had one of Henry Lawsons, "When the Children Come Home", which seems to be happening today with the young ones furiously doing 'their' thing and not caring about the parents. The poem tells of the old lady looking after the farm as she works on the fences, ploughs with the old horse always reminding herself that she will continue to work until the children come home. She keeps on working convinced that in time one of her ten children will come home.

A welcome to **Arthur Leggett** who performed CJ Dennis "The Swagman" who was old with bushy whiskers and he said he had come from a long way and he had a long way to go. His boots were broken and his billy tin was blackened and he had a hat with corks dancing around the brim. His advice to me was to shun the track but one day I might get me a billy can and corks around my hat and I will leave a jolly life like that.

With his "Prospectors Daughter" **Terry Piggot** told us that he has rewritten it a couple of times and tonight he will try and perform it but he has his notes if he has to read. The story is of an old man reminiscing about his life and telling of the things that he had done. The life that he had lived out in the bush with the heat and dust and flies. The stations that he had worked at where they looked after their men but with prices low he moved on again. He met a barmaid and to his dying shame he left her in the lurch and it was twenty years before a girl wrote to him telling him he was her dad. He met this lovely girl and they have since kept in touch and meet now and again but she has never called me Dad. The folk at the station had contacted his daughter to tell her of his fate and when the car came to the door she said that she had come to get her "Dad".

**Kerry Bowe** then returned with one of hers "Me Mother" which tells of her Mother who had lost some weight. But the awful thing is that is has travelled and landed on her! She has tried to shake if off and even done aerobics and tried jumping rope but there was not hope. Her husband doesn't mind as before there were just bones and bits sticking out now there are cuddles and softness. But how did the weight settle inside her and how does she get it out but she knows who to blame — its Me Mother.

Peg Vickers writes a lot of poetry about Granddad as she reckons they are easy to spin a story about. **Dot Lang- ley** presented "For the Love of Basil". This just goes to show if you eavesdrop you hear only things that you don't want to hear. He heard her saying that she couldn't do without her sweet basil, Grandpa was astounded and is that basil bloke hanging around the house and was he some fancy lady's man seducing all the women folk? Grandpa's nerves were all in a frazzle until he finally asked why did she love basil. Sweet basil is superb but she didn't know quite what she would do without her special herb. He told his mates that she loved Basil but now she loves Herb as well.

What a lovely supper put on by Maxine and Edna thank you very much ladies.

With Readings from the Classics **Jean Ritchie** choose a poem by Mary Durack "Red Jack", which relates to a lady her father met just the once in Western Queensland on his famous trek across our country's north. With her riot of bright Red hair, she was reputed as being an expert with her Stock whip and wasn't afraid to use it on people who got in her way. - We hear very few of Mary's poem, and this was a new one to us.

**Barry Higgins** had a classic Syd Hopkins poem on the "GST." The busker was entertaining the crowd by tossing up coins and catching them in his teeth. But this time he missed and the coin went straight down his throat. As he lay there gasping for air people were calling for a doctor or an ambulance. A man stepped out from the crowd and grabbed the busker's 'dangly bits' and twisted. The coin was dislodged and the busker could breathe again. When asked was he a doctor he said no he used to be a Government Tax man.

**Arthur Leggett** has lodge usually on Fridays and that is why we don't see him as much as we all would like. So in honor of his lodge he wrote this poem about his inauguration. The domestic scene was quite frantic as his wife got his tea ready for him. The kids were scurrying around polishing his shoes and on the bed was his freshly ironed white shirt and suit all laid out for him and they sent him off with good wishes for the night. But now after all these years have passed its not quite the same. He gets his own tea and tries to get his shoes polished. After he returns she greets him with I'm sorry for not taking the time to help you get ready for your lodge night.

With "Jim's Whip" by Barcroft Boake **Teresa Rose** had bought along her own whip to help with the telling. There on the wall hangs his whip though it gives not a sound as the hand that made it is stilled as it lays beneath the grassy mound. The whip was with him day and night and when they heard its crack they knew the drought was broken as he bought the cattle back. She heard the crack of his whip but he didn't come home for tea, but his horse came riderless and she knew that her man would never come home. Sometimes she can hear the sound of the whip and she knows that he is looking over her and thinking of her still.

Ron Ingham performed Graham Jenkin's "Burnt Norton". Out on the station it takes a week on a horse to ride a fence but on a motor bike it could be done in a day. So in next months mail there was a Norton the hottest one on the road, but hang on! does anyone know how to ride it? John Trelawney stepped up to give it a go. He took the bike down to dingoes flat and as he hurtled through the gate he tore the fence along with him. He rode it faster than anything seen and started up quite a few bush fires as he left a trail of wreckage a ½ mile wide. Until he struck that fatal cow and exploded with an atomic cloud that blotted out the sun and now they sing his praises as he and cow were blown all to blazes.

**Grace Williamson** loves Joan Strange's poetry and with her "Mother's Day" she told us of the activities that the children got up to as they prepared her breakfast in bed for mothers day. The tea was cold and the toast was burnt and she just knew that there would be a mess in the kitchen. The meaning is clear as she opens each card and package as they hold the priceless gift of love.

**Terry Piggot**'s "Ashburton" – Drought is a common occurrence now with the famers facing another poor wet season. The starving cattle are sitting besides the disappearing water hole as they loose their final battles and they slowly die of starvation. Miles of stock travel to the water as with awful bellows they stagger on all skin and bone. Dingoes are howling and the other scavengers are flocking. The weather pattern is shifting and any rain is just a trickle and chances diminish that the rain is coming.

With a bit of time to spare **Kerry Bowe then** did her "Boomer in the Creek" (hoping that she could remember all of it). The family had gone out shooting for their dogs just had to be fed. They came upon the biggest roo anyone had ever seen. With the dogs racing in to annoy the animal he grabbed one of the dogs and flung it away. Her father put bullet after bullet into the roo but he didn't drop. Finally he did and everyone went home to get the horses to help pull the carcass out of the creek.

Win another one of Peg Vickers **Dot Langley** thought that she would like to have an "Extramarital affair"!!! She was sick of washing and sweeping with her everlasting chores so she thought it would be a good idea, if she could find a willing accomplice to have a fling. They arranged a day and she did the shopping before she got there; when she got to his place she left the groceries in his fridge. She had bought along some lamingtons to put him in the mood but then her phone rang, her daughter needed to be picked up as she had hurt herself at sport. Well how about next week but he said forget it, its causing too much fuss. Well the best plans can go astray and I've left my milk and sausages inside his B@#\$@y fridge.

**John Hayes'** family were miners in Kalgoorlie and in his poem "Pioneer Days" (Cont next page) (Cont from previous page)

he tells of his ancestors who worked the goldmines These days were tough and the dust got everywhere and down into their lungs but they had each other to help them through the tough times..

**Arthur Legget** treated us to his own poem about a grasshopper who fell into his swimming pool. As it struggled to get out of the pool Arthur though that he heard it ask him if he was going to let it drown. So he carefully lifted it out of the water, then squashed it under his boot saying "Die you B#S#@&D die!"

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#### **Upcoming Events**

Please let the editor know if you are aware of any event which might be of interest to the general membership

June 3	WABP&YS Muster	Auditorium, Bentley Park 7.30pm No Specific Theme
July 1	AGM WABP&YS	Auditorium, Bentley Park 6.30pm
July 1	WABP&YS Muster	Auditorium, Bentley Park 7.30pm Guest "Outback Paddy"

Regular events - Albany Bush Poetry group 4th Tuesday of each month Geraldton Growers market Poetry gig 2nd Saturday Peter 9844 6606 Catherine 0409 200 153.

Do YOU have any poetic events which need to go in this space? Or for that matter anywhere within this newsletter — it is YOUR newsletter, I would like to see more direct contributions from members and friends.

**Brian Langley** finished off the nights entertainment with "A Dangerous Place" in which he tells of all the dangers that lurk in the ocean—He'll do his swimming in the pool. The final poem for the night was his "Joining the club" in which he is asked to join the golf club rather than pay casual rates., On working out the finances Vs fringe benefits of joining, he reckons he's far better off paying casual, and reckons that their calculations for saving money 'Sucks'

# Muster MCs and Classics Readers are always needed - See John Hayes

# Don't forget our website www.wabushpoets.com

# Country Poets -Is there anything poetic going on in your neck of the woods. If so, why not drop us a line and tell us about it

Members—Do you have poetic prod-			Arthur Leggett	books,
ucts for sale? If so please let the edi-	Graham Armstrong	Book	i	inc autobiography
tor know so you can be added to this	Victoria Brown	CD	Keith Lethbridge	books
list	Peter Blyth	CDs, books	Corin Linch	books
Members can contact the poets via	Rusty Christensen	CDs	Val Read	books
the Assn. Secretary or visit our web-	Brian Gale	CD & books	Caroline Sambridg	e book
site www.wabushpoets.com Go to	John Hayes	CDs & books	Peg Vickers	books & CD
the "Performance Poets" page	Tim Heffernan	book	· ·	
	Brian Langley	books, CD	"Terry & Jenny"	Music CDs
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	Brian Langley books, CD	"Terry & Jenny" Music CDs	
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