

THE

January 2019

BULLY TIN

W.A. Bush Poets



& Yarnspinners Assn.

**Next Muster Friday January 4th, 7pm - Bentley Park Auditorium, Bentley Park
MC : Lorraine Broun 9496 1214 Please give your synopses to Meg Gordon**



Perth's Crystal Swan, managed by **Peter Dinon,** is proud to partner with the WA Bush Poets & Yarn Spinners Association to provide the inaugural evening of

"Bush Poetry & Yarn Spinning on the Swan" during the **2019 FRINGE WORLD FESTIVAL**



The Perth city skyline provides your backdrop as we cruise along the beautiful Swan River with local bush poets spinning their yarns.

The Crystal Swan will be open for boarding from **6.30pm** and the performances are scheduled to run from **7pm to 8pm.**

First event: **Thursday 31st January**—Poets featured are **Peter Nettleton, Cobber Lethbridge, James Fitzpatrick and John Hayes.**

Second Event: **Thursday 7th February**—Poets featured are: **Bill Gordon, Roger Cracknell, Barry Higgins, Rob Gunn .**

Tickets are only available through www.fringeworld.com.au

This Bully Tin has been printed with the generous assistance of the office of
KATE DOUST MLC

and posted with the generous assistance of Ben Wyatt, MLA - Member for Victoria Park.



I have written previously in this column about the wonderful and inspiring family we have discovered as we became involved in Bush Poetry. Today we lost one of our closest friends from that group. Dave Smith lost his battle with the big C, but he did so with the style and dignity we have come to know and respect.

Dave was passionate about his poetry, never missing an opportunity to share his talents whenever possible. I have shared the stage with Dave from Esperance to Perenjori, from a Bunbury Primary School to Boyup Brook, and enjoyed every minute of it. But it was as a Yarnspinner that Dave shone. In 2011 and again in 2016 Dave was WA Champion yarnspinner. He loved telling us stories about the antics of his great grandchildren as much as the yarns that had his audiences enthralled. Dave used to quote one of Australia's best known yarnspinners, Frank Daniel – "Only half the lies I tell are the truth."

Dave was a valued and willing committee member of WA Bush Poets & Yarnspinners who took it upon himself to make the trophies for our State Championships held every November in Toodyay. This year he made two extra trophies for our written competition. He knew he would not be around for the job next year. When I collected the plaques for this year, the manager of Elite Graphics was full of praise for the quality and design of our Trophies. Thank you Dave for a job well done.

I join all members who knew and loved Dave, in expressing our deepest condolences to Elaine, their children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. We are all the poorer for Dave's passing, but all the richer for having had the privilege of knowing him and sharing the journey.

Bill Gordon. President

Great news from Kalgoorlie.

We've finally done it and gotten just a little bit more organised to run a monthly gathering, which will be on the 3rd Wednesday of the month starting February 20, 2019, at the Kalgoorlie Country Club, 108 Egan St, Kalgoorlie from 6.30pm.

Paul Browning

Note from our Secretary Rodger Kohn

Our website: apparently when you access the website in some instances you are faced with a blank screen; this apparently cannot be overcome; for those circumstances you need to press your REFRESH button, so that the information you seek appears .

WA BUSH POETS



Present the

24th Annual



Bush Poetry Showcase

With Traditional & Contemporary Performances,
by W.A.'s top Bush Poets
Plus music by

Sarah Broome

AUSTRALIA DAY

Saturday 26th Jan 2019

Wireless Hill Park, Ardross

Commencing 1.00pm

MC Peter "Stinger" Nettleton

FREE ENTRY - DONATIONS MUCH APPRECIATED

Bring your family & friends, a chair or blanket to sit on, sun protection
some refreshments and then sit back and enjoy the show

WABP&YS Information can be found at www.wabushpoets.asn.au
or Phone Rodger 0419 666 168 or 9332 0876 or Peter 0407770053

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Melville

Muster Roster:

Tentative as always. Please let me know if you would like to compere or are unable to fill your slot.

Date 2019	MC	Reader from the Classics	Extra Information
January	Lorraine Broun 9496 1214	Peter Nettleton 0407 770 053 stinger@inet.net.au	8 line poem Title: Procrastination
February	Jem Shorland 6143 0127 or 0487 764 897 shorland@inet.net.au	Lorraine Broun	Banjo Paterson's birthday. Recite one of his poems
March	Lorelie Tacoma 9365 2277 tlorelie@ymail.com	Anne Hayes	
April	Rodger Kohn 0419 666 168 rodgershirley@bigpond.com	Bev Shorland	16 line poem: He/She/It was always my best friend
May	Michael Darby 0499 906 522 mrmichaeldarby@hotmail.com	Heather Denholm	International rhyming poetry
June	Rob Gunn 0417 099 676 gunnpoet@hotmail.com	Jack Matthews	Poems from WA poets – past and present. Poets bring in your books/CDs to sell. Henry Lawson's birthday
July	Terry Piggott 9472 5303 terrance.piggott@bigpond.com	No reading from the Classics	AGM: meeting first and mus- ter to start at 7.30pm
August	Frank and Mary Heffernan 9881 6652 muffenburg@westnet.com.au	Frank and Mary Heffernan	
September	Robert Asplin 0448 150 757 robert.47@optusnet.com.au	Deb McQuire	Traditional Night CJ Dennis's birthday
October	Anne Hayes hayseed1@optusnet.com.au 9377 1238 or 0428 542 418	Tess Earnshaw	16 line poem: The first time
November 8th	Alan Aitken 0400 249 243 aaiken@live.com.au	Brian Langley	
December	Bill Gordon 0428 651 098 northlands@wn.com.au	No Reading from the Classics	Christmas poems if possible. Port,pies and poetry. Bring a gift (\$5 -\$10)

GUIDELINES FOR MUSTER MC'S

With the new year upon us it seems timely to remind new MCs of what they need to do to complete this valuable job.

1. Collect performance names—usually at the Muster prior to your event.
2. Determine whether reciting or reading. While we accommodate people reading, the aim is to encourage reciting. If poets find this difficult, suggest starting off with a short poem and organise someone in the audience to prompt
3. Do not wait and see if poets are coming on the night.
4. Please have first half organised with available poets. We encourage all poets but it is best to slot late comers into second half. If in doubt ask a committee member for assistance.
5. When arranging the performance schedule - allow 6 minutes per performance unless otherwise pre-arranged with poet. People often do quite short poems so check with the poets, if you can, as it might mean you can fit more performers in on the night.
6. In addition **give preference to poets who have learnt their poems**. They should ideally be given **two opportunities** through the night, but advise that they might or might not get a second spot depending on available time.
7. Try and give a range of performers - split traditional/contemporary, men/women, new/experienced etc if you can.
8. Do not announce the performer's poem let them introduce it themselves.
9. Make sure you have a "Reader from the Classics". This generally begins the second half of the evening and is allotted about 8 minutes.
10. There is no need for excessive introductions or long jokes. Do this if you are comfortable but you do not need to read lots of internet wit. The focus is on presenting the poets and their poems.
11. Remember the first half of the evening runs from 7-8pm. Supper Break approximately until 8.20pm. The second half of the evening runs from 8.20 -9.30pm.

Thank you for doing this essential job. We hope you enjoy the experience and will volunteer again. Remember to ask one of the committee if you are unsure about any aspect of this job.

Performers should remember to ring the MC in advance if you know you would like to perform and have a prepared synopsis for Bully Tin Editor

VALE—Dave Smith



The computer swallowed Grandpa.
Yes, honestly it's true!
He pressed 'control and enter'
And disappeared from view.

It devoured him completely,
The thought just makes me squirm.
He must have caught a virus
Or been eaten by a worm.

I've searched through the recycle bin
And files of every kind;
I've even used the Internet,
But nothing did I find.

In desperation, I asked Google
My searches to refine.
The reply from them was negative,
Not a thing was found online.

So, if inside your inbox,
My Grandpa you should see,
Please copy, scan and paste him
And send him back to me.

Valerie Waite

Dave loved his grandies
and great grandies and
he learnt this poem for
them

POETS NEVER SAY GOODBYE—Frank Daniel

Our world becomes a sadder place when mates depart from mates.

The track we trudge is long and hard with many open gates.

Gates ajar to ease our travels, welcome smiles to greet us all,

But none to ease the pain within when one must heed the call.

Good friends we make along the way, where courtesy is shown;

With handshakes and warm greetings other folk have never known.

There's parting after meeting, glistening tears in shaded eye,

But never grief in parting—poets never say goodbye.

It's always been tradition that we'll meet again some day;

The time elapsed is not to count, it's always been that way.

We keep in touch by many means but mostly word of mouth

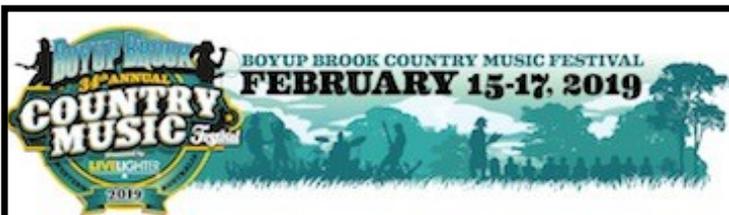
From far-flung sunny Queensland to the frosted chilly south.

Word travels 'cross the country like a soaring bird on wing;

Bush Telegraph delivering all the praises that we sing.

The words we write are always fact; there's never word of lie

And we never fear the parting, poets never say goodbye.



ENTRY FORM and CONDITIONS at www.wabushpoets.asn.au

BOYUP BROOK WRITTEN POETRY COMPETITION

40 Line Limit

Poetry competitions around Australia: entry forms available on the ABPA website

22, 24, 25 January - Tamworth Country Music Festival. Golden Damper performance competition, Tamworth NSW.

8 February - Closing Date - Milton Show Poets' Breakfast walk-up and open performance competitions, Milton NSW.

13 February - Closing Date - Orange Banjo Paterson Australian Poetry performance competition, Orange NSW.

2 March - Milton Show Poets' Breakfast walk-up and open performance competitions, Milton NSW.

15-17 March - John O'Brien Bush Festival, Narrandera NSW.

30 April - Closing Date - The Bronze Swagman Award for written bush verse, Winton Queensland.

**Do you want to be part of the
National Scene — Then you
might consider joining the
Australian Bush Poets Assn**

www.abpa.org.au

**Lots of great information on
their website, winning poems,
a writing forum, tips for
writing and reciting ,
competition dates....**

Muster Write Up - 7th December 2018

MC for the evening was **Alan Aitken** and he started at 7.05pm

President **Bill Gordon** welcomed members and visitors and reported that after a successful concert run by the Senior Citizens Council at Morley recently, Cobber Lethbridge again entertained a sell out crowd run by the same organisation in Mandurah. Special thoughts go out to Dave Smith and his family, he was hoping to join us for the Christmas Muster but it was too unwell.

Bill then presented his poem – “Pretty Boy” (Veronica Weal). In keeping with kids and Christmas wish lists suggestions regarding a pet, were ignored and a budgie arrived. All went well until the budgie escaped from his cage, fell in an open paint tin, and proceeded to fly around the house leaving a trail of paint marks as he went. Budgie ended up back at the pet shop, replaced by a puppy.

Christine Boulton – “Christmas Time” (Henry Lawson) A family get together at Christmas doesn't always go off well.

Terry Piggott – “Remember Mate”. Remembering Dave Smith.

Michael Darby – “The Fire at Ross's Farm” (Henry Lawson) A feud between farming families melted away when tragedy struck at Christmas.

Brian Langley – “Speakin Strine”. Our language is difficult sometimes especially when we have to keep flies out of our mouth while trying to talk. Times have changed now for city folk but country people still have to put up with these pests.

Nancy Coe – “Christmas is Coming” (Anon). Behind all the tinsel and singing there is one story that musn't be forgotten.

Frank Heffernan – “Farmlife in The Forties”. Frank writes about those who kept the country running while soldiers protected our shores. Droughts and rabbits provided much hardship and all Australians suffered as we strived to rebuild our country after hostilities ceased.

Cobber Lethbridge – Played 'A Walk in The Black Forrest' on the harmonica and then gave us his poem “The Flying Dogma”. A story of a flying preacher from Meekatharra who had a unique way of getting his message across to unbelievers.

John Hayes – “Returning Home for Christmas”. His recollections of the joys of returning from the city to the country for Christmas.

Port and pies for **supper** was enjoyed and exchange of gifts followed.

Dot Langley – “Twas the Night before Christmas” (Clement Clarke Moore). An old favourite for the children. Parodied by “Quilts before Christmas”.

Tess Earnshaw – “Christmas Sounds in Australia”. Her own poem.

Rob Gunn - “A Grave Situation” (Claude Morris). A story about a drunk who takes a short cut home through the cemetery and falls in a newly dug grave. He is too drunk to get out so while he is about to sleep it off, he is joined by another soul who falls in the other end of the grave. He makes various attempts without success. The drunk feels sorry for him as he thought he was there by himself. He walked up behind him and tapped on his shoulder and told him “You won't make it”. But he did!

Lesley McAlpine – “A Parent's night before Christmas” (Anon). The 'joys' of putting the toys together.

Barry Higgins - “Christmas Cocktail” (Syd Hopkinson). Rose, the barmaid, provided entertainment for the charity cause, the Scot found a way of extending the profits.

Anne Hayes - “The Merino's Revenge” (Vince Malone). Farmers think that sheep are here to make life a misery for them but it is all part of a master plan.

Michael Darby – “The Lawyer and The Poet”.

‘We both know the reason I can't love you any more, for lawyers are successful and poets are poor
If you judge a poet by the pelf that's his purse, you may find yourself immortalised in a friendly little verse.’

Alan Aitken - “There's only Two of Us Here” (Edward Harrington). A ghostly tale of a night in a hut.

Cobber Lethbridge – “Old Mate” Along with bush poetry, one of the great Australian traditions is mateship. This poem is one of many written on the subject. Although written about Australia, it was written in the Philippines.

Bill Gordon - Bruce Simpson wrote a reply to Banjo Paterson's poem “Clancy of the Overflow”. “A Lament from the Scrub” deals with the reality of the droving days. Wild cattle rushes, lousy camp tucker, cold wet nights or dry dusty conditions all point to the fact that “a drover's life has pleasures it's far better not to know”.

Bill thanked Alan and wished everyone a Happy Christmas.

Evening concluded 9.25pm

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS?????????

“New Year’s Day... now is the accepted time to make your regular annual good resolutions. Next week you can begin paving hell with them as usual.”— Mark Twain

“Drop the last year into the silent limbo of the past. Let it go, for it was imperfect, and thank God that it can go.”— Brooks Atkinson

APPROACH THE NEW YEAR WITH RESOLVE TO FIND THE OPPORTUNITIES HIDDEN IN EACH NEW DAY

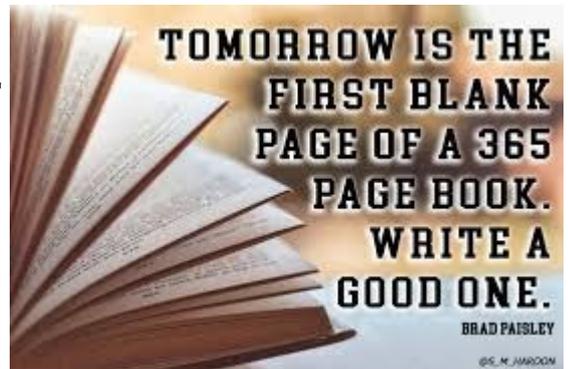
“Good resolutions are simply checks that men draw on a bank where they have no account.”— Oscar Wilde

“Year’s end is neither an end nor a beginning but a going on, with all the wisdom that experience can instill in us.” — Hal Borland

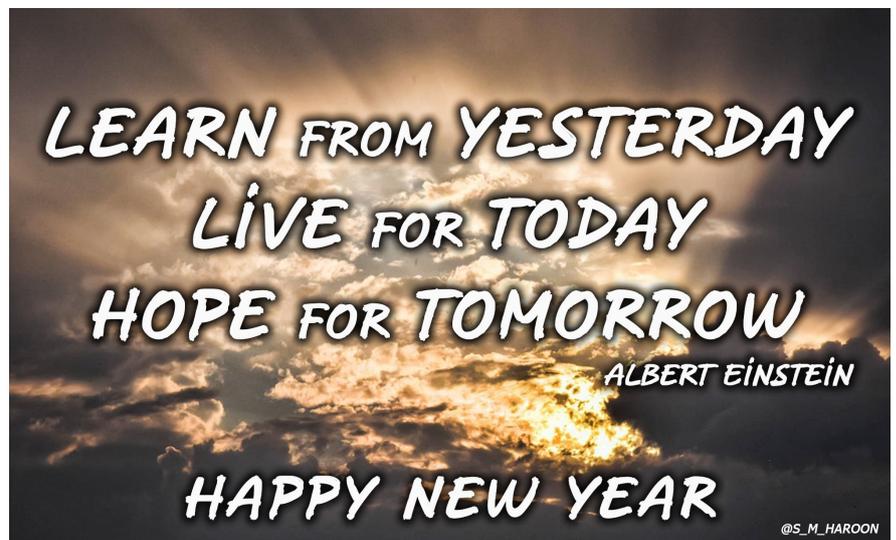
The bad news is time flies. The good news is you’re the pilot.” — Michael Altshuler

“The changes in our life must come from the impossibility to live otherwise than according to the demands of our conscience not from our mental resolution to try a new form of life.” – Leo Tolstoy.

Always bear in mind that your own resolution to succeed is more important than any other.” – Abraham Lincoln.



**“If you’re sad, add more lipstick and attack.”
- Coco Chanel**



BYO Cup

Hi Members , could you please bring your own cup to the musters. This is a way to assist us in using less Styrofoam to send to landfill and we don't want to create yet another job (washing up) . We will, of course, have disposable cups for the times when you forget.

Committee Members—WA Bush Poets & Yarn Spinners 2018—2019

Bill Gordon	President	0428651098	northlands@wn.com.au
Peter “Stinger” Nettleton	Vice President	0407770053	stinger@iinet.net.au
Rodger Kohn	Secretary	93320876	0419666168 rodgershirley@bigpond.com
Sue Hill	Treasurer		0418941016 suzi.tonyhill@bigpond.com

Committee

Irene Conner State Rep APBA		0429652155	iconner21@wn.com.au
Meg Gordon Toodyay Festival Secretary, ABPA committee		0404075108	meggordon4@bigpond.com.au
Bev Shorland /Jem Shorland	61430127	0487 764 897	shorland@iinet.net.au
Bob Brackenbury	6250 0861	0418918884	brack123@gmail.com

Not on the committee, but taking on the following tasks:

Tony Hill	Supper	BT Mail out	0418929493
Rhonda Hinkley	Librarian		0417099676 gun.hink@hotmail.com
Shelley Johnson	Webmaster		0438339896 shelleyturk@gmail.com
Robert Gunn	Sound gear set up		0417099676 gun.hink@hotmail.com
Rodger Kohn	Bully Tin Mail Out	93320876	0419666168 rodgershirley@bigpond.com

Poetry Groups in WA

Albany Bush Poetry group: 4th Tuesday of each month Peter 9844 6606

Bunbury Bush Poets: First Monday of every second month Alan Aitken 0400249243 Ian Farrell 0408212636
Rose Hotel cnr Wellington & Victoria Sts Bunbury

Geraldton Bush Poets: Second Tuesday of the month. Contacts: Roger & Jan Cracknell 0427 625 181
or Irene Conner 0429 652 155. 6pm at Recreation room, Belair caravan park, Geraldton. Bring and share snacks for tea.

Kalgoorlie Bush Poetry Group: Third Wednesday of the month. Contact Paul Browning 0416 171 809
Kalgoorlie Country Club, 108 Egan St. Kalgoorlie 6.30pm

Address correspondence for the “Bully Tin” to: Bully Tin Editor, PO Box 364, Bentley 6982 or meggordon4@bigpond.com.au

Address correspondence for the Secretary to: WA Bush Poets & Yarnspinners Assoc, PO Box 364 Bentley 6982

Ccorrespondence re monetary payments for Treasurer to: WA Bush Poets & Yarnspinners Assoc, PO Bos 364 Bentley 6982

If you would like to be part of a forum—post your poetry, see what other contemporary bush poets are writing, keep up to date with poetry events throughout Australia—visit www.abpa.org.au or www.bushverse.com

Members—Do you have poetic products for sale? If so please let the editor know so you can be added to this list

Members can contact the poets via the Assn. Secretary or visit website -Go to the “Performance Poets” page

Don't forget our website www.wabushpoets.asn.au

Please contact the Webmaster, Shelley Johnson: shelleyturk@gmail.com if you would like to see your poems featured in the Members Poetry section.

Members' Poetic Products

Victoria Brown	CD	Arthur Leggett	Book	Terry Piggott	Books
Peter Blyth	CDs, books	Keith Lethbridge	books	Frank Heffernan	Book
John Hayes	CDs books	Corin Linch	books	Christine Boulton	Book, CD
Tim Heffernan	book	Val Read	books	Pete Stratford	Book, CDs
Brian Langley	CD's books	Peg Vickers	books & CD	Roger Cracknell	Book, CD
		Terry Bennetts	Music CDs	Bill Gordon	CD