

The

May 2017

W.A. Bush Poets

BULLY TIN



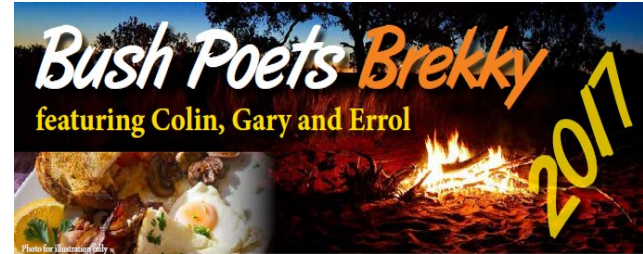
Next Muster May 6th 7pm - Bentley Park Auditorium, Bentley Park
MC : Rodger Kohn 0419 666 168 rogershirley@bigpond.com



An evening of Poetry and Comedy that will have you crying into your beer from laughter!

Venue: Busselton Football Club
Date: Saturday 6th of May 2017
Time: Doors open 6.30pm for a 7pm start
Cost: \$20 per head including a light supper
Bookings: online www.stickytickets.com.au/51682
or call Whicher Ridge Wines 9753 1394
or purchase from SportFirst, 38 Queen Street 9752 2454

A fundraising event for the Black Dog Ride.



A morning of poetry, comedy & coffee, a cracking way to start your day!

Venue: Busselton Men's Shed
Date: Saturday 6th of May 2017
Time: 8.30am to 10.00am
Cost: \$15 per head including a light brekky
Bookings: online www.stickytickets.com.au/51679
or call Whicher Ridge Wines 9753 1394
or purchase from Busselton Men's Shed, Busselton LIA

Brekky MC: Bill Gordon, President WA Bush Poets & Yarnspinners
A fundraising event for the Busselton Men's Shed.

BYO Your Best Poem to Share

PORT BOUVARDE RECREATION & SPORTING CLUB INC. Home of the Blue Manna Crab™ present's **PORT BOUVARDE'S BUSH POETS FESTIVAL SATURDAY 20TH MAY 2017**

Are you a Bush Poet or Yarn Spinner?
Come along to the Port Bouvard Recreation & Sporting Club located at 1 Thisbe Drive, Dawesville and give your best spin for a chance at some GREAT PRIZES...

This is a stand up invitation with an open microphone to all interested people commencing at 10:00am

Judging is by the renowned Bill Gordon & Rob Gunn
On the day there will also be a....

BUSH POETS BREAKFAST

The morning starts at 8:30am with a traditional Aussie breakfast in which you can soak in the Bush atmosphere ready for the entertainment.
\$10.00 per person

COUNTRY BUSH DANCE

Finish of the fantastic day with a Bush Dance featuring HIDEAWAY Starting at 7:30pm
BYO Supper-Bar will be open \$10.00 per person

LIGHT LUNCH WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THE DAY
For enquiries, please contact the office on 9582 2871 or pbrs@westnet.com.au

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY...



Bush Poetry on Anzac Day
Tuesday 25 April 2 pm onwards
Canning Districts RSL
Corner of Wharf and George Streets Cannington
Theme: Wartime Bush Poetry
All welcome - (sorry, no hats).
Enquiries: Peter Nettleton 0407770053

**May muster: 16 line poem
Title : Let me know**

Let's see how many of us can complete this challenge

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.



President's Preamble - May 2017



Last month I mentioned that Christine was flying the flag for WA poets at Corryong. Well, she didn't win but she did come the closest of seconds to Rhonda Tallnash for the Matilda Award. Congratulations Christine, we are all so proud of you and of your achievements. We are so privileged to have you among our ranks and performing regularly for us.

It would have been remiss of me not to have taken advantage of having Gary Fogarty and Col Driscoll staying at Northlands, so we have planned a poetry and music evening in the shearing shed for 26th April. Report next month as this Bullytin will have gone to press before that night. Apart from the Long Table Lunch at Whicher Ridge Winery, Gary and Col will be conducting a week of workshops in schools in the Busselton district, an adult's workshop on the Wednesday night and a Bush Poets Brekky and a Bush Poetry Odyssey on Saturday 6th May.

Maxine has been grounded recently, having some work done on her undercarriage, i.e. hip replacement. She is not enjoying the enforced rest. We look forward to having you up and about again soon Maxine.

On that note, it is great to see Nancy back with us and full of beans again. I don't know what drugs she is on, but I want some of whatever it is.

Moondyne is on 7th May, and Bush Poets will again have a stall promoting our Bush Poetry Festival and Australian Championships in November. We will be reciting on the main stage and at the Colonial Village this year.

Also on in May is a Bush Poetry day at Port Bouvard (Mandurah) on 20th May. This will involve a Bush Poets Breakfast, workshops, Walk-up Competition, and a Bush Dance in the Evening. Rob Gunn and I are running this event, and are looking for any poets who can make it to be part of the day.

Words of Wisdom from Geoffrey Graham – Don't think about it, just do it!

Bill Gordon

ECHOES OF THE PAST

Where the quartz hill's rise to greet you and the
ghost gums line the creeks,
there's a lonely hut abandoned here below the high-
est peaks.
Yet there's history embedded in its crumbling rough
stone walls,
where the heat seems never ending and a cool
change seldom calls.

You may camp here if you're passing and can view
the starry sky,
for the roof has long since gone now and the water
tanks are dry.
You can feel the past around you, though there's lit-
tle left to see,
yet it hangs there in the silence of this home that
used to be.

There's an ancient rusty windmill here that moans as
though in pain,
when an errant gust of wind arrives to stir its vanes
again,
Though its pump is barely working and the troughs
are rusted out,
there's a puddle often forming on the ground below
the spout.

When the nighttime shadows lengthen as the sun
begins to sink,
you will see this country live again as roo's come in
to drink.
Then a peacefulness descends here in the stillness
that surrounds,
where the pioneers saw hope once in these barren
stony grounds.

You can only guess the hardships that they must
have then endured,
as they cursed this wretched country where they no
doubt had been lured.
For the dreams they must have cherished then were
doomed to never last
and the few signs that remain here are like echoes
from the past.

© T.E. Piggott



Good afternoon Bill

I am forwarding this for circulation to members of WA Bush Poets.

Mundaring Arts Centre is looking for participants in their upcoming 'The Habits of Horses overview' in August - Sept

and I thought there may be interest from some to join in this event as per the attachment.

Regards

Deb McQuire

From: Heli Donaldson [<mailto:spacestn@iinet.net.au>]

Sent: Tuesday, 11 April 2017 4:25 PM

To: deb.mcquire@bigpond.com

Cc: Jude van der Merwe

Subject: The Habits of Horses

Hi Deb

It was fabulous to talk with you and about the farrier trade (and to learn of your bush poetry!)

If you can spread the word through any and all of your networks, I am happy to talk with anyone and am keen to see what energy we can harness for the 20th August Open Day.

Please pass on my contact details.

As we discussed, firstly; the farriers-some demonstrations, probably located by Men's Shed, any time period they can manage.

Secondly; Bush Poets - when and where they desire...

I'd be pleased if you can identify anyone else a little arty, crafty who is related to or depicts the horse world. We can see if what they do fits in... We have been having a lot of trouble finding leather work crafts-people. Any ideas?

I look forward to hearing from you.

best wishes

Heli

Heli Donaldson

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0410 399690

spacestn@iinet.net.au

Community Co-ordinator

Habits of Horses Project

Mundaring Arts Centre



4/4/17

The Habits of Horses:

Displaying a healthy obsession with horses

EXHIBITIONS 11th August to 10th

September, 2017

OPEN DAY 20th August 2017

BACKGROUND

Habits of Horses has been developed to build on the connections made in our community via our 2016 *Machines + Makers* project.

The project focuses on the role of the horse in our society. Once integral to the settlement of Australia, horses have gradually become the province of the moderately wealthy and few people engage with them in any form apart from watching the Melbourne Cup once a year.

We aim to re-visit that early integral role through five curated exhibitions located in Mundaring Shire:

1. *The Habits of Horses* by WA and international contemporary artists responding to the importance of horses in their culture
2. A historical exhibition of local horse experiences
3. *Horse Tales* community exhibition
4. Temporary horse sculpture exhibition
5. A 'parade' of up to twelve different breeds of horses in the Sculpture Park
6. Hitching Rail Project building and embellishing hitching posts to be located on bridle trails and pony trails through the Shire

6. Two additional exhibitions and community projects will be located at the Midland Junction Arts Centre. *Horse Drawn* by WA artists renowned for their drawings skills and an exhibition featuring the work of celebrated international photographer Clare Arni.

OPEN DAY

We will be providing opportunities for the greater community to re-engage and better understand large animals, through drawing, weaving, painting, sculpture and animation as well as through riding classes, public talks, an Open Day, horse parade, hobby horse racing competitions, demonstrations by farriers, blacksmiths and leather workers at work etc.



Susan Lamb

by Frank Heffernan May 2015

Our daughter found this orphan lamb, in the rocky creek below the dam.

A neighbor's ram had jumped a fence; and the ewe lacked plain maternal sense.

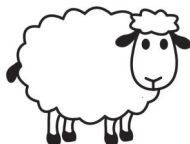
We knew the lamb was bound to die; but our daughter said she wished to try,
To take it home and bottle feed, and pander to it's every need.

She named her baby Susan; but we called her Sue Bo-Peep,
And in the next few weeks and months, Sue became a sheep.
She stayed around the house yard, and fitted in some how;
Her best friends were the dog and cat, and our old milking cow.

She stole the wheat we fed to chooks, and helped herself to hay;
And never minded joining in, when children came to play.
Then once a year at autumn time, Sue birthed a baby lamb;
And every year the father was another randy ram.

Each spring a shearer shore her, for another golden fleece;
And every year our daughter saw her piggy bank increase!
But quoting Murphy's Law again, this farming is a fickle game.
At time's we have to bear the pain, as nothing ever stays the same.

And Sue had got to nine or ten; I can't recall exactly when;
But sheep will reach a turning stage, us humans call it ripe old age.
Then one cold and freezing night, when frost had turned the pastures white;
Our pet lay down and fell asleep, and death crept up on Susan Sheep.



Future events and contacts

Contact for the

Derby Bush Poets Breakfast

2nd July

Contact Robyn 91911782 or 0417918862

G'day Christine,

Once again I'm seeking a little corner in the May edition of Bully Tin to promote my second poetry book ; "What Happened Here...?"

With 120 pages & colour illustrations it has a mix of humour, serious, & sentimental poems, bush poetry style.

Contact via my email address for signed copies at \$20, which includes p&p within Australia.

Regards,

Pete. Stratford. (Tasmania)
pdstrat@bigpond.com



Beryl

It's a terrible loss without Beryl.
I don't know how we'll all get along.
She was always the life of the party
and now, she's suddenly gone.

We'd all meet together on Wednesdays
together with our cuppa and scones
to discuss all the neighbourhood gossip
and learn about their carry- ons.

Our Beryl knew all of the latest
somehow she just had a sixth sense
about who was up to some mischief
or the goings on, over the fence.

No affairs could happen in secret
she'd know all about them same day
Beryl would always have found out
if a husband nearby went astray.

She would whisper, as she raised her eyebrows
"I know they were married last June
and now they have their first baby
I think it was five months too soon!"

Yes, we'd all sit around and just natter
sipping tea with our fresh scones and jam
or if one of us there had a birthday
we may also have just a wee dram.

We're so saddened our Beryl has left us
with her gone, our group may fade away.
We all feel betrayed and grief stricken
that she's left us, for the C.W.A.

Pete. Stratford. 18.3.17

The Man From Snowy River Festival – A Poet from Perth’s Dream Come True (written for Trad and Now)

For many years now I’ve had a connection with the Nariel Creek Folk Festival but this year I managed to make the pilgrimage to one of the festivals on my all-time bucket list The Man From Snowy River Festival. Nestled in the foothills of the Snowy Mountains the countryside surrounding the festival is breathtaking. We were lucky the weather was fine and temperate and top poets from mainly New South Wales and Victoria were in abundance. The standard of poetry was outstanding. Even more evident was the warm feeling of camaraderie, with everyone feeling a winner just to be part of this once in a lifetime experience.

I know your resident gorgeous Grumpy Old Man O’Connor disparages poetry competitions but this experience may have made him question his opinions. We were constantly reminded of the skill it took for all comers to learn and present a poem. That reinforcement was for novices, junior and intermediate poets, as well as the seasoned performers. The love and care poets had taken in their preparation was evident, by what many said was an unprecedented high standard. The bar was set high and all competitors were hopping over and beyond. Of course, there was the occasional memory lapse. However, support was everywhere and the celebration was in the rendition and intention of the recitation.

I arrived to be immediately swept off to a marquee with Geoffrey Graham, Laurie McDonald (ably standing in for a car challenged Dingo’s Breakfast) and the Wimmera Girls. What a great time with most campers packed into and overflowing onto the camp ground. Lots of stalls here with whips, saddles, work gear, camping gear as well as safety gear and a myriad of fripperies. The Man From Snowy River Festival is a country festival for people who love horses, dogs, bush poetry and music. There is a re-enactment of the famous Jack Riley ride and hundreds of people flocked out of town, on the bus shuttle, to witness this event. There is also a street parade, horse and dog events, rides, bands late into the night and street stalls.

After being enthralled at the marquee it was then time for the evening Poet’s At the Top Pub. This was a walk up event in a marquee at the back of the pub, ably hosted by Graeme Johnson, The Rhymers From Ryde. If you decide to come to this festival make sure you bring your warmest gear as the nights are extremely cold, even if you are in a marquee.

The next morning was the first of three poet’s breakfasts held at Banjo’s Block. Attendance ranged from about 60-100 people. The standard and variety was high with competitors as well as anyone one else who wanted to be a part of this family of shared poetry. There was a necessary fire out the front and people brought chairs with them or borrowed them from the hall.

On Friday afternoon there was a Spirit of Kokoda and Anzac Concert, superbly organised by Jenny Markwell. The country feel was again evident when entering the RSL Hall into a foyer lined with photos of all the young men who went off to fight. Cups of tea and Anzac biscuits were a welcome touch and the seamless, moving presentations of the poets and singers were a testimony to Jenny’s careful selection.

Over the next three days were the competitions for male and female poets, best rendition of Banjo’s The Man From Snowy River, novices, intermediate and yarn spinning. The juniors had already been judged and the young girl Kaylee....from Queensland gave outstanding performances of a range of poetry all weekend. Judges were Graeme Johnson Carol Reffold and Robyn Sykes .Nobody envied them their difficult job.

The organisation was flawless and Jan Lewis needs to be congratulated on her outstanding, tireless organisation. Linton Vogel, her partner was working just as hard with Carol Reffold and many others on her heels. Events such as these take such a lot of organisation and anyone who is prepared to volunteer and share the load is invaluable.

Mention must be made of Laurie McDonald who was an engaging, warm compere for most of the events and also to Geoffrey Graham. Geoffrey seemed to be everywhere, bouncing with energy, presenting with style, passion, pathos and humour. I had heard of both Geoffrey and Laurie but it was a privilege to see them both work with boundless enthusiasm and good will throughout this festival. Continued on back page at end of Muster Write Up

Muster Write-up - 7th April 2017 - Meg Gordon, Nancy Coe

MC - **Lorraine Broun** started the evening at 7pm

Peter Nettleton - Stinger called for interested poets to perform at Cannington RSL Club on Anzac Day. Then he recited "The Last Parade" (AB Paterson) which Banjo wrote when the troops were informed that all the horses that had served their country well were being lined up for their "last parade" before being shot as they could not be brought home from the war.

Rob Gunn - "Riding The Crest of a Slump" (Peter Blyth) Peter has a unique way of telling about the trials of living on a farm.

Jack Matthews - "Matilda" (Bill Kearns) Patriotism is stirred when we hear the name Matilda.

Dave Smith - "The First Light of Dawn" Dave wrote this poem and presented it in Collie for the school Anzac Day service. A moving tribute to our Anzac heroes and an explanation of remembrance for the young.

John Hayes - "The Lights of Cobb and Co" (Henry Lawson) Henry wrote this poem when the writing was on the wall for horse drawn transport with the advent of trains.

Anne Hayes - "The Flying Squirrel" (AB Paterson) From the collection "Animals that Noah forget" which was written for children, like all classics, it reaches out to people of all ages. It reveals Paterson's great love of the bush and his very sense of humour - the poems are light hearted and appealing.

Bill Gordon - "Why The Hell we Play The Game" (Rupert McCall) Rugby tragics pose this question and the memory gets better with age.

Caroline Sambridge - "Jacko and The Beanstalk" Australian version of a nursery rhyme.

Grace Williamson - "Scotts of The Riverina" (Henry Lawson) After bringing an Anzac story of her second cousin who was killed in Flanders on 4th October 1917, Grace brought the classic moving poem of a similar story of a son being outcast by his family for leaving the family farm to fight a war so far away. She has rewritten her cousin back into the family.

Jem Shorland - "Les Chance - Changi and The Burma Rail" Jem wrote this very moving poem about his father-in-law whom he had interviewed on a number of occasions when he was in his eighties (he was not very forthcoming about events in the war in earlier years).

Tony Hill - "The Dog on The Tucker Box" (Jack Moses) The story of the legendary dog who will be remembered forever for doing more than sitting on the tucker box.

Lorraine Broun - "The Vertigo" she wrote this poem when cleaning gutters.

After Supper **President Bill Gordon** brought news of **Christine Boults** success as **Champion Runner up in Cooryong.**

Events that were coming up for poets - Fairbridge Festival 21st-23rd April (Poets Breakfast each day). **Gary Fogarty and Col Driscoll** will be appearing at Northlands Farm shearing shed on wednesday 26th April, and again in Busselton for a week of workshops in local schools and a long table lunch at Whicher Ridge winery on 30th April. Maxine was remembered as she is having hip surgery and we were informed that Arthur Leggett was not well.

Nancy Coe - Reading From the Classics - Collected Verse of AB Paterson. "An Answer to Various Bards" which is about the ongoing competition between Banjo and Henry.

Anne Hayes - "Dream Artist" (John Hayes) John wrote this poem for an artist friend who was frustrated one day and couldn't commence her piece as the colours kept changing with the light.

Bill Gordon - "The Geebung Polo Club" (AB Paterson) A well know classic about a game of polo that ended when no one was prepared to concede defeat.

Rob Gunn - accompanied by his guitar presented "Wake up Time" (Chris Long) which is a timely warning about selling our country out to foreign influences.

John Hayes - "The Wool Buyer" John wrote this poem in recognition of a well known wool buyer - Jack Wende who travelled throughout the wheat belt buying up wool clips. He was appreciated for his scrupulous honesty and remarkable knowledge and information.

Dave Smith - Entertained us with a few short yarns.

Grace Williamson - "The Internment of Grandad" (Val Read). This poem tells of grandad's wishes for his ashes to be sent to Scotland "where in spirit he could roam". After cremation his ashes were placed in a Sunshine milk can with no information as to what the tin contained, and posted with other gifts for the family, the women folk in Scotland baked a cake with what they thought was milk powder!!

Lorraine Broun - "Amateur Dramatics" or "Dramatic Amateurs" Lorraine writes poems about everyday happenings, even repairing damaged cupboard shelves.

Nancy Coe read another classic "When Dacey Rode the Mule" (AB Paterson)

Bill Gordon thanked **Lorraine** for her efforts as MC and the evening finished at 9.30pm



Continued from Page 5.

The final event was an outdoor event at the Colac Colac (pronounced Clack Clack) Caravan Park. Anyone who was still standing and in town went out to perform to the audience of mainly Rotarians. This concert was yet another example of the way this festival was part of the community. Concerts like this are important as they take poetry to a different audience.

I stayed around and went to The Man From Snowy River Museum, Nariel Creek and another concert on the Tuesday night at Maurie Foun's Eco-Camp The Resting Place- Poet's Paradise. Here is a real adventure, especially the bag showers, I managed to nearly knock myself out and fill my ear full of water. However, my hair felt wonderful from the rain water and I'm sure experience would improve my handling of the pulley system. We had a fun filled evening with local performers and festival stragglers, a camp fire cooked shared tea and some visitors from southern Victoria. This was all while surrounded by the endless vista of the Snowy Mountains.

It was with joy and regret that I took the Khancoban road and drank in the breathtaking experience. However, my heart sang again as I approached the Nariel Creek that evening.

Thanks to everyone involved for making this festival one of my most memorable experiences. No need to mention winners, we all won by being a part of this exhilarating, celebration of contemporary and classical Australian poetry.

By Christine Boulton

PS. I met many people camping. Watch out for Bruce Clarke from Omeo and his sensitive renditions of Billy Wye.

Committee Members—WA Bush Poets & Yarn Spinners 2015—2016

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

| | | | | |
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| Christine Boulton | Bully Tin Editor | 9364 8784 | | christineboulton7@bigpond.com |

Regular Events

Bunbury Bush Poets will have their meeting at Rose Hotel cnr Wellington & Victoria Sts.
Bunbury

| | | |
|--------------------------|---|--|
| 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 |
| Geraldton Bush Poets | Second Tuesday of the month. Contacts: Roger & Jan Cracknell 0427 625 181, or Irene Conner 0429652155. | |

6pm at Recreation room, Belair caravan park, Geraldton. Bring and share snacks for tea.

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

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

Please contact the Webmaster, Brian Langley on 93613770 if you would like to see your poems featured in the Members Poetry section.

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 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 our website www.wabushpoets.asn.au Go to the "Performance Poets" page | Members' Poetic Products | Val Read | books | |
| | Victoria Brown | CD | Caroline Sambridge | book |
| | Peter Blyth | CDs, books | Peg Vickers | books & CD |
| | Rusty Christensen | CDs | "Terry & Jenny" | Music CDs |
| | John Hayes | CDs & books | Terry Piggott | Book |
| | Tim Heffernan | book | Frank Heffernan | Book |
| | Brian Langley | books, CD | Christine Boulton | Book, CD |
| | Arthur Leggett | books, inc autobiography | Pete Stratford | Book, CDs |
| | Keith Lethbridge | books | Roger Cracknell | Book, CD |
| | Corin Linch | books | Bill Gordon | CD |

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