

Next Muster May 6th ,7pm - Bentley Park Auditorium, Bentley Park

MC : Rodger Kohn 0419 666 168 rodgershirley@bigpond.com

DOWNUNDER COUNTRY, BRIDGETOWN



Please find attached 2 photos from Downunder Country at Bridgetown last weekend (18 to 20 March). The first photo shows Jim Riches, Peg Vickers, Peter Nettleton, Keith Lethbridge and Peter Blyth. The second photo shows Ron Evans (Boyup Brook), Jeanette Wells (Capel), Jim Riches, Peg Vickers, Peter Nettleton, Keith Lethbridge and Peter Blyth. This group performed at the Bush Poets Breakfast on Sunday Morning. Also at the festival was Alan Aitken, Robert Gunn and Dave Smith and they did walk ups and filled in several 20 minute spots on the main stage during Saturday and Sunday.

Ed: Thanks to Alan Aitken for these pictures and notes. We always love photos of our wonderful members performing.

**Do you want to be part of the National Scene –
Then you might consider joining the Australian Bush
Poets Assn**
www.abpa.org.au . Annual membership \$30
**Stay up to date with events and competitions right
across Australia**

Moondyne Festival, Toodyay

Sunday 1 May 2016

**Featuring Bush Poetry 11am -4pm at the
colonial village.**

Membership Changes

PLEASE NOTE – The committee of the WA Bush Poets and Yarnspinners Assoc. has passed a motion to change the membership period from 1st July – 30th June to the 1st January - 31st December. We are doing this by giving everyone 6 months free membership. **Your current membership is now current until the 1st January 2017.** If you have any questions please call the undersigned on 0400 249 243 or e mail me on aaiken@live.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.**

President's Preamble - May 2016



And Down by Kosciuszko Where the air is clear as crystal, and the white stars fairly blaze at midnight in the cold and frosty sky.

I thought I had seen some brilliant starry skies in the desert, but nothing compares with the scene Banjo painted so vividly. Meg and I had two nights at Thredbo, which is within walking distance from the Kosciuszko. I could not get that close without making the pilgrimage to the top of Australia. While the mountain itself does not look anything special, the views from the top are absolutely breathtaking.

Since leaving Streaky Bay Meg and I have caught up with many of our poetry friends. We had two days with Bob and Beryl Magor at Myponga, in the beautiful Fleurieu peninsula of South Australia. Bob was a guest poet at Boyup Brook in 2013, and we were treated to some wonderful hospitality (and Bob's excellent cooking).

After visiting family at Mt Gambier we headed to St Arnaud and the current Queensland champion, Kathy Vallance and her husband Ross. We have enjoyed their company on several of our trips over the last few years.

Meg has given a separate report on Corryong and the Man From Snowy River Festival. It was a real pleasure to be back in the upper reaches of the Murray River, and even better as we had time to linger and explore more of the area. Any members who are planning a trip east in future would be well advised to include this event in their itinerary. We caught up with many poets and supporters we know. Perth members might remember Geoffrey Graham from the show he did at Wireless Hill.

We are encouraged by the poets and supporters who have expressed interest in coming to WA for the Australian Championships next year.

We camped at Lake Eucumbene, the largest dam in the Snowy Hydro Scheme, and a popular trout fishing spot, and are now among the brumbies near Adaminaby. They are beautiful horses, great conformation and well conditioned. It is hard to believe they are wild animals as they come quite close when we stand still. I would like to have a few in my paddock at home.

G'day to all our friends in WA from your president and secretary. All the best to the poets performing at Moondyne festival on 1st May. We look forward to hearing how it goes in the new venue at the Colonial Village.

Bill and Meg



Shirt Logos

If you would like to have your shirt printed this is where to go.

Just take in what you would like embroidered and ask for your colour. Try not to have too busy a pattern or the embroidery doesn't always show up. Ring and check the price. You may have both the front or back embroidered or a single logo.



The Ruins

Can you sense the past around you here, or is it only me,
as we wander through these ruins of a town that used to be?
listen! – do you hear that noise out there - or is it just the breeze,
as it whispers to the blue bush, and then stirs the nearby trees?

There is always something spooky at these places after dark,
even though there's filtered moonlight here; the scene remains quite stark,
Not a soul lives near here; yet you sense a presence just the same,
as you look around this ruin with its long forgotten name.

Do you feel a kind of sadness as you think about its past
and those once exciting days here, when they thought the gold would last?
When the shanties buzzed here nightly as the rumours spread around,
leading men to dream of fortunes waiting somewhere to be found.

Then you look towards a graveyard high upon a nearby hill,
where the old town's only residents are resting up there still.
On the calmest nights you hear it; though there's not a thing in sight,
just a whisper in the silence of an outback summers night.

© T.E. Piggott



W.A. Bush Poets



& Yarnspinners Assn.

Letters to the editor

Australian Bush Poetry, Verse & Music - Index

www.bushverse.com/smf/index.php Cached

Hi Christine

Here is another bush poetry forum for those who maybe interested.

It's probably my favorite as it's more of a poetry forum than a chat one.

Irene introduced me to it in the early days (it was up and going well before the ABPA one)

I've always had a soft spot for it.

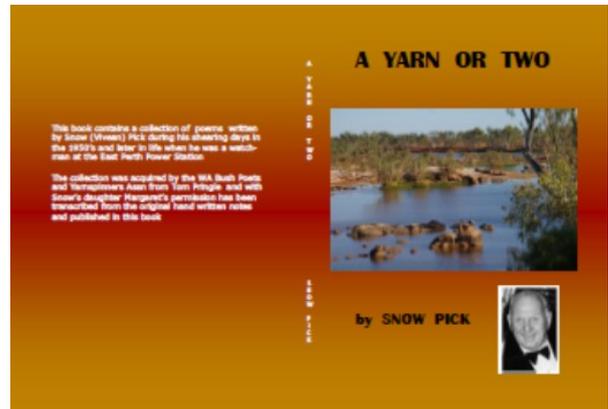
You don't get lot's of replies just the odd one.

Cheers Terry

*****I



Almost There



It was at the printers as we speak ,but now another hiccup. The long awaited book by Snow Pick. Copies are \$10, please pre-order from John Hayes. Phone:0428 542 418.

BOOK LAUNCH

The official book launch for A Yarn or Two will be at the October Muster .



Bill Gordon spotted by Peter Hood at the Yackandandah session. Bill dropped in on his way to Corryong and *The Man From Snowy River* festival.

POETRY COMPETITIONS

1 May - Rathdowney Bush Poetry performance and virtual competition, Rathdowney Qld.

Boree Log Award for Bush Verse 2016

Eastwood Hills/Fellowship of Australian Writers.
Closes: Tuesday, May 31st Theme: Australian Bush.
Ballads to be in perfect rhyme and metre. Maximum: 80 lines. Open to all: First Prize: \$100. \$5 Per entry. (Maximum 4 entries per entrant.) Entry forms & guidelines: <https://hillsfaw.wordpress.com> Enquiries: Marilyn Hubert: Ph. (02) 94 561 307. E-Mail: mah53@tpg.com.au

20 May - Closing Date - Bush Lantern Award. Presented at Bundy Bush Poetry Muster 1-3 July, Bundaberg

1-3 July - Bundy Bush Poetry Muster, Bundaberg Qld.

22 July - Closing Date - Bronze Spur Award written bush poetry competition, Camooweal Qld.

Shoalhaven Literary Award

The 2016 Shoalhaven Literary Award is now calling for poetry to 60 lines on an open theme. Prizes on offer are:
1st: \$1000 plus two-week artist residency at Arthur Boyd's Bundanon on the Shoalhaven River; 2nd: \$300; 3rd: \$100. This year's judge is poet and teacher, Brook Emery. Entries close 3 June.

"Fuzzy Wuzzy" **By Frank Gordon Maclean**

Dear Fuzzy Wuzzy living in your jungle glades,
so fearsome to the stranger, to your sequestered shades.

A stoic In the steaming heat of your rich tropic isle

Content with Nature's bounty and the bounty of her smile.

Who gave to you the patience of your philosophical calm?

To vie with trackless jungle, and that growth of fronded palms

That strength of tough endurance beneath a heavy load

Wit thoughts behind that curly top above your friendly grin

As you view our cultured killing in this titan fight to win.

Simplicity is grandeur, within your simple soul,

And so the Aussie views it in his march from goal to goal

In one clear flash of vision sees himself in humble guise,

And the rough, untutored savage is surveyed wit wondering eyes.

And Kipling's line immortal penetrates his inner skin,

"You're a better man than I am, "Fuzzy Wuzzy", - "Gunga Din".

And the whisper of his conscience urges past your manners crude,

and asks that he repay one day in common gratitude.

Bows homage to the gallant heart, beneath the nugget shine,

And learns the true distinction of that phrase, "The Colour Line

"Fuzzy Wuzzy"- gentle savage- in our hearts you'll always be,

As you tended to our wounded, so we will tend to thee.

May sweet content come winging, with ever freshening breeze,

And greet each golden sunrise in your isle of tropic seas.



THE FARMERS LOT

By Frank Gordon Maclean

Gather round, you Western "cockies" now
Oh spread yourselves around
And I will from my knowledge deep
To thee in short expound.

As to wit and videlicet
Why make you all these moans
Why takes the railroad to your town
The sound of many groans.

Why were ye not more careful yet
Ye bankrupts and ye fools
Why did you not like patient cows
Plod placid as to rule

Why would you "motor" wagons buy
With tractors and such ilk
These things are not for you, dear hearts
For you the cows to milk

For you the spring cart, slow but strong
And horses stepping true
These other things for city men;
The men who business woo

What matter if your toil is hard,
You pinch and scrape for wife and child,
Your flutter with a motor car,
Drives city men and bankers wild

They hold you up, all men to see
Their eyes alight with righteous scorn
What matter though they drive a car
'tis so their right where they were born

Go mark the stately buildings fair
The towns brave show of opulence.
These edifices show your hand;
You are the bankrupts—you get hence.

So you may gaze with eyes of awe
So much for you may be allowed
View them with a maker's pride
Then go and mingle with you crowd

You must not snivel-shuffle- crawl
Before you venture forth to stand
You must shrivel scrape and pinch;
And starve to cultivate the land

And strive to please your masters there
In that forbidden city's girth.
Your money spend on comfort not,
But pay your debts to men of worth

Make no mistakes, mistakes are crimes
Bad crops you must not grow.
But pray to heaven- heaven's hard
To shower rain on what you sow.

For should you slip, your creditors
like birds of prey will swoop,
and pick you out between their teeth
and use you bones for soup.

And so that certain worthy firms
And others you could name
May splendid-vaster-wealthier grow
You must the country tame

And this is but your lot, dear ones;
To moan and groan-go laugh instead
For you have life and health and strength
And the sun shines overhead.

Biography.

Frank Gordon Maclean, was born in India, 1903. He came to Australia at the age of 18 on the *Orcaedes*. Despite seasickness, Frank reached Fremantle safely and took a job with a farmer at Nungarin. He received 15 shillings a week and *tucker*. He eventually became a farmer near Boddallin, and this is where he wrote most of his poems. In the mid-1930s he was forced to walk off the farm and seek work elsewhere.

He married Thelma Newbury when he was thirty and served during WWII for five years. This was another time of his life when he would write many poems.

Frank died in 1993 leaving four children, sixteen grandchildren and twenty great grandchildren. His family have put together this book, that John Hayes has selected poems from, for *The Bully Tin*.

Lawson Festival-2016

June 10th to 13th long weekend.

In honour of Henry Lawson, the well known Australian Bush Poet, and short story writer who grew up in the Gulgong area, and lived in Gulgong during the 1870's gold rush.

Awards: Presentations, Workshops.

Sunday: Poets Breakfast: Commercial Hotel.

Open Mic.

Bus tour; of sights in Lawson's works.

Musicians, stalls games, bands and bush dancing.

Cutting of Henry's Birthday cake and Street Parade Barrow & Billy-cart races.

from Grenfell to Eurunderee, a small village between The scenes and experiences of these years influenced Lawson enormously. Chris Hills: (02) 63 741 818. Festival coordinator: Charles Vassel. Phone: (02) 63 741 209. Web:

The Geraldton Bush Poets

The Geraldton Bush Poets had their Inaugural meeting last night, Tuesday 12th April, at The African Reef Hotel. We had a turn up of seven and next month we are assured of ten starters. The evening was very enjoyable with a meal and then Bush Poetry in a private room. We are hoping for bigger and better things for the future, and as somebody once said "Little acorns into oak trees grow". We will keep you up to date with future developments, but as of now, we are off and running and we will be meeting on the second Tuesday of each month.

Regards,

Roger, Jan and Irene.

Corryong Bush Poetry Festival



Bill Gordon HC, John Peel HC, Barry Tiffen 3rd, Tom O'Connor 2nd, Lynden Baxter 1st
 Finalists in the Original Serious section of Corryong Bush Poetry Festival

Corryong Bush Poetry Festival was held from 1st-4th April 2016. Congratulations to Jan Lewis and her team of very willing people who put a great show together. With Poet's Breakfasts and lunches catered for by the local Lions Club, walk ups and junior events, everyone was able to join in and participate or just be entertained. The camping facilities were stretched to the limit as 20,000 people descended on picturesque Corryong. The town did themselves proud as they approached the visitors in a very friendly manner.

The street parade was held in perfect weather and was colourful to watch. The Man From Snowy River Riders lead the groups after a splendid re-enactment of Banjo's famous poem earlier. This was also attended by a big crowd.

The standard of poetry was very high including the junior events. Bush poetry is in good hands! Bill was very happy with his two Highly Commended results. 'Sandakan' in the Original Serious and Terry Piggott's 'Call of The Outback' in the Contemporary or Modern. He gave a stirring performance of 'We're All Australians Now' (Banjo Patterson) and got lots of laughs for The Boyup Brook.

Other event winners can be viewed on ABPA website.

Bill and I stayed in Corryong thanks to the hospitality of Jan Lewis and her partner Linton Vogel and had a look at the tourist attractions including the local museum which contained the rug depicting a map of Australia that had been knitted by a digger during the war. The enemy didn't know what to do with him so they let him be as he unravelled jumpers sent from home and retrieved the wool, otherwise these jumpers would have been confiscated and sent to enemy soldiers. Before we knew it we had stayed a week. Linton didn't mind that Bill had withdrawal symptoms from farming as he got some help with feeding stock!

Meg Gordon

Bobby

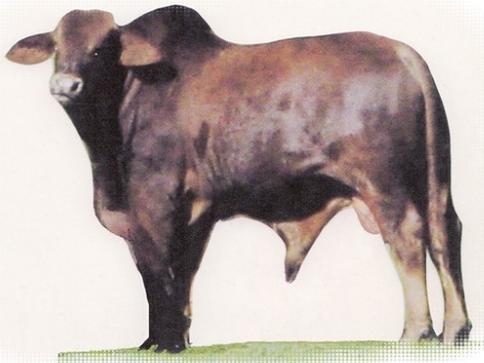
Now Bobby was a bit unfortunate not quite as bright as other folks so in his quiet country town became the butt of lots of jokes, but there was no malice in it and he wasn't one to take offense. Perhaps he just didn't realize the banter was at his expense?

Well known throughout the area he was accepted by the lads who could always tell where Bobby was due to the booming voice he had. He would attend at all the auctions though he never made a bid but made comments all could hear about those farmer blokes who did.

At one of the big cattle sales a bull was entered to be sold and the auctioneer was struggling for the bidding had gone cold. Yet he determined that the animal was to be sold at a good profit which meant, of course, that he would make a nice commission off it

So to spruik the bull's good qualities he announced for all to hear that this fine bull's equipment was like Bobby's, over there. However Bobby seemed oblivious to the ridicule dumped upon him, until his voice roared out above the din, "Cripes – his wife keeps nothing from him!"

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WANNEEROO URBAN FOLK DAY - A NEW TRADITION FOR PERTH'S NORTHERN SUBURBS

When: 28 May 2016 - 10 AM until 10:30 PM

Where: Wanneroo Showgrounds

What: A day of folk music and art, both old and new

How much: Free entry to the day events 10 AM until 6:45 PM; \$15 tickets for the evening show

Who will play: The Littlest Fox, Fling, Loaded Dog, Twisted Herring, John Ralph, WA Bush Poets and Yarn-spinners, Morris Dancers...



April Muster 2016 – Sue Hill and Nancy Coe

MC for the evening was Loraine Broun and the evening's entertainment commenced at 7pm

Nancy Coe read a post card which she had received from Bill and Meg and how they are enjoying their travels.

Grace Williamson presented "The Bosses Wife" (Anon) The anguish of a wife who suspects her husband of betrayal and thankfully finds she is mistaken.

John Hayes presented "The Wool Buyer" His poem about a wool buyer who travelled around the Dalwallinu district offering a fair price for local farmer's wool and enjoying the information he provided to them about the district.

Jem Shorland presented his own poem "A Muslim Lament" Do some not want to assimilate into other countries who grant them a haven.

Caroline Sandbridge – her short stories "21st Century Curse" about Robots and another "TV Drama Misery."

Rob Gunn – presented "Tenth Light Horse" by John Degrate. How the sons of Western Australia were sent overseas to Gallipoli to fight a losing battle.

Anne Hayes – recited a poem by John Hayes "The Meeting" How a Magpie sang his Magpie Serenade.

Also "Through the eyes of a child" by John Hayes. How life as a child is such a wonderland of joy and as time passes our dreams are forgotten.

Terry Piggott – presented his own poem "The Lady of The Lakes" A mystic yarn of a lady ghost sighted by many prospectors or is she in my imagination?
Is she real or a mystic nymph who roams the lakes looking for a sweetheart who perished long ago?
It's said her voice is sometimes heard when stars are shining bright,
Sad songs they say sung far away drift faintly through the night.

Lorelie Tacoma – presented "Poem to Which I Can Relate" Anonymous
How our lifestyles over the years of our childhood has changed.

Loraine Broun – presented her own poem about a favourite Curry at a Melbourne Cup luncheon.

Supper – Nancy entertained us all with her piano accordion

Great Poetry sites:

eMuse: Independent Bush Poets Newsletter. 1300 plus subscribers (on-line free!) Australia-Wide! Through his free distribution of this most informative, 20 page **eMuse**, (*An Independent Bush poetry newsletter*) Editor: Wally "The Bear" Finch. P. O. Box 68, Morayfield, 4506, Qld. Phone: (07) 54 955 110. E-Mail: wmbear1@bigpond.com

Nancy Coe – The Classic Reader “The Road to Hogan’s Gap” A.B.Paterson Also a condensed version of Banjo’s life

Christine Boulton – Mulga Bill’s Bicycle by “A.B. Patterson and Henry Lawson’s “The Water Lily”.

Alan Aitkin – presented “The Cattle Dogs Revenge” by Jack Drake.
A poem relating to unwanted relatives and their Rottweiler pup that comes to stay and how Woody the dog sent them on their way.

Anne Hayes – Poem by John Hayes. A story about Port Gregory and the angry sea. The fisherman whose wife waits anxiously for his safe return.

Jem Shorland – recites his poem “A Corker” A poem about Daisy the cow who the Vet treated her ailment with a cork?

Lesley McAlpine – presented a Bob Magor poem “: Catastrophe” A cat who is a trouble maker.

Rob Gunn – presented a Poem by Terry Piggott – “Would you Say Hello to Dad”
A moving story of a daughter who looks after her paralysed Dad. She asks an old friend to come to say hello.

John Hayes – presented “Do You Think That I Do Not Know” by Henry Lawson.

Terry Piggott – presented his poem “A Feral Rubbish Bin.” Disaster is unleashed on a caravan park and beachside resort when a terrible and lethal stench is accidentally released from a rubbish bin that threatens to extinguish all wildlife in the area, and drives all residents angrily out of the park.

Lorraine Broun – presented her poem about a spoon thief.

Moondyne Festival, Toodyay Sunday 1 May 2016

Featuring Bush Poetry 11am -4pm at the colonial village.

Poets so far: Rodger Cracknel, Robb Gunn, Peter Nettleton, Christine Boulton and Dave Smith. Contact person: Dave Smith
The legend of Moondyne Joe, the Avon Valley’s legendary bushranger transforms the picturesque historical town of Toodyay, Western Australia into a lively daylong festival. A highlight of the day being the re-enactment of Moondyne Joe’s various escapades throughout the town, his arrests and mock trials. Join in the fun with Moondyne Joe as he runs around town, robbing shops, escaping custody and being a general menace. Cheer on Joe’s gang, ‘floozyies’, coppers, swaggies and the Town Crier. This is a FREE Festival from 9am to 4pm. So come along and experience the community spirit in the centre of Toodyay, complete with street theatre, colonial village, entertainment, artisan and heritage crafts, healthy food stalls and loads of non-stop, amazing fun activities for all the family.

Everyone is encouraged to dress in pioneer period costume!

Thanks to Tony Lambides for information from the Henry Lawson Society



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

Bill Gordon	President	97651098	0428651098	northlands@wn.com.au
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Maxine Richter	Bullytin Distributor		0429339002	maxine.richter@bigpond.com
Not on the committee, but taking on the following tasks:				
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Rhonda Hinkley	Librarian		0417099676	gun.hink@hotmail.com
Nancy Coe	Muster Meet/greet	94725303		
Brian Langley	Webmaster	93613770	93613770	briandot@tpg.com.au
Robert Gunn	Sound gear set up		0417099676	gun.hink@hotmail.com
Christine Boulton	Bully Tin Editor	9364 8784		christineboulton7@bigpond.com

Upcoming Events

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

Regular events

Albany Bush Poetry group	4th Tuesday of each month	Peter 9844 6606
Bunbury Bush Poets	First Monday of every second month	Alan Aitken 0400249243

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.

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 or www.wabushpoets.com

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.com Go to the "Performance Poets" page	Members' Poetic Products	Corin Linch	books	
	Victoria Brown	CD	Val Read	books
	Peter Blyth	CDs, books	Caroline Sambridge	book
	Rusty Christensen	CDs	Peg Vickers	books & CD
	Brian Gale	CD & books	"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
		Bill Gordon	CD	

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