

The

November 2022

W.A. Bush Poets

BULLY TIN



Next Muster 11th Nov 2022 at 7pm at Bentley Auditorium, Bentley Park
MC: Lorelie Tacoma Ph. 9365 2277 tlorelie@ymail.com

MY LIFE © Peg Vickers Jan 1991

I was brought up on a farm
Though it did me little harm
I don't believe it did me any good.
For t'was not till I was forty
And my hands were rough and warty
I discovered ladies didn't chop the wood.

I could have played the concertina
Or become a ballerina
Or a surgeon I venture to suggest.
I milked the cows and fed the chooks
Didn't read too many books
So all my hidden talents lay suppressed.

I was barely educated
And I wasn't liberated
One might say this upbringing was austere.
At an early age I married
And was consequently harried
By a stork that came to visit every year.

But one has to understand
That's the life upon the land
So do not feel bad on my behalf.
For there's one thing that I knew
I actually could do
And that was I could make the people laugh.

Though I'd never win a prize
In the art of being wise
Or doing things to make a lot of money.
Being ignorant and broke
One can still afford a joke
For it doesn't cost a penny to be funny.

So when I've done my best
And am finally laid to rest
There are words that could be said upon that day.
"She may have been quite daft
But at least the buggers laughed
And that's about as much as we can say".



Toodyay Festival
WABP State Competition Results
CONGRATULATIONS
WINNER - Keith Lethbridge
2nd Place - Bill Gordon
3rd Place - Greg Joass



Peg Vickers

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

President's Preamble October 2022



We are in the thick of the poetry season for our performing poets. Cobber, Stinger, Bullocky John and the late Ron Evans were in Kojonup for a cancer fundraiser recently while I was joined by Roger, Bev, Meg, Gunny, Rudy, Alan and Irene at the seventh and final Nambung Country Music Muster which was an outstanding success. 1400 people turned up to enjoy a marvelous line-up of musicians led by the Band of Mates, Terry Bennetts, Evan Platschenda and Ginger Cox. Evan was warmly received as he has been locked out of WA during Covid but was allowed back in along with the country crooner Brian Letton, Rodney Vincent and Sandy Dodd (Dolly Parton). All the poets were in fine form and were well received at the three hour Bush Poet's Breakfast on the Sunday morning.

Last weekend we held our annual Toodyay Bush Poetry Festival on 4th – 6th November. We welcomed two poets competing from the East. Maurie Foun hails from Corryong where he has a magnificent camping ground "Poets Paradise" complete with authentic performance shelter with fireplace. Debbie Berryman is from outer Sydney and has featured in results at Queensland and Tenterfield competitions. We were pleased to welcome Carol Heuchan back to WA. Carol has been guest poet at Boyup Brook and was a judge at the Australian Championships at Toodyay in 2017 The competition was hotly contested and congratulations to Cobber who emerged victorious from yours truly with Greg Joass finishing third. The social aspect of the weekend is the glue that makes WA Bush Poets the envy of the rest of Australia. Connie Kis Andersen conducted the workshop this year. Connie's credentials speak for themselves. She has won countless awards for her singing and songwriting and has taught at schools and university on all matters to do with Voice management. This was a very interesting workshop for anyone interested in the spoken word

Have a Go Day is the Wednesday following Toodyay (9th November). We are on site 35, away from the main stage and have better time slots for performance this year including the main stage at 11am. Later we have three sessions on a nearby area we are sharing with Drill Dance. There will be ample stage time for any poets who can make it to Burswood. It is always interesting to see how many groups are on display and the variety of activities for senior citizens.

The November muster is on Friday 11th to avoid the clash with Toodyay. We will be in the Auditorium.

Bill Gordon President

Roger Cracknell



Bev Shorland



Irene Connor



Robert Gunn



Poets visit Yabberup

Saturday night 28th October was a night of Port, Pies and Poetry at the Yabberup Hall, which is situated between Donnybrook and Boyup Brook in the south west of WA.

It was a chilly night but the local community was very welcoming and they had a great log fire burning to keep everyone very comfortable. Six members of the WA Bush Poets Association presented poems with the theme of "Family".

There were poets amongst the locals as well. Some of the poems were amusing accounts and others were more of a memorial to past family members.

Excellent home grown food was on offer and the port was also enjoyed by those who didn't have to drive.

This is an annual event for the Yabberup Community and we look forward to being invited again next year.



Peter O'Shaughnessy (Bunbury), Paula Farrell (Bunbury), Bill Gordon (Boyup Brook), Maurie Foun (Cooryong Vic), Heather and Greg Joass (Mumbleup) and Ian Farrell (Bunbury)

POETS PERFORM WELL AT NAMBUNG

A team of poets travelled to Nambung in the Pinnacles National Park for what is to be the last Country Music Festival there.

Those who participated were Irene Conner, Bev Shorland, Meg Gordon, Bill Gordon, Roger Cracknell, Alan Aitken, Rob Gunn, Peter Rudolf and Jim Riches. Four days of walkups and half hour sessions and the three hour Poet's Breakfast saw great performances that were well received by the 1500 patrons.

The rain held off till lunch time on Sunday but most patrons stayed till the finale and a big thank you was extended to Brian and Gloria White for their efforts over the last seven years in hosting this very popular event.

Over \$100,000 has been raised and donated to charities over these years and much sadness was expressed that it will not be continued.

The station has been sold and much thought is going into the possibility of finding another venue so watch this space.



Alan Aitkin



Peter Rudolph



Meg Gordon



Bill Gordon

HAPPY 90th BIRTHDAY

PEG VICKERS

29th September 2022



WHAT COULD SHE WANT NOW SHE'S NINETY?

What could she want now she's ninety? Well, how the heck would I know?

I haven't got that far yet mate; still got a few years to go.

No point in buying her hankies, she'd still have plenty of those,

Don't think she'd need any more mate; she's only got the one nose.

No point in building a chook yard; how many chooks has she got?

Last time I went round to see her, she'd killed the whole flamin' lot.

Guess we could buy her a push- bike, so she could ride round her yard,

Still, she's got forty -five acres, she might find that a bit hard.

Maybe an electric scooter, reckon she'd handle that well,

Picture her coming down York Street, "Here comes the scooter from Hell."

Won't buy a bottle of whiskey. Reckon she'd drink it alright,

Peg's bad enough when she's sober, how would she be when she's tight?

Can't think of anything else mate; maybe there's something I've missed.

If you've got something to add mate, I'll put it here on the list

Maybe I'll write her a poem, tell her how much we all care.

Tell her how much we've all missed her, and how we love her mate- yair.

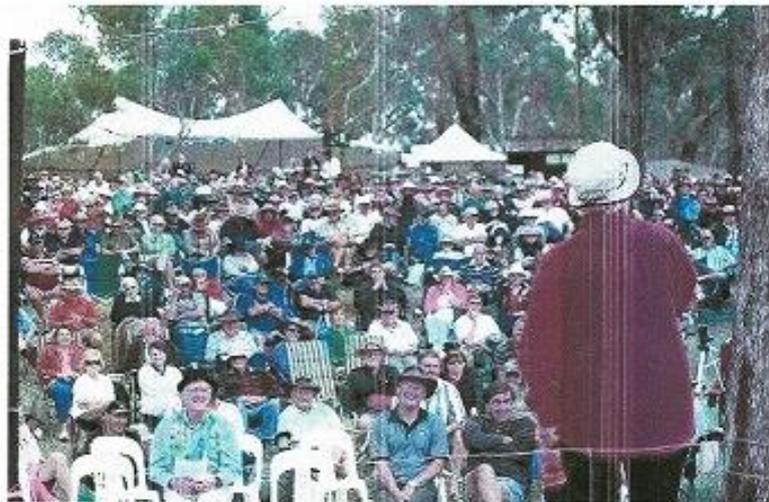
Wish her a real happy birthday, hoping she has a lot more.

One thing that can't be disputed, our Peg's a champion for sure.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY PEG.

Peter Blyth

Photos from Boyup Brook 2010



Tales from Toodyay Bush Poet & Yarnspinnners Festival

Toodyay Festival Friday - Voice Training Workshop at Toodyay CWA House organised by WA Bush Poets.

Presented by Connie Kis Anderson



Toodyay Festival Friday night Meet and greet at the Freemasons Hotel - was a great night out. It gave us an opportunity to meet with other Poets and those who came over from the Eastern Seaboard. After dinner Bill welcomed everyone. The he opened the floor for Poets to recite. Stepping up to the mike we enjoyed performances from many of our local Poets including -John Hayes, Paul Browning, Robert Gunn, Roger Cracknell, Peter Rudolph, Peter Nettleton, Christine Boulton, and Bev Shorland. Joining in the evening of entertainment were poets from over east including Maurie Foun and Debbie Berryman.



Toodyay Festival Saturday Night About 40 revellers joined in the entertainment at the Memorial Hall in Toodyay. A scratch band, 'Blue Gum Plus' including Stinger (on Guitar & Vocals) Cobber Lethbridge (on Lagerphone, Bodhran & Bones) Jeff Swain (on Guitar, Banjo & Vocals) & Maurie Foun (on Bodhran & Lagerphone) We were able to dance and enjoy the songs and were fortunate to watch and listen to Cobbers rendition of 'Amazing Grace' on the gun leaf. The night picked up in pace with some old rock and roll favourites which got many on their feet. The raffle for a bottle of port donated by Christine Boulton was won by Robyn who was present to receive it.



Blue Gum Plus



WA BUSH POETS & YARNSPINNERS ASSOC.

2022 PERFORMANCE COMPETITION

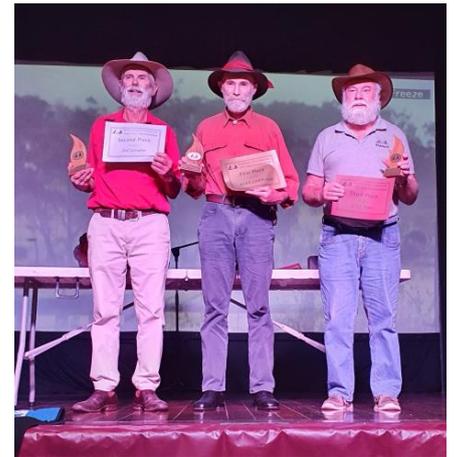
RESULTS



WINNER - Keith Lethbridge

2nd Place - Bill Gordon

3rd Place - Greg Joass



Category Winners

ORIGINAL HUMOROUS

1st Place - Keith Lethbridge - Digger's Mule

2nd Place - Maurie Foun - Out For A Fling

3rd Place - Bill Gordon - Fifteen Bob

ORIGINAL SERIOUS

1st Place - Greg Joass - A Bushman's Litany

2nd Place - Bill Gordon - Sandakan

3rd Place - Keith Lethbridge - Yakka-munda Man

MODERN

1st Place - Bill Gordon - The Water Of The Wells

2nd Place - Roger Cracknell - Call Of The Outback

3rd Place - Debby Berryman - The Saga Of Cecil

TRADITIONAL

1st Place - Keith Lethbridge - Where The Brumbies Come To Water

2nd Place - Maurie Foun - Flames

3rd Place - John Hayes - The Play

YARNSPINNING

1st Place - Keith Lethbridge - A Weird Family

2nd Place - Bill Gordon - Condobolin Mosquitoes

3rd Place - Robert Gunn - You Caught My Eye

NOVICE ORIGINAL

1st Place - Daniel Avery - Australia – This Land Down Under

2nd Place - Charlie Zele - At Sea I Find Myself

3rd Place - Charlie Zele - Storm Based Fire



WA Bush Poets Muster Friday 7th October 2022 by Deb McQuire

Bill Gordon welcomed all those present, commenting that last month saw the largest number attending for a long time. He then introduced the MC for the evening.

MC Anne Hayes then welcomed a special guest Roger Cracknell.

Bill Gordon then spoke of the Sandakan Memorial Day at Boyup Brook

Grace Williamson - *Banjo Patterson* *'In Defence of the Bush'*

Written in answer to a poem by Henry Lawson in which he moaned about the bush style of life being hot, dry and barren. In this poem Banjo defended the outback country side by comparing it to the noisy city life in Sydney.

Roger Cracknell *Henry Lawson* *'The Shanty on the Rise'*

Tales about the antics of the Bullockies and other passers-by while visiting the Shanty on the Rise.

Lorraine Broun *'The Runaway Black Mutt'*

The story of a dog walk that did not go to plan causing chaos and crashes along the way.

John Hayes *Henry Lawson* *'The Faces in the Street'*

Henry Lawson is waiting at Petersham Station, on a cold wet winter's night; in an overcoat and as cold as a tombstone. He glances up at the sign underneath the gas light saying 'Second Class Wait Here' and this gave a thought to hard life and squallier of Sydney

Rodger Kohn - presented a Skit about a man and his dog

Deb McQuire *'Minutes after Midnight'*

A poem written when inspiration was lacking.

'Life Viewed from a Spreadsheet'

How the ups and downs of life could be recalled and measured through a budget spreadsheet kept for family financial tracking.

Meg Gordon spoke further about the Sandakan Memorial day and Peg Vickers birthday gathering.

Then she presented a poem by Peg Vickers about life of a farm 'My Life'

Followed by a rundown of the daily work of the lady of the house as told to a Surveyor who comment at the end but had she done any 'real work'

'The Surveyor'

Keith 'Cobber' Lethbridge – Also spoke fondly of Peg then entertained us with a melody on his Harmonica accompanied by the bones written by *Joy McKean wife of Slim Dusty* *'The Indian Pacific'*

He then recited a poem that talked about how his mum worked very hard as 'only a housewife' while the husband was out and about.

'Only a Housewife'

Daniel Avery *Pam Ashdown* *'Australia This Land Downunder'*

This poem speaks of the pride Australians have about living in this country.

Supper.....

Rodger Kohn presented two yarns. The first was about 3 old friends going to the Doctors. The doctor told the 80 year old told he would live till he was 100, then 90 year old was told he would live till he was 100 and the 100 year old was told to have a nice day. The second yarn was about a young man who went to the Doctor to discuss having a vasectomy, when asked if his family agreed he said it was decided by a vote of 17 – 2.

John Hayes *John Magor* *'Broome Dreaming'*

Mention the word Broome and immediately think of a tropical paradise and cultured pearls as it is today. However, the birth of the Pearl industry was a life and death struggle. They say if you stand at the end of the Streeter's Jetty on a still tropical night you can hear lost divers souls wailing from beneath the waves. John Magor captures the period so graphically with his poem 'Broom Dreaming'

WA Bush Poets Muster Friday cont...

Rodger Cracknell - 'The Road North'

A poem telling the story of the Grey Nomads migrations northward; the day to day pattern of life on the road towing a caravan heading north to warm old bodies and live the good life.

Deb McQuire 'Life in the Perth Hills'

Describes the drive up the hills from the flatlands on into the calm and welcoming bush are in the hills above Perth.

Meg Gordon Peter Blyth 'What could she want now she's Ninety'

A poem written by Peter for Peg Vickers for her 90th Birthday (see page 4 this issue).

Peg Vickers 'The Oldest Mum'

Told of how the 'Oldest Mum' would show off to visiting friends but had forgotten where she put the baby.

Keith 'Cobber' Lethbridge

Spoke of the trip to Derby catching up with Ivor Bridge and Tyron Bridge.

He then followed with a song written by Stan Costa for Slim Dusty telling the tale of a series of bad luck and strife

'Cop the Lot'

Lorraine Broun 'Perfection'

A poem about a couple Melita and Henry, his proposal and enormous ring made from a ball bearing, a nut and welding rod which made it a very unique ring.

John Hayes 'The Whole Hog'

A story partially drawn from life about a farmer at Lake Grace and how nothing was wasted.

Bill Gordon 'The Cow Yard Romeo'

A young man trying to woo his love using 'loving' terms more related to the cow yard.

Keith 'Cobber' Lethbridge 'Mildew's Off Sider'

Tells the story of a retaining a camp cook and suitable Off Sider and how things went when the 'Boss Cocky's daughter took over.

Bill Gordon Dave Proust 'Hot Revenge'

Tells the story of a day at the Sydney Show, when two mates meet up for Curry and Muzz talks the cook into making his mates curry extra hot.

Bill wound up the evening noting that the next Muster would be 11th Nov due to our upcoming Festival at Toodyay on 4th – 7th Nov.

Reminder: Could everyone who performs at Musters please have a synopsis available on the night or send one via email to shorland@inet.net.au for the Muster write up. Thanks in advance Bev



Next Muster - 2nd December
MC Robert Gunn 0417 099 676
gunnpoet@hotmail.com

Christmas poems if possible for first half. Supper - Christmas cake and port.
Deadline for December's Bully Tin submissions 31st Oct 2022

16 Line October Muster Challenge - Title 'Here We Go Again'

Here We Go Again

Crash, bash, rattle and toll
The house next door is taking its toll
What once was a home to families before
Where children were born to love and adore
New people moved in and find that they need
A mansion much bigger, they have so much greed
The old house is coming down, the excavators roaring
Down, down the old house next door is falling
Rushing through from tiles then walls and all
Everything is crumbled into a messy ball
There's dust and rubble everywhere. What a blast
At four o'clock away they go. Peace at last.
Then next day at seven, here we go again.
It starts all over just the same old pain.
It's been three terrible weeks I cannot wait
For it to all end then be silent at my gate
Then it will be here we go again when the builders come
To start on the job of a 2 storey house and some;
It will tower over my home and cut-out the light
But nothing I can do it seems it's just my plight.

Grace Williamson

Here We Go Again

Me best dog is sore and gone lame
The Mrs is crook and about the same
The kids have come down with the Measles
And the flamin tractors run out of diesel
The sheep have escaped through an open gate
Left that way by a so called mate
The wheat crops been flattened by a sudden storm
And the hay sheds all battered and torn
The banks on me back 'bout the overdraft
And the water tanks empty so we can't have a bath
Ah ha looks like life is not so bad after all
The wheats dried out and is standing tall
The kids are Ok and over the measles
The trucks have arrived with water and diesel
The dogs come good and then old girl is smilin
But now a bloody huge swarm of locusts has just
Appeared on the horizon

Colin Tyler

Here we go again

Each day as we wake up the wheel of life turns,
Not sure if the outcome will please or cause burns
To hearts and to wallets; our minds wait on edge.
Must work through what comes up; can't sit on a ledge.
The future uncertain; it's always been thus.
No point calling unfair, creating a fuss.
Just look for best pathway and plow on ahead;
The first step for new day is get out of bed.
With morn comes fresh cycle and choices to make;
Hold on with both hands while this journey you take.
Give thanks for the options presented to you;
They'll offer perspective to frame a new view.
The ups and the downturns all playing a role;
Help build up resilience and strengthen your soul.

© DM-InVerse (Deb McQuire) 13th Sept 2022

COMPETITIONS AND EVENTS AROUND AUSTRALIA

WRITTEN EVENTS are in PURPLE

For more details and entry forms
please go to the ABPA website
www.abpa.org.au and www.writingwa.org

NOVEMBER

19 November — Linville Heritage & Arts Festival bush poetry competition. Linville, Queensland.
See ad on Home page.

20 November — Closing Date (postal entries) — Blackened Billy Verse Competition,
Gladstone Queensland.

30 November — Closing Date (electronic entries) — Blackened Billy Verse Competition,
Gladstone Qld.

DECEMBER 2022

21 December 2022 — Closing Date — Deidre Penhall Memorial Poetry Prize.
Written bush poetry competition for women 18 to 30 years of age living within 200 km of Orange,
NSW.

FEBRUARY 2023

3 February — Closing Date — Milton Show Bush Poetry, Milton NSW.

17-26 February — Banjo Paterson Australian Poetry Festival, Orange NSW.

23-24 February — ABPA National Bush Poetry Performance Championships, Orange NSW.

25 February — Youth and Open performance poetry competitions,
including Deidre Penhall Memorial Poetry Prize (see 21 December 2022 closing date),
Orange, NSW.

MARCH 2023

4 March — Milton Show Bush Poetry, Milton NSW.

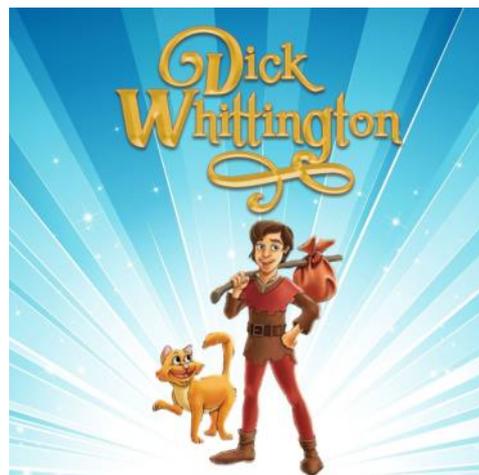
See 3 February Closing date.

DICK WHITTINGTON HAS ARRIVED!

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!!

Peter Nettleton is playing the part of the grumpy old Alderman in this show and he would like to encourage all Grandies and Grandkids to come along as a Christmas treat.

When: November 18-19, 23-26 31-December 3
Time: 7:00pm (except December 2 which is 8.00pm)
Where: The New Fortune Theatre, UWA,
35 Stirling Hwy, Nedlands WA 6009



Committee Members—WA Bush Poets & Yarn Spinners 2022 - 2023

President	Bill Gordon	0428 651 098	billgordon1948@gmail.com
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Secretary	Rodger Kohn - <i>Bully Tin Mail Out</i>	0419 666 168	rodgershirley@bigpond.com
Treasurer	Sue Hill	0418 941 016	suzi.tonyhill@bigpond.com
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Meg Gordon	- <i>Toodyay Festival Sec.</i> - <i>Web Control</i> - <i>Secretary of the ABPA</i>	0404 075 108	meggordon4@bigpond.com
Bev Shorland		0487 764 897	shorland@iinet.net.au
Jem Shorland		0487 764 897	shorland@iinet.net.au
Anne Hayes		0428 542 418	hayseed1@optusnet.com.au
Don Gunn		0418 930 821	bigunnz@iinet.net.au
Deb McQuire	- <i>Bully Tin editor</i>	0428 988 315	deb.mcquire@bigpond.com
Irene Conner	- <i>State Rep APBA</i>	0429 652 155	iconner21@wn.com.au

Regular Events

WA Bush Poets:	1st Friday each month <i>MC details see front page</i> - 7pm Bentley Auditorium, Bentley Park WA	
Albany Bush Poetry group:	Last Tuesday each month - 7.30pm 1426 Lower Denmark Rd, Elleker	Ph. Peter Blyth - 9844 6606
Bunbury Bush Poets:	1st Monday every ‘even’ month - The Parade Hotel, 1 Austral Parade, East Bunbury.or Ian Farrell 0408 212 636	Ph. Alan Aitken - 0400 249 243
Goldfields Bush Poetry Group:	1st Wednesday each month. - 6.30pm 809 Kalgoorlie Country Club, 108 Egan St. Kalgoorlie	Ph. Paul Browning - 0416 171 809

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

Address correspondence for the “Bully Tin” to: Bully Tin Editor, PO Box 364, Bentley 6982 or deb.mcquire@bigpond.com
Address correspondence for the Secretary to: WA Bush Poets & Yarnspinners Assoc, PO Box 364 Bentley 6982
Correspondence re monetary payments for Treasurer to: WA Bush Poets & Yarnspinners Assoc, PO Box 364 Bentley 6982
Bank Transfer: Bendigo Bank BSB 633 000 A/C#158764837
Please notify treasurer of payment : treasurer@wabushpoets.asn.au

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, if you would like to see your poems featured in the Members Poetry section.