

The

AUGUST 2021

W.A. Bush Poets

BULLY TIN



Next Muster Friday 6th Aug 2021 at 7pm at [Bentley Auditorium, Bentley Park](#)

MC - August - Frank and Mary Heffernan 9881 6652 muffenburg@westnet.com.au

Our AGM will be held at the September Muster on Friday 3rd Sept commencing at 7pm.

Golden Wattle Bush Poetry Competition

2021 Bush Poetry written competition (*full list of results page 3*)



**State Champion (Graham Fredriksen Trophy) and Open Serious section 1st place:
Peter O'Shaughnessy for 'Kadaitcha'.**

Kadaitcha

There's a strange sombre sound in the mulga tonight
a dark drone as a hundred feet stomp.
There are grim shuffling shapes in the dim fire-light
and the Martu men moan as they stomp –
the desert tribe's drone and they stomp.

And the terrified women and children must hide
from the deeds in the night they might see,
for a man will be 'sung' and the law will decide
on the fate the offender may see –
a judgement no children may see.

So the dancers have gathered from tribes in the hills
– Budidjarra and those from out back –
Mandildjarra and Kuwarra bring their dark drills,
but there's one man who's not going back –
the guilty man's not going back.

For there's murder been done and the elders have sung.
They've decided that he has to pay.
So the dance has begun and the sacred boards hung,
for that's part of the price he must pay –
the price that the guilty must pay.

So tonight he will sit in his terror and pain
with the wisdom of elders around.
He must sit all alone and he has to remain
with that dark, awful drone all around –
that frightening drone all around.

Now the drone's growing louder. The thumping feet crush
and the thunderous thump feeds his fear,
as the dancers grow frenziedly frantic then ... hush!
Sombre silence soon fills him with fear –
a silence that fills him with fear.

With a feathery hiss – like a sand serpent's kiss –
a dark grim ghostly creature appears
from the dim ghostly pit of a dreamtime abyss,
their most feared awful demon appears –
the feather-foot demon appears.

Then with barely a sound they bring out the feared bone
and they wait for the soft feathered tread
of the Featherfoot Man as he dances alone,
he's Kadaitcha with feathered foot tread –
all fear his faint, feathered foot tread.

Now the song has been sung and the bone pointing done –
sacred objects returned to their place,
for the dying's begun and there's nowhere to run
and the Featherfoot fades from this place –
Kadaitcha Man's gone from this place.

But the murderer knows that his death will soon come.
He's resigned to the fact he will die.
For the law men have sung and he knows he'll succumb
now the Featherfoot's willed him to die –
Kadaitcha Man's 'sung' him to die.

This Bully Tin has been printed with the generous assistance of the office of KATE DOUST MLC
and posted with the generous assistance of Hannah Beazley MLA - Member for Victoria Park.
Thanks to Greg Roberts for doing our printing.

President's Preamble August 2021



Greetings from sunny Derby. The Derby Cup was a great day socially, if not financially. However, everyone was a winner at the Bush Poets Brunch the following morning. The move to the Sportsmen's Club was also a winner. We maintained audience numbers compared to recent years but having a ready-made venue with catering on hand saved us a logistical nightmare trying to organise the event from a distance.

There was a good blend of Kimberley and southern posts with Cobber leading the way. I guess he has a stake in each camp having spent much of his working life in the north. The Derby locals certainly claim him as their own. Thanks to all the poets who made the effort to attend, to Meg for a great job as MC once again, and a special thank you to the Derby Sportsmen's Club for the use of their facilities and volunteers.

The Derby sporting complex is somewhat unique with the racetrack and the golf course sharing the same ground and some fairways cutting across the racetrack (they do remove the running rails for golf). Add quite a few boab trees in the middle of the fairways and we have a very picturesque if somewhat challenging course. It is one of my favourite places to chase the little white ball.

Once again our plans have been thwarted by Covid but once more we can be very thankful we are in Western Australia and not in the eastern states or anywhere overseas. The cancellation of the July muster has meant the postponement of the Annual General Meeting.

This will now be held on Friday 3rd September, immediately prior to the muster.

We are no longer able to use the Wilson Community Hall as it has been booked by another group for the first Friday each month. The good news is that we are able to return to Bentley Park on a permanent basis. Naturally if there is a general lockdown we will have to stay home like everybody else but otherwise there will be no extra restrictions as was the case last year. I know several Bentley Park residents will be happy with this change.

Meg and I are staying in the warm country for a couple of months. We are now heading for Mataranka provided the gate stays open (both ways as we plan to be back in good time for Nambung and Toodyay.) Meanwhile, hang in there, the days are getting longer and spring will soon be on the way.

Bill Gordon President

Annual membership for 2021/2022

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS ARE DUE

Sue (our lovely treasurer)h

is busy sending out invoices to members

Your invoice has full details for payment options.

WA BUSH POETS AND YARNSPINNERS

ADVICE REGARDING MEMBERSHIP FEES AND THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE BULLY TIN

The following matters have been determined by the Committee of the Association, and the reasons are subsequently explained.

1. Annual Membership Fees 2021/22

These will be:

- * \$20.00 for Single membership, and \$30.00 for Dual Membership (as at present), and
- * the additional fee of \$5.00 for postage of the Bully Tin has been eliminated.

The Association is currently in a sound financial position, so an increase in the fees is unwarranted; the deletion of the Bully Tin postage fee is explained below.

2. Distribution of the Bully Tin

- * Members who have access to email will be sent a copy in email format only - a printed copy will no longer be posted to them;
- * Members who do not have access to email will receive a copy by standard post.

There are a number of reasons for this change, some which members may not be aware of, and they involve the whole process of producing and delivering, by standard post, the Bully Tin; as follows:

1. Our Editor receives and/or produces the articles, general information, and photographs which are to be included, sets them all up in the form in which it will appear in the finished product;
2. This pre-publication item is then forwarded, in electronic form, to the office of Kate Doust, MP, in Victoria Park;
3. The staff at Kate Doust's office print the number of copies we request, plus their addressed envelopes (about 70 of each - for posting) plus about 30 copies for us to have on hand to distribute at the next muster;
Note: the staff at this office put in their entire effort at no cost to the Association, and likewise all of the material they use is provided by their office.

4. A WABPYS person collects all of the above, and carries out the task of folding and enveloping those copies which are to be posted, and on completion delivers the envelopes to the office of Hannah Beazley, MP, in East Victoria Park.

5. The staff there affix the stamps on the envelopes, and post them.

Note: the staff there carry this out at no cost to us, and more importantly, the cost of the 70 \$1.10 stamps is borne by that office. (This is the reason for deletion of the previous annual charge of \$5.00 for members who receive a printed copy.

The proposed change will impact positively on items 3, 4, and 5, above, in reducing the staff time and materials used in Kate Doust's office, reducing the time taken to fold and envelope the items, reduce the time taken by staff in Hannah Beazley's office, and reduce the cost of postage incurred by that office. Members receiving an email Bully Tin, can if so desired, print one (or more) off at home.

Golden Wattle Bush Poetry Competition

The awards for the 2021 bush poetry written competition, are as follows:

- State Champion (Graham Fredriksen Trophy) and Open Serious section 1st place: Peter O'Shaughnessy for 'Kadaitcha'.
 - Open Serious 2nd place: David Judge for 'Henry'.
 - Open Serious 3rd place: Irene Timpone for 'The Debutante'.
 - Open Humorous 1st place: Veronica Weal for 'Breakfast by the Creek'.
 - Open Humorous 2nd place: Peter O'Shaughnessy for 'In the Clean Bar'.
 - Open Humorous 3rd place: Veronica Weal for 'I spied a Spider'.
 - Novice Serious: Howard Kennedy for 'Pandemic Protocols'.
 - Novice Humorous: Howard Kennedy for 'The Theatre of a Sale'.
 - Junior: Devmika Bogahapitiya for 'The Silence Beauty'.

All of the above will receive a specially commissioned trophy and certificate together with their prize money.

Highly commended:

- Open Serious: Veronica Weal for 'Daisies and Snail Shells'.
- Open Humorous: Peter O'Shaughnessy for 'An Ancient Tiger'.

Commended:

- Open Serious: Shelley Hansen for 'The Trial of Harry Redford'.
Peter O'Shaughnessy for 'The Landing'.
- Open Humorous: David Judge for 'The Outback Surfie'
Peter O'Shaughnessy for 'Shanghaied'

DERBY BUSH POETS FESTIVAL

Twelve months of planning has paid off.

WA Bush Poets & Yarnspinner Association successfully conducted the 22nd Derby Bush Poets Festival on Sunday 18th July 2021. (last years festival was cancelled due to Covid)

It was a pleasant surprise to see Cheryl Holmes as a visitor. Cheryl started the Derby Bush Poets Festival 23 yrs ago before she moved on and the local committee took over the event.

A new format was trialled—a brunch instead of a breakfast with a later starting time.

Southern poets Bill, Meg Gordon and Alan Aitken finally made it to Derby after spending some weeks traveling up the west coast promoting poetry and the Festival. Christine Boulton unfortunately had to return home due to becoming unwell.

Contact was made with the ladies in Derby, Elsie Archer, Diana Troup and Robyn Bowcock, who had been our assistants on the ground while we organised the event from down south. They had done a marvellous job with raffles and pamphlets and signage so we were all set for a great Poet's Brunch at the Sportsman's Club.

The new venue proved successful and locals and visitors alike gave us good feedback. We have taken their suggestions on board and will utilise them in planning next year's event.

The day started with music from Terry Bennetts, Fred Russ and Sam Lovell while visitors arrived and gathered their food.

There was a line-up of eight poets, including two young locals who bravely recited poetry including an eight year old, Alice Hardman who recited perfectly "Clancy of The Overflow".

The other was Isabel Dunster who had performed in recent years and she amused us with a piece from "The Magic Pudding".

Broome poet, Dave Morrell started the show which also included Cobber Lethbridge, Stinger Nettleton, Bill Gordon, Alan Aitken, Paul Ellis and Ivan Bridge. Meg Gordon was MC and kept the poets to their time slots so that the three hours moved along smoothly to finish on time.

We thank Kerry Leamy, Vice President, Brad Taylor, Manager and Phil Norris, cook at the Sportsman's Club for their generous assistance with table arrangement and service during the meal. The display of Desert Rose plants around the stage was stunning.

Cheryl Holmes & Meg Gordon



Junior performers Alice Hardman (left) and Isabel Dunster (right)



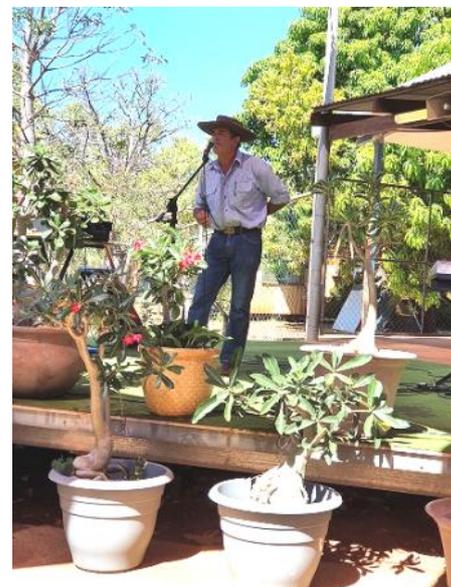
Alan Aitken and Virginia Bennetts busy with merchandise



Ivan Bridge, Yarnspinner
- Halls Creek



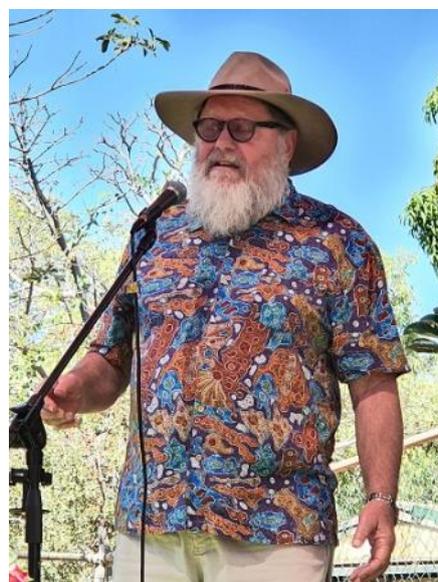
Alan Aitken



Dave Morrell - Broome



Bill Gordon

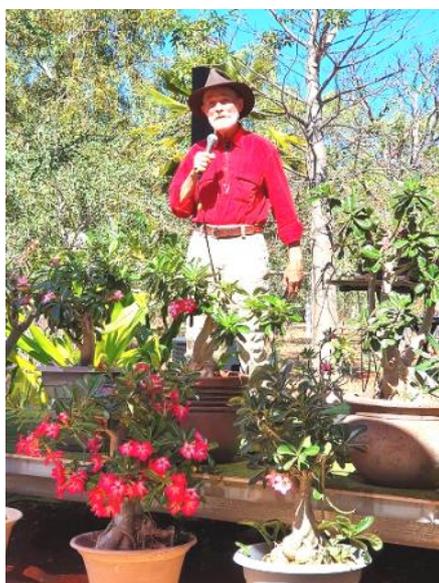


Pete 'Stinger' Nettleton



Paul Ellis

Terry Bennetts, Sam Lovell
and Fred Russ



Cobber Lethbridge



Derby Bush Poets Festival
at Sportsman's Club



2021 ROAD WISE POEM THEME

This years focus is "Speeding "

Every year the statistics have details of deaths and injuries due to excess speed. This past year has seen a number of vehicles colliding with trees and other inanimate roadside objects, resulting in death and carnage on our roads.

The following are line prompts and guides, for you to remould, reimagine or use as is, in your own poetic interpretation for the 2021 Roadwise Poetry competition at the Annual Toodyay Bush Poetry Festival.

* We've seen too many cut down by speed

* Speeding car (vehicle) versus tree – no one wins.

* Scars etched deep by speed

* Tree scars tell sad tales

POET'S ALERT

**WA BUSH POETS & YARNSPINNERS ASSOC
TOODYAY BUSH POETRY FESTIVAL
2021 STATE PERFORMANCE CHAMPIONSHIPS
FRIDAY 5TH – SUNDAY 7TH NOVEMBER**

The November Championships will be here before we know it and it would greatly help the Committee if entries came in early for administration purposes.

The Entry Form will be available soon so keep an eye on the website: www.wabushpoets.asn.au

Entry Forms will also be available at the next few Musters.

Please encourage entries from any **Juniors and budding young writers/performers.**



**WA Bush Poets
& Yarnspinners**

**Toodyay
Bush Poetry
Festival**

Fri 5th - Sun 7th Nov 2021

**WA Bush Poetry
Performance Championships
Poetry Writing Workshop
Variety Concert Saturday Night**

FREE ENTRY TO ALL EVENTS

Proudly sponsored and supported by



For more information, visit

www.wabushpoets.asn.au

Grief

I'm lost for words to frame true grief,
For time we're here seems strangely brief.
The love we feel wraps like a sheaf;
But days speed past like nasty thief.

We're here one day then gone the next;
The last days filled with sad subtext.
The loss we feel leaves us perplexed.
With time now chiselled in brief text.

As days drift past the pain's still there
Some days ok, some days despair.
This life we live at times unfair
And time and tide show little care.

The road ahead may seem unclear;
Each day best walk with loved ones near.
They'll nurture heart and share a tear;
For one who's gone while we're still here.

© DM-InVerse (Deb McQuire) 6th July 2021

Shop Window

Author - Jack Bock



Contact Details:
Ph: 9844 3168
Mob: 0400 292 540
Cost: \$15 (plus postage)
\$6.00 from each
purchase goes to the
Cystic Fibrosis
Foundation

Jack Bock

Jack was born in Kojonup WA, in 1940 He lived on the family farm in Kulikup and went to school in Westcliffe. Jack married Mary and had a family 3 sons and 5 grandchildren. One of his grandsons has cystic Fibrosis. Jack has dedicated the profits from this book towards the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation in their quest for a cure.

Jack has enjoyed an appreciation of Banjo Patterson type poetry most of his life and this book is a collection of Jack's poems that he has written over the last thirty years.

Shearing in New South Wales

by Jack Bock



I was out the back of New South Wales
Shearing sheep as big as whales
Flabby necks and daggy tails
And fleece as tough as rusty nails

The Station's name was Beebaloke
The Squatter was a stingy bloke
Conditions Lord were passed a joke
But I was "walking poor" stoney broke

I started out on a pleasant ride
The old grey mare lay down and died
With my shadow walking by my side
Past the Boga River on the Cobar side.

My soles were thin, my feet were sore
I bowled right up to the homestead door
I told of the thousand sheep I'd shore
He cursed and spat upon the floor.

I got the job, I don't know how
I shook his hand and took a bow
"Smart upstart shearers I'll not allow
Go down the shed and start right now!"

The shed would turn a man to tears
With rusty, shaky rattling gears
That hadn't been serviced for fifty years
And the roof falling down about our ears

The huts were just a rat's domain
Half a roof is all remains
I don't know why I should complain
In a place like this it just don't rain

If the shed was bad the grub was worse
Weevils in the flour traverse
Rissoles like a leather purse
Or bike tyres flat out in reverse

The bread was green, the mutton blue
The gravy took all night to chew
The only food that was fresh and new
Was the blowflies swimming in the stew

Above the tip the Kite Hawks fly
Waiting till a gouger dies
To take his bones to the bye and bye
And his soul to that great shed in the sky

Six weeks of hell gets under your skin
We were candidates for the luney bin
All screwed up like a treacle tin
Or a tension nut and a jiggling pin.

At last this shed is nearly or'e
We all upon a Bible swore
Come drought or flood or peace or war
We're never coming back no more

He had a daughter, fare of face
I kissed her in the drafting race
A bright new light shone on this place
To be loved by her was no disgrace

As I hump my swag to the railway track
My eyes can't stop from looking back
Hope on hope she'll call out "Jack
Elope with me to our seaside shack."

The rattler's coming round the bend
To my old hometown my way ill wend
"Tis a common tale but true my friend
A sad beginning, a sadder end.



Sadly as the July Muster was cancelled due to Covid so there is no write up to include this month. Hope to see you all at August's Muster

Heather has asked if everyone who performs at Musters could possibly give her a synopsis on the night or send one via email

h.e.denholm@gmail.com

Thanks in advance Heather.

September Muster MC Robert Asplin - 0448 150 757

robert.47@optusnet.com.au

**Traditional night - CJ Dennis's Birthday
Reading from the Classics: Deb McQuire**

**Deadline for Sept's Bully Tin
Submissions 23rd August 2021**

COMPETITIONS AND EVENTS AROUND AUSTRALIA 2021

WRITTEN EVENTS are in RED

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

AUGUST

25 August - Closing Date - King of the Ranges Written Bush Poetry Competition, Murrurundi NSW.

28 August - Closing Date - Logan's Muddy River Performance Bush Poetry Competition,
Beenleigh Queensland.

30th August - Closing Date - Toolangi CJ Dennis Poetry Competition,
Healesville Victoria.

31 August - Closing Date - Betty Olle Poetry Award, Kyabram Victoria.

Please Note:

These upcoming events may be altered due to ongoing Covid Restrictions across Australia, please check with on relevant websites and with contacts for confirmation as the year progresses

SEPTEMBER

20 September 2021 - 50th Bronze Swagman Award For Bush Verse
Windermere Station, Winton.

24-25 September
- King of the Ranges Bush Festival
with humorous and serious written competition.
Murrurundi NSW.

OCTOBER

8 October - Closing Date - Silver Quill written competition,
Bateman WA.

15 October - Closing Date - Lambing Flat FAW & National Cherry Festival Writing Competition, Young NSW.

Oct 15 - 23 2021 Cervantes Art Festival
Art, Craft, Photography and **Bush Poetry**
All Entry Forms and payments must be received by
1st October 2021.

NOVEMBER

5-7 November - WA State Championships,
performance and written competitions
(see 8 October closing date)

21 November - Closing Date - Creative celebration of the International Year of Caves and Karst – Australasia.
Write a story, rhyme, poem, song, sketch, paint, sculpt, photograph or create a video

DECEMBER

24 December - Closing Date - Kembla Flame Written Bush Poetry Competition, East Corrimal NSW. a video.

FEBRUARY 2022

12-20 February - Banjo Paterson Australian Bush Poetry Festival and ABPA National Championships, Ex-Services Club, Orange NSW.

Port, Pies, Poetry Night **Yabberup Hall** **Saturday 28th August** **6p.m. start**

Bring a pie to share (savoury or sweet)
B.Y.O. (Port or other)

* * * * *

If you feel like it

- * *Write a poem (or read out one of your favourites)*
- * *Come dressed as your favourite character (optional)*

* * * * *

Due to Covid - Entry Ticket required (Free)
Available at Preston Valley Store

- * **Prizes for poetry writing**
- * **Prize for best character** * **Door prize**

Eloquent words flowing ... Warm fire glowing Prizes to be won
Pies - hot and hearty Sounds like a party Join in the fun!
Enquiries: Vivien 0429 108 831

Interest was shown in the hand towel given as a gift so I am offering to make them for any who wants them, with or without the 2021 included. - \$12 each.

If anyone wishes to contact me Messenger Heather Denholm with an ANZAC avatar.
or SMS 0429052900.

A sample and colours available



Committee Members—WA Bush Poets & Yarn Spinners 2020 - 2021

President	Bill Gordon	0428 651 098	billgordon1948@gmail.com
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Tony Hill	- <i>Supper</i>	0418 929 493	suzi.tonyhill@bigpond.com

Regular Events

WA Bush Poets:	1st Friday each month <i>MC for Aug 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.