

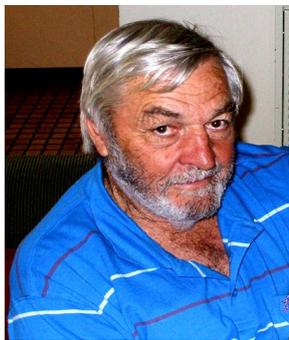


Next Muster 3rd July, 7pm - Bentley Park Auditorium, Bentley Park

MC Lorelie Tarcoma—93652277

Winton Business and Tourism Assoc.
BRONZE SWAGMAN AWARD 2015

And the Winner is.....



Terry Piggott

Lynwood WA
"Lonely Is The Campfire"



Runner up: Val Read, Bicton WA

"A Tribute To My Grandfather"

Highly Commended:

Peg Vickers, Albany WA

"Three Showers A Day"

Gary Fogarty, Qld

"Every Day We Bleed"

Terry Piggott, Lynwood WA

"A Bloke Called Basil"

Terry Piggott has always had an interest in rhyming Poetry having first been introduced to it at school. He has spent most of his adult life (as he says) chasing rainbows. Firstly Opal mining at Coober Pedy for a number of years, before leaving to get married in 1968. He then ran a wholesale opal cutting business for some years before the lure of the bush enticed once more, and for most of the last 40 years he has been prospecting for gold for a living in the remote areas of outback Western Australia. During that time he would sometimes scribble the odd rhyme or two for fun as he rested in the evenings while out bush.

It has only been in recent years that he has taken it a little more seriously and decided that although he still considered it just an enjoyable hobby; he would at least try to properly master the art of writing Bush poetry.

Valerie Read, the wonderful Western Australian poet, has had the greatest influence on his writing, especially in the early days when she encouraged him and gave him the confidence that all writers need.

Terry writes a lot of his poems about the excitement, humour, and sometimes sadness encountered in the lifestyle he's led, and also about some of the great characters he's met out bush. Although the bush features strongly in his poems he has also written on a number of other subjects and even tries his hand at the odd Yarn.

Terry occasionally reads the odd poem at the local Musters, but his main interest has always been in writing.

He is a regular winner in ABPA and other written competitions. His first book of bush poetry, *Around the Campfire with Terry Piggott* took out the Australian Bush Laureate Golden Gumleaf Award for Book of the Year in 2013. Purchasing details can be obtained from him through terrence.piggott@bigpond.com

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 and Report for the AGM July 2015



The last year has seen steady growth in our membership and wider interest in Bush Poetry throughout the state. Musters average about 50 each month, with a good variety of performances and a lot of original poetry coming forward. Wireless Hill continues to be the major showcase event in Perth but we have had many other opportunities to show our talents.

The Bush Poetry Festival and WABP & YS State Championships at Toodyay was again well supported by poets and the general public. I was pleased to be invited to the Toodyay School to present workshops to their year 6/7 classes, and hope this will continue into the future. Congratulations to all the poets who competed and especially to Christine Boulton who won against a star studded line-up which included past WA winners and the current Australian Female Champion. Plans are well in hand for the 2015 Toodyay weekend on 30th & 31st October and 1st November.

Other events throughout the state that attract a solid following are the Bush Poets Breakfasts at Albany, Derby, Esperance, Bridgetown and Boyup Brook. The Bunbury Bards hold their bi-monthly meetings as well as their spot at Bunbury Show and retirement villages in their area.

Moondyne Festival was much better this year being downtown at the Freemasons Hotel. Sharing the stage in the beer garden with Terry Bennetts and Kate Linke proved a winner. Further north, a group of our members have a good following at the Charles Darwin Reserve Open Day at Perenjori. This is being expanded this year to include Bush Poet's Breakfasts on the Saturday and Sunday mornings.

WA writers have continued to lead the way in many competitions this year. Congratulations to Terry Piggott on his win in the Bronze Swagman competition in Winton. This event is acknowledged throughout Australia as the premier written bush poetry competition. Val Reid was runner-up and Peg Vickers and Terry were awarded Highly Commended for their entries. I often pause to think how privileged we are to have such talented people in our midst.

The committee has worked well throughout the year and I wish to thank each and every one for their support and willingness to assist whenever asked. I have been forced to make some executive decisions at short notice, particularly concerning the Toodyay weekend, and appreciate the ready endorsement of my actions. Nancy, Rob and John are all standing down this year. I thank them all for the time they have given to the association, and for their offers of continued support and assistance.

Thanks also to those not on the committee but who have filled roles within the association. To Brian Langley as webmaster, Colin Tyler for the muster suppers, Rhonda Hinkley as librarian, Carole Pedri as minute secretary, and Christine Boulton for the Bully Tin. A huge thank you to my wife Meg who has taken over the muster write-ups, minute secretary and has graduated as fully fledged editor of the Bully Tin.

I have enjoyed my time as President of the WA Bush Poets and Yarnspinners Association. It has been particularly satisfying to oversee the revival of the State Championships. Toodyay has proved an ideal venue, and the local support is outstanding. I will not be standing for president for the coming year due to retirement and travel plans as mentioned in my report last month. I will, however, be happy to stay on the committee and to maintain my involvement with Toodyay and other events when in WA over the summer months.

Any association is made up of the willing. Those willing to work, and those willing to let them. Fortunately the WA Bush Poets & Yarnspinners is made up of the first category.

Bill Gordon. President

A BLOKE CALLED BASIL

I've known some Bushmen in my time and proudly
called them mate,
Big hearted men with chequered pasts dealt by the
hand of fate.
They'd stick by you through thick and thin and never
make demands
And on these blokes I'd stake my life and know it's in
good hands.

You'll run into pretenders some with whiskers on
their moosh,
Who'll tell you that they're experts when you talk
about the bush.
You'll meet them at the local in some towns you're
passing through,
Most likely propping up the bar and no doubt had a
few.

True Bushmen on the other hand, are from a time
now past,
It's rare to meet one these days as they're
disappearing fast.
They grew up on the stations; many others drifted in,
Some on the run from something, be it tragedy or
sin.

You'll find them scratching out a living miles from
anywhere,
Some burdened still with long felt grief too painful yet
to share.
A few remain quite bitter, cursing those who did
them wrong,
While others try forgetting as they move their lives
along.

Old Basil was like that, a better bloke you couldn't
find
And yet I always wondered what ghosts he'd left
behind.
I'd see that hint of sadness lurking in his wistful
smile,
But not a word was spoken, though I'd known him
quite a while.

One day he'd seem so cheerful but the next he
hardly spoke,
Who knows what demons lurked within the mind of
this old bloke.
He always had a haunted look throughout the years
ahead,
But on that touchy subject I never dared to tread.

At times around the campfire on a balmy outback
night,
I'd sense he wished to speak; perhaps to shed a
little light.
But then he'd seem to hesitate and pull back from
the brink,
Just couldn't say the words; maybe afraid of what
I'd think.

His wish for peace and solitude was plain for all to
see
And I was somewhat humbled that he'd made a
friend of me.
We'd sometimes spend an evening beneath a
starry sky,
With just the odd word spoken as the hours would
drift on by.

There's something extra special sitting quietly with
a mate,
Out in some far off corner of this isolated state.
The crackling of the embers and the lazy drift of
smoke,
Will somehow lift your spirits, even though you're
stony broke.

We often shared a campsite, yet he always
worked alone;
He'd never had a working mate as far as I had
known.
He'd lived a loner's life for years since heading
down the track
And turned his back on city life and vowed he'd
not go back.

He was a private man, yet fair and loyal to the last,
But always guarded carefully the secrets of his
past.
He never did speak of that time although I'm sure
he tried
And sadness seemed to follow him until the day
he died.

T.E.Piggott



What's On This Month

AGM

Friday 3rd July 2015
At 6.30pm

AGM



Pickering Brook Heritage Group Inc. presents

A BUSH POET NIGHT

Saturday, 4th July 2015

7pm to 9.30pm

At Pickering Brook Sports Club

35 Weston Road Pickering Brook WA

Tickets \$20

contact Susan 92938185 or 0421 812 216 or Beverley 92938203
for tickets and further information

Some light refreshments will be served during the evening but you are welcome to bring a plate to share with your group

Vale Milton Taylor

It is with great sadness that we share the news of the death of Milton Taylor on the night of Saturday 16th May 2015, from a suspected heart attack. He was a month short of his 72nd birthday.

Milton was an encouragement and inspiration to so many bush poets. Not only was he a wonderful bloke to know, he was a sensational performer and excellent writer of bush poetry. Very few people are able to master both writing and performance and even fewer can create and deliver both joy and pathos with equal effectiveness.

Despite a multitude of awards and a huge fan base, he was immensely humble, sharing his talent to inspire many other poets and bringing sheer joy of poetry to children.

Amongst his many awards, Milton was the ABPA Australian Performance Champion five times and also took out the iconic Blackened Billy written award three times, both unbeaten records.

But it is as a mentor and friend that Milton will remain in the hearts of all who knew and respected him.

Many tributes have been written and sent in. He will be greatly missed in bush poetry circles in Australia and the United States.

Important Notice - – Changes to WABPYA Constitution & Rules

Your Committee has decided to update the Constitution and Rules of the Association to take into account some recent changes to the *Associations Incorporation Act 2014*. This will facilitate the exercise of some of the duties of office holders and functions of the Association generally.

Some of the changes which are worth noting are as follows:

- The minimum number of ordinary members is 6 (previously no minimum);
- The minimum age limit for ordinary members is 15 years;
- The liability of members is limited to their subscription;
- The minimum number of ordinary members on the Committee is 1 (previously 4);
- There will be integrity tests for Committee members;
- The President will now be known as the Chairperson;
- The Secretary will be able to delegate duties such as maintenance of the membership register and minute-taking;
- The Committee can set up sub-committees and subsidiary offices;
- Committee members may be paid travel allowance (but not sitting fees); and
- There will be a set process for the resolution of disputes.

At the **AGM on Friday 3rd July 2015 at 6.30pm**, I will be moving the following resolution:

THAT subject to the retention of the Objects of the Association and such other specific administrative details as the Committee may determine, the Constitution and Rules of this Association be amended by rescinding and replacing them *in toto* with the “Model Rules for the *Associations Incorporation Act 2014*” as adapted and adopted by the Committee.

The draft Model Rules are available for download at [www.commerce.wa.gov.au/search/site/model rules draft](http://www.commerce.wa.gov.au/search/site/model%20rules%20draft).

Copies will also be available at the AGM or from me upon request.

Thank you
Peter Nettleton—Vice President

Notice of Motion 2—Moved N. Coe seconded by R. Kohn that the January meeting is held on Australia Day.

Membership Renewal is due at AGM

Please notify Treasurer by phone or email if you send your subscription renewal by direct debit.
Alan Aitken 0400249243
aaitken@live.com.au

News from the travelling Cracknells.

A Rodent's "Tail"



Straight after the Boyup Brook Festival this year, the Cracknells headed east. We revisited SA and Tasmania where we caught up with old friends. We also renewed acquaintances with friends in Victoria and NSW. We finished off by staying with mates in Grafton, a beautiful city situated in northern NSW.

Then began the long trip home which proved to be rather more eventful than we expected or wanted.

We spent three days in Ceduna before crossing the Nullabor. Then with food replenished and water tanks full we headed west.

All was going well as we neared Eucla. Beautiful weather and an easterly tailwind made for pleasant travelling. About 60kms east of Eucla we made camp, pulling into a large designated rest area. After a couple of beers and a feed we retired for the night.

It was about 2am, when we woke and realised something was wrong. Something or someone was running across our faces and it sounded as though world war three was being fought on our caravan roof. We turned on the bedside light and were greeted by the sight of a huge contingent of mice, whose main aim apparently, was to dominated every square inch of our caravan. Believe it or not, some were even in bed with us. Blankets and sheets flew everywhere as we shot out of bed. A couple of mice ran over Jan's feet and her screams were probably heard in Adelaide. They were behind the fridge, in the pantry, running up the curtains and onto the pelmets.

We armed ourselves with thongs and shoes and started to fight back. It was futile. Sheer weight of numbers forced us to retreat to our bed where we spent the remainder of the night watching mice take over our caravan.

Screams from around the campsite indicated to us we were not the only ones under siege. Flashlights, muffled thumps and lurid threats told us our fellow campers were having an equally hard time repelling the Rodent Invasion.

We were never so glad to see the first rays of dawn. We cleaned up and continued west, accompanied by a throng of mice residing behind the fridge.

The following night we set traps and started to thin them out as we headed towards Perth. Ratsak and traps depleted the numbers considerably. We now think they have abandoned ship and left us in peace.

Now I am the first to admit that Bush Poets have tremendous imaginations and a great ability to stretch the truth, but this little story is one hundred percent true. So next time you caravaners travel the Nullabor, the caravan park might be the preferred option.

Looking forward to seeing you all soon,
Regards Roger and Jan.

I'M ONLY 90

Today Dear Lord I'm 90
And there's much I haven't done
I hope Dear Lord you'll let me live, until I'm 91
But if I haven't finished all I have to do,
Would you let me stay awhile, until I'm 92 ?
So many places I must go, so very much to see,
Do you think that you could manage to make it 93 ?
The world is changing very fast
There is so much in store,
I'd like it very much to live until I'm 94.
And if by then I'm still alive'
I'd like to stay till 95.
My health I'll leave for you to fix
While I push on to 96.
I know Dear Lord its much to ask
(and it will be VERY nice in heaven)
But I would really like to stay until I'm 97.
I know by then I'll be quite slow
And sometimes will be late,
But it will be so pleasant
To be around at 98.
I've had so many blessings
And everything is fine,
I'm sure that I'll be willing
To leave at 99..... Well, maybe...



poet unknown

CERVANTES FESTIVAL OF ART 2015

WRITTEN BUSH POETRY COMPETITION

- as part of the Cervantes Art Festival - is back on again this year, after a break last year.

The festival will be held at the

Cervantes Recreation Centre
Friday October 23 - Sunday 1 November 2015

PRIZES: Open : \$250 Junior : \$100

All entries to be received no later than **2nd October**.

Winners will be announced on opening night on Friday 23rd October at the festival.

For competition requirements and entry form, please contact Irene Conner on 0429652155 or iconner21@wn.com.au

Muster Write Up 5th June – Sue Hill

MC for the evening was Nancy Coe and the evening got under way at 7pm.

Bill Gordon recited “The Parkes Elvis Festival Caper” (Bill Kearns). When two Senior citizens from Woolibuc stop over for the night on their way to Melbourne, they were not expecting to find Bert and his mates dressed up as Elvis. The results are hilarious in typical Bill Kearns style.

Carolyn Sambridge presented her own poem “Bill, Bill, Bill” about a neighbour who pushes the friendship too far. Caroline also presented her own poem about Football on TV.

John Hayes presented “Faces in the Street” (Henry Lawson). Henry Lawson was standing on the platform at Petersham Station on a wet winter night shivering in his damp overcoat as cold as a refrigerator. He glances at the sign that reads “Second Class Wait Here”, and he thinks of the great disparity in the streets of Sydney in the 1890 and the great gulf that exists between who have and those who have not, and gives him the first lines of “Faces in the Street”

Marjory Cole presented “The Smiths” (EG “Dryblower” Murphy). How the name “Smith” predominated in Coolgardie. This caused some confusion when the mail arrived and some of the Smiths received correspondence which wasn’t meant for them. The mail officials yearned to block the Smiths on Christmas Day by faking a telegram from a Melbourne Lawyer addressed to “Smith Esquire” regarding the threat of arrest if the said Smith didn’t face the music of the promise made. Consequently many Smith’s took on a different name and left town.

Marjory also presented a Poem which was given to her on her 91st Birthday by her Sister. Author (Anonymous). This poem was relating to a person turning 91 then asking the Lord to grant her to live until 92, then 93, 94, and more blessings so she could be granted to live until 99.

Lesley McAlpine presented “A Poem” from a book of memorials dedicated to a Gallipoli Private from Rockingham John “Jack” Hynes, a stretcher bearer who flaunted rules and regulations. The poem was written in his diary under the name “Fray Bentos” (a nickname for Bully Beef) and shows the difference in attitudes between the men on the front line and those in comfy positions back in London.

Bob Brackenbury presented “Dingo Dan” (Syd Hopkinson) How on his pastoral station he finds a novel way to trap Dingoes.

Grace Williamson presented “The Roaring Day” (Henry Lawson) Tells of the early gold rush years.

Jem Shorland presented a poem/song about Great Aussie Beers where VB is the best. This was a drinking song competition by Carlton Brewery. The winner was the song “I like to Have a Beer with Duncan”. **Jem** also presented a cowboy poem suggested by Long John Best, author (Pat Richardson) about a brother who acts like a dog.

Anne Hayes presented a poem by John Hayes “Beneath Australian Skies” The poem depicts the different seasons when rivers run through Red Gorges and then the Wildflowers bloom and the Kookaburras laughter the Magpies greetings. This shows the commencing of spring and describes where they have travelled and the landscapes they have seen.

Dave Smith – Tells a yarn about his travels around the Territory that he and Elaine took for their Golden Wedding Anniversary. How they took a guided tour on a luxury Coach saw Kakadu National Park, plenty of crocodiles, one that tried to devour a chainsaw. How a lady on the bus wouldn’t get off the bus to see the Aboriginal Carvings, as she had seen plenty of cows carving before. He also told us how to get a cup of coffee for 50 cents.

Loraine Broun – presented her own poem about “A Rat Attack”

Robert Gun presented “Promoted to Glory” (Keith Lethbridge) A poem about a prospector called Gunner.

Kerry Bowe Told a funny story of her days when she worked in a Pharmacy, and a lad named Larry King, who was sold some large rubber gloves instead of Condoms as she had miss-understood his request. The Pharmacist had a good laugh.

Brian Langley presented his poem called "Fairies". Brian as come to conclusion that the cause for lost items, tangled hoses and the like around his house is the presence of Fairies. His poem gives examples of the mischief that these unseen little nuisances get up to. Deciding that he would build a trap to catch them he was not surprised to find that he was unable to do so as part of the trap, like many other things in his house, had become mislaid.

Reading from the Classics presented by **Lorraine Broun**. "How We Beat the Favourite" (Adam Lindsay Gordon) A description of a horse race. Lorraine's great grandfather was a steeplechase Jockey along with Gordon and she likes to imagine that her great grandfather is riding "The Clown".

Dave Smith presented his poem "Wally New Boots" Wally goes to town to buy himself some new RM Williams boots, his wife Roma doesn't even notice is new boots, so to make her take notice he strips himself naked except for his boots!!

Dot Langley "The Song of Australia" by Caroline Carelton 1859. This was her entry into a competition for patriotic poems. It was a First Prize winning poem and along with the winning tune from this same competition was to be used as a patriotic song in South Australian Schools and elsewhere. It also became the popular school song that we all learnt. It was one of four songs put to the people to choose as our National Anthem. Unfortunately it didn't win. The song has all the usual comments about our colours and our forests and plains. Where riches abound along with treasures deep and with fabled wealth comes happiness and joy. (Nowhere does it mention the adversity and toil that we know are there) obviously written as a song of joy a salute to all that is good about our great country. **Dot** also presented, "Abolish the Bargain Sales" by Dryblower (Edwin Greenslade Murphy) March 20th 1904 "Dryblower" wrote poems in response to various articles in different newspapers in Western Australia. This poem tells of the response to the then Premier (Mr. Walter James) and the Women's Christian Temperance Union banding together to abolish the bargain sales in the big drapery shops. These were very bad in their influence as being seen as the gambling spirit among women betting to see who got the best of the articles on sale. In it he encourages women to protect this privilege of being able to use their stinted and scraped savings to flourish a bargain. Whilst it was possibly fought over it is always going to be an article that will be well used or needed for a special day or event.

Carolyn Sambridge presented her poem called "Bossy Sister". Also "Goths" about as black as a night without no moon worshipping black Sabbath.

John Hayes – presented "When your Pants begin to Go" (Henry Lawson)

Grace Williamson presented "Lost" (A.B. Paterson) Tells of a boy who went riding on his horse an didn't come home.

Christine Boulton presented "The Water Lily" (Henry Lawson) A dream of her dead child. Also her own poem "Phil the Lonely Rooster" A story of a red rooster who is always crowing and ends his days in the pot for Christmas Dinner.

Brian Langley presented his Poem titled" Queensland" Having seen the enticing ads for Queensland, in which the slogan "beautiful one day, perfect the next" was the catchcry, Brian decided that he would like to visit this paradise on earth an see for himself. After many misadventures and 15 thousand Km he discovered that while there was a lot going for Queensland, he had missed the two days mentioned in the slogan.

Robert Gunn presented "The Glass on the Bar" (Henry Lawson)

Bill Gordon finished the evening with a poem by (Wally McRae) call "Reincarnation". It tells what happens to your mortal remains after you are placed beneath the mound. The grass and flowers that grow on your grave become horse fodder, then manure and the cycle of life is complete.

WANTED - Muster MC's & Classics Readers
Please contact editor meggordon4@bigpond.com.au

Committee Members—WA Bush Poets & Yarn Spinners 2014—2015

Bill Gordon	President	97651098	0428651098	northlands@wn.com.au
Peter "Stinger" Nettleton	Vic President		0407770053	stinger@iinet.net.au
Brian Langley	Webmaster	9361 3770		briandot@tpg.com.au
Irene Conner	Secretary/State Rep APBA		0429652155	lconner21@wn.com.au
Alan Aitken	Treasurer		0400249243	aaiken@aapt.net.au
John Hayes		93771238	0428542418	hayseed1@optusnet.com.au
Rodger Kohn		93872905	0428372341	rodgershirley@bigpond.com
Dave Smith			0438341256	daveandelainessmith1@bigpond.com
Bob Brackenbury		93641310	0418918884	oddjobbob@bigpond.com
Robert Gunn	Sound gear set up		0417099676	gun.hink@hotmail.com
Jem Shorland			0423797487	shorland@iinet.net.au
Maxine Richter	Bullytin Distributor		0429339002	maxine.richter@bigpond.com
Nancy Coe	Muster Meet/greet	94725303		
Not on the committee, but taking on the following tasks:				
Colin Tyler	Supper			
Rhonda Hinkley	Librarian		0417099676	gun.hink@hotmail.com
Meg Gordon	Bully Tin Editor/Muster Writeups		0404075108	meggordon4@bigpond.com.au

Upcoming Events

Please let the editor know if you are aware of any event which might be of interest to the general membership

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 Bennetts	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	CD
	Keith Lethbridge	books	Roger Cracknell	Book, CD
		Bill Gordon	CD	

Address correspondence for the Bully Tin to: The "Bully Tin" Editor Box 364, Bentley WA 6982 e-mail meggordon4@bigpond.com.au	Address all other correspondence to: The Secretary WA Bush Poets & Yarn Spinners Box 364, Bentley WA 6982	Address Monetary payments to: The Treasurer WA Bush Poets & Yarnspinners Assn Box 364, Bentley. WA 6982
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