

MULGA WIRE

INCLUDING
SINGABOUT



Visiting American bones player Steve Wixson was joined by a number of our members for a session.

Steve is from the *Rhythm Bones Society*. <https://rhythmbones.com>

L-R: Dale Dengate, Walter Bolliger, Steve Wixson, Sharyn Mattern, Anne Maher, Frank Maher.

Photo: Sandra Nixon



No. 244
Registered by Australia Post

December 2017
Publication PP 100001235

ISSN 2207-7413 (online)
ISSN 0157 - 3381

MULGA WIRE

EDITORS of MULGA WIRE are:

Mike Young 0428 223 033 - mike55young@tpg.com.au

Colin Fong 9716 9660(h) - c.fong@unsw.edu.au

President: Sharyn Mattern 9799 7439 (h)

Vice President: Don Richmond 0409 126 754

Secretary: Sandra Nixon 9358 4886 (h)

Treasurer: Allen Davis 9639 7494 (h)



MULGA WIRE appears quarterly. Unsolicited articles should be submitted four weeks prior to publication. Email articles to the editors or mail to GPO Box 433, Sydney 2001.

MULGA WIRE is sent free to members of the Bush Music Club Inc and costs \$2.00 or \$3.00 (posted) per issue to others. Subscription is \$15 per annum, including postage.

Except where it is indicated that copyright is reserved, all articles in **MULGA WIRE** may be freely reprinted, provided that source and author are clearly acknowledged.

Views expressed herein are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Club or Editorial staff.

MULGA WIRE is not possible without the support of those members who prepare the magazine for posting.

ADVERTISING (Copy size in mm)
Full Page (vert) \$45.00 (185h x 127w)
Half Page (horiz) \$25.00 (92h x 127w)
Quarter Page (vert) \$15.00 (92h x 63w)
Business Cards \$ 7.00 (< 30 x 47)
Classifieds \$ 1.50 Per line
Inserts \$30.00 (Minimum)

Copy for advertisements should be at 100%, no larger than 123 mm high by 83 mm wide (full page), camera ready and submitted three weeks prior to publication, or by prior arrangement with the Editors.

MULGA WIRE is printed by Unique Print, 154 Broadway, Chippendale.

BUSH DANCES December—March

BEECROFT Community Centre

Becroft Road (opposite Fire Stn)

7:30pm—11:30pm

December 2 **BMC Concert Party**

February 3 **Ryebuck**

March 3 **Short Dented Potts**

Enquiries: Sigrid 9980 7077

Wilma 9489 5594

DUNDAS Community Centre

21 Sturt St, Telopea

7pm—11pm

December 16 **Southern Cross**

Enquiries: 0412 145 262

Bush Music Club enquiries:

0412 145 262 or

bmcm1954@gmail.com

Also see our web site for Club doings, history, articles and blog:

www.bushmusic.org.au

Cover:

Session with visiting American bones player.

Photo Sandra Nixon



We are nearly at the end of another wonderful year but it's not all over yet!

Our Monday night Pennant Hills Dance Workshop will be celebrating Christmas on 11th December with the BMC Concert Party providing the music. Come along and join us as we celebrate Christmas, the BMC way!

There is so much taking place in December including the Christmas Beecroft and Dundas dances which are always an enjoyable (Dundas replacing Ermington this year). Check out all the happenings in the BMC Calendar.

Many happy returns, also, to the BMC Concert Party who celebrated their 60th birthday this year. Congratulations and all the very best for the next 60 years.

Thank you to everyone who helped make this year such a success and have a wonderful Christmas and New Year and looking to catch up with you all in 2018.

And don't forget to check out Sandra's blog articles on the BMC website.

Sharyn Mattern

Worth Noting	4	Dengate Parody Competition	10
Pennant Hills Christmas Party	5	Irish Slow Session / Bush Dances	11
Poet's Corner	6	Back to Binalong	12
Poetry / Beecroft Sponsors	7	Playford	13
Duke's Place	8	Event details	14
Singabout-"Reedy River Review"	S1-4	Concert Party News / Singing	15
Pennant Hills Dance Workshop	9	Around the Bush Music Scene	16

Worth Noting

Bush Music Club will be appearing at the Illawarra Folk Festival in January.

Entrants for the **Dengate Parody Competition** to be held at Gulgong Folk Festival need to submit **3 paper copies** of their entries prior to the 19 December deadline. See P10.

A bunch of our members helped form a Concertina Caterpillar at the National Folk Festival. The performance is now on Youtube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eVXfH-6BoBg>

The Australian Government has a section of their website dedicated to Australian Stories. Of particular interest are the following:

<http://www.australia.gov.au/about-australia/australian-story/austn-folk-music>

<http://www.australia.gov.au/about-australia/australian-story/bush-songs-and-music>

<http://www.australia.gov.au/about-australia/australian-story/austn-folklore>

Making Direct Deposit Payments (Membership/Shop/Ball)

Direct Deposit details:

BSB: 062-005

Acct: 0090 7524 (Commonwealth bank)

Ref: Member's Name

Email details of payment to treasurer:

Allen Davis <allendavis@iprimus.com.au>

Membership forms or ball ticket forms still need to be sent, either by mail, filled out online, or scanned and sent by email.



★ Pamela & Bill BRINKWORTH ★

★ Michelle ARGENT ★

★ Stephen McCANN★ ★ Emma SPUTNIK★

★ Theresa HARVEY ★

ELECTRONIC DELIVERY OF **MULGA WIRE**

The Committee is offering the option of electronic delivery alongside traditional paper copies. If you would prefer to receive an electronic copy - rather than a paper one, please contact us on **bmcmail1954@gmail.com**



Everyone is invited to-

**The Pennant Hills Dance Workshop
Christmas Party**

**Monday 11th December 2017
7.30pm to 9.30pm**

Music by the BMC Concert Party.

An enjoyable evening of Bush Dancing and traditional music is guaranteed. Our hall is air conditioned.

If you were previously a regular at Pennant Hills but have not danced with us lately, why not come along for this special night.

Tea and Coffee supplied.
Please bring your own mug and
a small plate to share.

Entry is only \$7 (Free for first timers).

To be held at:
The Pennant Hills Community Centre & Library,
Yarrara Road, Pennant Hills.
(Opposite the railway station.)
We are in the downstairs hall,
enter through the doors in the car park.

Poet's Corner

Daisy's on the Track by Helen & Tony Romeo

Out across the Great Divide, 'midst gardens full of blooms
The sleepy town of Bathurst lies, just where a mountain looms
And up along that mountain's side, around and down again,
A road winds up to open views across the western plain

On normal days locals take that road along their way to work
But at other times the road is closed and the "rev-heads" go berserk
From all across the land they come to fire up their big V8's
To squeal around the bends and turns and rocket down the straights

'Twas such a day, some time ago, this incident took place
the most important meeting of the year, the big Grand Final race.
The crowds awaited, breathless, the starter's light to flash
And engines rumbled loudly, all set to make the dash

Meanwhile.....down along the Conrod Straight, at No 53
Daisy Biggs decided she'd like some scones for afternoon tea
She gathered her ingredients then found to her surprise
The only flour that she had left would not allow her scones to rise

Now Mrs Biggs was 87 but took a lot of stopping,
She was determined to get her Devonshire tea, even if it meant some shopping
She untied her floral apron and found her old straw hat
She changed out of her slippers and put out 'Patch', the cat

And as she walked along the path, out to her little car
She heard a distant rumble, like thunder from afar
'Sounds like rain!' she thought "I'd better hurry back"
and, after checking that the road was clear, pulled out onto the track

Now the racers were all underway (you probably had guessed)
Engines screaming, drivers straining all out to be the best
There wasn't much between them, all 20 came o'er the rise
And there was Mrs B!!.....they could not believe their eyes!!

Well, technique went out the window, panic over took the cool
Let's face it - 'Pensioners cruising at 40K' just isn't covered at racing school
And so 20 thundering monsters, running a few hundred horses each
Were suddenly required to brake, tyres began to screech!!

Physicist have a term for it, I think, - "the domino effect"
But, simply put, the end result was all the cars were wrecked
They finished in a smouldering heap, all broken bashed and bent
One stray wheel was set in flight and took out a sponsor's tent

Daisy simply motored on, unaware of all the fuss
A classical example of ignorance being a plus!!
She signalled early, dropped down the gears and slowly hung a right
And headed towards the crowded stands – a truly colourful sight

‘The markets must be on’ she thought as all the scene flashed past her
while desperate marshals and officials tried to halt the great disaster
the crowd just watched in disbelief, the little car dodged and swayed
then they joined in the fun and cheered her on her way

She saw a mass of people blocking passage up ahead
Then took what seemed a side-street – and down Pit Lane she sped
Where the pit crew, trained to respond, to gain the slightest break
Had her set with fresh fuel and tyres before realising their mistake!!

Now, with everything considered, it’s all ended pretty well
They melted down those dead V8’s – made a giant warning bell!!
And the sponsors have thought it out, Daisy’s filled with glee
Because each race day she gets a special invite – to attend for afternoon tea!!

POETRY anyone?

Enjoy reciting a poem? Sharing a poem with others?
Perhaps writing your own poems? Brushing up on performing some ‘bush’ poetry?
If so, you are very welcome to come along. A contribution to go with afternoon tea
would be appreciated.

Where: The BMC Hut at Marrickville, Addison Rd.
When: Saturday 2pm to 4pm - **Dec 9, Feb 10, Mar 10**
Cost: \$5 or gold coin donation
Contact: Karen (02) 9716 9660 OR fongs@bigpond.net.au

Beecroft Spot Prizes

At recent Beecroft dances we have been handing out special prizes to dancers at certain points during the night. The prizes are donated by the following local businesses:

Renaissance Hair Studio Westleigh
La Thai Restaurant Thornleigh
Topiary Café Epping
The Beauty Salon Westleigh
Wilma Lyon Music School Normanhurst
Westleigh Quality Meats Westleigh

DUKE'S PLACE

**Australian Songs
in Concert & session**



**Usually Second Friday of
the Month Feb - Dec**

Doors open 7:30pm
Concert 8 - 10.30pm, followed by
singing session
(gates close midnight)

Tritton Hall - Hut 44
Addison Rd Community Centre
142 Addison Rd, Marrickville

\$10 - Bring a plate - bring songs

Friday 8th December - Songs from Lola's Keg Night

Presented by the show's creators, PP Cranney and Christina Mimmocchi including songs that didn't make it into the show.

<http://christinapossu.wixsite.com/lola/about>

Dates for 2018:

Friday 9th February

Friday 9th March

Friday 13 April

Friday 18 May (3rd Friday)

Friday 15 June (3rd Friday)

Friday 13 July

Friday 10 August

Friday 14 September

Friday 12 October

Friday 9 November

Friday 14 December

Mulga Wire: 2018 Publishing Deadlines

Item Deadline	To Printers	Folding Session
2 February	8 February	13 February
11 May	17 May	22 May

Pennant Hills Dance Activities

Pennant Hills Community Centre: (lower, air-conditioned hall)

During September our workshops focussed on teaching and practicing the dances for the Central Coast Flannel Flower Ball, which was held in October. It was a very enjoyable event and well supported by the Penno Dancers.

In October and November we enjoyed some mixed workshops, dancing a range of styles and introducing some new dances to our repertoire.

On 11th December we will be holding our Christmas Party with music provided by the BMC Concert Party. Why not come along and join us? It is always a great night of dancing and music. Bring along a small plate to share if you want. As in all our workshops, first timers are free.

And don't forget, the Christmas Party is not the last workshop of the year. On 18th December we will hold our traditional request night. There is no planned program, the dances being requested by the dancers on the night.

Our first dance of the new year will be held on 8th January. Later in January we will enjoy some Australian dances (such as the Scottish Waltz, Marching Through Georgia and the New French Cotillion) for Australia Day. February will feature some mixed dance workshops with both traditional and recently-written dances.

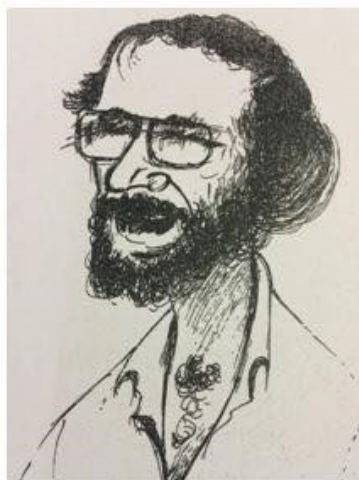
Lots of dancing at Pennant Hills, in the air conditioned community hall.

John Short

Programme December/January/February

MONDAY 7.30–10.30	THEME/DANCE STYLE
4 December	Practice for Christmas Party
11 December	Dance Workshop Christmas Party with BMC Concert Party
18 December	Request Night. Come along and request your favourite dance
25 December	No Workshop - Merry Christmas
1 January	No Workshop - Celebrate Federation Day instead
8 January	Welcome Back workshop. First workshop in the new year
15 January	Welcome back workshop
22 January	Australian Dances
29 January	Australian Dances
5 February	Mixed workshops, modern and traditional dances
12 February	Mixed workshops, modern and traditional dances
19 February	Mixed workshops, modern and traditional dances
26 February	Mixed workshops, modern and traditional dances

JOHN DENGATE POLITICAL PARODY SONGWRITING COMPETITION



GULGONG FOLK FESTIVAL will hold the annual
John Dengate Political Parody Songwriting Competition
during the festival - 29 to 31 December 2017

This competition, searching for a political satirist after the style of
John Dengate is open now - closing on 19 December 2017.

There is satirical material galore,
on the Australian and the world stage

Get Thinking - Get the Irony - Get Creative - Get Writing!

Entry forms and Festival Information:

www.gulgongfolkfestival.net.au

Please refer to the 2017 Festival Program for precise competition scheduling.

Enquiries: di.clifford15@gmail.com – 0458 032 150

ENTRY is FREE

Traditional Irish Music 'Slow Session'

The Sydney Slow Session is a place where musicians can learn a new Irish Folk tune each week at a pace that suits beginners and intermediate players.

Every Sunday 6:30pm at Tritton Hall, Hut 44, Addison Rd Community Centre, 142 Addison Rd, Marrickville.

Cost \$10 (concession \$5), includes tea and bikkies.

Enquiries: Brian 0414 565 805

<https://www.facebook.com/SydneySlowSession/>

Bush Music Club **Dundas Bush Dance**



7pm - 11pm *Note start time*
Dundas Community Centre
21 Sturt St, Telopea

Hall is air conditioned

Cost: \$19 Adult, \$14 BMC Members
Includes supper

Sat December 16 - *Southern Cross*

Bush Music Club **Beecroft Bush Dance**



7:30pm - 11:30pm *Note start time*
Beecroft Community Centre
Beecroft Road (cnr Copeland Rd)

Cost: \$19 Adult, \$14 BMC Members
Includes supper

Sat December 2 - *BMC Concert Party*

Sat February 3 - *Ryebuck*

Sat March 3 - *Short Dented Potts*

Sat April 7 - *BMC Concert Party*

Back to Binalong

Bush Traditions organised this weekend to celebrate the music of Harry & Vera Cotter & their daughter Val Turton in conjunction with a planned Concertina Convergence.



31 musicians attended the session on Tunes of Harry Cotter

Sandra Nixon



Dave Johnson with Helen & Tony Romeo

Sandra Nixon



Harry's granddaughter Lilian & her family

Sandra Nixon



Session with Dave de Hugard

Sandra Nixon

Playford Dancing at the Hut

Next meetings: **Tues 5th December, Tues 6th February**, 7:30pm to 9:30pm

The Bush Music Club is hosting Sydney Playford dancing in our headquarters, Hut 44 Addison Road Community Centre, Marrickville.

We meet on the first Tuesday of each month (except January), and there will be live music as often as possible. Cost \$7.

For more information contact Julie Bishop 9524 0247

Event Details

Accordion Masterclasse & dance, Hut 44, Addison Rd Comm Centre, Marrickville
Presented by the BMC and the Accordion Society.

<https://www.facebook.com/accordionsocietyofaustralia/>

Becroft Bush Dance, Becroft Community Hall, Becroft

☎ Sigrid 9980 7077 / Wilma 9489 5594

Duke's Place, Hut 44, Addison Rd Community Centre, Marrickville

☎ Sandra 9358 4886 See p8

End of Year Folk Bash, Gaelic Club, 1st Flr, 64 Devonshire St, Surry Hills

☎ Margaret 9698 2206

Gosford Bush Dance, East Gosford Progress Hall

☎ Anne Maree 0413 588 634 <http://www.ccbdma.org/dance/>

Gulgong Folk Festival

<http://www.gulgongfolkfestival.net.au>

Hornsby Folk Club, Beatrice Taylor Hall (in Willow Park), Edgeworth David Ave

☎ Barry 9807 9497

Illawarra Folk Festival, Bulli

☎ 1300 887 034 <http://www.illawarrafolkfestival.com.au/>

Keith's Dance Workshop, Upper Hall, Pennant Hills Community Centre

<http://keith-wood.name/danceworkshops.html>

Loaded Dog Folk Club, Annandale Neighbourhood Centre

☎ Sandra 9358 4886

Playford Dancing at the Hut, Hut 44, Addison Rd Comm Centre, Marrickville

☎ Julie 9524 0247 See p13

Poetry at the Hut, Hut 44, Addison Rd Community Centre, Marrickville

☎ Karen 9716 9660 See p7

Songlines Song Session, Australian Heritage Hotel, 100 Cumberland St, The Rocks

☎ Jenny 9576 2301

Sutherland Acoustic, Tradies, Gymea

☎ Jenny 9576 2301

The Addison Rd Sessions, Hut 44, Addison Rd Community Centre, Marrickville

☎ Glenys 4758 7497 See p15

Toongabbie Music Club, 17 Whitehaven Rd, Northmead

☎ 9639 7494

Troubadour Folk Club, CWA Hall, The Boulevarde, Woy Woy

☎ Michael 4342 6716

Concert Party News

The Monday Music Session continues to draw good attendances with several new members joining in playing and enjoying the music and singing. It is a very busy time for BMC musicians at present with involvement in the following public performances, viz:

Music at The Bower in Marrickville on Saturday 11 November,

Music at Australiana Pioneer Village Wilberforce on 26 November,

December Beecroft Bush Dance and

Christmas Party at Pennant Hills Dance workshop.

Many thanks are due to all the Concert Party members and friends who show such loyalty in attending each Monday evening and providing a joyful and pleasant atmosphere in Hut 44. The Concert Party Xmas party will be held on Monday 18 December in the Hut beginning at 2pm with a BBQ in the area adjacent to the hut.

Allen Davis



Concert Party at Beecroft (Dec 2013)

Photo: Mike Young

The Addison Rd Sessions (Singing Session)

We're a hotchpotch group of folk singers who meet once a month to share songs and we welcome newcomers.

Songs with choruses are popular; unaccompanied is fine, but bring an accompanying Instrument if you wish.

Time: 7pm, First Friday of the month

Venue: Tritton Hall (Hut 44),

Addison Rd Community Centre, Marrickville

Cost: Gold coin donation

Contact: Glenys 4758 7497

AROUND THE BUSH MUSIC SCENE

Dec 1	7pm	The Addison Rd Sessions
Dec 2	7:30pm	Becroft Bush Dance, <i>BMC Concert Party</i>
Dec 3	7pm	Songlines Song Session
Dec 5	7:30pm	Playford Dancing at the Hut
Dec 8	7:30pm	Toongabbie Music Club
Dec 8	7:30pm	Duke's Place, <i>Songs from Lola's Keg Night</i>
Dec 9	2pm	Poetry at the Hut
Dec 9	7:30pm	Gosford Bush Dance, Christmas Social Night
Dec 10	1pm	End of Year Folk Bash
Dec 11	8pm	Pennant Hills Workshop Christmas Party See p9
Dec 14	7:30pm	Sutherland Acoustic Night
Dec 15	8pm	Hornsby Folk Club, <i>Sancha and the Blue Gypsies with Marcus Holden</i>
Dec 16	7pm	Dundas Bush Dance, <i>Southern Cross</i>
Dec 16	7pm	Troubadour Folk Club, <i>Christmas Party</i>
Dec 27 - Jan 1		Woodford Folk Festival
Dec 29 - 31		Gulgong Folk Festival
Jan 8	7:30pm	First Pennant Hills Dance Workshop for 2018—see p9
Jan 13	2pm	Poetry at the Hut
Jan 18 - 21		Illawarra Folk Festival
Jan 19	8pm	Hornsby Folk Club
Jan 26	7:30pm	Toongabbie Music Club
Feb 2	7pm	The Addison Rd Sessions
Feb 3	7:30pm	Becroft Bush Dance, <i>Ryebuck</i>
Feb 4	7pm	Songlines Song Session
Feb 6	7:30pm	Playford Dancing at the Hut
Feb 8	7:30pm	Sutherland Acoustic Night
Feb 9	7:30pm	Duke's Place
Feb 9	7:30pm	Toongabbie Music Club
Feb 10	2pm	Poetry at the Hut
Feb 10	7:30pm	Gosford Bush Dance
Feb 16	8pm	Hornsby Folk Club
Feb 17	8pm	Loaded Dog Folk Club,
Feb 17	7pm	Troubadour Folk Club
Feb 18	2pm	Keith's Dance Workshop
Feb 23	7:30pm	Toongabbie Music Club
Feb 24		Accordion Masterclasses and dance
Mar 3	7:30pm	Becroft Bush Dance, <i>Short Dented Potts</i>
Mar 4	7pm	Songlines Song Session
Mar 6	7:30pm	Playford Dancing at the Hut
See page 14 for more details of these events		