



John's guitar drawing at the Illawarra Folk Festival Bar, bracketed by Martin Pearson's artwork

Gone is the Seannachie

Gone is the seannachie, the satire that raised the blister.
 Gone the sharp, intellectual, the schoolmaster we all feared,
 The gales of laughter over the pint,
 And the tears for the bronze smith's acid scarred hands.
 He's gone like Declan before,
 And like Declan will his voice and face stay with us.
 But more of the man lives in his songs,
 That agile scalpel wit, barbed ambiguities,
 precision of rhyme and metre.
 Grieve for this bard, but mourn with pride,
 For we have known him.

Vale John Dengate.

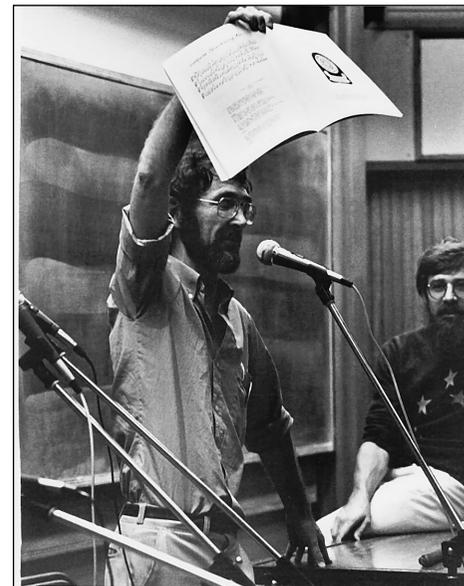
John and Jenni Cole Warner.
 Murrumbateman.



JOHN DENGATE MEMORIAL

In 1982 BMC published John's great book of songs: **My Shout** ... at the Port Jackson Folk Festival, in the grounds of Sydney University. On the left, we see John triumphantly waving his copy (... to exhort the crowd ..) with David Johnson, who fronted the book launch ... draped over the lecture bench.

On the right, below, John's parents ... themselves both subjects of John's song making skills: The "*Bare-legged Kate*", of the song of that name and "*The Sheetmetal Worker*" of the '*Song of the Sheet metal Worker*' look on their son's triumph.



Photos by Bob Bolton

JAMIE'S MOTOR CAR

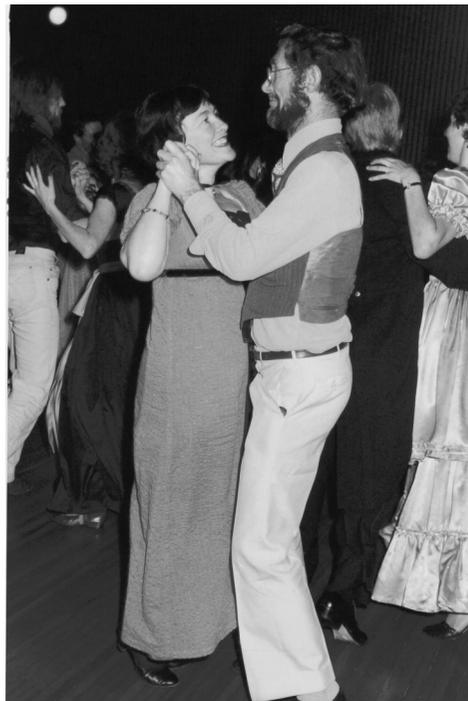
WORDS: JOHN DENGATE TUNE: (BASICALLY)
JOHNSON'S MOTOR CAR

G D G
 DOWN TO TUE-NA TOWN, ONE EAST-ER WE DID STRAY, OH,
 G C G
 KEEP US SAFE SAINT CHRISTOPHER WE REV-ER-ENT-LY PRAY, WATCH
 G C G
 OV ER KEN, THOU GOODLY SAINT, HIS STEER-ING'S CROOK I'M TOLD, AND HIS
 G D7 G
 CELE-BRAT-ED ROV-ERS NEAR-LY TWENTY FOUR YEARS OLD.

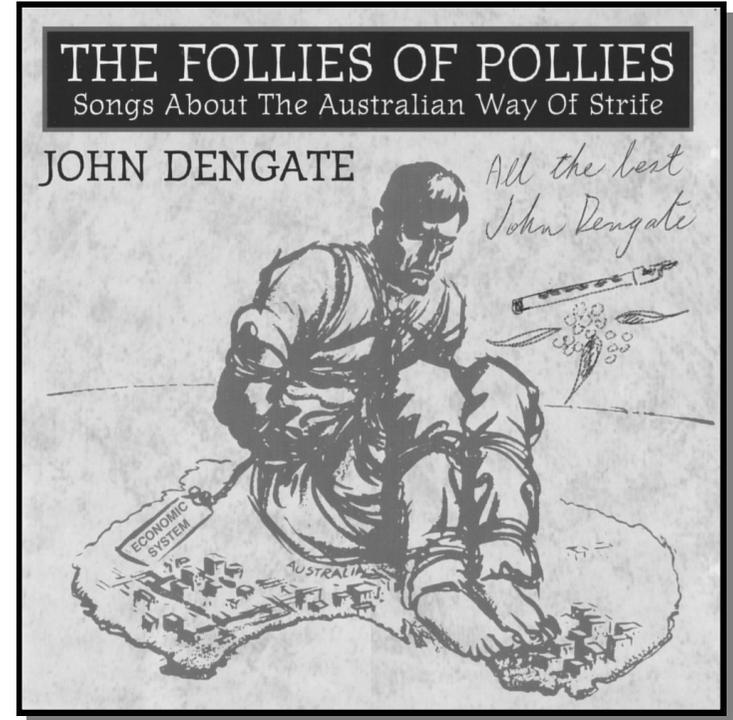
Song & music back before we had a music-friendly computer! (... or any computer..!)

Right:
John and Dale Dengate manage to make a dancing couple instead of being performers ...BMC Colonial Subscription Ball, 1983.

Opposite:
View from the wings in the early 70s and at a Singabout night in 1977.



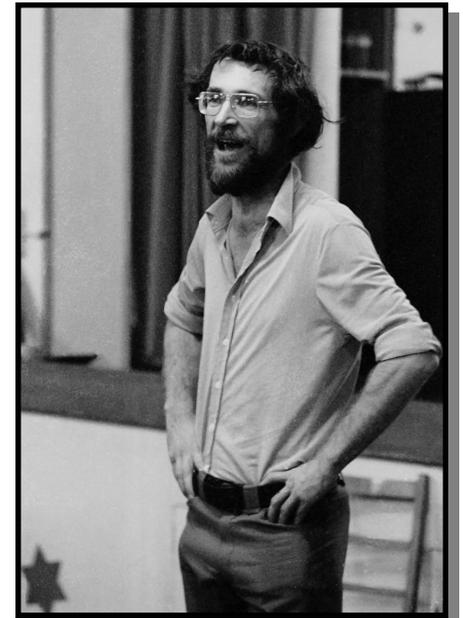
Photos (and music / text) by Bob Bolton



1996: John's first CD, with his iconic signature



Singabout



S3

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