

## AROUND THE BUSH MUSIC SCENE

Mar	2	7pm	<b>The Addison Rd Sessions</b>
Mar	2 - 4		Cobargo Folk Festival
Mar	3	7:30pm	<b>Beecroft Bush Dance, <i>Short Dented Potts</i></b>
Mar	4	7pm	Songlines Song Session
Mar	6	7:30pm	<b>Playford Dancing at the Hut</b>
Mar	8	7:30pm	Sutherland Acoustic Night
Mar	9	7:30pm	<b>Duke's Place, <i>Jennifer Lees</i></b>
Mar	9	7:30pm	Toongabbie Music Club
Mar	10	2pm	<b>Poetry at the Hut</b>
Mar	10	7:30pm	Gosford Bush Dance, <i>London Klezmer Quartet</i>
Mar	16	8pm	Hornsby Folk Club
Mar	17	8pm	Loaded Dog Folk Club, <i>Alistair Brown (UK)</i>
Mar	18	2pm	Keith's Dance Workshop, <i>Keith's Dances</i>
Mar	23	7:30pm	Toongabbie Music Club
Mar	24	7pm	Troubadour Folk Club
Mar	29 - Apr	2	National Folk Festival
Apr	1	7pm	Songlines Song Session
Apr	3	7:30pm	<b>Playford Dancing at the Hut</b>
Apr	6	7pm	<b>The Addison Rd Sessions</b>
Apr	7	7:30pm	<b>Beecroft Bush Dance, <i>BMC Concert Party</i></b>
Apr	12	7:30pm	Sutherland Acoustic Night
Apr	13	7:30pm	<b>Duke's Place, <i>Dingo's Breakfast</i></b>
Apr	13	7:30pm	Toongabbie Music Club
Apr	14	2pm	<b>Poetry at the Hut</b>
Apr	14	7:30pm	Gosford Bush Dance, <i>JH Dance Band</i>
Apr	15	2pm	Keith's Dance Workshop, <i>Contra - Peter Foster</i>
Apr	20	8pm	Hornsby Folk Club
Apr	21	8pm	Loaded Dog Folk Club, <i>Bruce Watson</i>
Apr	27	7:30pm	Toongabbie Music Club
Apr	27 - 29		St Albans Folk Festival
Apr	28	7pm	Troubadour Folk Club
May	1	7:30pm	<b>Playford Dancing at the Hut</b>
May	4	7pm	<b>The Addison Rd Sessions</b>
May	5	7:30pm	<b>Beecroft Bush Dance, <i>JH Dance Band</i></b>
May	6	7pm	Songlines Song Session
May	10	7:30pm	Sutherland Acoustic Night
May	11	7:30pm	Toongabbie Music Club
May	12	2pm	<b>Poetry at the Hut</b>
May	12	7:30pm	Gosford Bush Dance
May	18	7:30pm	<b>Duke's Place, <i>Craig Edmondson</i> from Ryebuck Bush Band</b>
May	18	8pm	Hornsby Folk Club
May	19	7pm	<b>Heritage Ball</b> - see p12
May	20	2pm	Keith's Dance Workshop, <i>English Country</i>
May	25	7:30pm	Toongabbie Music Club
May	26	8pm	Loaded Dog Folk Club
May	26	7pm	Troubadour Folk Club

See page 14 for more details of these events

# MULGA WIRE

INCLUDING  
**SINGABOUT**



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# MULGA WIRE

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## BUSH DANCES

March—June

### BEECROFT Community Centre

Beecroft Road (opposite Fire Stn)

7:30pm—11:30pm

March 3 **Short Dented Potts**

April 7 **BMC Concert Party**

May 5 **JH Dance Band**

June 2 **Currawong**

Enquiries: Sigrid 9980 7077  
Wilma 9489 5594

Bush Music Club

### Heritage Ball

Sat 19th May 2018

Ermington Community Centre

10 River Rd, Ermington

See p12 for details

### Bush Music Club enquiries:

0412 145 262 or

bmcmail1954@gmail.com

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

[www.bushmusic.org.au](http://www.bushmusic.org.au)

### Cover:

Three early BMC members: Dale Dengate with Chris and Virginia Woodland at the recent Illawarra Folk Festival. Part of our BMC presence.

Photo Sandra Nixon

## Concert Party News

### The Year 2017

The bush musicians and singers were very busy during 2017 apart from attending Hut 44 each Monday evening for the usual tunes and singalongs mixed in with poems and tall stories.

A brief list of the events at which our members performed during the year is shown below:

- Eastwood Ladies Probus Club luncheon held in the West Ryde Leagues Club.
- Winston Hills Shopping Centre for Seniors Week
- Addison Road Centre for Recycling week
- The Bower in Marrickville
- Two Beecroft Bush Dances
- Pennant Hills Dance Workshop Christmas Party
- BBQ Picnic Christmas Party in the park adjacent to Hut 44

Attendances at the Monday night gatherings remain high at over 20 on average throughout the year. This has made a significant contribution to BMC funds following the steep rise in rental costs for the Hut.

### 2018

The year 2018 has begun well with Monday evening attendances remaining high. Already two Concert Party gigs have been booked for Seniors Week in April 2018 and more are anticipated if the reaction to the above performances in 2017 are any guide.

*Allen Davis*

### 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

## Event Details

**Beecroft Bush Dance**, Beecroft Community Hall, Beecroft

☎ Sigrid 9980 7077 / Wilma 9489 5594

**Cobargo Folk Festival**

<http://www.cobargofolkfestival.com/>

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

☎ Sandra 9358 4886 See p8

**Gosford Bush Dance**, East Gosford Progress Hall

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

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

☎ Barry 9807 9497

**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

**National Folk Festival**, Canberra

<http://www.folkfestival.asn.au/>

**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

**St Albans Folk Festival**

<http://www.stalbansfolkfestival.com.au/>

**Sutherland Acoustic**, Tradies, Gynea

☎ 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 Boulevard, Woy Woy

☎ Michael 4342 6716



Welcome to 2018 and I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and New Year. The club was well represented at the recent Illawarra Folk Festival by both the Saplings and the BMC Concert Party. Congratulations and well done to everyone involved.

Ryebuck Bush Band started the year off at Beecroft Bush Dance celebrating 40 years of playing music. Congratulations Ryebuck and keep up the good work!

It is with a heavy heart we have recently said farewell to Harry Gardner and Jim Bradman. Harry was a Life member and past President of Victorian Folk Music Club, a fine musician, composer and gentleman. Jim's interests were vast, making him a well known, well loved and interesting personality. Both Harry and Jim were amazing people who will be sorely missed. Vale Harry Gardner and Jim Bradman.

Keep up to date with the latest BMC news via Mulga Wire, the blog, Facebook, webpage or our e-list by sending an email to [bmcmail1954@gmail.com](mailto:bmcmail1954@gmail.com).

*Sharyn Mattern*

Worth Noting	4	Ryebuck 40th	10
Gulgong Folk Festival	5	Irish / Playford / Bush Dances	11
MFS Shearers Ball	6	Heritage Ball	12
Poetry / Jim Bradman	7	BMC AGM	13
Duke's Place	8	Event details	14
Singabout- "ANZAC - Myth Maker"	S1-4	Concert Party News / Singing	15
Pennant Hills Dance Workshop	9	Around the Bush Music Scene	16

## Worth Noting

Vale to **Harry Gardner**, fiddle player and former president of the Victorian Folk Music Club who passed away recently. We had the pleasure of his company and music at Beecroft late last year and will miss his smiling face at festivals, particularly the Bush Traditions Gathering.

<https://bushmusicclub.blogspot.com.au/2018/02/death-of-harry-gardner-victorian-folk.html>

The **Dale and John Dengate Parody Mug** at the Illawarra Folk Festival was won this year by **Noel Gardner** from Maleney.

Noel was inspired to write and think about parody by hearing John at the 1989 Maleney National Folk Festival. **Russell Churcher** was awarded the *John Dengate Special Rectal Bleeding Calypso Award*, and Jennifer Lees, Jane Scott and Paul Spencer got Highly Commended. Congratulations to all!

<https://bushmusicclub.blogspot.com.au/2018/01/dale-john-dengate-parody-mug-illawarra.html>

**Saplings Sessions** will again be held at the National Folk Festival.

**London Klezmer Quartet** are on tour and are doing a concert in the Hunter Valley and playing at the March Central Coast Bush Dance.

**Concert March 11, 2pm** at *Sacred Spaces at the Sisters of Mercy Convent*, 30 Queen St, Singleton. Adults \$35, Students \$5 includes a convent-made afternoon tea. Tickets via trybooking of at the door from 1:30pm.

<http://www.sacredspaces.org.au/the-london-klezmer-quartet/>

**Bush Dance Mar 10, 7:30pm** at East Gosford Progress Hall. Admission \$20.

<http://www.ccbdma.org/schedule.htm>

Over 70 articles have been added to the **BMC Blog** in the past couple of months, including articles on 40 years of Ryebuck; Dr Harry Gardner; the Dengate Parody Mug; BMC at 2018 Illawarra Folk Festival; BMC activities over the years, many of them based on Bob Bolton's photos; magazine articles and newspaper clippings; a video from the 1953 production of Reedy River; BMC's coat of Arms; T-shirts at Festivals; slides shown at our 2014 Concert; the history of our logo Accordion Man.

<http://bushmusicclub.blogspot.com.au>

**Jane Austin Festival Australia** will be held in Canberra 12-15 April

<http://www.janeaustenfestival.com>

**Maggie Somerville** who won first prize in our 60th Anniversary Tune competition for her tune *Yabby Catcher* and second prize for her song *Waratah Bay*, has just released her second CD - *Baloney*.

<http://maggiesomerville.com.au>

This year the National Folk Festival's most prodigious **Lifetime Achievement Award** will be presented to Sydney dancing couple **Bill and Margaret Winnett** for their significant contribution to enriching folk music and culture in this country.

## Bush Music Club Inc. 2018 Annual General Meeting

**Where:** Hut 44, Addison Rd Community Centre, Marrickville

**When:** 7pm, Wednesday 14th March 2018

### FORM OF APPOINTMENT OF PROXY

I, \_\_\_\_\_  
(full name)

of \_\_\_\_\_  
(address)

being a member of The Bush Music Club Incorporated

hereby appoint \_\_\_\_\_  
(full name of proxy)

of \_\_\_\_\_  
(address)

being a member of that incorporated association, as my proxy to vote for me on my behalf at the general meeting of the association (annual general meeting or special general meeting, as the case may be) to be held on the

\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_ and at any adjournment of that meeting.

- My proxy is authorised to vote in favour of/against (delete as appropriate) the resolution (insert details).
- To be inserted if desired.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of member appointing proxy

Date \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: A proxy vote may not be given to a person who is not a member of the association.

The Bush Music Club Inc. presents  
**2018 Heritage Ball**

Saturday, 19 May 2018 Ermington Community Centre  
 10 River Rd, Ermington

Doors open 6:30pm  
 Grand March at 7:00pm and dance 'til midnight

A grand occasion for your enjoyment with music provided by our  
 Renowned Heritage Ensemble. Dress up in your favourite fashion from  
 Colonial times and be ready to dance the night away.

A light supper is provided, with refreshments available throughout the  
 evening.



**Tickets are limited so get in quick!**

BMC Members: \$35 (before 5 May)

Non-members: \$40 (before 5 May)

Students: \$30 (before 5 May)

After 5 May, ALL tickets \$50

**No tickets will be available after 14 May 2018**

A discount of \$3 per person is available for sets of 4 couples  
 (paid for at the same time, before 6 May)

THEN! Join us the next day at Australiana Pioneer Village  
 in Wilberforce for a dress-up recovery picnic with more  
 music and dancing. From 10am, Sunday 20 May 2018.

Cost \$10 per person, covering entry and a BBQ lunch



For all enquiries, ring 0412 145 262, or email [wendy\\_richmond@yahoo.com](mailto:wendy_richmond@yahoo.com)

**Gulgong Folk Festival 2017**

by Colin Fong, Karen Fong and Annette Dwight

The Gulgong Folk Festival was held 29-31 December 2017 and for Colin this was his first, Karen her second and for Annette her 25th. On Friday, Colin enjoyed Swamp N' Beats then Henk Groot performing solo, then Linda Mizzi with her entourage. On Saturday and Sunday mornings there was the enjoyable Poets Breakfast held in the Commercial Hotel and MC'd by Tom Hamilton. On Saturday, The Sounds Live Choir based in Bathurst sang lovely songs originating from England and Africa. Virago consisted of vocalists Catherine and Di with the former using a harp and flutes.

The Bushwackers were the highlight attraction for the weekend and their first time performing at the festival. Their appearance brought back many nostalgic memories of their rise to fame from humble beginnings at the Polaris Inn Hotel. They helped to spearhead the folk revival in the seventies in Melbourne. Despite many changes to their line up Dobe Newton has remained as the only original member of the group which now spans a 47 year period. Their enthusiasm and great musicianship bring to life many of our traditional bush songs as well as more modern songs about our current way of life and topical issues. In particular "I am an Australian" has become one of our national anthems.

On Sunday there was the John Dengate Political Satire Competition in which participants were meant to submit by mid December 2017. Despite this latecomers were allowed to perform but were ineligible to win. I really enjoyed Scott Thomson but alas he could not win.

The bush dance with The Bushwackers was a raucous affair and enjoyable for those present. However some experienced dancers present refused to do the heel and toe polka. The dance was followed by Whiskey Dram, a Melbourne based band. Then to welcome in the new year, Gleny Rae Virus played a concert called the Polka Party with mixed styles of dances ranging from pop, disco, conga line.



Derek Dowding winner of the second annual John Dengate Political Satire Competition with his song Mister Minister. The prize was presented by John's son Lachlan Dengate.



Gleny Rae Virus Bluegrass Explosion featuring Andrew Smith, Jenny Shimmin and Robbie Long.

Photos from the Gulgong Folk Festival 2017 Facebook page

## The Monaro Folk Society (MFS) is proud to present its annual **Shearers' Ball**

on 24 March 2018.

Held in the historic Yarralumla Woolshed (208 Cotter Road, Yarralumla, ACT), this special event will feature a special performance by the *Paverty Bush Band*, Canberra's best-known bush Band.

The event will kick off at 8pm and guests will enjoy an evening of traditional bush dancing.



In the very early days of settlement, dances from England, Ireland and Scotland were popular in Australia. Over the years, dances from other parts of Europe, including France and Germany made it to Australia. From the ballrooms of cities and towns, these dances would quickly spread to the rural areas.

Known as bush dances these events would often be held in woolsheds and shearing sheds due to their large size and hardwood floor. In fact, the lanolin from the sheep wool would make it possible for dancers to 'glide' on the floor. The bushdances were a great way to meet the locals and in some cases, they were the only way of meeting a possible partner in life.

At the Shearers' Ball all dances will be demonstrated, so no experience is necessary and all are welcome to join in. Being held in the Yarralumla Woolshed it offers an authentic and memorable experience for all.

Originally built in 1904 by Frederick Campbell of Yarralumla, it was later partitioned with galvanised iron to form sleeping areas for labourers on various building sites in the new city of Canberra. In 1917 local farmers asked that the shed be used again for shearing.

Since the 1970s, the building has become an important Canberra community social venue, particularly as a focus for bush dances and folk music activities.

**Don't miss this very special event on 24 March 2018, 8pm – 11.30pm**

**Cost:** Entry prices are just \$24 general public, \$22 for Groups and concessions, \$19 for MFS members and interstate dancers, students half price, under 18s free.

It's a great way to spend a night with family and friends and experience dances from decades long gone.

**Please bring a plate of supper to share.** Buy a cup for \$1 and enjoy as much water, cordial, tea or coffee you like.

If you wish to be billeted, send me an email at [asalpietro@hotmail.com](mailto:asalpietro@hotmail.com)

## 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:** Aisleen <[aisleenevans@gmail.com](mailto:aisleenevans@gmail.com)>  
<https://www.facebook.com/SydneySlowSession/>

## Playford Dancing at the Hut

Next meetings: **Tues 5th March**, 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

## 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](mailto:bmcmail1954@gmail.com)

## 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 March 3 - *Short Dented Potts*

Sat April 7 - *BMC Concert Party*

Sat May 5 - *JH Dance Band*

Sat June 2 - *Currawong*

## Ryebuck Turns 40

Ryebuck Bush Band celebrated their 40th year of performing, with a birthday cake at the February Beecroft Dance. The dance itself will be 40 years old next year. The birthday cake was created by Michelle Bolliger for the occasion, and the band dressed up in some rather colourful shirts.

<http://bushmusicclub.blogspot.com.au/2018/02/beecroft-dance-february-2018-was-early.html>



The band with BMC president Sharyn Mattern before blowing out the candles.

L-R: George Bolliger, Ralph Pride, Walter Bolliger, Sharyn Mattern, Alex Bishop,

Craig Edmondson, Margaret Bolliger

Photo: Mike Young

## Vale Jim Bradman



A volley was fired in Jim's honour at the memorial service at Brush Farm, Eastwood.

Photo: Mike Young



Jim with muzzle-loader at Australia Day, Bradfield Park.

Photo: Ros Young

A large contingent of people from many groups gathered at Brush Farm on the 17th of February to farewell Jim Bradman who passed away in January. He was a nurse by trade but was involved in so many different activities including: dancing (founding member of Sydney Morris Men, member of BMC, Playford, Scottish), blacksmithing, armour making, re-enactment, printing and making costumes.

The day included Morris Dancing by members of Sydney Morris Men and Black Joak, with one of Jim's outfits positioned as a missing dancer for some of the sets. After a formal remembrance service, a bugler played the last post and the combined re-enactment groups fired a volley on their muzzle loaders. Jim touched so many people, helping them achieve so much. He will be missed by all.

## 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 - **Mar 10, Apr 14, May 12**

**Cost:** \$5 or gold coin donation

**Contact:** Karen (02) 9716 9660 OR [fongs@bigpond.net.au](mailto:fongs@bigpond.net.au)

## 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](mailto: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.

## 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 9th March - Jennifer Lees

Jennifer Lees has been involved in the Folk Music since her early teens, first in Launceston and then in Adelaide. For many years she performed as an unaccompanied singer of traditional British and Australian songs, and sea shanties, and recent years she has taken up electric keyboard and song writing. Her first CD 'Journeys' (early 2017), represents her musical journey over the previous 10 years. It also touches on the lives of others who have made changes in their lives. Her songs will touch you with their honesty and emotion as she paints pictures of our shared experiences. Jennifer will perform her own songs and some covers accompanying herself on electric piano.

### Friday 13 April - Dingo's Breakfast

Roger Montgomery & John Angliss are *Dingo's Breakfast* from Western Australia. With decades of performance experience under their belts, They present an electrically eclectic dialectic selection of Oz Music, Poetry and Yarnspinning, with the accent firmly on Comedy . . . *Beauty!*

### Friday 18 May (3rd Friday) - Craig Edmondson

Craig is a Sydney blues and country artist who plays regularly at small bars, gin joints, and markets all over Sydney. He is still a folkie at heart and has played in bush bands since the 1980s, currently playing guitar in *Ryebuck Bush Band*.

### Friday 15 June (3rd Friday) - Ian Macintosh

Singer songwriter Ian (The Pump) Macintosh also plays accordion for Morris dancing. He was formerly a Morris man and a key member of the *Wheeze and Suck Band*.

## Mulga Wire: 2018 Publishing Deadlines

Item Deadline	To Printers	Folding Session
11 May	17 May	22 May
10 August	16 August	21 August

## Pennant Hills Dance Activities

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

As usual we had a great turnout for the Dance Workshop Christmas Party held on 11th December. Thirty five dancers enjoyed the get together with the Concert Party providing the music. Thanks to everyone who attended and to those who brought the great supper.

Our last dance workshop of 2017 was our annual request night where the dances are requested by the dancers present. The dances ranged from Virginia Reel and the Maxina through to Queen of Sheba, Childgrove and Arkansas Traveller.

In January and February we enjoyed a range of dances from recently written long ways sets (Reel Fun) to traditionals such as the Speedy Quadrille.

In March we will be practicing some dances to be featured at the National Folk Festival (Canberra) Colonial Ball and Dancers' Dance. In April we will practice dances for the May Beecroft dance (with the JH Dance Band). In May we will practice the dances for the Parramatta Heritage Ball.

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

We welcome singles, couples and groups and, as usual, your first night is free.

See you there!

*John Short*

## Programme March/April/May

MONDAY 7.30-10.30	THEME/DANCE STYLE
5 March	Mixed dance workshop
12 March	Practice for NFF dances
19 March	Practice for NFF dances
26 March	Practice for NFF dances
2 April	<b>No Workshop - Easter Monday</b>
9 April	Practice for JH Dance Band (Gosford, Beecroft)
16 April	Practice for JH Dance Band (Gosford, Beecroft)
23 April	Practice for JH Dance Band (Gosford, Beecroft)
30 April	Practice for JH Dance Band (Gosford, Beecroft)
7 May	Practice for Heritage Ball
14 May	Practice for Heritage Ball
21 May	Practice for June Beecroft
28 May	Practice for June Beecroft