

MULGA WIRE

INCLUDING
SINGABOUT



No. 250
Registered by Australia Post

June 2019
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

June-September

BEECROFT Community Centre

Becroft Road (opposite Fire Stn)

7:30pm—11:30pm

June 1 **Short Dented Potts**

July 6 **Barangaroo**

August 3 **Currawong**

September 7 **Paddy's River**

Enquiries: Sigrid 9980 7077
Wilma 9489 5594

Dukes Place

June 14 **Clark Gormley**

July 12 **Derek Dowding**

August 9 **TBA**

September 13 **TBA**

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

Cover:

Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AO QC, Governor of NSW and her husband Dennis Wilson, with Sharyn Mattern at the Goulburn Railway Sesquicentenary Ball.

Photo Victor Pickel
vicpic@iprimus.com.au



Welcome to winter, well almost, and to be sure you stay warm come along to the Beecroft Bush Dance on the 1st Saturday of the month - see the BMC calendar for more information.

Bush Traditions' Bundanoon DanceFest is on again and will be held on 7-10th June 2019. This is a weekend of dance, dance, dance to live music so if this appeals to you be sure to check out their website for more information.

Duke's Place is held on the 2nd Friday of the month and presents an excellent, intimate concert with an Australian theme. The next concert is on Friday 14th June with Clark Gormley/Nerds & Music. Nerds & Music consists of two cyborgs (Clark Gormley and Wayne Thompson) assembled by some deranged mechanic in his back shed in Newcastle – be sure to come along and find out what this is all about as it promises to be an excellent evening.

Finally, the Goulburn Railway Sesquicentenary Ball was held on Saturday, 25th May with over 100 people in attendance, including NSW's new governor, Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AO QC and her husband, Dennis Wilson. It was a wonderful evening with magical music provided by the Heritage Ensemble under the baton of Dave Johnson. Thank you to everyone involved in creating this amazing evening. It was truly a night to remember.

Sharyn Mattern

| | | | |
|---|------|-----------------------------|----|
| Worth Noting | 4 | Playford | 10 |
| Bill Berry | 5 | Irish / Bush Dances | 11 |
| Poets Corner | 6 | AGM - President's Report | 12 |
| Ball photos | 7 | AGM - Treasurer's Report | 13 |
| Duke's Place | 8 | Event details | 14 |
| Singabout- "Don't be too Polite Girls" | S1-4 | Concert Party News | 15 |
| Pennant Hills Dance Workshop | 9 | Around the Bush Music Scene | 16 |

Worth Noting

One of our members, **Michaela Simoni**, along with Shirley Jenkins and Dona Samson Zappone, is having an Art Exhibition called *Peacock Princesses* at Merrylands RSL, 8-12 Miller St, Merrylands. It opens on 4th June and the **Duck River Band** will be playing at the opening.

The James Maddison Carpenter Collection of traditional folk songs and drama (1928 – 1935) is going on line from August this year. Carpenter was a post grad at Harvard (shades of Frances James Child of Child ballad fame) who took a recording device to England and Scotland collecting folk songs and mummings plays among other things.
<https://www.abdn.ac.uk/elphinstone/carpenter/>

The ABC has reported on the greening of the **Woodford Folk Festival** site called Woodfordia. It has been done by volunteers at a second festival called “The Planting”
<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-05-08/how-volunteers-laid-woodfordias-100000-strong-trees/11072754>

The Guardian has an article on the controversy when Morris Dancing in the UK was opened up to women.
<https://www.theguardian.com/stage/2019/mar/29/morris-dancing-gender-women>

New reissues from Undercover Music:

Eric Bogle *When the Wind Blows* - digital reissue

John Munro *The Eureka Suite* - a testament to his wonderful musical legacy and life.
<http://www.undercovermusic.com.au/latestreleases.htm>

There is now a completely revised website dedicated to the memory of **Danny Spooner**. Lots of good information and pictures.
<https://www.dannyspooner.com>

Dr Graham Seal AM, Professor of Folklore at Curtin University has a couple of interesting blogs:

<https://gristlyhistory.blog>

<http://verandahmusic.blogspot.com>

Mulga Wire: 2019 Publishing Deadlines

| Item Deadline | To Printers | Folding Session |
|---------------|-------------|-----------------|
| 9 August | 15 August | 20 August |
| 8 November | 14 November | 19 November |

The Addison Rd 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 (June cancelled - long weekend)

Venue: Tritton Hall (Hut 44),
Addison Rd Community Centre, Marrickville

Cost: Gold coin donation

Contact: Glenys 0419 862 005

Vale Bill Berry

One of our early members, Bill Berry (far right in the photo below), passed away in March this year. He joined Sydney's Unity Singers with John Meredith in the early days and spent much of his life performing our historical songs both at folk festivals and as a busker in the Blue Mountains. He will be greatly missed.



1986 Early Members Reunion. L-R: Bill Scott, Frank Maher, Jack Wright, Jamie Carlin, Janet Wakefield, Alex Bowker, Rex Whalan, Barbara Gibbons, Alan Scott and Bill Berry. *BMC Archives*

Poet's Corner

Hugs

It's wondrous what a hug can do,
A hug can warm you when you're blue.
A hug can say, 'I love you so'
Or, 'Gee, I hate to see you go!'

*It costs you nothing, you'll be surprised
The love it brings to sad blue eyes.
It's no secret, I tell you true
A hug can mean the world to you.*

A hug is 'Welcome back again'
And 'Great to see you! Glad you came!'
A hug can soothe a small child's pain
And bring a rainbow after rain.

*The love it brings, beyond compare
You know at once you're welcome there.
It says a lot, without a word
Just try it out, you'll be assured.*

A Hug! There's just no doubt about it,
We scarcely could survive without it.
A hug delights and warms and charms;
It must be why God gave us arms.

*Practise it day by day, and
Watch your cares all fade away.
Try it soon; you'll find it's true
A hug will mean the world to you.*

Hugs are great for dads and mothers,
Great for sisters and for brothers.
Chances are your favourite aunts
Love them more than potted plants.

*It's all been said; I've said it twice
So have a hug, it feels quite nice.
When you're down and feeling low
Come on, get up, give it a go.*

Never fret about your store of 'em,
The more you give, the more there is of
'em!
Stretch out your arms without delay
And give someone a hug, today.

*I'll bet you're feeling better now
A hug can do it just somehow.
I'll close now with the words I'll pray
And save it for another day.*

Anon with last 5 verses (in italics) by **Mike Waters**.

POETRY anyone?

Enjoy reciting a poem or sharing one with others? Perhaps writing your own poems?
Performing some 'bush' poetry? If so, you are most welcome to come along. A contri-
bution to go with afternoon tea would be appreciated.

When: Usually **second** Saturday of the month, 2pm to 4pm

Remaining dates for 2019: (**no June meeting**), Jul 13, Aug 10, Sep 14, Oct 12, Nov 9, Dec 14

Cost: \$5

Where: Tritton Hall, Hut 44, Addison Road Centre, 142 Addison Rd, Marrickville.

Contact: Karen (02) 9716 9660 OR fongs@bigpond.net.au

2019 Goulburn Railway Sesquicentenary Ball



The official party at the head supper table.

Photo: Victor Pickel

Dancers at the end of the Grand March.

Photo: Victor Pickel
vicpic@iprimus.com.au



Heritage Ensemble as seen from the caller's position.

Photo: Don Richmond

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 14th June - Clark Gormley/Nerds & Music

Nerds & Music consists of two cyborgs (Clark Gormley and Wayne Thompson) assembled by some deranged mechanic in his back shed in Newcastle. The Nerds, whose repertoire extends from sea shanties about the National Broadband Network to country rock anthems about lawnmowing, are renowned for their wordy witty songs. They will be featuring all the hits from their newest and soon to be critically acclaimed album *You Can't Polish a Nerd*. Audiences have been rendered dumbstruck by their weirdness, witticisms, wordplay, and alliteration.

<https://www.clarkgormley.com/>

Friday 12th July - Derek Dowding - Singer, songwriter, agitator

A songwriter with a difference, Derek excels as a quirky wordsmith possessing an acute wit and an eye for the overtly absurd and unjust. Irreverent. Ironic. Cognizant. Sardonic. With a catalogue of 180+ original songs, Derek presents a novel selection ranging from satirical pieces crammed with cutting social commentary and off-beat humour as well as lilting tunes accompanying thoughtful, illustrative poetry.

Friday 9th August - TBC

Friday 13th September - Dingos Breakfast

Pennant Hills Dance Activities

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

During May we practiced the dances on the programs of the Gosford Jane Austen dance and the Goulburn BMC Railway Ball. David Potter taught the dances for the Jane Austen event and Wendy Richmond for the Railway Ball. Our thanks to both for their time and expertise.

In June we will be holding the annual dance workshop birthday party and practicing for both the Beecroft and Gosford July dances. The Beecroft dance will feature the World Famous Barangaroo Bush Band while the Gosford dance will feature some of the dances on the Gosford Flannel Flower Spring Ball program. There is also a public holiday in June. A workshop will not be held on this night but look out for a full weekend of dancing in Bundanoon.

In July we will be practicing the dances for the August Beecroft dance. Currawong Bush Band will be playing so a great night is guaranteed.

In August there will be two practice nights for the New Sydney Ball. The last workshop in August and the first in September will be dedicated to waltz and rotary chasses practice.

Plenty of dancing at Pennant Hills, so see you there!

John Short

Programme June/July/August

| MONDAY 7.30–10.30 | THEME/DANCE STYLE |
|----------------------|--|
| 3 June | Practice for the Dance Workshop Party |
| 10 June | Holiday. No workshop but plenty of dancing at Bundanoon |
| 17 June | Dance Workshop Birthday Party |
| 24 June | Practice for July Beecroft and Gosford Dances |
| 1 July | Practice for July Beecroft and Gosford Dances |
| 8 July | Practice for July Gosford Dance |
| 15 July | Practice for August Beecroft Dance |
| 22 July | Practice for August Beecroft Dance |
| 29 July | Practice for August Beecroft Dance |
| 5 August | Mixed Dance Night |
| 12 August | Practice for New Sydney Ball |
| 19 August | Practice for New Sydney Ball |
| 26 August | Waltz and Rotary Chasses Practice |

Playford Dancing at the Hut

Next meetings:

Tues 4th Jun, 2nd Jul and 6th Aug 7:30pm to 9:30pm

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

We meet on the first Tuesday of each month (except January). There will be live music as often as possible.

Cost \$7.

For more information contact:

Julie Bishop 9524 0247

Have you visited the **BMC Blog** recently? There are lots of new articles and photos of our activities over the past year. The address is:

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

or follow the link from the BMC website.

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**

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.

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

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 June 1 - *Short Dented Potts*

Sat July 6 - *Barangaroo*

Sat August 3 - *Currawong*

Sat September 7 - *Paddy's River*

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:

Woolworths Thornleigh

La Thai Restaurant Thornleigh

Topiary Café Epping

Westleigh Quality Meats Westleigh

2019 BMC AGM

President's Report

The Bush Music Club has many activities and 2018 was definitely a busy and successful year.

Our volunteers enable the club to run efficiently and effectively and, without you, we would not survive. A heartfelt thank you to everyone involved in all the clubs' activities and for all your hard work and to all the members who participated in these activities.

I would like to give a huge *Thank You* to everyone who was involved in the club's activities below:

- BMC Committee and Hut Maintenance Team
- Library and Archives
- Becroft Family Bush Dance
- Duke's Place
- Addison Road Sessions (singing)
- Heritage Ball, Ermington
- Playford Dancing at the Hut
- Pennant Hills Dance Workshops
- Poets' Corner
- Saplings Sessions
- Monday Night Slow Tunes and Song and Tunes sessions
- Irish Slow Session

Thank you, once again, everyone for your generosity, participation and contribution over the past year and we look forward to an amazing year ahead.

Sharyn Mattern

BUSH MUSIC CLUB Inc

Summary of Income and Expenditure for Year Ended 31 December 2018

| <i>Income</i> | \$ | <i>Expenditure</i> | \$ |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Dances and Workshops | 6637.02 | Dance Venues | 6616.22 |
| Gross 15101.00 Bands & Food (8463.98) | | Rent and Expenses | |
| Hut 44 | 11374.00 | Hut 44 Rent and Repairs | 14211.78 |
| Ball | 2390.00 | Ball | 604.80 |
| Membership | 4712.00 | Insurance | 2235.75 |
| Other | 146.70 | Mulga Wire and Postage | 3920.08 |
| | | Other | 499.98 |
| NET OPERATING INCOME | 25,859.72 | NET OPERATING EXPENDITURE | 28,088.61 |
| Interest | 2302.90 | Net Profit | 74.01 |
| TOTAL | 28,162.62 | TOTAL | 28,162.62 |

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2018

| <i>Liabilities</i> | \$ | <i>Assets</i> | \$ |
|----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| MEMBERS' EQUITY | 125,192.49 | FIXED ASSETS | Nil |
| <i>Represented By:</i> | | CURRENT ASSETS | 125,192.49 |
| Balance 31/12/2017 | 125,118.48 | Cash at Bank | 2023.26 |
| Net Profit | <u>74.01</u> | Stock on Hand | 915.00 |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES | Nil | Archives | 701.81 |
| | | Cash Float | 200.00 |
| | | Bond | 500.00 |
| | | Investments | <u>120,852.42</u> |
| TOTAL | 125,192.49 | TOTAL | 125,192.49 |

Allen Davis Treasurer

Event Details

Addison Rd Singing Session, Hut 44, Addison Rd Community Centre, Marrickville
☎ Glensys 0419 862 005 See p5

Beecroft Bush Dance, Beecroft Community Hall, Beecroft
☎ Sigrid 9980 7077 / Wilma 9489 5594

Bundanoon Dancefest
<http://www.bushtraditions.org/>

Duke's Place, Hut 44, Addison Rd Community Centre, Marrickville
☎ Sandra 9358 4886 See p8

English Country Dancing at the Hut, Hut 44, Addi Rd Com Centre, Marrickville
☎ David 0413 210 789

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

New Sydney Ball
<http://newsydneyball.com/>

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

Sydney English Country Dance
<https://englishcountrydancesydney.com>

Toongabbie Music Club, 17 Whitehaven Rd, Northmead
☎ 9639 7494

Troubadour Folk Club, CWA Hall, The Boulevard, Woy Woy
☎ Michael 4342 6716

Concert Party News

The Concert Party has continued to meet each Monday evening with varying attendance numbers, influenced somewhat by the cooler weather and other factors including dance practices for the Goulburn Sesquicentenary Railway Ball.

With regards to the latter, 20 musicians are to perform at Goulburn on 25 May 2019, a large percentage of which is represented by Concert Party members.

The BMC Concert Party has members in many bush bands. One of the original intentions for creating the Concert Party by the Bush Music Club was to encourage other bush bands to be formed and perform both in public and at BMC events such as the Beecroft Dance. This objective has been achieved over the years and continues today.

Allen Davis



Concert Party play for the Beecroft Dance, with Margaret Bolliger calling from the floor.
Photo: Mike Young

**New
Members**

★ Rob DAVIDSON ★
★ Gaye SMALL ★ ★ Colum HICKEY ★
★ Holly & Stephen COTTERELL ★

AROUND THE BUSH MUSIC SCENE

| | | | |
|-----|-----|--------|---|
| Jun | 1 | 7:30pm | Beecroft Bush Dance, Short Dented Potts |
| Jun | 2 | 7pm | Songlines Song Session |
| Jun | 4 | 7:30pm | Playford Dancing at the Hut |
| Jun | 7-9 | | Bundaoon Dancefest |
| Jun | 13 | 7:30pm | Sutherland Acoustic Night |
| Jun | 14 | 7:30pm | Duke's Place, Clark Gormley/Nerds & Music |
| Jun | 14 | 7:30pm | Toongabbie Music Club |
| Jun | 15 | 2:30pm | Sydney English Country Dance |
| Jun | 15 | 7pm | Troubadour Folk Club, at Everglades Club, <i>Trippy Hippy Band</i> |
| Jun | 16 | 2pm | Keith's Dance Workshop, <i>Contra - Rerun</i> |
| Jun | 18 | 7:30pm | English Country Dancing at the Hut |
| Jun | 21 | 8pm | Hornsby Folk Club |
| Jun | 22 | 7:30pm | Loaded Dog Folk Club, <i>The Convict Voice ReCollected + Cap in Hand</i> |
| Jun | 22 | 7pm | Troubadour Folk Club, <i>The Water Runners</i> |
| Jun | 28 | 7:30pm | Toongabbie Music Club |
| Jul | 2 | 7:30pm | Playford Dancing at the Hut |
| Jul | 5 | 7pm | Addison Rd Singing Session |
| Jul | 6 | 7:30pm | Beecroft Bush Dance, Barangaroo |
| Jul | 7 | 7pm | Songlines Song Session |
| Jul | 11 | 7:30pm | Sutherland Acoustic Night |
| Jul | 12 | 7:30pm | Duke's Place, Derek Dowding |
| Jul | 12 | 7:30pm | Toongabbie Music Club |
| Jul | 13 | 2pm | Poetry at the Hut |
| Jul | 13 | 7:30pm | Gosford Bush Dance, Social night with <i>John Short</i> |
| Jul | 16 | 7:30pm | English Country Dancing at the Hut |
| Jul | 19 | 8pm | Hornsby Folk Club |
| Jul | 20 | 2:30pm | Sydney English Country Dance |
| Jul | 21 | 2pm | Keith's Dance Workshop, <i>Contra - Zesty</i> |
| Jul | 26 | 7:30pm | Toongabbie Music Club |
| Jul | 27 | 7:30pm | Loaded Dog Folk Club, <i>Jason & Chloe Roweth + Buck & Deanne</i> |
| Jul | 27 | 7pm | Troubadour Folk Club, <i>Witches Leap + Lisa Richards</i> |
| Aug | 2 | 7pm | Addison Rd Singing Session |
| Aug | 3 | 7:30pm | Beecroft Bush Dance, Currawong |
| Aug | 4 | 7pm | Songlines Song Session |
| Aug | 6 | 7:30pm | Playford Dancing at the Hut |
| Aug | 8 | 7:30pm | Sutherland Acoustic Night |
| Aug | 9 | 7:30pm | Duke's Place |
| Aug | 9 | 7:30pm | Toongabbie Music Club |
| Aug | 10 | 2pm | Poetry at the Hut |
| Aug | 10 | 7:30pm | Gosford Bush Dance, <i>Southern Cross</i> |
| Aug | 16 | 8pm | Hornsby Folk Club |
| Aug | 17 | 2:30pm | Sydney English Country Dance |
| Aug | 18 | 2pm | Keith's Dance Workshop, <i>My Dances</i> |
| Aug | 20 | 7:30pm | English Country Dancing at the Hut |
| Aug | 23 | 7:30pm | Toongabbie Music Club |
| Aug | 24 | 7:30pm | Loaded Dog Folk Club, <i>Shiny Bum Singers + Witches Leap</i> |
| Aug | 24 | 7pm | New Sydney Ball, <i>Short Dented Potts</i> |
| Aug | 24 | 7pm | Troubadour Folk Club, <i>Kejaffi</i> |

See page 14 for more details of these events

SINGABOUT

JUNE 2019

DON'T BE TOO POLITE GIRLS

Is it a parody or a song using a traditional tune?

Many readers will know the shearer's song Flash Jack from Gundagai, in a small book of Songs of the Shearer which I put together from BMC Singabout songsters, to be sold at the Royal Easter Show when the Concert Party sang at a shearing demonstration using a steam driven machine. The introduction sounds jingoistic, but was directed against too much influence from USA in our culture, in that period of late 1960-70s.

Originally published in Singabout Vol 5, No 4, p10 it was noted that although we were uncertain who was 'Flash Jack' the identity of hungry Patterson or 'Old Tom Patterson' as Banjo Paterson knew him was T.F.Patterson who took up 'Ulonga Station' in 1871. He eventually owned 300,000 acres with a long frontage to the Lachlan River near Booligal. To the south, covering the One Tree Plain, it stretched half way to the Murrumbidgee River. The reference to the Wolseley shearing machine, first introduced in 1888 and 1893, when the Bank of Australasia became the owners of Ulonga, places the song around this time.

The well known chorus goes: All among the wool, boys, keep your blades full boys, I can do a respectable tally myself whenever I like to try, But they know me round the backblocks as Flash Jack from Gundagai. The verses are written in the first person and

tell of all the places where the shearer has shorn. It is a work song describing the experiences of a shearer.

Glen Tomasetti used the traditional tune of 'Flash Jack', when she wrote the song to commemorate the High Court decision to hand down equal pay in 1969. I think it is a clever parody using a tune identified with men's work and paralleling women's work experiences. Glen was a fine singer songwriter, an assured and authoritative performer with considerable understanding of the cultural and historical aspects of Folk Music. She always spoke her mind. She held the opinion that, as Australians we had a responsibility to sound like Australians and would take people to task on this point. She wrote the words *Don't Be Too Polite, Girls* as a song about women's pay and work conditions. It became the equal pay anthem many women sang with the conviction that comes from the shared experience.

She was also a writer with passion and a strong understanding of women's struggles throughout Australian history. During the 1960s-70s Glen sang in various folk music venues in Melbourne and taught guitar accompaniment classes in a room above Traynors coffee lounge. Glen was a rebel against her background and the times. At this time Glen organised recording sessions, radio programs & theme concerts. She made the front page of a daily paper for withholding 6% of her tax as equivalent to the amount being spent on the war by Harold Holt's government.

With the American war in Vietnam came the organisation SAVE OUR SONS in which Glen played a major role. She helped organise the biggest folk concert of all at that time, a Peace Concert at the Myer Music Bowl. Singers came from Sydney and eventually the idea for festivals and touring groups began.

Glen was in the forefront of the Folk revival in Australia. She was a great humanist and a great encourager. Apart from her abilities as a singer, collector and historian she was a strong anti-war activist and a life long supporter of the women's movement.

Don't be Too Polite, Girls it is still sung with gusto when women gather to sing protest songs as the message is still relevant.

I organised a themed concert at the National Folk Festival, Easter 2019 to commemorate fifty years since the song was written and the first concerts in Port Phillip, Melbourne which became the National Folk Festival.

R. Dale Dengate

Don't be too Polite Girls...

Trocadero, 1 PM. Friday 19-4-19.

National Folk Festival



Share Authorised by Dale Dengate

Songs & experiences with

Merith Power Kate Burke Jess Lloyd
Chloe Roweth Molly Jane Ellis Dale Dengate

2019 National Folk Festival < 19.4.19

Flash Jack From Gundagai

I've shore at Burrabogie, and I've shore at Toganmain,
I've shore at big Willandra, and upon the old Coleraine,
But before the shearin' was over I wished myself back again
Shearin' for old Tom Patterson, on the One Tree Plain.

Chorus:

All among the wool, boys, all among the wool,
Keep your wide blades full, boys, keep your wide blades full,
I can do a respectable tally myself whenever I like to try,
But they know me round the back blocks as Flash Jack from Gundagai.

I've shore at big Willandra and I've shore at Tilberoo,
And once I drew my blades, my boys, upon the famed Barcoo,
At Cowan Downs and Trida, as far as Moulamein,
But I always was glad to get back again to the One Tree Plain.

I've pinked 'em with the Wolseleys, and I've rushed with B-bows too,
And shaved 'em in the grease, my boys, with the grass seed showin' through.
But I never slummed my pen, my lads, whatever it might contain,
While shearin' for old Tom Patterson on the One Tree Plain.

I've been whalin' up the Lachlan, and I've dossed on Cooper's Creek,
And once I rung Cudjingie shed, and blued it in a week,
But when Gabriel blows his trumpet, lads, I'll catch the morning train,
And I'll push for old Tom Patterson's on the One Tree Plain.

This song was printed in Paterson's *Old Bush Songs*, and also published (without attribution) in *The Land*, 4 July 1930.

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/103051007>

There are several minor variants to the above, including one in which the repeat of big Willandra in the second verse is changed to Gooriananwa.

According to one source, Flash Jack was a bushranger by the name of Jack Molloy who was nicknamed "Jack in the Boots". There was certainly such a person, captured in 1861 in the Gundagai police district, but no indication of his ever being a shearer.

Welcome to **BUSH MUSIC CLUB** inc

Australia's Traditional Songs, Dances, Music & Folklore

JUNE 2019 - SEPTEMBER 2019

The Bush Music Club was formed in 1954 to promote awareness of Australian folk traditions. The Club does this by collecting, publishing and popularising our traditional songs, dances, music and folklore. Contemporary compositions in the traditional style are also encouraged.



TRITTON HALL

BUSH MUSIC CLUB HEADQUARTERS

Hut 44, Addison Road Community Centre
142 Addison Road, Marrickville

PUBLIC TRANSPORT :

BUS:

428 CANTERBURY
- Stops outside Centre

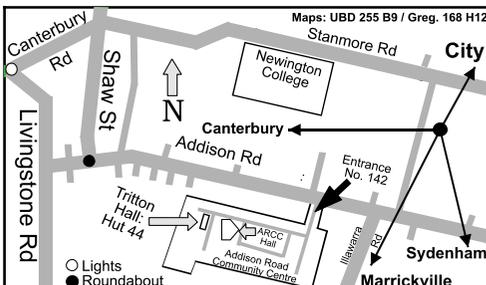
426 DULWICH HILL and

423 EARLWOOD

- Get off at Addison Road, walk
600m to Centre

TRAIN:

To Newtown, then catch bus



ISSN 0157 3381

View our web site: www.bushmusic.org.au

June 2019

- Sat 1 **Beecroft Bush Dance,
Short Dented Potts**
- Sun 2 **Irish Slow Session**
- Mon 3 **Song & Music Sessions**
- Mon 3 **PH Dance Workshop**
- Tue 4 **Playford at the Hut**
- Fri 7 **No Singing Session - long w/e**
- Sat 8 **No Poetry Session - long w/e**
- Sun 9 **Irish Slow Session**
- Mon 10 **No Workshops -
Long weekend**
- Fri 14 **Dukes Place**
- Sun 16 **Irish Slow Session**
- Mon 17 **Song & Music Sessions**
- Mon 17 **PH Dance Workshop**
- Sun 23 **Irish Slow Session**
- Mon 24 **PH Dance Workshop**
- Mon 24 **Song & Music Sessions**
- Sun 30 **Irish Slow Session**

July 2019

- Mon 1 **Song & Music Sessions**
- Mon 1 **PH Dance Workshop**
- Tue 2 **Playford at the Hut**
- Fri 5 **Addison Rd Singing Session**
- Sat 6 **Beecroft Bush Dance,
Barangaroo**
- Sun 7 **Irish Slow Session**
- Mon 8 **PH Dance Workshop**
- Mon 8 **Song & Music Sessions**
- Fri 12 **Dukes Place**
- Sat 13 **Poetry Session**
- Sun 14 **Irish Slow Session**
- Mon 15 **Song & Music Sessions**
- Mon 15 **PH Dance Workshop**
- Mon 22 **PH Dance Workshop**
- Mon 22 **Song & Music Sessions**
- Sun 28 **Irish Slow Session**
- Mon 29 **Song & Music Sessions**
- Mon 29 **PH Dance Workshop**

Pennant Hills (PH) Dance Workshop:

7.30pm Monday nights

Pennant Hills Community Centre, Yarrara Rd.
Both easy and more complicated bush
dances. A great social evening for beginners
and experienced. \$7

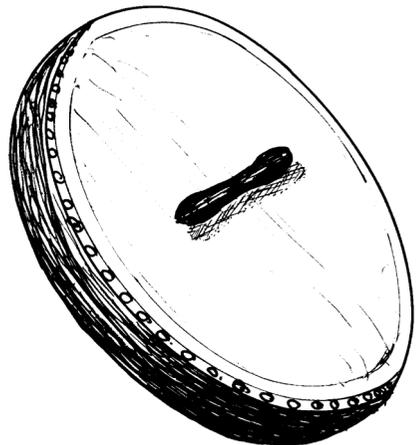
☎ Wilma: 9489 5594

Beecroft Bush Dance:

1st Saturday (February to December)

Beecroft Community Centre
Beecroft Road, Beecroft (Opp. Fire Station)
7:30 pm to 11:30pm - Supper provided
\$19.00 / \$17 conc / \$14 BMC members

☎ Sigrid 9980 7077 / Wilma 9489 5594



August 2019

- Fri 2 Addison Rd Singing Session
Sat 3 Beecroft Bush Dance,
Currawong
Sun 4 Irish Slow Session
Mon 5 Song & Music Sessions
Mon 5 PH Dance Workshop
Tue 6 Playford at the Hut
Fri 9 Dukes Place
Sat 10 Poetry Session
Sun 11 Irish Slow Session
Mon 12 PH Dance Workshop
Mon 12 Song & Music Sessions
Sun 18 Irish Slow Session
Mon 19 Song & Music Sessions
Mon 19 PH Dance Workshop
Sun 25 Irish Slow Session
Mon 26 PH Dance Workshop
Mon 26 Song & Music Sessions

September 2019

- Sun 1 Irish Slow Session
Mon 2 Song & Music Sessions
Mon 2 PH Dance Workshop
Tue 3 Playford at the Hut
Fri 6 Addison Rd Singing Session
Sat 7 Beecroft Bush Dance,
Paddy's River
Sun 8 Irish Slow Session
Mon 9 PH Dance Workshop
Mon 9 Song & Music Sessions
Fri 13 Dukes Place
Sat 14 Poetry Session
Sun 15 Irish Slow Session
Mon 16 Song & Music Sessions
Mon 16 PH Dance Workshop
Mon 23 PH Dance Workshop
Mon 23 Song & Music Sessions
Sun 29 Irish Slow Session
Mon 30 Song & Music Sessions
Mon 30 PH Dance Workshop

Activities at Tritton Hall

Hut 44, Addison Rd Community Centre, 142 Addison Rd, Marrickville

Addison Rd Singing Session:

1st Friday, 7:30pm
☎ Glenys: 0419 862 005

Duke's Place:

2nd Friday, 7:30pm-11:30pm
Concert and Session, \$10, bring a plate.
☎ Sandra: 9358 4886

Playford at the Hut:

English Country Dancing
1st Tuesday, 7:30pm-9:30pm \$7
☎ Julie: 9524 0247

Poetry:

2nd Saturday, 2pm-4pm \$5
☎ Karen: 9716 9660

Song & Music Sessions:

Slow session for beginners and those just wanting a slower pace.
Mondays 5:30pm to 7pm
☎ Kerry: 0409 600 949

General session for all musicians and singers, this session also trains and practises the BMC's *Concert Party*
Mondays, 7:30pm \$7
☎ Allen: 9639 7494

Irish Slow Session:

Sundays, 6:30pm-9:30pm
☎ Colum <colum.hickey@gmail.com>

BUSH MUSIC CLUB inc

GPO Box 433, SYDNEY NSW 2001

Founded 1954

MEMBERSHIP

APPLICATION []

RENEWAL []

UPDATE []

Name:

Address:

.....

Phone: Home () Work ()

Email

Would you like to receive: Electronic MW [] Yes Regular electronic news updates [] Yes

YEARLY MEMBERSHIP

[] SINGLE \$30 [] FAMILY \$40 [] PENSIONER \$20

[] AFFILIATION (Clubs only) \$70 [] DONATION \$ _____

5 YEAR MEMBERSHIP

[] SINGLE \$120 [] FAMILY \$150

[] AFFILIATION \$250 [] PENSIONER \$70

CASH / CHEQUE Enclosed \$ (No cash through post please)

Signature: Date:

Direct deposit details: BSB 062-005 Reference: Your Name & "Membership"
Account 0090 7524 Bank: Commonwealth

Email this form or details of payment to treasurer, Allen Davis: allendavis@iprimus.com.au

Office Use Only

| | | | | | | |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--|
| Feb | Apr | Jun | Aug | Oct | Dec | |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--|

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------------|
| Fee received --- / --- / --- | Appl approved --- / --- / --- | Record updated --- / --- / --- | Member Number | New Card Posted --- / --- / --- |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------------|

INTERIM RECEIPT AND PROOF OF MEMBERSHIP Name

Fee received by \$ Date / /
(Committee Member)

THIS IS PROOF OF MEMBERSHIP FOR 3 MONTHS FROM THIS DATE

If membership card is not received within 3 months

Please contact the Membership Secretary on 0412 145 262

