

MULGA WIRE

INCLUDING
SINGABOUT



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MULGA WIRE

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BUSH DANCES

June-September

BEECROFT Community Centre

Becroft Road (opposite Fire Stn)

7:30pm—11:30pm

September 7 **Paddy's River**

October 5 **Kookaburra**

November 2 **JH Dance Band**

December 7 **BMC Concert Party**

Enquiries: Sigrid 9980 7077
Wilma 9489 5594

Dukes Place

September 13 **Dingo's Breakfast**

October 11 **Ian Hamilton**

November 8 **Virago**

December 21 **Shortis & Simpson**

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:

Keith Potger, a founding member of the Seekers, entertains an enthusiastic audience at the inaugural Sydney Folk Festival.

Photo Mike Young



President's Message

This has been another cold winter but it's good to see that numbers have been steady around the club's activities.

The club continues to have a full program, including our regular Beecroft Bush Dances, Poet's Corner, Addison Road Sessions (singing), the Irish Slow Sessions and Monday night dance and music workshops but to name a few so check out our calendar and come along.

Some dates for your diary are Bush Traditions Gathering in Yass on the October long weekend and the Kangaroo Valley Festival, 18-20 October, and both events are always enjoyable.

Finally, we said farewell to Gail Copley recently who lost her battle with cancer. Gail will be missed in the music, poetry and song writing worlds. Rest in peace.

Sharyn Mattern

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Worth Noting

Cecil Grivas, one of the original Bushwhackers who performed in *Reedy River* passed away in August. Rest in peace.

Museum of Sydney - **Songs of Home** tells the little-known story of music played and enjoyed in NSW during the first 70 years of the colony. Exhibition 10 August 2019 - 17 November 2019

Collect a headset & enjoy the exhibition. Sally Sloane is mentioned, Don Brian sings one of his convict songs, Norfolk Island Exile transcribed in the James Backhouse diary of 1835, James Fagan & Nancy Kerr also feature. Listen to Jane Austen's music (her music book is on loan from the UK.)

Even if you can't get to Sydney, check the videos and stories on the webpage:

<https://sydneylivingmuseums.com.au/exhibitions/songs-home>

A Facebook group has been created to collect memories of John Meredith as we approach the 100th anniversary of his birth:

John Meredith AM 1920 - 2001: memories from his friends -

www.facebook.com/groups/365849244352767/

John Meredith AM (1920-2001) is mostly remembered as the pre-eminent collector of Australia's folk music & folklore, but he was much more than that - a man of wide interests and a boundless capacity for friendship (and at times, its opposite!).

We encourage people who knew John personally to share their reminiscences & stories, letters, recordings & photos of him.

Australian Folklore is a peer-reviewed journal, maintaining its high quality through the engagement of Australasian research with the global research community. The online edition is made freely available to the general public. *Australian Folklore* was first published in 1987.

<https://journals.kvasirpublishing.com/af/index>

Hannah Szonyi gave birth to Charlie Jude Szonyi on 23 April 2019. Another grandson for Karen and Colin Fong.

Also in April, **Zoe Harvey and Mark Poleson**'s second son Ben was born.

Beck Richmond, daughter of Don and Wendy, was married to Aaron aka Smidge McCullum on Saturday 13 July at Pioneer Village, Wilberforce. The theme for the wedding was Viking. The marriage ceremony was held near the lake followed by games and the feasting occurred in the wool sheds.

Gall, Jennifer **Listening to the past**, *Unbound*, Issue 11, August 2019

<https://www.nla.gov.au/unbound/listening-to-the-past>

George Mann Songwriting Workshop and Concert will be held on Saturday 2nd November in Tritton Hall, Hut 44, Addison Rd Community Centre, Marrickville. Songwriting workshop 2pm - cost \$10 - bookings essential - Dot 0414 987 248. Concert (George & Trade Union Choir) from 7pm - cost \$15 - Sandra 9358 4886.

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 (October cancelled - long weekend)

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

Cost: Gold coin donation

Contact: Glenys 0419 862 005

Gail Copley 1949-2019

Gail was born in Western Australia and her family moved east when she was four years old. She spent her childhood and early teenage years in Canberra and took up painting when she started high school. Musically she was influenced by Harry Belafonte, the Kingston Trio, Pete Seeger and the Weavers. Gail, with her first pay packet, bought a Spanish guitar and a book of guitar chords and folk songs by Pete Seeger.

A year later she joined the Canberra Philharmonic Society as a second soprano and performed in "The White Horse Inn" with them at the Canberra Theatre. She then trained as a nurse and, after a brief stint nursing Aboriginal children in South Australia for the Australian Inland Mission's Far North Children's Health Scheme, returned to Canberra and worked for the ANZ Bank which transferred her to Sydney.

At 37 years of age Gail went to the University of NSW and graduated in 1996 with a BA and BA Combined Honours in the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology Studies and Philosophy.

She joined the Bush Music Club and the Folk Federation, volunteering as the 'tea bag lady' at the Loaded Dog (setting up the mugs with tea bags ready for supper), became a member of the Australian Bush Poets and later founded the Sydney Bush Poets group, who were to perform regularly and operate an open mike at the Royal Oak Hotel in Parramatta.

Ill health finally took its toll and meant that Gail was not able to continue with her passions – music, songs, poetry – but she still had enough energy to hold fund raisers for the Cancer Research Foundation. With her energy and passion Gail will be missed in all aspects of our lives.

Rest in Peace – Vale Gail Copley

Poet's Corner

Hotel Hades

By Matthew Black

When heathen folk check out
from a sordid life of sin
when they've been thievin' and blaspheming
there's a place they all check in
just down past Purgatory
south of The Pearly Gates
a brimstone road
paved with flesh and bone
leads to a death far worse than fate

Hitch a lift through Limbo in
an abyss black Cadillac
to where you're doomed
to a luxury room
at the dosshouse of the damned
Drive up behind that neon sign
that shines 'NO VACANCY'
with all you've sinned
they'll escort you in
with the rest of the V.I.Ps

Sign away your soul in blood
for a 13th storey suite
the concierge will point you there
to where the demon hordes all meet
Leave your luggage in the lobby
Earthly indulgence at the door
Grab the roomkey to eternity
and the elevator to Hell's core

Now beyond the foyer of fire
they've got no room service
So prepare to burn
there's no return
from Suite Six Sixty Six

Now, take heed of this tale of woe
all future guests of Gommorah
Don't lie or steal or double deal
if you know what's damned good for ya
You're be cast into a flaming pit
without no reservation
Bet you know by now
the "whys" and "hows"
of a subterranean vacation

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: Sep 14 (plus Dingo's - see opposite page), Oct 12, Nov 9, Dec 14

Cost: \$5

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

Contact: Karen 0432 527 737 (text messages ONLY) OR fongs@bigpond.net.au

DINGO'S BREAKFAST

OZ MUSIC & POETRY BAND



Dingo's @ Dukes - Friday 13th Sept, 7.30 for 8pm

The Dingo's Breakfast concerts are a wonderful mix of Traditional and Contemporary Australian and Irish Songs, lavishly salted with an edgy slam of Performance Poetry. The Dingo's have comprehensively proved that Performance Poetry is not just for breakfasts any more. The Dingo's shows, as always, have the accent firmly on comedy . .

\$10, bring a plate

Plus - Saturday 14th Sept, noon to later, also at BMC Hut 44

- ◇ SESSION with Dingos, Concert Party & our Poetry group
- ◇ bring food, drinks, instruments, songs, tunes, poems, recitations ...

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 13th September - Dingo's Breakfast

The Dingo's Breakfast tour every year in the eastern states of Australia, appearing at the very best of the festivals, clubs and venues.

With decades of performance experience under their belts, The Dingo's Breakfast present an electrically eclectic dialectic selection of Oz Music, Poetry and Yarn-spinning, with the accent firmly on Comedy ... Beauty!

Dingo's Breakfast concerts are a wonderful mix of Traditional and Contemporary Australian and Irish Songs, lavishly salted with an edgy slam of Performance Poetry. The Dingo's have comprehensively proved that Performance Poetry is not just for breakfasts any more.

Friday 11th October - Ian Hamilton

Friday 8th November - Virago

Saturday 21st December - Shortis & Simpson

Mulga Wire: 2019/20 Publishing Deadlines

Item Deadline	To Printers	Folding Session
8 November	14 November	19 November
7 February	13 February	18 February

Pennant Hills Dance Activities

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

During August we enjoyed learning the dances on the program for the New Sydney Ball, ably taught by David Potter and Bill Unger.

In September we will be practicing the dances to be featured at the Flannel Flower Masked Ball to be held at East Gosford on Saturday 12th October with the World Famous Barangaroo Bush Band playing.

In October we will be practicing for the Beecroft dance which will feature the JH Dance Band.

In November we will practice for the Dance Workshop Christmas Party, to be held on Monday 9th December.

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

John Short

Programme September/October/November

MONDAY 7.30–10.30	THEME/DANCE STYLE
2 September	Waltz & Rotary Chasses Workshop
9 September	Practice for the Flannel Flower Masked Ball
16 September	Practice for the Flannel Flower Masked Ball
23 September	Practice for the Flannel Flower Masked Ball
30 September	Practice for the Flannel Flower Masked Ball
7 October	Public Holiday. No workshop
14 October	Practice for November Beecroft Dance
21 October	Practice for November Beecroft Dance
28 October	Practice for November Beecroft Dance
4 November	Mixed Dance Workshop
11 November	Mixed Dance Workshop
18 November	Mixed Dance Workshop
25 November	Christmas party practice

Playford Dancing at the Hut

Next meetings:

Tues 3rd Sep, 1st Oct, 5th Nov and 3rd Dec 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 & payment purpose

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: Colum <colum.hickey@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 September 7 - *Paddy's River*

Sat October 5 - *Kookaburra*

Sat November 2 - *J H Dance Band*

Sat December 7 - *BMC Concert Party*

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

Dan Murphys

La Thai Restaurant Thornleigh

Topiary Café Epping

Westleigh Quality Meats Westleigh

Sydney English Country Dance Spring Ball

Saturday 28th September, 7:30-11:30pm

Kuring-gai Town Hall, 1186 Pacific Hwy, Pymble

Music by *Short Dented Potts*.

Cost is \$30.

Bookings close 21st September.

<http://sydneyenglishcountryball.com>

http://www.kmc.nsw.gov.au/Things_to_do/Events_activities/Whats_on/Sydney_English_Country_Dance_Spring_Ball

VFMC 60th Anniversary Woolshed Ball

Saturday 12th October

The Victorian Folk Music Club is turning 60 and is celebrating with a Woolshed ball. Jane has written two new dances for the event, the Diamond Reel and the Diamond Waltz (quadrille).

<http://www.vfmc.org.au/dances.php>

Billets for interstate dancers are available - enq. president@vfmc.org.au

Monaro Folk Society 2019 Colonial Ball

Saturday 28 September

Albert Hall, Canberra

Music by Stringfiddle and calling by Don Richmond.

This year the Ball's theme will be 'Floral Tribute', as the Ball will be held during Canberra's internationally famous Floriade Festival.

Dress colonial / early 1900s evening dress wear or after five.

Welcome drinks and nibbles from 7:30pm.

Dancing 8pm to midnight. Fully catered supper.

For catering purposes we close ticket sales on Wednesday 25 September. Early bird sales (at reduced price) will be available until Monday 9 September.

There are many locals who are able to billet interstate guests. If you would like to request a billet, please email:

Antonella <asalpietro@hotmail.com>



GULGONG FOLK FESTIVAL

December 29-31
with The Bushwackers!



Warm weather, warm musical experiences including sessions, concerts, Buskers Corner, workshops and songwriting competitions!

Many choices of accommodation available

TryBooking for early birds.

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

All enquiries: Di. 0458 032 150

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

Bush Traditions Gathering, Hartigan Centre, Yass
<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

Kangaroo Valley Folk Festival
<http://www.kangaroovalleyfolkfestival.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

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

BMC Concert Party were invited to do a bush song 'Sing-a-long' on Sunday 18th August, at the Sydney Folk Festival at City Tattersall's Club, Pitt Street.

Ralph made a booklet of lyrics of 14 songs selected by the 6 volunteer members attending. We followed a bush tunes session held by Bush Traditions Group so those who attended early had 5 hours of playing and singing. A great day

List of Songs

1. Should have been a champion
2. The Hut that's Upside Down
3. Wallaby Liz
4. Travelling down the Castlereagh
5. Streets of Forbes
6. Binda Ball
7. Billy Sheehan
8. When the Currawongs come down from the Mountains
9. Ten Thousand Miles
10. The Catalpa
11. Big Ben Pie
12. Limejuice Tub
13. The Woolloomooloo Lair
14. Billy of Tea



Attendees

Eric Eisler
John Burch
Chris Poleson
Emma Sputnik
Terry Prybus
Brian Freeman

Eric Eisler

Saplings Afternoon Session

Afternoon session for 8-16 year old musicians at Mt Carmel School, Yass.
Enter via the Hartigan Centre, Meehan St, Yass.

Sunday 22nd September, 1:30 to 4pm

An afternoon of Australian tunes, songs and percussion.

Sheet music for C instruments will be supplied.

Parents are welcome to stay... and play if they wish!

Helen: 4297 5128 or 0414 792 943

**New
Members**

★ Jane ELLIS★ ★ Robyn SARGENT★
★ Peter FRY★ ★ Kerith POWER★
★ Doug VINCENT and family★

AROUND THE BUSH MUSIC SCENE - See p14 for details

Sep	3	7:30pm	Playford Dancing at the Hut
Sep	7	7:30pm	Beecroft Bush Dance, Paddys River
Sep	12	7:30pm	Sutherland Acoustic Night, <i>Loosely Woven</i>
Sep	13	7:30pm	Duke's Place, Dingos Breakfast
Sep	13	7:30pm	Toongabbie Music Club
Sep	14	2:30pm	Sydney English Country Dance
Sep	14	7:30pm	Gosford Bush Dance, Social night with Guest Callers
Sep	14	Noon	Session with Dingo's and Poetry at the Hut (see p6/7)
Sep	15	2pm	Keith's Dance Workshop, <i>Contra - Melanie Axel-Lute</i>
Sep	17	7:30pm	English Country Dancing at the Hut
Sep	20	8pm	Hornsby Folk Club, <i>We Mavericks</i>
Sep	21	7pm	Troubadour Folk Club, <i>Alana & Alicia</i>
Sep	27	7:30pm	Toongabbie Music Club
Sep	28	7:30pm	Loaded Dog Folk Club,
Sep	28	7:30pm	Sydney English Country Dance - Spring Ball (see p12)
Oct	1	7:30pm	Playford Dancing at the Hut
Oct	4-7		Bush Traditions Gathering
Oct	6	7:30pm	Beecroft Bush Dance, Kookaburra Bush Band
Oct	7	7pm	Songlines Song Session
Oct	10	7:30pm	Sutherland Acoustic Night
Oct	11	7:30pm	Duke's Place, Ian Hamilton
Oct	11	7:30pm	Toongabbie Music Club
Oct	12	2pm	Poetry at the Hut
Oct	12	7:30pm	Gosford Bush Dance, Flannel Flower Masked Ball with <i>Barangaroo</i>
Oct	13	2pm	Keith's Dance Workshop, <i>English Country</i>
Oct	15	7:30pm	English Country Dancing at the Hut
Oct	18	8pm	Hornsby Folk Club
Oct	18-20		Kangaroo Valley Folk Festival
Oct	19	2:30pm	Sydney English Country Dance
Oct	25	7:30pm	Toongabbie Music Club
Oct	26	7:30pm	Loaded Dog Folk Club,
Oct	26	7pm	Troubadour Folk Club, <i>Skinner and T'witch (UK)</i>
Nov	1	7pm	Addison Rd Singing Session
Nov	2	7:30pm	Beecroft Bush Dance, JH Dance Band
Nov	2	2pm	George Mann Songwriting Workshop and Concert (see p4)
Nov	3	7pm	Songlines Song Session
Nov	5	7:30pm	Playford Dancing at the Hut
Nov	8	7:30pm	Duke's Place, Virago
Nov	8	7:30pm	Toongabbie Music Club
Nov	9	2pm	Poetry at the Hut
Nov	9	7:30pm	Gosford Bush Dance, <i>Short Dented Potts</i>
Nov	14	7:30pm	Sutherland Acoustic Night
Nov	15	8pm	Hornsby Folk Club
Nov	17	2:30pm	Sydney English Country Dance
Nov	18	2pm	Keith's Dance Workshop, <i>Contra - Rerun</i>
Nov	20	7:30pm	English Country Dancing at the Hut
Nov	23	7:30pm	Toongabbie Music Club
Nov	24	7:30pm	Loaded Dog Folk Club,
Nov	23	7pm	Troubadour Folk Club, <i>Sadie and Jay</i>