

## AROUND THE BUSH MUSIC SCENE

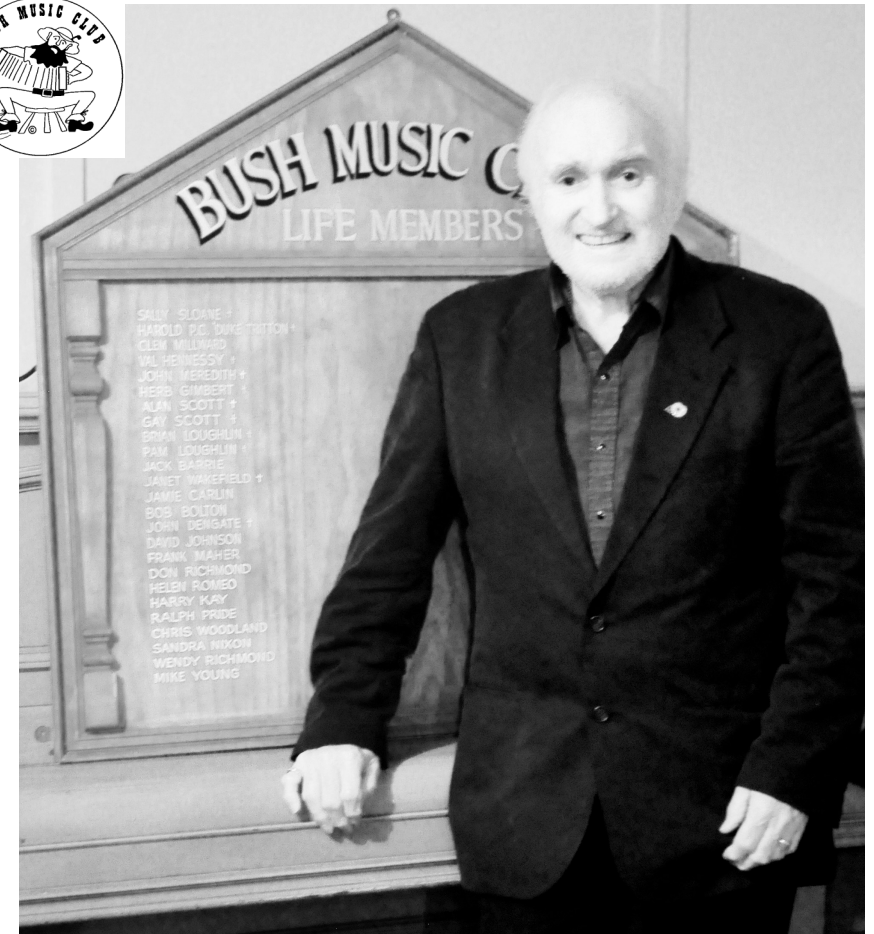
(A selection of interesting events - details as accurate as possible at the time of publishing)

- Dec 2 7pm For the Love of Folk  
 Dec 2 8pm Hornsby Folk Club, *Bruce Watson*  
 Dec 3 7:30pm **Beecroft Bush Dance, BMC Concert Party**  
 Dec 3 Troubadour Folk Club House Concert (call for details),  
*Bruce Watson*  
 Dec 4 1:30pm Folk Federation End of Year Folk Bash  
 Dec 4 7pm Songlines Song Session  
 Dec 6 7:30pm Sydney Playford Dance Group  
 Dec 8 7:30pm Sutherland Acoustic Night  
 Dec 8 7pm Kiama Bush Dance, *No Such Thing*  
 Dec 9 7:30pm **Duke's Place, Christina Mimmocchi**  
 Dec 9 7:30pm Toongabbie Music Club  
 Dec 10 2pm Poetry at the Hut  
 Dec 10 7:30pm Gosford Bush Dance, Contra with *Pastrami on Ryebuck*  
 Dec 16 8pm Hornsby Folk Club, *Wheeze and Suck Band*  
 Dec 17 7pm **Ermington Bush Dance, Southern Cross**  
 Dec 17 7pm Troubadour Folk Club, *Hippy Christmas Party*  
 Dec 27 - Jan 1 Woodford Folk Festival  
 Dec 31 - Jan 2 Gulgong Folk Festival  
 Jan 12-15 Illawarra Folk Festival  
 Feb 3 7pm For the Love of Folk  
 Feb 4 7:30pm **Beecroft Bush Dance, Currawong**  
 Feb 5 7pm Songlines Song Session  
 Feb 7 7:30pm Sydney Playford Dance Group  
 Feb 9 7:30pm Sutherland Acoustic Night  
 Feb 9 7pm Kiama Bush Dance, *No Such Thing*  
 Feb 10 7:30pm **Duke's Place, Sue Gee & Brian Johnathon**  
 Feb 10 7:30pm Toongabbie Music Club  
 Feb 11 2pm Poetry at the Hut  
 Feb 11 7:30pm Gosford Bush Dance  
 Feb 17 8pm Hornsby Folk Club  
 Feb 18 8pm Loaded Dog Folk Club  
 Feb 19 2pm Keith's Dance Workshop  
 Feb 24 7:30pm Toongabbie Music Club  
 Feb 25 7pm Troubadour Folk Club  
 Feb 24-26 Cobargo Folk Festival

See page 14 for more details of these events

# MULGA WIRE

INCLUDING  
**SINGABOUT**



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# 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 9642 7950 (h)

**Secretary:** Sandra Nixon 9358 4886 (h)

**Treasurer:** Allen Davis 9639 7494 (h)

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# BUSH DANCES

December - March

## BEECROFT Community Centre

Beecroft Road (opposite Fire Stn)

7:30pm—11:30pm

December 3 **BMC Concert Party**

February 4 **Currawong**

March 4 **Ryebuck**

Enquiries: Sigrid 9980 7077  
Wilma 9489 5594

## ERMINGTON Community Centre

10 River Road, Ermington

7pm—11pm

December 17 **Southern Cross**

Enquiries: 0412 145 262

### 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:

Martyn Wyndham-Read visited Tritton Hall to appear at Duke's Place. Performing with Duke in the early days gave him an appreciation of the significance of the event.

Photo: Mike Young

## Concert Party News

The Bush Music Club Concert Party continues to attract new members and retain existing members with a Monday night attendances almost always around the 20 mark. The result has been a rise in the standard of performance and an increase in the variety of songs and tunes. Several members have been writing new tunes to existing bush songs and others have written brand new songs to be added to our repertoire.

In addition the Concert Party has been preparing for events at Dalmar Homes and Sofala, both of which were held in November 2016.

Looking further ahead, in December the Concert Party will be performing once again at the Beecroft Bush Dance and at the Pennant Hills Dance Workshop Christmas Party.

*Allen Davis*



Concert Party group photo in front of the hut.

Photo: Sandra Nixon

## 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

**Folk Federation End of Year Folk Bash**, Gaelic Club, 64 Devonshire St, Surry Hills. 1.30pm to 6pm. \$10/\$5. ☎ Margaret 9698 2206 or 0427 958 788

**For the Love of Folk** - the Addison Road session

☎ Glenys 4758 7851 See p5

**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**,

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

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

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

**Kiama Bush Dance**, Kiama Community Centre, Hindmarsh Park

☎ Tony 0422 540 249

**Loaded Dog Folk Club**, Annandale Neighbourhood Centre

☎ Sandra 9358 4886

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

☎ Karen 9716 9660

**Songlines Song Session**, Friend in Hand, Cowper St, Glebe

☎ Jenny 9576 2301

**Sutherland Acoustic**, Tradies, Gynea

☎ Jenny 9576 2301

**Sydney Playford Dance Group**, Hut 44, Addison Rd Comm Centre, Marrickville

☎ Julie 9524 0247 See p12

**Toongabbie Music Club**, 17 Whitehaven Rd, Northmead

☎ 9639 7494

**Troubadour Folk Club**, CWA Hall, The Boulevard, Woy Woy

☎ Michael 4342 6716

**Woodford Folk Festival**,

<https://woodfordfolkfestival.com/>



Another year is coming to an end but the club still has a busy time in the lead up to Christmas.

Our Monday night Pennant Hills Dance Workshop will be celebrating Christmas on 12th December with the BMC Concert Party providing the music. Come along and join us as we celebrate Christmas the BMC way! We also have the Christmas Beecroft and Ermington dances in the next few weeks which are always an enjoyable time.

The BMC has had a few firsts this year; the Morisset Gathering, Sofala – Sydney or the Bush weekend and Poets' Corner as well as welcoming For the Love of Folk (singing session) and the Irish Slow Session.

Finally, I was saddened to hear of the death of Hugh McDonald of Redgum. He will be sorely missed. Condolences go to his family and friends. Vale Hugh.

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 2017.

*Sharyn Mattern*

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## Worth Noting

Vale **Hugh McDonald**, singer songwriter best known as a member of Redgum and author of *The Diamantina Drover*. He was a lifetime friend of John Schumann and has performed recently with John's Vagabond Crew. John said of him: "You get a mate like Hugh once in a lifetime – if you're lucky." Jason & Chloe have posted a video of their rendition of *The Diamantina Drover* as a tribute:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C5VmKR4j8Ag>

**Ken ("Kenny") Evans**, known to many in the folk scene for his involvement as a performer, particularly of Australian songs and music, over almost five decades, died in Taree on Sat November 19, aged 68.

NSW Folk Federation are having an **End of Year Folk Bash** at the Gaelic Club, 64 Devonshire St, Surry Hills on Sun 4th Dec from 1.30pm

**Gulgong Folk Festival** is on again from 31 Dec to 2 Jan.

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

2016 **Commemoration of Eureka Stockade** on Fri 2 Dec at 6pm, The Bowlers Club, 99 York St, Sydney. RSVP Grahame 0425 254 051

## 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/>

New  
Members

★ Gordon BLOK ★

# 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 \$22 [ ] FAMILY \$30 [ ] PENSIONER \$12

[ ] AFFILIATION (Clubs only) \$50 [ ] DONATION \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**5 YEAR MEMBERSHIP** [ ] SINGLE \$100 [ ] FAMILY \$130

[ ] PENSIONER \$60 [ ] AFFILIATION \$250

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: [alldavis@iprimus.com.au](mailto:alldavis@iprimus.com.au)

Office Use Only	Feb	Apr	Jun	Aug	Oct	Dec	
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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 2 MONTHS FROM THIS DATE

If membership card is not received within 2 months

Please contact the Membership Secretary on 0412 145 262



### For the Love of Folk (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 7851

### Playford Dancing at the Hut

Next meeting: **Tues 6th December**, 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.

For more information contact Julie Bishop 9524 0247

Bring your friends along for an enjoyable night of dancing.

### Making Direct Deposit Payments (Membership/Shop/Ball)

**Direct Deposit details:**

**BSB: 062-005**

**Acct: 0090 7524 (Commonwealth bank)**

**Reference**

**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 or scanned and sent by email.

### 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**.

### At the Festivals

#### Illawarra Folk Festival

Fri 5pm	Global Green	Australian Tradition Concert
Sat 12.30pm	Miners Camp	Tunes Session
Sat 4.45pm	Grandstand Bar	Old Bush Songs Singalong
Sun 9am	The Shed	Saplings Session

#### National Folk Festival

We have applied for a number of spots - check NFF website for results (or wait for February Mulga Wire!)

### Don Richmond, Musician

Many of us have seen Don dancing or calling maybe even with a lagerphone, but he also plays other instruments on occasions...



Photos: Mike Young & Sandra Nixon

### 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:

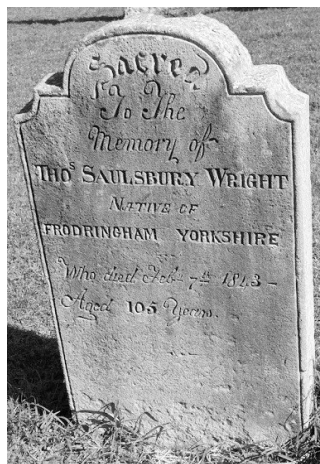
- Renaissance Hair Studio** Westleigh
- La Thai Restaurant** Thornleigh
- Topiary Café** Epping
- The Beauty Salon** Westleigh
- Wilma Lyon Music School** Normanhurst
- Westleigh Quality Meats** Westleigh

## Norfolk Island History Tour

Ten BMC members and four folkie friends of BMC were among 30+ people who went on Don and Sue Brian's week long Norfolk Island Folk History tour. Don and Sue spent five years on the island and researched the convict, whaling and Bounty history. Don's fellow Roaring Forties members Chris Maltby and Margaret Walters joined him in presenting the songs he located. A great time was had by all.

Don and Sue have since discovered more fascinating information, and will have even more by late August 2017 when they present their second tour. Preliminary details are on the Norfolk Island Travel Centre site for those who are interested in joining them.

Gravestone of Thomas Saulsbury Wright, the oldest convict sent to Australia. He was 60 when sent here in 1799 and then sent to Norfolk Island in 1839 at the age of 102. He died at the age of 105.



A dinner session led by Don, Margaret and Chris from the Roaring Forties. Photos: Sandra Nixon



## Central Coast Bush and Social Dance Workshop

For those of you who are on or near the Central Coast, dance workshops are running again. Details are:

**Friday nights** 7pm to 9:30pm including supper break

At the **1st East Gosford Scout Hall**, corner of Wattle and Althorpe St, East Gosford (backs on to the Hylton Moore Oval)

**All welcome, from beginners to experienced dancers.**

**Cost** is only \$7 per night

**Contact** Bill Probert, ph or txt 0421 314 395 or email [billprobert@optusnet.com.au](mailto:billprobert@optusnet.com.au)

An initiative of the Central Coast Bush Dance and Music Association Inc.

## 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 3 - *BMC Concert Party*  
Sat February 4 - *Currawong*  
Sat March 4 - *Ryebuck Bush Band*

## Bush Music Club Ermington Bush Dance



7pm - 11pm *Note start time*

Ermington Community Centre  
River Rd, Ermington

**Hall is air conditioned**

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

Sat December 17 - *Southern Cross*



## Sofala – Sydney or the Bush report

The Bush Music Club conducted a delightful weekend gathering at Sofala from Friday 18 to Sunday 20 November 2016. More than 60 people attended the event and all reports were most favourable. The flavour of the weekend was designed to be laid back with performances in the township and workshops in the Memorial Hall.

In this, the event exceeded our expectations with attendees coming from as far as Canberra, Mudgee, Sydney, Wollongong, Evans Plains, the Blue Mountains, Newcastle and Orange. On the Saturday Concert we were entertained by many of the musicians and a Scottish bagpipe player during a heavy downpour of rain.

The workshops covered such items as the works of Joe Yates and the Central West generally along with singalongs of favourite bush songs and a Waltzathon (where we were joined in the dancing by people from a bikers group in town for the weekend!).

Among the many enjoyable parts of the weekend was the campfire on Friday evening at the Sofala Showground where the BMC Concert Party folk and other musicians and friends sat around and played bush music at supper time. The entertainment lasted well into the night.

Our grateful thanks are due to the BMC personnel who contributed so unselfishly to the success of the event and to the friends and family members who joined us and made huge contributions to the event with cooking, preparing morning and afternoon teas and meals.

All in all, a good time was had by all at Sofala.

*Allen Davis*



Session at Sofala

Photo: Sharyn Mattern

## Poet's Corner

This will be a space where our new poetry group can showcase one of the poems presented at the hut. If you like poetry, why not join them?

WOMEN OUT WEST      Allen Davis 2013

Not for them, the soft green fields of England...the women of the west  
Not for them, the warmth of kith and kin..brave women of the west  
It was north, south and west of the great divide  
They fought through hunger, fear ...and died  
*Our women in the west*

Their story has not yet been told ..sweet women of the west  
They gave their all, their hearts and souls ...they gave their very best  
Through loneliness and growing old  
Through pregnancy and loss untold  
*Strong women way out west*

Few poets gave their story life ..frail women in the west  
It was shearing, wheat and cattle first ...not women, in the west  
Their memorials now are set in stone  
They raised Australia all alone  
*Great women in the west !*

## 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 - Feb 11

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

**Contact:** Karen Fong, (02) 9716 9660 (a message can be left)

OR [fongs@bigpond.net.au](mailto:fongs@bigpond.net.au)

## DUKE'S PLACE

**Australian Songs  
in Concert & session**



### Friday 9th December - Christina Mimmocchi

Christina's musical offerings include working with grass-roots choirs (including The Spots, Choir on a Wire – a tribute to Leonard Cohen, and the Sydney Women's Vocal Orchestra who sings the music arranged in secret in POW camps in Sumatra during WWII); writing for, singing and touring with vocal harmony trios including Blindman's Holiday and Touchwood, co-producing recordings for her own groups and others, and performing her own songs solo and in good company of other musicians.

She was the holder of the National Folk Fellowship in 2009-10 and during that year unearthed songs from the National Library of Australia's folklore and oral history archives and arranged them for a massed choir at the 2010 National Folk Festival.

<http://www.christina8arms.com/>

### Friday 10th February - Sue Gee & Brian Johnathon

"Velvet tongue, sharp teeth" Sue Gee is a singer-songwriter with an "edge" who has long amused audiences with her acerbic lyrics on politics, society and women's "herstory". Her recent foray into Ecopella (choir) and ukekele-playing has spawned quite a few new environmental ditties and political parodies. She recently came 3rd in the John Dengate Memorial Parody-writing competition. Conservatives be warned! Sue accompanies herself on guitar, autoharp, ukelele and harmonica.

Dublin-born singer-songwriter Brian Jonathon has passionately burst onto the Sydney folk scene with songs of social justice, reconciliation, environment and the dark absurdities of modern life

**Friday 10th March 2017**

### Mulga Wire: 2016/17 Publishing Deadlines

Item Deadline	To Printers	Folding Session
19 January	25 January	31 January
17 March	23 March	28 March

**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

## Pennant Hills Dance Activities

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

It's hard to believe that we are heading into our final month of dancing for 2016. The months seem to go so quickly but we've covered a lot of ground in 2016. Ball practices, dance practices, some great guest callers and dances that range from Playford English to Old Time, Traditional and Modern Bush, American Contra and Circle dances, Scottish, Swing, Colonial and even a few ragtime dances. Variety is the spice of life, as they say.

On the 12th December we will have our Christmas Party where we will dance to live music provided by the BMC's own Concert Party. This is always a really good night with a great atmosphere. It is usually our highest-attended night of the year and deservedly so. We'd love to see you there. Bring along a small plate of food (or a drink) to share and it helps our stores and the environment if you bring your own mug. We'll provide the coffee, tea and Bonox. (Horlicks will be available on special request.)

To prepare us for the party, the previous workshop (Monday 5th December) will be dance practice.

However the party is not the end of our dancing year. The Monday after the party will be our annual Dancers' Request Night where there is no planned program, all dances being requested by the dancers present.

Our new year starts with our first workshop on the 9th January 2017. Note it on your calendar. Our first two workshops will be "Welcome Back" workshops where we will get back in the swing of our regular dances. Don't worry about the weather, the hall is air conditioned with ceiling fans so we can cope with the usual January conditions.

Best Wishes for Christmas and the New Year!

See you at Pennant Hills!

*John Short*

### Programme December/January

MONDAY 7.30-10.30	THEME/DANCE STYLE
<b>5 December</b>	Christmas Party Practice
<b>12 December</b>	Christmas Party with BMC Concert Party
<b>19 December</b>	Dancers' Request Night
	<b>Happy New Year!</b>
<b>9 January</b>	Welcome Back Dance No 1
<b>16 January</b>	Welcome Back Dance No 2
<b>23 January</b>	Aussie Dances for Australia Day
<b>30 January</b>	Oh Reely! (Dances with reels of three and four)