

AROUND THE BUSH MUSIC SCENE

Apr	1	7:30pm	Beecroft Bush Dance, BMC Concert Party
Apr	2	7pm	Songlines Song Session
Apr	4	7:30pm	Sydney Playford Dance Group
Apr	7	7pm	For the Love of Folk
Apr	8	2pm	Poetry at the Hut
Apr	8	7:30pm	Gosford Bush Dance
Apr	9	2pm	Keith's Dance Workshop, <i>Contra - Gene Hubert</i>
Apr	13	7:30pm	Sutherland Acoustic Night
Apr	13	7pm	Kiama Bush Dance, <i>No Such Thing</i>
Apr	13-17		National Folk Festival
Apr	21	8pm	Hornsby Folk Club, <i>Peter Hicks</i>
Apr	21-23		St Albans Folk Festival
Apr	22	7pm	Troubadour Folk Club
Apr	28	7:30pm	Toongabbie Music Club
Apr	29	8pm	Loaded Dog Folk Club, <i>Chloe & Jason Roweth + MaD aDaM</i>
May	2	7:30pm	Sydney Playford Dance Group
May	5	7pm	For the Love of Folk
May	6	7:30pm	Beecroft Bush Dance, JH Dance Band
May	6	7:30pm	Baerami Bush Dance & Campout
May	7	7pm	Songlines Song Session
May	11	7:30pm	Sutherland Acoustic Night
May	11	7pm	Kiama Bush Dance, <i>No Such Thing</i>
May	12	7:30pm	Duke's Place, Chris Poleson
May	12	7:30pm	Toongabbie Music Club
May	13	2pm	Poetry at the Hut
May	13	7:30pm	Gosford Bush Dance, Jane Austen theme with <i>Regency Ryebuck</i>
May	19	8pm	Hornsby Folk Club, <i>Jane Thompson & James Rigby</i>
May	20	7pm	BMC Heritage Ball, Parramatta Town Hall
May	21	2pm	Keith's Dance Workshop, <i>English Country</i>
May	26	7:30pm	Toongabbie Music Club
May	26-28		Music at Morisset
May	27	8pm	Loaded Dog Folk Club, <i>Enda Kenny & Dave O'Neill + Glenys Eddy</i>
May	27	7pm	Troubadour Folk Club, <i>Lime and Steel</i>
Jun	2	7pm	For the Love of Folk
Jun	3	7:30pm	Beecroft Bush Dance, Southern Cross
Jun	4	7pm	Songlines Song Session
Jun	6	7:30pm	Sydney Playford Dance Group
Jun	8	7:30pm	Sutherland Acoustic Night
Jun	8	7pm	Kiama Bush Dance, <i>No Such Thing</i>
Jun	9	7:30pm	Toongabbie Music Club
Jun	9-12		Bundanoon DanceFest
Jun	10	2pm	Poetry at the Hut
Jun	16	7:30pm	Duke's Place, Peter Hicks
Jun	16	8pm	Hornsby Folk Club
Jun	18	2pm	Keith's Dance Workshop, <i>Contra - Rerun</i>
Jun	24	8pm	Loaded Dog Folk Club, <i>Bob & Margaret Fagan + Gerry Myerson</i>
Jun	24	7pm	Troubadour Folk Club, <i>Matthew Fagan</i>

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

April - June

BEECROFT Community Centre

Beecroft Road (opposite Fire Stn)

7:30pm—11:30pm

April 1 **BMC Concert Party**

May 6 **JH Dance Band**

June 3 **Southern Cross**

Enquiries: Sigrid 9980 7077
Wilma 9489 5594

ERMINGTON Community Centre

10 River Road, Ermington

7pm—11pm

December 16 **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

Cover:

Danny Spooner performing with his concertina at the Loaded Dog in 2008. The folk scene will miss him greatly.

Photo: Mike Young

Concert Party News

The Bush Music Club Concert Party has returned to Hut 44 renewed and regenerated after the festive season and has several new members who are enjoying the music and company. At the Illawarra Folk Festival in January 2017, the Concert Party performed once again before appreciative audiences. Illawarra is always a popular festival with the Bush Music Club and our Concert Party members practiced in earnest for this event...the results justifying all the hard work. Several of our members attended and performed also at the Kangaroo Valley Festival which, too, received positive feedback.

In March nine members of our Seniors Band performed during lunch time at the Winston Hills Shopping Centre. It was so successful that the BMC Concert Party has been booked for a job at the Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club in June 2017. The Concert Party is to play at the Beecroft Bush Dance on Saturday 1 April 2017. This will be the first of two performances at Beecroft this year. In addition, the Concert Party is to perform at an event for the Burwood Rotary Club on Saturday 29 April 2017.

Allen Davis



Concert Party performing at Winston Hills

Photo: Sharyn Mattern

Event Details

- Baerami Bush Dance & Campout**, Upper Hunter Valley
<http://www.calli.com.au/indexnews.php?page=events>
- Beecroft Bush Dance**, Beecroft Community Hall, Beecroft
 ☎ Sigrid 9980 7077 / Wilma 9489 5594
- BMC Heritage Ball**, see page 10
- Bundanoon DanceFest**,
<http://www.bushtraditions.org/dancefest/bunders.htm>
- Duke's Place**, Hut 44, Addison Rd Community Centre, Marrickville
 ☎ Sandra 9358 4886 See p8
- 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/>
- 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>
- Music at Morisset**, Morisset Showground, Ourimbah St, Morisset
<https://www.facebook.com/musicatmorisset/>
- Loaded Dog Folk Club**, Annandale Neighbourhood Centre
 ☎ Sandra 9358 4886
- Kiama Bush Dance**, Kiama Community Centre, Hindmarsh Park
 ☎ Tony 0422 540 249
- National Folk Festival**, Exhibition Park, Canberra.
<http://folkfestival.org.au/>
- Poetry at the Hut**, Hut 44, Addison Rd Community Centre, Marrickville
 ☎ Karen 9716 9660
- Songlines Song Session**, Paragon Hotel, 1 Loftus St, Circular Quay
 ☎ Jenny 9576 2301
- St Albans Folk Festival**, <http://www.stalbansfolkfestival.com.au>
- Sutherland Acoustic**, Tradies, Gymea
 ☎ 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



At the recent AGM I was elected president, once again, thank you. Thank you, also, to the committee who do such a wonderful job.

The club has a busy year ahead with our regular sessions and workshops, appearances at various festivals, the Morisset Gathering and the 'Enter the Colonies dancing' Heritage Ball at Parramatta all very close on the horizon.

Alas, due to increases in rent, printing, insurance, postage and general running costs there will be some changes, in coming months, to Mulga Wire and membership fees. We are endeavouring to keep the increases to a minimum.

Please check out our exciting program for the coming months in MW, on our website, MeetUp or our Facebook page and keep those feet tapping.

Sharyn Mattern

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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 4th April**, 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 \$5.

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.

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.

At the National Folk Festival

Saplings bush music workshops for 8-16 year old musicians & would-be musicians

12.40 - 1.40 Friday, Saturday & Sunday, Billy Moran tent

Concert 12.30-1.10, Central Park Stage Monday

Songs from the Australian Tradition - Chris Woodland

12.30 to 2.30 Friday, Saturday, Sunday & Monday, Session Bar

Members presenting concerts, workshops & sessions include:

Bill & Margaret Winnett (Sydney Irish Ceili Dancers),

Christina Mimmocchi (Leonard Cohen tribute),

Dave Johnson (Festival Bush Orchestra),

Don & Sue Brian (Cabbage Tree Hat in History, Song & Practice),

Don & Sue Brian & Margaret Walters, (Southern Cross Trawlers),

Don Richmond & David England (Heritage Ball with Snake Gully)

Gavin & Moir Holmes (Session Experience),

Jason & Chloe Roweth (a lot of good stuff!),

Margaret Walters, Don Brian, Chris Maltby (Welcome Singing Session),

Sandra Nixon (Community Hymn Singing)

Henry Lawson Festival

Following a grant gratefully received from Sutherland Shire Council the Henry Lawson Festival is being planned for Sunday 9th July 2017 starting at 9am. The festival will be held in the grounds of Como Public School, Genoa Street, Como, Sydney (a short walk from Como Station). The school, the oldest in the Shire (est. 1884), with original buildings, Georges River outlook and established gum trees makes the ideal setting. The monthly markets will also be operating in the school grounds on the day. The veranda of an original building will be used as the stage. Many artists have been booked to perform including the legendary "Bushwackers" and local bush band "The Handsome Young Strangers", talented poet Peter Mace, folk singer Mary Jane Field and local identity Margaret Bradford.

An art competition involving the three Como schools will be held and artwork will be displayed on the day. There will be a bush dance. Also planned is an evening dinner/concert at the Como School of Arts Hall, a short walk away. There will be no charge for the festival. The tickets for the dinner/concert will open on 9th May 2017.

The reason that the festival is being held at Como is that Henry Lawson lived here at The Bonnet between 1910 and 1920. To celebrate this fact a festival was held in the 1950s for 6 years and was run by eminent Shire local Bob Walshe OAM. The original "Bushwackers" (from Heathcote) made regular appearances as did well known actor and reciter Leonard Teale. The popular "Henry Lawson Reserve" in Wolger Street, Como is the site of the original festival and was designated as a park by the Council in 1955 to honour this.

For more information, please contact Jenny Watson 95762301 jg.watson@hotmail.com

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?

Katoomba Bush Walk 1984 by Mike Waters

One Friday, late September,
in the crisp blue mountain air.
in a street in North Katoomba
where the welcome mat lay there.

We spent the whole night chatting
'bout the things we'd done that week.
and the things we'd do tomorrow
when we'd walk down by the creek.

The morning came so quickly
as the sun peeped o'er the trees.
and a welcome voice cried "breakfast
come and get it when you please"

Uncle Toby's porridge,
poached eggs, toast and tea;
seconds if you wanted it,
'Twas far too much for me.

I thought we should be ready
as the kitchen clock chimed nine
to walk a long and distant track
around the mountain twine.

The sun had gone to bye byes
as the snowflakes drifted down.
My fingertips lost feeling and
were turning blue all round.

Now we all were ready and
onward we did push,
down a hundred thousand stairs
and through the rugged bush.

We seemed to walk forever
'till the leader said "we'll rest".
When he said "we're not yet halfway there
I thought he spoke in jest.

The next part is the hardest
he said, with every turn we took,
the mountain track grew steeper
and the trail ahead was crook.

I felt a little foolish;
foolish? maybe wise!
When I saw the girls all go ahead
to climb the steepest rise.

Every time I tried to catch up
I nearly lost my grip;
the bag I had, no help at all
kept sliding down my hip.

Three of us decided
to turn and head for home.
If they want to reach the summit,
they can do it on their own.

We'd had enough for one day
and our weary legs said rest.
We all agreed we'd do just that,
another five miles west.

Those five miles were the slowest
oh were we weary then,
jumping over logs and creeks
just like Murphy's men!

The bush walk now has ended
but the memory would remain.
I wonder, if we had the chance
would we do it all again?

2017 AGM - President's Report

2017 has been a busy year for the Bush Music Club and, overall, the club's activities have been successful. Unfortunately, due to low numbers, the difficult decision was made to discontinue with both the Maitland Subscription Ball and Ermington July dance.

So many people contribute to the successful running of the club that it would take some time to name you all so, to each and everyone of you, I would like to thank for all your hard work and commitment over the past year.

I would like to give a huge *Thank You* to everyone who was involved in the organisation of the club activities:

- Pennant Hills Dance workshops
- Song and Tune sessions
- Beecroft Family Bush Dances
- Ermington Christmas Dance
- Duke's Place
- Saplings Sessions
- Poets' Corner
- Heritage Ball, Parramatta
- Subscription Ball, Maitland (final ball)
- Playford Dancing at the Hut
- Sydney Slow Session
- For the Love of Folk (singing session)
- Music at Morisset
- Sofala or the Bush

I would also like to make a special mention of the folk below and thank them for their hard work, professionalism and commitment:

- Committee members – Allen Davis (treasurer), Sandra Nixon (secretary/archive/library), Don Richmond (membership), Mike Young (Mulga Wire/Webmaster/Social Media), Brian Freeman (publicity), Rick Hull and Peter Cahill.
- the MW team – Mike Young (editor), Colin Fong and Sandra Nixon (assistant editors) and the MW folding team
- Festival participants – members of the Concert Party and friends
- Volunteers who work on Tritton Hall organised by Rick Hull
- All the valuable members who supported the club

Thank you all for your generosity, participation and contribution this past year and we look forward to an even better year ahead.

Sharyn Mattern

The Bush Music Club Inc. presents

2017 Heritage Ball

Enter the Colonies dancing

Saturday, 20 May 2017 Parramatta Town Hall

182 Church Street Mall, Parramatta

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 sit-down meal is provided, with refreshments available throughout the evening.

Tickets are limited so get in quick!

BMC Members	\$50	(before 6 May)
Non-Members	\$60	(before 6 May)
Students	\$40	(before 6 May)

After 6 May, ALL tickets \$70

No tickets will be available after 15 May 2017

A discount of \$3 per person is available for sets of 4 couples (paid for at the same time, before 6 May 2017)



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 21 May 2017. Cost \$10 per person, covering entry and a BBQ lunch



For all enquiries, ring 0412 145 262, or email wendy_richmond@yahoo.com

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 - Apr 8
Cost: \$5 or gold coin donation
Contact: Karen (02) 9716 9660 (a message can be left)
OR fongs@bigpond.net.au

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 April 1 - *BMC Concert Party*
Sat May 6 - *JH Dance Band*
Sat June 3 - *Southern Cross*

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



- ★ Leanne BARBER ★
- ★ Julie NIMMO ★
- ★ Toongabbie FOLK CLUB ★

DUKE'S PLACE

**Australian Songs
in Concert & session**



No Duke's Place in April

Friday 12th May - Chris Poleson

Chris is a 4th generation musician, and a life-long member of the Bush Music Club. He grew up with bush music all around him and he attended folk festivals and music sessions all his life. His dad, John, a long time Bush Music Club member, was a musician in The Rouseabouts, so this was Chris's first band playing lagerphone and bush bass. His main instruments are guitar, banjo and mouthorgan and he has taught these and ukulele to budding young musicians.

Friday 16th June - Peter Hicks

Peter Hicks is a Tasmanian based performer recognised nationally on the Australian folk scene. His work in the union, peace, solidarity and gay rights movements, together with his constant output of songs for issues of the day have been recognised on ABC radio, at folk festivals and clubs large and small and at rallies for environmental and refugee rights. <http://peterhicks.com.au>

Coming up later in the year:

Eric Eisler & Nancy Nicholls

Lola's Keg Night <http://christinapossom.wixsite.com/lola/about>

Steve Wilson <http://www.concertinaman.net>

**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)

We have been busy at the BMC Dance Workshops.

In February we practiced basic timing and phrasing of dance movements (such as the rotary waltz and the travelling waltz) and revisited some recent ball dances. In March we enjoyed dances based on various themes, such as "Dances with names associated with Places" (such as the Boston Two step, Walpole Cottage and Wollongong) and "A Dance from each State of Australia" where only Queensland missed out as we ran out of time. (The Queensland Maxina will have to wait.)

In April we will practice the dances planned for the May Beecroft dance where the JH Dance Band will be playing. We will also dedicate some time to technique with rotary chasses, reels of three and four and swinging to feature.

In May we will be practicing the dances for the Parramatta Ball so these workshops are well worth attending .

See you at Pennant Hills!

John Short

Programme April/May

MONDAY 7.30-10.30	THEME/DANCE STYLE
3 April	Mixed Workshop - Timing and Technique
10 April	Practice for May Beecroft dance and timing & technique
17 April	No workshop - Easter
24 April	Practice for May Beecroft
1 May	Parramatta Ball Practice
8 May	Parramatta Ball Practice
15 May	Parramatta Ball Practice
22 May	Mixed Workshop
29 May	Mixed Workshop

Mulga Wire: 2017 Publishing Deadlines

Item Deadline	To Printers	Folding Session
19 May	25 May	30 May
11 August	17 August	22 August