

MULGA WIRE

INCLUDING
SINGABOUT



No. 248

December 2018

ISSN 2207-7413 (online)

MULGA WIRE

EDITORS of MULGA WIRE are:

Mike Young 0428 223 033 - mike55young@tpg.com.au

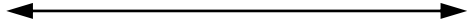
Colin Fong 9716 9660(h) - c.fong@unsw.edu.au

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 December—March

BEECROFT Community Centre

Beecroft Road (opposite Fire Stn)

7:30pm—11:30pm

December 1 **BMC Concert Party**

January **- No dance -**

February 2 **Ryebuck**

March 2 **Sydney Coves**

Enquiries: Sigrid 9980 7077
Wilma 9489 5594

Dukes Place

December 14 **Songs of John Dengate**

January **- No Dukes -**

February 8 **TBA**

March 8 **TBA**

Bush Music Club enquiries:

0412 145 262 or

bmcmal1954@gmail.com

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

www.bushmusic.org.au

Cover:

Daryl Powell at Bundanoon Dancefest after receiving his OAM in 2013.

Photo Sandra Nixon

President's Message

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 10th 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 Beecroft Christmas Dance on Saturday 1st December and Sutherland Shire Bush Dance Christmas Dance on Wednesday 5th December and both are always an enjoyable.

Also, don't forget the Gulgong Folk Festival which is held over the New Year.

Finally, we have been saddened by several deaths this year with the passing of Wendy Richmond's mother, Cecilia Walker, Allen Davis' mother, May Davis, & Daryl Powell from Canberra. On behalf of the Bush Music Club I would like to extend our deepest sympathy to all families and friends and know that they will be sorely missed.

Thank you to all members and volunteers 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 2019.

Sharyn Mattern

Worth Noting	4	Playford	10
Daryl Powell / At the Festivals	5	Irish / Bush Dances	11
Poet's Corner	6	Gulgong Folk Festival	12
Poetry	7	History - BMC Song Sheet	13
Duke's Place	8	Event details	14
Singabout- "Early Leadership"	S1-4	Concert Party News	15
Pennant Hills Dance Workshop	9	Around the Bush Music Scene	16

Worth Noting

Congratulations to dance historian **Dr Heather Clarke** on completing her PHD. Her thesis *Social dance and early Australian settlement: An historical examination of the role of social dance for convicts and the 'lower orders' in the period between 1788 and 1840* is available online on the university website:

<https://eprints.qut.edu.au/121495/>

Illawarra Folk Festival is in need of more volunteers! They also need a First Aid coordinator. If you can help please fill out the volunteer application form on their website: <http://illawarrafolkfestival.com.au/volunteers/>

In March next year, our Pennant Hills Dance Workshop will be teaching and dancing the **Red Socks Reel** which was written in memory of **Herb Lippmann** who liked to wear red socks. Details will be published in the March 2019 edition of Mulga Wire, but keep the 18th March free!

The Bush Music Club recently participated in the **Australian Music Education Board's online orchestra** assembled to celebrate the AMEB's centenary. 1900 musicians from all over Australia gathered in an online link up to play and sing Waltzing Matilda. A video of the event has been published:

<https://centenary.ameb.edu.au/ameb-orchestra-online>

Joseph Hamblin (Kyneton, Vic) piano restored

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-11-25/joseph-hamblin-piano-restored-bendigo/10549246>

The earliest Hamblin pianos date back to the 1860s, and this piano was made sometime between 1889 and 1907. Only three pianos made by the company exist. It is a working example of early colonial craftsmanship, with internal and external components made exclusively from local timber and finished in book-matched native walnut veneer. "The use of Australian timbers, particularly the soundboard, contribute to its unique tone," Melbourne piano restorer Sam Dwyer said.

The Convict Voice - CD by Don Brian, launched at Bush Traditions Gathering, Yass, October 2018

<http://bushmusicclub.blogspot.com/2018/10/the-convict-voice-cd-by-don-brian.html>

Mulga Wire: 2018 Publishing Deadlines

Item Deadline	To Printers	Folding Session
8 February	14 February	19 February
10 May	16 May	21 May

Daryl Powell OAM 1943 - 2018

Daryl Powell passed away recently. He was a much respected dance caller and musician and a regular attendee at the Bundanoon Dancefest and at the National Folk Festival. He will be sadly missed.

Daryl, with his wife Diana, was an important part of the Canberra music and dance community and many dancers will have benefited from their instruction.

The photo on the right was from a Murray River cruise with a small group of other dancers and musicians in 2010. He played his accordion on the boat but couldn't resist the piano in a museum near Mannum.

He received a much deserved OAM in 2013 for his service to the community through the teaching, promotion and preservation of Australian folk music and dance.



Daryl at a piano in a museum at Mannum. Murray River cruise 2010.
Photo: Ros Young

At the Festivals

The Bush Music Club continues to appear regularly at a number of festivals, mainly in the form of Concert Party and Saplings.

Members of the BMC Concert Party with a Tunes Workshop at the Kangaroo Valley Folk Festival.

Photo: Sandra Nixon



Illawarra Folk Festival, January 2019

Saplings: Two sessions - Saturday and Sunday

Concert Party: Two song sessions and a dance

National Folk Festival

Applications made for Saplings and Concert Party

Poet's Corner

Pleasures in My Life

To hear the Magpie warble, the Butcher bird sing
The Kookaburra laugh, and the Bellbird ring
Picturesque trees, vines and flowers in bloom
A lit open fireplace in an antique room

Grace and speed of Eagles and Swallows in flight
Night stars on a clear sky away from city light
Little girls aged two or three ---- dancing
Male birds at mating time ---- prancing

Plains, rivers, mountains and lakes
Parrots, butterflies, finches and cakes
Homemade scones, an old lady and tea
An old man, a beer, yarns and repartee

Morton Bay fig trees with their broad spreading glory
Tall and proud conifer trees, like a house of many storey
Water drops on Sheoaks, just like a little fairy light
The sun shining through them, and lights all lit up bright

Clouds with a silver lining, the ocean waves rolling to shore
I saw a Peewee duet this morning, who could ask for any more
Spider webs in autumn with their patterns of glistening dew
Just some scenes from nature, I'm sure the angels drew

So ---- you can have your technology, or go on a spending spree
Me ---- I'll stick to mother nature, with the Birds all singing free.

Eddie Sampson, Sept 2004

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 - **Dec 8, Feb 9, Mar 9, Apr 13 (no session in Jan)**

Cost: \$5 or gold coin donation

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

Everyone is invited to-

The Pennant Hills Dance Workshop Christmas Party

**Monday 10th December 2018
7.30pm to 9.30pm**

Everyone is welcome to our Christmas Party where we will
dance to the music of the BMC Concert Party.

An enjoyable evening of Bush Dancing and traditional music is guaranteed. Our hall is
air conditioned.

If you were previously a regular at Pennant Hills but have not danced with us lately,
why not come along for this special night.

Tea and Coffee supplied.
Please bring your own mug and
a small plate to share.

Entry is only \$7 (Free for first timers).

To be held at:
The Pennant Hills Community Centre & Library,
Yarrara Road, Pennant Hills.
(Opposite the railway station.)

We are in the downstairs hall, enter through the doors in the car park.

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 December - Songs of John Dengate

..with his friends Ralph Pride, Chris Maltby & Miguel Heatwole. Ralph learnt his songs from The Master starting in the early 60s, Chris & Miguel picked them up from hearing John in later years at singing sessions & concerts, and by reading his books. All have added verses to John's songs in true folk style, & Miguel has arranged some for choirs. Ralph is working on a John Dengate songbook for use by Concert Party and at future festivals.



Ralph, Chis and Miguel
Photo: Sandra Nixon



Performers from previous Duke's Places.
Above - Dingo's Breakfast with Alison Boyd.
Right - Ian Macintosh.

Photos: Sandra Nixon



Some dates for 2019:

Friday 8th February, Friday 8th March

Pennant Hills Dance Activities

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

The Pennant Hills BMC dance workshop has been busy over the past three months. We have held practices for the Flannel Flower Spring Ball, dances at Beecroft and the Central Coast, and for the dance workshop's own Christmas Party.

In December we will be having another practice for the Christmas Party (3rd December), with the party to be held on 10th December. Music will be provided by The Bush Music Club's Concert Party. This is always an enjoyable night and a good opportunity for the two sides of the Club to get together. Please bring along a small plate (with something on it!) and a mug (empty) so we can minimise the use of disposable cups.

Our last evening in 2018 will be on the 17th December. This will be our annual request night, where the dances on the program are requested by the dancers present. This is always fun and a light-hearted way to close the year.

Our first evening in 2019 will be 7th January. We will have a "Welcome Back" workshop to get back into the swing, if you'll pardon the pun. The workshops on 14th and 21st will have an emphasis on Australian dances, including some dances that you might not think of as Australian such as Gypsy Tap, Scottish Waltz and the New French Cotillion.

There will be no workshop on 28th January as this is the Australia Day public holiday.

John Short

Note that the Pennant Hills Community Centre will be closed in January due to building maintenance. Consequently the three workshops in January will be held in the Pennant Hills Leisure and Learning Centre. This is located in Warne Street which adjoins the Community Centre carpark. You can park in the usual carpark and walk to Warne Street. We are back in the Community Centre in February.

Programme December/January/February

MONDAY 7.30–10.30	THEME/DANCE STYLE
3 December	Practice for the Pennant Hills Christmas Party
10 December	Christmas Party! With music by the BMC Concert Party
17 December	Annual dance request night. Come along and request a dance.
	Best wishes for Christmas and the New Year!
7 January	Welcome Back Workshop (Held at the Leisure and Learning Centre, Pennant Hills)
14 January	Australian Dances (Held at the Leisure and Learning Centre, Pennant Hills)
21 January	Australian Dances (Held at the Leisure and Learning Centre, Pennant Hills)
28 January	No workshop - Australia Day Weekend
4, 11, 18,25 Feb	Mixed Dance Workshops

Playford Dancing at the Hut

Next meeting:

Tues 4th Dec, then 5th Feb 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.

Starting again 3rd February 2019.

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 December 1 - *BMC Concert Party*

Sat February 2 - *Ryebuck*

Sat March 2 - *Sydney Coves*

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

AMS Hair Studio Thornleigh

La Thai Restaurant Thornleigh

Topiary Café Epping

Westleigh Quality Meats Westleigh



29 - 31 DECEMBER 2018

HIGHLANDER
SANCHA & THE BLUE GYPSIES
DEN HANRAHAN


Steel City Sue
Reeling Rosie
Stringline

and many more great acts

workshops markets blackboard concerts sessions
busking poetry dorm accommodation camping
John Dengate political parody songwriting competition
Steinway piano recital

Tickets available at trybooking.com

www.gulgongfolkfestival.net.au

 Like us on Facebook!

A bit of history - BMC Song Sheet from the Rod & Fran Shaw bequest (BMC Archives)

Rod Shaw, also known as Schweik, was an artist, cartoonist and graphic designer and a dominant figure in the left wing Studio of Realist Art in the 1950s. He was also half of the progressive publisher Edwards & Shaw.

THE BUSH MUSIC CLUB

SONG SHEET

THE THREE DROVERS

John Wheeler.

Across the plains one Christmas night,
Three drovers riding blythe and gay,
Looked up and saw a starry light,
More radiant than the Milky Way;
And on their hearts such wonder fell,
They sang with joy, "Noel! Noel! Noel! Noel! Noel!"

The black swans flew across the sky,
The wild dog called across the plain,
The starry lustre blazed on high,
Still echoed on the heavenly strain;
And still they sang "Noel! Noel!"
Those drovers three Noel Noel!

The air was dry with summer heat,
And smoke was on the yellow moon;
But from the heavens, faint and sweet,
Came floating down a wondrous tune,
And as they heard, they sang full well,
Those drovers three, "Noel! Noel! "

CHRISTMAS BUSH FOR HIS ADORNING

John Wheeler.

All the bells are gaily ringing, birds in ev'ry tree are singing,
Let us in the golden weather, gather Christmas Bush together.
Christ is born! The Angels thunder, thro' the Heav'ns their tale of wonder.
While we pluck for his adorning , Christmas Bush this hallow'd morning.

Christ has conquer'd Evil's pow'r, hear the bells rock ev'ry tow'r,
Birds and beasts lift up their voices, freed at last the world rejoices;
Onward with triumphant chorus, following the road before us,
Singing thro' the golden weather, gath'ring Christmas Bush together.

Don't forget the Bush Music Club will be holding its break-
up Party on Friday 13th December, 1957.

Club will resume again on Friday 10th January, 1958.

Event Details

Beecroft Bush Dance, Beecroft Community Hall, Beecroft

☎ Sigrid 9980 7077 / Wilma 9489 5594

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

☎ Sandra 9358 4886 See p8

Gosford Bush Dance, East Gosford Progress Hall

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

Gulgong Folk Festival

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

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

☎ Barry 9807 9497

Illawarra Folk Festival

<http://illawarrafolkfestival.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>

The Addison Rd Sessions, Hut 44, Addison Rd Community Centre, Marrickville

☎ Glenys 4758 7497 See p15

Toongabbie Music Club, 17 Whitehaven Rd, Northmead

☎ 9639 7494

Troubadour Folk Club, CWA Hall, The Boulevarde, Woy Woy

☎ Michael 4342 6716

Woodford Folk Festival

<https://woodfordfolkfestival.com/>

Concert Party News

The BMC musicians and singers were very busy during 2018, apart from attending Hut 44 each Monday evening for the usual tunes and sing-alongs mixed in with poems and tall stories.

A brief list of the events at which our members performed (or will perform) during the year is shown below:

- Winston Hills Shopping Centre for Seniors Week
- Eastwood Ladies Probus Club Luncheon
- Three (3) Beecroft Bush Dances (including 1st Dec)
- Sutherland Shire Bush Dance Group Workshop at GyMEA
- Kangaroo Valley Pioneer Museum Weekend Concert
- Two Cancer Research Fund raising events (Hut 44 and Lidcombe) over \$4,000 raised in total
- Attendance at “*Applying for National Folk Festivals*” Workshop
- Appearance on 90.5fm Sydney Radio show with Ross Fear
- Supporting the Folk Federation’s picnic in Parramatta Park
- Hornsby Council’s Seniors Week event at Hornsby RSL
- Performing at Australian Pioneer Village Wilberforce
- Sutherland Shire Bush Dance Group Christmas Party (5th Dec)
- Pennant Hills Dance Workshop Christmas Party (10th Dec)

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



Allen Davis

Session in the hut with Kerry, Rick, Matthew, Brian and John.

Photo: Sandra Nixon

AROUND THE BUSH MUSIC SCENE

Dec	1	7:30pm	Beecroft Bush Dance, BMC Concert Party
Dec	2	7pm	Songlines Song Session
Dec	4	7:30pm	Playford Dancing at the Hut
Dec	7	7pm	The Addison Rd Sessions
Dec	8	2pm	Poetry at the Hut
Dec	8	7:30pm	Gosford Bush Dance, Christmas Contra with <i>Pastrami on Ryebuck</i>
Dec	13	7:30pm	Sutherland Acoustic Night
Dec	14	7:30pm	Duke's Place, Songs of John Dengate <i>with Ralph Pride, Chris Maltby & Miguel Heatwole</i>
Dec	14	7:30pm	Toongabbie Music Club
Dec	15	2pm	Sydney English Country Dance
Dec	16	2pm	Keith's Dance Workshop, <i>Contra - Keith</i>
Dec	21	8pm	Hornsby Folk Club, <i>The Hollands!</i>
Dec	29	7pm	Troubadour Folk Club, <i>Alan Reid & Rob de Sante (Scotland)</i>
Dec	27 - Jan		Woodford Folk Festival
Dec	29 - 31		Gulgong Folk Festival
Jan	7	7:30pm	Pennant Hills Dance Workshop resumes (venue change for Jan)
Jan	10	7:30pm	Sutherland Acoustic Night
Jan	17 - 20		Illawarra Folk Festival
Jan	18	8pm	Hornsby Folk Club
Feb	1	7pm	The Addison Rd Sessions
Feb	2	7:30pm	Beecroft Bush Dance, Ryebuck
Feb	3	7pm	Songlines Song Session
Feb	5	7:30pm	Playford Dancing at the Hut
Feb	8	7:30pm	Duke's Place
Feb	8	7:30pm	Toongabbie Music Club
Feb	9	2pm	Poetry at the Hut
Feb	9	7:30pm	Gosford Bush Dance, <i>Southern Cross</i>
Feb	14	7:30pm	Sutherland Acoustic Night
Feb	15	8pm	Hornsby Folk Club
Feb	16	3pm	Sydney English Country Dance
Feb	17	2pm	Keith's Dance Workshop
Feb	22	7:30pm	Toongabbie Music Club
Feb	23	7:30pm	Loaded Dog Folk Club, <i>Dengate appreciation night</i> <i>with Peter Mace & Jason Roweth (equal billing) + special guest Doug Jenner (UK)</i>
Feb	23	7pm	Troubadour Folk Club

See page 14 for more details of these events