

MULGA WIRE

INCLUDING
SINGABOUT



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MULGA WIRE

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BUSH DANCES

February-April

BEECROFT Community Centre

Beecroft Road, Beecroft (opposite Fire Stn)

Note new time: 7:30pm—11:30pm

April

*** No Dance ***

May 2

Home Rule

June 6

Bad Wallaby

Enquiries: Sigrid 9980 7077
Wilma 9489 5594

ERMINGTON Community Centre

10 River Road, Ermington
7pm—11pm

June 20

BMC Concert Party

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:

John Dengate, Jamie Carlin, Alan Scott and Tony McLachlan playing music for Frank and Ann Maher's wedding in 1964.

Photo: Maher Collection

President's Message

Easter is nearly here and that means only one thing (maybe two if you include Chocolate Easter Eggs) and that is the National Folk Festival. The BMC has something happening every day this year, from the daily Saplings Sessions to the Stan Wakefield and Friends singing session and not forgetting the BMC Concert Party presenting the, now famous, tunes session and this year we have the Waltzes. So come along and see if your favourite waltz has been included! Members are also participating in the daily Australian singing session in the Session Bar and the Sunday night ball, with music by the Heritage Ensemble.

Our folk club, Duke's Place, continues to present wonderful performers presenting Australian songs followed by a relaxed singing session. In February Robin Connaughton was up from Canberra and in March we had Margaret Walters and Don Brian, who make up Southern Cross Trawlers. If you weren't there you missed two wonderful nights of entertainment. The venue is intimate so this gives our guests a very relaxed performance space.

Finally, the great news that this year's Parramatta Ball will be held on May 16th. The theme this year is 'Regency to Ragtime' so there should be a wonderful array of costumes, from both the ladies and gentlemen.

I'm looking forward to seeing you all out there in the folk world!!

Sharyn Mattern

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Worth Noting

Sutherland Shire Bush Dance Group has moved from Gosport St to the Uniting Church Hall, 12 Wilshire Ave, Cronulla South.

Laurel Prince was interviewed by Alex and Annette Hood in the Margaret Barr dancers oral history project. Laurel has been attending the BMC dances and balls for many years and is also a long time member of Australian Heritage Dancers. She has also worked extensively in Special Education, including advocacy, dental care, housing, and using dance as an outlet. The sound recording is stored as a digital master by the National Library of Australia.

A new English Country and Contra dance class is starting Sun 12th April from 2-5pm at All Saints Anglican Hall, corner of Oxford and Cromwell Streets, New Lambton (Newcastle).

Do you have a badge yet? We have two designs. Both are quality metal badges. Price is \$5 each plus \$2 postage and handling (for one or two badges). Order by mail, buy at bush dances or at the hut.



Special Offer - May and June 2015:

Become a member of the Bush Music Club for the first time by joining at one of our dances in May or June and get in to that dance for free!

Mulga Wire: 2015 Publishing Deadlines

Item Deadline	To Printers	Folding Session
11 May	21 May	26 May
13 July	23 July	28 July

BEECROFT DANCE

Those loyal people who have attended the Bush Music Club's monthly Beecroft dance will have noticed that a room has been partitioned off near the kitchen area and new acoustic treatment added to the side walls of the main hall. The operation of the hall has been taken over by Hornsby Shire Council from the Beecroft Community Centre Association.

The result of this change in control has meant that our dear friend, Frank Westbrook, who for many years opened the hall on behalf of the Association, no longer does so. Frank, who lives in Dural, would come all the way to Beecroft in hot summers and on cold wet wintery nights to open the hall and make sure all was well. In addition he was responsible for the collection and banking of the rent of the hall.

On behalf of the Bush Music Club we wish to express our heartfelt thanks to Frank for all his hard work and support over the years, it will not be forgotten and is so much appreciated. Thank you Frank.

Allen Davis

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 bmcm1954@gmail.com.



More Beecroft Dances in 2015!

Beecroft Dance will be held *every* month from February to December in 2015 - apart from Easter!

At the Festivals

National Folk Festival

Easter

The Bush Music Club will be appearing again at the National Folk Festival. We will be presenting:

- Saplings
 - ◇ Fri/Sat/Sun 11am-noon - Billy Moran Tent
- Family Bush Dance
 - ◇ Sat 5.30pm-7pm - Piazza
- Songs of Stan Wakefield (and friends) singalong
 - ◇ Fri 5.30pm-7.30pm - Song Room
- Waltz-a-thon tunes workshop
 - ◇ Mon 1.30pm-2.30pm - Song Room
- National Heritage Ball (Heritage Ensemble)
 - ◇ Sun 8pm-midnight - Coorong

Other sessions which may be of interest to members:

- Graham Seal and Rob Willis will be doing a concert on 'later' bush songs.
 - ◇ Fri 5pm-6pm - Carnival Stage
- Lunchtime Australian Singing Sessions
 - ◇ Daily 12.30-2.30 - Session Bar



BUSH MUSIC CLUB inc

GPO Box 433, SYDNEY NSW 2001

Founded 1954

MEMBERSHIP

APPLICATION []

RENEWAL []

UPDATE []

Name:

Address:

Phone: Home () Work ()

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

Email

YEARLY MEMBERSHIP

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

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

5 YEAR MEMBERSHIP

[] SINGLE \$100 [] FAMILY \$130 [] AFFILIATION \$250

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

Signature: Date:

Office Use Only

Feb	Apr	Jun	Aug	Oct	Dec	
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Fee received	Appl approved	Record updated	Member Number	New Card Posted
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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 (02) 9642 7950

DUKE'S PLACE

**Australian Songs
in Concert & session**



**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 10th April - Garry Tooth

Garry was a founding member of *The Wayfarers* one of the earliest bands in the Queensland folk revival.

Friday 8th May - Ballad of the Heathcote Bushwhackers

Australian songs in concert & session presents The Ballad of the Heathcote Bushwhackers with early members Jamie Carlin, Frank Maher & Ralph Pride. Production & accompaniment by Eric Eisler.

It's hard to imagine an Australia without the ubiquitous bush band, but that is how things were back in the early 1950s. The "colonial cringe" was in full flight. To be genuinely Australian was a commitment to relative obscurity. Enter *The Heathcote Bushwhackers*. A breath of fresh air. Everything old was new again. Suddenly everyone was singing about shearers and drovers. Performers came out of the woodwork and a new era of Australian entertainment was born...

Playford Dancing at the Hut

Playford will not be meeting in April (too close to Easter)

Next meeting: **Tues 5th May**, 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.

Pennant Hills Dance Activities

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

We started our dancing for 2015 with a "Welcome Back" dance in January and had an excellent turn out. In February we revisited some popular old and new dances while in March we emphasised timing and tempo and the matching of dance movements to the phrasing of the music. We also started practicing the dances for the April Central Coast dance.

There will be no dance workshop on 6th April due to the Easter public holiday but there will be a huge choice of dancing at the annual National Folk Festival in Canberra.

On 13th April we will be enjoying a few of the dances from the National Folk Festival's "Dancers' Dance", as we have done in previous years. This is always an enjoyable workshop for both new and experienced dancers.

During the next four sessions we will be learning the dances to be featured at the BMC's Parramatta Heritage Ball to be held on the 16th May. These workshops will be lead by Wendy Richmond and family and are always popular, even for those who are not attending the ball.

Why not join us?

John Short

Programme April/May

MONDAY 7.30–10.30	THEME/DANCE STYLE
6 April	No Workshop - Public Holiday
13 April	Dances from the National Folk Festival "Dancers' Dance"
20 April	Practice for the Parramatta Heritage Ball
27 April	Practice for the Parramatta Heritage Ball
4 May	Practice for the Parramatta Heritage Ball
11 May	Practice for the Parramatta Heritage Ball
18 May	"Meanwhile" Dances
25 May	Optional Extras

Saplings Session

Another successful Saplings Session was run at the Bush Music Club hut on 15th March. These sessions are helping to develop our next generation of performers who will carry on the traditions, keeping the Australian music and dance scene alive and flourishing into the future.



Photos: Sandra Nixon

Teaching a shanty



**New
Members**

★ Alain Vion ★

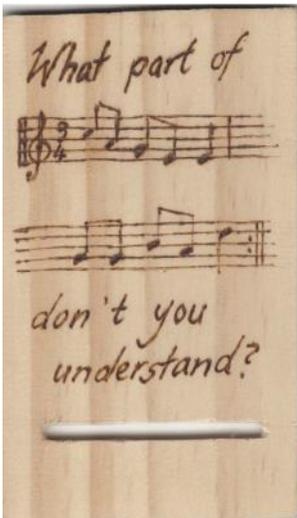
Traditional Irish Music 'Slow Session'

Traditional Irish Music 'Slow Session' for beginners/intermediate players of Irish Traditional Music (melody instruments only).

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



This little gem was sold as a mobile phone holder at the National Folk Festival by the ACT Woodworkers.

Those of you who read musical notation should appreciate the message. (for the rest of us - see P 14)

Beecroft Spot Prizes

At recent Beecroft dances we have been handing out special prizes to dancers at certain points during the night. The prizes were 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 Butchery

Heritage Ball

2015



From Regency...

to Ragtime



The Bush Music Club Inc. will hold its annual Heritage Ball at Parramatta Town Hall on Saturday 16th May 2014.

The Grand March starts at 7:30pm, dance until 12:30am

Another grand occasion for your enjoyment with music by our renowned Heritage Ensemble.

Dress in your favourite 19th century fashion.

Ball tickets will again be limited.

A light supper and refreshments are provided during the evening.

Tickets:

\$50 for BMC members (before April 13)

\$60 for non-members (before April 13)

\$40 for students (before April 13)

All tickets purchased after April 13 are \$70 each.

A discount of \$3 per person can be obtained for a set of 4 couples (8 tickets) booked and paid for at the same time before April 13.

No tickets will be available after May 9th.



Post-Ball Picnic

Sunday 17th May at Australiana Pioneer Village, Wilberforce

Wear colonial dress, further details will be available at the Ball

Enquiries to Wendy Richmond

ph 0412 145 262 or email wendy_richmond@yahoo.com

Payment for tickets:

Cheque to:
Bush Music Club Inc
PO Box 433
Sydney 2001

Or by EFT to:
"Bush Music Club"
BSB 062-005
Account 00907524

Please indicate that the
payment is for ball tickets.

Add "Ball – your name" as
reference for your payment

Email wendy_richmond@yahoo.com with payment details.
(please include names of attendees).

..... tickets Members	@ \$50
..... tickets Non-Members	@ \$60
..... tickets Students	@ \$40
less discount for early group	@ - \$ 3
	Total

Names for Tickets

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8

Subscription Ball 2015

a date for your diary 

This year the BMC's Subscription Ball will be held on **Saturday 29th August** at the Therry Centre, King Street, East Maitland.

Maitland Town Hall is unavailable due to renovations. This new venue has a large hall with a good wooden floor for dancing and the Coalbrook band will again be playing for us. We also have a good new venue for the BBQ/Picnic/Dance on **Sunday 30th August** at Marmong Point Community Hall, in Marmong Park, 31B George Street, Marmong Point; this is on the west side of beautiful Lake Macquarie, north of Toronto.

For further details please see the BMC website:

<http://www.bushmusic.org.au>

and the ball website:

<http://users.tpg.com.au/juliasm/BMC-Ball/>

Hope you can join us!



Practice Sessions - all start at 10am

Central Coast

Sunday August 2 East Gosford Progress Hall

Newcastle

Sunday August 9 Teralba
Saturday August 22 Hamilton

Sydney

Sunday August 16 Concord

Phone Holder Message: "C-A-G-E E-G-G B-A-D"

Concert Party News

The Concert Party has been attracting consistently high numbers of performers on Monday nights despite the hot weather. Our fearless leader, Ralph Pride, continues to direct our attention and efforts to learning new tunes and adding special arrangements and variations. A brave man is our Ralph.

The results have been remarkable, with practices for the 2015 National Folk Festival concentrating on the songs of Stan Wakefield together with a vast array of Waltzes now contained in booklets prepared by Ralph himself. No mean feat indeed.

The Concert Party has welcomed several new members over the past year. With the arrival of new musicians and the hard work of existing BMC members, it is generally agreed that the standard of musicianship has lifted appreciably.

All members of the Bush Music Club and those interested in Australian bush music are more than welcome to come along to Hut 44 on Monday evenings and enjoy the music either by playing an instrument, singing, reciting, yarn spinning or simply enjoying the music and good company.

Allen Davis

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.

AROUND THE BUSH MUSIC SCENE

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

- Apr 4 **No Beecroft Bush Dance - Easter long weekend**
- Apr 7 **No Sydney Playford Dance Group** - too close to Easter
- Apr 9 7:30pm Kiama Bush Dance, Kiama Community Centre, Hindmarsh Park, Kiama. Helen 4297 5128
- Apr 9 7:30pm Sutherland Acoustic, Tradies, Gynea.
- Apr 10 **7:30pm Duke's Place**, Hut 44, Marrickville. (see page 8)
- Apr 11 7:30pm Gosford Dance, *Currawong*, East Gosford Progress Hall.
- Apr 12 2pm English Country and Contra, All Saints Anglican Hall, New Lambton, Arthur/Julia 4955 5701
- Apr 14 7pm Campfire Session, Kiama Community Centre, Tony 0422 540 249
- Apr 18 Loaded Dog Folk Club, **David Hyams**, Annandale Neighbourhood Centre, Sandra, 9358 4886
- May 2 **7:30pm Beecroft Bush Dance, Home Rule**, Beecroft Community Hall, Beecroft, ☎ Sigrid 9980 7077 / Wilma 9489 5594
- May 3 7pm Songlines Song session, Fitzroy Hotel, East Sydney/Woolloomooloo
- May 5 **7:30pm Sydney Playford Dance Group**, Hut 44, Marrickville. (see p 4)
- May 8 **7:30pm Duke's Place**, Hut 44, Marrickville. (see page 8)
- May 9 7:30pm Gosford Dance, *Snake Gully*, East Gosford Progress Hall.
- May 14 7:30pm Sutherland Acoustic. Tradies, Gynea.
- May 16 **BMC Heritage Ball**, Parramatta Town Hall. (see page 12)
- May 19 7pm Campfire Session, Kiama Community Centre, Tony 0422 540 249
- May 23 Loaded Dog Folk Club, **Wheeze and Suck Band + Jim Jarvis**, Annandale Neighbourhood Centre, Sandra, 9358 4886
- Jun 2 **7:30pm Sydney Playford Dance Group**, Hut 44, Marrickville. (see p 4)
- Jun 6 **7:30pm Beecroft Bush Dance, Bad Wallaby**, Beecroft Community Hall, Beecroft, ☎ Sigrid 9980 7077 / Wilma 9489 5594
- Jun 6-7 Bundanoon DanceFest
- Jun 7 7pm Songlines Song session, Fitzroy Hotel, East Sydney/Woolloomooloo
- Jun 11 7:30pm Sutherland Acoustic. Tradies, Gynea.
- Jun 12 **7:30pm Duke's Place**, Hut 44, Marrickville. (see page 8)
- Jun 13 7:30pm Gosford Dance, *Regency Ryebuck*, East Gosford Progress Hall.
- Jun 16 7pm Campfire Session, Kiama Community Centre, Tony 0422 540 249
- Jun 20 **7pm Ermington Bush Dance, BMC Concert Party**, Ermington Community Centre, 10 River Rd, Ermington, ☎ 0412 145 262
- Jun 27 Loaded Dog Folk Club, *Seamus Gill (ACT)*, Annandale Neighbourhood Centre, Sandra, 9358 4886
- Toongabbie Music Club - 2nd & 4th Friday of each month 7:30pm**
17 Whitehaven Rd Northmead, ☎ 9639 7494