

# MULGA WIRE

INCLUDING  
SINGABOUT



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# MULGA WIRE

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**MULGA WIRE** appears each even month. 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 \$2.70 (posted) per issue to others. Subscription is \$15 per annum, including postage, for six issues.

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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.

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# BUSH DANCES

June-August

## **BEECROFT Community Centre**

Beecroft Road, Beecroft (opposite Fire Stn)

**Note new time: 7:30pm—11:30pm**

June 6

**Bad Wallaby**

July 4

**JH Dance Band**

August 1

**Ryebuck**

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](http://www.bushmusic.org.au)**

## **Cover:**

Peter Ellis OAM on stage on Norfolk Island with his concertina playing for a dance at the forerunner to Bundanoon DanceFest, April 2008.

Photo: Mike Young



## President's Message

It is with a heavy heart that we report the recent passing of Peter Ellis, OAM. Peter's death is a great loss not only to his family, friends and community but, also, to the world of dancing, music and collecting. His enthusiasm, professionalism and charm won many hearts and he will be deeply missed.

We are also mourning the passing of singer, Marian Henderson. Marian was there at the beginning of the so-called folk revival. She made several recordings, appeared at countless concerts and was ever-present at peace marches and other demonstrations for a better world.

Milton Taylor also passed away recently. Milton was a poet, reciter and retired shearer who once collapsed and died after shearing 200 sheep but was revived.

To their families and friends we extend our condolences and deepest sympathy.

*Regency to Ragtime* was the theme for this year's ball in the Parramatta Town Hall. Congratulations and sincere thanks to organiser, Wendy Richmond, and her team 'The Unflappables' for an evening of fine food and excellent dance calling and to Dave Johnson and the Heritage Ensemble for the wonderful music. Thanks also to the Blacktown Boys' Brigade for their valuable contribution.

BMC will be present at various festivals in the coming months so stay tuned.

*Sharyn Mattern*

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## Worth Noting

We note with sadness the passing of **Peter Ellis OAM, Milton Taylor** and **Marian Henderson**.

**Communities for Communities** will be holding their annual bush dance with Currawong on 18 July at Drummoyne Civic Centre  
<http://www.communitiesforcommunities.com.au>

Ball videos are on YouTube. Search for “**bush music club ball 2015**”

Friends & family of **Declan Affley** will be supporting Seamus Gill at the June 27th Loaded Dog for the 30th anniversary of his death.

**Saplings Masterclass** will be returning to Hut 44 on 16th August.

Welcome to the world for **Lennox**, grandson of our treasurer Allen, future opening batsman in 2035...

*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 to July 2015:

Become a member of the Bush Music Club for the first time by joining at one of our activities in May, June or July and get in to that activity for free! Tell your friends.

### Mulga Wire: 2015 Publishing Deadlines

Item Deadline	To Printers	Folding Session
13 July	23 July	28 July
10 August	20 August	25 August

## At the Festivals

### **Bundanoon DanceFest**

**5 - 8 June**

There will be a strong contingent of dancers, callers and musicians from the Bush Music Club at this gathering in the Southern Highlands.

### **Turning Wave, Yass**

**18 - 20 Sept**

The Bush Music Club will be appearing in three performances over the weekend.

### **Bush Traditions Gathering, Goulburn**

**2 - 5 October**

We will be attending this annual gathering for a weekend of music, yarns and poetry at the Old Goulburn Brewery.



John Dengate Memorial Concert at Yass 2014 Photo: Sandra Nixon

## **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](mailto:bmcm1954@gmail.com).



### **More Beecroft Dances in 2015!**

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

## 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

## Booking Form

- \* Numbers for the ball are limited to 90, so please book early.
- \* Early Bird Ball Ticket Prices are available up to and including **Sunday 2nd August**.
- \* For catering purposes all Ball tickets must be pre-booked, payments made and details confirmed via the booking form or via email by **Friday 14th August**.
- \* Bookings and payments for the BBQ/ Picnic must be received by **Sunday 23rd August**.

Name/s or attach a list \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Price (until 2 <sup>nd</sup> August 2015)	Number	Cost
BMC Members \$50*		
Non-BMC Members \$55*		
Full time students \$35*		
Non-dancers \$45*		
BBQ Picnic \$10		
<b>Total Cost</b>		

**\* Prices from 3rd to 14th August: add \$5 to each ticket price.**

### Payment can be made:

1. By cash, at any BMC dance or ball practice/workshop.
  2. By Cheque. Cheques payable to "Bush Music Club" & send to Bush Music Club Inc. PO Box 433 SYDNEY NSW 2001.
  3. Direct Deposit to Bush Music Club, BSB 062-005 Acct No. 0090 7524.
- Please identify your payment by using the booking name as the remitter, & send payment & dancer details via email to:  
julia.smith@tpg.com.au

# 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 12th June - Margaret Bradford**

Margaret has been a name in the Australian folk scene for over 30 years, and a member of the Bush Music Club for most, if not all of that time!

Her songs of conscience, humour and compassion reflect contemporary, environmental and social issues. She is able to bring out the heartfelt essence of a song.

She sings in duo Merryweather with Margaret Essex who will join her at Duke's.

## **Friday 10th July - Chris Maltby**

Chris is another long time member of the club. He went to concerts, festivals and sessions for years, quietly enjoying the music, and helping pack up the chairs!

After coming out as a singer, he joined the Ecopella Choir and the Roaring Forties, and also sang a couple of numbers at the John Dengate Memorial Concert - *The Terrorist Song* and *Song of Childhood*.

## **Friday 14th August - Margaret & Bob Fagan**

Bob & Margaret, former members of the *Tempe Tipsters*, are brilliant performers, their names synonymous with excellence. Their repertoire is firmly rooted in the folk tradition, their choice of songs is always uplifting, and their arrangements – with tasty guitar and fine harmonies – linger on in heart and mind.

## **Songwriting Workshop**

Phyl Lobl will be holding her second annual Songwriting Workshop over two days.

**Dates:** Saturday 1st and 8th August 2015.

**Time:** 9:30am to 4pm

**Cost:** \$50 (includes morning/afternoon tea and lunch)

**Location:** Tritton Hall, Hut 44, Addison Rd Community Centre,  
142 Addison Rd, Marrickville

**Enquiries & Bookings:** Sandra 9358 4886

**10 places only!**

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

In March a variety of interesting dances were taught to around 20 dancers, including: Circassian Circle, Pride of Erin, Cambewarra Waltz, Borrowdale Exchange, Cascades Contra, Margaret's Waltz, Lord Lamington's Lament, Indian Queen, Black Nag, Marine Four Step, Good Hearted Glasgow, Dashing White Sergeant, Quaker's Meeting, Festival Glide, Whitehorse Waltz and Eightsome Reel.

In April dancers enjoyed dances from the "Dancers' Dance" held at the recent National Folk Festival at Canberra. These included Waterfall Waltz, Northern Irish Pride of Erin, Swing Waltz and Fig 4 of the Moycullen Set. We then ran a series of practise workshops for the BMC Parramatta Ball, taught by Don and Wendy Richmond.

Why not join us for a night of fun social dancing?

*Felicity Hattingh*

**Programme April/May**

<b>MONDAY 7.30–10.30</b>	<b>THEME/DANCE STYLE</b>
<b>1 June</b>	Bundanoon preview
<b>8 June</b>	<b>No Workshop - Public Holiday</b>
<b>15 June</b>	Practice for July Beecroft Bush Dance
<b>22 June</b>	Practice for July Beecroft Bush Dance
<b>29 June</b>	Practice for July Beecroft Bush Dance
<b>6 July</b>	New and Old Dances
<b>13 July</b>	Practice for August Central Coast Dance
<b>20 July</b>	Practice for August Central Coast Dance
<b>27 July</b>	Practice for August Central Coast Dance
<b>3 Aug</b>	Practice for Maitland Ball

## AGM - President's Report

Last year we had celebrated our 60th anniversary and what a year of celebration, complete with an anniversary edition of MW. Thanks to all the organisers and members who helped make last year such a success.

I know I say the same thing each year, but there are so many people to thank for keeping the club running. The workload is not always obvious and many of the regular activities rely on the dedication of 'the regulars' for the ongoing success. These include weekly dance workshops and song and music sessions, regular bush dances, Duke's Place folk club, Saplings Sessions, production of MW, 2 annual balls, participation in festivals, upkeep of Tritton Hall and the regular committee meetings.

The club wouldn't run without the committee – Allen Davis, Bob Bolton, Mike Young, Sandra Nixon, Don Richmond, Brian Freeman, Matt Black and our new recruit Max Gregory. Thank you for your ongoing support and hard work during the year.

Our secretary, Sandra Nixon, had a busy year last year as, apart from her normal duties, she was also holding the fort for me while I was laid up. Sandra has done an excellent job, not only with dealing with usual correspondence and the other secretarial duties, but also being the energy and coordinator behind the BMCs participation in various festivals. Thanks Sandra.

Allen Davis, is our Honorary Treasurer, and we thank him for his professionalism, hard work and energy, as well as liaising with both our auditor, Fiona Perry, and the ARCC administration. The BMC hut continues to be rented to outside groups and Allen has been liaising with both the groups and the ARCC to ensure that the system runs smoothly.

Don Richmond has been responsible for managing the memberships for many years now and we thank you for this.

The Beecroft Dance continues to be successfully organised by Sigrid Marden and Wilma Lyon with help from the team. Thanks everyone on a job well done and for all the hard work that goes into running the regular dances.

To Wilma Lyon, our Publicity Officer, thanks for all her work in publicising various club events and regular activities.

Thanks, also, to Mike Young, who maintains the Club web-site, an increasingly important part of our visibility in the wider community. Thanks, also, for your help getting BMC onto the social networking site, Meetup. We have only recently joined and our membership is growing.

The Monday night Song and Music Session continues to be strong with thanks to Ralph Pride, Eric Eisler and Bob Bolton, as well as all the regulars for their support and enthusiasm. The Concert Party has also provided music for our regular dances as well as hosting workshops and events during the year.

The Pennant Hills dance workshop has continued with a steady attendance during the year. Thanks to John Short and Felicity Hattingh and to everyone who has helped with organising Monday nights. Thank you, also, to the teachers for their support of our workshop.

Our annual Heritage Ball was another great night at Parramatta Town Hall. Thanks once again to Dave Johnson and the Ensemble members for their part in making the Heritage Ball a wonderful night. Thank you to Wendy Richmond and Michelle Bolliger for the coordinating and catering at the Ball. Thank you also to all the helpers, both before and on the night, you all helped to make it a night to remember.

The annual Subscription Ball in Maitland is always a wonderful night and owes its success to team lead by Wendy Richmond and Michelle Bolliger. Thank you to all the helpers and supporters, both before and on the night, for such an enchanting evening.

Our latest project, the Saplings Sessions, continues to introduce bush music to young musicians. Saplings had very successful attendances at folk festivals last year as well as sessions at the hut in Marrickville. Thanks to all the teachers, parents and helpers.

Mulga Wire continues to appear every two months due to the ongoing efforts of the editorial team made up of Mike Young and Colin Fong with assistance from Sandra Nixon and myself. Thank you also to the wrapping team Don Richmond, Ros and Mike Young, Fay Lau, Brian Freeman, Colin and Karen Fong.

Finally thanks to the members, for being part of a long standing Australian tradition, the Bush Music Club.

*Sharyn Mattern*

## **AGM - Treasurer's Report**

### *Profit and Loss*

The Bush Music Club operated with a surplus of \$4849.00 for the year which included Interest from Investments of \$3733.91.

The diminution in operating surplus during 2014 was mainly due to expenditure on activities related to the 60th Anniversary of the club. Income from 60th functions totalled \$2978.05 whilst expenditure was \$6682.40.

The Heritage Ball at Parramatta, the Maitland Ball, Beecroft, Ermington dances and the Pennant Hills Workshop all contributed surplus funds to the club.

### *Balance Sheet*

Club assets total \$125,998.07 which include investments in ANZ, Westpac and Commonwealth Bank Term Deposits of \$119,753.65, a small stock of books and other items for sale together with cash at bank and cash floats for dances. The club had no liabilities as at 31 December 2014.

*Allen Davis*

BA, M.Litt, Dip Ed, CPA, ACIS, JP

## AGM Secretary's Report

Mail is collected once a week, minutes are created, and an eLIST of BMC and similar activities is prepared and sent out monthly, and as needed to members & friends.

The blog is continually being updated, with many draft articles and ideas awaiting posting or creation.

2014 was the 60th Anniversary of the Bush Music Club and Celebrations continued all year.

Winners of our Diamond Jubilee Songs, Tunes, Poetry and Dance competitions were announced in 2014.

October saw the successful premiere of *Lola's Keg Night*, a play about the founder of the second Bush Band in Australia, created by Lola with the assistance of our founders The Bushwhackers. The play was sponsored by many organisations including the Bush Music Club, and many individuals. BMC members Ralph Pride and Helen and Tony Romeo assisted with technical/musical aspects and Lola joined Concert Party workshops at Bulli & the National!

At the Illawarra Folk Festival we ran our usual Songs and Tunes workshops, and made our usual appearance at the Australian Traditions/ Alan Scott concert.

We ran our first Saplings workshops for young musicians & would-be musicians at the National Folk festival, unfortunately in the Children's Festival area, so older musicians did not attend, but those who did had a great time. We ran successful Songs & Tunes workshops

We were well represented at Turning Wave (songs, tunes and John Dengate Memorial Concert) & Kangaroo Valley Festivals (Songs, tunes, dances, Tune Swap with No Such Thing, and Saplings) and had a much larger than usual presence at the October Bush Traditions Gathering.

Members also participated in the John Dengate memorial concert at Cobargo.

*Duke's Place - Australian Songs in Concert & session* had a successful year, with average attendances of 21 per concert. Door money went to performers, with several refusing the money so we banked \$310.

The Songwriting workshop with Phyl Lobl was successful, attracting 6 members and non members, and will be repeated in 2015.

Our Member's Dinner in March and Concert/Dance/Reunion in November attracted a large proportion of our members and went well, and like all activities in our Diamond Jubilee year, would not have been the success they were without the work of all our volunteers.

*Sandra Nixon*

# 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

## 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

## Playford Dancing at the Hut

Next meeting: **Tues 7th July**, 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.



- ★ William GALER ★    ★ Don CASEY ★
- ★ Jan, Martin & Samuel FALLDING ★
- ★ Col EGLINGTON ★    ★ Rod DREW ★
- ★ Andy GOLLAN ★    ★ Lorna SPROULE ★

## 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

## Concert Party News

The Bush Music Club Concert Party continues to grow in numbers and ability. New members have come from several sources including a social media site named Meetup. All new members have shown both talent and keenness to participate in singing and playing instruments.

The Concert Party performed recently at the Tails from the Past function held in the Addison Road Marrickville precinct (former army barracks). In addition to the above performance, several members played in the Heritage Ensemble at the Parramatta Ball held on Saturday 16 May 2015. On the Sunday following the Ball, a number of Concert Party members played at the Australiana Village, Wilberforce for the traditional Post-Ball Picnic.

It is a credit to the Club, and in particular those loyal musicians who turn up on hot or cold Monday evenings at old Hut 44, that the Concert Party is growing in an age where joining organisations seems to have diminished somewhat. Well done good and faithful servants of bush music.

*Allen Davis*

**Ed:** See Singabout for picture from “Tails from the Past”

### **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** <alldavis@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)

- Jun 6 **7:30pm Beecroft Bush Dance, *Bad Wallaby***, Beecroft Community Hall, Beecroft, ☎ Sigrid 9980 7077 / Wilma 9489 5594
- Jun 5-8 Bundanoon DanceFest. ☎ Dave Johnson 02 4884 4214
- Jun 12 **7:30pm Duke's Place, *Margaret Bradford***, Hut 44, Marrickville. (see p8)
- Jun 13 7:30pm Gosford Dance, *Southern Cross*, East Gosford Progress Hall.
- 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
- Jul 4 **7:30pm Beecroft Bush Dance, *JH Dance Band***, Beecroft Community Hall, Beecroft, ☎ Sigrid 9980 7077 / Wilma 9489 5594
- Jul 10 **7:30pm Duke's Place, *Chris Maltby***, Hut 44, Marrickville. (see p8)
- Jul 11 7:30pm Gosford Dance, *Old Empire Band*, East Gosford Progress Hall.
- Jul 25 Loaded Dog Folk Club, *Folklore*, Annandale Neighbourhood Centre, ☎ Sandra, 9358 4886
- Aug 1+8 Songwriting Workshop. (see page 8)
- Aug 1 **7:30pm Beecroft Bush Dance, *Ryebuck***, Beecroft Community Hall, Beecroft, ☎ Sigrid 9980 7077 / Wilma 9489 5594
- Aug 8 7:30pm Gosford Dance, *JH Dance Band*, East Gosford Progress Hall.
- Aug 14 **7:30pm Duke's Place, *Bob & Margaret Fagan***, Hut 44, Marrickville. (p8)
- Aug 16 **Saplings Masterclass**, Hut 44, Marrickville. ☎ 4297 5128
- Aug 22 Loaded Dog Folk Club, 25th Birthday Party with *Shiny Bum Singers + Garland/Fine*, Annandale Neighbourhood Centre, ☎ Sandra, 9358 4886
- Aug 29 **7pm BMC Subscription Ball**, Therry Centre, King St, East Maitland. (p6)
- Aug 30 **11am Recovery Picnic**, Marmong Point Community Centre

### Regular Events

- Songlines Song session - 7pm** 1st Sunday of each month  
Fitzroy Hotel, East Sydney/Woolloomooloo
- Sydney Playford Dance Group - 7:30pm** 1st Tuesday of each month  
Hut 44, Addison Rd Community Centre, Marrickville (see p14)
- Toongabbie Music Club - 7:30pm** 2nd & 4th Friday of each month  
17 Whitehaven Rd Northmead, ☎ 9639 7494
- Campfire Session - 7pm** 2nd Tuesday of each month  
Kiama Community Centre, ☎ Tony 0422 540 249
- Kiama Bush Dance - 7pm** 2nd Thursday of each month  
Kiama Community Centre, ☎ Tony 0422 540 249
- Sutherland Acoustic - 7:30pm** 2nd Thursday of each month  
Tradies, Gymea