

			AROUND THE BUSH MUSIC SCENE - See p14 for details
Sep	3	7:30pm	<b>Playford Dancing at the Hut</b>
Sep	7	7:30pm	<b>Beecroft Bush Dance, Paddys River</b>
Sep	12	7:30pm	Sutherland Acoustic Night, <i>Loosely Woven</i>
Sep	13	7:30pm	<b>Duke's Place, Dingos Breakfast</b>
Sep	13	7:30pm	Toongabbie Music Club
Sep	14	2:30pm	Sydney English Country Dance
Sep	14	7:30pm	Gosford Bush Dance, Social night with Guest Callers
Sep	14	Noon	Session with Dingo's and <b>Poetry at the Hut</b> (see p6/7)
Sep	15	2pm	Keith's Dance Workshop, <i>Contra - Melanie Axel-Lute</i>
Sep	17	7:30pm	English Country Dancing at the Hut
Sep	20	8pm	Hornsby Folk Club, <i>We Mavericks</i>
Sep	21	7pm	Troubadour Folk Club, <i>Alana &amp; Alicia</i>
Sep	27	7:30pm	Toongabbie Music Club
Sep	28	7:30pm	Loaded Dog Folk Club,
Sep	28	7:30pm	Sydney English Country Dance - Spring Ball (see p12)
Oct	1	7:30pm	<b>Playford Dancing at the Hut</b>
Oct	4-7		Bush Traditions Gathering
Oct	6	7:30pm	<b>Beecroft Bush Dance, Kookaburra Bush Band</b>
Oct	7	7pm	Songlines Song Session
Oct	10	7:30pm	Sutherland Acoustic Night
Oct	11	7:30pm	<b>Duke's Place, Ian Hamilton</b>
Oct	11	7:30pm	Toongabbie Music Club
Oct	12	2pm	<b>Poetry at the Hut</b>
Oct	12	7:30pm	Gosford Bush Dance, Flannel Flower Masked Ball with <i>Barangaroo</i>
Oct	13	2pm	Keith's Dance Workshop, <i>English Country</i>
Oct	15	7:30pm	English Country Dancing at the Hut
Oct	18	8pm	Hornsby Folk Club
Oct	18-20		Kangaroo Valley Folk Festival
Oct	19	2:30pm	Sydney English Country Dance
Oct	25	7:30pm	Toongabbie Music Club
Oct	26	7:30pm	Loaded Dog Folk Club,
Oct	26	7pm	Troubadour Folk Club, <i>Skinner and T'witch (UK)</i>
Nov	1	7pm	<b>Addison Rd Singing Session</b>
Nov	2	7:30pm	<b>Beecroft Bush Dance, JH Dance Band</b>
Nov	2	2pm	George Mann Songwriting Workshop and Concert (see p4)
Nov	3	7pm	Songlines Song Session
Nov	5	7:30pm	<b>Playford Dancing at the Hut</b>
Nov	8	7:30pm	<b>Duke's Place, Virago</b>
Nov	8	7:30pm	Toongabbie Music Club
Nov	9	2pm	<b>Poetry at the Hut</b>
Nov	9	7:30pm	Gosford Bush Dance, <i>Short Dented Potts</i>
Nov	14	7:30pm	Sutherland Acoustic Night
Nov	15	8pm	Hornsby Folk Club
Nov	17	2:30pm	Sydney English Country Dance
Nov	18	2pm	Keith's Dance Workshop, <i>Contra - Rerun</i>
Nov	20	7:30pm	English Country Dancing at the Hut
Nov	23	7:30pm	Toongabbie Music Club
Nov	24	7:30pm	Loaded Dog Folk Club,
Nov	23	7pm	Troubadour Folk Club, <i>Sadie and Jay</i>

# MULGA WIRE

INCLUDING  
**SINGABOUT**



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# MULGA WIRE

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# BUSH DANCES

June-September

## BEECROFT Community Centre

Beecroft Road (opposite Fire Stn)

7:30pm—11:30pm

September 7 **Paddy's River**

October 5 **Kookaburra**

November 2 **JH Dance Band**

December 7 **BMC Concert Party**

Enquiries: Sigrid 9980 7077  
Wilma 9489 5594

## Dukes Place

September 13 **Dingo's Breakfast**

October 11 **Ian Hamilton**

November 8 **Virago**

December 21 **Shortis & Simpson**

## 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:

Keith Potger, a founding member of the Seekers, entertains an enthusiastic audience at the inaugural Sydney Folk Festival.

Photo Mike Young

## Concert Party News

BMC Concert Party were invited to do a bush song 'Sing-a-long' on Sunday 18th August, at the Sydney Folk Festival at City Tattersall's Club, Pitt Street.

Ralph made a booklet of lyrics of 14 songs selected by the 6 volunteer members attending. We followed a bush tunes session held by Bush Traditions Group so those who attended early had 5 hours of playing and singing. A great day

## List of Songs

1. Should have been a champion
2. The Hut that's Upside Down
3. Wallaby Liz
4. Travelling down the Castlereagh
5. Streets of Forbes
6. Binda Ball
7. Billy Sheehan
8. When the Currawongs come down from the Mountains
9. Ten Thousand Miles
10. The Catalpa
11. Big Ben Pie
12. Limejuice Tub
13. The Woolloomooloo Lair
14. Billy of Tea



## Attendees

Eric Eisler  
John Burch  
Chris Poleson  
Emma Sputnik  
Terry Prybus  
Brian Freeman

*Eric Eisler*

## Saplings Afternoon Session

Afternoon session for 8-16 year old musicians at Mt Carmel School, Yass. Enter via the Hartigan Centre, Meehan St, Yass.

Sunday 22nd September, 1:30 to 4pm

An afternoon of Australian tunes, songs and percussion. Sheet music for C instruments will be supplied. Parents are welcome to stay... and play if they wish!

Helen: 4297 5128 or 0414 792 943

**New Members**

★ Jane ELLIS★ ★ Robyn SARGENT★  
★ Peter FRY★ ★ Kerith POWER★  
★ Doug VINCENT and family★

## Event Details

**Addison Rd Singing Session**, Hut 44, Addison Rd Community Centre, Marrickville  
☎ Glenys 0419 862 005 See p5

**Beecroft Bush Dance**, Beecroft Community Hall, Beecroft  
☎ Sigrid 9980 7077 / Wilma 9489 5594

**Bush Traditions Gathering**, Hartigan Centre, Yass  
<http://www.bushtraditions.org/>

**Duke's Place**, Hut 44, Addison Rd Community Centre, Marrickville  
☎ Sandra 9358 4886 See p8

**English Country Dancing at the Hut**, Hut 44, Addi Rd Com Centre, Marrickville  
☎ David 0413 210 789

**Gosford Bush Dance**, East Gosford Progress Hall  
☎ Anne Maree 0413 588 634 <http://www.ccbdma.org/schedule.htm>

**Hornsby Folk Club**, Beatrice Taylor Hall (in Willow Park), Edgeworth David Ave  
☎ Barry 9807 9497

**Kangaroo Valley Folk Festival**  
<http://www.kangaroovalleyfolkfestival.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>

**Toongabbie Music Club**, 17 Whitehaven Rd, Northmead  
☎ 9639 7494

**Troubadour Folk Club**, CWA Hall, The Boulevard, Woy Woy  
☎ Michael 4342 6716



This has been another cold winter but it's good to see that numbers have been steady around the club's activities.

The club continues to have a full program, including our regular Beecroft Bush Dances, Poet's Corner, Addison Road Sessions (singing), the Irish Slow Sessions and Monday night dance and music workshops but to name a few so check out our calendar and come along.

Some dates for your diary are Bush Traditions Gathering in Yass on the October long weekend and the Kangaroo Valley Festival, 18-20 October, and both events are always enjoyable.

Finally, we said farewell to Gail Copley recently who lost her battle with cancer. Gail will be missed in the music, poetry and song writing worlds. Rest in peace.

*Sharyn Mattern*

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## Worth Noting

**Cecil Grivas**, one of the original Bushwhackers who performed in *Reedy River* passed away in August. Rest in peace.

Museum of Sydney - **Songs of Home** tells the little-known story of music played and enjoyed in NSW during the first 70 years of the colony. Exhibition 10 August 2019 - 17 November 2019

Collect a headset & enjoy the exhibition. Sally Sloane is mentioned, Don Brian sings one of his convict songs, Norfolk Island Exile transcribed in the James Backhouse diary of 1835, James Fagan & Nancy Kerr also feature. Listen to Jane Austen's music (her music book is on loan from the UK.)

Even if you can't get to Sydney, check the videos and stories on the webpage:

<https://sydneylivingmuseums.com.au/exhibitions/songs-home>

A Facebook group has been created to collect memories of John Meredith as we approach the 100th anniversary of his birth:

**John Meredith AM 1920 - 2001: memories from his friends -**

[www.facebook.com/groups/365849244352767/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/365849244352767/)

John Meredith AM (1920-2001) is mostly remembered as the pre-eminent collector of Australia's folk music & folklore, but he was much more than that - a man of wide interests and a boundless capacity for friendship (and at times, its opposite!).

We encourage people who knew John personally to share their reminiscences & stories, letters, recordings & photos of him.

*Australian Folklore* is a peer-reviewed journal, maintaining its high quality through the engagement of Australasian research with the global research community. The online edition is made freely available to the general public. *Australian Folklore* was first published in 1987.

<https://journals.kvasirpublishing.com/af/index>

**Hannah Szonyi** gave birth to Charlie Jude Szonyi on 23 April 2019. Another grandson for Karen and Colin Fong.

Also in April, **Zoe Harvey and Mark Poleson**'s second son Ben was born.

**Beck Richmond**, daughter of Don and Wendy, was married to Aaron aka Smidge McCullum on Saturday 13 July at Pioneer Village, Wilberforce. The theme for the wedding was Viking. The marriage ceremony was held near the lake followed by games and the feasting occurred in the wool sheds.

Gall, Jennifer **Listening to the past**, *Unbound*, Issue 11, August 2019

<https://www.nla.gov.au/unbound/listening-to-the-past>

**George Mann Songwriting Workshop and Concert** will be held on Saturday 2nd November in Tritton Hall, Hut 44, Addison Rd Community Centre, Marrickville. Songwriting workshop 2pm - cost \$10 - bookings essential - Dot 0414 987 248. Concert (George & Trade Union Choir) from 7pm - cost \$15 - Sandra 9358 4886.



## GULGONG FOLK FESTIVAL

**December 29-31**  
with The Bushwhackers!



Warm weather, warm musical experiences including sessions, concerts, Buskers Corner, workshops and songwriting competitions!

Many choices of accommodation available

TryBooking for early birds.

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

All enquiries: Di. 0458 032 150

## Sydney English Country Dance Spring Ball

Saturday 28th September, 7:30-11:30pm

Kuring-gai Town Hall, 1186 Pacific Hwy, Pymble

Music by *Short Dented Potts*.

Cost is \$30.

Bookings close 21st September.

<http://sydneyenglishcountryball.com>

[http://www.kmc.nsw.gov.au/Things\\_to\\_do/Events\\_activities/Whats\\_on/Sydney\\_English\\_Country\\_Dance\\_Spring\\_Ball](http://www.kmc.nsw.gov.au/Things_to_do/Events_activities/Whats_on/Sydney_English_Country_Dance_Spring_Ball)

## VFMC 60th Anniversary Woolshed Ball

Saturday 12th October

The Victorian Folk Music Club is turning 60 and is celebrating with a Woolshed ball. Jane has written two new dances for the event, the Diamond Reel and the Diamond Waltz (quadrille).

<http://www.vfmc.org.au/dances.php>

Billets for interstate dancers are available - enq. [president@vfmc.org.au](mailto:president@vfmc.org.au)

## Monaro Folk Society 2019 Colonial Ball

Saturday 28 September

Albert Hall, Canberra

Music by Stringfiddle and calling by Don Richmond.

This year the Ball's theme will be 'Floral Tribute', as the Ball will be held during Canberra's internationally famous Floriade Festival.

Dress colonial / early 1900s evening dress wear or after five.

Welcome drinks and nibbles from 7:30pm.

Dancing 8pm to midnight. Fully catered supper.

For catering purposes we close ticket sales on Wednesday 25 September.

Early bird sales (at reduced price) will be available until Monday 9 September.

There are many locals who are able to billet interstate guests. If you would like to request a billet, please email:

Antonella <[asalpietro@hotmail.com](mailto:asalpietro@hotmail.com)>

## The Addison Rd 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 (October cancelled - long weekend)

**Venue:** Tritton Hall (Hut 44),

Addison Rd Community Centre, Marrickville

**Cost:** Gold coin donation

**Contact:** Glenys 0419 862 005

## Gail Copley 1949-2019

Gail was born in Western Australia and her family moved east when she was four years old. She spent her childhood and early teenage years in Canberra and took up painting when she started high school. Musically she was influenced by Harry Belafonte, the Kingston Trio, Pete Seeger and the Weavers. Gail, with her first pay packet, bought a Spanish guitar and a book of guitar chords and folk songs by Pete Seeger.

A year later she joined the Canberra Philharmonic Society as a second soprano and performed in "The White Horse Inn" with them at the Canberra Theatre. She then trained as a nurse and, after a brief stint nursing Aboriginal children in South Australia for the Australian Inland Mission's Far North Children's Health Scheme, returned to Canberra and worked for the ANZ Bank which transferred her to Sydney.

At 37 years of age Gail went to the University of NSW and graduated in 1996 with a BA and BA Combined Honours in the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology Studies and Philosophy.

She joined the Bush Music Club and the Folk Federation, volunteering as the 'tea bag lady' at the Loaded Dog (setting up the mugs with tea bags ready for supper), became a member of the Australian Bush Poets and later founded the Sydney Bush Poets group, who were to perform regularly and operate an open mike at the Royal Oak Hotel in Parramatta.

Ill health finally took its toll and meant that Gail was not able to continue with her passions – music, songs, poetry – but she still had enough energy to hold fund raisers for the Cancer Research Foundation. With her energy and passion Gail will be missed in all aspects of our lives.

Rest in Peace – Vale Gail Copley

## Poet's Corner

### Hotel Hades

By Matthew Black

When heathen folk check out  
from a sordid life of sin  
when they've been thievin' and blaspheming  
there's a place they all check in  
just down past Purgatory  
south of The Pearly Gates  
a brimstone road  
paved with flesh and bone  
leads to a death far worse than fate

Hitch a lift through Limbo in  
an abyss black Cadillac  
to where you're doomed  
to a luxury room  
at the dosshouse of the damned  
Drive up behind that neon sign  
that shines 'NO VACANCY'  
with all you've sinned  
they'll escort you in  
with the rest of the V.I.Ps

Sign away your soul in blood  
for a 13th storey suite  
the concierge will point you there  
to where the demon hordes all meet  
Leave your luggage in the lobby  
Earthly indulgence at the door  
Grab the roomkey to eternity  
and the elevator to Hell's core

Now beyond the foyer of fire  
they've got no room service  
So prepare to burn  
there's no return  
from Suite Six Sixty Six

Now, take heed of this tale of woe  
all future guests of Gommorah  
Don't lie or steal or double deal  
if you know what's damned good for ya  
You're be cast into a flaming pit  
without no reservation  
Bet you know by now  
the "whys" and "hows"  
of a subterranean vacation

### POETRY anyone?

Enjoy reciting a poem or sharing one with others? Perhaps writing your own poems?  
Performing some 'bush' poetry? If so, you are most welcome to come along. A contribution to go with afternoon tea would be appreciated.

**When:** Usually **second** Saturday of the month, 2pm to 4pm

Remaining dates for 2019: Sep 14 (plus Dingo's - see opposite page), Oct 12, Nov 9, Dec 14

**Cost:** \$5

**Where:** Tritton Hall, Hut 44, Addison Road Centre, 142 Addison Rd, Marrickville.

**Contact:** Karen 0432 527 737 (text messages ONLY) OR fongs@bigpond.net.au

### 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:** Colum <colum.hickey@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 September 7 - *Paddy's River*

Sat October 5 - *Kookaburra*

Sat November 2 - *JH Dance Band*

Sat December 7 - *BMC Concert Party*

### 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

**Dan Murphys**

**La Thai Restaurant** Thornleigh

**Topiary Café** Epping

**Westleigh Quality Meats** Westleigh

## Playford Dancing at the Hut

Next meetings:

**Tues 3rd Sep, 1st Oct, 5th Nov and 3rd Dec** 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](mailto: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 & payment purpose

Email details of payment to treasurer:

**Allen Davis** <[allendavis@iprimus.com.au](mailto: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.



## Dingo's @ Dukes - Friday 13th Sept, 7.30 for 8pm

*The Dingo's Breakfast concerts are a wonderful mix of Traditional and Contemporary Australian and Irish Songs, lavishly salted with an edgy slam of Performance Poetry. The Dingo's have comprehensively proved that Performance Poetry is not just for breakfasts any more. The Dingo's shows, as always, have the accent firmly on comedy . .*

\$10, bring a plate

## **Plus - Saturday 14th Sept, noon to later, also at BMC Hut 44**

- ◇ SESSION with Dingos, Concert Party & our Poetry group
- ◇ bring food, drinks, instruments, songs, tunes, poems, recitations ...

# DUKE'S PLACE

**Australian Songs  
in Concert & session**



## Friday 13th September - Dingo's Breakfast

The Dingo's Breakfast tour every year in the eastern states of Australia, appearing at the very best of the festivals, clubs and venues.

With decades of performance experience under their belts, The Dingo's Breakfast present an electrically eclectic dialectic selection of Oz Music, Poetry and Yarn-spinning, with the accent firmly on Comedy ... Beauty!

Dingo's Breakfast concerts are a wonderful mix of Traditional and Contemporary Australian and Irish Songs, lavishly salted with an edgy slam of Performance Poetry. The Dingo's have comprehensively proved that Performance Poetry is not just for breakfasts any more.

**Friday 11th October - Ian Hamilton**

**Friday 8th November - Virago**

**Saturday 21st December - Shortis & Simpson**

**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)**

During August we enjoyed learning the dances on the program for the New Sydney Ball, ably taught by David Potter and Bill Unger.

In September we will be practicing the dances to be featured at the Flannel Flower Masked Ball to be held at East Gosford on Saturday 12th October with the World Famous Barangaroo Bush Band playing.

In October we will be practicing for the Beecroft dance which will feature the JH Dance Band.

In November we will practice for the Dance Workshop Christmas Party, to be held on Monday 9th December.

Plenty of dancing at Pennant Hills, so see you there!

*John Short*

## Programme September/October/November

MONDAY 7.30-10.30	THEME/DANCE STYLE
2 September	Waltz & Rotary Chasses Workshop
9 September	Practice for the Flannel Flower Masked Ball
16 September	Practice for the Flannel Flower Masked Ball
23 September	Practice for the Flannel Flower Masked Ball
30 September	Practice for the Flannel Flower Masked Ball
7 October	<b>Public Holiday. No workshop</b>
14 October	Practice for November Beecroft Dance
21 October	Practice for November Beecroft Dance
28 October	Practice for November Beecroft Dance
4 November	Mixed Dance Workshop
11 November	Mixed Dance Workshop
18 November	Mixed Dance Workshop
25 November	Christmas party practice

## Mulga Wire: 2019/20 Publishing Deadlines

Item Deadline	To Printers	Folding Session
8 November	14 November	19 November
7 February	13 February	18 February

## The Bag Lady

To Smokey's tune, "Living Next Door to Alice"  
by Gail Copley

Sandra called, she wanted to know,  
If I would help before the show - at the Loaded Dog  
And that's how it began, how I became  
The Loaded Dog's volunteer of fame  
How I became - the tea bag lady.

### *Chorus:*

Oh the folk singers come and the folk singers go.  
They love to entertain, and enjoy the show.  
But for seven long years I've been the Loaded Dog's bag lady.

[Audience response]

Lady? Who the heck's a lady  
Seven long years, taking any chance  
To sing a song, recite a poem, play fiddle at a dance,  
But for seven long years I've been the Loaded Dog's bag lady.

Sandra gave me a hug, and a broad smile.  
And she said she hoped I would stay a while - at the Loaded Dog.  
Chairperson's Shaz, there's a Ray of light,  
Jim and Dallas serve sangers, and dish pig tonight (is Glenys)  
There's also me - the Loaded Dog's tea - bag lady.

Sometimes I do a floor spot 'cos I love to perform,  
The audience is kind, it's cosy and warm - at the Loaded Dog.  
The years have passed, I'm an old gal  
I'm still tea bagging Sandra's still my pal.  
And I won't quit now - forever I'll be - the bag lady.



# SINGABOUT

## SEPTEMBER 2019

### GAIL'S LEGACY

Apart from being a regular member of BMC's Concert Party, Gail Copley also composed poems and lyrics for songs and ran charity fundraisers. For one of those fundraisers came her *Concert for Cancer Research Song Book*. The items in this issue of Singabout are a selection of Gail's contributions to that booklet.

### **M**

by Gail Copley

So there we were, you and I  
Your dying, almost done  
And my dying, just begun  
Through your fatigue  
You made the effort to teach me  
What I need, how I should be  
Then we sang, voices blended all but one  
Your voice soaring above, so sweet  
And with understanding, our eyes meet.  
I planted a flower to remind me  
Of your calm grace, your dignity  
How you were, and how I should be.

## Sandy Groper

by Gail Copley

Well I'm from Western Australia, and I've been all over this land  
Now I'm in Sydney playing guitar for a bush music band  
Bush music's played in Sydney, even tho it's a city  
Bush music can't be lost, it can't cos... that would be a pity

Part of the band's uniform is the Akubra hat  
And I hear you asking, "Well, what's wrong with that?"  
Well, all I can say back at ya is you haven't been outback  
Your head would melt under rabbit felt and then you'd faint - splat

I have a pair of clap sticks that were made 'tween you and me  
From a tree in the Bungle Ranges, a rare acacia tree  
And to hear me lightly tap them, it sounds louder than Big Ben  
Makes the bones and the lagerphone sound like toothpicks next to them

Some Sandgroper are quiet, while others like to chatter  
Some Sandgroper are awful rednecks, but really they don't matter  
Some Sandgroper are awful mean, but most are very kind  
And WA's the greatest place to travel and unwind

So that's me, Sandy Groper, nearly finished with this poem  
I'm retired now in Sydney, it's the place I now call home  
I often wonder though, if the others understand  
'Bout being Sandy Groper in a Sydney bush music band



Gail at cancer research fundraiser and the Loaded Dog photos Sandra Nixon

## The Room

by Gail Copley

When the room is empty I can never just walk in;  
I have to pause at the doorway, looking, looking in  
At the pianos flanking the walls, the organ up the back,  
The music stands and chairs, and books and brochures stacked

For the accordions, Irish whistles, concertinas all,  
And recorders, auto harps, and banjos I recall;  
And bodhrans, and harmonicas, maybe a ukulele  
Or, for a special treat, even a banjulele.

And a red Axminster carpet first greets all those who call,  
The light is soft, a rosy glow, suspended over all  
Reverently I flick a switch, and spotlights sprout to life,  
Softly lighting various spots against the darkening night.

The shabby walls need painting; but that will never happen;  
Lined with fragile posters from, events long past and present.  
Of convict songs, of bushrangers, of shearers and the fettlers.  
Songs of past and present from Australia's settlers.

The echoes of past performances ring in my ears so long.  
Who will come tonight and treat us to a song?  
A happy song, a sad song, you cannot stay aloof.  
I hope tonight we will play some songs that really raise the roof.

When the room is empty I can never just walk in  
I have to pause at the doorway, and start remembering  
The past events of music, soft and loud it is playing  
I hear the echoes of fiddles, flutes, guitars and mandolins.

And accordions, Irish whistles, concertinas all,  
And recorders, auto harps, and banjos I recall;  
And bodhrans, and harmonicas, maybe a ukulele  
Or, for a special treat,  
We all need a special treat,  
Oh Ralph please won't you sing, and play the banjulele.

# BUSH MUSIC CLUB inc

GPO Box 433, SYDNEY NSW 2001  
 Founded 1954

**MEMBERSHIP**      APPLICATION [ ]      RENEWAL [ ]      UPDATE [ ]

Name: .....

Address: .....

Phone: Home ( ) ..... Mobile.....

Email .....

Would you like to receive: Electronic *Mulga Wire* [ ] Yes. Regular electronic news updates [ ] Yes

## YEARLY MEMBERSHIP

[ ] SINGLE \$30                      [ ] FAMILY \$40                      [ ] PENSIONER \$20  
 [ ] AFFILIATION (Clubs only) \$70                      [ ] DONATION \$\_\_\_\_\_

## 5 YEAR MEMBERSHIP

[ ] SINGLE \$120                      [ ] FAMILY \$150  
 [ ] AFFILIATION \$250                      [ ] PENSIONER \$70

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:      allendavis@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
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**INTERIM RECEIPT AND PROOF OF MEMBERSHIP**      Name .....

Fee received by .....\$ ..... Date ..... / ..... / .....  
 (Committee Member)

THIS IS PROOF OF MEMBERSHIP FOR 3 MONTHS FROM THIS DATE

If membership card is not received within 3 months

Please contact the Membership Secretary on (02) 9642 7950



## SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER 2019

The Bush Music Club was formed in 1954 to promote awareness of Australian folk traditions. The Club does this by collecting, publishing and popularising our traditional songs, dances, music and folklore. Contemporary compositions in the traditional style are also encouraged.

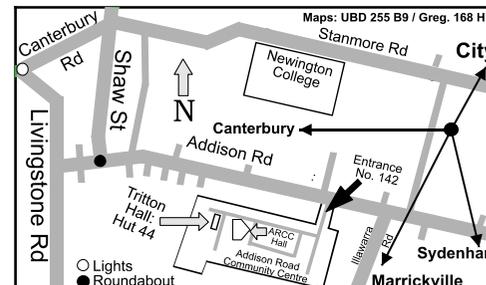


**TRITTON HALL**  
 BUSH MUSIC CLUB HEADQUARTERS  
 Hut 44, Addison Road Community Centre  
 142 Addison Road, Marrickville

**PUBLIC TRANSPORT :**

**BUS:**      428 CANTERBURY  
                  - Stops outside Centre  
                  426 DULWICH HILL and  
                  423 EARLWOOD  
                  - Get off at Addison Road, walk  
                  600m to Centre

**TRAIN:**    To Newtown, then catch bus



## September 2019

- Sun 1 Irish Slow Session
- Mon 2 Song & Music Sessions
- Mon 2 PH Dance Workshop
- Tue 3 Playford at the Hut
- Fri 6 Addison Rd Singing Session
- Sat 7 Beecroft Bush Dance,  
*Paddy's River*
- Sun 8 Irish Slow Session
- Mon 9 PH Dance Workshop
- Mon 9 Song & Music Sessions
- Fri 13 Dukes Place, *Dingos Breakfast*
- Sat 14 Poetry Session
- Sun 15 Irish Slow Session
- Mon 16 Song & Music Sessions
- Mon 16 PH Dance Workshop
- Mon 23 PH Dance Workshop
- Mon 23 Song & Music Sessions
- Sun 29 Irish Slow Session
- Mon 30 Song & Music Sessions
- Mon 30 PH Dance Workshop

## October 2019

- Tue 1 Playford at the Hut
- Fri 4 Addison Rd Singing Session
- Sat 5 Beecroft Bush Dance,  
*Kookaburra Bush Band*
- Sun 6 Irish Slow Session
- Mon 7 No Dance Workshop or Music  
Session - Long Weekend
- Fri 11 Dukes Place, *Ian Hamilton*
- Sat 12 Poetry Session
- Sun 13 Irish Slow Session
- Mon 14 PH Dance Workshop
- Mon 14 Song & Music Sessions
- Sun 20 Irish Slow Session
- Mon 21 Song & Music Sessions
- Mon 21 PH Dance Workshop
- Sun 27 Irish Slow Session
- Mon 28 PH Dance Workshop
- Mon 28 Song & Music Sessions

## November 2019

- Fri 1 Addison Rd Singing Session
- Sat 2 Beecroft Bush Dance,  
*JH Dance Band*
- Sun 3 Irish Slow Session
- Mon 4 Song & Music Sessions
- Mon 4 PH Dance Workshop
- Tue 5 Playford at the Hut
- Fri 8 Dukes Place, *Virago*
- Sat 9 Poetry Session
- Sun 10 Irish Slow Session
- Mon 11 PH Dance Workshop
- Mon 11 Song & Music Sessions
- Sun 17 Irish Slow Session
- Mon 18 Song & Music Sessions
- Mon 18 PH Dance Workshop
- Sun 24 Irish Slow Session
- Mon 25 PH Dance Workshop
- Mon 25 Song & Music Sessions

## December 2019

- Sun 1 Irish Slow Session
- Mon 2 Song & Music Sessions
- Mon 2 PH Dance Workshop
- Tue 3 Playford at the Hut
- Fri 6 Addison Rd Singing Session
- Sat 7 Beecroft Bush Dance,  
*BMC Concert Party*
- Sun 8 Irish Slow Session
- Mon 9 PH Dance Workshop
- Mon 9 Song & Music Sessions
- Sat 14 Poetry Session
- Sun 15 Irish Slow Session
- Mon 16 Song & Music Sessions
- Mon 16 PH Dance Workshop
- Sat 21 Dukes Place,  
*Shortis & Simpson*



### Pennant Hills (PH) Dance Workshop:

7.30pm Monday nights

Pennant Hills Community Centre, Yarrara Rd.  
Both easy and more complicated bush  
dances. A great social evening for beginners  
and experienced. \$7

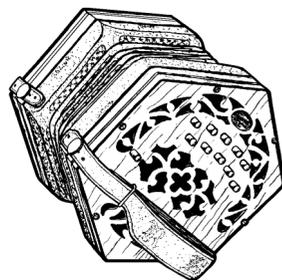
☎ Wilma: 9489 5594

### Beecroft Bush Dance:

1st Saturday (February to December)

Beecroft Community Centre  
Beecroft Road, Beecroft (Opp. Fire Station)  
7:30 pm to 11:30pm - Supper provided  
\$19.00 / \$17 conc / \$14 BMC members

☎ Sigrid 9980 7077 / Wilma 9489 5594



### Activities at Tritton Hall

Hut 44, Addison Rd Community Centre, 142 Addison Rd, Marrickville

#### Addison Rd Singing Session:

1st Friday, 7:30pm  
☎ Glenys: 0419 862 005

#### Duke's Place:

2nd Friday, 7:30pm-11:30pm  
Concert and Session, \$10, bring a plate.  
☎ Sandra: 9358 4886

#### Playford at the Hut:

English Country Dancing  
1st Tuesday, 7:30pm-9:30pm \$7  
☎ Julie: 9524 0247

#### Poetry:

2nd Saturday, 2pm-4pm \$5  
☎ Karen: 9716 9660

#### Song & Music Sessions:

Slow session for beginners and those just  
wanting a slower pace.

Mondays 5:30pm to 7pm

☎ Kerry: 0409 600 949

General session for all musicians and singers,  
this session also trains and practises the  
*BMC's Concert Party*  
Mondays, 7:30pm \$7

☎ Allen: 9639 7494

#### Irish Slow Session:

Sundays, 6:30pm-9:30pm

☎ Colum <colum.hickey@gmail.com>