



# *TSA Newsletter*

December 2016

*"First the Song"*

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## ***2017 TSA AGM Notice***

Hi All members and friends of the TSA,

We are pleased to publish the list of semi-finalists in this issue of the TSA newsletter. The 2017 Awards entries have been wonderful, numerous and taking a little longer to judge than previous years. A big thank you to all the judges who will be honoured in the next newsletter. Great to see such a huge list of songwriters!!

The TSA has had great year apart from our songwriting contest Wendy Wood and Carolyne Morris have continued the Songwriter nights in Tamworth now located at the Cattlemens Bar, which is in the Cattlemans Motel just as you enter Tamworth from the South. This is an excellent venue and will be operating during the festival. We also thank the Hotels that support the TSA during the January festival and the midyear Hats off in July, the Tudor Hotel, the Post Office Hotel and the Longyard.

The songwriting workshop held jointly with SongsAlive! Australia in the Blue Mountains with Allan Caswell and Roger Corbett was a huge success. These workshops held over Saturday afternoon and the Sunday give songwriters a chance to roadtest new compositions, talk frankly and openly with two great mentors, build contacts with other songwriters and develop co-write and network opportunities.

Our presence at the mid year Hats Off festival has increased over the years and now we are able to fill the Post Office hotel with TSA artists and audience all day Saturday and the Longyard Sunday afternoon.

TSA in 2017 festival will find opportunities to play for 65 artists and thanks so much to Lydia Clare who has arranged ALL of these opportunities. 2017 will see a first for the TSA producing three mini concerts at the City Bowling Club featuring three artists per concert. I urge you to support these concerts and come and meet your fellow members.

I went to the recently held ASA Awards in Sydney. TSA members featured in many categories and it is good to see members not only being a part of other organisations involved in competitions but also supporting each other, through friendship and co writing. I value immensely the personal relationship I have with the ASA Denny and Clare Burgess and Alan Gilmour and of course Songs Alive!Australia Roxanne and Steve Kiely. I also attended a Pittwater Country music Club concert where TSA members performed admirably.-All the opportunities for songwriters through associations can only help you develop as songwriters. Thanks to the committee for 2106 Darryl, Lydia, Lorraine, Athol, Wendy, Carolyne, Melissa, Chris, Patricia and the late great John Toomey. The notice for the next AGM is on the website, if you are interested in joining the committee please ring me 0409718391 it will be our 40<sup>th</sup> year 2018.

Merry Xmas to you all— Duncan

## TSA SONGWRITING CONTEST

### SONGWRITER SALUTE AWARDS 2016 ENTRIES for 2017 AWARDS THE SEMI FINALISTS

#### ANZAC SONG of the YEAR:

**Lest We Forget**— Jason Boyce & Browyn Malins  
**Today I Could be Dead**— Lola Brinton & Sven Tydeman  
**The Ballad of Billy Sing**— Jeff Brown & Ray Essary  
**Pozieres** —Jeff Brown, Ray Essary & Gary Fogarty  
**1950**— Laura Byrnes & Chloe Styler  
**Memoirs of Vietnam**— Carmelo Cacciola  
**The Lost Soldier**-Peter Campbell & Brendan Walmsley  
**Raise Your Glass**—Paul Grierson & Chris Rieger  
**May We Never Forget** - Keith Jamieson  
**Like This** - Garry Koehler  
**Mothers Arms** - John Littrich, Paul McGee & Neil McCann  
**Give this Hug to Daddy** - Graham Rodger  
**Whoever gets My Dog** - Graham Rodger  
**Missing in Action** -Graham Rodger  
**Stretcher Bearer** -Brendan Smoother  
**Keep the Flame for Me** - Craig Stewart  
**Lest We Forget** -Ken Studley  
**With Respect** - Cameron Syrett, Brad Marks & Allan Caswell  
**Six Stars and the Union Jack** -Lee Thorpe  
**Poppies** —Tylah Rose Winyard, Jennifer Matthews & Paul Harris

#### ALT BLUES & BLUEGRASS SONG of the YEAR:

**Ghost Town** - Billy Bridge  
**Festival Blues** -Peter Campbell  
**Call Your Spirit Back** -Natalie Carmody  
**I Should Have Told You** -Michael Carpenter  
**Sweet By and By** -Allan Caswell, Nia Robertson  
**Aussie Summer** -Dianne Coombess  
**William Henry Johnson**-Kristy Cox, Allan Caswell  
**Coffee at Home** -Graham Howie  
**The Australia I Know** -Renee Jonas  
**Roll On** - Mark Lavender, Kathryn Coad  
**Just Add Water** - Shaza Leigh, Vaughn Baker  
**Burrumbuttock Hay Runners** – Brendan Smoother  
**Just Can't Sleep** – Steve Sparrow  
**Flowers of Blood** – Craig Stewart  
**Frontier** – Craig Stewart



## **BEV DANIEL COMMERATIVE AWARD FOR BUSH BALLAD of the YEAR:**

**God Given Rain** - Jeff Brown

**Growing Up** - Laura Byrnes, Allan Caswell

**The Ballad of John P Toomey** - Peter Coad

**She Still Waits** - Virginia Coad

**Grew Up Hard and Grew up Quick** - Tracy Coster, Chris Pritchard

**The Deal** - Damian Howard, Chris Cairns

**Wanderin' Man** - Keith Jamieson

**Territory Tough** - Dean Perrett

**The Wellshot Hotel** - Graham Rodger

**Dusty Slopes and Drives** - Graham Rodger, Andrew Black

**Beechworth Hotel** - Justin Standley, Ronald Morgan

## **GOSPEL SONG of the YEAR:**

**Sweet Dreams 'til Morning** -Kylie Adams -Collier

**Waiting for heaven to Rain** -Kylie Adams-Collier

**Amen** -Terry Bennetts

**Walk with Me** -Dianne Coombess

**Not Turning Back** -Sarah Grunewald

**Yay for Jesus** -Sarah Gruenwald, Amber Gibbons

**Born to be Free** - Shaza Leigh, Billy Wye

**Jump,Jump,Jump** -Julie McAllan

**Called Good** –Dean Perrett

**Let's Dry the Tears of Jesus** -Patricia Thompson

## **COMEDY / NOVELTY SONG Of the YEAR :**

**Kamikaze Kangaroo** - Jeff Brown

**Run Emu Run** - Ron Buckpitt

**Fifty Years in Oz** - Allan Caswell, Lachlan Brian

**The Neighbours Turned new Age** –Michael Clare

**Caravans Across Australia** –Ken Lindsay

**The Stalker** - Daniela Matthaus

**Blame the Coach** -Adrian Miller

**Road Kill** -Paul Owen

**Duel at the Georgetown Pub** - Graham Rodger

**Kamakazi Roo** -Pete Smith , D. Daniel

**Carrying a Keg** - James Westwood

**Socks and Jocks** -James Westwood

## **CONTEMPORARY BALLAD of the YEAR:**

**We Knew** - Billy Bridge, Rebecca Lee Nye

**Ride Away** - Ian Burns

**Golden Days** - Allan Caswell, Andrew Wrigglesworth.

**Hero Just the Same** - Allan Caswell, Billy Bridge

**Bricks and Mortar** - Paul Crowder

**Little Steps** - Paul Crowder

**My Republic** - Damian Howard

**Me and Rose** - Graham Howle

**Looking for a Ballad** - Graham Howle

**Keepers of the Land** - Graham Howle

**If Only** -Rene Jonas

**Boundary Line** -Garry Koehler

**The Gallery** - Garry Koehler

**Farmhouse by the Sea** -Shaza Leigh,Ken Coverdale.

**The Ones I Love so Well** - Steve Sparrow

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## **Contemporary Ballad Of The Year (Continued)**

**Things I Should be Doing** –Justin Standley,  
Manfred Vijars, Allen McMonagle

**Burke** - Craig Stewart

## **APRA AMCOS/TSA NEW SONG WRITER OF The YEAR AWARD:**

**Ride Away** - Ian Burns

**Memoirs of Vietnam** -Carmelo Cacciola

**Yellowbelly Bend** – Michael Clare

**Aussie Summer** – Dianne Coombess

**Little Steps** - Paul Crowder

**What We Do** -Mitchell Cullen

**If Only** -Renee Jonas

**Out of My Mind** -Garry Jones

**Running from the Rain** –Mark Lavender ,Kathryn  
Coad

**Your Hand Slips into Mine** -Becci Nethery

## **CONTEMPORARY SONG of the YEAR:**

**Cowgirl Rockin**—Alice Benfer, Garth Porter

**As we Took the Cattle Home** -Billy Bridge

**Simple Things** -Brad Butcher, Marc Swersky

**Back When I was Older** –Allan Caswell Michael  
Carpenter

**Nothing Left for Them** -Allan Caswell, Marian  
Caswell

**Great Mighty Murray** -Lloyd Clarke

CONTINUED next COLUMN



## **Contemporary Song Of The Year (Continued):**

**Silver City Highway Blues** -Virginia Coad

**Life lessons** - Paul Crowder

**Don't You let me Down** - Megan Doherty, Nick  
Wolfe

**That Lonely Old Road to Peace of Mind** -Graham  
Howle

**Marmalade Jane** -Graham Howle

**Don't Say it( if you don't mean it)** -Renee Jonas

**The Murray and Me** -Craig Stewart

**Get your Boots On** -Craig Woodward

## **THE TSA NATIONAL COUNTRY SONG- WRITING COMPETITION**

### **2016 entries for the 2017 AWARDS**

## **NOVICE:**

**Call Me** - Denis Blackford

**Man in the Mirror** -Peter Bowen

**Running with the Wind** -Peter Bowen

**The Galloping Horse Waltz** -Tim Channon

**My Brother** -Phil Crossie

**Love Your Fellow Man** -Pauline Kennelly

**Here We Go Again** -Pauline Kennelly

**The Girl with Feathers in Her Hair** -Callum McLean

**Good Enough for Me** -Beth Outerbridge

**Somewhere in the Country** -Beth Outerbridge

**Gotta Hold On Me** -Patrick Webster

**Shotgun** -Patrick Webster



## **TSA NATIONAL COUNTRY SONGWRITING COMPETITION:**

### **LYRICS ONLY:**

**Campfires and Good Company** - Robert Baxter

**The Soldier** - Olive Bice

**The Smile In Your Eyes** - Carmelo Cacciola

**Hard Toil** - Robert Cooper

**When They Let The Hammer Fall** - Maurie Marion

**With Mustang** - Kevin Pye

**Come In Doctor, Over** - Kevin Pye

**1915** - John Walsh

**When The Thirty Three Came Home** - Merv Webster

**Djarra Dreaming** - Merv Webster

### **ALT BLUES N BLUEGRASS:**

**Oh My Love** - Emma Bosworth

**That's The Way It Goes** - Paul Flynn

**Stone To Sand** - Paul Flynn

**Lost And Lonesome** - Kerrie Garside

**Nowhere Fast** - Sean Griffiths & Catherine Nona

**I Need You** - Peter Jenkins

**She Knows All The Words To Patsy Cline** - Brenda  
Lee Kelly

**River Is Rising** - Robert Knox

**Young and Beautiful** - Dane Owen

**I Like Sugar** - Gordon Station

## **OPEN TRADITIONAL:**

**South Steyne** - Brian Carter

**Hark Away Hall** - Lloyd Clark

**The Garden Swing** - Aly Cook, Graham Buzz  
Bidstrup, Kay Ellen Bidstrup

**Aunty Tiny** - Tony English

**The Home of Country Music** - Maurice Hardy

**You'll Cast Your Shadow Lad While Standing in  
the Shade** - Warren Kearney & John Bickerstaff

**Don Nicholson** - John Kerslake

**God Went On Vacation** - by Melvyn Moll

**Rain** - Melvyn Moll

**Silent Tears** - Sandra Rasmussen

**Hot Up Here** - Anita Ree

**The Plains of Nappa Merrie** - Graham Rodger

**Woman of The Outback** - Graham Rodger

**Back To Lansdowne** - Heath Watts

### **YOUTH:**

**This is me** - Bridie Middleton

**Homeless Bound** - Sophia Chesworth

**Take Her** - Taylor Pfeiffer

**Dirt and Sand** - Nick Baldi

**Blind** - Georgia Knight

**7Missed Girls** - Tracy Cotchin

**Fragile** - Georgia Knight

**Country Girl** - Bridie Middleton

## **OPEN CONTEMPORARY:**

**Mutiverse** - Ivo Busato & James Chesher

**Count On Me** - Ivo Busato & James Chesher

**Time Will Tell** - Ivo Busato & James Chesher

**Michelle Payne's Cup** - Robert Cooper

**Bachelor of Hearts** - Patricia Cruzado & Paul Bonner-Jones

**Ladies First** - Patricia Cruzado, Paul Bonner-Jones & Teresa Manning

**The Borderline** - Catherine Dobson

**Think My Mama Loved My Daddy** - Catherine Dobson

**The Midnight Train** - John Greenwood

**This Girl** - John Greenwood & Jason Greenwood

**I Am Australian** - Doug Hendry & Rob Dickson

**Every Strums Got Its Reason (Call This Your Song)** - Chris Mustica

**I Know You Like It** - Chris Mustica

**Feel So Alive** - Dane Owen

**Storm With You** - Adam Power

**I Got Your Back** - Adam Power

**Woman (Come and Pick Me)** - Adam Power

**One More Night** - Alex Tobin

**Looking Through The Eyes of A Child** - Heath Watts

**Dashboard Girl** - Patrick Webster

**This Is Where I Leave You** - Wendy Wood

**Karma Café** - Wendy Wood



**On behalf of the TSA committee  
we wish all the finalists  
all the best with their entries!**

*Duncan Hill*  
(President)





## TSA MEMBERS

\*\*\* *NEWS* \*\*\*



Above: Brendon Nowrocki



Above: Bruce O'Hara. Below Dani Matthaus



Above: Paul Owen. Below: Charlie Adams



Above: Narelle Glover

**The TSA 'Songwriter Sessions (open  
mike/walk up) has moved to the  
Cattlemans Bar, Tamworth  
on the last Wednesday of the month  
7pm, free entry.**



**VALE JOHN P TOOMEY**

***It's with great sadness that we have lost a friend and mate in John P Toomey who was a committee and life member of the TSA. It is fitting that he passed away on Remembrance Day on 11/11/2016 in Dubbo. This is only small part of his story and if anyone would like to send in a tribute it will be included in the next issue.***

I was born in Ryde Sydney on December 2 1924 and reared in the Goobang district of Parkes NSW and began my schooling at "Goobang Public" in 1929. My older sister Joe, brother Tom and myself walked three miles across paddocks to school. Later my father gave us a "horse and sulky" and we drove to school, which made it much quicker to get home.

At age of fifteen my father gave me a stock saddle, named 'Jack Weineki' which later became a song. Dad taught us horse breaking and I learned to become a very good roughrider and general stockman. I also wrote When I Was A Shearers Cook from those days.

I joined the " RAAF," served my rookies at "Tocumwal", trained at "Parkes" and then joined a squadron at "Werribee" in Victoria then sent to "Darwin" for intensive war training. We travelled on the troop train from Werribee to Maree in South Australia, then changed our gear into the old Ghan train which had been transporting cattle.

Later sailed to "Morotai" and climbed down rope ladders into Amphibian" Duke" to land on the beach. I wasn't very happy as we were bombed and couldn't leave the beach or fight back. We got used to it as the "Bombers" came over nearly every night and we would dive into a "Trench".

Sometime later we joined the invasion for Borneo and I landed at 'Labuan' in June 1945. The town of "Victoria" was completely blown away and dumped the rubble into the bomb craters to fix up the air strip. I was wounded in the closing stages of the war.

I was asked to sing in a competition at Radio Revells with Alwyn Kurts. I sang and yodelled one of Tex Morton's songs, and won first prize, was very proud of this as I was on National Radio.

The first song I wrote was called *The Bushman's Reward* (sung by Pete Riley), which won the first of many major song writing competitions, both amateur and professional. I have now written over fifty songs or poetry. (thanks to Peter Leslie for contributing this story).

#### **PETER COAD - 'THE BALLAD OF JOHN P. TOOMEY'**

'I wrote the song '*The Ballad of John P. Toomey*' in tribute to a man I believe typifies the Australian pioneer and battler. John was a man who believed in and loved Australia, and had turned his hand to many different types of work throughout his long life. John was a big supporter of the Australian Bush Ballad, and a strong believer in encouraging young talent.

He was a proud supporter and sponsor of the local Dubbo Country Music Club trophies. John was a very enthusiastic and positive person and was a big part of the Tamworth Songwriters' Association, as a committee member, judge and sponsor.

John was thrilled when I wrote the song about his life, and told me that he was pleased that all the information in the song was factual. His friend Peter Leslie put together a YouTube clip for John, using the song and photos of John's family and his many activities. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v-7PETedRmo>



I saw John only a few days before his sudden passing, and sang his song for him during our show at the Dubbo RSL club. John was, as usual, in top spirits, and he and I were joking about how it was only eight more years until he would receive a letter from 'the Queen for his 100th birthday.

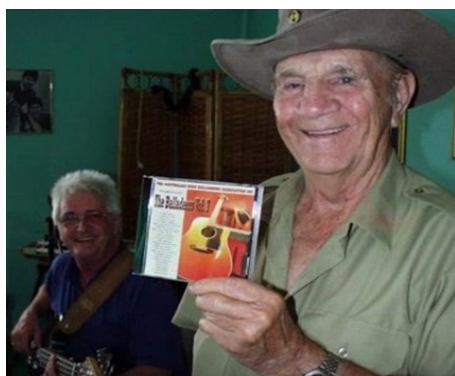
I was very sad at John's passing but very proud and honoured to attend his funeral, as to me John P. Toomey represented what Australians used to be, proud and independent thinkers and I thought of John as a good friend and true mate. **Peter Coad**

#### **EDITOR'S NOTE – Patricia Cruzado**

Many awards adorned John's wall at his unit (as pictured) and I have a few memories to share of John, who was like a father-figure to me. He was a true blue patriotic Aussie and bush balladeer to the core having written hundreds of songs. One of those was *Inside a Woman's Handbag* co-written with the late Sam Wheatley sung by Terry Gordon which picked up a TSA Salute award in 2002 in the noveltysection.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6e3HB7W80rc>

The following year he released his first CD *Oasis Balladeers*, a compilation of country music hits formerly recorded by Hadley Studios, Tamworth, Request Recordings and Songbank Enterprises on the Gold Coast. "I just felt it was time to put some of them together," John told me during an interview. It included seven recordings and a few were recorded with Cass Gascoigne, (pictured together below. *Photo by P. Cruzado*).



Quite a few of John's songs are also found on The Balladeers compilation albums with friends such as Pete Riley, Digger Doug and Lex K performing them.

*Flag of Our Own* was included on the 2010 compilation sung by Judy Stevens of Orange. It was one of two songs he wrote which were included on her album. The other being *Love Is a Two-Way Street*.

Over a cuppa, we co-wrote a song called *Old Fire New Flame* which was demoed by Royden Donohue at Hotrax Recordings Dubbo in 2009. It was later recorded on my album in 2013 at Enrec with the backing previously done by the late Gary Brown of Hilltop Studios.

John introduced me onto the TSA committee about eight years ago and he once gave me a lift to a meeting in Tamworth. He was in his late 80s and he drove there in record time.

John was very adventurous and told me he went sky diving on his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday. He also walked the Kokoda Trail and returned to Labuan for the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary, later recording a song in memory of that experience.

John was a man with many memories and jack of all trades with many songs written from real life

<http://www.dailyliberal.com.au/story/808249/johns-songs-tell-his-story/>

For years, John has supported and encouraged songwriters and sponsorship for numerous organisations including the former Orana Country Music talent quest, TSA's National Country Songwriting Contest and the Dubbo Country Music Assoc. songwriting comp (JP Toomey Memorial award was won by Peter Coad and the Coad sisters last weekend – Dec 11-12 2016). The Songwriting comp is named in his honour which was won by Jason Caruthers with *Slim Said I Couldn't Yodel*. Second: Lex K with *The Western Run* and third: Peter Simpson and Dianne Lindsay with *A Touch of Snow*. And so, JP Toomey's memory lives on.



### Ashleigh Dallas

Golden Guitar Winner, Tamworth born and bred Ashleigh Dallas is a vibrant young country music singer, songwriter and multi-instrumentalist. Her third studio album *Lighthouse* is set to be released early 2017 thanks to the supportive team at Checked Label Services. Ashleigh is adding to her portfolio of *Other Side Of Town* and *Dancing With A Ghost*.

Growing up in a country music family, it is no surprise as Ashleigh has followed in the musical footsteps paved out by her grandfather Rex Dallas and father Brett Dallas.

Ashleigh has toured Australia wide and internationally, which has added to her strengths as an artist, and given her a strong foundation for her songwriting, which has seen her being signed to Kobalt Music Publishing.

*Lighthouse* was produced by Brett Dallas and featured her band Lindsay Dallas and Adam McCann. The video clip (directed by Luke Oldknow and Luke McDonagh) can be seen at <https://www.ashleighdallas.com.au/>

The album contains a new maturity from Ashleigh who wants to share her love of music and songs to

people everywhere.

The talented singer, songwriter and musician started from the early age of 2 1/2, at the Tamworth Regional Conservatorium of Music. Watching from side stage many a family show, Ash's love for music was clear to everyone. Violin lessons at the age of six, trained classically and playing in several orchestras over her school years, she broke the "classical" rules at home playing country fiddle to records her Dad Brett gave her. As Ash reached her teenage years she added acoustic guitar, mandolin, ukulele and banjo to her belt and also started the craft of songwriting. "Watching my Dad and his brothers play music together always made me happy. It made me dream of being up on the stage with my Dad and my brother and my family, sharing a common bond and love while singing and playing."

In 2009, Ashleigh attended the Junior Academy (formally known as Camerata) and was accepted into the Senior Academy the following year 2010,

Ashleigh started performing on stage at her grandfather's (4 time GG Winner & Roll of Renown recipient, Rex Dallas) property: The Gully Round Up, and the Gully Grub Barn, where Ash started reciting poetry, & singing her favourite songs, helped sell CDs as the family played. Ashleigh also played music with her Dad, Brett and his family band *Dirtwater*, which Ash says is one of her greatest childhood memories.

She is the proud Ambassador for Fiji Tunes 'In The Tropics', a country music trip that In 2013, Ashleigh released her debut album *Dancing With A Ghost*, which debuted at NO.2 on the iTunes charts. Also off the back of her first album release, Ash scored herself two Golden Guitar nominations (Female Artist of the year and Qantaslink New Talent)

2014 started with a bang for Ash personally, when her partner Chris proposed to her New Years Eve. But the celebrations continued as Ash won the Golden Guitar for Qantaslink New Talent OfThe Year in January 2014.

2015 Ash released her second album "Other Side Of Town" with all 13 tracks penned by the talented singer songwriter. It featured many a co-write with her right hand man – Dad, Brett. *Other Side of Town, is back to my basics. The four of us who played on the album, its my family band, the band that travel with me the majority of the time, the band that knows what I'm thinking by a look in my eye, both musically and personally, a band that is family."*

Ashleigh's new album *Lighthouse* is available at leading CD Stores. See her at the 2017 Tamworth CMF

 A poster for Ashleigh Dallas at the Toyota Country Music Tamworth 2017 event. It features a photo of Ashleigh and a list of her appearances.
 

**Ashleigh Dallas**

**TOYOTA COUNTRY MUSIC TAMWORTH 2017**

- Fri 20th Jan - Diggers Courtyard 7:30pm
- Sat 21st Jan - Country Music Cocktails \*
- Sat 21st Jan - Wests Legends Lounge 2pm
- Sun 22nd Jan - Diggers Courtyard 4pm
- Mon 23rd Jan - Legends Lounge 2pm
- Tues 24th Jan - Legends Lounge 8pm
- Wed 25th Jan - Golden Guitar 10:00am
- Wed 25th Jan - Diggers Courtyard 7:30pm
- Thurs 26th Jan - Wests Legends Lounge 6pm
- Thurs 26th Jan - Tamworth Proud Toyota Park
- Fri 27th Jan - Diggers Courtyard 4pm

**CHECKED LABEL SERVICES**

**Kobalt**





## ROD BRANDT

*It was a BIG trip for Rod who met and played with some great people and made some great friends out of it. Here is the 'Next Chapter' as he tells the story.*

I was contacted by Michael T. Wall around May saying that he had nominated me for an award in America and that they would be contacting me shortly. Well you know what us Aussies are like "Oh yeah believe that when I see it". Well I was contacted alright, by a Bob Everhart, president of the National Traditional Country Music Assoc America. Saying that the nomination had been accepted for induction into America's Old Time Country Music Hall of Fame. Naturally. I said YES. It was connected with the Festival being held at Le Mars in Iowa in the U.S. between 29th Aug -4th Sept.

The Festival was the 41st Annual National Traditional Country, Bluegrass and Folk Festival so off I went. Bob had arranged a home stay for me so I found my way there and settled in getting ready for the big Monday start. Spent a couple of days looking around and getting to know where to go and find places etc. Come Monday 29th and the Festival kicked off with a bang. I had performances every day and I sang a mixture of my own songs, some Aussie covers and some American covers that they all knew. A big thank you to my two backing artists. Craig Howell on that big stand-up Bass and James Adelsberger on acoustic lead guitar and boy could he play. Other people who also helped were Jacob Austin on mandolin and he was the best mandolin player I have ever heard and what a voice!



Lee Muller kindly donated a Washburn acoustic guitar from his stock for me to play. I couldn't take one of mine as I was overweight as it was and I didn't have a lockable case for my acoustic. As it was an acoustic event I couldn't take my solid body Sonic Fender Strat copy. Anyway over the week I performed twenty shows and these included a couple where I was asked to lead pick for Michael T. Wall. Finally caught up with him on the last Saturday. Great guy. On the Friday night Sept 2 at 7.00pm I had a 30 min show which started with me being inducted into the Old Time Country Music Hall of Fame. Bob Everhart presented me with this beautiful plaque which has pride of place on the lounge wall, an unexpected award. I was also presented with the award for the Rural Roots Music Commission's C.D. of the year titled. "Old Time Aussie Music C.D. of the year 2016" for my latest album. "No Partikla Theme". The songs are all original, my own compositions. The Festival was very well run, and each artist had a group of shows from 30 minutes, 20 minutes and 15 minutes which, I thought was a great idea. There were 10 stages to handle all of this, and the comperes handled it very smoothly. The sound systems were some of the best I have worked with too, and I've worked with a lot over the years. All too soon the Festival was over, said goodbye to all of the friends I had made and reversed to long journey home.



### PHOTOS in order.

1. Rod and Bob Everhart presenting the awards.
2. Rod with James Adelsberger, [lead] and Craig Howell, {Bass} performing after the awards presentation.
3. Michael T. Ward with his Living Legend award with Rod holding it for him.

**EDITORS NOTE:** In our last issue we mentioned that Rod was a member of

THE Southside C/M Club which is non-existent. The club he joined was The Redlands Modern Country Music Club through which he won a lot of those 41 trophies. Good on you Rod who is now reaping the fruits of his musical labour!



**Carolyn Morris**

I was born in South Australia to a European migrant mother and Australian father with one sibling; a brother. We moved extensively as a family, following Dad's work and lived in a variety of locations including the Nullabor Plain, West Australian goldfields and the Snowy Mountains. We shifted 27 times by the time I was 14 yrs old and attended 14 schools.

I lived in the bush for most of my childhood, long before the days of the internet. We did not have television and the only radio that I can remember was good old ABC. My earliest musical recollections were of singing nursery rhymes, slightly bawdy ditties heard when I probably should not have been listening; and favourite records that my mother had brought with her from Germany. To this day, I still adore the songs of Pat Boone, and iconic popular classics including *The Purple People Eater* and *Tammy*.

I inherited my Dad's love of Scottish music; especially the regimental pipes and drums; and whenever I hear Strauss' *Blue Danube Waltz* I am transported back to mystical fairytale times. I heard my first Slim Dusty song while out on a "water run" with my Dad. We then lived on a million acre station north of Kalgoorlie, Western Australia.

One of Dad's jobs was the essential regular checking of 120 artesian bores and 80 dams; ensuring pumps were kept working, troughs scrubbed clean, fences were intact and tanks

both happy and sad.

My first pony, exploring ghost towns and wandering amongst abandoned old mining camps. I also first witnessed how utterly devastating a massive drought could be and the profound recollection of seeing my father perform the heartbreaking task of shooting thousands of head of starving stock is forever imprinted in my mind.

At 11 years of age, thanks to a great teacher at the little school I attended at the time, I was exposed to the wonderful world of folk music. Daily, we learned new songs by a variety of artists including Simon & Garfunkel, Gordon Lightfoot, Nana Mouskouri, Cat Stevens, Mary Hopkins, The Seekers and Carole King. *Age of Aquarius* takes me immediately back.

It was also then that I began to really consider lyrics and prose and the importance of words. I remember learning the verses of *Desiderata* and really started thinking about how words were put together.

My influences include Vince Gill, Steven Wariner and Collin Raye while Tammy Wynette, Loretta Lynn and Lynn Anderson were my female musical influences. Mary Chapin Carpenter is a wonderful storyteller who has the ability to write an album filled with people's stories.

I often wonder where my niche in music actually sits as I have an appreciation for different styles of music – a bit of everything. I don't have a formula for songwriting. I try to write in different ways. Sometimes I'm inspired by words or a phrase.

The album titled *Between The Covers* includes a bit of a mixture of songs from Australiana, ballads, something to please everyone.

**(To support Carolyn's quest to complete her debut solo album go to: <https://www.gofundme.com/carolynemorris> )**





**PAUL BONNER JONES**

In 1983 Paul started his professional music career in the pubs and clubs of Sydney. "The gig guide in those days was full of some of our still top Aussie songwriters and performers," he said of John Williamson, Pat Drummond, Ross Wilson, Paul Kelly and all great Aussie bands who played all over Sydney. "The town was alive with live music."

Paul and his duo partner Glenn Steed were a harmony duo called *Charged Up* who worked five nights a week and, at the time, were one of Sydney's most popular two piece acts. The boys played from Parramatta to Perisher.

During the past few months a DVD of Paul's musical life has been produced by Scott Whatman of the Recording Room, Burleigh Heads. It is packed with lots of stories and songs of a lifetime in music and songwriting starting from his earliest influences to co-writing with some of Nashville's hit songwriters. Scott Whatman of the Recording Room has an Aussie music background fronting as vocalist and lead singer of 'Kakadu' with no less than Tommy and Phil Emmanuel as the power house rhythm section. The Recording Room is aiming to have the biography/ documentary of Paul's musical life out by mid February. Keep an eye out in the next TSA newsletter of how to get a hold of an uploadable USB.**BELOW: Paul pictured at the Recording Room.**



**BRENDA LEE KELLY**

Just to let you know that the band that I am in has just recently completed recording our first self titled CD *Wayward Angels* with two of my original songs included in the CD. The two songs are:

1. *Wildhorse Mountain* – original song by guitarist Brenda Lee Kelly inspired by family stories. Wildhorse Mountain (a place halfway between Brisbane and the Sunshine Coast QLD). Brenda has family on the Sunshine Coast and lives in Brisbane and this song was inspired during her travels to family.

2. *She Knows All The Words to Patsy Cline* – an original song by guitarist Brenda Lee Kelly – inspired by a friend who no matter what hard times she went through always had a song in her head to sing along to.

**Wayward Angels** are an all female bluegrass outfit who have been impressing audiences with their sweet vocal harmonies and picking prowess since forming in 2013. Lead vocals are shared equally between Kay Armstrong (banjo), Jody Bell (mandolin), Brenda Lee Kelly (guitar) and Anne-Marie Lawton (double bass) Festival performances in the past few months have included: Dorriggo Folk and Bluegrass Festival, Bangalow BBQ & Bluegrass, Imbil Acoustic Music Festival, and Mountaingrass Festival of Bluegrass and Old Time Music, Harrietville, Victoria. regards Brenda Lee Kelly .. Check out the Wayward Angels performing *Wildhorse Mountain* [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E\\_ECV2KrSuo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E_ECV2KrSuo)





**Song Contest Tuned Up To Tamworth ... The 3rd ANNUAL Regional Song Contest is heading to Tamworth with prizes including a live performance on stage at the 2017 Tamworth Country Music Festival.**

This teen song contest is fast gaining a reputation for revealing top talent. Last year's runner up was 14yo Georgie Taylor. She won 2016 yr10 Dux of her school for music and she was chosen for a Leading Light Award. She also won the 2016 Positive Minds Creative Festival (music), featured prominently at the 2016 Cairns Uke Festival and at Qld's Redfest 2016. 2014 winner, 17yo Harry Marshall, recorded with UK born producer, Kev Brown and he is now signed to The A&R Department.

Last year's winner, 16yo Tyler Shoobert, took home a \$1,800 COLE CLARK guitar and is now working on his debut indie music release with Fretfest. 2016 Finalists receive an invitation to perform on the FANZONE STAGE at the TCMF in January and a Music Mentorship Package with Fretfest; the music company behind the song contest.

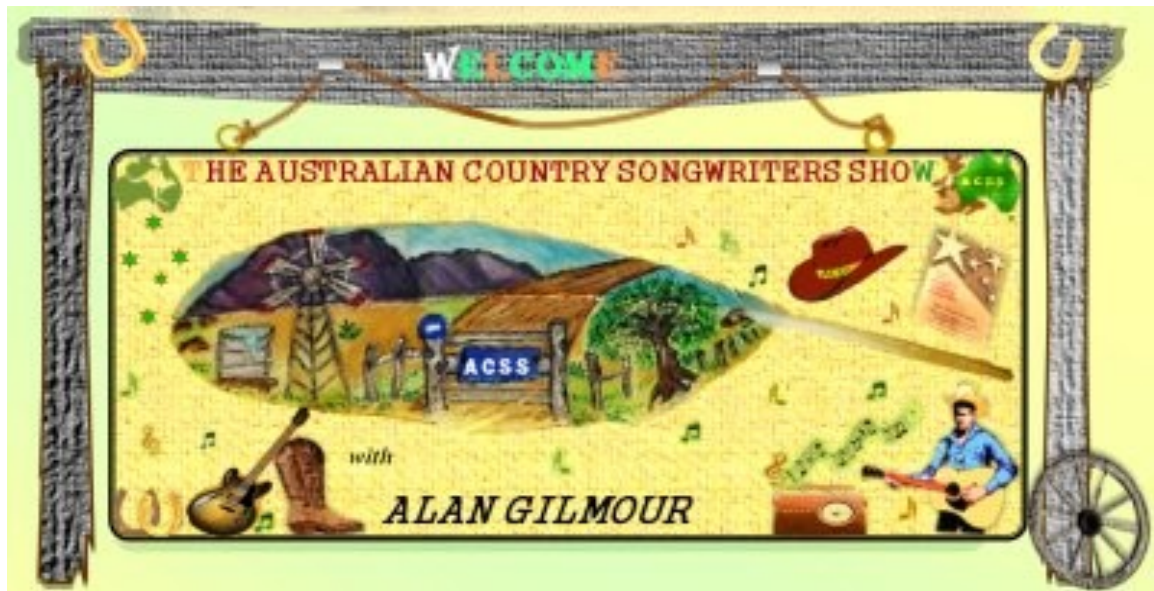
Fretfest is credited with helping kick-start the careers of some of Australia's most successful singer songwriters, including Pete Murray, Kate Miller-Heidke and Tom Busby (pictured). Fretfest director, Al Buchan, says "The Regional Song Contest is designed to give young people from regional Australian communities the chance to be discovered. It's all about nurturing authenticity and guiding growth. This year we're focusing on the Tamworth NSW district."

The contest is open to entrants aged 13 to 19 years. Up to three original songs can be uploaded. Entrants must be unsigned and full contest entry details are available online at [www.fretfest.com/regional-song-contest](http://www.fretfest.com/regional-song-contest). Entries close, December 23rd, 2016.

MEDIA CONTACT Al Buchan – Ph 0438-386237

**Please send us your news via email to: [tamsongwriters@gmail.com](mailto:tamsongwriters@gmail.com) ...** The next issue is Feb-March 2017 so please send your news and pics by early Feb. Thanks

**Or post to: Tamworth Songwriters Association**  
**PO Box 618 TAMWORTH NSW 2340**



## How Do You Get Air Play For Your Songs?

**The Australian Country Songwriters Show** first went to air on radio station **Today'sCountry94one** in March 2015. It has grown from the original one hour format, to the current three hour format, on Tuesday evenings at 6.00 pm, and has built up a strong and loyal listening audience.

The show can be heard free-to-air on the NSW Central Coast and Lower Hunter Valley, and over the internet via the station's website, [www.TodaysCountry94one.com](http://www.TodaysCountry94one.com), or via the Tune-In app.

The Australian Country Songwriters Show aims to provide exposure for independent Australian country songwriters who may not otherwise receive air play for their songs. The show currently provides air play for many members of the Tamworth Songwriters Association and The Australian Songwriters Association. The show won a People's Choice Award at Tamworth in January this year for The Most Popular Program on Australian country radio.

So, how do you get airplay for your songs in this competitive radio environment? Simply email your songs in mp3 format to Alan Gilmour at [alang@asai.org.au](mailto:alang@asai.org.au) or [admin@TodaysCountry94one.com](mailto:admin@TodaysCountry94one.com). CDs can be sent to PO Box 3011 Wamberal NSW 2260. Alan will listen to your songs to see if they are suitable for air play, and if so, will play them on the show. All songs are subject to the station's policies on broadcast sound quality.

Weekly play lists are placed on Facebook, so please "Like" The Australian Country Songwriters Show, and you'll see what is coming up.

I look forward to hearing from you.

**Alan Gilmour is a TSA member, as well as a Director of The Australian Songwriters Association (ASA) and the presenter of The Australian Country Songwriters Show. Today'sCountry94one is a not-for-profit community organisation. Alan provides his time on an unpaid basis, in the interests of independent Australian country songwriting.**







***Wishing all our TSA***

***Members & families***

***a very Merry & safe***

***Christmas & New Year!***

***We hope to see you at the***

***2017 Tamworth Country***

***Music Festival***

***TSA committee***

**AGM NOTICE : The TSA AGM will be held at the Uniting Church hall, Marius St**

**On Wednesday January 25 at 9am**

**Contact secretary Lorraine Pfitzner [lorijoy@tpg.com.au](mailto:lorijoy@tpg.com.au) or**

**president Duncan Hill 0409718391**

**If you wish to nominate for a TSA committee position in 2017**