



# *TSA Newsletter*

July 2018

*"First the Song"*

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## **President's Report**

Hi all members and friends of the TSA,

Following a very successful Hats Off programme where TSA artists performed at the Post Office Hotel, The City Bowling Club ( 2 nights) the Longyard Hotel and the Capital Country Radio soundstage at the Centrepont Shopping centre we now move ahead to the TSA Songwriting Contest and The Songs Alive! Australia / TSA Song-writing Workshop in the Blue Mountains and a 'write for an artist' workshop with US-based artist Tim Charron later in the year.

The TSA provided 17 Artists to the Hats Off festival in July and all venues reported good crowds. Thank you to Capital Country Radio for the additional opportunities provided for the TSA and of course the Post Office, and Longyard Hotels and the City Bowling Club. The new look Songwriting Competition is now open and we hope you will embrace the new platform. Now that many writers record and release their own compositions in all kinds of media we have eliminated the previous differential in release and non-released songs except in the Novice section where this is easily determined. This has allowed us to create additional sections reflecting the major genres in country music today. You will notice that well before the competition closes we are conducting a songwriting workshop with Songs Alive! Australia. What an opportunity to work your songs or co-write another and enter your new song. This workshop has produced some great songs and also long-lasting writing relationships. Bookings are progressing well so invest in yourselves and come along to what is a really economical and beneficial workshop where not only great friends are made but also very valuable contacts. Plus you get to perform in a really wonderful supportive environment and co-write.

Planning for festival 2019 has begun and we will be asking for interest for spots in Tamworth in late September.

Good songwriting to you All— Duncan Hill President TSA

# 2018 HATS OFF SONGWRITING SESSIONS

**\*\*\* PHOTOS \*\*\***



GEORGIE TAYLOR



TRINITY WOODHOUSE



WENDY WOOD



IAN WILKINSON



BECCI NETHERY



IAN BURNS



DUNC'N'SONS + SUE

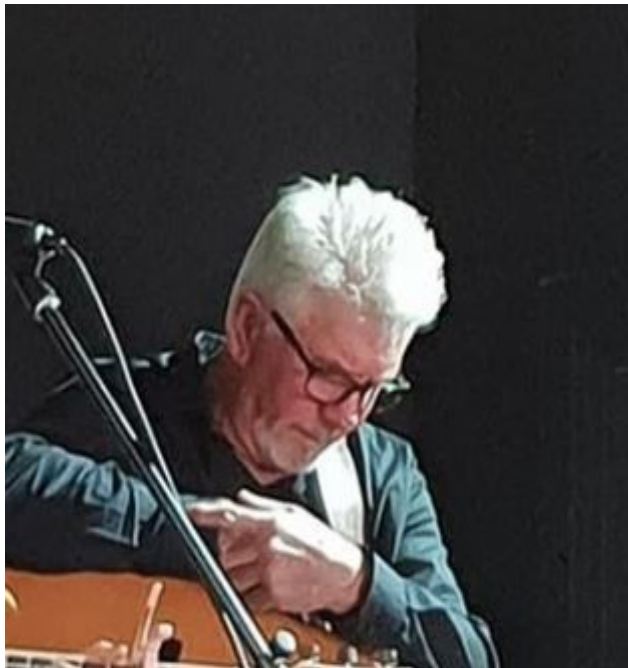


SHELLY JONES BAND



## 2018 HATS OFF SONGWRITING SESSIONS

\*\*\* *PHOTOS* \*\*\*



TONY KENNELLY



CHELSEA ROLLINGS



MELISSA ROBERTSON



PETER SALATA

# 2018 HATS OFF SONGWRITING SESSIONS

\*\*\* *PHOTOS* \*\*\*



FLOYD BLACK BAND



KATHRYN LUXFORD



KYLIE ADAMS COLLIER

**BIG THANKS TO LYDIA CLARE FOR CO-ORDINATING THE SESSIONS AND TO THE POST OFFICE HOTEL, LONGYARD & CITY BOWLING CLUB FOR HOSTING THE SESSIONS!**







RED HEART BLUE

**TSA  
SONGWRITER  
SESSIONS**  
At the  
**SOUTH TAMWORTH  
BOWLO**

**\*Last Wednesday  
Of Each Month  
7pm-9:30pm**  
(\*Unless Otherwise Specified)  
Enquiries:  
0429 911 127  
Or 0401 079 363

- Free Entry
- All Songwriters  
& Genres Welcome
- Ample Parking
- Disabled Access
- Restaurant & Bistro

**(02) 6765 5751**





# TSA SONGWRITING COMPETITION MODIFICATIONS



2018 Entries for 2019 Awards

## **"The 2019 Contest"**

TAMWORTH SONGWRITERS' ASSOCIATION

THE CONTEST IS NOW OPEN go to [www.songcentral.net.au/tsa](http://www.songcentral.net.au/tsa) CLOSING 7th OCTOBER

SONGWRITING CONTEST CONDITIONS:

THE SONGWRITER SALUTE AWARDS

### **THERE HAVE BEEN CHANGES FROM LAST CONTEST**

- There is No National Songwriting Contest for 2019 awards
- The only restrictions on commercial release exist for NOVICE and the usual restrictions for APRA AMCOS TSA New Songwriter Award
- All the sections otherwise are open sections as per conditions below

BEFORE YOU ENTER ANY SECTION YOU MUST BE AWARE and FOLLOW THE CONDITIONS BELOW:

- a) Songs must be oriented to Australian Country life, scenery, subject material and attitude. This can include romantic interest and city comparison but not songs with only a city setting/context.
- b) Songs entered in one section can only be entered again in ANZAC SECTION if applicable. Songs entered in YOUTH can be entered in any other section.
- c) Do not enter the lyrics of a song in the Lyrics only section where those song lyrics belong to a song has been entered in any other section.
- d) All entries for any section must be written by an Australian and/or New Zealand resident. If there is a co-writer the co-writer/s must also be Australian or New Zealand resident. Resident also means that each member of the songwriting team is alive at the date of entry.
- e) Songs maybe recorded outside Australia and may include backing musicians/vocalists from outside Australia. The competitions are about songwriting not the production or recording.
- f) There is no judges feedback for these Awards.
- g) The songs must be submitted by MP3 (128kbps) via the online entry platform provided All entries to the Songwriter Salute Awards will be via online.
- h) The online entry platform is will be via Songcentral , the URL to be advised on the TSA website soon.
- i) TSA members may post entries by prior arrangement with TSA Song competition co-ordinator Judy Smith.[j3682340@gmail.com](mailto:j3682340@gmail.com)



# TSA SONGWRITING COMPETITION



j) There is no instrumental section; do not enter instrumental only work.

k) The judge's decision is final and the TSA will not enter into any discussion regarding the results in any competition. In entering any TSA contest the entrant is deemed to have read and understood the conditions and agrees by entering the competition that the conditions of entry of the competition are acceptable.

l) The TSA cannot be held responsible for any digression or non-compliance in any matter.

m) Offensive material, or songs containing language considered by the judges to be not in keeping with general acceptable language standards, i.e. containing swearing and foul language will not score well in the competition so don't waste your entry fee.

n) All winning songs except ANZAC (\$400) and APRA AMCOS /TSA New Songwriters of the Year Award (\$1000) will receive a cash payment of \$200. The writers of the winning song will also receive a Trophy. Up to three trophies only will be presented for a winning song. Additional trophies may be ordered from TSA at cost. The awards will be presented in January at the TSA Concert and Awards show. Finalists will be notified and if not attending the awards, should pre-arrange for the transport from Tamworth of their Awards at their own cost, should they become winners, or arrange to have trophies received by their representatives at the Awards. Any Finalists who is not able to attend the awards must nominate a person to represent them at the Awards should they be successful. Email [tamsongwriters@gmail.com](mailto:tamsongwriters@gmail.com) CC [tamworthsongwritingassociation@gmail.com](mailto:tamworthsongwritingassociation@gmail.com).

o) Cover versions of others work will NOT be accepted. Use of poems or lyrics written by others not of your nominated songwriting team, re-arrangements or re-working of others songs will NOT be accepted; this is a Songwriting Contest for original material only, both in lyrics and music.

p) Any song not accepted or ineligible will not generate a refund to the entrant.

q) A previous winning song cannot be entered again in any section.

## Country Song of The Year:

There is an award for Country Song of the Year. The song will be selected from the winners of all the sections and will be selected by a special panel based on overall scoring. The award will be a separate presentation.

Songs entered on behalf of others: Apart from Entries received from original writers, entries will be accepted from appointed agents/ representatives of original writers and/or publishers of the original writer. Note that condition (d) is still applicable in this case.

**JUDGING:** All entries will be judged by a panel selected by the TSA from the music industry. A panel of three judges shall be involved in the judging. Each member of the panel shall score the song on an overall basis. Semi finalists will be judged again by a different panel.





# TSA SONGWRITING COMPETITION



## How to enter and Fees:

Entrants are responsible for the allocation of a song to a particular section. There will be no re-allocations of songs after entries have closed. Each song is judged as applicable to the section entered. Entry fees are \$15/song for members of the TSA and \$25/song for non-members of the TSA. Do not add for GST. You MUST join the TSA before you enter songs if you wish to enter as a member. Go to [www.tsaonline.com.au](http://www.tsaonline.com.au) to join and allow 3 days for your membership to be processed by credit card. You cannot join and enter songs at the same time on the Songcentral entry platform.

**SECTIONS:** note, "open section" means that the song can be either recorded, released published or not.

- NOVICE - only unreleased material from a writer/team of which all the members have never won a songwriting contest and are not released/published writers.
- YOUTH - John P Toomey Commemorative Award for under 18 entrants. U18 as at close of competition date.
- LYRICS ONLY- open section
- TRADITIONAL- Bev Daniel Commemorative Award- open section
- BLUEGRASS - open section
- GOSPEL/SPIRITUAL - open section
- COUNTRY ROCK - open section
- COUNTRY BALLAD - open section
- COUNTRY BLUES -open section
- ALT COUNTRY - open section
- ANZAC - open section
- COMEDY /NOVELTY- The Geoff Mack Commemorative Award-open section.

• **APRA AMCOS/ TSA NEW Songwriter of the Year** - date restricted for first ever commercial release see conditions below:

- COUNTRY SONG of the YEAR - you cannot enter this section. The winner is selected from any section.\

## THE APRA AMCOS/TSA NEW SONGWRITER of the YEAR CONDITIONS

Eligible entrants and each member of the songwriting team, if a team is involved, MUST have had their first commercial release within 5 years before the close of this competition IE Not before 1st October 2013 and no member of the team has won a songwriting contest with a commercially released song.

Any Song entered MUST have been commercially released after 1st October 2017.

The New Songwriter of The Year Award for a team or individual is to recognise and promote new talent in Australian Country Music. There is a cash prize of \$1000.00 for the song. This award is for original material, Lyric and Melody.

Entries : as per the "How to enter and fees" as described before.

THE CONTEST WILL CLOSE 7TH OCTOBER 2018



## TSA MEMBERS

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



### BUSY IZZY

**PART 2:** In March, husband and wife team, Roxanne Kiely and Stephen Kiely attended the World Literacy Summit in Oxford, UK with Busy Izzy. The Busy Izzy series is endorsed by the World Literacy Foundation. The WLF is a global not-for-profit that works to lift young people out of poverty through the power of literacy. Founder and CEO, Andy Kay, invited the creators of Busy Izzy to present their multi-media series to educators and publishers.

Sun Books is an initiative by the [World Literacy Foundation](#) to provide digital learning resources to all children so they can receive a quality education and develop a lifelong love of learning.

Roxanne and Stephen have partnered with WLF and Sun books. Children in Uganda are enjoying the Busy Izzy audio books, songs, video clips and memory game on the Sun Tablet.

\*\*\*\*\*



Above:

Sunday July 29—A Family Funday featured a special guest appearance and stage show performance from Busy Izzy, a 12-year-old girl who promotes friendship, fun and healthy food for children aged 3-9 years. Held at Robelle Domain Greater Springfield there was an anti-bullying theme and positive messages for children and families. Author of the Busy Izzy and Friends series, Roxanne Kiely, is thrilled that Busy Izzy performed at this year's Community Funday event as the Busy Izzy stories are kind and considerate, while building and reinforcing the expectation that positive attitudes and actions achieve positive experiences.

"Busy Izzy always knows exactly what to do, and she knows that sometimes a friend is all you need to be," Roxanne said. "Through our upbeat and happy stories and music, we reinforce the importance of friendship and having a strong moral code," she said.

Inspired by emotional and educational developmental drivers, Busy Izzy and Friends introduces children from diverse backgrounds with unique personalities and traits. In addition to Busy Izzy's performance, and meet and greets with Roxanne Kiely and Stephen Kiely, the producers of the Busy Izzy and Friends series, the Community Funday festivities also featured Iron + Clay – a team of role models who direct youth towards understanding their full potential through music, entertainment and education. The day was enjoyed by all. Congrats to the organisers.

Roxanne has been teaching for twenty-five years, and many years ago worked at a performing arts college. "I taught groups of kids, and subconsciously, you pick up on how clever they are and what interests them," she said of learning much about her student's interests. Stephen has enjoyed focusing on the creative project.

"Quite often, a lot of songwriters have a certain genre they focus on, but for us, we write swing rock everything in between," he said. "Having a project such as Izzy and the kids is great because we can focus on that, and working on children's music is something we really wanted to do. We believe there is a lot of room for good quality children's material, but just because it's for children doesn't mean it's an easy genre to write for," he said. They now have an education advisor and are writing lesson plans for the books, so it can link to the National curriculum. A school contacted them as the books are being used in their Year 1 and 2 classes. The books can be purchased direct through their website [BusyIzzy.com](#) or buy them online at Dymocks. Check out their Facebook. **(Acknowledgment—some info sourced from ASA magazine, July issue).**



## TSA MEMBERS

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



**MELISSA ROBERTSON**

'Red Head at Heart' rocketed to No 2 on the Australian Country Tracks Top 40 Chart awarding Melissa Robertson a chart-topping hit. This single has been pre-released to radio across Australia and internationally before her September album launch, 'Little Country Life'. The album featuring twelve all original tracks is being produced by Simon Johnson, an award-winning producer who has worked with many leading country stars such as Troy Cassar-Daley and Beccy Cole.

Melissa's previous single 'He's a Writer of Songs' written about multi Golden Guitar winner, Luke O'Shea, also hit the Top 10 on the Australian Country Tracks Chart and won her two Brumby Awards in Tamworth earlier this year. Melissa has just come back from Tamworth's mid-year 'Hats Off to Country' festival performing at several venues.

She is looking forward to her 'Little Country Life' album release in September and begins her Tour later in 2018. Tour dates and locations will be available on her website [www.melrobertson.info](http://www.melrobertson.info). Melissa's songs can be purchased on iTunes and Google play and her albums through Sanity.

**Melissa Roberttson**

**0416 189 309**

[singer@mrobertson.info](mailto:singer@mrobertson.info)

[www.melrobertson.info](http://www.melrobertson.info)

<https://www.countrytrackschart.com.au/index.php?chartid=219>



Melissa performed at the 2018 Hats Off Song Sessions, Tamworth.



## TSA MEMBERS

### \*\*\* NEWS \*\*\*



2018 got off to an amazing start in Tamworth for Becci as she won her second TSA Open Contemporary category award for 'Just Not Today' (to be included on the new album). Becci was also presented with the Gold Medallion Media Awards for Queensland Female Vocalist Of The Year and National Artist Of The Year.

'Beautiful Life' Becci's current single and the title track from her album 'Beautiful Life' became her second Australian #1 on May 26th Country Tracks Chart. Nominations, Becci has been named a finalist in two categories of the ICMA (Independent Country Music Australia) awards 'Female Vocalist' and 'Balladeer' of the year (voting is open until the 31st July at <http://www.indiecountrymusicaustralia.com/> please take a moment to vote, one vote per person only. Bec is also a finalist in the prestigious International 'Josie' independent music awards 'Modern Country Section' to be held at Dollywood Tennessee in September.

#### **Am I writing songs for a new album?**

Yes absolutely, I've been wanting to do some more recording for a while and I want to have as many originals on the new project as possible. All going well, I hope to release a brand new single before the end of 2018.

#### **What inspires my writing?**

I find that all of my songs have come about in different ways. Sometimes I'm inspired by something happening in my life or something that has happened that's on my mind. Sometimes it's about a story I've heard or a phrase some said and some

times it's just a chord progression. It's different every time.

#### **How has this year been gigs wise?**

This has been the busiest year for gigs that I've ever had. It kicked off with the Tamworth Country Music Festival in January and since then I've been all over the place, playing gigs in Sydney, Newcastle, Scone and Far North Queensland. I also visited Tamworth again for the 'Hats off' country winter festival.

I'll be performing at the Pittwater RSL (Sydney) on July 29 from 2pm alongside Luke Schweizer and Dwayne Elix. On September 2nd I will be at the Mantra Studio Kitchen Bar in Melbourne from 2-5pm. October will be busy as I have two festivals in Far North Queensland, the 12th, 13th and 14th I will be in Mareeba at Kerribee Park for the annual FNQ Country Music Festival, then on the 25th, 26th and 27th I will be in Yungaburra on the Atherton Tablelands for the Tablelands Folk Festival (formally known as the Yungaburra Folk Festival). I also have a few booking for Christmas performances during December, as it closer these details will be posted on my Facebook and my web page.

Becci now teaches guitar, voice and ukulele in North Sydney after graduating her degree 'Bachelor Of Music' (Performance) at AMPA (Academy Of Music and Performing Arts).

Becci would like to thank the TSA for their ongoing support, the amazing people she has met along the way as well as the performing opportunities, all are very much appreciated.

If anybody is interested in booking Becci for a public performance or a private house concert please call 0408062865 or email [info@beccinethery.com](mailto:info@beccinethery.com) or ([kerrynethery66@gmail.com](mailto:kerrynethery66@gmail.com))

Contact details 0408062865

[www.beccinethery.com](http://www.beccinethery.com)

[www.facebook.com/beccinethery.com](https://www.facebook.com/beccinethery.com)





Songsalive! Australia & Tamworth Songwriters Assoc.

## Workshop in the Mountains 2018

with award-winning songwriters and composers



Allan Caswell



Felicity Wilcox



Roger Corbett

**Saturday  
& Sunday**

*The*  
**CLARENDON**  
GUESTHOUSE • THEATRE

68 Lurline St. Katoomba

**September  
15 & 16**

### **Saturday:**

- 1 - 4pm - Critique sessions with Allan and Roger
- 4 - 6pm Presentations by Allan and Roger
- 7pm - Dinner and performances from attendees  
(*A la carte restaurant, reasonable prices*)

### **Sunday:**

- 7:30am - 9 Breakfast
- 9am - Co-writing sessions begin
- 11.30am - 12.30 Presentation by Felicity Wilcox
- 12.30pm - 1.30 Buffet lunch
- 1.30pm - Co-writing sessions continue
- 4.30pm - Performances of all songs

SUPPORTED BY



**APRA  
AMCOS**



Seminar & Workshop cost: \$155.00 per person (includes buffet lunch)

Secure your place at the workshop and book a reasonably-priced room at Clarendon Guesthouse Saturday night 15th September, including continental breakfast!

**Call: Roxanne: 0411 465 332 or Duncan: 0409 718 391**

Songsalive! Australia [songsaliveaustralia.org.au](http://songsaliveaustralia.org.au)  
Tamworth Songwriters Assoc. [tsaonline.com.au](http://tsaonline.com.au)





### **Allan Caswell - Multi-award winning Songwriter**

At the 2018 Tamworth Country Music Festival Allan Caswell was inducted into the prestigious Galaxy Of Stars. It was recognition for contribution he has made to Australian Country Music as a songwriter, performer, record producer and author.

In 2016 when Allan Caswell won his seventh Golden guitar in Tamworth (with Manfred Vijars) for Traditional Bush Ballad of the Year, it marked 36 years since his first Golden Guitar in 1980. In the years in between Allan has experienced the highs and lows of a very successful and hugely varied career ... His song "On The Inside" (the theme for the television "Prisoner") reached No. 1 in Australia and New Zealand, No. 3 in England and made the Country Charts in the USA (his own version was a top 20 country hit in Europe in 2004).

Caswell has also built a big reputation as a writer of children's songs as, among other projects, the co-writer and co-producer of the successful Don Spencer albums.

At last count, Caswell has had well over 900 songs published and over 700 recordings of his songs released world-wide by artists of the calibre of Cilla Black, The Irish Rovers, Patti Page, Slim Dusty, James Blundell and The Living End.



### **Felicity Wilcox – Multi-award winning Composer | Songwriter | Academic**

Felicity Wilcox is an interdisciplinary composer and academic whose output encompasses concert music, film music, songwriting and improvisation, music for theatre, installation, live events, dance and radio. Her songs and concert compositions are performed and broadcast nationally and internationally at film festivals, TV and Radio.

Under the alias Felicity Fox, she has enjoyed a successful twenty-five year career as a screen composer and music director, with a highlight being her role as composer and assistant music director for the Paralympic Games opening Ceremony in Sydney 2000.

Felicity is a Lecturer in Music and Sound Design at the University of Technology, Sydney. She is also a sought-after sessional lecturer in composition, music analysis, musical multimedia and composer-performer collaboration at several leading tertiary institutions in the Sydney region, including Sydney Conservatorium of Music.



### **Roger Corbett – Multi-award winning Songwriter**

Multi-award-winning songwriter Roger Corbett is a multi Golden Guitar winning, highly successful songwriter and Australian music producer, with numerous successful chart songs to his credit. His songwriting credits include "The Fire Within" the theme song for the opening of the Sydney 2000 Paralympics Games, "Bridge of Love", it was a hit song for the 1994 International Year Of The Family and hundreds of other recorded songs with artists from every genre.

From his recording studio, Roger predominately works with Independent artists in the singer-songwriter folk, pop, rock, country, gospel and children's music genres. Roger is a member and the manager of the legendary Bushwackers Band. The Bushwackers, now in their 46th year and with over 21 studio albums behind them, continue to tour the country and release new songs.

# **SONGWRITING WORKSHOP with TIM CHARRON**

## **‘WRITE FOR AN ARTIST’**



**US based artist Tim Charron will be chasing the sun. Tim is an independent artist who has been the support act for Willie Nelson, Charlie Daniels, Dustin Lynch, Chris Young, Clint Black , Sara Evans, Gran funk Railroad , Bret Michaels , Eli young band, Jamey Johnson, Rodney Adkins, 1000 horses, Big & Rich, Justin Moore, Randy Travis and more. [www.timcharron.com](http://www.timcharron.com)**

**The popular artist is headed to Australia in December 2018 with a songwriting workshop/‘write for an artist’ session planned in Tamworth hosted by the TSA.**

**WHAT: Speed co-writing session (verse & chorus only),+ performance of songs in final hour**

**WHEN: SUNDAY DECEMBER 9**

**WHERE: UNITING CHURCH MARIUS ST TAMWORTH**

**COST: \$50 PP**

**TIME: 12pm - 5pm(Snacks provided)**

***“for the serious songwriter”***



**For bookings contact Patricia [patcruzado28@gmail.com](mailto:patcruzado28@gmail.com) or Athol [1953awl@gmail.com](mailto:1953awl@gmail.com) for payment details.**