

# Award Winning Bush Verse & Stories 2012

Following the acclaim for *Award Winning Australian Writing (AWAW)* since its first edition in 2008, Melbourne Books is proud to unveil *Award Winning Bush Verse and Stories (AWBV)*.

*AWBV* is the first nationally distributed anthology wholly dedicated to competition winners taking inspiration from the Australian bush and way of life. Bush writing is a quintessentially Australian genre, and many of our literary greats, including Banjo Paterson and Henry Lawson, are considered masters of the form. These days the bush community is thriving with numerous festivals and competitions. Those featured in the inaugural edition of *AWBV* include:

- ABPA State Written Championships (Victoria, New South Wales)
- Blackened Billy Verse Competition
- Boyup Brook Written Bush Poetry Competition
- Bronze Swagman Award
- Bush Lantern Award (Bundaberg)
- C. J. Dennis Literary Awards
- Gippsland Golden Wattle Written Poetry Competition
- Grenfell Henry Lawson Festival of the Arts
- Ipswich Poetry Feast Competition
- Peter Cowan 600 Short Story Competition
- Whyalla Writers Awards
- Wool Wagon Awards

Much like its precursor, *AWBV* is committed to showcasing Australia's diverse literary landscape. In this way, it offers an opportunity to engage with such a unique artform, while also bringing together the many, but potentially disparate, bush communities represented by these works.



## ABOUT THE EDITORS

Max Merckenschlager is a three-time national champion for written bush poetry and a frequent winner of writing competitions. His rhyming and freeform poems have appeared in various Australian and overseas anthologies, including *Award Winning Australian Writing 2008, 2009* and *2010*. Max is the author of *Lifemarks* (Ginninderra Press, 2009).

Jacqui Merckenschlager has won numerous poetry awards, including the Tom Black Memorial Prize, the FreeXpresSion Literary Competition and the Eyre Writers' Awards. She was featured in the 2011 edition of *Award Winning Australian Writing*, and co-authored *Captured Moments* (Ginninderra Press, 2010) with her husband, Max.

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- MAX & JACQUI MERCKENSCHLAGER** A Sunburnt Country  
*Gippsland Golden Wattle Bush Poetry Competition*
- CAROL HEUCHAN** Fly!  
*Gippsland Golden Wattle Bush Poetry Competition*
- KYM EITEL** The Black Horse in the Lead  
*Bush Lantern Award for Written Verse, 2009*
- CATHERINE LEE CLARKE** Windradyne  
*Rolf Boldrewood Literary Awards*
- JACQUELINE WINN** Waterlily Song  
*Peter Cowan 600 Short Story Competition*
- ELLIS CAMPBELL** Moonlight Muster  
*Australian Bush Poets Association State Championships (Victoria), 2010*
- GLENNY PALMER** What a Night  
*Wool Wagon Awards, 2009*
- RON STEVENS** Cutting Back  
*Australian Bush Poets Association State Championships (Victoria), 2009*
- DAVID CAMPBELL** Shades of Magic  
*Yarram Agricultural Society Short Story Award*
- DON ADAMS** Memories of Drought  
*Gilgandra Coo-ee Festival Poetry Award*
- GLENNY PALMER** The Blooming  
*Australian Bush Poets Association State Championships (NSW), 2010*  
— *Serious Section*
- BRENDA JOY** Forgotten Children – Childhood Lost  
*Australian Bush Poets Association State Championships (NSW), 2010*
- MAX MERCKENSCHLAGER** Shadow of Doubt  
*Gulgong Henry Lawson Literary Awards, 2009*
- CAROL HEUCHAN** Trails  
*Snowy Mountains of Music — Broken Ski Award, 2011*
- ARTHUR GREEN** Fairy Fears at Just Five Years  
*Wool Wagon Awards, 2008*
- GLENNY PALMER** Waltz ... in the Courtroom  
*Bronze Swagman Award, 2007*
- JACKIE KERIN** Edith's Lyrebird  
*Spirit of Woodford Award*
- DAVID CAMPBELL** The Wisdom of a Child  
*Bush Lantern Award for Written Verse, 2011*
- ELLIS CAMPBELL** What Price Progress?  
*Charlee Marshall Memorial Award*
- BRENDA JOY** Legacy of a Bushfire  
*Boyup Brook Written Bush Poetry Competition*
- JULIE PERRIN** The Lost Dogs' Home ...A Story about Neighbourhood  
*Pat Glover Memorial Storytelling Award*
- LEE TAYLOR-FRIEND** 'Mother Snowy' – Live or Die???  
*Snowy Mountains of Music — Broken Ski Award, 2009*
- ELLIS CAMPBELL** Luck's a Fortune  
*FreeXpreSsion Literary Competition*
- MAX MERCKENSCHLAGER** Says Martin Cash  
*Whyalla Writers' Group Short Story and Poetry Competition*
- VERONICA WEAL** The Clockoholic  
*Australian Bush Poets Association State Championships (NSW), 2008*  
— *Humorous Section*
- JULIE MORRIS** The Ghosts of Legends Past  
*Adelaide Plains Cup Festival Poetry Competition*
- GLORIA ANDERLINI** A Kind of Justice  
*Gulgong Henry Lawson Literary Awards, 2010*
- ZONDRAE KING** A New Beginning  
*C. J. Dennis Literary Awards*
- CATHERINE LEE CLARKE** Flight of the Magpie Geese  
*Ipswich Poetry Feast Competition*
- RON STEVENS** The Shame of Staying Put  
*Banjo Paterson Writing Awards*
- JAN FOSTER** Heads, We Win  
*Grenfell Henry Lawson Festival of the Arts Literary Competition, 2008*  
— *Short Story Section*
- VALERIE READ** Brolga Dreaming  
*Bronze Swagman Award, 2010*
- DAVID CAMPBELL** Grief  
*Coal Creek Literary Festival Awards*
- KEITH 'COBBER' LETHBRIDGE** Gallipoli  
*Bronze Swagman Award, 2009*
- RON STEVENS** Dreaming in the Silence  
*Cowra Poetry Peace Prize*
- DAVID CAMPBELL** Educating Algernon  
*U3A Sunshine Coast Writing Competition*
- ELLIS CAMPBELL** A Cross beside a Lonely Road  
*Cervantes Arts Festival Competition*
- VERONICA WEAL** The Shadow on the Wall  
*Bronze Swagman Award, 2010*
- MAX MERCKENSCHLAGER** Encounter with Whales  
*Harrington Festival Poets by the Sea Competition*
- DAAN SPIJER** I'll Send You the Bill  
*Billabong Valley Short Story Writing Competition*
- STEPHEN WHITESIDE** Henry's Ecstasy  
*Grenfell Henry Lawson Festival of the Arts Literary Competition, 2010*  
— *Humorous Verse Section*
- JAN FOSTER** Fancy Footwork  
*FAW Port Macquarie / Hastings Literary Competition*
- MAX MERCKENSCHLAGER** Easy in the Sun  
*Grenfell Henry Lawson Festival of the Arts Literary Competition, 2011*  
— *Traditional Verse Section*
- DAVID CAMPBELL** Wasteland  
*Bronze Swagman Award, 2011*
- JAN FOSTER** Loyalties  
*FAW Manly & Peninsula Competition*
- BRENDA JOY** Nullarbor Dreaming  
*FAW Eastwood/Hills Regional Annual Literary Awards — Boree Log Award*
- DONALD CRANE** Equus Caballus (The Horse)  
*Morriset Hunter Bush Poets Written Competition*
- CATHERINE LEE CLARKE** A Bushman's Last Farewell  
*Blackened Billy Verse Competition*
- JOHN DAVIS** Worn out Stockman Dreaming  
*Nandewar and Kangaroo Valley Bush Poetry Awards*
- RODERICK WILLIAMS** Harry's Heaven  
*Editors' Choice Award for a Bush Yarn*