

# THE SONGS OF LAWSON & PATERSON & THE TUNES OF WALTZING MATILDA

Australian Heritage Film Presentation

"The Songs of Henry Lawson" part of the Henry Lawson Festival, Gulgong 2009, 2010 and 2011

Presented by Roger Walter F.A.I.H.A.

---

We are proud to present this wonderful educational program suitable for students studying history, poetry and music through the HSIE curriculum. This audio/visual presentation features the works of two of Australia's greatest poets and story writers Henry Lawson and Banjo Paterson.

This presentation is unique as most of the poems have been set to music and sung by many artists including Hugh McDonald, Peter Dawson, Leonard Teale, Chris Kempster, Ali Mills, Dennis O'Keeffe and Wallis & Matilda.

Australian traditional music researcher Roger Walter F.A.I.H.A. has produced the presentation which is a fresh insight into Paterson and Lawson's poetry. The blending of a visual narrative to the poems brings the story line to life and highlights the different styles and empathizes the depth and mood of their writing.

A highlight of the show is a look at the two tunes behind Waltzing Matilda universally accepted as our national song and unofficial anthem. Roger talks about where it came from and looks at Paterson's original words and how they were changed to what we sing today. Featured are the original tune and 2 versions of the 'New' Waltzing Matilda. The origin of the term, 'Waltzing Matilda' is quite a surprise.

Some of Lawson's best poems shown are 'Faces in the Street,' 'Andy's Gone with Cattle,' and 'A Song of the Republic'. All poems featured are listed below.

Each song is introduced by Roger who explains the story behind the poem or what circumstances influenced the poets to write them. An exhibition of photos and a look at highlights of Lawson's life as well as a copy of Paterson's original manuscript of Waltzing Matilda can be displayed. (optional)

Apart from the educational aspects students will find the show entertaining and rewarding and hopefully they will be motivated to re-evaluate or be acquainted for the first time with both poets wonderful poems and stories of our history and heritage.

We can also supply a Q&A sheet which can be filled in at the end of the program as an aid for teachers. All questions are taken from the presentation.

LAWSON PROGRAM, The Old Bark School, A Song of the Republic, Andy's Gone with Cattle, Rain in the Mountains, Faces in the Street, The Grog 'an Grumble Steeplechase, The Outside Track, Said Grenfell to My Spirit, The Fight at Eureka Stockade, Freedom on the Wallaby, The Never Never Country, The Route March, Reedy River, Waratah & Wattle, On the Night Train, The Lights of Cobb & Co, O'Hara J.P., Drifted Back, PATERSON PROGRAM Thou Bonny Woods of Craigelee, Waltzing Matilda, Mulga Bill, The Man From Ironbark, A Bush Christening, The Last Parade, Clancy of the Overflow, Lost, Pioneers, ORIGINAL VOICES\*Old Botany Bay, My Country. \*The last two poems are spoken by the authors. Dame Mary Gilmore (1865-1962) and Dorothea Mackellar (1885-1968)

Full program runs approx 2 ½ hours, or you can choose either program.

Contact Roger Walter for pricing and bookings: 0409 261788, [roger1788@bigpond.com](mailto:roger1788@bigpond.com)

# THE SONGS OF HENRY LAWSON & BANJO PATERSON & THE STORY OF WALTZING MATILDA

A Two Hour Show of Australia's Poetry Heritage

Presented by Roger Walter F.A.I.H.A.

---

We are proud to offer an exciting and unique show for your guests, featuring the works of two of Australia's greatest story writers, Henry Lawson and Banjo Paterson whose enduring work has stood the test of time and is much loved by generations of Australians.

Since the 1940s over 200 of Lawson's poems have been set to music and sung by many artists including Hugh McDonald, Peter Dawson, Leonard Teale, Chris Kempster, Slim Dusty, Noel Watson, and The Seekers. Over 80 of Paterson's poems have received similar treatment from artists such as Slim Dusty, Noel Watson and Wallis & Matilda.

Australian traditional music researcher Roger Walter F.A.I.H.A. has taken a selection of both poets songs sung by many artists and produced an outstanding audio/visual presentation around them. Each poem has a visual story line which gives a fresh insight into their poetry and empathizes the depth and mood of their writing.

Roger introduces each of the songs and talks about the circumstances that influenced Lawson and Paterson to write them, this gives a 'live' feel to the presentation. There are filmed re-enactments, archival footage and some rare filmed live performances. A highlight is the fascinating story behind the two tunes of *Waltzing Matilda*, and the surprising source of the term, 'Waltzing Matilda.' Guests will hear both tunes and a wonderful contemporary version.

A exhibition of photos of Henry Lawson and highlights of his life along with a copy Paterson's original *Waltzing Matilda* manuscript are displayed.

Audiences of all ages will find the show entertaining, educational and rewarding and will be motivated to re-evaluate or be acquainted for the first time with both poets wonderful poems and stories of our history and heritage. Excellent entertainment for senior's groups, heritage festivals and club entertainment.

Program, The Old Bark School, A Song of the Republic, Andy's Gone with Cattle, Rain in the Mountains, Faces in the Street, The Grog 'an Grumble Steeplechase, The Outside Track, Said Grenfell to My Spirit, The Fight at Eureka Stockade, Freedom on the Wallaby, The Never Never Country, The Route March, Reedy River, Waratah & Wattle, On the Night Train, The Lights of Cobb & Co, O'Hara J.P., Drifted Back, Thou Bonny Woods of Craigelee, *Waltzing Matilda*, Mulga Bill, The Man From Ironbark, A Bush Christening, The Last Parade, Clancy of the Overflow, Lost, Pioneers + Old Botany Bay, My Country. Program runs for 2 hours.

Contact Roger Walter for bookings: 0409 261788, [roger1788@bigpond.com](mailto:roger1788@bigpond.com)

---

"The Songs of Henry Lawson" part of the Henry Lawson Festival, Gulgong 2009, 2010 and 2011