

Media release

***Back Block Bards* recitals 'tour'**

Back Block Bards poets will continue their recitals 'tour' at Beef Week which starts in Casino, NSW on Saturday May 18.

The Beef Week events follow on from successful recitals at Booligal, Hay and Hillston during April.

Back Block Bards is a campaign by members of the Vagg and Parker families from the Hillston/Ivanhoe district of NSW to raise funds for the Dementia Australia Research Foundation. It began in October 2018 with a book launch and art exhibition in Hillston and involves sales of a book of bush poetry, artwork and a quilt all produced by the family members.

Jon, Graham and Allan Vagg will travel around 1,000 kilometres to attend Beef Week and will be join other bush poets between 10 am and noon on Thursday May 23 and Friday May 24 and from 10 am on Saturday May 25.

The trio will also entertain drivers and owners at a special recital for the International Scout Owners Club of Australia at their bi-annual get together dinner on the Thursday night.

A spokesperson for *Back Block Bards*, Heather Frewin, said the recitals 'tour' is a great way for the public to hear some of the terrific poems from the book.

"To date, the campaign has raised more than \$40,000 in donations for dementia research. We hope this leg of the recitals 'tour' will provide additional funds for this cause, which touches so many of us," she said.

Books will be on sale at all the recital locations or can be purchased for \$25.00 each at backblockbards.org.au.

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