

LAWSON'S GULGONG MATES



Henry Lawson was under no false illusions about the harsh reality of the Australian bush. Even so, critics agree that the core of his most artistic achievement appeared while he was actually, 'up country' indeed, it is these works - casual, colloquial, laconic - which capture, somewhat romantically, what we today perceive to be Lawson's real Australia: the endless beauty of its wide spaces, its dense bush, the evening campfire, the billy on the boil, the damper, the stockman, the humour, the pathos, the joys and sorrows and, above all, the dauntless spirit of its people.

It was a time 'on the Wallaby' when it made good sense to have a spare tin mug and stump around the campfire just in case some mates happened by to share some tea and good times with you. So this show was conceived over 12 years ago by members of the Gulgong Musical and Dramatic Society as a way of introducing tourists to the life and works of Henry Lawson. This is the essence of "LAWSON'S GULGONG MATES".

With poetry, yarns and music from the 'roaring days', the show is a tribute to the man described as the 'authentic voice of Australia' and who spent much of his childhood in and around the Gulgong goldfields. All of this evening's performers are past/present members of the Gulgong M.A.D. Society.