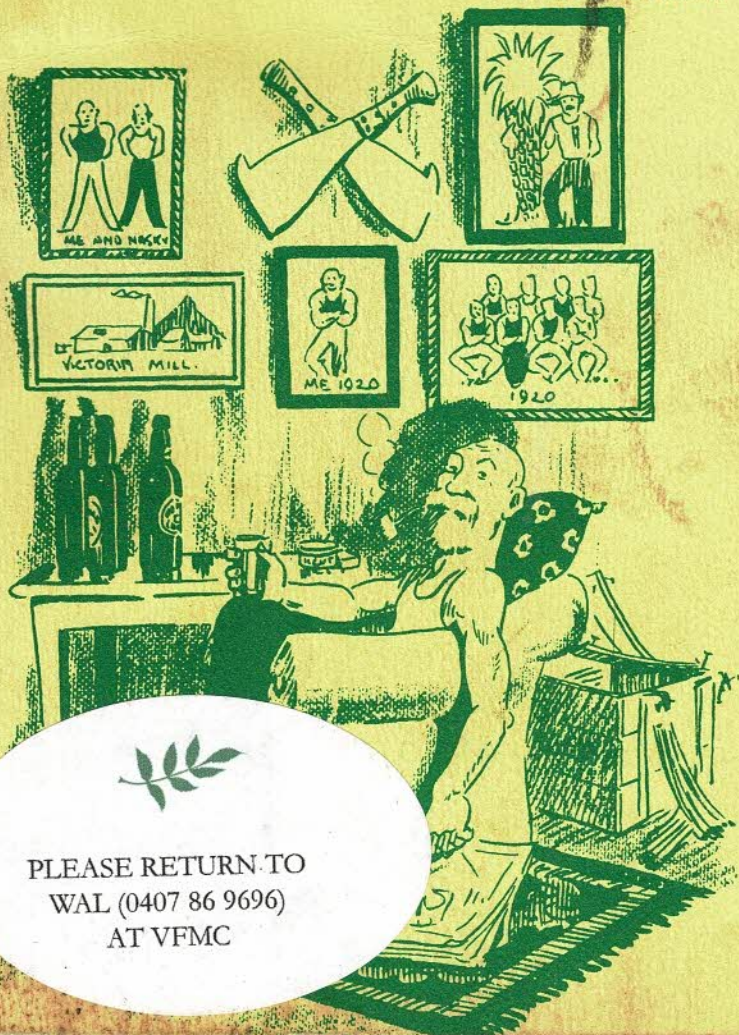


SONGS FROM THE CANEFIELDS

BY DAN SHEAHAN

(REVISED EDITION)



PLEASE RETURN TO
WAL (0407 86 9696)
AT VFMC

INDEX (NEW POEMS)

| | |
|--|--------|
| Introduction | VII |
| Preface | X |
| An Introduction | XIII |
| The Road to Gunnedah | XV |
| Lines to a Nameless Colleen | XVIII |
| Thoughts from a Dugout in Plug Street, Belgium ... | XIX |
| The Digger's Old Hat | XX |
| The Skiting Australian | XXI |
| The Unshaven Digger | XXIII |
| How Bagpipes Affect Scotsmen and Others | XXV |
| The Rooster's Bed | XXVII |
| Corney the Duckling in Search of a Wife | XXVIII |
| The Lass of Spicket's Creek | XXX |
| Arthur McKee | XXXIII |
| Sammy Akers | XXXVI |
| The Poor Dairyman | XXVIII |
| A Stolen Coat | XLII |
| The Song of Tobacco | XLIV |
| The "Ramie Trees are Down" | XLVII |
| Fate and Gods Decide | L |
| The Little Blue Cape | LII |
| A Trainee's Letter to His Mother | LIII |
| An Introduction | LIV |

INDEX (PREVIOUSLY PRINTED POEMS)

| | |
|--|----|
| My Autobiography | 3 |
| The girl from Glashakeenleen | 7 |
| "At Florrie Shea's" | 9 |
| A night in Bally Carty | 11 |
| Sarah Jones' egg | 14 |
| A Messines episode | 17 |
| The Sleeper-Cutters' Camp | 19 |
| "Iron Bark" | 20 |
| Rankin's Soak | 21 |
| The Bellinger fleas | 23 |
| The yap that once through Tara's Hall . . . | 25 |
| An Order written from a waterhole to a Station Book-keeper . . . | 26 |
| When Bally had a hair cut | 27 |
| Baking of a bun | 29 |
| The last man of the first A.I.F. | 31 |
| When young Lochinvar became the Council's common ranger . . . | 33 |
| Kumundi Creek | 34 |
| "Holy Joe, the Twister" | 35 |
| The Sergeant's cow | 37 |
| When the Minstrel Boy went bush | 40 |
| The opening of the hall | 41 |
| A bad man at the Pearly gates | 43 |
| "Singapore" | 45 |
| Jim Doolan | 46 |
| A station cook | 47 |
| "Ribbity John" | 48 |
| Broken Pole Creek | 50 |
| Tommy Dooley's Pub | 52 |
| The beer strike in Tully | 53 |
| Vote Peter White as Chairman | 55 |
| Back to Ingham | 57 |
| The Rodeo | 59 |
| Support for local Council | 61 |
| Payment of a "Depression" debt | 63 |
| An application for "Compo" | 63 |
| "Long Pocket" | 64 |
| Opening the Elphinstone School | 65 |
| How the "Pocket" won the "Cup" | 67 |
| A plea for "Tick" | 69 |
| A Pub without beer | 71 |
| How "The Pub with no beer" came to be written | 72 |

| | |
|---|-----|
| When you're short of a smoke | 73 |
| Pay day at the Pub | 74 |
| John Ottavi's mule | 76 |
| Send off to A.I.F. volunteer | 78 |
| The days we cut it green | 79 |
| The Farmers' Meeting in ye olden times | 81 |
| The death song of the cane beetle | 82 |
| The '27 Flood | 84 |
| The death of "Digger" Martin | 86 |
| The Ashton Hotel | 87 |
| Billy Might | 88 |
| The Elections | 89 |
| The Councillors' Rocks | 91 |
| The Red Rum of Bundy | 92 |
| Vote Kelly's Brigade | 94 |
| To the Electors of Kennedy | 95 |
| The Canegrowers' dilemma | 96 |
| Cutting Chop | 98 |
| "Rats" | 100 |
| The Valley Mail | 101 |
| "A Canecutter's operation" | 103 |
| The morning wash | 104 |
| "The Canegrower's dream" | 105 |
| Hauling cane trucks to the Mill | 107 |
| Shades of Isaac Walton | 109 |
| "Abergowrie" | 110 |
| The Road to Abergowrie | 111 |
| Back to the horse | 113 |
| Beer of Bulimba | 115 |
| The Cane Harvest | 116 |
| Abergowrie no more | 118 |
| The breaking of the drought | 120 |
| Election Day | 122 |
| The Valuator | 124 |
| Venables' Cat | 126 |
| Where the sugar cane grows | 128 |
| An old-time crony | 129 |
| The man that was born too soon | 131 |
| The quiet little pub in the bush | 133 |
| The dog from Julia Creek | 134 |
| The hearing aid | 136 |
| When a brother Bard (ultimo) wrote my Epitaph | 138 |
| My reply... | 138 |
| The Lament of a Castrated Bull | 140 |