

Out and About with 'Country Folk'

The Royal Society for the Blind volunteer taskforce has done it again! Using **Country Music** as a medium to raise funds for a worthy cause.

If you don't know what it is like to be **blind or vision impaired** then you possibly don't realise how fortunate you are to have good eyesight. We can all sympathise and attempt to empathise, but what is it **really** like?

Our Pam, yes the one who is often **Running Bear** and has been known to **wear a beard** told a true story about a gentleman carrying a white cane. A man was recently standing at a local Bus Stop waiting for the overdue public transport to arrive.

It so happened that a combination of unforeseen events occurred.

The first was; it was **raining**. Yes... after months of drought conditions, it was **'Raining!'**

The second was that one metre behind the rain drenched blind man (holding a white cane) was a **bus shelter**.

The blind man didn't see the shelter which would have protected him from potential pneumonia. Yet not one passer-by stopped to provide him with advice or assistance.

As **Pam** told the story... there was complete silence..... However.... a **tremendously loud, hearty, solitary laugh burst out** from the seated audience!

There was **silent astonishment!..... How could anyone find this so funny?**

It so happens that the story had tickled the sense of humour of a listener seated in the front row of the audience. He saw the funny side of the story ... The listener is also... totally blind!

From this point on the music became the main focus of attention. The stage was now alive with **Country Music**, the satisfied audience clapped in time with **Pam's** bass guitar, and **Martin's** drums. The cheerful spectators applauded as each artist, and the **Suede Country Band** put on a great show. **Well done Martin, Rob, Tracey, Sarah, John, Nathaniel, Pam, Charlie and Greg.**

Gig Guide

Acknowledgement to

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Seated in the crowd were many familiar faces from surrounding **Country Music Clubs** and many folk associated with **The Royal Society for the Blind**. Those who attended the function at **Munno Para Bowling & Recreation Club** are to be commended for their support. The artists who gave their time and effort to put on such a good fundraising event are truly deserving of much recognition.

Behind the scenes there were many unseen anonymous supporters who facilitated the event, and who provided a tremendous smorgasbord of delicious goodies. To everyone involved it is encouraging to see that an event such as this can shine a light on those who experience blindness, yet can still share in the humour, the friendship and the enjoyment of good old **Country Music**. **Funds Raised.....\$2200.00. Well done!**