

A Corryong Courier Feature Publication





COOOOEEEE!

HAVE YOU HEARD THE NEWS?! THIS YEAR'S FESTIVAL IS SET TO BE BIGGER THAN EVER!

APRIL 13th - 16th 2023 - Corryong

We have sensed the enthusiasm by many locals surrounding the new changes made to this year's Man From Snowy River Bush festival.

While we have had much support from volunteers committees and staff in the lead up to the festival, this year has also focused on welcoming back locals to join us celebrating our Australian Bush heritage, which will include Sunday being 'FREE' for all locals.

We have also welcomed our new General Manager – Melissa Rice, who has led the team to incorporate exciting new features to the program and all-round happenings at the festival.

With the success of last years Ag Field Day, we are bringing it back to you this year and set to kick off at 9am Wednesday 12th at the Old Primary School grounds. We would love to see more locals join us this year and hoping the weather hold for us.





The bush festival plays a vital role in the Upper Murray Community and it is greatly appreciated that it is recognised as such by government and supporting bodies. The festival board and staff express their deep appreciation to the sponsors, patrons, volunteers, competitors and landowners. Without their contribution this festival would not exist.

Enjoy your time at the festival!

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A big welcome

We have managed to overcome several turbulent years to be genuinely excited with what we have in front of us in delivering the 2023 festival.

Our strong culture and financial position is a testament to our focus on best practices, vertical integration and ability to control our destiny through smart investment and governance.

I was once told in business to "never forget where you come from". With that in mind we have this year focused on the Stockman's Challenge.

The Challenge is where it all began many years ago. Whilst we have progressed to be the largest and most successful event of its type in Australia, we saw the need for change.

Recently the sport of Stockman's Challenge has been met with very limited entries and for a myriad of reasons cancellations of some events. Once we reviewed the climate we knew we had to be bold and make the change.

We look forward to this year's new format of preliminary events. We have naming rights sponsors across all preliminary and divisional events including finals along with the largest purse ever seen in Stockman's Challenge events!

I would like to thank our Challenge Committee, full of new and returning contributors and supporters for their tireless work in seeing the need for change and seeking support from the board to make it happen.

We are pleased to welcome back the Upper Murray Agricultural Field Days running in conjunction with the festival. This is not only exciting for our region but also local and regional suppliers of equipment and services.

It's a great community event that we will look to grow in the coming years with endless possibilities to its final makeup and destination as a standalone event.

To our amazing sponsors, we simply would not be here without you. Your continued support is greatly appreciated and know this event and your exposure for being a part of it will continue to grow year on year.

We of course must make special mention

to RM Williams, our up naming rights sponsor. It is exciting to see them wi go from strength to vo strength back in Australian ownership and we are to genuinely excited with cla what the future holds to collectively for both of our for

organisations. So the 2023 festival is

upon us! It does not happen without all of our volunteers, staff, board and committee members to put together this world class event. I would like to sincerely thank them all for their tireless work and dedication to this fantastic event. On behalf of the board and staff of the Man from Snowy River Bush Festival – welcome to our 2023 event.

We once again look forward to delivering you another incredible festival. Our focus has always been the celebration of our Australian Bush Heritage that can well be forgotten in these times of political correctness and cancel culture.

Changes have been made to the festival format to keep it relevant.

We see a unique link through our connections with RM Williams, this great festival and Banjo Paterson. Put simply 'One Piece of Leather, One Event, One Poem – Uniquely Australian'.

Celebrating everything that is Australia, Our Heritage and Your Heritage – High Country!

Cameron Jackson, Chairman, Man from Snowy River Bush Festival.

Upper Murray

Get on the right track

Experience our countryside as it was always intended - untouched, unexpected and free.

Here in the Upper Murray we're home to an abundance of State Forests and We've got adventure in spades! Hit the tracks for a leisurely morning stroll, or throw on a pack and spend a few days hiking through diverse landscapes to the more rugged corners of the region. Quiet back roads and dedicated bike

National Parks that are ready to be explored.

Cudgewa Bluff Falls, Paddy's River Falls and the spectacular Thowgla Falls provide opportunities for you to reconnect with nature. trails will keep cyclists of all abilities peddling.

Find out more and extend your adventure in the Upper Murray:



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visituppermurray.com.au



CORRYONG COURIER - MAN FROM SNOWY RIVER BUSH FESTIVAL FEATURE 2023

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Festival preserves our heritage

recovering While from the effects of the 2019-2020 Black Summer bushfires and the pandemic, Corryong has been able to host a successful Man From Snowy Bush Festival for the past two years and the 2023 event promises to be better than ever! The bush festival

proudly celebrates our Aussie bush heritage for four days in the heart of the high country and the showcase event this year will be the 28th running of the MFSR Challenge.

The entertainment features musical acts on the live stage, headlined by Sara Storer, Travis Collins, The Pigs, Jayne Denham and Paul Costa and extends to a fraternity highly talented of bush poets, artists and photographers through to the dust busting action of the rodeo on offer.

This year's festival will mark 28 years since its inception in its current format.

The iconic Man From Snowy River Challenge will once again be the main attraction, where 70 of the country's highest calibre of riders come together to compete for the ultimate accolade.

The Challenge this year has had a massive freshen up, with some events coming together or having a makeover and another event being added to the mix.

To top it off the prize money has never looked



better with the Open taking winner home \$30,000 and the Ladies winner taking home \$7,500.

"Our competitors have entries been amazing with some top names making the trip to Corryong the title could be anyone's," said Challenge Co-ordinator, Jasmine Pierce.

"We also have some new feature events in the arena with a Friday night Feature Cutout to set the pass and our Saturday night rodeo is going to bring the energy with Xtreme Broncs taking over the reins,.

"Thirty of Australia's

best cowboys and wildest horses will

horseman, John Mitchell, is shooting for four titles after a hat trick from 2016-18 and is likely to have keen competition from his brother and former twotime champion, David.

Former junior challenge winner, Travis Bandy, will be out to emulate his father Scott who is a four-time winner of the event.

Reigning champion, Morgan Webb will be defending his title in his quest for a third consecutive challenge title to add to his 2009 win.

The women's division will be wide open with eight-time champion, O'Shea, Emma not competing this year.

The festival also pays homage to 'Banjo' Paterson's Man From Snowy River poem in a live re-enactment, with crowds watching 'in very fear' as mountain horsemen take on the steep and winding mountains in pursuit of 'the colt that got away'.

NOW OPEN

22 HANSON ST.



"The authentic nature of our festival, the spectacular scenery, the variety and high calibre of competition, entertainment and friendly locals are the fundamentals that bring thousands of wanderers to Corryong," said festival co-ordinator, Melissa

Rice.

"To make sure you complete the journey sure don't miss out on anything, footed. purchase an official souvenir program."

The Challenge **Preliminary Events**

1. Welaregang Station Packhorse:- Based on an Australian tradition of packing through the mountains, competitors pack their horses and navigate an obstacle course resembling bush terrain. Open competitors are required to shoe and pack their horse securely before navigating the course, then returning to

2. Ag Warehouse Bareback:- Competitors

one beast from the mob of cattle in the yard or the 'camp' and block and turn the beast at least two or three times to prove to the judge that they have the

unpack.

beast under control; then take it out of the yard and through a course around pegs involving right and left hand turns in a figure eight before guiding it through two pegs known as 'the gate'. 5. 4Cyte Cattleman's Crack:- A combination

bareback within a set time

demonstrating maximum

control

manoeuvrability of their

horse before showcasing a

Horseshoeing: -

and shoe one foot of

their nominated horse

demonstrating their ability,

to maintain the horse's

welfare if they were to lose

a shoe(s) when travelling

across bush terrain -

ensuring their steed could

4. Cydectin Platinum

Stockhandling:- Riders

on horseback 'cut out'

3. Jimmy Scammell

60 second freestyle.

Competitors

and

prepare

skill,

event of two classic events- the whip crack and cross country. Competitors navigate a bush style obstacle course that will have whip crack targets throughout combined with cross country jumps. There is a set time to complete the course demonstrating horsemanship at the highest standard.

6. Corcoran Parker



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bucking be matched up against each other to bring the electricity to the main arena." In the Challenge, local



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Stockmen's Cut Out:-Competitors work a released cow in a series of sections; a boxing section, 'cutting the cow' once the rider thinks it is ready; then they proceed into the next section, which is blocking the beast down the fence and then on to maneuver the beast into a figure of eight pattern to complete their run.

Challenge Finals

• CRT Ag Mate Open Wild Horse Catch

· SGE Helicopters' Stocksaddle Buckjump

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MAN FROM SNOWY RIVER CHALLENGE COLOUR GROUPS

2023 COLOUR GROUPS MFSR CHALLENGE ** Subject to

	NED GROUP	
1	Morgan Webb	
2	Jordan Arbuthnot	
3	Colby Hann	
4	Scott Nimmo	
5	Christy Davidson	
6	Chloe Mitchell	
7	Claire Lindley	
8	Jessica Foster	

- 1	YELLOW GROUP	
9	John Mitchell	
10	Michael Green	
11	Chris Caslick	
12	Peter Moffatt	
13	Jess Smith	
14	Millie Triggs	
15	Luke Turnbull	
16	Sophie Thorley	

	DARK BLUE GROUP	
17	Travis Bandy	
18	Rhys Angland	
19	Charlie Paton	
20	Trent Stocks	
21	Hannah Blair	
22	Melissa Baxter	
23	Harrison Scarlett	
24	Annie Triggs	

	LIME GREEN GROUP	
25	Darren Towns	
26	Luke Bennett	
27	Lachie Whiteley	
28	Thomas Burke	
29	Debbie Arnold	
30	Anna Paton	
31	Billy Phegan	
32	Paige Baxter	

	LIGHT BLUE GROUP	
33	Daryl Baines	
34	Stephan Rouch	
35	Ben Howe	
36	Stew Moroney	
37	Sally Stockwell	
38	Katie Faithfull	
39	Harrison Baxter	
40	Lacey Overeem	

nange	e ***	
1.10	DARK GREEN GROUP	
41	Kieran Davidson	
42	Sean Gray	
43	Bruno Robinson	
44	Harry Vines	
45	Hannah Daley	
46	Ella Pearson	
47	Ruby McCourt	
48	Scarlett Chaston	

-	PINK GROUP	
49	David Mitchell	
50	Lachie Sim	
51	Troy Nicholls	
52	Tom Willoughby	
53	Sarah Finlayson	
54	Carrie Jones	
55	Grace Brabin	
56	Patrick Shanahan	

	ORANGE GROUP	
57	Sam Webb	
58	Ben Belcher	
59	Stephan Connor	
60	Angus Weston	
61	Mel Towns	
62	Sarah Faithfull	
63	Jack Shanahan	
64	Gemma King	

-	WHITE GROUP	_
65	Matt Maliki	
66	Neale Green	
67	Sean Lynch	
68	Kye Willis	
69	Larissa Guaran	_
70	Emilly Thomas	
71	Mackenzie Dunn	
72	Tom Rudd	

CHALLENGE FINALS

9.00am-10.00am: Striplings Challenge Final 12 noon-12.30: Junior Final 12.30pm-1.00pm: Ladies Brumby Catch **1pm: Open Wild Horse Catch 1.30pm: Stock Saddle Buckjump** 2.30pm: Presentations **NOTE: GROUPS WERE CORRECT AT THE TIME OF PRINTING**

2023 STRIPLINGS COLOUR GROUPS

BROWN		BROWN MAROON		PURPLE		DARK BLUE	
1	Darcy Dallaglio	7	Harriet Brabin	13	Brooke Uren	19	Jack Lindley
2	Jake Dallaglio	8	Sybil Triggs	14	Harry Hiscock	20	Lachlan Lindley
3	Teale Moffatt	9	Lachlan Green	15	Addyson Arnold	21	Marli King

They can crack whips, shoe horses, catch brumbies and ride like The Man From Snowy River - and they assemble in Corryong every autumn to battle for the title as the best stockman or woman in the country.

Challenge competitors will take part in demanding tests of skill including a vet and gear check, stock handling, packhorse, bareback obstacle riding, horseshoeing and cross country riding.

Only the top ten competitors will take part in the daring final events - brumby catching (pictured) and stocksaddle buckjumping.

These will determine who will leave Corryong with the prestigious Modern Man from Snowy River title. There is also a Junior and Ladies section as well as a Striplings Challenge.



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4	Jasmine Klingner	10	Milly Richmond	16	Lucinda Foster	22	Sammy Easey
5	Ryder Pierce	11	Macauley Green	17	Josh Parker	23	Elizabeth Scarlet
6	Edward Smith	12	Olivia Roberts	18	Montana Parker	24	Airlie Davison
						25	Jorgie Sturt

Young guns show skills

that

It's not only the Featured on the Sunday adults who get a crack at in the main arena will competing in one of the be the running of the most prestigious challenge Striplings Challenge where competitions in the riders aged between 10 country, - the kids also get and 14 years will compete in a 'mini challenge' that a run!

includes elements of all to be actively involved in the preliminary events of their community and one the Open Challenge. that requires them to learn "We are very excited specialised horsemanship to be continuing an event skills," said events coencourages the ordinator, younger generations both Thomas.

Maureen

Bill Tilley MLA, **Member for Benambra** 91 Hume Street, Wodonga (02) 6009 0808 0 🖂 bill.tilley@parliament.vic.gov.au

CORRYONG COURIER - MAN FROM SNOWY RIVER BUSH FESTIVAL FEATURE 2023

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THURSDAY APRIL 13TH	7AM — 7PM
FRIDAY APRIL 14TH	7AM - 7PM
SATURDAY APRIL 15TH	8AM — 5PM
SUNDAY APRIL 16TH	8AM — 5PM

24-30 Hanson Street Corryong

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Festival focuses on horses

As well as the pretigious Man From Snowy River Challenge, the festival will feature other events that showcase the Australian stockhorse.

Tom Curtain

Tom is an awardwinning singer songwriter, horseman, entrepreneur and family man, living and working in outback Australia.

To celebrate the release of his chart-topping fifth album, 'Nothin's Gonna Stop Us', Tom (pictured) is touring the country with his horses, working dogs and young family.

His successful music career includes prestigious Golden Guitar awards. Tom owns the national award-winning tourist attraction, Katherine Outback Experience in the Northern Territory, which celebrates life on the land through real horse training and working dog demonstrations.

Tom is an official ambassador of Dolly's Dream and uses his tours to raise awareness about bullying and the need to speak up and be kind.

When not performing, Campdrafts and in Challenges with his family.

Tom was the awarded 2022 ABCRA WA Zone Rider of the Year. Catch Tom at the

following times:

Thursday 11am-12 noon Rodeo Arena

Stage

2pm-3pm Rodeo Arena 6.30pm-7.20pm Live

Friday 1pm-2pm Rodeo Arena 4pm-5pm Equine Education Arena 8pm Rodeo Arena Saturday 12.30pm-1.30pm Rodeo Arena Equine 2pm-3pm

Eduction Arena Sunday 9am – 10am Equine Education Aren

Richard Webb Cutting

Richard is a passionate horse trainer with many, many years of experience under his belt. He runs clinics teaching horsemanship, helping participants get the best out of their horse and themselves.

Richard will be running demonstrations at the festival this year, showing the incredible power of a rider and their horse to control and manage cattle. Watching these

demonstrations is almost like witnessing a dance between horse and beast, an incredible feat of agility and composure.

Richard will also be judging the Corcoran Parker Stockmen's Cut Out and the Wild Horse Catch, bringing his



You can see Richard in action at the following times:-

Thursday

Rodeo 1.30pm-pm Arena Friday

12 noon - 1pm Rodeo Arena

Open Campdraft

This event shwcases Australian horses and riders.

Affiliated and run under Southern Campdraft Association Rules, campdraftaing is Australia's fastest growing recognised sport.

From an historical perspective, campdrafting is Australia's own true horse discipline and was born on the plains of Oueensland. Northern Territory and New South Wales more than 100 years ago.

Campdrafting is very much a family and community focussed horse sport.

The ability of the horses, combined with the skilled horsemanship, makes campdrafting a sport for both the competitor and the spectator alike.

The event will be on Sunday from 7am to 10am in the Campdraft Arena.



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Relive 'The Man's' Ride



The Man From Snowy River Bush Festival is proud to again present the stirring re-enactment of Banjo Paterson's iconic poem at Thowgla on Friday at 10am (follow the signs from the western end of town).

The re-enactment of Banjo's famous poem 'The Man From Snowy River', is located in the Thowgla Valley with the mountains as the backdrop and the stage is set for an event not to be missed.

The re-enactment pays tribute to the men, women and horses of the past.

Bring your chair, sit back, relax and enjoy pre-performance the entertainment as the early settlers set up camp in their summer mountain hut.

Gates open at 7.30am and a shuttle bus is available.

Entertainment will be provided by Pete Denahy, Emmiliqua East, Tom Curtain, Geoffrey Graham Timberhills and the Bullock Team.

At 11am the Riley's Ride[®] group is welcomed, as the horsemen and women arrive from their epic journey.

The ride traces the last journey of legendary Upper Murray stockman, Jack Riley, who reportedly met Banjo Paterson in 1890 and is locally regarded as the inspiration for his famous ballad.

It is held to commemorate Jack Riley's life and the part he played in the early days of this district and also to laud the efforts of those who selflessly sought to rescue him under harsh conditions.

After their arrival, the iconic poem then comes to life with an exceptional display of mountain horsemanship with the show beginning around 11.30am.

Jack Riley is buried at Corryong Cemetery and a granite headstone has been erected in his memory.

In 1995 the Upper Murray celebrated the centenary of the publication of Paterson's 'The Man from Snowy River and Other Verses' with a festival which has developed into an international event.

The final journey

More than 40 riders have rolled their swags and saddled up and are currently making their way from Tom Groggin Station, through the spectacular scenery of the Snowy Mountains and down to Corryong in time

for the 2023 Bush Festival. Known as 'Riley's Ride' the event is an essential element of the bush festival.

It traces the last journey of legendary Upper Murray stockman, Jack Riley.

Instigated in 1989, the ride offers spectacular views and the chance to meet people from far and wide, many which hail from different walks of life but share a love of the Australian bush and horses as well as deep respect for the pioneering families of the area.

It is a challenging ride and a character building experience, so congratulations go to the riders and organisers for another fantastic year.

Browse and take

Over the four day trek riders travel on average about 30kms a day and spend between five and eight hours in the saddle each day.

To book a place on the 2024 ride you can enrol at this year's Man From Snowy River Bush Festival. Bookings and a deposit will be taken on the Sunday morning of the event - contact the Festival

Office.

Breakfast Lunch **59 Hanson Street** Corryong

BLACK SHEEP

Open 7 days

from 8am

Coffee



There's plenty to do

There are a host of showcase eveents at this year's festival to cater for all tastes.

Timberhills The Bullock Team is a piece of living history and third generation driver, Ron McKinnon, still uses his bullocks in his forestry work, snigging logs out of the bush where they are often better than logging after the completion of Bush Markets & Festival their five-day journey at Trade Stalls has something the Corryong Cemetery to for everyone. pay tribute at Jack's final advantage of the huge resting place. The riders will then proceed to the array of products from jewellery to saddles, a Rodeo Arena to celebrate bit of rustic art or even the end of their epic journey. farming equipment.

The High Country See full program for more!

Upper Murray

equiment and leaving minimal impact on the environment.

The Ol' Foz Dog Jump on Saturday is areal crowd pleaser.

Ol' Foz was a dingo cross cattle dog from Tom Groggin Station and an amazing character renowned for his jumping ability. A fun event for everyone and all sizes of dogs are welcome to compete for great prizes. Jack Riley The Commemoration is attended by Riley's Riders

Community Bakery

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Bush Poets meet and greet in the Marquee Thursday 13th



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ENJOY the STORIES and COLLECTIONS of our PAST...

The Man From Snowy River Museum in Corryong is a must see attraction!

The museum is filled with thousands of treasures relating to the history of the Upper Murray. The collection highlights:

- Jim Simpson's POW Rug
 The Mitchell Ski Collection
- Jack Riley Memorabilia
- Plus much more!

The museum is housed in the original 1926 Shire of Upper Murray building, with many outbuildings included from around the district.

- Jarvis HomesteadOld Lockup
- Policestation
- Schoolhouse
- Blacksmith's Forge Shearing Shed

Tool Shed

Open 7 days a week 10am to 4pm (1st September - 31st May) Winter opening hours vary Please contact us to arrange



Child: \$1 Family: \$10 **Groups welcome!**

Adults: \$5 Concession: \$4

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Email: info@manfromsnowyrivermuseum.com.au Web: www.manfromsnowyrivermuseum.com.au

Bards gather at the block



The Man from Snowy River Festival has something for everyone and a home base at the Lions' Club Youth Hall the surrounding and Banjo's Block, at the

corner of Strzelecki Way and Donaldson Street, is the place to be for poetry and bush music enthusiasts. Corryong's bush

Clothing

Antique's

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Haberdashery

festival is based on the

iconic 'Man from Snowy River' poem which was written in 1890 by Andrew Barton 'Banjo' Paterson and bush poets and musicians come from all over Australia to celebrate his iconic ode. Participants also

perform other traditional

judged pre-festival with

finalists reciting

three

Banjo's famous poem on Friday at 6.30pm in the Lions Youth Hall.

The 'Written Serious', 'Silver Brumby' and humorous 'Corryong Larrikin' sections have been judged before the festival.

Performance sections include traditional,

modern, original serious and humorous and yarn sections which are woven around the festival events.

Further fun is to be had at the Carol Reffold Memorial 'One Minute Poem' at the Youth Hall on Sunday at 1pm which closes out this traditional section of the bush fesival.



Geoffrey Graham will feature in the Spirit of the Anzac remembrance concert.

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