



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!

A big welcome

We have managed 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 preliminary events. We have naming rights all sponsors across

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 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.

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

and



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

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

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Festival preserves our heritage

recovering While from the effects 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 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 amazing with some top names making the trip to Corryong the title could be anyone's," said Challenge Co-ordinator, Jasmine

"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 Brones taking over the reins,.

"Thirty of Australia's

best cowboys and wildest horses will bucking be matched up against each other to bring the electricity to the main

In the Challenge, local 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 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'.

The festival will also feature a ute muster, kids party, street parade, bush markets, Aussie bush idol, bushman's whip crack competition and working cattle dog championships.

"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

"To make sure you don't miss out on anything, 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 unpack.

2. Ag Warehouse Bareback:- Competitors complete a course riding bareback within a set time demonstrating maximum control and manoeuvrability of their horse before showcasing a 60 second freestyle.

3. Jimmy Scammell Horseshoeing: -Competitors prepare 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 complete the journey sure footed.

4. Cydectin Platinum **Stockhandling:-** Riders on horseback 'cut out' 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 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 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 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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Corryong

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MAN FROM SNOWY RIVER CHALLENGE **COLOUR GROUPS**

2023 COLOUR GROUPS MFSR CHALLENGE

	1 77 7 7 7 7 7 7	*** Su
	RED 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	

	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	

lange	DARK GREEN GROUP	
41	Kieran Davidson	T
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	

04	Gernina 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		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	
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

It's not only the competing in one of the most prestigious challenge competitions in the country, - the kids also get a run!

Featured on the Sunday adults who get a crack at in the main arena will be the running of the Striplings Challenge where riders aged between 10 and 14 years will compete in a 'mini challenge' that

includes elements of all the preliminary events of the Open Challenge.

"We are very excited to be continuing an event encourages younger generations both to be actively involved in their community and one that requires them to learn specialised horsemanship skills," said events coordinator, Maureen Thomas.

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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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 award-winning 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, in Campdrafts and 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

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

Friday

1pm-2pm Rodeo Arena 4pm-5pm Equine Education Arena

8pm Rodeo Arena Saturday

12.30 pm - 1.30 pm

Rodeo Arena 2pm-3pm Equine

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 decades of experience along with his passion for the industry, looking for the very best in this year's competitors.

competitors.
You can see Richard in action at the following

times:-Thursday

1.30pm-pm Rodeo Arena

Friday

12 noon - 1pm Rodeo

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 Queensland, Northern Territory and New South Wales more than 100 years

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.





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 the pre-performance 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 and the Timberhills 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.

BLACK SHEEP Open 7 days from 8am

Coffee

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Lunch

59 Hanson Street Corryong

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



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There's plenty to do

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

The Timberhills 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 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.

The Jack Riley Commemoration is attended by Riley's Riders after the completion of their five-day journey at the Corryong Cemetery to pay tribute at Jack's final resting place. The riders will then proceed to the Rodeo Arena to celebrate the end of their epic journey.

The High Country

Bush Markets & Festival Trade Stalls has something for everyone.

Browse and take advantage of the huge array of products from jewellery to saddles, a bit of rustic art or even farming equipment.

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Bards gather at the block



The Man from Snowy Festival something for everyone and a home base at the Lions' Club Youth Hall the surrounding 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 festival is based on the

Clothing

Haberdashery

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 and modern poetry styles as well as introduce their own originals.

Poets Breakfast walkups and other concerts will feature Geoffrey W Graham, The Rhymer from Ryde and Gregory North and local musician Trevor Best and the Bonza Blokes Bush Band.

There is also plenty of room and time for other poets and first timers to also 'have a go'.

The competition is keen particularly The Man From Snowy River recital. The first round has been judged pre-festival with three finalists reciting

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.



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