

THE MAN FROM
SNOWY RIVER
BUSH FESTIVAL
Corryong Australia



**THE MAN FROM SNOWY
RIVER BUSH FESTIVAL
CORRYONG, VICTORIA
APRIL 11TH - 14TH, 2024**

Photo: Alice Taprell

A Corryong Courier Feature Publication



Unleash your inner pioneer at the 2024 Man From Snowy River Bush Festival!

Join us for a weekend of rugged adventure and traditional Australian Culture in the heart of the stunning Snowy Mountains. Immerse yourself in the thrilling MFSR Stockmen's Challenge competition, live music performances, delicious bush tucker and more.

For 29 years now The Man From Snowy River Bush Festival has brought people together from all over the country to celebrate our Australian bush heritage, culture and mateship.

Uniquely Australian, we have worked to incorporate the essence of our bush heritage into a weekend of entertainment that showcases the best horsemanship, craft, art, poetry, music, food and more.

The festival boasts an exciting program of events, featuring the newly redesigned 29th Man From Snowy River Challenge where 80 of Australia's best of the best riders come together to see who will be the next Man From Snowy River, over four days, through six preliminary events plus two final events. Who will it be?

Also featured is the show stopping Re-enactment where Banjo's poem is brought to life with the sound of thundering hooves and live music in a spectacular depiction.

With a jam packed program featuring some of Australia's best performers - MFSR Live is sure to deliver, MFSR Art & Photography Exhibition, Timberhill 's Bullock Team, Working Cattle Dog Championships, Markets, Rodeo, Street Parade and the list goes on ...

The Man From Snowy River Bush Festival is not just an event, it is the passion to keep our bush heritage alive for generations to come.

Welcome to the show

We are genuinely excited with what we have in front of us in delivering the 2024 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.

We were bold in our changes to the Stockman's challenge in 2023 and what a success it was!!

This year we see "tweaks" to the preliminary events not changes which is testament to the thought and knowledge invested by the challenge committee to make these changes – action packed events designed to test the competitor and keep the spectator on the edge of their seats.

We are pleased to welcome back the Upper Murray Agricultural Field Day to run in conjunction with the festival this year. Due to the popularity we have changed venue to the main recreation reserve and allowed exhibitors to continue through the weekend. This is not only exciting for our region but also local and regional suppliers of equipment and services.

Riley's Ride this year

is celebrating 35 years. Yes that right – it actually updates the Man from Snowy River Bush festival itself.

There are too many names to mention who have held this event together over its 35 years, from year one route planning and clearing to recovery from the 2003 alpine fires and then the most recent 2019 -2020 bushfires. The crew's contribution to the heritage trail we know as 'Harrington's' over the years is simply profound. Jack Riley's final journey into Corryong has been preserved for the last 35 years by the festival in conjunction with the amazing local staff at Parks Victoria who are just as dedicated as us to keep this trail open.

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.

In 2024 we welcome many new sponsors to the event making this are largest year yet in terms of sponsorship showing great strength and attraction in our event.

We of course must



Riley's Ride has been going for 35 years.

Photo: Jess Fleming Photography.

make special mention 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 2024 festival

is upon us and it does not happen with 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.

I would like to make a special mention to our

staff who have worked as a team all year, a tight knit group who are a for. I – it has been an absolute pleasure to work alongside such a dedicated and selfless team.

On behalf of the board and staff of the Man from Snowy River Bush Festival – welcome to our 2024 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 yours - the High Country!

Cameron Jackson,
Chairman MFSRBF

Welcome to _____ The Undiscovered

Experience the pristine beauty of the Upper Murray, Mitta Valley, and Lake Hume across all four seasons.

From majestic mountains to serene valleys and clear waters, explore uncharted territory with us. Adventure awaits at every turn, whether it's a leisurely stroll or an epic hike.

Discover hidden gems like Flaggy Creek Gorge and Thowgla Falls. With State Forests, National Parks, and crystal-clear waterways, we're a haven for outdoor enthusiasts.

Cyclists will love our network of quiet back roads and dedicated bike trails.

Your scenic journey starts here. Explore more and extend your stay in the Upper Murray, Mitta Valley, and Lake Hume.

To learn more go to visituppermurray.com.au



LAKE HUME

MITTA VALLEY

UPPER MURRAY

Celebrate our horse heritage

While recovering 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 three years and the 2024 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 29th running of the MFSR Challenge.

The iconic Man From Snowy River Challenge will once again be the main attraction, where 80 of the country's highest calibre of riders come together to compete for the ultimate accolade.

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

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 two-time champion, David.

Former junior challenge winner, Travis Bandy, emulated his father Scott, a four-time winner of the senior event, with a victory last year.

The 2022 champion, Morgan Webb will be out to regain his title in his



quest for a third win, 15 years after his last.

Other locals vying for glory include Hannah Blair, Lachie Whiteley, Wendy Sheather, Brad Pierce, Anna Paton and Greg Wheeler.

The women's division and striplings event will also be wide open affairs.

In addition, the festival will host the Wrangler Xtreme Broncs Australia Finals over two exciting nights.

"Thirty of Australia's best cowboys and wildest bucking horses will be matched up against each other to bring the electricity to the main arena," Jasmine said.

The entertainment features musical acts on the live stage headlined by Zara Lindeman, Taylor Moss, Anfrew Swift and the Viper Creek Band on Friday night followed by Zac & George and Danny Phegan on Saturday.

Other entertainment includes a fraternity of highly talented bush poets, artists and photographers.

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 Challenge Preliminary Events

1. Anvil Enterprises & Milong Angus Stud 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. Southern Mountain Helicopter Bareback:- Competitors complete a course riding bareback within a set time demonstrating maximum

skill, control and manoeuvrability of their horse before showcasing a 60 second freestyle.

3. JC Milton 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. 4Cye Cattlemen'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. S&K Whitehead Earth moving 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.

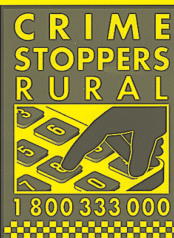
Challenge Finals
 • CRT Agmate Venda Producers Open Wild Horse Catch
 • All Things Country Stocksaddle Buckjump



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 Sunday 7.30am-12 noon / Public holidays
 5.30am-12 noon
 E: info@corryongnews.net.au



If you have information about production of illegal drugs or any other criminal activity, phone Crime Stoppers Rural anonymously on
1800 333 000

www.vic.crimestoppers.com.au

FREE ENTRY for Visitors
 Gold coin donation with proceeds going to local Rotary projects.



29th Annual Tallangatta Farming Expo

Tallangatta Showgrounds Thursday April 18th

EXHIBITORS SHOWCASING GENERAL FARMING, SUSTAINABLE FARMING & SUSTAINABLE LIVING, MARKET AND PRODUCE STALLS - PLUS MUCH MORE!

New innovations Plant & Equipment Over 100 Exhibitors

5 Lucky Gate Prizes to the value of \$50 each.

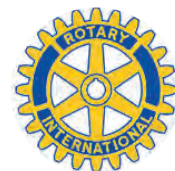
Working dog training with 3 different clinics on the day, all capable of accommodating spectators.

Raffle with \$1000 worth of firewood C/O Tallangatta Rotary Club and Cate and Anthony Dufty.

Something for Everyone A FUN DAY FOR ALL

Site registration forms and competition entry details available by emailing tallangattaexpo@gmail.com or phone 0417 294 234

Sponsors: RSA, nbn Local, Bank WAW, Towong Shire, Rotary Club of Tallangatta



MAN FROM SNOWY RIVER CHALLENGE

2024 COLOUR GROUPS

Correct: April 1st, 2024. Subject to change at anytime

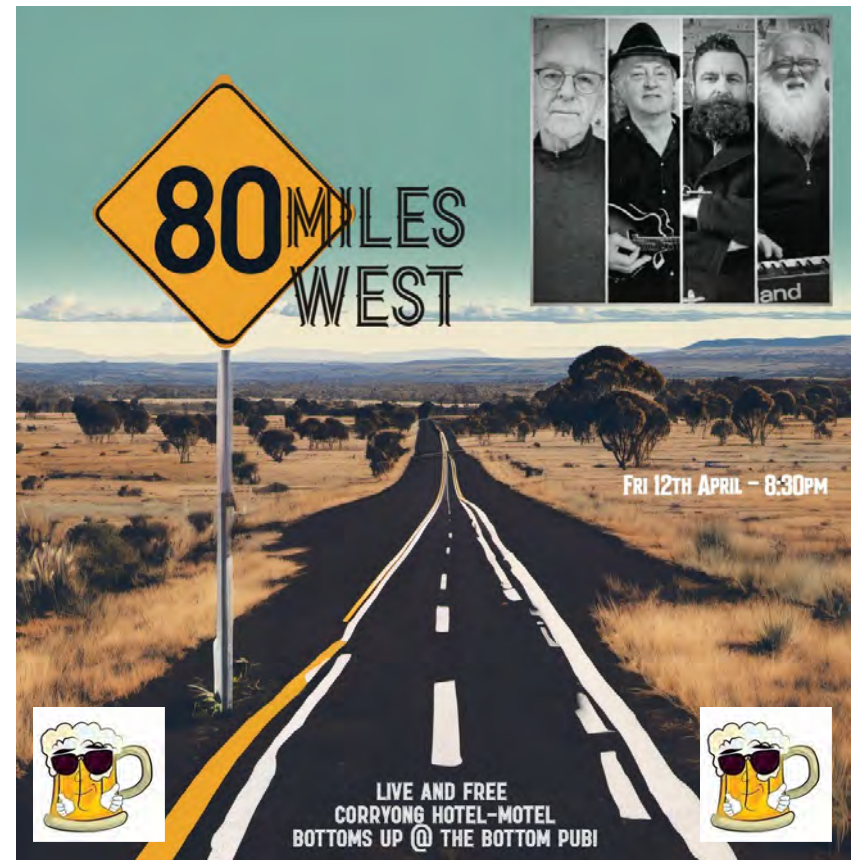
RED GROUP		DARK GREEN GROUP	
1	Travis Bandy	41	Ben Belcher
2	Bruno Robinson	42	Micheal Green
3	Brett Staines	43	Angus Weston
4	Troy Nicholls	44	Kye Miller
5	Larissa Guaran	45	Alison Mathie
6	Hannah Blair	46	Olivia Carey
7	Bill Phegan	47	Bill Weber
8	Annie Triggs	48	Emily Phegan
YELLOW GROUP		PINK GROUP	
9	Morgan Webb	49	Sean Gray
10	Riley Quinn	50	Jordan Arbuthnot
11	Charlie Paton	51	Kye Willis
12	Lachie Whiteley	52	Beau Moore
13	Kelsie Lupson	53	Sarah Faithfull
14	Amelia Mackinnon	54	Marnie Arbuthnot
15	Grace Brabin	55	Emily Crowe
16	Eadie Everard	56	Harry Hiscock
DARK BLUE GROUP		ORANGE GROUP	
17	Emma Webb	57	Kieran Davidson
18	Stephen Rouch	58	Dean Oliver
19	Bailey Guaran	59	Lochie Argue
20	Jay Schembri	60	Jess Smith
21	Jim Bennett	61	Anna Paton
22	Hannah Keen	62	Madi Shingles
23	Pippa Malone	63	Jessica Foster
24	Ruby Douglas	64	Cooper Fitzgerald
LIME GREEN GROUP		WHITE GROUP	
25	Stephen Connor	65	Lachlan Sim
26	David Mitchell	66	Tom Willoughby
27	Wendy Sheather	67	Gregory Wheeler
28	Sean Purcell	68	Patrick O'Ryan
29	Kaitlyn Flint	69	Breanna Arnold
30	Carrie Jones	70	Tup Forge
31	Isaac Lieschke	71	Annie-Maree Martin
32	Emily Pendergast	72	Luke Turnbull
LIGHT BLUE GROUP		BLACK GROUP	
33	Daryl Baines	73	John Mitchell
34	Brad Pierce	74	Christopher Connley
35	Peter Moffatt	75	Mason Tait
36	Christy Davidson	76	Tom Rudd
37	Alyssa Arnold	77	Codie Sutton
38	Jessica May	78	Scarlett Chaston
39	Jack Shanahan	79	Harrison Scarlett
40	Darcy Dall'aglio	80	Mackenzie Dunn

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 - the wild catch catch and stocksaddle buckjump.

These will determine who will leave Corryong with the prestigious Modern Man from Snowy River title.



80Miles West is a four piece that hails from Albury Big Town, 80 Miles West of here! Providing an eclectic take on some of your favourites and some of the B-sides from well known artists on the edge of country, rock and aussie classics. This band is comprised of some well versed musicians of different instruments and will be sure to provide you with something to dance, drink or swoon to on Festival Friday night 12/4 at Corryong Hotel Motel - Bottom Pub. Courtesy bus avail 02 6076 1004 Band Members Pat Westwood, Jack Jensen, Peter Clarke and Gordy Maclean have more than 100yrs experience between them!

2024 STRIPLINGS COLOUR GROUPS

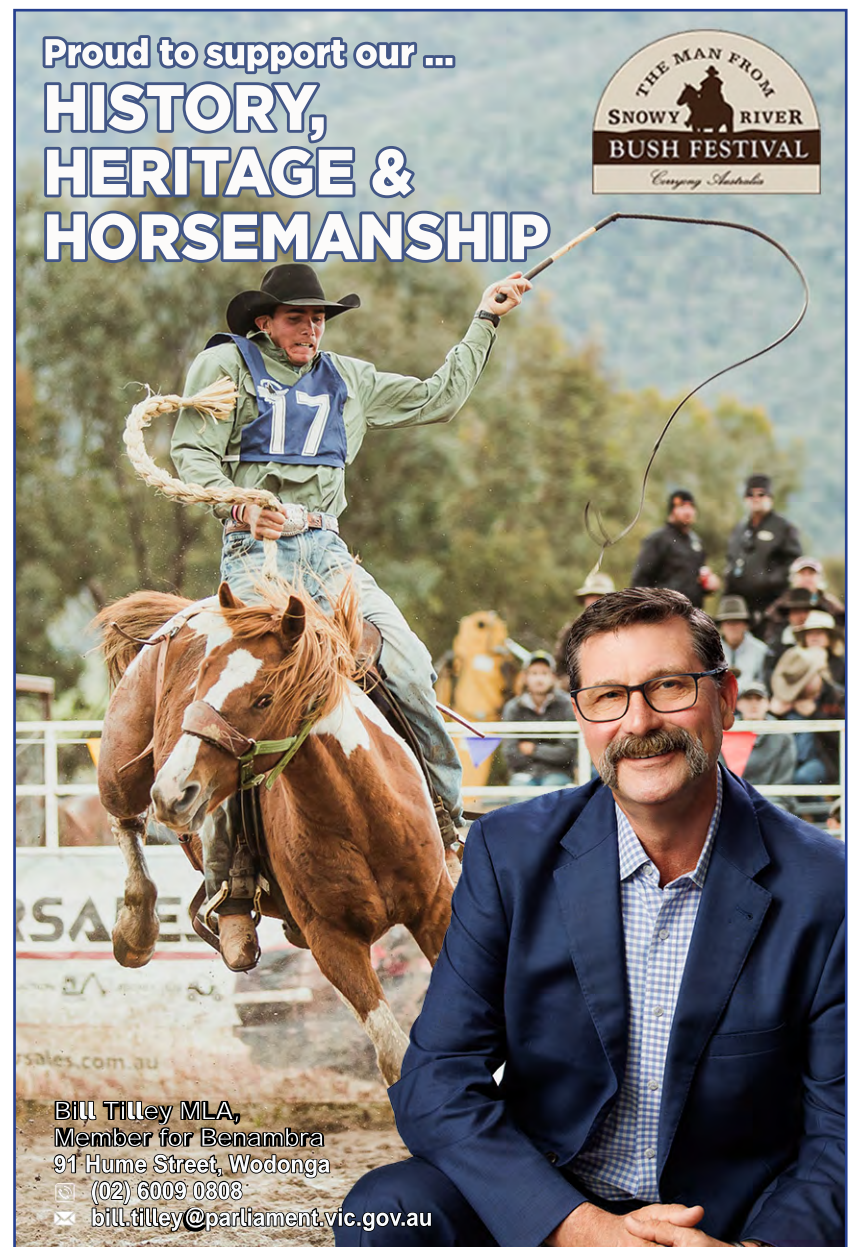
BROWN	STRIPLING	MAROON	STRIPLING	PURPLE	STRIPLING
1	LUCINDA FOSTER	7	HARRIET BRABIN	13	JORJIE STURT
2	Jack Turnball	8	Harrison Smith	14	Ella Connolly
3	Tom Turnball	9	Edward Smith	15	Heidi Fitzgerald
4	Luca Chaplin	10	Amy Manwaring	16	Ryder Pierce
5	Chelsea Reynolds	11	Teale Moffatt	17	Ayla Sim
6	Milly Richmond	12	Elizabeth Scarlett	18	Luey Wilson
DARK BLUE	STRIPLING	LIME GREEN	STRIPLING		
19	JAKE DALLAGLIO	25	Sybil Triggs		
20	Amelia Elkington	26	Montana Parker		
21	Olive Geppert	27	Josh Parker		
22	Dan O'Ryan	28	Rhys Laney		
23	Georgia Shedden	29	Adelaide Phegan		
24		30	Luca Wieland		

CHALLENGE FINALS - SUNDAY AT 12 NOON

12.00-12.30pm: Striplings Challenge

12.30pm-1.00pm: Ladies Wild Horse Catch

1.00pm: Open Wild Horse Catch / 1.30pm: Stocksaddle Buckjump





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Phone: (02) 6076 1286

E: operations@igacorryong.com.au



Festival has an equine focus

As well as the prestigious Man From Snowy River Challenge, the festival will feature other events that showcase our heritage in the R.M. Williams Arena.

GUY MCLEAN

Guy's life with horses started at his family's property in the Queensland bush. Riding his stallion, Nugget bridleless and saddleless into his father's restaurant, reciting poetry, is where his entertainment career started.

The word soon got out about the 'Horseman from Susan River' and he was soon performing at festivals and events.

Guy demonstrates his complete dedication to horses with his amazing liberty performance teams hoping to inspire and educate people, especially the younger generation, as the future in equine and agriculture to be the next great horsemen, stockmen, cowboys, and farmers.

FEATURE CUT OUT

If you are ready to see a top-level performance for horse and rider put to the test, Friday night has you sorted!

In the Cut Out event the rider and horse must work together to hold the beast at the top of the pen away from the rest of the herd, showcasing the amazing skill, ability and agility of horse and rider put together.

PHIL WEBB CUTTING

Having trained, competed, and judged in the Western equine world for over 45 years, Phil has many awards and accolades to his name.

During the 1970s and 80s, Phil traveled to the USA to learn at the Roy Yates Stables, and also worked at the Winderadeen Quarter Horse Stud. Returning to Australia in 1987 Phil continued to train and compete in Cutting, Working Cowhorse and Reining. Phil shares his great passion, knowledge and success delivering a Masterclass annually at Equitana and as a regular at MFSR, while he continues bringing on his own Reined Cow and cutting horses.

FEATURE CAMPDRAFT

Showcasing Australian horses and riders. Affiliated and run under Southern Campdraft Association Rules.

Campdrafting is Australia's fastest growing recognised sport. From a historical perspective, Campdrafting is Australia's own true horse discipline and was born on the plains of Queensland, Northern Territory and New South Wales over 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.

FLINDERS GREENTREE

Flinders is having great success in the horse industry and his credits include winning the 2018 Australian Brumby Challenge, and 2021 MFSR Trainers Challenge. Flinders will be demonstrating how to start liberty and tricks and showcasing his liberty team.

WORKING CATTLE DOG CHAMPIONSHIPS

Join us at the Rodeo Arena, on Thursday evening and experience the skill of our Australian stockmen and women with their trusty canine mates vying for the title of 'The Man From Snowy River Cattle Dog Champion 2024'.

This fast growing sport is designed to showcase the style and control of the cattle dog and its handler.

The stockman's ability to read the cattle and anticipate what will happen next, along with their dog's incredible instinct, years of training and companionship create a partnership which has to be seen to be believed.



Guy McLean and his amazing liberty horses.

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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 from 9am (follow the signs from the western end of town or catch a bus from the Poetry Hall).

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.

Entertainment will be provided by Pete Denahy, Emmiliqua East., Geoffrey Graham, Guy McLean, Trevor Best & The Bonza Blokes, The SulliOvans, The Benambra Backrunners 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 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.

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

To book a place on the 2025 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.

There's plenty to do

There are a host of showcase events 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, snagging logs out of the bush where they are often better than logging equipment 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.

See full program for more!

Upper Murray Community Bakery

Open Everyday during the MFSRBF



37 Hanson Street, Corryong

Ph: 02 6076 1196

a **CNC** social enterprise

Free tastings and promo night Thursday 11th April 5-7pm

travla Australian lager

FULL STRENGTH

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WEEKLY SPECIALS

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WED TRIVIA & SPECIALS BOARD	THU LAMB CUTLETS, CHIPS & SALAD \$24
FRI STEAK NIGHT \$28	SAT PARMY NIGHT \$18
SUN Kids eat free with a full paying adult	

NIGHT KARAOKE

Karaoke Thursday 11th April 8:30pm-Late

COURTESY BUS AVAILABLE
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 INFO@CORRYONGHOTELMOTEL.COM.AU

Bards gather at the block

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 Homestead
- Old Lockup
- Policestation
- Schoolhouse
- Blacksmith's Forge
- Shearing Shed
- Tool Shed



Open 7 days a week
Check website for winter hours

Adults: \$5

Child: \$1

Family: \$10

Groups welcome!

Telephone: 02 6076 2600

103 Hanson St
Corryong Vic 3707
Email: museum@3707.net.au
Web: www.manfromsnowyrivermuseum.com.au



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

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, John Peel, Tim Sheed, Christine Middleton, Kevin McCarthy and Simon Dillon.

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 6.00pm

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 12.30pm and the Judges' Concert which close out this traditional section of the bush festival.



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Bacash's Attic Corryong

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Geoffrey Graham will be one of the featured artists at the festival.



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'9888' CHINESE
RESTAURANT

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OPEN EVERY DAY OF THE FESTIVAL

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LUNCH 11.30AM-2PM & DINNER MON, TUES, WED, THURS 5PM-8.30PM

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'The Club Corryong', Jardine St. & Strzelecki Way, Corryong. Email: csportco@bigpond.com / Website: www.corryongclub.com.au