

## CAMOOWEAL LIVE

Despite some welcome-to-the locals rain in the lead up to this year's festival, around 300 people stayed on through the unseasonal pre-festival downpours to greet the sun and the stars of the Outback for the annual reverie of the Drovers' Camp Festival and all the side events that make it an especially great week to be on the border of Queensland and the Northern Territory.

There was the usual music and poetry entertainment around the town at the Post Office Hotel and van park, in various street locations as well as down -by –the-riverside where the Georgina was resplendent with water and bird life. There was the Friday Drovers' Luncheon, the Friday night parade, mail run and auction and after, invited musicians Bandana from Mt Isa, John O'Dea and Tom Maxwell rotated for a great street concert.

Saturday was music and more music at the Drovers' Camp with the Lake Nash band and some wonderful walk-up artists also contributing. There was the annual Race meeting at Cronin Park, the art, photography and memorabilia exhibitions and of course, all the bronco branding competition events. Visiting from the Riverina, South Australia was Mick Batchelor and his horse Wallace representing the 6<sup>th</sup> Light Brigade (see photo) cantering to the background recitation of Banjo Paterson's *The Last Parade*.

As always, there was the very special line up of those men and women who lived through the droving era of our history (see photo). This year many of them related yarns of their experiences to MC, ABC's John Nutting.

For Saturday night the *Southern Cross Media Country Music Spectacular* featured the touring 'Anne Kirkpatrick Family and Friends' show.

Sunday, following the pattern of recent years, began with the Bush Poets' Breakfast with invited bush poets Brenda Joy and John Lloyd ably supported by poets and yarn spinners warming-up for the *Drovers' Camp Talent Award*. *The Bronze Spur Award* (see results below) was announced at the breakfast and Brenda 'launched' her new DVD *In the Spirit*.

The Lake Nash band then played gospel for a moving Sunday Service.

The DCTA took to stage with 20 different bush poetry, yarn or ballad/song acts (see results and photo below). After the Awards ceremonies, music continued on into the afternoon.

All in all another successful event for the border town and the wonderful team of organisers who make it all run smoothly. We would recommend everyone to come to Camooweal in the fourth weekend of August 2017, for that authentic Outback experience which celebrates all that is traditionally Australian.

Brenda Joy,  
Camooweal 28<sup>th</sup> August, 2016

## RESULTS

### CAMOOWEAL DROVERS' CAMP FESTIVAL 2016

#### WRITTEN

The Post Office Hotel, 'Bronze Spur' for Written Bush Verse

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Place</b>	<b>Helen Harvey, Coonamble, NSW</b>	<b><i>The Wave Hill Spur</i></b>
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Peter O'Shaughnessy, Eaton, WA	<i>Tuckunarra Stew</i>
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Catherine Lee, Thailand	<i>In the End</i>
H.C.	Janice Williams, Stawell, Victoria	<i>Black Range Wedding</i>
Commended	David Campbell, Airleys Inlet, Victoria	<i>Walk a Mile in Our Shoes!</i>
Commended	Helen Harvey, Coonamble, NSW	<i>Days of Glory</i>

#### PERFORMANCE

'The Drovers' Camp Talent Award' for Performance of Bush Poems, Yarns and/or Ballads/Songs

##### BUSH POETRY

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Carmel Lloyd of Calen, Queensland
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Trevor Stewart of Bundaberg, Queensland
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Ralph Greenham of Hillcrest, South Australia

##### YARNS

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Carmel Lloyd of Calen, Queensland
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Ralph Greenham of Hillcrest, South Australia
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Trevor Stewart of Bundaberg, Queensland

##### BALLADS/SONGS

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	'Pepper Jane' of Jondaryan, Queensland
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Grace Wright of Camooweal, Queensland
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Kevin Harris of Tamworth, NSW

#### OVERALL WINNERS FOR THE DROVERS' CAMP TALENT AWARD FOR

##### PERFORMANCE

<b>Winner</b>	<b>Carmel Lloyd of Calen, Queensland</b>
Runner Up	Trevor Stewart of Bundaberg, Queensland
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Ralph Greenham of Hillcrest, South Australia