

TENTERFIELD *Oracles* OF THE BUSH



2023 Tenterfield Legend: Fran Bulmer

Community Threads

30th March - 2nd April 2023

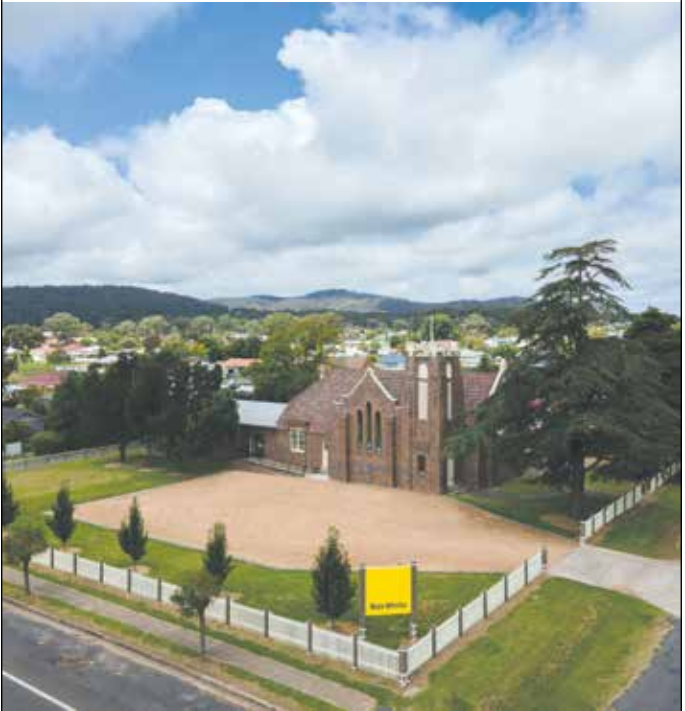
Pre-purchased tickets essential
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PROGRAM

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Jake Smith
0488 364 487

Kate Lee
0408 361 136

Ray White
Tenterfield
02 6736 1136
139 Logan St,
Tenterfield,
NSW 2372

Ben Johnston
0455 964 487

Callum McNichol
0419 020 444

Ray White
Livestock Warwick
07 4661 7200
54 Palmerin St,
Warwick, Qld 4370

Welcome from Mayor



It is with pleasure that I extend a welcome to all visitors and locals to the 27th Oracles of the Bush, Tenterfield's outstanding boutique poetry festival. Yet again the dedicated committee have put together a fantastic program at various localities.

What a wonderful choice by the committee to name Fran Bulmer as the 2023 Oracles Legend, and so perfect for the Theme "Community Threads". Fran is certainly woven into the fabric of our local community from her years of involvement with family, the family business, her teaching, and her volunteer involvement in several organisations. Not only is Fran a hardworking lady on the land (restoring historic Bolivia Station Homestead in her spare time), but she is also especially known for the endeavours of Tenterfield Charity Quilts with over 700 quilts lovingly sewn by Fran and her group of quilting friends over the last 13 years. They have lightened the burden of people in disaster affected communities with the gift of these quilts, creating a sense of comfort amidst scenes of despair.

The Community Threads Theme also fittingly applies to the Oracles team of yellow-shirted volunteers, and we recognise your tireless efforts. May your 2023 festival be another resounding success.

Mayor

COUNCILLOR / MAYOR



Hello and welcome to the 2023 Tenterfield Oracles of the Bush weekend. The committee invite you to sit back, relax and enjoy the entertainment we have lined up for 2023.

Our theme for this year is 'Community Threads'. The community of Tenterfield is made up of an amazing collection of diverse people woven together like a fabric. But like a fabric, even when one thread is weakened or broken, the fabric remains strong. It is a connection in its truest form always coming together to help, to support, to honour and to celebrate. 'Community Threads' is also the theme for this year's written poetry competition. As the entries roll in it is evident that the theme has inspired many budding poets.

When you think of the words community and threads our 2023 Legend, Mrs. Fran Bulmer, fits the criteria in every way. Fran has dedicated countless years to supporting her community. As a passionate family person Fran has always been in the background volunteering for any organisation her family members were involved in. However, her obsession and incredible talent with the needle and thread is probably her most well-known asset. By combining her talents and compassion she has given so much back to our community and many other communities in their time of need. Please make yourself known to Fran over the weekend. Like all previous Legends, Fran will welcome you and also enjoy a chat.

Marco Gilori heads a great team of talented professionals for your pleasure in 2023. Joining Marco is Murray Hartin, Mel Hall, Susie Carcary, Neil MacArthur and balladeer Errol Gray. So much talent and so much mischief in this lineup which promises a fun weekend. Marco may get a few grey hairs controlling them. 😊

All the performers come together on Saturday night for the major concert. During the weekend you can enjoy their individual performances in National Parks, local parks, at breakfasts and luncheon gatherings, magnificent gardens and iconic country halls.

A new event this year will be a long table lunch in the beautiful gardens of The Bungalow and Ivy Leaf Chapel on Friday. This will be an intimate gathering with strictly limited tickets. Get in early.

The fire drums will be roaring for our outdoor event, Camp Fire Yarns, on Friday night. A night of genuine country hospitality, great entertainment and dinner cooked on the campfire. There will be a bar operating. Please no BYO. As has become tradition, Yellow Shirt committee members, Archie & Rissie, will make their recycling donation presentation to Homestead RFS during the evening.

We appreciate and acknowledge the financial support received from local businesses, Tenterfield Shire Council and Tenterfield Chamber of Tourism, Industry & Business. We ask you to please support all the businesses advertised in this booklet. Without their continued support this event could not be presented each year.

Be sure to make yourself known to the Yellow Shirts during the weekend. It is our mission to make your weekend the best ever. Anything you need simply ask and we will do our best to accommodate you. We look forward to greeting old friends and making new ones, please enjoy our beautiful Tenterfield.

Light Meals	-	Cakes
Soft Drinks	-	Coffee
Take Away	-	Dine In



Located within the School of Arts Building
02 6736 4741
Open 9am till 3pm Daily

The Oracle who launched the Australia Idea

Sir Henry Parkes remains Tenterfield's most famous oracle. His 1889 speech at the School of Arts launched the idea of Australia as a self-governing nation to replace British colonial governance.

Nation-making vigorously engaged the citizens of Tenterfield at the time. Local agricultural pioneers were frustrated by the 20% tariffs that prevented them shipping their produce through the nearby Queensland colony. Local leaders emerged in both the Boer War and World War.

Parkes was not in Tenterfield by accident. Parkes was among friends and supporters when he chose Tenterfield to pitch his big idea of Federation.

One hundred and thirty years later, in 2019, Tenterfield's National Monument Association Inc. (TNMAI) was formed to commemorate the town's role in making our nation.

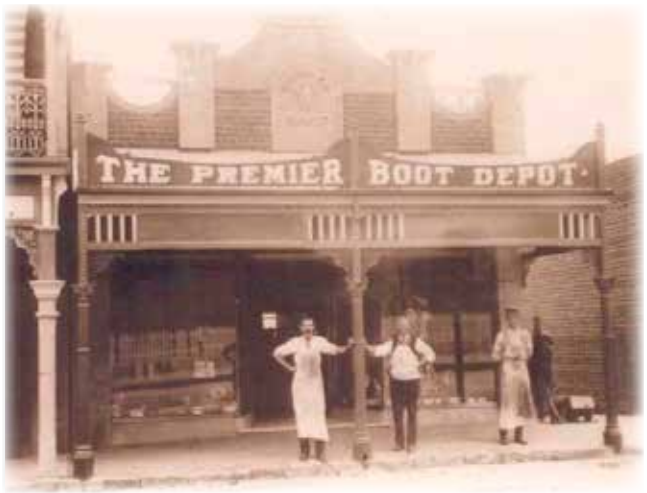


The first objective has been to reinstate the time-battered streetscape of the town centre. The Streetscape Recovery Project involves the renewal of building facades to match their original, when constructed during the decades surrounding Parkes' Federation Oration.

All four TNMAI projects represent their significance as part of the freshly conceived Australia idea at the time: the Tenterfield Star, the Federal Bakery, the Premier Boot Depot and the National Buildings.

The Tenterfield Star was built by its editor JF Thomas, who represented Breaker Morant in his famous Boer War court martial.

The Federal Bakery in High Street, built in the 1870s, was later renamed following federation. It is one of few remaining shops that were the first to be built on their sites.



The Premier Boot Depot is an example of the exuberant, celebratory style of post-Federation architecture created in the town. Like the Tenterfield Star, and the National Buildings, Glen Innes architect FJ Madigan designed the Boot Depot. His son Colin Madigan was also an architect who would engage with the ongoing project of nation-making. He designed the High Court of Australia and the National Gallery in Canberra.

Constructed in 1865 as one of the first general stores, the National Buildings comprised a new facade and verandah following a fire that gutted the buildings in 1913. The Maryland Store was owned for many years by CA Lee, who succeeded Sir Henry Parkes to the Legislative Assembly seat of Tenterfield.

After many setbacks triggered by Covid-19, floods and building supply difficulties, the first four projects will be ready in time for the Oracles of the Bush next April.

The town hopes that these demonstration projects will lead to the complete recovery of Tenterfield's town centre as a fitting monument to the power of the words of an oracle that led to the creation of Australia.

The Legend

As a community we lean on each another, learn from one another, celebrate together, and grieve together. But like a fabric, even when one thread is weakened or broken, the fabric remains strong. Community is connection in its truest form. Community can be near or far. A small act can have a wide reach causing a ripple effect of reaching people or situations that you couldn't possibly imagine!

2023 Legend, Mrs. Fran Bulmer is strongly involved in our community and has dedicated countless years working to ensure it remains strong and productive.

Living in the country and caring for the land has been a way of life for Fran. She began life on a dairy farm in Dungay before the family re-located to Nimbin when she was 8 years old and finally settling on a property in Tenterfield with husband, Stewart. The bond of family working the land and sharing together has always been strong. Her grandparents and aunt lived on the same property in Dungay and today her grown family work together on the land in Tenterfield.

Fran's mum and Aunt Margaret were passionate needlework artisans. Their love of fabric and creation was inherited by Fran who, as a toddler, was playing with fabric and so the passion began. Fran loved to spend time with her aunt who taught her to crochet, knit and embroider. By the age of 7 Fran was using a sewing machine and made her very first garment, a vivid orange skirt with lime green spots. Not only was it her first garment it was also the first time she machine stitched her finger but was savvy enough not to get a drop of blood on her masterpiece. Finger sewing has only happened once since that day. The absolute joy of Frans life today is seeing her own 5-year-old granddaughter display the same love of fabric and the desire to create.

Leaving school at 16 and unable to secure a job Fran decided to enrol in Lismore TAFE and study Fashion Certificate 11.

Two years into her studies she was still desperate for a job. This is when she was offered and accepted a full-time position at a Real Estate agent in Casino. During her time here she met a persistent young cattle buyer, named Stewart. After a whirlwind courtship and a New Year's Eve proposal Fran and Stewart married in 1984. They have three sons Allen born 1986, Steven in 1989 and Damian in 1990.

Stewart travelled widely in his profession but was always enchanted by the greener pastures of Tenterfield. Consequently, he convinced Fran it was the place for them. Putting everything on the line the couple moved to "Tullarooke", Bungulla just out of Tenterfield in August 1985. Fran's parents followed them 3 years later. As Stewart was constantly away with his job Fran was home alone.

The neighbours took Fran under their wing, and she immediately appreciated the strong community bond Tenterfield is known for. They invited her to play tennis to meet people. Through contacts made at tennis Fran began volunteering at the Red Cross rooms. A time in her life she thoroughly enjoyed. By chance, the Tenterfield TAFE heard she was a fashion teacher and called to offer her a day's work filling in for the regular teacher. That was in October 1985 and led to a long-term relationship with TAFE. In 1986 she joined the local Arts & Crafts Society and was an active member until the Association folded in 2020 after 54 years.

At the time the Arts & Crafts ladies met weekly in the Salvation Army Hall located where the Tenterfield Information Centre is today. In late 80's Council took possession of the land to expand the Information Centre. Fran was one of the driving forces to negotiate a lease with Council to officially secure space in the new building for use by the Arts & Craft Society. It was in this space that Fran inspired her fellow members and together they conducted magnificent quilt exhibitions as part of Oracles of the Bush weekend for 23 years and exhibitions for many other important Tenterfield occasions.

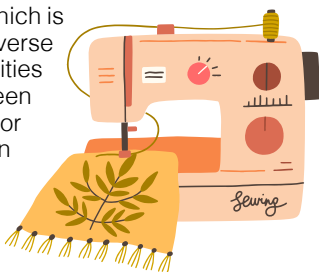
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This is a voluntary association which is partly funded and offering a diverse range of short courses and activities to the community. Fran has been an active committee member for at least 19 years. She has given uncountable hours as an unpaid teacher, advisor and organiser for the College fashion/soft furnishing activities as well as stints as a paid teacher.



As the boys grew up and Stewart still working away most weeks life just got busier. As a dedicated Mum Fran enthusiastically tackled the children's school and sport commitments. Canteen rosters, time keeping, carnivals and travelling became a constant in their lives. Whatever activities the boys were involved in Fran could be found in the background helping. In the holidays the family travelled with Stewart to sale yards throughout Northwest NSW and southern QLD. Along with her volunteer commitments with the boys Arts and Crafts Fran always managed to find time for other organisations.

She was an active member of Matron and Spinsters for many years and often filled in for her Mum on Meals on Wheels. Of course, the Bolivia Christmas party would not be the same without Frans smiling face and busy hands helping in the kitchen.

It was only natural the boys would follow their father into horse sports. First there was Pony Club followed by school horse sports and then camp drafting. Fran admits she wasn't too good in the saddle but was the best truck driver hauling her family and their horses around the countryside. Fran ran the Tenterfield camp draft canteen for 10 years. A major contribution in anyone's terms. She also produced 5 new shirts for 'Team Bulmer' twice a year for the Junior Rodeos and Christmas. At these events if there was an odd quiet moment Fran could be found soothing herself doing a little bit of stitching.



Welcome all visitors to
Oracles of the Bush
come & enjoy the Bowling Club &
all its facilities while in town.

The Bowlo

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www.tenterfieldbowlingclub.com.au For Restaurant bookings call 0267 361848

In 2009 the Black Friday Fires in Victoria had an impact on the entire country. During a conversation about the fires Fran wished she could do something to help the families affected. From this conversation came the idea to make a few quilts and send them down and a group of talented ladies set about creating Tenterfield Charity Quilts. The Charity quilts are made by Tenterfield ACE Quilters, a combination of Tenterfield Community College & Art & Craft working together for a better community. Since that conversation Fran and her sewing friends have created over 700 charity quilts and donated them to disaster affected communities in all the eastern states of Australia. ACE quilters also donate a quilt each year to local Rotary, Lions and Westpac Helicopter committees. Fran organises transport of the quilts and even personally delivers many of them to the devastated communities. She said the personal deliveries were highly emotional and the feeling of gratitude knowing you had given some joy to a broken family is immense. A casual chat with a waitress in a Coonabarabran café some years ago absolutely melted her heart. During the conversation the charity quilts were mentioned, and the waitress had received a quilt for each of her three children. When they both realised the connection, Fran says the tears flowed and they hugged like old friends. A moment she will never forget.

In 2003 Fran was involved in the first Patchwork Retreat. The retreats give like-minded ladies the opportunity to come together to share their needlework passion and friendship. There is an obvious cost to cover the venue and consumable items but mainly organised on a voluntary basis. Retreats are now held at least 4 times a year. The weekends see the sharing of talent, advice, laughter and intimate life stories. Fran considers the retreats an important mental health exercise. She says she is humbled that those participants are trusting enough to share their good and hard times with her. A quiet chat in the corner

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with a cuppa or glass of wine can make a huge difference to someone's morale. She has heard many secrets over the years and loves that the motto 'what goes on retreat stays on retreat' is honoured by all those who participate.

In 2011 the family purchased Bolivia Station which features a magnificent old homestead. Fran now has a new passion as she sets about restoring the homestead. It is a major project which will be long term and slow. She commented that she could not bear to see the history of the homestead lost. It has history that is part of the fabric of Tenterfield, and she will do her best to preserve it for future generations. Will this passion take over from sewing? – NEVER – was the firm reply.

Chatting with Fran it is easy to see the satisfaction she gets from being involved in the community and helping others. She is grateful that her passion has allowed her to give so much back to a community who welcomed her and Stewart unreservedly many years ago. She is proud that her sons and their families are following in her footsteps and becoming involved as volunteers in various organisations.

Her character is defined by the bright colours she loves to wear, especially pink and purple. Pink is said to symbolise kindness and empathy while purple is suggested to boost imagination and creativity.

She is a strong, kind supportive lady and the Oracles of the Bush organising committee are delighted to honour Fran Bulmer with the title of 'Legend 2023'



LEGENDARY QUOTES:

1/4" is a 1/4" – a mistake is a new design line!

When life gives you scraps, you make quilts!

The Looming Legends Poetry Competition

The central focus of the Oracles of the Bush Poetry Festival is the Looming Legends Poetry Competition. It has two distinct categories – the written and the performance section.

The written poetry has two different sections – the 1st section being a poem with a humorous theme and the 2nd section being a poem that embraces our annual theme. In 2023 the theme is 'Community Threads'. The written poetry entries are judged by an anonymous panel appointed by the Oracles Committee in the week prior to the festival. The winner is then announced at the Looming Legends Grand Final on Sunday. The winners will be contacted personally by our competition coordinator prior to this announcement.

The performance section is spread over three days with the heats being held on the Friday and Saturday and the grand final being held on the Sunday of the festival weekend. The Looming Legend competition kicks off prior to the 1st adult heat with the Children's Concert on Friday 31st March 2023. Here we have children from around the district competing in the performance section and we announce the winners of the school student's written poetry and art competitions.

The Looming Legends is an esteemed Australian poetry competition, and the performance section is judged by the professional poets in attendance during the festival weekend. There are two main sections of the performance poetry section – the 1st being the performance of an original work and the 2nd being the performance of a poem previously published by another author. There is also a novice award that is given to the novice with the highest award in either heat. A novice is someone who has not previously entered a Looming Legends or State Championship competition.



The Looming Legends Poetry Competition has one of the most substantial prize pools in Australia along with the unique Tenterfield Cork Tree Trophy for the Looming Legends Original Work Champion. We are pleased to have the adult competition supported by Tenterfield Shire Council and the school competition sponsored by Essential Energy.

Please note the following key notes for entrants into the Looming Legends Competition:

- Please note that we can only accept entries that follow competition guidelines.
- Written entries must include the original poem along with three unmarked copies so all written entries must be submitted via post. We are unable to accept written entries via email.
- Both written and performance entries must be received by the due date – Friday 17th March 2023 – any entries received after this date will not be eligible for entry.
- All correspondence and communication re any element of the Looming Legends Poetry Competition must be directed to the competition co-ordinator Lara Flanagan. Phone: 0489 927 845, email: info@mynotesfrom.com
- Please note that we do not have the resources to contact entries individually, so all entries need to include an eligible email to ensure that you receive any pre-event communication. This includes confirmation of heat, order of performers etc.

Long Table Lunch



Each year the organisers like to vary the Oracles of the Bush program by adding something different. This year they are delighted to introduce an intimate long table lunch on Friday 31st March at 12 noon. Food, drinks, entertainment and open garden all inclusive.

The iconic garden and Ivy Leaf Chapel is the perfect setting to enjoy Tenterfield's autumn weather, food, local wine, beer and of course, bush poetry during the Oracles weekend.

The alfresco lunch will be an intimate gathering, held under the autumn vines of The Chapel or The Bungalows relaxing verandah, weather depending.

Upon arrival enjoy a glass of bubbles and locally made canapés whilst meandering the 1.5 acres of manicured cottage gardens. Lunch will be a shared long table with sweet and savoury accompanied by the best local wine and beer.

Gates open at 12 noon and patrons are welcome to stay on after lunch to wander in the amazing grounds.

You will also enjoy the talents of two bush poets for your entertainment plus The Bungalows Garden and homeowner, Kim Thompson, will be there to chat about her gorgeous gardens she started from bare soil just 11 years ago.

Come and join us under the autumn leaves of Tenterfield and appreciate the beauty while enjoying Bush poetry yarns, and tucker. This is a small intimate event with strictly limited tickets.



Junior Art Competition

Our theme for 2023 is
'COMMUNITY THREADS'

All sections should have this theme. 3D constructions are always welcome.

SECTION 1: Infants

SECTION 2: Lower Primary

SECTION 3: Upper Primary

SECTION 4: Secondary - Yrs 7-10

SECTION 5: Secondary - Yrs 11-12

All works will be on display in the Showground Pavilion for the duration of the Oracles events.

Entries are to be mounted on card with name, age, section and school printed clearly on the back.

Entries close: 17th March 2023



Thursday 30th March

Induction of 2023 Legend

Tenterfield Transport Museum

7 pm for 7.30 pm \$40 - Francis Street

Pre-purchased tickets ESSENTIAL

Bookings close 17th March 2023

Friday 31st March

Lions Club Brekkie in the Park

8 am Bruxner Park \$20

Marco Gliori, Neil McArthur, Muz Hartin,
Susie & Mel, Errol Gray (Bring a Chair)

Pre-Purchased tickets ESSENTIAL

Children's Concert

Proudly funded by NSW Government

10.30 am – Showground Pavilion

No charge

Marco Gliori, Mel & Susie, Errol Gray & Muz Hartin

Ivy Chapel Long Table Lunch

12 noon - 144 Miles Street

\$110

Neil McArthur & Errol Gray

Pre-purchased tickets ESSENTIAL

Tenterfield Spanish Flu - Isolation Ward Museum

Pelham Street (Hospital) 2pm to 4pm - \$2.50

Looming Legend 1st Heat

2.30 pm – Showground Pavilion \$5

Pre-purchased tickets ESSENTIAL

Camp Fire Yarns

Proudly funded by NSW Government

6.00 pm - Showground Bar & BBQ Area \$5

Marco Gliori, Neil McArthur, Muz Hartin, Susie & Mel,
Errol Gray (Bring a Chair)

Pre-Purchase Tickets ESSENTIAL

Bookings close 17th March 2023

Saturday 1st April

Breakfast 7.30 am

Pre-purchased Tickets ESSENTIAL for all Breakfast events

Tenterfield Golf Club \$20

Marco Gliori & Errol Gray

Tenterfield Motor Inn \$20

Muz Hartin

Bald Rock NP \$20

Sponsored by Ray White Rural Tenterfield

Tea and Damper with Neil McArthur (Bring a chair)

Markets at Railway Station Museum

Markets 9 am to 12 noon

10 am Errol Gray

Tenterfield Spanish Flu - Isolation Ward Museum

\$2.50 Pelham Street (Hospital)

10.30am to 12.30pm

Tenterfield Transport Museum Inc.

Country Style Roast Lunch

Francis Street – 12 noon - \$40 - Bar available

Errol Gray, Mel & Susie

Pre-purchased Tickets ESSENTIAL

Bookings close 17th March 2023

Arrajay Downs - Paddock to Plate

324 Bryans Gap Road, Gates open 11.30 am

Lunch 12 noon - \$47 BYO

Marco Gliori and Muz Hartin

Pre-purchased tickets ESSENTIAL

Bookings close 17th March, 2023

Looming Legend 2nd Heat

2.30 pm - \$5 - Showground Pavilion

Pre-purchased tickets ESSENTIAL

Poets Concert

Sponsored by KLAS Business & Accounting

7.30 pm Showground Pavilion - \$30

Doors open 7 pm

Marco Gliori, Neil McArthur, Muz Hartin,

Susie & Mel, Errol Gray

Sunday 2nd April

Pre-purchased tickets ESSENTIAL

Poets Brawl

8am – Jubilee Park

Breakfast \$20 (Bring a Chair)

Wet weather - Showground Pavilion

Pre-purchased tickets ESSENTIAL

Tenterfield Spanish Flu - Isolation Ward Museum

\$2.50 Pelham Street (Hospital)

9.30am to 11.30am

Tenterfield Presbyterian Church Service

10 am – 11 am

Grand Final Looming Legend

12 pm - \$15 - Showground Pavilion

Pre-purchased tickets ESSENTIAL

Bar and Lunch available to purchase

LEGENDARY TENTERFIELD GROWN BEEF & FAMOUS SAUSAGE KINGS



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Place in the box provided at the
entrance to the Showground Pavilion.**

Thank you!

2023 Oracles of the Bush

TICKET ORDER

Bookings open 3rd January, 2023

Pre-purchased tickets are **ESSENTIAL** for all events.

EVENT	PRICE	No of TICKETS	TOTAL Cost
Induction of Legend Dinner	@ \$40	_____	\$ _____
Lions Club Brekkie in the Park	@ \$20	_____	\$ _____
Looming Legend Heat 1	@ \$5	_____	\$ _____
Looming Legend Heat 2	@ \$5	_____	\$ _____
Ivy Chapel Lunch	@ \$110	_____	\$ _____
Camp Fire Yarns	@ \$5	_____	\$ _____
Breakfast with the Poets		_____	
..... Tenterfield Golf Club @ \$20		_____	\$ _____
..... Tenterfield Motor Inn @ \$20		_____	\$ _____
..... Bald Rock NP @ \$20		_____	\$ _____
Tenterfield Transport Museum Inc	@ \$40	_____	\$ _____
Arrajay Downs (BYO)	@ \$47	_____	\$ _____
MAIN CONCERT	@ \$30	_____	\$ _____
Poets Brawl and Breakfast	@ \$20	_____	\$ _____
Grand Final Looming Legend	@ \$15	_____	\$ _____
TOTAL \$			_____

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or charge my ☐ Visa ☐ Master Card

Signature:

Card Holders Name:

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Expiry Date: ____ / ____

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Refunds: 75% - 14 day notice; Under 14 days - none

Entry Forms

Written Sections

• FREE ENTRY •

Original + 3 copies

Entry Forms close 17th March 2023

Name:

Address:

Telephone:

Email:

Sections Entered:

Title of Entry:

Send Entry Forms to:

Oracles of the Bush, PO Box 372 Tenterfield NSW 2372

Photocopies of Entry form are acceptable. Additional Entry

Forms available at www.oraclesofthebush.com

Performance Sections

• FREE ENTRY •

Entries close 17th March 2023

Name:

Address:

Telephone:

Email:

Sections Entered:

Title of Entry:

2nd Choice Title of Entry:

.....

Send Entry Forms to:

Oracles of the Bush, PO Box 372 Tenterfield NSW 2372

Photocopies of Entry form are acceptable. Additional Entry

Forms available at www.oraclesofthebush.com

For your Notes

Looming Legend Competition 2023

30th MARCH - 2nd APRIL 2023

Our theme for 2023 **'COMMUNITY THREADS'**

ADULT SECTIONS

Supported by Tenterfield Shire Council

Total Prize Money: in excess of \$3000 plus Trophies - FREE ENTRY

WRITTEN - \$400 Prize (each section)

SECTION 1. Poem with humorous theme

SECTION 2. Poem celebrating 'Community Threads'

PERFORMANCE

Contestants in the Novice section will perform in ordinary heats but will be judged for a separate award.

SECTION 3. **NOVICE: \$100**

For performers who have not previously entered State Championships or Looming Legend

SECTION 4. Original Work - see Rule 7

Prize: \$1023 Runner-up: \$200

SECTION 5. Previously published works by other poets

Prize: \$400 Runner-up \$200

CHILDREN'S SECTIONS

Sponsored by Essential Energy

WRITTEN

SECTION 6. Infants: 4 - 20 lines

1st - \$50

\$25 Encouragement Prize

SECTION 7. Primary: 9 years and under: 10 - 20 lines

SECTION 8. Primary: 10 years and over: 12 - 30 lines

SECTION 9. Secondary: 12 - 40 lines

Prizes (sections 7, 8 & 9)

1st - \$50

\$25 Encouragement Prize

PERFORMANCE

Child to perform any poem with a bush spirit-original or otherwise.

SECTION 10. Infant Children from all districts

1st - \$50

\$25 Encouragement Prize

SECTION 11. Primary Children 9 years & under from all districts

1st - \$50

\$25 Encouragement Prize

SECTION 12. Primary Children 10 years & over from all districts

1st - \$50

\$25 Encouragement Prize

SECTION 13. Secondary Children from all districts

1st - \$50

\$25 Encouragement Prize

See your School or visit the website www.oraclesofthebush.com

**For an Entry Form call the Looming Legends Co-ordinator
Mobile: 0489 927 845**

TENTERFIELD'S ORACLES OF THE BUSH

Looming Legend Competition 2023

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

1. Judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.
2. Queries to be addressed to the Looming Legend Co-ordinator
3. Late entries will not be accepted.
4. Children's sections are only open to those attending school.
5. Adult sections are for those 17 years and over.
6. Professionally contracted performers at Oracles, past and present, are ineligible to enter.
7. Except for Sections 3, 5, 10, 11 and 12 all works should be original and not have won a previous Oracles of the Bush event. Same poem not to be performed more than once during entire competition.
8. Rights for performance of non original works are the responsibility of the performer.
9. Copyright of original works remains with the author but the organisers of the event reserve the right to publish selected entries, use them for promotional purposes, and to have them performed during the event.
10. WRITTEN: Entries should be typed on one side of an A4 page. AUTHOR'S NAME SHOULD NOT APPEAR ON THE WORK, but must be attached as a cover note. **Entrants must supply an ORIGINAL PLUS 3 COPIES for their work to be accepted for entry.** PLEASE MARK ENTRY SECTIONS CLEARLY.
11. Entries will not be returned, so please keep your own copy.
12. PERFORMANCE: To compete for the Looming Legend Trophy, Sections 3, 4, and 5 contestants must be able to perform in Tenterfield. 31st to 2nd April, 2023. The committee will randomly allocate contestants into heats. Contestants will be notified by email of which heat they will perform in. **Please include legible email on entry form.** Each heat will contain no more than 8 competitors in each section. Three competitors from each heat Section advance to finals. Competitors entering Section 3 must enter Section 4 or 5 or both. The best performance by a novice entrant in either of these Sections will be judged the winner of Section 3.
13. **Closing date for entries: 17th March 2023.**
14. After submitting entry form to the Oracles of the Bush PO Box 372, Tenterfield 2372, all communication for the Looming Legend Competition, **must** go to the Looming Legend Coordinator Lara Flanagan via email info @mynotesfrom.com or phone 0489 927 845.



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Meet the Poets

Marco Giori is the proverbial travelling Minstrel. A former Rugby League playing Queensland Detective of Italian extraction, Marco gave up a career in law enforcement to write and perform his poetry for a living. Immediately contracted by the Qld and Victorian Arts Council, Marco toured as an Artist in Education for a decade, performing over 2500 shows. All the while his profile as one of Australia's finest Bush Poets and Storytellers was growing. Hosting Poets Breakfasts and Naked Poets Shows from the Gympie Muster to the Tamworth Country Music Festival, being featured at places as diverse as Booyup Brook WA to Wallaby Creek Folk Festival in North Queensland, his diverse repertoire is something to behold.



From Comedy Race calls and verses depicting Pole Dancing Stop and Go Operators, to heartfelt poems like Fumbles that won Marco the prestigious Bronze Swagman Award in 2020, his ability to entertain crowds of all ages is why he has been at Oracles since the very beginning.

Winner of the ABC National Spirit of Waltzing Matilda Poetry Award held in conjunction with the song's 100 years anniversary, and once voted Australia's Modern Banjo by Women's Weekly Magazine, Marco is quick to deflect to his mates and fellow performers who he reckons are much funnier and more inspirational than him.

Neil McArthur - The Ratbag Of Rhyme

The illegitimate son of a depressed Circus Clown and a wayward one-legged Nun, Neil has been on the road for over thirty years, with his sole mission being to use his collected Aussie yarns to put a grin on the dial of every Aussie he meets, through both Bush Poetry and Yarnspinning.

Meet the Poets

A regular performer and MC at Australia's most popular Festival. This Ratbag Of Rhyme tries his hardest to cause mayhem and halt the PC crusade infiltrating the country at present. From Gay Farmhands to Shooting Swaggies, from Euthenising his Grandpa to crashing into the one tree in a thousand miles, nothing is sacred, but all within a language-friendly, non-offensive and Covid-safe style. Mostly!



Melanie Hall and Susan Carcary have been touring as Mel and Susie on Tour since 2008.

They have been all around the world and many other places. They live in an off-grid art-camp in beautiful Lightning Ridge, perfect for their morning tea tours and show. They perform at the Opal Caravan Park every arvo from April to October, then head off on the Cruisin' Country cruise ship and round off their year with festivals from November - March.



They recently edited a book for Australian Geographic full of traditional bush poetry. Titled 'Australia's Beating Heart', the book features pictures from the AG collection and a beautiful selection of recitable poems. They are currently working on a cookbook and a play about the lost women poets of the 19th century.

Meet the Poets

Muz Hartin is best known for his poems *Turbulence* and *Rain From Nowhere*. His gravel voice and knockabout character is renown on Festival stages, his popular tracks becoming regular additions to many radio programs across rural Australia.

Muz has been part of the poetry scene since winning the inaugural competition at the Tamworth Country Music Festival in 1987 and then teaming up with Marco Giori, Shirley Friend, Ray Essery, the late Bobby Miller and singer/songwriter Pat Drummond to form The Naked Poets.

Muz has performed at festivals, conferences, sporting, charity and corporate events across Australia with a wonderful repertoire of great original Aussie yarns.

From ANZAC commemorations to Rugby Union contests, from local shows to city theatres, Muz remains the boy from Moree, the nomadic story-teller, and one of Australia's most celebrated contemporary Bush Poets.



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Meet the Balladeer



THE BACKYARD BALLADEER

With his acoustic guitar and politically incorrect Aussie sense of humour, ERROL has his audiences in stitches with his irreverent songs and stories that reflect everyday situations and misfortunes that happen to us all. His cultural classics such as WORKING FOR CENTRELINK, AN OLD MILLARD AND A TINNY, 80 K'S AN HOUR and THE HANDBAG have been brightening up peoples' lives for over 20 years.

ERROL has released 10 studio albums, a "live" dvd/cd set, 2 Best Of albums and written a book. These days, just like the grey nomads he often writes about, he travels the country in his caravan and performs at festivals, country halls and at Happy Hour in caravan parks.

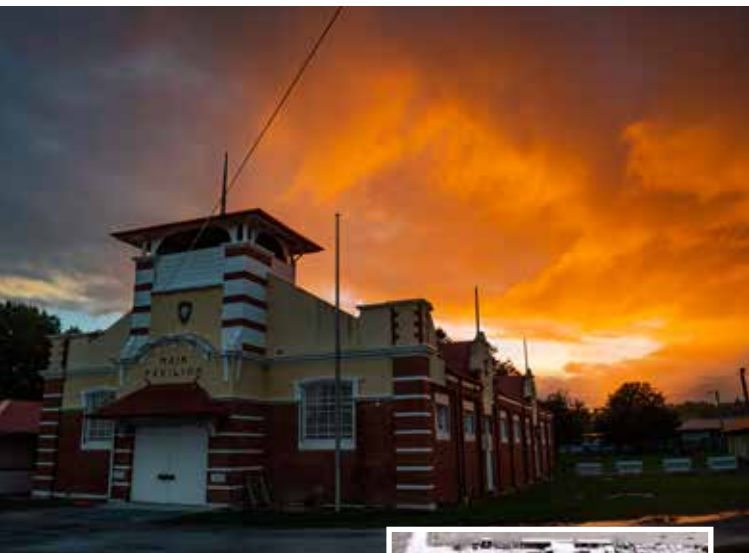
On the musical spectrum, ERROL has been described as somewhere between John Williamson and Kevin Bloody Wilson, but definitely without the profanities. Or as some people have described him, "the bush poet who sings."

You can access ERROL'S music online through all the online stores and streaming services such as iTunes and Spotify or by visiting his website www.errolgray.com.au and following the instructions.

The Oracles New Home

It's now time to introduce our new home in a place that has stood for 107 years, and held the pride of place in Tenterfield's growth and community.

When its construction started in 1914 there was an appeal to the community to aid in completing the project by donating what they could. "The Society is anxious to receive donations – no matter how small – immediately," the Tenterfield Courier wrote. "Let everyone be able to say they paid for a brick in the building."



And so the dream became a reality with the simple act of the placement of its cornerstone by C A Lee, with a silver trowel. By late February the following year, 1915, the building was unveiled to a rousing public reception. A luncheon, afternoon tea and military events were held to coincide with the event. It only cost about \$1,700 to build. The pavilion stands as testament to those citizens and their confidence in, and vision for, the future of their town.





It has been a community hub that has hosted every kind of event. In 1939 the building was used for roller skating, but upon the outbreak of World War 2 the Army commandeered the pavilion for 3 years. The wooden floors still throb with the tread of country boots and the walls echo to the conversations, music and speeches from long ago.

This is the perfect new home for Oracles festival 2023, so join us in the TENTERFIELD SHOWGROUND PAVILION and be part of its rich history.

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Reconnecting Rural and Regional Communities.

As rural and regional communities begin to recover both socially and economically events such as Oracles of the Bush promote the reconnection of people and supply a boost to the local economy. In 2023 Oracles of the Bush Inc. Management committee have been fortunate to secure funding to aid with two events, namely the Children's Concert and the Camp Fire Yarns. These events are proudly funded by the NSW Government through the Reconnecting Regional NSW – Community Events Fund.

Proudly funded by



Children's Concert

Funding enables the organisers to present the Children's Concert as a free event for all children and members of the public. Outlying schools within the shire will receive financial aid for transport enabling the entire school and interested community members to attend. The Children's Concert is held on Friday morning 31st March and incorporates the junior performance competition and presentation for the written competition. Professional poets host the concert and are on hand to help the young performers.



Camp Fire Yarns

Friday night sees patrons embrace the great outdoors sitting by the fire drums, enjoying a camp oven dinner and the fabulous entertainment of some of Australia's best bush poets. Due to the support received, this event will have a nominal fee of \$5 for catering. Please note numbers are limited and bookings are essential.



Camp Fire Yarns is an outdoor event so make sure you bring a jacket or blanket to ward off the Autumn chill and your own camp chairs. Since Oracles 2022 Junior Oracles of the Bush committee members have continued their recycling project raising funds for the Rural Fire Brigade. During the event they will make a presentation to the Homestead Rural Fire Brigade.

The Oracles of the Bush management committee appreciate and acknowledge the support of the NSW Government for these two events. We also appreciate the aid received from the Tourism and Marketing Manager at Tenterfield Shire Council.

TALLY HO

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A photograph of the interior of a motor inn room. On the left is a large bed with a striped blanket and pillows. In the center is a light-colored sofa. To the right is a kitchenette area with a white refrigerator, a sink, and a small table with a chair. The walls are made of brick, and there is a large window in the background.

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Legend 2022 Winner



Andrew Pulsford of Urangan, Qld, visiting the cork tree with his Looming Legend trophy in 2022. The stunning trophy which he is holding is handcrafted from the cork tree by local craftsman, Ross Curr.



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What to Bring to Oracles of the Bush

We look forward to welcoming you to Tenterfield Oracles of the Bush from 30th March to 2nd April, 2023

For the perfect weekend you need to **bring a smile, a chair, a warm wrap for the outdoors, an appetite, plenty of hugs, your friends and a willingness to enjoy a genuine country experience.**

Here is a few happy snaps from 2022.



ROLL OF HONOUR

Oracles of the Bush Legends & Themes

1997	John (Jack) Williams	'Tenterfield Jack'
1998	Paul Petrie	'Creating Another Tenterfield Legend'
1999	Sandy Watt	'Legendary Tales'
2000	Pat Braham	'Women of the Bush'
2001	Harry Pavel	'Legendary Masters'
2002	Tony Kelly	'Legends & Larrikins'
2003	Terry Kneipp	'Legendary Liaisons'
2004	Beryl Dean	'Journeys'
2005	Aub Gillespie	'Fighting Spirit'
2006	Sandra Smith	'Hist-Oracle'
2007	Dick Keatinge	'Legendary Guardians'
2008	Fay McCowen	'A Good Scout'
2009	Keith Willcocks	'The Strength of the Bush'
2010	Rhonda Rovera	'A Caring Legend'
2011	Grahame Braid	'True Blue Legend'
2012	Phyllis Barratt	'The Heart of the Country'
2013	Noel Manser	'The Sounds of the Country'
2014	Lorraine Rhodes-Roberts	'Salt of the Earth'
2015	Perry Condrick	'Country Service'
2016	Ken Halliday	'Down Memory Lane'
2017	Lucy Sullivan	'My Home Town'
2018	George Mulherin	'Quiet Achievers'
2019	John Munro	'Aussie Mates'
2020	Karen Tapscott	'Behind the Scenes'
2021	Oracles of the Bush Organising Committee Members 1997-2021	'Then & Now'
2022	Gavin Hillier	'Driving Passion'

The legendary tradition continues...



**2022 Oracles of the Bush
'DRIVING PASSION'**

*The 2022 Oracles of the Bush Legend,
Mr. Gavin Hillier congratulates
Fran Bulmer, 2023 Oracles of the Bush
Legend and welcomes her into the
Oracles of the Bush Legendary family.*



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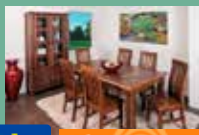
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Thank Our Sponsors

Oracles of the Bush Inc. wish to acknowledge and thank the sponsors of Oracles of the Bush, Bush Poetry Festival 2023.

Tenterfield has been deeply affected over the past years by drought, bush fires and the effects of COVID-19.

We are, therefore, extremely grateful to these Government agencies and businesses for their positive support in 2023. Please support these sponsors in every way possible as they help our community move forward.



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