

2023 BANJO PATERSON AUSTRALIAN POETRY FESTIVAL

17 to 26 February 2023

The program for the Festival in Orange, NSW, is developing with the highlight being the National Bush Poetry Performance Championships. These will be run by the ABPA and guidelines are available on the ABPA website. Entries will be open as soon as the entry forms have been developed, but plans are for 4 categories (Original Humorous, Original Serious, Modern and Traditional) with a \$10 entry fee for each category and prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd in each category, as well as an overall National Champion.

The National Championships will be held at the Orange Ex Services Club on Thursday and Friday 23 and 24 February 2023.

The Rotary Club of Orange is organising two additional competitions to be held on Saturday 25 February – a Youth poetry performance competition and an open performance competition for those poets who do not enter the National Championships. To avoid confusion, poets cannot enter this open competition if they are in the National Championships.

The Festival begins with a celebration of Banjo's birthday on Friday 17 February 2023 and runs through to Sunday 26 February 2023. There will be about 20 events over that time and at least 7 opportunities for walk-up performances in pubs, wineries and open air at breakfast, lunch and evening events.

Please spread the word to poets, grey nomads, families and friends – entertainment from the best bush poets in Australia is only one reason to come to Orange next February – it is also a lovely place to visit with beautiful scenery, wineries, restaurants, villages and history.

Len Banks
Rotary Club of Orange