

1.00pm **Croc Stars Reptile Show**

Sponsored by Merriwa RSL

Experience a reptile exhibition with non-venomous Australian lizards, turtles, snakes and crocodiles with a "hands on" reptile awareness show. Their message is one of conservation of our environment by the preservation of our beautiful Australian native reptiles. "Have fun while learning".

1.00pm **Dog High Jump**

Sponsored by the Campbell Family

Watch the athleticism of local farm dogs as they hurdle the jump to arrive on the back of the "work Ute". Located at the intersection of Kids Corner.

1.45pm **Gum Boot Throwing Competition**

Sponsored by Di's Clothing Patch

Enter on the day. \$2 entry fee. Compete in open men's, women's, boy's and girl's., under 5, and over 60. Prizes to be won. No steel cap boots. View rules on the day.

2.15pm **Working Sheep Dog Display**

Sponsored by Merriwa Pharmacy

Observe Zac Ede, as he works his dogs around the sheep, watch him communicate with his dogs through whistles and movements to bring the sheep into their pen.

2.30pm **Sheep 'POO' Spitting Competition**

Sponsored by Alexiam of Merriwa Preserves & Cookery

How far can you spit a piece of Sheep 'POO'? Well the Festival uses jelly beans, just incase of accidental eating. Enter on the day. \$2 entry fee. Open men's and women's, boys and girls, under 5 and over 60.

4:00pm **Entertainment moves to the Showground**

Join in the fun and entertainment at the Merriwa Showground. Food stalls, and a fun afternoon of children's entertainment ending with fireworks by KaBoom.

MERRIWA SHOWGROUND EVENTS

8.00am **Merriwa Festival of the Fleeces Sheep Yard Dog Trials**

Sponsored by Upper Hunter Fire Protection, the Royal Hotel Merriwa & Merriwa Pharmacy

Observe and be amazed as over 80 dogs compete for their owners to become the 'Red Socks' Merriwa Festival of the Fleeces Sheep Yard Dog Trail Champion, with points being awarded in their NSW Yard Dog Trial championship. **Held over 2 days.**

8.00pm **Team Penning Challenge**

Sponsored by Anthea Wright Veterinary Services

UHTP competition starting at 8am. Then at 11am, breaking for the parade, then at 1pm- The Rosto Olives Festival of the Fleeces Challenge. 30 teams 2 rounds, 1 winner. Prizes for 1st place. Competitors must be 13 yrs + & members of UHTP. Day memberships available. **Held over 2 days**

10.00am **Photographic Exhibit**

Sponsored by Outback Press - Merriwa District Diary

Local photographers will amaze you with the photography and artwork on display. If you like it you can also purchase it.

11.00am **Tullymore Clydesdale & Shire Horse Display**

Sponsored by Tullymore

Tullymore Stud is the only Stud in Australia successfully breeding two breeds of heavy horses, Clydesdale and Shire Horses, with the Stud consistently producing Royal Show Supreme Champions with both breeds.

4.00pm **Children's Hobbie Sheep Races & Lolly Scramble**

Sponsored by Coal & Allied Mount Pleasant Project

Families will enjoy the fun as age appropriate groups of children race for

the title of Festival Champion and the winner's prize. The judges will be tough, & are looking for fun and thoughtfulness & abiding by the rules.

Bring the kids along to scramble for as many lollies as they can possibly grab. Age appropriate groups for safety. Buckets of lollies cannoned into the air! As much fun for the parents as it is for the kids!

5.00pm **Whip Cracking Competition**

Sponsored by Kemp Rural Partnership

4 Divisions- Under 8, 8-13, 13- 18, 18+. \$5 entry. Prizes for highest score in each division of Whips donated by Melaleuka Rural Services. Entries taken on the day. Kids Roping available also for a gold coin donation.

5.00pm **Sheep 'POO' Spitting & Gumboot Throwing Competition**

How far can you spit a piece of Sheep 'POO'? Well the Festival uses jelly beans, just incase of accidental eating. Or throw a gum boot? Enter on the day. \$2 entry fee. Open men's and women's, boys and girls, under 5 and over 60.

FIRE WORKS WITH KABOOM

6.15PM **Sponsored by ROSTO Olives**

Take pleasure in a fire works show. Located at the Merriwa Showground. 2014 went off with a bang or two, it was the talk of the festival and 2015 is set to be just as explosive. See the new items being tested here in Merriwa.

6.30PM **Battle of the Sexes Cut Out Competition**

After the fireworks- Battle of the sexes cut out comp - 3 Divisions. Junior, juvenile & open. Prizes (Feed vouchers donated by Farmers Warehouse) for highest point junior and highest point juvenile, Prizes (Feed Vouchers donated by Farmers Warehouse) for highest point open male & female. Overall highest point score 2015 UHTP Festival of the Fleeces Cut out - wins a stallion service (donated by Mark Shearer) for "Knights Ballymore" registered Australian Stock Horse (2014 UHTP performance horse of the year.)

Entry for opens & Juveniles \$15. Juniors \$10. Proceeds go to the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service. All competitors must be members of UHTP day memberships allowed.

SUNDAY 7 JUNE

7.30am **Merriwa Festival of the Fleeces Sheep Yard Dog Trials**

Sponsored by Upper Hunter Fire Protection, the Royal Hotel Merriwa & Merriwa Pharmacy. Continued from Saturday.

8.00am **Upper Hunter Team Penning**

Prizes for 1st place in all 3 divisions. Top ten shoot out for top ten places over all 3 divisions for Sat & Sun runs to be held at the end of the Sunday comp. Prizes for 1st place.

9.00am **Anglican parish of Merriwa Blessing of the Fleece Service**

Holy Trinity Merriwa Sunday Church Service. All welcome. Bow Street Merriwa.

9.00am **Bush Poets Breakfast - CWA Rooms, Bettington Street**

Sponsored by Merriwa CWA

Enjoy a 2 hour entertaining breakfast full of laughs with the world's best bush poet Carol Heuchan. The perfect way to finish the festival. \$2.00 entry fee. Prizes on offer for various categories and age groups. Breakfast by the fabulous CWA ladies. Bookings essential as seating will be limited. Tickets available at the door, or pre order through the Merriwa Visitor Information Centre on 6521 7046.

11.00am **Men of League Old Boys & Ladies League Tag**

With Merriwa, Denman and the men of league old boys we have also invited Scone, Muswellbrook, Singleton, Aberdeen, Greta-Branxton, and Murrurundi to play for the group 21 old boys cup.

2pm the Ladies League Tag will play Denman followed by the Merriwa v Denman men at 3pm. On this day money is raised for the men of league foundation, and for the Merriwa old boys who just purchased sporting kits for Merriwa Central, St Josephs and Cassilis Schools .

2015 ROSTO OLIVES

MERRIWA FESTIVAL OF THE FLEECES



Saturday 6
June Long Weekend



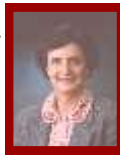
Inspired by Mayor Cr. Pam Power in 1990.

AN EVENT NOT SEEN
ANYWHERE ELSE IN THE WORLD
3 DAYS OF FAMILY FUN AND
ENTERTAINMENT

25 Years of Proudly supporting
the Westpac Rescue Helicopter and the
Merriwa Volunteer Rescue Association
For more information please contact the Merriwa Visitor
Information Centre on:
merriwavic@upperhunter.nsw.gov.au or ph.: 6521 7046



Mayor of the former Merriwa Shire, Pam believed in getting things done & putting the interests of the community ahead of any personal gain or reward. Every Festival Pam's community spirit is remembered and acknowledged through the Pam Power Award, which was awarded to Mr. & Mrs. Bob and Jan Baihn in 2014.



FRIDAY NIGHT 25 YEARS CELEBRATIONS

SPONSORED BY
MERRIWA TYRE & SERVICE CENTRE

6.30pm to late Friday night, 5 June, 2015.

SOLD OUT!!!

BYO BASKET SUPPER. Music, food, fashion, and friends. Sit, relax and be entertained by the best in the music and fashion business's.

SATURDAY 6 JUNE

7.30am Barbeque Breakfasts

Sponsored by Merriwa Rotary & Merriwa Bowls Club

Start the day with a hearty breakfast with fresh locally grown beef. Steak and Sausage sandwiches and Egg and Bacon Rolls. Early start and will cook right up to lunch.

8.00am Street Stalls - Over 100 stalls - all different & unique

Come and sample everything and anything from fresh home made produce, arts and crafts, face painting, and plenty of food and coffee. There is something for everyone.

8.00am CWA Morning Tea with knitting exhibitions

You have not eaten country until you have tried one of the tempting treats from the Country Women's Association and Merriwa has one of the best in the land. Start from 8.00am with freshly made Soup, Scones, Sandwiches, Tea, Coffee and Cappuccino.

8.30am Pleasant View Fibres - Wool Spinning Demonstration

Sponsored by Merriwa Auto Electrical

Take a step back in time and marvel at the skill of spinning yarn from wool straight off the sheep's back. Producing unique yarn & woollen products .

9.00am The City of Maitland Pipes and Drums

Sponsored by Merriwa Bushmen's Campdraft & Rodeo Ass. Inc.

Come and listen to the pipers as they let the music play in the streets of Merriwa. Unique sounds vibrate through the streets for all to enjoy

9.30am Shelly Minson - Tamworth's Rockabilly Sweetheart

Sponsored by Bob & Jan Baihn

Shelly will be performing outstanding Rockabilly entertainment outside of Merriwa Home Hardware prior to the Running of the Sheep.

9:30am Free Train Rides

Sponsored by Hunter Mutual

Thomas the Tank Train departs regularly from Bow Street & finish at 3pm.

9.30am Modern Day Shearing Display

Sponsored by Curtis Gant Irving Solicitors

Observe the hard work as they drag their sheep & fleece it and then as they toss the fleece for classing.

9.45am Upper Hunter Motoring Vintage Vehicle Display

Sponsored by El Dorado Motel Merriwa

You will be amazed just how perfectly these vehicles have been restored. They do not make cars like this any more. Speak to the owners who restored these vehicles and enjoy the attention to detail.

10.00am Helicopter Rides

\$60.00 per person per flight. Departs from Merriwa Oval No: 2 located Marquet and Brisbane Streets, just a 2 minute walk from Kids Corner.

10:00am Cosy Iron

Sponsored by Merriwa Café & Bakery

Quality Blacksmiths of this caliber are hard to find, watch & enjoy the skill from an era gone by.

10:00am Blade Shearing Demonstrations

Sponsored by Curtis Gant Irving Solicitors

Watch as expert hands demonstrate the art of shearing & handling the fleece. Demonstrations also in the afternoon. Located at the Royal Hotel, corner of Bettington and Vennacher Streets. Also 11am and 1pm.

10:00am Merriwa's Hanging of the Quilts

Sponsored by Lenore's Quilting and Martin's Transport

Talents from local quilters will be displayed at the Merriwa School of Arts. Beautiful quilts will be hung for all to admire. There is a chance to win a quilt of your very own as well as craft stalls to wander through. Open to 4.30pm, these works of art are worth taking a wander through.

10:00am Stan Ray Chainsaw Artist

Sponsored by Open Community Sponsors

Witness the amazing skills and artistic talent of Stan Ray as he uses a chainsaw to create inspiring works of art. Out side the Fitzroy Hotel and Caltex Service Station.

10.00am Damper with Cockies Joy washed down with Billy Tea

See how real bread was made back in the day. The food of a stockman damper with Cockies Joy and Billy Tea. Outside the historic Fitzroy Hotel in Bow Street. Cooking demonstrations up to 4pm.

10:00am Holy Trinity Open Day & Morning Tea

Sponsored by Open Community Sponsors

Come and explore Holy Trinity in Bow Street, from 10am to 12 noon and 2pm to 4pm. Take a wander through the church to see if you can locate the "10 Things of Interest". There is nothing better than the expert cooking skills and hospitality of the women of the Anglican Church and Merriwa has the best to test your taste buds.

WELCOME TO COUNTRY

11.00am Presented by Kamilaroi Elder Aunty Rosalind, including performances by Doonooch, the World's Premier Traditional Aboriginal Dance Company. Sponsored by Merriwa IGA.

The Festival of the Fleeces Committee would like to acknowledge the Gaewegal people who were the traditional custodians of the Merriwa region and surrounding lands, and the Kamilaroi people, the custodians today . The Festival Committee would also like to pay respect to Elders both past and present of the Gaewegal and Kamilaroi nations and extend that respect to other Aboriginal people present.

KIDS CORNER

CRN BETTINGTON & VENNACHER ST'S

8:00am -The ROAR Petting Zoo

Sponsored by Merriwa Central School

Come along and pat the baby animals from Merriwa Central School ROAR boys. Experience the joy that only baby animals can give.

8.00am GJ's Laser Tag

Located outside Merriwa swimming pool, their Laser guns use Infra-Red beams and sensors, the same as used on a TV remote control, completely harmless to your eyes and body, a healthy sport for all ages. So why not organise some family, friends, or work colleagues and challenge yourself to the team sport of GJ's laser Tag this Saturday from **8.00am to 4.00pm**, Vennacher Street Merriwa.

8.00am Jumping Castle, & Pop Corn

Fresh made pop corn, flavoured pop corn, and a jumping castle. It's a match made in children's heaven.

8.00am Mini Jeep Rides, and Clown games

On your mark, set and go..... Plenty of fun for the kids with prizes to be won.

10.30am Working Sheep Dog Display

Sponsored by Merriwa Pharmacy

Observe Zac Ede, as he works his dogs around the sheep, watch him communicate with his dogs through whistles and movements to bring the sheep into their pen. Demonstration held also at 2.15pm.

10:30am My Pet Dinosaur

Sponsored by Upper Hunter Shire Council

Meet and interact with Rexie a 6 month old baby T-Rex and his friends, Cera, Rosa and Koda. The display also includes a selection of dinosaur fossils including skulls, claws, teeth and eggs along with information banners about dinosaurs.

10.30am Devil Ark

The Tasmanian Devil needs your help. Become aware of the extinction dangers facing Australia's beautiful marsupial. Be inspired.

11:00am Croc Stars Reptile Show

Sponsored by Merriwa RSL

Experience a reptile exhibition with non-venomous Australian lizards, turtles, snakes and crocodiles with a "hands on" reptile awareness show. Their message is one of conservation of our environment by the preservation of our beautiful Australian native reptiles.

11:00am Sparkles the Clown

Sponsored by ROSTO Olives

Sparkles provides a range of craft activities for the kids, from making juggling balls out of rice & balloons, frogs on a stick, beaded floral necklaces, pirate eye patches and more – quick and easy craft that they can make in a number of minutes & walk away with. Balloon modeling – very popular with the kids, make hats & animals out of balloons. Tricks, lolly pops & treats handed out.

ROSTO OLIVES

RUNNING OF THE SHEEP

12.00pm See the famous sheep in red socks. 200 sheep wearing red woollen socks lead a procession of marching bands, school groups, community services, and local businesses through the main street of Merriwa. Wave to **Big Dog** as he passes along the crowd. Thank you to the Campbell family for the generous use of their sheep.



12.00pm Ray Hadley & the 2GB Continuous Call Team Live

Don't just listen, watch it live as Ray Hadley and the 2GB Continuous Call Team entertain while broadcasting live around Australia to 4.30pm.