

Up Country

entertainer

The only way to find out what's going on!

YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE
FREE

Serving the Hunter for over 20 years with a readership of over 4,000 weekly!

Thursday 26th January, 2017

Missed an issue? www.huntervalleyprinting.com.au/Pages/Entertainer.php



To be nominated is to be recognised

Congratulations to all nominated for awards as part of Australia Day 2017 celebrations. It's a huge honour to be nominated and presented with an award by an Australia Day ambassador.

Australia Day awards are presented in each region for Community Group, Citizen and Young Citizen, Achiever and Young Achiever. In Scone and Murrumbidgee there are Sports Achievers and in Merriwa there are awards for Sustainability in Business and Environmental Achievement. The Upper Hunter Shire Australia Day Citizen of the Year and Young Citizen are chosen from the town winners.

For more information about nominees log on to www.upperhunter.nsw.gov.au

See inside

Strathearn TV Guide
ADDING life TO YEARS
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(Top left) Upper Hunter Shire Australia Day 2017 nominees such as Freddy Gardiner in Scone (pictured with Mayor Bedgood) will be thanked during celebrations and ceremonies on 26 January. (Above) Edan Tickle of Aberdeen is one of the 2017 Australia Day nominees in the Upper Hunter Shire. Good luck to everyone.

SESSION TIMES: THURSDAY 26 JANUARY - WEDNESDAY 1 FEBRUARY

Cinema is open 7 days a week of school and public holidays!



Muswellbrook Cinema

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Muswellbrook

Phone: (02) 4044 0600



RESIDENT EVIL: THE FINAL CHAPTER
(MA15+) 106mins

Thu, Fri, Tue & Wed
1.00pm, 5.00pm & 8.50pm
Sat, Sun & Mon
1.10pm, 4.40pm & 7.10pm



PASSENGERS
(M) 116mins

Thu, Fri, Tue & Wed
2.50pm & 9.00pm
Sat, Sun & Mon
12.30pm & 6.45pm



XXX: RETURN OF XANDER CAGE
(M) 107mins

Thu, Fri, Tue & Wed
9.00am, 5.00pm & 7.00pm
Sat, Sun & Mon
11.10am, 5.10pm & 8.45pm



MONSTER TRUCKS
(PG) 105mins

Thu, Fri, Tue & Wed
11.00am & 3.00pm
Sat, Sun & Mon
9.00am & 3.15pm



BALLERINA
(G) 89mins

Thu, Fri, Tue & Wed
11.10am
Sat, Sun & Mon
9.00am



COLLATERAL BEAUTY
(M) 97mins

Thu, Fri, Tue & Wed
7.00pm
Sat, Sun & Mon
9.10pm



MIDDLE SCHOOL: THE WORST YEARS OF MY LIFE
(PG) 92mins

Thu, Fri, Tue & Wed
1.00pm
Sat, Sun & Mon
10.45am



SING
(PG) 108mins

Thu, Fri, Tue & Wed
9.00am
Sat, Sun & Mon
2.30pm

Live in Muswellbrook? Don't forget the Courtesy Bus is available to get you to the cinema.
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what's on



KING OF THE RANGES

STOCKMAN'S CHALLENGE & BUSH FESTIVAL

24th – 26th February 2017

MURRURUNDI NSW

**DON'T MISS
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STOCKMEN AND WOMEN
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ONE-DAY PASS: Adult \$20; Junior \$10 (13-17); Family \$45; Aged Concession \$10
TWO-DAY PASS (Sat/Sun): Adult \$35; Junior (13-17) \$15; Family \$75; Aged Concession \$15
THREE-DAY PASS: Adult \$45; Junior (13-17) \$25; Family \$95; Aged Concession \$25



EVENT & ENTRY INFORMATION
0419 207 910
kingoftheranges@gmail.com

www.kingoftheranges.com.au

King of the Ranges - preserving skills and adventure

Murrurundi's famous King of the Ranges Stockman's Challenge is just around the corner.

The event is a celebration of the traditional skills of Australian stockmen and women and showcases the tasks they use daily through an exciting competition. The preliminary events of the Challenge test the competitor's skill in stock handling, dog work, horseshoeing, packhorse activities, bareback riding, whip-cracking and cross country jumping. On Sunday, the skill and courage of the finalists is further tested with a wild horse catch and a stock saddle buck-jump, to find out who will be crowned the "King of the Ranges".



A huge array of entertainment outside the competition is also planned including bush poetry, a stockman's supper, music, food stalls and bar. A feature event taking place on the Friday night will be a spectacular re-enactment based on a poem depicting the life and times of Archie "Bung" McInnes, legendary Hunter Valley stockman and WW1 decorated Light Horseman who became the inspiration for the Stockman's Challenge.

The event takes place on the weekend of February 24 and 26. Log on to www.kingoftheranges.com.au for more information.



Shop online for tickets and vouchers at www.majesticcinemas.com.au

MAJESTIC CINEMAS
www.majesticcinemas.com.au

PROGRAM INFORMATION THURS 26th JANUARY to WED 1st FEBRUARY

Alice is back in **RESIDENT EVIL : THE FINAL CHAPTER (MA15+)**
James McAvoy plays multiple characters in horror thriller **SPLIT (M)**
Vin Diesel is back in **XXX : THE RETURN OF XANDER CAGE (M)**
Dance and rejoice with **BALLERINA (G)**
Family Adventure in **MONSTER TRUCKS (PG)**
Disney Presents **MOANA (PG)** Illumination's **SING (G)**

Select Series

Emma Stone & Ryan Gosling in **LA LA LAND (M)**
Dev Patel and Nicole Kidman star in **LION (M)**

CHECK WEBSITE OR PHONE FOR SESSION TIMES

21 Ryan Ave, SINGLETON Ph 6571 5252



Would you like your story, event or advertisement in Up Country Entertainer?

Contact Cheri Gibson at Hunter Valley Printing
E publications@huntermvalleyprinting.com.au
P: 02 6545 2888 F: 02 6545 1465

WIN two double passes!

The Entertainer in conjunction with Majestic Cinemas are giving away two double passes each week to two lucky readers.

Look for the handwritten word "WINNER" along with the editor's signature on this page above HVP logo.

Present the winning Entertainer edition to the Muswellbrook office of Hunter Valley Printing, 6 Wilkins Street Muswellbrook and collect your passes.
(must be claimed within one week of publication date)

The latest at Michael Reid

Studding watercolours which capture native birds and beautiful teacups painted by Denise Faulkner are now available for purchase through Murrurundi's Michael Reid Gallery.



Ms Faulkner's works are part of an exhibition which pays homage to the role that tea plays in our daily lives. You, Me and A Cup of Tea features paintings by Beverley Budgen, Denise Faulkner, Susan Gourley, Kim Schoenberger and selected artists from the Bundaberg region. A simple cup of tea can be consumed in many ways and in many situations. How do you take your tea? Milk, sugar, biscuits or cake to accompany? Is afternoon tea simply a hot beverage in the afternoon or does it conjure fond memories of a childhood tea party or sipping tea from fine china as you play cards with your Grandmother?

Contact the gallery for more information.

Image: Denise Faulkner with her painting 'Peppermint'.

MICHAEL

REID

The Michael Reid Murrurundi Art Gallery strives to showcase a selection of the finest contemporary Australian and Aboriginal art. Visit the gallery to browse its most recent exhibition and enjoy a hot drink from the *Big Brown Dog's* speciality tea & coffee selection.

The galleries delightful gift shop features a hand picked selection of homeware from pottery to bamboo textiles. It also has a stylish outdoor range including a plant nursery, packs of organic seeds and bespoke garden objects such as the *Culkin & Reid* fire pit.

Opening Hours: Friday, Saturday & Sunday from 11am - 5pm.

Boyd Street, Murrurundi

02 6546 6767

michaelreid.com.au

M U R R U R U N D I

Hit of history for Australia Day

Locals keen to learn a little more about Singleton's local history can take up the opportunity to so do on Australia Day. Local historian, Pat Quinn, will host a guided bus tour around significant local history sites on Australia Day.

Tours will leave from the community celebrations on the grassed area between the council car park and the Gym & Swim.

For more information about Singleton's Australia Day celebrations, visit www.singleton.nsw.gov.au/australiaday or contact the Singleton Visitor Information and Enterprise Centre on 6571 5888.

Muswellbrook Art Prize final call

Entries are closing soon for the Muswellbrook Art Prize.

\$70,000 is on offer across the painting, works on paper and ceramic categories. Entries close on January 27 with winners announced on March 11.

For more information log on to www.muswellbrookartscentre.com.au

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Face to Figure: From the Collections / 8 Artists: Different Strokes / Face to Figure: Workshop Studies / Collected: Max Watters Collection

Exhibition Dates > 14 January - 5 March 2017 Opening > 6pm Friday, 13 January 2017

muswellbrook
regional arts centre

Corner of Bridge & William Streets, Muswellbrook NSW 2333

t 02 6549 3800 e arts.centre@muswellbrook.nsw.gov.au w muswellbrookartscentre.com.au

Tuesday to Friday 10am - 5pm Weekends 10am - 1pm Mondays by appointment only Closed public holidays

Janelle McCloy,
Morton Bay Fig, graphite.



New cat in town roars at Thrashville (See article back page)



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2017 Festival of the Fleeces underway

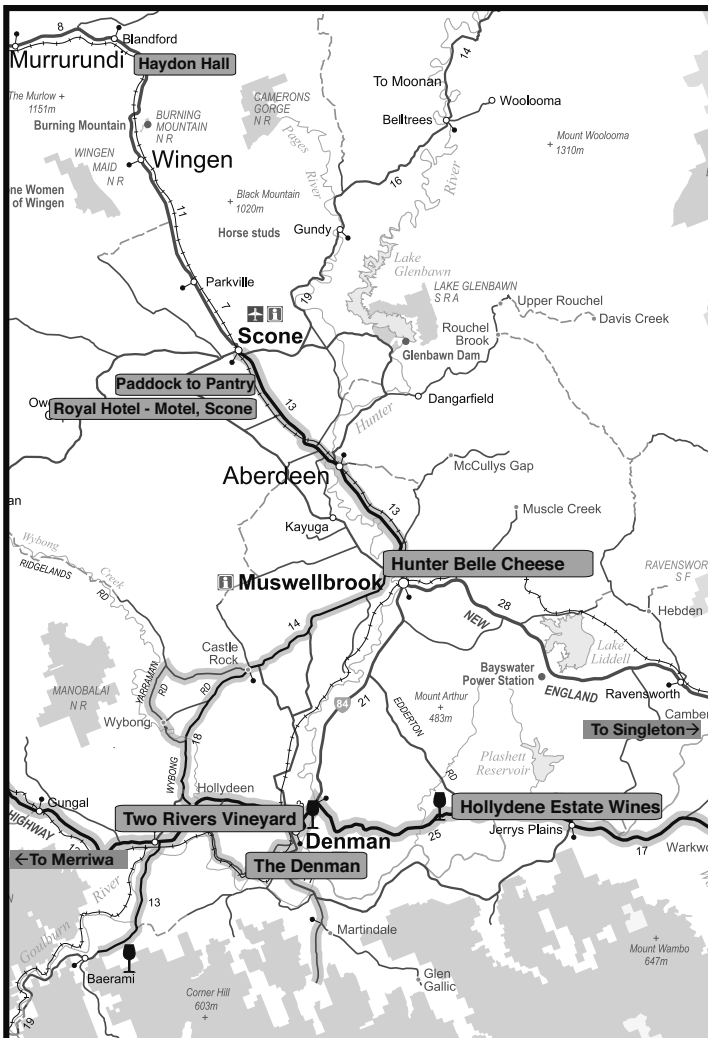
June might seem like a long time away in this hot weather, but planning is already in full swing for Merriwa's Festival of the Fleeces on the Queen's Birthday long weekend.

The festival has grown to become a popular tourist event in the Upper Hunter with visitors estimated to be around 5,000 over the course of the event.

Rosto has signed up for another 3 years as naming sponsor, but many more levels of sponsorship are still available starting from as low as only a \$300 commitment up to platinum level at \$4000. Organisers are currently seeking sponsorship from businesses to assist in the staging of this year's event.

Sponsorships close on 31 March this year. The committee is holding a cake stall on February 10 to raise money for the event.

To find out more log on to www.festivalofthefleeces.com.au



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Muswellbrook Visitor Information Centre

126 Bridge Street (library), Muswellbrook
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www.upperhuntercountry.com.au

Denman Visitor Information Centre

7 Ogilvie Street, Denman
Ph: 02 6547 2799
www.visitdenman.com.au





ARTIST'S IMPRESSION: Public art, landscaping, pedestrian access and slowing traffic through kerb blisters and green spaces are some of the recommendations for the revitalisation of Upper Hunter towns.

Making plans a reality

Residents interested in joining working groups to progress Revitalisation Masterplans for Aberdeen, Merriwa, Murrurundi and Scone are invited to attend an upcoming meeting in their town.

Upper Hunter Shire Council adopted Revitalisation Masterplans after extensive community consultations in 2016. Action Plans from the Masterplans will now be prioritised by community members supported by Council staff.

Each town Action Plan includes dozens of recommendations, some which can be achieved in the short-term (such as tree planting); medium term (such as heritage story boards) and long term (such as installing more pedestrian crossings).

At upcoming meetings the working groups will begin to prioritise the Action Plan items they want to work on. Any person interested in being on one of the working groups can attend the town meeting. The meetings are scheduled to take place in Merriwa, Scone, Aberdeen and Murrurundi in early February.

To find out more log on to www.upperhunter.nsw.gov.au



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Camera workshop in Scone

Scone Neighbourhood Resource Centre has organised a Camera Workshop to help you get the most out of your DSLR Camera.

Candice O'Neill from CJO Photography will cover a range of topics including what the buttons do, shutter speed, aperture, how to take photos of stars, sunsets, sports and so much more. Bookings are essential with the class to be held at the Scone Neighbourhood Centre 130 Liverpool Street on Saturday 18th March, 9am – 3pm with a fee of \$85.00.

Phone 6545 2562 for an enrolment form or email reception@snrc.com.au

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State Government grant ensures major changes



Acting General Manager Anthony Egan, Mayor Cr Cue Moore and Michael Johnsen MP, Member for Upper Hunter on John Street.

The transformation of the Singleton Town Centre will continue with Singleton Council successful in receiving \$3.5 million under the NSW Government's Restart: Resources for Regions program for Stage Two of the project.

The grant will cover half of the \$7 million total cost to continue the John Street improvements from Ryan Avenue north to Campbell Street. The works will include raised pedestrian crossings and footpath works, improved lighting, and improvement amenity to attract new business investment and hold events in the Singleton CBD.

The timeline for the project is 15 months, including an approximate four-month construction period.

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New cat in town roars at Thrashville

Over 500 hungry-punk, metal and rock lovers descended on the pristine bushland venue Dashville, in Lower Belford, last Saturday, to take in the sights and sounds of the very first Thrashville festival.

The event was a new venture by the team behind The Gum Ball, Dashville Skyline, and PigSty in July, designed for their loyal fans who also enjoy "slightly heavier" music.

The inaugural Thrashville was headlined by Aussie punk legends Cosmic Psychos and Hard-Ons, and also featured more modern acts like WAAX, Clowns and The Neptune Power Federation, plus Hunter legends like Mischling, Zombonimo and The Australian BeefWeek Show.

Alongside the music were skating displays, games of disc golf, live-graff art displays and fire-twirling.

As with every other Dashville event, there was a tasty selection of boutique beers and Hunter food trucks.

Morsels were provided by acclaimed Newcastle restaurant MEET, Nepalese cuisine chefs Olmomo and the always popular Opie Funk Mexican cantina.

The next events at Dashville are the Bruce Springsteen tribute night Dashlands, on February 17, and the three-day annual Gum Ball, which returns for its 12th year from April 21 - 23, 2017.



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See pictorial page 4

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