

**MEDIA RELEASE** 13 December 2011

## **Cattleman's Bush Poetry - Worth a Thousand - Dollars!**

ONE thousand dollars will go to the winner of the Mountain Cattlemen's Bush Poetry Competition at Merrijig in January.

Local State Upper House MP Donna Petrovitch is sponsoring the *Don Kneebone* competition to encourage poets to compose and recite original poetry.

Ms Petrovich is a horsewoman and long time supporter of the Mountain Cattlemen's culture, heritage and their cause. She will present the prize at Merrijig on Saturday January 14 around 7.30pm before the band.

"The Cattlemen's heritage belongs to all of us, and we need to preserve not just the heritage but their culture. Previous winners have used their prize money to publish a book of poems or make a CD. I am glad to help the winner of the Don Kneebone to further their craft" she said.

Poetry convenor Wendy Jubb Stoney, wants as many people who love the Cattlemen and their cause to come to the Annual Mountain Cattlemen's Festival this year and either make a speech, write and recite a poem or tell a story.

"Don Kneebone was a farmer but he was also a bushy, a witty thinker and a performance poet. He is the inspiration for the Mountain Cattleman's Bush Poetry Competition at each year's Get Together.

Many other Mountain Cattlemen's families are recognised and support the poetry competition.

Jim Treasure sponsors the *Jack Treasure* which is the second prize to the *Don Kneebone*. Jack Treasure was the first President of the MCAV and the founder of the concept for the festival. The *Bill Hicks Bush Minstrel* is supported by Jack Hicks and family and is for an established poet. Bruce and Deb McCormack will sponsor the written entry called the *Peter McCormack Poet Laureate*. *Mick Walsh's Tall Tales* for a story or yarn is sponsored by Jim Campbell, while Chris Commins and family are sponsoring the *Jim Commins Oration* for an inspirational speech. Junior poets are also recognised with a prize donated by the Webb Family.

**For more information please contact Wendy Jubb Stoney on mobile 0408104995**



ABN 25342519237

Reg No A2117

[www.mcav.com.au](http://www.mcav.com.au)

[secretary@mcav.com.au](mailto:secretary@mcav.com.au)

✉ PO Box 1840,

Bairnsdale 3875

☎ 03 51527605