

SPRING 2026

THE STOCKMAN'S NEWS

Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame & Outback Heritage
Centre



- **STORIES OF
THE BUSH**
- **PEOPLE OF
THE
OUTBACK**
- **LOOKING TO
THE FUTURE**

Welcome to the Spring 2026 edition of The Stockman's News — the official newsletter of the Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame & Outback Heritage Centre, Longreach, Queensland.

Inside this issue, we celebrate an extraordinary year of stories, visitors and achievements at one of Australia's most iconic cultural institutions.

From the arena to the galleries, from the people behind the scenes to the landscapes that define the outback, this edition captures the heart of what makes the Hall of Fame a truly special place.

We also look ahead — to new projects, a landmark anniversary and another exciting season in 2027.

Thank you for being part of our story.

THE STOCKMAN'S NEWS

FROM THE CEO

What an extraordinary year 2026 has been at the Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame. As another busy tourism season begins to draw to a close, we have much to celebrate.

Thousands of visitors have travelled through our doors to discover the stories of the men, women and animals who have helped shape Australia's outback.

From our immersive galleries and cinematic experiences to the excitement of the Outback Stockman's Live Show, it has been wonderful to see visitors of all ages connecting with the history, resilience and character of rural Australia.

Behind the scenes, we have also been working hard on the future of the Hall of Fame, with new projects, visitor experiences, sustainability initiatives and plans that will continue to strengthen this iconic Australian institution.

To our members, visitors, tourism partners, supporters and local community — thank you for continuing to be part of our story.

Noyd Mills

Chief Executive Officer

Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame & Outback Heritage Centre

***Thank you for continuing to be
part of our story.***





MEET OUR HEAD STOCKMAN STEWART BRYANT

It is about patience. Observation. Trust. And knowing when to ask an animal for something — and when to simply give it time.

Anyone who has watched Stewart Bryant working with an animal will understand that being a stockman is about far more than riding a horse or cracking a stockwhip.

**It is about patience.
Observation.
Trust.**

And knowing when to ask an animal for something — and when to simply give it time.

As Head Stockman at the Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame, Stewart works closely with the horses, working dogs, sheep and other animals that help bring the story of Australian stockmanship to life.

Visitors see the finished performance in the arena, but behind every show are countless hours of feeding, training, preparation and care.

Stewart has an instinctive ability to read animals and understand their individual personalities. No two horses are the same. No two dogs learn in exactly the same way.

His approach is based on calmness, consistency and respect.

That relationship between people and animals is an important part of Australia's pastoral history. For generations, stockmen and women relied on their horses and dogs as trusted working partners, often in some of the toughest conditions imaginable.

Through Stewart's work, visitors can see that partnership continuing today.

Together with Kelly Bryant, Stewart helps ensure these traditional skills are not simply something we read about in history books — they remain alive in the arena at Longreach.

'AFTER THE RAINS' TELLING A POWERFUL OUTBACK STORY

The Australian outback is a place of extraordinary beauty, but it is also a landscape shaped by extremes. Our immersive experience explores the cycle of drought, flood, loss, recovery and renewal.

**DROUGHT.
FLOOD.
LOSS.
RECOVERY.**

And eventually, renewal.

Our NEW immersive experience 'After the Rains' explores this cycle and the resilience of the people, animals and landscapes of regional Australia.

Through powerful imagery and storytelling, visitors are taken into a world where rain can transform an exhausted landscape almost overnight — bringing rivers back to life, covering the country in green and reminding us of nature's extraordinary capacity for renewal.

The experience is an important addition to the way we tell the Australian outback story.

Because the story of the bush is not only about the past.

It is still being written today.



THE NEXT CHAPTER – OUTBACK QUEENSLAND ECO-LINK

We are continuing to develop an exciting vision for another major precinct at the Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame.

The Outback Queensland Eco-Link Project is designed to create stronger connections between our visitors, our environment and the stories of the Australian bush.

The proposed development includes the enhancement of our Lakes Precinct with accessible pathways, wetland restoration, landscaping, picnic areas and improved visitor amenities.

It also includes plans for a substantial undercover interpretive space that would provide new opportunities for education, community activities and visitor experiences.

***We want it to become a place
to walk, explore, learn, gather
and connect with the
landscape.***

Importantly, accessibility and sustainability are being considered throughout the project.

The vision is to create a precinct that does more than provide another place to visit.

We want it to become a place to walk, explore, learn, gather and connect with the landscape.

Through the Lakes Precinct enhancements, visitors will be able to move through a restored wetland environment, following accessible pathways that wind through native plantings and open to picnic areas overlooking the water.

The undercover interpretive space will offer shelter from the outback elements while opening new possibilities — for school groups, community gatherings, cultural programs and immersive storytelling experiences that complement the Hall of Fame's existing galleries and cinematic experiences.

Accessibility has been central to the planning process from the outset, ensuring that the new precinct can be enjoyed by visitors of all ages and abilities.

Sustainability principles are woven through every aspect of the project — from water-sensitive landscaping and native revegetation to the careful management of the wetland environment that will sit at the heart of the precinct.

There is much more to come on this exciting project.



OUR UNSUNG HEROES

Behind every object, photograph and name in the Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame is a person.

Some became famous. Many did not. But all contributed in some way to the story of rural and regional Australia.

Our Unsung Heroes collection ensures those stories can continue to be remembered.

Families can contribute the story of someone whose life deserves recognition — a stockman, stockwoman, drover, station worker, pioneer or everyday Australian whose contribution might otherwise disappear with time.

These stories become part of the Hall of Fame's continuing record of Australia's outback heritage.

History isn't only about famous names.

Sometimes the most powerful history is found in the stories passed quietly from one generation to another.

Every family that has worked the land, driven cattle across vast distances, raised children on remote stations or simply endured the hardships of outback life carries within it a story worth telling.

The Hall of Fame exists not simply to preserve objects — but to preserve stories, memories and people.

If your family holds a story that deserves to be remembered, we encourage you to reach out and share it with us. These are the histories that must never be lost.

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Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame & Outback Heritage Centre





TWO MILLION VISITORS – AND COUNTING

Since opening in 1988, more than two million visitors have passed through the Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame.

Every one of those visitors becomes part of our story.

Some come because their family worked the land. Others remember a grandfather who was a drover, a grandmother who raised a family on an isolated property, or parents who spent their lives working with cattle and sheep.

Others arrive knowing very little about life in the bush and leave with a completely new appreciation of the people who helped build regional Australia.

That is why the Hall of Fame exists. Not simply to preserve objects. But to preserve stories, memories and people.

In 2028, the Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame will celebrate 40 years since it was officially opened by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on 29 April 1988.

Four decades of preserving history. Four decades of celebrating Australia's stockmen and women.

Four decades of sharing outback stories with visitors from across Australia and around the world.

There are many stories still to tell — and we are already looking forward to celebrating this remarkable milestone.

Not simply to preserve objects. But to preserve stories, memories and people.

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LOOKING AHEAD TO 2027

Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame

Planning is already well underway for another exciting tourism season.

We continue to work closely with tourism operators, coach companies, schools and industry partners to bring more visitors to Longreach and Outback Queensland. Our focus remains on giving visitors something they cannot experience anywhere else — authentic Australian stories told in the place where those stories belong.

The combination of our museum and galleries, cinematic storytelling, live animals, stockmanship and personal stories provides an opportunity to experience Australia's outback heritage rather than simply observe it.

We are looking forward to welcoming familiar faces and first-time visitors again in 2027.