



**Some emu racers from last year's festival.** Picture: Darcy Hay

# Yalgoo gets ready, set for a goo-d time

■ **Darcy Hay**

Emu racers will again ride the red desert plains of Yalgoo at this year's second-ever Emu Cup and Goo Fest on Saturday.

Last year drew more than a hundred people to a day's wacky proceedings at Yalgoo Race Track, which included live musical entertainment from Perth DIY ensemble Junkadelic, an abundance of creative workshops and novelty races for the kids, and the chance for townsfolk to let off a bit of steam with the 'emu race'.

This involves those who've made colourful and quirky emu costumes competing in a footrace on the racetrack.

There's also a new event on the block — \$300 will be awarded to the grand winner of a small sculpture contest, themed around "Emu".

These can be made in advance, or made on the day from materials supplied; they can be no larger than 30cm in any dimension, must either be free-standing or have a stable base, and can't be any heavier than 5kg, with an under 10s category, an 11 to 18 category, and an adult category.

■ ■ **The small sculpture prize adds a new dimension to the event and to Yalgoo**

**Neil Grinham**

"We have some great Aboriginal artists in town, but the small sculpture prize adds a new dimension to the event and to Yalgoo," Yalgoo Shire president Neil Grinham said.

"Hopefully the small sculpture prize will attract the interest of plenty of Mid West locals."

The focus during daylight hours is firmly on family fun, with two circus challenge workshops, a road safety game, dancing to tunes from DJ Rev, percussion workshops with Junkadelic and — of course — emu costume-making workshops running at the race track between 8am and noon.

The young kids' race between 1.15pm and 3pm — interspersed by a duo performance with Junkadelic and the kids — before older kids and open category races kick off at 3pm, ending about 4.45pm.

For 15 glorious minutes, a colourful 'goo fight' will be held, before the night kicks in.

Live entertainment will be provided by Junkadelic, Mata Te Hiini, DJ Rev, and Johnny Ford & the Baldja Boys, with fireworks at 10pm.