



Tom Roberts  
*Shearing the rams* 1890 (detail)  
oil on canvas on composition board  
122.4 x 183.3 cm  
National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne  
Felton Bequest, 1932 (4654-3)

TOM ROBERTS  
1890



Start your journey at the Corowa Visitor Information Centre

100 Edward Street Corowa NSW 2646  
Phone (02) 6033 3221  
tourism@federationcouncil.nsw.gov.au

**NORTH** of  
**THE MURRAY**

# The Shearing the Rams Trail.

[northofthemurray.com.au](http://northofthemurray.com.au)

# Travel in the historic footsteps of Tom Roberts.

**Tom Roberts** was a pioneering Australian oil painter who specialised in painting landscapes and portraiture of people in everyday situations.

In 1888 Tom Roberts was drawn to Brocklesby Station, 20 minutes north-west of Corowa, where he spent his time making sketches in and around the shearing sheds.

"Shearing the rams" is one of the paintings that resulted from Roberts' stay. Completed in 1890, the large canvas is his most well-known painting, and numbers amongst Australia's most iconic artworks.

It was quickly purchased and is on proud display at the National Gallery of Victoria in Melbourne to date. Along with other local paintings and artists, it is still celebrated in our region today.



1.

## Corowa Visitor Information Centre

100 EDWARD ST COROWA NSW 2646

Start your journey on the self guided Shearing the rams Trail at the Corowa Visitor Information Centre. Here, the knowledgeable staff will provide you with information and advice on the history and the key points of interest surrounding Roberts' visit.

Check in with staff with regard to the current operating hours of the locations along the track.

2.

## Corowa Federation Museum

56 QUEEN ST COROWA NSW 2646

Step back in time and discover Corowa's history and its role in the birth of Federation at the Corowa Federation Museum.

The Museum displays describe Australia's pathway from a series of independent colonies to a single, unified nation, and the vital role the town of Corowa played in this story.

In 2020, to celebrate the 130th anniversary of "Shearing the rams", a large mural of the - an artist's impression - iconic painting reproduced by local artist Tracy Hancock was unveiled at the Federation Museum.

Among other displays, art lovers will also enjoy seeing sketches by Tommy McRae, an accomplished local indigenous artist.

3.

## The Shearing Shed

TOM ROBERTS RD REDLANDS NSW 2646 (UNSEALED ROAD)

While the actual shearing shed from "Shearing the rams" is long-gone due to a fire in 1960, a replica at Redlands Hill Reserve still stands near the original site.

Just thirteen minutes drive from Corowa, the grey box grassy woodlands boasts four bush walking trails. All the tracks are rated easy with no bushwalking experience required, however they are genuinely 'bush' tracks.

Signs give visitors insights into the reserve's environment, plants and animals. The reserve also hosts information on Tommy McRae and Tom Roberts; one of Roberts' other famous paintings "A Break Away!", painted in 1891 - is also based on sketches he did in this landscape.

4.

## Shearing the Rams Sculpture

7995 RIVERINA HWY LOWESDALE NSW 2646

Travel along "Tom Roberts' Road" - a true replica of the roadways from yesteryear, until you meet the Riverina Highway. Here you will find the Shearing the Rams Sculpture.

In 2018, sculptor Andrew Whitehead created a life-size replica of a shearer using blade shears to shear a curly horned ram, inspired by the famous Tom Roberts painting.

The artist met with local students requesting that each student donate an old cast iron cog to the project. The students' initials were then carved into their cog before the artist included them in the sculpture. In this way, another generation of locals learned about this important Australian artist and his work.

5.

## Corowa Saleyards

437 HONOUR AVE COROWA NSW 2646

Experience an authentic country sheep auction at the Corowa Saleyards. Take in the sights, sounds - and yes, the smells - as some of the country's finest livestock find new homes. Sales are held at 10am each Monday.

6.

## Gallery 294

294 HONOUR AVE COROWA NSW 2646

Make your last stop on the trail Gallery 294. Discover the region from the perspectives of local artists, with traditional oil paint artworks like "Shearing the rams", to creative designs in locally sourced wool.