



# Robertson Newsletter

April 2001

Edition 23

## Robertson Show

The 122nd Robertson Show was held on Friday & Saturday 9th and 10th March where we were fortunate enough to get through Friday's events with the judging of dairy cattle, showjumping, hack and sporting events.

The weather let us down badly on Saturday. A last minute decision was made on Saturday morning by the President, Phillip Vickery, and his horse and beef cattle stewards to cancel these events.

It was unsafe due to the very wet conditions to judge these two sections. The committee also felt it wise to cancel the night show events, including the Demolition Derby.

Although this was disappointing, the gate takings were in excess of \$10,000.

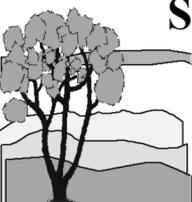
In spite of this, the Dog Show went ahead successfully with over 600 entries as did the Pavilion with over 2000 magnificent entries ranging from scarecrows to baking, for people to come, look, and marvel at the talent on show. The Alpaca Show was a crowd-pleaser and being undercover many spectators passed through asking questions and getting to know these gentle and loving animals.

The commentators were marvellous, keeping things going with their comments as well as having the odd impromptu fun event in the ring.

The Fleece Pavilion was also popular featuring both coloured sheep fleeces and alpaca fleeces.

The conditions couldn't stop our unbeatable Shane Whatman who once again blitzed the opposition to win his sixth Potato Race title.

The President wishes to thank his hard working committee and the community for their unfailing assistance, because without their commitment to and support of this event, the Robertson Show would not be the traditional country Show.



### Summit Tree Services

*Tree Care & Land Management*

**4886-4177 or Mob 0409-129165**  
Burrawang

Public Liability Insurance

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>Paul D'hondt</b><br/>Cert. of Arboriculture<br/>Cert. of Tree Surgery<br/>Cert. of Tree Care<br/>Member of the N.A.A.A.</p> | <p><b>Sandy Morse</b><br/>.Assoc. Dip. Landscape<br/>.Grad. Dip. Land Rehabilitation<br/>Member - Aust. Inst. Hort. &amp;<br/>Aust. Inst. Landscape Designers Managers</p> |
|---|--|

## Burrawang Fair

If you're headed Burrawang way on Easter Saturday, don't expect a quiet unhurried day meandering through the village, because the Southern Highland's biggest and most popular market day, the Burrawang fair, takes place on Easter Saturday between 9am and 4pm.

The village comes alive when local producers and craft people display their skills and wares at over 120 stalls lining the main streets of the village. There are also 20 specialty craft, cake & chocolate stalls in the village hall. Featured are the wonderful stalls of home-grown fruit & vegetables, jams, jellies, pickles and preserves, as well as three local nurseries with plants and shrubs.

Small livestock is also a feature—so if you need chickens, ducks, geese or maybe a miniature rabbit, this is the market for you. There are also metal forgers, spinners, wood turners, leather workers, potters and new or recycled furniture.

Find a bargain at the trash & treasure stalls, or an antique, and enjoy wonderful hot food.

Admission and parking are free, so come to Burrawang on Easter Saturday and help the Burrawang School of Arts & the Burrawang Public School make this a wonderful day.

Contact Harley Martin 4886 4406  
Binnice Shepherd 4886 4344  
(Sorry all stall sites sold)



# ॐ Anne Stowar

B. Soc. Stud. (Syd), M. A. A. S. W., Dip. Teach. (IYTA)

## YOGA TEACHER

**Classes in Robertson Community Centre**

|                    |                 |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Thursday Evenings  | 6.00-7.30pm     |
| Friday Mornings    | 9.00am -10.30am |
| During school Term |                 |



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### SEWERAGE - THE ISSUE FOR ROBERTSON

The Editor,

After attending last Tuesday, one of the three village workshops on the Robertson Sewerage Scheme, a number of aspects of this process concerned me:

1. Of 18 people participating in my workshop, only 5 were from the village itself, although this is the area that is proposed to be seweraged.
2. None of the Council representatives present seemed willing to give an unequivocal assurance that the scheme would in fact go ahead.
3. We were invited to divide into small groups to "brainstorm" our recommendations as to what kind of scheme the village should have, and where it should be located. A ludicrous brief, not only because many of us had no prior expertise in the field but also because the workshop had failed to equip us with even a rudimentary outline of alternative technologies, systems, sites, etc.: in my view, a condescending approach designed to give people a feeling of participation - rather than one genuinely designed to gain a useful contribution from the community. At its worst, it's a process calculated to cloud rather than clarify the real issues.

To me, it seems extraordinary: after three years of deliberation, Council and Water Authority experts were able to present the community workshops with nothing more useful to work on than a blank sheet of paper!

Robertson Village needs a sewerage scheme and it is Council's responsibility to put forward concrete, practical proposals, which can then be usefully discussed by the rest of us.

Yours Faithfully

Dion Boehme

### The Robertson Show 2001.

The Editor,

Along with hundreds of other people with an affinity for mud, last Saturday I went to the Robertson Show and, as usual, had an absolutely terrific time. It was all just as it always is with hot dog stalls, open-air mugs of coffee, steak sandwiches, fried onions, the lot. Those wonderful blokes on the loud speakers were dishing out their customary spectacular and colourful commentaries, the bumper cars and sky rides were whizzing around just as always and the pavilion was crammed full of works of art, jars of jam, cream cakes, stuffed dolls, loaves of bread, vases of flowers and just about every variety of vegetable known to man.

However, the show was also being drowned in non-stop and deluging rain which had been pouring down for days and which had reduced the entire show ground to a thick morass of oozing mud which was well over ankle deep. It was potentially an utter disaster.

In those dire circumstances nobody could possibly have criticised the organisers if they had simply thrown up their hands in horror and walked away from the whole sorry mess. But thank goodness they are all made of far sterner stuff than that. Not only did they refuse to accept defeat; they rolled up their soggy sleeves, put their heads together and by their sheer guts and ingenuity they kept the show going.

O.K. Just about every single one of the outdoor events which had been planned and advertised was forced to be cancelled. In those conditions any other decision would have been insane and irresponsible. But all sorts of other zany races and competitions were spontaneously introduced to keep the water logged spectators amused. The philosophy clearly was: "Look! These people have been good enough to brave the weather, come here today and pay their money to see a show. So we're going to make damned certain that we give 'em one!"

And so they did. And a very good one, too. Congratulations and warm thanks to all of the gutsy organisers involved. It may not have been the greatest Robertson Show ever held but for my money it was the bravest. And it's the one above all which I shall remember forever.

Yours faithfully,

Arthur Jackson.

#### To Let

##### Robertson

2/3 Bedroom Cottage, Garage, Fenced yard, Gas heating - \$200 pw

2 Bedroom Weatherboard House Fenced Yard, Pergola - \$210 pw

Office with 3 suites, reception room - \$380 pw

##### Burrawang

3 Bedroom 2 Storey timber loft cottage, en-suite, study, wood-fire, fenced yard - \$350 pw

##### Kangaloon

4 Bedroom Mud-brick, rural setting, en-suite, large study,



**R J MACKEY Real Estate**

Robertson

Phone: 4885 1329

## A WEB SITE FOR ROBERTSON?

Should Robertson have its own Web site? Robertson Business Association thinks the idea is well worth considering and has decided to investigate further.



The benefits seem obvious. While not everyone is Internet-literate, more and more people are starting to use their computer as a primary source of information, about holidays, shopping, events etc. A Robertson site could carry a great deal of information - attractions - accommodation - an events calendar - walks, waterfalls and National Parks - and community information including, for example, this newsletter.

However costs are involved, both to establish the site and to maintain it on an ongoing basis, so the level of likely use needs to be carefully considered - as does the level of business and community support.

Most importantly, community expertise will also be needed. While identifying the potential, the Business Association does not have the computer skills needed to create a site. The RBA would like to hear from anyone in the district with, a) the expertise and, b) the enthusiasm, for the challenge of putting our village on the Internet map. If you can help - and even a little expertise will be more than we currently have - please ring Rona Gould on 4885 2393.



### CHAT'S CAFE

(at the Robertson Motel)



Open 7 days  
Mon-Sat 9am-7pm  
Sundays 9am-5pm

Eat in or Take Away  
Patsy's Famous Roast Rolls  
Only \$3.30.

## The Cheese Shop

Specialising in local and Australian cheeses,  
condiments and cordials.



Open 7 days

Illawarra Highway Robertson  
Phone 02 4885 1133

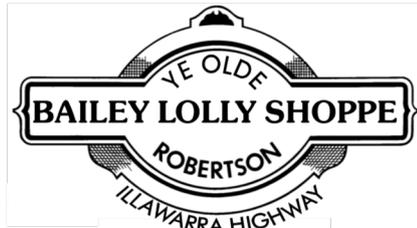


## Medical Notes

Now it is AUTUMN. Time to prepare for those winter chills and flu by having your Flu vaccination at ROBERTSON MEDICAL PRACTICE. If you are over 65 years it is free. So is a vaccination for Pneumonia if you fulfill the criteria: over 65 years, with chronic lung or heart disease or some other disease which could make you more susceptible to infection. Another disease that is becoming more common is DIABETES. In the surgery are questionnaires: if you fill one in, it may help you to decide if you need further investigation for this disease. DIABETICS are more likely to develop HEART PROBLEMS, as well as EYE AND KIDNEY PROBLEMS, but if the diabetes is detected early treatment can help prevent more serious consequences of this disease.



**Robertson Medical Practice**  
**Hoddle St, Robertson**  
**4885 1502**



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Joyce Bailey - 4885 2885

## Stay out Spinner

My wife and I spend too much of our time examining spiders. In spite of our farmhouse being like Fort Knox they still get in. I guess if we'd modelled it on Alcatraz they'd spend their time trying to get out. When there's "movement at the station" at our place it means one of us is running to grab a slipper or a can of Morteins latest scourge of the insect world. We have comprehensive books and charts with names like "What spider is that" but our spiders always make sure they don't quite match: either the legs are too long or the body's too short etc, etc. However, they all have one thing in common, they could win the 100 metres sprint against any spider in the world; so we can only hope that the ones that disappear under the lounge will die of cardiac arrest. At the risk of death I've sometimes taken a mangled corpse to the Australian Museum for identification, only to be told that it was impossible due to the spiders condition and could I bring them a live one. They know not what they ask. The only compensation is the look of alarm when people ask what we "run" down on the farm at Kangaloon and I tell them: "Spiders".



By Donald Fish

## Free Trees!!!

To take advantage of the enthusiasm whipped up by the centenary of Federation tree planting events, Robertson Village Nursery is offering FREE trees for street planting in Robertson.

All it takes is for a few neighbours to get together and decide to plant up their street. We have available Japanese Trident, Norway and box elder maples, Pin, Scarlet and English Oaks and Chinese elms.

For those streets preferring natives we have Acacia binervata and Casuarinas.

These trees are available for the asking, all you have to do is decide which type your street will plant (one type only per street). Make your decision, get in touch with us and then organise a tree planting get together. This offer is limited to one tree per household, for houses in the Robertson Village and- while our stocks last.



## Gardening In Robertson

### Gardening hints.

- \* Cut back Summer flowering perennials.
- \* Lift and divide perennial bulbs (Dahlias with soil intact), store in a cool dry place for late Winter planting.
- \* Thick Mulch to keep soil warm.
- \* Water camellias regularly.
- \* Treat cabbage family with Derris Dust or Dipel to deter white butterfly.
- \* Try planting Lilliums, Lettuce, Cress, Spinach.
- \* Rake up lawn clippings and fallen leaves, compost them or mulch the garden with them. When using grass clippings around vegetables first layer with poultry or cow manure, then add grass clippings as a finishing touch.
- \* An easy way to make a compost is to use a compost tumbler. It should take approximately 14 days to have rich organic compost for your garden.

These small ideas should give good results.

"We all need a patch of green in our lives."

**Robertson Garden Club** meets on the first Monday of each Month, at the Community Hall, Caalang Street, Robertson, commencing at 1.30 p.m.

The Motto of Garden Clubs is **"Friendship Through Gardens"**.

A Garden Club is a great way to make new friends and learn more about Gardening.

For more information—Phone Julie Payne—4885 1767

**ELECTRICIAN**

Robert Handley

|              |               |
|--------------|---------------|
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| * Domestic   | * Small Jobs  |
| * Commercial | * Maintenance |

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### **Easter Gifts.**

**Coloured Eggs.**—can be made by boiling eggs with food colouring, or try some natural methods, onion skins, silver beet, beetroot.



**Patterned Eggs**—can be made by placing leaves or flowers around the egg then wrapping it firmly in crepe paper, then cloth or panty hose. Place in cold water, completely covering the eggs and boil gently for 10 minutes. Unwrap and polish with oil.

**Blown Eggs**—wash some eggs and dry them. Make holes both ends with a darning needle, (one end slightly bigger than the other). Blow into the larger hole until the egg runs into a bowl. Wash the eggs again and dry carefully. Place in egg cups and then decorate either by painting or with small cut out pieces of paper glued on. A thread can then be run through to make a string of eggs.

A cheap gift can be made by placing small chocolate eggs in a pretty glass, wrap in cellophane and tie a ribbon around the top.



**For good sound rural advice call the locals,  
Phillip or John. 4885 1040**

### **SPECIAL EVENTS.**

If you have any special events happening in your family, such as an engagement, wedding or a new baby, please let us know and we would be happy to put your announcement in the Robertson Newsletter, free of charge.

(A photo would be good!)

Just let our editor know, or leave your notice at Water's

## Community Notices

### WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE PART OF THIS EXCITING NEW COMMUNITY PROJECT ?

From July to December this year, the Robertson Railway Precinct will be a hive of activity. We expect to have a team of 10 Work-for-the Dole labourers at our disposal, two days each week (Tuesdays and Wednesdays, or Wednesdays and Thursdays) to help us transform the railway station site into a beautiful "Village Common". We expect the funds to be available to .....

- \* Erect a security fence parallel to the railway line
- \* Back the security fence by plantings of flowering shrubs Establish a parking area between the security fence and the through road
- \* Protect the Village Green" north of the through road with a vehicle barrier
- \* Build two shelter sheds adjacent to the Village Green Erect an outdoor seating alcove adjacent to the shelter sheds
- \* Link the shelter sheds with the station and Yarranga Street with a paved walkway
- \* Put in safe kerbing for tourist buses
- \* Repaint the "Fettler's Shed" in colours sympathetic to the Heritage Railway Station
- \* Renovate the interior of the Fettler's Shed to make a "Resource Centre"
- \* Install an exhibit of Robertson History in the Stationmaster's Office
- \* Establish an elevated garden at the station end of Yarranga Street
- \* Remove woody weeds from the site.

We need volunteers to supervise the work. Given broadly based support from REPS and other village organisations to help us supervise the team of labourers, the work can be completed by Christmas. Our aim is to have two village volunteer-supervisors on site each day of the 52 day work period. If you can take part in this project please ring David Tranter—4885 1394 or Graham Carpenter—4885

### Grey-Headed Flying-Foxes

Beneficial yet Vulnerable

A Talk at REPS by Nancy Pallin

Robertson Community Centre, Friday 6 April, 2001 7.30pm

- \* Radio and satellite tracking have shown that these bats are amazing movers, adapted to the vagaries of eucalypt flowering.
- \* Yet scientists are alarmed at the decline in their numbers and the impact this may have on rainforest diversity and regeneration as well as reproduction in eucalypt forests and woodlands.
- \* Volunteers have joined scientists to estimate their population. What are the threats and how can we avoid a crash in their population ?
- \* Meet a flying-fox called Mangoes. See wild flying-foxes in their daytime camp and while feeding at night
- \* Expose the following myths: "A population explosion in flying-foxes". "Flying-foxes defecate through their mouths"

An illustrated talk by

Nancy Pallin

Ku-ring-gai Bat Conservation Society  
Inc.

A Small Gold Coin Donation for the  
KBCS education program please.  
Refreshments Free. All Welcome



**EVERY THURSDAY AT 7 PM  
LINE DANCING IN THE BURRAWANG HALL.  
PHONE JOAN SMART 4885 2397 FOR  
DETAILS**

### 16MM FILM CLUB MEETS AT THE BURRAWANG HALL



**FRIDAY MARCH 30 AT 7.30 PM  
"GOODBYE MR CHIPS"**

Starring Robert Donat, Greer Garson & John Mills  
Directed by Sam Wood

\$5 Membership at Door includes glass of wine.  
All welcome. Enquiries 4886 4428.

**FRIDAY 11 MAY "GENEVIEVE"**

Starring Kenneth Moore, John Gregson, Kay Kendall,  
Dianah Sheridan & Joyce Grenfell.  
Directed by Henry Cornelius.

**FRIDAY 22 JUNE "SUNDAY TOO FAR AWAY"**

### Recipe of the Month



#### Devilled Wine Chops—Jan Sully

½ kilo Best end lamb neck chops, ¼ cup finely chopped celery, 1 onion, 1 dsp prepared mustard, 1 tbsp brown sugar, 1 clove garlic, 1 tbsp Worcestershire Sauce, 1 tbsp Lemon juice, 2 tbsp sherry, 310 ml can tomato soup.

Arrange chops in a well greased casserole, cover and bake 45 minutes in moderate oven. Remove all excess fat. Chop onion finely and crush garlic. Heat together remaining ingredients, add onion and garlic, pour over chops. Bake, covered, for further 45 minutes, basting occasionally. Serves 4.

This recipe is brought to you with the compliments  
of

### Robertson Recollections

26 Hoddle St, Robertson

Open 9.30am-5.30pm (Closed Wednesdays)  
4885 1080

Jan Sully has received a \$20 gift voucher from Robertson Recollections. If you would like to enter the Recipe of the Month competition, drop your entry into Robertson Recollections by 15th May.

## *Easter Church Services*

### **Anglican**

Good Friday - 9.30am St David's Burrawang.

Easter Day - 8.00am St John's Robertson (Communion)  
9.30am St John's Robertson (Communion)

### **Uniting**

Good Friday - 9.00am Robertson  
Easter Day - 6.30am Robertson

### **Roman Catholic**

Easter Day - 10.00am Burrawang (Mass)

## **Church Service Times**

### **Anglican**

#### St John's Robertson

8.00am Traditional Services - 2nd Sunday- Communion  
4th Sunday- Morning Prayer  
9.30am Family Service & Sunday School - Every Sunday

7.00pm 1st & 3rd Sundays - Informal Service

#### St David's Burrawang

8.00am - 1st Sunday

### **Presbyterian, Burrawang**

2.00pm - 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays

### **Uniting, Robertson**

7.30am - 2nd & 4th Sundays

### **Roman Catholic**

#### Robertson

10.00am - 2nd & 4th Sundays

#### Burrawang

10.00am - 1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays

## *Meals for Ronald McDonald House*



It is Robertson's turn to help provide meals for parents with children be treated at Ronald McDonald House.

Containers can be picked up at Water's Store. They should then be filled with a meal for one person and returned to Water's Store for deep freezing and dispatch to Ronald McDonald House. Here is a simple way that our community can help people going through a difficult time.



### **Contribution Guidelines**

Community Service Announcements, articles and diary submissions are free of charge. All items must be submitted by deadline dates and may be modified at the editors discretion. To avoid extensive editing please limit announcements to 25 words, and articles to a maximum 300 words. It is preferable that submissions be typed or emailed. Thank you.

### **Advertising**

A single insertion is \$30. (Discount of \$5 for members of Robertson Business Association) Each insertion is limited to a maximum 90 x 55 mm. Advertisers are responsible for meeting submission deadlines. Any copy received after the deadline is unlikely to be included. All advertising is payable in advance. All advertisements to Micki Boehme at Robertson Recollections. Thank you for your support.

### **Deadline**

The next issue will be distributed in the first weeks of June. All advertising & submissions must be received by **15th May 2001**. Forward correspondence to: **Robertson Newsletter, 64 Hoddle St, Robertson 2577, Fax: 4885 2241 or Email: [bjlee@tpg.com.au](mailto:bjlee@tpg.com.au)**. (Submissions are best supplied by email or on disk. Hard copy should preferably be typed) Enquiries - 4885 1210

### **Disclaimer**

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**Editor : Barry Lee**