



# Robertson News

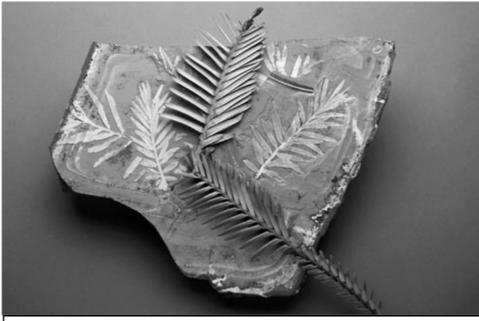
February 2006

Edition 52

[www.Robertson-NSW.com.au](http://www.Robertson-NSW.com.au)

## A Green Dinosaur Comes to Robertson.

After 200 million years and 17 ice ages the Wollemi Pine is coming to Robertson.



Fossil of the Wollemi Pine

David Noble, a National Parks Officer, first spotted this amazing tree in 1994 in the Wollemi National Park in the Blue Mountains. The gully he and his companions abseiled into proved to be a tiny remnant of ancient Gondwana. The pine was so different from anything known other than in fossil records that it became a whole new genus named *Wollemia noblis* honouring both the park where the tree was found and its discoverer. At first only 24 adult plants were found. At the moment it is thought that approximately 100 adults exist.

The Wollemi Pine is, fortunately, an exceptionally beautiful and unusual plant. It is a majestic conifer with pendulous foliage, which can develop multiple trunks. It carries both male and female cones as it matures and in winter white 'polar caps' protect the growing tips. The mature bark looks like bubbling chocolate and the prehistoric foliage resembles a stegosaurus's tail! Although the Wollemi Pine is one of the most threatened plants on earth, it is highly versatile and easy to grow. It tolerates heat, cold, full sun and shade. It has been trialled in Australia in temperatures ranging from -5 to 45 degrees C. In Japan and Nth America it has survived temperatures to - 12C. It is being marketed as an indoor or outdoor pot plant or a feature tree for larger gardens.



Every Wollemi Pine sold returns a royalty to conserve the Wollemi and other threatened Australian species.

The discovery of the Wollemi Pine is considered by many to be the botanical equivalent of finding a dinosaur alive on earth. Lin and Jill Keft are very excited to have been able to display these beautiful and significant trees at their nursery from December. Please feel free to come and see them. Plants will be available to the public in April 06 and can be pre-purchased if desired.



Seed collecting. There is a man hanging on a rope from that helicopter collecting seeds. See if you can spot him!

## Letters to the Editor.

Dear Editor,

As a fairly new arrival (5 years ago) in our lovely little village, I am always struck by how nice it is to walk around town and also how difficult it is to do so. Most days I like to walk with Gus the "Wonder Dog" from our place in Lemmons Rd to Hope's store to collect the paper. It is nice to do the circle walk, down the end of High St, across the little plank bridge put in by Trevor, up Main St to the shops, then down through Hampden Park, across the creek again and up Caalong St to home. On a misty day or a sunny one, this is a lovely walk. But much of this walk has to be on the roadside. As everyone knows there are only a few formed footpaths in the village. The bit up Caalong Hill can be positively scary sometimes with traffic and pedestrians squeezed into a narrow defile.

I remember a couple of years ago, the architectural students from Sydney University pulled together some ideas in a document called "Creative Village". I really liked their ideas about footpaths to make better links across Caalong Creek to the north and along the highway (which currently is also pretty dodgy to walk along) up to the Old Cheese Factory.

The chap who is creating "Tullimbah Village" at Albion Park said at a recent talk that one of the most important ideas in his concept is a good walking environment. If this could be achieved in Robbo, he believed, it would help to make our village a more delightful place to live. Hear! Hear!

Now I know the Ratepayers Association and the Business Association support better footpaths. Perhaps we should all get behind this and lobby for a footpath program along with our sewerage scheme as a "big idea" for 2006

Steve Carey.

## Robertson CTC.

The opening hours of the CTC have been extended to 10am to 4pm weekdays. Saturday is still 2pm to 4pm. Music night is still Thursday from 6pm til 9pm and we order pizzas from Pizzas in the Mist. Games nights will start back up on Friday the 3rd of Feb at 6pm, please call to make bookings for these nights.

Our movies for January are  
Lolita (M) on Sat Jan 21 8pm  
Thunderbirds Six on Sunday 29th at 2pm.

Tony Gatlifs Latcho Drom (rated G) will be shown on Sat 25 February 8 pm  
(a movie of gypsy music).

For more details please check out our website [www.robertsonctc.org.au](http://www.robertsonctc.org.au)

David Tranter will be launching his new book **Nature and Society** here at the CTC on Saturday the 18th of February at 2pm. Please join us to hear about this book from David himself. David will also be doing book signings.

**On the 31 Jan we will have two FREE presentations: 9:30am and 7:30pm**

These one hour presentations, **PC Checkup** will show you how to revitalise your PC using these daily and weekly routines for computer maintenance enabling peak performance. Book and disk available for sale. Complimentary door prize will be offered for one hour onsite service or tuition from PC Series Computers.

**Presenter:** Ojas Sangoski from PC Series Computers

Cafe will be open before and after the presentation for drinks and snacks.  
Please call 4885 2665 to book your place.

Coming up will be a series of still life drawing workshops.  
Please call 4885 2665 to let us know if you are interested.

And dont forget about the CTC as a party venue

## Support your local Sheriff\*

\*Sorry, that was just to get your attention: for Sheriff read "chemist".

What is it that's rarer than diamonds, so precious that you never want to lose it, and very hard to come by?

The answer is, of course, a local chemist. Those who have lived in Robertson for a while know just how long we have waited for a Chemist in the village.

And at last we have one, and a very fine one, indeed two, in the persons of Robert West and his wife Sarika..

Treasure them both. Make them your first and last thought for pills, potions, and expert advice. Robert is no newcomer to Pharmacy. He comes to Robbo with 14 years experience in England. He came, we suspect, mainly for the weather. "When the sun shines", he says, "this is simply one of the best places on the planet.

But, rain or shine, it's up to us to keep him. This newsletter always encourages local shopping, but keeping our local chemist should be at the top of everyone's priority list.

You'll find Robert friendly, approachable, knowledgeable and helpful. Apart from his broad general pharmaceutical knowledge, he's also a trained smoking-cessation counselor.

Our new chemist is in the village centre, (next to Murray's Tractors.) In Robert's shop, you'll find not only pills but skin and hair care products, cosmetics, baby needs, everything from tissues to toothpaste.

It's really quite simple. If your prescription stays in town, then so does our chemist. And that's in everyone's interest.

**Matt Brown MP**  
Your Local Member

**CAN I HELP?**

Terralong House,  
125 Terralong St, Kiama  
Telephone: 4232 1082  
Facsimile: 4232 3577  
Email: [kiama@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:kiama@parliament.nsw.gov.au)



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Ojas Sangoski  
email: [support@pcseriescomputers.com.au](mailto:support@pcseriescomputers.com.au)  
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## Robertson Show.

(Shortened form of Presidents Report)

The past year has seen some major changes, both to the showground and to our Show Programme.

This year we **WILL** have **new lighting** and **there will be changes to Pavilion entry times, judging and opening hours.** **Entry forms MUST be in the Show Office by 6pm Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March and exhibits to be in the Pavilion by NO LATER than 8am Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March.**

I am certain that there will be people who will miss these dead lines for one reason or another but we will do all that is humanly possible to publicise these changes. On behalf of Leesa & her helpers in the Office and Trish & all her workers in the Pavilion I would ask that you all please bear with us, be patient and treat us with kindness as this will be a new experience for us as well. **We value our exhibitors because without you there would be no show** and hope that this will not inconvenience too many people.

For the first time in forty or so years we will have a poultry Competition, following the display by Picton Poultry Club and the enthusiasm it generated last year. We are indebted to them for advice as to the running of a Poultry Section and help with the Schedule.

Our **Show Ball** will be held on the night of Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> of February and this is always a fun night with great food and dancing, so bring your friends and join us for a great time. Yet another departure from the usual - this year we are having the Ball in the Showground Pavilion to really get us in the mood for the Show. Why have such a great facility if we only use it on a few occasions?

Thank you to all the hard working and dedicated Committee members and to all those voluntary workers always there to lend a hand, also to the Ladies' Auxiliary (now known as the Show Auxiliary because in these days of equality it is no longer a ladies only group) for their support both physically and financially during the year. It is only due to time and effort donated unselfishly by all these people that makes Robertson Show the great and unique community event that it is. Thank you all.

We would like to invite you to become more involved with our great show by either joining as members or assisting with monetary donations or donations of time and effort by helping with such things as manning gates, cooking on the barbecue, Stewarding in the many different areas of the show, or even helping the lovely girls in the Office!

We can be found at the **Showground Office from 20<sup>th</sup> February, 4885 1620,** or contact Leesa Stratford, Secretary, 4885 1968, 0411537 600, or Rosemary Turner, President, 4885 1053, 0490 244 574 at any reasonable time of the day or night.

Rosemary Turner, President

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## Shake, Rattle, and Roll!

Have you ever been standing on Hoddle Street and felt the ground start to tremble...? Well more than likely it wasn't that leftover Thai dinner you had for breakfast, or even our Big beloved Potato shaken from its mount and rolling out of bounds like a wayward rugby ball.... it would be one of a growing procession of semi trailer's, dog & pigs, or double b's traversing Hoddle Street on their way to or from Macquarie Pass and in doing so, turning our little country town into a major interstate commerce route!

Now while there are those that might think Dog & Pig's rolling down Hoddle a natural event considering we are the home of 'Babe' unfortunately these variety are the long double payload trailer trucks that clog Macquarie Pass, rattle our roads, scare our tourists, and pose a safety threat to those driving, or pedestrians crossing, the main street of our little country town.

### Seems like there are more trucks every day!

It will get worse too! Did you know that there is a major Eco Enterprise Centre (I don't know what that means either!) in development on Berrima Road between Moss Vale and New Berrima? Among other things this EEC will provide a transfer and redistribution point for goods from rail to truck so if you think the truck traffic will lessen any time soon, think again.

### So! Why don't they take the Bulli Road to the Coast?

Good question! It is considered easier by some drivers to head east via The Pass than to take the Hume via New Berrima and head to the coast via the Bulli Road to their destinations. Most truck owners, who often aren't the drivers, don't want their trucks on the Pass anyway as it poses a greater risk of accident than Bulli and requires more expensive maintenance to their trucks than using the alternate road.

However even more important and appalling is that this reporter has learned that the reason the RTA is not stopping the trucks, even though they go over the double solid line, is that Macquarie Pass is presently maintained by Federal Tax dollars as it is classified as an interstate commerce route, if trucks were no longer permitted to traverse it the burden of tax maintenance would fall on a state or local level.

What price do we put on our children, tourists, or motorists safety!

### Why not just lower the speed limit or enforce road rules to keep our roads safe.

Yes, we should lower our speed limit on Hoddle and all the way to the pass but enforcement is expensive and difficult. The truckie information network is sophisticated so as soon as there is a Police Cruiser sited on the job the network is radioing along to others and the problem stops for the moment making enforcement an expensive and ineffective project.

### What can we do?

Well the first thing would be for us to determine how we feel as a community. We should also take a good look at the problem to ensure we are looking at this fairly from all sides so if you have some thoughts or opinions on the topic please eMail me on

[GetTheTruckOutOfRobbo@netminer.com.au](mailto:GetTheTruckOutOfRobbo@netminer.com.au) and watch for more news and information on upcoming issues of The Robertson News.

Let's do something before it's too late!

By Steven Peacock

## Village Snippets

For the Football Club there will be a start of season bike ride on Sunday the 5th of February for seniors, starting from Robertson Bowling Club at 9am. The ride will head down to Kangaroo Valley via a mountain track and there will be a bus back up to Robertson at the end of the day. Any interested players are welcome to come and join in.

The Robertson Tennis Club will be starting a new mixed competition to be played on Monday nights. Those interested are asked to contact Val Donovan on 48851285 for more information.

It's that time of year again - the Robertson show is nearing and with that comes the promise of an entertaining night hosted by the Robertson Show Society. The Show Ball will be held at 7pm on Saturday 18th February at the Robertson Show Pavilion. There will be live music and you are encouraged to bring a group of friends and dance the night away. \$40 per person (2 course meal) BYO and dress is formal. Bookings are to be made by dropping in to Essential Botanicals; through Elders Real Estate on 48851040 or by Calling Leesa Stratford on 0411537600.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the Melbourne Olympic games. Although the torch does not pass through this district for the Commonwealth Games which begin on the 15th of March this year, 50 years ago it did. Local man Bill Pointing was one of the people chosen to carry the torch. He had to train so that he was able to run a mile in less than 6 minutes, this may sound like an easy feat but he was chosen to run the most difficult section of the relay that came through. The first half of his run was down hill but the second half was a steep uphill gradient. Bill managed to run this difficult mile in the six minutes he was given. That day he did us proud.

Keep an eye out when driving past the Burrawang turn off. Old movies are regularly screened at the School of Arts. A great night out is always guaranteed. Congratulations to Teresa McEvilly and Luke Hoggel on their recent announcement of their engagement. Best wishes for your future.

A great night out, Trevor Sommer and his wife Jill just recently travelled to Mildura to indulge Jill's passion for Chef Depri's cooking at his restaurant there. Well worth the trip, so we hear.

Two of our local junior Rugby League players were chosen for a sports camp during the holidays, Mitchell Wright and Jack Wicks had a great time training with other young boys from around the state. The highlight of their week was meeting many big name players and the friendships made with the other boys.

It is with sadness we note the passing of a number of our village residents. To the families of Bob Lymberry, Bill Potters, Les Gagin, Val Whitchurch and Kathleen Irvine we extend our sympathy.

It has been several years now since Anni Heino left Finland to come Australia to marry Andy Ford and live in Robertson. It was exciting to hear Anni, along with others, became an Australian citizen at the local ceremony at Berrima on Australia Day. Anni, we hope your life in this home you have chosen is long and happy.

The hockey club is gearing up for the coming season, anyone who wishes to get more information should contact Janelle Menzies on 48871275

On the 12th of march we will be acknowledging the part the humble potato has played in our area. This year the Potato Tuesday celebrations will be a little different so keep an eye out for more details of the changes.

It's time again for the council's biannual cleanup. Between the 19th and the 23rd of September the collections will take place for Southern Villages, Bundanoon, Robertson, Burrawang, Fitzroy Falls . However residents must make a booking and pay between the 12th and 16th of September.

In the book The Gourmet Potato borrowed from Ros Murchison we found an interesting heading in the picnic food section followed by a delicious recipe you might like to try.

If you bored with the usual picnic foods, try the recipes that follow.

Buy a 2 litre container of orange juice. Pour out 300ml of it and refrigerate for drinking with your potato breakfast the next morning. Replace the missing orange Juice with 300ml vodka. Shake well, Refrigerate until ready to set off on your picnic. Pack in ice in an Esky and remember to shake again before drinking. Don't forget the glasses.

Now find a suitable rooftop, sunny cliff ledge or dry cave and have a very different sort of picnic.

### Potato quiche

4 large potatoes  
2Tbblsps flour  
60g butter  
2 rashers bacon  
114ml fresh cream  
2 egg yolks  
Nutmeg  
Garlic  
Grated Gruyere cheese  
Salt and Pepper

### Method

Boil the potatoes in their skins. When cool, peel and put them through a sieve and mix them with the flour, butter and salt until you have a compact paste. Roll it out 6mm thick and spread it in a greased flan tin. Prick with a fork and sprinkle lightly with salt and pepper. Cut the bacon into small pieces and mix with the cream, seasoning with a little nutmeg and a very little garlic. Whip in the lightly beaten egg yolk ( if the cream is very thick, omit the egg yolk). Pour this into the potato quiche case. Sprinkle with Gruyere. Cook at 200 Degrees Celsius for a gas oven or 220 Degrees Celsius for an electric oven for about 20 minutes. Serve cold.

Coming in the next issue of the Robertson Newsletter an eyewitness account of a strange happening in Robertson.



### Massage is good for every body

It is both a healing art and a science, and is recognised as the most ancient of all the healing arts. Scientific evidence supports its beneficial effects on the body, mind and emotions and the best part about massage is that it feels so good!  
I am a qualified massage therapist with 17 years experience and offer massage and Reiki within a peaceful and nurturing environment in Burrawang.  
Please call to discuss how value may be added to your life through this wonderful healing art.

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## BOOKS, BOOKS, BOOKS

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### At Robertson Recollections

26 Hoddle St, Robertson 9.30 - 5.30 (Closed Wed.)

**"NATURE AND SOCIETY-PATTERNS IN SPACE AND TIME"  
BY DAVID TRANTER**

The author has drawn on a very active life of work and thought to produce a timely treatise on two structures critical to human survival, nature and society.

Both style and content are as varied and engaging as David's experiences hitherto. He is a Doctor of Science, O.A M, Chair of the Wingecarribee Reconciliation Group; He and his wife Helen are founding members of the widely acclaimed Robertson Environment Protection Society. His expertise has been applied to studying venomous octopus, cultured pearls and exploring waterways in square-riggers, frigates even canoes.

These days more and more credence is being given to the vital evidence of climate change. There is a slow, but ever increasing realisation that countries can no longer measure success purely based on increased gross domestic product. But this work is not a sabre rattling doomsday effort. The message here is simply that change is not taking place fast enough so David has set himself the task of enlisting the reader as a gentle and persuasive agent of change, soundly instructed in key natural survival strategies.

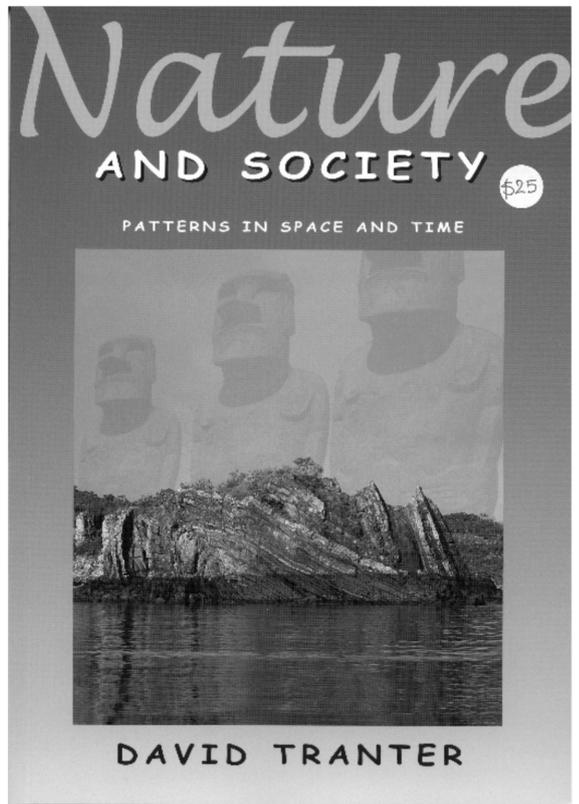
This is perhaps, not a book the reader will launch into and devour cover to cover. It is more of a piece by piece bite and chew over exercise. It is, if you like, a first aid manual for social animals to repair their ways. For David Tranter, the knack to resolving the conflict crisis between nature and society is a thorough working knowledge of the structure of each; coupled with a clear view of their origins, similarities and differences.

This book is one we can be very proud of as fellow Robertsonians. Apart from printing, every aspect of its production was carried out in the 'green heart'. The cover photography, illustrations and artwork are eye catching before one opens the book. Once inside, a liberal dose of excellent quotes and delightful line drawings by Penny St Vincent Welsh decorate your journey through the narrative and further focus your responses.

An apt distillation of David's rationale is a featured quote by T.H. Huxley "The chessboard is the world; the pieces are the phenomena of the universe; the rules of the game are what we call the rules of nature. The player at the other side is hidden from us. We know that his play is always fair, just and patient. But we also know to our cost, that he never overlooks a mistake, or makes the smallest allowance for ignorance."

The publication of "Nature and Society-Patterns in Space and Time" renders ignorance a very poor excuse indeed. This book offers its readers an engaging journey through subject matter of crucial common concern. At \$25 a ticket the rewards far out -weigh the outlay.

**Reviewed by Bernard Eddy**



Copies of the book can be purchased at the Old Potato Shed Gallery and at the CTC or you can buy them from David Tranter.

**Vance Hall for Sale**

St John's Anglican Church is pressing ahead with plans to build a new Christian Education Centre, a multifunctional building that will allow the congregation to grow as the village grows. In order to finance the new building it has been decided to sell the property in Dale St Burrawang on which Vance Hall sits. The property was purchased in the 1950's for £100 from the bequest of Mrs Jane Vance and the hall, a steel framed structure with weatherboard patterned aluminium cladding, was erected in 1960 with the assistance of a lot of voluntary labour. In recent years the hall has had only very occasional use and the land is not of sufficient size to be viable for a future church plant. At this stage in the church's life the main focus of ministry is at Robertson and with most people easily able to travel the short distances involved it was decided that the new building there must be given a very high priority.

**Waters General Store  
and Newsagency**

announce the next

**Lotto Super Saturday**

of \$19 million

will be drawn on the 18th of February.

For your convenience we will be extending our trading hours to 7pm.

To Let

**Robertson**

- 4 Bedroom, garage & double carport—\$350
- 4 Bedroom, gas heating, single garage (flat)—\$210
- 2 Bedroom, fenced, garage, wood fire—\$250
- 4 Bedroom, double garage, ensuite—\$300
- 4 Bedroom home with double garage and ensuite—\$320
- 3 Bedroom home with garage and ensuite—\$300
- 3 Bedroom, gas heating, fenced yard—\$210
- 3 Bedroom, gas heating, wood fire, garage & carport—\$200

**Burrawang**

- 3 Bedroom, 2 storey, garage, fenced yard, wood fire, gas heating—\$ 295
- 3 Bedroom, double garage—\$270

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**Robertson** Phone: 4885 1329  
Email: rjmackeyre@bigpond.com



## PAWN AND BOOKS AND ROCK 'N' ROLL

Baby Boomers of Robertson Rejoice! At long last we have a place to indulge ourselves in the days of real Vinyl LP's. Remember them. They were our greatest indulgence. After working hard all week, come payday we'd be down at the local Record store drooling over the latest Beatles, Rolling Stones or some obscure band no-one can remember anymore. We'd spend our hard earned on one black, shiny LP and play it to death.

John Anderson not only remembers these halcyon days, he's still living them. Obsessed with good old vinyl records since he was 18 years old and, at his new store at The Old Potato Shed (right next door to the Gallery), he's bringing it all back with a vengeance. Born and bred in South Sydney his initial foray into the working world was as an apprentice Pawnbroker in Kings Cross. He found many a tasty treat, by which I mean LP, during the ten years he stayed there and, when it all got too much, he left and traveled around Australia for 12 months. This was followed by a fairly unimpressive stint as a Data Technician until his love of music and, by now, reading, proved too much for him and he gave it all away and took to buying and selling vinyl and books at Rozelle and Glebe markets.

Well, you might ask, what is he doing in Robertson and after the bright and fancy lights of the city? The answer is simple. His parents live here and during his many trips to see them he fell in love with the village. "It's not just the village, it's more the people", John said. "It's still got the friendly feel of a real Australian country town and the people are great". So here he is, all set up and just waiting to show you his eclectic collection of LP's and books—some of them obscure books that this writer had been looking for, for years.

He's open Tuesday to Sunday from 10am to 5pm and you can be sure to find something you've been hankering for.

PS: As a reminder of John's slightly wild and music oriented life he's just a little hard of hearing (one very loud Rock 'n' Roll concert to many) so you might need to speak up a little. He won't mind. It's all part of life's rich tapestry.

## Thank You

Our family wishes to thank all those kind people in our village who offered their condolences on the passing of our mother Elva Jean Farrell nee Goold on 10th January. The flowers, cards, phone calls, and messages of support mean a lot at a time of loss. The Robertson Community and Seniors had missed Elva in this last year. We thank them too for making Mum so welcome as she only joined 4 years ago at the young age of 88. "I suppose that makes me a senior!" she barked at the time. She refused to think "old", dyed her hair and wore pastel shades. Seems to have worked as a good recipe for a long and happy life. Elva was a most kind and generous person and will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. Submitted by Rona Steve and Graham.



## Our History ( or Her-story )

on our Robertson Website:  
[www.Robertson-NSW.com.au](http://www.Robertson-NSW.com.au)

Residents on Robertson - past and present - are encouraged to considered jotting down a few stories from days gone past and submit them for posting on our village website. If you have photos all the better. The Robertson CTC can help you scan them and give you access to a computer to type them up, if do not have the equipment yourself. Even significant events in more recent years, are history too.

We do hope local community groups will also take the opportunity to document a little about their development and significant events. The web can be a great place for everyone to preserve those precious memories and the work done by the men, women and children in our village and the significant events in the life of our community.

Ian Foster and Helen Tranter at the Robertson Heritage Railway Station spend most Thursday afternoons collating and archiving local history items too. They would be happy to assist if you would like to chat with them.

For more information contact Rona 4885 2393 or [info@Robertson-NSW.com.au](mailto:info@Robertson-NSW.com.au)

## Old Potato Shed Gallery

Signatur Handknits  
Mollydale Yarns  
Belisa Cashmere  
Honoré Leathergoods

The gallery displays an ever changing selection of work by Australian craft makers, artists and designers including  
Leather : Metalwork : Handknits : Needlepoint : Etchings : Cards Jewellery :  
Paintings : Hand-dyed Yarns : & much, much more.

**OPEN** 10am - 5pm ; Sat. Sun. Mon. Thur. Fri

Shop 3-74 Hoddle Street, ROBERTSON NSW 2577 Ph: 024885 2400  
[www.Robertson-NSW.com.au/oldpotatoshedgallery](http://www.Robertson-NSW.com.au/oldpotatoshedgallery)

# COMMUNITY NOTICES

The lucky winners of the Robertson Ratepayers Grand Christmas Draw which was drawn at The Robertson Inn at 5.00 on 17 December 2005 were:

First Prize, James Salmond, Robertson; a hamper to the value of \$500.00

Second Prize, Paul Risi, Robertson; a hamper to the value of \$200.00

Showbag Prizes were also drawn as additional prizes for six other lucky winners.

Stephen Horn (Robertson), James Salmond (Robertson), Donna Maugher (Robertson) N Clark (Robertson), Lynn (Bowral), John Deck (Burradoo).

Robertson Ratepayers Association Inc wish to thank all the Businesses in Robertson who contributed so generously to making the Christmas hampers full of good things. Also to everyone who bought tickets ensuring that the Christmas Draw was a success.

Robertson Ratepayers Association Inc wish everyone a Very Happy New Year and announce that all future meetings will be held on the last Monday of each month, except December, at the Robertson Inn, beginning at 7.30. All will be welcome to attend.

## Check out your business or groups information on our Village website ?

Whilst our volunteers do their best to see our village website is up-to-date, they can only do as well as the information received.

Our website has section for community organisations, and community events, as well as business information ( our own local yellow, though in this case 'green' pages so to speak. Every business is entitled to a basic entry in our business directory, and RBA members a web-page.

Please let us know if any information needs to be up-dated or deleted by emailing [info@Robertson-NSW.com.au](mailto:info@Robertson-NSW.com.au) or send to Robertson Website c/- RBA PO Box 5 Robertson NSW. 2577.

## REPS PUBLIC MEETING

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 7.30PM  
ROBERTSON COMMUNITY CENTRE

**SCOTT LEE**, DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT & PLANNING  
WINGECARRIBEE SHIRE COUNCIL  
TOPIC

### THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT PLAN

Graduating in Town Planning at the University of NSW, Scott Lee from Oatley has been town planner at Grafton City Council and Manager of Environmental Assessment at Sutherland Shire Council. His philosophy is that *"planning is about managing change not trying to avoid it"*, about *"identifying what is possible and then finding ways to achieve those things"*.. *"We are kick starting our Local Environment Plan process"*, he said, *"to ensure the document is user-friendly, while at the same time providing a robust framework to take the shire forward"*.

ALL WELCOME, INTERESTING DISCUSSION, LIGHT REFRESHMENTS  
(Gold Coin Donation)

## Attention all Village Groups Robertson Spring Festival aka "Spring Time in Robertson"

The members of our planning group are considering incorporating as the Robertson Village Network ( or other suitable title) to provide an umbrella body under which villages associations can work to run community activities through out the year, but especially in spring time, and thus by pooling resources all be covered by public liability.

### The Robertson Spring Festival has 3 aims:

1. To enable local community groups to fund-raise ,
2. to share our beautiful village and surrounds with friends and tourists and
- 3.. to have fun

**Any village group that would like to plan an event during this time is welcome to join our calendar of events.**

The next planning meeting will Monday 20th February 2006, 7pm at the Fettle's Shed Gallery Robertson Railway Station. All welcome. More information contact Rona 4885 2393.



Frank and Kaye Simpkin of Hoddle St Robertson at the opening of the Sea Cliff Bridge – near Coalcliffe. Kaye won 4 tickets after entering a competition through the Illawarra Mercury. For the historic occasion they took their great niece Katie and great nephew Alex (son and daughter of ex-local Michelle Smith (nee White).

## The Writings of D. T. Smith continued.....(1880s)

JANUARY, 1884.

At Robertson the Annual Picnic and Prize Distribution took place in November. The Sunday School Children assembled at St. John's Church, and after disposing of a substantial meal they adjourned to a neighbouring paddock. Some friends kindly provided a number of prizes for the foot races : consisting of whips, balls, pocket knives, &c. After the prize bag and lolly tins were emptied, the young people returned to the Church and an impromptu meeting was held, at which the prizes won during the past year were awarded; and during the distribution, hymns and recitations were given by the children. At the close of the meeting the children gave their thanks to the teachers and members of the congregation who had interested themselves in providing the feast. The money for the prizes was obtained from a collection made in the Church, and the cost of the feast was defrayed by a subscription amongst our Robertson people; the total amount was between £7 and £8. The thanks of the Incumbent and teachers are tendered to the Churchwardens for setting aside an offertory for the prize fund, and to the congregation for liberally coming forward and again providing the Annual School Feast. The Superintendent would be glad to hear of one or two new teachers. There is an opening here of great usefulness to an earnest young person, and we hope that one or more having the fear of God in their hearts, may come forward and offer themselves for the work,

It is generally supposed that the purpose for which a railway is constructed, is to carry passengers and goods ; and also, that the interest on the cost of construction and maintenance is to be furnished by the rates paid for such carriage. If such considerations are reasonable and worthy to be observed, how is it that the line now being surveyed is marked in a direct line from Bowral to Burrawang, with a sublime indifference for the produce now being carried down the Kangaloon and Bowral Road, and carefully avoiding the traffic of Upper Mittagong and Kangaloon ? One of the strong points brought forward in favour of a Bowral and Burrawang line was, that it would serve the interests of all the centres of population in the parish, i.e., Upper Mittagong, West Kangaloon, Yarrunga at Baxtus Corner, Burrawang, Robertson, East Kangaloon. But the line as now surveyed, leaves the Mittagong and West Kangaloon to the left, and the proposed platform between Maryvale and Robertson Park, and the other one at the Sheepwash have not been entertained; and, consequently, the traffic from N. Mittagong and Kangaloon will go by team as before. The usefulness and success of the line will be diminished and endangered unless two deviations are made; and the inhabitants of Bowral, N. Mittagong and Kangaloon should protest against the line passing at a distance from their stream of traffic, and leaving them stranded high and dry. One would think that self-interest, that potent factor in men's actions, would lead them to make their voices audible to the minister. An argument brought forward by Mr. Moses, indirectly in favour of a Mossvale and Burrawang line, was to this effect: that Kangaloon may be dismissed from consideration when calculating the advantages of the present survey, because it would be but little bettered by it. And no one can deny that his argument is at present sustained, and applies also to Upper Mittagong; but the argument exists not from the nature of the case, but from a blunder in the survey; and the sooner the mistake is rectified the better for all concerned. The pages of this Magazine are not used to advocate one railway route over another, or to take sides for or against any party in our district, but assuming that which is a fact, that a line from Bowral to Burrawang is one of the surveyed lines, then it follows, that to come ten miles into Wingecarribee Parish before picking up any traffic is a huge mistake, and one which ought to be exposed before it inflicts injury on our Mittagong and Kangaloon friends.

## Church Services

### Anglican

#### St John's Robertson

8.00am Traditional Services

1st Sunday- Communion

4th Sunday- Morning Prayer

9.30am Family Service/Sunday School  
Every Sunday

#### St David's Burrawang

8.00am - 2nd Sunday - Communion

### Uniting

#### Robertson

9.00am - Every Sunday

### Roman Catholic

#### Burrawang

1st, 3rd, 5th Sundays - 8.00am

2nd & 4th Sundays - 5.00pm

### Robertson Christian Fellowship (Community Centre)

3.00pm - Every Sunday except the 1st  
Sunday in the month

#### 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 85 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 Hope Waters at the General Store (4885 1248). Thank you for your support.

#### **Deadline**

The next issue will be distributed in the first weeks of April. All advertising & submissions must be received by **15th March 2006**. Forward correspondence to: **Robertson Newsletter, 64 Hoddle St, Robertson 2577**, or Email: [bjlee@dodo.com.au](mailto:bjlee@dodo.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