



JG

# Robertson News

August 2009

Edition 73

[www.robertson.nsw.au](http://www.robertson.nsw.au)  
[www.robertsonnsw.com.au](http://www.robertsonnsw.com.au)

## ROBERTSON DOCTOR - a country practice

After months of council wrangling and renovations, the Robertson Doctor is slated to start seeing patients by mid August. The practice will offer high quality primary care by a team of senior doctors.

Practice principal and local resident Dr Ben Lim is looking forward to practicing a little closer to home. Dr Lim is practice principal of three surgeries in the Illawarra (NORTHERN POLYCLINIC - Corrimal, SOUTHERN POLYCLINIC - Albion Park Rail, CAMPUS DOCTOR - University of Wollongong).

"We hope to quickly gain accreditation as a practice and so we can then gain accreditation as a training practice" says Dr Lim, who is an honorary associate lecturer of the UOW with his other surgeries serving as training practices for both medical undergraduate students as well as GP registrars. He says, "at this stage of my professional life where I am now pretty senior, it is more important to me than ever to pass on as much of my knowledge and experience to the next generation.

He will be joined by Dr Steve McGilvray, of Bowral's Highland Medical Services, who has already been practicing in Robertson for the past 12 months and UK doctor James Botham. Between these doctors Robertson will now have one full time equivalent GP.

The Robertson Doctor is currently looking for reception staff. Enquiries may be made to the Practice manager Pi Wei Lim ([plim@people.net.au](mailto:plim@people.net.au))

Contact details for the Robertson Doctor are as follows;  
28 Hoddle St. Robertson TEL: 4885 2569 FX: 4225 2146 E: [robbo\\_doctor@people.net.au](mailto:robbo_doctor@people.net.au)



Dr Ben Lim

### New Resource for Fire Brigade

Robertson fire brigade has recently been assigned a Cat 7 truck, Robertson Cat 7 was previously stationed at Avoca. The newly acquired appliance has a water tank capable of carrying 1100L and is able to seat 3 in it's cab. The new resource joins Robertson Cat 2 which has a 2000L tank and seats for 6 and PC east which is also stationed at Robertson and is able to carry 11.

We would also wish to inform the community that as part of Robertson fire brigades weekly training and maintenance program we will be coming around to streets once a month on a Wednesday night after 7:30pm to make sure the fire hydrants are properly marked and fully operational.



### Wanted Houses to Rent All sizes

#### For Sale - Robertson

- \$285,000 - 3 Bedroom brick veneer, triple carport, Studio, tool shed, town water
- \$320,000 - 3 Bedroom Country style, timber floors, 1/4 acre, wood fire, town water



**R J MACKEY Real Estate**

Robertson Phone: 4885 1329  
Email: [rjmackeyre@bigpond.com](mailto:rjmackeyre@bigpond.com)

### Amirun's Massage Clinic

Winter and Spring Specials  
1 1/2 hours - \$85  
1 hour - \$65  
1/2 hour - \$35

Open 7 days - bookings only mb:0418 450 252  
Offer ends 30th September 2009

## Letters to the Editor

### The Bundanoon Ban

Any move to follow the "Bundy on Tap" decision, to ban still water in plastic bottles, would be a tokenistic "me too" affair. It would not make sense. It would not save a single litre of groundwater from being pumped out of an aquifer which is already in serious deficit. The amount of water being drawn from the age old system that provides sustenance to the groundwater dependent ecosystems that make us the Green Heart has far exceeded the recharge from rainfall for over twenty years.

"A review of the status of the groundwater resources in the Southern Highlands, NSW," (by Sue Prichard, Warwick Hehir, Greg Russell), was completed in 2004. The conclusions confirmed the groundwater was under stress and already over-allocated. "The present situation of an accelerated growth in groundwater licences, in what has been long recognised as an 'at risk' system, necessitates intervention from the department to ensure resource sustainability and environmental protection of groundwater dependent ecosystems."

Initial embargoes were placed on five parishes in 2004. These were extended to all seven Southern Highland parishes in 2007. In 2008 the Save Water Alliance obtained a printout of data from the DWE monitoring bores which provided the figures for the 2004 DIPNR report. The data indicated a continuing decline : groundwater still had not reached equilibrium with pumping rates in the area.

The failure of the embargoes to halt water extraction reflects poor monitoring by water authorities and lends weight to the futility of bans just for the sake of it. Bundanoon has an excellent reason for its stand; Norlex if allowed to proceed would threaten the survival of popular natural attractions such as Glow Worm Glen.

The Mayor has already indicated he

does not plan to ban bottled water in his shop, so we trust he won't be advocating any sort of ban which would put other family businesses in financial jeopardy.

It would not deter locals lobbying Ministers to mine Kangaloon groundwater to supply emergency groundwater to Sydney as a trade off. Nor will it give pollies the 'bottle' to admit Sydney is already drinking recycled water and spend a fraction of the funds now committed to desalination by re-cycling the 400 GL/ pa of waste water pumped into the ocean off North Head.

What it would do is add to the 75 Robertson businesses which have failed over the last twenty years largely due to Council neglect and the increasing ascendancy in lobbying power of our local "zero growth" advocates.

If we want to support Bundanoon lets concentrate on convincing Council that they ought not be supporting Norlex's proposals.

The village that caught the world's attention by banning still water in plastic bottles does not deserve to have a bottling plant right in the middle of town. Such an outcome would mean another cynical victory for the least regulated money makers on earth.

A ban on the privatisation by stealth of the entire country's water supplies and services? Now **that** makes sense.

Bernard Eddy  
Australian Water Network  
Mobile: 0447 605 057

### New Business

At a time when the real estate industry is undergoing significant challenges, one Highlands agent has identified an opportunity to better service the local market by opening a new office in Robertson.

Believing that hard work and focus on doing the little things right are a core function of any successful business, McKillop Property Principal Cameron McKillop said of the move: "Imagination and ingenuity have always been rewarded, no matter what the prevailing economic climate. I believe the people of Robertson and neighbouring areas deserve the focus of a committed agent who understands the local community and its unique character".

The new McKillop Property office is located on the Highway, directly across from the Robertson Hotel and is resourced with information about the area, recent sales, median prices, as well as a detailed list of the professional services locals can expect when listing their property.

"It's been a long time coming" said Mr McKillop. "But after listening to the residents and business people of Robbo, I knew it was time to offer something new".

The shingle and welcome mat are already on display and Sam Simpson and Cameron McKillop are now listing and appraising property in the strictest confidence.

Call 48724906 today or visit us at 70 Hoddle Street, Robertson, or the Mittagong Head Office at 1 Princess Street.



Sam Simpson

### 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



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Cameron 0413 996971 Sam 0417 253635

# Robertson Springtime OPEN GARDENS 2009

**THE CASTLE** 121 Illawarra Hwy



Eye-catching Robertson landmark, fantasy Irish Castle with 2 acres of lush gardens. Conifers, deciduous trees, exotic flowers and shrubs. Formal front garden & central fountain, Informal rear garden with pond, natives and rural outlook.

Every Day 3 - 18 Oct

**THE WILLOWS** Lemmon's Rd



Orchids, begonias, pieris and kalmia feature in this 5 acre cold climate garden. Cherries, crab apples, rare trees and shrubs, mini arboretum. A large bonsai collection, with horticulturalist on hand to answer gardening questions.

Sat/Sun/Mon 3 to 5 Oct, Wed 14 Oct

**LLORAN** Yeola Rd



Established trees, native birds - finches, wrens and robins. Spectacular escarpment views are features of this large rural garden. Interesting sections include a walled garden of cottage plants & roses. 5km from Robertson off Belmore Falls Rd. **Not suitable for coaches**

Tues 13 to Thur 15 Oct

**BARREN GROUNDS** Jamberoo Rd



Superb natural spring wildflower garden. A Mass of flowering heath including Banksias, hakea. Easy table-land walks lead through banks of wildflowers to wide coastal views.

FREE - OPEN EVERY DAY

**SENTINEL FARM** 116 illawarra Hwy



Established and spacious country house garden on acreage adjacent to village. Contoured shrubs, flowering trees, water features, rural views, varied and interesting colour & form.

Sat/ Mon 3-5, Sat/Sun 9&10, Sat/Sun 17&18 Oct

**HERITAGE RAIL GARDEN**

Station Precinct Yarranga St.



See masses of Waratahs at their flowering peak in the railway station's landscaped gardens. Horticulturalist David Tranter will conduct tours of the gardens, outdoor sculptures, and the railway buildings with their historical displays.

**Guided tours by donation**

Sat 3 to Wed 7 Oct, 10am - 3pm

**ACMENA HILL** Lot 4 Mackey's Lane



A celebration of the delights of garden-making in retirement. Fruit trees and vegetables blend with cool climate ornamentals and natural rainforest. A wonderful garden of pleasures, shared by humans, bird life, wombats, and other native animals.

Sat 3 to Wed 7 Oct

Robertson's Open Gardens are proudly sponsored by:-

## Robertson Recollections

**FOUNTAINDALE MANOR** Illawarra Hwy



Nearly 14 acres of established and landscaped grounds, with its own weir and creek. Sweeping lawns lead to traditional gardens. There are fountains and statues, and deer and peacock roam the grounds.

Every Day 3- 18 Oct  
Weekend admission by donation to charity

**IDYLLWILDE** 5 Rotherwood Rd Wildes Meadow



Wonderful views and a wide range of cool climate trees and shrubs are features of this delightful 2 acre garden, part of a 22 acre farm. Variegated tulip trees & a herb & vegetable pottager garden are also highlights. **Not suitable for coaches.**

Fri/Sat 9 & 10, and 16 & 17 Oct

**THE MOORINGS** Fountaindale Rd



Mature 4 acre garden amid rolling hills on a 100 acre working farm. Contrasts of foliage, colour & form, topiary, water features, maples, azaleas & conifers. Turn from Hwy into Fountaindale Rd 2.2 kms down, on the right.

Fri/Sat/Sun, 9 to 11 Oct.

**All gardens open from 10 - 4 admission is by donation to a charity of the owner's choice**

**Enquiries:  
Micki Boehme 02 48851080**

## ROBERTSON SHOW UPDATE:

It seems a while ago since our last show! And what a great one it was, the sun came out and by lunch we were packed to the rafters. Many thanks must go to the large amount of volunteers who come out of the wood work at show time and help in all areas to make the Robertson Show such a great success. Without the strong community support in all areas from Gates, BBQ, Pavilion, Horses, Dairy & Beef Cattle, Poultry, Dogs wow! The list keeps growing, Robertson Show would not be what it is today "A Great Country Show".

The Show Society Committee would also like to thank all the showgirl entrants at this year's show, we had six young ladies enter and they represented the community extremely well and all judges found the selection a very hard choice. Congratulations to Jessica Maloney on being crowned 2009 Showgirl and we wish her well at the zone finals in February 2010.

The Robertson Show Society is a non-profit organisation and all funds raised go back into the general maintenance and improvement of the showground and facilities. Over the past few years, with the assistance of grants from the Lands Department the Show Society in conjunction with the Showground Trust and both Junior and Senior Ruby League Football Clubs were able to upgrade the lighting system. We have upgraded the roadways and replaced the awning and concreted around the canteen area, just to name a few things. Our next major project will be the much needed upgrade of the toilet block and change rooms. The showground is a great community asset and is used all year round by many different groups, from the Football Clubs, Pony Club, Caravan Groups and for the second year running the State Holstein Society will be conducting the annual show in October at the showground.

The Show Society AGM will be held on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> August - Community Centre -7.00pm and we invite all to attend. This is an informal and friendly meeting and you will be warmly welcomed. We promise that no pressure will be placed to hold a committee position, just come along and enjoy a chat and a cuppa, meet new people and help your community.

If you have any enquiries please contact  
Leesa Stratford - Secretary -0411 537600  
[www.robertsonshow.org.au](http://www.robertsonshow.org.au) [robertsonshow@bigpond.com](mailto:robertsonshow@bigpond.com)



### "Brides through the Ages"

A Ladies afternoon of bridal fashion from past to present. Please join us as we relive the styles and tastes from as far back as the 1930's.

St John's Church Centre,  
Robertson

Saturday 26th September, 2009  
2pm

Tickets \$5 at the door  
RSVP 19/9/09 for catering to  
Lesley-4885 1241

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## NEWS FROM THE ROBERTSON CRAFT GROUP, NEEDLE KNOW HOW

On Friday each week the Robertson craft group meets at the community centre at 1pm. Currently we have six members who are working on a variety of projects. Sandi has a piece of embroidery underway which will become panels in a teapot cover. Shirley is crocheting brightly striped slippers, Judy is embroidering some panels destined for a quilt, Colleen is hand piecing sections for a Xmas project, George is embroidering exquisite poppies on black velvet and Cathie has just finished sewing up a cardigan knitted in alpaca yarn which will come in very handy in this cold weather.

While we toil away the conversation is light and varied with howls of laughter as George recounted his highly unusual photo license renewal at Mittagong RTA. We stop at 3o'clock for a well earned cup of tea or coffee, then stitch again until about a quarter to five. When a problem arises with a current project there is always someone on hand to suggest a solution. Colleen has loads of experience with patchwork and is so generous with her time. It is much appreciated.

The atmosphere is warm and convivial. There is an open invitation to all to join the group. The cost is \$2 each week. This covers insurance and you only pay when you come. For more information contact Shirley 48851408.

## FLORAL ARRANGEMENT WORKSHOP

Wed 30th September from 2-4pm, only \$11.  
One waratah and native greenery, wire, afternoon tea provided

- demonstration of techniques (Demonstrator TBA)
- practical time to create own arrangement using one waratah (at least) and native greenery supplied (purchase of other flowers and extra waratahs optional)
- Bookings essential 0408 610 714

purpose :

to encourage entries in this years Waratah Flower Show and Flower Arrangement Competition held Sat 3rd & Sun 4th Oct during Robertson Heritage Railway Fair over October long weekend (entry free)

OR JUST TO HAVE FUN AND A GREAT FLOWER ARRANGEMENT FOR THE LONG WEEKEND

(for more info about this and other workshops in advert below, please call Penny on 0408 610 714)

## THE ART OF LEARNING NEW SKILLS

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experience

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[www.robertsonvillage.org.au](http://www.robertsonvillage.org.au)

# COMMUNITY NOTICES

## **Fire Sale ! Fire Sale !**

A MASSIVE CLEARING SALE

in support of the

### **Robertson Rural Fire Brigade**

**Why?** To raise funds for the purchase of equipment and to improve facilities at the Fire Station. Visit [www.robertson.rfsa.org.au](http://www.robertson.rfsa.org.au) for details of the services provided by your local Brigade.

**When?** Saturday 17 Oct 2009 from 11 am.

**Where?** At the new Station in Wallangunda St

**What?** The **Sale Catalogue** will comprise up to 500 lots including: Farm machinery, mowers, pumps, tools, garden implements, fencing materials, antiques, silver/silver plate, artwork, pottery, glassware, furniture (indoor/outdoor) objets d'art, computers, embroidery, quilts, fancy attire, china, books, cds, toys, cycles, garden ornaments, household white goods.

Check your garage, shed, spare room, and attic for items you can afford to do without.

**How?** The sale is by **Auction** with sellers having the option of donating between 20% and 100% of the hammer price to the Brigade. Reserve price guidance, storage of lots prior to sale, and assistance with transport of lots is available. Sale Day will be **A BIG DAY OUT** with refreshments and diversions for the kids!

The Victorian experience of early this year is a reminder of how vulnerable rural communities can be to the impact of bushfires. Your assistance in helping the RFS volunteers raise funds will be very welcome.

Brendhan Waters, Robertson's Brigade Captain.

For further information and to enter lots contact Philip Bailey or Tim Coupland on 4885 1653, Mick Lynch 4885 2167, Peter Marshall 4885 1632

### **Pianist wanted**

from 2pm - 4pm Sundays at  
Fountaindale Grand Manor.

Pianist to play during High Teas weekly. Contact Kylie on 4885 1111 to apply.

### **Food Growing in the Southern Highlands, Past, Present and Future**

(vegetables, tree crops, wild foods and animal products).

#### **An interactive workshop**

With eight formal presentations and facilitated discussions on food production and related issues

**Saturday August 29, 2009, 9am-5pm,  
(with a farm tour the next day)**

Wingecarribee Shire Theatre, Elizabeth Street, Moss Vale

**Enquiries: David Tranter 4885-1394, Jill Cockram 4883-4399)**

Convened by Harmony Community Farm, Canwin (Climate Action Now, Wingecarribee), Anglicare, Environmental Education Trust and co-sponsored by Wingecarribee Shire Council

### **Brides of Yesteryear**

Moss Vale Girl Guides Fundraiser

Fashion Parade

Saturday 5th September, 2009

Robertson Bowling Club

*Wedding gowns, bridesmaid, flower girl, page boy best man and groom, mother of the bride or any other outfits.*

Contact Judy Fisk  
4885 1329

[rjmackeyre@bigpond.com](mailto:rjmackeyre@bigpond.com)

Free Meditation and Spiritual Discussion Group along open, esoteric principles- held in Robertson last Saturday of the month at six pm.

For more information please email Leanne [coradcor22@yahoo.com.au](mailto:coradcor22@yahoo.com.au) or ring/text 0432776411

"This knowledge cannot be seized by pursuing it, it will come into your heart if you give if sanctuary there." Lao Tzu

### **Robertson Show Society ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Monday 24<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2009

ROBERTSON COMMUNITY CENTRE

(Caalong St – Next to Pre School)

7.00PM

All Welcome.....

Supper/tea & coffee provided

[robertsonshow@bigpond.com](mailto:robertsonshow@bigpond.com)  
[www.robertsonshow.org.au](http://www.robertsonshow.org.au)

*-Applications for positions shall be accepted in writing until Wednesday 23<sup>RD</sup> August.*

*(or taken from floor if no nomination for position received prior)*

*Addressed to the Secretary PO Box 3044 Robertson NSW 2577*

### **Wingecarribee Shire Council's Award-winning Resource Recovery Centre**

A Talk at REPS on Friday Evening,  
August 14 at 7.30pm

Robertson Community Centre  
All welcome, light refreshments, gold coin donation

Miles Lochhead's background is farming. A graduate from the Hawkesbury Agricultural College, Miles is an enthusiast advocate for sustainable living and has built up the Resource Recovery Centre from scratch to the point where it is now an Australian leader in resource recovery. He will be describing the "life cycle" of the products he deals with, where they come from, how they are treated and where they go.

Miles is an enthusiastic cyclist, swimmer and water polo player

### **Hope D A Pty Ltd**

C.A. A377

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### *Southern Highlands Funerals*

*Colin & Laurelle Boland*

Telephone: 4869 2888  
415 Argyle Street, Moss Vale  
(opp. Arthur St.)

"Providing assistance and guidance  
as you honour a lifetime of memories"

## NEW SINGERS ALWAYS WELCOME AT THE ROBERTSON VILLAGE CHOIR

The Robertson Village Choir now has about ten enthusiastic regular members but more are always welcome.

According to Choir Conductor, Cathie Owen, "At Choir practice we want to emphasise the enjoyment of singing" and she urges choir members old and new to "come along to choir. We'll have fun, do some rousing singing and leave each practice with a favourite tune humming through our heads for days to come." Cathie is assisted by Mary Sommer as relief Choir Conductor and ever patient and flexible piano accompanist Steve Grainger who manages to coax a wonderful sound from the CTC piano.

The choir's repertoire is mixed, currently including *Summertime*, *Rivers of Babylon*, *Hallelujah* and a number of Beatles songs. There are so many suggestions for the repertoire that, earlier in the year, the choir had to vote for a top ten! Cathie is currently investigating sources for sheet music for the choir that are not too expensive but comply with copyright restrictions.

You do not have to be able to read music to join the Robertson Village Choir. It is a very friendly group and everyone is welcome.

The Robertson Village Choir meets fortnightly on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm at the CTC@Robertson during school terms. There is a \$3 donation to the CTC per meeting plus reimbursement of copying costs for music. For further information, contact Choir Coordinator Jenny Kena ph: 4885 1568 or [jennykena@robertsonctc.org.au](mailto:jennykena@robertsonctc.org.au)

### BOOKINGS OPEN FOR DELIGHTFUL MUSICAL

We've all heard of Stephen Schwartz - whether we know it or not. He's the man responsible for the musicals *Pippin*, *Godspell* and the current hit *Wicked* doing the rounds in Australia. Schwartz also wrote a delightful show called *The Baker's Wife* which is to be performed at the Mittagong Playhouse in August by the Highlands Theatre Group. This Group is the principal provider of top-class affordable theatre here in the Southern Highlands, with recent productions which include *South Pacific*, *An Inspector Calls*, *Guys and Dolls*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*.

Going back over the many years of its existence, HTG has continued to bring productions of a high quality to the Highlands, and the Group enjoys a loyal and committed audience base.

A delicious fun catchy musical set in France, the storyline revolves around a baker and his wife in a French village, their marital ups and downs, and the marvellous characters that exist in their village with all their joys and frustrations. The show contains some of Stephen Schwartz's best songs including *Meadowlark* and the beautiful *Chanson* which runs like a thread throughout the show. And there are some fabulous numbers for the ensemble cast including *Bread* and *If it Wasn't for You*.

Show dates are August 7,8,14,15,22 at 8pm and August 15,16,22 at 2pm. Please note there is NO performance on Fri.21 August.

Bookings are **now open** for this show at Tourism Southern Highlands in Main Street, Mittagong. Their phone number is 1300 657 559.

Tickets are just \$22 (adult) and \$20 (concession). You are urged to book quickly for this one !

## 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

### Roman Catholic

#### Burrawang

1st, 3rd, 5th Sundays — 8.00am  
2nd & 4th Sundays — 5.00pm

### Chamber of Commerce NEWS

Robertson Chamber of Commerce held their AGM earlier this month in the new Centre at St John's Church.

The committee was re-elected unopposed:

President—Dorothy Baker  
Secretary—Bernard Eddy  
Vice Pres—Judy Fisk  
Treasurer—Caroline Marsh  
Webmaster—Denis Wilson

Thanks to Barry and Annette Lee for the wonderful dinner and Belinda & Tom for suppling the wine.

#### 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 \$35. (Discount of \$5 for members of Robertson Chamber of Commerce) 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 Dorothy Baker at the OPSGallery now at the Robertson Cheese Factory ph/fax 4885 2400 or POBox 3005 Robertson 2577. Thank you for your support.

#### **Deadline**

The next issue will be distributed in the first weeks of **October**. All advertising & submissions must be received by **15th September 2009**. 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