



Robertson News

February 2010

Edition 76

www.robertson.nsw.au
www.robertsonnsw.com.au

ROBERTSON SHOW **JUST AROUND THE CORNER.....**

The 2010 Robertson Show will be held on **Friday 5th & Saturday 6th March** and plans are well underway.

We have many ideas in the pipeline to keep all those attending Robertson Show well entertained. Friday we will again be hosting our "School Day" full of educational experiences and good old fashion kid's fun. Involving many of the local schools as possible in activities such as the CTC "Spud Olympics", in milking demonstrations, Shearing demonstrations and good old sing along just to name a few. Saturday will see a packed program of horse events held in the centre ring and the attendance of the Stationary Steam Engine Club. We will still be holding all your favourite events and we promise you will be entertained by the "The Boys on the Mica" during the day. One new item on the line up for this year will be Live Music Entertainment preformed by ABC host Nick Rheinberger and his band.

Those attending Friday will be impressed by the wonderful sights of the Dairy Cattle on exhibit and it is already shaping up to be record entries in the pavilion - we look forward to seeing those cakes, flowers, crafts and needlework's start to arrive as we get closer to Show Day. The Beef Judging and Dog Show will again be packed full of high standard exhibits and a full program will see the Horses compete over two days in the centre ring.

2010 will see our second year in the new "Robertson Style" country Poultry Pavilion. The Robertson Show Society would like to offer you your chance to become a part of this popular new section by having your own cage. **Why or How you ask!** Over the past five years Picton Show has kindly lent us their poultry cages for show time and now we would like to complete our pavilion by obtaining our own cages. This is a costly exercise and we are seeking your help to purchase 200 cage fronts, we have a generous offer to build the surrounds free of charge. For just a \$25 or \$35 donation you can help purchase a cage front and have your contribution recognised on a plate attached to the cage. So have a cage named after yourself, children or even the family pet! For more information contact the Secretary Leesa Stratford or Chief Poultry Steward Jenny Andrews PH 48 882049.

The 2010 **Robertson Show Girl** will be named at the Official Opening on Saturday and we are searching the district for entrants, this is not a beauty contest or talent quest by any means. It is the chance for one lucky girl to represent Robertson and act as a spokesperson for our town and the Robertson show, then progress onto the zone finals (if she wishes); all entrants receive great prizes and having a little fun on the way. If you would like to nominate yourself or know of anyone who would make a great ambassador for Robertson, please contact our secretary for more information.

Have you ever thought of **becoming a member** of the Robertson Show Society? It is a great way to demonstrate your support to one of the last "True Country Shows" around. Membership gives you entry into the show both Friday & Saturday, your renewal and show schedule are sent to your door each year - so be one of the first to know what is installed for the next show. The Show cannot operate without the huge amount of help received from **volunteers** and the Show Society thanks them very much. If you have an hour or two to spare, on either Friday or Saturday, to lend a hand on the BBQ or Gates for example or for more details on any of the above, please contact: Leesa Stratford 0411 537 600

robertsonshow@bigpond.com
www.robertsonshow.org.au



Shakespeare and Beethoven met up in Robertson.

Shakespeare and Beethoven met up most successfully in Robertson on Saturday, 19 December 2009.

They did so, under the guise of two great artistic interpreters, Pianist Prof. Gerard Willems, and Actor John Gregg.

The performance started out with Prof. Gerard Willems performing Beethoven's "Moonlight Sonata" (Op 27 No 2). That was balanced by John Gregg performing a soliloquy from the Merchant of Venice. Their performances alternated with excerpts from Beethoven's Appassionata Sonata no 23, (Op 57), and Romeo and Juliet; The Tempest (Op 31, No. 2) matched with a reading from Shakespeare's "The Tempest".

Other Sonata excerpts played included the Pathetique (Sonata No 8 in C minor) Op. 13, matched more soliloquies from Hamlet and King Lear.

On several occasions, the readings led directly into a gentle accompaniment by the Piano, slowly ceding ground to the full-gusto performance by Gerard Willems. Personally I found those moments the most appealing.

It was a great concert and reading, and was much appreciated by the attentive audience. The contribution of both artists was greatly appreciated.

We hope that a major contribution has now been made towards the purchase of the RVMS Kawai Grand Piano. Over 20 Keys were sponsored prior to the concert, and I am sure that a number of people in the audience filled out the necessary forms to "sponsor a key". Robert Goldsack has arranged tax deductible status for these donations (\$100 per key). Robert may be contacted via mobile phone on 0404 444 099, if you wish to sponsor a key. "Sponsoring a Key" is a great way of contributing to the Robertson Village community, or indeed, it is an appropriate way of recognising the contribution which the Robertson Village Music Society has made to village life in Robertson.

By the way, I snapped up Middle C when Robert first proposed the idea.

A virtual keyboard has been created by local Robertson sign-writer and graphic designer, Ian Foster. The names of the sponsors are displayed on the board, a full-size replica of the Kawai Keyboard.

Denis Wilson



No August Edition of Robertson News.

As a result of the editor being overseas there will be no August edition of the Robertson News. Advertisers and community groups should please take note of this and ensure that we receive notice of events for August and September in time for the June edition, the deadline for which is the 15th May. The deadline for the October edition is the 15th September.

Donation or Dumping?

There have been stories in the news recently about charitable organisations needing to pay to have items left at clothing bins removed to tips. The two clothing bins at St John's Church suffer from this same problem. Despite the signage on the bins clearly indicating that they are for clothing only and that items of furniture, mattresses, electrical goods etc, should not be left there, the site is frequently overflowing with left over items from garage sales and just plain rubbish.

While some people may genuinely believe that the items they leave can be of use to others, there are also those who are clearly using this as a free dumping site. It should be noted that other than clothing placed in the bin, other items left will be regarded by council as illegal dumping. Due to the problems associated with this (The Anglicare driver cannot singlehandedly remove large items), any identifiable person leaving anything outside the bins will be reported to council.

On the other hand, it is considered theft for unauthorised persons to remove items left at charitable bins. The items left at the St John's bins are often strewn all over the footpath by those sorting through and taking what they want.

Please do not leave anything other than clothing at the bins. If it will not fit in the bin, please do not leave it!



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



*Southern Highlands
Funerals*

Colin & Laurelle Boland

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415 Argyle Street, Moss Vale
(opp. Arthur St.)

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

Developing conservation and land management skills through flexible study

This year TAFE NSW is offering a training program in conservation and land management in the Southern Highlands through flexible study. The course starts in February, 2010 and runs over two years, culminating in the award of a Certificate III in Conservation and Land Management to successful participants.



Delivery of the training comprises a blend of home study and practical, hands-on weekend workshops (Saturday and Sunday, 0900 – 1700), which are held approximately once a month during TAFE terms. Although the workshops are to be based primarily at the Moss Vale TAFE NSW campus, many will also involve site visits and practical sessions to be held in natural bushland areas at a variety of locations in the local area.

The course focuses on developing skills in native plant identification, seed collection, plant propagation, best practice re-vegetation techniques and restoration of natural bushland areas. An important component of the training also involves learning to recognize environmental and declared noxious weeds, understand their life-cycles and how they spread, and to control them by a variety of environmentally sound techniques.

Participants in the course have the opportunity to undertake accredited chemical user training, obtain or update their Senior First Aid certificate and to learn how to operate and maintain chainsaws safely and competently. Course coordinator Brian Faulkner says, "This training program was developed in recognition of the need for flexible delivery of vocational education. Many people are in full time work or have other commitments that do not allow them to attend normal TAFE classes during the week. This delivery format has been successfully used previously in Moruya and Ulludulla, with great feedback being received from students."

The bulk of the training will be conducted by bushland regeneration professionals Gerard Proust and Kelly Upton, of Proust Bushland Services. Gerard and Kelly are well known in the Southern Highlands for their environmental restoration work and have many years of experience both as industry experts and as trainers.



For further information about the course, please contact the course coordinator, Brian Faulkner on (02) 4823 1851.

BOOKS, BOOKS, BOOKS

Books from \$1. Over 4,000 books always in stock, fiction, fact; indeed.....



...books on every subject under the sun!

At **Robertson Recollections**

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



Award winning local cheeses now available at
Robertson Supermarket
Bowral Cheese Store, Corbett Plaza
Anchors Fresh Fruit & Veg, Bowral

**ROBERTSON HERITAGE RAILWAY STATION
VINTAGE/CLASSIC CAR DAY SUNDAY 11th APRIL, 2010**

We will be hosting another vintage car day on the railway common this April as a fund raiser for our volunteer organisation.

Entry from 9.30am onwards---public entry 11.00am.

All clubs and individual cars welcome.

Entry free! Small fee to enter trophy competitions. Trophies (people's choice) for best British, European, American, Australian and Japanese classic cars 30 years and over, commercials/pick-ups and unrestored.

Hot food kiosk, Fettle's Shed gallery open, history display, vintage working farm machinery, loop train to Moss Vale and Village Market 300mtrs. away.

Contact Steve Carey, President RHRS (ph 4885 2393)

Email: steve@accn.com.au

Web: <http://www.robertsonrailway.com.au>



**Photos illustrate a chapter of Robertson, railway,
and immigration, history**

These photographs were provided to me by a Mr Bernie Bengel, a recent visitor to Robertson. In fact he was making a return visit after many years absence. He is one of the men in these photographs.

The story behind them, as he told it is that, in the late 1960s, new immigrants from Germany and other European countries were recruited to railway fettle's gangs located throughout NSW, including Robertson. Some of the recruitment seems to have been a bit hit and miss. The men in the photographs, not long arrived at Bonegilla migrant camp on the Murray, and speaking very little English, saw an advertisement for "labourers" at Albury station. They thought the word suggested laboratory work – and took the jobs. They arrived by train at Robertson, where they found that the work was actually track maintenance. They were supplied with tents, camp beds, blankets, food and basic utensils. The work camp was located near the station.

In fact Mr Bengel was only there for a few months. On arrival, he and his work-mates had no idea what lay beyond Robertson, but, on days off, they soon discovered Port Kembla and its steel works where, before long, Mr Bengel's engineering skills won him work. He married a girl from Wollongong and they are now grand-parents to a considerable clan. I thought the photos were an interesting illustration of several aspects of our local history.

I've given copies to the RRR for display at the station.

Dion Boehme



"Lajamanu Project"—Café Pirouette

On 14 September 2009, Four Corners broadcast a program "Going back to Lajamanu". The program examined the bilingual education program in Australia and the continued right of aboriginal children to learn in their own language at school, a right which Prime Minister Gough Whitlam heralded for the first time in 1975. A decision by the Northern Territory Government in 2008, that from January 2009 all schools in the NT must teach the first four hours of classes in English, has placed this right under threat and the Lajamanu community fears that its culture and law will be eroded as a result.

The program had a profound effect on Lynne and myself for a number of reasons. We have direct personal connections to Lajamanu. Warlpiri women visited us at our home in Robertson last year and they are family. It is difficult for us to express the depth of feeling we have for these people, who are amongst the most grounded and deeply spiritual people we have met. Warlpiri art is magnificent and the Warlpiri language is one of the few remaining aboriginal languages spoken by children today. For this heritage to be lost is nothing short of a modern day tragedy.

Perhaps because of our connection to Lajamanu, or perhaps because of the glaring hypocrisy that arises from this subtle form of cultural genocide only a couple of years after Australia publicly apologised for its past treatment of aboriginal people, we feel compelled to involve ourselves in the Lajamanu community in a way that matters.

It is for this reason that we have decided to direct all profits from Café Pirouette to supporting the continued teaching of Lajamanu children in their native language, Warlpiri. At this embryonic point in our quest we do not know how we will do that. We have dubbed this quest the "Lajamanu project" and are investigating the establishment of a not for profit company with a charitable status through which we can properly manage funds and projects. With permission, our Café will become a gallery of Warlpiri artwork so that all of us can better 'feel' this unique culture.

Our informal chats with customers have met with instantaneous and heartfelt support – suggesting to us that the good people of Robertson appreciate the significance of what is happening in our country.

We would welcome ideas and support for our "Lajamanu Project". We will talk at length with the Lajamanu community and our website www.cafepirouette.com.au will regularly update our thinking and yours, about what we can do.

An excerpt from the Four Corner's transcript sums up our feelings on this:

JERRY PATRICK JANGALA: Look like we going to lose our culture yes, and our law too. Really is Warlpiri or Aboriginal business look like it going to be lost here.....
Yeah, really bad thing for us because if we lose that, we got no anything to say, no. We have to close our mouth all the time."

This really matters.

Caroline Marsh

ROBERTSON & DISTRICT SWIMMING
POOL Assoc.Inc

The Robertson & District Swimming Pool Assoc. has lodged a Staged Development Application with Wingecarribee Shire Council last week. The committee was greatly assisted by member Sharon Makin B.Env.Sc. who has contributed a great deal of time and expertise to prepare this lengthy document

This application is the forerunner to a full DA and the committee is confident that this process will lead to the commencement of the development later in the year

The Robertson Bowling Club is the preferred site for the pool development.

As at the last interest rate adjustment the balance in the Pool account is in excess of \$172,000. The committee is now activating plans for additional fund raising commencing with a stall at the Robertson Show in early March. There are plans to raise an additional \$50,000 during the next 12 months to supplement the available capital.

Main fundraising plans include a Raffle, "The Pool 500 Club" and stall activities supplying food at various venues. There is an urgent need for interested residents, young and old to assist in manning stalls and to assist in the future development of the project.

Already the project has attracted many local residents offering support in the building and maintenance of the pool and surrounds

The committee meets every second Wednesday at 5.30 pm. The venue is The Robertson Bowling Club.

Next Meeting: Wednesday 10th February

Interested residents are most welcome. We need your support

Further Information please contact
President: John Thomas Tel: 4885 1209 (W) Secretary: Sharon Turner
Tel: 4885 1425 (H) Don Ferguson
4885 1215



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The Community Technology Centre at Robertson
presents

'THE FILMMAKER SERIES 2010'



Tony Williams, film director, will again be presenting the CTC cinema program with his wife Anna for 2010 at the Robertson Community Technology Centre. Tony will give talks on the films he will be screening and will also invite guest film makers to introduce their films.

At this stage programs planned include:

AN EVENING WITH PETER SELLERS — THE PARTY
THE ART OF HITCHCOCK - VERTIGO
THE ART OF THE CINEMATOGRAPHER - SHINE
THE ART OF THE FILM CATERER - BABETTE'S FEAST
THE ART OF THE MUSICIAN - MAO TO MOZART Part two.

Plus LEONARD BERNSTEIN IN REHEARSAL

A ROMANTIC GEM FROM MIKE NEWELL - ENCHANTED APRIL
THE ART OF THE PRODUCER - THE BOYS ARE BACK
THE ART OF THE JACQUES TATI REVISITED — MON ONCLE.

For further information about screening dates contact the CTC and request to be put on the cinema email list.



4885 2665

<http://www.robertsonctc.org.au/cafe.htm>
info@robertsonctc.org.au

How To Succeed In Business Without Really Trying.

The Highlands Theatre Group is pleased to announce that its next production will be the very funny musical by Frank Loesser and Abe Burrows, *How To Succeed In Business Without Really Trying*.

The Musical will be directed by Darrell Hope who is a familiar face, having performed in many of the HTG's productions and directed for them shows including *Bone Chiller*, *Bye Bye Birdie* and *Joseph and the Technicolour Dreamcoat*. Musical Direction is in the very capable hands of Mike Butcher of Highland Proms fame and Ann Clipsham who recently shared musical direction on *The Baker's Wife*.

Performances will be staged at Clubbe Hall, Frensham **School, Range Rd, Mittagong.** **The dates of this production are as follows:**

Evening Shows:

Feb 5, 6, 12, 13, 19, 20, 2010 at 8pm

Matinees:

Feb 7 & 14, 2010 at 2pm

Cost: \$24 adults, \$22 concession
Bookings open January 18th and can be made by contacting **Southern Highlands Tourism, Main St, Mittagong on 1300 657 559.**
www.htg.org.au



Ted Andrade who plays
J. Pierrepont Finch

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COMMUNITY NOTICES

Exhibition of Draft **Robertson Development Control Plan.**

Wingecarribee Shire Council advise that they will exhibit the DCP . The purpose is to provide objectives and permissible uses of properties within Robertson Village zoned R2 Low Density Residential, R5 Large Lot Residential and B2 Local Centre under draft Wingecarribee Local Environmental Plan 2009.

The DCP is available to inspect from Wednesday 13th Jan to Friday 19th March 2010 on www.wsc.nsw.gov.au and during opening hours :

- * Council Customer Service Centre, Civic Centre, Moss Vale
- * Robertson General Store, 91 Hoddle Street.

In addition Council officers will be available to answer questions re the DCP at:

Robertson School of Arts

Tuesday 9th Feb from 11am to 7.30pm

Any interested party may make a submission, re the DCP, which must quote the file number 5700/72 & be received 4.30pm Friday 14th March by WSC.

The submission must also have attached a 'Political Donation Declaration Form' available from the above locations.

Sprinklers can only be used at set times.

Level one water restrictions are still in place in Wingecarribee Shire to encourage more responsible water use.

At this time of year (until March) fixed hoses and sprinklers can only be used in the morning from 7am to 10am and at night from 6pm to 9pm on any day.

Anzac Day 2010

A wreath laying will take place at the Robertson War Memorial at 10.15am to be followed by a

Commemorative Service commencing at The Burrawang Memorial at 11am.



Robertson Burrawang Rovers Soccer Club

Registration Days

Wed & Thurs 10th & 11th Feb
Wed & Thurs 17th & 18th Feb
3pm - 6pm @ Hampden Park,
Robertson
(Behind Skate Park)

Girls & Boys, Ladies & Men
All Welcome

Enquiries
Robert Handley 0419 243 520



The Fettle's Heritage Art Prize

Official Opening and Prize Presentation:

Saturday 27 February 2pm

Entries close Wed 24 Feb 1-4pm
Delivery to Fettle's Shed Gallery
Railway Precinct Yarranga St
Robertson

Judge: Julie Krone
Conditional Subject and Residency
for entry

Call 0408 610 714 for details
www.????Village website address,
www.robertsonrailway.com.au

Sponsors: RHRSI
Robertson Recollections
Robertson Chamber of Commerce

The Robertson Doctor
will be holding
Swine Flu Vaccination
clinics for adults and children aged 6
months and over.
Please call reception on 4885 2569
to make your appointment.

Robertson Village Music Society's

first concert for 2010
is on
Wednesday, 24th February,
at 2pm
at the St John's Church Centre

Phone Robert on 0404 444099
for more details.

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dbl garage, wood fire, ensuite, 2 bathrooms - \$425 pw
- * 2 bedroom cottage, wood fire garage - \$220 pw



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Open Gardens

In 2010, the Robertson Open Gardens will be from the October long weekend (2nd October) to Sunday 17th October. Most gardens open for 2-3 days over this period and the inclusion of new gardens is always appreciated. If you are interested in trying this gratifying experience please ring Jane Hope – 0448 664 683.

Publicity for the open Gardens is generously sponsored by local businesses and the Robertson Chamber of Commerce and the money raised from the gate fees is directed to charities and local community groups.

In 2009, precipitants of the gate fees included the Cancer Council, the Girl Guides, the Robertson Show Society and the Robertson Village Network. Each owner of the gardens decided where the money raised from the gate fees was directed.

Below is a copy of an article printed in the Robertson Garden Club newsletter

Open Garden 09

Two thousand and nine was the second time the garden, Acmena Hill had been opened in the Robertson Village Open Gardens. Just to confuse the issue the garden had had a name change from the previous year – a ploy to entice new visitors? Not really. It was just a more appropriate name for the property. The garden sits along the side of remnant rainforest where the predominant species is Lillypilly [Acmena]. North facing and with deep red soil, the five acre block lends itself to cool climate planting. The “bones” of the garden was planted when the empty potato paddock was bought in 1981. With the trees grown and the children’s horses [and children] off to new homes real gardening could begin.

Retirement gave many extra gardening hours and many projects that had been “on hold” were soon underway. It was time to share the garden with others. A nervous and tentative query about being included in the Open Gardens soon had Micki and Jane doing an inspection. Given the nod of approval, planning began to have the spring garden in tip top form.

October long weekend was chosen as the open dates this year.

What a hardy lot garden viewers are! The wind blew and the rain fell down. A brazier was lit to warm the donation collectors. And still the viewers came. At the end of five days \$500 was raised through entry fees and plant sales. This money was donated to the Robertson Village network which is an umbrella association providing insurance cover to village fund raising and cultural events.

Open Gardens is a very satisfying venture. To the garden owners it is a chance to share the results of a labour of love. Meeting visitors gives lovely feedback and comments. It is a pleasure to share the garden with a variety of people all of whom show a love and interest in gardens and gardening.

There are many beautiful gardens in Robertson. If you have a garden, give some thought to sharing your garden. The rewards are many.

Cathie Owen



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

5.00pm - 2nd Sunday - Communion

Roman Catholic

Burrawang

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

The 2009 Robertson Chamber of Commerce Christmas Raffle was drawn at the 'Carols by the Spud' on Sat 12th Dec.

And the winners are:

Robertson Butcher Meat Tray won by Paul & Juanita Rizi

Family Pass to the Illawarra Fly won by Andrew Redwood

6 x Lake Vineyard Wines won by Mike Lynch

\$50 voucher to Hair on Hoddle won by Sam Nielson

Bunch of Lilies from D. Wislon won by Judy Fisk

We collected a total of \$238

\$50 will be donated to the Robertson Choir, they will put this towards new sheet music.

\$188 will go to the 'Big Spud' for the upkeep of the park.

Dorothy Baker

dorothybaker@southernphone.com.au

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 April. All advertising & submissions must be received by **15th March 2010**. Forward correspondence to: **Robertson Newsletter, 64 Hoddle St, Robertson 2577**, or Email: 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