



# Robertson News

December 2011

www.robertson.nsw.au

Edition 86

## **ROBERTSON SPRINGTIME OPEN GARDENS 2011**

Everyone is remarking on how wonderful the roses have been this year. The gardens open in November has provided a brilliant show and coincided with The Southern Highlands Art Trail - Southern villages. It was rather thrilling to see notices for our 'Open Gardens' and notices for the 'Art Trail' side by side. Robertson is indeed a wonderfully interesting and diverse village to live in.

The Robertson Open Garden Committee thanks our wonderful garden owners for opening their lovely gardens to the public for Robertson Springtime Gardens. There is a lot of work involved when opening a garden to the public, it is also very rewarding. Visitors really appreciate how much time and effort has been put into each garden.



Phillip Owen preparing Acmena Hill for opening.

It appears that some rather scary face wear is also de rigeur for working in the garden as shown in the photo of Phillip Owen doing some last minute spraying at Acmena Hill before opening.



Trish Symons from Wildes Meadow smelling the roses at Idyllwilde

Plenty of gardeners came to Robertson to see our delightful Open Gardens. Even though the rain came down again over the long weekend, there have been reports of good attendances. The gardens were open this year for the first two weeks in October and November. We will be assessing with the garden owners and the sponsors which time is better for the village and attendances at the gardens.

Each garden owner supports a charity of their choice and one lucky charity is the Southern Highlands Cancer Centre Oncology Unit, supported by Jenny and Royce Smith with their open garden 'Idyllwilde'.

Thank you to our sponsors who paid for the advertising of the gardens in tourist magazines throughout the Highlands, Canberra and the South Coast as well as paying for the printing of the brochure and map.

This year sponsors were divided into Gold, Silver and Bronze.

**Gold:** Robertson Chamber of Commerce, Murray Tractor Importers, Fountaindale Grand Manor, Robertson Pie Shop, Robertson Inn and Robertson Recollections.

**Silver:** Robertson Post Office, Robertson Fruit market, Robertson Supermarket, Robertson Bowling Club, Carl Hilder Real Estate, Robertson Pharmacy, Illawarra Fly, Cheese Factory Cafe and Robertson Village Nursery.

**Bronze:** Robertson Doctor and Robertson Cheese Room.



Jenny and Royce Smith at Idyllwilde

We are lucky that the Robertson community takes an active part in supporting the Open Gardens.

Marion Tyree  
Robertson Open Garden Committee

## ROBERTSON PARK

Robertson Park, the garden featured on the front of the open garden brochure can be described as spectacular. Situated on top of the escarpment it has magnificent views which form a backdrop to the house and garden. Due to the rather dangerous drops to the valley below Robertson Park was a little different to our usual open garden. Areas were taped off to keep the visitors away from the edges. The Robertson Volunteer Fire Brigade was chosen as the recipient of the gate takings and volunteers came to the open days to ensure that visitors did not go too close to the edges.

This is a garden of contrasts. Wildflowers abound seemingly suspended on the cliff faces, along the edges of the escarpment and throughout the garden. Closer to the house exotics are planted mingling happily with the native plants.

Meandering paths take you to seating areas which have been created for enjoying the views and the peaceful surroundings, while a short walk through the bush brings you the waterfall vista.



Brendan Walters & sons putting up the Open Garden



## Moss Vale Men's Shed

### ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MOSS VALE MEN'S SHED

#### BLOKES GET TO TOGETHER

Southern highland blokes tired of living indoors or just needing a bit of extra shed space will soon have a great reason to get out and socialise with like minded men.

A new Men's Shed is in the process of being set up in Moss Vale which is all about providing a place where men can meet, share a yarn or share some skills.

The group has been offered an unused building within the Moss Vale Show-ground which when spruced up, will provide a large workshop area plus an informal meeting area, this is a great start.

We plan to work toward having a fully equipped workshop where men can work on personal or group projects or just sit and talk over a cuppa.

The Men's Sheds movement throughout Australia (some 630 in all) have become an instant success story for bringing men together in a non-threatening environment.

The mission of the Moss Vale Men's shed is to provide a relaxed, safe environment where men who are retired, socially isolated or just find themselves with too much time on their hands, can meet.

The health and well being of the members will be promoted and maintained by a program of informal activities.

At our recent first meeting some 20 men turned up which was a good start. During this meeting it was amazing to find the range of skills that these men had, which included wood turning, carpentry, book binding, furniture restoration, welding, metal work, computers and fine fretwork, all willing to share their skills.

The Men's shed is sponsored by Anglicare, Moss Vale Rotary, Moss Vale Lions and Wingecarribee Shire Council which has just granted the Shed \$5,000 to assist in getting the program off the ground. This donation from the Council is very much appreciated.

The group is also seeking State and Federal Government grants which have been forthcoming to other Men's Sheds. (even Tim, the PM's partner is involved in the Organisation, I suppose he has to fill his time in somehow)

Any interested ROBBO men please contact Mike Newcombe on 48852317 or pick-up membership applications from Nick at Robertson Village Pharmacy. The initial meetings have been on each Tuesday at 10 am at the Old Dog shed at Moss Vale Show-Ground, but contact Mike to make sure.

ALL ARE WELCOME

For more information go to our Web site at [www.mossvalemensshed.org.au](http://www.mossvalemensshed.org.au)

PS Suitable machine shop equipment donations gladly accepted

## KJM Glass Pty Ltd

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## 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.)

## 2012 is the Year of the Farmer

ROBERTSON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE is organizing an exhibition at the Wingecarribee Shire Council in May 2012 for 'The Year of The Farmer'.

As a truly rural village with deep farming roots we ask if you any have any interesting farming facts, articles, photos or any items of significance, old or new, for use in the display. RCoC would like BORROW these items for the month of May 2012.

All the precious items would be locked up in the glass show cases in the foyer at the Council Chambers.

Photographs and documents can be copied prior to this date and the originals returned so that all precious and sentimental items are carefully looked after.

On **OPENING NIGHT** (2<sup>nd</sup> May TBC ) there will be a competition for:



- Best Farmer's Hat (his)
- Best Farmer's Hat (hers)
- The Best pair farmer's boots (his or hers)
- The Best Beard
- The Best Moustache
- The oldest Farmer present on the night
- The family who have lived on their property the longest
- The oldest working farm-house still lived in.
- The best art piece that portrays farming, this can be of any medium, sculpture, quilting, painting, recycled items and must be no larger than 1 meter high.
- The best story about farming life in the Southern Highlands, maximum of 500 words.
- The family who have the most number of family members working their own family farm
- Best dressed Junior Farmer

Send entries to Robertson Chamber of Commerce by 20<sup>th</sup> April 2012 - PO Box 3005 Robertson 2577

All entrants agree that the Robertson Chamber of Commerce can photograph entries and/or the winners of the categories for future use in advertising, or editorial use.

We ask that any items or suggestions for exhibits and display be forwarded to:

Judy Fisk  
R.J.MACKEY REAL ESTATE  
Ph.02 4885 1329  
Or  
Dorothy Baker  
Green Heart Gallery  
Ph. 02 4885 2400

**OPENING NIGHT** : an opening for the exhibition will be held on **Wednesday 2nd May 2012, 5:30 - 7:00pm (TBC)** in the Foyer of the Wingecarribee Shire Council Chambers, access through Donkin Avenue, Theaterette

RCoC is looking for donation for prizes from local businesses. This could be any thing a gift voucher to a bail of hay!!

We will ask Phillip Bruem, Chairman of the Year of the Farmer 2012 to attend and/or any of the committee.

Judy Fisk  
R.J.MACKEY REAL ESTATE  
PH 02 48851329

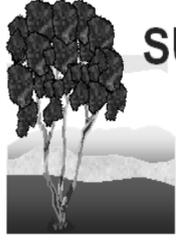
**Please Note—The dates in this article are yet to be confirmed.**

02 4868 2000  
0400 363 705

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## FETTLERS HERITAGE ART PRIZE 2012 – START PAINTING!!!

Yes, it's that time of year again and The Fettle's Shed Experience Gallery is asking every one to start painting (sculpture acceptable also) a picture of Robertson (or surrounding villages). It can be a landscape or built environment, a portrait, an historical event or something to do with trains! Entries are due end of February, so lots of time over summer to get out there to either paint or take photos.

Help to celebrate Robertson's' 80 years of Railway History by involving yourself in making this exhibition something really special for the village.

The local Robertson art galleries, big and small, have all contributed this year to a special 'Gallery Prize', which brings the total prize pool up to \$1150, with 5 prizes on offer altogether. A big thank you to all of you and to the regulars, Robertson Heritage Railway Group, Robertson Recollections, Chamber of Commerce and also Teknemodus (built environment prize) for continuing with their support yet again.



2011 drew some pretty amazing artworks and Fettle's was very honored to have local identities, Carlos Barrios and Anika Ekholm, as judges, both of them saying they found it very hard to make the final choice. New and welcome resident artist Charles Reddington opened the exhibition and made the official prize presentations. Artists who have supported the event since its inauguration received commendations, a great encouragement to continue supporting the event, we hope.

The 2011 RHRSI First Prize was won by Enrique del Val with his 'Magic Forest' (pictured). Lucinda Macdonald took out the inaugural Built Environment Prize with her colourful portrayal of '4826 Illawarra Highway', using house paint and other acrylics.

Venue: Fettle's Shed Experience (Gallery)<sup>11 SEP</sup>  
 Railway Precinct Yarranga Street Robertson  
 Dates: Sat 3 March to Sun 29th April. w/ends only  
 Hours: 10.30am – 3.30pm  
 Official Opening: Sat 3 March 11 am

For more details or entry form: P: 4885 1598 M: 0408 610 714  
[www.robertsonrailway.com.au](http://www.robertsonrailway.com.au)



### Isobel's book has been a hit.

The book is a little gem and local artist Regina Brewster has produced the most beautiful illustrations to go with the barnyard wisdom of 'Isobel - Hen House CEO'  
 Regina has won many prizes for her artwork, especially for her miniatures. Her work, and the book is available at local galleries.



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Happy Christmas to all.





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# Robertson

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## Christmas Gift Ideas

GREEN HEART OF THE SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS  
[www.robertson.nsw.au](http://www.robertson.nsw.au)



Gifts for all the family :



**Robertson Recollections** – a vast array of treasures for every taste. An antique is a lasting gift. Gift vouchers available ph 4885 1080

**Perfume and Skincare** body and skincare products, Hand made in Robertson. Available at Green Heart Gallery.

**Green Heart Gallery** Australian craft & original art, locally made leather goods great gifts for him or her. Hand made Christmas cards Ph 4885 2400

**Robertson Cheese Factory** - Cheese Shop- Café - gelato - local produce, collectables , gifts & artwork. Ph 4885 2000 or 4885 1133

**Illawarra Fly** - Treat the family to a walk over the treetops, see the sea & the fantastic views from the escarpment. Ph. 1300 362 881



**Village Woodworks** – Wood, Pottery and Homewares,, home of The Robertson Guild. Ph 4885 1328

**Robertson Supermarket & Bottle Shop** for the bubbles and the beer, Plus your grocery needs.

Don't wait for visitors, check out the local shops now.

LOCAL shops offer great variety

It is easy to park the car, saves paying extra for petrol; it helps you and the environment

**Light Horse Gallery**- Why not give a beautiful original artwork for Christmas?  
45 Hoddle Street.

Eating out

**Cafe Pirouette**- Relax after shopping with a great coffee. Village Centre BYO Ph 4885 1788

**Pizzas in the Mist** - great wood fired pizzas and pasta dinners, salads & desserts, eat in or take away. Hoddle St. Ph. 4885 1799

**3 Creeks Café** – classy café by day fine dining by night. Ph 4885 1889

B&B

**Green Gates B&B** offers a 10% discount over Christmas. Book early Ph 4885 1769

**Callander House B&B** Rural views, Queen Spa Suite ph 4885 1215

You can help, whenever possible

- avoid the bulk suppliers & multi-nationals
- visit the local shops
- buy Australian made goods
- spend locally especially on fresh food
- visit local attractions
- support local events.

We thank you and wish you all a

The above businesses  
**Happy Christmas**  
are members of the  
**Robertson Chamber of Commerce.**  
To join call Dorothy 4885 2400



**R.J Mackey** Real Estate

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Web: [www.rjmackeyre.com.au](http://www.rjmackeyre.com.au)

To Lets

\* **Burrawang \$330pw**  
4 bedroom, walking distance to school and shops.

\* **Robertson \$325pw**  
Bedsitter + studio room, pretty ocean views.

"Jamboree Park" Robertson \$1.7m

Approx 95 acres, original historic school house building, stock yards with loading ramp



"Taballa" Robertson \$1.7m

Approx 80 acres, 3 bed original weather board home, rural views, spring fed creek, town water.



Robertson \$327,000

3 bedroom home, pretty views, fence rear yard, open plan living, fantastic investment potential.



# LIGHT HORSE GALLERY ART STUDENTS FIRST EXHIBITION

Each Monday, during term time for the last year, had you visited the Light Horse Gallery here in Robertson you would have found a group of enthusiastic mature age students learning the basics of art, colour and design.

Under the expert tutorage of well-known local artist Kit Bullivant, this small group of 7 has been guided through the concepts of 'learning to see' – to draw, to identify the differences between colour and tone, the principles of perspective and ultimately to use their own imagination and skill to create an individual work of art.

On Saturday December 10 they will be holding their first exhibition as a group. On display will be a variety of their works spanning the whole year's development.

Everyone is invited to come along and help them celebrate their success over a glass of wine.

The exhibition will run until Christmas Eve Saturday December 24.



ADVERTISEMENT



**Gareth Ward MP**  
Member for Kiama  
*Working for Robertson*

Get in touch with Gareth:  
Phone 4232 1082 | Fax 4232 3577  
Email [kiama@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:kiama@parliament.nsw.gov.au)

Authorised by Gareth Ward MP, 125 Terralong Street, Kiama NSW 2533.



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## Summer Sense for Your Skin

Overexposure to both the sun and artificial ultraviolet (UV) radiation can cause sunburn, skin and eye damage and skin cancers. Australia has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world. At least 2 out of 3 Australians will be diagnosed with skin cancer before the age of 70.

UV radiation is the part of the sun's rays that damages skin. It is not related to temperature and can still be high on cool and overcast days. UV radiation passes through water and is strongest between 10 am and 3 pm.

### Being SunSmart

Protect your skin using a combination of SunSmart strategies including:

- Slip on sun- protective clothing. Cover as much skin as possible.
- Slop on SPF 30+ sunscreen
- Slap on a hat. Wear a wide-brimmed hat that shades face, head, neck and ears
- Seek shade
- Slide on sunglasses – close fitting wrap-around styles that meet Australian Standards are best
- Take extra care between 10am and 3pm when UV radiation is most intense
- Babies under 12 months should not be exposed to direct UV and should be well protected from the sun.
- More information on being SunSmart can be found at <http://www.sunsmart.com.au>.

### Sunscreens

- Use an SPF 30+ broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen.
- Apply to clean dry skin 20 minutes before going outside to allow time for it to bond to the skin.
- Re-apply sunscreen every two hours, or according to directions.
- Don't use a sunscreen product after it's expiry date.

### Sunburn

Sometimes, despite our best efforts to prevent it, many of us will still suffer from sunburn. There are of course varying degrees of sunburn, however there are few things that you can do limit the damage and aid recovery:

- Avoid further sun exposure until the redness, peeling and pain have disappeared.
- Drink plenty of water to replenish your fluid levels. Dehydration is another potentially dangerous side effect of too much exposure to the sun.
- Take cool showers and apply cool compresses.
- There are also number useful sunburn treatments available from pharmacies that can be rubbed or sprayed onto the skin. These products can provide symptom relief and help repair the skin.

By Nick Knowles M.Pharm



## ROBERTSON VILLAGE PHARMACY

Due to increased demand, we have decided to extend our opening hours to 5.30PM on weekdays. Saturday remains the same for now.

Open Mon to Fri: 9-5.30 and on Sat: 9-12  
Phone/Fax: 4885 2936

# COMMUNITY NOTICES



An Invitation to join our  
Christmas Tree Display  
held by the  
Uniting Church  
at Hoddle St,  
Robertson



Open 10am-3pm  
Friday 2nd December, 2011  
And Saturday 3rd—Sunday 4th December 2011.

Our display will include

- Themed Christmas Trees decorated by organisations and individuals from our local community.
- A Christmas display by our local school children.

All donations and monies raised will go to Special Projects within the Uniting Church

Entry for visitors will be a gold coin donation.  
Devonshire Tea will be available on all days for \$4.00

If you wish to participate in this event please contact Jean Tobler on 4885 1490

## 'Robertson & District Calendar 2012'

is available FREE from the Newsagent and most shops in the village.

Collect your copy now.

Behind the months there is a list of useful community phone numbers so hang a Calendar by the home phone and one at work too.

## Carols by Candlelight

Robertson Public School

Sunday 11th December



6-8 pm



### Foot Path Continues

The missing link - the new footpath/cycleway from the Post Office past Robertson Cheese Factory will join up with the completed section that continues on to Fountaindale Road. The work will be done some time in the first half of next year by WSC.

## CHRISTMAS SERVICES

### Anglican—Burrawang

18th December - 5.00pm Carols Service

### Anglican—Robertson

25th December - 8.00am Traditional Communion  
- 9.30am Contemporary Communion

### Uniting—Robertson

24th December - 6.00pm Christmas Eve Service

### Roman Catholic—Burrawang

24th December - 7.00pm Mass

### Australia Day 2012

2012 CITIZEN AND YOUNG  
CITIZEN



Nomination for Wingecarribee Shire Council's Citizen and Young Citizen of the Year are now open. Please complete a nomination form and return it to Council. Nominations close on Friday 13 January 2012. Nomination Forms available from WSC.

## TRISH EMMERICK REMEDIAL THERAPY

Remedial Massage, Reflexology, Reiki, Crystal Massage, Hot Stone Therapy, Flower Essences

Appointments in Robertson ph: 0415 673 955  
Health fund rebates: Pension, student & children's rates.



## XMAS SPECIALS LIGHT HORSE GALLERY

45 HODDLE STREET ROBERTSON

Looking for something special to give at Christmas?  
Come and visit us at the Gallery.

We have a wonderful range of specially commissioned affordable art, pottery, timber and bronze pieces. Also beautiful handcrafted cards, scarves & prints.

OPEN WED-SUN 10AM-4PM

## ROBERTSON in the GARDEN

Another year rushing to an end and Christmas is once more just around the bend. I hope that your gardens are a little better disciplined than mine is at the moment. There are many jobs to be carried out during December and January if you can find the time and the weather allows.

Prune all your spring flowering trees and shrubs to give them time to make flowering wood for next year. Shrubs such as diosma, rhododendrons, pieris and camellias will be all the better for a cut back and feed. Almost all native shrubs will perform better and live longer if you prune them regularly. Mulching your garden beds now whilst the soil is still moist should save you many waterings over the summer.

Keep a watch for all those tiny pests which seem to arrive with the warm weather. Aphids, thrips and whitefly can all damage new growth and flowerbuds. If you find that you are having trouble with these you could try an organic soap based product. With all this moisture slugs and snails are out in impressive numbers. If you want to reduce their numbers without poisoning your dogs, cats, lizards or birdlife, use Multiguard. This bait is iron based not poison based and will break down as a nutrient in the soil.

Many products are being developed with the safety of the gardener and the garden in mind. These products offer an alternative to those of us who care for the health of our environment but still want to win the battle against those pesky pests.

It is probably worth mentioning our favourite organic fertiliser once again. Healthy Earth Fertiliser is made from blood and bone, fish meal and rock phosphate. It contains no nitrates so is very safe for food crops. Artificial nitrates have been found to be carcinogenic and possibly find their way into the food chain via food crops. It will not add cadmium or mercury to your soils. If you read the fine print on many other fertilisers you will see that they contain measurable amounts of heavy metals best avoided.

Another organic product worth mentioning is Charley Carp. This product is made from carp sourced in our major waterways. Left in the rivers carp cause siltation and erosion and contribute to blue-green algae outbreaks. They compete with native fish species and are pushing many to extinction. Charley Carp fertiliser is an easy to use well-balanced product which helps out the environment in two ways.

Finally some heat which will push the vegetable garden along. Get your tomatoes and basil in now and take advantage of our short growing season. Lettuce, rocket and other leafy crops will also grow quickly now and can be picked leaf by leaf to add to fresh salads. Don't forget to harvest zucchini regularly as they grow so quickly once they get started. You could leave one on the bush and have a shot at the Robertson Show record!

Lin and I wish you all a Happy Christmas. Make time to sit in the garden and enjoy the fruits of your labour. Jill Keft.

### 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 - 3rd Sunday

### Roman Catholic

#### Burrawang

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



### Sunday Youth Night Church

1st Sunday of the Month

It's for everyone around high school age, starting at 6:30pm. We finish around 7:30 and then have some food till about 8pm.

Come and check it out - we are in the new building on Meryla Street Robertson, behind the old church building.

More info?

Call Jon Bracht on 4886-4326

#### 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 February. All advertising & submissions must be received by **15th January 2011**. 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 must be typed) Enquiries - 4885 1210

#### **Disclaimer**

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Editor : Barry Lee