



Robertson News

February 2014

Edition 99

www.robertson.nsw.au

Robertson Show

Fun, laughter and entertainment will be the top priorities at this year's Robertson Show, Friday and Saturday, March 7-8 and all is in readiness to make this year's event one of the best on record. Months of behind the scene work and preparation will come to fruition when the gates swing open on Friday morning with organisers emphatically stating the show will go ahead rain, hail or shine, unlike last year when Friday's program was severely interrupted by heavy rain. For more than 100 years Robertson has forged a reputation of being able to present one of the best country shows in the State and this year will be no exception with no stone left unturned to ensure that its reputation stays intact. Apart from the entertainment factor the show allows farmers from the surrounding district to showcase the best produce and livestock the Highlands has to offer, while inside the Hindmarsh Pavilion handcrafts of the highest quality will be on display. Last year's inclement weather forced the cancellation of the ring events but under the watchful eye of ringmaster and chief steward Sam Burns, our equine friends will be in action from early Friday until late Saturday with both horse and rider displaying excellent skills as they go through their routines. Another highlight on opening day and one that attracts a great deal of attention is the judging of the dairy cattle and chief steward John Glennon is excited about the standard of this year's entries.

On a lighter side pupils from a number of schools throughout the district will also participate in the "Spud Olympics" which comprises milking and shearing demonstrations and various novelty events. One must not forget side show alley and to simply wander around and try your luck on any of the stalls is a must thing to do. If you are interested in old machinery then you are warmly invited to inspect the vast array of engines and pumps where members of the Berrima and District Old Machinery Club will provide the background on any exhibit on display.



Without doubt the centre point of the show is the Hindmarsh Pavilion and it's not hard to spend countless time admiring the cakes, flowers, crafts, photography, fruit, farm produce, knitting, arts and sculpture - the list goes on and on - don't forget a visit to the pavilion while you are at the show. Saturday is Show Day, a day packed with activity from early morning right through to the demolition derby and fireworks display at night that brings down the curtain for 2014. In the meantime the ring event will be in full swing as will the beef cattle and dog show judging, all three favourites with show patrons.

The kids will be keen to enter their pets in the popular pet show and the list of unusual animals is simply amazing.

As the day rolls on you may wish to enter the bike races, hay stacking, pumpkin races, or pie eating contest. Another attraction is the poultry pavilion which has experienced an increase in popularity in recent years with a unique attraction being the chook washing demonstrations.

Cash prizes are up for grabs in the now famous potato races where the winner of the Stan Hunt Memorial junior event will receive \$150 (competitors 12-16 years). Sponsored by the Illawarra Fly the first prize is \$200 for the lady to cross the line while the men's victor will take home \$1000 courtesy of Elders. It would not be a Robertson Show without mentioning the "boys" in the broadcasting box, namely the two Bruces, Knight and Johnson, along with Pat Cleary. Their banter provides another form of laughter. There so much more to see and do at the Robertson Show, so jot down March 7-8 and we can guarantee you will not be disappointed.

The show cannot operate without the huge amount of help received from **volunteers** and the show society cannot thank everyone enough for your time and effort. If you have an hour or two to spare on either Friday or Saturday to lend a hand on the BBQ or gates, or for more details on any of the above, please contact Leesa Stratford 0411 537 600 or Sharon Makin on 0488428776. All details are now available on the show society's website or join its Facebook page "Robertson Show Society" and keep up to date with all the news.

SEE YOU AT THE SHOW!

robertsonshow@bigpond.com

www.robertsonshow.org.au



Letter to the Editor

Last October the Robertson Garden Club organised the open garden festival, the proceeds from which were split \$3000.00 to CTC, \$3000.00 to The Show Committee and \$3000.00 to the beautification of Robertson. Cheques have been handed to CTC and the Show Committee which leaves the beautification of Robertson to be carried out.

We have approached Council in relation to supplying and planting cherry trees to replace some that have died and this has been agreed to but has still to be carried out. At the meeting with a council representative we suggested that the area west of the service station could be mowed when other areas of Robertson are being mowed. After the first mowing the area could be maintained by the owner of the property or the club members. The problem with this area is that the gutter area cannot be maintained without traffic control, this means that the nature strip could look good but be spoilt with an out of control gutter area.

Our members are keen to show the community what the festival funds have been spent on and to this end we are arranging a meeting with our local councillor to discuss improvements that can be made and how the council can assist. An area that we are interested in improving is the western entry to the village around the railway crossing.

We hope that after this meeting residents will be able to see some progress

Joy Rees
Coordinator Open Gardens

FOUNTAINDALE GRAND MANOR - AKA HOTEL ROBERTSON AND RANELAGH HOUSE, TURNS 90 YEARS OLD



To celebrate, we are collecting memories to publish on our Facebook page to ensure our stories are shared and photos of our history are preserved for future generations.

Please send any photos or articles to info@fountaindale.com.au
Later in the year we will have an official celebration - but more of that as time grows closer!!

History

Fountainsdale Grand Manor, originally built in 1924 and opened as the Hotel Robertson, has had an interesting history. In 1930 it became an elite country club and renamed 'Ranelagh House' after Ranelagh Gardens in London. The club closed after 4 years, and the building was then used by the W.R.A.A.F during World War II. In 1947 the property became St. Anthony's College - a Franciscan Friary and Seminary. The College had its own railway platform on the Moss Vale - Unanderra line, which is still used today. In 1972 the property reverted to private ownership and has operated successfully as a hotel, conference and function centre since then.

Fountainsdale Grand Manor is an impressive 3-4 storey full brick construction English Manor house, built 810 metres above sea level. The upper floors provide uninterrupted views of the surrounding hills and valleys, with views to the ocean from the 4th floor loft. The ground floor offers an attractive entrance vestibule opening to a spacious guest lounge, restaurant, bar, conference facilities and a grand ballroom. Five open fireplaces add warmth and atmosphere to the hotel. Fountainsdale Grand Manor is set amidst 14 acres of finely landscaped grounds with sweeping lawns, traditional gardens, statues, fountains and its own weir and creek.

And don't forget to send your photos - info@fountaindale.com.au

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 10.00-5.00 (Closed Wed.)

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ROBERTSON RURAL FIRE BRIGADE'S YEAR IN REVIEW.

Your local Rural Fire Brigade continues to grow in both volunteer numbers and incidents attended. During 2013 the Robertson Brigade expanded to over 50 active and non active members. An active member is generally someone who participates in enough Brigade activities to maintain a current operational knowledge. Non active, (or Reserve) usually applies to members who have completed training but may not have attended a brigade meeting for an extended period of time.

Membership classifications can also be broken down to membership types. Operational, Operational Support, Administration, Reserve.

Operational, includes members that have fire-fighting qualifications and/or recognised experience. **Operational Support**, are Members who do not require fire-fighting qualifications but fulfil equally important roles. Eg Catering, Communications, Community Engagement, Chaplaincy and junior members. **Administration**, may include members who do not participate in field activities. But may help out with Brigade administration, fundraising and social events. **All these roles are important in maintaining a functional and relevant Rural Fire Brigade**

2013 saw the Robertson Brigade attend over 60 incidents, The most significant of these was the " Hall Road" fire that started in Balmoral Village on the 17th of October. As in all Fires of this nature the entire Wingecarribee RFS fleet was called upon to defend the shire against an aggressive fire in ideal fire conditions. Many of our Brigade members spent long shifts as part of the Southern Highlands team (Wingecarribee and Wollondilly LGA areas) fighting a fire that burned an area of over 15,000 hectares. Specifically the Robertson crews spent time at Balmoral Village, Yerrinbool, Hill Top, as well as areas in and around Yanderra, Bargo and Wilton. The Robertson Brigade sent at least one crew every day from the 17th of October through to the 23rd of October and I would like to thank those guys and their families for taking time out of their busy lives to help control and contain such a big fire.

The following photos show some of the younger guys from the Robertson Brigade working hard to control a Back Burn off the Picton Rd just south east of Wilton.



Over the last 12 months the Robertson Rural Fire Brigade has been well supported from individuals and community groups. In August we received a cheque for over \$1400 from the remaining members of the Robertson Rate payers Association. Like many groups within a small village The Rate payers association had come to a point where the members had decided it was time to wind up the organisation. In the process of closing off their books the committee elected to give the remaining funds to their local Fire Brigade ensuring that locally raised funds would benefit another Robertson community group.

Also during the year, we were the beneficiaries of over \$2000 from Tony and Anna Williams film " A Place Called Robertson".

Both these funds will be used to improve facilities at the Robertson Fire Station. Ensuring locally raised money stays local.



Australia Day—2014

One of the activities that is often associated with Australia Day is cricket matches. The Robertson Village Butchery set up their own model cricket match complete with Scoreboard, Members Stand, Ladies Stand, Sight Screens and even a streaker.



FETTLERS HERITAGE ART PRIZE 2014

Hi everyone – calling for entries in 2014 Fettleers Heritage Art Prize (Official Opening Sat 15th March)

Closing date for entries is Sunday 9 March between 10am and 12 midday at the Fettleers Shed Robertson Railway Precinct. This allows for those collecting their Robertson Show entries to pop them straight over to the Fettleers Shed for a chance to be part of this annual exhibition. Also that means the opening on Saturday 15 March at 11am can be supported by all those hard workers who could never find time because they were so busy getting ready for the Show. Double bonus. So see you there!

Please note that a change in subject matter has occurred – that has now become 'OPEN', no longer just vistas of local Wingecarribee Shire places or people. So what ever your heart fancies! The Robertson Heritage Railway has agreed that they will sponsor \$400 1st Prize and Robertson Chamber of Commerce are sponsoring \$150 2nd Prize in this category.

To keep the Railway flavour in the exhibition there is now an actual 'Railway theme' category where past or present imagery of any railway subject is welcome . Robertson Recollections has kindly agreed to specifically sponsor this prize category with \$150 voucher.

The Built Environment category is happening again, with Teknemodus Pty Ltd kindly sponsoring this category.

Any questions please call 0408 610 714, regards Penny

last years winning entries:

RHRSI Prize Winner (sponsors RHRSI, Green Heart Gallery, Doggone Graphics): Gina Brewster 'Winter Morning Robertson' (mixed media)

Robertson Chamber of Commerce Prize: 'Tracey Miller Corbett Plaza' (acrylic)

Robertson Recollections Prize: Viginia Hughes 'Livestock Loader' (watercolour, gouache)

Highly commended - RHRSI: James Kearnes 'Kangaloon Bull' (Mixed Media)

Commended - RHRSI: Mary Mowbray 'The CBD Rocks' (Oils)

The Teknemodus Built Environment Prize: Patrice Cooke '3 views triptych' (Oils)

Highly commended B/E: Monica Markovina 'My Home' (ink, patinated copper)

Commended B/E: Marjorie Parsons 'Carlos's Door' (watercolour)



HERITAGE ART PRIZE

2014 FETTLERS HERITAGE ART PRIZE
Entry closes SUN 9 MCH 10am – 12 noon
ROBERTSON HERITAGE RAILWAY PRECINCT YARRANGA ST

Work must suit the following NEW categories: select one (1)

(A) OPEN: any subject or medium not restricted by locality.

(B) RAILWAY theme: with a view to recording present vistas or recreating the past, can be people, building, train orientated.

(C) Built Environment: depicting past or present structures (building or machinery)

EXHIBITION RUNS WEEKENDS ONLY SATURDAY 15 MARCH (OFFICIAL OPENING AND PRIZE PRESENTATION 11AM) UNTIL SUNDAY 13 APRIL (VINTAGE CAR DAY)
judges TBA

OTHER ENQUIRIES re ART PRIZE CALL 0408 610 714 or 4885 1598
For entry form and details e: dog3gone@bigpond.com

1ST PRIZE \$400 OPEN CATEGORY



2ND PRIZE \$150 OPEN CATEGORY

**Robertson
RECOLLECTIONS**

Railway Theme Prize \$150 VOUCHER

teknemodus
pty ltd

**Built Environment Prize
\$100**



ANZAC DAY

FRIDAY 25th APRIL 2014
**Wreath Laying ROBERTSON
MEMORIAL 10.15am**

BURRAWANG MEMORIAL
Wreath Laying 11am
Followed by Service
BURRAWANG SCHOOL OF ARTS

ALL WELCOME



\$20 Menu

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Sunday, 13 April 2014

(The Station and Grounds will be open from 9.30am for entrants)



► **Historic Cars -**

We will be hosting an Historic Car Day including historic cars and commercial vehicles, restored or unrestored, the cars being 30 years or older vintage.

**Venue: Robertson Heritage Railway Station,
Yarranga Street, Robertson**

Open to all clubs and to individual car owners. As this is a fund-raising event for the heritage railway station this year we are asking for a donation of \$5.00 from each attending vehicle which will enter each car in a lucky car draw for a prize.

There will be no trophies or contests at this particular 2014 event.

For further information please contact **Steve Carey, President, on 02 4885 2393**
or Email: stevercarey@bigpond.com

► **2014 Annual Fettle's Heritage Art Prize Exhibition** in the Fettle's Shed Art Gallery. Entries close on Sunday 9 March 2014 (10am to 12midday in Fettle's Shed). Official opening & Prize presentation on Saturday 15 March then exhibition is open every weekend up until Sunday 13 April.

Artworks subjects are open on railway theme or built environment. Free entry but gold coin donation would be welcomed. All support for this exhibition, donations from raffles or product purchases help to maintain Robertson Heritage Railway Station and gardens.

For more detail: **Email: dog3gone@bigpond.com or Phone: 4885 1598 M: 0408 610 714.**
This exhibition is sponsored by RHRSI for first prize, and Robertson Recollections, Robertson Chamber of Commerce and Teknémodus for the special prizes.

► **Historic Working Machinery -**

There will be a very popular and interesting display of restored and functioning vintage working machinery in the "Robertson Common" grounds.

► The Station also has an interesting history display showing the history of Robertson and the railway in this area.

► There will also be a kiosk selling food and drink, great gourmet coffee, and railway museum and souvenirs.

► Also, visit the **Robertson Village Markets** just a short walk away (300 metres)

This promises to be a very interesting and enjoyable day with free entry to the public so come along to the Robertson Railway Common and join in to make the day a great success!

www.robertsonrailway.com.au

Many of you walk, ride or drive past the CTC@Robertson daily, but not so many tend to stop in for a coffee, a chat or to find out about and use the excellent facilities that we have in the village.

Currently your Community Technology Centre is undergoing a number of changes, changes aimed at increasing our appeal and relevance to you – the Community. We are incredibly lucky to have such a great resource in our midst – a multi functional building in the heart of the village. Yes, we do make very fine coffee, but so do the 14 or so other outlets in Robertson and we highly recommend that you support us all. We see our role as being one of a number of focal points for the community. Our aim is to support our village, its people and its businesses. We support local artists and do function as a gallery, but there are also a number of great galleries in Robertson that all need our support. We offer an excellent cinema, space for musicians and music performances. We also offer computer training and support, but in a nutshell we are unique in that you – the community – can determine how best we use our resources. Our aim is to provide a hub where we can meet and share all the things that make our village great. As the author Anthony Burgess once wrote "Without a sense of caring, there can be no sense of community."

A few dates for the diary:

11am Daily Weds through Saturday - "Community Coffee and a chat" - a place to meet new friends.

Saturday 1st March from dusk, Village Bonfire (behind CTC).

Gold coin donation to support our Rural Fire Service.

YOGA CLASSES

Robertson Community Centre, Caalong St

General Class

Monday evenings 6.30pm - 7.45pm. \$15.

Mums and Toddlers Class

Monday mornings 9.30am - 10.15am. \$10.

All welcome, no yoga experience necessary.

Contact Lyra: Tel: 0458 907 904

Email: yogawithlyra@gmail.com

Web: www.facebook.com/YogaWithLyra



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Caring for the Community

Quit Smoking

It'll be the best idea you've had all year

We all know that smoking causes a wide range of serious health problems for both the individual smoker and those around them. If that alone isn't a good enough reason to stop smoking there is also the rising cost of cigarettes that make it more and more difficult to sustain the habit. In any case, if you do decide to quit in the near future, it'll be the best idea you've had all year.

Research shows that most smokers want to quit smoking, but the challenge is maintaining this for the long term. If you have already tried to quit smoking and the withdrawal effects have made it hard to stop there are quit smoking aids such as Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT) products to help you put a stop to this habit for good.

NRT provides nicotine to reduce the cravings and withdrawal symptoms associated with quitting smoking. However they do not contain any of the other 4000 chemicals found in a cigarette. Nicotine replacement products come in many different forms including patches, lozenges, sublingual tablets, chewing gum, inhalers or mists. This allows you to choose the best option to reduce your withdrawal symptoms.

If NRT is not for you, there are also prescription medicines available from your doctor. Some people may also try hypnotherapy and acupuncture, although the success rates are often not as good. Whatever method you choose, even if it's going 'cold turkey', you still have to be committed to stopping smoking and be prepared to work at it.

The benefits of quitting smoking are vast and start within just a few hours.

- Within 8 hours your carbon monoxide level in your blood drops to normal.
- Within a few days your sense of taste and smell being to improve and breathing becomes easier.
- Within a few months your lung function may be increased by up to 30%
- After 1 year of not smoking your chance of having a heart attack is reduced by half
- After 5-15 years your stroke risk is reduced to that of a non-smoker
- After 10 years your risk of having a heart attack or stroke is similar to someone who has never smoked.

For more information about stopping smoking talk to your pharmacist, doctor or contact Quit on 137848 or www.quitcoach.org.au

By Nick Knowles

Pharmacist, Robertson Village Pharmacy

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 - 3rd Sunday

Roman Catholic

Burrawang

1st, 3rd, 5th Sundays – 8.00am

2nd & 4th Sundays – 5.00pm

Children's Holiday Club

Easter Holidays 2014

St John's Anglican will be running a Children's Holiday Club in the lead up to Easter this year, running on the mornings of the 15th to the 17th April, from 9.30am to 12noon.

The Club will be part of the



Programme being run across Anglican churches in the Sydney Diocese this year, particularly at Easter.

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 PO Box 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 2014**. 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. Avoid formatting text as much as possible. Hard copy must be typed) Enquiries - 4885 1210

Disclaimer

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Editor : Barry Lee