

# Robertson News

*robertson.nsw.au*

**August 2021**

ISSN 2652-1482 (Online)

ISSN 2652-1474 (Print)

**Edition 144**



Principal Gordon Parrish recently shared this photo on the Robertson Public School 150th Facebook Page—Lower Division 1950 including family names Pointing, Wallace, Missingham, Sutton, Planer, Mitchell, Bowden, Bisby, Handley, Smith, Cayford, Ross, Jenkins, Mauger, Bucknell, Gay, Wheeler and Vandenberg.

The open day and fair in the school grounds will include memorabilia displays, market stalls, live entertainment, food, rides, fun games and much much more. The celebrations will culminate in a dinner on Saturday night. The School is also in the early stages of updating a book which was printed for the Centenary in 1972 with the aim of having it published and ready to launch on the day.

The organising committee needs everyone to start the search for their photos and any memorabilia from years gone by at Robertson Public. "Let's all work together to make this celebration one that will be remembered" says the Committee.

## Your Memories Of Robertson School Are Needed!

Get out those shoeboxes of photos and old albums and help with the celebration of the 150th anniversary of Robertson Public School.

Save the date for the anniversary celebrations on Saturday 26 March 2022. There will be an open day, a fair, displays and a special dinner.

If you can help in any way or have any queries, please contact the School Office on Ph 48851284 or email the Principal at

[Gordon.parrish@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:Gordon.parrish@det.nsw.edu.au)

### Also in this edition.....

**P3 —Community benefits from Op Shop Sales**

**P4—Robertson School Now Has a Song!**

**P5—Musical talent in Robertson**

**P6—Winter advice from Robertson Fire Brigade**

**P 7- Renovations at School of Arts**

**P10—Now Showing in Robertson**

*and lots more.....*

**NEW DATES!**

**October 29 – 31, 2021**

Moss Vale Showground  
Southern Highlands

**AgriShow**



**SMALL FARMS & FIELD DAY EXPO**



## Come and See What's New!

**PRODUCTS, SERVICES AND SOLUTIONS TO EXPLORE AND DISCOVER, LIVE DEMO ARENAS.**

Supported by  
Destination Southern Highlands.  
Strategic Sponsor



Bring the whole family. Just **\$10 entry** and kids **under 16** enter for **FREE!**

[www.agrishow.com.au](http://www.agrishow.com.au)

Phone: 9452 7575  
Email: [agrishow@expertiseevents.com.au](mailto:agrishow@expertiseevents.com.au)



Organised by  
**EXPERTISE EVENTS**

# Robertson Open Gardens Cancelled But Plant Sale Goes On

By Karen Wilmott, Robertson Garden Club



Due to the restrictions and uncertainty of these COVID times, Robertson Garden Club has sadly had to cancel the 2021 Open Gardens event.

However, the Annual Plant Sale will still be held on 9th and 10th October. There is always a huge

range of acclimatised local plants for sale. Watch this space!!

## Update from Robertson & District Aquatic Centre

RADSPA Chair, Neville Fredericks shared this update on the Robertson and District Aquatic Centre Facebook page on 7 July.

"This week our committee received advice that we were unsuccessful with our application for a grant from the NSW Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund. Our application was for an emergency refuge

and multi-purpose indoor sports centre. The total grant fund available was \$250 million and applications totalled \$1,600 million. Appreciation is expressed to Mark Jones of Edmiston Jones Architects who assisted our committee with project cost estimates for the application.

The outcome of our committee's intense efforts over the holiday period to develop the project concept and lodge the application remains positive. We now have a more suitable site available and a plan for a multi-purpose complex that if funded would serve a wide range of indoor recreational needs of Robertson and district residents.

Our committee's view is that by making the proposed building an emergency accommodation centre, the prospects of attracting grant funding would be enhanced. Furthermore, the operational viability of the proposed centre would be significantly improved with a wider range of uses compared to a stand-alone swimming pool.

Our committee intends to engage with the Dept. of Regional NSW (DRNSW) for a feedback session and to gain a better understanding of upcoming grant opportunities. In this regard, we have been advised that the Australian Government will be announcing a \$280 million Black Summer Bushfires Grants programme in the next few weeks. With regard to the insurance claim related to the building collapse, your committee has completed compilation of all the insurers requests for information and we are hopeful of completion of a negotiated settlement of our claim in the next few months.

Our gratitude is expressed for the encouragement received from many of our members. Please feel free to contact me on 0409 717 919 if you wish to discuss any matter relating to our committee's work."

### Contribution Guidelines

The submission deadline for the October 2021 edition is September 15 2021. Please submit all articles and event notices to [editor@robertsonctc.org.au](mailto:editor@robertsonctc.org.au).

All submissions, advertising and payments must be received by this date to ensure inclusion. Any material received after this date will be held over for the next issue. Submissions may be modified at the editor's discretion.

**Disclaimer:** This newsletter is an independent publication under the auspices of the CTC Robertson. The ideas presented are not necessarily those of the editors or the CTC Robertson. Statements and opinions presented in the publication are made in good faith and the editor and CTC Robertson do not take any responsibility for those statements and opinions, any inferences drawn from them or actions and charges that may result from them. The editor reserves the right to not print any item that is defamatory to any person or organisation or that is anonymously sent.

All of the production and distribution of the Robertson News is done by volunteers.

CTC Robertson is managed by the Robertson Shed Inc. PO Box 3069, Robertson NSW 2577. Ph: 02 4885 2665 [info@robertsonctc.org.au](mailto:info@robertsonctc.org.au)

### Advertise in Robertson News

#### Advertising Rates (per bi-monthly edition)

Front page banner 190 x 60mm **\$200**  
Back page banner 190 x 60mm **\$165**  
Inside page banner 190 x 60mm **\$130**  
Inside page small ad 90 x 60mm **\$65**

Full page (4 x banner price) and half page ads (2 x banner price) also available.

Discounts for multiple prepaid bookings.

All advertising enquiries to [advertising@robertsonctc.org.au](mailto:advertising@robertsonctc.org.au)  
Further details at [www.robertson.nsw.au/advertise-with-us.html](http://www.robertson.nsw.au/advertise-with-us.html)





Military Motorcycle Club with new kitchen equipment and the Robertson/Burrawang Rovers Soccer Club who needed to replace goalie uniforms. These local groups all contribute to the fabric of the Robertson village community in their various ways and we are very happy to offer some much needed funds.

If your group could do with an injection of funds, please remember that we have quarterly rounds of applications with the next due by the end of September.

We are happy to discuss your project during the planning stage and information is available from our website at: [www.therobertsonburrow.org.au](http://www.therobertsonburrow.org.au) or Grants Officer, Bill [info@therobertsonburrow.org.au](mailto:info@therobertsonburrow.org.au)

## End of an Era

With the closure of Robertson Newsagency last month (newsagency services now available at Enhance petrol station) came the retirement of Hope Waters and her constant public presence in the Robertson community. In this role, Hope has been the go to person in Robertson for over 45 years particularly in regard to matters of local knowledge and history.

On behalf of the Robertson community we would like to say a big public thank you to you Mrs Waters and best wishes for a well earned rest in your retirement!

## Community Benefits from Op Shop Sales

By Karen Wilmott, Robertson Burrow Community Op Shop  
We are pleased to announce that a second round of grants from our Op Shop proceeds have been awarded, totalling \$2,500.

We have been able to support the Table Tennis group with the purchase of a new table, the Diggers

## When is the Council Election?

Local Government elections in NSW were due to be held on Saturday 4 September but due to COVID19 issues the State Government announced on 24 July that the elections were being postponed to Saturday 4 December.

However this raised the question of what would happen in the Wingecarribee Shire as the Interim Administrator's term was meant to finish at the September election. After an initial announcement from the Dept of Local Government indicating that councillors who continue to hold their civic offices would resume their offices from 4 September to 4 December, this advice was revised by the Minister for Local Government (supported by local State members) pending further review of the legal options.

At the Council meeting on 28 July, the Interim Administrator, Viv May, gave notice of his intention to recommend in his final report in August that the Minister consider a public inquiry into Wingecarribee Council under s438u of the Act. It is understood that if the Minister proceeds with this enquiry, our local election would be postponed for a further 12 months. Watch this space....

So much more than a nursery...

Celebrating Australian plants & products.

See our onsite garden design studio in action  
Friendly and knowledgeable staff  
Open every day 9am to 4pm

[www.nativegrace.com.au](http://www.nativegrace.com.au)  
[@nativegracelandscapes](https://www.instagram.com/nativegracelandscapes)

**Native Grace**

Creating beautiful Australian gardens

OPEN 7 DAYS  
9am to 4pm  
98 Hoddle Street  
ROBERTSON NSW 2577  
02- 4858-0368

# News From the Shed

By John Kennis, RMSI President



The Shed has grown - we now have over 50 registered members, 22 being women. The women are doing exceptional projects for themselves -hoping the men can start to show the women they are also able.

We have had some good things happen to the Shed—a slow combustion stove donated by the fireplace studio in Moss Vale, a shed load of Bosch battery tools donated by Gubbins Mitre 10 at Moss Vale and installation

of the fireplace from Fire Fitters. We are so lucky to have the generosity of small businesses in the Southern Highlands.

The ladies are doing exceptionally well and we are, along with the ladies, preparing cricket bats for our local artists in support of Where There's a Will charity with Ange Clarke as the founder.



One of the Ladies' Projects

Our shed is improving all the time, with the installation of our new dust extractor system and our efforts thanks to Mark Keech and Claire Hewat applying for grants to buy new equipment.

We are a great shed and new members are always welcome. We have a great bunch of men and

ladies, so if you want to meet other like-minded people, be part of group who want to have fun, come and join us. Email or call us, check out our website [robertsonmensshed.org.au](http://robertsonmensshed.org.au) or our facebook page. Men's Shed Tuesdays 9am-3pm, Women's Shed Fridays 10am-1pm.

## Raise Your Voice!

**Did you know that Robertson Public School now has a school song? With music composed by Andrew Ford and lyrics written by Andrew in collaboration with students, staff and parents, it is stirring stuff! Perhaps a good song for us all?**

*At Robertson School we stand up tall  
And always help our friends.  
It doesn't matter when we fall:  
Cos that's not where it ends.  
Dare to tell the truth. Dare to stand up tall.  
Stand up for what's right. Be prepared to fall.  
Dare to learn. Don't give up.  
Wear a hat. Raise your hand.  
Eat your greens. Wipe your nose.  
Comb your hair. Raise your voice.  
Dare to be yourself. Dare to have a go.  
Dare to get it wrong. Dare to go again.  
Dare to tell the truth.  
Always help your friends.  
Stand up for what's right.  
THIS is where it ends.*

[Check out the performance of the song on the Robertson Public School facebook post 29 July 2021]

Jill Twigger (singing teacher) and Andrew Ford (composer) at the premiere of the new school song at the School assembly on 25 June



### Buckles Painting Service

License 23335C

**For all your painting needs**

**Domestic and Commercial Work**



Phone 0409 249 072 or 4885 1684

**BOOK  
NOOK  
2577**

**Robertson Books  
OPEN**

BookNook2577 sells New Books across all genres and offers a personalised book ordering service.

Robertson is a village full of literary and artistic talent, which you can experience first hand in our little shop. So please do come and visit our tiny hideaway, right in the heart of the Village of Robertson.

*Happy Reading!*

\* Temporary Trading Hours Thur-Mon 10am-12.30pm at 91 Hoddle Street .  
To place an order please call us on 0412 627 706 or [booknook2577@gmail.com](mailto:booknook2577@gmail.com)  
Facebook @booknook2577 Instagram #booknook2577





The little town of Robertson has not only punched well above its weight as far as the number of musicians who are active members of the orchestra, but it has also provided the SHSO with one of its two patrons in the person of composer and broadcaster Andrew Ford OAM.

SHSO musicians from Robertson are Jill Twigger, David Ricketts, David Mee, Rebecca Coulter and Lisa Kawai. The "team" behind the creation of the orchestra and its continuing success as a significant feature in the cultural life of the Southern Highlands is Dr Allan Stiles and his wife, Jenette. Allan is one of the founders of the SHSO and its Artistic Director and Conductor while Jenette is the Chair of the SHSO Board of Directors. And both are long-term Robertson residents. Peter Glass, also a Robertson resident, is a member of the Board. What a wealth of talent in the little town of Robertson!

L-R David Ricketts, Dr Allan Stiles, Andrew Ford, Lisa Kawai, Jill Twigger, David Mee. Photo—Chris Donaldson

# Robertson is Alive With Musical Talent!

By April Butcher

**Robertson community members make a huge contribution to the Southern Highlands Symphony Orchestra.**

The Southern Highlands Symphony Orchestra (SHSO) was formed in 2014 and has over 60 musicians drawn from regional towns ranging from Campbelltown to Goulburn, as well as the South Coast of NSW.

Join the SHSO on their journey from opera to film at their next concert series on Saturday 18 September at 7:30pm and Sunday 19 September at 2:30pm in the McGrath Hall at Chevalier College, Burradoo (subject to COVID restrictions). Find out more at [www.shso.org.au](http://www.shso.org.au)



## Trish Emmerick Remedial Therapies



Dip RM, Dip Reflex, Dip Nursing  
Remedial Massage, Reflexology  
Therapist  
Robertson and Bowral Clinic  
0415673955  
[trishemmerick@hotmail.com](mailto:trishemmerick@hotmail.com)

'Health is the greatest possession' Lao Tzu

**VOTE 1**  **JENNIFER BOTT AO**

-  Experienced Leadership
-  Growth By Design
-  Connecting Healthy Communities

**WORKING FOR YOUR FUTURE** has eight candidates including **CLAIRE HEWAT**, an active member of the Robertson community.

[workingforyourfuture.com.au](http://workingforyourfuture.com.au)

**WINGECARRIBEE SHIRE COUNCIL ELECTIONS**



**WORKING  
FOR YOUR  
FUTURE**

Authorised by Michaela Bolzan 377 Bong Bong St, Bowral NSW 2576

NB This is a paid political advertisement included to assist in informing the community and is not an indication of the views of the publisher or editor.



Every year the Robertson RFS brigade gets called to assist at motor vehicle accidents. We're always happy to help the community, but we'd rather you stayed safe on the roads. Driving on wet and icy roads needs a little additional care.

Motorists should be mindful of black ice and take care behind the wheel when faced with heavy rain, sleet or snow. Frost can cause ice to form on our roads. Add some light rain and you've got a slippery ride.

- Clear ice and frost off your windscreen and mirrors before you set off to make sure you can see clearly.
- Never drive on flooded roads.
- Look out for each other – Make sure to take extra care with ice and snow on the road, always have vehicle fog or head lights on when vision is difficult and braking should be gentle and early.
- Check the Live Traffic NSW website for live updates.

In an emergency always call 000 (triple zero).

## Latest Advice from Robertson RFS Brigade

### Notify before you burn

August and September are popular months to clean up around your yard before the fire season starts on 1 October. Stay safe and avoid unnecessary emergency calls by following some simple steps. You might avoid a hefty fine too.

Here are a few things to think about before you burn:

1. Check which properties are able to burn and the steps to follow before burning [www.wsc.nsw.gov.au/Environment/Pollution-Information/Backyard-Burning](http://www.wsc.nsw.gov.au/Environment/Pollution-Information/Backyard-Burning)
2. Notify the RFS of your planned burn, at least 24 hours before you light up. **Use the QR code** or go to [www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/notify](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/notify)
3. Check if a total fire ban is in place before you burn – conditions can change rapidly
4. Be neighbourly - notify your neighbours at least 24 hours before you plan to burn.

### Stay safe on winter roads

The daffodils are out and you might feel a spring in your step but winter isn't quite over yet.

## It's Census Time!

Australia's national census is being held on 10 August. The Census is a snapshot of who we are and tells the story of how we are changing. Census data is used to inform important decisions about transport, schools, health care, infrastructure and business. It also helps plan local services for individuals, families and communities. The Australian Bureau of Statistics advises that the 2021 Census has a number of new features.

**Flexibility:** For the first time in Australia's Census history, there will be a window of time to complete the Census, rather than a single night, so you can fill in your form at a time that best suits you.

**New topics:** There will be new questions in the 2021 Census, the first significant changes to questions collected in the Census since 2006. The new questions are on long-term health conditions, such as arthritis and diabetes, and on defence force participation.

**Variety of completion options:** You will be able to complete your Census online, on your mobile device, on paper, or with help from Census staff.

Households are starting to receive their Census instructions now. Find out more at [www.abs.gov.au/census/planning-2021-census/overview](http://www.abs.gov.au/census/planning-2021-census/overview)



**BAXTER  
BUILDING  
& JOINERY**

0413 286 051

*Over 25 years experience,  
specializing in new builds,  
first floor additions and renovations.*

baxterbuilding.com.au  
Builders Lic No: 332327C

**Robert Handley—Electrician**  
0419 243 520 Lic. 110210C  
[robertsonelectricalservices.com.au](http://robertsonelectricalservices.com.au)



- Phone & Data
- Smoke Alarms
- Safety Switches
- Stoves
- Hot Water
- TV Aerials
- Underground Power

*Serving Robertson & District Since 1999*



# Cockatoo Run Dates to be Confirmed

By Ian Wallace, RHRS President

The next scheduled 'Cockatoo Run' heritage tourist train was for Sunday, 15 August 2021 but, due to recent Covid-19 restrictions, that date has been cancelled. The train has been tentatively re-scheduled for Saturday, 21 August 2021.

Please understand that, during Covid-19, things can change on a daily basis and that the re-scheduled time of 21 August is also subject to restrictions or cancellation.

This is a frustrating time for intending passengers and train operators alike, but all we can do is work within the rules governing public transport.

For updated information please consult 'Train updates' in the window of Robertson railway station.

# Renovations Continue at School of Arts

By John Johnston, Secretary, RSOA

The Robertson School of Arts has received a Grant from the New South Wales Government, Crown Lands Department for \$97,554 for a bitumen

driveway and renovating the stage inside the hall. This work is part of an ongoing plan to bring the hall up to safety standards and repair anything that needs attention to keep the property in good condition into the future. This work started in June this year. This old building is 137 years old and is a historical landmark for the town as well as a community hall and an evacuation centre in times of emergencies. It is important that this building be kept in good working order for the village and the wider district.

We are in need of some new members for the Committee to help maintain the property and if anyone, old or young is interested and would like to join please contact the Secretary on 0407004395. At the moment most of our members are elderly and we could do with some help with mowing, whipper snipping, tree pruning and it would be good to get some new ideas. We hold meetings 4 times per year and the joining fee is only \$2 per year. Hope to hear from any interested persons.

# Vale Jo Blackmore

Readers will recall the "Story of Jo" featured in the October 2020 edition of the Robertson News.

It was with great sadness that the news was received that Jo had passed away on 2 July. A service was held for Jo in Bowral on 13 July. Her funeral notice described her as an extraordinary and determined person who helped so many in her career.



**Surf**  
**ELECTRICAL**  
KANGAROO VALLEY

CALL BILL OR DEBBIE  
0424 867 994 / 0401 759 241

✉ info@surfelectrical.com.au

👍 Like us on Facebook!

Review us on Google ★★★★★

**AREAS OF SERVICE:**  
ROBERTSON / BURRAWANG / WILDES MEADOW /  
FITZROY FALLS / KANGAROO VALLEY

- Fully Insured • 20+ years experience
- Residential • Commercial • Industrial

ABN 70 845 107 241 LIC No. 253095C

 **MEMBER**  
national electrical and communications association

## Robertson Fruit Shop



Currently closed for annual break  
Look forward to seeing you when we re-open!

Shop B 99 Hoddle Street  
Robertson  
Ph 0403034569

[www.facebook.com/robertsonfruitshop/](http://www.facebook.com/robertsonfruitshop/)



# R.J Mackey

Real Estate

Licensed Real Estate, Stock & Station Agent

**FOR SALE**  
**Robertson**  
2 acres with studio room, electricity, town water, sewerage, springfed water.

**\$899,000**

**TO LET**  
**Fitzroy Falls**  
One bedroom self contained cottage with own fenced yard, slow combustion wood fire.

**\$325pw**

Open 7 days "Ackworth" 4970 Illawarra Highway ROBERTSON  
Ph: 02 4885 1329 Mob: 0418 451 988 [rjmackeyre@gmail.com](mailto:rjmackeyre@gmail.com) Find us on Facebook

# Reflections on Borders

By Graham Thomas, Minister, Robertson/Burrawang Anglican Church

As I write (5 July) I'm about to head on holidays, it's actually my 3rd attempt at this trip up into Queensland in the past 18 months, and boy isn't it great to live in the Wingecarribee! I'm thankful the borders into Queensland are open to us at this point anyway. Fingers crossed!

The whole border closure issue did get me thinking about God though, don't worry I'm not going to get into the politics of border closures though. That sort of discussion needs to be had with a beer at the pub!

Ok, so here's what I've been thinking; God is not a God who closes borders! Now that needs some explanation. God actually breaks down borders, and the biggest border is our own rejection of God. That rejection separates us from our God. And we all do it. Our pushing God away causes a spiritual border wall to be erected. And perhaps pushing the analogy is a little too far, when we reach the border if we are still pushing God away in our lives, then we won't be allowed in! God won't accept us if we are still rejecting him. Which makes a lot of sense really.

So what needs to happen? Well forget travel declaration forms, we need the border wall torn down! That's where Jesus, God's Son comes into the picture. He's no policeman checking forms, he breaks the wall down, he tears down the border so we can just drive straight through! If we're with Jesus, that border wall is as good as gone.

I do hope I'm able to get into Queensland and I reckon my chances are OK at the moment, the Queensland Government do tend to close borders at the drop of a hat! But here's one thing I can be sure about; as I believe in Jesus, there is no barrier anymore between me and God. My pushing God away in my life is forgiven, God does it all, there's no restrictions, no borders, I can be right with God forever!

Romans 5:1-2 says, Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand.

If this has got you thinking and you'd like to find out more, can I invite you to come along to one of our services or feel free to get in touch with me.

## REGULAR SERVICES

Our regular service times at Robertson are:  
Sundays @8am Traditional (1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> of the month) @10am Contemporary Family (weekly)  
We meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month at St David's Burrawang at 4.30pm.  
[robertsonanglican.org.au](http://robertsonanglican.org.au) ph: 4885 1210


## Bowral Classic Set to return in October

Bicycling Australia, is excited to host for its 5th year, the Bowral Classic on 16 & 17 of October 2021. After cancelling the 2020 event due to COVID-19, the cycling event has attracted strong interest from riders and will no doubt sell out.

The Bowral Classic will see over 3,500 cyclists from across the country participate in one of four road cycling events: the 150km Maxi Classic, the 120km Challenge Classic, 85km Rouleurs Classic or 35km Social Classic.

The courses have been designed to showcase the best of the region, passing through the rolling hills of Bowral, Berrima, Sutton Forest, Robertson and Kangaloon.

There will be limited road closures which will be communicated to residents within the coming months. Residents are urged to stay off the roads when possible and be mindful of cyclists. For more information on road closures, please visit [www.bowralclassic.com.au/community](http://www.bowralclassic.com.au/community)



Robertson Village  
Pharmacy

Shop 2, 101-103 Hoddle Street  
Robertson NSW 2577  
Ph: 02 4885 2936

Opening Hours:  
9:00am-5:30pm Mon-Fri  
9:00am-12:00pm Sat

Your town, Your Pharmacy



**ROAD CLOSURE INFORMATION**  
AVAILABLE

L'Étape Australia by Tour de France is in town on the weekend of the 27th and 28th November 2021.

Road closures will be in place throughout the area on **Sunday 28th November 2021.**



SCAN ME

**VISIT**  
[www.letapeaustralia.com/community](http://www.letapeaustralia.com/community)  
to see the road closures near you.

**EMAIL**  
[community@letapeaustralia.com.au](mailto:community@letapeaustralia.com.au)  
to have your questions answered.





# Loneliness—the last taboo

By Michael D Breen

We talk about everything else: death, sex and money. What do you think about loneliness?

Do you feel lonely? From time to time? Mostly? Rarely? Is it getting better or worse? What can you/we do about it?

There is robust evidence that social isolation and loneliness significantly increase risk for premature mortality. Many nations around the world would suggest we are facing a 'loneliness epidemic' so what can be done about it?

Loneliness is the gap between the amount of contact people have and how much contact they want. It is there amongst married people and single people where there are insufficient mutual relationships. It is greatest among people at both ends of life. Among young people 15 to 25 and those older than 75.

Both lonely groups believe people get impatient with them. Both feel that people don't care about them or value or respect them.

Ok, so what can be done about it? Quite a lot on a personal level, with relatives and friends and at the community level and at Robertson.

Individually we can recognise loneliness is not unusual. We can bust the stigma around admitting loneliness. We can recognize there is nothing wrong with the lonely person. But that can be hard to see when everyone is on their phones closed off.

In Robertson transport, just getting to places, is an issue which isolates older people. Whether it is lack of proper footpaths, public transport, illness or access to volunteer drivers, transport is not easy.

The Men's and Women's Shed is a wonderful amenity for people to join one another to talk, to make things or just to be. And it is at the centre of town.

Individually we can ask ourselves what we tell ourselves inside our heads about being alone and wanting more contact with other people. There is a choice between telling ourselves we are victims of isolation or telling ourselves that we can do things to contact other people.

When the candidates for election to the Wingecarribee Council show up ask them what they understand about loneliness and what are their values and plans for combatting isolation.

The CTC offers help for people to navigate

computers and online matters. Join or form a group which meets for coffee (there are nine places for coffee, I think).

The Jigsaw group of associations and groups around Robertson which is being formed can do a lot to notice isolated people and to offer a welcome to those who want to join groups or volunteer or knit together.

But probably the simplest, the easiest and most common day to day thing is just saying "Good day" to people we see. That can be expanded into a longer sentence or a chat or not, as feels comfortable.

One stand out lack in Robertson is some advocacy service for older, younger, less included people and others to help people find out how to access health, community services, transport and other service agencies. Not just bland brief curt instructions but genuine assistance to work to get people what they need and are entitled to by law and charity. Even something as simple as a once a week help, like the JP service offers, by someone who understands their way around the bureaucracy and can argue for the person in need.

Jodi Rogers, the dating coach on the TV program, *Love on the Spectrum*, says when she goes to the supermarket she chooses the most isolated person and asks them for help finding things. She is never rejected and mostly warmly welcomed.

Is there a NSW  
Government  
issue I can help  
you with?

Contact me  
today



Wendy

**TUCKERMAN MP**

Member for Goulburn

02 4822 6444 goulburn@parliament.nsw.gov.au  
 WendyTuckermanMP wendytuckerman.com  
 167-169 Auburn Street, Goulburn NSW 2580  
 PO Box 168, Goulburn NSW 2580

Authorised by Wendy Tuckerman MP, Shops 1 & 2, 167-173 Auburn Street, Goulburn NSW 2580.  
Funded using parliamentary entitlements.

# Now Showing in Robertson

There is a range of exhibitions at local galleries and exhibition space.

## At CTC Robertson



Traditional farm yard scene by Lee Bogat

Opening on 5 August is a new exhibition by husband and wife team Lee Bogat and Robbert Smit with greatly varying styles. Lee's work is influenced by her native country Russia and depicts traditional farm yard scenes. Her work is methodical and deliberate. A delightful exhibition to enjoy in winter! Lee also has a range of her cards available for sale at the CTC. Robbert has been involved in the film industry where he started as an animator and story board artist, graduating to being a director on films such as *Footrot Flats* and *Blinky Bill* as well as advertising campaigns. Based on this cinematic background his drawing has more of an illustrative nature.

The exhibition continues to 28 August and is open 10am-4pm Thur-Fri and 9am-1pm on Sat.

## At the SHAC

There are three beautiful and very different botanical exhibitions continuing until August 9—Stephanie Tetu's paintings in *Precious* Elaine Musgrave's Watercolour in *Art in Nature* and Jack Buckley's Ink and Embroidery in *Amongst the Gums*.



Liliun formosum seed pods, Elaine Musgrave

'We warmly welcome Jennings Kerr Gallery to our creative precinct. James Kerr is co director of Chalkhorse Gallery in Sydney and has relocated to the Southern Highlands. We look forward to his opening show on Saturday August 7 at 2pm" says The SHAC President Jane Cush.

The SHAC AGM will be held in Sunday August 8 at 4.30pm. If you'd like to be eligible to vote in their Committee members, please go to their website and join up as a Member, just \$20 pa. Find out more at [www.theshac.com.au/agm-2021](http://www.theshac.com.au/agm-2021)

The SHAC is currently open 10am-4pm Saturdays and Sundays (reduced hours due to COVID) and most works can also be purchased online.

## Author Talks

Maria from Book Nook 2577 is launching an exciting new series of author talks—*Wednesdays with Writers*.

The inaugural session planned for 25 August at the Robertson Hotel 11am-2.30pm is with Robertson's own hero, Air Commodore John Oddie sharing his extraordinary autobiography—*Flight Command, From the Farm to the Frontline*.

Find out more and book at ticket at [www.facebook.com/booknook2577](http://www.facebook.com/booknook2577)



## YOGA



With  
**Jennifer Robinson,**  
Life Consultant, Yoga &  
Meditation Teacher.

**Yoga, Self Knowledge & Light courses & private coaching sessions held at The White Lotus in Robertson or online.**

General Yoga for Winter Warmth 8 week Course series starting the week of Monday 2nd August. Classes held in three formats - in person, zoom and conference call simultaneously. COVID 19 plan in place. Spaces fill quickly. All are welcome.

Find out more at [www.whitelotusinspiration.com](http://www.whitelotusinspiration.com) or phone 0407 771 828 or email [info@whitelotusinspiration.com](mailto:info@whitelotusinspiration.com)

**Alignment, Balance, Heartness**



# CTC Robertson News

Liz Messih, CTC Robertson Manager

Hello everyone. I'm the new Manager at the CTC starting in early July. Thank you to outgoing Manager Lucinda Halbert who has made a very positive impact at the CTC in a short time. I've had a very warm welcome from the wonderful Board and Volunteers associated with the CTC and am looking forward to continuing the good work. It is a very friendly team at the CTC and I'm sure if you've ever visited you will have experienced this for yourself!

My husband and I moved to Robertson last December and I'm enjoying getting to know the town and the community. My background is in Social Work and I have been employed in community centre management for quite a few years ... most recently as the manager of a large neighbourhood centre providing services in Sydney's inner and south west. Most of my experience in this field has been in community development and in community based aged care.

Unfortunately the rising cases of Covid from mid June in Sydney and restrictions in surrounding areas have had an impact on some of the CTC planned activities. With some attendees and presenters for workshops coming from Covid hot spots we have needed to cancel quite a few events and these will be rescheduled when it is safe to do so. Our thoughts are with everyone affected by the latest outbreak and let's hope it is under control soon.

Our July exhibition was a big success with many visitors and art works sold.



CTC President, Jenny Kena, with one of Vivienne Hellier's works.

This was a very special exhibition featuring the works of Vivienne Hellier who was planning an exhibition at the CTC, when she died suddenly in late May. Her daughter, Jess wanted to honour and celebrate her mother's wishes, and the exhibition was the result. It was a joint show, and included digital images by Vivienne's grandson Thomas and

paintings by Catriona Anderson, her friend.

Over the last couple of months the CTC Committee has developed our Strategic Plan which will give us a framework for activity over the next few years. This is an important document for us as it clearly defines our purpose and vision for the CTC and the community ... and how we are going to achieve it or work towards it. Once it is formally adopted it will go on the CTC website.

CTC Robertson has recently been accepted as a Network Partner in the Be Connected program. Be Connected is funded by the Australian Government with the aim to increase digital literacy and confidence for Australians



**CTC**  
ROBERTSON  
COMMUNITY  
TECHNOLOGY  
CREATIVITY



Australian Government

**Be Connected**  
Every Australian online.

**Network  
Partner**

over the age of 50. This has been a core activity at the CTC for nearly 20 years and we are pleased to sign up and hope to start offering the workshops in September. Workshops will be free and it is also a chance to learn with others in a relaxed and fun environment. Learners can bring their own laptop or iPad or use one of the devices we will have available at the CTC.

A small grant from Be Connected has funded the purchase of a dongle allowing our Projector to go wireless. This is a terrific improvement and makes presentations at the CTC seamless (and cordless) and no step ladders needed.

We are currently looking to recruit Digital Mentors in the Be Connected Program. Mentors will join our current volunteer team and assist learners in small groups with increasing their digital skills, confidence and knowledge. Digital Mentors will need to complete a Volunteer Application form with the CTC, sign on via the Be Connected website and successfully undergo a Criminal Records Check. If you would like to find out more please contact me on 4885 2665 or come to the information session on **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> August 2021 at 1 pm** at the CTC. Follow up training will be held on 27<sup>th</sup> August 2021 between 1 – 3 pm ready for the program to start in September.

If you are over 50 and interested in joining our Be Connected Program, or would like to find out more, please call the CTC on 4885 2665. With over 100 topic areas we are interested in hearing from locals about the areas they may be most interested in ... especially as we make a start. Be Connected sessions will start on Friday afternoons in September.

A Justice of the Peace is now available at the CTC during all opening hours. Services of a JP are free although there is a small charge for any photocopying that maybe needed.

**CTC Robertson Open hours:**  
**Thursday & Friday 10am-4pm**  
**Saturday 10am-1pm**  
(open for Crop Swap from 9am)  
**58-60 Hoddle St, Robertson**  
**Ph: 4885 2665**

[info@robertsonctc.org.au](mailto:info@robertsonctc.org.au)  
[www.robertsonctc.org.au](http://www.robertsonctc.org.au)  
[facebook.com/CTCRobertson](https://facebook.com/CTCRobertson)



# AgriShow Dates Go to October

ms and Field Day Expo has announced a change of dates due to the current lockdown and travel restrictions. The new dates are October 29 to October 31 with the event still to run at Moss Vale Showground.

Event organiser Gary Fitz-Roy said 'We believe moving the event back is the responsible thing to do as safety is our number one priority. We equally understand that there is a large number of Sydneysiders who own properties within the region and we need to ensure they can visit the event as they are important buyers for our vendors. Therefore taking into balance both elements, the new dates give the best opportunity for the event to run successfully.'

In another positive move, Destination NSW are now officially supporting the event along with Destination Southern Highlands, giving the overall event a higher profile and now more time to build awareness. Through their support the admission charge has been cut by 33% to just \$10 for adults and children under 16 are FREE!

The event content includes Live Arenas where exhibitors can demonstrate equipment to visitors so they get to see it in action and ask questions on the spot to assist their understanding of various product's capabilities and therefore making better purchase decisions. Other areas such as Talk Spots include advice on topics such as sustainability as well as specific farming management insights.

Fitz-Roy added "It's been a number of years since the Highlands had a dedicated Farms Expo and off the back of the last two years local agricultural shows not running, we anticipate AgriShow will be a fulfilling source to meet the pent-up demand.

For more information on visiting or exhibiting, or to receive updates, visit [www.agrishow.com.au](http://www.agrishow.com.au)

## Calendar of Events

August—various dates	<b>Art Exhibitions</b>	The SHAC, CTC see p 10
Tues 10 Aug	<b>Census Night</b>	See p6
Starting 2 Aug Mon 6.30pm-7.45pm, Thurs	<b>Yoga for Winter Warmth</b>	White Lotus see p10 In person, zoom, conference
Fri 20 Aug 1pm	<b>Digital Mentors info session</b>	CTC Robertson See p11
Sat 21 Aug TBC	<b>Cockatoo Run</b>	Robertson Railway see p7
Wed 25 Aug	<b>Book Nook Author Talk</b>	Robertson Hotel see p10
Sun 12 Sep 8.30am-2pm TBC	<b>Robertson Market</b>	School of Arts ph 0408 238 575
Sun 12 Sep 2.30pm TBC	<b>Cinema Afternoon</b>	CTC Robertson
29-31 Oct	<b>AgriShow</b>	MV Showground see p1,12
Sat 9& Sun 10 Oct	<b>Robertson Garden Club Plant Sale</b>	TBA see p 2
Sat 16 & Sun 17 Oct	<b>Bowral Classic</b>	See p8
Sun 28 Nov	<b>L'Étape</b>	See p 8
Sat 26 March 2022	<b>150th Anniversary</b>	Robertson Public School see p 1
Tuesday 9am-3pm	<b>Robertson Men's Shed Days</b>	Men's Shed (behind the CTC) <a href="http://robertsonmensshed.org.au">robertsonmensshed.org.au</a>
Fridays 10am-1pm	<b>Women's Shed</b>	
Every Sat 9am-10.30am	<b>Crop Swap</b>	CTC Robertson see p 11
Church Services	<b>St John's Church Services</b>	See p 4 for details
Sunday Mass	<b>St Peter's Burrawang</b>	Ring the Parish Office Ph 4868 1931

**VOTE 1 for RESPECTFUL REPRESENTATION**

# Rachel Russell

Independent candidate for Wingecarribee

- ✓ Future focus
- ✓ Accountability & transparency
- ✓ Infrastructure, business, health

[respectfulrepresentation.org](http://respectfulrepresentation.org)

Authorised by Amanda Lynch, 29 Ben Nevis Circuit Bundanoon NSW.



**NB This is a paid political advertisement included to assist in informing the community and is not an indication of the views of the publisher or editor.**