

Robertson News

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Potato Festival Announced— Spudtacular News!



Family of four mascots for the Potato Festival

Expertised Events has just announced it will be presenting a Robertson Potato Festival at the Robertson Showground on the weekend of April 30—May 1 next year. Expertise Events is an independent family-owned event organiser.

The event has been developed to bring all-things-potato to life from cultivation to culinary experiences. From making mash or moonshine, to artmaking and growing, cooking and competitions; there'll be opportunities to explore and celebrate the diversity and importance of this staple food which is the world's fourth largest food crop.

"Robertson, with the Big Potato as the town tourism pit stop, is surrounded by rich red soil and known to be one of the best potato producing areas in the country, and we look forward to bringing this inspiring event to life. The humble spud will take

centre stage and it will be *spud-tacular*," commented organiser Gary Fitz-Roy, who has farmed in the area for 25 years.

"There'll be plenty to inspire and inform, from kids activities through to adult competitions. It'll be interactive in an old school way and our goal is to shine a spotlight on Robertson as a fun town to visit and encourage tourism in the district, providing a boost to counteract the last two years affected by COVID. For the last two decades (and maybe longer) there has been talk about establishing a Potato Festival, we are pleased to drive the launch of this exciting event and invite

any locals who want to participate to contact us – we welcome their proposals," commented Fitz-Roy.

Further information contact Gary on 9452 7575 or garyf@expertiseevents.com.au

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and lots more.....

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Council Elections Postponed for Public Inquiry

The Interim Administrator at Wingecarribee Shire Council recently provided the following update.

The Minister for Local Government announced a Public Inquiry into the Council on 1 September 2021. On 10 September the Minister gazetted a notice postponing the Ordinary Election that was to be held in December 2021 until September 2022 for the reason that the Council is the subject of a Public Inquiry.

The Terms of Reference for the Inquiry are to inquire and report to the Minister with respect to the following matters:

- Whether members of Council's governing body fully understand their roles and responsibilities and have adequately, reasonably, and appropriately carried out their roles and responsibilities during the current term of Council.
- Whether, during the current term of Council, there has been improper interference by the elected body of Council, or by individual councillors, in operational matters, with particular reference to staffing and planning functions.
- Whether members of Council's governing body have been and will continue to be in a position to direct and control the affairs of Council in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 and to otherwise fulfil its statutory obligations.
- Any other matter that warrants inquiry, particularly those that may impact on the effective administration of Council's functions and responsibilities or the community's confidence in the Council being able to do so.

The Commissioner for the Inquiry, Mr Ross Glover, has now issued the Inquiry's *Information Paper* which clearly outlines how submissions are to be made. The closing date for submissions is Friday, 29 October 2021.

Council has established a dedicated website page for the Inquiry which will be kept up to date and can be accessed using this link www.wsc.nsw.gov.au/Council/Public-Inquiry. The *Terms of Reference* and the *Information Paper* can also be found there. If you have experiences that you think will assist the Commissioner and that are relevant to the Inquiry's *Terms of Reference* submissions can be made directly to the Commissioner by email to Wingecarribee.publicinquiry@olg.nsw.gov.au or they can be posted to Locked Bag 3004, Nowra NSW 2541.

Place-based Project in Robertson

On 8 September, Council received a report on the results of community research which included recommendations relating to communication, provision of information and opportunities to participate in decision making.

Action 3 of the report related to exploring opportunities for using a place making approach to these issues. In this regard, Council will be undertaking a pilot with the Robertson community. The project is planned to be completed by June 2022.

Council will be providing further information about this project later in the year.

Contribution Guidelines

The submission deadline for the December 2021 edition is November 15 2021. Please submit all articles and event notices to 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.

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CTC Robertson Inc. PO Box 3069, Robertson NSW 2577. Ph: 02 4885 2665
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Further details at
www.robertson.nsw.au/advertise-with-us.html

Robertson Hotel DA Approved



On 14 September, the Robertson Hotel made the following announcement on Facebook -

"It gives us great pleasure to announce the approval of our Development Application to restore and expand The Robertson Hotel saving this iconic and much-loved historical landmark for future generations.

We will continue to operate with 'business as usual' during this period. Once completed The Robertson Hotel will emerge into a world class resort, incorporating the refurbished Heritage building plus the addition of a new wing of modern rooms plus eco villas scattered throughout the existing established gardens all available for accommodation.

The new five-star Health Club will offer a gym, wellness treatment rooms, an indoor heated pool and thermal spas nestled amongst the established lush garden environment. We look forward to sharing this journey with you".

Further information www.facebook.com/therobertsonhotel

Here Comes the Sun!

President of Robertson Business Chamber, Tim Hewitt provides all the latest news from the Chamber.

'Here comes the Sun' to quote George Harrison.. and how. Once more locked down, Robertson businesses have battled on through a 'long cold lonely winter' (GH again), and are counting on some good news with the coming of spring.

Robertson eateries have once more flicked the switch to take-away, but many local businesses are simply unable to operate under health orders. We can only promise to get right behind them when we are able, and get the town humming again.

Congratulations to Hope Waters on her retirement after a lifetime commitment to the community and local business. An institution has been lost to a large extent I suspect, as a casualty of the digital revolution.

The Robertson Hotel DA has finally been approved, and the Chamber wishes Con and his team every success in bringing this game changing project to fruition. When complete the Hotel and conference complex will be a major local employer and the lynchpin of local tourism. Leading up to lockdown, many locals were taking advantage of the 'locals' nights at the Hotel and it will be great to be able to enjoy the atmosphere created by the grand old building, great food and attentive staff again soon.

The Chamber supports the decision of the Minister for Local Government for Wingecarribee Shire Council to remain under administration until elections can be held, and we are also pleased that the administrator has reinstated the Local Housing Strategy in its original form. The current spike in property prices in Robertson and elsewhere strengthens the case for more diverse and affordable housing options as outlined in the Housing Strategy, and we look forward to the implementation of those plans.

Contd p 4...

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.....Robertson Business Chamber News contd from p3

The Chamber intends providing a forum for candidates in the local government elections to meet with the Robertson community when we are free to do so.

The Chamber supports the efforts of the new Robertson pool committee in applications for funding to build this vital piece of local infrastructure, and we thank and encourage those dedicated folk who are working so hard on this project on behalf of the community.

While the Chamber has been active with submissions, contact with MPs, Council officers etc over winter, we will resume our regular meetings, hold our AGM and 'get back in the saddle' 'after lockdown'...

We are all counting down the days to get back into local cafes, the Pub, Bowlo where we can enjoy local hospitality and meet our friends.. (and get a haircut..)

Meanwhile, we encourage the community to 'get vaccinated' (now available at Robertson Doctors and Pharmacy), so we can get out and have some fun, and to welcome visitors back to our town.

Off Leash Dogs Cause Concern



Robertson News has been contacted by a concerned Robertson citizen wishing to remind everyone of the dangers and the regulations in regard to dogs off leash -

Lots of people are out walking their dogs around the village and getting some fresh air in these trying days! Great to see BUT your dog/s must be, BY LAW, on a lead and in control of somebody over 16. Fines of up to \$880 apply—

www.wsc.nsw.gov.au/Services/Animals/Walking-a-Dog-in-a-Public-Place

Unfortunately, the playing fields or oval are not off leash areas as many people seem to think.

You may think your dog is ok but it is so confronting and downright frightening for older people especially, to see loose dog/s on their daily walk. General comment from the offenders is oh he/she is ok! Well mine aren't and having been attacked before by loose dogs, will now attack without question as a defence mechanism. Ever seen the

aftermath of a dog attack? Hope you never do.

Time has caught up with Robertson (unfortunately) and no longer can you just let your dog run free and intimidate people and their dogs.

Please everybody let's make it a safe place for kids, older people and everybody to enjoy equally what we have here in Robbo.

Age Friendly Robertson Group Keen to Restart Discussion

The Age-friendly Robertson Group is keen to resurrect discussions for the formation of a Community Association which was cut short by COVID restrictions.

As soon as meetings are permitted the Group will send notifications to those groups that have expressed interest.

Contact Mark Turner on 0418 657 456 for further information.

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Community Garden 'Pegged Out'!

Update from Ange Clarke, President, Robertson Community Garden



Community Garden volunteers pegging out the garden

Unfortunately the garden has been delayed as everyone focuses on trying to look after their immediate family and business needs in this time we are in restrictions.

However, some work is continuing or still planned -

- the garden has been pegged out
- We are endeavouring to get costs on fencing the area.
- We were also trying to connect with disability groups to offer jobs to build the garden beds and seats. That's on hold as all centres are closed.
- We are still seeking sponsors, donors and investors into the garden so we can purchase or get all of our requirements to build the garden.

Please keep in touch and we hope you may be able to inspire more people to come on board with us when the time is right again to move ahead.

Our garden will be an integral part of our community and we are looking forward to the day we can start the build.

Further information ange@wheretheresawill.org.au

Stop and Admire the Waratahs

Updates from Robertson Heritage Railway Station Inc



Don't forget to admire the waratahs in flower over October at the Robertson Railway Station grounds. As usual, there will be cut flowers, plants and seeds for sale at the station on the weekend of Saturday, 9th and Sunday, 10th October. Due to likely Covid-19 restrictions, we will also offer advance purchase and pick-up, not only on that weekend, but at other times during October. Enquiries: please contact Anne Wilson on Email annejw@bigpond.net.au or Phone: 0424 537 348.

On Thursday, 2 September the 2021 AGM was held via Zoom. During that meeting outgoing President Ian Wallace retired from office and the following people were elected to the new RHRS Management Committee.

President – Rod Visman; Vice-president – Neil Harvey; Secretary – Angus Webster; Treasurer – Anne Wilson; other committee members: Peter Glass, Noel Rothwell, Tony McCoy. We wish them well in their endeavours, following a difficult 2020/2021 year during which normal fund-raising was virtually impossible due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Covid-19 restrictions have severely limited the normal running program of heritage train visits by 'The Cockatoo Run'. Heritage train operator, East Coast Heritage Rail, is very keen to resume 'Cockatoo Run' visits once Covid-19 restrictions ease. We suggest keep looking at the RHRS website for further train running information or look in the window at the railway station for updated information. www.robertsonrailway.org.au

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Have You Visited the New Street Library?

By Kylie Needham



Photo—Julie Cooper Vizcarra

A few years ago when I was in Newtown visiting my best friend Maryam - a fellow television scriptwriter and book lover - she walked me past their street library. It was a wooden weatherproof box with a perspex door,

mounted on a post outside her neighbour's house, painted in bright colours and crammed with a dizzying array of books: fiction butting up against non-fiction, adult literature piled on top of children picture books, some New Yorker magazines thrown in for good measure; everything and anything you could imagine to read.

"The idea behind it's simple," Maryam told me. "You take a book, give a book, or share a book. Or if you want, you can do all three."

So instead of gathering dust on a shelf, or being tossed into the recycling (or worse), these books that had already been read and enjoyed once were on their way to having a second life - and maybe a third, and even a fourth... Moving around the community for free, reducing waste, and encouraging literacy and reading.

I remember thinking what a great idea a street

library would be for Robertson and how much all the members of our community could benefit.

Then I heard about the Community Grants Program offered by The Robertson Burrow Community Op Shop, a not-for-profit, community-owned and volunteer-run organisation whose goal is to reduce landfill by giving used goods a second life; recycling, reusing, and re-purposing where possible. It seemed like a match made in heaven, so I put pen to paper and applied for a grant to give Robertson a street library.

Bill Sloane and Karen Wilmott, two of the committee members of The Robertson Burrow, supported the idea from the start and have devoted not only their time but their substantial energy (move out of the way if Bill's got the post hole digger or Karen's pushing the lawnmower!) to seeing the project through. On Saturday 11 September we officially opened the Robertson Street Library - colourfully painted by kids in Robertson (a great lockdown activity!) and stuffed full of exciting books.

Already there's everything in there from Harry Potter to the *The Handmaid's Tale* to Wolf Hall to Peter Rabbit. And it's my hope to always have a local author's book in there too. Keep an eye out for work by Andrew Ford and Anni Heino, Peter Ramm, Sarah Hawthorn, R.A. Spratt, Sarah Clutton, Jimmy Barnes, Jenny Ferguson, Alan Baxter, and more!

And even though she's not local, I'll be placing a copy of my best friend Maryam's debut book in there - *Exit from the Gift Shop*, a touching middle grade story just published last month, look out for it! - since she walked me past my first street library and sparked the idea that we could have something just as wonderful right here in Robertson.

So welcome to your new street library located at 71 Hoddle Street (just outside The Robertson Burrow Op Shop). Please feel free to take a book, give a book, share a book. You can keep in touch with us on Facebook at [Robertson Street Library](https://www.facebook.com/RobertsonStreetLibrary).

Happy reading, Robbo!



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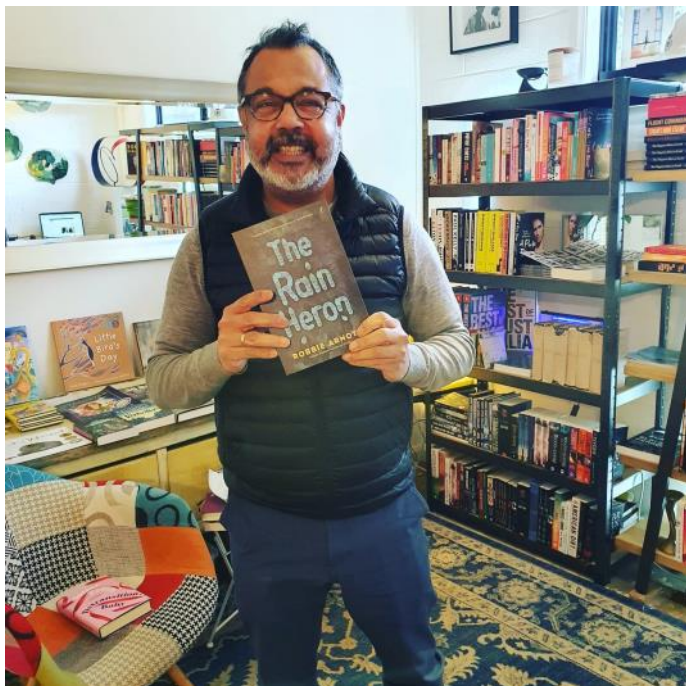


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Atul Toshi in Book Nook 2577—Picture supplied

Book Review

By Atul Toshi

The Rain Heron by Robbie Arnott, Text Publishing, 2020.

This Miles Franklin shortlisted novel from Tasmanian writer Robbie Arnott is part eco-fable set in a future Australia wracked by coups, part quest to capture a mythic bird and part meditation on righting the wrongs of the past and ensuring a future that's worth living for.

The Rain Heron, the capture of it and subsequent desire to control it, is an astute parable for our own manipulation of climate and that action's terrible consequences. Overlaid on this is the story of a woman who loses her own humanity then rediscovers it despite the many mistakes she makes and the terrible price she and others have to pay along the way.

Written in flint-like prose that's at times terrifyingly beautiful (the descriptions of the flight and constant

metamorphosis of the heron are particular stand outs) and at times aching in its portrayal of loss, it should appeal to both adult readers of the literary fantasy/dystopia genre and mature young readers (emphasis on the mature: there are moments of graphic violence in this book!).

Filled with man-eating squids and body-part snatching birds, it's quite unlike any other Australian book I've read. The closest description I can come up with is; it's like Charlotte Wood's *The Natural Way of Things* meets *The Hunger Games*.

Book Review is a new regular Robertson News feature presented in conjunction with Book Nook 2577

Book Sale at Book Nook 2577

Book Nook 2577 is celebrating end of lockdown with a full weekend of sales, local author signings and storytelling. Saturday 23rd and Sunday 24th October 10am til 4pm. 91 Hoddle street. Happy Reading Robertson!

At The SHAC

The SHAC Galleries are currently online at www.theshac.com.au until we can reopen. Or come and peep through our windows on your daily walk!

Still showing are:

Julianne Ross Allcorn - Red Hot boxes of flora, detailed bush essence

Alexandra Taylor - *Burnt Orange*



And newly opened on Sep 24th is a tranquil collection of works by SHAC resident artist Shaz in:

Sharon Collyer - *Terra Tutti*

Shaz says: "My aim is to create a

sense of openness and calm, which gives the viewer the opportunity to reconnect with their own personal stories of love, loss and joy."

Image: Dahlias on White 1 by Sharon Collyer.

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'Health is the greatest possession' Lao Tzu

Love and Vaccinations

By Graham Thomas, Minister, Robertson/Burrawang Anglican Church

Over the past few weeks (up until the time of writing) there's been a bit of debate, including in religious circles, about so-called 'vaccine passports.' These are a document, most likely attached to the QR Code check-in system, which verify our vaccination status. The NSW government has been clear that when NSW adults (18+ years) are 70% fully vaccinated, only people who are 'doubled vaxxed' will be able to have eased restrictions, such as attending larger gatherings of people. As churches are larger gatherings of people all this is very relevant for us at Robertson Anglican. So, here's my two cents worth.

If you're a regular reader of my articles in the *Robertson News* I often make the point that church is for everyone, because the good news about Jesus is for everyone. No matter who you are or what you've done or what your think, church is for everyone! Nothing has changed. Whether you're rich or poor, sceptic or believer, vaccinated or not, you're welcome at Robbo Anglican.

But here's the problem: the NSW Government will no doubt restrict people attending churches to only the double vaxxed when we reach the 70% mark. I say 'no doubt' because there's been no official NSW Public Health Order yet, but you can bet your house on it! I think this is a good thing and as a church we will continue to follow the NSW Health Orders. I'd like to share with you two reasons why:

First, the Bible tells us to be subject to our authorities (Romans 13:1-7). Christians believe that God is over all such things and establishes such authorities by his doing, so we need to obey them and support them, for this is good for our society. No-one is telling us not to be Christians, we're not in North Korea or Afghanistan, we're simply being asked to keep each other and our community safe by limiting face-to-face contact to those with less risk of catching and transmitting the virus.

Second, we want to love our neighbour, which is how Jesus summed up Christians ethics (Matthew 22:39). Keeping others healthy is one way to love them. It's clear that the Covid 19 vaccines are saving lives, but vaccines also dramatically decrease the chances of you getting the virus and therefore passing it on. See this Factsheet for more information: <https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/covid-19/vaccine/Documents/know-the-facts.pdf>

Of course, people are free to choose not to be vaccinated, and we still want to minister to them and we'll be working out ways to do this. But like anything in life, there are consequences to our decisions. However, as Christians who follow Jesus, we want to be people that prioritise caring for the weak, the sick, and the many vulnerable in our society who may have no choice when it comes to vaccines (eg. anyone who is immune deficient).

It breaks my heart to say people cannot come to church, but at this point in time, that's the cards we're dealt and, for the health of vulnerable people, I'm OK with that. I am assuming that this exclusion will not be permanent, just as lockdown won't be permanent. When the risk subsides and the numbers are more hopeful, we'll be able to welcome

everyone again.

Below are our regular service times when we open up again, hopefully sometime in October. In the meantime you can sign up to our regular online services by emailing office@robertsonanglican.org.au or you can watch the Bible talk and kids talk video at our YouTube Channel 'Robertson Burrawang Anglican Church' https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDTNoJNoafZeiY_ZLk5EvdA

REGULAR SERVICES

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

With a Little Help From Your Friends

By Mark Turner

Most of us are feeling the down part of the lockdown. Though we might soon see the end of it, Christmas still seems a long way off. One day just blurs into another – the bins already? Didn't I just take those out yesterday? The dog is worn out – it didn't sign up for never-ending walks. All in all it can seem too much to bear.

Some are home alone having to cope with solitude and loneliness. Others are just longing for some quiet time away from the kids.

At times like these you need a little help from your friends. To hear from an acquaintance phoning to ask how you're coping can transform that acquaintance into a friend (that scammer on the phone is not really your friend).

Your partner, if you have one, is probably also your friend but being locked up for weeks on end can strain any relationship and at that point you probably both need another friend.

Helping your kids with on-line learning and home schooling makes you appreciate that the teacher really is a friend you cannot do without; so be kind, teachers also need a friend.

The strain falls more heavily on the elderly, especially when alone and physical restrictions set in. Just to be able to go for that exercise walk with someone, or go to the shops and to feel part of the social mix can change the day. You just need a little help from your friends to support you on that walk, to share a laugh or to help you with your bags at the shop.

Some in the community don't have those friends - they are "all the lonely people" - the Eleanor Rigbys of this town. I'm sure we know of some in that position, often the older citizens among us, but not always. If we're still in lockdown, a kind word at the shops, a message of support in the letter box, a bunch of flowers handed over the fence, a phone call or a shared walk can be just the right medicine. When we are finally allowed out to see the world, it looks much better if a friend is waiting.

Everyone needs a friend.

Regenerative Agriculture in Robertson

By Josephine Grieve

It's a weekday afternoon at AgriWest and Manny holds a jar of soil and water up to the light. He points at three layers of red-brown earth settled under a layer of cloudy water. "That's the clay, the loam and see the thin layer of sand at the bottom," he says. "Just leave the jars here for another few days. I want to see what happens."

I'm on a steep learning curve with soil along with the many other small farmers I follow on Instagram and meet at occasional workshops. There is an abundance of educational material – new books like Matthew Evans' *Soil*; podcast series including Charlie Arnott's *The Regenerative Journey* and an upcoming documentary by Rachel Ward, *Standing on the Soilution*. However, the first lesson is clear: there is nothing better than getting your hands dirty. Manny takes a handful of earth from another jar, wets it at his sink, squeezes it and smells it. "It has the feel of good Robertson soil but it can be improved..."

Manny and Sue at AgriWest were so patient with my goat dramas during our first kidding season last year and now I'm a soil newbie... I ask Manny about Charlie Arnott's October workshop 'An Intro to Biodynamics' remembering he had been to one in Kangaloon. It turns out the man waiting patiently in line behind me, farm diary in hand, was at the workshop too. They both answer at the same time. "Oh Charlie is good but Hamish Mackay is fantastic, the original biodynamics educator."

The three of us swap notes on our favourite 'regen ag' podcasts. The other customer owns one of the largest meat farms in the area and has been working with Manny to apply the principles of regenerative agriculture as a way of investing in their land for generations to come. "But he's doing it in stages," adds Manny. "Which is the way it works best."

Who doesn't get a thrill from the colour and texture of Robertson's rich basalt red-brown tilth? This soil has been a wealth creator for the region over the centuries but at places like our small farm, it is in urgent need of restoration. I realised only recently that soil is the answer to our core problem: an infestation of gorse that has been endemic for at least fifty years and despite being sprayed numerous times, it always grows back.

It's taken months of working with my hands in the paddock as well as reading and talking, to understand that we need to increase our soil's fertility. Gorse thrives on infertile soil and our once-rich topsoil – cleared from rainforest and then overgrazed – is now depleted. Counter-intuitively, the gorse is my 'prickly friend' if only I will 'see what I'm looking at' as the holistic farming mantra goes. Under each gorse plant, there's the evidence. I discover a patch of partially regenerated soil. Eureka! Following the regenerative theory, my job is to enhance that fertility and then the gorse will disappear, task completed. It's time to consult with soil 'mentor' Douglas Ross from Nambruc Natural Farms who tests

and interprets the chemistry and microbiology of the soil. Then I need to make a plan.

The first I heard about the importance of soil was about two years ago when I accompanied two foodie friends from Sydney on a visit to Moonacres Farm. Standing in the paddock, admiring the rows of glorious vegetables, we asked Phil how he had produced such life-enhancing bounty. "It's all about the soil," he answered emphatically. "And community," I think. With their Café in town, Moonacres has played a delicious part in regenerating the village of Robertson: perhaps good soil and community go hand in hand?

On a mission to learn more about soil fertility, I visit Clara Bateman at South Hill Farm in Wildes Meadow. Walking through the paddock, electric fence wire in hand, Clara shows me how she moves her cattle everyday using the cell-grazing model that is one of the key practices followed in Holistic Farm Management. Calling herself a 'Soil Farmer', Clara has done all the research before me and is very generous with her knowledge. The results are clear: at the end of winter when the dominant Kikuyu in my paddock has yellowed off, her pasture has the verdant lushness of wet summer with wonderful variation in texture. I feel the green tinge of pasture envy...

Clara explains that over 25 years, her family has worked "tirelessly to nurture our greatest asset, trying to never take it for granted."

For books on regenerative agriculture, go to BookNook 2577. Maria will order in any book she doesn't have in stock. For anyone interested, there are still places in Charlie Arnott's 'Intro to Biodynamics' course at Boorowa on 2 and 3 December.

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

Robertson RFS Tips for Spring

1. Check your smoke alarms



Every 6 months clean your smoke alarm with a vacuum cleaner to remove dust. Now is a good time to change your alarm battery. For more information on smoke alarms go to

www.fire.nsw.gov.au/page.php?id=9218

2. Prepare your home for bush fire season

- Trim overhanging trees and shrubs
- Mow your grass and remove the cuttings
- Remove material that can burn around your house, like wood piles, mulch, leaves, old tins of paint
- Clean out your gutters
- Prepare hoses that can reach all the way around your house

3. Bushfire survival plan – be sure to involve your household in creating or reviewing your bushfire survival plan

4. Know your risk and know your triggers – will you leave early or stay and defend?

5. Check you know how to get accurate emergency information and save the links on your phone and computer.

To report a fire emergency

Call Triple Zero (000)

If you are deaf or have a speech or hearing impairment call 106

For information on fires

Check out [Fires Near Me](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/fire-information/fires-near-me) for current incidents www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/fire-information/fires-near-me

Listen to **local media**

Check **social media** such as [NSW RFS Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/nsw.rfs) and [NSW RFS Twitter](https://twitter.com/nsw_rfs)

Bush Fire Information Line - 1800 679 737

If you are deaf, hard of hearing or have a speech impairment, contact us through the National Relay Service -

TTY users phone 1800 555 677 then ask for 1800 679 737

Speak and Listen users phone 1800 555 727 then ask for 1800 679 737

Internet relay users connect to the NRS then ask for 1800 679 737

Unseen Skies Award Nomination

A film produced by new Robertson resident Ivan O'Mahoney has been nominated for a **Documentary Australia Foundation Award** at this year's **Sydney Film Festival**



After living in Rotterdam, The Hague, New York, Atlanta, London and Sydney, Ivan O'Mahoney now calls Robertson home and he says he can honestly say that Robertson is the best place so far!

Originally Dutch/Irish, Ivan moved to Australia in 2008 with his Australian architect wife Tash Clark. Tash's parents are long time residents of Kangaloon and this, combined with local education opportunities for their sons made Robertson an ideal choice when the family made the move from Sydney.

Ivan is an internationally renowned filmmaker and the co-founder of In Films, a Sydney based production company that focuses on social justice issues, human rights and the arts. He has won a number of awards in Australia including a prestigious Walkley Award as well as many international awards including the Amnesty International Media Award.

A former UN peacekeeper in Bosnia and an attorney, Ivan has directed and produced critically lauded documentaries for HBO, BBC, ARTE, Channel 4, PBS and CNN.

Unseen Skies, directed by Yaara Bou Melham, explores the evolution of state and corporate surveillance. Her docu-journey follows Trevor Paglen, one of the 21st century's most visionary artists, on one of his most audacious projects to date—the launching of an artwork into space to show that our skies are more than the exclusive playground of the military-industrial complex. Or are they? Find out more at www.sff.org.au

Welcome to Robertson Ivan and good luck at the Sydney Film Festival!



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 Spring Rejuvenation 8 week Course series starting the week of Monday 1st November. 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 or phone 0407 771 828 or email info@whitelotusinspiration.com

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Please contact me
for assistance with any
Commonwealth Government
issue

Reach my office on
4297 2285

STEPHEN JONES MP
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR WHITLAM

Authorised by S.Jones, ALP, Shellharbour

CTC Robertson News

Liz Messih, CTC Robertson Manager

The CTC has been closed for over a month while stay at home orders are in place due to the Covid 19 outbreaks in Sydney and some regions.

The [NSW Government Roadmap to Freedom](#) indicates that stay at home orders will be lifted for the fully vaccinated once vaccination rates surpass 70% ... at this stage it is anticipated this might be around mid October. With this in mind, the CTC is planning a few activities for late October and November but with a Plan B up our sleeves just in case.

Any events and activities held at the CTC are Covid Safe and will be held with strict adherence to NSW Government Guidelines and NSW Public Health Orders.



Opening Hours (after October 11)

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
www.robertsonctc.org.au
facebook.com/CTCRobertson



Mental Health First Aid Course

The CTC Robertson has received funding under the Wingecarribee ClubGRANTS Program to be able to offer a subsidised Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) course for residents of the Robertson community.

Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training teaches participants practical skills to support someone with a mental health problem. About 1 in 5 Australian adults experience a common mental illness each year. Having people skilled in mental health first aid can make a real difference to others in our community.

MHFA is a 12 hour educational course, not a therapy or support group, and further information can be found on the MHFA website mhfa.com.au

The course has been heavily subsidised and includes a MHFA course book, a light lunch and morning and afternoon tea.

Dates : Sundays 31 October and 7 November

Time : 10 am to 4 pm

Cost : \$25.00

If you would like to register your interest email the CTC Robertson at info@robertsonctc.org.au by 15 October 2021 or phone 4885 2665 for more information.

As places are limited, priority will be given to members of local organisations or people with a community role.

Further information at www.robertsonctc.org.au/mhfatraining.html

Get Online Week at the CTC

The CTC is hosting a (*not so*) *High Tech High Tea* for locals to learn more about connecting online through (hopefully) connecting in person over a High Tea at the CTC accompanied by music by Louise Bell. Participants can also join us via zoom.



During lock down most of us have been able to keep in touch through the internet ... during Get Online Week we will be providing information about the Be Connected program which helps people over 50 build their digital skills, knowledge and confidence ... so everyone can stay connected.

The (*not so*) *High Tech High Tea* will be held on **Friday 22 October** between 10 am to 12 noon at the CTC Robertson. For those joining online the event will be held between 11 am and 12 noon. If stay at home orders are in place the whole event will be held via zoom.

Bookings are essential and can be made by calling the CTC on 4885 2665 or book online at www.robertsonctc.org.au/technology-events.html

Bowral Classic Going Ahead in December



The fifth edition of the Bowral Classic has been postponed from 16-17 October 2021 to 11-12 December 2021. The cycling Gran Fondo event held in the Southern

Highlands of NSW is part of The Classics series by Bicycling Australia. Riders will be passing through Robertson between 8:00am – 1:55pm on Sunday 12 December. Further information at www.bowralclassic.com.au/community.

Cricket Registrations

Registrations are now open for Cricket this summer!



We have a team for you no matter your age or ability. Saturday cricket for boys and girls, men or women aged 7-70, Women's only cricket on Wednesday afternoons or Woolworths Blasters Cricket for our youngest future stars on Thursday afternoons. For more info or to register check out Robertson Burrawang Cricket

Club at play.cricket.com.au

Calendar of Events

Sat 9-Sun 10 October	Waratah Sales	Robertson Railway see p5
Fri 22 Oct 10am-12 noon	(not so) High Tech High Tea	CTC Robertson see p11
Sat 23-Sun 24 October	Book Sale	Book Nook 2577 see 7
Sun 31 October & Sun 7 November	Mental Health First Aid Course	CTC Robertson see p 11
29-31 Oct (confirmed)	Agrishow	MV Showground www.agrishow.com.au
Sat 30 & Sun 31 October	Robertson Garden Club Plant Sale	To be confirmed
Starting 1 November	Yoga for Spring Rejuvenation	White Lotus see p10
Sun 14 Nov 8.30am-2pm TBC	Robertson Market (no Oct market)	School of Arts ph 0408 238 575
Sat 11 & Sun 12 Dec	Bowral Classic	See this page
Sat 26 March 2022	150th Anniversary	Robertson Public School
Sat 30 April-Sun 1 May	Robertson Potato Festival	Robertson Show Ground see p1
Tuesday 9am-3pm (after 11 Oct)	Robertson Men's Shed Days	Men's Shed (behind the CTC) robertsonmensshed.org.au
Fridays 10am-1pm (after 11 Oct)	Women's Shed	
Every Sat 9am-10.30am (after 11 Oct)	Crop Swap	CTC Robertson
Church Services	St John's Church Services	See p 8 for details
Sunday Mass	St Peter's Burrawang	Ring the Parish Office Ph 4868 1931



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Wildes Meadow

Regenerative Farm—54 Acres (2 X 27 acres—two Titles)
4 bedroom house with self-contained accommodation, shedding and more, 10mg water license.

WANTED TO LET

For Mature lady up to \$350 pw, ready to move, with references-will consider anywhere in the Southern Highlands, has 2 small chihuahuas.

TO LET

Robertson

\$750pw

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WANTED TO LET

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