



# Robertson Newsletter

August 1999

Edition 13

## BUSINESS GETS TOGETHER

"To create better communication between one another, to create group advertising and marketing opportunities and pass the benefits on to members, and to give local business an authoritative voice on local issues."

According to President Allan Jackson these are key aims of the newly formed **Robertson Business Association**

Until now, Robertson has never had a coordinated business voice. Hopefully that will now change. Allan believes the initiative is in the interests of every resident." More prosperous local business means better amenities for the town as a whole. "

Forming the **RBA** also gives Robertson a voice on the new Southern Highlands Business Chamber, likely to become the most influential business organisation in the region.

Membership of the **RBA** is open to all businesses in the Robertson district. If you'd like more information, contact:

President Allan Jackson 48851133

The next Bi Monthly General Meetings will be held at the Community Centre, Caalong St, on Tuesday 12th Oct 5.45pm

## WHISTLE STOP AT THE PIG AND WHISTLE

Politics was on the menu at the Pig and Whistle Cafe last Wednesday at a function organised by the newly formed Robertson Business Association. The occasion was a "get to know" tour of the district by Local Member Matt Brown, and Minister for Local Government, Rural Affairs and Regional Development Harry Woods.

Mr Woods spoke of the Government's recognition of the special needs of small rural communities, particularly for job-creating opportunities. He also spoke of the need to contain village boundaries, advocating small block sizes, and seemed astonished when told that the current Council approach to planning in Robertson was to demand larger block sizes.

The Minister spoke of the current State Government "Main Street Programme" as an initiative of potential interest to our village and the RBA undertook to investigate this further.

Larry Whipper and Bob Wood raised the question of the need for incentives to rural land owners to encourage the retention of "farm scapes" - the idea that, because farms and pastures provided a visual, recreational and tourism amenity to the community as a whole - Government should provide incentives to encourage Primary Producers to keep their holdings intact. Economic viability of the farm itself should not be the only criterion. The Minister appeared to take these ideas on board with interest.

Following a lively question and answer session, RBA President Allan Jackson blew the whistle and the caravan moved on ....

## Future of the Village Newsletter

In the past, the Robertson Newsletter has been put together by a "dedicated few". Gathering information and advertisements, compiling and editing, printing and distribution are all very time consuming.

Our last editor, Brent Miller, was unable to continue the task due to pressure of business. However many Robertson residents feel this newsletter is important to our community and every effort is being made to keep it going.

At a recent meeting of the newly formed Robertson Business Association it was agreed that this organisation would take the newsletter under its wing, if a small group of enthusiastic people were prepared to undertake the task.

Help is desperately needed. If you wish to help, please contact Micki Boehme - 4885 1080.

The next edition of the newsletter will be published early October. The deadline for copy and advertisements is the **15th September**. Please see Contribution Guidelines on the back page.

## ROBERTSON GARDEN CLUB SET TO GROW

At the inaugural meeting of the Robertson Garden Club, on the 2nd August, 18 participants heard an interesting talk by Lin Keft of the Village Nursery, Robertson, discussing some old and newer plants for the garden. Afterwards we discussed future activities and programs for the club. A committee was formed to guide the progress of the club.

Future meetings will be held on the 1st Monday of each month, at the Robertson Community Centre, in Caalong St Robertson, unless there is a public holiday, then it will be held on the 2nd Monday.

At the next meeting, at 1.30pm on 6th September, John Peddison will speak on Camellias. All are welcome. Come and listen, ask those questions about problem plants and enjoy garden talk.

For further information contact Anette or Cara Lee on 48851210.



# 360 Anne Stowar

B. Soc. Stud. (Syd), M. A. A. S. W., Dip. Teach. (IYTA)

## YOGA TEACHER

Classes in Robertson

Thursday Evenings 6.00-7.30pm

Friday Mornings 9.00am -10.30pm

Phone - 4885 1341

## Fine Ceramics and Craft to Open In Robertson



From Wednesday 1st September, Misty Mountain Gallery opens to the public. The gallery has been conveniently located within the Robertson General Store. Misty Mountain Gallery is the brainchild of local Robertson resident Hope Waters and Cheryl Gater, owner/teacher of Coe-ee Hobby Ceramics in Oak Flats.

"As Robertson moves closer to establishing itself in the area of arts and crafts, we felt a need to open a gallery that highlighted the local and surrounding district works." Hope Waters said.

Initially Misty Mountain Gallery will have for sale ceramic works created by Hope and Cheryl, plus other crafts on display.

Cheryl said "It's expected that we can get a complementary variety of works for sale, especially from local craft people. The criteria is definitely local and affordable. Contemporary as well as traditional pieces will be on sale.

It is hoped that Misty Mountain Gallery will bring further tourism

**Highlands Complete Car care** Tyre Repairs

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**Don Cordina**  
32 Illawarra Highway, Robertson 2577  
Phone: (02) 4885-1890

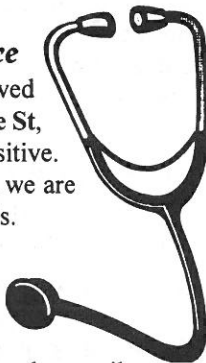
## Robertson Medical Practice

It is 8 months since the practice moved into the new premises at 30 Hoddle St, and the feedback has been very positive. We are very happy with the move and we are seeing a very, steady, stream of patients.

This year the doctors are pleased with the response from older citizens, who have taken advantage of the flu vaccine promotion sponsored by the local council. Flu is still a dangerous disease for those who are at risk of developing serious consequential health problems. We always encourage those at risk to get vaccinated.

Don't forget we are still encouraging child immunisation and regular pap smears for those who need them. If you think you need a pap smear test, talk to the doctor or phone June for an appointment.

If you are interested in having a range of herbal medicines available to buy at the surgery, please let June know. We are interested in offering this service. Phone June on 4885 1502 or tell her what you think when you see her at your next surgery visit



## EARTH ALIVE - CELEBRATION

On Saturday September 4, 1999 from 10am till 4pm, the Robertson Environment Protection Society (REPS) will host an "Earth Alive - Celebration of Biodiversity" day at the Robertson Community Centre in Caalong Street, Robertson. Details of times will be available at the centre on the day.

- There will be guided walks through the rainforest in the Nature Reserve which is a remnant of the Yarrowa Brush which once covered the area.
- There will also be walks around the small wetland next to the Community Centre.
- There will be Plankton sampling, so come and find out what's in the creek and look at the microscopic plant and animal life.
- At 2pm, the warden of the Barren Grounds Bird Observatory will lead a one hour walk through the heathland at Barren Grounds on the Jamberoo Mountain Road.
- Bush Tucker. What we can eat, what we can use from the bush.

All these activities will enable you to discover the amazing range of biodiversity which exists around the Robertson area. There will be a free native plant for the first 100 families and "Earth Alive" biodiversity folders with lots of information too, as well as a kids activity corner.

Lots of displays on many aspects of biodiversity including Landcare, National Parks and Wildlife Service (remnant vegetation), Weeds, Environmental Weeds, Remnant Vegetation, Fungi, Threatened Species, Birds, Roadside Vegetation Management, LA 21 and Waste Management will help us to learn more about how we can help to conserve and enhance the great variety of life and habitats surrounding us.

We hope you will be able to join us on the day.



## New Eye Care Centre

A welcome addition to the village is the new Eye Care Centre set up by Aurora Anders and Dirk den Dulk. They are based at Albion Park but are open for consultation on Fridays, at Shop 2, 30 Hoddle St (next to the Surgery). Phone 4885 2995

They offer - routine eye testing, contact lens fitting with the latest materials, optometric diabetic screening, optometric assessment of learning difficulties, co-management of lens and cataract surgery, and quality eyewear.



## ROBERT & JOAN WOOD

Public Accountants  
Tax Agents  
Business Managers

40 Hoddle Street, (P.O. Box 46)  
ROBERTSON NSW 2577

Phone: (02) 4885 1196 - Fax (02) 4885 1150

Robert C D Wood  
CPA ACIS JP

Joan V Wood  
CPA MNTA JP

## ROBERTSON SCHOOL OF ARTS.

No, it is NOT a council hall; it belongs to YOU and YOU and YOU !

Did you know that in 1885 the then government gave the land to the people of the district? Trustees were appointed to be responsible for the land and any subsequent buildings, and a committee was elected to carry out the day-to-day business of building and then keeping it going.

Under incorporation, the present-day committee is the sole trustee for the people of the district. The committee (not the original one!) still handles the running of the hall and land, being responsible for raising the money to pay all rates and charges, building and contents insurance, electricity, repairs and improvements, etc. Since the committee was reformed in 1979, almost \$100,000.00 has been raised and spent in various ways, including some grants, the Family Old Time Dances, the monthly Market, hire of the hall for various private and public functions, discos, meetings, donations, raffles, etc.

Robertson Public school has no hall of its own and the committee has always been happy to allow the school to use the hall.

You would be very welcome to join us on the fourth Monday of the month, 8 pm at the hall for our regular monthly meeting.

### Nathan's Recipe of the Month



#### Porcupine Meat Balls

Blend ½ kilo of best mince with 1 small chopped onion, salt & pepper, beaten egg & herbs to taste. Form into golf ball size and roll in cooked rice (about 1½ cups). Place in a casserole with 1 tin tomato soup, ½ tin water. Bake in moderate oven 45-50 mins.

#### Robertson Highland Butchery

7.30am - 5.00pm Mon - Fri, Sat till 12noon  
34 Hoddle St - Phone 4885 1215  
Free Home Deliveries.

## Church Service Times

### Anglican

St John's Robertson

8.00am Traditional Service - 1st Sunday of the month.

9.30am Family Service & Sunday School - Every Sunday

St David's Burrawang

7.00pm - Informal Service - Every Sunday.

(At Vance hall, Dale St, on the Second Sunday)

### Presbyterian, Burrawang

2.00pm 1st Thursday & 5th Sunday

### Uniting, Robertson

11.00am - 1st & 3rd Sundays

### Roman Catholic

Robertson

10.00am - 2nd & 4th Sundays

Burrawang

10.00am - 1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays

## ROBERTSON VILLAGE CAFE



*City Style, Country Charm, Eat In or Take Away*

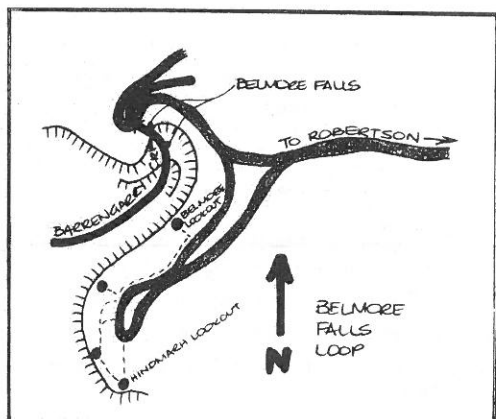
Open Thurs - Mon 10am-8pm for Lunch and Dinner  
Also - Take Away, BBQ Chicken, Fish & Chips, Hamburgers.  
Your Hosts: Phillip & Kaylene Brown - Bookings 4885 2928

## DISCOVERING OUR LOCAL AREA ON FOOT

For those of you looking for something to do on a weekend instead of sitting at home watching sports on the TV, exploring one of our many local walking tracks is for you.

Thirty to 40 minute walks to some spectacular lookouts or multi-day walks for the more serious trekker, whatever your level, there is something for everyone.

This month we'll look at the Belmore Falls area. Popular on the tourist trail, it is only 9 kms from Robertson via the Belmore Falls Road which runs south, off South Street Robertson. It is just less than 1 kilometre and takes only 1/2 an hour to complete.



The turnoff to the walk is 200 metres north of the Belmore Falls Lookout and offers 4 cliff top lookouts with fantastic views of Barrengarry Creek, Kangaroo Valley and Belmore Falls.

So next time you feel like getting out and about without too much effort, pack your lunch, a nice bottle wine, and head down to Belmore Falls. Or If you are feeling little more energetic, dust off that old mountain bike and ride through some beautiful natural forest to make a day of it.

Discovering our local area at this time of year is just perfect. Flies are almost non-existent and the crisp but sunny days provide for exhilarating walking.





## ROBERTSON POTATOES YOU CAN GROW YOUR OWN!

You don't need a big garden or a strong back to grow your own Robertson potatoes. Our climate and soil is perfect for growing potatoes and now is the time to prepare for this year's crop.

Make sure that your soil is well drained and in full sun. Add some organic matter or slow release fertilizer to make the most of your crop. Potatoes can be grown in your vegie garden, in a 'no-dig' garden, in stacks of old tyres or even in pots. When

the risk of frost is over it is time to plant your tubers.

Always use certified disease free seed potatoes to eliminate the risk of introducing disease into your garden soil and into our potato growing district.

Robertson Village Nursery has available seven different varieties of potatoes this season, including the pink skinned 'Desiree' with yellow flesh ideal for salads, roasting, boiling and mashing. 'Crystal' is a white potato suitable for growing in large pots - you can expect up to 15 potatoes in each pot!

Other varieties available include the purple skinned 'Brake Light' and 'Pontiac' both excellent for mashing and boiling. White skinned varieties 'Spunta' and 'Sebago' are used for frying and roasting and the cream and pink 'King Edward' is a good all rounder.

You will be able to begin to harvest your new potatoes after about ten weeks. When the foliage has died down it is time to dig the rest of your crop and store them in a dry, dark place.

Potatoes are surprisingly easy to grow for the home gardener and without doubt the most satisfying crop to harvest. Nothing beats turning over your soil to find dozens of perfect potatoes there for the picking.

So get on your gumboots and floppy old hat and get that potato patch ready today!

**Robertson Village Nursery**  
**Jill & Lindon Keft**  
Phone 4885 1138

## Robertson Supermarket

Open 7 Days

### August Special

Casini 1.5 Lt Red – \$8.95  
VB Stubbies 6 pack – \$9.25  
German Moselle 750 ml – \$5.95

Hoddle St – Phone 4885 1519

### Children's Holiday Club

St John's Anglican Church will be running a Holiday Club for children during the second week of the September School Holidays.

The Club will run for 4 days following the Long Weekend and will cater for children from Infants to Primary.

The Club will be run at the Church Hall in Hoddle St.

Keep your eyes out for posters around the village and notices through the schools for more details.

### 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. Thank you.

### Advertising

A single insertion in the October issue is \$25. Each insertion is limited to a maximum 90 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. Thank you for your support.

### Deadline

The next issue will be distributed in the first weeks of October. All advertising & submissions must be received by **15th September 1999**. Forward correspondence to: **Robertson Newsletter, 64 Hoddle St, Robertson 2577**. Phone: 4885 1210 or Fax: 4885 2241 Email: [bjlee@tpg.com.au](mailto:bjlee@tpg.com.au)

### Disclaimer

This newsletter is an independent publication under the auspices of The Robertson Business Association. The ideas presented are not necessarily those of the editors nor of the Association. The statement and opinions expressed in this publication are made in good faith, and the editors, volunteers and contributors do not take any responsibility for those statements and opinions, any inferences that may be drawn from them, or actions or charges which may result from them. The Editors reserves the right not to print any item that is defamatory to any person or organisation, or that is anonymously sent, and to edit any contributions as required.

Editors : Barry Lee & Julie Edwards.

## Community Notices

Does anyone have any information regarding the whereabouts of two medium sized dogs, one a black & tan with a long tail, the other either black or dark grey, seen attacking stock in the vicinity of Missingham Pde. If you know these dogs, please ring 4885 1497 or 4885 1280.

### Robertson & District Rural Watch

(which also covers the areas of Avoca, Wildes Meadow & Fitzroy Falls)

The Next meeting will be held at the Robertson Community Hall, Caalong St, on the 2nd September at 7.45pm. Meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month.

### Robertson Spinners

Community Centre, Caalong St, Robertson

Every Monday night excluding Public and School Holidays.

7.00pm – 10.00pm

Spinning, Knitting, Crochet, Dying wool and other fibres, all sorts of workshops.

Wheels for Hire

Phone R. Leeder – 02 4885 1452

E. Potters – 02 4885 1547



### Robertson Community Services Luncheons

Community Centre, Caalong St, Robertson.

Every second Tuesday – 17th & 31st Aug, 14th & 28th Sept.

10.00am – 3.00pm

2 Course Meal – \$6.00

Companionship, Craft, Euchre, Crib, Bingo, Singalongs.

You don't need to be a Senior Citizen to come along.

Phone H. Lewis – 4885 1469

E. Potters – 4885 1547

### Tennis Club

The Tennis Club extends a welcome to all to join the social tennis group on Tuesday afternoons from 1:45 pm. Come along and enjoy great company and some fun exercise in the beautiful weather we have been having lately.

### Bush Fire Brigade

Our village Bush Fire Brigade will be holding a Basic Training Course for beginners starting the last Friday in August and running each Friday for 4 weeks at the Community Centre in Caalong Street.



Everyone is welcome to come along and learn some new skills, brush up on some old ones or pick up on some great tips for minimising your fire risk in the months leading up to summer.

Please lend your support to this most valuable local resource. For more information, please call Jim Wilson our local Fire Brigade Captain on 4885 2023.



For an old-fashioned lolly experience – if we haven't got it, we'll find it for you. We're proud of our sugar free range, suitable for Diabetics. Try our 'natural' icecreams with 25 flavours to choose from. Come and see Polly and Molly.

Joyce Bailey – 4885 2885

### Community Bus

Don't forget the Community Bus is available for those needing transport in and around Bowral/Moss Vale on the following dates:

August 26

September 9 & 23

October 7 & 21

November 4 & 18

December 2 & 16



For more information please call Cathy Baker at Stafford Cottage on 4862 1122

### To Let. – Robertson

4 bed Weatherboard,  
Wood fire, Fenced yard \$220

2 bed Furnished,  
Wood & Gas heating, Garage \$175



**R J MACKEY Real Estate**

Robertson

Phone: 4885 1329

### RANELAGH HOUSE CELEBRATES

Ranelagh House extends an invitation to all to help celebrate their 75th birthday. Festivities begin Saturday night 11th December with canapes, champagne and a gourmet Christmas Buffet, followed by dancing in the Ballroom.

What a grand way to start celebrations into the new millennium. For more information contact Ranelagh House on 4885 1111.

### Robertson Show Society Ladies Auxiliary AGM.

Some twenty ladies attended the AGM meeting of the Auxiliary held at Ranelagh House on the 11th August and heard a delightful and informative talk on Autumn Flowers for the Garden. This was followed by an enjoyable light lunch.

The next meeting of the RAHS Ladies Auxiliary will be held on **Wed 13th October** at 10.30am at the Community Centre, Robertson. All welcome.

### October REPS Meeting

The next general meeting of the Robertson Environment Protection Society Inc. will be held on Friday 8 October, in the Robertson Community Centre, in Caalong Street. Starting at 7.30 pm. The meeting will include an interesting talk on a Natural History topic, by a well qualified speaker, followed by a discussion time and a light supper. As usual all are welcome, admission is free of charge and the hall is heated! For further details watch the "Diary" column in the Southern Highlands News, and the posters in the village shops.

### ROBERTSON/BURRAWANG SENIOR CITIZENS' CLUB.

This happy group of people meets on the third Wednesday of the month in the Community Centre in Robertson at 1.30 pm. Come and join us there.

We have some members who play carpet bowls at the Bowling Club on Mondays (and our thanks to the Bowling Club for allowing us to do so). Occasionally we visit other clubs or have visits; a bus trip to somewhere not too far distant (day trip) is on the books; in December we meet somewhere different for our Christmas dinner.

One of our aims is to raise money for various worthwhile needs,

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY, ROBERTSON GUILD!

Exactly two years have elapsed since the inception of The Robertson Guild under the leadership of its President, Neil Atkins of The Village Woodworks.

During that time, a great deal has been achieved by the talented members of the Guild, most notably the Guild exhibitions in 1998 and 1999 in the Foyer Gallery of the Council offices in Moss Vale. These have been acknowledged, both by the general public and by Council office personnel themselves, as being of an exceptionally high standard. This applies not only to the outstanding quality of the wide range of art works and products which have been on view, but also with regard to the pleasing and professional style of their overall presentation.

All of this reflects very well indeed, not only upon the Guild but, more importantly, upon the whole village of Robertson and its environs. Indeed, one of the major objectives of Guild members is to work together to enhance the status of Robertson and the manner in which it is regarded by the public at large. It would appear that the objective is steadily and discreetly being very well achieved. So, Happy Birthday, Robertson Guild. And may your success continue.

**INSULATORS, BABY BOTTLES, BARBED WIRE AND MOUSETRAPS** may not be what you think of as collectables but, believe us, someone out there is avidly collecting all these strange items and many weirder ones. No wonder we never lose interest! Nearly every day brings a customer searching for something unexpected. Sometimes, we even have it!

Which might also help explain why the only thing we specialise in is diversity. Enough variety, we hope, for you to have lots of fun browsing at:

**ROBERTSON RECOLLECTIONS,**  
26 Hoddle St  
9.30 - 5.30 (every day except Wednesday)

### Community Centre Vandalised

On two occasions recently, the Community Centre in Caalong St has been broken into. This is a sad state of affairs in such a close knit community as Robertson where there is usually a great spirit of co-operation and neighbourly trust. It would appear that children were responsible for the break-ins; crayon graffiti on the walls, toilets stuffed with paper, doors and windows left open.

More serious, however, the Community Hall clock (kindly donated by a citizen of Robertson) has been stolen, as well as some old time music books.

It is to be hoped these children might consider returning the items because they would hardly be of use to them unless they are musically inclined.

Perhaps parents might keep a closer eye on their children at night and the matter might be taken up by the Rural Watch. For the security of the hall, it would be a good idea for all groups using it to double check that windows are locked before leaving.

## **J & M Fine Foods & Cheeses**

at

### **The Old Cheese Factory**

**Robertson**

**Discover an extensive range of Australian farmhouse cheeses and gourmet pickles, jams and selected produce**

**Open 7 days**

**4885 1133**

### HISTORICALLY SPEAKING .....

- Robertson was named in honour of Hon. John Robertson who was responsible for the passage of a land Act which enabled the Yarraa Brush Area to be opened up.
- Robertson area was originally known as "Three Creeks" and Robertson township was first called Yarraa.
- The first sale of town blocks took place in September 1865 when 26 lots were offered for sale.
- Growth in Robertson for the first 10 years was slow but by 1887, Robertson had 2 hotels, 3 stores, 5 butchers shops, a baker, a bootmaker, three auctioneers, a chemist, the Public School, School of Arts, a bank, the police station and 2 churches.
- Telephone service to Robertson was completed in 1914.
- On June 21st 1930 electric power was switched on.

## **Don't Forget to Vote**

**11th September – Local Council  
Elections**

**Water's Store**

**Father's Day Special**

**Instant Scratchie Promotion**

**From 23rd August to 6th September**

**A Great Gift for Dad.**