



# Robertson Newsletter

December 1999

Edition 145

## Christmas Festive Display - Prizes! Prizes!

At it's last meeting the Robertson Business Association decided to sponsor prizes for local people who decorate their houses and gardens for Christmas.

'We think these displays make a great contribution to Robertson's festive spirit', says RBA President Alan Jackson, 'They're good for the whole town, and we see the prizes as a way for local business to say "thank you" to the community.'

Three cash prizes will be awarded: 1st - \$100, 2nd - \$50, and 3rd - \$25. All decorated premises will automatically become eligible to be judged during the week beginning 13th December 1999. Councillors and community leaders will be approached to participate in a judging panel,

Prizes will be announced at the Community Christmas Carols, at Robertson School of Arts on 20th December.

Further Enquiries: Judy Fisk, Mackey Real Estate 4885 1329

## Waters Store

Brings another new service to  
Robertson!

### Film Processing.



You can bring in your Christmas & Holiday Films  
before Noon and they will be back the next day.

Thank you Robertson - your support for the Robertson Community Millennium Party has been amazing! So many organised people in our district have taken advantage of our "Early Bird" offer. For those not so quick off the mark tickets are on sale at Robertson Supermarket, Waters Store and Burrawang Hotel.

Important - we will not be selling tickets at the gate on the night. Entry to the PARTY OF THE CENTURY is by pre-purchased ticket only. So don't delay - get your tickets as soon as possible.

The PARTY will now start at 5pm, an hour earlier than advertised in our flyer.

Come and join the fun.

Event Co-ordinator: Jeff McCavana Ph. 4885 1115

## ROBERTSON RAILWAY PROJECT ON TRACK

After some delays the Robertson Railway project is starting to work up a full head of steam. Since the inception of this idea for Community management of the Robertson Railway site back in December 1998, the bureaucratic wheels have twisted and turned. The fact is that now however, Rail Estate have agreed to extend a lease of the site to Wingecarribee Shire Council.

Subject to a satisfactory assessment of the Robertson Railway Station, Council have resolved to enter into a licence agreement for the premises with State Rail.

I have recently been informed that some local young people have expressed an interest in assisting with the Railway project through becoming a part of an "earning a living" scheme. They are extremely keen to commence work on the site, as I am sure are the rest of our community. There is no doubt in my mind that this project will have very significant advantages for residents and visitors to our village.

Once approval is given for the community management of the Station, work can begin. At this stage I hope that a partnership between the Robertson Environment Protection Society (REPS) and the Robertson Business Association (RBA) can be formed and that together we can organise some local volunteers to act in a supervisory role for the project. All being well it is anticipated (bureaucratic process permitting) that commencement will be early in the new year.

There may be an opportunity to make applications to Rail Estate for some funding for the project, given that the Station building itself is of high conservation value. During the life of the project there will be a number of opportunities for public involvement, and sponsorship. It is envisaged that this area will become a central focus for the village and provide a venue for local businesses to display Arts, Crafts and Services to the public. It may also be an appropriate site to provide tourist information. It is anticipated that the site will provide some shelter for tourists and become a recreation area. It will also benefit the commuters of the Cockatoo Run and present a warmer welcome to those who arrive by train as visitors to our beautiful village.

The first step after approval will of course be the preparation of a concept plan and a meeting with the local community. I don't know about you, but I can't wait. It looks as though it's shaping up to be a good start to the new millennium for the little village of Robertson.

Larry Whipper.

## Classes for Year 2000

Day, Evening & Weekend Classes

- \* Porcelain Dolls
- \* Ceramics
- \* Teddy Bears

Classes Limited !!! Book Now !!!

"WHIMSIES

&

WHATNOTS

Contact - Debi Gronow

86 Hoddle St  
Robertson  
Ph/Fax 4885 1868



## HOW ABOUT A BAR OF CHOCOLATE?

More about the chocolate later.

One of the many inspiring aspects of life in Robertson is the amount of charitable work which is constantly taking place quietly behind the scenes.

A perfect example of this is the tremendous fund raising carried out by the Robertson Support Group for Children With Special Needs. Until a few days ago your reporter had never even heard of them but, in fact, this small and enterprising group of local ladies have been beaver away in their own free time since 1994. Furthermore, in the relatively short space of five years, the group has raised over \$8,000 for the benefit of sick children with special needs in Robertson and the surrounding area and for the benefit, also, of their parents and other family members.

Furthermore, in addition to the principal objective of taking care of local needs, funds have also been distributed in several other ways. Some of the major beneficiaries have been the Westmead and the Randwick Childrens' Hospitals. Substantial sums have been donated to the King George 5th Hospital to provide beds for tiny babies with jaundice. Similar sums have been given to the John Spencer Neo-Natal Ward, together with significant donations towards the maintenance of Ronald McDonald House; the excellent temporary residence and haven of rest for so many parents, exhausted by the stress and anxiety of caring for extremely sick children and those suffering from terminal illnesses.

So who are these wonder-women of Robertson who are making all of these amazing things happen? In fact, they're people like Hope Waters, Melissa Lovell, Jean Tobler, Pat Willard and many others. They don't act like wonder-women and they're certainly not interested in being in the limelight. But they most definitely are interested in continuing to raise funds for the benefit of the children who are so close to their hearts.

How can we help them? Well, this is where the chocolate bars come into the story. These dynamic ladies have just ordered twenty big boxes of charity chocolate which they'll soon be selling throughout the village as part of their next major fundraising drive. So dig deep and make sure that you buy as much as possible when you get the chance.

And, if you feel like doing a bit more than that, then drop in and have a chat with Hope Waters or Pat Willard. They'd love to tell you more about the rewarding work of the group and how you could be an exciting part of it all.

AJ

**Robertson Supermarket**  
Neil & Heather Tait.....Friendly Service

**Open 8am-8pm**  
**7 Days per week**

Hoddle St - Phone/Fax 4885 1519



**Building Supplies**  
31 Hoddle Street  
Robertson 2577



For ALL your building needs locally.

Phone 4885 1033 Fax 4885 1094

### First Grade and Second Row.

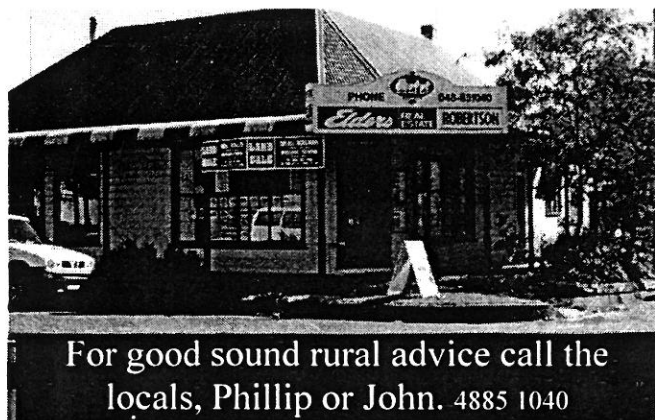
What is it about Robertson that continually produces top performers? It could be the potatoes, I suppose. But in the case of the two Hindmarsh brothers, Ian and Nathan, it's more likely to be the milk. Whatever it is, it has certainly produced two outstanding athletes and sportsmen in the case of these two gentle giants.

Both play in second row positions and each of them is now enjoying first grade, top professional Rugby League with Parramatta; one of the most respected and successful teams in all Australia. Nathan achieved first grade status with them a couple of years ago when he was barely eighteen. Ian followed close on his heels a year later.

Following many successful years of junior Rugby League, first in Robertson and subsequently in Moss Vale, the two brothers were selected for trials with Parramatta at the end of 1995 and have been there ever since. Ian says that his greatest playing moment to date was roughly six weeks ago at Stadium Australia when he helped his side to victory in The Reserve Grade Grand Final in front of a massive crowd of 80,000 roaring spectators. He modestly told me all about this thrilling moment while we had a quiet mug of coffee together. I got so excited I almost cheered.

Both the brothers began training in early November for the new season scheduled to begin in February. I'm sure that we all proudly wish them every success for many seasons to come. And although I'm slightly too old to become a Rugby League player, I think I'm going to begin drinking a bit more milk.

AJ.



For good sound rural advice call the  
locals, Phillip or John. 4885 1040

## Community Notices

### Robertson Lions Club - Christmas Cakes.

These can be purchased from R. J. Mackey Real Estate, Robertson.

1.5kg - \$9.00    1kg - \$6.60

Or contact Nerida - 4862 2415

### WARNING. WATCH YOUR PARKING AT CARRINGTON FALLS.

We're sorry to have to report this but forewarned is forearmed, as the saying goes.

Sadly yet another beauty spot is being subjected to the squalid activities of thieves and vandals. Reports are being received of cars being broken into in the parking area at Carrington Falls so please do take extra special care when you're visiting the area. It's sad, isn't it? There's so much good and beneficial work which is always needing to be done and yet these tiresome vagabonds with time on their hands can only think of causing grief and trouble to others. Anyway, we know that they're out there so mind how you go.

### Philip Decker Bricklayer

#### "Small Jobs a Speciality"

Phone 4885 1867

15-17 Lemmons Rd, Robertson.

### Hampden Park Management Committee

This 355 Committee was formed 2 years ago by Wingecarribee Council to administer our parkland in Robertson. This includes the playing fields, Caalong Creek Reserve (on the Northern side of the creek) & the Lions Park. Each sporting body using the park, Hockey, Cricket & Soccer, has a representative as well as Lions Club, Scouts, R.E.P.S, Village Association and now the Robertson Business Association.

This small group has been trying to upgrade our park area and so far has finished the amenities block, put in trees on the northern boundary, re-seeded the top playing fields and installed two new picnic tables with extra seating (with a shelter to be installed over the new tables by Christmas).

We have our own resident maintenance man who has volunteered to keep the grass down in the picnic areas and Caalong Reserve so that picnickers can use these areas in comfort.

Future plans include a walking path around the edge of the Park, move and improve Cricket nets, a large shelter, better BBQ facilities in Lions Park and more shelters and tables scattered around the park area. The problem with the little useless garbage bins is a constant concern we will fight on with !!

Bookings -Tania Gardener 4885 1714  
President - Grace Avery 4885 1481

### Community Bus

December 2nd & 16th

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



### Centenary of Federation

Do you know that on 9 July 1900 Queen Victoria signed the Royal Commission of Assent to the Australian Constitution, marking the Royal approval for the Constitution. So next year is the actual centenary.

To mark the occasion in Wingecarribee Shire, a Committee was formed last year, calling for community projects to apply for a Federation Grant to celebrate the occasion. Three were successful: tree planting linking Mittagong Bowral and Moss Vale; Berrima District & Family Historical Society's Museum project; and the Bundanoon Community Development Association's upgrading of the Memorial Hall.

It was pointed out to the Committee that the people of the villages in the Shire would also wish to be part of the celebrations as well as the three towns.

To that end there will be a small amount allocated to each area (maybe \$1,000.00) to buy trees, either tube stock or advanced trees, prepare the ground, buy tree guards, look after them etc., maybe they could be planted at the entrances to the villages or in a grove or park or?

And this is where you come in! Perhaps organisations or families may wish to purchase one or more, perhaps as a memorial to someone or just for the pure love of enhancing the area in which we love to live; so please think about it. The plantings will commence on the actual anniversary day (9 July 2000) and continue for approximately two months.

The Committee is aiming to get in touch with all organisations, churches, schools etc. for ideas and help later on, and with the assistance of co-opted Council staff, will be checking with nurseries re suitable trees for each area.

Please give this some thought. It would be wonderful to have a big village day out, wouldn't it? There will be updates in this newsletter during the year.

Joan Compagnoni  
Local Committee Representative.

### The Old Cheese Factory Gift Shop

It's only 3 weeks to Christmas.....

Don't forget the Old Cheese factory Gift Shop for that special gift for someone you love.

Gifts & Collectables from Teddy Bears, Knitwear,  
Furniture, Canewear to Oldwears

Open 7 Days - 9am to 5pm. Ph. 4885 2144



## Medical Notes

It is almost the end of the year and Robertson Medical Practice has had a very successful one in the new premises. We thank you for your support during the year.

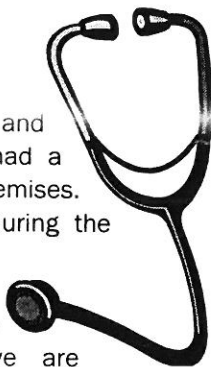
We would like to take the opportunity to tell you that we are introducing a new service next year.

Dr Nicholas Locke, who runs our Sydney surgery, will be holding surgery at Robertson once a month on Saturdays, specifically to do skin checks, mole removals and other minor procedures. This will please the people who have requested this service. Dr Nicholas is a surgeon by training and has been doing these procedures as a specialist for over 20 years. If you have any inquiries about the types of procedures available, phone June at the surgery on 4885 1502. Dr Susan Locke can answer any technical queries.

Robertson Medical Practice will run normal hours until the Christmas week. We will be open on Christmas Eve morning, which is a Friday, and will then close from Saturday 25th December (Christmas Day) until Tuesday 4th January 2000.

(Don't forget Monday 3rd January is a public holiday).

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to seeing you all again in 2000.



## High School Honours come to Robertson.

Every year the excellent Moss Vale High School appoints two outstanding Year 11 students to the important and responsible positions of School Captains. Competition is fierce but fair and the two who are eventually selected know that they bear significant responsibilities as ambassadors of their school and as exemplary role models to their fellow students.

All of us in Robertson can be justifiably proud in the knowledge that the current successful candidates, only recently announced, are both local residents and are, in fact, Sally Vaughan of North Street and Aaron de Jager of Mackeys Lane.

It would be difficult to imagine any two young people more modest, more pleasant and more level headed. I had the good fortune to interview each of them independently and was immediately impressed by their serious approach to their new responsibilities and by the quiet and confident enthusiasm which each of them clearly demonstrated. The phrase which came to mind straightaway was that of wise heads on young shoulders. Hardly surprising, in a way, since they were both of them simultaneously Vice Captains of Robertson Primary School some years ago.

Residents of Robertson for the whole of their lives, keen and enthusiastic sports players and full of fun, each of them is now preparing for next year's HSC. Aaron hopes to go to University and follow a teaching career in Physical Education. Sally is also aiming for University and is seriously considering a career in Hospitality Management.

We send our congratulations to Aaron and to Sally and we wish each of them well in their new responsibilities and in their future careers.

AJ

## An Old Fashioned Christmas

Not every Christmas gift stands the test of time (Some don't last until New Year!) So, if you'd like to give someone you love something **they'll** love, it makes sense to think about gifts with proven staying power.

That's why we suggest you make this year an **Old Fashioned Christmas**. What better way to celebrate the coming millenium than to give the people in your future a treasure from the past? Something beautiful, rare, wonderful, hand-made, and well made. Something unique.

We have shops full of such things, from fine china and jewellery to novel collectables. From mellow furniture to rare and interesting books - treasures for every taste, and budget.

Gifts that will not only be appreciated but will appreciate in **value** too - which can't be said of many Christmas gifts.

So, please consider including our places on your Christmas shopping agenda!

**ALL TIME TREASURES**  
(opposite Old Cheese Factory)  
4885 1117

and

**ROBERTSON RECOLLECTIONS**  
26 Hoddle St  
4885 1080

### Robertson

- 3 Bedroom House, garage - \$165pw
- 2 Bedroom House, garage - \$155pw
- Shop for lease - \$195pw

### Burrawang

- 3 Bedroom House, secluded - \$220pw
- Holiday lets also available.



## R J MACKEY Real Estate

Robertson

Phone: 4885 1329

### PREPARING YOUR GARDEN FOR SUMMER.

Have you noticed how even after all the rain we have had in the last month some of our gardens have dried out already? Robertson is blessed with deep soils and one of the highest rainfalls in the country but keeping moisture in our garden beds is still a challenge.

The answer is of course organic matter. It does not really matter what you use, as long as it was once alive. Any kind of manure, homemade compost, mulching straw or leaf litter will improve the water holding capacity of your soil. It will keep moisture in the top layers of the garden where most of our plants need it and help keep the soils cooler during the hot months to come.

As your mulch or manures slowly break down they will be feeding your soil and building up the worm and helpful insect populations as well. A well mulched soil will reduce any stress your plants might be feeling in the heat of summer and of course it will greatly reduce your water bill by almost eliminating the need to water.

A few things to remember when mulching your garden - don't let the mulch come into contact with the trunks of trees or shrubs as this can lead to rotting on the stems. If you are using fresh chook manure, compost it or mix it with straw and let it have time to age before placing it on your beds. If you choose to use pine bark or chips always sprinkle a layer of fertiliser over the soil first as the chips actually take out nutrients as they break down.



By mulching now before the summer sun hits you will keep the garden looking fresh, green and beautiful - save dollars off your water bill and reduce weeds as well.

### Robertson Village Nursery

Jill & Lindon Keft

Phone 4885 1138

## Merry Christmas from the County Inn

Dining a-la-Carte every Friday & Saturday from 6.30pm

Bistro style lunch - 7 days from noon.

Country Roasts & Barbecues - Sundays from noon

Live Entertainment - Thursday, Friday, Saturday at lunch

Jazz Band every Sunday at noon, and entertainment most Saturday nights.

## Church Service Times

### Anglican

#### St John's Robertson

8.00am Traditional Services - 2nd Sunday - Communion  
4th Sunday - Morning Prayer  
9.30am Family Service & Sunday School - Every Sunday

7.00pm 1st & 3rd Sundays - Informal Service

#### St David's Burrawang

8.00am - 1st Sunday (NEW)

### Presbyterian, Burrawang

2.00pm - 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays

### Uniting, Robertson

9.00am - 2nd & 4th Sundays

### Roman Catholic

#### Robertson

10.00am - 2nd & 4th Sundays

#### Burrawang

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

### Christmas Kids Club

St John's Anglican  
December 21st, 22nd & 23rd.  
9.30am-12.00noon



Enquiries - Rev. Barry Lee 4885 1210  
Grace Avery 4885 1481

### Nathan's Recipe of the Month

#### Ham & Melon

(A great way to use your leftover Christmas Ham.)

Half a rockmelon per person. Remove seeds, then scoop out flesh and place in a basin with about 30gms of chopped ham and ½ liqueur glass of port per half melon. Place mixture into melon shells. Decorate with sprigs of mint.



If you would like to submit your favourite meat recipe for publication in the next issue of the Newsletter, drop it in to Nathan by 15th January. Winning recipe will receive one of Nathan's minted legs of lamb.

With the compliments of  
Robertson Highland Butchery  
7.30am - 5.00pm Mon - Fri, Sat till 12noon  
34 Hoddle St - Phone 4885 1215  
Free Home Deliveries.

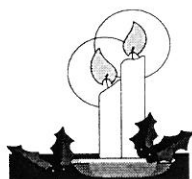


## Carol Services

*Carols (In the Grounds)*  
*St David's Burrawang*  
*Sunday 19th December - 8.00pm*

*Robertson Community Carols*  
*Robertson School of Arts*  
*Mon 20th December - 7.30pm*

*Carols at St John's (In the Grounds)*  
*St John's Robertson*  
*Friday 24th December - 8.00pm*



### Oxeye Daisy Meeting.

It was good to see so many people concerned over the growing problem with this weed. Sadly, so far the Council seems less eager to attack the problem at the old tip and along the roadsides. Landcare & R.E.P.S. are very supportive. Unfortunately the problem seems bigger than first thought. Frustrated farmers have said it doesn't like Roundup or Amine 24D

Cherry Archer.

### ROBERTSON LINK TO SNOWY MOUNTAINS SCHEME: "LEMMONS ROAD".

To the inhabitants of the drought-plagued interior, the irrigation potential of the snow-fed rivers of the Alps was clear. As for its hydro-electric potential, studies dated back to 1908. But it took a conjunction of events in the post-war years to see the Snowy scheme established.

In 1946 a resident Norwegian engineer persuaded some trout fishing friends to measure river levels. With that data, Trygve Olsen proved that by turning the rivers backwards through tunnels under the mountains much greater quantities of hydro-electric power could be produced than had previously been considered.

Nelson Lemmon, Minister for Works and Housing in the Chifley Government was impressed. He saw the scheme as liberating Australians from the constant blackouts they then suffered, as well as providing an inland food-bowl. He manoeuvred the Snowy Scheme into being just two months before Labor lost to the Liberals in 1949. He also appointed William Hudson, a local engineer, as Commissioner.

Today when development advantages must be balanced against environmental sustainability, the consensus is the Snowy would not be built. Critics point out environmental damage; the irrigation water bringing life to the inland has also caused disastrous salinity. The Snowy River is nearly dead, cut to one per cent of its original flow. But the scheme provides renewable electricity for peak usage with minimal greenhouse effects. The environmental debate continues but few dispute the Snowy Scheme's contribution in the forging of the Australian nation.

Mr Nelson Lemmon moved to Robertson and established a thoroughbred horse stud. He later subdivided this land into smaller acreages which Lemmons Road services today.

Phil DECKER  
 LEMMONS ROAD.

### 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 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. All advertisements to Micki Boehme at Robertson Recollections. Thank you for your support.

### Deadline

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

### Disclaimer

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Editors : Barry Lee & Julie Edwards.