

EUCRYPHIA

Robertson Environment



Protection Society Inc.

No. 3

JULY, 1991.

The chosen logo is derived from the leaves of Eucryphia moorei or Pinkwood, a beautiful cool-temperate rainforest tree which grows in the district.

Eucryphia is printed on recycled paper.

RECYCLING

At the General Meeting held on April 9, the President welcomed the invited guests : Councillors Jim Tuddenham and Joanna Gash; John Goodwin, the Deputy Chief Health Building Surveyor; and Bob Buchanan, the Council Environment Officer.

Mr Goodwin told the Meeting that Council has found it necessary to control the local tips, because garbage, including toxic wastes, has been dumped from outside the Shire. It costs \$1.5 million to run the Shire Garbage Service. The new tip will cost between \$0.7m and \$1.7m to set up, including lining the site and leachate treatment from "Day 1". By composting and recycling, it would be possible to make the tip last 50 years instead of 30. It is planned to have the Wingecarribee Shire Recycling Advisory Group operating from the end of the year.

Discussion followed Mr. Goodwin's talk. Problems raised included : absence (or ignorance) of a recycling pick-up service in the village; dissatisfaction with the drop-off at the Robertson tip; the long drive to take recyclables to the Bowral Depot, and reduction in the type of recyclables that they will take. There are many residents who live outside the Shire garbage collection area. The desirability of a suitable drop-off point for recyclables in Robertson was discussed. Containers should be well made, pleasant to look at and, as far as possible, vandal-proof.

As a result of the discussion, the following motion was put and passed by the Meeting :

"That Councillors Jim Tuddenham and Joanna Gash propose to Council that Council should :

(a) Establish central glass collecting bins in Robertson for a period of 12 months, as a pilot project for other recyclables and for other villages.

(b) Arrange for the bins to be emptied regularly by a Council contractor.

(c) Review the success of the pilot project in 12 months time in consultation with the Robertson Environment Protection Society.

It was agreed that members of the Society would attend meetings of the Health and Community Services Committee, and ordinary Council meetings where these matters were discussed. The President thanked the visitors for their participation in the discussion.

Letters conveying this resolution were sent by the Secretary to the two Councillors and two Council Officers who attended our meeting. At the end of April, a letter was received from Bob Barton, Chief Health and Building Surveyor, stating that our resolution had been conveyed to the Works and Town Planning Committee but the Council could not proceed with the recommendation at present and would contact us later in the year.

However, about a week later, we were contacted by phone and invited to attend a meeting of the Health and Community Services Committee. Robyn Williams, David Tranter and Helen Tranter attended and put the case for glass recycling bins and for recycling in general. The system adopted by the Shoalhaven Council, which is working well, was given as a model.

At the end of the discussions, the Council committee decided that the proposed Recycling Advisory Group would be set up within 2 months. On May 31, we received a letter from Mr. Barton asking us to nominate a representative, to participate on this Advisory Panel. At the Society Meeting on June 11, Robyn Williams was elected as the representative and Agneta Sherborne as alternative representative.

SOIL CONSERVATION

Our Guest Speaker at the General Meeting on June 11 was Guy Van Owen M.Sc., Dip.Ag., the new District Soil Conservationist at Moss Vale. A graduate of the University of New England, Guy has worked with the State Pollution Control Commission for 2 years, and with the Soil Conservation Service (for about 4 years) at Wellington and West Wyalong. He spoke about the work of the Service and showed slides illustrating various soil conservation problems and their solution.

The Soil Conservation Service is a small, highly decentralized department, established in 1938 when 6 Research Centres were set up at strategic locations throughout the State. Soil conservation projects provide a co-ordinated approach to the problems of erosion within a defined area, usually a water catchment or a entire valley. Properties within the project are provided with erosion control plans, necessary structures are installed and improved land management practices introduced. Projects are essentially joint ventures between landholders and the State Government, and can be initiated by either.

The Soil Conservation Service is also responsible for protection of the State's vital water catchment areas. The large water storage dams and reservoirs would become useless if the flow of heavy sediment into them was not prevented. The controls now introduced mean that clearing of any kind on "protected lands" such as riverbanks, steep lands (slope greater than 18 degrees), or environmentally sensitive lands, is allowed only after permission is obtained, and then only under stringent conditions.

Land degradation is the decline in the condition or quality of the land as a consequence of misuse or overuse. It can occur whenever the natural landscape is changed by developments for agriculture, mining, forestry, industry, urban settlement or tourism; or for such infrastructures as roads, railways and dams. On agricultural lands, degradation results in loss of productive capacity. Soil erosion can also have the effect of filling dams and water supplies with silt. Types of land degradation include : sheet and rill erosion, gully erosion, mass soil movements, wind erosion, salinity, induced soil acidity, soil structure decline, and woody shrub infestation.

To help reduce land degradation, the Soil Conservation Service has developed an eight-class land capability classification for evaluating rural land; and a series of 1:100000 land capability maps is being prepared. This classification outlines the types of land management practices that are needed to prevent soil erosion and maintain soil productivity. For rural planning, the land capability classes can be combined into 3 categories of potential land use :

- * Land suitable for Cultivation (Classes I,II, and III)
- * Land suitable for Grazing (Classes IV,V and VI)
- * Land unsuitable for Agriculture use (Classes VII and VIII)

Particular factors which should be considered in the Robertson area are the heavy rainfall and slope of the land; trees should not be cleared on slopes greater than 18 degrees; and measures should be taken to prevent sheet, rill and gully erosion.

The following publications were made available from the Soil Conservation Service and are now available in the Society Library :

- *"Soil Conservation"
- *"Land Degradation"
- *"Rural Land - Capability Mapping"
- *"Trees for the Southern Tablelands"
- *"Soil Conservation for Small Farms"
- *"Farm Trees - Why you need trees on your farm"
- *"Farm Trees - Establishment Techniques"
- *"Farm Trees - Insect Pests"

N O T I C E

The next General meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday, August 13th in the Robertson Community Centre.

The speaker will be Philip Kodela who will give an account of his studies of the Robertson forests.

The 1990/91 Committee

President & Journal Editor
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer

Allan Stiles
David Tranter
Helen Tranter
Robyn Williams

ORDINARY MEMBERS

Beth Boughton
Sheila McInnes
Greg. Stone
Hope Waters.

Keith Halfhide
Robert McInnes
Jenette Stiles

MEMBERSHIP of the Society is invited. Please contact the Hon.Secretary, Mrs.Helen Tranter, 12 McGuinness Drive, Robertson 2577 or phone (048) 851 394.

**Plant species recorded from pastures, roadsides and wasteland areas in
the Robertson-Moss Vale region, Central Tablelands, NSW**

The Robertson area was settled by Europeans in the early 1800s. The high rainfall and fertile soils derived from basalt and shales were well suited to dairying and potato growing. Many exotic plant species were introduced for improved pastures, as well as the arrival of opportunistic weed species. The following list of pasture and roadside species includes many naturalised species.

APIACEAE	* <i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	Fennel
APOCYNACEAE	* <i>Vinca major</i>	Blue Periwinkle
AQUIFOLIACEAE	* <i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly
ASTERACEAE	* <i>Arctotheca calendula</i>	Capeweed
	* <i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Spear or Black Thistle
	* <i>Conyza albida</i>	Tall Fleabane
	* <i>Crepis capillaris</i>	Smooth Hawkesbeard
	<i>Gnaphalium gymnocephalum</i>	Cudweed
	<i>G. involucratum</i>	Cudweed
	* <i>Hypochoeris radicata</i>	Catsear, Flatweed
	* <i>Lactuca serriola</i>	Prickly Lettuce
	<i>Lagenifera stipitata</i>	
	* <i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	Ox-eye Daisy
	<i>Olearia viscidula</i>	Daisy-bush
	<i>Pseudognaphalium luteoalbum</i>	Jersey Cudweed
	<i>Senecio hispidulus</i>	Fireweed
	<i>S. linearifolius</i>	Fireweed Groundsel
	* <i>S. madagascariensis</i>	Fireweed
	<i>S. quadridentatus</i>	Cotton Fireweed
	<i>Sigesbeckia orientalis</i>	Indian Weed
	* <i>Silybum marianum</i>	Varegated Thistle
	* <i>Soliva pterosperma</i>	Bindii, Jojo
	* <i>Sonchus asper</i> ssp. <i>glaucescens</i>	Rough or Prickly Sowthistle
	* <i>S. oleraceus</i>	Common Sowthistle
	* <i>Taraxacum officinale</i>	Dandelion
BLECHNACEAE	<i>Doodia aspera</i>	Rasp Fern
BORAGINACEAE	* <i>Echium plantagineum</i>	Paterson's Curse
	* <i>E. vulgare</i>	Viper's Bugloss
	<i>Myosotis australis</i>	Forget-me-not
	* <i>M. sylvatica</i>	Forget-me-not
BRASSICACEAE	<i>Cardamine paucijuga</i>	
	<i>Lepidium pseudohyssopifolium</i>	
	* <i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i>	Wild Radish
	* <i>Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum</i>	Watercress
	* <i>Sisymbrium officinale</i>	Hedge Mustard
CAMPANULACEAE	<i>Wahlenbergia</i> sp. (unpubl. sp.)	Bluebell

CARYOPHYLLACEAE	* <i>Cerastium glomeratum</i> * <i>C. semidecandrum</i> <i>Scleranthus biflorus</i> * <i>Silene gallica</i> var. <i>gallica</i> * <i>Spergula arvensis</i> <i>Stellaria flaccida</i> * <i>S. media</i> <i>S. pungens</i>	Mouse Ear Chickweed Catchfly Corn Spurry Starwort Chickweed Prickly Starwort
CHENOPODIACEAE	<i>Chenopodium carinatum</i>	Keeled Goosefoot
CYPERACEAE	* <i>Cyperus eragrostis</i> <i>C. lucidus</i> <i>C. sanguinolentus</i>	Umbrella Sedge
DENNSTAEDTIACEAE	<i>Pteridium esculentum</i>	Bracken
EUPHORBIACEAE	* <i>Euphorbia lathyris</i> * <i>E. peplus</i>	Caper Spurge Petty Spurge
FABACEAE	* <i>Cytisus scoparius</i> * <i>Genista monspessulana</i> <i>Glycine</i> sp. * <i>Trifolium dubium</i> * <i>T. pratense</i> * <i>T. repens</i> * <i>T. subterraneum</i> * <i>Ulex europaeus</i> * <i>Vicia sativa</i> ssp. <i>angustifolia</i> * <i>V. sativa</i> ssp. <i>sativa</i>	Scotch or English Broom Montpellier or Cape Broom Suckling Clover Red Clover White Clover Subterranean Clover Gorse, Furze Narrowleaf Vetch Common Vetch, Tares
FUMARIACEAE	* <i>Fumaria muralis</i> ssp. <i>muralis</i>	Wall Fumitory
GERANIACEAE	<i>Geranium homeanum</i> <i>G. solanderi</i>	
IRIDACEAE	* <i>Sisyrinchium iridifolium</i>	
JUNCACEAE	* <i>Juncus articulatus</i> <i>J. bufonius</i> <i>J. planifolius</i>	Jointed Rush Toad Rush Broad Rush
LAMIACEAE	<i>Ajuga australis</i> <i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	Self-heal
LILIACEAE	<i>Schelhammera undulata</i>	Lilac Lilly
LOBELIACEAE	<i>Pratia ? purpurascens</i>	White Root
LYTHRACEAE	<i>Lythrum hyssopifolia</i>	Lesser Loosestrife
MALACEAE	* <i>Malus X domestica</i>	Apple
MALVACEAE	* <i>Malva parviflora</i> * <i>Modiola caroliniana</i>	Smallflower Mallow Redflower Mallow

OLEACEAE	* <i>Ligustrum lucidum</i> * <i>L. sinense</i>	Large-leaf Privet Small-leaf Privet
ONAGRACEAE	<i>Epilobium billardierianum</i> <i>ssp. cinereum</i>	Willow Herb
ORCHIDACEAE	<i>Diuris lanceolata</i>	
OXALIDACEAE	* <i>Oxalis articulata</i> <i>O. perennans</i>	Shamrock Oxalis
PHYTOLACCACEAE	* <i>Phytolacca octandra</i>	Inkweed
PINACEAE	* <i>Pinus radiata</i>	Radiata Pine
PLANTAGINACEAE	<i>Plantago debilis</i> * <i>P. lanceolata</i>	Lamb's Tongue
POACEAE	* <i>Agropyron repens</i> * <i>Agrostis capillaris</i> * <i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i> * <i>Avena ? fatua</i> * <i>Briza maxima</i> * <i>Bromus catharticus</i> * <i>Dactylis glomerata</i> * <i>Eragrostis mexicana</i> * <i>Holcus lanatus</i> * <i>Paspalum dilatatum</i> * <i>Phalaris aquatica</i> * <i>Poa annua</i> <i>P. labillardieri</i> * <i>Setaria glauca</i> * <i>Sporobolus africanus</i> <i>Themeda australis</i>	English Couch Bent Grass Sweet Vernal Grass Wild Oats Quaking Grass Prairie Grass Yorkshire Fog Paspalum Phalaris Winter Grass Poa Tussock Parramatta Grass Kangaroo Grass
POLYGONACEAE	* <i>Acetosella vulgaris</i> <i>Persicaria hydropiper</i> * <i>Rumex obtusifolius</i> * <i>R. crispus X obtusifolius</i>	Sheep Sorrel Water Pepper Broadleaf Dock
PRIMULACEAE	* <i>Anagallis arvensis</i>	Scarlet Pimpernel
RANUNCULACEAE	<i>Ranunculus plebeius</i> * <i>R. repens</i>	Hairy Buttercup Creeping Buttercup
ROSACEAE	<i>Acaena novae-zelandiae</i> * <i>Aphanes arvensis</i> * <i>Crataegus monogyna</i> * <i>Duchesnea indica</i> * <i>Prunus laurocerasus</i> * <i>Rosa rubiginosa</i> * <i>Rubus discolor</i> <i>R. parvifolius</i>	Biddy Biddy Parsley Piert Hawthorn Wild Strawberry English Cherry Laurel Sweet Briar Blackberries, Brambles Native Raspberry
RUBIACEAE	<i>Asperula conferta</i> * <i>Sherardia arvensis</i>	

SCROPHULARIACEAE	* <i>Verbascum thapsus</i> * <i>Veronica arvensis</i> <i>V. gracilis</i> <i>V. plebeia</i>	Great Mullein Wall Speedwell Creeping Speedwell
SOLANACEAE	* <i>Cestrum elegans</i> * <i>Solanum chenopodioides</i> * <i>S. nigrum</i> <i>S. pungetium</i>	Blackberry Nightshade Eastern Nightshade
STACKHOUSIACEAE	<i>Stackhousia monogyna</i>	Candles
URTICACEAE	<i>Urtica incisa</i>	Scrub Nettle
VERBENACEAE	* <i>Verbena bonariensis</i>	Purple Top
VIOLACEAE	<i>Viola betonicifolia</i> <i>V. hederacea</i>	Showy or Mountain Violet Ivy Leaved Violet
XANTHORRHOEACEAE	<i>Lomandra longifolia</i>	Spiny-headed Mat-rush

* represents introduced taxa

Acknowledgements

The National Herbarium of New South Wales assisted with plant identifications and Debbie Smith kindly assisted with word processing.

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Phillip Kodela, a REPS member, is completing his Ph.D. thesis at the School of Geography, University of New South Wales. He has been conducting research into fossil pollens in the district and several of his articles have recently been published in scientific journals.