



Robertson Environment Protection Society

Eucryphia

Number 12

September, 1993.

ISSN 1037 - 2032

a house for all seasons



A Commonsense Guide to Home Building
and Energy Efficient Living
in
The Southern Highlands

2.

NOTICE OF MEETING

ABORIGINAL ART OF THE WODI WODI

An illustrated talk by Cecil Rutledge

Community Centre, Robertson.

Friday, 10th September.

The Wodi Wodi were a tribe that inhabited the area from the Royal National Park in the north to the Barren Grounds in the South. Within this area something like 300 aboriginal sites per square mile have been identified with evidence of great activity in the Jamberoo Valley. A farmer in the area, Cecil Rutledge learned directly about this activity from the tip of a plough and developed a lifetime interest in the subject. He is now an honorary curator at the Albion Park Museum. He will illustrate his talk with slides of the art of the Wodi Wodi and welcomes questions throughout the presentation.

EVERYONE WELCOME

FROM THE COMMITTEE

The launch of the **Local Energy Efficiency Project** book and display of the retrofitted Community Centre went very well. Congratulations to Robyn Williams and all her workers.

Streamwatch: The Society now has someone with a computer who is prepared to take part in the keylink communication network which collects data from all the streamwatch groups. We also have permission to use the incubator at Moss Vale High School for the next year so please let Steve Douglas know if you are interested in joining the group to test the water in Caalang Creek.

Caalang Creek Reafforestation: There was a lot of competition for the Environment Trust grants we applied for and, like many other groups, we missed out this time. The working group is still going ahead and drawing up a plan of management to discuss with Council staff in the next couple of months.

Education booklet on tree preservation: The Council has replied to our request for an education programme on tree preservation by asking us to prepare the text for a booklet in co-operation with Council staff. Larry Whipper, John Stowar, Helen Tranter and Craig Martin (tree specialist at Mittagong) met with the Chief Town Planner for initial discussions on 17th August.

Members of the Committee will put in a submission on the Council's draft **Corporate Plan** as this will have to be in by 30th August.

Some time ago the matter of **Conservation Agreements** was discussed. These are between private landholders and the State Government which enable significant native forests to be protected even after land has been sold. More details will be made available at future meetings.

At the **Villages of the Southern Highlands Tourist Association** meeting favourable comments were made about our energy efficiency booklet and the launch day. We have learnt about the SRA stopping the weekend rail passenger service in November. 3801 Ltd plans to run the steam train to Robertson at least once a month next year.

Helen Tranter

This month's cover is the cover of the booklet about energy efficient housing compiled by Robyn Williams and published by REPS. Copies are available free and may be obtained by contacting Robyn or the Secretary.

Roadside Tree Planting

In March there was a tree planting day when a good number of volunteers planted trees beside the Illawarra Highway on RTA land west of the Gazebo Works. Most of these were the local species, *Eucalyptus fastigata*, which is the very large species growing on red soils and which is found adjoining and sometimes towering over rainforest remnants. Common names are Brown Barrel, Whitetop and Silvertop. Seeds from local trees had been grown and supplied by RTA officers. There has been very pleasing growth of the planted seedlings both those within sight of motorists and out of sight. Many have doubled their height and some are now about 1 metre.

MEMBERSHIP of the Society is invited. Why not be active in a friendly community organization such as this? Public meetings with interesting speakers are held every two months with business meetings (which are open to members) every other month. Please contact the Secretary, Mrs. Helen Tranter, PO Box 45 Robertson 2577 or phone 048 851 394.

Eucryphia is the journal of the Robertson Environment Protection Society.

Articles for publication may be sent to the editor, Allan Stiles, 40 Beecroft Road, Beecroft 2119 or phone 02 875 3771.

SEED SUPPLY REGISTER AND SEED BANK

REPS is interested in establishing both a register of seed bearing trees in our area and a seed bank. If you are interested in becoming part of this, please fill out the form below and return it to REPS or hand it in at our next meeting. Seed collected could then be made available to members either to grow for their own use or to supply tubestock to the Society. This could, in turn, supply other members.

The Robertson Nursery has generously offered to sell trees grown from local seed. This would be in a special area of the nursery and money from sales would return to the Society.

ROBERTSON DISTRICT SEED SUPPLY REGISTER

NAME

POSTAL ADDRESS.....

.....

NAME OF PROPERTY.....

ADDRESS OF PROPERTY

.....

TELEPHONE: CONTACT NO.

LOCAL NO.

Seed bearing trees on my property are :

.....

.....

- * Would you be willing to contact REPS when seed is ripe on your property?
- * Would you be willing to collect seed on your property?
- * Would you allow a group of members to collect seed on your property?
- * Do you have trees which you would like have identified?