



# More time for the finer things in life

AFTER more than 25 years with the *Moree Champion* Ron Turton has decided it's time to spend more leisure time around the world.

Ronnie will have his last day at work tomorrow but says he'll be staying in Moree.

Anyone who knows him won't be surprised that while this will be his home base, he plans on attending just about every race meet you can imagine in the world, and of course returning for the local events.

He may even find time for some fishing again, and no doubt spend plenty of time with sand between his toes and catching a wave, being a bloke from Sydney's northern beaches.

Despite having such an illustrious career at with the *Champion* and *Border News* alone, Ronnie's career in fact began in the industry in 1971 and his achievements have been nothing short of astounding.

With a background in accounts, that's where Ron started at the *Berrima Post*, but with the advertising manager having to take leave without a replacement the 'new kid on the block' was thrown into the deep end and told to go and sell ads.

It would be one of the best things that ever happened in Ron's life.

"We were a bi-weekly based at Moss Vale so we decided to go to Bowral and we came back with all this money."

"We were seeing people that had never been approached by the *Post* before."

Ron recalls the first ever ad he sold. "It was a ten by two to the local barber shop. It was my first call. I didn't really know what to say," he laughed.

"When we got back the editor nearly had a fit. The paper had to go up from a 16 to a 24 on Tuesday, and then from a 20 to 28 on the Thursday," he grinned proudly.

The general manager was based at Goulburn and rang the office to tell Ron he had been fired.

"He said, 'we can always get someone to do the books; he's the new advertising manager'," Ron explained.

"I met a lot of friendly country people and for the first time I found something I really liked," he said.

Ronnie's sales skills were so good in fact, the paper later went on to become a tri-weekly.

But, after a big stint in the bush, the city beckoned, and in 1979 Ron went to Sydney for an interview with the *Daily Mirror*.

The paper, owned by Murdoch, was the biggest circulated daily in the state. Ron was hired on the spot.

"I think a lot of the local knowledge I learnt while working on a small, country paper went down well."

Ron started phone blowing for features for a few months and quickly became features manager.

After 18 months he became assistant advertising manager.

"That was the biggest thrill of my life. I couldn't believe it!"

From there it was a whole new ball game with Ron landing all the big agencies.

At the time Ron was mates with Murdoch's nephew, Matt Handbury, who had worked in New York and on the *Northern Territory News*, and was managing the *Northern Daily Leader* in Tamworth.

"We were very good friends and he poached me to go to Tamworth. It was the hardest decision I ever made."

"Matt had a journalistic background but he must have been a damn good salesman to get me to go back to the country!"

Ron started as the advertising and marketing manager at the *NDL* in 1981, taking his top training from the big smoke to the country reps.

"I even got them to wear and ties and jackets, and to get them to become proud of the team."

Despite having a successful time at Tamworth, Ron's goal of becoming an advertising manager at a major metro

paper seemed far away.

But after two-and-a-half years Ron got a phone call to work at the new *Daily Sun* in Brisbane.

"It was Murdoch's newest paper. I got there on their first birthday."

Within weeks Ron was appointed ad manager and after two-and-a-half years he was appointed marketing coordinator of the *Daily and Sunday Sun*.

During that time the paper was the first in Australia to have full colour in the run of press.

In 1987 Ronnie got the urge to travel, so he set off overseas.

When he returned he decided he wanted to get back to the country.

His mate told him about a job at *Moree*, and Ron knew the opportunities in the district after having travelled there while working on the *NDL*.

"I hopped on the bus and went for an interview with the manager, the late Jim Lemmon. He told me I needed to meet one of the owners, Geoff Farrar."

"I was given the job and attended the local races that afternoon. Both Jim and Geoff had horses running so I backed them, and they won."

"So I got off to a good start in *Moree*," Ron smiled.

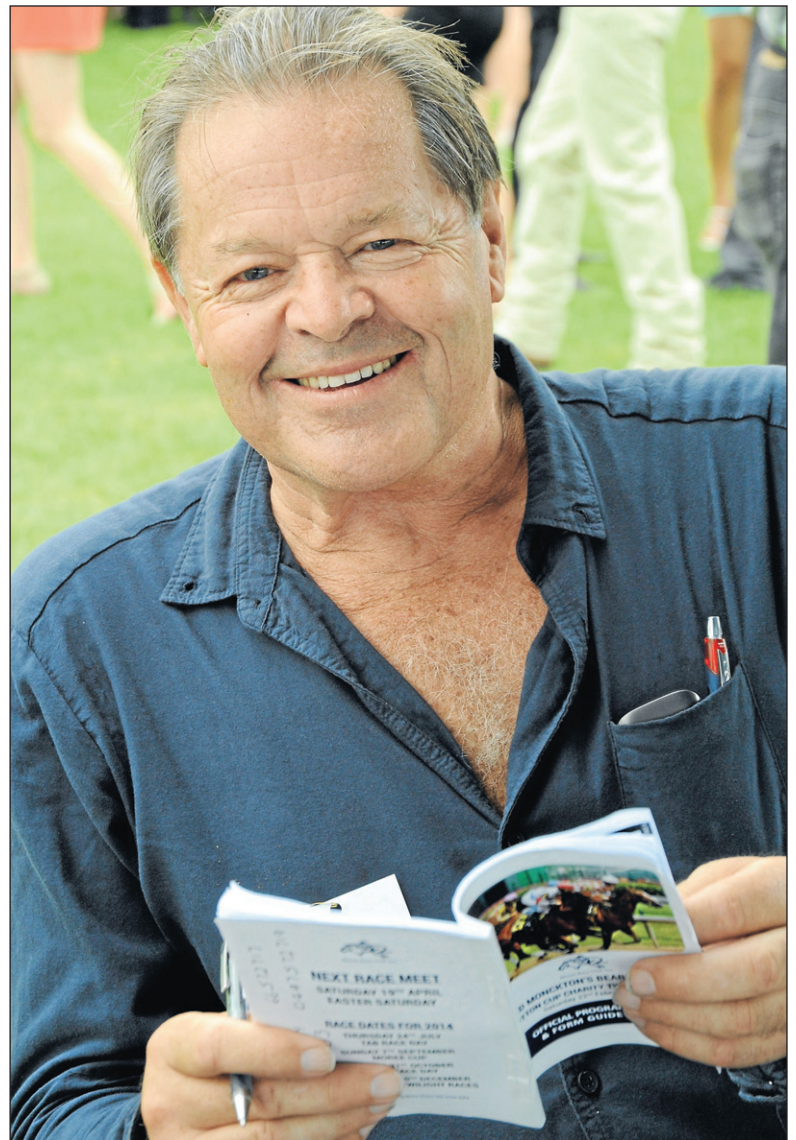
Ron had his very first day at the *Moree Champion* on September 19, 1988.

Ronnie was always early to work, getting in before 8.30am in Brisbane. He got off to a flying start in *Moree*... Trying to impress the boss he thought he'd get in 20 minutes early.

He got in and Jim was standing there, hands on hips... 'You're 10 minutes late', he exclaimed!

Ron has worked on both the *Champion* and the *Border News* during his time in *Moree* and was appointed site manager in 2007.

He has seen countless changes throughout his career from the days of hot metal, offset printing to computers and now the technological age - that we are still advancing in.



Ronnie will have more time to travel and attend race meetings world-wide.

He says some of the greatest highlights working for the *Champion* are the multiple awards the paper has won in sales, journalism and print and design.

Ronnie wanted to thank all the clients and contributors from over the years, the colleagues he has worked with, and most of all the mates he has made while on the job.

## Thanks Ron For The Memories

As you leave us for the next chapter in your remarkable life we flicked back through the files and found some photos that we thought you may enjoy.



# MOREE CHAMPION

THE ONLY ONE YOU NEED

# THE BORDER NEWS

# MOREE'S CHAMPION

# RON TURTON 25 years of service



## Just a few of the many messages for Ron

"I can not think of anyone more deserving of retirement. Well done on such an illustrious career. What good times we had!"

- Bob 'Kojak' Barnes, former sales executive for TV Week & New Idea

"Bloody remarkable career Two Dogs! Congratulations and thanks for the fun and success we achieved when we worked together. The view from the cheap Golf seats in the grandstand are much more enjoyable."

- John Hartigan, former CEO of News Limited

"I have had the pleasure of working with Ron for over 10 years now. He is the ultimate media man, and anyone who has had the good fortune of working and learning from him is better for it. Ron tells the best yarns, and has a wonderful sense of humour. There have been times when we needed his humour and he never let us down. We've worked hard together and had a lot of fun along the way. I am sure our friendship will endure long after Ron has signed off. Remember Ronnie, you can wash the ink off your hands but it will always flow through your veins."

- Jenny Baldwin, area manager, North West NSW

**THE MOREE GOLF CLUB...**

Ronnie was the president of the North West District Golf Association from 1991 to 2001 and was awarded life membership

FRIDAY NIGHTS MEMBERS BADGE DRAW  
TWO DRAWS APPROX 7PM & 9PM  
**"CASH BONUS DRAW"**  
**20 LEGGIES MEAT TRAYS**

TAB KBOO  
Facilities available



Greg Dickman, Garry Hardman, David Moore & Ron Turton April 1996  
Wishing Ron well in his retirement

FOR ALL YOUR GOLFING NEEDS  
Contact our Resident Pro  
Matt McGuire on 02 6752 1480

**BISTRO TRADING HOURS • Phone 02 6751 1888**  
Monday: Closed • Tuesday: Lunch:11:30-2 Dinner:5:00-8:30  
Wednesday: Lunch:11:30-2 Dinner:5:00-8:30 • Thursday: Lunch:11:30-2:30 Dinner:5:00-8:30  
Friday: Lunch:11:30-2:30 Dinner:5:00-9:30 • Saturday: Lunch:11:30-2:30 Dinner:5:00-9:30  
Sunday: Lunch:11:30-2:30 Dinner:5:00-8:00

**THE BEST PLACE TO PLAY A ROUND**

Greenbah Road, Moree - Phone 6752 1405 • www.moreegolfclub.com.au  
For the information of Members and bonafide visitors

AW1327685

"Ron, what a champion you are! Forty-three years is a fantastic innings in any industry but in media it's at the top of the mountain. You've seen it all, adapted and moved with every change. Bless you and I hope you enjoy a long, happy retirement with good health and lots of travel. You have influenced and helped many people, including me."

- Frank Reed, former chief of training

"Thanks for helping us in the past years. You have been great to work with. I hope you enjoy your retirement and have many relaxing and pleasant years in the future. In conclusion, thanks for your help and assistance in marketing our products."

- David Eglington, Specialised Farm Machinery

"Ron means a lot to us and we will miss him very much."

- Wanda Dunnet, Narrabri Courier

**Purewater Moree Pty Ltd**  
Plumbing - Pumps - Pools - Irrigation - Water Filtration  
02 6752 3985

**If it involves water, we've got you covered!**

- For supply, installation and repair of all your plumbing, drainage and gasfitting needs
- Pool and Spa requirements from supply to accessories
- Pumps and Filtration - Supply & Repairs
- Urban and Agricultural Irrigation
- Hot Water Heaters ~ Solar ~ Electric ~ Gas
- Trenching
- Free pool water testing
- Electrician on Staff

71 TYCANNAH STREET, MOREE NSW 2400  
Ph: 02 6752 3985 • Fax: 026752 5935 • Email: office@purewatermoree.com.au  
ABN 50 097 415 024 LIC NO 157314C  
PROPRIETORS JOHN AND LESLIE WILDE John 0428 254 193 ~ Leslie 0427 525 936

AW1327783

**STEVE and the TEAM**  
*Congratulate*

**RON on his Retirement**  
and look forward to assisting him with all of his electrical requirements.



**GEOFF O'HARA** | 20 BALO STREET, MOREE  
ELECTRICAL DISCOUNTS | Tel: 02 6752 2112

[www.leadingappliances.com.au](http://www.leadingappliances.com.au) Like us on Facebook

AW1327463

"You deserve some time off. Rip it up mate."

- Nat Young, former world surfing champion

"Wow Ron, 43 years! Fantastic."

- Max Hitchins, former chief of the World Toastmasters Association and former Moree resident

"See you at the track."

- Angie Bourke, Armidale site manager

*Congratulations & best wishes for the future Ron.*

Dubbo Office  
Suite 3/153 Brisbane Street  
Dubbo NSW 2830  
Ph: 02 6882 0999  
Fax: 02 6882 9935

Moree Office  
69 Heber Street  
Moree NSW 2400  
Ph: 02 6751 1251  
Fax 02 6751 1253

mark.coulton.mp@aph.gov.au



**Mark Coulton MP** *Your Federal Representative*

Authorised by Mark Coulton MP,  
Suite 3/153 Brisbane Street, Dubbo NSW 2830

AW1330002

# MOREE'S CHAMPION

# RON TURTON

25 years of service



As much as he wouldn't like to admit it, Ronnie loves being in the spotlight!



Ronnie doing two of his favourite things: Drinking beer and enjoying the horse races. Notice the tie - Black Caviar is one of his favourites!

For the best deals in Moree for new & used vehicles, call in and see Jim, Theo, Max and Nathan

## Congratulations

# Ron

on your retirement from the Moree Champion

**Zannes Bros**

Note: No deposit finance available to approved customers

102 Balo Street Moree NSW 2400 | Phone (02) 6752 6666 | DL 6911



Ronnie loves a punt!

**Ray White**

**TIM, JASON and THE TEAM** at Ray White Rural would like to congratulate **RON** on his retirement and thank him for his assistance over the years.

**Ray White Rural Moree**  
157 Balo Street, Moree  
**02 6751 1133**  
www.raywhiteruralmoree.com.au



Another of his loves - Manly  
www.moreechampion.com.au

**MOREE & DISTRICT SERVICES CLUB LTD**

The management and staff of the Moree & District Services Club would like to thank **RON** for his assistance over the years and wish him well in his retirement.

Albert Street, Moree | Ph: 6752 1566  
info@moreeservicesclub.com.au  
For information of members & bona fide visitors

Wayne and the team at FMBC would like to congratulate Ron on his Retirement

**FMBC**  
FRED MONKTON'S BEARING CENTRE

Moree Ph: 02 6752 4111  
Thompsons Avenue, Fax: 6752 1497  
www.fmbc.com.au

# MOREE'S CHAMPION



# RON TURTON

25 years of service



# Good luck Ronnie!



MOREE RACE CLUB INCORPORATED

## WISHING RON

ALL THE BEST FOR HIS RETIREMENT

and we hope to see him at the track on our next race day - Easter Saturday 19th April



AW1327693

Welcome to the home of



Archie and Rhonda Karam and staff would like to thank Ron for his support over the years



### BALO SQUARE NEWSAGENCY

Proprietors: Archie and Rhonda Karam  
Phone 6752 3626

AW1327731

Ron surely loved his job, BUT he loves prawns better.

**He ate the shells and all!!**

**CONGRATULATIONS RON ON YOUR RETIREMENT**



From the Management and Staff at Raine & Horne Moree

## Raine & Horne

rh.com.au/moree

AW1327704

The staff at

## MEL MAC MOTORS

would like to wish

### Ron

all the best in his retirement

Ron when you need mechanical assistance give us a call



Gwydir Street, Moree - Phone 6752 4060

AW1327679

MOREE CHAMPION

16th December 2010



**JOHN & ISOBEL FAULKNER** would like to congratulate Ron on his retirement and thank him for his support over the years.

For all your stationery supplies call in and see us.

We are open early 7 days  
FAULKNER'S NEWSAGENCY  
337 GOSPORT STERET  
MOREE NSW 2400  
EMAIL: ffau7922@bigpond.net.au  
PHONE: 02 6752 1196

AW1327728




**WISHING YOU WELL RON ON YOUR RETIREMENT**

For all of your property sales call us on: 0400 621 928

AW1327724

## AGRI-WARE PTY. LTD.

- TOOLS • BOLTS • HOSE • CHAIN
- V-BELTS • POWER TOOLS • POINTS
- DISCS • ROW CROP EQUIPMENT
- 4WD ACCESSORIES • BULLBARS

Peter and the team would like to wish Ron all the best in his retirement. Don't forget Ron if you need hoses, nuts, bolts and much more we have them here.

**6752 1113** 


GREENBAH ROAD, MOREE 6752 5083

DRIP FITTINGS & GARDEN ACCESSORIES  
WE ARE NOW AGENTS FOR EXCEL AG SPARE PARTS

AW1327733

## GORDON LEGG SOUTH MOREE BUTCHERY

RON A JOB WELL DONE



**HAPPY RETIREMENT AND TRAVELLING**

383 Forme St. Moree | Phone: (02) 6752 3166

AW1327653

## RON TURTON

Well done and congratulations on your career in advertising and marketing!

Many thanks for spending the second half in Moree...the Team at Beauty Matters appreciates it.

*Natalee and the team*



BEAUTY MATTERS  
BEAUTY & DAY SPA

Phone 6752 2323