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www.tatongtattler.com.au

Edition 296

FENCING WIRE

I had a roll of fencing wire not all that long ago
left over from the paddock fence that skirts the flats below.
I don't know where it's got to – I needed some just now,
but the roll is non-existent, it's disappeared somehow.
I know I used a little putting catches on the gates,
and a bit I used for handles on some empty wooden crates.
My kids were going camping, so I made some toasting forks
they could use for cooking damper after long, exhausting
walks.

I used some in the garden to help the peas and beans,

but I didn't use a lot of it, no, not by any means.

I put a length across the yard to make the dog a run,
but restrictions, he's decided, are no good to anyone.

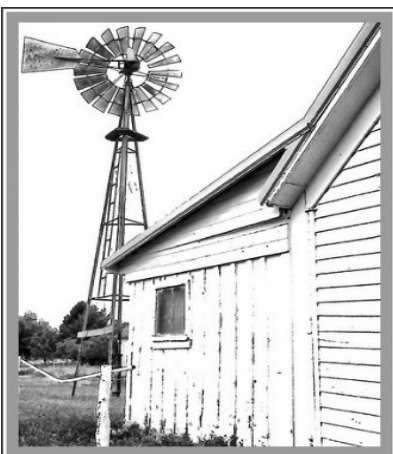
The chimney flue was leaning, so I tied it up with wire,
no use using baler twine, for that would catch on fire.

My wife likes hanging baskets, so I made a lot of hooks,
and I used a bit repairing the shed we use for chooks.

But where the roll has got to, I haven't got a clue,
and I really need some wire for the job I've got to do.

I know I used some lately on the windmill by the shed,
and I made a small enclosure where the calves are being fed.

Just last week, I reckon, I used some up the track
on a stay that needed mending, it had just begun to crack.



The orchard's being raided, so I fixed
the possum trap,

and I used some on the pigsty so that the iron won't flap.

It was only just last Tuesday, before I went to town,
that I used some on the woodshed to stop it falling down.

But now the roll has vanished, and so I make this plea,
"please tell me where it's got to – for I don't know where it be!"



Taken from 'Australian Poems that would Flummox a Farmer' by Philip R Rush.



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Chocolate Lane Chocs

It is that time of year when we, the Tattler team ask for donations to keep our community newspaper afloat. We do have money in the bank that is true but we always have to plan ahead especially if our beloved printer should STOP!!! So, please, put what every donation you feel is appropriate into the envelope, stick on a stamp and send it off. (I was talking to a lady serving in a Wangaratta pharmacy the other day and she said it had taken a week for a letter she sent in Wangaratta to get to an address in Wangaratta!!!)

As shown on this envelope you can Mail it / Direct Debit it or stick it in the Tattler mailbox next to the Tavern (on the RHS). So, thank you for that and if you are a local with a local business we have over 500 readers so perhaps you should put an ad in 'the local' to boost business?

Darcy The Secretary

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The **300TH**
is coming!

Notice to Contributors!

The August 2017 Edition of the Tattler will be number 300. We plan to make this a Special Edition, and invite our Contributors, & Readers, to submit relevant articles, photos, etc.

The Tattler has proved itself a community newsletter of quality. To celebrate its ongoing life, input of memories, observations, judgments, philosophies etc, would be an excellent thing.

The August Edition will be compiled at the end of July (and July will be here before you know it.) Dust off your thinking caps!

- Andi Stevenson, Tatong Tattler Committee



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Can you see the apple thief?



Reminds me of my safari in Africa. Somebody forgot the corkscrew and for several days we had to live on nothing but food and water.

W. C. Fields

US actor (1880 – 1946)

Chocolate Lane is exactly that; a Chocolate Shop, beautifully adorned, within the laneway than ran along the West end of the Commercial Hotel, Benalla. Sallie and Andi visited on behalf of the Tatong Tattler. Some things just have to be done in the name of duty. Pamela offered to make our drinks just how we fancied; Andi asked for an iced mocha that wasn't too sweet, and now has her own personal recipe! – 1 shot Orgasmic coffee, a flat teaspoon of Zero chocolate, 1 scoop dark choc nibs, 1 scoop of ice cream, and full cream milk. (It was delicious.) Sallie had an Iced Chocolate, made with 1 scoop of Zero and 1 scoop ordinary chocolate, so not too sweet. Then chocolates had to be chosen; Sallie chose the White Chocolate Pavlova, and Andi the Dark Ginger. The drinks and chocolates were beautifully served on a silver salver, and the taste experience was splendid.



While Pamela concocted the custom-made drinks, we explored the lovely arcade style shop. It is decorated with memorabilia, including some beautiful old dressers, and it features lovely paintings which are for sale. Pamela will cycle the artists on display. There are shelves of chocolates, which Pamela sources either from Sydney Award-winners, or as locally as possible. She is careful of her carbon footprint.

It is more than just a shop; Pamela puts a dash of love in with everything she makes. And that includes drinks of coffee (she has 3 types, including Orgasmic), chocolate, and tea (over 50 kinds) - club sandwiches, which are always available - home-made Florentines and yo yos, and sometimes cake. She has many types of milk on hand, including soy, rice, almond, oat and coconut. There are chocolates suitable for Vegan and Gluten Free needs. Pamela can do a more elaborate lunch, given 24 hours notice, and she caters for functions, including weddings.

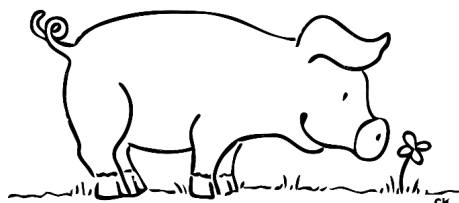


Pamela herself is a tea-lover. She lived many years at Gunbar, on the Hay plains, but came to Benalla with her partner, and has brought chocolate and love to the town. Chocolate Lane first opened December 3 2015. It is open Monday to Friday, 10 till 4. Weekends vary according to occasion.

Having done the serious work, Sallie and Andi left with happy insides, euphoric taste-buds, and indulged souls. Note that Chocolate Lane is on the Bridge end of the Commercial Hotel, and can be entered from either Bridge St or Fawknor Drive. The Facebook address is www.facebook.com/Chocolate-Lane-967353566672489/ (or just put Chocolate Lane in the FB search box).



- Andi Stevenson & Sallie Hann



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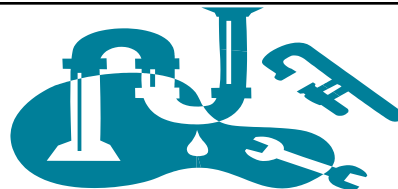
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Kristin and Max Marriott 57666282

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AUSTRALIAN) FACEBOOK PAGE CLOSER TO THE
DATE



What's Happening at Molly Rose?

Wow, another busy month and there's still more with family, writing, and the Wall to Wall Festival coming up, along with the Street Art Fringe which NE.A is heavily involved in is keeping me rather busy. And then there's the Molyullah Easter Sports...I'll need a holiday when it's all over!

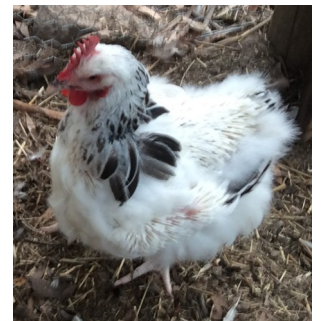
At the end of Feb I went to Jonai Farm for the AFSA fundraiser for the Australian Farmers Legal Defence Fund. Joel Salatin was there along with some farmers with harrowing stories of how the "big boys" have treated them when they try to farm a little differently to the norm.

The ducks are growing are fully feathered now, except for Smoke, the littlest, but he's not far off, although they are still a long way off being fully grown. We still don't know how many drakes or ducks we've got but my guess is two ducks and six drakes or perhaps it's 6 ducks and two drakes! I prefer the second option. They're currently in the chook pen in a separate pen from the chooks, as Float (their chook companion has a cold) unfortunately this means they are not currently fertilising the "orchard" in preparation for the garlic planting. Below are a series of photos of the duckling we nicknamed "DarkBar" from fluff to feathers. In the first photo DarkBar is on the left.



In other poultry news I did manage to have a few chickies hatch, just not from any of those expensive pure breed eggs I bought. They are at different ages and stages, the youngest three still being powder puffs on legs at 4 weeks to the young Araucana X cockerel at 19 weeks, with another possible 3 under the last broody hen for the season.

You can tell it's Autumn even though it still feels like summer – most of the roosters have lost their tail feathers and look fairly scraggly and many of the girls are moulting, dropping their feathers everywhere. Although when Big Sally moulted she MOULTED in a big way dropping half her feathers in one go. When I went to the pen I thought someone had been attacked – there were white feathers everywhere and she looked like I'd attempted to pluck her. Big Sally's feathers are starting to grow back now, so she doesn't look as bad as she did a week ago, although she was still very reluctant to pose for a photo.



We've also had 7 new arrivals – White Gate Woof's chooks arrived here almost 8 weeks ago.

They've done their time in quarantine and are now integrating themselves slowly into the main flock, so I now have 7 queens in the chook pen and one princess. Below is a photo of Elisabeth I and her namesake – she has a bit of a feather issue and this is not from moulting. I suspect it has more to do with Isa Brown genetics than anything else, as

I've seen plenty of rescue chooks who look just like her, and Elisabeth has had a good life in a fox-proof run and orchard. I'm interested to see if she will remain in a state of half undress for the rest of her life.



I now have a Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/MollyRoseHeritageHarvest/?ref=bookmarks> – this is where I upload videos and other bits and bobs that's happening at Molly Rose. Not everything makes it to the Tattler, so if you can't wait til next month, you know where you can find out what's happening at Molly Rose.

Write you again next month, Carla



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Bull takes over the reins

Richard Bull has taken over the coaching reins for the AFL Masters team the Samaria Suns from Darby Morrison for season 2017, the Samaria Suns only suffered two defeats last year in their inaugural season in the AFL

Masters competition. Morrison has stepped down from the coaching roll due to family commitments but will still remain involved where possible.

Bull is looking forward to the challenge, and in particular

looking forward to playing alongside his team mates.

"We would invite anyone who might like to have a kick to come down and join in." Bull stated "The more the merrier, training has been building up well and we will keep building up until the season starter." The Suns start their season April 2nd in Melton at the Mini Carnival. "Everyone is welcome to play, the only requirement is that you are over 35. Vice President Wes Stafford said "we will be running a bus to Melton so everyone is welcome to come along."

Training is Wednesday Nights at the Arundel Street Oval and every Second Friday at the Gardens Oval.

Jade Kirk



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MY AUSTRALIA DAY

My Australia Day is 20th April. My first one was 20th April 1967. That was the day I stepped off the MS Aurelia at Station Pier, Port Melbourne, carrying all my worldly possessions in two suitcases. If my maths is correct, 2017 marks my fifty years in Australia.

Looking back, I guess I was an economic refugee looking for a better life in this land of promise. That made me one of hundreds of thousands of Europeans who made the move in those post-war years. Don't get me wrong – I had a job, I was still living at home with my parents and I had lots of friends – I just knew somehow that I would end up in Australia.

To emigrate to Australia, you had to be over nineteen years old unless you knew someone here who would sponsor you. Do you believe in karma / coincidence / fate? I turned nineteen in December 1966, and was talking to a colleague at work in the January. I told him I was looking to emigrate and he said "there was an ad in yesterday's paper for tram conductors in Melbourne". It invited interested persons to contact Australia House, Manchester. I went in my lunch hour and did the paperwork. I went back after work and had my medical.

One more step and I could feel confident – the age of consent was still twenty-one – my parents would have to give their consent. I went home and presented them with a fait-accompli. It only dawned on me then that they might say "no".

To the day I die, I will be so grateful that they signed. I'm pretty sure that Mum thought it would be a long process and that I might 'cool off'. But – it was the 20th January – I sailed out of Southampton on the 20th March and arrived 'home' on the 20th April.



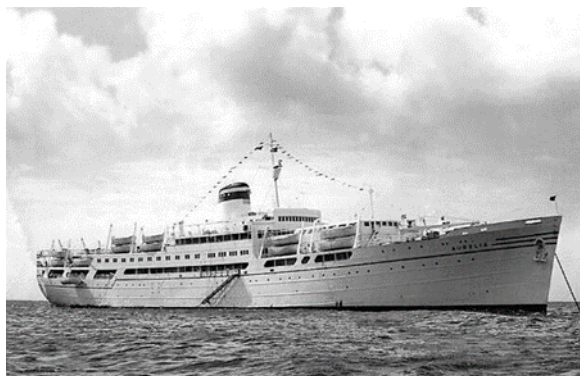
In the end I received a telegram (remember them?) asking me to phone the immigration officer in London. He said, "There is a spare berth on a ship sailing next Monday, would you like it?"

The assisted passage fare was ten pounds and you were required to have twenty-five pounds deposited in an Australian Bank. Assisted migrants were not allowed to have a passport – we had a Document of Identity instead. The reason for this was that you were expected to stay in Australia for at least two years. Anyone leaving before two years had to reimburse the fare to Australia.

The voyage went through the Mediterranean, the Suez Canal and the Indian Ocean. We berthed at each end of Suez – Port Said and Port Tewfik (the port for the town of Suez). There were soldiers and armoured vehicles everywhere. The soldiers were all happy and friendly and were happy to pose for photos, so we all assumed that this was the 'norm'. It wasn't – it was all part of an intensifying of animosities between Egypt and Israel. The six day war between the two started two months later.

During the interview process (at the same time as the medical), I was quizzed on the Vietnam War. The reason for this I realised when I had to sign a document saying that I wouldn't suddenly become a conscientious objector if conscripted. As an aside to this; one of the first letters I received in Australia said something like 'congratulations – your birthday was drawn in the ballot'.

John Knapper





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Garden Daze

The best time to plant a tree is 20 years ago - the next best time is now



With the Equinox behind us and "Summer Time" coming to an end - before we know it - we'll be bringing in the firewood.

Perennial plants provide the backbone of many gardens, whether planted individually, or in drifts or clumps. But for maximum benefit they need to be lifted and divided every three to four years. This revitalizes them and gives them more energy in spring, so they flower beautifully again in summer.

Perennials generally live for three or more seasons - hence their name. This contrasts with annuals, which live for a single season, or biennials, with a life cycle of two growing seasons. Perennials usually develop foliage and root growth in the first season, and reach maturity and flower in the second and subsequent seasons.



Autumn is a good time to divide up clumps of perennials as they start to die back for winter dormancy. As the cooler weather approaches perennials start to withdraw into themselves. This usually signals the time to start pruning.

There is something deeply satisfying about cutting back and dividing plants. One perennial clump could well make three or four new plants, it also regenerates the plant - giving it a new lease of life.

When dividing plants use a sharp knife. Each division needs healthy roots and look for basal shoots. Sometimes it's best to use your fingers and tease the plant apart. One clump when divided might make four strong, good, new plants for the garden.

If you wish to share a plant with a friend, you can just dig a piece off the side with a sharp spade. This is best done when the plant is in, or near, dormancy.

When dividing perennials ensure the roots don't dry out in the sun, and when transplanting the pieces use good,

well rotted compost to revitalise the soil. Plant with the buds, or crown, to the top and don't plant too deep. To keep them growing well over the next few years - dig to at least one spade's depth, then add in 5-10cm of good compost. How much compost you add depends on how much organic matter your soil already contains.



Some popular perennials include Sedum, a succulent with pink clusters of flowers that turn brown later in the season is a good choice for the dry garden. When the leaves of Sedum start to wither and yellow, and the tops brown - this signals that the plant is finishing, so cut the stems down to ground level. However, every couple of years it's worth digging up the entire clump. Shake off most of the soil and watch for the tiny buds ready to sit over winter.

These will hibernate away ready to burst in spring.

A hardy winter flowering Euphorbia with grey green leaves and lime flowers, will contrast well in the garden. Remember to watch out for the sap of Euphorbias as it can cause skin irritation.

Other hardy perennials include Plectranthus - some varieties have mauve leaves, others have grey leaves, but all are pretty tough and grow well under tree canopies; and Salvias which are becoming well known because of the flower colour range - red, pink or electric blue.

Tall Canna Lilies with their broad leaves and bright flower spikes look good at the back of a garden bed, while Blue Agapanthus can hold their own in any hot weather that gets thrown at them.



Plectranthus



Canna Lily



Dividing perennials is a most cost effective way of getting new plants for the garden.

Points for success:

- Divide when the plant looks good - don't wait until it has outgrown itself or its available space
- Start at the drip line - the roots will extend that far
- Divide in cool weather
- Keep roots cool and moist
- Replenish with organic matter
- Use vigorous sections - at most 25% of the original clump
- Keep only the healthiest pieces
- Spread roots down and over a mound of soil

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Tatong Play Group

The kids at play group have been enjoying the lovely weather which has been perfect for outside play on the play equipment and in the sandpit under the shady tree.

The Tatong CFA made a special visit on 23rd February, which caused great excitement. The children were able to learn how to use the fire hoses, see what was in the cabin and hear the sirens. A huge thank you to Steve Clarkson, Dennis Hevey and Jade Kirk for bringing the tanker along. There were plenty of budding young future CFA members.



Sadly, this year we no longer have the Montgomery family attending play group as the kids are off to school. The Tatong Playgroup cannot thank Larissa Montgomery enough for all her hard work and effort in establishing and coordinating the Tatong Play group over the last 7 years. Her enthusiasm, ideas, support, kindness and organisational skills will be missed by all the Play group families. Congratulations Larissa on making such a huge impact on the young children of Tatong and surrounds.



We are looking forward to a fun year ahead, with some excursions planned and some joint playgroup sessions with the Greta play group.

All families are welcome at Tatong play group, we meet at the Tatong Recreation Reserve every Thursday at 9:30am. It is a relaxed and fun environment.

Any enquiries please call the play group coordinators: Justine Nicholls (0414 728 025) or Jo Lambert (0403 694 665)

TCGBGS or THE TATONG COMMUNITY GREAT BIG GARAGE SALE

Our second Sale was held on Sunday the 19th of March with about 22 stalls and included sausage sizzle managed by Russell and his helper as well as the espresso coffee served by Maeve Larkin.

The Tattler's thanks go to Gerry and Denis Hevey for their donations to the Tattler stall which raised \$71 and to Denis for the skilled construction of a missing barricade stand. The pram donated by the Heveys provided some amusement when a couple of us "techno" men could not work out how to fold it fully. Then sure enough, along came young mother, Nic, who sorted it for us in a flash. This Valco 3 wheeler pram, in top condition, did not sell and it is a bargain at \$50, so if anyone is interested please contact me at 0428273613.

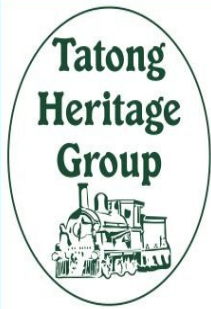
The Sale was another success with a very good number of sellers and buyers. For me though what was more important than the financials was the opportunity for community get-together and catch up. While the weather was fine the heat got a bit much towards the end of the day, so the extra help from the Mitchells and Russell was most appreciated.

Our next Sale will be held in November so that it coincides, like last year, with the Benalla Festival so keep it in mind and rather than throw pre-loved stuff out save it for the Sale or donate it to the Tattler stall. Drop it off to me, next door to the Tavern, and if no one is home leave it in one of the carports or on our front verandah.

Mike Larkin



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kate.hughes@iinet.com.au



Meeting of March 27 CANCELLED.

We met a week earlier, as some members could not attend the set date.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday May 22nd, 4pm in the Tatong Memorial Hall. All welcome.

www.vicnet.net.au/~tathg
tatongheritage@yahoo.com.au

Benalla Rural City Council invites Molyullah and surrounding communities to join them in an **open house session** to share their thoughts and ideas.

"Every four years councils across Victoria must develop a four year plan that identifies key priorities, projects and the best use of Council resources. Community input provides the foundation for this key strategic document and we want to hear from our community."

What can the Council do over the next four years to help achieve the objectives of the *Benalla Rural City Community Plan 2016-2036*

What health and well-being issues are of concern?

Where should our limited resources be targeted?

The purpose of this session differs from the conversations we had last year, in that it relates more specifically to the recently instated Council's plan for the next four years. Your input matters and is welcome, and Council hopes to share some ideas of their own too. Take this opportunity to hear and be heard.

Monday April 3rd between 7pm & 9 pm at the Molyullah Hall. Come and go when it suits. Cuppa and nibbles provided.



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The Port

I'm alright, nothing is broken. Laying flat at on your back looking at stars even though it's still daylight. As I'm completing my full body scan, wiggle toes, move legs, wiggle fingers, move arms, neck works only seems to be a hurt elbow and the back of my head where I slammed it into the brick paving.

It's not your life that screams past you in thoughts when you have that near death experience, it's when I explain the circumstances which just took place out the back, to a family knowing that laughter will abound in the Kitchen as they are enjoying the process creating the Sunday night meal when I stagger in from completing a long overdue task of bottling the port. There might have been a bit of sampling.

My father and his friend Don had purchased a 40 gallon keg of port from Brown Bros in 1975. The idea was to remove 5 gallons of port each year, bottle that, and replace with 5 gallons.

This continued for a quite a few years as you can see the evidence on the end of the Oak barrel that Morrie and Don had written in chalk over the years. Every time the port was replaced over this time, the new port was documented with name of port, year and quantity. Forty odd years of this later and it looking quite a good drop, well according to names added by the various winemakers of top up port.

Over the years Don and his wife Jude moved interstate and Morrie passed away several years ago. I and Haley, Don and Jude's daughter are now the owners. The barrel had been sitting at Merrijig under Morrie's care until it was moved into my garage. After 30 years plus we finally sold our house at it was time to move on. Cleaning out my garage and not replacing any port for several years, I decided to check out the port situation. I contacted Brown Bros and they were still supplying top up port in five gallon bladders. I had kept the professional wine bottle corker Morrie had purchased early back in the 70's, purchased some bottles and corks and got to it. Before I started I found several vintage port bottles that I had purchased in 1975. These needed to be re-corked, so I opened them up and had a few tastings, four of them were no good, and the other two were bloody delicious.

Did a bit of a top up and re-corked them.

Then it was on to the barrel.

Out with the cork, inserted the tube and siphoned off a tasting. Yum. I bottled off six bottles and corked them. Then got the Browns five gallon bladder and transferred into the barrel. Even with this top up the barrel is still only two thirds full. I must get some more to top up one day. I bit more tasting, this stuff is good.

Anyway by this time, our girls had turned up with their partners for a Sunday Roast dinner. I said hello and had a chat, back to the garage to finish off.

I'm not sure how much port had been sampled, but feeling the buzz.

Cartoned up the all bottles and replaced the cork in the barrel and cleaned up the mess.

Mmm. A large empty wine bladder. What else could I do, blew it up of course. It was the size of a small pillow. I know, I will take it up to the rubbish bins, located not far from the kitchen window, threw it on the ground, jumped on it and I will scare the living be Jesus out of them. Now in my mid-fifties, gained a few kilos, Brenda's fault, a great cook with the wine that goes with it, this would be awesome fun.

I took the greatest leap I could and jumped on the bladder and then, when momentarily being horizontal to the ground about a metre in the air, you start thinking this not good. How I will explain this one, what am I going to break here, will I survive this,

The bladder remained intact and I made impact with the brick paving. Yep, not the Dad joke outcome I was expecting that's for sure.

I remained lying on the ground for about five minutes. Slowly everything passed the inventory check.

It seemed from the pain that this would be lumps, bruises and worst of all facing the mob inside merrily discussing the typical family get together chats.

I rolled over and removed my knife from my pocket, grabbed the bladder and slowly inserted the blade into it and exhausted it of air. I killed the beast.

Yes they had a laugh.

Best of all they enjoyed the port tasting.

Chris Millott

Molyullah

Discount parking at Melbourne Airport

A few days ago I went to Melbourne (Tullamarine) airport to collect our daughter and her partner. I was a bit concerned about how much parking would cost. I was probably going to be there for about an hour and a half and was not looking forward to paying the standard rate (about \$30 for that length of time and more if you stay longer). A friend had told me about booking your parking online. So I Googled "book parking at melbourne airport" and followed the link that took me to online booking (<http://melbournearport.com.au/to-from-the-airport/airport-parking/car-parks.html>). I made the booking and paid on the spot. The result was it cost only \$10 for the 1.5 hours with a one hour grace period before the booked time and another one hour grace period after the expected departure time. That's 3.5 hours for ten dollars. Pretty cheap compared with drive the up rate of \$39 for 3.5 hours.

So my suggestion is, if you need to park at Melbourne airport, book online beforehand and save heaps.

Rick Hann



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I'm not sure where to begin with April, as it's so jam packed with activities. I suppose April fool's day on the 1st would be a good start, quickly followed by the ending of Daylight savings on Sunday 2nd April, by putting clocks back 1 hour AFTER 2A.M. We also have on that same day, at the Tavern, the return of Rattler, who will be playing from 11.30 a.m. onwards. For any-one who hasn't had the pleasure of hearing this band, they play anything from Country, Blues, and Jazz, right through to good old Rock and Roll. Just come along and sit and relax to music we all know and love and have a drink or two and remember when you thought you danced pretty good, back in the days of our youth.

Easter of course is another busy time at the Tavern for every-one. This year not only do we have the Good Friday Auction on Friday the 14th, but we also have Chris's birthday on the same day, I'm not sure he will tell you how old he is, but please some-one shout him a drink for god's sake as he gets really grumpy about turning another year older. Back to the Good Friday Auction, the committee members have once again been working tirelessly behind the scenes to bring about another tremendous day for every-one to enjoy. There of course will be items to be auctioned by the truck load, starting at 11.30a.m. Then by 1 p.m. the Auction kicks off. There will also be a kid's corner with lots of activities including an animal petting stall, face painting, and a jumping castle. Food, soft drink, coffee/tea and alcohol will all be served outside all day on the Tavern grounds. I should also mention there will be music to enjoy throughout the day as well. Jade and her members have a face book page you can contact "Tatong good Friday auction". You can see up dates of what everyone is donating to the auction on this site, plus get a good idea of what the committee members have achieved. If you don't have Facebook, and have a query or a donation, just give us a call at the tavern or contact Jade Kirk, Emma Cavelot, Lynn Lindsay, Ash Day, or Champ, and they will be glad to hear from you. Also any help on the day before and on the day would be gladly received. By the way I not sure every-one knows this, but Tatong achieved for the second time in a row, second placing for raising the most money for a country pub in the state! Wow, Tatong should be so proud. For such a small community, we have such big hearts. See you all on the day and have a wonderful Easter.

Happy Birthday to Kate Smith who turns 19 this year on the 20th. We have three things we hope you keep in your heart for the rest of your life, and that is, keep travelling and sampling life's many adventures, "Never let the grass grow under your feet", and always come back to Tatong every now and then to bring a cheer to all us "OLD", Tatonians.

Chris and I will be away on Saturday 22nd April attending Jules and Hans Wedding in Melbourne. Jules worked for the Tavern behind the bar, becoming a favourite with the locals and a very dear friend of ours. Most of you would remember Jules and Hans owning "Hillway", just up the road. Since then they have moved to Tasmanian and brought a dairy property. Nicole will be running the Tavern while we are away, so no wild parties, OK.

Anzac Day is approaching on Tuesday 25th April. The Dawn Ceremonies in and around Benalla will be advertised in the Ensign, which will help you know where you can attend and at what time.

Lastly The Big Garage Sale has completed its second event. People arrived early, and spent up big, including myself. Chris is still groaning about how much I spent, and I will still be listening to him months down the track, asking me what are you going to do with a sink? I could tell him what I am going to do with the sink, but that would be too rude on this page. I will keep you updated about that sink in future tattlers. The Next Garage Sale I believe will be held during the Benalla Festival around November. So start collecting, because I may need to add to my sink.

THINGS TO REMEMBER

RATTLER BAND – SUNDAY 2ND APRIL FROM 11.30 A.M. ONWARDS

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ENDS – SUNDAY 2ND APRIL FROM 3 A.M. TURN CLOCKS BACK 1 HOUR

GOOD FRIDAY AUCTION – FRIDAY 14TH 11.30 A.M. ONWARDS.

ANZAC DAY – 25TH APRIL

Molyullah Musings – April 2017

117th Easter Sports

This is probably the biggest month for Molyullah residents this year with the annual Sports happening on Easter **Monday, 17 April 2017**. Behind the scenes plants are being potted, slices and cakes baked, prizes and donations organized, family and friends being rallied to help, orders sorted for the various food stalls, bins ordered, maintenance carried out, working bees etc. etc. etc. The working bees will be as usual – Good Friday a.m. and Easter Sunday p.m. Please come along and help if you can spare an hour or two – new residents welcome and any help is really appreciated.

The Sports Committee has agreed to donate a book of raffle tickets and free entry into the sports to the Royal Children's Hospital Auction to be held at Tatong on Good Friday. Prizes for the raffle are a series of four very generous gift vouchers.

Historic Signage and Museum

Our request for funding for 10 signs in the Molyullah and Upper Ryan's Creek area to mark areas of significant historic importance was submitted on Friday, 17 March. We should hear by June if this has been successful and work can then commence.

Progress on the possibility of a Museum for Molyullah and Upper Ryan's Creek residents is also ongoing. There will be a meeting soon so keep an eye out for that date and time. We will need a name for the Committee/Group who will run with this - all suggestions welcome. This group will oversee the signage and the museum implementation and will apply for relevant grants etc. Anyone wishing to be involved who was not previously aware of these great projects should contact Bill Willett on 5762 8830.

Eric Ramage turns 90!!

Family recently gathered at the family farm "Willow Glen" Upper Ryans Creek to celebrate Eric's 90th birthday. He has lived on the property since he was 10 years old (and with wife Cath for the past 69 years). Fittingly, to mark Eric's love of the outdoors and farming, a rural theme of gum-leaves was used for decorating the tables. The birthday cake, decorated by his niece Thelma, also featured gum and wattle foliage.

Along with the many local well wishes, Eric also received a video message from his grand-daughter and great-grandson in London.

A highlight of the day was a surprise visit from his nieces Carmel and Robyn who had flown in from Mackay Queensland to help celebrate Eric's special day-

(nee Phillips family, ex Molyullah).

A great day of family celebrations- congratulations Eric!

Molyullah Dinner

The next Molyullah Dinner will be held at the Tavern on Thursday, 6 April.

Cheers,

Janette

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It is recommended that septic tanks are pumped out every 3 - 5 years



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WEATHER WATCH

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2007	30	35.1	62.5	31.3	108.6	30.2	92.4	25.5	30.3	34.3	88.6	69.8	638.6
2008	52.4	11.5	33.4	17.7	48.3	37	114.7	58.8	18.9	1.9	89.7	64.9	549.2
2009	3	5.4	38.7	80.7	30.6	107.9	77.5	65.5	76	48.6	72.3	18.9	625.1
2010	39	153.7	86.4	65.2	67.5	82.8	67.5	162.1	116.8	123.7	109.2	150.8	1224.7
2011	107	177.3	65.0	36.1	62.9	47.1	84.5	81.0	67.3	32.0	88.3	46.3	894.7
2012	82.5	94.0	184.9	18.1	35	57.6	115.8	92.1	35.5	34	28	30.1	773.6
2013	1.8	52.4	85.5	8.4	43.0	60.1	112.1	141.1	61.2	27.5	26.2	65.3	684.6
2014	33.9	16.4	86.4	89.6	82.8	146.5	98.8	9.8	68.5	20.4	58.5	64.2	775.8
2015	44.7	29.1	5.7	87.4	70	33.7	97.3	69.4	25.7	13.7	55.5	81.7	613.9
2016	69.7	11.9	36.9	38.5	117.2	110.5	142.8	108.4	172.1	91.4	50.1	101.3	1050.8
2017	67.6	36.2											103.8

WEATHER IN THE TATONG TOWNSHIP

We had spring in summer and now we are having summer in autumn. If that system continues then we'll have autumn in winter and so on and no I don't endorse the modern fad of blaming "climate change." (This is not "denial" of climate change, it's a refusal to endorse every minor variation in the weather to it.) There is a similar amount of guesswork in attributing all weather variations to climate change as there is in saying "*Grandma would have lived far beyond her early death at 95 if only she hadn't eaten meat and three veg with a stubby of beer every day of her adult life.*"

We are getting a bit desperate for rain and up until the 15th of March we only had .2mm in a period of about 20 days. The total rainfall for February was 36.2mm. Interesting to note in the above chart that larsscheer (the modern way of saying last year) we had over a meter of rain for the 12 months.

Mike Larkin

A big thanks to Greta and Yea Football Netball clubs for their support on Saturday March 18th.

Greta Football Netball Club are playing on Good Friday and will be collecting for the Good Friday Appeal so a huge shout out to them, for their continued support.

We need to thank the Samaria Suns, Aligned Engineering, Rettkes Meats, The Pink Shop, Fruits n' Fare, Hides Bakery, Fobia Industries and Helen Kerekes for their help and support.

And always a big thanks to our awesome committee members for their hard work.

Photographed is Greta President Kevin Naish, B.R.C Mayor Brian Firth and Tatong Recreation Reserve President Steve Clarkson.

Jade Kirk



Greta and Yea Football and Netball clubs played practice matches at the Tatong Rec. Reserve on March 18th. Ed.

MOLYULLAH EASTER SPORTS COMMITTEE DONATION

Tomorrow Today Foundation recently received a generous donation from the Molyullah Easter Sports committee. Held every Easter Monday since 1901, the Molyullah Easter Sports have activities for all ages; horse events, novelty events for kids and families – egg throwing, three-legged races, children's races – market stalls and so much more. Proceeds from the day go to helping local charities.

"We are a community group who want to give back to organisations that support people, and particularly children, in the Benalla district," said Anthony Hill, Chair, Molyullah Easter Sports Committee.

"Tomorrow Today is a fantastic example of a local organisation working to ensure a better future for Benalla's children and young people."

In accepting the donation, Sally Gamble, Chair of Tomorrow Today acknowledged the many generations of volunteers who had contributed countless hours to making the Sports such a long-standing success.

"What a credit to the Molyullah community that they've sustained this great family event for over 100 years. We are delighted that the committee has chosen Tomorrow Today as the recipient of the 2016 Easter Sports fundraising effort."

The \$5,000 donation will support Tomorrow Today's Community Fund, a permanent resource for Benalla and District. Income generated by the Fund provides annual grants for local projects that help create a stronger and more resilient community.

Applications for Tomorrow Today's annual grants are open until late March, with funding priorities including families with young children and youth development.

The 2017 Molyullah Easter Sports will be held on Easter Monday 17 April - Contact Anthony Hill on 0428 109464 for more information or go to www.molyullah.net/easter_sports.html



Caption- Tomorrow Today directors, Adrian Aldous and Sally Gamble, accept a donation from members of the Molyullah Easter Sports Committee - Cath Ramage, Janette Knapper and Anthony Hill.



What's on this month

March 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Mar 26	Mar 27	Mar 28	Mar 29	Mar 30 Play group, 9.30am, Rec Res Dinner at the Tavern	Mar 31	1
2	3	4	5 Whitegate Community Dinner at the Tavern	6 Play group, 9.30am, Rec Res Molyullah Community Dinner at the Tavern	7 Girls Shed 10.30am at Hall.	8
9	10	11	12	13 Play group, 9.30am, Rec Res	14	15
16	17	18	19 Tatong Community Dinner at the Tavern Tatong Angler's Club @ the Tavern	20 Play group, 9.30, Rec Res	21 Girls Shed 10.30am at Hall.	22
23	24	25	26	27 Play group, 9.30, Rec Res	28	29
30	May 1	May 2	May 3	May 4 Play group, 9.30, Rec Res	May 5	May 6

ONE COMPUTER JOKE

The oldest computer can be traced back to Adam and Eve.

Surprise, surprise !!

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Sent by a friend, Mike Larkin

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Quarter Page or 2 x 1/8th Page:

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General or public interest articles of at least 150 words (not a repeat of the ad.) may incorporate up to a 1/8 page ad. free. Advertorial style articles under this category must be labelled "Promotional Feature".

Enquires :Darcy Hogan, 5767 2187 or email
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DEADLINE

The Tattler Deadline is end of the **20th of the month**.
Submit via e-mail to tatongtattler@yahoo.com.au
or post to: Darcy Hogan, 150 Mt Joy Rd, Tatong, 3673.

Format for Tattler Submissions

The Tatong Tattler is set up in Microsoft Publisher.

Text can be submitted in the body of an email; or in file formats such as .doc, .docx, .rtf, or .txt.

Photos (as jpgs) can be attached, to be laid out by editor. If your layout is important, submitting your work in MS Publisher is ideal. (*The Editor may need to adjust your layout.*) If laid out in a **Word** document, the text & photos will need to be copied into Publisher; however the Editor will have an idea of your preferred layout.

The content of a PDF file can be difficult to extract.

If you require help, contact one of the Tattler committee.

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