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A picture paints a thousand words...

From The Herald Sun, Tuesday 10th July 2018 – John Knapper



Chris 'ROY' Taylor, Herald Sun

PLASTIC BAGS AND TATTLER DELIVERIES

The Tattlers have always been distributed to deliverers in plastic bags, except for some deliverers who have the cloth bags and are able to return them each month. Now that plastic bags are being phased out we are about to try another form of parcelling them and that is with paper and large elastic bands. Because we have to purchase the elastic bands could deliverers save them to be reused for deliveries. They could be left in some form of container inside their letter box or wherever the Tattlers are generally found and our distributors can collect them, or they can be returned personally to the distributor or a Tattler committee member. The wrapping paper can be disposed of in your usual way because we will mainly use the wrapping from the reams of paper used for printing the Tattler.

Mike Larkin (printing and distribution coordinator)

The Excursion to A_____

With apologies to Miss Jane Austen

My wife having an unaccustomed opportunity to cast aside the cares and pressures of academic life for a week, we decided to plan a brief excursion, our daughters being otherwise occupied, the elder in professional pursuits, the younger travelling in the sub-continent, leaving us free to choose our destination, uninfluenced by the requirements normally placed upon us by the desires of our offspring.

My wife had never had the opportunity to visit A_____, the city of churches, parks and good food and wine while my visits there, being of a professional nature, were never of long duration, and therefore did not permit me sufficient leisure to experience much of that city beyond the confines of an office and an hotel. And so, after the briefest of deliberations, we decided upon a visit to that city, with an excursion to sample the wine and food of one of the valleys famous for such produce. Hotels were booked, flights arranged.

Very early on the morning of our departure, when the world was dark and still, I was awakened by a message from our gardener warning of inclement weather at our destination. Undeterred by such news, we packed our portmanteaux, and made our way towards our point of embarkation. En route, we received further communication from our sister-in-law many miles away in deepest Queensland with a message of the same import. The inclemency of the weather was clearly of a serious nature for it to have reached as far as the northernmost point of Queensland, a region not generally especially concerned with affairs beyond its narrow confines.

We reached the airport without further incident or alarm, and established ourselves comfortably to await departure of our aircraft. An announcement encouraged us to board as soon as practicable, indicating that an attempt to depart, and subsequently hopefully to land, at our destination was to be essayed before the weather became so inclement as to prevent safe landing. Upon boarding, and in a laudable but potentially misplaced attempt to reassure us, the pilot, while warning of tempestuous weather at our destination, announced that, were our attempt to land at our destination prove unsuccessful, we had sufficient fuel to permit safe return to our point of departure.

As we approached the airport at A_____, the flight became very turbulent indeed, and the weather rather violent. Our valiant pilot indicated that he would strive, to the extent possible within his ability, to attempt a landing, which he did immediately, while at the same time endeavouring to assuage our palpable concerns by assuring us that were we to be unsuccessful in the attempt, we would ascend once more and "consider our options". This last statement puzzled me somewhat, as it contained the implication that as passengers we were to form part of a collective decision making process. As time appeared to be of the essence in this consideration of options, I was somewhat unclear as to how such a consensual decision was to be reached in the brief period of time available for it to be made. Such speculation proved to be somewhat idle, however, as we landed successfully, if somewhat firmly and

not without a certain degree of lateral movement occasioned by the considerable volume of precipitation.

As soon as we had collected our baggage, we made our way towards the row of waiting taxicabs, only partly protected by a rather paltry awning, designed more for protection from the sun than from the ferocious storm, the nature of which brought to mind the equatorial cloudbursts that were a constant feature of our life in Singapore.

Upon arrival at the hotel, the weather had abated sufficiently for us, once unpacked and refreshed from the rigours of our journey, to essay a brief perambulation around the centre of the city, which unfortunately was not showing itself to particular advantage given the prevailing weather conditions. Cold and rather wet, we postponed further examination until we were more rested, and accordingly we returned to the warmth and comfort of the hotel, making our way to the refuge of our room by means of the passenger lift. But a minute had elapsed since our egress from that mechanism and having just entered our room, when it, and as were later to discover, the hotel, the city and indeed the entire state of which A_____ is the capital city were plunged into complete darkness. We were fortunate indeed to have reached the safety of our room before the catastrophic power failure, the nature of which only began to emerge over the ensuing period of time.

We were, however, confronted with somewhat of a problem. Given that the effect of the absence of electricity affected more than illumination, but all motive power that relied on that source, the preparation and cooking of food, and, as were later to discover the availability of water required to compete one's ablutions, we were to a considerable extent trapped for an indeterminate period of time within the penumbral confines of our room.

By some miracle of science unknown to me we were able to establish telephone communication with the reception desk, and accordingly I made my way down to the ground floor by means of the fire exit stairs to discuss the situation with the management of the hotel. Of the several options for emergency descent that were available to me, I chose the one most convenient to our room but, as it transpired, the least convenient for access to the lobby, as it expelled me directly into the street, where all was gloom and it was raining very heavily indeed.

Having somewhat damply reached the shelter of the hotel lobby I was able, in conversation with those in authority to discover that the absence of electricity would be of unknown, but probably significant, duration given the dramatic and widespread nature of the incident. It was made known to me that that refreshments were available in the restaurant, so, accompanied by a member of staff, I immediately ascended four flights of more convenient stairs to collect my wife and escort her with all possible dispatch to the restaurant, before what refreshments that were available were exhausted by the press of hungry guests. The provisions on offer were, of necessity, cold and rather meagre in both range and quantity, although beverages were rather more plentifully available. The room was quite full, and as the late afternoon turned to evening and natural light dimmed, the room was illuminated by the occasional emergency light and candles set upon every table. As time passed, and a

greater quantity of alcoholic beverages were consumed, the atmosphere became rather more boisterous and a certain camaraderie born of shared adversity became evident among those of us stranded by the incident.

Unfortunately, over that period of bonhomie, the battery power to the emergency lighting began to fail, and the party became increasingly enveloped in darkness. At that stage we considered it prudent to return to our quarters before total darkness fell. This we did, once again accompanied by a member of staff. Having no other means of diversion available to us and requiring to maintain sufficient power to our mobile telephones to deal with any further emergency that may arise, we made our way to bed at the somewhat early hour of eight o'clock. We had hardly settled to slumber when, after one or two short bursts of illumination, power was restored after some four and one half hours. Inconvenient though this failure of electrical power was to us, we were considerably more fortunate that those inhabiting outlying districts whose period without power extended for 24 hours or more.

The night passed without further incident and having breakfasted, we decided to take advantage of a break in the weather to take a turn about the town: the weather remained dull, overcast and cold, but the rain has ceased, albeit temporarily. While it is indeed a city amply provided with parkland, the effect of the prolonged and heavy rain prevented a more than cursory examination of its attractions. We decided to explore the city's cultural district: a small yet poignant Migration Museum and a rather more extensive Art Gallery commanded our attention. The Gallery's works were not entirely without merit, but held little of great renown and was somewhat eccentrically curated, as least to this observer. Nonetheless, at the very least it provided temporary shelter from the elements. We lunched frugally and then set out off in search of an almond croissant, a delicacy to which my wife is especially partial. However, it appears that no-one else in that city shares her enthusiasm for that toothsome pastry, as a reasonably thorough search of the city's bakeries proved to be fruitless.

My wife having some academic chores to perform we returned to our lodgings, and while she busied herself with matters pedagogical, I spent a pleasant hour or two enjoying the elegant and crisp prose of Miss Jane Austen's *Mansfield Park* (an author who has been an inspiration for my own humble efforts). We dined adequately, and were abed reasonably early, in anticipation of our planned visit to the renowned wine-growing district of the B____ Valley.

The next day dawned wet and cold, hardly a harbinger of a pleasant excursion. Nevertheless, we made our way on foot to the point of departure: a journey of but ten minutes or so. We were unaware that this point was but one of a series of collection points, and we were, in consequence, to discover that a significant period of time was to elapse before we were to finally strike out valleywards, having spent some three-quarters of an hour in a circuitous and reasonably thorough examination of the city's squares and thoroughfares. We eventually left the city behind us and plunged northwards through a series of rather gimcrack and nondescript suburbs before finally reaching open country. Our first destination was reached without incident; would that were true of our second. The heavy rain and

subsequent flooding had closed several roads, necessitating a number of lengthy detours, although we did finally reach our intended destination, passing over several swollen rivers, including one where a small group of sheep were trapped on a small islet that was inexorably shrinking as the waters rose, almost certainly sending them to an early and watery grave. Undeterred by this illustration of Nature's indifference, we lunched, some of our party rather insouciantly on lamb, and after visiting another winery, made our way homewards. While the weather prevented the valley from showing itself in the best of all possible lights, it is equally true that one cannot imagine it being particularly picturesque or pleasing to the eye even in more advantageous conditions, it being rather dull, flat and broad, lacking the topographical advantages of the Mosel and the Rhine, or indeed our own Y____ valley or M____ peninsula.

As we approached the urban sprawl of A____ passing factories, warehouses, car showrooms, pizza parlours, hot chicken shops and shopping malls, the rain resumed with considerable vigour, and was so persistent that by the time we reached the coach terminal it was descending with some force. Despite these unpropitious meteorological conditions, when confronted with choice between suffering a significant delay before we departed once more for 'home' as we awaited the arrival of other arriving charabancs so as to collect their passengers for what would doubtless be a repeat of our earlier circumnavigation of the city, we decided to walk, rain notwithstanding, back to our lodgings, a journey of but a brisk ten minutes compared to our leisurely circumnavigation of three-quarters of an hour earlier that day.

Before embarking on a search for a suitable hostelry in which to dine, we decided to attempt to gather further information about the events of the preceding period of time, during which we, A____ and its environs had been subjected to unprecedented extremes of weather. As we were doing so an item caught our attention. Earlier that day we had passed through the substantial town of G____, whose river of the same name was in full spate and imminent danger of engulfing the town, and was now indeed in the process of doing so, leading to the evacuation of a sizable number of its inhabitants. Thankfully, the rest of the day passed without incident and having dined, we returned to our hotel for what transpired to be an uneventful and restful night's sleep.

The next day, that of our departure, dawned bright and sunny, and we decided to take advantage of what was forecast to be but a day's respite before further tempestuous weather returned once more. A pleasant stroll took us beside the banks of the swollen River T____ towards the town weir, where a considerable number of the town's population were gathered to observe, and make photographic records of, the tumultuous roar of water through the weir. Clearly such events provide the excitement that appears to be somewhat lacking in the city and its attractions. While the weather showed A____ in a more favourable light than heretofore, I fear such improvement was insufficient to excite a desire to return. We were relieved therefore to pack our bags, take a taxicab to the airport and return to the calm and tranquillity of our home.

-FINIS-

Steve Ingram



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Hi to everyone, it's been a good month here for the winter. Thanks to everyone for coming in from the cold. We have both fires burning away to keep you warm. Don't forget our upcoming Celtic Festival: Friday 27th July, Saturday 28th July, Sunday 29th July - Come down and join the fun. Also our happy hour runs Friday 5.30-7.30pm and Pot & Parma nights are on Thursday nights for \$20. See you soon,
Pedro, Shirley & Staff"

Mooning in Miltenberg



view of the fountain.

A close look at the fountain shows four cherubs are carved into the column, just above the water spouts. Three are facing out towards the square, but one has his back to the treasurer's house. Closer inspection reveals that the treasurer has been mooned ever since.

Michael had the last laugh.

John Knapper

The town of Miltenberg has a lovely market square at its centre. In the middle of the square is a red sandstone fountain. Michael Junker was commissioned to build it in 1583. A price was agreed and work began.

As is often the case today, costs increased and Michael realized he was going to run short of money. He went to the town treasurer and requested more money to finish the job. The treasurer pointed out that he had agreed on a price for the job and no more money was to be given. Michael, being a man of honour, went back and finished the fountain.

The treasurer's house was on the edge of the square and he could look out across it with a good





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Oh No!! - Not More About Fruit Fly?

Seems that while it may take a village to rear a child - it takes a neighbourhood to eradicate Fruit Fly!

This evening - 20 July - and also the deadline for the Tattler - we attended a meeting organised by the **Lurg and District Fruit Fly Awareness Group** and presented by members of the **Albury Wodonga Fight the Fruit Fly Association**.

This presentation has increased our knowledge of the dreaded Fruit Fly, and changed our thinking on some of the tactics previously learnt on how to manage this pest.

The life cycle of the Fruit Fly and how it is going to appear during the fruiting season - is weather dependent. Fruit Fly do not disappear - but remain active throughout the year - however:

- Extreme High Heat with Low Humidity
 - Very Low Temperatures over Winter
- will result in the Fruit Fly being less active. While:
- A milder winter, with a more humid summer
- will have them active throughout the year.



In extremely cold periods the females reabsorb their eggs - and wait.

Fruit Flies lay eggs in fruit and vegetables, turning produce into a brown mushy useless mess.

Host produce of Fruit Fly includes: avocados, citrus (oranges, mandarins, tangelos, limes, grapefruit), figs, persimmons, pome fruit (apples, pears), table grapes, wine grapes, eggplants, tomatoes, capsicums, chillies, stone fruit (cherries, peaches, plums, nectarines, apricots) strawberries and passionfruit.

Fruit fly trouble begins as the weather warms in August.

Yes August - The female flies lay their eggs under the skin of ripening fruit, the maggots hatch and feed, spoiling the fruit, causing it to rot and drop.

If you have fruit trees and are not interested in maintaining them or harvesting the fruit - then the best course of action is to remove them so as not to be harbouring Fruit Fly which will infect the neighbourhood.

Consider also - Fruit trees - usually plum and apple which are on your roadside - these will be harbouring Fruit Fly and spreading the pest and should be removed.

For those of us who do harvest and use the fruit from our trees - the best advice there is to prune the trees to a manageable size. Preferably a size that can be covered with a special Fruit Fly Exclusion Net. Ordinary fly netting is not good enough as Fruit Flies are very small and will find their way through - also ordinary fly netting is not UV safe and will quickly rot.

The first and most important step when attempting to prevent fruit fly attack is good hygiene. Mature maggots pupate in the soil to remerge as adult flies.

Signs that eggs have been laid in fruit are dimples or weeping clear sap on the fruit. Pick these fruit off as well as any damaged and rotting fruit. It is also very important to pick up fallen fruit as soon as it drops so that maggots do not have a chance to escape from the fruit and burrow into the ground to pupate.

It seems that advice to put the affected fruit and vegetables in a sealed plastic bag and leave it in the sun for three or four days, is not going to work - unless the weather is 40 degrees or over. And as for giving the fruit to the chooks (or your cattle) - this won't be 100% effective - some will escape and you only need one female escapee who will then go on to lay 1,000 eggs in the next few days.

Best way to kill Fruit Flies in Fruit is to Microwave or Freeze the fruit - then give the fruit to the chooks.

Trapping adult flies helps limit the breeding population. There are

numerous variations of traps and lures.

A bait that was recommended was **NATLAV 5000**

- **NATFLAV® '500'** (the bait) is a protein based attractant registered for the control of Queensland Fruit Fly (QFF). It is used in combination with an insecticide (Malathion) to actually kill the Fruit Fly.
- **NATFLAV® '500'** in itself is not harmful. Used according to the directions will mean that other beneficial insects will not be killed whilst baiting for Queensland Fruit Fly.
- **Fight the Fruit Fly Association Inc DOES NOT SUPPLY MALATHION.** You must purchase this from your nursery or produce store.
- The aim of using the bait, mixed with Malathion, is to attract and kill, as many fruit flies as possible at a single site.
- **NATFLAV® '500'** is not applied directly to the fruit. The underside of foliage can be used, or paint the mixture directly onto a branch, avoiding contact with fruit. Alternatively, the bait can be sprayed on a cloth inside a shelter (see methods of applying bait) and hung from a branch or on a stake amongst your vegetables.
- Control of fruit fly is an ongoing task during the fruit/vegetable growing season. Baits should be placed in your garden before the onset of warm weather. This means having your baits set and ready to go by mid August. Baiting must continue until cold weather returns. This can be as late as May/June.
- Baiting must be done every 7 days to be effective.
- If there has been at least 5ml of rain following a baiting, **NATFLAV® '500'** must be re-applied as its effectiveness will be reduced.

Once a bait mixture has been made, it must be used immediately. Do not store unused mixture until next application as its effectiveness will have diminished significantly.

Check out the **Albury Wodonga Fight the Fruit Fly Association** website for further information.

<http://fightthefruitfly.org/baiting.html>

CERA Traps and bait are available at **Bunnings** and **Mitre 10** and **Green Harvest** in Queensland have "kits" available.

Home made traps will work - however - they are not as effective and it seems that only a small percentage of what is trapped in the DIY traps are Fruit Fly - as these traps attract a wide range of insects - some of which will be beneficial to your garden and it is a pity to kill these.

It is possible to buy nets or bags to cover fruit to prevent the female from getting to the fruit to lay her eggs.

Use these 'exclusion' nets to keep fruit safe. There are nets suitable for vegetables and stronger ones for trees. These will last several years if used carefully.

Poultry scratching around under the trees may help to keep the hatching pupae numbers down.

Again - it is most important to collect all fallen and damaged fruit as soon as it is noticed to prevent a major infestation.

We all need to be vigilant to keep fruit fly under control because neglected trees become a neighbourhood problem.

Fruit fly can be spread by travellers carrying infested fruit into or between horticultural regions of Victoria. If you have a problem - keep your fruit to yourself, unless it has been cooked - no matter how much you may like to share. You are not being selfish - you are being vigilant and responsible.



Happy Trapping

Kathy Z

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LANDMARK

Concerning the
Tatong Community Dinner;
the Tattler is running this event
in our Calendar. Can anyone
advise us if this Dinner is still
happening? Wishing everyone
bon appétit! –
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SCRAP ART IN MY WINTER WORKSHOP/ STUDIO

Due to the July 13th deadline for entries and the endlessly cold days I decided to convert my painting studio into a workshop for the mainly carpentry project I was creating. The main advantage of the studio is my wood stove and the next is my record/cd collection which I play for extra enjoyment and entertainment.

My usual workshed is a mostly unlined garage which has never housed a vehicle and it remains cold all the time in winter even when the sun comes out due to tree shading and a large roller doorway. So now while the winds howl and the frost bites I am laughing merrily like a gnome in Santa's workshop measuring, cutting, screwing and glueing stuff for the mighty Scrap Art Exhibition in Swanpool starting on August the 4th this year. This exhibition replaces the Bald Archy exhibition which was unavailable this year and the new event continues the tradition of the hugely popular and outstanding meals and morning and afternoon teas of the previous event. It's as if the art is just a byline of the main event, traditional country entertainment and hospitality at its best!

Mike Larkin

A Public Meeting of the Molyullah Recreation & Public Hall Reserve Committee of Management will be held on Friday August 10 2018 The meeting will be incorporated into our regular Fish and Chip night and all commu- nity members are welcome.

The purpose of the meeting is to nominate one (1) person to fill a vacancy created by the resignation of Arlene van der Merwe, for the remainder of the current term. Nominations are invited and to be submitted prior to or on the night.

Discussion about public camping at the Sports Ground will also be held, and participation of all locals is welcome.

Further enquiries please contact Secretary,
Bronwyn Forman, 57666238.





Media Release, Age Friendly Benalla Project, July 18 2018

Older People – Getting good advice in the Information Age

A partnership between Cooinda, the Central Hume Primary Care Partnership and the Benalla Rural City successfully obtained a grant from the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services to find out what older people think would make Benalla and its surrounding rural communities more 'age friendly' and implement projects based on this information. An age friendly community offers older people greater opportunities to live active and fulfilling lives, enjoy positive physical and mental health and be valued members of the community.

Australians with low internet skills can often feel isolated from community and family at a time in their lives when feeling connected is increasingly important. The Council of the Ageing (COTA) – Australia, report that Australians aged 65 years and over are the most digitally excluded age group. Importantly as Government transitions several functions to an online delivery method, the potential for older Australians to be disadvantaged from these emerging and dominant communication methods is great. Digital literacy and user capability is an important aspect of older Australians increasing their online presence. Not only does this generation of older people have to learn to adapt to online processes there is also the significant issue of cybersecurity for older people to contend with. In 2016 alone, 26% of all the complaints to the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) were made to Scamwatch; a division of the ACCC that provides information to consumers and small businesses about how to recognise, avoid and report scams. Further, almost half of all older Australians have experienced a virus, scam, credit card theft, or theft of personal information (Australian Government – Be Connected Overview). Research by the Office of the eSafety Commissioner in 2017 showed a very clear need for online content, training and support for older Australians.

The Age Friendly Benalla project is offering social small group tutoring in the use of mobile devices including tablets and smart phones to all people in Benalla Rural City over the age of 55. We are aiming our program at people who have little or no experience in using mobile devices and lack the confidence to start. Our program will be delivered by

When the Beatles wrote '*With a Little Help from My Friends*' in 1967, they weren't thinking about health and retirement advice, yet family and friends have always been a trusted source of information. Since the sixties, information delivery has been revolutionized by a new entrant, digital technology, which has changed, not only the way we now seek advice from experts, but also our loved ones and the general public. (The National Seniors – Australian 2018 report 'A Little Help from My friends: Getting good advice in the Information Age').

our friendly tutor Lindsay in a social setting, the program is informal and an ideal place to have your concerns heard and questions answered. Devices will be provided (for the purpose of the tutoring) or older people can bring their own if preferred. Tutoring will be delivered in both the township of Benalla and in various rural communities over the next six months. We would encourage all older people to take advantage of this or other training being offered in the Benalla Rural City to empower everyone to use the internet and everyday-technology to thrive in our digital world.

For further information please contact Fiona MacPhee, Age Friendly Benalla Project Coordinator.

Contact:

p.0488330383

e. agefriendlybenalla@gmail.com



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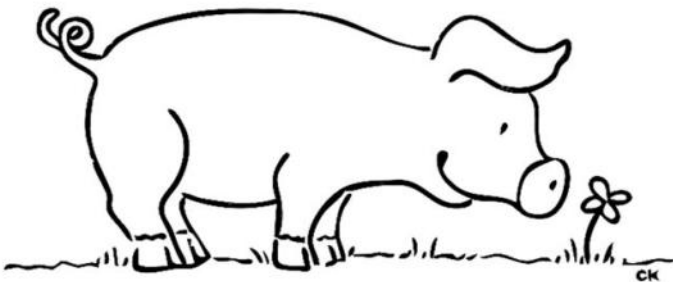
The Age Friendly Benalla project is offering social small group tutoring in the use of mobile devices including tablets and smart phones to all people in Benalla Rural City over the age of 55.

We are aiming our program at people who have little or no experience in using mobile devices and lack the confidence to start. Our program will be delivered by our friendly tutor Lindsay in a social setting. So, bring your friends and enjoy a personalised introduction to the internet, search engines, social media, downloading and using apps to make life easier and help you to connect with your family and friends.

Devices will be provided (for the purpose of the tutoring) or bring your own if you prefer. We will have both Apple and Samsung devices available.

Drop in for a coffee, a chat, a play with some devices and have all your questions about the 'digital world' answered.

For more information please contact the Age Friendly Benalla Project Coordinator on 0488 330 383 or email agefriendlybenalla@gmail.com

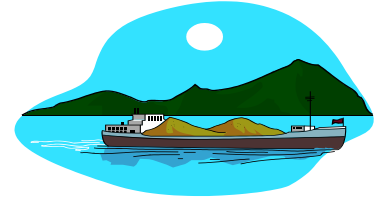


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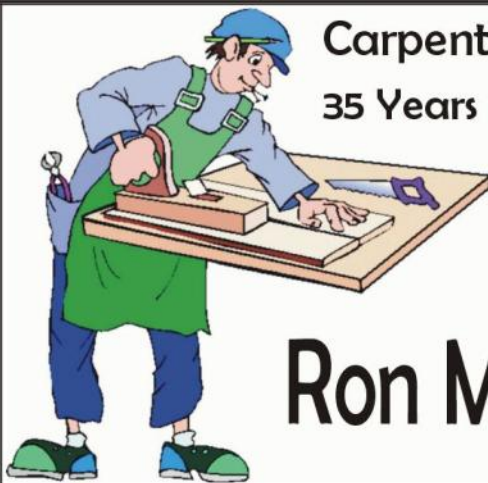
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A Slice of German Life—Hazel Wann (Continued)

We pull into 72 Friedrich-Ebertstrasse to find Hajo and the children (Bauke and Take) waiting. Much hugging and laughing and I say "Kommen sie Bauke and Take" as I unfold their Sugar Glider and Kangaroo from my case. Petra emerges from the path followed by Konrad. The garden is filled with the flowers I cannot grow at home and the house looks so gorgeous with Anna's restoration. How I love this house. Last time I stayed, I was ill and never went anywhere so it was home for a week. Presents, beer and then eating out in a fish restaurant around the corner with North Sea fish, dry Riesling, kartoffel, followed by Crème Brulee, berries and cream made from Quark.

Later we are taken to our 'flat' just down the road – the top floor of a house where the owner is away. Anna and Petra decided that with the chaos that occurs in the household in the early morning that it would be better for all if we stayed away at night. Children start school at 7.30 in Germany and are home by lunch or shortly after. So it is a huge effort when one goes to a kindergarten and the other to a primary school. Then Anna talks to her clients and employees and Hajo continues with 3 papers to be presented at a conference in Barcelona at the beginning of next week.

The flat is lovely. The owner of the house is away so we are alone. We have a large sittingroom and bathroom, a balcony overlooking the back garden, a bedroom as big as our own at home, and a kitchen where the table and chairs are. There is plenty of storage and it is spotlessly clean. All the double glazed windows are large squares that open inwards like a door, or with a shift of the handle lean inwards from the top.

In the morning we walk to Friedrich-Ebertstrasse, about 8 minutes. With the church bells ringing, over the canal, up Konigstrasse, round the butter yellow hotel – to breakfast with Konrad and Petra on the first floor. Although this is a listed house, Petra and Konrad have had a glass room attached to the back of the building – a small diningroom behind the kitchen. A veritable feast of cheeses – Fetta impregnated with garlic, Bratwurst, schinken (ham), salamis, boiled eggs, rye and black bread, potato bread (kartoffelbrot), late summer fruits and rich coffee. How we talk. Politics – yes – following our election there is one here and Angela Merkel is under threat; Germany's history, the economic situation, Australia in the wars.

Then off to Rysumer to the market. It is Sunday, more church bells. We are in Reformation country, Luther & Calvin. The market is huge. I find a book on the architecture of German barns. E9.00 – say \$12. The market is filled with eating points: Matjes herring, kartoffel as tiny roasted balls. Beer stands. Cake & coffee stands. Are Germans fat? Yes, but not nearly as frequently as we are. Or as large. We eat Matjes with a dressing of apple, onion, gherkin and cream. Yum! The day is cloudy and a stiff wind gets up.

We travel in 2 cars as the back of the Mercedes is for the 2 children. In the Mercedes we play cds for the kids. The 'Laughing Policemen' reduces us to aching jaws. Anna says if she has a difficult client she plays it on the way home to recover. Hajo and John are in Petra's VW.

John finds a second hand leather satchel to his liking and

buys it for E15 to use for carrying his small stuff. We watch the children have a tractor ride and see some farmers demonstrate hay bale making with old machines. I am very pleased with myself because I slept so well last night and we have not stopped all day and we are not tired. The market is wonderful because of the setting, the variety of stalls and the huge amount of people all being very German. The place is crowded and it a great first experience of Frieslanders – Germans largely but not always, look different from Anglo-Saxon Australians. Anna says even so close to Holland the style of dress and choice of colour alters on either side of the border.

We visit the old but restored windmill. The mechanics are attempting to fix the wheels driven by the sails. Something is impeding them and it dangerous work. But we are allowed to file by and climb up to the outside deck. The view, of course, is fabulous: all villages are pretty here, and interesting. We go down – the wheels have been freed and the grinding stones make their noise. This mill grinds sunflower, fava beans, peas, wheat, and rye. The wood work is magnificent.

Then we run into Georg und Inge – Hajo's parents. Very charming. We stop for coffee and apfeltorte. Tomorrow Georg will take us to his village where the Boomgaardens have roots. Georg is a retired head master and talks.....!

In Rysumer we also visit a wonderful church – so Protestant Reformation – simple yet not without decoration. Then we wander through village lanes, huge barns (both restored and in states of decay), Dutch influenced gardens and domestic architecture.

At 4 we are back in Emden to join Hajo's sister and brother-in-law taking us in their boat on the canals of Emden. We go through the only round lock in Europe – like a cross road but with canals. Then on into the harbour – an industrial harbour with hundreds of Volkswagens on the dock for export; a ship with a helicopter pad that lays sea windmills; the iron and concrete bases for these giant windmills; and the first ship in the world that does not use fuels and powers itself. Back in the canal system we see the ancient defensive earthworks of the city of Emden, and the pretty real estate that has the good fortune to front onto the canals. As the temperature drops suddenly, Anna lends me a magnificent all weather coat – she tells me she bought it in Leer where we are going in a couple days. I spend a lot of the time hanging on to Take, aged 3, who wants to take off from the front of the little motor boat.

We dine chez Boomgaarden (on the ground floor of No. 72) – Hajo makes pizza whilst Anna prepares Bauke und Take for bed. After dinner Hajo repairs to the tv to watch an election programme (Federal elections at the end of the month) – he is an academic at Amsterdam University on communication specializing in political communication. Anna, too has work – preparing for German Monument Day as she has a listed building in Emden that she is restoring. We walk home through the cobbled streets to our holiday flat in a nice Emden bungalow.

Tomorrow we walk to No. 72 for breakfast with Petra und Konrad on the 1st floor at 8.30.

Today has been a wonderful introduction to German life. I am amazed at how much German I can pull out of my head – but of course, I am surrounded by it. What a stimulating day this has been.

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New mains

Anyone who has travelled along Ryans Creek Road in the last couple of months will be well aware of the substantial works being undertaken by North East Water. When contacted for more information on the project, NE Water's Luke Jobson provided the following:-

North East Water is replacing a section of water main along Ryans Creek Road in Benalla in a \$1M project under its asset renewal program.

The original pipe was installed in 1955 and takes untreated water from the nearby water storage at Loombah Dam to Benalla's water treatment plant

A contractor is replacing a 3.6 km section of the pipe, upsizing from 375mm to a larger 450mm PVC pipe.

Work is expected to be completed by October, depending on the weather.

The Corporation would like to thank nearby residents for their patience during the construction.

I hope the 100kph sign is to deny access to wildlife and not an indication of how fast the water will travel along this section of pipe.



Janette Knapper

Students from the FCJ were buddied up with Cooinda residents to share life experiences. Life stories were written by the students about the residents. These stories to be narrated at the concert.

Cooinda residents gathered in excited groups waiting to either board the bus, walk or be pushed in their wheelchairs to BPACC where the concert, which was several weeks in the planning, was to take place. I don't think anyone can fully appreciate the mammoth undertaking of co-ordinating rehearsals, interviews, film making production and actually physically getting the residents to BPACC.

Once at BPACC some students and residents were seated on the stage whilst family, friends, more students, residents and staff made up the audience of more than 300. The place was packed.

The morning began with an introduction from Joseph Mount, the acting principal of FCJ, extolling the virtues of the programme, which is aimed at bringing youth and aged together in a loving and sympathetic way.

The concert was wonderful with singing, dancing and the narrating of stories. A celebration of musical talent, friendship and mutual respect between the senior and junior members of our community.

A report from Marg Aldous, CEO of Cooinda finalised the formal part of the morning. This was followed by a delicious luncheon of sandwiches, cakes, tea and coffee, the residents being well looked after by the students.

Tired but happy and already talking about next year, the residents then were shuttled back to Cooinda for a well earned rest.

Dawn Brettoner and Sallie Hann

Ensure that your meeting dates are listed on the Tattler Calendar!

(Back page of the Tatong Tattler)

Planning a meeting?



**Get in Early,
Check the Tattler
Calendar and**

*Avoid the Dreaded
Meeting Clash!*

**Online - Check & be Listed on
www.vicnet.net.au/~tattler/tattler**

Cooinda Outing

Many of us in the Tatong area have strong connections with Cooinda, either through work, volunteering or having a family member as a resident.

Every year, for the past seven years, year seven students from FCJ College have joined with Cooinda residents to bring about the "Let's Find Our Voice" concert.

This year we were privileged to be involved again.



Why is it important to pump my septic tank out regularly?

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Media Release

Media Release

28 June 2018

Council adopts 18/19 Budget

The increased cost of managing recycled waste and the impact of rate capping have been considered in the preparation of the 2018/19 Council Budget, which was adopted on 27 June 2018.

The 2018/19 Budget focuses on delivering the core functions as outlined in the Council Plan 2017 - 2021 including \$1,293M on roads, \$420,000 on bridges and \$215,000 on footpaths under a \$4.434M Capital Projects Program.

In 2015 the Victorian Government introduced rate capping legislation which provided for an annual rate cap set by the Minister for Local Government which controls general rate increases, and revenue, for all councils during that financial year. The cap for 2018/19 is 2.25%.

The Budget includes \$27.1M revenue and \$29.1M expenditure with a deficit of \$2.008M. This deficit position is primarily due to an early payment of the Federal Government financial assistance grant of \$2.083M. This payment of 50% of the Council's Federal Government allocation was received in June 2018.

Chief Executive Officer Tony McIlroy said ongoing service delivery within a financially sustainable framework is central to the Council's operations and budget considerations.

"This will be the third year the Council has been implementing its internally driven strategy of doing the same with less," Mr McIlroy said.

"We have reduced our overheads and employee costs by \$1.754M.

"We are continually working to ensure we are delivering services in the most efficient, sustainable way.

"There has never been a tougher time for rural Councils and the Council has been working on preparing a sustainable budget since late January."

ENDS

Media Contact:

Jillian Mulally - Benalla Rural City Council – 0408 573 864

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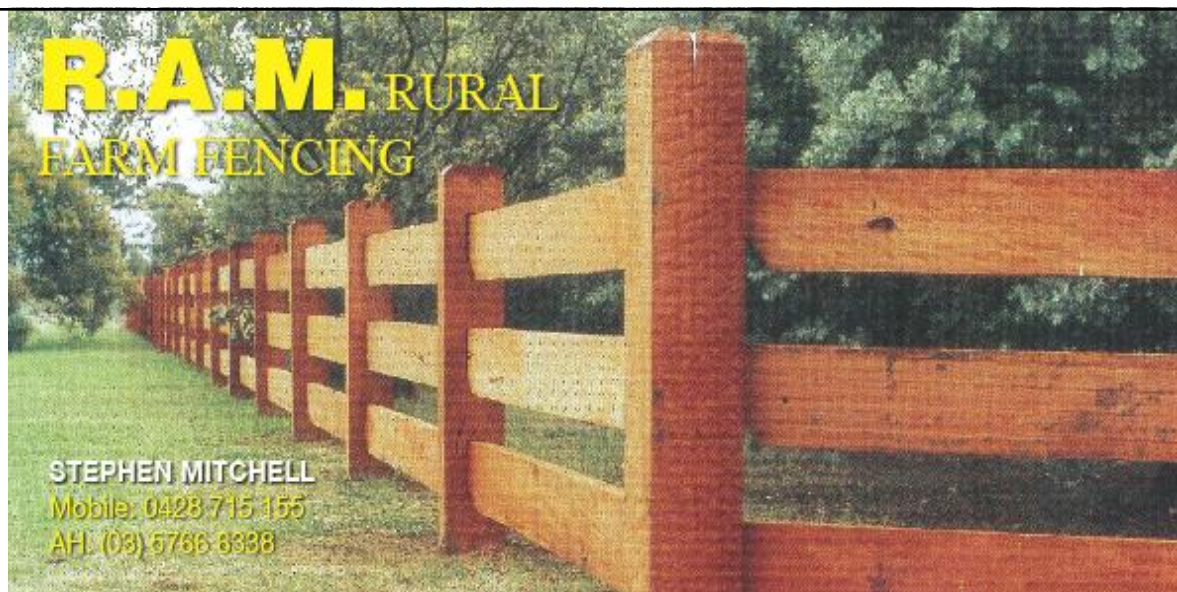
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Victorian Farmland Prices Increase

The median price of Victorian farmland continues to increase with recently released data showing growth of 9.5%. Average annual growth over 5 years is now 7.2% with commodity prices for livestock and wool being favourable in supporting demand for pastoral land.



The area of farmland transactions in the past 12 months of the reporting time was 253 thousand hectares statewide which is an increase of 11.7% on the previous year. The total value of farmland traded was approximately \$1.2billion, an increase of 10.1% compared to 2016.

When looking at farmland sales by municipality, Benalla achieved a median \$/ha of \$7,531 across 35 sales up from the three year average median of \$6,202 per ha which puts us at the expensive end when compared to our neighbours.

A lower number of transactions in an historical sense especially in the larger property category showed that sellers and potential buyers of land continue to be in no rush.

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In the Yards, again with Justin

Fat Cattle for the Month of July:

Bullocks - \$3.072 / UP 10-18c on Last Month

Cows - \$2.66 / UP 20-35c on Last Month

Vealers - \$3.28 / Unchanged

Grain Fed - \$3.25 / Unchanged

Feedlot Steers - \$3.25 / Trending 5c Dearer

Feedlot Heifers - \$2.80 / Trending 5c Dearer

Store Cattle Spring drop steers trending dearer for the heavier end 300+Kg.

250-300Kg Steers strong to unchanged.

170-250Kg Steers trending to slightly cheaper.



Parting Thought: 40 years of marriage...

A married couple in their early 60s were celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary in a quiet, romantic little restaurant. Suddenly, a tiny yet beautiful fairy appeared on their table. She said, 'for being such an exemplary married couple and for being loving to each other for all this time, I will grant you each a wish.'



The wife answered, 'Oh, I want to travel around the world with my darling husband.' The fairy waved her magic wand and - poof! - two tickets for the Queen Mary II appeared in her hands. The husband thought for a moment: 'Well, this is all very romantic, but an opportunity like this will never come again. I'm sorry my love, but my wish is to have a wife 30 years younger than me.' The wife, and the fairy, were deeply disappointed, but a wish was a wish! So the fairy waved her magic wand and poof...the husband became 92 years old.



The moral of this story: Men who are ungrateful so and so's should remember, fairies are female...

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
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	49.1	61.7	52.5	6.5	92.1	112.4	23.9	100.1	29.3	118.9	760.3
2018	34.3	6.4	24.9	13.7	49.8	67.2							196.3

WEATHER IN THE TATONG TOWNSHIP

I think coldness would be the word for July with some successive days of frost and only 16.9mm of rain up until the 15th of the month. For June the total rainfall was a reasonable 67.2. The daylight hours are already getting longer as I have had to set my phone alarm a quarter of an hour later to shut the chooks in, once roosted, at dusk.

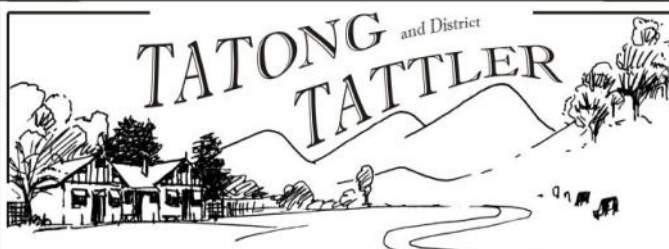
Mike Larkin

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**The
Annual General Meeting
of the
Tatong Tattler Committee**
will be held on:

Thursday September 13th
At the Tatong Tavern.

- Committee Meeting 5pm
- AGM 6pm
- **Dinner! 6:30**



Tattler Distributors / Contributors / Readers etc.
are most welcome to the AGM &/or the Dinner.
Self book & Pay.
Nominations for Committee Welcome.

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What's on this month

August 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
July 29	July 30	July 31	1 Whitegate Community Dinner at the Tavern	2 Molyullah Community Dinner at the Tavern Play group, 9.30am Rec Res	3	4
5 	6	7	8	9 Play group, 9.30am, Rec Res	10 Fish & Chip Night. Molyullah Hall 5.30pm	11 
12	13	14	15 Tatong Community Dinner at the Tavern	16 Play group, 9.30am Tatong Rec Res .	17 Girls Shed 10.00am at Tatong Hall	18 
19	20	21	22	23 Play group, 9.30am Rec Res	24	25
26 	27	28	29	30 Play group, 9.30am Rec Res	31	Sept 1



WOW from WASTE

Swanpool Creative Recycled Art Prize

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Donations can be:

- ▲ Given to Committee Members
- ▲ Left in the Locked Box by the Tavern
- ▲ or EFT'd to GMCU, BSB 803 078, A/C
135720, Tatong Tattler.

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.