

Circulation 360

December 2019 Donation \$1

www.tatongtattler.com.au

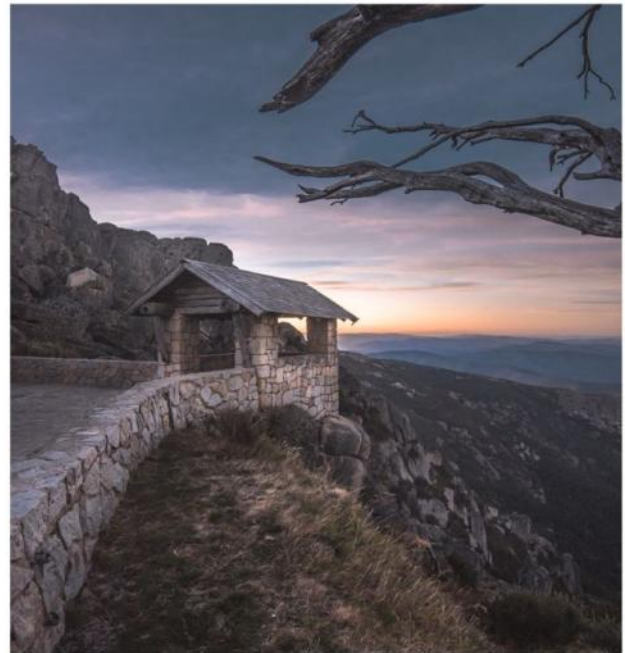
Edition 326

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE TATTLER TEAM

Tatong Art Show - Photography Award 2019 - Will Jones



Will's Winning Entry - "Pretzel"



Falls

For the second year running we were delighted to find that Will had won the **Tatong Art Show** Photography Award - this year in the open section.

A holiday in Japan last January gave the opportunity for "Pretzel". A one hour trip in a train, a half hour trek up a

snow covered hill carrying his gear, to reach the vantage point and enough "getting it right" to have his accompanying brother decide to go for a walk to pass the time while waiting.

Pity the Japanese drivers in Tokyo negotiating this puzzle.

Will was both in the middle of his end of year exams and fighting an annoying cold, so once again I collected his award for him. Next year he is off to Denmark to further his engineering studies, so it will be interesting to see what he will come up with for 2020.

The quality of the entries in the Tatong Art Show was extremely good and we had a most enjoyable evening walking around and deciding which was our favourite.

Congratulations to Nicole and her crew of helpers for all their hard work in putting on such an enjoyable show. Not to mention Andrew the MC in his dazzling jacket.

Kathy Z

Tatong Tavern

**\$20 Parma and Pot
Thursday**

**Wallet Watcher's
Wednesday**

**Tuesday
Pizza Night**

**Monthly
Car Event**



Best Beer on Sale in the Tatong Valley since 1886.

Santa can't wait to get down to the Tatong Pub for Christmas eve!



BJ Chatham



We have been overwhelmed by the many acts of kindness, love and support that we have been shown since our BJ passed away. So many people in so many ways have helped us to bear the pain of our loss.

We thank too the many friends who came to welcome him home.

Please accept this as our personal thanks as there are just too many to respond to individually.

Marg and Brian Chatham and our family.

Seasonal Fruit Fly Management Reminder

Now that it is late spring there are a number of important tasks that home gardeners should be undertaking to manage Queensland Fruit Fly.

You should have your fruit fly traps set up anywhere on your property that you have host plants such as in fruit trees. Trapping is undertaken as part of your overall management plan as it will initially alert you to the presence of fruit fly. Your trap should be placed in an open shade area about half way between the trunk and the outer edge of the foliage, about 1.6 metres above the ground. The traps must be monitored on a weekly basis. Pick and dispose of any excess ripe citrus, especially grapefruit, tangelos, mandarins and late season oranges. Early ripening fruit such as loquats are also a high risk fruit at this time of year.

BENALLA FESTIVAL EVENTS VERY SUCCESSFUL FOR TATONG

Tatong excelled itself by holding two events during the Benalla Spring Festival recently. They were the Big Garage Sale held at the Tatong Recreation Reserve on the first Sunday and the Art Show at the Tatong hall held over the duration of the Festival.

The **Big Garage Sale** continues to thrive because many people are unable to resist the thought of an oval just about filled with second hand treasures. Nearly all of the event feedback was positive from both stallholders and buyers. The rain was a worry earlier in the day but not enough fell to bother anyone and people were happy just to see and hear rainfall after all the current drought talk from interstate.

The main Garage Sale organiser is John Knapper aided greatly by Sallie Hann who along with the committee saw to the success of the event. It is thought that some expansion of the type of stalls could occur but that will need some time to resolve. Also the provision of food needs fine tuning and so more mobile vans with food such as pancakes or pastries may be hired.

As the Garage Sale is held at the same time as the Art Show they are able to boost each other's attendance figures for the first Sunday of the Festival. Typically for both events the artists and stall holders tend to register late so figures can be hard to predict, but somehow they both get just about the expected or hoped for number each year.

This year the Hall committee elected a sub-committee to organise the **Art Show** and they did an excellent job. The presentation of the art show was the culmination of much creativity and experience by the sub-committee which nearly filled the available spaces with paintings, photos and other art forms. Also this year orchids were displayed and sold and this added to the atmosphere and beauty of the art. New Hall committee treasurer and art show enthusiast Nicole McFarlane did an excellent job as did long time Tatong volunteers Pat Manser, Joan Lewis, Bev and Joe Hakkennes, Gerry Hevey and Katrina Bailey. Even though not a large number of paintings were sold the show was a success on many levels.

As in previous years Jade Kirk and other RCH volunteers provided the drinks, tea, coffee and refreshments at the opening and during the days when the show was open to the public. Funds raised will go to the annual RCH appeal. All the food was delicious and much appreciated. Both of these events foster the community pride and fulfilment that comes from the many forms of participation and involvement.

Mike Larkin

Exclusion netting is the best way to keep your fruit and vegetables free of fruit fly. It will also protect ripening produce from other pests such as the Green Vegetable bug, birds etc. The Rotary Club of Benalla has exclusion netting available for sale and we are also able to provide advice on the correct installation of nets.

If you are not intending to manage fruit fly in your garden, then the best option is to remove any fruiting plants and trees that may be hosts for fruit fly. If you need help to remove unwanted fruit trees please contact the Rotary Club of Benalla. We may be able to provide help with the removal, but this would be assessed on a case by case basis. You can contact us via our Facebook page or by emailing brucewalker3@bigpond.com

Tatong Art Show Results 2019

Best in Show - Jennifer Paull with "The Yellow Vase"

Section 1 Oils/Acrylic - Kate Jenvey with "Free Spirits"

Section 2 Watercolour /Gouache - Terri MacDonald with "The Bee"

Section 3 Works on Paper - Catherine Pianta with "Margaret"

Section 4 Print Making, Mixed Media - Anita Laurence with 'Where the Rivers Meet'

All the above prizes were sponsored by Goulburn Murray Credit Union.

Section 5 Photography - Will Jones with "Pretzel" sponsored by Jenny Milner/Marsha Watson Pharmacy & Rodwells Ruralco Benalla.

Work other than a Painting - Beatrice Anderson with "Woolly Face" sponsored by Linda and Laurie De Fazio Concreting.

Tatong Tavern Art Prize - Elaine Pallot with "End of Day" sponsored by Tatong Tavern.

Hanger's Choice - Sue Hourigan with "Twilight at Hansonville" sponsored by Rodwells Ruralco Benalla.

People's Choice - Kate Jenvey with "Free Spirits". sponsored by Lima Sth Quarries.

Raffle prize winners were:

John Mitchell,	Dianne Martin
Jane Howe	Debbie Hazell
Sally Allen	Katrina Bailey
A Bartey	Jeanette Knapper

Thank you to Mitre10, Swanpool Cinema, Samaria Farm, The Royal Hotel, Tatong Tavern and Amcal, who donated the prizes for the raffle.

The orchid that was raffled at Millers donated by Lawranna Orchids Beechworth, was won by Angie Meechan.

The Art Show committee of Pat Manser, Joan Lewis, Gerry Hevey and Katrina Bailey deserve a big thank you for your hard work in organising this event, along with all the volunteers who helped during the show - Thank You.

We would also like to thank Benalla Rural Council, the Festival committee and Meredith Paez our judge, for their assistance financially and practically as part of this event.

Nicole McFarlane
Co-ordinator



"End of Day" Elaine Pallot



Tatong Heritage Group Inc.

PLEASE NOTE

CHANGE OF MEETING DATE

The next meeting of the
Tatong Heritage Group will be

***Monday December 2nd, 2019
at 4.00pm***

Tatong Memorial Hall

Wildlife on the Farm

Our country is mainly bush with some grazing. We share it with wildlife and always told visitors we have just about everything but emu. Surprise, surprise, the emu must have recently heard what a great place it is. The cattle don't seem to mind at all! *Janette*

With thanks to Catherine Clark for the photograph.



Rotary Club of Yea 2020 Art Show

Rotary  "the best little Art Show in the country"

Daily 25th
to 27th Jan
10AM TO 5PM

Closing Day
28th Jan
10AM TO 3PM

Entrance \$5
children free

Yea Town Hall
High Street, Yea

Opening Night
24th Jan 2020
7.30 pm - Entry \$20



French theme



www.yearotary.org.au

*The grass is greener
in the country!*



- > Fully licensed, insured & reputable agency
- > Over 34 years Travel industry experience
 - > Hot Deals & monthly specials
 - > 24/7 support worldwide

Tess O Shea
Mobile Travel Agent
0432 218 668



e: toshea@mtatravel.com.au

w: mtatravel.com.au/toshea

f: [/mtatravelviolettown](https://www.facebook.com/mtatravelviolettown)



**MOLYULLAH
CHRISTMAS PARTY/BBQ
MONDAY DECEMBER 23rd
Molyullah Sports Ground
from 6pm**



**BYO
Food, Drinks, Chairs, Table
and Good Cheer
*All welcome***

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN

As this is our final copy of for 2019 and we don't produce a January edition I'd like to wish everyone:

HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A GREAT NEW YEAR!

Such end/beginning of year festivities have been ongoing forever and they get altered and up-graded as societies evolve. Much of the current mythology about Christmas has been borrowed from the distant past with new bits and interpretations added on. Research shows that the same myths such as virgin birth and so on appear in other non-Christian cultures.

While society is becoming more sceptical and even cynical about mythology and religion it would be pretty bleak without such annual events to shrug off the constant sense of duty we feel for most of the year, plus the inevitable resolve to do better next year. So we owe our ancestors much gratitude for creating these celebrations giving us permission to let our hair down, eat and drink a bit too much, and go into holiday mode for a while.

Mike Larkin

'Carols in Swanpool'

- A Christmas Celebration -

Sunday, 8th December, 2019

7:30 - 9:30 pm at the Swanpool Memorial Hall

(Please note change of venue!)

- Christmas Carol Singing
- Vocal Dimension
- Supper provided
- Swanpool & District Musicians
- Peranbin College Singers
- **Free Admission**



- Post and Wire • Post Driving • Post Hole Digging
- With over 25 years experience • Farm Fencing
- Post and Rail • Stock Yards • Horse Shelters • Frontend Loader
- Slashing • Pipe Laying to Stock Troughs etc.

• S1835 Kilfeera Rd, Molyullah Vic 3673

Email: bustedacre@people.net.au
0428715155 AH 03 57666338

DE FAZIO

Concreting & Paving

house slabs
shed slabs
decorative concrete
paving

Laurie - 0407 099 930
Matt - 0410 514 192
Christian - 0415 422 942



Easy entertaining ideas

Christmas is a time for catching up with family and friends so try to make it as stress free as possible on the day.

Pepitas nibbles.

This is so simple and people love them Thoroughly mix 350g pepitas with 2 Tablespoons of Tamari (a low salt soy sauce)
Spread out onto an oven tray and bake at 180 degrees for about 10 minutes. Leave to cool on the tray and when cool store in an airtight container. Much better for you than store bought chips !!

Seed Crackers – Wheat free
Heat oven to 180 degrees

40g each of sesame seeds, pumpkin seeds and chia seeds (120g in total). Pulse in a food processor for a few seconds to break up.
Add 75g flax meal, 75g freshly grated parmesan cheese, half a teaspoon of salt flakes, half a teaspoon of cracked black pepper, 1 teaspoon red pepper flakes – you can use chilli flakes but go sparingly!!
Add 125ml water and mix well. You may need a little more water to make a pliable dough.

Divide mixture into two. Place dough on a silicone mat or baking paper and place another sheet over the top. Roll to approximately 20mm thickness. Repeat with second half of dough. Try to get an even thickness across the pieces. Mark into bite size pieces with a dinner knife (a sharp knife or pizza cutter will cut the silicone mat. Transfer mats or paper to baking trays and bake for 20 minutes until crisp. Remove from oven and break along the cut lines. Cool completely and store up to 10 days in an airtight container. If they soften a little just re bake for a few minutes before serving. These are great for anyone on a gluten or keto diet. To make them vegan delete the Parmesan cheese and add a little more water.



Savoury tarts are simple and can be made with any vegetables. . Asparagus, grated zucchini, mushroom, sweet potato, tomato, leek, spinach, capsicum or anything you have to hand. Add a few chopped shallots and season with salt and pepper. Rule of thumb is 3 eggs to 300ml cream for a 4-5 serve tart or 12-16 mini tartlets

The egg/cream can be doubled for larger tray bakes. You can also use a mix of milk and cream but I love the richness of using just cream. Use store bought butter or puff pastry. Par cook or sauté whatever you are using and cool completely before placing in a greased and pastry lined ovenproof dish. Pour over egg mix and bake for approx. 30-40 minutes, until the center is cooked. Serve hot or cold but if making the day before refrigerate overnight. Can be gently reheated in the oven to warm.

A really quick and easy dessert, which can be made the day before is Yogurt Panacotta. Serve with any seasonal fruits or fruit purees. Frozen berries work well also. This recipe can also be doubled successfully.

300ml cream, 75g caster sugar, 1 teaspoon vanilla essence or paste, 3 gelatin leaves, 500g plain Greek style thick yogurt.

Place cream and sugar in a pan and bring to a simmer. Soak gelatin leaves in cold water to soften, then drain and squeeze out excess water. Remove hot cream from the stove and add vanilla and soaked gelatin leaves stirring well to dissolve gelatin. Add yogurt and whisk to combine. Pour into individual dishes or one dish and refrigerate. Serve with your choice of fruit.

QUALIFIED TURF MANAGER

LOOSEN-UP LAWNS & LANDSCAPES

SPECIALISING IN

> NEW LAWNS > LAWN RENOVATIONS > LANDSCAPING
> PAVING/STONEWORK > IRRIGATION SYSTEMS

ALSO AVAILABLE

> SMALL TRACTOR WORK > ROTARY HOEING > SLASHING/MOWING
> POST HOLING > FRONT END LOADER > SOIL MOVING/LEVELING



25 YEARS
HORTICULTURE
EXPERIENCE



A.B.N.
52 633 846 388

GARRY RUIGROK MOB: 0419 893 286

PEST ANIMAL MANAGE- MENT

Protect your Home Environment,
Crops, Pastures and Stock from
Rabbits- Fox- Deer- Kangaroos
and Wombats

Agricultural Blasting Stumps re-
moved
Wombat and Rabbit burrows col-
lapsed.

North East Bunny Busters
2385 Midland Hwy Swanpool ph
0421363967

FIREWOOD



CUT SPLIT
AND DELIVERED
8 METRES - \$600
CALL RUSSELL – 5766 6250

Congratulations to Mr & Mrs Angus and Bec McDougall

Angus and Bec of “Rossmore”, Molyullah married at the farm on Saturday, 26 October. Many locals marvelled at the tent city that evolved in the front paddock.



Bec and Angus McDougall

Geoff Hill, Andrew & Di Muller, Bec Hill

To Bec and Angus, very best wishes for a happy future from all your friends and neighbours in Molyullah.

Janette Knapper

Tatong Garage Sale – Successful Bidders on the Bridge



Trudy and Alastair Loney from Swanpool were the successful bidders on the old footbridge that was auctioned at the Tatong Garage Sale held on Sunday, 3 November. Judging by the smiles on their faces they had a pretty successful day all around.

Janette Knapper



kingofsparks.com

Re-evalutate your energy

Creating sustainable solutions, for energy efficient consumption

- General Electrical
- Solar
- Solar/Batteries
- Power Diverters
- Heat Pumps
- Solar Hot Water
- Air-conditioning
- Heating
- LED lighting
- Insulation

03 5779 1991 | www.kingofsparks.com

**NO FLIES
ON US!**
Let's stop Queensland
Fruit Fly



Do you have an old fruit tree or new veggie patch in your backyard?

Queensland Fruit Fly is a serious risk to our region's horticulture industry, backyard orchards and vegetable gardens. Fruit fly is most active in warmer months. It infests fruit trees and vegetable gardens.

Everyone needs to manage fruit fly.

It takes a whole community to stop the spread of the Queensland Fruit Fly.

PICK - PRUNE - PROTECT - PICK UP FALLEN FRUIT

More information:

Agriculture Victoria website agriculture.vic.gov.au/qff

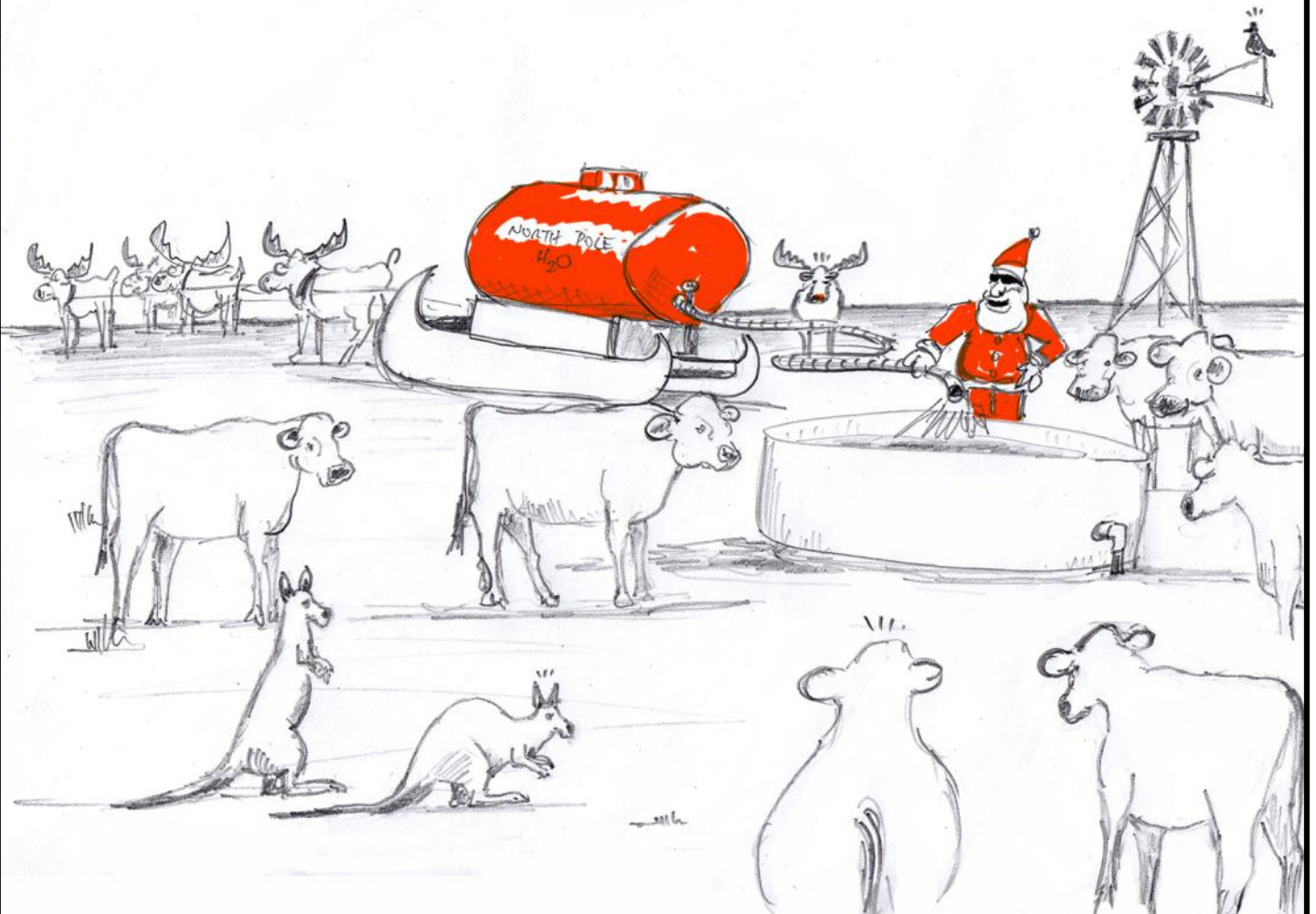
Council's Customer Service Centre at benalla.vic.gov.au or on 03 5760 2600

Rotary Club of Benalla at brucewalker3@bigpond.com

Funded by the Victorian Government's Managing Fruit Fly Regional Grants Program.



Santa to the rescue (when the Holland Creek stops running..)



Farewell to the Grimas

by Dennis Scott

A celebration was held on Saturday, November 2nd at the Grima household to wish them a fond farewell after more than 20 years in the district. Danny, Claire, Laura, Natalie and Josh were joined by a gathering of family, neighbours and their many friends from the district; where all enjoyed retelling many tales of the family, particularly Danny- 'The Maltese Marvel'.

The Grimas moved into their property at Fernhills in 1999. Claire was pregnant with Laura so their 3 children were all Tatong born.

The children all attended Tatong Primary School before its eventual closure.

From the beginning they ran a profitable dairy farm, being a little alternative- practising low fertilizer use, little drenching and concentrating more on the development of soil structure using dung beetles, also cell grazing cycles to reduce the use of drench. Danny and Claire were very proud of their herd of swiss brown cows and the development of a very sustainable farm. Apart from farming the family were very involved in the community, playing an active role with the school, tennis club, football and netball clubs, table tennis, recreation reserve, Landcare, fire brigade and water catchment management to name a few.

After umpiring at the Tatong Football Club, Danny joined the Wangaratta Umpires Board, umpiring many O & K games.

As the children grew older with their parent's support and encouragement Natalie and Josh showed a real flair for soccer, first locally then much further afield.

Claire spent many nights driving to Albury and Melbourne with Danny working at Hancock Plantations (including a 10 year spell on the summer fire crew) as well as milking cows. They decided that they needed to simplify their lives and be a little closer to the soccer action.

At the beginning of 2019 the family moved to Epping leaving Danny to finish up the milking and put the farm on the market.

Claire obtained employment shortly after and is working as a cleaning contractor.

Laura is completing a teaching degree at Latrobe University in Shepparton and at the moment is doing a teaching round in Benalla.

Natalie and Josh are both attending St Marys College in Epping where soccer is big, and playing for their respective clubs at St Albans and Dynamo, both highly rated leagues in Melbourne.

The big news is that Danny has applied to join the police force and is the final stages of the process, we wish him well in what will be quite a career change in his 50's.

The family has made an outstanding contribution to Tatong. We hope they all achieve their goals and they will be very much missed by all who had the good fortune to know them.



THE GREATEST TOOL EVER INVENTED

Finally, I have discovered the most amazing machine in the history of the world and it is the electric leaf blower.

Through ignorance and pride I resisted owning one for a long time, especially the petrol type because I thought that their only purpose was to swirl leaves in useless circles and drive neighbours mad with the noise.

The revelation began a while back when working alongside a friend on a roof which needed dust and litter removed. He got his battery powered blower out and rather than be a nuisance that little device "blew me away" with its ability to clear the sheets of iron plus our work space with great speed and efficiency. The only problem was that the particular blower would cost well over \$300 so owning one went into the 'too hard' basket. I wanted an electric blower rather than petrol because of less noise plus by having solar panels we gain most benefit from them by using electrical equipment when the sun is shining on the panels.

My lucky day arrived at a garage sale in Benalla in September when I found an electric blower, 240 volt not battery, for only \$20. I love a bargain! It was smallish so I did not expect much from it but now having used it many times I am delighted by its amazingness and usefulness at cleaning paths, gutters, car or van luggage areas and the list goes on. The grandsons found that it works fantastically as a bellows when we were burning garden cuttings. Coincidentally a local friend gave me a long thin power lead, which while

not so useful for larger machines, is perfect for the blower which draws only 600 watts. The yard broom will be gathering dust from now on and I don't think that I could live without a blower!

Speaking of tools and the delight they can bring and I have the major project of dismantling an old work van for scrap metal because it would be too difficult to get out of the yard. With modern tools such as angle grinders it won't be too hard if done slow and steady. When young I did the same with my 1939 Chevrolet sedan after it became too old to use. It was built strongly when things were meant to last and it could just about climb a cliff in low gear. The 6 cylinder engine was sold for a sawmill engine and the back wheels/axle set was used to build a trailer. In today's terms of valuing classic and vintage cars that was a "criminal act," and yet here I go doing it again! The difference then with tools was that I had only hacksaws, crowbar, hammer and cold chisels plus spanners and youthful energy.

I remember envying a boy at school who told me that his family had an electric drill and how he could drill holes, "zip, zip" and they were done, while I only had access to the little hand wheel drill or the brace and bit. Tools are toys of joy to many men, me included. Sometimes I go looking for something to do that allows me to make the most of my 'toy' collection!

Mike Larkin

Suck it up

SEPTIC PUMP OUTS

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

Over time scum and sludge layers build up in your septic tank, eventually limiting the amount of available liquid. This does not allow the septic tank to perform one of its basic functions - to allow for settling of solids below the outlet level.

The waste will then flow directly on to the next part of the system untreated. If this situation persists, the scum and sludge will flow through to the distribution field, eventually causing blockages and malfunction - a messy, smelly and costly exercise to repair.

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



Call us today to get your septic tank cleaned out

0447 521 981

Gawn to Town

Growing up in the suburbs of Melbourne, in the '60's & 70's, we had the most splendid Christmas tree. Well I thought it was pretty good. Pine-tree shaped and fashioned out of twisted wire, with plastic 'fir needles' caught in the twists. Once we'd decorated it and put the presents underneath it looked jolly good.

I never experienced the trek out to a pine plantation, and the choosing of a real tree. My poor overworked mum would never have had the time or the money. And our tree went on for years!

But once I left home I wanted something different; something from the land. I would select a small branch of red-gum, then work out how to fix it to stand upright in a pot heavy enough to not topple over. It looked really nice, until the leaves fell off.

One year I had a Bright New idea. Where we lived in the Riverina, "Old-Man" salt-bush had once proliferated. But it couldn't stand constant grazing. By the time I met it, it existed only in a few sheltered stands, or locked up on some of the old stations which, before it was wiped out, had learnt its value as good drought-fodder on poor land. In the 1980s we began planting it as drought reserve. When the bushes had grown enough, one Christmas I selected a branch - pale olive green, with gently shaped foliage. It looked just wonderful, and the bright Christmas ornaments were resplendent upon it. Only downer that Christmas was that the cat must have forgotten himself and wee'd behind the tree. Eventually the penny dropped, and I realised that dying Old-Man Saltbush puts out a most powerful aroma. (I wonder if that is how it got its name? - The cat told me I ought not bring such stinky things indoors, however nice they looked when draped with red tinsel.)

In the 90's I saw what a friend had done with a dead, bleached branch, hung all over with Christmas baubles and tinsel. It looked so grand I have rarely used anything different since. Just like everybody else...

The gift of a Woolamai Pine meant we did decorate a real tree a few times - but in situ, not in the house. Perhaps I ought have tried that with the paddock full of saltbush.

Now the artificial trees are a different class to the one my mum bought so long ago. Optical fibres have taken the place of simple plastic fir-needles, and computers keep the colours fading one into the other. Anything that smart is probably sending all our conversations back to China.

At the Violet Town Market in November, one stall had on its bench a more old-fashioned looking little Christmas tree, covered in dark green plastic fuzz. Not of much interest until there was a loud noise, at which point the Christmas tree opened its mouth and began to sing.

How cool is that! I wonder if I can find one which will clean the house?

- Andi Stevenson



Quentin White & Co
TANKS & PLUMBING



6,800 - 500,000 Litres

Zincalume & Colorbond Steel Pioneer Water Tanks

Australian made BPA free Liner

20 year conditional warranty

Supply, delivery & installation included

Call for a tank quotation, or email

quentinwhiteplumbing@gmail.com

0407 90 36 37

www.qwtanks.com.au

Gravel/Crushed Rock *Supplies*

- ✓ Crushed Rock ✓ Aggregates
- ✓ Sand & Gravel ✓ Feature Rock

To suit Driveways, Laneways, Pathways etc
Earthmoving equipment available for all jobs

**Servicing all areas
Direct to public
Pick up or Delivery**

**Buy direct
from the quarry
and save!**



Ph 5768 2366



BENALLA FURNITURE REMOVALS

- Storage available short and long term
- Servicing all Victoria and interstate
- Professional and friendly staff
- No move too big or too small
- Quality boxes and moving materials for sale
- Reliable on time and insured

Let us take the stress out of moving!



0419 142 666

BFR@outlook.com.au

Merchandise

Fertiliser

Real Estate

Livestock

Wool

Finance

Insurance



LANDMARK RURAL SUPPLIES

Come in and see us for all of your rural supplies

We have a huge range of Stock in Store Now including:

- Fencing
- Stock Yards
- Stock Feed
- Animal Health
- Water Products
- Fertiliser
- Weed and Pest Control
- Work Boots and more...



Landmark Benalla | 206 Bridge Street, Benalla | 03 5762 2188

LANDMARK



Garden Daze

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



Summer with its hot weather is here and soon it will be Christmas

So - how to help the garden survive the summer heat - and this year's sparse rainfall.

Well - number one in the help range is MULCH.

Mulch will help to keep the soil cool, retain moisture and ultimately break down and replenish the soil. Nice soft hay, pea straw and sugar cane are some good choices and - in a perfect world - spread over a weed free garden bed.

If - as I so often find - you don't have enough "weed free garden beds" - flatten the weeds and pile the mulch over them. If you have ever left a pile of weeds on the lawn after weeding and didn't get back to pick them up for a week or so....(am I giving away too many of my gardening habits here??) you will have found that the grass under your pile of old weeds will be in the process of dying. So too with the weeds in the garden bed - cover them over and they can break down and help feed the soil. If some do poke their heads through - a good tip from Peter Cundall - get your garden fork, slide it under the mulch, lift it above the heads of the weeds and drop it down over them. This can put paid to the most persistent weeds if done a few times.

In the Vegie garden, some compost added to the soil and lightly forked in prior to adding a thin layer of mulch will act as a sponge helping the soil to retain moisture.

Plants in pots will benefit from being moved into a nice shady place under a tree or verandah. Those that are small enough will enjoy being given a dunk in a bucket of water - leave until the bubbles stop coming to the surface. Placing the pots on large saucers will benefit the plants by preventing the watering from running away and will act as a small reservoir. If you don't like the idea of water sitting around because of possible mosquito problems - then you can either a) don't worry - it won't stay long in the heat or b) fill the saucer with gravel or sand which will retain some of the water and act as a mini "wicking base".

Vulnerable

plants, can be protected from the sun and wind by using a protective screen of Hessian or shade cloth.



Plants in pots

will benefit from being moved into a nice shady place under a tree or verandah. Those that are small enough will enjoy being given a dunk in a bucket of water - leave until the bubbles stop coming to the surface. Placing the pots on large saucers will benefit the plants by preventing the watering from running away and will act as a small reservoir. If you don't like the idea of water sitting around because of possible mosquito problems - then you can either a) don't worry - it won't stay long in the heat or b) fill the saucer with gravel or sand which will retain some of the water and act as a mini "wicking base".



To prevent water from running off dry garden

beds, give a short five minutes "pre-watering". This will wet the surface and give the proper watering applied some 10 to 15 minutes later a good chance to soak in properly.

Feeding - when plants are affected by drought it is important to feed little and often, if you give plants too much food when they are under stress, it makes matters worse. A water based fertiliser is the best way to feed plants that are stressed, then you can feed while you water.



Oh - We Wish!

Some Drought-tolerant annuals that can Brighten a Hot and Dry Summer



Zinnias - prefer hot, dry weather once they are established and make perfect cut flowers - the more flowers you cut the more they produce.



Portulaca - low spreading annual succulents, with colourful flowers that open in sunshine and close at night.



Cosmos - Native to Mexico, Cosmos are airy and delicate, adding texture and colour to the summer garden. They also attract beneficial insects.



Petunias - a favourite summer bedding plant and available in a multitude of types and colours.



Sunflowers - big, bright and cheerful - they can easily exist under conditions unsuitable for growing many other garden flowers



Celosia - with their large feathery plumes and bright colours make outstanding cut flowers, if cut when fully open.



Salvia Bonfire - native to Brazil - with their upright fiery red spiky flowers are ideal for mass planting, borders or containers.

Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and

All the Best for 2020



Kathy Z

Thinking of selling... What are you waiting for?



The strongest network and most experienced team are right here.

Albury 02 6024 6830
Alexandra 03 5772 1110
Barham 0428 566 397
Benalla 03 5762 2445
Bendigo 03 5442 3022
Boort 03 5455 2002
Camperdown 0418 616 524
Cobram 03 5871 1999
Cohuna 03 5456 2927
Culcairn 02 6029 8855
Deniliquin 0428 566 397

Echuca 03 5482 6966
Edenhope 03 5585 1411
Euroa 03 5795 2240
Heyfield 03 5143 1635
Horsham 03 5381 0022
Kerang 03 5452 1166
Kilmore 03 5782 0400
Kyabram 0418 570 545
Kyneton 03 5422 1980
Leongatha 03 5662 4388
Mansfield 03 5775 1444

Pakenham 03 5941 5396
Sale 03 5143 1635
Shepparton 0419 395 011
Warrnambool 03 5562 4022
St Arnaud 03 5495 1835
Stawell 03 5358 1068
Tatura 03 5824 2300
Wagga Wagga 02 6921 1700
Wangaratta 03 5721 2047
Wodonga 02 6024 6830
Yea 03 5797 2079





**first
national**
REAL ESTATE

| John Canavan



@johncanavanrealestate
John Canavan Real Estate
Mansfield's trusted agents.

Thinking of selling?

WE'D LOVE TO HELP!



TOP SELLING MANSFIELD AGENCY - AUG & SEPT Source: realestate.com.au

Have a property in Tatong, Swanpool, Moorngag, Molyullah, Samaria, Lima, Lima South or Lima East?

See what our clients have to say about us ...

“

Ryan is very professional in his approach to selling and works very hard to negotiate the best possible price. He is very honest with feedback and always encouraging with his cheerful personality.

Pamela - Tatong

“

Gerard has shown a truly professional knowledge of the area that is second to none. Our sale and purchase have been completed with the ease thanks to the whole team.

Robert & Elspeth - Tolmie

“

We found Amanda and the Sales Team at Canavan's Agency to be professional, reliable, knowledgeable and genuinely keen to assist and show us all available options.

Coral - Barwite

74 High Street,
Mansfield

www.johncanavan.com.au

5775 2792



On March 11th 2006, the Tatong Railway Precinct was unveiled. Special guest at the launch was the Honourable Timothy (Tim) Fischer AC (then the Chairman of Tourism Australia) who after delivering a speech on trains unveiled the storyboard of the memorial. This event was witnessed by over 300 people who came along to join in the celebrations of the day.

Sadly, on 22nd August 2019 Tim passed away. A State Funeral to celebrate his humble and full life was held on 29th August 2019 at Albury.



Tim Fischer AC &
Elaine Brogan OAM



The Honourable Tim Fischer AC in 2006
with members from the Tatong Heritage
Group Inc. and the Tatong Young Bloods.

Being raised and educated in his early years at Boree Creek he was recognised as a humble man who could relate to everyone. If you were touched by Tim's kindness as he mingled with the crowd when he visited Tatong in 2006, then you may reflect a moment and cherish that memory of him.

Rest in peace Tim

(Part extract from the *Tatong Heritage Group Inc. website*)

A chore became a pleasure

In the last few weeks I've bitten the bullet and fenced along a new subdivision line. "So what!" I hear you say. Well, 600 metres was through bush, over rocks and half way up Tiger Hill – a rise in elevation of over 500 feet – that's what! As if that wasn't enough, there's no vehicular access at all.

How does one get materials up there? One carries them up oneself, that's how! The wire spinner was at the bottom end of the line and the wire was pulled through the bush. I will be forever grateful to the two friends who 'volunteered' to help with this. They returned to Melbourne with terrible blisters on their hands (despite the use of gloves).



On the first 'trip' I carried four steel posts – very difficult and dangerous in that terrain. Next day I tried three steel posts – just as bad. I started to think that this will be the end of me. The following day I was down to two steel posts. This was much better as I realised



that I could use them as walking poles. It would mean many trips up that hill, but at least I might live to tell the tale.

Now, being an old f f f f fellow (I bet you thought I was going to say something else), most of the climbing was done with me focussed on the ground to work out where to step safely.



Over the days, I noticed more and more wildflowers were appearing – all kinds of lilies and orchids, and native grasses too. I began to feel justified in taking my many breathers on the climb. The mobile phone I carried for safety reasons, now was merely there as a camera. These are just a small sample of what must have been a couple of dozen altogether.

Many of these flowers are quite short lived, but as one finished another would start. I suspect this has been a good year for these natives, but then I've never walked in the bush so regularly. It certainly turned a chore into a real pleasure.

John Knapper.



DO YOU KNOW A WORTHY CAUSE?

The **Tatong Big Garage Sale** is an annual community event which does raise some funds surplus to our needs and these may be available to any suitable local group, individual, situation or 'worthy cause'. This could be for a

project, an event start up, an emergency or illness or whatever arises. If you have such a need contact John Knapper at 57666268 or via email at tatonggarage-sale@outlook.com
Mike Larkin

Cuballa Kennels & Cattery

- Spacious Heated & Cooled Indoor Kennels with Individual Outdoor Grass Runs

- Climate Controlled Cattery
 - Walk-in Modules



Phone 03 5766 4363
679 Winton-Lurg Rd, Lurg
www.cuballakennels.com.au

Bedrock Quarries

- ✓ Farm access roads
- ✓ Driveways
- ✓ Tracks
- ✓ Hardstand areas



All made, repaired or renovated
using Lurg Hills gravel

Call me: **Tim Ward – 0427 587 458**

S.P. & J.E. LEWIS BUILDERS

REG. DB-117960

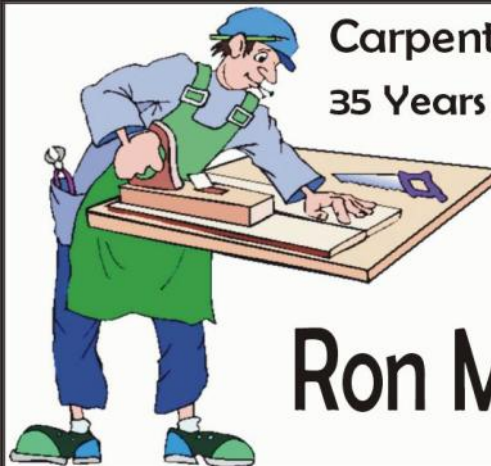


NEW HOMES • EXTENSIONS • RENOVATIONS

Mob. 0417 368 761

Shane & Janine Lewis

- **QUALITY BUILDERS**
- **NEW HOMES, EXTENSIONS & RENOVATIONS**
- **BENALLA & SURROUNDING AREAS**
- **NO OBLIGATION FREE QUOTES**



Carpenter / Joiner
35 Years Experience

Ron Morris

- ❑ Home Maintenance and Extensions
- ❑ Renovations
- ❑ Plastering
- ❑ Concreting
- ❑ Carpentry
- ❑ Tiling

**No Job Too
Big
or
Small**

Cnr Mitchell & Stephens Rd, Tatong

**Phone 5767 2327
Mobile 0417 588 784**

Shepherds Contracting

Hay Baling

Net Wrap Rolls or Small Squares
Silage, Mowing, Raking, Tedding
27 Ft Tray Truck
Hay & General Carting
Prompt & Professional Service
Will Consider Shares

Pasture Sowing

Direct Drilling or Over Sowing
Pasture Renovation, Ploughing

Spraying

Boom or Spot
18 Metre or 9 Metre Boom Units

D4 Dozer

Excavator with Auger 350 & 450 Holes

Contact Darren 0438 850 918 Greta South

Local Designed Christmas Cards

Outback Antics (global headquarters based at Hollands Creek..) is known for its range of unique Christmas cards that portray Santa's annual Aussie Christmas. Printed on recycled card, this years' range of Christmas cards feature Santa getting himself into trouble across rural Australia. They are priced at \$13 per packet—and can be ordered from the website:

www.outbackantics.com.au or email Jim Moll directly: jim@outbackantics.com.au or ph: 0413 996296

The business however also specialises in creating a custom Christmas card design for your business or property, and will print the cards for you. Outback Antics will quickly create a clever design for your business and include your personal text or message inside, and also a logo if you wish. All that is required is an idea and a photo or two, and your design will be underway. Visit the website for pricing and to view examples of other custom designs. www.outbackantics.com.au Custom orders can be as little as 50 cards. Get in soon though...!



Thinking of a Garden Wedding?

Call us now to view our garden and consider the potential of picture perfect setting and personalized planning.



Ph 03 57 66 6275

www.birchwoodnearbenalla.com.au

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	52.8	81.2	25.1	22.3	75	73.1	525.8
2019	27.7	13.2	23.8	22.7	105	72.9	83.7	49.4	51.3	34.9			484.6

WEATHER IN THE TATONG TOWNSHIP

For the month of October we had 34.9mm of rain, not great but not too bad either. For November up until the 15th we had 34.1mm which is a reasonable start for the month. From what I observe it has been an excellent season for hay and I overheard a local saying that their visitors, probably from interstate, were amazed at the "fat cows everywhere."

We are indeed lucky compared to NSW, Perth and Queensland who are suffering terrible bushfires early in the fire season mainly due apparently to the ultra-dry conditions caused by drought. Maybe something which adds fuel to the flames is the fiery media and political disputes over who or what is to blame!

The Ensign had a handy Fire Plan 'wrap around' last week (November 12th) which is a reminder to do even a little bit to make yourself, family and property that bit safer and ready for the 'unexpected.' A good excuse to get my blower 'toy' working on the roof gutters. (See other article of mine)

Mike Larkin

White Gate



Dates

We get the Christmas month going in style with the December **White Gate Dinner @ The Tatong Tavern** on Wednesday 4th. Perhaps Santa will swing by with his sled and reindeer, and give everyone their heart's desire... or is it what they deserve, that he doles out? If so, who is to judge? But then being Tatong, the reindeer is more likely to be on the plate; or in the paddock. Just watch out if it is on the road! Book yourselves in, drive safely, turn up somewhere between 6:30pm & 7pm, & see if Rudolf is on the specials board.

(Just between you & me, the feral deer infesting Australia do not include reindeer, aka caribou; these beasts like arctic environments. We are blessed with fallow, red, chital, hog, rusa and sambar, and they do a shirtload of damage. Along with the rabbits, pigs, foxes, cats, cane toads, goats, buffalo, carp, camels, ho

Oh sod it. Merry Festive Season & Happy 2020!

White Gate Fire Brigade Roster:

Angus McMillan	24 Nov	Bill Sykes	22 Dec
Bruce Burgess	1 Dec	Hamish McMillan	29 Dec
Laurie Defazio	8 Dec	Matthew Defazio	5 Jan
Alan Stafford	15 Dec	Ross Runnalls	12 Jan

- Andrea Stevenson, 5762 8445

Community Public Address System

Available for your party or function.

\$25 towards the amplifier's maintenance would be appreciated.

For bookings contact Mike Larkin, on 5767 2323.

What's on this month

December 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Tatong Fire Brigade Training. 7pm Fire Shed Tatong Heritage Group meeting Tatong hall 4pm	3	4 Whitegate Community Dinner. Tatong Tavern.	5 Play group, 9.30,am Tatong Rec Res .	6	7
8	9	10 Mansfield Bush Poets. Mansfield Library 3-5pm.	11	12 Play group, 9.30,am Tatong Rec Res .	13 Fish & Chip Night. Molyullah Hall 5.30pm	14
15	16 Tatong Fire Brigade Training. 7pm Fire Shed.	17	18	19 Play group, 9.30,am Tatong Rec Res .	20 Girls Shed 10.00am at Tatong Hall	21
22	23 Molyullah Christmas Party. Molyullah Sports Ground from 6pm	24	25 Christmas Day	26 Boxing Day	27	28
29	30	31				

SWANNY SHARP

Have your knives and tools hand sharpened.
Simply drop off at the **Swanpool General Store** one weekend,
pay & pickup your sharpened blades the next weekend.
Prices from \$15 per blade.

Questions? Just ask Woz@SwannySharp.com

<https://www.facebook.com/SwannySharp/>

Are your edges Swanny Sharp?

Tattler Advertising Rates

Inc num: A0047895K

Full Page:

Single Issue: \$32.00
 Six Issues: \$180.00
 Eleven Issues: \$320.00

Half Page:

Single Issue: \$16.00
 Six Issues: \$85.00
 Eleven Issues: \$160.00

Quarter Page or 2 x 1/8th Page:

Single Issue: \$8.00
 Six Issues: \$45.00
 Eleven Issues: \$80.00

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
 darcyhogan@bigpond.com

EFT: BSB 803078 A/C 135720 a/c name: Tatong Tattler
 Goulburn Murray Credit Union, 30 Bridge Street, Benalla
 Please identify your payment, & e-mail details to Tattler.

ATTENTION ADVERTISERS

For those who submit pre-formatted advertisements, the size of a half page area is 13.6 x 19 cm and a 1/4 page area is 13.6 x 9.3 cm. To avoid distortion to your image, please fit your advertisement to these sizes.

Obtain your Copy of the

Tatong Tattler!

Have a Printed copy delivered, Posted,
 or Download it in Techni Colour

The Tattler is Delivered free to
 Tatong & Surrounding Districts.

The PDF file (in Colour) may be Downloaded
 by Anyone, Anywhere, from our Website.

Postal Delivery for one year is \$25 (Australia only).

To arrange Tattler delivery, order a Postal Tattler,
 and/or to be notified when the PDF is available,

contact us via tatongtattler@yahoo.com.au
 or: The Secretary, Tatong Tattler,
 150 Mt Joy Rd, Tatong, Vic, 3673.

*A donation of \$1 per issue, or \$10 per year,
 is appreciated & helps cover costs. The Tattler is
 produced and distributed entirely by Volunteers.*

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.

PROUDLY SUPPORTING

Tatong Tattler

**Steph
 Ryan MP**

Member for
Ennroa
 Deputy Leader of The Nationals
StephRyan.com.au

Funded through Parliamentary Budget

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.