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TATONG HONOR BOARD

Extract from *Benalla Standard* (Vic), Friday 15 October 1920, page 3.

"On Saturday afternoon last there was a large gathering assembled at the Tatong Hall to witness the unveiling of the Honor Board. The Chairman (Mr. H.J. Wallace), after the National Anthem had been sung, stated that he was sorry that Cr. Dallas had at the last minute been prevented from attending by illness. He also had letters from Cr. Ginnivan, Mr. F.J. Green, B.A. (Inspector of Schools), and Messrs. W.B. Smith, M. Bilham, W. Worrall and M. O'Callaghan.

The Chairman in a short speech referred to the object of their gathering together that day, and expressed pleasure in seeing so many present..... Cr. T. F. Harrison, J.P., was then called on, and expressed his great pleasure at being requested by the committee to assist in the unveiling of the Honor Board. He spoke strongly of the good work our soldiers had done for us at the front, and how they had kept us free from German aggression. He advised the children to take notice of the Honor Board, and remember the noble sacrifice these men had made for us.

Cr. Harrison then called upon Mrs. Sullivan and Miss Daly to unveil the Honor Board, which was draped with the Union Jack and the Australian flag.

He next read the names of those who had fallen, viz., J. W. Bilham, G. Davison, P. Brennan and R.W. Daly, the audience bowing their heads for a few minutes.

The remainder of the names were then read, as follows:- F.M. Daly, J.H. Sullivan, A.G. Wallace, J.P. Sullivan, J. Stubbs, D. Campbell, G. Cox, W. Davison, T. Evans, H. Stubbs, G. Wilson, P.B. Payne, P. Joyce, K. Drummond, W. Brown, R. Davison, W.J. Hamilton, E.J.B. Cox, K. McIntosh, J. Drummond, T.J. Daly, M.A. Share, V. Worrall, A. Nusser and M. Seibert."

Also, *G.J. Hammond (*killed in action), and H.B. Bickerton, J.J. Bickerton, J.W. Rigbye.

*They shall grow not old,
as we that are left grow old;
Age shall not weary them,
nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun
and in the morning
We will remember them.*

On this ANZAC Day, 25th April 2020, please spare a moment to remember all service personnel throughout all conflicts and the peace keepers. Remember also their families and mates.

LEST WE FORGET

The Tatong RCH Good Friday Appeal Committee have been long term supporters of the Good Friday Appeal which raises funds for the Royal Melbourne Children's Hospital.

As we navigate these unique and challenging times, one certainty is that a unique and unprecedented response is required.

A State of Emergency has been declared by the Victorian Government in response to COVID-19. It is critical to minimise the risk of public exposure to COVID-19 (the Corona Virus) our priority is the health and safety of our supporters, visitors, volunteers and committee members.

For this reason, and because of the additional stress local bushfires have had on our community, we've decided to postpone the Annual Family Fun Day and Auction Friday April 10, for which we have had amazing support. Our committee will liaise with the Good Friday Appeal to work out how we can still raise funds on the day. We will still hold our Cow Poo Lotto, and are considering Online Auctions to be held before Good Friday and on Good Friday itself. We are looking at setting up a "call centre" for locals to donate should they still wish to. All details including those of Cow Poo Lotto will be on our Facebook or information is available from Jade on 0408197865.

Channel 7 will be broadcasting the Good Friday Telethon. I would encourage all Victorians to not let Corona Virus stop us from raising money this year – The Royal Children's Hospital's 150th.

I want to assure you that we are doing everything we can to continue to raise as much as we can for The Royal Children's Hospital and to organise some form of fundraising for the Good Friday Appeal as we work through these challenging times. As the situation continues to rapidly change, we will do our best to share updates with you with the information we have available. We are committed to the health and wellbeing of all our supporters.

Jade Kirk Area Manager Tatong RCH Good Friday Appeal

Molyullah Recreation and Public Hall Reserve Committee of Management

All positions on the Molyullah Hall Committee will become vacant on in May.

A meeting would normally be called for the purpose of nominating people to the Committee for the term of three years from May 16 2020. Due to unprecedented emergency restrictions related to the Corona Virus, NO community meeting will be held for the time being, and nominations will be called for via phone or email.

No less than three (3) and no more than nine (9) people may be nominated.

Nominations to be submitted by Friday May 1st to the Committee Secretary, Bronwyn Forman, gbfences@sctelco.net.au or phone 57 666 238.

There are currently nine members on the committee, at least two of whom will be unavailable for re-election.

We encourage all community members to consider this role, an important one in the ongoing management of our very special facilities. Meetings are currently held every two months, and the commitment is not an onerous one.

A toilet roll tale

"May you live in interesting times" is an old Chinese curse. With all that Australia has endured in the last twelve months or more, you could well think it was wished upon us.

Drought, fire and flood, sometimes in quick succession, sometimes overlapping, it all went on for month after month.

Community response to all these events has been awe inspiring. Hay being donated and trucked to save stock and farms. With lives being lost and exhausted fires battling infernos day after day, the Navy evacuating people; other communities opened their arms to help. Animal rescue organisations moved in to help native animals.

We saw the spirit of Australian mateship at its best. Combatting drought, fire and flood are fairly common and known entities, and we respond in our usual way.

But, the arrival of coronavirus brought the unknown. Suddenly it seems like it's everyone for themselves. I don't want to be judgemental, people are obviously scared, but there must be garages and sheds chock a block with toilet rolls.

I was told the following account of an occurrence in a supermarket by one of the participants – I hope I'll be forgiven for telling it here. It concerns toilet rolls, or rather, the lack thereof. My informant, shopper A, was in the supermarket in front of the empty toilet roll shelves. Along came another shopper, shopper B. Both stood pondering the empty shelves, exchanged comments about the situation and then went on with their shopping.

At the checkout, shopper A was in the queue behind shopper B. Sharp-eyed shopper B spied a pack of toilet rolls at the checkout, presumably confiscated from someone trying to buy too many. The conversation then went something like this:-

Shopper B to cashier, "is that pack of toilet rolls for sale?"

Cashier, "I suppose so."

Shopper B, "Good, I'll buy them."

Shopper B to shopper A, "You live out of town, you take them."

Shopper A, "No, I'll be OK, you take them."

Shopper B, "I can come here anytime, you take them."

Etc etc etc

Cashier, "One of you buy them and go into the car park and share them."

Surely, that's the sort of toilet roll 'fight' we should see on TV?

John Knapper

**White
Gate**



Dates

White Gate Dinner @ The Tatong Tavern falls next upon April 1st. Oh the irony. Let us hope the Tavern is open, and that we are all well and hungry, by then. All of us live a little way from the Tavern, so a drive there is surely "Social Distancing". With curtsies, bowing and elbow-bumps, we could get by without sharing anything more than a bottle of wine. Or two. Here's hoping; at the moment the news of the world changes hour by hour.

The Tatong Good Friday Appeal is postponed, and Molyullah Easter Fair 2020 is cancelled. Tragic but understandable; the very reason they are cancelled is so that we can all get through this to celebrate happily in the future. May we all survive Covid19, and the flu, and everything else. And might our local businesses survive this, those feeding people, those looking after travellers, and their pets, and everyone knocked sideways by this extraordinary situation. Best wishes!

White Gate Fire Brigade Roster:

Noel Hutchens	29 Mar	Bill Sykes	26 Apr
Bruce Burgess	5 Apr	Matthew Defazio	3 May
Laurie Defazio	12 Apr	Ross Runnalls	10 May
Alan Stafford	19 Apr	David Elford	17 May

- Andrea Stevenson, 5762 8445

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Anzac Day – What does it mean to Me?

I have waded in the sea where the Anzac Soldiers landed, and walked up to the beach - and stopped – and looked at the nondescript, but very peaceful place, called Anzac Cove.

As I waded through the gentle waves to the beach, over the open space that saw so many lives lost and shattered, and looked at the hills behind, I paused, and wondered why the Diggers stayed. The almost certain death – being wounded – watching it happen all around them – having to kill the enemy – yet - they stayed and they persevered.

The intellectual part of me engaged with the history here – then rebelled - and became confused - because I could not really feel the emotion of it all.

Just as detached, but with my mind fully engaged, I have felt the gentle tug of the sea at 'D'Day's Omaha beach in France, and walked the three hundred metres of open sand toward the ruined concrete bunker fortifications on the shore – past the decaying floating docks that arrived here for the landing. Travelled on to Ste-Mère-Églis where they still have a representation of a paratrooper who was caught on the church tower when the invasion first started.

I have walked across the bridges at Mayenne where the tanks crossed before manoeuvring quickly into battle formation, to open the front into Europe.

I have walked the battle fields of Hastings, of Culloden Moor, of the ground that saw the last great clash of the Samurai in Japan – the battlefields of Cortez in South America – the battlefields of the American War of Independence – The Civil War and the Indian conflicts in North America.

I have walked several battlefields in Australia, and many other places, and always with a sense of detachment. Even walking in the battlefields of Viet Nam could not bring out the emotions that I felt I should have.

I am not cold hearted –

I have screamed and cried at the blundering stupidity of it all. I have never felt hatred toward anyone, but, I have often been in a cold fury while contemplating the death – the pain – the cruelty – the despair – the overwhelming sadness during and after - long after, the conflict is over. My Father died from lingering war injuries when I was very young – I have felt the sadness and abiding pain that has lasted over the years. I have been a Reservist in both the Air Force and the Army. I have insight into what the military suffers.

Our Defence Forces selflessly provide a capability that can be the difference between speaking Australian or some enforced foreign language - with loss of freedom, and the imposition of different life values and customs. Our Defence Forces provide this capability day in and day out – relentlessly.

I can unashamedly say that I love and respect them all – past – present and future.

From that incredible landing came the wonderful Australian and New Zealand name ANZAC. The name embraces us all, and unites us further as the years float on.

Andrew McFarlane



People self isolating, loo paper panic, fresh meat and veg selling out, pensioners only shopping times.

What a crazy and scary world we are living in at present.

My mother would have laughed and would have rehashed stories of the Second World War and rationing. What a very different world it was then. No internet, no freezers, no long life milk and certainly no television to ease the drudgery of home isolating.

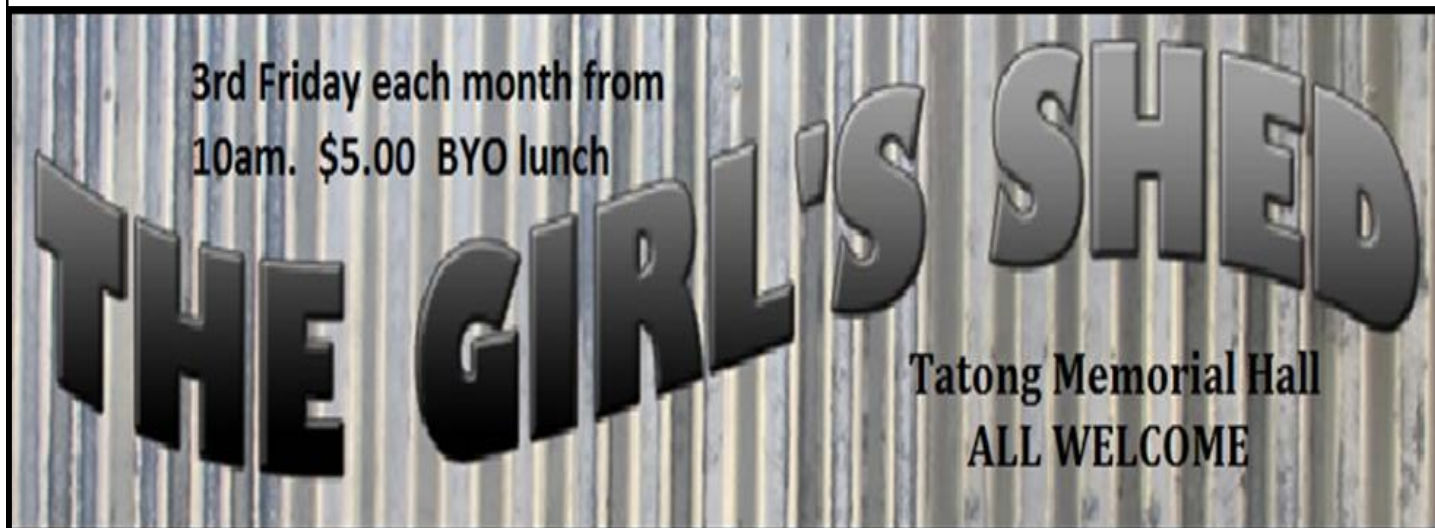
So how do we stay positive, fit, well and uplifted? Cooking helps. So this month I look at tips and hints to help us through this worrying time.

Buy pulses in 1kg packs from health stores or ethnic grocers. There are a many of these in Shepparton and not only are their dried products super fresh because they are turned over regularly by their regular customers they are also very cost effective. With chick peas look for the Ord River Australian brand - super good. I soak the whole kilo overnight in plenty of cold water. Next day drain them and divide into 2 portions. One lot I place in snap lock bags marked clearly – soaked only

These are perfect, defrosted, for falafel or if adding to a stew which will be braised. The other portion I cook in plenty of unsalted water until tender. (Cooking with salt tends to toughen them) cooking time may vary but approximately 50-60 minutes to have firm but cooked chickpeas. These I drain and cool then freeze in snap lock bags marked as cooked. Defrosted these are great in hummus, salads, or soups. The flavour and texture profile is so much better than tinned and they take up far less space in the pantry and more importantly have much better value and nutrition - being a non factory processed product. Similarly any of the pulse family can be managed in the same way. Just be wary of lentils which have a much faster cooking time, especially red lentils which really just need to be rinsed and then quick cooked in water as for Dahl.

Mince has been a hot topic of over panic buying. Make your own. It is so much better, you know what is in it and you have total control of the fat content. If you have a mincer or a mincer attachment to a food processor or mixer all well and good. But it is easy enough to make it with two sharp chefs or kitchen knives. Just cut into small cubes then with a knife in each hand chop on a sturdy chopping board until chopped to the texture you require. It takes a bit of practice but is great for getting rid on any frustrations or angst !! It's also cheaper. I usually make it from chuck or gravy beef mixed with either pork scotch or pork shoulder. I use a ratio of 2 parts beef to one part pork and trust me it makes the best Bologna (Bolognese) sauce and brilliant hamburgers. Again I make mince and sauce in bulk and snap lock freeze in portions, clearly marked with the date. My bolognese sauce has about equal amounts of meat to vegetables, namely carrots, celery, tomatoes, onions and leeks and of course a good dose of chopped garlic. Once made the sauce can be changed into many different dishes. I add cooked and chopped spinach with Indian spices and chickpeas for a nourishing and low budget dinner. A portion of sauce mixed with cooked borlotti or canellini beans and topped with mashed sweet potatoes, then baked, is delicious. Mixed with cooked black beans, Szechwan pepper, sweet soy sauce and chilli gives an Asian twist. Really it is limitless.

And if all else fails there is always the sweet side of life. Bake a cake or biscuits and think about an indulgent dessert to boost the endorphins and cheer oneself





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Garden Daze

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



A Summer to remember has been replaced by a more benevolent Autumn

Some suggestions for the winter garden:

Celery (*Apium graveolens*) is a marshland plant in the family Apiaceae that has been cultivated as a vegetable since antiquity. Interestingly Celery contains *apigenin* a molecule that is currently being studied for its anti-cancer properties.



A shallow-rooted plant with a high demand for water and nutrients, Celery needs a moist but well-drained organically rich soil. Water and nutrient stress will lead to dry fibrous stalks.

Last year - noticing that one of our *wicking beds*

had the drain outlet rather high, resulting in perpetually damp soil (so long as I remembered to top up the bed in time) I planted the bed out with celery and I was very pleased - it grew well - and *no hollow stalks!*

So - it would seem - if it is planted at the right time and given the attention to feeding and watering it requires, success is possible with this somewhat difficult vegetable.

In cool and temperate regions, sow late winter to early spring, and again in late summer to early autumn. Choose a sheltered position as strong winds can dry out and damage the plants. I put a cover of shade cloth over the bed. This must have made the plants happy as there were no ill effects from frosts.

A half-barrow load of compost or well-rotted manure per square metre worked into the top 10-15 cm layer of soil will improve drainage while retaining moisture around the root zone.

Work in a handful of balanced organic fertiliser evenly per square metre and apply liquid seaweed and fish emulsion every couple of weeks.

Blanching - If you are planning to eat your celery raw - and prefer paler stalks - when plants are close to harvesting, tie the stalks loosely, then wrap the stems with thick newspaper, leaving the leaves sticking out at the top. The stalks will be pale and ready to harvest in around 2-3 weeks.

Harvesting

Celery bunches can be harvested whole after 14 weeks or, (my preferred method), you can harvest individual stalks as you need them.



Here is a recipe for a quick and tasty celery soup

This can also be used as a base for any recipe which calls for tinned condensed -

Cream of Celery Soup

1/4 cup butter
1 onion - finely chopped
2 cups finely chopped celery
1 clove garlic, minced
1/3 cup plain flour
1 1/2 cups chicken stock
1 1/2 cups milk
Salt & pepper



Melt Butter in medium saucepan and cook onion, celery and garlic until soft and translucent (5-7 mins)

Add the flour and cook 1 min

Add chicken stock, milk and S/P to taste

Stir until smooth,

Bring to boil, reduce heat and simmer slowly, uncovered for 20 to 30 minutes.

If using for base for other recipes, this soup will keep in the fridge for at least 3 - 4 days.

Growing Parsnips - can be a bit tricky

In our area - March is the last chance to plant until

Spring - Parsnips love a good frost and do their best in cold temperate areas..so if you want some home grown Parsnips to enjoy - **now is the time!**

Always sow fresh seed - if your seed is more than a year old - buy some fresh from a good mail order supplier.

They like a relatively poor loose soil, fork over thoroughly and **never add fertilizer before sowing!**

Keep the bed evenly moist until germination. Parsnips are slow to germinate and can take up to 3 or 4 weeks. Cover the seedbed with shade cloth until the first set of leaves appear.

Control weeds and keep the moisture as consistent as possible during the growing process otherwise the roots can split lengthways and rot.

So good luck with your planting and may you reap the rewards of deliciously sweet roasted Parsnips.

Let a couple of parsnips go to seed, then plant this fresh seed straight into the new year's bed.

A Winter Veg Garden depends a lot on what is planted in March - try:

Beetroot
Broccoli
Brussels
Sprouts
Cabbage
Chinese
Cabbage
Carrots
Cauliflower
Celery
Kohl Rabi

Leeks
Lettuce
Parsley
Parsnips
Peas
Silver Beet
Spinach
Swedes
Turnips



Kathy Z

Gawn to Town

Over about 4 decades of farming, we have had a sense of security of place. Let the rest of the world do as it liked, we had our water, our septic, our veggie garden, our well-stocked pantry and chest freezer, and rather a lot of sheep. Back when we lived almost an hour out of Swan Hill, with some dodgy dirt road involved, we only went to town every 2 or 3 weeks.

The feeling of security was not paranoia, but a consciousness at odd times like the Great Wakool River Flood... which never did eventuate, but while it looked as though we'd be cut off for even longer than usual, we stocked up a little more. Something to reflect upon, when the prospect of staying at home for a fortnight has grown women wrestling in the aisles over toilet paper, and shelves bare of pasta. I mean, a little bit of pasta goes a very long way. Geez... townies.

And now I am a 'towny'. Dependant on others for our water.. my word there's a lot of high-pressure water flies out of those taps! One's attitude changes, without a mental estimation of just how much water is on hand, and so much of the stuff keen to escape the pipes. Australian communities probably need some structural changes, to enhance the psychology of water saving.

And we are so close to the shops! Jolly nice, so long as there's something in there, aside from lunatics fighting over dunny rolls.

Even on the farm at White Gate, just 13km from town, we were ready for the apocalypse. But now the apocalypse is here, and we don't have any sheep to kill. Luckily we don't eat as much meat as we used to. I wonder how many hoarders will learn the hard way, that mince has a finite fridge-life?

Toilet paper doesn't go off (so long as there are no leaky taps about, and those who respect their water supply are pretty careful about taps). Also, those who run their own septic tanks, are careful about what gets flushed. Sometimes a visitor to a farm needs a quiet word about just how much toilet paper is vanishing from the roll; and that is concern for the pipes and the septic tank, not want of paper. I reckon, if everybody had to go out with a shovel, and leave a discreet deposit in the paddock, they might not be so carefree in their use of toilet paper. In our old age, for all that we live near the shops, we are starting to worry about re-stocking our supply when the time arrives.

Veggie gardens are back in fashion. A young woman on the news showed her seed pack, ready to save her in case of 2 week isolation. (Um... wot?)

In recent times the bulk of the human race has congregated in cities, commuting packed like sardines, living hand-to-mouth and dependant on the supermarket they visit every five minutes. It was never going to end well.

- Andrea Stevenson

News Items from The Independent (Benalla) Friday 14 July 1916 (From Trove)

The monthly meeting of Benalla Shire Council was held on Monday.

CORRESPONDENCE.

From Defence Department, acknowledging receipt of a petition re treatment of soldiers by the Railway Department, which will receive attention.-Received

From District Land Office, asking if there are any areas of Crown land in the shire that would be suitable to settle returned soldiers on. - Held over until next meeting, and councillors who are aware of any land that is available to hand in list to the secretary.

From Millar & Co.. Pty. Ltd, re boiler supplied by them, which after inspection by their engineer was found to have nothing the matter with it, the trouble being owing to the building-in, and stating that satisfaction will never be obtained from the boiler whilst the compressor is in its present condition.-Mr. Jeffrey said that the compressor was now in perfect order.

From Benalla Agricultural and Pastoral Society, asking that Wednesday, 4th October next, may be proclaimed a public holiday throughout the shire for their show. Granted.

From E. Lindholms, re the bad state of a small piece of road leading from R. Walker's to Bert Walker's property, which is in a very bad state and almost Impassable, and asking that same be repaired. - Attended to.

From Robt. Twamley, asking permission to remove three (3) useless trees leaning over his fence, between Lurg and Glenrowan, where he is about to wire-net. Granted.

From Maria Quinn and Geo. F. Chivers, re the bad state of the road known as Quinn's lane, and asking that the engineer inspect with a view of having the bad portions formed. - Engineer to inspect and report.

From H. D. Hamilton, re two pieces of the Fern Hills and Toombullup road that badly want repairing, as there are wash-outs getting worse every day, and undertaking to do the work properly if authorised to do so, - Left in the hands of engineer.

Benalla-Tatong Railway - Mr. Norman pointed out to us that we had a report from his officers opposing the siding near Mrs T. Cowan's but eventually he promised to obtain another report; but told us that if a siding were put in, the road leading thereto would have to be made trafficable. We would therefore advise that the Country Roads Board be approached to take this road over as a developmental road, for it would be a serious matter if the council had to bear the whole cost.

Contractor Brown has been instructed to effect urgent repairs to M'Intosh's bridge, and repairs arranged for on road near Burns', Samaria, and Factory lane, Swanpool.-Received.
Repairs have been effected to roads near Cooper's and M'Donald's Emu Bridge.- Received.

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



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Samaria Suns AFL Vic Country Masters

All AFL and AFL State association leagues and competitions have been postponed until 31st May 2020, due to coronavirus concerns.

This includes AFL Masters, and each State Association is managing the situation accordingly.

The AFL update on COVID-19 from 17 March can be found here: <https://play.afl/content/afl-update-covid-19-17-march-2020>

An FAQ page on the postponement of community football can be found here: <https://play.afl/covid-19/faqs>

We understand how frustrating a pause in our regular football activities can be, but community health and safety is paramount, especially given the higher risk the virus poses to older age groups.

The Samaria Suns are hoping that play will commence in Round 3, and that the Suns would play Sunbury at the Tatong Recreation Reserve in Round 6. This however would all be subject to the status of the Covid-19 Corona Virus and governing bodies recommendations.

The Samaria Suns will endeavour to keep everyone updated via our FaceBook page **Samaria Suns**.

Wes Stafford – President 0400 844 646

Kyle

Pugh – Coach 0459 710 420

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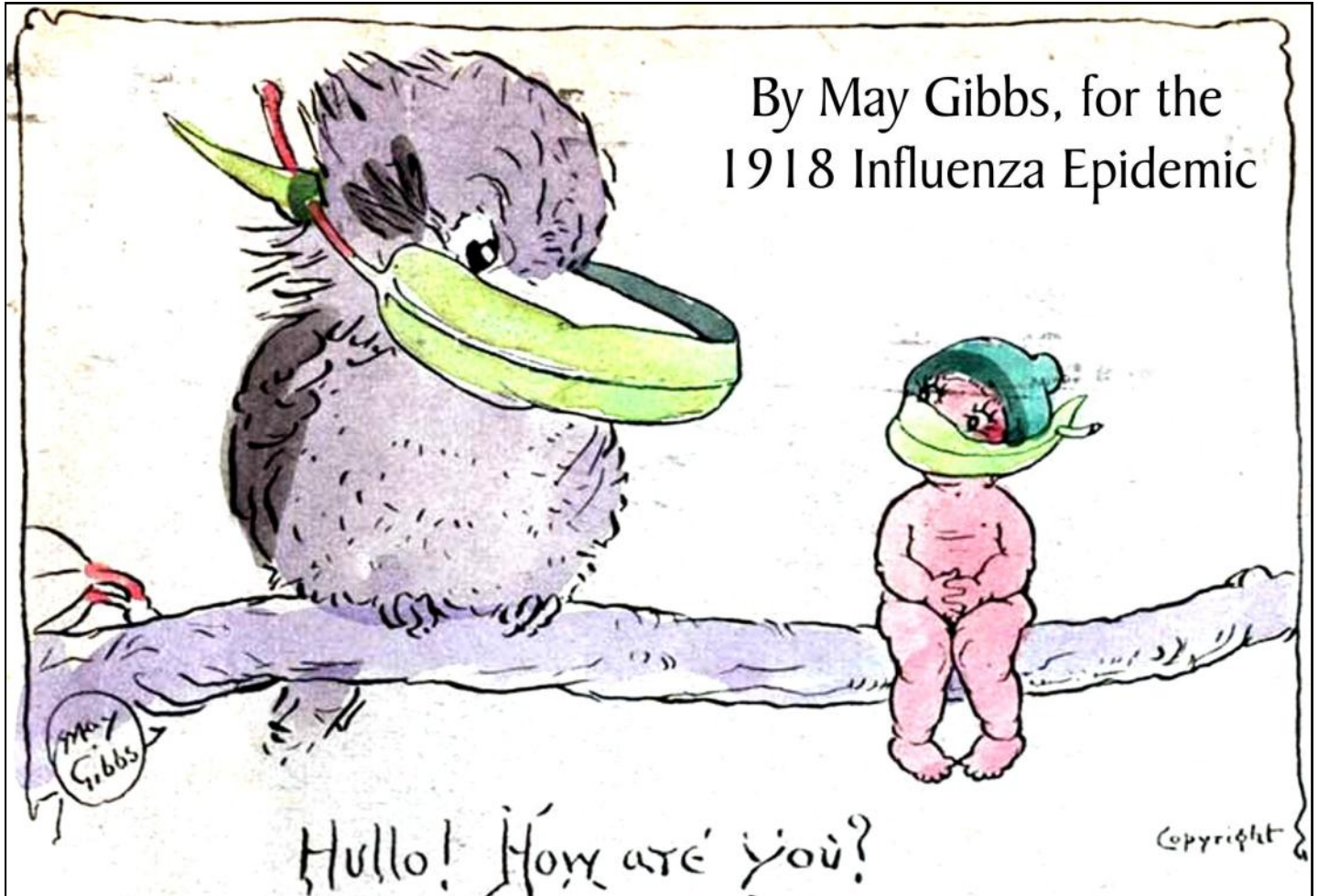
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By May Gibbs, for the 1918 Influenza Epidemic



What's Happening at Molly Rose?

Hahaha. Last month I said "I do too much stuff and have to learn to cut back". Hmm. Guess who is being forced to cut back? Me! And by the sounds of it, everyone else!

Due to two members of our family falling into the "at risk" category when it comes to the virus we have chosen self-imposed exile. Some of you will laugh knowing just how sociable we are already. Little changes for most of our family, it's just me who has to make some changes!

It does mean our Benalla Wizards group is taking a break from running boardgames, costuming and D&D. Our tech savvy people are also working out how we can run and play D&D online so we can keep our campaigns going! Broken River Writers and Benalla Permaculture activities have also ceased for now.

But with less time being involved and running other groups, I now have more time for reading (books I am currently reading are Dracula by Bram Stoker, Danse Macabre by Stephen King & The Hero's Journey by Joseph Campbell) and writing (I've got five shorts on the go as well as finishing off the Sea Daughter's Curse novel). And gardening, although that has to wait until my sprained ankle heals.

For those of you who don't already know, I was chasing lambs this Monday just gone, jumped over an obstacle and had my ankle turn and collapse underneath me, depositing me in an ungainly, slightly freaking out, agonised heap. I spent the evening and early hours of the morning at Wangaratta hospital having x-rays and being bandaged up. Not broken, just badly sprained, but still considerably swollen after four days, so now have a referral for an ultrasound.

So, just in case I thought I could be active in the garden,

my body put a stop to it. When it comes to injuring myself or getting sick just as I embark on a gardening project, I think I might be queen. So I'm sorting seeds instead.

Well, we've gone from bushfires and smoke haze to coronavirus (COVID-19) and panic buying. Certainly can't accuse 2020 of being boring!

On a side note, I did manage to enter a piece of work in the 2020 Virtual Exhibition for International Women's Day. It is an unfinished manuscript. The challenge is now on to finish it for the 2021 exhibition in March! You can read it, and see other art works at <https://www.northeastartisans.org/unfinished-business-international-womens-day-2020-online-exhibition.html>

At Molly Rose the chickens are free ranging daily and the sheep are sequestered up the back – the two lambs who I was chasing are still out roaming around and getting very fat. It's hard to practice rotational grazing when you can't move the paddocks! Still not a lot of grass here and still have at least 3 ewes and 1 ram lamb butchered. Gonna learn how to make sausages with the Molyullah Mobile Butcher sometime in the near future. We're also interested in giving tanning a go. So glad we still have internet so I can do some research.

Ziggy Stardust is suffering the effects of excess testosterone, so lives outside now, although still thinks he should be inside, but as soon as he is he attacks bare feet and fingers. Waiting to see if he grows out of it. All of our young roosters who've been aggressive have grown out of it, so we shall give him the benefit of the doubt for now!

Write you again next month! Carla



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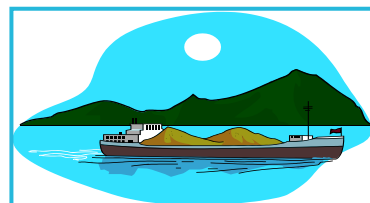
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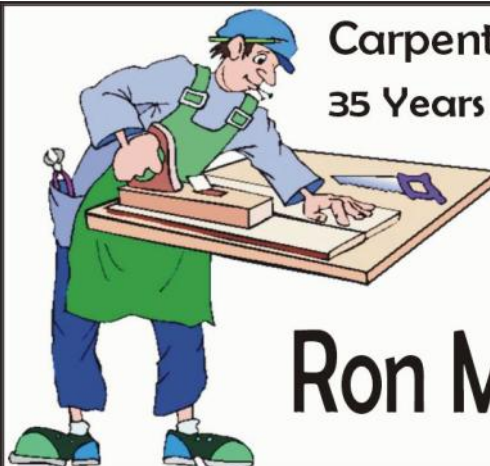


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Happy New Year everyone! How many times in each year do you celebrate New Year? Sounds like a silly question, right! But at North East Multicultural Association, we are about to celebrate our third New Year since January! Yes, we celebrated on the 1st of January, then in February we had a lot of fun celebrating Chinese New Year and Vietnamese Tet. That was a great night of celebration, but on April 18th we are Celebrating South East Asian New Year. The date is 543 ahead of our calendar, so we are asking you all to celebrate with us, the beginning of the year 2563.

We will celebrate outdoors on April, 18th at midday at The Close, Wangaratta, with our friends and family from Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, Nepal, India and Sri Lanka.

Please bring a plate of your favourite Asian food to add to our festival, join in a game of chairball as well as the blessing of the elders. Admire our traditional dancers and acknowledge the wonderful traditions of South Asia.

This is of course all dependent on the current health and welfare restrictions, so please stay in contact and watch for future announcements. 5721 2090

Su Ingleton

ANDRE RIEU, LOVED AND SCORNE

Andre Rieu is a Dutch violinist, in case you haven't noticed, who tours the world with his orchestra and entourage bringing massive classical music concerts to those now mostly past the humungous excesses of the rock concert. Loved by many and scorned by some in the 'loftier' music circles he has tapped into a need by the populace for huge and highly entertaining musical spectacles catering to the middle ground lovers of fine orchestral music.

We are seeing this very type of art separation being played out with the Benalla Wall to Wall festival where 'popular art' is leaving our art gallery out of the limelight, although the gallery may be the only exhibitor of a street artist, Sofle, this year because they installed his work well before the corona virus emergency struck. Like so many events this year's Wall to Wall is cancelled.

It is immaterial whether the music establishment approves of Rieu or not because his momentum has become unstoppable. His popularity reminds me of the movie "The Sound of Music" which many arty people refused to ever watch simply because it was so popular, strangely ironic is it not that 'popularity' for some equals mediocre. When in Salzburg and having time to spare I with some trepidation decided to take The Sound of Music bus tour. Due to the perfect weather, fabulous scenery, great guide and good company it was the highlight of my holiday.

Every person has art ability and appreciation within themselves whether they are trained or not. The truest artists are children and the naïve who just paint, sing or practice their art straight from the heart. The oft ridiculed statement "I may not know much about art but I know what I like" applies to such as these.

Speaking of fun and Andre's concerts feature novel activities with actors and the audience which engage them in the experience and provides so much added enjoyment to the events. Activities such as a bull chasing a woman who is dressed all in red around the stadium to the music of Esapana, or a massive cloud of 'snow' falling on the audience during the playing of the "Snow Waltz."

Going by the quality of his musicians and singers, Rieu attracts some of the world's best performers and they

must be paid accordingly. I was lucky enough to obtain a few of his DVD's at a garage sale, to add to a couple I already have, and I readily admit to tears of joy and laughter at the brilliance of it all. Rieu creates a form of heaven on earth by combining the joyous music with much humour for his audiences.

I was first smitten by Rieu's productions when ABC's Classic FM played the famous song Botany Bay sung by Aussie soprano Mirusia. This version from the Rieu stable is just sublime and it suited Mirusia's voice perfectly. She has gone on to bigger things now with her own concert organisation separate from Rieu's.

Mike Larkin

Catching Up, again

Once more another good issue (No 328) of the Tattler. Good advice about dusty computers; a good recipe for a (dangerous?) chocolate cake; (the chutney recipe is under investigation); a poetic essay from Mr McFarlane; a good-news story about books; an as-it-was story about the Summer of 1938- 39; a somewhat dazed garden report; I have my birth certificate but I am not concerned about any of the other sort; other reports from ordinary Mike, from John and Janette and ziggy stardust (ziggy who?) Thank you all for giving the Bank-beating Editor such good stuff.

I could copy much of my previous input about high winds and fallen trees, or mostly broken branches. And about the summer showers that kept some of the grass going, and the relief of the early February rain.

By good luck, or was it through diligent care, we avoided any bad local fire, but while we as a community have coped through another challenging season, can we expect to manage the more serious recent biological threat from China? From the good vibes recorded in the Tattler I have no doubt that we have the good intentions to deal with any situation as it arises.

May we not lose any of the tradespeople who support the Tattler, and who may have a good story of their own from the good work they do round and about Tattler country.

Vin Masters.

COVID – 19 AND THE SWANPOOL CINEMA TO CLOSE

The Cinema will close after the screening on Sunday the 29th of March due to the concerns about the Covid - 19 virus. It will hopefully re-open around early September.

While aware and sympathetic about the many deaths resulting from the virus outbreak I am interested in how it will be seen once the current upheaval settles down. For instance is it any worse than a flu and is the massive disruption to society an overreaction or appropriate?

One aspect that I notice is that while isolation is recommended we find ourselves having to shop or get together with others whether we like it or not. Essential services still must be maintained by someone and there are many things that video and computers just can't do.

Isolation for social creatures is unnatural so we are stuck within humanities 'lifeboat' no matter what. Whatever the eventual outcome the whole experience will be a huge learning curve for everyone.

Mike Larkin

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Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
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	37.9	40.8	563.3
2020	63.6	35.6											109.2

WEATHER IN THE TATONG TOWNSHIP

The rainfall for March up until the 15th has been an excellent 77.2mm. Hopefully that will continue throughout autumn. February's total for the month was a not so great 35.6mm. We now have a virus hogging the attention which makes rainfall less of a priority for many. There seems to be a plethora of anxiety inducing events going on, things that we are unable to fully control.

It is a great relief to have respite from heat and bushfires. It is almost surreal to think back at the scale of devastation which for us lucky ones is becoming just another memory. The fire restrictions will be lifted already, the date being Monday the 23rd of March. Mike Larkin

TATONG and District TATTLER

Would you be interested in contributing to the management of your local community newsletter?

We have Vacancies on the

Tatong Tattler Committee

and are hoping to balance out the age range of the current committee (ie field some less aged locals.)

We meet once every two months, to review the content, creation, distribution & expedience of the Tattler, and to consider how well it serves our community.

If interested, please make contact;

tatongtattler@yahoo.com

any Tattler committee member

ring Andi on 0429 439 336.

In the midst of the mad progress of aeroplanes and cruise liners, we suddenly have the biggest health crisis since the "Spanish" flu, a century ago. That virus probably originated in France. Or the USA, or maybe Austria. The Great War having contributed overcrowded medical camps and hospitals, along with malnourishment, it is thought that increased world travel enabled the pandemic. Yup, back in 1918, world travel was the new big thing.

One thing the Spanish Flu was not, was Spanish. With WWI censors minimising reports of illness in most countries, it was neutral Spain that reported the epidemic. Spain quite wrongly appearing to be the country worst hit, the disease became known as the "Spanish Flu".

I share this, oh excellent Committee of the Tatong Tattler, to observe the dangers of honest reporting. But we will not be cowed, we will report Tatong just as it is – beautiful and quite healthy. However, should the plague descend upon us, the good people of Tatong and Districts will need something to read. And we will provide it! Actually, if they're all in self-isolation, some of them might get around to writing something for the Tattler. Strange times are upon us, and the Tattler will see its community through. However, I do think we should draw the line at printing it on toilet paper.

- Andi Stevenson, Tatong Committee President, March 21st 2020

What's on this month

April 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 <i>Whitegate</i> Community Dinner. Tatong Tavern	2 <i>Play group</i> , 9.30,am Tatong Rec Res	3	4
5 Daylight Saving ends.	6	7	8	9 <i>Play group</i> , 9.30,am Tatong Rec Res .	10 Good Friday F ish & Chip Night. Molyullah Hall 5.30pm	11
12 Easter Sunday	13	14 <i>Mansfield</i> Bush Poets. Mansfield Library 3-5pm	15	16 <i>Play group</i> , 9.30,am Tatong Rec Res .	17 <i>Girls</i> Shed 10.00am at Tatong Hall	18
19	20	21	22	23 <i>Play group</i> , 9.30,am Tatong Rec Res .	24	25 Anzac Day
26	27	28	29	30 <i>Play group</i> , 9.30,am Tatong Rec Res .		

Upcoming dates to note for Molyullah

Molyullah Hall Committee

A heads up for **April 28** which is the date proposed for the Molyullah Community Triennial Public Meeting for election of a new Hall Committee. A formal notice will be issued in the April issue. As a current member of the Hall Committee I can say that it is not a big commitment – the Hall Committee meets once every two months and meetings are generally a bit over an hour. It would be great to have some new members as this always results in a more vibrant committee.

Fish & Chip night.

The **April Fish & Chip night** falls on **Good Friday, 10 April**. Hopefully the marquee will be up - then even if the weather is not kind we will have an undercover outside eating area. This could be a big night as Easter in this area is popular and visitors are plentiful.

Janette Knapper

Table Tennis 2020

With the current restrictions on community gatherings due to the coronavirus, the local Swanpool Table Tennis Association has decided to delay the start of the 2020 season until further notice. We are very hopeful of firing up in June or July so watch this space. For those of you with the luxury of a table at home or in a neighbour's garage here's the chance to enhance your skills.

Rob Erskine

Molyullah Notices:

The **Molyullah Easter Sports** will be cancelled this year due to the coronavirus situation.

The next **Fish & Chip** night is due to be held on Good Friday, 10th April. Due to changing government rules regarding allowable numbers of people in a gathering, please check the Molyullah Facebook Community Noticeboard closer to the date to confirm if it will go ahead.

Anthony Hill / Janette Knapper

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DEADLINE

The Tattler Deadline is end of the **20th of the month.**

Submit via e-mail to tatongtattler@yahoo.com.au
or post to: Darcy Hogan, 150 Mt Joy Rd, Tatong, 3673.

Format for Tattler Submissions

The Tatong Tattler is set up in Microsoft Publisher.

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

Photos (as jpgs) can be attached, to be laid out by editor.

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

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

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