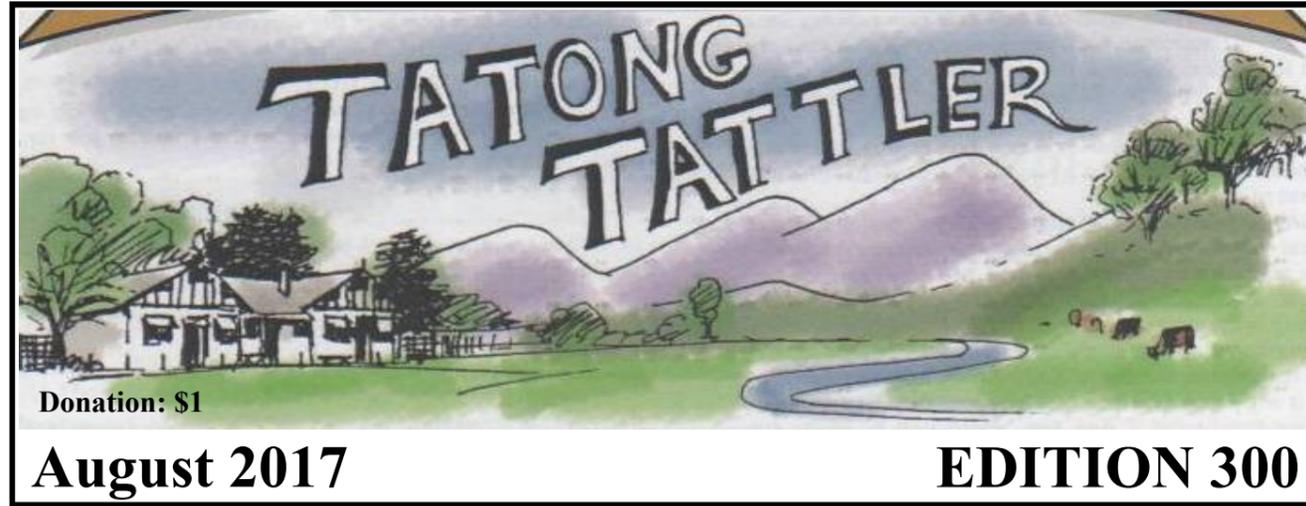




Maggi Kirk  
First Editor



Greg Kirk  
Founder

### From Humble Beginnings

I had the good fortune to catch up with Maggi Kirk the other day. Maggi and her then husband Greg ran the Tatong Post Office for some years during the eighties and early nineties before the Post Office was closed. She was happy to give me her recollections about the origins of The Tatong Tattler, now proudly issuing its 300<sup>th</sup> edition.

Maggi and Greg were part of a group of local people who instigated **The Tatong And District Progress Association Newsletter**. In August 1991 it became known as The Tatong Tattler when a competition was run to establish a masthead which was won by Larissa Scott, now Larissa Montgomery. Maggi told me the newsletter was started to inform the community about local events ie. school news, tennis and football club fixtures and results. The first edition was October 1990 (see centre pages) and held such information as a raffle to raise funds, the avenue of trees, each of which was sponsored by a local family and notice of a Progress association meeting.

Maggi would type the newsletter, which was then photocopied at the school and approximately 100 copies were printed. These were placed in the pigeon holes in the Post Office, the outlying copies being delivered by the Post Office Contractor who delivered up the hill towards Tolmie three days a week.



The masthead changed to its present format in October 2000.

After many years of organising the Tatong Tattler, Maggi felt that it needed new input and handed over the reigns to Bev Hakkennes in August 1996.

Sallie Hann

### Mike and Maeve Larkin

Mike and Maeve produced the Tattler from mid 2000 on their own—no mean feat. In 2004, the job became too much for them so they called for volunteers. A committee was formed in July of that year and Rick Hann took over as editor.



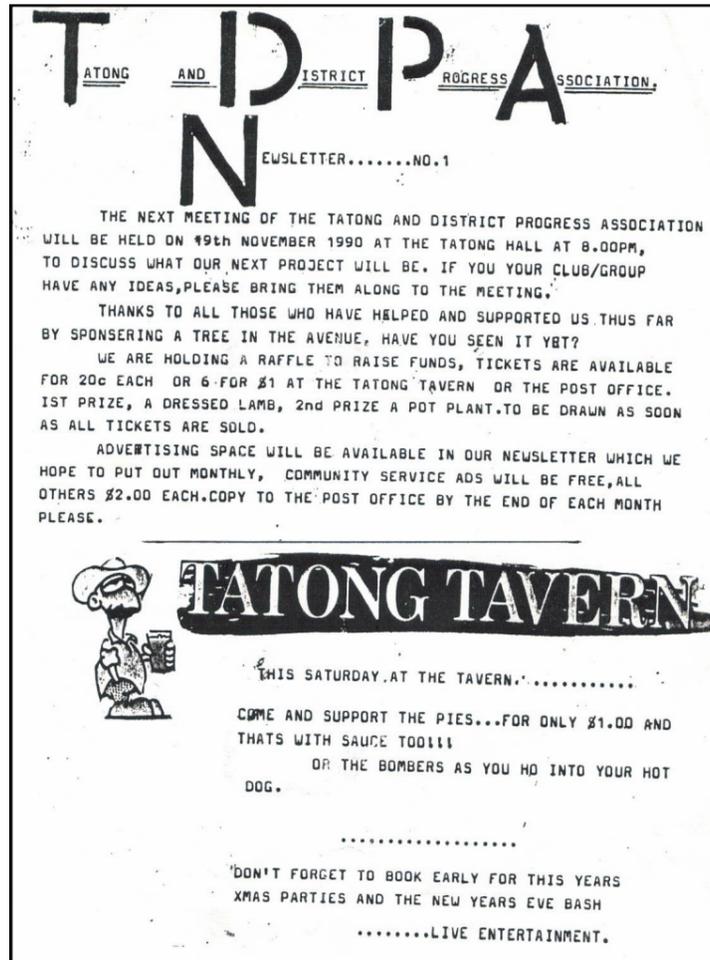
Until 2005, the printing was done at the Tatong Primary School and by Benalla Printers. When the school closed the committee bought a printer and Michael Turner donated the computer to

run it. Printing moved in-house. A dedicated team of locals helped with the printing. Mike Larkin now does the printing all on his own. Thank you Mike.

Rick Hann edited the Tattler until August 2014. Geoff Rintala is the current editor. Geoff is on holidays at the moment so I am pleased to stand in for him with the honour of editing this, the 300<sup>th</sup> edition.

Rick Hann

## It all started with ...



Forerunner of the Tatong Tattler -  
Tatong and District Progress Association Newsletter  
October 1990

The first edition of the Tattler was just one page. 300 editions and 27 years later the Tattler now averages twenty-four pages, has dozens of advertisers, has a committee and set of helpers numbering around 35 people and has a distribution of 350 copies each month, read by over 1000 people.



### Wally & Barbara Schaffer (founding members of Tatong newsletter)

I visited Wally who now lives at the Violet Town Bush Nursing Hospital. Sadly, his wife Barbara died in 2015.

Wally and Barbara were founding members when the Tatong Newsletter started back in 1990. He is surprised to hear the Tattler is still going some 27 years later – particularly as he said there were some ups and downs in the early stages. Wally said he was involved in the administrative side of things and that the credit should go to the hard working volunteers for the success of the Tattler.

Wally was born in Wurzburg, Germany and arrived in Australia in 1953 aged about 23. He was a fitter and turner but after the bombardment of Wurzburg during World War II (90% of this town was bombed) he had to do such things as cleaning bricks so buildings and infrastructure could be rebuilt.

He came to Australia on an adventure hoping to work on the Snowy Hydro Scheme. When this did not work out he went to Tasmania to work in the copper mines. He eventually went to Melbourne where he met Barbara. They married and he was happy to stay in Australia. Wally worked for Turners (later Stanley Tools) as an engineer. He completed his HSC in English and then went on to teach Trades at Benalla Technical College. He was also an early director of the North East Credit Union (now GMCU).

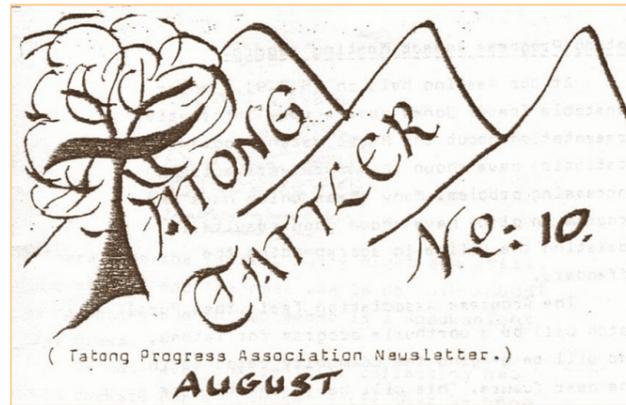
They originally came to Benalla in 1968 and lived in many local areas (Lurg/Molyullah/ Warrenbayne) before building in Tatong where they lived from the late 1980's to the year 2000. Wally "owner built" many homes – something that still pleases him as building was not his background. He loved his Tatong home and workshop (the envy of many who still recall his amazing workshop). He remembers the natural beauty of Tatong, as well as the wonderful wildlife and abundant birdlife.

Thanks go to Wally and Barbara for their contribution to the Tatong Community.

Janette Knapper



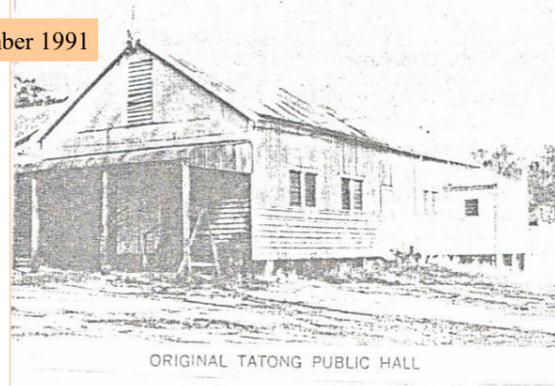
December 1990 Congratulations Andrew.



December 1990—New masthead

1916.. Eggs cost 1 1/2 d per dozen.  
1920's.. Super Phosphate cost £2.15.0 per Ton and it cost another 5/- to have it railed from Benalla to Tatong Railway station. Electricity made its debut in Tatong on 7.2.1957 The 'switch' was thrown by Tom McCauley.

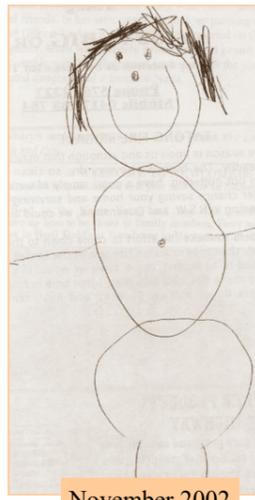
September 1991



ORIGINAL TATONG PUBLIC HALL



June 1992



November 2002

Katie Smith  
Age 4 1/2  
"My Daddy"



October 1994



May 2010

The Tatong Magpies cricket club grand final team 2009-10



June 2010



August 2010



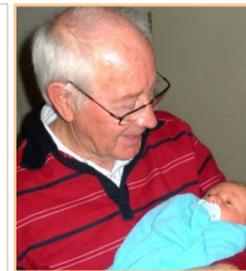
August 2010

Nicole Ritchie recently played her 50<sup>th</sup> game for Tatong.



September 2010  
Whitegate

October 2010



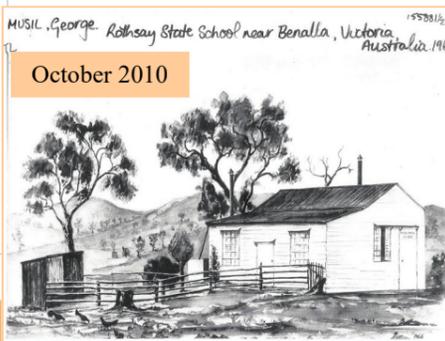
1st grandchild to Robyn & Les MacLean  
October 2010

October 2010 is the Tatong Tattler's Twentieth Birthday!!!

Therefore, a Celebratory Dinner is to be held at the Tatong Tavern on October Wednesday, 27th starting at 6:30pm. All Tattler staff, past & present, all deliverers, plus contributors & readers, are invited. Guests to self-book and pay (sorry, but this is definitely a non-profit organisation).

September 2010

Happy Birthday! 20 years serving Tatong & District



October 2010

Jessica and Emma Cavalot  
December 2010



World's Greatest Shave  
April 2011



May 2011



June 2011



Tattler Committee June 2011



Charlie Lewis, Thomas Osborne & Ella Montgomery  
July 2011

## Night Riders-Log Trucks Part 2

Not a great response to my request for feedback on the log trucks running at all hours of the night.

One of the problems for us personally is that we live at the intersection of Tatong and Molyullah Roads. As the trucks come from Molyullah way and turn the corner, they are constantly changing gears to reach the 100km limit. Usually it's quite still at night and sounds just seem to be magnified. Then of course they come back loaded, heading to Benalla and having already reached the speed limit (or more) they roar past. It's even noisier now that Vic Roads have put the rumble strips in.

As I explained to Mick Evans from HVP, we haven't got a problem with the trucks, as the logs have to be transported, it's just the hours that they do it!

I don't understand why they can't operate in daylight hours and would suggest maybe a curfew needs to be put in place, like on some Melbourne roads. Say from 6 to 6, on week days only.

Sometime ago a group from Warrenbayne banded together and successfully stopped trucks from using particular roads in that area! Can a group of us try to do the same thing and lobby for some changes?

You might be experiencing other problems such as dust from the roads, uncourteous driving etc.

It would be most appreciated if you could please let me know your thoughts on whether you have a problem like ours or some other truck issue or whether you are not bothered by the trucks at all.

Some feedback would be great.

Beth Gregory – johnbethgregory@gmail.com



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## Music and Art in the Garden at Birchwood Near Benalla 7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> October

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Open 10:00 am - 5:00 pm Entry \$6. 18 & Under Free. Directions on website. Ph. 03576 66275

- North East Artisans exhibition & sales in the garden with Benalla Senior Music Students performing.
- Crafts & plant sales. Morning & Afternoon Tea and sandwiches. Children's activities. Spend the day with us!
- Vast range of Spring bulbs & perennials on display in sloping one acre garden. Over 200 different salvias.
- Garden sculptures & features and shaded spaces with views of rolling hills.

All Proceeds to: Benalla & Wangaratta Hospitals & Cancer Council



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**NEA** North East Artisans  
**Garth Hughes**, sculptor, is inspired by the harsh beauty & colours of the outback in creating his unique pieces of metal sculpture.



**Deb Dodd - Hittop Mosaics**  
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## CHESHUNT WILD DOG LEAGUE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
SUNDAY AUGUST 27<sup>TH</sup> 1.30 P.M. AT  
THE MOLYULLAH HALL

An entrapment demonstration will also be given by :  
DWELP Wild Dog Controller, Neil Gaudion.

All Welcome.

Enquiries: Terry Ring Ph 57666356

### More Woes from V/Line

On a recent trip to Melbourne, I arrived at Benalla station to see a bus parked out the front. The bus driver confirmed that he was replacing the train and taking passengers. He duly loaded my large case into the cargo hold and I settled into my seat.

Suddenly the bus driver grabbed his mike and announced there was an error and the train was running.

By this time the train was already pulling into station and we all had to scurry to grab our cases and jump onto the train. Very stressful for me as I knew there would be no room in the carriage for my case! Thankfully a very courteous guard helped me.

Wonder where the communications are breaking down????

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### Some History About the Tattler

I first knew of the Tattler when living 'over the hill' in Samaria, between 1989 and 1997, when we would occasionally find a copy in our mailbox. One memory of it sticks in my mind and that was the cricket articles by Max Jones. Max was a writer of the creative style which gave his stories a 'must read' edge, for me. Who else would think, in a cricket report, to mention; "the still steaming kidney lay limply in the keeper's glove ..." a vivid image of the havoc wreaked by a viciously delivered ball to the hapless batsman! Unfortunately Max's writing was a tad too vivid for a small town newsletter and he eventually took his talent elsewhere.

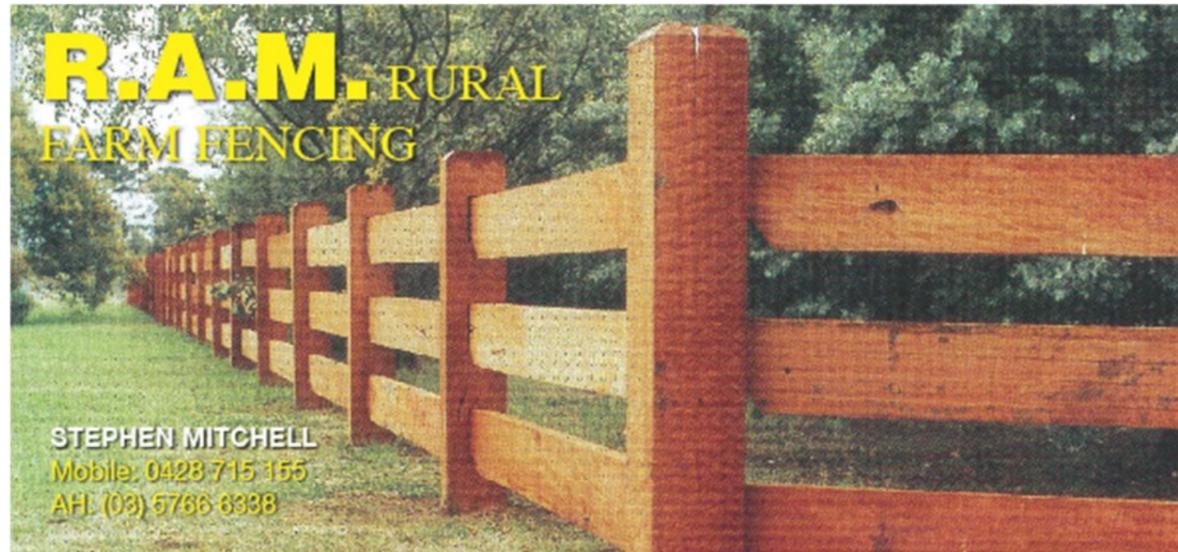
This article is one of a number dealing with the history aspects of the Tattler so there may be some repeats of stories. I spoke to Greg Kirk, Bev Hakkennes, Kerry Gaudion to gather more detail as they were the successive Tattler producers before me and wife Maeve. As Maeve and I started to 'burn out' with the demands of the job we called a meeting to gain support and got it. The excellent committee of 10 which the Tattler now has works consistently year after year to keep the editions running. By spreading the workload the job is rewarding but not too hard.

Firstly Greg, who was an original member of the Tatong Progress Association which started in 1990, and one of the first people to type the newsletter. Greg lived in the general store, Post Office situated opposite the Tavern with his then wife Maggi (who is spoken of in another article) and he now lives in Swanpool. The newsletter eventually became a more general district newsletter called the Tatong Tattler with news and notices about

more than just the Progress Association. The newsletter was printed courtesy of Irene Erskine and the Primary School.

The Progress Association also initiated the renovation of the Tatong bridge picnic area, in association with the 'Dept. of name changes' and the setting up of Neighbourhood Watch led by Ray Fransico. The tree plantation along the north side of the Tatong-Moorngag Rd may also have been started by the Association and then at a later stage Anne Doherty was the initiator of the south side tree planting plus filling the gaps caused by dead trees on the north side.

Some of the original committee of the Progress Association were Wally Schafer, Pat Manser, Peter Maher and Greg Kirk and Irene Anderson. Other active locals around that time were the Hakkennes', Ritchies, Scotts, Heveys, Mansers, Evans, Erskines, too many Lewis's to mention, the Lindsays Rosemary Williams, Nita McCauly and Max Jones. As I am a relative newcomer, I am mentioning those people that I do know about, but there are many others who contributed in other areas such as sport plus all of the committees which keep a community alive. An example of community action was the 60 people who attended the launch of Neighbourhood Watch in Tatong. At some stage the young Larissa Scott (now Montgomery) won a school competition to design the heading for the newsletter. I believe that the three hills depicted in the original (and the current logo), depict the wavy line created by the junction of the forest and farmland on the first hillside when looking toward Tatong. This view can be seen from a point just after the Hollands Creek Bridge at about the 17.5km mark, when driving toward Tatong from Benalla. Maeve and I arrived in Tatong in 1997 and became



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## Garden Daze

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



August - According to Dr. Tim Entwistle's system of the seasons (you may recall my earlier article) - marks the beginning of change.....

Sprinter (August and September), the early Australian spring, starts my seasonal year. It's when the bushland and our gardens burst into flower. It's also when that quintessential Australian plant, the wattle, is in peak flowering across Australia.



Whilst I would like a prettier word than "Sprinter" - I like the idea that we are moving away from the cold and duller days of Winter. As well as the Acacias starting to flower, I like to watch the Almond trees at the top of my neighbour's driveway - harbingers of Spring - they are the first to blossom.



**Growing Citrus** - When starting the garden here, some citrus were amongst the first fruiting trees that we planted. A Lime, two different types of Naval Orange, a Valencia, Seville (with Marmalade in mind) two different Mandarins and a Tangelo. All of which were planted in a couple of rows along a fence.

The following summer brought the worst grasshopper plague that I have seen here, and the citrus trees were only saved by being swathed in lots of old net curtains from the Op Shop. Even then they were pretty well chewed and only just struggled back to life - this was when I learned not to prune until they had sorted themselves out. To this day they are a bit too scraggly (a word for John Knapper) around their lower limbs.

Over the years some have thrived, while others have slowly declined. First to go were a couple of Mandarines - but this was an accident with a husband and a ride on lawn mower (he didn't quite come off unscathed either, but some stitches and a rest helped there) then the next to leave us was the Tangelo - taking its lovely fruit with it, followed by one of the Naval Oranges. The Grapefruit is still hanging in, but clearly its days are numbered.



I could see no reason for their decline and extra TLC only seemed to make it worse. Therefore I was very interested in a story on *Gardening Australia* about growing citrus successfully. Ian Tolley a long time citrus grower advised:

"Make up your mind that the variety is what you want, get the right rootstock, make sure that you plant it properly, make sure the nutrition is ok and learn to shape the tree - you're there for life, because generally no matter where you are living, you can grow a good variety, so long as you get the right rootstock - that's the important thing - so the selection of the variety is not as important as having the rootstock, because that does so many things for you. We're aiming to put a root system underneath your variety which is resistant to plant pests and diseases in the soil. We're also going to influence the maturity of the fruit, we're going to improve the quality of the fruit - all of those things are very important - so we need to select the right rootstock for the right area, the right soil, the right climate - all of those factors."

Ahh I see....I have no idea what rootstock any of my citrus have been grown on - maybe at the nursery I was asked, but at that stage being new to the area, any advice I would have given them would have been somewhat uninformed.

Curiosity had me looking in the bookshelf for the Citrus Catalogue I had from when we made those long ago purchases.

Sure enough on page 4 under the heading *Considering Purchase of Trees* is the advice:

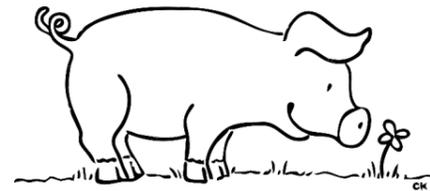
Remember these points before you commit yourself:

1. Is the rootstock best suited to my soil type and location?
2. Is the budline one that is proven in my area?
3. Is the rootstock-scion combination safe and the best for my area in terms of tree life, production and fruit quality?

Independent advice on these matters can be obtained from your local Department of Agriculture, Horticultural Officer.

Ian Tolley's Chart for *Consideration when Choosing Citrus* is on the next page and next month - I will try to distil his wisdom on citrus planting and care.

Kathy Z



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involved with the newsletter in about 2000 and eventually took on the whole job. I needed to become better known in the district so that I could get enough work, as an electrician, to pay off our first time mortgage - "you get out what you put in!"

Also, as a part time artist and having grown up in small towns I wanted to write and draw cartoons plus help create community spirit and connection. While I liked to write Maeve did the typing and layout and I organized the distribution and deliveries. Since those days of handwritten articles I have learned to touch type, a useful skill, and most articles now arrive as email with or without photo or advert attachments.

We have had loyal deliverers from day one and now there are about 20 zones and 18 deliverers encompassing the district which includes Samaria, Moorngag, Karn, Whitegate, Emu Bridge, Molyullah and the whole Tatong valley. Benalla currently has 23 deliveries mainly to people previously living in the delivery district. We print and deliver 350 with about 50 online readers. By using the Tattler's own printer the monthly cost for each edition is about \$250 according to the amount of paper and toner used. At 11 editions per year that is an annual cost of \$2750 which is largely covered by our ads and donations. In my early days with the Tattler only about 120 copies were printed and delivered mainly to the Tatong valley only and our financial status was usually precarious then critical when no longer able to print at the school. While Benalla Council grants helped in those difficult times, buying our own printer and attracting sufficient paying ads and donations was the eventual solution.

Mike Larkin

## Congratulation to Tatong Tattler on your 300th issue



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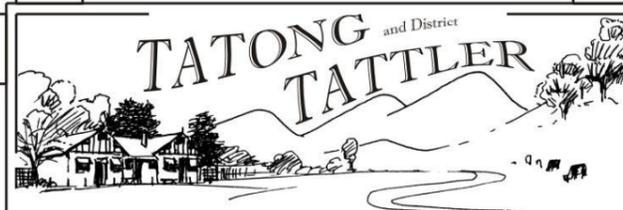
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The  
**Annual General Meeting**  
of the  
**Tatong Tattler Committee**  
will be held on:

Thursday September 14th  
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.*

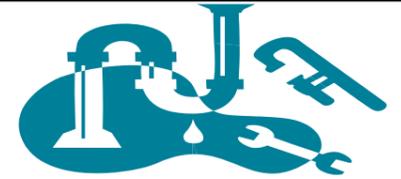
Over 25 years serving Tatong & District

A community newsletter is a reflection  
Of what the locals present  
Experience, history, news, opportunity  
Local tradies, local talent, local events.

To keep good copy amongst the ads  
And a flow of rich contribution  
Takes a community healthy and strong  
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We ought celebrate our excellent pool  
From either side of the reflection

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**VERY HAPPY HOUR**

A funny thing happened at the tavern recently. One of the locals turned up for happy hour a few weeks ago and as he was leaving the pub he grabbed his wallet from on top of the bar.

When he got home he went to put his wallet back in its usual place and discovered his wallet was already there!

He duly returned the wallet to its rightful owner but we wonder who was paying for whose beers that night?  
Is there such a thing as a red-faced emoticon?

- Thanks to the Tattler Deliveries
- Tatong ♦ Irene Erskine, Mike Larkin, Bev Hakkennes, Kerryn Gaudion, Karen Ryan
  - Tatong-White Gate ♦ Katrina Bailey
  - Karn ♦ Jill Lloyd
  - Kilfeera ♦ Georgina Elford
  - Mitchell & Mt Joy Rds ♦ Rick Hann
  - Mofyullah ♦ Janette Knapper, Kent Muller, Heather McCauley
  - Tatong-Moornag ♦ Mike Larkin, Helen & Colin McCauley
  - Samaria ♦ Ray Wales
  - Swanpool Rd ♦ Sue
  - Upper Ryans Creek ♦ Jan & Terry Ring
  - White Gate- Benalla ♦ Andrea Stevenson
  - Benalla ♦ Geoff Rintala

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### Samaria Suns

The Samaria Suns made the long trek down the highway to face the Geelong Cats at Grinter Reserve in what would be a real test for undefeated Suns. The Suns won the toss and were the first to score off the boot of vice president Wes Stafford, however would be a player down early in the game with Shannon Willett leaving the field and unable to return. The Suns and Cats struggled to get the ball into their forward lines thanks to pressure from both teams back lines. However Geelong would take a narrow one point lead into the first break, the Suns would come out firing in the second quarter scoring within seconds off the boot of Neville Haynes who was having his first game back after recovering from a calf injury. It would be all Cats after that though with the Suns unable to get the ball into the goals to convert. With a number of umpiring decisions not going the way of the Suns frustrations would begin to show, however the third term would see the Suns outscore the Cats for the first time all game, seeing the ball move much more freely for the Suns thanks to the tireless efforts of Darby Morrison. The last quarter was very tight with the Suns taking the game right up the Cats were unable to steal the win away from the home team going down by 11 points and suffering their first defeat for the year.

Samaria Suns 7 . 2 . 44  
Geelong Cats 8 . 7 . 55  
Goal Kickers: K. Pugh, W. Stafford 2, D. Morrison, N. Haynes, R. Bull 1  
Awards: BOG B. Warnock (Awarded by Geelong)  
Pink Shop Award: W. Stafford & D. Morrison  
Royal Hotel Award: B. Warnock  
Hollywood Cafe Award: D. Cassidy & P. Robertson  
Tool of the Week: F. Munro



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**- Product Review -**

**Stopping the "Swampy" from Cooling the House over Winter**

- Andrea Stevenson

We built a cottage in 1985, fitted with an evaporative cooler. Come winter, it was quickly noticeable that the house heat was escaping up the cooler vents. I fashioned some vent-covers out of polystyrene, fitted with magnets to hold them on, and covered them with remnants from our curtains. It worked beautifully, although puzzled guests would ask what the things on the ceiling were. In 2002 we replicated the cottage on our White Gate (Tatong) farm, again fitted with evaporative cooling. The only snag was, the vents were now plastic. So twice a year I stood on a ladder and closed or opened the vanes in the vents. Not too hard with 8-foot ceilings. Now we have moved to a house where the ceilings are 10 foot up. Standing under the vents, I could feel the heat rushing up into the evaporative ducting. But with higher ceilings, and me a bit older, the climbing-up-the-ladder malarkey was less attractive. We wondered what we might cobble together to replicate the things I made 30 years before. Also, I went online, in case someone else had solved the problem. And blow me down, they had. A search found "Green It Yourself", recommending Heat Savers, with a very nice little video showing how to fit them (or how to use Contact, if renting; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nTEAnLwY4NU>) and [www.heatsaver.com.au/](http://www.heatsaver.com.au/) itself, where very smart covers are sold for precisely this purpose. A metal collar is stuck



to the plastic vent, enabling the cover to fit magnetically. And they are Made in Australia. We ordered some for the living area, and they made such a difference that we promptly ordered some for the rest of the house. Friends having

expressed interest, I said I would put something in the Tattler; so I asked the Heat Saver people how they came to create the business. This is their story. "We had built our home in central west NSW, in a small town called Parkes. I was huddled over a gas heater trying to stay warm, Adrian had been running cables in the ceiling and came down through the manhole drenched in sweat. He said "it's as warm as toast up there, all the heat is going up through the air conditioner vents. Go online and order some covers for the vents". Try as I may I couldn't find any covers anywhere. He said "someone should make covers for the vents" and I said "well you're someone and you're looking for a new business idea, why not see what you and Dion (our son) can come up with". After much trial and error and many modifications 9+ years later here we are." - Adrian and Jenny Cotter



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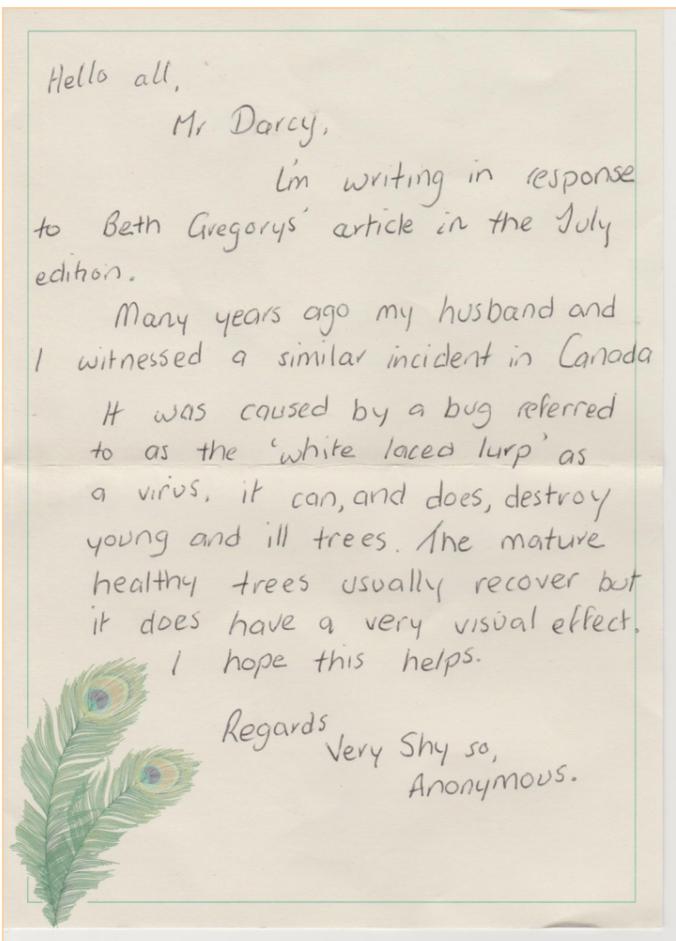
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**Tatong Tavern**

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**CELTIC FESTIVAL - WEEK OF 25-27<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST**

Once again we will be bringing you a weekend of music from various musicians who will be playing throughout the day and night at the Tavern for all visitors. If you love the sound of Celtic music then this is the place to come and enjoy a few days of great music, food, drink and laughter.

As this is the 300 Edition of the Tattler, I thought some history of the Tavern might be in order. "This extract came from the Benalla Ensign in 2011", after which I have added on information collected from our own Web Page History.

It's been almost 90 years since the Tatong Tavern was rebuilt following a devastating fire in 1923, but standing outside the tavern, it feels as though not much has changed. The tavern, located 25 km south east of Benalla on the Benalla-Tatong Rd, has the look and feel of an old English pub, with a mock Tudor facade transporting you to a different place and time.

The original weatherboard hotel was built by Mr Edward (Ted) Brown for Mr William Worrall, in the 1880's with, as the story goes, money earned from gold mined in the hills surrounding the small town. The present concrete building was erected for Mr. M. C. Clarke. The contractor was Mr. Alex Wallace with Tom McCauley and Ernie Crowe helping with the construction.

A meeting point for locals since the 1880s, the tavern has a rich history displayed on the walls of a variety of memorabilia. Photos and newspaper articles adorn the walls in the dining area, while a photo of the original owners hangs on the wall in the dining room.

Not far down the road is the site where Ned Kelly and his gang shot three police officers at Stringybark Creek, becoming Australia's most wanted in the process.

In 1978, the pub was the site of a shoot up, in which two youths fired 15 shots at and inside the pub after being asked to leave. Fortuitously, a journalist from the BENALLA ENSIGN was at the establishment that night, and was able to document the event in detail. A copy of his article is on display.

While the bushfires of 2007 came perilously close to claiming the Tatong Tavern, the premise escaped the flames and continues to prosper.

Extensive renovations have been undertaken over the years, including works to the bar area and the removal of inside walls. What was previously a bedroom in the rebuilt tavern is now a dining area, while fireplaces and chimneys have also been added.

And it wouldn't be an old country pub without a ghost story or two. Patrons and staff alike have reported seeing a white apparition of a woman wandering through the front door and around the establishment, thought to be Mrs Catherine Worrall.

The name has also undergone change, what was once known as the Tatong Hotel or 'Pub' is now known as the Tatong Tavern. In 1982/83 an attempt to establish a nursery in the grounds of the 'Pub' resulted in a building being added for use as an office, display area, as well as the placement of an ex V.R. Guards van, for storage. However, this venture did not succeed, and all signs of it other than the building that is now used as accommodation has been removed.

## What's Happening at Molly Rose?

Elbow flexibility is slowly increasing (I can scratch my nose now!), but, as the Osteo said, it's gonna take a while – at least twice as long as it was in the sling, but probably longer!



Kael is hoping to add to our flock by getting a breeding trio of Frizzles, that, or a bunch of Frizzle fertilised eggs – he fell in love with the breed when he saw some Frizzles at the Molyullah Easter Sports. They are a kind of powder puff on legs as they have feathers that don't sit flat but curl over. Hopefully the pic below gives you an idea.

Eggs have been thin on the ground, particularly in May when the girls were moulting and regrowing all their feathers. There were a few weeks where only one girl was still laying and we were lucky to get 3 eggs a week. Fortunately they've started to get their lay back on now and the egg count is steadily growing.

Today (20/07) has been our biggest egg collection day since...well, for a long time. Looks like our Heritage Eggs will be available for purchase again soon! And you can have duck eggs too! Love my coloured eggs.

Speaking of ducks, our Quarantine Ducks have served their time and joined the flock a week ago. They are settling in nicely and very happy.



Still looking for and collecting materials for the new permanent pens. If you hear of anyone getting rid of stuff that could be used for building our new pens, let me know – we'd rather use recycled or repurposed materials and stopping them from heading into landfill if we can.

And just before I love you and leave you, have you been to the North East Artisans' IN YOUR FACE Exhibition? It's only open for a couple more weeks. You can check out my Word Portrait Sculpture while you're there! Write you next month,

Carla

## Molyullah Rural Fire Brigade - Sunday Driver - Radio Check Roster

6 Aug 2017 **Stephen Brosig Welch 3rd Lieut.** 0417 890 042

Minimum Skills Refresher Team 4 for 6 August Andrew Muller 57 666 408 Damien Nichols 0428 396 137

Justine Nichols 0428 396 137 Leigh Parker 0417 501 067

Dirk Ring 0419 529 830

13 Aug Campbell Griffin 0876 000 100

20 Aug Anthony Hill 57 666 410

27 Aug John Jordan 57 666 381

3 Sept 2017 **Dion Stephenson 4th Lieut.** 57 666 111 0417 879 500



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### Travels With Myself

Recently I went on a solo trip to the States to look at aircraft museums. Yes, I know, bit odd but as Willi was off to the Netherlands and England to see various brothers and her mother plus her sons I figured I would have a little trip too – bit of a bucket list trip I guess.

Now I am not going to bore you with my vivid details of the (10) aviation museums I went to but to comment on aspects of life in America. In no set order then:

- Their driving manners are far superior to what you get here. They always stop for pedestrians; crossing or no crossing. And hardly ever run a red light that I saw.
- Tipping. After a while it is just second nature – 10 to 15%
- This will shock some but the beer is great. Most bars will have ten or more brews on tap, mostly local. And they will give you a little taster if you are undecided. (Bud etc. is like Fosters – not used by the locals!)
- Some bars sell beer to people who bring in their own containers, seemed to be 2 litre size. This is quite common in the UK too. Fill it up and take it home.
- So many people and all on mobiles. The art of conversation is dying I fear. Even couples in a bar are texting and not talking. I saw one person stay on the phone even as he checked into a hotel.
- There is an enormous contrast between rich and poor. At Portland Station, Oregon, there is a tent city on a road bridge just outside the station. As you watch the world go by travelling on trains there are so many people living in tents or rough shelters by the trackside. Apparently there is little government welfare.
- School buses. Are bright yellow and when

they stop, traffic going both ways must stop, so that there is no, or little, chance of a child being run over. We should adopt that system as it works well and everybody accepts it. Perhaps a polliie is reading this and could start something useful!!

And so to some other observations. There is a TV ad for one of the burger chains, Wendy's, which condemns Australian beef as a frozen, imported second rate meat. O dear!

I travelled from LA up to Portland to view the Spruce Goose (go Google) and to my surprise found that it is illegal to refuel your car in the state of Oregon. It must be filled by an attendant – days of old!!

And last of all a picture. This is the carpark at the Pima Air and Space Museum. A carpark in the desert covered with solar panels. Excellent. Wouldn't it be good if Woolworth / Coles / Aldi did the same and in a little way help the environment? I doubt it.

11

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



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Ian Tolley's Chart for:  
Consideration when Choosing Citrus



Considerations	'Troyer And Carrizo' citrange	Trifoliata And Flying Dragon	'Cleopatra' And "Emperor" Mandarin	Sour Orange (rough Seville)	Sweet Orange	Rough Lemon
<b>DISEASE/PESTS</b> Phytophthora Citrus nematode	Resistant Tolerant	Resistant Tolerant	Tolerant Susceptible	Resistant Susceptible	Susceptible Susceptible	Susceptible Susceptible
<b>FRUIT</b> Quality Size Maturity	Excellent Average Mid season	Excellent Average Mid season	Good Average - Mid season to late hanging	Good Average + Mid season to late hanging	Good Average Mid season to late hanging	Poor (lemons fall) Average + Early Maturing
<b>ENVIRON- MENTAL TOLERANCES</b> Cold Hardiness Salt Tolerance Lime Tolerance Poor Drainage Longevity	Hardy + Average - Good - Susceptible Good	Very Hardy Low Low Tolerant + Average	Hardy Good Excellent Susceptible Average	Hardy Good Good + Tolerant - Average	Hardy Low Average Susceptible Low	Tender Average Average Susceptible Short
<b>FOR USE WITH VARIETIES</b>	Orange Grapefruit Mandarin Lemon	Orange Grapefruit Mandarin (excl. 'Imperial') Limes	Orange Grapefruit Mandarin	Lemon only	Orange Lemon Grapefruit Mandarin	Orange Lemon Grapefruit

## Molyullah Musings – August 2017

**Congratulations to the Tattler** – 27 years is a long time to run and it is thanks to many hard working Tatong residents both past and present that it is so successful. Molyullah residents have been involved in the Tattler for the last few years and we hope it is of interest to the Molyullah residents also. It is far more interesting if we have local snippets of information to include so don't forget to ring or email if you are aware of something coming up or submit to the Tattler directly if you have something to be included. New residents are very welcome to contribute.

### Local Lerps Infestation

Last month, Beth Gregory wrote of her concern with the state of the gum trees locally. They are suffering from a lerp infestation. According to commentary I heard on ABC radio recently, this happens about every seven years. The lerps are covered in a sugary coating they get from sucking the leaves. The birds love these sugary treats so if our bird population is large enough this will help. If the season is ok and there are no other stresses the trees should survive. Many trees on our place are currently affected and have also suffered a lerps infestation a couple of times in the last twenty years. Most survived. We notice the Koala feeds on healthy



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## WEATHER WATCH

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2007	30	35.1	62.5	31.3	108.6	30.2	92.4	25.5	30.3	34.3	88.6	69.8	638.6
2008	52.4	11.5	33.4	17.7	48.3	37	114.7	58.8	18.9	1.9	89.7	64.9	549.2
2009	3	5.4	38.7	80.7	30.6	107.9	77.5	65.5	76	48.6	72.3	18.9	625.1
2010	39	153.7	86.4	65.2	67.5	82.8	67.5	162.1	116.8	123.7	109.2	150.8	1224.7
2011	107	177.3	65.0	36.1	62.9	47.1	84.5	81.0	67.3	32.0	88.3	46.3	894.7
2012	82.5	94.0	184.9	18.1	35	57.6	115.8	92.1	35.5	34	28	30.1	773.6
2013	1.8	52.4	85.5	8.4	43.0	60.1	112.1	141.1	61.2	27.5	26.2	65.3	684.6
2014	33.9	16.4	86.4	89.6	82.8	146.5	98.8	9.8	68.5	20.4	58.5	64.2	775.8
2015	44.7	29.1	5.7	87.4	70	33.7	97.3	69.4	25.7	13.7	55.5	81.7	613.9
2016	69.7	11.9	36.9	38.5	117.2	110.5	142.8	108.4	172.1	91.4	50.1	101.3	1050.8
2017	67.6	36.2	49.1	61.7	52.5	6.5							273.6

### WEATHER IN THE TATONG TOWNSHIP

June was dryish and frosty with only 6.5mm of rain. I think that we only had a couple of days without a 'white lawn' start. Apparently weather records were broken in some areas, but not of a kind that we welcome. So far for this month of July, a lot more rain with 44.6mm up until the 15<sup>th</sup>.

Mike Larkin

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leaves and trees (don't think he has a sweet tooth) so hopefully this also gives the other trees some time to recuperate!

**Molyullah Sports Meeting** – There will be an important meeting regarding the Sports later in August. Date is not set yet but please keep a look out as it is important we get as many attending as possible.

**Molyullah Dinner** – the next Molyullah Dinner will be held at the Tavern on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> of August. Come along and catch up with your neighbours.

Cheers,  
Janette

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*Pic left: Just a small area of the eCarpark!!*

And finally, I am hanging around the terminal at LAX (waiting waiting...) and there is often a group of airline staff passing by on the way to their aircraft. Nearly always lead by the captain (with the four gold bars) then the rest of the cockpit crew and the cabin crew; sometimes over 25 people. So what is the collective noun for them? A collective of crew? A stagger of staff? Send your suggestions to me and I will publish them all next issue – [darcyhogan@bigpond.com](mailto:darcyhogan@bigpond.com).

Darcy

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

Enquires :Darcy Hogan, 5767 2187 or email darcyhogan@bigpond.com  
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**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.

**DEADLINE**

The Tattler Deadline is end of the **20th of the month.** Submit via e-mail to [tatongtattler@yahoo.com.au](mailto: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.

**Obtain your Copy of the Tatong Tattler!**  
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 The Secretary, Tatong Tattler, 150 Mt Joy Rd, Tatong, Vic, 3673.  
 (*A donation of \$1 per issue is appreciated & helps cover costs.*)

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 Creating the Tattler costs money (despite being managed by a non-profit group of volunteers).  
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 \* given to Committee Members;  
 \* left the locked box by the Tavern;  
 \* or EFT'd to GMCU, BSB 803 078, A/C 135720, a/c Tatong Tattler

**What's on this month**

August 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
July 30	July 21	1	2 Whitegate Community Dinner at the Tavern	3 Play group, 9.30am, Rec Res Molyullah Community Dinner at the Tavern	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 Play group, 9.30am, Rec Res	11 Girls Shed 10.30am at Hall	12
13	14	15	16 Tatong Community Dinner at the Tavern	17 Play group, 9.30am, Rec Res	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 Play group, 9.30am, Rec Res Tattler Deadline	25 Girls Shed 10.30am at Hall	26
27	28 THG meeting, Tatong Hall, 4pm	29	30	31 Play group, 9.30am, Rec Res	Sep 1	Sep 2



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**WANTED**

Are you able to volunteer an hour a month or an hour every two months?

We are looking for people to help run the Tatong RCH Good Friday Appeal on a Friday Night at the Tatong Tavern.

If you think you might be able to help out please contact **Jade 0408197865** or **Lyn Lindsay**

Thanking you in advance.

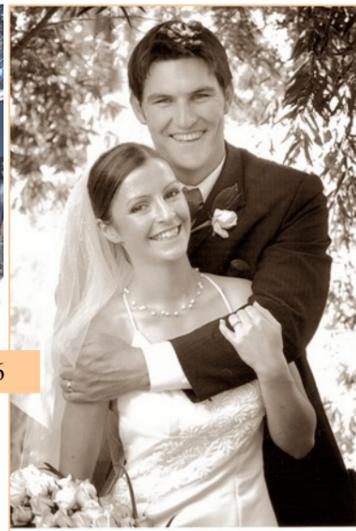


March 2006

This photo was taken at a local shearing shed in 1988 during a Scout visit. A few of the local boys from L to R. 'Wardy', Finn Seivright, Dereck Mundy, Ben Campbell, Ben Leask, Tor Kirk, Matthew Lewis, Adam Campbell and in the background, Shane Lewis.



April 2006



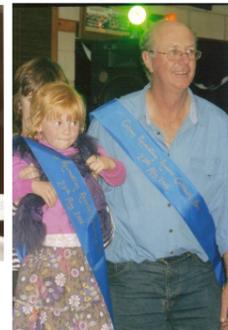
April 2006



August 2006

Swimming sports at the Technical School pool for the Swanpool scouts circa 1986.

### Recreation Reserve Celebrates 100 Years



July 2006



TFNC Reunion August 2006



Shelley Hann Graduation

May 2009



October 2007

Aarunga Clydesdale foals are landing on the ground, ...



Melbourne Cup Day Nov 2006



August 2011

February 1997



### LAST YEARS VCE STUDENTS.

All of last years VCE students have now got their tertiary placings, Emma Campbell is to study Clothing Industry Studies at Box Hill TAFE, Bronwyn Hevey has chosen to work at Hollywoods Pizza in Benalla, Rachel Maher is to study the Advanced Certificate in Hospitality in Wangaratta, Jade Kirk has been offered a place at the James Cook University In Cairns, Queensland, studying Tourist Administration but has deferred for a year and will be doing a traineeship in Hospitality at the Tatong Tavern and Benalla TAFE for this year. Kylie Humphries will be studying Early Childhood development in Frankston and Aaron Leask has taken up an apprenticeship as a fitter and turner with RW & JE Engineering. For those who remember these pupils who started there schooling at Tatong Primary School, Elizabeth Hussell is a Governess in Queensland, Ben Home is doing a pre apprenticeship course at Wangaratta TAFE and Loren Campbell will be studying Arts at Deakin University in Burwood. I think we can be very proud of all of them.

June 1997

### 1997 DEB BALLS

congratulations to the following who either did their Deb or were partners.

- Rachel Humphries,
- Adria Stent, Simon Stent, Janelle Scott,
- Fiona Hakkennes, Stacey Sleeth, Sarah Harrison and Luke Wood. They all did Tatong proud.

July 1997

### GOOD LUCK

To the Hevey family who in partnership with The Wellard family are taking over the management Swanpool Store this month and Dennis tells me that they are going to be open for longer hours than before so as to service the public... I am sure we shall all give them our support and wish them all the very best in their new venture.



March 1998

### Forewell to Nance and Dave Weavers

On Sunday February 22<sup>nd</sup>, we said goodbye and good luck to Nance and Dave Weavers, who have moved to a property on the outskirts of Benalla. Due to the popularity of these two people a large crowd attended to say their goodbyes and thank-you's. While here in Tatong Nance and Dave contributed so much to the community in so many different ways including: helping with the Royal Children's Hospital Auction, helping Santa at the School concerts, working at the Tavern or just being a friend to so many.

### Tatong's Earthquake AUGUST 1997

Early on the afternoon of Friday June 27th Tatong and district residents were startled by an earthquake. The main shock which measured 3.8 on the Richter scale is classed as minor. However many residents were considerably startled by the event, and there were many calls to local authorities and newspapers. The earthquake was rather localised only affecting the Tatong, Samaria, Swanpool area. Local publican Greg Tainton said the glasses above the bar got a good swing up, and all the "top shelf" bottles gravitated towards the edges of the shelves. Mt Joy Rd, Residents Pat and John Manser returned home to find considerable clumps of earth and dust on the floor inside their mud brick residence. Not aware there had been an earthquake they were rather mystified until they were enlightened. Pat Manser felt three considerable noticable shocks during the day after. There have been continuing after shocks and rumblings in the past month described by Pat Manser as sounding like "distant quarry explosions". Samaria is at the centre of a minor subterranean fault and the area could experience further tremors at any time according to the Sismology Centre. Mt Joy residents Chris Jesson and Liz Tapp were awoken from their reverie at 10pm Sunday night by a considerable-jolt after effects of the earthquake.

October 1997



B Grade Back row L to R: Jodie Beckerley, Nicole Murray, Rachel Humphries, Kylie Rigg, Renee Hevey, Kelly Campbell Front row L to R: Margie James, Fiona Hakkennes (Captain), Melissa Leask, Leonie Campbell

Bernie and Claire Evans together with John and Joy Ballintine are proud to announce the engagement of Terry and Stacey, on the 29<sup>th</sup> Jan., 1999.

It is with delight, Robert and Dale Allen of Narre Warren and Evan and Judy Lewis of Tatong announce the engagement of Joanne and David.

Congratulations and Very Best Wishes to both couples

May 1999

**Congratulations Karen!**

On the 7<sup>th</sup> May 1999, Karen Evans graduated from the Charles Sturt University, Albury. Karen completed a four-year course achieving a Bachelor of Health Science in Occupational Therapy. She is now working full time at the Mount Alvernia Mercy Hospital in Bendigo.

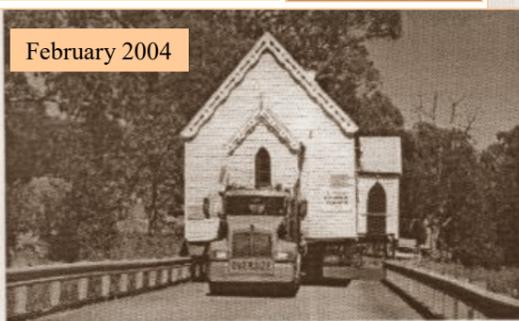
June 1999



February 2003



BOXING DAY 2002

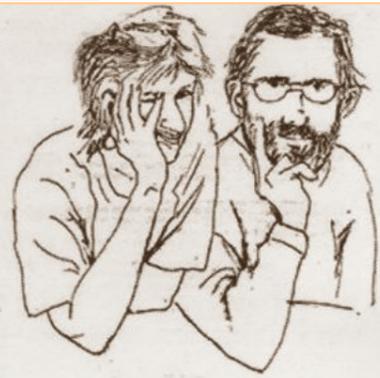


February 2004

On Friday 28 November 2003 a moving and history making event occurred. St Patricks Church which had occupied its site on Samaria Road for the last 103 years was once again on the move. The church had originally been the main

Maeve and Mike Larkin celebrated their combined 110<sup>th</sup> birthday on Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> at home with support from forty plus friends and family including Anita Larkin and friend Natalia who entertained with their superb blend of harp and darabukka music. Two other birthday parties on Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> were Aaron Lindsay's 17<sup>th</sup> and Joan Lewis Senior's 90<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations to all.

March 2004



**Special Thanks**

The Tatong community wish to thank Bev Hakkennes for her tremendous work over the past two years compiling, printing and delivering the *Tatong Tattler*. Thanks must also go to Nita McCauley and Rosemary Williams for their assistance to Bev, delivering many of the *Tattlers*.

Thank you, ladies, very much!

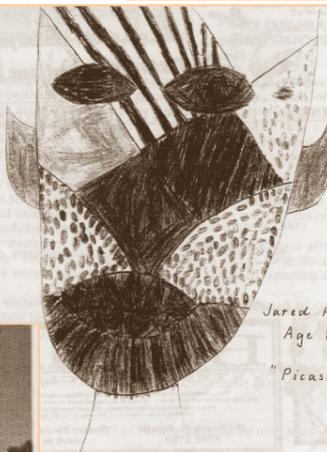
May 1999

**Welcome**

In July we welcome Claire and Daniel Grima to the Tatong Community. We hope you will be very happy here, and soon feel at home.

July 1999

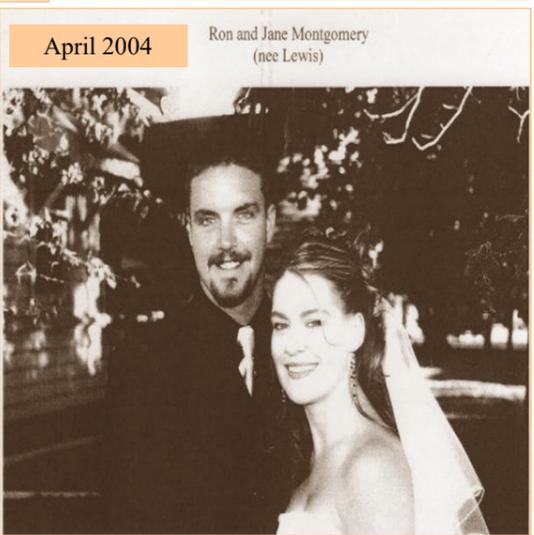
April 2003  
Our cover used to be drawn by the children at the Tatong Primary School. This one, entitled "Picasso" was drawn by Jared Hughan, aged 8.



Jared Hughan Age 8 "Picasso"



August 2004



April 2004 Ron and Jane Montgomery (nee Lewis)

From all his sooooo jealous golfing mates; hearty congratulations to Mick Larkin on his hole in one on the 8<sup>th</sup> at

June 2005

**Tatong Firemen Honoured**

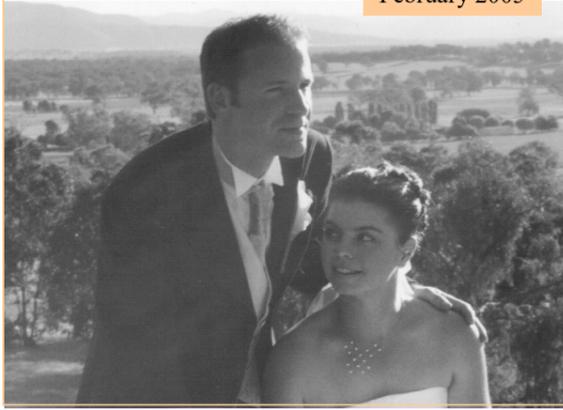
Paul Scragg Operations Officer from Wangaratta CFA commenced proceedings by presenting long service medals and Life Memberships to local stalwarts Keith Hughan and Evan ("Toby") Lewis.

August 2004



Dennis and Gayle Scott travelled to Ireland for the marriage of their daughter Larissa to Paul Montgomery on the 24<sup>th</sup> September 2004.

February 2005



Congratulations to Sara-Jane Bowering who played her 50<sup>th</sup> game on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of July for the Tatong netball club. Bewdy Sara-Jane

August 2005



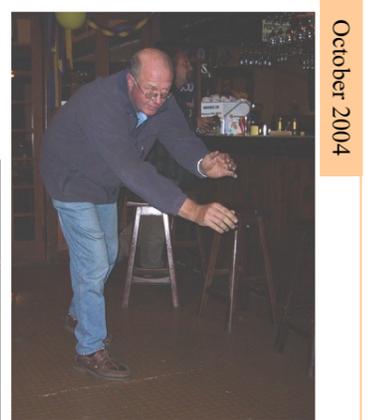
February 2006



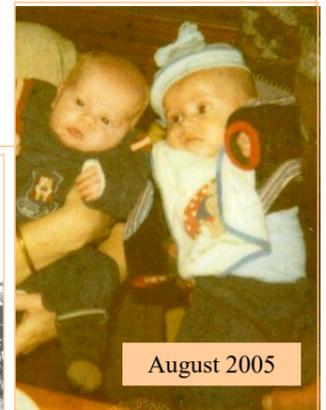
Welcome: Tatong Primary School students welcome new prep Laura (front, left).

**Quoits at the Tavern**

The inaugural wrangle was held on the 16<sup>th</sup> of September after a few practice evenings earlier in the month. John Brogan proved too good for the rest of the locals. Take a bow John.



October 2004



August 2005

William Smith & Joshua Grima

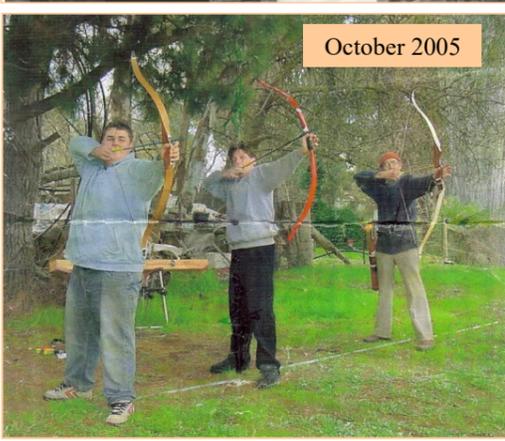
**Kellie and Anthony**  
The marriage took place on 12<sup>th</sup> Feb. 2005 at Hillway Park, ...



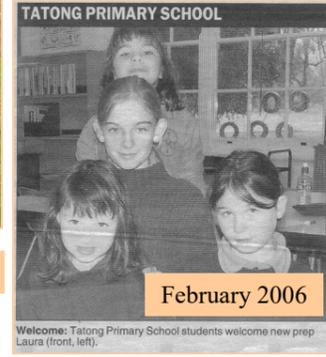
April 2005



July 2005



October 2005



February 2006