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Would you like to help?

I'm sure everyone's heard of the terrible event in Moyhu recently. Paul McDonald was killed by his pet deer when he went to feed it. His wife, Mandi, was seriously injured when she went to his aid. Ethan, 17, beat it off with a stick. The police shot the deer.

Mandi was flown to the Alfred Hospital in a serious condition. She is a fighter and will 'recover' but it will be a long process.

Most of you will also be aware that there is a fish'n'chip night the second Friday of each month at the Moly Hall. We hold a raffle with proceeds benefitting the Heritage group.



At the May night we announced a fundraiser to assist the McDonalds was to be held at the Moyhu Hotel, Sunday, May 19th. Without hesitation, members of the Heritage group handed over the \$300 they had just been given and other donations took it to \$350. This has been passed on with a letter explaining it's from the Molyullah community.

Knowing that country people have big hearts, I think there will be many of you that would like to help in some way too. I have two suggestions of possible ways to do this.

A donation is the obvious way, but why not have a nice drive to Moyhu to do it? There's a little café there that has the best homemade cakes – baked on the premises – so enjoy a cuppa and cake and leave a donation.

The less obvious way is to buy a tree, a rose bush or some vegetable seedlings even if you don't really need them. Mandi runs the Linga Awhile nursery in Wangaratta. She'll need something to come back to – more realistically, something to live for – so help keep it open. This is a win-win – you'll be helping and you'll have a nice new plant (or two, or three...).

Hope you can help – John Knapper

7:10 4G

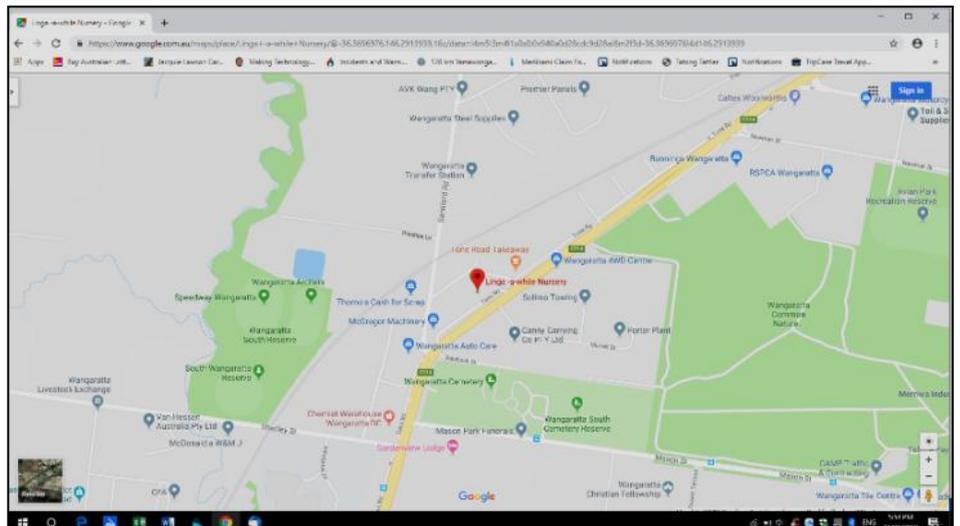
McDonald Family

Jemma McDonald
Moyhu, VIC

2 days ago i got the worst phone call a daughter could ever possibly receive. Mum & Dad were involved in a freak accident & Ethan & I lost our dad. Mum was critically injured & is now fighting for her life in the Alfred Hospital in Melbourne. Our world has been turned upside down & with Mum being so sick it's up to us to look after things until she gets better. I never thought I would ever have to do this & it's the hardest journey Ethan & I have ever been on & it's only early day 3. Our Mum is the strongest, most generous, kind hearted person you could EVER meet & we just want to show her how much she is loved. Keep us all in your prayers as we help Mum fight the biggest battle of her life. So please, even if the smallest amount, please help our family out in whatever way you possibly can. The amount of love & support we have received has been very overwhelming for us but we appreciate it all & we will get back to everyone when we feel that we can. Right now we need to focus everything we've got into Mum's recovery. Ethan & Jemma McDonald

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LANDMARK

May 11th saw the Benalla Saints host the Tatong Football and Netball Club reunion. What started as an idea and a conversation became an event and before long the Saints A grade Netball would be donning the Tatong Black, White and Teal dresses and the senior footballers wearing the traditional black and white jerseys.

Many old players, supporters and members watched the games catching up with friends and reminiscing on the good old days at Tatong. After the game the festivities moved upstairs to the Glasshouse for a two course meal thanks to GoldHammer Catering. More stories were told and everyone listened with interest to the speakers from the various eras as they told their memories of the mighty Tatong Football Netball Club.

The day couldn't have happened without the hard work of Geoff Hill, Anthony Putt, Jack Harrison, Laurie Defazio, Barry & Joan Lewis, Dennis Scott, Kellie McGill, Jessica Ritchie, Matt Glynn & Dennis Hevey. Their hard work, passion and commitment to the Tatong Football Netball Club assured that the day was a huge success.

Thanks must also go to the Pink Shop, The Early Bird Coffee Van, The Tatong Heritage Group and our sensational photographers Nicole Lewis and Bron Heath.

While the club may be in recess we can certainly see they cannot take our Pride, Memories and Passion.

Until the next reunion.



The seven players who played in consecutive premier-ships in the nineties under coach Anthony Putt (on right). Known as The Magnificent Seven.



Some of the original Tatong netballers



David Lewis, Anthony Putt & Mark Dall'Oglio



Two Gentlemen in Verona (and elsewhere)

In the footsteps of Shakespeare

Prologue

About three years ago, I travelled to Italy with my brother who lives in the West Country of England with his family. I have lived outside England in a variety of places for over thirty years and am now happily settled in Melbourne (and Tatong, of course!). The tyranny of distance means that we rarely get to see each other, and our infrequent meetings are taken up with (admittedly pleasurable) family obligations. So, being Italophiles with a shared love of opera and wine, but not necessarily in that order, we decided to decamp 'a due' to Northern Italy for a few days. This story is reconstituted from the journal I wrote at the time. It will pay scant regard to consistency of tense and will oscillate inexplicably between Italian and English place names. Our trip took place in early Spring 2016, before the catastrophe of the US Presidential Election: the reason for this aside will become apparent for those dedicated enough to continue with this saga. Steve Ingram

Act I, Scene I

Venice

Venice, the location for the Merchant of Venice (obviously!) and Othello, was as cold and damp as I remember from my previous visit, ten years ago at Christmastime. Our hotel was situated on the southern edge of Cannaregio on the Grand Canal near the Ca' d'Oro. It was of reasonable standard with traditionally complicated and unreliable heating and hot water systems that oscillate wildly and unpredictably between scalding heat and freezing cold. Rather than be (mis)guided by a tourist map, which is my experience often fail to capture the complexity of Venetian topography, we struck out in the general direction of the Piazza San Marco, letting Fortuna¹ be our guide. We managed to stumble across the piazza and the Rialto Bridge and fatigued, ate adequately at a restaurant near our hotel before an earlyish night.

Venice is as I remember it. Narrow calli, often leading to unexpected dead ends and small bridges across narrow canals. After dark, there is an air of mystery about the place: a whiff of menace. One can imagine nefarious deeds being committed: theft, conspiracy and murder committed stealthily with the stiletto, secreted within the folds of a hooded cloak.

Our plans to experience the Basilica San Marco and Palazzo Ducale before the threatened onset of heavy rain sadly came to naught. The presence of the Italian Prime Minister and French President, evidenced by a massive warship moored in the basin and large numbers of heavily armed police and soldiers, meant that both of these attractions were closed, presumably so that the Prime Minister could show them off at leisure, and in safety and security. So, we crossed the canal and made our way, in the rain, via the open-air produce market in San Polo, to Santa Maria Gloriosa dei Frari, which houses the remarkable and justly famous Assumption of the Virgin by Titian above the high altar. In a side chapel one finds Giovanni Bellini's magnificent triptych of the Madonna and Child, flanked by Saints Nicholas, Peter, Benedict and Mark. It is a never-ending source of wonder and pleasure that Italian

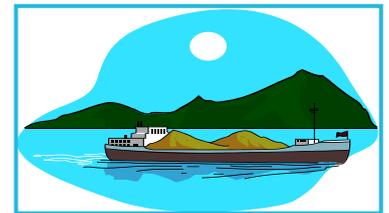
churches, even the most humble, are full of such masterpieces, open to view for a couple of euros and guarded only by a young priest or aged deacon.

Thoroughly damp, but still wishing to continue our artistic journey, after an espresso in a nearby bar we plunged across Venice to the Guggenheim Museum of Modern Art, home to works by artists including Pollock, Magritte, Picasso, Mondrian, Dali and Miró as well as sculptures by Brancusi, Giacometti and Yoko Ono. It was shut. Fortuna worked against us again. By this time, however, the weather had cleared sufficiently for us to lunch nearby, if rather too well. In an effort to walk off our overly bibulous lunch, we strolled around the sestiere of Dorsoduro under a rather weak sun. It is an altogether quieter district, with a greater feeling of space and a lessening of the claustrophobic constraints felt in the more popular areas of San Marco, San Polo and the southern parts of Cannaregio. Crossing Dorsoduro to its southern edge brings one to open water and views across to the island of Giudecca, little frequented by tourists. Returning across the Canal by the Accademia Bridge, we made a circuitous wander through San Marco back to our hotel. Restored, a ramble led us to pre-dinner drinks, the Venetian tapas known as cicchetti and a reasonable dinner of bruschetta, baccalà and pasta (and wine!) in an osteria hidden away down a quiet calle beside a narrow canal.

¹ Fortuna was the Roman goddess of fortune, and represents life's capriciousness: so, it can be good, bad or somewhere in between.

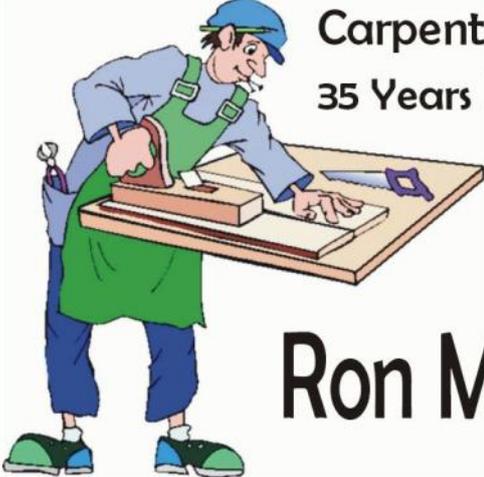
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What's Happening at Molly Rose?

Seems like the months are just rushing by. Well this time I've actually managed to make a start the day before Deadline Day! Probably a good idea considering there's a power cut on DDay.

So, what's been happening at Molly Rose?

Fortunately not quite so rushed this month, especially as I have managed to get sick! What I have now is very similar to what I had last year – this time I won't wait six weeks before I see a doctor! If I'm still as bad as I currently am, I'll be trotting off to visit in a few days.

Well, the grass is nice and green and coming up thick and lush since that rather large dumping. Would still like some more though. I think the regular rotating of sheep and poultry has left a nice lot of natural fertiliser all over and the grass is really appreciating it. In the space of two hours we had the same amount of rain as we'd had in the previous four months! Looking forward to more.

Glad the Sports wasn't any later as all the chooks have gone off the lay now with moulting, cooler weather and less daylight. At the moment we're lucky to get three eggs a week! As it was, we only just made the amount required for the curried eggs at the Sports. Brydon made chocolate custard last night and the egg stacker was looking pretty empty – he needed four eggs, we had seven! Although it seems like one of duckling hatched last year might have just started laying. We can hope.

We had some sad news on the Mothers' Day weekend, finding the two girl bunnies that live here had been killed. One ripped apart, the other taken, we assume by a fox – aside from the body left behind there was no other evidence. I haven't even seen any fox scat around! But I can't think of anything else that it could have been, not something that can chew through the wire. The bunny owners have been fortifying the rabbit cage – it will soon be like Fort Knox – so the remaining three boys will be safe.

The ewes are in season and we have one very frustrated ram. Poor old Butthead can't do the deed with his back legs still being wonky. I haven't seen him try, but I've been told by someone else that when he did, his legs buckled beneath him and he fell. Unfortunately being frustrated is making him an annoying boy. I'm going to get him a collar with a big cow bell so he can't sneak up on anyone. And, once I'm well enough, I'll be travelling into NSW to pick up the black ram lamb, who's no longer a lamb, in the next few weeks. Anyone want a non-functioning ram? He loves scratches, would make a good lawnmower and with a bell he can't sneak up on you ☺ He's so lucky I'm a softy. Last spring I couldn't plant a veggie garden as our poultry was free ranging. Once we got them sorted, I still couldn't plant anything because the sheep free ranging. And then it was summer and with it being so hot I was glad I didn't have a garden to deal with, keeping the poultry alive was a big enough task. When the sheep were sorted, I still couldn't plant a veggie garden because our neighbour's chickens kept visiting! A month ago we had the fence between us and the neighbours chicken wired. It worked! But I still haven't planted a garden, and now I'm sick!

Snowy, the most expensive of our Muscovies is walking fine now and has re-joined the flock. We put him in at night during final lock up. The first time he didn't want to stay. But he was fine on the second attempt. Currently the flock is up the back with the sheep, and I am hoping the sheep in the same area as the chickens is a bit of a deter-

rent to foxes, especially with Butthead, and a couple of ewes who aren't afraid to stamp their hooves at Henry the dog.

Still, I'm looking into the possibility of a flock guard for our rare and endangered poultry. I've ruled out alpacas and donkeys as the likelihood of them attacking Henry is high if they're good at their job. However, a marenmma can learn that Henry is okay. Not only will a marenmma deal with foxes, but will also chase off aerial predators, like the young wedge tail eagle that has recently moved into the area and is stealing the neighbour's chooks!

Now, as much as I'd prefer to lose my chooks to a native bird of prey than a fox or wild dogs, I'd prefer to not lose any, so next time I'm in town I'll stop off at the butcher and see if I can get some cheap offcuts – I don't intentionally feed the birds at our place, but for this one I'll make an exception and see if regular feeds stops it from hunting chooks and lambs.

Before I go, here's another 'Chicken Funny':

My owner buys organic feed. Oh look, styrofoam! Oh my gosh, this is so true!!!

Time to go. Write you again next month!

Carla

That %#&@* Printer

We seem to have finally solved the printer problem. At last!! It all started when the faithful HP became a tad unreliable and started to drive Mike a bit nuts. Rick and Andi tried to help but problems persisted. HP couldn't help as the machine was too old! What? Not even ten years old and no parts or help available. The age of consumerism.

We then had another large printer donated but that was virtually impossible to use as you needed special codes to get it to function. The manufacturer was not interested in us as we didn't buy it from them new. Help was offered from an Albury firm but at silly cost and no guarantee, as it was 'second hand'. (Another example of our throwaway society – bit like Prime Ministers!!)

Soon we had to get help from Benalla Printers but that was not a permanent solution due to commercial costs. We also had help (greatly appreciated too) from the good folk who produce the Swanpool Snippets – thanks again Woz. Behind all this Terry in at Cartridge World in Wangaratta kept supplying us with, wait for it – YES – cartridges!! Terry has supported us since we stopped buying online and went local. Online may have been cheaper but the hassle we had with bad 'product' and the hassles on the phone soon proved that face to face is better and cheaper in the long run. Thanks Terry.

Terry offered help as best he could and after more hassles with some computer people he sent us off to NE Business Machines in Wangaratta where once again face to face worked a treat and now we have a fully functioning sorting and stapling Sharp copier. It is second hand but they guarantee it and offer full service etc. The good folk at NEBM delivered the 'new' and also removed the old. Thanks for that. Bad news for Terry is that all cartridges come with the service contract.

So we, the producers of this fine newspaper, will continue to support local businesses as best we can – just like you do!!

Darcy

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Winter Warmers

Dark, cold nights conjure up winter warming soups, slow cooked casseroles and decadent puddings to ward off the evils of winter.

I love soups and making a stock is as simple as loading a stockpot or large saucepan with meat bones of your choice, vegetables you have to hand (leeks, carrots, celery sticks, onions and optional tomatoes, mushrooms, zucchini, cabbage – anything really that is lurking in the veggie department of the fridge). Especially if using beef or veal bones these can be roasted with the vegetables until well browned then placed in the stockpot. Add water and simply simmer away until reduced and flavoursome. Add garden herbs and garlic by all means. Strain, cool and pop in the fridge. When cold remove any fat that has risen to the top, place in containers and freeze until needed. Some of my favourite soups are carrot and parsnip, roasted tomato and coriander, leek, potato and bacon and any sort of minestrone or mixed vegetable soup. Add cooked lentils, chickpeas, beans or small pasta to make a substantial meal in a bowl.

One of my favourite winter soups is also one of the easiest. When making cauliflower cheese I double the quantities I will need for that night and refrigerate the leftovers. The next day, wizz the cauli cheese in a food processor or Thermomix until really smooth. Add chicken stock to dilute to the required consistency then simply heat. Voila - quick and easy.

Slow cooked casseroles perfume the kitchen, inviting warmth into the home. Think lamb shanks braised with heady Moroccan spices, pumpkin, onions, carrots, celery, tomatoes and covered in home made stock I usually quickly seal the lamb shanks on the BBQ first; which caramelizes the shanks and removes excess fat. Then slow braise in the oven for 3-4 hours. Chicken legs or thighs are low on cost and big on flavour. Again I prefer to seal the pieces off in a pan or on the BBQ to maximize taste. Before placing in the oven or on the stove it is wise to place a piece of baking paper on top of the ingredients (a cartouche) to stop the ingredients drying out on the top. One pot wonders also save on washing up!! Leftovers are perfect fillings for pies. Just top with puff pastry or scrunched up fillo pastry, brushed with melted butter and bake until the center is hot and the pastry is golden brown.

I love winter desserts. Hot and spongy steamed puddings, baked fruit crumbles; made with summer fruits, frozen for just this purpose.

I take frozen fruits; apricots, blackberries, peaches, strawberries etc. and don't bother defrosting before topping with a crumble mix and baking in a hot oven for 30-40 minutes until bubbling juices appear and the top is golden and crusty. Oats and chopped almonds are a crunchy addition to a crumble mix.

Steamed puddings are easy and can be made with any topping you desire. Think roasted rhubarb and ginger, sweet orange or cumquat marmalade, jams made from summer berries, baked quince, caramel apples or pears or any tinned/bottled fruit – (drained) pineapple, apricots, peaches, cherries - that may be lurking at the back of the

pantry. It's such a simple recipe to remember - equal amounts of flour, butter sugar and eggs and a dash of vanilla. Cream 100g butter with 100g caster sugar until light, pale and fluffy. Add 2 free-range eggs and a dash of vanilla, Mix well and stir in 100g self-raising flour. Place fruit/jam of choice at the bottom of a greased one litre pudding bowl, cover well with buttered foil or baking paper and tie to the bowl. Steam for 1 hour in a steamer. Check often to ensure there is sufficient water in the bottom part of the steamer. Remove foil or paper and turn out the pudding onto a serving dish. Serve with whole egg custard or cream. Delicious and not a carb in sight????!!!!
Carole



White Gate



Dates

The June **White Gate Dinner @ The Tatong Tavern** will occur on Wednesday the 5th. Attendees will probably rock up between 6:30 and 7pm, or later if the cattle have got out. It would be jolly nice if everyone got bogged, but don't hold your breath.

By that time the sun will no longer be shining on Mike Larkin's water-tank adornment (aka silo painting, beside the cottage, on the other side of the car park) - but bring your torch and admire it by LED instead.

- Andrea Stevenson, 5762 8445

White Gate Fire Brigade Roster:

Leigh Humphries	26 May	Andrew Marriot	23 Jun
Bill Ferguson	2 Jun	Noel Hutchens	30 Jun
Norton Grimwade	9 Jun	Terry Trounson	7 Jul
Terry Ryan	16 Jun	Les MacLean	14 Jul



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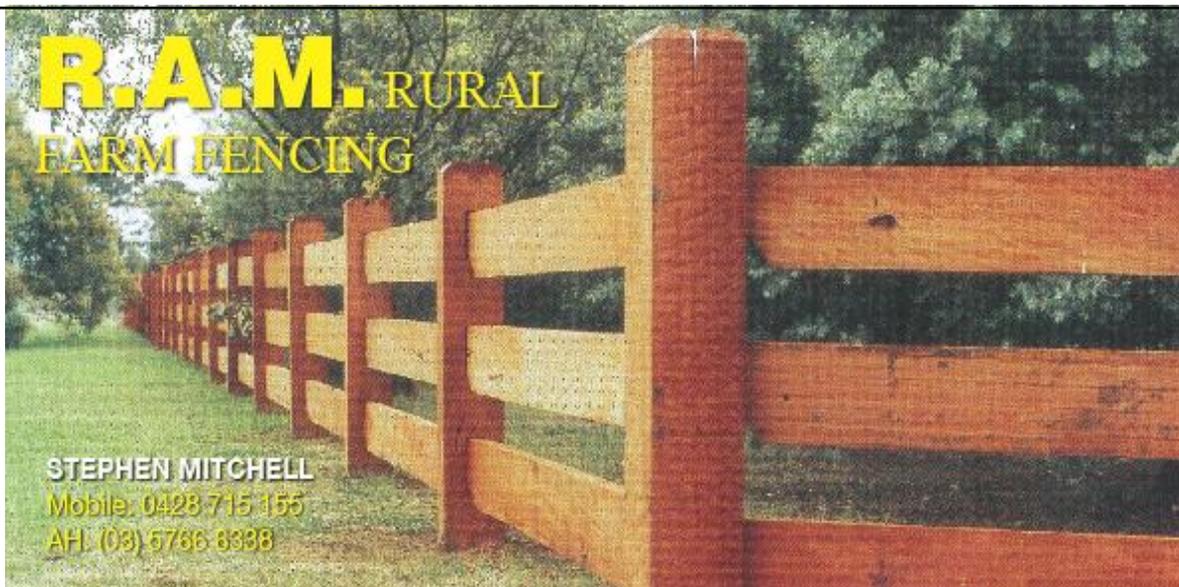
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Real Estate sales for the Benalla shire continue to tell a tale. Price movements are probably best described as neutral after some good gains experienced across both residential and farming property sectors over the past 12- 18 months. We have not seen the price drops on the main capital city markets. While price gets all the attention, that is not the real story at the moment. The real story is the drop in volume of sales. In the 6 months from 30/9/18 to 30/3/19 saw 197 sales at a total value of \$61,340,200 for the shire of Benalla. Compare that to the same period 12 months before.... 30/9/17 to 30/3/18 saw 290 sales at a total value of \$92,292,500.

This 32% drop in sales number and 34% drop in dollar value is dramatic. Nationally the property market has also slowed with sales volume dropping approx. 25% led by the big cities. At the moment the total number of properties for sale in the shire are at extremely low levels and less than half we saw just 12 month ago.

It appears with all the uncertainty around the season, the economy, the property market and certainly the obtaining of finance the majority seem to be just sitting on their hands. If this lack of activity continues then we are in for a hell of a ride as the economy slows.

LIVESTOCK

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From the Sheep Market

With: Adam Roberts



Much smaller yardings of sheep and lambs in both Corowa and Bendigo in the last fortnight have led to a significant price increase across all weights and grades.

Heavy export lambs (30Kg+ dressed) reaching a top of \$278 per head (13/05/19), whilst trade weight lambs (18-26Kg dressed) are regularly making over \$8/Kg with an estimated top of \$8.90/Kg dressed (13/05/19).

Mutton has been a real stand out with heavy 4 score crossbred ewes making over \$200 per head on multiple occasions to a market top of \$246 per head (13/05/19). It is a great time to off load any unproductive ewes scanned empty, etc.

With Winter upon us and numbers set to continue to dry up it gives confidence in the prices holding firm or increasing further over the month ahead.

The Jokes on Us...

Bob was in trouble. He forgot his wedding anniversary. His wife was really angry. She told him, "tomorrow morning, I expect to find a gift in the driveway that goes from 0 to 200 in 6 seconds AND IT BETTER BE THERE!"

The next morning Bob got up early and left for work. When his wife woke up, she looked out the window and sure enough there was a box gift-wrapped in the middle of the driveway. Confused, the wife put on her robe and ran out to the driveway, brought the box back in the house. She opened it and found a brand-new bathroom scale.

Bob has been missing since Friday.

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- 3) 16-18 Belted Galloway M/S Weaners
- Contact: Justin (0429 625 513)





Garden Daze

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



After the summer we have just had that took its toll on the landscape and garden, I decided to plant some tough hardy natives. Here is a selection.

Grevilleas



Grevillea alpina (mountain grevillea, alpine grevillea, cat's claws) is actually more common in lower areas. **Alpina** varies in appearance, with five forms described: small-flowered, Grampians, Northern Victorian, Goldfields, and Southern Hills. Some are low to the ground, while others become a spreading shrub.

The flowers can be from white to green to shades of red and pink, or a pattern of several colours. The curled flowers are 1 to 3 cm in length and attract nectar-feeding insects and birds.



Grevillea victoriae is a shrub that grows to between 0.2 and 4 metres in height. It has obovate to ovate leaves that range between 1.5 and 14 cm in length and 0.5 to 4.5 cm in width. Pendant clusters of red or orange flowers appear in spring and summer



Grevillea steiglitziana, also known as Brisbane Ranges* grevillea, is a spreading shrub which is endemic to Victoria. It grows to between 0.7 and 2 metres in height. The flowers, which are greenish-brown with red styles, appear between September and January.



G. lanigera (Woolly grevillea) is a small shrub endemic to Victoria and NSW. The species shows considerable variation. It may be prostrate or erect, the latter forms growing from 0.3 to 1.5 metres in height. The red flowers may occur through the year, but are

most prolific in winter and spring. Its hairy leaves and branchlets, gave rise to the name lanigera derived from the latin words lana (wool) and ger (to bear or carry).

* The Brisbane Ranges are located approx. 80 kms south west of Melbourne



Grevillea rosmarinifolia - a small to medium sized shrub 0.3–2 m (0.98–6.56 ft) high.

The leaves resemble rosemary - narrow-linear, stiff with sharp points and curled-under margins, 0.8-3.8 cm long and 0.7–3 mm wide.

Grevillea rosmarinifolia produces clusters of red or pink flowers from winter to spring. The flowers are rich in nectar and attract nectar loving insects and birds.

Correas



Correa alba - Likes a sunny position, but will also grow in partial shade (tho flowering will be lessened). It responds well to pruning and can be shaped for formal uses if desired. Also good in containers. Flowers late Autumn to

Winter with small white blooms. Will attract nectar eating insects and birds.



Correa pulchella (salmon correa, Australian fuchsia) a small evergreen shrub growing 0.3–1 m. in height and 1–2 m. in width. Leaves are linear oblong to broadly ovate. The pink-red, orange, or rarely white,

flowers are pendent, tubular and appear between April and September. Also attracts nectar eating birds and insects and will propagate from cuttings.



Correa reflexa - a wonderfully hardy low growing shrub that flowers through the year. There are many different forms from near prostrate to more upright. The flowers are long and tubular, bell shaped and vary from yellow cream to pink to red and yellow and are attractive to birds and

other nectar lovers. *Correa reflexa* will grow on a wide range of soil types and in sun or shade. Best results will be obtained in a well drained soil with a good compost mulch and regular watering, however it will survive if neglected and is rarely troubled by pests and disease.

Happy Gardening



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The Tatong Heritage Group helped provide amusement to the motoring enthusiasts who took part in the Winton Historic Tour. Lunch was provided at the Moorngag Hall, and the line-up of vintage vehicles was breath-taking. Having dined on delicious provender, the motorists swatted up on local history, bought local rose products, drank local wine, enjoyed the local scenery, before heading off in a veritable convoy of rolling history.

Andrea Stevenson, for the Tatong Heritage Group



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Gawn to Town

Retired Farmer Morphs Into Birdo.

When rendered too lame to attend Benalla Bushwalks, a friend suggested U3A Birdwatching instead; less vigorous walking. So I did. And got hooked on identifying birds. I always could recognise a bird. Beastie with feathers, and a beak. Anything flying through the air is probably a bird, unless when trying to un-bog the header someone got too close to the cable.

Further knowledge was a guess, possibly because I am short-sighted, more likely as I am somewhat un-observant. Which is a liability when the header is being un-bogged and about to run over the cable.

I've been more familiar with bird sounds, various squawks and chatters, hoots and warbles, surely attached to the feathery thing that vanished into the vegetation.

Round Moulamein there were a grand mix of birds; birds that hung out on the Edward river, birds that made do in the semi-arid lands either side, and water birds that arrived every rice season to enjoy the wetland. A pair of Major Mitchells stopped by each year to sample the Pecan Tree. Hordes of Sulphur Crested cockatoos ripped into trees and power cables. Masses of galahs left their whinging babies to wheeze and wail in the trees outside the door. The whistling kite whistled its amazing cry, and the odd wedge-tailed eagle popped up, to scare the pants off anyone not expecting a giant bird to suddenly spread its wings. Rampaging herds of emu proved just what a rampaging herd of emu can do to a wheat crop. A tame emu got dumped in our house paddock; but the tale of Norman the Emu can wait for another day. Various little birds hopped about, generally distinguished by having feathers, and a beak.

Best of all, bands of Zebra Finch would roam the arid paddocks looking for entertainment. Someone doing some fencing was great show for them; they would hop along the fence wires, chattering with their lovely call (a cross between a tweet and a honk), "What is she doing now? Did you see those pliers? Goodness, now she's doing it again!"

When first we came to White Gate, a Flame Robin welcomed us. Eastern Rosella's visited, and magpies sang, or occasionally tried to kill us off. Most notorious was the Grimwade Road Killer Magpie, lusting after the blood of cyclists. Mopokes hooted at night. Small birds lived in the bushes, little ones with feathers, and a beak. Now in Benalla, barely 10km away as the crow flies, I find quite different birds. The Currawongs with their haunting cry lurk not only in the hills, but also along the Holland's Creek. With my newfound interest, and a camera with good zoom, I established that the little birds coming to bath in the sprinkler were Silvereyes (white circle round the eye is a dead giveaway). Walking down our suburban road the first time, I could have sworn I heard the familiar call of the Zebra Finch. But I was told no, they would be Red-Browed Finches. Eventually I took my camera to a band of finches; and so identified lots of Red-Brows, who all flew off, leaving three merry little Zebra Finches hopping about saying, "Isn't this lawn yummy? Look, look, she's got a camera. It's even better than pliers." - Andrea Stevenson



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Suns get bragging rights over Giants

The Samaria Suns took on the GV Giants under lights in Friday Night Football. The Suns had plenty of players so in the true spirit of Masters Football were able to lend some to the Giants to even out the numbers. This included Sun's President Alister Crook who led by example offering himself up to play for the Giants. The Suns started kicking to the Arundel Street end but took a while to settle as the new players had to become used to each other's style of play. Darby Morrison was leading well across the forward line as was Jamie Berry, with Berry having two shots at goal within minutes but failing to score a major. Adam Pearce was once again great in the back line stopping the Giants from scoring, sending the ball back out of their forward line repeatedly. Adam Levy was brought on and had an immediate impact marking and kicking the only major for the quarter.

Going into the second quarter the Suns had a tight seven point lead, however the Suns scored the first goal off the boot of Dawson after being set up by Morrison. The rotations were working well for the Suns, giving plenty of fresh legs for run through the centre. Ant Fobister kicked a long bomb from 70 metres out to extend the lead. Coach Pugh was delighted with the first use of the ball which was creating plenty of opportunities for the Suns.

Half time; the Suns had a large lead so again in Masters Spirit the Suns swapped the back and forward lines. Shayne McKean was quick to convert in his role as a forward, with Jan Bast working hard to keep the ball in play before it found the boundary line. The Giants finally scored their first major for the game at the 8 minute mark of the third quarter. Giant's big man Buck McPhee marked strongly and kicked the Giants second within minutes.

Heading into the last, Pugh returned the Suns to their preferred positions on the field and with the intensity of the game slowing, both teams struggled to convert. Kego came on and was immediately in the action helping set up Dawson who kicked truly becoming the Suns first multiple goal scorer. The Suns ran away easy winners in the finish, in a game played in fantastic Master's Spirit.

Final Score: Samaria Suns 10. 9. 69 GV Giants 3. 5. 23
Goal Kickers: M. Dawson, B. Stevens 2, A. Polwarth, S. McKean, B. Stevens, A. Levy, A. Symes, A. Fobister, J. Bast 1

Awards: Fruits N Fare Award- [Scott Nicholson](#);
[Anna Little](#) Award- [David Whitechurch](#)
Benalla Laserwash Award- [Jamie Berry](#);
Hollywood Cafe Benalla Award- [Brendan Stevens](#)
The Early Bird Coffee Award- [Jeremy Mansfield](#);
The Pink Shop Award- [Andy Polwarth](#)
Smiths Tree Services Member Draw - [Allan Crumb](#);
Two Dogs Racing Award- [Jan Bast](#)
GV Giants Award- [Damien Gee](#)

Samaria Suns V Melton Panther Supers

The always hotly contested match between the Samaria Suns and Melton Panther Supers took place on Saturday afternoon at the Benalla Showgrounds, in warm autumn conditions.

Matt Cox was straight into the action in the forward line as was Matt Dawson, with the two combining to score the Sun's first. The game had plenty of intensity with both teams having plenty of the ball but struggling to find the goals. Melton went into the first break with a four point lead.

Cox was in the action again after some great work by Jeremy Mansfield, kicking the Suns first for the quarter. With David Whitechurch working hard in the backline, the Melton Panthers were restricted to only one goal in the second. Shane Richardson was rucking well creating plenty of opportunities for the Suns, Daniel Grixti made his welcome return and kicked truly for the Suns' second major, going into the half time break the Suns had a narrow eight point lead.

Melton started strongly in the third with a strong mark in front, however they were unable to convert. With the game starting to get some real feeling injected into it, the Suns were able to control much of the play and with Kego and Grixti converting the Suns extended their lead to twenty points. The last quarter was dominated by the Panthers coming back strongly at the Suns, the Suns were able to hold on to the narrowest of margins and take away the victory by just one point.

Samaria Suns 7 . 10 . 52

Melton 7 . 9 . 51

Awards:

Anna Little Myotherapy Award: Craig Andrew Williams: Suns Spirit Award

David Whitechurch - Fruits & Fare Voucher Benalla Laserwash Award: A-Aron Stevens

The Pink Shop Award: Darby Morrison Hollywood Cafe Award: Allan Crumb

The Early Bird Coffee Award: Shane J Richardson Two Dogs Racing Award: Matt Dawson

Melton BOG: Shane J Richardson



2019 Season Fixture

Round	Date	Home team	Away team	Distance
1	30/31 March	Echuca	Samaria Suns	133km
2	6/7 April	Samaria Suns	Murray Crays	home
3	27/28 April	Samaria Suns	GV Giants	home
4	4/5 May	Kerang-Swan Hill	Samaria Suns	226km
5	18/19 May	Samaria Suns	Melton	home
6	1/2 June	Murray Crays	Samaria Suns	110km
7	29-Jun	Moorrpna	Mini Carnival	68km
8	24-Jul	Samaria Suns	Kerang-Swan Hill	home
9	3/4 August	Bendigo	Smaria Suns	170km
10	17/18 August	Maryborough	Samaria Suns	258km

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2008	52.4	11.5	33.4	17.7	48.3	37	114.7	58.8	18.9	1.9	89.7	64.9	549.2
2009	3	5.4	38.7	80.7	30.6	107.9	77.5	65.5	76	48.6	72.3	18.9	625.1
2010	39	153.7	86.4	65.2	67.5	82.8	67.5	162.1	116.8	123.7	109.2	150.8	1224.7
2011	107	177.3	65.0	36.1	62.9	47.1	84.5	81.0	67.3	32.0	88.3	46.3	894.7
2012	82.5	94.0	184.9	18.1	35	57.6	115.8	92.1	35.5	34	28	30.1	773.6
2013	1.8	52.4	85.5	8.4	43.0	60.1	112.1	141.1	61.2	27.5	26.2	65.3	684.6
2014	33.9	16.4	86.4	89.6	82.8	146.5	98.8	9.8	68.5	20.4	58.5	64.2	775.8
2015	44.7	29.1	5.7	87.4	70	33.7	97.3	69.4	25.7	13.7	55.5	81.7	613.9
2016	69.7	11.9	36.9	38.5	117.2	110.5	142.8	108.4	172.1	91.4	50.1	101.3	1050.8
2017	67.6	36.2	49.1	61.7	52.5	6.5	92.1	112.4	23.9	100.1	29.3	118.9	760.3
2018	34.3	6.4	24.9	13.7	49.8	67.2	52.8	81.2	25.1	22.3	75	73.1	525.8
2019	27.7	13.2	23.8	22.7									97.4

WEATHER IN THE TATONG TOWNSHIP

I am so happy to report 61.3mm of rain for this month up until the 15th of May which is a big improvement from the low falls for every month of this year. The total for April was 22.7mm.

Mike Larkin

ELECTIONS, THE JOY AND HORROR OF POLITICS

A most unexpected result in the Oz government elections with the polling expert's predictions being caught short in predicting a Labor win.

After watching two ABC shows about political life one could wonder if it isn't a blessing to lose your seat because of the hellish job that being in parliament brings. There is a loss of family life and privacy plus more workload than it is possible to finish. Also there is the abuse and conflict of opposing viewpoints. Only in the ministry does it seem worthwhile and then you cop even more abuse and scrutiny for every imperfection. As with Bill Shorten's loss, a pollie is practically "walking on water" one day and humiliated and shell shocked the next, such is political life.

I am seeing a parallel between the loss of relevance for religion and the sacred with the rise in expectation and hope in politics. If we must have a figurehead which inspires with its wisdom and 'infallible' power then probably best not to invest it in politics or a political leader.

Another observation in regard to voting and it would seem that all the policy and programs are a waste of time and huge amounts of money. Most people vote according to feelings based upon a lifetime of conditioning and experience, not logic. We don't like someone because of what they promise but by how we feel about them, and how they behave. I suggest that all future electioneering be conducted using home movies and fireside chats with the candidates whereby we can learn about the real person.

Mike Larkin

PRINTER JOY

The Tattler finally has a new printer, a Sharp office style machine, with a maintenance plan so that we should be trouble free for a good while. I did have a lot more to say about this happy event, that is until my computer decided to have a rest and do nothing!

Mike Larkin

Bridge Overboard

The small foot-bridge, which once crossed the little creek bed running North of the Tavern, has been washed away.

So heavy was the fall in May that the creek bed is scoured out, and the bridge now lodged against the culvert.

Any trolls who were in residence beneath the bridge have probably moved to higher ground.

Andrea Stevenson



What's on this month

June 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30						1
2 Samaria Suns vs Murray Crays.-Away	3	4	5 Whitegate Community Dinner at the Tavern	6 Play group, 9.30.am Tatong Rec Res . Molyullah Com- munity Dinner at the Tavern	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 Play group, 9.30.am Tatong Rec Res .	14 Fish & Chip Night. Mo- lyullah Hall 5.30pm	15
16	17	18	19	20 Play group, 9.30.am Tatong Rec Res .	21 Girls Shed 10.00am at Tatong Hall	22
23 Samaria Suns Mini Carni- val- Mooroopna	24	25	26	27 Play group, 9.30.am Tatong Rec Res .	28	29



Tatong Heritage Group Display at Moorngag Hall for the Winton Historic Tour

Tattler Advertising Rates Inc num: A0047895K

Full Page:

Single Issue: \$32.00
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Single Issue: \$16.00
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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

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

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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.

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

Donations can be:

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

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.