

TATONG and District TATTLER



Circulation 387

May 2022 Donation \$1

www.tatongtattler.org.au

Edition 352

Missing Cat

Name: Minnie

Description: Female "tabby" cat with medium length fur and orange stripes on tummy. Was wearing a red collar.

Last seen in the Upper Lurg and Upper Ryan's Creek area on New Year's Eve. She is friendly, if a bit shy. Microchipped. Very much missed.

Any info, please contact Georgia on 0447 211 630



Table Tennis News

In case you were wondering, no, its not too late to register your team or enter as a single to make up a team in this year's table tennis comp. But be quick competition starts soon. In years past the Swanpool and District Table Tennis Association has been made up of teams from Lurg, Molyullah, Tatong, Moorngag, Samaria, Swanpool, Lima, Lima South, Lima East and Warrenbayne. Teams can be made up of husband and wife, parent and child, neighbours, work mates. The choice is yours and a good night of competition is assured. Competition nights are on Wednesdays, starting at 7.30pm, at our various local halls. We enjoy a shared supper before we go home. Now, don't let age be a barrier there are at least 4 players in their 70's still playing in A grade. Interested? Please give either Rob Erskine a call on 0457672248 or Shaun Murphy a call on 57682432.



Tatong Heritage Group Inc

***The next GENERAL MEETING will be held on
Monday May 16th at 4:00 pm***

Tatong Memorial Hall

**A warm welcome extended to all interested persons
Contact Secretary – 5767 2324**



- Post and Wire • Post Driving • Post Hole Digging
- With over 25 years experience • Farm Fencing
- Post and Rail • Stock Yards • Horse Shelters • Frontend Loader
- Slashing • Pipe Laying to Stock Troughs etc.
- S1835 Kilfeera Rd, Molyullah Vic 3673

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

DE FAZIO

Concreting & Paving

house slabs
shed slabs
decorative concrete
paving

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

Michael Savage, Prime Minister of New Zealand 1933-40, was born in the Tatong district 1872.
The following is abridged from Barry Gustafson's biography "From the Cradle to the Grave", with his kind permission. Some details are from other sources. This text can be found on www.vicnet.net.au/~tathg.

Episode 1 of 10

From Melbourne to Tatong

Michael's parents Richard and Johanna Savage (nee Hayes) were Irish born. They struggled to get by in 1850's Melbourne, where thousands lived in tents and shacks.

The Sydney Morning Herald said of Melbourne "a worse regulated, worse governed, worse drained, worse lighted, worse watered town of note is not on the face of the globe."

Richard Savage rowed a two-oared passenger ferry on the Yarra. Along the northern bank was an industrial belt of slaughterhouses, fellmongeries, tanneries, tallow factories, breweries and flourmills. Their effluent went into the river, along with garbage and excreta from the shanty town. The Yarra was the city's water supply.

Their first child died of diphtheria. With Melbourne in an economic slump, the Savages decided to seek health and independence by farming.

They travelled by bullock wagon on a rough dirt road; the railway was not to reach Benalla until 1873. Joanna, nursing their second child, was eight months pregnant.

Tatong in the 1860s

In 1861 the Victorian government started subdividing the leasehold runs of the squatters for selection. In 1862 Richard Savage selected an allotment of 72 acres in the parish of Tatong, with Holland's Creek forming the back boundary. Most selectors purchased on terms, but Richard bought his allotment outright, giving him freehold but little working capital.

Selectors were legally obliged to crop the land. At that time the area was heavily wooded plains and hilly bush country, and the land had to be cleared by ringbarking, felling and burning. Stumps had to be moved before the single-furrow plough could cut through. Crops were harvested by hand scythe, and threshed by a hand flail.

Richard Savage fenced his property and built a hut of rough slab walls, bark roof, mud floor, and adjacent fireplace for cooking and heating. Over the next ten years Johanna gave birth to seven more children. All survived infancy, better than the usual survival rate of her contemporaries.

Selector's Woes; Clearing Tatong

The squatters resented newcomers laying claim to 'their' land. The selections were more suited to grazing than cropping, and at mostly less than 200 acres, were too small for either.

Tatong was too far from markets. In winter the dirt road to Benalla was often impassable, even twenty horses failing to pull wagons through the axle-deep mud.

In 1864 fire destroyed Richard Savage's second wheat crop (already ruined by red dust parasite) and most of his fencing. His 3rd crop in 1865 was flattened by a violent storm. The drought that scorched out the 1869 crop was followed in June 1870 by one of the largest floods in the district's history. A few months later a tremendous hurricane swept the countryside, wreaking havoc and perpetuating the flood. In October, five months after land first vanished under water, there came 'more rain; more floods; damage; more destruction; more narrow escapes; more disappointment.'

There was no crop in 1870. Hordes of rabbits and kangaroos and plagues of grasshoppers competed in stripping the countryside of vegetation. In the early 1870s wheat prices slumped.

Most selectors were forced to borrow, but at first the banks were forbidden by law to lend to settlers. Many settlers during the 1870s and 1880s paid extortionate interest rates of 20 to 25% to merchants, graziers and loan sharks, whose ulterior motive for lending was often to foreclose on the property after it had been cleared and improved.



Typical NE Selection 1875



The Tatong Memorial Hall Committee of Management proudly presents

The Tatong Community Historical Display 1905 – 2022

Showcasing memorabilia and displays from the many
Tatong community groups and celebrating
the 50th Anniversary of the current Tatong Memorial Hall
which opened on Friday, August 28th, 1970.

The celebration will be held at the
Tatong Memorial Hall, 8 Tiger Hill Road
Sunday 26th June 2022

Commencing at 2pm followed by a delicious High Tea

Come along to reminisce the by gone days, chat with old friends, and enjoy
the chance to welcome and meet new members in the Tatong district for a
very special afternoon.

To assist with catering please RSVP
by the 17th June 2022 to
Joan on 5767 2251 or Bev on 57672324
or email tatongmemorialhall@gmail.com

*Everyone is welcome to join and embrace the community pride of Tatong
from yesteryear, today and beyond.....*





**BENALLA FURNITURE
REMOVALS**

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

Let us take the stress out of moving!



0419 142 666

BFR@outlook.com.au

**BUSH
BLOCKS
Wanted!**



**CALL
NOW**

Nutrien Harcourts

Nutrien Harcourts Benalla
(03)5762 2188
www.nutrienharcourts.com.au

Andrew Ashton
0419 000 850
andrew.ashton@nutrien.com.au

Bookkeeping Services

Covering Benalla and surrounding districts

MYOB, Xero, Registered BAS agent, payroll, debt collection, accountant liaison and general administration duties.

A professional and confidential service is provided at all times.

For inquiries please phone Lisa Grover (03) 5768 2662 or 0417 051 296

PEST ANIMAL MANAGEMENT

KANGAROO BY PERMIT

RABBITS, FOXES, PIGS, DEER CULLING

North East **BUNNY BUSTERS**

e-mail nebunnybusters@bigpond.com

Ph. Ted 0421363967

AGRICULTURAL BLASTING

RABBIT AND WOMBAT BURROWS

COLLAPSED USING EXPLOSIVES

STUMPS AND ROCKS REMOVED

WORKSAFE LICENCED



S.P. & J.E. LEWIS
BUILDERS
 REG. 58-117960
 NEW HOMES · EXTENSIONS · RENOVATIONS
 Mob. 0417 368 761

Shane & Janine Lewis

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

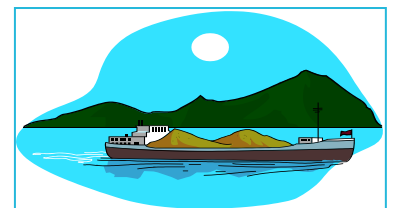
Bedrock Quarries

✓ Farm access roads

✓ Driveways

✓ Tracks

✓ Hardstand areas



All made, repaired or renovated using Lurg Hills gravel

Call me: **Tim Ward – 0427 587 458**



Garden Daze

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



Last Month of Autumn sees the trees losing their leaves and the wood sheds ready for Winter (we hope).

Out in our BBQ area there are three large pots of Black Bamboo. During this past summer a couple of the pots had shoots that grew much higher than before, reaching the small balcony above, where they could be seen through the window. So, when a few months later, we saw what appeared to be tufts of dead looking leaves, closer inspection was required. This revealed "Oh no! It is flowering!" and a scramble to look up "flowering bamboo" on the internet.



Bamboo flowering is a peculiar phenomenon

Bamboos grow for a species-specific period before flowering, seeding and dying. Bamboos, as a member of the grass family share this characteristic with all other flowering grasses.

Most woody bamboos reproduce only once in a lifetime - they grow in groups that are close together, seed at long intervals of many years and then die.

The time interval between two successive flowerings is species specific ranging from three years (a Javanese Species)

To 150 years (a Chinese Species).

The seeds produced after long intervals have an extremely short life.

As bamboo is almost always grown from division, a particular plant will be a clone of all the others of that species.



For instance, we were given a piece of black bamboo (*Phyllostachy nigra*) divided from a friend's plant at least 25 years ago. Over time it has outgrown its pot and has been divided so that we now

have three pots and in turn we have given divisions to others. Black bamboo undergoes flowering every few decades.

There is a mystery about this bamboo flowering. All members of a species or at least of a particular clone, wherever they happen to be, will flower simultaneously. This can mean forests of bamboo separated by hundreds of kilometres.

The theory is that the rhizomes of the bamboo have a "memory" or inner clock ticking away until the preset alarm goes off and all the bamboo plants bloom simultaneously - and then die.

Environmental factors such as temperature and stress does not effect the flowering/dying pattern.

The flowering and seeding at long intervals makes the propagation of bamboos through seeds and improvement by hybridisation difficult. It also threatens wild life, in particular the Giant Panda in China, which lives almost exclusively on bamboo shoots.

As for our black bamboo - we found this bit of hope on the internet:

Depending on the species of bamboo, regeneration can occur through seeds or rhizomes forming small, weak shoots at first, if black bamboo dies, it is still possible some regeneration may occur.

Well one can hope.

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

Yes - the next few months of cool weather and wet ground give new plants the best chance.



This year we have some native trees in the shade house waiting to be planted out. Some have been grown from seed taken from our previous plantings and include, Casuarina Cunninghamei, Acacia Floribunda, Acacia Cognata, Grevillea Robusta and some tea tree name unknown. There are also some Red Box and various Grevilleas that have been purchased.

Many of the species we are planning to plant are understory types which are important to an ecosystem - providing habitat for small birds, insects and also protecting the soil.



Happy Planting *Kathy Z*



Benalla Heavy Horse Driving Day SATURDAY 7th MAY 2022

Max and Kristin Marriott 03 5766 6282

Annie Hillis 03 5762 6212



Benalla Clydesdales &
Heavy Horse Driving Day

Moorngag Hall and Recreation Reserve 2206 Samaria Road, Moorngag via Benalla

- Registration from 9am, competition commencing at 10am
- No entry fee for CCHS members
- Casual day insurance for non members \$20 adult, \$11 under 18 years
- Bookings essential** - please email Annie, anneclyde@activ8.net.au
- Classes for all driving abilities: open, novice, junior and ridden (pending registration)
- Judges: Mr Bernie Rice, Mr Bruce Hamblin, Ms Bev Bell
- Public Welcome; food, tea and coffee available. BYO chair.

SUCK it UP

SEPTIC PUMP OUTS

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

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

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

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



Call us today to get your septic tank cleaned out

0447 521 981

Gawn to Town

Foodie Fashionistas

Meal presentation changes over time; live long enough and you'll spot it. One doesn't need to frequent flash restaurants, even pub fare has changed.

Consider the vegetable. I know some don't believe in them, but those who do might recall when it was normal for the veggies to be boiled to a pulp. Now veg are waved over warm water and served in full crunch. Asking for them well-cooked means they get waved twice.

The offerings listed on the blackboard don't just move on, they circulate. Long, long ago a common menu item was "Ham steak and pineapple". It was quite nostalgic to see it listed on a local menu recently.

Older dishes, once considered food for the poor, now surface as haut cuisine; lamb shanks and beef cheek gracing the highest tables in the land. I haven't seen tripe reappear yet, but surely it will, with or without onions.

The size/time ratio of a chicken schnitzel would be interesting to graph. Initially about the size of a hand, they steadily expanded to plate-width and kept going. A few years ago in Lygon street the parmigianas were as wide as the platters on which they were served. With a small table, inevitably one tray went over the edge. But no one went hungry, there was plenty to share.

There was the Era of Soggy chips, when chefs throughout the land laboured to cover every last chip with the meat, just as a mother hen hides her chicks. Whoever set that fashion must have hated crunchy chips. Downright un-Australian if you ask me.

And all the chips had turned into wedges, except those who went on to be fries. The sweet-potato, only distantly related to common potato, stepped onto the bandwagon. Though, I haven't yet met a sweet-potato fry...

And would you like vegetarian, vegan, or gluten free? I'm told the kitchen staff get a bit miffed if they have carefully cleaned an area to prepare a gluten-free dish, only to see the diner sampling their partner's gluten-rich dish. At least we've moved on from the '80s, when my mum ordered the 'vegetarian' option. She got a big slice of quiche, packed with bacon and oozing with grease.

In the past few weeks I've encountered the latest New Thing - a large bowl of lettuce, with a little bit of meat hidden coily within. At a Benalla venue, the 'calamari' was ordered (original orders, from a depleted menu, eventually announced as unavailable, but the menus were not brought back for the re-order.) The poor chap was expecting crumbed squid with chips, but got a large bowl of lettuce, with a few bits of calamari submerged amongst the leaves. Unfortunately he doesn't like lettuce.

Then in a nearby town a friend ordered the Lamb Ragù. (Definition of Ragù: "a meat-based sauce commonly served with pasta.") What arrived was a large bowl of lettuce, with a few bits of pulled lamb and some pearl cous-cous lurking within. She didn't like lettuce either.

So come the day they offer tripe, it will arrive secreted in a large bowl of lettuce, with a few strips of onion. The rabbits will rejoice, but if you do not adore lettuce, beware of waiters bearing large bowls.



- Andi Stevenson

SHEPHERDS

CONTRACTING

**Hay Baling, Net Wrap Rolls,
Silage, Mowing, Raking
Will Consider Shares
Hay and General
Carting**

46 Ft Drop Deck

27 Ft Tray Truck

**Pasture Sowing-Direct
Drilling or Over Sowing
Pasture Renovation**

HAY FOR SALE

**Prompt and Professional
Service**

**Call Darren 0438850918
GRETA SOUTH**

*Do You have some Tatong News?
Tatong Tales to Amaze, Advise, Amuse?
Tales of Tatong days long gone?
Tell your Tattler what goes on!*

A couple of months ago I came across a book called *The Insect Crisis: The Fall of the Tiny Empire That Runs the World*. I have intermittently followed the problems bees are having and was aware of the Bogong Moth disaster. So I bought it and entered an appalling and exciting world which in turn led to my researching our impact on the insect world, finding other books and organisations who are leading the fight to avoid this impending crisis. Most of the material I sourced came from the UK which makes one question their relevance to Australia. However the crisis is occurring where ever there is monoculture, land clearance, use of poisons, severe climatic events and climate warming, and the authors do not focus just on the UK. There are general principles relating to the insect kingdom and as an Australian I think we need to look beyond our shores to learn from others. This is such a huge subject and here I have barely touched the surface.

“Insects are vital to healthy ecosystems and sustainable farming. However, insects are also major pests for many common crops. For smarter crop protection, farmers need to know exactly which insects are in their fields and whether they are providing benefits or doing significant damage. They also need to know if numbers of specific species are stable, increasing or in decline over the whole of the UK. This can be tricky as we understand relatively little about insect population dynamics, particularly given the recent chaotic weather that is a major driver.” The Rothamsted Institute.

Have a look at <https://www.rothamsted.ac.uk/articles/kicking-habit>

Here's the thing. We focus on climate change, drought, flood, fire, and animals affected by these events. We watch David Attenborough, we give to appeals to save the animals we love. But what about the insects? To us they are more often a nuisance apart from bees and butterflies who are the favourites whilst some beetles, dragonflies and the occasional moth do rate. And do we even notice if there is a change or problem? Are insects declining in Australia?

In 2019 the ABC's Foreign Correspondent featured Krefeld Entomological Group in Germany. This group measures insect numbers through trapping and have been doing so since 1905. Their records show a 75% collapse in flying insects in the last decade. There was a huge response to publication of this data as other entomologists realised what they had been observing and measuring were not localised collapses but world- wide. Through publishing their papers the knowledge became common. People don't like the absence of butterflies, bees, cicadas, crickets or their favourite beetle or moth.

Sir David Attenborough has said: “If we, and the rest of the back-boned animals were to disappear overnight, the rest of the world would get on pretty well. But if the invertebrates were to disappear the land's ecosystems would collapse.”

There are scientists who argue that this is not an insect Armageddon. I find that bothering because if that is so, it doesn't mean it won't be so. Bit like climate change. It is safer to assume the worst. And it is an argument that cannot be resolved because the knowledge of insects is estimated to only cover a fifth of the world's insect species. In comparing Australia to Britain, the latter has a 400 year record of capturing, classifying and observing insects whereas in Australia we barely know our species and in some cases will never know as losses would have commenced with the arrival of our grazing animals and the changes they wrought in the grasslands. Funding insect research is not glamorous like Pandas and Siberian tigers, and is very limited. A.N.U scientist David Lindenmayer, tells us that we have only completed our knowledge of butterflies, beetles and ants in south east Australia.

Britain also has an advantage in that their naturalist writers abound, not just scientific papers but books written for the general public. Entomologist Oliver Milman, author of *The Insect Crisis*, documents the growing awareness of the unrelenting pressure on the insect kingdom, not just in the UK, but the world. The demise of the Bogong Moth and its consequences and the fall of the Christmas Beetle. The interconnectedness of ecological systems was well displayed by the former as the moths are feed for the Alpine Pygmy Possum who emerge from hibernation with young to feed. In 2017-18 their numbers crashed. They have not recovered.

According to Milman researchers have examined 73 reports of insect decline across the world. He tells us that the worst hit are butterflies, moths, bees, wasps and dung beetles. This is of course does not tell us about the unknown species we are losing who may be keys to ecosystems. Water insects like dragonflies and damselflies have also been hit. The extinction rate of known insects is thought to be 8 times faster than that of mammals and birds. And across northern Europe there has been a collapse in the populations of birds and bats that feed on insects.

So what is it that we do to these creatures?

The nature and speed of collapse is very hard to measure and there is no doubt that given the chance insects can comeback fast. Not given the chance it is likely we will be left with the insects we loathe because they are ones who have learnt to cope with our footprint. The insects we try to destroy remain numerous. Their fast reproduction cycles allow them to adapt and become resistant to chemicals.

Continued next Edition



Quentin White & Co
TANKS & PLUMBING



6,800 - 500,000 Litres

Zincalume & Colorbond Steel Pioneer Water Tanks

Australian made BPA free Liner

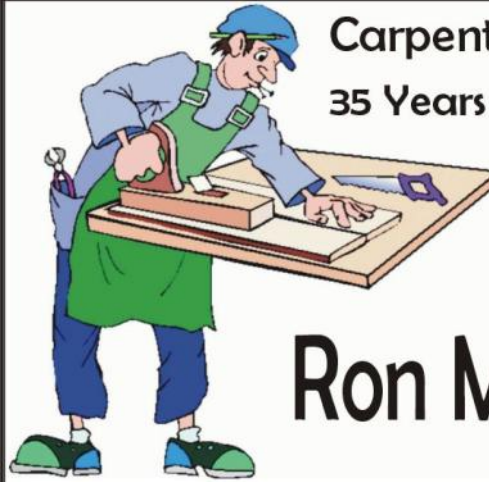
20 year conditional warranty

Supply, delivery & installation included

Call for a tank quotation, or email
quentinwhiteplumbing@gmail.com

0407 90 36 37

www.qwtanks.com.au



Carpenter / Joiner
35 Years Experience

Ron Morris

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

**No Job Too
Big
or
Small**

Cnr Mitchell & Stephens Rd, Tatong

Phone 5767 2327

Mobile 0417 588 784

Gravel/Crushed Rock *Supplies*

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

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

Servicing all areas
Direct to public
Pick up or Delivery

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



Ph 5768 2366

Swanpool News

Swanpool is enjoying our cool but sunny autumn days, and diehards at the Bowls Club are enjoying informal competition following the end of the official season. The Table Tennis Club is starting up again, so there is never a dull moment in Swanpool!

On the Cinema front, we start May with a fundraiser screening of "Death On the Nile" organised through Team Orange for Helen Haines, Independent for Indi. This will start at 12.30 pm on Sunday 1st May, and finish with a delicious afternoon tea.

The Cinema's official May programme opens with star turns from two actors who were awarded Best Actress Oscars for their efforts. "The Eyes of Tammy Faye", featuring Jessica Chastain and "Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri", with Frances McDormand heading up a stellar cast in a role written especially for her. We have a great mix of multicultural films to follow, including the powerful "Quo Vadis, Aida?" about an interpreter caught up in the turmoil in Srebrenica, during the war between Bosnia and Serbia, an Argentinian gem "Heroic Losers", and the uplifting music of Archie Roach and Ruby Hunter in "Wash My Soul In the River's Flow". You can catch up on all the details via our website, www.swanpoolcinema.com.au, or refer to the hard copy programme, copies of which will be at the Tavern, as well as outlets in Swanpool and Benalla. i

QUALIFIED TURF MANAGER



LOOSEN-UP LAWNS & LANDSCAPES

SPECIALISING IN

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

ALSO AVAILABLE

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

25 YEARS
HORTICULTURE
EXPERIENCE

A.B.N.
52 633 846 388

GARRY RUIGROK MOB: 0419 893 286



0409 576 722

Mick Gaudion

All farm fencing, Post & Rail, Post Driving.

Qualified Carpenter - Decks, Pergolas,
Renovations, Bathroom & Tiling.

For all your home and farm maintenance.

2 Tonne excavator



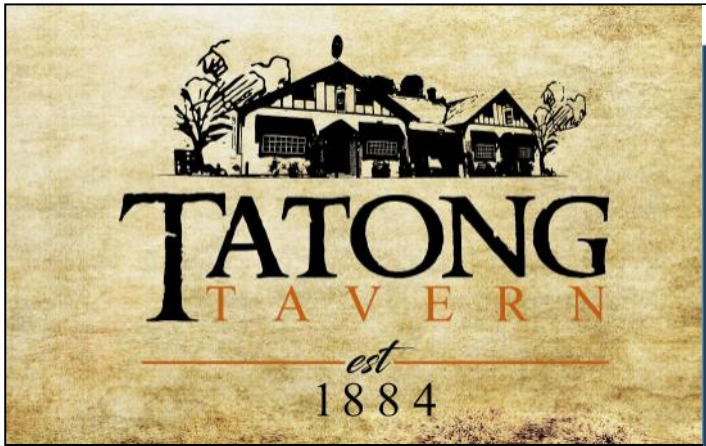
Thinking of a Garden Wedding?

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



Ph 03 57 66 6275

www.birchwoodnearbenalla.com.au



Thanks to everybody who contributed to the annual Good Friday Appeal for the Royal Children's Hospital. We collected \$2075 which was made up from the Friday Meat Draw, cash donations from the "roof" and a donation from us here at the pub. We will continue with the Friday Meat Draw, so get in early and get your tickets, it's great value for a great cause.

We would like to welcome our new chef, Maggie, who has been serving up some gastronomic delights. The menu is continually changing, so call in and see what's on the specials board!

The tavern will be open on Anzac Day, Monday 25th April from 11 am, with the classic Two Up game being played on the lawn, starting at 1pm. Drinks and finger food available.

Mothers Day is around the corner, so be sure to book in early, and spoil your Mum or Nana. The open fires will be cranked up by then, mmm, what a lovely way to spend family time .

Just a reminder we are open from 11 am Wednesday to Sunday and meals 12-2 and 6-8. Please get in early if you wish to book a table 0357 672210.

Thanks for your support!



Tatong Young Bloods and the Tatong Heritage Group
 Avenue of Trees & Picnic area at the Bridge
WORKING BEE
 Sunday 22nd May 10am
 If you would like to help and volunteer your time
 Bring your gloves, muscles and
 enthusiasm!
 BBQ Lunch and Refreshments afterwards



White Gate Dates



The May **White Gate dinner @ the Tavern** happens Wednesday May 4th. And may the force be with you, too. The Tavern is looking very smart, so dress & think accordingly. Or in Star Wars regalia. Book yourselves in to enjoy a good dinner (if you haven't completely blown your diet and your waistline on Easter eggs.)

What is happening on Tatong Estate: Autumn calving is nearly over, and has not had too many problems - there are lots of young calves all over the farm; the Clydesdale



foals that people have been stopping to see in the front paddock have been handled, drenched, and had their feet trimmed- they will be coming in very soon to be weaned; lambing is not far away, and the ewes should

be getting crutched tomorrow as I write, but of course this lovely rain has delayed that. North East farmers always say that for a good Autumn break it needs to rain after St Pat's Day (so the heat is over) and before Anzac Day (before the frosts) - so this year we seem to have hit the jackpot! - Kristin Marriott

More news from the De Fazio Dairy Farm:

Calving is going well with lots of little heifer calves to name. As well as Ash Barty we now have Torah (snowboarding), Evonne, Serena and Venus (tennis), Jana (athletics), Ellyse (cricket) and Tayla (AFWL). Many more to come we hope.

I'm not sure 'the boss' was impressed when he phoned to ask me to check if a cow had calved and I asked if it was the Black and White one! - Linda De Fazio



This month at Whitegate.....the chickens have stopped laying and the dog looks guilty
 #noomlettesforeaster - Caryn De Fazio

White Gate Fire Brigade Roster:

Bill Sykes	24 Apr	Leigh Humphries	22 May
Matthew Defazio	1 May	Noel Hutchens	29 May
Ross Runnalls	8 May	Bill Ferguson	5 Jun
David Elford	15 May	Norton Grimwade	12 Jun

- Andrea Stevenson, 0429 439 336

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2012	82.5	94.0	184.9	18.1	35	57.6	115.8	92.1	35.5	34	28	30.1	773.6
2013	1.8	52.4	85.5	8.4	43.0	60.1	112.1	141.1	61.2	27.5	26.2	65.3	684.6
2014	33.9	16.4	86.4	89.6	82.8	146.5	98.8	9.8	68.5	20.4	58.5	64.2	775.8
2015	44.7	29.1	5.7	87.4	70	33.7	97.3	69.4	25.7	13.7	55.5	81.7	613.9
2016	69.7	11.9	36.9	38.5	117.2	110.5	142.8	108.4	172.1	91.4	50.1	101.3	1050.8
2017	67.6	36.2	49.1	61.7	52.5	6.5	92.1	112.4	23.9	100.1	29.3	118.9	760.3
2018	34.3	6.4	24.9	13.7	49.8	67.2	52.8	81.2	25.1	22.3	75	73.1	525.8
2019	27.7	13.2	23.8	22.7	105	72.9	83.7	49.4	51.3	34.9	37.9	40.8	563.3
2020	63.6	35.6	88.4	207.2	53	77	43.5	66.8	49.4	132	34.1	40.7	891.3
2021	76.6	47.8	39.6	8.2	66.5	99.3	154.9	51.5	92.6	66.5	111	40.5	855
2022	219.3	4.8	72.7										296.8

WEATHER IN THE TATONG TOWNSHIP

For March the total rainfall was a reasonable 72.7mm and up until the 15th of April only 6.8mm fell. At the time of writing, mid-April, we only had about 8mm of rain since mid-March, (but skies opened over the 18th and 19th of April with rainfall that I will report next month.)

Mike Larkin

**Molyullah
Mobile Butcher**

Prompt service
Competitive prices

Rusty **0428 666 250**

3rd Friday each month from
10am. \$5.00 BYO lunch

THE GIRL'S SHED

Tatong Memorial Hall
ALL WELCOME

Tattler Advertising Rates Inc num: A0047895K

Full Page	Half Page	Quarter (or 2x1/8th):
Single Issue: \$32	\$16	\$8
Six Issues: \$180	\$85	\$45
Eleven Issues: \$320	\$160	\$80

PAYMENT

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.

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".

FORMAT (ATTENTION ADVERTISERS!)

For pre-formatted advertisements, the size of a "half page" is 13.6cm x 19cm, and "quarter page" 13.6cm x 9.3cm.

To avoid distortion to your image, please fit your advertisement to these sizes.

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 (i.e. JPGs) can be attached, to be laid out by editor.

If layout is important, submit your work as an image, or in MS Publisher. If laid out in a **Word** document, contents will 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 a Tattler committee-member.

DEADLINE

The Tattler Deadline is end of the 20th of the month, January-November.

SUBMISSIONS / CONTACT

Submit via e-mail to tatongtattler@yahoo.com.au, leave in the Tattler Mailbox beside the Tavern, or send by post to the Secretary.

Secretary: Linda De Fazio, PO Box 588 Benalla 3671,
03 5766 6375 linda.defazio6@gmail.com

Arrange your copy of the

Tatong Tattler!

Have a printed copy delivered within Tatong district,

Or download it in Techni-colour from
anywhere in the world!

The Tattler is Delivered free to Tatong & surrounding Districts. The PDF file (Colour) may be downloaded by anyone, anywhere, from www.tatongtattler.org.au

To arrange Tattler delivery, or to be notified when the PDF is available, contact us via tatongtattler@yahoo.com.au

DONATIONS

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

Donations can be given to committee members, left in the locked Box by the Tavern, or sent by EFT (see above).

PROUD SUBSCRIBER OF
Tatong Tattler



**Steph
Ryan MP**

Member for
Ennoba

Deputy Leader of The Nationals

StephRyan.com.au

25 Bridge St, Benalla 03 5762 1600

**FROM THE AUSTRALIAN WOMEN'S WEEKLY
NOVEMBER 26, 1969****MINIS STRIKING A SOUR NOTE**

I see that bare-legged girls in mini-skirts are accused of upsetting the balance of sounds at symphony concerts. That is the belief of an American physicist, Dr. Vern Knudsen, formerly of the University of California.

According to him, clothing absorbs sound. Thus a girl in a mini-skirt reflects a lot more sound waves than one who is dressed more fully.

"Modern fashions are fine for rock-'n-roll concerts," said the expert. "People there like loud noise."

I hoped at first that Dr Knudsen was Baching up the wrong tree.

But a quick check around music experts convinced me that his claims are not bass-less.

As one violinist put it to me: "I'll B-flat-I'm tired of playing second fiddle to mini-skirts."

He was rather sharp as he said it, too.

Actually, I've always thought that music and mini-skirts harmonised pretty well.

It seems a fine arrangement.

For instance, as a girl goes Chopin the length of her hemline you are able to see allegro.

I make a qualification, of course.

Many older women-say, over forte-should face the music and not wear minis.

Matrons with good legs are fugue and fa between.

All in all, I'm inclined to wish that Dr Knudsen had played his piece pianissimo-you know, pretty quiet.

Submitted by Linda De Fazio