

Circulation 389

October 2022 Donation \$1

www.tatongtattler.org.au

Edition 357

2022 State Golf Championships

Austin, Isaac and Isabella went to Sydney on the 5th, 6th and 7th of September to play golf at the Brighton Lakes Golf Club and The Ridge Golf Club. We represented the Riverina at the State Championships. We also had a fourth member, Braxton from Narrandera.

On the first day we started at eight o'clock in the morning and it was an Ambrose event. Everyone played well as a team, we finished 12th out of the 22 teams that competed.

The second day was a stroke event, so everyone played with people from different teams. There were eighty-one kids playing to go to the next level. We played in groups of 3 or 4. At Brighton Lakes there were 11 holes where you had to hit over water, so it was not so easy.

On the third day we played at The Ridge Golf Club, and it was another stroke event. We teed off at eight o'clock and we all had good drives so it was a good start to our day. The course was very hilly and it took a lot of energy to get around.

We finished at about 1pm and then we had the presentations. Eight boys and four girls were selected for the NSW team. They will play in the Australian Primary Schools Interstate Championship being held in November in the ACT.

Austin finished highest for the Riverina team scoring equal 50th for scratch and equal 45th for nett. Isaac received the Riverina School Sports Association medal for his resilience and perseverance. Everyone had a crack and tried their best.

After golf we had free time to do a few things. On Monday we went to Penrith to do Aqua Golf, iFly and had dinner at Penrith Leagues Club. On Tuesday we went to Event Cinemas in Liverpool to watch Top Gun Maverick and WE WERE THE ONLY ONES THERE! On Wednesday we just relaxed at the hotel. Austin, Blake and Isaac went down to the gym before having an early dinner.

We got to experience going to a state level championship and during this we got to learn a lot and meet people from all over the state of NSW. We would encourage anyone who is interested in golf to give it a go, have fun and never give up. It would be really good to see some more of the local kids participating in this level of competition. The Howlong Golf Resort has a number of programs running to assist us and others in learning how to play golf.

We would like to thank the following for their support in assisting our families to enable us to attend this event:

Howlong Opportunity Shop, Howlong Public School, Howlong Public School P & C,

Howlong Golf Resort, MDGA, Enzed Albury.

Written by Austin, Isaac and Isabella (Isaac is the grandson of Joan and Barry Lewis)





- 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

Gawn to Town

In modern suburbia there isn't a lot of prospect of getting bogged; as a child I ran around Mt Waverley bare-foot, on concrete and asphalt. But when I moved to the Riverina in 1979, with a newly minted license, it was time to learn about traction, and mud (also bindi-eyes).

The landscape around Moulamein is semi-arid; we were lucky to get 12 inches a year. When precipitation did occur, the red sandhills were wonderful country. The grey clay flats turned to porridge.

At that time there quite a few kilometres of the Moulamein-Swan Hill road were un-sealed. Our driveway was nine kilometres, and in the wet weather, going to town was filled with challenges. Coming down the drive was an art-form ; generally easier where the track crossed the red sand-hills, although I did once do a gentle 90 degree rotation in a Leyland Reiver truck, not generally noted for its dance moves.

That was back when everyone drove 2-wheel-drive utes. One learnt how to keeping moving on a layer of mud, and how to extract oneself once forward motion ceased. We had frontage along the Edward River, and campers were given to understand that if rain loomed, they had to either leave quickly, or stay put until the tracks dried out. Which could take weeks. But then came the 4WDs, offering the freedom to drive anywhere; smashing through the scrub, cutting through the mud. Convincing campers that they ought leave before the tracks turned wet became difficult, for they were very proud of their new vehicle's ability to roar through porridge.

We grew rice on the Moulamein farm, so getting farm equipment bogged during rice harvest was an annual diversion. Rice likes to grow in 3 to 6 inches of water. Once it is ripening, the water is drained off. A good deluge at that point filled everything up again. Harvest could drag on a bit if, once the header was bogged, the tractor brought to pull it out also got bogged; and the next tractor cabled up likewise... and so on.

Header bog-site with the lovely Bernadette for scale



Fitting 'tracks' to the header, instead of wheels, made a huge difference. But the tractor pulling the snigging bin was still on wheels, and liable to get into trouble. In theory, summer harvest was safe from bogging. An exception was the year irrigation water escaped into an area beside the barley crop. One moment the header was chuffing along, the next it became stationary and lop-sided. The header driver copped a bit of flak for getting a

header bogged in summer (glad it wasn't me). But it was me, driving the sedan to Leeton, when we encountered roadworks on the Hay road. Traffic was diverted down from the good road and onto a nicely formed little detour track, which was fine until a tremendous downpour arrived. That dreaded feeling of the car slowing down, and slipping sideways; I was receiving irate instructions from the passenger, so when the vehicle came to a halt I said, "ok, you drive". But that car went no further until, fortunately, before night-fall the road workers towed us out.

I did bog the motorbike, once; out checking the rice and some water had sneaked out somewhere unexpected. Motorbikes aren't great at staying on top, and when I went to collect it the next day, I had to first chip away the blanket of dried mud. And back in my early teens, I once bogged a pony... luckily I only had to step off and she extracted herself.

I miss many aspects of the country life, but in a season like this, a bitumen road is a decadent treat.

- Andi Stevenson

Those Strange Photos that Won't Open

Have you been sent photos that your phone or computer refuse to open? A new format is doing the rounds.

Pre-History of Digital Photos

Once upon a time, a photo was a huge challenge for a computer. "Bitmap" files (*.BMP) full of dots, could be, like, whole megabytes in size.

In the early 1990s a form of compression that radically reduced file size was developed by the "Joint Photographic Experts Group"; JPEG, or .JPG.

By lowering the quality of low-detail areas, such as sky, a photo might reduce to less than 10% the size of the original Bitmap. (But if the compression is too great, the picture becomes pixelated.)

Computers are now so fast, and storage so vast, that this matters less than it did. Except when phones are expected to store huge quantities of photos and videos.

HEIF, HEVC & HEIC

In the past few years Apple introduced a new "High Efficiency Image File Format"; HEIF - and HEVC, the default image codec used, and HEVC-encoded images are also known as HEIC. (Are you keeping up?)

Software that is decades old recognises JPG files, but older Windows and Android programs go into spasms when asked to open a HEIF, HEVC, or HEIC file.

So when those with Apple phones, or iPads, send off their latest pictures, some recipients cannot view them.

What to do?

There are online means to convert one of these files to a jpg - along with plenty of advice online. I started with <https://www.howtogeek.com/345504/how-to-open-heic-files-on-windows-or-convert-them-to-jpeg/>

And have used <https://heictojpg.com/> to convert an HEIC to a jpg - they want you to download their software, which will no doubt also convert these newer file formats, but all I needed was my converted photo - which I received.

- Andi Stevenson



**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



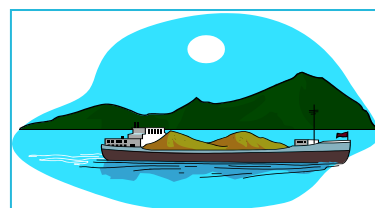
S.P. & J.E. LEWIS
BUILDERS
 REG. DB 017960
 NEW HOMES · EXTENSIONS · RENOVATIONS
 Mob. 0417 368 761

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**

TATONG ART SHOW - BACK ON TRACK

Love painting, drawing or photography? Open to winning some great prizes? Why not enter the Tatong Art Show?

After a two year break due to COVID, it's on again, so it's expected that amateur and professional artists will seize this unique opportunity to submit their work.

The organisers are encouraging people across Benalla Rural City to enter the show now so as to maximise the possibility of participating and provide Art Show attendees with the best show yet.



It's a fabulous opportunity to create deeper recognition of your art and can be a steppingstone to future success.

Co-Ordinator, Nicole McFarlane, assures us that local sponsors are again supporting the event by providing generous prizes – there being a \$1,000 Best in Show prize, sponsored by Goulburn Murray Credit Union (GMCU) and five other GMCU prizes worth \$250 each. These being for: Oils & Acrylics, Watercolour Gouache, Works on paper, Printmaking & Mixed Media and Photography.

Other sponsors are DeFazio Concreting, the Tatong Tavern, Tatong Tattler, Rodwells/Ruralco, LS Quarry, Elders Insurance and HVP Plantations.

Additional to the possibility of winning a prize, the Tatong Art Show is a terrific place to meet other artists, be inspired by their work and engage with art lovers and collectors. Nothing quite beats face to face acclaim in our increasingly virtual world!

The official opening of the Tatong Art Show is on Friday, October 28th, at the Tatong Memorial Hall from 7pm to 9pm.

The exhibition will be open during the Benalla Festival on the weekend of October 29th and 30th as well as that of November 5th and 6th from 10am to 4pm.

To enter the Art Show you can download and entry form from the Benalla Art Gallery website. Alternatively, forms are available from GMCU (Benalla, Violet Town & Euroa), ArtiART, She's Arty, Carlisle Art, Millers and Tatong Tavern. You can also get a form directly from Nicole McFarlane (0428 696 408).

Entries close on Tuesday October 18th.

For more information check out the Tatong Art Show FaceBook Page and Like



Faces from previous Art Shows



White Gate Dates



White Gate dinner at the Tavern is forecast for October 5th. Do ring the Tavern & book yourselves in - it is busy these days!

Spring is forecast to be slightly damp. Bring your own boat, drizabone, and galoshes.

Ok so that is an imported word, and actually a 'galosh' goes over your shoe. What we call a "gumboot" was [and still officially is] a "Wellington" boot, so named (even after they turned into rubber) from when the Duke of Wellington adapted his "Hessians". "Hessian" boots were not made of hessian, but of leather, and were so-named as they came from Hesse in Germany. Curiously, so did my great-grandfather, which means he was a Hessian, but did not turn into a Wellington.

Whitegate residents can rest assured that no one on Smith Road is drink driving. We are all just trying to avoid the monster potholes. - Caryn De Fazio

White Gate Fire Brigade Roster:

Leigh Humphries	25 Sep	Andrew Marriott	23 Oct
Bill Ferguson	2 Oct	Noel Hutchens	30 Oct
Norton Grimwade	9 Oct	Terry Trounson	6 Nov
Terry Ryan	16 Oct	Les Maclean	13 Nov

- Andrea Stevenson, 0429 439 336

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

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 Drill-
ing or Over Sowing**

Pasture Renovation

HAY FOR SALE

Prompt and Professional

Service

Call Darren 0438850918

GRETA SOUTH



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

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.

Part 6

Shop hours were long in Benalla during the 1880s. In 1886 young Mick was usually working in excess of 90 hours a week. An Ensign editorial deplored the strain placed upon young shop workers, and the clergy were concerned that young male shop assistants were desecrating the Sabbath by indulging in sport in their one free day.

In December 1887 Ball selected 820 acres of land at Tatong and the following January sold his drapery shop to A. C. Watsford, of Melbourne. He kept his wine and spirits licence, and a fortnight later opened a liquor shop in half of the old St George's adjoining the corner drapery shop. He was at his selection for lengthy periods and Michael, nearly 16, began to take more responsibility in the shop.

Mick improved his formal education, Ball introducing him to various commercial skills. In 1889 Thomas McCristal, a well qualified teacher, started his Christian but 'strictly unsectarian' Benalla College, later known as the North Eastern College. McCristal classes included bookkeeping, writing and arithmetic, and evening preparatory classes for matriculation. The Mechanics' Institute, which was supposed to help educate workers, had ironically become elitist in Benalla, its membership made up of doctors, lawyers, bankers and businessmen. A branch of the Australian Natives' Association formed in Benalla in 1882. There is no evidence that Michael Savage belonged to it, but later in life he often quoted its principals. Established in Melbourne in 1871, ANA membership was restricted to Australian-born males over 16. It was a friendly society providing benefits to its members in sickness, disaster or death 'as a matter of right... not begging.' The ANA advocated pride in being Australian; the assimilation of new immigrants; the federation of Australia into one nation; one person, one vote; women's suffrage; a legal minimum wage; irrigation; afforestation; conservation of natural resources; maternal and infant welfare; and national defence. Membership was open to Jew, Catholic and Protestant.

About 1890 sectarian bitterness in Australia increased. Catholic priests prohibited inter-marriage, and were attacked in turn by dogmatic Protestants. Michael was well aware

that his Catholic background could be a social disadvantage.

Sporting Life

At 18 Michael was more interested in sport than religion. All the Savage boys, with the exception of crippled Joe, were fine athletes, often mentioned in the local newspaper reports of Australian rules football and races and field events. Mick went shooting, swam naked on Sundays in the swimming hole near the railway bridge, and fished in the Broken River. He played some football, most games being played on Saturdays when he was working. He exercised in a local gym and won trophies for boxing and weightlifting. He enjoyed New Year's Day race meetings, though he rarely placed a bet, and he gave exhibitions of step-dancing and Irish jigs. Little is known of girlfriends during Michael's teenage years. Young men outnumbered young women in Benalla in the 1880s, some returning to England or Ireland in search of brides. Few had the inclination or the means to settle down. A wage of £1-£2 a week was barely sufficient to cover one's own needs, let alone those of a wife and children, and Michael was only earning £2 by the time he was twenty. The local newspapers frequently reported the death of some young man leaving a wife and three or four children totally unprovided for. As depression deepened at the end of the 1880s, the number of marriages dropped sharply to even lower levels. Over a third of Australians in the late nineteenth century never married.

Whitegate News 2

What a difference a few days of wind and sunshine makes to sodden pastures.

This month a word of warning about marauding wombats. We were unfortunate to collide with a wombat on the Holland's Creek Bridge, lots of car damage, not us thankfully, and yes, it does feel like hitting a ROCK.

Because of the difficulties getting replacement parts we will be without the car for many weeks. Hire cars are ridiculously expensive, cheap used cars hard to come by and managing without a vehicle impossible.

Linda De Fazio

You and Your Brain Part 2**Hazel Wann****Stimulation and the lack of it**

I won't bother too much about the ears because modern hearing aids resolve most of the problems, although I notice many people, myself included, struggle for a long time before getting them, and some wear them and turn them down which is unfortunate because they are denying themselves information that can benefit them. Spectacles on the other hand do not resolve some important aspects of sight. We need our peripheral vision when driving amongst other things. As our eyes age they become less flexible and we move them less. This state of affairs is encouraged by use of computers, tvs, and even GPS in our cars because we are fixing our eyes on one thing and most of us use these things for enormous amounts of time (another form of negative learning). Loss of eye flexibility makes us vulnerable in car parks, to things that trip us into a fall (this fall is what tips many into the nursing home), poor at face recognition – sometimes offending our friends and acquaintances and, importantly, the reduction of much information that informs us and enriches our lives. The brain, as Merzenich describes it, is not an inanimate object, subject to what we put there, but a living organism that grasps the new, and evolves around stimuli. Our brains are invigorated by the unexpected.

So learning is critical to brain health, but as we age, our experience allows us to automate many of the tasks we perform. Relying on what we know well ensures our weak areas are pretty much ignored. Change is undesirable if not unpleasant. Learning contracts – the new washing machine or car is just overwhelming to some. Underutilisation of the learning/control machinery in our brain ensures decline and whilst good blood supply and cellular energy provided by “active living” may affect the brain positively, rounds of golf, playing cards, reading, travelling are not mentally demanding enough and therefore will not contribute much to your brain health. Don't confuse 'content acquisition' (your latest round of golf or bridge) with learning. Learning is stuff the brain hasn't come across before, like learning a new language or an instrument for the first time. Or dancing, painting and singing, and even doing jigsaws. Merzenich: “ Skills that have learning progressions that can never be completely mastered are always a good bet”. Exercise that is good for the heart is massively important to the brain because without exercise your brain's chemical production slides. Underutilisation, something that often happens when people retire, allows the brain to atrophy. So, it's use it or lose it, just like muscles.

Working Memory & Prioritisation

The thing we charge along with in our daily lives is the Working Memory (WM). This is not the short term

memory because it holds information for slightly longer. This allows the WM to manipulate, analyse information and in doing so automatically changes the neuronal structure of the brain. The longer the brain cells can form useful associations, the greater our problem solving ability. The WM operates in the frontal lobes of the brain and has limited capacity, holding only 7 things at a time and is constantly disposing of what it deems as unnecessary. But it can be overloaded when perhaps our lives become topsy turvy for various reasons. The human brain is not designed to deal with an excess of data, so the wealth of information can create an attention poverty leading to errors of judgement and memory. When the WM is overloaded with too much detail and a person can no longer make sense of a situation they often feel panicky with a sense of urgency to deal with what is in front of them. Prioritisation becomes difficult even incorrect.

The brain is always cutting connections that it regards as irrelevant, not needed, not used, whether it be knowledge or skills. The brain prioritises memories that are going to be useful in the future. It uses chemicals called neuro-modulators to determine what information is important to record and process. With each passing decade, our brains produce fewer neuro-modulators. A deficit of neuro-modulators hinders the brain's ability to record new information - in other words, its ability to learn and remember.

A healthy working memory can not only store and manipulate recently acquired information for a period of seconds, it can do so independently of continuous sensory stimulation, to guide behaviour over the short term. Verbal and non-verbal processes can be involved. The limited capacity of WM leaves **attention** with the important role of allowing into storage only the most relevant information and keeping out the irrelevant. It is increasingly evident from research that attention is equally crucial for prioritising within WM as the importance of individual items. With age, interference starts to get in the way of that. Attention to selection and task preparation play critical roles in prioritising information in WM.

Paying attention or studying your own decision making process makes you less vulnerable to the seductions of certainty. You learn to think better. Learn to eavesdrop on your mental conversations. Embrace uncertainty. When you are so confident that you are right, you ignore all the evidence that contradicts your conclusions. Continually remind yourself of what you don't know and introduce a couple of competing ideas. Think about your thinking, it helps you steer clear of stupid errors.

But all of this makes it sound very complex. What can we do? 'Active Living' provides the blood supply but what can be done to speed up the brain, resist distractions, remember what is needed, organise ourselves in an effective way?

Continued next month

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

***Centenary of the Tatong Primary School,
celebrated on 25th February 1990.***

***The Homily on the occasion of the Tatong School
Centenary by Archdeacon Ray McInnes.***

I wonder if you can imagine life back in 1890 when this school was opened – here in Tatong no doubt a little community emerging around what was a labour-intensive timber industry was just beginning. The pace of life would have been quite different, related to the power of horse, fashions- I'm not an expert here, but I imagine the men at least on Sundays in starched shirts, suits made of wool, high collars, and the ladies in layers of clothing, bonnets and bussells.

On school days children would walk miles for their day of instruction, possibly recording their knowledge and learning on a slate with chalk or dipping a nib into ink and scratching on paper. How we can marvel at the developments in education- today's school room is a haven of technological marvels- complete with photocopier, calculators, video, television, computers (which in a short time be as common as the biro)- this as well as a teacher who knows how to use them all.

It's a different world- it's a different scene in Tatong not only in the classroom but also the community. The great industry which brought settlers here was the timber, this was followed I believe by potato farming- today it is a magnificent grazing area. I remember when I first set eyes on the district back in 1977, I was taken by its natural beauty and I must also say the friendship and the hospitality of folk I came to meet, and like so many travellers I was impressed by the lovely little pub tucked away in this tiny village.

I have heard that Tatong means watering hole and the fact that lots of things have come and gone the pub remains as a testimony in itself that Tatong is true to its name. But it is the tree or trees that I want to focus on with you at this important festival of your Centenary. The music we heard as we began this service called the Tree Song- I don't think any variety of tree was left out- I at least hope your favourite was mentioned. I have a real rapport with trees – especially on the golf course in any one game of golf I can hit everyone of those with what would have been the shot of the day- had that tree not jumped out into the flight path of my golf ball.

Trees according to the Gospels were a source of inspiration to Jesus in his teaching and we heard him say today that faith can be like a tiny seed which has the potential to grow into a thing of great beauty and a thing of practical usefulness- it may grow for shade or grow to be used as a chair or a table- perhaps you have a favourite tree that you enjoy looking at, or climbing or sitting under.

It would be wonderful to think that Jesus was right in comparing faith with a tree, for faith that does not reveal beauty and is not of a practical use is hardly going to continue to inspire growth. Faith like a seed holds so much potential- but it must be nurtured and directed. God like the elements warms and waters the seed- the faith within us needs to be turned towards God so that He may be given that same opportunity to grow this very self in us. You and I were created for worship- but

if we don't worship God, we will worship a God of our own making.

That may be our conscious decision....

The Bible certainly tells the story of man rebelling against a decision to worship God and serve mankind

Jesus again using the metaphor of the tree says using the fruit tree as his image – any branch that does not bear fruit he prunes and casts in the fire. Centenary Celebrations are an opportunity for all of us to reflect on our life – for we look back and remember we look back sometimes with thanks, sometimes with regret - but the past we cannot change only the present.... And through some world ideologies and philosophies say we can change others – in reality the only place to begin change is here (self). Therefore, this review of self is both wise and To whom will I compare myself, or how will I find a yardstick for future direction.

There is one further tree that the Biblical writers and subsequently Hymn writers refer to as the tree of life. It is the tree which was made into the form of a cross and upon which our Lord Jesus Christ died.

Calvary's tree in the form of a cross was not only the cruel form of ancient Roman execution... It was also a sign of shame and foolishness.

But this tree of horror has become a symbol in the world of strength and goodness and love. The reason you know already because he who they crucified on that cross standing in the garbage dump outside the walled city of Jerusalem was none other than Lord Christ. By this of life, by his love and unselfness we do have a model in life – even when things are bad, even when we feel overwhelmed by events around us. In reality we are lucky people, and we are much blessed in all the good things we enjoy- perhaps we take it all for granted – so reflecting gives us time to say thank you to Him who has so blessed us.

Finally, we look forward – I never cease to be amazed at the capacity for work and the foresight of the pioneers of our country.... They were a special breed – in a way there must have been a real sense of purpose a common ambition and goal in early Australian life that drove people to sacrifice incredibly of their time, money, and talents. Yet they were people just like us – with the days just as short – indeed they had none of the mod-cons, they were limited in financial resources- many with only barely enough to keep the family in basic necessities and talent, I find it hard to believe they were cleverer than we are today.

We see glimpses of sacrifice an initiative today – but hardly ever the dedication and commitment unless it is rewarded with big dollars, and Tatong everywhere we need to regard this sense of enterprise to be givers and not takers. J.F.Kennedy "Ask not what America can do for you, but rather what can you do for America".

I would of course change the country and let us focus our attention on God's gifts to us on our Lord's example and we shall quickly discover that the future demands of each and every one of us a new spirit that is daily renewed in love and is sustained by that living fountain who is the risen Christ.

May God bless you all as you celebrate this great milestone.



Garden Daze

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



Longer Warmer Days - Just Right for Being Out in the Garden

A couple of months ago whilst browsing in an Op Shop I found a copy of Peter Cundall's DVD. . .

A Year in the Vegetable Garden

Among the words of wisdom for growing vegies throughout the seasons there was a recipe for making Biochar, something which Peter had decided to experiment with to see if it improved the quality and quantity of the vegetables he was growing.

Here in Peter's own words are his findings.

The results have been almost unbelievable. I've never before grown such remarkably rich-green and healthy crops during winter. The flavour, too, was brilliant.

The garlic is now knee-high and I anticipate huge yields of superb, aromatic garlic in December.



The most amazing success, however, has been with winter-grown spinach.

I tried four varieties, each sown into rows 2m long with each row spaced 30cm apart.

Before sowing the spinach seeds, I created four shallow grooves in the soil and lined the base of each with composted biochar.



Germination was quick and drastic thinning of the overcrowded seedlings was necessary.

In late winter as the big leaves started to spread, I applied an extra-weak solution of fish emulsion and water. The result is about 4sq m of the most prolific, wall-to-wall spinach I've seen. The leaves were enormous and the flavour superb. We've been picking leaves non-stop for weeks and the plants are still sprouting.

Charcoal is simply wood or other forms of organic matter that have been through a proc-



ess of interrupted combustion. In short, it is partly burned, then retrieved -before it turns into fine ash.

Peter collected his charcoal from their stove or it can be raked up from the remains of pruning bonfires, the flames of which can be quenched with water before the burnt plant matter was destroyed.

Charcoal contains no nutrients, but it is porous and has an ability to absorb and retain minerals and other nutrients. It can then make them available to plants, as needed.



How to make your own Biochar

Place the lumps of charcoal into a large plastic bag - old feed bags are good for this - then wet the charcoal and pulverise with a heavy piece of wood so they are reduced to a mix of pea-size particles and black dust.

Mix together:

- 1/3 of a bucket of pulverised charcoal
- 1/2 cup of seaweed concentrate
- 1/2 cup fish emulsion.
- 1/4 cup sulphate of potash.
- 2 teaspoons of Boron (Borax from the supermarket is the same)
- 1 Teaspoon of Epsom salts (Magnesium sulfate).

(These extra minerals are great in sandy soils for growing beetroot, swedes and cauliflower.)

NOTE: In a second version of this recipe I found on the internet - Peter replaces the Boron and Epsom salts with 4 Teaspoons of **Essential Minerals**

To this mix add the same amount of potting soil and enough water for a thick, black, slightly sloppy brew.

This can be poured over the soil and raked in or worked in before sowing pumpkin, zucchini, cucumber and sweet corn seeds. Add a cupful into holes before planting tomato or capsicum seedlings.



Kathy Z

2022 Tatong Community Great **BIG** Garage Sale

**Time to change your
unwanted stuff into \$\$\$**



**Sunday October 30th, 9am-12 noon
Tatong Footy Oval**



**Site enquiries to John on 03 5766 6268
tatonggaragesale@outlook.com**

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



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



TATONG TAVERN

est 1884

TATONG ART SHOW



Tatong Art Show is on again at the Tatong Memorial Hall as part of the Benalla Festival 2022 28,29,30 Oct 5,6 Nov

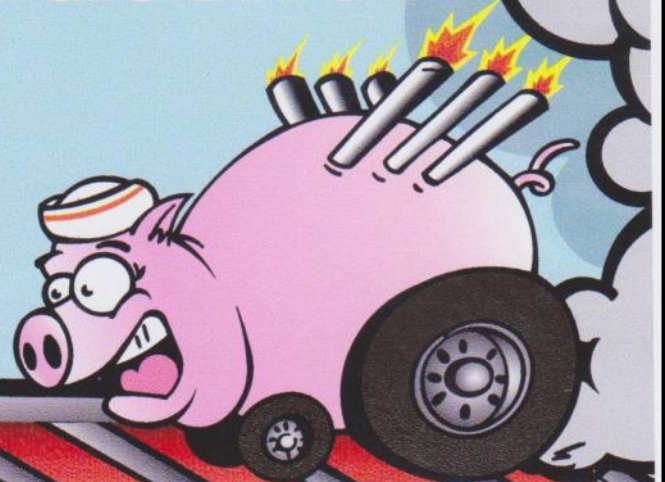
Email or call Nicki
0428 696 408
Email - nicnakmac90@gmail.com

If you like to make art or know of others who are arty, please spread the word. Exhibitor Entry Forms are now available.

Molyullah Mobile Butcher

Prompt service
Competitive prices

Rusty 0428 666 250



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	81.4	42.5	102.5	49.7	126.6					709.5

WEATHER IN THE TATONG TOWNSHIP

After a massive 126.6mm of rain in August we now have another wet month of 45.2mm by the 15th of September, plus more to come. What more can I say?
Mike Larkin

The August Tattler had a news report from the Benalla Standard, July 1922, when the 6-year-old son of Mr O'Dea of Molyullah got lost in the thick scrub on O'Dea Rd. Ross and Maureen Shanahan shared this photo of the original O'Dea homestead. It has fallen into disrepair, and that which remains will be levelled shortly for safety reasons. The Willett family owned this property for many years. Quite likely it was to this home, upright & freshly painted, that the little O'Dea boy was brought back to be given comfort and dinner - one hundred years ago.



THE DEATH OF OUR QUEEN

Many a tear has been shed over the passing of our highly respected and long reigning sovereign, Elizabeth the second. While not overawed by royalty I was touched to read the many stories and history articles about her and her work, family and lifestyle. She was truly a monarch of her time who succeeded in carrying out her role with determination, skill and patience. In her time as Queen there was much turmoil globally and within the Commonwealth as well as within her own family. This family strife helped her subjects to identify more closely with her as she dealt with issues common to us all. Over the time of Queen Elizabeth's reign disinterest and scepticism about monarchy became evident, but most people still prefer the royals to a presidential system, probably due to its stability and historical value. One only has to look at the history of politics to find fickle and transient leadership. Time is likely to bring an end to the extreme privilege and wealth accorded to royals because it is out of step with the ever increasing values of equality and inclusion of today. When people eventually, (meaning a very long time) take full responsibility for their lives, thereby creating a world of integrity, respect and true equality royalty will be replaced by something far more natural and true for every single citizen.
Mike Larkin

Next Girl's Shed. Friday 21st October 9am—5pm



Come along, bring your lunch and some goodies to share, do some craft or just have a chat. Hope to see at the Tatong Memorial Hall.

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

The Annual General Meeting
of the Tatong Heritage Group

CHANGE OF DATE!

Now scheduled for
Monday October 17th,
4pm at the Tatong Hall

ALL WELCOME!



*We have long-standing members
prepared to fill the necessary positions,
but would be delighted to have some
new input!*

*Anyone interested in the history of
Tatong and surrounding districts is very
welcome to join us.*