

Circulation 400

Edition 374

May 2024 Donation \$1

Three new Information Panels have been erected by the Tatong Heritage Group. On March 22nd, Benalla Mayor Danny Claridge did the honour of unveiling them.

At the Stony Creek picnic area, 5km south of Tatong, a story-board now tells of "Ned Kelly's Letter Box", and of the Pine Plantation once tended by the students of the Tatong Primary School. The board was designed by Heather McCauley, once one of those happy students, and a photo on the board was taken by her aunt, Tatong teacher Alma McCauley. Chris Hakkennes gave an account of the history and significance of the Pine Plantation.

At the Tatong Reserve by the Hollands Creek, that board's designer Les MacLean described the history of the McCashney & Harper timber-mill, resulting in the timber-tramlines carrying timber to the Tatong Railway Station, 18 miles away.

By the Tatong CFA shed, the third information board tells of the Hawkers who once camped in that area, on their rounds to take goods to the householders. Steve Warne described some of the identities who had worked in this district, with Mollah Dad being particularly remembered by some who were present.

These three boards join two other boards. One located at the Hume & Hovell cairn and the other board at the Cork Tree (Sawyer Rd) site of the Hollands Branch School. These storyboards can now tell visitors and locals of the history of Tatong.

The story-boards were designed by members of the Tatong Heritage Group, and created with help from a grant by the Benalla Council.

- Andrea Stevenson

www.tatongtattler.org.au



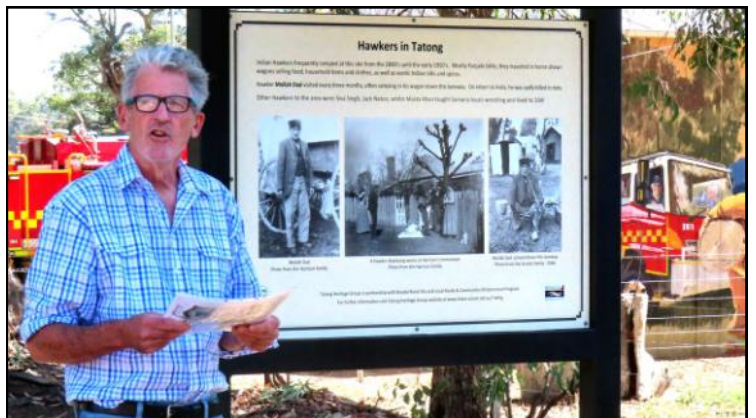
Chris Hakkennes at the Pine Plantation Board.



Les MacLean with Mayor Danny Claridge looking on.



Interested onlookers at the Hawker board.



Steve Warne at the Hawker Board with the Fireshed mural in the background.

A trip to Canada and New England**Part 1****Linda De Fazio**

Last year in August and September the De Fazio's and the Squires' travelled to Canada and New England. Compared to some of our travel misadventures this trip was fairly uneventful but Eastern Canada and New England are well worth a visit although the plane trip is long and very tiring and you arrive almost before leaving, having crossed the dateline.

We started in Vancouver, needing a few days to recover from the jetlag and visiting an old friend who lives near Vancouver and who stayed at the hotel with us. Of course there was a 'Fire Alarm' incident on our second night there with everyone evacuated in their pyjamas. We have much experience of fire alarms having been evacuated from quite a few hotels in quite a few cities, in our pyjamas.

From Vancouver we flew to Montreal losing 3 hours on the way. Had a day to catch up with some laundry and check out the lie of the land before joining our tour.

The tour group was quite large, all Aussies and New Zealanders, Jim and Barb, dairy farmers from Rotorua; Greg, a farmer from South Australia so we all got on like a house on fire (maybe not the best expression).

Spent the next day exploring Montreal, the largest city in Quebec Province and named after Mt Royale on its outskirts. A beautiful city with an historic cobblestoned district and the world's most extensive underground pedestrian system with 22 km of passageways full of restaurants and shops.

Next day we headed off to Québec City following the massive St Lawrence River. Québec City was named a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1985.

Québec City is like fantasy land and we were lucky to have accommodation in the Fairmont le Chateau Frontenac our room looking out over the St Lawrence and the pedestrian walk along the river. Lunch on the Ile d'Orleans, an island located in the river and famous for its agricultural heritage and typical French colonial style, then a visit to a local Sugar Shack to learn how authentic maple syrup is made.

Whilst French is the preferred language most people are bilingual.

Next day included a visit to the Plains of Abraham the site of a battle between the French and English in 1759 and later the English and Americans in 1812. Although the French lost the battle in 1759 the British recognized Quebec City's strategic location and completed the defensive system begun by the French. It gradually developed a British parliamentary system.

Today the Plains of Abraham is a beautiful park with the nearby Joan of Arc Gardens overlooked by the Citadelle. From Quebec City it's off to The Canadian capital Ottawa in the Province of Ontario. Our hotel is almost next to the Parliament building. From July until September there is a spectacular light and sound show staged on the backdrop of the Parliament Buildings featuring the countries important milestones.

Next day is a bit of sightseeing, after the moving 'Changing of the guard' including brass band and much pomp and pageantry. It's off to the Canadian Museum of History for some, the Canadian War Museum for others, (Laurie and Ginge setting off yet another alarm when

they can't find the exit!) and others enjoying a flight in an open cockpit bi-plane.

From Ottawa we head to Toronto, but first a stopover at Ivy Lea and a boat trip on the Thousand Island Parkway. Stunning natural landscapes dotted with cottages and luxurious estates which straddle the US/Canada border. My phone keeps pinging to welcome me to the US then back to Canada.

Toronto is like any big city. Canada's biggest metropolis, it has a population of almost 3 million, our tour guide comes from Toronto, and she pronounces Toronto as Tronto. It sits on Lake Ontario, is very multicultural and cosmopolitan with over half of the residents born outside of Canada. Our hotel is next to Rogers Centre, home of the Toronto Blue Jays Baseball. We see people dressed in Blue everywhere.

After a tour of the city sights we visit the icon of Toronto's skyline, the CN Tower with its spectacular views. The CN Tower is the tallest building in the Western Hemisphere. Toronto also has a vast pedestrian underground network of shops and restaurants. Tomorrow we leave for Niagara Falls then into America.

Lemon Impossible Pie

1/3 cup lemon juice

1 cup sugar

4 eggs, lightly beaten

1 cup coconut

1/2 cup plain flour

1 2/3 cups milk

Preheat oven to 180°C.

Lightly grease a 24cm pie dish.

Whisk all ingredients in a bowl.

Pour into prepared pie dish.

Bake for 35 mins.

Lemon sour cream cake with raspberries

125g unsalted butter, at room temperature

1 cup sugar

1 tablespoon lemon rind

3 eggs

1 cup all-purpose flour, sifted

1/2 teaspoon baking powder, sifted

1/3 cup sour cream

125g fresh or frozen raspberries

Preheat oven to 180C fan forced.

Grease a 10" square baking tray & line with baking paper.

Cream butter, sugar & rind with a hand beater in a large bowl until light & fluffy.

Add eggs, one at a time beating 1 minute after each addition.

Add sifted flour & baking powder. Beat 1 minute then add sour cream.

Pour mixture into a prepared cake tin & spread-out mixture evenly.

Arrange whole raspberries in a nice pattern on the cake mixture.

Bake in oven 20-30 minutes (depending on oven) or until lightly golden around the edges. Insert a clean skewer into the middle of cake. If it comes out clean, cake.

Sue O'Brien

This sign has gone missing from the east side of the bridge over the Hollands Creek, near Tatong

Does anyone has information as to its whereabouts?

The Tatong Young Bloods put a lot of effort into it's creation, and these signs are not cheap to make.

It would be good to have it back.



The Committee

Oh, give me your pity, I'm on the committee,
Which means from morning to night,
We attend, and amend, contend and defend
Without a conclusion in sight.

We confer, and concur, we defer and demur
And re-iterate all of our thoughts,
We revise the agenda and frequent addenda,
And consider a load of reports.

We compose and propose, we suppose and op-
pose,
And the points of procedure are fun,
But though various notions are brought up as mo-
tions,
There's terribly little gets done.

We resolve and absolve, but never dissolve,
Since it's out of the question for us,
What a shattering pity to end our committee,
Where else could we make such a fuss?

First published in the Timbertown Gazette in
1887, by an unknown Legacy member.

Molyullah Mobile Butcher

Prompt service
Competitive prices

Rusty 0428 666 250



Tatong Community Plantation Fund – Report of Community Meeting

An open community meeting was held on the 8th April at the Tatong Community Centre and Recreation Reserve to discuss the Tatong Community Plantation Fund. This was a fund established in 2015 with the profits from the Tatong School pine plantation which was harvested in 2014. Twelve people attended the meeting and there was representation from most of the community groups from Tatong.

Financial report

The fund was initially established with \$43,000 with withdrawals to date including payments for the management and replanting of the site and contributions towards the Recreation Reserve extension and playground, and the Tatong Memorial Hall new storage and entrance upgrades. The fund has a current balance of \$19,915.72.

HVP report

HVP have provided a report on management of the plantation, including potential costs associated with ongoing management and revenue through future thinning. A consensus from the meeting was that \$10,000 be held in the account to cover these potential future costs.

Existing charter

The existing charter that guides the allocation of money from the Tatong Community Plantation Fund account was discussed with the following criteria to remain:

The application must be made in writing

The project must benefit the general community and/or youth in particular

The project must be capital in nature

The project must be partly funded by other money (ideally at least 1 to 1)

Committee arrangements

The meeting discussed several options for the committee management of the plantation funds and all were in consensus that the Tatong Community Centre and Recreation Reserve Committee of Management continue in its present role in managing the Tatong Community Plantation Fund. Any group making an application will be welcome to attend the meeting where the application is presented. Any meeting regarding the Tatong Community Plantation Fund will be advertised in the Tatong Tattler and community groups will be advised. A minimum of 10 people must be present at meetings where decisions are made, each community group able to make one vote.

To assist in transparency of the plantation fund, an annual report containing any financial transactions and correspondence relating to the Tatong Community Plantation Fund be tabled at an open meeting of the Tatong Community Centre and Recreation Reserve in June of each year. This report will also be published in the August edition of the Tatong Tattler.

Please contact Dennis Scott, Tatong Community Centre and Recreation Committee, for any enquiries on 57672342.

Dennis Scott

Swanpool News

Our bowlers have marked the end of another very successful season with some great social events, but it is getting too chilly even for our most intrepid members! Meanwhile, our table tennis teams are back up and running, and looking forward to another great season.

The Cinema will be screening till the end of June, when it takes its usual winter break, reopening in September.

The Cinema's May programme has something for everyone, including the chilling Oscar winning "Zone of Interest", plus a delightful matinee screening, and a special film for farming communities, which we are screening due to popular request.

Our matinee on Friday 10 May at 10.30 am is "The Great Escaper", starring Michael Caine and Glenda Jackson in their last film roles. It tells the heart-warming true story of a WW11 veteran who absconded from his care home in the UK to attend the celebrations marking the 70th anniversary of D Day on a Normandy beach, supported by his wife, played at her mischievous best by the late great Glenda Jackson. "The Great Escaper" also screens first on that weekend's Double Bill.

"Just A Farmer" was created by farmer Leila Mcdougall, who also wrote the screenplay, and has a leading role "Just A Farmer" is a compelling drama that authentically portrays the impact of suicide on a rural Australian family, shedding light on critical mental health issues in farming communities. The film celebrates the resilience of farmers' wives and community support amidst heartbreak, set against the captivating backdrop of rural Victoria. This screening is supported by the Victorian Farmers' Markets Association, who are planning a Q&A and light supper after the film. Please note, this is a ticketed event, and tickets will need to be pre purchase via Trybooking, www.trybooking.com/CQQFC. All tickets are \$10

As usual, we will be screening some great Arthouse films as well as crowd pleasers, and look forward to welcoming you to your local Cinema. Printed programmes are available at the Tavern, and selected outlets in Benalla, Swanpool and Mansfield.

Deb

LIFE'S TOO SHORT TO BE SERIOUS

Not So Smart.

The farmer's daughter was young, attractive and a pretty good hand with cattle. As it turned out, her father had taken on a couple of bricklayers from the city to build a new shearer's hut and, like a lot of city people, they thought that all country people were dim-witted. On the third morning there, they spied the young girl and thought they'd have a bit of a joke.

'Hey, Miss! Do you know if anyone in the area has a rooster that lays eggs?'

The girl looked over at the two men and smiled.

'No, sorry, I wouldn't have a clue about that, but father told me at breakfast that he had brought two galahs from the city who thought they could lay bricks.' Sue O'Brien

TATONG TOPICS – MAY 1924

Benalla Standard 2nd May 1924:

Court News. The clerk of courts (Mr. A. Hill) has received notification that the date of the General Sessions for September has been changed from the 10th to 17th. On Tuesday last, before Mr. Walker, J.P., Val. Clarke, of Tatong, pleaded guilty to leaving his car unattended without lights in Bridge Street, on Friday night, April 4. Constable easy gave evidence as to seeing the car without lights, and the defendant was fined 10/- (\$1).

The Farmers Advocate 2nd May 1924:

V.F.U. ORGANISING. (abridged)

New Scheme Adopted.

In response to a State wide agitation by branches of the V.F.U for a permanent system of organising, Central Council has for some time been concerned in the evolution of a scheme likely to be successful and give all round satisfaction. A proposal offering good prospects of success was submitted by the general secretary (Mr. Roberts) to Central Council last week, and unanimously adopted. It appears to be the general opinion that, given sufficient organisers of the right stamp, the great majority of the farmers can be induced to join up, and that is the end in view. The scheme provides for the appointment to each of six centres of one resident organiser, each centre to form the headquarters of a district, which is planned on the basis of ease of access by rail as follows: —
SEYMOUR.

Seymour to Echuca via Toolamba.

Seymour to Cobra m.

Seymour to Katamatite.

Seymour to Yarrawonga.

Seymour to Rutherglen.

Seymour to Tallangatta.

Seymour to Bright. Whitfield.

Seymour to Tatong and Mansfield.

Seymour to Melbourne.

Mr. McCann said the cost would be the chief item to be considered. If that could be arranged, the scheme appeared quite feasible. Organisers would be expected to pay their way, and he had no doubt that if the right men were chosen, that would be ideal. Mr. Smith thought organisation was going on very well at present, but was willing to support the proposal. One man, he said, may not be successful in a certain district, and another go along and collect practically every fee. Any organiser who could not make good financially, would have to be recalled. The general feeling amongst members was that Central Council should pay all organisers and bring in every farmer. The scheme opened up a big question, and it would be necessary to impress on the branches that the organisers must be well backed up, if they were to be successful. So far as he was concerned, he would prefer to organise wherever his services were thought necessary

The Age Melbourne 14th May 1924:

Recently the Tatong Taxpayers Association approached Benalla-Tatong Railway Trust with a view of redemption of certain debentures, and a joint deputation of the association and the trust interviewed the Minister of Railways. On Monday the association asked the trust to assist in having some £4000 odd, now in subscribed stock, made available for the repurchase of debentures. The trust expressed a desire to do all that it could, and it was agreed to write to the Minister to this effect. Should this concession be granted, the Taxpayers Association will arrange for the balance of £3000 to be taken over by the taxpayers and paid up in full, thus relieving them of extra interest and heavy overhead charges.

North Eastern Ensign 16th May 1924:

Council News - Tatong Riding.

From W. Newman, urging that the road adjoining his property be attended to as it is in a very bad state. Referred to the engineer.

From M. Daly, regarding rates on his property at Tatong, and Toombullup, and stating that the land at Toombullup was forfeited last year, and hoping that she would not have to pay rates on it anymore.- Referred to the rate collector.

From M. Quinn; suggesting that the work to be carried out on the road at the south-east corner of Farrell's property be done as early as possible.- Held over.

Benalla Standard 23rd May 1924:

(Abridged) NOTICE, is hereby given that the Benalla Shire Council has decided to STOP the CARTING or TRAFFIC of FIREWOOD and SAWMILL TRAFFIC, on the following roads within the Shire of Benalla from the 1st day of June, 1924, till the 30th day of September, 1924, Any person who contravenes or fails to observe the provisions of this notice shall be liable, to a penalty of not more than £20 (\$40).

TATONG RIDING:

(a) The Samaria Road, from road to Karn Railway Station, thence southerly along the Samaria road to the turn off to Castle Hill, thence to the Lima Railway Station.

(b) From the end of deviation at Clark's, commencing' at the south-eastern boundary of allot. 141 and north-eastern boundary of allot 9, parish of Tatong, thence along the Molyullah-Tatong road to the Tatong Railway Station.

(c) From the Samaria road, via McIntosh's Hill road, to the Tatong Railway Station.

(d) Sawmill traffic, Fern Hills road, from Dodd's crossing to Drummonds. From Curt's corner, thence northerly to the Lima Railway Station.

Compiled by Barry O'Connor, Tatong Heritage Group.

Gawn to Town

When I first encountered a kayak it was love at first paddle. Farming near Moulamein, on the Edward River, the kayak and I would get a lift a few kilometres upstream then paddle back home. In summers, when the billabong had water in, the kayak lived on the bank. With a cover on it, to discourage brown snakes from greeting me when I stuck my feet inside. I did move the kayak when cattle came through; big beasties have no respect for fibreglass. Duke the horse once put a hoof through the upper deck, but once mended, the kayak glided over the water as well as ever.

I would paddle round the billabong, 'bending' through the trees, or tug my craft over the bank into the Edward River for a proper adventure. Once I surprised a pelican, which flapped heavily up through the redgum, and a moment later there was a mighty twanging sound and a Thump. It took me a few minutes to get up the bank; no sign of the pelican, but some feathers and a disgusting semi-digested fish suggested it ran into the freshly-strained fence, and had to jettison it's breakfast.

We came to White Gate, to a block with no river and no billabong. But we did dig a nice lake in front of the house, and in summer I could kayak back & forth for exercise. The dogs assumed I was hunting the ducks, and joined in with gusto. Even the ducks seemed to enjoy it.



I went paddling with friends around Ashmead's Swamp on the South side of Winton Wetlands. Strange mounds of straw turned out to be swan's nests. A weird and magical world, with all those dead trees.

Taking the kayak in to the Benalla Lake, a friend would cycle to join me, with her kayak on a trailer. Being more robust plastic, hers could be launched from on the bank, "Queen Mary" style, she declared. I'm not sure that that the Queen Mary ever turned turtle the moment it hit the water, but it was fun to watch. Until she realised she had her phone in her pocket.

I missed my chance for a last, most excellent paddle, when the Hollands came up for a visit, and I could have paddled across the paddock, into the Hollands, over Samaria road (?), into the Broken (!) and then got a lift back from Benalla. Or Goomalibee. Or Upotipoton... the waters were fairly running. I thought of all this as I stood looking at that amazing sheet of water, with sciatic pain running down my right leg. Ah well. Dreaming is free.

Alas, farming takes its toll, and one needs a good spine to lift and carry a 14ft kayak. That lovely craft has gone to a friend. She tried it out on the Benalla Lake, and a guy sitting in an ARTC ute (for an hour or so, nice work if you can get it) said he hadn't seen one of those in years, that wasn't smashed up. I guess that's why the plastic ones are all the go now. But I could outpace any plastic version, on that lovely fibreglass slalom kayak.

- Andi Stevenson



The Tatong RCH Good Friday Appeal has had another successful campaign fundraising for the Royal Children's Hospital.

This year we had a number of activities and fundraisers to raise money including Barefoot Bowls recently held at the Swanpool Bowling Club. A great night was held with plenty of laughs as people learnt new skills and met new people. A big thank you to the Swanpool Bowling Club for their support of the appeal and for being so generous and welcoming. It was nice to see people of all ages and abilities having a go and enjoying a laugh or two. Thanks to Midland Freight, Rettke's Butchers, Micrenz Bakery, Fruits N Fare, Cellar-brations Benalla and the Swanpool Bowling Club Committee for helping us with the Dinner and Raffles for the night.

On Good Friday the Tatong CFA were out and about collecting again and our online auction proved once again successful with some items being hotly bid for including the much talked about "Can of Beetroot" which was sold for an incredible amount of money and once again shows that people are willing to dig deep for such a good cause.

We have as always had incredible support from the Tatong Community and Tatong Tavern through Friday Night raffles and the "Money on the Roof", we would like to acknowledge Melisse and Stuart along with all the incredible staff and new owners Tash & Clayton. Once again we thank all those that Dug Deep so that they can grow.
Jade Kirk

2024 Tatong Tattler Writing Competition

During 2024 the Tattler Committee may at times award a prize of a voucher towards a meal at the Tatong Tavern.

We will be assessing submissions received by the Tattler, of original work up to 1,000 words, of fiction, biography, comedy, poetry, etc.

Entries might be published in the Tatong Tattler, at the discretion of the committee.

Judgment will be by the Tatong Tattler Committee; any judgement will be final and not open to argument, threats, or bribery.

The judges may change the rules at their discretion.

Benalla Hospital Auxiliary High Tea

Help celebrate Mother's Day,
and support Benalla Health
Friday 10th May 2pm
at the Glasshouse

Spot prizes, Raffle, Competitions & more

Tickets \$45pp
ON SALE NOW

For tickets, or further
information, contact:

Sue Tauber
0408 384 845
or Liz Bos
0437 786 369



LAND WANTED

Lease block wanted, Minimum
of 10 Acres

Benalla and Surrounding area

Please Contact Tom
0498008815

White Gate Dates

The May **White Gate dinner @ the Tavern** may (no, will) be on **Wednesday 1st**, jumping on us the moment the month starts; indeed, springing upon us just as autumn gets set to end.

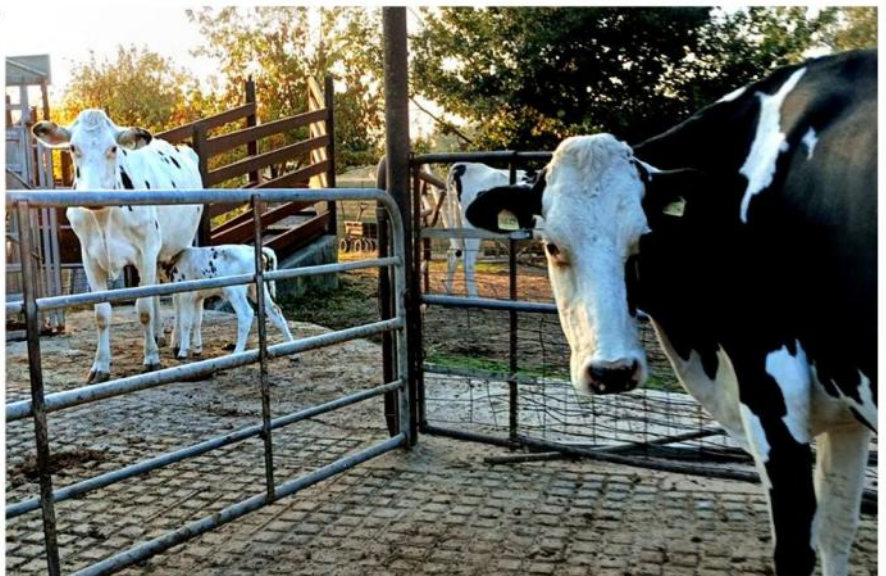
Ring the Tavern on 5767 2210 & book yourselves in for 6:30-ish.

- *Andi Stevenson*

This month on the De Fazio Dairyfarm -
A family affair.

Granny in the foreground, mostly black with white patches. Her daughter Whimsy, mostly white with a few black patches, and Snow her calf nearly all white and very very cute.

- *Linda De Fazio*



White Gate Fire Brigade Roster:

Bill Sykes	28 Apr	Leigh Humphries	26 May
Matthew De Fazio	5 May	Bill Ferguson	2 Jun
Ross Runnalls	12 May	Norton Grimwade	9 Jun
David Elford	19 May	Henry Thorne	16 Jun

Tatong Autumn Vibes

Standing around the fire pit enjoying the music of Dallas Alice and a beautiful two course meal made for a very successful Tatong Autumn Vibes at the Recreation Reserve on the 11th April.

On the balmy Tatong autumn evening the night began with the three piece band Dallas Alice entertaining the large crowd. Barry Lewis officially welcomed everyone to the night, thanking the Council and the Tatong CFA for their sponsorship. He also thanked Colin Sinclair from Benalla Abattoirs for his generous donation of beef and pork and Bree from Goldhammer Catering who gave up her valuable time to cook the 50kg of meat. The O'Gorman's were thanked for the use of their truck for the band stage. Barry also introduced Jhair from Wangaratta Mental Health who gave a brief address on mental health, also offering their ongoing free support which could include a mental health seminar in Tatong. Jane Archibald spoke on behalf of the Council, re-iterating the ongoing support for events like tonight and inviting suggestions for Council sponsorship of community programs. Jane was supported by five councillors in the crowd including Mayor Danny Claridge and local councillor Don Firth.

After more music, everyone sat down to a delicious meal of pork, beef and salad which was followed by dessert. Huge thanks to Larissa and the kitchen volunteers who did a wonderful job in preparing and serving the meal. Also thanks to all who pitched in with the clean up afterwards, particularly those who helped out with the dishes and packing up of the chairs and tables. Everyone in a good community spirit just hopped in and did their bit. Great help was also given by the young ones, who were on school holidays and did all of the set up. All in all it was a very successful community gathering with old and new residents mixing in a delightful setting. The traditional Tatong fire pit was once again burning brightly and a wonderful opportunity to bring the community together. There has already been a few suggestions for more community events, possibly a winter cabaret so watch this space!

Dennis Scott



MIKE'S SOAPBOX

Because I care for the people of the world and especially my local community I am impelled to offer what I hope is useful information related to the state of humanity. I know it will not be liked by everyone, even hated, but rest assured that my intentions are sincere and as a now 80 year old 'elder' I have a certain right to impart learnings and experiences. I recently watched the charming SBS movie "Jeremy" about a small Mexican boy who is highly gifted but not always highly pleasing to his extended family whom he corrects and even humiliates with his intelligence and observations. The name Jeremy is a version of Jeremiah, he of biblical fame for his lamentations over the wickedness of his people.

I don't have the intellectual power of these high IQ people but I do identify with Jeremiah because of my understanding about the way humans behave so ludicrously (including myself) a lot of the time. Just look at social media posts such as "Why women live longer than men" for very funny examples and these are just the fun side of the often and unnecessarily tragic human story.

I do realise that being old is now equivalent to being redundant with much of today's youth but there is nothing like age and experience to temper youthful idealism. The other authorities upon which I base my conclusions are in part due to the authentic historical messages within the Fairy stories, fables and the great stories by the most enduring and revered of writer-philosopher thinkers. While some heroes are rough around the edges the bulk of them follow ancient and well established paths which include standing for the values which promote the best in humanity. We all know these values as love, integrity, justice, equality, freedom, beauty and truth. As well as these eternal and fundamental values we need to connect often with nature in all of its forms and with the rest of nature's creatures (except mozzies?). Our pets and even the farmer's herds illustrate, by comparison to humans, their noble, constant and caring natures, (except killer rams in NZ?) By what authority do kids who are still wet behind the ears have in assuming the right to lecture the population? Admittedly we did have Joan of Arc and Greta Thunberg, among others, but they both came to grief due to one being murdered by the shocking cruelty of fire for seriously annoying the overwhelming power of the church and the other fading into obscurity, probably due to an underwhelming plausibility deficit?

We do need moral standards in order to remain grounded in times like now when the values and traditions that have stood the test of time and sustained our envied lifestyle are under attack. Western culture has prospered while under the Judeo-Christian mantle, imperfect as it may be. From my point of view it is best to stick with the 'bird in hand' rather than risk others that are lesser known and probably worse.

I should not need to go into details about the attacks upon our established way of life because if people cannot already sense it then maybe most of the populace is under a spell like that in the Sleeping Beauty's fairy story. The spell which was cast upon Princess Aurora by the uninvited and enraged 'wisdom fairy' Carabosse, The spell occurred when Aurora was pricked by a spinning wheel needle during her 16th birthday party but this spell was followed by a counter spell from the Lilac Fairy which put the kingdom into a one hundred year sleep. Coincidentally we are drawing closer to one hundred years since the end

of the last world war catastrophe and I wish I had the power of the courageous and handsome prince Desire whose loving kiss awoke Aurora and her people (to reality! During such 'spells,' populations apparently forget their history, become trusting and subservient to their leaders and are thus easy prey to tyranny. Would be despots make it their business to learn from history discovering just how easily whole populations can be manipulated by the use of lies and deception, followed by intimidation, fear and eventually force. Because we have had many years of peace it seems inevitable that bad actors will arise and do whatever it takes to gain power and control.

Here is some clues about how to counteract such tyranny. Firstly get educated about how and why certain people crave and abuse power. Be a critical thinker using fact and objective reality as your means to choose right from wrong and for this you need to be steeped in the wisest teachings of both history and today. Make sure that you have strong moral standards and the conviction needed to defend them, and be wary of following any 'herd mentality'. Truth will always overcome the longing for popularity as well as all of the ruthless tricks of despots.

Mike (Jeremiah) Larkin

Tattler Printing and Distribution team at our April printing



Heather and Chris operating the printer.



L to R. Joan Sue Geoff Beth Bev and Linda. Filling the distribution bags.

What's on in the area May 2024

Wed 1 st	Whitegate dinner at the Tavern 6.30pm
Sat 4 th	Movies Swanpool 6pm
Sun 5 th	Archery at Tatong recreation reserve 1.30pm
Sun 5 th	Movies Swanpool 5pm
Wed 8 th	Tatong dinner at the Tavern 6.30pm
Fri 10 th	Matinee Swanpool 10am
Fri 10 th	Fish & chip night Molyullah sports ground, from 5.30pm
Sat 11 th	Movies Swanpool 6pm
Sun 12 th	Movie Swanpool 5pm
Fri 17 th	Girls shed at Tatong Hall, from 9am.
Fri 17 th	Movie Swanpool 7pm
Sat 18 th	Moyhu Lions country market 8am till 12noon
Sat 18 th	Movies Swanpool 6pm
Sun 19 th	Archery at Tatong recreation reserve 1.30pm
Sun 19 th	Movies Swanpool 5pm
Mon 20 th	Heritage group meeting 3.30pm
Thurs 23 rd	Tattler committee meeting at the Tavern 4pm
Sat 25 th	Movie Swanpool 6pm
Sun 26 th	Movie Swanpool 5pm

If you have an activity, meeting date, market, sports event or anything else you would like people to know about that's on in May, please send the details to tattler.whatson@gmail.com by the 19th of May.

Tatong in Wikipedia

The Wikipedia entry for Tatong includes the statement, "*Tatong is the birthplace of Michael Joseph Savage, the first Labour Prime Minister of New Zealand,[5] and Graeme Peck, male lead for the Australian Ballet Company.*"

A friend tells me that the only Graeme Peck of Tatong she has known was a dairy farmer. The entry has no reference, and a search of the Australian Ballet so far offers only a Justin Peck, who was born in Washington, D.C.

The strength and the weakness of Wikipedia is most entries can be edited by anyone with a Wikipedia account. There are some extraordinary porkies in there, which is a shame. References need to be checked; and a statement without a reference can be considered with suspicion. Is just another porky? And if it is - do the good citizens of Tatong mind if the town is being used as a joke on a world-wide encyclopaedia? For I have a Wikipedia account, and could edit the item, or at least flag that line as wanting more scrutiny. - *Andrea Stevenson*

<p>Tatong is the birthplace of Michael Joseph Savage, the first Labour Prime Minister of New Zealand,^[5] and Graeme Peck, male lead for the Australian Ballet Company.</p> <p>Facilities [edit]</p> <hr/> <p>It has a pub, the Tatong Tavern, a memorial hall and sports ground.</p>	<p>Population 267 (2010 census)</p> <p>Postcode(s) 3673</p> <p>Elevation 231 m (758 ft)</p> <p>Location</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 226 km (140 mi) NE of Melbourne • 27 km (17 mi) S of Benalla • 49 km (30 mi) N of Mansfield • 55 km (34 mi) SSW of
---	---

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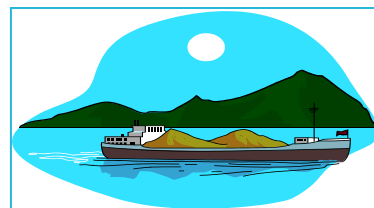


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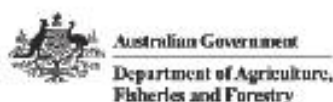
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2014	33.9	16.4	86.4	89.6	82.8	146.5	98.8	9.8	68.5	20.4	58.5	64.2	775.8
2015	44.7	29.1	5.7	87.4	70	33.7	97.3	69.4	25.7	13.7	55.5	81.7	613.9
2016	69.7	11.9	36.9	38.5	117.2	110.5	142.8	108.4	172.1	91.4	50.1	101.3	1050.8
2017	67.6	36.2	49.1	61.7	52.5	6.5	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	111.9	232.2	139.2	25	1217.8
2023	25	18.7	61.1	62.8	59.2	197.6	51.1	67.2	25.2	120.8	57.1	98.2	846
2024	156.4	17.6	14.7										188.7

WEATHER IN THE TATONG TOWNSHIP

The rainfall has improved this month, being slightly over March's total of 14.7mm. Up until the 15th of April we have received 25.1mm. The cooler weather is helping the vegetation even though we could happily accept more wetness. Nevertheless we don't want the vast downpour which hit Warrenbayne not long back. People had windows smashed, homes structurally deformed and flooding even within a house on a steep slope. The owners of the flooded house said the water coming down the slope above the house was like a waterfall.

Mike Larkin



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. Patricia 57672287

Next Girl's Shed. 17th May 9am—5pm

THE ARCHERY AND TABLE TENNIS REPORTS

Archery at the Rec reserve oval is going well with ten archers attending on the first Sunday session of the month, and the potential for others to attend when not travelling or otherwise engaged. We are in the process of acquiring 3 more beginner bows and with arrows to match. This means that young beginners do not have to buy a new bow until they are more physically mature and can be fitted with a suitable bow then.

We are meeting fortnightly and as planned the shooting Sundays have recently changed so that we started from the 7th of April and then shoot every second Sunday after that. The only fee currently is \$5 per family group at each shooting Sunday. Resurrect your inner Robin Hood and join us for the pleasures of this sport for all ages and genders.

TABLE TENNIS

This winter season competition is struggling to find the numbers for our normal seven or more teams and this means we need you to get off your butt, enhance your fitness and help build our community spirit with this sport, which like archery suits families including all adults and children of late primary school age.

The competition which is held at night time (7:30 start) begins on the first Wednesday in May and ends in late September-early August. Matches are played in the halls of Swanpool recreation reserve, Moorngag and Tatong. There is one more practice night before the comp starts; all welcome at the Tatong hall.

Mike Larkin 0428 273 613.

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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. Non-digitised items which need scanning or typing, by the 15th.

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

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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).

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