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www.tatongtattler.com.au

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Welcome to Louisa Jessie De Fazio, born 15/4/18. Another daughter for Shane and Sarah, much loved sister for Josie and Fraser and granddaughter for Doreen (dec) and Jack Harrison and Linda and Laurie De Fazio. A very welcome new member of all our families.

YOU CAN WRITE LIKE LINDA

Linda De Fazio has shown our readers that everyone can contribute to our local newsletter. Her stories about travelling in Europe have been really informative and interesting and they include that special ingredient "local flavour" with hubby Laurie and the extended family. The stories don't even have to be about exotic travel because we all love a bit of gossip, even about seemingly everyday happenings.

The Tattler committee had a fun time at a recent meeting talking about various travel adventures both overseas and in the Oz outback and we decided that we should write more about such adventures.

When in my early twenties I did trips with mates to Tassie and Cairns, which included the beautiful Green Island, and one year the mates were unavailable so I decided that I would find company by hitch hiking. I met many interesting people and experienced some strange situations along my journey from the Latrobe Valley to Adelaide then up to Broken Hill. From there I travelled to Mildura and followed the Murray River to the Snowy Mountains where I visited a former electrician workmate from the SEC at Yallourn. He was a Scottish \$10 'Pom' (immigrant) who was very popular at work but uncertain whether to stay in Oz. From the Snowy region I travelled down the Princes Highway to home.

The only place where I had trouble getting a ride was outside Broken Hill where I waited, after a few kilometres of walking, in the barren but beautiful landscape for 6 hours till a truck driver picked me up and took me to Mildura. The truckie was only the second vehicle on the road for the whole time I waited. We arrived in Mildura not long before dark which was fortunate, because as with the Snowy Mountains, I found friends of my brother in Mildura. Unfortunately this friend, and another mate of my brother, were to both die in a car crash. A further memory of these two young men was that when the funeral was held for the mate who lived in Yallourn my brother was terribly upset that he could not, as a Catholic, enter the Presbyterian Church for his mate's funeral. Things have changed since then.

I carried a small 2 man tent and sleeping bag but there were a number of times that I got a bed from friends that I visited or from people who gave me rides. The tent had strings at each end so I would look for trees and posts to tie the ends to, push a few pegs in the bottom of the tent and "Bob's your Uncle." Obviously there are some societal changes for the better in the intervening 50 years since my trip but some that are not so good. You could not hitch hike easily or safely now, like I did then, because so much trust and community togetherness is lost.

That trip cost very little, gave me an unforgettable adventure and made good use of my 2 weeks annual leave. At the time I took a few photos with my simple black and white folding camera which I thought was the "bee's knees." It had a timer so that I could even take 'selfies' which mostly showed me standing, squatting or leaning by roadsides while waiting for a ride.

Mike Larkin

Bratislava Old Town

Bratislava, the capital of Slovakia, is set along the Danube River by the border with Austria and Hungary. It is 18 kms from the border with Hungary and only 60 kms from the Austrian capital Vienna.



It is surrounded by vineyards and the Little Carpathian Mountains and crisscrossed with forested hiking and cycling trails. The pedestrian-only, 18th-century old town is known for its lively bars and cafes. Perched atop a hill, the reconstructed Bratislava Castle overlooks the old town and the Danube.



Bratislava is very well known for its many sculptures, some of which are shown here. Most are life size and present great



photo opportunities for tourists

My favourite is the one I call 'Peeping Tom' but who the locals call Cumil. The literal translation of Cumil is 'The Watcher'. He's supposedly a sewer worker who pops his head up through a manhole to look under women's skirts.

Local lore says that your wish will come true if you touch Cumil's head – as long as you keep it secret forever.



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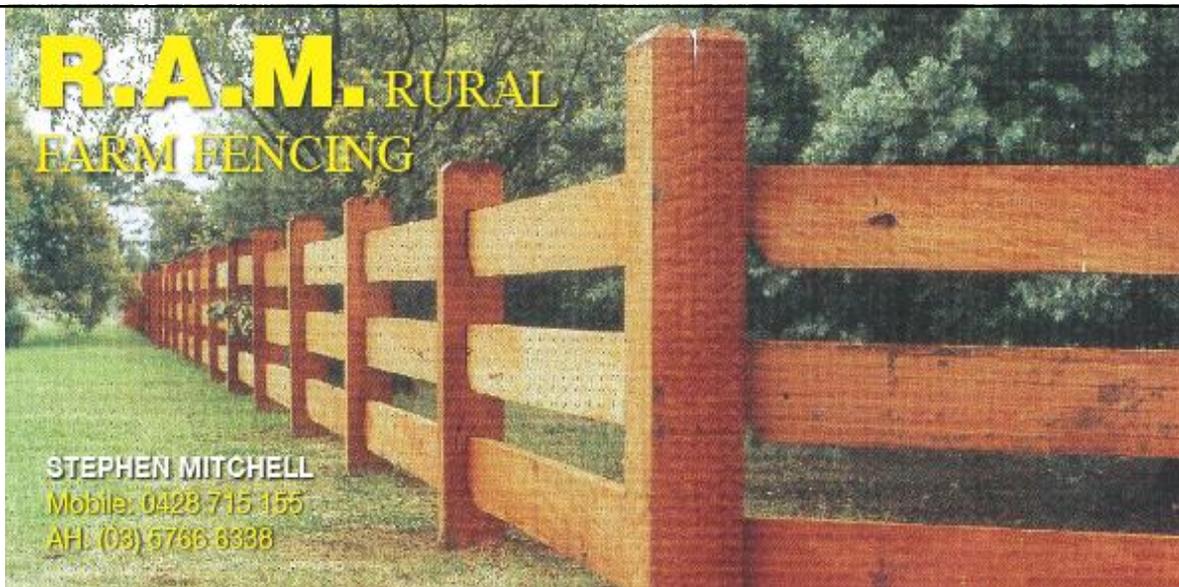
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Shepparton Car Club visits Molyullah.

On Saturday, 5 May the Shepparton Vintage Car Club held a car rally in the area and stopped at the Molyullah Hall for a "country style morning tea".

It was a lovely crisp and sunny autumn morning and as the cars pulled up it was obvious that the conveniences were the high priority! Comfort restored, car club members entered the hall to partake in a cuppa and a wonderful array of baked and home-made goodies. Kath Ramage's sponge was so loved that several slices were taken to be auctioned at dinner that evening! Tables had been set in the hall but few were used – the visitors preferring to enjoy the lovely day and environment outside.

Many said they had also been sitting for over two hours in the car so that may have also been a factor. I think that many of the visitors were also reluctant to venture from the table with its array of cakes, scones, sandwiches, etc. Many thanks to all who contributed to this morning tea – we raised \$410.00 and the visitors went away well refreshed and with great memories of the morning.



Maxine Gardner and Marg Chatham serve tea and coffee to the Shepparton Car Club Members.



A delicious spread.

Janette Knapper

Tatong Tavern



Another month at the Tavern gone. Don't forget to come down if you're cold and sit by the front of the fires. We are open Sunday nights for dinner and also for lunch. We will be opening up on Tuesdays from 3 o'clock for Pizzas for dinner soon so spread the word! July the 25th will see a special Xmas in July function for dinner and with June bringing the start of winter the new menu will be here with some of your favourites including our famous lamb shanks, along with a selection of belly warming comfort food, so come hungry for it.

Lastly, we will be bringing back Friday evening and Saturday lunch and evening live acoustic music..

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Local Birdlife

John came in after working in the top paddock and said he recalled when he saw the first deer up there and now he can say when he saw the first emu on our place! We thought emu country was a fair way from here but I am told by some bushwalkers they have seen them in the bush between Tatong and Tolmie and that there are signs now in Tolmie warning people to be aware of emus when driving through that area. Sorry we don't have a photo despite now seeing them a couple of times – perhaps next issue.

We did take a photo of the nest of a white-winged Chough. We seem to have a resident flock of these birds and they look lovely when they take off and show their white “underwings”.

These nests may take several months to build if there is a lack of mud. Interestingly, if there is a lack of mud they may use cattle or emu dung!

The photo of the bird, whilst not showing much of the white underwing, is very typical of the birds on our farm. This photo is courtesy “Google”.

Our flock is about 15 in number. Apparently the flocks are composed of breeding adults and non-breeding helpers –some of which are young from previous broods and some birds which may have been kidnapped from other groups of choughs. They are quite noisy when disturbed and mostly seem to feed on the ground – eating seeds and insects.

Janette Knapper



When is a cup of coffee a Mugaccino?

Now I think everyone knows that Laurie loves his cup of cappuccino and usually the bigger the better so he always asks for a mugaccino. Over the years we've had a few problems with this description, most often being served a

macchiato which is a small, strong espresso coffee with a small amount of frothed milk. In Stockholm this problem reached a new level when the wait staff delivered a small macchiato in a big mug. And

to add insult to injury informed us that the mug would cost more! I think our description may have lost something in translation.

Linda De Fazio



Tattler Committee

Your Tattler Committee holds meetings every two months – rotating the venue so it is not too onerous for any one of us. Refreshments provided by the team ensure it is an occasion to look forward to – unlike many meetings. The May meeting was held at Rick and Sallie Hann's.

Pictured below (from left): Geoff Rintala, Mike Larkin, Maeve Larkin, Gretchen McDonald, Darcy Hogan, Andrea Stevenson, Rick and Sallie Hann.

Absent from the photo: Brian Vial, Janette Knapper.





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A Find and a Disappointment

Having seen a gardener on TV extolling the virtues of the shrub *Duranta Geisha Girl* with its lovely clusters of flowers. Hardy and drought tolerant - ever on the look out for something different for the Plant Stall at the Moolullah Fair - it seemed a good one to get.

Finding a lovely large one in full bloom (they really know how to sell) at a nursery and then deciding that it was a bit too expensive to buy, I chose to wait until I had found a smaller one and pay less.

So - when visiting a garden in Benalla recently - how pleased was I to find a shrub complete with pretty blue flowers out in the garden, and even more pleased to be able to bring home some cuttings.



Upon arriving back home and wishing to ensure that the name tag would be correct, I looked up the plant profile and found:

Oh No! It is an environmental weed!

Duranta erecta or repens is a plant native to Mexico, South America and the Caribbean and is in the same plant family, as lantana. There are a wide variety of cultivars available, including Alba, Aurea, Aussie Gold, Gold Mound, Geisha Girl, Sapphire Showers and Variegata

While it is popular nursery plant, it has many common properties of an environmental weed, and is **highly poisonous to pets and children.**

Duranta erecta is a sprawling shrub or a small tree and will grow at a rate of up to half a metre per year to six metres tall and can spread to an equal width.

Mature specimens possess axillary thorns depending on the cultivar, but these can be absent on younger specimens.

The leaves and berries of the plant are toxic, and are known to have killed children, dogs, cats and some birds.

The small orange berries are attractive to some species of birds, or bats, and the seeds can be spread by water. The seeds can germinate and can out-compete and shade out native plant species.

Duranta erecta's toxicity has been known since the late nineteenth century when ingestion of its fruit killed a two-year-old boy in Queensland.

Well that's it for *Duranta* - the cuttings having been added to the bonfire.



Perhaps a more "Friendly" choice for the dry conditions is the Butterfly Bush or Buddleia

Easy to grow with attractive foliage and abundant colourful and fragrant flowers they are an asset to any garden.

Belonging to the foxglove family and renowned for their long nectar-rich flower spikes - these plants are hardy, quick growing, salt tolerant and will grow in most soil types and will bloom throughout the summer.

Known as the *Butterfly Bush* for their ability to attract butterflies, as well as bees and birds, Buddleia provide food for these garden allies who by acting as pollinators and controlling pests, are one of the best allies a gardener can have. Buddleia bloom in many colours - tho the butterflies are reputed to prefer the lavender pink to the white or dark mauve.

Plant in a sunny or partly shaded position in the garden, mulch and water regularly until the plant is established - usually around 12 weeks.



Prune after flowering to maintain compact growth and heavier flowering. As they are a *woody perennial* - cut back by two thirds - just above a node, in the Autumn as they will flower on the new wood in the next season.

As we seem to be on a Blue Flower Theme . .

The Native Mint Bush *Prostanthera ovalifolia*, are one of the more delicate flowering shrubs in the Australian Flora with soft purple and pink flowers, and a lovely minty fragrance in the foliage.

Their natural environment is dry shade, which makes them very useful for these usually difficult areas to fill in the garden.

A Mint Bush came up in our first tree plantation. We presume it had come up in the potting mix we had made back home in Montrose,



where we had Mint Bushes growing in the garden. This shrub lasted with no extra watering for over 20 years, growing among Eucalypts and Acacias and flowering beautifully every spring.

Happy Gardening

Kathy Z

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Samaria Suns Giant Win

On Sunday 6th May the Samaria Suns hosted the G.V Giants in what has become a tightly fought rivalry over the last few years. The Suns started the game with a strong line up thanks to many new faces having their first game of the season. From the ruck contest to all around the ground the Samaria Suns were able to control the majority of the game. Richardson and Kego in the ruck combined well with Berry and Pickering to ensure the suns had first use of the ball while Symes' forward line ensured the scoreboard continued to tick over. Cassidy and company in the backline showed a stealy strength which allowed Orton and the midfield to continue to run throughout the day. The Suns ended up running away with a fantastic win. It was fantastic to see so many new faces around the team as everybody contributed to an awesome atmosphere. If anybody is interested in a game or just keen to come and have a run at training contact the Samaria Suns.

Awards: Fruits n Fare – Steve Pickering, Benalla Bowls Club – Jamie Berry, Hollywoods Pizza – Darby Morrison, The Pink Shop – Damium Cassidy, One Wild Apple – Ted Coughlan

Samaria Suns V Maryborough

On Sunday 20th May the Samaria Suns hosted Maryborough at the Tatong Recreation Reserve. The Suns started the game with a strong line up thanks to the returning faces of David Whitechurch and Ant Fobister as well as new players, Justin Triffitt and Harley Dalgleish having their first game of the season. In true masters style the Suns were happy to lend a hand to the undermanned Maryborough team. The Suns showed their dominance early taking a thirty point lead going into the first break. There was some great work by the back line restricting Maryborough's scoring opportunities. The second quarter would see Mick Levy lay a tackle which would see a Sun's goal off the boot of the newly returned Ant Fobister. Coach Kyle Pugh was happy to see to see the game being played in true Masters style.

If anybody is interested in a game or just keen to come and have a run at training contact the Samaria Suns.

Samaria Suns 16 . 7 . 103

Maryborough 5 . 5 . 35

Goals: J. Berry 3, A. Fobister, S. Willet, D. Morrison 2, M. Dawson, M. Levy, P. Symes, H. Dalgleish, J. Burns, J. Triffitt, P. Shields 1

Awards: Fruits n Fare – Allan Crumb, Benalla Bowls Club – Ant Fobister, Hollywood's Pizza – Shane Richardson, The Pink Shop – Jeremy Mansfield, One Wild Apple – David Whitechurch. Tool of the Week – Allan Crumb





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As shown on this envelope you can Mail it / Direct Debit it or stick it in the Tattler mailbox next to the Tavern (on the RHS). So, thank you for that and if you are a local with a local business we have over 500 readers so perhaps you should put an ad in 'the local' to boost business?

Darcy.
The Secretary
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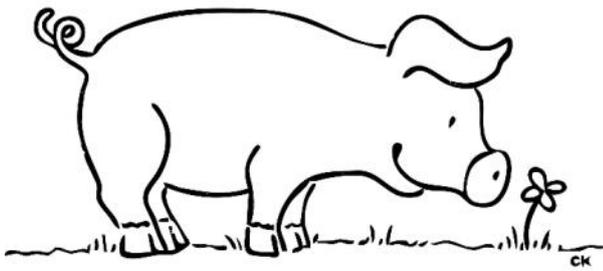
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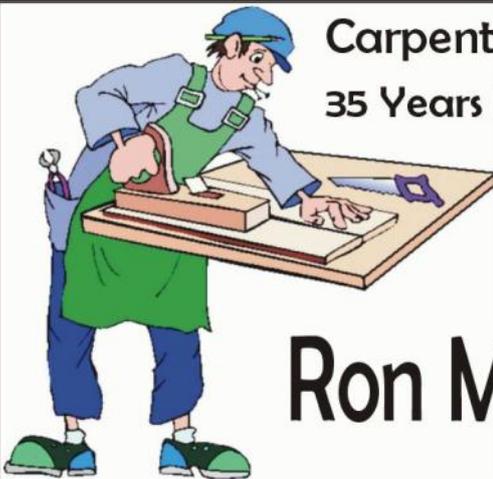
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Gawn to Town

She never did give me an answer, about putting a foot down, on a particular bit of land.

Most of us have a bit of land to call our own, for a while at least. In my childhood, our suburban back-yard was my domain, host to many imaginary worlds, lots of games, and at one point a horse called Winnie. My mother was not impressed. In my youth I went a-farming, and trod through a great many paddocks with my dog Bernadette. In my middle-age I trod rather less (but probably holding the same amount of grass) with my dog Jubi. Now I'm down to one paddock, but in a world where many modern houses don't even have a back-yard, maybe I'm in front, even retrospectively.

Before we left the farm with less paddocks but more grass, I asked a question of my dog Jubi. She was a bit senile, but that didn't matter, as she was very deaf. I asked a question of her supernatural powers. (I know dogs have magical powers, I've seen "Inspector Rex".) We were walking down through a paddock, which in our tenure, we named "Cormorant". I came up with all sorts of names when we first moved there. One paddock I wanted to call "Crumpet". But my partner preferred bird names. And so I wondered what other names (polite ones, that is) had been applied to the paddocks by previous owners. And who else had walked down here, and who would walk in coming years, and decades, and centuries. If anyone who farmed in Hawthorn in the late eighteen hundreds had wondered that, they would have been puzzled by the answer.

Winter Evening at Hawthorn, 1886 by Fred McCubbin



So I asked of my dog, "who was the very first human, to set foot on this area of land, as delineated by this particular fence?" She did flick her ears, but that was because a fly had sat on one. If she knew the answer to the question, she wasn't going to tell me. So I was left to ponder; was it a man or a woman? An adult or a child? Who left the very first human footprint on this bit of land? But then given this would have happened perhaps 70,000 years ago, would this have been the same bit of land? Glaciers have come and gone, rivers risen and dropped, dust storms carried dust; the dirt that is on that paddock surface now, might have come from far away, and whatever sat here then, could be long gone. A geologist could give me a pretty good explanation and I would be interested to know. But the question that remains, until I get a Tardis and find out for myself; who first trod there, and what did they see about them? I struggle to imagine it, but what might **they** think, to see what this world has become!

- Andrea Stevenson

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White Gate



Dates

White Gate Dinner @ the Tavern

The June "White Gate" Dinner @ the Tavern is predicted to occur on Wednesday June 6th, and is estimated to proceed from 6:30pm-ish. Astronomers are confident it ought to be a good night. Astrologers are stilling working out which millennium is. I can tell you it is this one; book yourselves in with the Tavern; just ring Pedro and Shirley on 5767 2210, and ask to be sat at the White Gate table.

Samaria Breakfasts are on hold, now that the Lairds of Samaria want some order in their life. But plans are afoot to pre-arrange a Samaria Breakfast. Watch this column (when I remember to write it...)

White Gate Fire Brigade Roster:

Hamish McMillan	27 May	Max Marriot	24 Jun
Ross Runnalls	3 Jun	Matthew Defazio	1 Jul
David Elford	10 Jun	Norton Grimwade	8 Jul
Leigh Humphries	17 Jun	Terry Ryan	15 Jul

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2009	3	5.4	38.7	80.7	30.6	107.9	77.5	65.5	76	48.6	72.3	18.9	625.1
2010	39	153.7	86.4	65.2	67.5	82.8	67.5	162.1	116.8	123.7	109.2	150.8	1224.7
2011	107	177.3	65.0	36.1	62.9	47.1	84.5	81.0	67.3	32.0	88.3	46.3	894.7
2012	82.5	94.0	184.9	18.1	35	57.6	115.8	92.1	35.5	34	28	30.1	773.6
2013	1.8	52.4	85.5	8.4	43.0	60.1	112.1	141.1	61.2	27.5	26.2	65.3	684.6
2014	33.9	16.4	86.4	89.6	82.8	146.5	98.8	9.8	68.5	20.4	58.5	64.2	775.8
2015	44.7	29.1	5.7	87.4	70	33.7	97.3	69.4	25.7	13.7	55.5	81.7	613.9
2016	69.7	11.9	36.9	38.5	117.2	110.5	142.8	108.4	172.1	91.4	50.1	101.3	1050.8
2017	67.6	36.2	49.1	61.7	52.5	6.5	92.1	112.4	23.9	100.1	29.3	118.9	760.3
2018	34.3	6.4	24.9	13.7									79.3

WEATHER IN THE TATONG TOWNSHIP

We had a respectable 31.6mm of rain up until the 15th of May, respectable compared to April which had only 12mm of rain right on the 15th of that month. For the whole month of April only 13.7mm of rain fell. Many plants and trees will show some effect 'down the track' from this very dry start to the year.

As usual there is a 'good side' to everything and less rain has meant less grass lawn to cut.

Mike Larkin

The unknown payee

Someone, I presume an advertiser, has put \$80, by Direct Debit, into the Tattler account but left no clue as to who they are or what ad they are paying for!!

The money was deposited on Wednesday the 2nd March at 1954 (7.54PM)

So if you match the detail and have paid for a yearly quarter page ad please let Darcy know as otherwise your ad will not be published:

darcyhogan@bigpond.com

H - 5767 2187

Just for your information, every year the invoices for the ads are issued by mail or email, normally in February. Then after a couple of months, reminders are sent out after which any ads not paid for are deleted. We on the Tattler committee like our advertisers, who all help support the Tattler so, like me, please use the services which they provide before searching the net for some unknown provider of goods or services.

So can the unknown payee contact Darcy to ensure that there ad continues in our paper:

Thanks

Darcy.

The Secretary

Format for Tattler Submissions

The Tatong Tattler is set up in Microsoft Publisher.

Text can be submitted in the body of an email; or in file formats such as .doc, .docx, .rtf, or .txt.

Photos (as jpgs) can be attached, to be laid out by editor.

If your layout is important, submitting your work in MS Publisher is ideal. (*The Editor may need to adjust your layout.*) If laid out in a **Word** document, the text & photos will need to be copied into Publisher; however the Editor will have an idea of your preferred layout.

The content of a PDF file can be difficult to extract.

If you require help, contact one of the Tattler committee.

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

What's on this month

June 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
May 27	May 28	May 29	May 30	May 31 Play group, 9.30,am Rec Res 	1	2
3	4	5	6 Whitegate Community Dinner at the Tavern	7 Molyullah Com- munity Dinner at the Tavern Play group, 9.30am, Rec Res 	8 Fish & Chip Night. Molyullah Hall 5.30pm	9
10 Nessie at the North East- ern Hotel 12 Noon to 4 pm.	11	12 Mansfield Bush Poets Meeting. Mans- field Library 3- 5pm.	13	14 Play group, 9.30,am Tatong Rec Res . 	15 Girls Shed 10.00am at Ta- tong Hall	16
17	18	19	20 Tatong Community Dinner at the Tavern 	21 Play group, 9.30,am Rec Res	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 Play group, 9.30,am Rec Res 	29	30

Molyullah Notice Board:

Dates to note:

Thursday, 7 June: Molyullah Dinner at Tatong Tavern at 6.30pm. Please ring the Tavern directly – 57672210 to add your names to the reservation.

Friday, 8 June: Fish & Chip night at the Molyullah Hall, 5.30pm start – food to be ordered by 7.00pm - dining in the hall unless there is an unseasonal hot spell!

Sunday, 10 June: NESSIE will be playing at the North Eastern Hotel – 12.00noon to 4.00pm. You can come along and enjoy the music and a drink or book lunch and enjoy the music whilst enjoying your meal. Lunch-
eon bookings should be made with the Northo on 5762 7333.

The way this month has fallen we have all our social events within a few days but July looks better with a break between events.

Janette knapper@bordnet.com.au 5766 6268

Tattler Advertising Rates Inc num: A0047895K

Full Page:

Single Issue:	\$32.00
Six Issues:	\$180.00
Eleven Issues:	\$320.00

Half Page:

Single Issue:	\$16.00
Six Issues:	\$85.00
Eleven Issues:	\$160.00

Quarter Page or 2 x 1/8th Page:

Single Issue:	\$8.00
Six Issues:	\$45.00
Eleven Issues:	\$80.00

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

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

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

ATTENTION ADVERTISERS

For those who submit pre-formatted advertisements, the size of a half page area is 13.6 x 19 cm and a 1/4 page area is 13.6 x 9.3 cm. To avoid distortion to your image, please fit your advertisement to these sizes.

Obtain your Copy of the

Tatong Tattler!

Have a Printed copy delivered, Posted,
or Download it in Techni Colour

The Tattler is Delivered free to
Tatong & Surrounding Districts.

The PDF file (in Colour) may be Downloaded
by Anyone, Anywhere, from our Website.

Postal Delivery for one year is \$25 (Australia only).

To arrange Tattler delivery, order a Postal Tattler,
and/or to be notified when the PDF is available,

contact us via tatongtattler@yahoo.com.au
or: The Secretary, Tatong Tattler,
150 Mt Joy Rd, Tatong, Vic, 3673.

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

Donations can be:

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

Tattler Mission:

That Every Household within the
Tattler Delivery Area, wanting a
Tattler, shall Receive one. 😊

*Should a Household Want a Tattler but not be
Getting one, please contact a Member of the
Committee, and we shall Remedy this
Unhappy Situation at Once!*

However; there May be Tattlers
being Delivered to where they are
not Wanted. 😞

*If anyone is Aware of such a Sorry Waste,
please Advise a Member of the Committee,
and save Part of a Tree.* 😊

DEADLINE

The Tattler Deadline is end of the **20th of the month**.
Submit via e-mail to tatongtattler@yahoo.com.au
or post to: Darcy Hogan, 150 Mt Joy Rd, Tatong, 3673.



Cheers to Linda De Fazio for her interesting and entertain-
ing three part account of her holiday.
John Knapper

Cheers to Russell Byrne for the establishment and running
of the Molyullah Fish & Chip night held on the second Fri-
day of each month. Your efforts are truly appreciated by
the community who enjoy a great catch-up every month.
Janette Knapper

Cheers to French president, Emmanuel Macron for the follow-
ing:- "There is no plan B, because there is no planet B", Macron
says after U.S. quits Paris climate pact.
John Knapper