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On Monday 20th March, the Tatong Heritage Group unveiled a sign detailing the Cork Oak in the grounds of the Hollands Branch School, at Fern Hills.

Heather McCauley put a great deal of work the design and the wording.

Some trees remain of the school garden, the Cork Oak being of particular significance. The site is at the junction of Sawyers Road and the Tatong-Tolmie road, 10km south of Tatong. Greg Crowe could still recall where the footings stood, long after the school building was relocated to Boggy Creek, near Myrree.



Jack, Terry, Joan, Les, Andi , Fay, Chris, Steve, Don, Heather, Joe, Bev, Greg, Robyn.



Admiring the Cork Oak (Quercus Suber)



Greg & Joe erecting the sign



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Created by and for the communities of Tatong District, the "Tatong Tattler" is produced with great love by a committee of volunteers, and distributed over hill and dale by more diligent local volunteers.

Advertising covers much of the cost of production (printer, toner, paper etc) however we ask for a donation of \$10 per year. That is a dollar per issue and you get one free!

Donations can be (a) given to committee members; (b) left in the locked box by the Tavern; or (c) EFT'd to GMCU BSB 803078 A/c 135720 Tatong Tattler.



Get your Groove on at the Tavern

Sat April 8 Intensity Duo—8-11 pm
Sun May 14 Mother's Day - live music 12-3

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Garden Daze

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



Autumn - After a Summer that could be described as "different"!

A friend of mine who grows Sweet Peas each year - likes to take a bunch of the flowers to work, where she is invariably met with such comments as - "Oh - Sweet Peas! We used to grow them!"

Sweet Peas are really beautiful. If you haven't grown any for some time - or tried growing sweet peas before, Autumn is the time to get them started.



In 1695, the 'original' Sweet Pea, **Cupani** was found growing wild by Francisco Cupani a monk who took care of the botanical garden in Missilery, 15 km from the capital Palermo.

Cupani was a Sicilian, born in the village of Mirto in the province of Messina on 21 January 1657. He seems to have studied medicine, and at the age of 24 he entered the Franciscan order, where he was able to continue his studies of natural history, especially botany and especially the plants of his native island.



Francisco recorded the sweet pea as being a new plant in Sicily.

In 1699, he sent some seeds to a teacher in England and 'Cupani' was the first recorded Sweet Pea to be cultivated. Cupani has deep purple-blue & violet bi-coloured blooms which are heavily aromatic and most of the stems bear around three to four flowers.

Though the blooms are smaller than modern hybrids 'Cupani' retains the original fragrance loved by Father Francis. No other sweet peas are as fragrant and it is still a popular choice.

The original Cupani, was small, with dark blue, purple-hooded flowers and an intense fragrance, but very little hybridizing was done until Shropshire gardener Henry Eckford cross-bred and developed the modern form of the sweet pea, and turned it from a rather insignificant if sweetly scented flower into one of floral sensations of the late 19th century.



Sweet peas *Lathyrus odoratus* have been popular with gardeners for hundreds of years, and it's the fragrance that really captures the imagination. However many modern cultivars have been bred without fragrance, so read the label (or seed packet) carefully to ensure you buy the form you want.

Traditionally St Patrick's Day - 17 March was *the day* on which to sow Sweet peas, however - early Autumn will be fine and they will grow through Winter and then flower in the Spring.

Alternatively early Spring planting will also see a crop of Sweet Peas up and flowering before the Summer heat gets to them.

Select a wide, open sunny aspect, with good drainage, and an ideal pH of about 6½. Some added lime - 100 grams per square metre. Dig this in about six weeks before planting seed. Two weeks before sowing use a fertiliser with no copper. Copper is a fungicide, and will kill the rhizobia on the roots.

The trellis for the Sweet Peas doesn't need to be fancy, as the sweet peas plants will cover it when they grow.



When sowing the seed, especially in light sandy soils, it helps to scarify it. This means rubbing it on a piece of sand paper opposite the little white bit where the roots emerge - and soak overnight in warm water. They will swell to about five times their normal size. These will then germinate quite quickly. Heavier soils probably don't need treating because there is enough moisture in the soil.

Plant the seed 20 centimetres apart, and two centimetres deep to encourage lateral branching and quality cut flowers. For finer quality blooms, prune off the laterals and plant closer to encourage a single stem with larger flowers.

Sparrows love eating the emerging seed, so cover the bed with netting. After germination remove the netting and the sweet peas will start their path up the trellis.



We find that planting the seeds in tubes where they can be protected from mice - who love to eat the seeds to be the best option - then plant out the small seedlings.

Also Bower Birds are great destroyers of the leaves of Sweet Pea plants (and garden peas, beans and passionfruit vines) and they will eat all the greenery. Growing Sweet Peas at our place also requires a trellis *and* netting.

Happy Gardening



Kathy Z



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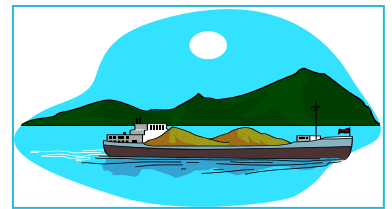
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ANZAC DAY

25 April 2023

#AnzacDay



The Tatong Memorial Hall committee is proud to extend an invitation to the community to commemorate ANZAC DAY at the Tatong hall.

As part of the ceremony representatives from the Benalla RSL will attend to unveil the new soldier's memorial plaque and lay a wreath.

All members of the community are invited to honour our soldiers with the laying of flowers or wreath.

The ceremony will begin at 5.00pm

Light refreshment will be provided after the ceremony

**We would appreciate a RSVP by text or phone to
Patricia 0488 988 927**

ANZAC Day – Benalla - 25.4.2022

Good morning ladies and gentlemen, girls and boys and welcome to this ANZAC Day ceremony. My name is Chris Hakkennes, and I joined the Navy in 1963. At recruit school I was assigned to the first Waller Division at HMAS Cerberus. I specialized as a Radar Technician and my last sea posting was HMAS Perth. Today, I am honoured to have the opportunity to speak about a Benalla boy.

Hector MacDonald Laws Waller, or 'Hec' as he preferred, was born on the 4th April 1900 at Benalla. He was the youngest of 10 children born to William and Helen Waller. Hec was educated at the Benalla East State School and the Higher Elementary School.

On 31st December 1913, he joined the Royal Australian Naval College at Jervis Bay to continue his studies. An interesting point to note is that some years later he was to return as Commander of the Naval College. Graduating in 1917 he was awarded the Kings Medal for the best Cadet of his intake.

He was sent to the UK to join HMS Agincourt, where on the 21st November 1918, he was present at the surrender of the German High Seas Fleet in the closing stages of World War 1. In 1921, Hec was promoted to Lieutenant. He married Nancy Bowes, at the Methodist Church in Lewisham NSW on the 7th April 1923. They had two sons, Michael and John.

Hec studied gunnery, torpedo work, seamanship and navigation, and was posted as Signals Officer to various British and Australian Warships.

At the outbreak of World War II, he was appointed to the HMAS Stuart as Commander of the 'Scrap Iron Flotilla', a name reflecting the great age of the fleet. However, the Australian members of the 'Scrap Iron Flotilla' took pride in being so singled out. Together with HMAS Vampire, Vendetta, Voyager and Waterhen, Hec joined the British Mediterranean Fleet in Alexandria, and formed the 10th Destroyer Flotilla under his overall command, and he was promoted to Captain.

He had distinguished himself in the following exploits: Naval Battles of Calabria and Matapan, defence of Crete, evacuation of Allied Forces from Greece, re-supply of the Tobruk Garrison and accounted for several enemy submarines.

He earned the nickname 'Hard over Hec' from the cooks and stewards in HMAS Stuart. The violent helm orders of hard-a-port or hard-a-starboard were manoeuvres he used to dodge aerial bombs.

In October 1941 he was recalled to Australia to take command of the cruiser HMAS Perth. Before taking up this position, Hec and his wife visited his old school, Benalla High, where he gave the students a most inspiring talk.

HMAS Perth and USS Houston were fortunate to survive the Battle of the Java Sea on the 27th and 28th February 1942, when five other allied warships were lost. On 28th February orders were received to sail in company with USS Houston and the Dutch destroyer Eversten through Sunda Strait to Tjilatjap. HMAS Perth was torpedoed three times in a very short period, followed by a fourth and final torpedo, at 25 minutes past midnight, which sent the Perth to the bottom.

With a compliment of 681, Captain Waller and over half of the crew went down with the ship. The survivors went to Japanese prison camps, and sent to work suffering in brutal conditions on building the Thai-Burma Rail. At the end of the war only 214 were repatriated home to Australia.

Captain Hector Waller will be remembered as "one of the greatest Captains that ever sailed the seas". A Collins Class Submarine was named in Hec Waller's honour in 1997.

As you leave today's service please take the time to reflect upon the monument dedicated to Captain Hec Waller in 2010. Benalla was honoured to have Hec's son, John, attend this dedication ceremony.

I would like to finish with the Naval Ode:

*"They have no grave but the cruel sea,
No flowers lie at their heads,
A rusty hulk is their tombstone,
Fast on the ocean bed".*

On this ANZAC Day we remember past and serving personnel in all theatres of war & peace keeping.

"We will remember them.

Lest We Forget". Thank you!

This speech was delivered by Chris Hakkennes on ANZAC Day 2022.

Gawn to Town

Living on the edge of town has its downsides, but living 500m south of the aerodrome is fun for enjoying tugs going up, then gliders circling above, appearing and vanishing in the sunlight.

We were very handy for the air show last weekend. The airport precinct population set up their chairs and marquees; one home had their horse float nicely positioned, with a couple of chairs inside.



Recently a friend from Moulamein posted a video of an ag-plane over the rice crop. That was the air show we used to have every year,

back when we were rice farmers. The plane would buzz the house to let us know it had arrived. While it was being loaded with soaked grain, we paced out the width of the spread. Then taking a sack, we'd walk out across the paddy, waving for the plane to pass overhead, showering us with rice. Then off to the required length, to stand again flapping one's sack, for the plane to take aim for the next run. Until the amazing day the pilot said he had this whacky new thing called GPS and didn't need markers any more.

I once went up in an ag plane. I was about 20 and thought I ought have outgrown motion sickness. The pilot had taken up a neighbour, while sowing their rice layout, but had to land early and unload a very green neighbour. The pilot said he'd take me for a flight after, rather than while sowing. Taking off across the paddock, bumping over the familiar stretch of ground at an extraordinary speed, was fantastic. Lifting off the ground was just amazing. Rising into the air, looking down at our farm, at the winding river, from above, was breath-taking. Then the plane banked left and I can't recall much after that. It was about 3 days before I could keep food down. Planes are wonderful to watch – tugs, gliders, working planes, aeronautic acrobats, and silver lines in the sky. I think I'll stay on terra firma and watch them go by.

- Andi Stevenson



When did the current building of the Tatong Hotel open? It was under construction in February 1923 - that was just over 100 years ago. Happy Centenary to the Tatong Tavern!



Benalla Standard, Tuesday 6 February 1923, page 3
TATONG.

Messrs. Wallace and Griffiths are now about completing the erection of a new hotel at Tatong on the site of the building which was destroyed by fire.

It is a very Fine structure of reinforced concrete, consisting of 23 rooms.

There is a spacious bar, and the dining room is 20ft. by 18ft.

There is in addition a commercial room, lounges, fourteen bedrooms, and a bath, which will be supplied from a permanent spring and overhead tanks.

It is expected that the building will be completed in a fortnight.

Swanpool News

March went out in a flurry, with a successful Motor Show, and Community BBQ, and now we are organising ourselves for winter. Social Bowls continues, weather permitting, and our informal Men's Shed members continue to do the gardening and maintenance around the Hall when they meet for their weekly catch up. The LandCare group is planning some interesting events for this year, as is our Community Development Association.

Meanwhile, the Cinema is hosting a terrific fishy family friendly Double Bill over Easter, showing Aussie film "Blueback", based on a Tim Winton novel, along with the continuing story of Cornish boy band "Fisherman's Friends: One and All". This month's matinees include a family friendly screening over school holidays of "Lyle Lyle, Crocodile". Friday 14th April at 1.30pm, and Oscar nominated epic from Steven Spielberg, "The Fabelmans", screening on Friday 21st April, 10.30am, preceded by a cuppa and a biscuit. Two other Oscar nominated films also appear on this month's programme, "Aftersun", and "Empire of Light".

Pick up one of our printed programmes at the Tavern, or selected outlets in Swanpool, Benalla or Mansfield, or check us out online at

www.swanpoolcinema.com.au. We look forward to welcoming you!

Deb

Ain't Nothin' But a Hound Dog



Ain't Nothin' But a Hound Dog

Most of us are aware of the criminal activity on local farms in recent years – drone activity, cattle and equipment theft, property damage etc. Well, tragically, some criminal behaviour has been reported on Smith Road. Papa L has noticed some petty theft at his house lately, and solving the mystery has been perplexing. It seems that the bird seed bells have been disappearing from his house. There is no evidence of burglary or trespassing, yet the seed bells continue to vanish. But it is with glee and relief that the De Fazio's announce that they have a suspect in custody, and some pretty damning footage of the crime. Papa L & Nonna L's eldest granddaughter, Miss L, noticed some strange behaviour exhibited by Tucker, the harrier hound pup, whilst they were both over at the stables. Miss L noticed that Tucker was fervently sniffing around and circling Nonna & Papa's house. He disappeared, only to emerge minutes later with something firmly ensnared in his dribbling, oversized mouth. Tucker legged it into the long grass, to crouch and dig, clearly burying the object. Once it was buried, he stalked away, flopped down in the sun to smugly watch his buried treasure. Within minutes, obviously unsatisfied with his location choice, he bounded back over to his buried loot, dug it up, and moved it to a different spot in the long grass. This continued for most of the morning, until finally Miss L, curious, approached the latest burial site and saw what it was he was burying. A bird seed bell. Apparently this is Tucker's latest game – stealing the bird seed bell (we still have no idea how he manages to get it down from its hanging spot), burying it in various spots before eventually eating the evidence. Probably not an ideal choice for a carnivorous pup, and not the most intelligent way of hiding his crime – we can confirm that bird seed DOES have a laxative effect on dogs, and that proof of his crime was sighted 3-4 hours after consumption.

Caryn De Fazio



The updated printer is turning out a much better Tattler! We hope readers of the printed copy are enjoying the photos. The replacement machine was delivered in January by Leon and Bailey of North East Business Machines, Wangaratta.

Tassie tour – 3

Our original plan had been to ride the steam train from Strahan to Queenstown and return, a full day's trip. This is no longer available. The train from Strahan now goes halfway and returns to Strahan and is a diesel locomotive.



The steam train operates out of Queenstown, goes halfway and returns to Queenstown.

It is called the West Coast Wilderness Steam Train, and very soon after departing Queenstown station it became very obvious that it is well named. I know why the railway was built, but I'm not at all sure how at times the train is inches from the hillside the line was cut into. One could reach out of the carriage window and touch the steep hillside. Even today, it would be a monumental task to put a line through such terrain.

Because of this terrain and subsequent risk of fallen trees and rocks, a crew in a road-rail vehicle inspect the track each morning before the train is allowed to depart.



Very innovative for those days, the driver has to engage a rack and pinion system to cope with the grades on two sections. In fact, this was the first line in Australia to use a system like this. The system was explained by our conductor when we reached the first section, a steep climb. He then said "This is the second steepest section of railway line in Australia. If you want to know which is the steepest, we'll be on it going down the other side."

There are three stations, Lynchford, Rinadeena and Dubbil Barril (someone's idea of how to spell Double Barrel). We stopped at each for the loco to be filled up

with water – it was working really hard and so used a lot of water.

Lynchford was the site of a gold mine in the early days. A sluice has been set up behind the station, and anyone interested can have a go at gold panning.



At Rinadeena, the highest point on the line, we had morning tea on the way out and lunch on the way back in their nice little café / gift shop.

Our turnaround at Dubbil Barril was literally that – the loco was disconnected, shunted to a turntable, turned around manually by the fireman and shunted back to the carriages for the return trip.

There's certainly something very evocative about steam trains...

Once off the train, it was straight to the car to head for Derwent Bridge and 'The Wall in the Wilderness. This gallery closes at 4pm, and we needed as much time as possible to have a good look.

Sculptor, Greg Duncan is carving the history of the Tasmanian Highlands in the form of a sculptured wall. It contains scenes depicting the workers of the Hydro-Electric Scheme and the forestry industry.

The wall is three metres high, fifty metres long and double sided. It is a work in progress.

Accommodation tonight is at Tarraleah.

Tarraleah is a township built in the 1930s by the Hydro-Electric Commission to house its workers.

At one time, it housed over five hundred workers. It is now privately owned and is run as a tourist town with a variety of accommodation styles. We stayed in one of the fifteen art deco cottages. Dinner was at the town's pub, The Highlander Arms.

Fancy buying a tourism business? Tarraleah is for sale. Interested? Go to <https://getthewordout.com.au/press-release/press-release-entire-tasmanian-town-for-sale-tarraleah-estate/>

Oh, by the way, you'll need to have a lazy twelve million.
John Knapper.



BRAGGING SEASON

Firstly about my 13 year old grandson Kazadi Kadima, son of daughter Anita, who has become a very good distance runner. His father is from African Burundi which may explain his loping but very fast running ability which has qualified him for a major 3km race for non-city athletes in Brisbane in April. He is already taller than me and competes in the Saturday Park Runs which for some are a race and I think he holds the record in Shepparton (where the family now lives) for the under 15 age group Park Run. In a recent Benalla 5km Park Run he was first over the finish line 2 minutes before the next runner to finish.

As a middle distance runner in my youth I'd like to take some credit for Kazadi's ability but it would only be a little credit because while I won some country (beyond the city limits) championships that was as far as I got.

Speaking of the boys, whom some of you know from their time here in Tatong and Benalla, and Kazadi's younger brother Amani is still enduring management for his bone cancer damaged leg. Due to the amount of surgery and grafting he needs to wear a fibre glass brace and is supposed to be careful about activities, but, much to Anita's concern, he often wants to act like a typical reckless kid. After recent appraisal and minor surgical adjustments he is now off crutches once again.

Now a little about me, Tatong and the Kelly gang mural at the Tavern. I just recently received a phone call followed a booklet from the Australian Silo Art Trail, subtitled Silo and Water Tower Art, which includes the mural on the water tank at the Tavern. The organiser Michelle works from WA and this makes the pamphlet a national tourism publication, helping to put Tatong on the map. Not that I would like our little hamlet to become too touristy because it seems that most areas of exceptional beauty become partly spoiled by becoming too popular.

The water tank mural was initiated by Pedro, former lessee of the Tavern, who asked me to do something connecting the Kelly story to Tatong. He suggested depicting the gang prospecting in the bush and I had a vague recollection that it was something that they did do so I came up with the current central scene with the four historic pictures either side.

The present Kelly gang mural was a second version because the first sketch got a lukewarm reception from the Tavern bar art appreciation regulars when I showed it to them and Pedro. I was pleased with the second and final result because there is no guarantee of success every time one paints.

I was not 'having a dig' at the 'regulars' at the Tavern bar about art appreciation because from many years of experience I value the fresh eyes of anyone who can give an honest evaluation, a grunt or even nothing to say. Nobody needs art school training to recognise a beautiful face, a flower, scenery or even a work of art.

Mike Larkin

Table Tennis 2023

Well, it's time to dust off those table tennis bats or if you don't have one, duck into the sports store to buy one. We need YOU to help us make up teams for the new season of Table Tennis in the Swanpool and District Table Tennis Association!

Practice nights commence at the Tatong Hall and at the Albert Heaney Reserve Swanpool on April 12th at 7pm. Two more practice nights will be on April 19th and 26th.

Table Tennis is one of the few sports where teams can be made up of players of any age. Children, and all adults are equally welcome. We would love to see YOU.

Shaun Murphy President 0429435590

Rob Erskine Secretary 0457672248

A PROMISING NEW INTERNET DEVELOPMENT, OR MAYBE NOT?

As soon as I heard about Chat GPT I became very interested in its potential and now that I am subscribed and a user I am impressed. I first read about it in a newspaper where the article described how schoolchildren could harness its ability to write essays and letters. What it can write is of a high standard, even enough to pass school examinations, and with brief instruction it could write acceptable articles for the Tattler!

For anyone unfamiliar with Chat GPT it is an Artificial Intelligence computer program which answers question in a matter of fact and wise manner. It 'speaks' with respect and authority but because it is in its 'infancy' mistakes have been made.

The question for most of us will probably be: Is AI a force for good or for harm? It will depend to a large degree upon the programming it receives, meaning that it is still the humans pulling the strings. I asked the ChatGPT itself whether it had a universally acknowledged set of ethical principles and values and it said it could not form its own guidelines but that the intention of its creators is that it responds to requests ethically and responsibly. If we can create a machine which exhibits and demonstrates the best and most admirable qualities of humanity then it could be an effective educator for us.

What it is that I like and hope for ChatGPT is that by removing the biases, aggressive politics and damaging conditioning of humans it will improve the human ability to function far more effectively in both our personal and social interactions. While humans are very efficient with engineering and other tech matters we have a sorry record when it comes to beliefs and personal behaviour.

Mike Larkin



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

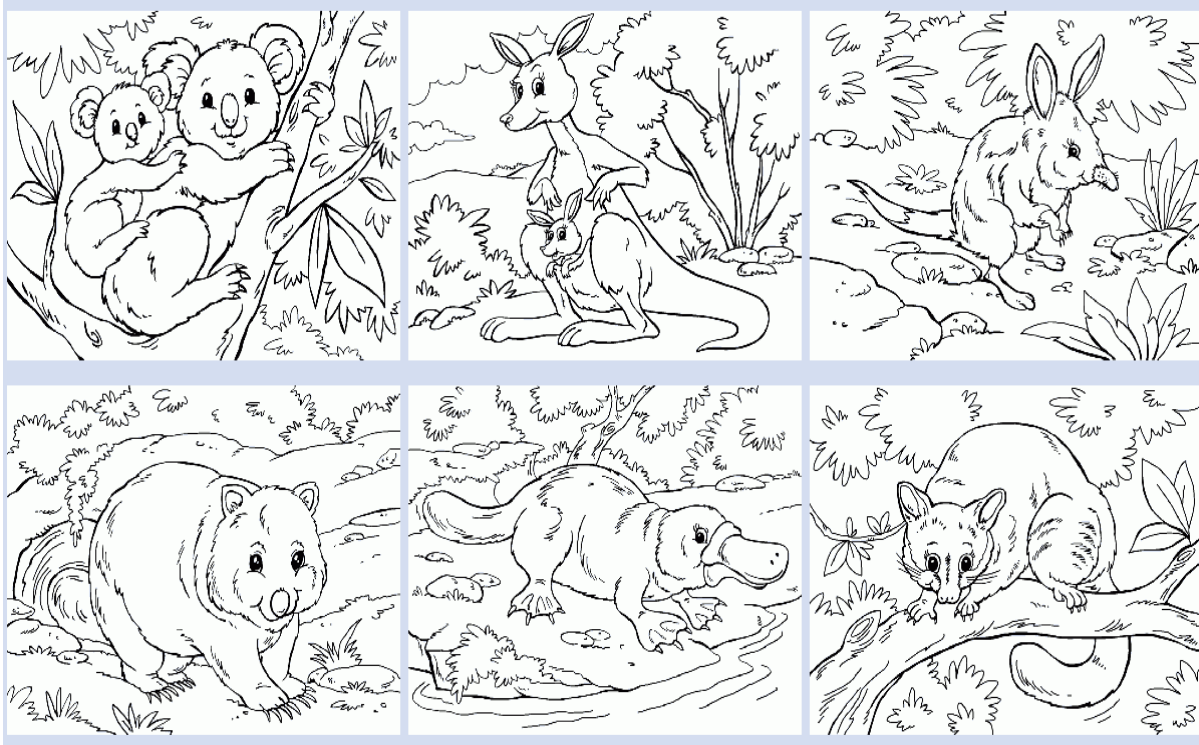
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For the kids.

These are some of the awesome animals found in Australia. You may like to colour them in.



Which of the above animals am I?

I can't move backwards. My babies are the size of a jellybean when they are born and a group of my kind is called a mob?

I am nocturnal and usually live in hollow trees. One species of my kind builds nests known as dreys in bushes or trees. I have a body like an otter and a tail like a beaver. A group of my kind is called a paddle. I have webbed feet and a bill like a duck. I lay eggs.

I smell like eucalyptus and make really strange sounds. I have similar fingerprints to humans.

I can run as fast as a human. My closest living relative is the koala. A group of my kind is called a wisdom.

I am a master burrower and use underground tunnels for protection from heat as well as from predators. I have particularly poor eyesight.

On the 25th of April we will get a holiday for Anzac Day. Here is my favourite, no fail, delicious Anzac biscuit recipe. Why don't you try it out?

- | | | | | |
|---------------------------|--|-------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| 1 cup rolled oats | $\frac{3}{4}$ cup desiccated coconut | 1 cup sugar | 1 cup plain flour | 125grams butter |
| 1 tablespoon golden syrup | $1\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoons bicarbonate of soda | | 2 tablespoons boiling water | |

Combine oats, coconut, sugar and flour. Gently heat butter and golden syrup until melted; then add bicarb. dissolved in boiling water. Stir into dry ingredients. Place dessertspoons of mixture onto tray lined with baking paper; allow room for spreading. Bake at 150°C for 20 minutes. Cool and enjoy!

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MOLYULLAH FIRE BRIGADE UPDATE AND SUNDAY DRIVER ROSTER

Thanks to our brigade members who make sure the truck and ultralight are in working order by taking them for a weekly Sunday drive.

Sunday Drive includes:

- Take the truck for a short drive
- If fuel is approaching ½ full or less, take the truck to Benalla and refuel
- Walk around truck to ensure everything is OK – lights etc working
- Run the pump
- Participate in radio schedule with Benalla Group (starts 10am Ch #365)
- Take ultralight tanker for a short drive
- Run pump on ultralight
- Fill in log book/s

02-Apr-23	Stephen Brosig-Welch
09-Apr-23	Damian Nicholls
16-Apr-23	Russell Byrne
23-Apr-23	Kevin Ryan
30-Apr-23	Alastair Cameron
07-May-23	Anthony Hill

If you are unable to do the Sunday drive, please let Dion Stevenson know on 0417 879500.

MOLYULLAH BRIGADE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our AGM will be held on Monday 22nd May from 7.30pm at the Molyullah Hall. Please come along and support your local brigade!

ANZAC DAY IN TATONG

The Tatong Memorial hall committee is holding a ceremony at the front of the hall starting at 5pm on Anzac Day, the 25th of April. This is partly in order to officially open the newly erected flagpoles as well as the front of hall plaque and mural. It will also give locals a chance to remember the sacrifice of those who defended our lifestyle freedoms in all past wars.

The committee is arranging for RSL officials to attend and ex-military personal will be invited and welcomed.

Wreaths will be laid and a light refreshments served for all those attending. This free event is being held later on Anzac Day than the traditional early morning services so that it does not compete with Benalla's ceremonies and it allows time for those going to Benalla to 'recover' from the early start.

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

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
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	111.9	232.2	139.2	25	1217.8
2023	25	18.7											43.7

WEATHER IN THE TATONG TOWNSHIP

At the moment it is very dry with only 11.6mm of rain since the start of the month of March and not much before that in the month of February which had a total for the month of only 18.7mm.
 We never got a single flower on our two Crepe Myrtle trees this season, while frustratingly the same varieties are in full bloom in Benalla, even on nature strips where, I imagine, they get no special care. Benalla’s soil type and moisture holding ability is much better than Tatong’s, at least for some species of plants.
 Mike Larkin

1.Mornington 2.Omeo 3.Huntingdale 4.Freshwater Creek 5.Wilby 6.Fawkner 7.Katamatite 8.Bet Bet
 9.Goulburn Weir (this should have read Victorian river/dam) 10. Arthur’s Seat 11.Ensay 12. Barmah
 13.Townsville 14.Beechworth 15.Cowes 16.Darnum 17.Merrijig 18.Lemnos 19.Garden City 20.Speed
 21.Silvan. These are the answers to Cryptic/Tangled towns which were in the March newsletter. Sue O’Brien



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. 21st April 9am—5pm

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

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Have a printed copy delivered within Tatong district,

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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).

Gravel/Crushed Rock Supplies

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GRETA SOUTH

Benalla Standard, Tuesday 21 August 1923, page 3

A LONELY DEATH

- TOOMBULLUP PIONEER PASSES.

The death took place in sad circumstances last week of Mr. L. Crowley, of Toombullup.

On Sunday 12th August Mr. Crowe, of Fern Hills, was at his farm, in Toombullup, and took a letter from the box over to Mr. Larry Crowley. After reading the letter to Mr. Crowley, he left, promising to get some goods from Tatong store for him the next day, and send them up.

Accordingly, Master J. Crowe took them up on Monday afternoon, but as he was unable to make Mr. Crowley hear, and the dogs would not let him go into the house, he had to return to Fern Hills.

The next day Mr. Crowe went up, and had to shoot one of the dogs before he could get near the house. He then discovered that Mr. Crowley was dead, whereupon the rest of the dogs were destroyed.

The Benalla police were informed of the sad occurrence, and notified the Mansfield police. Senior constable Hayes proceeded to the hut and conveyed the body to Mansfield. He reports the case as one of the worst he has witnessed,

there being absolutely nothing in the hut to eat except a lump of butter. There was not a blanket or bed covering of any sort, not even a stick of wood to put on the fire. The hut was also practically without a roof.

There were no suspicious circumstances about the case, it being apparent on every hand that the old man had died from want and exposure. After viewing the body, the deputy-coroner gave an order for burial.

This death removes the last of the pioneers of the northern end of Toombullup. Very little is known as to whether Mr. Crowley has any relatives. He and Mr. Wm. Brick, of Goomalibee, were closely associated in the early days of Toombullup, and he has led the lonely life of a bachelor for many years. He was an exceptionally strong man, but has failed lately, and had an attack of influenza.

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The following quaint lines were found more than 20 years ago nailed to a tree on the road from Benalla to Tatong. Some of our old residents will perhaps recognise the names, or know who was the artist :—

Reader, beware of hungry "Splatt,"
 Ten and ten and no fat ;
 And if you go a little higher,
 Do you take care of old Sawyer.
 He is a miser in his heart,
 I do not care who takes his part,
 For when Mr. Darlot's not at home,
 He gives little meat and big one bone ;
 But when Mr. Darlot's on the ground
 A better master can't be found.

Benalla Ensign and Farmer's and Squatter's Journal, Saturday 4 November 1871, page 2

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Found in Trove.

I think the ditty says "Ten and ten and no fat" - but what does it mean?

Any information on these - poor Mr Crowley, fine Mr Darlot, slandered Mr Sawyer, or anyone else - will be gratefully received.

- Andrea Stevenson



The Molyullah Community invites you to the

MOLYULLAH

Easter Sports

120th SPORTS

HORSE EVENTS

FREE KIDS RIDES

- JUMPING CASTLE
- FACE PAINTING
- TRAIN RIDES

Midland freight

FREE FARM YARD

- ANIMAL NURSERY
- COW MILKING
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- HORSE + CART

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MOLYULLAH RECREATION RESERVE

115 CENTRE ROAD MOLYULLAH

FOOD STALLS

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PROGRAM OF EVENTS AND SCHEDULE

Email: sports@molyullah.com.au
www.molyullah.com.au

Conducted by the Molyullah Recreation and Public Hall Reserve Committee of Management Inc.
 Enquiries: Anthony Hill - 0428 109464

ADMISSION:

- ADULTS \$15
- FAMILY \$35
- SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN \$5
- PRE-SCHOOLERS FREE

Proceeds of the Sports Day are used for the upkeep of the Hall and its surrounds and in support of various local charities.

Dogs must be kept on leash.