

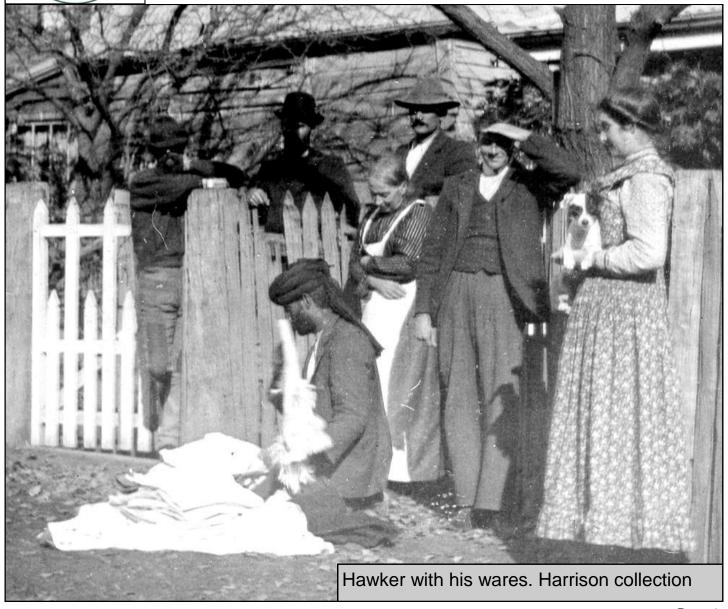
May 2023 Donation \$1

www.tatongt attler.org. au

Edition 363

Tatong Heritage Group Once Hawkers brought wares to the householders. Mola Dad was one. Hawkers played an important role in the countryside, before everyone had a motor-car to give easy access to shops in town. Hawkers would often camp in the easement passing the CFA shed.

Does anyone have any recollections of Hawkers who frequented Tatong? If you do, please share with the Tatong Heritage Group, tatongheritage@yahoo.com.au or the Tattler; email, or via the Tattler mailbox by the Tavern.





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Meanwhile, in May, One Hundred Years Ago

The *Benalla Standard* of May 1st, 1923, includes a report from the Dairy and Thistle Inspector, Mr. W. B. Tiernan. He declares that South Wangaratta, Glenrowan, Taminick, Thoona, Lurg, Lima Creeks, Kilfeera, and Baddaginnie are very clear of thistle and other weeds.

The stinkwort on the boundary of the Benalla shire and Mansfield has been attended to, and all the St. John's wort that he knew of had been destroyed. He had to maintain two horses and would like another £10 for expenses, please - which after a short discussion, the council granted him.

Heavens! I wish we could much such a declaration on the status of those weeds now!

There is also a report from Tatong Riding, that "the necessary steps have been taken to close Clark's deviation and portion of the Molyullah-Tatong road against firewood traffic.", and that concerning "Kilfeera road near Websters and elsewhere, repairs can be done more efficiently and cheaply when the weather breaks," as well as, "Alternative tenders for works from Dodd's Crossing to Drummond's and Ford's are returnable to-day."

When the weather broke, I know not; nor do I know the location of "Clark's deviation" - but wouldn't it be a great name for a rock 'n roll band!

Andrea Stevenson

Molyullah Easter Sports







What would the Tattler be without my sagely advice about world affairs – all froth and bubbles no doubt!

So many people are commenting in recent times about things being anything but good on the world stage, without a solution or a clear idea of what's going on. For me the simple answer is that its situation normal for humanity where we continue to ignore truth's salvation. How true the observation that we learn once again, only, that we refuse to learn mainly because 'we know what we are doing'!

The authentic, innate human nature is one of contentment, love and joy so not much has changed about our level of happiness since the stone-age. Even though we now have the new and wondrous technology with its ability to compute, communicate and provide knowledge, it has also dragged us into a vortex of personal isolation and uncertainty about its ability to make things better.

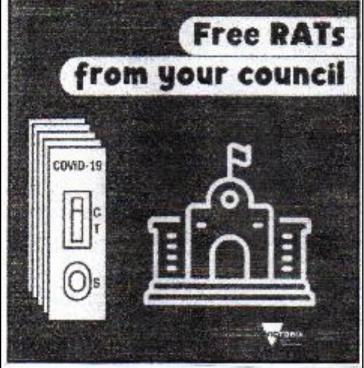
I sense a strong pull to days past when people had so little in the way of possessions but seemed more content and with less of the constant pressure to change, adapt and perform.

Digital tech is both good and bad in that we have increased the speed and efficiency of so much of our work but also there are people taking advantage of the systems by controlling and manipulating the less tech savvy. Apart from the ubiquitous hackers and telemarketers we have been devastated once again by global uncertainty where most people will have experienced the ease with which financial authorities and even medical experts have manipulated facts and truth out of greed, fear and intimidation.

Alternatively, and fortunately it is also much easier for ordinary people to find out, by the same internet means, what the 'bad guys' are up to!

Mike Larkin





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2022 Tassie tour – 4



Plan for today - visit Russell Falls and then head for Hobart. As we can't check in to our Hobart hotel till 3.00pm, we'll have time to visit the Hobart Botanic Gardens on the way.

Russell Falls are only about a 15 minute each way walk from the visitor centre at Mount Field. There are other, longer walks as well.

The falls, as with all the falls we've seen, are accessed by good paths and viewing platforms. They are spectacular. In fact, if you can only visit one waterfall, then this should be the one.

As we arrived at the Botanic Gardens, there was a volunteer with a golf cart. We agreed that a tour of the Gardens on that would ease the pressure on our legs a little.

> We had a nice cruise around the gardens with commentary. A stop at the Antarctic garden building allowed us to see plants that grow there and experience the cold and windy conditions they grow in.

We elected to be dropped off at the Japanese Garden and walk back via the Patch. The Patch is what everyone who watches Gardening Australia wants to

see, of course.

Hobart is certainly a beautiful Australian city. Yet it began its early ife as a penal colony in 1803, making it the second oldest city in Australia.

Our hotel overlooked Franklin Wharf. This was the port when Hobart was being established. As well as numerous restaurants in the redeveloped wharf warehouses, there are interesting bronze sculptures.





Seals and Penguins is a bronze sculpture by Stephen Walker on Franklin Wharf. It is part of a group of sculptures called Heading South. These waterfront artworks memorialise Hobart's role as the launching point for several 19th century Antarctic expeditions. The first maritime explorer was James Clark Ross, a captain in the Royal Navy. His two ships – the HMS Terror and HMS Erebus – set sail from this point to the Antarctic in 1840.

Another work, 'Footsteps to Freedom', highlights the number of women and children transported to Australia. Names, ages, crime and sentence imposed are on the

base. In all, almost 13,000 convict women and 2,000 children arrived here.

Yet another tells of the children aged 2 to 14 years who went to the Orphan School in New Town, 1834 - 1853, and lists their names and ages.

While in Hobart a 'must see' is MONA – challenging, confronting, controversial - that's next.

John Knapper



Gawn to Town

The split system is very clever. As the days grow colder, I instruct it as to when to turn itself on, and when to turn itself off. It faithfully obeys, until the next power outage wipes it's memory.

A wood stove needs operating. There is an art to that... what a waste is accumulated in my head! The wakening of the slow combustions stove, first thing in the morning; it isn't dead, just sleeping, and with the correct rites and incantations it will gloriously glow into life once more. By get-up time the coals are glowing and ready to be fed. The porridge in the bottom oven is perfect, and just needs... The microwave oven to re-heat it. Didn't have that, did you grandmother?

The Air Conditioner doesn't cook porridge. Well, not by any means I'd care to try. It would probably make ice-cream on a cold morning, for I have seen how it ices itself up. Just sprinkle on sugar!

On the other hand, the air conditioner doesn't care which way the wind is blowing, let alone how hard it roars. Heaven help you if you have a pavlova in the wood stove and the wind gets up. And for all the emphasis on means of generating power, while burning coal is wrecking the planet, the A/C isn't fussed where the electricity comes from, so long as it keeps coming. Running a wood stove also requires knowledge of the burning properties of available types of wood. A nice lump of box, now there is a tool for rice pudding. Just not for first start-up. How did my great-great-grandmothers



learn this? Trial and error and shared advice, I guess.
A slow combustion stove is an old technology based on older technologies. It can be married with the new; a hot water jacket feeding water into pipes in a concrete slab, with an electric pump moving warm water through. That would have impressed the great-grandparents.
And dang but wood stoves are good at heating water.

These days contraptions get fitted to the hot water system, as one is not permitted to have very hot water. The goulies and ghosties and long legged beasties going thump in the roof cavity are banned; those extraordinary noises emitted when the hot water starts boiling. So good for spooking guests.

The split system hums, when it runs; so in the depth of winter, a pretty constant hum. I miss the silence.

But I don't miss wrestling with lumps of wood, and scoring the odd splinter. Maybe the answer is to move to Queensland. but then you need an air conditioner blowing cold air instead. And humming.

Thought for the Month

On the De Fazio dairy farm there is a calf called Cruella, named for Disney's rendition of the villain in "The 101 Dalmatians". The wicked Cruella De Vil, true to the English tradition of vicious powerful women in fables, was collecting Dalmatian puppies so that she could dress in their skins. This is of course not as acceptable as dressing in the skins of lambs or calves. But consider; Cruella wanted a black and white fur coat. Maybe she has been reincarnated as a Friesian cow? What kind of karma is that?

- Andrea Stevenson

White Dates Gate

The White Gate dinner @ the Tavern is set for Wednesday 3rd of May. We can toast a Farewell to Summer. Book yourselves in & arrive 6:30-7ish. - Andi

This month the De Fazio dairy farm has been less relaxed, as calving is well and truly happening.

Of course there is much preparation for this event, calf pens cleaned and disinfected, specialized feed for the expectant mums with pre-calving pellets, milking machine checked and serviced.

The most challenging event has been the annual cat muster, treating the cowyard cat, Sizzle, for worms and fleas. After searching high and low amongst, under and through the many outbuildings we decided this cat can read our minds and apparently doesn't appreciate the necessary treatment for worms and fleas. I'm sure he will forgive us soon and return to his preferred position in the rafters of the dairy. Perhaps he may even begin to earn his keep and chase a few mice as well! - Linda De Fazio

Meanwhile at Whitegate... The theme for this year's dairy calves has been decided - Disney characters. So far we have Rapunzel, Pochahontas & Cruella. Good luck to Faz writing those monikers on the ear tags! - Caryn De Fazio

White Gate Fire Brigade Roster:

Bruce Burgess	30 Apr	Leigh Humphries	28 May
Matthew Defazio	7 May	Bill Ferguson	4 Jun
Ross Runnalls	14 May	Norton Grimwade	11 Jun
David Elford	21 May	Terry Ryan	18 Jun

- Andrea Stevenson, 0429 439 336



KAZADI'S BRISBANE RACE RESULT

As I wrote about grandson Kazadi's upcoming race in the last Tattler, you might like to know how he went. He came fourth out of 18 runners in his Brisbane national under 14, 3km race on Thursday the 13th of April which is a good result. He will be keen to get among the placegetters next time

Coincidentally my nephew, his wife and children who live in England, happened to be in Oz visiting family and they were in Brisbane on the day of Kazadi's race. They went to the stadium and watched him compete.

Mike Larkin

SAVE THE DATE

Wednesday 10th May for the next Tatong community dinner & catch up at the tavern 6.30pm. Everyone's welcome.

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



Autumn with Damp Ground and

all the Beautiful Colours

About three years ago I bought a small plant at one of the charity shops in Benalla. A mystery plant as neither I nor the ladies in the shop had seen one before. It had taken my interest with its tough leaves and what appeared to be tiny flowers in the centre of each leaf.

A search through the internet and I discovered my



plant was Spineless butcher's broom (Ruscus hypophyllum), a plant that can be traced back to the 1600s. The English peasants used to gather it from the understorey of the forests and sell it to butchers, who used it to scour the blocks where they butchered meats. It was also used to scour the floors

The plant's most curious aspect is its foliage. The broad green pointed growths are not leaves, but rather flattened stems called cladodes. (The actual leaves are tiny and rarely noticed.) The plant photosynthesizes via these cladodes. When the plant blooms, small flowers emerge directly from either the top or the bottom of the "leaf" (cladode). It is quite rare to see a



leaf with a flower in the middle but as cladodes aren't leaves, they're stems and stems do bloom. The protrusions on the leaves are actually little clusters of flower buds and faded flowers, not bulbs or seeds.



Butcher's broom is a tough slow growing plant and will reach a height of around 45 cm. They are usually used as groundcovers for shady to partially shady gardens (they tend to burn in full sun) and can even be used to create a short hedge.

Butcher's Broom can be propagated by root division. As my plant was still in it's pot when I divided it - I only had to cut the root ball in half. In the ground it would be a matter of dividing as for any perennial by taking out a section from the side then either replanting in the garden or potting on until firmly established.

The stems are prized by florists as they are long lived in floral arrangements.



There are various medicinal uses for Ruscus hypophyllum

And cat lovers beware:

it is toxic to cats.



Last spring I had bought various salvias to try out in my garden to see which ones thrived, survived and gave the best blooms for bees and honeyeaters.

Salvia Uliginosa (Bog Sage) a strange choice for our dry conditions, however, this pretty sky blue perennial managed to survive in a border along the driveway. Admittedly it sulked on more than one occasion when the watering didn't happen. Not one to hold a grudge - the leaves picked up and looked as good as new within a couple of hours. To my surprise it has held its blooms in better condition and for longer than the couple I put in pots which (probably) got more water.



The bees have loved it and usually there are a couple of blue banded bees visiting the flowers. This will die down in winter and re-emerge in the spring.

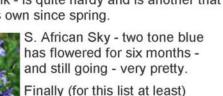
Another Salvia that has been in flower since spring is



So Cool Blue. In a pot - this Salvia has been a great asset with its pretty blue flowers.

S. Hot Lips with its bright red flowers has also been in flower all summer and into autumn - in a sheltered semi shaded position half under the verandah.

S. Angel Wings - a pretty delicate looking pale pink - is quite hardy and is another that held it's own since spring.



flowered perennial is to be found in many gardens where the long purple flower spikes brighten the

Mexican Sage. This furry

autumn garden. It is very easy to propagate using the old stems

when they are cut back in winter.

Happy Gardening





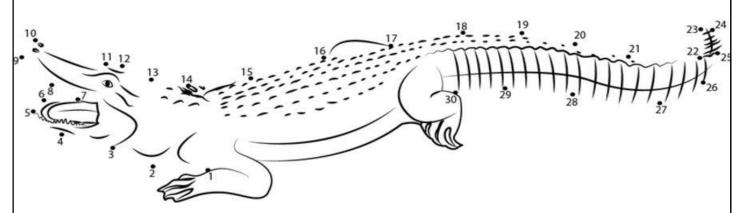
Kathy Z



For the Kids – All about dots.

Aboriginal art is often based on old stories and symbols from the Dreamtime which is the time during which indigenous people believe the world was created. Some stories are more than 50,000 years old and have been handed down through generations for all ofthose years. This is a modern Aboriginal artwork made with circles and dots.

Another way dots are used is in games. Here is a 'crocodile dot puzzle' for you to finish. Start with the number 1 and finish with number 30. Then add some long sharp teeth.



By the way there are no alligators in Australia only crocodiles. They can live in either fresh or saltwater and are found across much of the top coast of Australia. Crocodilesare not able to close their long v-shaped snouts to hide their teeth.

Did you know that

'dot' was the word for 'spot'?

The dot was believed to be the world's first punctuation mark.

Dot was America's favourite word in 1996.

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

30-Apr-23	Alastair Cameron
07-May-23	Anthony Hill
14-May-23	Andrew Wheelens
21-May-23	Pat Horne
28-May-23	Andrew Muller
04-Jun-23	John Ryan
11-Jun-23	John Jordan
18-Jun-23	Dion Stevenson
25-Jun-23	Bob Whytlaw

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!

MOLY BRIGADE AT THE EASTER SPORTS DAY



Molyullah brigade members set the fire truck and ultralight up at the Molyullah Sports Day to remind the community of the importance of the local brigades. Steve Phillips and the CFA Community Engagement Van had lots of information about planning for bushfire season and fire safety in the home, as well as lots of activities for the kids.



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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Swanpool News

Brrr, it has been cold! Our sporting teams are now enjoying indoor activities, including our Table Tennis teams, who play at both Tatong and Swanpool. This is a sport for all ages and abilities, and a good time is had by all. For details, please contact Shaun Murphy, 0429435590, or Rob Erskine, 0457672248.

The Cinema's May programme includes Oscar nominees and winners, including "The Whale", for which Brendan Fraser won Best Actor, screening first on the Double Bill for 5th and 6th May, "Living", with a fantastic performance from Bill Nighy, screening as a stand alone matinee, Friday 19th May, 10.30am, and first on the Double Bill, Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st May, and "Women Talking", screening first on the Double Bill, 27th and 28th May. Our busy volunteers will be dropping off printed copies of our new May/June programme to the Tavern, and to various regular places in Benalla and Mansfield. Anyone with Internet access can find the Cinema on

www.swanpoolcnema.com.au. As a completely volunteer run business, we appreciate the support we get from our local communities, and can assure all our patrons that the Hall is warm and the choc tops are frozen!

Deb

MAY 12TH IS FIBROMYALGIA AWARENESS DAY

It is estimated that up to one million Australians suffer from the condition Fibromyalgia Syndrome, you probably know several people with this insidious complaint which causes widespread pain and many other varied symptoms, but doesn't affect life expectancy; just quality of life. The most common symptoms are generalised muscle pain, aching, stiffness and tiredness of the muscles. Pain may be worst in the morning, after rest or after activity. Extreme fatigue, making normal daily activities difficult. Poor sleep despite extreme tiredness.

Problems with concentration and memory, sometimes called brain fog.

And myriad other symptoms like IBS, migraine and tension headaches, anxiety, depression, bladder dysfunction, tingling and numbness in the arms and legs; the list can go and on, even weather changes can cause an increase in unpleasant symptoms.

Fibromyalgia is difficult to diagnose but there are a number of typical features that the doctor will look for.

Understanding the symptoms which can range from very mild to severe and can vary from day to day and person to person, in any age group and culture, can help with management of the pain and fatigue.

While no-one knows the cause there are some common features including genetics, a previous illness, viral illness or infection, pain from a previous injury or trauma. While fibromyalgia is not curable, there are ways to manage the symptoms and pain. Regular exercise, better quality sleep, massage and stress management all help. The best management technique is learning to pace yourself. Plan your day and recognize that you may not be able to complete everything you planned, you may need to rest at times. People with fibromyalgia syndrome aren't lazy just very challenged in an often invisible way.

Linda De Fazio

Healthy & Delicious

CARROT CAKE BLISS BALLS

3/4 cup dried pitted dates

½ cup raisins

1 3/4 cups desiccated coconut

1 large carrot, grated

1 teaspoon nutmeg

1 teaspoon cinnamon

Extra coconut

Method: Place dates in bowl & cover with boiling water, stand for five minutes to soften.

Drain & place into small food processor. Add raisins, coconut, carrot & spices.

Process for 2-3 minutes or until almost smooth. Put into bowl & chill for fifteen minutes before

rolling tablespoons of the mixture into balls, (I usually make mine smaller than this) then roll in extra coconut to coat. Store in fridge.

Sue O'Brien



Would you be interested in contributing to the management of your local community newsletter?

We have Vacancies on the

Tatong Tattler Committee

and are hoping to balance out the age range of the current committee (ie field some less aged locals.)

We meet once every two months, to review the content, creation, distribution & expedience of the Tattler, and to consider how well it serves our community.

If interested, please make contact; tatongtattler@yahoo.com any Tattler committee member ring Andi on 0429 439 336.

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	61.1										104.8

WEATHER IN THE TATONG TOWNSHIP

Starting with rainfall, and fwe had a total of 61.1mm for the whole month of March. April rainfall till the 15th of the month is 26mm. These figures are reasonable for the home gardener. On a somewhat related matter and the fire season was very quiet with not a single total fire ban day for the fire restriction period.

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. 19th May 9am—5pm

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

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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

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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).

Annabelle CLEELAND MP



moa

03 5762 1600 25 Bridge St,

annabellecleeland.com.au

(f) @Annabelle4Euroa

Proudly Supporting the Local Community

Annabelle.cleeland@parliament.vic.gov.au

SHEPHERDS **CONTRACTING**

Hay Baling, Net Wrap Rolls, Silage, Mowing, Raking Will Consider Shares **Hay and General Carting** 46 Ft Drop Deck **27 Ft Tray Truck** Pasture Sowing-Direct Drilling or Over Sowing **Pasture Renovation**

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