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Dancing achievement

Lila is 9 years old and first started dancing at the age of 3. This is Lila's 3rd year as a student at Empower Dance Academy in Howlong. She participates in weekly classes of Jazz, Contemporary as well as a Stretch and Strength. Lila enjoys participating in dance lessons because she gets to move to the music whilst also spending time with friends.

On Sunday 7th May, Lila and four other students participated as a troupe in their first competition in Corowa's Front & Centre. They came 2nd in their Contemporary dance and qualified to go to Nationals, which are being held on the Gold Coast in January 2024. A fabulous effort by all the girls and their teacher Miss Elise, especially as they had only been learning their dance for one term!!!

Lila attended "Beautiful, The Carole King Musical" at the Albury Entertainment Centre on Saturday 13th May with her Gran & mum. It was another great performance by the Albury Wodonga Theatre Company. Lila was extremely lucky and got to go backstage and meet some of the cast (one being a neighbour and another her music teacher at school), the stage manager and also got a quick tour of the change rooms. This was a great experience for Lila especially as in July she will be performing in the Albury Wodonga Eisteddfod at this venue.

Lila is the youngest granddaughter of Joan & Barry Lewis of Tatong.





Garden Daze

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



Winter and the Shortest Day
Will Soon Be Here.



Froth and Bubble in the Garden

"Spittle bugs" is the name given to the nymphs of the frog hopper, referring to the foamy liquid they cover themselves in, which provides protection from predators and weather. The adults are called frog hoppers because their heads are frog-like, and they can jump like a leaf hopper, to which they are related. The adults are usually a dull brown colour though some species have bright markings.

They are a pest because the nymph and the adult are sap suckers but are not usually present in great numbers and therefore don't do much damage. If there is a large infestation they could cause plant weakening and stunted growth, leading to reduced crop yields and quality.



Generally they prefer juniper and pine trees, but can also be found on other plants including strawberries, legumes and some flowers such as goldenrod.

Eggs are laid in spring and summer but the nymphs do not hatch till the following spring. The adults are 8 mm and are around in spring and summer.



There are many species of spittle bugs found in a variety of climates around the world. They are widespread along the east coast of Australia and Tasmania but also found to a lesser degree in other states. Australia and New Zealand

have species only present in these two countries.

To control -- Hose off nymphs with a blast of water - or Garlic and pepper spray

Predators: Spiders, Mantids, Wasps and Birds



Tree Planting - this is the "Now" as suggested in the banner above

Planting in autumn when the soil is wet gives the little trees the best chance of survival. Starting in May or June also gives them the longest time to get settled and growing before the dry summer.

We begin with ripping the soil - this is best done when the soil is dry and will shatter. After some rain has penetrated the soil it will be softer. If possible - the rotary hoe is run along the rip lines - this makes the planting so much easier.

A fair size hole is dug for each little tree, then compost is used to fill in the hole and a couple of sheets of damp newspaper are placed around the tree to keep the weeds at bay, next the tree guard is put in place then all is covered with a generous supply of mulch which will provide further protection and keep the newspaper from being blown away by the wind.



Watering at this stage - if possible - will help settle the roots, and even tho this is considered one of the most important waterings that plants can be given - it isn't always possible when out in the paddocks, and we have found that our planting method has very good results.

These days wild deer are posing a new problem. The trouble with deer is that as well as eating the new trees - they will also rub their antlers along the trunks of young established trees - which takes the bark off in long strips and ruins the tree

Some advice I was recently given by a CMA employee: "Fill old stockings or vegetable net with human hair and hang them around plantations."

I presume this is similar to putting the shirt that was worn that day out next to a hen that has decided to sit on her eggs out in the "wild".

I have done this from time to time in the past and it has worked beautifully.

Happy tree planting.



Kathy Z



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TATONG ANZAC DAY



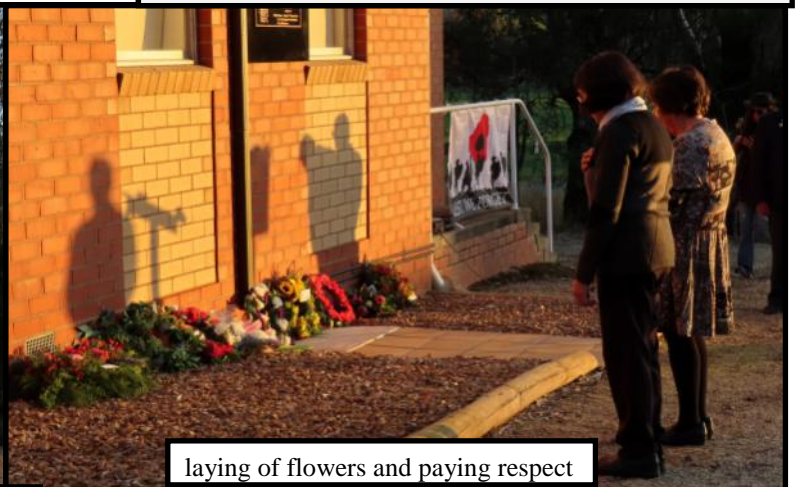
Committee president Joe Hakkennes welcomed the community, accompanied by MC Paul Hartland, president of the Benalla RSL



Annabelle Cleeland MP acknowledged Greg Crowe, a Vietnam Veteran from Tatong, on the 50th anniversary of the conflict and paid tribute to all Australian veterans.



Unveiling the Tatong Honour Roll



laying of flowers and paying respect



Tatong community coming together to honour all Australian military personnel



Raising the flags





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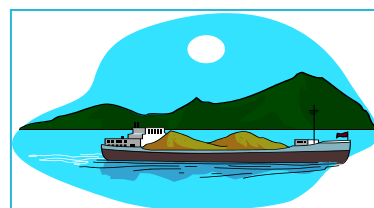
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Please note: this is not for my clients, last will and testament (this is done with their own solicitor or legal advisor) “neither” is this an insurance type product where you pay off your future funeral... “rather” this is a service where my staff or myself, will sit down over a cuppa to strategise and discuss the specific’s that the client requires before, during and preceding their funeral, memorial service or event that has been carefully and empathetically designed and tailored to their unique individual needs.

Many objectives are identified... thought through..., and implemented according to their particular wishes or needs, stabilising the foundations and future goals, for the immediate family and/ or business, where the process is carefully planned and organised prior to their inevitable demise... whether it be soon, or suggested by “other” authorities for the future.

The actual funeral ceremony is a very personal occasion, where at times, *with all due respect*, the remaining family and/ or friends most commonly... do not realise or even consider what my client requires... including where, when, who and how the deceased would prefer this sentimental and emotional celebration, funeral occasion to eventuate.

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| Understanding the grief process | Perform general funeral celebrancy |
| Venues - Chapels, home, grave side or various other locations | Provide service to customers |
| Communicate appropriately with colleagues and clients | Planning the funeral ceremony |
| Manage quality customer service | Guiding participants in the ceremony |
| Perform general funeral arrangements | Understanding the role of the funeral director & other service providers |
| Time management skills | Communicate and public speaking |

Understanding the role and responsibilities of the funeral celebrant

Swanpool News

Never a dull moment in Swanpool, as our Table Tennis teams, CFA volunteers and Oval Committee will attest!

Don't miss the Cinema's action packed June Programme, which includes our famous Environmental Film Festival on Saturday 17th June, and a special fundraiser hosted by one of our local Rural Australians for Refugees groups!

10 years since the inaugural Swanpool Environmental Film Festival (SEFF), we look forward to welcoming Professor David Karoly as our Keynote Speaker on a comprehensive program that includes two great new films, "The Giants", and "Greenhouse by Joost". Trybooking bookings for this landmark event open on 29th May, and the \$30 ticket covers delicious catering as well as access to all sessions. Check our website for details, or call 0498007988.

The Rural Australians for Refugees event will take place on Saturday 1st July at 1.30pm, and will include an award winning film, "When Pomegranates Howl", and fabulous food provided by an Afghan women's catering team. Bookings essential via Trybooking, please check our website www.swanpoolcinema.com.au for details.

We also bring you two special matinees. "Allelujah!" screening on Friday 23rd June at 10.30am, stars Judi Dench and Jennifer Saunders of "AbFab" fame, it is about the fight to save an aged care ward in a small Yorkshire hospital. This film will also be screening on our weekend Double Bill.

The second matinee is scheduled for school holidays, Friday 30th June, 1.30pm, and is a delightful animated feature called "Mavka: The Forest Song", one that will delight parents and carers as well as their children.

Just before we close for our winter recess, we look forward to screening "Splice Here: A Projected Odyssey", a love letter to reel film making in this digital age, very appropriate for our little Cinema! Director Rob Murphy will be joining us for a Q&A session following the screening on Saturday 1st July.

Our Cinema is warm and welcoming even when it is cold outside, treat yourself to a visit before we close for our annual winter recess, reopening on 2nd September with a new season of movie magic!
Deb

TATONG ARCHERY

Archery is still being enjoyed by a group of locals on the rec reserve oval every second Sunday, starting at 1:30pm. Special thanks to Rod Lindsay for keeping the ranges in tip top shape.

The next day for shooting arrows is Sunday the 28th of May and each Sunday fortnight after that. All welcome, and we have spare bows and arrows for anyone wanting a tryout.

Contact Mike Larkin for details at 0428 273 613

Tatong Dinner

Disappointing & grateful.

Owing to the power outage in Tatong on 10th May, the Tatong dinner at the Tavern was cancelled. This was disappointing as a number of locals look forward to a nice meal & the opportunity to have a chat.

However, I am grateful to staff for initially letting us know that because of the power outage, they would only have a limited menu & then a further call later to say power was still out so there would be no meals.

We were able to make a few phone calls to let people know, so hopefully no one made the effort to be there & were then disappointed,

The next Tatong dinner at the Tavern will be Wednesday 14th June at 6.30pm. Hope to see you there.

CATS AND THINGS

I confess to being a sucker for the antics of cats on Facebook videos. It is partly for amusement and partly admiration for their incredible physical attributes and even an apparent sense of humour.

We have two cats and what I especially like is their companionship and affection. Yes they do occasionally kill birds, especially New Holland honeyeaters. The honeyeaters mainly visit our garden for the Watsonia, a long bladed bulb plant which shoots a long flower spike with the honeysuckle flowers. This flower, within around a metre from the ground, makes them an easier target for a cat. But the cats kill far more mice and rats which is a plus for householders.

Speaking of cats and we have a **stray cat** which has lurked around our house for quite a while. It has a long haired grey-only coat and short legs, and it is without a collar. I doubt that it is or has been feral so it could be a good domestic pet. If anyone thinks it may be theirs or they would like it to be theirs ring or text Mike at 0428273613

Mike Larkin

TATONG FIRESHED MURAL LIGHTING

The mural now has lighting which comes on at dark every night. The lighting is switched like a street light by a 'Sunset Switch' and so it is coming on currently at 5:30. That sunset switch on time will vary with the length of daylight hours, shorter in winter and longer in summer.

This project was included among Rec Reserve and the Bridge picnic area improvements which are benefiting from the large grant organised by Council and Larissa Montgomery.

The shed lighting project was pushed along by various locals including Pat Manser, Bev and Joe Hakkennes, Denis Hevey, Mike Larkin and Leigh and Bec O'Gorman. (Hoping that I did not miss anyone.) The laneway to the fire shed will also have a sign installed which will carry mural and heritage information.

Mike Larkin



Attention Tatong Community
Tatong CFA Elections will be held on the evening of Monday 29th May at 6.30pm at the Tatong Recreation Reserve. All are Welcome.

Alanna

White Gate



Dates

The **White Gate dinner @ the Tavern** is set for Wednesday 7th of June. From this you can deduce that June begins on a Thursday. Personally I'm looking forward to June 22nd as that is the solstice, and after that the sun will come back. Do come back sun, all is forgiven. Where was I - the White Gate dinner! - Book yourselves in & arrive 6:30-7ish. - *Andi*

At the De Fazio Dairy farm we are in almost full milk production with only 10 cows yet to calve.

We've also had the war on RATS. Our dairy hot water system started to struggle which turned out to be numerous rats keeping themselves very warm and comfy in the insulation and feasting on the electrical wiring.

This became very evident when we pulled down said HWS and 10 rats ran out.

Sizzle the cat was of course nowhere to be found, what good are you Sizzle? - *Linda De Fazio*



No news from Caryn as she has run away from home. Do come back Caryn, all is forgiven. Besides, there will be caffeine withdrawal panic all over Benalla.

White Gate Fire Brigade Roster:

Leigh Humphries	28 May	Andrew Marriott	25 Jun
Bill Ferguson	4 Jun	Terry Trounson	2 Jul
Norton Grimwade	11 Jun	Les Maclean	9 Jul
Terry Ryan	18 Jun	James Parton	16 Jul

- *Andrea Stevenson, 0429 439 336*

Gawn to Town

Astronomy abetted by Sodium Fluoroacetate

Starry starry night, a beautiful thing. Growing up in the city 60 years ago, I could see some stars; but so many more when staying in the countryside. None of my elders were interested in astronomy; I was shown the Saucepan and the Southern Cross, and that was it.

When I went farming on the semi-arid plains of South West NSW, I found a sky that was very, very big. Being outside on a clear night under that canopy of glowing lights was always beautiful. But I didn't *know* the sky. Eventually two events colluded to introduce me to the patterns of skies of the southern hemisphere. I was given an Australian astronomy book, well written, with current start charts. Then Fox Off arrived, meaty cubes laced with sodium fluoroacetate. Millennia ago that substance occurred naturally all over Australia, now only in WA, where people and stock have been poisoned by native shrubbery. It is lethal to canids.

The local Pastures Protection Board had a big drive, and we began a baiting program. The farm dogs had to be confined or muzzled for the duration. We kept the stud ewes in small paddocks closer to the house, and I would check their bait stations in the morning and then again before bed. I took to reading the start charts before the evening excursion. At first the sky was an overwhelming canvas to study, then rather helpfully the moon waxed and out-shone most of the competition. With only the brightest stars visible, I began to get my bearings.

I was getting a few foxes too; it is rewarding on a chilly night to arrive where a bait was buried, and find a dug-out hole, decorated with fox poo, in a sort of "Ner ner ner, I found your stash" statement. Bon appetit, foxy.

As the moon waned, more stars entered the field of view, and I could place them in my growing acquaintance of constellations. It is great fun to recognise patterns, and these ones people in all cultures have been studying for tens of thousands of years. The cluster of stars known as the Seven Sisters has that name in ancient cultures all around the world. Perhaps those who first left Africa knew them as the seven sisters in the sky. Now massive, world-wide light pollution bring a generation who barely see the stars.

As I learnt to look to the patterns in the sky, the daylight started to feel like an imposition, a cloth thrown over all those busy sparkles. They are still there; just hidden. Meanwhile the baiting program put a dent, briefly, in the local fox population. Any bait station would be taken maybe four or five times (one ran up to 15, I think) until that family expired, and then the last bait would languish until I moved it somewhere else. By then there was a noticeable increase in the number of dead lambs in the paddock, for the little corpses were not being eaten before sunrise. The live lambs gambolled about in that gorgeously endearing way they have, until they reach a couple of months of age and turn into gargoyles. Once we came to the Tatong district, with more trees, more clouds, more mist (and more grass), the sky seemed to shrink. I got out of the habit of star-gazing, and forgot much I'd learnt... Until I started watching for the ISS to creep through the night sky.

New generations will probably just look up to count the satellites passing overhead. The seven sisters in the sky will laugh and run away. - *Andrea Stevenson*



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2023 Benalla Festival: 4-12 November

Our annual Benalla Festival will be celebrated over two weekends from 4-12 November. The Festival celebrates all that is great about our Rural City. Events are a collaboration of community efforts that encompass art, music, dance, history, sport, family attractions, exhibitions and much more.

The Festival program will highlight our rural communities with events across our townships during the first weekend from 4-5 November. The second weekend will feature events in Benalla from 10-12 November.

The Benalla Festival Advisory Committee is taking Expressions of Interest from interested individuals, groups and organisations to run an event or activity as part of the main Benalla Festival Program. Applications close on **Monday 31 July 2023.**

For more information and to complete the online registration form go to

<https://benallafestival.com.au/get-involved/>

Healthy & Delicious CARROT CAKE BLISS BALLS

- ¾ cup dried pitted dates
- ½ cup raisins
- 1 ¾ 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

TATONG ^{and District} TATTLER

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.



On May 31st 1913, one hundred and ten years ago, snow covered the Tatong valley.

Lower photo taken on Mitchell Rd. Mt Joy on the left.



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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2022 Tassie Tour – 5

Unlike some contributors to the Tattler, I am unable to offer sagely (sic) advice about world affairs, so here's some more of my usual froth and bubble – I hope it's not too boring...

MONA – Museum of Old and New Art – Hobart

High on our 'must see' list for Tasmania was MONA.

We had heard many opinions of Mona and its collection - much of it negative. Comments such as rude, crude, disgusting... Yes, much of it is "adults only" and is confronting and challenging. Consensus of opinion in our group of four was unanimously good.



Wikipedia says, "The Museum of Old and New Art (MONA) is an art museum located within the Moorilla winery on the Berriedale peninsula in Hobart, Tasmania, Australia. It is the largest privately funded museum in the Southern Hemisphere. MONA houses ancient, modern and contemporary art from the David Walsh collection. Noted for its central themes of sex and death, the museum has been described by Walsh as a "subversive adult Disneyland"

MONA is in the Hobart suburb of Glenorchy on the banks of the Derwent River. We chose to take the MONA ferry from Franklin Wharf and paid extra to travel in the 'Posh Pit'. As the sign said, "includes free drink, tiny food and inflated egos". Inflated egos aside, we enjoyed the ride. A heads up – until they install a lift or escalator, there are 99 steps to negotiate from the dock up to MONA.

The MONA building is a work of art in itself. The gallery space is encased in a three-level subterranean "cave" cut into 240-million-year-old Triassic-era sandstone on the Derwent riverbank. On entry, a lift or spiral staircase takes you down 17 metres to the bottom to recycled jarrah floorboards from an old woolshed, polished by years of lanolin contact. It is not just the art that is engulfing. One of the guides said that people with an engineering background marvel at the construction and don't worry too much about the art.

MONA was built to accommodate Sidney Nolan's Snake (1970–72), a giant Rainbow Serpent mural.

The installations are all over the place, literally and taxonomically. Antiquities such as a 1500-year-old Egyptian sarcophagus stand alongside modern art in an up-yours to the art establishment. And there are plenty of up-yours, or his, or hers, or its, to see.



Lonely Planet named MONA the best modern art gallery in the world. Eye of the beholder stuff, of course. MONA is not for everyone, especially the squeamish, prudish, pious or morally or politically conservative. Or the snooty classicist. Shock value is more highly prized here than any actual mainstream art prize would be but MONA is a vibrant, eclectic

phenomenon and a national treasure."

If I was to pretend that I could offer sage advice, it would go something like, "if the opportunity to visit MONA occurs, ignore any negative comments, go and see for yourself. You might be pleasantly surprised. At the very least, you'll have plenty to talk about."

John Knapper

Next time – more froth and bubbles as we visit Bruny Island.



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	62.8									167.6

WEATHER IN THE TATONG TOWNSHIP

This is the time of year for clear sunny days with cool air temperatures – very nice.
 For the month of April there was a total rainfall of 62.8mm and up until the 15th of May we had 22mm, not bad.
 Mike Larkin

**Molyullah
Mobile Butcher**

Prompt service
Competitive prices

Rusty **0428 666 250**

COME ALONG TO

THE GIRL'S SHED

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. 16th June 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.

Is it an ad? Publicity for an event with an entry fee is classed as advertising and charged accordingly. Local community events may be excepted.

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

SUBMISSIONS / CONTACT

Submit via e-mail to tatongtattler@yahoo.com.au, leave in the Tattler Mailbox beside the Tavern, or send by post to the Secretary.

Secretary: Linda De Fazio, PO Box 588 Benalla 3671, 03 5766 6375 linda.defazio6@gmail.com

Arrange your copy of the

Tatong Tattler!

Have a printed copy delivered within Tatong district,

Or download it in Techni-colour from
anywhere in the world!

The Tattler is Delivered free to Tatong & surrounding Districts. The PDF file (Colour) may be downloaded by anyone, anywhere, from www.tatongtattler.org.au

To arrange Tattler delivery, or to be notified when the PDF is available, contact us via tatongtattler@yahoo.com.au

DONATIONS

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

Donations can be given to committee members, left in the locked Box by the Tavern, or sent by EFT (see above).

Annabelle CLEELAND MP

Member for
Euroa

03 5762 1600

25 Bridge St,
Benalla VIC 3672

annabellecleeland.com.au

  @Annabelle4Euroa

Proudly Supporting
the Local Community



Annabelle.cleeland@parliament.vic.gov.au



The Tatong Heritage Group met on May 15th at the Hall.

Various group members reported on their progress on plans to commemorate the timber tramway, Indian hawkers, and old bridge names.

Visitor Peter Harper from Albury outlined his plan

organising a bike ride to take place throughout 2024, passing 31 of the Hume & Hovell monuments in Victoria.

In November 1824, Hamilton Hume and William Hovell passed near where Tatong now stands. In 1924 the centenary of their trek was celebrated with the erection of 37 monuments, plaques, re-enactments, and a motorcade with that new-fangled invention, the auto-mobile. November next year will mark 200 years since they passed. The Tatong Heritage Group are contemplating what local commemoration might take place. If you have any good ideas, please get in touch. The next meeting of the Tatong Heritage Group will be at 4pm Monday July 17th, at the Hall. All welcome.