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### My Book, Minus His Head and Hooves

This book came about in 1986. It has taken many years of research. After learning about Sandy being buried at Maribyrnong while on a river cruise, I wanted to know his story.

Sandy was donated by the O'Donnell family of old Tallangatta to the army as part of the war effort during the First World War. Being a docile horse, General Bridges chose Sandy to be one of his chargers. Sandy travelled overseas with the first contingent, leaving Port Melbourne in 1915.

I decided that in May 2023, one hundred years since Sandy was humanely destroyed, my book would be launched.

Over the last three or so years, Sandy the war horse committee in Tallangatta was set up with local plumber, Ross Smith leading the way. Their aim was to have a bronze statue erected in the town centre to mark the centenary of Sandy's passing. After all, Sandy was originally a local farm horse, they planned to bring him home.

I had met Ross in Maribyrnong and we supported each other with our vision, to commemorate Sandy, the only horse to be returned to Australia after the First World War.

We believed the story should be told.

When I first started my research, people were unaware of the Sandy story. Thankfully that has now changed, and with my book, Minus His Head and Hooves successfully launched on 20th May 2023.

I was bestowed the honour of assisting in the unveiling of the magnificent Australian made bronze statue, with over a thousand people witnessing this historic event.

Imagine 200 hundred light horsemen riding into town, the hills around Tallangatta covered in misty rain.

My book tells the story of Sandy whose body is buried at the remount depot in west Maribyrnong - hence the title. I tell the story of the horses and the horrific conditions they endured. Although their story has been

touched on, I believe it should be told, the story of all the horses and animals in all war and in all conflicts.

My book is designed for research of local, social, historic and family history, as they are all interwoven and are not complete without the other. It is necessary to point out that some of the records quoted do not make pleasant reading.

I will continue to encourage, advocate and record this important Australian history.

Sandy represents all the horses who gave their all and were never given the same opportunity to return to their peaceful home. I want to be their voice, I want to tell their story.

Elaine.V. Brogan OAM

"For the love of our horses"

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**White  
Gate**



**Dates**

The **White Gate dinner @ the Tavern for August** is likely to be Wednesday 2nd, unless someone re-arranges the calendar. By then there may be more sunshine, more warmth! Remember longing for that, come February. - *Andi*

This month on the De Fazio Dairyfarm it has been very, very wet and cold. Poor Sizzle the dairy cat has been booted from his favourite spot, in the hay with his cows, and replaced by the GOAT (named Burrito) who is making herself very much at home. - *Linda De Fazio*



"Suspicious activity has been reported in Smith Road recently. A 74 year old Anglo-Italian male has been seen driving erratically and speedily, allegedly attempting to avoid potholes and ruts. 'Neighbours' have been quoted as saying that it seems to have triggered his inner hooligan teenage self. Neighbours remain vigilant in trying to apprehend, or at least publicly shame, the offender." - *Caryn De Fazio*

**White Gate Fire Brigade Roster:**

Angus Mcmillan	23 Jul	Bill Sykes	27 Aug
Bruce Burgess	30 Jul	Matthew De Fazio	1 Jan
Hamish Mcmillan	6 Aug	Ross Runnalls	8 Jan
Laurie Defazio	13 Aug	David Elford	15 Jan

When White Gate  
Saved the World



If another spell of wet, grey weather gets you down, look at this snap from the Feb 2013 Tattler.

- *Andrea Stevenson, 0429 439 336*

# Gawn to Town

The town we “gawn” to on a Sunday in July was Swanpool. Finally got to visit the Swanpool Post Office Antiques. And what a splendid collection of antiques is there! Mind you, the older one gets, the more familiar are the wares one sees in an antiques collection. Especially if there is a mirror...

My partner saw the same model of oil can that his father had; such a good device that he was tempted to buy it, except he doesn't really use an oil can any more. Excellent regulation of the amount of oil squirted. There were a few examples of oil cans we once had - a little metal cone that when inverted and pressed on the flexible metal base, sent out some oil.

There were ploughs that pre-date our farming experience, beautifully crafted things that I'm just as glad not to be working with. The old timers reckoned that working behind a horse, they could hear the birds, and have time to think. That didn't stop most of them scrambling to get a roaring combustion engine as soon as possible.

Then there was a “Hay Knife”, a monstrous blade that brought on near collapse just imagining the effort needed to swing the thing through vegetation. Crocodile Dundee eat your heart out. You would need a lot of lunch to power it, and OH&S would have conniptions.

There were pots and pans ranging from ones I recall my elders using, through to ones I've used myself - and a couple I have in my cupboards. There was an instrument called a “Guitar Mandolin Banjo” which I knew as a zither when I was a child and we had one just like that.

The crow bar, sledge hammer and wood splitter were the same as those in our shed. I think our crowbar might be unemployed. My own favourite crowbar had been fashioned from a small retired axle. I could get pretty well any implement on or off a tractor with that lovely tool, long since left discarded beside the path of life.

There were ewers and lamps, made redundant by modern conveniences. Just ornaments now; until the water and electricity stop flowing into houses. Don't know what a “ewer” is? Old word for a water jug, and a ewer and basin were for washing oneself. (The Great Gas Shortage of the 1990s revealed folk who didn't know how to wash without a hot shower.)

We had only viewed a sample of the display when morning tea beckoned. I had heard of excellent scones, but one glimpse of the sponge and my heart was lost. The tables were set with lovely botanical decoration, and bowls of treats on offer. The fire was putting out glorious heat. And surrounding us was nostalgia, the house-wares of childhood, the paraphernalia of people long since passed away, the tools of ways of living in a lifestyle gone by, mementos of skills that are fading or gone.

- Andrea Stevenson



## GATHER ROSE BUDS WHILE YE MAY

A subtle feeling, possibly the spring like weather of mid-July, has prompted reminiscence of the beautiful sonnet “Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?” written by Shakespeare in around 1609. The words of my title are borrowed from this sonnet which also provided the title of the BBC series The Darling Buds of May featuring my namesakes, the Larkin family of Kent.

Part of the message from the sonnet infers that rose buds cannot last, will soon be gone and chill winds of change are approaching. One does not have to be a prophet to get the sense that our traditional and privileged lifestyle is being over-shadowed by unseen forces.

For some observers of such things we are practically at war with a furtive enemy just like the world of nature where the forces of survival and domination are in a never ending state of readiness for the next threat to existence or an opportunity to dominate and consume occurs. We have the multiple threats of economic and job pain, health, climate, ever more taxes and the endless need for permits and compliances as well as constant reminders about safety and the threat of natural disasters!

What I really like about the Larkin family of Kent is the insight and cunning of Pop and Ma Larkin who live rich and generous lives while never quite being ‘respectable.’ They rely upon deeply felt convictions as a source of strength and certainty in difficult times. This inner strength gives them the outlook of good cheer and imperturbability, knowing that it is a person's inner resources which are the foundation of contentment.

If anyone has the feeling; what is it he's trying to say? Well, as with any ‘wartime’ there are restrictions and requirements over what can be said with regard to certain subjects so you readers just have to guess and read between the lines!

Mike Larkin

## TABLE TENNIS

The winter season is just over half way through and matches are played in the halls at Moorngag, Swanpool and Tatong. Tatong has the biggest hall and can accommodate 4 matches each Wednesday night. This year we have combined A and B grade players to form 7 teams of 3 or 4 players each team. The competition extends from mid-May to early September.

Table tennis is an excellent family sport enabling parents to participate with their own children. Late primary school age is a good time for kids to start. At a recent match we had a doubles rubber played by two grandfathers with their two teenage grandchildren. John Bajada senior played with his granddaughter Sienna and David Beer played with his grandson Wesley.

Mike Larkin

**TATONG** and District  
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*Thanks to Trudi Nicholls for taking  
on the new delivery run. Your  
Tattler thrives on volunteers.*



**What's on at the Tavern**

**Sun July 23**

**Xmas in July Luncheon**

**Sat Aug 19**

**Winter Blues music with Neale Williams**

**Sat Sep 23**

**Spring Festival**

**Remember to book early to avoid missing out!**

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**MOLYULLAH FIRE BRIGADE UP-DATE 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-Jul-23	Kevin Ryan
06-Aug-23	Alastair Cameron
13-Aug-23	Anthony Hill
20-Aug-23	Andrew Wheelens
27-Aug-23	Pat Horne
03-Sep-23	Andrew Muller
10-Sep-23	John Ryan
17-Sep-23	John Jordan
24-Sep-23	Dion Stevenson

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

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

For the community:

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September, 10am to 12pm – Working bee at Molyullah Fire Shed, followed by a BBQ.

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October, 6.30pm – Pre-season fire preparation presentation at the Molyullah Hall. Information about the upcoming fire season and tips on how to prepare your property.

For active fire fighters:

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> October, 11am to 2pm (including BBQ lunch) - Pre-season compulsory Burnover Drills – note: you will not be able to turn out if you haven't done this drill!! We will also run a session for the Hazardous Trees compulsory drill for those who are unable to access it online. Again, members who have not completed this drill will not be able to turn out.. Trish

**“Squirt” heads to the hot fire ground in Wangaratta.....**

On Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> July I had the opportunity to participate in the District 22 and District 23 CFA women’s network training day at the Victorian Emergency Management training centre (VEMTC) in Wangaratta. This was a great opportunity to develop my fire fighting skills and confidence in a safe and fun environment. The Pad supervisors set up a number of scenarios for the teams to complete. There was a car fire at a petrol station, double storey building fire, kitchen stove fire and a car fire in a carport. There were multiple casualties to rescue, once fires were contained.

The double storey building fire involved working in pairs, entering the dark building with smoke bellowing out. Some crazy dance moves were required with arms and legs out in fronts to physically touch and scan the environment for hazards and casualties. Counting the steps on the staircase when going up, helped with safety when coming back down, given the poor visibility. We used thermal imaging cameras (TIC’s) to assist in locating casualties in the dark, smoky environment.

The VEMTC is available for brigades to book on week-ends or weeknights to practice any skills/scenarios they choose, with catering provided.

Thanks to the inspirational women who facilitated the day and the Pad supervisors for their enthusiasm and support.

Until next time signing off Squirt (AKA Justine Nicholls-Molyullah Brigade)



Extinguishing the car fire at the petrol station.



Participants and Pad supervisors in front of the Mick Daws memorial.

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## What's Happening at Molly Rose?



So, on Friday, 30th June, I entered a headbutting contest, and lost! But to tell the story I need to take it back to a little earlier... what I can tell you is that what happened that afternoon will be forever known as *the ram incident* and I kind of wish I already had the cameras set up on the property; I reckon it would have made an amazing video clip. I can laugh about it now, at the time, not so much.

This is the ram - because we eat the lambs, I don't name the offspring - instead they get known as things like Horns, Stupid, S\*head, Chops, Dinner - it all depends on their features/behaviour and my mood.

Prior to The Ram Incident, by about a week, I'd moved all but three of my sheep down the road where they can eat down the grass and grow fat in a neighbour's paddock - there are still three more to be butchered, but they're not big enough yet. The three were the ram, Cherry and Peach; the ram was for the freezer and Peach has been unwell so needs extra care. I also kept Cherry so Peach has company; Peach and Cherry are the originals I hand-raised several years ago, so they've always been together.

Anyway, on the 29th of June I finally emailed the [Molyullah Mobile Butcher](#) about getting the ram processed.

On Friday afternoon, June 30th, Rob (he helps me out in the garden) and I were out the back, pretty close to the back fence doing stuff in the permanent pens to make them less muddy. All three sheep had come up the back too; Horns had stopped by the wheelbarrow, sniffed my fingers and then wandered away.

I have never had a reason to worry about this ram - he's never shown any aggression towards any of us. Sure, he's been in head-butting contests with the other boys and once he headbutted the bucket because I swung it too close to his face. I guess he felt threatened, which was fair enough. I'd feel threatened if a bucket was swinging towards my head! However, as far as I was aware, I wasn't doing anything threatening...

I was bending over (at the hips because I was being naughty and not squatting) collecting sticks and chucking them into the wheelbarrow. I was looking at the ground, minding my own business when, bam, there was a crunch, the world was spinning wildly and I was flying backwards through the air.

I can't remember the exact order things happened in, but it really was one of those moments where time passed both incredibly quickly and incredibly slowly... I remember the sudden massive impact and a flash of bright light in front of my eyes; it really was like seeing stars, although there was only one, and it was really bright.

I heard and felt my neck and shoulders compressing and crunching - it was the same kind of noise your back makes when the chiropractor makes adjustments, but this wasn't in a good way...

I also felt my feet lift off the ground as I was flung backwards, screaming "oh duck!" (well, something like that) - I found out a few days later that one of my kids had heard me scream, so it must have been very loud because they heard me all the way down at the house, and they had headphones on. I was a ragdoll flying backwards through the air; I imagine it would have looked mighty impressive if someone had actually seen it.

I'm glad Rob was with me, if he hadn't been, it may have taken me a bit longer to get back to the house. I have to hope that I never do myself any incapacitating damage while I'm outside because I'm sure it will be hours before anyone notices I'm missing.

I remember noticing patches of blue sky and grey clouds through the bare branches of the desert ash tree as I was flying backwards through the air. I also remember landing with a thump on my back in the dirt, but I don't remember what part of me hit the ground first - whether it was my head, shoulders or lower back.

I rolled over onto my side, clutching my head in my hands, gasping for breath and moaning, because by then enough time had passed since the initial impact for my brain to acknowledge the pain. I took my hands away from head and was surprised to see there was no blood! I really expected there to be blood.

I didn't lose consciousness that I'm aware of and I knew exactly what had happened. Rob came running; he'd heard the crunch and the scream. I got up off the ground and moved my head around, surprised at how little pain I was in. Don't get me wrong, I was in pain, it just wasn't as bad as I expected it to be. I was in shock though, and kept bursting into tears.

The rest of Friday afternoon and evening was spent in Wangaratta ED lying flat on my back in a neck brace telling everyone, that yes, I really had been headbutted in the head by sheep, not car or another person. I was told several times I was very lucky.

Continued next page

In hindsight we should have called an ambulance rather than Tim driving me in, but neither of us were thinking straight at that point. Fortunately for me, the CT scans and X-rays only showed that I've got a thick skull! There were no breaks, fractures, brain bleeding, nerve damage, or concussion, so despite the fact that human skulls are not designed for headbutting contests with sheep I'd survived and was lucky enough to come out of it with no severe injuries.

It wasn't until the next day that it "hit" home at just how bad it could have been, how much I'd scared the kids, and how lucky I actually was. What totally reinforced that was when a livestock vet I was telling the story to said they'd once seen two rams headbutting where one dropped dead after the impact! I'm very lucky / blessed / fortunate to still be alive and not even crippled for life.

The reality is, I got off pretty damn lightly considering what it could have been! Sure I was sore and bruised all over with a massive lump on my forehead. I felt like that expression, *I feel like I got hit by a freight train*, except it wasn't a freight train! I had headaches for a week and I didn't brush my hair for five days!

A week later I also started to get black eyes. Two weeks later and I'm mostly fine – my neck and shoulders are still NQR and occasionally my scalp goes all crawly and my head feels tight, but I'm no more addled or forgetful than I usually am...

I don't think he was actually attacking me, I think he just wanted to play, and because I had my head down, he thought I wanted to play too!

The fact that he didn't continue to attack me, and treated me the same as he always had in the following days seems to support that. The vet also agreed.

What I've learned from this is never assume the *headbutt challenge position* while gardening when there's a ram around.

The Molyullah Mobile Butcher came five days after *The Ram Incident* and Horns is now in the freezer. There's been a lot of jokes about "*revenge is a roast leg and a side of roast potatoes*" and "*don't get on mum's bad side or she'll have you butchered.*" That aside, I can tell you he made a delicious roast dinner last Sunday!

*This is from a blog post I've written for the new Molly Rose Heritage Harvest website I'm working on.*

**Carla**



**AIN'T NOTHIN' BUT A HOUND DOG**

Tucker, the harrier hound, recently had a playdate with a mini daschund pup called Sackett. The 40kg pup was intrigued by the 3kg pup, which arrived in a knitted sweater and being cradled in one hand by it's owner. It was a match made in Alcatraz. Tucker eventually got enough sting out of him to lead the puppy around his yard, proudly showing off his guinea pig boneyard, collection of assorted slippers & socks under the house, and best vantage point for stalking the cat. Once Sackett was accepted into his gang of one, Tucker moved on to develop a new game, now that he had a buddy to join in. Thus, the "Sausage Roll" was born. This involved Tucker using his nose to 'roll' the sausage dog across the lawn. We are grateful that he did not attempt to consume the sausage roll. All in all, a fun party trick for Tucker, and a terrifying experience for Sackett.

UPDATE ON LAST MONTH'S GUINEA PIG TRIAL:  
Tucker 4 / Guinea Pigs 0.



The Tatong Heritage Group met on July 17th. Faye has researched roses growing in the old Hollands Branch school garden. There was discussion of the route Samaria Road originally took, Barry describing how it skirted three springs, until a bridge was built and the road was re-routed. Records donated by Greg Kirk included information provided to the Tatong Primary School, on the history of the area.

The next meeting is the AGM, September 18<sup>th</sup> at 4pm at the Tatong Hall. A great time to join!

If you have an interest in our local history, please come along and see if you enjoy the group.

- Andrea Stevenson



**Tatong Community Night at the Tavern**

On a cold July night, a small group enjoyed a night out at the tavern. This month is the last one during winter & hopefully our cold wet weather. Maybe if it's not wet & cold, you'd like to come along on Wednesday the 9<sup>th</sup> August at 6.30pm for an enjoyable night out. Put these dates for the next few months on your Calendar & maybe you'll be able to come along at some time.

September 13<sup>th</sup>

October 11<sup>th</sup>

November 8<sup>th</sup>

& our final one for the year December 13<sup>th</sup>. Maybe we could have a Christmas theme. More on that later.

If you're able to make any or all of those nights you'd be made very welcome & I feel sure you'd enjoy the company & the meal. You're even welcome if you just want to pop in and say hello without having a meal.

Sue O'Brien

# Close Encounters...

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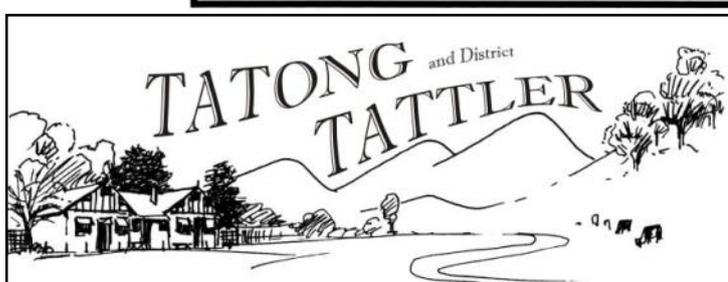
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*"People don't care how much we know, but at Close Encounters people will always know, how much we care"*



The 2023  
**Annual General Meeting**  
of the  
**Tatong Tattler Committee**  
will be on

September Thursday 28th,  
@ the Tatong Tavern.

Meeting at 11:00  
AGM at 12:00  
Lunch at 12:30



Tattler Contributors, Distributors, Readers  
etc. are most welcome to the AGM &/or  
Lunch. Self book & Pay.

*Nominations for Committee Very Welcome!*

30 years serving Tatong & District

The Tattler Committee (not to mention the delivery team) are most grateful that the Tattler has been given cloth bags made by the Tatong Girl's Shed. These will be used for delivery of the Tatong Tattler. Many thanks to the talented Joan and Irene. Beautiful!



**PEPPERMINT SLICE.** Same slice & all made in the same way.

1<sup>st</sup> is for people with no allergies.

2<sup>nd</sup> is Gluten free & egg free

**1<sup>st</sup> No Allergies**

Ingredients: 250 g Marie biscuits, crushed  
3 Peppermint crisp bars, crushed  
1 tin sweetened condensed milk

Combine these three ingredients & mix well. (I just put the biscuits & peppermint slices in the food processor & process for a short time, then add the condensed milk & process till it all comes together)

Press into a lined slice tray.

Icing – 125g chocolate dark or milk (I use Cadburys but most chocolate is GF)

60g butter or cophia.

Melt these together & spread over slice.

Allow to set & then store in the fridge.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Gluten & egg free**

Ingredients: approx. 2 pkts Arrowroot gluten free biscuits  
2 pkts Arnott's gluten free mint slice biscuits  
1 tin condensed milk OR Coconut condensed milk (available Coles)

Method is same as 1<sup>st</sup> slice

Sue O'Brien



# Garden Daze

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



August is the flowering time for most Australian Plants.



**Spraying for Curly Leaf** - The next couple of weeks are crucial to spraying for Curly Leaf on peaches and nectarines. Watch the weather for rain as timing is important - any rain will not only wash the spray off the tree, but spread the disease at the same time.

If rain does wash off the spray - it will be necessary to reapply as soon as possible. Given this year's enthusiastic rainfall, beating the pest will be a problem this season.



The best relatively non-toxic spray for Leaf Curl is **Bordeaux Mixture**. NOTE: *This must never be used on plants when they are in leaf.*

**Bordeaux Mixture** is sprayed on the tree as soon as the leaves drop in Autumn and again just before bud burst in Spring. This last is most important and is best applied just as the buds are starting to swell and before they open.

It is particularly effective when mixed and used fresh. It is best used on its own and never on plants with sensitive leaves.



## Peter Cundall's Recipe for Bordeaux Mixture

Dissolve 100 grams of Copper Sulphate in three litres of hot water, using a plastic bucket (do not use metal).

Leave overnight to thoroughly mix.

In a separate bucket mix 100 grams of hydrated lime in three litres of cold water. Then carefully mix the lime into the /copper sulphate solution and stir.

Finally add enough cold water to make the total liquid to ten litres. This is a strong and effective mixture.

## Another Pest that can be tackled NOW is the dreaded Oxalis.



At this time of the year Oxalis is flowering and this is the time to GET IT!!

A good old dose of herbicide should do the trick. However - remember to follow the directions on the bottle exactly. Too strong (yes that's right too strong) or too weak and it won't work.

**Vinegar is a natural herbicide** that can be applied with a spray bottle, pump sprayer or brush, but make sure to keep it away from plants you want to stay in your garden, as it cannot differentiate between the weeds to be destroyed and beloved perennials.

Some advice I was given a while back was to use a small 4 inch paint roller which stops spray drift.



## In the Garden at This Time.

**Bare Rooted Trees** - Last chance to plant fruit trees, including apples, pears, plums, peaches, and nectarines. Also deciduous exotic trees.

Prune deciduous fruit trees now - *with the exception of apricot* - remember to keep the trees small enough to be able to cover with a fruit fly net.



## Vegetable Garden

spinach, broad beans, potatoes, peas, onions, parsley, cabbage, broccoli, rocket, silverbeet, cauliflower, lettuce, leek, Asian greens, radish, beetroot and parsnip. Top up mulch on vegie patches, herb gardens and ornamental beds. Choose one that will enrich the soil as it breaks down. Compost, Pea straw, Sugar Cane Mulch, Straw, old (composted) autumn leaves, and dry grass clippings.

This is also a good time to plant green manure to dig in later and enrich the soil. Try - clover, barley, wheat or field peas.

## Prepare a bed now for this year's tomato crop.

*Nothing beats the smell and the taste of a freshly picked sun-ripened tomato.*

Add one barrow load of compost and one bag of well rotted mixed animal manure to the bed and dig in to about 30 centimetres. This will get the bed into shape for a great crop.



After planting the seedlings - feed with

a high potassium fertiliser - sulphate of potash. Follow up with another dose when the plants produce their first flowers. If there is a yellowing off of the leaves as the plants are growing, this can be attributed to a deficiency of magnesium and iron. Rectify this with a dose of Epsom salts or chelated iron, however regular watering with worm juice will help prevent this.



Some basil planted around the tomatoes makes great companion planting and they taste great together.



Happy Gardening

Kathy Z



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The push me pull you of inflation (with apologies to Dr Doolittle)



Source: Alan Kyker (Creative Commons Licence)

A caveat to begin with. Large parts of this article are really Economics 101, so for those of you already familiar with the basics, feel free to skip large parts of it (or not read it at all!).

I have no doubt that many Tattler readers remember, as I do, the high inflation that characterised the 1970s and 1980s, when inflation reached double digits and so did mortgage rates. The causes of this period of high inflation and low growth - so-called stagflation - are the subject of much debate among economists, who rarely agree about anything. It was only brought under control by 'the recession we had to have' as Keating put it.

After a long period of low inflation since then, with interest rates kept artificially low to stimulate the economy after the GFC, inflation has increased beyond the 2-3% target set by the Reserve Bank (RBA). In response, the RBA has increased interest rates so significantly that there is genuine concern that the economy will soon be in recession - which is defined as two consecutive quarters with negative GDP growth. Before we examine the wisdom of the RBA actions, it might be worth some small digression into the nature and causes of inflation – the push and pull as it were.

A broad simplification would identify two types of inflation – demand pull, and cost push. In the former case rising wages in full employment (and the rising demand for goods and services that follow), outpace the ability of industry and commerce to supply them so prices rise, and wage demands increase in response in a feedback loop. The other type occurs when prices rise due to increased costs of inputs such as raw materials and energy, or companies increase their prices beyond the rise in the cost of inputs to increase their profits (or a combination of the two).

The next question is how could and should governments respond to these inflationary pressures? There are two broad tools - monetary policy and fiscal policy. The first is the responsibility of the RBA, which has since the 1990s been independent of the government of the day (although it appoints the Board of Governors, the implications of which will doubtless be felt by Philip Lowe when his term runs out in September). The RBA's job, among other things, is to maintain the inflation target (2-3% as mentioned above), and the main tool they have is interest rates, which influence lending and deposit rates. Fiscal policy, on the other hand, is the government's job and is about levels of taxation and expenditure.

By now, it will hopefully seem pretty clear to those of you who have got this far that the two types of inflation would require different policy responses, and for there to be a level of coordination between the RBA and the government. Demand-driven inflation requires demand to be dampened by increasing interest rates, raising the level of taxation and reducing government expenditure, or some combination of the three. Cost-push inflation is harder to deal with, especially if rising prices come from outside the economy (exogenous in the economist's jargon). If interest rates rise too quickly then the economy could fall into recession (sound familiar?). Fiscal strategies are politically difficult – cost, income and price controls, subsidies and other forms of government spending might make the problem worse and are unlikely to be adopted by governments of either persuasion, due to the electoral risk of doing so. So, which one are we suffering from? To answer the question we could take refuge in the data. Economists rarely agree about what the data actually means. But the OECD is generally regarded as a pretty reliable source (and is hardly known for the radicalism of its views). Their conclusion is that inflation in Australia and elsewhere is driven more by profits than by labour costs, and they have the numbers to prove it. Throughout 2022, in Australia and in each quarter, profits contributed more to inflation than did labour costs, most notably in the June quarter when 6.3 % of the total of 8.1% was from profits and, as the eagle-eyed reader has already calculated, only 1.8% from labour cost increases. So, if the numbers don't lie, suppressing consumer demand through increasing interest rates without some form of price control, doesn't seem to make a great deal of sense to me, since an increasing component of that demand is non-discretionary - being spent on things like food, energy and transport as real income declines. What do you think?

Dr. Quirkonomics

**Postscript** By the way, in an interview the other day, Mathias Cormann, now head of the OECD, said that Australian inflation was being driven by profit taking so raising interest rates wouldn't solve the issue.

## 2022 Tassie Tour – 7 - Legerwood

Have you ever visited somewhere because a guide book or someone said “it’s worth a look”?

Have you ever visited somewhere because “it’s on the way anyway”?

Have you ever arrived at that place and said something like “I’m so glad we didn’t miss this!”?

That could sum up our visit to Legerwood. It was on our itinerary but the



weather wasn’t great and it is a little way off the highway. We could easily have decided not to bother.

Later we would think, “What an amazing coincidence that we did go on this day.”

On October 15<sup>th</sup> 1918, nine trees were planted to honour the seven

soldiers killed in WWI who came from the area. At the base of each

tree is a plaque giving the history of each man.

As the names of the fallen were called out, a relative or near relative came forward to hold the tree until it was planted.

- *Douglas Fir – Alan Andrews - 19*
- *Giant Sequoia – Thomas Edwards - 34*
- *Deodar – William Hyde - 27*
- *Giant Sequoia – Robert Jenkins - 27*
- *Deodar – John McDougall - 20*
- *Douglas Fir – George Peddle - 25*
- *Deodar – John Riseley - 35*

A Weymouth Pine was planted at each end of the avenue, one to represent Gallipoli and the other, the ANZACS.

In 2001, a report indicated that the trees were no longer safe and the community were devastated that the memorials would be lost. In 2004, it was decided that each of the stumps would be carved into the likeness of each soldier commemorated. A chainsaw carver, Eddie Freeman of Ross, was asked by the Legerwood Hall and Reserves Committee to sculpt the masterpieces.

There is a story with every name eg Private Alan Andrews was the first soldier born and raised in the town to lose his life in the conflict. He was also the youngest at the tender age of 19 years and 2 months. His memorial tree depicts him waving farewell with his hat whilst accompanied by his loyal dog.

To learn more about each, this is a good link

<https://discover.hubpages.com/travel/Legerwoods-Memorial-Trees-Tasmanias-WW1-Heritage>

At one end, the pine is carved to depict a bugler at Lone Pine in honour of the ANZACS. At the other end the pine is carved to depict a soldier on the beach at Gallipoli carrying an ammunition box and a billy can.

The amazing coincidence -when we arrived, we realised it was Remembrance Day...

John Knapper





**To Landholder/Property Owner**

**My name is John Riley, I'm a Commercial Deer Harvester from Wodonga. I earn a living off removing deer and kangaroos from farmers properties taking the whole carcass with me and selling it for dog meat or human consumption to licensed establishments in Victoria.**

**I use thermal imaging to locate and shoot the animal so there is no spotlighting involved.**

**The positives for the farmer are that they have a Commercial Deer Harvester come to their property and remove the animal in a professional manner.**

**At the current market, the farmer earns 20c p/kg from the deer that comes off their land. The farmer gets paid, and I earn a living, so it is a win, win for both parties involved.**

**As this is my primary source of income and my livelihood everything is done professionally, ethically, and humanely, everything is done to a high standard and professional level.**

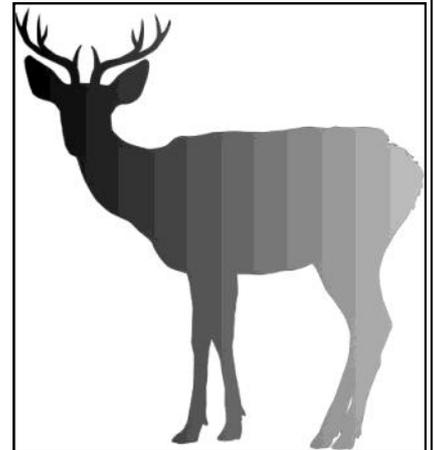
**I have references, all the correct licensing/documentation and public liability insurance.**

**Your property and livestock will be safe whilst I'm on your property and that's my guarantee.**

**I also offer the removal of foxes and wild dogs.**

**Please don't hesitate to contact me for references, more information or any questions you might have.**

**My mobile: 0431989730 Thank you for reading my letter. Yours sincerely, John Riley**



### Benalla Rural City Council

## Social Inclusion Action Group

**Council invites community members and leaders from various backgrounds and age groups to express their interest in joining the Social Inclusion Action Group (SIAG).**

**The Benalla SIAG will empower the local community to promote social connections and inclusion by designing and funding different local projects that support community mental health and well-being.**

**You can chat to SIAG Coordinator Matt Debreceny when he visits your town or contact him on 0484 025 974.**

**For more information visit [www.benalla.vic.gov.au/siag](http://www.benalla.vic.gov.au/siag)**

**Expressions of interest close midnight Sunday 13 August 2023**

**4pm-7pm, Tuesday 1 August 2023  
Swanpool Pavilion, Albert Heaney Reserve  
2426 Midland Hwy, Swanpool**

**3pm-6pm, Thursday 3 August 2023  
Tatong Memorial Hall  
Tiger Hill Rd, Tatong**

**3pm-6pm, Monday 7 August 2023  
Baddaginnie Jubilee Hall  
63 Palmerston St, Baddaginnie**

**3pm-6pm, Wednesday 9 August 2023  
Gooroombat Public Hall  
53 Halls Rd, Gooroombat**





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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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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	59.2	197.6							424.4

Very large rainfalls have been happening lately with 37.1mm up until the 15<sup>th</sup> of July and 197.6mm for the whole month of June. Plenty of gumboot purchasing due to the soggy underfoot situation. I don't like the knee high gumboots and wanted to buy the just above ankle type but found that they are mainly made for females who have a narrow foot shape. Crocs will have to do, but not the crocs with holes around the sides and top, they let wetness in.

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. 18th August 9am—5pm



**Tattler Advertising Rates** Inc num: A0047895K

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Single Issue: \$32	\$16	\$8
Six Issues: \$180	\$85	\$45
Eleven Issues: \$320	\$160	\$80

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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.

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**To avoid distortion** to your image, please fit your advertisement to these sizes.

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If layout is important, submit your work as an image, or in MS Publisher. If laid out in a **Word** document, contents will be copied into Publisher. However, the Editor will have an idea of your preferred layout.

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

If you require help, contact a Tattler committee-member.

**DEADLINE**

**The Tattler Deadline** is end of the 20th of the month, January-November. Non-digitised items which need scanning or typing, by the 15th.

**SUBMISSIONS / CONTACT**

Submit via e-mail to [tatongtattler@yahoo.com.au](mailto: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](mailto:linda.defazio6@gmail.com)

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

Donations can be given to committee members, left in

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The 2023  
**Annual General Meeting**  
of the  
**Tatong Heritage Group**  
will be held on  
**Monday September 18th**  
4pm at the Tatong Hall  
*All Welcome*

*We have long-standing members prepared to fill the necessary positions, but would be delighted to have some new input!*

*Anyone interested in the history of Tatong and surrounding districts is very welcome to join us.*

**Tatong  
Heritage  
Group**

