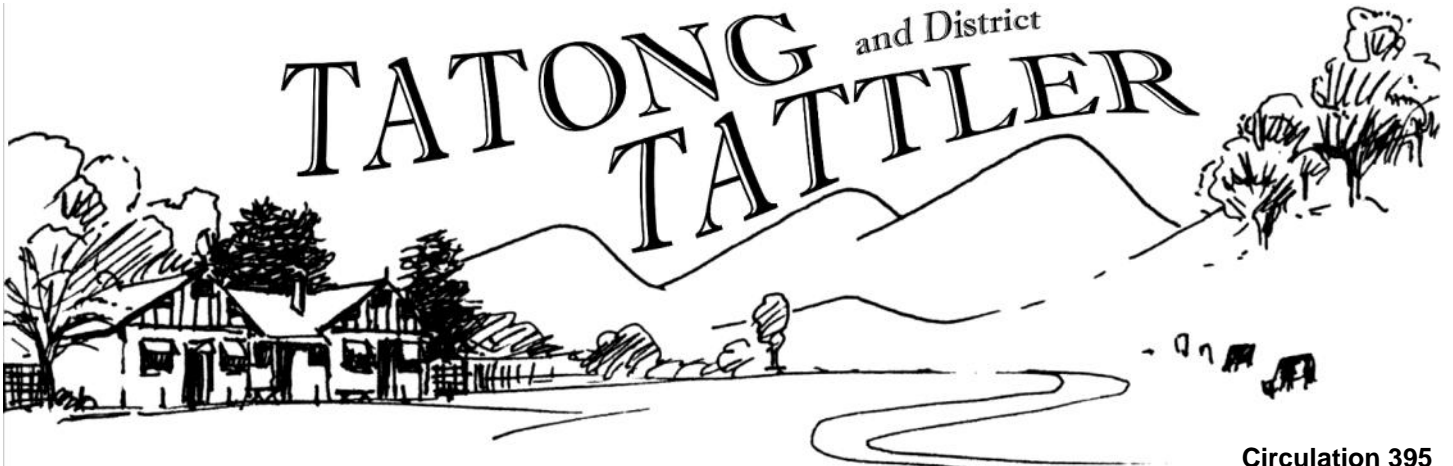


TATONG and District TATTTLER



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White Gate Dates

The next **White Gate dinner @ the Tavern** will be **October Wednesday 4th**. It will be doubly enjoyable as the September dinner was cancelled due to lack of electricity. If it happens again, maybe BYO jaffles?

We can sing Happy Birthday to Annie Cuming; and then try a harmonic rendition of "Sumer Is Icumyn In" - because it is. Do ring the Tavern on 5767 2210 & book yourselves in for 6:30-ish - *Andi*

This month Matt (and Leni) have been in charge of the dairyfarm. The milk production has improved, is it the weather, or perhaps the management? The bull is moping, his work completed for another year.

Linda and Laurie have been OS to New England, USA and Eastern Canada. A visit to the CN Tower in Toronto and Niagara Falls were on the itinerary.

- *Linda De Fazio*



White Gate Fire Brigade Roster:

Bill Ferguson	1 Oct	Noel Hutchens	29 Oct
Norton Grimwade	8 Oct	Terry Trounson	5 Nov
Henry Thorne	15 Oct	Les MacLean	12 Nov
Andrew Marriott	22 Oct	James Parton	19 Nov

Meanwhile Caryn De Fazio reports that: "The geese mafia have reproduced and there is an 11-strong team of belligerent honking fowl guarding the farm" - which surely ought ward off unwanted purveyors of bitumen, religion, and socks.

- *Andrea Stevenson, 0429 439 336*

Gawn to Town

Being a farmer gave insight into the comforts of dictatorship. I mean, can you imagine giving sheep the vote? "When do you want to get shorn, guys?" Or holding a referendum on introducing Border Leicester rams (my dog would have voted No). Having executive power is jolly good for the ones with the executive power.

After all, referendums are divisive. They divide a population into one part that says No and one part that says Yes. The two parts are then measured to see which is bigger. It would be nice (indeed, downright useful) if some indication could be recorded on *why* any given voter replied as they did. But that would oppress the media and political freedom to put their own spin on the result, and really Go to Town on it.

It would be even nicer if the matter could be discussed with mutual respect, learning, and honesty. And not drag bloody Back Yards into it again. Ever since the newcomers kicked the indigenous people off their land, every mention of returning even token cultural power raises the terror of losing Back Yards. The "Back Yard", it seems, is the chosen unit of landed security.

But younger voters will be asking, what is a "Back Yard", anyway? Modern homes tend to encompass the entire block, house walls hard against the boundary fence. The Yard has now been architecturally internalised, as a spacious living area, with air conditioning and flat screens. The children no longer fall out of trees and the dog can't dig holes (well, not very deep ones, anyway).

In the modern Yard, plastic plants don't need watering, which side-steps the divisive issue of Running Water. It is argued that a people without Running Water will be pleased to be decimated by a people with Running Water, as any descendants of survivors get to have Running Water (along with Architecturally Internal Yards). This does make the prospect being invaded by an alien people with superior lethal technology more attractive.

However; our history education ought clarify the standard of living of those who came from the Northern Hemisphere to invade/settle/colonise this land. Generally stunted by malnutrition, and with rotting teeth, they were terrified of the 'savages' who tended to be large, strong and have a lot of good teeth; but they did lack piped water. However, so did the vast majority of the immigrants. While piped water has been around for a while (i.e. ~4,000 years ago in India) most of our great-grandmothers lugged the wet stuff around in buckets.

Also, well-managed sewerage might be more important than running water; and the people already in Australia had long been managing that matter much better than the disease-ridden refugees who brought their own cholera from the London slums.

Anyway, like Back Yards, Running Water is so yesterday. Modern children don't drink tap water, they rehydrate from plastic bottles. The bottles then float off, whole or as micro-plastics, to show the ocean how a superior, non-divisive culture really operates. Can we have a referendum on plastic?

- Andrea Stevenson



THE VOICE REFERENDUM

You didn't think I would stay quiet about this momentous event did you? I will attempt to remain civil in my comments, even while the page fairly smoulders with unspoken passion! Jokes aside this referendum is extremely serious because of the relative haste in pushing it forward and the deliberate concealment of clear information about its true purpose for our country.

My first point is in regard to guilt about events from the past, such as the tenuous connection we now have to English settlement: While there is some truth in the saying that we inherit the sins of our fathers, we are not responsible for their 'sins' only our own. Only the perpetrator of a crime or maltreatment can apologise and only the actual victim can forgive or ask for recompense, otherwise the exercise is a contrivance with symbolic significance only.

The outcome of colonisation does still affect today's aboriginal descendants but so long as all Australians have a positive and respectful outlook to each other these issues will, like all social evolution, be gradually resolved. Also when looking at the downside of colonisation it is only fair to look at the upside. Politics, ideology and beliefs are the greatest causes of conflict and suffering in societies. When someone is in dire trouble should we first check out their racial background, politics, ancestral crimes and so on before offering help?

Unfortunately the referendum campaign is now clearly divisive because it is being largely promoted according to political persuasion. There is only one way to avoid politics and that is to treat the matter from the bipartisan angle of our shared humanity, a genuine good will for all and the exclusive use of facts and truth. After operating in that manner what could possibly go wrong?

Through much observation of media trends and the recent 'pandemic' experience (which was a harsh lesson about being a responsible citizen and acting upon factual information) my conclusion is that the Voice referendum is only a small part of a far greater shift in both Australian and global cultures. From a historical perspective this shift should not be unexpected because it is just over 80 years since the last global disaster arose out of Europe and Japan. It seems that most people cannot or will not sense the signs, even when surrounded by them.

Enough said, and of all the scary things in life truth must be one of the worst and this is proven when at times of widespread manufactured fear nearly all media is restricted over what information can be disseminated. This information shutdown only makes things worse because when we are treated like a child we will most likely act like one.

I really liked the article by Dr Quirkonomics and would like to read more from his/her learned history and other observations about humanity in forthcoming Tattlers. Mike Larkin

The Tatong Heritage Group is seeking to identify plants in the Cork Tree area.

Can any botanist, arborist or knowledgeable person help? Please contact

Faye Crowe on 03 5767 2227



TATONG TOPICS –OCTOBER 1923

Benalla Standard 2nd October 1923:

Benalla Show.— The annual Benalla Show will take place to-day and tomorrow, and with fine weather promises to be most successful. Since last issue number of additional entries have been received in the horse and cattle sections and altogether a good exhibition is promised. The No. 1 exhibit of the Department of Agriculture will be added feature of the show, as will also be a fine collection from Dookie College. The usual special trains will be run on Wednesday from Euroa, Yarrowonga and Tatong. The business places close at 1 p.m. to-day, while tomorrow will be observed as a public and bank half-holiday.

Benalla Standard 5th October 1923:

LIST OF SALES TO COME: WATTS, TURNBULL & CO BENALLA:

Tuesday, Oct. 9. — -Sheep, cattle.

WANGARATTA: .

Tuesday, Oct 16-Pig and dairy

Thursday, October 11. Stock

DEVENISH:

Monday, October 15. — -Stock

ST. JAMES:

Monday, October 29.— Stock

VIOLETTOWN:

Friday, October 12, — Stock

EUROA:

Thursday, October 11.— Stock

Monday, October 8. Special stock sale Tungamah.

October 10.-Clearing sale Mrs. E. E. Gaff, Wattville.

Friday, October 12. Sale of dairy herd, a/c Wm.

Younger, Greta.

Saturday. October 13.— Tatong property, account Mr.

P. S, O. Clements, at Benalla Hotel.

Thursday, November 15. — Special horse sale,

Benalla (in conjunction with Adamson, Strettle & Co.

Saturday October 20— Baddaginnie land, at Benalla Hotel.

Benalla Standard 12th October 1923:

PROPERTY SALE

200 ACRES AT LURG.

FRIDAY, 2nd NOVEMBER, 1923.
Benalla Hotel, at 2 o'clock.

WATTS, TURNBULL & CO.
Have been favored with instructions from MR A. R. M'CLELLAND, of Lurg, to sell by public auction, as above, the following property:—

199 Acres 2 roods of good grazing land, situated at Lurg, being Allot. 30, Section B, Parish of Tatong, County of Delatite.

The property is well fenced and well watered, and is splendid grazing land.

For further particulars apply—
Watts, Turnbull & Co.

Benalla Standard 19th October 1923:

Visit by Railway Commissioners. —

The Victorian Railway Commissioners and party are due to arrive by special train at 9.8 a.m., on Thursday, 25th October; They will leave for Yarrowonga at 10.10 a.m. inspecting stations and route, arriving there at 12.40, and leaving on the return journey at 1.38 p.m. Benalla will be reached at 2.50 p.m. and the party will again depart at 3.25 p.m. for Tatong, which will be reached at 4.20 p.m. Tatong will be left at 4.40 p.m., and arrival in Benalla 5.12 p.m. The party will spend the night at Benalla, and depart for Seymour at 8.45 a.m. on Friday, 26th. It is understood Mr. Clapp, the chief commissioner, will head the party. As will be seen from the itinerary the visit is one of inspection; and no doubt our council will see that good use is made of the opportunity to bring under Mr. Clapp's notice sundry matters which would be the better for attention.

The Age 24th October 1923:

Spring Creek Saw Mills and Timber Seasoning Co. Ltd. has been registered with £30,000 capital in £1 shares, of which 30,000 are offered to the public, 10,000 are to be issued to the vendors as fully paid, 1000 will be set aside as fully paid for acquisition of licences to use inventions for seasoning timber and 9000 are to be held in reserve. The object of the company is to acquire the Spring Creek saw mills, near Tatong, and right to fell and mill timber on an area of 3000 acres. Estimated annual profit on proposed capital of £21,000 to £3150. The prospectus of the company appears elsewhere, and samples of the seasoned timber can be seen at the office of the brokers, Messrs. William Noall and Son, 95 Queen Street, Melbourne..

Benalla Standard 26th October 1923:

Benalla-Tatong Railway Trust:

A meeting of the above was held at the Council Chambers on Monday, when there were present Comrs. Walker (in the chair), Dallas, Roe, Cowan, James, House, Cleary, and Day. A letter was read from a firm of accountants in Melbourne applying for the position of auditor to the trust. It was decided to ascertain whether it is necessary to have a licensed auditor, and also what fee would be charged by the applicant. Comr, Cowan gave notice that he would submit the following motion at next meeting of the trust, "That the rate for the year ending 30th September, 1924, be— for zone A, 1 shilling 2 pence; zone B, 6 pence, in zone C, 3 pence. The following accounts were passed for payment: W.B. Tiernan, £19/13/4; Arnall and Jackson, £3/3/-. The treasurer reported that the trust's account was in credit £6/12/4.

Compiled by Barry O'Connor – Tatong Heritage Group.



What's on at the Tavern

Sun Oct 22

Oktoberfest with Dallas Alice

Sat Nov 4

Twilight Garden Party with acoustic Natoli Duo

New private parlour room available for meetings and small functions

Book your Xmas Party now!!

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Garden Daze

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



Warm Days and the Summer

Vegetables taking off in the Garden

Seems that no matter how long one does something - there is always more to be learnt.

POTATOES - I had bought a bag of - Pink Fir Apple seed potatoes and noticed that the label said (among other things) that they were *indeterminate* - a term that I had until then only associated with tomato plants. Indeterminate tomatoes unlike bush tomatoes continue to grow through the season - thus requiring staking. Their fruit continues throughout the season - as opposed to bush tomatoes which tend to produce their fruit all together - making them handy for making sauces etc.



INDETERMINATE POTATOES - continue to grow upwards as do their relative tomato plants. This means that as the stem grows upward - the potatoes are produced along the stem - making it necessary to continue to heap up the soil (or mulch - whichever your preference takes you) around them to produce more potatoes and to prevent the newly emerging crop from turning green and thus become unusable. These varieties are suitable for small spaces such as boxes or towers as they grow up and get a good yield of potatoes. Crops are usually ready in 100 - 130 days.



Varieties include:

Brownell, Dutch Cream, Nicola, Up to Date, King Edward, Salad Rose, Pink Fir Apple, Sapphire and Sebago.

DETERMINATE POTATOES -

grow to a set height at the height they were planted and stay as a bush - and as such the tubers grow as a single layer of potatoes below the surface and there is no need to be building the soil up around the stem. Determinate varieties require more space. Crops are usually early and mature in just 50 - 70 days.



Varieties include:

Kennebec, Carlingford, Purple Congo, Pink Eye, Red Pontiac, Spunta

As the various varieties also have different qualities - making them better for boiling, baking, chips or mashing - some further research on the internet - could be beneficial and return the crop that is just right for your needs.

GETTING READY FOR THE SUMMER VEG GARDEN

TOMATOES - this year I planted seeds of Black Russian (our favourite last year), Scoresby Dwarf (low growing handy when growing in wicking beds), Wapsipinicon Peach (downy skin reputed to deter fruit fly), Silvery Fir Tree (good for growing in pots) and a mystery packet of "heirloom" in my hot box. These are now ready to be potted on and I have almost finished putting them into little "forestry tubes" to grow on further before being put into the ground.

The first crop of sweet corn was also raised in the hot box and has just been planted in one of the wicking beds.

Last year I grew apple cucumbers in the same bed as the corn and the two did well together, so will do the same this year.

There is a bed of loose leaf lettuce, some cauliflower and a couple of purple cabbages coming on and some celery in little pots still to be planted.

The bower birds are a nuisance with growing greenery and everything has to be covered with netting or they will eat the lot.

GUINEA PIGS - As most of the Vegie Garden is in either raised beds or wicking beds - I have four guinea pigs (all female) living in the garden to free range and eat the grass to keep the paths clear.

This works well with the exception of two weeds:



Red Flowered Mallow (left) and Petty Spurge both of which need to be removed by hand.

Fortunately Guinea Pigs don't like to eat, Garlic or Asparagus.

There are some Seaside daises (Erigeron) and Salvias to look pretty and attract the bees - these are either in the corners of wicking beds or have protection as Guinea Pigs *do* like to eat them.



Warmer October weather is right for growing anything your heart (or palate) desires.

So enjoy the season and Happy Gardening



Kathy Z

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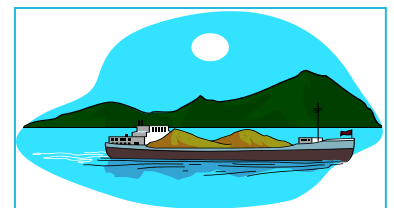


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MOLYULLAH FIRE BRIGADE UPDATE AND SUNDAY DRIVER ROSTER

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

Sunday Drive includes:

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

01-Oct-23	Bob Whytlaw
08-Oct-23	Peg Halbwidl
15-Oct-23	Andrew Barry
22-Oct-23	Damian Nicholls
29-Oct-23	Russell Byrne
05-Nov-23	Kevin Ryan
12-Nov-23	Alastair Cameron
19-Nov-23	Anthony Hill
26-Nov-23	Andrew Wheelens



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

MOLY IN THE GROUP TRAINING

A full crew from Molyullah Brigade took part in the recent Benalla Group training day, with the truck and ultralight.

With around 15 brigades participating, we went through some pre-season reminders about radio procedures and basic firefighting, as well as getting to know the new Group Big Fill, and undertaking an entrapment (burnover) drill.

“The Group training days are a great way to brush up on skills, getting to know our fellow brigade members, and working with other brigades,” said Molyullah Captain, Dion Stevenson. “Thanks to those members who attended. I think we all got a lot out of it.”

FIRE SHED GETS A SPRING CLEAN

Thanks to all those who attended the recent Spring-cleaning morning at the Molyullah Fire Shed. Lots was achieved in a couple of busy hours, including vegetation removal, clearing gutters and a thorough clean of the shed. “It looks a whole lot better!” was the general consensus from everyone. All that hard work was followed by a BBQ lunch.

Tatong CFA Update

The Bureau of Meteorology is predicting a return to a more “normal” fire season this summer after three wet and mild summers. There is a lot of pasture growth so grass fires may be a problem especially if the spring is dry and the grass cures early.

Now is the time to start preparing your properties for the coming fire season. Developing an emergency plan and making sure everyone in your household knows what to do is essential. The CFA has a number of publications that provide information about how to go about this task. Hop online to locate.

The Tatong CFA will commence weekday training sessions once daylight savings commences. We meet on a Tuesday evening to run through basic truck familiarisation, draughting etc. All firefighters will also need to be up to date with their hazardous trees and entrapment drill training.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, go to the CFA website and follow the prompts. Alternatively, come down to the station on a Sunday and discuss with me or another brigade member.

Jason Nichols Tatong Captain



TATONG ARCHERY ACTIVITIES

We are still meeting every second Sunday on the Tatong oval starting at 1:30pm and we welcome any newcomers. We have spare bows and arrows for those without. Our current active days will be Sunday the 1st of October and the 15th and every fortnight after that. There is an English Ash tree which we shoot beneath because it gives shade on sunny and hot days. If you like golf but not the long walks try archery, it is virtually the same thing, trying to whack or shoot a projectile into a small hole or gold ring. Our standard range distance is 50 meters, meaning you walk no more than 2 kilometres collecting arrows from the target or surrounding landscape.
Mike Larkin

Swanpool News

The recent sunshine is inspiring our bowlers, whose season officially started on 16th September. The Club is a friendly and welcoming space for bowlers old and new, and welcomes new members, just contact Secretary Jenny Sievewright on 0428828280 if you would like to know more.

The Cinema's October programme has something for everyone, including a Seniors' Week matinee on Friday 6th October at 10.30am, screening a heartwarming new film, "The Miracle Club", featuring 3 award winning actresses, including Dame Maggie Smith, Kathy Bates, and Laura Linney, in a story about a group of women from a small town in Ireland who win a trip to Lourdes, and discover new possibilities for their lives. Thanks to the support of Benalla Rural City Council, tickets for seniors are only \$5, which includes a cuppa and a biscuit, as well as the film!

And another matinee on Friday 20th October at 10.30 features a delightful film from New Zealand called "Red ,White and Brass". We finish the month with two screenings of the recent blockbuster "Oppenheimer", which deserves to be seen on our big screen!

Pick up your programmes at the Tavern, or various outlets in Benalla, or check online at www.swanpoolcinema.com.au, we look forward to welcoming you!
Deb



A copy of "Minus his Head and Hooves", a history of Sandy the War Horse, has been donated to the Benalla Library by the Tatong Heritage Group.

Sandy was the only horse of over one hundred thousand to be returned to Australia from the first World War.

A statue of Sandy was created by sculptor Brett "Mon" Garling, and unveiled at Tallangatta last May. Participating in the moving ceremony were several hundred horse-riders, one of whom was Tatong's Melisse Robinson.

Sandy had been donated to the war effort by Tallangatta locals Francis (Bonner) and Jack O'Donnell. The horse became the favourite mount of Major General William Bridges, who died at Gallipoli. Sandy was brought back to Australia in 1918, and died in 1923.

Ashley Merbach, Library Coordinator in Benalla, received the book with great pleasure. She is a descendant of the Tallangatta family who donated Sandy to the war effort, and her grandmother Jean Merbach had kept the story alive and campaigned for Sandy's recognition.

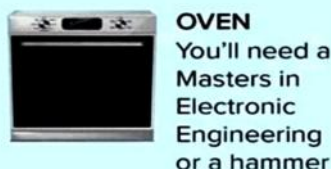
The book "Minus His Head and Hooves" was written by Elaine Brogan OAM, founder & initial president of the Tatong Heritage Group, also a founding member of the Melbourne group "Friends of Sandy". The title comes from Sandy's head and hooves being removed for mementoes and museum exhibits.

- Andrea Stevenson, for the Tatong Heritage Group



Ashley accepts the book for the Benalla Library.

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WORKING BEE SCHEDULED

Work is to be done along the

Avenue of Trees & Picnic area at the Bridge

Sunday 29th October 10am

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Bring your gloves, tools, muscles and enthusiasm!

BBQ Lunch, Refreshments and Chit-Chat afterwards

Any queries contact Jess Ritchie 043 903 6678



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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	51.1	67.2					542.7

WEATHER IN THE TATONG TOWNSHIP

The rainfall up until the 15th of September is 23.7mm and the total rainfall for the whole of August was a moderate 67.2mm. Today, the 15th of September is very warm for early in spring, nevertheless it is a break from the many very cold morning of late.

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. 20th October 9am—5pm



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