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www.tatongtattler.org.au

Edition 385

Tatong Community *Autumn Vibes*

Friday 16th May 5:30pm
Tatong Recreation Reserve

Live music by Jess, Daz & Stace
around the famous Tatong bonfire!

Dinner & dessert provided, BYO drinks
(donations appreciated)

Defib demo
Update on CFA Ultralight

A free event for the
Tatong Community

Thank you to Benalla Rural City
Council and the Social Inclusion
Action Group for supporting this event





Three generations take the field together

It is a rare and special occasion when three generations of the one family get the opportunity to play competition cricket together. Benalla Bushrangers, in C grade of the Wangaratta and District Cricket Association, have a father and son team where former Tatong players Mark Osborne and Paul Montgomery have been playing with their sons Tom and Josh. Being a long weekend, and with a few injuries to boot, left the team struggling for numbers – a perfect opportunity for Pop Scott to play with his son in laws and grandsons. To make it even more special, third grandson Lachlan, helped out in the field giving the team a real family affair – all six on the field together. Winning was not the aim of this game, but it just so happened that the team got a win to top off a very special day.

Footnote – Dennis faced 5 incident packed balls - missed being stumped twice off the first 2 balls, dropped off the 3rd ball, a single off the 4th ball and out LBW off the 5th.

Heavy Horses return to Moorngag.

Tatong locals won't have to travel far to experience one of the region's most unique and heartwarming rural events, with the Benalla Clydesdale and Heavy Horse Driving Day returning to Moorngag on Saturday 3 May 2025. Just a short drive from Tatong, the event will be held at the Moorngag Hall and Recreation Reserve, promising a full day of horsepower, heritage, and country camaraderie.

The event brings together drivers and their gentle giants for a range of driving classes, with categories for open, novice, junior and beginner drivers. For those keen to give it a go, horses will be available on the day – making it an ideal entry point for anyone curious about heavy horse driving. Limited spots available.

Among the day's highlights is the awarding of the Max and Kristin Marriott Memorial Trophy, presented to the Champion Horse of the Day.

President Annie Hillis said the event is as much about community spirit as it is about the competition. "It's a fantastic opportunity to see these magnificent horses in action and to learn more about the art of heavy horse driving," Ms Hillis said.

"It's a beautiful setting, the horses are incredible to watch, and everyone is welcome – whether you're competing or just curious to see what it's all about."

Registration opens at 9am, with events getting underway from 10am. Entry is free for CCHS members, with non-members required to pay a casual insurance fee of \$20 for adults and \$11 for under 18s. Bookings are essential – interested participants should contact Annie Hillis on 0418 332 150 or via aneclyde@active8.net.au.

The public is warmly invited to attend. There'll be food and drinks available to purchase (cash only), and entry to the grounds is by gold coin donation.

Guests are encouraged to BYO chair for comfort and asked not to bring dogs.

More details and updates are available on Facebook at Benalla Clydesdale & Heavy Horse Driving Day.

Lucy



TatongTavern.com.au

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TATONG TOPICS – MAY 1925

The Benalla Standard 1st May 1925:

Police Chief in Benalla.— Arriving on Tuesday evening, Mr. Nicholson, Chief Commissioner of Police, and departmental officers spent Wednesday visiting the district stations and places where it is urged that further police are required. They visited Tatong, which has often been brought under the notice of the department as a necessary place for a police officer to be stationed, as the work from that district entails considerable travelling for the Benalla mounted man.

The Benalla Standard 5th May 1925:

Council News: Tatong Riding.

From S. Benanti, drawing attention to the fact that the bridge over the Watchbox Creek, on road leading to his place, has been washed away for some months, and it is essential to him that it be replaced, as he has no alternative road to get out. It will require at least £100 to replace the bridge, which serves three ratepayers.— Received.

From A. E. Bilham, secretary Victorian Farmers' Union, "Samaria, drawing attention to the need of pipes in the water crossings on the Samaria road between Mr. J. Wallace's turn off and Samaria. These crossings in wet weather become awfully cut up, and are a hindrance to traffic. There are at least six pipes necessary, and if these, with the necessary filling, were put in it would be much better. Good filling is obtainable on the road. Also asking if the side drains could be cleaned out and deepened where needed, between the post office and the cemetery. These drains are blocked in places, and the water goes on to the road, and is washing drains in the wheel tracks.— In engineer's report.

North Eastern Ensign 5th May 1925:

Concert at Tatong. A concert, in aid of the Tatong Methodist Church, was given in the local hall on Tuesday evening last. The hall was packed to the doors with an appreciative audience, most of the artists being encored for their contributions. Many Benalla performers took part, the programme given being as follows:- Overture, Miss Serpell, 'The Storm'; Song, Miss Burns, "Danny Boy"; Song, Mr. Menzies Tough, "Come to the fair," encore, "The Lilac Tree"; Song, Miss Carrick, "Mellow Moon"; Recitation, Miss Hunt; Song, Mr L. Garson, 'The Veteran Song', encore, "To a Miniature" Duet, Master and Miss Thompson, 'Amazon' Song, Mr: J. Kay, "The Floral Dance"; Comicalities, Mr W. Collins, "Barney Google", encore. "I'm getting better every day"; Overture Mrs Coghill, 'Little Wooden Whistle'; Song, Mr .GL Sullivan; Song, Mr .L. Garson, "Mirana"; Song, Miss Burns, "I heard you go by" ; Recitation, Miss Hunt, "I've got a cold"; Song, Mr J. Kay, 'Invictue'; Song, Mr Menzies Tough, "Up from Somerset"; Song M. Richardson, "You tell her I stutter";

Humorous items, Mr W. Collins, 'I ain't nobody's darling.' At the conclusion of the performance, an interesting, physical display was given by Mr Menzies Tough Benalla.

The Benalla Standard 8th May 1925:

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Bridge Street, Benalla.

The Benalla Standard 15th May 1925:

V.F.U. A combined meeting of the Tatong, Swanpool and Samaria branches of the V.F.U. took place in the Moorngag Hall on Wednesday evening, when Cr. T. F Harrison occupied the chair. Special addressees were delivered by Mr. R. Cook, M.H.R. (Indi), Dr. Harris, M.L.C., and Mr. Carlisle, M.L.A., and the meeting was undoubtedly one of the most enthusiastic and well attended yet held in the district. Owing to the pressure of space, a detailed report will appear in our next issue.....*and in the same edition;*

Salt from Sea Water.— The commercial world is interested in a scheme (a test of which has proved satisfactory) for the extraction, by hydro-electricity, of salt from sea water. This system, which hails from New Zealand, reduces production costs to a minimum, and as New Zealand imports alone in salt amount to 40,000 tons a year, the venture promises to become one of extreme importance to the world.

Compiled by Barry O'Connor. Tatong Heritage Group.

AT THE TATONG TAVERN

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REPORT FROM A DUKE

Yes, his name is Peter Duke and fortunate are you if you know of him and his writing, thinking and gifts to humanity. You may already have some idea that the western culture that we are part of has been subjected, in various degrees, to systems of dictatorial control for at least two thousand years. Control exerted by certain people who place controlling others at the highest priority of their seemingly loveless lives. You might also think of this writing as part of the many 'conspiracies' talked about during the pandemic but there is much to be known and learned about the way societies work. Duke's internet reports are the outcome of deep knowledge gained from the scholarly work of linguists and other writer's faithful to the authentic messages of the Christian bible's gospels.

I can only give a glimpse of the value that his work is to humanity and especially for those people raised as Christian. (Christianity can now be understood to mean different things to different people; for instance there is the person who practices the religion of a Christian denomination as well as the person who practices the secular, or cultural values of the gospel message.)

Duke states that, "modern culture has buried the functional principles of linguistic Christianity under layers of abstraction, religious institutionalism and semantic distortion." His reports are called Linguistic Christianity which talks about the use and misuse of language and how it has been distorted for the purposes of population control. Through his scholarly research Duke has revealed staggering misunderstandings about the way the original Christian message of truth has been captivated by opportunistic and callous controllers, who, since the times of the Roman Empire, have used their methods to dumb down the populace making controlling them relatively easy. This technique is not a full frontal attack, rather it uses the means of altering the original Jesus message to divert and mislead. This sleight of hand is a devious form of epistemological warfare and Duke's linguistic Christianity provides the skills and knowledge, by way of the authentic message of Jesus, to resist and re-learn about that which really matters for a life of fulfilment, love and true freedom. My goal here is to alert people to the very good news without going too far. I acknowledge that I have, until recently, held a negative outlook about religions due to my own ignorance about the true value of Christianity. It is the distortions by the church itself and other corrupted and influential authorities of the true values taught by Jesus that caused my negative outlook. It is these religious contradictions, as well as so many other aspects of our lives, eg the fake pandemic, that Duke addresses in his reports.

Duke's 'Reports' are free to access on the internet at <thedukereport@substack.com.> and are highly recommended for anyone interested in the authentic message of truth and Natural Law. most of which survives in the Bible's gospels even though so much has been hidden beneath layers of mysticism, ritual, nominalisation and other linguistic manipulations.

The very fact of this information's seemingly delusional unreality is an indication of the extent of deception that we live under. It is like a virus planted into a computer program, so subtle that we are completely unaware of its influence because it has been a part of our upbringing from the cradle to the grave.

To think that almost all governments, authorities and institutions are heavily influenced, if not controlled by hidden

systems is hard to accept but once these systems are authentically investigated the mist clears and all is revealed. Duke explains the proper meanings, within the Greek language, (of the original gospel writings) the, words such as logos and telos and how they have been twisted and redefined in order to confuse as well as to create a lack of confidence in the people about their own ability to make informed choices for their lives.

I welcome any feedback about this subject.

In slightly unrelated news, Duke had his home destroyed in the recent wild Palisades fires in California.

Mike Larkin

MUM by Ron Holland

Mum's are special people to everyone and mine's no exception. I wrote this for Mother's Day several years ago. Perhaps you can adapt it as yours.

My mum's a special person, especially for me,

Now I'm too big and heavy, to sit upon her knee.

I remember when she held my hand with cut or graze or bruise,

And how she held me oh so close, as the sore part she would soothe.

I remember when I started school, and she took away my trike,

And helped me sit and learn to ride, my first two-wheeler bike.

She must have had the patience of old testimonial Job, To hold me on that wonky seat, 'til on my own I rode.

I remember how she helped me out with algebra so hard,

And spread my bread with butter heaped – I never got no lard.

Through school I went with help from all – most of it from mum

And she was always there to help, with sentence or with sum.

'And school one day was finished, and the world at last did call

For me to join the working lot, with problems big or small.

I remember how I came home proud, with my first earned quid,

Strutting like a peacock, paid for what I did.

She took from me so little, she always banked my board, Then gave it back tenfold or more, with things I couldn't afford.

As years have flown and family came, she is always there,

To sit with child, to sweep a path, or mend a broken chair.

I thank the Lord for giving me, a mum so kind and true, She really is the kind of mum, you'd surely call "True Blue".

I hope your mum is just like mine, and here with you today

Be if she's not, say "Love ya mum", next time you stop to pray

What's in Season In May?

Lots of tasty vegetables become more available at cooler, seasonal prices. Think beetroots, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, cauliflowers, fennel, leeks, parsnips, pumpkin, spinach and silverbeet. On the fruit front apples, mandarins, pears and Valencia oranges are the best picks now that the stone fruit season has ended. It's been an odd weather year with Autumnal weather only just showing it's cooler days and much cooler nights and the usual leaf drop from deciduous trees has been much delayed by the long summer sunshine. I'm looking forward to perfuming the house with oven baked braises and slow cooked meats, roasted vegetables and cakes and tarts that I avoided making due to the already hot house.

Beetroot; is lovely baked unpeeled in foil until soft, cooled then peeled and doused in a little lemon juice and olive oil, it's lovely with baked salmon or chicken. Peeled raw beetroot cut into chunks and added to thick sliced onions and fennel, tossed in olive oil salt and pepper then baked covered in foil is also good.

Brussels sprouts; I love them halved or quartered and tossed in a pan with salty bacon and garlic until crisp but tender. Small, young Brussels sprouts, very finely sliced on a mandolin and mixed with feta and walnuts make a lovely side dish for any roasted fish or meats.

Cabbage; red, green, Napa or Chinese wombok it is such a versatile vegetable. I love it just wok tossed with garlic and olive oil until wilted. Blanch the leaves and use as a blanket to wrap meat or rice fillings before braising in a tomato infused stock. Blanched, sliced cabbage topped with a cheesy béchamel sauce and baked is great with a Sunday roast.

Cauliflower; try it baked whole or in large chunks, on its own or mixed with pumpkin and potatoes and tomatoes and of course cauliflower cheese. My family love half cooked carrots, broccoli and cauliflower mixed together, topped with a cheese sauce and baked until the top is browned.

Fennel; great sliced finely in winter salads, or sliced into wedges and baked with cherry tomatoes and whole garlic cloves or stovetop braised with leeks and sweet potato chunks.

Leeks; wash super well before cooking as they do tend to get gritty especially if using the green tops, which I hate to waste. I love leek and potato soup either chunky or smooth and a chicken and leek pie is pure autumn comfort food.

Parsnips; outrageously expensive out of season but young, in season, small parsnips make a roast in my book. I use the larger more woody ones for a carrot and parsnip soup served with sourdough croutons tossed in a pan with chopped bacon and a good knob of butter until both are crispy.

Pumpkin; available all year round but in season now so at its sweetest. Pumpkin and pecan pie with cinnamon spiced custard is a favourite as is a vegetable lasagna with roasted pumpkin tossed with garlicky eggplant and béchamel and layered between the pasta sheets.

Spinach and Silverbeet; I prefer silverbeet for its dense flavour and use both stems and leaves. The stems after stripping off the leaves I slice and sauté with a little garlic and olive oil. If I'm making a green pie I'll add the chopped leaves to the wilted stems and cook so that they are soft together.

Cooled I add to any other left over green veg I may have in the fridge, broccoli, beans, cabbage or use a handful of frozen peas. Then I make a savoury custard mix with 4 beaten eggs, 300 ml of milk or cream, salt, pepper and 200g crumbled feta or 200g grated halloumi cheese. Mix in the cooled greens and pour into a pastry lined pie dish (you can use pre bought puff, short or butter brushed phyllo pastry to line the dish). Bake at 180 fan forced for 40 mins until slightly puffed and golden brown. Remove from oven and cool for 10 mins before cutting into slices.

Apples, pears, mandarins and oranges – just enjoy fresh!
Carole

SHOW SUPPORT FOR YOUR LOCAL FIRE BRIGADE!

Local fire brigade Annual General Meetings are happening during May, including elections for brigade management positions. They need members to attend to ensure there is the quorum needed to vote. Support your brigade by attending and voting.



MOLYULLAH BRIGADE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Molyullah Brigade AGM will be held on Monday 12th May, 6-7pm at the Molyullah Hall.

With both our current Captain and Secretary/Treasurer retiring, we're on the lookout for people to step into these important roles. Being a CFA member is a bonus, but not essential—what matters most is a willingness to get involved and support our brigade.

If you'd like to know more, contact Dion Stevenson on 0417 879500.

MOLYULLAH FIRE BRIGADE 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

4 th May	Dion Stevenson
11 th May	Bob Whytlaw
18 th May	Peg Halbwidl
25 th May	Andrew Barry
1 st June	Damian Nicholls

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS – MAY 2025

Beginning of May.	Bookings open for the Swanpool Environmental Film Festival which screens Sat 14 th June
Fri 2 nd	Matinee at Swanpool. Bridget Jones – Mad About the Boy 10.30 am
Wed 6 th	Whitegate dinner at the Tavern 6.30 pm
Sat 3 rd , 10 th , 17 th , 24 th & 31 st	Movies at Swanpool 6 pm
Sun 4 th & 18 th	Archery at rec reserve 1.30 pm
Sun 4 th , 11 th , 18 th & 25 th	Movies at Swanpool 5 pm
Fri 9 th	Fish & chip night Molyullah from 6 pm
Thurs 15 th	Tatong dinner at the Northo Benalla 6.30 pm
Fri 16 th	Girls shed at the hall from 9.30 am
Fri 16 th	Tatong Autumn Vibes night at the rec reserve 5.30 pm. Free event music & meal.
Sat 17 th	Moyhu market 8 am - 12 noon
Fri 30 th	Matinee at Swanpool. Picnic at Hanging Rock 10.30 am

Ode to the Garden - words written by Robyn MacLean, to the tune of Beethoven's "Ode to Joy" (choral finale of the Ninth Symphony.)



Ode to the Garden
 Precious times are in the garden
 Joyful in the summer sun
 Birds are playing in water
 Chirping splashing having fun
 Leaves are turning red in Autumn
 Soft under-foot to walk upon
 Buds are swelling in the springtime
 Welcoming the warmth to come
 - Robyn MacLean

A challenge for Julia's Choir, which was born of a White Gate dinner during which somebody declared that they could not sing. Consequently Julia has taken us in hand, and set about teaching us that everyone can sing.
 - Andi Stevenson



Computer Tat-Tap-Tips

Do you use Copy & Paste a lot? Enabling the Clipboard can be very useful for those who want to access several items they have recently parked in the computer's memory - that is, Copied, or Cut. Then, instead of Control+V or right-click Copy, you can use WindowsKey+V to produce a list of all that the computer's memory has retained since it was last switched on. Just select from the list the item you wish inserted into whatever you are working on.
 Andi

Sue's Joke Corner. I overheard this definition of football from a member of the crowd in the Great Southern Stand at the MCG last weekend. "Football is a game in which 22 big, strong, fit, athletic young men run around and exert a heap of energy for over 100 minutes, while 50,000 plus people – who really need the exercise – sit and watch.

I have a mate who's an absolute expert on fishing. The day before he goes, he can tell you exactly where the fish are biting, and the day after he

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BENALLA

HEAVY HORSE

DRIVING DAY

SAT 3 MAY 2025

Moorngag Hall and Recreation Reserve
2206 Samaria Road, Moorngag, via Benalla

Registration from 9am | competition at 10am

CCHS Members: no registration fee

Non-members casual insurance:

- Adults: \$20 and under 18: \$11

Bookings essential!

Please email anneclyde@active8.net.au

Classes for all driving abilities:

- Open
- Novice
- Junior
- Beginners (tuition available)

Public welcome!

- Food & beverages available to purchase
- Cash only
- BYO chair
- Entry to the grounds by gold coin donation
- Please do not bring dogs to the event

Ph: Andrew Lavis 0408 793 606 for more info.



**Benalla Clydesdale &
Heavy Horse Driving Day**

Recycled in memory of Kathy Z



Garden Daze

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



Well - who would have thought that along with the ubiquitous toilet paper - vegie seeds would get sold out!

Even Eden Seeds where I often buy on mail order, told me that they were 5,000 orders behind and had closed their web site in an effort to catch up.



I'm wondering if we are about to see front lawns being dug up for a potato plot, tomatoes and eggplant taking the place of roses.

I hasten to add here that I do not include my daughter down in Melbourne for this "new" trend - as her front garden has been feeding the family for some years now, with useful vegies vying with roses, ground covers and ornamental vines for growing room.

So with new seeds not likely to be here for a while - I got out all of "the collection" made a selection and headed for the garden work-bench.



Some of the seeds were a bit on the old side, so careful labelling was required and those that do not put their heads up will have the remainder of the packet thrown out.

Fortunately before "the rush" I had bought cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli and celery seedlings from the Benalla Market. Also I managed to grow some kale from those little pots Woolies were handing out last year. A couple of leeks and lettuce went to seed and a friend had given me some parsnip seed. So the veg garden should have something to offer.



I feel sorry for people in the city who are cooped up in small apartments without any "outside" - especially those who live alone. A garden is something that adds interest - not to mention exercise to one's life.

The exercise bit is coming to mind having decided yesterday to move some very large pots, some of which were made from concrete. These pots and their plants were given to us by a neighbour who was leaving the district - and we were able to

use their trolley to get them. Due to the weight of the pots we have not been able to move them since - until a birthday came along with a useful present.

One lot of seeds mentioned earlier (this has been a while in the writing) have started to come up - these are the Walking Stick Cabbage - so called because the stalk keeps on growing and can reach heights of well over 2 metres. Native to the Channel Islands and used mainly as stock feed, the name came from the Islanders method of drying the stalks, sanding and varnishing them and finally selling them for Walking Sticks.

Not to be confused with the plants in John Wyndham's novel *The Day of the Triffids* where the genetically engineered plants had the ability to pull up their roots and walk.



Walking Stick Cabbage

Triffid - as created by the BBC props department for the TV series in 1981. The only filmed version that has stayed true to the original story.

So...while some Walking Stick Cabbages will come in handy to feed us and the Guinea Pigs, I'm not likely to attempt any Triffids as they were rather nasty - having a sting that would lash out and kill in one swipe.

However - think I'll keep an eye on the Walking - Stick Cabbages "just in case"!



If you are able to obtain them - these Vegies are quick to grow to harvest.

- Chives
- Lettuce
- Raddish
- Corriander
- Mustard Greens
- Rocket
- Silverbeet
- Kale
- Spinach

Medium time to harvest

- Beetroot
- Carrots
- Turnips
- Broard Beans
- Broccoli
- Peas
- Parsnips
- Spring Onions
- Leek

Will get there eventually

- Asparagus
- Cabbage
- Cauliflower





Recipes by Sue

I have been asked about this recipe on many occasions. It appeared in a community cookbook by the Tatong Young Bloods & was submitted by Lyn Lindsay.

ZUCCHINI SLICE

4 zucchinis
1 cup grated carrot
1 onion
3 rashers of bacon
1 cup SR flour – sifted
5 eggs, lightly beaten
1 cup grated cheese
½ cup oil
Salt & pepper

Grate unpeeled zucchinis coarsely, add Carrot. Finely chop onion & bacon, sift flour & add eggs. Add cheese, oil and seasoning. Pour into a lined slice tray and bake in a moderate oven 30-40.

Tuna, pineapple & sundried tomatoes may Be used for different varieties.

30 MINUTE LEMON MERINGUE PIE

Base: Combine 180° plain crushed Biscuits with 90g melted butter. Press Mixture into 23 cm greased pie plate.

Filling: Combine 400g can condensed Milk, ½ cup fresh lemon juice, grated rind From lemon, 3 lightly beaten egg yolks. Spoon mixture into crumb crust.

Topping: Beat 3 eggs white till stiff. Gradually add ½ cup castor sugar. Spoon Meringue onto filling & bake in a Preheated oven 180° till golden, about 15-20 minutes.

As I'm wheat intolerant, I can enjoy this by Using GF biscuits, however I need to use extra biscuits, so I use approx. 250g.

QUICK APRICOT MOUSSE

825g can Apricot halves
2 tsp gelatine
300g carton sour cream
Drain the apricots, reserve ½ cup syrup. Sprinkle gelatine over syrup, dissolve over hot water (or microwave for 1 minute), cool to room temperature. Puree apricots In blender or processor, add sour cream and gelatine mixture, blend until smooth. Pour into individual dishes, refrigerate until set. Decorate with extra sliced apricots and shredded coconut.

CHOCOLATE CAKE

1 cup SR flour
1 cup sugar
2 tbsp cocoa
2 eggs
5 tbsp milk
120g butter

Mix dry ingredients in a large bowl. Beat eggs and melt butter and pour over dry ingredients.

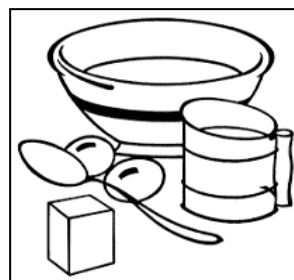
Pour batter into greased round cake tin.

Cook at 180° for 25 minutes.

Cool on a wire rack.

CARROT & RAISIN SALAD

3 large carrots grated
Handful of raisins or sultanas
Handful cashew nuts, coarsely chopped
1 tbsp sunflower seeds.
1 tbsp pumpkin seeds
½ cup vinaigrette dressing
Mix all the ingredients with enough dressing to moisten.
Garnish with some extra nuts, seeds and raisins.



President's Report from the last Tatong Tattler committee meeting

We have at times tried to estimate the number of readers of the Tattler.

It was easier back in the days when it was all printed. All we had to do then was guess a household number, in order to multiply each issue by probably household readers.

Now we're printing over 300 copies, and goodness knows how many issues are downloaded, to be read digitally, or then printed.

So, we've got quite a few readers, and we strive to please every one of them. But like the parable of the guy with the donkey, it's not easy.

We have correspondence this month singing the Tattler's praises; and correspondence cancelling a household's Tattler due to unhappiness with recent articles.

Tricky. We are not a journal (thank god) with strict guidelines on the nature, formatting and layout of acceptable content. Actually, we just pretty pleased to have copy coming in.

And it is difficult to get feedback on how appreciated any given item is, and by what percentage of the readership. So as volunteers compiling a newsletter, we can just do our best, and hope that everyone finds something to enjoy, some interest and stimulation, and be pleased to have their Tattler.

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Gawn to Town

Of Vets

Back in the 70s, in late high school, I had entertained thoughts of becoming a vet, but there were some off-putting factors. It took a lot of study; I wasn't nearly clever enough; and word was women vets just did cats and dogs in the cities. I wanted to go bush.

Back in the 80s, the vets in the big town were Bill and Mick, and they traipsed far and wide on the long red dirt roads, in beat-up old stations wagons packed with instruments and god knows what else.

Somewhere back in the early 90s, Bill and Mick took on a female vet in the practice. Some local farmers were aghast; how could a woman do that heavy, dirty work? I asked the older vets if they were fine working with a woman, and got the stock answer about it depending on her looks and shape. Didn't seem fair, as she wasn't likely to get a choice on the looks and shape of her employers. We didn't meet her until a cow was in trouble calving - I rang the vets and was told someone would be out shortly. The vet who arrived was a slight, slender young female, who took no nonsense from a large hairy distressed bovine. I was really impressed when she was walking round on top of the cow. The sort of brute force used by some farmers was nowhere to be seen, and she left us with a healthy cow and calf in the yard.

When she'd been at the clinic a few months I noticed that her name still hadn't been added to the wall outside. She said she had the plate, but no one had time to put it up. So a friend and I packed the masonry bit and drill and went to town - the women put up the woman vet's plate.

Kristin Marriott had plenty of stories of her experiences as a female vet, and one of short stature. To be accepted into a veterinary practice was one thing, to be accepted by the clients was another. Apparently some of the farmers looked quite expressive the first time the veterinary rescue vehicle rolled up and a petite blonde emerged. Just getting a chance to proving oneself competent could be a struggle.

There have been female vets around for a while. Isabelle Reid qualified from the Melbourne Veterinary College in 1906, and in 1922, Margaret Keats became Australia's first female veterinarian with university training. I bet there were a few eyebrows raised, and some outrage vented, for in even more recent times female General Practitioners have been resented.

Linda De Fazio describes their vet Stacey dealing with a nasty breech birth. So yes, hats off to all who work so hard, and those who had to work still harder just to be accepted for their knowledge and ability, not their looks.

And I hope you have had a happy Easter! It is apt to think of veterinary practice at this time, as so much vet work is about sustaining life and promoting fertility.

The Easter celebration got shoe-horned into the Christian resurrection ceremony, but the name "Easter" comes from Eostre, the Anglo Saxon goddess of fertility. Hers are the bunnies and the eggs. In Australia bunnies aren't generally much loved, unless they are made of chocolate, but eggs are getting highly valued.

However, if you decide that Easter eggs more a more affordable option for breakfast, be careful how you fry them. ;) - *Andi Stevenson*

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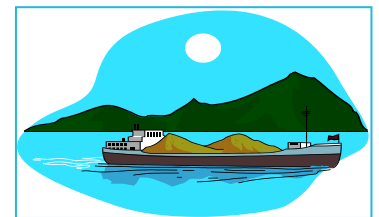
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Swanpool News

As the dry weather has continued, Swanpool Bowls Club has enjoyed an extended season of social bowls, offering lots of fun, and was proud to host the fundraiser for Tatong's Good Friday Appeal. Now the Table Tennis Club is swinging into action, and looking forward to another successful season.

Some special events are taking place in May, kicking off with the Benalla Heavy Horse Driving Day on Saturday 3rd May from 10.00am at the Moorngag Recreation Reserve. This is always a fun day out in a lovely setting. At the end of the month, on Saturday 31st May, Swanpool Crafters are hosting a crafters day at the Albert Heaney Recreation Reserve. This popular event costs \$10 a head, and participants are provided with delicious slices and cakes with a cuppa, and lots of laughs. Lunch is BYO. Please contact Shirley on 0407 682 575 with any queries.

Meanwhile, the Cinema continues to offer a great range of films, including two fantastic matinees. On Friday 2nd May at 10.30 am we bring you "Bridget Jones: Mad About the Boy", the final in this loved series of films starring Renee Zellweger, Hugh Grant and Colin Firth. This film will also be screened second on that weekend's Double Bill, with the latest Cate Blanchett film. "Black Bag".

On Friday 30th May at 10.30 am we are screening "Picnic At Hanging Rock", Peter Weir's iconic film, which is now celebrating 50 years since its release, and still taking cinemas by storm. Are we any closer to knowing what happened to the schoolgirls who went missing on St Valentine's Day in 1900? We will be screening it as the first film on that weekend's Double Bill, accompanied by another Peter Weir classic, "Green Card", starring Andie MacDowell and Gerard Depardieu

Other offerings this month include the beautiful Oscar winning animation film "Flow", which will appeal to all ages, Brazilian film "I'm Still Here", which won an Oscar for best International film, and "Mickey 17", which stars Toni Collette alongside Robert Pattinson on a wild sci-fi ride!

Full details can be found on our website www.swanpoolcinema.com.au, or on the printed programmes at the Cinema, Swanpool Store, and various outlets around Benalla and Mansfield. We welcome the support of our local communities!

Deb

NOTICES FROM THE TATONG HALL

During the Federal elections on May the 3rd and the Tatong hall is, as usual, a polling booth. The hall committee will provide a sausage sizzle with profits assisting hall funds, thanks to Joe Hakkennes, Joan Lewis and Nicole McFarlane. Please bring actual metallic and folding money, (called cash) to purchase a mouth-watering brekky.

A speaker's lectern has been donated to the hall, thanks to Chris Seeley's antique sales of Swanpool. This lectern is available for use by anyone in the district community. Ring Secretary Mike on 0428 273 613, or text. Mike Larkin

White Gate News



The next **White Gate dinner @ the Tavern** will be Wednesday May 7th. By then the month will have got cracking; indeed, by then the nation will have decided which politicians will feature most prominently on the news for the next 4 years. And by then the gods might have rained upon us... and we don't even get to vote for them. . - *Andi Stevenson (0429 439 336 - got any local news?)*

This month on the De Fazio Dairy farm

- things have really ramped up with calving in full swing. We now have about 70% of the herd milking, the milk tanker is coming every day and there are many hungry mouths to feed.

Feeding out takes many hours in each day, not to mention the wheat and pellets fed in the shed and milk to the calves.

The vet has been required to attend twice already, the last a particularly nasty breech delivery where both mother and calf survived.

What a wonderful job she does dealing with these very large and heavy animals. Hats off to Stacey.

- *Linda De Fazio*

White Gate Fire Brigade Roster:

Bill Sykes	27 Apr	Leigh Humphries	25 May
Matthew DeFazio	4 May	Jason Humphries	1 Jun
Ross Runnalls	11 May	Norton Grimwade	8 Jun
David Elford	18 May	Henry Thorne	15 Jun

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Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
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.
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.	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
2023	25	18.7	61.1	62.8	59.2	197.6	51.1	67.2	25.2	120.8	57.1	98.2	846
2024	156.4	17.6	14.7	26.9	73.8	53.1	76.7	47	42.2	46.4	167.7	48	770.5
2025	22.5	13.5	66.5										102.5

WEATHER IN THE TATONG TOWNSHIP

While we have had no rain yet for April up until the 15th of the month March saw a good total for the month of 66.5mm.
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. 16th May 9am—5pm



Tattler Advertising Rates Inc num:

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

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DONATIONS

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

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



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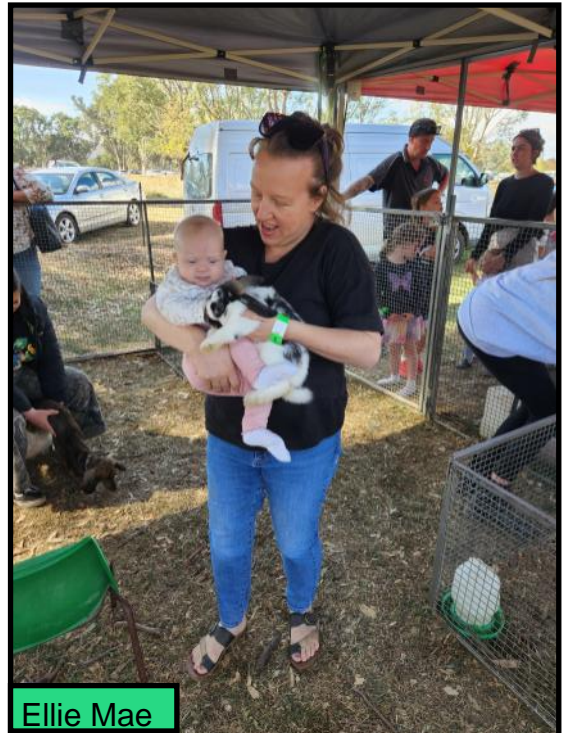
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