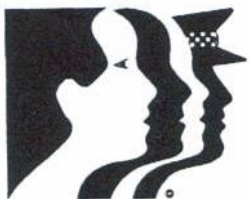




Edition No. 98 February 1999

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 MOLYULLAH / TATONG T&LPG MEETING 7:30PM MOLYULLAH HALL.	2 N.H.W. Meeting 8pm Tatong Hall Tatong Anglers A.G.M. Tavern	3 Footy Training	4	5	6
7	8 High Country. Library	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22 High Country Library.	23	24	25	26	27
28						



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NEWS

*The next meeting of N.H.W. will be held at the Tatong Hall,
On Tuesday, February 2nd, 1999 at 8pm
All most welcome to attend
Area Coordinator Mr Ray Francisco Ph. 57672282.*



LANDCARE MOLYULLAH/TATONG TREE & LAND PROTECTION GROUP

The Moly/Tat Landcare Group have initiated several major projects such as The Landcare Revolving Loan Fund (a Fund providing low cost landcare loans throughout the Broken Catchment). However most activities are organised by smaller subgroups that take responsibility for issues in their own subcatchments.

The Lower Hollands sub group (in the area near the diversion channel on Tatong Road) for example, have completed a fencing, river bank stabilisation and tree planting project. They were helped by Mid Broken Waterways with technical advice and materials. The Blind Creek and Upper Ryan's Creek subgroups have also been busy with weed control and tree planting. Further work is planned for this year.

An Upper Hollands sub group (around and upstream of Tatong) has yet to be formed. Technical advice and assistance can be organised to help such a sub group address landcare problems in its area. Come along to our bimonthly meetings to see what can be done.

The Group meets on the first Monday of every second month at the Molyullah Hall, commencing at 7.30pm. First meeting for 1999 is February 1. Weed control is a major topic to be discussed. For further information contact the President Leanne Barri on 5762 4255.

MORE MEMOIRS

60 years ago – January 1939 – The summer of the worst bushfires ever in south – eastern Australia, when a total of 71 lives were lost in Victoria, 50 of them on Friday 13th – still known as “Black Friday” throughout the state.

The Tatong area also had its share of fires, although, thankfully, no lives were lost. I was at home following completion of my first stint of twelve months nursing at the Eye and Ear Hospital, and waiting to commence my General Nursing Training at the Royal Melbourne Hospital in February. I found myself back in the cowyard helping my 60 year old mother with the milking, while my father and brothers were away fighting fires, together with other men of the district. We milked 25-30 cows by hand in those day's, probably fewer in January as the cows were “going out”, but, nevertheless, quite an arduous task.

Extracts from a diary kept by my mother may be of interest, and convey some idea of conditions prevailing at the time, and the concern felt by all country residents.

The summer of 1939 followed 2 years of drought, only 334mm (13.36 inches) being Benalla's official rainfall for 1938, and 543mm (21.72 inches) for 1937. Annual average for this area 28 inches (700mm).

Diary extracts as follows:

22/12/38 River stopped running in front of our place.

31/12/38 (Saturday) Very hot and smoke all round at 2pm.

1/1/39 A very hot day.

2/1/39 A very hot and windy day- the worst this summer.

3/1/39 Dad, Tom and Bill went to the fire above Woodbury's (south –east of Dodd's Bridge) which is burning well. A north wind.

4/1 About 1 point of rain fell, a little thunder and very close.

6/1 A very hot day with hot north wind.

7/1 A very hot day with hot wind blowing. Thunderstorms at 11pm, but no rain.

8/1 Sultry morning with strong wind from northwest. 12 noon - fire started at Coghill's (now Larkin's) through engine back firing at the well. Got under control in 1 hour's time. Still very hot – hottest day since 1903 (109° (43°C) in Melbourne).

9/1 Smoke all over the place – can only see as far as pigsty (probably about 100 metres) Noon smoke clearing away. 6pm strong south wind comes up and goes down - a lot cooler.

10/1 Avery hot day - 105° (41°C) – at Coghill's coolest spot. A very hot night and about 100° (38°C) till about 1am, when there was a terrible dry storm from the north with wind. It did blow for about 5 minutes, with a few drops of rain.

11/1 Another very hot morning with a strong north wind, clouds are getting up and a wee bit cooler.

12/1 Cool in the a.m., wind coming up from the south, cloudy and smoke everywhere. The night not so hot.

13/1 Black Friday 11 a.m. coming up very hot – windy from northwest.

1 p.m. dust storms – a very hot wind blowing - it is just like a furnace. Fires everywhere. Wood's Point was burnt out, only 3 out of 150 homes were not burnt to the ground. A special train conveyed about 150 to the Seymour camp.

14/1 A bit cooler with south wind blowing – the fire at the break got away again at 4pm – under control again about midnight – a cool change. Bell's Mill was burnt down.

15/1 Cooler – a light wind blowing from the south. 3am started to rain and kept on light rain until 2am. Monday. About ½ of rain fell – nice and cool.

16/1 Rain falling – about ½ inch. Nice cool night – all slept well.

February 2 Very hot day NW wind blowing – a warm night - 110° in Store (44°C).

13/2 Very hot day 108° in school (42°C).

14/2 A very hot day with a north wind blowing 110° at the Store. Clouds coming up and looks like rain.

15/2 A cloudy morning with 2 drops of rain.

17/2 About 1½ inches of rain fell before 7am – a nice cloudy cool morning. A heavy shower at 4pm.

25/2 Saturday, Tolmie Sports Day. Showers off and on all afternoon, till 7pm, then rained all night, also Sunday morning.

27/2 Monday – rained nearly all day up till Tuesday a.m. A good flood in the river about 6 inches of rain fell.

April 12th & 13th (Wednesday and Thursday) A cloud burst Wednesday night over near Lurg. Flooded Winton area and Barkly Street Benalla. A Goods Train collapsed and turned over near Winton. 4½ inches rain fell through the night.

The severe dry summer was followed by substantial autumn rain producing a bountiful season. The total rainfall for 1939 recorded at 1093 mm (43.72 inches) Yet another example of the extreme weather conditions which so frequently prevail in this area of the world.

The following additional information was contributed by Mr Fred Crowe. The fire above Woodbury's (diary entry of 3/1/1939) started from a fire lit by a sleeper cutter to boil his billy, although the area was cleared and on swampy ground. Crowe Bros and Bob Campbell were first to the fire and attempted unsuccessfully to beat it out. This fire continued to burn through to Whitfield. Smoke mentioned in diary (31/12, 9/1, and 12/1) was blown in from Alexandra, Wood's Point and Mansfield areas.

These heavily wooded hillside fires could only be fought by men raking a break around the perimeter with hand tools, beating with wet bags, some use of knapsacks, and allowing the fire to burn it self out - a far cry from the equipment available today. Best wishes for a happy 1999 with no bush fires,

Cheers

Nita McCauley
26/1/99.

School News

On Wednesday, January the 27th the new school year began and at Tatong we welcomed Mr. Keith Wrest as our campus coordinator for 1999.

Mr. Wrest loves sport (particularly cricket), he enjoys the curriculum areas of science and technology and he is a whiz on the computer.



There are 25 children at our little campus this year. With two full time teachers (Mr. Wrest and Mrs. Erskine), our wonderful aide (Mrs. Rintala), a specialist music teacher (Miss Collins) our clerical assistant (Maxine Roach), and a very supportive parent body the children can look forward to a happy, productive year.



Tennis Coaching

The Tennis Club will again be arranging tennis coaching during school Term 1. The coach is Barry O'Shea from Benalla. Coaching will be in groups of approximately 4 unless otherwise requested.

Lessons will be on Monday afternoons after school and each session will last ½ hour. The cost will be \$3 per person per week unless the groups are smaller than 4. Barry would prefer to be paid for a full term in the first couple of weeks.

The commencing date is 8 February 1999 and lessons will run for 8 weeks.

To enrol, please contact Jenny Rintala, 5767 2298, by Wednesday 3 February 1999.

TATONG CRICKET CLUB NEWS

Tatong's Batting Continues to Falter-

In matches played over the past two months Tatong's success has been restricted by the inability of its batsmen to score consistently.

The exception being experienced player Peter Smith who became available to play at the end of November.

In the 2 day game against Violet Town commencing on the 28th November Tatong did well to restrict the ladder leaders to a first innings score of 158. At the close of the first day's play Tatong were well placed having lost 1 wkt for 47 runs. On the second day Tatong's wickets tumbled regularly after losing their second 2nd wkt at 85 the remaining 8 wkts fell for the addition of only a further 68 runs. Batting a second time Violet Town rapidly amassed 201 for the loss of 8 wkts by the end of play. The game was decided on the first innings totals – a 15 run win to Violet Town. The only batsmen to reach double figures for Tatong were Pete Smith 43 and Craig Hamilton 41. Rob Lowe with 3/30 and Pete Smith 3/42 were the best of the Tatong bowlers in Violet Town's 1st innings, youngsters Dave Martin with 4/23 performed well for Tatong in Violet Town's 2nd innings.

In a one day match v's Warrenbayne played on 12th December Tatong were victorious by 75 runs. After dismissing Warrenbayne for only 98 Tatong were in trouble at 3/15. However Peter Smith steered Tatong to victory making 77 not out

Tatong's score of 9/173. Youngster Nathan Delaney showed some form with the bat making 16. John Bartlett with 3/20 the best bowler for Tatong.

In the last game before Xmas a 1 day match against St Joseph's, Tatong were well beaten. In reply to the formidable St Joseph's total of 5/202, Tatong struggled to reach 132 for the loss of 7 wkts. Pete Smith once again the mainstay of the batting with 62 not out, as well as being the most successful bowler with 3 wkts for 40 runs. A lack lustre effort by Tatong batting first against Diggers in the first game for 1999 saw them dismissed for a miserly 83. Rob Lowe the only batsman worth a mention with 25. Tatong had Diggers in considerable trouble at 6/48 before finally dismissing them for 120 – a 37 run win to Diggers. Dave Martin bowled 2 balls for 2 wkts to end Diggers innings. In a 1 day game against Tungamah played on an incredibly hot and dusty field at Lake Rowan on the 16th January. Tatong were victorious by 28 runs. Tatong's batting looked solid for a change, with Don Stretton 49, Greg Wright 47, and John Bartlett and Rob Lowe 21 each leading the scoring. Dave Martin again made his mark with the ball with 4/21 off 4 overs.

In Tatong's most recent game on 23rd January, they finally put consecutive wins together and beat Violet Town for the first time in the last five encounters between the sides. Violet Town batting first were restricted to a score of 91. Chris Chatham and John Bartlett with 3 wkts each the best bowlers. Tatong's opening batsman John Bartlett with 37 and Max Jones 64 got the side away to a good start, and after 40 overs Tatong had reached 177 for the loss of 3 wkts - an 86 run victory. The side looks certain to play in the finals again this year but will be hard pressed to be successful unless the batting shows marked improvement.

FOOTY & NETBALL NEWS

Tatong Football, Netball Club Incorp.starts the 1999 season off with a Family Day at the Recreation Reserve on Sunday, January 31st.

A Meet The Coach and Coaching Assistants will be conducted to meet with James Corker, Snr Coach, Greg and Ricci Webster, Assistant Snr Coaches and Dave Day, Reserves Coach. A training run for the footballers will commence at 11:00am, the Netballers will have a meeting at 11:00am to elect executive positions and meet with new and past players and never before players.

"Girls get your skirts ready".

Training to continue on Wednesday 3rd February, followed by Monday and Wednesday nights until cricket finishes.

For all new comers to the area any young junior footballers or netballers come along and join in on the Family Day, you will be very much welcome and parents to have some involvement are most welcome.

Remember all locals, to have a healthy and viable sporting community we need all sporting bodies to survive, whether it be football, cricket, tennis, netball, table tennis, whatever it all takes

time, money, donations and working bee's, so please help where you can (time permitting) and join in where you can, even a membership ticket.

Thank you for reading,

Brian Ritchie

Contact Phone No's

Footy - Brian Ritchie 57672339

Netball Tanya McIntyre 57626994 & Debbie Humphries 57666325

Junior Footy- for players

Chris & Arron Lindsay 57672306

Anthony Rintala 57672298

Nathan & Kris Delaney 57672312

TATONG ANGLERS GROUP

The club have not had any official meetings or activities over the past two holiday months. Members reported reasonable fishing success in local streams until the hot dry conditions took effect after Xmas.

The club's A.G.M. will take place at the Tatong Tavern on Tuesday 2nd February commencing at 8pm and all members and intending members are urged to attend.



**THE TATONG NETBALL CLUB IS GETTING READY
FOR SEASON 1999....**

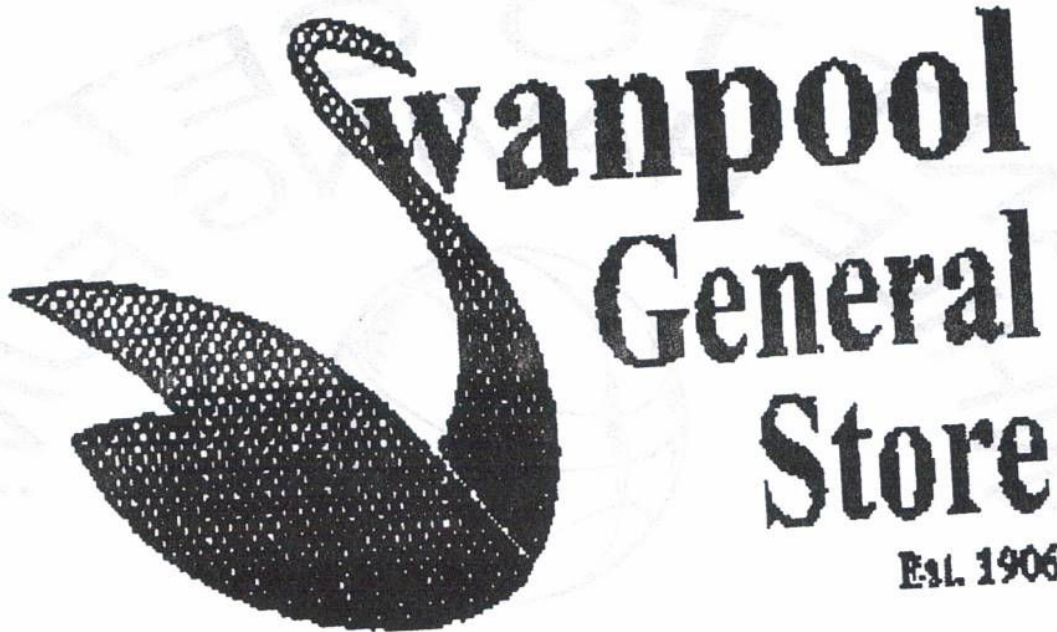
**A MEETING WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 31ST AT
11AM....AT THE TATONG RECREATION RESERVE.....**

**THIS MEETING IS FOR ANY INTERESTED NEW PLAYERS, PLAYERS
WHO HAVE PLAYED BEFORE AND EVEN THOSE WHO HAVE NEVER
PLAYED.**

**NOMINATIONS FOR THE EXECUTIVE POSITIONS
WILL BE ACCEPTED ON THE DAY.**

**ENQUIRIES TO: TANYA 5762 6994
OR DEBBIE 5766 6325**

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Benalla

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Take advantage of our regular visits to the Tatong area!
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Overdue fines are charged at 10c per item per visit.
This varies from the amount shown on reminder notices.

The Mobile Library carries a selection of the following items:

- Adult fiction and non-fiction books
- Magazines
- Large Print books
- Videos, Talking books and CD's
- Children's and teenage books

	January					February					March					April					May					June					
	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1		
Mon		4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22		1	8	15	22	29		5	12	19	26		3	10	17	24	31		7	14	21	28
Tue		5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23		2	9	16	23	30		6	13	20	27		4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22	29
Wed		6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24		3	10	17	24	31		7	14	21	28		5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	30
Thu		7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25		4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22	29		6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24	
Fri	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26		5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	30		7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25	
Sat	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27		6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24		1	8	15	22	29		5	12	19	26	
Sun	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28		7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25		2	9	16	23	30		6	13	20	27	

WEEK ONE

Mon	10.30-12.00	Cooinda (Benalla)
	12.15-12.45	Benalla Day Care
	1.45 - 2.30	Tatong
	3.00 - 3.45	Greta South
	4.00 - 4.30	Hansonville
Tue	9.30 - 10.30	Mudgegonga
	11.00 - 11.30	Gundowring
	11.45 - 1.30	Dederang
	2.30 - 3.15	Tawonga
	4.30 - 6.15	Harrierville
Wed	8.45 - 9.15	Wandiligong
	9.30 - 10.30	Bright Day Care
	10.45-11.45	Porepunkah
	1.00 - 1.45	Myrtleford Day Care
	2.15 - 3.00	Whorouly
	3.15 - 4.15	Everton
Thur	10.00-10.45	Edi Upper
	11.15-11.45	Cheshunt
	12.30- 2.00	Whitfield
	2.30 - 4.30	Moyhu

WEEK TWO

Mon	11.45-12.45	Springhurst.
	1.45 - 2.45	Carraragarmungee
	3.00 - 4.30	Eldorado
Tue	9.15 -10.15	Baddaginnie
	10.45-11.15	Goorambat
	11.30- 1.30	Devenish
	2.30 - 3.15	Thoona
	3.45 - 4.30	Peechelba
Wed	11.00-11.30	Bonnie Doon
	12.30- 1.30	Bindaree (Mansfield)
	2.00 - 4.00	Jamieson
Thu	11.30-12.30	ADASS Wangaratta
	1.45 - 3.00	St. Johns (Wangaratta)
	3.30 - 4.30	Glenrowan
Fri	9.30 - 11.00	Milawa
	11.30-12.30	ADASS Wangaratta