

Edition 382

Remembering I know everyone Kathy Z

will have their own fond memories of Kathy. It may be of the sage gardening advice she gave each month in the Tattler in her column,

Garden Daze

It could also be of the plant stall at the Molyullah Sports. How many of us bought plants that she had nurtured for the twelve months since the last Sports?

For Janette and me it was a friendship that often revolved around food. We 'did lunch' quite a lot. We never needed much of an excuse to head off. Favourite venues included Martinis, King River Café, Glenrowan Café, Winton Wet-

When it wasn't lunch, it was afternoon tea at their place or ours. When it was their turn to host, we would take along some cakes from a bakery or Janette's homemade bikkies. On our turn, Kathy would usually arrive carrying a basket con-

taining muffins still warm from the oven wrapped in a tea towel.

During Covid, you will remember we had many lockdowns. At the end of one of these, as restrictions eased, we were allowed to meet with two friends in a park for a picnic but not allowed to visit in a house. It was decided that we could visit each other's house - BYO muffins and a flask of tea – as long as we were outside.

It was at these teas we realised how many books Kathy had read and how many films she had watched. On top of that she could name characters, authors and relate the story in de-

tail - she had the most amazing recall.

Whenever Janette and I travel we post a blog that anyone interested can follow. Our most avid follower was always Kathy. I think she would have loved to have travelled herself but perhaps she decided that being an 'e-traveller' was the next best thing.

She would post comments, 'chat' via email and send us information about places we had been or were heading to. We always felt she was travelling with us in her own way.

While we were touring Ireland, Kathy must have been looking at her atlas. She messaged us, saying "Skibbereen looks interesting". Not long after, surprise surprise, we came upon Skibbereen and it is an interesting place. Besides being a very pretty little village, it

is the location of mass burials of victims of the famine.

Never ones to miss an opportunity, we bought a souvenir as a present for Kathy – a coffee mug printed with the message "I'd rather be in Skibbereen"







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

This was always Kathy's headline for Garden Daze – the best time to plant a tree is 20 years ago – the next best time is now.

Why not plant one now? - for Kathy.

John Knapper

#### Vale Kathy Zoethout 1942-2024

Kathy was a beloved member of the Molyullah community and far around. She grew up in Melbourne, and she and Peter came to Molyullah in the mid 90s for an active retirement.

Following her internment at the Greta Cemetery, she was farewelled at the Molyullah Hall on January 10th.

Her daughter-in-law Heather has kindly allowed her words for the service to be reprinted here.

Good afternoon, I'm Heather, married to Robbert – Peter's son & Kath's step-son. In 1992 on a wintery day, I first met Kath in their private leafy haven at Montrose. I learned they'd created it from a bush block. Apparently Kath's Mum had cried when she first saw the tiny run down house that Peter and Kath had purchased – leaving the cream brick suburban dream home of the 1960's behind. Over time, the house was transformed; by the time I arrived large picture windows invited the garden indoors for year round enjoyment.

Kath was at the height of her career at Mallesons, this involved a daily, return com-

mute - door to door of almost 3hrs. She did this for 18 years! Though could never bring herself to purchase more than a monthly train ticket 'coz she was always ready to escape.

My first impressions of Kath were that of strong, capable, intelligent, quick witted, well-educated, passionate woman, who liked a chat.

Not long before I met them; Kath & Peter had travelled the state looking for the Tree Change they both wanted. They had found Molyullah, the property ticked all the boxes with the exception of some bush....so they went about creating it.

They had; and took the opportunity to retire young (both before they were 60). By the mid 1990's they'd made the move to Molyullah to build a new life.

Just as they'd always done, they worked hard; this time to make their farm their own and become a part of the community.

Each time we visited there was much to inspect & admire: More plantings, fences, vegetable gardens, shade houses, irrigation systems and freshly acquired equipment - often with the story of the clearance sale where the treasure had been found.

And then of course the animals: dogs, chooks, guinea fowls, dogs, sheep, alpaca's, dogs, guinea pigs and more dogs.... 2289 Kilfeera Road provided a very good life for all!

As newcomers to the area, Kath & Peter were keen to join and contribute to the community, in Molyullah they found a welcoming spirit that quickly made them feel at home.

Landcare became a true passion that opened a world that suited Kath down to the ground, meeting people, learning from the locals, researching & sharing ideas, enjoying field trips to see what others are up to and doing all they could to protect & restore the environment.

Kath's knowledge of gardening and her wordsmithing were enjoyed by many in the community as a regular contributor to newsletters.

The Garden stall at the Molyullah fair became a year-round job with shade houses erected for propagation and networking with other gardeners to achieve the goal of each year bigger, better and more money raised than the last.

Country life re-ignited Kath's passion for the piano; one day in passing, she mentioned that "when I get to grade 5, I'll buy a grand piano". The question was asked, why wait? - That was all the encouragement she needed! Very shortly after the Grand piano arrived. This became a source of joy, not only for Kath but also for the neighbourhood as the local kids gave regular concerts, playing the Grand and enjoying afternoon tea at the Zoethout's.

As I have reflected on Kath and my relationship with her, I see my first impressions of a strong, capable, intelligent, quick whited, well-educated passionate woman, who liked a chat were SPOT ON; with the privilege that time gives to relationships, I now add, Generous.

I have, and believe many of us here have benefited from her Generous nature as she willingly shared her knowledge, her successes and her failures.

Generous too in her encouragement; to give it a go & if it didn't quite work the first time, give it another go.

I'm feel honoured and grateful to have had Kath in my life, her influence will remain with me forever.





Johnny Boy!

We gather here today to honour and celebrate the life of John Lesley Lewis. John was born on the 9th of February 1944, at Benalla Hospital, the 7th child of Evan Allan (known as Allan) and Julia Isobel Lewis. John was part of a large family, with a total of 8 children, in the order of oldest to youngest: Graham, Lorraine, Evan, Colleen, Geoff, Max, John and Rodney.

Tragically, John's mother passed away during childbirth when he was just three years old. His father, Allan, with the support of extended family, raised John and his siblings, all under the age of 12. A few years later, Allan remarried Wilma Hayes, and the family was completed with the birth of John's youngest sisters, Helen and Debra making the family a total of 10 children. John had a deep love for his family, the farm, and the town of Tatong. You will all hear stories today about John's life and the impact he had on those around him. John grew up in Tatong, attending Tatong Primary School, and later went to Benalla High and Technical Schools. John was not fond of primary school often "wagging" to go swimming, fishing and hunting rabbits. He loved to light fires, his job as a boy was to collect firewood and keep the house warm. This job continued all his life, where he was known to have the biggest and best bon fires at the Tatong Football Netball Club. He left school at the age of 17, ready to begin full time work. After leaving school, John worked the family farm in Tatong. He also had other seasonal work as a shearer. He commenced work with the State Rivers Department and helped to build the Nillahcottie Dam. At the age of 22, John met Christeen, who was 18 at the time. They met at the popular North Eastern Hotel, a social hub in the region during the 1960s. John and Christeen married in April 1969 in Benalla. They lived at Hillway farm in Tatong. There first son Paul was born in August of that year. In 1971 they moved to St Andrews, where John managed a beef farm, and their second son Mark was born. In 1972, a property in Violet Town came up for sale, where Christeen commenced her own hairdressing business. This move led John to take on a farm management role with Smyth & Murphy in Boho South. John was a big part of the Strathbogie farming community and local football and tennis club.

In 1978, John and Christeen parted ways and John returned to Tatong, where he continued to manage his own farm, reconnecting with his family and friends. John and big brother Toby had a farming partnership for several years. We do recall Uncle Toby's frustration with Johnnys belief that farming should be only Monday to Friday and the weekends were to chase girls, go to dances, football, fish, water ski and of course a Sunday session around a fire with his mates.

Johnny enjoyed traveling and exploring new places and especially old town pubs, we know this due to the several hundred caps and stubbie holders that he collected, and this tradition was handed down to his sons. He often spoke about his America trip with Colin McCauley in the early 80's and how much fun he had. We think some of these stories are best left in the USA!

Mid 80's dad commended as a Farm Managers role for Flintoff Farm, on Samaria Road, Moorngag where he lived. The farm was sold and John moved to Tiger Hill Road, Tatong. In 1989, John began working for Marbut Gunnerson in the pine plantation as a hand faller. Having a secure job he decided to build his own house on Mitchell Road, Tatong. With the help of brother-in-laws' Ian and Keith and good mate Ian Horsburgh.

In the mid-1990s, he commenced work with Green Freight operating a pine harvesting machine. Unfortunately, he was made redundant from Green Freight due to small police chase from the Tatong Tavern to the farm where he ended up losing his driving license for 2 years!

He returned to shearing for a brief period before starting at a wood milling company Hendersons on Sydney Road, Benalla where he remained until retirement.

John loved nothing more than spending time with his boys, his brothers, nieces and nephews and of course his good mates. He was kind, caring and loved a beer around a fire. Many of our friends referred to him as a second father. He was hard working and always loved to help others. John liked to give practical gifts, including his nieces first ever esky for their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday. Later in his life he took up the hobby of making various animals out of old tin which you can see displayed on the table. At the start of Dads illness, we decided to move from sheep to cattle farming, to make life a little easier for him. During his last years shearing times often created arguments as Johnny would let the

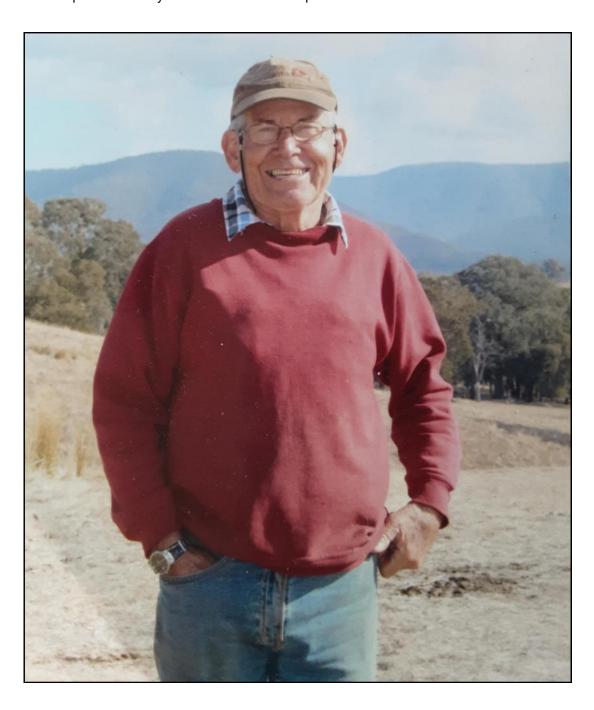
shorn sheep out before counting them! Mark remembers Johnny cursing and calling his dog, the poor thing was found tied up in his ute in the shade, he went on yelling who tied up the bloody dog it should be working, Mark replied "you did dad"! John loved his dogs, and he always named them after an alcoholic drink; Chardy, Toohey, Tia Maria and Bundy. John remained at Mitchell Road Tatong until 2018 where due to his dementia he moved into Karingal Nursing Home in Seymour. Dad charmed and at times challenged all the nursing staff. During this time, he often commented he was looking over his farm from his bedroom window.

On behalf of Mark and myself and family, we would like to express our heartfelt thanks to the dedicated staff at Karingal Nursing Home in Seymour for the loving care they provided dad for the past seven years. We also want to extend a special thank you to the staff who supported dad during the palliative stage of his life.

A special thanks also goes to John's doctor, whose expertise in meeting John's health needs and providing him with care and comfort was invaluable.

Our family are deeply grateful for all the love, support, and tributes we have received since his passing. Your kind words and gestures have meant so much to all of us.

We also want to express our gratitude to all of John's family, friends, and those who travelled to be here today to celebrate Dad's life. Your presence today is a testament to the impact Dad had on all of us.



#### TATONG TOPICS – JAN/FEB 1925

#### Benalla Standard 6<sup>th</sup> January 1925:

On Tuesday evening a meeting was held to wind up the accounts of the Hume and Hovell Centenary Tatong Committee, Mi. D. H. Coghill took the chair, and the hon. Secretary, Mr, D. H. Coghill read the balance sheet. This showed the total receipts about £25. The expenditure on material for the cairn and the money for the races left a credit balance of over £1. On moving the adoption of the balance sheet the chairman congratulated the committee on the great success that had attended their efforts, as considering the small district to draw on they had erected a monument that was a credit. It was decided to give the credit balance to the Tatong and Fern Hills State schools in equal parts. The hon. treasurer, Mr. Ritchie, was instructed to finalise all accounts.

#### The Argus Melbourne 12<sup>th</sup> January 1925:

THE TATONG HOTEL, TATONG...
Furnished and With Immediate Possession.
NOTE-This is a modern concrete building,
with no opposition for 36 miles, in a RAILWAY

TERMINUS TOWN. Three timber mills and a good travelling tourist trade.

PLEASE NOTE THE TERMS ONLY ONE-THIRD CASH and the Balance Payable at £4 Per Week.'

This affords a chance to pay a deposit and let the Hotel BY ITSELF.

For quick inspection, rail to Benalla and Nichol's car from there.

JOHN McGEE and MILLER.

The Motel Auctioneers and Sworn Valuers,

#### The Benalla Standard 13th January 1925:

Tatong Railway Trust. — At the monthly meeting of the Tatong Railway Trust yesterday Cr. T. F. Harrison commented strongly on the large amount outstanding against landholders for rates due to the trust, In many cases the liability ran into years, and rates totalling up to £100 remained unpaid. He considered such a state of things was most unfair to those landholders who met their obligations to the trust. He moved that all accounts owing over twelve months be collected at once, by a letter giving 14 day's notice. This motion was carried. It was also decided to go into the question of overhead- expenses at the next meeting of the trust.

#### The Benalla Standard 23rd January 1925:

TIMBER & FIREWOOD TRAFFIC
Notice is hereby given that the Council has
decided to STOP the CARTING OF SAWN or
HEWN TIMBER AND FIREWOOD by drays,
wagons or other vehicles on the TOOMBULLUP'
ROAD, from Dodd's Bridge over the Holland's
River to the end of Coop & Gardiner's
contract, Tatong Riding, as described (over)

From the timber depot at Dodd's Crossing truss bridge, thence southerly along the newly graded road to Drummond's and the truss bridge over the Holland's at Ford's, and thence along and to the end of the newly graded road (Coop & Gardiner's section) to the 11,500 feet peg. From the 1st day of January 1925, to 31st December, 1925. Any person who contravenes or fails to observe the provisions of this notice shall be liable to a penalty of not more than £20 (twenty; pounds). By order of the Council,

JAS. KNOX; Shire Secretary,

#### The North Eastern Ensign 30th Jan 1925:

(Abridged) Mr Harry Waters, for years a resident of Baddaginnie, and also of Winton and Tatong, has purchased the timber milling industry from Messrs Burge & Beard, of Fern Hills, in the last named district.

#### The North Eastern Ensign 6th February 1925:

Cheap railway excursion fares are advertised in this day's Ensign. On the Tatong-Karn lines on Wednesday the 4<sup>th</sup> March to Melbourne from Tatong and all stations to Karn (inclusive) and from Melbourne to these stations on the same dates. People who contemplate the trip should not forget that tickets close- at noon on the 3<sup>rd</sup> March.

#### The Sun Melbourne 7<sup>th</sup> February 1925:

MARLOW'S SNAKES

He Hunts Them as Another Man Would Hunt Rabbits - HE'LL EXHIBIT THEM ABROAD TATONG, Friday.—A man named Marlow is collecting snakes In this district to obtain a thoroughly representative collection of Australian snakes to exhibit In England and America. - Assisted by a number of young men, he had a snake drive, and secured 23 reptiles, including a tiger snake 6 ft. 2 in. long. He also got some black ones.

The method was to beat the tussocks until a snake was found, and then make way for the expert — Marlow and his fox terriers.

On Friday and Saturday Marlow gave demonstrations of snake bite treatment, tying ligatures, and the explanation of the general anatomy of the snakes.

Marlow usually carries his reptiles about in a sugar bag, and a favourite joke of his is to ask someone he meets, what they think is inside the bag.

#### The Benalla Standard 10<sup>th</sup> February 1925:

Crowded Out. — In consequence of extreme pressure on our advertising space, a quantity of reading matter, including report of the Tatong Railway Trust meeting and golden wedding celebration of Mr. and Mrs. Win. Kelly, late of Boweya, is crowded out of this issue.

Compiled by Barry O'Connor. Tatong Heritage Group.

## White Shews

At the De Fazio Dairy farm we had a very exciting? windstorm in early December.

So exciting that it blew down a gum tree in our front yard half of which managed to break a window, smash the awning and damage the spouting on the roof as well as make a big mess in the garden. The other half was left hanging precariously and has now been removed by the tree specialists (not the dairy farmer who thought he could do it for nothing). Many trees were brought down in Whitegate, including this big monster which blocked the Tatong Road and wiped out the power line.

The next White Gate dinner @ the Tavern is Wednesday February 5th, 6:30/7pm-ish. By then the sun will be rising after 6:30am, but will still pack a punch. Enjoy the morning coolth; we are still in Daylight Saving time, and Real Time is an hour later. In the US, Donald Trump says he'll get rid of Daylight Saving. Maybe on day 2, after he's sorted the invasion of Ukraine.

#### White Gate Fire Brigade Roster:

Leigh Humphries 26 Jan Jason Humphries 2 Feb Norton Grimwade 9 Feb Henry Thorne 16 Feb Andrew Marriott 23 Feb Terry Trounson 2 Mar Dave Sweatman 9 Mar James Parton 16 Mar



On a peaceful December day, I heard the Vic Emergency app beep. It beeped again a few minutes later; then again a few minutes after that. Eventually I looked, and the map of current events plotted out the path of a fierce wind storm. Given that the line of fallen trees is only those reported, on roads, it is horrible to think how many are now strewn across the landscape. A family in Lurg lost their roof. Yet to the north and south, all was quiet. Pray to any spirit you fancy, to keep you out of the path of one of these terrors. - Andi Stevenson





#### **BACK TO SCHOOL**

Seven years ago I wrote an article for the Tattler mentioning our twin grandchildren and how they were just getting a grasp on the English language. They are now 9 and heading into grade 4 at Avon Street Primary School.

Last year I was approached by one of their teachers to help out with cooking classes once a week on a voluntary basis. Grade 3 and 4 children, from both P to 12 campuses, attend Waller Street Primary school for 2 terms to participate in cooking classes.

The Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program is held in the old school canteen, which have been divided up into 4 kitchens. Each kitchen has an electric cooker, double sink, lots of utensils and plenty of bench space. A dining area has tables and chairs for the children to sit and eat the food they have made.

Amanda Grimwade runs the classes and most of the recipes are designed to include the fresh produce (including eggs) the children have grown in the gardens, situated on both campuses. It is a fantastic program which teaches the children knife skills, measuring ingredients, different cooking methods, setting the tables, cleaning up and washing the dishes.

I have really enjoyed helping a small group with the recipes assigned to them each week and as someone who doesn't particularly enjoy cooking, I have even got out of my comfort zone and made some things I previously wouldn't have attempted.

Amanda starts each lesson by explaining what each kitchen is going to make and a little about some of the ingredients that will be used. Three of the kitchens make savoury dishes and the remaining one makes a "sweet treat", much to the kid's delight.

The class runs for about 2 hours and at the end of it the adults and children all get to share and enjoy what has been made. It is a very full on and noisy 2 hours and I sometimes wonder how we are going to get our dishes made and cooked in time to eat, but it usually comes together.

Each week a couple of children are chosen to invite a family member to come and help in the class or to join them for lunch. The teachers, family members and I sit down with the children to eat lunch and it is interesting to hear them talking about what they like and dislike. They are asked to try a little bit of everything, which can be a really good experience for them. They also get to take the recipes home and hopefully the families will try them out as well. Beth.

#### <u>Update for Benalla Homelessness Response</u> <u>Group Inc.</u>

Our thanks to all who contributed to the food relief Christmas hamper which was gratefully received. Our Christmas meal on 22<sup>nd</sup> December was well attended and music was supplied by the U3A Ukulele group which created a wonderful atmosphere. Everyone got into the Christmas spirit with bon bons, party hats and Christmas cake donated by Lions. We now have 10 regular guests with others that come from time to time.

The grant we had applied for to install 8 lockers came through and Council have now installed them under the library. These will give people a safe location to store their belongings. One of the lockers is for a Community Pantry which is available 24/7. It will be stocked with care packs by our volunteers, providing emergency relief for those who find themselves unable to purchase food.

Our summer BBQ meals are well underway with fresh garden salads complementing the sausages and lamb chops donated by a local farmer. Our meals always end with fresh fruit and something sweet. Our thanks to Lions and Rotary who brave the heat to tend the BBQ.

If you are in town on a Sunday afternoon between 5.30-6.30 drop by under the library and say hello.

Again, thank you for your generosity.

Nicki McFarlane.

What's in Season – February Carole

February is tomato time, a favourite fruit/vegetable of mine. Now is the time to pickle, dehydrate, jam and preserve for the winter months. I cannot imagine my life without tomatoes and the smell of just picked, fully ripe specimens evokes memories of summer holidays in Italy where these precious egg shaped jewels hang off withered vines just waiting to be cooked and preserved into ruby red pasta sauce.

Yes tomatoes are available all year round but their flavour is at its best when they are vine ripened, outdoors in the summer sun. Home grown are the best. But if you don't grow your own their abundance makes them way cheaper in season. Boris's Fruit Shed sells locally grown Roma tomatoes by the box as do most fruit shops when they are in season and there is nothing nicer than the taste of summer added to a winter casserole or slow braise.

Cherry tomatoes of all shapes and colours are perfect washed, wiped dry and frozen in snap-lock bags. They freeze keeping themselves individually easy to portion and are a simple addition to any slow cooked recipe that requires tomatoes. I add them frozen and let them melt into the cooking. Ripe Romas can be pre-chopped, frozen and likewise just added to any recipe that requires chopped tomatoes.

Dehydrated and placed under olive oil is another method of preserving but my favourite is oven roasted. Cut Roma tomatoes in half lengthwise and place on baking paper lined trays. Simply roast at 180 degrees fan forced for approx 30 -40mins. They will be roasted but not dry. Remove from oven and cool. Pack in rows in takeaway containers layering between parchment or baking paper until the container is full. Freeze and remove the amount needed and defrost. Serve on an antipasto platter or with baked ricotta or add to a pasta sauce. The skin will be quite easy to slip off.

Every Italian household makes their own Passata. Time was that we used old beer bottles with new crown seal tops and sterilised the filled bottles in an old copper in the back yard. Nowadays I tend to use new Kilner jars or bottles with a screw top lid and sterilise in a large stock pot on the stove. The secret to this recipe is a Mouli Legume, a hand cranked sieve which separates the skin and pips from the sauce. These are easily available on line and not expensive. They are also good for puréing any cooked vegetables for soup etc, ditto perfect for baby food.

Homemade tomato ketchup I'd streets ahead of anything you can buy and my grandkids love it.

2kg ripe tomatoes chopped

500g Granny Smith apples chopped

3 onions chopped

400g white sugar

500ml malt vinegar

1Tblspn sea salt or to taste

½ teaspoon cayenne pepper

Tied in a spice bag or muslin – 10 each peppercorns, allspice, cloves

Cook all together slowly in a large heavy based pot stirring to avoid burning for approx 2 hours. Remove spice bag pressing down to extract the juices. Pass the ketchup through a mouli sieve into a clean heavy based pan and simmer for another 20 mins until the right consistency. Pour into clean, hot bottles or jars and lid. This recipe can be doubled.

Tomato chutney is another favourite and perfect on a cheeseboard or with cold meats. The recipe transforms into a spicy version with a few tweaks given at the end of the recipe.

500g apples – Granny Smith – peeled and chopped 2 kg tomatoes – any sort will do but I love ripe Roma tomatoes chopped

500g white or brown onions diced

300g sultanas or raisins

300 g white sugar

300ml white vinegar

Sea salt to taste. Cook all ingredients in a heavy based saucepan stirring constantly to avoid burning the sultanas (this does have to be watched constantly), until a wooden spoon drawn through the chutney yields only a little sauce. Pot into hot, clean jars and lid.

To make a spicy tomato chutney add chilli flakes to taste – try half a teaspoon to start, you can always add more if you like it hotter. Add 1 Tblspn grated fresh ginger and 1 Tblspn mustard seeds. Substitute 300g brown sugar and 300ml malt or brown vinegar. Cook as above.

Note: malt vinegar is not gluten free.

#### **Swanpool News**

After an enjoyable break, the Bowls Club is back in action, and looking forward to welcoming social bowlers for their fun filled Thursday evenings. For more information, contact Marg Blake, 57682334. Serious competition can also be had with our successful pennant teams, contact the secretary if you would like to join!

Meanwhile, after a sold out New Year's Eve gala, the Cinema is busy with fabulous offerings, starting with the return of a newly restored classic over the first weekend in February, when we are screening "Paris, Texas", premiered in 1984! We are screening it as a single feature, due to its length, so we suggest you enjoy an early tea beforehand,, or a picnic in our BBQ area next to the Cinema, or grab a snack from the Swanpool Store opposite. Our candy bar volunteers will have hot and cold drinks, as well as choctops and lollies for you to purchase as well

Highlights over the rest of the month include a fantastic European Double Bill, the much talked about new film with Ralph Fiennes, "Conclave", and a new Australian produced documentary about Mozart's sister. We have great air conditioning on those hot days, and lots of choctops, made by our volunteers.

For more information, visit our website, www.swanpoolcinema.com.au, or grab a programme at the Swanpool Store, or various outlets in Benalla. We look forward to welcoming you!

#### EVENTS, EATS & ENJOYMENT By Sue O'Brien

Sat 1st Movie Swanpool 6 pm

Sun 2nd Wangaratta community market Mason st 8am - 1pm

Sun 2nd Movie Swanpool 6 pm

Wed 5th Whitegate dinner at Tavern 6.30 pm

Sat 8th Tolmie sports day
Sat 8th Movie Swanpool 6 pm

Sat 8th Wangaratta farmers market Mason st 8am - 1 pm
Sun 9th Wangaratta community market Mason st 8am - 1 pm
Sun 9th Archery at rec reserve 1.30pm - See note below re weather

Sun 9th Movie Swanpool 6 pm

Thurs 13th Tatong dinner at the Northo 6.30 pm Sat 15th Moyhu market 8.30 - 12.00 pm

Sat 15th Movie Swanpool 6 pm

Sun 15th Wangaratta community market Mason st 8am - 1 pm

Sun 16th Movie Swanpool 6 pm Fri 21st Girls shed at the hall 9.30 am Sat 22nd Movie Swanpool 6 pm

Sun 22nn Wangaratta community market Mason st 8am - 1pm

Sun 23rd Benalla Lakeside market 9 - 1pm

Sun 23rd Archery at rec reserve 1.30 pm - See note below re weather

Sun 23rd Movie Swanpool 6 pm

PLEASE NOTE; Archery will be cancelled if weather is above 35 degrees. Also the Tatong dinner will be held at the Northo on Thursday 13th February at 6.30pm Everyone's welcome to attend. Please ring the Northo on 57627333 to book on the Tatong table.

If you have an activity, meeting date, market, sports event or anything else you would like people to know about that's taking place in March, please send the details to <a href="mailto:tattler.whatson@gmail.com">tattler.whatson@gmail.com</a> by 16th of the month please.

**NOODLE SALAD** 

2 cups raw shell noodles 500g Cannellini beans 3 slices ham, chopped 1 small can kidney beans 2 sticks celery, cut chopped 60g sliced green olives 60g sliced black olives Medium can of corn kernels 1 clove crushed garlic Small can of pineapple pieces ½ cup mayonnaise ½ cup French dressing 2 teaspoons cream ½ cup chopped parsley 2 teaspoons lemon juice Salt & pepper to taste

Chives

Cook noodles in boiling water until soft.

Drain & place in a large bowl.

Add remaining ingredients & toss lightly.

Rinse & drain beans.

**BEAN SALAD** 

Add olives, garlic, dressing & parsley.

Season to taste. Toss lightly. Refrigerate before serving.

Thank you & congratulations to the small, hard working group of people who put on such an amazing Tatong Community Christmas BBQ in December. It was extremely well attended & everyone had such a great time. Santa arrived on a carriage drawn by beautiful Clydesdale horses, to the delight of children & adults alike.

## Recycled in memory of Kathy



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









#### Halfway Thru Summer and Looking Forward to Cooler, Wetter Times.

I remember coming across a phrase in some article I was reading (must have been a study book) where the author suggested that the words "Summer Afternoon" were very evocative and to think of the images that were brought to mind on those words.



No doubt, long warm golden days, green trees, possibly overhanging a stretch of river, perhaps a picnic to be enjoyed - were to come to mind.

Images which unfortunately are not representative of our current "Summer Afternoons".

#### How are your plants surviving?

We have lost a few large trees - a couple of Acacia Floribunda that we planted in the garden when we first arrived here 26 years ago, have died providing us with a tricky tree removal job to contemplate which when finished will leave quite a gap. While the rest of the garden is looking dry and tired.

#### The tomato plants are sulking and not

flowering, something which other people have told me is their problem also.

It would seem that a Mild, Mediterranean climate is ideal for growing tomatoes. (Hmm maybe missed out in that area this summer!)

Tomato plants like full sun, rich soil, and a stake or cage to keep them upright, and they will soon bloom and produce tomatoes.

However - If they are given lots of high-nitrogen fertilizer, they will produce bushy plants with dark green foliage at the expense of flowers.

February 2020

Flowers but no fruit . . High temperatures can sometimes play havoc with pollination. Hot spells, when daytime temperatures remain above 30°C and, crucially, night time temperatures fail to dip below 24°C, have the undesirable effect of turning pollen sterile. Tomatoes like it hot - but not too hot!

The only thing you can do during a heat wave is bide your time. In the meantime keep plants well watered and healthy, so that when temperatures finally subside they'll be in an excellent position to ramp up production.

An added complication is humidity, or lack of it. Very high humid-



ity can clog the pollen, so it's unable to drop, while in very dry climates flowers may become so parched that pollen fails to stick and simply rolls straight off. In this instance regular watering may help to raise the humidity around the plants just enough to improve conditions.

#### Hard to Imagine but its time to be Planning for a Winter Garden

Vegetables that are good for a winter garden grow slowly once those cold and frosty days start, so it is important to be getting them well on their way before then. Some planning and planting in February, will see a good supply underway by the time the winter gets here.

These plants are small early on and can be slotted in between summer crops as they finish. Many (not carrots and parsnips) could also be started in punnets now for when space is available from late March.

Plant - Beetroot, Broccoli, Cabbage, Chinese Cabbage, Carrots, Cauliflower, Celery, Kohl Rabi, Leeks, Lettuce, Parsley, Parsnips, Silverbeet, Spinach, Turnip.

#### Easter and the Molyullah Fair Monday 13 April

The Plant and Produce Stall is always very grateful for donations of plants, bulbs or produce. If you

spare cuttings you may have grown or something that could be dug up from the garden every bit contributes to a successful day.

Happy Gardening

Kathy Z

200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Hume & Hovell's Expedition.

On Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2024 the Tatong Heritage Group commemorated the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Hume and Hovell's Expedition to find new grazing land. They camped on the banks of the Hollands Branch, 7 kms from Tatong on the Tatong Tolmie Road. In 1924 a monument was erected to commemorate the centenary and to honour the pioneers.

We re-enacted that ceremony of 100 years ago.

On that day in 1924 young Howard Lewis then 7 years old, laid a laurel wreath and Molly Beard then 6 years unveiled the script on the monument. Both young people were students at Tatong Primary School. Howard's son, Wayne lay a laurel wreath and Molly's three daughters Anne Duthie, Veronica Smith and Bernadette Young travelled from Adelaide to unveil the script as their Mum did 100 years ago.

One of Molly's daughters said they were so thankful to be given the opportunity to celebrate for their Mum. She was always so excited to tell the story to her family and show them and her grandchildren the Monument.

We had a descendant of Hamilton Hume's sister in attendance. After the proceedings everyone went to the Tatong Hall where a historical display of Hume & Hovell's expedition including maps was set up. A luncheon was provided which everyone enjoyed.

On the Friday before, the 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 7 Heritage Group members had lunch at the Tatong Tavern with Karen Schmidt who is a descendant of William Hovell. Karen lives in Perth and was re-tracing the route taken by Hume & Hovell.

This was a significant historical event for the Tatong community to commemorate.

Joan Lewis



#### **TATONG ARCHERY**

When you have a sport or hobby that you love it does not matter too much how many people you share it with, so long as there is someone or a few to do so. Our club is low in numbers at the moment, mid-January, but the heat and holidays are mainly the reason for that. We have extra bows and arrows for anyone wanting to give archery a try. It is suitable for all ages (mainly late primary school and beyond is best) and genders. We shoot every second Sunday afternoon, the next being Sunday the 26<sup>th</sup> January starting at 1:30pm at the recreation reserve oval, Tiger Hill Rd Tatong. Then it is fortnightly after the 26<sup>th</sup>. \$5 donation per session.

#### **AUSTRALIA DAY AND ITS CHALLENGES**

Australia Day like so many events and activities has been politicised in recent years. Like it or not our culture is undergoing much disruption as the inevitable pressures for change rise and fall hoping to assert greater fairness or in order to restore balance for the disadvantaged. This endless turmoil is due to the glacial speed at which humans are learning to rediscover what it really means to be an authentic and fulfilled human where, by the way, the more extreme political forces and contortions will no longer be needed because willing cooperation will be the order of day. Sounds impossible? Not really because it has been stated many times by those guru, spiritual type of people who have discovered this authenticity for themselves, and claim that it is certainly so.

Because Australia Day celebrations are intended for every citizen equally there should be zero politics in the management and activities allowing us to concentrate upon what it is that we have so much to be grateful for.

Mike Larkin

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#### **GRAND CHILDREN REPORT**

Firstly to the eldest Kazadi from Shepparton and the latest news about his running talent. As part of his training he often takes part in the Shepparton Saturday morning Park Run which is a 5km course around the paths and parks of the city and is popular for joggers as well as competitive types. In early January of this year 15 year old Zadi ran the fastest park run in the whole of the Victorian park runs and a record in his age group. They can verify these statistics because all of the results are uploaded to their phone app state wide. Kazadi is also going, twice annually, for a week at Falls Creek doing altitude training with some of his coaching squad, a modern aid for anyone wanting to improve endurance. His younger brother Amani who contracted bone cancer of his right lower leg around the earlier stages of Covid 19 and has undergone much treatment at the RCH in Melbourne. He is currently enduring his latest maintenance adjustment to his treatments involving a 6 month long external scaffold splint for keeping the leg in its correct alignment after his 13 years of age growth spurt. The worst part of the splint is the spacers which hold the scaffolding in place on his leg because he suffered severe itching from the pads on his skin. This affected his sleep badly until an alternative was found. Otherwise, Mani, like most young people is adapting with fortitude and doing

I do have 6 other grandchildren, four girls and 2 boys, all of whom are doing well with growing and learning but the Shepp boys get the most attention due to living at times with us in Tatong, along with mum Anita, then close by in Benalla and subsequently becoming known to Tattler readers.

Mike Larkin

well in life.

Congratulations
to Geoff Rintala
(Editor of the Tattler)
and to Jenny, on
their becoming
grandparents.



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#### Happy New Year? Is there anything to be happy about?

By the time this article is published, Donald Trump will have been inaugurated as President, surrounded by climate deniers, anti-vaxxers, and to quote Paul Simon "a loose affiliation of millionaires and billionaires", voted in by a largely white working-class who have seen their living standards continue to decline and were looking someone to blame for their plight and for some simple solutions. In 2024, the nominally left of centre Labour Party's victory in the UK, although a landslide in terms of seats due to the vagaries of its electoral system, had a historically low vote share despite the venality and incompetence of successive Conservative Governments. Why was this the case? While many 'liberal' Conservative voters fled to the Liberal Democrats and there was evidence of tactical voting, many voters were attracted to the populist prescriptions of the rebranded Reform Party (previously Brexit Party) led by the clownish Nigel Farage, which gained 14.3% of the vote, more than the Liberal Democrats. In France, the populist rebranded National Rally (formerly National Front) showed a surge in popularity in the recent elections and in Germany the extreme right wing AfD has been polling ahead of the centre-left SPD. Italy is led by the populist Giorgia Meloni, who has a history of membership of neo-fascist parties. In Hungary, Victor Orban has taken his government further and further to the right.

What do all these politicians and parties have in common? They are all nationalist (and the in the case of the British, French, German and Italian right-wing, anti-European Union), sceptical of climate change, anti-immigrant, anti-refugee and asylum seeker, often racist (especially Islamophobic), anti-'woke', anti-taxation, anti-'elite' and pro-individual 'freedom'. They all channel resentment at the long-term decline in living standards, the loss of jobs overseas and the change in their homogenous monoglot culture as a result of immigration. They also often perceive the latter as being the cause of job loss and housing stress. Some of these themes resonate in the Australian political discourse. It isn't just the Coalition that engages in dog-whistle politics – how else to explain Albanese's recent kowtowing to the mining lobby in WA and the salmon industry in Tasmania (in both cases chopping his Environment Minister off at the knees), and his Government's attempts to cap the number of overseas students.

Why has this happened? Are the attitudes that underpin the rise of the radical Right grounded in fact or are they caused by more deep rooted responses to the changes of the last thirty years that have left many poorer, cynical, and disenfranchised? To answer those questions requires unpicking at least some of the core issues that underpin the rise of the radical Right – namely, the interrelated issues of the 'flood' of immigration in general (and international students in particular), climate change, declining living standards and job loss. Considering these issues will allow some of the 'explanations' peddled by the radical Right – the rise of 'woke', the influence of elites and the loss of 'control'. This analysis may then lead to a consideration of the root causes of the populist phenomenon.

In an article in November's Tattler, I unpicked the notion of identity and challenged the idea of nationalism. Associated with this idea is a general, and not always race-based, objection to immigration, even in countries like the US and Australia which are comprised largely of immigrants of one generation or another. Other than the loss of 'identity', objections generally are associated with the perceived loss of jobs and pressures on housing. (Perceptions of increased criminality are more commonly associated with refugee populations, particularly those from Africa. I will discuss that issue later.) Let's look at jobs first. Here the facts are at odds with the perception. According to a study by the OECD, migration boosts the employment of the Australian-born population and does not affect its wages. A 1 percentage point rise in the annual migrant inflow, on average, leads to a 0.53 per cent increase in the employment of the Australian-born population. Furthermore it does not depress wages, and in most cases it has a positive impact on wage levels - the reasons for low wage growth are nothing to do with migration, as I will argue later. Australian-born people of all skill levels, ages or genders benefit from this positive effect. Migration also contributes to Australia's GDP, with some estimates suggesting that migrants contribute \$330 billion to the country's GDP. The contribution of international students has been the subject of some recent debate. We have been led to believe that they are a significant reason for housing pressures. Many live in halls of residence. Those who do not tend to live in cramped apartments in the inner city, or in run-down share houses, neither of which are desirable targets for home buyers. Let's also consider their direct and indirect contributions to the economy. According to the Department of Education, for FY 2022-2023, education export income was worth \$36.4 billion, and was ranked fourth after Coal, Iron Ore and Gas. In Victoria alone, it contributed 63,000 jobs to the Victorian economy and was worth \$14.8 billion in export earnings. These numbers do not include the secondary effects of service provision to international students - just go to Monash at Clayton or Caulfield to see the range of hospitality services aimed at this population. Given these numbers, and if one still believes they are a cause of housing shortages, then perhaps some of this income, and the retained earnings of the wealthier universities, could be used to provide on-campus or close to campus dedicated accommodation for international students?

In the next part of this series of articles, I will discuss the issue of refugees and asylum seekers and the perceptions of criminality associated with specific migrant groups, before trying to untangle the resistance to policies that address the issue of climate change. The third, and final, part of this series will discuss the relative decline in living standards and attempt to address the reasons for the rise of populism. Sadly, solutions are a bit more of a challenge....

Dr Quirkonomics

Continued next page

#### Notes from article on previous page

1. Woke is an interesting word, originally coined to refer to awareness of social inequalities such as racism, sexism, and denial of the rights of LGBTIQ people. However, it is now used as a pejorative by the political Right and has also been used to criticise actions perceived as insincere or performative. Context

2. Note the MAGA movement splintering into the antiimmigration faction and the Muskies who need skilled migration to support their companies' growth.

3.Is it a coincidence that the Australian agency that used to be called Australian Customs and Border Protection Service, has been known as the rather more militaristic Australian Border Force since 2015? Until 2009, it was just the plain old Australian Customs Service.

4.Of course, one person's freedom is often exercised at the expense of those of others. As the philosopher Isaiah Berlin put it "Freedom for the pike is death for the minnows'; the liberty of some must depend on the restraint of others".

We have owned Vicky and Foxy for around 18 months. We enjoyed making cheese, yoghurt and getting fresh milk daily. I am looking for a like-minded person who might also like to make their own goats' cheese without the hassle of actually owning goats themselves. I am hoping to find someone local who would be interested in milking Vicky and Foxy when we go away on holidays. Please



## Gawn to Town

I'm the coolest, sang Alice Cooper, admittedly back in the '70s. Everyone wants to be cool, and to be 'hot' is to be really cool. Psychologists probably understand it all. Unless, upon studying such contradictory terms, they become like Sydney Carton in Tale of Two Cities, who applied himself to such strenuous mental exercise that he had a damp cloth tied around his head, and when steam started rising from it, he would wring it out and wet it again. That's evaporative cooling, that is.

I love an evaporative cooler. Windows open, a gentle cool breeze running through the house. But then when the humidity builds up, you need air con.

Not everyone loves a "swampy". The cooling effect of an evaporative cooler works best when the ducting up in the ceiling hasn't collapsed, or come apart at the seams. And there are sad souls who take on a home fitted with a swampy, but were never properly introduced. Without openings to let out the air, it won't function well. Air con is more straightforward, just wanting all doors and windows shut, which the modern generation are very at home with.

The guy on the news said that parts of NSW are becoming more humid, and consequently home-owners are swapping their swampys for air cons. Air conditioning uses more electricity than evaporative cooling, and while I'm not suggesting anyone ought to melt rather than use their cooler, the resultant sum does bother me. As more and more houses use air conditioners, and dump more hot air outside, so the air gets hotter around all the houses; and there are more and more houses. This doesn't bother me to the extent that I would return to the house I grew up in, which had neither air conditioning nor evaporative cooling - and no verandahs either, and not even high ceilings.

But running through the sprinkler resulted in basic evaporative cooling. Getting good and wet, then coming inside and lying in front of the open window, on the lino. Oh my poor mother.

On the Riverina farm, we had a New Holland header with a cabin (pretty cool) which was fitted with evaporative cooling (not cool enough). Now our modern world is much more comfortable. In the right model of car, the temperature can be adjusted so that the driver is getting a very different treatment to the passenger. I'm told this can save marriages. (However, a passenger accidentally turning on a seat-warmer can lead to a lot of confusion.) In a previous life I had a 125cc evaporative cooler. On a hot day I'd detour to the river, kick off my boots and jump in (didn't have a smart phone in my pocket back then), come out dripping wet, get back on my Honda 125 and resume my course. Be bone dry within 10 minutes.

Stay cool. Or hot, whichever takes your fancy.



Ps - In the summer time, one means of cooling down is to move to Hobart. Is this less ecologically costly than sitting at home in Victoria with the air con running? Would that depend on whether one flew, or took the boat? Please send your answers to the Tattler.

Andi Stevenson

Molyullah 200 Year Celebration

Michelle Ramage

On Sunday 29th December 2024 the Community of Molyullah gathered to celebrate the 200th year anniversary of Hume and Hovell passing through what was then the uncharted territory of Molyullah.

The evening began with the attendees meeting at the monument that was erected by locals 100 years ago. A short history of the expedition was delivered by Geoff Hill, following this a eucalyptus tree was then planted by local identity Kevin Ryan to commemorate the event.

With the formalities over locals then moved to the hall precinct where they enjoyed a spit roast meal, ice creams and music provided by "2 Easy".



#### **Taxing Volunteer Groups**

Many Tattler readers will not be aware that contained within the 2023/24 Federal Budget was the requirement for community not-for-profit organisations to complete a taxation self-assessment and pay taxation on any funds they raise over \$416. The taxation rates applicable are amounts over \$416 to \$915 the tax rate new taxation regulations apply to all not-for-profit organisations irrespective of them having and ABN or their self-assessment. The injustice of these regulations was contained in a report that has now been taken up with our local member, Dr. Helen Haines. She reviewed the content and subsequently forwarded a copy of the complete report direct to the Federal Treasurer, Dr. Jim Chalmers on 16<sup>th</sup> September. The basic content of the report was to point out the adverse impact that the introduction of these taxes would have on the community support structures that currently exist.

The Federal Treasurer passed the report to the Assistant Federal Treasurer Dr. Andrew Leigh who responded with no specific response to any of the issues raised. Within the response was the statement that these regulations had been introduced by the previous Morrison Government. The response, which is undated, was forwarded to me by Dr. Haines on the 18<sup>th</sup> October. It would appear that there have been a number of complaints lodged with the Treasury and Taxation Departments about the adverse impacts of these laws. It is obvious from this response that the Federal Government has no intention of acknowledging the adverse impacts that these laws will have on community support structures which are operated by volunteers. Instead they will continue on their path of 'milking' between 55% and 30% from community raised funding, that would normally remain within the community.

Recently there was the release of a report from a Senate Inquiry into these new taxation regulations on 31st October, which gave a number of key recommendations which the Federal Government appear to be ignoring. There was one issue that I subsequently took up with the Chairman of the Senate Inquiry and that was the issue of no allowance for volunteer time in running, fund raising or completion of the taxation requirements for an organisation. I did not receive a response.

Following the assessment of the above report, on the 20<sup>th</sup> November I submitted a media release to a number of politicians and media outlets around Australia. Following this release, I was working on another community project when I came across some important information and circulated this to all of the previous recipients on 14<sup>th</sup> December as follows:

Further to my report regarding the above dated 20<sup>th</sup> November 2024, I have just come across some very interesting information regarding the introduction of these taxation laws for not-for-profit community groups. During an investigation into the history of a

local not-for-profit community group, I came across a section within their 2014 annual handbook, which gave details of new regulations concerning income, taxation and the threshold of \$416. (In my original report I had no knowledge of the origins of the \$416). Following this discovery and some further investigation, it was discovered that the statement made by Dr. Andrew Leigh, reis 55%, amounts above \$916 are taxed at 30%. These garding the origins of these regulations being the Morrison government, is false. The origins of these regulations date back to 2012 when the ACNC was created by not. Groups have until the 31st March 2025 to complete the Gillard Labor government. The Treasurer at the time was Mr. Wayne Swan and his COS was Mr. Jim Chalmers.

> These new taxation laws were introduced under the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Act 2013. Whilst the laws were introduced, they appear not to have been activated, until the current Labor Government introduced compulsory reporting within the 2023/24 budget.

As stated in my original report, many thousands of small community support organisations were not aware of these laws until some ABN holders received a letter in April 2024. To have a threshold that is now over 10 years old is ludicrous. As suggested in my original report, there needs to be an urgent review of the threshold, before we see many thousands of volunteers simply walk away.

I have been in contact with Dr. Haines and it is suggested that there will be nothing achieved now that the Government is in election mode. We will revisit the situation after the election, however in the interim we need to question all prospective candidates in the forthcoming election, in relation to their position on these new taxation laws.

- Barry O'Connor

Happy 70th Birthday to Linda De Fazio. You are the queen of our tribe and the glue that holds us all together. Love, hugs, kisses and all the mushy stuff. From all your kids and grandkids xxxx 19.01.1955



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The Great Victorian Bike Ride 2024, was held from 23rd November to 1st December, commencing in Wodonga and finishing at Healesville. Each day the riders completed between 110 km and 34 km on the last day.

Day 5, 25th November, the ride departed from Wangaratta weaving through the communities of Lurg, Tatong, Swanpool and Lake Nillahcootie.

Cyclist's began arriving in Tatong from 9am and continued throughout the day.

Tatong Tavern was a popular stop off point where they enjoyed egg and bacon rolls, hot chips, coffee and cold refreshments, including their meals which were catered for by the tour organisers.

There were the 2,500 riders, including 230 volunteers and support crew of 100.

Long-time resident from the 1960's, Russell McCauley, who attended Tatong State School, along with his sisters, Gwendoline and Beth participated.

Russell completed the ride and reminisced of his younger days living in Tatong.

Bev Hakkenes

### Harvesting 100 years on

In 1924 Headlie Taylor Developed the Sunshine 'auto header'

The Sunshine 'W Type' Auto Header was an early self-propelled harvester designed to cut the grain head from the stalks in cereal crops (such as wheat, oats, barley, peas, beans, lucerne, etc.), then separate, clean and bag the grain in a single operation. Trash or chaff separated from the grain was blown out the back of the machine. The machine required two-man operation - a driver and bagger. A Fordson tractor engine powered the harvesting mechanism and provided forward traction. They came with a 10- or 12-foot cutting width.



Fast-forward 100 years, and with the development of technology, machines have gotten bigger, smarter, and highly efficient.

I recently looked at 2 headers on properties at Tungamah. A Fendt IDEAL 10T and a John Deere X9. Both are known as giants in the harvesting world and are the largest of their series (10) of each company. Below is a summary of their key statistics

	Fendt 10T	John Deere X9	Sunshine Auto Header
Engine Capacity	16.2 litres	13.6 litres	N/A
Engine Power	790 HP	700 HP	30 Hp
Fuel Tank Capacity	1500 litres	1249 litres	N/A
Grain Tank Capacity	17,100 litres	16,200 litres	N/A
Speed to Empty	210 Litres/second	180 Litres/second	N/A
Maximum Harvest Capac-			
ity	85 Tonnes/hour	100 Tonnes/hour	N/A
Weight	23 Tonne	21.75 Tonne	N/A
Cutting Width	15.24 metres	15.24 metres	3.65 metres
Fuel Usage	100 litres/hour	100 litres/hour	N/A
Maximum speed	40 kph	40 kph	4.8 kph

The Fendt 10T is the first combine ever in the world with no steering wheel. A joystick allows the operator to steer giving them a clear view of the cutting comb.



Continued next page

The John Deere X9 uses cutting-edge technology in its use of Machine synchronized Advanced Automation. This allows the operator to "take control" of the chaser bin when unloading, decreasing the likelihood of machine collisions, especially in dark or dusty field conditions.



Well, they are both magnificent machines. I spent an hour in both. The Fendt was harvesting canola, and the John Deere wheat, so it was a little difficult to do a direct comparison. On a 37-degree day, both operators sat in comfortable, air-conditioned, clean, and quiet environments with access to the world via their technology. This is a far cry from 100 years ago, when harvesting was a lot more demanding. Greg Buerckner



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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.
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

#### WEATHER IN THE TATONG TOWNSHIP

I seem to have forgotten the total rainfall for November last year which was a huge 167.7mm. Also the rainfall for December '24 was a total of 48mm. Currently we have had 22.5mm of rain up until the 15<sup>th</sup> of January. The 15<sup>th</sup> of the month is near enough to half way through summer and with the interminable 33 degree temperatures I have been wishing summer was over but then, as with today, (the 15<sup>th</sup>) we get a mini thunder storm cooling us down several degrees and so summer wins my favour once more.

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. 21st February 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

Arrange your copy of the

### Tatong Tattler!

Have a printed copy delivered within Tatong district, Or download it in Techni-colour from anywhere in the world!

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

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

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

## Annabelle CLEELAND MP



Member for Curoa

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