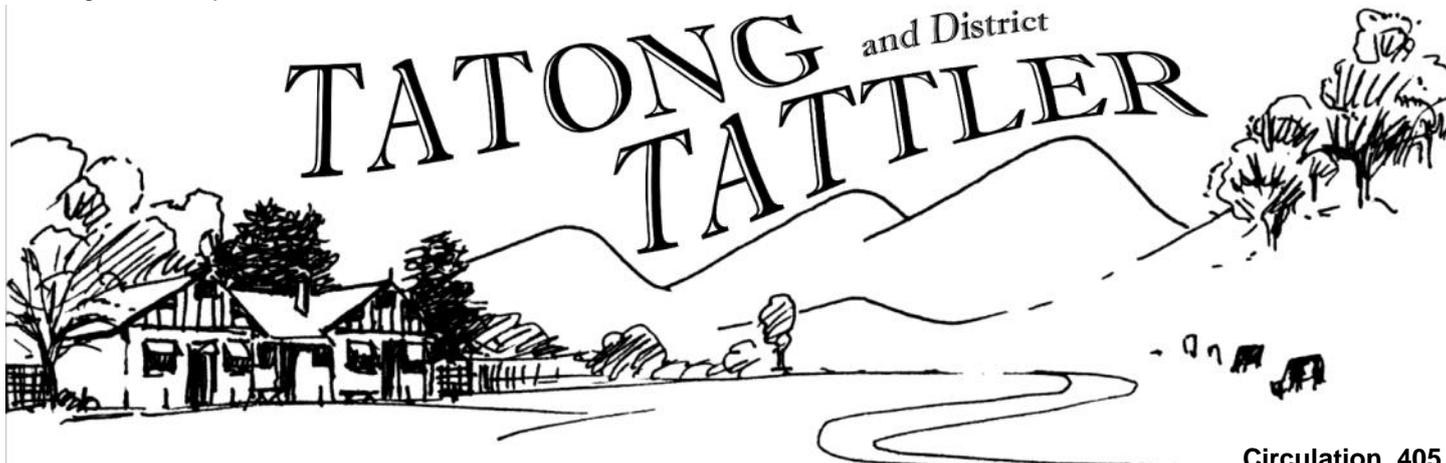


TATONG and District TATTTLER



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Congratulations to little superfish Tilly De Fazio of Molyullah who scooped the pool at the Hume Region Schools Swim Championships on March 13th. First place in 4 individual events. 13-15 year old 100m freestyle, 12/13 50m freestyle, 50m backstroke and 50m Butterfly. Also 2 relays, breaking the relay records. Wishing the girls luck for the State Swim Championships to be held in Melbourne next month representing Benalla FCJ College.



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\$10 Donation for your Tattler

Created by and for the communities of Tatong District, the "Tatong Tattler" is produced with great love by a committee of volunteers, and distributed over hill and dale by more diligent local volunteers.

Advertising covers much of the cost of production (printer, toner, paper etc) however we ask for a donation of \$10 per year. That is a dollar per issue and you get one free!

Donations can be (a) given to committee members; (b) left in the locked box by the Tavern; or (c) EFT'd to GMCU BSB 803078 A/c 100036313 Tatong Tattler.



“Davy Falls”, Tatong (c1890)

Trawling Trove (<http://trove.nla.gov.au>, National Library of Australia) in a moment of leisure, turned up this aged travel snap. The details are “Davy Falls, Tatong”, published in 1890 by W. H. Ferguson, “negative : glass ; 12.1 x 16.6 cm. (half plate)”. The original is of extraordinarily high resolution; one can zoom in and see that the valley floor is covered in fallen trees.

This photo, taken from a hill on one side of the valley, is surely a hill with a creek to get the name "Davy Falls" (*Unless W.H.'s mate Davy fell over just here.*)

Does anyone know of Davy Falls? A property owned by any Davy's?

Would anyone recognise the layout?

Below is a cropped section of the hill line. W.H. Ferguson travelled this area as a part of his collection, “Gippsland and the Victorian high country”, and there are other gems, including one of “Sams Falls”, now known as Lex's Falls, on Knapper's place.

Links are on the Tatong Heritage Group web page, www.vicnet.net.au/~tathg

- Andrea Stevenson, for the Tatong Heritage Group.



The multi-layered horizon. It may be that the negative is reversed, and this is a mirror-image of the actual view.





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The Indian Railway Odyssey

This brief article recounts a couple of train trips we took in India some years ago, when we were visiting a number of places such as Jaipur, Agra, Orchha, Khajuraho and Varanasi (previously known as Benares). Having experienced the splendour of the Taj Mahal and the Agra Fort, we were to take the Shatabdi Express – a high speed express train which covered the 215km trip from Agra Cantonment Station to Jhansi Junction in 2 ½ hours, from where we were to travel to the small and beautiful town of Orchha by car. The station was not unexpectedly in tumult: beggars, hawkers, travellers, people crossing the line, journeymen offering repairs to baggage and other sundry services, trains packed with people, some hanging on the sides. The air-conditioned Shatabdi Express, while perhaps a little grubby, left Agra punctually and arrived just as punctually at Jhansi. After a couple of days in Orchha we were driven to the temple town of Khajuraho where we were to stay for a couple of days. (Our travel agency had discounted the practical possibility of train journey options between these places.)

We left Khajuraho early by car (once again the train option was lengthy, the service unreliable and required several changes) to drive to the nearest convenient railway station at Satna for our trip to Varanasi. Passing peacocks by the side of the road as we travelled through pleasantly wooded and undulating countryside, we made good time as we approached the less than prepossessing outskirts of the substantial and rather dusty and ugly industrial town of Satna, famous apparently for its concrete works (!). The earliness of our arrival was probably deliberately arranged so we could be ushered into a very grubby café and offered the less than attractive prospect of breakfast.

Our train, the Sarnath Express, was but a few minutes late, an impressive achievement given that it had travelled nearly 600 km from its point of departure. Our compartment was not unacceptable, consisting of bench seats which were convertible to bunks, and curtained from the corridor. There was one other passenger on the opposite seat. We soon discovered that passengers on the Sarnath Express seem to have little concern for the protocols of personal space, as part of the floor was taken up with a suitcase that we later discovered was the property of someone from another part of the carriage. To make matters worse our seat was occupied by a sleeping woman, covered with what turned out to be our blanket. The conductor soon ejected her, sending her back to her 3rd class carriage. My wife was pleased to discover that unlike the Shatabdi Express, ostensibly a more up-market train, our carriage was furnished with traditional Western style toilets. As with our night train in Thailand, we appeared to be the only tourists on the train.

The journey began promisingly as we made a stately progress across the North Central Plain, stopping occasionally at some rather remote and desolate places. At noon we reached a place called Naini Junction. One and a half hours later, we finally left Naini Junction. As the journey progressed, the word 'junction' began to strike something like fear into our hearts. We discovered that the Sarnath Express was not considered to ply a particularly important route, so it had to give way to more prestigious trains. The signalling systems on this part of the network were rather primitive, and although other trains passing through this junction were of greater prestige that did not prevent them from being delayed themselves (possibly through having to give way to trains of even greater prestige at other junctions). As a result, junctions can be a source of significant delays, as evidenced by the insouciance of our fellow passengers who took advantage of the delay to stretch their legs and partake

of refreshments provided by sellers who swarmed on to the platform, doubtless aware of the delays to the Sarnath Express that appeared to be a common occurrence. Eventually we made glacial progress across the Jumna (now called the Yamuna) river and its majestic confluence with the holy Ganges (Ganga). We pulled into the city of Allahabad (Prayagraj), yet another junction, where a new engine was placed at what was now the front of the train, as we were to partially retrace our tracks (!) before plunging off towards Varanasi Cantonment Station¹. After a brief delay of 45 minutes or so, we moved off. By now Steve was losing patience (never one of his strengths to be honest) and a sense of time, as well as suffering somewhat from the oppressive heat, as the barely adequate air conditioning ceased to operate after longish stops at stations.

So off we lumbered (a word not often used in juxtaposition with the word express) back across the Ganges to a small station called Prayag in the hinterlands of Allahabad. There we stopped and remained for some 30 minutes or so. Together with many of the other passengers, Steve detrained to stretch his legs and he asked the conductor the reason for this delay, as Prayag did not appear to be a junction (later research indicated that it was, but only because the next stretch of line was single track). The conductor explained that as the next stretch of line was indeed only single track, we had to wait for the down train, which, unsurprisingly, was:

- a. More important than the Sarnath Express; and
- b. Always late.

Steve thanked him for this information, and as he turned away to look up towards the front of the line, he noticed that platform was now suddenly devoid of passengers. Although the signal still appeared to be red, the train began inexorably to move away, leaving him alone on the platform, clad only in T shirt, shorts and sandals, without money, passport or wife. Fortunately, the Sarnath Express does not possess rapid acceleration, and he was able to clamber aboard in reasonably leisurely fashion.

We finally reached Varanasi Cantonment without any further incident of note, apart from a couple of unexplained stops in the middle of nowhere, nearly four hours late and very hungry after a journey of 11^{3/4} hours. We have to admit we paid less than full attention to our surroundings on this last leg of our epic journey, as we were both approaching a state of stupor, and beginning to forget what life was like before we got on the train. However, we vaguely recall small villages, small children watching the train pass slowly by, and local people going about their daily lives, with the final stretch into Varanasi bringing more dense settlements and riverfront views of the Ganges. Our first impressions of Varanasi were of a noisy, dirty city, choked with traffic. The station itself was crowded, filthy and full of beggars and people preparing to spend the night: on the platforms, on the bridge over the tracks and in the ticket hall.

Although at the time, the journey was full of frustrations we experienced an India that many tourists who insulate themselves from the sometimes challenging environment and surround themselves with luxury would never know.

¹These stations were called 'cantonment' because they were built near British-era military settlements (cantonments) to facilitate troop movement, logistics, and defence needs. So the Indian rail network is perhaps, at least in part, one of the positive impacts of British colonialism.

TATONG TOPICS – APRIL 1926**Benalla Standard 2nd April 1926;**

CRICKET. MOLYULLAH V. TATONG.

A very pleasant afternoon was spent at Molyullah last Saturday when two cricket teams from Tatong visited the district. To add to the enjoyment the ladies kindly supplied afternoon tea. At 1 o'clock the Tatong schoolboys arrived, and the game which ensued between them and the local schoolboys was very interesting.

Molyullah was beaten by 11 runs.

The adult teams commenced a game at 3 o'clock, Molyullah batting first owing to the lateness of the hour in commencing their innings, some of the Tatong players retired in order to give others a turn with the bat.

Molyullah 57 runs, Tatong 111 runs.

The North Eastern Ensign 2nd April 1926;

MRS C. Mc INTOSH.

On Saturday last, the death occurred at her residence at Tatong, of Mrs Catherine McIntosh, at the ripe age of 82 years. The deceased lady was the widow of the late Mr G. F. McIntosh, and was a native of Rosen shire (Scotland). She had resided in Victoria for the past 61 years.

Pneumonia was the cause of death. She is survived by a family of six sons—

Alexander, John, George, Hugh, William and Kenneth, and two daughters— Elizabeth and Margaret. The remains were interred in the Benalla cemetery, Rev. A. C. Mc Connan, officiated at the grave.

The Argus 3rd April 1926:

Application for the transfer of licence.

Frederick Beale the holder of a victualler's license for the Tatong Hotel at Tatong in the Benalla Licensing District, and I, Ivor Reuben Moyle the care of the Murchison Hotel, Murchison, hereby give notice that we will APPLY to the Licensing Court at Melbourne on Monday the 17th day of April, 1926, for the transfer of licence to the said Ivor Reuben Moyle. Dated March 7, 1929

Signed; Frederick Beale and Ivor Rueben Moyle.

Benalla Standard 13th April 1926;

VFU. TATONG BRANCH,

The monthly meeting of the Tatong branch of the V.F.U. was held on Friday evening, when there was a good attendance. The efforts of this branch and Samaria, to have a joint political rally at the Moorngag Hall have hardly been successful. Mr. R. Cook, M.P., was unable to attend, so also was Mr. Patterson, whom the dairymen were particularly anxious to hear. Mr. Carlisle, M.L.A.. was the only speaker available. The joint honorary Secretaries, are still endeavouring to get speakers. Correspondence was received (per Mr. Cook) re the local request for a direct connection by telephone to Tatong so that another route would be, available from Swanpool, and this district, in

place of the Mansfield road line, which is often jammed with the high tension induced currents from the power mains on that road. The matter is being considered, and an early reply is promised. Considerable discussion took place over the circular letter received from the central council and the minority section of the V.F.U. It was decided that this branch should not break away from the union, but is against the idea of widening the scope of membership, and considers that they should continue the fight within the union, and that right must eventually prevail.

Benalla Standard 13th April 1926: (abridged)

Council Minutes – Tatong Riding;

From M. E. Hancock, re the promise of the Minister to make an inspection of the suggested railway route from the Tatong line to Tolmie, and asking the council to urge the Minister to fulfil his promise, as he is likely to be making a tour to Kiewa, and might make it convenient to inspect this route at the same time.—The council to use whatever influence it has with the Minister in having this work expedited.

The Corowa Chronicle 17th April 1926:

POSTMASTER-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT TENDERS will be received by the Deputy Director, Post and Telegraphs. Sydney, up to 3 p.m. on 6th MAY, 1926, for (a) the erection of new subscribers' telephone lines from the Walla Walla Post office to the break off points to the subscribers' premises (whole of the work); (b) supply and delivery of the necessary poles; (c) labour only. Particulars obtainable at the Post Offices, Corowa. Mulwala, Walla Walla, Chiltern (Vic), Yarrowonga (Vic), Berrigan, Tatong (Vic) and Balldale.

Benalla Standard 23rd April 1926;

Hospital Donation.—Mr. Hinchley, secretary of the Wangaratta Hospital, writes:—

"Will you please acknowledge receipt of cheque value £8, proceeds of the Tatong entertainment given in aid of the hospital, and sent to me per Mr. James Spence, secretary of the movement. On behalf of the Committee of management I have to tender their sincere thanks for the donation."

The Sun News Pictorial 27th April 1926:

SECESSION DEPLORED The quarterly meeting, of the district council of the V.F.U. was held today. Representatives from Goorambat, Boweya, Samaria, Yarrowonga, Swanpool, Tatong, Warrenbayne, and Benalla were present. After discussion on the secession question, the following motion was passed:— "That this meeting of delegates of the Benalla District Council of the V.F.U. deploras what is taking place, but realises that the majority must rule, and trusts wiser councils will yet prevail. Everyone should strive to strengthen the present organisation.

Compiled by Barry O'Connor. Tatong Heritage Group.



What's in season for our second month of autumn, although it still feels like summer!

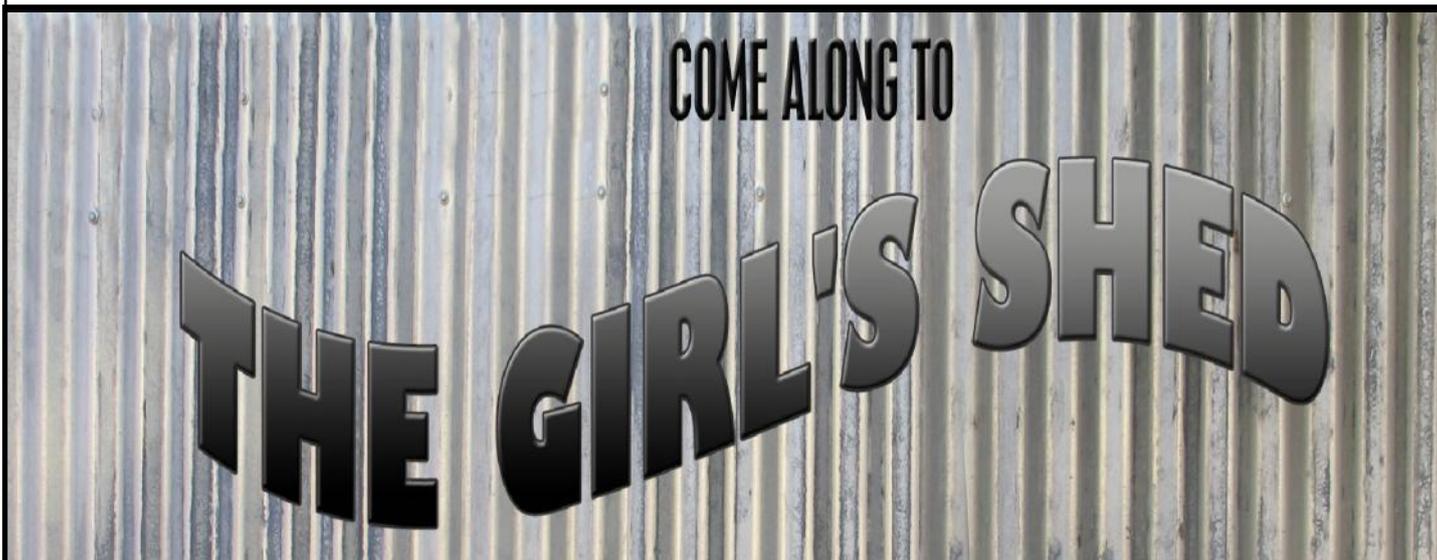
Cauliflower is great eating at this time as are broccoli, mushrooms and pumpkins.

I love raw cauliflower, fine chopped to resemble couscous or panko breadcrumbs. Easily done in a food processor or chopped by hand. If hand chopping I separate the stems from the flowers and chop individually, you get a better texture than chopping together. Cauliflower tabbouleh is a favourite and it goes with almost any grilled or baked meat, chicken or fish. Look for a cauliflower with tight flowers at the top, approximately 800g, chop as above and mix with 4 or 5 white and green long spring onions (shallots) finely chopped; 4 large very ripe truss tomatoes, chopped; a bunch of flat leaf parsley, chopped; a bunch of mint leaves, chopped; the juice of a lemon; 3 tablespoons of EV olive oil and salt and pepper to taste. Mix well adding more lemon juice to taste and serve at once. If making ahead add the lemon juice just before serving. Refrigerate any leftovers and toss in a very hot wok to caramelise and heat through, delicious as a side dish or just tumbled onto toasted rye bread for lunch. A quick one pan vegetable dish is cauliflower cut into florets, quartered ripe truss or Roma tomatoes and halved eschalots (small bulb shaped members of the onion family with a mild, slightly garlic sweet flavour - you'll find them next to the onions in Woolies or Coles) tossed in olive oil with a good glug of olive oil and a good pinch of salt and pepper. Bake in the oven until browned but still a bit crisp. You can certainly add any veg you have on hand to this dish just roast until tender. Deep fried cauliflower florets are also so, so delicious, especially with the next recipe.

Recently I attended a whole foods, plant based cooking class hosted by Adam Guthrie of I Feel Good. Adam travels the country promoting plant based cooking and lifestyle. I love all the pulses such as cannellini, kidney, fava and black beans; chickpeas and lentils and use them a lot. I likewise cook a lot of vegetable dishes but I gained a lot of tips and tricks from this class. My favourite recipe from Adam was his Mexican Burrito Bowl which included a Cashew Sour Cream which was absolutely delicious and my mind was going bonkers thinking of ways to use it and trick it up to use in so many applications, especially for my vegan and low fat diet friends.

To make the cashew cream place 250g cashew nuts, 250ml water and the juice of 1-2 lemons (according to taste) in a high speed blender. I used a Nutri bullet. Blend until super smooth and add salt to taste. You can start with 1 lemon and add the other juiced lemon at the end depending on how sour you want the cream to taste. The longer you blend the thicker it becomes and can be loosened by adding a dash more water. Serve this instead of sour cream with refried beans and corn chips. Or dollop it on roasted vegetables; warm gently and smear on to plates then top with savoury crepes, meat balls or crispy fried chicken. Variations: add finely chopped flat leaf parsley and mint and serve with grilled lamb chops; add baby spinach to the initial cashew mix and wizz until smooth for a perfect green sauce; add sambal oelek (chilli sauce) and serve with chicken schnitzels. Add plain yogurt, a pinch or two of sumac and serve with Greek lamb skewers. Any left overs can be successfully frozen in ice cube trays; just defrost and whisk to regain a creamy consistency. The uses are limitless and perfect if you need cream to finish a dish, but don't have any!!

I got a bit carried away there (so mushrooms will have to wait until next month) but it's such a versatile recipe that I wanted to share for you to add to your repertoire.



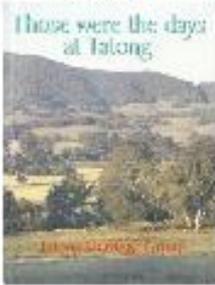
Come along, bring your lunch and some goodies to share, do some craft or just have a chat. Hope to see at the Tatong Memorial Hall. Cathy 0488 377 243

Our April Girls Shed will be our first crafting weekend for this year on 17th, 18th and 19th. Bring along your projects large or small and enjoy a 3 day weekend of fun and catch ups whilst enjoying tea, coffee and some tasty goodies as you work on your projects.

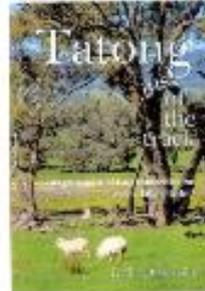


For Sale by the
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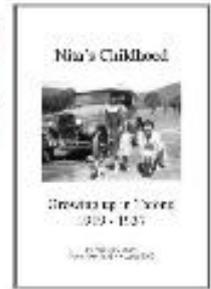
**Back to Tatong March
 4 & 5, 1978** by the Back to
 Tatong Committee (Size: A5 -
 22 pages) Price \$5 (+ postage)



**Those were the days at
 Tatong** Edited by Lydia
 Dronseika 2008 (Size : A4 - 72
 pages) Price \$15 (+ postage)

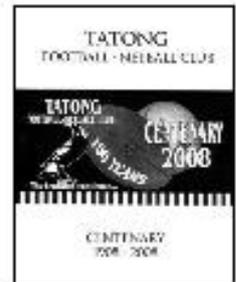


**Tatong Just off
 the Track** Edited by Lydia
 Dronseika 2010 (Size: A4 - 76 Pages)
 Price \$12 (+ postage)

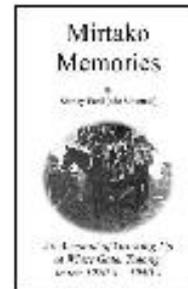
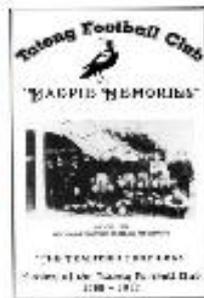


**Nita's Childhood Growing
 up in Tatong 1919 - 1937**
 by Nita McCauley (Size: A5 - 26
 Pages) Price \$5 (+ postage)

**Tatong Football-Netball
 Centenary 1908 - 2008** (Size: B5
 - 104 pages) Price \$10 (+ postage)



**Maggie Memories
 History of the Tatong
 Football Club 1908 -
 1992** Editor Vicki Rose (Size:
 B5 - 68 pages) Price \$? (+
 postage)

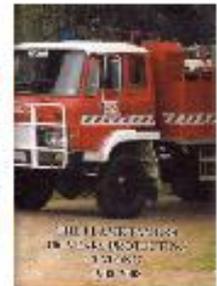


Mirtako Memories
 By Shirley Earl (nee
 Simonds) Growing up in
 White Gate in the 1930s
 (Size: A5 - 46 pages) Price
 \$5 (+ postage)

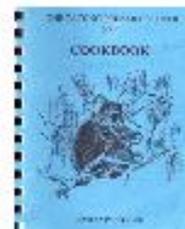
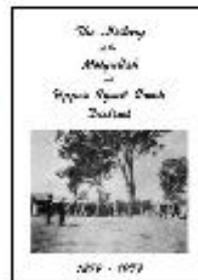


**Centenary of the Tatong
 Recreation Reserve May 1908 -
 2008** by John & Elaine Brogan (Size: B5
 - 40 pages) Price \$5 (+ postage)

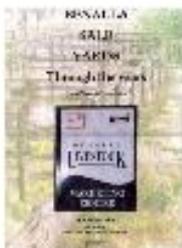
**The Flame Tamers 100
 years protecting Tatong -
 1908 -2008** by John & Elaine
 Brogan (Size: B5 - 32 pages) Price \$5
 (+ postage)



**The History of the
 Molyullah and Upper
 Ryan's Creek District
 1879 - 1979** by Norma
 Ryan (Size: A5 - 95 pages)

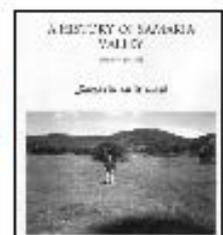


**Tatong Primary School 3006
 Cookbook Centenary 1890 -
 1990** Tatong Young Bloods (Size: B5
 112 pages) Price \$? (+ postage)



**Benalla Sale Yards
 Through the Years**
 Researched by Chick Walker 2011
 (Size: A4 - 218 Pages) Price \$25 (+
 postage)

**A History of Samaria
 Valley, Samaria as it was!**
 compiled by Jack Duffy (Size: A4 -
 54 pages) Price \$15 (+ postage)





For more than four decades, the Tatong district and surrounding communities have stood proudly behind the Royal Children's Hospital Good Friday Appeal. This much-loved local tradition brings our community together each year to help provide vital care for children and families who rely on the Royal Children's Hospital.

In keeping with our 2026 fundraising goals, the Good Friday Appeal committee has once again made the

difficult decision to run a virtual fundraiser. While the format may be different, our dedication to the cause remains unchanged.

This year, we are pleased to launch an online auction in partnership with Shout For Good and the Good Friday Appeal team.

You can view and participate in the auction here:

<https://shoutforgood.com/auctions/2026-tatong-rch-good-friday-appeal-auction>

We also acknowledge that many households and businesses across our region are facing significant challenges, particularly following recent bushfires and the ongoing fuel crisis. We understand that times are tough, and we are deeply grateful for any support—big or small—that our community is able to offer.

There are several ways to contribute to the Tatong RCH Good Friday Appeal. Donations of goods or services for the auction are warmly welcomed, as are monetary contributions. Donations can be made via direct deposit, cheque or cash, and tax-deductible receipts can be arranged for individuals or businesses. As always, every dollar raised is passed directly to the Good Friday Appeal.

Our fundraising efforts simply wouldn't be possible without the generosity, kindness and community spirit of people like you.

For further information, please contact:

Tatong RCH Good Friday Appeal

tatongrchappeal@yahoo.com.au

0487 236 505

I would like to respond to the article by Chris Millot in the last Tatong Tattler. Firstly, I would like to point out that the author of said article, doesn't live on Centre Rd so it certainly will have no impact on his residence.

As for generalising that people didn't complain 100 years ago.....well let's face it.....they probably did but 100 years ago the ability to have your complaints heard was very limited unlike the social network and computer world we live in today. Pretty sure there were plenty of complaints from our first nations people as we took the land that was theirsbut that's a whole other discussion.

I found the references to other micro businesses interesting...a farmgate shop, which is a fabulous little small hutch at the front of their property. It is not a big industrial factory like what is going in on Centre Rd. It doesn't affect their neighbours in any way. Our local horse training facilities are also not a large scale industrial factory and also do not affect their neighbours. As for Odyssey House, this one was a fascinating addition as this very community in Molyullah raised \$20,000 to legally fight against it coming here with objections from just about the whole of the community.

My husband and I personally, have a large scale national and international business, and yet our neighbours are not affected by our business in any way either, and unless we had told them of the scale of it, they would be none the wiser.

I am all for businesses thriving, and I would like to point out, that no-one that lives on Centre Rd or Molyullah Rd that objected, has an issue with the Industrial Milk/Cheese factory and hope that it is very successful. What we have an issue with, is the location, and that it is straight opposite where the only residences of Centre Rd and Molyullah Rd live. It would have had full support if it was built on Mr. Hill's land, on the other side of his dairy, and closer to where Mr. Hill lives where it would not have had any impact on anyone.

I cannot speak for everyone else, but I know when we purchased and moved here, it was the country lifestyle and surroundings of this community that we fell in love with. After many years of military service, I wanted to retire into a community similar to that I grew up in, and enjoy the peacefulness of living in the countryside. I have no issue with this project being a "dream or vision" of Mr. Hill. It isn't our dream though nor does it appear to be anyone else's that lives on Centre and Molyullah rds..... it has simply become our nightmare, and we are not alone in these thoughts. We heard quite a bit of gossip on the grapevine about this dream and then passing comments on bits and pieces about it. What we ended up discovering once going into the objection side of things, that what we had been told and what was in the actual plans differed greatly. Communication failure here is probably at least the best bit of advice I can give. If it was better communicated, then maybe discussions could have taken place beforehand. Now, as a result of the decision to go ahead by council and poor communication from the applicant, all I see is a community very divided. Our dream, is what we saw when we purchased. At no point would we have moved here if we knew that there was to be a large scale industrial milk/cheese factory going to be developed opposite us.

So this brings me to my final point, that to go as far as saying "let's not be petty, jealous or obstructive".....from someone who doesn't live on Centre or Molyullah Rd, hasn't got all the facts and information (as he has himself stated in his article), and to the best of my knowledge, not

spoken to anyone of us that lives here to find out why we have objected.....your comments are uncalled for, insulting and unwarranted and just plain rude.

As for the Milk/Cheese Factory.....the council has given the go ahead, so what is done is done and I hope that it is a great success for not only the Hill's but for the wider community at large.

Katie Davis-Berkahn

Chris Millott - Past, Present Future March Edition

Some Valid points were raised. For those not sure of the "exact Details"; as per the Benalla Council Permit Application P016-25 Submitted January 2025.

"An Onsite Cheese, Milk and Cream Production Plant, 60 Seat Cafe, a Display Workshop Building,, Animal Petting Zoo, 4 Cabins - Farm Stay Accommodation, two Agricultural Sheds, A Reduction in Car Parking." (Car parking will cater for Bus and Cars).

The Entrance is on Centre Road, Close to Residents - Not Opposite the Molyullah Hall. The Commercial Development will be directly opposite Centre Road Residents. Benalla Council have voted in Favour for this Project to Proceed.

Resident
Centre Road, Molyullah

Name Supplied. Ed

RENOVATING THE POND (cont.)

I had installed a metal screen because of the young grandkids safety and to deter herons which love eating goldfish. Also the water lily had spread too much choking the pond and, along with the mesh, stopped the lily flowers from emerging. It needed a block and tackle to drag the mesh and attached lily plants out of the pond. Once all the plants except those in the designated deep part of the pond were removed I put some feed bags of excess waterlilies on the front nature strip and mentioned it in the Tatong Newsletter on Facebook. I was surprised to find how many people wanted them. Our lily flowers are pink and the plant prefers to be in 300mm (one foot) of water, so a part of one end of my pond was built with a section this deep. Another preference for the lilies is that they do not like having water sprinkled upon them.

Because the offspring have told us that there will not be any more grandkids I have decided not to install new netting and, apart from the netting, the pond is only deepest, about 300mm, where the lilies are growing and they form a fairly solid mass which should prevent immersion.

I may eventually get goldfish and will look for other more subtle ways to stop the herons and water rats. Yes, we once saw a huge native water rat sauntering away from the pond after eating all of the fish. We had to use Google to identify the rat having never seen one before.

Mike Larkin

Gawn to Town

Then the dishwasher died. Well, the dishwasher made a puddle on the floor behind the cabinet. Firstly I thought of a plumber. After contemplation, I contacted the Appliance Repair guy. Even then, I had a fair inkling it was actually the Whitegoods shop I needed. The machine was ten years old, and that's the life expectancy of a dishwasher. Back some 40 years ago, we built a cottage on the NSW farm. When Brian sketched how the kitchen might be laid out, he drew in a dishwasher. "A dishwasher?" I cried, "For two of us?" He asked, was I prepared to do *all* the washing up? We got a dishwasher.

That one must have lasted about 10 years. It expired in the middle of shearing. I'd come dashing into the house, and realised the dishwasher wasn't well. "The dishwasher has died!" I wailed; it was of course packed to the gunnels. Brian's response was, "Well, you never wanted one in the first place." I declared myself a convert, somehow found time to wash the entire freaking load of dishes, and waited with passionate impatience for the new dishwasher to arrive.

Washing dishes is an ancient art. My mother had seven children and no dishwasher. I think she would have loved one, and not just for the saving in time and work. She was very good at puzzles, and packing a dishwasher properly is a good practical puzzle. A darling relative once stacked our dishwasher for me, during a lunch for a large gathering of extended family. I found her admiring it, and she said, "I've got all that lot in the dishwasher! And do you know, I've never loaded a dishwasher before!" I congratulated her, and thanked her heartily. Once she'd headed back up the stairs, I unpacked the entire load and put it back in with a chance of getting cleaned, and not fouling on the spray arms.

Not so long ago, in a Vintage wares shop, I saw one of those soap-cage-on-a-handle doovers. Just looking at it, I swear I could smell the Pears soap. For a child, making the water sudsy with one of those was fun! - unlike actually washing or drying the dishes. I guess whoever manufactured those things must have cursed the invention of liquid detergent.



How do young people cope, when without a dishwasher for a week? Have they any idea how to hand wash dishes? Do they understand the art of soaking?

On a farm, a dead dishwasher can make a handy rodent-proof cupboard. Actually it doesn't even need to be dead, thinking back to neighbours in NSW. He was not particularly domestic. Well, he liked eating food, and having plates and clean clothes, he just expected it all to be done for him. She came home once from a few days away, to find dirty plates piled up on the benchtop above the dishwasher. The plates were crawling with ants. When next she needed to be away on a school trip, she dreaded what she might find on her return. Instead, there were no dirty plates in sight! She thought he must have finally worked out what the dishwasher was for, until she looked in the fridge. He'd put all the dirty plates there, so the ants wouldn't get them.

A dishwasher can play an important role in a household. When we had 3 cats, the plates would go on the floor first, then get loaded in the dishwasher. Maybe every dishwasher should come with a free cat.

But then I remember when we were children, and my sister licked her plate so clean that my mother thought it was a sunbeam and put it back in the cupboard. That's taking it too far. - *Andi Stevenson*

AIR FRYER EXPERIENCE

Having seen so much media information about air fryers but knowing very little about the device I succumbed to the opportunity and purchased one at an op shop. I thought that the \$35 price was not too much to lose if Maeve did not want it or it was mostly useless. As it turned out we both really like this mini fan forced oven especially for re-warming leftovers and taking the chill off the cat's food and milk, and that is apart from its cooking abilities and economical power usage and speed compared to a full sized oven.

There is a viewpoint that microwaved food damages the structure of the food so I'm relieved from operating it, for the time being.

Mike Larkin

Tattler Mission:

That Every Household within the Tattler Delivery Area, wanting a Tattler, shall Receive one. 😊

Should a Household Want a Tattler but not be Getting one, please contact a Member of the Committee, and we shall Remedy this Unhappy Situation at Once!

However; there May be Tattlers being Delivered to where they are not Wanted. 😞

If anyone is Aware of such a Sorry Waste, please Advise a Member of the Committee, and save Part of a Tree. 😊



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Miscellaneous Announcements

The next Girls Shed will be from Friday 17th April to Sunday 19th at the Tatong Memorial Hall. See main announcement on page 10

The next Tatong Dinner will be on Wednesday 8th April at 6.30pm at The Tatong Tavern.

The next Whitegate dinner will be on Wednesday 1st April at the Tatong Tavern

Congratulations to Fern Hills resident and Tattler committee member Steve Ingram on becoming the grandfather of a healthy 3.3kg boy.

Swanpool News

The Swanpool community is recovering from a busy Summer ! Many of our groups are taking a breather, following a busy March, but our legendary Pizza Nights continue at the Oval, with the April night scheduled for Friday 24th, from 5.00pm. Takeaway is available, and payment can be via cash or card, all proceeds going towards the Albert Heaney Oval. If you would like to join the volunteers who have been making this such a success, please contact Marg on 0438 295 060.

Some readers may be aware of the small Bereavement Support Group, The Butterflies, that meets in Swanpool, whose next meeting is scheduled for April 15th. This is for anyone missing a loved one. For more information, please call Lesley on 0412 111 397, or Debra on 0429 193 564.

Meanwhile the Cinema is busy, with a great April programme, including a special matinee screening of the loved classic "Charlotte's Web" during school holidays, Friday 10th April, 10.30am. No need to book, but arrive in time to enjoy a cuppa or cordial and a biscuit before the film!

Our Double Bills include newly released Australian feature "Jimpa", starring Olivia Colman, which is screening with an Irish favourite "Four Mothers", which has won audience prizes at several film festivals. Audience favourite Emma Thompson stars in "Dead of Winter", a riveting thriller set in freezing Minnesota, which shares a similar wintery feel with "Midwinter Break" on the same Double Bill.

Pick up a programme from various outlets in Benalla, Mansfield, or Swanpool, or check out our website, www.swanpoolcinema.com.au, all welcome to our lovely retro venue, and a cinema run entirely by volunteers!

Deb

White Gate News & Dates



The April White Gate dinner @ the Tavern is booked for the 1st of April - so be warned. If someone rings you that morning, and says the dinner has been moved to the 5th and will be held in the Birdsville Pub, remember April Fools Day!

Mind you, a good April Fool's Day leg-pull can be fun. Or embarrassing. Maybe we'll wake up that morning to news that the Freeway Overpass is fixed.

Note that Daylight Saving will end on Easter Sunday, April 5th, and your carpets will immediately stop fading. The sun will be so excited it will get up an hour earlier. Laurie will have to explain this to the cows. - Andi Stevenson

This month on the De Fazio Dairy farm:

What a difference some rain has made. We have green grass in the paddocks and things are looking brighter. We can only hope that the weather bureau forecast for a possible El Nino is as accurate as last years forecast of La Nina.

Our girls are looking pretty good, we have one new black & white arrival with many more expected soon (no name yet, waiting for Leni to come home from Uni to work out this years theme)

The dairyfarmer himself is even a little enthusiastic about the new year. - Linda De Fazio



White Gate Fire Brigade Roster:

Noel Hutchens	29 Mar	Bill Sykes	26 Apr
Hamish McMillan	5 Apr	Matthew De Fazio	3 May
Laurie De Fazio	12 Apr	Ross Runnalls	10 May
Alan Stafford	19 Apr	David Elford	17 May

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



Manchurian Pear Trees have started to Announce that Autumn is heading our way.

What would a cream sponge cake be without a generous spread of Passionfruit icing on top?



A favourite fruit for many. The passionfruit vine is a strong, vigorous, evergreen climber, originating in South America.

A good place to grow a passionfruit vine is one that is out in the open, with full sun and no competitive tree roots nearby.

Provide the vine with a strong trellis, fence or pergola to climb. Passionfruit vines climb via small curly spring-like tendrils that attach themselves to wire and have a great grip.



There was a time when the passionfruit vine was planted on top of a lamb or sheep's liver, ox heart, or some other piece of offal, to provide iron. This was placed at the bottom of the hole, and covered over with some soil, and then the new vine was planted on top.

These days it is more usual (unless the "on site" butcher has been visiting) to use pelletised

chick manure, scattered about a metre around the root system. Do this about twice a year.

Passionfruit vines are also hungry and thirsty and love a well-drained soil. It's also a good idea to put some mulch around the root system, to protect it from the hot sun.

In its first year the little vine will make its way across the trellis. Nip out the top bud and it will shoot out laterally. This will provide lots of side shoots, and the vine will start fruiting in about 18 months.

Given plenty of food, well-drained soil and lots of water, a passionfruit vine will thrive. Be careful and don't over fertilise - twice a year is best - too much fertiliser and there will be lots of vine but no fruit.



As the vine grows give it a light prune in late winter/early spring. Often what happens with a passionfruit vine is there is green growth on the outside, where the tendrils have at-

tached themselves and there is woody material in the centre. It is not necessary to prune hard every year - usually about 30 centimetres would be enough.

Beware - The Grafted Passionfruit - often recommended as being a better option. However I have found that the only difference is that you can be planting a perennial nuisance that is almost impossible to eradicate when the rootstock starts to take over..

If you start to notice growth of a different type - grey green five lobed leaves - at the base of a grafted passionfruit - remove the growth immediately - don't let it get a hold.



I have written in the past of my battle with one of these vines - it is a gardening form of *The Alien* and my battle continues to this day as the roots have enmeshed themselves with the asparagus. I thought a few years back that I had won after resorting to herbicide - but a couple of years later . . . Oh No - It's Back!

Ornamental (Manchurian) Pear



I think I have the most enthusiastic Manchurian Pear Tree. I can see this tree out of the bedroom window and it is often the first sight I have of the new day. I think the tree has a calendar that is fast (like a clock that has been put forward to ensure the train is not missed) because the first red leaves appear way before any hint of Autumn is in the air.

The first couple of red leaves are rapidly followed by the others further down the branch, and very quickly the entire tree is a brilliant blazing red - unfortunately this wonderful display of colour is short lived and is followed by an equally enthusiastic leaf drop - and - there is a bare tree - waiting for spring.

Advice given to delay this attachment to an early colouring and leaf drop is more water and fertiliser - well I tried and it didn't work.

This year I have taken more notice of other trees in the neighbourhood, and have discovered that they range from - totally red to still totally green.

So I have come to the conclusion that it is a gene thing and I should just enjoy the early colour, because not much is going to curb this enthusiasm for a brilliant display of autumn colour



Happy Gardening

April 2021

Kathy Z

Wordsearch 'A Little Bit Country'

S	J	T	X	E	Y	A	H	N	E	T	A	O	U	P
K	M	A	A	L	I	V	E	S	T	O	C	K	T	Y
O	H	A	T	N	A	O	P	I	B	I	E	O	A	V
O	Q	P	S	E	K	U	E	J	R	A	W	R	M	T
H	B	I	O	S	I	W	Y	O	O	N	N	N	L	A
C	L	C	R	I	E	R	Q	H	A	S	Y	E	I	T
T	L	U	F	L	I	Y	W	N	D	G	A	N	A	O
O	A	L	G	A	C	S	F	D	A	F	K	R	R	N
R	F	T	D	G	C	R	R	E	C	M	A	E	D	G
N	N	U	I	E	S	E	I	E	R	C	P	C	N	T
W	I	R	W	T	P	E	R	E	G	P	U	A	A	
O	A	E	J	U	I	P	N	E	H	E	U	L	T	V
R	R	E	E	Z	M	O	D	B	Q	I	C	S	S	E
B	O	U	N	D	A	R	Y	F	E	N	C	E	O	R
S	L	L	I	H	D	D	O	N	I	R	E	M	P	N

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| APICULTURE | LIVESTOCK |
| BOUNDARY FENCE | LUCERNE |
| BROADACRE | MERINO |
| BROWN ROT | MASSEY FERGUSON |
| CFA | OATEN HAY |
| CHOOKS | POST AND RAIL |
| CUPPA | RAINFALL |
| DAIRY | SILAGE |
| DAM | TANK |
| DROPPERS | TATONG TAVERN |
| FRIEND | TOWN |
| FROST | UTE |
| HILLS | YARNS |
| JOHN DEERE | |

The Tattler welcomes this puzzle from a new contributor Amanda Greene. Her Word Search theme this month is 'A little bit country'



Mark Osborne of Tatong who plays with Benalla Bushrangers

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decorative
concrete

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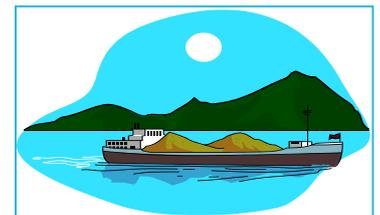
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2016	69.7	11.9	36.9	38.5	117.2	110.5	142.8	108.4	172.1	91.4	50.1	101.3	1050.
2018	34.3	6.4	24.9	13.7	49.8	67.2	52.8	81.2	25.1	22.3	75	73.1	525.8
2019	27.7	13.2	23.8	22.7	105	72.9	83.7	49.4	51.3	34.9	37.9	40.8	563.3
2020	63.6	35.6	88.4	207.	53	77	43.5	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	8.9	20.9	81.8	118.2	51.9	34.4	49.7	74	70	622.3
2026	0.5	52.8											53.3

WEATHER IN THE TATONG TOWNSHIP

The rainfall has picked up in the last week of February when the heavens opened at last bringing a total of 52.8mm for the month. March also got off to a good start with 42mm of rain up until the 15th of the month.

Even though the rain has been ok it has not been enough to fill the biggest of my three ponds so I decided to renovate it. (See separate article for more about the pond)

Mike Larkin



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

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

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

DEADLINE

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

SUBMISSIONS / CONTACT

Submit via e-mail to tatongtattler@yahoo.com.au, leave in the Tattler Mailbox beside the Tavern, or send by post to the Secretary.

Secretary: Linda De Fazio, PO Box 588 Benalla 3671,
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A donation of \$1 per issue, or \$10 per year, is appreciated & helps cover costs. The Tattler is managed, produced and distributed entirely by volunteers.

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

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