

TOONGABBIE NEWS

FREE

Issue 3, Summer 2019

W

ORLD Champion Woodsman

Local athlete/woodsman Glen Gillam a member of the four-man Australian Chopperroos Team returned home victorious after the team won the 'Stihl Timbersports' Team World Championships held at Prague, Czech Republic in November this year.



The 'Stihl Timbersports' Series is an extreme sporting competition that sees woodsmen compete against each other and the clock in a series of disciplines based on traditional logging skills using axes and saws.



This follows on the Teams success in the 2018 World Championships held in Liverpool, England. On both occasions the Australian Chopperroos defeated the New Zealanders in the final to secure the Championships event. The Chopperroos are considered the most successful national woodchopping team having won the 'Stihl Timbersports' World Championship for the sixth time.

Congratulations Glen.

The **Toongabbie News** is produced by the Toongabbie Township Group who welcome news and photographs from community groups, clubs and individuals.

Please send text and photos as separate attachments by email to the Editor, Ann Berrett at **annber2016@outlook.com**

Clearly written or printed material will also be accepted and can be posted to The Editor, Toongabbie News, PO Box 35, Toongabbie 3856.

Views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Editor or Township Group. Although care is taken, no responsibility is assumed for any errors which may occur. Submissions may be subject to editing.

THE AUTUMN EDITION DEADLINE

for all contributions is

**FRIDAY MARCH 6TH,
2020**

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From the Editor

Our application for funding through a Latrobe City Community Grants Program has been successful in us being allocated part funding of \$1000. This amount is less than the full amount applied for. So we will need to reduce the number of copies printed and limit the page numbers to 8 for each edition. Copies of the newsletter can be picked up from the Toongabbie General Store and the newsletter will also be available to read and download from the Toongabbie website.

The Toongabbie Township Group would like to thank the Latrobe City Council for allocating funding towards this newsletter. We would also like to thank the Toongabbie Recreation Reserves Committee of Management for agreeing to act as the auspice organisation.

Seasons Greeting to all.

Ann Berrett



Toongabbie Mechanics Institute News.

The Mechanics Institute Committee are pleased to announce that the exterior of the Institute will be given a fresh coat of paint. Work will commence in January, 2020. Brett Kennedy who has recently completed the exterior painting of St David's Church will also be painting the Mechanics Institute. Brett painted the Institute exterior over a decade ago, so the Institute will once again be in his safe hands for its new coat of paint.

The Committee would like to acknowledge and thank the Latrobe City Council for making a project of this scale possible. Funding granted under the Small Towns Minor Capital Works Program will ensure that the Mechanics Institute will continue to look great and be maintained in the condition this historic building deserves for many years to come.

Over the years the Committee have run an Old Time Dance monthly at the Institute on a Friday evening. The dances held on the first Friday of each month will take a break over the holiday season. The interior of the Hall looked especially lovely at night with the lights reflecting from the timber flooring and paintwork. The Christmas decorations lend a cheerful and welcoming atmosphere for the dancers who enjoyed their evening. We are really fortunate to have such a beautiful building in our town.

If you should venture upstairs and enter the Lodge Room you will see on display a series of historical photos. These photographs are copies of the interpretative signs located throughout the township. Thank you to the Men's Shed who framed and hung the photographs on the walls of the room. Framed in recycled timber obtained when the Mechanics Institute paling fence was replaced they sit comfortably on the timber walls of the Lodge Room. The Committee plan to have more historical photographs framed and displayed in the Hall. Roger Ries has a very special photograph or two he would like to see also on display.



The Toongabbie Murals

By
Artist
Bill Hay.



The Toongabbie Primary School Artist in Residence Program 1982. The murals are located in the Toongabbie Recreation Reserve Stadium. A school and community project. Head teacher Margo Warren.

The murals have been painted on APM felt belting used in the manufacture of paper at the mill. The felt was originally hung along the walls of the Stadium to improve the acoustics in the building. Pupils, younger siblings, parents and community members over a 2 week period painted under the direction of the artist Bill Hay.



Since completion in 1982 the Murals hung in the Stadium for a number of years before being taken down and placed in storage whilst refurbishments were completed in the main building. They survived the long term storage remarkably well and have taken up residence once again along the walls of the Stadium. Take the time to look closely there is much to interpret in each of the paintings.



Toongabbie & District Pony Club

Toongabbie & District Pony Club is most likely the absolute BEST Pony Club in the whole entire world, however, I'm sure the others are fantastic too. My first time here was GREAT and it still is. We have such a lovely learning environment at our pony club, everyone is SUPER friendly and encouraging and it's the best. We have a spacious sand arena, plenty of land, and it's all complete with our very own cross country course just down the road!



Pony Club is a great way to make friends, as you find kids your own age that LOVE horses too. You meet some great characters you wouldn't know otherwise and it's amazing to think that such a small little pony club brought us all together, united by the love of horses!

I for one, have learnt a BILLION new things about horses that books cannot teach you, no matter how many you've read (trust me, I've tried). We are taught by EPIC instructors, are allowed access to facilities we don't have at home and share with amazing people!



Along with that, there are fantastic opportunities, like our annual Pony Club Combined Training day (show jumping and dressage), our Pony Club camp and the opportunity to better understand of the species Equus. If you asked me, or anyone involved in Toongabbie & District Pony Club whether or not to join our pony club, or any pony club, it would be a definite YES!

By Isabel Ford





The Toongabbie & District Men's Shed Inc. members have been busy the past few months with a successful stall at the Toongabbie auction, selling some of their wood work, cakes and other produce on the day. Items that are no longer required or utilised by the Shed members were auctioned on the day.

Although passed in on the day of the auction, the Pasquali tractor that was restored by members was successfully sold at a later date, thanks to Stephen Bailey and all members who worked on the project.

Terry Foulds has been organising with other members the construction of a billy cart that can be later assembled by the Glengarry girl scouts as a project. Colin Gardner is organising the refurbishment by the Men's Shed of the cubby houses at the Toongabbie School's playground.

The Men's Shed was kindly donated a 6x4 steel trailer that requires some work to replace the rusted out sections and this will be another project to restore and possibly sell to fund equipment and future projects.

The steel frame and back board sign for the Wellington Latrobe Lions Club is completed and will be erected at the Toongabbie Mechanics Institute Hall, displaying their signage.

The kitchen / meeting room floor coverings will be completed at the Shed thanks to the Minor Capital Works Grant Program by the Latrobe City. The availability of these grants have been very important to the development of the Men's Shed. Many thanks to the Latrobe City Council.

Unfortunately we were unsuccessful in our Federal Government Grant Application for ducting to complete the dust extraction system in the Shed. An approach has been made to the Township Group for Small Towns Minor Capital Works Funding. We have been placed on their priority list.

We always welcome new members both male and female to our group.

The Shed is open on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 3.00 pm. For more information please contact Colin on 0427 489 349.

We currently have available for purchase bespoke recycled hardwood garden seats. (see photo above)



Seeking Community Support for a changed Bus Service

Harry Edtmaier has approached the Latrobe City regarding bus services to and from Traralgon to Glengarry and Toongabbie. While other small townships within the Latrobe Valley such as Boolarra and Yinnar have bus services run by Public Transport Victoria running 7 days a week every two hours, the VLine services that goes through to Maffra run a service not reflective of work timelines. On some days only one bus service running in the morning and one in the evening means that patrons have to spend the day in Traralgon waiting for a return trip.

So in order to get an idea of community support for a changed bus service there will be a form left at the Toongabbie General Store seeking community support and feedback. Together with the information gathered from the Glengarry community it can be presented to Latrobe Council for review and changes implemented.

Scouting Opportunities in Toongabbie

It has been a very busy term for our Glengarry Scout Group. Our hall renovations are complete, (with solar panels) and an official 'Opening Night' will be held early next year.

Our fundraising efforts have seen our Group being able to purchase a trailer for transporting camping gear to activities. Many thanks to the community at the Toongabbie Auction who purchased tickets for the firewood raffle which was won by a local resident. The money raised from this was specifically for the Joeys, to help them with their Kangaroo camp costs.

Our Joey Scouts mob (age 5-7yrs) numbers have doubled over the course of the year, taking out numbers from 4 to 9 with an even mix of boys and girls. Joeys have been hiking, bike riding and tried archery amongst other things. Joeys from all over the State took over the Melbourne Zoo recently at a state-wide Joey event.

Our Joey mob recently earned their "Messenger of Peace" badge (this involves them doing something to help others) by collecting plastic bottle tops which are recycled to make prosthetic hands for other children.

Cub Scouts have also been busy, heading off on night bush walks, camping at Bermingham Park and working on their water safety and swimming. They are getting ready for 'Cuboree' next year. We have seen several Cubs progress to the scouting section – Scouts.

Our Scouts attended Gilerro camp this term. Over 2,000 scouts attended this event, participating in crate stacking, air rifle shooting, bubble soccer, challenge valley mud run and more.

Thank you to the Scouts for helping members from the Township Group and Men's Shed put up the Christmas decorations in Toongabbie recently.

Scouting starts back up again after the Christmas break the week commencing February 3rd, 2020.

- Joey Scouts: 5-7yrs. Thursday 5-6pm.
- Cub Scouts: 8-11yrs. Thursday 6.30-8pm.
- Scouts: 11-14yrs. Wednesday 7-9pm.

Enquiries: Group Leader, Phillip O'Malley

0419 110 057. From a leaders perspective we are seeking some new faces to come and have some fun and to continue the good work being done by our current leaders. As our youth membership increases, so must our leadership team. If you would like to see what we get up to and how you can serve your community, please contact our group leader.

A Prayer to End the Drought

By Rev'd Canon Jeff Richardson, Traralgon Anglican Parish



Dear Lord,
the drought speaks to us of suffering, hardship, pain and death,
and we know of its effect on all of your creation.
Help us to recognise the part we have played in this drought and
move us to change our ways of complacency and neglect.
Bless our lands with soil soaking rains, fill our waterways with
living waters, and refresh the hearts of our farmers and their
families with gladness and peace.
Lord, bring about an end to the drought, restore your creation
and fill all your people with a new spirit of hope.
Amen.

St. David's Church Services for Christmas 2019

Sunday 15th December – commencing
7.30pm – 9 Lessons and Carols

No morning service at 11am

Christmas Day Service 8.00am

No Service at St David's in January 2020

1st Service in 2020 is on Sunday 2nd February
at 11am.

Toongabbie Fire Brigade

Summer Messages

Fire Restrictions

The Fire Danger Period for Latrobe City Council will begin at 1am on Monday, 16 December 2019. This means that fires cannot be lit in the open air until the Fire Danger Period finishes, regardless of the weather (eg rain and cooler temperatures does not mean the restrictions are finished).

SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN



The crew of Toongabbie Fire Station will be helping Santa give out lollies to anyone waving to Santa in the main town area of Toongabbie.



**Christmas Eve
Tuesday 24th December
from 5.00pm**



**LISTEN FOR THE SIRENS
AND LOOK OUT FOR THE
BIG RED FIRE TRUCK!**

If you live out of the main town area, please meet Santa at the Village Green at 5.30pm. Santa tries his best to get down all the streets in the main town area and let people know he is coming, please be patient or meet at the Village Green instead. For safety reasons Santa can't stop on Traralgon-Maffra Road.

CFA Victoria has excellent "Can I or Can't I?" information at <https://cfa.vic.gov.au/warnings-restrictions/can> or by calling VicEmergency Hotline on 1800 226 226.

If you need to have a burn-off during the Fire Danger Period you need a permit from CFA which will contain very strict conditions, and liability sits with you as the permit holder.

Now is the time to clean-up your property to reduce fuel load before drier conditions commence. Better to be proactive than reactive.

Toongabbie CFA Junior Development Program 2019

Time: 6 -7pm, **Age:** 11-16 year old, **Cost:** Free!

Last session for 2019: Dec 12th

If you would like more information contact Cassandra on 0411 422 173

Toongabbie CFA would like to thank the community for their continued support in 2019 and wish you all a safe and happy holiday season!

Have you entered the Toongabbie Township Group Christmas Light Competition?



Entries are for Toongabbie Residents and must be in before the 23rd December.



Entry Forms are still available at the Toongabbie General Store.