

TOONGABBIE NEWS

ISSUE 12

AUTUMN 2022



Toongabbie Hall 1906

Photo sourced: www.historyvictoria.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/rhsv-history-news-issue-338-sep-2018.pdf

Many folks around this area will already know the history of how our great town came into existence. With new families joining our wonderful town in the last 12 or more months here's a brief history lesson on the place you now call home.

The township of Toongabbie is about 20 km north-east of Traralgon, Gippsland and 176 km east of Melbourne. The area was part of the Rosedale pastoral run, taken up about 1844. The name Toongabbie was in use by the mid-1850s, possibly bestowed because of a resemblance to the landscape at Toongabbie in New South Wales.

In late 1862 gold was discovered in the Great Dividing Range to the north-west of Toongabbie. The goldfield, first

known as Stringer's Creek and then Walhalla, became one of the richest fields in Victoria. Miners entered Gippsland via Sale and journeyed to the gold rush by a track, which entered the mountains north of the Toongabbie district. However, a shorter route was soon found to the south. At the foot of the ranges, where all goods and passengers were transferred from wagons and drays to packhorses, a store and accommodation house were established.

Consequently settlement at Toongabbie became an important staging post. Six to seven hundred horses and mules were engaged in the packhorse trade, transporting people, supplies and mining machinery over steep mountain

tracks to Walhalla. Coach services soon operated to Toongabbie from Rosedale, and after 1878 from Traralgon connecting with the main Gippsland rail line. The track was widened and improved, accommodating wagons and eventually coaches right to Walhalla.

Toongabbie's prosperity followed the fortunes of Walhalla. At its height in the 1880s and 1890s, Toongabbie had three hotels, several stores and other businesses supporting the packhorse trade, as well as a mechanics' institute [1883], school [1867], churches and police station.

Information sourced from:
<https://www.victorianplaces.com.au/toongabbie>

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, Shazelle Witt at shazelle@scsgraphicdesigns.com

Clearly written or printed material will also be accepted and can be posted to The Editor, Toongabbie News, PO Box 44, 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 WINTER EDITION DEADLINE

For all contributions is
FRIDAY 3RD JUNE, 2022

Want to see more community news? Visit the websites below
www.toongabbie.vic.au or at
www.facebook.com/toongabbievicau

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MJ B Printing
Toongabbie

SUPPORTED BY:



The Toongabbie Township Group has been successful in acquiring a grant through the Latrobe City Council 2021/22 Community Grant Program—Community Wellbeing—Round One. We have received \$1000 which will go towards costs of publishing our quarterly newsletter “Toongabbie News” for another year. This will take us up and include our Spring Edition in 2022.

We would like to acknowledge the Latrobe City for their contribution and support of this project.

We print off 100 hard copies of the newsletter which are available free of charge from the Toongabbie General Store. If you miss out on a hard copy you can go to the Toongabbie website and read and download each edition.

I would like to thank Max Bridges (MJB Printing) for printing each edition for us and look forward to continuing to work with Max this year to get each edition out.



The Toongabbie Township Group would like to take this opportunity to thank Ann Berrett for her dedication and years of service as the Editor for the Toongabbie Newsletter, without your hard work and tireless efforts, the town would not have such a wonderful newsletter out in our community.

I would personally like to thank Ann and the team at The Toongabbie Township Group for entrusting me as the new Editor of the Toongabbie Newsletter.

I hope to continue to provide our community with upcoming events held in the town as well as continue to provide you with updates from our wonderful community groups.

I Look forward to serving our community.

Happy Reading,
Shazelle Witt

Upcoming Events



TOONGABBIE TOWNSHIP GROUP MEETING

Tues 5th April 7.30pm
Mechanics Hall Meeting Room
All Welcome

Random Australian Fact:

Canberra was decided as the capital city of Australia because in bygone times, Sydney and Melbourne couldn't stop arguing who should get it (and to be honest, the rivalry about who is 'better' city continues to this day!)

Join us for the **2022 Mother's Day Classic** – raising funds for Breast Cancer Research along the Gippsland Plains Rail Trail. Let's celebrate our 9th Event and the MDC 25th national event.



TOONGABBIE EVENT INFORMATION

Walk, Run or Cycle 9km Arrive from 8.30am for a 9am start. The course starts at the Toongabbie CFA Station and ends at the Old Railway Station in Glengarry.



TRARALGON EVENT INFORMATION

Walk, Run or Cycle 6km - Arrive from 9.30am for a 10am start. The course starts at the Burnets Road carpark Traralgon and ends at the Old Railway Station in Glengarry.

All registrations will be eligible to receive a medallion on event day.

Prizes to be awarded for the Best Dressed Child, Best Dressed Mum, Best Dressed Dog, register now to take up the early bird pricing.

Wellington/Latrobe Lions Club will be present with their BBQ, Platform 3854 Café will be open for coffee, Glengarry Hotel is open for Mother's Day lunch or dinner.

Refer to our facebook page for further updated information: [mdctoongabbie](#)

Or contact Karen on 0467030791

Thank you all for your continued support

Toongabbie and District Pony Club News

On the 20th of February, down at their club grounds on Heywood street, Toongabbie Pony club held their biggest competition for the year. Over 70 riders entered the event from all over Gippsland, competing in a combined training.

A combined training is made up of two parts, Dressage (*ballet of the horse world*) and Jumping (*the name is pretty self-explanatory*). Thanks to all the wonderful volunteers and sponsors, the day turned out to be a great opportunity for inexperienced and experienced riders alike to show off their skills.

With over \$3000 dollars' worth of prizes, the raffle was a smashing success due to many generous local businesses. It was fantastic to see many riders, young and old, challenging themselves to do their personal best.

The real victory, however, was the demonstration of Toongabbie & District community spirit, with mums, dads, aunties, uncles and even grandparents all pitching in.

Isabel Ford

Member of Toongabbie and District Pony Club.



Thank you to Annie Fairbrother for the fabulous Photos.

SAFETY IN NUMBERS

Is your house number easy to find? What about at night or in smoky conditions?

For a limited time, the Township Group have some solar-powered house numbers for sale. These enhance your address visibility for visitors and emergency services and could make all the difference in an emergency!

These are for sale for \$15 each, with all proceeds going towards to the Toongabbie Township Group for community projects.

To buy one, please email toongabbietg@gmail.com



Toongabbie Primary School



Principal: Alison Stewart
Victoria St Toongabbie 3856
Ph: (03) 5192 4384
Email:
toongabbie.ps@education.vic.gov.au
Web:
www.toongabbieps.vic.edu.au

At Toongabbie Primary School we have:

- Safe, secure school environments
- Close connections with our local community
- Targeted literacy and numeracy programs
- Award winning German language program
- Specialist PE and Art classes
- Active student voice in their learning
- Strong community culture



The 2022 School Leaders are: L-R Back: Hayley, Alyssa, Cody, Elise, Mikayla, Annabella, Aianan, Harry, Saxon
Front: Hugh, Jorja, Ava, Noah, Deegan

Students at Toongabbie Primary School are supported to develop their leadership skills, by taking on different roles and responsibilities. Toward the end of each year the students write an application for their roles and are elected by staff and students. Our leadership roles this year include:

School Captains: are responsible for leading assemblies, making public 'thank you's,' answering our phone when staff are unavailable, and helping with various whole school activities.

House Captains: support and lead their team to complete various games and activities.

Construction Shed Captains: are responsible for managing the organisation of the shed and requesting materials.

Sports Captains: ensure that our equipment is well organised and changed on a regular basis, along with presenting a weekly report at assembly about what children have been doing beyond the school gate.

PBS Captain: supports collecting and collating photos for Toon TV, along with presenting Big Bee awards at Assembly.

At Toongabbie Primary School we live by our school values. These are explicitly taught, and children are continually supported to develop skills and strategies to enable them to become successful citizens within the community.



The Toongabbie Primary School community is committed to ensuring the safety of every child.

Toongabbie Golf Club News

Toongabbie's golf course has rarely looked as good at the start of Autumn as it does right now.

All that rain back in Spring, followed by a pretty mild Summer has kept the fairways green right through the long, hazy days. We've also done a bit of work on the greens and they, too, are looking really good at the moment.

It's all been due to a combination of continuous work, some great volunteers and just a smidgin of luck along the way. The grass has been growing at a rate rarely seen in Toon town and we've run up the biggest fuel bills we've ever had to keep the course playing well and mitigate the fire risk.

The luck came in the form of mild and damp weather when we had an issue with our irrigation system that prevented us from watering the greens for a couple of weeks at the height of Summer.

We've also laid new turf on the 11th green which is settling down and growing very rapidly. We hope it won't be too long before we can start using it. Our thanks go to Latrobe City for providing a grant for this work.

Autumn typically provides the best golfing weather of the year so we'd like to see as many people as possible enjoy our town's course. Maintaining the course and keeping it available for everyone to use is a costly exercise for a club as small as ours and Covid has had a marked impact on our ability to generate income over the last couple of years. Nevertheless, we're keeping our fees as low as we possibly can to encourage our community to enjoy what is really a wonderful community asset.

Memberships are always available and we'd love to welcome new members to our club competitions. Our aim, first and foremost, is to provide a club people enjoy being a part of, playing game we enjoy playing. We have players at a wide variety of skill levels, so you'll always find players you feel comfortable playing with. Our membership fees are also the lowest in the area

For any enquiries about the club, our events and functions or about joining or playing, you can email us at **tgc3856@gmail.com** or give us a call on **5192 4755**. If we aren't there, leave a message and we'll get back to you.

Hopefully, we'll see you sometime soon.



JOIN US FOR AN
Easter
EGG HUNT

THE WELLINGTON/LATROBE LIONS CLUB IN CONJUNCTION WITH LATROBE CITY COUNCIL
INVITE ALL CHILDREN UP TO 12 YEARS OF AGE TO JOIN IN THE GREAT

TOONGABBIE EASTER EGG HUNT

There will be two sections – kids under five and kids from 5 to 12



THE LIONS CLUB WILL BE HOLDING A SAUSAGE SIZZLE
ALL SAUSAGE SANDWICHES \$2.50 EACH, WITH OR WITHOUT ONIONS
AND DRINKS WILL BE \$2.00
EASTER SATURDAY THE 16TH OF APRIL
AT THE FABULOUS TOONGABBIE VILLAGE GREEN
FROM 10AM TILL 2.00PM
COME AND JOIN THE FUN!!

This is a covid safe event and all adults are required to be double faxed

Another Wellington/Latrobe Lions
Community Service Project



We Serve



What does a resilient community look like for you?

What do you value in your community?

How can bushfires be better managed to protect Toongabbie?

What lessons can we learn from previous fires and floods?

If you're wondering the same questions and want to have a chat, feel free to reach out to the Toongabbie Facilitator for the Community Based Bushfire Management project, Rebekah - she'd love to hear from you!

rebekah.baynard-smith@latrobe.vic.gov.au / 0427 368 657.

Lions Club of Wellington/Latrobe inc News

The club is slowly shaking off most of the Covid restrictions and we are once again gearing up to serve the local community.

We got off to an early start with the club once again hosting the Toongabbie Australia Day Celebrations, this was well received by members of the public, with around 150 people attending and enjoying the traditional Lions cooked breakfast of bacon and eggs, sausages, fruit juice and tea or coffee.

Our Guest speaker this year was Latrobe City Major, Cr Kellie O'Callaghan, once again, Kellie spoke highly of the club and its contribution to the greater community. Cr Kellie is a long-time supporter of our club and we thank her for that support.

The Australia Day Citizen of the year was a well-known Toongabbie Identity, Karen Blomquist. Karen is the driving force behind the annual Mother's Day fun run in aid of Breast



From left to right, Lion Peter Feenstra, Citizen of the year, Karen Blomquist and Latrobe City Major, Cr Kellie O'Callaghan

Cancer research as well as many other great contributions she has made to the Toongabbie Community during the past 20 odd years! A worthy recipient indeed.

During January one of our members volunteered to assist with Licola wilderness village camps, not just for one camp, but for TWO camps, a magnificent effort, well done Lion Margaret Foulds!

The club will shortly (Covid Gods willing) resume fortnightly Barbeques at Woolworths in Traralgon, these BBQ's are the main fundraiser for the club, NEVER forget how far the sale of a humble sausage in bread (with or without onions) can go.

We are looking forward to the second half of this Lions Year and wish you all well.

Club President.

Peter Feenstra



Wellington/Latrobe President Peter Feenstra presenting the latest Citizen of the year, Karen Blomquist with her well-earned certificate



The BBQ crew in full swing supporting the Blue-Ribbon Appeal, in the picture are the staff members from Woolworths Traralgon, with Lions in the shadows cooking up a storm

**The Wellington - Latrobe Lions Club meet
the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month.
The first Wednesday is a dinner meeting.
New Members always welcome!**

Toongabbie & District Men's Shed News

The summer months have been a busy time for the Toongabbie & District Men's Shed, starting with the placing of the Christmas decorations around the town and running a stall at the Lions' twilight market.

Congratulations to the Wellington Latrobe Lions' Club on a very successful twilight market at the Village Green and the stall run by the Men's Shed was very successful in selling all their wood work products made by members. Maurice Gunnulson also gave an exhibition of his fine wood work skills on the evening and was very popular. Thank you to all the members, especially Colin Gardner, Terry and Margaret Foulds for their work in preparation for the stall.

Thanks to Colin and Christine Gardner for providing a beautiful meal for the Men's Shed Christmas break up, which was attended by Cameron Thomson and his family, the Victorian Men's Shed Association's Field Officer for the Latrobe Valley. The lovely meal was enjoyed by the well-attended event.

On the 2nd of January the Men's Shed was invited by Bunnings Traralgon to run a sausage sizzle in their carpark and thanks to all the members for volunteering on the day to make it a successful day of fund raising for the Shed.



Pictured: Colin & Graham with router table



Pictured: Mark with new air hose reel

Through a successful application for a Latrobe City Minor Equipment Grant and funding by the Men's Shed members, a Sherwood Cast – Iron Industrial Router Table finally arrived and assembled by members to complement the wood working facilities at the Shed.

The Toongabbie & District Men's Shed executive and members would like to acknowledge the support of the Latrobe City Council through their grant funding, which enables community organisations to prosper and contribute to building better, healthier communities.

The pneumatic air lines around the Shed have been assembled and installed thanks to Kevin Kennedy, Don and Mark Lang for their many hours of work and to Trevor Mackrell of Pirtek Morwell for his expertise and assistance in supplying the fittings to complete the fit out. Through Trevor and Pirtek Morwell, a high quality 12mm x 15m air hose reel was kindly donated to the Men's Shed for the project, that is a great asset to making a very professional pneumatic air system through the Shed.

New members, male and female are always welcome, drop in have a chat and see what there is to offer.

The opening times of the Shed are every Wednesday 2.00 pm – 5.00 pm, Friday 2.00 pm till required.

Any other time by arrangement.

For more information please contact Colin on 0427 489 349.