

TOONGABBIE NEWS

ISSUE 13

WINTER 2022

TOONGABBIE AND DISTRICT PLAYGROUP

We are very excited to have the Toongabbie and District Playgroup up and running for 2022 and have so many exciting activities coming up and would love it if you have any ideas for playgroup, please do not hesitate to reach out and speak to either Bronwyn Parsons or Hannah Stoddart we want to make this a great place for everyone.

When: Tuesday and Friday Mornings

Time: 9:30am - 11:30am

Cost: \$5.00 per week to cover supplies

Please also bring along a piece of fruit for morning tea. Tea and Coffee is available for parents/guardians.

New parents we ask when you arrive at playgroup for the first time that you please fill out an enrolment form and to please let us know if your children have allergies or any medical issues just so we are aware!

We have been very fortunate that Playgroup Victoria is offering free membership for all families who join



Toongabbie and District
PLAYGROUP

the Toongabbie Playgroup through their website: www.playgroup.org.au/become-a-member/

We can't wait to see you all there!

Toongabbie Gardens, 2002

Creator: John Young



This image is 20 years old this year. It looks like a foreign landscape to new residents today, so have they confused Toongabbie VIC with the sister town in NSW?

This is a call out to all the long residing residents for information on our wonderful town. Photos and stories are all welcome, feel free to send them to the editor!

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



We are now accepting enrolments for 2023.

Please contact the school 51924384 for further information or to book a tour. Enrolment packs can be collected from the school office or Glengarry Kindergarten.

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 SPRING EDITION DEADLINE

For all contributions is
FRIDAY 9TH SEPT, 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.

Do you have experience of bushfires in Gippsland? Do you have photos, videos or stories you'd like to share with the Gippsland community?

The Community Bushfire Connection and Social Pinpoint websites are the perfect platforms for you to not only share your experiences and media, but also learn from others about how fires have impacted local communities and environments, and to celebrate resilience.

Check out these community resources here:

<https://www.communitybushfireconnection.com.au/>

<https://wbwc.mysocialpinpoint.com.au/gippsland-bushfires>

SHARE YOUR STORY

Contribute to a new community resource:

- Read local stories from past bushfire seasons
- Access resources
- Share your experience through images, accounts, videos etc.
- Visit your community page

Head to:
communitybushfireconnection.com.au

SAFER TOGETHER

FRIENDS OF THE TOONGABBIE WETLANDS

The wetlands area didn't take a break during Covid with lots of people using the paths to take walks, cycle bikes and exercise their horses. The new seats proved popular, providing a quiet area out in the open to sit and relax and enjoy the environment.

The 'Friends of the Toongabbie Wetlands' have now replaced all of the bench seats with recycled plastic models. Not only are they more resilient to the weather, they match with the seats around the Village Green and Recreation Reserve. When funding allows, we hope to install a table/bench seat combo to allow for an area to picnic.

As has been the case for many years the Latrobe City has continued to provide very valuable financial support through an Annual Maintenance Grant. Without this ongoing assistance we would be unable to function as we do, for it covers costs involved in maintaining the grassed area to a high standard, noxious weed control and repairs/servicing to the ride-on mower and equipment generally.

A handy addition to our site is a drinking fountain for thirsty travellers, installed near the information shelter. It also has a water bowl for thirsty dogs attached.

Due to the excessive rain we experienced at one stage last winter with the little creek becoming a torrent, we had concerns about the amount of soil washed away from root systems of trees near the footbridge. We approached the Council to check the trees. In due course the Latrobe City arborist confirmed that the trees had been assessed and deemed to be safe.

Once again we readied ourselves for a sausage sizzle we were to run in January of this year at the Traralgon Bunnings store. Unfortunately due to a fire in the store's barbecue a few weeks earlier we, along with a number of other groups, were unable to take our turn. Bunnings very generously donated \$500 worth of gift vouchers to all groups that were affected by the inability to run the sausage sizzles and fundraise. It was most appreciated.

The Friends of the Toongabbie Wetlands meets on the second Thursday of the month at 2p.m. at the Mechanics Institute and would welcome any new attendee with open arms. We have very occasional working bees that usually involve collecting and heaping fallen tree branches and generally tidying the site. We continue to get great support from our volunteer mowers who regularly maintain the grassed area to keep it looking pristine.

We would be keen to welcome any new members to our group, which meets at 2p.m. On the second Thursday of the month at the Mechanics Institute. If you are interested or want further information you can contact:

**Philip O'Malley (President) on 0419110057 or
Barbara Fulton (Secretary) on 0428924718**

**The Friends of the Toongabbie Wetlands meets on
the second Thursday of the month at 2pm at the
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Welcome to the next addition of our school news. Since the last Toongabbie News, we have been very busy with lots of events and things happening around the school.

Late in March we held our **Twilight Athletics**, which is much loved by the children and the school community. The children competed in Long Jump, Hurdles, Shot put, Discus, 200m/400m depending on age and Sprints. The families then joined us for egg and spoon races. Hunter & Lincoln Uren were our school champions and Goodwin House won overall. At the conclusion of the events the Easter Egg raffle was drawn with lots of prizes given out. The Wellington/Latrobe Lions Club provided a BBQ tea and drinks which was enjoyed by all. Parents, grand parents, aunts and uncles, along with others young and old joined us to cheer the students along.



ANZAC Day

Our school was represented at the Toongabbie dawn service and at the Glengarry service where Annabella and Mikayla laid a wreath on our behalf. Thank you to the families who took time out to attend the services or to make poppies to decorate the fence at the Mechanics Institute. Participating in these services provides students

with the opportunity to learn of the importance of the event in history and the link to the local community.

School Sport

During this term, the children have been involved in several different sporting events. These have included some Auskick sessions at Cowwarr Primary School, Gymnastics at the Maffra Gymnastics Centre and inter school cross country, football, netball and soccer. Throughout all of these events the children have worked together to improve their performance and learn new skills.



Cubby Town



At a recent working bee held at the school, the overhaul of Cubby Town commenced. Two of the cubbies were transformed from basic little structures and turned into a police station and a fire station. Our families are a wonderful support to ensuring that our school is kept well maintained, with great opportunities for children to interact.

Thank you to everyone who supported our BBQ and bought a sausage or egg and bacon roll at the recent federal election poll. We are currently raising funds to turn our amphitheatre and nearby garden area into a sensory play area that will have opportunity for shoes off play.

Toongabbie Primary School



Welcoming Enrolments for 2023



At Toongabbie Primary School we have:

- Small class sizes
- 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

**FOR FURTHER
INFORMATION
CONTACT**

PH: 51924384

toongabbie.ps@education.vic.gov.au

*Tours are available on
request*

Toongabbie Golf Club News

It's pretty amazing, but our local club and course is not widely known even though we have been going for over 40 years. A lot of people still think it's only a 9 hole course, even though we've had 18 holes for over 20 years.

It's also amazing that a club with such a small membership base has managed to continue to operate and provide what is a wonderful community asset. The club is entirely volunteer run does not receive any financial assistance in meeting the ongoing running costs, relying on membership and green fees and fundraising events, yet we're still able to have the lowest fees of any club in the area.

Visitors to the club are often surprised and impressed with the standard of the course and those who join the club find the friendly club atmosphere very enjoyable.

On top of that, the course is never too busy, competition fields are pretty small and there is the chance to represent the club, playing at a number of other courses in pennant and other inter-club competitions.

Of course, if being a member isn't your thing, at \$15 we also have the lowest green fees in the area and you can play virtually any time you want.

We're trying as best we can to keep our fees low and absorb the recent increases in prices of fuel, insurances, machinery maintenance and electricity and continue to provide a low-cost alternative to the large clubs.

So, if you are thinking you might like to try your hand at golf, or have been thinking of joining a club, please give us a try. We are pretty sure you'll like what you find.

Our membership year commences in July and we would really love to welcome some new members.

We have membership application forms in the green fee payment area, or you can email us at **tgc3856@gmail.com** or you can call us on **51924755** – if we're not there, leave a message and we'll get back to you.

For regular updates follow the Toongabbie Golf Club on Facebook.

www.facebook.com/toongabbiegolfclub

SAFETY IN NUMBERS

Thank you to the Community Based Bushfire Management (CBBM) program, in particular the CBBM Briagolong group, for donating solar powered house numbers which the Mechanic's Institute and the Toongabbie Township Group have been able to sell to raise money for community projects.

24 house numbers were sold to Toongabbie residents, raising a total of \$360. Not only has this helped boost funds for community initiatives, but has improved the visibility of house numbers around Toongabbie which will assist emergency services as they locate houses in tricky conditions, such as at night or in smoke.

To those who missed out, they are available online through eBay and other retailers if you search for "Solar Magic" House Number Solar Light.



Lions Club of Wellington/Latrobe inc News

The club currently still 12 members.

The club is being kept very busy, though we are being hampered by an outbreak of the dreaded Covid amongst our members.

President Peter, Bev Goddard and Lisa Greenwood are the latest members to have had a bout of it, thankfully, all seem to have survived!

We had a wonderful time getting kids (and parents) involved in the GREAT Toongabbie Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Saturday, we got supported by Latrobe City Council, through a Covid recovery grant from the Vic State Government, they supplied a bunny suit and ONE THOUSAND Easter Eggs, any surplus eggs were duly donated to the Latrobe Regional Hospital for staff and patients to enjoy.

Once again, our intrepid Lion Margaret Foulds volunteered for another stint at Licola Wilderness Village, again helping out with looking after the kids at camp.

We were also once more involved with the Mother's Day Classic Fun run, where funds are raised for Breast Cancer research, we had a very successful raffle and a well-attended BBQ and as such, we were able to make a very substantial donation to this very worthy cause.

It was great to see this event return to "NORMAL" with an actual fun run instead of a "VIRTUAL" run as in the past couple of years.

Our club also passes on congratulations to 201V3 District Governor Steven Boyce on being appointed Lions Council Chairman elect, well deserved indeed.

At our recent business meeting, Lions Chris and Colin Gardner were each presented with a Melvin Jones Fellowship award, it was great to be able to make this presentation to two very hard-working Lions.

A Melvin Jones Fellowship is the highest individual award that can be made to a Lion

On the whole, despite the ongoing Covid hassles, we are still getting things done and are having a very positive impact on our community

Peter Feenstra
Club President



Lions Chris and Colin Gardner being presented with a Melvin Jones Fellowship by club president Peter Feenstra



Lions Chris and Colin Gardner being presented with a Melvin Jones Fellowship by club president Peter Feenstra

**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

On Easter Sunday, the Toongabbie & District Men's Shed held a stall at the Glengarry Monthly Market to display and sell items made by members and to promote the Men's Shed movement. Thanks to members who gave up their time to set up and work on the stall, helping to make it a profitable day and also to create plenty of interest in the Shed, resulting in new membership.

The 6x4 trailer that members have been refurbishing for some time has been finally completed. Thank you to all members who worked on the project and to Ian Affleck for donating a load of firewood and Rob Missen for splitting it up to sell with the trailer. Stephen Bailey placed the trailer loaded with wood for sale on the internet and was quickly sold, with a lot of interest shown.

With the help of Cameron Thomson, the Victorian Men's Shed Association's Field Officer for the Latrobe Valley, an application for a grant to the Foundation for Rural Regional Renewal (FRRR) has been applied for to supply and erect a mobile phone booster at the Shed, to give a reliable phone service that will allow internet service and ensure a safer environment for members. The result of the submission should be known in the next few months.



Pictured: Mens Shed Stall at Glen



Pictured: Ian and Rob filling the trailer

An Oscillating Edge Belt Sander purchased by the Men's Shed has finally arrived after a five month wait due to stock and supply issues. This is a welcome addition to the wood working section and members are keen to put it to use.

Through a successful application for a Latrobe City Minor Equipment Grant and funding by the Men's Shed members, a metal cutting swivel head bandsaw was able to be purchased to enhance the capabilities of the metal workshop. This equipment will complement the metal lathe that Mark and Kevin have working well after many hours of fine tuning and setting up, although still an ongoing project.

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

All the members of the Toongabbie & District Men's Shed would like to congratulate our President, Colin Gardner for being awarded the prestigious "Melvin Jones Award" for service to the Lions movement. The Wellington / Latrobe Lions Club is a great supporter of the Men's Shed and too would be very proud of Colin's achievements and along with his wife Christine are great contributors to their community.

We are very happy to welcome four new members to the Shed recently. 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.**