

TOONGABBIE NEWS

ISSUE 19

AUTUMN 2024

Snippet from the Past: Bruntons Bridge

A while ago I went with a party of friends to Brunton's Bridge and Walhalla via Glengarry North and the new pine plantation at the back of Toongabbie and on to the Walhalla Road. At the highest point above the plantation we had a splendid long-range view taking, in one sweep, all the country between Heyfield, Rosedale and Traralgon; in a few years, unfortunately, nothing will be visible from here except a wall of pine trees.

On the Toongabbie side at Brunton's Bridge there is a turning place and a camping area. Mrs. Scarffe's property was by far the best in this area. It is level with very rich red soil. A plum and a walnut tree are still growing there. Mrs. Scarffe lived to be 109; she rode a horse to Traralgon from her property until she was very old. In her declining years, she moved to Traralgon but could not settle to town life so she moved again to the home of Mrs. George Wellington, at Glengarry North, where she remained until her death on 27th February, 1934. Mrs. Scarffe is buried in the Traralgon cemetery. In the Walhalla cemetery a middle-aged man is buried; his name, Scarffe, is clearly shown on the headstone, and he may be the husband of Mrs. Scarffe. Mrs. Scarffe's only relative in the Traralgon area is Mr. Marks, in Breed Street, Traralgon. When Mrs. Scarffe's house fell down, the floors were littered with her personal papers and letters which were left there to rot.

After her cattle were sold, one Shorthorn bullock was left as it was too wild to round up with the others. My father bought this bullock "where he was" and the only way to get him was to take in several very quiet working bullocks for him to mix with. One day, on our property at Toongabbie, this bullock was away from, the other cattle he refused to go back with the other cattle and stood snorting and tossing his head. He charged my father's horse and got one of his long horns hooked into the horse's flank. The bullock was finally beaten off but the horse was badly lamed taking some months to recover. After this accident the bullock was dehorned. Father eventually quietened him enough to work him in a bullock team but he was always very nervous. In her article in this Bulletin, "Boola Boola", Mary Hague made mention of farms in the vicinity of Brunton's Bridge. I knew Louis Iseppi well and several times went to his house which was made of all local materials. His burnt lime was obtained by burning marble from the Ostlers Creek area and his table was of thick split slabs. He was a thickset man, with rather dark skin. For many years after all the other residents had left, he rode his horse to Toongabbie on Fridays to get his provisions. He grew a small paddock of maize, kept a few cows and made the milk into cheese. Sometimes he gave us some of his Cheese for helping him.

When he grew old he was urged to get a jinker, but his horse objected - I heard that it kicked in the front and broke the shafts. Several times a year he would ride to Traralgon to get rennet for his cheese-making and to supply the shops with walnuts from his property. His nearest neighbours were the Taylors who had a good orchard, beside Ostlers Creek. The trees

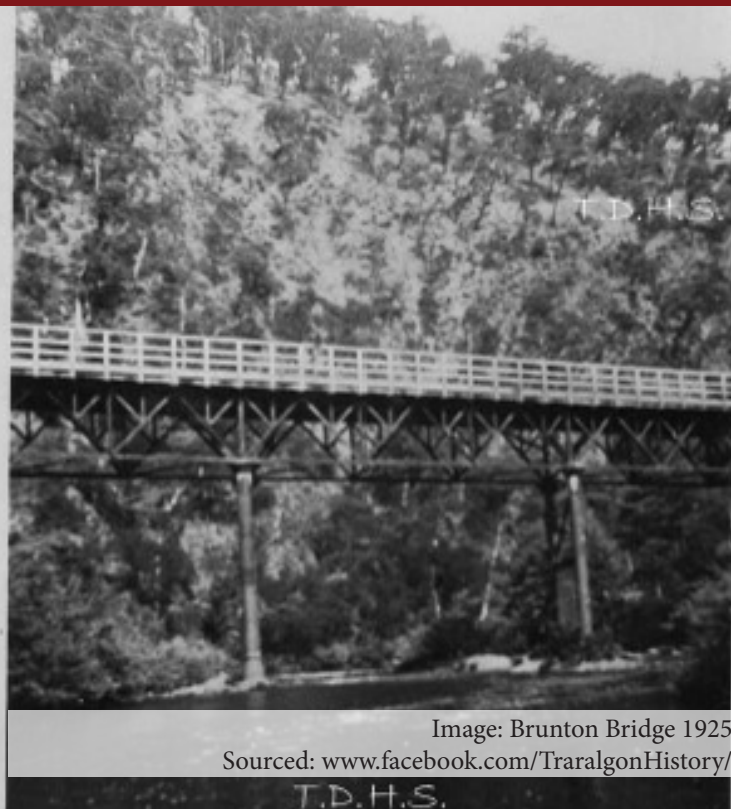


Image: Brunton Bridge 1925
Sourced: www.facebook.com/TraralgonHistory/

produced good fruit for many years until the blackberries spread through them. Finally, a severe bushfire burnt the lot.

Carter's place was nearer the marble quarry, and some of their old fruit trees are still there. The remains of sheds and fences, also a brick well without a cover, can also be seen.

J. O'Mara had the Brunton's Bridge hotel, where the scrub is now too thick to walk through. Beside the hotel was a tunnel dug into the hill by prospectors. Hugh Lavery had a shack in the middle of a very dense patch of scrub. Bernard's hotel was at the junction of the Cowwarr-Erica Road and the main road to Brunton's Bridge and Walhalla. Near there the Bertinos lived and had an orchard with sour cider apples.

Others in the Ostlers Creek area were A. Scott, B. Scott, and E. Scott, whose property was sold as a going concern for just under 3d. per acre. Nearer Toongabbie was another small settlement, consisting of Goodwin, Harris, Thomas, Nippe and Peterson. Peterson's house was built of bark and saplings, and was lined with hessian. The Peterson children walked through the bush and across paddocks to attend school at Toongabbie. Annie (Mrs. Berryman) died in 1979. She owned a very good dairy farm at Longwarry. Sometimes she came to Traralgon and would call to see us.

The Thomson River-Ostlers Creek area is not the same now, with pine plantations, new roads and tracks everywhere, with no maps available.. The only way to find the old places is to pick the oldest-looking tracks with the sides littered with leaves.

- Snippets from our Bulletins
The District of Thomson River

Contributed by Seddon Scott - May 1981

Article sourced from www.facebook.com/TraralgonHistory/

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 E: toongabbieneews@gmail.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 19th April 2024

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

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Toongabbie

SUPPORTED BY:



The Toongabbie Township Group has been successful in acquiring a grant through the Latrobe City Council 2023/24 Community Grant and Sponsorship Round 1—Community Wellbeing Grant Program. We have received \$2,000 which will go towards costs of publishing our quarterly newsletter “Toongabbie News” in 2024. Printed copies of the newsletter are available free of charge from the Toongabbie General Store with all editions uploaded to the Toongabbie website (<https://toongabbie.vic.au/newsletter/>).

We would like to acknowledge the Latrobe City for their financial contribution and extend a huge thank-you to the volunteers that make this newsletter possible.

Local Events

**TOONGABBIE TOWNSHIP
GROUP MEETING**
First Tuesday of the Month 7.30pm
Mechanics Hall Meeting Room All are Welcome
email: toongabbietg@gmail.com

Toongabbie CFA Juniors 2024
Every Second Thursday 6 - 7pm
Term 2 Dates: Feb 15, Feb 29 | Mar 14, Mar 28

Friends of Toongabbie Wetlands
Meet at 2pm the 2nd Tuesday of the month
at the Mechanics Institute New Members Welcome

 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 Mechanics Institute

Let me start by saying that the Toongabbie Mechanics Institute Committee would like to wish all a very happy and successful year to come, and may your New Years resolutions hold fast.

My name is Tracy and I have recently been appointed as President of our little Hall which is a role completely foreign to me but I am learning and doing my best. My aim is to promote the Hall to our community and encourage its patronage so over the course of the year we will be trying to hold some small fund-raising events that will go towards its maintenance and upkeep. Some projects we have in mind are the upgrade of the puddle we call a driveway, recladding of the toilet block and some new tree guards surrounding the hall. We are hopeful of obtaining some grants, but your support is always needed.

In the year just gone we celebrated the Halls 140th birthday with the Strzelecki Stringbusters which was a great night, they are always a hoot! And couldn't have done it without the support of the Cricket Club and Lions Club, a big thank you to them.



Image supplied: Amanda

We had beautiful wedding in November. Thank you to Amanda for sending through some photos. The Hall came up an absolute treat. Her team did a wonderful job and congratulations to all.

We can comfortably hold around eighty people for a function such as this so we may just be the venue you are looking for. We already have two more weddings booked for 2024.

The Old Time Dances are always well attended and will continue this year on the first Friday of each month. We would love to see you there! 2nd Feb, 1st March, 5th April and 3rd of May.

We have also been well supported by the Toongabbie Primary School with the children putting on their big Christmas concert and valedictory dinner. Well done to the school community and their kind donation through a gold coin collection. This was greatly appreciated and I have to say the Hall was left in an immaculate condition considering the rain that we had. Thanks again.

Carols by Candlelight was another popular night and thanks to the Lions Club for the free community BBQ.

In closing, if you have a bit of spare time and some ideas please get in touch with me, we would welcome some new members.

Contact toongabbie.mechanics.institute@gmail.com



Image supplied: Amanda

Toongabbie Mechanics Institute
Committee Meeting
2nd Monday of the month at 7.30pm
at the Rec Reserve

2024 Mothers Day Classic



Traralgon & Toongabbie

Mother's Day Classic

Sunday 12 May

Stop breast and ovarian cancers in their tracks

Registrations from:
8.30am at Toongabbie CFA (9km)
9.00am at Burnetts Road Carpark, Traralgon (5km)

REGISTER NOW!



mothersdayclassic.com.au

Walk or run Move till we're done

*Kids Go Free in Feb applies to up to 2 children aged 12 and under per adult/concession ticket purchase. Further T&Cs head to the website



Sunday 12th May – Mothers Day Classic Walk or Run for Breast and Ovarian Cancer Research

The Traralgon Toongabbie event is now in its 11th year and just keeps getting better and better each year thanks to the continued community support.

The only Mother's Day Classic of its kind to have two starting points, Toongabbie Fire Station and Burnetts Road Traralgon, participants can walk, run, or cycle along the beautiful Gippsland Plains Rail Trail which will finish at the Glengarry Railway Station for a morning of celebration including prizes, BBQ Breakfast by Wellington Latrobe Lion's Club.

The morning will also reflect on the importance of the event which is to raise awareness and much needed funds for breast cancer.

Please register early to get the early price at: Mother's Day Classic Traralgon Toongabbie.



Toongabbie Cenotaph Update

Toongabbie is getting a cenotaph!

Works have started on the cenotaph with the concrete footings completed and the marble ordered. The cenotaph is being organised by Scott Mitchell from the Toongabbie Township Group (TTG) with support from the Toongabbie Recreation Reserves Committee.

Late last year the TTG were successful in securing a \$30,000 grant through

the Victoria Remembers Grant Program. The Toongabbie Township Group acknowledges the support of the Victorian Government and the Victorian Veterans Council in providing the funding for the cenotaph project.



Toongabbie & District Men's Shed News

The month of December leading up to Christmas was very busy for the members of the Toongabbie & District Men's Shed with the hosting of a Bunnings Sausage Sizzle. Thanks to Bunnings and all the members who volunteered their time to man the stall, a successful day financially was had for the Shed.

Shed members also held a stall at the Wellington / Latrobe Lions Club Christmas Twilight Market at the Village Green to sell items made during the year and to highlight the Men's Shed movement. The stall was well supported by the local community and the raffle held on the afternoon was won by local, Rodney Male. Congratulations to the President and members of the Wellington / Latrobe Lions Club for organising another successful Twilight Market.

The Shed's Christmas Break up to end the 2023 year was well attended and a lovely meal was enjoyed in great company by all present. Thanks to Colin for cooking the meats and the members who made the lovely salads and desserts. It was a great way to celebrate another successful year and friendships at the Men's Shed.

Since returning from the Christmas break, the vegetable garden at the Shed has been supplying members with plenty of lovely vegetables, with early tomatoes at the end of December, thanks to our experienced vegetable gardeners.

Mark, Paul and Ian are continuing their work on bringing the metal lathes up to prime working order, as well as Mark converting the yellow lathe into a milling machine.

The members in the wood work section are turning up some lovely pieces, with Maurice busy turning a support to restore a dining chair for a very appreciative customer.



Pictured: Maurice repairing a chair



Pictured: Colin in the garden

New members, male and female are always welcome, drop in, have a chat and see what there is to offer. Membership is still \$52.00 per year.

The opening times of the Shed are every Wednesday 2.00 pm – 5.00 pm, Friday 2.00 pm till required and any other time by arrangement.

For more information, please contact Colin on 0427 489 349.



Pictured: Twilight Market 2024

Toongabbie Men's Shed

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.

Lions Club of Wellington/Latrobe inc News

TOONGABBIE AUSTRALIA DAY 2024

Toongabbie celebrated Australia day with gusto.

The wonderful heritage grandstand was filled to overflowing

The ceremony started at 9.00 am with the raising of the flag by the Glengarry Cubs/Scouts, the cubs/scouts have done this task for many years and do a fantastic job.

Immediately after the flag raising, the National Anthem was sung, with the singing led by the wonderful Latrobe Choir, with a past Toongabbie Citizen of the year, Mark Woods on the organ, it was simply superb to have the Choir and Mark Woods present and of course a big thank you to Tineke Westwood for organising this great Choir

Councillor Kellie O'Callaghan delivered her usual excellent address and announced that SUSAN AND PHILLIP O'MALLEY were the new Toongabbie Citizens of the year.

Cr Kellie spoke at some length on the many years of community service both Susan and Phillip have contributed to the community,

This announcement was very well received.



Image Supplied by Latrobe/Wellington Lions Club

MC Lion Peter Feenstra then announced that we are breaking new ground this year as both Susan and Phillip have succumbed to the dreaded Covid, so the award will be presented to them at the Lions Club February Dinner meeting.

The formalities continued with the Choir presenting a couple of items and ending with reciting the AUSTRALIA DAY AFFIRMATION

All attendees were invited to join the Lions for a free community breakfast.



Image Supplied by Latrobe/Wellington Lions Club



Image Supplied by Latrobe/Wellington Lions Club

Welcome to the first edition of our school news for 2024. As always, our school is an evolving community place, where changes continually occur. Last year we sadly said good-bye to our five grade six students and their families, along with Mr Velasco and Miss Sutherland. However, this year we have welcomed six new Foundation students and a Grade Two student along with their families. We have also welcomed Mr Giabardo, our new teacher, and Mrs Elliott who has returned full time after taking family leave. Mr G, is teaching in the Grade 2/3 and PE and Mrs Elliott is teaching in the Foundation and Grade 1 classroom. Ayshea Thomson has also joined the Education Support team at the school.

Upcoming Events & Activities in Term 2

Book fair – 6th – 10th May (community purchases welcome)

Education Week 13th – 17th May (watch out for special events)

2025 Foundation Information session Thursday 16th May 6:30pm



Twilight Athletics

Our Twilight Athletics is always a highlight in term one, and this year the weather turned it on for us making for a brilliant evening. The children were very excited and looked amazing in their house colours. Competition was fierce and friendly, with lots of cheering from everyone present. This year we utilised the Village Green for our running events, with the children proudly marching to and from the venue singing their team song. The Lions club provided the BBQ and the night ended with the Easter Raffle. Our champions of the evening were Maddison Marsh and Cooper Uren. Stringer House won the team award, having accrued the most points overall for the event.



Students have been busy with lots of interesting learning taking place. The Grade F/1 made a puppet theatre and are enjoying retelling stories and creating their own. The Grade 2/3 have been in the kitchen using our school produce, cooking apple pies, and making grilled tomato and cheese on toast. The grade 4/5 have been in the kitchen also estimating juice amount extracted from different fruits and vegies and our grade 6 have planned a market day for the last day of term to raise funds for the Black Dog Institute – Mullets for Mental Health. Jenna, one of our teacher aides and Chance will be sporting a mullet for the month of April.

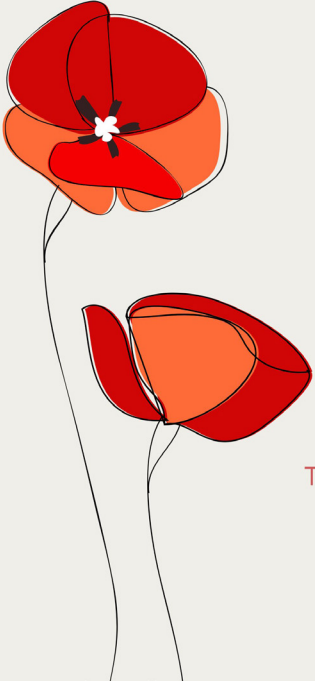


Our interschool swimming team

Events

ANZAC DAY 2024

LEST WE FORGET



Toongabbie Village Green
and Mechanics Institute
Thursday 25 April
6.00am



DANCE DANCE DOPAMINE

with Evie Wilson and DJ Nige

Friday 10th May 2024
7.30-9.00pm
Toongabbie Mechanics Institute
\$30



DANCE DANCE DOPAMINE

It's a women only super fun dance event at the Toongabbie Mechanics Hall.

The idea is you come, without the perfect outfit, the hair, the makeup, you come in your comfiest clothes, be empowered + dance your hardest for about an hour + a half, then you head home at the completely sophisticated time of 9pm!

This is a dry event. Yep, no alcohol.
Just pure joy. Or rather, dopamine

Want to know what we have to offer here in Toongabbie? Check out the Toongabbie website, community run for the community, you'll find local community groups, history on the area, events and news and of course all past and present newsletter editions. <https://toongabbie.vic.au> or scan the QR code.



TOONGABBIE CFA



Toongabbie CFA Juniors 2024
Time: 6 -7pm

Term 1
Feb 15, 29
Mar 14, Mar 28

Term 2
May 9, May 23
Jun 6, Jun 20

Term 3
No Juniors

Term 4
Oct 17, Oct 31
Nov 14, Nov 28
Dec 12

Must be aged over 11 and under 16 years to join the program.

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT CASSANDRA
0411 422 173 cassandra.tolsma@members.cfa.vic.gov.au



SCHOOL READY? JOEY SCOUTS READY!

GLENGARRY JOEY SCOUTS ARE INVITING ALL 5 YEAR OLDS WHO ARE STARTING SCHOOL IN 2024 TO HAVE FREE 3 WEEK TRIAL.
TUESDAY 5:30pm to 6:30pm



Adventure Personal Growth Friendship

Joey Scouts helps build essential skills, but not just in the outdoors, we build leadership, independence and community.

Bin75@email.com