Tatong derived its name from 'Tatong Run' an Aboriginal word meaning 'water hole'

Some significant events

- **1824 -** 27th November, Hamilton Hume and William Hovell camped on the banks of the Hollands Creek at Fern Hills.
- **1847** Tatong Run was taken up by Mr W. F. Splatt, an area of 35,520 acres.
- **1880's** Tatong Hotel built by Mr E (Ted) Brown for Mr Wm. Worrall, first licensee.
- **1890** 19th February Tatong State School 3006 opened. Martha E. Crawford head teacher.
- **1904** First stage of Hall built.
- **1906** 26th May Recreation Reserve trustees elected.
- 1908 First Tennis Court built.
- 1908 Tatong Football Club began.
- 1908 Tatong Fire Brigade was active.
- **1914** Original Store built for Mr Tonkin and had Mr P Burns as the first manager.
- **1914** 30th June Benalla Tatong railway line opened. Ran for 33 years.
- **1916** McCashney & Sons commenced saw-milling in Toombullup. Built tram line of 15 miles to Tatong railway station.
- **1916** October Tatong Bridge spanning Hollands Branch Creek was washed away by flood.
- **1916-1917** a temporary bridge erected in the summer also collapsed June 1917.
- 1918 A truss bridge was erected.
- **1920** Butcher's shop Bob Thompson & J Burnside as butcher.

Altitude: 744 feet or 226 metres Rainfall: 34.94inches or 873.6mm

- **1921** August St. Alban's Anglican Church built on land donated by Mr D H Coghill.
- **1923** Fire destroyed Tatong Hotel. Mr Moon licensee.
- **1924** 27th November. Cairn erected marking the Centenary of Hume and Hovell journey.
- **1925** Constable N Briggs then Constable M Healey until 1932 at Police Station.
- 1932 School pine plantation started.
- 1947 1st July Tatong railway line closed.
- **1957** 7th February Electricity switched on at Tatong Hall by Mr Thomas McCauley.
- **1970** Present brick Hall erected. Opened on 28th August 1970 by Hon. I. Swinburne, MLC.
- 1978 4th & 5th March "Back to Tatong" celebrations
- 1983 June Tatong Store closed.
- **1993** Tatong Post Office closed.
- **1995** 24th September last service at St Alban's Church.
- 2002 Avenue of trees planted.
- **2004** 5th July Inaugural meeting of Tatong Heritage Group
- 2006 11th March launch of the Tatong Railway Precinct.
- **2006** 28th May Mrs Betty McCauley planted a tree at Tatong Recreation Reserve to commemorate 100 years.
- **2006** 4th November Bill Sykes, MP, Member for Benalla, planted a tree at Tatong Memorial Hall to commemorate 150 years of Parliament in Victoria.
- 2008 Centenary of the Tatong Fire Brigade.
- **2008** 30th May & 1st June Tatong Football Netball Club celebrate 100 years.

Books on Tatong

Many locals both current and past residents of Tatong have generously provided written or oral histories of their time living in Tatong. *Those were the days at Tatong* edited by Lydia Dronseika records many of these stories. A second book by Lydia Dronseika, *Tatong just off the track* is a detailed account of the early years of European settlement in the Tatong district.

The Simonds family kindly gave their permission for the Tatong Heritage Group to distribute their book titled *Mirtako Memories* by Shirley Earll (Simonds). It is a fascinating account of growing up in the Whitegate area in the 1940's. It is a truly memorable read and it is sure to touch your heart.

Other publications on Tatong include:-

*The Flame Tamers - 100 years Protecting Tatong 1908 - 2008*John & Elaine Brogan

*Nita's Childhood – Growing up in Tatong 1919 - 1937*Nita McCauley

Tatong Football - Netball Club Centenary 1908 - 2008John & Elaine Brogan

Tatong Football Club - Magpie Memories Editor, Vicki Rose

Centenary of the Tatong Recreation Reserve John & Elaine Brogan

Tatong Primary School 3006 Cookbook - Centenary 1890 - 1990 - Tatong Young Bloods

Lest We Forget Tatong's Call to Arms & Those Who Answered 1914-1973 - Gregory Kirk

Back to Tatong March 4th & 5th 1978
Back to Tatong Committee

About Tatong Heritage Group

Tatong Heritage Group was formed at a public meeting at the Tatong Tavern on Monday July 5th 2004.

Our aim is to foster a love of history, encourage historical interest and knowledge in and about the area. One way to stimulate our history is to identify the landscape and buildings of the district, which we believe, will attract interest from locals and visitors far and wide.

Tatong Heritage Group appreciate any local history from old newspapers, old photographs and written and oral stories that may come our way.

The Group meets at the Tatong Memorial Hall on the 4th Monday of every second month commencing at 8 pm.

Visitors and new members are most welcome.

For further information

Our website has more details on the varied and many projects we have been involved in. If you require any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Telephone: (03) 57 666 286

E-mail: tatongheritage@yahoo.com.au Website: www.vicnet.net.au/~tathg

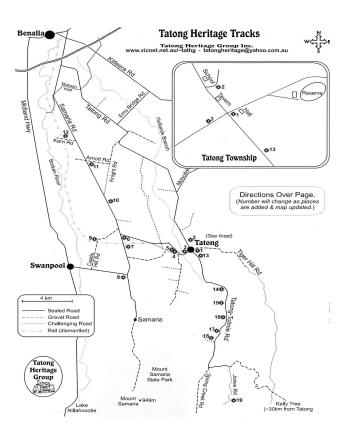
Acknowledgments:

"Back to Tatong March 4 & 5th 1978"- Back to Tatong Committee

"Those were the days at Tatong" - Tatong Heritage Group

If any person has information that differs from what is written, it would be appreciated if they could notify Tatong Heritage Group.

Printed: October 2013



- 1. Tatong Information Hut
- 1b. Replica Timber Trolley with Log (Made by Rod Lindsay)
- 2. Sawdust Kiln (*Plaque*; *Kiln in view on Private Land*)
- Police Station / House (*Plaque*)
- Tatong Rail Memorial
- 5. Site of Tatong Rail Station (*Sign*)
- 6. Former Site of St Patrick's Catholic Church of Rothesay (A plaque marks the site; Church Relocated as Below)
- 7. Site of Mallum Rail Station (Sign & Plaque)
- 8. Moorngag Cemetery
- 9. Site of Lima Rail Station (Sign & Plaque)
- 10. Savage's Lane (Sign & Plaque; lane is closed, site of Savage's house is on Private Property)
- 11. Site of Mt Pleasant Hotel (Cacti)
- 12. Site of Karn Rail Station (Sign & Plaque)
- 13. Site of St Alban's Church (*Plaque*; near speed sign)
- 14. Stoney Creek Picnic Area
- 15. St Patrick's Church (Relocated here in 2003)
- 16. Hume & Hovell Monument
- 17. Dodd's Bridge Picnic Area
- 18. Cork Tree (Site of Fernhills School Garden)
- 19. Jones Road Picnic Area



Tatong Heritage Group

