

It's time for a spruce up!

The TCFG is looking for community support to revive the Bush Regeneration Project (BRP). In other words, it's time we did some more work on making our village more attractive. And in particular, we want to improve the Bush Block, that area opposite the bus stop on Highland Way between Caoura Road and Memorial Drive.

The BRP has a history going back to 2007, but someone or some people slashed it in January this year and it now needs urgent work being done on it. Last month, TCFG President Margaret Bottichio and member David Leese met officials from the Goulburn Mulwaree Council on the Bush Block where they observed a large amount of waste had been dumped and the site had been damaged by bikes. The outcome of the meeting is that we need a publicly approved plan for the site.

So, suggestions please, for ways to clean up the Bush Block, to complete pathways and find funds to enhance the Welcome signs at either end of Highland Way. Other thoughts involve planting around the village signs, all part of a plan to spruce up Tallong's appearance by making the Bush Block an attractive asset rather than a dumping ground. Other ideas are for an ambling walkway through the Bush Block with native plantings and possibly a bush tucker garden.

An added incentive to do the work is the proposal for September next year when Tallong will host morning tea for the re-enactment of the Kangaroo Recruitment March. Hundreds or maybe thousands of people are expected to join, so it will be a golden opportunity to show off the village.

All ideas/suggestions/proposals are welcome. Please contact any Focus Group committee member or email: secretary@tallong.com.au.

And speaking of the Kangaroo March re-enactment, there will be a public meeting in the Tallong Memorial Hall closer to the event.

Tallong diggers remembered...

Thanks to the Editor of the Goulburn Post, Gerard Walsh, for his enthusiasm and cooperation in running a series of articles about the young Tallong men who enlisted for WW1 to fight for King and Country. A total of 26 enlisted but six didn't return. Two died in the battle fields of Flanders and two in Picardy, one in Gallipoli and one died in England from wounds received in France.

It was the war that was supposed to end all wars and the casualty rate was astonishingly high. Australians who enlisted had a 65% chance of being killed, wounded, gassed, being lost in the mud, killed by disease, or being taken prisoner.

And a special thanks to Janet Black who provided much of the research into the families and the fates of the young men. The Focus Group has plans to use more of the photographs and their stories at next year's special centenary ANZAC day ceremony.

If you missed the stories, they are available on the paper's website:
www.goulburnpost.com.au.

Apple Day proceeds...

The good news from this year's Apple Day Festival on 4th May is that in spite of the cold

weather the Festival was a great success and managed to raise much needed funds for the local community.

Distributions have been made to the Marulan CWA for a local school scholarship; for a new stove for the Tallong Rural Fire Service; to St Stephen's Church to paint the navigator's room; to the Tallong Public School centenary fund; and to the Tallong Memorial Hall Trust to buy three display stands and eight small tables for the supper room.

RFS News

A reminder from the Tallong Rural Fire Brigade to residents contemplating burning off that before you burn, not only should you let your neighbours know but you should also alert Yass Fire Control on (02) 6226 3100.

The local Brigade is delighted to welcome two new young members: Katelyn McNulty and Ben Baker and looks forward to having them on board. Some members have recently finished their Bush Firefighting training at Middle Arm.

Roger Myers, Robert Harmond and Gavin Phillips braved a cold and windy weekend to complete the two-day course which prepares members for brush and grassfire operations so they can now respond to calls with the Brigade.

The Brigade is now also active on Facebook with the recent launch of the Tallong Rural Fire Brigade page. It will be used to send out information about Brigade activity as well as news and providing answers to questions from the community. To connect with the Brigade on Facebook, look for Tallong Rural Fire Brigade. Then, hit the 'like' button!

Two more reminders...

The Focus Group is looking to sign up new members as well as collect membership subscriptions which are now due. The sub is only \$2.50 per person and a small price to pay to help promote and improve our local community. So, please use the form at the bottom of this newsletter and become a member if you're not already or rejoin to help the Focus Group's work.

And the second reminder is for this year's Bush Dance at the end of this month: **Saturday 26th July at 6.30pm at the Memorial Hall.** The ever popular Mountain Dew Band will be playing with lots of toe-tapping tunes, the hall will be decorated with hay and gum trees but with maximum space left for dancing.

Tickets are \$10 for an adult, \$4 for a child under 12 or \$30 for a family. So, come along. It should be a great night!

Ticket Order forms are available from the Tallong General Store

Tallong Community Focus Group - Membership Application – Renewal

Name:

Telephone

Email address:

I enclose \$2.50 per member

Please drop into TCFG letterbox at the Tallong General Store.

