

Tallong Community Focus Group Newsletter June 2012

Prepare, act, survive...

There will be a special meeting in the Tallong Memorial Hall (now heated!) on Tuesday 26th June 2012, at 7pm on how to deal with emergencies, how to cope, how to prepare, how to survive. It is an important meeting open to everybody and a light supper will be served afterwards.

The meeting will open with Ian Marsh, from the Goulburn Men's Shed, talking about the activities, experiences and organisation of their successful Shed.

The Australian Men's Shed Association is a charitable body that provides free practical support and assistance focussed on male health and well-being. There are now more than 720 Men's Sheds registered in Australia. Maybe Tallong could consider establishing one here.

Another speaker will be Robert Bell, Regional Director SES, Goulburn, who will talk about flooding, the power of flood waters, and the dangers of driving in floods.

The Regional Officer of the Rural Fire Service will talk on Bushfires: Prepare, Act, Survive.

As everybody knows, emergencies can strike without warning, so being prepared at home, school, work and in your community is crucial. Andrea Sant, from the Red Cross Emergency REDiPlan, will speak about the need for an efficient prevention plan.

Emergency REDiPlan is a Red Cross community information program to help people prepare for, respond to and recover from ANY emergency.

If you want to know what to do in any emergency, be at the Tallong Memorial Hall on Tuesday 26th June.

Everybody is welcome and there will be ample opportunity for questions.

Pay out time...

The recent Tallong Apple Day Festival was the most successful ever with record numbers of visitors and record numbers of attractions. Now even better news... an amount of \$3,200 has been distributed locally to various organisations: the Tallong Memorial Hall Trust with a suggestion it be used for a project to concrete under the stage; the Tallong Public School P&C Association, the Tallong Rural Fire Brigade, and St Stephen's Church.

Also small grants have been made to groups who helped make such a success of the Festival, including the Lieder Theatre in Goulburn, the Goulburn Bowmen, and the Highlands Antique Machinery Club.

The Focus Group will contribute \$2,600 towards the new Tallong Community notice board sign which will supplement a grant from the Veolia-Mulwaree Trust. Money has also been set aside to improve the outside public address system for future Apple Day Festivals.

Time to join us...

The Focus Group would like to invite the various community groups who benefit from the Festival to join the organising Committee for next year's Festival.

This way we can have a broader based committee to plan the Festival and it would give each community group a voice on how the Festival is organised. The more input we can get to make Apple Day even bigger and better... Please contact the Secretary of the Focus Group to nominate a representative. There are vacancies on the Committee, so please join us.

Tallong signs...

The installation of the new Tallong Community notice board sign is imminent. A hole 900mm deep and 450mm wide at the top will be filled with six bags of cement with a support pole in the middle. The sign will stand on Highland Street, on the nature strip just west of the entrance to the railway station, and will provide information about events in Tallong.

Help our wildlife...

The NSW-based Wildlife Information, Rescue and Education Service, a not-for-profit organisation, is seeking new volunteers.

Last year, WIRES received more than 100,000 phone calls asking for assistance or information. Across the state, WIRES volunteers rescued about 60,000 birds and animals. In August, there will be a two-day rescue and immediate care course in Goulburn organised by the Southern Tablelands Branch (your local branch) which is designed for anyone interested in becoming a WIRES volunteer.

The course will equip you with the basic but essential knowledge needed to safely rescue wildlife and to provide for their immediate needs. You will also meet local carers and learn about opportunities to get involved in the support of native animals in your area.

To find out more about the course or about becoming a WIRES volunteer, come along to a free Information evening at the Goulburn Workers Club at 6.30pm on Monday 23rd July. The evening will give you an insight into the WIRES organisation, becoming a wildlife carer, other roles, an opportunity to meet existing volunteers and carers and the opportunity to register for the Rescue &

Immediate Care Course which is on successive Sundays, 19th and 26th August.

For further information or to register, please contact the WIRES Southern Tablelands Training Officer by email (preferred) at annwyn2@gmail.com or by phone on 0408 028 675.

RFS postings...

Most Tallongites are familiar with their local Post Person buzzing around the village every day. But many may not know that Jenny McNulty and her husband Sean are also senior deputies in the Tallong RFS and long-time members of the elite R.A.F.T. (Remote Area Fire Team) who are routinely choppered into inaccessible fire grounds to tackle stubborn outbreaks at close range.

Both Jenny and Sean have spent many hours training with RFS helicopters being winched in and out of gullies or landing on hilltops, while Sean has successfully completed an RFS Aviation Support Course. This course is only one of many open to RFS volunteers, including First Aid, Chainsaw Proficiency, Rural Fire Driver, Electrical Workshop and many more.

Collecting for our School...

The two major supermarkets are again helping schools help themselves. Every time you shop in Woolworths you can collect Earn and Learn stickers and put them in a collection box in the school office. Last year, points accrued helped buy classroom resources.

And another collection box has been set up for Coles Sport for Schools vouchers. The Tallong School got fantastic support last year from Tallong families and the community. School Principal Sue Matthews is aiming to do better this year!