

## Tallong Twitterings

What a day! What memories! Last week's visit to Tallong by the Kangaroo Marchers was a magnificent event. It is 100 years since the men of rural Australia signed up for King, Country and Empire to fight what became known as the War to end all Wars.

The mostly young men were away for at least three years. In the case of Tallong, six of 26 volunteers never came home. Some who did were scarred, maimed or poisoned with mustard gas or they suffered mentally after witnessing the horrors of mates killed.

On a beautiful spring morning, the marchers, led by Graham Brown of the Light Horse Association, moved from an overnight stop in Marulan along old bush tracks to Tallong where they were met by a group of children from Tallong's Primary School.

Then, they continued along Highland Way making a right turn up Memorial Drive to Tallong's soon-to-be refurbished war memorial for an excellent barbecue lunch provided by the Tallong Fire Brigade. Inside the hall, visitors were able to enjoy a display of life in Tallong one hundred years ago through a series of poignant photographs, the work of local historian Janet Black.

After lunch, the marchers attended a moving dedication ceremony for a new memorial plaque to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ANZAC landings. Then, at 2pm they set off down Old Wingello Road for Wingello and the next stage of their 36-day 520-km walk to Campbelltown.

*Lest we forget!*

### **Focus Group AGM...**

The annual general meeting of the Focus Group has elected a new committee for 2015/16: president Margaret Botticchio; vice president Lionel Willison; secretary Christine Wurston; treasurer Jeremy Porter; and committee members Kim Gray, Sue Nagy, and Noel Demamiel.

The president gave a detailed report of current projects and presented draft plans and drawings. For more information on the latest state of play with the Memorial Park, the War Memorial, the heritage ANZAC trees at the corner of Highland Way and Memorial Drive, and the new entrance signs to the village go to the website [www.tallong.com.au](http://www.tallong.com.au) and see Current Projects on the Tallong Community Focus Group page.

### **Apples galore...**

Tallong's apple heritage is likely to be re-created. Caoura Road residents Magnus Agren, wife Belinda and baby Bud have announced they hope to revive the tradition of apples being available in Tallong by offering apples from their orchard on a pick-your-own basis during the summer months.

This is an exciting new venture that will be welcomed by the community. Magnus and Belinda have taken over the last existing orchard that was owned by the late Jim Watling.

And Jim himself will be honoured with the naming of a new park to be called the Jim Watling Reserve.

**Reaching out...**

Finally, one for the diary: the Goulburn Mulwaree Council's next outreach meeting in Tallong is set down for 6.30pm on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November at the Memorial Hall. It is an ideal opportunity to have a less formal open discussion with Councillors and senior staff. If there is a particular issue you would like to raise, please contact Amy Croker on 4823 4486.