

Tallong Twitterings



Cancellations, Postponements and Closures:

It is with great regret that due to on-going restrictions imposed due to the COVID-19 epidemic:

- The Tallong Community Focus Group has cancelled the ANZAC Day Service that was to be held at the Tallong War Memorial on 25 April 2020. The Focus Group wishes to notify local community groups that they are welcome to lay wreaths or bunches of flowers on the War Memorial but are asked to make sure that social distancing protocols are observed.
- The Tallong Community Resilience Celebration which was to follow the ANZAC Day Service 2020, incorporating the centenary celebration for the Tallong War Memorial Hall with our acknowledgement of the enormous efforts of the Rural Fire Service men and women during the summer, has been postponed. Hopefully this event will take place later in the year.
- Tallong War Memorial Hall and Tallong War Memorial Park have both been closed by the NSW Dept of Lands until further notice. All activities that use the Hall are therefore cancelled as well as the use of the children's playground. Goulburn-Mulwaree Council have closed the public toilets in the Park.
- Tallong RFS has discontinued training and all meetings. The AGM has been postponed to a date to be fixed. The first response team will still attend emergencies. Any emergencies please dial 000.
- Services will not be held at St. Stephens Anglican Church, Tallong until further notice.
- Divergent Church, Tallong gatherings have been cancelled until further notice. However, the leaders, Magnus and Bel Agren, are encouraging "online" connecting through the Divergent Church Tallong Facebook page.
- The Midge, Tallong will maintain its normal hours with the store open but serving take-away food only (no eat in). However, Friday night pizza night will be temporarily discontinued with the day-time menu available only. The Midge's famous jams, condiments, biscuits and other goodies as well as an expanded range of frozen meals will still be available.
- Please also note that Apple Day, on 3 May 2020 was cancelled in January due to organisational problems arising from the bush fires.

Bearing in mind the need at the moment to restrict travel where possible, it is worth a smile to remember the difficulties overcome in times gone by. In August 1918, Mary Sparks was the first bride to marry in Tallong's Methodist Church when she married John Hamilton of Cowra. Mary's home was only 6 miles (10 kms) as the crow flies from the church but unfortunately



on the other side of the Shoalhaven Gorge. This was no problem for the bride who rode across, although there were some concerns that if it rained the Shoalhaven River would flood, making the river impassable. These concerns were well founded, in fact, as a few years later her brother drowned when his horse was swept away as he was returning home.

However, the bride's mother described as being "not in robust health" could not attempt the short cut. The only alternative was a buggy ride to Nowra via Nerriga of 60 miles (about 100kms) where she caught the train to Sydney a distance of about 90 miles (about 150 kms). Then she caught the train from Sydney to Tallong (about another 180 kms), with as the Scrutineer and Berrima District Press reported: "... a return journey as a treat in store when the wedding was over"!