

Tallong Twitterings



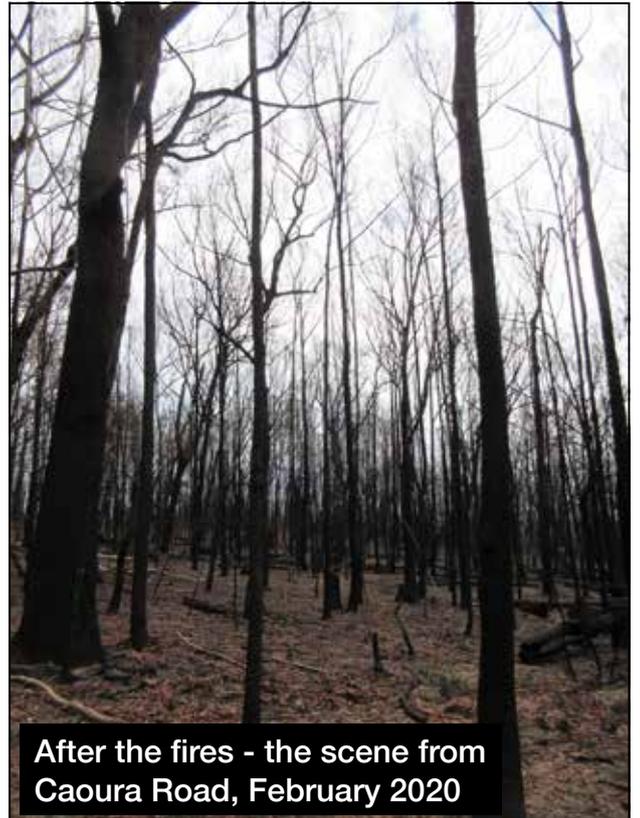
FIRST THERE WAS FIRE...

A very belated Happy New Year to everyone! The bushfires made a difficult start to 2020 and the community's grateful thanks go to the fire fighters and support personnel from the Tallong Rural Fire Brigade as well as other men and women from the Marulan, Big Hill and Towrang Rural Fire Brigades and many more brigades from our district and beyond. A big thank you also to the helicopter pilots and crew, water carters and plant operators and many others who spent all January 2020 working to control the fires along Caoura Road which resulted from a spot fire from the Currowan blaze on New Years Eve.

Two houses and a number of sheds on other properties were lost but it is a miracle that there was not much worse property damage and a tribute to the skills and professionalism of all involved. However damage to the flora and fauna of the area has been great and it remains to be seen how long it will take the bush to recover.

One of the houses lost was the old house known as "Fairview" right at the end of Caoura Road, originally belonging to Samuel Ruse who died in 1936 aged 83 years. Samuel, according to his son Francis' obituary, was a grandson of James Ruse, a convict on the First Fleet and later the first ex-convict to receive a land grant. The Ruse family were devout members of the Salvation Army and for many years hosted revival services at their properties.

After the fire were brought under control, Michael Trevisiol tendered his resignation as Captain of the Tallong RFS and the community would like to thank him for all the dedication, hard work and commitment he has brought to the role. He has been there for his members and community and will continue as Senior Deputy Captain. Deputy Captain Jen McNulty has been promoted to Interim Captain pending the RFS AGM in April 2020. *(continued next page)*



After the fires - the scene from Caoura Road, February 2020



Caoura Road, 2018



Caoura Road, February 2020

THEN THERE WERE FLOODS...

The second week in February saw the onset of most welcome rain which put out the remaining fires and filled the tanks and dams. It is now providing green pick for the animals and aiding the recovery of the bush. Properties along Caoura Road and in Tallong village itself, recorded rainfalls of in excess of 300mm, nearly as much as had been recorded for the previous 12 months.

Unfortunately this caused further problems for the police and the RFS with the Highland Way being flooded by Barbers Creek at the railway viaduct and many trees down on local roads. Once again the community thanks them for their work.

Also many thanks to Goulburn Mulwaree Council who came out and repaired the damage that had been caused to the road surface, cleared the culvert under the road and removed the debris from Barbers Creek which was largely responsible for the flooding. Now we just have to wait for more rain before we can declare the problem solved!

FINGERS CROSSED WE DON'T GET THE PESTILENCE...

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