

## **TALLONG COMMUNITY FOCUS GROUP NEWSLETTER- AUGUST 2023**

~Welcome to a community update- as we are approaching Spring[yay] time to get out and tidy up properties after winter and prepare for the expected dry Summer and bushfire season.

~You will have noticed the completion of works in the park and Jim Watling Walkway. After a long period of time and many hurdles we are able to enjoy The new facilities and look forward to the warmer weather to come together

As a community with lots planned over the coming months. We haven't Forgotten about the large number of requests for Bingo [in the pipeline] but we Are looking at holding a spring "trash n treasure" at Tallong, so start getting your goods together. It's a great way to have a clean out and recycle!

~The TCFG continue to apply for grants to help make improvements in our Community, and we welcome anyone who is interested in helping out in the Gardens to contact [president@tallong.com.au](mailto:president@tallong.com.au)

~Tallong Apple Day 2023- Was a successful day considering the weather thankyou to the community for your patience and understanding with the traffic changes and increased traffic in Tallong for the festival. I would like to thank all volunteers, community groups, and the TAD committee for months of work making it all happen! Our sponsors- GMC,BORAL,GUNLAKE,HOLCIM and all our other sponsors who without Your support this wonderful community organised event would not happen! Please support all our sponsors [a full list is on our FB page and website] A full financial breakdown will be presented at the AGM in September [date TBC]

~ Tallong Public School is now taking enrolments for 2024 please contact school on 48410292 or email [tallong-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:tallong-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

~WSK Martial Arts is on in the Tallong Hall, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5pm please call John for information 0420573697

**TALLONG RFS GET READY WEEKEND Sunday 17/09/23 10am-2pm**

## **JOHN DOUGLAS JAMES (JACK) WATLING (31.07.62-21.07.23)**



Jack Watling passed away on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023, just before his 60<sup>th</sup> birthday, at Camden Hospital. Only a couple of months before, he and his wife Leonie had sold the Watling family home and packing shed in Bumballa Street, planning to make a new life on acreage near Mogo on the South Coast, with warmer winters than the Southern Tablelands and good times fishing and boating beckoning.

Since 1951, members of the Watling family had been orchardists and farmers in the Tallong area, then a highly regarded fruit growing region. Jack's grandparents bought a property on Kettles Lane they called "Homeley". Of their four children, only the youngest, Jack's father, James Manuel (Jim) finally settled on the property. After Jim's marriage to Fran in 1959, they bought "Glenrowan" fronting onto Caoura Rd. After the devastating 1965 Chatsbury bushfire, Jim was the only local orchardist to start again. Waiting for the trees to grow took a long time.

In 1988, Jim commissioned local resident and craftsman, Carl Zeschke, to make a fibreglass Big Apple which was attached to the front of the apple sorting shed where it became a symbol of the district's apple orchard heritage. Three decades later, after Jim's death, the Watling family gave the sculpture to the people of Tallong as a memorial to both men. With funding provided by Goulburn Mulwaree Council, the Big Apple was restored by Alan Weston and the Jim Watling Walk was created in the Tallong Memorial Park by local tradesmen using material donated by Boral and Holcim. Jack, Jim and Fran's son, who had moved back to Tallong on his father's death opened the Big Apple in its new situation.

Jack Watling was brought up in Tallong, attending Tallong Public School and later high school in Goulburn. He remembered working in the orchard at weekends and school holidays, picking fruit and pruning trees. He paid for his first motorcycle with money earned from selling fox-skins and his first car from his orchard earnings. After school, Jack left Tallong for work, finding employment as an apprentice motor body builder with Goulburn firm, WIFCO Pty Ltd and completing a welding apprenticeship. He married and the births of sons Tim and Scott followed. Later Jack joined the NSW Ambulance Service, becoming a highly skilled paramedic.

(Below: Jack's fishing boat "She'll be Apples" on his dam at Tallong)

On Jim's death in 2014, Jack moved back into the family home in Bumballa Street and again became active in the Tallong community, including rejoining the Tallong RFS which he had first joined in the 1970s. He served as Tallong's Fire Captain from 2020 to 2022. He met Leonie and had a blissful trip around Australia with her. They married in the summer of 2022-23.

Then, when Jack and his new wife Leonie were ready to start their new life after a mammoth effort to clear the packing shed and family home, Jack became ill, finally dying of cancer. Despite his obvious discomfort and later extreme pain, Jack

was always helpful and cheerful, giving his time to pass on his knowledge of local history before he left the area. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him, and the community sends its sincere condolences and deepest sympathy to Leonie and all the rest of Jack's beloved family.





Tallong Community Focus Group

presents

**MOUNTAIN DEW BAND BUSH DANCE**

12<sup>th</sup> August at Tallong Memorial Hall

**BOOK TICKETS** at The Midge or The Shed Marulan

*We need bookings for this event to go ahead*



Family night out Bush Dance **6.30PM START**

BYO Food and Drinks



TICKETS \$10 for a family

[of up to 5 people]

RAFFLE TICKETS 3 for \$5

PLEASE TAKE HOME ALL YOUR RUBBISH, THIS IS A TCFG ORGANISED EVENT BY VOLUNTEERS



**SPRING DROP & DRAW with ELIZABETH**

*When: Starts 28<sup>th</sup> September, 26<sup>th</sup> October, 30<sup>th</sup> November*

*Where: Tallong Memorial Hall in the supper room*

*Time: 2-4pm [drop in] 2 hour session*

*Cost: \$8 per person, free tea and coffee*

*Join Elizabeth for an informal gathering for drop and draw*

*You will need an: A4 Art diary, Lead pencils 2B,3B,5B &6B*

*Charcoal pencil, rubber*

*For info about Elizabeth visit: [artsonthemove.com.au](http://artsonthemove.com.au)*

**NO NEED TO BOOK IN, ALL WELCOME**

**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**

*Join Local Artist CHERRY HOOD for a 2 hour guided ART*

*Demonstration of a realistic face [Cherry is well known for her  
Artworks, in particular watercolour faces]*

*This session will include wine and nibbles, a great way to learn or  
just enjoy watching Cherry create a masterpiece!*

*To register your interest please email [president@tallong.com.au](mailto:president@tallong.com.au)*

*Where: Tallong Memorial Hall*

*When: Springtime [date to be confirmed]*

*Cost: TBC*

**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**

*Tallong PAINT N SIP with HEIDI*

*A relaxed social evening [this is an Adult session] \$55 per person*

*Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September, 6.30pm - Register at [president@tallong.com.au](mailto:president@tallong.com.au)*

*Everything supplied to create your masterpiece*

*Champagne and individual tasting board provided [byo other alcohol]*





# Harry Hookey is real **is BACK!**

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September

Doors open at 6:30pm  
Live music from 7pm at  
Tallong Memorial Hall

**Tickets**  
**\$40**

*Tickets can be purchased  
through TRYBOOKING*

**BYO**

*Drinks & Food*

**PLUS Raffle**

**and Lucky Door**

**PRIZES!**

<https://www.trybooking.com/CK>



# GET READY

## FOR BUSH FIRE SEASON

### PROPERTY PREPARATION FOR THE BUSH FIRE SEASON

Getting ready for the bush fire season could be easier than you think. Even the little things can make a difference during a bush fire. Here are the top five actions that you can do to make your home safer:

1

**TRIM**  
overhanging trees and shrubs.

2

**MOW**  
your lawn and remove all the cut grass.

3

**REMOVE**  
material that can burn around your home  
(e.g. door mats, wood piles, mulch, leaves, paint, outdoor furniture).

4

**CLEAR**  
and remove all the debris and leaves from the gutters  
surrounding your home.

5

**PREPARE**  
a hose or hoses that can stretch all around the house.

PREPARE

ACT

SURVIVE

TO FIND OUT MORE GO TO [RFS.NSW.GOV.AU](https://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au)



**TALLONG GET BEHIND THIS PROJECT AS WE ARE INCLUDED!!**

“PAINT THE POT” please register your interest in the Marulan workshop if you would like to have input into the design and planning processes. The TCFG thank those involved in the PAINT THE TOWN STREET FESTIVAL for including us in this exciting festival -coming to Goulburn February 2024 [when all murals selected will be started at the same time]



For more info email [president@tallong.com.au](mailto:president@tallong.com.au)

**STA PAINT THE TOWN Street Art Festival  
Co-Design Workshop**

**10am-12pm Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September at Goulburn Regional Art  
Gallery [RSVP NOW](#)**

**and**

**2pm-4pm Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September at Marulan Hall**

**Facilitated by Stephen Carroll with Joe Quilter Creative Director of PAINT THE TOWN Street Art Festival.**

The Black Summer Fires deeply affected our community. As part of the PAINT THE TOWN project STA are hosting free co-design workshops for people to talk about their experiences of the Black Summer Fires and help shape the design of PAINT THE TOWN murals.

STA recognize the impact the 2019/2020 fires have had, and continue to have, on mental health. Each workshop is a supported forum facilitated by Stephen Carroll a qualified psychotherapist, credentialed mental health nurse & counsellor to ensure the psychological safety of all, and for appropriate supports to be offered.

**What's in it for you?**

- Be involved in the creative community project,
- be recognized for your participation and ideas via the STA website
- info about FREE local mental health services
- Morning tea
- Meeting other like-minded people
- See your ideas come to life during the PAINT THE TOWN Street Art Festival in early 2024.

### Who do we want?

You!!! People of any age who lived in Upper Lachlan or the STA region during the 2019/2020 bushfires.

Community members are welcome to attend one or both sessions.  
Register your ticket as spaces are limited!

### More About Stephen Carroll

Stephen Carroll is a psychotherapist and a credentialed mental health nurse with 45 years experience of working in mental health. Stephen had undertaken training in trauma informed therapy. His experience covers hospitals, communities, drug & alcohol services, private practice and local GP and community health centres. He has worked extensively with the Department of Primary Industry setting up health programs for regional, rural and remote areas and following major disasters such as fire and flood. Stephen has lived and worked in the Upper Lachlan Shire for over 30 years both rurally and recently in Crookwell and he is currently working in private practice in Crookwell and Orange.



### More About Joe Quilter

PAINT THE TOWN Creative Director and one of Australia's most prominent street artists Jo Quilter will share workshop insights, stories and concepts to the project artists as they develop their design and compositions.

Jo is a local street, graffiti and fine artist who has been in the scene for 25 years. He also lectures at university in areas of mental health and ethics and works to support his community.



The PTT Co Design Workshops are possible through the Black Summer Grants program with support from Goulburn Mulwaree Council.

