

# TATONG TOWNSHIP PLAN

Please Note: This document is a draft version of the Township Plan. The information contained within has been collated from various sources and may be outdated. The Community Development Team from Benalla Rural City Council want to work together with the Tatong community to develop and update this document so that it accurately reflects the current plans and priorities of the town and its community members. Your feedback on this document will help shape consultations and the future of Tatong.

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## **Executive Summary**

This document details a community led action plan that showcases a vision for the progressive development of Tatong. The document also outlines the plan to both maintain and enhance the future prosperity of the township through ongoing planning and development of the town and its community members, including infrastructure, maintenance, community inclusion & promotion and events to increase tourism.

### **Vision Statement:**

To improve Tatong for residents to reside and work, visitors to stay, and for the future prosperity of Tatong from a social, economic, recreational and environmental perspective; whilst maintaining the character intrinsic to the community.

To engender good-will, build partnerships between local groups and the residents of Baddaginnie, and promote a spirit of co-operation. To ensure initiatives have a greater likelihood of being supported, by how they are perceived by the community and for volunteers to support projects.

### **Purpose of the Township Plan:**

The Tatong Township Plan is based on the ideas, hopes and aspirations of the Tatong community together with the Benalla Rural City Council (BRCC). The Township Plan aspires to guide the future development of the town by developing a list of projects and priorities to inform council strategic planning and to support the community to apply for grants when funding is available.

The plan:

- Articulates the issues that are important to Tatong residents
- Provides a clear blueprint for the future development of the Tatong township and surrounding region
- Assists the Tatong community to attract local and state funding to help achieve identified priorities and projects
- Provides a coordinated approach for the social, cultural and economic development of the township and surrounding enterprises
- Aspires to promote Tatong as a tourism destination & as a great place to live

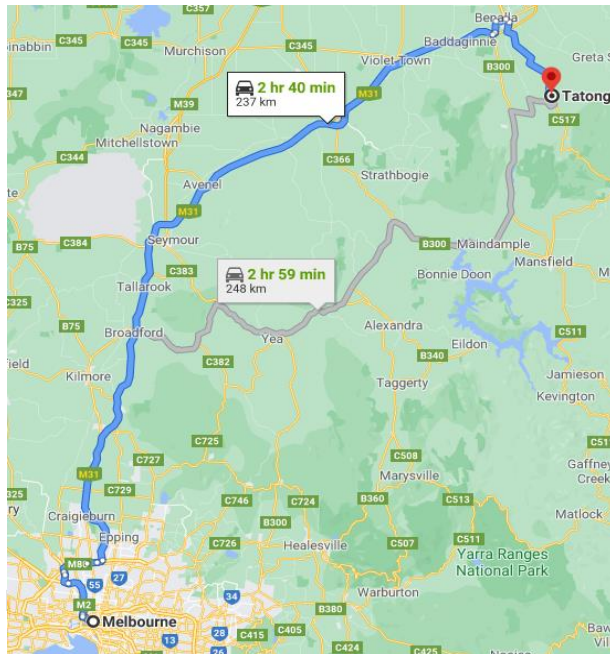
### **Alignment to BRCC Community Plan & Vision 2036**

The Tatong Township Plan aligns with the BRCC Community Plan and Vision 2036 documents respectively as together they seek to provide a pathway to the development of individual towns and the rural area of Benalla as a whole.

The information in this document has been collated from a number of sources including the Benalla Rural City Council website, previous community consultations and grant applications, google and Facebook searches and various other council documents. Information may be updated, changed and further developed by the Tatong community to specifically reflect the communities' actions, plans and priorities.

## Location

Tatong is a rural town on the northern foothills of the Blue Ranges which form part of the Great Dividing Range and sits alongside Holland Creek. It is located in north-eastern Victoria, 28 kms from the rural city of Benalla and 226 kms north east of Melbourne.



## History of Tatong

The township of Tatong was established in the late 1800 with the post office opening in 1890 (closed in 1993). A general store, hotel, state primary school, football, and tennis grounds, among other things were also established. In 1914, a railway from Benalla to Tatong was opened along with a railway station in town. Timber from the surrounding hills was harvested to supply the early Melbourne power station, until coal from the Latrobe Valley became the favoured fuel source.

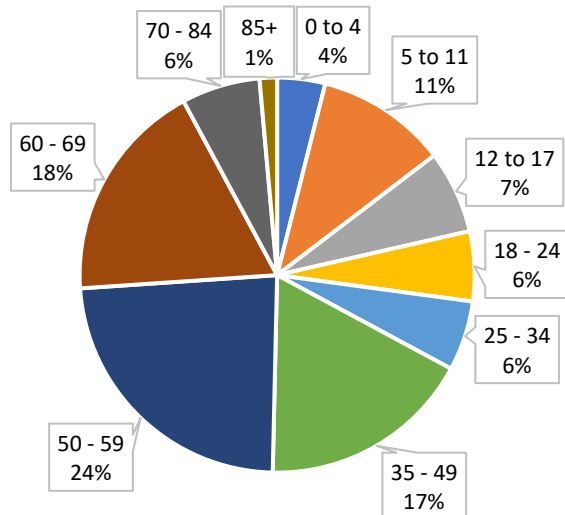
In February 1928, staff were withdrawn from Tatong railway station. Persistent operating losses on the operation of the line led its closure in July 1947. That together with dwindling patronage of the rail line to Benalla led to the closing of the rail line after World War II. The town of Tatong has seen many changes over the last century and the area is now a mixture of farmland, pine plantations and dense bush.

## Tatong Today\*

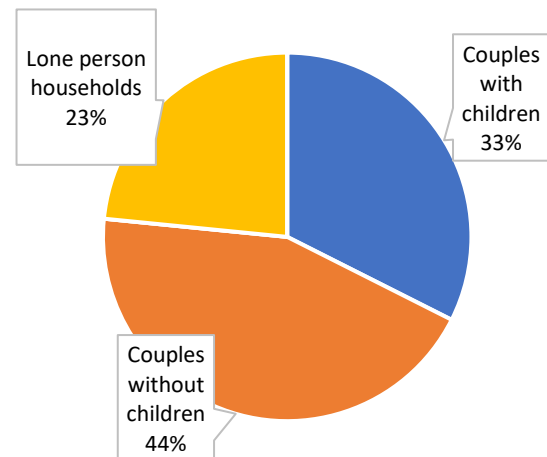
The town of Tatong has a hotel - the Tatong Tavern, a memorial hall and sports ground. It has an active sporting community with archery, cricket, tennis and table tennis clubs. The Tatong Football & Netball club was ceased in 2014. Other groups include the Tatong Angling Group, Tatong Heritage Group and the Tatong Young Bloods. Locals and tourists enjoy the renowned Tatong Tavern. Community events are held there including the Royal Children's Good Friday Appeal Auction, the monthly Tatong Market and the bi-monthly Neighbourhood Watch meetings.

According to the 2016 census, Tatong had a total population of 291 with 145 males and 148 females in 2016. Of these, 27 residents were born overseas and 12 require assistance due to age or disability. Education statistics show 33 attend pre - school or primary school, 17 attend secondary school and 5 attend TAFE. There were 126 dwellings with 46 residents own their own homes, 40 are purchasing and 4 are renting.

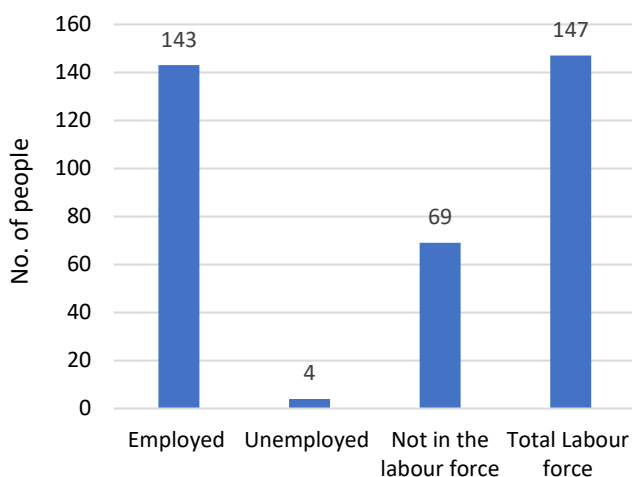
**POPULATION BY AGE**



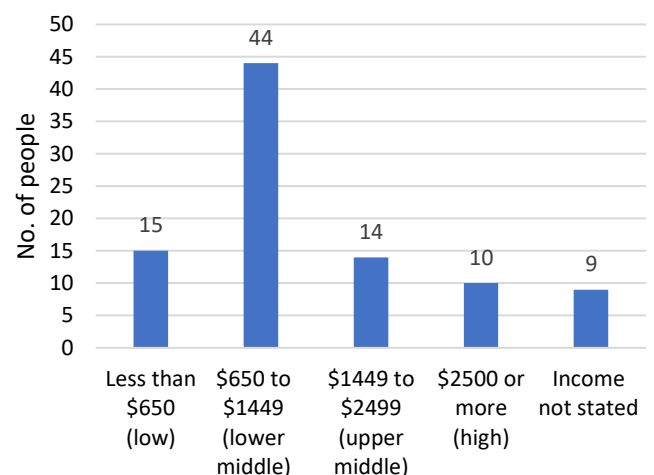
**HOUSEHOLD TYPES**



**LABOUR FORCE**



**HOUSEHOLD INCOME**



*\*The information represented in the above graphs has been taken from the 2016 Census from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) and therefore may not be an accurate reflection of the township in 2021.*

## What makes Tatong Unique

Tatong today is a small town near the snow fields, wineries and has places of historic interest including the old tram line, the Kelly and Cork Trees. The area is a mixture of farmland, pine plantations and dense bush. It has varied and abundant bird and wildlife as well as scenic vistas and unique flora and fauna.

The Tatong community are committed to maintaining organised and ad hoc sporting and recreational events, such as the weekly exercise group, the archery and fishing clubs. The residents consider the town to be a healthy, restful, vibrant and beautiful community in which to live.

## Products & Services

- Tatong Tavern
- Tatong Markets

## Community Groups

- CFA
- Land Care Group
- Tatong Good Friday Appeal Committee
- Australia Day Committee
- Tatong Heritage Group
- Tatong Tattler
- Tatong Young Bloods
- Tatong Artists Group
- Red Cross Collection
- The Girls Shed
- Neighbourhood Watch
- Tatong & District Lighthouse Steering Group
- Mothers Group

## Sport & Recreation

- Tatong Tennis Club
- Tatong Table Tennis
- The Tatong Anglers
- Tatong Archery Group
- Tatong Hornets 8-ball
- Walking/Bike Tracks



## Education

- Tatong Primary School (closed 2015)

## Attractions

- Tatong Tavern
- Tatong Village Market
- Tatong Memorial Hall
- Fishing



- Bird Watching
- Walking
- Biking
- Christmas Concert

#### Marketing & Promotion

- Tatong Tattler website/newsletter
- Facebook Tatong Tattler Newsletter – Active, 471 followers
- Facebook Tatong Anglers Group – Active, 438 followers
- Facebook Tatong Tennis Club - Active – 74 followers
- Notice Board

#### Desired Town improvements:

- Establish a permanent supply of water to the town
- Roadside Weeds
- Road maintenance
- Mobile/Internet reception
- Upgrade Tatong Recreation Reserve
- Upgrade Memorial Hall
- Turn Primary School site into Community Centre/Learning Exchange
- Secure volunteers for the Tatong Tattler
- Return of football/netball
- More community member involvement in community/social activities
- Gym facilities at rec grounds
- Town Mural



## Past & Recent Funding Grants & Infrastructure Projects

Year	Project	Amount	Source	Group
2019	Tatong Community Great Big Garage Sale	\$700	CG	Tatong Community Great Big Garage Sale Inc.
2019	Tatong Memorial Hall Committee	\$1200	CG	
2018	Tatong Anglers	\$500	CSP	
2018	Memorial Hall	\$500	CSP	
2017/2018	Australia Day	\$200 p/a	CG	
2017	Heritage signs (across Molyullah)			
2017	Tatong Anglers	\$2,000	CG	
2016	Defibrillator	\$2000	CG	Tatong Anglers Group Inc.
2016/17	Tatong Young Bloods	\$500	CSP	
2016	Go Local Go Fresh Comm Dinner			
2016	Tatong Market	\$406	CSP	
2016	Tatong Young Bloods	\$480	CSP	
2016	Tatong Anglers	\$1,196	CG	
2016	Tatong Hall Committee	\$2,500	CG	
2015	Repair/replace cricket pitch & repairs to mower			
2015	Young Bloods	\$500,	CSP	
2015	Rural Fire Tails			
2014/15	Tatong Village Market	\$1,407	CG	
2014	Cricket Club	\$2332	CG	Tatong Cricket Club
2014	Tattler laptop	\$500	CSP	
2014	Tatong Market	\$1,680,	CG	
2013/14		\$25,000,	BRCC	
2013	Cricket Club	\$1850	CG	Tatong Cricket Club



## Tatong Projects & Priorities:

Priority - Time Line:    **A** = SHORT TERM (1- 2 years) **B**= MEDIUM TERM (3-4 years) **C**= MED -LONG TERM (5-8 years) **D**= LONG TERM (9+ years)

### ASSESTS & INFRASTRUCTURE

Priority	Project	Working Groups	Proposed Costs	Other Comments
	Water Supply			
	Improved internet/phone reception			
	Walking & Bike Paths			
	Improved facilities for young – eg skate park			
	Build a dam in the catchment area			To keep Hollands Creek flowing in Summer to keep native fish/crustaceans thriving
	Road Maintenance			
	Build a weir near the bridge			To help with permanent water supply for the community & CFA
	A playground at Tatong Bridge Reserve			
	A covered BBQ & landscaping at Tatong Bridge area			
	Erect a Soldiers memorial and flagpole			
	Erect a Community Noticeboard			
	Storage Shed at rec reserve			

### CHARACTER & APPEARANCE OF TATONG

Priority	Project	Working Groups	Proposed Costs	Other Comments
	Beautify the town centre & entrances to town			
	Upgrade the picnic area near the table			
	Roadside weeds			

### TATONG CELEBRATIONS & EVENTS

Priority	Project	Working Groups	Proposed Costs	Other Comments
	Australia Day			
	Good Friday Appeal			

### TATONG COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Priority	Project	Working Groups	Proposed Costs	Other Comments
	Establish a learning exchange in town	Maeve Larkin		
	Tatong Murals			

### TATONG SOCIAL MEDIA, ADVERTISING & PROMOTION

Priority	Project	Working Groups	Proposed Costs	Other Comments
	Improve Tatong Website/Socials			
	Secure volunteers for Tatong Tattler			
	Link Tatong Tattler to BRCC Social pages			
	Greater promotion for Tatong Tavern			

### ONGOING ASSOCIATED PROJECTS

Priority	Project	Working Groups	Proposed Costs	Other Comments
	Purchase block adjacent to Memorial Hall to develop wetlands			
	Camping Ground/ Caravan Park on school grounds			
	Community Garden			

## LONG TERM GOALS & ASPIRATIONS

Priority	Project	Working Groups	Proposed Costs	Other Comments

## Key Community Contacts

Name	Landline	Mobile	Email	Group	Title

DRAFT ONLY