



Tolmie Times

Issue #844

March 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
31 Community Social Club 4.00pm					1 UFO 9.30am	2 *Barwitian Garden 10.00am (and SUNDAY) *The Oven @ Cheshunt Garden tour 3.00pm
3 Rec Reserve Working Bee 9am Community Social Club 4.00pm	4	5 Pilates 10am	6 Line dancing 3.45pm	7 Playgroup 10am *Mapping workshop 3.00pm Community Social Club 5.00pm	8 UFO 9.30am	9 *The Oven @ Cheshunt Garden tour 3.00pm
10 Community Social Club 4.00pm	11 Labor Day	12 Pilates 10am	13 Line dancing 3.45pm	14 Playgroup 10am Community Social Club 5.00pm	15 UFO 9.30am	16 *The Oven @ Cheshunt Garden tour 3.00pm
17 *Uniting Church 2.00pm Community Social Club 4.00pm	18	19 Pilates 10am *St Joseph's Catholic Church 11.00am	20 Line dancing 3.45pm	21 Playgroup 10am Community Social Club 5.00pm	22 UFO 9.30am BBQ Night 6.30pm *Deadline for Next edition	23 *The Oven @ Cheshunt Garden tour 3.00pm
24 Community Social Club 4.00pm	25	26 Pilates 10am	27 *Line dancing with Buxton dancers! 3.00pm	28 Playgroup 10am Community Social Club 5.00pm	29 Good Friday	30 *The Oven @ Cheshunt Garden tour 3.00pm

For more event details and information
please see the event calendar on Tolmie.com.au

Published on behalf of Tolmie Mechanics Institute and Recreation Reserve
13 Tolmie-Mahaikah Rd, Tolmie VIC, Tolmie 3723



From the Editor...

Welcome to March! The year is certainly marching on. Already I'm seeing the first colour changes in my maples, and this reminds me that Autumn is on our doorstep. Now is a good time to be planting if the plant's roots are to get established before winter.

For inspiration, we have a few Garden activities happening locally. The Barwitian garden is part of the Vic Open Gardens, and the Oven at Cheshunt is opening its garden for tours. We also have a new advertiser with the Little Shop of Good Reads, where I'm sure you'll find a wonderful excuse to delay gardening and lose yourself in a good book instead!

Kelly Schultz - Volunteer Editor - tolmietimes@tolme.com.au

P.S. The Tolmie & District Rural Fire Brigade is looking for a secretary. It is an easy computer-based volunteer position. Perhaps you have the skills and would be interested? If so, contact the Tolmie Captain, Milton Taylor.

THANK YOU!



Big Thank You

to all the

**Tolmie Sports & Rec Reserve
Working Bee and Event
Volunteers!**



**Tolmie Sports
Facebook Page**
"Tolmie Sports
Association link"



**Tolmie Community
Facebook Page**
"Tolmie & Surrounds
Community link"

Tolmie Sports Committee



What a wonderful day on Saturday for the 137th Tolmie Sports Day. Over 1500 visitors through the gate and happy faces on all of them! Some of those faces, mainly the kids, went home sporting lovely face painting designs (thanks Michelle & Ella), or proud smiles for the race ribbons, or delight with their hand-painted lanterns (thanks Fiona). The novelty and race events hosted by the Storer Family in memory of Leo Storer, were a very popular part of the day finishing with the Monster Lolly Scramble. More happiness with every little handful of lollies.

The Axemen arena was spectacular with Laurence O'Toole (Jnr) taking out the coveted North East Championship - a trophy won in the past won by wood-chopping royalty such as his father (Laurence snr) and World Champion David Foster. Displays of woodwork, blacksmithing, handcrafts, plant stalls, homemade jams and relishes, SES & CFA demonstrations by the people who run in when we can't.

The Three Man Challenge returned and a close finish right at the end where the riders reached for their flag within seconds of each other. The day culminated with the ever-popular Dog Jump and drew a large and appreciative crowd for the athletic ability of the four-legged friends urged on by enthusiastic owners. If you weren't there, then sadly you missed a lovely day.

The whole day was like a duck on a pond - no one sees the frenetic energy below the surface of the amazing volunteers and committee and they made us proud! Well done all and thank you so much for once again volunteering and helping to keep this unique day thriving. There will be the usual 'recovery meeting' for committee and coordinators to discuss what worked, what didn't and what could be done better for the 138th Tolmie Sports Day (8th Feb 2025!). This meeting will likely be sometime in April, maybe earlier, and we'll let you know. If any volunteer wishes to provide feedback please do so through your coordinator or a committee member.

A bit of a heads up - a number of the committee will be stepping down at the next AGM but will remain on the Committee to help guide new office bearers and share their responsibilities. Also, an enlarged committee will be sought, broadening the base will help share the roles/load and make the planning for the next TSD easier and rewarding. Many hands make light work and volunteering really is the heart of Tolmie!

Anita Godber - President Tolmie Sports Committee



137th Tolmie Sports Highlights



Tolmie Mechanics Institute & Recreation Reserve Committee



How good was the Tolmie Sports Day! Brilliantly organised by Neet, Mary, Janet and the rest of the Sports Committee and with picture-perfect weather, there was a great turnout and it had everyone smiling – how could it not! Well done to everyone who helped in any way – it is was a true testament to the power of volunteers within our community. Thanks to those who also helped in the lead-up to the day, with all the mowing and preparation of the grounds, which were green and lovely and which is also appreciated by the many campers we have had stay over the summer. We are always getting great comments in the visitors book or on money envelopes.

Now the Sports is over, we need to get on with a few projects. The first will be to finish painting the remaining two walls of the Camp Kitchen. Weather permitting, this will take place on Sunday 10 th March, so if painting is your thing, please try and come along and help that day from 9am (plus there is bound to still be some mowing to do!). You should also see works commence on refurbishing the bottom toilets (which the Social Club are funding – big thanks!), and hopefully, some new fencing and gates done, so we can close off certain wet areas to camping in winter.

Another exciting project we are aiming for, is to apply a new synthetic grass to one of the tennis courts. We have applied for a grant and if successful, the new surface should go in before winter, which will make playing much easier on bodies and equipment. Plus we have some ideas for some fun social events on the courts, so fingers crossed we get the grant.

On the day of writing, we have also provided morning tea for a visiting Lotus Car Club doing their “Snowfields” tour. This has become a regular fundraiser for the committee, as the visiting club love our hall, environs (and scones!). Thanks Les and Marg V for helping yours truly. Another great BBQ Night was held in Feb – it was a bit blustery and chilly, plus a Jackaroo car club had taken over the BBQ and kitchen, so it was great to have the Pavilion and a portable BBQ, for our get-together instead.

Next one is Friday Mar 22nd. (yes, that is the 4 th Friday!!). Of course, don't forget Social Club nights on Thursdays and Sundays too which are great opportunities to relax with friends and neighbours.

Linda Terry, Treasurer and Booking Officer.
03 57762113. linda.gai.terry@gmail.com

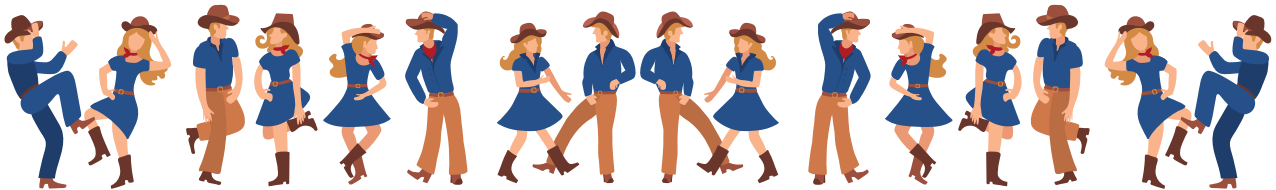


Lotus Club Snowfield Tour

Line Dancing

Join Us!

SPECIAL NEWS: Line Dancing in Tolmie on Wednesday 27th we will be having line dance **visitors from Buxton**. We will start line dancing from about 3.00 prior to our usual dance class to give our visitors a feel for the hall. The usual line dance class applies also this month from 3.45 - 5.15, any one is welcome to come along and join the fun. The cost is a gold coin donation to the hall.



**A MASS TO CELEBRATE St. JOSEPH's DAY
WILL BE HELD IN St. JOSEPH's TOLMIE
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FOLLOWED BY A SHARED LUNCH**

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Tolmie and District Fire Brigade

Warmer, Windier Weather

Well it looks like Summer may have finally arrived? We are barely a week beyond the large fires in the west of the State which have burnt through over 20,000 ha west of Beaufort and Raglan. CFA volunteers from across the State, working in conjunction with DEECA and more recently RFS Strike Teams from NSW, have done a magnificent job in containing the situation and preventing more severe losses.

As I write, it is late in the evening on Wednesday 28 th Feb and we have been on alert all day in case something major developed. Even at 10pm it is still 33 deg C in parts of Victoria, and the wind is blowing hard. One of the things we fear most is “dry lightning” storms passing through as part of the typical end-of-day change on a hot day. Such storms can very quickly start grassfires in many places at once. Fortunately, there appears to be no sign of this on the radar tonight. I would like to thank all my colleagues in the Brigade who put their hand up to be on standby today for Strike Team 2331 in case we were called to assist our colleagues away from our home area.

Looking after pets in the event you decide to leave

Many residents in the recent fire over in the west decided to leave the area once community warnings were issued. I read of one couple who left with not much more than their car and their dog. But they had to leave their cat behind because they did not have a suitable carrier for it. This illustrates the importance yet again of having a plan and being prepared. An important part of your Fire Plan is your “Plan B”. i.e. what happens if you are not able to leave even if that was your primary intention? It may be unsafe to leave because of fire close by, or perhaps there are fallen trees that have blocked the roads. For this reason, you still need to think about preparing your property as best you can, and using it as a refuge if it comes to that. Have protective clothing in a bag ready to use that covers all bare skin. Also a woollen hat, goggles and mask to protect from embers, and a woollen blanket for every person in the household.

Contacts

Milton Taylor	Captain	0418 172 511
John Valcich	Community Engagement	0428 992 039
Brigade Email	(All Matters)	tolmie&district.fb@cfa.vic.gov.au
Facebook		www.facebook.com/TolmieCFA

HIGH COUNTRY HOMESTEAD

by SHS



Do you remember some time ago I wrote a little piece about how chickens are expert foragers? Well, not so long ago in our evolution, humans were also. Some people still forage for food on a semi regular basis, but with the abundance of pre packaged foods available at local supermarkets many people have lost the knowledge or the inclination to get out there and have a fossick.

This morning my daughter and I went blackberry picking on our property. Behind our property there are a number of Chestnut trees and Elderberries. And in a seldom visited corner of our property is an ancient apple tree of dubious origin – if we are lucky we get to it before the birds and the possums. Trees and shrubs like these are easy to identify, but what about all the other things?

Recently I wanted to make a salad. The lettuce I had in the fridge looked less than appetising. The ones growing in the veggie garden were not ready for picking – what to do?! Well, I made a Wild Salad, “What is a wild salad?” I hear you ask. A wild salad is made up of plants that most of us would consider weeds. Weeds that even in Winter can be readily found growing in our garden beds and our lawns. Cats Ear also known as common dandelion – *Hypochaeris radicata*. Narrowleaf plantain – *Plantago lanceolata*. Curly dock – *Rumex crispus*, Common mallow – *Malva neglecta*. Chickweed – *Stellaria media*, Of course you can’t forget Dandelion – *Taraxacum officinale*. And that is only 6 weeds from my garden, depending on the time of year I can find over 20 different weeds which I can harvest and use to make a Wild salad.

I have been harvesting wild greens from my garden for 3 to 4 years now. And if you harvest the right bits at the right time they will make a very tasty salad. You want to get the young shoots, nice and early in the morning before the heat of the day wilts them, avoid the stems as they can be tough and fibrous. Spring really is the best time, but in Tolmie our Summers tend to cooler than other districts, so the picking season can (and has for us) extended into Summer.

Now some important things to note: Depending on where you are foraging you need to be mindful of pollutants and herbicides. But you absolutely MUST identify without a shadow of a doubt, what plant you are dealing with. You can research edible weeds on the internet of course, but I have a handy little book: *The Weed Foragers Handbook – A guide to edible & medicinal weeds in Australia*. If foraging is something you think may be of interest, I suggest that you try to get a hold of it. It is quite compact and perfect for putting in your pocket or backpack.

Happy foraging!

R & J

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TOLMIE UNITING CHURCH

TOLMIE CHURCH NEWS

Come and join us on **SUNDAY MARCH 17th at 2pm**. We look forward to welcoming our friend Rev Andrew Delbridge who will lead worship. As always we shall enjoy fellowship together with afternoon tea after the service. Everyone is welcome – Tolmie residents and any visitors who may be camping at the sportsground.



For more information or any pastoral concerns contact:
Norma Pearce (0417 103813)
Martina Sonneveld (0413 771941)
Email: ne.pearce@bigpond.com

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The Barwitian Garden

ADDRESS:
35 Fern Street
Barwite VIC 3722

OPEN: Saturday 2 March and Sunday 3 March
10.00am - 4.30pm

EXTRAS: Antique Perennials (wholesale nursery) will have a stall for plant sales

TICKETS: Adults \$10, Tertiary students \$6 (with ID), under 18 free
Tickets at the gate or via [TryBooking](#)





Renowned local designer and artist opens his wondrous perennial garden in rural Barwite with Open Gardens Victoria

Built around a straw-bale home overlooking a seasonal waterfall, renowned perennial garden designer and artist Ralph Bristow's breathtaking semi-wild garden opens with Open Gardens Victoria on the first weekend in March 2024. Located just north of Mansfield, on 2.5 acres in rural Barwite, Ralph Bristow and partner Nicky Saunders' **The Barwitian Garden** is a botanical wonderland, filled with vibrant natural colours and textures. Designed with artistry and intuition by Ralph, the garden draws inspiration from the New Perennial Movement, a naturalistic, plant-driven landscaping style that incorporates herbaceous perennials and grasses planted in 'wild' drifts and that intimately responds to the ebb and flow of the natural landscape.

"I needed to create a garden that offered a sense of beauty, detail, and depth from almost any viewpoint and was full of change and interest through the growing seasons. With a feeling of being completely immersed, but very much also in the landscape," says Ralph. The Barwitian Garden has loads of layering with a mix of plants, grasses, and flowers in differing heights, textures, and colours, giving the garden a rambling and dynamic meadow appearance. Key to the apparent 'wildness' is the thoughtful design behind the planting and consideration of how the design will evolve with the changing seasons.

An accomplished abstract painter, Ralph brings a discerning artist's eye to the garden design. He sees the garden as an ongoing work of art that feeds his soul; painting with plants instead of paint, Ralph sees the process as the same. "I visualise the colours, flowers, the attributes of plants at all times and seasons, the textures, contrasts, and heights all being deeply considered in the moment," he says.

Key to the success of this garden is the local soil—a superb, slightly clay loam—along with preparation in eliminating dominant weed grasses and wheelbarrowing in a quarter of a cubic kilometre of mulch! The mulch improves the soil profile, stimulates the mycelium and bioflora, suppresses weed growth, and holds moisture. "My Zen mode kicks in when doing this task, and it's good exercise!" says Ralph. The flowers, colour, and growth generally peak by mid-to-late summer and then move into autumn, Ralph's favourite time of the year in the garden. "After the preceding months of amazing growth and vibrancy, the garden starts to become softer, quieter, and slower; the colours change from green and intense hues to blacks, chocolates, gold, honey, oats, oranges, yellows, and purples, painted in frosts and glistening in the mornings; the transformation is immense and beautiful."

The Barwitian Garden is located on the lands of the Taungurung people. Open Gardens Victoria wish to acknowledge the Traditional custodians and we pay respect to their Elders, past, present and emerging.



1. After the sun, the star closest to Earth is (what)?
2. In the 1991 film The Silence of the Lambs, Hannibal Lecter tells Clarice Starling he ate a census taker's liver "with some fava beans and a nice Chianti". What are fava beans known as in Australia?
3. Which yacht took line honours in a thrilling finish to the 2023 Sydney Hobart Yacht Race?
4. What is the perimeter of a circle called?
5. Aylesbury, Muscovy and mallards are all breeds of which animal?
6. Did bubble tea originate in Taiwan, South Korea or Japan?
7. The Cullinan, Orlov, Sancy and Heart of Eternity are all famous what?
8. Where would you find Queen Maud Land, Ellsworth Land and Wilkes Land?
9. In song, how old was Janis Ian when she "learned the truth"?
10. Prince Caspian, The Voyage of the Dawn Treader and The Silver Chair are all part of which fantasy novel series?

Monthly Ladies Luncheon

Usually held on the last Thursday of each month with a different location to gather each time.

Anyone new to the area is welcome to attend and get to know other ladies from the Tolmie district. If you are interested or require further information, please contact Sue on clutterbuck@activ8.net.au to go on their email list.



EXERCISE CLASS

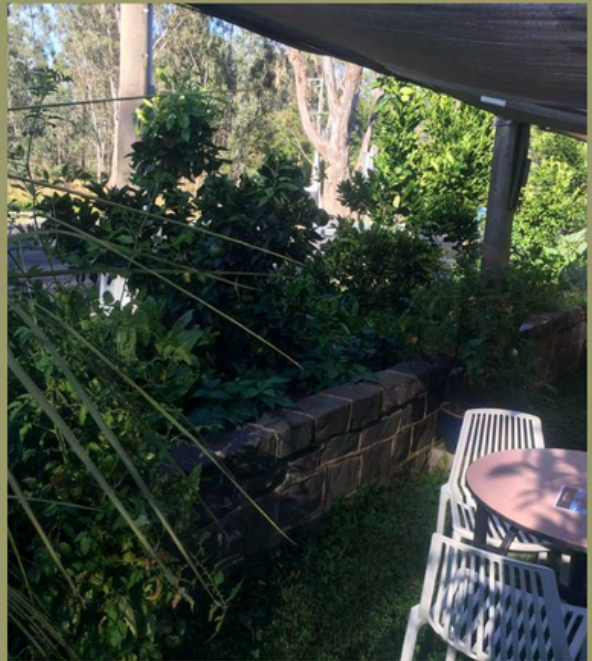
- **Pilates based class with qualified Physiotherapist.**
- **All levels of fitness welcome!**



Stretching & Strengthening

**Tuesday 10am
Tolmie Hall**

Ph: Tasha 0431 346 552



The Oven at Cheshunt

Did you know there are over 60 different varieties of edible, rare and unusual plants in our garden??

JOIN US ON SATURDAYS IN MARCH AT 3pm FOR GUIDED TOURS AND TALKS WITH THE EXPERT GABI MORITZ ON UNUSUAL PLANTS

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Quiz Answers: 1) Proxima Centauri 2) Broad beans 3) LawConnect 4) Circumference 5) Duck 6) Taiwan 7) Diamonds 8) Antarctica 9) Seventeen 10) The Chronicles of Narnia

Tolmie UFO (Unfinished Objects)

UFO runs every week on a Friday morning from 9.30a.m – 12.30. We are a small friendly group of people who get together on a Friday to laugh, tell stories, share craft skills and hopefully work on or finish our projects whilst having a cuppa. Everyone welcome, especially new folks to the Tolmie area. UFO will be paused during the lead up to the Tolmie Sports but will resume **weekly from Friday 16th February**

Hope to see you soon, **Janet** 0419 107 496



*Tolmie
Community
Social Club*

Licensed Premises
Tolmie Recreation Reserve
Thurs 5-9pm & Sun 4-8pm
Beer Wine & pre mixed Spirits



The Little Shop of Good Reads



The Little Shop of Good Reads sells high quality preloved books with all profits going to support the Mansfield Library. The Little Shop of Good Reads can be found at the corner of Curia and Highett Street opposite the Council Offices.

Our hours are:

Wednesday: 10 am to 4 pm

Thursday: 10 am to 4 pm

Friday: 10 am to 4 pm

Saturday: 10 am to 1 pm.

Drop in and look around, you never know what you may find!

- Clairvoyant

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**Term 1
2024**

Starting
Mon 5 Feb

Supported Playgroup

For families with children aged 0-6 years

Monday (Crawl and Play)

St Mary's Mercy Centre (39 Malcolm St Mansfield)

- Toddler Session (18 months – 5 years) 9.45am - 10.30am
- Infant Session (6-18 months) 11.00am - 11.45am

Bookings are essential and can be made via the QR code below.

Wednesday

- Youth Centre (7 Erril St Mansfield) 10.00am - 12.00pm

Thursday

- Tolmie Community Hall 10.00am - 12.00pm

Friday

- Mansfield Youth Centre (7 Erril St Mansfield) 10.00am - 12.00pm
- Bush Playgroup Bracks Bridge Goughs Bay 10.00am - 12.00pm

For more information scan the QR code, or contact Supported Playgroups on 0417 683 427 / 0429 703 364 or playgroup@mansfield.vic.gov.au

mansfield.vic.gov.au/SupportedPlaygroups



Wonderings from the Wombat



The blackberry season is almost over..phew. I feel obliged to pick and jam them when they're plentiful, especially as I had a number of jars go mouldy last season and was scratching to find enough to add to Christmas hampers. I don't usually have this problem, so it was a bit bothering. And you can't always be sure of how long the season will last as the weather can cause havoc on the fruit, so I feel obliged to pick when I know they're there. We have limited freezer space, so I don't have the option of just bunging them in the freezer to deal with another day.

And of course there's the issue of jars. I usually think I've got more than enough on hand but inevitably suddenly realise that I'm running short again. (at this point I should thank the Tolmie Sports for all the left-over jars from the Devonshire teas this year. (And what a great day that was).

The other issue with picking blackberries as many of you will know, apart from getting scratched a lot, is the stains left on your hands. Despite serious scrubbing, I'm left with decidedly grotty fingernails. Sugar and lemon juice certainly seems to help but doesn't get rid of all of the stains, so I tend to spend a lot of time apologising to other people for the next few days for the state of my hands. If anyone out there has a suggestion on this subject it would be appreciated.

You might think that we don't make an effort to keep the blackberries on our block under control, but despite almost yearly spraying there's always some out there to pick.

We are continuing to hear and see Gang-gang cockatoos daily. They come to drink at the birdbath close to the house and are generally not too phased by you being nearby, so we get lots of opportunities to enjoy their presence. Whilst I'm on wildlife, we've had to start removing the chook food from the pen at night as not one but two possums (Mountain Brushtails also known as Bobucks) have decided that it's a very nice supplement to their regular diet. This also explains the fur we've been seeing occasionally on the floor of the chook shed!

We do live in a beautiful part of the world,
(even if we do have to share it with blackberries).

Happy preserving

Margaret V





**You're invited
to participate in a workshop to guide the development of the
Tolmie and District Emergency Map.**

**Representatives from Tolmie and the surrounding area are encouraged to
attend a workshop facilitated by Australian Red Cross to identify and discuss
hazards, risks, and local community assets.**

**Tolmie Hall
Thursday 7 March 2024
3.00pm-5.00pm
Refreshments provided**

**The completed district map will be made available to locals and visitors to
provide vital information in the event of an emergency.**

**RSVP or further information, contact the Project Officer,
Kerry Craig on 0417 051 943
kerry.craig@mansfield.vic.gov.au**



Australian Government



**Mansfield
Shire**

CLASSIFIEDS AND COMMUNITY SERVICE NOTICES

Pasture Hay For Sale

Excellent quality - a nice blend of Clover, Coltsfoot & wild Rye grasses. \$11 a small bale. Some of last season's bales also available, \$9 each. All bales shedded and undercover.

Text Susie on 0478 778 312

MECHANICS INSTITUTE

The hall is available for hire for private functions.

Contact the booking officer,
Linda Terry (5776 2113).

Tolmie not-for-profit groups can use the hall for free.

Individuals attending other community get-togethers such as the casserole nights, may be invited to give a gold coin donation to help cover costs.

Tolmie Tennis Club



Join the Tolmie Tennis Club - Household/Family Membership \$15pa or discounted for 3 years. Contact Secretary Lisa Hodgkinson 0468461244

Rec Reserve is OPEN for Camping



Check Tolmie.com.au for booking options

Tolmie residents and community groups can advertise in the Tolmie Times Classifieds for **free**



JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

Justices of the Peace provide a free public service and are available in the Tolmie locality for the following services:

- Attesting the execution of a document
- Witnessing an Affidavit for use in court
- Witnessing a Statutory Declaration
- Certifying a True Copy of an original document
- Certifying a person's identity

CONTACT

Kelvin S. Lowe, JP 0477 140 541

Line Dancing

Tolmie Hall, Wednesday afternoon
From 3.45 – 5.00, all welcome
Gold coin donation to the Hall
Contact - Janet 0419 107 496

Starts 3.00pm Wednesday 27th March



TOLMIE UFO (Unfinished Objects)

All welcome

WHERE: Tolmie Mechanics Institute Hall
(Gold coin donation)

WHEN: Every Friday from 9:30 a.m

CONTACT: Janet - 0419 107 496



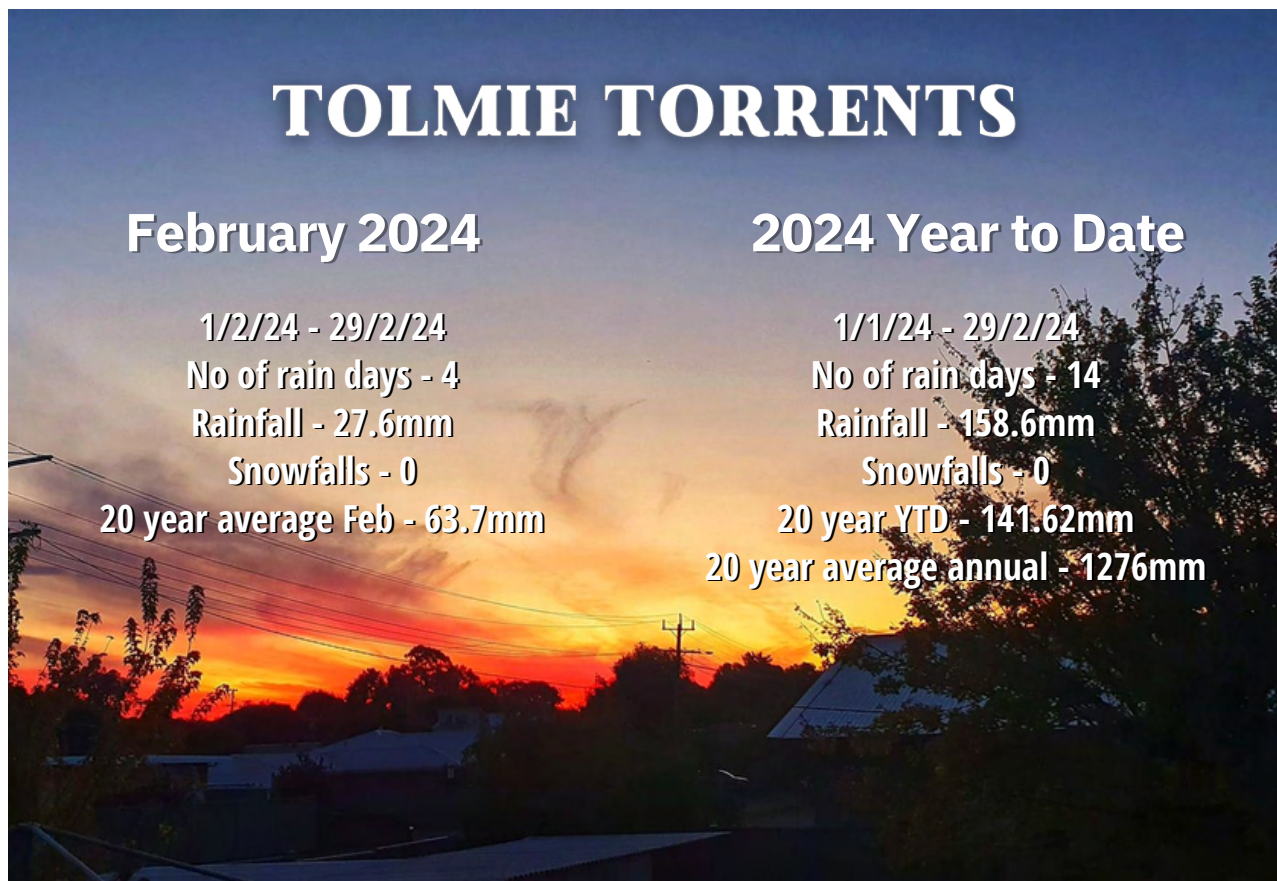


Photo Credit - Cody Bell

Data source - [BOM](#) (Mt Tabletop Repeater)



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Shadow Minister for Sport | Shadow Minister for Tourism