

VILLAGE BELL

Upper Beaconsfield Association
www.upperbeaconsfield.org.au



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ERECTED
— TO —
THE MEMORY OF THE MEN
OF BEACONSFIELD UPPER
WHO FELL IN THE GREAT WAR
1914 — 1919

At the going down of the sun
and in the morning,
We will remember them.



ANZAC Day 100-year anniversary of the first landings at Gallipoli



Above: (l to r: Governor General Sir Peter Cosgrove, Lady Cosgrove, Judy Whelan, Bronwyn Cunnington, Marianne Rocke) Official opening of Anzac Walk in Emerald on 11 March 2015. The Governor General Sir Peter and Lady Cosgrove meet relatives of fallen WWI Dewhurst soldier Evan Evans, as they view the new plaques displayed on the walk. Marianne Rocke, who researched the histories of the Dewhurst soldiers, tracked down niece Judy and great niece Bronwyn to obtain a picture of Evan for the plaque. Five Dewhurst soldiers are remembered on plaques on the new Emerald Anzac Walk and the Upper Beaconsfield Cenotaph. They are: George Shanks, Walter Heppner, Evan Evans, Harold Coulson and Ted Ladd

Above: Sally Randall and Marianne Rocke celebrate the completion of their poster remembering the Upper Beaconsfield WWI soldiers, whose names appear on the Cenotaph. The poster is displayed at the Community Centre.



EVANS
Evan Charles Russell
(Private)
Regimental No. 3383A
Killed in Action
18th September 1918
In France
Aged 22 years
Member of the 46th Battalion
Usual Occupation: Orchardist
Son of:
William and Rose Evans
Of Emerald
BURIED IN BELLICOURT BRITISH CEMETERY
FRANCE

Neighbourhood House Week Morning Tea at the Community Centre on 12 May 2015. Sitting in the front row is the backbone of the Community Centre (left to right) Cathy Fischer, Kirsten Hill, new co-ordinator Darlene Stillwell, and Sally Randall.



Anzac day ceremony

25 April 2015

Unlike last year, we were not blessed with the finest weather. A great crowd gathered for the 100 year anniversary of the landing at Gallipoli. RSL members read the names of Upper Beaconsfield servicemen from the honour board, and local scouts and relatives marked each name by laying a cross.

This year, special thanks go to the Upper Beaconsfield Garden Group for the beautification of the Cenotaph, and also to the Woorinyan CWA for catering for the masses.

Thank you to Councillors Brett Owen and Tanya Baxter for ensuring that the wall was mended before the service. We acknowledge the many people who helped on the day.

The very large crowd was invited back to the RSL clubrooms, and they squeezed into the rooms.

We have a few more years of Centenaries to acknowledge and we hope you all will be involved again.

The RSL members thank all who attended the service.

ERIC CHAPLIN PRESIDENT RSL

Village Bell 200th issue!

This is the 200th issue since the Village Bell was first published in 1978. The sentiments expressed in the first issue editorial are still relevant today. Here are some of the thoughts that were penned by Roger Francey, the editor of the first Village Bell.

What's in a name? Historically, a village bell has served to bring a community together.

Cooperation or confrontation? Ideals are relatively common, their achievement relatively rare. In attempting to swim against the current of normal suburban development we are certain to meet opposition from without and within the community; however opposition need not mean confrontation (the best of friends have opposing opinions).

It is most important that before we start looking for things to disagree about, we must explore the things we have in common.

This newsletter is primarily about getting to know each other and exploring our common interest. If confrontation ever becomes necessary, it can only be effective and constructive, when, as with the Bellbirds, it involves all (or at least a sizeable majority of) residents against a commonly perceived outside interference.

Who sounds this bell? The Village Bell has been forged by the Upper Beaconsfield Association. It is intended that the community be the bell ringers. This first edition sets an excellent precedent with some 30 community members contributing to articles.

This newsletter and the 2 monthly UBA forum ... are intended to be focal points for a wide ranging constructive community activity—be in it.



Worst wasp season in 20 years

Hopefully by the time you read this, the danger period for wasps will have passed for now. This year was reported as the worst wasp season in Victoria in 20 years, probably because we had a mild winter in 2014 followed by a mild summer.

On a recent garden working bee at the local church, a volunteer inadvertently disturbed a nest when trying to remove agapanthus. A cloud of wasps came out and attacked resulting in 12 bites around the head and arms. The local chemist quickly provided assistance to the distressed gardener with antihistamine.

Another local incident took place when a lady threw cleaning water into a bush and disturbed a nest of wasps. The lady ran into her house, through several sets of doors in order to throw off the attacking wasps. Even then she was bitten 22 times. She rang 000 and was advised to stay on the line until the ambulance arrived. The ambos gave treatment and stayed for a while to monitor for any bad reaction. Later the rash worsened and she was taken to Casey Hospital by family members for further treatment and observation.

A neighbour left notes in letterboxes in Stoney Creek Road warning of wasp attacks in the vicinity. This time children and dogs were bitten.

European wasps are primarily ground dwellers. But they can be found in walls, letterboxes, meterboxes, under logs and in embankments. One nest can contain up to 100 000 wasps. European wasps can sting more than once and leave

a chemical marker prompting other wasps to attack. Late summer and early autumn is the worst time for wasps when they are out and about frantically looking for food for their young.

Anyone experiencing difficulty may be having a severe allergic reaction and should seek medical attention immediately. The most severe allergic reaction can cause anaphylaxis and death. Horses have died as a result of wasp attacks.

One expert stated that the most effective way of reducing wasp numbers was to treat as many nests before they began releasing queens. Queen production continues until winter, and it is important nests are reported before queens are released for hibernation. The queens will hibernate over winter and form embryo nests next spring.

If wasps are on Cardinia Council property or on road reserves, residents should contact 1300 787 624. Residents are responsible for organising the removal of bees and wasps on private property.

HELEN SMITH



CWA – Just scones and jam?

This is a great association to be part of. We are not just scones and jam. The association gets involved in lots of social issues, fund raising, making trauma dolls for children in hospital along with making goods and helping families in need.

The association would like to have an evening branch in the area so if there is anyone interested please ring either of the names here.

The Woorinyan Branch of the Country Women's Association meets on the fourth Friday of the month 1.30 pm at St John's Church Hall. New members are always welcome. Please contact branch president Mrs Lynette Lameris 5944 4052 or Barbara Reid 9705 0276.

BARBARA REID



Red Cross news

May 8 is celebrated as International Red Cross Day each year. It was also the regular monthly meeting day for the Berwick/Upper Beaconsfield branch. Carol McCann of Berglund Road attended the meeting and has indicated she is interested to volunteer in several Red Cross activities. She has joined the roster for a sausage sizzle outside Bunnings on Saturday 13 June and will be helping out at the next Mobile Blood Bank in August.

The Mothers' Day raffle was drawn at the meeting and the winning tickets were sold by Norma McCausland, Barbara Jackson and Marion Limpus. Over \$500 was raised by this fund raising effort and members thank Shanika's restaurant for donating the first prize of a \$50 voucher.

The Branch will forward \$1 500 to the Australian Red Cross appeal to aid victims of the Nepal earthquake.

Of interest to all residents who save used stamps for Red Cross and wonder what happens to them afterwards, guest speaker at the unit's AGM, to be held on 10 July will be Eunice Welch, a volunteer for many years in the Red Cross Philatelic department. The meeting will be held in the Berwick RSL Hall, Langmore Lane at 10 am.

The next meeting of the Branch will be held on Friday 12 June at 10 am. Visitors are always very welcome.

BARBARA JACKSON

UBA General meeting Wednesday 3 June at 7.30 pm
At the Community Complex. Community forum for the discussion of local issues. All residents welcome.

Thank you to our subscribers:

John & Cathy Bain; Nancy Boura; Eddie Bredin;
Lisa & Scott Collard; John De Jager; Norma Dickson;
Mike & Bronwyn Fitzgerald; R O & D M Grant, Ron & Lisa Hall, Dorothy & Richard Halliday; Craig Haw;
W & E Hemme; Graham Hunter; Ross & Glenda Jephcott; Gary, Sharyn & Daniel Jones; Nikki LeBrocq;
McCann family; Des & Carmel McKenna; T & J O'Donovan; Fergus & Cheryl O'Gallagher; Neil & Sandra Robert; Silke Schweizer; Helen Smith; D & W Summons; S & J Wall; Dianne White; Zalisz Family

Upper Beaconsfield Village Bell – supported by Cardinia Shire Council



Rainfall at "Barkala", Beaconsfield–Emerald Road

Month	45 yr av.	2014	2015
Jan	63.6	29.3	36.7
Feb	58.4	55.4	55.7
Mar	64.2	39.9	29.5
Apr	78.3	109.5	76.5
May	86.1	80.0	
Jun	80.3	120.0	
Jul	78.6	94.3	
Aug	85.7	66.4	
Sep	90.6	95.6	
Oct	94.3	91.6	
Nov	86.5	66.1	
Dec	80.4	75.0	
Total	947.2 mm	923.1 mm	

The summer period December 2014 to February 2015 totalled a rainfall of 167.4 mm, compared to the 45 year average of 202.4 mm. January was a dry month.

The year to date (Jan–Apr) rainfall was 198.4 mm, compared to the 45 year average of 264.5 mm. March was also a very dry month.

GEORGE MOIR

Bell Credits

Editor Matt McDonald tel 5944 3860 – **Layout** Marianne Rocke – **Photo editor, cover & centre images** Cameron Rocke – **Collation** Noel Ling – **Advertising** Helen Smith and Kaylene Cox – **Subscriptions** Julie Born – **Mailing list** Cheryl O'Gallagher – **Printing** Graham Jackson – **Receiving copy:** Helen Smith – editor.villagebell@gmail.com tel 5944 3219

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Friends of Salisbury Gully

McBride Road roadworks

The sealing of the road is limiting access to Salisbury Gully at present. The flow of water off the road after sealing, will be more concentrated at outflow points at the northern end of the road, into Salisbury Gully. This could potentially cause erosion, unless correct draining controls are administered. We will be monitoring this issue with interest, and also that all debris from the road works are removed upon completion.

Working with Council

Sue Simmons and I (right) have had a few meetings with Council officers, who have been very supportive of our project. They have given us permission to undertake the planned work on the walking path, to have the weeds particularly along McBride Road sprayed, and to arrange the removal of some of the large fallen timber near the start of the track, so that we can do some replanting. They have also promised that a proper sign for the Salisbury Gully Reserve will be installed. Council has also given permission for us to install a sign with information about the Friends of Salisbury Gully. They have also arranged the poisoning of a big wasp nest under one of the fallen trees. We have queried whether the old pine tree right on the side of McBride Road could be removed, but at this stage this is too expensive to be undertaken.

Weeding

We have engaged contractors who have commenced spraying the largest patches of weeds –

periwinkle in particular, at the top of Salisbury Gully. Some weeding will need to be done by hand, where the weeds are growing amongst indigenous plants. Once the worst of the weeds have been removed, we will start replanting indigenous plants in manageable stages. There is a great deal of weeding to be done, so please let Sally know if you would like to help with this.

Flora and fauna survey

We hope to have a flora and fauna survey undertaken during the year, to augment a plant list that was prepared many years ago. This will help us to understand the environmental values of Salisbury Gully, and will be made available to interested members of the public.

Improvement of the path

The existing walking path has been badly damaged by erosion and vandalism, and we will be undertaking some work to improve the accessibility of the first level stretch of the path, so that members of the public can access the Gully and enjoy the seats that will be placed in strategic points. The improved path will also make access possible so that replanting can be undertaken. We will not be undertaking a restoration of the whole walking track at this stage. This would require a level of funding which we do not have.

We would welcome further community participation in this project. Please contact the Friends' group through the Community Centre by phoning 5944 3484 if you would like to become involved, or if you would like to receive our newsletters.

SALLY RANDALL



Sealing McBride Road

Security fencing appeared next to the War Memorial some weeks ago. This signalled the beginning of a make-over for McBride Road. The firm Fulton Hogan were engaged to transform the amenity of the road.

The work began with removal of select trees and trimming back growth along the roadside. New drainage, curbing and channelling are being installed. A retaining wall of about eighty metres was built, with each galvanised steel upright being bolted to a concrete pad



and tied at the top with heavy adjustable reinforcing rods. Those are attached to a concrete block set in a trench on the opposite side of the road. Quite a sophisticated structure.

The road will be sealed, and the entrance to McBride road at the south end will once again be open only to emergency traffic. The project is due for completion at the end of May. The cost of the work is to be shared between the Council and the residents.

Thanks to Dave Walker of Fulton Hogan for providing this information.

MATT McDONALD

Population forecast to double in Cardinia Shire by 2036

The Village Bell was alerted to this information by Graham Jolly. It makes interesting reading. These forecasts were updated in February 2015 by a demographic research organisation, on behalf of Cardinia Shire, see www.forecast.id.com.au/cardinia. The forecasts are designed to provide community groups, council, investors, business, students and the general public with knowledge to make confident decisions about the future.



The Cardinia Shire population forecast for 2015 is 90 325, and is forecast to grow to 174 993 by 2036, an increase of 93.74%.

A close look at the map provided on the web site is illuminating. If you place your pointer over Upper Beaconsfield, the forecast is a rise from 4 498 population in 2015 to 4 628 in 2036. This is a rise of only 2.9%. The other hills towns of Emerald and Cockatoo districts have a similar rise. Gembrook, however, is 19.76%.

The fastest growing areas are Pakenham East with a population growth of 20 381.67% (an increase from 80 to 16 445), the "Officer precinct" a population growth of 1 211.82% (from 2 551 to 33 471)!

Other precincts include Beaconsfield 19%, Pakenham 34.29%, Nar Nar Goon/Tynong 25.7%, Garfield 58.86%, Bunyip 59.65% and "Northern rural" Pakenham Upper to Bunyip North 13.11%, Kooweerup 65.51% and Lang Lang 89.78%.

It will be hard to contemplate how transport and all other services are going to cope with these numbers. All residents in the shire will be affected no matter where they live. Even now I regularly hear on the radio that traffic on the M1 banks up from Clyde Road in the mornings. The other issue is how the roads in the hills will cope in an emergency situation during bushfires. What about hospitals and other community services? Much food for thought.

HELEN SMITH

Your property and security

This story reminds residents that we are vulnerable to property theft and security.

Last year an Upper Beaconsfield resident noticed a man on his property who had been looking in shedding. When approached, the person gave a "garbled" explanation as to his reasons for being there, and left. The resident contacted his neighbour, who had also seen two men on his property. Together they managed to get the vehicle registration and notified police. The same day another neighbour discovered his property had been burgled.

Earlier this year, a tenant of the resident's property observed more suspicious persons appearing to "case" the property. He took the car's registration. On a second occasion, on leaving for work around 4 am, he noticed a man inspecting a horse float. The tenant fortunately has an employment background

in security. He challenged the intruder who initially was reluctant to leave. The car registration was noted and the tenant again notified police. The police were impressed with the way the tenant handled the situation and how he could give details of the incident.

Police patrols subsequently increased in that area.

Our resident said these experiences have been quite traumatic for him and his family and neighbours. He said that it is important for all residents to be watchful and not to be afraid to contact police. The would be thieves may have been successful if the resident, neighbour and tenant had not been so observant.

Reporting suspicious activity will help build up a database of suspects and incidents. If you live in quieter back roads on property with sheds, you too may be vulnerable. If you find yourself in this situation, try and get details of offenders and car registrations. Dial 000.

Weed removal at Critchley Parker Junior Reserve

Cardinia Catchment Landcare Inc. working with Parks Victoria and the Shire of Cardinia are removing environmental weeds that are impacting on the biodiversity of Critchley Parker Junior Reserve and surrounding areas. The bluebell creeper (*Sollya heterophylla*)—a garden escapee plant from Western Australia—has taken over a large area in Critchley Parker with the mother plants climbing the trees and producing large amounts of seed. Many runners can emerge from one rootstock, climbing upwards, strangling the local indigenous vegetation. We have spent many thousands of dollars this year on paying weed contractors to help in reducing the population of this plant, but there is still much work to do.

We have been helping residents on surrounding properties remove the bluebell creeper and seven other targeted environmental weeds from along their roadsides and their properties. This has been most helpful to the environment and for the future preservation of this beautiful reserve. As you know weeds know no boundaries – birds and wind spread weeds over a vast area.

We have been working with residents along Barnes Drive, High Street, Borchardt Street and St Georges Road – undertaking site visits and paying for a fully qualified weed contractor to remove the eight targeted weeds that are impinging on the reserve.

When you have a spare moment, please come and enjoy the plant diversity. The wild flowers and orchids change with the season.

Do you live close to Critchley Parker Junior Reserve? Would you like to help in preserving this wonderful asset and have a Landcare officer check your property for the eight targeted environmental weeds and would like help in removing your them? Please contact me on 0499 891 351.

VIVIEN CLARKE, PROJECT OFFICER

Vale John Fenner, a quiet achiever

John Derek Fenner, resident of Split Rock Road, passed away at his home on 26 April 2015 after a long battle



with illness. John's family, son Matthew and family, daughter Rebecca and brother Bevan also reside in Upper Beaconsfield.

John moved here in 1990 and loved the lifestyle, people and scenery of the area. During his lifetime he unfortunately lost two wives Carol and Sue to illness.

John and Bevan arrived from England in the fifties and commenced training in engineering drafting. He found employment in General Motors Holden's technical centre at Fisherman's Bend, from where he was transferred to the Dandenong plant, quickly rising to production manager and then plant manager. When Toyota took over Dandenong he retained this position. With the Dandenong closure he moved to the new plant at Altona as manager retiring from there after two years.

John's interest was always cars, restoring three Landrovers and a beautiful XK 120 Jaguar, which he never got to drive.

He was a fair and friendly person with a subtle sense of humour and will be greatly missed.

His funeral was held at Tobin Brothers in Berwick and was well attended by friends and former colleagues from the vehicle industry who then returned to his residence to remember and honour John.

BARRY GATES

Vale Beryl Hamilton

Beryl was a special person, who was always ready and willing to help those in need be it family, friends, neighbours or the community at large. Born in Pakenham in 1936 and raised on a dairy farm on McDonald's Drain Road, Pakenham South, Beryl grew up to a life of farm work and keeping house for her father and five brothers and three sisters, as well as a mother who had suffered a stroke and needed care and attention.



Life changed for Beryl with the appearance of young Stan Hamilton who – as her brothers said – was intent on stealing their cook. Beryl and Stan were married in 1962 at the Pakenham United Church, as it was then known. They had three children who grew up in Upper Beaconsfield. Stan recalls Beryl's frequent baking sessions to produce an almost never ending supply of cakes and sponges in support of the CFA Auxiliary, the kinder, the school, Windermere, etc.

Stan recalled the two kitchen teas arranged for them – one at Pakenham South and one at Dewhurst in the days when Dewhurst was still in existence. Also the tin kettling they were given when they moved into their home 'Springfield', in Berglund Road, the home of the Hamilton family for generations.

Beryl died after a long battle with illness and the community is the richer for her life – she was one of those stalwarts people instinctively turned to – a person always willing to help and support others in their need. Thank you Beryl for all that you did for others and for the joy you brought to so many.

GRAHAM JACKSON

St John's Church corner—a new look

Wow! By now you have probably all noticed the renewed prominent visibility of the St John's Church building. The Upper Beaconsfield Beautification Group are fast workers! I think it was in March that the Parish Council agreed to their offer to work with the Church environs along the lines of the gardening work in the rest of the village. Then in April the arborist gave his opinion and the densely screening shrubs came down with a suddenness that surprised us all. Big changes take a while to adjust to but now comments are very positive: "Wow you can really see the Church now—I like it!" Traffic visibility from St Georges Road into Emerald Road is greatly improved.

Our thanks to Craig Brodie and his crew for their efficiency, their tidying up and for the lovely supply of mulch for the new garden areas.

The aim was to have the Church look more a part of the village, and this has been achieved. And as One of God's primary focuses is on community, this is a good thing. In early May we had our first joint working bee with the Beautification Group, starting to clear the feral Agapanthus in preparation for the new gardens. There is something so rewarding about working hard with a common object—it 'breaks the ice' and enables a rapid exchange of fun and fellowship. And there will be plenty more opportunities over the next few months as we finish the clearing, then plant the new gardens. Huge thankyou to Jenny, Sue and the team.

In April St John's had the joy of celebrating the wedding of one of our



own daughters. Olinda Lui married Derrick Kickel. Such a very special event. We wish the new couple every blessing as they establish life together.

St John's Op Shop has had some changes as some long-term volunteers have retired and new (hopefully long-term) volunteers have taken it on.

We recognise the huge commitment our volunteers make in keeping the shop open every week.

Word of mouth is spreading about the interesting variety of bargain goods available and there are reports of people coming from some distance away to browse.

Gathered worship at St John's continues on Sundays at 9.30 am. Informal worship at present consists of a Thursday morning prayer group at the Church, and a Friday evening home group. Contact details are on our website.

ROS SMITH

A Painted Button Quail in our habitat garden

A few months ago we were delighted to have a new visitor to our garden. It was a Painted Button Quail (*Turnix varia*) a native ground-dwelling bird of 20 cm long (females) and 17 cm long (males).

The female is the larger and more colourful of the two, a bright chestnut across the shoulder with crown, face and chest flecked white. The feathers on the back and wings are amazing; as the name suggests they look like the feathers have been painted on in chestnut and black with white streaking, and provide perfect camouflage by blending into the forest floor. The male is similar but the chestnut colour is replaced with buff.

The female has a low display booming call resembling that of a courting Emu or Common Bronzewing, the male usually is silent. They feed on insects and seeds as they forage on the ground by spinning about on alternate legs to expose items of food among the leaves and on the soil surface, making little cleared circles in the litter.

Breeding season is August to March, nesting on the ground at the base of a shrub or tuft of grass. They prefer dry woodlands or forest areas such as Sutherland Park Flora and Fauna Reserve, where you will find a small family group. Females dominate the courtship and mate with several males each season, leaving them to incubate and rear the young. As they are a ground-dwelling bird they are easy prey for foxes and cats and their habitat is under constant threat from clearing of grasses and shrublands.

Another ground-dwelling native living around Upper Beaconsfield are several species of *Antechinus*, also known as a marsupial mouse. But they are not like a mouse even though they are similar in appearance. For example an *Antechinus* has four pairs of small sharp incisor teeth and a burgundy coloured nose, whereas the house mouse has prominent front teeth and a pale often pink nose. They are nocturnal marsupials that prey on invertebrates such as

spiders, beetles (including larvae), weevils and cockroaches, even on the house mouse.

Breeding starts late winter or spring, and shortly after mating the males die from stress related illness at the ripe old age of



image: birdlife.org.au

11½ months. Females may live for another breeding season or two. Pregnant females give birth a month after mating and carry their 6–10 young around in an open pouch for up to 8 weeks. Young are thereafter left in the nest excavated in banks or just below the soil surface under cover of logs or grass, also in hollow logs and wood piles. Some species will use drawers in sheds as mine did one year; the nests are lined with grass and leaves.

The young venture out on their own at about 3 months of age. These cute little creatures are also under threat from land clearing, foxes and cats. You can do your bit to help their survival and the survival of others by keeping your cat on your property and indoors at night; this will also help to keep your cat safe.

SUE SIMMONS

Bush food workshop 13 June

Growing Australian Native Bush foods

Saturday 13 June 10 am–12 noon.

This two hour workshop touches on bush foods in general but focuses mainly on local plants and plants used in everyday modern cooking. Bookings are limited. Course cost is \$20 per person and includes a bush food inspired cuppa and cake. Book at Upper Beaconsfield by 5 June Community Centre 5944 3484.

Prior to European settlement, Aboriginal Australians ate a diversity of food including seeds, nuts, roots, vegetables and meats—all indigenous species unique to their own area. The area of Upper Beaconsfield and surrounds is one of Gondwanaland's special places, rich in 'bush tucker' plants. They exist all around us in our reserves, gardens and wild places.

A perfect example is the Prickly Currant Bush—*Coprosma quadrifida* (pictured right). This three metre shrub belongs to the coffee family of plants—the Rubiaceae. It is mildly



prickly and can be found in moist areas like the Cardinia Creek. It's not the most attractive garden plant but in December, it comes into its own and

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A People's Place Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre



New co-ordinator at the Community Centre

The Community Centre recently welcomed its new co-ordinator, Darlene Stillwell. If you have any ideas for new classes, or would like to teach a class, Darlene would love to hear from you.

We are looking for the donation of a bookcase, and any unwanted books in good condition, for our secondhand 'bookshop'.

If you have any queries in relation to any of the Community Centre's classes or activities, please contact Darlene on 5944 3484.

Supporting your Community Centre

Sometimes we are asked how the Community Centre prices its classes.

While the Community Centre receives some funding from Cardinia Shire Council and some from other State Government departments, it has to generate the balance of its income from its various activities. The small membership fee of \$10 per household adds a small amount to our income, but it helps to cover some of our bills.

The fee for any specific class will depend on whether the class is externally funded, how many people will attend the class and the cost of running the class. Our computer classes are very reasonably priced because they are specifically subsidised by the Department of Education and Training, so take advantage.

By taking courses locally you are also supporting your own community-run organisation, as opposed to supporting a profit-making venture, and you will get to know and mix with members of your own community. You may also save

travel time and petrol. Upper Beaconsfield is a small community, so we need your support if we are to survive.

Annual General Meeting for the year ending 31 December 2014

At our AGM in March, we thanked two retiring committee members, Karen Cartwright who had served as our Treasurer for two years, and Ian McLean who had served as a committee member and inaugural member of the Upper Beaconsfield Men's Shed. We were pleased to welcome three new members to our committee: Susan Jovanovic, our new Treasurer and Sarah Morrissey and Sue Simmons as general committee members, who will join ongoing committee members Noel Ling (Vice-President), Traci Newham (Secretary), Trina Mazzone and Nikki LeBrocq who complete our committee. We will be working hard to ensure that we maintain our position and can continue to provide services for the community into the future, so please support this wonderful organisation through your participation in classes, activities and events.

**SALLY RANDALL, PRESIDENT,
COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT.**

Village Festival Sunday 21 February 2016

The Upper Beaconsfield Village Festival and Fun Run were a great success in 2015.

More fun and food for next year. More entertainment and activities planned.

Volunteers needed for the committee and to help on the day. Please contact the Community Centre: 5944 3484

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looks incredibly festive and wonderful. The fruit is uniquely sweet. One plant can produce hundred of berries—enough for a family.

Sustainability Expo Pakenham

Green Circle Plant Nursery (GCPN) exhibited locally grown native plants and an information stand at the Sustainability Expo held on Saturday 2 May at the Cardinia Cultural Centre, Lakeside Boulevard, Pakenham.

The expo had something for everyone, with a bumper list of exhibitors' products, activities, sustainable gifts and earth friendly solutions for your home. GCPN gave away free indigenous plants on the day.

For more information about our plants and services, see our web site at greencircleplantnursery.net.au Green Circle Plant Nursery, Halford Street, is open Fridays 9-4. Volunteers welcome.

ANITA MEISTER



Accredited Courses at Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre

- Certificate III Aged Care **CHC30212** and Certificate III Home & Community Care **CHC30312** – (Dual qualification) 13 July to December 2015
- Certificate IV Training and Assessment **TAE40110** 15 July to October 2015
- Provide First Aid **HLTAID003** – 16 Sept 2015
- Provide an emergency First Aid response in an education and care setting **HLTAID002** – 16 Sept 2015
- Provide CPR **HLTAID001** – 16 Sept 2015

Expressions of interest are being taken for

- Certificate III in Education Support ('Teachers' Aide') **CHC30213**, commencing 7 August 2015, Fridays 9.30 am–2.30 pm
- Certificate III Early Childhood Education and Care **CHC30113** commencing Term 4.

All enquiries phone 5944 3484.

Upper Beaconsfield Community Early Learning Centre

Pumpkin soup at the centre

We returned from our Easter holidays to harvest many of the summer herbs and vegetables from both our Early Learning Centre vegie garden and the Community Garden. The children have really enjoyed digging, planting and picking pumpkins, spring onions, tomatoes and strawberries (and the unripe ones too!)



The children picked the produce, washed, cut and put it all into a pot. After the pumpkin was cooked and we zapped it in the food processor, it was ready to eat. The children enjoyed seeing and tasting their fresh produce, which they helped plant and grow, turn into a healthy lunch snack. Some children had seconds and even thirds!

Our Early Learning Centre (ELC) is open from 7.30 am-6.30 pm and offers exceptional services for up to 26 children per day. We are a small, community run centre that has a strong focus on children's health and wellbeing. Whether you require care because you are working, need a break, or for your child to grow and develop with other children their age, then the Community Centre (UBCC) is the place to come.

Fee discounts and specials available. Families are also eligible for at least a 50% discount with their Child Care Rebate (CCR) and further reductions with Child Care Benefit (CCB), when meeting Centrelink eligibility criteria. We also have funding available to cover the FULL cost of childcare for parents or carers while they are undertaking either Accredited or Pre-accredited courses at any training institution, not just Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre. Call today to check whether you are eligible.

NATASHA JONES, DIRECTOR, UPPER BEACONSFIELD COMMUNITY EARLY LEARNING CENTRE

ELC Term 2 Special (*Until 26 June 2015)

Mention this advertisement at the time of booking and receive a further discount of \$10 per booking, per child! Your fees could be as low as \$12.50 for a half day and \$32.50 full day (with the discount and CCR). So book your FREE orientation session today!

TOY LIBRARY IS OPEN TUESDAYS 4-5 PM & SATURDAYS 9.30-10.30 AM DURING SCHOOL TERM. LOCATED AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE. FOR MORE INFORMATION: UBTL.MIBASE.COM.AU PHONE 5944 3484 OR EMAIL UPPERBEAC.TOYLIBRARY@YAHOO.COM.AU

Board Games



Board games include card and floor type games that have entertained us over many generations. And yes, there are some fantastic digital and electronic games available too, especially those that tell a story, are adventurous and intellectually challenging. Both types of games have their place and are just as portable. Many board games come in travel versions.

Board games allow families and groups of friends to have fun interacting. Hence they teach social skills and good manners like taking turns, respecting rules and one another whether they win or lose.

They are also excellent for your child's cognitive development. They teach counting, colour recognition, creativity, story telling. At a more advanced level they teach problem solving skills, strategy, lateral thinking and memory.

Board games are generally low cost, especially ones for younger children, and allow time-out from on-screen devices and television. Games such as Twister, Hopscotch, Elefun butterfly game and Charades encourage physical/mental dexterity and balance in children.

Recommended board games for under 6 years

- Roll & Play (18 mths+) Colour cube/action game. A simple card game aimed towards toddlers, a great introduction to their first board game.
- My First Scrabble (3-6 yrs), Scrabble Junior (5-10 yrs) is a colourful start to word-making and an introduction into the other age appropriate scrabble sets.
- Charades for Kids (4 yrs+) Using simple picture cards some with words - pre-school children can view the picture only or associate the word with the picture to play
- The Ladybug game (4 yrs+) Learn all about ladybugs/birds and counting.
- Zingo Ages 4-6 will love this; similar to Bingo except with picture/word matching, including bilingual.
- Kerplunk (5 yrs+) (Test your skill) Beware! Lots of fun and noisy.
- Rush Hour Junior (5 yrs+) Work out how to get out of the traffic jam.
- Twister (6 yrs+) Classic active floor game with lots of laughter! There are many versions/themes available to suit children of all ages .

Most of these games can be modified to make them simpler or less time consuming, or can be put aside to come back to later. Games can be adapted to grow with children by changing the skill level, or leaving out certain moves.

We have many popular classic games available as well as some current newer games, with more being added. Ideal for those wintry days ahead.

MARIE ROGERS



Construction of Men's Shed extension is finally underway



After many months of planning, revisions, and frustrations, the Shed has a building permit to construct a multi-purpose workshop extension adjoining the Men's Shed meeting facility. The extension will contain wood working and metal working areas plus other facilities that will be determined by the Shed Members.

All Shed Members and visitors will also be extremely relieved to know that toilet facilities will also be included in the extension.

The site on Halford Street has already been security fenced, and earthwork preparations will commence shortly. We are hoping that the facility will be complete before Christmas. It should be noted that after construction is completed, the surrounds will be landscaped in conjunction with the support of out local Green Circle Nursery.

Whilst the preliminary planning has been occurring, the members have still been busy with other activities. Over the last 3 months, members have visited Sheds at Drouin, and Berwick, and attended an automated

wood machining facility. Fundraising continued with a sausage sizzle and a wood raffle at the local store. The lucky raffle winner was local resident Rod Wiedermann. A

timber frame was constructed for the Cardinia Embroidery Group, and maintenance was performed around the Community Centre.

During the recent Neighbourhood week, the Shed held a sharpening session open for all to bring along their blunt tools and implements to be honed to razor sharpness, and also gain a few tips on tool maintenance. The Shed made sure that gourmet sausages were available to attendees, while they waited.

The Shed is open on Tuesdays and Wednesdays 9 am-12 noon and the Members meet on Wednesdays from 10 am till 12 noon.

Anyone who wants more information on the Shed and/or the new extension please contact Matt McDonald 0407 845 135 or Noel Ling 0414 443 735 or email secubms@gmail.com.

NOEL LING



Henri Lameris displays a sharpened axe



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ANZAC Day 2015

At our local ANZAC day service, the men listed on the cenotaph in their day walked the same ground, breathed the same air and heard the same magpie warbles and kookaburra laughs as we do today. As a mark of respect to these soldiers, one hundred years after the first landings at Gallipoli, the playing of 'The Last Post' brought on an immediate silence from all who attended. The official minute silence then ensued. Lest we Forget.



The forgotten army

Charles Bertram Berglund

Charles Bertram Berglund, known as Bert, was 17 years old when his father bought 200 acres in Upper Beaconsfield in 1906. The land was situated towards the eastern end of Berglund Road stretching north and was bounded across a valley by Yackatoon and Walford Roads. On this land, Bert established a large apple orchard.

Bert was popular in Upper Beaconsfield, and took part in the sports meetings. He played tennis, and at one stage even levelled a sloping area on the property by hand to make a tennis court. But most of all he was a natural with horses. He bred them, broke them in, drove them and rode them. He won a local mounted obstacle race in 1913.

At one stage, after he had broken four young horses to harness, Bert decided they were ready to take out. He offered his sister Violet a ride so that she could go shopping down the hill at Beaconsfield. When he turned onto the main road at Upper Beaconsfield, something spooked the horses, and they bolted. Violet risked her life by jumping off the cart. Bert risked his life by staying on. Bert didn't realise that she had jumped until he finally managed to stop the horses, at the bottom of the hill at the Cardinia Hotel. Bert presumed she was probably dead and made his way back to look for her. Violet, who had picked herself up and limped on downhill, also presumed Bert had been killed, so when they eventually met again, there was a joyful re-union. Bert was known to have ridden from Upper Beaconsfield into Melbourne, tie his horse outside the GPO and have afternoon tea with his mother. Bert also had a beautiful singing voice, and he sang at the concerts held at the Hall in Upper Beaconsfield.

At the start of the war Bert had been in the Light Horse (Citizen Military Forces) for several years, and had been a Staff Sergeant Major at Broadmeadows. When Bert enlisted in November 1915 he sailed to Egypt. One would imagine he was destined for service with the

Light Horse regiments for the Palestine campaigns, however he was posted with the Australian Army Service Corps (AASC) in the 5th Australian Divisional Train. His rank was Lieutenant.

Horses in the war

The well-being of the front line soldiers along the 700 km long World War I Western Front had to be maintained by ancillary services supplying food, water, ammunition, mail, ambulances etc.

Distribution well behind the lines was mostly by existing heavy rail. Heavy rail tracks were slow to construct, so from existing tracks close to the front line supplies still needed to be hauled to the Front. The solution was to lay quickly movable narrow gauge tramways to speedily ferry goods closer. The end of these smaller lines—the rail heads—were placed just beyond the distance that enemy shells could reach, to protect the rolling stock. However, they could still be bombed clumsily from light aircraft.

The next most efficient means to get the supplies in were trucks and other motor vehicles. However, they were limited in number, and in those days could only travel on roads in good condition.

It was horse and carriage, and pack horses—the 'mule trains'—which were the only flexible, all terrain means to transport goods to the front line. Heavier draft horses were employed to move artillery. Over the course of the war one million horses and mules were requisitioned for service. The Allied horse numbers peaked in the autumn of 1918, when 475 000 horses/mules were at work. The 5th Divisional Train ran approximately 350 animals and



was an integral cog in a big wheel of necessity.

Hard times for horses

The ordeals these 'mule trains' went through in completing this task can be well understood by reading the diaries of the 5th Divisional Train. Bert's time there starts in October 1916 (autumn going into winter in Europe). The weather was described as 'abominable', and most of the roads they worked on had turned to mud. Twice the usual numbers of horses were assigned to each type of carriage, with crews returning back to the railhead supply dumps by midnight on most trips. The horses were near breaking point.

By November the mud was knee deep, and by December frost bite on the horses started to set in. Frost bite is a condition where the flesh, usually on the extremities freezes and dies. Other complaints, due to the horses continuously standing in mud were also reported. When the number of horses fit for work dropped, re-mounts (fresh horses) were requested. (Across the Front, so many horses were being reported ill that a large veterinary corps was established, as well as huge facilities for horse convalescence. The centres had a 78 percent success rate, but that



Imperial War Museums Q4830

did not stop 259 000 horses perishing in service throughout the war).

By January 1917 more of the unit's horses got frost bite, picked up nails, or suffered gunshot wounds in service. Not wanting to see so many horses continually suffer, the men questioned the viability of the mule trains in winter. Many of the re-mounts needed were imported from the North American plains, and were well adjusted to icy winters. Still, all horses/mules suffered from the lack of shelter throughout the war.

Bert's care for the horses

To a fine horseman like Bert, this must have been hard to witness. By late January they got re-mounts. As an officer, Bert would have to oversee the training of new horses. As always he had to ensure the men were devoted to their beasts, promptly looking after their every need – basic veterinary care, feeding, watering and grooming. Typically a horse would have to be given water and be fed the correct sized meals, several times a day. Bert would have had to inspect all the leather equipment, to ensure it was being properly oiled and maintained. With tired or run down horses kept in such close proximity, lice, mange, and skin disorders had to be checked for beneath the horses thick winter hair and treated.

The Divisional Train's only relief came in late January 1917, when a cold snap brought minus 10 degrees Centigrade temperatures, and hardened the mud for horses and men to work on. By March all the horses had lost so much condition that their neck collars no longer fitted them and '... horses, which had hitherto proved staunch workers refused to work.' All the collars had to be adjusted. By March the weather may have improved, but the freight trains kept derailing leaving Bert's unit longer distances to haul in the supplies.

The enemy weren't helping things either. Bomb attacks from aircraft on supply dumps were common wounding men and horses – at one stage described as nightly activity. Barrages of poison gas canisters across supply roads, followed by concentrated gun fire in an attempt to scare the horses into the gas, was once described.

New role for transport troop

By August 1917 the unit was moved to Belgium. An order was given, for a Captain Curtis (to command), assisted by Lt Berglund, to form a Divisional Pack Transport Troop. New saddlery had to be manufactured/repaired. There could not have been better timing for this move. The Battle of Passchendaele (August–November 1917) was now upon them. The Allies blew up all the drainage on the land they advanced over and the season was unusually wet. The consequential legendary mud would have meant supplies could only come in by pack horse, on what was left of narrow trails, surrounded by seas of mud.

Captain Curtis' duty was not to leave the men on the front line wanting. He received a Military Cross for his determination to lead his men, sometimes under heavy fire and in spite of casualties, to make their deliveries promptly. As an officer under Captain Curtis, Bert would also have been right in the thick of it.

In March 1918, Bert Berglund was officially made 2nd in command under Captain Curtis, and the train was moved back to France, as a result of the German 'Spring Offensive'. One of the German objectives was to capture and make use of allied horses, for they could see what a valuable asset they were. Instead, the horses kept their allied men supplied, and the Germans instead were finally repulsed.



In the following summer, on 5 June 1918 Bert's unit had an inspection of lines and horses. The inspector said they 'were the best he had ever seen in France.' The men of the unit had a lot to be proud of.

By September 1918 the Allies were advancing. Distances to the front line extended to 25 miles return. Running horses through old trenches provided shelter from enemy fire. By October, as the usual wet weather and mud were setting in, a new hazard for the men was evolving. From the trenches emerged an influenza pandemic that would go on to kill as many people post-war, as all the lives lost during the war. Bert contracted this influenza and on 30 October, he was medically evacuated to Abbeville, where on 4 November 1918 he died from complications—one week before the armistice, 11 November 1918.

With victory clinched, the Allies had to decide what to do with all the horses. Unfortunately, only the finest and fittest were kept by the army.

All the rest of this forgotten army of horses were cheaply auctioned off or sold to abattoirs. This was one indignity Bert was spared from witnessing.

For the Berglund family, losing Bert so close to war's end must have been heartbreaking. The consequential collective grief of all the loved ones Bert left behind would have been palpable soon after war's end, in particular his mother, who was said to never recover from the loss. Back then, without modern obstetrics, she had risked her own life just to bring into the world a boy, who grew up into a man, only to lose his life prematurely in the war.

For next generation of children born after the war, there would have been the grief of never being able to meet Bert after hearing so much about him from other family members. Lois Berglund Dack, Bert's niece, is one such person, and places a portrait of Bert Berglund on the cenotaph during Anzac day services. May we never forget one of the many ugly sides of war—the grief it brings.

CAMERON & MARIANNE ROCKE,
CONTRIBUTION
BY SALLY RANDALL

The Captain's Log



On Monday 4 May the Upper Beaconsfield Brigade held its biennial elections to select the new Brigade management team and operational leadership (see box).

As outgoing Captain I remain until 30 June. This is a brand new leadership team made up of energetic and keen newer members. This reinforces the sustainability of the brigade into the future, and despite limited brigade management experience they will receive intensive training, coaching and



mentoring by the exiting leadership team during this transition period, and will be supported until they learn the ropes. I congratulate all newly elected officers and leadership team, and

Leadership team

1 July 2015–30 June 2017

Captain	Mike Hall
1st Lieutenant	Scott Huijbregsen
2nd Lieutenant	Doug Summons
3rd Lieutenant	Glenn Burrige
4th Lieutenant	Mike Schimizzi
Secretary	Camilla Graves
Treasurer	Judy Irwin
Community Safety Coordinator	Emma Vulin
Training Coordinator	Steve Limb
Communications Officer	Ian Pinney
Health & Safety Coordinator	Philip Cook
Chairperson	Mike Schimizzi
Fire and Emergency Management Planning	Scott Huijbregsen
Asset Maintenance Coordinator	Doug Summons

look forward to seeing them lead the way into a new era for CFA at Upper Beaconsfield.

Recently, Alan Dale, Senior Station Officer at Boronia and a volunteer of our brigade encouraged a couple of our new team to spend a day at the busy Boronia Fire Station. Scott Huijbregsen, and Emma Vulin (pictured below) learned new skills and saw how an integrated station (fulltime and volunteer members) works. The relationship with Boronia will provide them with additional mentoring and support as they take up their new positions in July.

Over March and April the brigade responded to 12 reported incidents. 7 of these were primary calls, and 5 were support calls to neighbouring brigades. One was a rescue, one a flammable liquid spill, the rest were reported burn offs or smell of smoke. It is important

to remember to register your burns, to avoid false alarm calls to our volunteers.

Local laws on burn-offs apply year-round, so check with your Cardinia council before lighting up.

So, as the winter closes in on us, I would like to thank the community for their support over the last four years. Stay safe.

CAPTAIN BARRIE GRAY

Smoke alarms

With the bushfire season well and truly over we are fast approaching the cold winter months when we run the risk of chimney fires, kitchen fires and electrical fires. In these situations only working smoke alarms save lives. While you are asleep you are unlikely to smell smoke. A working smoke alarm is vital to making sure you will wake up in the event of a fire.

How to keep your smoke alarm in working order:

- Use long-lasting 9V alkaline

batteries in your smoke alarm - by doing this you ensure year-round protection

- Use the brush attachment on your vacuum cleaner to dust around the smoke alarm
- Install photo-electric smoke alarms
- Test smoke alarms once a month. The alarm should produce a loud “beep beep beep-beep” sound when you press the test button using a broom handle
- Replace all smoke alarms (both battery powered and 240v hard-wired) after ten years (the year of manufacture is displayed on the alarm)
- Purchase smoke alarms that meet Australian Standards. Look for the AS3786 marking
- Waiting until the smoke alarm beeps before you change the battery is too late - this indicates that the battery is already flat, and your family is not protected. Change your smoke alarm battery every year.

Do your kids know what to do when the smoke alarm goes off? Simple actions like getting down low and crawling under smoke save lives, and every family should have a home fire escape plan that identifies all possible escape routes.

Smoke alarms for the hearing impaired

Special smoke alarms are available for the hearing impaired. These should feature a flashing strobe light and a vibrating pad that can be placed under the pillow to activate when the alarm sounds.

These smoke alarms can link with standard smoke alarms to alert all household members, regardless of hearing levels. When one alarm senses smoke, all will activate.

Other models are portable units that can be taken from one residence to another.

Profoundly deaf people can apply for a smoke alarm subsidy to help cover the costs of these smoke alarms. For further details contact the Victorian Deaf Society.

Steps in the education journey

District cross country

Our five-year run as the District Cross Country winning school came to an end in April with BUPPS finishing in a very commendable second place. Distance running is a very healthy physical and emotional activity that has many positive ramifications for participants. Congratulations to our cross country team who tried their very best on the day. Good luck to our team members who will progress to the next stage of competition—Division Finals.

Reading buddies

Our Reading Buddies program is an initiative that has our children from all grade levels, visit the Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre Early Learning Centre, Pre-Kinder and Kinder. As well as providing some role modelling for the younger children about the joy, excitement and imagination that reading books provides, these visits also provide social benefits such as greater self-esteem, responsibility and connectedness. The partnership also puts a perspective on how reading develops over the years and links the learning institutions in a meaningful and personal way.

Community projects

As part of our school's community service program, we provide opportunities for our children to perform various acts of kindness for people who are worthy recipients in the Upper Beaconsfield area. Again this year, our grade 3/4s have been doing some baking and presenting these to our community members. The radiation of gratefulness, happiness, appreciation and tears that are shared when the



delicious biscuits or muffins are presented is very humbling!



Linking learning birth-12 years

The old African proverb "It takes a whole village to raise a child" is truer now than ever before. As parents, educators and community members, we all have a significant role to play in the learning and development of each and every child. We are jointly responsible for the opportunities that are provided to each and every child at each stage of their learning journey. Cardinia Shire's "Linking Learning Birth-12 years" focus has established a number of trials that address school readiness, and specifically, ensuring the transition from each level of learning to eventually the primary school, a seamless learning experience. BUPPS's successful application will see all UBEG partners work collaboratively until June 2017 to enhance the way that we prepare all children to be able to read, and to also use the BUPPS Stadium and Library as a resource and learning hub.

The first component of the trial involves the implementation of the Early Years Evaluation (EYE) for the kindergarten children who will be starting school next year. The four indicators of reading readiness: Language and Communication, Cognitive Skills, Awareness of Self and Environment as well as Physical Development are assessed. A report is discussed and provided to parents, kindergarten teachers and Prep teachers.

The second component of the trial is to establish the school's library and stadium as a community learning hub. Following consultation with our UBEG directors and community bodies such as the Men's Shed and the CFA, we are anticipating opening the school library to the entire community, conducting reading activities and utilising the computers. We envisage the stadium, will be available for various meetings, gatherings and community events. The stadium has a full size kitchen, function room, a performance stage, as well as a competition size basketball and netball court.

Our aim is to open the school up to our community, during school hours and out of school hours. If you would like to utilise our school's facilities, please contact the BUPPS office at email: beaconsfield.upper.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

Children starting prep in 2016

BUPPS recognises the importance of preparing pre-schoolers for one of the more significant events in their life, that of starting school. A child needs to feel safe, informed, respected for who they are: confident young people, familiar with their new environment and fully supported as they start a thirteen year education journey. Our Prep Transition Program prepares children for school through many activities that are organised during terms 2, 3 and 4. Information about this year's transition has been distributed to all local kindergartens, and can be found on our website



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at www.bups.vic.edu.au. School Tours are available every Tuesday from 9.30–10.30 am, or at a mutually convenient time. To register for a school tour, please contact the school office on: 5944 3591.

School production 2015

This year's school production will be staged at St Margaret's School on Tuesday 15 September at 7 pm. The production is called "Planet Sustain-us". It has been written by our Performing Arts teacher, Jackie De Koning and it tells the story of a beautiful, untouched planet in outer space that is invaded by three creatures who introduce fast food and transport to the planet. The production will complement the sustainability study unit that all of our children will be involved in term 3. Details about tickets to the show will be posted on the school website soon.

Working bee

What an amazing job our parents did at our first of two working bees for the year! You only have to walk around

the school yard to realise the improvements to the gardens, structures and the school yard. The small but hard working team consisting of the Ewenson, Vincent, Doerig, Kelvin Johnson, Tymensen, Sankey, Scarborough, Purches, Stewart, Smith and Justice families re-stained the portico, put down a concrete slab for a future tool shed by the veggie garden, built a walking path by the Stadium, pruned the plants/trees/grasses at the front of the school and by the back of the Art Room, cleared the stockpile of dead flora from the front nature strip, cleaned the gutters and spouting of the original school house and moved the Prep cubby house to the grassed area. It was great to have informal chats with these families and the children had a great time, especially Samuel T with the blower! Thank you to all that were present as well as Mrs McDonald who looked after the catering needs. Thank you also to Mrs Clifford for organising the working bee so well. What a "feel-good" morning it was!

NICK KARANZOULIS
PRINCIPAL

Autumn leaves at the Kinder

The kinder and pre-kinder programs have been enjoying our Autumn weather and the children have had great fun using the leaves for art projects, making "leaf angels" and even using a digital camera to take photos of the changes occurring to the plants and trees in the playgrounds. The pre-kinder kids have loved having the big kids come from the primary school to read



to them and the kinder kids are looking forward to visiting the school and meeting the teachers over the coming months. How lucky for our kids that there is a great relationship between the kinder and school, making their move to big school so much easier! Playgroup continues to meet at the pre-kinder

building on a weekly basis and new families are always welcome to come along. A great way to keep your little ones entertained, especially through the winter months! The fabulous fundraising committee have been busy with chocolate drives, high tea and a Bunnings BBQ and are looking forward to our annual auction night in July.

DANI KRUGER



Early learning steps

An update from the Education Group

Our aim is to ensure "children reach their full potential at each stage of their education journey".

As part of a Cardinia Shire and Department of Education initiative and a successful grant

application in April, all the members of UBEG are now partaking in a Linking Learning Trial Site "School Readiness – Transition, a seamless learning experience from birth to 12 years of age"

To meet our aim and as a part of the trial site we are currently seeking input from families regarding the following education services in Upper Beaconsfield: Pre-kinder, Kinder and Primary School

- i) what are they doing well?
- ii) what needs to be improved?
- iii) what are the needs and priorities of parents?

Surveys have been distributed to families at the MCH service, Toy Library, Play Group, UBCC, Pre-Kinder and Kinder. If you are interested in completing a survey and providing us with feedback, which would be greatly appreciated, copies may be obtained from the UBCC office, at any of the above mentioned services, or at the link below.

www.bups.vic.edu.au/upper-beaconsfield-education-group-ubeg.html



SARAH SANKEY, UBEG

A serve from the Tennis Club



Junior and Senior weekend competitions

The Summer Season of the Junior and Senior competitions concluded in late March, with one team making it into the Grand Final. Congratulations to our Junior Section 7 team of Sam, Mia, Will, Jordie and Jessie. Unfortunately their opposition was too strong on the day and they lost the final by 4 games.

The winter season of the Junior and Senior competitions has just commenced with 8 Junior and 7 Senior teams representing UBTC. Good luck

to all of our teams for the season.

Working Bee

The Club held a working bee on Sunday 15 March with a great turnout of members that allowed lots of work to be completed around the club. The biggest achievement on the day was the completion of backfilling the new retaining walls between courts 1 and 2, as well as mulching the two newly created garden beds. A massive effort by everyone involved with hundreds and hundreds of wheel barrow loads of dirt and mulch being moved to get the job done. (See photo below). Thanks to everyone who attended and helped out



on the day.

Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA) course

The Club ran a Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA) course on 18 March with 20 members

attending and completing the course. The course was put on to ensure that the club has enough members who hold RSA Certificates, as well as to promote the safe and healthy serving and consumption of alcohol within the community, especially relating to sport and sporting events.

Annual General Meeting (AGM) – Save the date

The Tennis Club's AGM is to be held on Tuesday 11 August 2015 at the Tennis Club so make sure you save the date and put a reminder in your calendar. We hope to see as many as members as possible at the AGM. Further information will be sent out to all members as the date gets closer.

Interested in playing tennis?

If you would like to know more about the Upper Beaconsfield Tennis Club and how you can get involved in the great game of tennis simply email us at upperbeaconsfieldtc@gmail.com or check out our website, www.tennis.com.au/upperbeaconsfield or [facebook.com/upperbeaconsfieldtennisclub](https://www.facebook.com/upperbeaconsfieldtennisclub)

MATT HUTCHINSON

Riding to Success

Combined training day for Riding Club

Our first venture into running a combined training day on 18 April 2015 was a huge success. With lots of forward planning by the committee we were able to pull together a competition with lots of happy punters. The threatening weather had a few entrants scratching, but we were able to organise great weather too.

The week started very well with Ayr Hill informing us that we did not have to set up or disassemble any arenas - they were holding competitions either side of ours. So all we had to do on Friday was set up the jumps. Several of us turned up for that and Martin Sudul, our jumps designer and judge, had us carrying poles and wings and producing a lovely jumping course.



L to R: Kim Kleverlaan, Bob Prentis, Kerry Bail

We were able to use the indoor area for the jumps, which turned out quite fortuitous because it was raining at the time. We were also lucky that Ayr Hill has a judge's box for the indoor and two outdoor sand arenas, so no sitting in cars getting cold for the judges and pencilers!

Our trusty event secretary battled the highs and lows of being the contact for the

competition. She was there bright and early on Saturday ready to sign in competitors and organise cards. Sarie was general overseer of the roster and jobs and making sure people were where they were supposed to be at the right time. Nicole and Angelika had organised the judges and they came and went with smiles on their faces. Very friendly and happy to be involved in our day. Karen was our show jumping coordinator and timer and pencilled for Martin for all the jumping. Karen's lovely daughters came and helped too with jump crash pickup and marshalling. Doug Bail had written a new scoring program and the Bail family was responsible for entering scores. We got that done quite quickly and results posted in good time.

Toni organised our raffle which was a huge success and contributes well to our profit for the day. The \$5 ticket raffle where every ticket wins a prize is well received. We had many donations from various companies and many

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riding club members were also very generous with their donations. Rosz was great on the microphone making various announcements that kept the competitors informed. Allison, Laurissa and Juliet were pencilling and Laurissa also manned the jumping gate giving encouragement to all those that entered! Mary, Toni and Nadia, Wendy and Kim C, Juliet and Andrea covered marshalling and gear check, and Andrew & Kim K were general gofer for helping out, filling gaps and collecting tests. Kelly and Carolyn T put together snacks for judges so that they were well nourished and kept

happy. Wendy and Andrea organised ribbons and trophies. So, altogether a lot of time and effort from everyone and I extend a big thank you for the effort you put in.

Finally the competitors. Bob competed Level 4 on Levi and achieved 2nd after dressage and overall 2nd place. Kim K competed on Bobby and did extremely well for his first outing - 2nd after dressage, and 5th overall. Kerry on Shakira was 3rd after dressage and 4th overall. Kim won the Beryl Hails trophy for best performed dressage on the day.

KERRY BAIL UPPER BEACONSFIELD RIDING CLUB
WWW.UBRC.COM.AU



Living to ride - history in the making

On 19 April 1770 James Cook first sighted Australia's east coast. On 19 April 1897 the first Boston Marathon was run. On 19 April 2015 the UB Pony Club held its Awards Presentation and conducted its Annual General Meeting! And between "Yesterday and Tomorrow" (Barbara Streisand - released 19 April 1973) the Pony Club will continue to grow and encourage and inspire riders. The nineteenth of April is a date in history! And so we congratulate each and every pony club member who received an award: awards that supported the committee's belief in those riders and for the efforts they displayed over the last twelve months.

26 April saw singer Rod Stewart mugged and his Porsche stolen (he should have stuck to riding horses) and our 2015 Games Team compete in the West Gippsland Zone Qualifier. Finishing a great third, the team of Millie McDonald, Kaitlyn Jones, Brooke and Chloe Lever, Eva and Vivien Robinson and Sarah Laukart are well on the way, surely, to a first next time out. A fantastic day for all of them!

Should you ever want a fantastic day then please come along on the third Sunday of any month to a rally at our grounds in Burton Road to see just what Pony Club is all about. Different from other sports, yes! So how about being different for a day? No need to worry if you can't bring a pony with you: if you are interested, any one of the Committee or any number of parents will be happy to explain the next step. Cut out the voucher below and bring it

Voucher for 1st time visitor to the Pony Club grounds

Free sausage sandwich

Committee Member Greg Wood
will exchange this voucher for you

with you for
a free sausage
sandwich
to munch
whilst
watching our
riders, aged
between five

and twenty-five, showing you what living to ride is all about.

We try to keep the same instructors throughout the year, however, in order to enhance their own qualifications those instructors themselves, must at times, compete elsewhere. When this happens on a rally day it will mean a change of instructor for our riders for that day, however, the syllabus put in place by the Committee will ensure all riders receive all necessary instruction. The aim of our Club and our instructors is to help, educate and propel our equestrians forwards.

The upkeep of the Pony Club grounds and arenas is undertaken, in part, by Department of Justice volunteers, with clearing and painting being the most recent work undertaken. Again our thanks go to them. And in writing about volunteers the Pony Club must thank all (including the Committee) who give so freely of their time, expertise and (sometimes) pockets. The 2015 Committee sees a new President (Robyn Charman) new Vice-President (Karsten Laukart) and new Secretary (Kyla Davis) whilst Amanda Dunstan remains as Treasurer. Both new and old names form the General Committee and this Committee is already planning events and activities for the next twelve months. One of these being a Racing Taster Day at Cranbourne Racecourse where riders will be (amongst other things) shown how to scope a horse, walk it on a treadmill and swim the horse. There will be lecturers, and participants will also learn how to saddle a racehorse then ride that horse out onto the course sand track to experience racing.

Our website is www.upperbeaconsfield.ponyclubvic.org.au. We will update and keep the site updated and thank you for your understanding in the interim.

HUMPHREY MANSFIELD



Golf cart shed finished



Our golf cart shed is finished and already in operations with over 11 members enjoying the convenience of storing their own golf carts. The Golf cart shed was part of our capital improvements and service for our members.

The Solar Power has also been running for the club since February this year and the club is enjoying the electricity savings.

We have also invested in course capital improvements for the past months with improvements to our drainage refurbishment program, a facelift on the men's tee on the 11th hole and works on the greenside bunker of the 1st hole.

Winners

As the golf season winds up, there are plenty of winners and grinders at the club.

Wayne Davey played the most consistent golf throughout our Twilight season and averaged an impressive 31.50 nett over the season. Robert Darlison was a close second with an average of 32.65.

The Virtual Masters winner this year is Russell Dixon. Russell partnered 'virtually' with PGA Pro Russell Henley during the U.S Masters to take out the Virtual Masters competition.

Marilyn Ford and Jenny Chandler took out the Women's Foursomes Championship and Michael and Matthew French partnered up to take out the Dennis Crowley Summer Cup

with an impressive play on the final day.

The Course was playing nice and long these past few months and with some good scores, there were also a few holes in one.

Other notable mentions include He Hits It, She Hits It Winners – Michael and Simone Jackson with 32 nett, M F Ahearn mixed champions – Heather Hamilton and Graham Kelly and a special mention for Alexandra Hilliard, who represented Victoria in the recent Girls Interstate Series. The Victorians came home as the winning team. Well done Alex!

Are your Sundays getting boring with the cold weather? Come and join us by the warmth of our open fire and live music for a great Sunday Session, every



Hole in one – David French

March Club championships

Club Champions Brian Meneilly and Marilyn Ford
 B Grade Club Champions Noel Pye and Lee James
 C Grade Club Champion Wes Dunkley
 Veterans and Nett Women Champion: Heather Hamilton
 Veterans Men Champion: David Crowe
 Junior Club Champion: Jordan Denereaz
 Congrats to all winners above!

Holes in one!

Matthew Cornthwaite, 11th hole, 31/1
 Gary Jollands, 6th hole, 22/2
 David French, 13th hole, 4/4
 Jordan Denereaz, 2nd hole, 18/4
 Les Johns, 15th hole, 23/4

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FIZA ERRINGTON

ANZAC Day – Leadership Academy



As the season continues our Leadership Academy continues to work hard within the club and out in the community. As part of our ongoing commitment we were represented extremely well by the U15's Leadership Academy at the Berwick Anzac Day commemorative service on High St Berwick. The boys all gathered in High St in full uniform and a wreath was laid by leadership groups of both U15 teams. It was great to see the enormous respect the boys gave during the service. They did themselves and the club proud. Such a great representation was made that the boys had a personal message delivered to the club during the following week, thanking them for their presence and congratulating them on the manner in which they conducted themselves on the day. I personally must say I am continually amazed at

how good this group of boys has taken on this leadership program and the way in which they undertake their football journey. They truly are a credit to themselves and our club. Well done boys. We are all proud of you.

We also had an exciting start to our 2015 season welcoming 4 new teams to the club – 3 x Under 8's plus the Under 12 Youth Girls. We would also like to offer a big welcome to all our new players within all the other age levels. Little Demons day was held at Pakenham on Sunday 26 April for the Under 8's, 9's and 10's as well as the Under 12 youth girls. It was wonderful to see such enthusiasm from all our players

continued on page 22

continued from page 21

and their parents. Under 11's to Under 17's as well as Youth Girls have just completed a 3 week grading process which has involved a lot of travel for some families and some early mornings/late afternoons for others. Now that things have settled down and the team fixtures have been complete, families can start planning their Sundays.

We would like to offer some special congratulations to the following boys from our club who have made it through to the next round of trials for the Southern Metro Vic School Boys: Corey Brown (U12 Gold), Jack Cameron (U12 Blue), Paddy Cross (U12 Blue), Declan Curran (U12 Gold), Patrick Gerdan (U12 White), Caydn Lane (U12 White) and Mitch Szybkowski (U11 Gold). They played in a round robin on 11

May. Paddy Cross, Declan Curran and Cadyn Lane made it through to the next round of selections. Well done boys you are doing the Beaconsfield Junior Football Club proud!

Also congratulations to a large number of our team members for making the Under 13's, 14's and 15's representative squads. It is pleasing to see so many BJFC players make it to this level. Great effort.

Remember to keep your eye on the Beaconsfield Junior Football Club website www.beaconsfieldjfc.com.au for sponsor specials and updates on player achievements. Don't miss the social night on Friday 26 June at 7 pm – Australia's Funniest Hypnotist – details on the website. Also keep an eye out for the car raffle coming soon.

JARRETT DRAKE AND BRONWYN MCCORMICK

Season ending event for Cricket Club

Great food, friendly families, fine feats at UBCC presentation night

The Upper Beac Maroons celebrated their season highlights as a happy crowd gathered in the club rooms and acknowledged some splendid achievements on Sunday 12 April.

A well presented menu was prepared by chef Leanne Haythorpe, ably assisted by husband Andy and this set the tone for a convivial occasion. Nearly forty people attended the senior function while earlier in the day over 80 people gathered to applaud the youth of Upper Beaconsfield C.C. when Junior awards were presented. Jason Ward topped the bill by being selected in the Victorian U12 team. Junior Coordinator Matt Curtain praised the season enjoyed by

the lads and indicated that there was a chance for many to improve their skills even further. He indicated that our young players were set to have the possibility of climbing to the top of their age groups next season. To assist the development of our youth Junior Coach Bath Perera is combining with his brother-in-law, Thilan Samaraweera, to hold winter coaching sessions at the Cranbourne Indoor Centre.

When the scrumptious dinner was completed Senior team awards were presented. Retiring club President Scott Pitcher noted that the club had enjoyed a successful season off the field and had shown improvement in its performances in many matches.

Tom Tyrrell (below left) accepted the Fred Noblet award (awarded to the overall Club champion) after a commendable season. Chris Savage took out three awards for the Premier team while Peter Brennan, our sexagenarian, again dominated the second eleven awards. In the Buddy award the Bayard family shield was won by Matt Curtain and Paddy Cross for their combined playing exploits (right).

Overall the event was highly entertaining and successful. Nine volunteers were thanked for their efforts and the club roundly thanked new canteen managers Bob and Vicky Carlyle for their part in a profitable season.

Damien Bayard new President

Former Toyota Australia Board member Damien Bayard is the new Maroon President. He was elected at the AGM held on 18 May.

Former President Scott Pitcher has retired after a four year stint. His family and business commitments demanded that he devote more time in that area. Thanks for your efforts over that time Scooter.

Damien Bayard will bring a strong business ethic to the club and there is already a proposal to streamline our administration so that it better reflects the operations of the club. Tom Tyrrell was also a welcome addition to the group of volunteers. The club is still searching for a Treasurer but it will also re-organise the financial department to spread the load of our finances.

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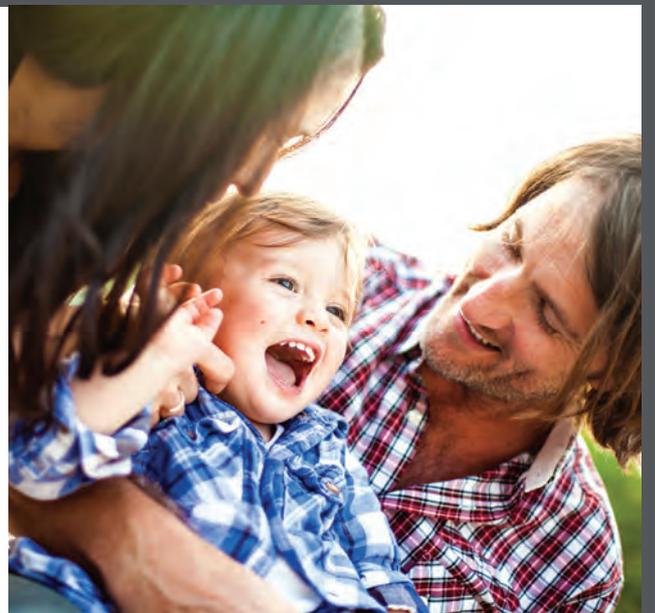


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Your rates at work

We are coming up to the end of the financial year and ward councillors want to say a big thank you to those of you who attended the rates information night held on May 10th and have made submissions to the upcoming Cardinia Shire Council budget.

If you want to find out more, go to the Cardinia Shire website to check out the podcast and power point presentation of the rates evening. You can also download the draft budget. It was an interesting night this year with the general managers of the staff also giving a rundown on their responsibilities as well as the challenges for the shire in the future.

Council rates help fund many services to the community including emergency management, food safety inspections, maternal and child health care, public toilets, planning controls, school crossings/supervisors, home care, parks maintenance, community health programs, local laws compliance, public lighting, local roads maintenance, sporting facilities, walking and bike trails, libraries, youth services, footpaths, local halls and community centres, bridges, children's services (like kindergartens and immunisations), strategic planning, waste and recycling management and community resilience!

Facts and figures

Local councils collect only 3.5c of every tax dollar raised nationally.

The main reason for fluctuation in your rates notice is not the rates increase imposed by council each year but the change in property valuations (as mandated under state law) completed by an independent valuer and checked by the Valuer General every two years.

Even though Council has delivered on its promise of reducing rate rises (ranging from 5.5% to 4.25%), Council's debt level is forecast to reduce from \$64m to \$56m over the next four year period of the plan whilst still keeping the books in surplus so we can stay ahead of asset renewals.

Council is proposing to put over \$20M into capital works this next financial year alone by reinvesting the surplus back into the community.

The average rates paid in Cardinia are within \$100 of Casey, South Gippsland, Yarra Ranges and Baw Baw shire's averages. Some slightly dearer some cheaper.

New projects in the upcoming budget include Officer Secondary College stadium and Community Hub (\$2.2m total), Hill's Community Hub Redevelopment @ the Emerald

Village Bell subscriptions for 2015

The Village Bell is our community newspaper and is written, edited, compiled and collated by volunteers. It is produced 4 times a year and is delivered to every letter box in Upper Beaconsfield by Australia Post. Each household is asked to pay \$5 for the annual subscription which helps to pay for the Village Bell's production. Subs can be paid at the Community Centre, General Store or Post Office.

If you find it easier to pay by internet banking, send payment to Commonwealth Bank of Australia, **Account** Upper Beaconsfield Association Incorporated BSB 063-549, **Account number** 0080-0228. Please tag your payment with your name and VBsubs so we know who sent it.

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Council has received more new developments applications in the first ¼ of this current financial year than in the total of the previous year. Cardinia is experiencing more than FOUR families moving into the shire every calendar day and has been for some time.

Council maintains a total of 619 km of sealed roads, 874 km of unsealed roads and 548 km of pathways in this shire, as well as 1177ha of reserves, 94 playgrounds and 277 buildings.

The Council has set a target to be carbon neutral by 2024 by the reduction of energy consumption and carbon emissions at a number of strategic Council buildings including Cardinia Life, Beaconsfield Community Complex, Cardinia Cultural Centre; as well as the conversion of existing decorative street lighting to energy efficient alternatives.

Illegal activity has a massive impact on our budget. In fact, graffiti removal cost \$110K approximately in the 2014/15 year and dumped rubbish \$150K.

Do not hesitate to contact Leticia, Brett or myself by phone, email or Facebook. Details available on the council website www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/councillors.

If you want even more details about what's happening in your local community, Ranges Ward Councillors have their own individual Facebook pages as well as a joint one called 'Friends Of Ranges Ward'.

Cr. Tania Baxter

Ranges Ward, Cardinia Shire Council

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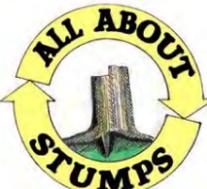


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