



No. 2 October, 1978

Postage Paid Berwick

### THAR'S SNOW IN THEM THAR HILLS

Well, there's some question as to whether it was actually snow, but whatever it was there was no doubt that the flurry of a couple of weeks ago was unusual for these parts. We know that at least one "snowman" of decent proportions was quickly thrown together, which suggests that the estimates of a couple of inches may not have been unreasonable.

But is snow so very unusual in Upper Beaconsfield? It has been suggested that before the major development in the Dandenong Valley, snowfalls were much more common here. So if you have any statistics on, or references to, falls in years gone by, could you please let Charles Wilson (443404) have the information.

Charles is also summarising rainfall statistics for the next newsletter. He has already obtained figures from the Bureau of Meteorology reported in the climatic survey of 1968 which indicate an average of slightly above 41 inches. Other records from local observers, one set covering the past twenty-eight years, have also been obtained. If you have rainfall figures, even for one or two years, and are a careful observer, pass them on to Charles so that he may include them in his summary.

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### MEDICAL SERVICE IN UPPER BEACONSFIELD

Dr. Gedeon Herschberg has conducted a regular weekly surgery in Upper Beaconsfield now for some four months and in that time he and his wife, Tania, have got to know and enjoy Upper Beaconsfield and its people.

Gedeon is happy to continue the weekly service in the R.S.L. Clubrooms each Wednesday, but has changed the time for surgery to dovetail in with other commitments with the Mountain District Service at Cockatoo.

The new surgery hours are Wednesday weekly 11.00 a.m. to 12 noon in the R.S.L. Clubrooms, Halford Road (next to Fire Station and opposite Milk Bar). For appointments ring 688146.

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### A SPACE (OR PLACE) FOR DOGS

In the next issue we will be including an interview with the Shire Ranger, Warren Barclay, discussing stock losses, registrations, impoundings, together with details on by-laws, deserving homes for pups etc.

If you have any information or point of view, Roger Francey (443462) would be glad to hear of it!

\* \* \*

"28 Whisky" is the name of the local Citizens Band radio communications group, with garage man Alan Orr much to the fore. They conducted a car rally on Sunday, September 17.

The next (to our knowledge) public car rally will occur on Sunday morning, November 12, organised by the local R.S.L. sub-branch. Based on observations and not on speed, the event will run from 10.00 a.m. until about 1.00 p.m. when refreshments and a barbecue lunch will be the climax at the Halford Road clubrooms. Cost per car is \$4.00 with attractive prizes to be won. A lot of fun for the family.

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**PUBLISHED BY THE UPPER BEACONSFIELD ASSOCIATION**

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**BEACONSFIELD UPPER RURAL FIRE BRIGADE**

The Fire Brigade was recently called to two accidents on the Emerald Road (see Page 7). On both occasions road blocks were set up and, although traffic was fairly heavy and everybody was hurrying to work, motorists (with two stupid exceptions) co-operated very well. The Brigade is anxious not to inconvenience the public and road-blocks are only resorted to when necessary to the safety of motorists, injured persons, and fire-fighters. You will appreciate that dealing with casualties and a blazing car first thing in the morning can jangle the nerves a bit - to then be almost run over by some moron in a vehicle really gets the adrenalin moving. So, if a fireman seems a bit uptight when he asks you to wait, or detour, or pass slowly, your co-operation can do wonders for his peace of mind.

The C.S.I.R.O. Division of Forest Research predicts that south-eastern Australia may be in for a bad fire-season this SUMMER. We (and probably they) will be happy if the prediction proves false. You can help make it so by removing or reducing fire hazards around your home and property. A good deal of burning-off has already been done around the district and, if we get another fine spell, this is the time to get on with more.

The Fire Brigade Auxiliary will be busy raising money during October. As the Brigade faces a hefty bill for the overhaul (or, perhaps, replacement) of one of its vehicles, funds are badly needed.

Recruits are also needed. Able-bodied males between 18 and 58 who want to be something more useful than innocent bystanders at the next fire are very welcome to come along to the Fire Station (it's in Halford Road, between the Milk Bar and the Tennis Courts) at 9.30 on a Sunday morning and get some instruction and training before the fire season starts. If you are a newly-settled refugee from suburbia, ignorant of rural mysteries, don't feel shy about coming along. Even if you aren't an outback superman ("faster than a speeding bullock") and don't know a fence-post from a fetlock, we'll teach you.

Rumours that Captain Eric Bumpstead was nearly elected as Pope while recently overseas are said to be untrue.

George Silberbauer.

THE FIRE BRIGADE hope to be holding a film night during FIRE PREVENTION WEEK - last week in October - similar to the one held last year. Free entry and supper provided. It is well worthwhile seeing these films, not only do they show what fire prevention measures can be taken in and around the home and on the property, but also show how to survive if caught in a fire.

In conjunction with FIRE PREVENTION WEEK, the Brigade will be having a door-knock appeal, which is permitted by the CFA only every second year. Please be generous, this is a chance to help your volunteer fire fighters who may be called upon to save your home one day.

**AUXILIARY OF THE BEACONSFIELD UPPER FIRE BRIGADE**

Meets on the last Tuesday of each month, at 8.00 p.m. in the Meeting Room behind the Fire Station.

The Auxiliary was formed in May 1976, basically to help the fire fighting men by providing food and drinks at fires. This aim has expanded to help in other ways

- fund raising to pay for fire equipment
- learning radio procedure to help with communications
- learning to operate hydrants

Funds are raised by holding cake stalls, a dance, rag drives, and providing the Devonshire teas at the Village Fair. The latest cake stall held on 5th August raised \$100, and those who supplied the cakes and those who purchased them are thanked for helping us. During the year 1977/78 the money raised has been spent in the following ways

- 2 walkie-talkie radio sets
- 2 sets of breathing apparatus
- repairs and necessary equipment for the utility truck
- 8 cotton overalls (to protect the catering ladies at fires)
- replenishing the supplies in the catering boxes.

If you would like to come to our next meeting, and would like a lift, please contact one of the following - New members will be most welcome.

President:	Sue Pakham	44 3273
Secretary:	Heather Topp	44 3317
Treasurer:	Terry Milligan	44 3263

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

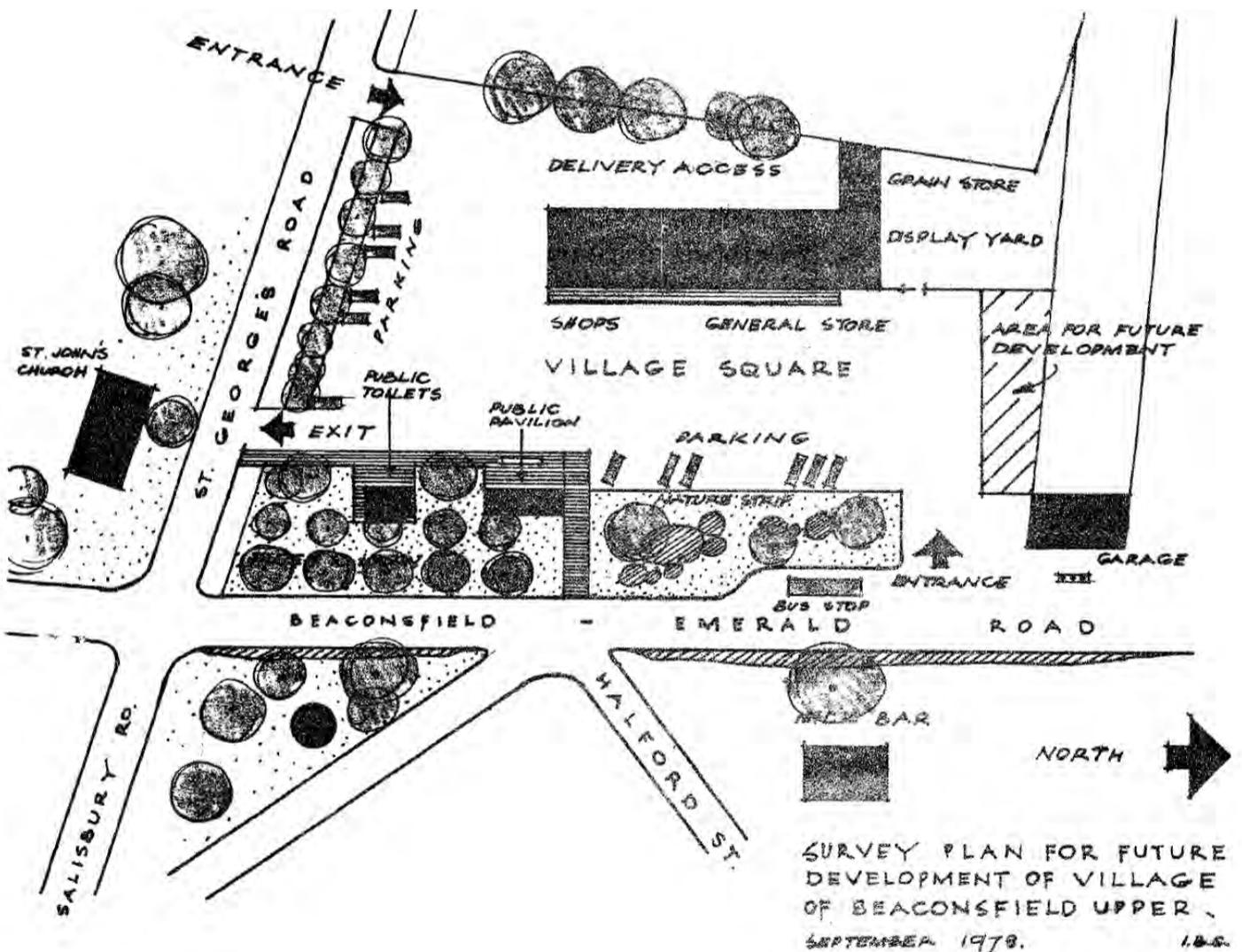
The plan illustrated below shows a possible redevelopment of the present Commercial area of the village and is the first of a series designed to stimulate and encourage residents to bring forward any ideas they may have for the future of this area.

The plan provides for a General Store with a grain shed and display yard, three small shops, and an area set aside for future development. The site to the North of the garage is also available for early development and initial discussions have been held with the present owner.

An attempt has been made to form a contained "Square", set back and screened from the road by a built up nature strip formed around the existing trees. A pavilion has been provided for use by local organisations for produce stalls, charitable events and similar activities.

The concept of a "Village Square" is seen as giving some focal point for local activities and special occasions, and at the same time maintaining a pleasant environmental atmosphere.

Discussions with freehold owners in this area have been most encouraging, and whether a re-development of this nature comes about or not, they have indicated their genuine interest in the future appearance of the Village and their willingness to co-operate fully with the residents in designing suitable and attractive buildings.



Study Group Members (We need you and your ideas too!)

I. Sprague	T. Dance	L. Borman	J. Struckett	B. Freeman
44 3330	44 3637	44 3713	44 3643	44 3382

\* \* \*

Watch for the advertised play dates of "Dimboola" from mid-November until early December. The hilarious wedding reception play is scheduled for some district Hotels. Producer for the Westernport Light Opera Society's production is Paul Easton, of Salisbury Road.

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**BEACONSFIELD UPPER PRIMARY SCHOOL**

The Mothers' Club is having a successful year. During the recent school vacation they conducted a Recreation Programme at the school which attracted a total of 350 over a four day period. The children were able to participate in a variety of activities which included Copper Enamelling (Annette Phillips), Candle Making (Elaine Gates), Puppetry (Jan O'Brien), Cooking (Julie Jamieson), Kite Making (Peter Escreet), Clay Modelling (Mary Petruccelli) and Macrame (Sheila Kidd). After each activity the children were able to take home the items they had made. The more energetic also had a crack at golf under the guidance of John Kerr and the indoor/outdoor games organised by Gillian Lewis. Unfortunately the V.F.L. footballers did not turn up for the Footy Clinic but the Shire Recreation Officer hopes that they will be able to visit the school in the near future.

Special thanks to all those people who volunteered their services during the vacation. It is hoped to conduct other Recreation Programmes during future school vacations.

As a result of representations being made to the Pakenham Shire Council by the Mothers' Club and local Councillors, a footpath has been provided between St. Georges Road and Grant Court. The Mothers' Club is hopeful that a School Crossing will eventually be provided.

President: Annette Phillips 443675  
Secretary: Carol Orr Treasurer: Gillian Lewis

**THE BEACONSFIELD UPPER PRE-SCHOOL**

At long last our new Kindergarten has been started and will be ready for the first term in February next year. It will be an attractive log cabin style building, situated on the Reserve next to the Primary School and will blend well with the surroundings.

Professional advice will be sought from the Playground and Recreation Association of Victoria on the construction of the outside play area. Although the main part of the building will be reserved for the Kindergarten use only, there will be rooms and facilities available for use by other groups in the community.

In our present building, 45 pre-schoolers now enjoy 3 sessions each a week, and with the new Kinder accommodating more children they will have four next year. There will be 50 places available and already 46 children have been enrolled for 1979. Enrolments are taken from birth, so we do advise parents to enrol their children early to ensure a future place. For enrolment details contact Mrs Jan O'Brien (443430).

When the Kinder is completed, the present pre-school building is expected to be used as a playgroup for the three year olds, but details about this have not been finalised yet.

The Pre-School mothers have been working very hard this year on a variety of fund raising activities, to raise the money for their contribution to the Kinder. The Apex Club of Berwick has made a very generous gesture in donating a complete set of Indoor Blocks and the President, Mr. Lou Brown, will attend our next meeting on 2nd October to present them.

President: Julie Jamieson  
Secretary: Jasmine Hewson Treasurer: Maggie McLean

**BABY-SITTING CLUB**

The Upper Beaconsfield Baby-Sitting Club welcomes new members. We have a thriving baby-sitting group, working on a points system, and if you are interested, please contact Sheila Kidd (44 3400) who will be pleased to give you details about it.

\* \* \*

Congratulations to Mark Griffen, assistant pro at Beacon Hills Golf Club. The 19 year old son of Pine Grove Hotel owners, Tom and Adrienne has been named the Victorian trainee professional of the year and is in the running for the national title. The award is decided upon workmanship in the pro. shop, scoring ability, examination results (all matters pertaining to the game, competitions, etc.) and conduct on the golf course.

Mark completes his apprenticeship next January. For his award, he was flown to Orange, N.S.W. to receive VIP treatment and coincidentally compete in the \$2000 Aust. trainee professional championship, a title that is rewarded by a trip to the U.K.

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PERSONALLY SPEAKING - A PAINTER OF REPUTE

The first local artist to be featured in this Newsletter is Mrs Melissa Nouza of Emerald Road; who won the Pakenham Shire Art Competition last August. Her painting, The Kindergarten, Beaconsfield, now hangs in the Shire Offices.

Mrs Nouza came to Australia from Yugoslavia 14 years ago. She holds a Masters Degree in Languages and came to teach Russian in a Catholic school in Tasmania, near where an Uncle was living. As she says "I went to Germany to perfect my German, why not Australia to improve my English"!

Learning to paint was something she always wanted to do but her Mother felt painting was a very Bohemian occupation for a woman - the teaching profession much more respectable. A year after her marriage in Australia she saw an advertisement to learn Commercial Art by correspondence and her husband encouraged her to try. After completing the 4 year course she has now spent 6 years studying oil and water colours and says she will be learning for years yet.

A great encouragement was winning a 'Highly Recommended' in the Berwick Art Show 2 years ago. Mrs Nouza said she had been painting to please herself but people kept telling her she should do more with her art, she said "As you start to sell you feel a responsibility to put more work and effort into each painting". This year she really worked at painting, to be certainly repaid by 4 prizes and Best in Show at Pakenham Moomba in March; no prizes but good sales at Berwick Art Show; 2 prizes at Carrum Downs Art Show; 1st and 2nd in Pakenham Shire Art Exhibition. The most interesting thing for her is the way people respond to her painting by ringing her and stopping in the street to talk; she feels she has a different relationship to other people now.

There seems to be a great variety in her subject matter but Mrs Nouza is most interested in perfecting tonal painting; the impression of a subject with emphasis on light and shade and simplicity. Asked for advice to beginners she suggests "hard work and never give up, don't copy others or compare your work with others". She feels you have to follow your own line. She points out that she wouldn't be painting now if she didn't have a husband willing to tolerate her working late in the evening and urging her on when things are going wrong.

Mrs Nouza plays tennis to keep fit and helps her husband breed goldfish for sale. The area is so rich in scenery Mrs Nouza doesn't want to paint anywhere else - well, at least for awhile.

Jeanette Ballinger

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UPPER BEACONSFIELD YOUTH CLUB

Following his proposals to and their acceptance by the Upper Beaconsfield Association at their meeting in June, Brian Dickinson called a meeting on the 19th July of all people interested in forming a Youth Club. Many parents and teenagers attended and a few basic rules were formed. The teenagers elected Peter Foster as Youth Leader and John Chapman and Leisa Harvey as assistant Leaders.

Since then there have been 68 teenager members attending the Youth Club although not all of them come each week. The youth Club occurs at the Hall every Friday night from 8.00 to 10.30. Forty cents admission is required which includes supper. Table tennis, chess, cards, dancing and other activities usually keep everyone occupied. Apart from this there has been a bar-b-que at Peter Foster's and a Fancy Dress Night. The Fancy Dress Night proved a good success with people going as bikies, school girls, strippers. There was also a flasher, a baby girl, a Mexican and four boys dressed as girls!

We'll be seeing the movie "Grease" on the 27th October. This follows other recent activities including an ice skating night on the 22nd September and a Disco on the 29th. We'd like to thank Brian Dickinson, Peter Foster, Frieda Allen and all the other adults who have helped supervise and support the Youth Club.

Ben Easton,

Keryn Foster,

Leisa Harvey

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Popular barmaid at the Pine Grove Hotel, Kerry Parks of Beaconsfield was recently farewelled before embarking on a two year working holiday in the U.K. with a girl friend. Patrons pooled together to present her a silver bullion pendant and bon voyage card.

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COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL

- Cr. Keith Ewenson 443372

Recreation

The B.U. Recreation Ground Committee of Management's term of office is drawing to a close. The Council is indebted to people who make up committees such as this one. In the near future a public meeting will be called by the Shire to elect a committee for the next three years. The Riding Councillors suggest if you are interested in any aspect of sport you should be present at this meeting.

The Council has resolved to carry out a survey of recreational needs within the Shire to be completed by 31st March, 1979, with a view to enabling an application to be lodged for financial assistance under the Youth, Sport and Recreation Fund for 1980.

The Recreational Vehicles By-Law took effect following its publication in the Government Gazette on 2nd August, 1978, and makes illegal the riding of recreational vehicles upon private property without first having obtained relevant council permits.

Environment

The first copy of a petition has been received by Council. It carries seventeen residents signatures of Officer. The request was that the Shire take all action necessary to preserve the amenity of the conservation zone, whereas the extraction of stone in that conservation zone would adversely affect the amenity.

When the petition was debated in Council on the 11th September, an amendment moved by Cr. Moore cut off effective debate on the environmental significance of the Leppitt Road area. The amendment read "that Mr. Simon's letter and the petition be noted. Also that Mr. Simon be advised that the petition will be taken into consideration in the preparation of an approved planning scheme for the area". The amendment was carried by Council. The original motion included the content of the amendment but asked as well that the Council reaffirm the appropriate zoning of the Leppitt Road area defined as conservation in the Interim Development order. Further, it requested that if any subsequent application be made for re-zoning of this area, the details be made public.

Appointments

We have elected your Shire President for 1978/79 and he is Cr. Robert Bysouth (Ranges Riding). Councillor Peter Meeking has been elected Chairman of the Planning Committee for this year. Congratulations to both Councillors.

Citizens of the Year Committee

A Working Committee has been formed to consider ways of implementing a Citizens of the Year Award. Mr. Roy Harris was nominated to represent the people of Upper Beaconsfield and Cr. E. Owen represented the Riding Councillors. The ultimate aim is to determine whether there is a suitable way of acknowledging outstanding community service within the Shire.

Proposed Improvements

Installation of three sodium-vapour lights at Emerald Road - Stoney Creek Road intersection.

Speed restrictions signs in Salisbury Road near Sugarloaf Road, and extension of restriction zone in Stoney Creek Road to the northern intersection with Emerald Road.

Implemented Works

Service road in shopping centre width increased.

Access track on opposite side to school is well advanced.

Young Street drainage scheme is nearing completion.

Six bicycle stands installed at Charing Cross for school children travelling from the Village.

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From Berwick Historian Norm Beaumont's recollections come the following asides (circa 1976) :

"In the 1890's Inebriates Homes were established for both male and female patients, the former at Guys Hill opposite Montuna Golf Course entrance, now in the ownership of Mr. Bill Barnes, and for females on Mr. Harry Lang's property off Telegraph Road. This latter building still stands, but the men's home was long ago destroyed by fire. Dr. Thomas Elmes of Berwick was the medical superintendent".

Paul Easton

**RUNNING THE GAUNTLET - B.U. STYLE!**

Early each work day morning it starts - the daily exodus down the hill. Each evening the tide reverses. This story draws from recent episodes in a rapidly expanding epic surrounding the winding descent from our Village to the flat lands. It contains some news good, some bad, some irrelevant (or is it irreverent?) and a serious message to us all. The good news is that despite at least three -potentially disastrous local automobile accidents in the six weeks prior to printing there has been no fatal or serious injury.

The bad news, over and above the injuries that were received, is a consequence of the first accident - but first a little background. Bill Stevens (Sugarloaf Road), in Company car, stopped on the hill between the Village and Guy's Hill to assist a "damsel in distress", (Heather Paisley alongside inoperative car). A third car containing Anne Taylor and son Richard (10) came into collision with Bill's and turned over. Bill's car was totally destroyed by fire in seconds and he was extremely fortunate to find an unjammed door and thus means of escape. Anne suffered a fractured wrist and multiple bruises and abrasions, Richard also received cuts and bruises. Now for the really bad news, ladies - BILL STEVENS STATES CATEGORICALLY THAT HE WILL NO LONGER ASSIST DAMSELS IN DISTRESS!!



In a second accident, 100-200 metres further down the hill, a truck, owned and driven by Jack Turnbull (Corringham Road) rolled twice and landed on its side. Sons Steven (17) and Russell (16) were passengers. Amazingly only Russell required medical attention for a cut on the head. The truck was essentially a 'write-off'. A third accident would appear to question the claim, sometimes heard, that the Church has lost some of its powers to attract. A car belonging to visitors to Salisbury House set off, and by itself, negotiated the Post Office, War Memorial, Charing Cross and attempted to take up a position on a pew. Max Fraser, working on the new Church Hall at the time, now has the challenge of matching 50-60 year timbers.

All accidents occurred in bright, clear and dry conditions and it takes very little imagination to recognise in each the potential for a far worse outcome. Residents who assisted at the scene of both Beaconsfield Road accidents were startled at the speed at which most of us negotiate the hill in the morning. On the bright side was the rapid and efficient action on both occasions by the local Fire Brigade, about which more can be read on Page 2.

Roger Francey

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**1st UPPER BEACONSFIELD GIRL GUIDE LOCAL ASSOCIATION**

The aim of the Upper Beaconsfield Local Association of Girl Guides is to raise money for Brownie and Guide Leaders uniforms and any equipment, books etc. We meet once a month although our numbers at meetings are somewhat disappointing. We would be very happy to see more mothers or fathers interested in the Brownie and Guide movement - it is necessary to have your support!! Brownies (ages 7½-11) have just re-opened with a full Pack. At the moment though, we are unable to have Guides (ages 10½-14) as there is no Leader. Anyone interested please phone Dorothy Halliday 44 3478 or Brenda Hopkins 44 3434. There are a lot of girls I am sure would love to be Guides. Our Annual Meeting will be held on Thursday, 26th October at 8 p.m. in the Public Hall. We are looking forward to seeing you there.

President:	Mrs G. Bynion	44 3618
Treasurers	Mrs J. Harris	Secretary: Mrs B. Hopkins

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THE ENVIRONMENT GROUP

The present members are Vic Travers, Paul Chick, Peg Bellair, Yvonne Wilson, Graeme Robertson, Max Dunlevie, George Silberbauer, and the Convener is Charles Wilson. The group is anxious to have additional members. If you are interested ring Charles Wilson on 44 3404.

Max Dunlevie (44 3393) has agreed to act as clearing monitor. Max's job is not to 'dob them in' but is to inform the committee of any local clearing of native flora. If you see any area being cleared, please contact Max.

Graeme Robertson is pursuing local geology and will provide a contribution to the news letter in the near future.

Birds

Paul Chick has been doing some quiet observing recently, and has identified over sixty different birds already this spring, ranging from the blue wren to the pelican. A list of these birds can be obtained from Paul (44 3373), or at the Public Forum on 4th October (see p. 14). He has also kindly offered to conduct a Bird Beginner's Class on 22nd October, so if you are interested please meet Paul at the entrance to the Beacon Hills Golf Club at 9.30 a.m. on that Sunday.

Native Plants seen in Flower this Month

Spring is here and flowers are in profusion. The bushland is dominated by the wattles, and the smaller plants hoveas, hardenbergias are at their best. Orchids are very plentiful, patches of ten-twenty are common. The September flowering list is:

Wattles - blackwood, golden, silver, myrtle, wyrilda, heath, sallow, narrow leaf, hedge, hop, prickly moses, and the naturalised Cootamundra.

Orchids - leopard, common bird orchid, pink fingers and four greenhoods, nodding, tall, blunt and maroon.

Black-eyed susan, twining glycine, common buttercup, sarsaparilla, running postman, scented sundew, errienellam, guinea flower, rough and golden bush peas, common hovea, common appleberry, bearspear, rosemary grevillea, juniper tea-tree, eyebright, yellow rice flower, goldentip, sweet pittosporum, hop goodenia, correa, yellow star, dusty miller, butterfly flag, heath, ivy leafed violet, billy buttons, paperbark, black she-oak, thatch saw-sedge, dagger and furze hakeas.

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PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT - OTHER SITUATIONS UNDER REVIEW

1. Beaconhills Golf Club

We understand that Council is most likely to re-zone the major portion of the Club property into "Residential Use Zone", which effectively removes the right of further subdivisions. The balance of the lots in Stoney Creek Road will most probably be re-zoned into "Special Study Zone" which gives Council the right to impose stringent flora and habitat protective restrictions on their use and to decide on minimum sizes for those lots which adjoin each other.

2. Water Nursery - Burton Road

Following Council's "Determination to Issue a Permit" for this project, a number of objections were lodged by neighbouring residents. At this stage it appears that the matter will shortly go before the Town Planning Appeals Board and their decision may well be known by the date of this issue.

3. One and a Quarter Acre Lots - Township Area

It has been suggested that there may be a rational argument for allowing subdivision down to 1¼ acre lots in the Township Area, which would require re-zoning to "Country Township Zone". The purpose of this zone is to provide for strictly limited numbers of low density living areas in minor country towns where basic social facilities are available. There are no "Permitted Uses" in this zone, all uses being subject to consent. The views of residents on such a zone adjacent to the Township Area are requested and this matter will be discussed at the next meeting of the Association.

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Some call them public houses, hostelries, inns, booze joints ....  
Some call them taverns, wayside stops, traps or clubs .....  
Some call them all manner of names ....

### A PEEP INTO THE PUB'S PAST

Hundreds of thousands of persons over many decades have enjoyed a social drink at public houses in Upper Beaconsfield resulting in literally millions of stories and anecdotes which can't be recounted here.

They came or went by walking, running, sometimes crawling, by horse, bicycle, sledge, gig, dray, wagonette and motorised vehicles.

Some in charabancs like the musicians from the Regent Cinema in South Yarra. During the '30s after supplementing the film attractions members of the Charles Rainsford group would pile into the joint transportation on a Saturday night to entertain themselves and others along Stoney Creek Road into the early Sunday hours.

By contrast, only six years ago, while Tom Griffen was Mine Host, a man who happily recalled patronising the pub at one time chartered a helicopter to put down in the back yard for a counter lunch. (Simultaneously, a local pulled up at the front door on a rider mower to purchase a few bottles for his midday warm-up.)

More known these days for the ageless Moreton Bay Fig trees that shade and stain many patron's cars than for the Pines that gave it its name, the Pine Grove is in fact the fourth hotel premises in this district. Records reveal that five establishments (including one illicit 'sly grog store') serviced the public. When miners and timber cutters used the route from Dandenong to Gembrook, hitching rails (some for Cobb's Coaches) were common to the highway pubs en route to Gippsland - Berwick Inn (1857), Central (formerly Bowan's Inn, 1850), plus the Cardinia Park (formerly Bush Inn and Payne's Hotel), and the Pine Grove.

A Century ago community life was underway in 'Upper' Beaconsfield. (First permanent house about 1872). When the government introduced the 49th Section of the (1869) Land Act two men important to this story took up settlement in 1878. One was William Brisbane who acquired at one pound per acre 320 acres at the summit of Salisbury Road, near to 1,000 ft. above sea level, a property now owned (after Rupert Steel) by a relative, Mr Keith Ballantyne. The other was Mr. Jim Sykes who selected 40 acres between Lenne and Albers Roads.

On Brisbane's property a boarding house was built (involving a Mrs Saunders) known as Beaconsfield House. William Brisbane operated the first non-official Beaconsfield Post Office there from October 1, 1878. The premises affectionately became "The Big House". Six years after the railway line was linked from Oakleigh to Bunyip and the Beaconsfield railway station was built, a post office was established on the lower level and in 1891, Beaconsfield became Beaconsfield Upper. In the meantime, fire had twice destroyed the Boarding house, which had begun to serve as a hostelry known as the Big House Hotel. Telegraphic communications had been established from Berwick along Telegraph Road in 1879 and the post office was moved to McBride Road (opposite the Cenotaph).

By public vote, the replacement of the Big House Hotel demanded it to be one mile from the heart of the then village and Mr Sykes' property was chosen with Lenne the builder (about 1886). Prior to 1916 when the first State Liquor Authority came into being, records are vague, but persons involved with the new Pine Grove are known to include Albert Payne who sold to Fanny Young in 1907; R. Gilbert who sold to Jens Christian Jensen in 1909.

In 1913 Jim Sykes had an advertisement running in an attractive brochure proclaiming the virtues of Upper Beaconsfield. It read (in part) "Visitors to the Beaconsfield ranges ... mountain scenery ... fern gullies ... the Pine Grove ... wine and spirits of best quality ... good fishing and shooting ... good accommodation for Families and Gentlemen ... wagonette will meet trains at station ... conveyances and saddle horses for hire."

Many boarding houses existed at this time when Upper Beaconsfield was very much a tourist and health resort, the Pine Grove catered and accommodated well, and a store cum unofficial Post Office (near the first school site close to the Stoney Creek bridge crossing on Emerald Road) looked after the wine buffs in the hands of Terry Moffatt and later Mr Schlipalius. When this store was demolished some timbers were used to build John Nathan's shop (now Loveridges).

Fire gutted the Pine Grove early in 1918 when under the Licence of Ferdinando Novella. A temporary bar was approved to operate in March of that year and rebuilding was underway in August.

### THE PUB'S PAST - continued

The following is an unofficial record of those who guided the destiny of the Pine Grove, be they freeholders or leaseholders: Mary Kirk (1921), Fred Lambert (1923), Adela Hunt (and daughter Eileen, also involved with Cardinia Park about 1925), Glenda Dolphin (1926), William McDavitt (1927) Richard Maxwell (1927), Annie Young (1928), James Connell (1929), Alice Rose (1929), Robert Griffith (1929), Smith and McKecken (1930), Victoria Barker (she and husband ran sideshows at Mordialloc and brought them at times to the unofficial sports ground between the hotel and Lenne Street about 1930), Bridget and Margaret O'Donnell (1931), Mrs Smith (?), John and Edith Chambers (1933), former South Melbourne footballer, Alf Phillips (1934), Ivy and Edgar Donaldson (1936 and later a second term), Thomas Forshew (1939), Margaret Mason (1941), Lucas Parks (1941), Ivy Loxaliso (1943), Charles Gibson (1948).

In these early post-war years, beer was the equivalent of six cents per pot, and in Melbourne suburbs \$1.05 per dozen bottles delivered. At the turn of the century, amber fluid was one cent per pot with counter lunches free.

Bill and Mary Shelper (1949) made some minor structural changes. At this time Emerald Football Club was temporarily using the U.B. Ground and consequently the licensed premises. Next were Herb and Wilma Coller (1950), then Colin and Nell Lawrence (1953) followed by Mrs Lyla Thame. By 1956 the property had been reduced to 22½ acres and when Matt and Daisy Andrewarthur came into the picture another subdivision was made to create Grant Court (named after their first-born). Development of this area was later undertaken by Bill Hudson, of Berwick. The freehold was then held by Frederick Joughin. After the Andrewarthur's term of 6½ years the deeds were held for a very short period by Doris and Eric Pannam before going to Wally Edwards who was to undertake major renovation works to bring the hotel to today's interior appearance. The beams in the saloon bar were specially cut from a tree in Tasmania and introduced with quarantine difficulties.

In 1968 the Grove came into the hands of Tom and Adrienne Griffins (ex-Ferntree Gully) and they subsequently leased it for three years to Noel and Val Southorn (ex Cardinia Park Hotel). Near the close of this year the Griffins (who live adjacently) will return to take over what is now a property of 1¼ acres ... a far cry from when patrons had to call the publican from "somewhere deep in the paddocks" when they sought refreshment behind the picket-fenced front garden driveway.

Unlike former times when cash registers rang their merriest on pay days, the busiest times for the wayside inn are now public holidays. Perhaps the wackiest days occurred in the early 1950's when bona fide laws demanded that patrons travel 20 miles on Sundays before being served drinks with meals. Then the Grove, like many of its type "outside the urban boundaries", put itself on the Victorian map.

And this short history cannot conclude without mention of yet another liquor licence, granted in November 1977, to the Beacon Hills Country Golf Club, which, after re-modelling, now has a seating capacity for 280 members and friends in the bar lounge.

Paul Easton

\* \* \*

### PONY CLUB

A few members braved the appalling wintry weather and turned up for the August Rally. Because of the weather the Jumpathon had to be postponed until September and will, hopefully, have been a great success by the time this copy goes to press. Gross country eventing and a barbecue at Robertson's property will be features for the November Rally. The Club's Christmas Gymkhana will be held at the Recreation Ground on Saturday, 2nd December.

Welcome to three new members - Karina Harris, Gina Tritt and Michelle Lyons. Many thanks to Mary Longden for freely donating an afternoon of her precious time to give show jumping instructions to our members during the school term holidays.

Enquiries : Graeme Robertson 44 3458

\* \* \*

**BEFORE THE WHITE MAN**

From early accounts we learn that the natural condition of our Upper Beaconsfield countryside, before white settlement began, was densely forested with heavy timber on the hills, the gullies being choked with tree-ferns and undergrowth. Wild-life included kangaroos, wallabies, native cats, bandicoots, snakes, emus, lyrebirds, wild turkeys and dingoes, to name a few and the creeks were well stocked with fish, blackfish being common.

It appears, from what little information is available, that the Bunnorong tribes, who inhabited this countryside, were not numerous, and that they preferred to live in the flatter and more open areas, where fish and game were more plentiful and were easier to catch. The densely wooded hills would be visited by occasional hunting parties from their camps down below.

Unfortunately little is known to us of what may be termed the "aboriginal history" of Upper Beaconsfield. Neither place-names, relics, nor records tell us anything. The only aboriginal place-name connected with the village is the Cardinia Creek - "Kar Din Yarr" meaning "looking to the rising sun" - and with such a long creek there is no reason to suppose that the name was bestowed particularly on our part of it. Further down the creek, by Beaconsfield Station, was once panty Gurn Gurn Green, (the name of a water-fowl), and below that was Gin Gin Bin (a dark deep hole in the creek), and further away we find Narree Narreen (small hills), and other names indicating aboriginal occupation. Does any reader know of an aboriginal name belonging to Upper Beaconsfield?

Again, to the best of our knowledge, no aboriginal tools or relics have been found in our locality, the nearest finds recorded being stone axe-heads found near Inglis Road, and at Harkaway, and dumps of fresh-water mussel shells, down by the lower channels of the Cardinia Creek. However the native stone of Upper Beaconsfield is not really suitable for chipping into the shapes that are needed to make useful tools, and the local soils would be too moist and too acid to preserve buried objects made of wood, skin, bone or fibres, for long periods.

In neighbouring settlements, old residents have been able to remember contacts with aborigines, but again, to the best of our knowledge, not here. At Gin Gin Bin there were aborigines in the 1850's, who bartered fish with Robert Henry's family. At Narre Warren North, an old aborigine called "King Mirree" used to make occasional visits, and told settlers of sacred ground there, where hunting was not allowed. The late Mrs James Nicol of Harkaway, who died in 1949 at the age of 94, could remember seeing aboriginal women, one carrying a baby in a coolamon on her back, who came to look at the white children. Also in Harkaway, Mrs Halleur was visited by an aborigine who wanted to trade a container full of wood-grubs, for a pot of jam, and her toddler was rescued from natives who wanted to feed her on grubs. This again was about the 1850's and the last native corroboree recorded in these parts was in 1858, near to "Melrose" on the road from Berwick to Harkaway. The aborigines were then drifting away from the white settlements.

Can any reader provide more information about aboriginal relics found here, or about aboriginal contacts with early white settlers?

By the time the first white settlers came to live in Upper Beaconsfield, which was not until the 1870's, the neighbouring settlements were all well established. Narre Warren, Harkaway, Berwick, Little Berwick (Beaconsfield), Officer and Pakenham, had been in existence for ten, twenty years or more. The Gippsland Road had been built, and was carrying a regular service of coaches. Spreading out from the road, land was being surveyed and sold to selectors for farming. Under these conditions the newly-arrived settlers in Upper Beaconsfield would not have had many contacts with aboriginal people, and probably none with those living in the traditional tribal state, about whom they could reminisce to their grandchildren of our generation.

John Milligan

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**BERWICK & PAKENHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

The Society meets on the first Friday of every month, at 8 p.m. in their room in John Street, Pakenham (round the corner by the 'Justly Sew' Shop). Membership costs \$1.00 per year. The next Speaker on 6th October, will be Mr. Adams, the Librarian of the Royal Victorian Historical Society. Visitors are welcome.

\* \* \*

UPPER BEACONSFIELD TRADES AND SERVICE DIRECTORY

Why go afar if quality and costs are attractively competitive on the home front? Get to know and utilise your fellow residents, for there's much on offer even though this first compilation is but a brief sample. For advertising space in future editions (nominal charges just cover the printing costs) contact Paul Easton, Salisbury Road, 44 3228.

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**A NEVER FAINT - HEARTED GROUP**

"Partially eclipsed in the last edition of the Village Bell by our own RSL secretary's prestigious smokescreen, we can be seen on emergence as the little women, good wives and friends of the RSL sub-branch", writes Auxiliary president, Nell Fullerton.

She continues; Numerically small but never faint-hearted, we hold meetings in the clubrooms only five times a year - on every second Thursday of every second month at 2.15 p.m. We recess from December to April to revitalise our energies for subsequent enjoyable, social and fund-raising functions such as pleasurable entertainment of handicapped people from institutions, film luncheons and an annual fete.

Affiliated with the RSL Women's Council of Victoria, we send delegates to its annual conference, attend area 'get-togethers' and in general try to create good P.R. and enjoyment. We donate generously each year to all RSL associated causes such as maintenance of war widows' and veterans' flats, Legacy, the sick bay at Frankston Park, hospitals, etc. As well, we have been the financial backbone to the improvements at the Halford Road clubrooms and without doubt we kept the sub-branch financially afloat.

We desperately need a secretary, so please come and join us. Just phone 44 3320, the vice president Alison Cotton-Stapleton 42 7321 or the treasurer Vera Nelson 44 3247.

Please come along to our annual fete on Saturday 25th November and bring the children. It starts at 1.30 p.m. in the RSL clubrooms. Enjoy a mini lunch of hot dogs, chicken sandwiches, etc. before Father Christmas arrives. There will be well-stocked cake, pot plant, produce, sweets, gift work and white elephant stalls -raffles - afternoon tea, etc. This year, among extra attractions, "Cosy Rosy", our fearless and infallible fortune teller will forecast funtasises for all. Put the date in your diary now.

\* \* \*

**UPPER BEACONSFIELD HALL**

Many people may be surprised to know that our charming little Upper Beaconsfield Hall had its origins in 1884. That this is not immediately obvious is due to the number of additions that have been made to the original building over the years and also to the recent efforts of a dedicated committee who have carried out major renovations. In the last five years the Hall has been re-blocked, painted inside and out, the kitchen renovated, toilets have been added and re-built, and most recently major electrical re-wiring including the installation of heaters has been carried out. Some of the funds for this work have come from money raised from functions in the Hall and some assistance has been received from the Shire of Pakenham.

In particular, however, the Upper Beaconsfield Community should be grateful to Mr. Joe Peart and the Trustees of the Dewhurst Hall Committee, and to the Country Women's Association for the very extensive financial assistance that they have given to the Hall improvements. It is very gratifying to the Hall Committee to receive continuing support from such community-minded groups of people.

Our Hall, although of venerable age, is in almost constant use by the Community but is still available to be booked by residents for dances, wedding receptions, meetings, etc. Full dinnerware facilities are available for hire, including chairs and tables. People wishing to arrange bookings should contact Mrs Joyce Bumpstead, Emerald Road, Guy's Hill, phone 44 3298.

President : Des McKenna  
Secretary : Terry Dance      Treasurer : Joyce Bumpstead

\* \* \*

**UPPER BEACONSFIELD RIDING CLUB** would like to welcome all adults, (over 16) with an interest in horses for pleasure and/or instruction.

The Club meets monthly every 2nd Sunday at the Recreation Reserve.

Further information : Contact Chris Thirkell 44 3764

\* \* \*

UPPER BEACONSFIELD ASSOCIATION

We have or can obtain information on a wide range of matters relating to the U.B. Community—we can probably help you - you can certainly help us.

Keep the following schedule in mind

- PUBLIC FORUM - WEDNESDAY, 4th OCTOBER
- WORK GROUP MEETINGS - WEDNESDAY, 25th OCTOBER  
(RSL Hall)
- U.B.A. COMMITTEE MEETING - WEDNESDAY, 1st NOVEMBER

\* \* \*

UPPER BEACONSFIELD ASSOCIATION PUBLIC FORUM

NEXT WEDNESDAY, 4th OCTOBER, IN PUBLIC HALL

- 7.30 - 8.30 Information Session - groups Committee, councillors, etc. available for informal discussion.  
Correspondence, minutes, impending motions available for perusal.  
Planning and Development Issues (e.g. see page 3) will be featured.

SPECIAL FEATURE - ENVIRONMENT GROUP ACTIVITY  
 Bird, native plant, noxious weed lists  
 Local rainfall records  
 Display material - local photographs

- 8.30 - 9.00 Formal Meeting - Motions requiring more than 7 minutes' discussion will be transferred to a Special Session.
- 9.00 - 10.00 Tea, coffee - Special Sessions - Informal discussion

\* \* \*

Because of the cost of mailing and the wonderful flood of new members which has almost doubled our membership, we are holding many receipts. These will be available for collection at all Public Meetings if members would like to have a receipt.

Association membership is \$2.00 per year. New members are most welcome, so if you wish to join please leave your subscription with Ray Ratcliffe at the Post Office, or contact Jeanette Ballinger (44 3395).

**THE VILLAGE BELL**

Deadline For articles, organisation notes, trades directory, etc. - middle of 'odd' months  
 NEXT - WEDNESDAY, 15th NOVEMBER

Distribution To all residents through U.B. and Guy's Hill Post Offices at the end of odd months  
 NEXT - ABOUT 30th November

Vacancies always exist for editors, journalists, researchers and typists

This Issue Editor : Graeme Kidd (44 3400) with help from Paul Easton, Charles Wilson, Roger Francey.

Masthead Ian Sprague

Typists Helen Kneen, Elva Ratcliffe

Printing Pakenham High School