

### FIRE AT BARKERS - The Good News!

ADDAMO-BARKER PACKERS of Emerald Road have lodged a preliminary application with the Pakenham Shire requesting permission to rebuild the large packing shed which was totally destroyed by fire on October 31st.

The fire presumed electrical in origin, was first noted shortly after midnight. The Fire Brigade action is described on page 7. Damage was estimated at \$750,000, fortunately the building was fully insured.

A property has been leased at Nar-Nar-Goon and the firm is also using surviving rooms at Emerald Road, so fulfilling its obligations to its customers and providing, continued employment for most of its 60 employees. It is hoped that when the shed is rebuilt more people will be employed than before the fire.

The firm originated in 1926 with the amalgamation of Barker, Green and Park all of Garfield, who setup a wholesale fruit and vegetable market in Melbourne. This name still operates at Footscray wholesale fruit market. The firm became a Barker family concern after Green and Park were bought out in 1940. The Emerald Road coolstore and packing shed was acquired shortly after the death of J. W. Barker in 1949. Originally for apples and pears, the advent of supermarkets caused a widening of operations. The centre of the productive Pakenham area then proved an ideal location.

In 1975, with the need for expansion, the Barkers were joined by the Addamo family of Cockatoo, also packers.

Allen Barker with Charles Wilson.

### THE PINE GROVE INCIDENT

The violence and brutality enacted in the Pine Grove Hotel shortly after 10 p.m. on Cup Night is especially shocking to a community in an area with a reputation for and history of relative tranquillity. The following is based on information provided by Allan Orr and Denis Lansbury.

The outbreak of violence occurred when Licensee, Noel Southorn, disturbed youths at the hotel cool room. In what followed, up to six youths and two girls were responsible for battering and kicking Noel into insensibility (breaking his ribs) clubbing wife Val unconscious, with a rifle, and assaulting and bruising patron John Lloyd. Employee, Jill Farr dashed from the hotel when one of the youths, who was detaining staff and patrons, dropped an armful of stolen beer. At this the intruders fled, but not before rifling the bar till and smashing the front room windows and some furniture.

Senior Constable Denis Lansbury, 18 months at Berwick and currently at the Police Training Academy, Glen Waverley, has agreed to make regular contributions to the "Village Bell" on police activity relating to this area.

As of 18th November, he reported that special duty members from Crime Car Squad, Noble Park, following enquiries interstate, were returning one youth from South Australia to face charges for the Pine Grove incident. Another had already been charged at Noble Park. As a result of information provided to Dandenong Police by Denis, two, a youth and a girl, were being questioned there.

**HIGH RISK ROAD.**

In a 5 km stretch of Emerald Road, centred around the B.U. Village five vehicles have been TOTALLY WRITTEN OFF since "Bell" No. 2. In that edition we reported two other write offs. When a vehicles is written off the potential for death or serious injury is usually high, and this raises the obvious question, "How long before this brief stretch claims another life?" (7 people have been killed in two separate accidents in the past 2 years.)

The answer has arrived all too quickly, at the time of going to print, Ian Clarke provided brief details of a fatal head on collision, on Emerald Road, between Lewis and Blue Ridge Roads, involving a car (write off, passenger dead, driver injured) and a truck (extensively damaged).

**MINI-BIKES.**

The Shire of Pakenham has recently introduced a By-Law (No.69) regulating the use of motorised vehicles for recreational purposes on private land. In Upper Beaconsfield this by-law will relate principally to the use of mini-bikes. Its main requirements are:

- that the user must have the written consent of the Council for each property to be used;
- that the user in his application to the Council must
  - (i) indicate that he has obtained the consent of the owner of each property to be used;
  - (ii) describe the type of vehicle;
  - (iii) state the times when the vehicle will be used.
- that the vehicle be fitted with an adequate silencer device.

other requirements are

- that it should not have a horn or other noiseproducing device
- that the vehicle is safe.

We understand the Council is currently enquiring into the possibility of locating an area of land near Upper Beaconsfield for the use of mini-bikes.

This would be good news for both users and non-users. We would be interested to hear views, one way or the other, on the use of mini-bikes, trail-bikes etc. on both private and public land for publication in a future issue of the "Bell".



**TUB**

.... of course we are proud of our Bellbirds and Horses etc. .... but you should see our herd of SACRED COWS!"

Who is this pipe-smoking, pot bellied sage with the beard, gumboots and bucolic wit?

He appeared in No. 1, was on holiday when No. 2 was in press, and appears twice in No. 3, just to make up. He has promised to appear as often as he can in the "Bell" (but be warned - he has been known to exaggerate to get a point across). He has no objections to the nick-name TUB - some might call him a Typical Upper Beacyite.

### QUARRY ISSUE TO THE FORE AGAIN

Many are aware of recent representation by Hillview Quarries Pty.Ltd. for possible rezoning of land off Leppitt Road (see Locality Sketch). The BUA, which has in the past voiced its support of the conservation zoning of the area has set up a fact-finding-sub-committee to assist in re-affirming or redefining its role.

Lee Bormann has prepared an extensive report from the sub-committee summarising interviews with:

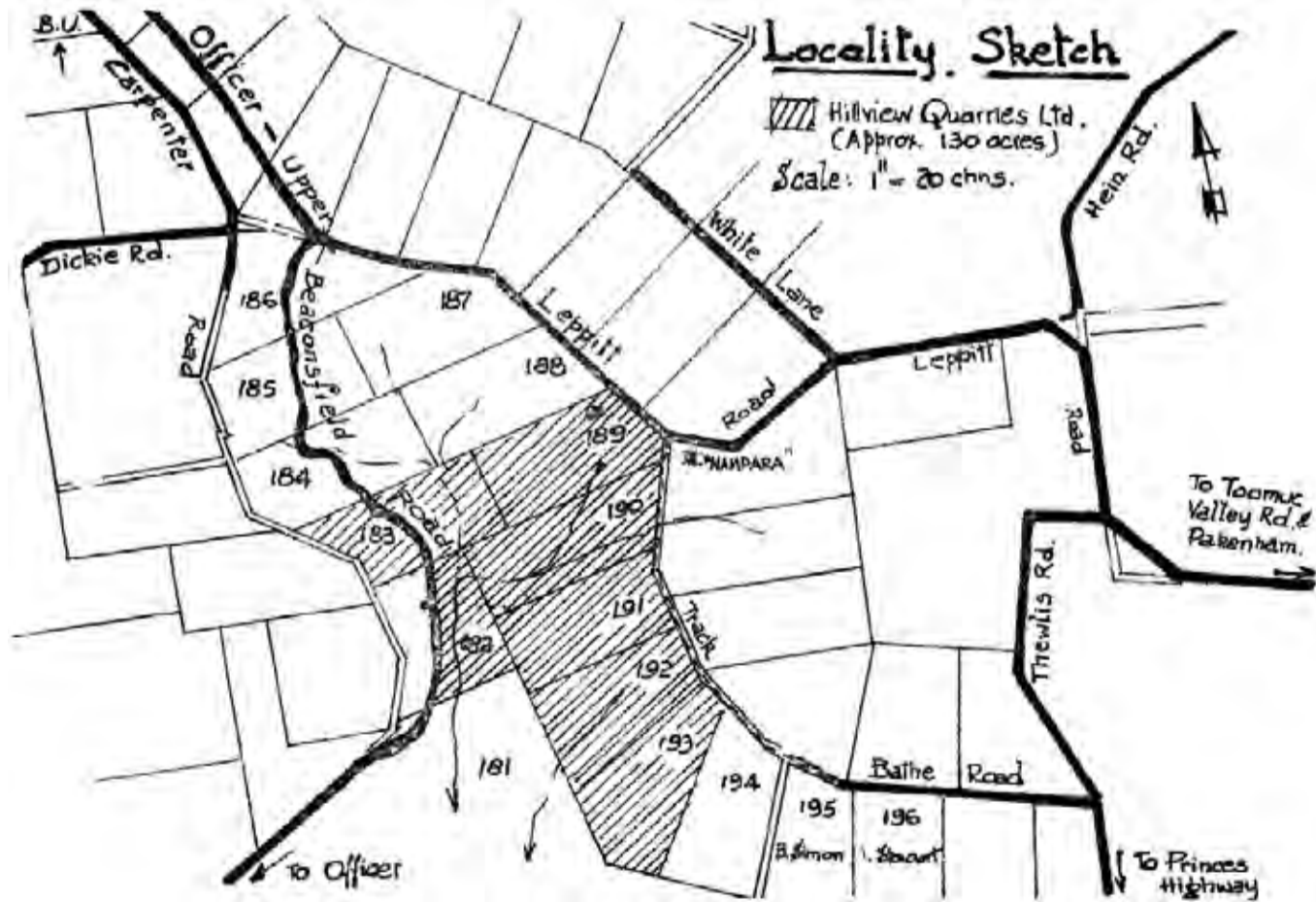
- |  |                                  |
|--|----------------------------------|
| Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works (MMBW) | Pakenham Shire Council (PSC)     |
| Town and Country Planning Board (TCPB)           | Environment Protection Authority |
| Westernport Regional Co-ordinating Group         | Flinders Shire Council           |
| Hillview Quarries Pty. Ltd.                      |                                  |

also on a meeting at the proposed site with the BUA, Environment Group, Cr. Keith Ewenson and Mr. Barry Simon (M.H.R. for McMillan). A visit to Hillview's Dromana site is planned.

The land is claimed to have the only known large deposit of high quality blue-stone between Dromana (south) and Epping (north). Its conservation value (Special Conservation A with PSC, Conservation Zone with MMBW) lies with its continuous and undisturbed extent rather than with any known remarkable feature or rare species. The impact of a quarry operation on local residents is yet to be fully determined.

Present key factors appear to be that MMBW are considering a rezoning following representation from Hillview. The TCPB said amendments to the IDO's of both MMBW and PSC must occur before a permit to quarry could be granted. The PSC, when recently asked for an opinion by MMBW, has reaffirmed its conservation zoning. The lobbying game would now seem to be well underway.

The BUA's stance will be determined by public reaction to articles FOR



(presented, we anticipate, by Hillview Quarries), and AGAINST (several locals are interested), the rezoning, in the next "VILLAGE BELL".

Even though APATHY inevitably supports the application to re-zone, the BUA does not see its role as influencing people at this stage - on the other hand it will make every effort to provide accurate information on request (NOTE: BUA Public Meeting Wednesday, 6th December, - alternatively ring LEE BORMANN 44 3713).

In the event of a LARGE response to the "Village Bell" questionnaire with a LARGE majority opposing quarry development, the BUA will adopt a pressure environmental impact.

## PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

1. Township Re-Development Further discussions are being held with some of the freehold owners on the possibility of the area being re-developed by a Co-operative Society owned by the residents of Beaconsfield Upper.

Such a proposal has merit in that if the residents owned the shops they would most probably patronise them to a greater extent than at present, and thereby make such a venture commercially viable. This proposal was put forward by John Lincoln, who is now personally investigating the possibility.

Ian Sprague, who designed the first redevelopment plan, is currently working on a variety of fascia treatments that would blend in with the village character. If anyone has seen an attractive rural store or has any ideas on this subject, then please contact Ian on 44 3330.

2. Quamby Road - Recreational Complex. Following an application for a permit to use a 6 hectare (15 acre) site in Quamby Road, opposite the junction with Telegraph Road, for a Country Club, there has been an immediate reaction from the residents of Guys Hill.

The complex would include Squash Courts, Tennis Courts, Gymnasium, Billiard Room, Indoor Bowls, Sauna, Bingo, Club Lounge and Bar and associated facilities. Part of the land would also be utilised as a retail nursery.

Of the 43 residents immediately affected, 35 have lodged objections with both the Shire and MMBW primarily on the grounds that such a development is inappropriate in a Special Landscape Zone and is incompatible with the rural/residential nature of the area. Problems which concern them are increased traffic, the question of drainage and sewerage disposal in an unsewered area, as well as the loss of the peace and tranquillity of the area, which was the prime reason for coming to live here in the first place.

3. Shire Planning Scheme. As advised in detail by the Shire President in the "Pakenham Gazette" (25.10.1978) mapping of the Shire has now been completed and the full Planning Scheme is due to be presented in December. It will be on exhibition for three months and all ratepayers will have the opportunity of inspecting the plan and lodging objections to any aspect which they consider unsatisfactory. Dates of exhibition and commencement of the objection period will be notified in the local press, and we urge every resident to inspect the plan and to take an effective part in planning the future of this district.

Terry Dance.

### Kathy's Death a Shock To All.

The demise at an early age of Mrs. Kathleen Ann Phillips, of Stoney Creek Road, early last month is still striking a tender spot in the hearts of people in this district who had the pleasure of her company.

Kathy (nee Miller) spent most of her life around Upper Beaconsfield, for her parents had a property now under the water of Cardinia Reservoir. She married Peter in 1970 and the couple established their first home in a flat beneath the roof of Salisbury House. Two years later their new home was ready.

A keen sportswoman, young Mrs. Phillips was a member of the Yarra Pistol Club until switching her interests to tennis and archery. She was also involved with fishing, scuba diving and surfing, while the CWA commanded her interest. Kathy assisted her parents on their farm in Emerald and worked at her in-law's nursery near the intersection of Stoney Creek and Emerald Road.

The mother of two children, Ken and Ann, Kathy was a wonderful friend to those close to her, a great charm to her team mates in sport - a woman who will be greatly missed.

ART GALLERY OPENED IN UPPER BEACONSFIELD.

The Coolstore Gallery, Emerald Road (near Split Rock Road) opened officially in September. It is estimated 1000 people visited over the weekend and saw demonstrations of copper etching, potting, spinning, painting and enamel work.

The coolstore was built by the Black family about 15 years ago and featured in the Weekly Times as the first cement block, fully straw-insulated coolstore built in Victoria. The insulation has been spray painted and forms an interesting backdrop for art work.

The idea of using the coolstore as a gallery was conceived by Bette Phillips, Noble Park, who operates it with Joan Smallhorn, Glen Waverley, and Jeanette Ballinger, Beaconsfield Upper. 98 different artists have their work in the Gallery so there is a tremendous variety of craft. From Beaconsfield Upper alone there is copper, pottery, patchwork quilting, soap, candles, painting, homespun, jewellery, woodwork and macrame. There is a high standard of work and a warm friendly atmosphere helped no doubt by the pot bellied stove.

It is hoped the Gallery can provide classes in craft for local people next year. Needed are 10 people interested in the same craft, such as weaving, leadlight, painting, etc. and an instructor could be found. If you are interested in classes, drop in and leave your name at the Gallery.

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MANESTAR ROAD WOODCRAFTSMAN.

Heinz Moritz arrived here 18 years ago with a background as farm hand, fitter and turner, deep sea fisherman, loom operator, engineer on a tanker, tool maker, product planner and production manager, which could be why he believes in variety, non-specialisation and being able to do the whole job yourself, and a simple life - woodwork fulfils these needs for him.

Heinz was tired of telling other people to do repetitive work he didn't like himself and a lay-off at V.W. and the purchase of an old lathe (which he still uses) gave him the incentive to try a year of woodwork. Dislike of selling his own work and being unknown made him go back to work for 2½ years to save, produce more work and find that his wife, Gerda, was an excellent sales lady. The family now works as a team, sharing housework, breadmaking, growing all their own vegetables and herbs (used for teas and medication) cooking - Heinz and his sons, Oliver, Ralph and Chris, cook on Sundays. Gerda makes lovely batik lampshades.

Heinz buys the usual woods for his "bread and butter" lines but likes to select individual pieces from forest and beach which need more "thought intuition - co-operation between man and the wood". For instance he uses white gum for its grain and texture, mangrove for the colour of its grain and effect of grubs and red gum for the weathering effects and grubs. Heinz says the insects and the craftsman can co-operate very effectively.

Some local wood has been used from old orchards, apple, cherry, pear and some pine and blackwood. Most of these woods are worked when green and then stabilized in Poly Ethylene Glycol. This process should eventually reduce cracking and wastage, but is still very much in the experimental stage. Heinz feels many possibilities for creative work in wood have hardly been explored - variety of finishes, combination of resins, leather or metal. For Heinz the ultimate in a piece of wood craft is where rough texture contrasts with a high finish (man made) and blends with the grain and structure of the wood. The whole a harmonious blend of man and nature.

Heinz is sad to hear young people say they find no fun in wood work at school and feels we are teaching good basic skills, but in a boring and dull fashion. You can see his work at the National Gallery, Victoria Craft Council and State College collections.

Jeanette Ballinger.

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NOTES FROM COUNCIL

**YOUR RATES**

Following lengthy discussions involving a considerable number of meetings the Council budget for rating year 1978/79 has been determined. The Council meeting of November 13th, saw, after an extensive debate, the actual striking of the rates, and no doubt it will be of interest to see how the rates will affect you.

1. The owners of vacant blocks of land which have Council valuations set at \$15,800 and below will all pay a tax rate of \$90, which does not vary from last year.
2. All other owners of vacant blocks of land, except if included in an old and inappropriate subdivision will pay an increase in rates over last year of approximately 6%.
3. Vacant land included within a subdivision which has been classified by the Council as an old and inappropriate subdivision will incur a rate variation from \$43 up to \$45.
4. The ordinary house property which has a Council valuation, including land and buildings, of \$21,000 and below will incur a base rate of \$120, as compared to \$90 in the previous year.
5. All other house properties will have imposed a rate increase of 6% over the previous year.
6. Farm properties (classified by the Council) will continue to pay rates at a level 1.3 cents in the dollar below that of the general ratepayer, but overall, will still incur the 6% increase.

Additional charges will include a garbage rate of \$24.50 per tenement, which does not vary from last year, and the D.V.A. rate which is required to be collected by the Council.

**PLANNING APPLICATIONS - ADVERTISING.**

Following a number of enquiries directed to Councillors in recent times, it may be of benefit to outline the procedure involved and the reasons why an applicant is requested to advertise his intentions. The Planning Act places the Council as the responsible authority. If, in the opinion of the responsible authority, any proposal may cause "substantial detriment" to persons other than the applicant, the Council must issue a requirement that the applicant shall advertise. The extent of the advertising is also determined by the Council, but the applicant is usually required to give notice of the application by all or some of the following:

1. Placing a prescribed notice within a newspaper which is generally circulating within the area.
2. Posting a written notice to persons having an interest in all adjoining or opposite land.
3. Posting of notice or notices on the land.

The results of the advertising are then conveyed to the Council at the same time as it is considering the application, so that both the applicants views and the objectors views are known at that time.

**WALKING TRACK - SCHOOL CHILDREN**

The path that was requested by the Mothers Club and School Council, running generally from St. Georges Road to the school has been in existence for some time, and seems to be operating reasonably successfully. It was formed with very limited funds - approximately \$3,000 - but should be quite adequate for the children at this stage. Certainly it will not survive, nor will our kids, if motorised vehicles are to be ridden along it. The application made by the Council for the school crossing is being processed through the various government departments, and an answer should be available shortly.

Peter S. Meeking, Councillor

(059) 44 3568.

BEACONSFIELD UPPER RURAL FIRE BRIGADE.

The Brigade attended three fires during October. The first was a car in Alber Road, which had been set alight after, it is believed, it had been stolen and dumped. Later in the month a burn-off in a stand of pines on Sugarloaf Road got out of control while a gusty northerly was blowing. Two brigade units manned by seven men, and helped by neighbouring property-owners, contained the fire.

At about midnight on the 30th the Beaconsfield fire-brigade was called to the Addamo-Barker coolstore and packing plant. The main building was burning fiercely and Upper Beaconsfield, Officer and Berwick brigades were immediately called to assist. This combined force, working under the able direction of Beaconsfield Captain Bob Burgess, fought hard to bring the fire under control but the firemen were repeatedly driven back by the great heat, fumes from burning packaging, and piecemeal collapse of the building. The main building was destroyed, with total loss of large quantities of fruit and vegetables and a great amount of costly equipment. It was only long and strenuous effort that saved the office block which was directly threatened by the flames. It was mid-morning before the attending brigades were released and allowed to return home.

It is not known what caused the fire and it is perhaps surprising to many that a steel and corrugated iron structure should burn with such intensity, but a great deal of paper and plastic packaging material is used in the plant. It's a curious sight to see a crate of oranges burning like a blowtorch. It's an even more curious smell when tonnes of onions go up. In fact, any fireman's wife who dished up fried onions after this fire was likely to occasion a breach of the peace.

Gloom descended on the Upper Beaconsfield men when it was learned that the beer for the school Guy Fawkes bonfire night had been consumed by the flames. An unnamed fireman swore that, if he had known of its presence in the burning coolstore, he would have rescued it barehanded.

Under the direction of Communications Officer Betty Hill, successive shifts of the brigade's lady radio-operators ran the base station throughout the night and morning of the fire. A good communications system is an invaluable aid to firefighting; Betty and her fellow fire-persons showed what a reliable and competent crew they are. Organised by Win Murphin, refreshments arrived at the crucial moment and were brought down by the Auxiliary just when the firemen could afford to take a break and realised how tired, thirsty and hungry they were. Not only our men, but also the other brigades were very, very glad to see the ladies and men of the Auxiliary. Mrs. Bob Burgess and others from Beaconsfield helped to keep the supply of refreshments flowing.

This has been a remarkably good spring and, while it's wonderful to see the grass growing in the paddocks, don't forget that it is growing everywhere else as well. Even before it is fully cured, this prolific growth will present a very serious hazard - as was seen in the Lara fires which were in grass, that was only part-cured. Even if it is the Shire's job to clean up the nature strips, that isn't going to impress a fire one bit. An ounce of prevention is worth more than a ton of litigation in search of compensation. So, if there is grass and other combustible material on and around your property, get rid of it now, The exercise will do you good. Work blisters hurt less than third-degree burns. If nothing else, clearing the grass and undergrowth gives you a wider safety-margin from the snakes.

During the doorknock householders were given a pamphlet full of very sensible advice on what to do in case of a house-fire or bushfire. One thing can be, added; please check on the nearest supply of water. Locate the hydrant nearest your property if you are in the reticulated part of Upper Beaconsfield. (There are 110 of them and the firemen can't be expected to know them all.) If you have tanks, a swimming-bath or dam, please be ready to tell the firemen where the water is if they have to come and fight a fire on your property. This is particularly important at night when an ideal and otherwise obvious source of supply may go unnoticed in the dark.

George Silberbauer

RETARDING BASIN PROPOSED FOR CARDINIA CREEK

The district of the Dandenong Valley Authority was enlarged in May. 1977 to include the area between Cardinia Creek and Deep Creek (east of Pakenham). The Authority is responsible for flood control and main drainage, as well as control of stream pollution and other factors which are detrimental to the waterway environment.

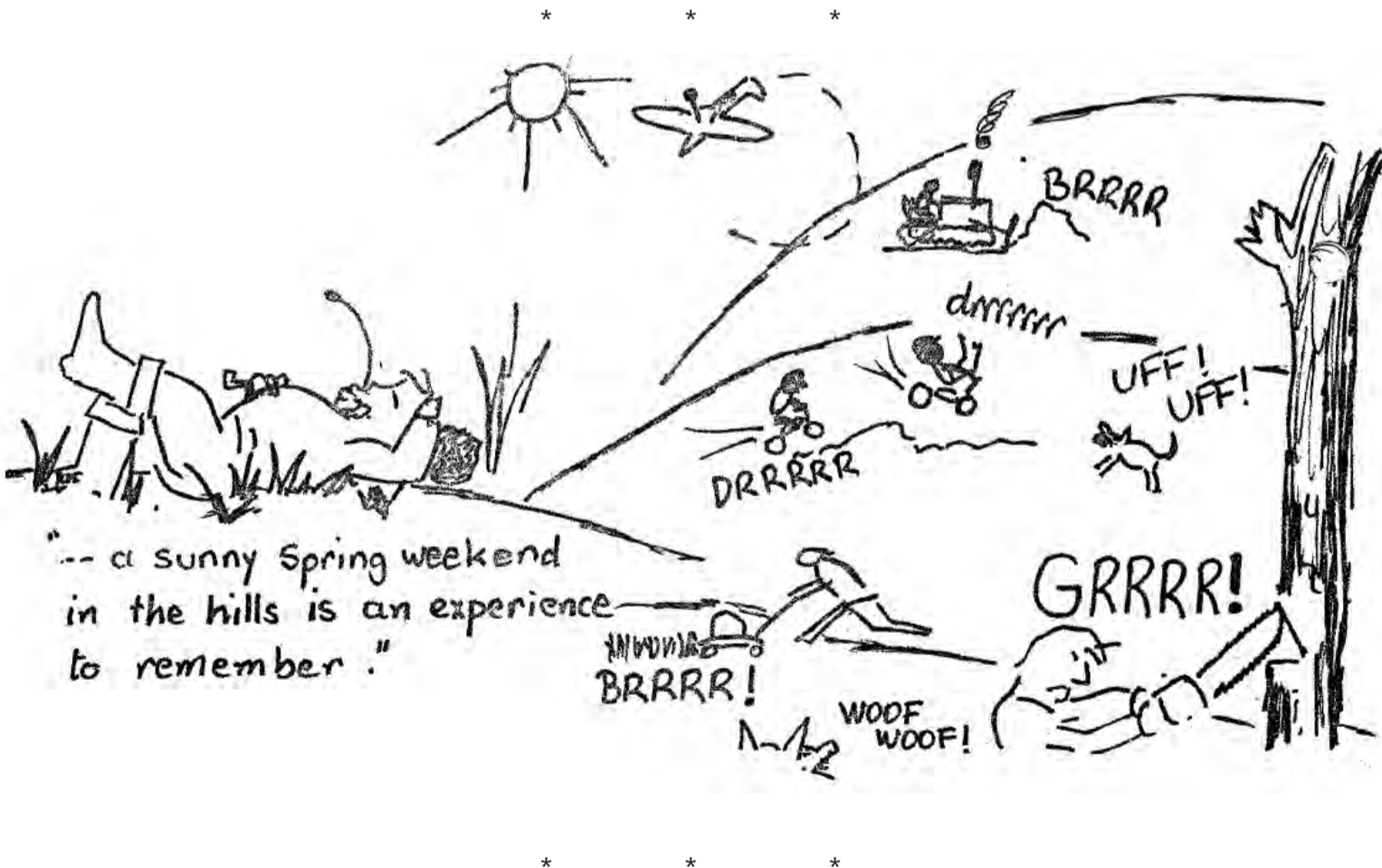
As part of its extensive proposed programme of flood control, in the area, the D.V.A. plans a retarding basin on the upper reaches of the Cardinia Creek. The site presently under consideration is a short distance downstream from the confluence of Stoney Creek with the Cardinia.

A 10-metre-high earth wall is to be built. Its effect will be to cut the peaks off floods by impounding water when the creeks run high and then releasing it at a steady rate which is within the waterway's capacity. It does not interfere with the normal flow of the creek. The design is intended to cope with a calculated "worst in 100 years" flood.

From the Upper-Beaconsfield point of view the problems are those which will arise during construction of the wall and the effects which the presence of the retarding basin will have on the stream environment. The first include traffic generated by construction and the choice of a source of material for building the wall. The second set will be the subject of an impact study by the D.V.A. which will be supplemented by investigations by members of the Environment Group of the B.U.A.

The Cardinia Creek Conservation Advisory Committee (local representatives C. Keith Ewenson and George Silberbauer) has asked the D.V.A. to make a thorough study of all feasible alternative sources of material and routes of construction traffic, with comparative costs. and to make this information available.

George Silberbauer.



FOUND

Plastic bag full of towels and things~near the Post Office. Owner should contact Ray Ratcliff.



## THE COMING OF THE WHITE MAN

Before the white settlers came to Upper Beaconsfield in 1872, the place must have been visited, on foot or on horseback, by men who had settled in Berwick and Harkaway. As early as 1838, Terence O'Connor had a grazing licence on the creek, and the settlements of Berwick, Little Berwick (later Beaconsfield), and Harkaway, grew up during the next 30 years. One of Berwick's pioneer families, that of Captain Gardiner, originally had a house on the east side of the creek, on or near the spot where Mr. Bell's house now stands, south of the Montuna Golf Course. The old house was demolished during the ownership of a Mr. Fuller. During these 30 years, men followed up the courses of the Cardinia and Stoney Creeks, to find the source of the water and investigate the lie of the land. The gullies, swamps and heavy timber must have discouraged any prospective settlers, and the hills remained a cattle run, leased from the Government.

As the cattle leases were only for short terms, there was little inducement to spend money on improving the pastures, draining and fencing, so the boundaries were usually quite vague, unless defined by a creek or a ridge. The lease-holders were supposed to set up "out-stations" in addition to their home; these were huts for the use of herdsmen and riders, spaced a certain distance from one another and from the boundary. There are records of two such huts standing between Albers Road and the Stoney Creek.

In 1860 the land between the Cardinia and Toomuc Creeks was zoned for timber-cutting and the grazing lease was finally cancelled in 1866.

About 1867 alluvial gold was discovered in the Haunted Gully, east of Bowman's Track - now covered by the Beaconsfield reservoir of the State Rivers Commission. However there were no rewards from numerous pits and trenches dug in the neighbouring gullies. There were said to be as many as 200 miners working at one time, but they did not settle, and nor did the timber cutters who followed them.

During this pre-settlement period, it appears that at least two tracks came into use, across our locality, though unfortunately we know of no official map on which they appear. One has a bullock track, from the timber camps around what later became Gembrook, to Dandenong. Presumably, it was roughly on the line of Lewis Road, Red Hill Road, Foott Road, Chadwick Road, to Narre Warren North, and so onwards.

The other trail was Bowman's Track, which began at Little Berwick (Beaconsfield) and went up into the Upper Yarra Valley. It was cut in the 1850's for Mrs. Bowman, who had the "Gippsland Hotel" - now the "Central Hotel" - at the Cardinia Creek crossing, and was for foot and pack-horse traffic, to and from the gold diggings around Woods Point. Ingeniously routed to follow dry ridges and to avoid gullies and creek crossings, it followed the line of O'Neills Road, Hughendon Road, Telegraph Road, the Sugarloaf Hill Ridge, and the present road to Emerald, Paternoster Road, Mount Burnett and so northward.

At a date variously given as 1872 ("Bullock Tracks to Bitumen" - 1962) or 1875 (Melbourne "Argus" - 1885) Mr. Snell, a draper from Collingwood, built a two-roomed house close to Bowman's Track, situated between Corringham Road and Mr. Keith Ballantyne's house L'Aiglon. We read that it was a mixture of wattle-daub and adobe construction, weatherboard outside, and the sunbaked bricks for the fireplace and chimney were hand-made from a clay-hole nearby. The building was demolished in 1935. Snell sold out in 1877 to J. Brisbane, who selected 320 acres (half a square mile). The story of his "Big House" was told, on page 9, in the October, 1978, issue of the "Village Bell".

Snell may or may not have built the first house, depending on the accuracy of the dates above, but there is little doubt about the first permanent settler. This was John Glismann, who in 1872 crossed the Cardinia Creek from Harkaway, where there was no more suitable land to be had for occupation. The story of John and his family, who were the pioneer family of Upper Beaconsfield, is a chapter to itself, and will appear in the next issue of the "Village Bell".

Roy Harris, Diana Rocke, John Milligan

**DO YOU MIND IT IN INCHES?  
RAINFALL & SNOWFALL - THE FACTS!**

No less than a dozen of Beaconsfield Upper's citizens have kindly supplied information for this summary, further information has also been obtained from official sources.

The 1968 Bureau of Meteorology Climatic Survey of Region 10 stated that the average annual rainfall was 41.16 inches. Mr. Ron Inglis, the present official recorder for the Bureau and also manager of Beacon Hills Golf Course, has kindly provided his figures for the following ten years. The average again is approximately 41 inches.

Turning to the non-official records and using the figures of four geographically separated observers for the same decade the average annual rainfall is 40.5 inches. Most people are aware that rainfall varies from one area of the neighbourhood to another, as for example in 1975 when 37.68 inches were recorded at Beacon Hills Golf Club, 40.73 at the centre of the village and 42.33 inches at Norbury Road.

In 1977 the situation changed, the village receiving 32.94 inches, Beacon Hills 35.19 inches and Norbury Road 37.00 inches. The dominant wind direction for the year, coupled with the hilly topography, probably causes these variations.

Since World War II there have been annual rainfalls in excess of 50 inches on several occasions, but 1952 was an exceptionally wet year. The late Mr. V. D. Norbury of Norbury Road recorded 60.25 inches and in the same year Mr. J.C.D, Esdaile of Emerald Road recorded 60.57 inches - a remarkable agreement. The rainfall during 1967, the driest post war year was 25.11 inches.

Looking at monthly rainfall figures, January is driest with an average of 240 points and February next with 266 points. The wettest month is October averaging 440 points.

Coming to individual months, during May 1970, 991 points were recorded. Very dry months were December, 1972, when 12 points fell - February of 1965 when 17 points fell.

Snowfalls have occurred on several occasions. Photographs taken on 30th June, 1922, show both Salisbury House and the War Memorial well covered by snow. These photographs are in the possession of Mrs. Sulman of Guys Hill.

The snowfall of 20th July, 1951, was apparently somewhat heavier and Mrs. Norbury senior, recalls the snow lying in her orchard for 2 - 3 days. There was also another slight fall on 8th September that year. Some claim to have seen snow here on September, 13th of this year.

Information was received from the records of the following - the late Mr. V. D. Norbury, 1946-74; Mr. J. C. D. Esdaile 1951-78; Mr. A. K. Ballantyne 1964-78; Mr. G. Moir of Barkala 1968-78; Mr. E. Tregoning 1971-78. Mr. P. Easton, Mrs. Hamilton, Mrs. Norbury senior, Mr. D. Norbury, Mrs. Sulman and Mr. J. Poole have also kindly supplied information.

For those who are metrically inclined and have a pocket computer or are mathematically able, the following information is supplied.

1 inch = 25.4 mm.      1 mm. = 3.937 points      and      1 point = 0.254 mm.

Charles Wilson

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**PRE-LOVED TOYS**

When you have that grand turn-out of old toys just before Christmas, would you please save them for Red Cross "Children-working-for-Children". The toys will be sold by children associated with the Red Cross at next year's Village Fair on March 24th. The stall will operate on a "bring and buy" basis. If you have any difficulty in storing the old toys please contact Mrs. Joanne Dance 44 3637.

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### ATTRACTING BIRDS TO YOUR GARDEN

As a result of the rapid development of urban areas during the last decade, and the subsequent clearing of bushland, many people are trying to attract birds back into their home gardens. Native plants have enjoyed an unprecedented boom in popularity and more and more species are being sought after and cultivated. This is by far the most successful and a natural way to encourage birds into the, home garden.

Another popular and widely practised method (particularly in Europe) is for bird lovers to provide sustenance for birds by artificial feeding. Magpies, kookaburras, currawongs and butcher birds will readily accept food scraps, though other species take a little more time, so some patience may be necessary. A number of suitable feeders are available from the Bird Observers Club, 183 Springvale Road, Nunawading. Many species will also be attracted to bathe in small pools or bird baths.

Suggested foods "that have proved successful include;

mixture of scraps- bread, bird seed, apple, breakfast cereal, honey mixed with melted dripping, suspended in a container.

nectar liquid mix equal parts brown sugar with water plus 2 - 3 drops of infant vitamin concentrate. Use approved feeders only, and refrigerate remainder.

suet hung in an onion bag, packaged parrot seed, scraps of meat, pasta, cheese etc. will all be taken readily.

All attempts to encourage birds into the garden will prove to be fruitless and harmful unless certain measures are taken to prevent them from falling prey to cats;

remove foliage around base of nectar producing shrubs so birds can see cats lurking there.

suspend feeders out of reach of cats, or you may be luring birds to destruction.

place a small bell around the neck of household pets, to warn birds of their approach, and keep them inside during dawn hours when birds are most active.

Suitable bird attracting plants;

Species of Anigozanthos, Angophora, Banksia, Brachychiton, Callistemon, Calothamnus, Correa, Eucalyptus, Eremophila, Epacris, Grevillea, Hakea, Kennedia, Lagunaria, Melaleuca, Styphelia. Also berry producing plants - Eleocarpus reticulatus, Eugenia Smithi, Pittosporum undulatum.

Paul Chick.

\* \* \*

### BIRD OBSERVING FOR BEGINNERS.

On October 21st, twenty-one people of varying ages, ably led by Paul Chick, enjoyed good weather and a most interesting morning with the birds. Twenty-five species were recorded, particularly good views of the olive backed oriole, the satin fly catcher and the orange winged sitella at nest were had by all.

Paul's uncanny ability to identify bird calls assisted in several sightings. Another walk is contemplated in the New Year and the date will be publicised in the next newsletter.

\* \* \*

### MEIMON'S MUSINGS

Ed. - Meimonodes, an Arabic physician and prolific writer of the middle ages has been reincarnated here as the mouthpiece of a community doctor).



SHOULD YOU GO TO THE DOCTOR WHEN YOU ARE WELL?

My answer is NO! Save your money, save your time and don't get unnecessary pills. However,

DO YOU KNOW THAT YOU ARE WELL?

My answer-is.--NO! You do not know if you have  
High Blood Pressure                      Early Diabetes  
Early Kidney Disease                      Early Cervical Cancer, etc.

A proper general check up, carried out once would exclude these conditions for one, two or three years. Therefore you should have a proper check up at least once when you are well. These conditions do not cause any symptoms and when diagnosed early are easily treated and prevent disease and death. Once a proper check up clears your health you need not see a doctor for a while if you feel well; or even for minor ailments such as short colds, or the like.

Incidentally, a proper check up would exclude predisposing condition for eventual heart disease, and assist in later diagnoses when you are unwell.

CAN YOU CHECK YOURSELF?

My answer is YES! but to a limited extent. Nevertheless, you can learn how to check your own breasts, learn how to take your own blood pressure, and so save some doctor visits. You could possibly test your own urine if you were taught how, and why and when!

THIS COLUMN may at times be controversial. The opinions are my own, but based on sound medical knowledge. Questions are welcome (Ed. - please direct- in writing through Ray Ratcliffe at P.O.) and will be answered frankly.

Questions which need research will be answered after due research and the source of information will be given.

Doctors have their place and their limitations and you should be involved in your health and know as much as practicable, and also you should judge the health-care you receive from doctors and institutions and be prepared to discuss matters with all qualified personnel who look after your health.

\* \* \*

### BEACONSFIELD UPPER PRIMARY SCHOOL.

As the school year draws to a close the Principal, Staff and pupils of Beaconsfield Upper Primary School would like to sincerely thank members of the School Council, Mothers' Club and all those interested parents who have rendered such valuable assistance to the school during 1978 with Fund Raising efforts, Working Bees, help with reading and on excursions etc. Money raised has bought carpets, Library books and a great deal of valuable equipment which is appreciated by both teachers and children.

To Grade 6 pupils, who leave us to proceed to High and Technical schools in February, we say "Good Luck - may your future years be happy and rewarding".

J. Crosbie, Principal.

\* \* \*

### PARIS FASHIONS.

Are we seeing the birth of a new fashion fad?

Marilyn Harrington, Ruth Barker, Judy Moir and Margaret Nicholls have all been spotted recently in (of all things!) Plaster of Paris.

\* \* \*

**PONY CLUB**

Encouraging for the Club were the good attendances and enjoyable times had by members- at the October rally with five new riders participating, at the Theory Night at Beryl Hails, and at the West Gippsland Zone one day Instructors Course at Lang Lang. We hope to report the same for the November Rally Saturday 25, Cross Country Event and Barbecue starting at 12 o'clock at G. Robertson's property, Foott Road.

Christmas Break Up Gymkhana is Saturday, December 2, at the Recreation Ground, 10 a.m. start, with lunch being catered for by the Club.

Graeme Robertson Phone 443 458.



Tor Holth

\* \* \*

**TOR HOLTH IN ARTISTIC ACTION.**

Though only a district resident for about two years, Norwegian Tor Holth (pronounced Holt) had made quite an impression around Victoria and particularly this month when an exhibition of his oil paintings, water colours and drawings was hailed at the Manyung Gallery at Mt. Eliza.

Born in China 45 years ago, the son of missionaries, Tor furthered his education in India, Norway and Britain with art associations in Europe and later Australia.

Apart from painting he finds (or makes) time for his other interests which include development design, mountain climbing, the piano, equitation (dressage), riding instruction, guitar playing (concert classical and folk) and during the past four years researching and writing a social history of the mountain cattlemen of the Bogong High Plains.

Tor is marrying the editor of his book, to be published early next year, late this month. Her name is Jane Barnaby, a young woman who will become an acquisition to the local scene.

Paul Easton

\* \* \*

**CANBERRA APPOINTMENT.**

Graham Jackson announced his resignation as President of the BUA this month, as a result of a prestigious appointment in Canberra.

Graham is a Market Project Manager at ALCOA, assessing the impact of rising energy costs on markets for aluminium (this includes the assessment of "alternate" energy sources).

The Canberra appointment is to the recently established National Energy office of the Department of National Development, charged with formulating Australia's energy policies. It is part of an interchange program between government and industry.

Graham, Barbara, Lachlan and Robbie will all go to the ACT, while Fiona hopes to start at a Victorian university.

\* \* \*

**BEACONSFIELD UPPER GALLERIES - AN OPPORTUNITY - AN INVITATION.**

The WORKSHOP GALLERY on St. Georges Road, displaying work from Ian Sprague's Mungeribar Pottery and Vic Greenaway's Broomhill Pottery, is well established. With the newly opened COOLSTORE GALLERY on Emerald Road (see page 5) and a "shortly-to-be-opened" gallery on a spacious 2 acre pine grove off Stoney Creek Road, displaying porcelain and stoneware by PETER PETRUCCELLI and MARY PANCOAST, local people have a rare opportunity to observe and enjoy at first hand, art and craft work of superb quality - meet the artists - discuss the techniques.

All three Galleries are very anxious that local people avail themselves of this opportunity - please do not feel obliged to buy!  
(see ads. on page 17).

\* \* \*

**1ST BEACONSFIELD UPPER SCOUT NEWS.**

Martin Van Dieman (Baloo) has taken over the role of Acting Group Leader to co-ordinate the activities of the Group Committee (Pres. Bill Bliss), Scout Troop, Cub Pack and Ladies Auxiliary. Brian Dickinson (Spike), assisted by Doug Raven and Steven Thompson run the Troop; Jean Cox (Akela) and Tracey de Maria (Chil) are Cub Leaders. New Cub Leaders or assistants are urgently required!

The recent weekend visit to the Toomuc District by the Essendon District Cubs and Leaders was very enjoyable. The visitors arrived on the Saturday by rail, were billeted overnight and returned on a Sunday afternoon train. The Cubs are currently working on an end of year concert.

Four Toomuc District Scout Troops turned up for the annual Gilwell Raft Race on Rainbow Lake on Sunday, 19th November. The 1st Beaconsfield Upper's, who camped on site from Friday, were thought to have an unfair advantage, having spent Saturday night floating around in sleepingbags. (Some 2½" of rain caused the race cancellation).

A BOTTLE COMPOUND is to be built at the Hall shortly and anyone leaving bottles is asked to put them behind the fence.

The Ladies Auxiliary (Pres. Trish Bellgrove) are interested in buying second hand Scout and Cub uniforms. They also have drinking glasses for hire for functions.

\* \* \*

**RECREATION RESERVE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT.**

A new committee was elected on October 24, and most local organisations seem to have at least one representative elected. The Shire President, Bob Bysouth, chaired the meeting and thanked the outgoing committee. The new committee is: Peter Gullquist (President), Merrilyn Hayes (Secretary), Julie Jamieson (Treasurer), Keith Ewenson (Vice-President), Ern Adamson, Sue Collis, Chris Thirkell, Jan Konecny, John Wells, Graeme Robertson, John Crosbie, Don Rogers and Roger Francey.

Bookings for the ground and the school area and facilities may be made through the school during school hours (443 591) or by phoning Merrilyn Hayes on 443 346.

The point was made by the retiring officebearers, Graeme Stacey, Beryl Hails and Jenny Lord, that the reserve is a singularly valuable asset which will come under a constant and increasing threat in the future. Every attempt must be made to preserve it; there can be very few other villages of this size with such a large reserve in the virtual centre.

\* \* \*

FACTS ABOUT DOGS

The following is a summary of an interview with Pakenham Shire Ranger/By-laws Officer, Warren Barclay.

- Normally two Rangers patrol a shire area of 870 sq. km. with approximately 18,000 people and 2775 dog registrations.
- Dog registration fees are: \$7.00 unsterilized bitch, \$3.00 others, \$1.00 recognised farm breed kept and used, on farms. \$0.50 pensioners dog (first dog only).
- Lost registration discs can be replaced simply (at nominal cost).
- It is an offence for any dog to wander at large on public land.
- Impounded dogs are taken to Tynong (13 km. past Pakenham). If the dog carries a registration disc the owner is notified immediately, by letter. Pound fees for reclaimed dogs are \$6.00 for the first 3 days, \$1 per day thereafter.
- Rangers have close contact with RSPCA, Peninsula Animal Aid, Lost Dogs Homes etc. Unclaimed dogs of special breeding or character may find a home through these agencies, otherwise they are destroyed.
- Your unwanted dogs or pups can be disposed of very simply by ringing, the Rangers. They will pick up the animals at a convenient and politic time (e.g. during school hours). The charge for a dog to be destroyed is \$2. Pups are usually found good homes.
- Peninsula Animal Aid, for example, have a scheme of accepting litters on the condition that the mother is spayed. Spaying is arranged at a reduced rate with certain veterinary surgeons. Recent efforts to start a similar scheme in the Shire failed owing to lack of co-operation from local vets.
- B.U. is unusual in having a high percentage of large, "hunting breed" dogs.
- Dog attacks on livestock are most prevalent at dawn and dusk during lambing, season, but occur spasmodically at other times. A spate of reported stock maulings in August in Sugarloaf and Manestar Road areas resulted in the destruction of dogs held responsible.
- Rangers have no legal control over dogs barking, but can provide advice on dog psychology, including the normal causes and cures of persistent barking.

Coming Attractions!

- A Shire "door-knock" survey of dog registrations is in progress. B.U. has yet to be surveyed. Prosecutions have arisen in already surveyed localities where unregistered dogs have been detected.
- A new Animal By-Law legislation is imminent. (Among the more important changes to do with dogs, will be the reduction of the dog limit in residential areas from 4 to 2).
- A new Dog Infringement Notice Scheme is shortly expected to provide an alternative to impounding. Rangers acting on complaints or during normal patrol will have the power to serve notices on dog owners (without apprehending the dog). Initially, owners will be given 14 days to explain why they should not be prosecuted. Later it is hoped a system of fixed "on-the-spot" fines will be introduced (e.g. wandering at large (day) \$20, wandering at large (night) \$50, attack on person \$100 etc.).

For further information contact Warren on 41 1011. Best times are 8.30 - 9.30 a.m. or 4.30 - 5.00 p.m. ( - 7.45 p.m. on Mondays).

Roger Francey

**COUNTRY WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION.**

The Country Women's Association was founded in Victoria on March 12th, 1928. In that year, the Upper Beaconsfield Victoria League Women's Institute founded two years before, changed to the CWA.

While in England in 1926 Miss Elsa Grice, a resident of Upper Beaconsfield, attended meetings and took part in the activities of the Women's Institute. On her return to Upper Beaconsfield in that year she discussed this organisation with her friend, Mrs. Gwyneth Colles. They decided to convene a meeting with a view to forming a branch in Upper Beaconsfield - 120 ladies attended. A branch was formed with a membership of 80. Mrs. Colles introduced craft work into the branch. She donated a cup for craft work, known as the Colles Cup, which is competed for annually by branches in the West Gippsland group.

There are now two branches of the CWA in B.U. A night branch, "Woorinyan", began as a younger set to the B.U. day branch in November, 1958. The first meeting was held in the home of Mrs. Whitelaw, "Woorinyan", Red Hill Road. The home has since been removed to make way for the Cardinia Reservoir, but there are still 2 original "Woorinyan" members, J. Harris and J. Bumpstead. In November, 1966, the younger set decided to take full membership of CWA and it was then that the name of "Woorinyan" was chosen. "Woorinyan" meetings are held the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 8 p.m. in a members home. Day branch meetings are held in the Upper Beaconsfield Hall the 1st Thursday of the month at 1.15 p.m.

Moneys raised by the branches is donated to different charities. Thanksgiving Fund is usually for research, Welfare in times of difficulty to the needy, Emergency Relief to State and National disasters, such as flood, fire, etc. "Woorinyan" branch has donated to local organisations; the fire brigade, hall, church, girlguides and kindergarten. Help has also been given to two families who had the misfortune to have their homes burnt to the ground. Outside donations have been to the Salvation Army, Pakenham Nursing Home, Minibah and the Angel of Mercy. "Woorinyan" raises its moneys mainly from catering for weddings, lodge nights and this year we catered for the World Quarter Horse Cup at the Upper Beaconsfield Equestrian Centre.

In May this year "Woorinyan" bestowed its first Life Membership on Mrs. Joan Harris, who has been an untiring worker for our branch.

We do have our cuppa and a chinwag, but we have much to interest most women. Drama, Song in Costume, Choral etc., Handcrafts and Home Industries, Craft - you name it, we can teach you. There is a group craft day on the 2nd Friday of each month at the Officer Hall at 10 a.m. Night branch craft is the 1st Thursday night of each month.

World Wide Associated Country Women's of the World - 9 million members the biggest women's association in the World. We extend the hand of friendship to anyone who would like to join us and we are non sectarian and non political.

Day Branch Office Bearers

President: Mrs. J. Maas 44 3559  
Secretary: Mrs. G. Judd 44 3556

Night Branch Office Bearers "Woorinyan"

President: Mrs. J. Pfeifer 44 3236  
Secretarys: Mrs. J. Cox and  
Mrs. A. Farmer 44 3714

Joyce Bumpstead.

\* \* \*

**BERWICK AND 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 meeting is on Friday, 1st December - subject "Old Magic Lantern Slides", Visitors welcome. There will be no meeting in January.

\* \* \*



**BEACONSFIELD UPPER TRADES AND SERVICE DIRECTORY**

Support Beaconsfield Upper. For advertising in the next Village Bell submit wording plus \$3 per space to Roger Francey (44 3642) by January 10, 1979. (Multiple edition ads accepted).

COOLSTORE GALLERY, EMERALD ROAD  
SPECIAL WOODWORK EXHIBITION  
Fri, 11-3; Sat, 1 - 5; Sun 11-5  
Craft Day Thurs, 11 - 3.

PAINTING, DECORATING  
WALL PAPERING, STAINING  
Restoration a speciality  
PAUL EASTON,  
Salisbury Road 44 3228

B. C. & P. R. DAVIES  
Painting Contractors  
Free Quotes 44 3790

For quality workmanship on any  
building project you are  
considering contact local builder  
BARRY EASTOE 44 3337

CRUSHED ROCK AND SCREENINGS  
Reasonable cartage and metal  
prices  
Peter De La Rue 44 3759

RENOVATIONS AND RE-BLOCKING  
Buildings raised and blocked  
anywhere in any condition.  
Permits and plans arranged.  
ALAN HUNTER 44 3338

Front End Loader, Rear Grader  
Chisel Plough, Rotary Slashing  
General Cleanup  
COLIN WILSON 44 3661

POTTERY GARDEN SALE  
Sunday, December 3, 11 am - 5 pm  
WINE & CHEESE - ALL WELCOME  
Petruccelli's Ceramics  
Stoney Creek Road.

P D PRINTERS (Peter Deering)  
Commercial Printers  
Letterpress - Offset  
Free Quotes AH 44 3521  
BH 792 4118

Save time, petrol, postage  
at your local POST OFFICE  
you can CSB house loan payments  
can Defence service payments  
pay telephone accounts  
and conduct savings banking.

Neil McDonald Dip. A.I.I.  
AMP REPRESENTATIVE  
Yackatoon Road 44 3782  
Life, Superannuation  
Fire and General Insurances

THE WORKSHOP SHOWROOMS  
St. George's Road (44 3573)  
Stoneware and Porcelain from  
Ian Sprague's "Mungeribar"  
Vic Greenaway's "Broomhill"

Grevilleas for sale, many  
varieties, well established.  
Also melaleucas, pelargoniums,  
allspice, ferns, fuschias.  
PAUL EASTON 44 3228.

HEATING AND AIR-  
CONDITIONING CONTRACTORS  
CHELCROFT NOMINEE PTY. LTD.  
Young Street 44 3393

A GRADE ELECTRICIAN  
MAX DUNLEVIE  
Genesis V Contractor  
Young Street 44 3393

Electric Motors  
Repairs and Rewinds  
HERB SCHROEDERS  
Anderson's Electrical Ind.  
Stoney Creek Road 44 3594

Plastering - new work,  
renovations, archways  
R. & L. PLASTER LININGS  
(Ray Kearney)  
Grant Court, 44 3763

TREE WORK AND WEED CONTROL  
ST. GEORGE GARDENS PTY. LTD.  
44 3427

Building and Bricklaying  
Alterations, Additions, Repairs  
MAX FRASER  
Stoney Creek Road 44 3237

E.G. & L.L. ADAMSON  
Electrical Contractor  
Stoney Creek Road 44 3276  
Specialising in domestic work  
prompt and efficient service.

PLUMBERS AND GAS FITTERS  
J.J. & J.M. ALLEN  
Licensed M.M.B.W. \*S.R.W.S.C.  
Lot 25, Grant Court 44 3761

For salamanda, garden rocks,  
mountain soil, screenings,  
sandy loam, pine bark  
D. & S. SHORT  
Paul Grove, 44 3462

SWIMMING POOL CHEMICALS  
for all quality products  
BEACON HEIGHTS AUTOS  
Village Centre, 44 3264

NEW HOMES, EXTENSIONS AND  
RENOVATIONS  
I. D. & J. V. FARR  
Free quotes; no obligation  
Grant Court, 44 3625 P.O.Box 1

**A LITTLE ABOUT GUYS HILL**

Two theories relating to Guys Hill have recently been debunked by long-term residents.

The first relates to the nudist colony that used to be conducted on Cardinia Creek below the Bumpstead property. It was commonly thought that mosquitoes finally drove the sun lovers to a new venue to the north of Dandenong. However, it seems that fire, in the 1950's, destroyed their clubhouse (including piano) and other outbuildings. Lemons were bought and sometimes otherwise acquired from the Bumpstead orchard as an antidote for mosquito bites. The colony at Guys Hill was on a property then owned by the Wheelers of Mildura.

The second piece of history relates to the name of the area. Originally known as Nib Hill (short for Inebriate - there being two asylums there in the early part of this century) it later changed to Luke's Hill.

Bert Luke was a topnotch photographer (at times with the Age) who conducted the roadside store. Mr. and Mrs. Luke won Tatts and were also remembered as being key figures in the establishment of Montuna Golf Course. They sold to Mr. Herb Guy in the early 1930's and subsequently the hill took on its present name. Just coincidentally a local truck driver with the surname of Guy used to operate a business per a Bean vehicle around 1926 when fire destroyed the bridge linking Kings Road, Harkaway, with the lower stretches of Upper Beaconsfield.

And on the subject of Montuna golf, congratulations to David Blair of St. Georges Road for winning his 14th club championship there recently.

Paul Easton.

\* \* \*

FOR THE PUBLIC'S CONVENIENCE FROM THE FIRST OCTOBER, 1978, THE SHIRE OF PAKENHAM'S OFFICE HOURS WILL BE EXTENDED TO:

General Office

Mondays 9 a.m., to 7.45 p.m.  
Tuesdays to Fridays 9 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.

Buildings, Valuers and Health Office

Monday to Friday 10 a.m. to 12 noon  
Afternoons by appointment  
Monday evenings 5 p.m. to 7.45 p.m.

B.J. Wallis  
Shire Secretary.

\* \* \*

**ST. JOHN'S FELLOWSHIP CENTRE.**

The building adjacent St. John's Anglican Church, to be known as the Fellowship Centre, was officially opened by Bishop David Shand on Sunday, 15th October.

Among the guests at the luncheon which followed the dedication service were Crs. Ewenson, Meeking and Mr. and Mrs. Don Mayes.

During the afternoon children of the Sunday School planted 15 native trees and shrubs in the grounds, and to date all are thriving.

For those who disagree with the colour scheme - take heart - we believe a change will be effected after some weathering. Further, the Church itself will also be getting a new coat of paint in the near future.

Lee Bormann.

\* \* \*

**THE UPPER BEACONSFIELD TENNIS CLUB.**

Tennis is a very popular sport and our club is rapidly growing. The facilities have doubled in the past two years and the club welcomes new members to make use of these. There is both social and organised team tennis as well as coaching sessions.

Enquiries please ring: President, Vic Greenaway 44 3573.

\* \* \*

**BEACONSFIELD UPPER FIRE BRIGADE AUXILIARY**

By now most of you will have had a visit from a member of the auxiliary who will have given you some brochures and a card listing the number to telephone in case of fire. Read them thoroughly, they may remind you of some point that you have overlooked in your own fire precautions.

The auxiliary wishes to thank all who donated so generously for the brigade. Details of the amount received will be published when all donations are in hand.

We are still anxious to hear from anyone who can help the auxiliary in any way. Perhaps you are not prepared to go and actually fight a fire, but you maybe able to help by operating the radio. Would you please contact our Communications Officer, Mrs. Betty Hill 44 3225.

We would also like to hear from any ladies in the district who would be prepared to help in catering at large fires. Would you please contact our Catering Co-ordinator, Mrs. Win Murfin 44 3513. - General enquiries Mrs. Sue Packham 44 3273, Mrs. Heather Topp 44 3317.

\* \* \*

**A WONDERFUL SPRING.**

Yes, it certainly has been! Charles Wilson reports four different species of native orchids in a lawn that has been established thirty years-that is quite a spring! What sort of orchids? spiders, spotted sun and two species of greenhoods.

Bushland is still a blaze of colour with milkmaids, black eyed susan, trigger plants and bush peas in abundance. Also in bloom are fringe lillies, blue pincushions, violets, juniper tea-tree, chocolate lillies, guinea flowers, goodenias, sundews, candles, rice flowers, flax lilly, soft bush pea, an occasional wattle, several 'buttons', mat rushes, cassinia, daisy bushes, rosemary grevillea, dusty miller, stellaria, buttercups, twining glycipe, appleberry, yellow wood sorrel, and "bird", "potato", "sun" and "onion" orchids.

Echidnas, kangaroos, wallabies, wombats etc., have also been sighted. We are extremely interested in recording all wild life sightings (alive or dead).

Contact Charles Wilson (plants), Paul Chick (birds), Vic Travers (mammals), Roger Francey (reptiles).

\* \* \*

BEACONSFIELD UPPER ASSOCIATION

Next Public Forum: Wednesday, 6th December, 7.30 p.m.

HISTORY FEATURE: Display of local historical material  
- photos, extracts, letters etc. - Can you contribute?  
ALSO History Group will be compiling a list/map of OLD  
HOMES with the view of obtaining photographic records:-  
Is your home of (local) historic interest?  
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT: Quarry, Quamby Road etc.  
(see pages 3,4),

Resignations: President Graham Jackson (see page 13) and  
Brian Dickinson (Health reasons) have resigned from the  
committee. Their contribution to an extremely successful  
and active year is gratefully acknowledged. Terry Dance is  
acting President until annual elections 7th February, 1979.

Nominations: Nominations for a new BUA committee of '10'  
will be accepted from December 6.

Village Fair: Saturday, 24th March, 1979, is the occasion  
for the B. U. Village Fair on the Recreation Ground  
(followed by an Old Time Dance?). The BUA hopes once again.  
to coordinate a wide range of imaginative displays/  
activities by community organisations. Detailed planning  
commences in January ideas, suggestions, criticisms,  
assistance welcomed!

"THE VILLAGE BELL"

Next Issue: end January, 1979.

Next Deadline: 15th January, 1979.

Next Editor: Graeme Kidd

Distribution: No. 1 500 copies, No. 2 600 copies  
No.3 700 copies. Posted to all residents(B.U. and Guys  
Hill P.O.) • Limited copies available from: Allans,Kings,  
B.U. P.O., Editor. Mailing list for non-residents is being  
formed.

This Issue: Editor: Roger Francey with help from Graeme  
Kidd, Charles Wilson. Masthead: Sheila Marshall.  
Typing: Sandra Francey, Collating: Youth Club.  
Special Thanks: Peter Deering for assistance with paper.

Help!:The vigour and lifetime of the "Bell" depends on a steady  
flow of fresh faces. Take a turn, we offer jobs of all sizes  
to suit all tastes.



"It was only supposed to  
be twice, but there was  
this space and it is that  
time of the year

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY 1979"