

No. 9 November 28, 1979

Published by B.U. Association.

**MAST HEAD - DECISIONS, DECISIONS!**

In the previous edition school children were invited to submit Village Bell mast-heads - the selected entry winning 1 dozen large soft drink. Thirty-three entries were received, Lincoln Easton, with 3 entries, was the only high school entrant. One of his entries was a unanimous selection by the editorial panel.

However, all members were so impressed by the general standard of primary school entries that a suggestion of splitting the prize was agreed upon.

Therefore Lincoln's mast head will appear on the next edition; and he can collect 6 bottles from Tom's Milkbar - Congratulations Lincoln.

The problems really started when 5 panel members each selected a different primary school entry. After discovering we couldn't even agree on what criteria should be applied, it was decided to defer to the personal choice of the soft drink donor (who begs to remain unidentified!) So congratulations Kylie Greenaway, and please collect your 6 bottles from Tom's.

Several of the close contenders have been reduced and are distributed throughout this edition. Congratulations and thanks to all children who entered.

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**LOVERIDGES SOLD!**

At the time of going to print Ellis Loveridge confirmed the sale of the U.B. store to an undisclosed purchaser (at an undisclosed price).

News of the decision to sell the business has generated considerable interest and revived discussions on the possibility of local co-operative involvement. (A co-operative was mooted last year as a means of achieving controlled development of the Village Centre, such as that proposed by Ian Sprague in Village Bell No. 2).

It is an appropriate time for any strong views relating to the development of the Village Centre, or to a co-operative, to crystallize now. They may assist in establishing rapport between the community and the new owners. The matter will be discussed at the December 5th BUA Public Meeting.

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COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL - Cr. Ted Owen

It is getting to the time of the year when we receive our Rate Notices and it is the time of the year when I get the occasional disgruntled ratepayer with his or her own personal row to hoe and they say, "What do I get for my rates?" (Even though the Shire puts out a lengthy booklet on the subject). I usually shrug my shoulders, smile and say, "I haven't got enough time but would love to debate it with you some day".

Your Council is controlled by twelve voluntary people who are heavily committed and elected to represent ratepayers on a multitude of matters, often very provocative subjects which alternatively lead to a better standard of community living. The Pakenham Shire is no longer a Roads Board, however, as well as roads being the traditional function, your Council is involved in so many spheres of our everyday life that we tend to take them for granted.

Careful examination of some of Council's activities listed reveal an increased emphasis upon personal or family based services and Local Government has been expected to greatly increase responsibilities in respect to family services. Council is committed to the care of the young, to care of the aged, the roads we drive on, the food we eat, etc. hence, a multitude of service requirements. These services are essential to the Community and these are not cheap.

Local Government is the government closest to the people and in my opinion, the most effective and efficient. When you study the list provided of some of the services and you consider that the average rate charged per household is approximately \$200, the cost of these services is a mere \$4 per week, per household and the average house has four people -that's \$1 per person, per week (that to my mind is efficiency).

Compare this with the services provided by State and Commonwealth Governments from Income Tax collection. Check your own income tax assessment.

e.g. a person with a taxable income of \$10,800 pays \$1,531.59 tax (see assessment below), that's approximately \$31 per household per week in this example, this of course is increased proportionally (that is if two or more members of the household work, not to mention other forms of Government taxes and revenue).

**TAX SHARING ARRANGEMENTS - 1978-79**

Tax Assessed	Common.Gov't.	Distributed to State Gov't.	Local Gov't.
\$1, 531.59	\$897.66	\$610.64	\$23.29
	58.61%	39.87%	1.52%

When we see the amount of services provided by Local Government basically from Rates and we see the amount collected by Commonwealth and State Governments from Income Tax and the meagre 1.52% of Income Tax back to Local Government (although it has been slightly increased to 1.75% and a promise of 2%, I personally believe it far too low and should be at least 5%), one wonders where the balance of that huge amount goes and very little of it appears to find its way back to the Community. I only hope you as individuals can pressure your parliamentarians (who receive salaries and pensions etc.) to increase that 1.75% Income Tax share to Local Government to enable your Council to increase and maintain these services which must continue and avoid future increase in the rate burden on property owners.

Editor's Note: Ted also provided a 1½ page summary of Shire services. Because of this editors strict adherence to Village Bell Commandment No. 1 - 'one page shall be a maximum' they have been omitted. The information can be obtained from the excellent little Shire of Pakenham Handbook, issued to all ratepayers. Ted's summary will be available at the next BUA Public Meeting, 5th December.

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YOUTH ACTIVITIES IN U.B.

What do youth do for amusement in U.B.? It is a sorry reflection on all of us that a common reflex answer is vandalise!

The article on St. John's activities (page 9 ) gives details of recent vandalism on the Church. Phil Rocke, on request, has researched other aspects for the Village Bell.

- on November 10/11 the new Kindergarten also had a window broken and the contents of a bean-chair strewn around.
- on October 27 John Crosbie's car was pushed from his driveway and abandoned, at night, in the middle of Stoney Creek Road.
- on the same night a motorbike was stolen from Young Street.
- the Council improvements to the Rotunda area have been largely nullified with destruction of the trellises on the toilets and a Rotunda support pole being chopped through.
- the loud music, alcohol and car races on the rec. reserve after hotel closing time are a continuing annoyance.
- there is blatant disregard of Council by-laws on mini trail bikes.

This emphasis is obviously unfair to the vast majority of young people in U.B., however these are problems requiring action.

Phil obtained comments from the Police. Sgt. Shears of Berwick pointed out that their police station closed at 6 p.m., before most vandalism occurs. After 6 p.m. calls should go to D24 pm 03 662 0911 or 03 000. It helps if you first give your name, address, then the complaint and location. Inspector Peter Thompson of Dandenong expressed the view that police patrols can have some effect, however by far the most effective measure is police action resulting from reports from local inhabitants. People who see vandalism or hooliganism and, because it is not an immediate personal threat, do not report it, only encourage contempt for authority and for local community pride. Inspector Thompson does not see rewards or other direct local action as being of much value.

The inspector's last statement bears directly on one of two initiatives which have been suggested, and which will be discussed at the BUA public Meeting, Wednesday, December 5:

(1) A substantial sum of money has been offered to be used as a reward for information leading to a conviction on vandalism.

(2) A program of varied youth activities could be started. Initially activities would be a "one-of" event and would seek organisational and chaperoning support from different community groups.

Roger Francey.

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1980 YOUTH ACTIVITIES PROGRAM - A PROPOSAL

The Hall has been booked for

7.30 FRIDAY, 7TH DECEMBER

the immediate aim will be to

organise the culling and selling of Christmas Trees.

A good response - from kids and/or adults - will provide the FUNDS and the ENCOURAGEMENT for an expanded youth activities program in 1980.

If this works you will be able to buy your Christmas tree, and support your local youth, on the weekend 22/23 December, in the Village Square.

(This proposal has the support of current Youth Club Leader, Peter Foster. Further support will be sought at the BUA Public Meeting Wednesday, 5th December.

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**PINES**

Many small pines were cleared from the Recreation Reserve in time for the November 3, school bonfire. Subject to Recreation Reserve Committee permission 2 or 3 of the more troublesome large trees (which seed areas of natural bush) will be ringbarked this summer and dropped and burnt in the autumn.

Approval has been sought by immediate neighbours Alan Dale, Paul Chick and Geoff Steenholdt to clear a small cluster of 10-12 pines in native bush in Stoney Creek to the right of Stoney Creek Road, driving north east from the Village. Council has agreed, on the condition that no strong objections arise as a result of this article.

Approval has also been given for a Christmas tree activity as described on Page 2. (Council contact on these matters is Works Engineer, Brian Wills).

It should be emphasized that this "vendetta" on pines is a very limited exercise, does not threaten trees on private property without full owner support and is only focused on significant areas of native bush threatened by colonisation.

**HELMETED HONEYEATER**

Two observers visited the local colony of the birds recently and were able to confirm their continued presence. The breeding season extends from August to February and it is to be hoped that they are active, although no search for nests was made for fear of disturbing them.

# # # # #



David Sewell

**PAUL GROVE DRAINAGE SCHEME**

At the last BUA Public Meeting, October 3, opposition was expressed to the scheme, pending investigation by a sub-committee. A sub-committee comprising Sharon Anderson, Alan Blackwell, Roger Bynion, Roger Francey, Karen Ford, John Hayes, Geoff Lord, Ray Ratcliff and Trevor Wilson has since been active:

1. A series of detailed questions were submitted to Council relating to the procedures for obtaining public approval, the development implications and some further technical detail.
2. The DVA were approached, through the BUA, to explore the possibilities of obtaining a comprehensive study of water supply and drainage in the U.B. township area.
3. Technical and cost details were collected on a variety of methods of waste treatment.
4. Acting upon Council advice that notices would be served imminently, sub-committee members visited potential participants and suggested that decisions be delayed pending their investigations.

The present situation is that Council have responded in detail to the sub-committee questions, but have not yet served notices; the DVA Cardinia Creek Conservation Advisory Committee has responded positively; and a large amount of very relevant technical information has come to hand!

**Drainage cont.**

At the BUA Public Meeting, Wednesday 5th December, all information will be made available. Alan Blackwell, John Hayes and Ray Ratcliff will summarize and answer questions on waste treatment systems and costs. Keith Ewenson will expand on the DVA response. The Council responses will be detailed and discussed. Meanwhile some of the more relevant points will be made here.

The primary purpose of a drainage scheme is to provide for stormwater runoff. Wastes (W.C. and sullage) must be pre-treated before entering the drains.

The capital cost of pre-treatment plants are usually 2-3 times that of the \$850 minimum drainage scheme levy.

The maintenance costs of pre-treatment plants over 10-20 years can far exceed either of these.

With further development the need for effective pre-treatment will increase. Alternatively expensive post-treatment sewerage schemes will be required (MMBW?).

Of the 100 or so allotments in the scheme, 27 are presently restricted by drainage deficiencies. These are all in two recent subdivisions.

The cheapest schemes in the long term might well be these which maximize the efficiency of water and waste management on individual blocks. High density development seriously limits these options. Also the present drains may be more expensive than is necessary with this type of approach.

DVA have taken initiatives which may lead to specific studies of the U.B. problems, overall and on the long term.

Roger Francey

**MONEY DOWN THE DRAIN**

For those of you who have recovered from the initial shock of receiving your latest water rates and have more or less resigned yourselves to paying them in due course, just consider these points for a moment .....

- ... the rate in U.B. has increased by 22.2% from 9.0 cents in 1978/79 to 11.0 cents in 1979/80
- ... the rate in Berwick, Pakenham and Beaconsfield has increased by 9.3% from 4.3 cents to 4.7 cents in the same period.

To try to find the reasons for the high rate and the dramatic increase, I contacted the S.R.&W.S.C. Rates Department. They kindly offered the following figures on the U.B. scheme:

Capital cost to date		\$2.1 m
Budgeted costs 1979/80		
Interest & redemption charges (3¼% on half capital cost)	\$30,000	
Depreciation (1% of capital)	\$20,000	
Operating, maintenance, administration	\$64,000	
Total		\$114,000
No. of blocks serviced	580	
No. of dwellings serviced	451	



You can't expect CHEAP DRAINS to carry water as valuable as the stuff coming out of our taps!

Furthermore, last year there was an operating loss of \$27,000 giving a total accumulated loss for this scheme of \$58,000. It is claimed that no attempt will be made to recover these losses, but that from now on rates will be set to just meet operational costs. Even so, it is anticipated that this year there will be a loss of several thousand dollars, so that we can assumedly expect a further rise next year over and above any inflationary increases.

- - - cont. over

**Water, drainage cont.**

The high level of rating obviously results from the high initial cost of the system coupled with the small number of services. There's not much we can do about either of these (although some point could be made of the extraordinary three-fold increase between the estimated and final costs of the scheme.) The philosophy of each paying for the services he received is admirable, but there are not many statutory bodies that follow it (the Shire of Pakenham is no exception.) Perhaps then our strongest argument is that our present rates are excessive, but that they could be made more reasonable if some of the costs associated with the U.B. scheme were apportioned among the very many other S.R.&W.S.C. rate-payers.

Post Script: John Bain of Morris Road has submitted a petition to local MLA, Hon. R.C. MacLellan, seeking an explanation of the high water cost.

**BRENNAN'S ESTATE WATER SCHEME**

In October owners of land in Brennan, Knapton and Fraser Avenues were notified that a water supply scheme was proposed for their area. The total cost was estimated to be about \$70,000, with each owner having to contribute in excess of \$1000.

The inclusion of these 60 or so blocks into the existing scheme would have increased the number of services significantly and therefore helped to keep the water rates down. However, a petition to Council was organised by Miss Marsden objecting to the scheme on a number of grounds, among them the cost, the fact that council had required minimum storage facilities when building (because the S.R.&W.S.C. had earlier given the impression that such a scheme would never be considered), and the effects on drainage. More than a third of owners have signed this petition so that it would seem that this scheme is unlikely to proceed. Given the high rates that now seem inevitable, theirs is probably a reasonable decision.

Graeme Kidd

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**EDITORIAL OPINION**

These days certain services are considered essential, electricity for example, but others could be classed as of marginal importance, particularly when quite adequate alternatives already exist or are available. In Upper Beaconsfield, as a particular example, most of us until quite recently relied happily on tank water. If with hindsight we had known what the true cost of mains reticulation would be, I feel that not too many of us would have cast our vote in its favour. Mains water in U.B. could be classed as non-essential for the simple reason that its acceptance is dependent on cost - its rejection by owners in Brennan's Estate bears this out.

Another facility which has worked admirably in this area is the individual septic system. However with the introduction of mains water these are having to carry a greater load and creating a disposal problem. An obvious bureaucratic solution would be to sewer U.B. That would be fine, IF THE COST WAS REASONABLE, and there were no further repercussions. The experience with the water reticulation suggests that this is hardly likely to be the case.

The type of thinking that declines to leave well enough alone is frequently founded on what may be described as 'The Natural Law of Progress', which is usually expressed as; "you can't halt progrss". It is a type of thinking that has proved influential, dangerous and costly, as environmentalists continue to argue, and as many communities that have been victims of progress have discovered. It is usually fallacious and should always be challenged.

Graeme Kidd, Edward Vaughan

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Darren Young

FIRE BRIGADE

Question: What is a fire plug?

Answer: It's a special tapping to the water main which enables the fire brigade to draw on a good supply of water instead of carting it to fires. The location of a fire plug is marked by a white post capped with red. There are over one hundred fire plugs in U.B. The fire brigade can't learn off by heart the location of all of them. It saves time and effort if you keep the fire plug nearest your house clear of grass, weeds and other obstructions so that it is easily and quickly found when it is needed in the event of a fire near to, or at your home. Don't wait for the Shire or your neighbour to clear the undergrowth -the fire may not wait that long. At night it also saves time if you can direct the brigade to the nearest fire plug, rather than having them crashing around in the blackberries looking for it while the flames rise higher and higher.

Training: The fire brigade will be running training sessions from 7 p.m. every Thursday until just before Christmas. These are for those men who want to help at fires but can't spare the time to be regular members of the brigade or attend the regular 9.30 Sunday morning training sessions. The brigade depends on the help given by non-member volunteers when a big fire breaks out, but the value of this assistance is often lessened because volunteers are not familiar with the basic principles of fire-fighting and don't know how to use the brigade's equipment. The Thursday evening sessions are for elementary instruction in these principles and in the use of equipment.

Burning Off: The fire brigade is prepared to help people with burning off (in return for a donation). Those who want assistance should contact the Captain, Eric Bumpstead (443 398) and make arrangements for him to inspect the area of the proposed burn-off and decide whether it is safe to burn, and to agree on a date (weather permitting).

No date has yet been set for the start of the Fire Restriction Period. It usually starts just before Christmas, but the exact date is set after consideration of how the season is developing. After the start of the Fire Restriction Period no burning-off is permitted. If you will need the brigade's help with your burning-off, you should make arrangements soon.

George Silberbauer

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Natalie Petrucelli



EARLY HISTORY OF THE UPPER BEACONSFIELD

BUSH FIRE BRIGADE

We continue extracts from Mr. Ken B. Hudson's History of the Brigade. "During the disastrous fires of 1926 the brigade fully justified its existence, not one house being lost. Later, a new arrival to the district, Clive Colles, came to the annual meeting and quoting his experience in fighting grass fires, suggested the purchase of some stirrup pumps.\* The idea got scant consideration and he said no more and sat down. A few days later he had his vindication at a fire in the bush north of Guys Hill store. He arrived with his pump and a bucket of water, and put out more of the fire than all the rest put together. More importantly, he was able to break down the fiercer parts of the fire, to be mopped up by beaters, enabling more speedy working. Six pumps were immediately purchased and distributed to strategic points, and very good service we had of them.

During this fire another new arrival made first contact with the brigade. Major Charles Campbell had purchased a property in St. Georges Rd. ("Amesfield") and hearing of the fire and being of an hospitable nature, emptied his ice chest of beer and drove down to the fire. We were too busy to partake of his refreshment and we had a rule of no liquor during fire-fighting, as alcohol tends to amplify the effects of heat and smoke. There were a couple of fence posts alight and as we had no water, to the Major's horror we used a bottle of beer. After the fire it was a different matter and I do not think the Major took any home. He was later to prove a good friend to the brigade.

By this time there were many brigades operating, including Berwick and Dandenong, and on occasions a panic stricken resident has telephoned them without consulting us. Both they and we were annoyed at being called out unnecessarily; we arranged that they would not recognise a call unless made by us. We had at that time at the Post Office the Stenhouse sisters who did a terrific job in organising brigade movements; Miss Dora in particular could act on her own initiative once she knew what we wanted. She knew the district intimately and used that knowledge in helping us and in calming the fears of those whose properties were endangered.

There was some doubt about our position regarding fires around the Beaconsfield Reservoir, it being State Forest, and therefore we were technically excluded. The Forestry Commission appointed Honorary Forest Rangers for brigades serving such areas; Ulick A'Beckett and I were appointed.

Brigades had still only semi-official recognition, and were subject to over-riding control by the police, which was at times frustrating, as many policemen had no experience and the idea of lighting a fire break to control a fire seemed crazy to them. There was one occasion when a policeman actually forbade us to light a break. Some quick thinking by John Glismann decoyed him away for long enough for us to get it going. He was furious when he came back and found a break burning merrily; however he had the grace to admit later that he had been wrong.

We now received recognition with the formation of a Bush Fire Brigades Association under a Board, and received authority to enter property and take necessary steps to control a fire; insurance companies also unbent, to the extent that damage done to property in the extinguishing of a fire would be reinstated as a normal claim by them. This was a big step forward for us."

\* A stirrup pump draws water from a bucket, and squirts a fine spray through a hose; the operator holds the pump firmly in position with one foot on the stirrup, while pumping up and down with both hands. Very effective on German thermite bombs, as well as bushfires!

Having seen the reference in our last issue to fire-beaters, members of the present Brigade found one of the original beaters, and an early heavy rake, and presented them to the Berwick-Pakenham Historical Society.

Diana Rocke, Roy Harris, John Milligan.

# # # # # #



THE ARTS

THEATRE CRITIC'S PAGE

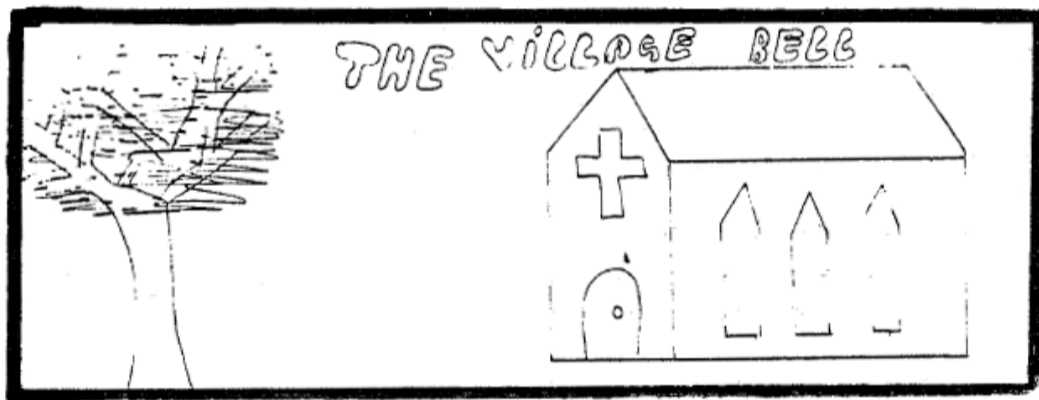
Bursting upon the theatrical world, the Charring Players made their debut with the premiere presentation of a musical melodrama at the Fire Brigade Ball. Using the New Wave format of the one-act review, the company presented the audience with an uncommon slice-of-life, inside view of the drama, "Personalities and intricate technology of the workings of a modern fire brigade in action. The Charring Players, who wrote the review as well as singing and acting those bits of it which they could remember on the night, emphatically deny the baseless rumour that the script was, as has been alleged, Chapter Five of the C.F.A. Manual of Operations.

The production has been acclaimed by theatre critics around the world, as is shown by the following selection of review notices (quoted, of course, with kind permission of the editors of the papers concerned) :

- "More impact than the Harbour Bridge falling on the Dee-Why ferry ....." Sydney Morning Herald.
- "What bridge?" Melbourne Age.
- "We think you Australians mazing people." Peking People's Daily.
- "A bourgeois, imperialist, revisionist plot, but the fire engine was a lovely red." Pravda.
- "Eat your heart out, Larry Olivier" London Times (back in circulation just in time to make the Village Bell deadline.)
- "No comment" The Fireman.
- "We are not amused." Country Fire Authority Annual Report.

G.B.S.

# # # # #



Jeanette Vickers

ST. JOHN'S, UPPER BEACONSFIELD

Paper Drive: These are held on the last Saturdays of April, August and November. Papers can be delivered to Roy Harris' shed, Salisbury Road, (opposite & a'Beckett Road).

Vandalism: First it was toilet paper strewn over the Church, possibly just high spirits. Next the Notice Board glass was broken, conceivably an accident. On Saturday night, 10th November, a stained glass window was damaged. Considering that a post (an uprooted fire plug?) was used to smash through a protecting quarter-inch plate glass window, malicious and criminal intent is obvious. Damage amounted to \$300, and the matter is in the hands of the police.

Are You Interested In the Bible? If so, you are invited to visit Ann and Terry Fogarty's home on alternate Tuesday nights, when short passages from the Bible are read and discussed. Talkers and listeners are equally welcome. No previous experience is necessary. Please contact Ann or Terry at 'Pendle", St. Georges Road or on 443 484.

John McConchie, Lee Borman, Phil Rocke.

# # # # #

UPPER BEACONSFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL MOTHER'S CLUB

The Mother's Club has had a successful year, with a profit of \$1555.46 to mid November. This has included:

- \$227.29 hot dog/soup days
- \$325.00 catering
- \$126.25 sale of windcheaters
- \$100.99 Club Clothing sales
- \$176.60 Sports Night

Other fund raising activities were an Easter Egg raffle, cake stall, t-shirts, lamington drive, etc.

Our ultimate aim has been to assist with the funding of the Multi-Purpose Room. Our sincere thanks to all parents who have helped in numerous varied ways throughout the year - may your children reap the benefits.

Kathy De La Rue

Mark  
Baldwin



UPPER BEACONSFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL NOTES.

Activities Program: Every Friday afternoon the school dissolves into what might look like chaos to the uninformed eye. In fact, nothing could be further from the truth. The Activities Program is a highly organised program with a very specific set of educational goals, most of which are being achieved. The aims are:

- to have the children work in co-operation with other children of all age levels and with adults other than their parents and teachers.
- to give them a greater awareness of the vast number and variety of leisure pursuits available to them in this day of rapidly-increasing leisure time, and to make that awareness a result of experience.
- to utilise as many of the formal educational concepts learned during the week as possible in practical and concrete situations.

So far the program has involved 260 children, 60 parents and about 40 activities and the benefits are often very obvious indeed. There have been teething problems, as one would expect with such a complex set of arrangements, but these have now been largely overcome.

New Classroom: Mrs. Cummings and her band have moved into the new classroom we have built and we are all delighted with the improvement the room has made to our school. It is certainly a great example of self-help at work. We would not have had the room if not for the fact that a few people were prepared to get off their posteriors and do something about it, and we don't mean just the teachers and the school council. Many people helped, but special mention should be made of Ian Farr, Ian Iles and Herb Schroeder. The Howard brothers helped too - they were press-ganged into digging some postholes for the repaired side fence and while they were here ... well, there was a lot of digging to do for the stumps. Thank you to everyone involved.

John Wells

**REMINDER.... SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS**

YOU are reminded that nominations for membership of the School Council should be submitted to the Principal, John Crosbie, in writing on the prescribed form by 4 p.m. on Wednesday, 5th December, 1979.

Further information on the elections and the functions of the Council can be obtained from John Crosbie, or the present President, David Jamieson.

**SCHOOL CO-OPERATIVE**

The School Council advises that the Co-operative is fully subscribed and that the formalities for the loan are now being finalised. Some improvements to the original plan for the multi-purpose room are presently being worked out, and it is hoped that building will be able to be started very shortly.

**UPPER BEACONSFIELD KINDERGARTEN. PRE-SCHOOL AND INFANT WELFARE CENTRE**

There are some excellent facilities for hire at the Kindergarten building on the Recreation Reserve, which the local community may not yet be aware of. Part of the building has been designed for community use, and consists of a large room with stackable chairs, a washroom, and a fully equipped kitchen. These facilities, which can be hired for a nominal fee when the Kindergarten is not being used, are ideal for small group meetings, demonstrations, or evening classes. The main part of the building used as a Kindergarten is not available for hire. Details about hiring can be obtained from Carol Ross 443 258.

The 1980 enrolments have recently been completed - all places at the Kindergarten and Pre-School Play Centre have been filled for next year. Any new enrolments will be placed on a waiting list until a vacancy arises. Families with young children, who are new to the district are advised to enrol them early, to ensure obtaining a pre-school or kinder place when their time comes. Enrolment forms are always available from the Infant Welfare Centre, the Pre-School and Kindergarten. Enrolment queries to Ann Decelis 443 752.

On FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7TH, at 3.30 p.m. a combined Kinder-Pre-school Christmas BAZAAR will be held in the Kindergarten grounds on the Recreation Reserve. Stalls will include: HANDICRAFTS, SWEETS AND CAKES, PLANTS, CLOTHES, TOYS, BOOKS & WHITE ELEPHANT. There will be a LUCKY DIP for children and soft drinks will be on sale.

Sheila Kidd

# # # # # #



Leonie Bligh

**RECREATION RESERVE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Two people have responded to the appeal in the last Village Bell, for surveying skills in relation to upgrading the sporting area.

A working bee - to prepare an area around the new toilet block for an autumn planting of indigenous plants - to clear dead wood from the bush around the Kinder - and to clean up generally - will be held 9 a.m. SUNDAY, 16 DECEMBER.

The Committee invites residents to use the BBC and other facilities on the reserve. If you require exclusive use of the reserve facilities, bookings should be made on 443 499 or 443 591 (at rates published in the last Village Bell).

Peter Gullquist

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### THE MARSHALLS

In 1946 Colin Marshall was discharged from the Army, spent a few years in Adelaide, then bought the local bus service from Herbie Falconer, also manager of Beacon Hills Golf Club. In 1959 Sheila was appointed as one of only 2 teachers at U.B. Primary School and each day caught the train from Dandenong, then the U.B. bus. She actually taught for one year before resigning to marry the local bus driver!

Sheila's teaching career resumed at Berwick pre-school, then the local pre-school. Rejoining the Education Department at Harkaway School (40 pupils, 2 teachers) she later moved to Emerald. When the old Emerald Road was submerged under Cardinia Reservoir, Sheila transferred to Officer for 2 happy years (despite 80 pupils to 2 teachers). Since then she has been an emergency teacher from Doveton to Cockatoo, including U.B. Early pupil names included Harris, Fyffe, Conn, Martin, Howard, Goldman, Ewenson, Edwards, Kenny, Rogers, Bumpstead - even 2 generations of O'Keefe's, Hunts and Bickhans.

Sheila has acted as Church Organist, taught Sunday School and participated in the RSL Auxiliary, but her abiding interest has been painting. Learning from Reshid Bey and Max Casey, members of the 20 Melbourne Painters, she has won 3 art shows. Her work has been represented in the Robin Hood Art Prize (Sydney), Caltex awards and the Andrew Fairley Art prize. Sheila specializes in native animals and birds and draws inspiration from the local environment" She prefers live models and visits Bimbimbie Wildlife Park or accompanies the Bird Observers League.

Colin's 1950 bus schedule makes interesting reading:

- 7 a.m. Pine Grove to Beaconsfield Station
  - return to store with bulk newspapers
  - back to Beaconsfield Station by 8.10 a.m. with High School students
  - collect more newspapers and mail' from the train
  - collect fresh bread and meat from Dick Coles the butcher
  - return to U.B. picking up primary school kids (plus the teacher!)
  - leave mail at P.O. and :pick up school children from Stoney Creek Road and Dewhurst
  - deliver the mail, bread and meat (stops included the 4 guest houses - Salisbury House, Runnymede, Kyogle and Glen Brae in Dewhurst)
  - further deliveries to Emerald with return via Split Rock Road.
- A bus also ran to Dandenong market and back and even encouraged shopping jeeps.

Two old bus time tables will be left at the local P.O. for inspection. The service ended in 1962. Nash, Pratt, Royal, Black, Hamilton, Guilfoyle, Noblet, Hams, Barnes, Esdaile, Fullerton, Sulman, Joseland, Howard were among many names of those using the buses to get to school.

Colin talks about the Wednesday and Saturday night buses to the Berwick Picture Theatre (now the Village Arcade), and Euchre nights in the Fire Brigade Hall. Rugs, hot water bottles and pyjamas-under-trousers were the order of the day. He only hinted, but I gather passengers were not always as cold on the ride home.

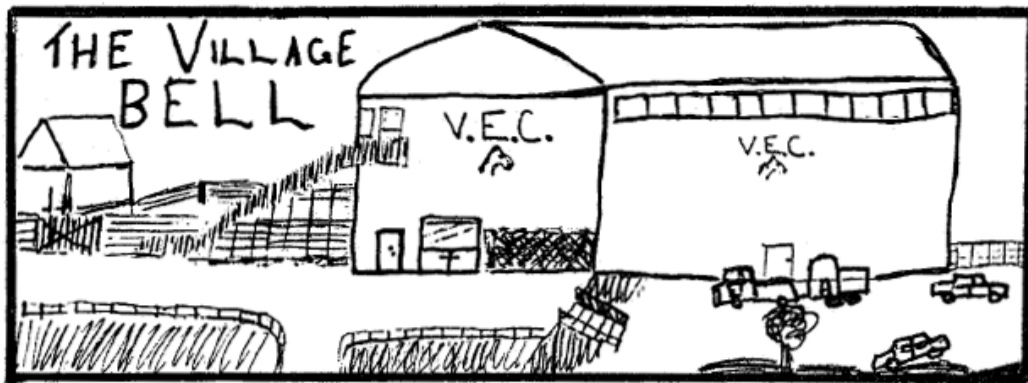
Colin has been active in the Tennis Club, Berwick Rotary and the local Church. He talks of the Indoor Sports Club and it sounds the very thing we need today. Ages 12 to 30 played table tennis, deck tennis, peg quoits and euchre in the local- hall. Keen competition extended to Officer, Berwick, Dewhurst and U.Pakenham. Being bogged in Bourke's Creek Road and playing under petrol lights added to the interest of the last.

The U.B. Progress Association started in 1956 and Colin was secretary for a short time. The Guys Hill telephone box at city rates, widening Kyogle corner, and mail deliveries with 1 mile of the P.O. (previously closer patrons were expected to walk) were among improvements sought at that time.

Colin talks of these times with nostalgia and he and Sheila give a picture of an active, warm and close knit U.B. community.

Jeannette Ballinger

Paul  
Robertson



**EQUESTRIAN CENTRE PARTICIPATES IN COMMUNITY SPIRIT**

Many of the new residents to the area might not be aware of what facilities the Victorian Equestrian Centre has to offer.

Situated on the Emerald Road just past the village it is as much a part of the atmosphere of U.B. as the local artists and potters. Riding has long been a popular pastime in this area and the Centre offers a perfect facility to be the hub of this activity.

It participates in community involvement by offering itself as the venue for the horse riding activity unit of the local primary school, and also by making available reduced fees for the local Pony Club to hold a rally there at odd times.

A newly formed group of mid-week housewife riders are now enjoying the sport of horse riding in completely safe surroundings while also enjoying the companionship of their fellow riders over a cup of coffee afterwards.

The centre caters for junior and adult riders from beginners to advanced standard. Prices for group lessons make it not an impossible hobby for anyone who wishes to try it.

If anyone requires further information regarding any of the above mentioned activities would they please contact me, Beryl Hails, either at home on 443 355 or at the Centre itself on 443 751. I will be only too pleased to assist you.

# # # # #

**CRICKET CLUB**

Beaconsfield Junior Cricket Club, with two-thirds of its membership from U.B., is having a very successful year: Under 16 are undefeated; Under 14 are 2nd on ladder with 1 loss in 4 games and Under 12 (no premiership points awarded) have 1 loss in 4 games.

Adult support is a necessary requirement and further assistance would be greatly appreciated.

A Christmas breakup BBQ will be held 11.30 a.m. Saturday, 22nd December, immediately after the morning games. The place is Perc. Allison Oval, Beaconsfield, and the committee will supply all.

Jeanette Smythe.

**BASKETBALL**

In the previous Village Bell and again at the BUA Public Meeting, Glenn Rutherford invited response from locals interested in playing basketball. Resulting from the many 'phone calls he received, two mens teams were formed, and entered in the Pakenham Amateur Basketball Association; one in A Grade and one in C Grade. Players range in age, but ages will not be disclosed!!

The A-graders have maturity and experience on their side, but have been struggling against younger, taller sides. The C Grade team has more youth, and are gaining experience. Players are enjoying the games and are keen enough to train on Sunday mornings at 9 a.m., at St. Francis Xavier's school courts. It has been a sound start to the Upper Beaconsfield Basketball Club.

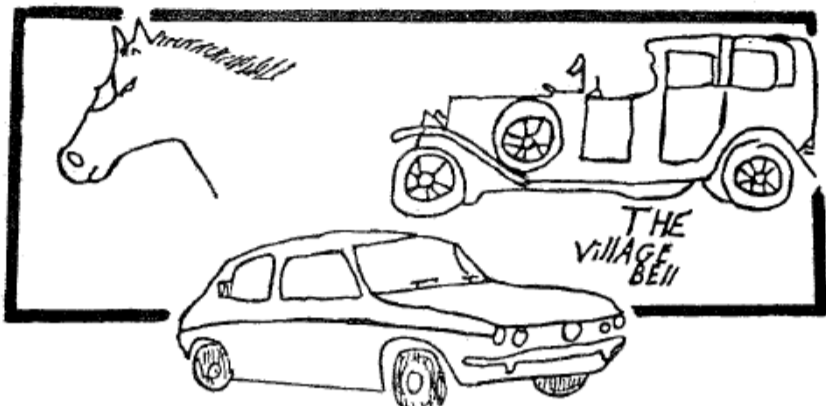
Matt McDonald

# # # # #

**IT'S THAT HIGH ALTITUDE TRAINING**

That guy you've seen running around the roads of U.B., well it was Daryl Moody of Guys Hill, in training for the Big M Marathon from Frankston to Melbourne. The run was held on Sunday, 21st October, in the scorching heat of 27°C. Daryl completed the run in the very good time of 3 hrs. 10 mins.

Another lad from the area, young 15 year old Robert Schelling (former pupil of the U.B. Primary School) also ran and clocked in at a time of 3 hrs. 58 mins. Congratulations fellas on a job well done.



Dominic  
Marinelli

# # # # #

**SEALING OF STONEY CREEK ROAD**

Sealing has been delayed due to Telecom relocations near the northern intersection with Emerald Road. Completion is anticipated before Christmas.

**THE EMERALD ROAD-STONEY CREEK ROAD INTERSECTION**

Paul Chick has kindly supplied the following list of plants which are now growing at the intersection. These are as follows: Gompholobium latifolium, Swainsonia galegifolia, Correa decurrens, Correa reflexa, Indigophera australis, Hardenbergia monophylla, Hardenbergia violacea, Bauere rubioides, Fescue glauca, Boronia denticulata, Helichrysum bracteatum, Myoporum debile, Tetratheca ciliata, Kennedia prostrata. The Indigophera and Hardenbergia were grown from locally collected seed. An error on the part of the nurseryman, unfortunately resulted in some not indigenous plants, but all are attractive small natives. Further additions of local plants will be made in the autumn.

**THE QUARRY**

Hillview Quarries will present a new Environmental Impact Statement early next year. The proposal was made to gazette the document late December, however in the interests of the processes of public assessment, Council delayed the matter until January, to avoid the holiday period.

There will be at least four weeks from the date of gazetting until Council discusses the document, and at this time Council may decide on Hillview's request to rezone the Conservation area.

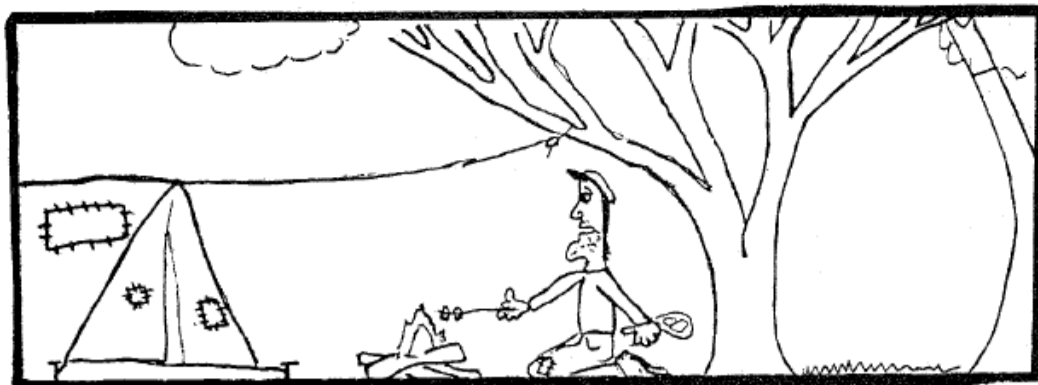
# # # # #

**VILLAGE BELL PRINTER**

An application to the State Government Family and Community Service Grants for an offset printer for the Village Bell and school has apparently been unsuccessful. To those organisations approached on short notice for letters of support, thank you for the enthusiastic response.

An interesting statistic used in the application was that more than 80 different residents have contributed to authorship of articles in 8 issues.

# # # # #



Simon Michelotti

# # # # #

R.S.L. - Christmas Ham Went North

Always a highlight of the annual RSL Ladies' Auxiliary Fete in Halford Road is the drawing of the giant Christmas ham raffle. From tickets sold over a wide area, the prize valued at about \$40, went last Saturday to Mr. Peter Emberson, of Emerald. He was summoned with family to receive the 10 kg delicacy and to meet ladies' president, Mrs. Nell Fullerton, and sub-branch leader Frank Conn.

Another highlight of the afternoon was the arrival of Father Christmas on the fire brigade truck. Striking some resemblance to Mr. Bill Toon, of Narre Warren, Santa distributed gifts to the large number of youngsters present.

A variety of stalls did brisk business, with bargains galore in all directions. Also greatly sought after was the fortune telling by Cosy Rosie (Mrs. F. Greathead).

The sub-branch, which meets on the first Sunday morning of the month, will terminate the year with a Christmas dinner on December 15, when guest artist will be Mrs. Pam Jackson of Pakenham Upper.

This year has seen still more improvements to the clubhouse, thanks to the efforts of the late Mr. Russell Mills and his team. New members are always welcome by both divisions.

Paul Easton.

COUNTRY WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

On November 21st, 'Woorinyan', the evening meeting group of the C.W.A., celebrated their 21st birthday, and entertained many colleagues from other branches to an evening of song, light entertainment and supper in the Hall.

# # # # #

A THANK YOU FROM SALLY MOREY

Approximately two months ago on a Wednesday afternoon, I put my purse on the roof of the car, helped the dog on the back seat, jumped in and departed from Split Rock Road to fetch my daughter from the school bus in the village. Needless to say there was no purse when I arrived at the shops. We walked the road and ditch both sides, and informed the Milk Bar, Post Office and Loveridge's. No-one could help. Most people who had had a similar experience never sighted their purse again.

The following Saturday morning I returned from shopping and leaning against the front door was my purse, including all photos, shopping cards, blood group card, approx. \$3 in stamps, my sons and daughter's addresses and telephone nos. and \$50 in fairly small notes. I could hardly believe it.

I have never found out who so kindly picked up and returned my purse and would like very much to thank who ever it was. It was a very good feeling - not only the return of the purse. Thank you again.

# # # # #

**SELF SUFFICIENCY GROUP - An Expert Helps**

Twenty two lucky members of this group enjoyed the hospitality of Noel and Muriel Reid at their home on November 4. The meeting was a great success. Sam Davenport, master pastrycook, demonstrated his breadmaking technique and produced wholemeal loaves and rolls. Sam's engaging and relaxed manner encouraged questions from both beginners and the more experienced in the art. All gained information not usually available to amateurs.

While waiting for the dough to rise the group moved outside to view the very attractive native garden surrounding the house; next, the well-arranged north-facing vegetable garden and orchard with its automatic watering system was examined and from there we returned to the house by way of a lovely bush walk through an unspoilt gully, the waterway of which was spanned by rustic log bridges.

On our arrival Sam declared the dough 'proofed' and the loaves and rolls were formed and tinned. While the loaves made their final 'rise' and were baked, our hostess also demonstrated her baking skill and produced a most attractive afternoon tea which was thoroughly enjoyed by all members.

**Sam's Bread Recipe**

1/2 cup flour	)		Whisk together and
1/2 teas. sugar	)		allow to stand in a
2 ozs. yeast	)	FERMENT	warm place for
2 cups tepid water	)		20-25 minutes.

2 lbs. flour, add 1/4 oz. bread improver and 1/2 oz. salt.

Slowly add 1 pint water and the above ferment when it is ready. Important: The temperature of the added water should be 150°F., minus the temperature of the flour.

Mix all ingredients and then add 1 1/2 oz. fat (butter, Mello, etc.)

The dough will rise in approx. 30 minutes in a warm environment. Knead, shape for loaves, tin and cover loosely with plastic. Will take a further 25 minutes to rise. The baking time for a 1 lb. loaf is 25 - 30 minutes, for rolls 7-8 minutes The oven temperature should be approx. 430 deg. F.

Sam says it is not easy to bake good bread in a domestic oven, but a sheet of asbestos under the tin helps.

Sam has agreed to give another demonstration if there is sufficient interest. If you are interested, contact Jeannette Ballinger 443 395.

The next meeting of the Self Sufficiency Group will be held at the home of Paul Reid at Carpenter Road, 2 p.m. on Sunday afternoon, December 16. It was requested that we have a weaving demonstration and this has been arranged with Mrs. Grevis-James, former craft teacher at St. Margaret's School, Berwick. We hope to have loom, rug and off loom weaving. Anyone interested is very welcome to attend.

EARTH CULTURE - next meeting February 26. Charles Wilson

# # # # #

**NEW RESIDENTS - WELCOME**

St. Georges Rd. Mr. Robin WELCH: Stoney Creek Rd. Mr. & Mrs. Richard FORDS; Mr. Alan & Mrs. Annette DALE; Mr. & Mrs. A. McILROY: Grant Cr. Mr. & Mrs. ALLSWORTH; Mr. Alan & Mrs. Beverley WALSH: Corringham Rd. Mr. & Mrs. G.J. GRAHAM: Fairhazel Ct. Chris McLEAN; Messrs. KIDGELL and ASTON: Downey Rd. Michael & Lesley MORRIS: Split Rock Rd. Mr. & Mrs. Kevin BUSCH: McKenzie Rd. Richard & Chrysty EDWARDS: Foott Rd. Mr. & Mrs. STOCKMAN: Carpenter Rd. Edith-Ann MURRAY; Anna SAULWICK: Albers Rd. Miss G.L. WILLIAMSON: Graham and Barbara JACKSON and family arrive back from Canberra on December 12.

# # # # #



**BEACONSFIELD UPPER TRADES & SERVICES DIRECTORY**

Charges \$5 per box per issue, \$25 per box per year (6 issues).  
Contact Jan Rutherford (44 3760) or Ray Ratcliff at Post Office.  
(Number in brackets indicates future paid-up advertisements on special rate).

PD PRINTERS (Peter Deering)  
Commercial Printers  
Letterpress - Offset  
Free quotes AH 44 3521  
BH 792 4118

LEADLIGHT, PLANTS & CRAFT  
Unusual Gifts  
Mexican Hand-blown Glassware  
At VILLAGE LEADLIGHTS  
Next to Milk Bar. 44 3326

THE WORKSHOP SHOWROOMS  
St. George's Road (44 3573)  
Displaying POTTERY from  
Ian Sprague's "Mungeribar" and  
Vic. Greenaway's "Broomhill".  
Open: Thurs.-Sun. 11 am - 4.30

COOLSTORE GALLERY, Emerald Road  
Display of Noelle Johnston  
Figurines - Craft for Christmas.  
Fri. 11-3; Sat 1-5; Sun 11-5

BEACON HEIGHTS AUTOS  
Hans & Ellen Nowak & Son  
Mechanical & Radiator Repairs  
All Types of Welding. Mower Sales  
& Service. R.A.C.V Service.  
BH 44 3264 AH 44 3254, 707 1457

ELLEN AND HANS NOWAK  
Obedience Training and Top  
Quality Dog Breeding.  
Private Sessions (Wed.am., Sat.pm)  
(059) 44 3254



Emerald Road  
Group Lessons  
Beginner-Advanced  
Riders  
Adults and Juniors  
Ph. 44 3751 (5)

ST. GEORGE CATERING  
Specialising in Luncheons,  
Dinner & Cocktail Parties  
and Children's Parties.  
Ring Jasmine Hewson (059) 44 3427

Neil McDonald Dip. A.I.I.  
A.M.P. REPRESENTATIVE  
Yackatoon Road. 44 3782  
Life, Superannuation,  
Fire & General Insurances.

HOLIDAY PET CARE  
Cats, Dogs, Birds, Horses,  
etc. Hand fed on your property.  
Sue Carr  
Ph. (059) 44 3798 (4)

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



Specialising in  
Carpet Steam  
Cleaning.  
KEVIN SMITH. 44 3348 (4)

**FOR SALE:**

TREATED PINE LOGS, 10 ft x 5 in. \$5.50 each delivered. 443 759

**PLAYGROUND**

One mother reported that the new slide in the Grant Court  
Playground was a great hit. We believe the children are enjoying it also.

TREE WORK AND WEED CONTROL

ST. GEORGE GARDENS PTY. LTD.  
44 3427 (1)

For Salamander, Garden Rocks,  
mountain soil, screenings, sandy  
loam, pine bark.  
D & S SHORT, Paul Grove. 44 3462

KWARNA LODGE NURSERIES  
Incinerators now available-\$30.40  
Garden ornaments, tubs, etc. Ideal  
Christmas Gifts.  
JOAN & BOB TRUMPER, Burton Rd. 44 3593

HILLVIEW HOMES BUILDERS  
New Homes, Extensions &  
Alterations. (Reg. M.B.A.)  
Fixed Price Contract.  
44 3752 or (03) 754 3351

RENOVATIONS & RE-BLOCKING

Buildings raised and blocked  
anywhere in any condition.  
Permits and plans arranged.  
ALAN HUNTER 44 3338

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

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ELECTRICAL & HEATING CONTRACTORS  
Small Jobs a Speciality.  
Ph. (059) 44 3393 (2)

E.G. & L.L. ADAMSON  
Electrical Contractor  
Stoney Creek Road 44 3276  
Specialising in domestic work.  
Prompt and efficient service. (4)

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Reasonable cartage & metal prices  
PETER DE LA RUE 44 3759 (1)

ROTARY HOE, Slasher, Front-end  
Loader, Rear Grader Blade,  
Chisel Plough, General Clean Up  
COLIN WILSON 44 3661

G & J TRANSPORT (Glenn Rutherford)  
GENERAL CARRIER  
Melbourne-Upper Beaconsfield Daily  
Also Supplier of Railway Sleepers.  
Knapton Avenue. 44 3760

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

MAX FRASER & ROB MACDONALD  
General Building, Renovations,  
Alterations. Internal/external  
clean ups, etc. FREE QUOTES  
(059) 44 3237 (03) 221 1927  
(after 6 pm) (2)

CHARLIE DEBRINCAT  
BRICKLAYER/CONTRACTOR, 44 3846  
Lot 4, Stoney Creek Road,  
Upper Beaconsfield.

PARIC PLUMBING PTY. LTD.  
Plumbing, General Maintenance &  
Trenching (Ditchwitch) Contractor  
Eric Chaplin, Manestar Road.  
44 3312

PLUMBERS & GAS FITTERS

J.J. & J.M. ALLEN  
Licensed MMBW & SRWSC  
Lot 25, Grant Court. 44 3761

RECREATION VERSUS ENTERTAINMENT - AN EDITORIAL OPINION

An editorial policy of the Village Bell has been to emphasize fact at the expense of opinion. However, the editor, as reward (?) for his involvement, is permitted to preach.

I hold very strongly to the opinion that recreation and community activity are vital to the future of western society. To the extent that this view has made some contribution to the foundation, style and apparent success of the Village Bell, there is justification in expanding on it here.

A convenient starting point, and one which has had some media coverage over the last year is the "health of the nation". Is it all in the hands of the Prime Minister, or is it purely a matter of the confidence (projected profit margin) of the big businesses? Are all our problems solved by adequate mineral and fuel resources, or will our political party system look after everything ?

I find such questions unanswerable, or just irrelevant. Mostly they are putting the cart before the horse. The greatest resource in the country is undoubtedly the people. Like uranium atoms, people share the property that when combined in a certain manner, the total output far exceeds the sum of the individual parts. As with uranium, the output can be controlled and beneficial, it can also be explosive and frighteningly destructive. Even when output is controlled, the by-products must be carefully assessed and accounted for. The enormous raw potential of "people power" can be clearly seen at time of war where human resourcefulness, pooled in a common cause, often overcomes insurmountable odds.

Rods of graphite, inserted into the core of a nuclear reactor moderate and control the reaction. The moderator in a "people reactor" is trust. We seem to be in a world with an increasing number of people and a decreasing amount of trust! There is a very real possibility of reaching the critical density without sufficient reserves of the moderator.

Community activity and local recreation can be very effective methods of nurturing trust. They might well be the only way; when a movement or organisation exceeds a certain size, feedback on a person to person basis is lost, and with time, trust is eroded. It is much easier to trust a person, when there is first hand knowledge of their reaction to past events, and there is a social requirement for them to be accountable for their actions in the future.

The distinction between recreation and entertainment is blurred, however entertainment which is purely self indulgent, or which isolates or concentrates people of similar narrow interests, runs the risk of excluding the opportunity to develop trust where it is most needed, that is between people with different skills, resources and styles.

Thus the health and resolve of a nation lies in the health and resolve of its individuals and their ability to combine human resources. Trust is property which permits safe and constructive combination, and its development automatically implies the emergence of a basic morality. To expect the necessary trust to arise from a morality imposed from outside a community (such as might be provided by a new political, civic, religious leader) is definitely cart before horse. In the development of trust the ball is in our court.

The methods of developing trust are unspectacular and slow. They are not the ways of attaining wealth or power for an individual. They hinge around the old proverb "A man is only as good as his word". The first task is to provide ourselves with opportunities to hear the word -from all sections of the community. They argue for tolerance and for variety and innovation in local activities.

Roger Francey

# # # # #

**BEACONSFIELD UPPER ASSOCIATION**

Previous Public Meeting (October 3) Five minute reports were given on the following: Self Sufficiency Group (Jeannette Ballinger); U.B. History Booklet (Paul Easton); Basketball Club formation (Glen Rutherford); Transport (Graeme Kidd); Pines (Charles Wilson); Village Bell Duplicating (Roger Francey); Helmeted Honeyeater Colony (Charles Wilson); Intersection Planting (Paul Chick); Quarry (Ian Stuart).

Main discussion was on the Paul Grove Drainage Scheme. Council were to be notified of the resolution to oppose the scheme, pending investigation by a sub-committee. The resolutions was carried 23 to 1 with 20 abstaining and a sub-committee formed (see page 4).

The meeting closed at 10 p.m.

BUA PUBLIC MEETING WEDNESDAY 5TH DECEMBER, - 7.30 P.M.

DRAINAGE INFORMATION: Responses from Council, DVA. Subcommittee report on the cost and efficiency of waste treatment.

VANDALISM: Should a reward be offered?

YOUTH ACTIVITY PROGRAM: Can you contribute?

INTEREST GROUP REPORTS - SUGGESTIONS:

VILLAGE CENTRE DEVELOPMENT:

1980 BUA COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS:

SUPPER AT 10 P.M.

**THE VILLAGE BELL**

Editor: Roger Francey with Graeme Kidd, Paul Easton, Charles Wilson and Edward Vaughan.  
Advertising: Jan Rutherford Typing: Sandra Francey  
Duplicating: Pakenham High School (with assistance from Ken Ballinger and Charles Wilson)  
Collating: CWA (Woorinyan)  
NEXT EDITION: Editor Graeme Kidd - Copy by 15th January.



Fiona Reid

**BEREAVEMENT**

Utmost community sympathy and support are offered to Graeme and Paul Robertson on the tragic death of Judy.