

C I T I Z E N S   O F   T H E   Y E A R

This year, the Association has broken with tradition and chosen two Upper Beaconsfield "Citizens of the Year". On behalf of all the citizens of Upper Beaconsfield, congratulations to

JOHN and TERRY MILLIGAN

of Hughenden Road, who have been associated with the district for very many years, during which time they have contributed in a dedicated but modest manner to the well-being of this community. John has been closely involved with the U. B. Association and the Berwick-Pakenham Historical Society, while Terry has been actively associated with the Red Cross and the Fire Brigade Auxiliary. Their contributions go deeper than this, however, offering as they have friendship and encouragement to very many people in Upper Beaconsfield. Once again, our sincere congratulations.

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UPPER BEACONSFIELD ASSOCIATION PUBLIC MEETING

<p>7.30 p.m. WEDNESDAY, 2nd APRIL, 1980 at the VILLAGE HALL</p>
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- \* what action should the Association take on water rates, including the recently introduced excess water rate?
- \* what strategy should the Association adopt towards the re-zoning of the Hillview Quarries site?
- \* should the Association attempt further action to allow a rational drainage scheme for the township?
- \* has the Association a responsibility to stimulate and co-ordinate recreational activities, particularly among the youth of Upper Beaconsfield?

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Come to this meeting and express your views -  
they are important!

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**ALIEN PLANTS NOW FOR REVERED MEMORY**

Two shrubs from former enemy soils, direct links with the 1914-18 war, are to be planted in the grounds of the Beac. Upper RSL sub-branch on Anzac Day.

The ceremony will take place immediately following the traditional observances at the Cenotaph, an event carrying a warm welcome to all local residents, commencing at 11 a.m. on April 25.

Plant No. 1 is a Gallipoli Oak (Quercus calliprinos) that grew indirectly from an acorn taken from the Gallipoli coast during the opening campaign against the Turks. Acorns were occasionally snatched by soldiers to send home as souvenirs. From one Victorian member of the 1st AIF, killed four days after the landing, an acorn was forwarded through friends to where it was to ultimately flourish in the grounds of the Geelong Grammar College.

The Housemaster, C.W. Dart (formerly of St. Georges Rd., now resident of Berwick) brought a second generation acorn to his sub-branch colleagues in Halford Road about 15 years ago, It was subsequently planted and nurtured by Cpt. J. Esdaile (Emerald Rd.) and is now to find a permanent home with an appropriate plaque reference.

General Monash wrote to his wife on Nov. 10, 1915: "I am sending in a separate package a few acorns. I have made the discovery that the prickly shrub with which these hills are covered and which has inflicted many an unkind scratch en hands, arms and bare knees, is really a species of holly and bears an acorn showing that it belongs to the Oak variety. The bush is quite ornate and grows to a height of about five feet much like the ordinary holly".

The Oak to be transplanted on Anzac Day was positively identified for the sub-branch by Dr. D.M. Churchill, director and government botanist for the National Herbarium. He has advised that while specimens are growing in the Kew Gardens, England, the Royal Botanic Gardens in Melbourne have no such Oak; subsequently the sub-branch is arranging for acorns to be forwarded to Dr. Churchill.

Plant No. 2 is a German Fuchsia, imported to Australia in 1924, as Garten Meister Bonstead. It grew in the grounds of the sub-branch's inaugural president 30 years ago, Major Tom Guest, of Beac. Upper - Officer Road. His widow, Nancy (now of Berwick) will formally plant an established offshoot from the Fuschia on Anzac Day. Now renamed "Coralie", the import was proclaimed "plant of the year" by the Victorian Nurserymen's Association in 1979.

Paul Easton.

	<u>VILLAGE</u>	<u>BELL</u>
Editor	:	Graeme Kidd with assistance from Hilary Hooper, Roger Francey, Charles Wilson and Paul Easton.
Masthead	:	Mike Oliver
Typing	:	Helen Kneen, Elva Ratcliff, Jan Rutherford
Duplicating	:	Ken Ballinger and Charles Wilson using the Pakenham High School facilities
<u>Next Issue</u>	:	Deadline 15 May 1980
<p>In the next issue we will re-commence publishing a "Village Calendar". Would Clubs and Organisations please advise Hilary Hooper - 443 711 - of dates of forthcoming events as they are decided, for inclusion in the calendar.</p>		
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**WHY IS THE PAUL GROVE DRAINAGE SCHEME GOING AHEAD?**

I have heard many express misgivings about the method of adoption of the water supply. The Paul Grove Drainage Scheme, like the water scheme, will enter the record books as being supported by a majority of participants - 72 notices served, only 17 objections received!

**WHAT LOCAL RESIDENTS ACTUALLY THOUGHT!**

- ▶ 38 individuals were interviewed by BUA members. (Owners of vacant lots not contacted were estimated at 10 or less.)
  - ▶ 13 of these lodged objections.
    - 11 gave the reason TOO EXPENSIVE. Five elaborated on the unfair apportionment of costs, with larger lots incurring greater cost even though they are best able to cope with run-off and pre-treatment. (These same reasons are used by council to exclude the largest holding involved.)
    - 10 said the NEED WAS NOT ESTABLISHED.
    - 7 requested a DELAY UNTIL OVERALL STUDIES.
  - ▶ 4 others voiced positive objection.
    - 2 said they had not received notices.
    - 2 blamed the Christmas period as preventing receipt.  
(The issue of notices was inexplicably delayed from Sept.)
- Of the 21 others who did not respond to Council:
- ▶ 13 voiced positive support for the scheme.
    - 9 based the support on a DELAY WILL MEAN MORE EXPENSE.  
(This reason was emphasized by Councillors and Council Officers in public meetings and surely borders on coercion?)
    - 5 only thought this was the BEST SOLUTION TO AN ESTABLISHED HEALTH PROBLEM.
    - 3 saw it as desirable SUPPORT FOR URBAN DEVELOPMENT.
  - ▶ 8 remaining responses can in no way be interpreted as support.  
Reasons included:
    - 4 BAD TIME THE YEAR
    - 4 NOTICES WERE CONFUSING
    - 3 NOTHING ACHIEVED BY OBJECTING.

The discrepancies between these numbers and Councils' are almost entirely due to multiple notices being served on a small number of residents. (The majority of these notices represent a situation where current objections to dense suburban development are effectively removed by the drainage scheme.)

**THE COUNCIL DECISION**

On February 5, Council determined to proceed with the scheme, without modification.

All of the above information was made available to councillors and officers, but was not considered significant.

**BUA SUBCOMMITTEE**

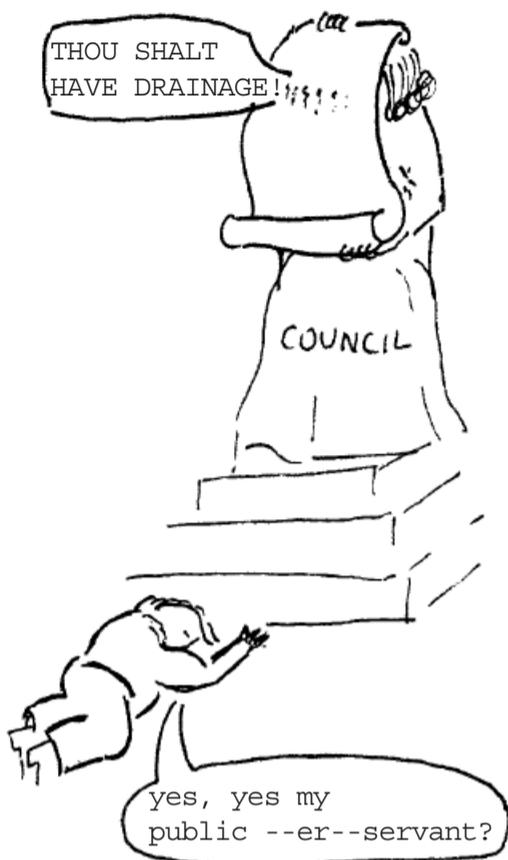
Those residents who attempted to play a helpful role, who showed enthusiasm at the possibility of contributing to a rational scheme of water, drainage and development for the whole village - but in the event were totally and pointedly ignored - were Sharon Anderson, Alan Blackwell, Roger Bynion, Karen Ford, John Haves, Geoff Lord, Ray Ratcliff, Edwina Vaughan, Charles Wilson and Trevor Wilson.

**THE NEXT STEP**

On March 18, Second Notices were served on landowners who previously objected - they have 2 weeks to lodge further objections.

There are 8 "grounds for objection". Those relating to defects or errors in the preparation of the scheme, the insufficiency of the scheme, and the apportionment of liability, would seem to be fertile areas for objectors. The BUA can play no formal role, but will be happy to make available to objectors information relating to these matters at the April 2 Public Meeting.

Paul Grove Drainage cont. ...



AN OPPORTUNITY LOST

The considerable development implications of the current scheme restrict options for a coordinated waste treatment and drainage scheme for the whole village.

In particular, schemes which employ modern technology to optimize the utilization of water and treatment of wastes on individual blocks, are prejudiced.

Apart from being ecologically more sound, such schemes are not obviously more expensive than conventional centralized schemes - if similar government finance and support were made available, of course, they are not suitable for empire building, instead they promise local free-enterprise opportunities.

Residents showed a willingness to investigate such options. We received very encouraging noises from the DVA, who contacted the Ministry of Conservation and Rusden State College with the view of co-ordinating study of drainage into Stoney Creek.

These schemes were not given an opportunity to develop. Without council support they seem futile.

Roger Francey.

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BEACONHILLS GOLF CLUB

Have you tried dining at the Golf Club lately? Well, give yourself a treat. Ian and Michelle have settled in and have a very wide menu. And remember the dance which is open to the public on the first Saturday of every month. Why travel away far from home when you have everything here you need?

There is a great deal of work going on at the golf club. Soon you will not have to wait so long before you tee off. There's great things going on up there lately, why not go and see for yourself?

Best wishes to Audrey and John Grove who are off to Tasmania in May for the Curators' Convention. The best of luck, John.

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UPPER BEACONSFIELD ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

At the annual General Meeting of the Association, held on February 6th, the following persons were elected to office,

- President : Graeme Kidd
- Vice President : Roger Francey and Keith Ewenson
- Treasurer : Jeanette Ballinger
- Secretary : Graham Jackson

The following members were elected to committee - Charles Wilson, Ray Ratcliffe, Sharon Anderson, Michael Oliver and John Milligan.

The meeting expressed its appreciation of the excellent work of the retiring office bearers and particularly the work of Roger Francey as President.

Graham Jackson  
Secretary.

**PLANNING**

The Shire of Pakenham is divided into Four Ridings, namely Beacon-Hills. Ranges, Toomuc and Iona. Beacon Hills, of which Upper Beaconsfield is a part, is the second smallest Riding. Toomuc is the smallest. But when the area occupied by the Cardinia Dam, for which the Shire receives no revenue, is disregarded, then our Riding is the smallest.

According to the Shire's Handbook now out of date, Beacon Hills riding has a greater population, higher net annual value and provides more revenue than any other riding.

In the Shire of Pakenham's planning Scheme Ordinance 1979, not yet gazetted, Upper Beaconsfield is divided into several zones, namely:-

Landscape                    This is the largest Zone.

Conservation 1                This is an area south of Salisbury Road and Telegraph Road and includes the quarry area.

Country Residential 1            A small area around Montuna Gv .

Country Residential 2            Three areas namely

The Brennan Estate of St. Georges Road  
The subdivision between Emerald Road and Quamby Road  
And the land north of Salisbury Road and having frontages to Sugarloaf Road and most of the roads off it and bounded on the east by Mackenzie Road.

Special Study Zone            There are three of these. They are old subdivisions. One at Guy's Hill, south of Buchanan Road, one on the east side off the Officer-Upper Beaconsfield Road and a third on the north side of Stoney Creek Road backing on to the Golf links.

Commercial 1                This area is from St. Georges Road and Emerald Road corner and extends east to the Garage and takes in Beaconsfield Upper Store.

Residential 3 Zone            On each side of Emerald Road in the Village. This extends along Salisbury Road about 350 metres and along St. Georges Road about 200 metres. It continues around Stoney Creek Road on the west side for about 175 metres. This was formerly Township Zone.

If you want to build on your land you will need a Permit from the Shire Council and you will find the officers there courteous and helpful, but remember that you will also have to a Permit from M.M.B.W. at Spencer Street.

There are other zones such as Forests Commission, Public Purposes, Recreation etc. In future editions, the permitted uses of each zone will be explored in turn. Specific questions would be welcomed.

Keith Ballantyne.

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**PONY CLUB**

The Pony Club meets every last Saturday afternoon of the month. This Club has grown to rather a large number of very happy children.

Among forthcoming events will be a big 'Anzac' show jumping event to be held at the Rec. Reserve.

Do remember all pony club gear can be bought through Judy Green - phone 443 527.

Well done, Julie Wilson, on entering the "Miss Yakkerboo Princess".

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**SHIRE TO CONDUCT YOUTH LEADERSHIP TRAINING**

Pakenham Shire is to conduct a live-in Youth Leadership Training Programme for prospective Youth Leaders on the weekend commencing the 11th April, 1980.

The Shire Youth Advisory Committee were concerned about the lack of leaders in youth organisations within the Shire and initiated the youth leadership training programme which has the backing of the Council.

The weekend is open to anyone interested in youth work and residents in your area are invited to make application to attend the training weekend.

The venue is the "Camp House" at the corner of Church and Brisbane Streets, Berwick, and the weekend will commence at 7.30 p.m. on Friday, 11th April. It is hoped that people attending the training programme will live in for the weekend, although this is not compulsory. In fact, if you are interested in only attending a few sessions, feel free to do so.

Those attending the programme will be doing their own cooking, but you will be welcome to share meals.

The training programme will be conducted by Michael Searle from the Victorian Association of Youth Clubs.

If you are interested, please telephone the Shire Recreation Officer, Bob Utber, on 059 41 1011, for information and enrolment forms.

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**SETTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT**

In the last issue Paul Easton wrote on the history of the Loveridge's Store. We are pleased to publish the following letter from John Glismann, who now lives in Castlemaine, pointing out some errors of fact in that article.

(We apologise also to Mr. Glismann for incorrectly spelling his name in the article).

"In the Village Bell of January 31 on Page 10 in Early Recollections of Loveridges Store, there are two glaring inaccuracies which I feel should be pointed out to you. First, Mr. Berglund did not "create" the Towers. Kitchens built the house at the same time that they built "Caversham" and Toomuc Valley orchard. Mr. Berglund purchased The Towers from a Mr. Spowers who purchased from Kitchen Estate.

Second, Loveridges Store was originally the Coach House. Built by J. Adamson & Sons for Mrs. E. Shorthouse and demolished by myself and re-erected as the Store. The East and North Walls and the gable ends and roof are the original Coach House. The West floor, floor and ceiling were all of new timber supplied by Hayball Bros. of Brighton. No timber other than that was used. As for any from the Village First School, that is not so. The original school was moved at least 10 years before I re-erected the Coach House to be Store.

I supplied Mr. J. Milligan with a plan and detail of Shorthouse's establishment before we demolished it and also I think the names of those who worked with me on the building. Here is the list -Stocks, E. Brown, S. Pateman, G. Haugh, G. Clements (Bricklayer), E. Pringle (Plumber). The display windows and front door were made by Hayball Bros.

As my name is mentioned I think it is only fair that you should get the true story.

Yours faithfully"

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Congratulations to Bob and Joan Trumper on becoming proud grandparents for the first time. Congratulations to Sharon and Joe on the birth of their baby daughter.

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WATER NOW BECOMES LIQUID GOLD

If you think that you're paying exorbitant prices for petrol in these days of escalating inflation, take consolation through comparisons with water charges in this district.

Irate residents, now computing ordinary and excess water rate figures, discover that while petrol costs rose 266 per cent from August 1973 until September 1979, supplies through the Water Commission to Beaconsfield Upper jumped 446 per cent during the same period.

As had been foreshadowed by some sceptics at the time of the poll taken in September 1973, which established a water service to the area, meters were installed only to be read occasionally when the Commission's books did not balance. This has happened over the past month when some 50 residences at random were visited and resultant notices forwarded ranging from \$90 to \$300 as excess charges.

Proclaimed as a bylaw by Commissioners for the S.R. & W.S.C. in September last year, the KL rate was to be 25 cents for this district - half for other districts served through the Tarago river scheme. Current notices are assessing the rate at 29 cents. When the service was introduced, the proposed rate was 6.5 cents per kilolitre.

As reported in the last edition of the Bell, Pakenham Shire's general N.A.V. rate of 11.7 cents per dollar (used by the Commission) did not reduce the accumulated loss and operational costs of reticulated water for Beaconsfield Upper.

This year revaluations of properties are to be undertaken for the 1981/82 fiscal calculations, so stand by for future watery shocks.

Paul Easton

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UPPER BEACONSFIELD SCHOOL

School Year 1980 is now well under way, and the School has settled down for a productive year. Children, Staff, parents and Council are all involved in a number of exciting projects.

Heading the School during Principal John Crosbie's absence is Gerald Kivlighon. Gerald's friendly manner and obvious professionalism are winning him many friends, and we are pleased to welcome him.

Staff, led by John Wells, have turned from educationalists to builder's labourers, and have almost finished the successor to the Taj Mahal next to the Rec. Reserve Gate. This will provide storage, bike shed, and shelter, and will make life at the school just that much easier.

The smaller building on the other side of the schoolground is also proceeding apace. Under Alan Blackwell's sterling direction and with the assistance of a large number of interested and hard-working parents the multi-purpose hall will soon be open for business. It is at present being given a kitchen and storage area. Plans are well afoot for a multi-purpose warming on the 19th April (keep the date free), with spit-roasts and entertainment. Further details will soon appear in the school newsletter.

It is good to know that with our extensive building programme we are also acquiring more land. The purchase of 3/4 acre on the north side of the school has been successfully negotiated, and this will provide much-needed breathing space for the children.

Alan Morgan

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VILLAGE FAIR PHOTOS

Peter Deering has kindly offered to print a page in the next edition of the best photos taken at the Village Fair. If you would like yours included, contact Roger Francey - 443 642.

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**ST. JOHN'S NEWS**

1980 welcomes our new Priest in Charge, the Rev. Roger Rich and his lovely wife, Regina.

Weekly Service times have changed to 9.00 a.m. weekly.

All Clubs and activities have resumed and invite your attendance.

Children's Wednesday Fellowship welcomes children 6 -12 after school until 5.00 p.m. at the Fellowship Centre.

Contact Julie McConchie 443 577

Young Members' Club welcomes all young people ages 12 - 16 years Fridays 7-9 p.m. at the Fellowship Centre.

Contact Barry & Alison Medwin 443 551

Bible Study Fellowship - If you are interested in the Bible and its relevance in today's society, join this group at the home of Terry and Ann Fogarty, "Pendle", St. Georges Road, on alternate Tuesday evenings, or

contact Terry & Ann Fogarty 443 484.

Women's Fellowship - Meetings 10.30 a.m., first Wednesday of every month. Plans are underway for our Annual Easter Stall on Saturday, 5 April, outside the Village Shops. We look forward to your support.

President - Joan Harris 443 410. ^

Paper Drive - Papers can be left anytime in Harris' shed, Salisbury Road, for the paper drive on 26 April. Helpers are urgently needed.

"Let us be concerned for one another to show love and do good. Let us not give up the habit of meeting together as some are doing; instead let us encourage one another all the more, since you see that the Day of the Lord is coming nearer".

Good News Bible - Hebrews 10 : 24 -25.

Alison and Barry Medwin

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**HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

The Berwick and Pakenham Historical Society meets on the first Friday of every month (except on Friday, 11 April, this year) at 8.00 p.m. in their room at John Street, Pakenham - round the corner by the "Just Sew" shop. Membership costs \$1.00 per family per year. Visitors are welcome.

At the March Meeting, the Minute Book (1898 to 1978) of the Upper Beaconsfield Recreation Ground Committee, was presented on behalf of the Ground Management Committee, for safe keeping by the Society.

**LOCAL HISTORY**

Mr. Norman Beaumont's history, "Early days of Berwick" (embracing also Upper Beaconsfield, Beaconsfield, Harkaway, Narre Warren), has been out of print for several years, despite a continuing demand for it.

Recently Berwick Rotary undertook the printing of a third edition as a community project under the guidance of Rotarian Max Pawsey, Engineer of the City of Berwick. The new edition has several pages of additional text and pictures. Following a launching at the City Civic Centre on 19 March, copies will be available from local booksellers, price \$4.50.

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**PLAYGROUP**

Beat the Monday Blues! Bring your toddlers to Playgroup!

Monday Afternoon! 1-3 p.m.

St. John's Hall. 50c. per Family.

Further information from Christine Hoffman 443 493 or Sister Roy.

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**EARTH CULTURE MEETINGS**

Many of the meetings this year will be held in Upper Beaconsfield so this is your chance to attend these very diverse and interesting meetings without quite so much effort.

- APRIL 29th, 8.00 p.m.           -     home of Ken & Jeanette Ballinger,  
Manestar Road, Upper Beaconsfield. Speaker:  
Bill Bliss on Hydroponic gardening, out-of-  
doors, greenhouse and using solar energy.
  
- MAY 27th, 8.00 p.m.           -     home of Ray & Elva Ratcliffe,  
Post Office, Salisbury Road, Upper  
Beaconsfield. Speaker: Lyle Williams of  
Chamomile Farm, Emerald, on herbs, honey,  
cottage plants and organic herbal compost.
  
- JUNE 24th, 8.00 p.m.         -     home of Helen & Peter Malone,  
Moore Road, Nar Nar Goon Nth. A car will be  
leaving the local Post Office at 7.30 p.m.  
for these who would like transport. Speaker  
yet to be announced.

The solar greenhouse being constructed by this group at Upper Pakenham is well on the way. Anyone who is interested or would like to help in the work could contact David Shelton at Upper Pakenham, 42 7220.

Jeanette Ballinger.

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**JOANNE FRASER - 1980 PRINCESS OF UPPER BEACONSFIELD.**

Congratulations are in order for Miss Joanne Fraser, who was chosen as the "Miss Upper Beaconsfield Princess" for 1980, at a special dinner held at the Beacon Hills Country Club on Friday March 7th. The evening was organised by the Woorinyan C.W.A. Branch and the Upper Beaconsfield Fire Brigade Auxiliary.

Jeanne, who is 17 years old and has plans to commence her Nursing-Aide Training shortly, was chosen from three other contestants, Jackie Fields and Julie Wilson, students of Pakenham High School and Louisa Hopkins, a student at Dandenong Business College.

The panel of judges included :

The Mayoress of Berwick, Mrs Helen Hudson

Mrs Lyn Mackay of "Lyns Arcade Styles", Pakenham and Mr Felix Russo, a school teacher of Pakenham.

Qualities looked for by the judges were, general knowledge, including current affairs and knowledge of the Pakenham Shire, personality, deportment and personal interests. This contest was not judged as a beauty contest.

Joanne received the "Miss Upper Beaconsfield Princess" sash from Kaye Harris, the previous Princess and also the 1979 Yakkerboo Queen. Joanne now becomes eligible to compete in the finals for the judging of the Yakkerboo Queen 1980.

Thanks go to Mrs Terry Milligan who most capably hostessed the evening and also to all other members who helped with the organising, enabling the evening to be such a success.

An excellent meal was provided by the Golf Club.

Judy Upjohn

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**1ST UPPER BEACONSFIELD SCOUT AND CUB GROUP**

Both Scouts and Cubs have started 1980 successfully, with increased memberships - there are 35 boys in Scouts and 24 in Cubs.

Although 2 new leaders (Reg Mattingly and John Field) are training, at least 2 or 3 more are badly needed, so if any one in the community is interested in assisting, please contact Martin Van Diemen (44 3653) or Brian Dickinson (44 3322).

The 6 Scouts who attended the Jamboree in W.A. immediately after Christmas all thoroughly enjoyed the experience, and will have happy memories to share with others for years to come.

The Annual General Meeting of the Group Committee was held in the Village Hall on 20th March. Apart from the outgoing committee and Scout and Cub Leaders, only five mother and one father attended the meeting. As a result, there were insufficient people nominated to form a new committee, and consequently a further Special Meeting will be held in the Village Hall on Thursday, 10th April, 1980, at 8.00 p.m. to elect office-bearers and committee. All parents of boys in scouts and cubs are asked once again to attend this meeting to ensure that the leaders and boys get the support, interest and assistance they deserve and need.

John Lewis

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**BEACONSFIELD JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB**

Training for the 1980 season started at the end of February with the 1st round of matches in the South-West League due to be played on Sunday, 13th April.

Although attendance in the U-12 and Midgets has been extremely pleasing, more boys are needed in the U-14 and U-16 age groups. All boys, irrespective of ability, are given the opportunity of playing regularly in matches, to put into practice the skills which they learn at training.

Matches are played on Sunday afternoons, with training on Friday afternoon between 4.30 p.m. and 6.00 p.m., at the Perc Allison Oval, Beaconsfield. We look forward to seeing more boys at training next week, so why not come along and give it a go!

Roy Prior (Midgets)  
John Meulenkamp (U/12)  
John Lewis (U/14)  
Peter (Bonga) Graham (U/16) are coaches for 1980.

John Lewis

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**BROWNIES AND GIRL GUIDES**

We have Guides again in Beaconsfield Upper. Kathy Archibald is our new Guide Leader and Jenny Mattingly is Assistant Guide Leader. Guiding is for girls aged 10½ - 14 and people interested in finding out more about it could ring Kathy on 44 3589- Brownies are still very active with a full pack and a waiting list, but interested people could ring Sandra Francey on 44 3642 to find out more about Brownies.

Brownies and Guides will be having a CAKE STALL, in the Village, on Saturday, 19th April, and we hope everyone will come to support the girls in this activity.

Sandra Francey

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**THE SEVENTIES**

Diane Rocke, Roy Harris, John Milligan

We continue our backward glances at the Village through the past ten years.

Business activities have not changed much. The Store, having been "Loveridge's" for generations, changed hands at the end of the seventies, as described in our February issue. Jack Stephens' Butcher's Shop was unaltered. The Garage changed from Clarke & Orr to the Nowak family only in 1979.

The Milk Bar (once known as the "Cormore" Tea Rooms) passed from the Thomson family to Mrs. Colles, and from her to the Pingo family in 1969; from them to the Cookes, and to the Bob and Freda Allen, and Tom van den Dolder in recent times.

Although in one sense the established businesses have not changed much, in another respect there is a great change, as evidenced by the pages of small advertisements in the "Village Bell", offering a wide variety of services available from local residents.

At the Post Office Les and Marie Howard were followed by Ray and Elva Ratcliff in 1978.

Leisure occupations came more to the forefront. The Pony Club was formed, and the Riding Club grew in numbers; The Victorian Equestrian Centre was opened. Tennis regained popularity, and a second court was added. Improvements were made to the Recreation Ground, long neglected except by the Riding Club. A Library service became available in 1974 with fortnightly visits of the Bookmobile.

Craft activities have likewise grown, linked with three galleries now established (Ian Sprague and Victor Greenaway, the Petruccellis, and the "Coolstore"), embracing a broad range of arts and crafts. With its plant nurseries and galleries, Upper Beaconsfield has points of similarity with other townships in the Hills.

An energetic programme by the Village Hall Committee provided up-to-date catering and cloakroom facilities, and the installation of electric heaters, for which many generations of residents must have yearned on winter nights.

The Rubbish Tip, almost a social meeting-place at weekends, was moved from Bell's paddock to Inglis Road, then finally closed in 1979. A regular garbage collection was begun by the Shire, and voluntary waste collections became organised : paper for the Church, bottles for the ^

Scouts, and rags for the Fire Brigade. The Volunteer Brigade benefited from a vigorous campaign by the newly-formed Ladies' Auxiliary, which organised meals for firefighters, manned the Fire Radio, and raised some thousands of dollars from an appreciative community, to equip the men with safety wear and fire-fighting apparatus.

Four exceptionally big fires have marred the decade - the total destruction of the Wilson and Degen homes and the Barker Coolstore, and the two-day fire that threatened the Village from the direction of Alber Road.

In March 1976 the Village Fair made a modest beginning in the School, where the surprisingly numerous local clubs and organisations set up stalls in the classrooms to make their activities more widely known. In the following years, larger and more entertaining Fairs were staged on the Recreation Ground. "Citizen of the Year" (a new idea) was announced at each Fair - Eric Bumpstead, Marie Howard, Joan Harris.

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Housework a bore?      Let me do your chore! General Cleaning, windows,  
ironing. Phone 443 493

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## BEACONSFIELD UPPER GENERAL STORE

The land and buildings acquired by George Decelis and Ron Ellis are of considerable historical interest and contribute significantly to the present 'character' of Upper Beaconsfield.

The inevitable development of this commercial zone has been a matter of public interest for some time. For example a possible development concept was described in the October 1978 Village Bell by Ian Sprague.

For these reasons the editors have invited a series of articles from the new owners. The aim is two-fold :

- \* to soften the impact of changes necessitated by Council Order or economic survival, and
- \* To invite comment on both consumer and aesthetic aspects of possible developments.

In the first of these, Ron Ellis writes :

As the new owners of the General Store both George and myself wish to state our position on the status of the shop.

Our primary concern is the economic viability of the business. Put simply this means that returns (our weekly takings) have to be greater than our expenditure (our weekly expenses).

In our opinion, for various reasons existent long before we purchased the business, the store was barely operating at a 'break even' level. We believe that we can encourage the local community to shop at the General Store by adding a wider range of goods to the existing lines as well as introducing new lines not previously available. We are also conscious of the committee's attitude to competitively priced merchandise and to this end we are rationally pricing items as they go on to the shelves. However our purchase price is directly related to the VOLUME of our purchases from the suppliers, and if that volume does not meet their pre-determined levels, then our buying price is loaded. The result is obvious, we simply cannot compete with super-market pricing on all lines and remain economically viable.

We are prepared to continually upgrade the products and services available from the Store, but if we find that we cannot significantly improve the profitability, then we must seriously consider re-structuring the business.

Both George and myself welcome any comments concerning the "General Store" from the members of the Upper Beaconsfield Community.

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## CHARING CROSS

The triangular open space in the centre of Upper Beaconsfield has been called "Charing Cross" from its early days, in fact the name appears in a Guide Book published by the Progress Association in 1899. This tranquil spot takes its name from one of the busiest places in London's West End. But now did that get its name? There is no Cross to be seen there: only a Road, a Hospital, and a Station bear the name.

The tale of our Charing Cross began almost a thousand years ago, when a pious Saxon King of England, Edward the Confessor, decided to build a Royal church in the countryside a few miles west of London. In his new West Minster, it became traditional for Royalty — Saxons, Normans, Plantagenets — to be buried. Then, about 600 years ago, King Edward the First lost his wife, the gentle Queen Eleanor. Though he was a ruthless warrior and a cunning politician, the chroniclers relate that he loved her with tenderness and devotion. From Lincoln, where she died, her body was brought to Westminster, and on the place where her body rested each night on the slow winter journey, her grieving husband caused a stone cross to be erected. Some of their names still survive — Eleanor's Cross, Waltham Cross, Gerrards Cross, and on the threshold of Westminster itself, Charing Cross.

John Milligan.

\* \* \* \* \*

**HOLIDAY TIME AT THE POST OFFICE 3808**

With all arrangements made for a holiday in New South Wales, Ray and Elva fronted up to the last week of work in Upper Beac.

A Sunday afternoon phone call from their normal relief - Marie Howard -and a following phone call from Mrs. Fiona Giesen (wife of our mail contractor) dashed all hopes for a smooth last week.

Marie was unable to relieve as Postmistress due to a bereavement, and Theo Giesen was in Dandenong Hospital with a broken ankle and in plaster for six weeks.

The mail service in 3808 was in shock!

Sterling work by Theo's wife and family have kept the mail delivery going during the emergency and Mrs. Bessie Poole of Hallam carried out the Post Office relief very acceptably.

Now it is possible to see Theo still encased in plaster directing the mail delivery from the comfort of his car while the running is done by his wife Fiona, or his mother, or Uni student sisters Josie and Joanne.

The old motto of the Royal Mail still applies - "The mail must go through!"

\* \* \* \* \*

**NEW RESIDENTS SINCE LAST VILLAGE BELL**

- St. Georges Road : Mike & Angela Schimizzi
- Fraser Avenue : Mr. & Mrs. Simpson,  
Mr. & Mrs. Carville
- Brennan Avenue : Ms. Calder,  
Roger Fisher
- Stoney Creek Road : Messrs. Leitl,  
Duncan & Campbell
- Grant Court : Mr. & Mrs. Johnson
- Young Street : Mr. & Mrs. Kay  
Mr. & Mrs. Dolan
- Manestar Road : Graham Matthews
- Lenne Road : Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Finn
- a'Beckett Road : Peggy & Percy Dunstone
- Telegraph Road : Mr. & Mrs. Frichot

A welcome also to Mr. Gerald Kivlighon, Relieving Principal of the Upper Beaconsfield Primary School. John & Amy Crosbie are on Long Service Leave. The Kivlighon's live in Berwick.

\* \* \* \* \*

**C.W.A. - WOORINYAN GROUP**

The March meeting was held at Fay Williams' home in St. Georges Road. Thank you Fay for a very pleasant evening. A large number of women came to the meeting - approx. 25 people were there.

Our president is Joyce Pfeifer who will willingly help with any enquiries regarding C.W.A. on 443 226, or our secretary, Audrey Farmer on 443 714.

Among the evening's business discussed was what a wonderful evening was had at the Beacon Hills Country Golf Club for the judging of the "Princess Yakkerboo". About 100 people attended the dinner. Among the main guests were the Lord and Lady Mayoress of Berwick.

Hilary Hooper

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LOOKING FORWARD ON THE QUARRY PROPOSAL

Recent developments on the Hillview Quarries' proposal to re-zone include a lively meeting at Officer late in February, comments by many local residents to the Ministry of Conservation on the S.E. a letter to the Pakenham Gazette by Cr. Michael Moore, a report on the Westernport Catchment Co-ordinating Group discussion on the E.E.S. in the Gazette, and letters of reply to Cr. Moore.

The Westernport Group currently approve the re-zoning proposal with certain provisos, some of which may be difficult to realize. Cr. Moore has come out in favour of re-zoning, suggesting that this course does not ensure quarrying, but preserves the right for future extraction. He mentions known stone deposits south of Upper Beaconsfield which may be developed. The nature of the conservation zone, in his opinion, makes it, or the areas near it, the likely sources of future stone supply. He considers the quarry site of insufficient ecological importance to be preserved and advocates re-zoning on these grounds. Some considerable resistance to his view were expressed in letters of reply in the following Gazette.

The evaluation of the E.E.S. by the Ministry of Conservation should be ready fairly soon and apparently the various instrumentalities having planning powers over the site will use it as an aid in their decision process.

Pakenham Council undertook to hold a public meeting for further public input before making a decision on the re-zoning proposal. The Q.I.C. expect notification from Council of arrangements for this meeting in due course following their receipt of the ministry's assessment. This is a meeting that all those residents who feel they have something to contribute and gain should attend. We will keep you posted.

Ian Stuart

\* \* \* \* \*

Vale Fred Taylor

R.S.L. colleagues, his friends and neighbours, were stunned this month to learn of the death of Fred Taylor, a respected St. Georges Road resident. An active young-at-heart widower, Fred's manner belied his early 70's age. He played a leading role in the affairs of the Benteigh sub-branch before moving to this Village; then at the Halford Road clubrooms he was continually among the forerunners of working bees and special efforts.

\* \* \* \* \*

Deepest sympathy also to the Griffin family on the loss of Mrs. Griffin's father, George Duncan, who passed away recently.

\* \* \* \* \*

BEACONSFIELD FOOTBALL CLUB

"BAD TASTE" NIGHT - Upper Beaconsfield Hall . . 12 April, 1980  
\$10 Double - B.Y.O. - Supper provided  
All welcome.

HOE DOWN - AKOONAH PARK . . 26 April, 1980  
NASH ROAD BAND  
Remember this night - it'll be a beaut!

Tickets and further details of these functions can be obtained from John Doherty - 707 3356.

Those interested in playing football for the club should contact Russell Sholer - 707 1188

\* \* \* \* \*

THE VILLAGE FAIR

A colourful addition to this year's Village Fair on March 22 was the Parade from the General Store to the Recreation Reserve. The Pony Club led the way followed by Mr. Yakkerboo, the decorated bicycles, and the U.B. Princess, Joanne Fraser, travelling in the elegant E-type Jaguar of Tony White. Then came the floats of the School and the Kindergarten, vibrant with colour and kids, and that of the U.B. Association - a lot of work had obviously gone into the preparation of each of these. Bringing up the rear came the (one) decorated car and three units of the C.F.A. In between (somewhere) were the clowns.

It was all great fun, but not without incident. Peter De La Rue had to carry out some skilful manoeuvres to get the Kindergarten float into the Reserve, while Glen Rutherford, who had otherwise planned the Fair to the finest detail, overlooked to put petrol into his truck which was being used as the Association Float. There it was, stranded in Burton Road, with half the procession already on the Reserve and the other half waiting to get in! The C.F.A. saved the day by producing a jerrycan of petrol, so that after a little delay (and a few pointed comments) the Parade was able to continue.

Cr. Jeune Matthews, President of Pakenham Shire, very kindly offered to judge the floats and decorated cars. The latter was easy, there being only one entry from Graham Fossey. The floats however were all good. The winning one was the Mad Hatter's Tea Party entered by the School.

Activities during the afternoon included the judging of the decorated bicycles and the slow bicycle race, in which a number of entrants showed a remarkable ability to dally. Their parents would probably argue that this came from years of practice! The longest- and waggiest-tailed dogs were judged by Joan Harris, who showed considerable courage by standing her ground among the excitable mass of dogs and owners! Competitions for the best cat and the most unusual pet were also held.

After the excitement of the Life-Be-in-It games, in which the children tested their strength in tug-of-war with Harry de Boer's draught horse and their fathers (separately), Graeme Kidd, President of the U.B. Association, presented a painting by local artist, Sheila Marshall, to John and Terry Milligan, this year's Upper Beaconsfield Citizens of the Year.

As in previous years, most organisations set up stalls on the Reserve.

Local artists and craftspeople were also well represented, demonstrating once again the considerable talent we have amongst us. Likewise the Pony Club again demonstrated their skills in a series of competitions run during the afternoon.

In the evening, a considerable number of people danced to the beat of the Patterson's Curse Bush Band at the Village Dance held in the Hall. It was good to see so many families enjoying themselves. The door prize donated by the Muddy Creek Restaurant was won by Graham Jackson. Other prizes were donated by Joan and Bob Trumper of Kwarna Lodge Nurseries. A spirited auction for a 1926 bottle of port donated by Tom Griffin, and bales of hay donated by Stan Hamilton, was run by Glen Rutherford later in the night.

The underlying aims of the Village Fair and Dance are to bring local families together to allow them to meet their neighbours in a convivial atmosphere. I think most people would agree that this year's events were very successful in doing this.

Our special thanks to Glen Rutherford and his group of helpers, Mike Oliver, Norm and Elizabeth Wilson, Paul Chick and Jeanette Ballinger, for carrying out the organisation so capably. Thanks also to the Tritt Family Singers for entertaining us during the afternoon, and to the Committees of the Recreation Reserve, Kindergarten and the Hall for donating their facilities. Ray Ratcliff did a fine job as master of ceremonies. Finally our thanks to the weather, which helped considerably in making this year's Fair such a great day.

Graeme Kidd

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