

TO ALL RESIDENTS

POSTAGE PAID

UPPER BEACONSFIELD



NO. 57, July 1987

Published by the U.B.A. Inc.

UPPER BEACONSFIELD ASSOCIATION INC.

General Meeting - Public Hall, Crèche room

Agenda:

- 7.45p.m. Minutes and correspondence available for perusal
- 8.00p.m. Meeting commences
- 8.30p.m. F.O.D. Debate on Planning Sub Committee report

Correspondence:

Inwards - Invitation to CAB General Meeting
 I. & L. Harris re Planning Report
 A. & N. Boura re Planning Report
 Sue Gray re financial support
 Mornington & District Water Board re Generators

Outwards - Pakenham Water Board Mr. R. Burn
 Shire of Pakenham re Community Newsletter grant
 Pakenham Water Board re October Meeting

Reports - Treasurer
 Membership drive
 1988 Bi-Centennial plans and link with Fair

General Business -

1988 Bi-Centennial celebrations and Fair.

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UPPER BEACONSFIELD FIRE BRIGADE HONOURS THREE MEMBERS Ray Ratcliff

In a pleasant interlude during the regular monthly meeting of the U.B. Rural Fire Brigade on July 6th, presentations were made by Capt. Eric Bumpstead to three members for service to the Brigade.

Mrs. Nancy Boura received a Life Membership Certificate for service in the Brigade Auxiliary and Owen Magee and George Silberbauer were presented with C.F.A. 12 year Service Medals.

Presentation of the three honours was enthusiastically received by the members of the well attended meeting.

Nancy Boura had trained and qualified as a radio operator and then in turn trained many other men and women operators. Nancy became communications officer and then trained and qualified as a firefighter and has served the Brigade well in a great number of operations and incidents, including the hectic "Ash Wednesday" period, and aftermath. Nancy has been very active in every aspect of the Auxiliary which has the important role of raising funds for additional equipment and services for the Brigade. Nancy responded to the presentation by saying that when you come to Australia, joining and working in a local organisation is the best way to get to know people and to become part of the local community.

Owen Magee - A serving C.F.A. volunteer for over 12 years had taken over the "temporary" but exacting role of secretary of the Brigade in 1979, and this temporary task went on for six years, when family illness forced him to relinquish the position. Owen's service to the Brigade has been invaluable in very many ways, and he continues to remain an active member. He thanked the Brigade members "for being a great bunch of people."

George Silberbauer joined the Upper Beac. Brigade in 1973 and has served it with distinction and great devotion as a fireman and officer over the ensuing years. George who is now Brigade President agreed with Nancy Boura's comments about finding a place in the community through voluntary service in the Fire Brigade when you come to Australia from another part of the world.

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THE EDITOR HAS RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING LETTER FROM GWEN VASSIE, WHO SAYS SHE COULD WRITE SO MUCH MORE ABOUT THEIR LIFETIME IN THE VILLAGE, BUT THAT IT WOULD TURN INTO A BOOK!

FAREWELL TO ALBERS ROAD AND VILLAGE LIFE:

After enjoying 37 years of village life, we have now retired to the seaside and have brought with us many happy memories of Upper Beaconsfield. We would like to say a big "thankyous" to our dear friends Joan and Roy Harris for hosting the surprise farewell party given in our honour. It was such a happy evening spent with so many of our local friends, thankyou all for your good wishes, friendship and support through the years. The gift of binoculars is a howling success. Great for watching boats and birds!!!

Au Revoir, Harold and Gwen Vassie, 41 Waller Place, Macrae. 3938.

* * *

Planning Sub - Committee Report.

Due in part to the late hour at which the June U.B.A. General Meeting commenced, and the need to circulate the report to the residents of Upper Beaconsfield, little debate and no decisions on the report was possible.

The Meeting in August will correct all that and full debate on this important report which concerns the future direction of Upper Beaconsfield's development will be held.

If you are interested in this subject make sure that you are present to hear and participate in this discussion.

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UPPER BEACONSFIELD ASSOCIATION - MEMBERSHIP REPORT Ray Ratcliff

The Committee are very disappointed that less than 10% of households have so far responded to the recent drive for membership of this Association.

Due to tightening in Government funding the annual Government grant for "Village Bell" running expenses has been withdrawn and the rising costs of paper and printing are making the running of this unique local paper a bit of a financial headache.

Prompt action to return your family membership subscription would be the "shot in the arm" which would enable the Committee to plan the future of this, and our other community activities with some confidence.

Membership of U.B.A. Inc. includes right to vote at meetings.

The subscription is set at \$6.00 for two years for a family and the application form is below.

To: Upper Beaconsfield Association Inc.
C/o Post Office,
Upper Beaconsfield. 3808.

Application for Membership

Name

Address

Tel. No.

(List all family members over 18 years

.....
Signature of Applicant

.....
Date

Receipt on request

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UPPER BEACONSFIELD TENNIS CLUB

Julie Jamieson

The Upper Beaconsfield Tennis Club is in the final stage of building six new En Tout Cas tennis courts with club house in the Sutherland Park Reserve. When the Sutherland Estate was originally subdivided, the Council required that portion of the land be set aside for community purposes. This land is now known as the Sutherland Park Reserve,

The park is an L shape and adjoins both Sutherland and Stoney Creek Roads, although access has been restricted to Stoney Creek Road via a drive way directly opposite Young Street.

The project has been jointly funded by the Council and the Upper Beaconsfield Tennis Club, with a further grant of \$5,000.00 from the Andrews Foundation.

Fund details are as follows:

Council	\$56,000.00
Council - Water Supply	3,000.00
Andrews Foundation	5,000.00
Tennis Club	\$55,000.00
	<u>\$119,000.00</u>

The above amount does not take into account the additional voluntary labour being donated by the Tennis Club members, many other individuals and groups, for the installation and construction of the following works:-

Underground water and power supply, automatic water sprinkling to the courts, over 200 metres of any drain, entire construction of the Club House and a considerable amount of project management. These works are conservatively estimated at an additional \$25,000.00 which would take the actual project cost to \$144,000.00

For the first few months, the courts will be soft and will require special care as specified by the contractors. Therefore only certain graded teams will immediately be playing on the new courts and full use will not be possible until the commencement of the 1987/88 summer season. Furthermore, for the first 6-12 months, special attention must be paid to the maintenance and care of the courts to obtain the best possible consolidation of the court surface. Therefore the courts will not be available for general public hire during this period.

In relation to the old courts in Salisbury Road, due to the demand of junior competition tennis in our Club, it has been agreed that these courts will remain under the control, of the Tennis Club for the foreseeable future. The courts will remain available for public hire and the key can be obtained at the Post Office where a hire charge of \$1.00 per person is collected at the time of hire. We should highlight that, we are one of the most active youth groups in Upper Beaconsfield having over 70 children actively participating in competition teams for the Club.

Entries are now being called for the coming summer season which commences early October and persons interested in playing should contact our Secretary Peter Durkin on 443.765.

A round robin has been organised for Sunday 30th August and visitors and prospective new members are most welcome.

Midweek ladies enquiries = Jenny McCormack 443.617 and Junior enquiries Julie Jamieson 443.620.

DIARY OF LOCAL EVENTS - COMPILED BY JUDI PRATT 443.236

- August 6th Child Development 0 - 12 months. Speaker Anne Collins Mountain District C.H.S . at Kindergarten 1.30-2.30p.m.. All welcome.
- August 6th St. Johns Junior Youth Club. Yr 7 & 8 at St. Johns. 7.30 - 9.30 p.m.. Every Thurs. thereafter. Program on Church noticeboard. Contact Faye Ulph 03.707.5707
- August 7th St. Johns Youth Club. Senior Group 9 - 12. Every Friday evening thereafter at St. Johns. Detailed program on Church noticeboard. Contact Ben 443.614
- August 12th Weeds - their identification, eradication and the role of the C.F. & L. Conservation Group. 8 p.m. Primary School Library.
- August 12th Quiz Night. Scout Group at Beacon Hills Golf Club. 7.30 -10 p.m. Tickets \$6.00 Tel. Ian 443.982
- August 13th Cheese and Wine Tasting. Rotary Club at Beacon Hills Golf Club \$5.00 per head 7.30 p.m.
- August 15th Shopping Bus Tour. Full range of discounted goods. \$20.00 includes lunch. Girl Guides Tel. Gwynne 443.538 or bookings.
- August 16th Weed pulling work party Conservation Group. Tel Sue Harris for locations. 443.815 (Also Sept 6th)
- August 22nd Cake stall Fire Brigade Auxiliary - outside store 9. a.m. - donations welcome.
- August 25th At what age should I start my child at Kinder/School? Panel of speakers include Anne Collins M.D.C.H.S. a Primary and Secondary Teacher especially for parents of prospective Kinder children. All welcome at Kindergarten 7.30 p.m.
- August 27th St. Johns Junior Youth Club. Swimming to Narre Warren Pool 7.15 - 9.30 p.m. Cost \$1.20.
- August 28th Square Dance Kinder' & Pre-School at Beacon Hills Golf Club. Tickets \$10.00 single includes supper Tel. Iconic 443.688
- August 29th 50's fun night, 3 course dinner, B.Y.O. \$15.00 per head 8 p.m. Tennis Club at Village Hall. Raffle to be drawn
- August 29th Captains and Presidents Dinner Dance Beacon Hills Golf Club.
- August 30th Round robin. Tennis Club at new courts, Sutherland Park 1 p.m.
- September 4th Knitathon, Community Centre, knitters and sponsors needed. Collect forms at Community Centre. Proceeds to the Crèche Tel. 443.484

(continued)

COUNCIL NOTES

Keith Ewenson

No Council Elections in Beacon Hills

Elections will be held in the Iona and Ranges Ridings on 1st August, but not in Beacon Hills, Cr. Ted Owen was the only nomination so an election is not needed. We welcome Ted back to the team which has represented the Riding for eleven years.

Montuna Golf Club Extension

The Club has now prepared a plan for the extension in conjunction with the Dandenong Valley Authority and the Council. The Council resolved to have the Club advertise their intentions by notifying abutting owners and referring the plans to Conservation, Forest and Lands for comment prior to adoption.

Public Hall Maintenance Grant

When considering the forthcoming budget, Council will give consideration to increasing the maintenance grant to \$500, in an attempt to assist the committees managing our Public Halls. The communities should be appreciative of the splendid work these committees do in our towns.

Rate Collection Agencies

The Shire has again reviewed the possibilities of authorising local collection points for municipal rates. It perceived the benefit to be small to the residents. There were additional costs both financial and in personal services to ratepayers that forced the Council to again reject the scheme.

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PRE-SCHOOL RAFFLE

Sharyn Padoms

Many thanks to all who helped sell tickets for our recent beer/wine raffle. We raised \$650.00 to purchase indoor equipment for the pre-school, much needed in these cold, wet wintry days. Congratulations to the winners.

1st prize - 500 cans beer - R. Meredith
2nd prize - 12 bottles wine - I. Portbury
3rd prize - 50 cans beer - J. McCraw

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NEW RESIDENTS

We welcome the following new residents:

Stoney Creek Road - Don and Jenny Elsby and family
Jan and Wayne Caddaye and family
Sugarloaf Road - Michael and Heather Zerbst
Young Street - Andy De Bruns and family

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Diary of Local Events (Cont.)

September 12th Dutch Auction. Scout Group at Igloo
7.30 p.m.
September 13th Teams combined training day, Pony Club
at Rec. Reserve 9.30 a.m.

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HISTORY OF THE BUA NOW THE UBA INC.

Jeanette Ballinger

(Continued from last Village Bell)

So the work went on year after year.

1980 President, Graeme Kidd; Citizen of the Year, Terry & John Milligan.

1981 President, Jeanette Ballinger; Citizen of the Year, Roger Francey, first Carols by Candlelight, Shire/DVA/BUA Environmental Study sent out in village.

1982 President, Matt McDonald, Citizen of the Year, Brian Dickinson.

Improvements requested on Emerald/Beaconsfield Road through to Stoney Creek Road, the latter not to be a main road.

1983 President, Victor Greenaway, Citizens of the Year - "Citizens of Upper Beaconsfield", by popular vote, YOU are "Citizens of the Year for 1983", this because of the attitudes of people during and after Ash Wednesday. The BUA worked hard with many volunteer organisations in the village and the "Bell" was there to spread information. We had a Community Advisory Group chaired by Peter Meeking and a Community Development Officer, Sue Gray. 1984 President, Stewart Geddes, Citizen of the Year. Charles Wilson. We had a co-ordinator for the Community Centre, a toy library, new shops and the school and hall Centennial Celebrations. 1985 President: Murray Erwin, Citizen of the Year, Beryl and Stan Hamilton. Tree planting day, new Igloo building and upgrading of the oval.

1986 President, Ray Ratcliff and a new year of work. Citizen of the Year, Des McKenna. The BUA has now been incorporated but still strives to fulfill the Constitutional aims which are:

- a. To influence development in Upper Beaconsfield and district so as to retain, as far as possible, its present character and atmosphere.
- b. To facilitate communications with the Shire Council and any other authorities in matters pertaining to Upper Beaconsfield and district.

Members still organise the Village Fair each year and the Christmas Carols and in 1986 worked on objections to planned Shire boundary changes, the Quarry (again) proposals by the Shire to rezone land to Country Residential 1 \$ 2 and agitating for standby generators at the Upper Beaconsfield pumping stations, for the first 3 months of the year.

The Annual General Meeting is in February each year, and meetings every alternate month i.e., the first Wednesday in April, June, August, October, December. The Village Bell is issued the week before these meetings and should serve as a reminder. The larger the attendance, the more representative the UBA will be of the community and the stronger its voice with Shire and other organisations.

This outline of the history of this Association is not to tell you how good the UBA is; it is to chronicle some of the efforts and achievements of our community. The ideas and inspirations have come from non-members as well as members and it is a matter of enjoyable pride for all of us who live in Upper Beaconsfield that the public events like the Village Fair and Carols by Candlelight have, succeeded because of the support and participation of the community as a whole.

ASH WEDNESDAY MEMORIAL PARK

Residents will have noticed the establishment of the "Ash Wednesday Memorial Park" on a Council owned block of land near the Post Office.

The Committee of Management for the Memorial Park consists of a Council representative, two representatives from the Upper Beaconsfield Association, and Citizens of the Year appointed in past years, who initiated the project. Committee members are carrying out the development, work.

The Committee proposes to install a plaque affixed to a rock, bearing the names of the 21 residents and firefighters who lost their lives as a result of the Ash Wednesday bushfires in Upper Beaconsfield.

Also under consideration is another plaque on a separate rock, with an inscription along the following lines:-

"Erected by the residents of Upper Beaconsfield in grateful appreciation of the outstanding assistance given to our community after the Ash Wednesday fires".

This plaque would also be a fitting place to record some statistics of the extent of the losses suffered by the community, for example, 180 homes, the Church, General Store, Hotel, Service Station, Kindergarten etc. An expression of gratitude, and the statistics, do not appear in any public place at present, and it is surely most desirable that they should do so for the information of contemporary and future generations.

May I ask the residents of Upper Beaconsfield to let the Committee of Management know if they approve this proposal, and if they would give it their support.

John Milligan on behalf of the Committee of Management (443.263)

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SALISBURY GULLY RESERVE

Keith Ewenson

The newly elected Committee of Management consists of Kaylene Crook, Lois Rooke, Laura Levens, Ray Ratcliff, Eric Bumpstead, Roy Perry, with Keith Ewenson as the Council Representative. The Committee met on Saturday, 18th July, undertook a tour of inspection, and later elected Roy Perry as Secretary-Treasurer and Keith as Chairman. The Committee encourages inspection of the area but expects minimum disturbance to take place.

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DESPATCHES - UPPER BEACONSFIELD R.S.L.

Open membership of the Sub Branch is available to any allied Ex Service Men or Women who have served in allied defence forces at any time anywhere, for a minimum of six month. On the 25th April a most memorable day was held with some members attending the dawn service at Berwick, after which breakfast was served compliments of the Narre Warren Rotary Club. Our own 11 a.m. service was well attended and we express our thanks to the following:-

Field Artillery from Dandenong (Reserves)
Local Girl Guides and Scouts

and we extend a welcome to them again next year.

We would welcome any new members by contacting Jim McCormick Emerald Road.

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UPPER BEACONSFIELD COMMUNITY CENTRE

Term III is already upon us, and from the exciting array of classes on offer, there must, surely be something there to tempt you, if you have not already enrolled. Extra copies of the brochure are still available at the Centre. If there is something you would like us to organise or include in next term's programme, please do not hesitate to contact us at the Centre.

We cater for kids of all ages too; yours may be interested in craft, ballet, karate or ballroom dancing.

The crèche is open Monday to Friday, for the children of parents attending classes at the Centre, as well as for casuals. It is advisable to book your child in - as we are governed by regulations which strictly limit the number of children we may receive, we may not always be in a position to accept your child. Remember too, that we are open on Fridays ALL DAY.

Playgroup operates from the Centre, on Thursday afternoons from 1 to 2.30 and on Friday mornings (in conjunction with the Toy Library) from 10.30 to 12.

The Community Bus no longer provides a school pick-up service, due to lack of support. Many thanks to Sue Carr for a valued service and a keen sense of responsibility. However, this means that the bus is now available for general use during the day as well. The rates remain extremely reasonable, whether for groups within the community or individuals wishing to avail themselves of this facility. Bookings must be made in advance, and on the prescribed form, copies of which are available at the Community Centre, or from the Bus Co-ordinator. For enquiries or bookings, ring Richard Halliday on 443.478 (after hours) or 03 707.2859 (school hours).

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SINGLE PERSONS : WHAT ABOUT THIS?

Government statistics have revealed that there is an increasing trend to people living alone. It can be reasonably assumed that U.B. would carry its percentage of these. U.B. is known for its caring people not its statistics. Some members of our community are considering forming a Singles Association, viewed as a mutual self-support group to meet the needs of these people. Such persons would be single through any reason, ladies or gentlemen.

Phone U.B. Community Centre, 443 484 for a contact phone number or write to : Singles, c/- Post Office, Upper Beaconsfield, 3808

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PAKENHAM & DISTRICT CARE FOR THE AGED COMMITTEE

The Pakenham Care for the Aged and Needy Committee will hold its Annual Meeting at the Shire Offices, Henty Way, Pakenham, at 2.00 p.m. on Sunday, 9th August. Guest Speaker will be Mr. Bernard (Bunny) Drake. Afternoon Tea will be served after the Meeting.

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SUTHERLAND PARK

Keith Ewenson

Description : Situated behind the residential development on the south corner of Stoney Creek Road and Sutherland Road with frontage to both roads and a rear boundary on the creek - approx. area 3 Ha. Melway Edit.15 Map 210 H.10.

The land came into the ownership of the Council in the seventies as a result of negotiated planning by the Riding Councillors with the then owner, Mr. Bruce Freeman, An exclusive subdivision was created on the intersection and an extensive parcel of land was set aside for municipal purposes.

In December 1981 an advisory group considered the uses for the land and the then President of the B.U.A., Mrs. Jeanette Ballinger, wrote to the Shire Secretary: "It is intended that the Park should be unsophisticated and of simple format for the use of residents of Upper Beaconsfield and their families." Nothing occurred till after 1984 when the Upper Beaconsfield Tennis Club sought a part of the land for their new tennis complex, and the advisory committee, were pleased to endorse its use. Last month at the Public Meeting a Committee of Management was elected. The members are : Julie Jamieson, Ian Jackson, Stewart Geddes, Paul Oke, Norm Wilson, Mick Erwin. The group has not met as yet for a Council representative is still to be appointed. The nomination should be made early in August, and, hopefully, they will meet shortly after. In the meantime now is the time to express your ideas to the committee on the uses the area could be put to.

Subsequently the Council has resolved that a committee of eight members plus Cr. Peter Meeking as Council Rep., act as a Committee of Management for the Tennis Complex.

It is encouraging to see utilization of this area for public purposes, and I believe the village amenity can be improved by further wise planning.

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VILLAGE BELL

EDITOR:	Graeme Kidd
TYPISTS:	Lyn Hollick and Elva Ratcliff,
MASTHEAD:	Fiona Hill
COLLATORS:	U.B. Rotary
ADVERTISING:	Phil Rocke
PRINTER:	George Moir

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NEXT ISSUE: Editor: Ray Ratcliff
Deadline for copy: 15 September
(Care UB Post Office)

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PLAY YOUR CRICKET AT UPPER BEACONSFIELD.

Do you play your cricket out of town and have to travel some distance to practice and matches? Thought of playing in your own hometown? Why not come and join us at Upper Beaconsfield Cricket Club?

Our Cricket Club is second to none. Since being re-formed in 1984 we have won four premierships and our Firsts competed strongly in A Grade last season. Upper Beaconsfield Cricket Club is a family club with membership being available for husbands and wives as well as social members. During the last season the West Gippsland Cricket Association's A Grade Final was played at the Upper Beaconsfield Oval largely because of the excellent playing conditions available.

On Monday, 4th May, 1987, the Annual Meeting of the Cricket Club was held in the Long Room. This well attended meeting resolved to increase the size of the Committee to nine and to extend the opportunity for wives to become voting members of the Cricket Club. At the meeting Rob Hansen was elected President while Brian Ford was re-elected Secretary. Other members to be elected to the Committee were Colin Mitchell, Vice President and Chairman of Selectors, Richard Edwards was re-elected Treasurer and members of the Committee Include Phil Ollie, Phil Thomson, Glenn Rutherford, Bill Physick and Karen Ford as Social Committee Chairperson.

The Meeting resolved to enter three Senior Teams and three Junior Teams (Under 16, Under 14, and Under 12) in the West Gippsland Cricket Association. Upper Beaconsfield Cricket, Club will welcome any newcomers to the Club for the coming season. Cricket practice will commence towards the end of August. Join us. You won't regret it and you'll certainly enjoy being part of the family club.

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ST. JOHN'S NEWS

Peter Hill

St. John's has just purchased its own Vicarage. A house situated in Georges Road became Church property as from the middle of July. The Vicar, Peter Harradence (who hopes to move into his permanent home late August or early September), members of the Church Vestry and the St. John's Church family, would like to express their appreciation to all members of the community who supported the fund raising campaign.

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ROTARY NEWS

Michael Keogh

The Rotary Club of Upper Beaconsfield are holding a Wine and Cheese Tasting Night at the Golf Club on Thursday, 13th August at 7.30 p.m. Wines from a variety of companies including Stanley Wines and McWilliams will be available to sample, as will a wide variety of cheeses. Stanley's award winning Senior Winemaker, Chris Proud, will be present to talk on the wines that will be on offer and answer any questions or queries.

Orders will be taken on the night and all wines will be sold at below recommended retail prices. Entrance fee/donation is \$5.00, so come along and enjoy a pleasant, inexpensive evening, while also assisting your local Rotary Club to raise funds. Tickets or enquiries to Peter Cousins - 708 5451 (work) or Chris Wood - 443 078 (after hours).

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New Members

We recently welcomed Ian Norbury, Nigel Skinner, Clint Leaver, Keith Colomb, Travis Wilson, Mark Van Eck, Renton Newbury and Andrew Cunningham to our Cub Packs, Kristan Miller to the Scout Troop and Marie Cook to the Venturer Unit.

Scouts

The Troop has conducted a car wash in aid of famine relief in Mozambique and raised \$105.00 on a recent Saturday morning in Berwick. Two more boys have completed their community service at Salisbury House as part of the citizenship requirements of the Award Scheme. Andrew Jamieson and Darren McPherson have gained the Explorer Badge, while Simon Kidd and Iain Thomson completed a 30 km hike for their Outdoor Badge.

Gang Show

The whole group along with the Guide company will be attending the Scout and Guide GANG SHOW on Friday 28th August at the Palais, St. Kilda. We will go by bus and block book seats at discounted prices.

The cost for cubs, scouts, brownies, guides and children will be \$10.00 and for Venturers and adults \$ 13.00. The evening is open to parents, friends, brothers and sisters.

Quiz Night

Wednesday August 12th at the Golf Club, 7.30 - 10.00 p.m. Entry \$6.00 including a light supper. Tickets and tables, ring IAN BECKWITH 443.982.

Annual Dutch Auction

Saturday 12th September at the Igloo, 7.30 p.m. onwards. All donations welcome. For collection, ring Ian Beckwith 443.982 or Don New 443.292. A good reason to spring clean the garage and make some space for the family car and funds for the Scout Group.

New and second-hand bargains to be auctioned. A night for the whole family.

Champagne Shopping Tour

Saturday 24th October departing from the Igloo car park at 7.30 a.m. returning at 5 p.m. \$20.00 per head when booking. 8 stops including Ladies and Children's wear, toys, gifts and shoes plus 2 course lunch.

Bookings - be early - ring Elaine Zeisler, 443.749 or Wendy Thomson 443.921.

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UPPER BEACONSFIELD CONSERVATION GROUP
TREE HOLLOW ARE HOMES

Sue Harris 443 815
Lois Rooke

Before you cut down any dead trees for firewood to warm you up on these cold wintry nights

STOP LOOK CHECK

Does the tree have any hollows - very large ones or tiny knotholes? If it does then you are about to destroy the possible home site of a powerful owl or brushtail possum, or the tiny home of a pardalote or sugarglider.

It doesn't matter - they'll go somewhere else! Unfortunately these home sites are becoming quite scarce due to clearing and firewood requirements, so the next hollow probably already has tenants. (If someone bulldozed your house down you might not get a good reception if you tried to move into the house next door.)

A long list of wildlife in Upper Beaconsfield require tree hollows in live and dead trees:

Gliders, possums, bats, owls, rosellas, cockatoos, kookaburras, kingfishers, pardalotes, swallows, thrushes, robins and wood ducks.

So, you are cold and need the wood for your fire.

Loud banging and scratching on the tree trunk should rouse any tenants. If the hollows are empty and you proceed to cut down the tree, please keep a hollow section about one metre in length or smaller, nail on a bottom and place it in another tree as a home site to replace the one you are destroying.

Better still - find another tree for your firewood, one that doesn't have any hollows!

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DO YOU HAVE PROBLEMS WITH WEEDS?

Members of the community are invited to a weed night with speakers from the Department of Conservation, Forests and Lands and the Conservation Group. There will be information on their identification, eradication and the role of the C. F. & L.

Noxious weeds are a threat to our native vegetation as well as being a frustrating presence on our bush blocks. Wednesday August 12th 8 p.m. Upper Beaconsfield Primary School Library.

Sunday August 16th - Weed pulling work parties, Our aim is to eliminate Cape Broom. Call Sue or Eric on 432.267 for details.

Any members of the community most welcome, these parties can be fun.

Wednesday September 9th 8 p.m. General meeting at the Primary School.

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CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU - PAKENHAM

The ninth annual meeting of the Citizens Advice Bureau - Pakenham will be held in the Senior Citizens' Club Rooms, James Street, Pakenham on Wednesday, 19th August, 1987 at 8 p.m.

Guest Speaker will be Mr. Fred Phillips, the founder of "Bridging the Gap". Supper will follow.

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MOUNTAIN DISTRICT COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICE

HEALTH FORUM

Health forum is a joint initiative of Mountain District Community Health Service and Emerald Community House. Our aims are to share health information, experience, and measures that we can take to prevent ill health, be it physical or emotional.

Four consecutive sessions are held each term at Emerald Community House. Each session is self-contained.

Speakers are from various health disciplines and workplaces, all suggestions for topics can be forwarded to us.

Please book for child minding. Only cost involved is donation for tea/coffee.

Third Term Program 1987

Venue: Emerald Community House, Main St. Emerald (059.683.881)

Time: Wednesdays, 1.30 p.m. - 3 p.m.

August 12th Sharing your birth experiences,
Leader: Brigit Senior - Birth Educator.

August 19th Immunization - Your questions answered.
Leader: Dr. Peter Tribe, Doctor in Charge
Immunization, Shire of Sherbrooke.

August 26th Budgeting - skills and motivation.
Leader: John Beckworth, Social worker M.D.C.H.S.

September 2nd Pain - stress and relaxation
Leader: Anne Collins, Occupational Therapist M.D.C.H.S.

HILLS HEALTH BOOKSHOP

The Hills Health Bookshop is a part of the Mountain District Community Health Service Program. We stock a wide range of interesting books in Human Relationship, Personal Development, Child and Family issues, nutrition and many others. The bookshop is situated at McBride Street, Cockatoo, within the Nell Mitchell Opportunity Shop. Trading hours - Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 9.a.m. to 4.p.m. Saturdays 9a.m. - 12 midday. Tel. (059)688.146.

EXERCISING IN THE WATER CLASSES FOR NEW MOTHERS

If you have had a baby in the last 12 months and would like to tone up, get fit, meet some other mums and have fun at the same time, ring Marg. Ritchie, Physiotherapist at Mountain District Community Health Service (059)688.146, and find out more about the post-natal hydrotherapy classes at Monbulk Heated Pool. Classes are held on Monday mornings and child minding is available at the pool. Each series runs for 5 weeks. The next one begins on September 7th. Registrations for the next series must be received by Friday August 21st. Please book early, as class numbers are limited.

In previous issues we described the cutting of Mrs. Bowman's track in the mid 1850's, which crossed 50 miles of dense forested trackless wilderness. It opened up for land selection and settlement, the areas that are now Upper Beaconsfield, Mt. Burnett, Gembrook, Beenak and beyond. In the 1860's Mrs. Bowman applied for compensation for her work, and a Select Committee of Inquiry was held in November 1876, twenty years after the track was cut.

The sitting members were Messrs. Crews, Inglis, King, Munro.

Absent were Bent, Grant, Jones, Purves. Eleven witnesses supported Mrs. Bowman - three public servants reported adversely.

Mrs. Bowman stated that she applied for compensation on account of two notices in the "Argus" newspaper. The first, by the Surveyor General Mr. Ligard, stated that settlers who made tracks that were proved to benefit the public could apply for compensation. The second, in Sir John O'Shannessy's name, that the Government was ready to receive applications. Part of her track could be used by drays, the remainder was wide enough for two pack ponies to pass. Selectors had taken up land beside 40 miles of the track; tin mines had been opened as a result of it; the well known doctor and politician L. L. Smith had built a house beside it; Mr. LeSoeuf's Acclimatisation Park was on the track; there was no other route to these places. The local Member Mr. McCulloch and the Minister Mr. Francis had praised her work. She spent a total of £1,500 (\$3,000.00) on tools, supplies, the work of four sons with four pack ponies who did the "packing" (taking supplies on pack ponies) in two years.

Witnesses for Mrs. Bowman had all lived locally, some for 20 years. All confirmed that she had the track cut, and all used the track, most of them regularly. It was agreed to be a necessity for selectors and miners, there being no other route. The State sold thousands of acres made accessible by the track. It started from existing timber cutters' tracks branching from the Gippsland Road. The tin mines were up to 50 miles along the track, at William Wallace Creek, and the Upper Latrobe River.

Witnesses were Jacques Martin (on whose land the Upper Beaconsfield Hall was built) who said it was difficult country, "fearfully long miles up there", A. G. LeSoeuf the "first big settler in Gembrook. The Hon. James Buchanan of Berwick, William Brisbane of Berwick, who supplied materials for the track, Charles Souter of Beaconsfield who had seen the track improved in 20 years by settlers at their own expense, Alex Crichton of Gembrook (Jambrick) grazier and butcher, William Brown of Berwick, P. Bowman of Dandenong who said his mother cut the track in expectation of compensation, Thomas Giblin of Berwick, a labouring man who worked for Mrs. Bowman, including 2 years on the track, "No white man had put his foot where I worked". He and Brisbane said that people thought Mrs. Bowman was eccentric, or "cranky" to cut the track at her own expense to benefit others, trusting to get a State reward.

P. Labertouche Acting Secretary for Railways, knew nothing of the track, nor of Mr. Ligard's notice in the "Argus". The track was no use to his Department.

C. Johnson Roads and Bridges Department, had seen the track once, 11 years ago, and estimated he could have cut it for £6 (\$12) a mile.

M. Calloman Crown Lands Department, had only seen a portion of the track, only 6 weeks ago. It was no use to anybody, and could have been cut for £5 a mile. (This man's evidence reads like that of a big-headed, big mouthed ignorant know all)

The Committee awarded Mrs. Bowman £300 (\$600) compensation.

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