

TO ALL RESIDENTS

POSTAGE PAID

UPPER BEACONSFIELD

No. 63

JULY 1988

Published by the U.B.A. Inc.



Village Bell

EDITORIAL

Some important community concerns 'pop up' in this issue.

Community Care and Neighbourhood Watch are two calls for action in our community. Another serious concern raised about spare time activity of our children and their supervision is one which should make every parent stop and consider their family's part in the Upper Beaconsfield community.

Perhaps vandalism and other anti-social trends are part of the results of absence of parental care and sharing of adequate family time with children?

The other big coming change for our community is the mention of rapid future growth of the population along the highway in the Shire of Pakenham. That huge growth will certainly have its impact on our environments

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THE UPPER BEACONSFIELD ASSOCIATION Inc.

GENERAL MEETING

8.00 p.m.

U.B. PUBLIC HALL - CRÈCHE ROOM

Salisbury Road, Upper Beaconsfield

AGENDA:

Meeting opens in air-conditioned comfort 8.00 p.m.

The usual business preliminaries, then

8.45 p.m. INTERVIEW with JANE ARCHBOLD (Co-ordinator
of Neighbourhood House at the Community Centre)

REPORTS from RIDING COUNCILLORS

REPORTS and QUESTIONS on C. Wilson's Research
into Old Orchard Chemicals.

DISCUSSION on NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH for Upper Beac.

Supper served at 10.00 p.m.

Please accept this invitation to be present at this Public Meeting.

Be assured you will receive a warm welcome.

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UPPER BEAC. ROCK**Dr. George Silberbauer**

The geology of our area is fairly simple. It consists in the main of a zone of ancient sedimentary rock to the south of the line of St. Georges & Salisbury Roads and slightly younger granites to the north, with recent alluvial deposits along Cardina & Stoney Creeks and their tributaries.

Our older, sedimentary, rocks were once part of a gently-sloping seabed, as was the whole of eastern Australia, laid down some 400 million years ago when the southern continents and India were united in a super-continent, Gondwanaland. Late in the middle Devonian period (about 360 million years ago), these sediments were disturbed, being lifted and distorted into the tight folds that we can see in the layers today. Following this disturbance, the Tabberabberan mountain-building, there was much volcanic activity. Lava flowed into a gigantic cauldron to the north of Upper Beaconsfield, forming what remains as today's Dandenong Ranges. There was a partial collapse beneath the cauldron, leaving cracks in the solidified lava. Magma was forced up these from far below, intruding as a batholith between the distorted

Silurian beds and the Dandenong volcanics. At its eastern edge the heat and pressure metamorphosed the Silurian rocks with which it came into contact to hornfels, a fine-grained, un-structured rock which is now quarried for road metal and building stone. (The Leppitt Road property owned by Hillview Quarries Pty. Ltd. straddles part of this contact-zone.)

As the magma of the batholith slowly cooled beneath the surface it solidified into what is known as Lysterfield granodiorite -the familiar 'granite', of our area. (The Ash Wednesday and War Memorials are made of this stone.) Wind, water, heat and cold gradually eroded the overlying layers to expose, and further cut into, the batholith and its surroundings to leave our present landscape. The granitic rock is more resistant to erosion and tends to form more steeply-sloping valleys than are found in the mudstone region. The batholith itself was quite deeply fissured in places and one can still trace some of these cracks as thin bands of quartz pebbles running across paddocks or as bands of basalt weathered to that nasty, sticky red clay that has periodically formed seemingly bottomless spew-holes in spots along Albers, Foott and Manestar Roads. The basalt is presumably a relic from the Berwick volcanoes of about 30 million years ago, the lava-flow from which is otherwise abruptly bounded by Cardinia Creek.

The Silurian sediments weather into silty, or clay loams which are only moderately permeable and very prone to erosion, commonly resulting in exposed bedrock or slopes and crests.

Devonian granodiorite weathers to a sandier loam of greater depth and which is even more prone to erosion. When left bare and waterlogged it is very unstable. The 1983 fires revealed that the lower part of the Stoney Creek valley had experienced massive landslips in recent centuries. The soil had slumped into the valley, forming a dam across which the present stream now flows, many metres above its previous rocky bed.

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SCOUT RAFFLE - FIREWOOD**Barry Smith**

July Winner - Annette Phillips. Thanks for your support! Another raffle will be held in August.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,

in view of the number of orchards that have been in the district in the past, would it be possible to have a run-down on the residues of chemicals and heavy metals still contaminating the soil.

These would include : dieldrin, D.D.T., mercury, lead, arsenic and copper for starting. There is also a good possibility of other contaminants.

It has been brought to my attention that working orchards are being investigated and these are under strict control of chemicals in current use.

I wish to draw attention to disused orchards which may have all kinds of poisons remaining in the soil. Children may be playing in backyard sandpits or people may be growing vegetables in their backyards without thought of previous contamination of the soil.

Yours sincerely,

Barbara Irving
"Erinrac"
Foott Road, U B

Dr. C. Wilson researched this answer to Mrs. Irving's letter :-

The answers to Mrs. Irving's interesting queries regarding soil residues have come from many sources including Department of Health, Department of Agriculture, the Australian Medical Library, Mr. C.J. Alenson, a Soil Consultant, etc. A summary of the information obtained follows :

Orchard sprays - Bordeaux spray originated in France more than 150 years ago. In Australia, Bordeaux and copper oxychloride, both anti-fungal copper sprays, have been used for about one hundred years. Another century-old spray is lead arsenate used against chewing insects, but used very little commercially since about 1970. Two other orchard sprays should be mentioned nicotine sulphate, no longer permitted, but fortunately destroyed almost immediately it soaks into the earth leaving no toxic residue and mercury in two forms - phenyl mercuric acetate (P.M.A.), and phenyl mercuric chloride (P.M.C.), which were used for many years, but both these degrade in less than five years and are therefore not cumulative in soil.

The spraying of copper, lead and arsenic in small annual doses has resulted in concentrations 25 - 35 times the norm. In 1983 the Australian Journal of Soil Residues reported the results of an analysis of surface soils of 98 orchards. It showed that copper and lead were retained in the upper 20 - 30 centimetres of the soil but the arsenic was not, probably due partly to leaching to greater depths, and partly by the conversion of arsenic by microorganisms to volatile arsine. Both mechanisms serve to disperse what would otherwise be higher and potentially toxic concentrations of arsenic.

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Dr. Wilson's answer continued ...

Plants grown on soils contaminated with these heavy metals show no increase of any element in their foliage. Animals such as cattle, goats and sheep are not known to be affected by food derived from these areas, nor is the Department of Agriculture aware of any overseas report indicating a toxicity problem. Furthermore, in Australia, it is not uncommon to add up to 5 Kgms per hectare of copper sulphate to soil thought to be copper deficient, with beneficial results to the foliage.

Children playing in sandpits or even the soil in contaminated areas would have to eat enormous amounts of earth to absorb significant quantities of any of these heavy metals. There is really no danger.

In contrast to these century-old sprays, D.D.T. a halogenated insecticide, is a newcomer, being developed in 1940 and not used on orchards until the late forties, certainly too late to have been used on the old orchards which closed pre-war, but would have been used on orchards which are still active now.

D.D.T. takes approximately 15 - 20 years to degrade in soils. During 1981 in America, a study of 449 people living downstream of a defunct D.D.T. manufacturing plant (severe contamination), showed they had several times the national average of D.D.T. in their bodies. Some had eaten fish caught in the stream and when analysed, the fish showed up to 226 mgms per kilo of total D.D.T. residues. Despite this, no specific illness or ill health was noted in the community.

Dieldren and its companions, Alarin, Chlordane, Heptachlor and Eldron, were used to control potato pests and had no place on orchards. As with the other poisons, it doesn't get into the foliage and is only a problem in cattle because each animal ingests up to one kilogram of soil per day, whilst feeding. Goats and sheep, because of different feeding habits, are little affected.

All presently used pesticides are poisonous and should be used and stored with great care.

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BEACONSHILLS GOLF CLUB TURNS 40!

Geoff Brooks

1988 sees Beaconhills celebrating its 40th year of operation. Highlights of the ruby year so far have been :

Dandenong Mayoral Charity Golf Day - this day saw over \$35,000 raised for local Charities.

Pennant Wins - Beaconhills won both 'A' & 'C' grade pennant finals in the Mornington Peninsula Golf Association.

New Driveway - the re-opening of the original driveway into the Club making a much safer and easier entry & exit.

Golden Oldies Luncheon - 110 past and present lady members celebrated the Club's 40th birthday with luncheon at the Club on Thursday, 14th July. From the reports the day was a great success.

Annual Dinner Dance - the Club held its Annual Dinner Dance on Saturday, 23rd July and a great night was had by all.

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WHATEVER IS HAPPENING IN UPPER BEACONSFIELD**Ron Carroll, Principal, U.B.P.S.**

A matter of growing concern to me, and I would hope to all aware members of this most attractive community, is a small but definite change pervading Upper Beaconsfield. Maybe change not particularly noticeable to many, but one which is starting to have a serious detrimental effect to the amenity of the area, and which with greater awareness, could be "nipped in the bud" if parents accepted some responsibility for their children's actions and residents generally adopted a neighbourhood watch type approach in observing unacceptable behaviour.

Since 1984 facilities at the school and the Recreation Reserve have been developed to create a most pleasant learning environment for children and no new visitor fails to comment on the general attractiveness of the area. The development has taken place only because of the great deal of work, expenditure of funds and man-power and pride in aiming to provide the best possible within the constraints of the funds available.

So what do we find happening? Firstly great and well appreciated use of the facilities by the school children and regular use by organised groups such as the junior netballers after school hours. After school hours use of school facilities is to be encouraged but recent happenings lead one to question such encouragement. It pleases me to see the school facilities used by the youth of the district and the asphalted area used by the skate board riders (where else in U.B. do we have such an area?), but when we sum up the needless damage over a period of time one questions such encouragement. What have we had? Graffiti on walls, damage and interference to basketball backboards, broken flag pole, broken windows, plants pulled out deliberately and cut-off at ground level, shade cloth burned and cut, heater flues smashed, fly-wire screens slashed and broken, pit covers removed to create ramps for bikes, drinking taps defaced, spouting ripped from supports and so the list grows. All caused by children from Upper Beaconsfield and no doubt completely without any knowledge of parents. But surely parents know their children often gravitate to the school and Reserve when they leave home? Or do they? Is it too much to expect responsible use of public facilities?

Upper Beaconsfield is hopefully still small and intimate enough for its residents to care for their few public facilities. Or are we going to continue along the path of not caring as long as my lot is undisturbed? I would welcome comments and suggestions to reverse this nasty trend.

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FIRE BRIGADE AUXILIARY**Annual Supper Dance - SATURDAY. 20th August**

Tickets are available for our Supper Dance at the Beaconhills Golf Club. The price is \$27 per double, and the theme for the night will be Australiana/Green & Gold.

Ticket Secretaries are : Julie Allsop (443 200) and
Sandy Bliss (443 518).

Please keep this date in mind and get your friends together and make a table. A good night is assured by all.

* * * *

NEW RESIDENTS

We welcome the following new residents :

<u>BRENNAN AVENUE</u>	- Bill & Yana Nigro & family
<u>BURTON ROAD</u>	- Jacinta & Dev. Tewari
<u>EMERALD ROAD</u>	- Charles & Bernadette Briffa
<u>HUGHENDEN ROAD</u>	- Harry & Diana Jensen
<u>KNAPTON AVENUE</u>	- Jenny & Garry Burnham
<u>ST. GEORGES ROAD</u>	- Sharon & Nobby Dudley-Clark
<u>STONEY CREEK ROAD</u>	- Sharyn & Andrew Bell; Katie & Don Brown
<u>SUGARLOAF ROAD</u>	- Rosalie & Neil Bould
<u>YOUNG STREET</u>	- Chris Bristol; David Rooney; Peter & Lisa van Dyk

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SOUTHORNS BACK ON THE HILL**Jane Holth**

The name Southern should be familiar to patrons of the Cardinia and Pine Grove Hotels where Noel Southorn was Licensee in the 1970's. Noel's nephew, Brian Southorn, and his wife Karen recently bought the Guy's Hill Milk Bar from Shirley King.

The shop is really Karen's baby as Brian works for the Commonwealth Bank in the City. Karen says she has always wanted to run a shop and the job will let her have her other baby, Sheradyn, with her all the time. Karen plans to extend and modernise the Milk Bar to provide a larger range of goods, such as take-away foods, while maintaining the excellent service and old-fashioned General Store atmosphere upheld by the King's.

The Southorns have lived in Upper Beaconsfield for about 12 months. Previously Karen also worked for the Commonwealth Bank before doing clerical work in her father's company.

Karen is assisted by daughter Siobhan after school and by Brian in the evenings. With four children altogether, spare time is scanty, however Brian still enjoys golf whenever possible.

Meanwhile Shirley King is still residing next to the shop and says she is enjoying a peaceful retirement.

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HEY! YOU OUT THERE

The Village Bell editors would love to hear from you in print. Please limit your letters to 300 words (MAXIMUM), and preferably on a topic of general community interest.

Of course personal gripes and projections of gloom and doom will not be published.

* * *



**Neighbourhood
watch**



The Upper Beaconsfield Association Committee sees a need for a NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH Programme to be set up in this area.

Given a Steady growth in household burglaries in the hill-towns and an over-taxed police force, surrounding communities have set up Neighbourhood Watch Programmes to organise and educate residents on security to make the area a less attractive target for such crime.

(Upper Pakenham, Pakenham, Berwick, Harkaway, Narre Warren North are all involved in programmes of N.W.)

While fail-safe guarantees are not provided, the crime-rate statistics of areas covered are usually greatly reduced by the Programme.

**EXECUTIVE POSITION
UNPAID
UPPER BEACONSFIELD**

The U.B.A. Inc. is seeking applications from persons with the executive abilities, and the experience needed to get "NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH" up and running in UPPER BEACONSFIELD.

The position calls for a high level of managerial skill, the ability to motivate people, and a commitment to creating a top team and keeping them on top.

The person we are seeking may well be someone who has recently retired and is looking for that satisfaction they know comes from a job well done.

Whilst the U.B.A. Inc. will act in a support role, the successful applicant will be expected to take the initiative in getting the project off the ground and the active leadership necessary to maintain team enthusiasm.

Applications in writing are to be addressed to;
The Secretary, Upper Beaconsfield Association Inc.
c/- Post Office, Upper Beaconsfield, 3808

Applications close 31st August, 1988.

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NATIONAL CAMPAIGN AGAINST MEASLES

The Bi-Centennial health goal is to eradicate measles from Australia.

The Shire of Pakenham in conjunction with the Health Department of Victoria has developed a program for promotion of, and education about, immunisation in general and measles immunisation in particular.



A Project Officer, Sr. Ann Graham has been employed to develop a program with the theme "Measles Isn't Child's Play" to be promoted throughout the Shire during July and August.

Information sessions are planned for new parents, playgroup parents, parents of pre-schoolers, primary school children in Grades 4, 5 & 6 and their parents, secondary school children in years 11 & 12 and for Scout and Guide groups.

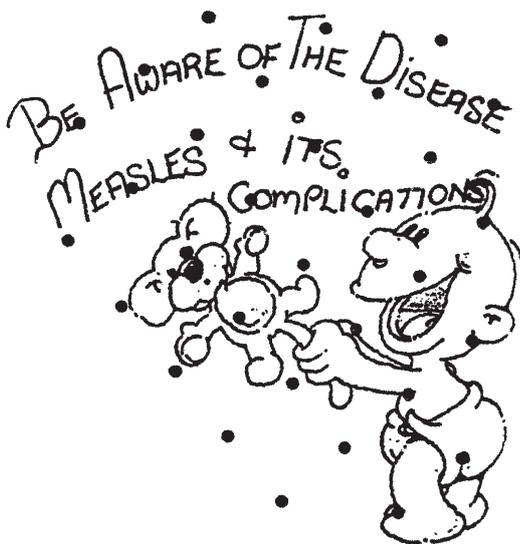
The program aims particularly to raise

community awareness about the disease MEASLES, its complications, and the need for measles vaccination.

Measles should not be considered as a normal childhood disease because it can have very serious complications. Some people also mistakenly think that the disease has been eradicated or they confuse it with Rubella (German Measles).

It is hoped that parents will attend the session times available, whether they or their children have been immunised or not so that awareness of Measles will be raised.

For further information, please contact the Project Officer, ... Ann Graham on (059) 411011.



LEARN ABOUT ARTHRITIS - ARTHRITIS SUPPORT GROUP

Monthly Meetings - All welcome to attend - for more information or assistance with transport, please call Anne on 688146 (M.D.C.H.S.)

Monday, 8th August - evening meeting - call for details.

Monday 12th September 9.30 a.m. - Speaker from the Arthritis Foundation (Emerald Salvation Army Hall)

"Halyben"
Carpenter Road
Upper Beaconsfield
7th June, 1988

The Secretary
Upper Beaconsfield Association

It was a deeply moving experience to go into the Upper Beaconsfield Ash Wednesday Memorial Park for a little time in the quiet there.

It was a deeply moving experience to read the names of my loved ones, friends, people of our community and the firemen.

To read of the magnitude of the loss to our community in lives and property, to think of the other losses after the fire was finished, of the families who could not stand staying here, and the deep emotional stress and sickness caused to others.

What a beautiful tribute to all those who died here that day, to the firemen who risked and gave their lives to try and save our homes and lives.

But what I realised most of all during this time was the love of the people of our community which thought of, designed, and created this Park and will care for it in the future.

I would like to express my thanks for their love and for the help I have received since the fires, from the people of Upper Beac. and the Shire of Pakenham.

God bless you always,

Barry Medwin

(Barry's wife Allison and daughter Kerrie were killed in the Ash Wednesday fires which also destroyed their family home in Carpenter Road. Ed.)

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UPPER BEACONSFIELD BABYSITTING CLUB

New members are always welcome.

Please phone Debbie Winder - 443 056 - for details.

Monthly Secretaries - August Sharyn Padoms 443 559
September Jenny Durkin 443 765
October Raewyn Hansen 443 140

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BOWMAN'S TRACK - SUMMING UP**John Milligan**

Bowman's Track was featured in previous issues of the Village Bell.

A general account in June 1986; a proposal in October 1986 to place markers along the track as a Bi-Centennial project; the Bowman family and their Inn in May 1987; a Government Committee concerning the track, July 1987; the inauguration of Markers, April 1988.

We now publish a map showing the line of the track in relation to present-day landmarks, also a list of the fourteen Markers, some of which are by now familiar to many of our readers.

Corner Princes Highway, O'Neil Road - Explanatory Marker

" O'Neil & Hughenden Roads

" Salisbury & Split Rock Roads

" Split Rock & Emerald Roads

" Emerald & Downey Roads

" Bourkes Creek & Matters Road

" Matters & Paternoster Roads

" Mt. Burnett & Gembrook Roads

" Bessie Creek & Boyd Roads

" Avenue & Gembrook-Tonimbuk Roads

" Parker & East Beenak Roads

" East Beenak & Back Creek Roads (White's Corner)

" East Beenak & Bunyip valley Roads (Tomahawk Gap)

" Basan's Corner

see map opposite

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VILLAGE BELL CREDITS

<u>EDITOR</u>	-	Ray Ratcliff
<u>RECEIVING COPY</u>	-	Julie & Ray Allsop
<u>MASTHEAD</u>	-	Val Ewenson
<u>TYPING</u>	-	Elva Ratcliff (on the UBA new Canon typewriter)
<u>PRINTING</u>	-	George & Judy Moir
<u>RESEARCHER</u>	-	Charles Wilson
<u>COLLATING</u>	-	U.B. Community Centre Committee
<u>NEXT EDITOR</u>	-	Jeanette Ballinger
<u>NEXT COPY DEADLINE</u>	-	<u>15th SEPTEMBER, 1988</u>

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WATER EXERCISES - **FOR PEOPLE WITH ARTHRITIS**

Narre Warren Rebound Leisure Centre - WEDNESDAY - 2.30 - 4.00 p.m.

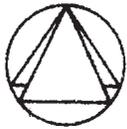
COST \$1 pool admittance, extra \$2 spa or sauna (optional) Refreshments can be bought at pool.

Transport available - call Anne Collins - 688146 Mountain District Community Health Service

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KILOMETRES 0 1 2 3 4 5 KILOMETRES

BOLMAN'S TRACK



Cardinia Reservoir

COCKATOO

GEMBROOK

BEACONSFIELD

UPPER

PAKENHAM
UPPER

MARYKNOLL

TYNONG
NORTH

BEACONSFIELD

OFFICER

NAR NAR GOON

VIAM

TYNONG

GA

COUNTRY WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION**Faye van Duin**

Does C.W.A. mean anything at all to you?

Do you only imagine a few 'old ducks' sitting over tea and scones and chatting about their best bloom in the garden or largest button?

You do !!!

Well, it is time to change all that by us bringing before you some of the real meaty issues that they 'chew' on.

The Country Women's Association of Victoria Inc. has just celebrated its 60th anniversary this year and during that time has continued to update that image. Through their Social Issues Fact Finding Team (S.I.F.F.T.), they have recently delved into :

- a) Loss of Government funding for Maternal & Child Welfare Centres.
- b) Downgrading of many Government facilities with loss of employment opportunities.
- c) The widening gap between doctors' and hospital accounts and the rebate received.
- d) Changes in school curriculums, -
and many, many more.

At all times members aim to :

- * improve conditions, by community service, for the welfare of women and children;
- * promote friendship and encourage members and their families to develop personal skills;
- * interest members in the proper development of their district, to progress with good living conditions;
- * encourage and work for International understanding through the Associated Country Women of the World (A.C.W.W.).

Members are also encouraged to take an intelligent interest in the workings of Government, and matters of national and international interest. C.W.A. is the only women's organisation represented at the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet this year.

We are also a crafty lot, a monthly craft evening is enjoyed, and many old skills are still being practised and taught as well as the newer ones being mastered. Some excellent work is to be seen at the Group and State Exhibitions held annually.

Woorinyan Night Branch of C.W.A. has been meeting in the town for nearly 30 years - they now meet on the THIRD WEDNESDAY of EACH MONTH in the Kwarna Tea Rooms, and welcomes all ladies to these meetings, - we enjoy good social interaction.

C.W.A. is non-political and un-denominational.

Our 1988 theme is "Sharing in the Caring".

Come and join us!

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NEW CARETAKER FOR UPPER BEACONSFIELD HALL

The Hall Committee is pleased to announce that our new Caretaker for the Hall is Mrs. Helen Smith who will be handling all the bookings for hire of the Hall in future.

She can be contacted on 443 219.

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COUNCIL NOTES

Cr. P.S. Meeking

REMOVAL OF PINE TREES

Council has recently approved the removal of 1800 re-growth pine trees in Dickie Road, Officer. After a number of discussions with the Upper Beaconsfield Association and members of the Conservation Group, the Riding Councillors are now viewing more liberally applications to clear pine trees.

TOWN PLANNER

Mr. Jeremy Woods, for four years the Town Planner of the Shire of Pakenham, has recently resigned to take up employment with the City of Malvern.

Mr. Don Jackson has been appointed as interim Shire Planner, and Council is now advertising for a Shire Planner-elect.

RIDING PROJECTS PROPOSED FOR 1988/89

The Riding Councillors are recommending a number of projects for consideration in the forthcoming Council budget (Council year begins on the 1st October 1988). Some of the projects could include :

Beaconsfield Upper Shopping Centre	\$61,000	-	Road construction, etc.
Sutherland Park	\$5,000	-	Playground Equipment
Minor Road Improvements	\$10,000	-	
Beaconsfield Upper Rec. Reserve	\$20,000	-	Sealed Driveway Burton Rd.to School.
Beaconsfield/Emerald Road	\$18,000	-	Passing Lane

GROWTH CORRIDOR

The Government has recently announced that one of the main growth corridors for Melbourne will be the Berwick-Pakenham Corridor. In Pakenham Shire alone it has been projected that a further 20,000 homes will be constructed within 10-12 years from Beaconsfield to Pakenham - a possible additional population of 60,000.

Council is now seeking funds from the Ministry of Planning plus the allocation of Council funds to enable urgent forward planning to occur in this corridor prior to the population avalanche.

In addition the Government must be made aware of the infrastructure which will be needed to service this projected growth.

HILLVIEW APPLICATION - WHAT'S HAPPENED.

At the end of April, Council advised all parties that Council is of the opinion that it is no longer bound to proceed with the re-zoning of the subject land, and that the current zoning of the subject land as Conservation 1 is appropriate for this important Conservation Area of the Municipality.

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POST OFFICE NEWS

Don't forget that Telecom Accounts can be paid at your local Post Office.

A reminder too that Telephone Books, both White Pages & Yellow Pages, are now available for collection.

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COUNCIL NOTES**Cr. Keith Ewenson**

The 1988-89 capital works budget proposed by the Riding Councillors is presented on the assumption that \$500,000 will be available for the four ridings works. All planning is based on this figure which is widely accepted, but is yet to be officially adopted. In the budget we are undertaking projects which I believe will give the most benefit to the largest number of residents. This year a substantial amount of our riding allowance will be spent in Beaconsfield Upper. We have not rushed into these projects, a number of these are important improvements and have been waiting for some years to achieve. In some cases we have been seeking alternate funding ever since the project was initially suggested. One in this category is the passing lane on Beaconsfield-Emerald Road.

Thanks for the comments on control of incinerators. All the comments made will be taken into consideration when the matter arises in council in the future. At this point there is still time for further input if you feel strongly on the subject.

Public interest has been shown in planting natives on the road reserve near the northern intersection of Quamby Road and the Emerald-Beaconsfield Road. Council assistance will be forthcoming but we would welcome other community support, - Mr. Gary Hill is the co-ordinator.

Desire to stimulate your child's early learning?

Want to research your family tree?

Require additional recreational reading?

See how the Mobile Library can be of assistance. It visits Beaconsfield Upper once a fortnight, and it will be here on 3rd, 17th, and 31st of August, etc. between 10 and 11 a.m. at the Charing Cross Library point. This is a service provided by the D.V.R.L.S. for the Council and its residents. Incidentally the Council is proposing a survey of the service and would welcome your comments on the questionnaire to be supplied shortly.

There will not be an election in Beacon Hills Riding on the sixth August, there being only one candidate. I appreciate the support and confidence shown in me, and will be honoured to continue as your representative.

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UPPER BEAC. CRICKET CLUB NEEDS YOU**Rob Hansen**

Although we seem to be in the depths of winter and entering the championship part of the footy season, the number of weeks left, until pre-season training actually commences, is slipping by quickly. Our training will commence near the end of August. Undoubtedly there will be a group training indoors as well in mid-August. Members will be contacted about such sessions.

As we prepare for the coming season the Committee has begun meeting. The Committee, led by President Rob Hansen, consists of Secretary Phil Olle, Treasurer Carol Butcher, Vice-President Brian Ford, Junior Co-ordinator Glenn Rutherford, Social Chairman Rob Chilver, Rec. Reserve Rep. Bill Physick, Equipment Officer Greg Radford. Preparations will continue so that the Club begins the coming season on a sound note.

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IMPORTANT COMMUNITY MEETING !

Sue Bradley

MONDAY. 29th AUGUST at 8.00 p.m.

Members of the Upper Beaconsfield Community Church, St. John's, see many needs in our community which could be met by the formation of a broad-based community care group.

The care level suggested is not, in any way, of a professional or clinical nature, but more in the line of neighbourly concern and assistance.

The concept involves seeking participation by any interested individuals and representatives of organisations (e.g. Rotary, R.S.L., Scouts, Guides, C.W.A., Community Centre, etc.) in the establishment and running of such a group.

To achieve this end, a Public Meeting is called for 8.00 p.m. on Monday, 29th August, to consider the need for such a group.

The meeting will be held in the comfort of St. John's Church meeting room, and we invite all interested residents to attend and share their views.

We would value YOUR ideas!

UPPER BEACONSFIELD CONSERVATION GROUP Sue Harris (443 815)**Spanish Heath - An Environmental Weed**

At this time of the year Spanish Heath and Victorian Heath can be seen flowering side by side along our roadsides and in the bush. Is it important to know the difference between the two species? The answer is 'yes'. Victorian Heath (*Epacris impressa*) is our native heath and the floral emblem of Victoria, whilst Spanish Heath (*Erica Lusitanica*), as its name implies, comes from Spain and France. It was introduced as a garden and nursery plant years ago and liked the Australian conditions so much that it 'took off' into the bush. It is considered a serious environmental weed as it very clearly out-competes Australian natives.

Spanish Heath is common in Upper Beaconsfield. A large stand of it can be found alongside the Emerald Road on the right hand side as you go down the hill. It is easily distinguishable from our local variety. It grows into large bushes from 1/2 - 2m (1' - 6' in height with masses of small white bell-shaped flowers only 4 mm (1/7") long. Some of its flower buds may be pinkish and its leaves are fine needle-shaped and soft to the touch. Victorian Heath, on the other hand, carries its bell-shaped flowers on 'wands' about 1/2m (2') high. The bells are much larger being 1 cm (1/2") long and can be coloured pink, red or white and the foliage is distinctly prickly to the touch.

If you find Spanish Heath, pull it out, but check first to make sure it isn't our lovely native species.



Spanish Heath
Erica Lusitanica.

GENERAL - GIRLS IN SCOUTS is obviously the issue on the tip of everyone's tongue at the moment, and whilst broad guidelines have been received from the Scout Association on this matter, much more is to be learnt before final announcements will be made at this group level.

It is fair to say, however, that four major criteria will have to be fulfilled prior to accepting girls into Scouts at Upper Beaconsfield. They are that :

1. It is perceived to be advantageous to, and the wish of, the youth of Upper Beaconsfield.
2. It will not threaten the existence of the existing Girl Guide movement in Upper Beaconsfield.
3. There is an availability of female leaders in all Sections of the Scout Group.
4. The spirit and activities of scouting as we know it will not change dramatically as a result of the inclusion of girls.

More on this delicate subject as information becomes available.

CUB-SCOUTS (8-11 year olds)

A big welcome to the following boys : David Toon, Peter Mitchell, Dale Coffen, Fabian Josef, Stephen Cornthwaite, Jamey Nicholls, Michael Wright, Paul Physick and Daniel Kerpen, who have all joined the pack recently.

A special welcome to new leader Ron Kerpen (Bagheera) who comes to us with previous experience from 1st Wheelers Hill in the Glen Waverley District.

The Cub-Scouts continue to operate successfully with a large pack of thirty boys and a healthy waiting list.

Highlights of last term were the Swimming Carnival, Day Trip to Inverloch (over 100 boys throughout the District attended this day) and a Roller Skating Night,

SCOUTS (11 - 14 year olds)

Welcome to Michael Willis, Luke Pateman, Paul Simpson, Danny Rutherford, Toby Graham, Matthew Arnott, Kynon Ford and Renton Newbury, wo have all progressed through the Cubs. Also welcome to Barry Auhl who joined recently.

A hike with the Dads to the Cathedral Ranges and Rollerskating have been included in a tern of varied activities.

VENTURERS (14 - 17 Boys & Girls)

The loss of Paul Oke (Leader) and Jenny Conn's trip overseas sees the Venturers down to one leader and eleven members. Activities by this small but closely knit group remain varied and interesting.

In closing may I take this opportunity of publicly thanking my predecessor, Bob Taylor, for his fine contribution to Scouting in U.B. in his role as Group Leader, and congratulate him in his appointment as District Commissioner.

BIRTHDAY BEACON BONFIRE

The Rec. Ground was the chosen site
for the Birthday conflagration.
June 18 was the appointed night
for the ring around the nation.

The pyre was built by the Rotary men,
Firecrews stood watchfully by;
people came from everywhere
despite clouds in the heavy sky.

The rain came and the wind blew strong,
the enthusiasm didn't wane;
the children were snug in their wet-weather gear
awaiting the wall of flame.

The time arrived, Michael Parker stepped forth
To put torch to the mighty pile;
with diesel to help and a driving wind,
it still took quite a while!

The fire caught and engulfed the heap,
the flames leapt higher and higher;
the crowd exclaimed and children laughed
and warmed themselves by the fire.

A local said, "I've fireworks at home,
left from another occasion.
They're a hazard to me and not needed now.
Could they burn in this celebration?"

The Brigade took it up and went to their task
with sparklers, mortars and rockets,
destroying the hazard just as he'd asked,
with not a penny out of their pockets.

The supply of fireworks came to an end,
the fire was glowing embers,
the glow was left for firemen to tend,
the last till next November.

Families gathered their tired kids
to head for warmth and shelter,
the night was deemed a great success -
"Happy Birthday to Australia!"

The occasion was enjoyed by people of all ages, despite the frightful weather
- a special "thank you" to the Prime-Mover Jeanette Ballinger, and to the
enthusiastic support from Rotary's Eric Chaplin,- P.S. Principal Ron Carroll,
Fire Capt. Eric Bumpstead, and all who helped to make the evening such a
success, enjoyed by an estimated 400 - 500 residents. Ed.

* * *

Used Rags

The Fire Brigade Ladies' Auxiliary is in need of clean, used clothing etc.
Please leave your donations at the Milk Bar.

* * *

NEW OWNER FOR L'AIGLON**Jane Holth**

After many year's association with the Ballantyne family, the historic house, 'L'aiglon', in Salisbury Road was recently sold to a family in Sydney.

The property was first owned by William Brisbane Jnr., estate agent and auctioneer, who purchased a Crown Grant of 318 acres in 1876. He subdivided the land into 49 allotments, keeping 40 acres for his house. Brisbane was a cousin of the Berwick Wilsons whose youngest child, Elisabeth, was the mother of Keith Ballantyne.

Brisbane built himself a house of bricks burnt from clay dug on the property. It was known as the Big House and was later a Telegraph Station, then a hotel.

In 1879 Brisbane's estate was taken over by trustees, who in 1880 sold the house and 40 acres to James Walford. Sixteen days later it was transferred to John Thomas Butler; in 1882 to Grace Sumner, hotelkeeper and wife of Arthur Hay Sumner of Beaconsfield; in 1890 to Frederick Rudolf Wilckens, licensed victualler of the Beaconsfield Hotel; in 1902 to David John Davies Bevan, barrister at law; in 1961 from Judge Bevan's widow, Doris, to Doris Ellen Halligan; in 1968 to Keith & Elizabeth Ballantyne, and, a few years later, to his son Douglas and wife Rosemary, who sold it recently.

During the ownership of the Wilckens, most of the house was burnt down. The part remaining is now the laundry, workshop and studio. Bevan re-built the house, giving it tremendous grace and charm with wide passages and loft ceilings, and many elaborate internal appointments such as marble fire place surrounds, ornate cornices and carved wood work. He called it "Pen Bryn".

The new owners expect to maintain 'L'aiglon' as a family home, while Doug Ballantyne and his family are off to Queensland.

* * *

COMMUNITY CENTRE NEWS**Ray Ratcliff**

I interviewed Jane Archbold at the Centre. She has been employed for 10 hours per week to cover aspects of the community needs not already met by the Community Centre courses and programmes.

Jane, who is working in close co-operation with Lin Chadder, comes from Harkaway, has been on the payroll for three months, and is known as NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE Co-ordinator.

She is a warm, friendly person, with excellent qualifications for counselling, helping, and spotting and meeting needs, and, within the scope of her limited hours, is sure to help many folk in this community.

VOLUNTEERS _ Jane is looking for volunteers to accompany elderly shoppers; to drive the Community Bus; help with children's programmes; or answer phones, type, file, sort mail, etc. If you want co catch up with Jane. Thursdays 12 - 3 p.m. is her best time, so call in or ring her on 443 484.

COURSES - Lin Chadder pointed out that the Centre is designed to meet the needs of residents, so, if you have the need for a new skill or activity, phone her and she will help you if it is at all possible.

* * *

DIARY OF LOCAL EVENTS**Judi Pratt 443 236**

- July 29 Anti-Measles Campaign, I.W.Sr.Anne Graham -
Community Centre 11.15-12.30
- Aug. 5 New Mothers Group;- Community Centre - 10 - 12.
- Aug. 10 Andrew Paget - U.B.Swamp & Indigenous Plant Propagation inc.
Orchids-Conservation Group - 8 pm Primary School Library.
- Aug. 10,11,12 - C.W.A. State Exhibition - Dandenong Town Hall.
- Aug. 11 Senior Citizens Bingo - Community Centre 10 - 12 - \$1 p.w.
Every 2nd & 4th Thursday thereafter.
- Aug. 12 'Disciplining Your Child' - Thelma Paul, D'nong Valley Family
Care -Community. Centre - 10 - 12
- Aug. 12 P.F.A School Dinner - Primary School - postponed until 1989
- Aug. 19 Lunch Appreciation Group - Comm.Centre, 12 - 3 - Venues &
cost varies. Child Care, available.
- Aug. 20 Fire Brigade Fancy Dress Supper Dance - see page 5
- Aug. 23 National Trust Bus Trip - Latrobe Cottage - 10 - 3 pm -
Book Community Centre - 443 484.
- Aug. 23 C.W.A. Spring Conference. State President attending. U.B.Hall 10am.
- Aug. 26 Play Ideas & Activities for Children - Anne Collins Occ.Th.
M.D.C.H.S. Community Centre - 10 - 12.
- Aug. 29 Public Meeting to form Community Care Group - Meeting Room
St. John's -8 pm - see page 15.
- Sept 2 Curriculum Day - Primary School.
- Sept 2 New Mothers Group - Community Centre - 10 - 12.
- Sept 9 'Self Esteem in Children' - I.W.Sr. Gwyn Bynion, Comm.Centre 10-12.
- Sept 11 Conserv. Group 'Weed Pull' - contact Eric Dodge 432267 - 9 a.m.
- Sept 16 Lunch' Appreciation Group, Comm.Centre 12 - 3 - Venue & cost
varies Child Care available.
- Sept 16 Term 3 ends - Primary School.
- Sept 22 Annual Legacy Charity Golf Day - Beaconhills Golf Club.
- Oct 22 Community Centre Market Day at Hall - Hallowe'en theme.

* * *

Cricket 'Club News continued from page 14

At this stage the Club is hoping to field four senior teams which will be an increase over last year. We need new members to ensure that this step will be possible. If you want to play cricket and enjoy a great social atmosphere as well as the friendliness of a Club which prides itself on nurturing its families, then Upper Beaconsfield Cricket Club is for you. If you play elsewhere, then why not play in your own town instead of travelling? If you are new to the town, come and join us this season.

Junior Co-ordinator Glenn Rutherford, reports that Upper Beac. will be fielding an U.16 team once again, along with an U.14 team and possibly two U.12 teams. So children, wishing to play cricket this coming season should watch the Primary School Newsletter for information.

Anyone wishing to gain more information about Upper Beaconsfield Cricket Club or the details for the coming season should contact Rob Hansen 443 871, Brian Ford 443 233 or Richard Edwards 443 463.

* * *

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