

FOR TO US A CHILD IS BORN, TO US A SON IS GIVEN AND THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE ON HIS SHOULDERS - AND HE WILL BE CALLED WONDERFUL COUNSELLOR - MIGHTY GOD EVERLASTING FATHER - PRINCE OF PEACE - ISAIAH 9.6
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The VILLAGE BELL

TO ALL RESIDENTS
NO. 71 DECEMBER 1989

POSTAGE PAID
UPPER BEACONSFIELD

THE PRESIDENT and COMMITTEE
of
THE UPPER BEACONSFIELD ASSOCIATION INC.

join with
THE EDITORIAL GROUP
in wishing all readers
A JOYOUS CHRISTMAS
and
A HAPPY 1990

THE UPPER BEACONSFIELD ASSOCIATION INC

You are all invited to our final General Meeting for 1989 Wednesday, December 6th at 8.00 pm in the Upper Beaconsfield Community Hall.

GUEST SPEAKER: Ian Richardson of the Pakenham Branch of the State Emergency Service.

Ian will be talking to us on the services his organisation provides our community and the possible prevention of their need.

If you have any questions, please come along as Ian will be only too happy to provide the answers.

GENERAL BUSINESS: to include -
Growth Corridor - implications for Upper Beaconsfield

Village Fair - Planning, date etc.

Notice of Motion -

Notice is hereby given that the following motion will be put to the meeting:

“That the Upper Beaconsfield Association Inc. contribute funds towards the initial impact study of the proposed quarry site.”

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

Christmas Eve at 8.45 pm in the "Charing Cross" area opposite the U.B. Medical Centre.

Once again, we are fortunate to have the services of Greg Ross as M.C. and Ross Hales as Organist for this lovely outdoor Christmas function.

So all come along and make this a wonderful get together. Don't forget your candles, rugs and warm clothing.

Father Christmas will attend - see his schedule below. ... #

FATHER CHRISTMAS IN UPPER BEAC. ON CHRISTMAS EVE

Father Christmas will make his annual visit to Upper Beaconsfield on Christmas Eve. As usual, he will be travelling on the Fire Truck and he will stop at the following places along Stoney Creek Road -

GRANT COURT at 7.45 pm

BURTON ROAD at 8.00 pm

PAUL GROVE at 8.15 pm

ROTUNDA AT 8.30 pm

Listen out for Father Christmas on the Fire Truck and give him a big welcome. ... #

UPPER BEACONSFIELD ASSOCIATION

- Committee Report

Pam McDonald

Village Fair - 1990 Barbara Hassall who was a very active Committee Member of the "Fair" in 1989 has generously offered her services as convenor for the 1990 "Fair".

Many thanks Barbara !!

Any support you, or your organisation can give Barbara and her Committee will be much appreciated. These functions do not just happen.

Concern has been expressed over the

large amounts of soil being dumped by Council at the corner of Lewis Road and Emerald Road and the purpose of such dumping. Locals have also reported the dumping, contrary to the displayed sign, of garden refuse, bottles, tyres, etc. by residents (??). We have written to Council bringing this matter to their notice for investigation and clarification. ... #

FATHER CHRISTMAS SUIT FOR HIRE

Joan Green

Once again it is that time of year. If you are having an Christmas Party why not consider hiring the Father Christmas Suit? The Fire Brigade Ladies Auxiliary are again offering it for hire, but please ring early.

The cost is \$20.00 deposit, with a refund of \$10.00 when returned.

Please contact Mrs. Joan Green (after 6 pm) on 443 962. ... #

CHRISTMAS AT ST. JOHN'S

St. John's Church invites all to share in the following activities as we celebrate Christmas:

Sunday, 17th December at 7.00 pm
"A Service of Carols and Bible Readings"

Carols old & new featuring the Choirs of U.B. Primary School and St. John's Church.

Christmas Eve at 7.00 pm
"Toymaker and Son"

A children's Presentation for all the family directed by Cheryl Reid. The Presentation will conclude in time for all to attend the Carols by Candlelight at the Rotunda.

Christmas Eve at 10.00 pm
"Midnight Eucharist"

Christmas Day at 9.30 am
Family Service and Holy Communion.

COUNCIL NOTES

Cr. Peter Meeking

Proposed Regional Cemetery - Pakenham:
The zoning amendment which will allow for a Regional Cemetery to be developed at Pakenham has been finalised. As part of this process, the community will be given 20 hectares of land which will be available to the expanding Pakenham township for major recreational facilities.

Sale of Council Land

Council recently sold an unused section of land on Emerald Road, some 400 metres north of the intersection with Downey Road. The funds received are to be used by Council, to purchase additional land, more suitably located, in the general area of Upper Beaconsfield.

Recycled Paper

The Pakenham Shire Council has decided that, in future, all its printing will be done on recycled computer-listing paper.

Information Directory

The annual presentation to ratepayers of the Information Directory will occur in December 1989.

Yakkerboo Festival

Lack of support at the Committee level caused concern that the long-standing Yakkerboo Festival might be terminated. However, under the guidance of the new President, Meryl Waterhouse, Yakkerboo will definitely continue. Next year it will be held during the period March 23rd to 30th.

Grant Court - Visibility Problems A petition from residents of Grant Court sought to have Council remove certain trees, to improve visibility for motorists entering Stoney Creek Road from Grant Court. Council agreed and will remove two pine trees and some scrub.

Roundabout - Emerald Rd./ Inglis Rd.

Councillors have requested officers to bring forward a report, including costs and R.C.A. advice, on the possible construction of a roundabout at the intersection of Beaconsfield-Emerald Road, Inglis Road and Payne Road.

Road funding 1989 - 1990 Funds allocated to the Pakenham Council for the 1989/1990 financial year reflect a 17.5 % decline in funding compared to the 1987/1988 and 1988/1989 years. In addition, the lateness of the advice on funding makes it almost impossible to spend the funds within the road funding year. The only good news is, the section of Emerald Road north of the township has been partially funded and work will proceed as planned.

... #

SUE GRAY VISITS SAN FRANCISCO

Local residents may be interested to learn that our own Sue Gray has just returned from a 10 day trip to San Francisco.

Sue was invited in a consultancy role, by the Bay Area Earthquake Preparedness Centre, which is a major preparedness and recovery centre in the area.

While there, she ran workshops for disaster recovery workers on "Community Recovery after Disasters".

Sue, or course, is well known to older residents for her sterling work as Community Development Officer after the Ash Wednesday fires and for her involvement in establishing the Community Centre.

... #

COUNCIL NOTES*Cr Keith Ewenson*

The incredible rain we have experienced in the past month must be of some benefit, but for civil engineers it has caused untold delays. The pavement width of the Emerald -Beaconsfield Road at the lower intersection with Quamby Road will be increased should the rain stop. Likewise the School-Bus Station has been delayed.

Now is the time to make your property fire safe. A little maintenance this month can make a vast difference in the middle of Summer. Also it will avoid Fire Hazard Notices.

I notice many residents are not displaying, clearly, their house numbers, which is a pity both for their own safety and the sanity of visitors to the area.

The Council received an application for a permit to ride a recreational vehicle on a property in High Street Road, Guys Hill. The Council has refused the permit.

I notice from the Local Paper there is still concern about the passing lane on the Emerald-Beaconsfield Road. I trust that courtesy and law-abiding driving will prevail, and it won't be necessary to introduce enforcement measures.

Key people on Community Committees have been invited to the Shire Office on Monday, December 20th to hear about significant changes in the Local Government Act. The Council is appreciative of role these people have in community affairs and it hopes that this meeting will be informative for them.

The Council has rescheduled to next year, the work on the Service Road at the Village Shopping Centre; this will avoid disruption to shopping over the Christmas period.

... #

U.B. TENNIS CLUB*Julie Jamieson***Annual Mixed-Doubles Tournament**

The Club is planning an Annual Mixed-Doubles Tournament to be held over the Labour Day Weekend, March 11th to 13th, 1990. The primary sponsor for the tournament will be David Nutter Ford of Berwick. We are seeking other sponsors and would appreciate the support of any club members in finding interested parties.

For further information, please contact -

Ian Beckworth	443 982
Elsie Bennett	707 3507
Geoff Whiting	443 819

Christmas Break-up -**17th December 1989**

Our Christmas Break-up this year will start off with a family-day Round Robin commencing at 1.00 pm followed by tea at 6.30 pm catered for by the Social Committee. Visitors are most welcome.

Cost - Family \$10.00, Single \$5.00.
Pairs are to be -

Father - Son or Daughter
Mother - Son or Daughter
Brother - Sister etc.

If you would like to adopt a relative for the day, or be adopted, it can be arranged !!

Contact - Elsie Bennett 707 3507
Pat Edwards 443 610

Court Hire

The Sutherland Park Complex provides excellent facilities for competitive and social tennis. New members and visitors are most welcome. The courts are also available for hire and make a great venue for a social get-together. Further enquiries to the Secretary, Peter Durkin - 443 765.

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UPDATE ON EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRY ISSUE*Charles Wilson*

On August 24th, 1989, the Minister for Planning and the Environment, The Hon. Tom Roper, wrote to the Council requesting it to prepare and exhibit an amendment to their planning scheme which would permit quarrying on the land in Leppitt Road, owned by Hillview Quarries, and at present zoned Conservation I.

This news, when made public, produced an immediate response from the Quarry Impact Association Inc. (Q.I.A.I.) who wrote to the Minister regarding the proposed rezoning. The Upper Beaconsfield Conservation Group joined with the Q.I.A.I. and Rainbow Alliance to convene a public meeting, which was held at Charing Cross on September 24th, 1989.

The meeting was very well attended. Several speakers expressed opposition to the rezoning of the conservation area and considerable financial support was given to the Q.I.A.I. at the meeting. -

At the Officer Public Hall, on October 18th, 1989 the Inaugural General Meeting of , the Q.I.A.I. was held. It was very well attended and the office bearers elected were -

PRESIDENT - Graeme Kidd
 HON. SEC. - Patricia Hoey
 TREASURER &
 MEMBERSHIP - Charles Wilson

From these two meetings the Q.I.A.I. now has 116 financial members and a bank balance which has permitted the Association to commission a study of the area by a firm of botanists. The estimated cost of this study is \$5900.

The Q.I.A.I. welcomes new members (\$5.00 per annum) and donations to this cause would always be welcome; they may be sent to -

Charles Wilson
 c/- The Upper Beaconsfield Post Office.

... #

U.B. CONSERVATION GROUP INC.*Laura Levens*

Did you notice

- the pamphlet outlining the problems of the Helmeted honeyeater which came with your Rates Notice? If you have a creek needing re-vegetation the U.B. Conservation Group has some suitable trees and shrubs which will be ready for planting during Autumn. At a very attractive price, too!

- a group of diligent people removing noxious weeds from roadsides near your property during the year? Did you offer them thanks for their help in what is legally the landholders responsibility? While we are on this topic - ragwort rosettes are re-appearing and are very easy to pull out at this stage.

- how many different native orchids or other wildflowers popped up in your nature strip or (dare to say it) a neglected corner of your garden - or even among the bush? The Conservation Group can help with identification queries.

- that the fantail and pallid cuckoos have returned for their season in this area? The spotted pardolote is nesting very late - is it because of the very wet weather? The beautiful rufus fantail flycatcher is also enlivening the scenery among the eucalypt and black wattle flowers, with honeyeaters for company.

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, 13th December at 8.00 pm
 at U.B. Primary School.

The guest speaker will be Ian Smales. He will be talking about the Helmeted Honeyeater and what is being done or can be done to save this beautiful bird.

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HORSES ARE LEGITIMATE ROAD TRAFFIC*Ysabelle Hobson*

With the advent of daylight saving and the Christmas break only a month away, we can expect to see more horse -riders out and about on the roads and trails around Upper Beaconsfield. Making the most of our horses is one of the main reasons many of us choose to live in such a quiet and picturesque area, and we're lucky to have so many safe and off-road trails to ride on.

However, it is not always possible for horse-riders to stay off the road, and motorists should be aware that horses are legally entitled to be treated as normal traffic. If you're driving a car and find it necessary to overtake a horse and rider, please SLOW DOWN and give them as wide a berth as you would another vehicle - more, if possible. Horses are not machines. Even the quietest, most docile beast may shy or start if frightened by a loud motor, a car horn or bits of plastic flapping around in the back of a trailer.

Horse-riders should be sure to obey all road rules too. If you are in a group, ride in single file, with the quietest horses bringing up the front and rear. Stick to a brisk walk, especially on bitumen. Never, NEVER canter or gallop your horse, even on a dirt road where a car may come rocketing around a corner without seeing you. And get off the road onto the trails provided, just as soon as you can. (Maps of these trails can be obtained from the Shire Office, Post Office or General Store.)

It never ceases to amaze me how many motorists fail to realise the dangers of speeding past a horse and rider at close quarters. Most of us who ride have horror stories to tell, of injuries to us or our mounts from stones thrown up by car wheels, or of near collisions on blind corners. Split Rock Road seems particularly notorious for this. Although there are trails off the road, these tend to peter out in places, and

riders are forced to move onto the road to take their chances with motorists speeding around corners and almost causing an accident by braking too hard on the gravel.

Then there are the carloads of young people who seem to think it's great fun to drive alongside a horse and rider, toot the horn and yell obscenities out the windows. I wonder how funny they'd find it if a terrified horse came crashing through the windscreen. If a horse should hit your car, he will, more than likely, cause serious injury, not only to himself and his rider, but to you and your passengers as well.

Let's all try to avoid accidents by doing the right thing on the roads, motorists and horse-riders alike.

... #

MAN TRIES TO LURE LOCAL GIRLS INTO CAR*Ysabelle Hobson*

About 10 am on Saturday, 4th November, two twelve-year-old girls were approached by a man in Split Rock Road, near the Salisbury Road end. He attempted to entice them into his car, offering one a lift and the other, lollies. The girls had the presence of mind to run away, and the man drove off.

The approximate age of the man is not known, but he is described as having dark hair and a beard, driving an old white/grey Holden sedan with bluish-grey paint on the left rear door. Berwick Police would like to hear from anyone who may have been approached by this man, or who has seen this car with a driver fitting the above description. They would like particularly to get the registration number of the vehicle concerned.

Parents, please warn your children to take extra care while this person is on the loose.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

This is yet another appeal to the inconsiderate drivers of Upper Beaconsfield, particularly those using St Georges Road. Regular users of St Georges Road will be well aware that it is pot-holed most of the time, due mainly to the heavy rain which has made it a one-track road. I find myself frequently being forced off the road and into the pot-holes, usually by large four-wheel drive vehicles, drivers of which seem particularly reluctant to steer their vehicles to the side of the road.

On Friday I was splashed, or should I say nearly drowned, whilst getting out of my car to check my mail box, by a large silver-grey car which was travelling in excess of the speed limit. In another incident I was tooted most aggressively by a car-driver whilst attempting to make a right-hand turn into St Georges Road; maybe I should have turned in front of the on-coming traffic.

I try to be a calm non-aggressive driver, but it is extremely difficult when confronted constantly by rude, arrogant, selfish drivers. I'm sure the people this is directed to will recognise themselves. How about slowing down, showing less desperation and making my life and the lives of those like me less traumatic.

Signed: Edwina Vaughan

... #

U.B. BABY SITTING CLUB

Anne Moseley

Just a reminder that the secretaries for the next two months are -

December Kath Murphy 443 870
January 1990 Glenys Hughes 443 059

Standby Mary O'Brien 443 985
(Not School holidays)

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U.B. COMMUNITY CENTRE

(Including Neighbourhood House News)

Lyn Chadder

As another successful and eventful year draws to a close, we at the Community Centre would like to thank you all for your support, interest and enthusiasm throughout the year.

Classes will finish on December 8th, as will the Crèche. However, the Crèche will be open all day on Friday, December 15th - you may like to take advantage of this opportunity to get some Christmas shopping done. It is essential to book your children in, however, as places will be limited.

Next year's programme is well under way, but it is no too late to let us have your suggestions for inclusion. If there is any course you would like to see offered at the Community Centre, or you have a skill you would like to offer, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us.

The programme for Term 1 of 1990 will be distributed to all householders at the beginning of February. Enrolment week will be February 5th to 9th at the Community Centre, and classes will commence on Monday, February 12th. We look forward to seeing you all back here.

In the meantime, we would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and Good Health and Happiness in the New Year.

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VILLAGE BELL CREDITS

Editor: Charles Chamberlain
Masthead: Paul Reid
Printing: George & Judy Moir
(pp1-2 George Armitage)
Receiving Copy: Julie & Ray Allsop
U.B. Post Office
Advertising: Phillip Rocke
Collating: U.B. Conservation Group
Next Editor: Susan Pitman
Deadline for Copy: 15th January, 1990

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FIRE BRIGADE NEEDS FUNDS

\$30,000 Needed for new Station

Upper Beaconsfield is growing all the time and the increased population means a greater number of properties and commercial buildings. It is important that the Fire Brigade keeps pace with the township. The current station - a small shed alongside the R.S.L. hall - is simply not adequate for the needs of our expanding community. The Fire Brigade now has four vehicles, two of which have to be garaged at other locations. The constant need for updating and improving our equipment and facilities to service the growing demands of the community means the Brigade finds it increasingly difficult to operate in such a small location.

Plans for a new building have been submitted to the Country Fire Authority and are at the final stage of approval. The new premises will be located opposite Moonshine Motors with direct access to Emerald-Beaconsfield Road. The C.F.A. will provide funds for the building, but the Upper Beaconsfield Brigade will have to raise a further \$30,000 in order to complete the new station.

The Brigade is asking all residents of Upper Beaconsfield to assist in raising the necessary funds for the completion of the new fire station. The major fund-raising drive will commence in December; residents will be informed later of the details.

If you would like to offer a donation now, or at any other time, you can send it to -

The Secretary
Upper Beaconfield Fire Brigade
c/- U.B. Post Office.

Please offer to help your Fire Brigade to continue its most efficient service for the safety of our community.

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HEAVY PENALTIES FOR FIRE HAZARDS

Pakenham Shire Council

In a recent press release the Council drew attention to the heavy fines imposed in the Pakenham Court for failure to comply with Fire Hazard Direction Notices. Fines ranging from \$500 to \$4,000 were imposed.

The Council stressed the need for sensible removal of identified hazards to minimise the risks of death or destruction. Failure to do so may result in a Fire Hazard Direction Notice; non-compliance with such a notice may lead to prosecution.

The Council also pointed out that in the eyes of the law the escape of fire is a matter of strict liability. For example, if a fire starts on your property and causes damage to adjoining properties; you are liable to meet all damages claims.

The Council's Fire Prevention Officers are always willing to advise residents on fire prevention matters. If you consider a neighbour's property has become a fire hazard the Council should be advised.

Contact: Mr Pat O'Sullivan on 411 011
... #

USED RAGS NEEDED

The Fire Brigade Ladies Auxiliary still need clean used clothing. Unwanted items - in bags - may be left at the Milk Bar.
... #

U.B. CRICKET CLUB*Richard Edwards Secretary*

The season has started in very wet conditions with all sides missing at least one - and sometimes two - out of the first three rounds. Practice during the week has also been affected badly. Despite these problems the Club is again fielding four senior teams and three junior teams (Under 18, Under 14 & Under 12). Many new faces make up the teams this year; the juniors particularly, have large numbers which is really good to see. Giving everyone a fair turn is the delightful problem we have, especially in the Under 14's and Under 12's,

In the games so far, the Under 16's have fared the best, by winning both their completed matches. The Under 14's - yet to win a game - have shown a great deal of improvement over the past couple of weeks. The Under 12's have also won two matches.

In the Seniors, "A" Grade had their first win last week-end after losing narrowly in Round 1 and not getting a start at all in Round 2. There have been some very encouraging performances from new players in "A" grade and hopefully, they will continue to improve. "C" grade lost in a close game last week-end, in their first completed match. "D" and "E" grade have each won a match.

The spirit in the club is very good this year with large numbers attending training under the guidance of the newly-appointed coach, Rob Hansen, and his coaching panel made up of the four senior captains.

We are still interested in new players so if you are looking for a game come along to practice at the oval. Practice times are -

Seniors Tues & Thurs at 5.30 pm
Under 16's Thursday at 4.30 pm
Under 14's &
Under 12's Wednesday at 4.30 pm

The new club-rooms are taking shape alongside the Igloo and should be ready by Christmas. John McConchie has formed a coterie group to look after the fund-raising for the rooms. The Club has to raise \$5,000 as its share of the building costs and it is also hoping to carpet and furnish the rooms this year. John has created a package to attract sponsorship from local business and community members to help defray these costs. For further details contact -

John McConchie 443 577
Richard Edwards 443 463

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1st BEACONSFIELD UPPER GIRL GUIDES

The company has enjoyed this term's activities, which included -

- * Having the Fathers join us for a sit-down meal.
- * Bringing Friends along for a games night.
- * A 6.00 am Breakfast Hike.
- * Speaking on a short-wave radio to Scouts and Guides in N.S.W.
- * Earning interest Badges.

Congratulations to Sarah Fiddes for earning the "Artist Badge" and to Kim Fairweather for earning the "Agility Badge".

Coming Events -

- * Backpacking camp hike on December 15th.
- * Making Christmas presents.
- * And hopefully, some woodwork (Any volunteers to help?)
- * Camp preparation and planning

HELP! HELP! There must be some talented lady out there prepared to be our District Commissioner. We can't operate efficiently without one. Anyone interested please ring -Annette Dale 443 873

The Girl Guides wish everyone a memorable Christmas and New Year. And remember, a smile is worth more than a million presents.

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U.B. COMMUNITY CARE GROUP*Anne McDonald*

The growing awareness of the Community Care Group is evident in the number of calls for assistance we are now receiving. Since the group began functioning in March this year, there have been 18 requests for help - 4 of these are ongoing. 16 of our volunteers have been involved in providing this help.

The type of care provided and the range of organisations involved is summarised below -

Type of Requests Received:

Friendly visiting	5
Family/ child care	3
Transport	6
Handyman	3
Setting up home	1
Financial	1

Source of Referrals:

Rotary
Mountain Dist. Comm. Health Ser
Doctors
Kindergarten & School
Infant Welfare Centre
Pakenham Council
Individual Family
St Michael's, Berwick
Local resident

Groups involved in providing care:

Community Centre
Mountain Dist. Comm. Health Ser
St. Vincent de Paul
St. John's Youth Group
Girl Guides
St. Michael's, Berwick
Community Care Group

On Monday, October 30th, the topic "The Family - What makes it? What breaks it?" was presented to the volunteers by Mrs Pat Sutherland from the Catholic Family Welfare Bureau. Pat used case studies of families and of break-ups to discuss the pressures on the family unit today. She also suggested ways our group might support families facing such problems. Representatives from the Shire of Pakenham and other community groups also attended this talk.

Everyone regarded the evening as being extremely valuable and we are indebted to Pat for giving of her time and expertise.

One of the coming activities of the Care Group is to promote "COMMUNITY WEEK" in the second week in February. Hopefully this would be a time, each year, when residents would remember Ash Wednesday and use those memories to strengthen the bonds within our community. We envisage neighbours getting together for a B.B.Q, or picnic, to spend a few pleasant hours getting to know each other. You will hear more about this as other community groups become involved.

There is always a ready welcome for new volunteers. Even if you are only available on limited basis it would be a help to the co-ordinating team to have extra resources to call on.

If you can help in any of these areas please offer your services -

Emergency Domestic Help
Emergency Transport
Emergency Child Care
Friendly Visiting

If you are in a situation where you need assistance please don't hesitate to call us; or if you know someone else who is, advise then to call.

All enquiries should be directed to us at the Community Centre, telephone 443 484. Confidentiality is assured in all matters discussed with us.

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NEW RESIDENTS - UPPER BEACONSFIELD

A warm welcome to the following new residents -

STONEY CREEK ROAD

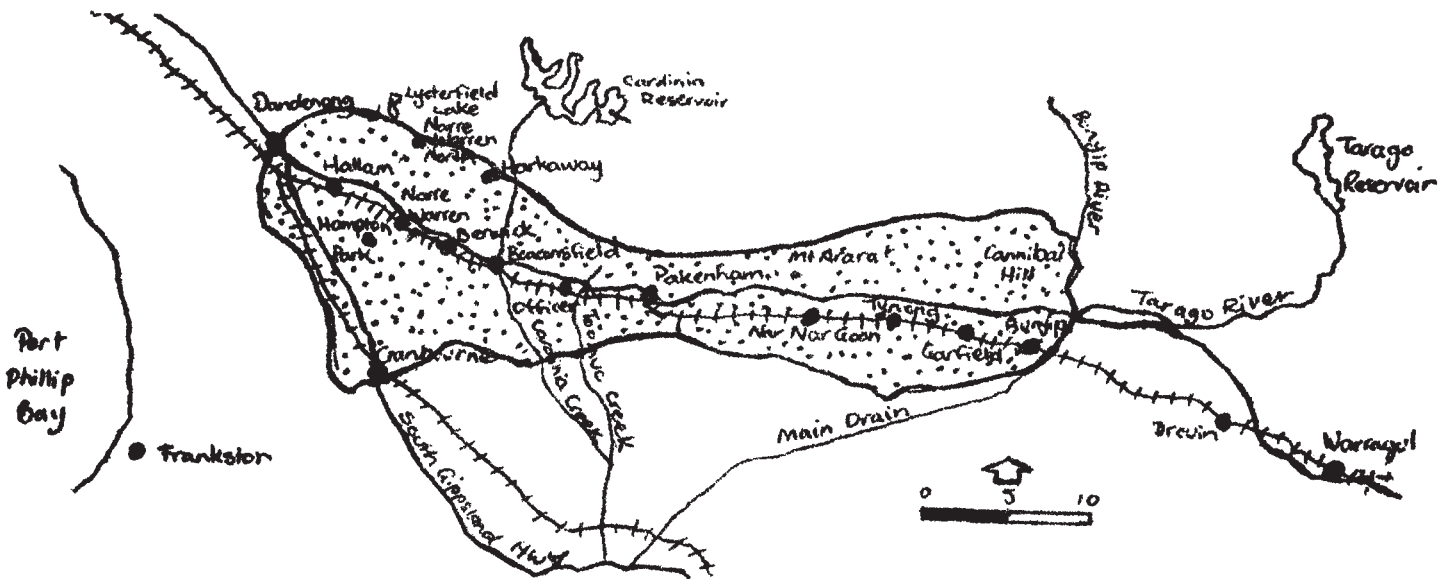
Stefan & Kim Damiani
Patricia & Wendy King
David & Helen Merrick
Floyd Selix

ALBERS ROAD Susan & Chris Hocking
ARMSTRONG ROAD Greg & Gwen Davies
BERGLUND ROAD Chris & Tony White

... #

U.B. GROWTH AREA STUDY GROUP

Ruth Hainsworth



Have you given any thought to the impact on your daily life of the proposed South Eastern Growth Area being planned, currently, for this part of the world?

Over the next 13 years, the Ministry of Planning and Environment (M.P.E.) is planning for population increases for the South Eastern Growth Area of two to three times the population of Geelong.

The planning authorities will be taking into account -

- * Transport - existing railways, roads and new road systems.
 - * Community - trying to create a desirable community in which people can work and live.
 - providing services and public facilities
 - * Environment- linking open spaces, protecting flora and fauna & water quality of streams.
 - minimizing the need to use the private car.
- and many other issues.

These plans have been under consideration for 20 years in the Ministry - the time for public comment seems all too brief (two months have been allowed for public submissions)

Would you like to have your say in these plans? The Ministry invites you to write and put your ideas.

What You Can Do :

1. Write to the Ministry (M.P.E.) and to local members seeking an extension of time for public submissions beyond the December 15th, 1989 deadline.
2. Send your opinions to M.P.E. by the December 15th deadline; or send them to me
 - c/- Upper Beaconsfield P.O. by December 5th for inclusion in a joint group submission

Send direct correspondence to -
 The Project Co-ordinator
 South Eastern Growth Area
 Ministry of Planning & Environment
 P.O. Box 2240T
 MELBOURNE 3001

NOT JUST ANOTHER POST OFFICE*Ysabelle Hobson*

When my husband and I decided to settle in Lewis Road we were somewhat alarmed to discover we were not on a mail delivery route. Naive ex-suburbanites that we were, the idea of a six kilometre trek into the village to collect our letters seemed inconvenient, to say the least.

Now, some eighteen months down the track, my daily pilgrimage to the local P.O. is often the highlight of my day. Not only do Ray and Julie Allsop handle my incoming and outgoing mail with friendly efficiency, they always find time to share a joke and a chat. They answer all my queries about local events, and where to buy this and that. The P.O. notice board is always crowded with local ads - from missing family pets and fund-raising dinners to lawn-mowing services and ironing ladies.

It's Personal Service with a capital P.S. at the Upper Beaconsfield Post Office, upholding the tradition set previously by Marie Howard and by Ray and Elva Ratcliff. Ray and Julie are probably among the best known faces in the area, although, by standards, they are virtual newcomers. They moved here in April, 1986 from their dairyfarm in the Nyora District.

Julie admits to being a little nervous about the move and the change in lifestyle involved. Previously, she helped Ray on the farm and did emergency teaching, as well as raising their four children, Andrew, Gretel, John and Melanie. The Postal Training course was hard work and just a little overwhelming, and both the Allsops were a little concerned about relocating two of their children at new schools. Added to this were all the worries of starting a new business. The Upper Beaconsfield Post Office is an agency bought and sold like any other small business. Ray and Julie rely on local patronage like any of the village shops.

It took Ray some time to become familiar with his daily task of sorting the mail for delivery or collection. The task was made more difficult as most houses, at that time, had lot numbers rather than street numbers. His first big test came just a few short months after the move, when one of the big pet-food companies held a competition, and prizes were sent to several lucky cats in the area. Still not completely familiar with the house-owners, let alone their pets, Ray and Julie found themselves trying to place parcels addressed simply to "Fluffy of Stoney Creek Road" or "Moggy of Grant Court". It is to their credit that every feline winner received his/her prize.

The Allsops are often the first point of contact for newcomers in the district. After all, if you've just moved to an area, the local Post Office seems the logical place to make any necessary enquiries. If you are a new resident, pop in and have a chat to Ray and Julie. They'll help you with any queries you may have about mail delivery, acquiring a post box, or whatever. They also have on hand supplies of Rotary Club guides to the district and Village Bell contact lists for local organisations.

... #

U.B. PONY CLUB

BUSH DANCE - Community Hall
Saturday, February 24th, 1990
8p.m. till midnight.

The "Shearer's Tally Bushband" will provide the music and their caller will lead you through all the dances.

Tickets cost \$14 for adults and \$8 for children under 16. Admission includes Spit-roast Dinner and non-alcoholic drinks. B.Y.O. applies for any other drinks.

This promises to be a great night so get in early and book your tickets with Lorraine Knight - Tel. 443 141.

... #

1ST BEACONSFIELD UPPER SCOUT GROUP*Group Leader Peter Deering 443 521**President Barry Smith 443 219*

A Fair Go at the Bottle Depot While we thank, sincerely, you the community for your support in placing bottles at the depot, we are concerned at the attitude of a few people. As its name implies, the bottle depot is for recycling glass bottles and containers. Each week someone persists in dumping household rubbish at the site. Plastic drink bottles, engine oil containers, pet-food tins, etc. appear regularly.

Please check you cartons of bottles before leaving them; our parents and committee members are getting tired of collecting unwanted rubbish and finding somewhere to dispose of it.

The Primary School will take the plastic soft-drink bottles with black bases as they have an outlet for recycling to raise funds.

We have an outlet for 2 litre flagons of the type used for apple juice and sherry. The person who removes these from the depot should make a donation to the Scout Group to compensate for the loss of income.

We appeal to your sense of fair play to keep the bottle depot a worthwhile community project.

Group Committee

Fundraising activities have ceased for this year and we thank everyone for their support of our group.

As the Igloo extensions are under way, we will be looking to provide shelves, racks, etc. in our new storage room. Our committee will be active next year, raising funds for this purpose.

Cub Scouts

The boys have been busy with test work and badge passing. Other activities have included a visit to Pakenham Military Museum, a science night, a craft night, a first-aid night and a spook night.

Three boys have gone up to Scouts while the Cubs have welcomed two new chums, Matt McDonald and Michael Hausseger. Highlights coming up will be a sleep-over and a fun day at the Recreation Reserve. The Cubs will break up on December 11th.

Scouts

We now have 15 members who are enjoying activities such as a visit to the Beaconsfield Scouts, a visit to the Cranbourne Police Station, a swinging night at the Monash Pool, camps at Kurth Kiln and Walkerville, and badge passing. Our two newest members are Darrell Smith and Ian Norbury. The Scouts will break up on December 14th.

Venturers

We have had a two-day camp at Big River and a four-day beach hike at Waratah Bay. We will also be attending the Melbourne Gathering and the Toomuc Triathlon.

Thanks to all those people who supported our boys during Job Week; they raised \$184.

Seasons greetings to all, have a safe enjoyable Christmas Break.

... #

BROWNIES

Sandra Briggs

The Brownies have had a busy term with a nature walk, a visit to Highland Park to sing, and a field day at Buchanan Park - Casey Airfield. Four Tweenies will be making their promise. Also a sleep-over is to be held.

I'd like to welcome our two Unit Helpers, Glenda Davidson and Gabrielle Kerpen. Thank-you to all the Mums who are helping while Irene is overseas.

The last Brownie meeting for this year is now December 13th (not the 6th). We will start again on Wednesday, February 7th 1990.

Enrolments are now being taken for 1990 - 1992. Phone me on 443 935.

ROTARY CLUB of UPPER BEACONSFIELD*John Gault Secretary*

Another calendar year almost gone! At this time each year, we look back on past achievements, and this, in turn causes us to look ahead for ways and means the Rotary Club can continue its service to our community. We really do need advice from the various community groups, or individuals, on the way to make our efforts in serving most effective; so don't hesitate to contact us with your suggestions! We may not be able to assist directly, in every case but at least we will know where the needs are.

We seriously invite interested people in the community to consider becoming a Rotarian; it is a marvellous way of becoming an integral part of the community. It also provides many social opportunities to enjoy a wider range of fellowship and friendship than otherwise might be the case. If you are interested contact one of the members shown below to discuss it.

Activities at regular weekly meetings are a little disrupted at this time of the year, with a lot of people away on vacation. Nevertheless, we will be meeting weekly at the Golf Club, apart from December 26th and January 2nd; we would be happy to welcome you at any of these meetings. Meetings are held each Tuesday night at 6.45 pm at the Golf Club. We look forward to seeing you there.

January 9th, 1990 sees a special evening, when we will farewell Adele Kaljee, our inwards exchange student, who will be returning to South Africa. The same evening we will welcome home from Japan, Kelly Murphy, our outwards exchange student. Naturally, both our girls are excited in anticipation of returning home, and it really would make it special for them if a lot of people from the community were there to share in the occasion. Again, contact one of the members listed if you would like to attend.

Once again, we are pleased to be assisting the Upper Beaconsfield Association in the Carols by Candlelight - a regular yearly feature in the life of Upper Beac! See you at Charing Cross on December 24th.

Finally, from all the members of the Rotary Club and their families, may you all enjoy a wonderful Christmas, and a prosperous and happy new year.

For any information, contact -

John Lewis President	443 686
John Gault Secretary	443 514
Eric Chaplin	443 312

... #

RENOVATIONS FOR GUYS HILL MILK BAR*Ysabelle Hobson*

Anyone who has been into the Guys Hill Milk Bar over the past few weeks will be aware that some exciting changes are taking place. Karen and Brian Southorn are in the process of having the customer area enlarged to allow for self-service and a wider range of goods. Although reluctant to change the character of the shop, Karen and Brian have found it difficult to cater for growing customer requirements, and feel that repairs and some degree of modernisation were well overdue.

The renovations should be completed towards the end of November. Karen and Brian have also received Council approval to build a front verandah which will provide weather protection for customers and people waiting for buses.

Karen is enthusiastic about being able to operate more efficiently and the improvements this will mean in customer service. She has plans to introduce a gourmet-style range of healthy and reasonably-priced sandwiches with plenty of fresh fillings.

... #

ROSS RIVER VIRUS*Dr Who*

Ross River virus is a viral illness which tends to appear between December and June. Last year there was an outbreak at Lakes Entrance which received a lot of publicity. This outbreak was related to weather conditions being suitable for the breeding of large numbers of mosquitoes.

The source of Ross River virus is by no means clear. It has been documented in Australia since 1928. It is transmitted from infected animals to humans by some species of mosquitoes. It has been found in horses, dogs and some native animals, e.g. marsupial mice. It may be present in other species but hasn't, as yet, been isolated.

Only 10 to 40 per-cent of people infected with Ross River virus have any clinical illness. The illness may vary from a mild flu-like illness to a severe illness with fever, joint pain, swelling and a rash. The joint symptoms may persist for some months. There is no definitive treatment for this other than rest and medication to reduce joint inflammation.

Will we have more Ross River fever this summer? No-one knows. However the conditions look favourable so far, with a warm, wet winter and spring contributing to increased mosquito numbers.

... #

EDITOR'S DILEMMA

A small space is, an Editor's curse
 Yet, left blank, it's really worse.
 But the problem for me,
 Is what you now see
 A poem, or just-simply blank verse?

...#

VILLAGE SUPERMARKET CHANGES HANDS*Susan Pitman*

A solid background in the food industry should stand Robin Hollioake, the new owner of the supermarket, in good stead. Robin took over on November 20th but customers may have seen him in the shop before this as he spent several weeks familiarizing himself with the products and procedures.

His wife Jill has worked in a Safeway store for seven and a half years. She plans to stay there until the New Year while Robin learns the ropes; then if all goes according to plan, she will join him in running the business.

Their daughter - and her fiancé - and their fifteen-year-old son hope to become involved in the future, giving the business a strong family flavour.

In the meantime, Robin is relying on the efficient support of the existing staff. Although the Hollioakes live in Scoresby, Robin knows this area well through his previous work with such companies as Patra and Riviana.

According to his wife, Robin is a community person; he is in his element in a supermarket as he loves to talk to people. In taking over the supermarket he has achieved a long-held ambition and both Robin and Jill are looking forward to becoming an established part of the Village scene.

... #

AN ODD ODE

More waste space, another rhyme,
 Short, sharp and with a grin.
 Not a limerick this time,
 Just your everyday quatrain.

... #

RED CROSS REPORT

Marie Womersley
Publicity Officer

As we approach the end of the year may I say a sincere "thank-you" to the Editors for printing news of our local Red Cross Unit - Berwick/ Upper Beaconsfield.

Unfortunately, during, the year we have had very little success in recruiting new members for our unit. Literature is available and will be sent to any residents interested.

During the summer season all our members will be hoping bush fires will not threaten our area. However there are many other disasters which would require Red Cross members and friends to work on catering and registration of evacuees. Refresher courses in both these fields are usually held in the district during October each year. We are always seeking volunteers to become involved in this training.

The New Year brings with it planning for our biggest fund-raising event within Victoria - Red Cross Calling, in order to cover, completely, the areas of Berwick, Beaconsfield and Upper Beaconsfield we are seeking reliable residents willing to assist in our door-knock, The dates for 1990 are from March 1st to March 10th.

Any enquiries may be directed to me on telephone 707 1103

I would like to wish all readers a Happy and Peaceful Festive Season.

...#

REMINDERS FOR 1990

General Meetings of the Upper Beaconsfield Association Inc. will be held on the First Wednesday of the months of February, April, June, August, October and December.

Deadline for Copy for the Village Bell is the 15th day of the month preceding each meeting date.

... #

PAKENHAM CITIZEN'S ADVICE BUREAU

24 Main St., PAKENHAM 3810

Tel: (059) 412 377

Is someone's drinking problem driving you to despair? Take courage - there is hope and it comes from a support group for families and friends of someone who is a heavy drinker.

AL-ANON has come to town and we have pamphlets available with further information on how help is at hand, also where and when the group meet.

Millions of people are affected by the excessive drinking of someone else and they feel so alone and helpless as they try to cope. AL-ANON can lighten the load and give you and your family a better understanding of how to work together in mutual support. Remember, an alcoholic is a sick person, not a sinful one, so don't let pride stand in the way of help offered by AL-ANON.

Also do you find many jobs around the home that used to be a breeze have become so hard you have given up on them? Well here's hope for you! Independent Living Centres, a non-profit but not entirely free organisation, have hundreds of aids for the not-so-active and the disabled. If you have to neglect the house or garden because you can no longer bend, stretch or manage conventional gadgets and appliances then these special aids could be just what you need to give you a new lease on life.

For further information on these, or any other matters, contact our office between 10.30 am and 2.30 pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday. All enquiries are handled confidentially.

...#

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DIARY OF LOCAL EVENTS**December**

Sun 3rd FIRE BRIGADE XMAS PICNIC in R.S.L. grounds
 Wed 13th TALK ON HELMETED HONEYEATER by IAN SMALES
 Conservation Group Meeting
 Fri 15th ALL DAY CRÈCHE at COMMUNITY CENTRE. Please book.
 Sun 17th CHRISTMAS GYMKHANA - PONY CLUB
 SUN 17TH ROUND ROBIN & XMAS BREAKUP -U.B. TENNIS CLUB
 SUN 24TH CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT at ROTUNDA - 8.45pm
 Sun 24th FATHER CHRISTMAS at U.B. - see page 2 for times

January 1990

9th SPECIAL NIGHT FOR EXCHANGE STUDENTS - Rotary Club of U.B.

February

Mon 5th - 9th ENROLMENT WEEK - Community Centre
 Mon 12th CLASSES COMMENCE - Community Centre
 Sat 24th BUSH DANCE - Pony Club