

ISSUE NO. 114 FEBRUARY 1997

UPPER BEACONSFIELD ASSOCIATION

COMMUNITY WEEK IS HERE AGAIN

Each year since 1990 our community has joyously celebrated life in Upper Beaconsfield/Guy's Hill/Dewhurst.

This years dates are: Friday February 14 through to Sunday February 23.

Can you help get your street organised?

Our eighth annual get together promises to be again our best ever and we have again written to key people in each street asking them to act as a co-ordinator to ensure a get together occurs in their street.

The concept of Community Week began with the Community Care Group seeing the need for residents who had experienced the 1983 Ash Wednesday fires to meet together socially and discuss their experiences and to

share these with residents who had moved in since the fires.



The timing of Community Week is significant - each year it is always set to encompass the anniversary date (February 16) of the Ash Wednesday fires.

Get togethers are usually in the form of a BBQ or something similar with everything BYO so that no load falls on the organiser other than providing a venue.

Some groups prefer to meet on a neutral ground such as a park or the end of their street.

The main purpose is to have fun but also to get to know your neighbours. We don't want to live in each others pockets but we need to be aware of our neighbours needs or crises which may occur unexpectedly at any time - and feel we know people well enough to be able to offer help.

The concept of Community Week is now firmly entrenched in the life of our residents. If you don't join in you will be the loser.

It is a good idea at some time during your function to discuss who will be the host or convenor for the following year.

If you need any information or help telephone Des McKenna on 0359 443 516

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FIRE RESTRICTIONS



UPPER BEACONSFIELD RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

Fire restrictions came into force in this area on January 13 and will remain in place until April 30 unless lifted earlier. No fires may be lit in the open to burn rubbish of any sort. If you discover a fire burning during the Fire Danger period you must report it immediately to "000".

If you use an incinerator it must be clear of all flammable materials for at least three metres all around and above. It must have an effective lid, an adult must be in attendance at all times, water must be available and the wind speed should not exceed 10 kph. The use of incinerators must also comply with Cardinia Shire local laws.

You may use a barbecue provided it is cleared of all flammable material for at least three metres around and above, an adult is in attendance at all times, water is available and the wind speed does not exceed 10 kph.

TOTAL FIRE BAN DAYS

Incinerators and solid fuel BBQs are not permitted. You may use a GAS or ELECTRIC BBQ provided the above

restrictions are met PLUS it is fixed or permanent structure such as those found at public reserves or, if portable, it is within 20 metres of a permanent dwelling. It must not contain charcoal, scoria, wood, heat beads or any solid material.

Upper Beaconsfield is in the "Central" Total Fire ban district.

Pamphlets giving more detailed information are available from the Fire Brigade or phone the CFA Information line on 131 599.

COMPUTER AIDED DISPATCH

Calls to our 0359 443 333 number are now diverted automatically to 000. Brigade members are paged but the siren is not activated. The siren is still tested by the Brigade on Wednesday evenings.

TURNOUTS

Since the last Village Bell the Brigade has responded to 10 incidents - a search for a missing person, 2 motor vehicle accidents, 2 tree fires, a shed fire, an oven fire, an assist to Beaconsfield and an assist to Upper Pakenham Brigade.

Nancy Boura

**LAST WEEK'S FIRES
MAYBE JUST THE START....
THERE ARE STILL 6 WEEKS
OF FIRE RISK LEFT!**



CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY

Clean Up Australia Day is on again this year on Sunday March 2.

Local community organisations and clubs that wish to participate in this very worthwhile activity please contact -

Ray Allsop at the Post Office
Phone 0359 443 200

UB FIRE BRIGADE AUXILIARY

The Fire Brigade Auxiliary has recently had a quiet period marked only by catering for the RSL Christmas dinner and a turnout to support the brigade with refreshments during a fire on Burton Road in December.

Look for our tea room at the Village Fair in April. We continue to seek used clothing and other material suitable for rags. Please leave donations at the Milk Bar. Our thanks to Adam and Heidi Konecny for their help with rag collections.

Colleen Lazenby

Rezoning and Subdivision

REPORT ON UBA SPECIAL MEETING ON RE-ZONING AND SUB-DIVISION JANUARY 22, 1997 Jeanette Ballinger

Pat Edwards, president of the Upper Beaconsfield Association opened the meeting of approx. 135 people and welcomed John McCaffrey, Corporate Manager of Planning for the Shire of Cardinia. George Silberbauer then chaired the meeting and asked John McCaffrey to reply to the written questions already received. Questions were also taken from the floor.

The first concern was the history of planning in the village. John felt there had been a hotch potch of growth along roads and ridge lines in response to demand. Currently we have Landscape Zoning, Country Residential (restricted to one or two hectare development), Residential and Conservation.

There is no Strategic Plan for the village; this theme was to dominate the meeting. John said we should have a plan so zonings are applicable to the area, not to restrict but to control development. The present plans don't represent the future of the area. He felt it vital that there be community input into such a plan.

Work is being done on a strategic plan for Emerald and Gembrook now and John believes that U.B should be next. Gembrook has a steering committee of community members to give local input. In answer to a question John said we should lobby for allocations for a strategic planner for U.B. in the June budget. If approved it would take four to six weeks to appoint planners and three to four months to have a plan.

Then John was asked if one sub-division was approved would the other 300 acres around the village be allowed to sub-divide. He said there would need to be justification for such sub-divisions and each application would be considered on its merits. If you have total restrictions there will be problems for the future. There is only one re-zoning application for subdivision before council at the moment; at the bottom of Paul Grove.

John was asked the circumstances under which a re-zoning is considered by the shire. He answered when a proposition has been put to the shire and it has some merit. It must then be tested for its merit i.e. is there a demand for housing in the area, he believes there is. Secondly that it wouldn't adversely impact on the environment. Thirdly, is it close to the centre of town. In the case of the sub-division now before council it would appear to meet these requirements and so will be investigated.

In answer to another question John stated that the shire could not wait for a strategic plan but would have to proceed with each application on its merits. In the present case it is a re-zoning application. However, some aspects of this plan would have to be checked by the shire e.g. provision of land for public space and adequate area on each block for absorption. Sewerage, sullage and storm water drainage were the next problems raised and residents of the area affected by the re zoning application were adamant that there was an existing problem which could be made worse by more houses. John said for a subdivision to

UBA Annual General Meeting

The Upper Beaconsfield Association will hold its annual general meeting in the Community Room at the Community Complex on Wednesday 5th February at 8pm.

A main agenda item for consideration will be the development of a strategic plan for Upper Beaconsfield.

Following the meeting there will be fellowship and supper.

All residents are welcome. Come along and become involved in your local community and community issues.

Nomination forms are available from the Post Office for anyone wishing to stand for the committee. All positions are open for re-election. **Enquiries - Pat Edwards** Tel. 0359 443 610.

go ahead generally there had to be reticulated sewerage and this would alter the character of a town completely. However, if sub-division was restricted to one acre blocks and the land could absorb the effluent there would be no problem.

continued next page

Rezoning and Subdivision Meeting contd.

Many questions were asked about the present soil absorption tests and John replied that the tests are prescribed by the shire and there are only about two labs in Melbourne accredited by the National Association of Testing Authorities. The local health surveyor would also be checking. Tests on soil must be made in this area from May to November when soils are saturated. The shire has found these tests in the past to be consistent and satisfactory.

John stated that the present drainage problems in Paul Grove can be fixed but cost money. If the new sub-division is approved and meets all the requirements there will be no extra problems in the area.

The matter of roads being upgraded in the area of future subdivisions was also discussed and it was feared that some financial hardship could fall on existing residents. In the case of the Paul Grove sub-division fear was expressed in case of fire there is only one exit planned from the area.

The following motions were approved by the meeting:

1. It is proposed by this meeting to ask the Commissioners through John McCaffrey to make provision in the next budget for a strategic plan for Upper Beaconsfield.
2. This meeting requests the shire to immediately freeze further sub-division and re-zoning in the area until a strategic plan is in place in Upper Beaconsfield.

DIANNE WILSON LEAVES COMMUNITY CENTRE

Many people will be sorry to hear that Dianne Wilson resigned as Community Centre Co-Ordinator on 13th January 1997. Dianne worked as co-ordinator for four years and in that time came into contact with many residents of Upper Beaconsfield and surrounding districts.

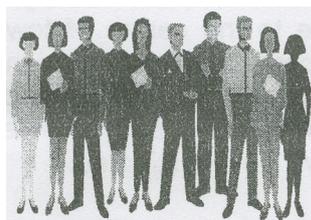
As a member of the Writers Group I can thank Dianne for looking after us and always being pleasant and helpful.

The vacancy has been advertised Wednesday 22nd January and the Committee hopes to make an appointment with the minimum of delay.

By the time you read this article the crèche will be operating and a new program and a new era will have commenced. Could I remind all residents that the community centre, like a lot of organisations in Upper Beac, depends to a large extent on volunteers. As the secretary to the Committee had already resigned before Christmas, the Centre needs all help available.

Phillip Rocke

3. That the UBA co-ordinates community action to develop a strategic plan for Upper Beaconsfield.



I'm sure all present would like to thank John McCaffrey for answering questions efficiently and patiently. Where he couldn't answer he honestly said so. The community appreciates his courtesy and helpfulness. George Silberbauer ran a very tight meeting although there was a brief fire scare and we thought we might lose the chairman.

The UBA again justified its existence by providing a forum for local people to come together in a calm atmosphere

and discuss different views and receive official advice on their options.

John McCaffrey said he was only a phone call away if people want advice on planning issues. He provided a flow chart to the meeting giving an outline of the process each planning scheme amendment would go through. It is available on request from the council chambers or our local Post Office.

The closing date for submissions on the present application for re-zoning is January 24th. However, John said consideration would be given to objections or support if received within one to two weeks of this date.

Jeanette Ballinger

Shire Award For Village Bell

This year as part of the Australia Day celebrations in the Cardinia Shire, Upper Beaconsfield's own newsletter has been awarded the Cardinia Shire Community Achievement Award for its contribution to the community.

A number of Village Bell volunteers will attend the ceremony to be conducted in Bourke Park Pakenham after the Australia Day parade. Ray Ratcliff will accept the award on behalf of the Village Bell and the Bell committee.



WELL DONE, VILLAGE BELL!

Council Elections Approaching

The first democratic election of the Councillors since our representatives were dismissed by the State government three years ago is imminent. The method is by post and voting is compulsory. Ballot papers are due to be mailed out in late February, with final return by 6 pm March 14, 1997. Once the postal vote is completed, the electoral office will provide a list of those who voted to the local council. Council will then decide whether they will penalise non voters.

Media reports and Cardinia Shire Householder Newsletters have emphasised the management nature of the role that new councillors will take on. The job entails developing a perspective that covers the whole shire rather than just the local ward. Council will work as a team to develop a strategic vision for the Shire, linked to policies to operationalise that vision. An important aspect will be to monitor the performance of the job done by shire officers and staff whose primary responsibility is the delivery of services, large and small.

While councillors certainly are elected to represent community needs, they will need to do so in a much broader sense. The marathon meetings that once kept our local representatives in council chambers into the early hours of the next morning are a thing of the past. No longer will each road improvement or funding request be considered as a separate issue by the Shire Council. With just seven councillors for the whole shire, including two from our own Beaconsfields ward, and a new model for governing, it is anticipated that the time commitment will be significantly reduced from that required in previous years.

Individuals must declare their intention to stand for election at the electoral commission office from February 6 to 12 and paying a \$100 registration fee. Currently in our newly formed ward, four men have indicated that they will be nominating for the two positions on council.

The Village Bell offered each one an opportunity to present a short statement and these follow on pages 6 and 7. Further enquiries about election matters can be answered by the electoral office on (03) 965 6201.

Colleen Lazenby

✂**SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL - UBA AND VILLAGE BELL**.....

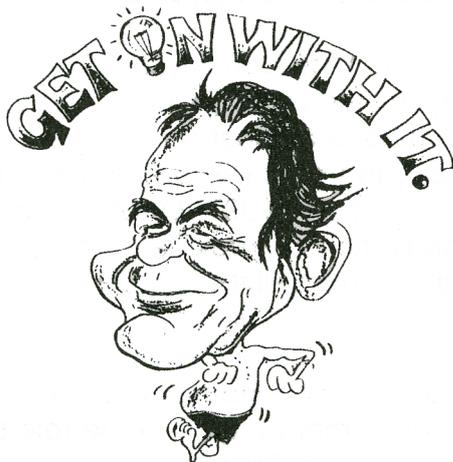
The Treasurer, Upper Beaconsfield Association, PO Box 86, Upper Beaconsfield 3808.

I enclose \$5 being family subscription to the UBA and the Village Bell for 1997.

I Understand that this subscription entitles me to vote at the bimonthly meetings of the UBA.

Name of family.....**Address**.....**Tel**.....

SIGNED

GEOFF SUMMERVILLE

How would you know if Geoff Summerville would make a good Councillor?

The question is as hard for you as it is for me.

Firstly let me share with you some of my thoughts. Many things are not like they were and many things are not the way we would want them to be. There is an evolving, changing "GAP" between our "EXPECTATIONS" and "REALITY".

Before Pablo Picasso the Cubist painting - all art - was looked at from one point of view. Because Picasso painted a view of heads, noses, eyes etc from many positions, on the same canvas, at the same time, he created many different realities and expectations.

It seems to me that Councils are not the way they were and not the way we would want them to be. The modern Council of all inclusive community is constantly changing both our expectations and realities.

I think the challenging task for the electorate is to choose the Councillor who would possess the imagination and interactive skills to firstly listen and unravel opinion, secondly modify and focus that opinion and finally integrate the necessary consensus that would best serve that all inclusive community.

My personal and business experiences have taught me the necessity to compromise; to learn the art of sacrificing the non-essential to preserve the essential.

I have learnt how to obtain the best I could when I could not obtain everything; instead of being indignant or dispirited because I could not have entirely my own way; to be pleased and encouraged when I could have the smallest part of it; and whenever that could not be, to be positive and get on with the next task.

Secondly, I want to be a very good listener. If you have empathy with the above, I would be happy for you to communicate your thoughts by phone/fax 0359 427 457 or write P.O. Box 177, Nar Nar Goon Nth. 3812. Thank you - Geoff Summerville.

KEITH EWENSON

With the return to democratic Local Government in March 1997, there will be an election and I intend to offer myself as a candidate for this Beaconhills Ward of the Cardinia Shire. As a resident of Upper Beaconsfield I was honoured to serve as your councillor in the Pakenham Shire from its beginning to its finale. I look on the next three years as a "running in period" for Local Government. The bureaucrats will be handing back the "vehicle", it may have been modified to cost less, but will it perform its purpose of service to you? We will be developing an administration to lead into the 21st century. The existing administration for the municipality has proposed a forward plan which could be the direction of the Shire for the future. The important thing to me is what you want. Should you select me to be your representative I would be interested in you expressing your rating of priorities in the Strategic Plan, and whatever else is of concern to you.

"Enhance and capitalise on its strategic location as a growth area in the forefront of metropolitan development"

"There should be encouragement of growth in business and local employment, support for expansion of agricultural production and export of value added produce, quality development within the growth corridor and for each of the 18 townships, the optimisation of expenditure on essential 'bricks and mortar' capital investment"

"The independence, capacity and viability of community organisations must be maintained and strengthened."

"There will also be increasing attention given to catchment and environmental management."

"Attention to improvements to transport facilities"

(The quotes are from the Strategic Plan 1996, Cardinia Shire. cplan.doc as presented to the 17th Sept 96 meeting.)

At the election in March 1997 I would be honoured to use my experience to represent you, if you vote 1 for Keith Ewenson. 1 McBride Road, Beaconsfield Upper, 3808. Fax 0359 443728.

GRAEME KIDD

The challenge for the new council will be to manage growth and development in Cardinia Shire while retaining its essential rural and semi-rural character.

The new councillors will need practical business experience coupled with broad vision and a sensitivity to community objectives. Communities themselves need to have a much greater say in deciding how they will develop.

An important Shire strategy is the establishment of "township committees" to liaise with Council. I wholeheartedly endorse this concept and will work hard to ensure that it works effectively.

I have been involved with the Upper Beaconsfield Community since 1975 - among other things, as a member of the Hall committee for 15 years; a founding editor of the Village Bell; a committee member and President of the UBA; a Berwick Secondary College councillor; and a volunteer driver for Mountain District Care for the Aged and the UB Care Group.

I have been heavily involved with the Quarry Impact Association and its goal of protecting land of significant conservation value owned by Hillview Quarries.

As a community representative I participated in the formulation of the Shire's Environment Management Strategy, and am currently a member of the steering committee responsible for its implementation.

Until 1993 I worked for Telstra as a senior manager responsible for planning the introduction of optical fibre systems and as product manager for an advanced packet switching service. As a consequence I have extensive experience in strategic planning and business management.

I am now running my own business in Upper Beaconsfield designing and making contemporary furniture.

Any residents wishing to discuss any election issues or Shire matters may contact me on telephone number 0359 443 400.

TED OWEN

I was privileged and happy to have represented you on Council for the past twenty-three years prior to Council amalgamation, and I write to inform you that I will be re-nominating for the position of Councillor for the newly created Beaconhills Ward of the Cardinia Shire. If elected again I will continue to ensure that the best interests of the majority of Beaconhills residents will be attended to.

I am married with four children who have grown up in this area, and as a small landholder I am concerned with the future development of this area as it had a direct effect on many families as well as my own. I am fifty-four years of age and have obtained further local government experience being employed for many years as Environmental Health Officer in a large neighbouring council.

I was the longest serving councillor (including two terms as Shire President) and was a major team player in the Shire of Pakenham's achievements during this period.

If I am re-elected I will continue to support individual people with problems, organisations and businesses within the Shire and I as readers to contact me if they have any specific problems or proposals which will assist me in forming policies and objectives that will be effective in helping me help you if I am re-elected. Some of my policies and objectives include:

1. Return of the hard rubbish collection
2. Support for small town businesses to ensure their viability
3. Road improvement program
4. Sensible planning to protect the environment
5. Ensure rate money is spent wisely on essentials hence minimising rate increases
6. Continued opposition to extra industry in conservation zones.

Finally I believe it is important that experienced Councillors are returned to ensure that rate payers expectations of Council are preserved and that our rights as rate payers are not eroded. In conclusion I thank you for your past and continuing support of me. For any advice or personal interviews I can be contacted by phone on 0359 432 374.

GOVERNOR TO LAUNCH HISTORIC STUDY

The Cardinia Shire Heritage Study has been completed and the results are available in a handsome 3 volume report. The Governor of Victoria, His Excellency Richard McGarvie will launch the final report of the two year survey of local historical sites on February 6, 1997 at 3 pm at Harewood Historic Homestead on the South Gippsland Highway.

The documents present environmental, historic and conservation summaries of 150 specific sites within the boundaries of the former Pakenham Shire. Illustrations include maps, diagrams and hundreds of photographs. Some Upper Beaconsfield residents will recognise the historic stone pine at Windy Hills Farm (Buchanan Road, Upper Beaconsfield) on the cover of Volume 1 and everyone should identify the village's War Memorial on the front of Volume 2. The photo on volume 3 depicts Kurth Kiln in Gembrook State Park.

The first volume explains statutes, regulations and controls, income tax rebates, planning schemes and conservation programs for heritage sites. There is also a detailed section on identifying and restoring your own historic house, commercial building and garden along with guidelines for infill or additions. Volume 2 presents the environmental and cultural history of the region thereby providing essential background for an understanding of the importance of the sites described in Volume 3.

Seventeen significant sites have been identified in Upper Beaconsfield, at three different levels. Sites of State Significance, recommended for inclusion on the Shire's planning scheme, the Victorian Historic Building Register and National Estate Register include: the giant cork oak tree at

"Woodlands" (formerly an inebriates retreat) on Walnut Grove; "Lo Yuan" (Chinese for "House of Happiness") a notable example of the Arts and Crafts architectural style at 84 Split Rock Road; and "The Towers", a Tudor/Gothic Revival villa complete with castle style tower at 194 Berglund Road.

Eleven Regionally Significant Sites have been recommended for addition to the Cardinia Shire Register. These are Calembeen, Rosemont and Fassifern (garden and pavilions), all located on A'Beckett Road; the Charing Cross Civic and Commercial Precinct in the centre of the village; the former Victorian Orchardists Coolstore and Packing Shed on the east side of Charing Cross Park; Salisbury House (formerly Kincaik), the Post Office and the War Memorial, all on Salisbury Road; Highland Park, off McBride Road; the house at Woodlands on Walnut Grove; and the Stone Pine at Windy Hills Farm, Buchanan Road.

Three sites of local significance recommended to the Shire Planning Scheme are: the Upper Beaconsfield Milk Bar (formerly Cormore Tea Rooms), the garden at Staverton on Quamby Road and Newstead Forest on A'Beckett Road.

Our community was well represented on the steering committee for the heritage study with all three former councillors (K. Ewenson, P. Meeking, T. Owen) and four residents (S. Harris, G. Silberbauer, C. Wilson and myself) serving. Sue acts as study coordinator for the Shire and I chair the Shire's Cultural Heritage Working Group which originally recommended that the study be initiated. The work was undertaken by a consultant team Graeme Butler and Associates which included a heritage architect, an historian, a landscape heritage assessor and an industrial historian. Representatives from the Heritage Branch of the Department of the Planning and

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Feb 3	Trainee Pro ProAm Beaconhills
Feb 5	UBA Meeting AGM
Feb 6	Historic Sites Launch
Feb 8	Women's Golf B/Hills
Feb 12	UBCC B&G Meeting
Feb 14	Community Week starts
Feb 19	Blue Heelers at NHW
Mar 2	Clean up Australia Day
Mar 7	Cafe John
Mar 14	Council elections
March	Red Cross Calling
Apr 5	Village Fair

Development also sat on the committee.

The report contains a wealth of carefully researched information about local history, important families and personalities, significant houses, gardens and other sites throughout the Shire. Each book is indexed and includes a bibliography for those who would like to read additional material or consult references. For the proud owners of our local heritage sites as well as anyone interested in historic matters, these volumes will be an invaluable resources.

The books can be purchased as a set or individually. Volume 1 and 2 are \$10 each, Volume 3 is \$30 or the whole set may be purchased for \$45. Those seeking further information about the Heritage Study report as well as the launch on February 6 should contact Sue Harris at the Shire tel. 03 5945 4222.

Colleen Lazenby

FIRE WORKS IN HAMILTON RESERVE.

That's the way to start the New Year! A big blaze well and efficiently managed by the Upper Beaconsfield Fire Brigade all in the cause of discovering what happens in the long term to the ecology of the reserve when using fire as a management tool. Practice for the Brigade and stress relief for residents as a by-product, of course.

The fuel reduction burn on January 3, 1997 was the fourth in the last ten years. Two were conducted in autumn and two in spring. Plant surveys were

undertaken before beginning the series of burns and again during the next spring after each one.

Except for this occasion there have been collections made of leaves and small twigs (litter) from each site prior to burning. Litter, anything less than pencil thickness, is removed from an area 30 cm diameter down to bare earth.

These samples are then dried and weighed and multiplied to calculate the amount of fuel per hectare in the undergrowth. From this figure can be estimated the intensity of any fire which may occur and whether it is time to reduce fuel loads again.

Shortly, another litter collection will be made from the first site burned and also from the site on the low side of Berglund Road which was burned on New Years Eve, 1995. This site did not exhibit the variety of different small plants in spring as did the autumn burned sites though there are some beautiful ferns which were hard to find before.

I walked among lovely dark blue, tall lobelia, elegant grasses (*Danthonia* sp), and regenerating shrubs when I visited early in January. It will be interesting to see what the second spring brings forth.

L. Levens

Local History in Photographs

NORTH OF THE LINE

This is the title of a very interesting historical pictorial book which is now widely available in this area. It is a must for those interested in local history.

The photographs, many of them taken from old postcards, have been collected by members of the Berwick-Pakenham Historical Society and other residents of the area.

The book is full of glimpses of life since the turn of the century in the townships north of the railway line between Berwick and Bunyip.



It offers photographs of people (many of whose descendants are current residents) and of buildings, machinery and vehicles which were great examples of the skills of our forebears and their ingenuity in solving the problems of farming, land clearing, timber milling, transport and mining.

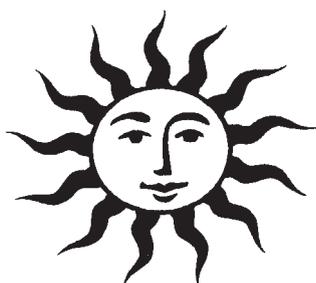
Remember these were days before petrol and diesel engines and electric power were available.

There are many highlights in this record which you will enjoy. You will also gain a huge respect for these pioneers who opened up this part of the world.

One highlight for me is a photograph of a Gembrook overshot water wheel which is a beautiful example of the skills and enterprise of these pioneers.

The book is priced at \$10 and is available at many outlets, general stores and newsagents including the Upper Beaconsfield general store and supermarket.

Ray Ratcliff



VILLAGE FAIR

*- Important information to
community groups and
residents-*

Stall Spaces

Stall spaces are available to display, demonstrate or promote the activities, services, or goods of our many community groups and talented residents. The stalls are a good way to raise much needed funds for the years activities.

If you are a Community Group, or a resident who would like to have a display or sell some Arts and Crafts etc. please pick up your STALL APPLICATION FORM, from either the POST OFFICE or the COMMUNITY CENTRE.

STALL SPACES are available for \$10.00 each. Multiple spaces can be taken if required. POWER can be connected to your stall for an extra \$5.00.



For further information please call:

Upper Beaconsfield Village
Fair Committee

C/-

Bernadette McGougan on
0359 443 602

P.O. Box 159 Upper
Beaconsfield 3808

or

Denise Smith on 0359 444 107.

New Community Complex Buildings and Grounds Committee Elected

Finally, after much ringing around, letters and publicity in the Village Bell, a new committee has been found for the UBCC Buildings and Grounds Committee.

The new office bearers are -

Mr. Neville Hughes, President

Mr. Gary Allison, Vice president,

Mrs Helen Smith, Secretary/Bookings/Caretaker

Mrs Joanne Blanks, Treasurer.

Other members are Pat Edwards (UBA), Sue Dipieza and Lorraine Knight (community representatives)

Many thanks to those who responded to our call of help. It was good to see some newer residents to the area come forward to offer their services and take the opportunity to become involved in the community. A disappointing result is the poor representation by Community Complex user groups on the committee. Please note next meeting date - Wed. 12 Feb 8pm Community Complex.

1997 VILLAGE FAIR

The 1997 Village Fair has been scheduled for
Saturday April 5, 11:00 am to 3:00 p.m.

The theme for this years Village Fair is

FUN

Our FAMILY FUN DAY includes such attractions as

HUMPHREY B. BEAR

FACE PAINTING

MYUNA ANIMAL FARM

BIKE DECORATING COMPETITION

ARTS AND CRAFTS

PERFORMANCES FROM UPPER BEACONSFIELD

PRIMARY SCHOOL

FIRE BRIGADE DISPLAY

AND MUCH MUCH MORE....

Come and join us for a great FAMILY FUN DAY.

Possum Ticks

- Have you come across these beasties?

Wildlife Watch with Laura Levens

Wildlife to watch for this time of year are baby possum ticks. 'Watch' is not really the operative word because they are invisible to the naked eye until gorged on our precious blood. Even then they appear only as a black dot the size of the mark made by a very sharp lead pencil.

First indication that you have been chosen as food source is a feeling similar to grass seed irritation as the minute beastie gnaws through skin. The thing to do then is to indulge the inclination to scratch - vigorously - which should dislodge the tick.

You can search for the grass seed afterward if the feeling persists. Though these ticks are not a paralysis tick there can be a reaction of lumps and angry red streaks in some people.

Wandering around my patch of bush this January I have noticed both large and small tongue orchids (*Cryptostylis* spp) and pink hyacinth orchids (*Dipodium punctatum*) which may still be in flower.

During February maiden's tresses orchids (*Spiranthes sinensis*) should flower in very damp sites if there is such a thing after the dry spell we have had. Several wet place plants have not flowered here or have died off after a very short period. Contrarily an unidentified fern has spontaneously established among some rocks retaining a pathway, a niche which appears far too dry to be suitable.

Silver banksia (*Banksia marginata*) shrubs have already begun their annual display of lemon yellow flowers which comes to a peak during April and March. It is believed that Aborigines soaked the flower heads in water to make a sweet drink from the nectar. Honeyeaters certainly appreciate it.

Laura Levens

WAR DECLARED ON RAGWORT

Ragwort facilitators have been appointed for the Upper Beaconsfield, Pakenham Upper, Dewhurst area. If someone notices ragwort they can contact the facilitators to let them know of the problem. The facilitators are:

Peter Jack
0359 831 034

Tim McCaugham
0356 721 066

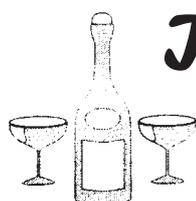
These two people are looking after the same area. Its boundaries are Beaconsfield-Emerald Road, Bourke Creek Road, Morrison Road, Dore Road and the Princes Highway.

Meinhard Holtz
0359 681 470

His area is the remainder of Upper Beaconsfield plus Emerald, Avonsleigh, Cockatoo and Gembrook.

You can also purchase small quantities of chemicals which eradicate ragwort at cost price from Meinhard.

Sue Harris



It's Time for a Party!

Upper Beaconsfield Hall is available for hire at a very reasonable cost

Bookings

Tel 0359 443 219

*Crockery, cutlery
chairs for hire*

MARCH 1997

RED CROSS CALLING

Approximately 35 volunteer residents of Upper Beaconsfield will be taking part in the Annual March Red Cross Door Knock. Where possible, callers are allocated the same area each year and become known to residents, but a few areas will have first time callers. All volunteers carry identification and official Red Cross receipts are issued for all donations. Donations of \$2 and over are tax deductible.

Upper Beaconsfield residents have been wonderful supporters of Red Cross over many years. Last year \$4,267-75 was donated by our residents and used on Red Cross services within Victoria.

The official dates for Red Cross Calling this year are 15th-24th March, but collection in our area can take place any time during March. I will be needing several new callers this year and if you feel you can help Red Cross please contact me on 0359 443 554.

Barbara Jackson

Berwick - Upper Beaconsfield Red Cross Calling
Area Co-ordinator

Unit members will sell Major Raffle tickets in Berwick on Thursday 13 February and Thursday 27 February. Arrangements will be made to fix a date for selling in Upper Beaconsfield.

The Living Past Association will again be staging an Expo at the Old Cheese factory, Berwick on the weekend 8/9 February. Unit members will assist Mr Tom McCullough, archivist for Australian Red Cross (Victoria) to stage a display of World War II material. A variety of groups will be involved during this historical weekend.

Marie Womersley

UPPER BEACONSFIELD COUNTRY WOMENS ASSOCIATION



Meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month. The next meeting is February 6, 12-4pm, starting with a social lunch. The following meeting is on March 6, also starting with a social lunch. Ladies who would like to join us will be made very welcome, please contact Betty Mars, President on 0359 443 214 or

Daphne Brown, Secretary on 0359 443 994.

Blue Heelers

Comes to
**NEIGHBOURHOOD
WATCH**



Peter Haddow, Police Adviser to the popular Australian television series BLUE HEELERS will be guest speaker at the next E-36 NHW meeting on Wed 19 Feb. This meeting will be held in the Club Bar of the Pine Grove Hotel at approximately 7.30 pm, and will be preceded by dinner for anyone who'd like a chance to get to know friendly NHW Committee members a little better.

The NHW MYSTERY RAFFLE will also be drawn at this meeting. To enter, cut out the coupon in your NHW newsletter (Jan No 43 and Feb No 44), fill it in, and place it in the boxes provided at the Post Office, General Store, Milk Bar and Guys Hill Milk Bar. The raffle closes on Mon 17 Feb.

Lorraine Barnes
Area Coordinator
0359 443 624

BEACONHILLS Country Golf Club

1997 Beaconhills Country Golf Club's 50th Anniversary Year has started with an unexpectedly large increase in membership, due to the unfortunate problems that have beset the Emerald Golf Club over the past three years. Emerald is one of the few golf clubs in Victoria that is a tenant and not the owner of the course it uses. The course and associated Emerald Golf and Country Resort facilities were bought by Malaysian interests who have found club golf incompatible with their running of the resort.

Members were faced with a 50% rise in membership fees, plus the continued frustrations of no guaranteed tee-times and green fee players on the course in the middle of club competitions. As a result of voting at a meeting held in early January and attended by more than half its 200 members, Emerald president Paul Rubens expects about 120 of its 150 playing members to transfer to Beaconhills.

Whilst saddened that a club with a proud social and golfing history has met such a fate, the Beaconhills board is delighted that they have been able to assist the former Emerald members to continue their golfing relationships with Beaconhills. Many friendships between club members go back over many years and all at Beaconhills welcome the new members to our ranks.

To help boost women's golf an introductory "Come and Try" package for ladies who have dabbled with golf at beginners clinics and the occasional social round has been introduced. It is aimed at bridging the gap and taking the first steps towards Beaconhills membership. For a payment of \$100 women are provided with 9 hole week-day access for six months. This is complimented by a mini-comp with the lady members on Wednesdays. At the end of the six month period the pre paid \$100 will be deducted from the Joining Fee for those ready for club membership.

Club professional Mark Griffin will be conducting clinics for beginners and those wishing to refresh their golfing skills again this year. His first five week clinic will commence on 5 March.

The Junior section of the club has seen lots of activity over the holiday period and congratulations go to Christina Beltran of Stoney Creek Rd for becoming the first girl to win the Beaconhills Under 15 Championship. Christina's consistent efforts over the six week period enabled her to triumph over Travis Lee and Zoe Clark. Gross winner was Ben Yoffa by 13 shots!

Congratulations also to Julian Simeth who won the Coca-Cola Junior tournament held at Peninsula Golf Club with the excellent score of 76 gross. Julian has qualified for the final to be held at Eastwood and no doubt is getting some extra coaching from Uncle Mark (Griffin)!

A Trainee Professional Pro-Am is to be held at Beaconhills on Monday 3rd February. This is your opportunity to play with a professional of the future. Contact Mark Auhl (Beaconhills Trainee Pro) in the Pro Shop 0359 443 630 if you wish to play, or just come along and watch the young ones in action.

Saturday 8th February the Commonwealth Bank "Business Womens Golf" day will be held at Beaconhills.

After establishing reciprocal links across the Tasman last year, we have now crossed the Pacific with the help of Beaconhills member Larry De Wilde to his club Bellingham Golf and Country Club in the State of Washington in the far north-west corner of U.S.A. Members visiting this delightful part of the world are encouraged to utilise the great golfing and social facilities at Bellingham.

Plans are well underway for our 50th Anniversary year and any help that can be provided to update current addresses of former members would be greatly appreciated. The "Back to Beaconhills" Ball will be held in conjunction with the start of the new golfing season on Saturday 1st March.

Barbara Jackson
443 554

End of an Era



When Glen Fletcher graduated from Beaconsfield Upper Primary School in 1996 it was the end of an era for his mother Carol's involvement with the school.

Carol's tremendous work for the school spans over 10 years and involves outstanding work on many committees including the school book club, many classroom support roles, organisation of countless barbeques and PFA fundraising activities (especially Mother's Day stalls).

In fact Carol was even a founding member of the Polly Gang - a principal support group.

From all of the school community, thank you Carol for you terrific work and support over the years and please keep in contact, particularly around Mother's Day'

Mark Carver
0359 443 591

PONY CLUB HONOURS ANN

Members and supporters of the Upper Beaconsfield pony club honoured Mrs Ann Bent-ley with a life membership of the club at their recent Christmas gymkhana.

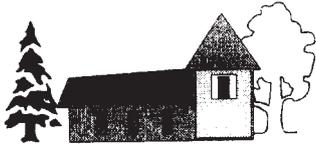
Club President, Mr Ray Woff presented Ann with a beautifully mounted bronze pony head trophy and a life membership badge.

Ann has made a tremendous contribution to the pony club over many years during which time she has held office as secretary and president. It is efforts such as Ann's that have made the Upper Beaconsfield pony club into such a happy and very successful club.

VILLAGE BELL CREDITS

Editor	<i>Susan Pitman Val Ewenson</i>
Typing	<i>Susan Pitman and others</i>
Layout	<i>Helen Smith</i>
Advertising	<i>Phil Roche, Penny Truscott, Laura Levens</i>
Printing	<i>George Moir Charles Wilson</i>
Masthead	<i>Val Ewenson</i>
Collating	<i>Village Bell editors and friends</i>
Receiving Copy	<i>Julie and Ray Allsop Post Office</i>
Next Editors	<i>Jeanette Ballinger Jo Carter</i>
Issue Date	<i>27 March</i>
Copy Deadline	<i>15 March</i>

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ST JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

Are you challenged to look at your spiritual life in 1997?

St John's is a community church which welcomes individuals and families to worship, fellowship, participate and grow in their relationship with God and one another.

Services for February will be:

2nd	9.30am	Service oriented to the family
9th	9.30am	Family Holy Communion and Sunday School
	7.00pm	Youth service
16th	9.30am	Family Holy Communion and Sunday School
	7.00pm	Holy Communion with contemplative prayer
23rd	9.30am	Family Holy Communion and Sunday School
	7.00pm	Healing service

Rev. Tom Stokes will co-ordinate the youth program. Club 120 will resume on Friday February 2. Religious education classes at Upper Beaconsfield Primary School will commence in March.

The first Cafe John for the year will be held on Friday March 7 at 7.00pm. Take the opportunity to have fellowship with friends while dining over a three course meal and enjoy being entertained as well. Tickets will be available for sale in the near future.

Contact **Tom Stokes**, Vicar on 0359 443 862 or 0359 443 410 for more information, or help with a particular need.

NEW PRE KINDER TEACHER

It is with pleasure that the new committee announces the appointment of Mrs Ches Mills as the new teacher for the Pre Kinder.

Ches comes to Upper Beac with a wealth of experience from teaching both here and overseas. She is married with young teenage children and is very creative in the fields of art and painting. Ches is very excited about her appointment as she believes three year olds are at a special and unique age, that they are at the crossroads of no longer being babies yet not quite preschoolers.

She suitably impressed the selection panel and was the outstanding choice of the seven candidates interviewed. She was the obvious choice to maintain the reputation of quality pre education that the Upper Beaconsfield Pre Kinder has always enjoyed.

If you wish to enrol your little one, please call the enrolment officer Christine Cunningham on 0359 444 096.

Lisa Milenkovic

Welcome to New Residents

Foott Road

Peta and Arlin Elliott

Fairhazel Court

Leo, Julie, James and Jacob Kennedy

Grant Court

Alison and Michael Kershaw

Lenne Street

Jackie Smith

Steven and Leanne Brookes and family



Leppitt Road

Michael and Karyn Tucker

Quamby Road

Gavin and Norma Robertson

St Georges Road

Remy and Loretta Neydorff

Young Street

Mark, Stephanie and Kirsten Yorke

Johann Glismann was born in Heligoland, in 1836. A seafaring man, he came to Australia and obtained work at "Oakwood", Dandenong, in the early 1860's. There he met a twenty year old Irish lass named Sarah Brady whom he wooed and won. They were married in 1864 at St. James Church and lived in a house on the corner of Heatherton and Dandenong Road. Sarah had four children, Hans born 1865, Elizabeth 1869, David John 1871, and there was also a daughter who died whilst young.

Johann, who was a very able and a hard worker, decided to select and farm his own land. Looking eastward, he found that most suitable land as far as Harkaway had already been taken, so following the Gembrook bullock track across Cardinia Creek, he reached Stony Creek where he found well timbered and arable land on either side.

On 15th February 1875 he selected 120 acres and started work on the property. On 1st January 1876, Governor Bowen granted him permission to occupy 115 acres of his selection for three years, provided he resided on the property, fenced and improved it, and there were other conditions. Somehow he had a cottage on the property two months later.

On the second Tuesday of March in 1876, the family loaded their belongings on horse drawn wagons. The bullock tracks exhausted the horses, and they refused to go on after reaching Cardinia Creek, forcing the family to leave their belongings overnight and walk more than a mile to the cottage. This hand written letter tells of another problem.

**"Oakwood", (Johann's workplace)
Dandenong 15th August 1876**

The Honourable The Commissioner for Crown Lands and Survey

Sir,

I am the selector of 115 acres of land in the Parish of Narree Worrان. I have built a four roomed house, and my wife and three children have been living there for the last five months. I have slept at home for 1 to 2 nights every week. I intend proceeding with the fencing and cultivation as quickly as possible, but my means being small, I shall have to work away from home 3 or 4 days a week.

I wish to be informed if sleeping on my selection, 3 or 4 nights a week and working there the same number of days will be sufficient residence under the Act; my family constantly residing on the selection. After the first year I intend to be constantly at home if possible.

I have the honour to be Sir,

Your most obedt. servant

Johann Glismann

Sarah must have been a lady with courage and stamina to be alone so often with young children and work the farm. There were no near neighbours until Claus Albers selected 320 acres in March 1877. It is said that Sarah would walk to Dandenong market, sell her produce, purchase the family requirements and then walk home again.

Records show that by 11th December 1878, the family had built a four roomed cottage (30 X 24 feet) of sawn timber. It had a shingled roof, lath and plaster lining and verandahs on three sides. Johann had also built various sheds, made 193.33 chains of wooden fencing, dug out a small dam, ringbarked 10 acres of timber, planted 12 acres of fruit trees, and made a vegetable garden.

When he applied for a Crown Grant, the inspecting authorities reported that he had substantially complied with his lease conditions. The grant was approved on 16th June 1879, and Johann Glismann of Narree Worrان received title to land known as Crown Allotment 48 of Section D, Parish of Gembrook.

Glismann Road in Beaconsfield was so named to honour these pioneers, whose descendants have been great contributors to this community. For Information Sources - see the bottom of page 20.

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Acknowledgments of information sources for Pioneer article on page 16.

Berwick Shire Rate Books -1875 -1880 Stored at Cardinia Shire

Public Record Office -Laverton details of selections and grants

John Milligan -Village Bell No. 4- Upper Beaconsfield's Pioneer Family.

John Glismann -1983 personal discussion - and Joan Medwin concerning Glismann Road

Victorian Pioneers - CD ROM

If anyone has photographs or information relating to the Glismann family or any of the early Upper Beaconsfield selectors please contact C.Wilson