

TO ALL RESIDENTS

POSTAGE PAID UPPER BEACONSFIELD



ISSUE NO 119 DECEMBER 1997

UPPER BEACONSFIELD ASSOCIATION

Carols by candlelight

This popular event will be held at the Keith Ewenson Park on the night before Christmas.

Thank you to all of the carol singers who offered their services as a back up group for our Christmas Eve sing a long. We will have a practice on Wednesday 10 December at 7.30pm at the Community Centre, and we are looking forward to getting together.

It will be an informal group of singers, we do not intend to have solos (unless we have a Joan Sutherland amongst us?). Our goal is to have a few of us practised enough to lead the community in the carol singing.

Please contact me (5944 3311) or Neil McDonald (5944 3782) if you want to join our singers or if you want any further information. We only require you to be able to hold a tune, and make a joyful noise!

We are once more fortunate that Greg Ross will be master of ceremony at our community singing. We hope that members of Greg's family will be joining us and sharing their talents with us.

The UBA committee and the Village Fair committee will once more have a refreshments stand outside the old tennis clubroom. Ron Fisher

and his band of helpers will sell hot sausages with onions, hot doughnuts, tea, coffee, soft drinks and chips. The charges will be reasonable and any monies raised will help to fund 1998 Village Fair. The Fisher team will be there from approximately 7.00pm.

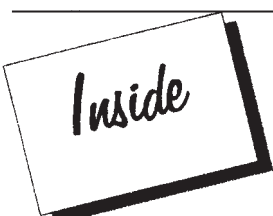
In the Upper Beaconsfield tradition, started after Ash Wednesday, Santa Claus will arrive at the Keith Ewenson Park on the CFA truck at 8.30pm on Christmas Eve. All of the children will have a chance to talk to him.

Santa Claus on the Fire Brigade truck will be stopping to meet children on the way to Carols by Candlelight. He will arrive at Grant Court at 7.45pm, Burton Road at 8.00pm, Paul Grove at 8.15pm and the Keith Ewenson Park at 8.30pm.

The primary school PFA will again provide a bag of goodies for the children, and the carol singing will start after we have all waved goodbye to Santa.

Bring your rugs and candles. If you need a chair, place this to the rear so you do not block the view. Please do not take alcohol to this family occasion.

Jo Carter



Bushfire Blitz
Wildfire risk
STOP PRESS
Parks receive garden grant
Fire insurance

page 3
page 5
page 6
page 8
page 9

Diary Dates

- Nov 29** St. John's fete
- Dec 3** UBA Christmas meeting
- Dec 5** Cafe John
- Dec 7** Working bee 9am
K. Ewenson Park
- Dec 11** Kinder family picnic
- Dec 15** Neighbourhood Watch
- Dec 17** Christmas party
Community Centre
- Dec 24** Carols by candlelight
- Jan 16,17,22**
Open garden
Roleigh Meath



Tiger update

The latest sighting in Upper Beaconsfield was on Friday 7 November at 7.45am. The anonymous sightseer noticed an unfamiliar animal crossing Harris's paddock and running down into a gully.

It bore no resemblance to either a fox or a greyhound, being bigger with long legs, small ears and a snubby rather than a pointed snout.

It was brown in colour with markings which appeared to be spots or stripes. The long tail (not bushy) was clearly banded with brown and white stripes. The observer described the animal's movement as a "long-legged run".

Ysabelle Hobson

Where to for Upper Beac. senior citizens who need a smaller property?

There will come a time when I will be forced, for any of a number of reasons, to give up managing the twenty acres I enjoy in Upper Beaconsfield.

Where would I like to live instead? Somewhere with native bush to delight in, whether it is naturally occurring or specially planted is not important. Somewhere not too far from family, friends and community activities. That sounds like somewhere similar to Upper Beaconsfield doesn't it?

The present alternatives are a fifth of a suburban acre or a retirement village. I don't know of a retirement village which backs onto a national park. Coming to terms with living shoulder to shoulder after being spoiled with all this space would not be easy. I have been trying to train my heart and mind to accept the idea and am some of the way there. Won't every senior citizen face this reality sooner or later?

Then I came across an article in the Weekly Times describing a development on the outskirts of a provincial city which sounds ideal for someone like me. House lots, where buildings are sited to gain from passive solar power, range

in size from 480 to 1917 square metres. Each lot has access to, and some adjoin, an area planted with a mix of indigenous and food bearing trees. This parklike area with meandering pathways is situated near the centre of the development and includes public open space.

A residents' Friends Group looks after the park-like area which covers over 20% of the 16 hectare development. Boundaries are defined by shrubs and trees for privacy. Streets are planted with shade trees which provide a more pleasant environment all year round.

For Upper Beaconsfield people who have been used to the interest that birds and small native animals bring, the fact that native fauna make their homes among the vegetation would create a home-like feel. My own druther would be for a development where blocks are smaller, but share a common 'bush garden' cared for by a committee of residents or a paid caretaker.

I would love there to be somewhere like this in Upper Beaconsfield.

L. Levens

Welcome new residents

Laurie and Helen Little

Leppitt Road

Paul and Carol Brown

Salisbury Road

John and Sarah Walsh

Emerald Road

David and Sonia Bartlett

McKenzie Road

Deepest Sympathy

To Jo-anne and Michelle
Blanks on the tragic loss of
Alan.

From everyone at the Upper
Beaconsfield Community
Centre and the Community
Complex Buildings and
Grounds Committee

Operation Bushfire Blitz

On November 18, the CFA launched the latest program in its ongoing community outreach campaign. Called Operation Bushfire Blitz it is a high intensity, eight week community involvement that will see 80 consultants hired to meet with groups of individuals in their own neighbourhoods.

Hundreds of local meetings and on-the-ground evaluations are planned to cover issues such as individual and family safety; preparing homes and neighbourhoods for the approaching fire season; risk identification; planning for high risk days; neighbourhood self help (including Community Fireguard) and a realistic appraisal of the role that CFA brigades can play in the event of a major bushfire.

Upper Beaconsfield is classed as an extremely high risk area and will receive its own Community Consultant. The consultant, in cooperation with the Brigade, will meet with residents and street walks will be conducted to identify specific risks and to reduce

hazards, increase preparedness and minimise danger for the 1997/98 fire season.

Lessons learned during Bushfire Blitz will be of particular benefit to those people who have indicated that they need the direct assistance and advice of CFA experts before they feel they can do the necessary planning and work around their homes and take responsibility for helping themselves. Even those who intend to evacuate rather than remain during a bushfire can receive advice on systematic evacuation plans.

The Bushfire Blitz program will cost \$400,000 and is expected to reach half a million people in 5000 street or community meetings, covering 20,000 high fire risk streets in nine CFA regions, aiming to communicate at a personal level and respond to highly specific local needs.

The appointments of Community Fireguard Coordinators, Operation Bushfire Blitz Consultants and an additional 30 Community Support Facilitators throughout Country Victoria are all part of efforts by the CFA to reinforce and focus concern about the realities of bushfire threat for residents.

Colleen Lazenby

Australian Open Garden Scheme

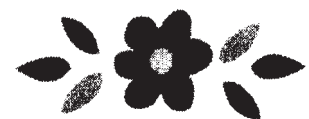
Roleigh Meath, Garden 565 in the Australian Open Garden Scheme book, and situated in Corringham Road, Upper Beaconsfield, will be open to the public on Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 January 1998 and again on Thursday 22 January.

The AOGS charges \$3.50 per adult for the tour of the garden and it donates its portion of entrance fees, 40%, to charities.

The owners of the garden will distribute their share of the fees to their favourite charities of which the RSPCA is one.

Carol Murtagh, owner of the property with her husband Pat, is secretary of the local CWA and the CWA members will sell cool drinks and refreshments on the open days.

Jo Carter



Christmas meeting of the UBA

The last meeting of the year will be held at the Community Complex on Wednesday 3rd December at 8pm. There will be a short meeting dealing with any business. Traditionally, the UBA does not have a speaker at the Christmas meeting. The committee of the UBA invites all of you to join us at this meeting and at the supper party which will follow.

Graham Jackson, a past president of the

UBA, will chair the meeting. The president who was elected in February 1997, John Riddiford, is leaving the district in November and resigned with regret at the November committee meeting. Pat Edwards, the immediate past president and current vice president, is unable to chair the December meeting due to business commitments, but she will chair the AGM in February.

We look forward to seeing you at the December meeting and sharing a social time.

Jo Carter

CFA fire awareness meeting

On Wednesday 12 November 1997 at 7.30pm, over 150 residents of Upper Beaconsfield met in the hall at the Community Complex. 21 of these citizens were members of the CFA in their distinctive yellow. About 25% of those present had been living in Upper Beaconsfield on Ash Wednesday.

The purpose of the meeting was to make all members of the community, both those with experience of bushfire and newer residents, aware of what they can do to prepare for a bushfire.

The fire captain, Rob Irving, opened the meeting and introduced Jon Boura, member of the local CFA and a professional with the CFA Risk

Management area. Jon gave an interesting

lecture on the present situation with comparisons to earlier scenarios. He told us that the rainfall for the year to date, in our area, is in the bracket of lowest on record, and indications are that this summer will be potentially dangerous.

There was informative dialogue between the speakers and the audience. Many of the residents shared their bushfire experience with the group and had many tips and advice for the rest of us.

Jon's article in this issue will share the information with the community.

Jo Carter

So proud of them -

A letter to the editor

Dear Editors,

Here I go again; I have my pen and paper out. I am going well this week, I must be in the mood! I hope I don't bore you; it's not supposed to. I should have got up on my own two legs to say this at the meeting, face to face to the people involved. But no, I thought I would like the whole community to know.

I went to the meeting about "Summer Bushfire Awareness" which was recently held at our community hall. I learnt a lot, but I already thought I knew a lot. I went through Ash Wednesday, as my family did, too. I felt the meeting came across very well, sound and true. But what really stood out for me is that our firefighters are real heroes, risking their own lives to save us and our homes. I'm sure some of them lost their own homes on Ash Wednesday, and it's all volunteer work.

I have had four members of the family involved with the Fire Brigade, and Number Five can't turn 16 quick enough.

There has been many a time I have had the Fire Brigade here (and not for their cups of tea!) for chimney fires, etc. Ash Wednesday was just one instance. My heroes give me a lot of security. I can now understand why the women Fire Brigade members are called "Angels".

So never never abuse them as you might want to use them.

Marlene Norbury

Post office Christmas hours.

The Post Office will be open on -

Saturdays 13 December and 20
December between the hours of
9.00am and 12 noon.

Information booklets now available from the CFA -

*Living in the Bush - Bushfire
Survival Plan Workbook
and Bushfire - Recognise the Risks*

Call the CFA on (03) 9262 8444
to request your own copies

Armistice Day

Upper Beaconsfield RSL 1997

It was raining softly on Tuesday morning, 11 November 1997. Frank Conn, president of the Upper Beaconsfield RSL, decided to conduct the Remembrance Day ceremony in the club rooms in Halford Stret, instead of at the Memorial adjacent to Charing Cross.

The RSL members were joined by 17 children from Upper Beaconsfield Primary School, grade 6. At the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month, as promised in 1918, the company observed the 2 minutes silence in remembrance of the fallen. Mr. Conn and some residents laid wreaths in front of the Cross of Remembrance in memory of their families and friends. The RSL members and students each laid a poppy.

After the brief ceremony, Gwynn Conn provided morning tea. The school children asked many questions and appeared to be interested in the history and memorabilia in the clubrooms.

The students were accompanied by Mark Carver, deputy principal of the Upper Beaconsfield Primary School. The demeanour of the children was exemplary.

Jo Carter

Manage your wildfire risk

1997/1998 FIRE SEASON

Upper Beaconsfield is part of a small area east of Melbourne whose total rainfall for the year to date is the lowest on record. Most of Victoria has had rainfall very much below average, and the El Nino weather pattern which we are currently experiencing makes it unlikely that we will get significant rain during the summer. This means that we will be facing conditions conducive to high intensity forest fires.

It doesn't mean that Victoria will experience Ash Wednesday like fires, it certainly doesn't mean that it will happen to Upper Beaconsfield again. But it does mean that, unlike most summers, there is the potential for them to occur, and it could happen to Upper Beaconsfield again.

Recognising this risk the Upper Beaconsfield Fire Brigade, and the CFA as a whole, have been working hard to prepare both ourselves and YOU for the worst. The good news is that wildfires are survivable if you are prepared.

Fuel reduction burning

The Brigade has been conducting fuel reduction burns on most evenings that weather conditions have been suitable. These burns are designed to protect homes and also to moderate the behaviour of any fire burning towards Upper Beaconsfield through the forested areas to the north and west of the town. Fuel reduction burning will continue up until the Declared Fire Danger Period.

Enquiries regarding fuel reduction burning can be addressed to Rob Irving on 5944 4113.

Community education

Community Fireguard continues to be active throughout Upper Beaconsfield. To date 14 street groups have met to discuss their wildfire risk and, with the assistance of Rob Mountain, have been developing survival strategies which meet their particular needs. Community Fireguard groups have been active in Brennan Ave. (2 groups), Knapton Ave., High St., Harpfields Rd., Berglund Rd., Yackatooon Rd., O'Neil Rd., Lenne Rd., Leppitt Rd., Hughendon Rd., Young St., Kitchen Rd. and McArthur Rd.

If you think Community Fireguard could help you manage your wildfire risk contact Rob Mountain on 5944 3631.

A well attended information night was held at the Community Complex where residents were presented information about the experience of a major fire, and how to protect family and home from wildfire. This information is summarised in CFA Brochures available from the Brigade by contacting Nancy Boura on 5944 3632. Property Inspections and free advice are available by appointment with Rob Irving on 5944 4113. These are unlikely to happen before the introduction of the Declared Fire Danger Period.

Turnouts

In the last couple of months the Brigade has responded to 15 emergency calls, ranging from a dog entangled in its chain to a helicopter crash, plus the usual mix of house fires, scrub fires, car fires and motor vehicle accidents.

Jon Boura, Upper Beaconsfield Fire Brigade

Notes from Council

Township Committees

Council is considering ways in which communities can have a greater say in identifying improvements and developments in their townships and in setting priorities for when and how these should be carried out.

It is recognised that many townships in the Shire already have effective residents groups such as the Upper Beaconsfield Association, as well as active community, business, recreation and sporting bodies. But when it comes to Council preparing, say, the annual budget for capital works, each application for funds is considered individually. There is little co-ordination of the various applications and generally no concept of how a development fits into the broader vision for the township.

With the implementation of the various township strategies now being undertaken in the Shire this should change to a great extent. Nevertheless there will be a need to translate the broad vision into specific actions.

Council is looking at the support of township committees who would have, at the least, a role in identifying needs and advising on priorities in their districts. It is possible that some committees might eventually take on a further role as managers of minor capital works programs.

These committees would have to demonstrate that they were truly representative of the local

community and accordingly would operate as an umbrella group covering existing groups and interests. There would need to be safeguards on the autonomy and performance of existing Committees of Management.

With the expected completion of the Upper Beaconsfield Strategy Plan early next year I will be pushing for the establishment of a pilot township committee for this area. Please let me know what you think.

Council Meetings

Council generally holds its meetings at 5.00 pm at the Shire Offices in Pakenham on the third Monday of each month. All residents are most welcome to attend these meetings.

Council has however decided to have some of its meetings at other locations throughout the Shire, including Upper Beaconsfield. The program for these is:

17 November 1997	Lang Lang
16 February 1998	Emerald
18 May 1998	Upper Beaconsfield
17 August 1998	Bunyip

These meetings will commence at 6.30 pm and will conclude with an open forum.

Cr Graeme Kidd 5944 3400

Upper Beaconsfield Strategy

Following an evaluation of tenders, Council has agreed to appoint Gutteridge Haskins and Davey Pty Ltd to prepare the strategy for Upper Beaconsfield for an amount of \$30,000. Fifteen nominations for the appointment of community representatives to the Steering Committee were received.

Based on the criterion that this committee should collectively reflect a wide range of backgrounds and interests, Council has appointed the following representatives: Doug Field, George Silberbauer, Anne McCormick, Lindsay Byrne and Laura Levens.

The Steering Committee will be meeting with the Consultants within the next few days. The consultants have indicated that they will be seeking an early workshop with the community.

Graeme Kidd

STOP PRESS

Upper Beaconsfield Strategy Plan
COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

Upper Beaconsfield Hall
8.00 pm Tuesday, 9 December 1997

The first workshop with the consultants Gutteridge Haskin and Davey, to confirm the key points of the study.

Summer water awareness

If the approaching summer is to be as tinder dry as many anticipate, then water will be one of our greatest allies. Concerned about the security of Upper Beaconsfield's water supply in the event of a bushfire, Councillor Graeme Kidd raised the issue with Cardinia Shire. In response, the following information has been forwarded to the Village Bell by Mr Graeme Tutt, Corporate Manager-Services for the Shire.

South East Water advises that the system has been upgraded since Ash Wednesday with the installation of standby pumps. These pumps are automatically activated, diesel powered and will not "run down" if power failure is extended. Although maintained on a programmed basis, the system, as is common to all systems which are not gravity fed, is not designed to cater for demands generated by bushfires. The holding/supply tank will be drained quicker than the pumps can fill it if large numbers of residents are using hoses and CFA tankers drawing water simultaneously. Under these circumstances it is important that residents prepare by filling tanks, pools etc prior to the "event" thereby

maximising water supply available to the CFA during the emergency. These measures together with management of demand during a crisis will allow the pumped water supply to continue/recover more quickly.

For residents on tank water the recent soaking rains, overflowing gutters and steadily filling water tanks have been reassuring. It is important, however, that we are not lulled into complacency. As users of tank water know, it takes only a few dry weeks for the water line to drop dramatically and for knuckles to ring hollow on tanks. When this happens, it is tempting to delay until the last moment that phone call to the water carrier. As many will recall from last summer, there were delays of up to three weeks for water deliveries, and the advice this year from local water carriers is to ring and check on delivery times as soon as your tanks reach the half way mark. In the event of fire, a well topped-up water tank might make the difference in saving your home. For those on pressure systems, bear in mind that a power failure will affect your water supply, and for those on gravity feed, remember to keep those gravity tanks full.

Carolyn Floyd

Induction of the new vicar

St. Johns Anglican Community Church, Upper Beaconsfield, was filled to capacity on the night of October 7 for the induction of Rev. Michael Flynn as the new vicar.

Bishop John Wilson conducted a moving service, which included rousing speeches by Bob Charles MLA and Councillor Graham Legge. Numerous clergy, a large contingent of enthusiastic parishioners and some of Michael's former parishioners attended the occasion.

Michael has a Science degree (Psychology) and worked in marketing and computers before commencing theological training at Ridley College in 1991. He has spent the past four years working as Assistant Minister at St. Marks, Emerald. Michael is married to Alison and they have four children.

Michael is committed to teaching from the Bible as the basis of Christian life and practice, and believes that this is the way to build up the church.

Marian Joseland.



The War Memorial and our local heroes

Thank you to all of you who rang to tell me about your relatives who are named on our war memorial. I will be following up your calls and will put together a collection of stories.

Jo Carter

Grant for Heritage Rose group



Heritage Roses in Australia Inc. is a national society whose aims are to find, preserve and share an interest in Heritage and Old Roses.

Members of the newly formed Cardinia Regional group of Heritage Roses in Australia Inc. have been busily planting roses in the Keith Ewenson Park and in the Ash Wednesday Memorial Garden. The Cardinia group was recently granted funds to establish a display of Old Roses within their region. The Salisbury Road public gardens were chosen as a suitable site because of the historical significance of the surrounding buildings and gardens.

The roses chosen for the plantings were bred during the 1800s and early 1900s and are typical of the garden roses which were popular during that period. They will be a practical resource for the rose classes held at the Community Centre.

Heritage and Old Roses differ from their modern

Hybrid Tea descendants in that they were bred to be good garden plants. They tolerate more shade and can be used in mixed plantings. They do not require spraying and they only require pruning when they over-step their allocated space. Unlike Hybrid Tea roses (upright stems with flowers on top) these older varieties form large shrubs with leaves and flowers all over. We are looking forward to the main display of roses which will occur throughout November and December each year. The varieties which have been chosen should provide a nice display from October through to March.

After seeing the roses during the coming season, you may wish to see more varieties, or you may be interested in the history and romance associated with them. If so, you can participate in the rose classes at the Community Centre. You can to join the Cardinia Heritage Rose regional group by contacting Jenny Fiume on 03 5944 3132.

Jenny Fiume

Wanted...a wheelbarrow

Has anyone out there got a second hand wheelbarrow they no longer require? The Upper Beaconsfield Community Complex Buildings and Grounds Committee needs a barrow to assist in the gardening/cleaning up jobs that crop up from time to time in Keith Ewenson Park.

If you can help, please contact me on the telephone number below.

Also needed....someone to push the barrow!!!

The Buildings and Grounds Committee is holding a working bee up at the Park on Sunday morning 7 December, 9 am start. This is to help tidy the Park in readiness for the Carols by Candlelight on Christmas Eve. The park needs trimming, weeding, mulching and sticks picked up etc.

Our small committee gets no assistance from the Shire to help keep this area maintained. We appreciate the efforts of the Conservation Group in keeping the native plant bed at the front of the Complex in order, but the park at the rear of the Complex is quite large and especially at this time of the year is difficult to keep under control.

If you can spare an hour or two we would love to see you there on Sunday morning. Just turn up with some appropriate implements. Morning tea provided.

Helen Smith 5944 3219



FOR SALE

House for private sale. 28 sq. family home on 1 acre. New designer kitchen, 4 bedrooms, main with en-suite. Large entertaining area. Close all amenities. Est. garden. Contact Judy Riddiford 03 5944 3172

Remember the fire insurance

The effects of El Nino may deliver a very high risk fire season. Authorities have been sending out warnings and advice.

Cleaning out guttering, removing overhanging branches, reducing ground litter and making certain that the fire pump is in good working order are all very important. However, you may do all of these things and still be unlucky enough to have your home destroyed by fire.

The Ash Wednesday bushfires of 1983 should have made people realise the importance of adequate insurance, but it is worthwhile to give everyone a reminder.

I cannot over emphasise the importance of being fully insured. For those of you who do not have insurance cover, do something about it now. For others with policies, get them out and make certain they are up to date, with sums insured which reflect the replacement value of your property. Check the insurance on house, contents, outbuildings, tanks, fences, etc. and don't forget insurance for motor vehicles, boats, caravans and horse floats.

Do this now, it is no good waiting until the fire is coming over the hill. Insurance companies will not want to know you then, and rightly so.

Sit down and complete an inventory of all of your belongings, take photos of your valuables and deposit both the list and the photos in a safe place away from your home. Talk to your Insurance Company and make certain that you understand the type of policy you have. Discuss what the policy covers, buildings and contents should provide new for old cover.

When establishing the replacement value of your property, don't forget to include loss of rent and removal of debris in the sum insured. It may be advisable to carry the highest excess to keep your premium lower.

Don't go to the end of the world seeking the

cheapest premium. We know from experience that no matter what the purchase, it is rare to obtain the best product for the cheapest price, and insurance is no exception.

Select a long standing and reputable company with an agent or broker who will sit and talk with you. Australia is well served by reputable insurance companies.

Most disputes and misunderstandings with insurance claims occur as a result of under insurance. This leads to disappointing claims settlements, so it is important to understand the terms of your policy and to insure for full replacement cover.

It is a traumatic and emotional experience to lose home and contents in a fire. To have that experience compounded by being inadequately insured could be devastating.

There is a degree of buyer reluctance to hand over money for a piece of paper - the insurance policy - but as many people can testify from experience, the insurance policy may turn out to be one of your most important purchases.

Neil McDonald

Village Bell Credits

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

Name of family Address.....

Tel Signed

Heritage Sites in Cardinia Shire

In the Draft Cardinia Shire Planning Scheme recently released for public review and comment, it is proposed that Heritage Overlays be added to cover all areas of the Shire.

The draft maps and the accompanying list show the location of both Aboriginal and post-contact sites of heritage significance identified during the Cardinia Shire Heritage Study completed last year. The overlays also incorporate similar information from the former Cranbourne and Sherbrooke Shire planning schemes to cover the full extent of the boundaries of Cardinia Shire.

The objectives of the Heritage sections of the Planning Scheme and the Overlays are to fulfil statutory obligations with regard to archaeological sites and to address issues of concern for heritage conservation. These latter include loss of rural landscape, demolition of significant buildings, related outbuildings and other physical elements as well as landscape settings and historic gardens. Loss of windbreaks and roadside hedgerows is also a problem, one that often comes with development.

In towns and villages, commercial precincts and historic streetscapes, parks, trees and monuments often give these settlements their distinctive character. A number of significant sites in this category is identified in the 1996 Heritage Study and acknowledged on the Overlays.

In its "Strategic Directions" the new Scheme proposes to protect heritage sites, seek advice from a qualified heritage adviser when necessary, provide for appropriate management of historic sites through permits for compatible use and encourage a conservation ethic among owners of heritage sites.

In all, 133 sites of significance have been added to the Shire planning scheme, an important increase over the one site that was previously identified (that one being the Silver Wells Historic Settlement in Gembrook.) Fourteen sites of state and regional heritage value are shown on Map 8 for the Upper Beaconsfield area, as is an aboriginal sacred site with Cardinia Reservoir.

Over the past five years, Cardinia Shire has undertaken a comprehensive program to identify hundreds of heritage sites with the municipality and to document those which represent particularly valuable elements of our history. This is noteworthy progress and it is gratifying to see heritage conservation take its place among other important issues in the new Planning Scheme.

Colleen Lazenby

Help wanted at Stoney Creek Roundabout

The Upper Beaconsfield Conservation Group would welcome offers of assistance from residents to maintain the roundabout at the intersection of Stoney Creek and Emerald-Beaconsfield Roads.

In Spring this garden is a mass of colour and gives considerable pleasure to many people, but like all gardens, it looks better when it is weed free.

If you can help at even one monthly working bee, please ring Gladys on 5942 7571 or Neil on 5944 3782. Our indigenous nursery at 1 Halford Street is open between 12 and 5pm each Friday. There are plants suitable for small gardens as well as taller trees and shrubs.

Gladys Aarons.

No More Bottles...

1st Upper Beaconsfield Scout Group regretfully have decided to close the bottle recycling depot adjoining the Pine Grove Hotel.

This decision was forced upon us as the contractor who was purchasing the bottles has advised us that he cannot continue to do so.

Several other contractors have been contacted but they are unable to help us.

From now on your bottles must be placed in the yellow half of your rubbish bin or taken to the Cardinia Shire tip off Bald Hill Road, Pakenham. You can also take bottles to the new Minibah recycling depot in Hallam Road, Hampton Park.

We sincerely thank all residents for your support as the depot was a source of fundraising for our Scout Group over many years.

Barry Smith

Fun at Camp Reefton

The Guides are well into their November program and once again our girls have had a great time, being kept occupied and amused on a weekly basis by our very dedicated leaders.

Along with Karen McQuilten (guide leader for the 10-15 year olds), Laurel Kay (President of our Support Group), and seventeen wonderful guides, I have just returned from a fantastic weekend at Camp Reefton, about 20 kms past Warburton.

Camp Reefton is situated on the banks of the Yarra River in an idyllic setting. During the 2 days which we spent there, we challenged ourselves by a variety of activities including abseiling 10 metres down a rock face, climbing up the "rocket" (also quite high) and launching through the air to catch hold of a swing, canoeing, commando course through lots of mud, archery and the possum flyer which is like bungee jumping in reverse!! All of the guides, and most of the leaders, took the plunge and had a go at everything. Our little one armed bandit with a plastered broken arm had a try!

Guides are certainly not boring. I attended a Pack holiday with the 6-11 year old guides. We climbed 8 metres up a tree and abseiled down, spent

a morning doing archery, went orienteering and walked up to Britannia Falls. We saw possums on a night walk and we all came home very weary but we all had a great deal of fun.

The Guides have had visits from the SES, Red Cross, and a self defence instructor. We visited Robert Gordon pottery to paint mugs for Fathers Day.

As the year draws to its close, the Guides will be making gingerbread houses and other Christmas crafts. We will as usual be joining the Cubs to sing Christmas Carols at Salisbury House and to present each of the residents of the House with a small Christmas gift.

I want to thank our two qualified leaders, one junior leader and one parent helper who helps out each week - thank you for doing a splendid job. We would like to hear from anyone who could help us by being a leader, helper, resource person - anyone with any skills to share. We will also welcome any new Guides. At present we have 21 girls who are 6-11 years old and 18 girls who are 10-15 years old, and we have a few vacancies. Please call me if you have any questions.

Linda Wilkinson

Salisbury Gully revegetation project.

Cardinia Shire's Environment Management Officer allocated three days work to Salisbury Gully by the Green Corp in October.

Green Corp is a supervised group of people between the ages of 18 and 25 who are working for the dole on environment projects within the Shire.

They receive training in plant identification and work place safety among skills needed to install paths, boardwalks, signs etc in parks. The time occupied in these activities counts toward any further education undertaken in the future.

During the time spent in Salisbury Gully they planted over three hundred indigenous trees and shrubs including some fast growing acacia to provide canopy for ferns until longer lived trees attain maturity.

Water was carted in buckets across that steep slope along McBride Road to settle the plants in. Each plant is protected by a plastic guard and a weed mat which also helps to retain moisture.

Fortune smiled and rain fell a few days after the planting was completed as well as several showers since.

After El Nino has gone somewhere else the committee looking after Salisbury Gully plans to plant ferns in the spaces. There are already some fronds poking through where weeds had been sprayed. We are looking forward to seeing the reserve regain its green beauty.



Off to the Jamboree

A lucky group of scouts will soon be travelling to Brisbane for the Jamboree in January. Fundraising for the scouts has been completed with a total pool of approximately \$6500 being raised. This has been a tremendous effort by those families and they thank the community for supporting their functions.

Joey Scouts.

A visit to the Zoo for all Joey Scouts in the State (could take some time for the animals to recover), Creepy Crawly night, Environment night and Christmas craft night.

Cub Scouts.

Yellow Cord Camp at Nyora, First Aid night, Possum Prowl, Christmas craft night and their annual visit to Salisbury House to distribute gifts and sing Carols.

Scouts.

Competition Camp at Nyora, Jamboree Troop Orientation Camp at Elwood, Campcraft night and general preparation for the Jamboree.

Venturers.

Two day hike to Cathedral Range and Indoor Rock Climbing. Our team had a fantastic weekend competing in the Armstrong 500 competition at Noojee State Forest winning the Country section and came Fourth overall.

Rovers.

Wilson's Promontory hike, Group BBQ, Caving weekend at Buchan, Annual Dinner. Several Rovers are assisting the Scouts each Thursday night.

It has been decided that each section will conduct its own Christmas breakup function this year instead of a combined one (It's hard to get so many people together for a function at this time of year). A combined Group weekend function is planned for next March 21 -22 instead.

We have concluded our firewood raffles for this year with the final one in October being won by Bill Gehling of Sugarloaf Road. Our thanks to all who have supported our major fund-raiser for the year and a special thanks to Peter Deering who allows us to store our firewood on his property.

Our thanks go to Andrea Shokavich who has volunteered to produce a Newsletter for the Group to keep everyone informed of coming activities. With such a large Group, having so many activities, it is difficult for parents to keep up and this initiative is most welcome. Andrea has also volunteered to become a Scout Leader, for which we thank her most sincerely, and we would like to hear from another parent or two to join her for this training.

With an influx of girls going through Joeys and Cubs we must have female leaders for the Scout section to accommodate the girls who progress to this level.

We take this opportunity of wishing everyone a happy and safe Christmas period and look forward to a fantastic year in 1998.

**1st Upper Beaconsfield
Scout Group
Barry Smith
5944 3219**

Red Cross

New Regional Chairman.

Mr. Phil Jones who has been the First Aid Instructor is about to become the new Chairman of the Henry Durant Region (8A). Phil and Pam Jones have recently moved house and their number is 039705 1536.

Registration Sessions.

During October a number of practice registration sessions were held at district locations. These sessions dealt with the registration of evacuees from a disaster area.

There is a need to adopt a solid plan of action for use in the event of minor or major disasters. Red Cross could be called on for catering and registration teams to become operational at short notice.

Blood Bank

The mobile blood bank visited Berwick Leisure Centre on Monday, 3rd November, Cup Eve. The donors totalled the surprising number of 142.

May I wish you all a peaceful and happy Christmas and a healthy New Year. I know that we will all be anxiously watching the weather. Let us hope that we do not get another Ash Wednesday.

**M. Womersley
03 9707 1103**



Belly dancing and much much more

The walls of the Upper Beaconsfield Community Complex have seen and heard a lot this year. The courses offered by the Community Centre have included: How to service your chain saw, Work Place Category 1 Training, master belly dancing, computer and small business courses. All of these and of course we have had the regular groups who meet at the centre - Craft Group, Cancer Support Group, Writers Group, Midway, Garden Group and many more.

The Community Centre is a place where everyone is most welcome to drop in and have a chat, but it is also a place to learn new skills, have fun and meet people.

In recent years, the role of the Community Centre has become very broad, and we now offer VCE & TAFE accredited courses.

This year we have run the Work Place Training Category 1 course and the Certificate IV Course

in Human Resource Operations. Both courses are accredited.

In 1998 an extensive range of courses will again be offered. These will range through work and study, health and well being, special interest, creative craft and kids activities. Please read the program which will be available for term one 1998 to see what the centre has to offer you to further your studies, interests and friendships.

In the next few weeks, a questionnaire will be circulated to residents in the area to establish what services and programs you currently use at the Centre. It will also tell us what services and programs the community want at the Centre. Please take some time to complete the questionnaire and return it. It is your Community Centre and it is important that it meets the needs of the community.

For queries or further information about the Centre, you can contact the coordinators on 03 5944 3484 between 9.00am and 3.00pm.

Sue Bailey

Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre

A busy time for St. John's

Christmas Cafe John

This will be held at St. Johns on Friday 5 December at 7.00pm. Everyone is welcome. For a three course meal and entertainment, please book tickets with Peter Joseland on 03 9754 3503 at \$20 per single or \$45 per family.

The Christmas Religious Education services

for the Upper Beaconsfield Primary School will be held at St. Johns on Wednesday 10 December. Grades Prep - 2 and 3-4W will be at 9.30am and Grades 3-4C and M, 5-6 will be held at 10.30am. The children and their RE teachers will welcome parents, grandparents and friends to enjoy participation in these services on the real meaning of Christmas.

Christmas services at St. John's will be:

24 December 11.00pm.

25 December 9.00am.

A summer series on the book of Revelation:

Each Sunday during January at 7pm, St. Johns will conduct a series of five studies on the book of Revelation, the last book in the Bible. We will consider the history of interpreting this book as well as taking a hard look at the text. All are welcome for it should be a challenging series.

A Lenten series introducing Christianity will begin on Ash Wednesday - February 25 1998 at 7pm. St. Johns will host a six week series of meals, talks and open discussion called "First Things".

For information regarding this series, please call the new vicar of St. Johns, Michael Flynn on 5944 3410.

Kath Florance 5944 4463

St. John's Fete 

Saturday 29 November
9.00am to 2.00pm.

Attractions 

Jumping Castle, Christmas Stall, Cakes, Craft, Sweets, Plants, Morning Tea/Lunch, Books, Trash and Treasure/Collectibles.

Locals in melodrama show season.

Gemco Theatre Company, one of the most progressive and active theatre companies in the district, is close to the grand opening of a Christmas season of "Melodrama Madness". Better than any Pantomime and slightly more adult, "The Fair, The Fearless and the Frightful" is directed by the talented director Peter Thatcher.

The performance is at Gemco Theatre Hall (between the police station and Puffing Billy line, Kilvington Drive, Emerald.)

The price of \$22.50 includes a sumptuous three course meal (BYO drinks) and the show will be held each Friday and Saturday night from 21 November to 13 December. The Sunday afternoon show does not include a meal and the cost is \$8.00.

The hilarious plot sees Lord Salacious, played by Beaconsfield Ted Horton, who has fallen on hard times and has had to sell his dilapidated but stately home to a former servant Horatio Hogwash who has made good!! Son of the house, Cedric (the baddie) mistakenly gets stuck in the bog when brushed aside by the youthful Horatio who is wooing the beautiful heroine "Angeline". Voluptuous maiden "Vera" is trying to steal the hero and ultimately evil Cedric goes to the dogs (literally) and turns into a (not so) gracious fairy.

This is a fantastic fun night out for couples or parties with group bookings of 10 or more enjoying the lot for \$20 per ticket.

Come and see Ted perform as Lord Salacious, with Steve Cooper from Berwick and Paul Oke from Upper Beaconsfield performing the parts of Cedric and country Yokel.

Opening 21 November.

Bookings Secretary Marg Gemmel
03 5968 4108.



Busiest year yet



It is hard to believe that 1997 has almost come to an end. This year has been our busiest to date.

In August 1988 a steering committee was set up to investigate the feasibility of a Care Group. At a public meeting in the hall, in March 1989, the Care Group as we know it was formed.

We have over 70 volunteers in our community who have been able to help residents who have needed assistance.

Our success has depended absolutely on the continuing generosity of our volunteers. These volunteers come from all age groups and walks of life, and we wish to publicly thank them for their ready willingness to help others.

Ray and Julie Allsop at the Post Office have been of tremendous help to us over the years in maintaining communication between volunteers and residents. Thanks Ray and Julie.

Community Week 1998

Each year we sponsor "Community Week" during which residents hold small "get togethers" such as street barbecues or parties in order to strengthen the already strong community bonds which exist. These are on a BYO everything basis with all residents being welcomed. It is a good way for new comers to meet neighbours.

The dates for these celebrations cover two weekends surrounding the Ash Wednesday anniversary .

We will again be contacting people to ask them to help organise this event.

The dates are Friday 13 February to Sunday 22 February 1998.

Salisbury House Outings.

We are providing volunteers to push wheelchairs for elderly residents of Salisbury House on their monthly outings. If you would like to help please contact our coordinator Meppy on 5944 3102.

Des McKenna 5944 3516

Wildlife watch

If you are not repelled by slimy, shiny, wriggling things with many legs or none, look under stones and logs to see what you can find.

I have written before about a 15 cm pewter-coloured snake I found under the rock which is meant for door key safety. Just the other day I discovered another one of the same colour, same thickness and about the same length under the same rock. Is it the same one or if another young of the same species, how long will it take to grow to an adult? Perhaps it is already an adult though it has a short tail typical of a copperhead. This species has been known to reach almost two metres. It apparently remains curled up under the rock all day even when the sun is comfortably warm. I have looked under the rock several times during the day and found it there.

During moist weather khaki or bright blue flat-worms lie spiralled like catherine-wheels under logs or stones. As they unwind they lay down a line of slime over which to glide on very fine hairs. Their lemon-yellow relations wander around in broad daylight. I have seen a yellow one disposing of a khaki coloured relative in double quick time, sucking body juices through a sucker held fast by extremely sticky slime. The same treatment is meted out to cockroaches and other insects. Little blue, native snails with shells which lie horizontally, also spend a lot of time under logs but seem not to be on the flat worms' menu.

As a change from looking under rocks I was driving down the Cardinia Shire offices driveway and noticed a magpie apparently affected by 'a young man's fancy'. The evidence for this conclusion was that it was early spring and he was carrying a bunch of yellow cape-weed flowers in his beak!

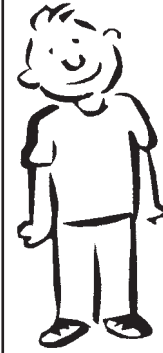
Once more fire hazard clearance time is upon us. We have made arrangements with the Shire to slash our own nature strip. On our property and nature strip I will work ahead of the brush cutter to mark patches of orchids and other wild-flowers whose seeds we wish to save. This is organized annually and has resulted in a pleasing increase in the native wildflower population.

I have been interested in plant responses to the dry year. Some of those apparently dead eucalypts are developing new leaves along trunks and upper branches. Will they be able to survive another dry summer? Considering that eucalypts have survived for millions of years why do we worry? Activities of some humans is more of a threat to vegetation than variable seasons.

It has been wonderful season for bird orchids and golden moth orchids. Tongue orchid plants which are usually showing all year are gradually dying back and most likely will not flower. On October 26, the 28C temperature encouraged blue sun-orchids to flower along the tree line. Flowers which didn't open will probably self-pollinate. Toward Christmas we hope to see hyacinth and cinnamon orchids among the golden wedge-pea and white-flowered cassinia shrub.

Laura Levens

It's Kinder enrolment time



We still have available positions for both our pre-kinder (McBride Road) and our Kindergarten (Stoney Creek Road). If you have an eligible child and would

like some information on the kindergartens, please contact our enrolment officers:

Pre-kinder

Teresa Cooper 5944 4189

Kinder

Jenny Benbow 03 9797 4451

It is hard to believe that term 4 is already upon us. The kindergarten children are beginning their transition to primary school program, and many pre-kinder children have attended open day at the kinder on 30 October.

Santa Claus has scheduled a visit to us on Thursday 11 December at our annual Christmas family picnic. The evening will commence at 5.30pm with an informal BYO picnic in the kinder grounds.

Melinda Conn



Farewell to the Riddos

It is with much sadness that the community of Upper Beaconsfield farewells the Riddiford family after 5 and a half years in the area. They will be moving to Albury/Wodonga where John will be heading up the Northeast Catchment Management Authority as CEO.

John was the President of the Upper Beaconsfield Association until recently. He has helped dispel the misconception, that only people who have lived in the area for over 20 years can make a contribution to the UBA.

John has not only made an invaluable contribution in his role as President, but also as a vital member of the steering committee formed to harness community involvement in the development of a Strategic Plan for Upper Beaconsfield. John's experience in working for Melbourne Water, his knowledge of the Cardinia area, and experience in dealing with local government have all been utilised in his contribution to the community.

Judy is well known in the Kindergarten Community for her warmth, friendliness, and sense of humour. She has held a number of portfolios on the Kindergarten Committee over the past few years, including President, Vice President, and the responsibility for Publicity and Marketing. Judy brought valuable experience to all these roles from her experience in the business sector. Judy has also been a very active member on the St Michaels School Council in Berwick.

Both Judy and John have contributed greatly to the local community, and the wider community, and they will be sorely missed, as will Daniel, Louise, and Charlie. We wish them well in John's new position and life in Albury / Wodonga. I am led to believe that Judy has offered to conduct special wine tours of the Rutherglen region for people visiting from Upper Beaconsfield.

Jim Jennings

Upper Beaconsfield Babysitting Club

If you need a babysitter over the coming months ring the following people:

December	Sue Bailey 59426259
January	Teresa Cooper 59444189
February	Anne McPhie 59444282
March	Wendy Jennings 59444023

A Successful year

The Pony Club has enjoyed a very busy and successful 1997.

March

One of the Club's 3 teams placed 4th at the West Gippsland Zone Junior Committee Showjumping day at Lang Lang. The club held a successful One Day Event with Bunyip Pony Club, at their grounds.

April

Teams entered in the West Gippsland Teams Combined Training Day (Grade 3 Team came 1st), and Games and Flat teams events held at Pakenham Pony Club and the West Gippsland Zone qualifier. The team was placed 2nd in the games and the flat team placed 5th and 2nd in the musical ride.

June

Two teams then went to represent the Zone at the State Games & Flat Teams day, with the games team placing 3rd after a close final game and the

flat team 13th in the musical ride.

August

The Junior Committee held a most successful trivia night at Beacons Hills Golf Club, which is proving more popular every year. Three teams entered the Prince Phillip Mounted Games held at Jesmond Dene indoor arena, Officer and one senior team placed 2nd and the junior team placed 3rd. September 9 candidates passed their C Certificate with flying colours.

October

Rally was held at Rolling Hill Park for 3 groups. Dressage Tests and the Cross Country Course being undertaken throughout the day.

November

Christmas Gymkhana and the riders entered different events from Best Turnout to Trotting Races, with the big event of the day being the Ice King Memorial which was won by Katie Kelly on Remington Steele (Davey).

Beaconhills Championships

The Club Championships have recently been played at Beaconhills. Congratulations go to Robert Kelly and Marilyn Ford for holding the titles for 1997. Marilyn has retained her title for six consecutive years. Other winners are:
B. Grade: Daniel Coulon and Judy Butler.
C. Grade: Brad Whitmore and Anne Kroon.
Junior: Andrew Harris. Veterans: Keith Robinson and Rosalie Leake.

The lady member's AGM was held late October. Local residents Captain Ettie Guilfoyle and Vice Captain Gillian Lewis retain their positions for a second year, Anne Keogh is a new committee member. Under Ettie's captaincy Beaconhills has won four prestigious trophies during the past twelve months -the Hiscock Salver (a District event) and three Bows (Mt Martha, Anglesea and Wonthaggi). Members travel far and wide entering tournaments, enjoying golfing friendship and competition with members of other clubs. Paula Rae, Pat Bird, Carole Skelton and Maureen Hill have recently played in the Australian Masters Games in Canberra. Paula and Pat returned triumphant after winning Bronze Medals.

Beaconhills will host the Commonwealth Bank Business Women's Competition on Sunday 11 January 1998. Entry forms are now available and it is important to note the closing date is 12 December 1997.

Forms are available from Ettie Guilfoyle 5944 3509 or from the office 5944 3309.

As a low stress introduction to golf for ladies, Beaconhills has a program of modified golf, emphasising fun and fellowship, on Mondays from 9.30am to 12.30pm. \$9 per session includes morning tea and loan of clubs if necessary. Enquiries Cathie West at the office number above. Child care is available at a small charge.

The Club would like to see more girls taking part in the excellent junior program provided by Beaconhills. 15 year old Zoe Clarke is the first junior girl to receive her 18 holes handicap and after submitting her five cards has entered with a

handicap of 17. Congratulations Zoe!

The 9 hole Twilight competition is held on Wednesday and Friday with tee off times between 3.00 - 6.30pm for members and introduced guests.

The AGM for the Club will be held on Tuesday 2 December. President John Barker and Captain Phillips will be stepping down from their position, so an election for President and new Boards

members will take place. Candidates have been asked to provide resumes and "statements of direction" to help members to make a considered choice. Voting will be by either applying to the office for a postal vote, or voting directory at the office before 5pm Monday 1 December. There will be no voting at the AGM. Brian Wills is nominated unopposed for the position of Captain.

Congratulations to Club Professional Graham Kelly who has been elected for a three year term as Vice President for the national body of the Professional Golfers Association. Congratulations also to Trainee Pro Mark Auhl for completing his second year with distinction. With Christmas fast approaching, the Pro Shop is a great place for finding suitable gifts for the golfers in your family. Gift vouchers are available for both equipment and lessons and for non golfers the light, comfortable wet weather gear is very suitable for travelling (rolls up easily), walking the dog or gardening in wet and windy weather.

All at Beaconhills wish the residents of Upper Beaconsfield a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Barbara Jackson 5944 3554



Pakenham Citizens Advice Bureau Inc.

A "free" 10 to 15 minute Legal Advice Service is offered at the CAB every Tuesday between 6.30pm and 7.30pm when a solicitor will be available.

The Bureau is open from 10am to 3pm Monday to Friday. Phone 035941 2377. The address is 68 Main St Pakenham.

Summer time is for tennis



Summer competition is well under way for Seniors and Juniors. Our 12 Junior teams are all doing well 5 weeks into the season which will finish in March with our popular Junior Presentation / Pie Night. Congratulations to Thea Nicholas, Kate Haussegger, Robert Scott, Chris Michalech, Tim Burridge, Sally Plowman, Jason Cousins and David Born who have been selected into the Coca Cola Squad.

This is a training squad for boys and girls in their respective age groups/standards and is held at Narre Warren Tennis Centre on Thursday nights and at Upper Beacy on Friday nights. Along with these training sessions, Inter-Association Challenge Matches are played, which is very good competition for our players. Kate and Thea (Girls U14) and Robert and David (Boys U12, together with Jason (Boys U10) have been selected to play another high standard Inter-District Competition. This is the J'Elle Squad (formerly Shell squad). Our players are representing Berwick & District Association and this is held on Sunday mornings from August through to November.

Congratulations also to Stephanie Marshall who came 5th in her heat of the 80 metre hurdles and Kate Haussegger who came 6th in her heat in the 800 metres at the recent Primary School State Championships - Well done girls !!

Night tennis continues to give players an opportunity to socialise and have a good game of tennis at the same time. Monday and Thursday night (Beginners & Intermediate) Competition is drawing to a close with finals being played two weeks before Christmas. We would like to invite any interested prospective players to come along and have a hit and join in a barbeque tea etc. For more information please contact Greg Whyatt on 5943 2472, or Barry Osborne on 5944 4265. Wednesday night Competition (Advanced players) has been going very well too and this will also finish one week before Christmas. Interested players can contact Phil Born on 5944 3222. Night Competition for Monday, Wednesday and Thursday will resume towards the end of January/early February.

Mid Week ladies competition is entering the finals. Good luck to Section 10 Tuesday, Sections 7 & 10 Wednesday, and Sections 2 & 3 Thursday.

Ladies' Christmas Break-up / Social Day will be held on Tuesday 9 December - please bring a plate.

Saturday Competition is going well and most teams have had some wins. Tuesday night has been set aside for any Juniors or Seniors wishing to have a hit from approximately 6:30 pm. Please contact Mark Bellgrove on 03 9560 7759 for more information.

All Juniors and their families, Senior Members, and interested Night Tennis players are invited to a Family Christmas Fun Day commencing at approximately 4 pm. on Saturday 20 December. Salads are provided - all you have to bring is your meat and drinks (drinks also available at bar prices). Of course don't forget your tennis racquet as the lights will be turned on after tea. Also, it is believed that Santa will be dropping in to say "Hello" to the girls and boys.

We are very proud of our excellent courts and surroundings. It is pleasing to see them being used for various informal tennis evenings and the occasional tournament. The committee would like to wish everyone happy hitting and a safe festive season.

Jenny McCormick.

New committee at the CWA

The Annual General Meeting of the CWA was held at the Community Complex on Thursday 6 November. The president, Mrs Betty Mars retired after serving 13 years on the committee.

New committee members were welcomed by the group president Mrs Gwen Monkton. The newly elected office bearers are: President Mrs Daphne Brown 03 9702 2568 Secretary Mrs Carol Murtagh 03 5944 4110 Treasurer Mrs Carol Nicholson 03 5941 3222 A delicious lunch was served.

The next monthly meeting will be on 15 December at 10am and will be followed by our Christmas break up lunch at the Pine Grove Hotel. For any information on the CWA or its activities, please contact me or any of the above office bearers.

**Lorraine Tenby
Public Relations Officer 03 9702 1670**

News from Salisbury House

One of many changes for Salisbury House this year has been the completion of the first stage of renovations. There is an extra lounge room and 5 extra bedrooms. The home now has 45 beds. The second stage of renovations will commence during 1998.

The residents have enjoyed many excursions in the Community Bus during the year. We have visited Caulfield racetrack for the United Nations Day for the Elderly, the Tulip Farm, Como House, the Casino and have had picnics at the beach and drives in the hills.

We have had visits from organisations such as the animal farm and the Melbourne Museum.

The Salvation Army visit the home every Monday morning for a sing-a-long. This is enjoyed by all and visitors are always welcome. If you have any free time, please drop in for a chat with the residents at any time.

We are starting an indoor garden in our new court-yard. If you have any pots or plants nor being used, or in need of a good home, please let us know. It will be great therapy for our residents,

many of whom were keen gardeners, to have plants to water and to see them grow.

We are having a Christmas raffle. Tickets will be available at the Post Office. The prizes are: 1st prize - a Christmas hamper, 2nd prize - a Christmas cake and 3rd prize is a teddy bear.

Christmas projects are underway. We will hold a Relatives and Friends day at the Hall. At this stage, the entertainment will be presented by a choir from Pakenham, followed by afternoon tea.

A number of our residents are going to the Cuckoo Restaurant for a Christmas dinner and entertainment.

With the help of the fire-brigade to push wheelchairs, we will be able to attend and enjoy Carols by Candlelight on Christmas Eve. We will be enjoying Christmas Day in the home. A few of our residents will be out for the day and those staying at home will enjoy a traditional Christmas Dinner.

I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and thank our volunteers for their support.

Lyn Beard

Invitation

Everyone is invited to the Christmas party at the Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre.
December 17
from 11.00am

BYO Plate of Food

*Come and join
the Christmas
celebrations*

Upper
Beaconsfield
Community Centre
Salisbury Road,
Upper Beaconsfield
Phone 5944 3484



Freedom from Hunger Doorknock

Our doorknock in September was down slightly on the figure raised last year. We raised \$1,776.20. This is an excellent result and we would like to thank all of you who contributed so generously by either giving of your money and/or by giving of your time as doorknockers!

CAA report that the amount raised in Victoria by this doorknock is approximately \$55,000 and nationally it is \$300,000. We have contributed over 3% of the total. Your involvement allows CAA to continue to support the determination and

enthusiasm of recipient local communities to find their solutions to poverty and social injustice. Just one example of the people you have been able to assist is the project in Zimbabwe. This project is helping to feed 5,500 children in 10 schools until traditional drought tolerant crops can be harvested. Well done.

Des McKenna
5944 3516



**Community
Aid Abroad**

UBA President's report

It is not without sadness that I am leaving Upper Beaconsfield as a result of pursuing a career with the North East Catchment Management Authority in Wodonga. Upper Beaconsfield is a vibrant community in a very attractive setting, and these key attributes Judy and I will sorely miss.

Because of my early departure I want to pass on this report of the activities of the UBA. This report would usually be presented at the AGM next February. The UBA has achieved a significant amount this year, and I feel that the community has benefited from the efforts of the UBA Committee.

Some of the highlights over the past twelve months include:

- ◆ Carols by Candlelight
- ◆ A successful Clean Up Australia campaign in Upper Beaconsfield
- ◆ A magnificent Village Fair
- ◆ A public meeting held in January to address community concerns re proposed rezoning applications
- ◆ An introduction to our two newly elected Councillors
- ◆ A presentation in June was given by Mr. Don Jackson on the planning process
- ◆ A survey was conducted to gauge community sentiment on various issues. The number of responses was excellent.
- ◆ A public meeting in August was held to discuss the Strategy Plan process
- ◆ A talk by Mr. Phil Allen (Small Business Victoria) provided an interesting and entertaining talk on the opportunities within the small business sector

The purpose of the UBA is to ensure that the residents of Upper Beaconsfield have their say on community matters, and to provide a proper forum in which they can have their say. The

other primary function of the UBA is to organise community events, particularly the Village Fair. It is important to remember that any fundraising that the UBA undertakes (e.g. the Carols stalls both at Upper Beaconsfield and Pakenham) goes towards providing a 'free' Village Fair for all the community to enjoy.

The purpose of the UBA has been particularly relevant this year with the proposed new Planning Scheme for the Shire and the proposed Strategy Plan for Upper Beaconsfield. There has been considerable effort from many community members in commenting on proposed rezoning and participating in the development of the format of the Strategy Plan. I feel that the UBA has achieved an enormous amount by allowing the wider community access to information as to the planning processes and how they can have their say. From the UBA's perspective it is not whose side you are on, but making available the opportunity to have your say.

It is for this reason that I urge community members to consider nominating for the UBA. I have found it a worthwhile and beneficial experience. However it is important to have new members to provide new impetus; a broader range of views on a committee can generate new and important initiatives, and act as a more effective voice for the community.

If you are interested in organising events or functions or you would like to participate in community discussions please consider nominating for the UBA. This can be done at the next UBA Annual General Meeting in the Community Hall at 8 pm February 4, 1998. Enquiries can be forwarded to Jim Jennings (5944 4023) Secretary of the UBA.

Finally I would like to thank our Upper Beaconsfield friends and colleagues for their warmth and support, something Judy, Daniel, Louise, Charlie and I will always treasure.

John Riddiford

Our population growth

Information from the latest census shows that the population of Upper Beaconsfield (the 3808 postal district) has changed in the following way over the past 10 years:

1986	2405	1991	2643	1996	2651
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In the same period the population of those areas that now make up Cardinia Shire has increased 36% from 31700 to 43000

Cr Graeme Kidd 5944 3400

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