



Fun for all at the Village Fair

Start the day of the Village Fair by taking a breath of fresh air as you participate in the 1999 Tower Challenge. For leisurely walkers or energetic runners, the Challenge will give a great boost to the day ahead of the Village Fair. Registration begins at 7.30am at the Recreation Reserve; walkers commence at 8.30am and runners at 9.00am.

After your refreshing exercise, you can enjoy the fun of the fair. Local business and organisations will be promoting their wares with enthusiasm. Stalls for many local groups will inform the onlooker of their purpose as an organisation and demonstrate their active life as part of the Upper Beaconsfield Community.

Activities, demonstrations and displays have always been an integral dimension of the Village Fair. Swing to the beat of Andes band, *Inca Marca*. At noon *Zero the Space Cat* will perform with Paul Jamieson, and at 12.40 pm the Fire Brigade will put on a display like no other!

As lunchtime approaches, the aroma of the Scouts' sausage sizzle, the Pony Club hamburgers, the school's pancakes and the Fire Brigade's devonshire teas will surely sate appetites of all fairgoers.

For children, there will be pony rides, face painting, and the climbing wall.

The day promises fun for everyone, while at the same time promoting local business and produce. The Village Fair begins at 11am and ends at 5pm.

Sarah Hassall

Future of Beaconsfield Reservoir?

Melbourne Water no longer needs Beaconsfield Reservoir and sees an opportunity to sell part of it to raise funds for projects elsewhere.

Parks Victoria has indicated that they are unable to take on the management of the Reservoir. Some very preliminary discussions have taken place with Cardinia Shire Council concerning their willingness to manage the area, but the Council does not have the funds to purchase the land outright and any arrangement would probably involve sale of some of the land for residential development.

There is a strong community feeling however that the reservoir should be retained in its entirety because it

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Welcome New Residents

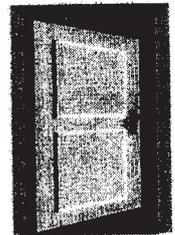
Laurie and Anne Braganolo
A'Beckett Road

Carol and Peter Mislicki
Emerald Road

Karenne Gregory and Family
Young Street

Andrew Grant, Jane Eaton and Mathew
Young Street

Bill Judith and Samantha
Thomas
Albers Road



Award to Tom

Congratulations to Tom Werner of Upper Beaconsfield, who was awarded "Best First Year Cadet" at Beaconhills College at a ceremony at St. James Anglican Church in Pakenham on February 18th. Tom in his brief time in the unit has demonstrated outstanding leadership and a very high standard of cadet knowledge. In particular, Tom is well known for his aptitude of field engineering and has already given many lessons on the topic. Tom also attended a Junior Noncommissioned Officer's Course at which he obtained a great result.

Tom is also an active member of the Upper Beaconsfield Scout Group and is presently the Troop Leader.

Editor's note

If you know of the achievements of any young people in Upper Beaconsfield, we would like to hear from you. It is nice to be able to report the good things that young people are doing.

(Continued from page 1)

is essentially undisturbed and has major flora and fauna significance.

A public meeting at Officer on Thursday, 11 March explored options for retaining the area. At that meeting it was agreed that a small committee should be established to clarify the status of the land and its possible disposal.

Councillor Ted Owen and myself have undertaken to liaise with that committee.

Cr. Graeme Kidd 5944 3400

Editor: For further details of the public meeting see page 20.

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SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL - UBA AND VILLAGE BELL

I 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 1999.

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

Name of family Address.....

Tel Signed

Now is the time for action!



Community workshop to develop action plan for Upper Beaconsfield

Wednesday 31 March at 7.45pm in the
Community Centre

Last year Cardinia Shire Council in consultation with the community developed a strategy plan for Upper Beaconsfield and Guys Hill. Key areas addressed in the strategy were:

- Social and community issues
- Environment
- Transport and traffic
- Residential development
- Commercial and economic activities
- Open space and recreation
- Waste water and other infrastructure
- Fire management

We as a community now need to take the outcomes of the strategy one step further and develop specific actions in each of the above areas. We propose to do this at a community workshop sponsored by the UBA to be held on Wednesday 31 March 1999 at 7.45pm in the Community Centre. We invite all residents to come and participate in what should be a very worthwhile meeting. We particularly wish to encourage young people and residents with young families to come along and make their contribution.

In simple terms the aim of the workshop will be to address the question: What needs to be done to make the township a better place to live in, and how will we go about achieving this? The answers might range from quite simple things that can be achieved quickly, to others that will involve considerable effort and time. We ourselves may be able to carry out some activities, but most will probably require commitment from the Shire and/or other authorities. By identifying and prioritising what we want for the township in the short, medium and longer terms we will be able to liaise more effectively to achieve realistic results. We will be in greater control of our destiny!

There will be copies of the Strategy Plan at the Upper Beaconsfield and Guys Hill Post Offices for your perusal prior to the workshop, as well as lists of the broad actions proposed in the strategy that we will be using as the starting point in the workshop.

We strongly urge you to come along on 31 March and be heard.

Keith Ewenson, Anne McCormick, Graeme Kidd

"Tas Tiger" guest speaker at UBA

At our general meeting on the 7th of April, we will be deviating from our normal presentation of local organisation speakers. Instead, we will have a guest speaker who will talk about the Tasmanian Tiger. The speaker's name is Mr. Peter Chapel.

Life membership

Another special feature will be the presentation of a Life membership to Jeanette Ballinger. To my knowledge this has only been granted on two previous occasions. The UBA will be able to report on their "Action workshop".

Traffic problems

Since the last committee meeting Graham Jackson has arranged for engineers from the RACV to inspect local traffic problem areas; a report of this activity will be presented.

At the time of writing this article we are still desperately in need of a Secretary and a Treasurer. If there is someone in the community able and willing to contribute, this is your opportunity.

Please contact me on
5944 3372.

**Keith Ewenson
President UBA**

Fresh local apple juice



Local residents, Joe and Robert Russo, who generously provided the truck for the 1997 and the 1998 Carols sound stage, have installed a 'state-of-the-art' fruit juicing plant at their property at

544 Brown Road Officer. The Russos have run this family owned business in the area for over 45 years.

Mr. E W Lowe originally planted the orchard in Officer in 1920. The property was later sold to a foundry company. In 1952, Angelo Russo and four of his brothers purchased the land. Angelo's sons, Joe and Robert, now run the orchard, which grows mainly apples.

The business has expanded over time; extra cool storage and packaging machinery have been added and the business provides employment for up to 20 local people.

Last year a hail storm damaged most of the crop. The apples tasted good but looked a little spotty. This set-back decided Joe and Robert to build the juice-making plant to utilise the hail-damaged apples. The juice made from these apples is superior to the usual apple juice because it is made from sound fresh apples.

There are plenty of good quality apples and pears being picked at present. The fresh fruit and juice are both available directly to the public from the packing shed in Brown Road, Officer. Entrance to the orchard is opposite Tivendale Road.

Jo Carter

Meeting neighbours

Another series of successful Community Week barbecues and parties has just drawn to a close. These functions have been happening in Upper Beaconsfield and Guys Hill since Ash Wednesday and they are a great opportunity to meet new neighbours and to renew older friendships.

Most of us lead such busy lives that we overlook the simple pleasure of spending a few hours with our neighbours, and this week ensures that we do not get completely out of touch.

The Salisbury Road group met for a barbecue behind the Community Centre. As usual Ros and Gary Allison organised this event.

We now have quite a few little children attending our celebration and our age range is from

Neighbourhood Watch needs you!

Neighbourhood Watch will again be at the Village Fair. If you want to have any items engraved or to have the children's bikes marked, please come along to our display. Don't forget your driver's licence!

The annual General Meeting of the Neighbourhood Watch will be held in August. At that time, our program will have been going for 6 years. I will be retiring from the position of area Coordinator at the AGM. I feel that after 4 years it is time for some "new blood".

Now is the time to decide whether you can spare a couple of hours a month to handle this quite simple task. You may have just retired and found that you would like to tackle a new situation. I am willing to help anybody who takes on this position and so will our "E" district police coordinator Peter Kelley.

We are in need of someone to write the newsletter. I am co-editor with Lee Eldridge, so you can see that anybody can do this job. Access to a computer is handy. We also need someone to manage our funds. The amounts are not those of the National Treasury but are important to us. Help will be available.

There is a bond that binds our community and statistics show that NSW does work. We would all be sorry to see this organisation go the way of the Safety House program because it is the "criminal element" which will benefit.

Lorraine Barnes 5944 3624

tiny babies right up to octogenarians.

My son and daughter-in-law have just moved into a new home in High Street, Guys Hill and they were welcomed at their street party. This is a lovely way to become part of a community. I wonder if any other community has such a delightful tradition.

The Village Bell editors are keen on neighbourliness. The group often asks one of the editors to write an article commending our community good neighbour attitudes and pointing out ways to maintain this situation.

Jo Carter

Tasmanian Tiger Update

10.15 am Sat 20 Feb 99

X was driving towards Upper Beaconsfield alongRoad on a bright and sunny morning. She spotted an animal in the shadows on the side of the road. The animal had high bony narrow haunches suggestive of sloping spine of the Tasmania Tiger, and a very long thin tail. No stripes were noted because the animal was in full shadow but X is sure it was not a dog or a fox.

Ysabelle Hobson

Upper Beaconsfield Rural Fire Brigade.

Replacement Truck appeal

We are still proceeding with the fund raising for our replacement fire truck. The fund-raising committee of the Brigade has several projects planned.

One of these is a Dutch Auction in July of this year. Any donations of goods and services - i.e. gift vouchers etc.- would be most appreciated.

Other planned activities are a Golf Day, Bush Dance and a Trivia night.

We appreciate the generosity of the residents who have responded to our appeal at the end of last year. This appeal is still open; residents who may have overlooked the matter or forgotten to forward their donations can still do so.

You can send your donation to the Brigade or leave it at the Post Office. Remember - all donations over \$2 are tax deductible!

Mike Schimizzi & Ray Allsop

Leader commitment



The Upper Beaconsfield Scout Group AGM was held last Wednesday and the annual report was pleasing with details of a fulfilling year for all concerned. Our youth members were provided with a variety of outings to special places and camps etc. which is a reflection of the commitment of the leaders to

arrange their programmes.

We have a wealth of experience in our leaders with a total of 80 years service between them, with Steve Thomson (20 years), Jenny Conn (14), Steve Fisher (9) and Glenn Burridge (7) contributing a total of 50 years.

Sadly, we have lost our Group Leader Jan Carmody who has been a tower of strength during her 5 year term. Jan has given excellent leadership to the youth members, leaders and Group Committee, being the main force behind many of our functions. Glenn Burridge has also resigned and we thank him for his significant contribution as Cub Scout leader.

Two leaders were awarded Scouts Australia Good Service Awards recently - Steve Thomson the Silver Arrowhead Award and Steve Fisher the Certificate of Merit. The Group Committee has had mixed fortunes in our fundraising activities with firewood raffles, the inaugural Fun Run and Car Boot Sale being well supported and, because of positive feedback and requests, will be conducted again this year. However our Trivia night and Bush Dance were abandoned due to lack of support, which was most disappointing.

With our youth membership now in excess of 100, we have a considerable turnover of funds that have been administered very capably by Treasurer Danny Ryan. Danny is also retiring and we thank him for his input over the past 3 years on the committee.

We are on a recruitment campaign at present to replace the retirees and to increase the overall numbers of leaders and parents on the committee. Anyone who has these skills to offer would be made most welcome.

Barry Smith 5944 3219
1st Upper Beaconsfield Scout Group

UBA notes**AGM February 3 1999**

Keith Ewenson was re-elected as President of the UBA with Anne McCormick as Vice President. The treasurer and secretary retired and replacements were not forthcoming.

The Village Bell subcommittee of Jo Carter, Carolyn Floyd, Graeme Kidd, Susan Pitman, Helen Smith, Charles Wilson, Russell Williams, Gilda Hansen and Sarah Hassall were accepted.

Pat Edwards was re elected as Public Officer.

Meeting highlights**Craik Road**

Determination of the sale of Lot 10 Craik Road is to be deferred until adjoining sub-division is finalised.

Musicians Expo

Jasmine Hewson, Doug Field, Roger Gordon and Ray Allsop were elected to a sub-committee of the UBA to run the Entertainment Expo in Charing Cross on 20 February 1999.

A sausage sizzle is to be held and proceeds are to go to the Fire Brigade. Community groups will be encouraged to set up stalls to promote their interests. No fund-raising is permissible from food items.

Clean Up Australia

March 7 1999. Fire Brigade was responsible for a specific section of roadway.

Guest Speakers

Liz Grigg - President UB Riding Club. Liz gave an informative presentation about the history, activities and facilities of the club. She also discussed some local issues regarding horse trails, erosion of trails etc.

Ray Woff - President UB Pony Club. Ray highlighted the fact that the Pony Club is a youth organisation and not a sporting organisation. Issues covered included land for equestrian use, creating and improving horse trails and signage.

Keith Ewenson

CWA Upper Beaconsfield***Mrs Helen Phillips***

Upper Beaconsfield CWA would like to give our condolences to the family of Mrs. Helen Phillips. Helen was a member of the CWA for 28 years. She served for several years as president and as a craft leader she was always lending a helping hand to others.

Jewellery demonstration

The CWA will be serving a scrumptious afternoon tea at the "Ooh La La" demonstration. The jewellery will be on display for you to browse or buy.

This function will be held at the Community Hall in Salisbury Road at 1,30pm on Thursday April 1st. Entry is \$3.50. Please contact Carol Murtagh on 5944 4110 for more information.

Lorraine Temby 9702 1670

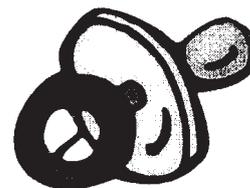
Babysitting Club

The Upper Beaconsfield babysitting group welcomes any families who would like to join. We are a group of local mums in the area who mind each other's children when required.

If you would like more information about the group, please contact the co-ordinator, Julie Whitely, on 59444252.

The roster for the coming months is:

April	Judy Prowse
May	Anne Hutchinson
June	Judi Fenby



Berwick Toyota Tower Challenge



On the 28th March, Upper Beaconsfield is set to stage the running of the Berwick Toyota Tower Challenge. The Upper Beaconsfield Scout Group in conjunction with the Upper Beaconsfield Village Fair runs this event.

The Tower Challenge invites competitors to climb to the heights of the water tower at the top of McKenzie Road. Competitors can either walk or run over the course. The hilly 8-kilometre course provides participants with picturesque views of the local area. All age groups are encouraged to participate. There are shorter, less-demanding three and one kilometre courses available for children under the ages of 12 and 8

respectively.

Competitors in the walking category start at 8.30am while the runners head off at 9am. Tremendous interest is spreading about the event. Many organisations are expected to field entrants in the individual and the team categories. An added incentive is that the Scouts have offered competitors the opportunity to nominate which local group will benefit from their entry fees.

All competitors will have the opportunity to win some great prizes and gifts donated by the event sponsors. The Upper Beaconsfield Scouts would like to thank the following sponsors for their contribution:

South East Newspapers, Berwick Toyota, KEA Australia, Repco Auto Parts, Fernwood Fitness Centre, Molyneux and Byrne, Pakenham McDonalds, Beaconsfield Swim School, Mountain Ocean and Travel Publications, Fenton Consulting, Hallam Road Hotel and Smiths Chips.

Entry forms are available from the Upper Beaconsfield General Store or you can contact Tom Gibson on 5944 4227.

David Bloom 5944 3310

Brownies/Girl Guides has closed

As we have been unable to recruit any leaders, the Brownies and Guides have been forced to close.

If you are able to help the girls by offering your services as a leader, please ring me on the number below.

Leslie Cleary 5944 4141

UBRFB Auxiliary

Fundraising

The Auxiliary members, along with the Brigade, have been busy in recent months with a variety of fundraising activities.

Proceeds are being deposited directly into the campaign to purchase the new fire-fighting vehicle for the village.

We would like to extend our thanks to community members whose generous support of our activities enabled the Auxiliary to transfer over \$3300 to the truck fund early this year.

We will be at the Village Fair next, in our usual spot in the Tea Room, also known as the Cricket Club rooms. Our thanks to the Club for use of their facility.

Devonshire tea and coffee, sandwiches, cakes, orange juice and cordial will be available all day, in a relaxed indoor setting with plenty of tables and chairs.

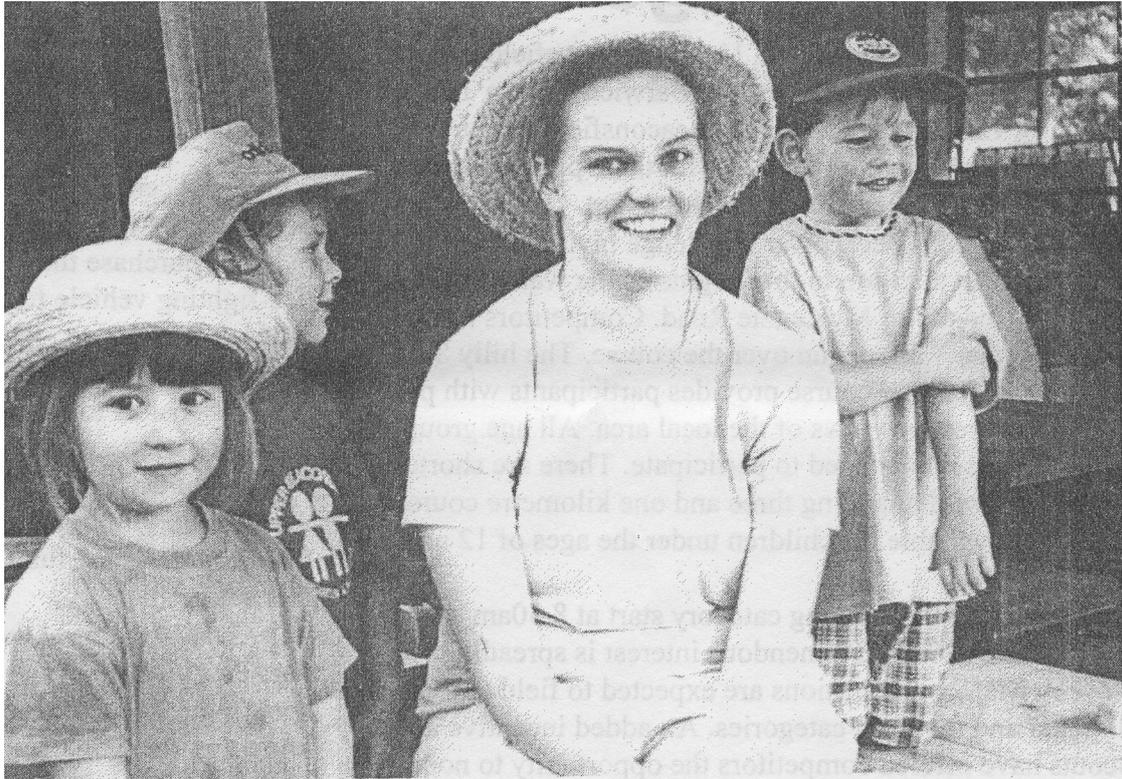
Come and take a break from festivities at the Fair, eat delicious home-baked food and support your local Fire Brigade in the process.

In addition, the Auxiliary will be selling inexpensive greeting cards, cakes and other items from our tent at Site 1 on the Oval. Raffle tickets for three prizes will also be sold.

We look forward to seeing you on the day.

Colleen Lazenby

Kinder welcomes Heidi



Heidi Watzke, seen here with Jasmine, Emily and William, is the new Kindergarten Director at Upper Beaconsfield. Heidi, who lives in Berwick, is teaching the children this year whilst Karen Chugg is on maternity leave following the birth of her daughter last year.

The children have had a smooth start to the year under Heidi's guidance. She has been ably assisted by the always smiling Lyndall, who has been the assistant at the Kinder for the last four years. Together, they have firmly established the routines of creative activities, music time, outside playtime and story time, and the children are busy and happy getting to know each other.

During their first theme, "Summer and the Sea", the children were invited to bring shells and other treasures from beach holidays for discussion. During a week of "Colours" the children had to remember (with a bit of help from Mum and/or Dad) to wear red on Monday, blue on Tuesday and yellow on their next day. During the "Me and my Body" theme the children made life-sized body pictures of themselves and painted them all the colours of the rainbow!

These self-portraits will create a colourful display for our fund-raising tent at the Village Fair. At our tent, children of all ages will be able to choose their own plaster cast, paint it and take it home with them. This activity is great fun and has been extremely popular over several years. Be sure you don't miss it!

We are still accepting enrolments for Pre-Kinder in McBride Road, Upper Beaconsfield. Pre-Kinder offers a stimulating and creative program specifically for 3-4 year old boys and girls. It is set in an attractive and secure environment and has much to offer young children.

Playgroup operates morning and afternoon play sessions at McBride Road.

For more information or enrolment details, please contact these people:

Vikki Price (Kinder) 59444505

Donna Parker (Pre-Kinder) 97699937

Karen Wellard (Playgroup) 59443165

Rosemary Russell

Horses and safety on the roads

Do you feel safe when you are riding your horse on the roads?

Riding in the Upper Beaconsfield area is becoming more hazardous and less enjoyable. Progress has reached the rural area, and traffic as a result is heavier. Some property developers do not seem to see further than the almighty dollar and do not plan properly to allow safe off-road riding trails. Split Rock Road and Salisbury Road are notoriously dangerous, and there have been several incidents where riders and horses have been badly frightened by speeding traffic, or have come close to collision with a car.

A horse is classed as a vehicle within Road Safety Regulations and has as much right to the road as motor cars. The quietest of horses can be frightened by drivers who fail to slow down, spray stones, or perform "wheelies". Perhaps those drivers who have never given horses a second thought should consider the burden on their conscience should a rider or horse be injured or killed. Horse riders are often the target of offensive or unacceptable behaviour from drivers. Riders who are harassed on the road should report the matter to police. There are offences to cover this behaviour. Do not be intimidated by lack of knowledge or by the person instigating this dangerous practice.

Wandering dogs can also be a serious risk to horse riders. Horse owners are generally dog lovers - but it can be frightening for both horse and rider when confronted or chased by an unfriendly dog. It's against the law to allow a dog to wander and not safe for the dog either. But responsible dog-owners who walk their dogs on leads are also at risk from speeding cars, particularly in Split Rock Road and Salisbury Road.

Horse riding is a lifestyle choice, and Upper Beaconsfield is a very special and beautiful area. A little road courtesy and common sense will help keep it that way.

Anne Lloyd

Note:

Anne Lloyd is a member of the Upper Beaconsfield Riding Club who is very concerned about a number of recent reports of accidents and near misses between horses and cars in the area. She is well-versed in the relevant safety requirements and road laws and would be happy to provide information to motorists and horse riders. This information may be published in future issues of the "Village Bell".

All queries should be in writing, bear a name, address and phone number, and should be addressed to: - The "Village Bell" Editor, c/- Post Office, Upper Beaconsfield 3808.

Upper Beaconsfield Pony Club

Five of our members – Wendy Daniels, Lauren Emmet, Katie Kelly, Rebecca Woff and Natalie Kerpen – qualified to be part of the West Gippsland Zone team to compete at the 1999 Dressage and Showjumping Championships which were held at Werribee Park on 14th February.

Wendy was placed 3rd in the Individual "A" grade showjumping, Lauren's team was placed 2nd in the "C" grade showjumping. Katie and Rebecca (Grade 1 Dressage) and Natalie (Grade 3 Dressage) did not place but represented the zone well at this very high level of competition.

Congratulations to these riders who have proved that they are right up there with the best in Victoria at their own levels.

The Pony Club is in urgent need of a second-hand tandem trailer suitable for transporting showjumping equipment. If anyone can help, please contact Brad Trewin 59427303 or Marlene Kelly 59443487.

Marlene Kelly



Early days at Faldinghurst



Right - A view of the home not long after it was built, a house on a bush block - a lot different to the home today set in an English-style garden with oak trees. Photographs provided by Carolyn Floyd.

In September 1932 John and Leighton, the elder sons of Judge and Mrs Richardson became partners in an experimental dairy farming venture on rented land in Emerald Road, Upper Beaconsfield. As it seemed to be successful, Mrs Richardson purchased 100 acres of adjacent land for her sons, who put a primitive shack known as "Buckingham Pal-lis" on the farm. Later another 100 acres was added.

In May 1934, Mrs Richardson had a house built on the property for her husband and herself to use for holidays and as a weekender, and for permanent accommodation for her older sons. Her youngest son was named "Falding", a traditional Richardson name, which also became part of the new house named "Faldinghurst".

The young farmers worked hard, digging channels to drain the swamp; ringbarking, cutting and burning the trees, moving the larger trunks using horses and pulling stumps with horses and a Trawalla jack. Later they purchased a steel wheeled Fordson Major tractor to assist in these tasks, but usually using horse drawn machines for mowing and raking hay.

The cattle they chose were Red Polls, which they bred, sold, and exhibited with great local success, and which proved to be excellent milkers. The milk was carried in 12 gallon cans placed in the sidecar of a Indian motor bike and largely sold around Upper Beaconsfield. In those days customers left a billy or jug at the gate with a note and the money.

Leighton married Elizabeth McBride in 1935 and they had two sons, Tim and Garry.

Faldinghurst is one of the older homes of Upper Beaconsfield, fortunately spared from bushfires which have destroyed many of the old houses. It is located close to the intersection of Stoney Creek Road and Emerald Road, near the VEC.

Left - Hay making in the mid-thirties, before the days of bales. Note the tractor wheels



In 1939 both John and Leighton enlisted. John was not accepted. Leighton served in New Guinea achieving the rank of Captain. John became a Berwick Councillor, defeating the sitting Councillor Claude Harris.

The farm continued until 1949 when it was sold to Bert Nicol, whose Highett market garden had been acquired by the Housing Commission. Bert, a large man, had two similar sons, all were very hard working, good farmers, and able to repair or make anything needed on a farm. They purchased a second hand tractor and later a bulldozer which enabled them to improve drainage, create dams, and improve the stock carrying capacity of the land. Faldinghurst Farm became a local landmark and source of pride.

They painted their house white, and gave the garden much loving care. It was so attractive people would stop their cars to look at it.

In 1972 the Nicols sold to a syndicate for a very good price, and moved to another farm in Wangaratta. The syndicate subdivided the farm and Faldinghurst now owned by Carolyn and John Floyd, is presently reduced to 40 acres.

Charles Wilson

Bouquets

Resident Julie Leidl was walking with a neighbour along Lewis Road recently when they found a trailer load of rubbish dumped on the horse trail that runs alongside the Cardinia Reservoir fence. Julie examined the rubbish for clues, found an envelope with a name and Upper Beaconsfield address, and made a few phone calls.

It seemed that the owner of the rubbish had recently moved house. Undaunted, Julie rang Telstra and managed to get the new phone number.

The person concerned was deeply shocked to hear what had happened. She explained that a relative had wanted to borrow the trailer, which was full of rubbish from moving house. The relative had promised to take the rubbish to the tip and had even been given the tip fee!

The owner of the rubbish rang her relative about the matter. Julie was delighted when, a short time later, she saw the rubbish being removed from Lewis Road - every last scrap of it.

Beware of imitations

Residents may recall fund raising events held at the Victorian Equestrian Centre in which the star attraction was billed as the "Miniature Lipizzaner Stallions". The real Lipizzaner Stallions are, of course, to be found in Austria at the Spanish Riding School and are world famous. The Stallions are trained in a very special way over a period of 15 years, and can perform very difficult dressage movements - in particular the incredible movements known as "Airs Above the Ground". It is only natural that the Spanish Riding School trainers are not impressed by anyone trying to imitate their work.

Three trainers from the Spanish Riding were recently in Australia and, as luck would have it, happened to visit Upper Beaconsfield's Victorian Equestrian Centre. (Talk about a probability of about one in a million.) There they spotted a photo of the Miniature Lipizzaners and their "trainers" and were most disconcerted. Luckily, after learning that the Miniature Lipizzaners are a comedy act who can no more perform airs above the ground than kangaroos, the trainers saw the joke!

Ysabelle Hobson

Volunteers to aid the aged

There are various organisations in our community which offer support and comfort to our aged residents.

These groups are manned by volunteers and are always interested in hearing from anyone able to give some of their time to others. Volunteers are needed to go for walks with the elderly, play scrabble with them, play musical instruments for them, read newspapers and books to them, just sit and talk to them, garden and lots of other activities.

If you could spare some time on a weekly, fortnightly or monthly basis, please contact some of the following people for more information:

Care Group

Des McKenna 59443516

Salisbury House

Jane Polton 59443443

Pakenham Aged Care

Jeni Mathieson 59411222

Urgent sale to good home only

QH filly 15 months, bay but will colour out (Appy dam) and grow to 15-15.2h. Docs Bar/Circle J stock. Very reluctant sale - price negotiable for the right home.

Contact owner through Ysabelle 5944 3273

Community Care Group Notes

Training Video



We have completed our 10th full year of operation and proudly marked the occasion at our Annual General Meeting on the 25th of March with the release of our training video. This video will be used as a guide to all our volunteers, both experienced and new, in explaining how the Care Group operates and what the group expects from its volunteers.

The fact that we have over 70 active volunteers in our community is really quite remarkable in this day and age and means that we are able to spread the workload fairly well to ensure that no one is overloaded.

The training video called "A Caring Community" is a wonderful achievement having been conceived, written, directed and acted out completely in our community by local people.

We have to thank:

Maureen Scott Director
Sue Bradley Co-ordinator
Carolyn Floyd Scripting
Ysabelle Hobson Consultant
Jo Rankin Voice over and consultant

Actors :

Kate Varty
Sarah Oldmeadow
Jade Maddocks
Tom Edwards
Elva Ratcliff
James Bradley
Peter George

Others assisting

Melissa Nance
Michelle Knowles
Jeremy Knowles

Congratulations to all these people who gave so generously of their time and skills to make the video such a success

Community Week

From all reports coming in Community Week was once again an outstanding success with many gatherings having almost twice as many attending as last year. Community week is a great way to get to catch up with your neighbours and often this is one of the few times in the year that we can make time to say g'day and find out how things are going in your immediate neighbourhood.

We look forward to next year being even bigger.

Can We Help You?

The Care Group offers to all residents of Upper Beaconsfield, Guy's Hill and Dewhurst free emergency assistance in such areas as domestic help, child minding, transport, home handyman services and frozen meals.

These services are available to all residents irrespective of their personal circumstances and are available 7 days per week. During 1998 we had 122 referrals for assistance which resulted in 423 "visits". This is an average of 2 referrals per week and more than one visit per day. Perhaps we can also help you.

You can contact the Group by phoning Annette 5944 3574, Glenda 5944 3884 or Des on 5944 3516.

Des McKenna

Crèche now open 5 days a week

Due to popular demand, our wonderful crèche at the Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre is now open on Thursday.

This makes quality childcare for courses or occasional care available five days a week!

Hours are 8:45am - 4:00pm Monday to Friday.

For inquiries, please phone the Centre on 5944 3484.

Dale Irving - Noblet Player of Year

The cricket season concluded on Saturday night March 6 with the counting of votes in the Noblet Player of the year. As a result of the count young 16 year old Dale Irving, who was promoted to A grade at the beginning of the season, was declared the winner.

Fred Noblet was also a young Upper Beaconsfield cricketer. His cricket career was tragically curtailed when he died in a car accident in Berwick. Fred had the cricket world at his feet. His brother Bill donated the trophy that has become the Fred Noblet Memorial Player of the Year award and is presented to the player who polls most votes during the season. Dale also played in the WGCA.'s U.19. Team as well as the Mornington Zone's Coca-Cola Cup team. Congratulations Dale!

Other highlights of recent events include our U.12's who reached the semi final stage of the annual Knockout competition. The team first beat Emerald then unfortunately narrowly fell short by just three runs when they journeyed down to Nyora - with their picnic baskets. The team has enjoyed a successful year under the tutelage of Upper

Beaconsfield's junior coordinator Roly Betheras. Roly has recently bought a property at Somers and has indicated that he will no longer continue with the club. We are indebted to you Roly for all your efforts with the youngest players in our club. All the players have responded enthusiastically to your engaging manner and parents have appreciated your efforts too.

Our Junior Presentation afternoon is to be held at the Pine Grove Hotel on Sunday March 14 commencing at 5.00pm. All junior teams will be presented with awards for the season's efforts. All parents are welcome to attend.

The club's Senior Presentation evening will be held on Friday March 26 at the Pine Grove Hotel commencing at 7.30pm. All players and supporters of the club are most welcome to attend. We wish to thank all those people who have sponsored the club - particularly the Pine Grove Hotel under Fred and Jill Ward who have assisted us on many occasions.

Rob Hansen

St John's art and craft market

St. Johns Church will be hosting an Art & Craft Market Day at the Church on Saturday 1st May 1999 between 9 am and 3 pm. This follows on from the successful Art & Craft Exhibition held in 1997.

Members of the community who have a skill or hobby that they would like to exhibit are welcome to do so, for example, painting, embroidery, cooking, gems, jewellery, knitting, sewing, cards, pot plants, woodwork, photography, drawing, craftwork etc.

The Church is keen to have all our talented community members showcase their work and this is a unique opportunity to do so at no cost.

There is also stall space for those who would like to rent space to sell their items. All profit is retained by the stallholders with a modest fee of \$10 for the hiring of the stall.



All stallholders will have access to free tea and coffee throughout the day with Devonshire teas and Ploughman's Lunches available for the browsers and buyers.

At 10.30 am Peter Deering will hold an auction of new, donated items and prizes for the colouring competition awarded. Entries to the colouring competition will be given out to the children at primary school.

If you are interested in exhibiting or setting up a stall phone Kath on 5944 4463 or write to "Art & Craft Market", P.O. Box 137, Upper Beaconsfield 3808.

Gilda Hansen

Red Cross Report

Red Cross drivers

The unit is always on the lookout for more drivers, especially those prepared to drive to the city or inner suburbs. Further information is available. An ideal situation would be for couples who have retired to contribute their time to Red Cross. This is a very busy service.

Murray Marathon.

A truly great effort came from Beacon-hills College students who competed very successfully in a variety of events.

Major raffle

We expect that tickets in our major raffle will be sold in your local area after Easter. The first prize is a car and two spending sprees are second and third prizes.

Fund raising function.

Members will provide a light luncheon followed by a showing by McKenna's Footwear of "Shoes through the Ages". This will be very interesting. It is Mr. McKenna's ambition to establish a "Shoe Museum".

The function will be held at the RSL hall in Berwick on Friday 21 April. Please notify one of your local Red Cross members if you would like to support this event.

City blood bank donor centre closed.

The centre in Collins St Melbourne has closed due to decrease in blood donations. The centre will move to the Latrobe University Medical Centre at Bundoora.

Meetings are held on the second Friday of each month at 10am in the RSL rooms, Langmore Lane, Berwick. We need new members to support your unit chairman, Barbara Jackson.

M Womersley 9707 1103

March Red Cross Calling

At time of writing the annual Red Cross door knock is under way and a full report will be in the next issue of the Village Bell. Upper Beaconsfield residents are wonderful supporters of the work of Red Cross and your donations are very much appreciated.

Volunteer callers were a bit harder to find this year and I would like to thank the Upper Beaconsfield I Rover crew for helping out once again, especially in areas of difficult access. In addition to the Rover Crew 29 voluntary callers, including first time callers Anne McPhee, Jamie Tainton and Edwina Vaughan will be knocking on doors and braving the dogs.

If you were out or missed by the callers and would still like to contribute to Red Cross, please phone me and I will be around with my receipt book!

Barbara Jackson 5944 3554
Upper Beaconsfield
Red Cross Calling Organiser

Entertainment Expo

The Rotunda at Charing Cross provided a wonderful setting for the Entertainment Expo which was organised by the Upper Beaconsfield Traders Group to celebrate Community Week. Over 300 people attended and were entertained throughout the day by a variety of performers, including vocalists, didgeridoo, whip cracking, bands and even Elvis. Stalls were scattered amongst the trees creating a carnival atmosphere.

The Fire Brigade provided a popular sausage sizzle, the Riding Club sold second-hand gear, there was CWA craft, local books, information about local groups and you could get a five minute caricature or even a tattoo!

The Traders would like to thank all participants for their support. We would like to thank Di Faulkner for judging the amateur section and the band members of Wild Country for making their equipment available throughout the day to other performers. Thanks to them also for designing the program layout. Of course, we thank the Village Bell for printing.



Jasmine Hewson

Tennis Club finals

We are nearing the end of our Summer Season and are glad to report that some teams are looking pretty promising, with great hopes of bringing home a flag or two.

Juniors

Six junior teams have managed to reach the finals. Three were unlucky in the preliminary round, but Section 18 (Boys) are straight into the Grand Final, and Section 3 and Section 16 will be playing in next week's Semi Finals. Good luck to those teams. There will be a Junior Presentation-cum-Pie night on 20th March to finish off the season.

Seniors

A couple of teams are still alive in the Saturday competition. Section 6 Mens Caulfield/Carrum are likely contenders for a flag, finishing second. Section 1 Dandenong/Berwick have managed to reach the Semis with Section 5 finishing third too. Next season we will have 4 or 5 teams playing.

If anyone wishes to play they should contact Ian Haythorpe on 5944 3896 or put their name on the list inside the clubhouse ASAP.

Night Comps.

New lights on the fifth and sixth courts have given night-time comps even further impetus, not that they needed any! These are among our most popular and successful ever comps. The new lights now allow us to finish up and get home a bit earlier than previously. Weeeell, at least those so inclined get home a bit earlier - the après-match socializing doesn't seem to have waned much!

Monday night have started their new comp with nine teams entered. All is going well with Upper Beacy on top. Anyone interested should call Greg Whyatt on 5943 2472

Wednesday night is into its sixth week and also going well with seven teams entered (standard approx. Section 2 upward). Players should contact Cam McCormick on 9704 2745.

(Continued on page 16)

Academic achievement award



One of the very special awards presented on Graduation Night at Beaconsfield Upper Primary School is the Rotary Club award recognising academic achievement at the grade six level.

This award was I started by the Rotary Club of Upper Beaconsfield and when they handed in their charter, a trust was set up through the Rotary Club of Berwick to continue this award.

Last year's recipients (pictured left to right) were Daniel Brennan, Ashlee Bull, Stephanie Marshall and Sarah

Van Dyk. They are pictured with their certificates, presented by Mr. Laury Gordyn, Vocational Services Chairman for the Rotary Club of Berwick.

Thank you to all concerned with maintaining this important award and we look forward to continuing this wonderful tradition for many more years.

Mark Carver

Beaconhills golf news

Women's golf at Beaconhills is building rapidly with 13 new members joining over the summer. With so many new members joining in such a short period, Vice Captain Anne Felgate and committee member Paula Mitchell have introduced a "big sister" programme to ease their introduction into club life and competition.

The 1999 golf season started with a great success for the lady members with Anne Felgate, Annette Phillips and Cora Shovelton winning the Bowl at Southern Golf Club early in February. The Betty Forster Memorial trophy played for over the summer 13-hole comps was won by one of our newer members Shirley Davenport.

Charity Day in aid of the Walter & Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research was again well supported with both a ladies' and men's competition. Two eagles were scored on the day - one by Jenny Browning on the 1st hole of the Hills course and a most spectacular one by Norman Carter on the 12th. Norm's smile was even wider when Club Professional Graham Kelly told him it was the first eagle he had heard of on that particular hole in his 25 years at Beaconhills. Since the introduction of Charity Day, the lady members have raised more than \$20,000 for the Institute.

Club Professional Mark Griffin has achieved the wonderful accolade of being chosen among the top 50 professional teachers in Australia - one

of only 14 Victorians on the list. Mark conducts many clinics throughout the year at Beaconhills, but is always available for private lessons. His quiet confident manner, combined with the excellent indoor teaching and video facilities at Beaconhills, can give the beginner the best possible start, or correct the imperfections in the more seasoned golfer's swing. Mark has two clinics starting in April and running for 5 consecutive weeks. The first clinic starts Monday 19 at 10 a.m. and the second commences Wednesday 21 also 10 a.m. Cost \$60 - bookings Pro Shop 5944 3630.

The Beaconhills Pro Shop featured in the On Course Golf Shop advertisements shown on TV during recent golf tournaments. Those with a quick eye could catch a glimpse of Graham Kelly and Mark Auhl. A TAB Corp advertisement also filmed at Beaconhills shows golfers hitting over the lake on the 5th hole. Mark is now the assistant professional at Cranbourne Golf Club and our new Pro Shop staff member is Nick Thornton.

Page 29 of the first copy of "Golf Victoria" for 1999 shows a photograph taken at the President's Cup at Royal Melbourne in December of a very proud Beaconhills junior member Andrew Hutchinson of Knapton Avenue with Craig Parry and Lauren Sinclair, who won the trip for two to the PGA Tournament Players Championship in the US. Andrew was runner-up in the prize draw and won President's Cup clothing valued

(Continued on page 17)

Tennis Club finals

(Continued from page 15)

Craig Hillier is coordinating Thursday night. Currently six teams are playing, and it is anticipated that this will reach eight in the near future. Presently we are trialling night tennis for Secondary School aged students every Tuesday night from 7.30 to 9.30. This is only into its third week but from all accounts it is proving popular with 16 to 20 teenagers turning up. The cost is \$3.00 and all enquiries should be directed to Julie Born on 5944 3222.

Social

The next casual social night will be on the second Saturday night in April (10th) - all welcome.

Thank you

Thank you to all those members who participated in the working bee on Sunday 28th February; the surrounds and courts look fantastic. It is important that all members take proper care of the courts during the warmer months, especially by giving them a good water before and after they finish playing and of course the all important bagging after play.

Jenny McCormick



Wildlife Watch

I heard an interview with a representative of the Bird Atlas of Australia who spoke about the current re-survey of the bird population of Australia for a new edition of the Atlas.

I thought that would be simple and interesting. I could do that from my lounge chair.

When the information and forms arrived they appeared so daunting that I put them away until a more peaceful time to sit and digest the instructions. Really they were not so bad when taken slowly. Briefly there were three choices for the type of area to survey: two hectares, within 500 meters, or within 5 km, of a central point. The area can be your garden, a local park or favourite wetland or somewhere you might be going on holidays. You can survey once only, once a season, or every month, each time for no less than 20 minutes. Space is provided for recording unusual sightings. Counts of each species are not required. The latitude and longitude of the central point of each area should be decided with a Global Positioning Unit which, if you don't know an owner to co-opt to advise of your position, can be hired from the Atlas Survey group.

During January I noted each species which visited the water bowl, those which flew over the tree-tops and a pair of painted button-quail which fed on the carport roof, and sent the form away

on February first. Then several species brought their young! As there is also a space for this on the form I have sent one for February because by March the juveniles may have dispersed. On one walk I disturbed a seldom-seen owlet night-jar from among the debris under the eucalypts right on the edge of the 2 ha survey area and that was also worth reporting. It is important that identification is precise. If you are not sure use species e.g. thornbill sp. or leave it out altogether. I find it useful to take a notebook and do a stick drawing of the bird, noting body shape and colour patterns, feet and eye colours. My bird book is getting more use lately than it has had for a long time.

Observation kits are available from 9882 2662, or fax 9882 2677.

And while you are doing the survey keep an eye out for flowers and colourful fungi, which should be obvious during the next couple of months. *Acrotriche prostrata*, trailing ground-berry, has nectar-filled flowers shaped like traditional honey-pots, tucked away on old wood. *Banksia marginata*, silver banksia, the flowers of which Aborigines soaked in water for a sweet drink; *Correa reflexa*, the cream-flowered common correa, a small shrub; *Corybas aconitiflorus*, small helmet orchid; and pink, white or almost-red common heath, *Epacris impressa* should all be in bloom.

L. Levens

Beaconhills Golf Club

(Continued from page 16)

at \$500. Andrew was one of four young people asked by "Golf Victoria" to tell about their day at the Cup and his comments are published on the same page as his photograph. Andrew says meeting Craig Parry was something he will remember forever. He loved being able to see at close range the best golfers in the world and is sure the experience will improve his game.

Andrew is a member of one of the three junior pennant teams representing Beaconhills in the Peninsula District Junior Pennant currently being played.

Beaconhills will be at the Village Fair with a static display. There will be a competition box to place your name in to have the chance to win 3 months free access to Beaconhills.

Keep in touch with Beaconhills on Web site
www.netspace.net.au/~bhillsgc



Barbara Jackson 5944 3554

5th Year for VEC Interschools Equestrian Competition

The Victorian Equestrian Centre is, for the fifth year running, hosting the Statewide Interschools Riding Competition. Events are jumping equitation, show jumping, dressage, best rider, handy-mount, games and smartest on parade.

The event was officially opened on 19 Feb by the Victorian Minister for Tertiary Education and Training. Seven heats have been run over February and March, with the Finals scheduled for 25 and 26 March. This year the event has attracted sponsorship from Horseland and the Commonwealth Bank. The generous prizes, awarded to the winning teams,

include rugs, spray jackets and silver trophies, plus a bank account for the winning individual.

Ken and Margaret Aldred, Event Hosts and VEC owners, and Margaret Scott, Event Coordinator, have good reason to be proud of the Interschools Competition. In the first Interschools in 1995 there were just 40 competitors from nine schools. This year there are approximately 700 competitors from 110 primary and secondary Victorian schools, and the standard is higher than ever.

Ysabelle Hobson

Recreation Reserve report

In this the third year of the 1995/98 Committee there has again been quite a number of changes of personnel since the AGM in November 1997. Richard Halliday and Peter Escreet were elected as Community members at a Public meeting in February 1998 called to replace Gary Boynes and Kevin Cameron - Football nominee Michael Cox moved interstate in April 1998 and was not replaced by Football club although Tim Gerbes represented the football club on occasions. Peter Brennan replaced Steve Chisnall as the Guide nominee in May while Maureen Scott replaced Greg Price as the Pony club nominee in November.

Thus only Robert Taylor, Ann Johnson and Gordon Atkin remain from the committee appointed by the Minister at the beginning of this Triennium in December 1995.

Absences as well as the slow or non-replacement of nominees have again caused quorum problems this year. The Dec 97, April, October and December 98 meetings had no quorums and only twice did we almost have a full committee meeting of ten members.

We collated all the ideas and requests of the user groups made in the previous year to update our development plan and held a special meeting on 21 July to discuss priorities for the future. The Shire's Recreation plan as well as the Township Strategy

plan were released soon after that initial meeting and were part of considerations at the August and September committee meetings. The lack of quorum at the October meeting virtually ended discussion on the big picture although we proceeded with shorter term plans for the oval improvements and authorized top dressing, fertilizer and aeration.

A walkover of the Reserve on a Saturday morning in May resulted in a list of simple maintenance tasks that were all carried out by Committee members. We have taken steps to reduce our electricity cost by changing tariffs and have a plan to link the Venturer Den and outside toilets to the igloo to further reduce costs.

The Shire's plans for new Township Committees attracted our attention in the latter half of the year. We formed the view that the UBA really carried out this job and that we should support it rather than a new section 86 body. We took out membership of the UBA and the three community members agreed to attend UBA meetings in rotation in future to support it in its role of representing a broader range of community groups.

Thanks to Secretary Barry Smith and Treasurer Richard Halliday who attend to the week to week running of the committee and to Vice President Ann Johnson, a very regular attender who chaired the meetings when I had other commitments.

Robert Taylor

Youth Services at St. John's

What a whirlwind year it has been, and it is only March! The new services on a Sunday morning are working well with the 8:30am Traditional Communion service and the 10:00am service for families each developing its own core congregation and style. We've now begun a Youth Service at 7:30pm on the second and fourth Sunday of each month designed for older teenagers and young adults, though of course anyone is welcome to attend.

Youth and Children

Our Sunday School (we call it Kid's Church) now meets during the 10:00am service every Sunday of School term and the leaders of Kid's Church have been working hard to come up with a fun and educational program, as a consequence Kid's Church has grown rapidly this year. I've noticed that the Primary aged children still hang around in the chapel after the service, playing and finishing off projects. You can speak to Alison Flynn (5944 3410) for more information on Kid's Church or turn up on a Sunday morning at 10am.

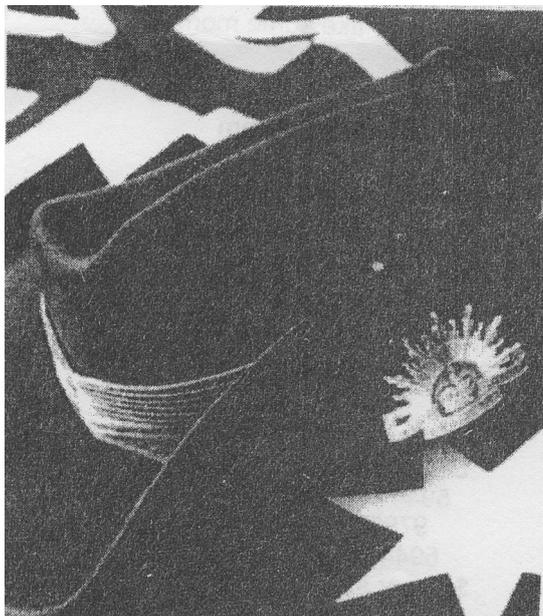
One of our regulars, Paul Hughes, is beginning theological studies at Ridley College, Melbourne University, this year. His area of specialty will be in Youth Ministry. St. John's is making Youth Ministry

a priority. This is important for at least two reasons. The surrounding region will have the highest percentage of young people in any area in Australia within the next decade and because, as the Victorian government report on Youth suicide pointed out, religious commitment is vital to the well-being and development of teenagers.

Building works

The Church wardens tell me that it has taken 25 years to make the church block useable and we're grateful to God for people's generosity with money, material and work to build and refurbish St. John's car-parks. Our next project is to build a hall that will eventually be attached to the existing church facility. Though we desperately need this for our growing congregations and work with Children and Youth we don't want to keep it just to ourselves. I've had many thoughts, for example, about an op-shop for Upper Beaconsfield that could contribute to - say - Youth Ministry, the CWA and the CFA. Perhaps part of the Scout group could use better accommodation; in any case I'm inviting other community groups to get involved in planning how we can use the new facility. Please call me (5944 3410) if you want more details.

Mike Flynn (Vicar)
St John's Upper Beaconsfield



Anzac Day Sunday 25th April

Mr. Frank Conn, the president of the Upper Beaconsfield branch of the RSL, will conduct the Anzac Day service at the Cenotaph in Salisbury Road on the morning of Sunday 25th April 1999 at 11.00.

The simple ceremony, at which the local troop of cubs and scouts will lay poppies at the cenotaph in memory of the fallen heroes of the world wars, will be followed by a morning tea in the RSL club rooms in Halford Street.

You and your friends are welcome to join the RSL members on this annual occasion.

Jo Carter

The sale of Beaconsfield Reservoir

Public meeting report

On 11/3/99 a meeting at Officer Hall was attended by over sixty people concerned about the future of the Beaconsfield Reservoir.

Local historian, Charles Wilson, spoke about the use of the land in Haunted Gully for gold mining. He also described the establishment of the reservoir in Haunted Gully in 1916 and its later use then decommissioning.

The reservoir is set amongst 164 hectares of superb bushland including steep slopes, fern gullies and wetlands. Graham Clutterbuck of Wildlife Encounters spoke about the wildlife that currently inhabits this quiet and natural bush remnant. The place is full of birds, wombats, wallabies, possums and smaller furry marsupials. However, he found no evidence of a thylacine. He thought that the reservoir reserve is a haven that allows wildlife to repopulate the more sparse and damaged bushland of surrounding residential areas.

The Mayor of Cardinia Shire, Graham Kidd, said that the land had not been offered to Cardinia Shire by Melbourne Water. He said that most of the reservoir land was already subdivided into 20

lots of almost 20 acres each and therefore could be developed for housing and sold by Melbourne Water.

Councillor Ted Owen spoke of the need for the community to work together with the Shire and Melbourne Water to create a lasting asset.

Some people at the meeting came from further east and were more interested in the future of the aqueduct land.

The meeting split into small groups to record ideas for the best use of the land and how best to proceed. Many people spoke of the need to form a group to implement the ideas and a large number of people volunteered to be part of such a group or committee.

Cheryl Billing-Smith collected the information and ideas that had been given at the meeting and will organise a venue where the group can meet in about three weeks time. Any people interested in attending this meeting should contact Cheryl on 5941 2758.

Ross Jephcott

Shire notes

Local Laws

Working groups are considering new and revised laws covering a range of topics.

Garbage and recycling survey.

Shire records suggest that we recycle 33% more pro rata than the rest of the State. We have 38% less garbage than the average household does.

Our participation rate in recycling is double the State average and the contamination rate of the recycling is half the State average. These are extraordinarily good results, so residents may take a bow!

As you would expect, recycling involves paper, plastic and glass in the main, while garbage is mostly food waste. For the statistically minded, the Shire currently landfills about 17,000 tonnes of waste each year.

Chris Cowley

CAR BOOT SALE

Do you want to make some extra cash? We are having a car boot sale. So clean out your unwanted goods and make some money.

Saturday 24th April 1999

9:30am to 1:30pm

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Upper Beaconsfield

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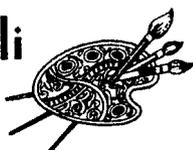
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