

The Upper Beaconsfield



# Village Bell

Issue 133 April 2000

Upper Beaconsfield

## Keith Ewenson back after break

On Saturday 18th March 2000, Ted Owen and Keith Ewenson were elected to represent Beaconhills Ward for the next three years. We had three popular candidates running but unfortunately we only had two places to fill. Ted and Keith were the successful candidates this time.

The new councillors celebrated with friends at the Pine Grove Hotel on Saturday afternoon.

### Thank you Graeme

It is 25 years since Graeme Kidd and his family moved to Upper Beaconsfield. During that time Graeme has been a very active member of our community, and made exceptional contributions to it. He has been a past president of the UBA and the Hall Committee, and a founding and present editor of the Village Bell, also Chairman of the Quarry Impact Committee for 15 years. Since he was elected to the Council in 1997, he has worked very hard for the Shire as well as the township, making a very significant contribution to the Upper Beaconsfield strategy plan and its outcome.

Elected Mayor in 1998, Graeme fulfilled this office with dignity, and efficiency. During this year he established the Youth Task Force, and afterwards became chairman of that group.

A very approachable Councillor, he has remained a supporter of the UBA, attending any meeting when Council

*(Continued on page 3)*

## Disability Policy launched by Shire



In April 1999 the Shire employed Strahan Research to conduct a phone survey of 400 residents. This indicated that 13.4% of the current population have a disability.

The Cardinia Shire has committed itself to addressing the needs of people with disabilities who live, work, and play in the Shire. After a very extensive study of the problems, and input and consultation with many towns in the Shire, a strategy and implementation plan has been formulated.

The costs involved in

*(Continued on page 3)*



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# Village Bell Credits

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Gilda Hansen 5944 3871

**St. John's  
Art and craft  
Market**

- Painting
- Embroidery
- Cooking
- Jewellery
- Knitting
- Sewing
- Woodwork
- Cards
- Pot plants
- Preserves
- Potography
- Craftwork

**Devonshire teas**

**Saturday  
May 6, 9am-3pm**

## *New Residents*

**James & Elaine Cooper,**  
Sugarloaf Road  
**Pam Edwards and Malcolm Robertson,**  
Split Rock Road  
**John Krai and Sharene Borsi,**  
Lenne Road  
**Samantha and Darren Dixson and family,**  
Grant Court  
**Ron, Merle, John and Terrie McDonald,**  
Corringham Road  
**Dorothy and John Chiron,**  
Reed Avenue  
**Traci and Greg Newham,**  
**Nick, Ben and Lochie,**  
Kitchen Road

**Ray Allsop**

## Diary Dates

|             |                                                                  |
|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2 April     | Netball Club Annual General Meeting - Sunday<br>2 April at 4pm   |
| 5 April     | UBA meeting Community Complex, 8pm.                              |
| 6 April     | Glass artist visit, Community Hall 1.30pm                        |
| 8 April     | Cricket Club presentation night Pine Grove 7.30pm                |
| 10 April    | Neighbourhood Watch meeting<br>Community Complex 8pm Not 17April |
| 25 April    | Anzac day ceremony at the cenotaph, 11am                         |
| 29 April    | CFA Murder Mystery Night Community Hall                          |
| 6 May       | Art and craft market day St. John's                              |
| 30 May      | FB Auxiliary AGM 8pm Fire Station                                |
| 26 November | Village Fair at the Rec Reserve                                  |

## SUBSCRIPTIONS NOW DUE!

**The Village Bell and UBA**

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

I enclose \$5 being the family subscription to the UBA and the Village Bell for 2000.

I understand that this subscription entitles me to vote at the bi-monthly meetings of the UBA

Name of family ..... Address .....

Telephone ..... Signed .....

# Dangerous trees

A falling branch badly damaged three cars parked near the Upper Beaconsfield Primary School recently.

The branch was from one of the many gum trees in the school parking area. Luckily no one was hurt. Inspection of the tree showed that the branch had been affected by white ants.

There are many gum trees along the roadsides and in the reserves of Upper Beaconsfield. If you look at the bark you will see the telltale charcoal markings of the 1983 bush-fires. Undoubtedly the fire weakened many of these trees and together with white ants and the severe stress on the trees caused by the dry seasons (\*41 months of record rainfall deficit), there are many trees dropping branches.

Look at the trees while out and about Upper Beaconsfield and you will see many have dead branches. There are many affected trees along Stoney Creek Road and Emerald-Beaconsfield Road, and several of these are actually over hanging the road.

**Helen Smith**

\*See Fire Brigade article

*Disability policy (Continued from page 1)*

the development of this policy have been shared between the Council and the Access for All Abilities budget, which is funded by Sport and Recreation Victoria.

The essence of the policy is to provide everyone in the Shire who has any handicap, impairment or disability, with access to all the facilities that are available to other members of the community. This includes access to education, employment opportunity, goods and services as well as all buildings.

The aim of the disability policy is to increase community involvement in improving the quality of life in the Shire, to ensure that people with disabilities are automatically included in all art, cultural and leisure activities, and suffer no disadvantage because of their disability.

The policy has many other objectives. These are detailed in an attractive and very informative booklet available from the Council offices.

**Charles Wilson**

*(Continued from page 1)*

matters were under discussion, ever ready to offer advice or answer questions.

It is an extraordinary fact that this Ward should have three such outstanding candidates for the Council elections, each a past Councillor and Mayor, and all with a great record of community service. With only two places available, someone had to lose.

Graeme, on behalf of Upper Beaconsfield residents, our thanks and appreciation of your great efforts over the past years.

## Results of the Council elections held 18 March 2000

Beaconhills Ward

| CANDIDATES    | K EWENSON           | T OWEN              | G KIDD      | INFORMAL   | TOTAL       |
|---------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| FIRST STAGE   |                     |                     |             |            |             |
| PRIMARY VOTES | <u>2895</u>         | <u>2114</u>         | <u>1733</u> | <u>209</u> | <u>6951</u> |
| SECOND STAGE  |                     |                     |             |            |             |
| PRIMARY VOTE  | 2895                | 2114                |             | 209        |             |
| G KIDD PREFS  | <u>457</u>          | <u>1276</u>         |             |            |             |
| TOTALS        | <u>3352</u>         | <u>3390 Elected</u> |             |            | <u>6951</u> |
| THIRD STAGE   |                     |                     |             |            |             |
| PRIMARY VOTES | 2895                |                     | 1733        |            |             |
| T OWEN PREFS  | <u>1561</u>         |                     | <u>533</u>  |            |             |
|               | <u>4456 Elected</u> |                     | <u>2286</u> | <u>209</u> | <u>6951</u> |

**Charles Wilson and Jo Carter**

## Your local community group contacts

| <b>Organisation</b>               | <b>Contact</b>               | <b>Phone Number</b> |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Babysitting Club                  | Cathie Usher                 | 5944 4183           |
| Beaconhills Golf Club             | Barbara Jackson              | 5944 3554           |
| Community Centre, Bus & Playgroup | Sue Bailey/Anne Inkster      | 5944 3484           |
| Care Group                        | Des McKenna                  | 5944 3516           |
| Conservation Group                | Sue Simmons                  | 5944 3690           |
| Council                           | Keith Ewenson                | 5944 3372           |
| Cricket Club                      | Rob Hansen                   | 5944 3871           |
| C.W.A.                            | Carol Murtagh - Publicity    | 5944 4110           |
| C.W.A. - Woorinyan branch         | Sue Elliot                   | 9796 8634 AH        |
| Fire Brigade                      | Jon Boura                    | 5944 4425           |
| Fire Brigade - Women's Auxiliary  | Colleen Lazenby              | 9796 2226           |
| UBCC B&GC and Hall Bookings       | Helen Smith                  | 5944 3219           |
| Neighbourhood House               | Sue Bailey/Anne Inkster      | 5944 3484           |
| Neighbourhood Watch               | Melinda Conn                 | 5944 4010           |
| Netball Jnr. & Snr.               | To be advised                |                     |
| Pony Club                         | Marlene Kelly                | 5944 3487           |
| Pre-school & Kinder               | Chris Cunningham - Publicity |                     |
| Primary School Council & PFA      | Gordon Atkin                 | 5944 3591 BH        |
| Quarry Impact Assoc.              | Fedir Woskoboenko            | 5943 2435           |
| Recreation Reserve                | Bob Taylor                   | 5944 3645           |
| Red Cross                         | Barbara Jackson              | 5944 3554           |
| Riding Club                       | Fiona Robe                   | 5944 3966           |
| R.S.L.                            | Eric Chaplin                 | 5944 3312           |
| Scout groups                      | Barry Smith                  | 5944 3219           |
| St.Johns' Vicarage                | Rev. Michael Flynn           | 5944 3862 BH        |
| St. Johns Youth Club              | Rev. Michael Flynn           | 5944 3862 BH        |
| Stoney Creek Residents' Group     | Ken Syphers                  | 5944 3580           |
| Tennis Club                       | Judy Fenby                   | 5944 3042           |
| Toy Library                       | Fiona Schoonderwalt          | 5944 4087           |
| U.B.A.                            | Keith Ewenson                | 5944 3372           |

As promised last issue we publish here the list of contact people for all the local community groups. As some groups have yet to have annual meetings, some contact numbers are incomplete. It is important that this list is up-to-date, so for any changes or additions please contact Gilda Hansen on 5944 3871.

# UB Association update

## April meeting

The next General Meeting of the Upper Beaconsfield Association will be held on Wednesday 5 April 2000 in the meeting room at the Community Complex, beginning at 8pm.

Australian Tree Services, who are the contractors for Eastern Energy's tree lopping program, have indicated they will send a representative to speak about their work.

associates please drop a broad hint. Maybe you have a talent, which would be of help to the committee occasionally. The contact person is Julie Lietl, 5944 3270, who will be reporting on progress to date at the April meeting.

## Golf club development

The Beacons Hills Country Golf Club has advised that public consultation will be organised as soon as possible in regard to their proposed development, and apologises for the delay.

## Dr for UB campaign



The loss of the medical centre caused a deal of distress in the area. The Upper Beaconsfield Association decided to investigate ways and means of encouraging a General Practitioner to set up a practice in this delightful township.

We contacted our Federal Member of Parliament, Bob Charles, who provided the telephone number of Sherbrooke and Pakenham Practice Agency. As a result three of our Committee met with their Program Coordinator and a representative from Rural Workforce. Both these organisations endeavour to obtain doctors for towns in need. On Wednesday 1 March over eighty people attended a meeting to hear Kerry Watson, from Rural Workforce, explain the planning needed to compile a package attractive to doctors. He was emphatic that the community as a whole must support the project. He also warned that loss of a medical practice could lead to the chemist being forced to close. Ours is already feeling the pinch. In another town the hairdresser also went out of business.

The Association is delighted that six ladies volunteered to form a sub-committee to work toward re-establishing the medical centre. It will be a long, hard slog for these enthusiastic people. Should you know a doctor who might be convinced that working here is a good idea, or alternatively, who could spread the word among their friends and

## Traffic

The Upper Beaconsfield Association is also monitoring the traffic project and has made a submission to the Open Space and Equestrian Strategies at Cardinia Shire.

## Rabbits

Extermination of rabbits around the village is causing concern. This is something residents may decide to work on as a co-operative project, sharing costs and labour.

The Upper Beaconsfield Association has information available about equipment and methods required for an eradication project.

Contact Laura Levens on 5944 3828 or Keith Ewenson on 5944 3372.

## A doctor for the village

The Upper Beaconsfield Association subcommittee formed to find a doctor for Upper Beaconsfield is now seeking help from the community to raise funds to cover the costs of advertising.

If you can help, please leave a donation at the Post Office or Chemist.



# Fire Brigade Auxiliary news

## Annual General Meeting

The AGM of the Auxiliary will be held on the Tuesday 30 May. A warm invitation is extended to men and women in the community to join the Auxiliary on this or the final Tuesday of any month, at 8pm in the fire station.

## Fundraising

Community response to the appeal to purchase the new truck has been very generous. The Auxiliary is always involved in fundraising and continues those efforts with a Cake Stall on 15 April, outside the shops in Upper Beaconsfield. Come and exchange your cash for baked goods and other items, with all monies going directly to the Brigade.

You will also have noticed the advertising for another one of our Murder Nights. The previous event was an outstanding success, with particularly fine dramatic performances from Ernie Bird, Rob Irving and the murderous Fred Edwards! Don't miss out on the fun this time -join us on the night and support the Fire Brigade in the process.

The Brigade and Auxiliary remind community members that we are collecting goods from now on for the biannual Fundraising Auction in October.

Instead of disposing of old furniture, toys, books, kitchen items and other saleable goods, please contact the Brigade or deliver them to the station any Sunday morning from 9:30am.

Colleen Lazenby-

## COMING SOON

# *Murder Mystery Night!*

Saturday 29 April 2000  
at 7.30 pm  
in the Community Hall



Cost: \$20 per head - supper provided  
Contact the Fire Brigade Auxiliary  
for tickets.

## *Dear Editor,*

Now that the medical practice in Upper Beaconsfield has closed, it would be a shame if our pharmacy were to close too.

It surely cannot be too inconvenient to fill all prescriptions at the local pharmacy. It carries a wide range of gifts for all occasions and it is reassuring to know that sound advice is available from Ly Meng Lim on any minor problems not requiring a doctor.

It is great not to have to drive to Berwick or Pakenham when analgesics or cough syrup etc. are needed. Let's support our local pharmacy.

Sincerely  
Eve Heim

## *Thank you*

Hans Simeth, Julian's father and Brad, Jackie and Paula (his brother and sisters) would like to express their thanks to the Upper Beaconsfield community as a whole and Julian's many friends in particular.

Not just for the messages of support and sympathy which came to all our families but for helping to provide the safe, friendly and stable environment in which he grew up.

Mary Griffin

## Local fire brigade adds to its fire fighting fleet



We have bought our new truck! Well.... the cab and chassis, anyway. The heavy-duty pump is on order and should arrive soon. When it does, final adjustments will be made to the plans of the body and fittings and their construction will start.

It is only through your generous donations and the help and hard work of our friends among you that we have been able to get to this stage. Please don't stop yet, there is still much to do and further donations are still needed.

We have had another wonderfully quiet fire season - so far. With the heat, low rainfall and a fair amount of wind, February and March could have been bad. Thanks to your very responsible care not to start any fires, they were not. The Fire Brigade is most appreciative of the excellent co-operation of residents in faithfully observing the fire restrictions.

Although the worst is probably over until next summer, the bush is still very dry and the fire season is not over. We have had 41 months of record rainfall deficit and the Weather Bureau is not at all optimistic about our prospects for the next three months, giving us only a 35-40% chance of getting our normal rains. If this turns out to be correct, the fire restrictions are likely to go on for at least another six weeks. Please be patient - the restrictions are there for the safety of all of us. (Perhaps the good news is that the Bureau says that their predictive models are not very reliable at this time of the year).

Nevertheless, the brigade has been fairly busy attending to car fires, road accidents, a laudably small number of illegal burnoffs and a few false alarms, some of which were caused by system malfunctions.

Eric Bumpstead arranged another of his highly instructive visits to sites of major fires. This was to that of the Mt. Evelyn fire of 10 February. With the generous help of the Mt. Evelyn captain, Brigade members were able to follow the history and course of the fire and how it was fought. Eric's tours and case studies are extremely useful supplements to the theoretical and practical instruction courses that are now standard and continuous throughout the CFA and contribute greatly to members' capability and, most importantly, safety on the fireground.

A feature of the Mt. Evelyn fire was the effectiveness of the local Community Fireguard groups. It was a telling demonstration of the benefits that residents in fire-prone areas get from participation in this program, and an encouraging lesson for all of us in Upper Beaconsfield.

Some residents may have been unsettled by media reports over recent months disparaging of the capability of CFA volunteers. These reports are contradicted by the latest Government Productivity Commission Report. The Commission found that Victoria has Australia's best fire services, which includes CFA volunteer brigades.

**George Silberbauer**



### *Anzac day ceremony*

On Anzac Day, Wednesday 25th April, the President of the RSL - Eric Chaplin - and the members cordially invite the residents of Upper Beaconsfield and friends to join them at the service at 11 am at the Cenotaph.

You will be welcomed at the clubrooms in Halford Street after the service for refreshments.

**Jo Carter**

## Black spot road funding for Upper Beac

Mr. Bob Charles, Member for Latrobe, has announced that Upper Beaconsfield will receive \$75,000 in Black Spot Funding.

The funding goes towards the most serious crash locations in a given area and will be used to seal the shoulders at the intersection of the Beaconsfield/Emerald Road and Stoney Creek Road.

The Federal Black Spot program welcomes community participation in helping to identify areas that would benefit from extra funding.

Any person or agency may nominate a road location for consideration and can contact Bob Charles' office on 9762 4066 for more information in this regard.

## Red Cross Calling



Once again Upper Beaconsfield residents have responded magnificently to Red Cross Calling. The volunteer callers all remark on the friendly and generous manner in which their knock on the door is received.

This year eight first time callers joined the regular volunteers. They were Sandra Mew, Carol Ronald, Anita Rowe, Bev Sinclair, Doug Field, Barry Gates, Matt McDonald and Gerald Williams. The Upper Beaconsfield Rovers have also helped again this year.

A special "thank you" to all my callers -they do a magnificent job. If you were not at home or were missed by the caller and would still like to donate to the work of Red Cross, please contact me on the phone number below. Sometimes the friendly, family pooch can be a bit intimidating!

**Barbara Jackson 5944 3554**

## More sightings?

Mrs X visits her sister in Upper Beaconsfield quite often. One day, she tentatively spoke of a strange experience which she had had some time previously when coming into UB around mid-morning.

An animal which she was certain was a Tasmanian Tiger strolled across the road from the undergrowth and she could see it clearly. This Upper Beaconsfield phenomenon had never been mentioned between the sisters before, and the visitor had not told anyone for fear of ridicule.

She later confessed her sighting to her sister. She described the animal as about the size of a fox, with striped brown body, the stripes going down towards the hips, with a long hairless tail. The animal was not a fox, or any type of dog which she had ever seen.

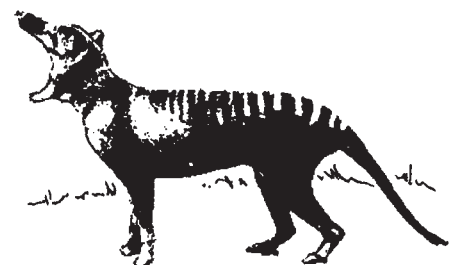
### Reported 22 March 2000

Reported by 2 Upper Beaconsfield residents, one of whom has seen the same animal twice, (names and locations withheld) 1 st time - sometime early 1999. Mr X was driving to Officer in the early morning (just before 9am).

The Tiger was near a house on side of road in long grass. Mr X thought it was a dog till he got to within 30 metres of it. It disappeared when he got close. He only saw the head clearly but it was a lot bigger than a dog and definitely not a fox. It didn't occur to him at the time that it might have been a tiger.

2nd time (2 witnesses) - just before Christmas 1999. Clear sighting of whole animal by Mr and Mrs X who were driving home around midnight. Upon seeing their car the animal paused to look at them before moving off. It is described as having really bright eyes (this was the thing Mrs X particularly noticed), a long body with stripes, and a long tail of medium thickness, which didn't hang down or stand straight up. Mrs X described it as similar to a wallaby's tail. Mr and Mrs X are quite certain that this animal was not a dog or a fox.

**Ysabelle  
Hobson  
5944 3273**





## Historic residence home for Wildcare couple

The stately Salisbury Road property of Pen Bryn is now home to the Pepers family and a frequently changing assortment of orphaned and injured native animals and birds.

Janet and Ron Pepers moved from a little Clematis cottage into this beautiful old property with its grand gardens and extensive grounds in November last century and the move has inspired Janet to follow her long-time interest of becoming a registered Wild Life Carer.

Janet is still learning the ropes under the tutelage of the Emerald Shelter Operator and has the backup of more experienced colleagues whenever necessary.

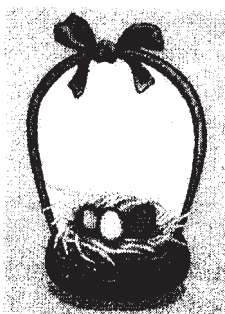
It's actually illegal for any non-registered person to confine or domesticate a native animal or bird - even if they are orphaned or injured. In fact Janet has had to sign a legally binding document stating that she will not keep any of the native creatures she nurses as pets. All of them must be released back into the wild when they are ready.

What sort of birds and animals does she look after? Mammals including possums - three gorgeous babies are currently in residence - echidnas, wombats, wallabies, kangaroos and gliders to name just a few, as well as birds such as magpies, ducks, kookaburras, galahs, lorikeets, cockatoos and rosellas. No Indian Mynahs allowed. When "The Bell" enquired about snakes, Janet's answer was a firm "No snakes. Not yet." However Janet can offer phone numbers of other, more appropriate people to help if necessary. So next time you have an injured, orphaned or just plain lost native animal or bird and no ideas what to do with it, call Janet.

Phone her on 5944 4877. And why not keep the number in the car as well as at home? Automobiles often injure native animals and calling from the roadside may make all the difference. All Wild Carers are voluntary so if you'd like to donate to this very important service, call Janet for more information about the Wildcare Network.

**Sue McKenzie.**

## Easter Egg Raffle



The Upper Beaconsfield Toy Library will be holding their Easter Egg Raffle again this year. This has proven to be a very popular event, especially with those who have been the lucky 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizewinners in the past. We have 3 huge baskets of Easter

Eggs and chocolate rabbits to raffle off and tickets will be available at our stall in front of the General Store on Saturday the 1st, 8th or 15th of April between 9.30 and 11.30 am. Tickets are great value, only 50 cents each or 5 for \$2.00.

We look forward to seeing you there. Good luck and Happy Easter from the Toy Library Committee and all our members.

**Fiona Schoonderwaldt  
Toy Library 5944 4087**

### *From the VB editors*

If you are interested in joining the Village Bell team we would love to hear from you. Please contact Charles Wilson 5944 3008, Carolyn Floyd 5944 2618 or Helen Smith 5944 3219. We welcome new member Sue McKenzie, who has contributed articles for this issue.

### *Artists wanted*

The editors also invite any artists young, old or in-between to submit mastheads for future issues of the Bell. Take the measurements of the current Bell masthead to obtain the dimensions.

### *Contributors*

Contributors of articles to the Bell please submit their copy on disk as well as a paper copy. We prefer that you save your word processing file as a text file (go to save as.....text file).

This is safer, no viruses! Do not worry about formatting, the plainer the better (no bold, avoid tabs and all capital letters).

## Beaconhills Golf Club

The opening of the new golf year in late February saw sixteen year-old Christina Beltran make her mark. Christina, a Monthly Medal winner during 1999, played with the lady members in the play-off for the Medal of Medallists trophy, inaugurated and donated by Pauline Tucker several years ago.

Christina scored a stunning 63 net to win the trophy and the first medal for year 2000. Her gross score of 75 has been officially verified as a course record for the Lakes course by an amateur lady player. Congratulations Christina!

The lady members' Charity Day in aid of the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research was a great success again this year. A cheque for \$1528.80 has been forwarded to the Institute as a result. Gwen and Murray Johns ran the 15th hole betting very successfully, with the inaccurate participants contributing \$135. Just as well Andrew Conn wasn't playing, or they may have had to outlay a large payment. Andrew had his first hole-in-one after playing golf for about thirty years, at this hole recently.

For the traveller, two more clubs have been added to the Beaconhills reciprocal rights list. They are Wanneroo, a suburb of Perth and ERPM Golf Club, Johannesburg, South Africa.

Course Superintendent Robert Ryan will be seen in a new persona on 19 April. His passion for line dancing has led to an appearance in "Blue Heelers". Changes are also ahead for Chris Bracher manager at Beaconhills for the past seven years. Chris has accepted an appointment as manager at Patterson River Golf Club and all at Beaconhills thank Chris for his contribution and wish him well in his new position.

The Pennant season is underway, and hopefully some flags will find their way to Beaconhills. Congratulations and good luck to all players representing Beaconhills.

**Barbara Jackson 5944 3554**



## "A Century Partnership"

After more than eight years of research, travel and enthusiastic writing, Rob Hansen's history of the Upper Beaconsfield Cricket club has finally hit the stands. Titled "A Century Partnership" the book attempts to trace the development of our village cricket club from its inception in 1893 till recent times, a century later.

The book also portrays how the village of Upper Beaconsfield has blossomed from a hamlet which beckoned Melburnians to taste the guesthouse life at weekends, to a leafy dormitory suburb on the rim of Melbourne's south east.

Upper Beaconsfield's cricket club has endured exhilarating as well as turbulent times. Its members have variously been the leaders of the community as well as participants in village life over a century, which spanned two World Wars and a crippling Depression. The book contains over 270 pages of interesting snapshots of village life, more than twenty pen pictures of the personalities of the cricket club and no less than 100 images associated with the Upper Beaconsfield community.

The author, Rob Hansen, first settled in Upper Beaconsfield with his family in 1979 having been Secretary of the West Gippsland Cricket Association. Following the tragic fires of Ash Wednesday in 1983, this schoolteacher and cricket enthusiast moved to re-form the cricket club, which had been in recess since 1970. The near loss of the Club's precious Minute Book that dated from 1922 spurred Rob on to record the activities of our village and the cricket club before much of its history faded away. The result has been "A Century Partnership".

Upper Beaconsfield Village Bell readers can obtain a copy of the book by contacting Rob Hansen on 5944 3871. The cost is \$22, with postage an extra \$3 if required. "A Century Partnership" provides an interesting read.



## Rising numbers needing assistance

The 11th Annual General Meeting of the Upper Beaconsfield Community Care Group was held on 16 March in the Community Meeting Room with various reports on the group's busy year in 1999. The review of operations conducted by the Committee during the past year included an updating of the Constitution, the original having been written in 1988 prior to the group's start of operations. All changes proposed by the Committee were accepted at the meeting.

The number of referrals to the group for assistance rose to 159 compared to the 1998 figure of 122, an increase of around 30%. This means that on average the group was asked to help some three people each week of the year. These referrals resulted in 387 "visits" which is the term used to record each assistance given, whether it be an actual visit or taking someone to the doctor or helping in the home etc.

The visits average out at more than 30 per month or more than 7 per week over the year, which is a very significant amount of assistance given in our community. We wish to thank all our wonderful volunteers who make the Care Group possible by their generosity in giving freely of their time to help others in need.

Perhaps as you read this you may feel you would like to become part of this service to the community by joining as a volunteer. You could

do this by filling in the form on the Care Group brochure which is available at the Post

Office and Community Centre, or by phoning Des on 5944 3516.

There are a number of people we need to thank for their assistance in 1999: Elva Ratcliff for all our typing; Pam McDonald for helping as Acting Treasurer; Julie and Ray Allsop for their assistance with communication with our volunteers; Anne Inkster and Sue Bailey along with the Community Centre staff; Rev. Peter George for keeping our computer records and newsletter set out; Dr. Charles Wilson for printing the newsletter; Andrew Rowe of Cardinia Signs for updating the Community Week signs and John Adamson and Scott Hathaway from the General Store for their help during the year.

What does the Care Group do? We offer free of charge to residents of Upper Beaconsfield, Guys Hill and Dewhurst the following: Domestic help - emergency child minding - outside work - emergency transport - friendly visiting - emergency meals - minor home handyman & outdoor help.

We can either assist you in these or other needs or refer you to the appropriate body where special needs are catered for. For assistance phone Annette Walker (59 443 574), Glenda Matthews (5944 3844), Des McKenna (5944 3516) or the Community Centre (5944 3484).

**Des McKenna**



Upper Beaconsfield  
NEIGHBOURHOOD  
WATCH

Please note that the April meeting has been moved forward to Monday 10 April and not 17 April as previously advertised in the last NHW newsletter.

The meeting will be held at the Community Complex at 8 pm. All welcome

**M. Conn 5944 4010**

# Be a volunteer at the Community Centre

Do something worth while...be a volunteer! Are you stuck at home with the kids and would like some "adult" conversation for a change? Have you finished school and have no job experience to help with getting a job? Are you at home with your job skills rusting? Are you retired with a few hours to spare a week? Would you like to do some of the courses that the Centre offers but don't think you can really afford it? Are you new to the area and don't quite know where to start? Would you like to get out and meet people and help your community at the same time? Well... WE NEED YOU!

The Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre is a non-profit organisation that relies on volunteers to help make the budget balance. Over the years we have had a steady stream of fantastic volunteers who have enriched not only their own lives, but ours as well. The problem is that most of them gain their job experience and then move on to paid employment! This is in fact a "good" problem



because that is what the Community Centre is all about being there for the community. Being a volunteer is a very satisfying

experience. It doesn't matter whether you think you have no skills as we will help you. All we require is a small commitment of time and lots of enthusiasm.

Are you starting to think that maybe you could do this? Well let us offer you some enticement! For every 40 hours of volunteer work that you do you will receive a free \$50 course at the Centre. This is our way of saying that we really do appreciate what you are doing and the time and effort that you commit to us. But wait, there's more.

If you are undertaking volunteer work at the Centre you also receive free childcare for the period that you are volunteering (some limits do apply).

If you think that you would like to be a volunteer then please give us a call at the Centre on 5944 3484 or just call in and introduce yourself. We'd love to hear from you.

## **Certificate 3 in Community Services - Personal Care**

Due to the great success and demand for our Personal Care course, we are commencing a new intake for 2000.

This will commence in Term 3 and will run on a Tuesday from 9 am to 3 pm, running for 18 months during school terms and finishing at the end of 2001. The course qualifies the graduate to become personal carers for the elderly and disabled. It covers many aspects of care, first aid, and work environment issues as well as other areas of study. Please contact Community Centre on 5944 3484 as we have many inquiries for this new intake.

## **Welcome to your dreams!**

The Community Centre is presenting "Dream Interpretation for Beginners" classes for those who have started to explore the meaning of their dreams, either simply by questioning the imagery they receive or by using dream dictionaries to find the answers.

Given that your dreams are extremely personal, no one can decipher them and give you the information your subconscious is sending you, the way you will, and can.

During the course REM sleep, nightmares, recurring and prophetic dreams, lucid and bizarre dreams, colours, characters, settings and themes, moods, emotions, symbols and metaphors will be explored. This course is to run over six weeks in the second term on a Monday evening between 7.30 and 9.30pm as well as Wednesday mornings 9.30 - 11.30am.

For inquiries on reserving a place and costs contact the Centre on 5944 3484.



## *Promote the planting of local plants*

Hopefully the heat and dryness of summer is behind us and we can think of planting while the soil is still warm and hospitable.

If you have a revegetation project, or wish to include suitable local plants into your home garden, come and inspect our range of plants at 1 Halford Street, Upper Beaconsfield each Friday between 12 noon and 5pm.

We also have a 40-litre spraying unit for hire.

**UB Conservation Group  
Indigenous Nursery Contact  
5942 7571 or 5944 3828**

## *New committee elected*

It's not really new, but mainly a re-election of the same "old" stalwarts!

Cr. Graeme Kidd conducted the election of the Upper Beaconsfield Community Complex Buildings and Grounds Committee prior to the UBA meeting on February 4. The following committee was elected:

Gary Allison - President  
Pat Edwards - Vice President  
Helen Smith - Secretary and bookings  
Ros Allison - committee member and Caretaker !  
Jo Blanks - Treasurer  
Sally Randall - Community Centre representative

Many thanks to these busy people for their valuable contribution to the community of Upper Beaconsfield.

We still need more input from other user groups who use the Complex and we invite groups to contact us and attend meetings occasionally. It will be too late if decisions are made that user groups don't agree with, if they do not keep in touch with the Buildings and Grounds Committee.

We are also keen to get community input into future planning and improvements of the Complex and the park.

Meetings are normally held on the 4th Wednesday of the month. Please contact Secretary Helen Smith on 5944 3219 for further information.

**Helen Smith**

## Parading pets at the primary school ...

"Woof woof," barked the dogs.

"Meow meow," screeched the cats.

"Blob blob," blew the fish.

"Stop that you blithering dog," growled Joel.

There were noisy animals galore, as the children from Upper Beaconsfield Primary School held their Pet Parade on a recent Friday morning on the tennis court. Those kids with well-behaved pets brought them along in their fanciest gear, to show them off.

Leanna Hargreave's dog Molly was wearing a baby suit with a hat and a blanket; Bonnie Simon's guinea pig Bambi decided to come naked to the pet parade; Joel Cotton's puppy Ruby was wearing school clothes and a school hat while Teshayla Hutchinson's dog Bobby looked like a rabbit wearing bunny ears and a white jumper. Also, Miss Priddle got really mad when Bobby decided to piddle... on her skirt!

Jordan Harman's dog Molly was a fighting Army dog, wearing Army clothes; Shelby Conn's dog Pepper wasn't wearing anything at the parade - she was naked! Jessie Smith's dog Bundy Bear was wearing her art smock, and Jessie was wearing her clown suit that her Grandma made.

Sammy Forester came in a cat suit -she was her own pet and Liam Smith, the lizard tamer, was wearing a moustache, a top hat, whilst carrying a whip, ready to whip his pet lizard Banjo into action.

Jessie Osztreicher was all frocked up with her cat Duchess; Andrew Cameron and his dog Jessie were in school clothes; Alexander Gordon's puppy, Saffy, was wearing a clown frill around her neck with Alexander as ringmaster in his bow tie. Tessy Butler's dog Molly was a ballerina with a tutu on. Lindsey Hobson's horse Molly came as herself - a white Welsh Mountain Pony.

All of the pets, kids and parents had a great time checking out all of the fashions on the court!

**Written by students of P2SJ  
Upper Beaconsfield Primary School**



## Wildlife Watch

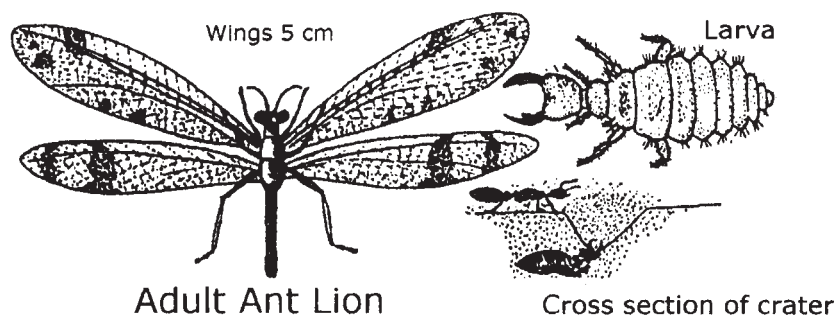
While on a walk in Salisbury Gully with a group of friends in mid-February, we saw rosy hyacinth orchids, which were almost at the end of their flowering period. Leaves of the autumn bird orchid were noticed there at the same time. They began flowering mid-March. All the ferns were fresh and beautiful and reminded me of a teenage American visitor's description of the gully as "Just like fairyland".

I saw *Banksia marginata* in February on my property. A little ground cover plant, *Desmodium varians*, has had sprays of pale pink pea-shaped flowers since the end of October, which part way through March were interspersed with sticky seed pods. During the next month or so look for flowers on black sheoak, common heath, yellow hakea, and the first of the greenhood orchids.

We have been delighted to have the advantage of natural insect control among the tomatoes in our possum-proof vegetable pen. Small, fawn coloured tree frogs are alert and agile on their diet of whitefly.

Perfect conical craters made by the ant lion larvae, appeared in the dry sand under our carport. Immediately each ant lion larva hatches from eggs laid in the soil it constructs this lair, then it lies in wait at the bottom of the crater until an unwary ant falls prey to powerful projecting jaws. When fully grown the larvae spins a sand-covered silken cocoon and pupates in the \* soil. Ant lions are a member of the lacewing family.

The illustration is from 'Australian Insects' by John Childs.



I get great pleasure from watching crimson rosellas in the correas at flowering time and eating seeds of burgan a little later. Seed on the tray is strictly rationed to weekends so the birds do not become reliant on it. One rosella sampled seeds on the golden marjoram. The brisk shake of his head, which flicked the seed out of his mouth, expressed disgusted dislike before he flew to the water dish. To wash away a nasty taste perhaps?

Hawks cause rapid screeching departure of rosellas from the seed tray but only occasionally capture a victim. Birds have learned to expect and react to this natural predator. Draggled, limp corpses of these brilliant birds are sometimes seen as road kills or when a cat proudly drops them at your feet. A cat looks just as draggled and limp dangling from the talons of a wedgetail eagle. I have seen this and felt both sorry for the cat and angry that the owner didn't love it enough to protect it.

Does your cat bring home corpses of birds, possums, mice and other animals? These may be only a minute percentage of the carnage wreaked where it hunts as one corpse can be carried at a time.

Have you considered building an RSPCA-approved roomy enclosure for your cat within sight of your comings and goings, where it can be comfortable and safe from unnecessary danger twenty four hours a day? If you like your cat to be a companion in the house a passageway from enclosure to a cat door will facilitate this. No doubt Moggie takes its life in its hands (feet?) by crossing the road occasionally and would be much safer taken for a walk on a lead. If I had got around to practicing what I am preaching our cat would not have been away hunting when the 1983 fires flamed through. We have not seen him since.

It is acceptable to keep other basically free spirits (dogs, horses, birds etc) confined in one way or another. So why the different approach to the welfare of cats?

**Laura Levens**

## Cricket finishes on high note

Despite a relatively mediocre season experienced by the Upper Beaconsfield Cricket Club our teams did finish in winning form.

The B grade team shot up to eighth after winning its last two matches in a row.

Some of the young talent emerged as both David Runge and Warwick Scanlan displayed great form with the bat. In the seconds Steve Paine led the team to three wins in a row and this outfit narrowly missed the finals. D grade won its only match in the penultimate round with youngster Matt Brennan snaring 6 wickets in the last round. The U.16s won against Kilcunda Bass while the U.12s retained the Wilco Roly bat by outplaying Flinders in the annual night match.

Club supporters are reminded that the Junior Presentation evening will be held on Sunday 2 April at the Pine Grove Hotel commencing at 5pm. Any parents who wish to stay on for a meal should contact Jill Ward at the hotel. The Senior Presentation evening will be held also at the Pine Grove on Saturday 8 April commencing at 7.30pm. The club wishes to thank the Pine Grove (particularly Fred and Jill) for its sponsorship throughout the season. We are also indebted to the Haupt family of the Upper Crust for their support as well as the On Course Golf shop run by Graeme Kelly at Beaconsfields Golf course.

The club is rather distressed to find that • the sprinklers, which were at the oval, have disappeared. These obviously are difficult to replace. If anyone knows of their whereabouts could they please contact Rob Hansen 5944 3871 or Recreation Committee member Barry Smith 5944 3219.

**Rob Hansen, President**



## The Hindquarter Steak House

This restaurant opened on the corner of St. George's Road and The Emerald Road on 25th February and has been well patronised by the community. Enzo and his family, who run the steak house, are experienced in the steak business.

Enzo and his father were butchers by trade, so you can expect a good cut of meat. This is a family business with good Italian family values and traditions. They formerly owned the Hindquarter Steak House in Narre Warren.

The dining room has been completely renovated, and the carpet has made for a quiet atmosphere. The curtains have been ordered and will be installed very soon. The place has a warm and welcoming feel to it.

There is a well stocked bar at the St. Georges Rd end of the dining room, with over 50 wines available. Enzo supports the two local wineries, The Green Winery and Paternoster Winery.

The hours of business are from Wednesday to Sunday, 6.30 to 11pm. While steak is the speciality of the house, Enzo feels that the quality of his fresh seafood is making the seafood dishes equal in popularity to the steak.

We wish our local businesses success.

**Jo Carter**



## Village Fair 2000

The Village Fair for 2000 will be held on Sunday 26 November. All Community groups are asked to put this date in their calendar. It is never too soon to discuss ideas for your stall and if you need help in this regard, please contact Janette Clydesdale on 9707 2859.

We are also seeking volunteers to help out on the day - remember many hands make light work!

## Art and craft market day

St. Johns Anglican Church will be hosting an art and craft market at the Church on Saturday 6 May 2000 between 9.00am and 3.00pm. This will be the weekend prior to Mother's Day and should attract a good crowd.

We recognise that there are many talented people in our Parish and surrounds who would appreciate an opportunity to place their work before the public and that is the driving force behind this function. The Church has hosted art and craft exhibitions and sales days previously, which have been very successful.

Anyone who produces saleable items of any kind may hire stall space for a modest fee of \$10. All stalls will be undercover and the stallholders will retain all profit. All stallholders will have access to free tea and coffee throughout the day.

We feel this is a unique opportunity for talented people to showcase their product and we invite any interested parties to phone Kath on 5944 4463 or write to "Art & Craft Market", P.O. Box 137, Upper Beaconsfield 3808 to secure a stall.

## *Glass artist to visit Upper Beaconsfield*

Liz Imbriano of Endeavour Hills, well known for her hand painted glassware, will be in Upper Beaconsfield as a guest of the CWA on Thursday 6 April at 1.30pm in the Community Hall.

Liz is a former member of the Heidelberg District Arts Society. She takes her inspiration for her arts subjects from nature and is an artist designer of glassware, flutes, goblets, wine glasses, jugs vases and her fruit bowls in particular are eye catching.

Mothers' Day is just around the corner and there will be a wide variety of items for sale. Bring a friend and come visit Liz and support your local group. Afternoon tea will be served. Admission is \$3.50.

For further information contact Carol Murtagh, CWA Publicity Officer on 5944 4110

## *Youth WorkZ*

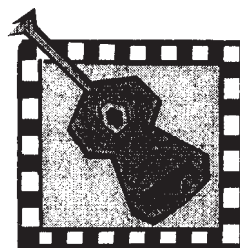
Recently our Youth Ministry has expanded and we have begun working at Berwick Secondary College running both Junior High and Senior High lunchtime programs.

The Principal, School Council, Student Welfare Coordinator and School Psychologist have all welcomed the input from a local church and we are keen not only to provide the teens with a Christian perspective on the many issues they grapple with, but to gradually give the school access to the welfare support the wider church can offer.

The programs are high energy, messy, noisy and fun. For example, we had between 200-300 teens turn up at our first senior high session this term to listen, "mosh & surf" to a rock band from another local church.

One of our parishioners, Paul Hughes, is taking time off work to develop our youth program and to train in Youth Ministry (Ridley College, Melbourne University). At the moment we have something for youth and young adults every Sunday night from 7pm -either our informal evening service (Sundays @ Seven) or DG3 (a discussion group with a twist!). Later in the year we'll be running camps and some Friday night games. I know some of the students at the primary school will look forward to Johnny's Disco surfacing again soon.

There are some talented musicians involved in the youth ministry who are in the middle of recording St. John's first CD. I will let Village Bell readers know when copies are available, as funds raised from it will support our youth ministry and the new hall for children and teens. If you have access to the Internet, you will soon be able to download samples of our music at our web site [www.vicnet.net.au/-stjub](http://www.vicnet.net.au/-stjub).



**Mike Flynn, Vicar**  
**St. John's Anglican Church**  
**5944 3410**

## It's new - It's Radical!

Radical Mountain Bikes is a brand new business, which is the brainchild of Upper Beaconsfield's Ian Stanley and Graeme Mickle. The boys, whose other business interests include much contact with Taiwan and China got the idea of selling mountain bikes without the middle man when they compared the current retail price of good quality mountain bikes with the price they could sell for.

"Outrageous" said Ian. "What can we do about it?" said Graeme. Radical Mountain Bikes was born.

What's the difference between a mountain bike and a regular bike? Not surprisingly, mountain bikes have a different frame, different tyres and these days, suspension parts for a smoother, easier ride. You could say they are built for everything from mountains to mounds, unmade roads to bitumen. They are ideal for the trails and roads around Upper Beaconsfield.

Radical can offer big savings on the popular 26 inch-21 speed mens' and ladies' models and the smaller 20inch-12 speed smaller size for children. All bikes use Shimano gears and quality parts, which are interchangeable with readily available spares and accessories.

But if you're looking for a shop front in the village, you're wasting your time - Radical Mountain Bikes are cutting overheads to the bone by working from home. Call Ian or Graeme on 5944 4066 fax 5994 44077 email [travelsafe@netspace.net.au](mailto:travelsafe@netspace.net.au)

**Sue McKenzie**

## Babysitting Club

The Upper Beaconsfield Babysitting Club is a group of local mothers who baby-sit each other's children in their own homes which means the children do not have to be taken out of their house on cold nights.

The Club has proven to be very successful and convenient and is based on a points system with a no pressure arrangement.

If you are a new resident or just wanting some information on the Club, please do not hesitate to contact me.

### Secretaries of the month:

|       |                 |
|-------|-----------------|
| April | Marianne Sawyer |
| May   | Judy Prowse     |
| June  | Anne Hutchinson |
| July  | Judi Fenby      |

**Cathie Usher 5944 4183**



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### Village Bell subscriptions

Village Bell subscriptions and membership for the Upper Beaconsfield Association for the year 2000 are due in January/February 2000.

### Are you moving and wish to continue receiving the Village Bell?

To avoid time-consuming record-keeping, it has been decided by the Village Bell editors that non-residents wanting Village Bells posted out to them should also renew their subs every January. If you have joined the mailing list later in the year, your subscription will still be due in January. Contact Carolyn Floyd 5944 3618.



## Scouting news



All Sections have commenced the year with many activities. Joeys have been busy planting flower bulbs and painting the containers for them as well as making hanging mobiles. Current numbers Joeys are approximately 12 with 8 on the waiting list.

It is with regret that we farewell the two Joey leaders, Jane Harvey and Chris Cunningham. Both ladies have given over five years of wonderful service and we thank them and wish them well in their "retirement". We welcome Cathy Hermens who is about to undertake training to become a Joey leader. As yet we do not have another leader to join her and so we must rely on parent roster support.

Cubs have been making the most of the warm weather, participating in lots of outside activities. The Pack recently visited a rose farm and learnt about hydroponics. We are still in need of leaders for this Pack to run, as we are unable to guarantee regular meetings unless this leader crisis is rectified.

Scouts have been busy preparing for "Formula Bike" to be held at Sandown Racecourse in May. The group will be honing their camp skills at Stradbroke Camp over Easter in preparation for the Jamboree and two Scouts will be heading north to Kakadu National Park on 7 April with leader Rob Shreeve and 200 other Victorian Scouts. Congratulations to Scouts Paul Boynes and Craig Wood, who have attained their Venturer Cord and Premier Scout Award. The Adventurer Cord is the highest possible Award for Scouts and these boys have worked hard under the guidance of leader Andrea Shokavich to reach this pinnacle of their term in Scouts. The presentation of the Venturer Cord will take place at a Group function shortly and the Premier Scout Award at an official function in Melbourne in May.

Venturer numbers have increased due to an influx of new members from Scouts, with current numbers at about ten.

We would like to farewell two hardworking members of our Group Committee, Jan Carmody and Ian Wilkinson. Both have contributed many hours of their time assisting the Group in

fundraising and administrative functions. Our sincere thanks to them both.

We have been without a Group Leader for some months and it is pleasing to have Andrea Shokavich come forward to fill this vital role for us.

The Annual General Meeting and reports presentation evening was held on Wednesday 24 March at 8pm in the Igloo, followed by supper. Presentations were made to the retiring members.

Any inquiries regarding the group to Barry Smith (President) 5944 3219 or Kathy Boynes (Secretary) 5944 3647.

**Karen McQuilteri**

### Netball season starting soon

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Upper Beaconsfield Netball Club will be held on Sunday 2 April 2000 at 4pm at the Upper Beaconsfield Primary School.

Annual Reports will be presented and the election of office bearers and Committee members will take place. Parents of girls playing netball this year are invited to attend.

If you are unable to attend the meeting please contact Karen Kenny 5944 3943.

Functions and parties



Community Hall

Upper Beaconsfield Community Hall

Bookings and enquiries

Helen Smith 5944 3219



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