



Issue 137 December 2000

Upper Beaconsfield Association

Carols by Candlelight

We are pleased to let you know that Greg Ross will once more comper the Upper Beaconsfield Carols by Candlelight on Christmas Eve at the Keith Ewenson Park on Salisbury Road. Thank you in advance, Greg.

We have also been fortunate to secure the services of Ryan Mackay as pianist for the Carols. Ryan is a senior student at Beacon Hills and recently moved into McBride Road with his family. Fiona McKenzie and the UB Primary School Choir will be an important part of the evening.

All we need now to make the evening its usual wonderful family occasion is reasonable weather and some support from the singers of Upper Beaconsfield. We know that you will all sing in fine voice on Christmas Eve, you always do, but we would like to have two practices with Greg and Ryan before the night, just to make sure we get the tempo right! So, please join us at the Community Centre on Thursday 14 December and Thursday 21 December at 8pm for a practice session. You are all most welcome, from young right up to not so young. If you want any more information about the Carols or practices, you can call me on 5944 3311 or Neil McDonald on 5944 3782.

The UBA and Village Fair committees will have refreshments for sale outside the old tennis clubroom. The refreshments are delicious: sausages, hot donuts, tea, coffee, soft drinks and chips. Funds raised help to fund the Village Fair. Ron Fisher and his merry band will be there from about 7pm.

A very important part of the festivities is the arrival of Santa Claus. We expect that he will make his grand entrance on the CFA

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UBA report

Note that the December 6, 2000 general meeting of the Upper Beaconsfield Association will be held in the small function room at the Pine Grove Hotel, beginning with dinner at 6pm, meeting to begin as usual at 8pm.

Discussions are still under way regarding provision of a connecting road through the proposed subdivision in Salisbury Road. This requirement is part of the Upper Beaconsfield Strategy Plan.

Apparent instability of trees on top of the bank, and erosion as a result of gutter installation on Emerald Road, south of the Village, has been reported to the council department responsible. The department judged concern regarding the trees was unnecessary. The erosion

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Olympics
Pedal power rules
Local rainfall
Locals awarded Australian Sports Medals

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Carols by Candlelight (Continued from page 1)

truck at the Keith Ewenson Park at 8.30pm. All of the children love the opportunity to talk to Santa. The primary school mothers' group makes sure that each child receives a bag of goodies from Santa, and carol singing will start when we've all farewelled Santa and his helpers on the fire truck.

Santa Claus will be stopping at Grant Court at 7.45pm, Burton Road at 8pm, Paul Grove at 8.15pm before the Big One at Carols.

Jo Carter

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**UPPER
BEACONSFIELD
COMMUNITY HALL**

Is available for -

- Fundraisers 
- Engagements
- Anniversaries
- Club functions
-  • Crockery hire
- Chair hire 

Bookings and enquiries
Helen Smith 5944 3219

New residents

Mark, Venlo and Bronte Sage -
Stoney Creek Road

Jeannie and Andrew Gault -
Grant Court

Ray Allsop



Diary dates

Dec 2	Jo Bradshaw dinner, Hindquarter Restaurant
Dec 6	Beaconhills Golf Club AGM
Dec 13	Tennis Club ladies' breakup at the clubhouse
Dec 14	Community Centre children's Christmas party
Dec 14	Carols practice Community Complex, all welcome
Dec 17	Art open day at Petruccelli's studio
Dec 21	Carols practice
Dec 24	Carols by Candlelight at Keith Ewenson Park
Dec 24, 25	Church services at St John's

PLEASE SUPPORT THE BELL BY YOUR SUBSCRIPTION

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

Burning off laws

The Local Laws came into force on the 1st of November after extensive consultation. The most controversial aspect of the environment law appeared to be burning off, and this is understandable in a fire sensitive area. To assist in the understanding of the law a complete copy could be viewed at the Post Office, the Shire web site has copies that can be downloaded: (<http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au>)

A few relevant clauses are now reproduced:

- "38.2 No person may on any land without a permit light, allow to be lit or remain alight any incinerator or fire in the open, other than during the below listed hours on the following days.
- Burning Days Friday and Saturday, Burning Hours between 8.00am and 5.00pm and providing that the requirements of clause 38.4 are fully complied with.
- 38.3 In addition to the burning specified at clause 38.2 a person may on any land without a permit light, allow to be lit or remain alight any incinerator or fire in the open air, on any day between the hours of 8.00am and 8pm for the period from: 1st October to the commencement of the Country Fire Authority declared Fire Period, and Cessation of the Country Fire Authority declared Fire Danger Period to the 14th of May each year, and providing that the requirements of clause 38.4 are fully complied with."
- So you can see we are currently in an amnesty period for preparation of a fire safe period.

Natural Gas Survey

It could be stated that we have a random sample of the bottle gas consumption in Beaconsfield Upper thanks to the people who responded. Calculations indicate that bottle gas is four times as expensive as natural gas. One could accept an added cost for handling, but this margin is considered unacceptable. We will be undertaking two things. The survey data will be supplied to the reticulation company for further consideration. Attention will be made of the close proximity of Harkaway. The Federal member will be advised of the price penalty that rural consumers in his electorate are placed under.

Cr Keith Ewenson

UBA report

(Continued from page 1)

report was missed and after a telephone call on 3/11/00 was 're-activated' by them.

Neil McDonald has planning for Christmas Eve carols at Keith Ewenson Park well under way. We are pleased that Greg Ross has agreed to comper again.

We are awaiting response from the CEO, Cardinia Shire, on the progress of the traffic survey and Salisbury Road up-grading.

A letter has gone to our Federal member of Parliament, Hon Bob Charles suggesting that the price of bottled gas be brought down to a reasonable level. Currently it is almost four times as expensive as piped natural gas.

Bothered by stray cats?

A reminder that a cat trap is available for use by anyone bothered by wandering cats. There is no charge and a bylaws officer will collect any trapped animals. Registered pets will be returned with a warning to owners the first time they are caught. Telephone Ron Fisher 5944 3019.

Laura Levens

Season's Greetings!



Happy and safe
holiday to all
from everyone at the Bell

Congratulations Joanne Bradshaw

Mum and gold medallist

Being a full time Mum is a time consuming task. But for Joanne Bradshaw, gold medallist and shot put World Record holder it is equally important as being an elite athlete.

Joanne has lived with her family, husband Tony and daughter Paige, in Upper Beaconsfield for seven years." Moving from Harkaway just seemed a logical step", admitted Joanne. Paige is now five having been born after that all-important move across the Cardinia Creek and she now attends prep at Upper Beaconsfield Primary School.

An elite athlete for much of her life that status has given Joanne the drive to surmount any setbacks she has encountered. In her earlier youthful days she rose quickly to the top of the netball tree, playing first for the Kinetics in the State league and then being part of a successful Victorian outfit which was runners up to New South Wales in the Australian championships. Acquiring that inner strength was vital in overcoming the setback of suffering a stroke, which threatened to terminate her elite sporting prowess. But Joanne has been able to use the strength to forge an amazing recovery, which has allowed her to achieve success as a paralympian.

Joanne recently competed in the Sydney Paralympics in the F37 category, which put her in the same group as more physically able cerebral palsy sufferers. But after embarking on a three-year build up she has bettered her own world record four times in the shot put and finally, before a huge crowd, snatched the gold medal in a count back at Stadium Australia. She can thank her strength and conditioning coach, Matt Goodman, who trains her at Pinnacle Fitness in Beaconsfield, for assisting her to achieve her goal.

"If you can possibly imagine what it would be like to gaze up at a sea of flickering, swaying lights you will be able to appreciate that this was the highlight for me," observed Joanne. "The opening ceremony with an enchanted crowd of 110,000 people was the pinnacle of the games

and it is a scene I will cherish for all time."

Equally Joanne found that the Gold Medal tour, sponsored by Telstra, was an awe-inspiring experience. "We travelled through Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Darwin and Perth in just four days and were confronted by thousands of fans who turned out for the ticker tape parades. Perth people were the most excited and they gave us an amazing welcome. I was absolutely exhausted after that whirlwind trip."

Joanne admitted that of all the Australians competing in the Paralympic Games she admired Neil Fuller the most. "He is such a professional. An arm amputee, he competed in the 100, 200, 400 and 800 metres as well as the relays. Prior to Sydney he had never won gold despite competing in two other Paralympic Games. However he was able to win four gold medals as well as a bronze in a stunning performance. That was a remarkable effort."

The excitement has abated somewhat but domestic duties have kept Joanne busy. She will be reliving some of her magic moments when she attends a dinner to pay tribute to her achievements. The Upper Beaconsfield Cricket Club has organised a dinner with Joanne as guest on Tuesday December 5 at the Hindquarter Restaurant. Cost is \$30.00 per head. Any interested persons who would still like to attend should immediately contact Clarry Bouchier tel. 5944 4356. This is an opportunity not to miss. We will be able to salute Joanne's magnificent performances. Congratulations Joanne Bradshaw!

Rob Hansen

Thankyou

The Village Bell editors extend their thanks to Cardinia Shire. A \$400 grant was recently given to assist in the production of our community newsletter.

Local torch bearer



Sarah Fiddes, 21, of Upper Beaconsfield, had the thrill of being part of the Olympic Torch Relay recently. She participated in Day 64 when the relay passed through Emerald. She was participant number 47 for the day and was the third last before the lunchtime celebrations held in Emerald.

She purchased the torch as a memento of the day and it currently has pride of place in the family home. She has since taken the torch for "show and tell" at a couple of local primary schools

Sarah with friends, left
Passing the flame, below



Platypus in Cardinia Creek?



Readers will be interested to learn that a survey was conducted to determine whether there are platypus in Cardinia Creek.

The Australian

Platypus Conservancy conducted the night-time survey November 22. Apparently there were

sightings in the 1980s of platypus, but since then the colony may have died out due to the ravages of Ash Wednesday.

Biologist Geoff Williams from the Conservancy has just contacted me with the news they did not find any. The group may reintroduce the animals into a habitat where they once used to thrive.

The Conservancy receives funding from Melbourne Water and other groups, including National Geographic Society and various businesses.

Helen Smith

Pedal power rules!



The Primary School team

Maryborough in central Victoria was the venue for three days in November for the RACV Energy Breakthrough, a yearly event that brings Human Powered Vehicles, built and raced by students from both primary and secondary colleges from all over the State, into competition.

Over ninety schools took part this year, some teams coming from interstate. The aim of the Energy Breakthrough is about participation, technology and team development. The groups spend the year before the event working on vehicle design and construction, team training and sponsorship. The vehicles totally under pedal power can reach speeds in excess of 60km per hour, and the Berwick Secondary College senior team managed to cover just under 750 kms in their 24-hour endurance race!

Upper Beaconsfield was well represented by a team from the primary school as well as students who were part of the Berwick Secondary College team. The Upper Beaconsfield Primary "Bug Splat" team consisted of Sarah Wyatt, Rachael Sandel, Lucy Aldred, Sharon Flynn, Daniel Noy, Jarrod Beck, Wesley Voogt and Cale Porter with parents Greg Wyatt and Byron Porter supporting the building of the machine. This team covered 417 laps of a shortened circuit during a 14-hour time trial, eclipsing last year's record and finished tenth in the race, third in design and construction and placed seventh overall.

Berwick Secondary College entered three teams, Senior, Junior and Tryathlon. The senior

and junior teams were required to participate in an endurance race (24 hour race) whilst the Tryathlon team undertook a gruelling obstacle course and a shorter time trial event. The Tryathlon team, consisting of Duncan Wood, Ross Allan, Adyn Hein, Daniel Mills, Jamey Wyatt, Neil Strohbeck, Luke Postlethwaite and Dwayne Kennedy, won both the obstacle course and time trial to take first place in this event. The senior team took third, out of all the vehicles in the 24-hour event, an achievement beyond their expectations. The junior team, despite three spills, managed a very creditable ninth in their class. The senior team consisted of Nathan Rate, Gareth Hanks, Scott Hawke, Dale Austin, Mark Berrell, Annika Schroeder, Neil Daymond, Anthony Coulson and Adam Bird. The Junior team comprised Jemima Rose, Andrew Lardner, Dale Wilkinson, Dale Pankhurst, Will Livesey, Rebecca Kennedy, Lauren Kosach and Susanne Salz. Other notable Village residents were the support team such as Bill Hanks with his genius in construction and design, Terry Trevena and Fergus O'Gallagher, Kay and Peter Kennedy, Gilda Hansen and Julie Greaves who catered for the B.S.C. team as well as parents who made the trip to cheer on the teams.

Congratulations to all teams for their achievement and team spirit.



Pranks have serious consequences

A series of youthful pranks in Upper Beaconsfield over recent months has prompted this warning to parents in the local area. Do they know what their children get up to when they are out and about after school and on the weekend?

Vandals have targeted the Igloo and the primary school and recently letterboxes also received attention. In the case of the school, the damage (mainly broken windows) has been quite extensive and expensive to repair. As reported in the Bell in a previous issue, the new Igloo extension and some of its fittings were also damaged. I believe that police are questioning some young people in relation to these incidents.

The community suffers the inconvenience and cost of repairs to remedy the damage. Members of the school community and the groups connected with the Igloo become disappointed and demoralised when their efforts to improve facilities are spoilt by senseless actions.

However, for the young offenders there may be unforeseen repercussions. They and their families may have to pay considerable money to pay for damage. The young offenders can gain a police record, which could be detrimental to their future employment prospects.

There is also the very real danger of serious injury or death to pranksters when damaging letterboxes. In the recent incidents, "bombs" to explode in letterboxes were made using soda siphon bulbs. A 12-year-old boy in Pakenham Upper was killed last year from the flying shrapnel from a soda siphon thrown into a fire and just two weeks ago a 16 year old youth lost his hand when mixing up a cocktail of chemicals with friends.

Finally, the other important issue to highlight is the importance of community members being observant and reporting any suspicious activity. In another incident of vandalism at the school 12 months ago, a passer-by witnessed what happened. The incident was not reported in the belief that the police would not do anything about it. It was only after a concerned resident had heard there was a witness and chased up the details that police were able to get a result for their investigation.

We urge all Upper Beaconsfield residents to continue to be observant and please report anything suspicious that you observe! Vandalism such as that at Upper Beaconsfield Primary School can hardly be rated "pranks" - if the classroom had burnt down it would have been arson.

Helen Smith

Vale - Upper Beaconsfield's innocence

In life we tend to perpetuate myths. One of those legends has been the innocent nature of our community and the reasons many people came to live here. One of them was that it was a quiet community where integrity was strong, people's rights were cherished, a person's property was respected and we valued the healthy environment.

Unfortunately a number of the previously mentioned values have been lost recently as we have been disturbed by incidents which make Upper Beaconsfield exactly like any Decline in other of Melbourne's suburbs community which suffer the decline in community mindedness

What has happened to us? A town's innocence might be measured by being able to leave your property unprotected knowing that we live in a safe community. But that innocence must surely have been destroyed after events which have occurred recently where:

(1) A car breaks down and is left overnight in a layby so that the owner can come back next morning to fix the problem. Imagine his heartbreak when he discovers next morning that every window has been smashed and the roof walked all over. A multi-thousand dollar insurance job.

(2) A busy working mum rushes into the house at the end of the day leaving her car in the drive unlocked, which she has done ever since first living in this quiet neighbourhood. She and her children are traumatised next morning to find that her bag and money have been stolen, mobile phone disappears, but worse her brief case containing invaluable work resources has been set alight and left smouldering nearby.

These are just two anecdotes, which might fill a Neighbourhood Watch newsletter. (Are you actively involved?) But they do illustrate that we can no longer feel 100% assured that our village is safe. House break ins have become regular.

Vandal damage (see article this page) is common. One neighbour in a court reported that he sees regular torching of abandoned stolen cars as well as needles left behind by the offenders. Upper Beaconsfield has lost its innocence.

What can we do to prevent this rapid slide in the loss of amenity in our neighbourhood? Perhaps we should continue to regard ourselves as members

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Local rainfall figures

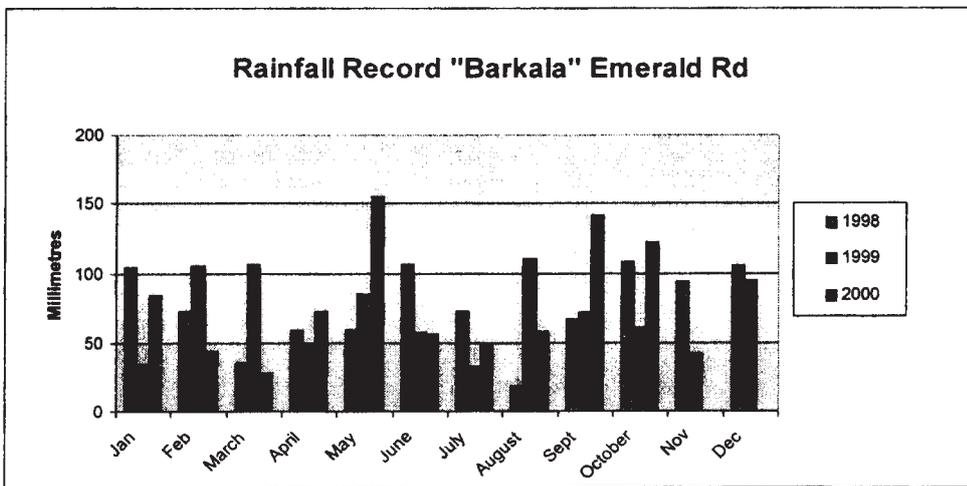
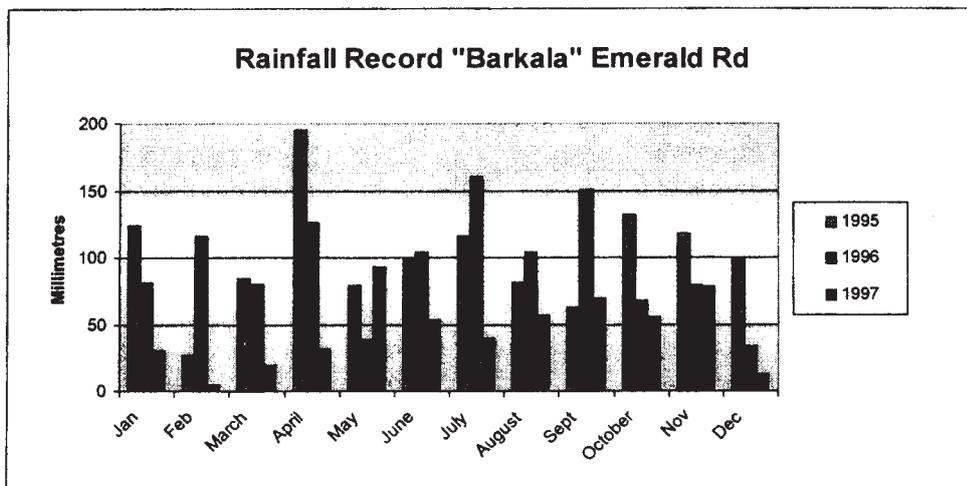
The article in the October Village Bell reported spring rain to September 18 at 88mm. This increase in September rain continued with the total for September at 141,4mm and October at 122.4mm.; a total of 263.8mm compared to an average established over 32 years (1968 - 1999) of 192.5mm for the two months.

Below is a table showing the monthly rainfall over the years 1995 to 2000 to date. The present water shortage and drought can be seen in the

extreme depression of rainfall in 1997, followed by average rainfall in 1998, 1999 and up to August 2000. We can only hope that the present higher levels of rainfall will continue to remove the threat of water restrictions in the future.

The rainfall pattern in Upper Beaconsfield is variable from area to area due to the hills, valleys and prevailing winds. These 32-year recordings have been made approximately 400 metres southwest of the village on a hill overlooking Berwick and Carrum Downs.

George Moir



32 Yr Average	
Jan	67.3
Feb	54.7
Mar	72.7
Apr	75.8
May	92.8
Jun	83.1
Jul	81.2
Aug	89.3
Sep	94.2
Oct	98.3
Nov	84.8
Dec	81.5
Total	975.7mm

Vale Upper Beac (Continued from page 7)

of our community and we should accept that we also have responsibilities towards one another. Take time to care for Upper Beac. and your neighbours! Be vigilant - particularly where unusual sightings are made. Note number plates! Be aware of what your kids are up to!

Unfortunately the police seem to be under increasing pressure because of a lack

of resources and do not always respond to the events in our community in the manner we feel our village demands. This then throws some of the responsibility back on us as Upper Beacians.

If you cannot leave your property unattended overnight and without property being locked securely away we must become just as security conscious as all the other of Melbourne's suburbs. Because that's what we have become.

Rob Hansen

Australian Sports Medals awarded to cricket stalwarts

Two stalwarts of the Upper Beaconsfield Cricket Club received Australian honours recently. Bob Taylor and Rob Hansen were awarded Australian Sports Medals. These honours were bestowed by the Queen and presented to people who had rendered continuing service to their sport.

Instituted by the Australian Government for the year 2000, nominations for the medal were made by the Prime Minister, the Federal, State and Territory sports ministers, Senators and Members of the House of Representatives and peak sports bodies recognised by the Australian Sports Commission.

The medals were presented at a dinner arranged by the Victorian Cricket Association and held at Punt Rd. Oval during the recent Victoria v New South Wales match. While no doubt the recipients were honoured the club is equally honoured that two of its long serving administrators have been duly recognised.

Congratulations Bob and Rob.



Upper Beaconsfield
NEIGHBOURHOOD
WATCH

"Improve the quality of life by eliminating crime and promoting closer community ties."

Our next meeting will be held on 18 December, 8pm at the Community Complex. Wine and nibbles will be provided for a little festive fare! Come along and share your ideas for NHW in the coming year.

Don't forget to ensure the security of your property over the holiday season. All at NHW wish our residents a safe and happy Christmas.

Melinda Conn 5944 4010

Congratulations Brad Trewin!

The District Commissioner of Upper Beaconsfield Pony Club, Bradley Trewin, has been awarded the prestigious Australian Sport Medal.

This award, created by the Federal Government, was established to celebrate special sporting achievements, and is part of Australia's official awards and honours system. Brad has been honoured for his commitment and contribution over many years to the Pony Club Association and the local community.

Brad's involvement in the Pony Club Movement began when he became a member of Upper Beaconsfield Pony Club in 1982. During his time as a pony club member, Brad achieved many sporting feats ranging from representing Victoria several times, (including the National Prince Phillip Mounted Games and National Showjumping Championships) to receiving the Award of Merit; the Pony Club Association's highest recognition of service.

After finishing pony club in 1996 Brad returned to the club for the next two years as a showjumping instructor.

In 1998 Brad was appointed District Commissioner at Upper Beaconsfield Pony Club, a position he still holds.

During the past six years, Brad has also managed to complete an engineering course at Melbourne University, and is currently working full time in engineering.

Brad has also continued with his showjumping career and currently has a team of horses, one of whom (Miss Sully), trained by Brad, is competing against Australia's top combinations and gaining some excellent results.

Congratulations Bradley for being recognised through this award, the Australian Sport Medal, for your enormous contribution to the Pony Club Movement and the community.

Marlene Kelly

This is the season for giving

Christmas time is not always a happy time for some families who do not have the ability to provide even the most basic of gifts and food for their families. There are groups within the community who are able to help families at this time of year - perhaps you might consider donating either money or food to help others at this time of giving. A few organisations locally are:

- Pakenham & District Community Chest - this organisation extends emergency relief all year round but find their resources stretched at Christmas. Donations of money can be forwarded to Pakenham & District Community Chest, Post Office Box 85, Pakenham 3810. This organisation supplies food vouchers to those in need. They will acknowledge your donation by letter. Contact is through Sheila Barnett 5945 4332 (work hours only).
- The Cardinia Combined Churches also help needy families through food parcels. Donations of non-perishable food can be left at 63 Henry Street, Pakenham. Contact number for this organisation is 5941 2268.
- The Berwick & District Benevolent Society collect non-perishable food items every year to make Christmas parcels. The items can be left in the wire cages at either the Southside or Northside shopping areas in Berwick (near either supermarket). The Society can be contacted through Bert Ainge, 9707 2391.

Gilda Hansen.



Upper Beaconsfield on the Internet

I have recommended to people that Google (www.google.com) is the best search engine on the Internet. It is fast and ranks pages by the number of links to it so that the best web pages usually come out at the top of the list and the least popular last.

In a recent test I typed in "Upper Beaconsfield" in the search box for several popular search engines, including Google and got the following number of hits. It was surprising how many references there were. (Hint: by using inverted commas around your search term you only get web pages where this exact term is found.)

Google provided 523 hits, Northern Light 263, Yahoo 244 and Alta Vista 131.

Sometimes it is hard to know where the page refers to Upper Beaconsfield. The best way to find this is to go to the Edit menu and then to the Find command and type Upper Beaconsfield in the box and the term will be highlighted wherever it appears on the page.

Anyway, the results were mostly quite interesting, although disappointingly some were out of date.

Amongst the most interesting were: web pages referring to local breeders, B and Bs, the golf course, the winery and clematis nursery; many references to the Ash Wednesday fires; Community Centre courses; St. John's page; pony club and equestrian results; Upper Beaconsfield Rovers; Save Toomuc Valley; a interesting web page from Pakenham Secondary College about pre-European Koori tribes in this area; properties for sale; Sarah Fiddes was on the list as participating in the Olympic Torch relay; "Adventures of George Silberbauer" from Monash University; Carmel and Des McKenna's Irish connections; a UB entry in the who's who in beekeepers; a nice personal web page from a student in UB; an item on Svea Pitman (who represented Australia in the International Youth Parliament); a reference to an Anzac officer from UB who died at Gallipoli and an obscure reference to UB on Ray's Beer Can Page!

One intriguing entry started with this - "Heron Primary Glider Aircraft was discovered in a fruit packing shed at Upper Beaconsfield in 1943 by 4 young employees of the Commonwealth Aircraft Factory..." but when I clicked on the link, it didn't work!

Helen Smith

Wet but sound start for Cricket Club

How many years has it been since we have had such a mushy beginning to the cricket season? Despite the deluges the cricket club has already enjoyed success and seems to be laying the foundation for finals appearances in at least a couple of grades.

B grade under Nick Meyers, from Frankston, has started impressively. Quite a number of the young brigade have begun to show fine form with the bat while the bowlers have continued to be difficult to score runs from. The return of Kristian Phillips has also added bite to the bowling. Hopefully this group will continue to become stronger.

The club's extension project was completed and was officially opened by the Mayor Cr. Graeme Legge on Village Fair day. Many sponsors and former local identities were invited to attend the ceremony, which commenced at 2.15pm in the new rooms. A plaque was struck to commemorate the completed project. The Shire of Cardinia through its grants scheme provided valuable financial support to the Cricket club, which raised money itself to contribute to the extensions.

Particular special thanks go to a number of individuals whose hard work and voluntary contribution made the project possible. Tim Anderson's skills were invaluable, as were those of Luke and Daniel Williams in performing vital construction tasks. The team of volunteers capably led by Clarry Bouchier and President Rob Hansen included Bob Taylor, Peter Brennan, Steve Paine, Jason Oliver and Rod Tredoux. The club thanks them all.

A trailer raffle was organised to partly support the construction of the extensions. The club wishes to thank all those who contributed goods, which filled the trailer. These included Damien Bayard, Arthur Winzar, Steve Paine, Richard Edwards and the Tru Value team at the General Store.

Rob Hansen

www.vicnet.net.au/~ubcc

Petrucelli Art Studio Open Day and Student Art Exhibition

Residents of Upper Beaconsfield are invited to Petrucelli Studios annual Open Day and Student Art Exhibition to be held on Sunday, December 17 between 11 am and 6pm.

All works on display were painted in the studio by adult students during classes on Sunday or Monday mornings. When weather permitted, easels were set up in the studio grounds for landscape painting of the picturesque surrounds. Over summer, paint out trips were made to Phillip Island for plein air (open air) seascape studies.

A variety of still lifes, landscapes, seascapes and portraits in oil and pastel will be on view. There will also be drawings, some of which are portrait studies of the students themselves, each taking turn to pose during portraiture classes.

Come along on December 17 to see the quality of work produced by local students!

For enquiries about the open day or classes, please contact:

Peter or Mary Petrucelli, 102 Stoney Creek Rd, Upper Beaconsfield (Melways 211 A7) Phone 5944 3224.

Your daily moment of Zen

Do not walk behind me, for I may not lead.
Do not walk ahead of me for I may not follow.
Do not walk beside me either; just leave me the hell alone.

The journey of a thousand miles begins with a broken fan belt and a leaky tyre.

No one is listening until you make a mistake.

Always remember you are unique, just like everyone else.

Never test the depth of the water with both feet.

It may be that your sole purpose in life is simply to serve as a warning to others.

St John's Anglican Church

I hear so many people lament the coming of Christmas. The decorations have been in the shops since October, the sales catalogues have been advertising Christmas gifts since November, and the merchants, who during the year have been trying to turn better profits from Valentine's day, Mothers' and Fathers' days, Easter and even Halloween excel in their dominance of Christmas. It is too much, this over selling of things we don't need.

Others lament the coming of Christmas because every carol and TV Christmas special reminds them of things lost. Death, divorce, illness, family bitterness all take a toll at Christmas time and this is not the way it was meant to be. There are fewer settings for Christmas dinner; there are heated discussions about whose house should be avoided this year.

We also have a stress disadvantage living in the Southern Hemisphere; our Christmas coincides with our summer and thus the long vacation. Exams are barely over, businesses must prepare to close, stock takes must done, maintenance scheduled, expensive holidays in busy places arranged, fire preparations made, children entertained and cared for.

Now, I know some will be reading this and wonder

why anyone should complain. Some love the excitement of Christmas; the children counting down to The Morning, the fun of preparing for friends and family, the buzz in the shopping centre, the old carols, the promise of holidays. But that is what we lament, simple joys which have been crowded out, misplaced or taken.

Jesus didn't come for this, a season of excess and stress and old hymns to an old God telling of a faith we once had. We were worth more than that to him. Why? I don't know; but I trust the word is true that said: "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son..". God loved and that meant giving us himself in his Son. Why? Well, that I do know: to end our lament.

Mike Flynn

Vicar - St. John's 5944 3410

Christmas services at St. John's Upper Beaconsfield, 2000.

Christmas Eve: 7pm Christmas Family service, 11 pm Traditional Communion service Christmas Day 9 am Family service and communion.

St John's Anglican Church

St. Georges Road Upper Beaconsfield Victoria. 3808.

Office Phone/Fax : 5944 3862.

Vicarage : 5944 3410 ABN 98 243 854 982

www.vicnet.net.au/~stjub

stjohnub@telstra.easymail.com.au

Local author

Mrs Joan Boundy of McBride Road has recently published her memoirs, "Fruit Salad on Sundays". Joan was born and raised In Malvern in the years between the World Wars and has written about her interesting life.

Joan's first husband was in Dutch New Guinea during World War 2 and she did not see him for three years. Her husband died of war related injuries in the early 1950s and Joan raised her four sons alone, until she met and married her present husband, Peter.

The family lived in Glen Iris and built the house

in McBride Road in 1970 as a holiday home, but they loved it so much that in 1980 they left Glen Iris and moved up here permanently. They lived through the Ash Wednesday fires and Joan describes their experiences very graphically in her book.

Joan is also a painter, and taught art classes in her home until 2 years ago.

The book was started in 1980 as a series of short stories for her grandchildren, and was successfully launched in October at a luncheon given by Kilbaha Publishers for about 80 people in Kew. The book is available for sale at the Upper Beaconsfield Pharmacy.

Jo Carter

Bellevue Orchard

J & R Russo
544 Brown Rd
Officer
5943 2390



BUY DIRECT & GET IT FRESH

Fresh local apple juice
Freshly crushed on the orchard
Peaches, nectarines and apples

Bellevue Orchard supports Carols By Candlelight



New look, new management for supermarket

Family features strongly in the new supermarket arrangements. David Larsson, who has had family links with Upper Beac for many years, bought the supermarket building from his father because he recognised its importance as a community amenity and its growth potential if well managed.

He is a man who likes a challenge but just how much of a challenge the refurbishing of the store soon became evident when he took over the vacant premises with the departure of long-term tenant Roger Gordon at the end of July. Optimistic estimates of closing the store for a week to renovate, refit and restore turned into a sixteen hours a day, seven days a week, six week effort by David and his brother-in-law Jack Iacovantuono.

The time and money invested is evident now that the store has re-opened for business. Improvements included the installation of air-conditioning and heating, new lighting, upright freezers, deli and a new computer system to enable scanning. The relatively new Foodwise Group was selected as the buying group over the previous suppliers IGA, as they appeared to offer more competitive prices.

As David already runs another demanding business he only ever saw his involvement as being an interim one while Jack became familiar with the management and financial aspects of the business.

Jack had worked for Coles for five years so was experienced in the merchandising side of supermarkets. He plans to take over the business from David at the end of February. Both men were pleased to be able to retain Carol Bligh who had worked in the supermarket for nine years and two part-time locals Laura Dimsey and Elodie Mathews. The fourth member of the team is Emily Ballantyne-Brodie. Jack said their experience and local knowledge have been invaluable in the early weeks of operation.

John is committed to providing customers with quality merchandise and courteous service in a pleasant environment. He is so taken with Upper Beaconsfield is looking to move here from Hallam. David has enjoyed working in the supermarket in his spare time so much he has every intention of keeping his hand in even when he no longer has a financial involvement. After all, it's still in the family.

Susan Pitman

Bird diversity



Did you know that a 'Birds on Farms' survey conducted by Birds Australia showed that every 10% increase in tree cover results in bird diversity increasing by 7%, and exotic birds decreasing by 21%.

Where the trees were locally-occurring species the diversity of woodland-dependent native birds was 43% greater.

Another survey revealed that harvest was greater in paddocks protected by trees, lamb losses were greatly reduced and calves gained weight more quickly when sheltered from cold winds.

Should you be interested in planting locally occurring trees, perhaps along boundary fences or in corner triangles fenced to protect the plants, our nursery in Halford Road (the milk bar is on the corner) is open every Friday from 12 noon to 5pm except when temperatures exceed 39 degrees. Prices are \$ 1.00 per tube or 75c ea for 40 or more. (There are opportunities to apply for grants from various government departments for revegetation projects.)

Arrangements can be made to buy at other times by ringing Gladys Aarons 5942 7571, or Laura Levens 5944 3828.

Did you enjoy the spring display in the traffic island at the southern intersection of Stoney Creek Road with Emerald Road? While members of the Conservation Group were undertaking maintenance duties they were distressed to discover a traffic victim: the body of a small dog. How can people expose their pets to such an end? Whose child was grieving or an adult missing the welcome home which dogs can give? All because of lack of a secure yard. It's very sad.

Conservation Group

Upper Beaconsfield Pony Club

National Championships

The National Equestrian Centre at Werribee will be host to the 1999 Pony Club Association of Australia National Championships from September 28th till October 3rd.

The championships will feature dressage, showjumping and eventing and will be staged in two age groups - junior (16 years & under) and senior (17 - 25 years). Every State will field a team of six riders, in each age group, in each discipline.

Upper Beaconsfield Pony Club had two members short-listed for this prestigious event - Rebecca Woff (junior dressage) and Wendy Daniels (senior showjumping).

After final team selection, Wendy was chosen to represent Victoria as one of the senior show-jumping team members.

Congratulations to both Rebecca and Wendy on such a fine achievement. Upper Beaconsfield Club members wish Wendy the best of luck and look forward to following her performances at the championships.

Combined training day

Despite wet weather conditions Pony Club members enjoyed a Combined Training Day held at our club grounds on Saturday 28th August.

The event was held as an encouragement and learning day for a number of the younger club members, as most had never before had the opportunity to participate in this type of competition.

Berwick, Cockatoo and Pakenham Pony Club members were also invited to join in the competition.

Thank you, to local dressage judges - Philippa Meyer, Jenny Lee and Mary Jenkins and also show-jumping judge Tricia Trewin, for giving their time and encouragement to make the day a success.

Results

Grade 3

Alex Weimann (Sundance) 1st
Katja Weimann (Rosie) 2nd
Katie Chisnall (Jack) 6th

Grade 4

Michelle Knowles (Meridan Park Purdie) 1st
Adele Kemp (Rusty) 3rd
Tracey Timms (Majestic Rambla) 5th

Grade 5

Jillian Fitzgerald (Nina) 2nd
Sarah Antoniadou (Razzle) =3rd
Morgan Cleary (Rhiannon) 4th
Natalie Appleton (Acheron Priceless) 5th

Wendy off to the nationals

Wendy Daniels, a member of Upper Beaconsfield Pony Club has been chosen to represent Victoria at the 1999 National Pony Club Championships.

The National Equestrian Centre at Werribee will host the Championships from Tuesday 28th of September till Sunday October 3rd.

One hundred and seventy seven competitors from all over Australia will compete in the three Olympic disciplines of Dressage, Eventing and Show-jumping in two sections - Junior and Associate. Wendy will be part of Victoria's associate Show-jumping team.

Wendy's 10 year involvement with the Upper Beaconsfield Pony Club began when she joined at the age of 10, riding a little brown and white pony called "Prince", that had been loaned to her. After a few years of learning the basics of riding, Wendy then moved onto her friends, slightly bigger pony and started to compete at local competitions. It was then that Wendy started to focus on Show-jumping.

In 1996, with the help of her instructor Wendy purchased Charlie (Another Ace), a thoroughbred horse, experienced in showjumping and ideal to help her get her showjumping career started.

Wendy and Charlie have had many successes over the past two years, including placing 3rd at this years Pony Club Showjumping State Championships in A Grade, 3rd at the Royal Show in Jumping Equitation, 1st in the Hygain Showjumping Competition and 3rd at the Moomba Showjumping Championships.

In April this year when the Victorian Pony Club Association called for top level pony club members to try out for state selection, Wendy decided to nominate and was successfully chosen to be part of the state showjumping team.

Wendy would like to thank the Upper Beaconsfield Pony Club for their support and encouragement over the past 10 years, and contributes a lot of her success to her pony club involvement.

Upper Beaconsfield Pony Club members, parents and instructors congratulate and wish Wendy the best of luck at the National Championships.

Trophies and Rosettes for Pony Club Winners

Congratulations to Upper Beaconsfield riders Michelle Knowles and Alex Weimann who were both winners at a very successful Combined Training Day held recently by the Upper Beaconsfield Pony Club.

Enthusiastic competitors from Cockatoo, Pakenham and Berwick Pony Clubs joined Upper Beaconsfield riders to enjoy the event for Pony Club

(Continued on page 17)

Beaconhills Country Golf Club



The Club Championships have recently been played and results are as follows: Rod Beel is the new Club Champion winning both Gross and Nett in A Division. B Grade Gross winner: Ron Norton. Nett winner David McKinnon.

Terry Swalwell won both Gross and Nett in C Grade. Junior Champion: Andrew Harris. Veterans: Wally O'Hara. The players were forced to endure very poor weather for most of the event.

The first round of the ladies' Championships was washed out and had to be rescheduled, but from then on the weather was good. Janette Bergman is the new Club Champion. B Grade: Christine Grand-Court, C Grade: Cora Shovelton. Fay Harford aged only ten, won D Grade. Veterans: Pauline Tucker. Aggregate Nett winner over 3 rounds was Cora Shovel-ton. Congratulations to all players.

Unfortunately the Championships clashed with Christina Beltran's school exams, so she missed the opportunity to compete, but at time of writing Christina and Bob Mottrom are leading the mixed Foursomes Championship. The Junior Club Championship (under 15) commences on 25 November and will be played over four weeks.

Some of Beaconhills most promising junior golfers performed with distinction in the South East Junior Masters four round competition, played at Berwick/Montuna, Amstel and Beaconhills (Lakes and Hills) courses. Brianne Arthur (Best nett score), Matt Taylor (A Grade nett winner, Master of Masters runner up), Stephen Corney (A Grade runner up, Master of Masters 3rd), Brent Cameron (B Grade runner up). In the South East Junior Classic Under 12 event Ben Taylor (Best Gross U/10 boys) and Robyn Dwight (Best nett U/10 girls) also represented the Club with excellence.

Congratulations to local members Ros Harding and Mary Griffin, who together with Jean Hay, recently won the Mt Martha Bowl.

During December and January the Club will make one course available exclusively to visitors all day. Usual dress regulations apply and bookings can be made seven days in advance at the Pro Shop. The Twilight Golf Competition days are Wednesdays and Fridays each week with hit off times from 3.30 pm. Bistro meals are available on both days for members and visitors. Even if you have no interest in golf, it is a very pleasant venue to enjoy a meal in beautiful surroundings.

The A & L Windows Beaconhills Pro-Am tournament will be held on Thursday 8 March 2001. Sponsorship packages for the event are available, ranging from \$350-\$950 (plus GST). Contact Secretary/Manager Andrew Austin for details. Master of Ceremonies for the day will be Leon Weigard and there will be golf equipment for use on the practice fairway, putting competitions, music, fun events for children and of course the opportunity to watch or play with some of the best golf professionals on the circuit.

With Christmas fast approaching, the Pro Shop is a great place to look for a present for the golfer in the family. Gift vouchers are available and can be used for lessons or goods. Even if you don't play golf, the wet weather gear is ideal for the traveller, as it is very light and packs to a small bundle. The large silver solar umbrellas are perfect for anyone needing maximum protection from the sun.

Coming events include the Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 6 December and a Junior Golf Clinic (Mark Griffin) on Monday 22 January.

Beaconhills has recently welcomed Andrew Kelly to the position of Assistant Manager. Contact phone numbers are Administration 5944 3309. Functions/Bistro Meals Andy Conn 5944 3086. Pro Shop/Golf Bookings 5944 3630.

Merry Christmas to all residents and traders from the Beaconhills Board, staff and members.

Barbara Jackson 5944 3554

Berwick/Upper Beaconsfield Red Cross Unit



Unfortunately, copy for the December Village Bell has to be prepared before the Berwick/Upper Beaconsfield Red Cross Unit's "History of the Rose" talk by Jenny

Fiume and the invitation for those attending the fundraising function, to visit her Bella Rose Garden on 24 November. Hopefully the weather will be kind and all can enjoy the beauty of Jenny and Mick's magnificent garden.

The Unit will have a promotional display at the Village Fair and Red Cross welcomes the chance to say "thank you" to the residents of Upper Beaconsfield for their most generous support of the

March Red Cross Calling door-knock each year.

An important way to support the work of Red Cross is by blood donation. The mobile blood bank visits our area regularly at locations in Berwick, Narre Warren North and Pakenham. Christmas cards have been on sale at the Berwick Mechanics Institute Library and used stamps can be left at the library, to aid Red Cross.

The unit meets on the second Friday of each month, except January, at 10.00 a.m. at the RSL Hall, Langmore Lane, Berwick. New members would be made very welcome! Happy Christmas from all members and here's hoping the emergency services provided by Red Cross will not be in demand over the hot summer months.

Barbara Jackson, Chairman 5944 3554

Community Centre news

The Community Centre is well into its fourth term program, with many courses ranging from Certificate courses and computer classes, to Christmas craft, fitness and many children's classes currently being conducted.

Christmas party

We will be holding our annual Children's Christmas Party at 11.30am on Thursday, December 14, 2000, in the Hall. All children, parents and grandparents will be welcome, and will be entertained with Christmas carols and music from Hey Dee Ho, followed by a visit by Santa. Please bring along a plate of food to share afterwards, so that we can celebrate the end of another busy year and get into the festive spirit.

Computer tutors

The Centre's computer classes have again been in high demand, but we will be in need of Tutors to conduct various computer classes next year. If you could assist us in that regard, or know of someone with suitable experience, please contact our Coordinators, Anne McPhie and Marie Cullinan on 5944 3484 as soon as possible.

Volunteers

The Community Centre is as always in need of volunteers to assist in many ways. Being a volunteer

is a very satisfying experience - it's an opportunity to gain some work experience, a way of meeting many local people, and it also enhances the Centre's ability to provide a variety of facilities and services for the community. We don't require our volunteers to have any particular skills - we will help you to learn any skills that are needed. And don't forget, for every 40 hours of voluntary work that you contribute, you will receive a free \$50.00 course at the Centre. Also, while you are undertaking voluntary work, you will receive free childcare in the Crèche for the period that you are working (some limits do apply.) Please feel free to contact us if you'd like to discuss the possibility of doing some voluntary work, or just call in and introduce yourself at any time.

Any new ideas?

If you have any ideas for courses which you would like to see the Centre run, or if you have an area of interest or skill which you feel would be of interest to others in the community, please contact the Co-ordinators at any time to discuss your ideas. We are always looking for new ideas and we try to offer the courses and activities which the local community wants. Please contact us on 5944 3484 with your ideas!

Wildlife Watch

With Laura Levens

I was excited by a reply from the herbarium regarding a specimen of a pink and white orchid which appeared on our place for the first time last year. It is so close to *Caladenia maritima*, named a couple of years ago at Aireys Inlet, that it could be the second recorded sighting for Victoria - BUT- because of mine having a smooth leaf and the other a hairy leaf, it might be an entirely new species and one day get its own name. It is currently listed under *Caladenia ?maritima* in a pickling jar.

I am looking forward to flowers on robust specimens of the tall potato orchid, *Gastrodia procera*, five stems of which are protected by a bird-wire cage this season, in the hopes that whatever ate last year's plants can't get through. The stems of this sparrowhytic plant are sturdy and upright throughout its life. Cinnamon bells (*Gastrodia sesamoides*), its relative, has slender stems which come up like a shepherd's crook but straighten as the flowers open.

Birds I saw when I walked down my hill

recently included superb blue fairy wrens, grey flycatchers, golden and rufous whistlers, black faced cuckoo shrikes, grey shrike thrushes, rosellas, yellow-tailed black cockatoos, fantail and pallid cuckoos, and a scaly or Bassian thrush. It is several years since I have sighted this bird though it is common enough in habitat similar to that enjoyed by lyrebirds. It is a little larger than a blackbird and feeds on the ground among grass and litter where it is camouflaged when standing still. A fish-scale pattern on the plumage, pink legs and large dark eyes are distinguishing features of this brown bird. Pizzey and Knight's Field Guide to Birds of Australia describes it's voice as "wild and beautiful: two clear loud notes connected by an upward slide, 'tlee-oo-whee' "

In the course of a walk at Beaconhills Golf Club with ladies interested in becoming familiar with local wild flowers, I found *Pomaderris elachophylla*, or lacy pomaderris, which is uncommon in this area. When I went back to take photographs on Halloween, flower buds like small yellow balls almost hid the small, round, dark green leaves. How quickly things can change! When I went back the next day with interested friends the fluffy flowers were well out and it was voted a most attractive shrub.

Pony Club (Continued from page 14)

grades three, four and five.

The winners in each Grade were presented with a trophy and rosette, with placegetters to sixth receiving rosettes.

The event was held to encourage a number of the younger grade five riders, as many had never before had the opportunity to participate in this type of competition.

Thank you to Dressage judges - Philippa Meyer, Jenny Lee and Mary Jenkins and Showjumping judge Tricia Trewin, for giving their time and encouragement to make the day a success.

Results -

Grade 5

1st Kelly Stouold (Fascination) Cockatoo
 2nd Jillian Fitzgerald (Nina) Upper Beaconsfield
 =3rd Sarah Antoniadou (Razzle) Upper Beaconsfield
 =3rd Katherine Stewart (Tonimbuk Remington) Pakenham

4th Morgan Cleary (Rhiannon) Upper Beaconsfield
 5th Natalie Appleton (Acheron Priceless) Upper Beaconsfield

Grade 4

1st Michelle Knowles (Purdie) Upper Beaconsfield
 2nd Morgan Rackham (Rich Chocolate) Cockatoo
 3rd Adele Kemp (Rusty) Upper Beaconsfield
 4th Kibby Manly (Merlin) Berwick
 5th Tracy Timms (Majestic Rambla) Upper Beaconsfield
 6th Jason Timms (Smokey) Upper Beaconsfield

Grade 3

1st Alex Weimann (Sundance) Upper Beaconsfield
 2nd Katja Weimann (Rosie) Upper Beaconsfield
 3rd Marguex McKenzie (Pete) Berwick
 4th Anthony Delaney (Penny) Pakenham
 5th Aimee Harman (Delaney) Berwick
 6th Katie Chisnall (Jack) Upper Beaconsfield

Community Care Group



Frozen Emergency Meals

One of our least used services in the community is the providing of meals to families or individuals where a home emergency situation has

arisen. The care group has a freezer located in the community centre near the entrance to the crèche and Community Room, which we keep stocked with a variety of casserole-style meals.

The reason for this stock is to make available immediately to anybody in the community a series of meals in any type of emergency. They are available free of charge and can be obtained by contacting the care group coordinators or the office at the Community Centre.

An "emergency" could be a situation such as a parent being in hospital throwing the family routine into chaos, a bereavement in the immediate or close family or a sudden illness or incapacitation of a parent. In these instances often the last thing that is thought of is what will the family have to eat!

Whenever such a situation becomes known to our coordinators we offer meals to the family or person but frequently the knowledge of the situation comes to us too late or sometimes not at all.

We would like you as a member of this community to help by being alert to such problems and to offer this service on our behalf. We feel that if the caring people in this community make themselves aware of the availability of this service we will be much better able to meet the community need as it arises. You as a neighbour or friend can initiate this response. Meals can be picked up in person or we will deliver them.

Survey of volunteers

If you as a volunteer in our group have not as yet returned the recent survey it would be appreciated if you could do so straight away. Should your copy have been misplaced we can provide a replacement by phoning 5944 3516.

Community Week 2001

It's amazing but 2000 is almost gone and it's coming around to Community Week time. Dates for your information are from Friday 16th February to Sunday 25th February. So start thinking about where the get together for your street will be held.

We will be in touch with key people in each street as usual in the New Year to ask them to act as the contact person. This ensures that the party is not missed for the sake of somebody just starting the discussion about where this year's function should be held.

Community Week is a wonderful tradition in our community, which gives us a chance to build on the spirit of neighbourliness we experienced after Ash Wednesday 1983 and to welcome new residents, as well as catching up with the oldies.

To contact the Care Group: -

Des McKenna	5944 3516
Annette Walker	5944 3574
Glenda Matthews	5944 3884
Community Centre	5944 3484

Des McKenna

Carols By Candlelight *Saturday December 16th*



**Lilypond House,
Duncan Drive, Pakenham**



Presented by Pakenham Churches,
Cardinia Civic Concert Band and Cardinia Shire

This year the performance of Carols returns to the parkland adjacent to the Lilypond House. The exciting program has been developed by the Pakenham Churches and the Cardinia Civic Concert Band.

Program

6.30 pm Pre Carols barbecues, family picnics and items by local school children

8.30 pm Carols by Candlelight featuring:

- Compere Max Hawkins
- Choir of 50 directed by Kim Thompson
- Community Carols and Christmas pageant
- Cardinia Civic Concert Band
- Fireworks Display

This is a no-alcohol event supported by the Police, SES, CFA and St Johns Ambulance

Tennis Club Update

The new court

After what has been a long wait the new court is ready for play. The Plexi pave court should alleviate the congestion for junior competition on Saturday mornings. It will also give local players the opportunity to play on a surface other than the six porous courts already available.

Seniors

Congratulations to the section three team who were premiers last season. This season there are six senior teams competing for the club in three different competitions. We have one team in the West Gippsland competition, three in Berwick and Districts and two in the newly formed Bayside Regional competition.

We are hoping to improve on our great start to pennant competition, so if you are interested in playing next season please contact Ian Haythorpe on 5944 3896 as soon as possible.

Juniors

We have 13 teams entered in this season's juniors competition. Twelve teams are in the Saturday morning competition and we have one team in the Presidents Shield competition.

This season is the inaugural season of Presidents

Shield, a two player per team competition. The format of this competition is; players play a best of three sets singles and an eight game set of doubles. Presidents Shield is played on Friday nights so come along and support the team.

Mid-week ladies

Entries are now being taken for next season's Mid Week Ladies competition. Any ladies who wish to play doubles on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday or singles on Friday are invited to either place their name on the list in the Tennis Club House or phone Anne Hutchinson on 59443552 as soon as possible.

The midweek ladies Christmas break up lunch will be held on Wednesday the thirteenth of December and will start around 10 am. The day will include Round Robin Tennis, Chicken and Champagne Lunch, Kris Kringle pressie, lots of laughs and great company. All ladies, even those not currently playing, are invited for a great day. Ring Anne on 5944 3552 for more details.

Night competition

The club currently runs three night tennis competitions. A wide range of standards are catered for-intermediate on Mondays, advanced on Wednesdays and beginners to intermediate on Thursdays. The competitions are open to members and non-members. If you are interested in playing please contact Jack Mc Gougan on 5944 3602.

Farewell Mitchells

It is with a slightly moist eye that we can report that one of our notable families - the Mitchells - will finally break their ties with our community after a lengthy stay in our midst.

Colin and Paula arrived in the village soon after searching for land in Harkaway. Paula had been delivering material for her father and discovered that Upper Beaconsfield was as attractive and equally as pleasant as our western neighbourhood. So soon after 1980 the couple settled here and raised their family - Sarah, who now lives with her husband in Emerald, David who is continuing to play cricket for Upper Beaconsfield, and Peter who is living in Berwick.

Paula and Colin became well respected members of the community who made an impact in the sporting organisations of our village but like many of us they passed through the experiences of involvement with Kindergarten, Primary School and Berwick Secondary College as their children developed in their own right.

Colin became President of the Cricket Club during his playing career while Paula worked first as

an Integration Aide at the Primary School and later as Administrative Officer.

After involvement playing cricket (Colin) and tennis (Paula) the pair developed an interest in golf. While Col acknowledged that his biggest handicap (as it goes for many of us) was himself, Paula's passion for the game accelerated. As the romance mushroomed Paula began winning competitions as the game consumed her. Beaconsfields will miss her sprightly presence around the greens and fairways.

An opportunity arose for Colin to take up employment for Harvey Norman in Queensland so he headed north to take up this position a few months back. Paula, on the other hand, decided to see out her term of employment at the Primary School at the end of 2000. She will move to join Col when the term finishes.

All Colin and Paula's friends wish them well in their new endeavours. We certainly will miss their infectious humour and as a community we are appreciative of the contribution they have made to the village life of Upper Beaconsfield. Good luck Paula and Col!

Rob Hansen

Your daily moment of Zen contd

- Before you criticise someone, you should walk a mile in their shoes. That way, when you criticise them, you're a mile away and you have their shoes.
- If at first you don't succeed, skydiving is not for you.
- If you lend someone \$20 and never see that person again, it was probably worth it.
- Don't squat with your spurs on.
- There is no such thing as gravity. The earth sucks.

Village Bell subscriptions

Have you paid your Village Bell subscriptions and membership for the Upper Beaconsfield Association for the year 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 nonresidents 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.

To be put on the mailing list please contact Cheryl Finn 5944 4007.

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