

Issue 141 July-August 2001

Upper Beaconsfield Association

Salisbury Road hazard

During the last two months, three motorists, driving at night along Salisbury Road, have lost control of their vehicles, running off the road at the corner where Carpenter Road joins it. In recent years this area has been the site of at least eleven accidents, one fatal from a head-on collision, another resulting in serious injuries, requiring helicopter lift-out of the victim.

Nearby resident Faye Farthing, tiring of the carnage, and not enjoying having damaged cars in her front garden, has mounted a one-lady campaign to make the corner safer, and is receiving support from nearby residents.

What are the problems at the corner and why do these accidents happen? There is little camber on the corner, and only one guidepost remains—the others having been knocked out by erring motorists! The centre white line is broken, implying passing is reasonable.

Coming into the corner from Pakenham, drivers see an advisory 50k sign and corner warning, but this tends to be negated by an 80k speed limit sign some 10 metres further on! Travelling down the hill in Salisbury Road soon after passing the Split Rock Road turnoff, the speed limit is increased from 60k to 80k. Motorists speed up here, and some then have difficulty keeping on the correct side of the road at the poorly cambered turn. This can present a difficult situation for cars coming into our town from Pakenham.

A driver, faced with an oncoming car well over the broken white line, is forced to move on to the sandy verge, as happened to me recently. At night, oncoming headlights can make the

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UBA meeting

The next general meeting of the UBA will be at 8pm, August 1st 2001 at the Community Centre. Topic for discussion is production of an information brochure about Upper Beaconsfield, which UBA is considering for display at the Gippsland Tourism Information Centre near Gumbuya Park. A new map of Cardinia Shire bush walks displayed at the Centre includes only the larger reserves. There are several within an eight kilometre radius of the village. What other attractions would you like to see included in the brochure? Would visiting tourists help our business people without overwhelming the ambience we love?

During the past months, community concerns about erosion on Emerald Road and an apparently dangerous private access to this road, have been

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Vale John Bellair
The King family and Guys Hill store
The CWA in Upper Beaconsfield
New Fire Brigade truck
Wildlife Watch

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Village Bell credits

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Subscriptions UBA and Village Bell

Yes, it is that time of year again. Your \$5 subscription gives you the most informative read every two months. Cheques made payable to the UBA or cash can be left at the Post Office addressed to the Treasurer, UBA.

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.

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

Welcome new residents

St. Georges Rd. - Pam and Phil Jones
Knapton Ave. - Sue, Justin, Joseph and Eloise Day
Walford Rd. - David and Leanne Riskhuss

Ray Allsop
Post Office

UB TOY LIBRARY

**SHOPPING
TOUR**

Saturday 25 August

Bus pickup 7.30am Community Complex
And 7.45am Berwick Masonic Hall
Return approx. 6.30pm
Cost \$30

*Gourmet morning tea,
lunch at the Grand Hyatt*

Outlets include Holeproof, Mikasa,
Corningware, manchester, clothing,
shoes, surfwear, leather, jeans.

Please book and pay by August 4 2001
Enquiries Jan Miller 5944 4866
Kim Bilton 5944 3363

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 2001.

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

Name of family

Address

Telephone

Signed

UBA airs local concerns

UBA report (continued from page 1)

conveyed to VicRoads who have taken action on both items. Earlier, we had also pushed for the repairs which everyone was no doubt pleased to notice at Stoney Creek Rd intersection.

An auction sign is up at the Salisbury Road property for the larger lots. As at 15/7/01 no permit had been issued for the rest of the proposed subdivision.

The newsletter of the Puffing Billy Country Tourism Inc. states that Locality Guides, towards which UBA provided \$50 and a short description of Upper Beaconsfield's attractions (see last Village Bell), are apparently in their final production stages.

Need a JP?

These are persons eligible to sign official documents provided by the Justice Department.

Upper Beaconsfield

- Mr Byron 9707 1044
- Mr Murtagh 5944 4110
- Mr Ewenson 5944 3372

Beaconsfield

- Mr Cuthbertson 9707 4519
- Mrs Cantwell 9769 5695

Emerald

- Mrs Bartlau 5968 43 13
- Mr Sayers 5968 3343
- Mr Legge 5968 4759

Note that JPs no longer perform marriages. A pharmacist, member of the police force or a registered doctor, can also sign Victorian documents. A JP or a solicitor must sign interstate documents. Overseas documents must be signed by a notary public (see yellow pages under notary).

For further information telephone the Justice of the Peace information line: 9628 9014.

John Mitchell Bellair

22.5.1909 - 27.5.2001

Endowed with natural charm, and grace, combined with a love of adventure it is not surprising that John's long and happy life had many of the elements of a "best seller."

His schooling began at Camberwell Grammar, followed by Berwick Grammar, and then Scotch College, where he was School Captain in his final year. That year he was also junior champion of the Barwon Heads Golf Club. His ambition was journalism, but, persuaded by his father, he studied Agricultural Science at Melbourne University. His first year results were brilliant, thereafter he lost his enthusiasm for the course and in his final year left the University to spend almost two years as a jackaroo, mostly droving cattle for Sir Sidney Kidman in Central Australia.

In 1933 he bought a property "Two Hills" at Riddell's Creek, where he bred poll Hereford cattle, and Corriedale sheep. Two years later he married Alison Joan McRae.

John was a Councillor of the Romney Shire for seventeen years, twice Shire President. Athletic, and an excellent golfer, he was also a consummate horseman, hunting with Oaklands Hounds. He rode as an amateur in hunt steeplechases at Moonee Valley and Flemington, and was a race official at Flemington. Whilst on holiday with Joan in 1939, he heard that war had been declared. Soon after, the Prime Minister declared that Australia was also at war; John volunteered within a few days, but was refused being a farmer - a reserved occupation.

A week later he applied again - this time his occupation was "race official". He was accepted, becoming a Private in the 2/1 Australian Machine Gun Battalion. Commissioned in the field in 1940, he became a Captain in 1942, and transferred to 2/3 Australian Machine Gun Battalion as "A" Company's Commander.

During his six years war service, he served in England, North Africa, Greece, Crete, Syria, and finally New Guinea where he commanded "C" Company, and was for a time personal assistant to Lieutenant-General Sir Leslie Moorhead, Commander 1st Australian Corps. In his latter years he sometimes said that these war years were the happiest of his life.

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FOR RENT Private rental opportunity from August (long term):

Large 4BR, 2 bathroom home on one acre, close to Upper Beaconsfield township - would suit family. Excellent storage facilities. \$270 per week. References and bond (four weeks rent in advance) required. Call owner for further information : 02 6056 6868 (AH).

Council comment

Salisbury Road improvements

Tenders are to be called in August to rehabilitate the Post Office end of the road. The unnamed section (the extension of McBride Road) will also be treated.

Work has commenced on the turning circle in McBride Road. It was expected that the work would be completed by the end of the month. Of course, weather is a factor in this timeline. The parents of the Pre kinder have waited a considerable time for this work. I am sure they would be pleased to see the project started.

Fencing of the Shire land behind the war memorial is about to start. It has been suggested to me that it would make sense to remove the old pine trees on the land prior to fencing but this is not guaranteed at this stage.

In the budget just approved there is a figure of \$20,000 for work to include detailed design of the landscape proposal, which accords with the traffic management plan for Upper Beaconsfield. Works to be undertaken this year include preparation of a detailed landscape plan for Charing Cross Reserve and commencement of stage one of the identified works. The design and staging plan is to be developed in consultation with the Upper Beaconsfield Association.

The budget has a provision to seal the footpath along Salisbury road to A'Beckett road. Abutting property owners will be contacted prior to construction.

The Community Centre

The Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre has been successful in obtaining a \$28,000 grant towards the extension and upgrade of their crèche, whilst the Upper Beaconsfield Kindergarten will receive \$6053 to replace wooden play ground equipment to meet health and safety requirements.

Beaconsfield

At Beaconsfield the Preschool will receive \$8000 for upgrade of existing equipment in compliance with Human Services regulations.

\$200,000 is provided in the budget to finalize the plans of the new community centre at Beaconsfield.

An innovative employment-training plan will be used to landscape and build paths in the Bob Burgess Park. The work will be planned with the Beaconsfield Progress group. This area that has immense potential should be considerably enhanced with the work to the value of \$ 110,500.

The Council is working with the residents of Wood Street with their traffic problem. Traffic volumes are being assessed. Police are actively checking the speed of travellers so be warned. When all the facts are to hand the design phase will commence. Wood Street is a

major road in Beaconsfield and does require care when traversing it. Note well it is a 50km now, and is signed accordingly.

Township/ Community Associations Forum.

On Wednesday the 5th of June a special forum was arranged by the Shire. The venue was the new Pakenham Pavilion at the recreation reserve Pakenham. In excess of 240 guests enjoyed refreshments and a musical presentation of the Cardinia Concert Band. The riding Councillors were invited to nominate two recipients each who had shown outstanding leadership to their communities. From Upper Beaconsfield Laura Levens received the award for her many and varied contributions to the community.

In Beaconsfield Glorraine Hardy was the recipient for her work in Scouting and the community.

In Officer Carol Porter received the award. These three women have contributed a great deal to their communities and richly deserved to be acknowledged.

At this event the CEO Don Welch gave an outline of the proposed budget for 2001 -2002.

Keith Ewenson

Burning off in the open air

The following times are the only times that are legal under the Shire's Bylaws for the burning off in the open on all land:

Between 15 May and 30 September

Only on Fridays and Saturdays between 8 am and 5 pm

Between 1 October and 14 May

Every day between 8 am and 8 pm except for allocated fire danger period which is determined by the CFA—notices are posted throughout the Village. During this time there is NO burning off whatsoever allowed.

If you have a complaint about people burning off during the wrong hours please contact the Community Laws Dept. of Shire of Cardinia 5945 4222.

Chipper for hire

As an alternative to burning your accumulated foliage, why not hire the chipper from the Conservation Group and use the resulting chips on your garden as mulch. Phone Eric Dodge on 5943 2267 to enquire about hiring charges.

Salisbury Road (Continued from page 1)
corner more dangerous.

Without doubt car speed is a significant factor, but even slowly moving vehicles may be caught by other drivers' mistakes. Faye suggests:

- more corner warnings signs
- new white posts
- directive arrows (chevrons) on the corner
- a guard rail, to define it at night
- continuous centre white line with cats eyes

If the change in speed limit to 80k was moved 200 yards to the Pakenham side of the corner it should effectively slow all traffic at the danger spot. If the double lines present at Split Rock Road, were continued down the hill to the corner, it might prevent impatient motorists overtaking on the down hill run. Faye also suggests it may be possible to mount an overhead light on the existing electricity pole, thus illuminating both the warning signs and the corner. This corner will be discussed at the next UBA meeting.

On Friday 6 July two motorists luckily escaped severe injury after a head-on collision. It occurred on that other dangerous bend, south of the church on "Kyogle" corner, in Beaconsfield-Emerald Road. This stretch of road has been the scene of many accidents over recent years. There have been four fatalities in the last three years. Drivers beware.

Charles Wilson

Guys Hill Store and the Kings

The recent closure of the business and impending sale of the site, has prompted recent writings about the store and post office which has served the Guy's Hill/Upper Beaconsfield area so well for a number of years.

Many residents feel saddened by the loss of such a vital part of the community, the "hub" of the Guys Hill area, and the many proprietors who have always gone out of their way to provide a community approach to business.

I wish to reinforce those sentiments already so well expressed in the Upper Beaconsfield "Village Bell" and Pakenham Gazette, and to add further thanks to another generation or two of storekeepers, the Kings; a piece of history not yet mentioned.

When our family first moved to the area in the 1970s, the store was a thriving business. Shirley and Alan King and their family, who ran the store from 1970, engendered a wonderful, generous community spirit and always endeavoured to please their clientele. It was a pleasure to shop at the Guys Hill store and we would often go out of our way to make purchases there. Shirley and the girls, Alexandra and Allison ably continued to run the business after Alan's sudden death in 1987, until 1988 when it was sold to the Southorns.

The Kings had taken over the business from Shirley's parents, Mr and Mrs Baker, who operated it from 1958 until 1970. The store had, in fact, been "in the family" for thirty years! I'm sure I speak for many others when I say a heartfelt "thankyou" to the Kings for their part in serving this community—at the store.

Sue Bradley

Just a tale!

When Alan and Shirley King took over the shop at Guys Hill, from the Bakers (Shirley's parents) the usual stocktaking of goods on the shelves was performed, Alan was surprised to find a very large number of bottles of Citronella on the shelf, and felt it was much more than he could ever sell.

It worried him for a while, then his curiosity overcame his shyness, and he asked his father-in-law the reason. "Oh," said Mr. Baker, "you'll need all that—when the mosquitoes are bad, the nudist colony uses a lot." (The nudist colony was at the low end of High Street, and has an interesting history, which will be disclosed in another Bell.)

Charles Wilson

John Bellair (Continued from page 3/

Returning to "Two Hills" after the war, he maintained his military contacts as a member of the Royal Melbourne Regiment, now with the rank of Major. In 1949 he decided to have a tilt at politics. Selected as the Liberal Candidate for Lalor he resigned his Commission. He was narrowly defeated in the election. In 1959 he sold "Two Hills," bought a Peugeot car, and with Joan and daughter Sarah as companions, drove through India, Iran, and Iraq, finishing in Montpellier, France, which John found very attractive. The family stayed there three years, John spending some time in Paris, furthering his hobby

of painting.

In 1965 he purchased "Applecross" in St. Georges Road, sadly, soon after, Joan developed cancer, dying in 1969. Later that year, feeling he needed some direction in his life, he decided to study navigation and learn to sail. After spending some time in this pursuit at Littlehampton in England, he had sufficient confidence to buy a 9 ton motor sailer "Merrywind", sail it to France, and then via the canals to the Mediterranean where he spent a year cruising.

In 1972, he married his cousin Peg Mitchell. They had known, respected and admired each other since

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Proud history of the CWA

The Upper Beaconsfield Branch of the Country Women's Association originated in the Women's Institute Movement which commenced in Upper Beaconsfield in 1926. Two years later, following an address from Lady Mitchell, State President of the CWA, the group decided to resign from the Institute and form the Upper Beaconsfield Branch of the CWA

The inaugural President, Mrs Gladys Hurditch, was a charming lady, who lived at Pen Bryn, the Secretary Mrs Gwynneth Colles, a very able and powerful member, who later, was largely responsible for the establishment of our kindergarten.

From its earliest days, the branch was very active. During the depression years the Association provided clothing and medical aid to needy local families, and also sent locally grown apples north to Mallee families. In 1934, the Association marked Victoria's Centenary by planting the flowering gums near the hall, adding an elm, the Coronation Tree, when George Sixth was crowned in 1937.

Following the devastating fires in Gippsland in 1939, members sent clothing, kitchenware, and cash to the Neerim CWA for distribution to the victims. With the outbreak of War, later that year, monthly meetings ceased. Members began working for the Comforts Funds, as well as producing sheepskin vests, gloves, mittens and camouflage nets for the Forces. The Branch also undertook other tasks including growing onion, thyme, and parsley plants for seed, needed by the Department of Agriculture.

For years the Association supported the War Savings campaign, and "Parcels for Britain", some parcels were still being sent in 1951.

In 1945 monthly meetings resumed, a CWA Scholarship Fund was announced, and the Branch provided the Colles Cup for handcraft competitions. With Queen Elizabeth's Coronation in June 1953, another Coronation tree, this time a maple, was planted near the hall.

In 1956 members were invited to the triumphal opening of the UB Infant Welfare Centre. Mrs Colles had been President of the Centre since 1943, and had received a great deal of help the Branch members.

In October 1958 a "Younger Set" was formed, to meet in the evenings. In 1966 this became the "Woorinyan" Branch, the name a compliment to one of its godmothers in the parent Branch. This active branch still has two members who attended its inaugural meeting, Mrs. Joan Medwin and Mrs. Joyce Bumpstead, both now Life Members. In 1976, when the Branch celebrated its 50th birthday, Mrs. Doris Jack wrote and read a history of the Branch. On record were more than thirty different craft activities, ten domestic activities and many outdoor activities.

On Ash Wednesday 1983, 186 homes were destroyed in Upper Beaconsfield. Six members of the main Branch lost their homes and two of the Woorinyan Branch. Each was "adopted" by two Branches in the Group.

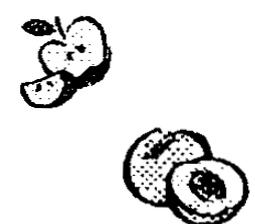
The Hall, which became the centre of community services, was staffed by a rota of CWA members for many weeks afterwards. People calling at the Hall on business connected with registration, insurance, emergency laundry, showers, creche etc. could pause for a cup of tea and a sympathetic chat.

In the post fire era the Branch continued its craft activities, and money raising efforts to support Headquarters, the CFA, Emerald Ambulance, the Royal Flying Doctor Service and any emergencies or disasters. The Presidents were Mrs. Judy Esdaile in 1984, followed by Mrs Helen Phillips, Mrs. Mae McPherson, Mrs. Betty Mars and Mrs. Daphne Brown

A final meeting of the day branch to which all old members are invited will be held at the new hotel in Clyde Road.

Charles Wilson

From the late John Milligan's notes

<p>Bellevue Orchard J & R Russo 544 Brown Rd Officer 5943 2390</p> 	<p>BUY DIRECT & GET IT FRESH</p> <p>Fresh local apple juice Freshly crushed on the orchard Peaches, nectarines and apples</p> <p>Bellevue Orchard supports Carols By Candlelight</p>	
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CWA day branch disbands



CWA members at the 60th birthday of the CWA branch in 1986
From left Elva Ratcliff, Mae McPherson, Helen Phillips, Betty Mars and Pam Chaplin

CWA Upper Beaconsfield day branch to disband after 76 years in the community.

Our last meeting is to be held at the home of our secretary, Mrs. Daphne Brown, followed by lunch at Berwick Springs Hotel.

We would like to extend an invitation to past members to join us for lunch on Thursday, September 6. Contact Mrs. Bette Mars 5944 3214 or Mrs. Daphne Brown.

Three of our members have been with the branch over 20 years: Daphne Brown, Betty Mars and Mae McPherson. Each has served in a variety of official positions over the years, and each has contributed lovely craftwork to exhibitions. To these members we say 'well done', and I am sure each will carry many fond memories from their years of association with the branch.

'Woorinyan', Upper Beaconsfield's night branch will continue to operate. Contact numbers for information: President - Brenda Hopkins 5944 3434 Secretary - Jean Cox 5944 3354 New members are welcome to join.

Lorraine Temby CWA

Woorinyan

Woorinyan CWA is a night branch of West Gippsland Group. We meet on the third Wednesday of each month at the Community Complex at 8pm. We are sometimes very serious and sometimes downright silly, but we always have fun and great fellowship. Anyone wishing to join us will be made most welcome. Contact can be made with President or Secretary, see telephone numbers above.

Jean Cox

CSR publishes plan to quarry Paradise

Upper Beaconsfield will have a grandstand view as CSR Readymix gradually removes the ridgeline of Mt Paradise under plans finally made public by the big quarrying company. Four years after local residents first opposed the rumoured expansion the big multinational has produced a glossy twelve page brochure detailing its plan to apply for a new licence to quarry basalt in Toomuc Valley.

The kilometre and a half ridgeline affected by the quarry expansion is presently the stunning view enjoyed by Upper Beaconsfield residents living in Berglund, Walford, Yackatooon, Kitchen, Norbury, and Split Rock Roads. It is the vista suddenly enjoyed by those Upper Beaconsfield motorists travelling the scenic 'back route' to Pakenham via Leppitt Road. Twenty metres of the Toomuc Valley ridgeline, or the height of a six-storey building, would be sold by CSR as 20 million tonnes of basalt before the year 2019, when its licence runs out.

Although CSR's plan is outlined in its brochure, it may be twelve months before it officially lodges its application with the Shire of Cardinia. Now is the time for all who will be affected to become aware of the multinational's plan. There will be a public meeting to express the strength of public opinion. Please watch out for notice of this meeting and give attending it priority.

Save the Valley Committee:

N. Bassett, Chairman 5942 7284
S. Robertson, Sec. 5942 7482
J. Carberry, Treas. 5942 7298
D. Quagliani, V Ch. 5942 7316

Fire brigade—new truck, new executive

Beset by heavy work commitments, Captain Rob Irving, First Lieutenant Rob Mountain and Second Lieutenant Ian Johnson declined nomination for re-election at the recent biennial elections.

Those elected are:

Capt. Graeme MacGowan 5944 3374

1st. Lieut. Alan Dale 5944 3873

2nd. Lieut. Geoff Schoonderwaldt 5944 4087

3rd. Lieut. Eric Bumpstead 5944 3298

4th. Lieut. Greg McDonald 5944 4804

Communications Nancy Boura 5944 3632

Secretary George Silberbauer 9796 2226

President Ron Sawyer 5944 3055

The new president expressed the brigade's gratitude for the outgoing officers' dedicated and competent work in operations and training and for the leadership they had given to the brigade in successfully bringing it through what could have been a very difficult phase of change. Fortunately all three retiring officers will remain as firefighters, so their skills and experience will not be lost to us. For his part, Rob Irving extended his best wishes to the new officers and expressed his confidence in their leadership of the brigade.

In the last couple of months the brigade has attended a variety of fires and traffic accidents in Upper Beaconsfield and assisted brigades in neighbouring areas.

The old 6x6 Toyota support vehicle has been retired and was auctioned, fetching \$19,000. This very successful outcome is due to Peter Deering's energy and enthusiasm in arranging and promoting the auction, and we are extremely grateful to him and Alex Scott & Staff for their very generous efforts on our behalf.

The mail-out appeal to Upper Beaconsfield residents for vehicle-replacement funds brought \$27,350. This is a magnificent response, for which we most heartily thank all of you. The money from the sale of the Toyota and that raised by our hard-working Auxiliary has enabled us to purchase, construct and equip the new quickfill vehicle and we will be able to add a light 4x4-firefighting appliance to replace the retired support vehicle.

As for the other essential ingredient of a fire

brigade—personnel—we have had a steady trickle of very welcome new members. They are hard at work acquiring their basic firefighting skills and going through the CFA accreditation tests. We can always do with more able-bodied women and men aged 16 and over.

We remind readers that emergency calls should be made on the 000 number. This is by far the quickest and most reliable way of getting assistance. Enquiries concerning the brigade can be made to officers on their home phones.

George Silberbauer

Fines may result from trail bike nuisance

A number of complaints have been received at Council's Community Laws unit, pertaining to noise nuisance caused by trail bikes on private property.

Council's local law was amended recently removing the requirement to obtain a permit to ride a trail/motor bikes on private properties, as considerate use of these machines can provide a pleasurable activity for young people, without annoyance to others. However, inconsiderate use can cause extreme nuisance and discomfort to surrounding property owners.

Council's Environment Local Law contains an offence where the owner or occupier of a property, may be fined a maximum of \$2,000 or receive a \$200 infringement notice, where nuisance trail/motor bike noise emanates from their property. Council may also issue a notice completely prohibiting the use outright.

Considerate compromise when riding trail/ motor bikes such as: riding for short periods, not riding in the mornings, evenings, mealtimes and Sundays may maintain harmony within the area and prevent complaints being lodged.

Peter Halliday
Manager Community Laws
Cardinia Shire 5945 4296

Campaign to raise funds, 1998-2001

In 1998 at the beginning of the Fire Brigade's campaign to raise funds to replace aging firefighting vehicles, the Auxiliary committed all of its effort to that specific need.

Community members have always given generously at both Auxiliary and Brigade hosted functions. When the Auxiliary sponsors events, our earnings are deposited in accounts separate from Brigade operational accounts. This money allows us to fulfil our mission to provide financial and logistic support to the Brigade.

Highlights of Auxiliary-sponsored fundraising during the last three years include the Murder Night, July 1999 (\$1077); a community dinner at The Kwarna Restaurant in October 1999 (\$928); the Village Fair Tea Room in 2000 (\$695); and the recent community dinner at the Hind Quarter Restaurant (\$1279). In between there have been many cake stalls, Christmas Raffles, rag sales, a Linen Party; an Oh-La-La Jewellery party, Election Day sausage sizzles and generous personal donations of amounts large and small.

We gratefully acknowledge that monies raised by the Auxiliary, which are passed directly to the Brigade, come from people in our Upper Beaconsfield/Guys Hill/Dewhurst community, with generous participation from others who live elsewhere. I am pleased to report that in June 1999 the Auxiliary closed a bond account and transferred \$6030.96 in funds to the Brigade. Again in January 2001, a second amount of \$9012.19 was moved into the Brigade's Truck Fund, bringing the total funds donated to \$ 15,043.15. As of June 2001, the Auxiliary's remaining assets stand at a healthy \$4812.41. We extend our warmest thanks to all members of our community for your contributions to this outstanding effort. What has not been quantified is the total value of donations for raffle prizes, baked goods at cake stalls, bottles of wine for auction and of course, the immense goodwill with which the community regards the Brigade and Auxiliary. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Rags Needed

The Auxiliary is continually in need of old clothing, curtains and bed linen, clean nappies, old towels and any other supplies of cloth material that you no longer

require. We process these into rags, which are sold by the kilo to a number of customers. Requests for rags are strong and we need more supply to keep up with the demand. Please drop your donations off at the Fire Station on Sunday mornings or call Nancy Boura on 5944 3632 to arrange another time.

Auxiliary Officers for 2001- 02

At the Annual General Meeting of the Fire Brigade Auxiliary held in May 2001, the following officers were elected for the coming year: Dot Pockett - President; Vice-President - Sandy Bliss; Treasurer - Sylvia Hoffman; Secretary - Colleen Lazenby; Assistant Treasurer/Secretary - Joan Green; Catering Officer - Pat Edwards; Assistant Catering Officer - Joyce Bumpstead.

Join the Fire Brigade Auxiliary

Please join us at our monthly meetings, on the last Tuesday of every month, 8:00 pm at the Fire Station. New members always welcome.

Colleen Lazenby

Upper Beaconsfield

Neighbourhood Watch



An invitation is extended to all residents to attend our ; AGM on 20 August, 8pm at the Community Complex.

Joining NHW is a great way of participating in a community service without having to outlay a huge amount of time. We always welcome new faces and ideas to help keep NHW active in Upper Beaconsfield and Guys Hill.

Melinda Conn
5944 4010

Maroons prepare for new challenge



Upper Beaconsfield Cricket Club has begun the challenging task of preparing for the new cricket season and another dash at A grade. Hopefully this time the club will be able to lay the foundation to establish itself as a competitive force in the premier competition. First steps toward reinvigoration arrived at the AGM where a number of new younger faces joined forces with the older, experienced campaigners to organise

the UBCC off field. Joining forces with Rob Hansen (Pres.) Clarry Bouchier (Vice Pres.), Richard Edwards (Chairman of Selectors) and Peter Brennan (Junior Coordinator) have been Stephen Paine (continuing as Sec.) Marcus Gehling, Luke Pitcher, Tim Anderson and Rod Tredoux who will form the basis of a more youthful, enthusiastic team to thrust the club forward and continue its resurgence.

Before the finals campaign was over the outgoing committee saw fit to re-appoint Nick Meyers as playing coach after his pleasing introduction to the club. Nick has already indicated that training will commence indoors at the end of July and continue into early August to lay the foundation for another successful season. "All players are urged to join the pre-season campaign and lay a base for another successful year," commented this very enthusiastic leader.

One of the commitments made at the AGM was the desire to develop a program aimed at fostering the junior players and their families. Damien Bayard, Greg Eagle and Ray Gwozdziwski are preparing a list of activities to make up a calendar of events for the younger members of the club. This will be published soon.

Junior Coordinator, Peter Brennan, has undertaken to develop our email database so that the majority of families will be able to access all club news. Club newsletters will be emailed to all those on the database. If you want your family included then contact Peter with your email address. If you do not do that straight away then you will be contacted so that we can add you to our

mail out. Peter can be contacted on lobbyboy@primus.com.au

As a further commitment to the preparation for the coming season Club Coach Nick Meyers will be on a recruiting drive. Nick will be ringing and speaking to as many possible new recruits as he can. We are happy to welcome anyone who wishes to join a club which is marching forward. We need new players. We need old players. We need plenty of players. If you have lived in Upper Beaconsfield and have played elsewhere consider playing in your own township. Contact Nick Meyers on 9770 0775.



Est. 1893

Rob Hansen

John Bellair (Continued from page 5)

childhood, and it proved to be a happy and rewarding marriage for both.

In 1979 he repeated his earlier sailing experiences on a similar yacht, this time with Peg. John was inducted into Legacy in 1974, a project very near to his heart. He became President of the West Gippsland Branch in 1983, soon after "Applecross" and all his possessions were destroyed in the Ash Wednesday fires. John had stayed with the house, fighting the fire alone, but was finally forced to abandon it.

His next adventure was writing, his early love. In 1984 he published "Amateur Soldier", followed by "From Snow to Jungle", the history of the 2/3 Machine Gun Battalion in 1987. In 1988, then aged 79 years, he had a coronary bypass operation and also a valve replacement. To celebrate his recovery he climbed Mt. Fuji, 12,000 feet, and later Mt. Pelee in Martinique, a more difficult climb. Continuing his writing he published, "In Hearn's Footsteps" in 1994, followed by "Yesterday's Man and other Verse" in 1995; this was a delightful volume, revealing his compassionate nature, his love of companionship, and his talents as poet and philosopher. His love for the young is shown in his imaginative children's book, "Pie in the Sky". John had other writings published in magazines, and also enjoyed writing the program notes for the "1812 Theatre".

John was a consummate raconteur with a great sense of humour, a much loved and talented man who lived life to the full.

Charles Wilson

Wildlife Watch

with Laura Levens

Where did all my bluewrens go? Little brown and bright blue snippets of bird life were missing from among the grasses and shrubs outside the lounge room window. Eastern spinebills, white-eared honeyeaters, crimson rosellas, grey thrush, kookaburras: all the usual birds were still visiting but where were the superb fairy wrens? Not a sign from at least the middle of May until early July. This has never happened before. Currawongs come every year; kookaburras and magpies are resident and cats are now confined so what caused this exodus? They are not generally a migratory species.

Watching honeyeaters and crimson rosellas burrowing among the correas and grevilleas near my house is a pleasure during winter. The crimson rosella plops into a shrub then reappears nibbling a picked flower, bright eyes alert for predators. Eastern spinebills dive in with an audible click of their wings and a flash of white stripes at the side of their tails. Narrow, curved beaks make easy work of finding nectar in tubular flowers while they hover with blurring wings. The white-eared honey eater drops onto the twigs, glances around, then it's progress through the shrub can be followed by watching the shuddering leaves until it suddenly flies out and away. Under the eucalypts, winter flowering *Epacris impressa*, silver banksia and creamy bell-flowers of appleberry creepers are great attractions for honey

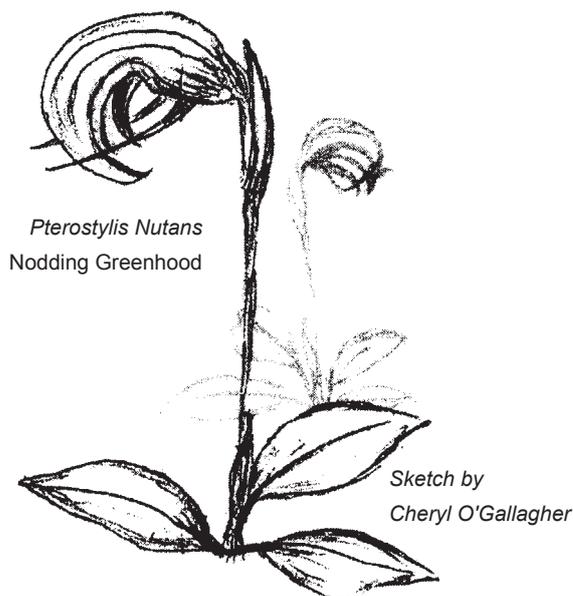
Native plants encourage birds

Our group feels that maintaining the garden at the front of the Community Complex is worth while. Several times a year we plant, weed, prune, or replant if a plant keels over. Only the ferns have occasionally been watered.

A small *Banksia spinulosa* displayed glorious golden rods for weeks and weeks. Slightly different conditions for one at the top of the bank made it reluctant to flower, Honeyeaters visit *Banksia marginata*'s cream flowers. Scarlet running-postman will scramble among bluebells and golden everlastings; lobelia plants reappear during July and *Indigofera* seedlings likewise ready to bloom in spring. At any time of the year there is something flowering: pale pink mint bushes, bright golden hibertia; correas with bells of green, others in many shades of red. Superb fairy wrens, tiny flashes of blue and brown, have adopted the garden. Honeyeaters visit the banksias, hakeas and correas in season.

Do take a moment to enjoy the garden as you walk by. Anyone is welcome to join the maintenance team at

eaters. Acacias began to glow about mid-June.



I went for a walk down my hill just the other day, among carpets of nodding greenhood, leaves of many other orchids and pale sundew. On the crest of the hill there are tall greenhoods among more nodding greenhoods and leaves of other species of *Pterostylis*. And what a time there is to come! Hundreds of shrubs, creepers, annuals in a myriad of delightful colours and intricate shapes will light up the bush. Take a walk with a note pad or picture book. How many can you name?



occasional working bees. Leave your telephone number with Laura Levens

5944 3828 or Gladys Aarons 5942 7571.

Early in March the Upper Beaconsfield Conservation Group handed over the maintenance of the Stoney Creek Road traffic island to Council contractors. We regret that we were unable to continue looking after this area which delighted many people with its colourful display each spring and summer.

Since writing the above, Standard Roads have met with members of the Group to understand which plants are weeds and which should be saved. Their promise was to have the traffic island tidied and mulched by the week of 23/7/01 at the latest.

Gladys Aarons UB
Conservation Group



Overcoming adversity

The Annual General Meeting of the Berwick/ Upper Beaconsfield Red Cross Unit was held in July. Jenni Coventry is to be the new Chairman of the Unit and takes over from Barbara Jackson who has held the position for three years. Barbara will continue as co-ordinator of Red Cross Calling in the Upper Beaconsfield area.

Mrs Heather de Crespigny, Member of the Executive Committee of Red Cross, Victoria Division, presented Mrs Annabel Ford with the Laurel Wreath long service award for 50 years of service to Red Cross.

Guest speaker was Mrs Joanne Bradshaw OAM - gold medal winner for Women's Shot put - F37, at the Sydney Paralympic Games.

Joanne brought along her Paralympic gold medal and also her Medal of the Order of Australia, of which she is extremely proud. These were passed around the hall, so everyone had the chance to see them at close range and to feel the weight, which was quite considerable.

Joanne spoke openly of her medical condition, which led to her suffering a stroke in 1993, which affected her left limbs.

Joanne gave an inspirational talk on her "Philosophy of Life" and outlined six points which she follows:

- Control the controllable.
- Live in the moment, not in the past. You can't change the past, only learn from it.
- Life is 10% what happens - 90% what you do with it.
- Set realistic goals - never lose sight of what you really want. Plan stepping stones.
- Live each moment to the full - everyone is mortal.
- Self belief - we all have large ability if we believe in our self.

Before her stroke, Joanne was an athletic young woman and represented Victoria in Under 16, U/18,

U/21 and Open Netball teams. Her body was strong and used to training. This, along with her great determination to succeed, has helped her achieve her magnificent goals.

On the horizon are the World Championships in France next year and then of course, Athens in 2004.

Joanne spoke highly of the fantastic support of her husband Tony. They were married for only two years when Joanne suffered her stroke. Their greatest joy is six year old daughter Paige, who came along to the meeting and proudly showed her Federation Medal given to school children, when Joanne's medals were passed around the hall.

Unfortunately there is a really sour note to report following Joanne's wonderfully inspirational talk, which incidentally was on Friday 13 July.

While she was down in Berwick speaking at the AGM, some miserable people have jemmied the dead-locked front door of her home in Upper Beaconsfield.

A pillow-case was taken from a bed and obviously used to stuff with small items, which included a universal remote control. Also stolen was a video camera in a case. Drawers and cupboards were emptied and her "treasure box" of sporting memorabilia was tossed about.

This makes me really, really mad! Why does this happen to someone who has achieved so much from adversity?

Joanne also had the misfortune to have her Paralympic dress uniform at the dry cleaners in Berwick, when the fire occurred there recently.

Barbara Jackson

Unit Chairman 5944 3554
Berwick/Upper Beaconsfield Red Cross

UPPER BEACONSFIELD COMMUNITY HALL



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

Bookings and enquiries Helen Smith 5944 3219

Get a buzz from local honey

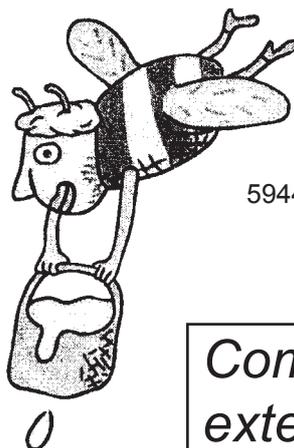
Ask Alf Brugman of Upper Beaconsfield what his passion is and he will reply, bees and honey. Alf is a former Upper Beaconsfield resident who has returned to the village to run his business as apiarist and is now based in Berglund Road.

His hobby of 27 years has turned into a thriving business that not only supplies honey to local residents but he also runs the "All Suburbs Live Bee Removals", and it was this part of his business that led him to build more hives to house the unwanted swarms of bees he removed from properties in many parts of Melbourne.

He now has hives in Upper Beaconsfield where the honey is extracted from mainly stringybarks including the relatively rare Silver Leaf Stringybark, hives at Avoca for the Red Gum, Yellow Box and Red Box flowers and at Nar Nar Goon for the clover. Each different flower nectar has its own distinctive colour and taste when it is converted to honey.

Alf has stainless steel extracting equipment in a special honey house, the equipment using the cold extraction process, which does not destroy the enzymes found naturally in the honey. Commercial honey from supermarkets is treated by heating to a very high temperature and while this ensures it remains liquid it denatures most of the properties that are the essential part of the honey. Many local horse lovers use the cold extracted honey to supplement their horsefeed as it is believed to be beneficial to stomach upset in the animals, while hospitals in Melbourne are using cold extracted honey, which has antiseptic qualities, to treat wounds and burns instead of antibiotics—an old remedy that has resurfaced. There is also a belief that people allergic to pollens where they live can desensitise themselves to some extent by eating the honey made from the nectar of the flowers indigenous to the area.

Honey has been mentioned in literature as far back as the Sumerian and Babylonian times where it was highly valued for its medicinal qualities, for embalming and for use in food and drink. Naturally extracted honey has been found in the tombs of the pharaohs, still able to be eaten after many centuries. It was often the only sweetening agent available in ancient times. You don't have to visit the ancient tombs for your honey—Alf's natural honey is for sale at the local Upper Beaconsfield Butcher in convenient plastic tubs. He has beehives for sale, beehives available for



pollination purposes and is happy to give advice to people who want to run their own hives. He is also available to remove unwanted swarms of bees and wasps from properties and can be contacted on 5944 4306.

Gilda Hansen

Community Centre office extensions

During the term break the Community Centre office was extended giving much needed room for administration. A new entry incorporating a covered walkway has been added and blends in well to the existing building.

Thanks must go to the Committee who put in countless hours on a voluntary basis and, in particular, Sally Randall for her tireless efforts in raising extra money for capital improvements and office equipment. Submissions for funding must be made so we can continually improve the facilities and services available to our community.

The next project to be undertaken will be the extension of the Crèche to allow more room for the children and to comply with new Children's Services regulations. It is anticipated that these extensions will be completed over the Christmas holidays. We will also be extending the playground and will need clean fill. If anyone can provide us with clean fill—or advise us of where we can obtain some—we will be eternally grateful.

Volunteers

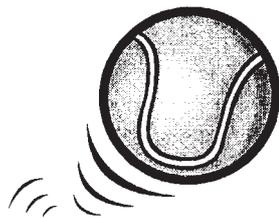
The Centre can always do with more assistance. More Committee members are needed to assist with the running of the Centre, fundraising and helping out generally. If you are able to help, please give us a call. Committee meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month.

Term 3 Courses

We are offering a wide range of courses again this term. As usual, computer courses are very popular. Health and well-being courses include yoga, tai chi, aerobics and meditation. Numerology, self-defence for teenagers, parenting adolescence, rose pruning, fruit tree pruning and chainsaw maintenance are some of the new courses for this term. Call us on 5944 3484 for more information.

Anne McPhee
Coordinator

News from the court



Change of coach

It is with regret that we have to inform you that Lois Plowman our coach for the past fifteen years has tendered her resignation. Lois ceased coaching for the club at the

end of second term. In recognition of her service to the club, we held a farewell gathering at the clubhouse at which President Ian Jackson and committee members presented Lois with a gift as a token of the club's gratitude. The gathering was attended by many club members. We would all like to thank Lois for her service and wish her all the best.

The Club would like to warmly welcome Paul Osborne as our new coach. Paul commenced coaching at Upper Beaconsfield at the beginning of third term. He is an advanced (Level 2) coach and is currently also coaching at the Pakenham Tennis Club. Many of you may already know Paul, as he is a teacher at Berwick Secondary College.

Paul will be offering coaching to all ages and standards of players so every club member will have coaching available to them. We hope that you all support Paul as our new coach, and for more details you can contact Paul on 5940 1454.

Competition

The junior season is heading towards its mid point and we have many teams in the top four, or on the verge of entering it. In the President's Shield competition we have three of the top four sides and our other side sitting just outside the top four.

In our Pennant competition we have four teams this season. Our grade six men's team is well in contention for the finals while our two other men's teams and our ladies' team will have to make a run for the finals soon or they will miss out on finals competition this season. Our men's Bayside team is doing very well and is currently sitting in second place.

In our mid-week ladies competition we had one premiership team last season. It was in the Friday singles competition. We congratulate Anne Hutchinson, Julie Scott and Moira Watson on the premiership, the first ladies singles premiership for the club. The midweek ladies season is about to get started again and all our midweek ladies teams are looking forward to a great season.

Please note that all membership fees are now due and are payable before the 31/7/2001. If you have

not received your renewal please contact a committee member or pick up a form from the clubhouse.

AGM

The Club's AGM will be held at the clubhouse on Tuesday the 14th of August at 7.30pm. We would encourage all members to come along and take an active part in the running of the club. Remember only paid up members can vote, nominate and stand for election at the AGM.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank this year's committee for their service and hard work for the club.

Championships

The men's and the juniors' club championships were held earlier in the year and we would like to congratulate the following club members:

- *Men's Club Champion:* Robert Scott
- *Runner-up:* Mark Belgrove Men's
- *Doubles Club Champions:* Peter Puts and Michael Zerbst
- *Runners-up:* Darren Cordy and Robert Scott
- *Boys Club Champion:* Robert Scott
- *Runner-up:* Robert Sobiesiak
- *Girls Club Champion:* Cherie Gwozdziwski,
- *Runner-up:* Samantha Cashen
- *Boys Round Robin Winner:* Jake Rose
- *Boys Round Robin Runner-up:* Michael Brown
- *Girls Round Robin Winner:* Laura Scott
- *Girls Round Robin Runner-up:* Gemma Watson

All ladies events are yet to be held. Any lady members interested in playing should contact Anne on 5944 3552 as soon as possible.

UBTC Committee



About Scouting

We have experienced a few joys and some sorrows, with gains and losses, over recent months. The highlight was the safe arrival of a baby daughter to Steve and Rachel Joiner. Rachel is a Rover and our Joey Scout Leader and Steve has finished Rovers and started his training as a Venturer leader, as has Mark Price with the Cub Scout section.

We were sorry to lose Leaders Wendy Wood and Peter Johnson from the Cub Scout section earlier this year, and Cathy Hermans from Joey Scouts last term. With Cathy gone and Rachel coming to terms with new motherhood, we have stalled in Joey Scouts for a few weeks but hopefully some new blood will see them running again soon. We would love to hear from any parents in the community who would be willing to assist with this challenge.

Paul Madden has slipped into the breach to head up Cub Scouts ably assisted by Mark Price, with Peter Dack attending regularly as a parent helper. Again we would welcome any aspiring leaders for this section as well.

We have run several firewood raffles so far this winter and intend running a few more before the warm weather moves in. Thank you one and all for your support of this very useful fundraiser for our Group.

With the demise of the Village Fair still hanging over the community, we are intending to continue with our Tower Challenge Fun Run in some format. We are unsure what this will be and would welcome input from the community as to what you would like to see as a suitable format for the run. At this time we are contemplating conducting another Christmas Car Boot Sale in November this year and would anticipate the Fun Run be held in Autumn next year.

Barry Smith
Group President
5944 3219

Netball Club meets challenge

The Upper Beaconsfield Netball Club has once again commenced the new season in a positive manner with many teams in strong positions leading up to the half way mark of the winter season. This season the Netball Club has teams playing at both the Pakenham indoor stadium and the Cranbourne indoor stadium. The Club has teams in all age groups from eleven and under, to seventeen and under.

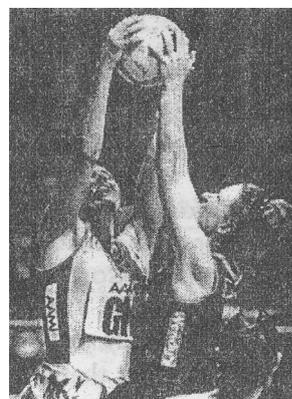
The beginning of this season has been quite a challenge due to last minute changes required to teams for several reasons including player withdrawals, new team members, parental requests and the timing of school holidays at the end of the summer and the beginning of the winter season. But thanks to the efforts of players, coaches and parents all sides have now settled into the new season.

The Club would like as many new players as possible to contact them if they wish to play in the summer competition commencing in late September, early October.

The Club is also looking for players interested in competing in 'mature' teams. This is to enable the Club to provide an avenue for players of 16 years and over to continue to play with Upper Beaconsfield teams.

For more information please contact Peter Brennan on 5944 3916.

Peter Brennan
Secretary



Beaconhills Country Golf Club

The Ettie Guilfoyle Memorial Day, a new event on the lady members' golfing syllabus, was played during June. Captain Cora Shovelton chose a Par game to honour Ettie, a past captain of Beaconhills, and a great competitor who loved a challenge. Two of Ettie's daughters, Heather and Sue and grand-daughter Bianca attended the luncheon after the game and presented the inaugural trophy in honour of Ettie, to the winner Wendy Carter.

Congratulations to Christina Beltran for being chosen to represent Victoria in the Secondary Schools Sports Association's State Team. The team of six girls and six boys will play at Rich River, Echuca 11-18 August. She has also been chosen as a member of the Mornington Peninsula District Country Team for competition in September. Christina, age 17, plays from a handicap of 3 and is the only lady member at Beaconhills, on a single figure handicap.

Christina, Rebecca Harford (Under 16) and Brianne Arthur (Under 14) all achieved 2nd place in the qualifying rounds of the Victorian Junior Championships, played over two rounds at Rosebud and Waverley Golf Clubs. Final rounds were match play and saw both Rebecca and Brianne being runners up in their respective age groups. Brianne turned 13 during the Championship and her qualifying round scores were 90, 93 = 183. Rebecca 92, 96 = 188 and Christina 83, 82 = 165.

Brianne played at Kyneton in the WGV Future Champions U/18 competition and won the event with nett

65. Her gross score of 83 was the 3rd best gross score. Her present handicap is 15.

16 year old Kate Haussegger will represent Beaconhills at the Statewide play-off in the Silver Spoon event. Last year Rebecca Harford at age 13, was the youngest player to ever win this prestigious Womens Golf Victoria event. Kate has also recently won two monthly medals.

Thirty-eight lady members enjoyed four days of golf along the Murray River in late May. Centrally based at the RACV Holiday centre at Cobram, the ladies played at Tocumwal, Yarrawonga Murray course, and both the Old and West courses at Cobram-Barooga. The trip was organised by Margot Green and Mary Padman and enjoyed very generous sponsorship from local restaurants Glendower, The Hind Quarter, Dig Tree, Jason's Terrace and Shanikas, together with the Green Vineyards, and Berwick Toyota. The sponsorship was very much appreciated and an excellent incentive to play good golf.

At the same time the men were away at Yarrawonga. No first hand details of the trip have been given to me, but I am sure they all represented Beaconhills with dignity and exemplary behaviour!



Barbara Jackson
5944 3554

A philosophy of life

A philosophy professor stood before his class and had some items in front of him. When the class began, wordlessly he picked up a large empty mayonnaise jar and proceeded to fill it with rocks, about 2" in diameter. He then asked the students if the jar was full? They agreed that it was.

So the professor then picked up a box of pebbles and poured them into the jar. He shook the jar lightly. The pebbles, of course, rolled into the open areas between the rocks. He then asked the students again if the jar was full. They agreed it was. The students laughed.

The professor picked up a box of sand and poured it into the jar. Of course, the sand filled up everything else. "Now," said the professor, "I want you to recognise that this is your life. The rocks are the important things - your family, your partner, your health, your children - things that if everything else was lost and only they remained, your life would still be full. The pebbles are

the other things that matter like your job, your house, your car. The sand is everything else. The small stuff." "If you put the sand into the jar first, there is no room for the pebbles or the rocks. The same goes for your life. If you spend all your time and energy on the small stuff, you will never have room for the things that are important to you. Pay attention to the things that are critical to your happiness. Play with your children. Take time to get medical checkups. Take your partner out dancing. There will always be time to go to work, clean the house, give a dinner party and fix the disposal." "Take care of the rocks first - the things that really matter. Set your priorities. The rest is just sand."

But then a student then took the jar which the other students and the professor agreed was full, and proceeded to pour in a glass of beer. Of course the beer filled the remaining spaces within the jar making the jar truly full. The moral of this tale is: - that no matter how full your life is, there is always room for a beer.

Author: Internet

Volunteers are vital

Over the last year or so, more recognition has been given to volunteers and their vital importance to the community. On an international level the United Nations Organisation has developed and promoted the International Year of Volunteers for the year 2001.

The premise underlying IYV 2001 is that more than ever before voluntary service is needed in order to tackle problems in the social, economic, cultural, humanitarian and peace-building fields. Member nations of the United Nations have undertaken to recognise and promote the importance of volunteers.

In Australia, the Australian Commonwealth Government has appointed the Department of Family and Community Services to coordinate International Year of Volunteers on its behalf. (See web site <http://www.iyv2001.gov.au/>). The great success of the volunteers at the Sydney Olympics last year also gave volunteering a boost and a higher public profile. Volunteers provide their services free of charge to organisations and groups, which otherwise could not operate.

In Victoria, Volunteering Victoria Inc (a member of the national peak body Volunteering) represents the volunteer movement in Victoria, providing a range of services to individuals in the community who are interested in volunteering and to organisations who involve volunteers. Established for over 20 years, Volunteering Victoria represents volunteer organisations from across the state, supports an extensive network of regional volunteer resource and referral agencies and has strong relationships across the volunteer, government and private sectors. (See <http://www.volunteeringvictoria.org.au>).

Why volunteer?

There are many good reasons which maybe you have not even thought about:

1. You become a valued member of a team
2. You gain satisfaction from helping others
3. You get involved with your local community
4. You meet new people, make new friends and develop important contacts
5. You increase your enjoyment in your life and activities
6. You will increase your confidence and self-esteem
7. You develop new skills

Skills you will develop

1. Learn how to interact and work with others
2. Learn how to develop and implement plans
3. Learn how to market events
4. Learn leadership skills by coordinating other volunteers and activities



Who can volunteer?

Anyone can volunteer, from young people still at school through to retired people and there is a wide variety of volunteer work available to suit your interests and abilities in:

- Emergency services
- Sport and recreation groups
- Education
- Arts and cultural groups
- Health and welfare organisations
- Legal services

The Australian Bureau of Statistics conducted a survey into volunteering in 1995. Approximately 19 per cent of Australians aged 15 or older do some regular voluntary work (compared to a third of Canadians). So there is room for improvement!

What is the situation at the local level?

Many new families have moved into the Upper Beaconsfield area over the last few years. People are attracted to the pleasant countryside, the rural views, the native birds and plants and the peace and quiet. Most adults work out of the area and commute to work every day.

But Upper Beaconsfield is in danger of losing its community spirit if the residents do not become involved in community life. In the last few issues of the Village Bell we have published a list of local organisations and contact people. Many of these groups are operating with the minimum of volunteers and would welcome new people to join.

If you have not yet become involved in any Upper Beaconsfield community groups or activities, why not make a start now? By getting involved you will benefit personally in many different ways while at the same time you are building the strength of the local community. We do not want or need another bush fire to make people realise how important our local community is.

Helen Smith



"Support local,
buy local"

Organisation	Contact	Phone No.
Babysitting Club	Cathie Usher	5944 4183
Beaconhills Golf Club	Barbara Jackson	5944 3554
Community Centre, Bus & Playgroup	Anne McPhie Marie Cullinan	5944 3484 (BH)
Community Complex B and GC and Hall Bookings	Helen Smith	5944 3219
Conservation Group	Laura Levens	5944 3828
Council	Keith Ewenson	5944 3372
Cricket Club	Rob Hansen	5944 3871
C.W.A. - Woorinyan	Jean Cox	5944 3354
Fire Brigade	Graeme MacGowan Capt. George Silberbauer Sec.	5944 3374 9796 2226
Fire Brigade - Women's Auxiliary	Colleen Lazenby	9796 2226
Neighbourhood Watch	Melinda Conn	5944 4010
Netball Jnr. and Snr.	Peter Brennan	5944 3916
Pony club	Marlene Kelly	5944 3487
Pre-school & Kinder	Trudy Paton	5944 3060
Primary School Council and PFA	Gordon Atkin	5944 3591 (BUS)
Quarry Impact Assoc.	Fedir Woskoboenko	5943 2435
Recreation Reserve	Bob Taylor	5944 3645
Red Cross	Barbara Jackson	5944 3554
Riding Club	Lesley McKay	9707 2892
RSL	Eric Chaplin	5944 3312
Scout groups	Barry Smith	5944 3219
St. Johns Vicarage	Rev. Michael Flynn	5944 3862 (BUS)
St. Johns Youth Club	Rev. Michael Flynn	5944 3862
Stoney Creek Residents' Group	Ken Syphers	5944 3580
Tennis Club	Nick Gamble	5944 3756
Toy Library	Jan Miller	5944 4866
UBA	Laura Levens	5944 3828
U.B. Care Group	Des McKenna	5944 3516

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Upper Beaconsfield Community Care Group

Community Services Information Expo

Your care group was represented on June 28th at the Expo held in Pakenham Public Hall where we were available to answer questions about our group's activities. To our amazement the most commonly asked question was: "are you people or conservation?"

We had never considered the possibility before that people could be confused as to what role we played in the community but at least in Pakenham that was the case. For the sake of new residents - we are definitely **people carers**.

New Members

Many people say to us that they have thought for years about becoming one of our volunteers but never get to finally take the plunge. What about having a go? Let us assure you that we are always looking for new volunteers as with all our busy lifestyles often our volunteers are not available at a specific time when needed. If you would like to be part of our group you can fill in the form included in our regular newsletter or the same in our brochure available from the Upper Beaconsfield Post Office or the Community Centre - alternatively you can just phone one of our coordinators.

Our Services

We provide emergency assistance in the areas of domestic help, child care, transport, handyman skills, outside work as well as friendly visiting, and rarely say no to requests for help in other areas of need.

For assistance contact:

Annette Walker 5944 3574

Des McKenna 5944 3516

Glenda Matthews 5944 3884

or the Community Centre 5944 3484