

Village Bell credits

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Subscriptions UBA and Village Bell

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 O’Gallagher 5944 3209

Welcome new residents

Emerald Rd
Lorna and Morgan Sarau

Knapton Ave
Donna Duke, Rick Stalker and family

St. Georges Rd
Simon, Zoe, Rachael and Stephanie Attwood

Ray Allsop
Post Office



Diary Dates

Wed 6 Feb	Salisbury Gully 7.30pm C Complex
Wed 6 Feb	UBA AGM, 8pm C Complex
Wed 13 Feb	Recreation Reserve Triennial, 8pm Igloo
Mon 18 Feb	Neighbourhood Watch, 8pm C Complex.
15-24 Feb	Community Week
Wed 20 Feb	CWA, 8pm C Complex
Fri 22 Feb	Concert for fire victims 7.30pm St John’s
March	Red Cross Calling
Thu 14 Mar	Golf tournament Beaconhills GC
Thu 21 Mar	Care Group AGM 8pm, C Complex
Thu 21 Mar	Community Centre AGM 8pm
April	Netball season starts

PLEASE SUPPORT THE BELL BY SUBSCRIBING

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 2002.

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

Name of family

Address

Telephone

Signed

Celebrating Community Week

Friday 15th - Sunday 24th Feb

As has been the custom for many years now, Community Week is celebrated during the anniversary time of the Ash Wednesday Fires of 1983. The Upper Beaconsfield Community Care Group initiated this activity and assists with the annual planning.

If you receive an invitation to attend a community gathering, make every effort to attend. Residents join in the social get-together planned for their street, to catch up with neighbours and welcome new ones over a BYO everything meal. Invitations go out to many residents in Guys Hill, Dewhurst and Upper Beaconsfield.

This celebration takes place in February to keep alight the spirit of community and bonds of friendship that grew immensely after the tragedy of Ash Wednesday.

Sue Bradley



Community Benefit Concert to aid bush fire victims in NSW

Friday February 22, 7.30pm
St John's Anglican Church
1 St Georges Road
Upper Beaconsfield

**Variety items
Dutch auction
Supper provided**

Tickets \$10 per person
\$25 per family

All proceeds go to Anglicare Bushfire Appeal
Bookings contact Kath Florance 5944 4463

Longest UB resident moves to Berwick

After living in Upper Beaconsfield for more than 80 years, Glad Preston has moved to Berwick. For those who have not had the pleasure of meeting Glad, she is happy, bright, alert and outgoing, has an excellent memory, and the movements of a much younger person.

Her parents, John and Mary Binding, English migrants, moved to Upper Beaconsfield in 1913, living on a property in St. Georges Road. Her father kept a few cows, supplementing his income by delivering milk to homes and guesthouses in the town, long before the day of cartons and bottles. Money was wrapped in paper and placed in a "milk billy" each night, and left outside the gate. Early next morning the milkman arrived in his cart, filled the billy, providing residents with fresh milk for breakfast.

Glad, her brother, and a sister, all attended our primary school, where they were taught by Mrs Keeble. At the age of 12 Glad began helping her father with the milk round, and in her teens worked for Miss Annie Stenhouse in a shop, which was at that time adjacent to the present Post Office.

In the early 1920's, Mrs Shorthouse sold home made strawberry icecream from a small shop on the site of the present General Store—a childhood event that Glad recalls with pleasure.

In the early 1930's Claud Harris provided much of the village transport, and would sometimes drive the village youngsters to dances at Emerald or Fern Tree Gully.

At one of these dances Gladys met George Preston of Footscray, with whom she fell in love and they married in 1935. Their three daughters, Rosemarie, Elaine, and Marcia were students at our local primary school, and then attended Dandenong High School.

George a skilled orchardist, worked at apple orchards and also Albers cherry orchard. In 1939 he joined the Light Horse, then in 1940 the A.I.F., serving in the Middle East, Balikpapan, and New Guinea. Returning home he joined the Pakenham Shire workforce as a labourer, retiring 31 years later, as Superintendent of Works. He died in 1987. Glad now has 7 grandchildren and 15 great grand children.

We hope to have a photo of Glad and the milkcart for the next Bell.

Charles Wilson

Carols well attended



The 2001 Christmas Carols proved once again that Victorians are lucky people. The weather did not look promising up to about 7pm, but by the time that Santa Claus arrived on the CFA Fire Truck, loudly ringing the fire bell, the evening was fine and clear. The children crowded round Santa for their usual chat and to receive the bag of goodies provided by the school PFA (thanks!).

At dusk, after farewelling Santa and the volunteers, the UBA announced the Citizen of the Year and Junior Citizen of the Year. This was a break with tradition, but it gave an added interest to the evening.

Greg Ross led the UB singers and the community in singing our favourite carols. We realise how much Greg contributes to the success of our Christmas Eve, he gives us his time and talents and enthusiasm freely, and he has our grateful thanks.

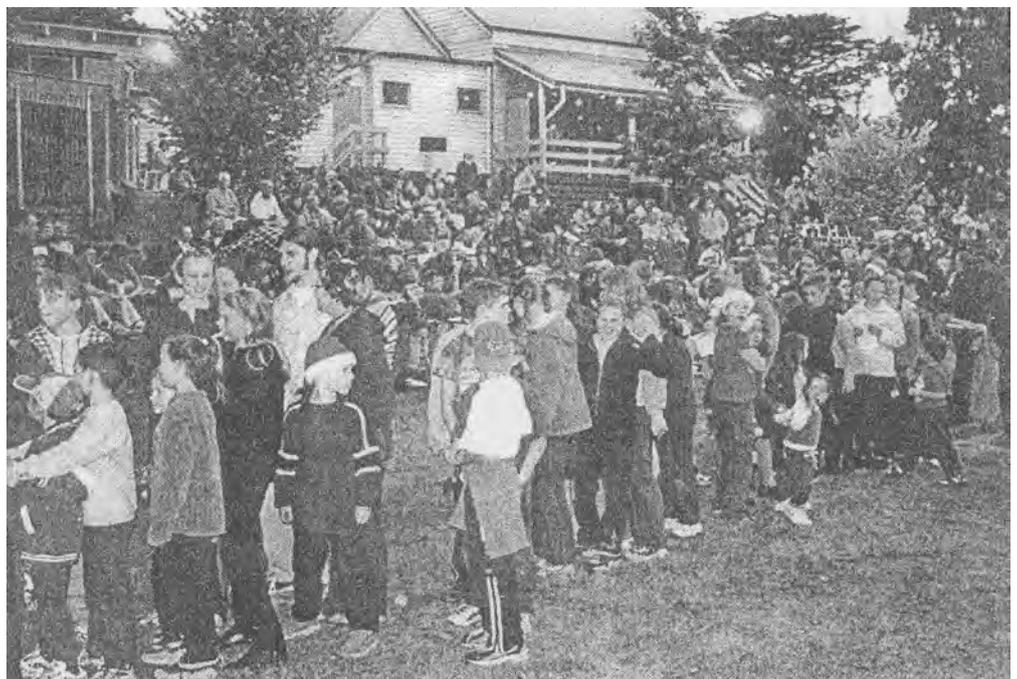
Ryan Mackie of McBride Road was on keyboard, with his two friends, Michael

McInerney of Emerald and Adam Kruger of Berwick on guitars. The group was excellent. Thanks to them also, Rebecca Kennedy again joined Greg as the page for "Good King Wenceslaus". The Park was crowded with happy people of all ages, the Salisbury House residents had seats on the Hall verandah— courtesy of their CFA friends— and the grass was covered with families with folding chairs and rugs. The sparklers and candles twinkled and glowed, and it was a lovely sight. Neil McDonald had done an excellent job of organising the event, his team of workers had set up lights and sound. We are indebted to Joe and Robert Russo of Brown Road, Officer for the use of his truck as the sound stage, and to Eric Dodge for driving it. Ron Fisher's team worked throughout the evening providing refreshments for the crowd. Funds raised went towards the painting of the Community Complex, to be started soon. The UB Primary School choir, this year led by Heather Carver, treated the crowd to some

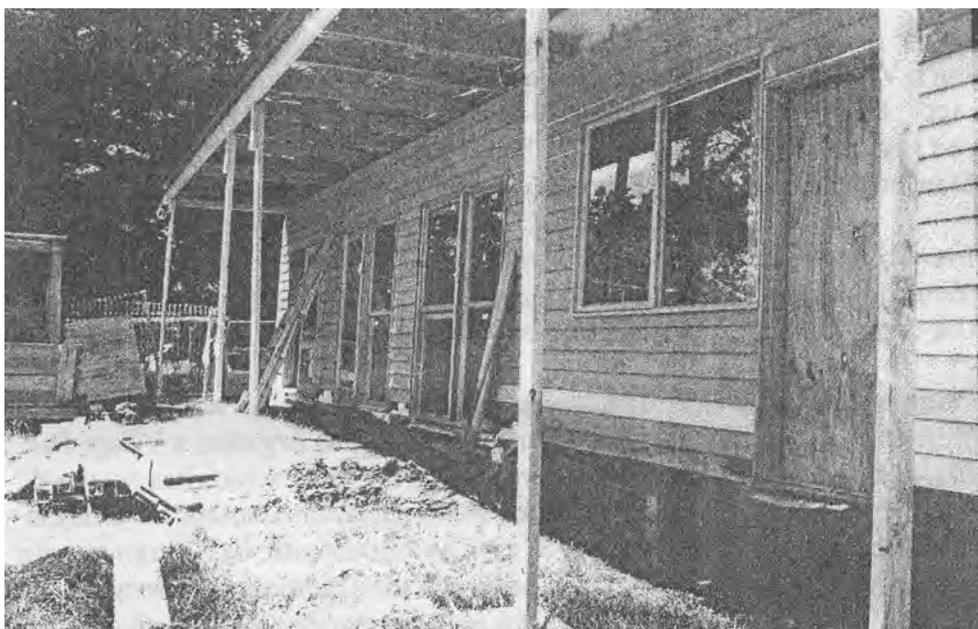
delightful singing. Greg called for all of the children to gather in front of the sound stage. As always, they provided loud and tuneful harmony to Rudolph and sang Jingle Bells and Santa Claus is Coming to Town with great enthusiasm and we loved every note!

It is great to see more and more residents and friends enjoying this event each year.

Jo Carter



Extension nearing completion at the Community Centre



use our Crèche or come and enjoy the benefits of lifelong learning! Your children will be in good hands in a wonderful environment while you take some time to shop, work or attend one of our terrific courses. Apart from a variety of computer courses which are held both during the day or at night, we are running our extremely successful nationally recognised certificate courses - Certificate III in Community Services (Aged Care Work), Level II First Aid and Certificate IV in Workplace Assessment and Training.

Our long planned extension to the Crèche has now been completed and looks fantastic. Committee Vice President, Sally Randall spent much of last year sourcing funding and contributions have been made by Cardinia Shire, Dept Human Services and The Andrews Foundation.

However, there is a shortfall, which will have to be met by the Centre and as this extension has involved expenditure we need your support—please

Learn French or Italian. Relax with tai chi, yoga or meditation. Learn to play golf or get fit by coming along to one of our five weekly aerobics classes. Show your creativity - we have classes in mandala, quilt and stitchery panels, handmade books, ceramics or paper tole. Help make entertaining easy and enrol in the dinner party cooking I in the dinner party cooking class or join our interior decorating class and swap ideas.

(Continued on page 17)

Local Rainfall report

Readings in millimetres taken daily at "Barkala" Emerald Road.

After the last report, November produced average rainfall with December below average and cool. This trend of low rainfall has continued into January.

The extent of the drought is highlighted by the average of the last five years of annual rainfall i.e. 814.6mm with the highest year (2000) 914mm and the lowest year (1997) 545.0mm. The general average in this area is 970-980mm.

The five-year period of drought was preceded by above average annual rainfall, 1995—1216.0mm and 1996—1121.4mm. We can only hope this current drought cycle is nearing completion.

George Moir

Month	33 year average	2000	2001
Jan	67.8	84.2	30.7
Feb	54.4	44.1	22.7
Mar	68.3	28.2	65.0
Apr	75.7	72.7	161.7
May	94.7	155.2	23.2
Jun	82.3	56.9	65.6
Jul	80.3	49.9	51.5
Aug	88.4	58.2	85.9
Sep	95.6	141.4	55.6
Oct	99.0	122.4	139.8
Nov	83.2	30.2	94.3
Dec	81.2	70.7	63.2
Total	970.9	914.1	859.2

Invitation to community members

The Upper Beaconsfield Association Inc. would like to welcome new committee members. We feel that different talents and different approaches to local issues by hitherto undiscovered residents of Upper Beaconsfield, Guys Hill or Dewhurst would be a huge advantage.

The present committee are a friendly lot so please don't be hesitant about introducing yourself as willing to stand for election to the committee. Aims and objectives of the non-sectarian and non-party political UBA include 'to monitor and influence development in Upper Beaconsfield and district so as to retain as far as possible its semi-rural character and atmosphere'; to facilitate communications between Council and other authorities and to provide a forum where local issues can be debated.

General meetings are held on the first Wednesday of even months and committee meetings on the first Wednesday of uneven months except January. The next general meeting is due 8pm on February 6, 2002. We have arranged for Anthony Hester, Municipal Fire Prevention Officer, to attend as speaker. He has indicated that the Municipal Emergency Management Officer, who manages emergency responses such as fire refuges and relief centres, will also attend.

AGM

The AGM will be held on February 6, 2002 at 7.45pm in the Community meeting room at the Community Centre after the Salisbury Gully Special Committee of Council AGM at 7.30pm.

The following people belong to the UBA committee: Jennie Vaughan, Keith Ewenson, Neil McDonald, Ron Fisher, Graeme Jackson, Laura Levens, Des Mackey, Janine Mackey, Rob Hansen and Peter Williams. The last four joined the committee in 2001 and have made a wonderful difference to our morale. Any one of us would be happy to be bailed up in the street or anywhere else by prospective committee members.

The disappointment of the year was that there were no volunteers willing to organise a Village Fair as a sub-committee of the UBA which has retained the booking for the Recreation Ground for a day in November in case an enthusiastic half dozen people feel inclined to revive the tradition of twenty or so years. The UBA usually provides a measure of financial support for this purpose.

Citizens of the year

Everyone who attended the Christmas Carols will be aware that the Upper Beaconsfield Association Citizen of the Year awards were made that evening in lieu of the Fair. Congratulations to Eric Chaplin, who received the Senior award and to Emily Ballantyne-Brodie who was the recipient of the Junior award. Congratulations are also in order to Neil McDonald and crew who managed a trouble-free presentation of the excellent Carols evening.

Laura Levens
5944 3828

CWA has plenty to offer you

Country Women's Association Night Branch (Woorinyan) meets every third Wednesday of the month at the Community Complex. The next meeting will be held on February 20.

Friendship, craft, public speaking, catering, social issues, community service, choral and drama are some of the interests we could share with you. Would you like to join us?

For more information please contact:

- President Mrs. B. Hopkins - 5944 3434
- Secretary Mrs. J. Cox - 5944 3354

UPPER BEACONSFIELD COMMUNITY HALL



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

Bookings and enquiries
Helen Smith 5944 3219

Council notes



Speed limit Guys Hill

You may recall that I mentioned the discussion of the speed limit at Guys Hill in the last Bell edition. "I have had a request to reduce the speed at Emerald road Guys Hill to 50km. The recommendation will be passed on to VicRoads. It will be interesting to see how they respond. We know they do not like to impede arterial road traffic but surely the residential section of Guys Hill should be protected."

Well discussion took place with VicRoads and they readily agreed to 70km, but the council officer felt there was justification for a greater reduction and subsequently raised the matter again on a later occasion and they approved a 60km limit. The signs have not yet been erected but be warned as you drive through Guy Hill they will soon appear.

Traffic lights at the old Princes Highway

If you travel on the Emerald Beaconsfield Road at peak periods and try to enter the old highway you would have experienced problems. A solution is at hand. One of the "Berwick Views" development conditions was for them to install traffic lights at this intersection. The lights are scheduled to be installed in March with addition of appropriate traffic lanes.

Village centre

You will have noticed the first steps of improvements to the central area of the village. Included is the new road pavement, kerbing and footpaths, not to mention the removal of the pine trees.

In the current council budget we have provision for landscape design of Charing Cross and improved docking facilities of the mobile library.

There is need to have a working design for the area addressing the major concern of traffic safety and final plan. Consultation will be welcomed and sought through the UBA. If we are to have a budgetary provision to implement the ideas they will need to be firmed up within the next few months.

Fire Refuges

Like the Upper Beaconsfield Fire brigade, the Council was not happy the idea of decommissioning the refuges. Once we received an official report that they did not meet the required safety standard there was no alternative for this season.

The appalling thing about this was it took twelve months to determine. The resolution adopted by council in December 2001 specified that attempts will be made to find funds to re-establish refuges in declared fire prone areas, but this cannot be achieved for this fire season.

Home and Community Service

I have heard of some elderly people being disadvantaged by service providers in recent times. The service providers are at this stage funded by the Government.

If you have experienced problems and haven't spoken to me about them will please do so; this will enable a case to be presented to the department.

Australia Day

The celebrations in Pakenham were held on Saturday the 26th January commencing at 11 am at the racecourse. A number of Upper Beaconsfield residents received awards. Congratulations to all recipients. More details next issue.

Cr Keith Ewenson

Email kewenson@.nex.net.au

Upper Beaconsfield Recreation Reserve

Triennial Public Meeting

A public meeting is to be held at the Cricket Club Social Rooms, Stoney Creek Road Upper Beaconsfield on Wednesday 13th February 2002 commencing 8.00pm for the purpose of forming a committee and electing public members for a term of three years.

Nominations will be received at the meeting from adult residents/ratepayers of the district. For further information contact John White, Community Liaison Officer on 5945 4345



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Orchard**

J & R Russo
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Officer 5943 2390



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Bellevue Orchard supports
Carols By Candlelight

Top students receive awards



RSL Award

On the last day of the school year two Grade 5 students received a wonderful surprise when they were presented with the Upper Beaconsfield RSL Education Encouragement awards by Mr. Eric Chaplin (RSL President) and Simon Conn.

This very special annual award has a long history with the school and recognises the students' outstanding achievement, effort and attitude in all areas of the curriculum at the Grade 5 level. The award was named after Simon's father, Frank Conn, for his many years of support for the school through the RSL.

Congratulations to Ashley Cooper and Liri Mernica of Beaconsfield Upper Primary School for being selected for the Upper Beaconsfield RSL Education Encouragement Awards for 2001.

The school receives wonderful support from Upper Beaconsfield RSL and maintains a very strong bond between the two organizations—a bond that will continue to grow.

Grade 6 Graduation Night

At the Grade 6 Graduation Night held at Beaconhills Golf Club there were more awards recognising the achievements of the senior school students.

A very prestigious award is the Grade 6 Peer Award sponsored by the Beaconsfield Upper Primary School's PFA. This award is voted

(Continued on page 9)



*Top:
2001 Sports Award
Stacey Hargreaves and Aaron
Gwozdziwski with Rob Kay.*

*Middle:
2001 Peer Award
Alban Mernica and Hayley Conn
with teachers Lucille Liberts and
Rhonda Clifford.*

*Bottom:
2001 Principal's Award
Dylan Taylor, Chris Davey, Lauren
McCormick with Gordon Atkin.*

upon by all of the Grade 6 students at the school and recognises students who are wonderful role models in their achievements and attitudes to all parts of school life.

The very popular and worthy winners in Hayley Conn and Alban Mernica, are pictured on the night of the school's Graduation Ceremony with Senior School Coordinator, Lucille Liberts and Assistant Principal, Rhonda Clifford.

The school's Sports Awards or 2001 went to Stacey Hargreaves and Aaron Gwozdziwski in recognition of their excellent achievements and peer support across the school's many areas of sports involvement which resulted in district premierships in swimming, cross country and athletics and representations at State Championships. The Assistant Principal, Rob Kay, presented these awards.

The Principal's Award continued the focus on The Arts with Dylan Taylor, Chris Davey and Lauren McCormick receiving their awards from Principal, Mr Gordon Atkin. All three students played leading roles in the school's production of the musical "Haunted".

As well as presenting these awards the Graduation Night was also an opportunity to celebrate the many achievements and contributions to school life of all Grade 6 students. Congratulations to them all, and thank you to Andrew Conn and staff of the Beaconhills Golf Club Bar and Bistro for the wonderful venue and service.

Mark Carver
5944 3591 (B)



*Top: Lions Club of Berwick Education Encouragement Award 2001
Laura Wood, Laura Griffin, Melanie Whitfield with Eric Chaplin.*

*Middle:
Rotary Club of Berwick Educational Achievement Award 2001
Roger Gordon (Rotarian) with Paige McCarthy, Brendan Corcoran, Jillian Fitzgerald,
Robert Porter, Abbey Kenny and Chris McQuilten*

*Bottom: Upper Beaconsfield RSL Award 2001
Simon Conn, Ashley Cooper, Liri Mernica, Eric Chaplin.*



Bushfires

The destructive recent fires in New South Wales should have brought home to everyone in Upper Beaconsfield the importance of doing your own cleaning up and periodic maintenance of your home and surrounds.

Spotted on the television news coverage recently were people frantically raking up heaps of accumulated leaves and litter from the gardens around their own homes, while nearby heavy smoke billowed from the advancing fire. Another man was seen up on his roof hosing down the roof dressed only in shorts and thongs while slapping away the burning sparks, which were landing on his bare back.

The fires in NSW were destructive enough but fortunately no loss of human life took place. Make no mistake; the situation was quite different In Upper Beaconsfield on Ash Wednesday in 1983. The fires roared through the township in a short space of time like a hurricane with the vicious wind that accompanied the cool change. People out in the open did not stand a chance.

The toll:

- The loss of 21 lives (9 locals and 12 firefighters),
- 186 homes,
- St Johns Church,
- Pine Grove Hotel
- General Store and adjacent shops,
- Kindergarten
- Service station
- Scout camp at Harpfield Road.

People who did not live in UB through that time unfortunately do not fully realise the issues of living in a fire-prone area.

Someone said to me once that as I had lived through the fire I would know what to do and that I would be able to look after her children if fire came again (she could be away at work).

The one thing I learned from that 1983 fire was that in the end it was everyone for himself. There was no time to do anything at the last minute and the fire brigade was not able to assist, as it could not be everywhere at the same time.

Get active

This is the time of year many local groups have their annual meetings and are looking for new members.

Last year was the International Year of the Volunteer and many local people were on committees that received well-deserved recognition for their community work. The health of a community is measured by the degree of involvement of residents in their local groups.

But with so many residents now commuting to work in the "big smoke" and the demands on people's time, unfortunately it is easy to step back, assume it is some else's responsibility and let someone else do it.

Think about getting involved. You will be made very welcome. Call one of the contact people listed in the Bell and help make Upper Beac the best community to live in.

Helen Smith

Preserving Salisbury Gully

Salisbury Gully Reserve
Triennial general meeting
Wednesday 6th February 7.30pm

This meeting will be held in the Community Complex on Wednesday 6th February at 7.30pm. This will immediately before the UBA Annual General Meeting.



The retiring members Salisbury Gully of the Board Of Management ask all residents to consider working for the preservation of Salisbury Gully, a beautiful area of our township. Board members are asked to attend an informal meeting about twice per year, and to be available for working bees as required.

Barry Carter
5944 3311

Working for refugees

Both prizes in the Berwick/Upper Beaconsfield Red Cross Unit's Christmas raffle were won by Upper Beaconsfield residents, Mrs Kingshott and Mrs Da Pos. The raffle was extremely well supported and raised almost \$550.

Red Cross Units have been asked to make a special effort to raise funds to assist the work being carried out by International Red Cross in caring for the enormous number of Afghanistan refugees escaping from the war in their country. The money raised from the raffle has been forwarded for this purpose.

The annual Red Cross door knock will be held during March. The Upper Beaconsfield community always gives very generously to this appeal. Last year \$5,390-85 was raised in Upper Beaconsfield, Dewhurst, Guys Hill and a small section of Beaconsfield north of the Highway. Money raised during the March door knock is used for Red Cross services within Australia.

Approximately forty volunteer collectors are needed, and where possible the caller covers the same area each year. A number of volunteers have called in their particular area for more than twenty years and are regarded as friends on an annual visit! Each year I am usually looking for about half a dozen new callers, so if you can spare a few hours during March to assist Red Cross, I would appreciate hearing from you early in February. Phone 5944 3554.

The Mornington Peninsula Red Cross Calling Committee together with Region 8B (Mornington Peninsula) is holding a special fundraising day to launch the March Red Cross doorknock at the Parks Victoria property, Coolart Wetlands and Homestead, Lord Somers Road, Somers (Melway 193 H6) on Sunday March 3, 10am -4pm.

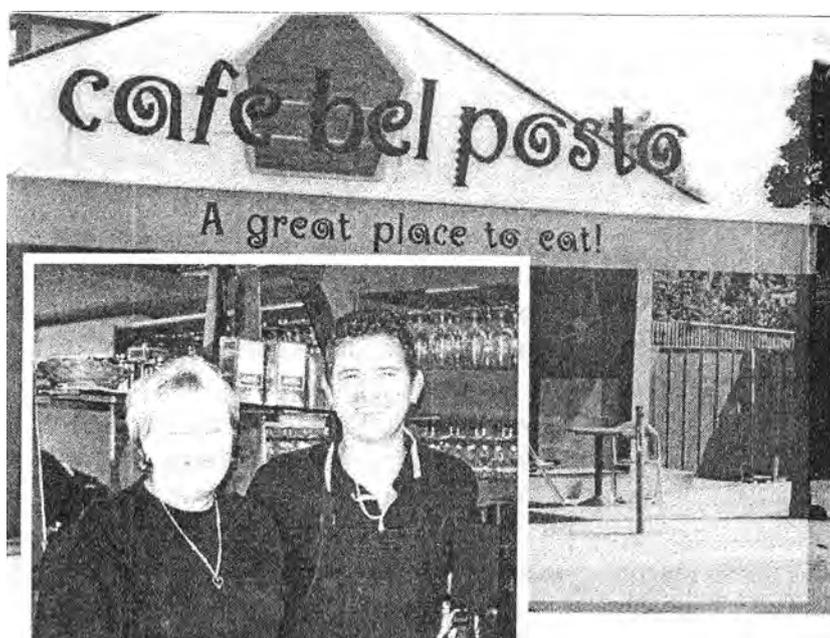
The day will take the form of a Picnic Day with musical entertainment, gourmet food, wine tastings of Peninsula wines, art exhibition and sale featuring local artists, children's fun activities, raffles and door prizes. Refreshments available or bring your own picnic.

For those interested in the birds at Coolart, there will be an audio visual presentation by a Parks Victoria ranger at 2pm.

Join Mrs Tamie Fraser, Chairman of the Mornington Peninsula Red Cross Calling Committee and the Mayor Councillor Bill Goodrem at the launch by Red Symons of Red Cross Calling 2002. \$8.00 adult, \$3.00 children, \$20.00 family (2 adults 2 children). Children's entertainment free. Information phone Parks Victoria 13 19 63.

Barbara Jackson

Upper Beaconsfield Area Organiser
Red Cross Calling



Cafe bel posto— "A great place to eat"

Locals driving through Guys Hill have observed with interest the recent transformation of the old store to a new cafe/bistro. The cafe is now open and looks very attractive with its stylish decor.

There are lots of tables inside, tables out under the verandah and soon the courtyard will be available for patrons to enjoy their meals out in the sunshine.

There is a wide selection of food available— Boscastle pies, fillos, pastries, vegetarian and Asian-style foods, frittatas, etc and a choice of hot dishes.

Cake lovers can choose from a selection of gourmet cakes to have with their cappuccinos or lattes. The creamy vanilla slices are already a great favourite and sell out early. All baking is done on the premises and the menu changes daily.

There is also a cheese and deli cabinet special-ising in Australian cheeses. Soon wood-fired J Jijfo pizzas and all-natural gelatos will be available. The cafe is open 7 days per week for lunches and dinner or just

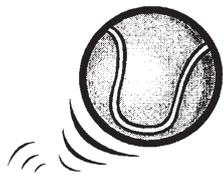
call in and choose some tasty treats from the cabinets to take home for the family.

Proprietors Robert and Kerry Cauzzo (pictured) invite you to come in and try; you will be pleasantly surprised by the quality and choice of food available.

Helen Smith

News from the court

Play Tennis Day



The annual Tennis Victoria Play Tennis Day will be held on the Sunday 3rd of February at the Up-per Beaconsfield Tennis Club. The day is always great and all members and non-members are welcome. There will be free tennis, coaching, social tennis, games, fastest serve competition, prizes, giveaways and much more.

The day is for anyone of any age interested in playing tennis, even if you have never picked up a racquet before. The Play Tennis Day is great opportunity for new members and prospective members to meet the Club's existing members and to find out more about the club. So please come along and try tennis at your local club.

For more information please contact Phil Scott on 5944 3909

Seniors

We are currently about half way through our season and things are going very well. Both our West Gippsland teams are in the top four, with section two undefeated and our section five Bay-side team on top of the ladder.

Entries for the upcoming spring/winter season need to be finalised very soon so please contact Nick Gamble on 5944 3756 if you are interested in playing, or for any seniors related enquiries.

Mid Week Ladies

Our Mid-Week Ladies had a very successful spring season, with six teams playing in the Dandenong and Districts Association. We had four teams making it into the finals with three of these teams bringing home the premiership flag. The club had one team playing in the Frankston and Districts Tennis Association singles competition and they also won the Premiership. Congratulations to all ladies. Next season commences the 1st week in February. Any mid week ladies inquiries please call Anne on 5944 3552

Juniors

The Berwick and Districts Juniors' Competition will resume on the 2nd of February. The juniors' presentation night will be held on the Saturday night after the grand final for each section. So make sure you keep the night free as it is always a great night.

The Junior Committee would like to remind all players and parents that the dress code is being actively policed this season. Points can be deducted from the team if the dress requirements are not adhered to. If you are unsure of the dress requirements please see the regulations on the notice board or speak to one of the junior committee.

Anyone interested in playing juniors, or has any junior related question, should contact Phil Scott on 5944 3909.

Netball season starts soon

The Summer Season 2001/2002 commenced at the beginning of October 2001 and at present is in holiday recess. Games will resume the week beginning 26 January and the season will conclude towards the end of March.

Although it seems some time ago, the winter season finished on a very positive note with four teams reaching finals and the 13 and Under Lightning team winning the Grand Final with the Club's other 13 and Under Little Devils runners up.

What a great effort by all teams.

We are once again at that time of year, although it is still summer, where the Club is required to start putting together teams for the coming Winter season which will commence in April through to September.

The Club offers teams in age groups ranging from 11 and under through to 17 and under at Pakenham Stadium with games being played Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

The Club also has a 17 and under mixed team at Cranbourne. There is also an opportunity for senior mixed and/or all girls/ladies teams at Pakenham played on various weeknights depending on the particular grade.

Potential players wanting to begin with the club for the winter season or for more information please do not hesitate contacting either myself on 0410 573 601, our secretary, Peter Brennan on 5944 3916 (home) or treasurer Lynette Cousins on 5944 3429 (home).

Susanne Tozer
President



St John's

As Australians we are ill equipped to understand what appears to us to be a dangerous intolerance, thoughtless arrogance, militarism and jealous hatred of western

democracy and its values which rages through large parts of the Islamic world.

Out of our humanist and egalitarian habits, and for the sake of compassion we look for sociological, educational or economic causes behind the words and actions our media uncovers in Somalia, Indonesia, Nigeria, Iran, Iraq, Palestine, Sudan, Egypt, and so on. But we will fail to understand Islamic fervour unless we understand that its motives are first and foremost theological. That is, if god (Allah) has spoken finally and clearly through his prophet Mohammed then there can be no other law than his, thus democracy—the making of laws by human consensus—is a blasphemous evil; Allah must be sovereign over all things. That is, if a Muslim is called to represent Allah's presence on earth then the Muslim must also represent Allah's judgement upon those who refuse to believe or obey him.

These basic theological ideas are not just the view of extremists; they are intrinsic to the Koran. Muslims, often more so than Christians and Jews are people of the book, and their beliefs are always being reformed by reference back to the basic documents of their faith. I guess as a post-Christian country we could

simply say that we'd best be rid of all theology, but of course over the last one hundred years we've seen that the atheistic empires of Hitler, Stalin, Pol Pot and Mao did not produce societies we could tolerate either. No, to understand what is happening in our world we need to become theologians again. Why, for instance, did democracy re-appear in countries most influenced by Christianity? Why does Christianity allow for human freedom within God's sovereignty but Islam tells us no? Why in Islam is Allah so distanced from human beings yet in Christianity he is so near—God with us? And most importantly, who is right? The Muslim claims that Mohammed's revelation supersedes all others and that Christians and Jews have perverted the revelations given to them. The New Testament claims: "In many and various ways God spoke of old to our fathers by the prophets; but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he created the world. He reflects to glory of God and bears the very stamp of his nature." (Hebrews 1:1-3)

We in Australia live on the back of a rich heritage of Christendom we no longer understand or appreciate—but the world will not stand still for us. It is time to become theologians again so we can understand where we've come from, what's going on now and where we might be headed.

Michael Flynn Vicar
St. John's Upper Beaconsfield
5944 3410

"Those Bloody McKennas" coming home to roost?



On February 22 the band, "Those Bloody McKennas", (including four McKenna brothers from Upper Beaconsfield's infamous McKenna family) return home to perform at the Pine Grove Hotel. Also joining them on the night will be Melbourne act, Sime Nugent and the Forefathers, plus one other special guest (yet to be announced).

This performance will be part of the McKenna's three week regional Victorian tour made possible

through funding provided by Victoria Arts. Whilst helping to increase the audience base for the two Melbourne acts, the tour will also provide local artists with the opportunity to perform alongside the bands at each location. This will provide the support acts with valuable performance experience, networking opportunities and a unique insight into the workings of the music industry.

"Those Bloody McKennas" have a busy schedule lined up for 2002. More festivals, as well as intensive recording for their new EP will closely follow the regional Victoria tour. The five-track EP will be promoted by a National tour commencing in May 2002, designed to launch the band onto a national platform and into the international marketplace.

Damien McKenna

Roller coaster ride for cricket club

As the season proceeds, Upper Beaconsfield appears to have a number of opportunities to reach the March finals.

A grade is still in the hunt for finals activity but the path will not be easy and will require a good deal of commitment. The gap between those who will participate and those who will fall by the side of the road is not all that large with only a few points separating those who will succeed. Upper Beaconsfield needs to win at least two more games to taste A grade success again.

Kristian Phillips has enjoyed a successful year to date with the ball and was selected to play in the Alan Curtis Shield against Mornington Peninsula on January 20.

The club enjoyed a festive Christmas Break up and drew the hamper raffle, which was a major fundraiser. Winners were the Tovey family who have recently moved in at Brennan Avenue as well as Chris Smith and Luke Pitcher. Thankyou to all those who purchased tickets. The Sweeney boys— Dyllan and Corey--sold the most tickets.

Our C Grade and U14s have experienced a high degree of success and also could figure in March battles for the flag. Matthew Eagle has taken all before him in the U14s and has been selected to play for the W.G.C.A.

The Club wishes to thank all those who have sponsored the Club and supported us throughout the season. Our major sponsor has been the Pine Grove Hotel and we have spent a number of Thursday evenings after team selections enjoying their hospitality. Other supporters include Graeme Kelly of the On Course Golf Shop, Richard Edwards of Narre Warren Chem-Mart Pharmacy, Barry Pitcher, Burson Auto Parts, the Hind Quarter Steak House as well as the Upper Crust Pizza Shop and True Value Hardware.

Finally it should be publicly recognised that 2001 was the Year of the Volunteer. Upper Beaconsfield benefits from many volunteers in a variety of organisations, which depend heavily upon the time freely given by its army of workers. At a ceremony before Christmas the Shire President Mr Graeme Legge presented many of these volunteer organisations with a specially framed certificate in recognition of their efforts. The Victorian Cricket Association also presented cricket clubs with small lapel pins to honour those who worked for cricket. Quite a lot of our representatives received these pins at the junior break up before Christmas. Well done to these people!



Pony Club Cup Day Event

The Upper Beaconsfield Pony Club has once again conducted an extremely successful dressage and show jumping event on Melbourne Cup Day.

This year our event was fortunate to gain major sponsorship from Berwick Chrysler-Jeep. The level of sponsorship covered the costs of running the event and enabled profits from the day to go back to the club. We believe it is more efficient, regarding time and effort for club members, to conduct one large event as a fundraiser, than several small ones throughout the year; but there was much to organise with a total of 150 entries accepted for the day.

The event was held at Akoonah Park in Berwick. We would like to thank the Berwick Pony Club for the use of their rooms and equipment, and also Port Phillip Show Jumping Inc. for the use of their jumps equipment.

Weather on the day was unfavourable, with wet, soggy conditions, however the undampened spirits and effort of the parents and club members (past and present) allowed the day to run smoothly.

The club would like to acknowledge and thank the following local businesses who supported us by supplying prizes for the event raffle: Upper Beaconsfield General Store, Chemist, Supermarket and The Pine Grove Hotel.

We also thank Ray and Yvonne Woff of Hawthorn Furniture Polishers for being a major sponsor of the teams event, and Andrew Rowe of Cardinia Signs for his sign writing expertise in the creation of two new jumps designed to advertise our major sponsor, Berwick Chrysler-Jeep.

Catherine Oldenburger
5968 4661

Rob Hansen

Beaconhills Country Golf Club



This year will be one of the most important in the club's history. It is imperative that a decision be reached on building a new, or refurbished clubhouse, as the cost implication of not improving the facility is too large to contemplate. The first draft needs statement has been prepared, following consultation with members, staff and the local community.

This will be refined over the next month to determine the basis for costings to be tabled.

The golf course masterplan is also being prepared, with Graeme Grant and John Spencer already indicating they are prepared to think laterally on all facets of a revised layout. It is hoped that a preliminary submission will be available in mid February.

A feasibility study has also been undertaken to explore all options with respect to revenue generation at the club, with an eco-tourism model being considered. This idea is one of a number being explored and there is still much to do before a consensus can be reached.

The 2002 Club Championships will be played in late summer instead of Spring, to take advantage of the best weather.

The Under 15 Junior Championships, based on the aggregate best 3 out of 5 rounds nett scores, were completed in December. Congratulations are extended to Amber Griffin and Jarrod Drew, who tied for the Championship trophy, and to Rebecca Harford, who recorded the best gross score over three rounds.

Matthew Taylor, aged 17, of Beaconsfield played a magnificent round of 5 under par (66 off the stick) on the old course, in a mid week competition played in January.

The Women's Golf Victoria Summer Series for business women, played at Beaconhills mid January, was won by Beaconhills member Jenny Hodges. Runner up was Nicki Char-man, who a week earlier was the A Grade winner in the 2 day 36 hole Snowy River Classic played at Orbost. 28 Beaconhills members entered this tournament.

Club Professional Mark Griffin will be holding clinics for beginners on Monday evenings starting February 11, at 6pm. These clinics are part of the Community Centre's Term I program. For information and bookings contact Anne on 5944 3484.

The A & L Windows Pro Am will be played on Thursday 14 March. Sponsorship opportunities are available for all local businesses. Club Manager Andrew Austin can be contacted on 5944 3309 for more information.

Barbara Jackson 5944 3554

Vacancies for Cubs

1st Upper Beaconsfield Scout Group has experienced some changes within our leadership, which has resulted in a few places being available for Cub Scouts, which is the Section for 8-10 year olds.

We welcome Rachel Joiner who has made the move from Joey Scouts to Cub Scouts following a short spell for the birth of baby Jessica. Fellow Rovers Vanessa Shean and Billy Johnstone have also decided to train as Leaders for this section.

If you have a son or daughter in this age group who would like to join, contact Barry Smith for details.

Rachel's husband, Steve, has also become involved as a leader in the Scout Section. We sincerely thank Wendy Wood, who retired as Cub Scout leader earlier last year, but has been back to fill the void for the last term of 2001 and first term this year until the new leaders are trained.

We welcome contact from any members of the community who would be interested in becoming involved in Scouting, either as a leader or joining the Group Committee. We are currently in need of a treasurer.

Barry Smith
Group President 5944 3219



Wildlife Watch

with Laura Levens

2001 's very dry season lasted until October when it rained on 25 days, sometimes not much, but enough to encourage unwanted plants to grow like trifids. Enough rain to get my hackles up and determined to annihilate the annual weeds to give my patch of bronze and blue-green kangaroo grass, bright green weeping and blown grasses a chance against invading weeds.

While I worked, dark grey corpulent spiders ambled amongst the greenery. *Nicodamus bicolor*, small satiny-blue and scarlet spiders, tippy-toed away; tiny pale-green flower spiders scuttled to hide under golden buttercup petals and striped brown wolf spiders scurried off, carrying globular white egg cases under their abdomen, the closest spiders come to looking pregnant. Multi-coloured enamelled spiders hastened away from the centres of delicate webs to the safety of shrubs.

Butterfly and moth caterpillars, softly hairy, green and cream, or dark brown with a pale stripe among long hairs, curled into an 'O' as they dropped from grass. A smooth caterpillar, pale blue at either end of a green, yellow and black striped body, looped hurriedly along a grass stem on dark red legs. Among the dampness of tussock grass, bright lemon flat worms stretched and slithered. I was startled by a banjo frog, which jumped away from almost under my nose.



Pale biscuit-coloured crane flies struggled across grass on fragile, long legs with apparently uncoordinated gait, slender wings partly spread. Their heads are odd, shaped like an echidna's extended muzzle, with tiny protruding black eyes about one third along from the neck.

Moths with 1-5cm wing spans, of mostly neutral colours: fawn, grey, cream, or white, subtly patterned, flew away from my busy hands. What a huge variety of designs, shapes and colours nature has created, unique to each species of plant or animal!

The only unfriendlies I met were mosquitoes and ants. Jumping ants hunt a disturber and defend their territory with vicious stings. I watched a tiny black ant exert such enormous effort to nip through my skin that it curled in a new moon, little legs working frantically for leverage. All to no avail. Mosquitoes met their doom from two sources: beaks of swirling grey flycatchers and my swatting hands.

I had to be wary of knife-sharp edges of sword-sedge leaves, and also the saw-sedge, which gets its name from tiny teeth along the leaf edges. Both are adept at drawing blood.

I had music while I worked: magpies yodelled, kookaburras laughed, red-wattle birds kaaarked, grey thrushes sang, crimson rosellas quietly chattered to each other or squawked in alarm as a hawk swooped past. Small brown thornbills chattered to themselves as they busily snatched insects among the leaves of trees and shrubs. Bronzewing's underscored those notes with muted booms.



Watch out for those 50km zones when driving around Upper Beaconsfield. They are easy to overlook and it's hard to slow down, especially after you spot the radar car!

Neighbourhood Watch

We hope that all our residents had a safe and happy Christmas and New Year. We would love to see more faces at our meetings throughout 2002.

Meetings are held at 8pm in the Community Complex on the third Monday of even months. This year dates are as follows: February 18, April 15, June 17, August 19, October 21 and December 16. If all residents attended just one meeting for the year our NHW programme would certainly benefit!

Zone Representative

We are currently seeking someone willing to deliver our monthly newsletter in Harpfield Rd, and to a few houses around the corner in St. Georges Rd.

If you are able to assist please phone Melinda on 5944 4010.

Melinda Conn



Upper Beac pedal power

Held over from last issue are these photographs from the Human Powered Vehicle competition. Many students from Upper Beaconsfield, from both the local primary school and Berwick Secondary College competed with great success.

Members of the Upper Beaconsfield Primary School HPV team "Piranha", below: Hayley Conn, Cameron Fenby, Simon Oldenburger, Chris McQuilten, Abbey Kenny, Aaron Gwozdziwski, Stacey Hargreaves and David Livesay.



Left
The Moulin Crewz team from the primary school: Jake Golding, Jake Rose, Blake Cunningham, Briony Russell, Kate Liemant, Amy Simon, Bridgette Wood and Chris Davey.

Four teams from Berwick Secondary College included these students from Upper Beaconsfield:

Firebug team—Dale Wilkinson, Will Livesay, Adam Bird, Gareth Hanks.

Firefly team—Emma Born, Jemima Rose, Dale Austin.

Rimfire team—Carrie Bloom, Rebecca Kennedy, Dale Kennedy.

Spitfire team—Duncan Wood, Daniel Noy.

Community Centre in 2002

(Continued from page 5)

Finish your craft project with the support of the craft group, or share your ideas with the writers group. There's a lot happening for the children too. For all ages, we have Irish dancing, ballet and piano. For the 8-14 year olds, there's cartooning, kung fu, Easter chocolate and making.

We look forward to seeing you in 2002.

Anne McPhie

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Community Week 2002



Community Week is celebrated during the anniversary time of the Ash Wednesday Fires of 1983. The Upper Beaconsfield Community Care Group initiated this activity and assists with the annual planning.

This year Community Week takes place between Friday 15th Feb and Sunday 24th Feb. See details page 3.

Annual General Meeting

Please keep 8pm Thursday 21st March free in your diary to attend the Care Group AGM / social evening with supper and a guest speaker (to be announced).

We especially look forward to having our 75 or so volunteers along, to meet with the committee and other members. This is our main annual get-together. All residents and prospective volunteers are most welcome.

Committee news

Barry Medwin (vice chairman) has kindly taken over the role of chairman, following the resignation of Des McKenna due to his move to Malmsbury. Barry will hold this position until the elections at the upcoming AGM. He has also commenced assisting Annette and Glenda as a coordinator.

Other committee members have assumed various roles to accommodate the changes following Des' farewell.

Services

Our volunteers provide emergency assistance in the form of domestic help, child care, transport, handyman skills, outside work and friendly visiting to residents of Upper Beaconsfield, Guys Hill and Dewhurst at no cost. We can usually assist in other areas of need also, or else refer people to the most appropriate service.

For assistance please contact a co-ordinator, who will organise assistance and contact volunteers where required for tasks needed to be carried out:

- Annette Walker 5944 3574
- Glenda Matthews 5944 3884
- Barry Medwin 5944 3551
- Or the Community Centre on 5944 3484

Sue Bradley

Upper Beaconsfield Community Care Group

Photographs of CFA 75th Celebration

In the last Bell we failed to acknowledge the excellent photographs kindly provided by Doug Hamilton - If you have need of a photographer, Doug can be contacted at 5944 3531.

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