



Issue No. 159 March 2005

Upper Beaconsfield Association

Citizen of the Year

In a ceremony prior to Carols by Candlelight on Christmas Eve, Sally Randall was awarded Upper Beaconsfield's 2004 Citizen of the Year.

Sally's biggest contribution has been to the Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre. The Centre plays a very supportive role to the young families in the local area as well as providing educational opportunities for many people of all age groups from both the local area and neighbouring towns.

The Community Centre grew from the ashes of the bushfires in 1983. It would be hard now to imagine Upper Beaconsfield without the Centre because of the important part it plays in fostering community well-being. Sally has been a hands-on president and committee member for many years. She not only contributes many hours of volunteer time, but also organises other committee members very efficiently and inspires those she works with.

Under Sally's leadership, the Community Centre has grown and prospered. Management of the Centre has become very professional, as the committee has to work with many government departments. A large part of her work on the committee is organising submissions for funding so the Centre can continue to operate effectively. She was the driving force behind the crèche extension, opened in 2001.

Sally's reaction was that, although she was very honoured and pleased to receive the award, she said her

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And there's more

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Winter 2005 issue:

Copy no later than 7 May. Issue Date 26 May
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Congratulations

To Ian and Debbie Pinney of Brennan Avenue on the birth of their first child on 13 January 2005 – a boy –Harrison James.

Thank you

Michael, Maree, Alex & Emma Cullinan would like to thank their many friends in Upper Beaconsfield for the cards, flowers and support after the loss of David, a much loved member of their family.

Please contact the Bell if you would like to place an entry in this section.

Rainfall report

The higher rainfall trend continued with the 2004 winter (313.8) and spring (357.3) rainfalls totalling 671.1 mm, compared to the average 521.8 mm.

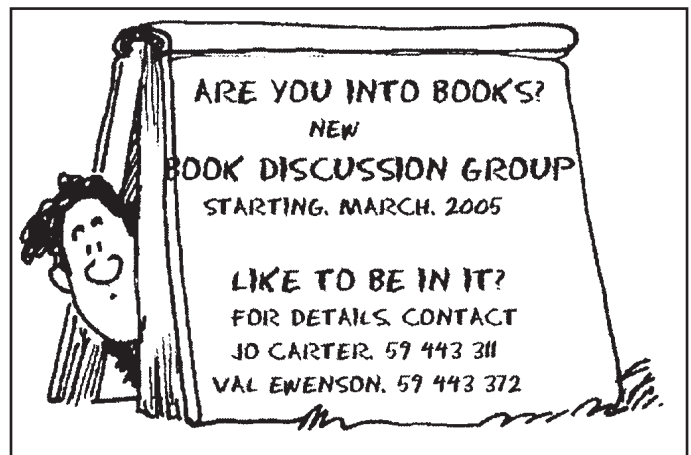
December and January rainfalls were lower than average but with the record-breaking rainfall received in early February, it looks like the final summer figures will also be above the norm. Actual readings are not yet to hand at the time of printing, although the bush telegraph at the butcher shop tells that Beaconhills Golf Course recorded 7 inches.

At the same time Melbourne had the coolest January for 12 years (Bureau of Meteorology) with only 3 days above 30 C (average is 8 days) and February is shaping up to be the same. No wonder the grass is still green in Upper Beac!

George Moir

Readings in mm are taken at Barkala, Emerald-Beaconsfield Road.

Month	36 yr average	2004	2005
Jan	65.5	70.3	52.2
Feb	53.4	22.1	
Mar	67.1	37.4	
Apr	78.6	107.4	
May	91.1	54.8	
Jun	80.6	142.7	
Jul	79.9	65.1	
Aug	87.3	106.0	
Sep	93.0	118.8	
Oct	99.9	61.0	
Nov	81.1	177.5	
Dec	79.1	39.8	
Total	956.6	1002.9	



Your financial support needed

Subscriptions for the Village Bell (which includes UBA membership) for the year to December 2005 are now due and payable. The subscription is still only \$5 per family, but we need the support of each household to allow us to continue.

The UBA financial statements for the year to December 2004 showed a NET INCOME of \$77.33. Included in this income was a one off "windfall" of \$200. The UBA did not pay Public Liability during the year, as the committee was researching other options, but this year we are obliged to pay Public Liability insurance of approximately \$600. We must increase income to cover this! The Village Bell needs the support of each family in order to survive.

There is a subscription box and subscription envelopes at the General Store and at the Community Centre. Please fill out your details on the envelope so that we can acknowledge your membership in the Village Bell.

Jo Carter

Note: Subscriber listed in the last Bell should have read Gilberthorpe.

Carols thank you

What can we say about our wonderful annual Carols by Candlelight extravaganza? We were fortunate with the weather, delighted with Greg Ross as compere and Simon Ross as pianist, and grateful for the services of Ron Fisher and the hardworking volunteers on the refreshments stand. We need the support of some singers to back Greg up for next year, and I have been fortunate to get volunteers at this early date. We look forward to hearing from more of you.

We owe thanks to Neil and Pam McDonald for their hard work in organising the reprinting of the Carols books and the smooth running of the evening's entertainment. Thanks to the CFA, the school choir and teacher, and to the children for joining in the singing. Thanks to Neil, Ron Fisher, Janine and Des Mackay, Barry Carter and Nick, Ben and Lochie Newham for their work in the afternoon setting up the lights for Carols.

We personally had an unexpected bonus this time. A group of carol singers stopped outside our house on the way home, and sang a couple of carols!

Jo Carter

Citizen of Year (continued from page 1)
efforts were not carried out single-handedly and that she was only one of a group of committee members, volunteers and staff at the Centre who all worked together as a team.

Residents will have another chance to nominate their favourite community person for Citizen of the Year 2005 in November.

Helen Smith

UBA news



Keith Ewenson pictured left with Anne McCormick, who was welcomed back onto the UBA committee.

The UBA held its AGM in the Community Complex on Wednesday the 2nd of February. The following executive committee was elected:

- President Keith Ewenson
- Vice President Jennie Vaughan
- Secretary Bert de Haan
- Ass. Secretary Noel Ridgeway
- Treasurer Jo Carter
- Member Laura Levens
- Member Scott Hathaway
- Member Ron Fisher
- Member Ruth Hainsworth
- Member Anne McCormick

The meeting gave consideration to increasing the subscription from \$5.00 to \$ 10.00 per family or association. After discussion it was decided to retain \$5.00 as the yearly subscription but this means the organisation will be dependent on obtaining wider financial support if the Village Bell and the Association are to continue. Matters such as speeding motorists and progress on the Salisbury road roundabout were discussed.

As school has resumed for another busy year, motorists are reminded that the Upper Beaconsfield School now has a lower speed zone of 40 kmh. The school speed zones were introduced by the State Government in an attempt to minimize the severity of a collision, and decrease a child's injuries, should they be hit.

At the moment a sub committee is reviewing the Upper Beaconsfield Strategy and it was decided to invite a Shire planner to speak on the subject at the 6th of April meeting.

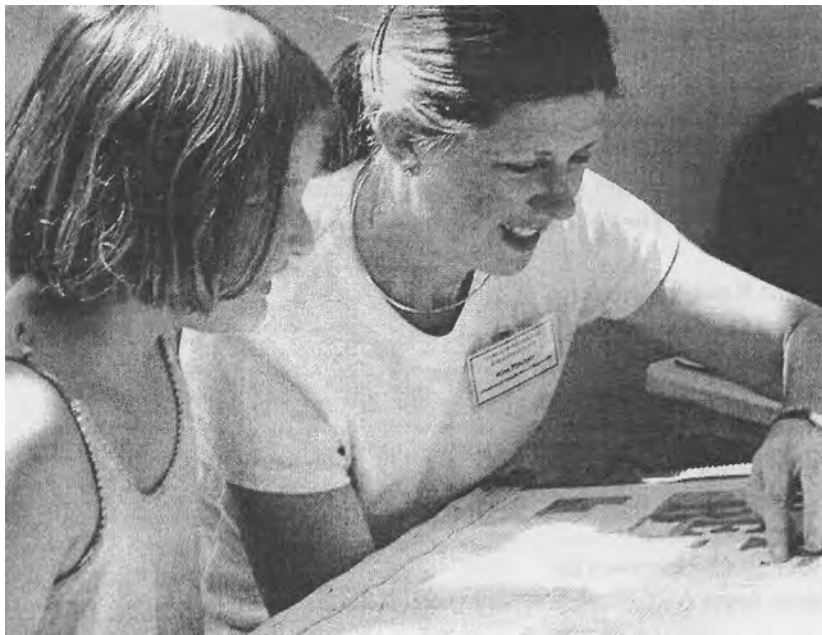
You will notice a suggestion box has been placed at the General Store for public input. The public notice board on the wall of the General Store outside the Bakery has been brought back into use to inform the public of coming events.

Keith Ewenson OAM JP, President
Bert De Haan Secretary
Upper Beaconsfield Association

Upper Beaconsfield on the wall

An exciting large-scale community arts project is under way in the Shire of Cardinia and all residents are invited to participate. The textile artwork will be approximately 2 metres by 9 metres and is made up of 16 panels representing townships and groups of towns within Cardinia. Each panel will contain embroidered images of features typical of the town such as Elephant Rock, Salisbury House and the water tower for our panel. The Cardinian Embroidery will be stitched by as many members of the community as possible during 2005 and will be on public display when completed.

Residents of Upper Beaconsfield, Dewhurst and Guys



Hill are invited to contribute by stitching a small part (by hand or machine) and helping to attach all parts to our panel. At the bottom of each town panel the names of the towns will be embroidered on canvas - this needs thousands of small stitches, so the name panel will visit all community groups to give everyone the opportunity to add their stitches and have their name recorded in the commemorative album.

Workshops are already under way during February and March - these will be continued throughout the year when needed. If you want to meet new people, learn new skills, pass your skills on to others, contact Kim or Eleanor for further details. To find out what we hope the finished artwork will look like, visit the Cardinia Cultural Centre and 'read' the display in the foyer - it will be there until the end of February.

Photograph: Upper Beaconsfield textile artist Kim Pitcher demonstrating the stitch used on the name panel to 10 year-old Tonay Smith of Emerald, at the Cardinia Cultural Centre on Australia Day.

Project co-ordinator
Eleanor Taylor 5944 3645
Upper Beaconsfield rep
Kim Pitcher 5944 3606

Something for everyone at the Yakkerboo Festival

Program of events:

- April 22-24 Art Show at Pakenham Town Hall
- April 30 Fireworks and Carnival at Pakenham Racecourse
- May 1 Street Parade and Craft Market in the Main Street
- May 1 Carnival, Rides and Mr. Yakkerboo's Birthday Party in Bourke Park
- May 1 Patchwork and Quilting Display at Pakenham Town Hall

The Yakkerboo calendar also includes a variety of sporting and creative events in mid Autumn. Sporting events include the golf tournament, the bowls tournament and the Pakenham Auto Club Motorkana.

While the colouring competition will give all children the opportunity to display their artwork in the window of Baker's Delight, the short story writing competition will allow every member of the family to release their creative flair.

For further information, please contact:
The Secretary,
Yakkerboo Festival Committee, PO Box 146, Pakenham 3810.





Hello everyone. I closed last year by thanking everyone for the support I received during 2004. I now look forward to 2005 having been re-appointed

as the Mayor for a second term. My first term as Mayor was a real learning experience and I feel very confident that I can take that experience and turn it into practice within the Beacon Hills ward and the Shire of Cardinia.

Australia Day was a great success this year, as it always seems to be. I had the pleasure of awarding the Cardinia Shire Citizen of the Year award at the Cardinia Cultural Centre and then followed on with a Citizenship Ceremony. This ceremony is the most pleasing part of my role as Mayor. To make a group of 19 people citizens of Australia is a wonderful experience and to see the expressions on their faces makes for a great day.

I am pleased to report that work is progressing steadily on the sealing of Split Rock road and, when completed, will provide a safe local route around the township. This is part of the 50 kms of road sealing the shire commenced in 2004 and will assist to link the system together with sealed roads.

I would like to thank those people who have contributed their time as volunteers on the various committees of management within Upper Beaconsfield. Sometimes it seems a little thankless but you all do a great job for the community. I would encourage other residents who feel that they can contribute in some way to come along to the township and club meetings and get involved with one or other of the groups.

The new Beaconsfield Community Complex is beginning to get more use with the new kindergartens opened in term one 2005. This is a wonderful facility for all residents of the ward and beyond. Please consider the complex for your next social event.

Again I thank everyone for your support and I look forward to a great 2005.

Cr. Garry Runge JP
Mayor

Meet the new Vicar

On Monday 7th February a large welcoming congregation attended the commissioning of the new vicar of St. Johns Church of England, the Rev. Iain Hanson, by Bishop John Wilson.

Iain and his wife, Dawn, are now village residents living at St. Johns Vicarage, with their two teenage sons, Christopher and Callum, who attend Maranatha Christian School in Endeavour Hills.



Born and educated in the United Kingdom, Iain graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree (1st Class Honours) from the University of Dundee in 1981. He then worked as a computer programmer until the family came to Australia in 1990. For the next ten years he managed the computer systems of Air Services Australia.

In 1992 he became a Christian, realising that people's salvation was more important than science.

In 2000 both Iain and Dawn commenced their study of theology, attending the Moore Theological College in Sydney. Each graduated with a Bachelor of Theology Degree, and a Diploma in Ministry.

For the last two years Iain has been Assistant Minister at St. Paul's in West Tamworth N.S.W. where he worked with Dawn's help.

Iain is enthusiastic about his appointment and feels this is where God would like him to be. He is looking forward to meeting and getting to know people, as well as ministering to them, and with them. Dawn will assist him in this ministry.

Charles Wilson

Thought for the day

"If you think education is expensive - try ignorance"
Astro 6205

Split Rock Rd safety issues

Two issues have come up as concerns around safety of children, horse riders and residents pulling in and out of their driveways.

One is a concern for the safety of school children using the bus stop at the Salisbury Road end of Split Rock Road.

We would like to see a sign placed there showing that children are crossing on this bend.

It can be very difficult to see on coming traffic and the potential danger is increased with cars travelling at high speeds when entering or leaving this intersection.

Another major concern is the speed limit of 80 that is now set further down Split Rock Rd. To travel at this speed is difficult without it feeling a danger.

It is so glaringly obvious how unsuitable this speed limit is for this road that it must have been an accident in council for this decision to be made in the first place. Once the curbs are completed weekend drivers will be even more encouraged to speed (and won't even be breaking the speed limit in many cases).

Even the limit of 60 on the roadworks area at the moment seems ludicrous once you actually attempt to drive at this speed yourself. I encourage locals to drive down the road and experience travelling at 40 on this area and ask if you feel this can afford to be 20 kilometres higher.

We are not prepared to wait for a serious accident to happen to draw attention to the need to change. However, we have been instructed that in order to take BOTH these concerns to council we will need a petition.

I and other residents of Split Rock are getting a petition together for this purpose and I urge anyone from Split Rock Road or Upper Beaconsfield to please consider contacting me with any feedback that supports our cause and to let us know when and how we can contact you to sign the petition. Thank you for your support.

Alannah Dore
Split Rock Road

Email: alannah@holisticliving.com.au

Postal delivery problems

Many residents and community groups in Upper Beaconsfield have been dissatisfied for some time about the decline in service provided by Australia Post since the previous mail contractor retired.

For the last 6 months or so, the standard of service has declined. Apparently the bulk of Upper Beaconsfield mail is now sorted at Narre Warren. Mail has been delivered to the wrong addresses. Many residents have had to hand deliver wrongly delivered mail, to the correct address. Others who have paid for mail to be redirected, or held over during holidays, have found their instructions ignored. One resident found 3 weeks of mail lying wet and sodden around his property after the recent wind and rain.

Community groups who have paid for the delivery of notices and newsletters have found that many residents are not getting these items delivered. The Community Centre pays a considerable sum to get their programs printed and delivered each term. The committee has found that many are missing out on the program delivery. Local fire brigade captain Graeme McGowan was very unhappy when the flyers for the CFA fire safety information night held in November did not get delivered to all households. The Village Bell is not arriving regularly to all households. Even the Cardinia Shire "Connect" newsletter is not being delivered consistently.

A small survey I conducted discovered that, of 37 households, about one third did not get the last Village Bell. If this figure is an accurate guide, then a significant proportion of all such mail is going missing.

After mail sorting at Narre Warren, Australia Post contractors/employees then collect local mail (including the paid community mail items) from the Upper Beaconsfield Post Office. But if there is no other ordinary mail for you on that day, then you do not get the community mail. Leftover items are then taken back to Narre Warren and dumped.

This is just not good enough. This mail is not "junk" mail. It is vital that community mail items get delivered to all households. In the case of fire information provided by the CFA, it could be critical that this information is received. Community volunteers put much time, effort and money into putting out community news and information. If people have "No junk mail" on their letterboxes, surely this refers to advertising material, not items of community interest or information.

I do not consider the above situation represents "high-quality mail and parcel services to all Australians" (from the Australia Post vision statement).

Helen Smith

Check your house for safety



Change the battery when you change your clock



When you change your clock from summer time, change the batteries in your smoke alarms as well. Don't use cheap batteries in smoke alarms as they may not last through the winter. If your smoke alarms are over 10 years old, get new smoke alarms as well.

What about a fire in your house?

Have you ever thought what you would do if there was a fire in your house? It is worth discussing this as a family a couple of times each year. If there are children living in the house, they should be involved in this discussion so they know what to do.



- Do you have equipment to put out small fires?
- Stoves are one of the most common causes of fires in the home. A fire blanket and a fire extinguisher may be all you need to keep the fire small.
- Don't use water on electrical fires or on burning fat!
- How will you raise the alarm?
Call "000". This should be done before you start fighting the fire. Children may be able to do this while you try to put the fire out.
- Know where everybody is! Agree on a meeting place if you need to evacuate in a house fire. The letter box may be a good place.



Fence and Gate Design

When erecting fences and installing gates consider if a fire truck will ever need access. CFA tankers need

gates to be 3 metres (10 feet) wide to be able to get through. Gates of less than this will greatly reduce access which will result in the fire doing more damage before being controlled.

Fuel Reduction Burning

Park Victoria, Cardinia Shire and Upper Beaconsfield fire brigade will all be conducting fuel reduction burning programs during the autumn.

These burns will be conducted on mild days with mild to warm temperatures and low wind speeds. If you see large smoke plumes on a mild day, don't panic. You can check by calling the CFA on 9887 7766.

New Members Welcome

The brigade is currently taking on a group of new members. If you would like to join, contact Ron Sawyer on 5944 3055 to arrange briefing or just come along to training at 7:30 pm on Wednesdays or 9:30 am on Sundays.

Ron Sawyer

LIVE MUSIC EVENT!

for young people aged 13 years and over

**A FULLY SUPERVISED DRUG,
ALCOHOL AND SMOKE FREE EVENT**

featuring

ARPEJIO

OFF BY HEART

HASTEN YOUR RETREAT

THE FRAY

WHEN: Friday 18 March 2005
WHERE: Pakenham Hall
Cnr Henry and John Streets, Pakenham
Melways Reference: 317 E8
TIME: 7.00-11.00 pm
Enquiries: Cardinia Shire Youth Services
Phone 5945 4351

ADMISSION: \$5.00 with pass (GST inclusive)
Passes available at Cardinia Shire Council \$7.00
without pass (GST inclusive)






When should I call 000?

If you need Police, Fire or Ambulance in an emergency ring 000

What happens when I call 000?

- Your call is connected to the Emergency Call Service (ECS).
- ECS will answer - 'Emergency - police fire or ambulance?'
- If the caller is on a mobile telephone they will be asked for the city and state they are in
- Respond with the service/location you require.
- Your call will then be connected to the emergency service you require.

Yvonne Kerr Wilson

1924-2004



Yvonne Kerr Wilson was born in Newcastle on Tyne in 1924. Her father was a Harley Street specialist, and her mother a qualified MD. It was still wartime when Yvonne decided to follow in her parent's footsteps and study medicine and to specialise in anaesthesia.

She proved to be a highly talented and competent anaesthetist, adding to her skills with special training in the technique of epidural blocks, which was just coming into common use in England and was practically unknown in Australia.

Always ready for an adventure, Yvonne arrived in Melbourne in 1957, where she was greeted with open arms. In those days, anaesthetists of Yvonne's qualifications and experience were very rare in Melbourne. Not only was she appointed to the Royal Melbourne Hospital, but within a few months had been appointed to the Queen Victoria Hospital and the Footscray Hospital.

Yvonne was soon well established in the Melbourne medical fraternity and began to develop her own private practice.

It was at this time she met and married Charles Wilson, a local General Practitioner, a widower with three teenage children. The role of stepmother is difficult, but, needless to say, Yvonne soon won their respect, their admiration and their love. She in turn loved, admired and supported them.

In 1969, Charles and Yvonne moved to Dandenong where Yvonne worked at the Dandenong Hospital. In 1977 they "retired" to Upper Beaconsfield. It was at this time that she effectively retired from medicine.

In contrast to her ladylike gentility, Yvonne enjoyed wandering about the countryside in a caravan. She had a great love of Australia and the outback. She was a very skilled at sewing and produced a number of superb tapestries every year.

Yvonne was a highly respected senior medical specialist. She was a loving companion, a loved and cherished parent, and a warm and caring friend. She is greatly missed by all who knew her.

Val Ewenson

(With information provided by Rob and Janet Wilson)

ANZAC Day service

The ANZAC Day service will be held at the Cenotaph on 25th April 2005 at 11 am. This is the 90th anniversary of the landing at Gallipoli. The commemoration service will be conducted by RSL president, Mr. Eric Chaplin.

Residents are invited to place wreaths and flowers on the Cenotaph in remembrance of their family and friends.

Mr. Chaplin and the members of the RSL invite all residents and friends to join them in the RSL hall in Halford St after the ceremony for refreshments.

Jo Carter

Ratepayers get active

You may have read last year about the newly formed CRRRA (Cardinia Ratepayers & Residents Association Inc). In December they published their first newsletter titled the Chronicle. In Upper Beaconsfield the paper was available from the General Store.

The organisation meets publicly bimonthly with an executive meeting in alternative months. At Shire rate time they filled the Pakenham Hall with concerned residents. On February 22nd at 7.30 pm they met at the Beaconsfield Complex. To give you an idea of what they stand for, their statement of purpose follows:

- to act in the best interest of all ratepayers and residents in the Cardinia Shire.
- to create a network facilitating communication, co-operation and support among ratepayers and residents, town groups and community groups within the Shire.
- to function as an educational body and to disseminate information on issues and processes affecting or concerning the Shire.
- to work for equity for ratepayers and residents throughout the Shire.
- to work for accountability in the administration process Cardinia Shire, all tiers of government and other relevant bodies.
- to work for the improved democratic process and public participation in local government.
- to put LOCAL back into local government.

The annual subscription is \$10.00 and contact can be made by PO Box 161 Officer or email crravic@yahoo.com.au

Keith Ewenson OAM JP

Excited students begin a new year at Beaconsfield Upper Primary School



Happy preppies: Joel and Kiara, above, Isabelle and Delaney, left Monique and Emma, below.

Prep students began their first day with enthusiasm and smiles. Parents were left watching their sons and daughters disappear in to classrooms to meet other students and their teacher. It was a very smooth start for parents and students alike.

Parents were heard to say:

"My child has been ready in his uniform since early this morning because he couldn't wait to get to school."

"The Prep Orientation Program that was held by the school in 2004 really helped my child settle in to school very easily."

"My child went straight in to the classroom and began drawing like she had been at school for all her life."

The Parents and Friends Association put on morning tea for the parents to get to chat to each other and to get to know the friendly faces of the school. The Principal Gordon Atkin said, "At Beaconsfield Upper Primary School we pride ourselves on being a part of the community."

Heather Carver



University of the Third Age

U3A in Emerald currently offers courses in history, music, astronomy, philosophy, horticulture, English, photography and arm chair travel, plus walking and Scrabble groups to retired people. If you have any interest in joining U3A as a student or tutor, or if you would like further information concerning U3A's activities, please contact Beryl on 5968 3939.

Cardinia Catchment Landcare



After a few weeks break we are getting set for another busy year.

Our first event for the year was at Cardinia Civic Centre for Australia Day, where, together with other Landcare groups throughout Cardinia Shire, we participated in a Plant Giveaway and information session.

Summer is not the time to be planting but at the Upper Beaconsfield Indigenous Nursery we are "pricking out" seedlings in readiness for autumn. Our plants are on a watering system so, with the warm weather, are growing well. If you are wanting to plant understorey, midstorey or upperstorey species we have the lot, specifically for your area. Call in on any Friday between 10.30 am to 5 pm for advice. If you have a front or back garden consider planting a section to indigenous plants, or plant them amongst your other plants. This way you will enjoy the company of our beautiful native birds and butterflies. You might be interested in converting your nature strip to native tussock grasses and wildflowers -no more grass cutting and a much more interesting look.

Anyone needing help with large plantings is encouraged to seek Landcare assistance. Landcare will help with the costs of fencing off remnant vegetation from stock or fencing waterways and wetlands. The cost of plants, guards and stakes are covered and volunteers, including other landowners who have had work done on their properties will assist with planting. This way

we can plant out 500 plants in a morning and enjoy the experience. This is our third year of operation and we are to visit our first three properties next week to see the results of our efforts. It is exciting to see the growth and hear of returning wildlife.

Roadsides are an area of interest for us as they often contain significant indigenous plants cleared from other areas. The Shire of Cardinia have a 'Tree Planting scheme' to encourage you to restore indigenous plants and remove weeds from your roadside. You can apply for funds to do this. I am presently holding a number of Eucalyptus Caladulensis (River Red Gums) at the nursery for planting into the wetland at Berwick Springs in Beaconsfield/ Emerald Rd. The seed was gathered from the only remaining tree of this type in the area when the road was widened last year. In Upper Beaconsfield the Landcare group is to plant indigenous species back into the Split Rock Rd reserve to replace trees removed. In Harkaway we have worked hard to eliminate weeds and plant indigenous species into the upper reaches of Warlsdorf Creek which runs beside King Rd.

We urge you to think about the plants you put into your garden. Be sure they are not environmental weeds and will not become a problem in the bushland near you. Agapanthus is such an example. Casey and Cardinia have a new brochure available with information on weeds, which is well illustrated and has information on how to tackle them. If you would like one, call in to the nursery or give your Council a ring.

If you would like to participate in any of these events we would love to hear from you. Contact Margaret Cromb on 9707 2415.

Our best wishes for 2005.

Off with their heads!

Due to an email glitch, Laura Levens' Wildlife Watch has been held over until the next issue.

In the meantime Laura's advice is to step up your efforts to get rid of weeds on and bordering your properties. Weeds have been flourishing in the recent rainy weather.

You need to cut off the agapanthus seed heads before they drop their seeds as they are an environmental weed if left to spread unchecked. Blackberries are rampant and should be removed or sprayed. Other weeds flourishing on roadsides and nature strips in Upper Beaconsfield include pittosporum and ivy. Chop them off at the socks.

Continued on page 11



These agapanthus have already dropped their seeds. Cut them off while still green.

Off with their heads! Continued from page 10



Pittosporum:
Glossy green leaves and creamy perfumed flowers. They take over bushland as birds spread the seed.



When mature, ivy flowers and becomes rampant with large smooth leaves and the seeds are spread by birds. Do not allow ivy to climb up trees as the tree can eventually die and fall.

The Babysitting Club

The Babysitting Club is a group of local women who baby-sit each other's children.

The Babysitting club works on a no pressure points system. 1 point per hour between 7 pm-12 am and between 5-7 pm, and after midnight, 2 points per hour.

It is a great way to meet mums and families and it's a no cost babysitting service, just your time when you are available to help another mum.

If you are interested in obtaining further information, contact Cathie Usher 5944 4183



Outlook Greenery

Minibah Nursery at Pakenham now has a name change. We are now OUTLOOK GREENERY (NURSERY). Little else has changed:

- We are still located at 24 Toomuc Valley Rd. Pakenham (next to Beaconhills College).
- We still provide training and employment for adults with a disability.
- We still have an extensive range of garden plants at inexpensive prices.
- We are still open Monday-Friday 9.00-4.00 and Saturday 10.00-4.00 pm. Every week.
- We also accept second - hand pots, but please, only in first class condition.

Allan (Nursery Manager)

Ph. 5941 1535

Mob. 0438 403 608



Patrick pictured with a beautiful selection of plants

Pro Am in March



Beaconhills - A & L Windows

Mark Saturday March 19th into your diary, as Beaconhills Country Golf Club is inviting you to attend the A & L Windows Pro Am, participate in wine and food tasting from 12 noon through to 5 pm and enjoy the carnival atmosphere. To celebrate the fifth year of the Beaconhills Pro

Am, the club, in conjunction with the PGA of Victoria, will be conducting a two day event where members and sponsors can play alongside professionals in tournament conditions for one or two days.

Launched as a minimum \$ 15,000 prize money event ,the 2005 Pro-Am will be played on the Old Course for Friday March 18th and Saturday March 19th. A cut for the top 30 professionals from Friday's field will produce a quality finish for the final round.

The Pro Am Committee is pleased to announce that A & L Windows has been confirmed as the major sponsors for the 5th consecutive year and, while the majority of the sponsorship packages are sold, vacancies still exist for two day sponsors, Saturday and Friday sponsors.

The Pro Am will commence on Friday March 18th with morning shot gun start for members and guests with golfing handicaps and visitors from other clubs are most welcome to participate. The morning entry fee is \$35 which includes a game with at least one professional golfer, great prizes and lunch.

Friday afternoon sponsors of the A & L Windows Pro Am will head out on the course and compete against other corporate sponsors and watch some superb golf with their professionals.

Friday's cut will be followed by the official Pro-am Calcutta dinner where Sponsors and their guests will have a chance to bid for their favourite players whilst enjoying the sparkling entertainment of Marty Fields and John Blackman and the famous Beaconhills country club hospitality.

On Saturday afternoon the sponsors will head out with the top 30 professionals to see who will take home their share of the \$ 15,000 prize pool. While this is all taking place, experience the wine and food tasting on the lawn of the golf club while the jazz band plays in the background. Local wineries and food producers have been invited to allow the members and the community to sample their products.

Members and the local community are asked to support this event and invite their families and friends to experience Beaconhills, the wine and food festival and enjoy the tournament finish.

There is no cost to attend the pro am and everyone is welcome. If you would like any additional information regarding the wine and food tasting, playing in the pro am, sponsoring the pro am or membership at Beaconhills please email manager@beaconhillsgolf.com.au or visit our web site www.beaconhillsgolf.com.au.

Danie Myers

Recreation Reserve

AGM President's report

Another successful Triennium has concluded with several major projects being completed and some to be undertaken over the ensuing year. We have only one change to the Committee following the retirement of Pony Club Delegate Bronwyn Fitzgerald, being replaced by Simon Attwood. The rest of the Committee remains the same with the following members being elected to the positions of -

President and community delegate - Bob Taylor, Vice-President and Riding Club delegate- Anne Johnson, Secretary and Scout delegate - Barry Smith, Treasurer and community delegate - Richard Halliday .Booking Officer - Barry Smith.

Other members are - Cricket Club delegate - Chris Smith Pony Club delegate - Simon Attwood Beaconsfield Junior Football Club delegate - Trevor Butler Primary School delegate - Wayne McQuilten Community delegates - Gavin Weidemann and Mark Ferguson

In May 2003 we brainstormed a wish list of projects and improvements to be undertaken for the development of the Reserve, which was formalized into five categories early 2004 with the emphasis on safety issues, and this year we have received Council Grants for - upgrade of the oval lighting by the Football Club, lining and refurbishment of the equestrian clubrooms, a system of removing the cricket practice nets off the playing surface of the oval and for this autumn a tree planting project is planned. The Football Club has also constructed a scorer/ timekeeper/storeroom facility. The Committee has arranged new storm water pit grates, partial relocation of the gas bottles, the fence extension around the oval bank, refurbishment of the surface of the public horse arena and re-establishing its drainage and the provision of a heavy roller for the oval. The oval has had significant maintenance with fertilisation, grass sowing and topdressing to repair damage following the hot dry summer of 2003/04 and wet winter 2004.

We provided fill soil to the BMX track at the request of some of the bike riders to reshape the jumps but this has now attracted an older age group and with it damage to vegetation with rubbish strewn around as well as occasional visits by motorbike riders who were adults.

Overall we have continued to improve the Reserve in 2004 as much as volunteer time and funds permit and there are still some challenges such as the safety of the cricket nets on the oval, which need to be addressed. Thank you to those members who took on items on the development plan and saw them through as it is only by individual initiative that many tasks get done.

Bob Taylor
President 9/2/05

Australian Red Cross

The Berwick/Upper Beaconsfield Red Cross Unit's Christmas raffle raised almost \$ 1,000. The first prize very generously donated by Bruce Shaw of Jetset Travel Berwick was won by Sheila Turner of Berwick. Second prize of a \$50 voucher donated by the Berwick Inn was won by Alison Coterill and third prize went to Gay de Leur. The Unit is most appreciative of the support for Red Cross given by both Jetset Travel and Berwick Inn.

The Unit thanks all who purchased Red Cross Christmas merchandise and particularly the committee and volunteer staff of the Berwick Mechanics Institute Library for handling sales amounting to \$ 1,482.35 of a total \$3,375.25 raised by the Unit.

The support for the Asian Tsunami Appeal has been enormous with amazing generosity shown in many ways. On Saturday 15 January the Upper Beaconsfield CFA organized a sausage sizzle outside the General Store with \$436.20 being raised by sales and donations for Red Cross. Thanks to all involved.

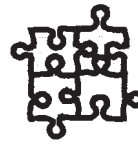
People have opened their hearts and wallets to support this overwhelming crisis affecting many countries, but still there is the ongoing need for volunteers and monetary support for many emergency service organizations, hospitals, and a host of smaller groups giving essential support.

Each year residents have supported the Red Cross March door-knock magnificently with \$5,694 collected by volunteer callers in the area last year. Money raised during March is used to fund Red Cross activities in Victoria. This year most areas will have their usual volunteer caller, many of whom have been collecting annually for more than 10 years. A few have been collecting in the same area for over 20 years and with typical Upper Beaconsfield hospitality are often invited in for a cool drink and a chat! Again this year there will be some new callers - at time of writing this report I still have some areas needing callers. If you can possibly assist I would appreciate a call on 5944 3554. The collecting can be done any time during March, not necessarily on a specific date.

In early February the Unit was able to give Red Cross emergency assistance to a young Beaconsfield family who lost their home to fire. The Red Cross "single incident" assistance enables purchasing officers from the Unit to accompany the family to Target and purchase appropriate clothing, manchester etc. for their immediate needs. The mother with her two small sons just starting kindergarten was extremely grateful. Recently a number of enquiries as to the work of local Red Cross Units have been received and hopefully these will result in an increased membership. Anyone interested in the work of Red Cross is most welcome to attend meetings of the Unit which are held on the second Friday of each month at 10am in the RSL Hall, Langmore Lane, Berwick.

Barbara Jackson
5944 3554

Berwick/Upper Beaconsfield Red Cross Unit



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Playgroup is a fun, safe and easy way to meet new people, socialize your children and get out of the house!

The beautiful natural setting of our Playgroup facility has a cubby house, sandpit, swings, playground and lots of running room. For those rainy days, our newly extended building has ample room for the children to play indoors.

Vacancies are available for our Wednesday morning group 9:30-11:30 am. Playgroup is held at our PreKinder building, 3 McBride Road, Beaconsfield Upper.

Cost is \$47 per term per family, plus an annual membership to Playgroup Victoria of \$22 for insurance (\$ 13 for concession card holders). If you are interested in joining our Playgroup, please contact Jan Miller on 5944 4866.

Getting fit in 2005



First term this year sees a flush of health and wellbeing programs on offer at the Centre.

The regular aerobics classes are running on Wednesday evening (7-8 pm) and Friday morning (9.15 -10.15 am). There is a new class with a variation - fitness circuit -scheduled for Wednesday morning

(9.15 - 10.15 am).

A new Fitball class has been introduced targeting those tied to a working schedule. It will run on Monday morning from 7 am to 8 am, and Tuesday evenings from 7.45 pm to 8.45 pm.

Participants in the strength training class introduced last year were most appreciative of the benefits and many have continued over the summer with the home-based exercise routine developed by the teacher. This class will continue this year on Wednesday (12 noon to 1 pm) and Friday (12.30 to 1.30 pm) and will welcome new participants.

If you are interested in any of these classes, or would like more details, please call Maree or Alison at the Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre on 5944 3484.

Multi-use building proposal for the Community Complex

The Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre, with help from the local community, is examining the prospect of building a multi-use, environmentally sustainable facility to serve the growing needs of the Centre and various volunteer and social groups.

An important component in building this facility is that planning, execution and management is undertaken with input and assistance from key community partners.

At this stage the building aims to include:

- An open teaching space which can be divided into two multi-purpose training areas
- An area for exercise and dance activities
- A meeting room for community and other groups
- An office support facility to service the administrative needs of UBCC and local groups
- A storage/archive area for UBCC and local groups
- A kitchen/lunch area
- An inviting 'cuppa and chat' space, possibly indoor/outdoor, that encourages various community members to meet socialise and become involved in community activities.
- Shower and toilet facilities
- Feature gardens with a focus on catering to the disabled and aged members of the community.
- Wheelchair access to and through the building and surrounding garden
- Adequate lighting and parking access, particularly for night classes and meetings.

The above list is still to be finalised to ensure that the broad range of community needs are met.

It is envisaged that the building will use sustainable

practices wherever possible to reduce operating costs and act as a showpiece for future residential and commercial development in this fast growing but environmentally sensitive area.

The use of solar power, waste water treatment and reuse, fire retardant building materials and other environmental design initiatives is critical.

It is envisaged that environmentally sustainable building technology programs will be conducted and information boards set up to inform visitors, students and local residents.

Your comments and thoughts on this proposal are welcome and should be directed to:

Sally Randall, President
Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre
10-12 Salisbury Rd,
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Pony club championships



Upper Beaconsfield Pony Club Dressage and showjumping championships, sponsored by Berwick Chrysler Jeep was held on Cup Day 2004. Even though we were washed out later in the day it did not deter

the enthusiasm of the Pony Club Committee organisers or competitors. Results for members of the Upper Beaconsfield Pony Club are as follows:

Dressage grade 3 - Lucy Johnston 4th and Victoria Ling 6th
Dressage grade 4 - Kathleen Appleton 4th
Dressage grade 5 - Georgia Salmon 3rd and Abbiemay Dore 6th
Equitation D Grade - Simone Oldenburger 3rd, Jillian Fitzgerald 5th and Victoria Ling 6th
D grade table A AM5 Simone Oldenburger 5th
D Grade Time Fault and Out - Simone Oldenburger 3rd Victoria Ling 6th
E Grade Equitation - Kathleen Appleton 3rd and Jess Andrewartha 6th
E Grade Table A M5 - Jess Andrewartha 5th
E grade time Fault and Out - Georgia Salmon 2nd
Senior Handy mount - Lane Sheppard 3rd, Chris Ling 4th and Lucy Johnston 6th
Junior Handy mount - Kathleen Appleton 2nd, Stephanie Attwood and Jess Andrewartha equal 3rd
Sasha Henstock 4th
Abbiemay Dore and Tiffany Mahoney equal 6th

Alannah Dore

News from the Courts

All those who attended our Xmas Party had a great night. Santa made a visit, and a great crowd watched the finals of our Club championships.

Laura Scott, who defeated Samantha Cashen, won the Ladies Final. In a nail biter, Paul Osborne defeated Brett Hillier in the Men's final. Mark and Luke Butler defeated Peter Durkin and Glen Burrridge in the Men's doubles. Some Juniors Champ Finals were also played; Brett Hillier defeated Jason Cousins in the boys, the girls round robin was won by Sophie Gajnik against Emma Mickle.

Other winners of club competitions were:

Monday Night

Ivan Golemac, Dianne Golemac, Sharon Brockman and John Dubach

Wednesday Night

Marita Meeking, Glen Burrridge, Peter Durkin and Peter Meeking

Thursday Night

Craig Hillier, Joanne Jamieson, Garry Jamieson, Sue Cashen and Josie Duffy

Mid Week Ladies

Kerrie Stanley, Jenny O Kane, Pam Mickle, Janine Hall and Sally Swift were winners of the Tuesday competition.

Our current Junior season finishes on Feb 19 followed by the finals. The coming season for Juniors commences on April 23rd so any budding Lleytons and Alicias should get their registrations in early, as last season we had 70 players in 13 teams, which is nearly at our limit. Registration forms are available at the Clubhouse or Phil Scott.

Our Mid Week Ladies and Night Comps kick off their new season early Feb and our weekend Senior and Junior Comps commence late April. Anyone interested in playing comp tennis please note your relevant contact at the Club;

Mary - Mid Week Ladies 5944 4796, Ian - Monday Night - 5944 4066, Nick - Wednesday Night - 5968 2315, Thursday - Karen 5944 3165, Anne - Seniors 5944 3552, and Phil - Juniors 5944 3909

Finally, congratulations to Matt Hutchinson who was a finalist in the Vic Tennis Volunteer of the Year awards.

Don't forget that our courts are available for hire at a cost of \$8.00 per hour. To make a booking please phone Anne on 5944 3552.

Steve Chisnall

Cricket Club

The season is drawing to a close with 'C' Grade and 'E' Grade teams a slight chance to make the finals but only if they continue to win and other results fall their way. The 'A' Grade team is battling to stay in the top grade and hopefully will win one of the last two games against either Tooradin or Beaconsfield.



'A' Grade, whilst being competitive in most games, have had a disappointing season. They have bowled quite well but the batting and fielding have let them down. 'C' Grade were in the four at Christmas but have lost narrowly since then a couple of times. 'E' Grade, who struggled early, have strung together three wins on end under first year skipper Marty Oke and having a bye this round and, hopefully, a win in the last round may see the third side in the finals. This has been a fine effort and Marty has attracted a number of players back to the club who are starting to play some good cricket so, win, lose or draw, we hope they will all be back next year from the start of the season and playing up in the seconds.

The juniors have had good numbers this year with the under 12s starting with 10 players and increasing their numbers to 18 under the coaching of Tony Joyce. They have also taken all before them having only narrowly lost one game and beating some quite strong sides. They have been very enthusiastic and have created quite an atmosphere at the recreation reserve when they play there on a Friday night.

The U 14s have also built up their numbers and, with the support of U12 players also playing on a Saturday, have managed to field full teams for most of the season. The side is very young so they have struggled against much stronger opposition. However, they have been very keen under the coaching of Grant Andrewartha. One of the main aims for this season was to get the juniors up and running again so that the club will continue in the future. Having junior players coming through is critical for the future of any club. We are on the way and, hopefully, will be able to field an U16 side at some time in the future. This may be a couple of years off yet.

The other main aim for this year was to be financially successful and this year has proved to be rewarding with the auction night in November making over \$9000 profit. This was a huge success with the whole club involved - seniors and juniors, sponsors and supporters contributing to the 150 plus crowd on the night.

We have also had a successful \$ 1000 night and quiz night.

There has been a big increase in the level of sponsorship this year which has also contributed to the club's financial position. We would like to thank all our sponsors

The Pine Grove Hotel, Flexilift, Melsteel, Elders Real Estate Berwick, Narre Warren Chemmart Pharmacies, Beaconsfield Pro Shop, John Kett, Mobil Officer Service Station, Amclear, Barry Pitcher, Rohan Escreet, Casey Partners Berwick, Emerald Lake Travel, Aaron Gray, Greg Williams, Auto Weld and the Upper Beaconsfield General Store for their support, which has been greatly appreciated.

The Presentation Night is to be held at the Pine Grove Hotel on Friday the 18th March at 7.00 pm. This will be a combined night for juniors and seniors so we hope to see as many there as possible.

The AGM of the club will be held on Tuesday 17th May, also at the Pine Grove Hotel at 8.00 pm.

Richard Edwards
President

Red Shield Appeal coordinator required

The search is on for a co coordinator of the Beaconsfield Upper district for the Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal. The Red Shield Appeal doorknock will take place on 28 May - 5 June 2005.

For many years Eric Chaplin has done an outstanding job in this role, but he has decided to stand down. Eric's contribution will be greatly missed.

We are now looking for a successor to carry on this important work in our area. The Salvation Army annually carry out an appeal to assist the needy in our city. At this time of special appeal for overseas assistance, which has been splendidly supported, let's not forget our own underprivileged people.

It is with sincere appreciation that Eric Chaplin's assistance is acknowledged and we look for some one to spend a limited but essential amount of time annually in a very worthwhile cause.

Keith Ewenson
Cardinia City Chairman
Red Shield Appeal



A new way of parking!



This van was photographed after it flipped on the Kyogle Corner on 29 January. It was a drizzly Saturday morning.

The driver told how he was driving up the hill when the van started fishtailing. As he couldn't control it, he braked and the van flipped and rotated 180 degrees, ending up in the driveway.

While photographing the van, I also observed a P-plater driving uphill who started to fishtail out of the corner.

On an earlier occasion recently, I had the same experience myself. Luckily there was no-one coming down the hill at the time. I was well over the white line and would not have been able to steer away from a collision.

This stretch of road is notorious, especially after rain following a dry spell. Be warned!

Helen Smith

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