

UPPER BEACONSFIELD VILLAGE BELL

Stories inside . . .

- . Preps-2 move in
- . Sewerage plans underway
- . Brigade busy with accidents

*Front page photograph
"Autumn shadows" by Val Ewenson*

Heartfelt thanks

Lesley Brough

On the 14th of January 2008 my husband Steve and I had some life changing news. I was told I was 7 months pregnant and I had no idea. No weight gain, no morning sickness, nothing at all to suggest I could have been pregnant at 47 yrs of age.

It was a very big shock to the system as we already have two children aged 22yrs and 20yrs. We were at the stage of our lives where we were planning our retirement and looking forward to grandchildren in the coming years.

The Upper Beaconsfield community where we have resided for the last 14 years stepped in and gave us so much

support as we only had 8 weeks to come to terms with the change in our lives.

We never realised until now just how important the support of family and friends is. The Brough family would like to thank all our friends and neighbours in the Upper Beaconsfield for helping us with everything.

Our Max was born on the 18th of March 2008, just in time for our 25th wedding anniversary. A big surprise but a pleasant one.

A very big thank you goes to the following families: the Oldenburgers, Palmers, Bartletts, Kemps, Dores, Parkers, Simons, Timms and Evans and everyone else for all their help and support.

Celebrating 100 years!

Marie Cooper

Salisbury House resident, Bill Cooper, celebrated his 100th birthday on Wednesday, 23rd April.

Bill has been on this earth for 46% of the period of white settlement in Australia, 61% of the period of white settlement in Victoria and during his lifetime, the population of Australian has risen from about 4 million to over 20 million.

Cyril Ernest Cooper, affectionately known to us as "Bill", was born on his father's market garden in Murrumbena. Bill left school at 14 to work with his father now in cartage contracting. Bill drove the horses and dray. They carted bricks, sand and other building materials to sites throughout the metropolitan area.

In partnership with his brother, Bill grew and sold vegetables from properties in Clayton, Mount Waverley and Glen Waverley.

In his younger days, Bill was a very active sportsman, playing football and cricket and in later years he played both pennant and social lawn bowls.

He was an active member of the Probus Club of Wheelers Hill. Until recently, he regularly attended their monthly meetings and went on most of their regular outings.

Bill met and married Edna, in 1937 and they had two daughters, Marie and Valerie. When Edna died after 63 years of marriage. Marie then retired to housekeep for her father until he moved to Salisbury House last year.

The dry weather continues ...

George Moir, at Barkala, Beaconsfield-Emerald Road

| Month | 40 yr average | 2007 | 2008 |
|-------|---------------|-------|------|
| Jan | 65.4 | 61.1 | 26.0 |
| Feb | 55.4 | 26.2 | 48.0 |
| Mar | 64.7 | 61.5 | 22.6 |
| Apr | 77.9 | 20.3 | 53.6 |
| May | 88.0 | 82.2 | |
| Jun | 79.8 | 89.0 | |
| Jul | 79.6 | 112.5 | |
| Aug | 86.5 | 59.0 | |
| Sep | 91.3 | 59.4 | |
| Oct | 94.4 | 38.6 | |
| Nov | 83.5 | 104.7 | |
| Dec | 79.7 | 158.7 | |
| Total | 946.2 | 873.2 | |

The improved rainfall in the last two months of 2007 has not continued in 2008 with the first four months showing a deficit of 113.2mm compared to the 40-year average.

The increased rainfall in the last week of April gives some hope of an improvement in the last month of autumn.

The summer period (Dec-Feb) had a rainfall of 232.7mm, thanks to heavy rain in December 2007, an excess of 32.2mm compared to the average.

Autumn to date is 66.4mm below average and needs a May improvement to get near average for the period. The May average is 88mm, which is the third average highest month. Here's hoping.

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The Village Bell can provide printing services to non-profit groups and organisations

involved in community service in Upper Beaconsfield and surrounds, at a charge that reflects cost of materials plus a margin to cover service calls on the printing press.

For more information contact Graham Jackson on 5944 3554 or Helen Smith on 5944 3219.





About town



Brigade kept busy with accidents

Liz Brandie CFA

As we approach winter the Upper Beaconsfield Fire Brigade prepares for our second largest call out situation, road accidents

Nearly 60% of our call outs are due to motor vehicle accidents

In Upper Beaconsfield the most accident prone stretch of road is Beaconsfield- Emerald road, especially near Quamby road.

The road surface can be extremely slippery after a long dry spell and the slightest drop of rain on the dust and residue of leaves can send a vehicle careering off the edge out of control, even at slow speeds.

Trucks travelling through often leave oil or diesel spills on the road, which has the same effect.

We do live in a beautiful area, with large native trees that line our roads but when a vehicle loses control it will usually be a large gum tree that does the damage and brings the vehicle to a sudden stop, often tragically.

The Brigade has been called out to some very nasty accidents over the years with vehicles ending up over the edge of the embankments, and unfortunately also many fatalities.

We hope all our residents drive safely and be aware of the



Thank you to the emergency services

Jo Carter

We all see the men and women of the emergency services at work throughout the village at various times. They attend minor and major road accidents, fires and other disasters. I'm sure we all appreciate them at these times.

The strong winds which swept through Upper Beaconsfield on 2nd April this year, created havoc in many areas. A very old, big gum tree came down in Salisbury Road, next to the Community Complex at around midday. The tree pulled the power lines with it they were broken and lying in the road.

It seemed that within minutes, the road was closed off between the Community Complex and the turn in the road at the Vicarage. Traffic was diverted by SES and CFA volunteers who worked all day. The electricity department repairmen worked tirelessly until 11.30pm.

I believe that the prompt action of these courageous men and women prevented a potential tragedy in this area, and I am sure that the scene was similar in many parts of the community.

The editors of the Village Bell would like to thank and commend the members of the emergency services for a job well done on that day and on many others.

Roadwork repairs

Helen Smith

On Sunday 13 April 2008 VicRoads resurfaced a 250 m section of Beaconsfield-Emerald Road, in the vicinity of Kyogle corner. The resurfacing was carried out to improve skid resistance. The damaged barrier (see above) was also replaced.

Just examine the angle of the posts in the photograph of the barrier before repair. For the posts to be nearly knocked out of the ground illustrates the force exerted by the impact of vehicles.

It also illustrates that too many drivers are still travelling at excessive speeds along this road.

There have been a few incidents recently between the new section and Quamby Road intersection; either vehicles into the bank on

Help for injured wildlife

Judy Green

I recently had the misfortune to come across a badly injured kangaroo. Unsure of what to do, I rang the Emerald Police who very promptly came out and shot it as it was too badly injured to do anything else.

I thought that other people might find themselves in the same situation and wouldn't know what to do. The Police said it is part of their job to attend such a situation. So if you need police assistance, phone:

Pakenham Police 5945 2500

Emerald Police 5968 4422

Wildlife help line 0500 540 000



Gembrook Electorate

I recently hosted another mobile office in Upper Beaconsfield and appointment times filled up very quickly with residents wanting to see me on a whole range of issues. Accessibility is crucial as a Member of Parliament and with the demand for appointments, it is obvious that people appreciate being able to meet with me in their own township. More mobile offices will be planned for the future but please do not hesitate to contact me at any time for an earlier appointment at my Berwick office. (Tel: 9796 1987)

On the news front, it is fantastic for young people and their parents that the NightRider bus service currently servicing Dandenong will be extended to include Berwick and Beaconsfield on its route.

Other news is that the existing peak period ambulance unit in Beaconsfield has been upgraded to a 24 hour operation, in a \$13.8 million investment. Ambulance services are also being improved in Berwick and Pakenham.

With climate change affecting all of us, the impacts on our environment, and how to care and conserve our biodiversity, is becoming increasingly important. With this in mind, the State Government has just released a Green Paper which provides a framework for how Victorians will look after the environment over the next 50 years. This paper has evolved from the Victorian Government's *Our Environment, Our Future* Sustainability Action Statement. Those concerned about biodiversity now have the opportunity to read the paper and provide feedback until 30 June. All submissions received will be used to develop a subsequent White Paper. Involvement in this process will ensure you have input into our state's environment policy, so please contact my office for further information or visit the website at

www.dse.vic.gov.au/landwhitepaper.

Those with an interest in the environment will also be pleased to learn that the Cardinia Environment Coalition has received a funding boost. Beaconsfield Nature Conservation Reserve, previously known as the Beaconsfield Reservoir, will soon have visitors' facilities, thanks to a \$17,205.00 grant. The grant will fund the building of a composting toilet, a shelter with signage and a storage shed.

Parents of school children will also be thrilled at the news that two new select entry co-educational schools are to be built, with one of those to be established in Berwick, adjacent to Monash University. Currently, the only existing select entry schools are Melbourne High School for boys and MacRobertson Girl's High School – both in the inner city. The new Berwick school will be a great opportunity for high-achieving students. First students will commence at the school in 2010 with an initial enrolment expected of around 200 year 9 students. It is pleasing to be able to provide additional choice for parents and to ensure that those students in outer suburban areas can access such educational opportunities locally.

Again, please do not hesitate to contact me for any assistance on State Government matters via the contact details provided below.

Tammy Lobato MP

Member for Gembrook

1/5 Gloucester Ave Berwick VIC 3806 Tel: 9796 1987

Email: tammy.lobato@parliament.vic.gov.au

Ranges Ward News



Cr Graeme Legge

The wild storm that lashed and crashed Upper Beaconsfield and beyond brought our warm appreciation to those in emergency services who responded quite wondrously to restore road access and safety.

Then there were those who restored the services upon which we rely so greatly. A considerable complement of Council staff also participated. No wonder we hold them all in high regard.

With the forthcoming Hard and Green Waste Collections and the 'Detox your Home' program there's wonderful opportunity to make more space at home and to make homes safer. Great services for community benefit! Hard waste timetable, see page 6.

As I write, I note the heightened interest in the prospect of a sewerage scheme for Upper Beaconsfield – courtesy South East Water. Upper Beaconsfield Sewer has now been included in the 'backlog sewer program' and work is scheduled in the 2008-09 capital works program. The process and options such as local treatment and re-use or piping (back) to Beaconsfield were presented to Upper Beaconsfield Association recently.

Upper Beaconsfield was alert and responsive to Council's Community Grants Program (2008-2009) and Heritage Grants Program with applications submitted. Results will be soon known.

Wasn't 'Anzac Day' in Upper Beaconsfield memorable and well supported! It provided another opportunity for recognition of local personnel who served and who lived through experiences that the rest of us simply have to wonder at.

I recognise the extensive military and community service of the late Upper Beaconsfield citizen in Colin Marshall. Our collective sympathy to Sheila Marshall and family!

Meanwhile, work continues on Split Rock Road to raise its standard and work on the forthcoming Council Budget (2008-09) is steadily progressing. In due course the draft Budget will become available for resident consideration with opportunities for submissions to be made.

Please contact me if there is any way in which I can be of assistance (0418 318 392).

Upper Beac Association

UBA news

Jennie Vaughan and Julie Leitt

Several items discussed at the February meeting were related to weed infestation in the area. In spite of the dry conditions weeds continue to flourish. The local weed control program is having some impact but local residents need to help too by being alert and active in removing weeds.

The UBA was busy at the Village Festival in February and collected many subscriptions for the Village Bell. You can still pay the annual subscription and this can be done in the Village (at the General Store or the Post Office) or through the UBA.

There has been quite a lot of correspondence regarding a proposed photography competition and a program is being drawn up using ideas from similar competitions.

Stormy weather on the 2nd of April caused the UBA General Meeting scheduled for that date to be cancelled. The 7th of May meeting, instead of being a Committee Meeting, was changed to a General Meeting when Gordon Logan from South East Water gave a presentation on the proposed sewerage system for Upper Beaconsfield, see right.

Citizen of the year nominations now open

Due to there not being a UB COY for 2007, the UBA committee has decided to make some changes to the COY guidelines.

The 2008 COY award nominations are now open. Nomination forms are available from the Post Office and General Store and these forms should be completed and returned to the UBA Secretary.

The closing date for 2008 nominations is the 31st October 2008. Please note this date in your diary/calendar and consider nominating someone you know who is doing great work within our community.

After the October closing date, the UBA will form a sub-committee to assess all of the nominations. The COY winner will be notified and an award ceremony will be held at a local event yet to be decided on.

Open air burning

Cardinia Shire Council has supplied the UBA with information about "Open Air Burning" regulations in our area. There are 3 zones in total with Zone 1: (CBD) - no burning (without a permit), Zone 2: (generally residential areas of township) - open air burning for fuel reduction or fire prevention permitted Thursday, Friday and Saturday between 9am and 4pm, Zone 3: (all other areas) open air burning permitted during daylight hours except Sundays. Residents can check the map displayed in the General Store window.

No wind power

Late last year a report in one local Berwick paper indicated that Cardinia Reservoir may be considered as a potential site for wind turbines to help generate power for Melbourne Water needs..

Next meeting 4th June

The next scheduled UBA township meeting will be held on Wednesday 4th June 2008 at the Community Complex, at 8pm. All residents are welcome to attend. It's a great way to keep up to date with what is happening in our local area..

However Melbourne Water recently replied to a query from a local resident, that more promising sites have been identified and that there are no plans for further work at the reservoir.

Sewerage plans now underway

Helen Smith

Gordon Logan, from South East Water's Planning Department, spoke about the plans for sewerage Upper Beaconsfield at the last UBA meeting. At this stage these are preliminary plans but he gave the residents at the meeting an overview how the sewerage will most likely proceed. He noted that the hill townships of Cockatoo and Gembrook are already seweraged.

Many septic systems in Upper Beaconsfield do not function well, particularly those on smaller allotments. Older systems pre-1990 do not contain the waste water on the properties and discharge into street drains, which eventually end up in the local creeks (as well as neighbouring properties).

The properties being targeted for the upgrade will be those properties smaller than 1 acre, located in the central township area. Residents will pay for some of the cost, but the major cost will be subsidised by the greater Melbourne community.

South East Water will work closely with Cardinia Shire, to identify properties to be serviced. Cardinia Shire will also be inspecting septic tanks on properties outside the seweraged area at some stage as well.

A pressure system (rather than gravity) will collect waste from each property via a small pump, positioned over a collection tank below ground level.

The advantages of pressure systems are that they work better in hilly areas and that smaller diameter pipes can be used. This means less open trenches as directional drilling can be used, therefore less disturbance and disruption.

Mr Logan said that engineering plans are to be finalised, but he expects construction to be started in mid-2009, and connection of properties by 2010.

South East Water will soon be contacting those residents involved by letter, to outline the timetable of works and inform them of a meeting to discuss the finer details and view the plans.

You can view a map on the South East Water website, or just type UpperBeaconsfieldMelway.pdf into your Internet search engine.

The Green Shed

Neil McDonald

This is something new for Emerald and surrounding district. If you are an active retiree looking to fill some spare time or acquire a new hobby interest, then the green Shed is just the place for you.

Located in the Nobelius Gardens, near the Emerald Museum, on Crighton Road, this facility has been funded by the department of Victorian Communities, and is operated by Emerald U3A.

Cardinia Council has also been involved in refurbishing what used to be a cottage in the gardens, to make it suitable for a range of hobby activities.

We have decided to call it our Green Shed because there are already men's sheds available locally and we do not want to exclude women from participating in any of the activities. These others sheds have sprung up in a wide variety of places across Australia to answer the need in the community for a place for retired people to go to make new friends, learn new hobby skills, and generally feel productive and happy.

Currently, Working With Wood, Mosaics, and Electronics are being offered and we hope more such topics will become available. If in fact you have a particular expertise, and would like to share with others, we would very much like to hear from you.

A pleasant way to spend a Thursday arvo with tea or coffee, is Your Kind of Music — listening to tunes from the 30s, 40s and 50s and classical.

Board games, such as darts, chess and draughts, plus Boules will also be offered.

The Green Shed hours will be: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 10:00am till 4:00pm.

Enquiries to Mike Allery 5968 2241 or Alick Gipps 5968 2082

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NEW! Community Corner

Community Corner is a place in the Bell for community notices and announcements. Items for publication in 'Community Corner' should be brief and carry the writer's name and/or telephone number or e-mail address. See our first entries below.

Items are to be of a non-commercial nature and offer to provide goods or services at no charge to fellow residents, acknowledgements of kindly and considerate acts, thank you messages and other community-minded announcements. We leave it open to our readers young and old to develop 'Community Corner' to fulfill needs within our community.

There will be no charge for entries however we reserve the right to edit entries. Contact the editor at editor.villagebell@gmail.com

WANTED A good home is wanted for a female 18-month old Irish wolfhound. Well trained with a gentle nature; would make a loyal companion. Contact Lynne or David on 5944 3707

PUBLIC MEETING about Fire Refuges in Upper Beaconsfield, Sunday June 15 2008 1 pm at the Community Complex meeting room. All welcome. For more information contact David Stewart Cardinia Shire Council 1300 787 624

Hard waste collection timetable

From one week before the scheduled collection date for their area, residents can leave up to two cubic metres of hard waste and bundled green waste on their nature strip for collection.

Items which can be left out for collection include scrap metal, furniture, mattresses, small car parts and white goods.

Further information contact Paul Dunlop 5945 4388.

| Regular garbage collection day: | Hard and green waste collection dates: |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Monday | Tuesday 10 to Friday 13 June |
| Tuesday | Monday 2 to Friday 6 June |
| Wednesday | Monday 16 to Friday 20 June |
| Thursday | Monday 23 to Friday 27 June |
| Friday | Monday 26 to Friday 30 May |



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We've moved in!

Principal Nick Karanzoulis

Our Grades Prep–2s have taken ownership of the new school building with much zest and excitement.

Along with the uniquely designed building, some of the features include new furniture to all rooms, a fitted out computer lab, interactive boards, air conditioners to all rooms, internal water bubblers which also enable children to fill their water bottles, internal/external toilets for comfort and security, sky lights to conserve energy as well as two water tanks that will harvest every millilitre of rain water from the roof of the new building to service the toilets, gardens and the vegetable plots.

The new Building Futures promotes a learning philosophy based on flexible learning areas, promoting a greater emphasis on practical learning, working collaboratively in groups as well as individually in classrooms, in front of interactive screens, outside the building and at times, with children who have similar passions and learning strengths. Teachers, guest presenters, integration aides, student peers and parents will be supporting the children's learning with the class teacher maintaining the overall control of the learning process. With the new building will come new improved approaches and practices that will improve student learning. The new basketball court along with a the new asphalted area is encouraging children to be active during the recess and lunch breaks.

Now that the six portable classrooms have been removed, various proposals are being considered for the erection of play equipment that will offer something for everyone, especially to our grade 3-6 children. Our Parents and Friends Association through its many fund raising projects over the past two years has accumulated the necessary funds to supplement the \$22000 that we have received from the Commonwealth Government's "Investing In Our Schools Program" to make a significant investment in equipment that the children will love to use. Members of the Junior School Council have assisted with the final decision on the format of the new play equipment area.

To protect our buildings from vandals, CCTV has been installed to record any inappropriate behaviours at our school 24/7.

Thus far in 2008, our children have experienced many outstanding success including first prize at the Berwick Show Art Exhibition, winners of the District Cross Country Championships, four children competed at the VPSSA State Swim Finals with the medley team finishing 3rd in the Final and our grade 6 student Matthew Charlesworth finishing 4th in the freestyle and then winning the 12 year old State Final in back stroke. Our equestrian team finished 3rd overall at the Victorian Equestrian Centre Championships.

*Below: cross country winners are gridders
Bottom left: parents hard at work at a working bee*



This year we have reintroduced Indonesian as our LOTE language and are working together with Berwick Secondary School's "LOTE-Centre for Language Excellence" to make learning another language a worthwhile experience that could lead to a greater understanding of Indonesia, its language and culture.

We had 67 year five and six students graduate from the Advanced Presentation Skills Youth Leadership Course on the 17th April. At the Graduation Night, all students impressed their teachers and families with a very high standard of Prepared and Off the Cuff Speeches. The Introduction and Evaluation of speakers were also of an extremely high standard.

Our choir has been fortunate enough to be selected as part of the Joining The Chorus Schools' Spectacular which will see them perform at the Vodaphone Arena in early September. Talented parent Jo Clauson has done a great job in training the kids.

(Continued on page 8)



The Upper Beaconsfield Photography Competition

Catch a fantastic moment, an odd spray of light, show someone's indoor or outdoor creations, freeze frame something that's moving fast, capture the right set of dazzling colours or matching soft pastels, reflections, quirky animals or people, unbeatable views or landmarks — we want to see them all.



We aim to get the details of the competition up on the website soon. We will also display some of the entries as they come in.

In the meantime keep your eyes open, your cameras handy and your photographs filed safely and ready to go.

We would also like to feature your photos in the Bell. Let us know if you have a good photograph — particularly if it features some aspect of living in Upper Beac.

(Primary School news continued from page 7)

Further to our recently successful participation in the Ride2School program, we encourage all of our families to be energy conscious and walk, run, ride, cycle or school to school on at least every 3rd Friday of the month. We aim to improve the percentage of children who come to school in an active way and we hope to change the mind set of our parents and students with the belief that an active lifestyle is healthy and enjoyable.

Earlier this year, all staff members successfully completed their Anaphylaxis and Asthma Friendly Schools training and almost all staff now have their level 2 First Aid Certificate. Information nights were also held for parents outlining the facts and action plans in dealing with children's allergic reactions. Having staff who are well trained provides a sense of trust and security in our school community, knowing that when a life threatening situation arises it will be dealt with promptly and with a positive outcome.

Our success in winning a 27000 litre water tank through the Blue Scope "Tank A Day" competition will provide us with the necessary water to maintain the growth of the native flora, our vegetable garden and the water to defend our school buildings against bush fires.

Enrolments for the 2009 Preps have already commenced. Our extensive Kinder – Prep transition has seen our prep teachers visit most of the local kindergartens and talk with the kinder directors about the kids' big move to primary school. We have conducted two Open Days, held a 2009 Prep Information Night and we have completed our 2009 Prep Experience Program. Next term, the kinder kids will experience the PMP / Fundamental Motor Skills Program to be followed by the 2009 Prep orientation Program in Term 4. School tours are conducted every Wednesday at 9.30am. If you would like a tour of our school and find out first hand what our school offers, please contact the school on 5944 3591 to arrange a suitable tour time.

Vale Colin Arthur Marshall

15 March 1915–4 April 2008

Colin Marshall was born in Auckland, New Zealand. When he was 4, his father died and his mother brought the family back to Victoria.

Colin attended school in the Middle Park and Elwood areas. He later worked at McEwans hardware store in Melbourne. Having been in the civilian militia Colin enlisted in the army in 1940, after the outbreak of World War 2. He served for five years, seeing action in the Middle East, Labuan in Borneo, and then a spell with transport on the Darwin - Adelaide Road. He served with the companies 9 Div AASC and 2/16 TPT PL, and marched in the ANZAC Day parade every year until 2006, when he gave up his driving licence.

After the war, Colin was sent to South Australia to manage Roche Bros, (engineers).

The local bus proprietor for Upper Beaconsfield sold his business to Colin, and he developed a school run, a Dandenong Market run, cinema run, and delivered mail and bread. Residents recall regular Square Dances at the Dandenong Drill Hall, transport being safely provided in Colin's bus. He continued this service for thirteen years, 1950 -1963. He is remembered by long term residents for this contribution to the community. Photographs of Colin's Ford Omnibus and Fordson Estate car can be seen in the Beaconsfield Upper Primary School History Booklet.

In January 1959 he married the local school mistress, Sheila Price. They enjoyed forty-nine years of married life, living in Salisbury Road, Upper Beaconsfield, and latterly in Pakenham.

Colin was a skilful whistler. One lady, upon hearing whistling from a parked car, ventured up to it to ask who the whistler was, and then commended him on what has become a rare talent.

Community involvement was significant, with Colin being a member of: the Upper Beaconsfield Association (possibly the first Committee); St John's Church Vestry; the first Charter of Berwick Rotary and Legacy, where he and his wife Sheila were able to assist in providing educational opportunities for several children.

His sporting interests saw him involved as President of the Dandenong Recreation Club, and a member of its Past Presidents' Association. He was also a member of the U.B. Tennis Club, playing on the courts near the Hall. He enjoyed Pennant Bowls, playing with the Berwick Club, an interest which he continued after he and Sheila moved to Pakenham in 2005 - indoor and outdoor. Colin joined Pakenham Probus, enjoying the outings, meetings and company of like-minded souls.

He was of tall and athletic build and had a keen interest in life. Both he and Sheila appreciated the community of Upper Beaconsfield, regarding it as a special place.

Colin died in Casey Hospital, on 4th April 2008, having lived to see his great-grandson. He is survived by his wife Sheila, son David, grandchildren Dean and Melinda, and great-grandson, Harry. His passing is mourned by family, friends, and all who knew him.

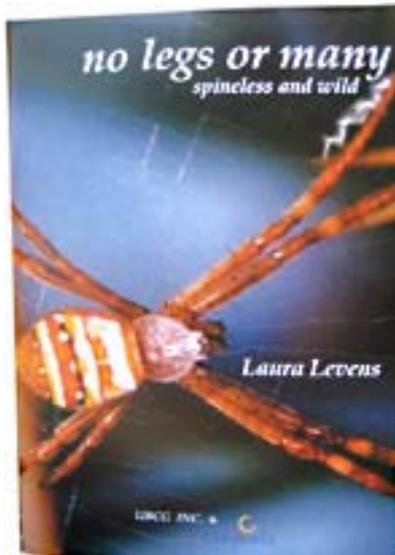
Sheila Marshall and Ruth Hainsworth



Flora and Fauna

Legless in Upper Beaconsfield

Laura Levens, Upper Beaconsfield's own nature lover and conservationist, and log-time correspondent in the Village Bell, has just released her field guide 'No Legs or many' to help people identify local creepy crawlies. Cardinia Shire funded the free copy that Upper Beaconsfield residents recently received in the mail.



Laura tells that her initial interest in wildlife began when she noticed wildflowers and insects along roadsides during her 4km walks to and from primary school. Laura must have liked looking down because the smallest insects and other creatures and plants fascinated her. Later, her children's interest and questions asking 'What's this?' encouraged book buying to find answers.

Laura and husband Bert bought their natural bushland property at Upper

Beaconsfield in 1979 and keenly observed the plants and animals living there.

This interest led her to join the Upper Beaconsfield Conservation group in 1987.

After the 1983 bushfires Laura decided to record rejuvenation of the native plants around their home. While on her hands and knees weeding introduced plants from her property, the task was made more interesting when she discovered small wildlife. She also had an interest in photography and so this led to her making a photographic record for her own interest, never realising it would eventually lead to publishing a book. She proved a dab hand at photographing insects and plants with a macro lens, so the minute details could be seen.

She has also provided a 20-year record of flowering dates of some plants for research into effects of global warming.

Two most recent books came about because she thought other people might like something simple to encourage their interest — the sort of book she would have liked as a raw beginner.

Along the way Laura has been involved in other publications:

Upper Beaconsfield Conservation Group 'Our Bushland Environment'

Dunstan, Simon 'Birds of Cardinia'

Levens, Laura 'Walks around Upper Beaconsfield'

Levens, Laura 'Wildflowers of the Dandenong Ranges'

At the book launch at the Community Complex on 9 April, speakers congratulated Laura on her enthusiasm, and how she loves to share her love of nature. She is a great role model for others.

For her latest book, Laura acknowledges volunteer experts: Dr Don

Village Bell June 2008



Herbison-Evans, Dr Alan Yen, and Ken Harris who is involved at Morwell National Park, and Dr Ron Atkinson, an arachnologist. Help from botanists, both amateur and professional, particularly John Reid, allowed publication of 'Wildflowers'. Laura's daughter Mary did the design work for 'No Legs or many' and some editing. Husband Bert helped with proof-reading.

Weed program makes its mark

Council recently funded a pilot program for weed control on roadsides for the towns of Upper Beaconsfield, Emerald, Cockatoo and Gembrook.. The three weeds targeted were Sweet Pittosporum, Ragwort and Blackberry.

Ranges Ward councillor Ed Chatwin said roadsides and bushland reserves within these four townships had been a special focus since last spring.

"Council, authorities such as Parks Victoria and VicRoads, and local residents have worked collaboratively on reducing the impact of weeds for environmental and agricultural benefits in the Hills district." Cr Chatwin said.

"Council has committed a healthy budget to addressing weed problems alongside hundreds of kilometres of roadsides this year, a project which in the past has not been funded."

VicRoads has also treated more than 200 kilometres of main roads within the Shire, reducing the impact of more than 15 environmental and noxious weeds.

Ranges Ward councillor Graeme Legge said weeds in bushland reserves continued to be targeted under Council's weed control program.

"Blackberry and Ragwort are the priority focus until the end of the growing season in autumn," Cr Legge said.

"The ongoing treatment of Sweet Pittosporum along roadsides will continue through 2008 and Council encourages residents to comment on the removal of trees close to their properties if there

(Continued on page 11)

Wildlife Watch

Laura Levens

In my patch of bush low rainfall slowed every weed except panic grass; sedges and sword grass rolled their leaves into tight cylinders, rock ferns dried into apparently lifeless fronds. In spite of the dry time a sharp midge-orchid, *Genoplesium despectans*, flowered right in the middle of the foot track that I followed down the hill in the first week of March, the earliest I've seen it since 2000 when it flowered a week later. *Lomandra multiflora* or many flowered mat-rush flowered in February, 7 months early.

Then it rained!

Rock fern greened up overnight, cylindrical leaves uncurled, a few new kangaroo grass fronds appeared and panic grass went to seed while my back was turned.

All of April 2007 my weeding team was fully occupied collecting two buckets full an hour. This year I inspected for stray weeds and found one bucketful for the month!!

Spider species were more abundant and varied. Many people commented on the large striped *Argiope keyserlingi*, one of the St Andrews' Cross spiders that sit on a zig-zag cross in the web. I also noticed quite some unusual moths.

During that mighty storm we sat waiting for damage to occur and worrying about all that food in the freezer. The power company kept giving approximate times for power restoration that passed without result. We knew there was a huge blackout but had to keep trying to reach them because the last time we were really patient about no power it turned out that they were ignorant of our

problem. When linesmen arrived that time they found a frizzled possum, which had caused the pole fuse to blow, lying at the foot of the pole. This time, after 32 hours without power, I was very relieved to discover that food in the fully stocked freezer was still frozen.

As a result of the storm I have been collecting invertebrates' to photograph while we cut four large fallen trees into future firewood.



'No legs or many'

Errata or changes to text advised after publication.

Page 6: *Anthecidae* watermark beetle is *Lemodes coccinea*

Page 22: re-name *Laxta granicola* as *Panesthia australis*

Page 34: change *Breda jovialus* to *Breda jovialis*

Page 40: change *Portugese millipede juvenile* to *Pogonosternum sp*, an Australian native millipede.

Another platypus breeding success for Cardinia Creek



Two juvenile female platypus were found in the upper and middle reaches of Cardinia Creek in an all-night survey conducted in March 2008 by the Australian Platypus Conservancy in collaboration with Melbourne Water.

APC biologist, Geoff Williams, said he was very pleased by the result.

"This is the third year in succession that there has been successful breeding in Cardinia Creek. The two youngsters examined in the recent fieldwork were both in good condition," Geoff said.

The platypus population in Cardinia Creek is thought to have disappeared as a result of the Ash Wednesday bushfires.

Commencing in 2004, a number of platypus were translocated to the creek in the hope of re-establishing the population. The fact that these animals appear now to be reproducing routinely each breeding season is a very positive sign that the reintroduction project – the first of its kind in Australia - is well on the way to long-term viability.

Rob Skinner, Managing Director of Melbourne Water, said. "This is a great result for Cardinia Creek and shows that when we all work together to improve and protect our local rivers and creeks we help to create a healthy environment for populations of native

animals such as platypus, fish and frogs."

A young male from the 2006 breeding season was also identified during the recent survey, meaning that at least ten juveniles have been bred in Cardinia Creek since the reintroduction project commenced.

He was encountered on the outskirts of Beaconsfield – the farthest downstream that platypus have yet been recorded – indicating that the new population is starting to colonise along the length of the creek. The great challenge for the community is to improve conditions along Cardinia Creek in the Beaconsfield/Berwick area so that dispersing juveniles from the upper reaches can find suitable habitat.

In addition, platypus remain at risk of injury and death as a result of fishing activities. During the recent survey, two lengths of discarded fishing line – which easily gets entangled around platypus with fatal consequences – was removed from the water by APC biologists. The use of illegal fishing and yabbing equipment also remains high in the area. Several "Opera House" yabby traps, which can easily drown platypus, were recently removed from the creek by wildlife officers. Accordingly, anyone finding a trap or observing illegal fishing/yabbing activities should telephone the 24-hour fisheries hotline 13 3474 (i.e. 13 FISH).

Any sightings of platypus in Cardinia Creek should be reported to the Australian Platypus Conservancy by emailing platypus.apc@westnet.com.au

For more information, visit the APC website at www.platypus.asn.au

Cardinia Catchment Landcare Inc.

Margaret Cromb

Our first activity for the year was a visit to properties planted 3 years ago. We visited two lifestyle properties in Upper Beaconsfield and Harkaway. Both were doing well in spite of the

dry conditions. The third was on public land along Warlsdorf Creek, Harkaway where we are assisting Casey Council revegetate after significant weeding. Weed maintenance is a real problem and will overwhelm plantings if not done. The indigenous plants are establishing well and the next section is being weeded by Yanggai Ecological Services in preparation for further planting this autumn. The effort is well worthwhile as can be seen in the area up stream which we planted up four years ago.



Beaconsfield Park

The other public site we are working on is at Beaconsfield Recreation Park, Beaconsfield. The riparian verge is being weeded and planted with indigenous riparian vegetation. The first stage was completed last year and the second will commence in autumn. Once again we are using Yanggai Ecological Services to do weed maintenance. The plants put in last year are establishing well and beginning to form a barrier along the Cardinia Creek. The Department of Sustainability and Environment is being proactive and supportive and we are hoping by working with Melbourne Water and DSE we can make a real difference to the creek environs.

Platypus

This becomes even more important as the platypus population in Cardinia Creek is establishing really well and the platypi have now worked their way downstream as far as Inglis Rd! It is really encouraging to know that 'our creek' now supports a growing number of platypii as a result of the release a few short years ago by the Platypus Conservancy.

Weeds control program (continued from page 9)

are objections.”

Cardinia Shire Council Weed Management Officer Marianne Sawyer said “Native vegetation often falls victim to the stronger growing weed species, with little or no chance of surviving the competition and in time disappearing completely. Sweet Pittosporum is a classic example of this.

“We need to protect these areas from weed impact and restore them, keeping our towns a haven for native birds and animals.”

Ms Sawyer said Council’s program aimed to educate landowners about their weed responsibilities, help them identify and manage weeds and provide advice on how all residents can contribute to the project – as individuals and as a community – by cleaning up weeds on their properties.

Landowners are reminded that Council’s weed grant scheme is still open for those wishing to apply to have the cost of herbicides reimbursed. Details are available on Council’s website www.cardinia.vic.gov.au

Village Bell June 2008

Indigenous nursery

The Upper Beaconsfield Indigenous Nursery is full of plants waiting for suitable conditions for planting. In spite of increased production we are still short of about 5,000 plants not including a late order for 8,500 plants for Cardinia Creek at Inglis Rd. I would like to acknowledge again the essential contribution of volunteers to this effort.

Community Water Grant

Although the nursery was successful in obtaining a Community Water Grant to install tanks and a pump we are still waiting to see the money! Hopefully we can proceed with the installation very soon.

Planting trailer

This season you will see our new planting trailer in operation thanks to a Small Equipment Grant from the State Government.

Planting Days and venues

This brings me to our Planting Days and venues.

We commence on Sunday, May 4th then on each alternate Sunday until Sunday September 7th. Each planting will involve approximately 500 plants and will commence from 9am. All equipment is provided and lunch supplied by the landowner.

If you are interested in helping or have a property which would benefit from Landcare assistance please make contact. If you just want advice or a property visit this is also offered, without obligation. Contact Margaret Cromb, 9707 2415.

Read this and you could save someone’s life

A neurologist says that if he can get to a stroke victim within 3 hours he can totally reverse the effects of a stroke... totally. He said the trick was getting a stroke recognised, diagnosed, and getting the patient medically cared for within 3 hours. Don’t assume someone has just had a “turn” and they will get better later.

Recognising a stroke

Remember the "3" steps, STR.

Symptoms of a stroke are difficult to identify. Unfortunately, this lack of awareness spells disaster. The victim may suffer severe brain damage when people nearby fail to recognize the symptoms of a stroke.

Doctors say a bystander can recognise a stroke by asking three simple questions:

- S Ask the individual to SMILE.
- T Ask the person to TALK and SPEAK A SIMPLE SENTENCE coherently e.g. “The sun is shining today”
- R Ask them to RAISE BOTH ARMS

If he or she has trouble with ANY ONE of these tasks, call 000 immediately and describe the symptoms.

Further sign of a stroke — stick out your tongue

Ask the person to stick out their tongue. If the tongue is 'crooked' or it goes to one side or the other, this can also be an indication of a stroke.



Beaconhills Golf Club

New membership available

Danie McNeil

Beaconhills Country Golf Club is very pleased to announce a Neighbourhood Membership, which is available to all residents of Upper Beaconsfield. This membership came about as the club was approached by local residents who were keen to support the club, but would not use a full golf membership. For \$167 for a full year, neighbourhood membership includes four midweek passes (valued at \$100), four weekend passes (valued at \$140) and a \$25 bar voucher, plus you will be kept updated via email broadcasts and newsletters of social events and general club news. All the passes and vouchers can be transferred to a friend, family member or colleague.

The Beaconhills Neighbourhood Membership is a great way for Upper Beaconsfield residents to have an affiliation with their local golf club. Other membership opportunities include 6 month golf memberships, which is ideal for those with seasonal commitments (footy / netball / cricket) and also 9 hole golf memberships, which is ideal for those who struggle with the time requirement for 18 holes or are just getting started with this great game! Corporate Golfing Memberships are also available and if any local business is looking to promote their services to our members and golfing guests – tee signage is also available.

Ladies celebrate 60 years

In golfing news around the club, the ladies celebrated their 60th year at Beaconhills on Wednesday April 30, as they formed a year after the club was established. Many past lady members joined us for lunch and reminisced about their golfing adventures at Beaconhills and a great day was had by all!

Pennant teams

The men's and ladies pennant teams competed this season across the Mornington Peninsula and enjoyed playing other club's courses and hosting pennant at Beaconhills. It was a tough year for the four teams with the Ladies Division One team remaining in their section, however the section two ladies team were relegated. The men's division one team avoided relegation after being promoted from Division 2 last year and the Reserve team finished middle of the road. Attention now turns to the annual trips to the Murray for the ladies and men, who head to Cobram and Yarrowonga respectively.

Social calendar

The club's social calendar continues to provide excellent value evenings and occasions. Recently we have welcomed the Neil Diamond Tribute Show which had the club rocking and Mothers Day was a sell-out yet again. Coming up we have our end of month Bistro Meal and entertainment on Friday May 30 and the Seafood Night will make a return on Saturday June 28th and as it is always a popular night, bookings are now being taken.

An offsite activity is taking place on Sunday June 15 – a winery tour of the Yarra Valley. Tickets are \$200 per double or \$120 per person and this includes breakfast, bus transportation, 3 to 4 wineries (depending on time) scrumptious lunch by our 'mic-ed up' chef to explain how to get the most from your cooking, plus cheese at our last winery. Tickets are limited and half the bus is full – this event, like the majority of our social occasions, is open to everyone to attend and enjoy. For further information, please contact Danie on 5945 9210.

Beaconhills is a great club, not just a golf course and we welcome and encourage members, guests and the community to enjoy your local facility through playing golf, attending an organized social event or hosting your own special event here. Enquiries about the club are welcome at any time. We hope to see you up at Beaconhills soon!



A 1920s photograph of the view looking out over the clubhouse roof from the golf club water tower.



Community Centre

Lots on offer at the Centre

Term 2 includes 12 weeks of classes here at the Community Centre so there are a variety of new classes on offer throughout the term as well as the favourite ongoing classes locals have come to know and love. We recently had students enjoying sessions on understanding your mobile phones, Creating Cancer comfort cushions and the fabulous Charles Wilson speaking on the History of Upper Beaconsfield. Come and join the fun!

Thank you for your support of the new things we have tried this Term. If you have any great ideas for anything you would like to see offered at the Centre, let us know. Don't forget the Community Centre runs Nationally Recognized Training Courses to help you further your Career paths. Term 3 will see the latest First Aid qualification and a new intake for the Aged Care Course. We are offering a TAA bridging Course to update your Training Qualifications.

New children's classes

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------|--------|----------------------------------|
| Karate for 6-9 year olds | Wednesdays | 4pm | Small group with lots of 1 on 1. |
| Karate for 10- 15 year olds | Wednesdays | 4.30pm | Small group with lots of 1 on 1. |
| Weird Science | Mondays | 4pm. | for budding scientists |
| Hip Hop and Jazz | Tuesdays | 5.30pm | Learn the latest moves & grooves |
| Teen Beauty | Wednesday | 4-6pm | On 14 th May |
| Build a Pioneer house | Thursday | 4-5pm | Starts 22 nd May |

Adult Classes

| | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------|-----------|--|
| Genealogy support group | Thursday | 12.30-3pm | 8 th May, 22 nd May, 5 th June, 19 th June |
| Sustainable Building | Wednesday | 7.30-10pm | 11 th June |
| Share Market Investment Club | Tuesday | 7-9.30pm | 13 th May |
| Parenting for 0-6 years | Thursdays | 1-3pm | During May |

Computer Classes

| | | | |
|----------------------|-----------|--------------|------------------------------|
| Computer for Seniors | Wednesday | 9.30-12 noon | Starts 4 th June |
| Email & Internet | Wednesday | 12.30-3pm | Starts 4 th June |
| Website Design | Tuesday | 9.30-12 noon | Starts 10 th June |
| Digital Photos | Friday | 12.30-3pm | Starts 30 th May |
| My Computer | Friday | 9.30-12pm | Starts 30 th May |

Our Crèche has been very busy lately. With autumn in full swing, the children have been on the art and craft tables producing beautiful pictures with autumn leaves falling from the tree. Also, some 'top secret' presents have been created by the children for that special someone for Mother Day - they have been working very hard to make their gift just right.

A new camera purchased and a refreshing top up in the sandpit will mean hours of good fun captured this winter for all to enjoy. Feel free to come and visit us anytime.

Places for the Under 3 room and the Over 3 room still available for Term 2. Please call 5944 3241 or email creche@ubcc.org.au to reserve your spot. We are open from 8:45 to 4:00, Monday to Friday if you would like to drop by to have a look. Our caring and friendly staff will be more than happy to show you around and supply you with information.

The Bell says thank you!

Thank you very much to the supporters below for paying Village Bell subs this year.

The Village Bell also invites anyone who would like to come and join the Bell group. You can contribute by writing or editing articles, joining the printing team or by taking on an admin role. Contact Helen Smith 5944 3219 or smith@netlink.net.au. You can also assist by coming along to help collate the Bell, phone Noel Ling on 5944 3372 or email lingn@bigpond.com.

We do appreciate any assistance.

Adamson J & S; Anzin, M & V; Bennett; Benson, Ann & Ray; Benson/Edis Family; Bliss, S & W; Born P & J; Brace, Clive; Brandie, N & L; Brens, G & Ziero, R; Bristol Family; Bumpstead, E & J; Burrige, G & L; Carmody J & J; Cathie, J; Chester, C; Clarnette, A & C; Cleary, M; Conn, G; Cooper, J & M; Cullinan Family; Dale, A; Davenport, S; Day W; Day, A & H; Dayson, P & J; De Vries, J; Duce, T & K Miles; Dunstan, I & J; Edison, R; Eyssews, A & S; Fenby, D & J; Fenton, Family; Fidone, R & F; Foodworks, Upper Beac; Gates, B; Gilberthorpe, N & M; Giles, R & V; Grigg Family; Harman, H; Harrington, M; Hathaway, S; Haussegger Family; Hawke, R; Haywood, R; Hinds, D & H; Hoey; Hoffman, D & C; Hoyd, J & C; Jackson, G & B; Jephcott Family; Jolly G & G; Jones, Mrs A.; Keon Cohan C & S; Kilmartin, T&D; Knight, T; Laird Family; Leitl, O & J; Levens, L; Ling, N & N; MacGowan G & E; Maling, C; Marinelli, S & L; Mc Cormick, A; McCann Family; Medwin, Barry & Joan; Melville, C; Middleton & Carter ; Miles, Carol; Miller, G & J; Moir, G; Morgans, L & R; Morris, A ; Murphy R & P; O'Brien, M & D; O'Donovan Family; O'Gallogher, F & C; Oliver, S & M; Paisley, J & H; Pastras Family; Pikel, A; Pickford, R & H; Podmore, R & V; Poiz, T & R; Pritchard, L & J; Quigley, P; Randall, S; Rann Clan; Rickets Family; Ridgeway, N; Robert, N & S; Roche, C & M; Rogers, Marie; Rose, P; Ruigrok, G & G ; Sampson, Helen; Sankey, L; Sankey, S & A; Sinclair, R & B; Smith, H; Smith, W & ; Stephens Family; Summers, D & W; Taylor, E & B; Thomas Family; Thompson, Peter & Fiona; Ulph, J & F; Upper Beac. Community Centre; Van Vliet, R & L; Vanderwerf, A; Vaughan, G & J; Vaughan, J & G; Walsh, S; Wastell, F; Weidemann, G; Wellwood, A & D; White, D & Family; Whiteley Family; Wiedermann, R; Williams, L & K; Williams, Russell & Fay; Willis, L & Spooner, K; Wilson N & K; Wilson, C; Woskoboenko, M;

Great turnout for the Tennis Club working bee

Callen O'Brien

The end of last month brought with it a working bee at the Tennis Club. Usually this is a day that a regular few committee members (and usually one or two committed members!) help to do a few things around the Club that get neglected a little too easily throughout the year.

This year we had a beautiful Sunday morning and afternoon of sunshine and a great turnout of members. Thank you to all members who came along to lend a hand. It's only with your help that we can maintain our Club house and grounds at such a high quality. If you couldn't make it last month, please make sure you try to make it along to our next one. We generally have about two Working Bees every year and all you need is a shovel and some tools (if you have them) and to be ready to get a little dirty to help out your Club!

Congratulations to all of the competitors in the Summer Season. By all accounts it was a very successful season for Upper Beaconsfield. Well done to all premiers and those teams that competed in the finals.

The 2008 Winter season is now well underway and we wish all the very best to competing teams. If you would like to register as an emergency for a team (covering many levels and age groups), please ask a committee member.

We are also about to start a new financial year at the Club, so if you would like to get in early with a full-year membership now is the time to do it. We have fantastic facilities and some of the best courts going around. We want as many members as we can to make use of our local Club. If you would like a membership form or have any membership enquiries, please contact me (Callen) on 5944 3430.

Our resident coach, Paul Osborne, recently ran a midweek coaching session for local mothers. This program proved to be very successful, so if you are interested in starting some lessons at any level, age or time, please give Paul a call on 0413 594 633.

Have you ever been to the UBTC Annual General Meeting (AGM)? If not, put the 8th August in your calendar now. The AGM is an informal meeting in which the UBTC committee presents details of the previous financial year to all members that attend. The committee discusses new additions to facilities, the financial performance and any issues that affect our Club.

The AGM gives all members the opportunity to address the committee in an open forum and is very important to the future of the Club. Every committee position is open for re-election, so if you are a member that would like to help shape the future for the UBTC then I urge you to come along on the 8th August (Tuesday) from 7:30pm.

Pony Club has a flying start to the year.....

Marg Jones

What a busy couple of months the pony club has had. Since our last article we have held a very successful AGM, held regular Games Training resulting in a team of riders participating in the Zone Games Qualifying Day, held two riding rallies and much more that I can't wait to tell you about.

At our February rally, which was held on a particularly hot day, we welcomed 13 new members to our club. Their day started with a very detailed induction program which gave them an insight into Pony Club Life.

Our Annual General Meeting was held at the Pine Grove on Friday 28 March 2008. We had an excellent turn out of current members with their families and it was also wonderful to see a lot of our life members with their families and ex members coming to support our club. During the night a very special presentation of Life Membership was made to Julie Timms. The presentation was made by Brad Trewin, himself a life member. Over the years, Julie has been a tireless volunteer for our pony club movement, holding several different committee positions and has always been there to assist our members. Congratulations to Julie on a worthy award to honour your work.

Our new committee was also elected on the night with the following members named as our main executive positions for 2008/2009 as:-

President – Julie Mahoney
Vice President – Allannah Dore
District Commissioner – Narelle Bentley
Treasurer – Kerry McKenzie
Secretary – Fiona Thompson



We also have another 13 parents that form part of our hard working committee.

Over the months of March and April a dedicated group of parents and riders got together every week for games training. This was concluded by the following team being selected to compete on 27 April at Warrigal for the Zone Games Qualifying Day. Team members were:-

Charlotte Oldenburger, Tori Ling, Clarissa Bentley- Bell, Natalie Sinclair, Maeve Thompson, Isabella MacKenzie and Lily Thompson.

Our team came 5th overall and are the reserve for the State Championship to be held in June.

During the month of April a very productive working bee was held in partnership with the Adult Riding Club to see many tasks completed that were on our list. Many thanks to all the families involved for giving up their time to help make our club a better place for our members.

Also during the months of February, March and April steady progress has been made with updating our Cross Country Course. Many thanks to the families involved in this project that are giving up part of their weekend for the club.

Well as you can see a busy couple of months we have certainly had. We are now preparing for our Combined Training Day that will be held in June – more about that in the next Village Bell.

Until then take care and happy riding. Also remember if you are wanting more information on this dynamic youth movement; please don't hesitate to contact us at the Upper Beaconsfield Pony Club.

Getting kids out of cotton wool

Janet Granger-Wilcox



I've been in a few sticky experiences in Scouting. One involved a (slightly embarrassing) overnight stay in a South Gippsland state forest without meaning to. Another was, as part of a team, getting someone out of a deep wilderness area with a leg injury.

In both cases, our Scout training pointed us in the right direction. We had prepared for emergencies, we had leadership skills, and we knew what to do. We were able to meet the challenge.

Recently Channel 9 broadcast an item in their Sunday program regarding the tendency for many parents to "wrap their children in cotton wool", overly protecting them. This can impact on the child's ability to meet life's challenges.

If you have no experience in challenging situations when you are growing up, how on earth are you supposed to deal with them as an adult?

In Scouting there is NO cotton wool. Instead, there is common sense, and duty of care. A good Scout program, from Cubs all the way through to Rovers, presents kids and young people with challenges and opportunities to grow.

Baden Powell's well-known motto of "Be Prepared" might be old-fashioned, but it's just as relevant today as it was when he

started Scouts over 100 years ago. We prepare young people for life.

The Upper Beaconsfield Scout Group has recently had an influx of new leaders and youth members. Maybe this year – the Year of the Scout and the centenary of Scouting in Australia – is the year to join!



Scouts

Our section for young people aged between 10.5 and 14.5 years is called Scouts.

When you become a Scout you're accepting a challenge to plunge into action.

You could find yourself exploring a mountain wilderness, sailing the waters of Lysterfield Lake, helping in emergency rescues, sending coded messages, searching for gold, canoeing down a swift river, camping out bush or even recording your own songs.

Scouting gives you the opportunity to participate in a wide variety of exciting activities. It also gives you the greatest opportunity of all — the opportunity to develop real friendships by sharing the experiences of learning, growing and exploring the world with others.

There's a lot more Scouts do too. Why not come along and find out?

The Upper Beaconsfield Scouts meet on Tuesday nights and new Scouts are always welcome. To have a chat about joining, you can phone our Group Leader, Paul Deady, on 5944 4248.

In the next few editions, we'll tell you what Venturers (14.5-18 years) and Rovers (18-26 years) get up to!

Achievements

Congratulations to Max Hudson who recently became the first Cub in Upper Beaconsfield to be awarded the Grey Wolf award — the highest achievement possible. Well done Max!

Congratulations also to well-known Upper Beaconsfield Scouting and community identity, Bob Taylor, who has been appointed as the next Chief Commissioner of Scouts Australia, Victorian Branch, to take effect from the 1st July. Scouts Victoria has 16000 youth members and 4000 adult leaders.



Barbara Jackson 5944 3554

The response of residents to the annual Red Cross Calling door knock has once again been magnificent. \$5,953-70 was collected by 40 volunteer callers in the area of Upper Beaconsfield, Dewhurst, Guys Hill and a small section of Beaconsfield north of the highway.

In addition patrons of the Pine Grove Hotel contributed \$30-90 by placing their odd change into the Red Cross container on the bar during the year.

This year a record of 13 first time callers assisted and my thanks go to Gary Boynes, Jane Darlington, Hilary Day, Vivian Fisher, Ian Francombe, Joyce Hammond, Ali Hudson, Tony Knight, Jennifer McCormick, Anita Rowe, Kevin Seaman, Ady Walton and Sue Weidermann. The first time is always the hardest and I hope most will be willing to take part again in 2009.

Where possible I try to have volunteers collecting in the same area each year. Over a period of time both volunteers and residents get to know each other. Several of us have been calling in the same area for over 20 years watching children grow, mothers turning into grandmothers, houses having additions, pets coming and going and gardens surviving despite the lack of rain.

Red Cross Calling certainly has a different feel to door knocking in the anonymous suburbs. What a wonderful diversity of residents we have here in Upper Beaconsfield!

On behalf of Red Cross Victoria, thank you for your support and generosity again this year.

Water Smart rebates reminder

Most people are aware that rebates are available for the installation of rainwater tanks, but may not be aware that you can also get a rebate for purchase of items such as mulch (includes pebbles or other inorganic materials which are used as mulch), flow control valves, wetting/moisture agent, compost or mulch bin, soil moisture & rain sensors, garden tap timers, drip watering system or weep hoses, trigger nozzles, temporary grey water diverters, rainwater diverters, waterless car cleaning products, shower timers and toilet flush interrupter devices. You can even claim for Worm Farms.

The amount of rebate is only \$30 for \$100 spent on goods. Whilst not a fortune, its still equivalent of a 30% percent discount.

Each household can claim once a calendar year, and the eligibility is simply that you are connected to a Mains Water supply.

See internet site http://www.ourwater.vic.gov.au/ourwater/water_smart_rebates for a list of all the rebates, claiming conditions, and application forms

Cardinia Ratepayers & Residents Association (CRRRA)

P.O. Box 161 Officer. 3809

crravic@yahoo.com.au

5942 7739 or 0419 135712

www.yahoo.org.au

Providing a forum for residents' concerns, working for ratepayer equity and local democracy.

Lots of new toys available for the winter months

Marie Rogers



Keep the children busy and entertained during these cold, wet winter months ahead with a variety of new toys from your local Toy Library.

Located at the Community Centre. Open Thursday and Saturday 9.30am to 10.30am during school term.

Membership is still

only \$20 per year, payable at the Community Centre office.

Whats on at toy library!

Colgate toothbrushes only \$1 each includes a sample paste & fun game sheet

Lunchbox100 books now available! This durable book has no recipes just colourful pictures of great ideas for children's lunchboxes. Makes a lovely gift. Also available at the centre office. Only \$14.95

Winter Warmer Raffle tickets available soon, lots of goodies to warm you up this winter.

Shopping tour — don't miss the bus!

Saturday 13th September

Reserve your place now to avoid disappointment.

Visiting over 10 factory outlets

Departing Upper Beaconsfield

Community Centre 7.30am &

Berwick Masonic Hall 7.45am

\$40 p/p, includes home baked

morning tea, 2 course hot lunch, champagne throughout your meal & lots of fun.



Bookings can be made at the Community Centre or credit card payments by calling 5944 3484

Enjoy a fantastic girls' day out, visiting many popular outlets: Ladies & family clothing, sportswear, lingerie, sleepwear, Manchester, home & kitchenware, shoes, books, toys gifts, confectionery & much more.