

# UPPER BEACONSFIELD VILLAGE BELL

Issue No. 180 June 2010

Online at [www.upperbeaconsfield.org.au](http://www.upperbeaconsfield.org.au)

Upper Beaconsfield Association

## Upper Beac's first Open Mic night!

*Kate Porz*

On the last Friday of April the community centre held the first Open Mic Night. It was a great start to what we hope will become a popular monthly event.

The audience was entertained by a few local performers who wowed us with their talents and confidence.

Daniel Cooper, from Beaconhills, performed a moving song on guitar of his own composition called "Winter". Peter Bridson and family made a lasting impression with some traditional Irish songs and were joined by Sorcha Johnson for a few pieces.

Another highlight was Olivia Reuall whose courage to get up on stage and perform not only the well known song "Not pretty enough" by Kasey Chambers, but treat us to some of her own compositions.

Finally, the Upper Beaconsfield choir, after some encouragement, sang "What a wonderful world" much to the delight of the audience!

The event was a great night out and the organizers and performers are already keen for the next instalment, to be held on Friday 28 May.

The best part about these open mic nights is that it is an opportunity for any

performer to test their performance skills in an environment that is always supportive and encouraging. Therefore it is a great opportunity for VCE students to practice their end of year performances, garage bands awaiting a gig or your aspiring pianist father!

All are welcome! Registration commences at 7.30 pm with 8 pm sharp starting time. Entry fees for performers are \$3 per person and audience is \$5 each or \$10 per family.

All proceeds from the Open Mic Nights go towards a new piano for the whole community to enjoy! Please help us increase awareness and success of this event by spreading the word.



If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact Sarah at the community centre on 5944 3484 or Tess Porz on 0427 394 598.

*Peter Bridson and family, along with Sorcha Johnson giving our audience a memorable performance*

### Whats on:

28 May  
2 June  
7-11 June and 14-18 June  
6 August  
7 August

2<sup>nd</sup> Open Mic Night  
UBA General Meeting  
Council cleanup  
Film Night "Bran Nue Dae"  
Tribute Show "The Eagles" at the Golf Club

see above  
page 7  
page 14  
page 3  
page 20

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## Rainfall at Barkala, Beaconsfield–Emerald Road

George Moir

Month	42 yr average	2009	2010
Jan	63.3	10.0	43.9
Feb	54.1	7.1	25.1
Mar	63.6	59.3	95.8
Apr	76.9	60.1	79.2
May	85.5	28.1	
Jun	78.6	47.4	
Jul	79.5	82.5	
Aug	86.4	80.2	
Sep	90.9	133.6	
Oct	93.8	120.8	
Nov	84.9	117.2	
Dec	79.7	80.3	
<b>Total</b>	<b>937.2 mm</b>	<b>826.6 mm</b>	

### Highlights:

- The last 3 months (February–April) returned to above average rainfall (102.8%).
- The summer rainfall (December–April) was below average (75.7%).
- Year to date (April) was 94.6% of the 42 year average (a deficit of 13.9 mm).

## We thank our 2010 subscribers

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# Red Cross

Barbara Jackson, Upper Beaconsfield Area Co-ordinator. 5944 3554



The March Red Cross Calling door knock in the Upper Beaconsfield area raised \$5 481.90 this year. Upper Beaconsfield residents are great supporters of this appeal and the result is even more impressive as some streets were not fully covered, due to an insufficient number of volunteer callers. Electronic gates and large dogs make the work just a bit harder to get willing volunteers.

Thank you to all residents who gave so generously and special thanks to the thirty-three volunteer callers who gave their time and made this wonderful collection possible: Rosemary Bryen, Joyce Bumpstead, Leonie Collins, Carolyn Conelly, Jenny Coughlin, Leone Coolahan, Vyvian Fisher, Ian Frankcombe, Barry Gates, Jo Keon-Cohen, Daryl Hopkins, Ali Hudson, Kate Hutson, Barbara Jackson, Tony Knight, Natalie La Roche, Marg Livermore, Norma McCausland, Matt McDonald, Bernadette McGougan, George Moir,

Marlene Norbury, Sue Ogilvie, John Patterson, Kim Pitcher, Tess Porz, Bev Sinclair, Wendy Smith, Ann Taylor, Wendy Thomson, Denise Toon, Jennie Vaughan and Gerald Williams.

Thank you also to the Management of the Pine Grove Hotel for allowing Red Cross to place a collection tin in the bar. Over the year \$196.20 was donated by the patrons and thanks to all who contributed their silver and gold coins, plus two notes!

The Berwick/Upper Beaconsfield Red Cross Unit's AGM will be held on Friday 9 July at 10 am in the Berwick RSL Hall, Langmore Lane. A speaker from Advanced Lifestyle International will give an address entitled "Start Living Again". All interested in the work of Red Cross or getting the body and mind moving positively again, are most welcome to attend.

## Up in smoke

Cameron Roche

The same anti-smoke principles apply to wood stoves as to burning off. Smoke is a burnable substance if you allow the right conditions to be there. When you light your stove, or add more wood, the secret is to

open the air intake dampers and let the fire roar for a while. When a strong core of heat develops, turn down the settings to normal. The smoke from sap, bark, or dampness will be burned in this environment and all you will see outside at the top of your flu are a few heat ripples. As all materials you throw in are now burnt your house will be warmer to boot.

# About Town

Helen Smith, Noel Ling



## Watch out for koalas

A few months ago residents in the vicinity of the primary school observed a koala in the area over a few days. This photo taken by Janet Cathie shows the koala on the ground near the school.

Jenny Mattingley, a former resident of Upper Beaconsfield



now lives at Maryknoll and operates the Maryknoll Wildlife Shelter with her husband Reg. Jenny says that around 300 koalas were relocated from French Island by Parks Victoria to the Bunyip State Forest in October 2009. Since then people have reported sighting koalas in Gembrook, Tynong North, Maryknoll and now Upper Beaconsfield.

Jenny says that two koalas had to be euthanised in the Maryknoll area due to poor health. She does not know how many of the relocated koalas have survived. Not enough is known about how relocated koalas cope when being shifted from a coastal environment on French Island to taller forested areas as found in the Bunyip State Forest and beyond.

Jenny warns local residents to keep an eye open for these koalas and be alert of their possible presence in the area. Dogs barking at night may indicate a koala is in your area. Male koalas make “scary” growling noises at night. Normally during the day they will be sleeping for much of the time up in gum trees, and you might not know they are there. But if you see a koala on the ground it may be sick or starving. A koala is a wild animal and if healthy will not allow you to touch them. Family dogs can also attack wildlife on the ground. Do not touch koalas, and do not allow your children or dogs near koalas.

We do not know if the koala sighted near Lenne Road has survived, or if it has moved on. But if it was on the ground, it is not a good sign that it was in good health.

If you see a koala and have concerns about its wellbeing, please contact Parks Victoria Gembrook 5967 8002 or Maryknoll Wildlife Shelter 5942 8518.

## Battery collection

In the last Village Bell Paul Whitfield advertised a collection day for dropping off old batteries. The battery collection went well and people said it was a great community service, and they enjoyed raising funds for the Village Bell.

Forty three batteries were collected in total, which was a good result. Another collection may be organised at a later time in the year.

## Fire siren survey request

The Dandenong Ranges Community Bushfire Group is conducting a short survey on whether you support the use of CFA sirens for emergency bushfire alerts.

You can find the survey at [www.drcbg.org.au](http://www.drcbg.org.au) and it is easy to submit your answers online.

## Combined Probus Club of Berwick

The club provides a wide range of activities for retired and semi retired people to enjoy. These include a music group, golf once a month, bridge, scrabble, theatre and movie outings, walking group etc. It has interesting and informative speakers at the monthly meetings.

Any residents of Upper Beaconsfield and district, who are interested in the club, please ring Ray Allsop on 9769 9484 for more information.

## Upper Beaconsfield Recreation Reserve

The Management Committee has a vacancy for a community nominated member. We seek expressions of interest from Upper Beaconsfield residents who have skills and an interest in contributing to the development of the Reserve to cater for the activities of the Primary school, Scouts, Riding, Pony, Football and Cricket clubs as well as passive recreation pursuits.

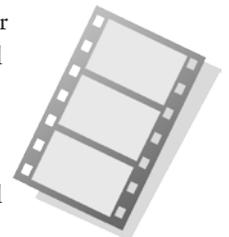
Please contact President Bob Taylor on [bobtaylor@iinet.net.au](mailto:bobtaylor@iinet.net.au) or 5944 3645 to express interest or to recommend someone else to us!

## Congratulations

Born to Ivan and Dianne Golemac on 23 April 2010 a daughter Millie – a beautiful sister for Austin.

## Movie night at the Community Centre

Coordinator Sarah Johnson from the Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre organised a movie night in the Community Hall in May. It was an enjoyable and friendly occasion, and everyone tucked into the popcorn made by Lyn Fisher. Lyn's husband Ron organised the speaker setup in the hall and everyone settled down for the evening to enjoy Mao's Last Dancer. Another movie night is planned to celebrate International Friendship Day on Friday, 6 August, showing the Australian film *Bran Nue Dae*. Make sure to mark it in your calendar. 7–9.30 pm. Gold coin donation.



# About Town

Graham Jolly



## Community development

The outline of the Upper Beaconsfield township strategy continues below with the third part of the plan. The full report can be obtained from Cardinia Shire.

Township means the core boundary of the Upper Beaconsfield township.

## Key issues identified

- Community involvement (volunteers) in activities and events
- Limited health facilities: no general practitioner, dentist, physio, youth or mental health services available in the town
- Lack of public of transport services to access community services and facilities
- Ageing in place and opportunities for older people's accommodation
- Need for a safe and accessible footpath network linking community facilities to residential estates
- Need for youth initiatives
- Existing space for community services and facilities

## Objectives

- Support and foster a partnership approach towards achieving a strong, healthy and integrated community
- Provide appropriate, accessible and quality facilities and services
- Ensure efficient management of existing community services and facilities
- Improve youth accessibility to services
- Develop mechanisms for government and other organisations to partner with the Upper Beaconsfield community

## Policy

- Establish community facilities in the most accessible location having regard to their service catchments
- Inform and liaise with the Upper Beaconsfield Association on important planning applications and community projects

## Actions needed

- Provide assistance to the Upper Beaconsfield Association in maintaining and enhancing community and recreational facilities and social services
- Continue support for the

community newsletter 'Village Bell'

- Assist volunteer committees and working groups in undertaking a broad range of initiatives
- Facilitate coordinated programs for young people and ensure they have access to programs conducted by Council and other service providers
- Provide a youth bus outreaching to young people in rural townships, particularly Upper Beaconsfield
- Liaise with community transport service providers and the Department of Transport to promote the patronage of current services and link them to existing and future bus services to ensure residents better access to goods, services and community services
- Support the establishment of a general practitioner service within the Upper Beaconsfield township
- Lobby for state and federal assistance to improve health services (outreach services, support groups, welfare and counselling) in the Upper Beaconsfield township
- Liaise with Victoria Police in regard to community safety and crime issues and facilitate a partnership approach between the community, Council and the police
- Investigate the feasibility of expanding the Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre in consultation with the Community Centre's committee of management and the Department of Sustainability and Environment
- Investigate opportunities for the provision of older people's accommodation or retirement village in the Upper Beaconsfield township
- Support the evaluation and implementation of Council's 'Living Well for Life' policy associated with senior citizen needs

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# Vale – Barry Smith 1947 - 2010

Matt McDonald and Bob Taylor

## Barry Smith – Loved and greatly missed

Barry's death on 19 February was a great loss to his family, the community of Upper Beaconsfield, his friends and those who worked with him. He died suddenly at work at Loveridges Mitre 10 in Berwick, at the age of 62.

Barry is survived by Helen, his wife of forty years, their three children and two grandchildren. Barry and Helen have lived in Stoney Creek Road since 1974. Both have been deeply involved in the Upper Beaconsfield community and have contributed enormously to the community in many ways. Barry was one of those rare individuals you could describe as the backbone of community life, always there when needed, committed, reliable, practical and generous.

Barry was born in Pakenham, the second son to parents Bonnie and Ron. He grew up 'a good son' with his brother and two sisters on the family orchard in Upper Pakenham. The Taylor family also had an orchard nearby and in December 1969 Barry was to marry Helen Taylor. They raised three children, Greg, Darrell and Kerry.

For thirty-five years Barry worked at Arkana Hardware, an icon of Dandenong business. His knowledge of hardware and his passion for solving practical problems made him a legend in the field. His service was always focused and caring. He was known to not only supply the appropriate hardware but would add copious advice and even 'drop in on the way home' to see that the hardware did the job. A young lad who came in to buy parts to build a billy-cart, received not only the parts but Barry's help – they built the cart together. Another customer, a one-armed old-timer who suffered from ill-health came in to the store regularly, and always asked for Barry's personal service. When Barry moved to Loveridges in Berwick the 'one-armed bandit' as Barry named him, tracked him down and would often be on the phone at 7.30 am seeking advice and help.

The Pakenham-Berwick Gazette of 24 February reported tributes of Barry's work colleagues, including "He was a walking encyclopaedia – what he didn't know about hardware wasn't worth knowing" and "Customers would bring in busted lawnmowers and whipper-snippers, which Barry would take home and fix overnight."

Barry Smith was a valued and generous member of the Upper Beaconsfield community, serving with many groups. He was invited to join the Scout Group Committee in 1987 when his children were in the group and was elected secretary that year. He later became President and held that position until 2006 when he stepped down but remained on the Committee. In 1988 he volunteered to represent the group on the Toomuc Scout District Executive and served there until 2005. He was elected its secretary from 1988 to 1990 and received a Long Service Award from scouting in 2007.

In 1997 he joined the Upper Beaconsfield Recreation Reserve Committee as the Scout Group member and became its secretary that year. In 2006 he became a Community elected member of the Rec Reserve Committee.

He was awarded the Scout Outstanding Service Decoration in 2001 and the Scout Distinguished Service Decoration in 2009 for his lay support of the Upper Beaconsfield Group and Toomuc and Cardinia Scout Districts. Barry saw the Upper Beaconsfield group through some difficult times and there's no doubt the group would not have survived but for Barry's hard work, attention to detail and determination keep the group going for the kids of Upper Beaconsfield. Many families can thank him for this, ensuring that their children took part in the Scouts even if they couldn't pay the fees.



The new Venturer/Rover den attached to the igloo, formally opened last August, was named the BARRY SMITH DEN in recognition of all the work he did to keep the old Green Shed den in operation for fifteen years and for contribution of materials to build the new one.

Meticulous minute-taking, correspondence keeping and agenda building was reflected in his election as secretary of all the organisations he joined.

Barry was also a Dandenong Rotary Club member for many years.

The Upper Beaconsfield Citizen of the Year Award was granted to Barry and Helen conjointly in 1994. He also received the Pakenham Shire Citizen of the Year in 1990. Barry and Helen between them have been involved in many areas of the local community. They were a formidable team – ever reliable and always there to organise and lend a hand. Barry was never happier than with his sleeves rolled up, tackling some problem or manual work. He organised the wood raffles for the Scouts, getting teams together to collect, cut and split the wood, then delivering it to the winners. He ran chainsaw sharpening workshops at the Village Fair. He loved to organise a group of Scouts, Rovers, Venturers and parents to take all the Scout equipment out of the store room, reorganise it and put it back neatly!

Barry was a great handyman who could build in wood and metal and was a plumber, gas fitter, electrician and locksmith all in one, and applied these skills at the reserve, the hall and the community centre.

The memorial service held for Barry was attended by more than 350 people. Helen and the children brought forward symbols of Barry to recall his wonderful life. They included his many awards from Scouts, Rotary and local communities; a picture of his chainsaw (On family trips he would spot firewood and comment "I should have brought the chainsaw!"); Motor Bike Atlas 100 Top Rides. He loved his Triumph and enjoyed a trip around Victoria with Helen, his brother and sister-in-law on his and Helen's 40<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary; a Ruby wedding anniversary card. "We never had any big arguments." Helen said, "Barry was a very even tempered and gentle man. The card was sent by his parents who never forgot anniversaries, though we often did as it was so close to Christmas."

Barry Smith touched the lives of many people in very positive ways. He was one of nature's gentlemen, and a huge loss to this community.

# Vale – William Bliss 1937 - 2010

*Sandie Bliss and Cameron Roche*

William, yes he preferred William compared to Bill, the shorter name many of us used in greeting him, died on 13 April 2010 after a short illness.

William was born in New Guinea on 18 February 1937 to Geoffrey and Olga during very dynamic times. On 29 May, a volcano erupted at Kokapo near Rabaul, an explosive, fiery event.

With the approach of the Japanese in World War II, William's family was evacuated from New Guinea in 1940, although his father returned soon after as a soldier possessing handy local knowledge.

William and his mother lived in Melbourne with grandmother. He attended Malvern Grammar Junior School, and did his senior schooling at Caulfield Grammar where he was a boarder.

At a time when other kids turned to fireworks, William used his science studies to make 'Pineapples' – small iodine based fiery concoctions. They made loud bangs in the master's toilet or were ideal for disturbing the lids of closed rubbish bins, mimicking those PNG volcanoes. His apple home brew beverage, made in the ceiling above the hobby room and poured into recycled beer bottles, impressed both schoolmates and masters alike.

Additional to the above chemistry lessons put into practice, William and his school friends tested the laws of velocity by pointing a .22 rifle (the gun's source unknown) into a toilet bowl's water and pulling the trigger and expecting there to be no damage to the porcelain. However, a student stood on the bowl, pulled the trigger and missed the water causing all beneath to crumble and discharge. It wasn't William.

William advanced to the University of Melbourne, studying agricultural science, living in at Ridley College. He was a good chemist, making sure that on Saturday night a small portion of pure wine was always retained no matter what, so that it could be watered down for use at communion the next morning.

Upon completing his studies he worked for Shell Chemicals for eleven years in Tasmania, South Australia, head office in Melbourne and four years in PNG and Fiji.

William met his future wife Sandie, through her aunt Betty, who was a long time family friend of William's parents. When Sandie first brought William home to the farm, 'Deepdene' in Yea, he was dobbed in to dip some sheep. Rather than totally running himself ragged to force them in, he stood at the rear of the pen and taking on a tram conductor persona he ordered, 'move along the car please ladies, don't crowd the doorways, move along.'

Sandie and William were married on 22 April 1965 and Shell offered them a 'four year honeymoon' in Fiji, where their sons Geoffrey and Allistair were born. When they returned to Australia William worked for Abel Lemon and Brooke Barmer, before they started up their own business, Poolkare. Their daughter Sarah was born the year before they moved to Upper Beaconsfield in 1972.

On the Bliss family moving to their Berglund Road property,

William was in his element, nurturing the fungus affected, poorly nourished, kangaroo eaten lemon trees back to health and establishing a new plantation. They became his life long passion.

William and Sandie, with other local families re-established the scouts in Upper Beaconsfield, and many successful bottle drives were held for them. Sandie also joined the mothers' club, fire brigade auxiliary and school council.



William's childhood interest in ballistics tempered somewhat as he more seriously took up his passion of working in his new shed constructing and flying model aeroplanes and gliders.

'They must be sleek, lean, trim, taut, able to withstand pressure and resistance, highly manoeuvrable ... he likes complete control of his ... model aeroplanes,' his friend Deidre Nedwell wrote as part of poem for his 60<sup>th</sup> birthday.

In 1980 William joined the Royal Horticultural Society Victoria, very soon taking on a senior role, with a particular interest in all matters of horticultural chemistry and science. He dedicated himself in a forceful, loyal manner preferring to

express all opinions candidly. He heavily threw his support behind the combination of the 'Schools for Home Gardeners' program, the publishing of a 'Gardener's Diary,' and establishing the then not so highly prized 'Victorian Open Garden Scheme,' with close links to the Kevin Heinze's TV program 'Sow What.' The now Australian Open Garden Scheme owes many thanks to William's decisive backing in those early days.

During Ash Wednesday, in which their house survived, William was stuck in Sydney. He returned with one of many objectives to return his bushfire soiled pool to potable clarity again. He proved up to the task, and became a local trouble shooter to anyone in the village with a problem pool. William became an industry leader and a life member of the Swimming Pool and Spa Association of Victoria.

After Ash Wednesday the local CFA/Auxiliary held several fancy dress parties, of which William and his table cohorts always won first prize for costumes. On one occasion a young man on the road, who had bogged his car outside a party, went visibly giddy as a group of hairy school girls came out and freed his car. Later, a restaurateur probably had the similar reaction when William and his friends took their teddy bears out to dinner one night, each requiring a high-chair and a lemonade.

William was a great letter writer, and always prompt in replying, particularly making fun of any ambiguous letters he received. Tautologies earned his scorn, especially when people asked for a letter in writing! He received little joy corresponding with 'the mindless cretinous creatures' in Canberra in regard to product registrations. Interestingly, he continued to speak to his parents in Pidgin English long after their return from New Guinea.

William is survived by his wife Sandie, their children Geoffrey, Allistair and Sarah, and six grandchildren.

# Upper Beaconsfield Association

Anne Johnson



The March meeting of the UBA saw the formation of the new executive for 2010.

President: Anne Johnson  
Vice President: Jennie Vaughan  
Secretary: Noel Ling  
Treasurer: Jo Carter

Ian Hollingsworth was welcomed to his first UBA committee meeting.

The UBA is pleased to advise that the Annual Festival was a great success, socially and financially. It was well attended by local families.

We are grateful that the fire season quietly passed us by. At the last general meeting, we

had a presentation from Paul Dickson, the Cardinia Shire Emergency Management Coordinator. He told of the difficulty of designating fire safety zones in such high fire risk areas as ours.

We welcomed Sarah Johnson, the coordinator of the Community Centre, to the May committee meeting. She discussed her role in liaising with Upper Beaconsfield's twenty two community groups and supporting harmonious connections between them.

The UBA Committee strongly endorses Sarah's proposal to bring representatives of

all community groups together at a meeting in June. (See separate article on page 8).

We look forward to Cr Ed Chatwin speaking at the general meeting to be held on Wednesday 2 June, at the hall. Ed will talk on local government issues. You are all welcome to attend. Please note the earlier starting time of 7.30 pm.

The next  
UBA meeting will be held on  
Wednesday, 2 June at 7.30 pm  
Community Complex  
\* Everyone is welcome \*

## About Town

Noel Ling. Photographs: Cameron Rocke



### Roadworks on Beacy–Emerald Road

No doubt, most residents will be aware that there are current roadworks occurring on Beaconsfield–Emerald Road.

These works are a part of a VicRoads Project that has been tendered out to Quality Roads Construction Gippsland with the purpose of improving the safety of this major road.

The works will consist mainly of shoulder maintenance, and safety barrier installation for the full length of 18 kilometres of the Beaconsfield–Emerald Road. There may be considerable traffic delays at any of the sections of the road until mid September when the works are expected to be completed.

Residents should also be aware that there is a major crushed rock storage area at Elephant Rock, and care should be taken along that stretch of road as large construction equipment and trucks will be operating from that vicinity for the duration of the works.

Other areas along the road will be used at various times for the parking of large vehicles and storage of crushed rock and construction materials.



*There are now two friendly goats who wander up from behind the chemist and greet people passing by.*

# Community Centre

Sarah Johnson, Co-coordinator



## Community invitation

I would like to introduce myself as the Centre co-coordinator for the Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre. I have been in this position since October 2009 and I am enjoying the community environment and the people.

In my time at the Centre I have not had much opportunity to get out and about to meet other organisations in the area. I have been talking to a few other people from some of the local groups and found they would also like the opportunity to find out more about what is going on in the area.

In light of this I thought it would be a good idea for the different groups in the community to meet once per term to talk about what is going on in their organisations. This would be a good chance to publicise events, gather information and amalgamate with other groups on certain projects. It would also be a chance to look at how we could work better as a community group on a whole.

I am proposing you send one or two representatives from your group. The first meeting will take place Tuesday 22 June 2010 at 8 pm at the Community Centre. Please can you RSVP by 18 June 2010 the names of the people and organisation that will be attending.

I have included the list of organisations I am contacting. Should you think of any other groups that should come please let me know so I can invite them.

Look forward to seeing you.

## Groups/Organisations in the Upper Beaconsfield Community

- |                                     |                                                   |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Babysitting Club                    | Montuna Golf Club                                 |
| Beaconsfield Upper Primary School   | Pony Club                                         |
| Cardinia Beaconhills Golf Links     | Riding Club                                       |
| Cardinia Catchment Landcare Inc     | RSL                                               |
| Casey Cardinia HPV and Cycling Club | Scouts                                            |
| Conservation Group                  | Tennis Club                                       |
| Country Women's Association         | Toy Library                                       |
| Crèche                              | Upper Beaconsfield Association                    |
| Cricket Club                        | Upper Beaconsfield Building and Grounds Committee |
| Fire Brigade                        | Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre               |
| Fire Brigade Auxiliary              | Upper Beaconsfield Peddlers                       |
| Indigenous Plant Nursery            | Upper Beaconsfield Recreation Reserve             |
| Kindergartens                       | Village Festival committee                        |
| Library                             |                                                   |
| Maternal and Child Health           |                                                   |



Special needs cooking group

Staff at the centre



## Thanks to our volunteers

Volunteers have always been the backbone of any community organisation. They are loyal, passionate and very committed to the activities they take on. Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre is proud of its long history of volunteer commitment. The Centre is thriving today because of the countless hours of volunteer effort given since it opened in 1983 following the Ash Wednesday Bushfires.

People rallied together looking at the needs of the community and didn't think twice about giving their time and skills to build the community back up. I am lucky to engage on a daily basis with people who were a part of the effort to literally raise it from the ashes. They have great stories of friendships made, tasks achieved and sense of community pride.

I sense some people always wait for these 'major crisis' to happen before they allow some time to volunteer for their fellow community members. I would like to say thank you to the many people in our community who embrace the smaller crisis of the community and give so generously of their time.

We have a number of people in the community who volunteer their time to tutor classes at the Centre or the Primary School. We say thank you. To the volunteers who come to the Centre to help with administration and general duties, we say thank you. To the volunteers who attend functions and help set up, clean up and generally get involved in Centre activities, we say thank you.

It is true to say we would be unable to function as well as we do if we did not have these special people in our community. If you would like to serve your community please contact us. We look forward to hearing from you.

### Art easels donation

We would like to appeal to people in the community who may have an arts easel lying around gathering dust. We have a strong number of artists that use the Centre's arts programs who need easels. Please call us and we can organise to pick them up. Thank you

### Program ideas

We would like to encourage people to call into the Centre, phone or email us with an ideas for classes you would like to see run at the Centre. Alternatively, if you have any skills you could use we would be interested in talking to you about tutoring or volunteering. Contact Sarah on 5944 3484 or email [sarah@ubcc.org.au](mailto:sarah@ubcc.org.au)



*Our local craft group*



*Children in the crèche*

## UBCC Crèche

Enrolments taken for 2010

Please come and visit our beautiful gem.

The Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre Crèche is set in beautiful parkland environment and is a community run crèche. A maximum of only 26 children with family discounts available.

We have mature, experienced, wonderful staff!! Regular or occasional care is available. The UBCC crèche has been caring for the communities' children for over 23 years, so please support us.

Our hours are 8.30 am-4 pm, with no set session times or daily time limits.

Please call the Upper Beaconsfield

Community Centre Crèche on 5944 3484

or email [crèche@ubcc.org.au](mailto:crèche@ubcc.org.au)



# An autumn day ...



*It's all action at Crystal Brook Picnic Area, installing the pipeline to receive water from the new desalination plant. Pumped water will flow up from Berwick through existing pipes, but a short extension is required at Cardinia Reservoir Park. For further information about the project see <http://www.melbournewater.com.au>*

*Masthead (front page): The constant environmental flow released from the reservoir into the Cardinia Creek.*

*Photographs: Cameron Rocke*





## ... at Cardinia Reservoir Park



*The works didn't deter members of the Afghan community enjoying the park. They played volleyball, soccer and a game they called "jingsa". The aim is to throw anything from a leather ball to a river pebble and hit a very small block of wood some distance away.*

# Nature Notes



## Wildlife Watch

Laura Levens

Bit chilly outside this day early in April so what better chance to catch up on obligations and other pleasures. The day that Upper Beac experienced heavy rain and large hailstones our place had only rain without hailstones! My long term rainfall average for March was beaten with a recorded 75.5 mm but annual average still needs boosting.

Weeds have been less aggressive except for panic grass that seems to think "there she goes! Lets flower and seed before the next check in a week or so." A sticky wattle from the Strzelecki Ranges has taken up residence along the horse trail at the front of our place. It's not my fault as our last visit to that area was about forty years ago! It is like hedge wattle but without the prickles.

A friend and I walked down my hill recently and discovered many nodding greenhood plants and one solitary gnat orchid's purple-backed heart shaped leaf. We were excited to note that



three seedlings of the only prickly geebung (*Persoonia juniperina*) (pictured above) here were surviving the dry. The parent plant of this small shrub died two years ago and eight seedlings appeared during the same year, the only ones we had seen in the twenty-five years since it was first noticed. Black she oak (*Alocasuarina literalis*) male trees were in flower but females were lagging behind.

We noticed swift parrots here in March along with the usual blue wrens, white-eared, white-naped and yellow faced honey eaters, eastern spinebills, white fronted tree creepers, thornbills, magpies, kookaburras, golden and rufus whistlers, yellow-tailed black cockatoos, pied currawongs, butcher birds, grey thrush and wattle birds. Other people noted the scarlet honey eater which put it a little west of its regular haunts. Has anyone seen a helmeted honeyeater near a creek?

Lacewings (pictured right) emerged in goodly numbers



from ant-lions that dug their conical traps in any dry place they could find particularly under an overhanging rock and our unpaved carport.

## Glider Rescue

Daryl Hopkins

Saturday 6 March saw an extreme weather occurrence producing heavy rain and hail hit our area. The hail damaged the solar blanket on the roof and punched some holes in the Plexiglas on the shed roof.

The drain down the side of our road quickly blocked up with gravel off the road and filled the pipe under my drive that feeds the rain runoff down through the paddock to the dam. On the Sunday I spent hours on the shovel trying to clean enough of this gravel away to get the water flowing again. While working on the shovel I noticed what looked like an old wet sock hanging over the top strand of barbed wire of the front fence, but paid no further notice. Monday I had a lot of other cleaning up to do and didn't get back to my drain cleaning until Tuesday. Tuesday afternoon saw me on the shovel again, but this time from within the paddock, so my view of the "old sock" was from a different angle and by this time it had dried out. But still I paid it scant attention until I was doing the very Australian thing of resting on my shovel and noticed that its now fluffy surface appeared to be moving with the breeze. I decided to remove this rubbish from my fence and proceeded to untangle it from the barbs, but to my surprise, as I took hold of the object, it bit me and drew blood from my finger.

A very aggressive, but handsome sugar glider had managed to get part of its loose skin and hair impaled on three of the very sharp barbs of the fence. He must of been blown onto the fence during the big storm and been hanging there without food or water for three days. I managed to wrap my shirt over him in an effort to protect me from his teeth and to keep him calm while I attempted to untangle him from the fence without hurting the pair of us.

Having removed the sugar glider successfully, I took him to a tree to release him, fully expecting him to fall to the ground and require some warmth and food having been on the fence for three days. But, to my surprise he raced straight up to the canopy and out of sight without any side effects from his ordeal. Nature certainly is wonderful, especially when given a little human help rather than hindrance.

## European wasps

Upper Beaconsfield Conservation Group

Have you noticed people weeding the Charing Cross on some Saturday mornings? The weeders are members of the Upper Beaconsfield Conservation Group and it is one of the tasks they perform on a regular basis. The UBCG meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 8 pm at the Community Centre Arts Annexe and everyone is welcome to the meetings.

This month a number of members are reading the State Government's white paper "Securing our natural future" with the intention of writing a submission on the possible impact of the recommendations on our region.

Recently there has been a profusion of European wasps in the local area. The wasps have been a nuisance especially at BBQs and other outside activities, they also are very determined to get to pet food left outside and their constant harassment will cause the pet to leave the food. While this is an inconvenience for us the wasps are having a deleterious effect on native insects. Careful observation will see the wasps kill native wasps, bees and other insects that are needed for the pollination of indigenous plants.

The wasps have quite large nests, usually in the ground. The nest should be destroyed if found. However, it is advisable not to attempt to destroy the nest without knowing the correct procedures and having the right equipment and clothing.

During the cold weather the activity of the wasps will decrease and many nests will die off naturally. The remaining nests are usually large ones that may become super nests during the warmer weather. Solitary queen wasps leave the nest at this stage and search for suitable places to hibernate over winter (houses and wood heaps are popular spots for the hibernation). If the queen is destroyed at this

stage the potential for a new nest to be started is eliminated. For this reason we should be alert to the presence of wasps over winter.

There are a number of wasp traps available and the UBCG has investigated as to how an effective and cheap one can be constructed.

Detailed information on wasps can be found on the web site <http://www.sece.rmit.edu.au/~e23447/wasp.html>



European wasps (from left) Queen, Drone (male wasp) and worker.

# Upper Beac Pony Club

Marg Jones



What a great start to the year our pony club has had!

Firstly a extremely large congratulations to the Games Team – fantastic effort – well done to our riders – Charlotte, Tori, Isabella, Lillian, Tegan, Callum and David – you certainly did the club proud. At the recent zone games day they came second out of all the clubs in the West Gippsland Zone. They are now off to the state level comp where they will be representing our club and zone on 20 June 2010.

Many thanks to all the parents of the Games Team members for their amazing support and effort and especially the Ling Family once again for their roles as coaches. Well done to all involved.

We recently held a rally day at the Tooradin Estate, which is a 400 acre property with a top level Cross Country course for our riders to have a go over. From the feedback, all riders enjoyed it. We had beautiful weather and are very grateful to the Francis family for allowing us to use their magnificent property.

The club recently held its Annual General Meeting Night at the Upper Beaconsfield Community Hall. An enjoyable time was had by all who attended. It was lovely to see all families getting together for a meal, chat and laugh. A special thank you was given to our



outgoing District Commissioner, Fiona Thompson and also long serving committee members Julie Mahoney, and Sue Andrewartha for their amazing support, effort and commitment over the years for the benefit of the club.

We continue to ensure that at our rally days held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month we have top quality instructors, from which we are sure all riders benefit. We welcomed four new members at our rally in February.

Some of the things that we have in the pipeline for future:

- Upper Beaconsfield combine training day will be held on the last Sunday in May. Other clubs from around the district will also be attending.
- Rally at Gembrook State Forest – with a demonstration and discussion from Linda Tanian, endurance riding specialist. Linda is currently on the shortlist to represent Australia at an upcoming endurance ride in South Africa.

The club held a very productive working bee at the grounds – many thanks to all the families that helped on the day. The saying of many hands make light work is so true –so THANKYOU.

The committee continue to strive to work hard for their members.

Happy Riding!

Pony Club Games team

# Upper Beac Riding Club

Pam Edwards



## Small Club – Big Event

The Upper Beaconsfield Riding Club (UBRC) held its 21<sup>st</sup> annual dressage competition at Akoonah Park on 2/3 May 2010. For the second year the competition was run as a weekend championship with jackpot winners each day and championships awarded for best results over the weekend in each of six levels.

The competition was open to members of the Horse Riding Clubs Association of Victoria (HRCAV) and involved coordinating around a hundred riders riding two tests each day. A big job for a small club like UBRC. With just on 30 members, all pitched in to help over the weekend covering jobs such as setting up the four dressage rings, marshalling, gear check, judges lunches, scoring and much more. This on top of the months of planning, arranging entries, timetables, rosters, prizes and judges for the event.

The club members' enthusiasm and commitment was rewarded on the weekend by many positive comments from competitors about the organisation of the competition and helpfulness of the members.

The annual dressage competition is UBRC's main fundraiser apart from membership fees. Funds raised go towards maintaining and improving the Club's facilities at the UB Recreation Reserve.



*Above: Wendy Doyle, Beryl Hails Award winner for the 2nd year running, mans the Gear Check with the help of her niece Georgina.*

*Below: Sue Andrewartha, long time member of UBRC competes on her young horse Montana in between helping run the weekend event.*



## Shire Information



CARDINIA

### Winter clean up

Cardinia Shire residents are being encouraged to take the chance to clean up around the home with Council's free hard and green waste collection service. Residents will be able to leave hard and green waste out for collection by WM Waste Management Services over three weeks in June.

### Collection dates

Week of 7–11 June for residents whose

regular garbage day is on a Wednesday.

Week of 14–18 June for residents whose regular garbage day is on a Thursday.

Put out your hard and green waste on the weekend before the collection date, as trucks may arrive early in the scheduled week.

Residents can leave up to two cubic metres of hard 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.

Residents are requested to place green waste, mattresses, scrap metal and remaining hard waste in separate piles.

Visit the hard and green waste section of the Council website to find out what can or can't be put out for collection.

For TV's and other electronic equipment Council is holding regular free e-waste recycling days. Check their website for the next chance.

# Primary School news

Nick Karanzoulis, Principal



Term 2 has been a busy one with events such as the House Cross Country and House Athletics being staged on the school oval and at the Edwin Flack Reserve respectively. For the second year in a row, Emerald House won the Athletics Trophy. As an extension of our high achievers program, a qualified athletics coach has been helping the cross country team achieve their best and prepare them for the District Championships where 72 children will compete.

Our equestrian team competed at the Victorian Equestrian Centre Interschool Challenge in March. Our young ladies were a credit to themselves and our school, successfully completing 4 individual classes each. The six girls, ranging from 6 to 10 years old, took on 60 other horse enthusiasts from both primary and secondary schools. Individually the girls achieved personal bests and received sashes from 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup>, with the team finishing 5<sup>th</sup> overall.

Our grade 5 and 6s visited Sovereign Hill as part of their camps and outdoor education program. The opportunity to be a part of history and live the life of a child of the 1860s was an amazing experience. I'm sure that all children are now glad that they live in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century instead the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. None the less, they thoroughly enjoyed the experience of dressing in clothes from the 1860s and imagining what life as a student in the 1860s was like. They now appreciate the high quality education that they receive at Beaconsfield Upper Primary School. One of their favourite activities was the panning for gold.

## 2011 Prep transition program

Our 2011 Prep transition program is well underway. So far we have held an information night, an open day, an



opportunity to see the new Australian Developmental Curriculum in action, school tours and the Prep Experience Program. The 4-year-old kinder kids are feeling at home and comfortable with their time at BUPS,

participating in many activities that challenges their gross and fine motor coordination as well as getting a taste of what being a Prep child will look like in 2011.

Enrolments for the 2011 Prep classes and other year levels are now taken. If you or your neighbour/ friend has a child who will be starting Preps in 2011, please let them know of our school and the

## New building

The construction of our new building with a full size basketball/netball/volleyball court, function room, kitchen, stage, toilets, storage rooms and dressing rooms is on target for completion by mid August this year. This will be a magnificent asset for the school and the entire Upper Beaconsfield community. With the roof on, the floor down, the builders can proceed with the remainder of the construction process without too many foreseeable delays.

The new building will be open to community use for a minimum charge. If you or your organisation would like to book the sports and cultural centre, please contact the school on 5944 3591 for more details.

## After school activities

As well as offering a 'before and after school care program', we are working together with the Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre to host after school activities such as drama/dance, cooking for kids, drawing, Kelly sports and karate from Monday to Thursday. Children enrol in these programs irrespective which school they attend. Please contact the Community Centre or our



transition program (from kinder to school) that we offer. A school tour is held every Wednesday at 9.15 am. The school's phone number is 5944 3591.

office on 5944 3591 for further details.

Our website has been undergoing some changes in recent times. You can visit it at [www.bups.vic.edu.au](http://www.bups.vic.edu.au)

# Upper Beac Scout Group

Ali Hudson



Upper Beaconsfield Scout Group was greatly saddened to hear of the sudden passing of Barry Smith one of our most renowned members. He has given so much to so many over the years that his absence will be sorely felt. His sage advice and detailed explanations have also been missed at our committee meetings, although it has enabled us to finish on time for the first time in ages! (Only kidding Bazza).

Part of his legacy will continue to live on, though, and so you will soon see again the popular wood raffle outside the general store in the weeks to come. As always your support is greatly appreciated.

Cubs have settled well into term two with many fun activities, badge work and games at the igloo. A leadership course has recently been attended by some of the older Cubs. Kyle Boadle has been awarded the Grey Wolf and he and Sam Inskip have now moved up to Scouts. This was a great event with Cubs, Scouts and Venturers all coming together on the same night. In September about fourteen

Cubs hope to attend the Cuboree, which is similar to a jamboree but designed for 8 to 10 year olds. They will be going on a special camp in June as part of their preparation.

The Scout section has just returned from a weekend of caving near Hamilton, great fun was had by all and no one was left down there!

They also have a troop camp at the end of May and have enjoyed hiking and sailing earlier last month. Senior scouts will also be attending a leadership course next month and two are preparing for their Green cord hikes.



Venturers have also been busy; a number of them attended "Anything Goes" at Lardner Park and Hoadley Hide. They teamed up with Emerald Cubs and Scouts at Rollerama to enjoy a

nights roller skating and participate in a going up ceremony. Major awards are being worked towards by some, while others are working their way through a program of Master Chef nights, mountain bike challenges and progressive dinners! The Unit has also been raising funds with sausage sizzles to purchase hike tents.

All sections continue to grow in numbers, and it is fantastic to see so many girls attending. If you would like to find out more



*Caving at Hamilton*

about Cubs (7–11 years), Scouts (11–14 years), or Venturers (14–18 years) please phone group leader Paul Deady on 5944 4248 after hours.

The Rover section for young adults meets on a Thursday night at the igloo. They participate in an assortment of scouting and social activities designed to challenge and extend them. They are involved in services to the community and are able to link in with a variety of events throughout Victoria. The rover section is open to anyone aged between 18 and 26 years. It is not necessary to have a scouting background or knowledge to join Rovers. For more information please contact Jenny Conn 5944 4668 after hours.

*Bryce, Riley, Tom & Max hiking*





Scouts assisting with the service on ANZAC Day (right)

Miss McGrath & Miss Fabian sailing (below)



# Tennis Club



Cam McCormick

Winter is definitely creeping closer – all the more reason to run around the court to stay warm and fit! There has also been some movement within the committee. Nikki LeBrocq is slowly but surely working her way out of the junior co-ordinators role to spend more time with her family. Thanks Nikki for the excellent job you have done, and while some parents have pitched in to assist with running the juniors in the meantime, anybody interested in helping co-ordinate the juniors on a more regular basis would be more than welcome (please contact any of the committee members to take on the job). Another member, Matt Hutchinson is moving to Queensland for business and will be sorely missed for his contribution while on committee, particularly lawn mowing, manning the BBQ, and his work on the new website. All the best Nikki and Matt!

## Inter-club competition

We are now 3 to 4 weeks into winter competition however it is never too late to register your interest in becoming an emergency/ fill-in player. Anybody wanting to play should contact:

- Seniors:  
Nick Gamble (0438 443 756 or nic.g@bigpond.com) for Pennant,  
Peter Durkin (9215 3129, 5944 3765 or peter.durkin@ato.gov.au) for Waverley District
- Juniors: Nick Gamble

The club fielded four Wednesday teams in the midweek ladies autumn competition which draws to a close at the end of May. Midweek ladies play on a Tuesday or Wednesday, and the new season starts 27 July 2010. Anyone interested in playing whether beginner or experienced please contact Kerrie Stanley (5944 4066 or travelsafe@netspace.net.au) before 1 June 2010.

Village Bell June 2010

## Night tennis

Night tennis continues through winter – while we occasionally complain about the cold, wind, rain, fog and all combinations of such, it rarely stops us from rolling up for a game. Please contact one of the following if interested in night tennis:

Monday (Beginner/Intermediate)	
Sharon Brockman	5944 3829
Tuesday (Intermediate/Advanced)	
Leanne Ricketts	5944 3910
Wednesday (Advanced)	
Nick Gamble	0438 443 756
Thursday (Beginner/Intermediate)	
David Harvey	5944 3385

Note that Tuesday nights comp ends in June, but many players turn up for an informal game until the next comp starts again in October, so this is the perfect time for any new players to turn up for a hit. Night tennis players are still required to be members (although at a lower rate than full membership), so to join-up contact our Treasurer Callen O'Brien (5944 3430) for an application form.

## Maintenance & improvements

Our last working bee was short and sharp but effective despite the low number of workers. Significant pruning was done around the perimeter of all courts and along the driveway, and globes were changed on some of the lights. After the successful replacement of lines on 2 of our courts over summer, lines on another 2 courts were recently replaced to ensure our en-tout-cas courts remain the best in the district. Thanks to Matt Hendry, Nick Gamble, Callen O'Brien, Matt Stanley, Matt Hutchinson, Glen Burrige, Peter Durkin & Cam McCormick for their efforts at the working bee.

# Toy Library

Marie Rogers



## Lots of indoor toys and games for winter

As the weather gets colder and the days become shorter, it's nice to know the Upper Beaconsfield Toy Library has lots of indoor toys available to entertain your children. Not only will they enjoy playing with new toys each week, they will be learning and expanding their developmental skills.

Toy Library offers many toys, puzzles and games to keep your child busy during the winter months. We have games and puzzles which encourage memory, face recognition, turn sharing, early addition and subtraction, spelling and balance, to name a few. Check out our large range, which includes: Twister, Shopping Game, 3D puzzles, memory games, Magnetic Faces, Alphabet puzzles and more.

Also available are toys and equipment to help strengthen, co-ordinate and support growing muscles, eye co-ordination and increase mental concentration, as well as relaxation. Toys such as rocking animals and seesaws, balance/maze/rocker boards and disks, tee-ball, ball throwing targets and games, gym balls, stepping and mega blocks, mini stilts and not forgetting our Yoga-gym DVD's for stretching, relaxation and fun.

Of course we have many toys just for fun and play, including lots of baby toys, for baby to explore and party toys galore!!

Having a child's party? For very little cost and heaps of fun you can borrow a handful of toys at a fraction of the cost to buying or hiring with the advantage of borrowing more toys up to the end of 2010.

## New toys just in

We always get excited about 'new' toys and the following are no



exception: Magnetic faces; smart toss; kids yoga DVD's; new jumping castle; activity puzzle; Tee ball; cowboy wigwam; maze balancing board; Noah's ark puzzle; 3D puzzles; tiger puzzle; crocodile alphabet puzzle; In the night garden mega blocks; Tombliboos mega blocks; Australian animals puzzle; chubby vehicles for babies.

Current fundraiser: Visit Toy Library or the Community Centre and bid on our mystery auction. Details available at the Community Centre or contact Marie on 5944 3091. Up for grabs is a choice of meal vouchers, quality 'award winning' wine, chocolates, scratchies



Tatts Pack, lunchbox ideas book and an event pass valued at \$150 to \$1050. So drop by and place a bid in today. Auction closes 10 June 2010. Thanks to our sponsors: Nush Café/Restaurant, Guy's Hill; Shankias Restaurant, Berwick; Beaconsfield Lotto; Let's Unwine, Berwick and Lunchbox 100.

Toy Library is located at the community centre, open Thursday & Saturday 9.30-10.30 am, closed school holidays & public holidays. Phone 5944 3484

EMAIL: upperbeac.toylibrary@yahoo.com.au

Pre-Kinder  
McBride Road  
Upper Beaconsfield  
Vic 3808  
5944 4488

Upper Beaconsfield  
Kindergartens  
Assoc. Inc.

Kinder  
Stoney Creek Road  
Upper Beaconsfield Vic  
3808  
5944 3822



**ENROL NOW**  
To visit our kinder or enquire  
about enrolling your child,  
please call:



Tania Zalisz on 5944 3761 for Pre-Kinder  
Or  
Jo Pastras on 5944 3559 for Kinder

## Upper Beaconsfield Babysitting Club

- Do you feel like a night out, a break, or have an appointment and would like a local mum to look after your children ... for free?
- Then perhaps you need to join the Upper Beaconsfield Baby Sitting Club.
- The club consists of a fabulous group of local mums.
- It operates on a no pressure points system.
- For more information, contact Andi Kittredge on 5944 3049



# Gembrook Electorate

Tammy Lobato MP



## State Budget News

The 2010 State Budget has been handed down with the Treasurer announcing major investment in health, police, schools and transport, while cementing Victoria's strong economy and building jobs for the future.

Police numbers have received a massive boost, with the funding of \$561.3 million over five years to recruit, train and employ 1700 additional frontline police. There will also be the redeployment of 266 other police into frontline roles. This massive investment in extra police will ensure there are extra resources in areas of population growth, like the Casey-Cardinia region.



Local road funding has been delivered with Premier John

Brumby visiting the electorate to announce the State Government's commitment of \$25.6 million in this budget towards the duplication of Clyde Road. The Federal Government has already committed the additional \$30 million required for this project.

Also funded are traffic lights and a pedestrian crossing at the intersection of the Princes Hwy and Berwick-Beaconsfield Rd. This will allow vehicles to turn right from Beaconsfield heading towards Melbourne.

On the public transport front, extra funding has been made available for the new train stations, with Cardinia Rd station set to commence on schedule this year for completion in 2012. There are also extra train and bus services across the network in another move to improve transport services.

Health services have been given a record \$4 billion injection of funds to build new services, reduce elective surgery waiting

lists and invest in cancer treatment. Funding will also provide increased emergency, dialysis, outpatient and mental health services.

I was also really pleased to see extra funding for autism and disability services, including \$8 million for the new Eastern Autistic School, which will provide education for students from Prep right up to Year 12.

Initiatives for the State Government's Respect Agenda have also received funding, including \$14.1 million over four years for A Right to Respect, a new campaign tackling sexual and domestic violence against women, to be delivered in partnership with community organisations such as sporting clubs.

Environment funding included money for Cardinia Reservoir Park for new walking trails and visitor facilities, while all fees for entry into all Victorian national parks and metropolitan parks have been abolished from 1 July this year.

Schools throughout the Gembrook electorate will also benefit from a move to protect schools from bushfire with an \$8 million program to retrofit existing schools to make them safer from bushfire threat. Additional money has also been put into fire preparation and emergency response, including \$35.4 million for Incident Control Centres, \$28.5 million for upgrading and improving bushfire warnings, \$41.8 million for the CFA to help communities prepare for the bushfire season, \$9.2 million for extra CFA personnel and \$500,000 to support local government to develop Neighbourhood Safer Places. All these important measures will be vital in ensuring the safety of people, homes and communities in the bushfire seasons ahead.

If you have any queries about the State Budget, please contact me via my website [www.tammylobato.com.au](http://www.tammylobato.com.au) or by phoning 9796 1987.

## UB Rural Fire Brigade

Liz Brandie, Secretary



### Electrical appliance fires

During the winter months CFA responds to calls for house fires by unattended cooking, candles, combustion heaters, power boards, clothes dryers or cause unknown.

At this stage the CFA Fire investigators are called in to identify the cause of the fire. With their expertise and training, they sift through the charred remains to find from where the fire originated.

Investigators frequently find the cause of house fires to be from an electrical appliance, including electrical equipment faults, over loading of circuits, short circuit, over heating, and poor maintenance.

A small electrical fault can smoulder, catch fire and totally burn down your entire house and attached buildings.

Clothes dryers that are not regularly cleared of lint can ignite and catch fire. Electric blankets can overheat and the bedding catches fire.

Appliances that draw a large amount of current for an extended period of time such as heaters and air conditioners have a high probability of fire being caused by a hot connection or an overloaded circuit.

Fire authorities have reported a number of instances where ceiling exhaust fans and bathroom heater/light/fan combination

units have failed and in some instances caught fire. Investigations revealed that the source of some of the failures was attributed to dust and grease build up leading to restricted airflow through the unit.

All electrical appliances have the possibility of being faulty and causing house fires even well known and expensive brand names.

The government has an information database ([www.recalls.gov.au](http://www.recalls.gov.au)) listing the product safety recalls. You can log on and get a hazard and defects report on all the appliances in your home, including the suppliers contact details to return the product for a full refund.

# Cardinia Beaconhills



Mary Griffin

The Club's website at [www.beaconhillsgolf.com.au](http://www.beaconhillsgolf.com.au) has been updated to include a calendar of events and a course guide. Anyone interested in a virtual tour of this corner of Upper Beaconsfield from the comfort of their own home, try it. It may inspire you to book in to have a hit!

Pennant is now in full swing. Beaconhills is a part of the Peninsula District which stretches from Portsea up to the three hills clubs – Cardinia Beaconhills, our neighbours Berwick-Montuna and Warburton. The women's season began slightly earlier and is now over with The National Golf Club winning the flag in Section One. The Cardinia Beaconhills team did very well just to retain their place in the top division as most weeks there was a combined difference of up to fifty shots in handicaps. Next year is the sixtieth anniversary of ladies' pennant in the district. In the men's Pennant, B Grade had a strong 5-2 win over Mornington but it wasn't enough to make it into the finals. A Grade is doing well, extending its record to 5-0 with some nail biting victories. This guarantees a spot in the top two - the goal is to beat Devilbend in order to play the second placed team in the Southern Divisions in the semi final.

Late last year, teaching golf professional David Williams joined club

professional Mark Griffin in basing himself at Cardinia Beaconhills. Mark still runs lessons but David's presence has added to the hours and variety of coaching on offer, as he is able to provide more extensive lesson hours and clinics. His informative website is at [www.willowgolf.com.au](http://www.willowgolf.com.au).

David has been conducting two Monday Clinics at 10 and 11 o'clock for Women's Golf Victoria's "Give Golf a Go" program. A Monday clinic is planned to extend beyond the first three scheduled Mondays, so any women interested in 'having a go' in a low pressure and fun atmosphere should give the office a call on 5945 9210.

Junior golf at Beaconhills has for many years been based around a Saturday afternoon nine-hole competition and a Skills program.

David has plans to build and expand on what is on offer for junior golfers at the club. More information will be available shortly.

Andrew Conn advises he is already receiving bookings for the next tribute show "The Eagles" to be run at the club. It will be on Saturday 7 August and everyone is

welcome – if you would like to get a table together or just come yourself, give Andrew a ring at the club on 5945 9210. The opening up of the clubhouse means there is now plenty of seating, so the more the merrier.



*A Grade pennant team practise – the players are approaching the first green.*

## Village Bell subscriptions for 2010

The Village Bell is our community's newspaper and is written, edited, compiled and collated by volunteers. It is produced 4 times a year and is delivered to every letterbox in Upper Beaconsfield by Australia Post. Each household is asked to pay \$5 for their annual subscription which helps to pay for the Village Bell's production.

Subs for 2010 are now due and can now be paid at either the

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If you find it easier to pay by internet banking, please send payment to Commonwealth Bank of Australia, Account Name: Upper Beaconsfield Association Incorporated BSB 063-549, Account number 0080-0228

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