

UPPER BEACONSFIELD VILLAGE BELL

Issue No. 183 March 2011

Online at www.upperbeaconsfield.org.au

Upper Beaconsfield Association

Barry Medwin Citizen of the year 2010

Barry Medwin has a long history of community involvement over 37 years of living in the area. In the 70s, Barry and his wife Allison were members of school council and the mothers' club at BU Primary School, where their children attended. Barry also joined St Johns Church at this time and has been a warden or vestry member ever since. In 1977 he helped start the Pakenham Junior Motorcycle Club, where he was able to use his mechanical skills to help young riders maintain their machines.

But tragedy struck in 1983 when his wife and daughter lost their lives when their home was destroyed in the Ash Wednesday bushfires. Despite this terrible setback, Barry was later able to continue with his community work including the church youth group, and he was also a youth club leader at the Community Centre. He started a healing prayer and care group in the church, and later joined the Upper Beaconsfield Care Group that was formed in 1989 to assist people in the community



who needed a helping hand. He served that group as committee member, vice chairman and chairman until 2007. Barry was able to use his mechanical and engineering skills to help the CFA and various people with mechanical repairs. He also spoke to groups and on radio with messages of hope for victims of bushfire.

A quiet and reserved man, his actions speak louder than his words. He continued to assist less fortunate people in many ways. He was a driver for Cardinia Shire Meals on Wheels for 21 years and he served on the shire emergency relief group for five years and assisted the aged and disabled.

In recent years he donated three semi trailer loads of hay to drought relief in NSW and Gippsland and supported the Lions Club with their "Need for feed" campaign. He helped the people of Calignee after Black Saturday, sharing his story of what he went through and encouraged them in their hour of need to hope for a better life ahead despite the bad times.

Barry had his own second chance at happiness after personal tragedy. Barry and Joan Harris had met through their community work in Upper Beaconsfield over many years and they married in 1993. Joan was a previous recipient of Citizen of the Year, so now there are two in the family! They recently downsized and have moved to a lovely home in Salisbury Road.

R E Ross Reserve

Keith Ewenson

At the last UBA meeting Ranges Riding Councillor Ed Chatwin outlined the plan for the Hillview Quarry site near the Leppitt Road-Bath Road corner.

Rather than establishing a quarry, some nine blocks have been planned for sale and the balance of the property, some 40 hectares, will become the R E Ross Reserve in the ownership of the Council.

To help appreciate the size of the reserve, it was pointed out that this is the same area as Emerald Lake Park.

This is negotiated planning with an immense benefit to the community.

The UBA resolved to write to the CEO of Hillview and express their delight at the outcome on behalf of the community.

A second letter is to be sent to the members of the Quarry Impact Committee who fought for some thirty years against the disruptive influence of a Quarry in Upper Beaconsfield and the end result is an extensive park reserve for future generations.

Both Hillview and the QIC have achieved an excellent outcome. Congratulations to you both.

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Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre Inc.

Annual General Meeting

15 March 2011 at 7.30 pm

at the Upper Beaconsfield Hall

The Centre is managed by a voluntary Committee of Management drawn from members of the community. A broad cross section of community members is advantageous and ensures people who contribute are from a variety of backgrounds and skills. All positions on the committee will become vacant and the Centre is seeking new Committee members to join in 2011. The Centre is a not for profit organisation established in 1983 which receives funding from state and local governments. Many families from Upper Beaconsfield and surrounding areas have used the Centre for a variety of services since then for courses, crèche, Maternal and Child Health, Toy Library and support groups. Coordination and administration are completed by staff on a daily basis but the Committee of Management is a vital element in the successful running of the Centre.

Nomination forms are available on our website
at www.ubcc.org.au

ALL WELCOME

Take a break with the UBCC Crèche

While we have had a busy start to the year in crèche, there are still places available for your child. Our community-run crèche offers occasional care to a maximum of only 26 children, with discounts offered to families. We are open from 8.30 am until 4 pm every day, and we offer totally flexible bookings, to suit you. You can leave your child to play and have fun, for an hour or a full day. Places are available to children from 6 weeks of age. The staff members in our crèche are experienced and highly qualified and many of them have been nurturing the children of Upper Beaconsfield for many years.

If you would like to secure a permanent place in a regular time-slot or if you want occasional childcare, please call us on 5944 3484, or drop in and visit the crèche at the Community Centre.

Community Garage Sale

Saturday 26 March 2011

8 am until 1 pm

Our last Garage Sale was such a success that we have decided to make it an annual event.



Do you want to clean out but don't want the hassle of holding your own garage sale?

Or do you just not have enough to hold one. Well, join in the community event and we will provide you with the perfect venue to get rid of your stuff.

Booking required: Contact Community Centre 5944 3484

Cost \$10 per stall

Thank you to Terry from McKenzie Road

For those people who drive, walk, horse ride or bike ride up McKenzie Road (between Split Rock Road and Tower Road) did you know that the council does not maintain a large section of this road? In particular, the section that is classified as a fire track.

For many years now one of our local residents, Terry from McKenzie Road, has been tirelessly maintaining this part of the road to make it more accessible for everyone to use. It often turns into a boggy mess, particularly after heavy rains. As users of this road we have been extremely lucky to have Terry get out there and fix the road continuously, year in and year out. As a matter of fact, he was out there with his excavator the morning after the large downpour we had in February fixing our road to allow us to get through!

So we would like to say a big THANK YOU to Terry for all his efforts over the years. Hopefully one day the shire will come to the party and help out with this huge task.

About Town



Vale – Graeme Peter Kidd 10 March 1940 – 9 February 2011

Neil McDonald

Well known and respected former resident of Upper Beaconsfield, Graeme Kidd died peacefully at home in Tonimbuk early Wednesday morning 9 February.



Graeme and his twin brother John were born in Perth and at eight years of age the family moved to Brisbane where he

completed his engineering degree before coming to Melbourne in the mid 1960s to study science at Melbourne University. He started his employment as an engineer for the Post Master General in the late 1960s.

Graeme and his first wife Sheila moved to Upper Beaconsfield in 1973 and had three children, Simon, Sarah and Becky. Sadly Sheila died in 1990.

He was a very community minded person who made a significant contribution to Upper Beaconsfield over a long period. His involvement included president of the Upper Beaconsfield Association, founding committee member (and most prolific editor in the first decade) of the Village Bell, member of the Upper Beaconsfield Care Group, president of the Quarry Impact Committee, member of the Bushfire Recovery Committee post Ash Wednesday fires in 1983.

Graeme was elected to the Cardinia Shire Council and in his second year served as mayor. He played a leading role in the implementation of the first Upper Beaconsfield Strategy Plan and always had an eye on the long term implications of planning.

Graeme's professional life with Telstra as a section head of optic fibre development at Clayton and his managerial skills held him in good stead when dealing with his many community and council commitments.

Graeme was a creative person – a skilled woodworker and member of the Victorian Woodworker Association and many people in the district are the proud owners of his workmanship. He was a very keen photographer, sketcher and painter.

After marrying Julie, they moved to Tonimbuk in the late 1990s where they designed and built their dream home and established a small olive grove producing high quality olive oil. Graeme and Julie both being passionate environmentalists protected a large area of their bushland with a Trust for Nature Conservation Covenant.

Bushwalking was also a great passion of Graeme's and he and Julie travelled in both Australia and overseas as members of the Dandenong Valley Bushwalking Club.

Graeme is survived by wife Julie, son Simon and his wife Bec and grandson Archie, daughters Sarah and Becky and will be sadly missed by all who had the privilege of knowing him.

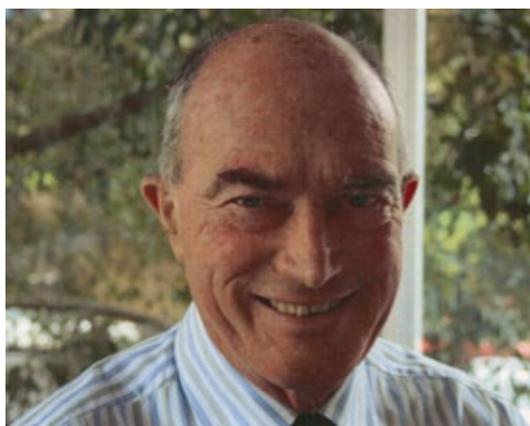
Heartfelt condolences are extended to the family.

Congratulations!

Arthur Day AM

Matt McDonald

Arthur Day is known locally as the owner of the Angora Goat Stud property, Koonkie Woorun which he established with his wife



Hilary in 1974. The property lies between Telegraph and Salisbury Roads.

Arthur spent his earlier working life as specialist gynaecologist. He was

honoured for his lifetime of service to medicine by being made a

member of the Order of Australia (AM) in this year's Australia Day awards. In his training to be a general practitioner Arthur spent time at a general hospital, the Children's Hospital and the Women's Hospital. He developed a particular interest in obstetrics and gynaecology, and also trained as a surgeon. He eventually took on the challenges of cancer medicine, especially ovarian cancer, a particularly difficult form of the disease to diagnose.

After 40 years practicing medicine and teaching—he was senior lecturer in the Faculty of Medicine at Monash University—Arthur retired to his property in Upper Beaconsfield. He built his present home on the site of the original home on the property—built by his grandfather.

Arthur has been actively involved in the community of Upper Beaconsfield for many years and indeed rates as his greatest (almost) achievement the impending installation of a community notice board in Upper Beaconsfield, something he and others have been working on for a number of years.

We congratulate Arthur Day on this recognition of his life's work and achievements, and are proud to have Arthur and Hilary as distinguished members of the Upper Beaconsfield Community.

About Town

Helen Smith



The February downpour

Many people in Upper Beaconsfield have rain gauges and keep informal records. It is interesting to hear of the variations, even over a relatively small area.

Ron Fisher had the most rainfall we heard of over that wet weekend of the floods 4–6 February.

Ron and Lyn Fisher live in Sugarloaf Road, not far from the water tower. So their location would be one of the highest in the area. Ron takes his readings at 9 am, for the previous 24 hours. The combined reading for Saturday and Sunday 9 am totals was 234.5 mm!

Ron estimates that they average 20% more than the readings that George Moir gets at the Barkala corner on Emerald Road, probably due to their higher elevation. Ron reports that the runoff extensively damaged Sugarloaf Road at the lower end near Emerald Road. Council had only just repaired and graded Sugarloaf Road and now

it is worse than before.

Here are some rainfall figures recorded at other Upper Beaconsfield locations. Since it was such a widespread rain event who would have thought there would be such a difference in a four kilometre radius?

177.5 mm recorded 4 km east of PO.

217 mm near the water tower in Sugarloaf Road.

165 mm not far from Salisbury Road in McBride Road.

199 mm a few doors along St Georges Road.

Most people have gravel driveways and paths in Upper Beaconsfield. When the gravel gets washed out onto the bitumen roads the gravel is quite dangerous; it is like driving over marbles. Some time ago one driver found this out in Stoney Creek Road when he lost control on the gravel. He bounced off the safety guard rails and then spun around to then bounce off the opposite railing, thereby damaging both sides of his car.



George Moir – get well soon

George Moir, our reliable Bell rainfall reporter, was recently involved in a tractor accident and sustained broken ribs and other injuries. It was indeed fortunate that George was able to call the ambulance himself. After a stay at the Alfred Hospital he will require a period of rehabilitation. While still in hospital he rang the editor, concerned that his Village Bell rainfall report might be late. What a trooper! We all wish George a speedy recovery.

Ron Fisher provided us with his monthly figures instead.

November 132 mm

December 131.5 mm

January 125.5 mm

Flooding at Stoney Creek Road bridge

Hoon driving in Upper Beac

I was woken early one morning recently with the sound of screeching tyres and an over-revved car engine. Not again! Someone is doing burnouts and doughnuts near the golf club in Stoney Creek Road. Later when I drove up the hill, I could clearly see the trail of rubber snaking up the road from side to side for several hundred metres.

What would have happened if someone had been innocently driving on a morning errand or off to work, if they had encountered that driver coming up the hill? Much of the trail of rubber was on the wrong side of the road.

If you see any such hoon activity, take note of the car and also the number plates if possible. Report it to the Pakenham Police on 5945 2500. If it is an emergency situation and you want police to attend phone 000.

Alternatively you can “dob in a hoon” by phoning the Crime Stoppers Hoon Hotline on 1800 333 000. Information collected through the hotline enables Victoria Police to gather intelligence to target repeat hoon offenders or focus on particular areas [information from Vic Police].

If these people cannot drive safely, they should have their cars and licences taken away.

Now on the mend

Last year after Grand Final Day, local resident Shauna Tansey was in the wrong place at the wrong time. When driving along the passing lane section of Emerald-Beaconsfield Road between Guys Hill and Upper Beaconsfield, she encountered a car being driven on the wrong side of the road. The crash left her with a broken collar bone, ribs and pelvis. We are pleased to report that after three months of rehabilitation she is now able to return to work.

About Town



Carols by Candlelight a huge success

Neil McDonald

Our local Carols by Candlelight event was an outstanding success, aided by beautiful Christmas Eve weather, which was a pleasant change from the past couple of years.

A crowd, estimated at over 400 sang and waved their candles whilst being entertained by a very talented group of musicians and singers led by MC Peter Brown and musical director, Tess Porz who had the choir tuned to peak performance.

Santa arrived amid flashing lights and sirens much to the delight of the children who lined up for their bags of sweets and a quick chat with the great man.

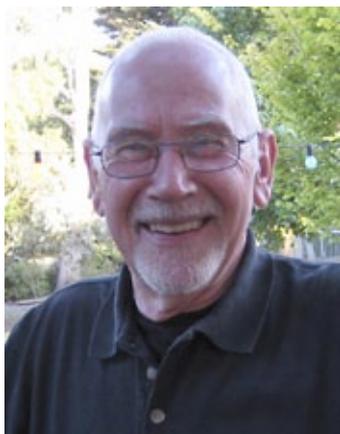
Ron Fisher and his band of helpers did a roaring trade at the BBQ and sold out of just about everything prior to the conclusion of festivities, helping to swell the coffers of the Upper Beaconsfield Association. Thanks to all those who contributed to this event to ensure a most enjoyable evening for local families.

Tess Porz has kindly agreed to take over as co-ordinator of this event and is looking forward to receiving plenty of support, particularly for setting up the site and packing up afterwards. Some new and younger blood would be greatly appreciated. Anyone willing to help for next December's carols can contact Tess at 5944 4556.



Thank you Neil

Helen Smith



We all congratulate Neil McDonald for his excellent contribution over many years in coordinating the carols and who has now retired from this role. Upper Beac's Carols by Candlelight is indeed a wonderful community event due to people like Neil and others.

... and also

There are many people who contribute to this event to make it such a success and they front up every year. They include the members of the CFA who organise spotlights, the truck, and Santa. They also bring over some Salisbury House residents who sit on the hall verandah to enjoy the evening. Thanks to the guys who put up the coloured lights. For around 18 years Julie Born has organised the lolly bags that Santa hands out. Keith Ewenson kindly mowed the park on the morning of the carols as the grass had grown so quickly due to all the rain. The MC, choir director, singers and musicians do a wonderful job. Our reliable sound man Harry has been coming since the 1980s. There are always willing hands to tidy up the park afterwards and it is a pleasure to note that there is little rubbish to clean up, vastly different to the mess left behind after many public events in the city and suburbs.

Upper Beaconsfield Association



President's Report 2010

Anne Johnson

Upper Beaconsfield is not just a sleepy hollow or thoroughfare to more interesting places. It is a township wanting to engage its community and address progress in a thoughtful way, aware of the social, environmental and economic impact it can have.

A working party was formed to meet with council over implementation of the strategy plan led by Keith Ewenson and his support group. Eric Bumpstead keeps us informed on matters of fire prevention management and updates. He also represents us on the safety committee in Pakenham. The UBA supports community projects, such as the Village Fair, the Carols and Citizen of the Year. Our living legends, Arthur Day, AM and Jennie Vaughan, Citizen of the Year 2009 are to be congratulated, as are our past citizens to be recognized; Charles Wilson and his compilation of our town's history, and Barry Smith, a friend to all, and a tireless worker in our community.

Thank you to the producers of the Village Bell and its distribution via the Post Office. Support given to us by Ed Chatwin is always valuable, his knowledge about things council and its workings are much appreciated. The Golf Course, roundabouts, weeds, notice boards and footpaths will continue to amuse and test us. Meetings are never dull. The UBA looks forward to your support in 2011 and will continue its watch over our community.

At the AGM the new Committee was elected, and subsequently, the following positions have been allocated.

President	Jennie Vaughan
Vice President	Keith Ewenson
Treasurer	Arthur Day, Jo Carter
Secretary	Noel Ling
Members	Anne McCormick, Laura Levens, Eric Bumpstead, Ian Hollingsworth, Anne Johnson, Oksana Haywood

Tony Knight elected to step aside after making a valuable contribution over many

years, and his place has been taken by Oksana Haywood, and we warmly welcome her to the committee.

Treasurer's report

Year ended 31 December 2010

Jo Carter/Arthur Day

Cash inflow and outflow

Bank balance 31.12.2009	\$14 430.03
Sundry grants	\$2 450.00
Subscriptions and advertising	\$7 395.00
Other income	<u>\$486.87</u>
Total	\$24 761.90
Purchase of paper jogger (printer)	\$1 564.00
Other expenses	<u>\$9 254.22</u>
Bank balance 31.12.2010	<u>\$13 943.68</u>

The next UBA meeting will be held on Wednesday, 6 April at 8 pm Community Complex
* Everyone is welcome *

Village Bell collating

Noel Ling

The Village Bell has been providing the community with various snippets of news on local events, club activities, and various social events since July 1978. Interestingly, two of the members of the UBA in 1978 were Keith Ewenson, and Graham Jackson who were involved in producing this publication, now nearly 33 years later, are still just as involved. Graham leads a team that prints the Village Bell, and Keith is still a part of the UBA committee, and he still delights in stirring the possum – so to speak.

Each quarter around 1 200 copies of the Bell are produced, distributed locally and to former residents. The equipment used is certainly more sophisticated than that used for the original.

BUT some things don't change.

For instance: the stories don't just appear. We need the various groups in the community to provide stories and reports, and this is where Helen Smith and her team of volunteers have to do the leg work in

reminding people of deadlines, setting out stories, editing content, and generally ensuring that we have an end product that is both interesting and informative.

And then there are the collating tasks: The printer produces A3 sized pages. It is then up to a team of volunteers to gather all the individual sheets that make up a single booklet, fold them, then bundle them up into a form suitable for the Post Office to distribute. This little exercise takes 10–12 people two hours to perform – Yep that's all the time it takes.

So 4 times a year, we need about 12 volunteers for two hours on a Wednesday night to perform this task.

You may have guessed – this is a request for people to register as volunteers for this task. It is also a good way to meet people, it's a little bit of exercise, and the conversation is riveting, as you can imagine ... plenty of gossip of course ... so how about it?

If you are interested, send an email to the UBA Secretary – Noel Ling – lingn@bigpond.com and you can become a part of the team.

Here's a snap of the team who collated the Xmas edition – Just look at their smiles.



History Snippets – Charing Cross

Marianne & Cameron Rocke



PUBLIC AUCTION

At the junction of the five principal roads of the District.

Having frontages to

ST. GEORGE'S ROAD

ALFRED-STREET

FERN-STREET

BRISBANE-ROAD

GEMBROOK-ROAD

And

CHARING CROSS.

Beaconsfield township is at present, and will to a larger extent in the immediate future become the market town for a large radius of country extending to Pakenham, also to Gembrook and other settlements at the head of the Latrobe and Yarra rivers, and presents a capital opportunity for the establishment of Branch Stores and other business establishments urgently required in the district.

The township is reached by a cab from the Beaconsfield siding on the Gippsland railway, and without doubt will shortly be connected directly with Melbourne by a new railway line to Gembrook.

ARGUS 22 September 1888 page 4

On the initial survey of Upper Beaconsfield, the triangle of land, known as "Charing Cross" was part of allotment 1, and it is not fully known how and why it became a piece of public land.

Our Cross' namesake is no other than London's Charing Cross, the primary central datum point for measuring distances from London. Should anyone have believed the adjacent notice, Upper Beaconsfield was going to be a great commercial centre of the district i.e. the new Charing Cross would have been an apt title.

If you were to travel to London's Charing Cross you would see little evidence of anything resembling a cross as we know it in modern times. Going back to the 7th century, a cross was a stone marker, sometimes an elaborately carved stone pillar, often a feature of market towns. Charing Cross was one of many erected in 1291, to mark the overnight stopping points of the carriage delivering the body of Queen Eleanor from Lincoln to Westminster. Her grieving husband, King Edward I intended these crosses to be cenotaphs to provoke prayers for her soul from passers by and pilgrims.

Therefore the triangular shape of our Charing Cross should be of little concern to us, but perhaps the erection some form of permanent sculpture or marker—a 'cross' as per its old London meaning—would make this area of our town centre live up to its name!



THE ROSE SERIES, P. 1453
Copyright

CHARING CROSS, UPPER BEAconsFIELD, VICTORIA c1907

The Berwick-Pakenham Historical Society – preserving local history

Our museum collection, containing objects, photographs and documents about the Berwick and Pakenham district, is open to the public on Sunday afternoons 2–4.30 pm. Meetings held monthly on the first Friday, commencing 8 pm, at "The Old Shire Offices".

About Town

Helen Smith



Ron's fruit salad garden

I had the pleasure recently of visiting Ron Kerpen's garden in Albers Road. Ron and wife Gabrielle live on 8 acres and over the years Ron has developed a wonderful fruit orchard and vegetable garden. Now retired, Ron enjoys trying out various food trees and other plants, while Gabrielle helps by turning the garden produce into jams, syrups, and glaze fruit and also dries a lot of fruit using a dehydrator.

Ron has a wide variety of fruits. He calls it his fruit salad orchard. Some plants have been successful, others not. The harvest can vary from year to year. He is self taught and urges people to do their research when buying fruit trees as some need cross pollinating and others are not suited to Upper Beaconsfield's climate. He often buys plants online.

The vegetable garden includes 14 beds including the usual vegies as well as more interesting varieties including asparagus and

yacon "apple of the earth", an old variety from the Incas, like a sweet potato.

But the fruit trees are the highlight of Ron's garden. This is appropriate as Upper Beaconsfield was well known for its apple orchards in the old days. The fruit harvest starts from mid-November and goes through to June. The citrus include blood orange, grapefruit, mandarins and limes. There are various Japanese and European plums and different varieties of cherries (including sour cherries). Apples include the heritage apple Cox's orange pippin. There are nashi

fruit, guavas, persimmons, babaco (a type of paw paw), pomegranates, a plumcot (cross between an apricot and a plum), and a wonderful crop of figs and avocados (Haas variety). There are also pears. Ron's dog Cooper loves fruit and



Netting is important otherwise the birds would get everything

happily ate a windfall pear while I was there. There are olive trees, and nut trees including hazelnuts (in a hedge), pecans and a pistachio. His great pride is a macadamia tree which is doing well. He also has a young pine nut tree and a carob tree.

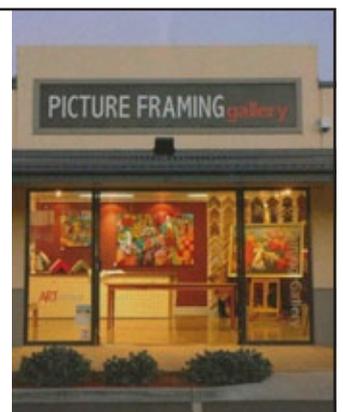
The berries have been superb this year. The various varieties start fruiting in November and now the autumn fruiting raspberries are laden with flowers and new green fruit. The bees must think they are in paradise ... by the way Ron has beehives too. But this year was not a good year for soft stone fruit because of the wet weather.

The neighbours and friends are lucky and receive any excess bounty. Ron's garden was featured in an episode of Vasili's Garden show on SBS a year or so ago.



picture framing • gallery

Shop 14A, Beaconsfield Shopping Plaza,
Beaconsfield tel 9769 8766



Wildlife Watch

Laura Levens



That rank weed growth mentioned last time still looks rank but the soil is very dry underneath. The rainless first week of January had us a bit concerned but since then the tiny showers have been a help. I must admit that it would be good to have a fire, ONLY within our boundary lines, for fuel reduction. A friend who is working as a summer fire fighter with Department of



Southern brown tree frog

Sustainability & Environment is on standby to help with flood recovery! She has not had fire experience yet as not even any fuel reduction burns have been possible in this area.

At long last, on 9 January 2011, I found a southern brown tree frog near the tadpole pond and still many tadpoles remain in the water. A couple of weeks later a banjo frog began calling nearby and keeps it up all night. So I am still not sure to which species the taddies belong.

We are still weeding among the indigenous species though there has been such a crop of sweet vernal grass that many have gone to seed. In recent years we have been able to stop working before Christmas. As soon as I turn around I discover another different weed usually seen before along the roadsides. We are still finding fungi – tiny scarlet, delicate pale grey toadstools and yellow slime fungi. My helper is also good at finding insects to add to my records, including cup moths that emerge from small grey cup-like egg cases on eucalypt branches. This year we have seen two different moths though the



cup moth 17mm & pupae case, grey

caterpillars remain undiscovered here.

One quiet evening in the third week of January we were startled by a macropod bounding across our earth-sheltered roof. This is the first visit since the kangaroo grass began flowering in early November so it seems the grass is once again succulent after dropping seeds.

Protecting native bushland - Trust for Nature

Neil McDonald

The annual get together of property owners within the Shire of Cardinia who have protected their native bushland with 'Trust for Nature Covenants' will be held on Sunday 17 April from 12.30 pm at Carmel and Jasper Hail's property 190 Weatherhead Road, Tynong North. (Gate entrance is past the 190 and Bunyip State Park Sign, at the very end of Weatherhead Road.) The group's aim is to raise the profile of the Trust's work in relation to Conservation Covenants while getting to know each other and their properties.

The afternoon will consist of a BYO picnic lunch and drinks, an informal discussion on the group's activities and a guided tour of the property.

Various Trust for Nature staff will be attending and bringing everyone up to date with current developments.

Any landowner wishing to learn about the Trust's work and the Cardinia Shire's Rate Reduction and Biodiversity Incentive scheme for covenanted properties are most welcome to attend.

Trust for Nature focuses on a landscape scale conservation using land purchase, conservation covenants and a revolving fund. Trust

for Nature is a non-profit organisation which works to protect remnant bushland – forever.

For further information contact Neil McDonald on 5944 3782 or email neilmcd36@hotmail.com.

St Patrick's Day Lunch

Are you Irish, know someone who is Irish or just want to join in the celebration?

This is a good opportunity to meet fellow Irish folk and celebrate Irish culture.

Experience fine Irish stew and traditional Irish soda bread.

"Live Irish Music"

*At the Pine Grove Hotel
Upper Beaconsfield*

*Thursday 17 March
Time: 12-2 pm
Cost \$15.00*

*Book at the Community Centre
Or purchase tickets from the
Pine Grove Hotel*



Village festival 2011

After yet another overnight downpour, the storm clouds magically blew away just on time for the start of the 2011 Festival, which took off at Charing Cross with the fun run, the “Tower to Tower Challenge,” commencing at 8 am. The intrepid runners all returned safely, spattered with mud but not defeated, after a 6 km round trip to the Water Tower and back, through the gently rolling hills of Upper Beaconsfield. The Upper Beaconsfield Scouts were a great help with the running of the fun run, organising track marshalls, drink stations and generally helping out.

The Festival picked up pace from 9 am, this year spreading right across Beaconsfield-Emerald and St Georges Roads, allowing us to enjoy additional activities outside our shops, together with the Community Centre’s art show, the Village Bell’s photography competition, and St John’s story time puppet show all held at St John’s Church and Hall.

The photography competition was a great display of the photographic talent in our community. Jennie Vaughan handed out the generous prize envelopes to some very deserving winners. Thanks to entrants for opening up their lives onto photographic paper to share with the whole community.

In the art show, we also had competition between our junior exhibitors, with winners Billy Rigby in the 4–7 years section, Ally Justice in the 8–12 years section, and Gemma Randall in the 12–15 years section.

In the Hall at the Community Complex, the first “Upper Beac’s Got Talent” competition kicked off in front of an appreciative audience. What a wealth of talent we have in our neighbourhood! The junior section was very strong, with the competition eventually finishing with a dead heat between Kobe Lewin and Connor Boothman. Judging the open section was equally challenging, with Daniel Cooper’s performance of his own composition “winter” winning first place. Upper Beac’s Got Talent was followed by a Magic show which enthralled the audience.

Our first Mountain Bike race commenced from the Foodwise carpark, travelling down St Georges Road to the Dallas Brooks Scout Park.

Through the whole morning, a series of wonderful performers entertained us at Charing Cross and outside the Community Centre, and a multitude of stalls and activities were offered by every community group and organisation in Upper Beaconsfield. An animal nursery, pony rides, reptile display, a bungy trampoline,

rock climbing wall, giant slide, dunking machine, Laser Skirmish, vintage bikes, the wonderful sausage sizzle always offered by the CFA, and morning tea from the CWA, kept everyone busy and well-fed for the morning. There was almost too much to do in the space of one morning. Towards the end of the festival the Citizen of the Year Award was presented to a very deserving Barry Medwin.

Thanks to the wonderful traffic controllers who gave us safe passage around the village for the morning. Wouldn’t it be good if they were there every day! Many thanks also from the community of Upper Beaconsfield to the Village Festival committee which organised such a wonderful festival for our benefit. There is a lot of planning behind any event like this, and to coordinate as many participants as we had this year, takes a lot of hard work. Thanks too to all our generous sponsors, including the Shire of Cardinia, Bendigo Bank and local businesses and organisations, without whom we wouldn’t have such a wonderful event to celebrate Community Week. It was a great team effort from all. Roll on the Festival of 2012!

Results for all events will be available on the Village Festival website, www.ubvillagefest.org.au.

contests





entertainment



good sports

interactions



About Town

Helen Smith



Bus service comes to Upper Beac

Local residents Don and Linda New have started a new venture called Buddy's Bus Service. They have identified a need for a more flexible method of public transport. Their bus is a 10 seater which they say will cater to people in the local area for a wide variety of outings for small groups in many flexible ways.

Don says that the bus can be used for charter, for example a group outing to a winery, or a hotel and club drop off and pick up service. As the bus has a trailer, it can be hired for airport transfers, with room for luggage transport. Conference, wedding and convention shuttles can be catered for. If you want a small group outing to the Grand Prix, tennis, races, football or concerts in the city Buddy's offer a delivery and pick up service. People are already using the service to restaurants in Berwick, Beaconsfield and Pakenham. The benefits of being able to specify a return trip home time allows all participants to have a good time without the worry



of drink/driving issues. Don offers the flexibility of providing a service to where clients would like to go. Tell Don where you would like to go, the number of people and he will give you a price.

Another idea is for shopping trips to shopping centres or to popular markets, which could suit older people who are not confident

tackling driving longer distances. Don is flexible and if you have any suggestions he will endeavour to cater for you. Contact Don on 0488 411 488.

Don also runs a water delivery truck business in the local area which has been operating for several years.

Don and Linda and family have lived in Upper Beaconsfield for over 30 years. Their children attended the local primary school and love coming back home to visit. Don says that Upper Beac was a great place to raise their family, and it still is. Both Don and Linda are active in Berwick Lions Club, where Don is currently

president and Linda is a member of the Berwick Lioness Club. We wish their new venture every success.

Horse trails need upkeep

Graham B Jackson, Leadbetter Road

My wife and I enjoy walking parts of Upper Beaconsfield, in particular in the area of Split Rock Road and Berglund Road. Where possible we keep off the road by following the horse trails but find it is increasingly difficult to do so as the horse trails are becoming badly overgrown. It was my understanding that the horse riding fraternity convinced the Shire to spend money creating these trails by pointing out all sorts of benefits that would result - in particular the safety aspect of keeping young riders separate from traffic. I still see a lot of horse riders in our vicinity but not many now ride the overgrown horse trails. Split Rock Road is a 70 km/h road that carries a fair bit of traffic, much of which either travels at this limit or in excess of it. What now of the safety of your horse riders—young or not so young? I seem to recall fathers and others interested in horse trails were, in the past, involved in working bees to keep these trails open and available for horse riders. Perhaps it is time they got involved again, rather than expect the Shire to take on the task.

Future development of Upper Beaconsfield – your input needed

Keith Ewenson, Upper Beaconsfield Strategy Working Party

The Upper Beaconsfield Strategy Plan is a document outlining the future development of Upper Beaconsfield. This is a significant document, extremely relevant to the future of our town and we need everybody's input. The plan can be viewed on the Council website, http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/Page/Page.aspx?Page_Id=1238

Thanks for the submissions that have already been made direct to members of the working party or through email ubstrategy@optusnet.com.au. There is still time to make your comments to the working party consisting of Ian Hollingsworth, Matt McDonald, Tom Gibson and myself, Keith Ewenson.



**Ditch the workout
Join the party
Zumba fitness classes with Rose Meredith**

**New class commencing Monday 7th February
Upper Beaconsfield Primary School
Stoney Creek Rd Upper Beaconsfield
Monday 6pm**

**\$11.00 Casual or 10 pass for \$90.00
10 Pass can be shared with a friend or relative
No eftpos facilities, cash only**

enquiries: 0419 117 554 zumbawithrose28@live.com
<http://65887.zumba.com/> Become a facebook friend search for:
Rose Zumba. I am also available for group bookings

UB Rural Fire Brigade

Liz Brandie, Secretary



Usually at this time of year, the discussion is usually about threat of fire in our community and beyond, but this year we seem to have the whole box and dice with fire and flood affecting nearly the entirety of Australia.

During the onset of the reports of floods coming out of Queensland I had a flashback to my 5th grade teacher who insisted we memorise “My Country” by Dorothea McKellar. If we didn’t we missed play lunch, so of course I still can remember it now.

Below are some of the verses:

*I love a sunburnt country,
A land of sweeping plains,
Of ragged mountain ranges,
Of droughts and flooding rains,
I love her far horizons,
I love her jewel-sea,
Her beauty and her terror
The wide brown land for me!*

*Core of my heart, my country!
Her pitiless blue sky,
When sick at heart, around us
We see the cattle die –
But then the grey clouds gather,
And we can bless again
The drumming of an army
The steady soaking rain.*

This photo is of Salisbury Road between Carpenter and Officer Roads taken 6 February. This is the reason why the road was closed. Drivers ignored the “road closed” signs, including a 4x4 driver making a wave that washed over the edge causing further damage. Photograph: Laura Levens



*Core of my heart, my country!
Land of the rainbow gold,
For flood and fire and famine
She pays us back threefold
Over the thirsty paddocks,
Watch, after many days,
The filmy veil of greenness
That thickens as we gaze*

The poem was written in 1904 when there were very limited services if any. The land was not as populated and the nearest neighbour was some miles away.

At this time if a bush fire swept through you were on your own to combat it anyway you could. If your neighbours were close they would come to your aid with tree branches, wet hessian bags or anything on hand to beat the edge of the fire. Finally they would try to protect themselves by jumping into a large body of water, or dug out a wombat hole as the fire passed over them.

These people were our pioneering stock prepared for adversity and willing to help their neighbours in time of need.

This willingness to help has not lapsed. We now have a larger community over the entirety of Australia that is better equipped with various vehicles, aircraft and emergency trained volunteers from all services.

We should consider ourselves fortunate that in modern times there are emergency services and volunteers ready to deploy at a moment’s notice to any part of Australia, but which is quite a logistical nightmare to organise immediately. Catering for and accommodating these people in these areas is difficult, where accommodation is already stretched with homeless victims from natural disasters.

CFA deployed numerous strike teams in response to the Queensland floods, involving search and rescue, clean up and recovery alongside all other emergency personnel, despite many CFA members having suffered significant loss themselves.

While most of us watched the horror unfolding in Queensland, the band of weather slowly worked its way down through NSW towards Victoria and then Upper Beaconsfield along with the rest of Melbourne was to have a small taste of it as well.

Heavy winds blew down trees, dams over flowed, major roads flooded, swollen rivers burst their banks and flowed through farmland down alongside the Toomuc Creek towards Pakenham. This caused closures of road, rail and freeways.

CFA were called to a landslide on Salisbury Road resulting in the barrier and edge of the road tilting precariously down the hill and washed out from underneath. There was no alternate route in the area due to flooded roads or trees fallen over roads.

Yes this was inconvenient and our roads are a mess — but nothing compared to what the people of Queensland have endured and will for some time after the initial clean up.

But isn’t it nice to know in this generation our community is now Australia wide and willing and ready to help just like they used to in another time?

Upper Beac Pony Club



Fiona Thompson

After a rather indulgent holiday period, with rain-induced lush pasture and a good rest, everyone (both two and four legged) is looking particularly well-conditioned and hopefully looking forward to a fun year.

Our club's annual gymkhana was held in mid-December, and proved once again to be a day of enjoyment for all riders. Considerable efforts were made to smarten horses up which, given the rain and resultant mud in most paddocks, was no mean feat. Manes and tails were coiffed into plaited works of art, and even the fluffiest of ponies looked pretty darn sharp. The options of a show ring, fun ring, handy mount course, showjumping course and games course meant that there was something for every rider to participate in. Parents were kept running all day as the kids beetled around from one event to another. Being on horseback meant that they usually arrived well ahead of a gasping mum or dad, laden down with gear. Santa made an appearance, bearing goodies and was accompanied by a very unique Rudolph the Red-nosed Thoroughbred (aka Guinness).

January was a quiet month for the club. Riders, horses and particularly parents appreciate the down-time, and everyone gets to have a good rest. The horses benefit too from being left alone to simply be a horse. Some of our riders have been taking advantage of the range of holiday camps and programmes on offer. Others have ventured down to the horse beach for the first time, often with hilarious results.

February will see the club engage in another special event, the annual Games Rally. We are fortunate to have in our midst a couple of very experienced games competitors in Tori Ling and Charlotte Venville. They will be running this rally, teaching the younger riders valuable skills in the morning while the older and more experienced

riders have a flat work session. This is followed in the afternoon with a light-hearted competition. Rules are relaxed to encourage everyone to participate, even on foot (sans horse!) and the crowd participation is legendary. Parents are occasionally prevailed upon to make fools of themselves in a "special" event, much to the kids' delight.

Also in February we will be cheering for several of our members who will be representing our club. Christine Meyer will participate in the Evan Henry Memorial Event at the Berwick Show. In addition, two of our senior riders will ride at state level – Lillian Charman in C grade

showjumping, and Clarissa Bentley-Bell in Grade 2 dressage. We know they will do us proud.

As I write, floods are affecting large tracts of land over the eastern states. As you read this, the clean-up and rebuilding will be underway. The often unseen victims of this disaster are the animals – the native fauna, the pets, and the livestock, including horses. Please, if you haven't yet given thought as to how to assist, consider donating to one of the many animal charities that will be working hard behind the scenes.



Don't worry — Santa is hugging his own daughter!



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Beaconsfield District **Community Bank**[®] Branch

Berwick/UB Red Cross Unit



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

How you can help Red Cross

There will be no Red Cross Calling door knock in Upper Beaconsfield this March and I thank all residents who have given most generously in previous years. Although the door knock will not take place, there will be many opportunities to contribute your donations for the work of Red Cross. There will be collection points in several shopping centres and also a sausage sizzle at Bunnings Fountain Gate store late March. Direct donations can be forwarded to Red Cross via their web site www.redcross.org.au. Donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

Normally at this time of the year Red Cross has been on the alert for bushfire assistance, but the vagaries of weather have seen need for help in flooded areas of Victoria and the aftermath of Cyclone Yasi in Queensland.

The mobile Blood Bank will be at the Pakenham Cultural Centre on

15, 16, 17 and 18 March. New donors can arrange booking time by phoning 131 495.

The Pakenham Unit will be holding a market shopping afternoon at Meadowvale on Wednesday 23 March at 2.30 pm.

Eunice Welch who organises the sale of used postage stamps in Victoria for Red Cross reports that \$11 200 was raised in the last financial year by the small gesture of saving your postage stamps. Just tear a generous amount of envelope around the stamp and either place them in the Red Cross box at the Berwick Mechanics Institute Library in High Street, or phone 5944 3554 to arrange collection.

The Library featured a collection of Red Cross memorabilia in their display case prior to Christmas. Thank you to the committee and volunteers at the library for their continuing interest in the work of Red Cross and their assistance in selling Red Cross Christmas cards etc.

Upper Beac Scout Group

Ali Hudson, Group Chairperson



Bursting at the seams but we'll always have room for more

Just before the end of term we had several cub and scout awards presented and during one of these evenings the Group Committee were presented with a cheque for \$500 from the Village Festival Committee. Tom Gibson came to the igloo and gave a short speech thanking the scouting sections for their active participation and support of the local community. We are very grateful for this donation and it has been earmarked to be spent on much-needed new camping equipment. We had a grand turnout for the Christmas break up at the Pine Grove with approximately 65 people attending, a good social evening with good food and a great atmosphere.

The Rover Crew is working away at their mud bash car and they are hoping for some new members from the Venturer Unit soon. This would be a good thing as the unit is so

popular with the 15–18 year olds, and they will have to consider a waiting list if any more youth join. How good is that?

The reason is all the great activities that the unit runs. Their year kicked off with a great camping weekend down at Phillip Island. They will also be attending “Anything Goes” in Ballarat at the end of the month. Many of them will be attending the Venture in Tasmania towards the end of the year.

The Scouts were going to launch into a French Island camp, but sadly due to the recent weather they were rained, or more accurately flooded out. I am sure it will be rescheduled soon. They have a full program ahead of them building rafts and catapults amongst other things. Construction is a strong theme this term. Along with many other camps planned, many of the 11–14 year olds will be preparing for the Green Cords this year.

Cubs are making the most of daylight

savings with lots of activities outside this term, with kite building and making, billy cart racing and night hikes. Many of them will be preparing for the Cuboree in September this year, so now is the time for your 7½ year olds to join if they would like to join in the fun from 26–30 September this year.

Next month look out for us selling our Monster Raffle tickets out side the General Store. We are always appreciative of community support and are grateful to “BUGS” for allowing us to use their shop front.

If you would like to find out more about Cubs (7–11 years), Scouts (11–14 years) or Venturers (14–18 years) please phone Group Leader Paul Deady 5944 4248 after hours or e-mail gl.upperbeaconsfield@vicscouts.asn.au



Brad Battin MLA Member for Gembrook opens office for business

The office of Member for Gembrook Brad Battin is now up and running.

Mr Battin has been setting up his office, at Suite 5/6–8 Langmore

Lane in Berwick, for the last few weeks and is ready to meet with constituents and assist with any state related matters.

“I look forward to meeting with the people of Gembrook and I will do my best to help with any inquiries they may have.”

My office is open 9 am–5 pm, Monday to Friday, or by appointment. Phone 9796 1987.

Upper Beaconsfield Kindergarten

Tracey Wadelton, Vice President

Welcome to new families

I would like to say a huge welcome to all of our new kinder families for 2011 and welcome back to those moving onto 4 year old kinder or staying on at 3 year old for another year.

The Upper Beaconsfield Kindergartens are such a huge part of our local community and as such I would like to thank the kinder community of 2010 and the Upper Beaconsfield community at large for their wonderful contributions to our kinder last year, be it through supporting our fundraising efforts, or volunteering their time at working bees etc.

This year sees our kinder leave the hands of our ever capable and dedicated president Kristy Pentland and welcomes our new president Kathryn Smith. Kathryn has spent the last couple of years perfecting her role as treasurer extraordinaire and is more than capable and enthusiastic in filling

Kristy's shoes (as big as they are), as the new president.

We have maintained the cream of the crop this year with our dedicated and endearing teachers: Claire Robins with the assistance of Alison Jones at our pre kinder, and Therese Collings with the assistance of Naomi Stewart and Lisa Hunter at our 4 year old kinder.

This year our parents and children will be benefitted by the dedication of past committee members, including John and Fiona Scarborough and Kylie Tymensen, with the long awaited addition of our ramp and front entrance at pre kinder. This has been a project that has been in the works for some years now and has been much anticipated. It provides a space outside of the small kinder foyer for parents to wait in with shade from sun and protection from rain. It also is easy for parents with young families to park a pram, and helps not to

distract our 3 year olds during the session from waiting parents and siblings.

We have an exciting addition to our 4 year old kinder this year with a beautiful new interactive kitchen makeover! With thanks to some awesome fundraising efforts and lots of hard work filling in grant applications, we were able to match a Community Capital Works Grant from the Cardinia Shire and provide this wonderful facility for our children. The teachers and children alike will look forward to some wonderful cooking creations this year which I'm sure will be shared with parents on Mother's Day and Father's Day.

I hope our 2010 kinder kids are adjusting well to prep life this year. I have no doubt they will be as they have had the most wonderful guidance in our teachers ... although I'm sure they will be missing kinder just a little!

Take Care.

Toy Library

Marie Rogers



Toy Library is located at the Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre
Open Thursday and Saturday between 9.30-10.30 am during school term
Phone the Community Centre on 5944 3484 for more information

A big welcome to new residents to Upper Beaconsfield, especially those with young children or young grandchildren and thank you last year's toy library members for your support. We had a total of 49 families and 2 groups use the library, making the Upper Beaconsfield Toy Library a very busy and well maintained service to the community.

Toy Library is a great way to meet up with other families in the area and also find out what's on and where.

Stock take - It has taken over 2 weeks but

all toys have been checked, cleaned and sorted, ready to be borrowed for 2011. Thanks to all those members and the committee who offered their time. We have cleared-out old stock to make way for more new toys; keeping in mind those most requested and most popular. We will be selling our clearance stock and other items to raise money for the library during the Village Festival and the Market Day at UBCC in March. There is a fantastic 'new' doll's house up for sale for a bargain price, so if you visit either fair make sure you come up to the Community Centre and see what we have.

The Upper Beaconsfield Toy Library is an affordable, no fuss and easy way to entertain children for hours and continues to provide an extensive selection of fun and educational toys,

puzzles and games with a fantastic range of party toys too. Check out our most recent toy additions - sure to be winners!



Operation (Game), Paper Jamz Guitar, Retlro Robot and Transporter (ELC), Bubble Machine (great for parties), Thomas the Tank Engine Misty Island, Trackmaster Train Set, Happyland Sunflower School (ELC), Dr Seuss Green Eggs and Ham (Game), Hot Potato (Game - great for parties), New Jumping Castle, Elefun (Game), Happyland Windmill Farm Set (ELC), Teckno Toys Ride-on Bikes, Hide and Seek Tunnels / Tents (great for parties), Farm House, Tractors + Farm Animals, Huge range of new DVD's, Juggling Toys

We are pleased to announce that we have four new committee members join our team for 2011, welcome Kim Mitchell, Beth Andrews, Lisa Howe and Ian Norbury. Thanks for the much needed support.

This follows the resignation of both long serving Treasurer Cathy Fischer and Duty Manager Sue Brooks, both have dedicated many hours to their positions including various other roles and have been with the library for well over 4 years, their willingness to get things done, help out when needed whilst juggling home life is a credit to them. They will be sorely missed and we wish them well in their new endeavours, thanks girls!



2010 Committee - From left: Sue Brooks, Fiona Kneen, Marie Rogers, Rosemary Hawke, Rebecca O'Brien & Cathy Fischer

Primary School news

Nick Karanzoulis, Principal



Welcome to new students

We have had a rather smooth start to the 2011 school year, with over 40 new preps starting their formal schooling at BUPS and settling well into their new learning environment. Our extensive transition program last year has ensured that our preps are well prepared and confident as they commence one of the more significant events in their life. Our grade 6 prep buddies were also on hand to welcome the preps. A very warm welcome goes to our new preps and their parents, as well as the new students who have transferred to BUPS this year.

Staff members were at school many days before the return of students, talking about the year ahead and planning in teams.

All teachers and education support staff participated in the workshops that were held at the Cardinia Cultural Centre and organised by the principals of the Cardinia Network. The theme of the day-long workshops was student engagement and wellbeing with excellent presenters that included Andrew Fuller, Helen McGrath and Jo Lange. Staff appreciated the opportunity to network with other staff in the network and to hear world renown speakers talk about student wellbeing issues, and feel well prepared for an excellent year in getting the best out of all students.

Some of the extracurricular events that have taken place at BUPS have included the grade 5/6 outdoor adventure camp at Wilsons Promontory; an intensive swimming program for the grade 5/6s that



prepared children for ocean swimming/surfing; performances by the choir at the Village Festival as well as our annual House Swimming Carnival.

This year we will be consolidating the work that we commenced in 2010 — that of personalised learning. This takes a highly structured and responsive approach to each student's learning to promote engagement, achievement and progress while strengthening the bond between the student and their parent as partners in learning. This means that our teaching and learning pedagogy is further tailored to the needs of individuals, enabling them to grow and develop. When we are using the developmental curriculum approach in the early years of education, children are taking more

responsibility for their learning, exploring their interests, showing greater creativity and inventiveness, and motivating each other's learning. The Energy Module of the Sustainable Schools accreditation is a focus across all year levels. Understanding energy, how we

generate it and how we can reduce its use world-wide, has a significant influence on the longevity of our planet. We recently were successful in receiving a \$50 000 solar energy grant from the Federal Government that will enable the installation of solar panels to the grade 3/4 building. This will generate approximately \$1 000 of electricity annually. A software program will monitor the energy produced

as well as the energy that the school consumes, 24/7. Such authentic learning should prepare our children to be proactive in using energy wisely and minimise the carbon footprint on this earth. Our new BUPS Stadium is now open to our students and the general community. This is a magnificent building that will provide the Upper Beaconsfield community with a facility that includes a competition size basketball/netball/volleyball court, full-



OPEN MIC NIGHT

Are you interested in performing?

Come along and hone your skills in front of a real live audience! We welcome all forms of the performing arts: singing, mime, poetry reading, dancing, bands (practically) anything!

Performers to be age 12 years and over

Enquiries can be made at the Community Centre on 5944 3484 or contact Tess on 0427 394 598

Friday 25 February and 25 March 2011 – 7.30 pm onwards
\$5.00 audience members \$3.00 performers

responsibility for their learning, exploring their interests, showing greater creativity and inventiveness, and motivating each other's learning.

The Energy Module of the Sustainable Schools accreditation is a focus across all year levels. Understanding energy, how we

size stage with dressing rooms, as well as a function room and a large kitchen. Cost in hiring the facility is kept to a minimum, basically covering the cleaning and utilities costs. If you are looking at hiring the venue, for whatever purpose, please contact Josie in the office to discuss your needs. Landscaping to the surrounds of the stadium will commence shortly. The stadium will be officially opened in late April.

Congratulations to teacher Bec Lansbury who recently had her first baby.

Wishing all a great year.



Summertime 2011

Last year finished on a high note, when our Club Championship grand finals were played during the Christmas party. Congratulations to all finalists:

Junior boys open singles – Taylor Brown (winner) and Adam Papadopoulos.
(Now is the time to get Taylor and Adam to carry some of our 'older' players in senior comps!)

Junior girls open singles – Emily Cordy (winner) and Megan Anderson
(Last year Megan triumphed over Emily in the final – well done girls!)

B-grade singles – David Lorimer (winner) and Olivia Cootes

Senior mens singles – Peter Puts (winner) and Michael Blackman

Senior mens doubles – Peter Puts / Michael Blackman (winners) and Mark Eibl / Luke Briffa

It was great to have so many of Paul Osborne's junior coaching kids turn up for the Christmas party which was once again a huge success.

Social night

Those that braved the heat on Sunday and turned up for the social night and BBQ to watch the Australian Open men's final on the big screen had a great night. Stay tuned for our next social night, which is yet to be announced. If you missed the Christmas party in 2010, make sure you are free for 2011 – it's an entertaining and casual night out for both young and old.

Good sports

UBTC has recently earned a level 3 accreditation under the Australian Drug Foundation's Good Sports Program. This program has been designed to assist clubs with the responsible management of alcohol through an accreditation process requiring clubs to implement a variety of practices and policies at each level. It is the first nationwide alcohol accreditation program of its kind. Other clubs interested in more information or wishing to register for

the Good Sports program should contact Good Sports on 1300 883 817.

Inter-club competition

Although we are closer to the end of summer competition than the beginning, it's never too late to register your interest in becoming an emergency/fill-in player, or a regular for winter. Anyone wanting to play should contact Nic Gamble (0438 443 756 or nic.g@bigpond.com) for Pennant or Peter Durkin (9215 3129, 5944 3765 or peter.durkin@ato.gov.au) for Waverley District.

Anyone interested in playing midweek ladies competition whether beginner or experienced please contact Kerrie Stanley (5944 4066 or travelsafe@netspace.net.au).

Our junior teams continue to be very successful (half of our junior teams are in the top four on the ladder and working towards finals); however we need to keep feeding new players into the system as our top level players are eventually forced out for being too old. Any interested junior players within the community can ring Peter Thompson on 5944 4634.

Night tennis

Monday night (beginners/intermediate)

Any players interested in Monday night please contact Sharon Brockman

on 5944 3829 or 0439 933 668.

Tuesday night (intermediate/advanced)

If you are keen for some good competition as well as a social night out please contact Leanne Ricketts on 5944 3910 or 0417 660 377. We are currently looking for emergency players.

Wednesday night (advanced)

Wednesday night tennis continues on as usual - no teams, no schedules, no worries, just roll up whenever you feel like a game. For those that feel they must, call Nick Gamble on 0438 443 756 to find out more.

Thursday night (beginner/intermediate)

If you are interested in Thursday night tennis please ring Dave Harvey on 5944 3385 or 0400 457 505.

Court maintenance

We have been experiencing some extreme weather lately, so could all members please be patient and obey the temporary signs on gates when courts are out of action due to the surface being removed by either high wind and heat or heavy rain. Playing on courts that are yet to be repaired will only damage them further. Many thanks to Nick Gamble and the rest of the court maintenance team for doing a great job.

Enjoy what's left of summer and hope to see you at the courts.

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Cardinia Beaconhills Golf



Ian Hollingsworth

Having just experienced the wettest few days we can remember for many years at the golf club, summer is surprisingly close to coming to an end. The holiday period has seen many golfers out playing and enjoying the course in relatively mild summer temperatures, with many having then joined the club and become a member after experiencing the playing facilities that we have up here.

The widespread flooding on 4/5 February saw our dams overflowing, creating a torrent of water over the driveway leading up to the club on the Saturday morning, and cutting access to anyone other than those with a 4WD vehicle. Even most of them weren't too keen to attempt the crossing! From about 7 pm on the Friday night until about 1 pm on the Saturday, we had rainfall totalling 180 mm, which with its intensity washed away many paths and saw half a dozen very large

trees topple over. The overall damage was not as bad as it may have been, and we were grateful that the wind didn't get up to exacerbate the debris around the course, as the work load for the ground staff on the Monday morning was already ample. Who's to know what weather will be ahead of us given the freakish conditions experienced up and down the east coast since Christmas? We'll just have to wait and see.

On matters golfing, our very own Brad Crowley took out the 36 hole Cardinia Beaconhills Open played in November, the major event played in our Week of Golf. His score of 69 in the morning round was outstanding given the wet conditions that confronted players, and he backed it up

with 75 in the afternoon. He took the title by four shots, beating some very handy players in the process. The week proved most successful with all players enjoying the different events, and it was also good to see many entrants from other clubs coming up to play.

5 February should have seen the commencement of the first round of the men's Club Championship, but the extreme weather conditions saw the round cancelled. Normally played over four rounds, this event will now be played over three, but I'm sure we'll still have a worthy winner at the end. Given all the hard work put in by the ground staff and volunteers to get the course ready for the first round, Mother Nature put her hand up and saw all their efforts washed away! The ladies also have their own championship fast approaching,

tiered practice tees, enabling excavators to form one much larger flat area upon which to practice. Turf will be cut from several areas around the course for transplanting onto the new tee, and this should make the tee playable by about the end of March. We're also incorporating a practice bunker into the project, so it should end up being a really useful addition to the course. Also, the old 4th hole on the Lakes Course will be back in play shortly. This will aid in the continuity of play on the Lakes, and simply makes this course a better layout. The feared second shot across the dam often proved the downfall of many a good round in the making!

Our monster auction will again take place on Saturday 19 March. This important fundraiser for the club attracted many members and local residents when last held

in December 2009. All had fun and dug deep into their pockets for the benefit of the golf club. We'll again have a vast array of items up for either silent or live auctioning: sporting goods, homewares, gardening tools, boxes of fruit & veg, holiday accommodation packages and even a trailer filled with a variety of interesting things, will all be up for grabs. If anyone would like to donate goods or



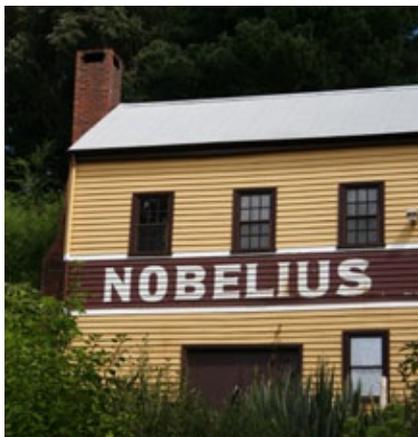
Runoff flowing down the golf course

with several recently attending a golf clinic with our teaching pro David Williams, to get their games in tip-top shape for the upcoming weeks play.

Practice is the key for all golfers aspiring to improve their games, and we will soon have completed work on our new practice tee to assist players. Many cubic metres of soil have been shipped in to build up the old multi-

services for the auction, please contact Ian in the office on 5945 9210 to discuss, and any items would be greatly appreciated.

Our best wishes go to Stuart Lever, a long time employee of the Proshop, who is currently unwell and taking extended sick leave, we wish him all the best.



A picturesque treasure

Carey Williams, curator, Nobelius Heritage Park and Emerald Museum

Nobelius Heritage Park in Emerald is a peaceful, green, leafy retreat from the hurly-burly of modern lifestyle. It's a great place for a walk, a talk, a picnic, or a prayer.

The picturesque site is a stunning

scenic landscape steeped in rich history you can feel. It has many features, not the least of which is the rare *Knightia excelsa* or Maori honeysuckle situated below the new rosemary and lavender plantation. This tree is cited by the National Trust as an outstanding example of the species and is the largest specimen in Victoria.

There are many other mature trees including copper beech, a superb variegated tulip tree, large Liquidambar, Evergreen and Red Oaks, many conifers and other exotics. You will also find some Eucalyptus in the form of mountain ash, messmate, and Eucalyptus macarthurii. There are young plantations of heritage apples, red maples, golden maples and tupelos. There's a new water sensitive urban drainage scheme, complete with rain gardens, and a salvia plantation.

The Committee of Management of the Cardinia Shire works with a vegetation management plan to preserve and improve the park and its cultural value. The site 100 years ago was the hub of 'Gembrook Nurseries', the largest nursery in the southern hemisphere employing 80 people and exporting millions of trees annually. World War I began a decline with disruption to shipping and markets. After the death of Carl Axel Nobelius in

1921 some of the 640 acres was sold off and the nursery continued on a smaller scale trading as 'C.A. Nobelius and Sons' until 1967. In 1981 the nursery, now infested with the noxious weed oxalis, finally closed and was earmarked for subdivision for residential development.

Fortunately state and local government recognised its heritage value and purchased the remaining 4.5 hectares preserving it for the community and future generations. Pivotal to this were Gus Ryberg, our first curator, and the then Premier of Victoria, Rupert Hamer.

Much of this history is kept by document and photograph in the Emerald Museum located in the park and open Sundays 1.30-4 pm and Wednesdays 10-2 pm.

The Heritage Park is open 7 days a week. Coming from Upper Beaconsfield you turn right into Crichton Road immediately after the Puffing Billy crossing as you approach Emerald. The committee has exciting plans for the future and is currently forming a friend's group. Anyone interested can contact park curator Carey Williams on 5968 1556 or email careyw@internode.on.net, or ring the Emerald Museum on 5968 2152.



Heritage apple trees encircled by a wisteria arch

Village Bell subscriptions for 2011

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 2011 are now due and can now be paid at either the

Community Centre, General Store or Post Office.

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

Please tag your payment with your name and VB Subs so we know who sent it. Thank you to those who have subscribed this year.

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