



Upper Beaconsfield Association  
[www.upperbeaconsfield.org.au](http://www.upperbeaconsfield.org.au)

**UPPER BEACONSFIELD**

# BELLAGE



# Village Festival 2012



CWA ladies prepare scrumptious scones



Cr Graeme Legge presents the trophies to the runners



fun had by all

# Upper Beaconsfield Citizens of the Year 2011

Awards presented by the Mayor of Cardinia Shire, Ed Chatwin

## Izabel Bianchi

### Young Citizen of the Year

Many residents may have met 12-year-old Izabel Bianchi at last year's carols, where she entertained us with her performance. She likes singing, reading and spending time with her animals. Izabel was chosen as our young Citizen of the Year for her services to the residents of Salisbury house, where she regularly reads to the elderly. Sometimes these small acts of kindness go unnoticed, however, they should be acknowledged and encouraged. Izabel is a role model for all of us in terms of donating her time to those people in need of some warm human kindness.



## Peter and Joan Green

### Senior Citizens of the Year

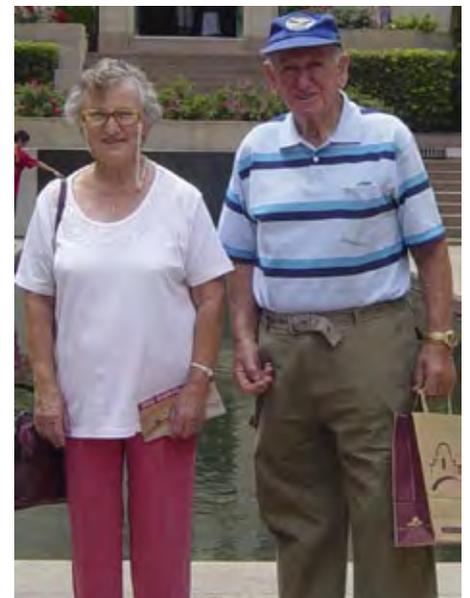
Peter and Joan Green, formerly of Sugarloaf Road, now of Berwick, have quietly contributed to community wellbeing over many years, always being community minded, not expecting praise or fanfare.

They lived here for over thirty years, Peter building the house employing Joan as his gofer. During this period they both served on the Village Hall committee, Joan as secretary for ten years and Peter as President for 6 years, as well as using his building skills as volunteer maintenance man.

Joan was associated with the Upper Beaconsfield Rural Fire Brigade for over twenty years, a tireless worker with the Ladies' Auxiliary. She has also helped at the Berwick Opportunity shop once a week for 19 years, as well as being a member of the local CWA.

On leaving Upper Beac it was heart wrenching for Peter to dispose of a lifetime collection of tools of trade, but gratified when a gentleman was thrilled to buy them for his own pursuits in doing things in the old craftsman's way. But Peter insisted on taking his trailer, and his collection of war medals. Oh and of course Joan too! Joan carried her sense of humour and love of gardening everywhere, but downsizing involved some difficult decisions about sentimental possessions too.

They each continue to volunteer, Joan at the op shop and Peter with Berwick Woodworkers helping to make toys for less fortunate children.



## Nikki Le Brocq Citizen of the Year

Nikki was selected as Citizen of the Year for her tireless service to the community of Upper Beaconsfield over twenty years. She has served on the committees of numerous community groups including being President and committee member of the Upper Beaconsfield Primary School PFA for over ten years, member of the Kindergarten committee, the toy library committee and currently the Tennis Club.

Nikki has been an untiring fundraiser for many causes, organising events and raising large amounts of money for our Primary School, SIDS & Kids Victoria, the CFA, the 2009 bushfire appeal, Red Cross and the Cancer Council.

Nikki has been an amazing support for her husband Geoff and her sons, Jack, Harry & Bill. She works part time, helps run Geoff's business and supports the Cams Rising Star and Formula Ford organisations, in which her son Jack is very involved.

Nikki has a tremendous amount of community spirit and generously donates her time and experience. She deserves the thanks from the community of Upper Beaconsfield, for all of the hard work she does.

Congratulations  
also to our Citizens  
of the Year 1985,  
Stan & Beryl  
Hamilton, on  
their 50th wedding  
anniversary.

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## Rainfall at "Barkala", Beaconsfield–Emerald Road

George Moir

Month	43 yr average	2011	2012
Jan	62.8	98.9	60.3
Feb	53.4	250.5	
Mar	64.4	58.9	
Apr	76.9	101.0	
May	85.0	96.4	
Jun	79.1	66.6	
Jul	79.2	65.9	
Aug	87.4	36.1	
Sep	90.3	105.3	
Oct	95.4	73.7	
Nov	85.6	159.5	
Dec	80.5	114.1	
<b>Total</b>	<b>940 mm</b>	<b>1226.9 mm</b>	

The 2011 spring quarter (Sep–Nov) recorded a rainfall of 388 mm (average 271 mm) followed by the first two months of summer recording 174.4 mm (average 143.3 mm), which maintained this higher trend.

The year 2011 recorded a high rainfall of 1226 mm, only exceeded once in my 44 years of rainfall recording when the 1970 rainfall record was 1275 mm. In this period a further seven years of rainfall in the range of 1100-1200 mm has occurred—three in the 1970s and four in the 1990s.

## History Snippets

### Early Village Bells make a very interesting read

The digitisation of the back issues of the Village Bell is progressing steadily, with the first twenty-two issues now available on our website for download. [www.upperbeaconsfield.org.au/archive](http://www.upperbeaconsfield.org.au/archive)

There are many interesting stories to be found about our history, our people and what concerned us then.

### In 1912 ...

In 1912 ... Frances Evelyn Shanks is born. When 12 years old she suggests that the settlement of North Beaconsfield be named Dewhurst.

In 1912 ... Judge David John Davies Bevan, of Pen Bryn, becomes the 1st Judge of the Supreme Court of the Northern Territory.

In 1912 ... Donald Samuel Campbell dies in the Titanic disaster. He was working as a purser. His mother Ellen Campbell together with her sisters lived at 'Santon' on Stoney Creek Road.

In 1912 ... Richard Noble dies in Maffra. A long time esteemed resident of Upper Beaconsfield, he was given an illuminated address on his departure.

### Men's Shed up and running

Matt McDonald

"The Shed gave me my life back; friends, things to do." This comment came from a member of a nearby men's shed. The Upper Beaconsfield Men's Shed is off to a great start and it is hoped the group will draw similar responses from members in time.

The group has been meeting since October 2011, has a steering committee and meets every Wednesday morning from 10 am to 12 noon in the Arts Annexe next to the Upper Beaconsfield Community Complex.

The Men's Shed has the promise of a portable classroom and support from the

UBCC Building and Grounds Committee to locate the building on land at the Complex. A planning permit is being sought and the process of approval will no doubt involve community consultation. The steering committee is also exploring avenues for funding to install the building and connect services.

In the meantime the group has held two demonstration sessions, one on the maintenance of small engines (Barry Gates) and another on the management and maintenance of fire pumps (Eric Bumpstead). Sessions are planned for chainsaws, fruit trees, soils, sharpening tools and hardening and tempering steel.

We have registered with both the Victorian and Australian Men's Shed Associations, and are developing links with neighbouring Men's Sheds, Cardinia Shire and other community groups. The Shed also operates with the support of the Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre (major user group at the Complex). Members have given practical assistance in maintenance and repair of items around the Complex.

New members always welcome. Just come along on a Wednesday. For further information, contact Matt McDonald (5944 3860 / 0407 845 135 / [fivemacs@netspace.net.au](mailto:fivemacs@netspace.net.au)) or Noel Ling (5944 3735 / 0414 443 735 / [ling1@bigpond.com](mailto:ling1@bigpond.com))

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

## Vale Russell Arthur Williams 24 Jan 1929 to 18 Nov 2011

Jo Carter

Russell was born in Maryborough in 1929 to school teacher Arthur Williams and his wife May. Russell was one of five brothers. He married Fay Wright of Coburg and they had three children, one son and two daughters. In 1974 the family moved to Upper Beaconsfield.

An ardent Carlton Football Club follower, Russell was a member of the MCG for 55 years, and was a Life Member and Hall of Fame member of the Coburg Cricket Club.

Russell was well known in Upper Beaconsfield, he was Principal of Pakenham High School for eight years and Principal of Dandenong High School for five years until retirement in December 1986.

20 years ago Russell joined the Berwick Bridge Club, and was President for some time. He was a strong and competitive player, winning many competitions.

In the early days of the Village Bell, Russell, as headmaster of Pakenham, kindly allowed the use of the school's offset printer. Russell served on the editors committee of the Village Bell in the 1990s and was an excellent proof reader.

Russell had five granddaughters and five great grand children.

His services to the community of Upper Beaconsfield as Justice of the Peace will be missed and he is mourned by his family, many friends and fellow bridge club players.



## Are we a "Tidy Town"?

Jo Carter

Is our village looking less appealing then formerly? Residents and visitors alike have mentioned that the general appearance of the village is declining. The committees of both the UBA and the Hall and Grounds have discussed this situation with our local councillors and requested that council do their part in cleaning up council areas. It is not always easy to maintain neat and tidy gardens during the summer heat, and grass seems to grow before our eyes.

We will all look forward to seeing improvement in the Council's properties, and for the former pleasant appearance of our own gardens and nature strips.

## Carols by candlelight

Tess Porz

On 24 December the weather was fine and mild and we had a great turnout of residents, families and friends who had a lovely night. The carols evening began at 7 pm and concluded at 9 pm.

The new timeslot guaranteed a wonderful night of community singing plus a reasonably early night for everyone. The introduction of a few children's activities prior to the formal part of the evening proved to be lots of fun and was well received.

A big "thank you" to Peter Brown and co-compere Kate Porz, the band, the choir, the Upper Beaconsfield Association, the Upper Beaconsfield CFA and all who helped to make the night a great success! Next year we would like to include a small children's choir, so please contact Tess Porz on 0427 394 598 if you would like to be involved in 2012.



Just a grassfire or  
a deadly inferno?

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**PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.**

**FireReady** 

# About Town

Helen Smith



## The debate goes round and round

The recent public meeting hosted by MP Brad Battin on 31 January did not come to any consensus about the issues at the Beaconsfield–Emerald Road and St Georges Road intersection. However, they did get feedback from residents.

There were representatives from Cardinia Shire, including local councillor Ed Chatwin and Graeme Moore (Bunyip). VicRoads provided four people to show and explain the latest concept plans and Ed O’Donohue MLC was also present. As reported last Village Bell, VicRoads has determined a roundabout is too expensive and modifications to the road alignment are being considered. The concept plan utilises visual cues such as painted lines and signage to slow people down and includes some modifications to road alignment and a pedestrian refuge section.

The debate was quite heated at times. As someone quipped, “There are 50 planning experts in the room, all with their own solution”. Some people still favoured the roundabout. The solutions are obviously not easy and compromises will have to be made. There are two issues – the crossing of pedestrians and the exiting of cars from Salisbury and St Georges Road. At a cost of \$400 000 it would be a big waste of money if VicRoads’ proposal does not solve the problems.

Some interesting points in the debate included:

- Brad Battin sent out 1 500 surveys to residents and over 80 were returned.
- VicRoads conducted a survey of vehicle speeds and found that more people drove above the speed limit when travelling north, than those travelling south.
- Considerable cost and disruption would take place with the construction of a roundabout, including the relocation of services (water, power and sewerage etc). This is much more problematic in Upper Beaconsfield compared to a roundabout on a greenfields site such as a new estate.
- Most local residents are aware of the difficulties of the crossing and approach cautiously.
- St Georges Road residents feel they take their lives in their hands when trying to exit right at peak hour in the mornings.
- The “Intersection” is not actually an intersection as the roads are not quite aligned and this raises some legal issues regarding the give way rule. Currently when cars line up to cross or turn into Beaconsfield–Emerald Road drivers “wave” to indicate who goes first.
- One keen resident stood on the corner and took movies which showed that on average, a person exiting St Georges Road had

just a short time to decide when to proceed as cars coming from the Emerald direction were only visible for 4–5 seconds.

- People going to the Post Office may still try and cross the road at the intersection, rather than walk up to the proposed pedestrian crossing area near the General Store.

The debate has been going on for 30 years or so. Brad Battin estimates the changes will be implemented by Christmas 2012.



Photograph: Royce Harwood, Bootrope Productions

## Community update: plans for Beaconsfield–Emerald road intersection

Brad Battin

I would like to thank everyone that attended the public meeting on 31 January. About 50 people attended, and I know that many more were interested but unable to come along due to work or family commitments.

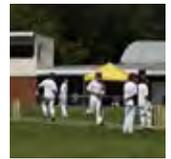
Just prior to the meeting I sent out surveys, and have now received 85 responses. I have read every one of these, and have also presented them to VicRoads. VicRoads will take into account both the information presented in the surveys and the views expressed at the two public meetings.

Local knowledge is an important tool in solving a local issue. I will continue to work with the community and VicRoads to improve safety at the Beaconsfield–Emerald Road / Salisbury Road / St Georges Road intersection.

Several people have provided me with their email addresses so that they can be informed of future developments – if you would also like to receive updates, please email me at [brad.battin@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:brad.battin@parliament.vic.gov.au) or contact my office on 9796 1987.

# Recreation Reserve

Bob Taylor, President



## A busy year

The Committee has had many changes of its membership during 2011 into 2012.

Brendan Hennessey from the Cricket club was replaced by Nick Fabien, John Wall from the school was replaced by Gavin McGill, with Wendy Smith and Andi Kittredg substituting most meetings. Pam Edwards has assumed a community role and been replaced by Liz Grigg for the Riding club. Sven Jones from the Pony club has been replaced by David McKenzie.

Football member Euan Laird and community members Richard Halliday, Gavin Weidemann and I have served the full year as has Paul Deady from the Scouts who has retired to be replaced by Mathew Fenner. I thank Paul for his participation and his work to get the Den extensions to a satisfactory conclusion.

Gavin Weidemann is also retiring as a community member and as our vice president and I do thank him for his most active commitment to the Reserve since he joined us in 2003. Gavin has looked after the security, maintenance, capital works improvements and dealings with Council and contractors over these years and has made a significant contribution to the Reserve's development and has been great personal support to me in my role as President. Gavin has indicated will continue

to support us from a distance and continue to offer his skills when called on.

The oval was back in use for cricket in January although a little rough and sparse. We had the practice nets area run ups returned in April. The Committee carefully considered and approved the best goal post positions for the 2011 winter given the need to protect the re-sprigged areas from the heavy goal square traffic.

Heavy football use in the wet winter meant a poor uneven surface for the start of the cricket season in October. Euan has now organised re-sprigging, fertilising and spraying for weeds followed by a top dressing this January, so that the oval has a good mat coverage of Kikuyu grass now with only a few weak spots. We changed oval and grounds contractors in March at much better rates.

The oval track was resurfaced in the June school holidays to everyone's satisfaction.

There are still concerns about water bills, perhaps due to underground water leakages. The bore has hardly been able to be used and its role in our irrigation supply seems very uncertain.

We were connected to the Village sewage system although the shire contractor did not come back to finish dressing up the sewage lines as he promised.

We were represented at several Cardinia Shire Council evenings for reserve committees and at sessions conducted by Victoria University for the DSE looking at volunteer management of DSE reserves.

A preventive cool burn by the CFA of the horse riding area took place in March and we engaged a clear up and burn of the remaining undergrowth.

The horse clubs received a Council grant to build a round yard as well as another to grade the roadways in the riding area and both projects are finished.

We rewired the inside and outside toilets with time switches and this has improved globe life.

Thanks again go to all committee members for your contributions to making improvements in the facilities on the Reserve. Office Bearers Pam as secretary and Richard as Treasurer have kept us on track with communications and finances.

2011 has been a consolidation year with many new members joining us. However, we have made significant improvements throughout the Reserve and I anticipate further improvements in the passive recreation areas now the improvements on major active areas such as the oval and the riding areas are nearing completion.

# Upper Beaconsfield Association

Jennie Vaughan, President Upper Beaconsfield Association 2011-2012



Through 2012 the Upper Beaconsfield Association has provided a forum with vigorous debate on several local issues at the public meetings.

As always, fire preparedness is very important to our community. The fire Brigade Captain, Barrie Gray, addressed the August general meeting of the UBA and gave a comprehensive report.

Once again "the roundabout" has taken the headline for discussion at meetings and the local MP, Brad Battin, has held two meetings of residents to discuss the Government's involvement. At this stage we await further development.

Several grants have been applied for to assist with the The Charles Wilson History of Upper Beaconsfield but at this time few have been received.

The Men's Shed project, supported by the UBA, is underway and proving popular. Involvement in the Village Festival and Carols by Candlelight is strong and these activities are well supported and organised by their respective committees. The community was pleased that Cardinia Council was able to purchase the house and land adjacent to the Community Complex for future community use.

The UBA committee was saddened to lose Keith Ewenson in June 2011. His generous mentoring, contribution and knowledge will be sadly missed. The Committee is grateful to our two Ward Councillors, Graeme Legge and Ed Chatwin, for their support and attendance at our meetings.

Thanks to members of the UBA committee, and especially our secretary, Noel Ling, for

their efforts in keeping the UBA running as well as it does. I also thank The Village Bell team for the effort they put into "The Bell" to keep us informed of local news and local issues. Thanks also to the Upper Beaconsfield community for your support, we welcome your attendance at our general meetings and the ideas and discussion you bring with you.

---  
 Please   
deadhead all your  
agapanthus! And  
don't forget to pull  
out the ragwort!

# Wildlife Watch

Laura Levens



I am writing this mid-January when dark red stems and pink flowers of hyacinth orchids are still scattered among the lush native grasses.

Leaves of tongue orchids died back several times during the year and the only stem of flower buds I saw was eaten off by something – deer or grey kangaroo? I don't remember this happening when swamp wallaby were the only browsers living here. The best patch of scented candles found it too hard to even come up where grasses are waist high.

Dillwynia and Pultenea species, small shrubs with red and yellow pea flowers, did well in late spring. Grey-green plants of Gompholobium heugeli came into bright lemon flower in January. Dogwoods made Christmas and New Year white.

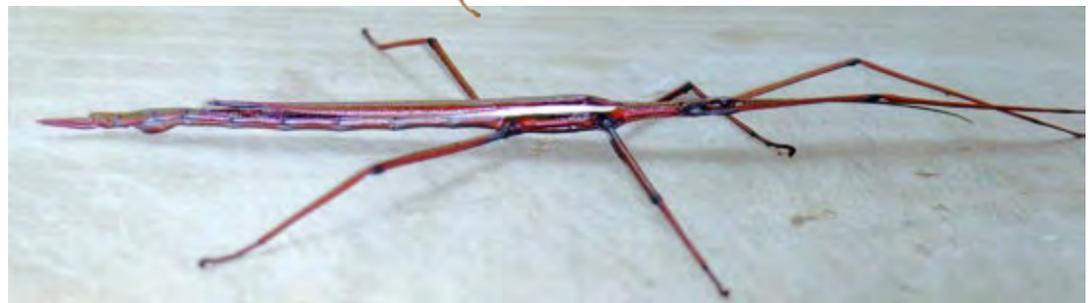
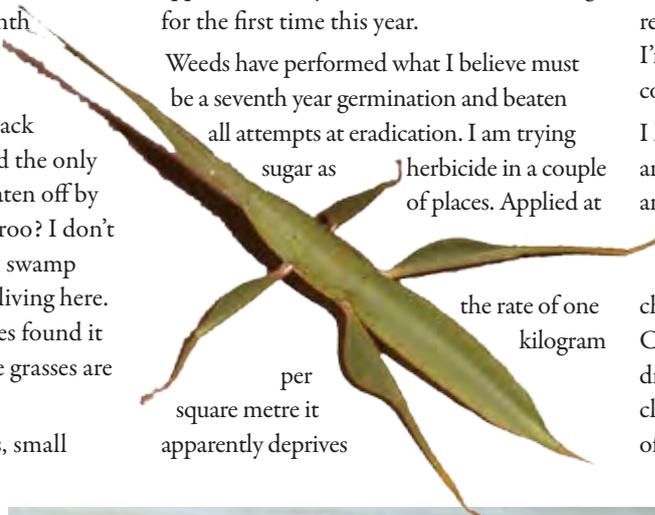
Prickly geebung died back several years ago. New plants

appeared three years back and are flowering for the first time this year.

Weeds have performed what I believe must be a seventh year germination and beaten all attempts at eradication. I am trying sugar as herbicide in a couple of places. Applied at the rate of one kilogram per square metre it apparently deprives

introduced plants of the nutrients they require but doesn't affect the natives. I'm living in hopes! If it works I'll need a container ship load to do the whole block!

I have just discovered that these stick insects are the same species. The long thin maroon and white one is the male and the green one mimicking eucalypt leaves is the female of Children's stick insect (*Tropidoderus childrenii*)— it was named by a Mr Children). They live among gum leaves, drop eggs to the ground and the juveniles climb all the way up again. Puts me in mind of kindergarten's ipsy wipsy spider.



## Biodiversity – What is it and why do we need it?

Peter Baird, Bass Coast Landcare News

Bio diversity is the number of different species that comprise an ecosystem in a given area. This could refer to a farm, a forest, an ocean or the sum total of all different species living on planet earth, including plants, animals, microbes and those weird things that live around deep ocean vents. It is in the end the sum total of all the different types of living things on the planet and the areas where they live.

It is estimated world wide that we are losing species at over 1 000 times the natural rate of extinction due to human action, and we here in Australia have the highest documented rate of species loss in the world.

There are many reasons why biodiversity is important and why we should be concerned with its loss. Here are three.

### 1. Intrinsic value

Firstly there is simply the intrinsic value of living things: the magnificence of life on Earth and the reverence it can inspire in us. For all we know this is the only living planet in the universe, or at least for a fair number of light years in any direction. So the loss of a species isn't just a loss to its home region, not just a loss to our planet but the loss of something unique in the universe that took billions of years to evolve.

### 2. Ecological services

With ecological systems diversity equals resilience. Basically all the organisms that make up the system contribute to its stability and

health. All the species (comprising say a forest, a river or a coastal dune system) have evolved together over long time spans to become a single integrated system where the sum total of all the species within the system create the ideal conditions for all the individual species to make up the system.

Removing species is the equivalent of removing parts from a car. We could remove say a fuel filter saying it looks small and insignificant in relation to the whole engine and for a while the engine will run, but sooner or later we'll develop a fuel block and the car will break down. Of course you can always go and buy a new filter, but in nature once a species is gone there are no replacement parts. With the loss of diversity natural systems become less functional and less resilient.

Functioning, healthy systems provide us with many services. Clean water, fresh air, habitat for recreational fish, erosion control, natural control of insect populations and a wide range of recreational opportunities to name a few. They also provide us with a huge diversity of species that may have some as yet unknown human cultural use in medicine, food or industry.

### 3. The genetic library

Nature has spent billions of years solving the design problems of complex integrated systems of molecules, through plants, animals and ecosystems, to the planet as a whole. This has created billions of chemical compounds that have millions of unknown uses. Some of the few we use are penicillin from a humble fungus, aspirin from willow bark, the use of leeches as a combination natural anticoagulant and numbing agent in hospitals. 25% of prescription drugs contain plant derived chemicals and 50% contain fungus

derived chemicals. Of the 20 000 or so known edible species of plant in the world only around 20 are in regular use with 90% of the world's population. Nature has addressed and solved all the challenges the planet has thrown at it and the secrets are stored in the vast genetic library of our biodiversity.

All our cultivated species of plant and animal have emerged from the evolutionary production system of our biodiversity, from which we've selectively bred the small range of plants and animals in common use today. There are no doubt millions of others out there we've yet to tap into.

## How does this relate to me?

77% of the Australian landmass is in private hands, so much of the management of our biodiversity is in the hands of private landholders. So in addition to the activities we carry out on our properties we are also by default, stewards of biodiversity. This need not be a burden and can in fact enhance the productivity and aesthetics (thus the real estate value) of our properties.

On farms a biodiverse indigenous shelter belt for instance, that has different plants at all levels from ground covers through to

the large canopy plants, will make a much better shelter belt than just a single row of trees, because it provides a continuous barrier from canopy to ground level. It will be self-perpetuating because it contains a complementary community of species that create the right conditions for each other's growth. Over time it will reduce opportunity for weeds as the community of plants takes up virtually all the available niches. Different species will flower at different times attracting a wide range of pollinators over the course of the year.

It has been measured that cattle with sufficient shelter will gain 30% more weight than those in exposed paddocks because they're not using up all their reserves to simply stay warm or cool. The shelter and shade also creates a much more pleasant working environment for humans.

It is also an enjoyable and gratifying experience to live with 60 species of birds where there were once 10, knowing you've created homes for them. And it's a good feeling to know you're contributing to the water quality and biological health of the whole region, and are helping to conserve the genetic library for the whole planet.

## Biodiversity in your backyard

*Helen Smith*

Many areas of Upper Beaconsfield contain only remnants of the original vegetation due to clearing for farming and housing. The nicest thing about living in Upper Beaconsfield is the space, the greenery and the fresh air. The new suburbs seem so crowded. There is so much concrete and paving which attracts heat and there's not enough room to plant trees and shrubs to provide shade and shelter. Where do the native birds, mammals and reptiles go?

Here are some tips for increasing biodiversity in your garden.

### DOs

1. Conserve remnant vegetation where possible.
2. Plant local species (visit the Green Circle Nursery in Halford Road).
3. Provide habitat e.g. rocks, hollow logs or wood piles and ground cover plants for insects, lizards and frogs, as well as bacteria and fungi.
4. Provide a variety of plants and sizes – ground covers, middle level and canopy plants. These provide shelter and food for animals. They shelter our homes too, in winter and summer.
5. Provide plants that flower in all seasons of the year for nectar feeding birds. These can be native plants or suitable introduced species.

6. Supply clean water regularly for birds, especially on hot days. Once they know it is there they will visit often.
7. If there are no natural tree hollows, set up a nesting box or two.

heads as soon as flowering is finished. Weeds overwhelm indigenous plants.

- Do not allow your pets to wander. Cats are natural killers and have a deadly impact on wildlife, from



### DON'Ts

- Avoid mass plantings of the same species, for example spiky plants or conifer hedges, etc.
- Don't have too much paving and hard surfaces around your house.
- Do not allow weeds to take over your garden or nature strip, e.g. ivy, thistles, ragwort, agapanthus, pittosporum, pine trees and blackberries etc. If you have agapanthus, deadhead the flower

beetles to butterflies and blue-tongues to gliders. Dogs can also kill or disturb native animals, water birds and reptiles if allowed to wander.

- Feeding of wildlife is not recommended as birds can become too dependent. It can also attract vermin.
- Avoid using chemicals in your garden. If you must use any, be very careful and use a minimum.

## Help for sick wombats

Jen Mattingley

The plight of wombats with mange has been an ongoing concern for many years. Mange is not a disease but an infestation of the mange mite which burrows under the skin. There has been no funding and no undertaking of any government department to try to eradicate mange or even humanely euthanise these animals which are left to die a slow and agonising death.

The “Burrow Flap” method promoted by the Wombat Protection Society has been in use in New South Wales for a period of years with positive results.

Free living adult wombats do not cope well in captivity; with

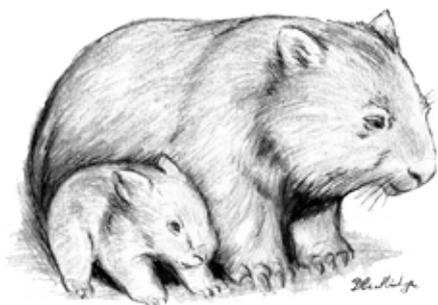


Illustration: Daphne Cartledge, *Art in the Hills, Emerald*

an already compromised immune system and the added stress of being caught they usually die within days. There is now a simple method of treating these wombats and preventing the mange spreading. The

“Burrow Flap” can be placed and monitored during daylight hours and without interference. The wombat self medicates when it leaves or returns to its burrow. The medication is administered to the flap once a week for 8 weeks and then fortnightly for a further 8 weeks, 12 treatments in total.

The Mange Management Group will supply the treatment kit with instructions free of charge. We can also arrange to come and talk to interested groups. Working together with Landcare groups, friends groups and interested landowners is an ideal way to reach affected areas to eradicate mange and stop the suffering. A win win for everyone.

The Mange Management Group can be contacted on 5942 8518 or email [maryknoll@aapt.net.au](mailto:maryknoll@aapt.net.au)

## Help protect remnant bushland

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 15 April from 12.30 pm at Bruce & Lorraine Calway’s property 121 Matters Road, Upper Pakenham. 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 members will be attending and bringing everyone up to date with current developments.

Anyone wishing to learn about the Trust’s work and the Cardinia Shire’s Rate Reduction and Biodiversity Incentive Scheme for covenanted properties, is 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](mailto:neilmcd36@hotmail.com).

## Salisbury Road land slip repaired

Laura Levens

Heavy rain overnight 5–6 February 2011 caused a massive landslip on Salisbury Road between Carpenter and Officer Roads. Road closed signs and water across the road did not deter some locals who assumed it meant flooding on the flat near Toomuc Valley Road.

Barriers and traffic lights in place before 10 February 2011 added only 3 minutes each way to our drive to Upper Beaconsfield. Council announced the road could be closed for several months while repairs were in progress. This caused concern as it would be during the fire danger period.

The tender was awarded in November, and I understand that changes to the design were possible when they found a huge solid rock foundation to use as a base for repairs. So that helped reduce costs without detriment to the result. All works were tested and certified by a geotechnical firm. Repair work began on 28 November 2011 when excess soil was removed.

350 truckloads of granite groaned up the hill and rumbled past our place in Leppitt Road for three weeks, delivering approximately 7000 cubic metres of granite. I gave up counting how many per hour while I was weeding. Work continued over long days, with Sunday as rest day. Guard rails were replaced on 22 December 2011 and both lanes opened to traffic with a 60 km/h speed limit.

The gap in the guard rails is the result of the owner of the property directly below negotiating with council to provide access. The open view without trees was a bit disconcerting for a while.

As I write, drainage outfall pipes, extended from some already under the road, are being installed underground down to the creek, as well as further drainage work on the uphill side. This will result in more traffic interruptions with a complete road closure in early February.

Thank you to the shire engineer in charge and the contractor, who provided the facts that support this story.



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# Emerging maroons step out!

**Rob Hansen, Upper Beaconsfield Cricket Club**

Our young developing cricketers have been exposed to considerable opportunities. A team of hopefuls ventured to Sweeney Reserve to test their skills against Narre Warren talent. The Maroons adapted to turf successfully outpointing the Magpies in a one day match. Under the watchful eye of Chris Pentland, players like Lachy Henstock, Tom Tyrrell, Jayden Joyce and brother Taylor (who smashed a quick fire 52) as well as Kyle Gibbs and Lachy Harrison all displayed great potential. Well done to the emerging Maroons!



Similarly a group of about 12 youngsters enjoyed a session led by former Upper Beac coach Steve Atkins just prior to Christmas. Steve currently works at premier club North Melbourne and is recognised as one of Victoria's top technique coaches. The boys were each provided with a DVD of their batting and bowling technique to assist them improve their skills. Hopefully with this aid and lots of work they will lift their quality during the remainder of the season. This session was sponsored by Upper Beaconsfield's Thrifty Link Hardware. We thank Gail and Mark Kelly for supporting this venture.

There will be follow up activities before the conclusion of the season so that our young developing players can improve their cricket.

## Highlights this summer

Craig Haw joined the illustrious Tons of Runs Centurions when he scored 117 not out against Gembrook in the Subbies.

Shannon Bergman, free from finger lickin, smacked a powerful 79 not v St Francis Xavier in the thirds.

Kyle Gibbs bowled an amazing 8 overs to take three for four against Gembrook in the seconds.

Congratulations to those who represented the club in WGCA matches in the VMCU carnivals. Jaxon Dooley performed admirably in the Keith Mitchell Shield for U12s. He opened the batting and scored 19 v Northern Metro.

Sam McDavitt took 7 wickets in the first four matches for the U14s and made 26 out of 55 which the team made v City of Moorabbin. Lachy Harrison was a key contributor in the U16 WGCA team which, when going to print, had reached the semis. He took 3 wickets in the quarter final.

Dan Brennan has been selected in the WGCA Country Week squad. Well done Dan!

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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 letter box 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 2012 are now due and can now be paid at the Community Centre, General Store or Post Office.

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## Join in the spirit of the Community Centre

Sarah Johnson

Hello and a happy new year to our community members. The Community Centre will be glad to see you all back making the most of the educational and lifestyle programs we have available. We hear so much about new year resolutions which to be honest are hard to stick to. However, if you enrol in a class at the Community Centre not only will you gain a new skill, new friends and new view on life but you will be helping to keep the spirit of the Centre alive. We are already having a terrific response to classes for term 1 and invite you to try something new this year and support your Community Centre. If you have not received a program please call in and see us or call on 5944 3484 or visit our website [www.ubcc.org.au](http://www.ubcc.org.au)  
If you would like to run a class or workshop at the Centre please contact Sarah on 5944 3484.

## A great time to get a new qualification

Fiona Kneen

Welcome back to all our hard working students. For anyone thinking about making a change for the better in their life or work, please consider one of our courses as the first step! We have a range of courses which can open many doors.

We still have a couple of spaces available for our new Certificate III in Children's Services class (on Mondays from 9 am-3 pm), Certificate III in Aged Care and Certificate III in Home and Community Care (on Tuesdays 9 am-3 pm) at the Centre. An exciting new offering is a Diploma in Children's Services starting Tuesday evenings from 17 April. Limited places are filling fast for this and other courses, so please get enrolled quickly to secure your place. For enrolments, expressions of interest or questions about any of these courses please contact the Centre on 5944 3484.

## Crèche is full of activities

Kylie Haringsma

Welcome to the peaceful, natural environment of the UBCC Crèche. The children are having a wonderful time returning to

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Crèche in 2012 by meeting old friends, making new friendships and experiencing learning and education through play experiences offered by our experienced, mature educators. Some highlights this term will include a pre-school music group. We are very fortunate to have Tess Porz volunteering her time to run the music group each Tuesday. Another highlight will be the pre-school Yoga session, which the children thoroughly enjoy on Mondays run by Karen.

Don't forget that we are now open from 8.30 am until 4.30 pm, each weekday, all through the year. You can book your child or children for full days, or for flexible shorter periods. Don't hesitate to contact us if you have any queries about the service our Crèche offers or would like to come and see the Crèche. We look forward to another exciting year with the children, filled with learning and fun.

## Community Arts Project

Sally Randall

The Community Centre has been fortunate to receive funding from both the Shire of Cardinia, under the Cardinia Shire Beautification Program, and from the Beaconsfield Branch of the Bendigo Bank, for a community arts project to build and create a Mosaic seat around the tree at the entrance to the Community Centre. Local artist Belinda Conibeer has designed a mosaic incorporating local plants and animals and will co-ordinate the creation of the mosaic panels, by community groups from Kalimna Support Options and from Salisbury House in Upper Beaconsfield.

We would also like to acknowledge the generous support of Bunnings Ltd (Pakenham) which has provided some of the materials needed for the mosaic. Construction of the seat is being undertaken by the Upper Beaconsfield Men's Shed, so this is truly a community project. We apologise in advance for any inconvenience while the seat is being constructed.

# Primary School (BUPS)

Nick Karanzoulis, Principal



## Preps first day

After a rather extensive and enjoyable Prep Transition Program last year, our more than 40 new Preps started their formal education at BUPS on Thursday, 2 February, full of enthusiasm, anticipation, excitement and smiles. The Prep rooms were filled with parents, grandparents, siblings (both older and younger), staff, and many cameras as this special moment in the life of each family was celebrated and captured digitally on a memory card. Grandparents, parents and older siblings no doubt were reflecting on their first day of school and what it was like, all those years ago. The new Preps looked sensational in their spotless new uniforms and their huge inquisitive eyes—wide open! The Preps were also welcomed by their Grade 6 buddies, a bond that will last beyond these twelve months.

As educators, we have a major responsibility to prepare our students with the skills that will see them thrive in our world—cognitively, emotionally and physically. What will the world look like in 2024 when this year's Preps graduate from secondary school? We can only speculate!

This year, the Tempo Dance Company



council. We look forward to witnessing their leadership and their growth in 2012.

## Captains 2012

Jenna Bliss and Jordie Adem are our school captains for 2012.

Our house captains are the following:

Dewhurst : Jaxon Dooley (C), Brody Baseden, Brooke Stanton(C), Kate Porter

Cardinia : Will Morgan (C), Luke Bokos, Jess Kiker (C), Tash Bindley

Guys Hill : Sinclair Laird (C), Adam Mosterd, Courtney Allan (C), Amy Lawton

Emerald : Jarrod Butler (C), Joel Clausen, Tamsyn Pentland (C), Shaylee Johnson

Green Corp Captains: Riley Richardson and Katie Robinson

Grade 5 Upper Beac RSL encouragement awards (in memory of Frank Conn):

Brooke Stanton and Bradley Van Noordennen.

## Stolen CCTV cameras

Unfortunately over the Christmas break, we had some of our CCTV cameras stolen, by the same person who stole other cameras late in 2011. The person arrives at our school on a pushbike, wearing a balaclava, a heavy jacket, and with a backpack. Some of

will be operating in our Stadium, from 4–6 pm, every Tuesday. They are offering jazz, hip-hop and classical. They cater for all ages and abilities. Please contact the office for further details.

This year, we will be focussing on the implementation of our Personalised Teaching and Learning strategy that is based on our Pedagogical Statement “At Beaconsfield Upper PS, personalised learning is a partnership between students and teachers, negotiating the individual students’ learning path to become successful 21st century citizens who achieve optimal cognitive, emotional and social competencies.”

## Student leadership team

Congratulations to our student leaders for 2012. They play an important role in representing other students and our school to the general community. One of the monthly tasks of the school captains is the presentation of their report to school



Jenna Bliss – School Captain 2012



Jordie Adem – School Captain 2012

the cameras are coloured white, shaped like a ball and are engraved with the school's name. The thief is likely to be a local resident in his late teens/early 20s. If you have any information about the cameras or the thief, please contact the school on 5944 3591 or the Narre Warren Crime Desk on 9705 3111.

## Calendar

We have a rather rich start to the school year with the following events scheduled: Grades 5/6 Sovereign Hill Camp, grades 3–6 Swimming Carnival, Getting To Know You Meetings, Information Nights, the Little Devils Circus Skills Program, the Wonthaggi Human Powered Vehicle (HPV) competition, a curriculum day on spelling with Mr David Hornsby and further professional learning on Personalised Teaching and Learning with our partner schools. We are thoroughly looking forward to another rewarding year at BUPS.

# Cardinia Beaconhills Golf

Ian Hollingsworth

## Golf course attracts new players

Fine weather over the spring/summer period has seen many take to the golf course, with terrific numbers playing in the members' competitions, and social player numbers are the best for many years. Weather is the key, and we've been blessed this year with good weather, especially on the weekends when most players are out and about.

February will see our Club Championships being played, our major club golfing event for the year, and we'll have about 140 players competing over the three grades. We've already seen many who normally don't practice out on the putting green and the practice fairway honing their games for the big event, so we hope all those people play well, and enjoy the competition.

The ladies will also be playing their Championships over this time, we wish

them all luck. The summer season for the ladies sees them playing for the Betty Forster Memorial Salver, and Kim Pitcher was the winner this year of the trophy, playing some fine golf over the period of the event. Heather Hamilton had the good luck to win our raffle for a spot in the Australian Ladies Open Pro-Am event played at Royal Melbourne Golf Club, and had a great day being paired with Korean player Song Hee Kim, one of the top 50 lady players in the world—a terrific experience. The chances to play the famed Composite Course at Royal Melbourne are very rare, so as you can imagine, Heather was very excited having been given the opportunity!

The Junior Pennant season has commenced, with the kids having a bye in the first round but suffered a defeat in round two. All the kids enjoy playing the matchplay format, and it is great way for them to develop their

## Bill Le Brocq champion swimmer

Bill Le Brocq, one of our 2011 school captains, competed at the Victorian Long Course Swim Championships for primary school students at MSAC in the last week of the school year. He had an outstanding meet, winning silver in the 100 m and 200 m breast stroke and their relay team winning gold in a Victorian record time. He's achieved two national level times and will now be competing at the National Championships in Brisbane next Easter. We congratulate Bill on his achievements and are very proud of another Beaconsfield Upper Primary School student who will represent our school at the national level.



golf by playing on different courses and against players generally of a similar age and standard. James Coughlin has taken over the running of the Juniors, and if anyone is interested in having their child getting involved in the game, contact the club and we'll put you in touch with James. It's a great environment for them to be in.

We must thank Grant Handley from Berwick Mazda who has kindly sponsored our Mens Pennant team for the 2012 season which will commence shortly. His generous support will assist with the purchase of uniforms for our two teams, and the club appreciates his involvement over the upcoming season. The teams are under the careful tutelage of former club pro Graham Kelly, the practice sessions having already commenced, and with good numbers attending, the season is hopefully shaping as a successful one.



The club continues to welcome new members, with close to 40 having joined since November 2011. The course continues to impress all that play it, and has been the major driver behind the increase in members. The boys on the groundstaff, very capably led by Derek Wills, do a wonderful job maintaining the course to such a high level, and the club is greatly indebted to them for their commitment to their work. Kristen Webb in the office can assist with all membership enquiries, so give her a bell on 5945 9210 if you wish to get involved and join up, or have a child who may wish to join our junior program.

# Upper Beac Pony Club



Fiona Thompson

## Participation, learning skills, and having fun

There's not a lot to report this issue, due to the Christmas and New Year holidays. Many horses have been out in their paddocks, resting (and gaining weight, just like the rest of us ...) and are only now being brought back into work, ready for the 2012 season.



Ellena Boura (aka Little Bo Peep) and her "sheep"

The final event of last year was our annual Gymkhana, held at the club grounds. Showing classes were held on the top arena, with the emphasis on presentation and riding as judged by Jane Mitchell. Fun ring classes were also held, to encourage participation by everyone, and were judged by Trish Trewin. A third ring was devoted to Handy Mount competition (an obstacle course designed to test both horse and rider) with Simone Oldenburger judging.

Major trophy winners were:-

**Ice King Memorial Trophy** - Alice Kludass riding *Fudge* (Alice and Fudge will go on to represent the club in the Evan Henry Memorial at the 2012 Berwick Show).

**Blue Print Cup** - Katie Jones riding *Willy*

**Simone Memorial Trophy**

- Katie Hore riding *Storm*

**Chicka Memorial Trophy**

- Hannah Sykes riding *Nikki*

**Handy Mount Junior Trophy**

- Jess Kiker riding *Chloe*

**Handy Mount Senior Trophy**

- Lillian Charman riding *Grunter*

The January rally was held in conjunction with the Upper Beaconsfield Adult Riders' Club. It's an annual collaboration, in the form of dressage and jumping clinics, with the



Holly Harman on Rebel (the club's senior citizen!)

adult riders hosting the youngsters and providing lunch on the day. Michael Bragge took dressage classes, and Adam Wooten instructed in showjumping. Participants took away a lot of useful information and tips and will no doubt be putting it to good use in the months to come.

The newly introduced Summer Jumping Series got under way last weekend and, by all accounts, was a success for all riders, including the visitors. Our own club stalwarts, Narelle Bentley-Bell and Sven Jones, judged the jumping and the plentiful entries kept them busy all day. The second round of the series fell on 4 February.

Our February rally is the in-house annual games competition, with plenty of action and excitement on the cards. Stay tuned for more on this next time.



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# Toy Library

Marie Rogers



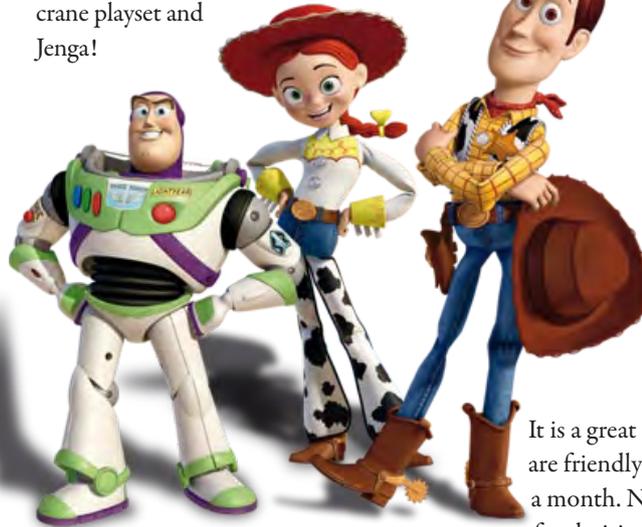
Toy Library is located at the Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre  
Open Thursday and Saturday between 9.30–10.30 am during school term  
Phone the Community Centre on 5944 3484 for more information  
or drop us a line at [upperbeac.toylibrary@yahoo.com.au](mailto:upperbeac.toylibrary@yahoo.com.au)

We're all about toys and we have many new ones in stock. We are now open for 2012, the kids are back at school and ready for some new adventures and fun and so are we. Here are just some of our new toys:

- Vtech Storio – Dora the Explorer
- Carrera Go – Dune Buggy slot car racing set
- 2 new hobby horses
- Hoola Hoops
- New costume sets
- Missing Monkey Zoo playmate
- New traffic lights
- Bosch big works case
- Time Table challenge CD
- Ultimate 100 learning songs
- New Razor 2 and 3 wheel scooters
- John Deere wheelbarrow and dump truck
- Toy Story characters
- Remote control dinosaur
- Party Disco light
- Volcano playset

We also have some really challenging and adventurous play items for older children too like a Planetarium Dome – light up the ceiling with planets and stars whilst learning about our solar system. What about

our new land and sky telescope or explorer projector. Have a go and try the stilts or build up those muscles using the boxing trainer. We also have favourites like an egg carton shape sorter, electronic microphone stand, giant crane playset and Jenga!



## New technology

We are very excited to have in our collection a new toy from ED TOY called EVA SOFT BLOCKS. These amazing sets of colourful, magnetic soft blocks are non-toxic, lightweight blocks that offer hours of constructive play while building essential fine motor skills. The unique rotating magnets inside each block allows the blocks to connect at any angle.

Winner of the Australian Toy Association Nursery Product of the year 2011 these blocks have an Australian Safety Standard approval suitable for 18 months up and will be a valuable addition to our selection of toys.

## Become a volunteer!

Would you like to meet people in your community, help keep the Toy Library service alive, gain personal satisfaction by seeing the positive results of your participation or just love everything to do with toys.

We are currently looking for volunteers to join the Toy Library Committee.

It is a great committee to join, meetings are friendly and fun and only one night a month. New positions available from fundraising/support, toy maintenance/administration to publicity. If you are interested contact Marie on 5944 3091 or email us.

We are open during school terms. One year memberships are \$30 per family per calendar year.\* How many toys can you buy for \$30? We have over 460 to choose from.

\*The annual Community Centre membership fee is \$10, if you are not already a member.

# Laura Smyth MP Federal Member for La Trobe



## Helping families in the community

I know there are lots of young families in our local area so I thought I'd let you know about some of the ways the Federal Government is helping families in our community, because I can think of few things more important than how we raise our kids.

Many people know that local education is a key priority for me, so I thought I would focus on the early years because there are some important reforms that ensure families have access to high quality, affordable childcare.

In partnership with State and Territory governments, we have agreed a new National Quality Framework that will improve educator to child ratios so that children get more individual time and attention, introduce staff qualification requirements so staff are better able to lead activities that inspire children and help them

learn and develop and include a new ratings system so parents know the quality of care on offer and can make informed choices.

The Australian Government offers two types of financial assistance for child care: the Child Care Benefit and the Child Care Rebate. I thought many of you would also be pleased to hear that there are now new payment options for childcare and from July you can be paid fortnightly, directly to your child care service or to you. Alternatively you could still choose to receive the payments quarterly or annually.

If you would like additional information, please call the Family Assistance Office on 13 61 50 or visit [australia.gov.au/mychild](http://australia.gov.au/mychild).

As always, if you have any other Federal Government related matters, please telephone me on 9796 1788 and I would be happy to help.



Liz Brandie, Secretary

## Fire danger period restrictions

Fires in the open air are legally restricted when a FDP is declared in a municipality by the CFA:



- A written permit is required to burn off grass, undergrowth, weeds or other vegetation. The Municipal Fire Prevention Officer or the CFA District Office issues this permit.
- Lighting a fire in the open is an offence and can bring a penalty of more than \$6000 and/or 12 months imprisonment. All burn offs should be registered with the Vic Fire Burn-off notification line on 1800 668 511.
- Barbeques and fires for cooking and warmth do not require a permit but must be lit in properly constructed fireplaces (i.e. metal, stone or concrete), not to be used in strong winds, be 3 metres from other flammable material and be supervised at all times.

- The use of an incinerator, chainsaw/ lawn mower, welding/grinding equipment, vehicles that come in contact with vegetation and machinery with an internal combustion/heat engine are permitted provided guidelines are followed, see details in the "Can I or Can't I?" publication.
- CFA's booklet "On The Land: Agricultural Fire Management Guidelines" provides practical fire management advice for people living and working on rural properties and is particularly useful to those new to farming. To view and/or download the guidelines, go to the CFA website.

### Total Fire Bans

A Total Fire Ban is a day where certain activities that may cause fire are banned.

Total Fire Bans are declared by the CFA on days when fires are more likely to start, spread rapidly with high heat and windy conditions and become difficult to control.

A Total Fire Ban day legally bans the following activities:

- Lighting or maintaining campfires, incinerators, fires to burn off grass, weeds or any other vegetation
- Welding, grinding, soldering, gas cutting (unless a permit has been issued by the CFA)
- Use of solid/ liquid fuel barbeques or ovens
- Driving a vehicle where it will be in contact with crops, grass, stubble,

weeds, undergrowth or other vegetation (the vehicle should be fitted with an efficient silencing device or spark arrestor that takes all exhaust from the engine)

### Days of Total Fire Ban still allow the use of:

Barbeques that are fixed appliances, fired by gas or electricity and built into permanent structures of brick, stone or concrete provided that:

- The area 3 metres around the barbeque is cleared of all flammable material
- You have either a hose connected to a water supply or a vessel with at least 10 litres of water
- An adult is there at all times when the fire is alight

### Machinery

People should avoid using machinery with internal combustion or heat engine such as tractors, slashers, excavating or road making equipment within 9 metres of any crops, grass, stubble, weeds, undergrowth or other vegetation. Avoid using a chainsaw, plant or grass trimmer or lawn mower

### Functions

Caterers can set up and light a fire to operate a barbeque or spits at outdoor functions if they have a written permit issued by the CFA and comply with conditions.

For more information of Total Fire Bans and fire restrictions visit [cfa.vic.gov.au](http://cfa.vic.gov.au) or contact the Victorian Bushfire Information Line on 1800 240 667.

## Important Information

This summer, electricity businesses will be modifying their powerline safety settings to reduce the risk of bushfires. This may delay restoring power if a fault occurs. Consider your need for back-up power if you are highly reliant on electricity. Remember power outages can also affect phones, radios and water pumps.

- Have a battery-powered radio and spare batteries or a wind-up radio available to hear alerts and warnings in case power fails;
- Have a landline with a cord, a fully charged mobile phone as backup and a spare battery and;
- Have a non-electric pump available that can be operated from an alternative water supply such as a swimming pool, concrete or metal tank, or dam.

If you lose power, contact your electricity distribution business on the "Faults and Emergencies" number on your most recent electricity bill.

Be prepared. For more information go to [www.esv.vic.gov.au](http://www.esv.vic.gov.au)

**PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.**  
**FireReady** 

# Upper Beac Scout Group



Ali Hudson, Group Chairperson, 5944 3849

## Scouts start New Year with a splash!

Upper Beaconsfield Scout Group has certainly had a wet start to the New Year!

Venturers spent last weekend at Rye with other members of the district at a beach camp and Scouts went off down to Hazelwood to try their hands at waterskiing, donuts and boating of various kinds. They can also be found playing in the water again this week at Officer! The Cub pack started back this week and will no doubt have water activities planned in their program somewhere. Although I did see some camping and billy cart racing as well.

Look out for us selling our Monster raffle tickets where you will have the chance to win some big prizes. We will also be participating in the Ritchie's promotion in March. Many of our Scout members are fund raising for the upcoming Jamboree next January.

Even before the New Year started, we had some of our Venturers setting off early on Boxing Day to attend the 15th Australian Wilddayz Venture in Northern Tasmania with more members joining them in early January.

Seven Upper Beaconsfield Venturer Scouts attended along with 1 000 other 14–17 year olds from all over Australia and as well as overseas contingents from NZ, UK, Saudi Arabia, France and Timor Leste.

They participated in four day off site expeditions all over Tasmania, some sailing in the Sydney to Hobart yachts, bushwalking, canoeing, 4 wheel driving, rock climbing, surfing or touring the island state as part of the 14 day experience based near Launceston.

Next Christmas, Venturer Scouts have the opportunity to go to the New Zealand Venture in the far south of their South Island near Invercargill with all the exciting physical challenges that part of New Zealand presents.

The Upper Beaconsfield Scout Group is one of the larger in Victoria with 68 youth members, 10 leaders and an active group committee of parents.

All sections have great programs organised for this term so as always if you would like to find out more about Cubs 7–11 years, Scouts 11–14 years, or Venturers 14–17 years, please email



*Holly Latter, Tess Cook, Bernie Boon, Tom Inkster, Harry Hudson, Daniel Sawyer and Scott Double, here shown with local resident Chief Commissioner of Scouts Victoria Bob Taylor, at the rear, are members of the 14 member Unit which meets on Mondays 7.30–9.30 pm in the Igloo on the Reserve under the leadership of Rob and Janet Wilcox.*

Group Leader Paul Deady [gl.upperbeaconsfield@vicscouts.asn.au](mailto:gl.upperbeaconsfield@vicscouts.asn.au) or phone 5944 4248 after hours or pop in to speak to Kathy McGrath at the post office (if she's free). You can also look at the Victorian Scout website at [www.vicscouts.asn.au](http://www.vicscouts.asn.au) to register an inquiry or seek information.



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# About Town

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Nikki Le Brocq



## Jack Le Brocq signed up for the 2012 Australian Formula Ford Championship

19 year old local Jack Le Brocq has been signed up by the Australian Motor Sport Foundation to be the lead CAMS Rising Star Driver for the 2012 Australian Formula Ford Championship. The season opener is at the Australian Grand Prix 15–18 March and if you are at the track feel free to drop by and Jack will be able to show you over the Mygale Chassis. Rounds 2–8 will also be run as a V8 Supercar support class at Symmons Plains, Phillip Island, Townsville, QLD Raceway, Winton, Sandown and finishing at the famous Bathurst circuit in October. Jack finished 2nd in the AFFC in 2011 and will be putting in every effort to take out the Championship in 2012.

Jack's also a member of the 2012 FIA Young Drivers Academy where he was one of 18 drivers from around the world chosen to attend six workshops in Europe where he'll be trained by Formula 1 driver Alex Wurz and World Rally champion Robert Reid. A testimony to his dedication to his sport was when he was assessed as the overall fittest driver at the Academy selection. Jack was scheduled to race in Europe this year but after a major sponsor decided to hold off their funding until the 2013 season he's decided to stay in Australia and hone his skills on the home circuits with an offer of some F3 drives and a V8 Test later in the season.

Jack held a fundraiser last November with guest speaker Stephen Richards at the Cardinia Beaconhills Golf Club and raised \$13 000.00. He would like to thank everyone who attended and donated items

for the fundraiser and the money was allocated to attending the FIA Academy selection in Austria and also testing in the UK and Australia. "Your support is greatly appreciated and I want you to know that I will be working very hard in 2012 to take out the championship for all my sponsors and supporters. This is a team effort!"

Jack would like to thank local sponsors Leisure Pools—Melbourne South East, Body Mechanics Health & Fitness, Kral's Creations, Beaconsfield Chiropractic Clinic, Earthcrete, Viking Windscreens, Blackwell Bodyworks, Trevor Barnes Signwriting and JHB Shopfitters for their continued support. If you'd like to join Jack Le Brocq Racing as a sponsor, he can be contacted on 0431 020 328, email [jack@jacklebrocq.com](mailto:jack@jacklebrocq.com) or via his website [www.jacklebrocq.com](http://www.jacklebrocq.com)

## Tennis Club

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Darren Cordy on behalf of the UBTC committee



### Summer at the tennis courts

2011 at the tennis club finished with the Club Championship grand finals which were played at the Christmas party. It was great to see so many members competing during the club champs and for the first time in several years, ladies doubles championships were played.

Congratulations to all the finalists:

- Junior boys open singles – Taylor Brown (winner) and Adam Papadopoulos
- Junior girls open singles – Olivier Cootes (winner) and Megan Anderson
- Junior B grade singles – Dylan Cleven (winner) and Matt Barton
- Junior C grade singles – Mia Grangien (winner) and Samantha Merry
- Senior mens singles – Jonathan Collins (winner) and Callen O'Brien
- Senior ladies singles – Caitlin Butler (winner) and Heidi Ball
- Senior mens doubles – Brett Hillier / Mark Puts (winners) and Matt Hendrie / Matt Stanley
- Senior ladies doubles – Leanne Ricketts / Di Eibl (winners) and Caitlin Butler / Janine Butler

### Changes around the courts

Anyone who has visited or walked past the courts over the past couple of months will have noticed some changes around the club house. A big thankyou goes to everyone who has contributed around the club to help with the changes. The planting in the garden

beds and some new steps will be finalised shortly so make sure you visit the club to see the final product.

### Night tennis

*Monday night (beginner / intermediate)*

Anyone interested in playing on Monday night should contact Sharon Brockman on 5944 3829 or 0439 933 668.

*Tuesday night (intermediate / advanced)*

If you are interested in some good competition as well as a social night out, please contact Leanne Ricketts on 5644 3910 or 0417 660 377.

*Wednesday night (advanced)*

If you can't commit to playing tennis on a weekly basis but would rather just have a social hit with a good standard of tennis, Wednesday night could be for you. Please contact Nick Gamble on 0438 443 756 to find out more.

*Thursday night (beginner / intermediate)*

If you want to start the weekend early and have a social hit of tennis on a Thursday night, contact David Harvey on 5944 3385 or 0400 457 505 to find out more.

### Court maintenance

The hot weather over summer (and the odd hailstorm) has played havoc with the courts and it has taken weeks to get them back to a playable condition. Many thanks to Nick Gamble for the countless hours of work required to repair them.

Enjoy the rest of summer and hope to see you at the courts.



Jack Le Brocq - 2nd 2011 Australian Formula Ford Championship



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