

VILLAGE BELL

UPPER BEACONSFIELD

Issue No. 188 • June 2012

Welcome



The woodworkers Peter Bradley and Matt McDonald

The evolution of the Welcome Seat



↕↔ The mosaic teams



Belinda Conibeer & Ruth Merriman cutting the ribbon



Ruth pointing to 'Lulu' a representation of a pet blue tongue lizard she once had. Lulu used to come to her when she called its name.

Anzac Day 2012

In spite of the weather the ANZAC day service was very well attended by young and old to witness the moving service conducted by the RSL.



The Welcome Seat

Lauren Etherington, Belinda Conibeer, Matt McDonald.

Grand opening

On Saturday 21 April the Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre hosted a large gathering to celebrate the unveiling of the mosaic "Welcome Seat". Volunteers from Salisbury House and Berwick's Kalimna Support Service worked under the direction of local mosaic artist Belinda Conibeer to produce the spectacular mosaic panels, which contain an array of beautiful native plants and animals. The seat was designed and constructed by Upper Beaconsfield Men's Shed members Matt McDonald and Peter Bradley who worked long hours to see this masterpiece constructed in time for the grand opening. Many thanks again to the Shire of Cardinia and Bendigo Bank (Beaconsfield) for the grants which enabled us to go ahead with this project, Bunnings Ltd (Pakenham) for the donation of essential materials, Laura Levens who helped with the details of the plants and animals on the seat, and our local CWA who organised a wonderful afternoon tea to help us celebrate the unveiling. Thanks to all the many other people who helped to bring this project together!

The Story behind "The Welcome Seat"

Belinda Conibeer started mosaics approximately 5 years ago. She was working as a disability support worker and started supporting a client from Dixon House in Clayton, who was doing mosaics in the house's 'expressions' art class. Belinda became hooked on mosaics straight away, and the tutor encouraged her to pursue her interests further. Reading up about the art of mosaic, she decided glass and beads and mirrors were her thing. Belinda had her first successful solo exhibition 2 years ago and joined the Mosaic Association of Australia and New Zealand (MAANZ) that helped her to expand her knowledge. She now tutors four mosaic classes a week, and is looking at taking on some more classes locally and at Pakenham.

Belinda has lived in Upper Beaconsfield for nine years now, having volunteered at the Community Centre, and tutored special needs cooking and crafts for a couple of years.

Belinda decided that she would love to do a community project. It would be a great opportunity to get the community involved with a mosaic project that could brighten up the courtyard of the community centre. She approached Sally Randall, president of the UBCC and they decided that a seat would be a great idea as the community and staff had nowhere to sit outside during breaks etc. So "The Welcome Seat" concept was born.

Sally and Belinda worked on getting some funding for the project and the Cardinia Shire were first to come on board. They then approached Bendigo Bank who thought it was a great project and came on board straight away. They also approached Bunnings in Pakenham who were fantastic and donated all the adhesives, grout nippers that were needed for the project.

Several ideas for building the seat were discussed and they decided it would be a great first project for the newly formed Upper Beaconsfield Men's Shed group. Its president, Matt McDonald, came up with concept for the design of the seat and after discussions with Belinda and Sally, the final design was agreed on.

A disability group from Kalimna Support Options Berwick, a small

group of residents from Salisbury House and local resident Phil Jones (also a Men's Shed member) were invited to form the mosaics from hundreds of shards of coloured glass. Belinda now had her morning and afternoon classes to work on the project.

A few months were spent working on the pictorial design for the mosaic, and getting it down on paper. Laura Levens from the Conservation Society (pictured above with her award) was a great help. Her comprehensive knowledge, including her amazing files of wildlife and plants in Upper Beaconsfield, helped in choosing the correct native animals, plants and bugs for inclusion. Laura also provided hints such as that the spider should be depicted clinging upside down on the spider web. The Kalimna group helped in finalising the design and classes started in February.

"Matt arranged for the five back panels of the seat to be cut to size from compressed cement sheet and dropped off the panels in mid-February so we could get started," Belinda said. The students started their mosaics on small boards with mosaic mesh for their individual pieces. This made it easier to move the pieces and put them in position on the cement sheets. The two groups made the animals, flowers and bugs and Belinda took them home and started adhering them on the cement sheets. After a few weeks everyone started doing direct mosaics onto the boards around the animals and other mosaics. Belinda again took the panels home after each class and worked many long hours on filling in the sky and grass, and on the endangered helmeted honeyeater on the 4th panel (her special contribution to the project). A special lady bug was included on every panel for kids to find.

The launch date was set so everyone had something to work towards. The grouting, as well as some finishing touches, were done a week before the launch. Matt in the meantime had engaged the services of local carpenter Peter Bradley, who gave generously of his expertise and time in the construction of the seat. With the timber structure of the seat nearing completion, the mosaic panels were set in place.

Belinda would like to thank the sponsors, her 'gorgeous' students, Sally and the Community Centre, the Men's Shed, CWA ladies who came to the rescue on launch day and her family and friends for helping her with her first community project!

For Belinda's next mosaic project, she has been asked by Michael at the post office to mosaic the seat outside the post office. She is looking forward to working with the Upper Beaconsfield Scout group on this project.



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Next issue: end of August

Copy deadline : 10 August

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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	82.3
Mar	64.4	58.9	60.0
Apr	76.9	101.0	114.2
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	
Total	940 mm	1226.9 mm	

The summer had an exceptionally high rainfall, resulting in a total of 317 mm compared to the 43-year average of 196.7 mm

The year to date rainfall has followed this trend with a rainfall of 316.8 mm compared to the average of 257.5 mm.

May figures so far indicate this trend will continue.

Cardinia Ratepayers and Residents Association

The Association held a community meeting on 12 April with the theme "We Can't Eat Houses Can We?", to bring attention to the proposed expansion of the Urban Growth Boundary to the east of Pakenham (Mt. Ararat Rd. East, Seymour Rd. North and Princes Freeway to the South).

The focus of the Association is: "working for ratepayer equity, residential amenity and local democracy."

Cardinia Ratepayers & Residents Association inc. (CRRA)

crra05@gmail.com 5942 7739 / 0419 135 712 www.crra.org.au

Hefty fine for illegal vegetation removal

Cardinia Shire Council has issued a warning that it will not tolerate the illegal removal of native vegetation, no matter what time of year it is.

The warning follows the prosecution of a Cockatoo resident at Dandenong Magistrates Court. The resident pleaded guilty to illegally removing approximately 103 trees, mostly native vegetation, from a property in an 'environmentally significant' area.

The Court heard submissions that the trees were removed for fire prevention purposes. The Cockatoo resident was found to have breached Planning and Environment Act 1987 and was convicted and fined \$30 000 and ordered to pay Council's costs.

The actions of the resident were seen by the Court as a form of forest vandalism and disrespect to the area. The resident was also made aware that they partly destroyed the habitat for local wildlife and the hefty fine was to act as a general deterrent to the wider community.

Native vegetation is protected under the Cardinia Planning Scheme, by State planning controls and in some circumstances, Council's Local Law No. 10. Council's Compliance Services Manager Alan Giachin said that a permit is required for removal of vegetation

Information, including procedures for dead and dangerous trees, is readily available online at www.cardinia.vic.gov.au or contact Council on 1300 787 624.

Upper Beac Village Festival Sunday 17 February 2013

Tom Gibson (on behalf of the Village Festival Committee)

Next year the Village Festival will take place on a Sunday! This is to avoid conflict with families' sporting commitments and other activities. So make a note of the date and the extended time 9 am–3 pm!

More information will come out closer to the date.

The Village Festival committee needs new members!!

The Upper Beaconsfield Village Festival takes place in February every year and welcomes the whole community, young & old.

Preparation and planning is very important and cannot happen without the dedication of our committee members. Unfortunately there are not enough of us to run efficiently. We welcome anyone who can spare 1–2 hours per month to meet at the Community Centre, to share your ideas and be a part of keeping our festival alive!

If you would like any further information, please call Janet 0407 347 742.

We would love to hear from you!!



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

Upper Beaconsfield Association



Jennie Vaughan, President Upper Beaconsfield Association

At the April meeting there was a very good attendance to see Peter and Joan Green receive a Senior Citizen award from the Mayor of Cardinia Council, Cr. Ed Chatwin, to recognize their long association with the Upper Beaconsfield community.

The guest speaker that evening was Geoff Lockwood who gave a talk on the Beaconsfield Nature Reserve. Questions had been asked in the district about the future of the Reserve. The Reserve is managed by the Cardinia Environment Coalition; at this stage there are several problems and funding is being sought to deal with weeds, feral pests, fire hazards and cut fences. We await further developments.

During the last few months there has been disquiet concerning the untidiness of the

Village landscape. One of the problems concerns the maintenance of nature strips. A common question has been: "Whose responsibility are they?" The general feeling is that Cardinia Council should maintain them but the word is that they are the responsibility of the landowners.

The condition of some buildings, (e.g. the Post Office and the garage) raised questions at the meeting. Some funding from the Council is available to tidy the township, but as yet no decisions have been made on how to allocate these funds.

The intersection of Beaconsfield-Emerald, Salisbury and St. Georges Roads is still under discussion and a solution involving a pedestrian refuge and road markings has been put forward.

The President and Secretary of the UBA attended the "4 Towns Meeting", (now the 6 Towns) at Upper Beaconsfield in late April; 4 has become 6 as Beaconsfield and Officer have joined our Ward, the Ranges Ward, with the redistribution of Ward boundaries within the Shire. The main topic of discussion that evening was footpaths; each township has its own footpath concern. The upcoming Council Budget was used as a topic for submissions to Council for funding for various projects.

At the next UBA meeting to be held on 6 June 2012, the Mayor will speak on "Council Rates". All rate payers are welcome to attend and find out what the Council has in store for us.

Upper Beaconsfield Kindergarten



Tracey Wadelton, President

Well it certainly has been a busy start to 2012, with both kinders now running full sessions. The feedback I have received from the teachers is that the children have all settled in well albeit a bit tired leading up to the end of term. It is hard to believe we are heading into May already! Enjoy this year Mum's and Dad's, as some of you will already know that it flies by in the blink of an eye.

2012 will continue to be an interesting and challenging year for our kinder teachers with the introduction of the National Quality Framework. This introduction focuses on continuous quality improvement

in our kinders, leading to better outcomes for children. Our wonderful teachers at kinder have been working extremely hard and continue to make improvements for the benefit of our children. We are very lucky to have them!

We'd like to make special mention of Stan Hamilton for all his work in fixing the water pump at the kinder building. It was very much appreciated.

Our major fundraiser for the year for our kindergartens is fast approaching! We are holding our auction night on Saturday 23 June at the Pine Grove Hotel. Last year we raised \$10 000 and we hope to beat that

this year! There are some fabulous items up for auction and all proceeds go directly to our kinders.

Everyone is welcome to come along and support this wonderful cause, so if you would like to come along for a fun night out or if you are a local business and would like to donate something for the night, please contact our fundraising manager, Kylie Semple on 0407 850 239. Tickets are \$50 for a three course meal, with drinks at bar prices. Last year was a huge success and with the support of the Upper Beaconsfield community it is sure to be an even bigger night this year.



Streets Ahead supports all primary schools in Cardinia Shire to promote and encourage children and their families to participate in active travel; walking, scooting, skating,

riding and taking public transport.

A Stop and Drop zone is being implemented at Beaconsfield Upper Primary School. Stop and Drop zones are a designated space, up to a kilometre away from the school entrance, at which parents are encouraged to drop off and pick up their children. Children then walk, ride, scoot or skate to and from school. This will assist in increasing children's activity levels and easing traffic congestion

around the schools. Parents are encouraged to accompany their children if they wish. Permanent aluminium signage has been installed at these zones.

The school's current Stop and Drop zone is the car park at the shops near the Pharmacy on Beaconsfield-Emerald Road. Students can walk along Beaconsfield-Emerald Road to Stoney Creek Road which leads to the school crossing.

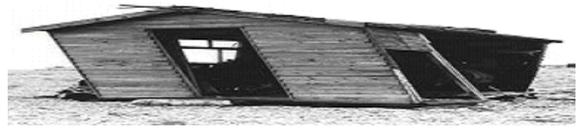
For more information contact Council's Active Children's Officer Kate Beveridge at on 1300 787 624 or email k.beveridge@cardinia.vic.gov.au



CARDINIA

Upper Beac Men's Shed

Matt McDonald



The Men's Shed group continues to attract numbers – we're averaging about 17 men each Wednesday morning for some chat, a cup of coffee, exchange of information, solving the puzzles about 'mystery tools' brought along by members, planning for projects and skills sharing sessions.

Incidentally, there was lively discussion about the name for the group, around the age-old debate of "To UB or to BU". It was decided to use the UBMS title for formality, and the BUMS title



for more informal occasions.

A variety of requests has come to the group from different sources. Ruth Barker, of Guys Hill, who is involved with the 4Cs organisation in Pakenham, had eleven wooden rocking kangaroos made for fundraising purposes. Ruth asked us to paint the kangaroos in different patterns and colours – some in AFL team colours, some in boxing kangaroo colours, and some the traditional grey. The painting is in progress. Other proposed projects are to build a chook house with the Primary School, horse jumps for the Pony Club, and a number of works around the Community Centre, including the refurbishment of the six fire awareness notice-boards next to the Centre and the CWA plaque at the base of the elm tree at the Centre.

One session in April that was attended with enthusiasm was a sharing of tool-sharpening skills – dealing with blunt axes, drill bits, plane blades and severely maltreated chisels. Outcomes for the tools were good, no members were injured, and the session revealed again that we have an amazing range of skills in the group.

The Men's Shed has received some funding from the Bendigo Bank (Beaconsfield), the Buildings and Grounds Committee and the Cardinia Landcare Group. Applications have been sent to a variety of funding sources for financial assistance.

The Men's Shed group is eager to move ahead with preparing the site for our building and locating the building. The steps required to plan carefully, gain appropriate approvals, planning and building permits take time, but we are making steady progress.

The Men's Shed Group meets every Wednesday morning from 10 am to 12 noon at the Arts Annex of the Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre.

For further information, contact Matt McDonald, 5944 3860, Noel Ling, 5944 3735, or the Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre, 5944 3484.

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UB Rural Fire Brigade



Message from the Captain

Barrie Gray, Brigade Captain

Thanks to the weather we have managed to successfully negotiate our way through another fire season without any major incidents, however, we must not become complacent and still need to be vigilant and keep up with our garden and property maintenance.

Over the past twelve months we have had some changes to how we operate here at the Fire Brigade. You may recall that you were encouraged to contact Brigade Officers direct if there was anything you needed to know or wanted to report.

We take this opportunity to advise that we have changed this process and now recommend that the following options are preferred.

- To report emergencies or suspected emergencies dial 000
- Bushfire information is on 1800 240 667 (Victorian Bushfire Hotline (1800 555 667 National relay service))
- Home bushfire advice service 1800 240 667
- For administration matters only ring Upper Beaconsfield Fire Brigade Duty Officer on 0400 086 865

We take this opportunity to thank all of



the community for their continued and generous support over the last twelve months and remember, without volunteer support none of this would be possible.

For those who might be interested we are still actively looking for volunteers both as active members of the Brigade and for the Brigade Auxiliary so if you want to give it a try or just want to come along for a chat and look at what we do – come along to the Fire Station on Wednesday nights at 7.30 pm or Sunday mornings from 9.30 am or ring the duty officer on 0400 086 865.

Thank you.

Wood heater maintenance

Liz Brandie, Secretary

Fires can and do start within the flue of wood heaters which could result in your house being enveloped in smoke and flames.

During winter the Fire Brigade is often

called out to fires caused by sparks igniting the flue in wood heaters that are not serviced regularly or have damaged or badly fitted flues.

Over a period of time burning wood develops into a creosote layer within the flue. This eventually builds up restricting the air intake resulting in dark smouldering wood and a lot of smoke, these are signs of poor and incomplete burning and insufficient air intake.

This in time will reduce the efficiency of your heater.

For efficient and complete burning you need a high temperature and enough airflow so coals and flames glow brightly. Logs should be placed in the heater in such a way as to allow air to circulate.

It is recommended to have your wood heater serviced regularly by a chimney sweep, once a year preferably in summer.

If you have just moved into Upper Beaconsfield you will not know the maintenance history of your house's wood heater and you would be advised to get it serviced.

The chimney sweep will clean and inspect the heater and flue for any other signs of damage internally and on the roof with the result you will have safe, efficient and economical heating.

Tennis Club

Darren Cordy on behalf of the UBTC committee

The surrounds at the courts have undergone some big changes this year. New garden beds and hedging have been planted surrounding the club house and the front courts, with new paths and steps being installed, and even a new coat of paint on fences and the club house. A big thank you to everyone involved! The driveway to the courts has also recently been redone (thank you Council), and the courts can now be accessed by the council recycling truck, significantly reducing the amount of landfill rubbish generated by the club.

Congratulations to all the juniors for another great summer season and to Peter Thompson for organising the junior teams once again. The season was particularly successful for the following sections who made it to the finals.

Section 16 – Runners Up: Justin Blackman, Mia Grangien,

Village Bell June 2012

Samantha Merry, Nicholas Pastras

Section 8 – Premiers: Olivia Cootes, Alex Merry, Luke Sanders, Blake Taylor, Georgia Wall

Section 5 – Premiers: Matt Barton, Emily Cordy, David Lorimer, Remy Grangien, Robert Vary

Section 1 – Premiers: Taylor Brown, Luke Briffa, Ryan Webster, Stephen Guest, Adam Papadopoulos

Night tennis continues to be popular with people playing on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights. If you are interested in playing or even being an emergency to fill in occasionally, please don't hesitate to contact the club on 5944 3071 or come down on one of the nights to see what all the fuss is about.



Wildlife Watch

Laura Levens



Eventually April gave us extra good autumn rain. At my place 117.5 mm fell, mostly in the last two weeks, exceeding the long term average (to 1983) of 103 mm. And as of 4 May we've had a good soaking 66 mm for early May.

I found a group of tall greenhoods already in bud at the beginning of April. The earliest flowering record I have is July. Gnat orchids are flowering, an early start to their season.

Kangaroo grass on the roof of our earth sheltered house is the densest growth we've seen in 34 years.

In the process of sending photos off to be identified someone noticed that some were taken 'decades ago' and requested a complete list, plus photos where possible, for use in the Australian Living Atlas. This project aims to record the range of all living things indigenous to Australia, except humans. People from all over Australia are involved. The benefit to me is that I will become aware of how many of each fauna family I have seen. For instance 103 named spiders so far, ranging in body size from 2 mm to 2.5 cm, some with beautiful designs.

My husband happened along that section of Salisbury Road where major repairs were done; it was raining heavily and was not creating even any minor puddles. A well designed project, I would say.



Examples of patterns on garden spiders



above: garden spider (*Araneus* sp like Russian egg)

left: Tall greenhood (*Pterostylis longifolia*)



21 June 4.30-6.30 pm

**Night walk
spotlight
& pizza**

What native mammals and birds can we spot? The search will be on – 21 June. Location to be confirmed – Upper Beaconsfield or Beaconsfield

Do you want your kids to get outside more and enjoy an inexpensive activity?

Learn more about Cardinia Creek Catchment, have fun, meet like minded kids, (and parents)? Maybe see some animals! You can come along initially just to see what it is like, you are most welcome. Coordinators have a 'working with children' check and their children will be present.

Our base is at Akoonah Park playground but we hold multiple events elsewhere. Thursdays once per month, 4-5.30 pm unless otherwise advertised.

\$5 joining fee only to Cardinia Catchment Landcare! All children's age groups welcome – we have a range of primary kids who



attend, and also some younger siblings. Parents most welcome and we need several present.

Please contact Kelly Brooks-MacMillan on 0428 427 005 or kbmac@gotalk.net.au for more information.

Returning in September after a winter break.

Vale: Don Begg

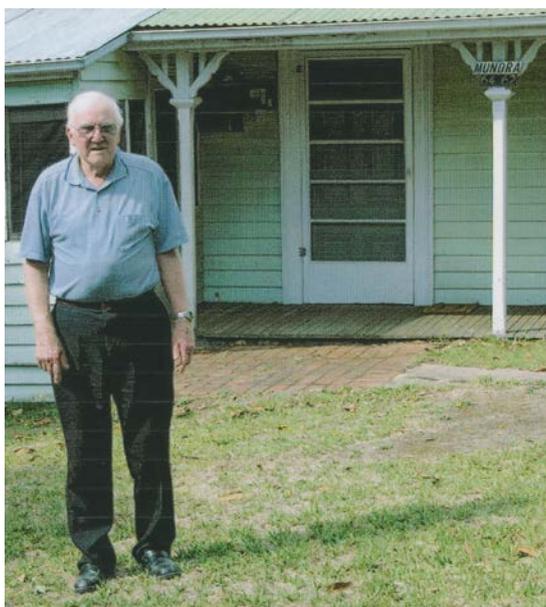
Marianne Rocke, based on an interview by Charles Wilson

Peter Donald Begg

9 April 1917–13 March 2012

Don was born in Mulgrave in April 1917, as the fourth of five children of Sam and Jessie Begg. When he was 13 years old his father bought a 50 acre orchard property in Old Gembrook Road (now Foott Road). 20 acres of orchard were planted in lemons, and 18 acres in numerous varieties of apples.

The orchard produced about 7 000 bushell cases per year. Don and his father would pick the apples, assemble and nail the cases, wrap, pack and store them in the cool store room for a small fee until they decided how they would sell them. They would export about 3 500 bushell cases per year, the other half of their crop would be sold at the Queen Victoria market. Don continued to work at the orchard until it was subdivided in 1970. After that he worked for the Harris Brothers and John Rose Transport.



Don Begg at his house 'Mundra' in 2003.

In 1942 Don joined the AIF, and served in the artillery section, transporting equipment, but did not see any overseas service. He returned to his father's orchard in 1944 on compassionate grounds, as his father had been working the orchard by himself during Don's military service.

After the war, Don and his brother Sam bought a 40 acre block of land on Stoney Creek Road, and Don lived there on a sub-divided 2 acre portion called 'Mundra'. He nursed his mother until she died. He moved to a nursing home in Berwick a few years ago.

Don was a memorable cricket player, playing for Upper Beaconsfield from 1932 to 1956. He was club president from 1950–1955.

Don was a member of the CFA for thirty years, a lieutenant for 12 years.

Myrtle Rust

Myrtle Rust threatens all Victorian towns

The fungus *Uredo rangelii* (myrtle rust), recently found in Victoria for the first time poses a threat to Victoria's nursery, forestry and beekeeping industries, as well as to public parks and gardens and native forests. It can potentially attack all species of the Myrtaceae plant family. Myrtle rust was first detected in Australia in 2010.

DPI has now detected myrtle rust at 52 sites in Victoria, mainly at production nurseries and wholesale outlets in and around metropolitan Melbourne. However, recently detections have also been made at public parks and private residences.

Experience elsewhere in Australia shows it won't be possible to eradicate the disease, so the focus is now on management to minimise its spread and impact.

Myrtle rust is widespread in both New South Wales and Queensland, including some bushland areas, and because the disease is so easily spread, Victoria is likely to see further introductions from these states.



To date, myrtle rust has been found on the following species in Victoria:

However, all species of the Myrtaceae plant family are potential hosts of the disease. These include *Acmena smithii* Lilly pilly, *Agonis flexuosa* Willow myrtle, *Austromyrtus dulcis* Midgen berry/midyim, *Backhousia citriodora* Lemon-scented myrtle, *Callistemon* 'Harkness' Bottlebrush, *Callistemon* 'King's Park Special' Bottlebrush, *Lophomyrtus x ralphii* Black Stallion, *Metrosideros carminea* Red rata, *Metrosideros collina* Fiji Christmas bush, *Metrosideros excelsa* New Zealand Christmas bush, *Myrtus communis* Common myrtle,

Syzygium anisatum Aniseed myrtle, *Syzygium australe* Lilly pilly/scrub cherry, *Syzygium paniculatum* Dwarf magenta cherry.

What do I do if I think I've found myrtle rust?

Early identification of this rust is vital for effective management and DPI should be notified immediately of all plants suspected of being infected with myrtle rust.

To report suspected myrtle rust, please telephone DPI on 1800 084 881.

Alternatively, you can take photos of the suspect material and email to protection@dpi.vic.gov.au together with a contact phone number.

To avoid spreading the disease:

- Do not touch, move or collect samples of the suspect plant material
- Do not go to another site with any host materials.

<http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au/forestry/pests-diseases-weeds/diseases/myrtle-rust>

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

Play is more than just fun for kids.

“It’s how babies and children learn and how they work out who they are and where they fit in the world. Playing together encourages and enhances your child’s development. After a day at school, playtime is also for unwinding and having fun. There are so many toys out there, and juggling your child’s needs (and wants!)—along with advertising and peer pressure influences—can be tricky. But the best toys aren’t always the fanciest—they’re the ones that fire up your child’s imagination. Finding toys that your child will enjoy and learn from is about understanding which play ideas suit which age, not whether the toys are hand-made, pre-loved, ‘educational’ or expensive,” says the raising children network.



It is estimated that there are thousands of toy libraries or toy resource centres in Australia and the number is rising. It is difficult to establish the exact number of toy libraries in Australia as some states list them under other organisations such as book libraries. In Victoria we have over 160 registered toy libraries. They have been around for over 77 years, with the first one opening up in Los Angeles, USA (Toy Loan, which is still in operation). There are also toy libraries that cater for children with special needs. Noah’s Ark Malvern, Victoria Inc. (www.natl.org.au), for example, opened its doors in 1971.

The Upper Beaconsfield toy library opened in 1983. It’s great knowing you don’t need to travel far during the winter months to borrow toys. We have just the right toys, puzzles and games for those cold and rainy days ahead. We stock just about everything – if it is suitable and fits in our library we will buy it! So come in and visit our warm and friendly library situated at the Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre.

Akoonah Park Market

On Sunday 29 April toy library held its second annual toy sale at Akoonah Park Berwick. We were extremely lucky with the weather; it was brisk yet sunny with no cold wind. Committee members were up early to start what was to be a day of laughter and antics.



Not only did we sell most of our second-hand and donated toys but also sold many tickets to our Family Fun & Food Raffle which was drawn on 17 May. Prizes included a day’s hire of a commercial jumping castle, theme and water park passes, local restaurant meal vouchers, swimming lessons and a yummy pancake parlour hamper. Congratulations to our winners and thanks to our wonderful sponsors and helpers.

Committee

The Toy Library Committee needs an extra hand. Our current committee do a fantastic job, but we need new committee members for 2013. We are currently looking for expressions of interest for next year’s committee. Monthly meetings are held locally, in a warm and friendly environment. Find out what we do and help plan the library’s future, go toy shopping, and organise fun events while having an enjoyable evening at the same time. It’s a great social get together. The community needs a local toy library and the people to run it. Interested? Contact Marie on 0428 186 688 or Rosemary on 0419 886 626.



UBCC Crèche

Come and visit our friendly & welcoming crèche.

The Upper Beaconsfield Community centre crèche is set in beautiful parkland environment and is a community run crèche. We offer a maximum of 26 places for children.

Come and meet our mature, experienced, wonderful educators. Full day or occasional care is available. The UBCC crèche has been caring for the communities’ children for over 24 years.

Our hours are 8.30 am–4.30 pm

Please call the Upper Beaconsfield

Community Centre on
5944 3484 or call in



“It takes a village to raise a child”



Community Centre's "Welcome Seat"

Lauren Etherington,
Centre Co-ordinator.

If you have not seen the new "Welcome Seat" please come and call in to say hello and see our beautiful seat. Since the success of this seat, we have offered mosaic classes at the Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre. Call now to enquire further and secure your place in the course.

Neighbourhood House Week

The Community Centre had another celebration on 9 May with a morning tea held to celebrate 'Neighbourhood House Week'. Our CWA group (right) once again catered for this event, with a crowd of our members and supporters enjoying their delicious offerings.

Registered Training Organisation (RTO) Programs

Fiona Kneen, RTO Manager

The Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre has the status of a Registered Training Organisation, enabling it to conduct a range of accredited courses.

Term 2 is off to a fantastic start. We have commenced our first Diploma in Children's Services Course (CHC50908) which is very exciting for us. We are currently also running our Certificate III in Children's



Services, our Certificate III in Aged Care and Home and Community Care, and Certificate IV in Training and Assessment. For anyone interested in finding out about the accredited courses we offer, please call the office on 5944 3484.

Graduation Celebrations

On Thursday 26 April we held a graduation at the Pine Grove Hotel of students who have completed courses recently. The night was well attended by the friends and families of our 18 graduates. Mr Brad Battin (MLA) was our special guest to present the graduates with their certificates. Seeing our students graduate is such a special thing

for me. I understand the commitment and sacrifices these local members of our communities have made and I congratulate them on succeeding in their studies. I think something to take from these students, is that if you are passionate about what you are studying, it is much easier to do the required work.

If you have any enquiries about courses at the Community Centre, please call us at the Centre today on 5944 3484 and we can tell you all the details you need to know. Only 10 places available in each course – so enrol now!



Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre Crèche

Long Day Care

Kylie Haringsma

Some exciting times are coming for the children at UBCC Crèche ...

We have an exciting and engaging music program running each Tuesday, conducted by Tess Porz. In August we will be hosting a wonderful Bush Babies Incursion Event – Sponsored by Priceline Pharmacy Pakenham (Proprietors Karen Dougall & Jeff Thom). A small fee will apply. All funds raised will be utilised to purchase equipment for the crèche.

Our wonderful experienced educators have been enjoying engaging the children in a variety of learning experiences thus far in 2012.

Honouring local returned soldiers

ANZACs from the Berwick Shire

Laura Smyth, MP

Recently Australia commemorated ANZAC day.

This is a day when Australians remember and honour the service and the sacrifice of ordinary Australians during wartime.

Importantly, we remember those who enlisted in Australia's force in the First World War.

In our electorate of La Trobe nearly 300 volunteered. From the northern hills of my electorate, through Berwick and Narre Warren to the southern area of Clyde, men enlisted to form part of the Australian Imperial Force.

Seventy nine men born in Berwick enlisted, with a further 9 enlisting in Berwick itself. Twenty from Beaconsfield and twenty five from Clyde.

These volunteers came from a cross section of Australia's community.

They included Beaconsfield born Percy Brown, who joined the

Australian Imperial Force on 15 March 1915. Under 21, he needed the consent of his parents to enlist. He served as a private in the 5th battalion, arriving at Anzac Cove on 5 August 1915. He was wounded on 9 August, most likely during the battle of Lone Pine. After recovering, he went on to serve in France, transferring to the 1st Australian Field Battery, taking part in many engagements. He served until the end of the war, receiving the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

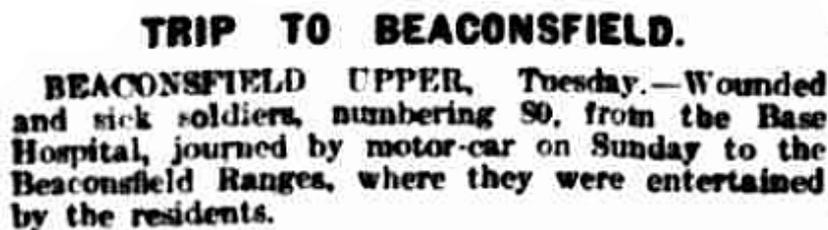
These are just one of the stories of ordinary lives that form Australia's Anzac legend. Hundreds of thousands of ordinary Australians called upon to serve their country in war.

On Anzac Day it was a privilege to honour them and those who followed them in subsequent conflicts.

Editor's Note: The Honour Roll of Upper Beaconsfield details 56 men and 1 woman from the Upper Beaconsfield area enlisted for World War I. Most were born elsewhere.



South Bourke and Mornington Journal, 17 Feb 1916, p2



Argus 21 Dec 1917, p10

Entertaining wounded soldiers

During the war there were functions held for soldiers who returned to Australia because of injury. The newspapers of the time reported on two such events in Upper Beaconsfield:



History Snippet

Marianne Rocke



Not all returned as the men they were

We gather at the war memorial to remember the men and women who fought and died in our wars, but the stories of the returned soldiers, who came back with terrible injuries, are hardly ever told. The military files of the soldiers reveal details of their brave service they undertook.



Sir George Hodges Knox
Source: Scotch College Melbourne



Argus, 8 July 1918, p6

Private Stephen Leslie Gibbs was lauded in the above newspaper article. While the article mentioned that he had been wounded in action, it implies that the wounds were not too severe. His military file reveals what happened to him: At Gallipoli Stephen received a gunshot wound to his head and neck, and despite an operation a short time later, he never fully recovered. He suffered from malaria and dysentery while he was recovering from his head wound. He was posted to France after being evacuated from Gallipoli, and suffered from trench foot there. Trench foot is caused by wearing military footwear for excessive periods in the mud in the trenches, which would cause blistering and open sores, and if left untreated even gangrene. Although Stephen was sent home to Australia for some rest, he was not considered fit to return to the front. In his military report it was stated that he had a consistent tremor of his hands, was in a general nervous condition, suffered from an irregular heart rate on exertion and was believed to have a 25% capability of earning a full livelihood in the general labour force in the condition he was in at the time. He married Gladys Shorthouse in 1925 and moved to Mildura. He died in 1966.

Auschar Philip La Mothe Chauncy enlisted on 13 December 1915 at Kalgoorlie, Western Australia. A mining engineer, he came from a family of surveyors. He embarked from Melbourne at the end of June 1916, just as he had become engaged to his fiancée. In September 1917 he was invalided to England because of severe shell gas poisoning. We don't know how bad his injuries

were, but he returned to Australia in June 1918. Shell gas poisoning caused internal and external blisters and damage to the lungs and other internal organs, which was very painful. Many survivors were so badly incapacitated that they would not be able to work once they were released from the army. Auschar lived at "Rosemont", A'Beckett Road, for a few years in the 1930s, and died when he was only 48 years old.

Arthur Francis James Funnell, locally known as 'Digger' after the war, embarked in December 1916 on the HMAT A7 Medic. In March 1918 he suffered a severe shell wound on his neck. By May his progress was noted as 'favourably', and he returned home in July. Despite his injuries, which had left him with a shrapnel hole beside his spine the size of a teacup, he was a popular worker in the local orchards. He was able to play cricket for the Upper Beaconsfield Club and was known to screw his face up in a contorted way on his run up to bowling a ball, which had the effect of putting off the opposition batsman.

It was common for WW1 veterans to have an inability to relate to others, due to the horrors they had witnessed on the front. Digger built himself a small cabin from flattened kerosene tins, with flour bags to line the walls in which he lived alone. We don't know if his war experiences led to Digger living that way. His parents owned the Cormore Tea Rooms (now the Milk Bar) for some years in the 1930s. The casualty lists were horrific. The closest thing in the modern day is the road toll. Both have left a lot of wounded people behind the scenes who have gone mostly unnoticed.

Sources: National Archives of Australia (<http://www.naa.gov.au>)
Rob Hansen "A century partnership"

Primary School (BUPS)

Nick Karanzoulis, Principal



Invitation to 2013 Preps

Our 2013 Preps Transition program is well underway with an information night being held in May as well as a series of Prep Experience sessions, which introduce kinder kids to our Prep classrooms.

As part of the Prep- Grade 6 Buddies Program, this year's Grade 5s are interacting with the kinder kids, building relationships, familiarity, confidence and trust with their future Buddies. Our Grade 5s will be assisting the kinder kids again during the PMP (Perceptual Motor Program) which will be held on 7 and 8 August from 9.45-10.30 am in the school's Stadium. Enrolment forms for the 2013 Preps should be lodged at the school office by Friday 29 June 2012. School Tours are taken every Wednesday at 9.15 am. Please call the office on 5944 3591 to make an appointment. Come and see for yourself the benefits of Personalised Teaching and Learning.



Solar power

A major aim of the Commonwealth Government's National Solar in Schools Program is to educate future generations about renewable energy and energy efficiency. BUPS received a \$50 000 solar panels grant which has enabled us to install a 13 kw system on the roof of our grade 3/4 building. As well, a software monitoring program called "sunschool" will provide "live" information to the school community and the world. Our "sunschool" website is now up and running and displays very interesting data about our energy use, energy generation and trends.

The site is www.sunschool.com/school/beaconsfieldups.aspx

District cross country winners

Once again, BUPS children have proven that they are the best cross country runners in the Cardinia District Sports Network. BUPS was the winning school, on a day where the temperature was low

and the cold wind rather miserable. There are certainly many positives for our children's health and fitness from our excellent physical education and sports programs, along with the after school activities that our children are strongly involved in. Running the 2 or 3 kilometre course alongside 60 other runners is always challenging. Having finished in the top 10 of their event, the following twenty-one children will represent our school and the District at the Division finals, to be held at Mornington Racecourse on 6 June: Amy L, Tom W, Trent E, Tamsyn P, Lochie A, Sam C, Anna B, Phoebe T, Daniel V, Sinclair L, Jess K, Alice C, Dylan C, Brooke S, TJ S, Oliver V, Katie R, Luke B, Will M, Jarrod B and Jack L.

Equestrian

At BUPS, Every Child is given Every Opportunity!



The amazing race - BUPS

3/4M and 3/4R Beaconsfield Upper Primary School



"Come on kids, let's go and have fun," yelled the parent helpers. "Let's go and explore Upper Beaconsfield in the amazing race!" On a beautiful, sunny autumn day, (Tuesday 27 March) all of the 3/4 kids at BUPS jumped into cars driven by their fantastic parents, ready to investigate their beautiful, unique town.

We were lucky to have about 30 parents come to help us on our amazing race. The kids were all put into teams that went in each parent's car. Each team had to take a map, a stable table, scrap paper, pencils, measuring tapes and the all important clues ready for their big adventure. Each clue had a landmark to find in Upper Beac and a maths problem to solve there.

One of the clues said, "Did anyone see that elephant crossing?" and we all knew we had to head off to Elephant Rock where



Hayden Michelotti, Olivia Michelotti, Rhiannon Gallagher, Ben Scarborough



measuring metres

we had to measure the perimeter of it. We were all surprised to see that we weren't only measuring, but we were painting it as well. The kids all got to paint their names on the rock and do a handprint too, because this was 'hands on' learning at its best! It was awesome!

At Critchley Parker Junior Reserve, we had to walk down a bush track until we found the memorial for the 11 fire fighters who lost



their lives trying to protect our town on Ash Wednesday. We had a minute silence to remember them and think about the people that died, and we talked about what we were grateful for. It is now a peaceful place in the bushland for people to pay their respects.

In the township, we got to explore lots of places like the church, the War Memorial, Salisbury House, the Milk Bar, the Post Office, the CFA and Foodworks. We estimated, counted, measured, rounded off, sounded out, multiplied, added and looked at prices, timetables and number patterns. We are maths geniuses! At Salisbury House we learnt that the oldest female resident is 103 – can you imagine how many changes she would have seen in her lifetime?

We saw lots of housing changes as we drove around. The cottage at the corner of Harpfield Road and St Georges Road is one of the oldest houses in Upper Beaconsfield, it's small, basic and has old fashioned colours – you wouldn't see that in Valley Drive! Valley Drive houses were big, modern, had different shapes and dull colours. We also saw the old school house which was moved from our school to Emerald Road. The strangest house was the igloo

(with bumps) down Burton Road, built to survive bushfires. It looked like a sand sculpture.

After our Amazing Race exploring Upper Beac, we all met at Cardinia Dam. Mrs Gallagher was 'Senior' Master Chef, cooking us scrumptious, sizzling sausages (we won't mention that they were a little crisp!). We had tonnes of fun running around Crystal Brook Park, playing truth and dare, tiggy, footy and swinging around on the playground.

Wow, what an amazing day! We just loved exploring our town and finding all of the local landmarks. We thought we were just having fun, but we were also learning so much about maths along the way. We wish we could make it a yearly event!

Teague McGill, Romanie Morgan, Rhiannon Gallagher, Shelby Clausen & Dougal Rann

Upper Beac Pony Club



Fiona Thompson

The annual games rally was held in February and was, as usual, hotly contested. Skills sessions were held in the morning for those not familiar with the games, and then house teams competed in the afternoon. Presiding over all was our Grand Master of Games, Jon Ling, who generously gives of his time and experience. Magee were the winners on the day, but every competitor deserves special mention for their efforts and enthusiasm.

A games team comprising Tori Ling, Maeve Thompson, Jess & Hannah Sykes, David Charman and Brooke & Chloe Lever represented the club in March in a competition at Mornington. The Junior team came 6th and the Seniors 3rd, which are admirable results. Following on from this, the club was again represented in the Zone Games competition at Warragul. On an uncharacteristically warm day, our team came first, proving that accuracy is often better than speed and thereby qualifying for the State Games later in the year. Congratulations to everyone involved (Tori Ling, Jess & Hannah Sykes, Tegan McKenzie, Jess Kiker, Millie McDonald & Ellena Boura) and best of luck.

On a wild, wet and windy April morning three club members (and two very devoted mothers) participated in the century old Snake Island Muster, hosted by the Snake Island Cattlemens' Association. Tori Ling (on Sox), Di Ling (on Wally), Maeve Thompson (on Dreamy) and Tegan Mackenzie (on Josh) all set off in miserable conditions. Kerry Mackenzie wisely decided to go over in the boat after deciding that it was much less likely to buck, bolt or have a hissy fit over a mob of dawdling cows. In Maeve's own words ...

In retrospect, this trip was thrilling, enlightening, and nothing at all like I had imagined. Having signed up with no real idea of what it would involve (leading a mob of cattle on a four hour ride across the inlet from Port Welshpool to leave them on Snake Island)



we were definitely out of our depth at the start of the ride, both figuratively and literally. According to the seasoned travellers, who welcomed us as if we were one of their own, it was the roughest, rainiest crossing in memory, with water rising to above riders' knees at some points. Despite arriving drenched and disoriented, we experienced the hospitality of the members, the expansive lunch and several campfires which greeted us ensured that the trip was a huge success. We amused ourselves by touring around the island, watching re-enactments of age-old traditions, getting to know Association members and generally relaxing and sharing stories. Fortunately, we returned to the mainland on a far more picturesque morning than the veritable sleet that we departed in.

The UBPC Dressage extravaganza was held recently at Ayr Hill Equestrian Centre, with entries topping 80 competitors from far and wide. Four grass dressage arenas ran all day, and the venue was full of shiny, snazzy-looking horses and their equally smart

riders. The foggy morning eventually cleared to a lovely afternoon, and the day ran without incident, in spite of the slippery conditions. Previously held in conjunction with our showjumping competition, the decision to run each on a separate day seems to have been a good one with the jumping to be held later in the year.

As you can see the pony club has been busy, and we have also welcomed several new members.



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Upper Beac Scout Group



Ali Hudson, Group Chairperson, 5944 3849

Scouts go for gold

This Easter saw the Upper Beaconsfield Scout troop enter four patrols into the Stradbroke Cup. This is a camping competition with points awarded for camping expertise, such as camp layout, safety, hygiene and cooking skills. Competitions are held at several venues throughout Victoria over the four-day period. Depending on the number of points scored patrols may be awarded Bronze, Silver or Gold.

All four of the Upper Beaconsfield Scout patrols achieved gold making them co-holders of the cup. This is a tremendous achievement and our all time first to enter four patrols and come home with four gold awards. Well done Scouts and really well done Leaders. This is a true reflection of the high quality program and hard work put in by all concerned.

Congratulations also go to Max Hudson who was awarded his Green Cord at a formal dinner on 24 April. He attended Tintern Grammar to receive the Scout Medallion early in May.

The Cubs have been away camping at Mt Martha and visiting the beach. They continue to grow and welcome Richard to their team of Leaders.

Charli Meister was awarded her Grey Wolf earlier in April, the highest achievement a Cub Scout can attain. Here she tells us what she had to do:

"In order to achieve the badge I had to complete the 'Gold Boomerang', attend at least 4 outdoor activities in the past year including an overnight camp, do an inter-pack activity & a bushwalk of at least 2 hours planned and led by me.

I have attended at least 2 pack councils in the past year, completed at least 4 Level 2 badges, including one from each category & a special interest badge.

I also had to develop and present a resource for my pack based on the Jungle Books.

I have loved Cubs and have learnt a lot but am now looking forward to being a Scout".

Charli's mum, Anita, says "Cubs has given my kids an opportunity that you can't get from sport activities alone. Cub Scouts provide a noncompetitive learning environment, full of diverse activities, which focuses on the group, not just the individual. Cubs also teach life skills. My kids pack their own stuff for a holiday and cook their own food. They have learnt patience, leadership, how to be giving and how to help friends have fun. I want to thank the leaders for their time and dedication to our kids. They really do contribute to building good adults. I wish I had been a cub too. We are so proud to be among giving people like the Cubs/Scouts and their families".

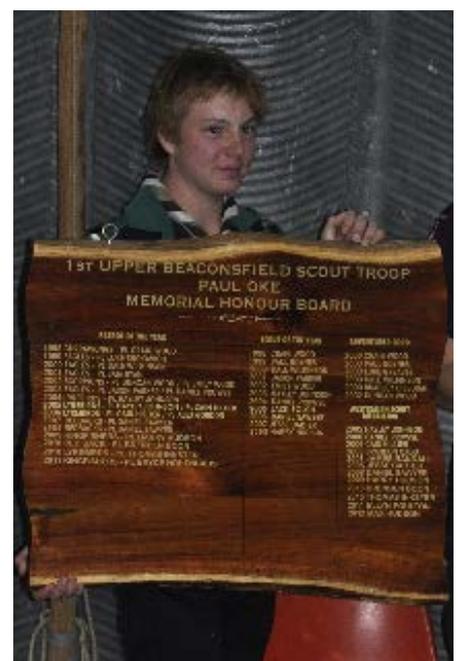
The Venturers were also away over Easter at Hoadley Hide, which again is a competition, but involves camping and hiking. They also have to complete tasks along the way as well as set tasks for other competitors. They did an excellent job of serving at the formal dinner and gained four more members from the Scout section.

We also had a great turn out for the Anzac Day ceremony.

Participation in community events is a valuable element to scouting and we are privileged to share in such an important occasion, thank you to the RSL for your hospitality.

Many, many thanks to our leaders: Bruce, Fred, Alison, Mick, Colin, Josie, Rob, Janet, Steve, Paul and Kathy. Also to our committee and parent helpers who give their precious time to make this such a warm, welcoming and successful Scout Group.

As always if you would like to find out more about the benefits of Scouting for your child, jump on the www.vicscouts.com.au website to see what we have to offer.



From left: Patrol Leaders Max, Bryce, Amy & Ellyn with their pennants after winning Stradbroke Cup; Charli & Kip Meister after receiving her Grey Wolf award; Max Hudson with the Paul Oke Memorial board after receiving the Scout Medallion.

Cardinia Beaconhills Golf

Ian Hollingsworth

The cooler weather brings with it a slowdown in what has been a very busy period at the golf club over the past months. We've had some heavy rain, about 150 mm, during late April and early May, so the predictions of a wet winter may be correct, as long as it rains Monday to Friday and stays away for the weekends we'll be happy!

The last few months have seen many of our major events having taken place, with our Club Championships being our main event for the year. Ryan Fuller comfortably won the Championship, with Laura Griffin taking out the Ladies title. Both players went into the event as clearly the two to beat, and playing up to expectations, they both recorded resounding wins. Ryan's four round total of 279 included a score of 65 in the 3rd round, an amazing score and probably the lowest 4 round total in the history of the event. Laura's score of 73 in the final round was a record for the ladies, and goes to show what a fine golfer she is. Ross Brown won the B Grade Championship, and Neil Vine won C Grade. Veterans Champion was David Crowe, with the Junior Champion being Hayden Nisbet. Other results in the Ladies Championship saw Libby Michel win B Grade, and Kim Pitcher showed good form over the event winning the C Grade, Veterans and Nett titles. Quite a scoop!

The Pennant season for the men is getting near to its end, with our Division 1 side currently sitting in second place and hopefully a good chance to make the final if their current form continues. Our Division 2 team has come up against some pretty strong sides, winning only the one match from four rounds to date. The Ladies



Entrance to the golf course then situated on Redhill Road in the 1930s.

had a successful season finishing second in Division 2, and although they didn't win their division, they will return to the top division for next season. Congratulations must go to all the lady players, and special thanks to their caddies who provided great assistance.

Our Juniors also had a great pennant season winning their section and bringing home the flag. It's great to participate, but even more fun when you win, so the kids were very proud of their achievement as were the parents and especially James Coughlin who managed the team. A recent notable result for the juniors was Jordan Denereaz winning the Eric Lucas Matchplay event at Flinders GC, a great effort. Jordan just missed out on selection in our men's pennant team this year, but will be knocking on the door next year, and we look forward to his further improvement.

We're currently in the process of securing funding to enable us to run a series of golf clinics for the students of Upper Beac Primary. This will most likely involve the older students initially, but will

hopefully expand over time and become an annual event in the school year. Our teaching pro David Williams will conduct the lessons, and hopefully we may unearth a couple of budding superstars! Golf Australia has recently started promoting golf as the 'Game for Life', and it is one of the few sports that people can play well into their older ages, but the best time to start is when you're young. Part of the funding has already been secured from the Victorian Golf Foundation, and we appreciate their commitment in supporting what we wish to do in conjunction with the school.



It is believed that this photograph was taken at the commencement of earthworks in 1928 for the dam adjoining the current causeway at the south entrance of the course, then the tradesmen's entrance. Apparently one of the reasons for the building of the dams, was to provide the opportunity to be able to 'sail' in Upper Beaconsfield.



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Local projects benefit from state budget

Local Member Brad Battin informed the Village Bell that the following projects in the region received funding in the recent Victorian Government Budget:

- Puffing Billy Railway upgrade - \$2.53 million to improve railway infrastructure (project total cost \$4.385 million)
- 24-hour Emerald Police Station - \$6.27 million for construction
- Officer Specialist School—\$13 million for construction (project total cost \$15 million)
- Officer Secondary College—\$2 million for planning (project total cost \$20 million)
- Clyde Road duplication from High Street to Kangan Drive—\$8.45 million (project total cost to State Government \$25.6 million)
- Berwick CFA—extension to facilities \$50,000 (total project cost to State Government \$600,000)
- Outer suburban arterial roads projects including planning for the Cardinia Road duplication—\$886,000 (total project cost \$2.95 million).
- Chisholm Institute of TAFE Trades Career Centre—\$8.5 million (project total cost \$26 million).

If readers would like further information on any of the above projects, call Brad Battin's office on 9796 1987 or email brad.battin@parliament.vic.gov.au

Thank You

Village Bell subscriptions for 2012

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.

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 these new subscribers this year since last issue, see above.

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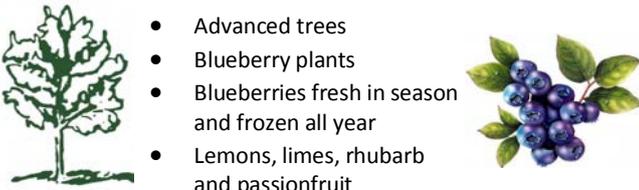


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