

UPPER BEACONSFIELD

VILLAGE BELL

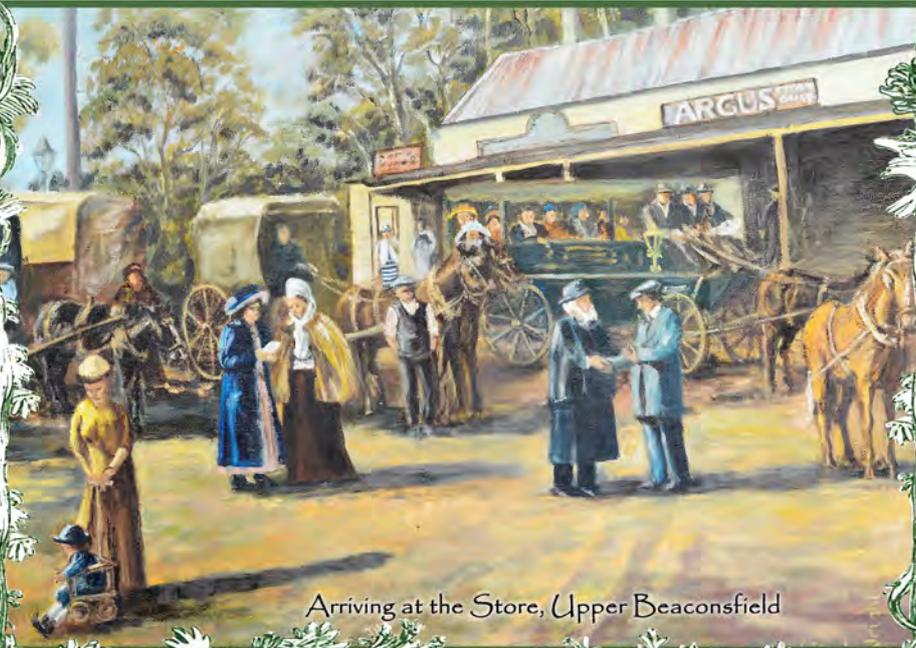


Issue 190

December 2012



Taking the coach from Beaconsfield Station



Arriving at the Store, Upper Beaconsfield

"A Trip to the Bush"
Xmas Holidays in Upper Beac.
Circa 1912 (see page 6)



Road safety works have started

VILLAGE FESTIVAL
 17 February 2013
 9 am - 3 pm
 Art, Craft and Photo
 competition
 closes 14 December
 see page 9



Leecie Vella's "Through the Arch Window" lifestyle boutique



Carols by Candlelight

Tess Porz

The Upper Beaconsfield Carols by Candlelight will be held at the Keith Ewenson Park in Salisbury Rd on Christmas Eve. Again, we are fortunate to have Peter Brown as compere together with local singers Rachel Ewenson, Mel Owen, Kate and Tess Porz and their talented band of merry musicians who will lead the community singing.

We will begin the fun at 7 pm with children's Christmas songs and activities.

As with tradition Ron and Lyn Fisher will be operating the best Christmas sausage sizzle ever with tea, coffee, soft drinks and candles will also be on sale. They will be assisted by their happy band of helpers (UBA take a bow!) and will be located at the Arts annexe.

A highlight of the evening will be the arrival of Santa Claus, who will make his grand entrance on the CFA truck at 7.45 pm.

However, he will first visit local children at Grant Court around 7 pm, Burton Road at 7.15 pm and then Paul Grove at 7.30 pm.

All the children love this special time of night where the jolly man in the red suit generously hands each child a bag of lollies. We hope you will all wave the old gentleman on his way before the Carols begin. We encourage you to bring a picnic rug.

Please note that Carols will go ahead regardless of the weather. If it is wet it will be held in the Hall.



About Town



Safety works begin at Upper Beaconsfield intersection

Safety work on the Beaconsfield-Emerald Road, St Georges Road and Salisbury Road intersection began in October. The works are part of the state government's commitment to improve safety at this problematic intersection. The upgrade is expected to be completed by mid 2013.

Through community meetings and surveys, VicRoads was able to establish that the key concerns were pedestrian safety, vehicle speed and vehicle movements on the Beaconsfield-Emerald Road intersection. The project will include minor road widening and line marking to improve the operation of the intersection. This will make it clearer to motorists and will also improve the left turn from Beaconsfield-Emerald Road into Salisbury Road.

Lifestyle Boutique opens in Upper Beaconsfield

Jo Carter

You can walk "Through the Arch Window" into the "Lifestyle Boutique" on Beaconsfield-Emerald Road beside the chemist, and find some gorgeous gifts. The shop, formerly a fish and chip shop, and latterly a hairdressing salon, has been given a total makeover by Leecie Vella. Leecie moved to Upper Beaconsfield with her husband and two sons a year ago. The goods on sale in the boutique are varied and lovely. She has soft leather handbags of exquisite quality, throws made and hand stitched from vintage saris. You can buy handmade French ceramics, candles, cushions and quality silver jewellery from Paris. Then there are Irish linen throws, in natural colours. You will enjoy a visit to this new venture, the goods are elegant and Leecie will make you most welcome. The shop will be open 9.30 to 5 weekdays and 9.30 to 1 on Saturday.

St John's Anglican Church celebrating Christmas

Robin Adkins Interim Vicar

Everyone is most welcome to celebrate Christmas at St John's, on the corner of St Georges Road and Beaconsfield-Emerald Road Upper Beaconsfield.



Program of services:

- Sunday 16 December 7.00 pm
The Just Harmony Choir presents Night of Miracles
- Sunday 23 December 6.30 pm
The Voices of Christmas at St John's. The characters of the Christmas story speak today with Christmas Carols.
- Monday 24 December Christmas Eve 9.30 pm
Christmas Eve Eucharist
- Tuesday Christmas Day 9.30 am
Christmas Day Eucharist

The installation of a pedestrian refuge, new lighting and footpaths on Beaconsfield-Emerald Road will also improve pedestrian safety. Line marking and new signs will encourage drivers to slow down as they approach the township, while sight will be improved for drivers and pedestrians by removing some trees and lowering embankments.

Local MP Brad Battin played an active role in organising community consultation on this project. Brad thanks the community for playing an active role in mapping out improvement options for this location.

During construction, it is anticipated there will be lane closures, speed reductions and some noise. There may also be restricted parking and access for pedestrians and cyclists while work is underway. Brad encourages residents to continue to support local businesses during the works.

Local history to be published soon

Graham Jackson

It will be of interest to many readers of the Village Bell that a significant amount of work has now been done to bring the research of the late Charles Wilson to a form suitable for publication.

Charles spent many years investigating the early history of Upper Beaconsfield and surrounding areas which encompassed much of what is now Beaconsfield, Narre Warren, Guys Hill, Dewhurst and even parts of Pakenham and Cranbourne.

"*Upper Beaconsfield – a history*" traces the development of the district from outpost cattle runs, through a holiday resort of Melbourne's wealthy, to its days as an apple growing area and the development of townships. The detailed information and biographical sketches provided for important individuals illuminates the context in which events occurred, ensuring that the history is rich and detailed. Packed with other contextual information including maps and photos, the work will appeal to historians of Melbourne, as well as family and local historians.

The A4 sized book will be approximately 250 pages long, and priced at \$39.95 (soft cover) and \$45 (hard cover).

Call Graham Jackson for pre-publication orders which attract a \$5 discount. They can be picked up at the Village Festival on Sunday 17 February. People wishing their copy to be mailed out to them need to add an estimated \$11 to cover the postage.



Village Bell says thank you

Thank you to the Men's Shed for many good works around the community this year.

Thank you to Beaconsfield District Community Bank

Matt McDonald

The name of the local branch, the Beaconsfield District Community Bank indicates the kind of financial enterprise this branch is. There are two types of Bendigo Banks: one, such as the Beaconsfield branch, that is community-based and operates with a committee of local people, many investors in the branch, and the other, such as the Berwick branch, which runs more along corporate business lines, with limited capacity to seed funds back into the community.

Branches such as the Beaconsfield one have greater autonomy in providing grants in response to local community needs. Upper Beaconsfield has benefited substantially from this generosity, and so the Beaconsfield District Community Bendigo Bank deserves our thanks and support.

The following is a list of local groups that have received funding from the Community Bank in the past year:

- Cardinia Beaconsfields Golf Club – Victorian Senior Open Championship event
- The Village Festival
- Upper Beaconsfield Toy Library
- Upper Beaconsfield Scout Group – purchase of new flags
- Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre – Welcome Seat
- BU Primary School, to enable bus transport to the State School Spectacular rehearsals
- Men's Shed

The Beaconsfield & District Community Bank Branch is at Shop 6, 52-62 Old Princes Highway, Beaconsfield, and can be contacted on 9769 5122.

Subscribers 2012–thank you

Crabtree, S & N Gray
Dow, B
Kilmartin, T & K
Anon
Kneen, H & G
Moritz, G & H
Passmore-Kerr, L
Ryan, V & R

Van Vliet, R & L
Ulph, J & F
Weidemann, R & S
Winther Family
Howard, M
Hale, K & R
Lipshut, P & V

Rainfall at "Barkala", Beaconsfield–Emerald Road

George Moir

- Following very high rainfall in June, the months of July and August were below average.

Total winter rainfall was 281.9 mm, average 245.7 mm.

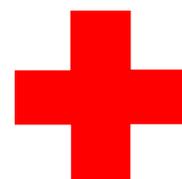
We have a wonderful team of community-minded people helping to bring the Village Bell to readers every quarter. Thank you to:

- Editorial team: Jo Carter, Marianne and Cameron Rocke, Noel Ling, Kaylene Cox, Julie Born, Cheryl O'Gallagher, Graham Jackson, Matt McDonald, Linda Burrridge and Helen Smith.
- Printing team Neil and Pam McDonald, Marianne and Cameron Rocke, Peter and Sue Simmons, Ron Fisher, Jo Carter, Daryl Hopkins and Graham Jackson
- Collating team—there are usually 16 or so regulars
- Michael and Kathy McGrath at the Post Office
- Village Bell advertisers who support and service our community
- Residents who paid subscriptions this year and to the Post Office, Community Centre and General Store for being drop off points for our subscriptions
- Last but not least thanks to all our contributors for providing articles and keep those stories coming!

Christmas wishes to all and a safe holiday

Bell Credits
 Editor: Helen Smith tel 5944 3219
 Next issue: **March 2013** Copy deadline : 7 February
 Receiving copy: Helen Smith: editor.villagebell@gmail.com
 Cover Artwork: Val Ewenson

Red Cross



Barbara Jackson, Upper Beaconsfield Area Coordinator. 5944 3554

Red Cross at Christmas

Red Cross Christmas cards, calendars and diaries are now on sale at the Berwick Mechanics' Institute Library. The Library also has a box to leave postage stamps from your mail. Just leave a generous amount of envelope around them. It is quite surprising how much money this small gesture can raise.

Christmas cards etc can also be purchased from Barbara Jackson.

- Spring (September and October) totalled 152.5 mm, 43 year average being 185.7 mm. Note that October is historically the wettest month of the year.
- The total rainfall to date 2012 is 879.7 mm with the average 773.9 mm. This total is 12.8% above average. Melbourne's water reservoirs are currently at a good level.

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
43 yr av	62.8	53.4	64.4	76.9	85.0	79.1	79.2	87.4	90.3	95.4	85.6	80.5	940 mm
2011	98.9	250.5	58.9	101	96.4	66.6	65.9	36.1	105.3	73.7	159.5	114.1	1226.9 mm
2012	60.3	82.3	60.0	114.2	128.5	146.3	64.4	71.0	86.9	65.6			

Meet your new Ranges Ward councillors

In the recent Cardinia Shire elections, three new councillors were elected to the newly restructured Ranges Ward. The councillors look forward to listening to your issues and advocating your concerns for you. They are excited for the future of the ward and thank you for entrusting them with your representation at council level.

Councillor Leticia Wilmot



My family and I moved to Cockatoo 21 years ago. My children attended the local kindergarten and primary school and then completed their secondary education at Emerald Secondary College. I retired from full time employment in 1999 and have worked since as a volunteer for the community. I joined the township committee in 2001 and have been a member of the Mayfair committee and the Newsletter Committee. I was convenor of the organising committee for Community Strengthening in 2002. I have also been part of consultative groups such as the Alma Treloar Master Plan and the McBride Street Renewal committee. I am currently involved with the Ready 2 Go committee looking at the issues of bushfire preparedness. I recently joined a new committee with representatives across the shire to organise the first 'Relay for Life' event to be held in the Shire in March 2013.

I am honoured to have been elected as councillor for Ranges Ward and I look forward to meeting residents and working with all the communities within the ward. I can be contacted via email at l.wilmot@cardinia.vic.gov.au or by phone on 0427 135 879. If you are interested in hearing my latest ideas and feeding your thoughts back to me, you can 'Like' my page at www.facebook.com/LeticiaWilmot.Ranges

Councillor Tania Baxter

My family and I live in Beaconsfield and my husband and I run a small successful business that employs local tradesmen. Married 15



years, we are parents of two primary school aged children who attend Beaconsfield College in Pakenham. I am originally from the other side of the Dandenong Ranges area and grew up in a family of lawyers. At university I achieved an Arts degree, majoring in Educational Psychology (and minoring in Accountancy) as well as a post-graduate Diploma in Special Education. At work, I was the principal consultant at The Special Education Consultancy before I had my children. I have been on many committees including the local kindergarten and township committee and I have been secretary of the Beaconsfield Progress Association for the last few years. I am a keen reader and a member of a book club. I passively barrack for the Richmond Tigers but don't hold that against me.

I am excited about being elected to Cardinia Shire Council and thank you for your support. We are already working on getting a mobile councillor office underway so we can come to you, to hear your priorities for Ranges Ward and feedback information. I can be contacted via email at t.baxter@cardinia.vic.gov.au or by phone on 0427 528 358. If you are interested in hearing my latest ideas and feeding your thoughts back to me, you can 'Like' my page at www.facebook.com/TaniaBaxter.CardiniaRanges

Councillor Brett Owen, Mayor of Cardinia Shire

I would like to thank the people of Ranges Ward who have entrusted me to represent them over the next four years.



I have lived in the shire all my life and have chosen to raise my family in Beaconsfield. I am married to Jackie and we have a 16 month old son, Max. Jackie and I are expecting our second child in May. I am a serving police officer with 16 years' service. My current role with Victoria Police is a Youth Resource Officer in the Casey area, specialising in child and youth related issues.

As one of your councillors for Ranges Ward, I will work hard to represent residents and provide support for community groups, sporting clubs and individuals. I will advocate strongly and to represent views of residents in all aspects of council. I understand that there is resident dissatisfaction with council in some parts of Ranges Ward. I want to work towards changing that, to improve resident opinion of council.

I look forward to working with my ward colleagues Leticia Wilmot and Tania Baxter. I am sure that the three of us will work together positively as a team for the betterment of Ranges Ward. We want to be more accessible to the community. I can be contacted via email at b.owen@cardinia.vic.gov.au or by phone on 0418 993 370. If you are interested in hearing my latest ideas and feeding your thoughts back to me, you can 'Like' my page at www.facebook.com/BrettOwen.CardiniaShire

Thank you to retiring councillors

Sincere thanks go to retiring councillors Graeme Legge and Ed Chatwin for all the help and guidance that they have provided to Upper Beaconsfield over an extended period as our Ranges Ward councillors. The Upper Beaconsfield Association in particular appreciated the valuable advice and assistance that Graeme and Ed provided. Our best wishes to them both as they embark on a "Post Council" future.

History Snippet: “A trip to the bush”

Marianne Rocke



Val Ewenson’s beautiful cover depicts what would have been a typical scene at Beaconsfield railway station, where Shorthouse’s Quamby coaches picked up tourists to convey them to Upper Beaconsfield for their Christmas holidays. At the end of the trip it was always busy at the store, when both residents and holiday makers picked up their provisions and their mail.

“How to get there”

The following extract from the 1899 “Guide to the Beaconsfield Ranges” was written by Thomas C Mackley (1852–1909).

Starting from Prince’s Bridge the visitor passes successively through democratic Richmond, genteel South Yarra and aristocratic Toorak, and thence the journey is continued via Oakleigh and Dandenong, through the picturesque town of Berwick one of the oldest settlements out of Melbourne – to Beaconsfield. The distance is twenty-eight miles, and from the time-table, included in the Guide Book, it will be seen that it can be easily reached at the most convenient hours of the day.

Railway Service.	
MELBOURNE TO BEACONSFIELD.	
Trains leave Prince's Bridge as follows:—7.50, 11.15 a.m.; 4.30, 6.15 (Saturday excepted), 1.30, 6.40 p.m. (Saturday only).	
BEACONSFIELD TO MELBOURNE.	
Trains leave Beaconsfield station as follows:—7.15, 8.55 a.m., 12.25 p.m.; 4.5 (Saturday only), 5.25, 9.13 p.m.	
Fares—First Class: Single, 3/9; Return, 5/8; Second Class: Single, 2/8; Return, 4/-; Holiday Excursion: First Class, 4/3; Second Class, 3/-.	
Coach Service.	
The principal trains are met daily by coach. Fare, each way, eighteen pence. Arrangements made by residents and boarding houses to meet visitors by any train.	

Beaconsfield Station is 160 feet above sea level, and there the traveller is taken charge of by the local Jehu, who meets all the principal trains, and for a slight consideration (1s. 6d.) will take him to his destination.

Proceeding through the village of Lower Beaconsfield we arrive at Cogle’s Hotel (late Gissing’s, and formerly Souter’s), and there turning to the right, the well-made road covers a level stretch of country about a mile and a half in length until it reaches the foothills of the ranges. Leaving Cardinia Park, the favourite resort for picnics, to the left, we pass on the right the entrance gate and

lodge of Holm Park, the country home of Mrs C. Armytage. The house, which is hidden from the road, is reached by an avenue a mile in length. Situated on a commanding eminence, surrounded by beautifully kept grounds, and replete with all the comforts of an Australian home of the better class, this is an ideal country residence.

From the lower magnificent views of the surrounding country may be obtained. Beautiful Berwick—than which it would be hard to find in all Australia a town more reminiscent of the dear Old Country—with its trim hawthorn hedgerows and grass of emerald green, lies spread out before us as on a map. The views, already described, from the summit of the ranges, are also to be enjoyed from this point. One is not surprised to learn that when it was under debate to purchase a country seat for the then Governor, Sir Henry (now Lord) Loch, this beautiful mansion was under offer to the Government.

High as is this coign of vantage, the heights yet to be scaled appear more formidable to negotiate than, on a nearer acquaintance, they will prove to be. The road soon begins to rise, and ere long the glorious panorama gradually unfolds itself, and, breathing the rarefied mountain air, one begins to feel that life is a blessing instead of a burden.

Upper Beaconsfield

After a long pull, and an ascent of some 700 feet, the Post and Telegraph Office is reached - the acknowledged centre of such trade and traffic as there is in our little mountain village of Upper Beaconsfield.

Here is also the “parting of the ways,” no doubt in the spirit of prophecy, “Charing Cross”. At the top of the “Cutting”, on the left, the road leads past Mrs. Sydney Smith’s, Mr. W. H. Goff’s, and other residences, via “Fern Acre”, down to the bridge over Stony Creek to Narre Warren. The one in front passes the Pine Grove Hotel—true to its name and picturesquely situated—and continues by the State School until it eventually reaches the high hills and big trees of Gembrook.

Bearing to the right of the Post Office, another road brings the visitor to the extensive boarding establishment, Salisbury House, from the back verandah of which one of the grandest views in Victoria is obtained.

Shorthouse family: A vital role

Harry Burton (1911-1990)

The Shorthouse’s really vital role lay in the carriage of tourists and weekenders every Saturday afternoon from Beaconsfield Railway Station to Salisbury House, and various guest houses and weekend cottages in the district.

With their 4 and 5 horse drags, and various other 2 and 3 horse cabs they imparted a picture of vitality and life to the area.

Beaconsfield Upper always came to life on Saturday afternoon with the arrival of the teams, and again became a scene of bustle on Sunday afternoons when the crowd departed for Melbourne, and some activity early Monday morning.

You can imagine occasional wild scenes and excitement as not always did Shorthouses horses behave as they should. They bought their horses at Dandenong at the Saturday sales and tried them out on Sunday mornings. There were no guarantees so some horses were good, quite a percentage were not; in any case most of the passengers who were young, enjoyed the entertainment when it occurred.

Mail oddities

The Argus, 5 July 1893

When the new mail contract commenced on 1 July 1893 residents were disappointed that the Postal department did not embrace the

continued on page 7

Upper Beaconsfield Association



Jennie Vaughan, President Upper Beaconsfield Association

Over the last three months of meetings with the UBA, the topics discussed have included the Citizen of the Year board to be placed in the Community Complex; the Ash Wednesday boards in Salisbury Road; and progress with Charles Wilson's local history book. Also discussed were the siting for the embroidery panel at the Community Complex; the future of 16 Salisbury Road adjacent to the Community Complex; and applications for funding for safety lighting at the shopping precinct. A public meeting was also held to meet the candidates for the Cardinia Council elections.

At the October meeting there was a good turnout of ratepayers, along with our two sitting Cardinia Shire councillors and a candidate for the upcoming election. The meeting was addressed by Elissa Bourne, the Community Education Coordinator for Region 8, regarding preparations for the coming fire season. Elissa provided ample literature for interested people.

The UBA is aware that some local residents are concerned with the

general appearance of the streets and car parks near the shops. The Association has applied for several grants from various sources for beautification with some reasonable results. While roadworks are in progress little can be achieved but next year it is hoped that a facelift can be implemented. It would be good if residents could and would offer some practical ideas to improve the visual impact in and around the shops.

Residents are reminded that nature strips are their responsibility—not council's. Some mowing or whippersnipping would make a big difference, especially after this year's lush spring growth.

The UBA is available to all residents at all times. General meetings are held every two months at the Community Complex; the next one is on 5 December. New ideas from all residents are welcome.

Current issues are also displayed on the UBA notice board adjacent to the Upper Beaconsfield General Store.

Upper Beaconsfield garden group

Jo Carter

Some residents are interested in getting together a group of people wishing to share an interest in gardening. We anticipate sharing experience and knowledge and encouraging and helping any budding gardeners.



If you think you could give or get any benefits from meeting with us, please leave a message for Traci Newham or Sally Randall at the Community Centre 5944 3484. When they receive your expressions of interest, they will arrange a meeting time and place and get started.

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opportunity to improve the service. The post for Melbourne closed at 7.45 am, but was not delivered in the city until 3 pm. For some reason the town mail bag had to be delivered to the down train leaving Beaconsfield station at 8.30 am, and went as far as Warragul, whence it returned to Melbourne actually re-passing the Beaconsfield railway station about 12.30 pm. For several years efforts were made by the inhabitants to get this altered but nothing practical resulted. The new contractor, Mr Craik, expressed himself to the department that he was willing at no extra charge, to close the mail here at 11 am, so as to catch the 12.30 train for Melbourne. This would have given residents an opportunity of answering letters on the same day as that on which they were received and still allow letters to reach Melbourne at the same time as now. However, written instructions were given to both Mr Craik and the Beaconsfield stationmaster that the former conditions were to be strictly observed.

UB Citizen of the Year nomination now open

The 2012 COY award nominations are now open. Nomination forms are available from the Post Office, Community Centre, and General Store.

These forms should be completed and returned to the UBA Secretary PO Box 86 Upper Beaconsfield.

The closing date for the 2012 nomination is 31 December 2012. Please note this date in your diary/calendar and consider nominating someone you know who is doing great work within the community. Anyone previously nominated but unsuccessful, can be renominated for 2012.

After the December closing date, the UBA will form a sub-committee to assess all of the nominations. The COY winner will be notified, and an award ceremony will be held at a Village Festival on 17 February, 2013.

Upper Beaconsfield Association

Last general meeting of the year

Wednesday 5 December at 7.30 pm
at the Community Hall.

It's a little different this year.

We are having a short meeting that will end around 8.15, after a brief description of a few additions around the hall.

We will follow this with supper so that we can end the year on a social note befitting the community spirit that exists in our village. The Pine Grove has offered to supply supper. All are welcome – so please come along for a

“Chat and a Chew”

Tennis Club



Darren Cordy on behalf of the UBTC committee

At the annual general meeting in August, Nick Gamble was unanimously voted a life member. Congratulations Nick, a very worthy recipient! In addition to this, Nick also became club President, with Matt Hendrie Vice President, and we also welcomed new committee members Rob Scott, Kerrie Puts and Michael Blackman who are already proving to be valuable committee contributors. A big thank you goes to the outgoing President Glenn Burridge for all his work during the year.

Over summer we have eight teams of juniors, three seniors' teams plus several mid week ladies' teams competing. Good luck to everyone involved!

With the drier weather approaching, it is important that the courts are well watered, bagged to the fence lines and tennis shoes worn at all times to assist keeping the courts in their current great condition.

Night tennis over summer is one of the best tennis experiences, and you can join in 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 to find out more.

The tennis club Christmas party will be held during the evening on Saturday 1 December. The junior and senior club championships will also be held at this time and everyone is welcome to attend to watch the high level of tennis, and maybe even get a bag of lollies from Santa.

UBTC Life Membership – Nick Gamble

At the annual general meeting in August, Nick Gamble was made a life member of the Upper Beaconsfield Tennis Club. Nick has been a playing member of UBTC for the past 18 years and has now served on the committee for the past 13 years. Nick has been involved in various senior premierships during this time and has been president at the club on multiple occasions.

Nick originally lived in Upper Beaconsfield up until seven years ago when he moved to live in Emerald. However, despite the move, Nick has called the tennis courts his second home and has been

greatly responsible for the upkeep and management of the courts, and can often be found working away on them during the week and on weekends. It is not uncommon for Nick to be at the courts at 7 am on a Saturday morning mopping up from the rain so the juniors can play, and still be at the courts at 7 pm cleaning up after the seniors have finished.



The outstanding condition of the courts are highly regarded by all visiting clubs and are widely considered to be one of the best (if not the best) kept courts in Victoria, all due to the amount of care they receive by Nick.

Nick has also been responsible for various improvements around the club, including landscaping, path replacements and the upgrade of various electrical appliances within the club house.

Outside of tennis, Nick has a PhD from Monash University in psychology and splits his time between working at Monash lecturing and running a student tutoring business.

Nick is a very deserving life membership recipient and is a great example of the difference that one person can make to improving not only the tennis club, but the whole community.

Armistice Day 2012

Jo Carter

At the Cenotaph on the 11th hour of the 11th month 2012, Eric Chaplin, President of the Upper Beaconsfield RSL, called for a minute's silence to remember the fallen and returned servicemen of the World Wars and all conflicts. More than 60 residents and friends were gathered at the Cenotaph on a beautiful spring Sunday morning. A Vietnam veteran, Graham Hunter, member of the RSL laid a wreath on behalf of all of the members of the RSL and Noel Ling, secretary of the UBA, laid a wreath on behalf of all residents.

The group included boys and girls from the local scouts with some of the leaders, fire brigade members, RSL members and residents. RSL member Andrew Varga read the moving soldier's prayer. The group sang the National Anthem and Eric closed the service by inviting the group to join members for a "cuppa".

The attendance was unexpectedly high, probably because Remembrance Day fell on a Sunday.

Cardinia's Relay for life

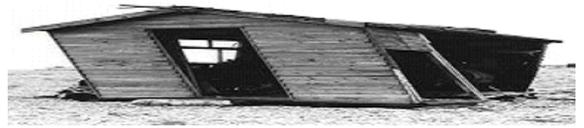
Councillor Leticia Wilmot

In recognition of an Australian being diagnosed with cancer every five minutes, Cardinia's first Relay for Life will be hosted at Pakenham's Toomuc Reserve from Friday 1 to Saturday 2 March 2013. With no age restrictions or fitness requirements, everyone in the Cardinia Shire community is invited to join in. It would be great to have team from Upper Beaconsfield join in this event. All proceeds raised at the Relay for Life assists the Cancer Council's endeavours to detect, treat and prevent cancer. Participants are urged to gather a team—whether it is family, friends or colleagues—and challenge themselves to an overnight 'relay-style' run or walk around the Toomuc Reserve oval.

For more information or to register, visit www.relayforlife.org.au or contact the supporters hotline on 1300 656 585. Emails can be forwarded to Cardinia@relayforlife.org.au

Upper Beac Men's Shed

Matt McDonald



First birthday for Men's Shed

The Upper Beaconsfield Men's Shed began twelve months ago. The group has a list of about fifty-five men who have expressed interest in the group and about twenty-five who regularly attend the Wednesday morning get-togethers.

Projects completed include the Community Centre Welcome Seat, the painting of nine rocking kangaroos for the 4Cs in Pakenham, the refurbishment of the fire awareness notices along Salisbury Road near the Community Complex, and trimming shrubs and spreading mulch around the Community Complex grounds and garden beds. The Shed men recently cleared two large trailer loads of debris left by the tree clearing on 16 Salisbury Road.

Members have assisted Landcare with the planting of trees in reserves. We have also been busy inside the Community Complex fixing white boards to walls and also constructing a housing for the solar panel control switches.

Other activities have included visits to a sawmill in Millgrove, a tour of the Jayco caravan factory in Dandenong South and visits to Men's Sheds in Mirboo North, Keysborough, and Yarra Junction and to the Woodworkers' Group in Berwick. We have run sessions on chainsaw maintenance, repair and upkeep of small motors, fire

pumps and tool sharpening. The most recent session was a talk by Dr Michael Prowse, a local and partner in the Langmore Clinic at Eden Rise, on general health issues for senior men.

Locals may notice a new structure taking shape in the Beaconsfield Upper Primary School grounds, which is to be a chook house for the school. The chook house is being built by Men's Shed members with the school students.

The Men's Shed Interim Committee continues to seek council permits for locating their building on the Halford Road side of the Community Complex.

The Men's Shed group is very grateful for the support it has received from the Community Centre, Community Complex Buildings & Grounds Committee, Bendigo Bank Beaconsfield, Landcare, and indeed the Upper Beaconsfield community.

On Wednesday 21 November the Men's Shed established its Management Committee for the next year at the AGM.

The Men's Shed meets every Wednesday morning from 10 am–12 noon, with a barbeque on the last Wednesday of each month.

For further information, please contact the Community Centre on 5944 3484, Matt McDonald on 0407 845 135, or Noel Ling on 0414 443 735.

Berwick Mechanics Institute celebrates 150 years

Linda Burrige

During October, the Berwick Mechanics Institute and Free Library celebrated 150 years of service to the people of Berwick and surrounding areas. Celebrations included a Mayoral Reception, a lunch at Clover Cottage for volunteers and an Open Day.

The Open Day was an opportunity for visitors to enjoy refreshments and explore some of the unusual treasures held in the library. These include artworks, archives, historical documents and the Casey Collection – the private library of Lord and Lady Casey.

The library is run by volunteers and operates on a shoestring budget but has a strong commitment to customer service and a high quality collection of books and other items. With its wonderful location on High Street, it enjoys a steady stream of borrowers.

Open for business 4½ days per week, visitors can browse at their leisure. By the way, "Mechanics Institute" refers to the movement begun the 1800s to provide learning opportunities for adults. It doesn't mean that there is a large collection of car manuals! Check out www.berwickmilibrary.org.au for more information.



Village Bell December 2012

Upper Beac Village Festival Sunday 17 February

Sunday 17 February 2013 from 9 am to 3 pm at the Upper Beaconsfield Community Complex.

Come along and enjoy the sounds of our talented musicians, while browsing the stalls or just relax under a shady tree with a latte or wine. Our local community groups will cook up a storm. There will be plenty on offer next year, with a great selection of scrumptious food and drinks for everyone to choose from.

The kids can go wild with the \$10 wristband giving them unlimited access to rides and activities for the whole day!

The ever popular charity Tower Challenge fun run/walk will again be held in two parts with the second run at the Berwick Show on the 24 February.

Register for the fun run/walk at www.registernow.com.au

Sponsored once again by Beaconsfield District Community Branch Bendigo Bank.

Trophy presentations and 'Citizen of the Year' awards at 10.30 am will take place once again at the Bell Tower, with the ringing of the bell to become an annual ritual at the festival.

Applications and general information will be available on the festival website: sites.google.com/site/ubvillagefest/home
Email enquiries to: ubvillagefest@gmail.com

Sunday 17 February Upper Beac Village Festival

Vale Larry Osborn 1923-2012

Marianne Rocke

The end of the Osborn era

Larry Osborn was born in the middle of a stormy night in August 1923. It is recalled how his father had to get the old horse and cart and harness it up. It was pouring with rain, and the cart was slipping and sliding down the three mile hill, a tarp pulled over the mother in labour. When they arrived at the Berwick hospital they discovered that it was closed, and his father had to run all the way to the doctor's house so that he would open the hospital so that the delivery could take place in safer circumstances.

The Osborn family lived in "Stoneycroft" at the corner of Berglund and Split Rock Road. James Walford had built the house for his coachman. By the time Harold and Lily



Osborn bought the house in 1919 it was run down and dilapidated. Every time there was a storm the neighbours marvelled that it was still standing. They were surprised when the Osborns came along, bought it and made it their home. Stan Hamilton remembers that the house was partly dirt floors. Later owners in 1980, shortly before the house was lost in the Ash Wednesday fire, found walls of rough sawn boards, originally covered with hessian, which had

later been covered with caneite. In places there were traces of old wallpaper, and in the passage a stencilled border made by Mrs Osborn.

Harold Osborn was an orchardist and good with his hands. He created a cot for Larry from 8 gauge fencing wire. The Osborns were keen gardeners, and established a properly laid out garden. To care for it, run-off water was led in from the roadside to a lily pool, and from there piped to a large concrete tank. Later a dam was formed by the creek, and water pumped up from there.

Larry served in the RAAF from 1942 to 1946 to the rank of flight sergeant. Later he worked as a wireless technician

for the ABC, and he used his expertise in 1956 to build a radio receiver and transmitter base set at the fire station. A 60 foot mast was erected. To complement this he built the three mobile sets carried on the Gembrook, Upper Pakenham Upper and Upper Beaconsfield Fire trucks at relatively low cost – many hours of work done in his own time. Within six months the radios proved their worth during a bushfire in the Dewhurst area.

He was made a life member of the Upper Beaconsfield Fire Brigade in 1957.

He is remembered by the Upper Beaconsfield community as a clever fellow in many ways, strict, but very honest and caring, with a love for horses and other animals.

When Lily Osborn died in 1970, neighbours



enquired about her, only to be told "she is gone" and didn't wish to have a funeral, much to the dismay of the Upper Beaconsfield community.

Larry sold "Stoneycroft" and moved to Nar Nar Goon North where he bred Arabian horses. He volunteered his time for many years as horsemanship assessor and providing the PA system at club events. He also forged a long friendship with the Dingle family and gave a lot of his time for their Light Horse and Field Artillery Museum in Nar Nar Goon, acting as lead brakeman of the horse-drawn vehicles at military events.

He was farewelled by many friends at a very fitting funeral, as two Clydesdale horses pulled his coffin for his last ride. He was with his horses at last.



Liz Brandie

Bushfire information session

Upper Beaconsfield CFA conducted the annual bushfire education program on 25 November. The presentation was CFA's Fire Ready Victoria program including an informative session on how to reduce your bushfire risk, fire behaviour and the development and practice of your fire kit and Bushfire Survival Plan.

Upper Beaconsfield has been assessed as having an extreme bushfire risk in accordance with the Victorian Fire Risk Register.

CFA's approach is to create a safer Victoria through the development of building self-reliance and resilient communities who are able to recognize and understand risk and are prepared to take the steps to reduce the risk of fire.

If you were not able to attend this event you can contact cfa.vic.gov.au or call 1800 240 667 for more information.

Free bushfire advice service

If you have concerns of how your property would be affected in a bushfire you can also book a free home inspection with a fire safety expert for personal advice on ways you can prepare your property before the fire danger period.

Contact the Victorian Bushfire Information Line on 1800 240 667.

Prepare your property

Fire restrictions will start soon so reducing the fuel load of your property should be your prime concern at this time of year.

A long wet winter promotes grasses with strong spring growth that dries rapidly when summer approaches. This growth although appearing damp and green can still burn underneath. Mowing and slashing of long grasses will reduce the flammable growth.

If you are planning a burn please be aware of any restriction or total fire bans.

When burning off take care to rake clear the ground of sticks, bark and leaf litter surrounding the burn and do not burn close to or under trees. It just takes a spark to ignite bark on trees and they burn straight up the bark to the top of the tree.

Make sure before you burn you have an adequate water source nearby.

Don't burn on windy days as sparks travel far and your hose is not long enough to put out a bushfire.

Fire Ready app

If you are intending to be away on holidays CFA has developed a new app that you can download free to get the latest fire information and warnings direct to your smartphone or i-pad. These consist of screen shots of maps with bushfires currently burning in the area, fires that are under control or planned burns plus information of current bushfire warning status. Set the app to notify you when an incident occurs in a chosen area and use it to stay up-to-date with local Fire Danger Ratings and Total Fire Bans.

Download the app free from cfa.vic.gov.au

The storm 5 September 2012



Wendy Thomson's heritage shed lost part of its roof (above). The CFA and SES worked hard to put tarpaulins over the gap.

Something equivalent to a mini tornado brought down trees and power lines on Split Rock Road between Norbury Road McKenzie Road intersections (left & above right). Local residents were without power for an extended period.

The clean up (right) took many days and involved the council felling up to 30 trees that had their tops destroyed, closing the road.



Vale Alan Malcolm James Orr 1940-2012

Cameron Rocke

We will all miss seeing the very familiar white Bedford van which belonged to Alan Orr, that criss-crossed Upper Beaconsfield for decades.

Alan was born in Orbost, on 28 October 1940, to Gwen and Max (a teacher) in Port Welshpool. On 14 October 2012 on a trip to Yarrowonga, his 'favourite place in the world', Alan Orr passed away whilst sitting down in his armchair – aged 71 years.

The family moved to Kooweerup North, where Alan grew up. Living close by was Gwen's sister Maisie and her son Michael. Alan and Michael grew up like brothers. Michael described young Alan as cute, cuddly, confident, extroverted, and a rascal, one time substituting rocks on a path with rotten fruit and then watching the mayhem from a nearby pine tree. From a toddler, it was noted that Alan was always a fixer of things.

Alan took to music and played the guitar. His favourite songs were 'Old Shep' and 'Fascination', which led to his nickname of 'Fasso'.

Alan wasn't intellectual, and his father lectured him about his grades at school. Alan said, "but I came top of the fails!" Alan's first job was working as an apprentice mechanic for Harry Burton of Kooweerup. As part of Alan's training he was asked to assemble motors part by part from scratch, which Alan keenly did.

In 1965 Alan moved to Upper Beaconsfield and four months later married Carol, who also went to Alan's school. In the same year Alan started working for Noel Harvey at Beacon Heights Autos as it was then known in the village. Two years later Alan became a partner in the business.

Denis Lansbury, who was a local policeman at Berwick, would often meet Alan and his tow truck at the scene of car accidents. Alan was very hands on, helping to get drivers out of twisted wrecks and caring for them at the scene – and was thus Denis' first person to call when an accident was reported. Denis spoke that when a smash was cleared up, Alan would often generously offer Denis a beer!

When Alan left the garage, he worked the RACV office in Noble Park on night shift in the office, but didn't like being cooped up working inside. He then started a



mobile mechanic business and used the garage at Ian Pask's place on Albers Road when necessary. Alan would personally deliver accounts often a month after doing repairs. It was a social occasion for his customers which would often end up taking him a whole day. His terms were always generous although one person queried an account for spark plugs and points for a diesel tractor – a mix up of course.

Alan's musical bent continued, including playing a piano in a ramshackle way at the Pine Grove. Tommy Griffin loved it, but his wife Adrienne told him to stop as he was driving the guests away! At home he would play the electric organ, sometimes well into the night. His son Darren once gave him a mouth organ for Christmas, which became a treasured possession.

Many people benefited from Alan's generosity. When Jack Stephens grew old, Alan would often help him out – including cutting his toe nails with a side cutter.

Fire fighting, a dangerous occupation at the best of times, proved almost fatal for Alan in the 1969 fires when he was bitten on the neck by a spider, which caused his nervous system to begin to fail. At 2 am, Doctor Lindsay was woken to treat Alan at Berwick Hospital for the bite.

Alan also won a bravery award from the State Governor following Ash Wednesday, when he saved Anne Fogarty's children who were near neighbours. He carried one under each arm—a very desperate situation requiring courage and clear thinking. He was laid up for three months recovering from serious burns to his face and arms.

When Alan retired he profusely apologised to many of his loyal customers. In his retirement he bought many tools and gadgets he could have used when he worked but couldn't afford then.

His funeral service was held at David Bull in Pakenham, and by the many classic vehicles in the car park, was attended by the many mechanics he knew over his working life. He was acknowledged by friends and family as a gentleman, a great father, a musician and a generous man. He had a passion for cars, a heart of gold, and a love for the company of younger people.





The fire's
miles away.

It could be here
in minutes.

If you're in two minds, leave early.

The best way to prepare for this fire season is to stay informed and plan to leave early, before you see smoke or fire.

Plan to leave early:

- ✓ Talk to everyone you live with so you all know when you're going to leave and where you're going to go if a fire starts.
- ✓ Pack a relocation kit with important documents and essential items.
- ✓ On high-risk days, check Fire Danger Ratings and fire warnings on the CFA website and listen to local radio.

Don't wait and hope for the best. Visit the CFA website to find out how you can be FireReady.

Plan to leave early
visit cfa.vic.gov.au
call **1800 240 667**

PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

FireReady 

Wildlife Watch

Laura Levens



One or two unusual sightings among things that move among the bush included a tiny moth with intricate black and white pattern on tan wings, not reported from this area before. Not that I find that surprising as it is only 5 mm long!

Next a puzzle for me – first I thought ‘moth’ but the black and white striped antennae were over twice as long as it’s slender, dull black, 1.5 cm long body. A knowledgeable contact decided that it was a caddis fly because the wings are covered in hairs, not scales as moths have. These insects have aquatic larvae that construct silken cases covered with sand or plant material.

I found first a *Thelymitra carnea*, pink sun orchid, which flowers mid-October. Some *Thelymitra ixiooides*, dotted sun orchids had self-pollinated prior to that but none opened on the same 27 degree day. Checking back through earlier records I discovered that these blue ones had opened on a rare total fire ban day in October so perhaps they need higher temperatures than the pink one. One time I saw the flowers immediately close up when a sudden cool change blew in even though the sun was still shining.

Shining golden *Ranunculus lappaceus*, Australian buttercups have flowered in groups surrounded by native violets.

A row of pink *Indigofera australis*, backed by creamy yellow hop wattle, made a lovely self-sown hedge along our driveway during late spring. A judicious trim to save cars being scratched and encourage bushier growth is in the offing after seed fall.

And, my goodness! I almost forgot the huge roar that made me sit up suddenly at 3.30 am one night. Definitely a first for here that I was assured was a koala’s mating call.



caddis fly



Thelymitra carnea (above), *Viola hederacea* (below)



New program to deal with roadside weeds and pests

Local MPs Brad Battin and Edward O’Donohue recently announced that the Victorian government is providing grants to local councils to help deal with the problem of plant and animal pests along rural roads over the next three years. Cardinia is receiving over \$70 000. A recent report recommended that councils are best placed to control weeds and rabbits along local rural roads. Weeds and animal pests like rabbits become established along many local roads, and then they spread into neighbouring public and private land. This will involve all of the Council’s road network, as required, and therefore will include Upper Beaconsfield.

Weeds in Upper Beaconsfield

Helen Smith

It has become apparent that the wetter weather over the last couple of years in our local area has led to a burgeoning growth of roadside weeds and weed tree seedlings. All weeds are strong growers and will eventually spread and lead to the decline of local indigenous plants. Culprits such as pittosporums and blackberries are everywhere, pine seedlings are growing strongly, clumps of agapanthus are spreading and ivy is growing rapidly and clambering up trees.

All householders should keep an eye on their own nature strips and remove these weeds while they are young and are easy to remove. Some years ago a weed program

run by council tried removing pittosporums and as far as I can tell, did not make much difference to the spread of these tree weeds. It is better if all property owners check for weeds on a regular basis, rather than ignoring the problem for years then having a much more difficult task of cleaning up when the plants have grown large.

Warning

- Ivy growing up a tree eventually takes over and weakens the tree, which can fall over.
- The lush growth of grasses on local nature strips over spring will dry out and provide great fuel for the fire season if not dealt with by property owners.

Platypus numbers are now looking better

Australian Platypus Conservancy

Researchers have given the first-ever platypus reintroduction project a pass mark after five animals were recorded during the trapping survey along Cardinia Creek in October. Australian Platypus Conservancy biologist Geoff Williams said that the total, comprising four females and one male, was the highest number of adult animals found during a single monitoring session since efforts commenced over eight years ago to bring back platypus to Cardinia Creek.

The original platypus population was wiped out after the 1983 Ash Wednesday bushfires. In early 2004, the Conservancy (then working with Melbourne Water) began translocating surplus juveniles from nearby waterways in a trial to see whether it was feasible to re-establish a population in Cardinia Creek. All the translocated animals settled in well to their new home. Successful breeding occurred in the minimum possible timeframe and has now become routine, with several juveniles produced each summer.

Dangers to platypus

But, establishing the new population has not been trouble free, primarily as a result of human impact on the creek. Some platypus are known to have been killed in illegal opera house yabby traps,



while others may have died as a result of injuries caused by litter. There were concerns the platypus project might fail because of this.

Geoff Williams hopes the community will get behind efforts to improve Cardinia Creek. The population in Cardinia Creek is still very small in absolute numbers and the community needs to support efforts to make the creek a suitable long-term home for this unique mammal.

Cardinia Catchment Landcare Group and various management agencies are making great progress in planting more native vegetation throughout the Cardinia Creek catchment and this will eventually provide better habitat for platypus. But thoughtless actions, such as litter dumping and illegal fishing, pose a major risk to the survival of the new platypus population.

Illegal fishing nets are continually being found at Luke Place, Inglis Rd and some parts in Akoonah Park. The Conservancy urges people to avoid these areas as they are being restored to help improve the habitat for the platypus. Preventing dogs entering the creek will go a long way to help platypus gain confidence in travelling

further down the creek. Please contact your local Landcare and friends groups to become more involved in learning more about the platypus and ways in which their environment can be improved.

Contact Glenn Brooks-MacMillan, Cardinia Catchment Landcare on 0428 427 004.

Echidnas out and about

Helen Smith

I was surprised recently by a visiting echidna to my garden. He was travelling quite fast across from next door, like he was man on a mission. He disappeared under my parked car and I raced inside to grab my camera. When I came out I couldn't see him at first, and then discovered him fossicking in the shrubbery. He then took off along the path. When he sensed me watching he tried to hide in the corner of my verandah. I was lucky to take a photo and a short movie.

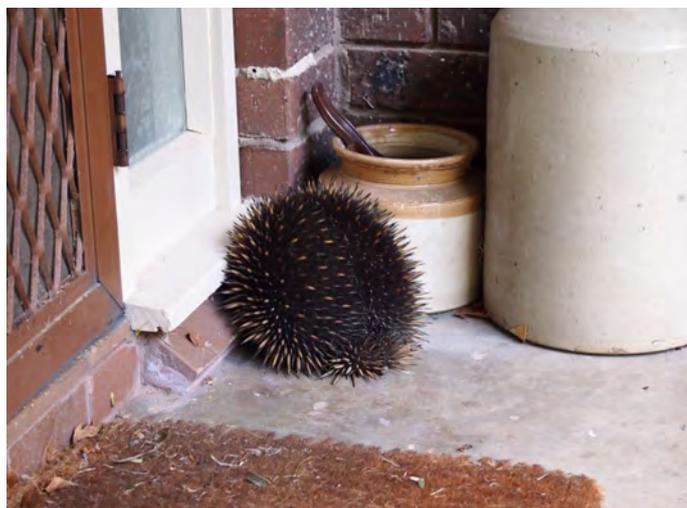
I was concerned he might go on the road, so donning my garden gloves and with a beach towel I managed to pick him up and pop

in him a plastic tub. He tried to dig in and was hard to pick up. He was a ball of muscle as echidnas are strong diggers, but the concrete defeated him. I carted him down to the local bushland reserve, well away from the road and let him go.

I have since heard of other sightings in the local area. My theory is the echidnas are scouting about to find mates. Dogs are particularly intrigued by them and could harass these animals so it pays to be



alert if you hear a fuss down in the garden. One resident upended a wheelbarrow over the echidna to protect it from her dog. Another said their dog got spiked on the nose, which was a good lesson to keep away! Some students at Berwick Secondary College even found one in the school garden and rescued it and released it in a neighbouring property well away from overly inquisitive kids.



Community Centre



Lauren Etherington, Centre Co-ordinator

On behalf of the Committee of Management and staff at the Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre, we would like to thank both the local and neighbouring communities for all their support during 2012. It is wonderful seeing all of the new and known faces coming through the Centre to join our groups and classes. We hope that everyone will return during 2013, with the vast array of community groups, leisure classes, and the government-funded accredited courses on offer that support many opportunities for the general public.

Term 4 has been busy, with many classes filling to capacity and numbers growing in the general classes and community groups. Classes commencing soon are:

Responsible Serving of Alcohol – \$90

Friday 7 December 1.30–5.30 pm

Food Handlers Course – \$90 each

Friday 7 December 9 am–1 pm & Thursday 13 December 6–10 pm

Simple Soap Making and Edible Treats – \$35 each

Monday 3 December 1–3 pm & Thursday 6 December 7–9 pm

Call (03) 5944 3484 to confirm your place in the above courses.

A huge thank you goes out to the wonderful ongoing work and support from the Upper Beaconsfield Men's Shed. We were lucky to have received a generous donation of mulch, which was eagerly spread around the Complex by the Men's Shed members. It really makes a big difference and we thank you for your efforts.

The Community Centre has advertised for expressions of interest in relation to joining a community gardening group and/or being part of the development of a new community garden. What a great way to volunteer your expertise and engage with your local community. Come get your hands dirty and meet new people.

The Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre will be closed from Friday 21 December 2012. The Crèche will re-open on Tuesday 22 January 2013 and the Office will re-open Tuesday 29 January 2013.

The Centre phone has a holiday voicemail message, where you are

more than welcome to leave us a message with your details and we will return your call upon our return.

The Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre would like to wish everyone a safe and happy festive season—merry Christmas and happy New Year!

Crèche news

Kylie Briffa, Children's Services Administrator

The UBCC Crèche has recently begun a playground upgrade, which was made possible by the successful application of a Community Capital Works grant which we match dollar for dollar. The grant has allowed us to undertake the required works to update our playground, including new rubber surfacing, flat lawn areas and laying new turf. This will also enable us to better attend to safety issues due to the installation of a new emergency evacuation access ramp, which is to be built in a better position, facilitating a safer route to the evacuation meeting point.

The children continue to enjoy the preschool music program offered by Tess Porz, our wonderful volunteer, who provides an engaging, fun and informative learning environment to encourage an appreciation of music. The children are also continuing to enjoy the preschool yoga sessions offered by Karen Ablett, one of our lovely educators, promoting relaxation, calm and a sense of self.

As the year draws to a close we would like to invite you to join in all the fun at our UBCC Crèche Christmas party, to be held on Wednesday 5 December from 9.30–11.30 am. Enter with a gold coin donation. Santa photos with your child will be available for purchase on the day priced at \$10 for a 4x5 photo or \$15 for a 6x8 photo.

The last crèche day for 2012 is Thursday 20 December. Opening hours are from 8.30 am to 4.30 pm. We re-open on Tuesday 22 January 2013, from 8.30 am to 4.30 pm.

We look forward to another wonderful year with your children in 2013 and wish everyone safe, fun and happy holidays.

Upper Beaconsfield Kindergarten



The Upper Beaconsfield Kinders have had a busy start to term 4 with lots of exploring of the outdoors now that the weather is warming up. The children have enjoyed looking for various bugs and insects at the kinders and are outside as much as possible now that winter has left us!

The children at 4 year-old kinder had an exciting adventure in the last few weeks with a trip aboard Puffing Billy. Taking a picnic lunch and spending a few hours at Emerald Park Lake was wonderful fun. There was a treasure hunt to explore, birds to feed and lots of room to run around and play. Thanks to Therese and your helpers for organising such a great excursion.

The fundraising team have continued their hard work raising funds for both kinder groups with a shopping tour held in late October.

Over \$750 was raised on the day which was a fantastic effort. Many thanks go to all those who came along and bought their friends too. All the money raised goes directly to our wonderful kinders! Our last major fundraiser is a sausage sizzle at Bunnings Fountain Gate on Saturday 22 December. It is a crazy time of year, but we would love to see our fellow Upper Beaconsfield residents on the day if you can make it down and support us.

A reminder to all families that the Kindergarten Christmas picnic will be held on Monday 10 December at 5 pm at the Stoney Creek Road building. The children are looking forward to the day with rumours of a visit from the man in red! After a hectic year, it will be lovely to relax in the garden with a picnic dinner.

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



Upper Beaconsfield Toy Library turns 30 next year That's 30 years of voluntary work!

'Volunteers give their skills, life experiences, time and expertise to the community and as a result, provide the opportunity for extended services and an enhanced quality of community life, by their active participation in it'. *Volunteering see www.bvrc.org.au*

We first opened our doors in 1983 and since then the volunteers who run and operate the Upper Beaconsfield Toy Library have been there for you. From the aftermath of the Ash Wednesday bushfires we have ensured that every child can have access to fun and educational toys at an affordable cost. At the beginning we had a high number of volunteers join the toy library. Committee records show from 1995 to our current numbers that over 50 new volunteers have volunteered their time, knowledge and support to the library. Not surprisingly many of these volunteers continue to give their time and contribute to other organisations or events after leaving toy library. Records also show that the average number of members on a committee was between 4 to 8, and 13 people were interested in joining committee in 1995. Earlier records from 1983 to 1994 are unknown.

Toy Libraries are a wonderful service for any community but require volunteers to run them. A big thank you goes out to all the volunteers who have contributed and assisted the UBTL over the past 30 years and to members who have donated their time to help out when needed. It does make a difference!



Some reasons why people volunteer include:

- meeting new people and families
- gaining experience
- staying active and involved
- trying something new
- learning new skills
- putting back into the community
- having fun
- retaining skills
- supporting a cause

Our AGM will be held on Wednesday 20 February 2013 at the Community Centre—all welcome!

We look forward to celebrating our 30th birthday with you next year and wish you all a safe and fun Christmas!

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"

Primary School (BUPS)

Nick Karanzoulis, Principal



Community partnerships

Over the past couple of months, our school has been involved in a partnership with the Beaconsfield Upper Men's Shed, to build our chicken coop. This has entailed discussion on design requirements with both our students and Mike and David researching possible ideas and working together to come up with the final plan. Our coop's construction is now well under way, with plans completed and a slab laid. The coop is to be made in modules and our "Chook Boys" are looking forward to erecting it over the next month.



regular watering of plants, weeding, and eventually harvesting the vegetables to prepare lunches in our Stadium kitchen, by the children themselves. Combined with the freshly laid eggs, yummy tasting lunches will be the reward for the children's learning.

School production

What a magnificent sight it was to have all 300 of our children, from Prep to grade 6, on the stage signing the Cosmos Conundrum's finale Drops of Jupiter. Again, the children did a superb job with their acting, singing and dancing being out of this world! To have children perform with such confidence is a credit to all involved, the children themselves, their teachers their parents and our Director, Janette Modaffari. Well certainly have a proud community learning spirit at BUPS.

Our other community partnership with the UB Conservation Group has also progressed, with our small grade 3-4 student group meeting with Michael Hall fortnightly and sharing their photos. The aim of the project is to capture the flora and fauna of Upper Beaconsfield through the seasons and then presenting their combined work at the 2013 Village Festival, with both film and presentations undertaken by our students.

Sporting success

BUPS sporting teams continue to achieve success during this term. Most teams were the district champions, with the basketball and volleyball teams playing off in the regional finals. In the Hooptime Basketball Tournament, our grade 3/4 Future Starts and grade 5/6 Girls All Star teams will be competing at the state finals, again! A great achievement considering there are about 600 teams from across the state competing. Our Girls Netball Team recently played off in the state finals, the last 8 surviving teams in the state.



Vegetable garden

Spring weather is a wonderful time for growth. As part of the school's Sustainable Schools Program, there is a strong commitment by our students to learn about our environment, biodiversity and the food cycle. All classes have been time tabled to be actively involved with our vegetable garden. Classes collect ingredients for the compost, will use sheep manure as fertiliser and utilise the ample harvested rainwater to promote healthy plants. Their work includes the soil preparation before planting, starting life as a seed or seedling, garden maths, writing about the garden project,

Beaconsfield Upper Primary School presents
Community drive-in movie night

Madagascar 3

Akoonah Park-Princes Hwy Beaconsfield

Friday 7 December • 7 pm

Tickets: \$20 per car on entrance

Food, snacks, drinks etc. available on the night

www.bups.vic.edu.au

Upper Beac Pony Club



Fiona Thompson

Caring for your horse's teeth

The club had a visit from well-known horse dentist Mark Burnell in September. Annual dental care is important in horses as their teeth don't always wear evenly; uneven teeth and sharp edges can affect performance and cause pain to the horse. Mark and his assistant Harry spent the day examining and rasping teeth, giving useful advice regarding feeds and feeding, as well as demonstrating suitable bits to use for different purposes and mouth shapes.

The October rally took the form of a weekend camp, held at Wandin Park in the Yarra Valley. Some members elected to ride a section of the Warburton Trail on Saturday before continuing on to the venue for an overnight stay. Wandin Park has multiple facilities, being the location of the annual Tintern Horse Trials, and riders were able to ride on sand arenas as well as the wide open spaces of the cross-country course. On Sunday they enjoyed flat work lessons as well as a few of the jumps.



Liana Wood convincing her pony that water jumps are a good thing.

The Summer Series of show jumping days is being held again this year on 19 January, 2 February and 16 February, and will be a timely warm-up for the PCAV State Championships. All grades are catered for, in PCAV and open sections, so everyone is invited to attend. Horse and rider combinations participating in all three days will be eligible for Series Winner. Entry forms and further information about the event are available from the club's website www.upperbeaconsfieldponyclub.vic.org.au

Our annual gymkhana will be held on 9 December, at the home grounds, with many opportunities for horses and riders to strut their stuff. There will be a show ring (for the more serious plait/gloss/bling enthusiasts), a fun ring (for the not-so-serious-but-still-convinced-that-their-pony-is-like-the-best-everrrr), and a handymount competition (for those with truly bombproof horses). The winner of the Ice King trophy will be invited to represent the club at the 2013 Berwick Show in the Evan Henry Memorial Competition.

Local rider Angelika Anderson is keen to compile a data base of rideable tracks and trails in the district, and has approached the club in an effort to make good use of local riders' knowledge. If you have a favourite riding trail, and can make a few comments on its condition, accessibility, safety factors and other useful information,



Layne, Tori and Tegan on their way to the XC course at the UBPC Rally at Wandin Park.

Angelika is keen to hear from you. You can email her at angelika.anderson@monash.edu.au

We bid farewell to a much loved UBPC family this month – Georgina and Katie Cunningham, and their parents Myles and Jacqui, are returning to England. The girls joined the club a couple of years ago and have become regular attendees in spite of living close to the city. We will miss them all and wish them every happiness and success back in the UK.



Jessica Kiker showing how to jump cross country jumps in style.

Say it straight from the horse's mouth

Cardinia Shire residents have until Tuesday 18 December to have their say on local equestrian activities and issues.

A community feedback form is available online through the 'Have your say' section of Cardinia Shire's website, or in hard copy from Council offices, and Emerald, Pakenham and mobile libraries. Written submissions are accepted and can be sent to Cardinia Shire Council, PO Box 7, Pakenham 3810.

For more information contact Council's recreation team on 1300 787 624 or email.

Upper Beac Riding Club



Kerry Bail

Riding Club welcomes new members

Are you an adult rider wishing to spend more time with like minded people? Or maybe you used to ride but haven't for several years, and want to climb back into the saddle.

Join us at the Upper Beaconsfield Riding Club. The members are made up of all types of riders and disciplines. There are dressage, show jumping, eventing, trail riders and endurance riders. It doesn't matter what level you are, everyone is welcome.

We have the reputation of one of the friendliest clubs in Victoria. We meet at the beautiful Beaconsfield Upper Recreation Reserve in Burton Road, Beaconsfield Upper on the first Sunday of every month (except January). The rallies involve lessons which last for an hour, and then after everyone has had their lesson, we sit down and enjoy lunch together. If you don't want to ride and just want to socialise, you are welcome as well.

Lessons are given by various instructors and we are divided into levels so that you are riding with people and horses at similar abilities. Periodically we organise a level assessor to come and grade people that wish to compete in official HRCav events, of which there are many most weekends of the year, scattered around Victoria.

Upper Beaconsfield Riding Club was established in 1970 and is one of the first clubs in Victoria to be affiliated with the Horse Riding Clubs Association of Victoria (HRCav). New members and visitors are always welcome. If you think you might be interested



in joining the club, you are welcome to come and observe a rally, or participate in one.

For those riding, you pay the rally fee and club membership and complete a HRCav insurance waiver. If you choose not to join the membership fee is fully refundable. For more information, visit our webpage www.ubrc.com.au. There you will find details and links for new members and information about the club history and awards.



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Cardinia Beaconhills Golf Links



Ian Hollingsworth

Gearing up for great golf

With spring upon us, and summer just around the corner, the golf course has never been in better condition and we look forward to a busy period over the upcoming months. With the cold and wet weather behind us, the anticipation of getting out on the course with the sun shining sees many 'dust off' their clubs and head up for a game.

In October club again hosted the Victorian Senior Open Championship, and we had a terrific field take part. Some of the players included Rodger Davis, Mike Harwood, Terry Price, Mike Clayton and last year's winner David Good. We had the first 'Major' winner to ever play our course with Wayne Grady taking his place in the field. However, it was Russell Swanson who took the honours this year, after finishing tied with Kym Olsen at the completion of the 36 holes. Swanson's par on the second play-off hole was enough to secure victory and take the title for 2012. Derek Wills and his groundstaff did a magnificent job in preparing the course, with many of the players commenting that it was the best they'd ever seen it. We congratulate their hard work! The club welcomed the support of our main sponsors, which included the Bendigo Bank, Bayer Pharmaceuticals via their Berocca 50+ brand and Alex Scott and Staff in Berwick. Without their financial assistance such events don't take place. Thanks to John Perry and Jim Byrne, Brent Mounter, Tom Gibson and Malcolm Graham for making this year's event possible, and we look forward to them hosting the event again in 2013.

The arrival of daylight savings also brings Wednesday evenings Twilight Competition back out of hibernation, with good fields already turning up for the 9 hole comp and many then staying for dinner at the completion of their round. Always a good way to break up the week, tee-off is between 3 pm and 6 pm, with non-members being welcome to join us for a game.

The Winter Cup has also been run and won, and it was a tight battle in the final of this pairs competition between Ralph Lowden and Randall Tidyman playing against Peter Johnston and Geoff Rowe. The 'R' team won the match, proving stronger on the day. Both

Ralph and Randall celebrated their win in fine style, and would've woken up the morning after paying a hefty price for their efforts the previous day!

The ladies have also been busy, both here and at various other courses in the district. The team of Ros Harding, Greta DeHoogd and Heather Hamilton won the Cerberus Bowl in October, Bev Eckhardt went close to taking out the prestigious Golf Victoria 2012 Silver Spoon event at Box Hill GC, but she did have more joy back here at the club, winning the 2012 Medal of Medalist's trophy. The Ladies Winter Cup was won by Ann Felgate and Libby Michel, defeating Mary Padman and Barb Mars 4/3 in the final. Winners of the Spring Classic Matchplay event were Rosalie Leake defeating Jenny Chandler in A Grade with Barb Mars defeating Liz Wong in B Grade.



The Junior Programme has been revitalised, with about 20 kids coming up on a Sunday afternoon at 1 pm to commence their golfing careers. Some of the children are as young as 4 and 5; all potential superstars of the future! If any parents are keen to get their kids involved, club teaching-pro David Williams is the man to speak to and can be contacted via the Proshop on 5945 9230.

The club continues to see new members join, a healthy sign, and with a range of categories and payment options available. It's a great time to become a member and play more regularly. Contact Kristen in the office, 5945 9210, and she'll assist with any membership queries you have.

Upper Beaconsfield Cricket Club



Rob Hansen

Successful start to season

The senior cricket team has begun successfully in its quest to feature in the finals for 2012/13. However the club still requires recruits. Three senior teams have taken the field each week as well as U11, U13 and U15 teams.

If you would like to join a club which has a strong family focus as well as a very competitive aspect to it, then the UBCC Maroons would welcome you or your children (or both). Senior training is held on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The U11s and U13s come together on Tuesday from 4 pm. If you wish to contact the club

why not call Chris Pentland (Junior Coordinator) on 9707 5543 or Luke Willis (Secretary) on 5944 4698.

Upper Beaconsfield CC has a very inviting social calendar for 2012/13 as well. A string of great events have been planned for families and friends. Individual coaching also receives high priority and we are fortunate to have local resident and Cricket Victoria High Performance Coach Shawn Flegler assisting with the development of our talented youngsters. All of these points add up to strong reasons to come and join the cricket bonanza at Upper Beaconsfield.

Upper Beac Scout Group



Kathy McGrath 0403 698 774

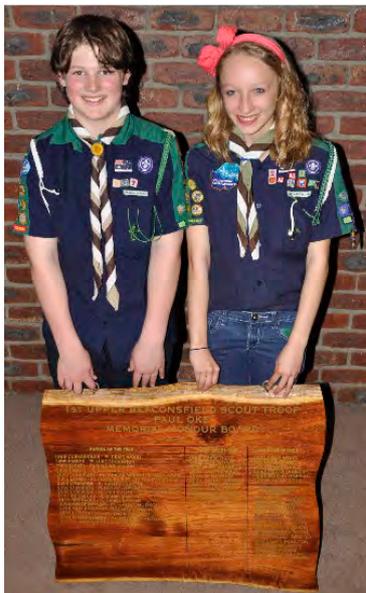
Jam packed adventures for local scouts

If you are wide awake or not yet gone to bed and doing nothing on New Year's morning 2013, come by the Upper Beaconsfield Recreation Reserve at 6.55 am to join 24 Scouts and leaders as they depart by bus for Maryborough Queensland. The Scouts will join 73 buses and 3 000 Scouts from Victoria to attend the 23rd Australian Scout Jamboree. The Maryborough population will double when 12 000 Scouts from all over Australia arrive. The Scouts will experience 10 days building friendships, cooking their own meals, washing their clothes while enjoying all the activities and night life including bands and movies. Activities include Australia Zoo, water slide, snorkelling, rubber duckies, beach games, abseiling, rock climbing, 6 person flying fox, circus activity, community service, radio control cars, blower vac soccer, laser tag, Nerf wars, geocaching, billy carts, challenge valley and much more.

Many Scouts have achieved awards recently. Daniel Sawyer and Cameron Brock of the Venturer Unit put a lot of hard work and effort into achieving the Queens Scout Award which is a highly recognised award both inside and outside of Scouting. Amy



Amy (above), and Georgina and Eamon (below) with the Scout medallion honour board



Humme, Georgina Finch and Eamon McGrath completed their Australian Scout Medallion which is the highest award in the Scout section. Cameron will be presented with his Queen Scout on 11 November. They will all be attending state award ceremonies in December for the Queens Scout and November for the Scout Medallion.

We also welcome three newly invested leaders Richard Hooper and Moria Bromley as assistant Cub leaders and Leigh Clemow as assistant Scout leader, who will help to continue to deliver fun programs to the Cubs and Scouts.

30 Cubs and leaders have returned from a scary weekend at Gilwell Scout Camp Gembrook. The theme was Halloween some of the activities they participated in included making Halloween masks, camping in tents, cooking on fires, completing an initiative course, the Gilwell Gauntlet (commando course) and on Saturday night parents and families joined them for skits and songs around the camp fire.

Scouts have been hiking at Powelltown and Gembrook and also completed high ropes course at Belgrave South. The Venturers have also been off hiking and they won the Big Burger Challenge with this year's theme being the "toxic burger". The Venturers are off for Victorian Gathering in early December to celebrate end of school year and wind up a fantastic year.

To finish the year the Scout Group is having a family BBQ and barefoot bowl night at the Berwick Bowling Club.

If you're interested in supporting or joining Scouts contact Kathy McGrath, or come and see us at the Village Festival.



Cameron with his grandfather who received his Queen Scout in 1952

Jack Le Brocq winner of the 2012 AFFC

V8 Supercar Champions Craig Lowndes, Garth Tander, Will Davison and Russell Ingall head an impressive list of motor racers that also now includes Upper Beaconsfield's Jack Le Brocq.

Le Brocq, 20, took a clean sweep of the Australian Formula Ford Championship races on the prestigious Bathurst circuit claiming the 2012 Championship itself with a round to spare. Starting from the front of the grid, Le Brocq was rarely challenged, gradually pushing out the margin around Mt Panorama across the three 8 lap races. He now has an unassailable 72 point lead with the final round being held at Winton mid November.

"It's an awesome feeling to win the championship, especially getting it done with a round to spare. It's a great honour to join the list of Formula Ford Champions, most of those guys are now in the V8 pit lane and that's where I want to be. To win it with a three-peat at the

50th anniversary of Bathurst is a pretty special feeling."

Le Brocq works and races for Cranbourne based Minda Motorsport and this is Bruin and the Teams first AFFC title.

Some of the spoils from Le Brocq's victory are a V8 test drive with Garry Rogers Motorsport, an F3 Test with Mygale Australia, a Porsche test with Steven Richards, a GT3 Test with Erebus Motorsport along with prize money.

Jack is now meeting with various teams to negotiate a deal for the 2013 Season. If you'd like to join Jack on his motor racing journey by way of sponsorship, he can be contacted on 0431 020 328.





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