

VILLAGE BELL

Upper Beaconsfield Association • www.upperbeaconsfield.org.au





Village Festival 2014

Phil Jones (left) in the Men's Shed showing off his wood turning skills. The finished product is a fine selection of ball point and fountain pens.

Upper Beaconsfield Fire Brigade Auxiliary's Cake Lady (right) was inviting the public to sample some of their delicious treats.



Mosaic exhibition at the Village Festival



Gail Kelly
This year it was decided to try something a little different in the way of artwork displays for the Village Festival. Belinda Conibeer a local mosaic artist was invited to exhibit her and her students' work along with Helen Harman from Beaconsfield. The standard of the work submitted was extremely high and made for a very exciting, diverse and colourful exhibition. There were 58 entries and at least 200 people attended.

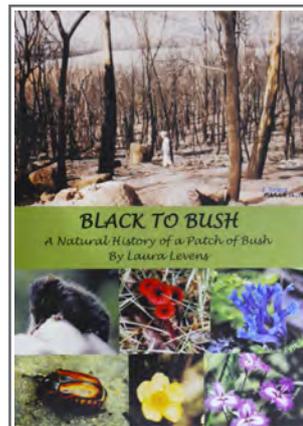
'La Femme en Rouge' by Belinda Conibeer



Need for feed

Local Lions Club identity Graham Cockerell (left) has been loading up hay by the truckload and delivering it to rural disaster areas since 2006.

If you like to make a donation of fodder or funds please call Graham at Moonshine Motors on 5944 4111.



Black to Bush, the new book by Laura Levens, edited and arranged by Coral Hunter, is a chronological record of the way bush recovers after a bushfire using Laura's property in Leppitt Road as an example. It was burned in the Ash Wednesday fires 1983. The book covers the recovery until 2012. New plants and small beasts are still being discovered. Cost \$25 plus postage. Proceeds to Upper Beac Conservation Group and Cardinia Environment Coalition. 'Black to Bush' is available at Upper Beaconsfield General Store, or contact Laura on 5944 3828.



George Silberbauer's "own goal" galah award. For an explanation refer to pages 6 and 7.

Citizen of the Year: Noel Ling

Matt McDonald

At the Village Festival on Sunday 16 February the announcement was made by Jennie Vaughan that Noel Ling was the successful nominee for Upper Beaconsfield Citizen of the Year for 2013.

Noel was presented with the award with the Mayor, Cr Graeme Moore present. Peter Simmons, UBA committee member, read the text of Noel's nomination which follows:

Noel has lived in Upper Beaconsfield since moving from Wantirna South in 1988. Noel moved here with his family, wife Noeline and sons Matthew and James. He was involved in the Scouts in Wantirna South and served as Scout Leader there for six years.

Soon after moving to Upper Beaconsfield Noel became involved in the Scouts and since then with many groups in the community. He is a loving and dedicated family man with a love of gardening, caring for his beautiful property and a keen interest in the local community and public life.

Noel's community involvement includes:

- He joined the Scout Committee in 1990 and served the group until 1994. He was the Scout Group nominee on the Recreation Reserve Committee for much of that time.



Noeline and Noel Ling with their dog Jacaranda

- He joined the Upper Beaconsfield Association soon after taking up residency in Upper Beaconsfield and was elected to the UBA Committee in 2006, taking on the role of secretary in 2010. He continues to be actively involved in the UBA. Noel was instrumental in having the Community Notice Board erected in the town centre.
- As part of his commitment to the UBA Noel joined the Village Bell Editorial Committee in 2007. His organisational skills came to the fore when he took on the coordination of the collating and distribution of the Village Bell. He has refined and improved the collating procedures and always makes sure the hall supper area is available for collating and volunteers are reminded of the date and time of the collating. He ensures that materials are available and all is in readiness for the collating of the 1300 copies of the Bell. Noel's knowledge of the people and groups in the community is invaluable in planning the content of the Village Bell.
- Noel was an active member of the Upper Beaconsfield Village Festival Committee until recently. Once again his passion for community events and community building came to the fore.
- Noel is one of the people who help to prepare for and run the Carols by Candlelight each Christmas Eve.
- Noel's most recent involvement has been with the Upper Beaconsfield Men's Shed. He is a founding member and a key contributor to the early stages of the development of the group. He joined the inaugural Men's Shed Committee and has been its secretary for more than two years. Noel brings a high level of competency with computers to the role of Secretary. He has been thorough in preparing agendas and worksheets for the meetings, and in keeping records of all meetings and matters concerning membership. He constantly accesses notices and information for the Men's Shed from local government, other groups in the community and from State and National Men's Shed associations. His skills in developing submissions for funding have succeeded in attracting significant funds for the Men's Shed. In two years the Men's Shed has been able to acquire and locate its meeting room and connect all services to the building. It is not unrealistic to say that this could not have been achieved without the key involvement of Noel Ling at every stage.

Noel's involvement in the Upper Beaconsfield Community has been exemplary and highly valued. His perceptiveness and responsiveness to local issues gives him special insight into the needs of the community and the ways in which these needs can be addressed. He then follows up his proposals most thoroughly in gathering information and developing pathways for decision making and working the proposals through to completion. As well as his commitment to family and to community groups, Noel has personal links with many individuals in the community and shows concern and practical help where it is needed. He is well deserving of the Citizen of the Year award.

Congratulations, Noel.

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Rainfall at “Barkala”, Beaconsfield–Emerald Road

George Moir

Month	45 yr average	2013	2014
Jan	63.6	26.6	29.3
Feb	58.4	60.6	
Mar	64.2	69.4	
Apr	78.3	30.9	
May	86.1	132.2	
Jun	80.3	90.5	
Jul	78.6	63.1	
Aug	85.7	98.5	
Sep	90.6	117.9	
Oct	94.3	78.4	
Nov	86.5	118.6	
Dec	80.4	59.4	
Total	947 mm	946 mm	

- Total rainfall for 2013 totalled 946 mm compared with the total 45 year average of 947 mm.
- The total spring rainfall (September–November) was 315 mm compared to the average of 271 mm.
- The summer rainfall to date (December–January) indicated continuing low rainfall of 89 mm compared to the average of 144 mm.

Red Cross



Barbara Jackson, Upper Beaconsfield Area Coordinator. 5944 3554

Local Red Cross celebrates 100 years

Australian Red Cross this year will celebrate 100 years of humanitarian service both local and international. The Berwick/Upper Beaconsfield Unit was also formed in 1914 and has continued without a break for the entire 100 years. Plans are being formulated for a special celebration mid year and it is hoped many local residents will come along and meet with members and learn of the Unit’s varying aspects of involvement.

The Mobile Blood Bank visits Pakenham, Narre Warren North and Berwick at 3 monthly intervals. Appointments can be made by phoning 13 14 95. The website redcross.org.au contains many interesting articles on the work of Australian Red Cross.

Thank you to all who bought Red Cross Christmas cards etc., your support is much appreciated. Thank you also to the volunteer staff at the Berwick Library who handled sales of just under \$1 400. The library is also the place to leave used stamps which help raise funds for Red Cross.

Village Bell subscriptions for 2014

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 2014 are now due and can now be paid at either the Community

Carols by Candlelight – A wonderful night

Tess Porz

Each year on 24 December families from Upper Beaconsfield and beyond gather to sing and celebrate Christmas at the Keith Ewenson Reserve. Last year’s carols in the park attracted a record crowd of over 500. There were enough sausages for everyone, thanks to Men’s Shed, Ron and Lyn Fisher and their merry band of UBA helpers. The Local Men’s Shed also transformed the park into a Christmas wonderland, Santa arrived in his usual style, on the back of his big red CFA truck, with sweets and good cheer for every child. Cameron Rocke ensured the night was captured on camera and the talented musicians were on song! Altogether it was a wonderful night for the whole community. Special mention to the CFA for help behind the scenes. Thanks to the Men’s Shed for providing the bells for the children. They were taken for a test run on the 24th and will now be passed onto the UB Kindergarten.

Centre, General Store or Post Office.

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

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

2014 Village Bell Subs \$5

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY!

Full Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Amount Enclosed: _____

Thank you for your support!

A new post office

Graham Jackson



The new Post Office has opened and has received the nod from all in Upper Beaconsfield for a job well done. Michael and Kathy are to be commended for their forethought in recognising that the old Post Office was fast approaching its use by date and would no longer be able to cope with the increased volume of work and traffic. Some three years ago the opportunity presented to buy the premises occupied by the Hind Quarter Restaurant and Michael and Kathy put in a bid that was accepted. This, however, left them in the position of having an ideal site for a new Post Office but a tenant who had an option to extend their lease when it reached its termination date. They did not know until late November what the tenant was intending to do. Once

the tenant advised they did not wish to take up a further lease on the property the pressure was on to design and convert the premises for its new role in the life of Upper Beaconsfield.

Most of the design work was left to the discretion of Michael and Kathy as Australia Post do not require their sub-agents to conform rigidly to a standard design. The result is very satisfying – a light and airy premises with a lovely view out to the centre of the village and the passing traffic. There is plenty of room in the body of the new premises which has been very tastefully laid out and plenty of parking. Also the Post Box area is quite a surprise with new boxes – generally a bit bigger than previously and completely sheltered from the weather and

well lit, so no problem in accessing your P.O. box at night or in the rain. We are sure staff will be up to the challenge of stuffing the new mail boxes to the same or greater density than in the past.

We gather the task of getting all this accomplished in such a short time, with Xmas, New Year and Australia Day thrown in has left Michael and Kathy in need of some R&R to catch up on their sleep, as this has been one commodity in short supply for the proprietors of our great new Post Office over the last few months.

Well done and congratulations – may the new Post Office live as long or longer than its predecessor.

Tales from the old post office

Marianne Rocke

Our old post office was built in the early part of 1914 by James Hopkins, the then owner of the General Store across in McBride Road (see front cover). The new building enabled the telephone line to be connected with Lower Beaconsfield, thus giving direct communication with Melbourne. It was opened on 13 June 1914, and Hopkins' daughter, Miss Gladys Hopkins (pictured right), aged 18, was appointed postmistress. She was very well liked by the residents, who organised a social meeting to bid her farewell when, in 1918, the Hopkins family decided to relocate to Melbourne.

Dora Stenhouse, post mistress from November 1926 to May 1944 used the manual telephone exchange to help organising fire brigade operations and the movement of firemen. She passed on weather reports and wind changes she had heard on the radio, and informed residents if their properties appeared to be in danger. The post office was the centre of activity in Upper Beaconsfield, and Dora knew the district and the goings on in the village intimately, in later years to the consternation of residents who would have preferred a bit more privacy.

Bill Thomson took over in 1959. Graham Jackson remembers that when calling friends in Upper Beaconsfield he was greeted by a deep gravelly voice which said 'Beakupper' and then you had to ask for the connection you required. Like Dora, Bill knew the goings on of the town very well, and it was not uncommon that he told a caller that he couldn't connect the call, because the person you required wasn't feeling well, and didn't want to receive any calls until 5 o'clock. People made full use of the very personalised service which would include calls such as 'Someone has reported a couple of black and white heifers on the road out your way—are they yours?' The manual exchange really did provide a special country town service



of all sorts of community news items. There was a radio 'soapy' called "Blue Hills" based on life of a country family. It supposedly held the world record for the number of episodes and it came on air about lunch time. Bill and staff were avid fans of 'Blue Hills' and the manual exchange did not accept calls while 'Blue Hills' was on air. The world—at least all those who wanted to make a call in or out of 'Beakupper'—had to wait till that day's episode was finished.

It is interesting to note that the commercial centre of Upper Beaconsfield was originally planned along Salisbury Road, but one business after another moved to Emerald Road. The General Store moved to its present location in 1926, a small shop next to the post office was abandoned and was moved to a private residence in 1937, and finally the old post office after nearly one hundred years of servicing the Upper Beaconsfield public has followed the trend. Our new post office has plenty of parking now, and we probably won't need the hitching rails for the horses anymore, that the old post office opened with.

Vale – George Silberbauer (1931-2013)

Colleen Lazenby, Victoria Silberbauer and Cameron Rocke

George was born in March 1931 in Pretoria, South Africa, the only child of Eileen and Bertrand. His father studied agriculture at Cambridge, and served four years' service in World War 2, returning home when George was 14 years old. As a teenager George gained early fame as South African national breast stroke champion. After the setback of his father's early death, George grew up quickly and was on his way in life.

George enrolled in the Afrikaans speaking Stellenbosch University in 1949 and majored in forestry, African law, Roman Dutch Law and Bantu languages. All was well until he and a few friends decided that as an April fools prank, they would stage a mock bank hold up. All went to plan, including a slick get away. The suitcase for the money, with George's name printed prominently on it, and the fact that they deliberately left the cash behind, made these young men think it would all be interpreted as innocent fun. Luck prevailed for George, as his uncles ran a law firm, and managed to nip any legal repercussions in the bud. Who could blame George? Years earlier, his father perpetrated a mock Great Train Robbery of the Muizenberg Express, at Rondebosch in South Africa.

Also at uni, during weekends and vacations, George did his military service as a navigator and then as a pilot in the South African Airforce. During the Korean War he flew spotter flights over the Indian Ocean, and by 1953 he was a reservist with the rank of Second Lieutenant.

On completing his degree, and married to his first wife Elizabeth, he moved to London to do a post graduate degree in law at The London School of Economics. Wanting to have nothing to do with the establishing of the Apartheid policy, he completed training for one year at the British Colonial Service and was posted to the Bechuanaland Protectorate, now Botswana. In 1957 he was promoted to District Commissioner for the Ghanzi District at the tender age of 26.

In his role as the government's magistrate he was responsible for rulings on all cases from property damage to murder. He quickly acquainted himself with the knowledge necessary to also supervise on matters of health and agriculture. To do so he read widely about the geology; soils; flora and fauna; water courses and aquifers of the huge area he was in charge of. He mapped many previously uncharted areas—by air and land, and gave Mercedes Benz a tip or two how to develop 4WD vehicles that could deal with the sandy deserts and swampy terrain he had to drive over—even sometimes going to Stuttgart to test their vehicles. In keen dialogue with the indigenous Kalahari Bushmen, with their intimate understanding



of species, habits and movements of wildlife, George further enhanced his knowledge to no end.

George then oversaw the 'Bushman Survey' – looking into the status and well-being of the people of the Kalahari and Ghanzi District. George's second wife Penny, who had a nursing background, carried out a general health service and inoculation program in collaboration with George's work at this time. The study recommended that a Central Kalahari Game Reserve be created. Implicit in this would be that it would

maintain the integrity of the Bushmen as one of the last surviving traditional hunter gatherer people of the world. Against much pressure from others, the plan was implemented.

In 1967 George and Penny moved to Vermont, Melbourne where their daughters Letitia and Victoria were born, before the family moved to 'The Chase' in Upper Beaconsfield. At this time George was working as a Senior Lecturer in Anthropology at Monash University and completed his PhD dissertation—*Hunter and Habitat in the Central Kalahari*—published by Cambridge University Press in 1981. For any budding anthropologist, it is a must read. In his courses and writings, students of George's would tell of his amazing ability to draw on his extensive knowledge of Australian Aboriginal and African Indigenous people.

By 2004 it had become apparent that great mineral reserves existed in the Central Kalahari and the Bushmen had been removed to surrounding townships so mining could begin. In a major, lengthy case before the Botswana Supreme Court on behalf of Bushmen George presented five days of spirited evidence in defence of the Bushmen's right to stay on their land. The court ruled against breaking up the Central Kalahari Game Reserve and in favour of repatriation of Bushmen to their ancestral lands. George was never out of his depth speaking or writing to those in authority using sometimes, where necessary, a bewildering and erudite vocabulary.

In Upper Beaconsfield, George, fuelled by his daily two litre dose of milk with added coffee, was a prominent contributor of sketches and cartoons for the Village Bell and UBRFB, and wrote the local fire brigade articles on fire awareness on many occasions. He joined the CFA in 1973, stating that voluntary service was a good way to find a place in the local community, and even wrote a history of the local brigade going back 75 years. However, the Silberbauers' house was not spared by the 1983 Ash Wednesday bushfires, nor were its contents, including George's lifetime book collection, and irreplaceable early Bechuanaland field notes and photographs.

George moved on from this disaster by serving on the Victorian State Recovery Committee, emphasising a greater need for disaster preparedness in future. His interest in meteorology extended into him studying fireground weather, and he wrote a well regarded field manual for fire fighters.

During his time in Upper Beaconsfield he also served on the conservation committee of the Dandenong Valley Authority (DVA). At this time he excitedly discovered some extremely threatened helmeted honeyeater birds on his land. Adjacent to his land, a planned retarding basin for the Cardinia Creek, that the DVA was about to construct, would cause flood damage to the helmeted honeyeater's newly reclaimed habitat. The plan was abandoned, due to engineering difficulties the official report said. In the July 1988 Village Bell George wrote an interesting article entitled 'Upper Beac. Rock', which explained the complete geological history of the local area.

On the more humorous side George created the annual (CFA) Galah award, presented to the winner in the form of an A3 size cartoon, highlighting that member's funny mistake they had made in the course of fighting fires. George's own Galah moment involved him backing a fire truck into a wall at the station (see page 2). More generally, George's known broad knowledge of obscure facts, was twisted by him to create spurious stories to others using the old tenet, 'never let the truth get in the way of a good story.' His pleasure came from the uncertainty he could see in the listener who was earnestly trying to discover whether they were hearing the truth, or hearing their leg outrageously pulled.

Take the story of his pet cheetah in Botswana. As the story goes—

one day George returned a sleeping pet cheetah to his neighbours, rolled up in some carpet, only to find that their cheetah was strolling around in the back yard and hadn't actually escaped. Truth or fiction? The story he told, saying that his legs turned to jelly in a brief chance meeting with Nelson Mandela—who praised George's achievements in the Kalahari—was however true.

George married his third wife Colleen in 1991 and became father to five year old Celeste to whom he gave full daughter status from thereon. Although they divorced in 2003, thankfully Colleen and George remained close friends up to the day of his death.

In 2003 George moved to Bena and joined the Poowong Fire Brigade, lending his efforts and knowledge. He also made strong friendships through the local writers' and men's groups. By now his knowledge extended to being fluent in 13 languages and an educated passing interest in philosophy, ethics, archaeology, painting, music and literature on top of the multitude of other interests already mentioned. Practical, life changing application of knowledge, however, was always George's desired end game.

George's friendly outreaching manner, which won over friend or stranger, enabled him to make meaningful connections with others all over the Kalahari in his early days. He continued this tradition in all social contacts beyond that time, only sometimes initially bewildering a reserved stranger, who would still usually be charmed by him none the less. As a result, those Upper Beaconsfield residents lucky enough to have crossed paths with him, or heard of his achievements, will duly mourn the passing of George Silberbauer in August 2013.

Vale – Julie Allsop (1942-2014)

Julie was born in April 1942. She studied teaching at Melbourne University Teachers College. After graduating her first school was at Bendoc in East Gippsland. She then moved to Point Franklin and it was here that she met her husband Ray. They were married in 1964 and have two sons and two daughters.

Before moving to Upper Beaconsfield in 1986 to run our Post Office where they also lived, Ray and Julie dairy farmed at Nyora for 20 years. Julie was a very popular and dedicated postmistress. She always had a sympathetic ear for people who had troubles and was always willing to assist her customers in any way she could. We were very fortunate to have such friendly helpful service from both Ray and Julie and they became active members of our community.

Julie belonged to a number of groups.

These included the Cancer Support Group, walking group, patchwork group and she also participated in the ballroom classes held at the Community Centre. Julie enjoyed walking and both she and Ray could often be seen strolling around Upper Beac after the Post Office had closed for the day.



Julie and Ray's work in our community was recognised when they were named joint Upper Beaconsfield Citizens of the Year in 2000. This was a very popular decision. In 2002 Julie was made a life member of the UBA.

Julie and Ray ran our Post Office for 16 years. At the end of 2002 they moved to Berwick to spend more time with their grandchildren (who now number 9) and to travel. Both Ray and Julie said the most enjoyable part of their work had been the wonderful social interaction of their customers making the Post Office a way of life and not just a job.

In 1994 Julie was diagnosed with breast cancer undertook operations and chemotherapy and radiation a number of times. She never let these treatments get her down and was always cheerful and optimistic.

It was at their Berwick home that Julie passed away on 1 February 2014.

Julie was a loving, gentle and kind lady and will be very much missed by her family, friends and all who knew her.

Cardinia Shire—Australia Day Awards

Matt McDonald who was Upper Beaconsfield's Citizen of the Year 2012 was awarded Cardinia Shire's Citizen for the Year on Australia Day for his amazing public spirit and contribution to many local organisations. A great photo of Matt featured on the cover of the Cardinia Connect magazine. Congratulations Matt!

Other Upper Beaconsfield organisations received nominations for the Australia Day Awards: the Community Centre was nominated for the Community Organisation of the Year and the Upper Beaconsfield Festival received a nomination for Community Event of the Year.

Ranges Ward

Cr Brett Owen

Cr Tania Baxter
Cr Leticia Wilmot
Cr Brett Owen

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Congratulations to Upper Beaconsfield resident Matt McDonald who was awarded Cardinia Shire's Citizen of the Year as part of Cardinia Shire's Australia Day Awards. Matt has been instrumental in numerous Upper Beaconsfield committees and groups over the past 30 years. Matt has been involved in establishing the Upper Beaconsfield Men's Shed and has also been involved in Scouts, the Village Festival Committee, Ash Wednesday recovery activities and the Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal. Well done Matt.

Council also acknowledges the efforts and contributions of both the Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre and the Upper Beaconsfield Village Festival who were also nominated for awards.

Council will soon commence the community consultation for the long term use of the land adjacent to the community centre, situated at 16 Salisbury Road. Over the coming months council will be seeking the views of Upper Beaconsfield residents on how they would like to see the land used in the long term.

Council will soon be upgrading the playground at Tom Griffin Reserve in Grant Court. Council is currently consulting community members with a final design. Associated park furniture is also under consideration for renewal, including the park bench and table setting.

Council's free app is available for iPhone and Android phone users. By using the app, residents can stay up to date with the latest Council news, find out about upcoming events, check rubbish collection dates and local library details. You can contact your councillor or council's customer service via the app or use it to report graffiti or other maintenance issues. You may wish to take a photo of the issue and send it through to council. It's a great way to have a wide range of Council's services at your fingertips. The free app can be downloaded from the iTunes App Store and

Android Marketplace.

The newly revised Open Air Burning Policy will mean the following changes specifically for the Upper Beaconsfield residents:

1. A new zoning structure has been adopted. For the Upper Beaconsfield community this should have minimal impact, as only minor changes to zoning has occurred in the area.
2. The permit to burn process has been replaced with a no cost burns register process for requirements that fall outside the standard policy allowances for all zones.
3. For properties in Zone 2, effective 1 October until the Fire Danger Period is declared every year, an ease on restrictions has been introduced as to enable more time for property preparations. This will enable Zone 2 properties to burn off Monday to Saturday (daylight hours) during this time.
4. The permitted time for burning off in all zones has been altered to be 'during daylight hours'; this will enable more opportunity, particularly during daylight saving times, to prepare properties for the fire season. (Previously 9 am–5 pm).
5. The general guideline defining the allowable burn pile sizes for Zone 2 and 3 has been reduced significantly.

Please see council's website or contact by phone 1300 787 624 for more information.



Tidy Town

Jo Carter

I know that you will all agree that our township is looking good. The beautified areas are thriving, both at the shopping precinct, at the front of 16 Salisbury, Win's place, and the community garden is at its best .

Unfortunately, the pleasures of walking around our village are marred by the fouling of our footpaths. All residents should be aware that it the responsibility of a dog walker to clean up after their pet. It is a simple matter to carry a supply of plastic bags and to clean up the dog's droppings.

I recently had to ask a very nice lady to remove her dog's poo from my front grass. She was not carrying plastic bags, so I gave her some. I can pick up after the dog's which I walk, but would not be able to do so for another.



Upper Beac Men's Shed

Matt McDonald (President)

Reluctantly, the men's shedders did not meet for two weeks after Christmas. January 15 saw a full roll-up again and a beginning of another year.

We are now able to meet in the refurbished classroom that is the Men's Shed building, now that all planning requirements have been satisfied, including a state-of-the-art disability access ramp complete with shiny stainless steel rails. Another requirement was the installation of a 10 000 litre water tank that is retained as a static supply for fire-fighting. Funding was gratefully received from the Cardinia Shire for the tank and plumbing.

Connection of services to the building has incurred considerable cost, and we are grateful to Woolworths in Emerald and the new Masters store in Pakenham who have enabled us to run fund-raising sausage sizzles.



The Men's Shed members were active in supporting the Village Festival and provided demonstrations of lapidary and fine wood turning, as well as the hot dogs, drinks and chain-saw demonstration.

We have begun discussions with the UBA to design and install a number of park benches and picnic tables around the town. Suggested designs and locations are welcome.

The Shed was successful in an application for funding to add a workshop and toilets to the existing building. The planning process begins again.

The Men's Shed meets every Wednesday from 10 am to noon. All welcome. Please contact Matt McDonald (0407 845 135) or Noel Ling (0414 443 735) or the Community Centre (5944 3484)

Upper Beaconsfield Association

Jennie Vaughan, President

2013 Annual Report

The most pleasing achievement has been the completion of the Village beautification scheme. There were a few delays to the implementation of the scheme but it was completed by spring and the overall appearance is good and the establishment of the new plants has been satisfactory. Many thanks to Jenny Pritchard and her committee.

On Salisbury Road the development of No 16 as a carpark and vegetable garden has provided a good facility adjacent to the Community Centre.

The launching of Charles Wilson's book, 'Upper Beaconsfield—An Early History', at last year's festival was highly successful and by May it was decided to have a second printing of the edition.

During winter it was decided that the area

around Elephant Rock needed to be tidied up as it was supposed to be a 'Look Out' and park. Work on this has been slow so we hope that in 2014 more will be done.

Major changes to the constitution of the UBA had to be made in the middle of the year to meet government requirements; thanks to Sally Randall these were carried out and approved by the UBA Committee.

Other highlights of the UBA include the completion of the pedestrian safety crossing on the Beaconsfield/Emerald Road at the store (unfortunately we missed out on a roundabout); a successful Village Festival;

Next UBA Meeting
Wednesday 2 April at 7.30 pm
at the Community Complex.
Please come along.

the award of 'Upper Beaconsfield Citizen of the Year' and 'Cardinia Shire Citizen' for 2012 to Matt McDonald; the completion of the Men's Shed at the rear of the Community Centre; and a very successful Christmas Carols event to end the year.

There is excellent co-operation between the UBA and several township groups such as the CFA and the Village Bell Committee.

As President I would like to thank the Secretary, the Committee and the people of Upper Beaconsfield for their co-operation, their ideas, and their efforts to make Upper Beaconsfield the place it is. I should also like to thank all those citizens who help with the organisation of our local events. Please keep coming to meetings to give us a reason to keep the Upper Beaconsfield Association operating.



eWaste drop off

Bring your old computers, TVs and small appliances. (No whitegoods, these can be recycled through the hard waste collection)

- Saturday 15 March, 19 Kilvington Drive Emerald 9 am–1 pm
- Saturday 26 April, Council depot, Purton Road Pakenham 9 am–2 pm

Detox your house

Cardinia Shire Council has partnered with Sustainability Victoria to allow you to dispose of your old and unwanted household chemicals in an environmentally responsible way. A limited range of household chemicals will be accepted—paint, motor oil, gas cylinders, car batteries, household batteries, fluorescent tubes and compact fluorescent globes (CFLs). Containers larger than 20 litres or 20 kilograms will not be accepted. Please keep original labels on containers, and only label containers with known contents. If you

are unsure, label the container with 'unknown contents'.

- The local mobile collection is being held Saturday 3 May 2014 at the Council depot, Purton Road Pakenham. To attend this event you must register. Go to the Cardinia council website link to Sustainability Victoria or phone 1800 353 233.
- There are also permanent 'Detox your home' site locations. The closest is the City of Casey transfer station at Hampton Park. All Victorian householders can use any of the permanent drop-off points.

Farms and business must make other arrangements. Full details are on the Cardinia Council website.

Hard waste collection

Cardinia Shire's hard waste collection starts from 28 April and ends 30 May. The Officer, Beaconsfield, Upper Beaconsfield and Guys Hill area will have a collection in the week of 12 May.

Community Centre



Sally Randall

Welcome everyone to 2014.

Upper Beaconsfield's Semester 1 program for 2014 is out now. Note that our program will now cover the whole semester – Term 1 and Term 2, February through to June 2014, replacing the old term programs which we have produced in the past.

The program offers a range of courses, special interest activities and community events.

If you did not get a copy please contact the Centre on 5944 3484 or check our website for full details or to enrol at www.ubcc.org.au

If there is a particular course, special interest or event you wish to see in the program in the future, please contact Yvette on 5944 3484.



Upper Beaconsfield Community Garden

Many of you will have noticed the growth of our Community Garden beside the Community Centre, which has flourished despite the hot weather. Members of the Garden Group have ensured that the garden has been regularly watered, and we also thank our neighbour John Patterson who has been a wonderful supporter, watering the young fruit trees regularly. At our regular working bees we have weeded and watered, but most enjoyably, have harvested zucchinis, peas, beans, asparagus, potatoes, onions and garlic amongst other produce. Sometimes we just sit in the shade and enjoy our surroundings! There is much yet to harvest. Unfortunately, the birds have harvested most of the apples from our vintage apple trees. Next year, we will be ready with nets As the weather cools down we plan to establish another plot, this time growing "bush tucker", with native food plants from the Green Circle Nursery in Halford Street.

We would also be very pleased to accept donations of good gardening tools, or useful recyclable materials including wood and metal trellising—we love to find new uses for all sorts of items, from containers to garden furniture.

Position Vacant: Community Garden scarecrow

Is there anyone out there with the creativity and skill to construct an authentic and imposing scarecrow that will actually scare the crows? Our resident scarecrow, affectionately known as Noel, has given us wonderful service for twelve months, but is sadly past his prime and is now facing retirement. At the best of times, he looked far too friendly to scare anything (I am referring of course to the scarecrow). We would prefer recycled materials in his or her construction. We would love to provide a home and occupation to a new or slightly weathered scarecrow – you or a group of friends are challenged to provide a scarecrow who will take pride of place in the Community Garden.

A reminder: membership of the Garden Group is open to everyone – whether you would like to grow vegetables in a plot of your own, or would like to contribute to our shared plots, you are very welcome. You are also welcome to just drop by and

Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre

Notice of Annual General Meeting

19 March 2014 at 7.30 pm

Nominations for Committee of Management are welcome.

All members and residents are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting of the Community Centre, to be held on Wednesday, 19 March 2014, at 7.30 pm in the Community Room.

The Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre is a not for profit community organisation, which operates under the governance of a voluntary Committee of Management. All positions on the Committee will become vacant at the Annual General Meeting and we welcome nominations to the Committee. Your skills in areas such as business, marketing, finance, education, community services and early childhood development would be particularly valuable to the Community Centre. The Committee meets on one evening each month. Nomination forms are available from the office or by telephoning 5944 3484.



admire or say hello. We also organise excursions to other gardens and share information about gardening, particularly growing food, so if you don't want to work you can just come along and socialise! Membership is free to members of the Community Centre. (Only \$10 per family per year!) We have regular working bees on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month at 1 pm. Please contact the Community Centre office on 5944 3484 if you have any queries about the Garden Group or the Community Garden.

UBCC crèche

Kylie Briffa - Children's Services Administrator UBCC Crèche

"If you have good thoughts they will shine out of your face like sunbeams and you will always look lovely" Roald Dahl

Our amazing educators and I are so pleased to be welcoming back many familiar little faces, grown up over the summer, and very excited to welcome many new little people to our UBCC crèche community! Places are filling fast please complete your booking form to avoid disappointment. If you have not used our crèche before and would like more information or to see it in action, please drop in or contact the office on 5944 3484. The Crèche is open each day, from 8.30 am until 4.30 pm throughout the year.

We are all looking forward to an amazing year of growing, learning, developing and refining skills and of course making new friends and having fun! We have some exciting ideas for the year,

one of which is to re-vamp the UBCC tennis court so we can then facilitate a sense of community, task planning, participation, ownership, pride and success! Once completed we can then facilitate regular mini excursions to play Mini Tennis.

We are eagerly awaiting the commencement of the BUPS students visiting readers, which was trialled late last year and proved to be a mutually beneficial fun learning experience for both the BUPS students in growing reading confidence and highlighting the value and importance of reading for our UBCC Crèche children.



As summer is upon us we would like to remind all families to be aware that the Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre Bushfire Policy is that the whole Community Centre, including Crèche, closes on days of Extreme Fire Danger and Code Red days in the Central District. We strongly urge all families to ensure they have registered their current contact numbers for the Upper Beaconsfield SMS Notification System with our office, so that they will be notified when these days are declared.

Crèche fund raiser • 29 March 2014

Mini triathlon for children under 6 and adults over 60

Cardinia Life, Little Athletics Track, Pakenham • starts 2 pm

Entry forms at the Community Centre to raise funds for equipment for the Crèche.

Donations can be made by sponsoring the staff team, or by entry fee – \$2 per child – or both. Contact: Ruth 5944 3036

Toy Library

Marie Rogers



Toy Library is located at the Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre Open Thursdays and Saturdays 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

Heaps of toys for 2014

Run out of ideas of what toys to buy?

Let the Upper Beaconsfield Toy Library choose for you. Try before you buy, or tell us what to buy, no need to store large and bulky items. There are lots to choose from, all at an affordable \$30* for the year (*excludes the community centre annual membership fee)



Library News

We are looking forward to a busy, fun-filled year, meeting up again with members and new families. Following on from our

AGM in February, we have some great ideas and big plans for the library; it also brought in vacancies on the committee and we invite others to join us for an exciting time ahead.



Having been successful with last year's volunteers grant application, the library will be looking at updating its toy database and borrowing system,

also freshening up its shelf displays with new storage units and bags. We will investigate using an online service and exciting new websites. More posts will be up on our Facebook page and happily welcome assistance from anyone who can help in these areas.

Are you the one we are looking for?

It's fantastic to see new and past members join the library, but to keep it open we need a committee to run it. Toy library is looking for new committee members for 2014, to start by the end of March. Being a small library (but with lots and lots of toys) has its advantages for someone wanting to join a committee. Flexible committee duties, shorter or less meeting times, allowing you to set or limit your own commitment time. Most appealing is that you'll be amongst familiar faces and



settings; get to see lots of toys, in a fun environment. If this is you, contact us.

Village Festival, 16 February 2014

Sally Randall

Despite concerns about the possibility of extreme weather, the morning of the Village Festival on 16 February dawned cool and wet, offering conditions which the runners described as the best we've ever had for a Fun Run. With the starting of the Fun Run and the annual ringing of the bell at the Bell Tower at the Community Complex, the Festival 2014 was underway. A record number of 200 runners started and I presume finished the race which was run over its traditional course from the village to the Water Tower and back to the Bell Tower.

Once the runners returned, numbers at the food stalls, coffee van and the rides built steadily, the sun came out and the music played. It seemed that everyone who lives in the district was there. In fact, a number of people commented that it took them hours to move around the stalls because they kept running into people who they only see once a year!

The rides which have been popular in previous years returned, with some new attractions such as the popular 'Gymbus' added, with the aim of offering entertainment to all age groups.

I would like to thank my fellow committee members, who work through the year to ensure that each festival is better than the one before – Tom Gibson, Janet Cathie, Malcolm Graham, Peter Simmons, Barbara Reid, Gail Kelly, Bob Taylor, Matt McDonald and Noel Ling. Special congratulations to Noel of course on the announcement that he is our Citizen of the Year. Please don't hesitate to put up your hand if you'd like to assist us in the organisation of future Festivals!

Many thanks also to our Mayor Graeme Moore and our Ranges Councillors Leticia Wilmot and Tania Baxter who braved the early morning rain to congratulate the Fun Runners. Thanks also to the CFA and Upper Beaconsfield Scouts for all the work they do each year to make the Festival possible, and to all the clubs, organisations, businesses and locals who supported the Festival in any way.

The Village Festival has established itself as a permanent part of our "Community Week", celebrating the strength of our community each year whilst we also remember the events of Ash Wednesday in 1983.



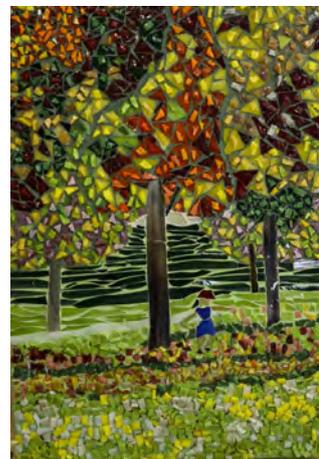
Fun Run winners

Females: Hayley Sillekens (U9); Jessica Day (10-12); Belle Hannan (13-16); Akshaya Ravi (17-29); Tracey Wigfield (30-39); Susie Wilson (40-49); Zdenka Bokos (50+)

Males: Elijah Roewer (U9); Lachlan Ayhl (10-12); Jonas Wilson (13-16); Ashley Bennett (17-29); Shane Grund (30-39); Paul Wilson (40-49) (overall winner); John Graham (50+)

Full fun run results on the Community Notice Board next to the General Store





**Mosaic exhibition
Winners of the
people's choice award**

Clockwise from above left Marlene Ling 'Angelik autumn 2013' (intermediate); Rachael Melville 'The blue bird' (junior); Rachel Kollmorgen 'Radiant vibes' (adult beginners); Elizabeth Burke 'Movimento dell acqua' (advanced)



see them in colour on www.upperbeaconsfield.org.au

Village Beautification Group

Jenny Pritchard 5944 3763

Summer has not been kind to our new plantings, but in spite of all the heat, the plants are looking very happy. Our group has been watering and weeding regularly, and doing the odd rain dance!

We have applied for further grants to continue our beautification of the village and hope to hear from council soon.

We need tree guards around the squares in the footpath, if anyone has any ideas or is able to weld up something, we would love to hear from you.

Weeds: ivy and ragwort

Weeds in our environment are a huge problem. We all know about blackberries and how they are spread by birds. Another weed I am finding regularly in my garden is ivy; this is also spread by birds.

Then there is ragwort, this is a really invasive weed. Seed is spread by wind, water, on animals, in stock feed (hay) and mud attached to vehicles. One plant may produce as many as 2000–2500 yellow flowers in 20–60 heads, producing between 75 000 and 120 000 seeds. That is the real problem and it worries me that I am seeing more and more plants on the roadside and in the paddocks. Please remove them or poison them, however if you haven't time, take off the flower heads and dispose of them in a plastic bag tied up tightly. They will flower again quite quickly, so the best way is to poison them with Brush-Off, or Kamba 500, or apply Tordon granules at the rosette stage. If you see Ragwort in your neighbour's property tell them what a terrible weed it is, they may not know. I am so cross about the spread of ragwort, I will contact the council to see what their policy is.



Agapanthus

We all know they must have their flowers removed before they set seed. If you don't think they self seed just have a look between the footpath and the road opposite the supermarket. They are in full flower now, these plants have seeded from the ones around the car park, spread by water and wind, sometimes they lie dormant for years then up they pop.

All these plants have wonderful survival mechanism that's why they are a weed, taking over our bushland and gardens. Council has information on their web site and they offer a Weed Control Grant up to \$500 for landowners, the grant closes 31 May 2014.



Wildlife Watch



Laura Levens

2013 had almost 200 mm less rainfall than the long term average for Upper Beaconsfield, resulting in sparse or scrawny summer wildflowers.

Hyacinth orchids started flowering late in January and were not as robust. Large tongue orchid leaves came up and died back three times during the year but no flowers. Prickly tea tree was an exception that flowered prolifically.

Very few bright lemon flowers of the usually common wedge pea were sprinkled among the grasses. Common flat pea plants were there but no flowers. Trailing goodenia did quite well. Beautiful common fringe lilies bloomed in different areas than usual. I wonder why?



Common Wedge-pea - *Gompholobium heugeli*



Common Fringe Lily - *Thysanotus tuberosus*

Two large trees fell across the only patch of prickly geebung on my place which means I am unable to record whether it flowered.

Kangaroo grass along the front is very dense. It seems that annual

slashing, even after seed fall, is not as conducive to germination as fire. March usually welcomes the first orchids of the year. I hope it gets cool enough to walk and search.

Green Circle Plant Nursery in Halford Street is currently growing plants for the local environment. We have 20 000 + plants on the go with much help given from volunteers who have tirelessly hand watered over this long hot dry spell.

We are open most Fridays Feb–Nov 9 am–4 pm. The nursery is a way for people to learn about plants and conservation whilst

meeting other locals. New Volunteers always welcome and always needed. Welcome to our newest volunteer Helen. Call Anita 0410 619 872



Where are they now? Roger and Sandra Francey

The first land Sandra and I ever owned was in Upper Beaconsfield. We owned that land from 1976 until 1983 when the horrific events of March 1983 precipitated our departure. As it turned out, locked as I still am, to work at CSIRO in Aspendale, Melbourne's SE corridor growth over the next two decades would have eventually triggered a move.

At the end of 1973 we returned from three years in Canada (where I had worked as an X-ray astronomer flying rockets from Hawaii and the Arctic), and were renting in Moorabbin prior to moving into a fibro shack on Stoney Creek Road in February 1976. Matt (7) and Fern (5) enrolled at the UB primary school. Selection of our block was influenced by the combination of an appreciation of natural environment with the fact that Sandra's sister Judy and husband Bill Stevens were living in a cottage on Sugar Loaf Road. Over the coming years, Bill and I were registered owner builders (and occasionally labourer for the other) in substantially upgrading our respective residences. I sub-contracted Max Fraser for brick work on our double-brick extension, Alan Blackwell for critical plumbing bits and Ern Adamson for critical electricals; Sandra and I did the rest over several years, our best strategy in times of difficulty – a cup of tea! In retrospect, our extension was designed beautifully to burn!

Despite work and building commitments, we still managed to become quite involved in community activities. Sandra was a Brownie leader while I became interested in the potential of the UBA to better foster community and environmental harmony. The issue triggering my initial involvement was the angst surrounding the proposed Hillview Quarries development. One that perhaps has had the most enduring visible impact is the Village Bell (as first editor and the first issue being collated on our dining room table). Another that excited me greatly was the Helmeted Honeyeater colony on Cardinia Creek (sadly wiped out in 1983). Forging friendships with some wonderful community and environmental 'activists' during this period, many still in the community, some sadly passed on, provides treasured memories.

Science has been the main navigator in our journey through life. I was hired by CSIRO to work on micrometeorology – the transfer of momentum, heat and water vapour



Roger Francey (with the Victoria Prize) and his wife Sandra in Government House. Matt and wife Maggie on left, Fern on the right.

between air and earth's surface. It failed to ignite the excitement of X-ray astronomy, so nearing the end of our time at UB, I organised a series of expeditions into the rainforests of Tasmania to answer another question that was fascinating me – how well could rising CO₂ in the atmosphere be related to human activities? It would help if we could see how CO₂ behaved before reliable CO₂ monitoring began in 1958:— two methods presented themselves, looking at air trapped in ice cores, and looking at the isotopic composition in carbon stored in tree rings. To make a long story very short, we proved that tree rings could not work, and by 1987 the Australian Antarctic Division had started drilling at Law Dome in Antarctica. After two decades of complex measurement and checking, those cores now provide a compelling 'yes' to the role humans play.

In 1981 I was offered a more direct role in atmospheric measurement being seconded to become the first science director of the Cape Grim Baseline Air Pollution Station in NW Tasmania – an Australian commitment to the United Nations global Atmospheric monitoring program. Cape Grim is a premier station in the global network, providing precise (in many cases unsurpassed) records of now more than 50 atmospheric trace species. It involved renting our just completed house and moving as a family to Smithton for 2 years (where we first heard of the Ash Wednesday

fires on the 7 am radio news). Early in 1984 we purchased in Berwick, and in 1997 moved to Aspendale.

Over this same period I helped establish a CSIRO global network of clean air collections in air bottles, typically 4 times a month, from up to 15 remote sites around the globe. The glass bottles of air (raising serious early concerns from Customs) are returned to Aspendale for analysis in the newly developed GASLAB (Global Atmospheric Sampling Laboratory). A six-month sabbatical for Sandra and I in France in 1994 provided an effective recovery from the intense period of laboratory and program development. GASLAB introduced many innovative analysis techniques and provided the template for several new international laboratories. For me, the crowning moment of this effort came with a front cover feature in the prestigious NATURE Climate Change journal in June 2013, using GASLAB data to challenge UN estimates of global CO₂ emission trends over recent decades. In 2001 I shared the \$50K Victoria Prize with Paul Steele for GASLAB developments.

I resigned in 2004 when our global climate change work lost government support, and some of our brightest team members left CSIRO. By retaining an honorary fellowship, I was able to shed stress and re-establish scientific curiosity. It also helped me play significant roles in the development of atmospheric programs in Europe: on the advisory board of a new Max Planck Institute in east Germany, and in 4 different European Commission initiatives. My 130+ scientific publications continue to be viewed (about 70/week) and cited (about 10/week) and I still get opportunities to publish (mainly as a co-author) in peer-reviewed journals (around two a year since 2004).

At civilised intervals Sandra and I splash out on memorable journeys with some highlights being Kimberley Coast, European River cruise, Kakadu-in-the-wet, Flinders Ranges, UK Gardens. The most effective remedy for my bird-watching itch has been two Cape York trips (just Matt and I camping and bird-watching, last time we saw 190 species in 11 days).

Primary School (BUPS)

Nick Karanzoulis, Principal



We welcome all families back for the start of the new school year. A special welcome to the new families to BUPS, whether their child is starting in Prep (Foundation Year) or in any other grade. Starting Prep or at a new school is always exciting and at times, a little nerve wracking, and that's just the parents! Our new Prep parents enjoyed a delicious morning tea and chat in the staff room, thanks to the PFA. It was a special event to share and hear how the parents were feeling now that their beautiful child/children have started school. I'm sure that our transition program is a major contributor to the children starting school with such confidence and a positive outlook. With minimal staff movement this year, the teacher/student relationships are already established and the children have settled in well. Our enrolments are similar to those of last year.

A welcome addition to the school uniform has been the grade 6 polo shirts. Term 1 will be a busy one at BUPS with events that will include the House Swimming Carnival, a welcome BBQ for all our new families, a "Getting To Know You" meeting for teachers and parents, Surf Life Saving program for the senior children and the Grade 5/6 camp to Sovereign Hill.

Garden to kitchen program

Our Garden To Kitchen Program is going from strength to strength. The harvesting of vegetables and the collection of eggs is such that more and more children are being given the opportunity to experience the food cycle first hand. The understanding of what happens to a seed or an egg when we add various elements is essential learning. Thank you to all our families who helped with the care of the chickens and school vegetable patch over the Christmas break. These families were well rewarded with fresh eggs and vegetables. A big thank you to the Mcphee, Webby, Carkeek, Dean-Feltham, Smith and Sankey families.

Student leadership group

One of the highlights of school life at BUPS is to be a member of the Student Leadership Team. Students in grades 5 and 6 are given the opportunity to write an Expression of Interest to the

principal, outlining the reasons why they would like to play a role in the leadership of the school. Students then present a speech to students from grades 4-6, before a ballot is taken. Candidates for the School Captains positions are short listed, interviewed before the positions are announced. All teachers are also consulted. This rigorous process assists with the student's public speaking, organisation skills and confidence as they prepare for a future where communication traits are imperative to successes in our society. At our recent presentation assembly, the successful student leaders enjoyed afternoon tea with the team and their parents. This was followed by Brad Battin MLA, the Member for Gembrook presenting the badges to our new leaders.

School captains for 2014



Congratulations to Phoebe Thompson and Dougal Rann on their appointment as the BUPS school captains for 2014. They



have demonstrated thus far to be excellent role models for the other students and will have many opportunities to develop and practise their leadership skills.

Amy Lawton: Victorian school sports award winner

Congratulations to our 2013 School Captain Amy Lawton on winning the Victorian School Sports Award in the sports of hockey and soccer. Amy had an outstanding academic year as well as sports year, being selected to represent Victoria at the National School Sports Championships in Hockey and Soccer. Amy, as our Hockey 7s captain, helped BUPS win the Victorian Hockey 7s Grand Final, after going through the entire year undefeated. Well done Amy!

Another BUPS student to become a Victorian Sports High Achiever a few years ago, was Bill Le Brocq, a past school captain who still holds a number of Victorian records in swimming.



Frank Conn RSL Education Award

The Conn family has a long association with BUPS, with many generations attending our school over the years. In recognition of all the volunteer work that Frank Conn had given to our community, the school was privileged to have the RSL Frank Conn Education Award presented to two of our grade 5 students at the end of last year. Congratulations to Tish Hutchings and Jarrod Handley on receiving the award.

Liam Donovan and Audrey Whybrow (2007 School Captains)

Talking of past school captains, Liam Donovan and Audrey Whybrow, our 2007 school captains are to be congratulated on their outstanding efforts last year in completing their VCE, and consequently securing entry to Melbourne University and Monash University.

Upper Beac Scout Group

Kathy McGrath



2013 was an exciting, fun and achievement filled year for the Upper Beaconsfield Scout Group.

Rovers are once more up and running. Any male or female between the ages of 18 and 26 can join, no prior scouting experience necessary. Rovers decide their own program and run their own events, including Surf Moot, which is a Victorian event held at Anglesea over the Australian Day long weekend. There are activities, bands and hundreds of people in attendance. If you are looking for a social outlet come down and check us out.

There are lots of different opportunities for adult involvement. Now is a great time to become part of the team as every group has leaders and full programs.

Each section has an award scheme towards which the youth members can choose to work. Every award is about achieving your personal best and learning many and varied skills along the way.

Congratulations to our 7 very worthy recipients for 2013.

Cubs	Grey Wolf	Shelby Clausen
Scouts	Scout Medallion	Kyle Boadle Sam Inskip Stacey Young Kelvin Finch
Venturers	Queen Scout	Holly Latter Matthew Barnes

Every section is making use of this great weather with camps and activities such as night hikes, swimming nights and bike hikes.

We offer free trial nights which allows you to find out if Scouting is right for your child before making a commitment to join.

All sections meet at the Upper Beaconsfield Recreation Reserve at the Igloo.

Cubs	8 to 10 years	Monday	7-8.30 pm
Scouts	11 to 14 years	Tuesday	7-9 pm
Venturers	15 to 17 years	Monday	7.30-9.30 pm
Rovers	18 to 26 years	Thursday	from 7.30 pm

For all enquiries please call our Group Leader Warren Makings 0437 023 086.

Eco-friendly fun at Sustainability Expo

Saturday 1 March 10 am-3 pm

Cardinia Cultural Centre, Lakeside Boulevard, Pakenham

"This event is not about making people feel guilty! Instead it will offer inspiring, achievable and affordable ideas to help us all be a little kinder to the earth and live more sustainable lives."

Expo highlights include:

free children's activities, earth-friendly products, fair trade products, renewable energy alternatives, solar alternatives, energy and water saving solutions, local organic foods and wines, plant giveaways and weed identification tips

In the spirit of sustainability bring your reusable bags and drink bottles, and consider leaving your car at home in favour of public transport, riding or walking to the event.

The Captain's Log – UB Fire Brigade



Barrie Gray, Captain

Hello fellow residents of Upper Beaconsfield

Fire restrictions are now in force and all households should have received in the post a copy of the “Can I—Can’t I” brochure to help you understand your responsibilities. Please read this as there are penalties for lighting fires illegally during this time. If you did not receive a brochure, just call at the station to pick one up.

We have already had 10 turnouts during January. Five were false alarms, two were support to other brigades and one was a strike team deployment.

Since the fires of 2009, CFA has changed enormously, implementing new operating procedures, having safer vehicles and equipment for firefighters, and engaging more constructively with communities. In 2011, recognising that we had an aging membership, we began the process of future proofing the brigade so it could make the most of these changes in CFA. This involved the concrete things like the purchase of a new fire truck, having some new blood on the management team and improving our training and systems. It has also included “succession planning”, to date in the area of developing new crew and brigade leaders. In recognition of our aging membership, recruitment is the next stage of succession planning, as we need younger, fitter people to carry the mantle of Upper Beaconsfield Fire Brigade into the future. We are a brigade in transition, and this is an exciting time to become a member as a more vibrant and dynamic team is built. The strength of our brigade has always been with our members. Serving the community solidly over the years, preventing catastrophe, helping people in times of danger or recovery, often their work is unrecognised. This strength will diminish over the next few years if we do not begin now to bring in the next generation of firefighters. Similarly the Brigade Auxiliary is one of only a few left in Victoria, something of which we are proud, but we also need new members there or we will lose the benefits they bring. We really need you!!!

If you are keen to learn some new skills, keen to get involved in your community, and can spare a few hours each week to attend emergencies or assist us with administration, equipment maintenance, community education or fundraising, then come along to our Brigade information night, on Wednesday 5 May at the Fire Station. Just turn up to this night if you are interested in joining the Fire Brigade, or call the duty officer on 0400 086 865.

Hope to see you at the information night.

Upper Beaconsfield Local Businesses are fired up for Code Red days

CFA Media release

On Wednesday 6 February local business were paid a visit by CFA to determine whether or not they have considered what their business would do on a declared ‘Code Red Day’.

They were asked the question that is asked of the community itself, ‘will you stay or go’.

CFA has encouraged the community to plan ahead and leave early or even the night before a Code Red day. These days present the worst possible conditions for a bush or grass fire, yet until now the



Left to right: Mark Sage (Sage Accounting), Jen Southgate (FCA), Mandy McArdle (Chemist), Narelle Bentleybell & Janye John (Rivendell Conveyancing), Kate Hutson (Thrifty Link General Store), Sally (Tradies and Ladies), Pramod Patel (Foodworks), Michael McGrath (Post Office), Lisa Hicks (CFA)

small businesses which operate in the high risk areas have not been targeted.

It was extremely pleasing to hear the responses from those in Upper Beaconsfield, that their business would be closed on a code red day, even the local pub the “Pine Grove” will not be open.

The businesses were left with a kit bag and information to help them plan ahead. The CFA also reminded them that it is not compulsory nor are we forcing them to close. However, we would like them to seriously consider the consequences if their staff had to travel through a high risk area to get to work, or how it would affect the personal fire plans of staff who live in the area.

CFA would like to congratulate the Upper Beaconsfield small businesses for their support in reinforcing our messages of leave early and making the decision ahead of time, planning for those extreme bad days, this may only occur a few times throughout the fire season. Cockatoo and Gembrook were two other high risk areas that were visited with some success, we hope that all will take Upper Beaconsfield’s lead and not be there on Code Red days

The fire season in Upper Beac, so far ...

Helen Smith

Improved technology is providing much better communication to residents during these trying times. Several residents have commented that the FireReady App for phones and tablets proved an excellent way to keep up to date with the CFA updates during the recent bouts of hot weather. On the first really bad day there were an unnerving 44 alerts posted within 20 km of Upper Beaconsfield. Not all were fires. But the maps provided good information about the locations involved and you could see when the situations were under control.

The local Upper Beaconsfield SMS Notification System also sent out a warning early on Sunday 9 February when many fires started all around the state. The emergency updates on ABC 774 Melbourne also gave excellent coverage. You cannot rely on any one information source, so it is best to use them all!

FOUR OUT OF FIVE

**BUSHFIRE DEATHS
HAPPEN CLOSE
TO HOME.**

Don't wait. Leave early. Pack your Emergency Kit so you're ready to go.
Listen to local radio and check the Fire Danger Rating so you know when to leave.
Stop making excuses.

LEAVE AND LIVE.

visit emergency.vic.gov.au

call **1800 240 667**

download the **FireReady** app

FireReady 

Gembrook Electorate

Brad Battin MLA



Small businesses are the biggest employer in Victoria, an essential part of the State's economy and an important part of community. Many small businesses have taken a hit lately, having to contend with the Global Financial Crisis and increasing competition from larger retailers and online shopping.

Prior to entering Parliament I owned a bakery. I know the immense pressures faced by small business owners. Now as the local State Member of Parliament, I am working with businesses in Upper Beaconsfield to promote local traders.

I am launching a Shop Local campaign that will reward one lucky shopper with more than \$1 000 in vouchers from local businesses in the Gembrook electorate. Participants must spend \$30 at three participating stores to enter, and customers can enter as many times as they like before the prize is drawn on 31 October 2014. Participating businesses in Upper Beaconsfield are Up the Hill Bakehouse, Upper Beaconsfield Post Office, General Store and Sally's Tradies and Ladies Cafe.

Not only do residents go in the draw to win a local shopping spree, they also do their bit to support local businesses, which in turn benefits them and their community. Shopping local ensures the creation and retention of local jobs; it usually means better, more personalised service; it contributes to the local economy; it creates a vibrant and diverse community; and local businesses are more likely than others to support local community groups and sporting clubs.

So put your money back in to your community – dine at a local restaurant, catch up for coffee at a local café, buy some fresh fruit from the greengrocer, check out the package deals at the butcher, buy a birthday present from a local giftware shop and check out the clothes on offer at local retailers.

To receive a free carry bag, entry card and list of businesses participating in the Shop Local campaign, please visit my office at Suite 5/6-8 Langmore Lane Berwick. Further details are available at www.facebook.com/shoplocal2014.

Upper Beac Riding Club

Kerry Bail



Top Teams Trophy navigation ride

It was touch and go whether UBRC would even make it to the TTT Navigation Ride this year with drama aplenty. Despite our fearless leader Kerry, ensuring our entry form was sent we were let down by Australia Post and the organising club had no record of our entry, although they had receipted our payment. Luckily they managed to fit our team in and eventually made a spot for the half team as well.

We fielded a team and half which consisted of Kerry, Karen, Sarie, Jen, Andrea and Kim, with many thanks to Kim for volunteering at the last minute and Andrew lending us Jet for the day.

Despite a dismal forecast all week the weather on the day was delightful. The sun was shining and it was the perfect temperature for a ride through the Kilmore countryside. We had all started out very early and were keen to get going. The first team out the gate behaved well with Karen's Duke doing just enough to keep us all on our toes. Karen and Kerry headed off up the hill on the long ride of 25 km with Jen and Sarie off out the front gate on the shorter ride of 13 km. An hour or so later Andrea and Kim also headed out on the shorter ride.

We were not experienced as Nav riders, with most of us having never completed one before. However, all competitors performed brilliantly with some being better at the questions than others. Overall Andrea and Kim in the composite team came 4th and Kerry, Karen, Sarie and Jen came 8th. It was a particularly impressive performance from Kerry and Karen who came 1st in their section out of 32 teams. It looks like we all have a big future in Nav rides.

While the riders were out negotiating the route, Toni was volunteering at the front gate. It was lovely to have her friendly face there to greet us as we returned.



Trailblazers ready to start, from left Kerry on Shakira, Karen on Duke, Jen on Danni and Sari on Bandit

After the ride the teams gathered for lunch with our fabulous supporters of Toni, Wendy and Andrew. We had a pleasant lunch comparing answers and generally enjoying the sunshine. All in all it was a great day and everyone was looking forward to future Nav ride opportunities.

25th Annual Dressage Competition

Saturday 22 March 2014 • Ayr Hill Gate 4, Clyde North

Official HRCV Points Day - 60 x 20 arenas

Ayr Hill - Gate 4, 500 Soldiers Road, Clyde North Mel: 131 G9
Sashes as per HRCV event rule 25.

Trophies and saddlecloths for jackpot winners.

Entries close: 13 March 2014 - official HRCV entry form must be used

Entry Fee: Total \$55 both tests at one level (includes Ayr Hill fee).

Cheques made payable to "Upper Beaconsfield Riding Club Inc"

Post to: Event Secretary, PO Box 93, Upper Beaconsfield, Vic 3808

Times will be posted on www.ubrc.com.au or include a SSAE.

Upper Beac Pony Club



Leanne Ricketts

The Pony Club held its annual gymkhana in December, with all riders and horses looking fantastic decked out in their best gear. The show ring covered the more serious events, and selected winners in this ring were eligible to compete in the Ice King event to determine who would represent the club in the Evan Henry Memorial Award



Ellena Boura winning the Ice King Event

at the Berwick Show. Congratulations to our winner, Ellie Boura and we wish her all the best at the Berwick Show.

The fun ring also proved popular, particularly with some of our younger members, and everyone seemed to be adorned with ribbons and smiles by the end of the day. Our handy mount course was also popular and a great way to test both horses' sensibility and riders' ability over an obstacle course in a set time with scores for each obstacle.

A lovely chicken and salad lunch was shared before the final event of the day, the fancy dress. What a fantastic turnout; we had horses and

riders dressed up in all sorts from Santa's and reindeer, a snowman, Mexican, police, bushranger, jockey, zebra and many more. A huge thankyou to Total Tree Contractors for generously donating Horseland vouchers and prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place fancy dress winners. The day was finally complete after presentations and awards, and a visit from Santa of course!

Coming up in March is our Showjumping Series which will be held on 8 March and 29 March (the 8 Feb was postponed due to hot weather conditions). This is a major fundraiser for the club and has proved to be very popular not just for pony club members but for anybody who is keen to have a go as there is also an open section. Entry forms are available at upperbeaconsfield.ponyclubvic.org.au

Our raffle will also be drawn on 8 March with some great prizes on offer including a Home/Office fire safe, tool kit and professional torch kindly donated by Lokaway Pty Ltd (on display at the General Store). Raffle tickets are available at Foodworks, the Pine Grove and the General Store so hurry to get in the draw!

The pony club grounds have continued to improve thanks to lots of hard work provided by the Department of Justice work team over the last few months,

thank you Stan for supervising this. Another big thank you to a local Burton Road resident, Michael from Multi Electrics for helping out whenever needed, and to the CFA for burning off. Happy, safe riding everyone!

Winners of the fancy dress – 1st Tablia Ricketts (Bushranger), 2nd Ruby Keon-Cohen (Police)



A serve from the Tennis Club



Jonathan Collins • [facebook.com/upperbeaconsfieldtennisclub](https://www.facebook.com/upperbeaconsfieldtennisclub) • www.tennis.com.au/upperbeaconsfield

The seniors season is mid-way through and the 5 teams have had varying levels of success. We currently have two teams in contention for finals which will take place in the coming weeks. Men's B1 and Mixed A Reserve 2 are in with a good chance to make it far in the finals. Good luck to those teams!

In other senior news, the club championship finals, both singles and doubles, took place.

The results are as follows:

Men's Singles: Brett d Jonathan

Women's Singles: Sarah d Kyla

Men's Doubles: Jonathan and Matt d

Darren and Mark

Women's Doubles: Sarah and Kyla d Lisa and Belle

The juniors summer season is coming to an end and it is great to see that we have several teams in or very close to finals positions. We

currently have 3 teams in the top four with another 3 very close outside the top 4. It is fantastic to see lots of teams in contention and hopefully we can see teams come away with the premier's flag!

The results of the junior club championship are as follows:

Boys Open Singles: Nathan d Michael

Girls Open Singles: Sarah d Kyla

B Grade: Sam d Mia

C Grade: Patrick d Jordan

Congratulations to all involved and good luck to those competing in upcoming finals!

Australia Day Open Day

The Australia Day open day was a new initiative by the club. It was a great family event where people of all ages were able to get involved! The day consisted of free coaching at the beginning of the day along

with face painting and a jumping castle to be enjoyed by those of all ages!

After these activities, the second half of the day started with the inaugural mixed doubles tournament being held with a great turnout of 18 pairs. It was fantastic to see so many pairs taking part in the competition. The mixed doubles was complimented with a dress up competition where some true Australian outfits were on display as well as an appearance by superman and superwomen! The day was capped off watching the Australian Open Men's final.

Night Tennis

Night competition is available for the social and competitive tennis players. From beginner to advanced on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights to suit your personal level of skill.

Cardinia Beaconhills Golf Links



Brad Crowley

There has been quite a bit happening on course over the summer months. The main project on the golf course has been the reconstruction of a new 1st tee on the Hills Course. This will be finished soon and provide excellent couch grass coverage for golfers to start their round.

There are also new flags on course and signage around the club. We have opportunities for sponsorship signage for interested businesses.

Around the club, our junior programme is flourishing and it's great to see so many young kids enjoying the outdoors. Please call the club if you think your children would benefit from sunshine and exercise rather than sitting indoors. Cardinia Beaconhills provides a wonderful surrounding and structured classes to benefit children of all ages.

Our annual 'Kids Xmas Party' was a great success. It was free of charge and kids enjoyed a visit from Santa on the fire engine, gifts, ice creams and the popular petting zoo and jumping castle provided on site. There was an overworked face painter who did a fantastic job. More than 80 children and their parents had a great day.

Our new members are now greeted with an induction day in which they are shown the ins and outs of the club and play a round of golf with a match committee member. All queries, great and small, will be answered.



Two children with face paint at our 'Kids Christmas Party' in December

Welcome to our new ground staff members David Leonard and Luke Clarke, keep up the great work guys!

Our annual Grog Barrow raffle was a success yet again and was won by Matthew Iles. A wheel barrow overflowing with beer, wine and spirits was the prize.

We've had a record number of "holes in one" around the club for the past 2 months. We had three in December and one in January. Well done to Joe Svaganovic (10/12/13), Ross Millard (28/12/13), Craig Scerri (29/12/13) and Ivan Furyk (4/1/14).



Ivan Furyk – hole in one

Major event results

There have been quite a few major competitions played and won over the past few months. Congratulations to the following:

Michael Dean (Heritage Golf Club) winner of the 2013 Beaconhills Open

Noel Pye winner of the nett event in the 2013 Beaconhills Open

Brian Meneilly and Jenny Chandler who won both the Gross and Nett prize in the 2013 Mixed Foursomes Championships

Marilyn Ford who was the 2013 Medal of Medallists winner for the ladies.



Marilyn Ford – Medal of Medallist winner for 2013

No surprise that the Aussies beat the Poms in the Battle of the Ashes. 6 point victory well celebrated. Not even a dashing 49 points from young Michael French could get the Poms home.

Craig Perkins won the 2013 Captains Trophy.

What's coming up?

Twilight Comp is back in full flight. Pop up to the Club any Wednesday after 4 pm for 9 holes and a great meal afterwards. Enjoy our course and our country hospitality.

"He Hits She Hits" – what an awesome fun day for any golfer to enjoy. It's a good event that welcomes those new to golf to partner up with any golfer. The event will be on Sunday 16 March, 9 holes game, followed by a meal. Contact the pro shop for details. It's always a huge turnout, a fun day and a great way to meet other people in the area.

Pretty soon the practice fairways will be full of members trying to fine tune their games as Club Championships start in March.

Opportunities for community

Friday 4 April Community Corporate Cup

Look after and reward your staff or loyal customers. \$176 per person, 1 pm Shotgun start, all inclusive, great prizes, advertisement for your business, dinner, unlimited drinks and entertainment.

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\$100 per week sponsorship for your business also available any time. This tax free donation will entitle you to have your business published in our weekly "Around The Traps" newsletter, be seen on our website and mentioned each competition day in our clubhouse.

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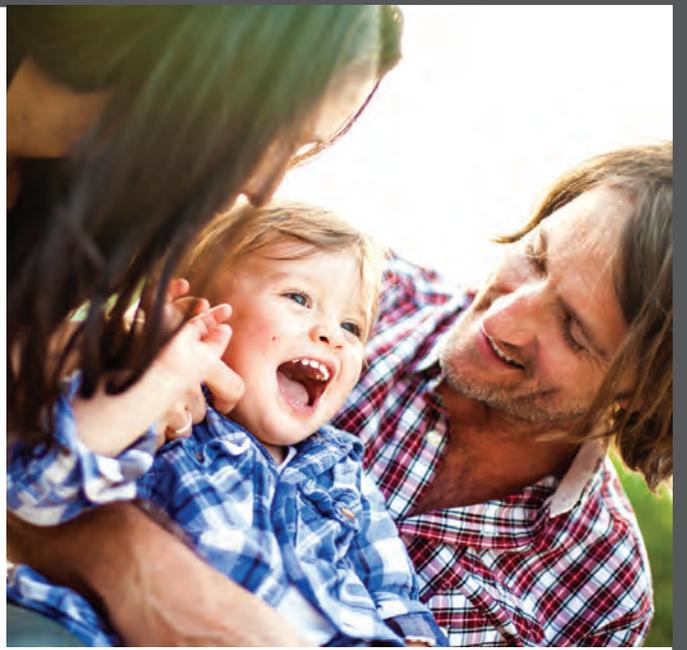


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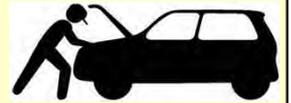
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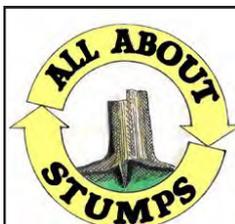
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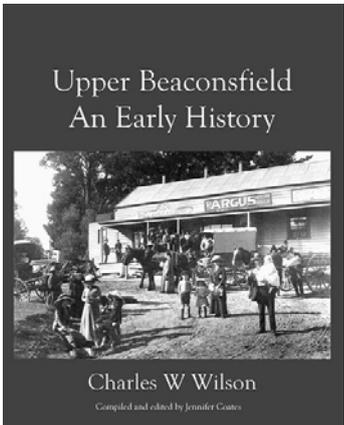

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