

UPPER BEACONSFIELD

Issue No. 199

March 2015

VILLAGE BELL

Upper Beaconsfield Association
www.upperbeaconsfield.org.au



Another classic innings
The Maroons turn 30





Men's Sheddners learning healthy cooking
see article on page 11



Christmas carols a success

Well done to all those involved with the Community Carols night on 24 December. Special thanks to the UBA, Men's Shed, CFA and Santa, Julie B and helpers, Harry and crew, MC Peter Brown, the band, choir and children's choir and their families, Daniel and Brendan Cooper, Telsa Rudd, Cameron Rocke, and all the families of Upper Beaconsfield and beyond. It was a very special night where joy and happiness shone.

TESS PORZ

To make the carols a continued success we need a new musical co-ordinator. If you are interested call Tess on 0427 394 598.



Festival fun for kids



Upper Beaconsfield Citizen of the Year 2014

Wendy Thomson

Wendy Thomson has lived in Upper Beaconsfield for 45 years. As a child she lived in Ivanhoe and later she lived on a dairy farm in Cobden. She was a keen and fearless sportswoman and played her favourite sport, netball until she was well over 50 years of age. I can also visualise her as a strong opponent on the hockey field.

She met a handsome young man from Upper Beaconsfield, Ric Thomson, at a dance in 1966, and they were married in 1970, and moved into their newly built home opposite Charing Cross that same year.

Wendy joined the CFA in August 1981. Eric Bumpstead, the Fire Brigade Captain, realised that the CFA needed people to be available on days when many of the brigade's male volunteers were committed to their other jobs. He suggested that the Brigade should recruit some local women who would be available for this service. The girls were nicknamed Eric's Angels and were trained in all of the skills needed, driving the brigade vehicles and attending all turnouts. Thirty years later, and Wendy still does this great service to the community. We residents may take this service for granted but we would be very much poorer without the dedication and courage of people like Wendy. She is an original Eric's Angel. An article by George Silberbauer printed in the December 1981 Village Bell refers to the first fire attended by these "lady" recruits, at that time known variously as the "Firebelles, Red-hot Mommas and Eric's Angels".

At many "civilian" events in the village, Anzac Day service, Carols by Candlelight, and the Festival, you can see Wendy in her Brigade uniform, available to help residents if and when needed.



Mayor Letitia Wilnot presented Wendy with her award at the Village Festival on 15 February 2015

Wendy is a well known figure walking through the village. Each morning, she can be seen with her rubbish bag, picking up rubbish thrown around by careless people. She cleans up around the shops, so that the drains can be kept clear. She is noticeable on her ride on lawn mower, mowing the grass at the fire station, and the nature strip in Halford St beside the Milk Bar.

We are proud to have Wendy as our Citizen of the Year for 2014.

JO CARTER

Township news from the UBA

Our town has never looked better with Jenny Pritchard and her volunteers busy re-planting, tidying, and re-mulching the garden beds in the centre of the town—in Charing Cross, all along the front of the Café and Sutherland Park. There are plans to continue the town beautification. A special thank you goes to Craig Brodie for his ongoing support.

The council has cleaned up and resurfaced the BMX Track at the Recreation Reserve, as well as upgraded the playground at Tom Griffin Reserve in Grant Court. Township footpaths have also been resurfaced.

As usual Carols by Candlelight was an

outstanding success which was enjoyed by everyone. Many thanks go to Tess Porz, who has organised the musical program for many years, and once again put together a wonderful evening last Christmas Eve.

UBA—where to from here?

We need to review what this community needs, we need fresh faces in and around the Association and we would like new ideas from the younger members of this community. I invite anyone with good ideas and an interest in the local community to come along to UBA meetings.

During the year the community lost a beautiful lady and friend to all in

Jennie Vaughan. Jennie was a tower of strength in the community and is missed by all.

I wish to thank all for their ongoing support in the community. No matter what support group or committee you are on, it all makes for a better Upper Beaconsfield.

Other UBA projects

- Charles Wilson Walk with the signage and rest area completed
- The digitisation of the Village Bell which is an ongoing exercise
- Donation to the Crèche and Citizen of Year dinner
- Cleanup of Elephant Rock lookout: discussions with Cardinia Council, Vic Roads, and South East Water

MARK KELLY, UBA PRESIDENT

**UPPER BEACONSFIELD
COMMUNITY CENTRE
NOTICE OF
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Wednesday 18 March 2015 at 7.30 pm
Community Room

Nominations for Committee of Management are welcome.

All members and residents are invited to attend the AGM, with reports on all the Community Centre's activities during 2014 to be provided.

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. If you have skills in areas such as business, marketing, education or community services, your experience would be particularly valuable to the Community Centre. The Committee meets once each month. Please contact Sally on 5944 3390 if you have any queries relating to the AGM or to positions on the Committee. Nomination forms are available from the Office or by telephoning 5944 3484.

Recreation Reserve news

The annual general meeting was held on 11 February and the office bearers elected for the coming year are Bob Taylor (president), Sharon McDonald (vice president), Nick Fabien (secretary) and David McKenzie (treasurer).

The nominated members from user groups are Scott Justice (Football Club), Nick Fabien (Cricket Club), Ros Smith (Riding Club), Sharon McDonald (Pony Club), Ian Norbury (Scouts) with the Primary School position vacant. The elected community members are Bob Taylor, Richard Halliday and David McKenzie, with one vacancy.

The most significant development in the last year was the construction and opening of a \$60 000 three net training complex by the Cricket Club adjacent to the playground, with half of the cost contributed by Cardinia Council. Cardinia Council also reshaped and then installed a gravel surface to the BMX track adjacent to the kinder at no cost to the committee.

The Rec Reserve committee always welcomes input from the community and meets on the second Wednesday of every month in the cricket clubrooms.

BOB TAYLOR AM

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

Month	45 yr av.	2013	2014
Jan	63.6	26.6	29.3
Feb	58.4	60.6	55.4
Mar	64.2	69.4	39.9
Apr	78.3	30.9	109.5
May	86.1	132.2	80.0
Jun	80.3	90.5	120.0
Jul	78.6	63.1	94.3
Aug	85.7	98.5	66.4
Sep	90.6	117.9	95.6
Oct	94.3	78.4	91.6
Nov	86.5	118.6	66.1
Dec	80.4	59.4	75.0
Total	947.2 mm	946.3 mm	923.1 mm

The spring period September to November recorded a rainfall of 253.3mm compared to the average of 271.4mm.

Total rainfall for 2014 recorded 923.1mm compared to the 45 year average of 947.2mm. The year had a reasonable amount of rainfall with some dry months, namely January, March, August and November. Higher than average months were April and June.

GEORGE MOIR

Royce Horwood recorded 38.2mm rainfall in January 2015, as George has been away.

Wanted

We would love to hear from people interested in contributing cartoons based on subjects of local interest to the Village Bell. School age and older encouraged. Email editor.villagebell@gmail.com



UBA Meeting

Wednesday 1 April at 7.30 pm
at the Community Complex.
Please come along and join us.

Bell Credits

Editor Helen Smith tel 5944 3219 – **Layout** Marianne Rocke – **Photo Editor and Front Cover** Cameron Rocke – **Collation** Noel Ling – **Advertising** Helen Smith and Kaylene Cox – **Subscriptions** Julie Born – **Mailing List** Cheryl O'Gallagher – **Printing** Graham Jackson – **Receiving copy:** Helen Smith – editor.villagebell@gmail.com tel 5944 3219

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*Upper Beaconsfield Village Bell –
supported by Cardinia Shire Council*

More than a million reasons to smile

It was heart warming to hear the personal story of local resident Graham Cockerell on ABC 774 with Jon Faine in early February. Graham, the owner of Moonshine Motors, has for many years coordinated the Need for Feed program through Pakenham Lions Club.

Initially it started with Graham's donation of his own hay to the farmers in the Gippsland area after bushfires



in 2006. After delivering his hay he realised that much more was needed. He admitted his actions have been prompted by the loss of his own

father (a farmer) through suicide which has affected him for a long time. Graham felt personal sympathy for farmers, and that a helping hand might make a big difference when things are extremely tough.

Governments do not provide assistance to farmers after disasters, unless they have lost their homes. But farmers can sustain severe losses of stock and loss of feed in fires, floods and droughts. Already this year NFF has donated fodder to the Moyston and Kyneton districts following bush fires.



RACV notice

Moonshine Motors recently retired from contracting to the RACV, after 30 years of providing emergency road service to RACV members. This change was brought about by the RACV expanding its metropolitan boundary to include the Upper Beaconsfield and Pakenham contract areas within their boundaries serviced by their own patrols.

Moonshine Motors proprietor Graham Cockerell said these changes also affected the Mornington contractor. Eventually the whole outer fringe areas of Melbourne will be absorbed into the metro area as well, as their contracts come up for renewal.

"Basically, we were told late last year, that if we continued at all, we wouldn't be doing jump starts or selling batteries. The RACV now runs their own battery vans. That was about 70% of our call outs. It all came down to dollars in the end. It was uneconomical for us to continue".

Graham said that it was the first time in 30 years since he enjoyed Christmas Day and New Years Eve not being on call. "I am still getting used to it. We are now concentrating on providing a more complete workshop service and we don't mind if locals or non RACV members who are stuck still call us after hours for help or advice".

From a small start NFF has grown to convoys of trucks, utes, trailers and semi loads of the large round bales. Since 2006 the Lions District 201V3 (Gippsland) NFF program has distributed more than \$1 million in donated hay and funds.

Graham also spoke warmly of former local resident Stan Hamilton's support from the start. Now Stan is nearly 80 he has been banned from clambering over the trucks! Doug Hamilton, Stan's son, came up with the idea for the first Bushfire Benefit fund-raiser and has volunteered at each one since. Graham acknowledges the assistance of Barry and Joan Medwin "who donated our very first semi load to East Gippsland in early 2007, which was transported by Trevor and Sue Wilson. Their son Brad transported NFF fodder donated by many other locals to Labertouche and Marysville after Black Saturday".

NFF has a Facebook page that boasts over 900 friends. Graham posts photos

and messages for convoy updates and contact details. Since the 774 interview Graham has received many positive responses and donations of hay.

If you can help: Email lionsneedforfeed@yahoo.com.au or phone (03) 5944 4111 or mobile 0459 444 111.

Anyone who wants to help but can't go on a convoy can contribute to The Lions Club of Pakenham

- By direct deposit Need for Feed BSB 033 636 Account Number 248192 at Westpac Pakenham.
- By cheque Lions Club of Pakenham, P.O. Box 132 Pakenham, VIC 3810

Facebook — www.facebook.com/lions.needforfeed
774 Conversation Hour Jon Faine 2 February 2015. Hear the podcast on ABC 774 website www.abc.net.au/melbourne/conversations/

HELEN SMITH



Elephant Rock – dump or delight?

Elephant Rock is surely one of the most significant and loved of our local landmarks. It seems that the Rock (or collection of rocks) emerged during the construction of Cardinia Dam and the new section of Emerald-Beaconsfield Road.

The Rock has also become a focus for community and cultural life, being painted almost weekly with greetings and notices – birthdays, engagements, farewells and welcome homes, and various public notices. A number of local residents have kept a photographic record of many of the ‘makeovers’. A car park surrounds the Rock and a path leads north to a lookout with a view to the West overlooking the reservoir, although the view is largely blocked by trees in the dam enclosure. A road sign officially alerts passing drivers to the location of the ‘scenic lookout’.

The site of the Rock and lookout is under the joint control of VicRoads and Melbourne Water. VicRoads classify the site as a ‘storage area for road materials’.

Residents will have noted the sorry state of the area. Weeds

are rampant, rubbish is dumped there and rocks placed on the perimeter of the car park have been painted with graffiti. The track up to the lookout is so eroded as to be unsafe.

Last year the UBA sponsored a group to see what could be done to improve the Rock area. Members of the group met at the site with Cardinia Shire councillors and Kevin Alexander, the Open Space Coordinator for the Shire. Kevin informed the group of the responsible authorities, and said that the Council did not have a budget for the maintenance of the site. No action eventuated from the meeting.

The UBA now plans to send a letter to VicRoads, raising concerns about the state of the site and seeking advice as to a course of action that may lead to better maintenance and beautification, and possible the upgrading of the whole site, including the lookout.

The UBA would welcome feedback or suggestions in regard to the enhancement of Elephant Rock. Please phone Helen Smith (5944 3219) or Matt McDonald (5944 3860)



About town

Public toilet damaged

The toilets at Charing Cross are kept clean and tidy and in good condition by the shire. Over recent months the toilets have been the subject of unwanted attention.

1. Someone has pulled down heavily on the outer top corner of the doors resulting in the springs being stretched, which prevents them closing.
2. A small groove has been gouged in the centre of the door lock so it can be easily manipulated to show engaged when in fact it is not.

If you live near Charing Cross, or are out and about in the vicinity particularly at night, please report any suspicious activity to police so this senseless behaviour can be stopped.

Facelift for pharmacy

Customers at the local shops will have noticed the pharmacy is now boasting a fresh and attractive renovation, post the

flooding damage to the store early this summer. Pharmacist Ahmed Elnakeeb says the new layout is more spacious and allows the stock to be handled more efficiently.

After making the improvements, Ahmed's heart nearly skipped a beat when he recently opened the shop to find water flooding across the floor again. The culprit was a burst hot water service, which he has now replaced below the floor level.

Customers unable to travel say they are very happy with home visits and deliveries of medications to their door, as part of the excellent service provided by the local pharmacy.

Country meets city

At times we need to remind ourselves that we live so close to nature in Upper Beaconsfield. On an evening walk recently, eight kangaroos were observed quietly grazing on the front lawn of a home on a larger block in Stoney Creek Road (eastern end). Take care if you are walking your dog as some dogs

will chase them. The back roads are places where you can suddenly drive around a corner and meet kangaroos and wombats, with dire consequences for them and your car. Dawn and dusk are the danger times if in a car, but an excellent time to observe them if on foot.

Your nature strip

There seem to be two types of treatment given to nature strips around town: either mow it within a millimetre of its life or just forget about it and let the ivy, blackberries and pittosporum take over. What about a good compromise? Get rid of the weeds, and reintroduce some of the local plants and grasses which are indigenous to our area. This way you will provide habitat for birds, reptiles and insects and it looks better. Visit Green Circle Plant Nursery, our community run group which propagates native plants indigenous to the local area. It's in Halford Street near the milk bar, open Fridays and now is the best time of year to plant!

About town

Listen to the birds

Apart from busy periods when a lot of commuter traffic is on the roads, our town is a quiet place to live. Take the time to listen to the birds. How good is it to hear the kookaburras early and late in the day when they are waking up or settling down for the night! When still, you can hear groups of them calling across from one hilltop to the next. One group were making a racket recently in the daytime. On getting closer they could be seen flying back and forth from what appeared to be a nesting tree. Apparently they cackle when scaring off predators. In Don Watson's excellent book *The Bush: Travels in the heart of Australia* he describes a kookaburra hurling itself repeatedly at a full grown goanna climbing up a dead tree, a spectacle made more enthralling

because the kookaburra never stopped laughing.

A reminder to dog owners

Extract from Cardinia Shire Council animal regulations

Animal waste—local law clause 61

An owner or person in charge of a dog must:

- not allow any part of that dog's excrement to remain on any road or public place or any property not occupied by that person
- ensure that the means by which to collect or dispose of that dog's excrement are carried and used by any person in charge of the dog
- not allow any excrement to be moved (whether by washing, sweeping or otherwise) from any property on to a road.

Penalty 20 penalty units

Dog leash laws—local law clause 64

- The owner of a dog which is outside the premises of the owner and not secured by means of a leash, chain or cord shall be guilty of an offense.
- The owner of a dog found at large or not secured by a leash, chain or cord will incur a fine.

Penalty up to 20 penalty units

Safety tip for joggers

If walking or jogging along the road in areas where there is no provision for foot traffic we suggest you do so on the right hand side of the road. This ensures you will see the oncoming traffic and not be startled by a car coming from behind you – especially if you are wearing earphones (not a good idea anyway). It also enables the driver of an oncoming vehicle to better read your movements and likely evasive action. We also suggest you pass this advice on to your children and others.

'Twas the Night before Christmas ...

... at the Keith Ewenson Park in Upper Beaconsfield all was astir.

During the afternoon, volunteers from all over the community converged on the park, setting up sound systems, erecting marquees, hanging coloured lights, preparing cooking facilities, and generally preparing the area for an event that has been occurring for over 40 years.

Evening arrives, and families, young couples, old couples, visitors, strangers, start appearing, setting up blankets and chairs in the grassed amphitheatre behind the community hall. A contingent of Master Chefs from the Men's Shed fire up the BBQ for the gourmet sausage sizzle.

The ever present guardians of the community—the CFA—volunteer as the official taste testers. A duty they seem to enjoy—many times.

Children's activities with musical instruments begin under the expert guidance of Tess, our musical co-ordinator. The people keep arriving; residents from the local nursing home are brought across to a veranda overlooking the area. Much conversation, as residents catch up with each other and the year that's passed.

The sausages keep sizzling.

And as the evening turns into twilight, a siren sounds, getting closer, closer... Yes, ... it's a rather large bearded gentleman, dressed in red, on a fire truck, carrying a large bag. The children come from everywhere. They swamp the gentleman in red as he hands out goodies. Much laughter and joy.

As twilight metamorphoses into night, displays of sparkling lights appear, as candles are ignited, and the local choristers are joined by the crowd in traditional carols. The crowd has now grown to about 700, and carolling continues until around 9.30 pm.

The happy crowd quietly disperses after an inspiring community night, to prepare for the hectic activities that will occur the next day.

The band of volunteers clean up. The CFA, diligent to the end, try a final



taste test of the sausages, just to ensure that the quality is still there. All is quiet. 'Tis (now) the night before Christmas, and all thro' the Park

Not a creature is stirring, not even a mouse ...

All of Upper Beaconsfield can be very proud that it can still host an event that is a reflection of the community spirit and goodwill Christmas should be all about.

NOEL LING

Wildlife Watch

During my short visit to Brisbane in December it was 40 degrees with humidity at 87 per cent. Not my kind of weather and I boasted about, and looked forward to Upper Beaconsfield's changeable climate and what happened? Brisbane followed me home!

A very disappointing wildflower search here during summer. Certainly hyacinth orchids have flowered fairly well but most were stunted. Recent walks in my patch of bush have been through very dry grasses. Of course the battle with vigorous weeds continues.

Bush litter levels after 32 years are very high and could feed a devastating bushfire. Be alert and report any suspicious behaviour from possible firebugs.

A prickly geebung has been struggling to survive a tree falling on it, people walking on it during fire wood collection as well as the drought. Only one of the 8 seedlings that came up a couple of years ago has been tough enough to survive the same experiences.

Once again it is time to de-head the agapanthus, prolifically planted after Ash Wednesday when they were pronounced



fire proof. This meant that they would re-grow not that they would stop a fire. If seed heads are not removed they spread like wild-fire.

The one new moth this season was identified from the only photo I was able to get. It landed on a window between it and a shutter from where I couldn't collect it so have only an underside photo. Nevertheless two expert contacts managed to identify it as *Hypodoxa muscosaria*.

Since late in January the echidna has been ambling past the lounge room windows intent on finding ant nests, a drink of water and a bathe in the frog pool.

Laura Levens

Giant pine scale infestation

News recently broke that infestations of giant pine scale have been found for the first time in south eastern Melbourne. 50 infested pine trees were located in Mt Waverley and much closer to home, 480 pine trees in Harkaway. This exotic insect pest lives on the sap of pine, fir and spruce trees and can kill them. The scale is covered by white, waxy, cotton-like secretions.

An urgent eradication program is underway to help protect Australia's softwood plantation industry and to help maintain the health and safety of host trees. Tree experts will visit Harkaway and parts of Berwick, Narre Warren, Hallam, Endeavour Hills, Lysterfield, Belgrave, Emerald, Dewhurst, Upper Beaconsfield and Beaconsfield over the next two months. Residents can help by reporting any white and waxy secretions they see on conifer trees to the Exotic Plant Pest Hotline 1800 084 881. Alternatively, residents can email photos of the suspected pest, with their contact details and location to

plant.protection@ecodev.vic.gov.au
Detailed information
www.vic.gov.au/giantpinescale



Threat to bees

On a double edged sword—trees infested with giant pine scale will be inoculated with insecticides “suitable for use in urban areas”, but beekeepers are worried about the effect on bee populations. *Imidacloprid* is a potent chemical which has been associated with the rapid decline in bee colonies in the northern hemisphere and is banned by the European Union. Beekeepers are fearful because bees will forage on resin secreted by trees, as well as a sweet substance secreted by the scale called honeydew.

Upper Beaconsfield Certified Organic Apiaries is a family-run business selling organic eucalyptus honey and 100% pure beeswax candles. The business also provides a fee based live bee swarm removal service and fruit pollination around the metropolitan

area. Alf, who is based in Berglund Road, says that at the moment his bees have plenty of flowering gums to feed on. But for winter, when plant pollen is in short supply he will be taking his bee hives out of the area, to make sure his bees do not ingest any poison from any treated pine trees. He said there are hobby bee keepers that may be affected if scale infected trees are treated nearby.

HELEN SMITH



An Environmental Focus for La Trobe

Welcome back to 2015 – I hope everyone had a great break over the holiday period and got to spend some time with their friends and family.

There has been some great news developing in La Trobe – particularly on the environmental front. Up to \$5 million has been approved for 291 projects across Australia from the 25th Anniversary Landcare Grants 2014-2015, of which \$2.5 million is directed towards projects with an environmental focus and \$2.5 million to projects with an agricultural focus.

Locally what this translates to is the Cardinia Creek Neighbourhood Restoration Project being funded through Cardinia Catchment Landcare Inc. with \$20 000. This project will individually assist 20 landowners along Cardinia Creek to restore and rehabilitate their natural environment. Individual property management plans will be developed by Cardinia Catchment Landcare Inc. to guide weed removal and follow-up revegetation works.

We also have the great news of the 20 Million Trees Programme. Round one of the 20 Million Trees Programme small grants component were open towards the end of 2014, under which grants of between \$20 000 and \$100 000 were made available to individuals or organisations and community groups such as schools, landholders and conservation groups to establish native tree plantings in environments

across Australia. These projects can occur on both public and private land where there will be a community and environmental benefit. Locally from round one, we have had the Habitat Restoration for Helmeted Honeyeater & Leadbeaters Possum Project approved, which has resulted in \$99 057 of funding to plant 30 387 trees over three years which has the dual effect of benefitting our local environment, and conserving our local fauna.

If you or a community organisation you know of would like to get involved in local environmental conservation and preservation efforts there is still an opportunity to do so besides further rounds of both the 25th Anniversary Landcare Grants and the 20 Million Trees Programme. The soonest opportunity is the Dandenong Ranges Environmental and Bushfire Reduction

Community Grants Programme which was an election commitment of mine. I'm proud to say that applications will be opening soon. The aim of these grants is to improve the environmental health and reduce bushfire risk in our local region, and the program is specifically seeking to support projects that can show that these two aims are complementary. This means that applications should demonstrate the improving of native vegetation and habitat for native species (through weed management) while reducing (or at least not increasing) bushfire risk. Please contact my office to learn more about the application process – I strongly encourage everyone to get involved if they can.

JASON WOOD



Anzac Centenary events

**Official opening of Anzac Walk at Emerald
by Governor General Sir Peter Cosgrove
Wednesday 11 March at 11.30 am**

Anzac Walk creates a new footpath along Memorial Avenue, and also incorporates the existing footpath along Main Road between Church Street and Kilvington Drive. Information stands along the walk will display information about 32 soldiers from Emerald (incl. Dewhurst) and surrounding districts who died during World War I.

Emerald RSL

**Official opening of the
Beaconsfield Avenue of Honour Plaques**

Friday 13 March at 10 am

**in Beaconsfield Park cnr Beaconsfield
Emerald Road & Old Princes Hwy**

All welcome to attend

The Beaconsfield Progress Association Inc

Community service adverts

WANTED —donation of a slow combustion cooking stove for disabled person. I can remove without damage to your kitchen. Eric 5943 2267

FREE to good home. Lounge suite in good condition. Can be separated into 5 sections. Graham 5944 3554

Welcome back to the Community Centre



Term 1 2015 program

We hope that you received a copy of our term 1 program in your mail box earlier in the year. If you did not, please note that you can always find a copy of the latest program on our website www.ubcc.org.au or you can collect a copy from our local traders, local library or from the Community Centre itself.

As our programs are posted as 'Unaddressed mail' we cannot guarantee that they will be delivered to every mail box. If you live outside the Upper Beaconsfield postal area and would like to ensure that you receive a program, please contact our office to put your name on our mailing list and you will receive the program as addressed mail.

Please check the program, as we are still taking enrolments for some courses in term 1. As long as there are available places, we will continue to take enrolments for the new Certificate III Early Childhood Education and Care (CHC30113), the Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care (CHC50113), and Certificate III in Education Support (CHC30213). In term 2, accredited courses in the dual qualification of Certificate III in Aged

Care (CHC30212) and Certificate III in Home and Community Care (CHC30312), plus Certificate IV in Training and Assessment (TAE40110) will also commence. For something completely different, courses in Interior Design and in Bee Keeping will also be offered during the year.

SALLY RANDALL

Early Learning Centre



We hope all families had a wonderful and safe holiday break. Our Early Learning Centre has now opened for 2015 and we are ready to accept enrolments. If you would like to come and tour the centre, please feel free any time.

The Early Learning Centre is open from 7.30 am–6.30 pm.

We are a small centre, which holds no more than 26 children, so your children will be sure to get the best interactive care. We are only 7 minutes from Berwick and Officer.

The children are enjoying playing in the outdoors, with this lovely summer

weather. Our vegetable garden has taken off with growth over the Christmas break, so the children are really enjoying seeing the changes and sampling the food.

We have vacancies in both of our rooms from 0–5 years, so if you would like to enquire please contact either the Office or the Early Learning Centre on 5944 3484.

NATASHA JONES, DIRECTOR,
UPPER BEACONSFIELD COMMUNITY
EARLY LEARNING CENTRE



Room for new toys

The Upper Beaconsfield Toy Library did an early stocktake at the end of last year and it was soon clear that we were in need of some bright, new toys and that we had many very much-loved toys that could find a new place to be used once again.

Most toys were to be sold at the Village Festival to early buyers after a bargain, but as the word of a toy sale went out, we soon had local groups and the community interested in getting some great toys for a great price!

We ended up selling most of the toys with some being donated as well. More toys are to be reviewed which means additional sale toys will be available at the library. Come in and check them out!

We now have plenty of room to restock and are currently looking at

purchasing new toys for the library, especially large ride-on vehicles, active in and outdoor items, baby toys and other popular playsets, and possibly a new bouncy castle. It's like Christmas shopping all over again!



Come and see what we've got

The library has re-opened for 2015 and the Tuesday and Saturday times are proving a hit amongst family members. We welcome families new to the area to drop in and see our great range of toys for children under 6 years. Or go online!

Annual membership is an affordable \$40 which includes the Community Centre membership fee. Borrow up to 5 toys at once and forget about where to store those large toys or pay for toys that are not used and left on the shelf.

Members are welcome to join the toy library committee at any time.

Toy donations

Toy library accepts donations of good quality toys, DVDs, puzzles & games suitable for children under the age of 6 years, just like this fire engine. Sorry no plush toys thanks (hand puppets accepted).



Toy Library contact information and hours:

Located at the Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre, 10–12 Salisbury Road, phone 5944 3484

Open Saturday 9.30–10.30 am and Tuesday 4–5 pm (during school term)

Website: ubtl.mibase.com.au Email: upperbeac.toylibrary@yahoo.com.au

Men's Shedders into healthier eating



Members of the Upper Beaconsfield Men's Shed are now sporting the name and logo of the Men's Shed on new polo shirts, 'train driver' style caps and for BBQs and sausage sizzles, uniform aprons.

The Men's Shed movement provides strong links with other Men's Sheds and membership of a cluster of sheds in the West Gippsland area. The cluster attracted some funding for a program to promote healthier eating for men. The first activity of this program was to engage an experienced cook, Megan White, to conduct a cooking session with the members on 11 February. Meg organised the 22 men in preparing vegetables and herbs for a ratatouille salad and parcelled fish to cook on the BBQ. The whole activity was colourful, entertaining and tasty. Meg was most informative, helpful and patient! See photographs on page 2.

The Men's Shed was involved in the Carols by Candlelight and preparations for the Village Festival. Work continues to provide a seat for the Garden Group and further seats around the village in conjunction with the UBA and Council.

We are responding to requests from the Kinder (to construct 'walkers'), the Tennis Club (containers for wheelie-bins) and other community and individual requests.

Planning continues for the construction of a workshop. Some preparation for the site has begun (weed clearing), and contractors will be engaged to compact the site, lay the concrete slab and erect the shed. Men's Shed members have completed their training for "White Cards" and can now be involved in assisting with the work on the workshop.

Sausage sizzle fund-raisers took place at Bunnings (Pakenham) and Masters in February.

The Shed is open on Tuesdays and Wednesdays 9 am–12 noon and the members meet on Wednesdays from 10 am–12 noon. For further information, contact Matt McDonald (0407 845 135) or Noel Ling (0414 443 735)

MATT McDONALD, PRESIDENT

Phil Jones, local identity

Seeing Phil Jones buzz around Upper Beaconsfield in his electric wheelchair, few would know of the breadth of his experience and range of interests. Despite a limited education Phil has been carpenter and joiner, an ambulance officer, a London bus driver, prison warden and boat builder. He was a passionate motorcycle rider and maker of fine furniture, and continues to be a maker of things. Phil is in a small class of people who have been married three times – twice to the same person.

Phil was born in Croydon, England, in 1933. His schooling was not a great success, in that he was expelled from his first school for performing a prank in the school yard with a demonstration bomb, and from the next school for daring to ring the bell that sounded gas attacks during World War II. All his subsequent learning took place at the Science Museum.

At thirteen Phil began work at a friend's second hand building materials business, moving on to an apprenticeship as a maintenance carpenter and joiner in a gas works. He continued this apprenticeship with the army in Somerset for another year. He decided to join the Surrey Ambulance Service. He married Pamela, a nurse, and had two children, Chris and

Shirley. The family moved to Australia in the early 1960s.

After some months in the Lake Torrens migrant camp, they bought a home in Elizabeth and Phil worked with General Motors Holden while Pam worked at the hospital. Their next move was to the Latrobe Valley where Phil returned to his work as an ambulance officer. Pam left and returned to England. Phil returned to England and met his second wife, Jill, and worked again with the ambulance service, then as a bus driver in London and for several years as a prison officer at Brixton prison.

Some years later Phil and Jill returned to Australia. Phil worked on the railways on the Nullarbor Plain, then as a boat builder in Geraldton. But Jill was not happy and returned to England. Phil followed her back but reunion was not possible. Later, he met up again with his first wife, Pam, and they remarried. They returned to Australia, to Berwick. Phil worked at a West Gippsland timber mill, joined the Berwick Woodworkers and further developed his hobbies as woodworker



and cabinetmaker. He eventually moved to Upper Beaconsfield.

Phil got his motor cycle licence on his 16th birthday and his car licence on his 18th. He had a life-long interest in motorcycles. It was while riding his BMW single cylinder up the Mt Baw Baw road that Phil blacked out, regaining

consciousness as he was airlifted by helicopter to hospital. Phil lost his leg as a result of the fall.

Phil Jones attended mosaic classes at the Community Centre, and developed an interest in stained glass. More recently he has been turning pens out of specialist woods and other materials. His pens are on sale at the Upper Beaconsfield Post Office.

Phil is a foundation member of the Upper Beaconsfield Men's Shed. He can be seen in his wheelchair sporting a recognisable tennis cap in summer and fetching warm cap in winter. He has lived in Upper Beaconsfield for thirteen years and continues to live independently in his own home in St Georges Road.

MATT McDONALD

The Captain's Log

The holidays are over, schools are back and we are back to business as usual.

The summer so far has been relatively mild with a couple of hot spells which have finished drying off the grass, but sporadic heavy rains since November has encouraged new growth to shoot beneath, so in many parts of the brigade area we can still see some green.

Don't let the damp and mild conditions give you a false sense of security. We still have plenty of summer to go, and historically February is when Victoria has the worst fires, which can burn well into March so we are not clear yet.

The brigade had only had 5 call outs over the last two months, 2 of them were support for neighbouring brigades and of the other 3, one was a gas leak and two were reports of smoke sightings.

As the 150 CFA volunteers return home this week after assisting Western Australia fight their fires remember that it could be Upper Beaconsfield needing help. Remember those 12 fire fighters who came to our aid in the

On Sunday 18 Jan 2015, 14 fire fighters from our brigade joined in with a training exercise at the Cardinia Reservoir that was run by the Emerald Fire Brigade. It was a fabulously run exercise with many hours of planning gone into it. Our members have all gained valuable experience and local knowledge (who knew there is an airstrip on the north side of the dam!) Thanks Emerald Fire Brigade.

Ash Wednesday fires and never went home? We remembered them on 16 February at 8 am at the Ash Wednesday Memorial in Critchley Parker Junior Reserve. On 7 February we also remembered those who lost their lives in the Victorian "Black Saturday" fires of 2009.

In other news, the brigade Auxiliary has changed their meeting date to 2 pm on the last Wednesday of every odd month (January, March, May, July, September, and November). They are also on the lookout for new members, so if you have a bit of spare time and would be interested in supporting the brigade through the auxiliary then just turn up to the station for one of their meetings.

Stay on top of your fire preparations, keep your plan in mind and be alert to any fire risk. Keep informed by going to the CFA website www.cfa.vic.gov.au, or CFA facebook page on www.facebook.com/cfavvic.

CAPTAIN BARRIE GRAY



Red Cross over summer



Summer has been a time to make sure all families had plans in place for emergency evacuation from fire if necessary. Australian Red Cross has teams of emergency personnel trained to assist where needed. The Berwick/Upper Beaconsfield Red Cross Branch has a number of our younger active members trained and ready to assist, particularly in our local areas.

The branch is always looking for new members and meetings are held on the second Friday of each month (except January) at 10 am in the Berwick RSL, Langmore Lane. Enquiries are always welcome.

Funds raised by the branch members are sent to Red Cross headquarters and used to support work within Australia and also overseas projects.

Thank you to all who bought Red Cross Christmas cards and other Christmas merchandise, with a special thank you to the committee and volunteer staff of the Berwick Mechanics Library for once again allowing Red Cross to have the library as an outlet for sales. In excess of \$3 000 of Christmas merchandise was sold via the branch.

BARBARA JACKSON, 5944 3554
BERWICK/UB RED CROSS BRANCH



Cardinia Shire Australia Day Community Service Award

Penny Harris Jennings has been awarded the Cardinia Shire Australia Day Community Service Award for 2015.

The Beaconsfield Progress Association received a Victorian Government "Restoring War Memorials Grant" for the Beaconsfield Avenue of Honour. New bronze plaques were made listing the individual soldiers. Penny's task was to research the 65 soldiers for a booklet to accompany the unveiling of the new plaques located on the corner of Princes Hwy and Beaconsfield Emerald Road.

Penny said it was easy to copy someone's

service record, however, in her opinion the true value of this project was to recognise that these 65 individuals were real men, with a real connection to the Beaconsfield community as well as being soldiers.

She was subsequently contacted by Gary Elliott from the Pakenham RSL. This led to her researching many families for the return of lost medals. Penny said it was an honour and a privilege to have met so many local families who have shared their life stories with her.

Penny's passion in genealogy and family

studies began as a very young person. She was drawn in particular to the friendship of her grandfather Claud Harris who lived at Upper Beaconsfield and his friend Cuthbert Urwin whom he worked with at William Angliss. They enlisted together for WW1, which took them to the battlefield in France and resulted in the death of Cuthbert. While this is the 100 year commemoration of WW1 her interest began long ago.

Penny researched the history of her grandfather Claud Harris' family and then subsequently researched and wrote the story of Claud and his friend Cuthbert.

**INFORMATION BY BEACONSFIELD
PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC
AND PENNY HARRIS JENNINGS**

Claud Alfred Harris



Claud Alfred Harris was the fifth child of Solomon and Rosetta Harris, born above a store in Edgevale Road, Kew, on 5 October 1888. The family moved to "Bangles", Rix Road, Officer in the late 1890's. Claud attended Officer Primary School and then Canterbury Grammar. On leaving school Claud did his 4 year Motor Mechanical apprenticeship with Federal Motors Melbourne, he was then employed as a mechanic with William Angliss, he also chauffeured after hours

for William Urwin part owner of William Angliss. Claud had a good singing voice, and was quite a good footballer, playing for Berwick. When World War One broke out Claud enlisted with the AIF and served in the 10th Field Ambulance in France. After the war he remained in England until he received his discharge in 1920. Upon his return home he set up a carrying business in Upper Beaconsfield and by 1922 he had a thriving business using his horse and dray to take export apples to Beaconsfield railway station.

In 1924 Claud married Ellen "Nell" Glismann, they had four children, Cuthbert Claud "Kaine" in 1929, Francis "Roy"

in 1931, then Ellen "Lorraine" and Valerie. By 1930 Claud was also an orchardist, and owned Crown Allotment 4B of Section E in the parish of Gembrook of 79 acres, and three other smaller properties. He purchased a truck in the early 1930s which he also used as a people mover when necessary. Later the truck was involved in road building for the Country Roads Board.

Claud was a strong willed man, with a short temper. He served the Shire of Berwick as a councillor and Shire President in the 1950s. When David Norman McBride retired from the Pakenham Shire Council, Claud Harris took over and stayed until he was defeated by John Richardson at an election. He was a very active member of the RSL in Berwick, and late of Upper Beaconsfield Branch. He was a life member of the Akoonah Park Reserve committee and a life member of the Berwick and District Agricultural and Horticultural Society. Kaine and Roy attended Upper Beaconsfield State School, then Kaine attended Dookie Agricultural College and Roy attended Melbourne Grammar. They both played cricket for Upper Beaconsfield. Roy joined his brother Kaine in the transport business in 1954. The business was then known as Harris Bros Transport. They had the mail contract delivering to roadside stops between Upper Beaconsfield and Emerald and also to Dewhurst. Kaine and Roy worked together until the business was sold in 1973. Kaine moved to Berwick.



Start of the 2015 school year

The start of each school year is always an exciting time. A new grade, new friends and sometimes a new teacher, re-ignites the passion that children have for learning. Starting the year with the whole school unit Bouncing Back into BUPS, each class has focused on building excellent relationships with others in their class and across the school. Setting short term goals and long term goals is an exercise that has become the norm for the children at BUPS.

One of the early incursions thus far has been the Maths Road Show, an interactive hands-on learning through problem solving, emphasising the value of working as a team and the importance of respecting each learner's contribution.

This year, one of the goals of the student leadership group is to establish greater connections with the Cardinia and Casey schools. Our school captains commenced a partnership with Berwick Lodge Primary last year

and this year, we will extend that program to include our other school leaders, including our ICT and environment leaders.



Upper Beaconsfield Education Group

Congratulations to all the organisations of UBEG on their efforts to link the education services that provide such a good start to the young residents of Upper Beaconsfield and the surrounding areas. See article by Sarah Sankey on page 17.



Congratulations to the following students on being elected to the various student leadership teams:

School captains

Jacinta Naismith and Patrick Gerdan,

Vice captains

Catherine Sankey and Jesse Justice

House captains

- Cardinia – Madison Booth and Luke Purches, vice captains Olivia Hill and Mitch Parkinson
- Dewhurst – Jessie Trembath and Ben Scarborough, vice captains Sienna Clash and Lachie Stott

- Emerald – Ciara Johnson and Anthony Byrne, vice captains Kate Walker and Nick Pastras
- Guys Hill – Stacey Langeveld and Lachie Auhl, vice captains Natalie MacDonald and Cooper Dunn

Environment captains

Captains – Bryce Haselden and Grace Stewart, vice captains Teia Hill, Will Vance, Josh Wereszczuk

Junior School Councillors

Lacey Ewenson, Leisha Allen, Elise Steches, Sadie Rutherford, Jamie Gemmell, Hunter Franks, Emily Briscoe, Sam Van Noordennen, Liam Wadelton, Madi Booth, Luke Purches and Jessie Trembath.

Early Years Evaluation

As a way of gathering the best information about our new Prep (Foundation) students, we are working in partnership with Canadian educational consultants, see www.earlyyareevaluation.com. The Early Years Evaluation program has been used by educators around the world to assess a child's readiness for reading, and to provide both teachers and parents with empirical evidence about a child's preparedness for reading. Learning to read is a critical challenge in the early years of primary school. Children must learn to read before they can read to learn.

The program will involve testing the children who will be enrolled to start at BUPs the following year, in September/October of the current year. Appointments will be made for the child to undertake the EYE test with one of our staff members. The second test will be administered whilst the child is in Preps, in March. Some children may be re-tested in November of the Prep year to assess the level of growth being made. Parents will be kept informed of the test results.

Human Powered Vehicles

The HPV program continues this year following its outstanding success at the RACV Challenge in Maryborough last November, with one of our teams winning the Endurance (24 hour) event, including track, design and construction. Our second team won the display and presentation category. This year, we will be fielding two carts in the primary schools section and one cart in the community section. The necessary preparations have been made and the teams are getting ready for the first event on the racing calendar in Wonthaggi, on 20 March. We are very grateful for the efforts of our parents and a very passionate teacher Mrs McGill, who is coordinating the program.

School tours

Come and see a great school at work. School tours are conducted on Tuesdays at 9.30 am. Please contact the school on 5944 3591 for an appointment.

NICK KARANZOULIS, PRINCIPAL

Education Services in UB publication launch



This booklet was launched at the Village Festival. It contains artwork by the children from each of the education services in Upper Beaconsfield including the Maternal and Child Health service, UBCC Early Learning Centre, Toy Library, Play Group, Kindergartens and the Primary School.

Professionals from each of these services attended a workshop run by Kids' Own Publishing in October last year. We learnt how to facilitate the artwork with the children and also how to compile and collate the booklet. The purpose was to provide an opportunity for staff members from each service

to network and learn from each other. Staff and children also collaborated on a project to promote awareness of the education services available in Upper Beaconsfield.

It was an initiative arising from the UBEG—Upper Beaconsfield Education Group—and Cardinia Shire Council. Thank you to the numerous people (far too many to mention here) of all ages who contributed to this publication. Copies are free and may be obtained from the UBCC, Kindergartens, Primary School and the General Store.

SARAH SANKEY, UBEG

Kindergarten

Our kindergarten and pre-kinder programs are well under way, with all the kids enjoying exploring the fantastic playgrounds and all the new activities that they can experience. There are some new faces amongst the staff with Deborah joining Therese, Natalie, Denise and Robyn at the kinder and Jacki (replacing Briony) joining Alison at Pre-kinder. It was great to see so many of our kinder friends and families at the Village Festival, enjoying all the fun and activities. The children had the chance to show off their collages, made during their kinder sessions. Each coloured collage represents the kinder group that they belong to.

DANIELLE KRUGER



Maroons mark 30 years since rising from the ashes



A large group supporters and former players collected on 31 January 2105 to recognise continued success and individual achievements since 1984 when the Upper Beaconsfield Cricket Club was reformed. The celebrations were warm and joyous and were highlighted by a dinner at the Cardinia Beaconhills Golf Club, marking the rise from the ashes after Ash Wednesday when the current oval was re-constructed.

Since 1984 the Maroons have gathered 13 senior premierships and 4 junior pennants as hundreds of players have battled opponents and notched up a variety of wonderful achievements.

The majority of the 1984/85 premiership team reunited to join the festivities. Despite the current renovations at the golf club a marquee was set up. The gathering was regaled by hilarious recounts of cricket tales spun by Brian Ford, Michael Bragge, Ken Murphy and Grant Andrewartha.

UBCC enjoyed a magnificent birthday cake to mark the 30 years and Rob Hansen as well as Grant Andrewartha presented two framed items of memorabilia to be added to the club's historical collection.

Earlier in the afternoon Councillors Brett Owen and Tania Baxter completed a ceremony cutting a ribbon tied in front of the new updates on the UBCC honour boards. This occurred to mark the re-enactment of the first match between Upper Beaconsfield and Merinda Park Cricket Club (who also began their WGA journey in that year). A specially prepared afternoon tea was enjoyed by guests and both participating teams.

Hopefully Upper Beaconsfield Cricket Club will enjoy many more years of success over the ensuing decades.



ROB HANSEN



Scout group recent activities

The scouts had an awesome last term in 2014 with many fun activities and nights for all to enjoy. Congratulations to Holly Latter, a former Upper Beaconsfield Queen's Scout recipient, who received the Junior Citizen of the Year award for Cardinia Shire. The whole Upper Beaconsfield Scout Group helped out at the recent Village Festival Fun Run, so thank you for all those involved.

Rovers

The Rovers were very busy with a trade up night, a trip to the shooting range and even a progressive dinner night. They had some fun with Nerf guns and Scott had a surprise for them all to enjoy with a night that was labelled as 'Scott's Surprise Night'. They did a bit of geocaching and made sand sculptures. They learnt some self-defence

and ended with an entertaining pub night.



Venturers

The Venturers held a selection of nights for fun and entertainment. They had a cooking night and even a Halloween special with a murder mystery night that ended in some very dramatic 'deaths'. They enjoyed a movie night and a performing arts night. They invited some scouts along to a shooting night.

Scouts

The scouts got out and about with amazing nights like a games night with a trust theme and a Casey ARC fun night. Master Patrol Challenge was where other troops in the district competed in the ultimate cooking challenge. They had a chance to learn how to paddle in a canoe with a weekend of a level 1 canoeing course and then went to Officer for a water activities and wide game night that was a great success and contained many happy and wet kids. For their last night the scouts had a carnival night in which they slid down a slope on ice blocks and went around on billy carts while other scouts threw water balloons. It was a fun night for everyone who was involved.

Cubs

The cubs had a range of different nights providing fun for everyone, even the leaders. They had a safety night and a fitness night that allowed for some energy burning and increased fitness activities. They conducted an Australian symbols night and a kite flying demonstration and kite making night. More than just our normal cubs were involved when they held a ‘bring a friend’ night, which allowed more kids to experience the fantastic activity that is cub scouts. For an added bonus the ‘bring a friend’ night had some funky science activities going and they gained more knowledge with a rope night.

To join or for more information call the Group Leader Warren Makings on 0437 023 086

SHIRVAUN McGRATH (VENTURER)



Local driver Jack Le Brocq finishes P5 with Erebus Motorsport in a safety car plagued Bathurst 12 Hour

22 year old Upper Beaconsfield resident Jack Le Brocq competed with teammates Richard Muscat and Dean Canto in the Bathurst 12 Hour race with Erebus Motorsport.

After 12 hours of racing at the iconic Mount Panorama, including 20 safety car periods, the #36 Mercedes SLS AMG GT3 finished the action-packed race 5th outright in the Pro-Am class from a field of 50 International GT Teams and were the first Aussie team across the line.

Having led the field for his first 2 hour stint in the middle of the day and after an eighth and final pit stop, the #36 entry re-joined the field in 5th position with Jack at the wheel for the final 2 hour race to the finish line. With a final green flag out on the penultimate lap, Le Brocq fought hard for the last two laps to pass back markers and rein in the leaders, unfortunately running out of time and finishing the epic race in a satisfying fifth position.

Jack Le Brocq comments: “We had a really good run during the middle of the day, with good speed, and running in first, and we were looking quite good at that stage. Then a few things happened during the day which hurt us a little bit but that’s what happens in motorsport.”

“During the last stint of the race we got stuck behind a car which was unfortunate. And then on the second last restart at the end I was hit from

behind which cost us a position at that stage, putting us into fifth. There were also issues with back markers on those last two restarts between the leaders and myself.”

“There is a great deal that we can take away from this weekend to improve for next year and as always the Erebus GT Team did a great job. Last year I drove with Will Davison and Greg Crick and we finished 3rd so we’re determined to be back next year and give it another crack to get on the top step of the podium.”

jacklebrocq.com • www.facebook.com/JackLeBrocq.com.au • twitter.com/JackLeBrocq



Summer at the Pony Club

Our December rally was very well attended with horses and ponies polished and riders dressed in full competition uniform. It was a sight for sore eyes on the oval so a big thanks to all those involved in making it happen. The day ran like clockwork and the ribbons and garlands presented were well deserved. Congratulations to Tiffany Mahoney (right) who won the Ice King Memorial Trophy on Maverick and represented Upper Beaconsfield Pony Club at the Berwick Agricultural Show on 22 February. Our fancy dress parade sponsored by Total Tree Contracting also attracted many competitors with some great prizes to be won; it has become an annual event and there were some unique and wonderful ideas making the task of judging difficult. Jennifer Brodie and Grant Andrewartha (local residents) selected the winners so congratulations to Tansy and Crash (Minnie Mouse), Lachlan and Sarah (Chefs) and Millie and Hammer (Bob the Builder and Scoop).

January was quiet with lots of families taking holidays and no rally. In

February we had a twilight rally and our Show Jumping Series started on 28 February, continuing on 14 and 29 March. We welcome riders to challenge themselves and enter the pony club events. Finally, be sure to come down to Pakenham Bunnings on 4 April and buy a sausage in support of our club.

The Department of Justice have continued to support UBPC with their voluntary labour on a regular basis making our grounds a pleasure to visit so a big thanks to the work team and their supervisors.

We are holding our AGM in April and welcome any new faces to be part of our committee (no horse knowledge required). If



you are interested in joining our club please check the website www.upperbeaconsfield.ponyclubvic.org.au for details or give one of our committee members a call.

SHARON McDONALD



Riding Club life membership for Sue

Sue Andrewartha has been a member of Upper Beaconsfield Riding Club for 21 years since 1994. After joining the club Sue wasted no time and was elected to the committee in

1995. Her first role was to distribute the newsletter. Sue has held office as president for three years and treasurer for eight years. Vice President also fits in there somewhere as well as new members, rally bookings, special events, pony club liaison and grant applications. Sue was also Rec Reserve representative for four years. Sue has only just resigned from the committee at our 2014 AGM so that makes 20 years service — a fantastic effort.

Sue loves money! As treasurer she kept a close eye on our funds making

sure we spent wisely, stashed some away for future purchases and budgeted for our rallies and dressage days. Her successful grant



applications included the bottom arena, rubber for the middle arena, the water tank and horse wash, the original yards and the lining of our clubrooms.

Whilst many of our more recent members would not be aware of Sue's past contributions, many would remember how welcoming Sue has been to new members of our club. Sue often made our Christmas rallies fun dressing as Santa and having special gifts for all attendees! She also organised joint clinics and working bees with pony club. This was a great



continued next page

initiative for the two clubs to get to know each other. Sue has worked hard for all our dressage days both beforehand and on the day taking care of scoring and of course bringing along some much needed assistance, thanks to Jesse and James.

We must not forget why we have a club. The love of horses is what brings us all together. Sue has also flown the green and purple flag with several horses: Beau, Lucy, Wally and the beautiful Sully. Sue and Sully competed successfully through from Level 5 to Level 1 in dressage. They also made a formidable showing partnership. They represented UBRC at many TTT events. We hope to have Sue out and about with her most recent partner Montana.

Sue's personal qualities do not go unnoticed. She is kind, encouraging, and positive and has amazing problem solving skills. Sue's friendly, inclusive and her "can do" attitude has helped make our club the fantastic club it is today. Sue has been both a great friend and super mentor for many past and present club members and I'm sure this will continue into the future. Sue is the ultimate club person and as such is a worthy recipient of Life Membership of Upper Beaconsfield Riding Club, awarded 1 February 2015.

ALLISON QUAGLIANI

A serve from the Tennis Club

Club Championships



The 2014 Club Championship finals were held at the Christmas party on Saturday 6 December with some great tennis played on the night. Congratulations to all the winners and runners up. When you see any of these players be sure to congratulate them on their efforts.

2014 Club Champions results:

- Men's Singles:
Sam H. defeated Nathan A.
- Ladies Singles:
Leanne R. defeated Sarah S.
- Boys Singles:
Nathan A. defeated Stephen B.
- Girls Singles:
Kyla J. defeated Sam M.
- Men's Doubles:
Sam H. and Kieron O. defeated Matt H. and Jonathan C.
- Ladies Doubles: Sarah A. and Kyla J. defeated Caitlin B. and Tess B.
- Juniors B Grade:
Justin B. defeated Jessie W.
- Juniors C Grade:
Jordan R. defeated Caitlyn M.

best. There is a variety of jobs that need to be completed so no matter your skill set you will be able to help out!

Australia Day tournament

On Sunday 25 January the Club held its 2nd Annual Australia Day Mixed Round Robin Tournament. The day was enjoyed by all with the kids being kept entertained by a jumping castle and mini tennis while the parents participated in the round robin. Thanks to everyone who attended and made the day a fun and enjoyable one. Congratulations to Danielle and Jason who were the winners on the day, we hope to see you again next year to defend your title.

Juniors and seniors

Finals time is fast approaching for both our junior and senior weekend competitions. Good luck to all of those players involved in the finals, and hopefully we will see a few more premiership flags hanging in the clubhouse shortly.

Interested in playing tennis?

If you would like to know more about the Upper Beaconsfield Tennis Club and how you can get involved in the great game of tennis simply email us.

MATT HUTCHINSON

upperbeaconsfieldtc@gmail.com
www.tennis.com.au/upperbeaconsfield
[facebook.com/upperbeaconsfieldtennisclub](https://www.facebook.com/upperbeaconsfieldtennisclub)

Working bee

The next working bee is being held on the Sunday 8 March from 10 am, with a FREE BBQ lunch from 12 pm so be sure you come down and lend a hand to help keep the Club looking at its

85 Stoney Creek Road, Upper Beaconsfield
Ph. 5945 9210



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Renovations at the clubhouse

The past few months have been very busy for the golf club. The clubhouse has undergone major renovation with a fresh décor update in the main clubhouse functions and bar area. We have carefully utilised capital improvement funds with changes to the clubhouse's ceilings, carpets, new paint on walls, new heating/cooling, new LED lighting and other works to freshen up the look of the main clubhouse. I urge all local residents to come up to the clubhouse for a cold drink and snacks and enjoy the new bar/lounge seating.

Sunday sessions started from 14 February and it is open for everyone. There are special deals on beers, ciders and live music in the outdoor verandah

The 2014 Foursomes Champions

- Ryan Hocking and Adrian Wheat (Gross men)
- George Kikas and Ivan Dames (Nett men)
- Jann Wilson and Bronwyn Hampson (Women)
- Andy Conn and Laura Griffin (Mixed)

Holes in one!

- Brian Meneilly, 6th hole, 15/11/14
- Ted Fleming, 6th hole, 18/11/14
- Warren Sutton, 15th hole, 30/11/14
- Trevor Baiocco, 15th hole, 18/12/14
- Adrian Dearden, 13th hole, 2/1/15



area for all to enjoy. While you're there, take advantage of our 27 holes layout and come up for a game of 9 holes golf or 9 holes Footgolf before/after the session. Our new game of Footgolf is being received well. If you are a fan of soccer, please do not hesitate to try this new sport playing soccer on the golf course.

Welcome to new board directors Ann Felgate and David Moseley, elected at our AGM last November. We also welcome new club captain, Les Richards and new women's captain Ros Harding and new women's president Heather Hamilton.

Winners are grinners

Cardinia Beaconhills Golf Links team 2 (pictured below) was the winner of the PDGA Midweek Cup (district event) and as both finalists were teams from our club, we had no losers on the day and both teams had a great match.

Ivan Furyk was rewarded for his consistent play during Monthly Medals in 2014, taking home the coveted 2014 Captain's Trophy.

Brian and Bronwyn Meneilly (right) won our popular *He Hits It She Hits It* held in November 2014. We encourage new golfers wanting to give this game a try to play in this event. We partner you up with a club golfer and this fun format is a hit with many golfers. The next event is on 15 March 2015. Please

Cardinia Beaconhills
GOLF LINKS



call our pro shop to book.

Bev Eckhardt (above) won the statewide Mona McLeod Brooch Silver division in 2014. Congrats Bev!

Thank you to those who supported our annual Grog Barrow Raffle. The winner in 2014 was Doug Taylor.



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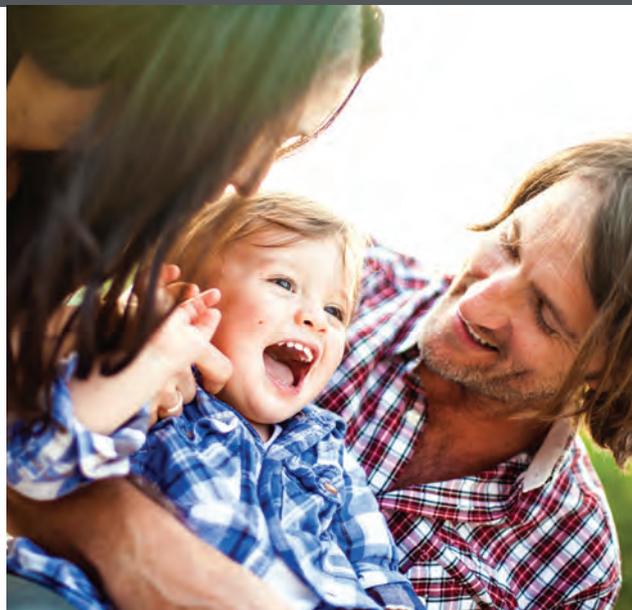


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Emerald’s community festival

This year Emerald’s Performing and Visual Arts Festival (PAVE) takes place from 9–19 April and promises to be full of surprises. This volunteer run community festival was started 10 years ago with the primary purpose of building community strength and resilience in a high bushfire risk community. The festival has become so much more than that. It is an integral part of the town’s character and an important event on family calendars.

Starting off with three days of special kids activities on Thursday 9 April, this will be a great way to fill in the last few days of the school holidays. As usual, many of these events will be free and all promise to be as low cost and high value as possible.

This year you will see a particular buzz throughout the town with a “bee” theme, recognising and raising awareness of the diminishing bee population worldwide and acknowledging that a world without bees would significantly change the availability of foods and items we take for granted as well as the landscape in general.

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The Village Bell is our community 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 the annual subscription which helps to pay for the Village Bell’s production. Subs can be paid at the Community Centre, General Store or Post Office.

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