

UPPER BEACONSFIELD



VILLAGE BELL

Upper Beaconsfield Association
www.upperbeaconsfield.org.au



Issue No. 206
December 2016



*UBCC Early Learning
Centre (ELC)*

Official opening of Men's Shed Workshop 16 November 2016



Celebrations at the Men's Shed

The new facilities for the Upper Beaconsfield Men's Shed were officially opened on 16 November and I was honoured to have joined President Matt McDonald, the members and guests in the celebrations.

Through my involvement with Men's Sheds around the Gembrook electorate over the years I have personally seen the importance

of these facilities in providing a place for men of all ages to gather in mateship.

Since the establishment of Men's Sheds in 2007, the community can agree with me how invaluable



they are to our community providing not just a place for men to learn new skills or share old ones, but a place of comfort to discuss the challenges that come with everyday life.

New members are always welcome and I encourage anyone interested in joining the Men's Shed to head down to the new Shed on Halford Street one Wednesday morning and speak with the members or introduce yourself to President Matt McDonald.

BRAD BATTIN MLA

The Upper Beaconsfield community would like to thank the CFA, SES, local arborists and everyone else who helped (or is still helping) to clear away the multitude of fallen trees caused from the wind storm on Sunday 9 October 2016.

This casualty pictured at the golf course was one of about fifty substantial sized trees to fall there. Our thoughts go out to everyone who suffered material damage to their homes or surrounds.



Official opening of Men's Shed workshop

On 27 September the Men's Shed received the document they have been working towards for many months—the Certificate of Occupancy from the building surveyor for the now completed workshop. This allows the members to occupy the workshop and work on setting the space up to operate the few tools and machines we have.

Bob Sanders, our electrician, donated a large amount of factory-type shelving, an essential for any work space, which has been assembled and adapted to our purposes. He also donated a mobile set of stairs to enable access to high areas of the shed. We thank Bob for his thoughtfulness and generosity.

The first large-scale event to take place in the workshop was a gathering of representatives from Men's Sheds in West and South Gippsland. On Wednesday 28 September we hosted 75 members from the sheds of the region. They were entertained with a talk from Bob Sanders

on his recent motor-cycle trek in the Himalayas, and a demonstration of battery-powered hand-tools from Makita Tools. The morning ended with reports from all of the Sheds, and guests enjoyed a lunch of curried chicken and rice, beef shaslirks and salads.

The workshop was officially opened on Wednesday 16 November. 74 invited guests came to the Shed to witness the unveiling of the wooden plaque recording the opening of the

workshop. Bob Taylor welcomed the guests and introduced the President, Matt McDonald, to tell the story of the building of the workshop. Other speakers (pictured on page 2) were David Mudge of the Victorian Men's Shed Association, Jenny Scicluna, head of Community Support Programs at Cardinia Shire, representing CEO Mr Gary McQuillan and Cardinia Mayor Brett Owen, who has been very supportive of the Upper Beaconsfield Men's Shed. The official opening was conducted by Mr Brad Battin MLA, the local Member of



Parliament.

The members of the Upper Beaconsfield Men's Shed can be very proud of their achievement in completing this significant building project, and they are very grateful for the support they have received from the many contributors, both financially and in kind.



The Men's Shed is now open on Tuesdays, 9 am–4 pm, Wednesday afternoons from 1–4 pm, and Thursdays, 9 am–4 pm. The regular gathering of members continues on Wednesdays from 10 am till 12 noon.

The Annual General Meeting of the Men's Shed took place on Wednesday, 30 November.

MATT McDONALD, PRESIDENT

Christmas Carols

Everyone looks forward to our Upper Beac carols on Christmas Eve. Bring a picnic and blanket and head on down to Keith Ewenson Park in Salisbury Road, at the rear of the community hall.

On the way to the park, Santa and the CFA truck will visit

- Grant Court at approximately 7 pm
- Burton Road at 7.15 pm
- Paul Grove at 7.30 pm

Santa makes his grand entrance at the park at about 7.45 pm to distribute bags of lollies to the local children. A great line-up of local talent will then lead you through the community singing.

The regular sausage sizzle and refreshments will be served from 6.30 pm throughout the evening—thanks Men's Shed.

Please note that the Carols will go ahead regardless of the weather. If it is wet an alternative venue is available and this will be publicised closer to the event.



Thanks to the Men's Shed

The Upper Beaconsfield Community Early Learning Centre (ELC) would like to thank the Men's Shed for all their support and assistance over the years. Their most recent project for the ELC was to kindly build, paint and donate three climbing blocks for the children, who have enjoyed playing with them (see front cover photograph).

Special thanks to Graham Jackson for building the boxes, and others who painted them.

Berwick/Upper Beaconsfield Red Cross Unit

Christmas cards

For those who like to support good causes when purchasing Christmas cards the Berwick Mechanic's Institute Library in High Street is again supporting Red Cross by selling Red Cross Christmas cards, diaries and calendars. **BARBARA JACKSON** 8770 0121



Rainfall at "Barkala", Beaconsfield–Emerald Road

Month	45 yr av.	2015	2016
Jan	63.6	36.7	89.7
Feb	58.4	55.7	15.6
Mar	64.2	29.5	46.4
Apr	78.3	76.5	74.9
May	86.1	83.3	119.2
Jun	80.3	24.4	138.8
Jul	78.6	76.1	102.9
Aug	85.7	105.1	65.7
Sep	90.6	49.2	85.5
Oct	94.3	19.3	129.0
Nov	86.5	51.3	
Dec	80.4	47.3	
Total	947 mm	654.4 mm	

Year to date rainfall is 867.7 mm. The 45 year average for the first ten months of the year is 780.1 mm.

Present indications for November and December show the 45 year average of 947 mm will be reached in the final two months.

October rainfall this year delivered 129 mm compared to the peak month in August 2015 of 105.9 mm. The 2015 total was a low 654.4 mm.

GEORGE MOIR

Lyre bird in St Georges Road

St Georges Road residents, Mr and Mrs Robert Grant, were recently visited by a male lyre bird. The bird walked around their verandah, looking through the many windows. He stayed in the garden for about four hours. Bob Grant thought he was searching for his mate. Bob was able to take some photos of the searching bird. The editors would be interested to hear of other residents who have been so fortunate. **JO CARTER**

Thank you to our subscribers:

Carmody, Jan - Gilberthorpe, Norman & Marilyn - Mason, R & J - O'Brien, Mary & Denis - Smith, Roslyn - Wood, Wendy & Brien

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Letter to the editor: **Helmeted Honeyeater news**

Since the public meeting at Beaconsfield in April 2016 some significant decisions have been made.

The Helmeted Honeyeater Recovery Team has adopted the proposal that Upper Beaconsfield would be an appropriate site for the release of birds at some time in the future.

Ian Chisholm and I have been

invited to attend a meeting with the Helmeted Honeyeater Recovery Team late in November, to determine what action is required to create a suitable habitat and to develop timelines for a release.

We will keep you informed of future developments.

Alex Smart 9707 5275

Ian Chisholm 9707 1435



Congratulations!

Wishing you a happy 90th birthday, Laura Levens!

Congratulations to Henri and Lynette Lameris celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary.

Important notice from the Post office

Residents please collect parcel deliveries promptly from the Post Office.

There are many parcels at this time of year and storage space is limited.



UBA next meeting

We invite residents to the next UBA general meeting for discussion and Christmas cheer

Wednesday 7 December at 7.30 pm at the Community Complex.

All welcome!

Bell Credits

Editor Jo Carter tel 5944 3311 – **Layout** Marianne Rocke – **Photo editor** 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

Next issue: March 2017 – Copy deadline: 7 February 2017

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Community newspaper awards success

At the Community Newspaper Association of Victoria conference held in Bendigo in October, the Village Bell featured in two categories of the community newspaper awards. The calibre of the judges means these comments are praise indeed! Thank you to all our Bell contributors for your articles and photographs.

Best feature story – Finalist Village Bell

'Life and times of a modern soldier' by Cameron Rocke. Village Bell issue 204

Judge's comment

This story follows a young man's journey from his undisciplined school years to the culture shock of enlisting in the army and subsequently being deployed to East Timor and later Iraq. This in depth article had a lot of human interest. It told of the soldier's apprehension and excitement at being deployed, the effect it had on his young family and what it was like to be in the army camps overseas. It featured some very colourful writing and held me to the end. Well done Cameron.

Award judge Jeff Jones has been an editor/journalist for more than 30 years. Jeff started out on a small country newspaper—the Warragul Press—and went on to edit a range of mastheads and later became Chief of Staff at Leader Community Newspapers. He is currently the editor of the Castlemaine Mail. Jeff has a passion for feature stories and says it is great to see so many entries on such a wide range of subject matter in the Best Feature section of this year's CNAV awards.



Best photograph – Finalist Village Bell

'Successful Gymkhana – "It's been a tiring day!" Photographers: Upper Beaconsfield Pony Club. Village Bell issue 203

Judge's comment

This is a photograph that makes you smile, and one that demonstrates how the best shots often come from the unforeseen moments. In keeping an eye open behind the scenes at the local gymkhana the photographer has seen, and been quick enough to capture a funny and heart warming moment that tells something of the event's back story. This is a well executed photo of a cleverly observed moment.



Award judge Brendan McCarthy is a multi-award winning photojournalist and photographer with over 20 years experience in the print and online news and magazine publishing industry. In addition to covering local and regional news during an 18 year career with Fairfax Media, his work has also appeared in Lonely Planet Publications, Slow Magazine, Asian Geographic, National Geographic Online and National Geographic textbooks.

In addition to his hands-on work, Brendan has also taught and mentored photography in both formal and informal settings. Now working as a freelance photographer based in Central Victoria, his passion for "telling the story" through pictures remains undiminished.

HELEN SMITH

See the Village Bell in full colour online at Upper Beaconsfield's website www.upperbeaconsfield.org.au

UBA news

- A 'meet the candidates' forum was held in October for the Cardinia Council elections. Seven out of the nine candidates for Ranges Ward came to the UBA meeting. It was good to hear them in person and we thank them for coming. *Congratulations to the successful candidates Brett Owen, Leticia Wilmot and Jeff Springfield.*
- The UBA is supporting the Village Festival with a donation of \$500.
- The annual Citizen of the Year dinner was held on Friday 4 November at Cardinia Beaconsfields Golf Club. It was an enjoyable evening where people could catch up with current and former COY residents.

Upper Beaconsfield Citizen of the Year

Nominations are now open! This award encourages and recognises the importance and value of community service in Upper Beaconsfield. It acknowledges those who have given meritorious service to the development of this community and residents.

- Open Citizen of the Year
- Junior Citizen of the Year
- Closing date for nomination is 31 December 2016
- Winner/s announced at the Village Festival 19 February 2017

Full details are given on the nomination form. Paper forms are available at the Post Office, Community Centre, and General Store. Electronic forms are available from UBA secretary helen.r.smith@iinet.net.au

Complete and return your nomination to COY Coordinator, PO Box 86 Upper Beaconsfield or email to UBA secretary.

The big storm of 9 October 2016

At our regular Sunday morning CFA training session, we were speculating about what time we would receive the first call: would it be a tree over power lines, a burn off flaring up, or a road accident?

At 2 pm, mid way through Bathurst, a call came in for a tree fire in Dewhurst. The wind was up. On the way we noticed trees were down on properties along Beaconsfield-Emerald Road.

After dealing with the Dewhurst fire, the next incident on the radio was at the intersection of Armstrong and Salisbury roads, where a tree had taken down the power lines and was blocking these roads. The Big Fill travelled towards there via Split Rock Road and became stuck between falling trees. Other appliances en route from the station noticed that a big tree in Charing Cross had fallen across Salisbury road (pictured below), so Tanker 2 and the Slip-On stopped to work on that.

From there it was tree after tree; it felt like for every tree we cleaned up another three would fall down.

Meanwhile we heard a tree had fallen on a Cockatoo CFA truck on Stoney Creek Road, so Slip On responded to that. Still more trees were falling on that road further down blocking it off completely. Once the Tanker 2 crew had finished at Charing Cross they were sent down there as well.

The carnage continued. There were trees down just about everywhere: Stoney Creek Road, Brennan Avenue, St Georges Road, Foott Road, Albers Road, Sugarloaf Road and many more on Split Rock Road.

We needed to change our plan of attack: too many trees, too few resources! The 3 serviceable trucks joined forces and worked hard together.

Tanker 2's crew, with the two chainsaw operators, did the majority of the heavy work and did an amazing job clearing trees off roads and assessing the area for further possible



Repairing the lines

falls.

Tanker 1 and Slip On did what they could making the area safe by either blocking the road with tape, noting down where Tanker 2 could safely work, or doing their best to clear roads.

Then to add extra pleasure to an already busy day, we got another call to a shed fire in Beaconsfield. This took priority, so both Tanker 1 and 2 went to that. Fortunately both returned shortly after and continuing their amazing work on the trees.

For me, the biggest relief was hearing the familiar, soothing voice of Wendy Thomson over the radio, from back at the station. She assisted by taking note of each incident as it was called in by the community or the fire brigade, and she kept track of where all the appliances were. CFA volunteers at the scene just worry about each job at hand.

By around 6.30 pm everything had begun to calm down; we were finally getting on top of the situation.

A number of local aborists, which we would dearly like to thank, were out helping clear the roads and doing a super job. When Tanker 1 and Big Fill had finished up, the Slip On and Tanker 2 were still out finishing off clearing Albers





All manners of homes were damaged

Road, and checking up on residences in Brennan Avenue and St Georges Road. Some houses there had been severely damaged; we continued to assist there as best we could.

After a long, tiring and frustrating day we all headed for home just after 8 pm. Most of us returned home to no power and to a well-earned COLD shower.

Thanks to the crews who were out there: on Tanker 2—David, Glenn and John; Tanker 1—Tony and Andrew;

Big Fill—Doug, Annaliese and Bradley, and especially my co-pilot on the Slip On, Consuela, for putting up with me all day. And I would also like to thank Wendy and Mike for support in the station.

SCOTT HUIJBREGSEN



A portable generator kept the phone network going

CFA getting ready for summer 2016



New hydrant

The brigade was very fortunate this year to receive a Victorian government grant (2:1 basis) to help fund the installation of a mains connected hydrant at the station. This will significantly improve our turnaround time and also our training opportunities at the brigade. Costing just shy of \$20 000, the grant along with funds raised by the brigade and donations from the Berwick and Pakenham Op Shops enabled us to finally install the hydrant which we could not afford to put in when the station was built in 1990. The tender to do the work was won by local plumber and brigade member Glenn Burrridge (pictured) and the work was completed early in November.

It now takes us 3½ minutes to fill our tankers rather than the nearly 20 minutes it used to!



Fire Readiness

By now you should have almost completed your preparations for the coming fire season. But looking around, there are many properties which look under-prepared. The season is closer than you think:

- Make sure you have updated your bushfire plan and discussed it with your family
- Tidy up your property: clean out your gutters, tidy up sticks, branches and leaf litter near the house, make sure there is no wood pile near the house, keep the lawn short, store flammable liquids/gasses away from the house, tidy up bushes and trees near the house, keep flammable furniture off the verandahs and away from the house, etc. (Check out all the information on the CFA website.)
- Discuss your plans with your neighbours
- Make sure you have checked and tested all your pumps, hoses and protective gear and that everything is where you can easily get it
- Download the VicEmergency app. It is the new version of the FireReady app.

FireReady app

Out with the old and in with the new: the FireReady app which many of our community were using was supplanted by a new, broader scoped VicEmergency app. This app will do all the same things as the older one, but will have more types of emergencies, such as flood and shark warnings: a boon for Upper Beac residents! Though as we all go on holidays, these broader warnings could possibly come in handy.

The VicEmergency app came on line on 14 November and was a simple upgrade to the previous FireReady app.

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Burning off

Every year we get called out to multiple out of control burn-offs, usually for the same reasons:

- too windy
- too close to trees
- burn pile too big
- burn pile not completely extinguished at the end of the day (flares up that night or the next day)
- not properly supervised
- no practical or sufficient water on hand

We live in one of the MOST AT RISK AREAS IN THE STATE, which means we HAVE TO take more than the usual care. So,

- **DO** look up the weather forecast for the next couple of days, especially for big piles. WATCH THE WIND! No more than 10–15 kph.
- **DO** have AT LEAST A 6 M DISTANCE to the nearest tree. Watch out for stringybarks!
- **DO** have a hose at hand with good pressure, good flow, a good nozzle and plenty of water. Do a test before you start, to see how high up the nearest tree you can squirt.
- **DO** register your burn-off, by calling 1800 668 511. This will give your neighbours peace of mind and save unnecessary callouts of the fire brigade.
- **DO** know your council regulations (Go to Community Compass <http://cardinia.pozi.com>. It will tell you the regulations for your property.)
- **DON'T** burn off during the Fire Restriction Period (FRP). There is plenty of information about when the FRP is in force e.g. on the council website, signs on local roads. Ignorance is NO excuse and heavy penalties may apply. We don't usually know when it will start until two or three weeks beforehand.
- **DON'T** bite off more than you can chew. If you have a lot to burn, split it into smaller piles or ask us for help.
- **DON'T** start the fire until you have the means at hand to put it out. Completely.
- **DON'T** leave the fire unattended.

Cardinia Group exercise

Our brigade is a part of a group of 16 local brigades called the Cardinia Group, and Upper Beaconsfield has been fortunate in being chosen as the site for our pre-summer group exercise this year. The exercise is to be held on the morning of 4 December in the High Street, Brennan Avenue and Dallas Brooks scout camp areas of Upper Beaconsfield and Guys Hill and will culminate with a landing and display of a helitak fire fighting chopper which will be landing on the sports oval around lunchtime.

There will be upwards of 20 CFA tankers and other appliances in the area on the day along with about 120 firefighters. You won't miss us! Community members are welcome to come and view the arrival of the helitak, though you will need to remain on the outside of the fence.

Plan and prepare.

THE REASONS ARE BLACK AND WHITE.



It's your responsibility to be fire ready this summer.

Prepare your property, fire plan and emergency kit now.

When hot, dry, windy days are forecast, check Fire Danger Ratings daily and monitor warnings via local radio, the VicEmergency website and app.

Leaving early, before a fire starts, is always the safest option.

emergency.vic.gov.au

Download the VicEmergency app  

FireReady 
Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne

The Upper Beaconsfield Fire Brigade would like to thank all the community members who have offered help in making this exercise more realistic in either the use of their properties and/or assistance.

New garden works at the station

Upper Beaconsfield Fire Station is getting a makeover. We have been in consultation with the Upper Beaconsfield Beautification Group to see how we can bring the front of the station into line with the other beautification works around the township centre. We hope to have a plan soon and intend to start the reshaping and planting in autumn next year.

MIKE HALL, CAPTAIN



Dear Editor,

I am very concerned after reading the new Cardinia Shire 2016 Open Air Burning Policy and have had discussions with our Ranges Ward councillors on behalf

of The Hughendon Road Community Fire Guard Group.

We live in one of the statistically highest fire prone areas in the world and yet the 2016 Open Air Burning Policy has reduced our opportunity to reduce fuel loads and protect life and property. Our burning off days have been reduced from 6 days a week to only 3—namely Friday, Saturday and Monday. Too bad if it is raining or too hot or windy on those days, let alone if you work on any of those days. It is unworkable, especially for bush properties in excess of ½ hectare.

We need the policy reversed for properties over ½ hectare by reinstating the original 6 burning off days in non-fire restriction times to allow landowners to thoroughly prepare for the coming fire season.

I attended the October Upper Beaconsfield Association forum to meet the candidates—and received support from now elected councillor Brett Owen in favour of my proposals during question time. At this meeting, candidates Graeme Legge and David Nickell, who were not elected, also gave my proposals support and considered it at the time as an election issue that needed serious consideration.

One reason mentioned by a sitting councillor for implementing the 2016 Open Air Burning Policy was a concern by some people about smoke affecting asthmatics. But we need to concern ourselves with the vital task of protecting life and property. By narrowing the range of days to burn off, it will increase the amount of smoke on those days and make it worse for sufferers rather than better. Overall it's still the same amount of smoke.

We need rules applicable to our environment which is different to more built up areas. The owners of ½ hectare plus properties have the continuous job of reducing leaf and stick fuel loads on the ground that eucalypts constantly drop, and cleaning up after trees that drop whole limbs, or fall



Cardinia Shire Open Air Burning Policy Properties less than or equal to 20 ha (50 acres) <i>(nearly all properties in Upper Beaconsfield)</i>
Burning days: Monday, Friday and Saturday
Number of fires: 1 fire at any one time
Distance from buildings: 10 metres
Minimum fire break: 3 metres
Maximum size: 2 metres in any dimension

over. In the long term, reducing our capacity to get rid of fuel on our properties compounds the fire risk.

This policy has definitely not helped with removing the debris from fallen trees and shredded branches caused by Sunday 9 October's severe wind storm across Cardinia Shire. Cardinia Council has been unable to cope with such emergencies just by looking at the slow process of clearing the fallen branches in areas of their responsibility. Most of the response has been done by ordinary residents dealing with debris in front of and on their properties.

I have spoken with numerous people in the district including the CFA and have received unanimous support from everyone to have the 2016 Open Air Burning Policy revised. None agree with the burn off days being reduced from 6 to 3 days.

The current policy does not give enough time for cleaning up to protect our properties, to protect adjacent neighbour's properties and our local neighbourhood. I have been compiling a list of all the CFG groups who want this policy reversed and have had discussions with the Emergency Management Department at Cardinia Council. I urge believe it is vital that as many people from Beaconsfield Upper who object to the 2016 Open Air Burning Policy to email your objections to "The Emergency Management Department at Cardinia Council" mail@cardinia.vic.gov.au

**EDITED LETTER FROM HARRY JENSEN,
HUGHENDON ROAD CFG GROUP**

Vale Gladys Mary Preston 1918-2016

Gladys Preston passed away at Salisbury House on Sunday 23 October 2016, aged 98 years.

Gladys was born at the Berwick Bush Nursing Hospital in 1918 as the youngest of the three children of John and Mary Binding who had migrated from England a few years prior to World War I. They lived on a property at the end of St Georges Road, which had no electricity or "mod cons". Light was provided by candles or kerosene lamps. Heating and cooking was done with wood ovens and fires. One luxury at the time was enjoying a home-made ice-cream sold by Mrs Shorthouse on the present site of the General Store.

Gladys "Glad" remembered Upper Beaconsfield as a small community with lots of fruit orchards and guest houses. The Bindings kept a few cows to supplement their income by delivering milk to homes and guest houses in the village.

From age 12, Glad would help her father delivering the milk before school, then walk 2 miles to the school house which was then located near today's entrance to the golf club on Stoney Creek Road.

The school was known as Beaconsfield North State School No 2560. In 1928 a shelter shed was erected at the school, so that the children had somewhere dry to spend their recesses. The old shed was converted to house the ponies of the children who rode in from further away. Some children would sometimes miss out on school for some days when the horses and ponies were needed for work on the farms, thus having no means of getting to school. There would have been about 30 to 40 children attending school at the time, taught by Mrs Keeble.



At the 120th Anniversary of the Primary School in 2004, Glad Preston (front) had the honour of cutting the birthday cake at the local school, together with another ex-pupil, Betty Edwards.

When her mother became ill with cancer, Glad had to leave school to help with home duties. At only 13, Glad also took on the task of delivering the milk by herself.

Later she worked for Miss Annie Stenhouse in a shop adjacent to the old post office. In the 1930s a highlight for the young people of Upper Beaconsfield were their trips to dances at Ferntree Gully and Emerald on the back of Claud Harris' truck. It was at one of these dances that Glad met her future husband George Preston of Footscray. They married in 1937 and had three daughters.

In 1950 they moved to Beaconsfield-Emerald Road and she lived there until 2002 when she moved to Fiddlers Green in Berwick.

Glad took up golf in 1950 and played at the Montuna Golf Club for 29 years, where she won the 'B' grade championship in 1966/67 and 1972. She set a record by becoming the first player to 'hole out' on what was then the 7th

hole. In 1979 she went to Beaconsfields Golf Club, where she won the 'B' grade Championship in 1986.

Throughout her life Glad knitted and was good at crocheting. Up until the last five years she enjoyed watching her grandchildren, and occasionally her great-grandchildren playing sport; cricket was her favourite. When she died, Glad had 7 grandchildren, 20 great grandchildren and 2 great-great grandchildren.

Her health was on a downward spiral in the past five years and in July this year she moved to Salisbury House. She is now at peace.

**MARIANNE
ROCKE AND
ELAINE WILLS**
*(based on Glad's
memories
and an article by
Charles Wilson
in the Village Bell
February 2002)*



*Gladys Binding in 1931
with her milk cart.*

Salisbury Gully

Just when we felt like we were making progress with the removal of weeds and replanting in Salisbury Gully, and enjoying the new seats which have been placed along the walking track, Upper Beaconsfield was hit by the storms of a few weeks ago. Salisbury Gully was not spared the destruction that we saw across Victoria, even though it appears to be relatively sheltered from high winds. Unfortunately, the drainage problems in Salisbury Gully caused by the sealing of local roads and re-direction of storm water, together with a very wet winter and spring, had resulted in excessive water pooling around the roots of some of the large eucalypts, which were then easily blown over.

We have asked Council to help us address the drainage problems to prevent further loss of trees and erosion on the steep slopes.

We have been fortunate in that we had an influx of volunteers who have been kind enough to give their time to assist in clearing up some of the debris that resulted from the loss of trees and limbs, and we are awaiting Council's assistance with the removal of some of the larger trunks. Many thanks to the many new volunteers from the Green Circle Nursery, along with some of our regulars, who have continued to assist with the work that we're doing in Salisbury Gully.



Planting has continued, and plants have established themselves well in the good weather conditions. We have made good inroads into weeds such as Onion Weed and Periwinkle, showing what perseverance and a dose of the right weedkiller (very carefully applied!) at the right time, can do. We hope that many of you will continue to visit Salisbury Gully, to appreciate the spring growth and recovery of indigenous plants, many of which flower during the spring and early summer months. The ferns in particular enjoyed the wet winter and spring, and have been rejuvenated since last summer.

If you would like to assist with our ongoing work in Salisbury Gully, please do not hesitate to contact our group on friendsofsalisburygully@gmail.com.

SALLY RANDALL
FRIENDS OF SALISBURY GULLY

Council election results

The results of the recent Council election were declared on 2 November and the new councillors were sworn into office for the next 4 years on 4 November 2016. Brett Owen and Leticia Wilmot were re-elected and we welcome Jeff Springfield to the team as the third ward representative. We are certainly looking forward to working together over the next 4 years and ensuring the Ranges Ward continues to be well represented at council.

An introduction from Jeff

"It is with great honour and sincere humility that I take on the responsibility of being your council representative for the Ranges Ward. I was born and raised in Emerald and will always consider these ranges my home. I work in the music industry as a production engineer, event management professional and recording artist. I will work hard towards bringing our local communities together and to be your collective voice towards council. I will strive to preserve and protect our unique local environment. I will push to have our council's services delivered to where they are needed most."



Representing the communities of Ranges Ward is an honour and we thank the residents for the trust they have shown for us in the recent elections. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank Tania Baxter for her work as a Ranges Ward council over the last 4 years. Tania has decided to return to her teaching profession and we wish her well in the future.

If you would like to contact our Ward councillors, please see the details for each of us below.

We wish you all a very safe and happy Christmas and New Year and we look forward to seeing many of you at different meetings and events over the coming year.

Merry Christmas from Leticia, Jeff and Brett

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Around The Bay ride 2016

To all those who I promised not to send a photo of me in lycra ... apologies. However, to all who donated to the cause, thank you. To date we have all raised \$1040 for The Smith Family, which is heart-warming and of such tremendous value to those who really need it. Well done.

For those who wish to be involved next year, (riding, that is), here is a snapshot of my day:

- 3.30 am Get up, shower, dress
- 3.45 am Make porridge for breakfast
- 4.00 am Wake driver (Caro), mix drinks, grab muesli bars and bananas and get bikes etc into car
- 4.15 am Leave home feeling pretty confident and happy
- 5.00 am Arrive near Arts Centre, assemble bikes, stock up all available pockets with food, phones and maps, put on sunscreen in the cold and dark, gear up.
- 5.10 am Ride to starting line at Alexandra Gardens, still feeling pretty confident and happy
- 5.30 am Start riding, slowly at first as lots of traffic lights, thousands of bikes (~ 2,000 for the 210 km route alone), then up and over Westgate and finally picking up speed with a moderate tail wind
- 6.30 am Driver goes back to bed
- 7.00 am Along with about 100 other riders we take a wrong turn and waste three or four kms. Bad idea!
- 7.10 am Rejoin ride to Geelong and Queenscliff with mainly a moderate tail wind, joining various pelotons as they cruise along
- 10.20 am First headwind of the day coming in to Queenscliff blowing straight off the bay almost blew us off our bikes. Not feeling quite so "confident and happy" at this stage
- 10.30 am Arrive at Queenscliff for lunch break and catch the ferry
- 10.40 am Struggle up with half eaten lunch to line up to get on the 11 am ferry
- 11.00 am Ferry trip to Sorrento: choppy and very windy but trip fairly smooth – felt transient concern for regular ferry goes having to put up with 1,000 smelly bike riders in unfashionable attire
- 11.40 am Arrive at Sorrento, quick loo break, gear up, gently lower ourselves onto our bike seats and recommence ride with the loudspeaker warning us of gusty conditions for the next 4 km—"Take care"
- 12.00 pm After the 4 km the gusty wind conditions settle to gale force and blustery for the remainder of the trip
- 12–6 pm Was like climbing a 100 km long mountain, with



Mike and Dave Hall, after Around The Bay ride 2016

- the wind making you pedal down the hills as well!
- 12.45 pm Stop for coffee at Jetty Cafe, Rye—best coffee EVER. (It probably wasn't, but sure felt good)
- 2.30 pm Around 160 km down, still 54 to go—first doubts; legs starting to cramp, have to pedal down Oliver's Hill, Frankston!
- 2.30–6 pm Work as much as possible with pelotons to break up wind, glad of the occasional red light to catch breath and hoping that, by some miracle, the wind would stop or even slow—it didn't. It seemed to increase throughout the day. Maybe it just seemed that way.
- 6.15 pm Arrive at finish line, glad to finally be able to turn my back to the wind.
- 6.16 pm Beer at Spokes Bar with my brother Dave
- 6.20 pm Hop on bike again and ride to Art Gallery to get lift home with Sue and Andrew, Dave's wife and son.
- 6.40 pm Leap out of car as cramps set in, go for 5 min. walk. Get back in car and hope for best.
- 7.00 pm Drop in at sister's for a shower because the winds have caused blackouts at home so no power for hot water. Have shower, get back into lycra.
- 8.30 pm Stop in Berwick to pick up takeaway pizzas because ... (see above)
- 8.45 pm Arrive home, find and get into clean clothes in the dark, sit down and have pizza by candlelight. Best pizza EVERRRR.
- 9.30 pm Bed, safe in the knowledge there was no alarm to wake me because ... (see three lines above)

For all those wondering if it was a tough day ... it was a tough day. Hardest ride I've ever done. Wouldn't wish it on anyone ... though might make exception for my ex-employer ...? But really glad I did it. Thanks again for all your words of support and your donations.

MIKE HALL

Village beautification

Our group has been busy weeding and mulching the plantings around the village.

The local CFA contacted us with the aim to plant up along the street in front of the fire station. A plan with suggested plants will be forwarded to them and work will commence in the autumn.

This cooperative approach to the beautification of the village has been very successful with St John's Church and we are very happy to help in other areas.

If any business or local group require help in beautifying an area we would love to hear from them.

Anyone willing to volunteer their help is most welcome.

Elephant Rock

Patience is a virtue! Well we do not feel very virtuous at the moment, the clean up is taking too long! But, I am informed it will happen. Melbourne Water has agreed to finance the clean up. They just haven't told us when. Watch this space.



Upper Beaconsfield Fire Captain Mike Hall coming to the rescue. "Beats putting out a fire"



I think I need a bath!



Charing Cross tree gang. "Has anyone struck gold yet?"

Tree ideas needed!

The tree which fell during the wind storm in Charing Cross has been cut back leaving the root and some of the trunk.

We are looking for ideas on how to make it into a sculpture/feature. I have seen tree roots cleaned and polished, and they look terrific. We have the cooperation of council and Kevin Alexander is speaking to the art department about it.

Any ideas are welcome and necessary! Please help if you can.

JENNY PRITCHARD
BEAUTIFICATION GROUP
5944 3763

Get involved—it's rewarding for all ages

There are so many great projects on the go with Landcare at the moment, our amazing members are working together with land owners and contractors in the area. As always we welcome volunteers of any age to come join in with us on any of our projects and also encourage kids to come along to Cardi Creek Kids.

The kids have had such a busy and fun time lately including an animal encounter at the Moonlit Sanctuary in Pearcedale, a Super Hero dress up planting day, an Aussie bird count and an upcoming walk through Beaconsfield Flora and Fauna reserve to do seed collecting with a guest speaker teaching us all about revegetation. We also provide afternoon tea to finish up a fun and interactive afternoon.

Becoming involved with a Landcare project is a great way to meet people of all ages, care for our area and the environment, have a cuppa, a chat, a laugh and maybe learn a new skill or make a new friend. As we have a lot of our volunteers and workers in and around the area we thought we would introduce you to some of our amazing members so if you see them out and about you can strike up a conversation.

Introducing our first Landcare Legend – the journey begins with Daron Clark.

Daron originally hails from a farm in Albury. He started work as a truck tyre fitter, after which he successfully ran his own business as an Antenna Tech. Unfortunately for Daron along came Pay TV and gradually work started to dry up. Eventually he found himself out of a job.

To keep busy and to continue working outside, he started the work for the dole program with Landcare, caring for and maintaining a local reserve. Daron brought to the team

his outgoing personality, unwavering dedication, great problem solving skills and practical knowledge of building. According to the man himself, he enjoys

working for Landcare because "I love the outdoors, and I get to meet lots of new people. Since starting I have got a better understanding of different native plants for the area, and the importance of the environment in Australia."

When Daron isn't doing amazing things to help the environment, he likes to cook and experiment with dishes (he also makes a killer vindaloo). He loves his old classic cars and shares this passion with his delightful wife, Lesley (who once baked me a cake and has earned a special place in my heart). He has also been watching and playing darts competitively for an impressive 35 years.



Daron and Lesley Clark

Looking to the future Daron says he is looking forward to moving to the country to relax and plan his retirement! He has shown outstanding dedication to our little Landcare group and earned himself casual employment as a Works Officer with CCLG. Daron is our go to man for planning and construction jobs but is also very happy to plant trees or pull weeds. It's all part of the job!

Thank-you Daron for all of your hard work this year. If you see Daron out and about, please say hello and ask what he's working on with CCLG.

ISABEL EBSWORTH AND NAOMI POWER
CARDINIA CATCHMENT LANDCARE GROUP
0407 316 951

Deer in the hills

For three days in September Melbourne Water conducted a deer cull as part of the deer management program in the Cardinia Reservoir catchment area. The activities were undertaken at night by highly accredited and authorised contractors, to ensure the process is undertaken in the most humane, safe and ethical method.

The program is necessary to protect the water quality supplied by Cardinia Reservoir, in line with the Safe Drinking Water Act 2003 and the responsibility to supply the purest drinking water and minimise health risks. Failure to actively manage the deer population also poses an unacceptable risk to animal welfare. It is imperative to undertake population management before the health and welfare of the deer is threatened.

The high volume of deer in our catchment area also impacts:

- Habitat destruction and competition for food with native wildlife
- Unauthorised access into the catchment for illegal hunting posing safety issues for the wider community
- Destruction of fragile vegetation, including rare and uncommon species
- Soil disturbance, erosion, soil pugging and compaction

Information from Melbourne Water community bulletin, Cardinia Reservoir Deer Management, September 2016

Drivers beware

In recent years, residents in the hills have noticed an increase in deer numbers. Caution should be taken when driving at night. Keep in mind that when rounding a corner you could suddenly come across a large deer. Deer have been seen in the vicinity of Elephant Rock and Manestar Road.

EDITOR

Replace lost shelter and habitat trees

The volunteers have been very busy over the last few months growing plants for a variety of regeneration projects as well as for the home gardener.

Weather wise it has been a trying time, lots of rain which is good for planting but not when combined with strong winds, and what devastating winds they were. Upper Beaconsfield and surrounding districts lost valuable shelter and habitat trees on Sunday 9 October.

To help recover from such a loss GCPN is offering FREE trees while stocks last –
 Allocasuarina littoralis,
 Eucalyptus cephalocarpa,
 Eucalyptus dives,
 Eucalyptus fulgens, and
 Eucalyptus obliqua.



When cutting up your fallen tree for firewood, please take a look inside any hollows you find as they may still have wildlife living in them. If not they could be used as shelter to help the many animals made homeless by the destructive winds.



We are now closed for the summer months and will reopen on 3 February.

From all of us at the Nursery, we would like to thank the community for the fantastic support we have received during the year, and wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.

**SUE SIMMONS,
 GREEN CIRCLE PLANT NURSERY**

Upper Beaconsfield Village Festival

Art Exhibition

Sunday 19 February 2017

Local artists are invited to be part of this wonderful exhibition, held in conjunction with the festival.

The exhibition showcases the works of artists in all mediums, ages and abilities, with examples of the beautiful and varied styles of art in the local area.

Proudly supported by SECAN artists
 Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre

**For further details please contact
 Gail (at the General Store) on 0419 385 322
 or Belinda 0409 665 338**

**Entry forms available
 at the General Store**



Advertisement

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 FOR
 FAIRNESS**

All Australians should be able to get married
 equalitycampaign.org.au

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EQUALITY

Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre

How quickly the year turns around! With Christmas now only weeks away, our term 4 program is in full swing but it's not too late to join in some of our great courses on offer or register for 2017!

We're now taking enrolments, or expressions of interest, on the following courses:

Fitness! Circuit Training, Strength Training, Yoga or Pilates

Classes welcome both beginners and intermediate. Cost from \$10.50/week

First Aid – Provide CPR – Emergency First Aid response in an Education & Care Setting

Our next first aid course is on 10 December 2016—cost from \$75

Let's Dance: This is a very popular social dance class held every Friday night 6.30–8 pm

Build & Manage Your Own Website: Tuesday mornings or Thursday evenings—cost \$30

Computers - iPad, Microsoft, Social Media, Photo

Workshop: Beginners to intermediate computer courses that will have you uploading, downloading and browsing the internet like a professional!



Term 1 2017 courses—Register your interest now

- XERO Accounting Software Program – Beginners and Advanced
- Accounting for Beginners
- Sewing Classes—Adults and Children 8 years +

Craft Group:

Meet new friends and share a cuppa while working on your own sewing project. Every Tuesday 11 am for \$3/week

Social Walking

Group: Our social walking group meets every Thursday morning at 9.30 am at various locations.

Do you have a talent or experience that you can share with others? Or do you have a particular course, special interest or event you wish to see in the program please don't hesitate to call Darlene on 5944 3484.

At the UBCC we provide opportunities to develop your skills, broaden your interest and extend your social contacts ... so come on in and say "G'Day".

Thank you to everyone who has donated books to the Centre for our 'Buy-Swap-Sell Library'. We now have a bookcase permanently set up in the foyer for you to browse. Donations always welcome!

Don't forget to like our Facebook page so you can keep up-to-date.

DARLENE STILLWELL PROGRAM COORDINATOR



Heath is a student from our Kids Sewing class who entered his sewing bag into the Dandenong Show....and WON! Well done Heath.

Upper Beaconsfield Community Early Learning Centre

The children have been enjoying the great outdoors, as we have kindly had donations to help us give it a makeover. We have new freshly laid turf, a new digging patch, shade sail, plants and vegies and are about to give our much loved cubby a paint! So why not come along and have a look! Our children have loved exploring what lives in the garden and have even discovered a family of snails. We have been going on our regular outings to the playground at the back of the ELC. The children have enjoyed getting out and about and recently had a picnic at the playground, where families were asked to come along.

Upper Beaconsfield Community Early Learning Centre (ELC) would like to thank the Men's Shed for all their support and assistance over the years. Their most recent project for the ELC was to kindly build, paint and donate three climbing blocks for the children, who have enjoyed playing with them (see front cover).



Christmas dates to remember

The last day of operation for this year is Monday 19 December. We would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year and look forward to seeing you all on Monday 23 January 2017 when we reopen.

Christmas Party

Come along and celebrate Christmas in the Community Hall on Friday 2 December from 11 am–1 pm. Have a dance at our disco, your photo taken with Santa and bring along a plate of food (*no nuts for allergy reasons) and join in the feast. We look forward to seeing you all there!

Our Early Learning Centre (ELC) is open from 7.30 am–6.30 pm and offers exceptional services, for up to 26 children per day. We still have places for 2017. Please phone 5944 3484 or visit our website: www.ubcc.org.au

NATASHA JONES

A great way to spend a morning



Snacks and lunches done, school / kinder run done, off to toy library ...

Time to catch up and meet new friends, time for children to explore, share and play, time for me!

Come 10 am the library doors open and the children take over, playing and interacting while mum, dad and grandparents go in search of new toys to borrow. Others are helping at the borrowing table or grabbing a cuppa before heading out for the day.

Come and join us!

2017 here we come!

The toy library will be closed for the school holidays 15 December until 2 February 2017. At this stage we plan to continue being open on a Thursday fortnightly.



Money raised from toy sales at the UBCC Twilight Market has already been put towards new ride-on toys for 2017. Be the first to try them out!

2017 Membership is available from December

Many thanks to our members, volunteers and UBCC staff for their support during the year. Merry Christmas!

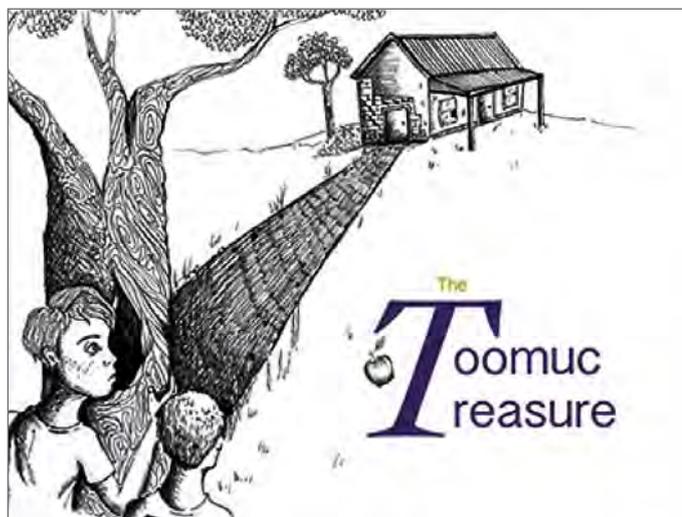
We look forward to seeing you next year with more toys, more friendly faces and more fun!

When are we open?

The library is open fortnightly in the community room, at the Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month between 10–11 am during school terms. We are closed on public holidays.

Visit our website for more details: <http://ubtl.mibase.com.au>
- Email: upperbeac.toylibrary@yahoo.com.au - Facebook: Upper-Beaconsfield-Toy-Library - Phone 5944 3484

MARIE ROGERS, TOY LIBRARY



St John's corner

Celebrating gifts and talents

There is a line in the animated film 'Kung Fu Panda 3' where the hero, Po, says "I can't turn you into me but I can turn you into you." And proceeds to help all his friends to practice and hone their own particular gifts and talents.



At Church we also practice 'turning you into you': God does not want a church full of clones, he wants an active community where everyone's pooled strengths and weaknesses can be useful and appreciated.

For the past several weeks we at St John's have been focussing on recognising and celebrating our own gifts and talents.

Then we had a party!

We had a celebration lunch in the Church Hall, a very happy and well attended event to say Thankyou to each other and to God for our Church Community.

Now we start to focus on Christmas—we are looking forward to holding Christmas services for the BUPS students on 8 December; and we are planning something completely different as well. Recognising the incredible busy-ness that surrounds people over Christmas Week, St John's will provide an extra opportunity for people to come and acknowledge the God behind it all, with an All Ages Service and supper at 5.30 pm on Saturday 17 December.

This will be a relaxed service and ideal to invite friends and neighbours.

Remember the Opp Shop in your Christmas shopping—there are some sensational crystal and glass items and Christmas decorations available. With thanks to our parish and CWA volunteers the Opp Shop is open on Thursdays and Fridays. There will be several weeks of closure from mid-December to the end of January.

Looking forward to seeing you:

- Regular Sunday service 9.30 am
- BUPS services 8 December
- All Ages Service 17 December 5.30 pm
- Christmas Eve 24 December 9.30 pm
- Christmas Day 25 December 9.30 am

ROSZ SMITH, WARDEN

Children's book by John Waterhouse

"The Toomuc Treasure"

Historian and teacher at Beacons Hills College, John Waterhouse, has just published a beautiful children's book about the history of Toomuc Valley. It includes the true story of the mysterious find of rolls of cash by local children in an abandoned house in Gembrook Road.

The book is beautifully illustrated by Beacons Hills College Year 12 student Krisha Saravanan, and is available at the College bookshop and other outlets.

Retirement of Nick Karanzoulis

For 10 years principal Nick Karanzoulis' passion and dedication has made a valuable contribution to our school. Nick introduced the Performing Arts Program, developed student leadership throughout the school and ensured that BUPS has been at the forefront of education. One of his greatest accomplishments was the building of the stadium. With the support of Gavin McGill, school council president, Nick campaigned to the Education Department for a wonderful school stadium. Nick will also be remembered for the annual Tower Fun Run. Nick competed side by side with students, teachers and parents, challenging them to beat him. Nick's greatest strength was the relationships that he developed with everyone, always taking the time to stop for a chat. Nick will be greatly missed and we wish him the best for the future.

Other school news

"ShowTime at Sea"

The school arts program enables the students to imagine and participate in the exploration of their worlds, individually and collaboratively. Every year at BUPS the whole school participates in a school production. The students are taught the techniques of dialogue and choreography. They also build up their confidence, self-esteem and resilience. This is a positive experience for all children with the support of parents and community. Parents assist in many ways from the sourcing and creating of costumes and props to the choreography of dance items. Teachers and students spend many hours perfecting their performances. Everyone will have many cherished memories from this experience.

This year's production "ShowTime at Sea" is the story of a gang of bumbling pirates and their search for a buried treasure. Unfortunately their search is being impeded by an assortment of different characters. The show features a parade of terrific sea faring performance groups who perform 12 great items. Along with songs there is a hilarious mini-play, a cool sun smart rap and a moving finale performed by the whole cast. Brought to life by a cast of jellyfish, pirates, penguins, surfers and kids—this is a colourful and entertaining show.



Basketball success

Four teams made the regional finals of the Hooptime Basketball Tournament: the grade 3/4 boys All Stars, the grade 3/4 Buccaneers, the grade 5/6 All Stars and the grade 5/6 Future Stars. The Future Stars whilst in third spot played the top and undefeated team from another section. Although the other team was the favourite to win, it didn't faze our team at all. Our children played as a team with determination and won the semi final to go through to the state finals in November.

Upper Beacy Cup

The Cup is a learning opportunity in many skill areas of the curriculum, as well as giving an insight into gambling. All children from prep to grade 6 dressed up for the occasion and a fashion parade was held before the obstacle events. Grade 6 students joined their prep buddies for some obstacle events while grade 3/4s erected the marquees and enjoyed a picnic lunch.

Chess competition

As part of our lunchtime program, our children have been experiencing the great game of chess. Chess is a game that has beneficial effects on learning, especially when it is played from a young age. In October BUPS hosted Beaconsfield Primary school students for a friendly chess tournament. Congratulations to Felix S in 5/6 B who won the individual knockout title. Our school also won the team competition. Later in the term we will compete against Beaconsfield PS, Nar Nar Goon PS and Pakenham Hills PS for overall chess champion.

Coffee with Kids

This is held Wednesday mornings in the stadium under the guidance of one our parents. Art activities are organised for the children. This term an enjoyable excursion was organised to the Messy Shed at Tyabb. Coffee with Kids is a great opportunity to relax, have a coffee and meet some of the other parents in the school. All welcome.

School tours and enrolments

School tours take place every Tuesday from 9.15–11 am.

Please contact the office for other available times. Enrolments for 2017 are still open. Visit our website to see what learning looks like at BUPS and how we engage children as they develop their passion for learning.

**SARAH
BUNNELL**

Pony Club show jumping day

On Melbourne Cup Day Upper Beaconsfield Pony Club hosted a show jumping event at Ayr Hill Equestrian Centre. There were competitors from all over Melbourne, as well as lots from Upper Beaconsfield. The day was lots of fun and



hard work—especially for the parents, Mum says.

My pony Magic can be naughty but I was determined to get him over all the jumps. I knew I would have to drive him hard over the dazzle board and one that flapped in the wind. In my first round Magic refused to go over the 7th jump which was the one flapping madly. He planted his hooves in the sand and stopped. I turned him around and then yelled at him as he came up to the jump. He sailed over it. Relief. In my second round I cleared all the jumps and came 5th in the round.

Then came my last round. Magic was doing well until the 7th jump again. He trotted towards it and at the last second refused it again. I was thrown onto his neck, out of the saddle with no control of him. He ran towards the gate where his buddy was standing. Somehow I wriggled back in the saddle and then grabbed the reins. I pulled him back towards the jump and then got him over it. Mum says it's just as well he is good looking. He can be naughty, but I still love him.

Some of my friends from Upper Beaconsfield did very well, winning 2nd, 3rd and 5th placed ribbons. Sarah Laukart and Avril Charman came first in E and Open E grade.

Thank you to all the parents who organised the day for us. The facilities were very good and I loved the jam doughnuts! It was a great event and I can't wait for next year.

VIVIEN ROBINSON (AGED 10)



Upper Beaconsfield Village Festival Sunday 19th February 2017

- 9 am Start
- Tower Challenge Fun Run
- Art Exhibition
- \$10 Unlimited Rides
- Animal Nursery
- Laser Skirmish
- Reptiles
- Jumping Castle
- New Stall Holders
- Delicious Food
- Live Entertainment

Come along and enjoy the sounds of our talented musicians, or browse the many stalls selling their home made delights, or just relax under a shady tree with a latte or ice cold drink. This is a community event especially for families. Purchase a \$10 wrist band, which gives the kids unlimited rides.



www.ubvillagefest.org.au

Brad Battin

Fire season approaches

Although it has been a wet spring, the weather is warming up and we should not grow complacent when it comes to our fire plans for the upcoming fire season.

The Upper Beaconsfield CFA had an Open Day on 27 November to help those in the community prepare for the upcoming fire season.

I encourage all who do not have or are unsure about their fire plan to contact your local brigade for some tips and advice on your fire preparation.

Our local brigades like the Upper Beaconsfield CFA are well

equipped and prepared for the fire season ahead and it is imperative that so too is the community.

You won't believe it but Christmas is nearly here.

This Christmas as you prepare for some time with the family, don't forget in all your plans, safety first.

If you are staying local or travelling far remember to plan ahead, take regular rests if driving and secure your house.

Inform the neighbours you will be away and ask them to collect the mail. Let family know where you are going and when you will be back. It is only a few weeks away as I write this so it is time to plan now.

BRAD BATTIN MLA FOR GEMBROOK

Storm damage at Cardinia Beaconhills Golf Links

The whole area of Upper Beaconsfield was affected by the freakish storm winds of 9 October so it came as no surprise to many that we were hit badly with scores of trees down but luckily no one was hurt and we didn't incur much structure damage. But with so many trees down, we had to work hard to clear the course and surroundings. Safety of our golfers and guests came as first priority and course staff and volunteers have been relentless in the past month to clear up the debris.

The Club is holding a special Storm Relief Raffle in order to cover unexpected costs from clearing out the storm damage. We have had external contractors on site to assist us in clearing up the big trees. All welcome to purchase tickets from the office for the raffle tickets and all proceeds will go towards covering the clean up costs.

Despite the strong winds on 9 October, the Club had a

successful fundraising day on Saturday 15 October with the annual Phoenix Day.

We raised funds towards covering club expenses

and we were fortunate that rain stayed away for the day. Over 170 members and guests played on both shotgun starts and fellow local resident Graham Kelly won the main Phoenix raffle prize. Thank you to all our sponsors on the day – Rann Property Services, Aughtersons Lawyers, Evolve Finance, Brown Brothers, Goldfields Nursery and various donations from members, particularly for our auction items.



District events

In our district events, Jean Wheatley, Jenny Chandler, Bev Eckhardt and Kerri Greig teamed well to secure the GPV Hiscock Salver and Jenny also won the GPV Veterans Championship Nett division (age 55–68).

Our young girls also went well in the state events with Alex Hilliard securing the medallist honours in the Women's South Australian Amateur Championship and Ashleigh Hall won both the Victorian Champion of Champions trophy and Best Nett event.

Winners

Spring Classic A Grade – Ann Felgate, B Grade – Rosalie Leake

Nightingale Championship: Winner – Eric Wilson, Runner up – Ray Pund

Doris Chambers Foursomes – Ros Harding and Nicki Charman

New staff

We welcome two new staff members. Andrew is a qualified green keeper replacing a previous apprentice who left in August. Matt works part time in a newly created position of Golf and Communications officer in club administration.

**FIZA ERRINGTON, CLUB MANAGER
CARDINIA BEACONHILLS GOLF LINKS**



A serve from the Tennis Club

News from around the club

We had a fairly good turnout for the last working bee with trees and garden clean up, look out for the next working bee in March 2017 to join in and help your club to be the best around. The committee is at present looking at upgrading the court sprinkler system to protect the courts over the hot summer months, watch this space for more updates.



Please take care when exiting the tennis club at Stoney Creek Road. Recently there was a bad accident along with some near misses so please stop and look. We all hope we can achieve all our goals to better the Upper Beaconsfield Tennis Club in 2016/17 and beyond.

New coaching team at the tennis club

Brett Hillier has now teamed up with Rob Scott to do tennis coaching at Upper Beaconsfield Tennis Club. Rob and Brett have a large array of tennis structures to suit any level. You can contact them and arrange a day or evening lesson at upperbeactenniscoaching@live.com.au

Interested in playing tennis?

The club has a vast array of day and night tennis available for all the family, mid-week ladies, mixed night tennis is on Monday – Tuesday – Wednesday and Thursday nights, Saturday and Sunday juniors, Saturday afternoon seniors and pennant. Contact the club below for more information.

For more information about the Upper Beaconsfield Tennis Club and how you can get involved simply email us at upperbeaconsfieldtc@gmail.com or check out our website www.tennis.com.au/upperbeaconsfield

DAVID HARVEY, U.B.T.C. COMMITTEE



Lucky 13! Hole in one

Matt van der Kraan scored a rare hole in one during the winter months, with number 13 a lucky number for him as he scored his hole in one on 13 October and on the 13th hole. This is Matt's second hole in one this year.

Maroons



Upper Beaconsfield has made a flying start in the 2016/17 season with all of its teams handily placed. Our premier team has surprised the pundits with two wins over clubs who reached the finals last season. B grade is also second on the ladder and the other senior teams are well placed at this stage. All of our junior teams are on top so far. The cricket community appears to be taking notice again. Let's see if the momentum can continue. Coach Bath Perera said he was pleased with the numbers, depth and greater commitment this season. "We can make people take the Maroons seriously this season," he responded.

Jono - Maroons' 'Jacques Kallis'?

Quiet, unassuming but determined. Jonathon Caderamanpulle is one of the new faces who has already made an impact this season. His 85 against Pakenham gave big hints of him becoming a force in the WGCA. Jono was born in Colombo in 1996, attended Wesley College and honed his game in the school XI. He played for Ragama CC in the Premier Division 2nds in Colombo before attending the Melbourne campus of Central Queensland Uni studying a bachelor of accounting. He admires Jacques Kallis (probably the greatest all rounder) and loved watching Kumar Sangakkara. Welcome Jono! We hope you become a great all-rounder too.

Maroons finish Yabbies with bang

After overcoming the Yabbies on the Village Green at Harry Blackburne oval a week earlier the Maroons finally swept them aside in their T20 clash on 15 November as Bath Perera smashed another six into the Primary School. A healthy crowd enjoyed the Waz Burgers and the many sixes on offer from both teams. Kaushy Weeraratne (pictured, who famously struck 50 in 12 balls in 2008) entertained with his precise hitting while Yabby Rory Gilliate also joined the festivities. Thanks to President Vicky and her energetic crew for making the night memorable.



Meet the Charmans

Neil Charman can be found most Saturdays scoring for the U16s, looking after the U10s Friday Nights, (in which daughter Avril plays), while he extends a calm aura around all who meet him. Neil's cricket coaching involves a warm, encouraging style. However, surprisingly Neil is an accomplished vet who dashes about the countryside during the week conducting experimental trials on animals, as well as working with his wife Robyn at their vet practice. Cricket plays a large part in their lives. Son David is on the verge of becoming a very talented young batsman as well as pace bowler, while his older brother Neil Junior has made two cameos for the Maroons so far in the seconds. Flying is Neil Jr's passion and after completing Year 12 we may miss his cricket skills unfortunately. Upper Beaconsfield is indeed very pleased to welcome the Charmans to the Maroon family.

Upper Beaconsfield Scout Group—a busy year



All members have participated in a diverse range of fun and challenging activities and they are already preparing for more adventure in 2017. The group will celebrate the year with canoeing and a BBQ dinner at Lysterfield Lake.

Cubs

Cubs have been very busy with fun activities and have scheduled in a number of exciting events to see out the remainder of the year. These consist of a Christmas day out at Luna Park, a Puffing Billy trip and picnic, a camp out that will include swimming, bush walking, movie and cooking breakfast over a camp fire.

Cubs is aimed at children aged 7–10 and is wonderful for making new friendships, developing confidence, acquiring interests and skills, provides adventure and new experiences, but most importantly, is all done with fun in mind! If your child is interested in giving Cubs a try, please come along to the Igloo on a Monday, 7–8.30 pm.

Scouts

Upper Beaconsfield currently has 26 scouts. Scouts is geared for 10–14 year olds and we meet on a Tuesday night, 7–9 pm at the Igloo.

Term 3's program was action packed with activities such as a visit to the police, swimming, construction, patrol activities, a Youth Development night, cooking competition and more. We also saw our scouts take two gold and one silver at the district Cohen Shield competition camp. The term ended with a 'gentle and passive bonding session' of paintball ... I think the leaders are still getting the paint out!

Term 4 is also looking great. To date, we have had a craft night, rickshaw races, self defence training, a bike hike and are gearing up for the much anticipated Gilweroo camp—run like a mini Jamboree with approximately 2000 scouts attending for a weekend of activities including abseiling, rock climbing, air rifles, rocket launchers, geocaching, flying fox, mountain boards, zorbing, BMX biking, etc.

Venturers

The 1st Upper Beaconsfield Venturers have been out and about with lots of different activities. Some of our unit members participated in Armstrong 500, a competition hike held in the state forest around Labertouche with plenty of mud, rain and some sunshine as well. The unit has also been trampolining at Bounce, had a crack at making chocolate damper in a camp oven, rockclimbing at Carrum, and held a trade-up night (and profuse apologies to anyone who may have been startled by some Venturers knocking on their door asking if they'd like to trade an item).

Some of our many activities coming up include a formal progressive fast food dinner, a water activities camp at

Caringal, a visit to a Buddhist temple and a four wheel drive weekend.

We always welcome new members—if you're between 14 and 18 years old and you'd like to check us out for a few nights, please phone Janet on 0400 981 114.



Rovers

Split Rock Rover Crew is just about to reach a major milestone. For the first time since reforming, we are entering a car in a Rover Motorsport event! Over the past two months a lot of work has gone into finishing up all of the little bits and pieces that still needed to be done. A big thank you to everyone who has helped out with our car in any shape or form, with a special thanks to Brendan Boon and Corey Angus who have been the driving force behind the push to get it finished.

The event that we participated in was "Crossed Up", held at Mafeking Rover Park from 11–13 November, and we came 8th overall.

All sections of our Scout Group meet at the Igloo, Upper Beaconsfield Recreation Reserve.

Cubs	7–10 years	Monday	7–8.30 pm
Scouts	10–14 years	Tuesday	7–9 pm
Venturers	14–17 years	Monday	7.30–9.30 pm
Rovers	18–25 years	Thursday	from 7.30 pm

If you would like to try Scouting, please contact our Group Leader, Warren Makings on 0437 023 086 or upperbeacgroupleader@gmail.com

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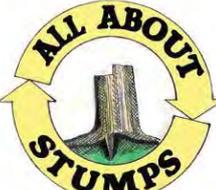


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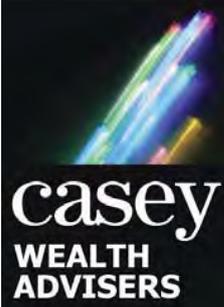
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Upper Beaconsfield SMS Notification system

This SMS system is very different and does not in any way replace the Government’s Emergency Alert System. To receive any information from the Upper Beaconsfield Notification System you must first be a registered user. Currently there are over 1100 residents subscribed. It is a volunteer community run notification/ education/ information system. The Upper Beaconsfield System

uses a commercial SMS service to send an SMS to all registered mobile phone numbers and ring all registered landline number and deliver a voice message. This is done automatically and simultaneously. Messages will appear on your mobile from “U.B.InfoMsg”

Who manages the system?

The Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre Inc. administers the system by managing the database of phone numbers and holding the money paid by residents on trust. Cardinia Council provides some funding to assist. The operation side of the system is co-ordinated by a number of local residents and volunteers who have the ability to send notifications should they be required. Some of these organisers are local CFA members, Fire Guard Co-ordinators and other responsible local residents.

What information will be provided?

Information sent out will be advice in relation to fire danger periods, ensuring residents are aware of upcoming Extreme and Code Red Days, notification of community meetings relating to fire and any other messages that relate directly to the Upper Beaconsfield community. It is up to each resident to follow the progress of an incident and make their own decisions as to their course of action. It is NOT an early warning system.

Can I rely on this service for notification of a bushfire?

NO. You cannot rely on any one information source. The official Government “Emergency Alert” system will provide you with as much information as possible when there is a bushfire, but it is important to understand that bushfires can spread quickly threatening lives and property within minutes. If a fire starts nearby you may not receive any warning. The official Emergency Alert system will only send messages to mobile phones within the geographical area determined by the CFA. If your phone, or your billing address, are outside the nominated area at the time of an incident you will not be sent a message under the government system. CFA’s Leave Early Policy is very clear that you may not be given warning of a fire and will never be told when to evacuate. Residents should have a Fire Plan well before a threat. It should NOT be relied upon and you should NOT remain in the area in the expectation that you will receive a warning from this or any other information source.

What do I do in an emergency?

Call Triple Zero 000 to report an emergency. In the event of a fire monitor ABC radio 774 and official internet sites such as CFA or the Bushfire Information Line 1800 240 667. Do not stay expecting to get a warning.

How do I change my information, opt in or out of the system?

Contact the Community Centre at 10-12 Salisbury Road, Upper Beaconsfield, phone 5944 3484, if you want to join (cost per phone number is \$5), to opt out, or to update your details. Information on the Government “Emergency Alert” system is on the CFA website www.cfa.vic.gov.au

Ed Keon-Cohen

Upper Beaconsfield SMS Notification Coordinator

Ellisa Borne

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