

UPPER BEACONSFIELD

VILLAGE BELL

Upper Beaconsfield Association
www.upperbeaconsfield.org.au

Issue No. 207
March 2017

*The
Enigmatic
Echidna*



What's



this?

If you even tried to answer this question (see answer below), perhaps you might like to answer this: Would you be interested in displaying your garden in our Open Garden event this year? Yes!

The Upper Beaconsfield Fire Brigade will be holding an Open Garden fundraiser this year, and we are looking for a new batch of gardens to display.

If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Caro on 5944 4208 or email to caro@sctelco.net.au



Answer: Grevillea McCutcheon!

Superb fairy-wren
(Blue wren)



Village Festival 2017
Celebrating Community



Upper Beaconsfield Citizen of the Year 2016

Malcolm Graham

Malcolm always impressed with his can-do attitude and his commitment to the community from his early days in the community. He was involved with the Fire Brigade and Scouts and later as area coordinator with Neighbourhood Watch.

Malcolm's forte is as an organiser of people with a network of local contacts to get the job done. One example was his contribution to the top dressing and grassing of the Community Complex eastern car park in very unpleasant weather conditions – people, grass and fertiliser appeared seemingly from nowhere.

Malcolm's tremendous amount of time and effort on the Upper Beaconsfield Village Festival committee for many years demonstrates his contribution to

the community. He gets things done, he won't take No for an answer and simply doesn't know how to quit. He took on a leadership role for many essential functions in earlier years and continues with them to the present day. He is an inspiration to all who work with him, rarely complains but when he does you better listen.



Malcolm and Anne Graham

On top of all this he works full time in

real estate with Alex Scott and Staff in Berwick, but rarely misses a committee meeting be it day or evening.

He is always present at the Village Festival as the Chief Warden and manages the committee volunteers into an effective group for the entire day. In 2014 he executed his responsibilities with vigour despite the setback of a major illness in the preceding months. Malcolm Graham is a very deserving recipient for the 2016 Citizen of the Year award.

PETER SIMMONS

The remarkable range of his Festival committee responsibilities are listed here:

- *Liaising and coordinating Scouts activities at the Tower Run*
- *Liaising and coordinating CFA activities at the Tower Run*
- *Liaising with Cardinia Shire Council on funding, insurance and OHS*
- *Liaising with Victoria Police on their legal requirements*
- *Coordinating St John Ambulance attendance*
- *Organising and coordinating with traffic management for the Tower Run and festival*
- *Setting out barriers, signs and drink stations for the Tower Run and festival*
- *Producing/updating and placing signs throughout the community*
- *Printing and placing advertising material throughout the local and neighbouring communities*
- *Organising the sponsorship support of Belleview Orchard*
- *Organising and collecting produce for the vegetable stall*

A festival of fun in the rain

Despite the inclement weather on Sunday 19 February the Village Festival was enjoyed by many. The day began at 9 am with the ringing of the bell on our heritage community hall and the beginning of the annual Tower Challenge fun run, named after the water tower hill that is part of the course.

Families bought wristbands for their children to enable them to enjoy the many activities provided. The big slide and bungy run activities looked a little dismal in the

rain, but the jumping castle, surfboard challenge and climbing wall were kept busy. Many children were exhilarated by the hands on contact with farm animals with the animal nursery and the display of native wildlife. Pony rides, a tennis activity and the laser skirmish added to the fun.



The Art Show attracted many works of a high standard and proved to be a popular venue to escape from the rain.

Local musician

Daniel Cooper entertained the gathering with his guitar playing and singing. The music group The Requestadors played their mix of popular songs later in the day.

The official presentations began with the announcement of the winner of the Upper Beaconsfield Association's Citizen of the Year Award. The winner for the year 2016 is Malcolm Graham, who has worked tirelessly for the Village Festival for many years. Winners of the various sections of the Fun Run were also presented with their medals. The Upper Beaconsfield Primary School won the \$500 presented to the group with the largest number of entries in the Fun Run. Many community groups contributed to the day. Several ran fund-raising activities such as lucky dips and raffles.

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Carols thank you

Once again the Carols in the park last Christmas Eve was held in beautiful weather and enjoyed by many hundreds of residents, family and friends.

This enjoyable family event has come about with the support and hard work of many in our community. Support from the following groups made the evening possible:

- Cardinia Shire
- Upper Beaconsfield Association
- Men's Shed
- Primary School
- Community Centre
- Fire Brigade
- Community Complex Buildings & Grounds Committee



Thanks also to musical coordinator Helen De Jager, MC Peter Brown, the singers and musicians, sound crew, Julie Born, Noel Ling, Father Christmas and many others. Your contribution is greatly appreciated by the community.

HELEN SMITH

Emerald FunFest

Sunday 2 April 10-4 around Kilvington Drive & Puffing Billy

FunFest is the street festival held at the start of PAVE. A festival of its own with street performance, kids rides and activities, stalls, music stages, a bar, food court, demonstrations, competitions and workshops and much more.

FunFest Youth Music Stage ; 3MDR Main Stage ; Marloi Thai Stage ; Mountain Pickers Blue Grass Stage (at The Hive)

Rainfall at "Barkala", Beaconsfield-Emerald Road

Month	45 yr av.	2016	2017
Jan	63.6	89.7	51.8
Feb	58.4	15.6	
Mar	64.2	46.4	
Apr	78.3	74.9	
May	86.1	119.2	
Jun	80.3	138.8	
Jul	78.6	102.9	
Aug	85.7	65.7	
Sep	90.6	85.5	
Oct	94.3	129.0	
Nov	86.5	54.0	
Dec	80.4	77.5	
Total	947 mm	999.2 mm	

January's rain was a reasonable start to the year, a little up on average, and let's hope it continues. There were two reasonably substantial rain events in the month, which contributed to the residual green around the township not typical for this time of the year. It has been the absence of an extended period of dry heat so far this season that is welcome.

ROYCE HORWOOD

Bell Credits

Editorial coordinator Helen Smith tel 5944 3219 – **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

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Full Name

Address

Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre

Notice of Annual General Meeting
15 March 2017 at 7.30 pm

- Invitation to all members and residents to attend the AGM of the Community Centre
- Nominations for Committee of Management are welcome.
- The UBCC, a not for profit community organisation, operates under a voluntary committee of management.
- All positions on the committee will become vacant at the AGM
- Skills in areas such as business, marketing, finance and community services are particularly valuable
- The committee meets once each month.



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A wide range of food was available from the many stalls.

The Village Festival Committee thanks the many groups and individuals who participated this year. The success of this event is a tribute to the generosity of the people of Upper Beaconsfield and their commitment to support our vibrant community. The Committee requests constructive feedback about the festival. We particularly want to hear from residents who would like to be part of the planning group for next year's event. Please contact the Community Centre on 5944 3484 and leave your details.

MATT McDONALD



Village Festival Art Exhibition

The 2017 Upper Beaconsfield Village Festival Art Exhibition was a great success with over 100 pieces entered, and showed a mix of media, subjects, sizes and techniques. Prizes were awarded by a "People's Choice" award in both adult and children's sections. Everyone who came through the exhibition voted for their favourite piece.

The winner in the adult section was an amazing painting titled "Leopard" by John Grbic, 2nd place was by the same artist for his portrait of "John Wayne". Third place was a huge mosaic piece by Helen Harmen titled "Drowning in politics".

In the children's section 1st place went to Olivia Knight from Upper Beaconsfield with her piece titled "Pirouette", 2nd place was awarded to Seth Mellis for his "Jim Beam". We had a tie for third place Holli Waterhouse "The Fairy" and Brady Wadleton "Tree Of Life".

Congratulations to all winners, as well as to all the artists who entered. The quality of work was outstanding.

Thank you to the ladies who helped me organise this event: Melissa Clarnette,

Jen Hopkins, Rebecca Edison and Wendy Harpman. Without your help the exhibition would not have been the huge success that it was.

GAIL KELLY

Tower Run

The skies opened up, but nothing will deter the residents and visitors to Upper Beaconsfield. Over 200 runners attacked the Tower Run in the cold and amongst the rain showers. Peter Dutton completed it in a blistering time of 23 minutes 54 seconds, with many runners well behind. There were six 6-year-olds in the run and oldest in the "70 plus category" was Andre Bokos in a very respectable time of 50.54.

The group prize was once again by the Beaconsfield Upper Primary School despite a strong attempt by Park Run to better them.

Congratulations to Malcolm Graham for being recognised by the UBA as the

Upper Beaconsfield Citizen of the Year for 2017 and thanks to him for all his hard and tireless work for taking care of the Occupational Health and Safety requirements of the Festival and Tower Run over many years.

We could not run the Village Festival without the generous support of the annual 'Festivals and Events' grants provided by Cardinia Shire Council. Thanks to the many people at the Council who also assist us each year with practical support in our preparations for the Festival. Special thanks too to Mayor Brett Owen who not only presented the prizes but also competed in the Fun Run himself!

TOM GIBSON

Thank you for your contributions

- * Thanks to Beaconsfield District Community Bank Branch of Bendigo Bank for greatly assisting us through their support,
- * Ultimate Fitness Training of Berwick for their warm up before



Tanya Craig, 2nd woman overall in a time of 30:20. Photograph: GeoSnapShot

- the Tower Run and competing in the Tower Run,
- * Worthy Events for the use of their tables and chairs.
- * Jason's Restaurant for providing the sliders which were sold by the CWA,
- * The Coach House Dairy for providing all the runners with protein drinks and stocking the fresh produce stall with their drinks and yoghurts.
- * Summer Snow of Officer for providing all the apple juices,
- * Gazzola Farms of Somerville and Favero Gardens for beautiful fresh vegetables,
- * Supherb Herbs of Clyde for fresh herbs,
- * the UBA for sponsoring "The Paint Pot People", a new activity introduced this year for children,
- * Shanikas Restaurant of Berwick,
- * The Langham Hotel Melbourne,
- * Alex Scott and Staff,
- * Bakers Delight,
- * Mr Black Juicery
- * Thanks to all the other helpers from the Upper Beaconsfield Community



Centre, Men's Shed, and CWA, plus all other helpers of whom there are many, for providing their time for the planning, set up, running and promotion of our great day out.

Brendon catches his breath after a hard sprint to the end

Birthday surprise in the gully!

One of Upper Beaconsfield's long-time residents, Laura Levens celebrated her 90th birthday with a group of young and old friends. Laura dedicated herself to the protection of the natural environment of Upper Beaconsfield for many years, and one of her many projects related to the preservation of Salisbury Gully as one of the Shire of Cardinia's valuable bushland reserves.

We wanted to do something special to not only celebrate Laura's birthday, but also to mark the rejuvenation of Salisbury Gully, so we came up with the idea of placing a plaque on one of the new seats along the walking path to acknowledge Laura's contribution over many years.

On her birthday on 7 December 2016 Laura was brought to Upper Beaconsfield by a friend, with no idea about the surprise which lay in wait in Salisbury Gully. We hope that



Laura enjoyed the unveiling of the plaque, and the speech from our Mayor, Brett Owen, which was followed by a lovely lunch for the group of friends at Jason's Restaurant nearby.

In the last Village Bell, we reported on the fact that drainage issues in Salisbury Gully had resulted in the loss of several large eucalypts in the October storms. At our request Council has completed drainage works to control runoff into the gully from McBride Road and further planting will be needed in autumn to repair the damage.

If you would like help with replanting or general upkeep of Salisbury Gully, please contact me on friendsofsalisburygully@gmail.com or leave a message at the Community Centre 5944 3484.

SALLY RANDALL, FRIENDS OF SALISBURY GULLY



Vale Kenneth Ballinger

Ken and Jeanette Ballinger lived in Upper Beaconsfield from 1971 until 1998, firstly in Manestar Road, then Yackatoon Road, where they built a large shed first, then followed with a large home. They moved to Fryerstown to an intentional community. Both Ken and Jeanette had extensive involvement in the Upper Beaconsfield community.

Ken was member of the UB Fire Brigade for a while and became Mr Fixit for washing machines and pumps etc

Vale Diana Rocke 1934–2016

Diana Rocke moved to Upper Beaconsfield in 1972 with her husband Phillip, and four children. Early on she was involved in the Mc Bride Road kinder committee, which back then was the only the pre-school facility in the town. She was a member of the St John's Church community often doing the flowers, cleaning, and participating in church activities.

Not endeared to a permanent position of 'housewife' as was typical in those days, Diana tried to change that by studying for a decade part-time. She completed HSC (VCE), and then an arts degree at Monash University studying the classics, Australian history, and sociology. During that time Diana edited the history articles of the Village Bell when they were

written by John Milligan and Roy Harris, and was one of the original Friends of the Old Cheese Factory, whose lobbying efforts brought about its restoration.

After completing her studies together with Phillip she successfully created a business managing body-corporates in the Dandenong area. Her knowledge from her studies of landlord/tenant relationships across a range of racial groups was a distinct advantage, when in those days they often referred to her as 'just a woman'.

Diana and Phillip moved "down the hill" to Berwick in 1994.

CAMERON ROCKE

Rustic Readers book club

Welcomes new members in 2017

Meetings monthly on the first Monday

Contact: 0412 655 223

Vale Lyn Fisher 4 January 1934–15 January 2017

Lyn and Ron Fisher came to live in Upper Beaconsfield in the late 1980s, moving from Glen Waverley to more space and greener pastures on Sugarloaf Road with magnificent views and clearer air for Ron's radio hobby.

Lyn had been a State Leader Training Commissioner and District Leader for the Cub Scout section in Glen Waverley and her move to Upper Beaconsfield quickly spread among the local Scout fraternity as the estate agent who sold them their new property was a local Scout leader!

Lyn accepted the role of Assistant District Commissioner for Leader Training in Toomuc, now Cardinia District, to continue her long association with Scouting which commenced in 1964 when, as a parent, she joined as an Assistant Cub Leader at the 2nd/5th Waverley Scout Group in support of her six young children.

Lyn retired from an active leadership role in 2000, joined the Australian Scout Fellowship of retired leaders for a number of years and attended its social gatherings and hosted her last one in December 2016.

Lyn received the Scout 40 year Long Service Award in 2004 and was recognised for the quality of her volunteer service above and beyond that expected with the award of the Medal of Merit for Outstanding Service in 1978, the Silver Acorn for Distinguished Service in 1987 and the Bar to the Silver Acorn for additional especially distinguished service in 1997.

Lyn and husband Ron joined the Upper Beaconsfield Association after moving to Upper Beaconsfield. Ron set up the public address system in the local hall and they helped organise the sausage sizzles at the Carols for several years. In recent years, after ill health, Lyn and husband Ron moved to Berwick.

The well attended funeral service in Pakenham demonstrated the high esteem everyone held of Lyn. Family members and friends helped celebrate Lyn's life with funny anecdotes and fond tributes.

BOB TAYLOR AND HELEN SMITH

Lyn Fisher—two reminiscences

I first met Lyn in the late 80's at the Writers Group in the Upper Beaconsfield community centre.

Lyn was a regular attendee over the years until the meetings stopped after many of the members left to attend education courses. Lyn didn't write much but knitted for most of the time. However, she contributed by joining all the conversations and displayed a very good knowledge of people and organisations. She always had a good word for everyone.

After the writers group ceased meeting, Lyn was the main instigator in organising monthly meetings for lunch for all who could attend and became the organiser of the lunches right through until the end of 2016.

Throughout all these years Lyn was most generous with her time. Lyn and Ron were regular travellers to South East Asia and over the years invited many people to accompany them



on their trips. Having a good knowledge of all destinations they became travel guides to their friends and took great pleasure in showing them many places which they would otherwise never have visited.

Lyn, with her sense of humour, had unlimited ability to befriend everyone she met.

PHILLIP ROCKE

The beginning of my friendship with Lyn was an appeal for help.

She had found an orchid in the patch of grass husband Ron designated a lawn and was keen to mow.

Someone had given her my details to contact as a possible source of knowledge.

When I arrived at her place there she was—apologising that she couldn't offer a cuppa because she had locked herself out!

Anyway that didn't affect the orchid ID and we got off to a fine start on that project. It was a nodding greenhood.

We also found a couple of other species before husband Ron responded to a call for help, and arrived from wherever he had been, with a key to the house.

That was around 30 years ago and we have been friends involved in various groups and activities ever since.

These included Upper Beaconsfield Writers' Group, Village Fair, and meals at Pine Grove most Wednesday evenings with a group of friends.

Lyn was a loving, caring, thoughtful person to her family and friends.

She seemed to be inexhaustible even during her time with cancer ravaging her body.

"She will be missed" really has meaning.

Laura Levens

*Farewell Friends,
As I can't be here today, I just wanted to say,
whether you're family, scouting, Beta Sigma Phi,
kinder or part of my community, thank you for
being part of my life.*

*Maybe I've not seen you recently, but you've
been in my thoughts.*

*Others are newer friends, but no less meaningful
to me.*

*Thank you all for riding the crest of the wave
with me.....*

*To the grandchildren, it has been a great pleasure
watching you grow and mature into delightful
young adults. And a special thank you to those
who visited, fed and spent time with the old one.*

Lyn Fisher (written by Lyn October 2016)



Des McKenna: admired and loved

A resident of Upper Beaconsfield for thirty-six years, Des McKenna was well known, admired and loved. Sportsman, husband to Carmel for 59 years, food specialist, factory manager, father of eleven, renowned sculptor, caring community leader, Des packed a lot of living into his eighty-six years.

Des was born in Camberwell in 1930, attended St Dominic's Primary School,

St Kevin's, Toorak for his secondary education, and RMIT to study food sciences. He took up the position of Production Supervisor at Nestle in Pakenham in 1960 and became Factory Manager in 1965. Des and Carmel moved to St Georges Road, Upper Beaconsfield in 1970. They soon became known as 'the family with all the kids'.

On retirement from Nestle, Des said "I have always had a feeling of great satisfaction to have nursed the Pakenham factory from a tin shed building to a modern highly sophisticated food plant, when many senior management people over the years would have been happy for me to stop pushing for its development and just shut it down". Des knew what the factory meant to Pakenham and the families of those who worked there. In his retirement Des took up sculpting in wood, for which he became famous, carving thousands of pieces, among them the wombat in the city square and the whale in the foyer of the Museum.

Wherever Des and Carmel lived, Des became involved in the community in ways that always made a difference for others. This was so in his early years at Camberwell, being involved in the Young Christian Workers movement, the local parish



and the Scout Group. In Upper Beaconsfield he continued his involvement in scouting and in junior football with the Beaconsfield Club (ten of his eleven children are boys). Des was chairman of the Upper Beaconsfield Hall Committee, the Recreation Reserve Committee and was founding president of the Community Care Group.

Des was awarded the Upper Beaconsfield

Citizen of the Year in 1986, The Cardinia Shire Australia Day Citizen of the year in 1992. He received an Order of Australia award in the same year, after being named in a group of 5000 distinguished Australians in the 'People Scope' awards which took place in Parliament House in Canberra.

The first of Des' children travelled to Warragul for their secondary schooling, so Des raised the possibility of a Catholic College in the Berwick area. He was given encouragement in this proposal, and after leading a planning group through the difficult early stages, eventually St Francis Xavier College was established. He became founding College Board chairman and was honoured for his nineteen years of service to the College, which now has three campuses and enrolments in excess of 2500.

The McKenna family lost their home, Innisfree, in the Ash Wednesday bushfires, which was traumatic for them. Des' reflection was that the house wasn't important – when all the family survived. Des and Carmel rebuilt their home. Seeking a change, Des and Carmel moved to Malmsbury in 2006, where once again he became involved in the community.

Des' approach to life was well summed up in some advice

he gave to his family not long ago: "Be good, kind, gentle and tolerant with each other – try to remember when things appear to go wrong, that it is in overcoming adversity together, your love and family ties become even stronger". The home of Des and Carmel was always a place of food, welcome, fun and music. Des will be greatly missed by his family and all those for whom he did so much.

MATT McDONALD



Making friends in my garden

UB Conservation Group

Some gardening jobs are, at best, tedious. For me, pruning irises (in this case the indigenous *Orthrosanthus multiflora* or morning iris) is one of them. Especially as I have about 100 of them, and they all flower profusely. So it's also quite

time consuming.

But in spring they are beautiful. They send up multiple spikes of sky blue flowers. I love them, and so do the bees and butterflies. But I was to discover there is more to *Orthrosanthus* than just the flowers. They are quite an important habitat for all sorts of little animals.

First up I found a frog. He, no doubt, was somewhat alarmed at the sight of my secateurs.

And I was about as

surprised as the frog. We looked at each other goggle-eyed and decided no further action was required. Since frogs absorb liquid (from water to sunscreen) through their skin it is best not to handle them unless you really need to. If you do, your hands must be well washed, rinsed and still damp. He seemed content where he was and fortunately no damage had been done, so I left him to it.

We have a nice big frog pond, full of happy raucous frogs. Sometimes, especially after rain, they create such a cacophony we just about need to shout to have a conversation. Generally we just close the windows. Or turn on the lights over the pond if it's night time. With the help of the frog census app we have identified, mainly by their calls, Verreaux's tree frog (*Litoria verreauxii*)

(pictured right), the striped marsh frog (*Limnodynastes peronii*), the southern brown tree frog (*Litoria ewingii*) and the eastern banjo frog (*Limnodynastes dumerilii*), or pobblebonk. This one was a striped marsh frog.

The pond has shelter for them – rocks, logs at various levels, grasses, reeds, even lily pads. No idea where they all came from, but once constructed and once the rain started to fill it, the frogs just magically appeared.

Avoiding various spiders, beetles and the odd slug and snail, I continued snipping. And soon I found myself disturbing

another frog. This one was much smaller and more delicate, maybe a southern brown tree frog. He burrowed into the foliage further, and I pretended I hadn't seen him at all.

By now I was realising just how many creatures make their homes in this one species of plant. I wasn't surprised to meet one of the resident blue tongues (*Tiliqua scincoides*) hanging out. Still sleepy, he was just warming himself up for the day ahead, hopefully about to dine on the aforementioned slugs and snails. He hissed and poked out his bright blue tongue. Suitably chastised I quickly moved on.

Soon I found myself investigating what I took to be a mass of old dead iris leaves. But looks are deceiving and it turned out to be a dome shaped nest, small enough to fit in the palm of my hand. Made of intricately woven old iris leaves and lined with soft feathers it looked cosy and warm, and hidden in all that foliage, safe from predators. Another surprise, this was a superb fairy wren's nest.

The female wren (*Malurus cyaneus*) constructs the nest and incubates the eggs, usually three or four, by herself.

But the whole family group will help feed the chicks once hatched. They dine on insects and other arthropods, caught on the fly or on the ground. Early one morning I had seen the male feeding one of the newly fledged chicks. He had a march fly which looked about half the size of his baby. But the chick opened his beak as wide as he could and his dad steadily poked breakfast in. Dad kept pushing and the chick kept swallowing, and eventually the fly disappeared. Then they all moved on, with the chick somewhat overlaid at the rear.

My pruning adventure had not turned out as I thought at all. Far from boring, I'd met some of the locals and learnt a bit about them. And it was nice to discover they too were enjoying and making use of our garden. Despite this, I am not convinced I'll be planting any more *Orthrosanthus* soon; well no more than another 50 or so, absolute max.

UBCG meets at 8 pm on the second Thursday of every month at the Arts Annexe at UBCC. New members are always welcome. If you are interested, please contact Fergus O'Gallagher fergusogallagher@bigpond.com.

CARO LETTS



Retreats for inebriates

In 1888 a Victorian Act of Parliament was passed to authorise the establishment of inebriate retreats, where persons addicted to alcohol could be admitted as voluntary patients or under legal compulsion. Previously inebriates were housed in the lunatic asylums which were generally overcrowded. The inebriates were people who were considered “not very interesting” for medical students to observe, and for that reason the government chose to move them away from Melbourne. A site for an institution was selected at Cheltenham, but until it was operational, the government leased two houses: one in Guys Hill, the other in Walnut Grove, Upper Beaconsfield, and converted them into temporary asylums. The Cheltenham asylum never eventuated, but there were other private retreats operating. The Beaconsfield retreats operated from 1 Oct 1889 until 30 Sep 1892. The area was chosen because of the easy access by rail, and the ‘salubrious mountain climate’ which was considered beneficial to the recovering alcoholics’ well-being.

The male asylum

The house for male residents was George and Emma Craik’s former lodging house in Guys Hill. It was located on crown allotment 72 in the Parish of Pakenham, opposite the present day Montuna Golf course. The Craiks had no further use for this residence since they had built Kincaik (Salisbury House) in Upper Beaconsfield. The 13-roomed-house was of weatherboard construction, lined with wood or canvas, and though lightly built was considered fairly comfortable. Although the house was built piece-meal, parts of it were considered unsuitable, but were still used. Only six rooms could be used as bedrooms for patients, the remainder of the rooms were used as dining-room, offices and attendants’ quarters. Before the retreat was opened a billiard-room, store-room and a bedroom for the resident supervisor were added. While the main residence was suited for nine patients, it sometimes accommodated 13, much to the dissatisfaction of the residents. Towards the end of 1890 the government added temporary removable buildings, which would give six additional bedrooms, but they were not in operation until early 1891. With the new buildings it was expected that sixteen to eighteen male patients could be admitted at any one time.

The supply of water was sometimes insufficient, and had to be carried from the nearby creek for washing, until George Craik proposed sinking a tank. The male patients also enlarged one of the holes in the creek so that it could be used as “a quite respectable swimming bath”.

The female asylum

The female asylum was the country house of the late Dr John Blair, founder of the Alfred Hospital in Melbourne. The property was known as Walnut Grove (later Woodlands). It was situated

on crown allotment 113 in the Parish of Pakenham in an isolated and private position, which was considered good for the patients.

The house was “bungalow built”, constructed with thick wooden slabs externally, the walls lined with wood, and the space between external and internal walls filled with sawdust. This eliminated draughts and the rooms maintained an even temperature. The house contained seven rooms and a kitchen, and the government added another bedroom, as well as a small removable house for a male attendant and his wife.

In the Village Bell in Dec 1992, Charles Wilson wrote about the appointment of Charles Williams, (<https://upperbeaconsfield.org.au/village-bell>) who was head-hunted as he ran a similar inebriate retreat in Adelaide.

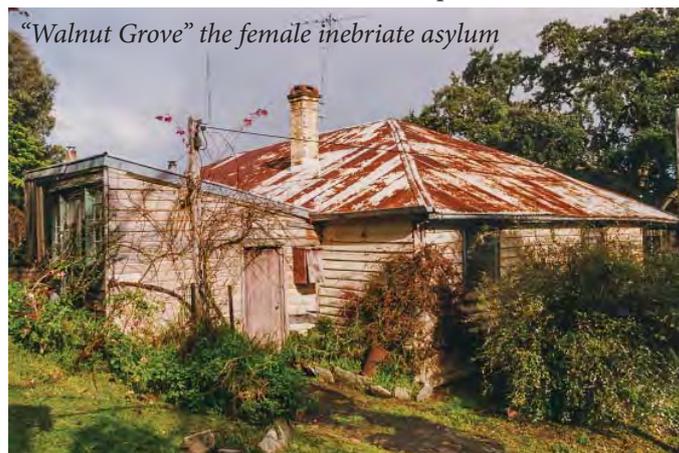
Charles Williams was secretary and supervisor, responsible for clerical duties as well as all stores and had the continual supervision of both houses. He lived at the male asylum but was required to visit the female one every day. His wife and five children must have had lodgings somewhere else. Charles Wilson suggested that they may have been renting a house in A’Beckett Road.

Dr Thomas Elmes, the Berwick doctor, was appointed as medical superintendent. His role was to visit both houses at least three times a week, but when there were medical problems or when the supervisor was away, he was required to visit daily. “Either I or Mr Williams am always at the asylum”.

From reports to the Government we learn about the conditions at the Inebriate Retreats. Each house had three attendants and a cook. A laundress was hired to wash for both houses. The man in charge of the female retreat was also the gardener, his wife was the cook.

There was a considerable area of land at each house to allow the inmates healthful exercise and occupation. Books, newspapers and various games were provided for the less active patients. A diet “on a sufficiently liberal scale” was approved, and could be supplemented under medical sanction. It was reported that the plain and wholesome food was sufficient, and that most patients had put on weight during their stay.

The only transport available was one horse and a waggonette, which was used for occasional excursions for the female residents, but this did not occur very often because the horse was often needed for other duties. Therefore the females could only go on an occasional walk, and largely occupied themselves with needlework, books and music. The male patients were allowed to walk with an attendant and



“Walnut Grove” the female inebriate asylum

occasionally Williams took them out shooting, when they brought back the animals they had shot.

In 1890 Dr Elmes reported that during the year most of the men stayed voluntarily at Beaconsfield, whereas more than half the women were there under compulsion. The act allowed for patients to stay for three months only at a time, which Elmes considered inadequate for reforming a confirmed alcoholic. Many patients returned

for further stays. The rates of maintenance ranged from £1 to £5 weekly according to circumstances. During the three years of operation, 137 men and 22 women were admitted to Beaconsfield, but some patients stayed for more than one term.

The patients generally came from the higher classes of society, and it was recommended that another attendant should be employed to look after the horse and the cow, and to bring in wood and water and do odd jobs. It was noted that asking the patients to do any work was useless. The low paying people, often more severe cases, were unable to do any work, while the higher paying inmates were unwilling.

Tragedy strikes

In April 1891, a newly arrived patient, Thomas Bissell, escaped after a few days' stay, and his skeleton was found about three months later in the "Gembrook Ranges". During the inquest into his death, Dr Elmes stated that the attendants were generally overworked, and that no strong room existed for unmanageable patients. On the night of Bissell's disappearance, most of his clothes had been taken off him, and he went to bed early. A sleeping draught was given to him and an attendant slept in the same room as Bissell. Despite these precautions Bissell managed to escape through the window.

Dr Elmes recommended that additional single rooms, and one or more strong rooms should be added (to the male residence), and that a portion of the grounds should be securely fenced. However, because a permanent retreat was planned the government did not want to incur any large expense for improvements at Beaconsfield.

In early January 1892, Francis Key, who had been a patient for about six weeks, committed suicide. In his submission to the coroner, Charles Williams stated that Key had been sent a gun by a friend only recently, and "as a matter of practice no restrictions are imposed upon the inmates, in the matter of fire-arms, unless by the order of the medical superintendent." Dr Elmes deposed that he "did not consider there was any risk." The coroner and the five jurors found that there was not sufficient precaution taken by the officials after they received a letter from Key's wife, warning them just a day before his death that her husband had a suicidal tendency, and thus felt it was improper for her husband to keep a gun in his room.

In the 1891 report it was noted that the inebriate asylums were losing money, but the deficiency at Beaconsfield was not as large as at the asylum at Northcote. Unfortunately the 1891 report did not give any up to date details of the conditions at Northcote and Beaconsfield. The female retreat did not take in any more patients in 1892, and on 30 Sep 1892, both Beaconsfield and Northcote were closed.

In September 1894, the local papers reported that the building formerly used as the male retreat was completely destroyed by fire.

In 1909 Jesse Sykes, publican at the Pine Grove Hotel, bought the 80-acre property on which "Walnut Grove" was and subdivided it. He lived in the house for some years, then in 1919 sold it to Robert Hay, who renamed it to "Woodlands". In 1925 Hay sold the property to William Lang, whose family kept it until recently. An administrative error allowed this very run-down heritage listed house to be demolished.

MARIANNE ROCKE



FAMILY VIOLENCE HAS NO GOOD DAYS.

Family Violence stems from men who think they are better than women. Men who exercise control, and misuse power. And they might think it's only their wife or partner they're harming, and that their children are fine. But they're not.

In fact the violence their children are witnessing or hearing is just as damaging to them, their futures and their future relationships.

If you need support, talk to a friend, or go to vic.gov.au/familyviolencesupport or call Safe Steps on 1800 015 188.

RESPECT WOMEN FOR OUR CHILDREN'S FUTURE

VICTORIA
State Government

It's your UBA—get involved

The Upper Beaconsfield Association is the place for residents to raise local issues. We are supported by our Ranges



Ward Councillors who attend our meetings and act as a liaison with council. Thank you to Cr Baxter (retired) and to continuing councillors Leticia Wilmott and Brett Owen, the new Mayor of Cardinia Shire Council. Welcome to new councillor Jeff Springfield.

At the public meetings over the past year we had Nicholas Charrett, council senior traffic engineer speak on local speed zones, Sally Randall on Salisbury Gully and Senior Sergeant Graeme Stanley from Pakenham Police on local policing matters. We also held a public forum in October for the candidates to present their case for the council elections.

This year so far

Our AGM was held in early February and a new committee elected. Members comprise Jenny Pritchard, Peter Simmons, Andre Bokos, Marianne Roche, Cameron Roche, Eric Bumpstead, Caro Letts, Harry Jensen and Helen Smith. Office bearers will be elected at the next committee meeting. Thank you to retiring committee members for their contribution.

The February public meeting followed the AGM with an informative presentation by Janette Schimleck, Cardinia Shire Emergency Management coordinator. Consideration of the council open air burning policy was debated in a constructive way and a fruitful Q&A session highlighted problems that residents have encountered, how well people coped in cleaning up before the fire restrictions and the permit system. This feedback to council will be valuable when the policy is reviewed in future. There's nothing better than relaying real

The UBA participates in and supports the community

- Holds bimonthly public meetings to discuss local issues and council matters
- Organises the Upper Beaconsfield Citizen of the Year award
- Participates in and provides sponsorship to the Village Festival
- Coordinates the Carols by Candlelight
- Produces, prints and distributes the Village Bell
- Hosts the Upper Beaconsfield web page and Facebook site

local knowledge to council in vital matters like this. The UBA welcomes residents to attend our public meetings. The princely sum of \$5 enables you to become a member, vote at meetings and minutes will be emailed to you to keep up to date. Everyone likes living in Upper Beac, so why not join and contribute!

HELEN SMITH

Cardi Creek Kids at the Nursery

The Green Circle Plant Nursery is open again for another year of providing the community with indigenous and native plants at very competitive prices.



During the Christmas break the nursery hosted a propagation day with the Cardi Creek Kids, who are a sub group of the Cardinia Catchment Landcare Group designed solely for children. They had collected seeds of indigenous plants along the Cardinia Creek in Acoonah Park, and brought them to the nursery to sow in seedling trays. When the seedlings have grown enough they will return to tube them up then plant them out along the Cardinia Creek. This is part of their Revegetation Program run by Isabel Ebsworth a project officer with Landcare. If you think your children would like to be involved in such programs please contact Isabel at iebworth26@gmail.com.

Planting of indigenous plants in public and private gardens provides habitat and food for local birds and other wildlife such as butterflies, and preserves our local natural heritage and biodiversity. These plants are naturally suited to our environment and require little or no fertilisers and pesticides, and require minimal watering.

The nursery is run by volunteers and is open on Fridays from 9 am to 4 pm, or by appointment. We still have free trees on offer while stock lasts, so get in quick

SUE SIMMONS



UBA next public meeting 5 April

Community Complex
Wednesday 5 April at 7.30 pm
Speed zone changes in Upper Beaconsfield

Community Centre news and courses

We hope everyone is enjoying the beautiful weather. The Centre has now returned from the summer break and is back in full swing for a great year ahead.

Term program

Our term program was distributed in January. Did you receive a copy? If you missed out—view online at www.ubcc.org.au or send us an email with your name and address and we'll pop one in the mail. Join a course today or register for term 2!

♦Circuit Training ♦Strength Training ♦Adult Social Dancing ♦Kids Drama ♦iPad ♦Yoga ♦Public Speaking ♦Pilates ♦ Social Walking Group ♦Build Your Own Website ♦First Aid ♦Get Job Ready ♦Social Media ♦Bread Making ♦Meditation ♦Craft Group ... and more!
Book early to avoid disappointment!

New computers/laptops

Our computer room has three new computers and soon we will be replacing our tired computers with brand new laptops. Windows 10 courses will start in the new term.

Website

New year, new website! We'll soon have our full course selection online and a "new beaut" booking system. Be sure to like us on Facebook to keep up to date with our progress at www.facebook.com/ubcc.org.au

Fire danger

The Centre closes on extreme fire danger and code red days or on high fire days if local conditions deteriorate. Although we have been fortunate with extreme weather this year be aware that fire restrictions won't end until 1 May 2017.

Fundraising

The UBCC team will be at Bunnings Pakenham Sunday 5 March with a sausage sizzle fundraiser. Be sure to drop in for a snag or two!

Tutors and ideas wanted

Do you have a talent or experience that you can share with others? We'd love to hear from you! If 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.

DARLENE STILLWELL
PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Accredited training courses

Exciting new courses being offered in 2017

- Certificate IV in Bookkeeping / Certificate IV in Accounting – starting 15 March over 8 months on a Wednesday \$700*
- Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care starting 10 March over 6 months \$200*

- Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care starting 7 March over 12 months \$300*
- Certificate IV in Leadership and Management over 4 months, one day per week \$500*
- Diploma of Leadership and Management over 4 months, one evening per week \$500*
- Certificate IV in Training and Assessment (new course) expressions of interest being accepted

**Prices quoted are for a Government funded place, training conducted by Monash Training and Professional Development RTO 21526*

First Aid and CPR training courses

Friday 31 March and Saturday 24 June

- First Aid HLTAID003 or Emergency First Aid in education/care setting HLTAID004, 9–5. \$175^
- CPR HLTAID001, 9–12. \$ 75^

^Training conducted by Asthma Foundation Victoria RTO 4987

Enquiries call 5944 3484 or email cathy@ubcc.org.au

St John's corner

The Christmas season is now over and the church year is moving towards Easter celebrations in April.

We had slightly different teams of people involved in planning and running each of our Christmas events. The team doing the BUPS services faced the most challenges—at the last minute the weather report for the day was so scary that we had to use the BUPS stadium to avoid walking children to and from St John's. Everyone pitched in to help transport and set up props, sound and computers in the stadium, and the services proceeded well.

Those of us who joined in the evening pre-Christmas service and supper on the 17th thoroughly enjoyed ourselves—so sorry for all who missed out on this one!

On Christmas Day we were very pleased to host several visitors, celebrating with us our creator god who is of love, reaching out and self-sacrifice.

The Village Festival in February is another regular event for St Johns. This year we were sorry to bow out of bringing you a puppet show. Three of our performers, including the scriptwriter, have all moved to other towns. Puppetry has been such a fun thing for us to do for several years and we hope to be able to re-institute it whenever we can.

The Op Shop is again open for two days per week. A note on donating goods to any Op Shop. Items need to be in good repair, clean and usable. Broken toys, stained or torn clothes, worn-out bedding are all best put in your own rubbish collections.

St John's regular services

Every Sunday at 9.30 am. Informal prayer group on Wednesdays at 8 am.



ROSZ SMITH, WARDEN

ELC caters for all your needs

Our Early Learning Centre is open and we are accepting new enrolments. Come and tour the centre: hours 7.30 am–5.30 pm. We are a small centre catering for up to 26 children so your children will be sure to get the best care. We are also only seven minutes from Berwick and Officer!

The children enjoy playing outdoors in this lovely summer weather. The flowers and vegetables in our garden have really grown over the Christmas break. The children enjoy seeing the changes and sampling the food. With funds raised last year, we will be giving the children's cubby a makeover with paint. If you would like to be involved, come along and book your child in! We offer an indoor/outdoor program so your child is free to choose where they would like to play. Be assured that if you have siblings, they will be in together, not separated, as at other centres!

We accept casual bookings, so whether you want to book in a one off day, or have a permanent booking, we cater for all your needs. Have a day off and relax, get some shopping done or that much needed washing pile that keeps growing, without the children around! Families that are eligible through Centrelink can have their fees reduced with Childcare Rebate (CCR) which



is 50% off the fees. Further reductions are available with Child Care Benefit (CCB), which is a sliding scale means tested based on household income. If you are studying a full time course, you may also qualify for JET Funding, by applying through Centrelink.

ELC doesn't charge for public holidays, if your child is sick and you have a medical certificate or if you give us two full business days' notice and you would like to change your booking. So have the flexibility you need. Come along and book your free orientation sessions so you and your child can get to know us and feel comfortable in the environment. Book as many as you like!

Half day or full day sessions:

AM	7.30 am–12.30 pm	\$25*
PM	12.30 am–5.30 pm	\$25*
FULL	7.30 am– 5.30 pm	\$45*

(*for eligible families of CCR, less if you qualify for CCB)

As we are a community ELC our fees are low to ensure we can help as many families as possible.

We have vacancies in both 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

New volunteers needed

The Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre's AGM will be held on Wednesday, 15 March 2017 at 7.30 pm at the Community Complex. We have seen big turnouts at some AGMs when the local community has shown that it really cares about the Community Centre. But at most AGMs few people attend and everyone just assumes that someone else will take care of things! We know that everyone is pressed for time, and more people in our community work full time. However, you have shown us in the past that you do care about the Community Centre!

I have served on the committee for twenty years, for many of those years as president. I am stepping down as

president at this AGM, and while several members of the committee including me are prepared to continue, we are looking forward to some new members getting involved. If you want to have a say in deciding who will lead the Community Centre for the next year come along to the meeting, vote if you are a member and have your say. If you're not already a member, become a member now—it's only \$10 for the year. This gives you the right to vote at the AGM and to participate in any of our wonderful courses or activities through the year.

The Community Centre is managed by a voluntary committee. All positions on the committee will become vacant

at the AGM. Without a committee, the Community Centre cannot exist. While we welcome nominations from people who have skills in areas such as business, marketing, education or community services, regardless of what your skills are or your background is, you can represent the needs and wishes of your community and contribute to an organisation that offers something for all of us. It's a commitment for one year only – with meetings once a month in the evening.

If you don't want to join the committee, come along so that you can have a voice. Please contact the office on 5944 3484 if you have any queries relating to the AGM or the committee or if you would like a nomination form.

SALLY RANDALL, PRESIDENT

Brigade news and views

Fire Danger Period

You know it's my job to do this—that is to remind you that we are in the middle of the Fire Danger Period.

We live in a highly fire prone area. It is your responsibility to know the rules with respect to lighting of fires and the use of certain equipment during this period and on Total Fire Ban days, when the rules are even more stringent.

If you are in doubt or uncertain, contact the CFA or council or look up Can I, Can't I on the CFA website.

It is no defence to say "I didn't know." A bushfire accidentally started burns just as fiercely as one deliberately lit.

Stay informed, do the right thing, don't risk a hefty fine.

News from the brigade

What a remarkably quiet start to the season it has been. The weather so far has been kind and land owners have been very careful, for which we are very grateful.

In November, the brigade held a working bee to upgrade the station grounds, resulting in newly designed garden beds, retaining walls and steps. Also, with the help of the Upper Beaconsfield Beautification Group, we have begun new plantings at the back of the station. In autumn these will be continued at the front of the station to bring our street front into line with the existing plantings in the township centre.

We have been very fortunate over the last twelve months in recruiting some excellent new members, who have now qualified as operational firefighters. However, we have had some poor luck with illness and injuries recently, and along with the usual retirements and people leaving the area, we need to turn our attention to recruiting again.

One of our newer members, AJ Bates has just completed the valuable experience of the CFA Challenge program, where our future leaders are put through their paces and learn many of the skills of teamwork and leadership. Other members are currently involved with learning skills such as Respond to Urban Fire, Off Road Driving, Wildfire Suppression and others.

Recruiting

Over the next few months, the Upper Beaconsfield Fire Brigade will be offering a number of opportunities for anyone interested in joining the CFA, either as active fire fighters or as support members, to come and inform themselves on what it takes to be a volunteer with the CFA. Our brigade is 100% run by volunteers, all from our local community. We are always on the lookout for new members and autumn is a good time to check us out and to join, as things start to quieten down and you have time to learn and hone the required skills before the next fire season.

Be prepared

So, you've done the right thing in spring and tidied up your block, made your fire plan, and your backup plan and perhaps bought some fire fighting equipment for the scenario where it may be too late to get out.

So, time to take it easy and relax?

Nope. Now it's time to reflect on your plans. Did you follow them during the four Total Fire Ban days we've had so far? Yeah, sure the first one was a damp squib, but that's very unusual—don't rely on that again. Did you have your things ready to pack into the car? Did you have somewhere you could take your pets? Did you have all your important files

ready? Photo albums? Your horses?

What about your property: has more debris fallen off your trees? Do your gutters need cleaning again? Have you tested your pumps and sprinklers again? Did you actually get around to buying that protective clothing? Have you checked your equipment? Is it still where it should be?

Did you really make a plan? A proper plan? Please go to the CFA website and click on the Plan & Prepare tab.

Remember, the best way to stay alive is to leave early.

MIKE HALL



Fire Brigade Auxiliary—always there



From left: Eric and Joyce Bumpstead, Jenny Wood, Joan Green, Nancy Boura, Norma Marshall, Dot Pockett, Stan Hamilton, Sandie Bliss, Marion Graham, Pat Edwards. Photo taken September 2016.



Bushfires can start quickly and threaten lives within minutes. When it comes to fire, what you need to do is black and white. Check Fire Danger Ratings daily and monitor warnings.

Most bushfire deaths happen close to home, so leaving early, before a fire starts, is always the safest option.

emergency.vic.gov.au

Download the VicEmergency app



Authorised by the Victorian Government,
1 Treasury Place, Melbourne



Men's Shed all sizzled out

Since our new workshop was officially opened on 16 November, we haven't been sitting around congratulating ourselves on achieving that goal.

November

We held our AGM on 30 November. Matt McDonald retired after completing a 4 year term as president and Eric Bumpstead was elected as the new president to lead us forward, along with a supporting committee. We sincerely thank Matt who led us from a concept in 2011, through to a working shed as we move through 2017. We appointed workshop managers, led by Paul Higgott, to coordinate and guide us through the Shed activities.

December

This was a busy month, starting off with an enjoyable Christmas dinner with 38 attendees. We then got stuck into a project producing 50 catering trays made from wine barrel staves, supplied by D'Angelo's Winery. They sold so quickly, that we have an order for another 200 to be constructed. Whilst this was happening, the metalwork team have commenced refurbishing a metal lathe, and a metal milling machine. A large machinery table and shelf were constructed and installed for a former resident who has moved to a retirement village.

We also held two very successful sausage sizzle fundraisers at the Cheese Factory in Berwick during the month. We then followed this up with our involvement in setting up the Carols on Xmas Eve and also holding another sausage sizzle. Everyone enjoyed a well earned break for a couple of weeks.

January

Mid January arrived too soon, but we got back into refurbishing and setting up

woodworking machines—lathes, radial saws, linishers, sanders and routers. We also commenced the construction of a large timber storage area. Several of our members participated in working bees to cut up and clear fallen trees from storm damage on several properties in the area.

I know it's hard to believe, but we still weren't sausage-sizzled out! We held another sizzle at the Cheese Factory in Berwick.

February already!

We detailed a car ready for sale by the Cardinia Environment Coalition. We are now setting up a pottery section for those who like to get their



involved in the setup and running of the Village Festival. Here, we decided to do something different from sausages for fundraising—we held a hot dog stall. We also held some activities in the Shed with a setup allowing children attendees at the festival to construct their own toolboxes.

To finish off the month, as this newsletter prints, we will be holding—yes you guessed it—another sausage sizzle at the Cheese Factory in Berwick!

NOEL LING



hands dirty. Still setting up more machinery. Some members attended a local car museum with Akoonah Men's Shed. All members were heavily



New members wanted

The Shed is open from 9-4 Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday. Come up on Wednesday morning, where we have a meeting of all members, and share a coffee and biscuits with us, and find out about the Shed. We don't bite—all welcome.

For more information contact Noel Ling (secretary) on 0414 443 735, or secubms@gmail.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/UpperBeaconsfieldMensShed/

Website: sites.google.com/site/upperbeaconsfieldmensshed

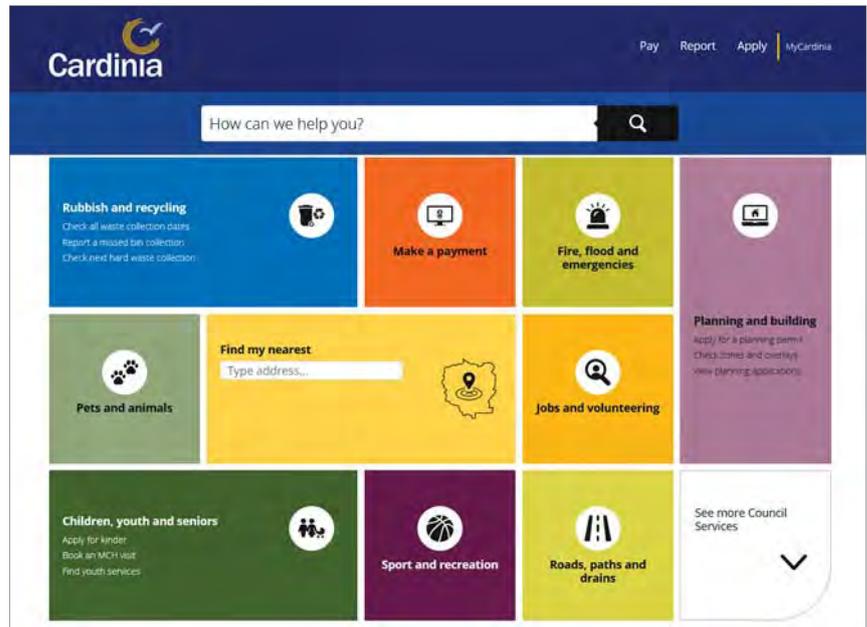
Ranges Ward Councillors' report

Congratulations to the organising committee and everyone involved with running the Upper Beaconsfield Festival. This is a great community event and we acknowledge the hard work involved to make it such a success. Cardinia Shire proudly supports this event by providing funding through the Festival and Events Grants.

Cardinia Shire has a number of different grant programs available to community groups throughout the year. The details and application forms can be found on council's website. Applications for the Festival and Events Grants are open until 12 March and the Capital Works and Major Equipment Grants are open until 10 March. The Community Wellbeing and Support Grants will open on 20 March and close on 30 April.

Nominations for the Stan Henwood Award close on 12 March. This award honours the late Stan Henwood and his lifetime of volunteering across a diverse range of organisations in Tynong and the municipality. This award acknowledges like-minded individuals for their contribution to local sporting and community facilities, or the enjoyment of the local community. Full eligibility details and nomination forms are available on the Cardinia website.

Council launched its new website at the end of January. It is customer-focused, has a wide range of online forms and allows quick completion of tasks including pet registration, applying for permits and payment of rates. The new site is also Web



Content Accessibility Guidelines compliant, which means it is accessible to people with disabilities; including visual, auditory, physical, speech, cognitive, language, learning and neurological. With approximately 65 percent of visitors to Council's website accessing it via a mobile device, the website has been designed to be both functional and visually appealing. Visitors to the website are encouraged to report any issues experienced so these can be addressed quickly. To provide feedback or seek assistance, contact Council by email to mail@cardinia.vic.gov.au or call 1300 787 624.

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 Cr Jeff Springfield E: j.springfield@cardinia.vic.gov.au M: 0427 383 810 F: [facebook.com/CrJeffSpringfield](https://www.facebook.com/CrJeffSpringfield)

Are you recycling your plastic bags?

Soft plastic bags are a huge problem for marine animals. TV news recently showed turtles being treated for ingesting plastic. Underwater footage showed bags littering the sea floor. People drop plastic in the street and throw plastic carelessly in bins. So plastic bags blow around, wash into storm water drains and eventually end up in the sea.

Cardinia Shire now enables you to recycle plastic shopping bags and other soft plastic



packaging in your recycling bin.

The 'Bags in a bag' system is simple and easy

1. Put your soft plastic bags and other soft plastics into a larger plastic bag.
2. Tie up your container bag securely. Place in recycling bin.
3. Do not place loose bags in the recycling bin!

The plastic goes to SKM Recycling, Australia's largest recycling sorting facility. The 'bags in a bag' are sorted, compacted, baled and sent to a plastic recycler either locally or overseas. The recycled plastic is then made into products including park benches and decking, or turned back into packaging.

Soft plastics you can recycle

- plastic shopping bags
- plastic packaging from groceries including bread, rice, pasta, toilet paper and frozen foods
- cereal bags or biscuit packaging
- clean cling wrap and freezer bags
- plastic wrapping from appliances
- plastic postal bags and document sleeves
- bubble wrap

You can't recycle

- silver-lined packaging such as chocolate bar and ice-cream wrappers
- garbage
- nappies
- food
- polystyrene

INFO FROM CARDINIA COUNCIL

Welcome to new school year and new principal

New principal—Vicki Miles

My name is Vicki Miles and I have the absolute pleasure of being the new Principal at Beaconsfield Upper Primary School. I have really been welcomed into the community and I thank everyone for your kind hellos and your introductions. I hope to meet more of the general community over the next few months.

This will be my 34th year in education and have enjoyed the privilege of working with young people through this endeavour. I have been a Principal for the past 12 years, spending seven years at Trafalgar Primary School in Gippsland, then moving to Doveton College in 2011, and more recently to Pakenham Springs Primary School.

Up until five years ago my teaching career was solely in Gippsland, starting at a two teacher school in Tanjil South, and then moving to schools in Traralgon, Morwell and Moe.

I hold a Diploma of Teaching, a Bachelor of Education, a Specialist Certificate in Assessment and a Master of Education.

Aside from my professional career I am the very proud mother of a 23 year daughter Emily, and have been happily married to my husband John for 34 years. We live in Berwick with our two chocolate labradors George and Sparrow. We also have a house in Jeeralang Junction in Gippsland, nestled in two and half acres of bush, so coming up the road to BUPS each morning is like driving “home”.

I love to read, so if you have any good recommendations then please let me know. I also sew and enjoy creating patchwork quilts.

I'm so lucky to have been chosen to be the Principal at BUPS; my first week here has been amazing.

New staff

We also welcome some new staff to our school.

Matt Payne: I have been teaching for the last 12 years. Having come across from another school I am very much looking forward to getting to know the amazing BUPS community.

Carla Bate: Hello and thank you for a wonderful welcome to the BUPS community! I am beginning my first year teaching with grade 3/4 at BUPS. Our grade, 3/4B has had a wonderful first week back at school and we are looking forward to a fantastic year together!



Di Golemac: I have been teaching for 22 years, though this is my first year teaching full time at BUPS. I was a student at BUPS over 30 years ago. I love teaching maths and listening to how students think mathematically.

I love playing tennis, camping, cooking and learning new things.

Sarah Arrowsmith: I am looking forward to teaching Bahasa Indonesia at Beaconsfield Upper Primary School this year. I am passionate about Indonesia, its people, culture, food and environment. I've had the pleasure of living and working in Indonesia for the past 13 years. During my time at the Australian International School in Jakarta I had the opportunity to work in a variety of classroom and leadership positions. I've recently returned to Australia where I am enjoying gardening and the varied weather. I would like to thank Beaconsfield Upper Primary School for its warm welcome.

Stephanie Davey: I am super excited to be joining the team at BUPS as Performing Arts teacher. I have 20 years of theatre experience including majoring in theatre production and music education at university in Australia and England. Most of my teaching career has been spent at Berwick Lodge Primary School where my roles have included teaching Performing Arts, reading assistance and general classroom. My husband Justin and I have 3 boys aged nine, six and four. The older two began at BUPS last year when we moved

to Upper Beaconsfield. I will also be helping care for the chickens and once again joining the pushcart team at BUPS. I am excited to share musical, dance and dramatic programs and experiences both within the classroom and beyond and can't wait for production!

School captains

Developing student leadership is an important tradition of BUPS. Last year I was overwhelmed with the confidence displayed by the then school captains as they presented to the school council and then answered many of my questions. This year it will be my privilege to work with our new school captains:

School Captains: Jack Scarborough and Lauren Langeveld
Vice School Captains: Carla Malins and Kynan Auhl

They are already very keen to begin their role and I'm looking forward to seeing my very first student led assembly. I know they will complete their role with the utmost professionalism.



Student leaders and school leaders (Kerrie McDonald, Assistant Principal left, and Vicki Miles, Principal) meet for the first time



VICKI MILES

Awesome toys

Did you know the humble cardboard box and the blanket are listed in the National Toy Hall of Fame? Like so many simple and classic toys it takes little more than curiosity and imagination for a child to create something unique that will give hours of pleasure.



These open-ended toys encourage creativity and independence allowing children (and parents) to think outside the square. Any

object can be transformed into a wonderful and exciting toy; magnetic shapes become a fantastic face mask, dinosaurs will drive a truck with people in the trailer behind, or the remote becomes a very trendy phone.

Try this: give your child some colourful scarves, coloured cellophane or bubble wrap and watch them come alive with imagination and creativity.

Come and visit us!

The toy library has many classic and popular toys, as well as equipment that encourages physical play and independence. Not forgetting the many puzzles covering all stages of your child's development. So why not drop by or visit our Facebook page for more information.

We're open fortnightly on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month between 10-11 am during school term.

Have some spare time?

We're looking for volunteers to assist occasionally but on a regular basis for an hour to an hour and a half every 3rd or 4th week. No experience necessary, easy and fun work (you could say it's child's play).

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Email: upperbeac.toylibrary@yahoo.com.au



MARIE ROGERS

Kindergarten booms



2017 is an exciting time for our kindergartens. The word has spread about the fantastic program our kinder offers and the amazing teachers who deliver it. As such

we have very high numbers of children in both our three year old and four year old programs. The extra demand for places has also allowed



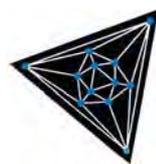
us to provide a range of time slots for the kindergarten program, catering for more flexibility for working families.

The beautiful environments and engaging play spaces have helped the children settle into kindergarten well, and thanks to the many families who gave their time at the end of 2016 to clean, fix, and garden, the kindergartens look beautiful and inviting to all our children and their families. We are truly a very lucky community to be able to offer such a fantastic beginning to formal education to our local children.

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Keeping the oval and facilities in good shape

The Recreation Reserve committee has operated over the past 12 months with full representation from the user groups and community representatives. Thank you to all members and office holders for your participation and service to ensure the Recreation Reserve is kept in good condition.

The oval continued in excellent condition due to reduced use for winter football training and no football matches. It has been vertidraind and fertilised twice and currently has a fine cover of grass due to a milder, wetter spring and summer and has not yet needed any significant watering.

Some problems

Cardinia Council building regulations have still yet to be satisfied in regards the fire services provision at the Igloo. This has continued to deny the Scout Group access to council grants for heating, carpet and kitchen upgrades in 2016. An onsite meeting was held with all parties in November but the issues still remain unresolved to date.

Gutter cleaning of buildings by council staff remains unsatisfactory with thunderstorms still resulting in floods in the cricket/football changing rooms during the summer months and it happened again recently. Do council workers clear the hidden gutters above the changing room windows or just the gutters on the changing room veranda?

Works undertaken

- Further working bees have opened up more of the passive areas in south west corner of the Reserve from

the entrance at Burton Rd to the Igloo as well as clearing scrub from an area at the back of the Igloo to provide a shaded grass area adjacent to the playground.

- The concrete slab of the old cricket nets was removed from the oval track and restored thanks to Andrew Ewenson.
- Two seats were built and installed beside the BMX track near the kinder by Andrew Ewenson and car stops were installed on the side of the Cricket rooms to provide a clear pedestrian pathway and to prevent car damage to downpipes and plumbing fittings.
- The Oval light towers have been assessed and the committee organised removal of the one in front of the cricket rooms to be taken down as it was leaning dangerously towards the building.
- The pony and riding areas were slashed and cleared in the spring for fire safety.

Financial matters

Thanks to our major source of income, the Cardinia Shire's Maintenance Grant, we have had capacity to make some tree assessments such as the removal of dangerous trees following the several storms of the last few months.

We complete the triennium with the whole reserve in good shape but with the Igloo building fire safety and future improvements still to be resolved.

BOB TAYLOR AM, PRESIDENT

Pony Club is not just about jodhpurs and boots

Pony club, an international voluntary youth organisation, is the starting place for anyone with an interest in horses and riding. Membership is open from any age up until twenty-five, from complete novices to those with experience whether or not they have a horse or pony. The pony club provides instruction in riding and horsemanship as well as promoting the highest ideals of sportsmanship, citizenship, nurturing strength of character and self-discipline.

Volunteers are the backbone of the pony club; without them we could not operate or provide the fantastic opportunities available. Parents and guardians also provide a most vital role within pony club. Pony club depends on them to help and encourage both their own children and others and to assist young people to learn to enjoy all kinds of sport connected with ponies and riding. The jobs of a parent are varied. They include taxi service and truck driver, money lender and personal bank, child development, instructor, groom, mucker-outer and laundry services—including washing numnahs and attending to itchy undies. But the most important of these is the development of the child

because significant others help shape the child. Significant others are parents, siblings, trainers, instructors, club officials and all whose opinions impact upon the child.

These days health and safety seems to impinge on everything but the bottom line is just that—health and safety. All pony club members are cared for in this regard with qualified, registered first aid officers on hand at every rally. In addition Upper Beaconsfield Pony Club has the added safety net of nurses, doctors, paramedics and vets swelling the parent ranks. How cool is that!

Upper Beaconsfield Pony Club started 2017 on 18 February with a twilight rally followed by a barbecue. What an ideal way to start the new year which hopefully will be even better than 2016. Last year culminated with the annual December gymkhana—a fantastic day! For those who have sometimes pondered about pony club or those who have a daughter or son pestering them to let them join, we trust the aforementioned was of interest.

HELEN COLLIVER



Cricket Club - Maroons still a chance?



As the season has progressed the Maroons' opportunity to reach the finals in all grades has spluttered a little. Premiers have the job in front of them as they have slipped to more than two matches behind the other contenders. B grade are on the cusp but need to produce strong performances in remaining matches. F grade look the team most likely but they rely very heavily on Matt Curtain's batting, while G Grade become victims of availability. The kids have performed admirably throughout senior cricket and all junior teams are set for challenging for favouritism in the finals. A big effort required is the message from the coach – can the Maroons convert? Top tens include Scott Pitcher (19 wickets), Harry Sharlassian (13 wickets), Matt Curtain (over 300 runs) and Will Haines (over 200 runs).

Maroons reach T20 semis again

After playing Pakenham Upper twice as well as defeating Officer our T20 team has reached the semis once more. On 10 January the team struck 4/224 - Bath 60, Alam Dar Raza crunched 60 too while Kaushalya Weeraratne was 45 not out. The Yabbies found the reply tough and closed at 7/129. Scott Pitcher and Kyle Gibbs picked up two victims each.

Social news

We will be holding our popular Auction Dinner at Viale Shanikas Pakenham on 7 March. This is an evening not to miss. Great food, great



items to bid for and grand company.

Harry Sharlassian had an unenviable baptism in his debut Premier match. Took his first wicket but was rushed to hospital after being struck in the eye by a high ball. He is recovering well.

Maroons walk with Stars

Imagine having the opportunity to strut with your premiership team mates around the hallowed turf of the MCG. And on top of that being lauded by an adoring Melbourne Stars audience to boot. That's exactly what members of Upper Beaconsfield Cricket Club's two premiership U12 teams from last season were invited to do. Prior to the staging of the Melbourne Stars v Brisbane Heat Big Bash match on 17 January, members and coaches were able to soak in the atmosphere by doing a victory lap in front of a large crowd at the G. A group of 60 parents, siblings and other members of proud families from Upper

Beaconsfield Cricket Club revelled in the excitement of the experience. UBCC White coach from 2015/16 Chris Pentland accompanied son Taj in the unique experience. "The kids were so excited and the event captured their imagination and has fuelled dreams of even more exciting cricket experiences" according to Pentland. "UBCC has become a Melbourne Stars club and all 70 currently registered junior players received Melbourne Stars membership packs. The Walk with the Stars event has been just one of the benefits of signing up." Rob Hansen UBCC President explained.

ROB HANSEN

A serve from the Tennis Club



Marathon Man conquers the outback

Marathon Man Brett Hillier embarked on the amazing challenge to run from Melbourne to Western Australia, with constant searing heat in the mid to high 40's and extreme humidity. Brett set out from Federation Square to fulfil a dream and raise funds and awareness for ZERO BULLYING, a charity about which he is extremely passionate. After almost two months on the road, his skinny bandy legs finally had had enough, but from all members an awesome job done Brett. You can still make a donation to the charity just talk to Brett and he will tell you all about his amazing achievement but you will need an hour or more.

Coaching at the tennis club

Brett Hillier and Rob Scott do tennis coaching at Upper Beaconsfield Tennis Club, and 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 selection 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.

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

Stay tuned for some exciting news planned for the Upper Beaconsfield Tennis Club and all its members.

DAVID HARVEY, UBTC COMMITTEE



Brian Wills awarded

Brian Wills, a long time member of Cardinia Beaconhills, was honoured at the Club’s Annual General Meeting with a Certificate of Appreciation. Brian’s contribution to the club includes being a past Club Captain and holding positions on committees and weekly volunteer work on the Course.

Tribal warfare

The Club recently held its first Beacy Tribe Day. A new concept, the Tribe is a day to celebrate members of the Club. We divided the members into 4 tribes with the winners on the day being Wombat Yellow. The overall winner was Trevor Perrin with 42 points. We hope to expand the concept of Beacy Tribes to include every Club member in the next couple of months.



Luck or skill?

It’s a Sheehan lucky streak for father and son Bill and Andrew Sheehan picking up two of the three main prizes for the Storm Relief Raffle as well as recent wins in lucky numbers and meat tray raffles.

Congratulations to the Snake Club! Snake Club boys took home the Beaconhills Golf Premier League in Summer 2016 after finishing runner up for the past two.

*Above: Beacy Tribe Day winners Wombat Tribe
Below left: 2016 Beaconhills Open Winner Tom Steward (Dunes Golf Links)*

4 Holes in One in the past 3 months certainly indicate better course conditions with Holes in One from Mick Tarley (4 Dec on 2nd hole), Jeff Langley (2 Dec on 11th hole), Graeme Ingelfinger (15 Dec on 13th hole), Keith Robbins (26 Jan on 15th hole).

Thanks

The Club wishes to pass on its thanks to the community for their support in our recent Kids Christmas Party. It was great to see local kids involved at the golf club and we hope everyone enjoyed their time at the Club.

FIZA ERRINGTON

Katie makes the AFLW

Katie Loynes went to school at Upper Beac Primary and Berwick High and last year was drafted into the AFLW at number 110. Now playing midfield in the highly rated Carlton side, 30 year old Loynes is at the peak of her already impressive football career. She started playing footy at school and then for Berwick in the Women’s League for 8 years before transferring to Diamond Creek in 2012. Along the way she has played in several premiership teams, won many best and fairest awards and played in the Victorian State team twice. Katie has been described as “one of the most dominant midfielders in the competition” We wish her well.



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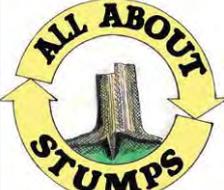
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