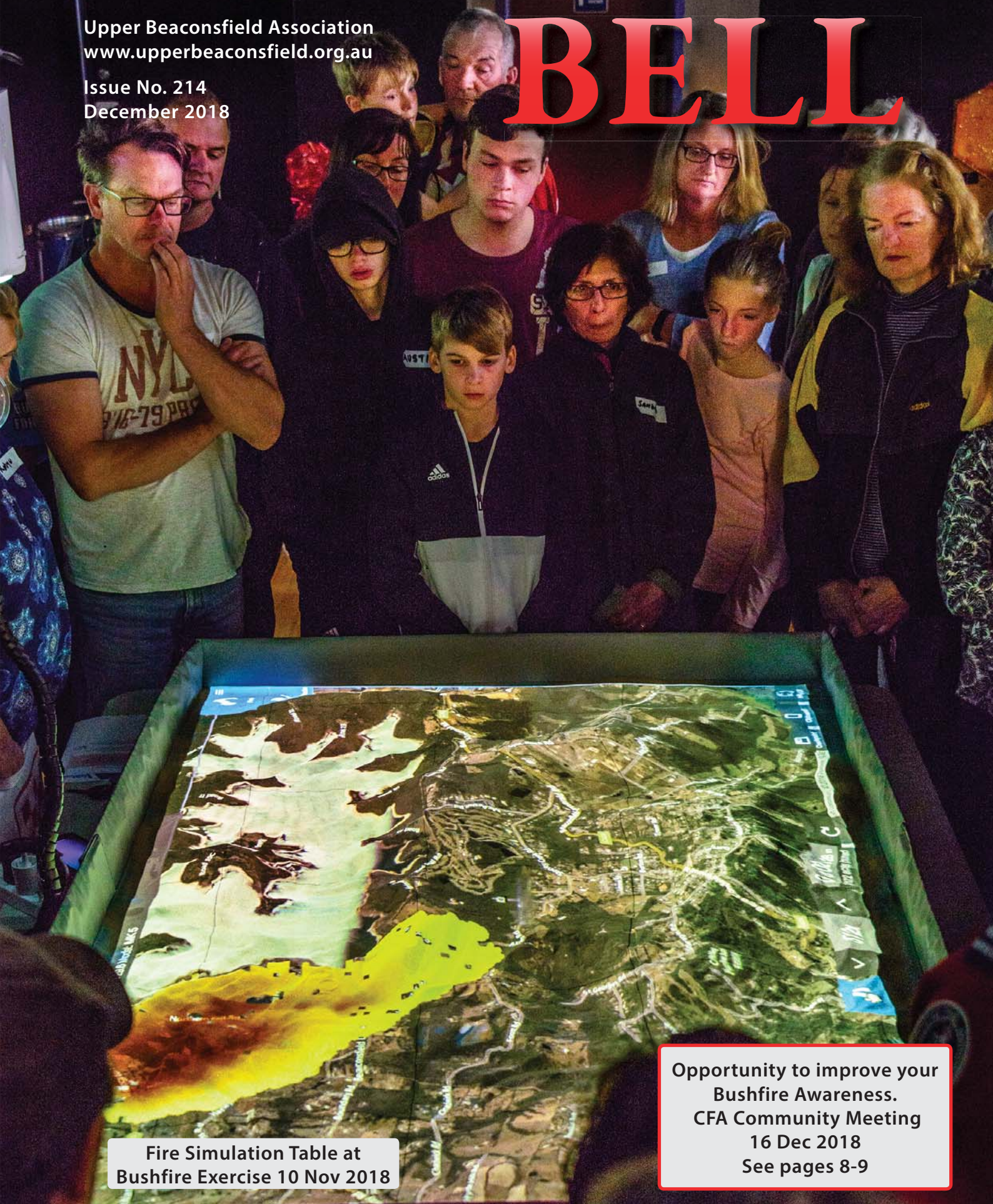


UPPER BEACONSFIELD

# VILLAGE BELL

Upper Beaconsfield Association  
[www.upperbeaconsfield.org.au](http://www.upperbeaconsfield.org.au)

Issue No. 214  
December 2018



Fire Simulation Table at  
Bushfire Exercise 10 Nov 2018

Opportunity to improve your  
Bushfire Awareness.  
CFA Community Meeting  
16 Dec 2018  
See pages 8-9



Remembrance  
Day

OUR

1918-2018  
100 years

ANZACS





# Remembrance Day 2018

On Remembrance Day our regular RSL convener Eric Chaplin made mention of the great turnout in Upper Beaconsfield on what was a marvellous sunny spring day. He noted that in days past it was more a quiet, solemn day for family members touched by the war. However, most gatherers there allowed themselves the occasional smile. For they were marking 100 years to the day of the armistice that finally put an end to the bloody conflict of attrition we know as World War I.

Strings of bright red knitted poppies hung from the rails of the cenotaph, and were ablaze in the sunshine. Also special wreaths, also adorned with the same crafted poppies – one for each serviceman lost from our area and named on the cenotaph – provided a community tribute of respect and remembrance. Information about each soldier by local historian Marianne Rocke accompanied the wreaths.

The knitting of at least 1918 poppies for the day, was instigated by Darlene Stillwell and Janie Hutchings of the Community Centre, following similar campaigns by war memorials and RSLs across the country. Vicki Watson (right), coordinated the local unit of knitters, including others from various community groups – too many names to mention – who achieved the target.

At the service Vicki reminded us that in the soldiers' folklore, the vivid red poppies that grew on the devastated battlefields, came from the blood of their comrades that had soaked into the ground. 'They were for the most part, just young men, not necessary worldly in their ways, but thrust onto the platform of a World War.'

Vicki spoke of horseman George Shanks, who took his horse with him upon enlistment, but was made a gunner – his horse serving without him. Bert Berglund – in the Light Horse Citizen Forces before enlisting – was posted on the 5th

Divisional Train, responsible for supplying necessities to the front line in appalling conditions. His wreath, along with 5 others, bears a purple poppy in remembrance of his horse. A special purple wreath, presented to the cenotaph by Lachlan from the pony club remembers all animals that died serving the war effort.

At the end of proceedings

Vicki presented wreaths to family members there on the day, some who had travelled from afar. She also invited every person, young and old, to take with them a string of poppies from around the cenotaph representing Flanders fields. 'May they serve you as a reflection on the tragic price paid during war, and a reminder that it is possible for us all to live together in peace and harmony.'



CAMERON ROCKE



Poppy knitters meet at Vicki Watson's for a sumptuous morning tea

## Pick up your parcels promptly

Residents please collect parcel deliveries promptly from the Post Office.

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

**YOUR POST OFFICE**



## 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**  
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.

## Christmas lights for the local shops

The UBA was successful in gaining a grant from Cardinia Shire for solar lights for the local shops during the festive season. With some assistance from able bodied volunteers these will be in place in early December to brighten up the main street.

## Updates from our local traders

### Good news from the pharmacy

Chemist Ahmed is organising a permit with council for a medical surgery in the vacant premises beside the Upper Beaconsfield Pharmacy. He is also negotiating with doctors as the new tenants. Hopefully this will come to fruition in mid January. This is good news for people who find it difficult to get to doctors and for any emergencies in town. Ahmed says "This will also be good for other shops in town as people will not need to travel down the hill. There is a lot of traffic on Emerald Road now, and the local surgery will encourage people to visit other local shops as well".

## Rainfall on St Georges Road

Month	45 yr av.	2017	2018
Jan	63.6	51.8	54.6
Feb	58.4	87.1	8.5
Mar	64.2	57.4	35.9
Apr	78.3	121.2	23.0
May	86.1	49.6	98.2
Jun	80.3	46.1	61.0
Jul	78.6	50.3	67.2
Aug	85.7	90.3	69.8
Sep	90.6	83.1	48.8
Oct	94.3	67.4	43.4
Nov	86.5	37.6	
Dec	80.4	141.7	
<b>Total</b>	<b>947 mm</b>	<b>884 mm</b>	

The three month rain total of 162 mm is far below the corresponding long term average of 270.6 mm and well less than the 2017 reading of 240.8 mm. Whilst our local environment is still green, the gardeners and farmers of Upper Beaconsfield are likely aware that soil moisture levels are well in decline, and that the prospect of a very dry summer is looming. This is in line with BOM predictions that include a high chance of lower than average rainfall with a 70% chance of El Niño occurring, which is triple the normal likelihood. Save your stored water!

ANDREW REWELL

## Christmas cheer from Up the Hill Bakery

Make sure you take up Lisa's deal for fruit mince pies. Buy five mince pies to get one free.

### Suggestions from the General Store

Check out our range of Christmas decorations, gifts and indoor plants. Order floral Christmas table centres for your festive dinner. Contact Gail on 5944 3310.

### Tradies and Ladies operating hours

Open Mon 9-2, Tue Wed Thu Fri 8-3, Sat 10-3. Closed Sunday

Open any late afternoon or night for private functions, parties.

Conditions apply. Call 5944 3423

### Shebah announcement

Kate Hutson and Janie Hutchings announce they now offer a new ride-sharing business in Upper Beaconsfield and the surrounding suburbs. Shebah drivers are female, fully accredited and insured, have current working with children certification and police checks. The service is for women and children only (see specific details on the website, [www.shebah.com.au](http://www.shebah.com.au)). For more information contact Janie on 0425 722 305 and Kate on 0418 386 181.



## Thank you to the Village Bell supporters:

Cheryl Billing-Smith; Eric Dodge; Stephen Fisher; Paul Higgott; Kate Hutson; Fedir Woskoboenko

Proudly supported by



**Cardinia**

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COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION of VICTORIA

the voice of the community

**MEMBER 2018**



# "It is all about the people" says Mary

Mary Farrow was an inspiring speaker at the October general meeting. Mary has worked in community resilience since the 2009 bushfires in her role of coordinator at Emerald Community House (ECH). She has spoken at many conferences here and overseas.

ECH is based in a group of council buildings in Emerald's main street. Years ago the old hall was threatened with demolition by council to make way for a car park. The ELC and the community opposed the plan and saved the hall which has become the centre of many ECH enterprises. ECH also has a licensed child care centre, and offers adult training and disability training. "It is all about the people" says Mary. ECH provides a place for people to meet and make connections. The

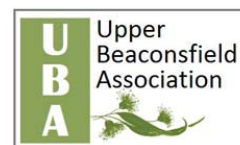
Dig In Cafe, held in the hall provides community dining once a month while enabling hospitality training. ECH runs the monthly market and the annual PAVE festival. They also provide a business support network. This year ECH also started a monthly community magazine called Emerald Messenger, following the demise of the Signpost magazine. As well as including lots of local information and articles, Emerald Messenger also includes the ECH program each term.

The Centre of Resilience (COR) is a community development model piloted at ECH committing to resilience building ideas and initiatives that stimulate strength and durability in communities. Resilience strategies are built into all events and activities.

National Strategy Disaster Resilience

2011 recognised ECH's "The Go List" which provided Emerald residents with places to go in time of bushfire emergencies. ELC is planning solar projects, backup generators and phones etc, so ELC can keep going if there are emergencies and blackouts. Parents at the child care centre have to attend a bushfire planning session. ELC runs The Weather Smarts community forum that looks at the ways adverse weather and events affect you and how you can prepare for them. See further information on ELC's website at <http://www.emeraldcommunityhouse.org.au/centre-of-resilience-cor/>

HELEN SMITH



## Community Resilience Committee

This UBA subcommittee continues to work behind the scenes to benefit residents in and around Upper Beaconsfield. Members met with council officers, the CFA and Barry Megee from Monbulk to explore Monbulk's community-led Emergency Management Plan. Barry promoted the idea that to achieve an effective outcome, groups need to organise themselves and not wait for council. Currently, the UBACRC plans to modify the Monbulk model to develop a similar plan suitable for Upper Beac. Cardinia Council has provided some maps for planning. A committee that represents all community and government stakeholders is essential to drive this process. In addition, the UBCRC has provided a "statement" to council outlining local views about ways to strengthen the resilience of the community in the event of an emergency. One aim is to obtain a recognised neighbourhood safer place approved for fire emergencies in Upper Beac. To this end, Upper Beaconsfield Recreation Reserve Committee is cleaning up and removing weeds in areas around the reserve. Should a reappraisal of this site remain unsuccessful the committee plans to work on an Informal Community Gathering Place, similar to that in Powelltown.

## Congratulations

Cameron Rocke's article about Ash Wednesday in the Village Bell September 2017 was a finalist in the best feature article, Community Newspaper Association of Victoria awards in October 2018.

### The judge's comments

This article is rich in detail to describe the heartfelt memories of a teenager caught in the midst of the bushfire tragedy that hit Upper Beaconsfield in February 1983. Personal stories are evocative. That 16-year-old has never forgotten the faces, the words, the mayhem, the fear, and the courage of his small community in the hills south east of Melbourne on that day. His is a timeless story. Some feature stories just have to be written in the first person, even though the personal approach is usually taboo in the big papers. That is because there is a danger of producing a diary-like account and therefore of losing the audience. But the writer of this story maintained his sense of audience as he wrote about his own reactions, to document a saga, from the first spark to the inquest. The map provides context to the story and is an important visual element. This account of Ash Wednesday is worthy of publication in the mainstream press, as are many of the entries in this year's CNAV awards.

## Congratulations Village Bell —40 years old

It's hard to believe but the "Bell" has been published continuously since 1978. That is quite an achievement. Many thanks to all the contributors, editors, printers and collators who have done such a sterling job over the years to support our community and provide a record of all that has happened over the years. The Bell was even published shortly after the Ash Wednesday fires to let people know what was happening and where to go for assistance. No Facebook or internet in those days! The Village Bell archive with every issue published is accessible on our website at <https://upperbeaconsfield.org.au/village-bell>

## Citizen of the Year nominations open

An interview with Emily Ballatyne-Brodie, a former young citizen of the year, see pages 14-15.

## Next public meeting Wed 5 December at 7.30 pm Community Complex

This is an opportunity for discussion on local issues, local events and ideas for future planning.

Festive drinks, nibbles and fellowship follow the meeting.

All welcome!



UBA Annual General Meeting Wednesday 6 February. New members welcome.

# Could you manage in your home for 72 hours following an emergency event?

Following sudden or unexpected emergencies, whether in the aftermath of a storm, power outage, fuel shortage or fire, you may find that you and your family are stuck in place with the very real possibility of emergency service workers taking 72 hours to reach you. If a sudden or unexpected emergency affects you, taking care of yourself and your family in this context requires a 72-hour plan and some initial thoughtful preparation.

Just as location, location, location determines the value of a home, so does prepare, prepare, prepare determine the outcomes of an emergency. The real work following an emergency event begins **before** the first 72 hours. Put simply, the more we prepare beforehand, the better our response will be. In the first hours of a response, we may be on our own but we will also need to identify and work with partners, including the Government and all members of the response and recovery teams, be they police, Ambulance Victoria, the CFA/MFB, the SES, the Red Cross or our local Shire Council.

## Know the risks

Different emergencies can produce similar outcomes, so knowing the risks in our area helps prepare us better should a sudden or unexpected emergency occur. While bushfire presents our most obvious risk, storms in particular cause significant damage and disruption whereby, not so long ago, a consequence of storms left homes without power for 7+ days. Heatwave, infectious diseases and floods present further risks to our community.

## Make a plan

Every Australian household needs an emergency plan, not just those living in a high-risk area. A well thought out plan will help you and your family know what to do in case of a sudden or unexpected emergency.

To help us learn more about our risks, Emergency Management Victoria launched new materials for its Emergency Preparedness Project in October 2018. These include the following resources:

### ***Emergency Management Victoria: Are you prepared for an emergency?***

A brochure providing key information about:

- How to stay informed
- Key warnings explained
- Protect what matters
- Emergency kit
- Heatwave
- Power outage
- Home fire - Preventing a fire inside the home
- Bushfire and grassfire – Prepare your property for bushfire
- Fire Danger Ratings and Total Fire Bans



- Are you burning off safely?
- Smoke & storms – Preparing your property for storms
- Flood – Preparing your property for flood
- Infectious disease
- Recovering from an emergency
- Important contacts

Download from

[https://upperbeaconsfield.org.au/emergency\\_preparedness\\_booklet](https://upperbeaconsfield.org.au/emergency_preparedness_booklet)

***Emergency Management Victoria: Animated Emergency Preparedness Videos*** to help you learn about what you can do to become better prepared for a range of emergencies.

<http://emergencyprepare.com.au/videos/>

***Emergency Management Victoria: Are you prepared for an emergency? Your family | Your safety | Your responsibility*** Emergencies come in many forms and can happen at any time, affecting your life in ways you don't expect. Life can be busy and we may not feel like we have time to get prepared for emergencies but taking action now will save you and your family a lot of stress and help you to recover quickly after an emergency. To explore interactive features and useful information see

<http://emergencyprepare.com.au/>

## Start packing your emergency kit

Emergencies can disrupt your life in ways you don't expect. Being prepared includes having your own food, water, medication and other essential supplies to be able to look after yourself and your family for at least 72 hours.



An emergency kit is a collection of items your household may need for survival during the emergency and items to help you recover after an emergency. An emergency kit must be prepared to suit your family's individual needs.

<http://emergencyprepare.com.au/emergency-kit/start-packing-your-emergency-kit/>

Frankston, Greater Dandenong, Kingston and Mornington Peninsula councils developed these innovative resources. The Victorian and Australian Governments through the Natural Disaster Resilience Grants Scheme supported the project and is a great example of what collaboration can achieve.

**CAROLINE SPENCER**

BAHons, PhD, GradCertEmergHth  
& Disaster Preparedness



# Community bushfire exercise a huge success



On Saturday 10 November, the Upper Beaconsfield Fire Brigade hosted their first ever community bushfire exercise at the Upper Beaconsfield Primary School. The day was designed to provide information to the local residents to allow them to be better prepared when it comes to the possibility of facing a fire in their community.

The CFA facilitated the event with Community Bushfire Educator for the South East Region John Legione who kept the large crowd thoroughly engaged with his expertise and enlightening presentation. Representatives from other agencies such as Victoria Police, Ambulance Victoria, DELWP, Parks Vic and the local Cardinia Shire Council were also in attendance to offer advice.

The day started with an introduction into fire behaviour and the importance of minimising exposure to the radiant heat a bushfire can cause. Residents were informed that they needed to have a bushfire plan and develop trigger points to alert them when it was the safest time to leave their property. Residents were also informed of the importance to have more than one fire plan and that any plan should be adaptable if factors prohibit them due to a change of circumstances. One of the highlights of the day was the interactive session where residents were provided maps and given specific fire scenarios

to run through and discuss what they would do with their new found information. Local brigade members engaged with the residents on each table and provided some handy tips whilst discussions took place.

The fire simulation table (front cover image) with its computer generated fire prediction modelling also proved to be a big hit with residents. The table with a digital aerial map overlay could be programmed to simulate the break out of a fire with variable aspects such as wind speed and direction, air

*continued on page 8*





*continued from page 7*

temperature and relative humidity. Residents could see how fire moves uphill faster with the effects of slopes and what effect a wind change may have, causing a small fire front to quickly change becoming a much wider more difficult fire to combat.

An enormous amount of planning and preparation went into the day. The turnout of over 300 people far exceeded the brigade's expectations, and left us scrambling for more tables and chairs. The catering team from Narre Warren CFA were kept busy providing the free morning tea and lunch that was on offer. I think it is a testament to the people of Upper Beaconsfield in getting behind this important project. We were so pleased to be able to present the exercise to you, and we thank you for your continued support.

We would also like to acknowledge and thank our wonderful facilitator on the day John Legione for the time and effort he put into the event. Overall, the day was deemed a huge success and the brigade has received some positive feedback and information to follow up on with residents.



## Fire danger period

As beautiful a place as it is, sadly Upper Beaconsfield is one of the most "at risk" bushfire areas in the state of Victoria. History tells us that fire can occur and that when it does it can have devastating consequences. It is not a matter of "if" but more "when". We need to be prepared and have learned from the past.

Usually around this time of year we are informing people to get their fire plans in place and clean up their properties including burning off their piles of spring green waste in preparation for the impending fire season. Well not this year. IT'S TOO LATE! The fire danger period for our municipality was declared on Monday 19 November at 1 am. Your only option now is to drop off green waste at a council transfer station for a fee, or get a green waste bin from council for fortnightly collection, which attracts an annual fee.

The fire restrictions are a month or so ahead of some previous years and there is good reason for that. Put simply, the lack of rainfall and prevailing weather conditions have meant that many parts of the state including our local area have dried out well ahead of time, increasing the likelihood of a fire spreading should one occur. The declaring of the fire danger period by the Chief Officer of the CFA is based on many factors. One being that Melbourne endured one of its lowest rainfall tallies on record for the usually wet months of September and October.

The fire danger period is when the CFA restricts the use of fire in the community. This is to help with the prevention of fires from starting. The fire danger period is not the same thing as a Total Fire Ban.



During the fire danger period:

- You cannot light a fire in the open air unless you have a written permit.
- Without a permit, you could be breaking the law.
- Offenders may be subject to prosecution by Victoria Police.
- Police will be notified of every illegal burn that the local CFA brigade gets called to.

This year due to the extreme conditions, Victoria Police have announced that there will be a zero tolerance for offenders. Please don't be the resident that we get called out to doing the wrong thing.

For a concise list of what you can and can't do during the fire danger period and on days of total fire ban, please call into the brigade and obtain a copy of the CFA produced *Can I or Can't I* brochure or search <https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/warnings-restrictions/can>

## What can I do to stay informed of emergencies including fire this summer?

- Download the free Vic Emergency App and set up your location to receive alerts. Feel free to contact the brigade if you need a hand.
- Like and follow the brigade Facebook page (search Upper Beaconsfield Fire Brigade). Our posts are relative and informative to the community needs including severe weather alerts and of course any incidents that threaten the local community.
- Subscribe to the Upper Beaconsfield SMS Notification System (contact the Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre for more information) see page 23.

## Community bushfire exercise

Build it and they will come they said. Run a Community Bushfire Exercise and they will come! And come they did! All



310 of them! The CFA has run this program around the state and have never got anywhere near the numbers that turned up for our special day.

## Property Advice Visiting Service (PAVS)

The CFA runs a community program called PAVS, where suitably trained members of the local brigade can make an appointment to come and inspect your property, to see what plans you have in place and offer some information on what



might occur if you are confronted with a fire or emergency in your area. They can help kick start your plan in the right direction. If you would like a PAVS visit from our brigade please contact the brigade to arrange an appointment.

### What are your trigger points?

Talking about a having fire plan isn't the same as HAVING a fire plan. You know the old saying; if you fail to plan you are planning to fail. What are your trigger points? When will you leave your property in the event of a fire? Is it the night before? Is it the morning of a code red day? Is it when the Vic Emergency alert informs you of a fire in the area? Is that too late? What about your elderly neighbours? Where will you go? How many different ways are there to get out? What will you take? What about your pets? Who will know your whereabouts? Lots of questions! A good plan will cover all of these and a whole lot more. The CFA website has a great fireplan tool you can access to help you with your planning. <https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/plan-prepare/your-bushfire-plan> Obviously the safest place to be in a bushfire is not to be there at all. If you do decide to stay and defend your property (not recommended), you need to ensure that you have adequate water and protection from radiant heat. If you are leaving, don't leave it too late. Roads that you thought you knew well can very quickly become congested and unsafe in a smoke filled bushfire environment.

### Reflection

Recently several of our brigade members were fortunate enough to attend a 'Staff Ride' – based on the tragic events of the December 1998 Linton Bushfire. Five CFA firefighters from the Geelong West Fire Brigade lost their lives after a wind change. A 'Staff Ride' is a historical study of an event – a term and concept dating back to the Prussian Army. In the case of the CFA, we use it to learn from the past to better prepare for the future. At Linton we got to "walk in their shoes" and understand what challenges the firefighters faced on that fateful day and what information they had to base their decisions upon. It was a very sobering and moving couple of days to reflect upon. One can only imagine what those involved must have endured. May they along with other firefighters that have paid the ultimate price protecting the community, rest in peace and never be forgotten.

### Did you know?

We have two response codes when turning out to incidents. The response codes are based on a pre-determined set of circumstances and are provided to us on our pager by Vicfire. Code 1 (lights and sirens) is used where there is the potential or threat to life or property (e.g. imminent danger, car accident with persons trapped, fire spreading etc). There are some special exemptions and conditions that apply to the road rules for emergency vehicles when travelling code 1 to emergencies. Code 3 (no lights or sirens) is where there is no imminent threat to life or property (e.g. washaway as a result of a minor accident, tree down over road, small fire not spreading etc.). Normal road rules apply when travelling code 3.

### 100% Volunteers

Our brigade is 100% volunteer from the new recruit right through to the Captain. That means that just like you we often have work and family commitments to schedule around. We try and fit in skills training and extra courses to further our skills and knowledge base that makes us more efficient when responding to fires and other emergencies. Being a volunteer station, the fire station is often unattended. In the event of an emergency, please ring Triple Zero 000 and not the fire station. If you do reach the station answering service and need to contact us, please leave a message and we will call you back as soon as possible.

We are always interested in gaining new recruits. If you enjoy giving back to the wonderful community we live in please contact us to come and have a chat about what it takes to be involved. It doesn't matter how old you are or what you do or what you have done for work. We have a diverse group of men and women involved in the brigade. We train Wednesday nights from 7.30 pm–10 pm and Sunday mornings from 9.30 am–12 noon. Alternatively send me an email at [ian.pinney@members.cfa.vic.gov.au](mailto:ian.pinney@members.cfa.vic.gov.au) for more information.

Please stay safe this summer.

**IAN PINNEY –  
CAPTAIN UPPER BEACONSFIELD FIRE BRIGADE**

## Bushfire Awareness Community Meeting

**Upper Beaconsfield Fire Station**

**Sunday 16 December 3 pm–5 pm**

**Find out how to keep you and your family safe  
this bushfire season**



#### You will learn about:

- How and where bush, grass and scrub fires are likely to start in our local area
- The most essential decisions you and your family need to make
- How to stay informed should a fire start
- Tips to help you start or review your bushfire plan



Enquiries via Facebook/Messenger  
or contact the Brigade  
on 5944-3303  
[www.cfa.vic.gov.au](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au)

**Free  
Sausage  
Sizzle**



## Happy birthday Woorinyan CWA



On 23 November 2018 the Woorinyan branch of the CWA threw a party at the St John's Church Hall to celebrate their 60th anniversary. Cr Brett Owen joined in with the members to play some games and enjoy afternoon tea. During the celebrations Lynette Lameris presented ten members with Certificates of Recognition for Dedicated Service to the Woorinyan Branch, among them Joan Medwin for 67 years of service, Joyce Bumpstead for 60 years of service, Brenda Hopkins and Joan Trumper for 53 years of service each,

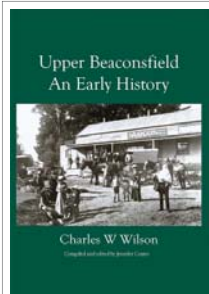
and Joan Green for 34 years of service.

We thank Woorinyan for their years of generous service to our community.



*Above left: Cutting the cake are Joan Medwin, Barbara Reid, Lynette Lameris and Joyce Bumpstead.*

*Above: Joan Medwin receiving her certificate from Lynette Lameris*



### Upper Beaconsfield An Early History—last copies

Get your copy now before this final print run sells out!  
Available at the General Store and the Community Centre.

## Citizens of the Year dinner

On 9 November Beaconsfields Golf Club hosted the COY annual dinner. 2017 COY Tony Knight, accompanied by daughter Hailey, was welcomed by over 30 past COYs and partners. Tony Knight in a short speech thanked all volunteers in the community that make Upper Beaconsfield a wonderful place to live in. He also commended the great job that has been done by Graham Cockerell of Moonshine Motors, who with Pakenham Lions Need for Feed has coordinated the distribution of hay and goods to drought and fire affected farmers all over Victoria and interstate this year. Everyone enjoyed the carvery dinner and exchanged news with those who attended from out of town. Please consider nominating somebody deserving for this year's award, nominations are now open.

**PETER SIMMONS**

## VILLAGE FESTIVAL

### 17 February 2019

Activities and fun for all the family from kids to grandparents!

- ♦ Unlimited rides for kids
- ♦ Stalls and displays
- ♦ Delicious food
- ♦ Jumping castle, rides, games
- ♦ Live entertainment
- ♦ Animals display
- ♦ Fun Run
- ♦ Art show

## ART SHOW



We are seeking entries from visual artists of any medium

- Children and adult sections
- Entry up to 4 per artist. Table space available
- An opportunity to showcase your work
- No need for works to be for sale

Full details and entry forms see Village Festival website  
<http://ubvillagefest.org.au>

Art Show enquiries contact Gail 0419 385 322



## Rags to riches

Over many years the Upper Beaconsfield community has been very generous in donating the fire brigade preloved articles of clothing. What do we do with them?

Every couple of months the brigade auxiliary gets together, large sharp scissors in hand, to have a chat and sort them out. Some of the clothing donated is in good order and we can send them to the Berwick and Pakenham Op Shops to be sold on to new wardrobes.

Every year, these two Op Shops, run by two very dedicated and hardworking teams of volunteers, donate sizeable sums of money back to various lucky local community organisations. Our fire brigade is one of these. The money we have received over the years has helped fund various firetrucks, infra-structure and fire fighting equipment – from Tanker 2, Big Fill and Slip-on, to our new change rooms and the thermal imaging camera. Many thanks to these two amazing groups. For more information see <https://news.cfa.vic.gov.au/-/cfa-and-berwick-op-shop-volunteers-helping-volunteers>).

As for the rest, most are cut up into rags about the size of a very large hankie. From there they are sold to anyone who needs rags – mechanics, workshops and garages in the main.

As a guide, the material needs to be suitable for wiping hands and cleaning around engine nooks and crannies. Things like socks and thick jeans are not really suitable, but it is surprising what other material we can use. Articles should be clean, but they don't have to be spotless. Anything that we can't use is



disposed of usually via the rubbish bin.

Currently we do have a good supply of rags on hand for anyone who needs them. Ring Nancy on 0409 188 271 if you need any.

So thank you to everyone who has ever dropped their old clothing off to the bins outside the brigade. We are still happily snipping and all clothing donations are gratefully accepted.

And many thanks of course to the Berwick and Pakenham Op Shops.

**UB FIRE BRIGADE AUXILIARY**



**The reasons are  
black and white**

It's your responsibility to be fire ready this summer, so prepare your property, fire plan and emergency kit now. When hot, dry, windy days are forecast, check Fire Danger Ratings in your district daily and monitor conditions via local radio, the VicEmergency website and app.

**On high-risk fire days, leaving early, before a fire starts, is always the safest option.**

**[emergency.vic.gov.au](https://emergency.vic.gov.au)**  
Download the VicEmergency app



Authorised by the Victorian Government,  
1 Treasury Place, Melbourne





## Beautifying our township —bit by bit

It is great to welcome three new members to our group—Caro Letts, Carol Gibson and Carl Hirst. But we need some more young people to join our group, as some of us are over 70!

We have been busy planting and mulching around the milk bar after the road works. Our next plan is to apply for a beautification grant to remove the agapanthus from the planter boxes outside the shops and plant up with flowering natives.

Any assistance to help remove the agapanthus and replanting would be most welcome.

Contact Jenny Pritchard 0425 855 660

UPPER BEACONSFIELD BEAUTIFICATION GROUP

## Beautification works at the fire station

Many thanks to the wonderful volunteers from the Upper Beaconsfield Beautification Group. This diligent group of people led by Jenny Pritchard have recently been very busy on many of the village roadsides including the front of the fire station conducting weeding, planting natives and sprucing up the garden beds. Thank you to all involved. They look terrific!

IAN PINNEY

# S.E.T



## South Eastern Tree Contracting

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**Pruning   Mulching**

www.treegone.com.au  
southeasterntreecontracting@gmail.com

**0438 411 943**

## Green Circle Plant Nursery

It has been a busy but rewarding time these last few months at the Nursery supplying plants to various groups: Landcare, schools, Quarry Regeneration Company, property owners wanting to revegetate their property and the home gardeners. We have also donated many plants to schools, Scouts, beautification group and other community organisations. At the Upper Beaconsfield community garden we donated and installed the new modular raised garden beds; Bunnings also helped by donating two of the beds. These beds are now in use by the kindergarten, pre kindergarten, Scouts, joeys and the Early Learning Centre, and cared for by the garden group some of who are also volunteers at the nursery.

By the time you read this the nursery will be closed for the summer but will reopen on Friday 8 February 2019.



From all of us at the nursery we thank you for your support and wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a safe New Year.

SUE SIMMONS

## Vegetation removal at the Recreation Reserve

The Reserve committee has supported the UBA's campaign for creating some safer areas in Upper Beaconsfield before the coming fire season.



Over two morning working bees in recent weeks we have removed all the vegetation inside and protruding through the boundary fence of the oval track.

This has also created more parking for both sporting and horse events and the school pickup in the afternoons.

The Committee has also commenced clearing the first part of a walking trail through the whole reserve starting with a section from the Burton Road car park at the south end of the reserve into the horse riding area. The clearing then continues along the trail up to the oval track near the school at the northern end of the reserve.

We are most appreciative of the work of committee members Andrew Ewenson and Daniel Henderson for making themselves and their machines available to do this work.

BOB TAYLOR AM, PRESIDENT



# Cardinia Deer Management Coalition news

Yes, we now have a name—Cardinia Deer Management Coalition.

**Our Mission:** Connect community to preserve Cardinia catchment biodiversity through humane deer reduction.

And we have formed a working group to begin the process of minimising the impact of deer on our community and our environment. This is a complex issue with many opinions and few effective solutions at this stage.

As you may be aware the impact of deer on our farming community, our environment, our properties and on our roads has been receiving a lot of attention in the media recently. It is a problem which has escalated markedly in the past decades with deer numbers rapidly expanding. A tipping point seems to have been reached in certain areas where the natural environment can no longer recover from the browsing pressure leading to a significant loss in native vegetation. One of these areas is our beautiful Cardinia Creek valley. And now, possibly in part due to the loss in native vegetation, the deer are moving increasingly onto private property and farm lands. The Victorian government has recently released a draft Deer Management Strategy in recognition of this. Unfortunately, despite acknowledging the severity of the problem, the strategy fails comprehensively to provide effective strategies, goals or any funding to address it. Despite stating that hunting alone will not be able to provide a solution, the draft strategy

gives almost no support to funding research into alternative solutions.

Nevertheless, the Cardinia Deer Management Coalition do accept that culling deer is a part of the solution. We have begun actively working with landowners and hunters to provide advice to landowners and connections to hunters in a way which will enable the improved control of deer which is safe for the community, humane, effective and has minimum impact on the amenity of the community as a whole.

The Cardinia Deer Management Coalition has held two open community meetings and two meetings of the working group. We strongly encourage community involvement in our activities. If you wish to be kept informed of our progress and activity or if you wish to make any comments, please feel free to contact us at [cardiniadeer@outlook.com](mailto:cardiniadeer@outlook.com)

We are planning on holding another community meeting in February. Details will be emailed to all our members and also posted on both the Upper Beaconsfield Community Facebook groups. As usual, it will be open to all community members.

**MIKE HALL BVSc, PRESIDENT**



## BUSHLAND & PROPERTY MAINTENANCE Environmental Weed Control & Revegetation



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# An Interview with Emily Ballantyne-Brodie

This year the Upper Beaconsfield Association would like to honour one of our wonderful young people with a Junior Citizen of the Year Award. But – we need nominees! Since 1998 we have had five recipients, the last in 2011. We know there are many candidates out there involved in interesting and worthwhile community projects, but we need to know who they are. Back in 2001 Emily Ballantyne-Brodie received the award and here is a little of her story, then and now.

*How much of your childhood did you spend in Upper Beaconsfield?*

I spent all of my childhood in Upper Beac.

*How old were you when you received the award? Which year?*

I was 17 when I won the award. I believe that was 2001!

*Why do you think you were nominated – what local community activities were you involved in, sports, music, other?*

I think I was nominated for my volunteer work at the local nursing home. I was also very active in sport and academia at school. I think the most important aspect of being awarded was my community work.



*Were you surprised?*

Yes! I was talking with friends at the Carols and someone yelled out my name to come and collect an award – I was shocked!

*Were you involved in activities outside Upper Beaconsfield?*

Yes, I have been involved in many community, sustainability activities outside of Upper Beac. These included being Captain of Community Services at Beacons Hills College, where I worked

on raising funds for the Bangladesh School for the Fred Hyde Foundation.

*What motivated you to be involved back then? Who or what inspired or influenced you?*

I loved being involved in community activities and being around people who cared about issues that can make a difference to vulnerable people and living beings.

*What did winning the award mean to you then?*

I am very grateful to my community of Upper Beaconsfield for recognising my hard work. It's very special to grow up in a place where there is a sense of community and care for each other.

*And now?*

I still feel the same way, even though I do not live in Upper

Beac my mother is still here and I have a very strong connection to this place which will always be in my heart. It's a unique village with a strong sense of community and connection, in a world where individualism and living separate is so dominant.

*Are you still involved with any of those activities now? Did they influence your career or later life?*

I am very much involved in social and ecological issues. I run organisations called Urban Reforestation and Everyday Life Project. These organisations aim to bring community closer together, work towards living in a ecological and socially equitable way. My PhD research focuses on the design of local food systems and reclaiming everyday life which has become commodified and commercialised.

*What does being involved in a community mean to you?*

I think it's 'human' to feel a sense of belonging in a community, whether that is geographical or if it is because you are involved in a social justice group or sporting group.

*Any advice to kids growing up today?*

Spend less time in the virtual world, and connect to the real world. View the world on a relational level: with other humans, and living things (animals and plants). Technocrats are winning at the moment and it's time for us to reconnect on a human-scale.

Since then Emily has continued her strong connection with communities and volunteering, both through her work commitments, and along with ongoing study and the raising of her young family. She went on to complete a double degree in Arts/Management at Monash University. In 2008 she started post graduate study at Monash, completing her Master of Arts, Environment and Sustainability in 2011. Currently she





is researching Food Systems Design for her PhD at Swinburne University of Technology as well lecturing and consulting outside the university in her fields of expertise.

Her PhD involves developing and designing local food systems, enabling communities to produce, distribute and consume their food in a sustainable, effective and viable way. Alongside developers, government and locals she has been working to help build resilient economies and communities, both locally and overseas: from local community gardens to projects with the European Union Urban Development network programme.

She is a director of Urban Reforestation and principal consultant at Sustainable Everyday.

In 2011 Urban Reforestation was a finalist in the annual World Environment Day Awards, presented by the United Nations Association of Australia. These awards are presented for excellence in environmental sustainability in various categories.

Emily has volunteered with the Asian-Pacific Children's Convention for over 20 years, first as a Junior Ambassador in

1995, as a Peace Ambassador in 2011 and Chaperone in 2013. The APCC aims to give children in the Asia Pacific region the opportunity to experience cultures in other countries of the region, giving them a better understanding of those cultures and hopefully forming lifelong friendships along the way. And ultimately, perhaps a more peaceful world.

This is a very small part of Emily's story, but the commitment to community that helped win her the UBJCOTY award back in 2001 is still a strong part of her life.

### Nominate a young Upper Beac resident

Like most small communities Upper Beaconsfield has plenty of people, young and old, who volunteer in all sorts of ways to make our village a stronger, happier, better place for us to live in and call home. The Upper Beaconsfield Association would like to honour a young citizen (under 21 years old) this year. If you know of a young local who gives a bit extra to those around them and volunteers in our community, please let us know. These are the sort of people who seek no reward, but deserve our recognition.

CARO LETTS

## Citizen of the Year—Nominate an adult or young resident

The 2018 Upper Beaconsfield COY award nominations will open soon for both adult and young residents (under 21). Nomination forms will be available from the Post Office, Community Centre, and General Store. Electronic forms are available from UBA secretary helen.r.smith@iinet.net.au

**The purpose of the award is:** To encourage and recognise the importance and value of community service in Upper Beaconsfield, and honour and acknowledge those citizens who have given meritorious service for the progress and development of this community and its residents.

### Eligibility

The nominee/s will be a person(s) who:

- Has been a resident of Upper Beaconsfield for at least 5 years (adult only) and is still a resident within the year of nomination
- Has made a significant contribution to the community
- Has not already received an Upper Beaconsfield Citizen of the Year award and
- Is of good character

The closing date for the 2018 nomination is 31 December 2018. Please note this date in your diary/calendar and consider nominating someone you know who is doing great work within the community. Anyone previously nominated but unsuccessful, can be renominated for 2018.

After the December closing date, the UBA will form a sub-committee to assess all of the nominations. The COY winner will be notified, and an award ceremony will be held at the Village Festival on 17 February, 2019

# TOUGH



# RUN

UPPER BEACONSFIELD

\*21st Annual Run\*

## Sunday 17th Feb 2019

Run/Walk 6km or 12km  
Over 40 Stalls - Kids Activities - Art Show

REDUCED ENTRY FEES!!!

\$15 Student, \$30 Adults, \$80 Family

\*Enter now for early bird saving\*

www.ubvillagefest.org.au

Supporting Upper Beaconsfield CFA, Scouts & Men's Shed



# Trawling newspapers for bushfires

## Quotable extracts:

'I was under the impression one was forbidden from "burning off" until the month of March' *South Bourke & Mornington Journal, Feb 1893*

'The destruction by fire of Salisbury Gully last week is a distinct loss to Upper Beaconsfield. It will be a long time before the famous gully ... will assume its normal aspect.' *South Bourke & Mornington Journal, Feb 1914*

'Mrs Austin, single-handed, was fighting hard but seemed powerless. Just at this stage, Miss Christy, a lady gardener, who had arrived to do some pruning work came on the scene. By this time the fire was within 20ft of the house. It had already caught an outbuilding, but the two women got the hose to work, and the water beat the fire. Then other help arrived and, as if a reward for the plucky women who had done their work so well, the wind changed and the fire turning away up the gully, the homestead was saved.' *The Argus, Mar 1914*

'Sir, Every citizen who has seen the waste and damage caused by bushfires will welcome the Government's proclamation of a fire danger period. Every year people are warned of the danger of leaving fires smouldering. Yours, etc., LANDHOLDER. Beaconsfield.'

*The Herald, Jan 1929*

'A bushfire brigade has been organised in Upper Beaconsfield, ... local property owners and visitors are giving donations.'

*The Age, Jan 1929*

'The fire had to be fought over a 10-mile front on Saturday and yesterday. It was most fierce from Beaconsfield to Upper Beaconsfield. At times there were 1000 people beating it. Motor trucks fitted with hand pumps helped them.'

*The Herald, Jan 1932*

'Within a few hours huge clouds of smoke reduced the range of visibility in some parts of the district to 10 yards.'

*The Argus, Mar 1936*

'Regulations prevented anything being done by the Fire Brigade until a fire actually broke out. It would be much better to have these danger spots wiped out under the control of the Fire Brigade co-operating with the householders in a particular area.'

*The Dandenong Journal, Jan 1944*

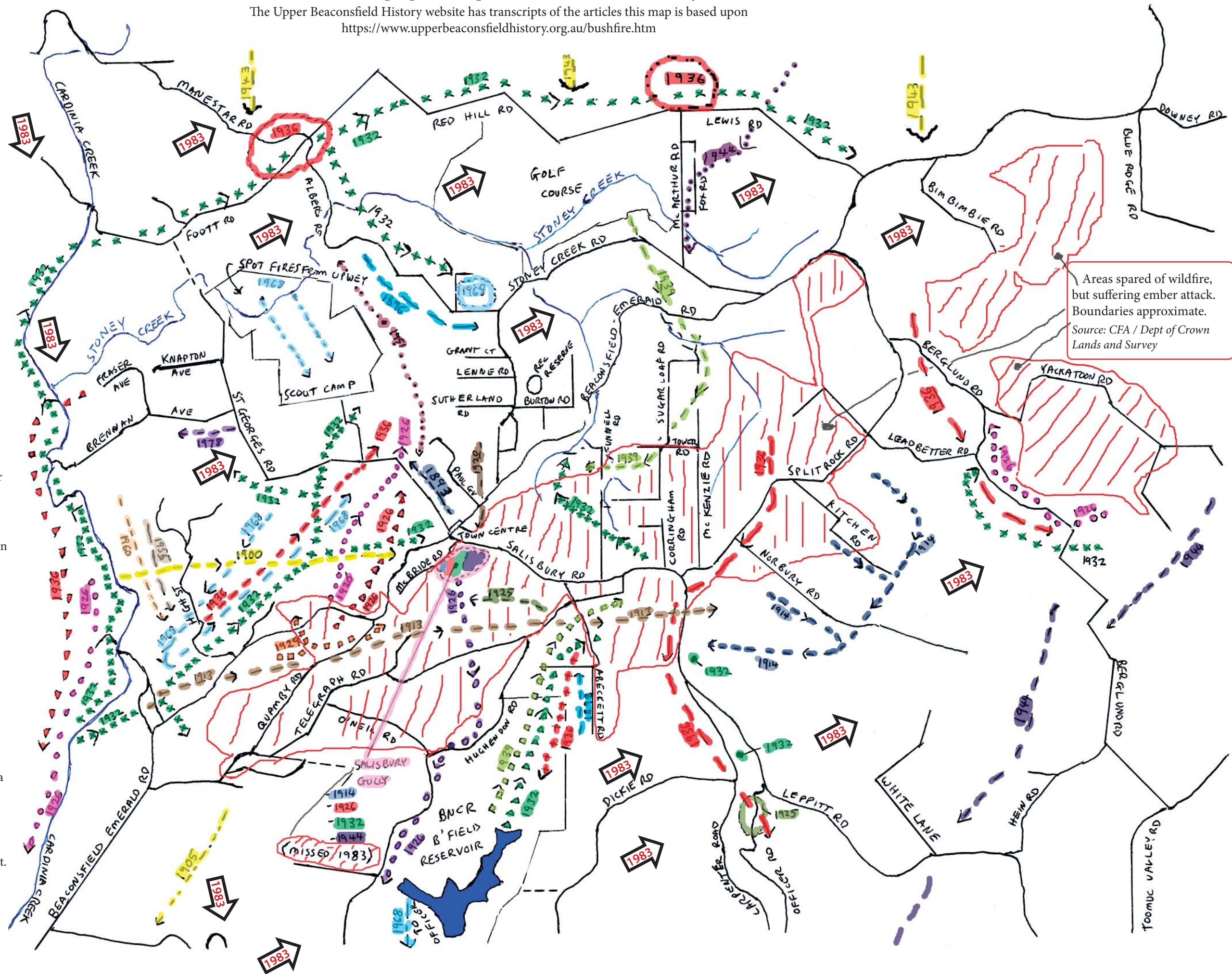
'The Upper Beaconsfield Fire Brigade has been very active. It was called out (twice) merely because people had lit fires but not put them out. The members of this voluntary brigade do not wish to spend their leisure hours fighting fires that never should have started.'

*The Dandenong Journal, Dec 1950*

Fire lines drawn from properties reported to have been affected by bushfires.

The Upper Beaconsfield History website has transcripts of the articles this map is based upon

<https://www.upperbeaconsfieldhistory.org.au/bushfire.htm>





## Beaconsfield Reservoir update

The future of the Beaconsfield Reservoir remains uncertain. If the community wishes to preserve this asset for future generations your support is needed. The reservoir is located in the Beaconsfield Nature Conservation Reserve south of Upper Beaconsfield. The background to this issue was described in the Village Bell in September 2018. The basic issue of concern to the community is the proposal by Melbourne Water to demolish the reservoir wall to form a series of small ponds to create artificial wetlands.

The Friends of the Beaconsfield Reservoir (FBNCR) are an active group of volunteers who wish to retain the reservoir with as large a body of water as is safe and practical. The benefits of retaining the reservoir as an integral part of the conservation reserve include:

- The provision of public amenity for the rapidly growing population in the region
- The lake is suitable for a variety of water sports and recreation
- The reserve could be made suitable for walkers, and possibly linked with the linear aqueduct walking trail
- Availability of fire fighting water in a bushfire prone area. Cardinia Reservoir is not used for air fire-fighting water collection
- The reservoir acts to mitigate floods by acting as a retarding basin
- Making this reserve accessible to activities that complement and protect conservation
- Access for Scouts, school groups and conservation groups

To achieve these benefits, it is necessary to turn around the thinking at Melbourne Water, the council and the state government. This will require your support. You can help by joining the FBNCR and contributing in various ways. We need to raise the profile of this hidden gem in our community. We need to lobby all the stakeholders and make our views known. We need to work with the CEC who manage the site, to organise more open days, walking tours and working bees.

The Friends of the BNCR would like to work with the Upper Beaconsfield Association to preserve the reservoir. The following people have offered to work on a subcommittee:

Paul Higgott, Cheryl Billing Smith, Eric Dodge, David Harrington and Fedir Woskoboenko, to be formed after the next UBA annual general meeting.

### Meeting with Melbourne Water

Friends of BNCR technical group met with Melbourne Water on 5 September 2018. The report of the meeting and technical aspects of the reservoir wall is available on the Upper Beaconsfield website. <https://upperbeaconsfield.org.au/bnrcr>

**FEDIR WOSKOBOENKO, FBNCR**

### Reservoir call to action

As a community we need to look after our natural spaces and bushland. Everywhere around us is under pressure from urban development. The Beaconsfield Nature Conservation Reserve is a little known pristine environment on our doorstep. More people are visiting this fenced off area and are delighted in what they find. The jewel in the reserve is the Beaconsfield Reservoir a large body of water which is under threat of being reduced to ponds. We need this water for future public amenity and to help fight bushfires.

Now is the time to lobby those who are at this moment making decisions that will more than likely take it away forever. The public has paid for the upkeep of this asset for 100 years, but once dismantled it will never be replaced.

Those close to this issue believe present water levels can be retained and that the dam wall can be made to comply with modern construction standards. All it needs is the will to do it.

It hinges on whether enough of the public care enough to lobby the decision makers. So get involved, stay abreast of developments and write letters of support. Best of all join Friends of Beaconsfield Nature Conservation Reserve, be part of its committee and make it a voice to be listened to.

Key stakeholders of Beaconsfield Reservoir and its surrounds include the following:

1. Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP, overall land managers) contact tusitha.karunratne@delwp.vic.gov.au
2. Melbourne Water (manage the Beaconsfield reservoir and the dam infrastructure) contact Kristen.Sih@melbournewater.com.au
3. Cardinia Shire Council contact mail@cardinia.vic.gov.au
4. Cardinia Environment Coalition (day to day managers of Beaconsfield Nature Conservation Reserve (BNCR) contact president@cecinc.net.au
5. Upper Beaconsfield Association (UBA, publishers of the Village Bell, contact editor.villagebell@gmail.com)
6. Friends of Beaconsfield Nature Conservation Reserve (FBNCR, volunteers interested in supporting CEC in the upkeep of BNCR and promoting public access, FBNCR is working with the UBA) contact paulhiggott@gmail.com

**PAUL HIGGOTT**





# A huge year for Scouts

2018 has been a big year for 1st Upper Beaconsfield Scout Group that has seen significant growth. The introduction of Joey Scouts has been a huge success, whilst our four other sections—Cubs, Scouts, Venturers and Rovers continue to flourish.

A recent National Youth Resilience Survey highlighted the benefits of Scouting on those aged 5–18.

Scouting youth showed more resilience, better engagement in their education and community, enhanced social and decision making skills and improved positive mental health by feeling happier, empowered and more supported by adults.

We were proud to be a part of another wonderful RSL service, this time commemorating the 100th Anniversary of Armistice. Our sections also ran their own programs learning further about the sacrifices made by those before us. Joeys made poppies and visited the cenotaph, whilst Scouts made care packs to send to our defence personnel deployed overseas for Christmas.

Congratulations to our magnificent leaders who were recognised with special awards recently—Maxine Gibson, Silver Kangaroo and Bob Taylor, 55 years service to Scouting. As a group, we have thank you for your enthusiasm and dedication and no doubt the wider Scouting community do too.

We will be closing out the year with a group BBQ for all sections and their families at Lysterfield Lake. We would like to wish our Scouting family and those in our community a Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and safe travels wherever your adventures make take you.

## Committee

A new Scout year means a new committee, and we would like to thank everyone who has put their hands up for positions



through next year. Our aim at 1st Upper Beaconsfield for this year is:

1. To bring the group and our community closer together
2. To deliver the best facilities possible for all sections
3. To support our leaders in delivering great programs



## Joeys

Our Joeys group is growing fast. We have so much fun every Monday night, and now have 13 Joey Scouts in regular attendance. We currently have 3 females and 10 males at Joey Scouts, and would love to have some more girls along to try out our group. If your daughter is interested, or your son, please come along on a Monday night at 5.30 pm. We have our first camp coming up, plenty of outings and fun at the Scout Hall planned for the remainder of the year. We love dressing up, making mess, learning new things and helping other people, as is the Joey Scout way! Our first Halloween night was a huge success.

## Cubs

Akela, Baloo and LaLa are excited for term 4 of Cub Scouts and we will be finishing the year off with a bang! We are jam packed with Cubs, boys and girls, but there's always room for more! The more the merrier! The Cubs have been busy practising billy cart racing in preparation for the annual District Billy Cart Camp and we want to bring home the Cup! There was bring a friend night for some Halloween dress ups and gruesome fun and Akela's birthday!

Jed Davey will be celebrating achieving his Grey Wolf, the highest-level badge in Cubs. Congratulations on your hard work, enthusiasm and dedication Jed!

We are finishing off the year with Christmas fun by canoeing at Lysterfield Lake and a family day at Healesville Sanctuary! I'm sure with the warm weather and daylight savings, term 1 2019 will be full of fun and one of the biggest highlights of the year will be District Beach Day at Sorrento.

## Scouts

Late in term 3 we entertained other Scout groups from around the district for a master cooking challenge where the Scouts exercised their creative cooking skills and conjured up a 2-course dinner to share amongst members of their patrols. For end of term, some of the Scouts enjoyed a patrol activity offsite and took part in some adrenalin driven activities like Go Karting and Laser tag. Early in term 4, we held a sports theme night where the Scouts played in a mini basketball round robin tournament. Some of our Scouts took part in a pre-Jamboree shakedown camp at Caringal, near Erica. They met 25 other Scouts from two different city and country Scout groups that they will be camping with early in 2019 at the Australian Jamboree in South Australia. This camp allowed the kids and leaders attending Jamboree to get to know one another before going away for the main camp. In late October we headed to the Beaconsfield Reservoir for a hike to inspect

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

**Joeys** (5–7 years)  
Monday 5.30–6.30 pm

**Cubs** (7–10 years)  
Monday 7.00–8.30 pm

**Scouts** (10–14 years)  
Tuesday 7.00–9.00 pm

**Venturers** (14–17 years)  
Monday 7.30–9.30 pm

**Rovers** (18–25 years)  
Thursday from 7.30 pm



this wonderful local asset right on our doorstep (p 18). Some of our Scouts attended the 100-year anniversary of the ending of WWI and paid their respect at the Remembrance Day service held at the cenotaph in Upper Beaconsfield on 11 November. Other activities taking place in term 4 included attending Gilweroo for a full weekend of fun activities, canoeing at Lysterfield, a health and wellbeing night, map reading/orienteering and a weekend hike.

## Venturers

The Upper Beaconsfield Venturer unit has had an exciting few months coming off the back of our big trip up to Fraser Island. One of the highlights was participating in the annual Armstrong 500 hiking competition. This challenged Venturers to work together whilst hiking and completing stunts. As a



unit we also participated in rock climbing, an op shop fashion night and visited the Upper Beaconsfield CFA. We were also fortunate enough to be able to assist in raising money for breast cancer at the Emerald butcher raising \$470 towards cancer research.

The unit also celebrated Bailey Brock being awarded his Queen Scout during term three. This is the culmination of years of hard work, community service and leadership. Bailey is to be congratulated on this achievement.

As a unit we are looking forward to many major upcoming events including helping out at Gilweroo, Vic Gathering, Anything Goes and many more activities throughout the end of 2018 and into 2019.

## Rovers

Rovers have been busy with the crew running fun programs including food games, golf and trying to solve some "who done it" mysteries! They have also been proudly supporting both our local and Scouting community. Their annual service was completed at Armstrong 500, running events for Venturers from all over the state.

Scouting is a great way to make new friends, learn life skills and have fun, both for children and parents. Come and join us for a free trial and be part of the adventure.

More information contact Group Leader Andrew Ewenson 0418 334 140 email [leader@1stupperbeaconsfield.com](mailto:leader@1stupperbeaconsfield.com)

Website <http://www.1stupperbeaconsfield.com> or Facebook @1stupperbeaconsfield

DEBBIE PINNEY

# Ranges Ward news

## Congratulations 'Woorinyan' CWA Branch

Upper Beaconsfield's Country Women's Association 'Woorinyan' branch recently celebrated its 60th birthday. We are fortunate to have strong CWA branches across Cardinia Shire who all make incredible contributions to our local community by raising funds and supporting local community groups and causes. Woorinyan is no exception.

Woorinyan financially supports many local community groups including the Upper Beaconsfield CFA and Upper Beaconsfield Men's Shed. The group also supports and provides some great CWA hospitality at our local events. It is a testament to the branch that many members choose to belong for a lifetime of service, with many members serving for 40, 50 and even 60 years.

On behalf of Cardinia Shire council and the many people and families that they have helped across our municipality, thank you to the members of Woorinyan CWA branch for their tireless work and congratulations on your 60th birthday.

## Council welcomes new Mayor

Port Ward Councillor, Cr Graeme Moore was elected Mayor of Cardinia Shire for 2018-19. It is the second time Cr Moore has been Mayor, having previously served in this role in 2013-14 and that of Deputy Mayor in 2014-15.

We recognise Cr Collin Ross and thank him for his fulfilment

of the role as Mayor over the past 12 months. Cr Ross will act as Deputy Mayor for 2018-19.



## Community Emergency Resilience Pilot Project

Over the past few months, Cardinia Shire Council has sought feedback from the Upper Beaconsfield community on the strengths, challenges, and further opportunities for improving resilience to emergencies. So far around 100 surveys have been received. To date survey results indicate residents of Upper Beaconsfield have a good knowledge of the emergency and natural disaster risks they face.

To build resilience, people are requesting increased community connections, through community activities and events as well as more information preparing for emergencies. The survey remains open and results will be showcased at the Upper Beaconsfield Village Festival in February. To complete the survey online please go to <https://surveymonkey.com/r/communityresilience> or to request one by calling council on 1300 787 624 and ask for Emergency Management.

## Merry Christmas

On behalf of Cardinia Shire Council, I wish all residents a very merry Christmas. Enjoy this festive season with family and friends and please stay safe. All the best for 2019.

CR BRETT OWEN, RANGES WARD  
CARDINIA SHIRE COUNCIL



# Boomerang bags and poppies

## Community Centre course news

It's never too late to join one of the many term 4 workshops on offer. We have fitness groups, laughter yoga, dance, ancestry, guitar, self-defence, life writing, ladies woodworking and more! We continue to offer computer courses through the Beaconsfield Neighbourhood Centre and these have been very popular. We look forward to working with Rachael and the team in 2019.

## Accredited courses

Our next First Aid course will be run Wednesday, 12 December. Book with Cathy on 5944 3484 or email [bookings@ubcc.org.au](mailto:bookings@ubcc.org.au). Expressions of interest are now being taken for Certificate IV Bookkeeping & Accounting in 2019

## Boomerang Bags

We have more than 8 fantastic volunteers working on the Upper Beaconsfield Boomerang Bag initiative. The ladies have made in excess of 30 bags, which will be on offer at the Village Festival in February. Our sincere thanks go to Anna Konecny for her dedication in getting this project off the ground. Everyone is most welcome to join in – plenty of cutting, ironing and machining on offer!



The group meets every second Tuesday at 10 am during term.

## Poppies

Our committed poppy group had their last meeting in early November. We hope you managed to join the RSL for the 100th anniversary of Armistice Day and had a look at the incredible cenotaph poppy display in remembrance of the UB WW1 soldiers who dedicated their lives. Our sincere thanks to Vicki Watson, who has driven this project from the start, and her wonderful team of knitters!

## Website

Our current term program is always posted on our website – [www.ubcc.org.au](http://www.ubcc.org.au). You can see all available courses, local community contacts, news and information on our Early Learning Centre.

## Facebook

The best way to keep up-to-date with all our Centre news is to like us on Facebook. New courses, changes or offers will be posted on our page.

## Tutors wanted

Do you have a talent or experience that you can share with others? We'd love to hear from you! Call Darlene on 5944 3484 or come in for a chat.

Thank you to everyone who supported the Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre throughout 2018. We wish all our community a very Merry Christmas and safe and Happy New Year.

**DARLENE STILLWELL PROGRAM COORDINATOR**



## What a wonderful year at Kinder

This term has been full of new and exciting things for our kindergarten children.

Our four year old kinder children are stepping up and thriving in their transition programs with their schools for 2019. We love hearing about their adventures on their school visits and it's a great reminder to us that we won't have these smiley little faces at kinder for much longer. With that in mind we are enjoying our last weeks together and treasuring our special bonds. We are continuing to enjoy our mat times and having lots of conversations about our surroundings and nature.

Our three year old children have come so far this year. They are brimming with confidence and are looking forward to moving into big kinder next year. They have developed some lovely friendships to take with them and it has been fantastic to see their creativity as they develop games to play together.

We'd like to say a big thank you to everyone in the community who have supported our kinders this year. It has been a great year! We look forward to doing it all again with lots of new children and families in 2019.

**LEAH HENZEN**

## Laughter Club

*"Always remember to laugh like no-one is watching"*

We all know that laughter is the best medicine, but did you know that it's also the best for the prevention of both emotional and physical illness? Laughter boosts your immune system, increases oxygen to the body cells, improves blood circulation and reduces blood pressure. It also decreases stress, anxiety, and depression.

Laughter Yoga is a unique concept that allows you to laugh even when you least feel like it. Ideal for people of all ages, it is an aerobic exercise program that provides Holistic Health and Happiness. A sense of humour is not required, but you will develop one!

This happy group has been running through term 4 at the Upper Beaconsfield Hall on Tuesday nights 6-7 pm, and finishes for the year on 18 December. It will continue in 2019 on Tuesday nights. A small donation is asked to help cover the hall hire.

Contact Kerrin Mosterd on 0403 505 411 for more details.



## Remembrance Day service at primary school

This year's service at Beaconsfield Upper Primary School was a special one to commemorate the 100 year centenary of the armistice which ended World War 1.

Run by the junior school councillors, school captains and vice captains, each student read at the service, held on Friday the 9th November. This year special guests had connections to our school and shared the stories of relatives who represented Australia in the armed forces.

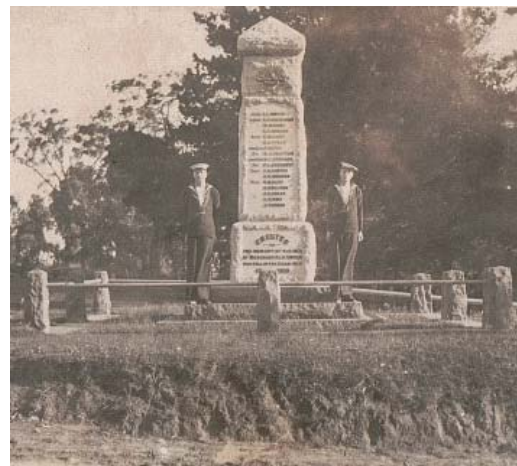
Mr Andrew Mactier, father of year six student, Ainsley, spoke about his great, great uncle Robert Mactier. Private Mactier was posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross and two service medals following the battle of Mont St Quentin.

Year five student Jed Davey spoke about his great, great grandfather Private Horace Shuttleworth, who received a military medal.

Mrs Penny Harris Jennings' father and grandmother were former students of the school and her great grandmother was a teacher. She spoke to the students about the families and past students whose names appear on the honour roll.

Mr Eric Chaplin president of the Upper Beaconsfield RSL recited the Ode of Remembrance and at the conclusion of the ceremony presented the restored honour board which was hung in the original school building, currently the school library.

Students made poppies in art classes, which were placed around the school gardens by Year One and Two students for Remembrance Day. A felt flower floral wreath was made by students to present at the Remembrance Day Service at the cenotaph. The wreath was presented by Tarran and Torah Frost and Oscar Hilton.



**TONI BLIZZARD, BUPS**



## Upper Beaconsfield Cenotaph

*From top: Bill Holmes and John Glismann; Snowed in cenotaph on 30 June 1922 with Solomon Harris; cenotaph with view down St Georges Road; cenotaph and St John's Church.*

*Photographs courtesy of Penny Harris Jennings*





# Emergency warnings explained: Upper Beaconsfield SMS Notification System \* Emergency Alert \* Emergency Victoria

For all emergencies we encourage residents to actively monitor Emergency Management Victoria, the single location for all emergencies in Victoria. You can find all warnings and information at <http://emergency.vic.gov.au/respond>. Download the VicEmergency App onto your smart phone. Also see [www.emergencyalert.gov.au](http://www.emergencyalert.gov.au) for the national Emergency Alert system.

The Upper Beaconsfield SMS Notification System is very different and does not in any way replace the national Emergency Alert system. To receive any information from the Upper Beaconsfield SMA 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 computer generated voice message. This is done automatically and simultaneously. Messages will appear on your mobile from "U.B.InfoMsg"

## Who manages the system?

The administration side of the system is managed by the Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre Inc. The Community Centre manages the database of phone numbers and holds the money paid by residents on trust. The operation side of the system is coordinated 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 Group coordinators 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 any one service for notification of a bushfire?

NO. You cannot rely on any one information source. Vic Emergency will provide you with as much information as possible when there is a bushfire see <http://emergency.vic.gov.au/respond>.

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.

## Emergency Alert

The national Emergency Alert system will send messages to mobile phones within the geographical area determined by the EMV and its agencies. If your phone, or your billing address, is outside the nominated area at the time of an incident you may not be sent a message by Emergency Alert.

## Leave Early policy

The CFA 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 Vic Emergency. DO NOT STAY EXPECTING TO GET A WARNING.

## How do I change my information, opt in or out of the Upper Beaconsfield SMS Notification System?

The administration of the system is being managed by the Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre. If your details change, ensure they are updated. If you wish to join contact the Community Centre with name, address and phone numbers and provide \$5 for each phone number. If you wish to opt out, also contact the Community Centre at 10-12 Salisbury Road, Upper Beaconsfield or phone 5944 3484.

Further Information:

- [www.emv.vic.gov.au/](http://www.emv.vic.gov.au/)
- <http://emergency.vic.gov.au/respond/>
- [www.emergencyalert.gov.au](http://www.emergencyalert.gov.au)

**ED KEON-COHEN**

*Upper Beaconsfield SMS Notification Coordinator*

**ELLISA BORNE**

*Community Education Coordinator CFA Southern Metro Region*



Karenne Gregory  
Reg: Kinect KA19531  
E: [karenne@sshf.com.au](mailto:karenne@sshf.com.au)  
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## Join the St John's family

People move location more freely than years ago. In the midst of change, a base of stability is very important. Belonging to the wider church family provides one such base. No matter where life's physical journey takes you, belonging to a church gives you a base of friendship, support, activity and challenge to grow as a person and in faith. As people move into our community, belonging to a church will enable them to be quickly welcomed into their new 'family'.

Reverend Keith, who has been sharing the parish locum work since January, is relocating to another country town. Rev Keith has been actively involved in running marriage and baptism preparation and celebrations, and has given a lot of his wisdom to parish council. We are so blessed that Revs Alan and Elwyn will continue to share the services as we await and pray for a permanent appointment.

Many years ago, several members of St John's Church were instrumental in setting up Beaconhills Christian College. (Lois Maghanoy Building, and McConchie House are named after our own St John's members). The school has been really blessed and has grown exponentially. A new school constitution was required to reflect this, and St John's Parish Council was invited to liaise with the development committee.

We were very pleased to enable the local coordinators of Need-For-Food to use our church hall for boxing up donated goods. Our thanks go to you and blessings on you for doing this huge project. On the subject of the hall, we have a lovely

multi-purpose facility here that can be used or hired out for any suitable one-off or regular function.

St John's has maintained its support of the wider community, with contributions to the Berwick College Chaplaincy Programme, and to Anglicare Overseas Aid.

An afternoon choral concert "Night of Miracles" will be held at St John's 2 pm Sunday, 9 December with a \$10 entry fee to the concert, participation and super afternoon tea. We are raising funds towards installing a heating system as our current radiators are quite inadequate!

The 'local department store' (Op Shop) has a large range of Christmas decorations and funky products for all your party-platter needs. Stock up locally and then return when done, for true recycling! Clothes, manchester, kitchenware, amazing toys, books, DVDs, games, wall-art and home decoration ideas—we have it all!

The Op Shop is open Thursdays and Fridays till mid-December, and will re-open early February.

St John's regular Holy Communion Services are held 9.30 am Sundays and on Christmas Day. We wish you happy and blessed Christmas Season.

**ROSZ SMITH (WARDEN)**



## G'day from the Men's Shed

Over the last three months we continued ladies' woodworking with a class underway in term four. We still have more participants than we can handle, so we have a winner with this activity. The quality of the projects undertaken and completed is outstanding.

A local resident donated 3000 golf balls and some of our guys are working on some innovative ideas to sell them. Does anyone want a unique back massager? We can supply them. Of course we can also sell the golf balls, in excellent condition,

to any budding golfer for an amazingly cheap price.

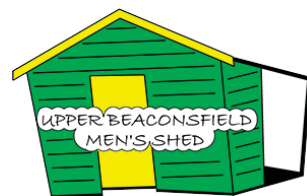
The members kept busy running sausage sizzles, a wood raffle, and also had a working bee to split and stack wood, and another pruning an orchard that hadn't been touched for some years. Some very tired members resulted from those activities. A tool sharpening day was run for the community.

In the Shed there have been many activities especially in the woodworking area. Some residents utilised our large plane and thicknessing machinery to prepare timber for various items of furniture. This is an important aspect of the Shed. We have machinery that (under supervision) can be used by the community. We have upgraded and purchased more machinery and tools for the shed, and are still receiving generous donations.

The Shed has received several grants/subsidies:

1. Cardinia Council, to purchase and install a state of the art video projector for use in training courses
2. "Be Connected" (Fed Gov), to promote and run IT training for seniors
3. "EcoLight" (State Gov), to subsidise the replacement of inefficient hi-bay gantry lights, with efficient LED lighting. This will result in greater than 50% saving in light energy usage in the Shed

We held five formal free training courses for Shed members,



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partners, and other residents in the various uses of ipads, and general internet usage, including useful apps. Janie Hutchings, a professional tutor, ran these courses, and they were very successful with an overall attendance of around 90. The "Be Connected" grants were used for this activity. We intend to continue this education on a regular basis.

There was an interesting speaker on strokes, and preparations that seniors should make prior to any unfortunate event occurring. The talk provoked quite an amount of thought and discussion.

Some members have gained extra certificates in first aid and in test and tagging of electrical equipment. We welcomed a new member Robin Wikramanayake, who is introducing some new projects in the mechanical field. We sadly lost former member Viv Hyland, who had recommended various safety and security measures in the early stages of our shed construction.

The Shed will shortly visit the Nissan Engineering works in Dandenong, then after a Xmas breakup dinner on 19 December, we will take a break until 16 January. But we will as usual, be involved with Carols in the Park on Christmas Eve.

### New members welcome

The Shed is located at the rear of the Community Complex with entry from Halford Street. We are open on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9–4. Come along on any Wednesday morning for a chat, a coffee, and if one of our members has a birthday, gourmet cakes. We are a very friendly lot.

For more info contact Noel Ling on 0414 443 735, or email [secubms@gmail.com](mailto:secubms@gmail.com) facebook UpperBeaconsfieldMensShed <https://sites.google.com/site/upperbeaconsfieldmensshed/>

NOEL LING

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## Cricket Club update



### Young BUPs have a blast

Over a few weeks many students at Beaconsfield Upper Primary School participated in a kaleidoscope of cricket skills in a partnership project with Cricket Victoria. In a revamp of the sessions organised previously, the new Woolworths Junior Blaster program aims to draw youngsters to cricket. The Junior Blaster sessions were staged in November.

### WGCA all stars launched

Following a trial run last season, West Gippsland Cricket Association launched the girls cricket season at Kooweerup on November 11 as a lead up event to the first matches of the season. 27 girls enjoyed skills sessions as well as a version of Kanga Cricket to excite the participants. Region 8 cricket manager Rob Elston organised the successful event. The players paused at 11 am to honour those involved in our armed services as part of the centenary since Armistice Day. Any local girls who would still like to sign up can do so through Play Cricket. Contact Mel Naismith 0409 136 033. Upper Beaconsfield has a girls' team in the competition which started November 19 and welcomes newcomers.

### Two maroon centurions feted

After the cricket concluded our club players gathered to honour two of our most recent batting centurions. Nick Pastras Junior scored a memorable ton in the March grand final this year, while Imesh Lakkana crafted a skilful 120 against Pakenham last Saturday.



*continued on page 26*



*continued from page 25*

Nicko became one of a select group of father / son centurions. Lakky has now scored two tons for Upper Beaconsfield in successive seasons.

### Bayard's third ton as C Grade wins in a canter

Highlight of the round two clashes was a dominant century—his third for the club—Julian Bayard and Billy Kett combined to lead C grade to an impressive win. Chasing Pakenham's 183

the Maroons passed the total losing only two wickets. Skipper Craig Chapman again showed skilled form to compile 23 but the big partnership came from the Bayard-Kett combination. Bowling honours were shared around.

### Thursday family nights

Our family dinners reached a new high last night—over 40 meals served! The Long Room was buzzing as youngsters and whole families joined to build a great bond. Bob Carlyle's lasagne as well as chicken tortellini was enjoyed by all present. Come along and experience the atmosphere. Contact the club if you would like to participate.

**ROB  
HANSEN**



## An action packed year

What a fantastic and action-packed year 2018 has been for the Upper Beaconsfield Pony Club! Our new cross country course, a project our members have been working incredibly hard at, has finally started to take shape this year. By incorporating the use of it into rally plans riders have been able to test themselves and their horses around a much more diverse and challenging course, all in preparation for competition.

Throughout 2018 many of our members also continued to do such a fantastic job representing our club out and about, flying purple and green at Pakenham Horse Trials, St Margaret's School Combined Training Day, Werribee PC Horse Trials and many more. The support the girls and parents have shown each other has been outstanding and a true testament to our club.

On 6 November Upper Beaconsfield and fellow competitors were able to brave the weather, hosting a successful showjumping day at Hillcrest College, Ayr Hill. A massive thank you to the parents, sponsors and volunteers for their contribution to what was

a well run and smooth event. Next on the calendar for our pony club is the highly anticipated December Gymkhana! Each year our riders (and parents) put their grooming skills to the test in the hopes for some nice ribbons won in both presentation and ridden classes. It is definitely a date to remember if you would like to come and watch, experiencing firsthand the friendly and enthusiastic community that is Upper Beaconsfield Pony Club.



**LUCY**

*continued on page 27*





## Spiky 7th hole

On 7 October an echidna wandered onto the 7th green at Beaconsfields. When golfer Shane Wheat removed the flag to putt, the echidna popped down the hole – and would not budge! This will go down as Mark Griffin's one and only echidna emergency call out, as he retires after over 40 years working in the pro shop. Fellow local, Mark Auhl, together with Tim Angwin and their team have taken charge of the pro shop bookings, lessons, clinics, club fittings – plus all future echidna relocations.

On the Friday before the AFL Grand Final, a strong field of players were tested in both golf and stamina over 27 holes.

"The King of the Hills" was an event historically played at Olinda Golf Club. Since its closure, both the Olinda Golf Club and their tournament have found a new home at Beaconsfields.

Results: King: Stewart Allen; Queen: Laura Griffin; King Best Nett: Adrian Besley; King Best A Grade Nett: Andrew Conn; Queen Best Nett: Lee James; Queen Best A Grade Nett: Heather Hamilton

The club's "Phoenix Day" held on 20 October was well



Phoenix Day winner  
Brian Andrews

supported in spite of the weather. It is a day that celebrates the survival and renewal

of the club. Raffles, silent auction, "course jesters", betting hole and a sausage sizzle on the course all ensured that the day was once again a big success.

Winter Cup Matchplay winners: Emil Ackaoui and Andrew Parker; Spring Cup Classic winners: A Grade Bev Eckhardt B Grade Barbara Mars; Monthly Medal September: Matt Worthington; Monthly Medal October: Adrian Besley

Wednesday Twilight golf resumed on 10 October. All players are welcome. Golfers tee off for 9 holes from 3 pm and the cost for non-members is only \$14. It is a friendly introduction to competition as golfers without an official handicap are allocated a "twilight handicap" after two rounds.

The popular Wednesday bistro meal is also back, along with Sunday afternoons on the deck. We are lucky to have such a beautiful golf course, gardens and historic clubhouse in Upper Beaconsfield and it is good to see so many locals enjoying the facility.

**MATT VAN DER KRAAN, CLUB MANAGER**

## Thank you from Pony Club

Upper Beaconsfield Pony Club would like to thank our club sponsors—Horseland Narre Warren, Equinade, and Horserail as well as local sponsors Upper Beaconsfield Pharmacy, Beaconsfield Timber and Hardware, Kaye Charles Real Estate, Lokaway, Markfi Gates, Westlink Consulting, Victorian Equestrian Centre, CD Wilson, Manson's Tyres, Bendigo Bank Beaconsfield, Berwick Physio, Michelle Strapp and Vision Signs.

Also a big thank you goes to Horseland Narre Warren, South East Equine Hospital, Hayes Products, Kleev Homes and Pakenham Produce for purchasing sponsor showjumps.

This very generous support means so much to our club and enables us to make some much needed improvements to our grounds and facilities.

**KIM KLEVERLAAN**

## A busy end of year

### Tennis Club championships

The club's 2018 junior club championships were held in September with many players taking part. Well done to all the players and a further well done to the following that made it through to the finals: Girls Open: Claudia E (W) and Caitlyn M (R/Up); Boys Open: Jordan R (W) and Alex C (R/Up); B/C Grade: Callum M (W) and Tilly B (R/Up)

The 2018 singles club championships were held in late October. Congratulations to the following players that made it through to the finals to be played at the Christmas party: Ladies: Sammy M and Caitlin B; Men: Sam H and Jonathan C

### Christmas party

The club's Christmas party is being held on Saturday 1 December starting at 6 pm with all members and their families welcome to attend.

There will be a special visit by Santa for the kids (big and small!) A free spit roast dinner and the finals of the 2018 singles and doubles club championships will be played, so it is a night not to be missed.

### Junior and senior winter season wrap up

Congratulations to our junior section 8 team that walked away with the premiership flag, and to our junior section 6 team who walked away with the runners up flag after a closely contested match.

Well done to our senior men's singles/doubles, men's B grade and mixed teams that all made it through to the finals. Unfortunately all of these teams were beaten by stronger teams in the first round of finals.

### Are you interested in playing tennis?

Did you know that the club offers a wide range of tennis activities to suit everyone? These include night tennis, mid week ladies, junior and senior weekend competitions and coaching. If you are interested in any of

these please get in contact with us and we will be happy to assist.

upperbeaconsfieldtc@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/  
upperbeaconsfieldtennisclub)

**MATT HUTCHINSON**





## Brad Battin State Member for Gembrook

The election is over, votes have been counted and the results are in.

I would like to thank you for the last 8 years and for letting me be involved in your community. It has been an absolute pleasure. I look forward to continuing to serve Upper Beaconsfield and the surrounding community as best as I can.

I would like to remind you all that summer is around the corner and the fire season is fast approaching. My biggest advice to you is to prepare for the hot weather ahead – make sure you keep your grass short, clean your gutters regularly and clear any leaves, twigs and branches from around your home. For

more information I strongly encourage you to contact your local CFA brigade or station and they will be happy to assist you.

This leads me to my final point, I would like to thank our volunteers for their hard work. They risk their lives for no financial reward. They don't get paid monetarily – they get paid in respect. I will continue to ensure they receive the utmost respect because I believe we

should protect those who protect us.

**BRAD BATTIN MP**

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