

UPPER BEACONSFIELD

# VILLAGE BELL

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

Issue No. 217  
September 2019

**Roadside orphans  
rescued from the pouch**

**Animal awareness  
needed on  
our roads!**





# The Melbourne Cup is coming to Upper Beaconsfield Pony Club

Join us on 18 October 2019 when the actual Melbourne Cup, all quarter of a million dollars' worth, will be at Pony Club for a photo shoot and a talk by one of the VIPs accompanying the cup. Later it goes to Beaconhills College, then on to Pakenham Racecourse where our club riders will parade in the mounting yard and on the track.



## The Village Bell — promoting local activities

Join Us at the...

**BUPS TWILIGHT FETE**  
Friday 18th October 2019  
40 Stony Creek Road, Upper Beaconsfield

All profits go towards our school!

**SHOWBAGS**

**Lucky dip**

**games & activities**

**sausage sizzle**

**MYSTERY JARS**

**BADGE MAKING**

**tie-dying**

**crazy hair stall**

**2nd hand book stall**

**PLANT A SEED**

**tattoos and face painting**

...and plenty more!

Entertainment starting from 3:30pm. Stalls open from 4pm - 7pm.  
Please note that if you are on school grounds before 3:30pm, you must sign in at the office.  
Stall holders welcome - please email [emma.tiberi@gmail.com](mailto:emma.tiberi@gmail.com) for details.

**1st UPPER BEACONSFIELD SCOUT GROUP**

**CHRISTMAS TREES**

**THIS YEAR, PICK YOUR REAL CHRISTMAS TREE IN UPPER BEACONSFIELD AND SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL SCOUT GROUP.**

**CONVENIENCE RIGHT HERE ON YOUR DOOR STEP!**

**LIKE OUR FACEBOOK PAGE TO FIND OUT WHERE AND WHEN AND PRE-ORDER TO AVOID MISSING OUT.**

**1st UPPER BEACONSFIELD SCOUT GROUP**

**XMASTREES@1STUPPERBEACONSFIELD.COM**



## Please sign the petition — a dangerous intersection

Many community members travel through the intersection of Beaconsfield-Emerald Road, Salisbury Road and St Georges Road each day when heading towards their destination of Beaconsfield, Pakenham, Emerald and Narre Warren North—or even just to enter the local shopping precinct.

When researching our local history in the Village Bell archive, 1982 was the earliest date that I could find community concerns about the safety at this intersection. From this date onwards, the Village Bell published a series of significant and extensive reports about this intersection. The documented history includes evidence of discussions, planning, assessments, submissions and studies that have all taken place to initiate change to improve safety for road users.

Many local councillors have been involved and there have been ongoing discussions with Cardinia Shire Council. In 2000 the council employed engineers to provide recommendations for change and four recommendations were documented, three of which

recommended a roundabout.

Beaconsfield-Emerald Road is classed as a main thoroughfare and VicRoads controls the decision making and the funding. Cardinia Shire Council manages the side roads. The first submission made to VicRoads to fund a roundabout was made in 1988. In 2012 VicRoads commenced minor works at the intersection which included road widening and a pedestrian access. VicRoads currently report that no further works are planned to change the intersection, as no fatalities have been reported.

In response to many concerns noted on local social media pages regarding this intersection, discussions have recently been held between UBA members, Councillor Brett Owen, Peter Benazic from Cardinia Shire and Brad Battin MP. As a result of these discussions a petition has been developed which is addressed to the Legislative Assembly of Victoria (Lower House of the Parliament of Victoria), to request that once again the safety aspects of this intersection be reviewed and that any necessary modifications be

made in consultation with VicRoads and Cardinia Shire Council. Pakenham Gazette published an article “Residents rally for road safety” on 29 July regarding a nasty collision at the intersection, which readers can search online for more details.

A community forum was held at the UBA meeting on 7 August, where many community members discussed their thoughts and experiences regarding the intersection. The petition was presented to members for signing. Brad Battin MP has agreed to present this document to Parliament on our behalf. A report will be completed to support the petition and it is likely that a copy of this report will also be forwarded onto Jaala Pulford, the Minister for Roads, Road Safety and TAC.

If you are concerned about the safety of the intersection, then I encourage you to provide your support by signing the petition. Petitions are located at the primary school, at FoodWorks, the bakery and the post office. The more who sign the better!

**KATE CANNIZZARO**

## Christmas in July success

On behalf of the Upper Beaconsfield Village Festival committee, we express our sincere gratitude to everyone who contributed to the success of the Christmas In July lunch held on 20 July.

Thanks to the generous businesses that donated the wonderful prizes. Thank you to the locals, community representatives, friends, family and committee members who joined us for a day of great food, fun, drinks and lots of bidding. Thank you to Jason's Restaurant for hosting the day. It was extremely successful with over \$6,000 being raised which will help with the ongoing success of the festival and to give back to our community groups

that provide support to the running of the festival, such as the CFA, Scouts and Rovers and the Men's Shed.

Thank you to Malcolm Graham who tirelessly supports our community and

has done so for more than 40 years. Thank you to the amazing Nathalia Elsegood who makes our events look so gorgeous and thank you to Gail and Mark Kelly who support our events year in and out—you are champions of our township.

We acknowledge these businesses for their support:

Upper Beaconsfield General Store, Mitchelton Winery, The Langham Hotel Melbourne, Bicycle Superstore Fountain Gate, Tom Gibson Alex Scott Real Estate, Peter Sheppard Designer Shoes, Shanikas, Pine Grove Hotel, Summer Snow Juice, Beveridge Williams, Favero Gardens, Gazzola Farms, Carlei Green Vineyards, 9Mile Orchard, Upper Beaconsfield GP Practice, Interstate Flowers, Naatje Patisserie, Stoney Creek Jewellery, Poze Hair Salon, Heavenly Hands, Cannibal Creek Wine, Elgas, Body Garage, Trudy Scott Hair Stylist and In Flowers.

**MICHELLE GREENSHIELDS**



## Rainfall on St Georges Road

Month	45 yr av.	2018	2019
Jan	63.6	54.6	13.2
Feb	58.4	8.5	25.2
Mar	64.2	35.9	36.0
Apr	78.3	23.0	22.8
May	86.1	98.2	98.4
Jun	80.3	61.0	66.6
Jul	78.6	67.2	75.0
Aug	85.7	69.8	
Sep	90.6	48.8	
Oct	94.3	43.4	
Nov	86.5	124.8	
Dec	80.4	70.4	
<b>Total</b>	<b>947 mm</b>	<b>705.6 mm</b>	

Rainfall for May, June and July was by corresponding month, each above that of last year.

Overall, the three month total of 240 mm was 13.6 mm above the 226.4 mm received last year.

Not only is this a win against last year, but the three month total was only 5 mm below the long term average.

For the months of May and July there were more rainy days than non-rainy ones.

The replenishment of water for our dams, tanks, plants and ground water is a most welcome trade-off for the cold and grey of winter.

For the sun-seekers, I am sure it's not too far away, but a continuance of the rain will also be most welcome.

**ANDREW REWELL**

## Cycling group

Upper Beaconsfield Peddlers meet every third Sunday of the month for a social bicycle ride mainly on rail trails, shared pathways locally and inner city.

There are choices of a shorter ride of 30 km or longer ride of 50 km and we always stop for refreshments along the way. The only cost is Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre's annual membership of \$10.

Contact Cathy on 0421 556 560 for more information.



## Beautification: No more agapanthus!

The Beautification Group has been busy again. The planter boxes at the village shops have been replanted with Australian native plants which were chosen for their flowers and toughness.

The agapanthus removal was thanks to Angus Wilson. He did a great job without damage to any of the boxes, Council removed the two piles of aggies and Scott Lansbury filled the boxes with fresh potting mix and mulch.

It was a great team effort.

Money for the plants and potting mix was through a grant from the council, and the body corporate contributed to the agapanthus removal.

We are very lucky to have such great

## CWA invites you

The Woorinyan Branch of The Country Women's Association Vic invite new members to join our friendly group. The branch meets on the fourth Friday of the month at St John's hall, corner St Georges Road at 1 pm.

For more information contact:

President

Lynette Lameris, mob 0478 129 833

Secretary

Barbara Reid, mob 0403 577 720,  
email [barbarareid@iinet.net.au](mailto:barbarareid@iinet.net.au)

support from the Cardinia Shire Council. This is the 7th grant we have received since starting in 2012.

Please respect our hard work and keep your feet and cigarette butts off the plants.

**JENNY PRITCHARD, 0425 855 660**

### Thank you to our supporters:

Kate Cannizzaro; G and J Dissegna; R & D Grant; B & B Mars; G & P Palmer

**Village Bell support** If you like reading the Village Bell, please help to fund it. All we ask is for households to pay a yearly \$5 support towards producing the Village Bell.

You can pay \$5 at the Community Centre, General Store or Post Office, or pay by

internet banking to Upper Beaconsfield Association Inc., Bendigo Bank, BSB 633-000 account number 162 580 112. Tag your payment with your name so we know who sent it. If you live outside the local area we can mail the Bell to you for \$15 per year. Thank you!

**Village Bell Editorial coordinator** Helen Smith tel 5944 3219 – **Layout** Marianne Rocke – **Photo editor** Cameron Rocke – **Advertising** Helen Smith and Kaylene Cox – **Subscriptions** Julie Born – **Mailing list** Cheryl O'Gallagher

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**Send articles by** 7 November 2019 to [editor.villagebell@gmail.com](mailto:editor.villagebell@gmail.com)

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## Around town

### Phone reception

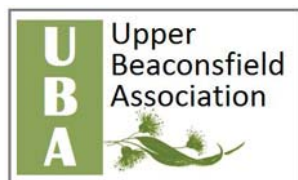
A new phone tower was erected at Montuna Golf Course in June. Apparently, the residents from Brennan Avenue have found a much-improved phone reception since then. But other residents say phone reception is still not good in the St Georges Road and Hughendon Road areas. It would be interesting to find out which other local areas still have poor reception. It has to do with line of sight—if you



can see the phone tower, or have no large hill blocking the signal, you should have good reception. There are phone transmitters on the Water Tower, and another phone tower is in Cardinia Beaconsfield Golf Course, and there is a small cell transmitter on the roof of the telephone exchange.

### Car crashes

A couple of recent car crashes in the area have focussed attention on the safety of local roads, and on unsafe driving. Police report that one in five



### *Next public meeting*

**Wed 2 October at 7.30 pm  
Community Complex**

All welcome!

crashes are caused by driver distraction. The increasing pressure of traffic at peak periods around school drop off times and later in the afternoons is also causing problems. See the article on the dangers of the Beaconsfield-Emerald / Salisbury/St Georges Road intersection. Residents are urged to sign the petition.

Many residents attended the Upper Beaconsfield Association August meeting to discuss the problems at the intersection. People mentioned the difficulty of getting through the intersection with a continual stream of oncoming traffic, not having enough time to judge when it is safe to cross due to the crest of the hill, people approaching the intersection too fast, and not being able to see around other larger cars when waiting for an opening. The no left turn at Charing Cross is also concentrating traffic at the intersection.

If residents have local issues they want to discuss, you are welcome to attend the Upper Beaconsfield Association's public meetings.

HELEN SMITH

## Historically speaking, traffic management

The issues with the traffic problems at the St Georges Road/Salisbury Road intersection has been going on for a very long time.

Many people are also unaware that the dilemma was solved many years ago on the night of 31 March 1979. On the morning of April first, the good folk of Upper Beac woke to find a beautiful set of flashing amber, red and green lights sitting high on poles at the intersection. No names will be revealed but they were all young artists who produced a very good cardboard replica of a working traffic light.

The flashing light part just may have been borrowed from a nearby Country Roads Board bollards and they were returned after the event. I was reminded that the Pakenham Gazette supposedly came out and did an article about this momentous event. I'm not sure about that. I was a young artist without enough money to buy a Pakenham Gazette.

ANONYMOUS

## Music coordinator needed!



## Carols in the Park Christmas Eve 24 December

The UBA would like to hear from musicians and singers who would like to participate in the Upper Beaconsfield Carols. We need to organise a group soon. Last year's Carols was a great success. However, we need another coordinator for the music program. If we do not get enough participants, the Carols may not go ahead. If you are willing and able to join this group, please leave a message at 5944 3219 or [helen.r.smith@iinet.net.au](mailto:helen.r.smith@iinet.net.au) so we can start getting organised!

# Cats in the kitchen\* ..... and anywhere else but the garden

Joe^ is grumpy. A little pile of grey feathers on his lawn. The site of the demise of a grey shrike-thrush. He's got some forensic evidence of the major suspect: a photo of a cute little grey tabby moggie poking its head under his side gate. Started arriving soon after some new neighbours moved in recently two houses along. About the time birds stopped coming to his beautiful garden.

And Steve^, who lives between now has a major concern. He's been working hard eradicating cedar wattle, pittosporum and ivy from his garden and planting native trees and plants for years. It's looking great. Just recently, for the first time ever, he saw a sugar glider in his backyard! And the new cat. How long will the two coexist? Pleasure and pain.#

It's been estimated that there are somewhere between five to 22 million feral cats in Australia, killing between five to 20 animals a day. Let's say, conservatively that would be upwards of 20 million native animals every day. Principally in reaction to the environmental toll our domestic cats have caused, a lot of local councils have invoked a dusk till dawn property curfew. Some councils, including ours of Cardinia, Casey and Yarra Ranges, have a 24-hour curfew for cats. A council in New Zealand has gone one step further: it plans to ban cat ownership completely, due almost entirely to the link between outdoor cats and the steady decline in their native bird population. Their plan is for all domestic cats to be desexed, and when the current cats die, they cannot be replaced.

Is that unfair? Does it go too far? A police state one person claimed. (They have obviously not lived in one.) Well, what's it worth to protect our natural environment? What would you give? What would you give up?

We have two cats: "the boys", Jeffery and Virgil@. We decided from day one they were going to be indoor cats because we wanted lots of birds and animals in our garden. Once in the garden, there is no way we could guarantee they would stay on our property nor keep off the roads. But how were two young cats going to tolerate being confined? No worries. They've turned into well balanced, stress free cats who love their lifestyle.

How do we know? If they do ever sneak outside through a carelessly open door, even on a warm sunny day, within 10–15 minutes they want to break back in again. However, we do have a good house for them, where they can find the sun at different times of the day, they can get up high to look at the world outside and we have an outside balcony they can't get off, where they can be "outside" but not in the garden.

So, do they lack anything? When I started to write this article, we contacted a friend of ours who is a veterinary behaviourist to ask her that question. Yes, was the answer: cats need a "predatory play outlet". A what? It turns out that cats love, and need, to satisfy that part of their innate instincts – hunting. Some cats are fine without this (ie "the boys"), and some not, which can lead to antisocial behaviour, such as attacking and biting, which can sometimes be quite nasty. A predatory play outlet has three components; the chase, the catching and then the eating. This can be done in the home with quite simple toys. You can make them quite easily, such as a pizza box taped shut with small paw-sized holes cut in it and dry food inside. The cat will have to manipulate the food out of the box before eating it. Or maybe he will rip it to shreds instead. Either is fine; his hunting instinct is satisfied. Or you can buy something like a Catit 2.0 Cat Senses Food Tree where you put dry food in and your cat will entertain itself getting the food out. (No, we don't own shares!)

If you want your cat to stay inside, there are now several companies supplying and/or installing outside cat runs, which can be terrific. Or you can DIY, with kits. Cats love them because, when they're well designed, cats get a range of areas to explore, different heights to view from and exposures to the sun, as well as protection from the neighbour's tomcat or stray dog. They are not always cheap to install, but the pleasure they give to your cat in the long run is well worth it. You can get creative and find, for instance, a second hand chook pen and modify it for cats. The roosting areas make excellent high vantage points for your cat to nap on, or survey his territory from.

And free steak knives too! Well, maybe not that, but there are lots of other important advantages. On average

they will have healthier lives and live longer. Years longer—all the data bears this out. They won't be out on the prowl dodging cars and all the damage they can do. They will avoid nasty territorial confrontations with other cats (and dogs), which often end in painful infections and abscesses. Or perhaps feline leukaemia virus spread from cat fights. One less vaccination to worry about. Even a friendly meeting can end in cat flu. And then there's the parasites, both internal (worms, coccidia) and external (fleas), some happily shared with their staff (that's us.) Cats are much less likely to have problems with any of these if they live wholly indoors. All this leads to fewer stressful (and expensive!) visits to the vet in general.

If you want to let your cat outside, that's OK, but the council bylaws say it must always be contained to your property. Which is not easy with cats. Especially as the fence will also need to keep other cats out, or you'll still have many of the problems mentioned above. And you probably won't have much wildlife either. Your council website may have suggestions on how to keep your cat on your property. For further information on cat proof fencing and enclosures, the Victorian government has this link: <http://agriculture.vic.gov.au/pets/cats/cat-confinement-enclosures-and-fencing/cat-proof-fencing>

It's all in our own hands. We can own fit, well adjusted, happy long living cats and have birds in the garden at the same time. Oh, and a happy council too. If we don't keep our cats at home, especially in an environmentally sensitive area such as ours, we could well lose them, as is starting to happen in New Zealand.

Oh, and don't forget you get happy neighbours too!

If you are interested in protecting your local ecosystems, want to do something about it and want to meet some like minded people, contact Fergus O'Gallagher, [fergusogallagher@bigpond.com](mailto:fergusogallagher@bigpond.com) of the Upper Beaconsfield Conservation Group and join us at a working bee, or over a cup of tea at one of our meetings.

^ not their real names

\* reference to Celtic folk group

# reference to Divinyls song

@ yes, their real names

CARO LETTS



# Wildlife road toll survey of Upper Beaconsfield

Have you ever noticed a dead animal on the side of the road with a spray painted cross on it? That animal was checked by one of the dedicated volunteer animal markers or carers that we have in our lovely community. I have been checking pouches for the last 40 years, long before we ever thought to put a cross on them.

I am also that woman who you sometimes see picking up rubbish on the roadside. While doing this I have time to contemplate the fact that animals always seem to get hit in the same places on our roads and these places seem to be where there is a noticeable track or animal pathway. I started to consider whether animal pathways had a major factor in vehicle collisions. My thinking was of course, how can we prevent future collisions and what is being done about the situation.

I started to question whether there was a comprehensive data collection system being done anywhere in Australia that linked animal pathways or crossings with wildlife collisions. The answer was no, there were surveys being done but none looking at animal crossing and most importantly those that were in progress looked just at vehicle collisions and were not being utilised. This is because the right people were not putting in the data. What we needed was for a survey to be done where the information was collected by the people who see the dead animals. The ones who are out there checking the pouches, marking the crosses on the animals and caring for the wildlife. This was the only way an accurate survey was going to be accomplished.

Using social media, I put my theory out there looking for input. I received some great responses and with the wonderful help of Pam Edwards we started our survey group. Next we gathered the people together who mark, collect and euthanise animals on our roadsides. We have an amazing and quite a large group in this area and many of us were unaware of each other. Marking a dead animal is a lonely and solitary job and one that many of us will do at least once a week. Using a messaging group, we are now able to call upon each other to attend to an animal or alert each other of issues regarding animals that may have been injured.



*A young joey rescued from his dead mother's pouch*

The aim of the survey is to prevent collisions with wildlife. Presently we are seeing a massive number of animals being hit on our roadsides. This not only causes terrible pain and suffering to our native species but comes at a great cost to the motorist and danger to human life. There are several new technologies being trialled throughout Australia with varying degrees of success. These include light/mirror reflectors, ultrasonic sound emitting devices, solar operated lights etc. But none of these technologies are any good if you don't know where to place them. This means collecting information about animals hit on our roads. So, I called upon my IT expert and with the help of a fellow from the CSIRO we have upgraded an app from The Atlas of Living Australia Biocollect which works beautifully for our purposes. It means that each of the markers can add information at the scene of a collision or when marking a dead animal with their smartphones.

Right now, I am asking the people of Upper Beaconsfield for help. If you have an animal collision in UB, please contact us. Firstly, if an animal is hit, we need to check the pouch and include it in our survey but other data that would be helpful includes the cost of repairs

to your car or other damages. Remember we are looking for as much info as possible to reduce collisions in the future. Knowledge of cost to the community is one of those considerations. Our animal carers understand that many collisions are unavoidable, but it is a simple phone call to get an animal carer out to check on an injured animal or to put it out of misery.

We are collecting data for a twelve-month period to gather as much information as possible. This should give us statistics from all seasons and holiday periods. Our area is tightly defined so that data is controlled and that the animal pathways can be searched for on foot. Think of Upper Beaconsfield in the centre of a square. Our survey area runs from the Cardinia Hotel to the bottom of the Cardinia Reservoir, to Bourkes Creek Road, Shelton Road, Toomuc Valley Road, Leppitt Road and back to the centre of Upper Beaconsfield.

Over the past few months I have contacted numerous politicians, government departments, ministers and people involved with research into road collisions. This project has been received with excitement and enthusiasm that has surprised even me. Although we are just a small local group, we are hoping that we may be able to make a difference to the number of animal collisions and the way we manage traffic in high impact zone areas, not just in Upper Beaconsfield but right across Australia. One benefit that is coming out of our meetings is the incredible knowledge base that our animal carers have on how their animals behave and they are coming up with some great simple ideas that we can put forward for traffic management based upon this knowledge. These wonderful people who go out day and night to injured animals receive no reimbursement or help from any government department, yet they are continuing to work hard on a solution to keep you safe on our roads.

**ANNIE O'RILEY**  
**ANNIEORILEY@GMAIL.COM**

For injured wildlife, please contact:  
Sarah at WISH 0402 393 667

(Handy hint: put her number in your phone under wildlife!)

# VALE Laurence Arthur (Laurie) Fenton 1951–2019

*“The road goes on forever, but the party never ends.”*

Laurie was born in Bunbury, Western Australia, on 12 November 1951 and died suddenly in Scotland on 6 July 2019. The day before, he had played a round of golf at The Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrew's with a party of seven friends from Cardinia Beaconsfields Golf Club.

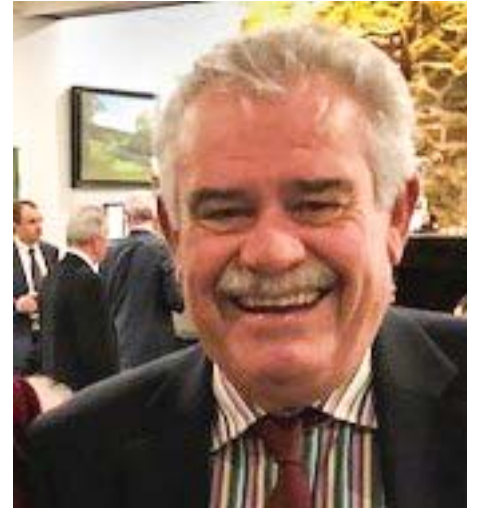
Golf introduced Laurie to Upper Beaconsfield when he was invited to play a round by Ken Syphers. Both Laurie and Ken were working at Jennings Industries at the time. Beaconsfields welcomed Laurie as a new club member on 1 September 1982 and in turn, Upper Beaconsfield welcomed Laurie, Sandra and Rebecca as new residents.

At Beaconsfields, Laurie went on to serve as the club treasurer for three years between 1986 and 1989, the marketing and planning committees between 1990 and 1996 and on the board in 1993/94. The golf club had financial problems in 2008 and Laurie stepped up once again in the emergency. He served on the board between 2008 and 2019. He took over as Club President from 2011 and in 2012 was an integral part of the successful negotiation with

the council of a long-term solution. That Upper Beaconsfield retains a beautiful golf course and facility our community can enjoy is in large part due to Laurie Fenton's leadership. At the coming Annual General Meeting, Laurie planned to step down as President but remain on the Board.

Laurie led a full and diverse life. He was a popular presence in the Upper Beaconsfield General Store through the 1980s. He was always a reliable supporter of many local charities. For many years local golf club members held a Christmas hay ride progressive dinner — the mad, bell ringing Santa Claus up the back was always Laurie. When Laurie and Sandra's business moved them to the city, they kept their home in Upper Beaconsfield. He was a stalwart supporter of Wednesday Twilight golf and the conviviality afterwards. 'Twilight golf' is an informal nine-hole afternoon competition teeing off from 3 o'clock until two hours before dark. Laurie's regular table at the bistro afterwards will feel his absence.

A celebration of Laurie's life was held at Cardinia Beaconsfields Golf Club on Friday 2 August 2019. The depth of the



sorrow felt for his loss is a testament to a life well lived. Laurie Fenton has left a wonderful legacy and his generosity, kindness and sense of humour will never be forgotten.

Our heartfelt condolences to Laurie's wife Sandra, daughters Jane, Bek and family.

Donations would be welcomed by two of Laurie's favourite charities, the Royal Flying Doctor Service Victoria at [www.rfds.org.au](http://www.rfds.org.au) or Make-A-Wish Foundation [www.makeawish.org.au](http://www.makeawish.org.au)

## How healthy are our local creeks?

I like to keep an eye on Stoney Creek near where I live. It is a tributary of Cardinia Creek. The creek rises in the area between Beaconsfield-Emerald Road, Split Rock Road and Stoney Creek Road. The creek does not flow all year and during dry periods it stops running for many months. Winding southwards, Stoney Creek joins Cardinia Creek near Brennan Reserve.

When my sons were boys, they once caught a blackfish in the creek, which they put back. It was a velvety black colour. I wonder if any have survived the droughts. In the late 70s, a neighbour dug a dam and it filled within two weeks, just from the flow from springs on their property which backed onto Stoney Creek. In recent years these springs have probably declined due to dry weather.

Good winter rains have now boosted the flow in local creeks. A small tributary of Stoney Creek rises in the small valley on the north side of Stoney Creek Road. There is a string of dams along this section. One dam at the eastern end of Stoney Creek Road is on private property and used to be called Rainbow

Lake. Overflow from this dam crosses under McArthur Road at the dip, then continues through Cardinia Beaconsfields Golf course through several more dams and joins Stoney Creek north of the bridge. The golf course dams got very low this past summer, but now the dams are full a healthy overflow is going into Stoney Creek. It is great to hear the chorus of frogs calling on a still night.

### Platypus

On a related matter, the 9 July Ranges Trader Mail reported a survey of Olinda Creek had found six male platypuses. The count indicated the numbers are slowly growing, but the millennial drought had caused a major decline in the platypus population. This situation applies in many areas and the platypus population is under threat in a warming and drier climate.

I contacted Melbourne Water to ask what is the current platypus situation in Cardinia Creek? Have any surveys been done recently? The Ash Wednesday bushfire in 1983 had wiped out the local Cardinia Creek platypus and in 2004 several juveniles had been re-introduced

in the creek to repopulate the creek.

Josh Griffiths, Senior Wildlife Ecologist at [www.cesaraustralia.com](http://www.cesaraustralia.com) said that "Cesar has been doing regular surveys in Cardinia Creek for Melbourne Water since about 2014. Despite initial encouraging results, catch rates have declined quite dramatically since the reintroduction with very few animals detected in the last few years. Recent environmental DNA surveys (about 2 years ago) indicate platypus are still present but probably in very low numbers. While we are unsure of the exact cause of this decline, this is typical of small isolated populations such as this (low viability and subject to random effects). We are hoping to do more eDNA surveys soon to confirm the current state."

Note: the Victorian Fisheries Authority banned opera house yabby nets in all Victorian public and private waters from 1 July 2019. These traps caused the drowning of air breathing wildlife, such as native water rats (rakali), platypus and turtles. VFA's research has shown alternative 'wildlife friendly' yabby nets, such as open top lift nets, are just as effective at catching yabbies.

HELEN SMITH



## Deer—an expensive problem

Three cars written off in about three months in our area in car v deer collisions and reports of increasing numbers of deer being seen are not what I had hoped to hear when I returned home from a couple of months away. But it is what it is. It will be a while till we see if we are making progress in reducing deer numbers. In the meantime, we are gradually increasing our efforts and our reach, with culling now occurring as far afield as Olinda. Here is a short overview of the last year and what's next.

Late in May last year, on behalf of the Upper Beaconsfield Conservation Group I put a notice in the Upper Beaconsfield Community Facebook page asking if the community were concerned about deer in our environment and whether we wanted to have a meeting about them. The response was immediate and profound.

We held the first community meeting in August (standing room only) with speakers from Council, Parks Victoria, Victorian Government, Melbourne Water, Victorian National Parks Association, Australian Deer Association, Landcare and a local landowner followed by an hour-long Q & A session. We held another meeting in early September to hear more submissions. At the close of this meeting, and reflecting the level of community feeling and support, a working group formed to forge a way forward and created the Cardinia Deer Management Coalition (CDMC).

Since then, the working group held meetings roughly once a month along with another community meeting in Emerald. Our mailing list has grown to over 120 and we liaise, with Cardinia, Yarra Ranges and Casey councils, Melbourne Water, Parks Victoria,



Victorian National Parks Association, DELWP, Emerald, Pakenham and Narre Warren police, among others. All this, because we all share a common and serious problem of feral deer, which cause massive damage for primary producers, near insurmountable problems for Landcare revegetation efforts, danger and disruption on our roads, encroaching into paddocks and gardens and destroying our environment. Sadly, the situation worsens at an alarming rate.

The CDMC works on educating landowners about measures available to minimise the impact of deer on properties, particularly about culling deer, and engaging quality controllers to help. In addition, we have helped landowners to connect with well-qualified controllers under the mantra of the "safe and humane reduction in deer numbers". This work has been underway for several months and is gradually ramping up. We hope people have hardly noticed this activity while controllers go quietly about their work, removing deer from the landscape.

Except we do hope that in a few years you might be saying to yourselves, "There don't seem to be so many deer around now."

CDMC plans for the next few months involve:

- reviewing progress so far
- continuing the search and assessment of suitable controllers
- facilitating connections between landowners and controllers
- establishing an incorporated entity
- working closer with councils and relevant agencies to form more synergistic relationships
- lobbying local, state and federal governments for stronger action on deer
- researching other ways for controlling and/or living with deer

Our first Annual General Meeting will be held at 7.30 pm on 30 October 2019 at the Upper Beaconsfield Community Complex. Please put this in your diaries. This will be a good opportunity for you to ask questions, challenge assumptions and importantly—get involved. We will hold elections for all positions: president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer. You are all welcome and encouraged to come and participate.

See our website [www.cardiniadeer.com](http://www.cardiniadeer.com). CDMC endeavours to keep this up-to-date with the latest articles and links about deer. If you have articles, images or thoughts suitable for the site, please let us know at [cardiniadeer@outlook.com](mailto:cardiniadeer@outlook.com)

If you need advice on how you can better live with or control feral deer on your property, contact us at the above email address.

**MIKE HALL**  
PRESIDENT CDMC



<https://greencircleplantnursery.net.au>  
[www.facebook.com/GreenCirclePlantNursery](https://www.facebook.com/GreenCirclePlantNursery)

## It's spring—get in early to plant!

**1 Halford Street, Upper Beaconsfield**

**Open Fridays 9 am – 4 pm**

**0407 304 061**

- Plant habitat for birds, insects and animals
- Pond plants, shrubs, trees
- Revegetation
- Tubes are \$2
- We supply local residents, community groups, schools, kindergartens, landscapers, councils

# Partners in business: Alice Moon, Harriet Elphinstone Dick, Annie Seeley and their friends

On 15 January 1883, a young woman, Caroline Mercy Alice Moon, made an application for crown allotment 135 in the Parish of Pakenham. This property is now within the Beaconsfield Reservoir. On her application she stated that she was a teacher of gymnastics. Alice, as she was generally known by, already owned allotments in Abbotsford, Collingwood and North Fitzroy. Only three weeks later she notified the Lands Department that she wished to relinquish her selection. Two weeks later she was listed as the owner of crown allotment 125, put up for sale by The Universal Permanent Building and Investment Society. The property, then called Holyrood was situated on the eastern side of A'Beckett Road (No 85), and was previously owned by William Adams, who had defaulted on his mortgage repayments. It had a log hut erected on it, measuring 10 x 15 feet, a well, half an acre cleared and lying timber burnt off. The declared, and rated value was 10 pounds. Adams worked as a contractor and had possibly been prospecting on the Emerald goldfields with his brother, Thomas Maitland Adams, who selected an adjacent block of land.

## Brighton, England

Alice Moon was born at Brighton, on the south coast of England on 4 July 1855. She was the daughter of an eminent medical practitioner, Dr Henry Moon. Her close friend was Harriet Elizabeth Rowell (alias Harriet Elphinstone Dick), three years her senior, and daughter of a jeweller and watch maker. On 9 September 1875, Harriet, an amateur swimmer, embarked on a journey that

had the potential to benefit both of their lives. Setting off from Shoreham harbour, amongst swift tides and a rough sea, she dived in and swam westward towards Brighton West Pier. Powering along, Harriet completed the 11 km feat in 2 hours, 43 minutes. Newspapers from England to Australia gave her the title of 'the champion lady swimmer of England'.

On 5 December 1875, with this recent success under Harriet's belt, they boarded the vessel *Newcastle* to Melbourne, and arrived on 26 March 1876. What made them come to Australia is not entirely known, but there may already have been rumours then, that they were in a "romantic friendship" together. Alice's half-brother Henry had come to Melbourne in 1870, and showed signs of being a successful businessman, which may have been another incentive. The 1877 Sands Directory listed Alice and Harriet as artists living in Elgin Street, Carlton. There is no record on how they spent their first few months in their new home.

## Champion swimmer makes waves

In early December 1876 Harriet was exhibiting her broad, effortless and exacting swimming skills to the press at Captain Kenney's Baths, St Kilda. A few days later she competed in a long distance swimming event against a gentleman who was disqualified for breaking the rules. Miss Elphinstone Dick was then engaged to teach swimming to ladies and children at Kenney's Victoria Ladies' Baths. Over two seasons, 1877 and 1878, Harriet had taught over 300 ladies and children to swim. She participated in numerous exhibitions of 'fancy swimming', displaying her medals on a 'standardised' costume, meaning ladies were allowed to attend!

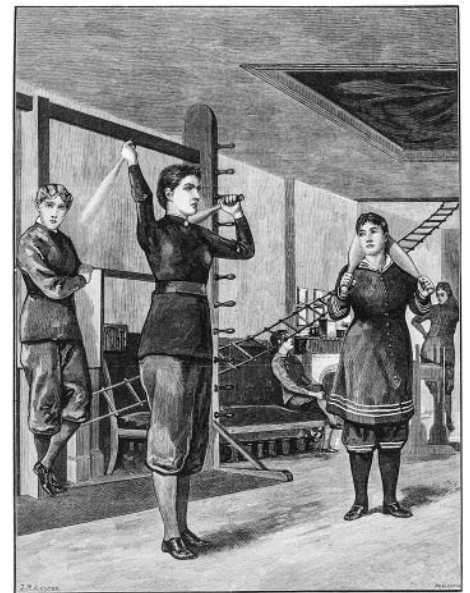
On 6 May 1878 Harriet and Alice boarded the *Durham* to England. Harriet went to study hygiene and gymnastics under Dr Roth, an eminent London physician. His speciality was curing remediable deformities by the application of Ling's system of movements, and on completion Harriet was deemed competent. Alice

had the opportunity to learn more about anatomy from her father.

They returned to Melbourne on the *Assam* on 5 December 1878. *The Herald* on 7 December, detailed news of their return, Harriet's studies, and added the news that Miss Harriet Dick would recommence swimming lessons and intended to open a ladies' gymnasium. The author claimed such an establishment should be conducted by a lady.

## The Ladies' Gymnasium

In March and early April 1879 *The Herald*, *The Australasian*, and even the conservative *Argus* all displayed lengthy articles extolling the virtues of the just opened Ladies' Gymnasium. Mention was made of Harriet's latest physiology qualifications and how she intended to work on patients with curable deformities (curved spine, weak joints, contracted chest, high shoulders, infantile paralysis etc.) using apparatuses, in consultation with doctors.



*l to r: Alice, Harriet and their students*

The articles explained that the gym was located upstairs in the No 6 Mutual Provident Buildings, Collins street west, near the William street corner. The 'broad, airy space with wonderful views of the city' had a coconut matting floor, and other apparatuses including ladders, poles and ropes. There were general, private classes on Tuesdays and Fridays, and family and school classes at other times. Students were responsible to provide themselves with gymnasium dress – which was a uniform comprising





of smart half length (knickerbocker) trousers, and a top/tunic which had the appearance of a sailor's uniform. The garments were designed to be comfortable and in no way restrict movement, unlike their conventional dress that obstructed the use of the limbs. High heeled shoes and leather sided boots of the day were out in terms of their distortion of feet and effects on circulation. 'Rational' gymnastics being gradual development of the muscles, rather than 'violent' acrobatics was portrayed by Harriet, and her assistant Alice Moon, as being the appropriate exercise for young ladies. Terms – guinea quarterly.

We suspect Alice, who would later become an accomplished writer, would have had a lot to do with the writing of these articles. It has always been an unwritten rule of getting journalistic coverage, that if you presented good copy, the paper's own copy writer only had to do minor alterations, and if it was stimulating enough, a paper was sure to run it if they had space. These initial write ups were the start of many years of prolific positive press for the gymnasium.

In early October 1879 Dr Henry Moon died, and Alice inherited various household items and a legacy of £500. Harriet and Alice were soon after living at St Hellier's Street in Abbotsford where Alice bought a house they called *The Steyne*, named after Alice's home in Brighton. It was an interesting place to live, right next door to the Abbotsford Convent, and surrounded by Sisters of the Good Shepherd, a women dominated area of Melbourne.

By early 1880 the two ladies expanded their gymnasium and started to offer classes in Ballarat. Classes at Geelong were also advertised, noting two new assistants – Josephine and Ellen M'Cormick. Alice had become a member of the Australian Health Society, and began to publish articles on various subjects. *Cookery for the sick room*, *Kitchen physic*, *Preservation of the teeth*, were among the pamphlets Alice wrote or co-wrote. Her brother and Harriet were also members of the Society.

On 16 July 1881 *The Australian Sketcher with Pen and Pencil* published an article describing them as now having 190 pupils besides those they 'disciplined' at private schools. It went on to give a pronouncement of the gym's philosophy, stating that the aim of the gymnasium was not to make athletes out of the young girls, but to make them more robust, so that



Alice Moon

their daily tasks would be easier. "We have no sympathy with those people who consider feebleness a female charm." Their progressive physiological teachings were aimed at making women more comfortable with their bodies. They fired a salvo on corsets: 'Instead of the noble contour, with its soft lines full of power and grace, we see "a figure," a cramped and distorted form ... its respiration and circulation impeded by the cuirass-like corset ...'; 'The signal success of the Ladies' Gymnasium ... is an evidence that public opinion is moving onwards'. No other than Her Excellency Lady Bowen, wife of Governor George Bowen, called it a 'useful and valuable institution', and from thereon many leading ladies of Victorian society became patrons.

In late July 1881 Harriet and Alice made news again, about a series of remedial lectures they were to give on elemental female physiology and sanitation, by women, for women. Even the *Australian Medical Journal*, in mid August, endorsed that the women were more than capable to deliver such a project.

Further to this, in 1883, Harriet is reported as being part of Australian Health Society lectures in the crowded poor district of Collingwood. They spoke, four weekly – providing a free bun and cup of tea – on pure air, cookery, cleanliness, and common cause of sickness and suffering to an audience that steadily grew over time to 100 women. One subject Harriet spoke about was women's clothing, stacked around the waist for warmth, with only a thin layer for the arms (and the usual discard corset message). The publisher was *The Sydney Mail and New*

*South Wales Advertiser*, expressing like institutions in Sydney could follow suit.

## Upper Beaconsfield

Harriet and Alice probably started to build their new house in A'Beckett Road during 1883. There has been a suggestion that the humbler back part of the house may have been the original residence of William Adams, but the earlier description makes this questionable. Like many houses built here by city dwellers at the time, it is possible that it was meant to be a weekender.

On 1 February 1884, *The Herald* printed under the headline 'The Ladies' Gymnasium', that the 'valuable institution' had removed into central and commodious premises in Hanson's Buildings, No 2 Collins street east, only a couple of doors away from Elizabeth Street – accessible to all. Being 100 x 25 feet in size, with no expense spared on the latest appliances from England and America that could be drawn upward or to one side to increase available space for standing exercises. On 4 February, *The Argus* carried a similar article, and *The Age's*, 16 February contribution made the point that women in higher education, now had the gym, allowing access to the provision of complimentary physical education to round off their personal growth – a luxury only afforded to male students previously.

However, the direction of Harriet and Alice's lives was about to be severely jolted, by the incompetence of Victorian Railways, who lost its own bearings. On 2 April 1884, a dark, rainy night, Harriet and Alice were passengers in a train returning from Ballarat when it tragically collided head on with a goods train near Little River station, killing three people, and injuring twenty others. Harriet was thrown from her seat and struck the woodwork, suffering from concussion of the heart, and a ruptured vein on her temple. Alice's injuries were more serious, with three cuts to her forehead, and her eyesight potentially permanently impaired. After receiving medical treatment, they were taken home to Abbotsford and told to remain quiet for a few days.

Just a week later, *The Steyne* at Abbotsford was put up for auction. It seemed to have been a hasty decision, as they were willing to sell 'at a sacrifice'. The property ended being sold to a widow Anna Maria M'Cormick, mother of their assistants at the gym, Misses Josephine and Ellen.

Anna had previously rented another of Alice's properties. The accident may have been the catalyst for the move to Upper Beaconsfield.

It has been written elsewhere that both Harriet and Alice moved to Upper Beaconsfield – then commuting to the gym. We find this highly improbable. The train journey alone to the city was two hours each way, not to mention the return riding or carriage journey to Beaconsfield Station from A'Beckett Road – a lengthy distance. We suspect Harriet shared the Abbotsford address with the M'Cormick family. Her



continued involvement in the business necessitated staying in the city, but she could still visit Upper Beaconsfield on weekends.

The gym continued, which meant that so did the corset issue. Harriet, studying their deforming effects in the gym, reported them to Isabella Niven of the Australian Health Society, who held a lecture. On 5 September 1885 *The Herald* published Isabella's interesting tack, of reporting on the ugly red nostril effect corset wearers suffered from. Industry backlash, in a letter to *The Herald* on 9 September signed 'Justice', spoke of unwarranted attacks on stay makers – a legitimate industry – rubbing the red nose effect as laughable. The writer rubbed overseas journals, saying Australia needed to do its own inquiry. The wanted a balanced argument, '... and not one [side] be allowed to stand on a platform and talk to us as though we were a lot of "kids" at school and did not know what was good for us' and '... I could give a long list of our lady friends who would be called tight lacers, but who have naturally small waists ...' *The Herald*, loving the stoush, on 10 September allowed Isabella a follow up with a brutal letter quoting medical sources, pillorying corsets in every

imaginable way.

The yearly lady gymnastics display at the Melbourne Town Hall (below), commenced in 1884 and still going strong in 1887, showed off the talents of the Ladies' Gymnasium students to all, and was covered by the press. Dressed in white kilted dresses, a waist sash, and sailor collar, the girls did marching, dumbbell, wand and Indian club routines with total precision to a musical piece played at the occasion. Her Excellency, Lady Loch, wife of Governor Sir Henry Loch, regularly attended, distributing prizes to the best exhibitors.

So here we had a pair of capable feminists, working in business, encouraging women to wear sensible clothing, do physical exercise, and not unnaturally altering their bodies for their figure. It could easily sound like the 80s and onwards, in another century – such is the human condition.

#### At the new Steyne

The rates for *The Steyne* in Upper Beaconsfield, paid on 10 June 1885, were based on a property value of £35, which would account for the new house. Between October 1885 and January 1886 Alice placed advertisements in *The Argus*, and also in Adelaide and Sydney papers stating that she was "desirous of retiring," and was willing to sell her share in the Ladies' Gymnasium. As it turned out, Josephine M'Cormick became Harriet's new business partner. However, the names Dick and Moon kept appearing on advertisements until mid 1887.

We gain a little insight into Alice's farming venture in Upper Beaconsfield when the "Vagabond", a well-known journalist, reported on a visit to Upper Beaconsfield in late 1885. He wrote:

"The new cottage is on the left of the road. There is an older residence with



a few acres of ground opposite it for sale. I wish I could purchase this. At the Steyne white Hamburgs, Polands, game, and other pure bred domestic fowls have a good time of it. Corralled in small yards they have shelter sheds from the sun, cool water, dust baths, and everything a fowl could desire. The only want they cannot satisfy is to sit. The incubator does that for most of them. It is a luxury reserved only for a few favourite fowls. This establishment is evidently conducted on first class business principles. The motto *Mens sana in corpore sano* [a healthy mind in a healthy body] is illustrated by the fact that here a lady who for some years has devoted herself to successfully cultivating the muscle of female young Victoria has a home in which there are the most charming traces of artistic culture. I should like to buy Miss Moon out, and devote my energies to chicken raising."

#### Annie Seeley

In December 1884 another woman, by the name of Annie Seeley, had made an application for 100 acres of land in North Beaconsfield. This land is now largely within the Cardinia Reservoir fence. Annie had great difficulties getting the land surveyed, and it was not until July 1887 that she was given a license and thus was able to build a cottage on the land. In her correspondence to the Lands Department she stated that she was a storekeeper / postmistress of (Upper) Beaconsfield. The Vagabond made reference to a new store having been erected near the Assembly Hall. This suggests that Annie had been building her new store during 1885. This block of land (2 acres), belonging to Mrs Craik, who later built Salisbury House, was only transferred into Annie Seeley's name in April 1886, when Annie obtained a mortgage to buy it. Here Annie built a store with a post and telegraph office attached on one side (pictured page 13).

Around the store horses and pigs were being kept, as a correspondent in the *South Bourke and Mornington Journal* stated in late 1886:

"Passing from the hall a little further on the left is the Beaconsfield store—a long stably looking building with the post and telegraph department in one end of it. There must be a remunerative spec anticipated to accrue from the occupants of the back premises. Horses may here be seen some peering out of their boxes, others dotted through the enclosure in process of being fed, ostlerised, washed, &c., and a large building





in course of erection further back is, I presume, to accommodate them. The noise of swine and young pigs attack the ear and can be heard above the concomitant din of the locality. You are cautioned by a written notice to keep outside the rails except on business. Probably the owner intended breeding superior draught or race horses and high class swine, and does not wish the modus operandi of [breeding] these animals to be copied."

In September 1886 an advertisement had been placed in *The Argus* for a middle aged general servant at a country store, 30 miles from the city for two ladies. As applications were to be made at the Ladies' Gymnasium, we can assume Alice Moon had something to do with running Annie Seeley's store.

In late 1886 Alice Moon bought a neighbouring property to *The Steyne* in Upper Beaconsfield from the estate of Charles Parsons of Abbotsford. In his probate the unimproved block of land was valued at £50, but a scribbled note suggested that the only offer was £20. Nevertheless, Alice paid £119 pounds. By now Alice Moon had expanded her farm. Not only was she breeding chickens, she also had a herd of 14 milking cows, 8 heifers and a bull of the Alderney breed. She had a draught mare in foal and another draught horse.

It is interesting to see that as soon as Annie Seeley was granted the license to occupy her 100 acres, she advertised her store for sale. First offered by tender, and when this did not find a buyer, an auction was held on 27 August. The post-office store, as it was known, contained 8 rooms and the store, a kitchen, and stabling. It also carried a well-assorted stock of groceries, drapery, ironmongery, boots and shoes, crockery, and fancy goods. On 8 October the title was transferred to Mrs Ann Fraser, whose two sons-in-law, first Joseph Thomas Johnson, and later James Patrick Kerwin continued to run the store.

Incidentally, it was on the same day, 8 October, that Alice placed an advertisement in *The Argus*: "Upper Beaconsfield, 40 ACRES, lovely mountain Residence, sea view, dairy, garden." The asking price was £1,600.

Shortly afterwards a caveat was placed on the title of the property, three months before the Noble family moved in. Alice held a clearing sale at the end of November 1887. The assorted machinery she offered suggested that her farm had been well equipped.

Alice Moon then bought a block of land in Archibald Street, Elsternwick. She paid rates for a house at this address, and Harriet was listed in the rate book as the owner of some adjacent land, though no proof of title of Harriet's holding has yet been found. As Alice's property was transferred into the ownership of a building society on 25 July 1888, we don't know if she remained at this address or moved elsewhere.

### The Central

During 1888 Alice Moon was busy establishing her next business. She opened a restaurant in Elizabeth street, Melbourne, seating 200-300 people. And not just any restaurant. On opening on 1 November 1888, *The Church of England Messenger* reported that it would "supply what has long been wanted in Melbourne, a convenient place for ladies to use as their head-quarters while shopping in town, where they may rest, refresh themselves, meet their friends, write their letters, or send messages by telephone — in fact, use generally as gentlemen use a club room."

Alice had secured the services of a French chef, who had been employed at Government House for Sir Henry Loch. The luncheon menu was published daily in *The Argus*. It served lunch, afternoon tea, and early dinner. One of the advertisements in *The Argus* in early 1889 carried the line "Cool as a Cucumber — People now say Cool as the Central". Alice continued with the restaurant until the later months of 1889.

Viva's 'Ladies' column' mentioned in January 1890 that women journalists had formed a society, The Austral Salon. Alice Moon was amongst them, and was noted as the "first Australian lady who had the courage to go into trade and establish a high-class restaurant." Women societies were noted as often being the subject of ridicule, so the ladies involved were considered "brave". We had suspected Alice had dalliances with the press (Ladies' Gymnasium), confirming her position in the new group. (She might even have written various Viva articles, first appearing in *The Weekly Times*).

### Another change

During late 1889 and early 1890 Alice travelled to Tasmania where she had a close friend, Florence Parker. Alice's name can also be found as a shareholder in silver and gold mining companies. Her obituary, a few years later, suggests that she was a stock and share broker at some time. She also invested in a hotel at Falmouth, on the east coast of Tasmania. While in Tasmania, she gathered material for a short story set there. Alice liked to immerse herself in the area she was setting her short stories in — 'Old Denny: A bush story', published on 17 December 1892 in *The Freeman's Journal* story was set in Upper Beaconsfield, and includes the Cardinia Creek, Haunted Gully and other landmarks. See: <https://www.upperbeaconsfieldhistory.org.au/moon.htm>

For the next few years Alice was living in Sydney with Rose Merewether, Florence Parker's sister. By now she was employed at the *Sydney Morning Herald*, and later the *Daily Telegraph* as the literary correspondent, writing columns such as 'Literature' and 'Books up to date.'

Harriet "followed" Alice to Sydney, and gave gymnastic classes there, while Josephine continued the Ladies' Gymnasium in Melbourne. However, the 1890s depression had made the business climate more difficult.

On 21 April 1894, Alice died suddenly of a heart attack at the young age of only 38 years, possibly due to the train accident ten years earlier. Alice left her estate to her newer friends Florence Parker, Rose Merewether and Josephine M'Cormick. She may have believed that she had already financially supported Harriet with establishing the gymnasium.

Harriet returned to Melbourne where she died, also of heart failure, in 1902.

Annie Seeley had left her farm by 1895 when the mortgagee took over the lease. She must have stayed friends with Harriet, as she was a witness to her will. We haven't found any sign of Annie's existence in Australia after Harriet's death.

The M'Cormick sisters remained at the Steyne in Abbotsford until their deaths, adopting Florence Parker's daughter Rieke, who had a skeletal deformity after she had fallen off a horse as a young child. Her injuries were treated by Josephine M'Cormick.

MARIANNE & CAMERON ROCKE

# Request to review and update Council's 2016 open air burning policy

As an outcome of the Upper Beaconsfield Bushfire Fuel Management Project, the Open Air Burning Advocacy Group has consulted with various members of the community and following numerous meetings they have prepared a proposal which is to be put to Cardinia Council. The OAB Advocacy Group includes members of the UBA, Fire Brigade, local landowners and the Ranges Ward Councillors to have a broad representation of the community.

Goals for review include:

- Creating a more flexible OAB Policy for bush properties less than 20 hectares, especially areas north of the Princes Highway
- Increasing OAB from 3 to 5 days — Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday
- Changing "No burn-off day" from Sunday to Saturday and including Wednesday
- Making July a "No OAB" month
- Allowing a 7 day per week OAB for 2 weeks prior to the start of the fire danger period
- Providing all households in Cardinia with a best practice OAB fridge magnet

The OAB Advocacy Group requests a review of the current Cardinia Shire

OAB policy for properties less than 20 hectares to allow flexible and safer options for OAB.

Cardinia Shire has a large percentage of bushland north of the highway, with the majority of properties less than 20 hectares. The current 2016 OAB policy restricts effective fuel reduction, as Cardinia Council confines OAB to 3 days per week. Additionally, CFA declared fire danger period (FDP) restricts burning for a further 5 months.

Properties less than 1 hectare may manage fuel reduction using a combination of OAB, mulching or green waste bins, while 1–20 hectares bush properties produce enormous amounts of fuel that is difficult to clear. An effective OAB policy would alleviate the problem and reduce risk of fire during the FDP.

All fuel reduction methods create carbon and affect the environment, for example using electric mulchers, fuel driven mulchers or gases emitted from decomposing mulches, and when driving trailers to transfer stations. While no carbon-free method exists, a flexible OAB policy would enable families to avoid adverse weather conditions and choose



more ideal conditions for burning-off. Consequently, fuel piles would reduce more quickly, and produce less smoke.

Reviewing and updating the OAB policy would give time-poor families greater flexibility to reduce their fire risk and burn fuel piles safely and efficiently.

The OAB Advocacy Group proposes that Cardinia Shire allows two smoke free days per week by moving the no burn-off day from Sunday to Saturday and including Wednesday and allowing property owners frequent opportunities to take debris to the transfer station, particularly prior the FDP.

Revised table: new conditions for open air burning depending on property size

**HARRY JENSEN, CONVENOR,  
UPPER BEACONSFIELD**

**OPEN AIR BURNING ADVOCACY GROUP**

## Proposed new policy

Revised table: new conditions for open air burning depending on property size

CONDITIONS	SIZE OF PROPERTY	
	Properties less than or equal to 20 ha	Properties greater than 20 ha
Days when open air fires are permitted	Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday	All days except Saturday
Amount of OAB fires permitted	1	3
Distance required from the fire perimeter to any structure	10 m	30 m
Minimum clearance from other combustible materials (fire break)	3 m	6 m
Maximum size of the material to be burnt (pile size)	8 cubic m (2 m in any dimension)	64 cubic m (4 m in any dimension)
Exemption to OAB policy commencing 2 weeks prior to the start of fire danger period	All days	All days
No OAB permitted during	July, Saturday, Wednesday, and the Fire Danger Period	Saturdays and the Fire Danger Period



## Left leaving too late in a bushfire? Where would you go?

With summer season just around the corner, it is time to think about planning for potential bushfires or other emergencies.

The Community Resilience Committee (CRC), a subcommittee of the Upper Beaconsfield Association, endeavours to find ways to support residents in the event of any emergency. Apart from storms, bushfires present the next most probable weather risk to people living in the leafy surrounds of Upper Beaconsfield. During the bushfire season, the CFA mantra promotes 'leaving early' on high-risk days, but what if you don't or can't? If a lightning strike starts a fire on your property, you may have no time to leave! A worst-case scenario.

To support local residents, the CRC has negotiated with the CFA and Cardinia Council to assess the suitability of the oval at the Upper Beaconsfield Recreation Reserve as a 'Bushfire Place of Last Resort'. Sadly, the Reserve did not meet the criteria on the first round, due to too much vegetation around two of the four boundaries. This failed assessment encouraged the Committee to seek ways to reduce vegetation and has worked with

the Reserve Committee to improve the area. With funding, the Reserve Committee has contractors tidying-up the area to remove over-grown vegetation in preparation for a second assessment.

While the Reserve is not yet an official 'Bushfire Place of Last Resort', residents may instinctively gravitate towards its open space in the event of a bushfire, simply because it provides an open space. Other places that people might gravitate towards are the local golf courses. The governing committee of the Montuna Golf Club, at 295 Beaconsfield-Emerald Road, will allow people to seek shelter at this facility. The CRC views these locations as 'Informal Public Gathering Places', should residents have no other option. However, choosing to gravitate to these locations is entirely at your own risk.

Like a Bushfire Place of Last Resort, Informal Public Gathering Places may provide some sanctuary from the life threatening effects of a bushfire as a last resort survival option. A Bushfire Place of Last Resort and Informal Public Gathering Places do not replace having a well thought out and practiced survival plan. Going

to a Bushfire Place of Last Resort or Informal Public Gathering Place is only a last resort if your plans have failed. No one can guarantee your safety.

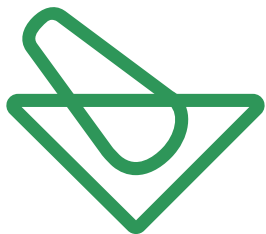
Cardinia Shire has three Bushfire Places of Last Resort:

1. Cockatoo Sports Complex: (indoor sports complex building)  
Mountain Road Recreation Reserve
2. Emerald: Pepi's Land (carpark and netball courts)
3. Gembrook: Gembrook Community Centre (carpark)

The Yarra Ranges Shire has nineteen Bushfire Places of Last Resort (previously known as Neighbourhood Safer Places) and three Community Refuges. You can find the location of these on the Yarra Ranges Website. Search for Neighbourhood Safer Places & Community Fire Refuge.

The CRC will continue to investigate and advice you as new information becomes available.

**COMMUNITY RESILIENCE COMMITTEE**  
**ON BEHALF OF THE**  
**UPPER BEACONSFIELD ASSOCIATION**



# Upper Beaconsfield

## PHARMACY

**53 Beaconsfield-Emerald Rd**

**Upper Beaconsfield**

**Phone 03 5944 3881**

**Opening hours:**

<b>Monday</b>	<b>9 am – 6 pm</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>9 am – 7 pm</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>9 am – 6 pm</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>9 am – 6 pm</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>9 am – 6 pm</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>9 am – 2 pm</b>

# Preparing for the next fire season

Where did the year go? It's hard to believe that we are now on the cusp of another fire season! Preliminary Bureau of Meteorology modelling suggests that we again could be facing an early introduction to the Fire Danger Period if current trends continue. This year like all those before us, the message is no different. Prepare your properties, reduce fuel loads, get your fire plans in order, have a chat to your neighbours and lend a hand. Remember, other properties around you may have an influence in fire behaviour on your property.

## Call outs

After the very busy summer and early autumn period that we endured, thankfully the brigade has had a relatively quiet winter period. This allows us to catch up and undertake extra-curricular courses to improve our skills. We recently provided specialist breathing apparatus support to the

nearby Beaconsfield shop complex fire. This was one of the biggest structure fires many of us have seen for some time. Sadly, there were two serious vehicle collisions we attended on the Beaconsfield-Emerald Rd that required a great deal of resources and specialist care to ensure that all parties involved were attended to adequately. We ask that all residents take care when travelling on all our roads and keep an eye out for wildlife.

## Fuel management

Several brigade members and residents are involved in the Bushfire Fuel Management Project that has been running in Upper Beaconsfield over the last 8 months. The brigade wholeheartedly supports the notion of exploring viable methods of reducing fuel loads which will help in reducing the overall risk of fire in our area. 92% of the land area in Upper Beaconsfield is privately owned.

That means we need your help to play a role in identifying and managing ways to reduce the fuel loads.

When burning off, residents should familiarise themselves with the local Cardinia Shire open air burning policy as to when and what they can burn, as it differs for varying property sizes. Remember it is important to log your burn with ESTA on 1800 668 511. This will avoid an unnecessary brigade call out.

## Annual dinner

The brigade held their annual dinner and awards night on Saturday 27 July at the Cardinia Beaconsfields Golf Links. Several brigade and auxiliary members were presented with service awards while brigade stalwarts Nancy Boura and Wendy Thomson were honoured for their continual dedication to the work they do around the station.

Dustin Hesse was awarded Firefighter of the Year; Steve Limb received the Officer of the Year, and recently retired brigade treasurer Judy Irwin received the Captain's Award. Judy has held the brigade treasurers' position for the last 27 years. A truly remarkable achievement. Judy is not leaving us; we are very fortunate that she has joined the auxiliary in the role of secretary. The night was a great success and a fitting occasion to recognise the contribution from members.



## New appliance coming to brigade

By the time you are reading this article the brigade will have taken delivery of a new brigade owned Ultralight fire-fighting appliance. It is built on a Toyota Landcruiser V8 platform and will replace the current Nissan Patrol Slip-On appliance. The new Ultralight appliance provides superior pumping capabilities and will be fitted with the latest features and fire fighting equipment ensuring our fire fighters can work safely and efficiently. The brigade will decommission the old Slip-On appliance once the new Ultralight is in service and will be looking for expressions of interest for disposal. The Slip-On (picture below) will be sold on an as is basis — less the emergency lights, radios and decals etc., unregistered and without a RWC (a government requirement). Further information will be put on our Brigade Facebook page later, or you can get in touch with the brigade to find out more and to lodge your expression of interest.



## Annual Community Open Day

On Sunday 27 October we will be hosting our annual community open day at the fire station from 9 am. A free breakfast will be provided for residents followed by a seasonal outlook and bushfire community safety discussion. This is highly recommended for new and established residents alike. Come along and check out our new appliance.

## Vic Emergency

A good way to stay abreast of what is happening with emergencies in your



Awarded. Top from left: Steve Limb, Judy Irwin, and Dustin Hesse. Bottom: Brigade stalwarts Nancy Boura and Wendy Thomson with Captain Ian Pinney



continued on page 17



local area for those with a smart phone is to download the Vic Emergency App. The app will allow you set locations and tailor the types of notifications you wish to receive. It is a must for anyone living in a bushfire risk area such as ours. If you need help to set it up on your phone, contact us or call in and one of our members will be pleased to help you out.

### Like our Facebook page!

We provide regular brigade updates as well as anything relevant we feel the community should be alerted to including road closures. Need to ask anything? Send us a private message. Find us on FB at Upper Beaconsfield Fire Brigade.

### Interested in volunteering?

We are always on the lookout for new recruits. Remember there are roles for everyone. You don't have to be available 24/7. Come and see us at the brigade to find out more. We train Wednesday nights from 7.30 pm and Sunday mornings from 9.30 am. Contact me at [ian.pinney@members.cfa.vic.gov.au](mailto:ian.pinney@members.cfa.vic.gov.au) or phone 0409 815 567.

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

## Talking about coeliac disease

More than 1 in 100 Australians have coeliac disease. However, 80% of Australians with coeliac disease don't know that they have it and may still be struggling with unexplained symptoms! Could you be one of them?

Contrary to popular belief, coeliac disease (pronounced see-lic) is not a food allergy or a food intolerance. It is a serious autoimmune disease where the body's immune system mistakes part of the body as foreign and attacks its own tissues when you eat gluten. This causes damage to the lining of the gut (small intestine) and the body can't properly absorb nutrients from food.

Untreated disease reduces quality of life and is associated with substantial morbidity. It can cause osteoporosis (excessive thinning of bones), premature and low birth weight babies if you are pregnant and weak enamel coating of teeth. It can also lead to gut malignancy and sepsis in some cases. These are rare though. Since the treatment involves strict lifelong gluten free diet to minimise long term complication, accurate diagnosis of coeliac disease is paramount. The

only way to make an accurate diagnosis is a blood test followed by a gut biopsy. It is vital that you are eating a diet containing gluten for at least 6 weeks before the blood test as otherwise the test can be falsely negative.



Some people who do not have coeliac disease also avoid gluten in their diet. This is because they find that gluten make them feel generally unwell, possibly with bloating and tummy pain. They are 'gluten intolerant' but do not develop inflammation in their gut. Sometimes this is called non-coeliac gluten sensitivity. However, if you don't have any sensitivity then there is no need to avoid gluten.

Coeliac disease can develop at any age. Symptoms of coeliac disease are quite variable depending on your age and how long you had it for. Babies may fail to grow or to gain weight. They can have smelly diarrhoea, abdomen may become swollen, they may vomit repeatedly. In older children, in addition to symptoms in babies, malabsorption can cause deficiencies of vitamins, iron and other nutrients. They can have anaemia and delayed puberty. Adults can have various deficiencies including iron deficiency anaemia and can feel very tired and weak. They can have occasional pains, excess wind, bloating and diarrhoea which can mimic irritable bowel syndrome. Some people also report headaches, feeling anxious, recurrent mouth ulcers and aching joints. Occasionally, an itchy, blistering skin condition called dermatitis herpetiformis can occur. Coeliac disease can also cause unexplained peripheral neuropathy, persistent unexplained abnormal liver function tests and unexplained recurrent miscarriage or sub-fertility in women.

The only treatment is a lifelong, strictly gluten free diet. You should get advice from a dietician. Even a small amount of gluten can sensitise the gut again and can bring back symptoms and lead to complications.

So, if you have any concerns about it then you should speak to your GP.

**DR PUNEET MALHOTRA  
DR ANSHU MALHOTRA  
UPPER BEACONSFIELD GP PRACTICE**

## Fun at the Early Learning Centre



We are having so much fun here at Upper Beaconsfield Early Learning Centre.

We had a visit from the local fire brigade where the fire fighters discussed many different topics with us, including how to be safe in an emergency.

The children have engaged in several different cultural and traditional cooking experiences.

Their engagement in group games has promoted the development of children's gross motor skills, ability to follow instructions and supported many other areas of learning and development.

Our working bee was a huge success and the children now have a wonderfully refreshed backyard and indoor area to engage in.

We recently welcomed quite a few new friends within our ELC, which is fantastic to see!

We have limited vacancies available for full and half days, so come in for a free orientation session with our friendly team of educators, and see how wonderful the centre is for you and your children.

Contact the ELC at the Community Centre on 5944 3484, email us on [elc@ubcc.org.au](mailto:elc@ubcc.org.au) or visit us at 10-12 Salisbury Road, Upper Beaconsfield. More information can be found on our website [www.ubcc.org.au](http://www.ubcc.org.au).

**ELLI HEATH, DIRECTOR**



# Celebrating World Environment Day

Have you had a chance to see our gorgeous new grounds? Nearly every



garden in the school received a massive makeover last term as part of our 'World Environment Day' celebrations. And what a team effort it was! All our children had a chance to contribute in the planting and mulching of the garden beds. They learnt about all the benefits of native flora, especially in relation to air pollution, and are now equipped with the knowledge of what a plant needs to grow successfully. Maybe we have inspired a future conservationist, gardener, landscaper, horticulturist or environmental scientist?

But, of course, the kids couldn't have enjoyed this fantastic experience without many hours of blood, sweat and tears from a dedicated team of amazing parents. Annabel, Gil,

Kellie, Trudie and Katie have spent months in preparation in planning, measuring, designing, researching, ordering, cutting, pruning, digging, transplanting, painting and begging ... the list goes on and on. They have also involved their husbands on the weekends. Many thanks to Paul, Drew and Craig and Trav too. Thank you also to the parents who turned up on the day to help and support their kids.

Many local community groups have also contributed.

We are such a lucky school. What a team — what a community!

**KELLY BALTISSEN**  
**BEACONSFIELD UPPER PRIMARY SCHOOL**

## Our sincere thanks go to:

- **Green Circle Indigenous Nursery** — for advice and donation of plants and plastic protectors
- **Village Beautification Group** — for

advice on local indigenous plants

- **Bunnings Pakenham** — \$100 plant voucher
- **Beaconsfield Home Timber and Hardware** — \$100 plant voucher

- **Bob Jane Tmart Fountain Gate** — tyres for Sensory Garden
- **BUPS parents** — for donations
- **Cardinia Shire** — for two loads of mulch

# Party time at Toy Library

Birthdays are such a joyous and memorable occasion, especially your child's first birthday — an important milestone in your family.

Many toy library members are finding the Jumping Castle a big hit for their child's party. It is perfect for indoor use, easy to set up and pack away, can take up to 3 – 5 young children at once and will bring hours of bouncy fun to your party!



The library also has other suitable party toys, games and costumes, where you can "Design Your Own" party pack. Our range includes indoor games, baby activity garden and tunnels, seesaw and slides, a group parachute, traffic signs, roller coaster sets, ride-on vehicles, stepping stones and more.

Also popular is hiring out the Upper Beaconsfield Community Hall. It has all the facilities you need for a successful function. Contact Helen Smith for more

information regarding weekend hire.

## Membership offer term 4

Toy Library annual membership is only \$30 plus \$10 UBCC membership.

Join in term 4 and get 2020 membership included [terms & conditions apply and subject to changes]

## Toy sale!

We still have some awesome toys left for sale – check them out at <https://ubtl.mibase.com.au>

Toy Library is located in the Community Room at the Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre Phone 5944 3484.

**MARIE ROGERS**



## Upper Beaconsfield Community Hall



Family functions,  
club fundraisers

Bookings  
**5944 3219**





## Kindergarten and pre-kinder news

Our parent advisory group would like to say a big thank you to all who supported our major fundraising event auction night held in July. It was a great success, with many local businesses donating items. Cardinia Beaconsfield Golf Club hosted us, and lots of local families had a great time.

In exciting news, and as a reflection of the hard work of our grants' coordinators, both our three and four-year-old kindergartens have been successful in receiving capital works grants from Cardinia Shire Council. These grants will be used to get some major projects completed in the outdoor spaces of our kindergartens.

Our four-year-old kindergarten children are now in the middle of their transition

to school programs. We are very lucky to have great programs not only with Beaconsfield Upper Primary School but also another nearby primary school, to help our children make this transition as smooth as possible.

If you or anyone you know is considering enrolling their child into three-year-old pre-kinder for 2020, spaces are still available, and enrolments are still open. Please contact Cardinia Shire to enrol. Here is a recommendation from one of our kindergarten families that captures why pre-kinder at Upper Beaconsfield is so fantastic!



LEAH HENZEN

Beaconsfield pre-kinder and its educators.

While it wasn't all smooth sailing from here—my boy (and several other children) remained shy and sometimes felt nervous about new things, and their parents leaving, etc. Many had not been in care anywhere before. But at pre-kinder each child and family are supported to help their child grow in confidence, in their sense of belonging and in their resilience. For my son this led to him barely uttering a word for the first couple of terms, to having a great group of friends and calling out and tickling them on the mat in the last week. It saw me and my husband nervously holding his hand and taking him into kinder for the first few weeks, to having tears of pride as we watched him standing on his little coloured spot singing "Mr Clicketty Cane" to the entire kinder community at the Christmas concert.

Attending three year old kinder taught our son other adults would love and care for him, that he was fun and interesting and people wanted to spend time with him, that he has so many interests and that the world is a big and exciting place to explore. It taught him that being away from his parents and siblings was ok, that we would always re-connect, and our relationship would grow in new ways as we shared experiences we had away from each other. It taught him what belonging to a community feels like and gave him an excitement to keep being part of that by going to four-year-old kinder the following year. It also meant we ensured our younger children were also enrolled, so when their turn came, they could also experience all what pre-kinder offered.

If you're wondering whether to send your child to Upper Beaconsfield pre-kinder my advice would be "absolutely YES!"

A PARENT

### Pre-kinder enrolment ... do I or don't I?

*This was the question I asked five years ago when considering whether to enrol my eldest child to Upper Beaconsfield pre-kinder. I worried that he was still so little, he was so shy and wouldn't know anyone there; I loved having him at home and before long he'd be at school almost every day! But if I didn't send him to pre-kinder how could I expect him to cope with the longer hours of four-year-old kindergarten the following year? It might be good for him to begin to develop relationships with adults outside of our family and friends, the social aspect would be good for him!*

*I decided to enrol him in pre-kinder. I filled out his forms and the "all about me" questionnaire, reminding myself I could always pull him out if I wanted to. We*

*attended orientation together and I teared up as I saw that the educators had paid attention to the questionnaires. Not only did my son quickly find an area filled with dinosaurs (his greatest love), but I heard other mums exclaim to their children, "Oh look, your favourite things are here—fairies, puzzles, trucks, Lego."*

*Knowing what I now know about Jackie and Alison our pre-kinder educators, this is really no surprise. Their genuine love for our children is palpable and I am personally thankful that our family has been able to have them. At that time, orientation was the first of many experiences my family would encounter over the next 12 months that created a real sense of belonging, trust, respect and love from and for Upper*



Shape Shifters  
Health & Fitness

Karenne Gregory  
Reg: Kinect KA19531  
E: karenne@sshf.com.au  
A: 5 Young St,  
Upper Beaconsfield  
M: 0418 303 843

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# Council news for Upper Beaconsfield

## Intersection at Beaconsfield-Emerald / St Georges / Salisbury Roads

The above VicRoads-controlled intersection continues to be a safety concern. The Upper Beaconsfield community has been advocating for appropriate and satisfactory changes and improvements since 1983. I commend the efforts of community advocate Kate Cannizzaro, the Upper Beaconsfield Association, and other residents for this renewed advocacy for much-needed improvements. Council is committed to working with the community to advocate to the State Government and VicRoads for safety improvements to this intersection.

## Upper Beaconsfield Bushfire Fuel Management Project

With funding from the Victorian Government Safer Together Program, Cardinia Shire Council has worked with the community of Upper Beaconsfield for the past six months to identify ways to improve bushfire fuel management in Upper Beaconsfield with the

intention to reduce the incidence and impact of fire, ascertain their priorities for fuel management, and develop strategies to achieve fuel management priorities that will be sustainable.

The project has resulted in the development of three community fuel management actions, improved knowledge of community bushfire risk, and an improved capacity for the community to implement fuel management actions in the future.

## Elephant Rock

Council continues conversations with Melbourne Water and VicRoads in relation to the landscaping plan for Elephant Rock and ongoing maintenance, following letters sent by the Shire in June. Melbourne Water responded in support of the landscaping plan and suggested applying for a Liveability Seed Fund which could assist in funding a portion of the works. Council will continue to engage with VicRoads towards gaining the required approvals and progress the landscape plan.



## Recreation Reserve

Council has allocated \$50,000 in the 2019-20 financial year to undertake the design of the pavilion upgrade at Upper Beaconsfield Recreation Reserve. The Federal Government has recently confirmed an allocation of \$500,000 towards this project. The Upper Beaconsfield Recreation Reserve Committee of Management has requested Council to manage the design process for the pavilion upgrade.

Council has commenced initial consultation with reserve user groups and the reserve committee of management with a meeting held in mid-August. I look forward to the design being progressed and the future construction of this much-needed facility for Upper Beaconsfield.

## Beautifications grants

Applications for the Cardinia Shire's Beautification Grants program—of up to \$2,000—open 9 September, for landscape enhancement projects that help improve the appearance

We strive to provide high quality clinical care using our knowledge, skills and passion. We put patients at the heart of everything we do and provide optimum personalised care that makes a difference to the patient's experience at our clinic.

We are pleased to announce that we now have a Dietician, Exercise Physiologist, and Clinical Psychologist working with us at the clinic.



## UPPER BEACONSFIELD GP PRACTICE



Family Medicine



Child and Women's Health



Ear Syringing



Chronic Disease Management



Men's Health



Immunisations



Pathology Services



IUDs and Sub Dermal Implants



Travel Clinic



Skin Check



Minor Surgical Procedures



Iron Infusion



Diabetic Clinic



Hepatitis B and C Treatment



Pre-Employment Check



Emergency Care



Smoking Cessation



Commercial Licence Medical

### Dr Anshu Malhotra

MRCGP (UK, 2008), FRACGP, DFSRH, DRCOG  
GP Principal

### Dr Puneet Malhotra

MRCGP (UK, 2010), FRACGP, DFSRH, DRCOG, PG Dip HCL  
GP Principal

### Opening hours:

Mon, Wed-Fri	8 am – 5 pm
Tues	8 am – 7 pm
Sat	9 am – 2 pm



51 Beaconsfield-Emerald Rd  
Upper Beaconsfield, Vic 3808



[www.ubgp.com.au](http://www.ubgp.com.au)  
[info@ubgp.com.au](mailto:info@ubgp.com.au)



Ph : (03) 9044 0750  
Fax: (03) 9111 8502



*Council continued ...*

of Council-managed public open spaces. [www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/beautificationgrants](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/beautificationgrants)

### Seniors festivities

Council is supporting several exciting local events as part of Seniors Festival this October. Seniors Festival event details can be found in the Ageing Well newsletter available locally at the Upper Beaconsfield Community Centre or visit our website for all the latest community events. [www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/whatson](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/whatson)

### Upper Beaconsfield Fire Brigade annual dinner and awards night

I had the pleasure of attending the awards dinner for the Upper Beaconsfield CFA in July. Many volunteers were acknowledged on the night for their years of service and total recorded 'call outs'. Members with up to 40 years and over 1,000 call outs for the brigade received awards and certificates. To all those who was recognised on the night for their amazing efforts, on behalf of Council, I say thank you for your tireless and dedicated service to our community.

CR BRETT OWEN

## Brad Battin survey

As you read this, you may have already received or soon to receive in the mail a survey from my office regarding the issues directly concerning your home in Beaconsfield Upper.

Several residents have contacted me recently about several issues specific to the local area, and you too may also share their views. To ensure I best represent the views of the community, I have sent each household in the area a survey to give you a chance to have your say.

I highly encourage you all to take the time to fill out the survey delivered to your letterbox or fill it in online via my website [www.bradbattin.com.au](http://www.bradbattin.com.au) under the Gembrook tab. I look forward to reading all your responses over the coming weeks, and I will be sure to update you on the results.

On another note, I am still fighting with the Education Minister James Merlino to allow students who live in Beaconsfield Upper and attend

Berwick College to be eligible for the conveyance allowance. The Minister recently responded to my office and parents stating that there were bus services for students on the PTV websites to assist in children getting to school. Despite closer inspection on the Government's website, the 'Journey Planner' tells students to take a taxi to school. I am still awaiting a response from the Minister when I informed him of his error.

I have started a Podcast called 'Brad's Brew Podcast' where I interview amazing people in the local community while having a beer or a coffee. Check it out via [www.bradsbrewpodcast.com](http://www.bradsbrewpodcast.com) or through Facebook. If you would like to appear as a guest or know someone who has a great story to tell, please email me via [brad@bradsbrewpodcast.com](mailto:brad@bradsbrewpodcast.com).

As always, please do not hesitate to contact my office on 5953 0216 or email me via [brad.battin@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:brad.battin@parliament.vic.gov.au).

**BRAD BATTIN MP,  
MEMBER FOR GEMBROOK**

## Men's Shedders — shoulder to shoulder

Men's Sheds are a modern take on the backyard shed that has long been a part of Australian culture and a place for men to connect. They provide a place to pursue practical interests, with the big difference being the social connections and friendship, sharing of skills and knowledge.

The movement slogan "Shoulder to Shoulder" is shortened from "Men don't talk face to face, they talk shoulder to shoulder".

One of our founding members Graham Jackson has penned a welcome letter to prospective members; this is presented in an abridged version here:

### Welcome!

So, you have decided to have a look at the Upper Beaconsfield Men's Shed and see if it suits you — see if the members are friendly and able to give you companionship and perhaps the opportunity to get involved with some handiwork.

It may be that you would be satisfied with just enjoying a bit of a chin-wag and some company with like-minded fellows. We are a diverse group and as one gets to know them it is surprising to discover what interesting skills, experience and history is tucked away

behind those smiling faces.

Understandably there are some rules — we can't avoid them, and we seem to have more of these requirements imposed on us. Many of these, like OH&S and insurance are necessary. Your annual membership fee includes a contribution to member's insurance cover while involved in Men's Shed associated activities.

There are also rules relating to borrowing and using tools and machinery in the Shed, as you would expect. We need to ensure you are adequately instructed in the safe and proper use of the equipment in our workshop.

Our activities are what the members want them to be. If you enjoy collecting stamps for example, and there are others to enjoy that with you, then go for it. Right now we are well set up for woodworking and metalworking with more to follow as we develop.

We keep an eye on community activities where we can offer a helping hand:

- Community Centre and the Early Learning Centre
- Primary School and Kindergartens

- Carols by Candlelight on Christmas Eve and at the Village Festival

Finally we have a social meeting every Wednesday morning for a general get-together. The last Wednesday meeting in the month is followed by a light luncheon cooked by the members.

So, settle back and we hope you find your Men's Shed an enjoyable experience and decide to stay.

### Where are we?

The Shed is located at the rear of the Community Complex with entry from Halford Street. We are open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9 am–4 pm. Come along on a Wednesday morning, when we have a meeting of all members. Share a coffee and biscuit and a yarn with us, and find out more about the Shed. For more information contact:

- Noel Ling on 0414 443 735, or email [secubms@gmail.com](mailto:secubms@gmail.com)
- Facebook [www.facebook.com/UpperBeaconsfieldMensShed/](http://www.facebook.com/UpperBeaconsfieldMensShed/)
- Web sites [google.com/site/upperbeaconsfieldmensshed](http://google.com/site/upperbeaconsfieldmensshed)



**PETER SIMMONS  
VICE PRESIDENT**

## Maroons look for re-charge

A new committee and a new coach form part of the remake for Upper Beaconsfield Cricket Club. Kyle Gibbs is the new president while Shawn Hassall takes over as secretary. The club has appointed Dan Brennan as coach, and he will be supported by Chris Pentland. Both are very experienced and local products that form a valuable partnership to lead the club into a new era of success.

The Maroons held a well organised registration event on 8 August. The club hopes to field six junior teams and a girls' side in the WCCA All Stars Competition as well as three senior teams.

If you are looking for somewhere to enjoy your cricket and to become a valued member of a strong community organisation contact the club (0409

966 500). You will be made most welcome. Training for seniors is held at Icon Arena Doveton on a Monday night in August.

The club also is in the planning stages for an exciting \$500,000 upgrade of our facilities with a special emphasis upon a long overdue suite of amenities for females. Join us at our family dinners held on Thursday nights during the season — it is a great way to meet your neighbours and those in the community who love cricket.

Look up our contact details at [www.upperbeaconsfieldcricketclub.com](http://www.upperbeaconsfieldcricketclub.com)  
Email us on [upperbeaconsfield@club.cricketvictoria.com.au](mailto:upperbeaconsfield@club.cricketvictoria.com.au)



**ROB HANSEN**

**UPPER BEACONSFIELD CRICKET CLUB**



## Service recognition, awards and snakes

Our Scout Group continues to thrive thanks to the active and engaging programs run by our amazing volunteer leaders. Joeys to Rovers allows everyone from 5 to 25 years of age to participate and enjoy the many benefits of scouting.

We celebrated World Scout Day on 1 August and two of our incredible volunteers received special recognition for their service:

- Janet Granger-Wilcox was awarded the Silver Koala for distinguished service of over 15 years.
- Andrew Ewenson received the Special Service Award for the development of our group.

With the receipt of a Stronger Communities Grant, we have installed a new kitchen in the Igloo, and carpet and a kitchenette in the den. Jason Wood MP visited Joeys whilst it was in progress and will be visiting again in September to see it all completed.

### Christmas trees

1st Upper Beaconsfield Scout Group will be selling fresh Christmas trees locally. Follow our Facebook page to stay informed of dates and to pre-order – [facebook.com/1stupperbeaconsfield/](https://facebook.com/1stupperbeaconsfield/)  
See page 2

### Joeys

Term 3 has started out well and our focus is on camping and sleepovers in preparation for our district Joey camp. 60 Joeys from the Cardinia District will

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

attend a one-night camp at Gilwell Park without parents. This will lead us into 2020 Kangaroo in March next year, which is being hosted by Victoria at Lardner Park. I am very excited to lead our younger youth into the future.

**MATT KING (KANGA), JOEY LEADER**

### Cubs

Boy did our Cubs have a great time last term! We started off with S'Mores by the campfire and then our mums were pampered with foot spas, massages, manicures and scones with jam and cream for Mother's Day. We joined all Cardinia District Cubs for a Melbourne city day hike, and went ten pin bowling at Narre Warren in our onesies! We got to hold a snake on an excursion to the South Eastern Equine Hospital and visited Mt Burnett Observatory where we spotted Saturn through the telescope! We ended the term with a movie night and sleepover in the Scout Hall.



This term we have a 'Back to the Future' night and we'll be putting on leg warmers and bandanas for an 80's disco night and learning the Bus Stop, Macarena and Nutbush! We're bowling for Father's Day, taking a day hike along the Officer aqueduct trail and ending term by heading to Gilwell Park at Gembrook for an Extravaganza Regional Camp. Akela and Baloo can't wait to see you all there.

**KARA BENTLEY, CUB LEADER**

### Scouts

Term 2 has seen another two of our older scouts concentrating on achieving their Australian Scout Medallion — the highest individual award to be achieved in the Scouting section. A number of scouts joined them on a hike in the Kurth Kiln area where they hiked 30 km over 2 days carrying all their food and gear. In June we ran a mock emergency night where everyone got to cover themselves in fake blood and learn how to treat injuries. We also held a construction night building chariots, invited the scouts to bring a musical instrument, attended a movie and played badminton with the Rovers. In July, several scouts attended a 4-hour enduro mountain bike race, completing as many laps as they could. August saw 'bring a pet along for the night' with some taking a liking to a large pet python.

**IAN PINNEY, SCOUT LEADER**





### Venturers

The Venturer unit has run a variety of nights ranging from self-defence, games nights for the Cubs and going to the drive-in to see Avengers End Game. We would like to congratulate Jack Lytras on the completion of his Queen Scout. Many hard hours of work and dedication went into this achievement. He will receive the award in November at Government House. We look forward to the upcoming Armstrong 500 hiking competition and the skills hike weekend. We have also begun planning our next big trip, which will be a circumnavigation of Victoria during the first term school holidays next year.

**MAX WALTON BRIGGS, VENTURER**

*Jack Lytras with his Queens Scout Award*

### Split Rock Rover Crew

Rovers have been active with motor sport events and assisting other sections of our Scout Group. They had a successful Mudbash event in June with their car running like a dream. The team finished 9th overall and congrats to Tom who recorded the fastest times on 3 tracks. We also enjoyed a night of table tennis and badminton with the Scouts and completed some Rover training.

If you would like to find out more or join us for a free trial, contact our Group Leader, Andrew Ewenson on 0418 334 140 or at [leader@1stupperbeaconsfield.com](mailto:leader@1stupperbeaconsfield.com). Alternatively, check out our website [1stupperbeaconsfield.com](http://1stupperbeaconsfield.com) or follow us on Facebook.

## From Camp to Cup

From a weekend camp at Wandin Park in May where riders, parents and friends camped out before their normal Sunday rally; to hosting the Melbourne Cup visit in October (see preliminary photo on page 2) — Upper Beaconsfield Pony Club gives its members a taste of life well outside its own arenas.

The actual Melbourne Cup, all quarter of a million dollars' worth, will be at Pony Club the morning of 18 October for a photo shoot and a talk by one of the VIPs accompanying the cup.

It then weaves its way to Pakenham Racecourse where our club riders will parade in the mounting yard and on the track. Some of the riders will be competing in a Ride-to-Time event. Individually they will ride out onto the track and compete against the clock over a set distance, attempting to finish as close to the specified time as possible.

Upper Beaconsfield Pony Club is a community minded organisation, involving itself in and with the community. As such we are absolutely delighted to share the cup visit with Upper Beaconsfield residents and

friends. Final details and the actual time of the cup's arrival at the Burton Road grounds will be displayed, when received, in our village shops.

And on Melbourne Cup Day itself, the UB Pony Club will hold its biggest fundraising event, our annual Melbourne Cup Day Show Jumping Event at Ayr Hill Equestrian Centre at Clyde.

Come and be part of the equine industry which very clearly starts at pony club level.

**HELEN COLLIVER, UBPC COMMITTEE**



### Pony Club thanks sponsors

Upper Beaconsfield Pony Club would like to thank our very generous event sponsors Horseland Narre Warren and Equinade, plus our Club sponsors Upper Beaconsfield Pharmacy, Beaconsfield Timber and Hardware, Kaye Charles Real Estate, Victorian Equestrian

Centre, Horserail Fencing, Hairy Pony products, NRG Products, Lokaway, Markfi Gates, Westlink Consulting, CD Wilson, Manson's Tyres Berwick, Bendigo Bank Beaconsfield, Berwick Physio, Michelle Strapp, Pakenham Racing, Bare Equestrian, Cootes Quarry Products, Greystone Vacuums, and Vision Signs.

Also a big thank you to Horseland Narre Warren, South East Equine Hospital, Hayes Products, Kleev Homes and Pakenham Produce for purchasing sponsor showjumps. Your support means so much to our club and enables us to make some much needed improvements to our grounds and facilities.

## Cardinia Beacons Hills Golf Club news



### Vale Laurie Fenton

Members of Beacons Hills grieve the passing of their friend and president Laurie Fenton. Laurie was made a life member in 2017 for his valued service to the club but it his personality that will be most missed. When Twilight returns, we may not hear Laurie's colourful interjections through the presentations, but we will certainly hear the echo.

### Pakenham Race Day

Laurie Fenton enjoyed racing and was looking forward to this club event, organised annually by Andrew Conn. This year the event will also serve as a tribute to Laurie's memory. It is a most enjoyable day, and all are welcome to participate. Please contact Andrew or our office for details.

### 40th Anniversary Club trip to Yarrowonga

This was attended by 60 club members in late May. A great week was had by all and although the weather was poor, some excellent golf was played.

Results: Murray Hills Shield: Jacob Drummond 140 points A Grade Winner: Joel Simons 134 points A Grade Runner up: Greg Barraclough 132 points B Grade Winner: Mic Crowley 134 points,

B Grade Runner up: Des Lavery 133 points Consistent Mediocrity: Rob Darlison 21, 24, 21, 13 Frank Eckhardt Putting: Nick Jones 28 putts John Guilfoyle Memorial: Rob Bennett 42 points Denis Hooper Memorial: Ray Badelita 37 points.

### The Nightingale

This singles handicap matchplay event is named in honour of a former president of the club. Congratulations to the 2019 Frank Nightingale Trophy winner Aaron Le Dan. Aaron defeated Paul Carroll in the final. The match was close and finished on the seventeenth hole, the score two holes up with one hole left to play.

### Hole in one

The second tee has a view that stretches to Sugarloaf Rd and is the best position to watch your ball float all the way to the green. In early July, Mitchell Wood went one better and joined the lucky few to watch his ball travel right into the cup for a rare hole in one.

### Improvement programs

Lessons improve and make your golf more enjoyable at all levels. The wintry months have seen many golfers fine

tuning their game, taking advantage of the improvement programs offered by head professional Mark Auhl and his team. Recent competition winners from the student ranks include J. Bolton +3, I. Hulbert 0, P. Koski 0, S. Croker, T. Bartlett 40pts, M. Borg 37pts, W. Johnson 36pts, S. Allen 38pts and J. Chandler 35pts.

### Car Raffle

There are just 500 tickets available in the club's major fund raiser to be drawn 29th September. The tickets are \$100 each and thanks to our major sponsor Berwick Volkswagen, the first prize is a 2019 Volkswagen Polo Hatch. Full details of other prizes and how to get your ticket are available on our website at [www.beaconhills.org.au](http://www.beaconhills.org.au) or please call Matt van der Kraan or Kristen Webb on 5945 9210 for more information.

### "Fridays by the fire"

Bistro meals from 6 pm are being enjoyed by many residents. Please ring 5945 9210 and speak to Andrew Conn, Nat or Vicki to reserve your table.

**MATT VAN DER KRAAN, CLUB MANAGER,  
CARDINIA BEACONHILLS GOLF LINKS**

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