

UPPER BEACONSFIELD

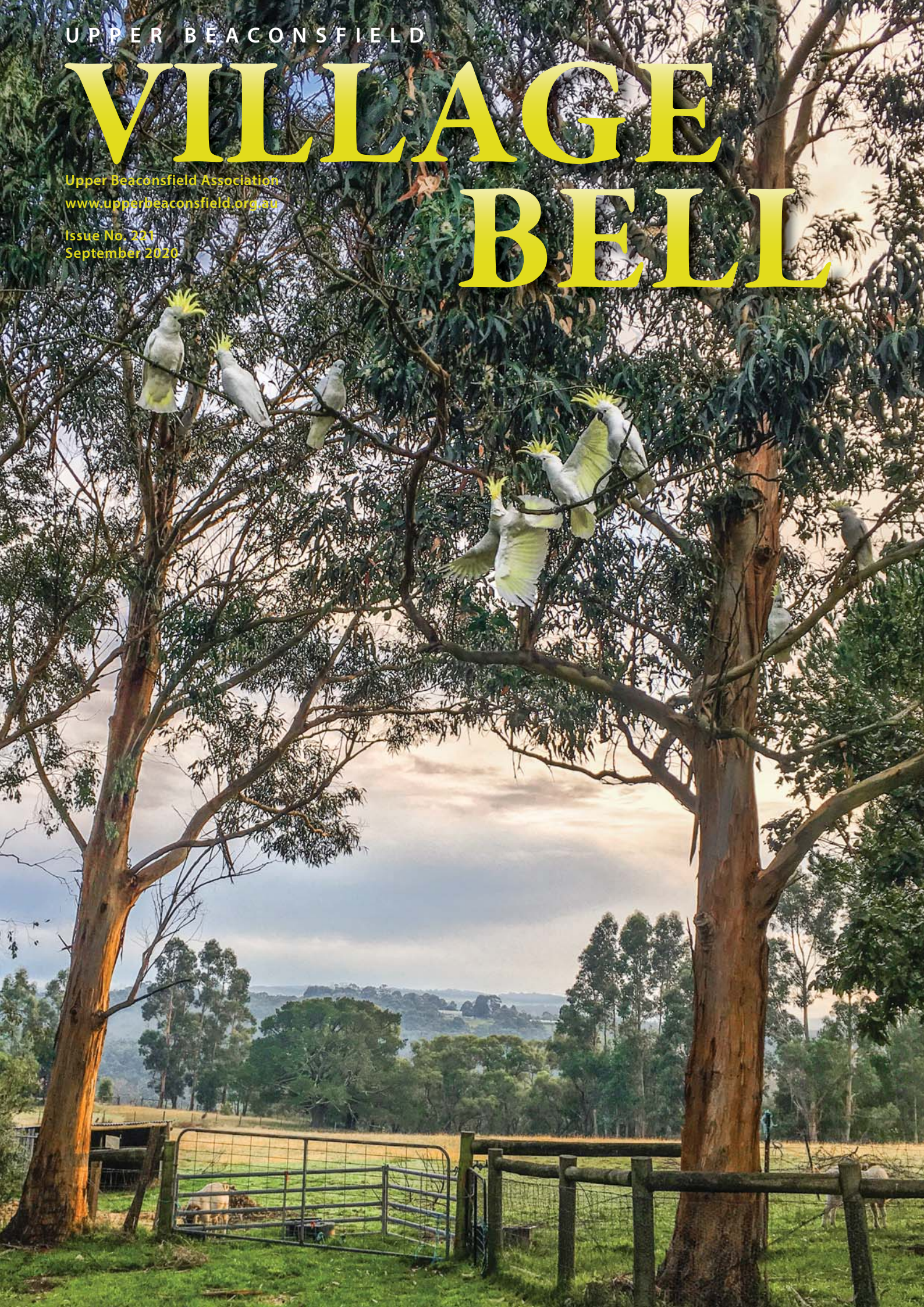
# VILLAGE BELL

Upper Beaconsfield Association

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

Issue No. 221

September 2020







### A bright side of life

Some otherwise shy birds (red wattlebird and rainbow lorikeets) still got a bit curious of a very patient camera setup in the garden. One of the benefits of taking things slow in lockdown!

### Gorgeous golden blossoms

August and September are the peak months for wattles in Upper Beac. Local indigenous wattles range from small shrubs to large trees. This silver wattle (*Acacia dealbata*) is one beautiful example – photographed in the golf course.

Some non-indigenous wattles can become pests because they seed readily. Cedar wattles and pittosporum are not indigenous. They spread and out-compete the local plants.





## Annie's rescue

In Upper Beaconsfield we have a wonderful group of people, called the Upper Beaconsfield Wildlife Road Toll Survey Group, who collect data regarding animals killed on our roads. We aim to find ways to reduce these traffic accidents and the enormous toll it has on our wildlife and the cost to drivers. These volunteers are a tight knit



group working together to do pouch checks and animal rescues in the local area.

When a call comes in either by phone, message, or Facebook, one of the volunteers will usually attend and do the pouch check.

Three weeks ago, I got a call to attend a wombat down Officer road. It was a frosty morning and as it was before lockdown, there was a lot of traffic on the road. I gathered up my supplies, donned my safety vest and had my husband drop me as the wombat was on a dangerous stretch of the road.

Mumma wombat was large, and near the high side of the embankment, so I dragged her as far up as I could, giving us 600 mm between my hip and the traffic. With the dead mother wombat between my legs I checked her and found she had a 3-month-old joey, very cold, possibly dead. I started working to get it out, but I was battling because both me and the joey were so cold and stiff.

Trucks passed close by my shoulder without slowing, nearly taking me out. Cars sped past, but I kept

### SLOW DOWN

#### The wildlife toll is rising

There are many recent reports of killed, or maimed animals left to suffer on local roads. Hot spots include Red Hill Road, Manestar Road, and Thewlis and Bathe Roads – in fact any of the minor local roads that may be short cuts to other towns and suburbs. Anyone travelling on local roads at dawn, dusk or at night please slow down, even if it means driving well below the speed limit. Just assume there are animals around as that is when they are active. It gives you a chance to stop in time and avoids expensive damage to your car.

working. Leaning my back into the side of the hill with mumma sideways I carefully cut the side of the pouch.

Eventually baby slipped out, hard and cold. I scooped her up and unceremoniously dumped her down my top and zipped up my coat hoping to hold her in. Then between traffic I grabbed mum and started to drag her across the road. She was extremely

*continued on page 7*

## Who goes first? Stop signs at the intersection

**Beaconsfield-Emerald Road drivers have priority. St Georges Road and Salisbury Road drivers must give way.**

When approaching an intersection with a stop sign;

- The driver must give way to a vehicle in, entering or approaching the intersection except-
  - o An oncoming vehicle turning right at the intersection, if a stop sign/stop line or a give way sign/line applies to the driver of the oncoming vehicle; or
  - o A vehicle turning left at the intersection using a slip lane; or
- If the driver is turning left/right, the driver must also give way to any pedestrian at or near the intersection who is crossing the road, or part of the road the driver is entering

Through traffic on the major approach legs of the intersection have right of way. Once through traffic has cleared the intersection, the left turning vehicle may proceed to undertake their turn, with the right turning vehicle completing their turn afterwards.

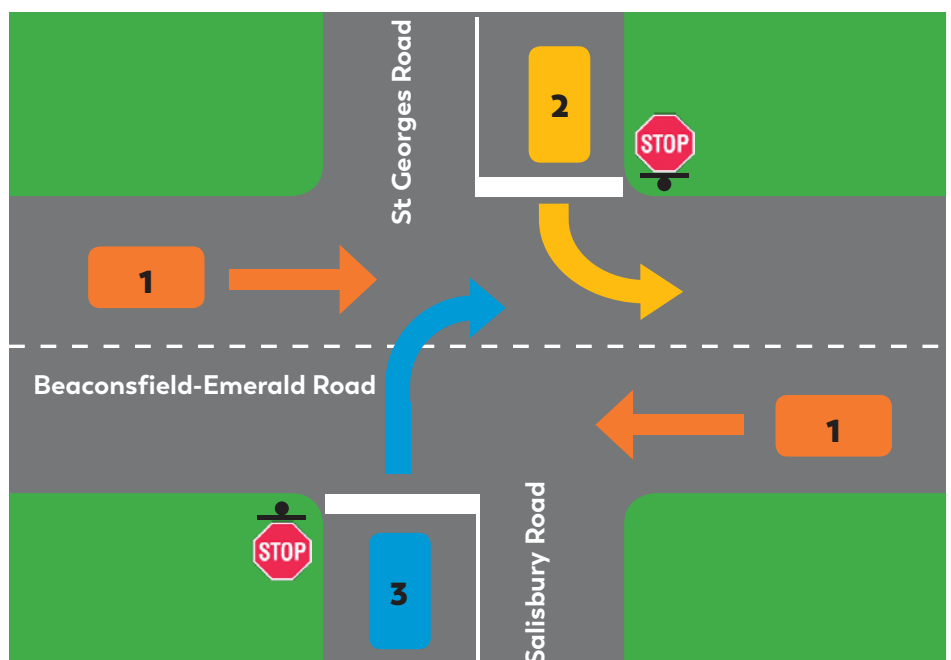
Information supplied by Nick Charrett  
Cardinia Council traffic engineer and  
VicRoads

The figure below illustrates the order in which vehicles may negotiate the intersection, in order of priority according to the Road Safety Road Rules 2017.

Rule as applied to Beaconsfield-

Emerald Road intersection with St Georges Road and Salisbury Road:

NOTE: In many situations vision can be poor for drivers exiting St Georges Road, meaning they may be extra cautious. BE PATIENT.



# Rainfall on St Georges Road

## Balance and equilibrium

They say life is all about balance.

Last year's rainfall for the months of Feb, Mar and Apr was 84 mm, then 240 mm for May, June and July, a ratio of nearly one to three. This is an expected rainfall pattern when moving from the drier months to the wetter ones.

This year, the same comparison shows 396.9 mm for the dry months, and now only 185.2 mm as we head into winter. The typically wetter period is less than half of the rainfall for the drier period, the inverse of what we would expect.

Is this recent dryness a short term rainfall reduction, or a rebalance that will continue? Our pear trees are in blossom and our bees are out, what might they know?

As we enter August, the sky is clear, and the mountains are unusually devoid of snow, but the ground in Upper Beaconsfield remains damp and wet, a carry-over from the exceptional rains earlier in the year.

Annual rainfall to the end of July is 708.5 mm. The comparative total from last year was 337.2 mm. This is a significant 371.3 mm more, over double that of the same period last year. And, 42.1 mm above the 666.4 mm we received for the whole of 2019. At this rate, it is possible we will break the 1000 mm level by years end. Is this a return to the long term balance? Probably not, the climate change era brings a drier environment that we will continue to endure and learn to live with, a bit like COVID. Whilst we don't

Month	45 yr av.	2019	2020
Jan	63.6	13.2	126.4
Feb	58.4	25.2	147.8
Mar	64.2	36.0	65.7
Apr	78.3	22.8	183.4
May	86.1	98.4	86.5
Jun	80.3	66.6	53.2
Jul	78.6	75.0	45.5
Aug	85.7	98.8	
Sep	90.6	66.4	
Oct	94.3	47.2	
Nov	86.5	91.4	
Dec	80.4	25.4	
<b>Total</b>	<b>947 mm</b>	<b>666.4 mm</b>	

desire either of these new equilibriums, it appears both are due to human interventions of the natural state.

ANDREW REWELL

# Dinner winners—check your frig magnet numbers!



In the last two issues of the Village Bell, I announced that there would

random winners have now been chosen for takeaway meals from the Pine Grove Hotel. Check the number in the top right corner of your OAB fridge magnet.

## Winning numbers

<b>September</b>	<b>1045</b>
<b>October</b>	<b>749</b>
<b>November</b>	<b>366</b>

Please ring the Pine Grove Hotel on 5944 3524 if you have the fridge magnet with one of the above numbers. Mention that you are the

winner of the dinner prize, which gives you a meal up to the value of \$40, e.g. 2 chicken parmas. Remember to bring your fridge magnet with you to show that you have the right number.

Many thanks to sponsors Pine Grove Hotel and RMBL Investments Dandenong for their support of these dinners.

HARRY JENSEN, CONVENOR OPEN AIR BURNING ADVOCACY GROUP

be monthly dinner prizes drawn for residents who have Open Air Burning fridge magnets. These were sent to all residents from Cardinia Council in May 2020. Up until now, it was difficult to organise the dinner prizes at the Pine Grove Hotel due to social distancing restrictions.

However, the first three monthly

## Village Bell thanks

Kay Cox; Stephen & Christa Fisher; Peter Hill; B & B Mars; H & I McInty; Kerrin Mosterd; R Turnbull

**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 – **Editorial team** Julie Born, Linda Burrridge, Kaylene Cox, Caro Letts, Cheryl O'Gallagher – **Layout** Marianne Rocke – **Photo editor** Cameron Rocke

**Next issue: December 2020**

**Send articles by 7 November 2020 to** editor.villagebell@gmail.com

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## Around town

### Australia Post Community Grant

Due to COVID-19, Australia Post has extended the deadline for the UBA and UBCC project deadline entitled 'Strengthening Community Networks and Capacity' until June 2021.

**CAROLINE SPENCER, UBA PRESIDENT  
AND SARAH STICKLAND, UBCC MANAGER**

### Congratulations Upper Beaconsfield Village Festival

Sustainable Communities – Tidy Towns Awards 2020 Waste Finalists

Upper Beaconsfield Village Festival – Waste Wise Event

### Beautification continues

Jenny Pritchard and the Upper Beaconsfield Beautification Group are planning a garden renovation at the front of the Community Complex. The garden there has become rather overgrown and hides the building from the road. Jenny will submit a beautification grant application to Cardinia Council which closes soon. Due to the lockdowns, the group has not been as active this year. Note, if you notice any weeds in the garden beds, feel free to pull them out! Pedestrians – do not walk across the planter boxes at the shops, as some plants have been broken. Please observe the signs.

### Solar for community buildings?

Preliminary investigations are underway to see whether it is possible to build a large solar system at the Community Complex as well as the Men's Shed. There is quite an expanse of roof available, but it will require engineering expertise to organise how it can be done, and how to coordinate the two meter boxes servicing the facility. Council officers will provide advice to the committees involved.

### Beaconsfield Reservoir update

Earlier this year Melbourne Water confirmed the final design for the Beaconsfield Reservoir site. They made significant changes to the draft design to incorporate the community feedback that was heard in April/May last year. Melbourne Water is now working on the final project business case for the works. This is likely to take several months to ensure that all aspects of the works are detailed and costed. They will notify the community of updates as they work through the process.

### Cost of a deep clean!

Cardinia Council shut down the Upper Beaconsfield Community Complex when a suspected COVID-19 case occurred in the crèche. The Buildings & Grounds Committee and the Community Centre are community run, not for profit organisations. They may have to pay a \$3,600 bill for the deep clean. Neither committee has received much income this year due to the lockdown restrictions. Hopefully, some compromise can be found.

**HELEN SMITH**

## Help for families

People have been experiencing increased levels of anxiety during the pandemic. There may be increased levels of family violence. It is a good idea to check in with friends or relatives who might be at risk.

Refer to the Cardinia Council online help hub at <https://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/onlinehelphub> to find the appropriate contact numbers for assistance and support services.

Emergencies only — if anyone is in immediate danger call 000.

## UBA activity report

The UBA committee has mostly met online for discussions this year while public meetings have not been possible. This has been a difficult time because decisions still must be made. Topics for discussion during meetings included:

1. Carols in the Park. UBA received a Cardinia Council grant for this event, but at this stage it is looking less likely while the coronavirus is still circulating in the community. Other activities, including the Citizen of the Year dinner and the Festival 2021 are under a cloud as well.
2. Solar solutions for community buildings. Are there any residents who are interested in this? Do we have anyone in the local community who has expertise in this? Possible speaker for a public UBA meeting in the future.
3. The Upper Beaconsfield Township Strategy and the increasing trend of inappropriate development in our town.
4. Poor phone reception. There are continuing concerns about reception in parts of Upper Beaconsfield.
5. Fuel management. A subcommittee is applying for a grant to get an expert to investigate options in ecological fuel management. Scientists disagree on best options and one plan does not suit all localities. 95% of land in Upper Beaconsfield is privately owned, and a collaborative approach is needed with residents and government agencies.

**HELEN SMITH**



## Citizen of the Year 2020

1. The UBA plans to organise the 2020 COY award again. Normally we email the nomination forms in November-December, with the deadline 31 December. A panel meets in January and the award will be presented at the festival if it goes ahead, or other arrangements may have to be made depending on the pandemic situation. If you want to nominate someone, watch out for the nomination forms.
2. The annual COY dinner, normally held in November, may have to be postponed. Watch out for an announcement in October.

## Thank you to Green Circle Plant Nursery

The UBA thanks the Green Circle Plant Nursery for the kind offer to subsidise the printing and collating of the Village Bell September issue. Due to the stage 4 lockdown rules we were unable to print and collate the Bell ourselves. We printed and collated our June issue with a skeleton crew, but this time we could not even do that.



# The elephant in the room

Time, in pandemic lockdown limbo, feels increasingly distorted, 20 June 2020 already feels like a lifetime ago, but that was the day I painted Elephant Rock as my 'art pledge' for the Extinction Rebellion Day of [distanced] Action on Climate Change. (Photo p 2)

I received such positive feedback for my elephant mural, passers-by tooted, or even stopped to chat as I painted, then later in comments as the photos circulated on social media. Much of the praise, however, seemed to be because people just liked seeing a well-painted elephant on The Rock instead of its usual mess of graffiti. Don't get me wrong, I genuinely love that my elephant brought joy, but ultimately I painted it for a serious purpose: the elephant in the room that we need to face is climate change.

Despite the current COVID-19 crisis, and especially given the preceding catastrophic summer bushfires, my message was for us not lose sight of our greatest existential threat, our changing climate and declining biodiversity.

For those unfamiliar, Extinction Rebellion (XR) is an international movement that promotes civil

disobedience and non-violent direct action in an effort to compel governments and corporations to take urgent action on climate change.

XR has three demands: First, tell the truth about what is happening to the planet and declare a climate emergency; second, act now to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to net-zero by 2025 by decarbonising the economy and halting biodiversity loss; third, reform democracy to create a citizens climate assembly to work with scientists to inform environmental policy-making and ecological justice.

Even though the world's top climate scientists in the 2018 IPCC Special Report on the Impacts of Global Warming, overwhelmingly agree that if global warming is not kept below the '1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels' limit, the Earth's natural and human systems will begin to collapse, governments have failed to respond adequately.

Extinction Rebellion argues that government inaction, laws, and policies are often shaped, undemocratically, by pandering to powerful mass media, corporate and fossil fuel lobby groups, and billionaires' interests.

We should all be deeply concerned that

the Morrison government's National COVID-19 Coordination Commission is stacked with business leaders with ties to the fossil fuel sector whose task is to set Australia's post-COVID economic recovery agenda. Instead, we should be loudly demanding the Morrison Government adopt the United Nations Sendai Framework Building Back Better (BBB) approach.

Build Back Better is the guiding principle of uniting post-disaster recovery with sustainable development. The aim is to increase the resilience of nations and communities to future disasters and shocks. The approach is to integrate disaster risk reduction measures into the rebuilding of physical infrastructure, social systems, and shelter and into the revitalisation of livelihoods, economies, and the environment.

As Australia sits in the smouldering ashes of back to back disasters of unprecedented bushfires followed by a global pandemic creating a health, social and economic crisis, surely there is no better time for us to plan to Build Back Better.

We simply cannot afford to let the fossil fuel industry set the recovery agenda; we must rebel.

KATHERINE BRANDENBERGER



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## Just because you don't see me

Just because you don't see me doesn't mean that I'm not there  
I'm small as a mouse

But I won't live in your house because I prefer your trees  
I have a tail that looks like a feather which helps me navigate  
as I glide through the tops of trees and nearly to the ground  
hoping to find food all around

I'm helpful in the garden by eating insects and pollinating flowers  
while I search for nectar and sweet sticky sap  
I like to nap in my globular nest built of dried overlapping eucalyptus leaves  
which I place in the hollow branches of trees

I'm as cute as can be even though I do say so myself  
with large ears and big bright eyes and a cute little nose  
But I have many predators and I'm in need of your help with that  
because one of them is your cat

Keeping your cat indoors at night where it can stay safe and warm  
helps to keep me safer for sure while I work in your garden until dawn

Do you know who I am yet?  
I'm known as *Acrobates Pygmaeus* — Feathertail Glider  
And I call Upper Beaconsfield my home

SUE SIMMONS



*Acrobates pygmaeus* and its unique feather-like tail. ([flickr.com/photos/eyeweed/8611900849/](https://www.flickr.com/photos/eyeweed/8611900849/))  
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## Annie's rescue

*continued from page 3*

heavy, and it took all my strength, despite my pulling and dragging as fast as I could. Cars zoomed around the blind corner and me.

Between cars I would pop baby back up my shirt then drag mumma again. On the far side of the road with even less room, I marked her and pushed her over the side. This was so that another car would not suffer more damage from hitting her, or an animal feeding from her would not suffer the same fate. Still not knowing whether the cold bundle in my shirt was alive, I wrapped my arms around my tummy and started trotting down the road.

As I got below the aqueduct I met up with our truck and climbed in to find that the joey was starting to warm up and move. I immediately rang Lyndel from Lockys Legacy Wildlife Shelter (Toomuc Valley Road) and she arranged for someone to meet me and take over the care of this beautiful little baby.

I feel so honoured to know that she has named this little bundle after me. Welcome to the world, little Annie. I think she looks like me!

Annie is being fed every 3 hours, an expensive and exhausting job. All our carers pay for the feeds and materials out of their own pockets. Most hold down full-time jobs to pay for this whilst doing 3-hour feeds like Annie's. We are fortunate in Upper Beac to have a caring community with a dedicated group of carers and people who are working hard towards keeping our drivers and animals safe on our roads.

ANNIE O'RILEY

## History of the Beaconsfield Nature Conservation Reserve

The Cardinia Environment Coalition Inc (CEC) and the Berwick Pakenham Historical Society support my interest in inviting the local community to participate in the publication of a history of the BNCR. As a member of both organisations I am very keen to hear from local residents who have historical stories to tell, information and photos of both the property and the long time decommissioned reservoir, facts and figures relating to the natural history, the building of the reservoir, indigenous history, and personal histories you may have.

It is timely to be doing a history now as DELWP has designated it a

Nature Conservation Reserve and Melbourne Water is reviewing its management of the reservoir. This history will aid in future use of the BNCR as an environmental asset and an educational wonderland that is an important part of the area. Thank you to those who have already expressed support and I look forward to hearing from anyone interested. Just registering your interest would be helpful at present. I look forward to meeting in the community when we can, to develop the format for the book from your ideas. Contact me by email at [elizabethfraser48@gmail.com](mailto:elizabethfraser48@gmail.com)

ELIZABETH FRASER

### Wildlife shelters in the local area

These shelters are always desperate for donations. Any of them will appreciate any support that you can give. Find more details and how to contact them on their Facebook pages.

1. **Lockys Legacy** – Lyndel Chalmers, Pakenham Upper
2. **WISH wildlife shelter** – Sarah Cooke, south east Melbourne 0402 393 667
3. **Bush Babies Wildlife Shelter** – Leanne Terrington, Cockatoo



# Vale Laura Levens 1926–2020

Laura was born in 1926 in Red Cliffs in Victoria. From 1943 to 1948 she worked as a telephonist with the Postmaster-General's Department, before leaving to marry Bert Levens in 1948, a plumber whom she met when visiting his cousin's place. The years that followed brought the arrival of three children: Andrew, Mary and Anne. Laura worked for 28 years as a library assistant and then became officer in-charge for various libraries around Melbourne and, later, Pakenham.

Laura was many things to many people including wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother and mentor. She was a woman of quiet passion who gained a reputation as an amateur naturalist. After finding their beloved bushland property in Upper Beaconsfield and building an architect designed home, Laura and Bert moved in during 1979 and obtained a Trust for Nature covenant on the property to protect the bushland for the future. Unfortunately, in 1983 their home burnt down along with their beloved bush. After much deliberation and attendance of a landscape architecture class at RMIT, Laura and Bert built an earth-sheltered house with the focus on fire resistance and oneness with their environment. This was one of the first such homes in the country at that time and it attracted much media attention. They moved into their new home in 1986. During this time Laura documented and photographed the new life emerging from the bush, as well as the birds, mammals and insect life that she found around her. This information was published in a colourful book titled "Black to Bush" in 2014.

Laura was involved in many community groups, one being the Upper Beaconsfield Care Group which provided emergency assistance to local residents, such as transport,



food, handyman work or just a friendly shoulder for someone needing comfort in a time of stress. Laura helped with the Red Cross Emergency Services and was a founding member of the Upper Beaconsfield Conservation Group in 1986, and its indigenous plant nursery. She was a committee member of the EA Owen Reserve, the Salisbury Gully Reserve, the UBA and a member of the Upper Beaconsfield Writers' Group. Unsurprisingly, she collected a number of certificates of appreciation and awards for her voluntary work over the years. In 1997 an Environmental Management Award was presented to her by the Cardinia Council and in 2002 she became the Upper Beaconsfield Citizen of the Year. In 2016, a plaque was attached to a park bench in Salisbury Gully in recognition of Laura's dedication to the protection of the natural environment. She was awarded a Life Membership of the Upper Beaconsfield Association in 2016 and Life Membership of the Upper Beaconsfield Conservation Group.

Laura, being inspired by her Upper Beaconsfield surroundings and the desire to share her knowledge with others, published the "Wildlife Watch"

article in the Village Bell for over 20 years. In 1989 Laura helped the UB Conservation Group write their booklet "Upper Beaconsfield - Our Bushland Environment" along with another booklet, "Plant Species Found In Public Places In Beaconsfield Upper". This is still a valuable resource for those undertaking local revegetation projects. In 1996 Laura published, with the assistance of the Writers' Group, the booklet "Walks Through Nature Reserves Of Upper Beaconsfield". In 2007 she published "No Legs or Many, Spineless and Wild" and, of course, her 2014 book "Black to Bush - A Natural History of a Patch of Bush".

Nicknamed an 'environmental warrior' by some for her passion in protecting what little remains of our bushland, she was a gentle woman, with a get-on-with-it attitude. Laura never let anything slow her down. There was always someone worse off, someone in greater need, so she didn't stop to dwell on troubles in her own life. Laura was a warm and generous person who never wanted or needed much. Rather, she was fulfilled by the company of her much-loved family and friends or by watching birds and animals from her living room window. Laura was creative and resourceful - a writer and photographer, she was cheeky and sassy, she lived her life gently, brightly, and with love and regard for all living things. Laura was such an inspiration and role model to all who knew her and will be so greatly missed.

**ANDREA LEVENS**  
**SUE SIMMONS**

## Appreciate and care for the natural beauty in our local area

All roads to Upper Beaconsfield allow us to see significant bushland still in this area. See page 13.



# Vale Arthur Day AM 1933–2020

On 25 May 2020 the Upper Beaconsfield area lost an 87-year long link to its past with the passing of Mr Arthur Day AM at his beloved home, “Koonkie Woorun” in Telegraph Rd. An accomplished gynaecological oncologist, skilled farmer, and enthusiastic engineer, Arthur’s life took in many remarkable episodes, but it seemed that he was never away for long from the place that was a constant in his life and where he always seemed happiest.

Arthur was born in 1933 to parents Arthur and Muriel Day, and grew up splitting time between their house in suburban Toorak and the Upper Beaconsfield property, at that time very remote from the city itself. He studied medicine at the University of Melbourne, and towards the end of his training in 1963 he married Hilary Oliphant, who was then a postgraduate student in Microbiology. Shortly afterwards Hilary and Arthur moved to London where he spent three years completing further medical training in obstetrics and gynaecology, and also in surgery. During that time Hilary and Arthur welcomed two daughters, first Kate and then Meredith, and also enjoyed several trips around the UK and Europe.

Upon return to Melbourne Arthur commenced his long and distinguished career at the Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital, and the Royal Melbourne Hospital Gynaecological Unit, as well as establishing a busy and very successful private practice. Arthur and Hilary’s family also grew further at that time, with the arrival of sons William and Charles.

While the weeks were dominated by the demands of a medical career, the weekends were invariably a chance to escape to Upper Beaconsfield where Arthur would help his father to maintain the property and tinker around with machinery. As a young boy Arthur had spent considerable time at the garage across the street from his house in Toorak, and this inspired a lifelong fascination with machinery and engineering, which the demands of the

property gave him ample opportunity to indulge.

In the 1970s Hilary persuaded Arthur to introduce Angora Goats onto the property, and thus began the story of Koonkie Woorun Angora Stud, which would be familiar to anyone who has driven down Telegraph or Salisbury Rds. For over 40 years the stud has bred goats that have won several awards around the country, including many at the Berwick Show, and Hilary has played a key role in the breeder community for much of that time. Supporting the herd saw Arthur develop skills in shearing, shed building, and farm maintenance, although its unlikely that any other goat farm could match the level of obstetric skills he brought to assisting with the annual kidding season.

Arthur’s medical career included several leadership roles, and he is remembered both for his skill and professionalism as well as his commitment to training the next generation of specialists. He was recognised for his distinguished service in 2011 with the award of AM in the Australia Day honours, and with the President’s Medal from the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists.

On the occasion of receiving the AM, Arthur was characteristically humble, noting to the Pakenham Gazette at the time “I’m very flattered, but I don’t think I deserve it”. He said he planned to spend that Australia Day mowing the lawn and cleaning up trees that had fallen over fences in recent storms. That perspective neatly captures his lifelong love for a property that had been the site of great joys such as the wedding of his youngest son Charles in

2005, but also great challenges such as when he and oldest son William had defended it against the Ash Wednesday bushfires in 1983. Family photo albums include pictures of Arthur taken in almost identical locations on the property, but over 70 years apart.

As the demands of his medical career reduced in retirement, Arthur was able to devote more time to the community, serving as treasurer of the Upper Beaconsfield Association for many years. This sense of service to the local area was exemplified by his annual donation of a trailer load of split firewood to the CFA for their raffle, every year until age 86. This had begun after a discussion with Eric Bumpstead, the then fire captain sometime in the 1970s, when Arthur said he wasn’t able to be around for any CFA local call outs because he was himself often being called out to deliver babies – so he said he’d do his bit by supplying fire wood for the raffle. The connection to the CFA continues on today with the involvement of his granddaughter Elizabeth in the local CFA brigade.

Arthur was a hard worker, but generous with his time, and shared his expertise widely and freely. His modesty belied a level of professional skill that was greatly admired by his colleagues. As he sensed that his end was nearing he frequently reflected with friends and family that his had been a happy and full life, although in a cruel irony it was cancer that brought this oncologist his saddest moment with the death of his daughter Kate in 2010 after a long battle with cancer.

As someone who never liked to be made a fuss of, Arthur probably wouldn’t have minded that COVID-related restrictions meant that a proper memorial service could not be held in the weeks after his death. But there is no doubt that Upper Beaconsfield has lost one of its longest-standing and most passionate residents, whose energy and enthusiasm will be greatly missed by many.

## TRIBUTE WRITTEN BY THE DAY FAMILY

Arthur (left) with wife Hilary and granddaughters Elizabeth and Jessica Day at the 2020 Berwick Show.

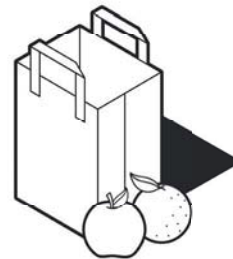




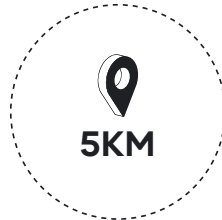
# STAGE 4 RESTRICTIONS ARE NOW IN PLACE FOR MELBOURNE



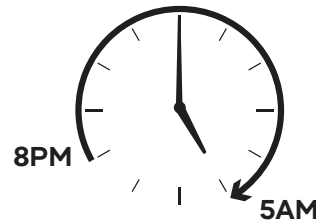
Exercise is limited to  
once a day for 1 hour



Shopping is limited to  
1 person once a day



You must stay within  
5kms of your home when  
exercising or shopping



Stay home between  
8pm and 5am

STAYING  
APART | KEEPS  
US | TOGETHER

**For all current restrictions go to  
[vic.gov.au/CORONAVIRUS](https://vic.gov.au/CORONAVIRUS)**

Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne





## Our Community Garden

Those of you who wander past the community garden at 16 Salisbury Road will not have noticed much activity over the winter months and the quarantine period, but work has been done when possible to do so.

Sandra and I have spread a lot of horse manure and straw on the vegetable beds (thanks to Sally Randall's horses) and dug it in to improve the soil, which is now teeming with big juicy worms. We also gave the fruit trees a good prune (thanks also to Peter Rose) and a feed of horse poo and they are looking healthier. A pile of mulch has been delivered which Sandra and I will be spreading after spraying the weeds. I am busy planting seeds in punnets at home so they will be ready when the weather warms up.

It is hard to spend a lot of time there with the limitations of quarantine but

hopefully by September we can get things moving again.

We would like to thank Carl Hirst for his fabulous recipes and enthusiasm for promoting the garden and hopefully we can produce some "treats" for the community to pick as they pass.

Both Sandra and I are volunteers and do not have any extensive experience in vegetable or fruit gardening. We welcome any assistance, so if you would like to come and help in the garden in whatever way you can, do not be shy. When the weather improves and the lockdown eases, we will post an update on the Upper Beaconsfield Community Facebook page when any working bees are being organised.

Stay safe everyone.

**SANDRA AND CAROL**



## Dog poo on the rise

During the COVID-19 lockdowns more people than ever are walking out with their dogs. Please carry plastic bags so you can dispose of the droppings properly – there are bins around town you can use, or just take it home.

There is nothing worse than stepping in dog poo.

The Village Bell heard that the dog poo problem is particularly bad around the

Recreation Reserve. Residents witnessed a young mum who tried to stop a toddler stepping in dog poo and it all ended up in tears. A half joking suggestion was made that the Men's Shed should make some stocks at the reserve so that culprits who allow their dogs to poop everywhere can serve penance in the stocks!

The oval is treated as an off-leash area by many owners, and the dogs have a lovely time running about the oval. But everyone with dogs should know that when you take a dog for a walk, in five or ten minutes the dog decides it is time to defecate. Go prepared for this eventuality.

**HELEN SMITH**

## Community Garden recipe:

### Gremolata

Lemons and limes are in abundance at our community garden. There are literally hundreds screaming out 'pick me!' Not only that, our limes are yellow, meaning they are ripe, and importantly they are not coated in wax. Use citrus for lemon butter, lime curd, lemonade, lemon pepper, pesto, preserved limes, salad dressing, biscuits, key lime pies, marmalade, lime cordial, cocktails and mocktails!

Glorious, versatile citrus with boundless possibilities.

Here is our recipe for Gremolata — a legendary seasoning in Italian cuisine. The intense aroma of the garlic, herbs and lemon is released when placed upon hot dishes just before serving. It will brighten up a bland dish and is a go-to when something isn't exactly singing on the plate.

In short, combine parsley, garlic and lemon rind. This version has been tweaked a little ... but still only takes a few minutes to prepare.

#### Ingredients

(available at the community garden).

Finely chop and mix:

- 1 cup of Italian parsley
- ½ cup of sage
- ½ cup rosemary
- 1 lemon/lime rind (no white/pith)
- 3 garlic cloves

I like to add a squeeze of lemon/lime juice, a drizzle of Australian extra virgin olive oil, and season to taste with salt and pepper, to make a wetter version of gremolata. You can play with different herbs if you like, and the garlic can be swapped for shallot, leek, garlic scape, garlic chives etc.

Gremolata is the perfect accompaniment to creamy polenta with roast winter veg, osso bucco, hearty vegetable soups, seasonal vegetable risotto, and even eggs on toast!

**CARL HIRST & ANGELIE O'BRIEN**





# All about diabetes

Diabetes mellitus is recognised as the world's fastest growing chronic condition. Diabetes is the epidemic of the 21st century and the biggest challenge confronting Australia's health system. It is estimated that approximately 1.7 million Australians have diabetes. This includes all types of diagnosed and undiagnosed diabetes. One in 3 people with diabetes do not know they have it.

Diabetes is a serious condition where you have excess glucose in your blood as your body is unable to control the levels. Insulin helps to do this and in diabetes the body fails to produce enough insulin or the insulin it produces does not work properly. If left untreated it can cause serious health complications.

## Type 2 diabetes

About 90% of diabetic people have type 2 diabetes. To explain it, think of insulin like a key to the cells. If the key is faulty it stops the glucose from entering cells. This leads to increased blood glucose levels. The pancreas keeps trying to produce more and more insulin which can lead to exhaustion of the pancreas.

Due to glucose not being able to enter the body cells, you start feeling tired. The other symptoms are increased thirst, increased frequency of urination, prolonged healing of injuries and recurrent infections like thrush etc. The symptoms can develop very slowly making the condition harder to spot. Most people do not notice any symptoms. This means some people can live for up to 10 years before being diagnosed!

## Type 1 diabetes

This type is where your body is unable to make insulin which leads to high blood glucose. There are no causes, it just happens. When you have type 1 diabetes, your body produces antibodies which attack the pancreas cells which make insulin. 8-10% of diabetics have type 1 diabetes.

## Risk factors of type 2 diabetes mellitus

There are various factors which can increase your risk of developing type 2 diabetes. Since the symptoms are not always obvious, it is important to be aware of these risk factors.

These include:

1. Family history
2. Lifestyle factors including high blood pressure, overweight or obese, insufficient physical activity
3. Poor diet and central obesity (fat around waist)
4. People with cultural backgrounds from China, Indian subcontinent, Pacific islands
5. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders above the age of 35
6. Women with PCOS or gestational diabetes (diabetes in pregnant women)

## Symptoms

Many people show no symptoms especially in first few years of diagnosis, but later display:

- Feeling tired, lethargic
- Being excessively thirsty
- Passing more urine
- Always feeling hungry
- Slow healing of injuries/cuts



*continued on page 13*



# UpperBeaconsfield

## PHARMACY

*Local, convenient and compassionate pharmacy care and advice*

**53 Beaconsfield-Emerald Rd**

**Upper Beaconsfield**

**Phone 03 5944 3881**

**[www.ubpharmacy.com.au](http://www.ubpharmacy.com.au)**

**[facebook.com/Upperbpharmacy](https://facebook.com/Upperbpharmacy)**

**Opening hours:**

**Monday 8.30 am – 6 pm**

**Tuesday 8.30 am – 7 pm**

**Wednesday 8.30 am – 6 pm**

**Thursday 8.30 am – 6 pm**

**Friday 8.30 am – 6 pm**

**Saturday 9.00 am – 2 pm**



## Appreciate and care for the natural beauty in our local area

All roads to Upper Beaconsfield allow us to see significant bushland still in this area. Families can still hand feed wallabies and birds. Echidnas, wombats, lyrebirds and bowerbirds still visit gardens where trees and bushes are alive with small and large birds by day and possums and owls at night.

When I was a newcomer to Upper Beaconsfield I got to know the native vegetation where these pleasures originate by visiting local nature reserves, then consulting books and staff at our native nursery.

The following reserves are within about 8 km of Upper Beaconsfield:

- Critchley Parker Flora and Fauna Reserve and Stoney Creek Reserve—

*Diabetes continued from page 12*

- Blurred vision
- Gradually increasing weight
- Leg cramps
- Feeling dizzy

### Management

The aim of treatment is to keep glucose levels within normal range and to reduce risk of complications from diabetes. While there is no cure for diabetes, the condition is managed through lifestyle modifications like losing weight, diet, exercise, managing blood pressure and reducing cholesterol. If you have type 1 diabetes, you will need insulin to treat your diabetes. If you have type 2 diabetes, you may have to use insulin or tablets which help in increasing sensitivity of insulin and improve control of blood sugar.

### Complications

Untreated or poorly controlled diabetes can virtually affect every part of the body. The complications can range from short term like dehydration, dizziness, reduced consciousness to long-term complications like angina, heart attacks, stroke, kidney damage, visual defects including cataracts, nerve damage, foot problems, circulation problems, impotency, etc.

If you are worried about any of the symptoms or would like to discuss about your diabetes risk, please discuss with your GP.

**DR ANSHU MALHOTRA**

**DR PUNEET MALHOTRA**

**UPPER BEACONSFIELD GP PRACTICE**

**(03) 9044 0750**

Like us on Facebook for more updates

entered from St Georges Road

- Sutherland Park Reserve near the tennis courts—worth a visit in the spring
- Hamilton Reserve in Berglund Road
- E.A. Owen Nature reserve in Dickie Road
- Chambers Reserve in Bourkes Creek Road
- Viaduct Trail—a walking/horse riding trail originating at a parking area in Officer Road
- Cardinia Reservoir—a good place to take visitors to see kangaroos while picnicking

Roadside verges act as corridors for birds and animals to travel from one place to another. Native plants are protected and council by-laws protect our trees so ring council before you cut any down. Dead trees could be providing nesting hollows for mammals and birds (have you seen wood ducks push their young out of a nest maybe 6 metres up a tree and then guide them to a dam?) Indigenous grasses and small wildflowers need careful husbandry when slashing for fire protection. Native grasses and orchids often set seed around Christmas so leaving some plants until after seed drop is an easy way to save them and increase their numbers.

I know that contractors' machinery has a propensity to bring weed plants by the dozen. Even last year's roadside slashers planted a row of blackberries where none had been seen ever before!

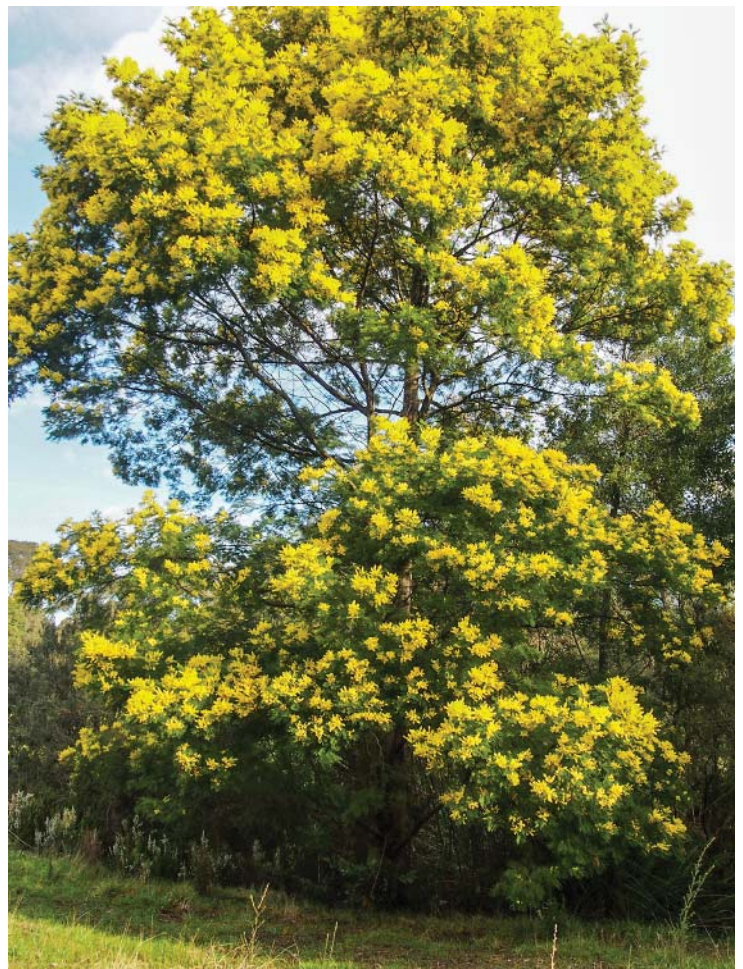
Removal of PEST PLANTS such as blackberry, spear thistles and ragwort along roadsides is the responsibility of the abutting landholder. See the Cardinia Shire web site for information



about weed grants available to assist with this chore.

Originally printed in the Village Bell  
September 2014

**LAURA LEVENS**





## Tough times for all

Stage 4 restrictions have been tough on many, from small businesses



being forced to close their doors, construction nearly at a standstill, people losing their jobs and us all being separated from loved ones further.

The COVID-19 pandemic has certainly offered me the time to reflect on how strong our community is. Our community offers great support to those in need, a lending hand to those who may be tired, a shoulder to lean on and to those who may be finding the emotional strain a bit tough.

This is what underpins a great community like ours, where its members have the ability through adversity to identify those who are in need and will then share of themselves to provide support and assistance.

It may be a friend or someone you might pass on your daily walk, but the fact that we stop to consider others during this time is what will set us apart at the end of this crisis, knowing we were there for each other during this time.

We must look after our mental health as much as our physical if you are personally struggling please pick up the phone and call someone and ask for help. If you know someone who is living alone or is struggling themselves, pick up the phone and ask how you can help.

Some may find texting someone to be more comfortable than calling. Lifeline has a texting service between the hours of 6 pm and midnight where if you text 0477 13 11 14 a Lifeline crisis supporter will text with you. You can also call Lifeline 24/7 on 13 11 14.

As always my office and I are here to assist you, especially during this period with any questions or extra support that you may need. You can call us on 5953 0216 or email via [brad.battin@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:brad.battin@parliament.vic.gov.au)

Stay safe and please do not be afraid to speak up if you need an extra helping hand.

**BRAD BATTIN MP**  
**LIBERAL STATE MEMBER FOR GEMBROOK**

## Things that concentrate the mind

The current pandemic has led us to completely rethink what is "normal". This coronavirus is a formidable enemy, and hygiene and social distancing have changed the way we behave. The virus sticks to skin and smooth surfaces. The virus is encased in a layer of fat. Soap can break that fat apart and make the virus unable to infect you. The second thing soap does is mechanical. With enough rubbing, we can pry germs off and rinse them away.

So, hand hygiene has become a fixation, and never have I been so aware of what my hands are doing. You just start to think about your hands, and you get the urge to scratch your nose! So now I keep the hand sanitiser in the car when I go out to shop.

The thought of using the public toilet at Charing Cross becomes a difficult task. What to do? I have discovered there are ways and means of using parts of your body to do things without using hands. How useful are our forearms, elbows, shoulders and even feet? Here is my procedure: back into the door to open it, use the tip of your shoe to flip the seat down if it is up ..... and afterwards use your elbow to flush, and again your elbow to turn on the tap to wash your hands, ditto elbow action on the drier. How to exit the toilet? Solution — stand on one leg, hook your other foot under the door to pull the door open enough to put your elbow in the gap, then lever the door open and wriggle out!

I have got used to wearing masks, I do not know why people made a fuss about these. The disadvantage is that my glasses fog up, so it is hard to read the fine print on labels. Perhaps when the weather warms up it may not be a problem.

On more serious matters, what else have we learned from the pandemic? We now realise how fragile modern employment practices are in the face of the pandemic. Casual labour, and people working across multiple workplaces has made it difficult to control the spread of disease. The pandemic has shown it affects the lower socio-economic sections of the community the most. The saying that we are all in this together is not true.

We now know that Federally controlled private aged care homes do not have mandated ratios of nurses and carers to residents. These places also have been run in ways to cut costs and maximise profits. As well as the death of many vulnerable residents, the high infection rates to health care workers is also shocking. These are serious issues which all governments must address if society is to recover from this.

My strategy in living through this is to live like a hermit, and only go out occasionally for essentials. I have not hugged the grandchildren in ages. Being retired I do not have to go out to work, but I am thankful that modern technology enables video calls and online meetings. Living in Upper Beaconsfield means that I can go out walking on sunny days. It has been a balm to the soul to have solitary walks when it has been so quiet. There is no distant hum of traffic from the freeway. I listen to the birds and frogs, the trickle of Stoney Creek. I even heard the grunt of an emu from behind the reservoir fence. The kangaroos are out basking in the sun. The smell of the bush is amazing, and the wattles dazzle the senses with their colour and perfume.

**HELEN SMITH**

## Lockdown in luxury?

'Lockdown in luxury' she said on the phone. As I sat pondering her comment at the end of our phone call, I thought, 'Yes, how hard can it be?' However, her comment went against the current mental health narratives, especially for those whose mental health was, at best, marginal before COVID-19. Likewise, working from home and maintaining productivity in the midst of home schooling would challenge the strongest among us while the stress for those forced to twiddle their thumbs as business opportunities pass them by, or

worse, just evaporate.

So, who said 'lockdown in luxury'? This may or may not surprise you, as it was my 86-year-old mum, who lives independently and alone in Melbourne and is thriving during lockdown. She reminisced about the doodlebugs - bombs with wings or flying bombs that the Germans sent to destroy London. Her home was in their pathway. As a young girl, she and her sisters would hear the flying bombs and would dash to the dugout for safety and wait until they passed. One particular day, she



and her three sisters froze as they saw a doodlebug gradually lose speed, glide towards their home, spring into life, gain height, fly over the house and land in the back garden.

Years later, as a child, my grandmother cautioned my brother and me about playing near the bomb hole, but in springtime, cowslips covered the area and we took great delight in carefully finding our way around the hole to pick bunches of these beautiful springtime flowers to take home. This very innocent activity caused my grandmother and mother enormous anxiety while we innocently picked flowers in an area that brought back very different memories for them.

I continued to ponder 'lockdown in luxury'. Indeed, as politicians grapple with economic cost, and the millions of dollars they are pouring in to keep people safe at home, they often refer to this virus as being like wartime. Young people complain about the consequences of this virus and that it will leave them with a huge debt –

'the "boomers" have robbed us of a decent life' they say. This might be true! However, like the virus, the war was equally unprecedented in economic, social and infrastructure losses – and on a much larger scale. The UK boomers, who did not live through the war, had to pay off a wartime debt of approximately \$38 billion, the last payment for the UK being in 2006.

Again, as I reflect on how hard a six-week lockdown is; I wonder is my mindset really the problem. In the Pakenham Gazette, Ian Ash, (Aug 5, 2020) wrote about leadership, and how Sir E H Shackleton saved 28 of his men after ice encompassed his ship *Endurance*, and it sank in Antarctica. Shackleton never gave up. Ash writes, Shackleton took three lifeboats and rowed, with his 28 men, for seven days to the 'uninhabitable' Elephant Island. With five of his strongest men, he took 16 days to row a further 1,500 km to South Georgia Island; taking two of his strongest men, he traversed the mountainous island

in threadbare clothing and boots. Shackleton returned to rescue all his men, marooned in total for 18 months in freezing conditions.

So how hard is a pandemic lockdown? Harder than Shackleton's exploration? Harder than watching a continuous stream of doodlebugs? Ash gave his article the title of 'Hard Lessons'.

Maybe my hard lesson is to see that I do have 'lockdown in luxury' – I can choose my perspective. I can choose to see my situation, compared to what others experienced in the past, as a kind of luxury. Maybe recognising and accepting what I have, and not what I lack. Being grateful about what and I can do, and not what I cannot do. After all, I have toilet paper, and I am grateful for that! It is so much better than newspaper! I need to remember that the Spanish flu took between 20-50 million people after World War 1 and that around 500 million people died from the small poxvirus. Stay safe everyone!

CAROLINE SPENCER, UBA PRESIDENT

## It just keeps coming!

A short time ago Karen Alsop and her children came up with the idea of setting up a small sharing table for locals to share produce and take what they needed.

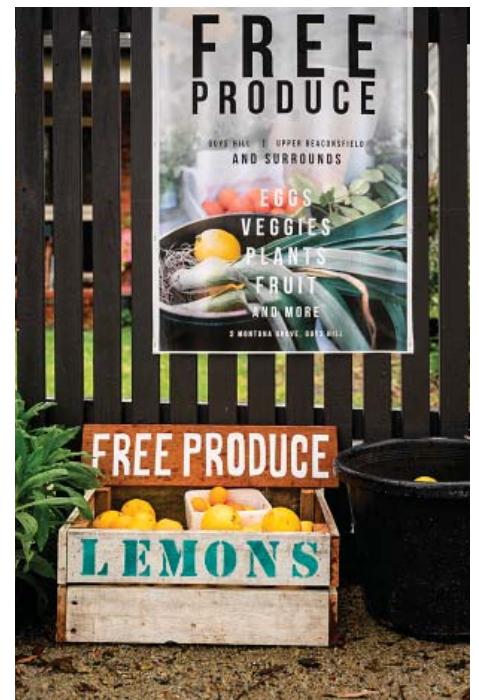
"We had an abundance of lemons, rosemary and lavender", Karen wrote when she put it out in the local groups, "and look what happened! Amazing! Love our neighbourhood. This will only continue to grow."

To think that this started with a bucket of lemons only a week ago, and now there is so much on offer. Eggs are

popular and go quickly. If you have chooks and would like to swap eggs for some of this other amazing produce, the eggs are well received and there is plenty of room in the cupboard, with lots of egg cartons available for people to take in the bottom cupboard.

"If you are local please feel free to come and give what you have lots of and take whatever you need."

This free swap stand is outside Karen's Story Art studio, 2 Montuna Grove in Guys Hill.





# Upper Beaconsfield Fire Brigade

## Quiet time

Winter is when brigade members take stock, recharge the batteries and start preparing for the upcoming fire season. There has certainly been plenty of time for that! With training on the back burner during stage 4 restrictions, we have resorted to online courses and meetings via video conferencing.

The CFA hierarchy has established a dedicated pandemic team to monitor the ongoing COVID-19 situation and issue guidance to all sectors in line with the State Government and Chief Health Officer's directives. We have changed the way we go about our activities to ensure the safety and well-being of our members and the general public, whilst continuing to provide a high level of service.

Pre summer training will begin as soon

as restrictions allow. Training is a mix of practical and theoretical exercises to enable members to refine their skills. The CFA has some mandatory expectations such as a simulated 'burn over drill' and theoretical exercises to complement our standard operating procedures. The brigade at a local level has appliance specific requirements to ensure members are familiar with all aspects of our vehicles.

## Brigade appliances

The brigade has 4 appliances. Two Hino tankers, a Fuso big fill specialist appliance and a Toyota Landcruiser 550lt ultra light tanker we received late last year. All appliances, including the tankers, have full 4WD off-road capability. Our tankers are known as Tanker 1 (being the oldest and used for the Santa run each year) and Tanker 2.

Both hold approximately 2,000 litres of water and each carry 2 sets of breathing apparatus. Tanker 1 is the only CFA supplied appliance.

The other three are brigade owned and funded with the assistance of community donations and occasional grants.

Tanker 1 will be 29 years old at the end of this year! Whilst it is still operational, it is not best practice and is far from the current standard of modern appliances. The configuration means 3 members must sit on the back (facing backwards) in what is called a ROPS (roll over protection system) and are exposed to the prevailing weather and atmospheric conditions. Not ideal! By comparison Tanker 2 has a crew cabin allowing all members to sit in an air-conditioned/heated cabin where they can communicate effectively. For this



## Can we fit?

Can we gain access to your property with our trucks? We require approximately 3.5 m wide x 3.5 m high for our larger trucks - something to consider if you are installing new gates or building.





reason, Tanker 2 is our primary response appliance.

I have long been campaigning (some say like a broken record) with the CFA for an upgrade/replacement. The brigade has submitted a case (which has been supported by our fellow Cardinia group brigades) that Tanker 1 be replaced with a 4.4C heavy tanker. This tanker carries 4,000 litres of water; double that of the current tankers. In many areas where there is no reticulated water supply, this extra capacity could mean the difference between a win and a loss. With our nearest supporting brigades 10-20 minutes away, we believe this type of appliance would be of great benefit to the community.

### Brigade incident reports

Since the last Village Bell we have attended 4 primary incidents (our own response area) and 2 supporting other brigades

- 3 x structure fires
- 1 x non structure fire (car)
- 1 x hazardous materials
- 1 x grass and scrub fire

### Spring is Clean Up time

Spring is the time to get our properties in order. The fire season won't be on hold due to COVID-19. It's coming whether we like it or not! It's time to clean up and remove any combustible materials around the house including woodpiles, fallen trees and branches. It's time to develop/refresh your fire plan. Does your family have a fire plan? Where will you go on a bad day? What is your trigger? What is your plan B if that doesn't work? What if there is a tree down across the road? Is there



Official handover of Tanker 1 to then Brigade Captain Eric Bumpstead 1 Feb 1992 !

another way? What about your pets? Do your friends or relatives know your plan?

CFA has a range of information for residents on their website to help prepare properties and create a fire plan. Visit: <https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/plan-prepare/your-bushfire-plan>

### Burning off safely

With spring, we can expect warmer temperatures and elevated wind gusts. Careful consideration should be taken when burning off. Familiarise yourself with the council's open air burning policy to make sure you are only burning off when permitted. Always ensure you have adequate water on standby. With long grass drying out, fire can spread quickly.

Remember for every 10 degrees of

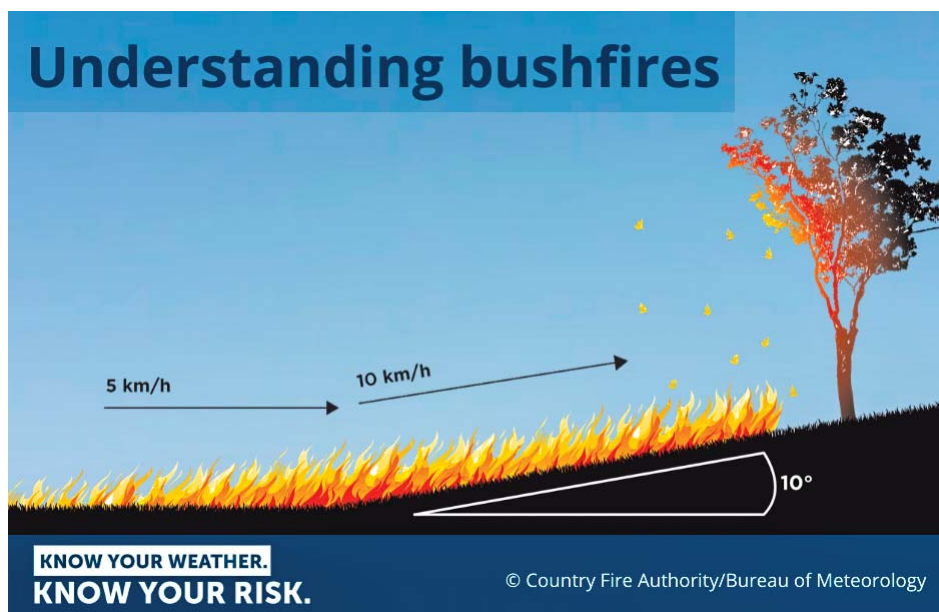
slope, the rate of spread doubles. As fire travels uphill there's less space between the flames and new fuel to burn. Radiant heat from the fire also preheats the fuel in front of it, making it easier to ignite.

### Always looking for volunteers

If you are interested in joining the fire brigade, now is the perfect time. We can have you trained up and raring to go ready for summer. We train Sunday mornings and/or Wednesday evenings. Contact the fire brigade on 5944-3303 or email [ian.pinney@members.cfa.vic.gov.au](mailto:ian.pinney@members.cfa.vic.gov.au) for further information.

Stay safe.

IAN PINNEY, CAPTAIN



### Free green waste drop-off for Cardinia Shire residents

#### Pakenham

Future Recycling Transfer Station.  
30-32 Exchange Drive, Pakenham  
Friday 9 – Monday 12 October 2020  
9 am – 4 pm

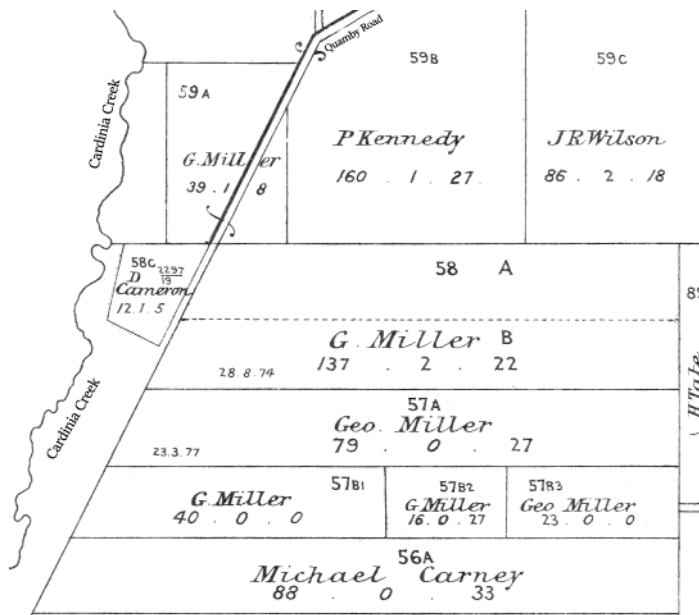
#### Lysterfield

Cleanaway Resource Recovery Centre.  
840 Wellington Rd, Lysterfield  
Friday 23 – Monday 26 October 2020  
9 am – 4 pm



# Early history of the Cardinia Park Hotel

George Miller selected his first allotment along the 'Cardinia straight' near Quamby road in 1872. It measured 40 acres and was part of crown allotment 59 in the Parish of Pakenham, designated 59A. Initially the mining department objected to the selection because the land was likely to be auriferous – abutting Cardinia Creek. Over the following years Miller added more land to his selection, namely crown allotments 57 A&B and 58 A&B. His total land holding amounted to 335 acres.



At the time of the first selection Miller, born in Hampshire, England was 56 years old, and had been married for about ten years to Ann Somers, born in

County Wicklow in Ireland. Ann arrived in Victoria, en route from the United States, and was twenty years younger than him. They did not have any children.

The Leader newspaper reported on 2 March 1872 that George Miller had been successfully growing hops on his property for three years on a section he had cleared of tea-tree. He had built hop houses for drying the crop. His enterprise was not carried on beyond his days. In 1872 Miller, Charles Souter and William Dalton,

were appointed to the committee of management of the land set apart for cricket and general recreation purposes near the cemetery at Berwick.

Miller also built the "Bush Inn Hotel" finishing shortly before 1878. [below] It was a weatherboard building, containing ten rooms, lathed and plastered inside, in the same location or close by the present Cardinia Park

Hotel. Why he built a hotel there is not clear as it was only a short way from Souter's Gippsland Hotel on the Gippsland road at Beaconsfield, and

the Inglis Road bridge over the Cardinia Creek was not yet built. His hotel was probably a destination or stopping point for itinerant workers. It was never advertised, and holidaying guests were more likely to spend time at the Upper Beaconsfield guesthouses. However, in November 1878, he advertised 100,000 tons of firewood for sale – an advertising ploy or typesetting mistake probably.

Only two years later in October 1880, the hotel and most of his land was advertised for auction, followed by a clearing sale, including 40 head of cattle, three horses, pigs and poultry, as well as tools. It turns out that Miller was close to insolvency, and as no buyer for his property came forward, Miller's estate was placed under administration on 1 December 1880. Samuel H Cohen was assigned to his estate. The reasons for the insolvency were a fall-off in business, and the collapse of the Provincial and Suburban Bank, where he had shares. Although his books showed a surplus of £1,000, S H Cohen, advertised the stock-in-trade, furniture, firewood and some livestock for auction in 15 December 1880. It seems like the hotel may have been shut for some time, as on 28 February 1881 it was again put up for auction with the note that an industrious and painstaking landlord could do well given its first-class position on the road.

The successful bidder at the auction was David Boyd, an estate agent of South Melbourne. He was later







known as the owner of Sandown Park racecourse. The Millers endured at the location and may have continued running the inn/hotel for the new owner.

During 1881 the Department for Lands was lobbied for a bridge over Cardinia Creek 'at Miller's' (its present position), and it was decided that the department would pay £200 if council put in £225.

On 5 April 1882, George Miller suffered a stroke and died suddenly. He was buried in Berwick Cemetery, and Ann had a headstone erected on the grave, 'in memory of her beloved husband'.

On 11 May 1883 David Boyd sold the 40-acre allotment the Bush Inn Hotel was on to no other than Ann Miller. She had applied for a publican's licence after George's death, and was granted such at the yearly meeting of the licensing board in late 1882. Women were granted licenses in their own name, as they were keeping a 'public house'. Two years after George's death Ann Miller married John Milne, a widower with five children, who had selected land along Quamby Road in 1879. It's not clear if he lived there. He hailed from Aberdeen in Scotland.

Boyd decided to sell all his interests in his previous purchase by subdividing the land into 20 smaller blocks, which were advertised for auction in February 1885. On the sale poster a number of blocks were marked as sold, and it turns out that they were transferred to Ann Milne on 10 September 1886. On the same day, the balance of the property went to John Milne, meaning none of the other smaller blocks were sold. The subdivision was never formally affirmed by the lands department. Crown allotment 59A was sold to William Fuller.

Ann Milne continued to operate the Bush Inn Hotel with the help of

John. In June 1887 John was prosecuted and fined for serving liquor to patrons who were not lodgers on a Sunday. The patrons he served were two constables! He was fined £5 and costs. In October 1887, a further similar breach saw him fined £10.

This bad publicity was countered, in July 1887 by a reporter of the South Bourke and Mornington Journal who made an advertorial 'trip to Beaconsfield'. The new brick 'Cardinia Park Hotel', replacing the Bush Inn Hotel was complete, (bar a half-finished billiard room) and contained 14 rooms. Every compliment a reporter could bestow on the new premises, its facilities, its location and civility of the proprietors was duly reported. Even carvings of hops in the stain glass windows, to remember Ann's late husband George Miller, were mentioned, even though the hops buildings were mentioned as being in decline. A visit to the brick works, that John distributed from was also added to the article.

An ad the following week in the paper, begging to inform local residents that

#### BUILDERS' OPINIONS.

Lisson-grove, Hawthorn,  
20th September, 1888.

**I, the undersigned, have inspected the clay and sand upon the Beaconsfield Property, and have no hesitation in testifying to their most excellent quality. I am using the sand obtained from this ridge in the erection of the Hawthorn Coffee Palace, and would prefer it in all cases provided it could possibly be obtained. The supply appears almost inexhaustible.**

**RALPH BESANT.**

Flinders-lane east, Melbourne.  
27th September, 1888.

**I am using the Beaconsfield sand from this property. It is clean and free from salt, and the best I have ever used, making the strongest mortar, consequently commanding a higher price. I prefer it to any other.**

**ROBERT GAMLIN.**

27th September, 1888.  
**I am using the Beaconsfield sand in the erection of the Hawthorn Town Hall. It is the best sand obtainable at the present time, being clean and sharp, and particularly well adapted for building purposes.**

**JAMES ANDERSON.**

John had rebuilt the hotel appeared. The nearby brickyard was mentioned as well as sales of sand and tiles, to people desirous of building villa residences.

After just establishing things, on 3 November 1888 both Ann and John Milne sold their respective land holdings to Dr John Holden Webb, a surgeon, and Hon Dr Louis Lawrence Smith, a medical practitioner, businessman and MLA, who already had substantial interests in the area.

Why did these two medics buy this land? An advertisement taken out by William Brisbane, a notorious land dealer and then also employed by LL Smith as his personal secretary, may shed some light.

A land boom was on, and Brisbane – on behalf of the soon to be formed Beaconsfield Heights Estate Company – had signed an agreement with Smith and Webb on 19 September 1888 to buy their land. As properties in the vicinity had changed hands for considerable sums, the venture was sure to be a winner! The revenue of the company was to be the sale of the residential sites, and commercial returns of the sale of firewood, sand interests, the manufacture of bricks, and the revenue from the hotel. The advertisement included great testimonials as to the quality of the sand and clay that was available. However, before the company was incorporated, in a now familiar move, the title for the hotel with 5 ½ acres of land was sold back to John and Ann Milne.

Some investors signed up to the Beaconsfield Heights Estate Company and 17,292 of the 20,000 shares were subscribed to, though not fully paid up.

William Brisbane held about 4000 of them. It appears that no land was sold, and both LL Smith and William Brisbane were in financial trouble, as a deep recession soon engulfed Victoria. Smith obtained a mortgage from the Commercial Bank in 1892, with his local land holdings as security. Brisbane went through what would be his second round of insolvency proceedings which amongst other items showed debts to Smith of £2,600 for moneys lent, and £1,730 to the Beaconsfield Heights Estate Company, which was by now in liquidation. As Smith's loans were unsecured, he would have seen little return for them.

Insolvency proceedings were also taken against John Milne during 1892, but there was no report

*continued on page 20*

*continued from page 19*

detailing his assets. Milne by now was described as a contractor, and had probably tendered for council contracts. After he had lost out on a contract, he wrote an insulting letter to Council. Brisbane, at the time a councillor, suggested that Milne be banned from tendering for twelve months. Other councillors were more amiable suggesting a warning, to which Brisbane replied that "Milne [is] anything but a sensitive individual such a caution would have little effect." The Beaconsfield Heights Estate Company also leased its paddocks to Milne's neighbour Duncan Cameron. A police court case ensued where Cameron was suing Milne for destroying fencing and a gate, and grazing his cattle on Cameron's lease, and trespassing. This case was thrown out as the court had no jurisdiction. On the same day Milne's son Alex, sued Cameron's son Hugh for sending Milne's cattle to the pound, despite being offered a trespass payment. On a technicality, Hugh did not have the right to impound the cattle, as he was not the leaseholder, and had refused a trespass payment. He was fined 5s and had to pay court costs.

Just a week later John Milne had a serious accident when a young horse he was driving took fright and capsized the dray which fell on top of him, seriously crushing his chest and inflicting other injuries. His life lingered for about two weeks and John Milne died on 21 November 1892. He was 53 years old. His probate shows that his assets amounted to five pounds at the time of his death.

Ann Milne continued to operate the Cardinia Park Hotel, possibly with the help of John's son. Her widowed mother, Ellen Somers, and her unmarried sister Elizabeth had also moved to Beaconsfield.

After the collapse of the Beaconsfield Heights Estate Company the land, with the exception of the Hotel land was held by The Commercial Bank as the mortgagee. It is not known if anyone leased the land. On 14 Dec 1906 the title was sold to John Payne, of Payne's Bon Marche drapery, clothing and general haberdashery stores. He also bought crown allotments 56A&B closer to Beaconsfield.

Ann Milne transferred her publican's license to Mary O'Callaghan in March 1907, just after she had also sold the hotel property to John Payne. She probably moved to Beaconsfield near

the railway station, where she owned property. She died on 26 March 1913, and is buried in the Berwick Cemetery. (Her probate shows that she had done quite well for herself as she owned numerous properties in Berwick and Beaconsfield.)

In 1911 John Payne transferred the property except the hotel to his son, John William, who established a homestead and built a new villa. He then subdivided the land and a large auction sale took place in November 1912. The farm lands failed to find buyers. John Payne snr was reported to have sold the hotel property to a Mr Young for £1,050. The Youngs had previously been at the Pine Grove Hotel. Mary O'Callaghan's lease was naturally not renewed and in April 1913 she held a clearing sale for the complete furnishings of the eight rooms. A few weeks later the licence was transferred to Mrs Fanny Young.

In July 1915 the Dandenong Advertiser reported that Payne was selling his 900 acres that he had converted from wilderness to efficiency, spending nearly £7,000. A large part of this land was later farmed by various members of the Grant family as orchards, largely as soldier settlement blocks.

### Later owners and licensees

The Youngs probably did not pay off the purchase price for the hotel as in February 1916 the hotel freehold (1 ¼ acres) was transferred from John Payne to Mary Alicia Dineley. Mary Dineley also bought 10 ½ acres surrounding the hotel, and further 45 acres were jointly bought by Mary and her husband

Frederick William Dineley. Mary's son from her previous marriage served in WW I and was killed in action in Belgium in 1917. He is remembered at the Beaconsfield War Memorial.

Ownership of the hotel, and its licensees, diverged around this time. In March 1914 the hotel licence is transferred to Josiah Hyde Steele. Up until 1927 he was followed by a long list of mostly short time licensees: Caroline Tulk, Mary Alicia & Frederick William Dineley, Selina Lanigan Oscar, Richard Bayne, Thomas House, Selina Patricia Fettes, Emma Umpherston, Mary Elizabeth Kirk (later at the Pine Grove Hotel), Henry Victor Pickering, Stanley Wilfred Chandler, James Reeves, Mary Ann Tobin, Thomas Charles Warby (who died at the hotel), Annie Jane O'Regan, Eldred Charles Liversidge, Julia Carter, Norman Walker Adamson, Etty Saunders (who stayed for nearly five years), Andrew Cyril Le Brocq, and Edward Randall McMartin.

In 1927 Mary Dineley sold the hotel property and surrounds to Elizabeth Margaret Danaher, but stayed in the area for a few more years. Danaher married Eric Arthur Loft, who became the next licensee and hotel owner from 1936 after Elizabeth's death until February 1945.

**MARIANNE ROCKE**







## St John's Church

### The pear and the apple

Who remembers the story of 'The pear and the apple'? I have no idea who wrote it or where it came from but it has stuck with me to this day. In the story, we meet an apple. A very great and wonderful apple who tries to be the shiniest and best apple it can be. But one day, this amazing apple met a pear. This pear was the best pear that ever lived. It was green and juicy, sweet and awesome. The apple took a step back.

The apple, as wonderful and red and shiny as it was, could not think about anything except the pear. "If only I could be a pear" it thought. "If I was a pear, just like that one, then everyone would love me". So the apple went about trying to be the best pear that it could. The apple kept trying and striving. However, it never seemed to be happy. It was a lot of work and it just never seemed to fit.

One day, as the apple was going about its business, it met someone who changed everything. This person did not love him. "I don't like pears" he said, and "I especially don't like second rate pears"! From that day on, the apple made a choice. It would strive to be the best apple it could be, and not strive to be something that it was not.

The reason I tell this story is to remind us, in the middle of this global pandemic, with anxiety and dread engulfing the world, that I believe all of us are not here by some cosmic accident. It is easy to lose ourselves in the wash of fear and panic buying of toilet paper. It can be hard to remember that each of us is unique, special and wanted. I believe that the creator God has made you to be a person unlike anyone else. You have a passion, a drive, an individual perspective and now, more than ever, I think it is important that we strive to be the best pear, apple, orange, watermelon or whatever you are! COVID-19 is not going away soon but, in the middle of it, we can work on ourselves and try to sort out who we are and who we want to be. My prayer

## Improvements at the Early Learning Centre

In December 2019, the Upper Beaconsfield Early Learning Centre at the Community Complex was thrilled to

be awarded a grant from the Victorian Government



Department of Health & Human Services as part of the Shade Grants Program.

This grant was to the value of \$20k and with the thanks to Luxford Building Services the project is almost complete.

The permanent Cooldek structure will cover a section of the Early Learning Centre outdoor play space and the sandpit, allowing the children to access outdoor play all year round. The Cooldek features will keep the area cool in summer and protected from the elements in winter. A fantastic improvement to a wonderful centre.

**SARAH STICKLAND**  
MANAGER, UPPER BEACONSFIELD  
COMMUNITY CENTRE INC



*View across the old tennis courts behind the Crèche (now ELC) and Hall in 1991*

is that we will be reminded that each one of us is worthy and unique.

If you are struggling with mental illness, loneliness, depression, fear, or anxiety we, here at St John's, can help. We encourage you to talk to friends, talk to a professional, seek assistance. We have all been that apple trying to be a pear and we know that it just does not work. Being who we are, not who we

think others want us to be, is a difficult thing sometimes. But it is worth it! From me, here at St John's, I will leave you with this thought: please remember that the creator of the universe loves you. He has not abandoned you, and He longs to help you to be the best version of you that you can be.

**REV. SHANNON LEE**

# What's news from Cardinia Council

## Upper Beaconsfield Recreation Reserve — change rooms upgrade

Design work will progress in consultation with the reserve committee and all clubs on site soon once COVID-19 Stage 4 restrictions are lifted to allow technical consultants to operate.

## Council elections October 2020

The Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) has advised that local council elections will be held in Victoria by post in October 2020. Voters will receive a ballot pack in early October. To vote, you must have been correctly enrolled before 4 pm on Friday 28 August 2020.

If you want to stand as a candidate, you can nominate from Thursday 17 September 2020.

Following the introduction of the Local Government Act 2020, the electoral structure of Cardinia Shire Council changed. Voters will be voting according to the new structure, which will come into effect at the election.

The new structure has Cardinia Shire Council divided into nine-single councillor wards. Voters will elect one councillor. Upper Beaconsfield is

situated in the new Beacon Hills Ward (please see the ward map below).

For more information about enrolment, voting and candidates visit the VEC website: <https://www.vec.vic.gov.au/>

## Keith Ewenson Park playground upgrade

The Upper Beaconsfield community was invited to have their say on the playground renewal at Keith Ewenson Park. Residents were able to use an online tool to help choose the type of equipment that you would like included. The playground renewal consultation closed on Sunday 30 August 2020.

For more information about this consultation and to have your say online, visit council's website at [www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/haveyoursay](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/haveyoursay)

## Elephant Rock

A draft landscape design for Elephant Rock is nearing completion. Once the draft has been finalised, feedback will be sought from Melbourne Water, VicRoads, council staff, and several members of the community who have been strong advocates for the upgrade of the rock. Once the design has been finalised, council will seek funding for the implementation of this plan through Melbourne Water grants.

## Equestrian strategy review

Council has commenced a review of its 2014 Equestrian Strategy. The strategy was developed to guide the future provision of equestrian activities in Cardinia Shire over a 10-year period. The strategy focused on both equestrian sport and recreational riding included recommendations to improve participation opportunities and strengthen the significance of equestrian activity within the Shire. The review is being undertaken to ensure the plan will reflect equestrian sport and recreational riding within Cardinia Shire over the coming ten years. The progression of the strategy review has been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic; however, work is continuing. Look out for the opportunity to review the strategy.

## Latest updates to Cardinia Council services

Current guidelines mean modifications to some council services. For up-to-date info about council facilities and services visit: [www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/coronavirus](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/coronavirus). Our customer service centre at Officer is temporarily closed, but you can still contact us by phone or email, or access a range of online services via our website.

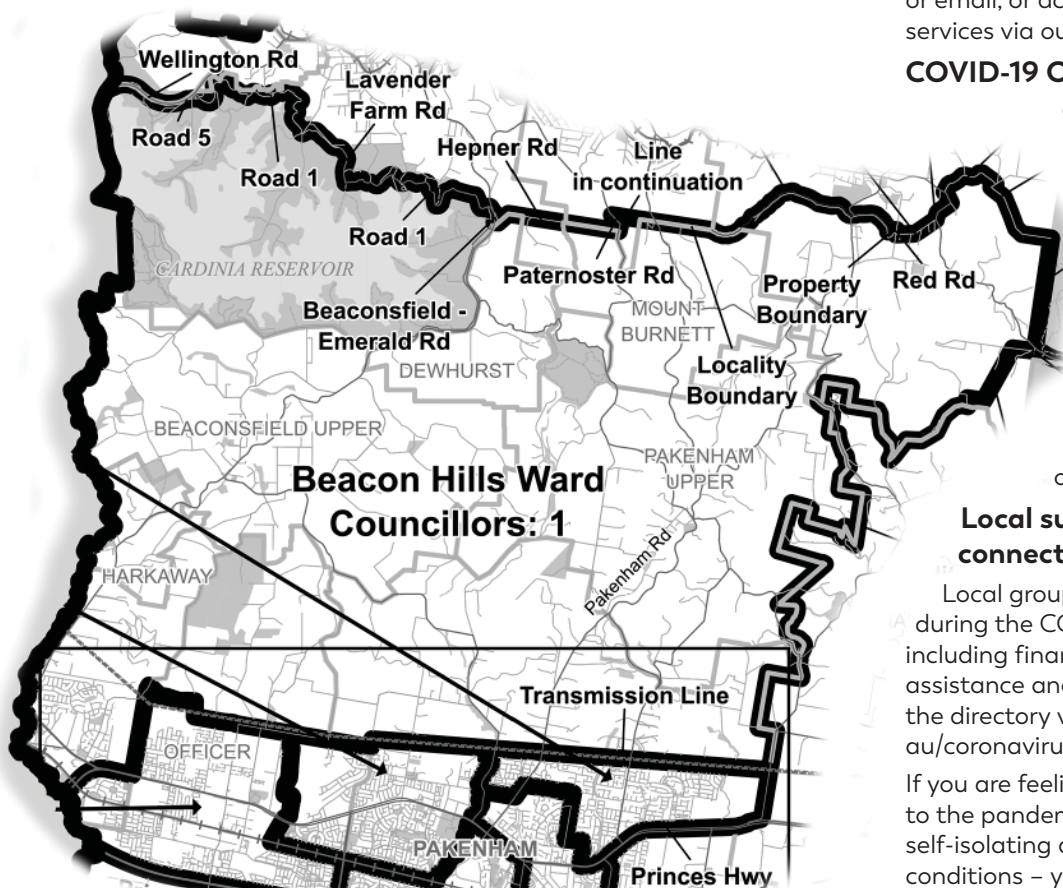
## COVID-19 Online Help Hub

Council's COVID-19 Online Help Hub features a range of useful resources and information and is supported by a dedicated team of staff who are on hand to help you find the information you need. More info: [www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/onlinehelphub](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/onlinehelphub)

## Local support services and connection

Local groups can provide support during the COVID-19 pandemic, including financial support, housing assistance and food services. To view the directory visit [www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/coronavirus](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/coronavirus)

If you are feeling lonely or isolated due to the pandemic – for example, if you're self-isolating due to age or health conditions – you can access social, emotional or practical support via





the Community Activation and Social Isolation (CASI) initiative.

To access the service, call Victoria's COVID-19 hotline on 1800 675 398 and choose option 3, or call Cardinia Council directly on 1300 787 624. Council received funding from the Victorian Government to deliver the program to the Cardinia Shire community, in partnership with the Red Cross, DHHS and our local providers.

### Community & Business support package

Council's support package assists community members, support groups, and businesses to cope with the financial impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, and includes:

- COVID-19 Online Help Hub
- Interest-free periods for rates
- Rates payment plans and rebates for eligible rate payers
- Business concierge service
- Rent relief options for commercial tenants in council properties
- Rebates for some business fees and charges

People experiencing financial hardship are strongly encouraged to contact council. Details and more info: [www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/coronavirus](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/coronavirus)

### Community survey seeks to better understand local needs

Help council better understand local needs throughout the pandemic by completing a short, anonymous survey. The results of the survey will help guide our response and recovery efforts, assisting us to plan services and programs for both immediate support and recovery. The data gathered will also be used to understand how community needs change in relation to different stages of the pandemic, to help us plan for future pandemics. The survey is anonymous and will take around 15 minutes to complete. More info: [www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/haveyoursay](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/haveyoursay)

### 'Connecting Cardinia' online: distancing, not disconnecting

Upload your images and videos, share stories and ideas, and stay connected at this time online at 'Connecting Cardinia'. Whether it's sharing teddy bears in windows, tips to stay active, or home schooling set ups, you can join in at: [www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/connectingcardinia](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/connectingcardinia)

COUNCILLOR BRETT OWEN

## Beaconsfield Upper Primary School news



If you have walked around the Recreation Reserve or indeed past the school along Stoney Creek Road, you will no doubt have noticed that a lot of works have been carried out here. We were lucky to obtain a grant that allowed us to make our school ground more accessible to community members with disability.

We have several new ramps, automated doors, levelling of surfaces and then to make our playground more accessible a beautiful new rubberised surface.

As construction began on the rubberised soft fall under our existing playground, we realised we had an amazing opportunity to upgrade the very tired old fort. With some very constructive consultation with our project manager, we were able to negotiate the cost of the rubberised area extending into this part of the playground. With a very tight timeline we were able to get the playground consultants out to advise and offer some plans. In consultation with our grade 3-6 students, we were able

to select a design that incorporated height, climbing and of course some twirling bars.

The Parents & Friends Association decided that this was a great project to fund and so within a month we managed to get the new addition installed. So far Miss Backman has been the only person on the equipment, and according to her it is very high! The equipment does provide some challenges for students, with the netting being the easiest way to the top. I want to thank the PFA on behalf of the children and the school community for the great fundraising efforts you have undertaken so we could provide such a wonderful piece of equipment.

PRINCIPAL VICKI MILES



## Have your say!



### On Community Engagement

We're asking for input on how we can best collect ideas and feedback from the Cardinia community to inform our decision-making process.

### Tell us your thoughts...

Online:	<a href="http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/haveyoursay">www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/haveyoursay</a>
By mail:	Your Say, Cardinia Shire Council, PO Box 7, Pakenham VIC 3810
By email:	<a href="mailto:mail@cardinia.vic.gov.au">mail@cardinia.vic.gov.au</a> with 'Your Say' in the subject heading
Due date:	Sunday, 6 September 2020

# Working with the Cardinia Relief and Recovery Committee

Late last year I received an invitation from Cardinia Council to join their Relief and Recovery Committee (RRC). I called my council contact to check. Local councils are now required to include greater community representation on their Emergency Management Committees (EMC). Within this context, I had received a legitimate invitation based on my community involvement in encouraging communities to strengthen their resilience should an emergency occur. My roles as President of the Upper Beaconsfield Association and Chair of the Community Resilience Committee, proved attractive to our local EMC.

The first RRC meeting was in February 2020. It met to review the draft recommendations for Cardinia Council's Heat Plan in preparation for the 2020/21 summer season. How quickly the priority changed! In less than three weeks, meetings moved from three monthly to weekly meetings to address the immediacy of COVID-19. In no time at all, the RRC, comprising the Cardinia Emergency Management team, various local agencies and community advocates, refocused to:

- Provide consistent and unified communication between relief service providers
- Prevent message duplication
- Coordinate services where appropriate, and
- Share information

Initially, the RRC gathered pertinent community-based resources to develop a shire-wide directory: [COVID-19 community relief service providers for financial support, housing assistance and food services](#), which included our local Upper Beaconsfield Caring Connections initiative to support those in need.

While local residents, quite rightly, preoccupy themselves with bushfire preparation in a high risk zone, epidemiologists suggest that over the past century factors, such as increased global travel and integration, urbanisation, changes in land use, and greater exploitation of the natural environment, lend themselves to a greater likelihood for pandemics occurring (Jones and others 2008; Morse 1995).

In 2014, the [Emergency Risks in Victoria: Report of the 2012-13 State Emergency Risk Assessment](#) identified that 'Victoria's highest priority emergency risks are bushfire, flood and pandemic influenza'. For some residents, a global pandemic was a phenomenon relegated to the annals of history books. Now that

we sit fully immersed in the clutches of a global pandemic, and of course, our 6-week lockdown, pandemics require little definition. What is not lost on us now is that they are large-scale infectious disease outbreaks that greatly increase morbidity and mortality over wide geographic areas as well as causing significant economic, social, and political disruption.

The unimaginable devastation and hardship consequences of COVID-19 highlight our earlier unappreciated freedoms. While communities around the globe give heartfelt appreciation to all healthcare workers, our national and state politicians struggle to adopt bipartisan approaches to managing the globe's biggest challenge since WW2. Happy though is the environment with clean water and fish returning to Venice, reduced emissions, and improved air quality. As a non-believer perhaps, after all, there is a god trying to tell us something important!

Back to our council emergency management team. How often do you hear something complimentary about local council workers? Most often, we hear complaints that they are not up to the job, and often they have the uncomfortable position of being the butt-end of local residents' complaints. That said, my experience from engaging with our council employees are nothing short of exemplary — and this, I have to say, is without exception. They are committed, hardworking, compassionate, and willing to engage with an often, unresponsive community.

So, why do council workers have this uncomfortable position? I think part of the problem arises from confusion over federal, state and local responsibilities, which soon emerged over COVID-19. The [Australian Emergency Management Arrangements](#) note that

Under Australia's constitutional arrangements, state and territory governments have primary responsibility for emergency management within their jurisdiction. However, all levels of government acknowledge that the impact of some emergencies could be particularly severe or widespread and exceed the capability of a single state or territory.

Each level of government has different EM roles and responsibilities. The arrangements specify that a 'common and over-riding principle of EM is the primacy of life' (p7). As COVID-19 developed rapidly, the health of nations and saving lives wins out over the economy, but at great cost

to the economy. In Australia, each state, territory, and local government has established legislative and organisational arrangements to undertake emergency mitigation and to prepare for and deal with emergencies effectively. Jurisdictional legislation and organisational arrangements tailor capabilities and deliver common intended outcomes. Councils play an essential role in EM, primarily because they have strong relationship with community networks and knowledge of locally available resources. However, coordinating local agencies, community networks and resources in lockdown presents huge challenges.

A pandemic changes how everyone does business, for example many volunteers find themselves in the vulnerable category and some insurers no longer provide insurance cover for the over sixties, precluding them from continuing their volunteering. For community agencies servicing the most vulnerable – the homeless, sick, disabled and elderly, how do they continue to serve their clients when COVID has locked their doors, and they have lost many volunteers? This is where the Cardinia Council comes to the fore by connecting with agencies, community groups and community advocates, and arranging, and attending virtual meetings at the drop of a hat. These virtual council meetings bring together agencies to consider issues such as how to:

- tap into the food supply chain and create meals for the most needy and delivering them in a safe environment;
- purchase food from supermarkets for vulnerable people and manage payments;
- repurpose old phones with credit to give those in need access to vital information;
- manage pop-ups and spontaneous volunteers;
- provide appropriate details of fever clinics, and
- source hand sanitiser and toilet paper.

My invitation to join the Cardinia Relief and Recovery Committee came as a surprise. However, my exposure has proved an invaluable experience in gaining insight to the many local challenges our EM team face, stand-up to and respond to in a timely fashion.

**CAROLINE SPENCER, PRESIDENT, UBA**

## References

[Australian Emergency Management Arrangements](#) (AIDR 2019)

[Emergency Risks in Victoria: Report of the 2012-13 State Emergency Risk Assessment](#), (2014) Department of Justice, Melbourne



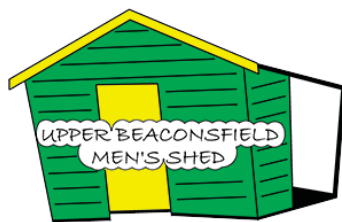
## Men's Shed news

Like many other community buildings, the Upper Beaconsfield Men's Shed has now closed, although there are still lots of things happening remotely.

For a while we were still able to hold committee meetings, sitting far apart, taking our temperatures and observing the usual regulatory rules. However, restrictions have tightened and now we're all getting used to connecting with each other via Zoom.

We were fortunate to obtain a Council grant for a commercial Zoom licence as well as funds to purchase some web cameras. Communication has become a big and important part of the Men's Shed and the grant has been a great help. Regular weekly zoom meetings allow all members to stay involved.

The Zoom program is a popular and



useful tool. It is good to share a joke or light-hearted story to draw the focus away from present day events (or non-events). Our format is steadily improving, with nominated compères, invited guests, weekly topics, projects and what's new. Some members in their 90s are also "giving it a go" as it is "now or never".

The committee is still working hard, though it has had to adapt to the present conditions by cancelling projects, sausage sizzles, book library and outstanding works.

The Committee and several other members are making a serious effort to telephone the isolated, and assist wherever possible. We have increased the frequency of the newsletter SHEDbrief to ensure that every one stays in touch. The Shed motto "shoulder-to-shoulder" is apparent.

We acknowledge the resignation of Graham Jackson from the Shed. Graham was a foundation member and we thank him for all the hard work that he has done and for his timely and valuable advice.

There are still clothing items and blankets being donated to the Shed to pass on to the homeless via various charities. It is heart-warming to see the generosity of our community.

**BERT DE HAAN, SECRETARY**

## Pony Club news from the lockdown

Hi everybody, I hope everyone is staying safe and staying home in this horrible pandemic.

Unfortunately, with stage four lockdown there is no pony club for us. However, during the time when we could all have lessons, we got to hold two Mini pony clubs under strict rules and strict time management. As always we had a fun time with a group of ten participating in dressage and show jumping lessons.

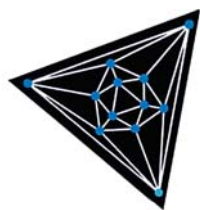
On a different note, with all the basics the Pony Club instructors have instilled in them, my younger sisters and other Pony Club members have personally become much better riders. They have utilised all the free time on their hands. My little sisters went from jumping cross rails to jumping 60cm doubles

and are now confidently cantering bareback.

I commiserate with everyone who cannot go and see their horses, let alone ride them, it will get better. In the meantime, with all this horrible weather we are experiencing at the moment please be mindful of greasy-heel and mud-fever! Hopefully, spring sets in soon!

Sadly the eventing season has been practically cancelled. Like myself everyone is super upset with this but hopefully we can get out competing bigger and better once the pandemic is all over.

**TYRA, UBPC**



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



## Cricket Club news

### Pavilion upgrade

Since the initial announcement from Jason Woods in which he promised to financially support the upgrade of our facilities to provide for better female facilities, we have made progress. The Shire of Cardinia is also supporting the project and has backed the planning process as well as funds for facility improvement. A lot of the Shire support is the result of the efforts of our local councillors – particularly Cr Brett Owen who has continually worked hard to assist local clubs like the cricket club.

The Shire has also made an application to receive a grant from the State government which would allow a complete package to be produced. An announcement for this outcome was hopefully imminent in early August. It would be wonderful to see a pavilion that caters for the current needs of all the sporting bodies at Upper Beaconsfield – a far cry from the old Green Shed of 1984 (image on page 27).

### Season success

Season 2019/20 culminated

in some outstanding results. Our District team finished on top and was awarded the premiership title. Under the leadership of Dan Brennan, the firsts melded together to become a dominant force on the field. We have recently farewelled Imesh Lakkana Jayasekara who finally was able to fly home to Colombo to join his parents. We wish the little champ well and would love to see him return when times are better. Our U16 team, cobbled together at the beginning of the season, blossomed and won the flag. Congratulations to all those who, with Chris Pentland, were responsible for leading these young men to success. Additionally, the U14 Red team shone at the right time of the season to earn



the third premiership for the club. Six Junior teams reached the finals winning two pennants.

This was a magnificent achievement and reflects the effort put into our junior section overseen by the Junior Committee led by Mel Naismith.

### New club website

The club has been rebuilding its website. IT guru, Paul Johnson, has worked tirelessly to produce a product that is clean, interesting and reflects the development of the club. The easiest way to click on is to find the link on the clubs Facebook page and become an avid follower of the Mighty Maroons. The address is [www.ubcc.com.au](http://www.ubcc.com.au)

### COVID-19 assistance

The Upper Beaconsfield Cricket Club assures players and supporters that we are endeavouring to connect with you all. If anyone needs any assistance – no matter how small – call one of our committee and we will be happy to assist. Secretary Paul Johnson 0473 358 895 will steer you in the right direction.

ROB HANSEN

## IMPORTANT CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

ADVERTISEMENT

**THE PANDEMIC HAS BEEN TOUGH FOR EVERYONE, BUT WE NEED TO STAY CONNECTED, & STAY THE COURSE.**

In recent months we have supported each other in many important and positive ways, and shared care, resources, friendship, food, and help.

We've been tested in record numbers, and we've sacrificed special occasions and important milestones to safeguard others. So many Victorians have lost so much; and they will need our ongoing care, recognition and support.

And so as restrictions change, it's so important that we continue to take care of ourselves, and each other. That we practice physical distancing and good hygiene, wear a face covering when we're out, and don't take chances with our health or the health of others.

**It's a long road ahead, but we can recover, and we will recover.**

**[www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus](http://www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus)**

**THANK YOU FOR ALL OF YOUR EFFORTS  
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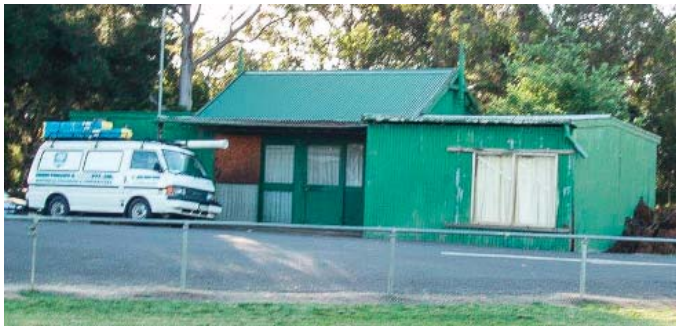


# 50 years of Upper Beaconsfield Riding Club

## A brief history

Upper Beaconsfield Riding Club is one of the oldest in Victoria, preceding the HRCav. Around 1970, four enthusiastic ladies (Jan Konecny, Jenny Lord, Beryl Hails and Dorothy Quinn) decided the local amateur riders would benefit from a club providing instruction in riding, horsemanship and general equestrian fun.

The club was established at the Recreation Reserve with a (facility-free!) little green shed being the clubhouse. They rode on the oval and rallies were a family affair, including children, as there was no pony club. Family barbecues were a feature. They played cushion polo, had musical rides, mini ODEs and hicksteads, time trials and fancy dress parties. There



were navigation rides, trail rides and camps. Roy Higgins organised rides to raise money for disabled children. There were no problems with insurance and thankfully no accidents! The club also ran large horse shows – a pre-Royal Show and open one-day events attracted interest and criticism from the Equestrian Federation of Australia.

Jasmine Hewson was secretary for many years and also kept the Recreation Reserve books, which date back to the late 1800s and are now held at the Berwick Pakenham Historical Society. She and Jill Wilson were instrumental in establishing the Centenary Cup awarded for the mini-hickstead (jumping competition). Many early members became well known in the wider competition world and we have an inspiring list of life members.

After the 1983 bushfires, the club relocated for a short time to a member's home, as the Recreation Reserve was used to store rubble. The riding club returned to use the top arena (current public arena), with an agreement to use the oval twice a year. The riding club financed the top arena, along with contributions from local council.

There were approximately 30 members in the 70s and 80s, involved in a wider range of equestrian activities than we are today. We older riders have done things today's young people will never be able to do since insurance issues have led to more safety legislation, standards and accountability.

The HRCav was founded in 1981 and after considerable debate the club became affiliated in 1986. Over the years several club members have been official HRCav graders and judges. Membership of the HRCav gave members a chance to compete in a friendly atmosphere and at levels that matched pony club rather than EFA. At the same time they instituted a minimum age on membership as pony club was now in existence. At the AGM in 1987 we decided our club colours

would be purple with green.

Our rallies continued to be fun, with Christmas rides to the Ranges Hotel at Gembrook, Muddy Creek Restaurant (before the roads were sealed) and Emerald Country Club...the

rides home were always much more relaxed! As the traffic increased we decided to have special rallies at the club grounds. We had a games day, which was a lot of fun considering the ex-racehorse thoroughbreds quite a few of us rode, and we had a few in-house show jumping days. These were exciting, but did take a bit of effort setting up the courses. At other times of the year we ran in-house dressage and horse trial competitions. Once we even practised formation riding, although it seemed more luck than ability when we managed to go where we were supposed to! For many years, we held clinics in January.

The HRCav started annual team competitions—Top Team Trophy (TTT)—and the UBRC has competed in every discipline (although not every year). Our most consistent appearance has been at dressage (placed 2nd one year) but our very first team competition was for horse trials. Our most successful team was our 1996 TTT combined training team who came 1st. We have also competed in showjumping (we've placed 5th and 6th), showing and navigation rides. In 1997 UBRC hosted the TTT competition



at Akoonah Park—our first and only attempt at such a big event.

In 1989 the club hosted its first annual dressage competition. This has progressed from a small competition to a well-run medium sized event. The dressage competition is the major fundraiser for the club and has helped with many improvements to the grounds. In 1994, together with pony club and council, we funded the extensions to the clubrooms. Prior to that if we needed the toilet we either 'went bush' or trekked over to the public toilets near the kindergarten! Since then we have had water and power connected.

2020 marks the 50th anniversary of the club! What an achievement with all the changes of rules, standards, expectations and membership over the years. We still have a few long-term club members who have been with us since the late 1970s – early 1980s, riding, competing, socialising, organising, contributing, mentoring and continuing to learn more horsemanship themselves. We were hoping to organise a commemorative function to celebrate our first 50 years and look forward to the next 50, but planning is on hold until post COVID-19.

The club wishes to thank all members past and present, and all friends and relatives of members, who contributed time and effort to working bees, competition-day jobs and social events. Thanks to all our instructors, the regular ones and the specialty ones, who have each taught us something new about horses and riding skills.

**ANN KNIGHTS, ADAPTED BY ROSZ SMITH**



## A serve from the Tennis Club

As would have been the case for many sporting clubs and businesses across the state, the last few months have been a bit of a roller coaster ride for the tennis club. With the easing of the first round of restrictions in late June, the club was on track for all of its competitions to resume normal programming at the beginning of term 3.

Early July saw the reintroduction of several restrictions which brought our plans for competition tennis resuming to a grinding halt as the restrictions once again meant that community sport and competition could not occur. The club was lucky in some aspects as we were permitted to allow the courts to be used for social play (abiding by the gathering limits and other various requirements) and Karen was still able to offer private coaching a couple of nights a week.

With stage 4 restrictions commencing in early August, it unfortunately meant that the tennis club had to be placed under a complete closure, with no use of the facilities permitted. While this is frustrating for everyone it is a small price to pay to help ensure the health and safety of all our members and the wider community.

When the current restrictions end and we are permitted to reopen, we will do so in a safe manner and be able to offer a safe environment once again for all players. Hopefully, before too long we will be able to provide the wide range of tennis that we have always had on offer. This includes night tennis, mid-week ladies, junior & senior competitions, along with coaching and social play. If you are interested in finding out more about what the club has to offer

please get in contact with us ([upperbeaconsfieldtc@gmail.com](mailto:upperbeaconsfieldtc@gmail.com) or [www.facebook.com/upperbeaconsfieldtennisclub](http://www.facebook.com/upperbeaconsfieldtennisclub)) and we will be happy to answer any queries.

With tennis being a safe sport due to its non-contact nature and the limited number of players on the court we are hoping that we will be one of the first sports permitted to resume. We are also hopeful that all existing players will return to the club, along with attracting some new players and members that would like to give tennis a try.

As soon as coaching is allowed to resume Karen will be back on court conducting lessons, with the hope that she can offer her full range of coaching programs in the not too distant future. These programs include hot shots, group lessons, semi-private and private lessons, squad coaching, cardio tennis, a school program and holiday programs. For those that are interested in organising coaching when it is allowed to resume please contact Karen on 0403 454 554 or [karen@ultimatetennismelbourne.com](mailto:karen@ultimatetennismelbourne.com).



Karen's coaching business, like many other businesses across the state, has been significantly impacted this year due to the restrictions so we encourage everyone, where possible, to support Karen when coaching is allowed to resume.

### Annual General Meeting

- o The AGM (originally scheduled for mid-August) was postponed due to the restrictions and the difficulty that would have ensured from attempting to run the AGM completely online via video conferencing.
- o A new date has not been set for the AGM as yet, but it will most likely now occur in October or November so stay tuned for an announcement from the club once the date has been set.
- o Thank you to the current committee for agreeing to serve a longer-term in your current roles.

### Memberships

- o The committee is having ongoing discussions regarding memberships and how they will look for the 2020/21 membership year, with discussions to continue until the final impacts of restrictions on the 2020/21 membership year are known.
- o The decisions that are made around memberships will be applied retrospectively from 1 July 2020 with any members that have already renewed their memberships benefiting from the same changes/decisions that are made.

On behalf of the UBTC Committee, please stay safe, look out for each other, and take care.

SCOTT COLLARD, UBTC



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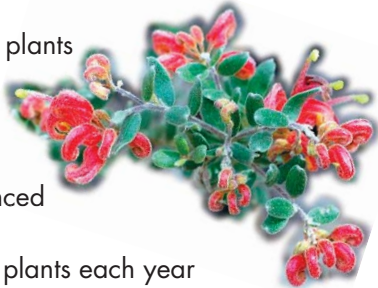
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