Beaconsfield Banner

Vol. 11 No. 6 Bimonthly Publication of the Beaconsfield Progress Association Inc. Dec. 99/Jan. 2000

ARTICLES FOR THE BANNER TO GO TO GLORRAINE HARDY 9786 1361, MARGARET BOON 9707 5053 OR BOX IN POST OFFICE ADVERTISING CO-ORDINATOR WILLEM BOON 9707 5053 BANNER POSTAL ADDRESS PO. BOX 217 BEACONSFIELD 3807 EMAIL ADDRESS FOR THE BANNER IS banner@beaconsfield.org.au

Water Same

My Christmas shopping has begun, So many things that must be done. It is time for me to start to bake, and marzipan and ice the cake. Ideas for gifts? I haven't any. And cards to write there are so many. The stores all gaily lit and gleaming, And everywhere a Santa beaming. Shops have gifts to tempt the crowd. With carols playing out so loud. And as I hear the Christmas song, I know it won't be very long. But let's remember the true reason. For this gay and festive season. My little poem now is done. A happy Christmas everyone.

CAROLS BY THE CREEK

Sunday 19th December, 1999 Held in the Bob Burgess Reserve. 8 p.m. B.Y.O. rug or chair Candles supplied

This evening is for the whole community to come together to remember the christmas message, be with family and friends and to sing Christmas carols.

NEW BRIDGE OPENED

At the public meeting of the Progress Association held on Tuesday, 18 May, one of the main topics of discussion was the matter of access for horses from Akoonah Park to the Cardinia Creek Reserve along Emerald Road. Since then, many discussions had taken place between Cardinia Shire, City of Casey, Friends of the Reserve and the Akoonah Park Committee. This has culminated in the demolition of the old foot bridge over the Cardinia Creek and the construction of a new purpose built foot and horse bridge.

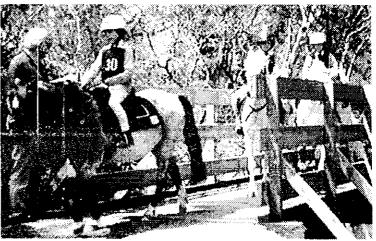
The Progress Association were privileged to attend the official opening of the bridge over the Cardinia Creek at the far end of Akoonah Park. The ceremony was opened by Mr. Jack Rae. President of the Akoonah Park Committee with speeches and the ribbon cutting by both Cr. Norma McCausland and Rob Maclellan MLA. Also attending the ceremony was Robert Dean MLA, Neil Lucas MLC, Gordon Rich-Phillips MLC and Bob Charles MP. At the cutting of the ribbon, a procession of junior members of the Berwick Pony Club rode across the new bridge followed by a number of pedestrians including one lady with her pram and dog in tow.

After the event, a lovely morning tea had been arranged by the

Pony Club held by their pavilion giving everyone a chance to discuss matters and meet their local members.



Photos Robert Cooper



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CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM JOAN (IRIS LEWIS)

As we rush around shopping, visiting friends, going out to celebrate and returning home late from overtime at work, Christmas is a time to remember those less fortunate in our society.

For many years Joan Armitage has been physically confined to home and George her husband is being cared for in a wheel chair with a disabilitating illness now.

Cheerful as ever Joan wishes to be remembered to all that know her and George. George is soon to come home for two hours of respite, his first time out in two years.

Joan's new year resolution is not to make any because they are usually broken and hard to keep. She humbly tells us if we've got any troubles don't share it because most people have got enough of their own. Being inactive physically. Joan keeps herself constantly busy writing to her many penfriends all over the world. From England to Egypt to Arizona she has been writing to many in excess of 10 years now, many who were children and now grown up. Last week she says she wrote 26 letters.

A caring, sharing person. Joan doesn't let life's difficulties get her down. It's not how old you are, it's how old you feel, says Joan.

NEW SHOPS

Site development has begun on Princes Hwy next to the Milkbar. This site will contain 6 speciality shops and a restaurant with car parking facilities at the rear.

BAPTIST CHURCH CHOIR

Back L-R:-



Leanne Patton, Sean McMahan, Tanyor Hurran. Front L-R:-Katie Wynne-York, Rosemary Piper, & Elizabeth Johnstone, Taking photo David Griffiths

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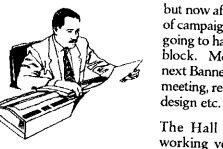
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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

From the President of the B.P.A. foy Bishop



unless it falls on a public

holiday e.g. Easter. The

meetings will be in the

Community Centre at 7.30

p.m. and all members of

Community are most

welcome. We will continue

to have guest speakers in

the months of Feb, April,

June, August, and for our

A.G.M in October. The

alternate meetings will be

to discuss smaller local

issues. Don't forget to

keep telling us your

problems, we are getting

results, sometimes slowly

but things are happening.

The committee were

overjoyed to hear that we

are going to get Public

Toilets in Beaconsfield in

this current financial year.

A big thankyou to

Councillor Graeme Kidd

for the effort he put into

achieving this result, I

know it's hard to believe.

Beaconsfield

The Hall Committee is working very hard trying to get a new hall, and the This is the last report for this year so I would like to council is resisting us, but determination will pay off take the opportunity on in the end. Public pressure behalf of the Beaconsfield WILL achieve results, if we Progress Association to don't all work towards this wish all our readers a very Merry Christmas and a project Council will either put us off again, and sell safe and prosperous New Year . We had our A.G.M. the Hall Site, or try to get in October and a small but us to accept a poor second enthusiastic committee best. Don't forget to let was elected. An important us know your feelings on this issue, and be sure to decision made at our last meeting was to set a tell your Councillors when regular date for our you see them. meetings. The Progress Next year looks like poker Association will meet on machines might be the big the third Tuesday of each issue. People are month except December,

machines might be the big issue. People are mentioning to me in the street that they don't want them, so if this is the general feeling, and I believe it is, we will have a fight on our hands.

Council is considering rezoning an area of land bounded by Kenilworth Avenue to the north, Rix Road to the south, Brunt

bounded by Kenilworth Avenue to the north, Rix Road to the south, Brunt Road to the East and the Freeway to the West, to a Low Density Residential Zone, this we believe, will allow for unsewered one acre allotments. The committee has decided to make a submission to Council, concerning drainage and septic tanks, road construction and traffic, in particular the construction of Kenilworth Avenue, which is already a problem area with the increased traffic using it as a thoroughfare to Soldiers Road and Beaconsfield.

but now after abut 30 years of campaigning we are really going to have a public toilet block. More news in the next Banner and at our next meeting, regarding location, design etc.

It was unfortunate that our Australian flag was stolen from the War Memorial on Sunday evening, 14th November, 1999. I would like to thank Bob Charles M.P. for acquiring a replacement flag for us so

quickly.

Dogs are still a problem; we have had more reports of dogs at large and dogs rushing at pedestrians. If you own a dog, please see that it is restrained, as while you love your dog, not everyone is a dog lover and some people are very frightened when approached by a strange dog.

Looking forward to seeing you all at our next meeting on January 18th, 2000 at 7.30pm. at the Community Centre and remember we can't act on problems we don't know about.

NEW OWNERS AT THE BEACONSFIELD TRADING CENTRE

Peter and Debra Dixon have recently taken over the Beaconsfield Trading Centre from Wayne Wormald. Wayne is keen to thank his loyal customers and has headed up to Eden NSW to take over a similar (bigger) business there. Peter and Debra intend to continue the antique business and will also be dealing with reconditioned and as new white goods (fridges, washing machines. freezers and dryers).

Opening hours have changed and will be 10am-5pm Monday-Friday, 10am - 4pm Saturday and 1pm - 4pm Sundays,



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NOTES FROM COUNCIL

By. Cr Graeme Kidd 5944 3400

BEACONSFIELD COMMUNITY FACILITY

The working group made up of representatives of the Association, the community and Council agreed at its latest meeting that there was a pressing need for a community facility that incorporates rooms and features to meet a range of needs. Gillespie, Miriam Manager Community Services at the Shire, provided "bubble" diagrams showing how different sized rooms might be configured to satisfy requirements for meeting rooms, adult education, a crèche, social functions and so on. It was agreed that Miriam would consult with different groups in the community to come up with a more specific requirement. Whether the facility should be located at the existing community centre site or at the site on the Highway next to the hotel will be part of the study.

It was agreed that the question of the type, location and timing of a more substantial "hall" facility would continue to be addressed as a longer term project.

PUBLIC TOILET

Council at its meeting on 15 November approved funding for a public toilet to be constructed in Beaconsfield in this financial year. A couple of sites have been suggested but the final location needs to be agreed quickly. Comments on this can be made either to Joy Bishop (9707 3981) or myself.

HARD AND GREEN WASTE COLLECTIONS

Hard and green waste collections have been scheduled for the week beginning 6 December 1999, and thereafter in the week commencing on the first Monday of each month (excluding January next year). To use this service you will need to make a booking with Council by telephoning 5945 4310 before 12 noon on the Friday before the collection week. Place material on the nature strip on the Sunday before the collection week.

Hard waste includes discarded household equipment, furniture, appliances, scrap metal. scrap timber less than 1.5m in length, and other household materials. Rubbish which will not be collected includes items longer than 1.5m, items heavier than 55kg, engine blocks and tyres, building materials and rubble, window glass not securely tied, chemicals or liquids, asbestos or ashes, household garbage, commercial or business waste, and water tanks.

Maximum volume of waste accepted is 2 cubic metres (about 2 small trailer loads). Green waste needs to be tied in bundles or placed in a disposable container, eg bag or box.



NEWS FROM THE BEACONSFIELD FIRE BRIGADE

While many of us cannot believe the speed at which this year has raced by with Christmas nearly upon us, the reality is that we have experienced three of the driest years on record and another summer of high fire danger is rapidly approaching.

Fire restrictions for the summer fire danger period are likely to be imposed by the Country Fire Authority during the early part of summer depending on weather patterns. Fire restrictions limit burning off without a permit and place controls on activities which may cause a fire if not properly managed (eg: barbecues) The introduction of fire restrictions will be promoted through notices in local papers and the erection of fire restriction signs around the locality. However people should not be complacent about the potential fire risk before fire restrictions are introduced and should take adequate steps to minimise risks especially when burning off. These steps should include adult supervision of the fire, adequate means to control the fire (eg: water supply, cleared break around the fire) and avoiding hot or windy conditions.

The Country Fire Authority has a number of programs to assist people in protecting their homes in the event of a wildfire. The "Bushfire Blitz" community education program promotes awareness of fire safety and survival, and will be undertaken shortly in the Cooinda Estate area. The "Community Fireguard" program is a fire prevention and protection program for small groups of residents in high fire risk areas and a group is already effectively operating in the Payne Road area near O'Neil Road. More information about these programs are available from the Beaconsfield Fire Brigade.

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE IN THE YEAR 2000?

Our roving reporter from a recent poll in Beaconsfield found the following opinions about the forthcoming Y2K. People want: better levels of law and order in society. - peace in the world, less war. - more decency amongst people in our community. - Collingwood to win a Premiership. - a better filing system for all my papers. - public hall for Beaconsfield. - political harmony across the world. - less junk mail less pessimism in newspapers. - less pollution in the environment. - less bureaucracy. - more hours in the day to get everything done.



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Management and staff would like to wish all customers a happy Christmas and a very successful 2000.

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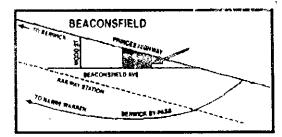
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MAKE AND MINGLE CRAFT FAIR

by David Griffiths

Make and Mingle's first ever Craft Fair was a huge success. The Craft Fair was a good opportunity for the women of Make & Mingle to showcase and sell the various craft items they have been working on over the year. Some of the craft items for sale where ceramic items, glassware, a range of greeting cards (including Paper Tole and Stamping), ribbon pansy and rose brooches, decoupage, tassel ladies, knitted wares, bath bombs and other assorted gifts.

The Craft Fair also provided local residents with a chance to buy Christmas Gifts for that someone special. Make & Mingle are hoping to have another Craft Fair next year after this year's success.

Make and Mingle is the weekly craft group that is held at the Beaconsfield Baptist Church every Wednesday morning from 10.00am-12.00noon during school terms. Make and Mingle will finish up for 1999 on December 8th and recommence in early February, 2000.



Above L-R:- Jenny Tye, Bev Griffiths, Ann Taylor and Yvonne French.

CASEY CHOIR ON A HIGH NOTE FOR CHRISTMAS

Casey Choir is well into the spirit of Christmas with carol singing commitments throughout the district. They will be singing at Fountain Gate Shopping Centre on Friday 10th December, Berwick High Street for Chamber of the Commerce, Akoonah Park Market on 12th December, "Wilson Park" Berwick Carols by Candlelight on 19th December and at several retirement and nursing

homes in the area.

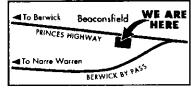
The choir begins the New Year with a social activity on Saturday 29th January, regular choir practises each Thursday night at the Cheese Factory and then a Workshop Weekend away at Monbulk on 25th-27th February.

For anyone interested in choral singing in a friendly, sociable group please contact Jeanette Denny on 9705 0181 for more information.

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BPS CORNER

What's Happening at Beaconsfield Primary School.

BEACONSFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL COUNTRY FAIR -FANTASTIC SUPPORT FROM THE COMMUNITY.

Hope one and all had fun on the day (the main aim) just as the Fete Sub Committee and their helpers did in putting it together. After much praying on the Saturday between downpours, Mother Nature smiled on the Beaconsfield Primary School Country Fair held on 7th November.

We are overjoyed at the generosity of our sponsors and to those who spent up big contributing to a profit of around \$11,000. Our sponsorship board still remains on view in the school fover. We have a fantastic business community in Beaconsfield who gave both goods and financial support. We must remember to shop locally and support the businesses who in turn will support the community.

While there are many to thank for their contributions and help on the day, we would like to acknowledge the volunteer time given to us by local community groups and organisations. All these groups gladly welcome members. The Beaconsfield Fire Brigade is always ready to assist with demonstrations and information. Even though we immediately think of Summer and Bush Fire season the Fire Brigade are on call all year long to assist and help everyone within this community. Think seriously about becoming involved with the local brigade. The Beaconsfield Scout Group who provided a free fun area. Beaconsfield Community Centre Line Dancing Group who meet on Thursday mornings. Several of the school children were involved in the free entertainment from Goju Karate and Kathleen McAleer School of Irish Dance.

After a day of rides, stalls, sideshows, food, auction, free entertainment, even a guest appearance of Richmond Footballer Greg Tivendale as well as the sky divers who dropped in, the conclusion of the day was the drawing of the major raffle. 1st prize of trailer of goods valued at \$2,500 was seen in many local areas prior to the fair. We would like to thank Akoonah Park, Central Hotel, Berwick McDonalds. Berwick Tattslotto, Berwick Craft Market and Beaconsfield Football Club for allowing us venue space. A very jubilent 1st prize winner was M. Meek (ticket no, 4283), 2nd prize supported by Warehouse Sales was E. Ingram (ticket no. 8567) and 3rd prize supported by Berwick Travel was B. Goodwin (ticket no. 1501).

A fantastic day, thankyou to the Beacensfield community for your support.

JIM BARLETT PLAYGROUND.

Now the fete is behind us, grounds works continues. New ramp areas, notice boards and the up-grade and re-location of the Jim Bartlett playground are all planned for completion before the end of the year.

AFTER SCHOOL CARE

School council has always supported provision of this service for those families who require the facility. Over the past two years the administration has fallen to School Council. Cardinia Shire has now offered to resume responsibility of the service in the New Year so that Beaconsfield Primary School will continue to have an After School Care facility on site.

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REFLECTIONS HAIR DESIGN

PH. 9707 3277

Inge and Pete would like to wish all their clients, friends and the people of Beaconsfield a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

They would like to thank all their clients for their support throughout 1999.

Reflections Hair Design will be trading as follows over the Christmas break.



Closed Closed Closed Closed Closed Saturday 25th December 1999 Sunday 26th December 1999 Monday 27th December 1999 Tuesday 28th December 1999 Saturday 1st January 2000

Trading as normal from Tuesday 4th January 2000

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

FRIENDS OF CARDINIA CREEK NEWS

Have received the final draft of our Flora and Fauna Survey conducted by Andrew Paget. The Management plan should be available soon.

Funding has been received for construction of an Information board and nature shelter within the sanctuary.

In recent working bees, pittosporum has been removed from behind the Beaconsfield Cricket Ground and from other areas previously worked. Twelve members planted approx.

220 native grasses and Goodenia on the creek bank in Allan St., Reserve to help stabilise the bank and prevent weed invasion.

New members are always welcome and membership is \$2. Working bees are scheduled for the 4th Sunday of every month on the corner of Holm Park and Emerald Road. If unable to meet at 9am, ring 9707 1402 to arrange a later time. The next working bee is 23rd January, 2000.

HELP IS AT HAND.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION CARDINIA INC.
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Counselling is available for those with difficulties balancing household budgets and paying bills especially for essential services. They can negotiate on your behalf with Gas, Electricity and Water Services providers.

Community Information Cardinia is a free service offering information and referrals where necessary. Once only legal advice appointments, emergency food relief and Chemist vouchers are available to those who are eligible.

Based at 65 Henry Street in Pakenham, they can be contacted by phoning 5941 2377.

Christmas is a joyous time of year but brings extra pressures with it for many people in our community.

SUMMERTIME MOTORING - DON'T LOOSE YOUR COOL.

Advice from Darren and Frank of the Steering Joint, Wood Street, Beaconsfield gives us a few handy hints.

- Check and top up with coolant inhibitor in your radiator. This will protect your radiator against corrosion and boiling over. - Check for wear and tear on your fan belt. - Check the condition of hoses on your radiator and heater connections. Check clamps and ensure hoses are neither too soft nor rock hard (which indicates a build up of gunk inside). - Have the engine thermostat checked to avoid overheating. - Check gas and efficiency of your air conditioner.

Remember it doesn't cost anything to lift your bonnet but will cost you in the long run if you don't, especially on a summertime holiday excursion.



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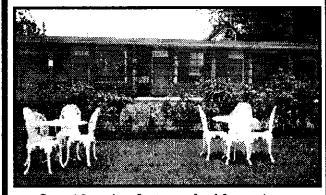


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OUR NATURAL WORLD

(Written by Peter Hansen)



Peter Hansen

Success! A magic word, very uppermost in the minds of people in this day and age. We equate success with different things, but in general it means a good job, good money, nice home and car, and a feeling of some control over our lives. They probably the fundamentals for most people. Personal happiness is important too, a good marriage or relationship, loving understanding families, good health and respect the and comradeship of peer groups.

In reality, not all these desirable elements come together for a lot of people and there are many reasons why this is so. Whilst we are aware of these factors what can we actually do to achieve the success (real happiness) we wish for?

Firstly we must start with our way of thinking. It has to change or we never will. Let me quote some special words here," If we continue to think what we have always thought, we will continue to do what we have always done, therefore continue to get what we always get!"

Hard to argue isn't it! As the prophet David said, "As one thinketh in his heart, so is he".

Emerson said, "Great men are those who see that thoughts rule the world". Minds like Milton who in "Paradise Lost", wrote, "The mind is it's own place and in itself can make a heaven of hell or hell of heaven".

The amazingly perceptive Shakespeare observed, " There is nothing either good or bad except that thinking makes it so."

All these clever people were saying the same thing really. Change for the better has to come from within ourselves, and worked for like all things in life. Unless we change the inner, the outer will never change. As above so below. Until we look at the world in a different way (attitude) changes for the better will elude us. We all have bodies, but these are only vehicles for the indwelling, persona, the being that thinks, acts and speaks.

Motivational people, and all top achievers are only different from you and I in one basic respect, they think big, they expand their way of viewing our world. Therefore they are "successful", the word we started with. As the great philosopher Disraeli said, "life is too short to be little."

No one hands you "success". It doesn't come in jars or packages, however if you believe you can succeed you will. It's like the faith that states we can move mountains, and this faith is simply our belief that we can do it.

People are not born to move mountains, we gain from learning, knowledge and refining ourselves over the years, until one day we move that mountain. That is our success!

"Things work out best for those who make the best of the way things work out."

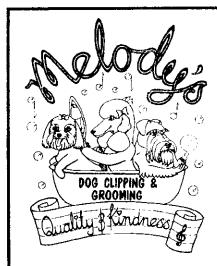
BEACONSFIELD'S HANDYMAN

By Phil Collins

We don't have a mobile phone. I have horrors at the thought of balancing, stiff joints and all, replacing a broken roof and the phone rings. Overalls are now filled with an extra pocket to house the "digital" but I use it to carry screws, drill bits and two or three soft jubes fused together with body heat.

We do however have a computer; it lives in the laundry and is never switched on. When it was demonstrated to me we played a golf game. I did miserably because I did not allow sufficiently for the wind. I prefer the outdoor game where I can squat down, put my reading glasses on and crawl the scrub finding golf balls. Computers actually slow me down. When shopping for useful items I find the article I want quite easily, proceed to the counter. Oh good, I'm the only customer. Then the assistant begins typing, and typing with occasional pauses to study the screen. Typing resumes with sharp little stabs at the keyboard. After standing for five minutes having

second thoughts about the thing, from somewhere the along counter this long ribbon of paper begins to unfurl. Up to 18 inches is sometimes necessary to describe my humble purchase.



1 RAILWAY AVENUE BEACONSFIELD 3807

I think I need a break, I have a touch of state election, referendum, pre Christmas, horse truck, gutterings, odd jobs neurosis. Thank goodness the cricket tests are on, so relaxing.

Christmas gift suggestion:-every house would find a cordless drill invaluable not an expensive one. Ring the Handyman on 9707 4225.



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CHIROPRACTIC is the science of neuro-musculo-skeletal medicine. It deals with the ills and injuries of the body by locating any point of interference or malfunction of the nerves, muscles or joints which may cause pain or symptoms.

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The Department of Veterans Affairs will also cover eligible veterans for their treatment.

AT the <u>BEACONSFIELD CHIROPRACTIC CLINIC</u> as well as general and family chiropractic care, we work closely with local sporting clubs for injury management and prevention. We also provide laser therapy and acupuncture.



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VIDEO VIBES

by David Griffiths



Summer school holidays are finally here. What better way to spend a lazy summer evening than in front of the T.V. watching the latest video releases. This summer there are certainly some great movies hitting the video store shelves. Let's have a look at some of the best.

plunkett & macleane: How do you go about describing 'plunkett & macleane'? I could describe it as a film about a kind of Robin Hood gang, but then again they rob the rich but don't give to the poor. No the best way to describe 'plunkett & macleane' is 'Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels' set in 1748.

This film sees Robert Carlyle and Jonny Lee Miller reunited after their brilliant roles in 'Trainspotting' The film tells the story of Captain James Macleane (Miller) and highwayman Will Plunkett (Carlyle) as they go on their own two-man crime spree, with great results.

But what film would be without it's own love interest, so introduce Lady Rebecca Gibson (the gorgeous Liv Tyler) as a romance interest for Captain James.

Once again the British film industry shows the rest of the world how film making should be done, this film has it all, stolen jewels, bribery, a go at British high society, a highwayman with debonair manners, Liv Tyler with guns and a gallows scene for a climax.

Two Hands: Undoubtly the best Australian film of 1999 was Two Hands. Set in the Sydney crime world this film mixes drama together with a splash of comedy to produce a masterpiece. The acting of Bryan Brown (his handle bar moustache should be enough to make you see the film), Heath Ledger and Rose Byrne is nothing short of excellent.

Ledger plays an innocent young man who is drawn into the crime world by one of it's bosses (Brown). But when the young man loses his bosses money, it is either find the money or pay with your life (he knows he means business his brother was killed the same way). Meanwhile is developing romance with country girl (Rose Byrne) is put to the test and she watches 'her man' try to run for his life.

An hilarious three-way chase between a getaway car, a radio station 4WD and a group of police cars provides this film with light comedy, however the road death of one young child and the chilling climax may shock some viewers with weak stomachs. This film is brilliant although the brother's protecting ghost can become annoying. Two films not to miss:

Lastly don't miss 'Austin Powers: The Spy Who Shagged Me' which is due out early next year. Starring Mike Myers, Heather Graham, Liz Hurley (well she's in the first scene, briefly) and Seth Green the film is made by the great comedy of Mike Myers and the brilliant one liner's of Buffy's Seth Green.

The other film not to miss is the best film on video for 1999, 'Cruel Intentions'. This film shows us bitchiness at it's best but is beautifully scripted. The script is enhanced by the acting brilliance of Ryan Phillippe, Sarah Michelle Gellar and Reese Witherspoon. The film also boasts the best soundtrack of 1999, with Placebo, Skunk Annansie, Blur and Josh Abrahams.

All these videos are available from Beaconsfield Family Videoland.



BEACONSFIELD COMMUNITY CENTRE

P.O. Box 2 Beaconsfield 3807.

We would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and safe and Happy New Year and look forward to seeing you at the Beaconsfield Community Centre in the year 2000.

Our community centre provides a venue for the people of Beaconsfield and surrounding areas to socialise, learn and grow as a community as a whole. Participating at the centre is rewarding especially when you can see new people meeting for the first time, see someone enjoying being able to achieve a new skill, seeing a person realise that age or a disability in not a barrier to learning, seeing people having fun, laughing and enjoying each others company and children learning through playing together. Please support the Community Centre to ensure that this facility remains an integral part of Beaconsfield.

The community centre is continually growing as we listen to the needs of the community. Planning is underway for new activities in the year 2000 offered together with the regular activity groups like Midway, Playgroup, Line Dancing, Occasional Care, 3 year old Pre-Kinder and Toy Library. The programme will be distributed during January with regular groups commencing at the beginning of February. For further information or bookings, contact Jeanette on 9707 3449.

Remember our Motto: There are no strangers here, simply friends you haven't met before.

BEACONSFIELD FAMILY VIDEOLAND.

TRADING HOURS

December 24th Christmas Eve 12noon - 9pm December 25th Christmas Day 4pm - 9pm December 26th Boxing Day 2pm - 9pm

December 31st New Years Eve 12 noon - 8 pm January 1st New years Day 12 noon - 9pm

We wish all our customers and friends a very Merry Christmas, a safe and Happy New Year. All the Best for 2000.



SCOUTING

Another exciting and busy time for our scouts when they attended Canberra and participated in Deep Space week end [cost - \$95 all inclusive per person].

We are very happy to be advised that Joan Horton past Group Leader of our group] has now become District Commissioner for Cardinia. Congratulations.

Thank you to the Primary School for inviting us to participate in their annual fete. Everyone had a great time at our plate breaking activity.

Should parents be wondering a lot of the scouting activities

COSY FIRESIDE

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SATURDAY NIGHTS

ABOUT

attended by joeys, cubs, scouts and venturers cost only a few dollars or the kids raise the money through car washes etc Ifor say things like the Canberra week end]. The total fees are \$120 per year for a 10 week /4 term program which covers everything they need on a week to week basis.

Our group has billy carts, canoes, tents and all other camping equipment so that a child does not have to provide these. you are interest please phone Glorraine on 97071871.



RAINFALL IN BEACONSFIELD

Written by Dr. R.C.Webb.



Dr. R.C. (Dick) Webb

October has concluded with 61.5mm. compared with an average for Beaconsfield for the past 16 years, of 73.1mm. The lowest October rainfall during the past 16 years was 32.4mm (1987) and the highest October reading was 142mm. (1989). For the 10 months ending 31st October 1999,

a total of 624.8mm, has been recorded - just below the average of 644.4 for the past 15 years.

There has been much talk in the media of the poor levels in the catchment areas but here in Beaconsfield we are better off than in 1997 when for the 10 months ending 31st October there were only 353.5mm recorded.



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Bouquets: To council for fulfilling their promise to attend to the line marking particularly under the railway bridge.

Brickbats: To the people who keep dumping rubbish in our town particularly on the highway in front of Wallace Avenue.

Brickbats: To the young people who did not consider other people by leaving their bikes on the ground right at the doorway of the bakery.

Bouquets: To Bob Charles for replacing the stolen flag so quickly.





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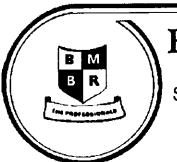
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THE GREEN VINEYARDS OPENS

by Keith Goodman



Keith Goodman

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ash of grapes, bottling and labeling thousands of bottles and visiting restaurateurs who stock your wine and growers who grow your grapes. Sound like enough for one year. Add the birth of your sixth child; that was Mary and Sergio Carlei's past year. Thinking about it makes my head hurt.

But can Sergio make wine?

It has been my privilege over the past twelve months to work with Sergio (free & gratis) and I continue my absolute admiration for the quality of wine made whilst at the same time he has so many juggling balls in the air.

Any technocrat can make clean polished wine, few have the gift to make wine which excites the senses. Great wine doesn't just happen. especially wine like Sergio's Geelong Shiraz 1998, to be released under the Carlei Reserve range; it may be hard to get such is the demand. This wine has won the Top Gold Medal for un-bottled Shiraz at the Southern Victorian Wine Show in 1998 and again in 1999 outpointing some of the established Companies famous for producing our best Shiraz.

Sergio began winemaking at his Grandfathers side, progressing to win an award for Victoria's Top Amateur Winemaker in 1990 then completed a Degree in Wine Science at Charles Sturt University in 1996.

What is the difference between the approach of the techno winemaker and Sergio? First his grapegrowers have caught the passion for Sergio's pursuit of elegant, refined and complex wine and their grapes reflect that passion. The wines are hand crafted using wild yeast are oxidatively handled with stirred yeast lees and as little intervention in the process as possible and are unfiltered and therefore likely to throw a crust. Almost the opposite to the over technical approach. If I had to pick just one standout feature of his wines, for me it would be "mouthfeel" a luscious creamy almost thick mouthfeel to every sip.

So what do the judges think? At the past three wine shows including Royal Melbourne almost every wine won a medal; either bronze, silver or gold.

Where can you get this wine? lust ten minutes away at Upper Beaconsfield in Albers Rd behind the Pine Grove Hotel. In December 99, The Green Vineyard opens for cellar door sales and wine tasting. So do yourself a favour and go along taste Green Vineyard or the Reserve wine bottled under the Carlei label and do ask Sergio or Mary for a look over the winery but don't blame me if you get caught up in the enthusiasm.

We are privileged to have the Green Vineyards on our doorstep.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS



Rev. Gary Piper

The tradition of giving presents at Christmas time developed in response to the very great gift God has given us in His Son, the Lord Jesus. It is good to be generous, wanting to give precious things to those we love. We can see God's generosity not only in His generosity to His friends, but to those who reject and abuse Him. As Paul wrote, "while we were still sinners that Christ died for us", so we know God's wonderful gift was given to us while we were quite unworthy of it. There is nothing wrong with generosity, but we all lament the commercialism has stolen something of the beauty and joy of the season. There is so much pressure to do this or buy that.

I want to release some of the strain from us all by asking a few questions. My prayer is these questions might help you think through Christmas and the season to regain some beauty and joy in it. What present do we want to give to our kids, and to each other? Surely we want to give precious things and things that will be remembered and enjoyed for a good longtime! So what will we give to our kids and each other?

We can give our kids and each other the present of

physical safety. How can we achieve this gift? We can give the gift of freedom, political and social freedom to dream and to walk with dignity. How can we give this precious gift to our children and each other? We can give the gift of learning and wisdom. How can we realise the desire to give this wonderful gift to our kids and to each other? These are all wonderful and precious things to give. There is a gift that excels all these other things, individually and together, it is eternity in knowing and enjoying God.

God has given many good gifts to us, and we must say that we in Australia live in an abundance of good things. However, the greatest gift is to be God's friend and to possess eternity as our home, full of joy and welcome with God. Christmas is all about God making eternity and peace with Him open to us through Jesus. We really need to ensure that our children possess this most precious of all gifts, because to give them everything but this wonderful hope in Jesus would be to rob them of the best.

The Beaconsfield Baptist Church invites every one who can join us to celebrate the gift of God at our Christmas Day service at 9:00 AM.

May God bless you and fill this Christmas season with the true light of His love and grace.

Rev. Gary Piper Pastor Beaconsfield Baptist Church.



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FOOTBALL AND NETBALL

Beaconsfield Football and Netball Clubs recently held their 1999 Presentation Night. For the footballers this was the night to celebrate their new title as 1999 West Gippsland Football League Senior Premiers. Awards went to:

Football

First Eighteen

Best and Fairest: Leigh Clifford Runner-Up Best and Fairest: Haydn Robins Best player in finals: Clint Evans Most determined: Brendan Robins Most improved: Corey O'Callaghan Most consistent: Chris Hovey Coach's award: Brendan Pryor Leading Goalkicker: Haydn Robins

Best and Fairest: Mick Vandenberghe Runner-Up Best and Fairest: Jason Reynolds Best player in finals: Nathan Tiberi Most determined: Dale Ruse Most improved: Heath Airdrie Most consistent: Brendan Pryor Leading Goalkicker: Dean Ziesler

Under 17's

Best and fairest: James Bradley Runner-Up Best and Fairest: Rodney Miszkowiec Best player in finals: Daniel Mislicki Most determined: Nic Koehler Most consistent: Daniel Mislicki Coach's award: Chris Van Dam Leading Goalkicker: Tim Robertson

Under 15's

Best and Fairest: Michael Stinear Runner-Up Best and Fairest: Scott Sheers Best Player in finals: Michael Stinear Most determined: Brendan Webb Most consistent: Gareth Helliar Most improved: David Collins Coach's Award: David Collins Leading Goalkicker: Adrian Joliffe

General Club Awards

Life memberships: Merv Hinneberg & and Clem Laker Best clubman: Keryn and John Clarke

NETBALL

A Grade

Best and Fairest: Sally Lane Runner-Up Best and Fairest: Rebecca Scott Coach's Award: Denise Schultz Best Player in finals: Sally Lane

Best and Fairest: Nicole Varty Runner-Up Best and Fairest: Megan Gillespie Coach's Award: Gaye Cameron Best Player in finals: Nicole Varty

C Grade

Best and Fairest: Candice Prentiss Runner-Up Best and Fairest: Lyn Brudge Best Team Player: Sarah Pryor Best Player in finals: Sarah Pryor

Best and Fairest: Hayley Jones Runner-Up Best and Fairest: Jessica Tiberi Best Team Player: Erin Davies

Best and Fairest: Ebony Matthews Runner-Up Best and Fairest: Leesa Reid Best Team Player: Lauren Hollick

Best and Fairest: Phillip Cochrane Runner-Up Best and Fairest: Monique Hellier Most Improved: Amie Hollick

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PERSONAL

Happy 70th Birthday Doreen. From all your friends.

Congratulations to Dawn and Alan Gourlay of Beaconsfield who are celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary. Best wishes from family and friends. Dawn and Alan have lived in Beaconsfield for over 30 years.

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For those people who are interested in receiving the Banner by post, this can be arranged for a pre-paid cost of \$6. per year. Please send name, address and money to: Treasurer, Beaconsfield Progress Association, P.O. Box 217. Beaconsfield 3807



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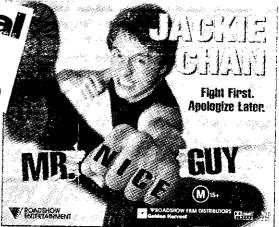
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