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PRES. ALBIE JONES Ph. 707 2141 SEC. TED HORTON Ph. 707 1313 NEWSLETTER CO-ORDINATOR MELVA BEHR Ph. 707 2235



What's Happening at Council Shire of Pakenham by Councillor Peter Meeking.

GROWTH CORRIDOR

The Minsiter recently announced the proposed development for the Berwick Pakenham corridor. Some 60,000 persons are proposed for the Pakenham area, a population of some 30,000 people at Officer, and little or no comment about Beaconsfield. The maps are generally only of a

Peter S Meeking,

broad outline nature, but it would appear that a very limited residential expan-

sion of Beaconsfield will be provided for, and would appear to include part of the property immediately to the north of the township.

Of more significance was the proposal to provide for a substantial Regional Park along the boundaries of the Cardinia Creek, which will safeguard the future of that area for all residents.

NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE, COMMUNITY CENTRE,

HALL ETC.

Various meetings have been held in recent times with many of the community groups operating in Beaconsfield, in an endeavour to prepare an overall plan for the present and future needs of the Beaconsfield community. There is a need now for premises to provide for a Neighbourhood house and a Community Centre. There is a need for a Community Hall and there will be a need for a further Pre-School/Kindergarten.

I thank those people who have assisted in this area. Further planning will continue, and every effort will be made to find the short term accommodation.

ROUNDABOUT

Council has been funded for the installation of a roundabout but not for the Shire's No. 1 priority which is the Emerald and Inglis Roads intersection. Council is now endevouring to have this funding redirected so as this most important intersection can be improved.

YAKKERBOO FESTIVAL 1991

The Management Committee of the 1991 Festival needs urgent support in two ways. Firstly, sponsorship and secondly assistance in the conduct of the Festival. This is a very important event on the Shire's social calendar, with many children and families participating in the varied events which make up the Yakkerboo Festival.

If you can lend help for a few weeks in the early part of 1991 - February and March, and if you can provide some sponsorship you should immediately contact Mrs Meryl Waterhouse on 059 41 1306

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

From the President of the Beaconsfield Progress Association.

Referring back to our recent Bonfire Night held in what we hope will become a nice little park for the town, I must compliment our townsfolk on how the area was left after the evening.

The night was a huge success from the large number who attended and enjoyed the singsong and not to mention the sausage sizzle put on by our Scout Group and the cakes and tea etc. from our Kindergarten Parents. Congratulations to all these groups.

Some of our Committee returned next morning to clean up the site - Clean up what?!! It was practically spotless, and so different to any similar crowd of that size at football or a similar event. So different to our railway station, which is a disgrace by any standards.

A group of townsfolk, including our committee, is endeavouring to paint the buildings, but will do so only when the beauraucracy controlling the Railways consent as to how it must be done.

It is a pity spray cans were ever invented when you see all the buildings there. Surely it is not in the same town as the people who left our Bonfire Night site in such a lovely condition.

Albie Jones.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all

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ERS.

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GASTROENTERITIS IN CHILDREN

The following information is derived from a handout obtained from Dandenong HospitalIt is intended as a guide only.... It is VERY IM-PORTANT to remember that gastroenteritis resulting in diarrhoea and/or vomiting is a serious condition and requires prompt medical attention for the very young and the elderly and for others unresponsive to simple treatment measures.

Gastroenteritis (watery motions, sometimes with vomiting) is very common, especially in children and is caused mostly by viruses which are very contagious and unavoidable, but also by bacteria and contaminated food which tends to be related to poor hygiene.

Viral gastroenteritis usually starts with vomiting, (which usually settles quickly) followed by frequent, watery, greenish-brown motions. Stomach pains, fever and other viral symptoms i.e. sore throat, runny nose, etc., may also be present. Bacterial gastroenteritis is usually accompanied by fever, stomach pain and diarrhoea and may have blood or mucus in it which is usually not present with viral gastroenteritis.

Treatment of gastroenteritis is based on fluid replacement but it is important to use the correct fluid. If vomiting is present this may be difficult and if frequent small amounts of water (1/2 hourly) aren't held down, then a doctor should be consulted. For babies less than 3 months old or premature babies less than 6 months old, contact you doctor for advice and treatment. Babies older than 3 months with frequent diarrhoea should have clear fluids for 12-24 hours. Once improvement occurs, introduce diluted milk followed by full strength milk over the next 24 hours. (N.B: Milk refers to infant formula NOT cow's milk.) For breastfed babies, continue to breast

feed but give clear fluids to make up for the fluid lost through the diarrhoea. As the diarrhoea improves, reduce the amount of clear fluid given.

SUITABLE FLUIDS

Gastrolyte (preferred fluid) Alternatives to Gastrolyte (after risk of dehydration has passed) include:-

* Diluted lemonade (50 mls plus 200 mls water)

* Unsweetened fruit juice or fruit drink (50 mls plus 200 mls water)

* Diluted ordinary cordial (30mls plus 300 mls water)

Breast milk

UNSUITABLE FLUIDS

Milk (cow)

Undiluted lemonade

* Undiluted fruit juice or cordial

SOLIDS

There may be an early introduction of solids. If 6 months or more and normally on solids, solids should be introduced by 24 hours after the initial period on clear fluids.

SUITABLE SOLIDS

Rice, noodles, potato (mashed/boiled), all vegetables, plain meats, chicken, plain fish, salmon, eggs, soups (all), bread, biscuits (plain, unsweetened- e.g. Sao, Salada, etc.), vegemite.

UNSUITABLE SOLIDS

Lollies, milk, yoghurt/ cheese, fruits (fresh or tinned), fruits (dried), custard, ice-cream, honey, jam, fried foods, jelly.

SEE YOUR DOCTOR ABOUT GASTROENTERITIS IF:-

Your baby is less than 3 months old, or was premature and now less than 6 months old. Young babies can become ill very quickly.

For older children see your doctor if any of the following are present:-

Beaconsfield Banner

Your baby is persistently vomiting and unable to keep any fluids down.

Your child has numerous (more than 20) watery motions a day, especially if they contain blood.

Your child become dehydrated, signs of which are:-

LETHARGY, DROWSINESS, DRYMOUTH, SUNKEN EYES or

12 TO 24 HOURS HAVE PASSED WITHOUT PASSING URINE.

Your child develops tummy pains.

PREVENTION

1) Keep your child away from children who have gastroenteritis.

2) Make sure where your child plays is hygienic.

3) Keep your child's hands as clean as possible.

4) Wash the nappies of children who have gastroenteritis separately from the other clothes.

5) After playing with your child, always wash your hands.
6) While your child has diarrhoea, keep him away as much as possible from other children. For example -do not take him to kindergarten or creche.

THIS IMPORTANT INFORMATION

was supplied by

KEOGH'S PHARMACY Ph. (03) 707 5187

BRICKBATS & BOUQUETS

Bouquet - to all those that took their rubbish home on November 5th Bonfire Night and those that cleaned up afterwards.

Bouquet - to those well meaning residents of Berwick who phoned the Berwick Fire Brigade on November 5th Bonfire Night to report that Haileybury Junior School was on fire!

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OUR NATURAL WORLD

Herbs are plants which are used by man for their aromatic, culinary and medical properties. Documents from 2000 years ago describing the Herbal gardens near Cairo, early Greek and Roman Herbal accounts, Medieval illustrated herbal manuscripts, and tales of far Eastern trade in herbs and spices in the Middle ages, all show that man throughout history has relied on plants for food and medicines. Hippocrates, "the father of medicine", writing in the fifth century B.C., listed four hundred herbal medicines of which half are still in use today.

An interesting, though much neglected area of Herbal love, has been the very great benefits of "companion planting". This implies the benefits of growing herbs side by side for specific requirements where the interactions of the Herbs will give specific results desired by man.

The pungently scented plants such as Santolina, Southernwood, Tansy, Rue and Wormwood will repel unwanted insects. Wormwood in a pot beside the dog kennel, will keep 'Fido' free of fly and mosquito harrasement so long as the herb thrives.

Dill, Hyssop, Lavender, Savoury Borage, Lemon Balm and Thymes, will attract bees with their sweet scent.

Basal Opal (Ocymum Basilicum Purpureum) grown in a pot indoors will discourage flies but don't grow it near Rue, they're not happy together.

Catnip (Nepeta Cataria), bewitches cats with its sweetish-acrid odour, and is reputed to repel rats.

Dried Catnip, dried and stuffed into a Calico mouse will provide much feline delight.

The more pungent herbs can be dried and formed into pot-pourri mixtures, to repel moths and silverfish. (Great for the linen closet).

If you want to loosen heavy soil in your garden without resorting to chemical means, plant Caraway (Carum Carvi) and let it do the work for you naturally. Keep it away from Fennel however.

Plant Matricaria Chamomilla, to keep nearby plants healthy, especially onions, and if you wish to increase the fertility of compost, nothing is better than Comfrey, (Symphytum Off). A great-companion plant to Cabbages and Carrots is Dill (Anethum Graveolens) causing them to flourish, (but remember to remove the flowers).

Most rose growers will be aware of

the benefits of having Garlic growing near their prize bushes. It discourages insects in the immediate area, and will also cure leafcurl if grown under peach trees.

There is a symbiotic effect between Horseradish and potatoes growing close together, ensuring the production of healthy and disease resistant crops.

Finally, the vivid flowers of Hyssop will attract bees, and conversely, will woo cabbage moths away from Cabbages. By the way, Radishes don't like growing near Hyssop.

As can be seen the wonders of our natural world are limitless, and by some careful investigation, we can harness the special unique powers of Herbs to work for us and with us.

Seek and ye shall find!

P. HANSEN.





Beaconsfield Community Group Inc.

(Playgroup - Playtime - Toy Library)

PLAYTIME

Beaconsfield now has an established Pre-kinder group called "playtime". The children must be at least three years of age by 30th June of year attending.

The children are cared for in a happy and safe enviornment which offers many things to do and make. The "playtime" leader creates a kinder-like atmosphere which allows the children to experience and enjoy socialising, playing, creating and learning. Two hour sessions are held once a week throughout the year excluding school and public holidays.Numbers per group are limited and early enrolment is advised.

Enrolments are now being accepted for full year commencing February 1991 and also half-year commencing July through to December 1991.

More information and enrolment forms are available by contacting Kathy 707 1284. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

AUSTRALIA DAY CELEBRATIONS IN BEACONSFIELD

The Progress Association Committee would like the families of Beaconsfield to join them for an Australia Day Celebration BBQ at the new reserve on January, 26th from 4pm onwards.

Bring your own everything.

We have tried out this venue during one of our working bees and found it to be a great spot for an informal barby. We hope eventually to have perhaps an electric BBQ installed so that families can utilize this area for family picnics, so come along and try it for yourselves. Somehow a barby in a picturesque setting has much more atmosphere. There is plenty of room for the children to have a good run around or perhaps a community kick of a footy.

We look forward to you joining us on this special day.

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In my Ancestors' Footsteps by Melva Behr

"Don't be shocked when we go through the doors", the attendant at Heathrow Airport warned Joe and I. "You'll think you're in the Middle East". He wasn't wrong for as the doors bent back all we could see was a sea of veiled faces and large placards in hieroglyphics.

We had hired a Ford Escort from Melbourne and after finding it faulty returned it to be told "Sorry, we only have Rovers left." We accepted gratefully and headed off towards Scotland. By night fall we had passed Sherwood Forest, old castles and ruins, and were lucky to find a B & B (bed & breakfast) just outside York.

The young couple were renovating an early 1800's double story semi detached home with a cobbled courtyard in the rear. After our first "pub" meal, we returned to spend a delightful evening by their fire. They had two small children who were allowed to "stay up" to see the video we had taken of Beaconsfield - Kookaburra's on our balcony and the lovely countryside. York was fascinating, the castle walls encircling the narrow streets with their quaint shops. We passed through countryside similar to Victoria (browned by their unusually hot summer) and on into Scotland.

We stayed at Burntisland with friends who own a lovely old hotel. We were given the honeymoon suite with a double poster bed and a wonderful view across the Forth to Edinburgh.

The local Uniting Church was a square building where it is believed the first trade unions originated. The "workers" came up the outside stairs and sat in rows marked with their trade.

The pulpit could be viewed from any pew and we were told than an elderly resident would give three nods when it was felt the sermon should end! This church was where King James V1 and the elders revised the Bible.

The Curator was very obliging and gave us a full guided tour including the grave yard where graves went back to the 1600's.

A Tour of Edinburgh was arranged for the next day where we were fascinated by the wonderful architecture, the homes of Robert Louis Stevenson, Alexander Graham Bell and the hotel of the "body snatchers". We visited the Castle the day before the Tattoo and watched the changing of the guards.

From there we travelled to Aberdeen and St. Machar's Cathedral in the grounds of the Aberdeen University. As my maiden name was Machar this Cathedral was a special place for me.

We arrived at 7pm, and finding all but the vestry locked I proceeded to take a close up video of a photo of the inside of the Cathedral so I could show my family. The rattle of keys made me turn as I thought "Oh now, I'm going to be locked in but to my surprise a lovely gentleman was unlocking the church door to check on restoration works. I told him that we were from Australia and that my family name was Machar so he said "You better come in girl hadn't you". All the lights were turned on for us and he spoke in loving terms of this old Cathedral recently damaged by vandals, pointed out that the roof was flat because funds were scarce in the early days so all the clans of Scotland had their coats of arms put on the roof. Because it was so unique the roof had never been replaced. It was truly a moving experience for me to stand in the cript surrounded by the tombs of ancient Scotsmen and women.

After more driving we found a B&B on an old farm, complete with ferrets, goats, sheep, dogs, cats and kids. There was an 18mth old baby girl who would sit bolt upright on a huge old chair, smiling from ear to ear. Her mother had bright red hair and was the farmer. Her husband was in the R.A.F. nearby.

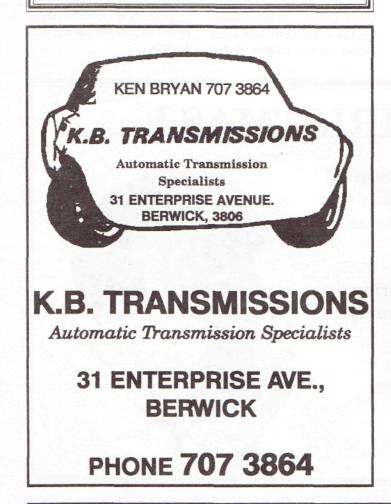
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In my Ancestors' Footsteps Cont. from page 5

Our room was beautifully decorated with cottage prints, the ceiling so low as to be able to be painted with a bent arm. After a wonderful evening talking and laughing and a huge English breakfast we drove a few kilometers to the Glenfiddick Distillery.

What a wonderful place. It was beautiful kept, absolutely spotless inside and completely run by the decendants of William Grant. We were given a shot of Whiskey after the tour (just to keep warm of course!).

Later that afternoon found us at the Culloden Fields where many of my ancestors from the Macdonald Clan were killed by the English. When you stand upon the fields it is easy to see why - the Scots were positioned in a boggy area while the English were on the dry land. The Heather was in bloom and the colours flowed together all over the fields. It was eerie to walk where such a bloody battle had been fought.

Next we travelled along Lock Ness (no sign of the monster) visiting Urquhart Castle and then on to Fort Augusta. As evening began to fall we crossed by ferry to the beautiful Isle of Skye the birth place of many of my father's forefathers.

It had been a beautiful Autumn day and now the sky and the sea blended into silver. As it had been Highland Games Day on the island, we found ourselves without any accommodation and so after a hearty meal of black pudding and stoved potatoes (wonderful potatoes, big, light fluffy ones) we had no option but to head for a car park down by the sea where we decided we would recline our seats and see if we could nod off. To our amazement the Rover's seats fell back to make two perfectly flatbeds - so with jumpers covering us -it was still quite mild we slept until 7am the next morning.

It semed to me the Isle of Skye must be Heaven on earth. Around every corner the wonderful scenery went on mile after mile. Sheep strolled on the roads, and nearly all the inland roads were so narrow that passing points were made to allow oncoming traffic to pull aside to allow passing. We drove across the Isle to the Clan Donald Centre where more information on the Clan was available. The grounds were manicured and they have trees and plants not seen anywhere else in Scotland. We left that afternoon on the ferry after a four hour wait - they could really do with a couple of hovercraft - but that would perhaps ruin the atmosphere.

Down through Glasgow we travelled where high rise apartments stretch mile upon mile. The next day we visited Kilmarnick home of my mother's ancestors. We visited the memorian to Robert Burns (his mother was related to my father's family and his wife to my mother's family)where even though it was closed for refurbishing they allowed me to photograph family items, etc. which made me tingle with excitement. We then visited their family home and farm before driving down back into England.

We passed through Windermere in the beautiful Lakes District where the Heather was in full bloom turning the hills a beautiful purple/mauve colour. White swans floated on the clear waters of the lakes, trees caressing the water, their leaves just taking on the colours of Au-

Beaconsfield Banner

tumn.

In North Wales we visited Penrythn Castle where my great, great, grandfather lived. He was an Admiral in the Royal Navy and his wife passed away in the grounds. Their son also joined the Navy and because of vertico he jumped ship in Melbourne and made his home at Labertouche. Because he had deserted and his father was an Admiral he was never forgiven. This mock Castle was absolutely enormous and is now owned by the Trust in England where they house a railway museum and doll museum. I walked through all the grounds, down to the little inlet that no doubt the master had sailed into, completely in awe at the lifestyle no doubt enjoyed in those days.After crossing through England and down to Dover where Joe insisted visiting the gun implacements that no doubt no - one had visited since the war and where we drove along deep guttered tracks to the very top of the cliffs, we made our way back to London for a tour of the sights and then after farewelling friends in Oxford returned to the airport for the flight to Austria.

MERRY CHRISTMAS !

Thank you to the residents and businesses of the Beaconsfield district for your support this year. Have a safe and enjoyable Christmas a New Year.

Platypus Technology will be closed during December. We are reopening on 2 January, for all your computing needs.

The staff of Platypus Technology.



J.P.S. **ELECTRICS**

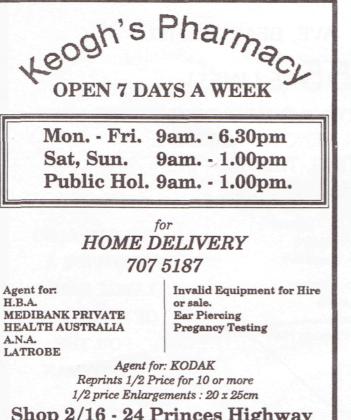
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A PUBLIC THANK YOU

The Beaconsfield Progress Association would like to thank all those that assisted in making the November 5th Bonfire Night a successful night.

Thanks to the Shire of Pakenham Staff in preparing the site. Thanks to Jack O'Connor and the Beaconsfield Newsagency and Milk Bar for generously donating gifts for the children's colouring competition. Thank you to Murray Johnston, Bob Burgess and those volunteer Fire Brigade members who turned out. Thank you Captain Koala for coming, Peggy Dundas for designing the colouring competition. Thanks to the Kindergarten and Scouts for catering. Thank you Bernie, Rob and Keira for your musical assistance. Thank you Albie Jones for making the coffee table which raised so much money in the raffle. Thank you Tony Rushton for the lighting/generator and sound system and John Gorton for the use of his truck as our "stage". Thank you to the Gemco theatre company from Emerald who presented excerpts from the Little Shop of Horrors, which is their current theatrical production.

Finally, thank you to the residents of Beaconsfield for making the night such a success and giving our committee encouragement.

Ted Horton

RED CROSS REPORT FOR DECEMBER

As we approach the end of another calendar year I take the opportunity on behalf of the local unit of Red Cross to thank your editor for providing space for our news.

Up to date WE HAVE NOT BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN FINDING JUST ONE NEW RED CROSS MEMBER WHO RE-SIDES IN BEACONSFIELD. May we again appeal to newcomers to your area to contact us should they be interested in becoming members or alternatively joining our 'Friends of Red Cross' group. In a few months we will be organising the 1991 March Appeal. Our Chairman, Mrs. Nettie Abeling is always searching for additional volunteer Callers to 'Door Knock'. As custodian of home nursing equipment she is willing to help locals requiring crutches, wheel chairs, etc.

Have we any residents willing to give a little of their time to help her by way of a 'thank you' gesture?

Members of the local Unit were happy to be associated with the visit of the Mobile Blood Bank to the Leisure Centre at Berwick. The visit was arranged as the result of a request coming from two enterprising young girls who are students at Berwick Secondary College. With permission from parents more than 130 students aged 16 years and over volunteered to donate blood that day. It was a most successful 'first up' experiment. It was interesting to note that young people discovered the importance of eating a breakfast or a lunch before donating blood.

May the New Year bring to your residents peace and good health. Let us hope that the hot summer months bring no major disasters.

> M. Womersley, **Publicity Officer** Phone: 707 1103.

Ed. A Merry Christmas and a Happy Prosperous New Year to all members of your hard working Unit.



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SPECIAL EVENT -CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT IN BEACONSFIELD.

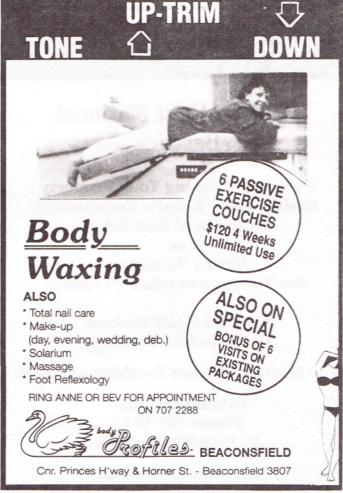
The Progress Association will hold Carols by Candlelight at the new Reserve behind the new shops on Sunday evening, 23rd December, from 8.00pm onwards

Carols loved by the younger members of the community will be held first (Away In a Manger etc.) with the more difficult carols towards the end of the evening, so that if necessary the youngsters can put their weary heads on laps, etc.

The Baptish Church has kindly volunteered assistance by printing the carol sheets and supplying musical accompaniment, etc.

This should be a wonderful night of community singing of many of the worlds most loved songs. We hope you, your friends and family will join us for this special event.

Candles will be available at a reasonable cost if you require them, with the proceeds going to a local charity.

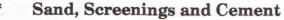


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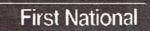


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Christmas is coming up fast and now is the time to think of ways to beat the "JANUARY JITTERS" brought on by the trap of 'buy now and pay later'. Remember CREDIT COSTS and that inexpensive item when loaded with interest and other charges may not be such a good buy after all. So why not Lay-by now and start 1991 with a clear Credit Card although it would be more aptly named if called a Debit Card.

Consumer-watchers have a few hints for everyday shopping too. Plan meals for the week in advance, shop only once a week and shop alone. Studies show that if you go with a partner or a child you spend more.

Resist the temptation to touch or pick up an item unless you really need it. "Shopperwatchers" say five times out of ten you buy what you pick up whether you need it or not.

Another trick is to check out the lower shelves. Because products at eye-level sell best, some retailers place higher-profit items they want to push on the higher shelves.

Don't leap at goods marked "Special" as it's not a bargain unless you need it. Remember, if you need it buy it, if

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you just want it, think twice before you purchase.

Now, if you have a budgeting problem, the Citizens' Advice Bureau can put you in touch with a Financial Counsellor who visits the Pakenham Community House. He could help you find ways to trim that weekly cost of living.

The Citizens' Advice Bureau has a wide range of information available to everyone plus pamphlets on all types of subjects and if we haven't got what you require we do our best to obtain it or put you in touch with someone who can assist you.

Call and see us at the Community House, 24 Main Street, Pakenham or phone (059) 412 377 Monday to Friday between 10.30am to 2.30pm.

Like to advertise in Beacy's own paper "THE BANNER"

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Beacy's Notice Board \$10 per issue

Market Place \$1 per line per issue.
