Beaconsfield Banner

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Join in with the community for our annual

Carols by the Creek

To be held in the

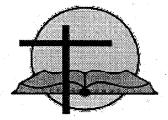
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(Wet Weather venue is the BERWICK LEISURE CENTRE in Manuka road)

on SUNDAY the 23th of DECEMBER

At 8:00pm

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- Once again Beaconsfield will have it very own Community Carols.
- Organised by the Progress Association in conjunction with the Beaconsfield Baptist Church.
- All our favourite carols word sheets and candles provided free of charge.
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SUMMER IS HERE!!

Do you have an evacuation plan? Will you stay or will you go? These are decisions you need to make before the fire season, because summer is here.

We appreciate that we have had some rain over the last month or so but we believe there is a long hot summer still to come.

So it is time, if you haven't already, its time to clean the spouting, clean up around the yard, check the smoke detectors, and create an evacuation plan or review your existing one.

Please be prepared and don't leave things to the last minute.

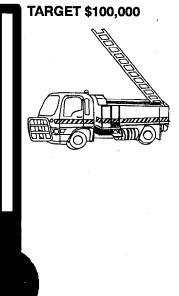
If you have any questions regarding fire prevention you can either contact the local council or drop in to see us on a Sunday morning (9.30 – 12) we would be happy to answer your questions.

Again, we would also like to thank the residents and businesses who are continually supporting the Beaconsfield Fire Brigade in our fundraising efforts. ©



MONEY RAISED \$13,000





If you wish to make a donation contact Ron Woodfine on 9707 1572 or 0408 543 003

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Another year is coming to an end in our busy town. We continue to experience a residential boom and there are also many projects which will see considerable growth in the towns' commercial core. The biggest is the Aldi Supermarket proposed for the vacant commercial site on Princes Highway.

It is important that your voice be heard and any concerns are referred so they can be addressed by the appropriate authority. The Beaconsfield Progress Association is one way that you can do this whether you are a resident young or old or a local business so don't be afraid ... have a voice.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

by Angela McPhee

There have been many issues affecting the town and surrounding area this year. I would like to thank our Federal Representative Bob Charles, our State Representatives Gordon Rich-Phillips and Neil Lucas, Stuart Chisholm from the Gazette and our Councillors Keith Ewenson and Ted Owen who have listened, acted where appropriate and given us a I would also like voice. to thank the officers of the Cardinia Shire Council in particular the CEO Don Welsh, and Geoff Rundell and Phil Walton from the Planning Division. Whilst council have not always agreed they have been prepared to discuss debate issues and have sometimes involved the Association in preliminary planning discussions. We appreciate this and trust environment of the communication discussion and debate will continue in the future.

The improvements to the Bob Burgess Reserve are progressing well and will make the area an attractive picnic and play area. Please have a look or come along to Carols by the Creek on 23rd December to see what a great job is being done! Well done.

Merry Christmas everyone have a happy and safe festive season and I look forward to seeing you at our meetings next year.

I welcome your input andl can be contacted at my office (McPhees Solicitors) beside the Milk Bar or on 9707 0590 or by email on bpa@beaconsfield.org.au



Picured: - Some members of the Beaconsfield Progress Assoc. Back row L to R: - Bob Cooper, Maurice Potter, Tony Rushton, Glorraine Hardy, Angela McPhee. Seated - Ann Taylor, Sylvia Bence, David Morland.

The Progress Association, together with the financial support of the advertisers, is able to distribute 1800 copies FREE to the residents of Beaconsfield.

BANNER DEADLINE

18th January, 2002

Have your say on local issues, submit anecdotes about Beaconsfield past/present.

Please provide name & contact details for verification. Written articles can be left at the Post Office in the Banner Box or they can be sent to the Banner email address.

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POLICIES FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

by Cr.Keith Ewenson

The Shire has released a number of policies for public comment.

Cardinia Shire Recreation Plan, Cardinia's Health Plan, Municipal Tennis Strategy and Regional Tennis Facility Feasibility Study, Emerald Library Community Complex and Master Plan of Worrell Reserve and finally The Cockatoo Township Strategy. All documents were released on the same day.

Interim work has been undertaken in Wood Street in an attempt to improve safety and reduce the speed of vehicles. The finish job will be allowed for in the budget.

I am advised the flooding in Beaconsfield Avenue was caused by a gas main being laid through the middle of a street drainpipe. Most unfortunate. I suppose it illustrates the caution required by contractors who bore under roads.

Incredible isn't it that Christmas is approaching already. I trust that you all will enjoy a happy and safe Christmas. Hopefully it is a great time for you to relax and become refreshed for the next year.

Cr Keith Ewenson:- Phone -0409 149 535 Emailkewenson@nex.net.au

"CALLING ALL SKATERS"

Council wants to talk to you about skate activities and facilities in the Shire and with your help Council would like to determine what the skate needs are.

There are 4 different ways vou can become involved.

- 1. Attend a meeting.
- 2. Write a submission.
- 3. Fill in a survey.
- 4. Complete a survey On-line, between 1st Jan - 15th Feb. 2002.

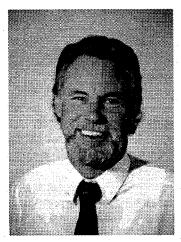
www.cardinia.vic.gov.au

For further information or to discuss the study contact Emma Michie, Recreation Planner at the Shire of Cardinia, PO Box 7, Pakenham, Vic. 3810 or phone on (03)59454314.



NEW MINISTER FOR LOCAL CHURCH

by Emma Cameron



David Morland, the new minister for Beaconsfield Baptist Church recognises the importance of a minister being compatible with his local community, "It's a bit like courting. You test each other out and you try each other out, and you have a few dates and you've got to make sure the chemistry's there, the magic. Once you've done

the 'I do' you've then got to make it work."

A minister for 26 years, David was an electrician until aged 24 and newly married he felt the call to be a minister. Davids' previous church was in Boronia, and he has moved to Beaconsfield with wife Anne (their two daughters are grown up and have left home).

David will be minister for the Church as they go through major renovations. The Beaconsfield Baptist Church worships in the Roadhouse, the 'Yellow Rose of Texas' Roadhouse which went defunct when the old bypass went in...we're going to build a new building alongside that where the old petrol pumps used to be. The old church building will be used as a general purpose hall. David

sees his role over this time as keeping the Church focussed on it's faith rather than the building itself. He said "the Church is not the building".

As the only church in Beaconsfield, David wants the Church to be a useful part of the community. The **Baptist Chuch currently runs** a Youth Program, the Make and Mingle sessions and the Carols by the Creek (which are definitely going ahead this year). The Church also welcomes new people into Beaconsfield community. Although their initial reception is generally warm, David admits "when they know you're from a church they think there's a sting in the tale."

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I wonder if the parents of children, who ride unregistered motor cycles at great speed up and down Glissman Road and Bowmans Track, realize that should they cause or be in an accident, they, the parent, could be sued and lose everything they own.

Name and address supplied.



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MICHAEL DE HAMER SAILS TO THE GULF



Local couple Sue and Reni de Hamer of Adamson Road Beaconsfield have farewelled their 26 year old son Michael. He has left West Australia aboard HMAS Kanimbla bound for the Gulf area of the Middle East. His ship is joining Coalition Forces in the fight against international terrorism. What part they will play is far from certain at this stage.

Michael joined the Navy back in August 1994 two days before his 19th birthday. He first trained as a Marine Technician at HMAS Cerberus, Crib Point, Hastings. Twelve months later he was assigned to HMAS Torrens. A River Class Destroyer Escort, it was the last of its class. It was deployed in May '98 in a farewell tour of South East Asia. On return it was decommissioned on September 11 1998. Michael was honoured to the part of: decommissioning crew. He collected books. certificates and medals to mark the occasion.

Michael then went to **HMAS** on Kanimbla based at Newcastle. This ship spent many months there in dry dock and in Sydney being refitted. It then sailed on Naval exercises off the East Coast before being assigned to a peace keeping mission in the Solomons. Despite lengthy periods away from home base. Michael has always been

focused while on duty and retains his good sense of humour. After the Solomons tour he was finally granted leave to come home to Beaconsfield for a while.

He now faces the ultimate challenge in his short career serving his country. He is on board the Kanimbla in the Gulf area deployed international war against terrorism. Reni and Sue spoke to him shortly before he departed on the ship from West Australia. He sounded very focused and personally well prepared for the coming months away. His return will be determined by how long the international forces take to defeat the main protagonists in this 'war'.

Beaconsfield wishes Michael and his fellow crew members success and hope for a speedy ending to this conflict. The de Hamer family very much look forward to Michael's safe return.



MAKE AND MINGLE

by Ann Taylor

This friendship and craft group has provided a way for many new people in this area to get to know new friends and learn some new crafts. Some of our crafts this year have included tassel ladies. glass painting, paper tole, crossstitch, embroidery, ribbon flowers, patchwork, decoupage, tiny beaded purses, teabag folding, folkart, beaded Christmas decorations and embroidered Christmas trees.

We've also enjoyed some activities and outings. Back in March, we had a Coffee and Dessert Evening with interesting speakers, lovely music and delicious desserts. We have a similar evening planned for March 22 2002, so make a note in your diaries if you would like to come.

In May we had our own shopping tour, stopping at

4 different craft outlets and having a lunch stop at Syndel Baptist Church. At the beginning of August, we had a lunch of soup and rolls and watched the video, My Testimony by Helen Shapiro. In September, we took a bus to the Stitches and Craft Show and all enjoyed learning some new crafts and purchasing craft supplies.

The Lord has really blessed our group this year and we look forward to celebrating the birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ, this Christmas.

Next Year, we will be having more crafts and special activities, so you are welcome to join us.

Make and Mingle meets

Make and Mingle meets every Wednesday, 10am-12noon during school term, at Beaconsfield Baptist Church, Cnr Souter Street and Old Princes Highway. We resume for 2002 on Wednesday 6th February and we'd love to see you.

WELCOME:

- to Garry and Sue who have recently moved to Beaconsfield.
- to Marilyn and partner who are living in Brookvale estate.

FAREWELL:

- to Pat and Tom of Wallace Street who are going to live in the Drouin area.
- to Marg and Peter of Horner Street who are making the shift to Pakenham.
- to Peg Ogden of Souter Street who has moved to Harkaway.
- to Peg & Glynn of Souter Street who are moving to Berwick.
- to the year 2001!



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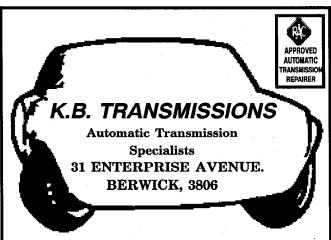
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SALLY'S GARDEN

WISTERIA: This is one of the most popular & hardy deciduous climbers, with mid-green foliage and a dramatic display of pendant, lavender-blue/ white, and flowers in spring.

Now is the time to prune the creeper while it is in leaf. Prune away all the wild runners and the vine growth that is unruly and destroys the shape of the creeper of the pergola or veranda. The thick green foliage of a well-trimmed wisteria vine gives wonderful shade in summer.

CAMELIAS: To reduce the need for watering, build up the soil by adding lots of well-rotted manures. Mulching well around the base of the plants is also important, very camellias are shallowrooted & so the surface soil should be prevented from drying out. Camellias benefit from weekly deep watering rather than a daily light sprinkling.



POETS CORNER..

(A tribute to volunteers in this Year of the Volunteer.)

Many will be shocked to find When the day of judgement nears That there's a special place in heaven Set aside for volunteers... Furnished with big recliners Satin cushions and footstools Where there's no committee chairman Group leaders or carpools. No eager team that needs a coach No bazaar and no cake sale There will be nothing there to staple Not a thing to fold or mail, Telephones will be outlawed. But a finger snap will bring Cold drinks and gourmet dinners And treats fit for a King ' You ask, "Who'll serve these privileged few And work for all they're worth? WHY, ALL THOSE WHO REAPED THE BENEFITS AND NOT ONCE VOLUNTEERED ON EARTH!

Courtesy of Puffing Billy

P.S. Anyone wishing to volunteer their services as a Waitress /Waiter on the Puffing Billy Night Train can contact Ted on 9 707 1313.

The rewards are great, not in money but in the satisfaction of supporting the Railway, having a good time and above all else serving others and seeing them enjoying their special night out on the Puffing Billy Night Train.



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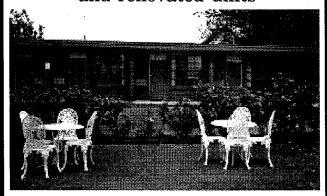


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BPS Corner

What's Happening at Beaconsfield Primary School.

by Maurice Potter, School Council President

OLD HALLLOSS PROVIDES TWO NEW CLASSROOMS

For every negative there is a corresponding positive and for Beaconsfield Primary, the destruction by fire of our old hall now sees two new and bright portable classrooms. The school is most appreciative of the Department of Education in their prompt provision. While the old hall held history and memories for many, we at Beaconsfield only look forward.

GIRL GUIDES LOSS For those who were associated with Beaconsfield Girl Guides, regretfully the fire destroyed all equipment of the Beaconsfield pack, which was stored in the hall and which was their regular meeting place. The only remaining Guide equipment is the banners and staffs, currently held by the last Guide leader at Beaconsfield before they went into recess. Should anyone be interested resurrecting Beaconsfield pack, please contact Guides Victoria.

FUND RAISING FOR CFA Our school is proud to have raised approximately \$1,100 so far towards Beaconsfield CFA fund raising effort for a tanker replacement. Please support them when you can as they support us in so many ways. Our intention is to continue assisting until their target of \$100,000 is attained. Did you know our school hires out our new hall (our only hall now), trestles and chairs at reasonable rates?

CARPET NEEDED We are looking for old carpet to use as weed control in our wetlands. Do you have any? If so give the school a ring on 9707 1510.

NEW TEACHING STAFF AS OUR POPULATION GROWS. Welcome to our new teaching staff; Heidi Wutzke has commenced work in the Prep room. Two young men, Toby Daniels and Mark Mckelson will commence teaching with us in January 2002. We will be welcoming further staff as our enrolments grow. For 2002 our numbers currently stand at 392 and no doubt the 400 mark will be broken early in the New Year as we continue to welcome new pupils to the BPS "family".

To conclude, our school community wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and publish (in part) a work in the English language put together by new student Carly Moreton of year 6. Forgiveness: What it is: Forgiveness is when you tell someone "It doesn't matter what you did to me, as long as you are sorry!" You are saying, "who cares". Why practice it: If you are never forgiving people for what they did to you they will slowly drift away and might not talk to you. They might not be sorry for what they do to you any more. That is why it is important to tell people "It is O.K, I forgive you". How to practise it: Practice by looking in the mirror and call the mirror person (you) names. You then say "sorry" and they should say "It's OK, I forgive you". When you get in a real situation just do what the mirror person did to you.



The Southern Victorian Wine Show was held recently and I worked as a Steward each day, hard work but enjoyable. An over view would be whites generally dull and poorly made, an exception was the 2000 and older Chardonnay class of 73 wines - Best Chardonnay was Eldridge Wines of Red Hill.

All Red classes were strongly represented (Pinot Noir, Shiraz & Cabernet. The Keith & Anne Goodman Trophy for Best Yarra Valley Red went to Coldstream Hills

Wine & Food

by Keith Goodman

Reserve Cabernet 1998. I particularly liked The Port Phillip Shiraz' of 1998 & 2000, both Gold Medals and a Trophy for the 98, also the Seville Estate Reserve Shiraz 2000 and Gold Medal.

Hopefully there are some converts to Riesling among our readers. Convert or not the 2001 Rieslings about to hit our shelves are very good and generally will reward cellaring. The Blass (red square label) made from Watervale and Polish River grapes is a knockout. See white wines following.

Mangoes have been decadently and chin dribbling delicious - well we like them -

this year and will be around till Christmas if we are lucky.

refreshing and flavoursome salad we have enjoyed is made up per person for a main course of: Cos lettuce, cut across the leaves into 10ml strips dressed with vinagrette and mounded in the center of a large plate; the following are all spread over the lettuce; half a large mango sliced; 6 sugar snap peas sliced lengthways; 2TBS of canned drained tuna; 2TSP of deep fried Asian Shallotts (a staple in our pantry and available at Asian stores) and about a dessert spoon of finely sliced red onion.

Enjoy any 2001 Riesling.

White Wines Jacobs Creek Riesling 2001, Blass Riesling 2001, Leasingham Bin 7 Riesling, Richmond Grove Watervale Riesling 2001 (always among the best) Peter Lehmann Semillon 2000 all wine \$8 - \$14.

Red Wine. Leasingham Bin 61 Shiraz 1999. \$16; Water Wheel Shiraz 2000, \$15-\$16 Montana (NZ) Pinot Noir 2000 and the Reserve at \$14 and \$20. At about \$28 from Vintage Cellars is Orlando St Hugo Coonawarra cabernet 1998, one of the best quality reds around at the moment which would be great drinking with the Christmas roast.

Sweet Wines. Perfect for Christmas Lunch if not having Christmas pudding. All are 375ml bottle. Lillypilly Noble Harvest 99, \$ 22; Miranda Golden Botrytis 99, \$16-17; McWilliams Limited Release Semillon 97,\$20. For that Pudding try any good Rutherglen Muscat or Tokay.



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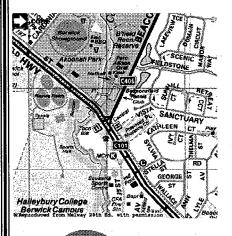
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THE VOICE OF THE **BAPTIST CHURCH**

by David Morland

In Jules Verne's novel The Mysterious Island, he tells of five men who escape a Civil War prison camp by hijacking a hot-air balloon. As they rise into the air, they realise the wind is carrying them over the ocean. Watching their homeland disappear over the horizon, they wonder how much longer the balloon can stay aloft.

As the hours pass and the surface of the ocean draws closer, the men decide they must cast overboard some of the weight, for they had no way to heat the air in the balloon. Shoes, coats and weapons were reluctantly discarded and the men feel their balloon rise. But only temporally. Soon they find themselves dangerously close to the waves again, so they toss out their food. Better to be high and hungry then drown on a full belly!

Unfortunately, this too is only a temporary solution, and the balloon again slowly sinks down toward the waves. The only thing left to get rid of is the basket that they are standing in. This

they do. They are left hanging on to ropes dangling from the balloon. But without the weight of the basket the balloon rises up once more.

Not a moment too soon they spot land. As the balloon slowly starts to sink yet again toward the sea they find themselves within swimming distance of the shore.

They lived because they were able to discern the difference between what was really necessary and what was not. Much that at the start of their trip they had considered to be of the utmost importance they discovered was not essential at all.

And what is really necessary in life? Well. Christians would say that a relationship with God is. Houses and cars, holidays and super funds are all very nice but they are not the heart of what life is about. Life is about relationships and the most important of those is the one we have with God.



SCOUTING ABOUT

More than 20 young people enjoyed a great free fun night full of activities on 8th Parents and November. leaders joined in the games and are looking forward to Thursday nights when more fun will be had. Neighbours please be aware that during daylight savings hours there may be a bit of noise coming from our Hall. If you too would like to join in please do not hesitate to call in at the Hall

on Thursday nights at 7pm. Games and activities are aimed at boys and girls aged between 8 and 13 years. Six members of our group were invested receiving Group scarf and other badges to start them on their journey to a happy association with the most successful youth group in the world.

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Brickbats: to the person responsible for stealing a child's new bike and helmet from the Beaconsfield Primary School designated bike area during school hours.

If you have any information in regard to this incident the Police investigating this theft would be pleased to hear from you.



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Good spring rain has meant that recent plantings have got off to a great start. The October working bee saw a successful planting in Allen St. Reserve along the creek bank. A new fence was also constructed to give these young plants the best possible start.

Part of the reason for fencing off a section of the creek bank is because this section has become a popular short cut for many recreational users including people walking their dogs. As a result, the vegetation has suffered from compaction and nutrifiction from animal droppings. These droppings upset the delicate balance of nutrients

in the soil adding excessive nutrients such as nitrogen and phosphors (native plants are sensitive to phosphors). In the case of dog droppings, damage can also occur due to the high levels of e-colie.

There will not be a working bee for December due to Christmas so at this stage the next working bee is set for the fourth Sunday in January 2002.

For further information contact Judy 97071402 or Shane 0407874143.



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FOR ADVERTISING CONTACT WILLEM BOON 9707 5053

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SNIPPETS FROM THE ACCOUNTANTS' DESK



Some items of interest recently announced that will have a significant effect on taxpayers and small business operators include the following:

1.The Federal Government has unveiled a \$21.8 million package to assist small business. The Package reduces red tape by abolishing annual returns, streamlining ASIC document lodgment requirements and capping ASIC proprietary company

2.A Report commissioned by the Australian Taxation Office has recommended the virtual abolition of individual tax returns. This could result in excess of 5 million Australians not being required to lodge income tax returns hence taxpayers may forego tax refunds which average between \$500 and \$1000 each year. Family payments for a nonworking spouse and children are now mostly paid direct by Centrelink Family Assistance Office.

3.Following the High Court decision earlier this year in the Commissioner of Taxation v Payne, the Government will be amending the income tax law for travel expenses between two unrelated places of work i.e. directly

from one job to a second job or from the usual workplace to an alternative workplace and between the alternative work place and home. These amendments take place from 1st July 2001 and will confirm claims for travel expenses previously in dispute.

4. The Government announced it would create a senior office of Inspector General of Taxation. This position would provide a new source of independent advice and would report to Parliament through the Treasurer. The position provides an avenue for more effective conflict resolution.

5. During the passage through Parliament, many changes were made to the Alienation of Personal Services Income Rules including relaxing of the Results test criteria to 75%, change of the employment respect test in partnerships and revised rules for ATO determinations. In addition. payments to associates that are not allowed as a deduction will not be treated as assessable income of the recipient.

You should regularly communicate with your Accountant to discuss how changes may effect your position otherwise penalties and interest for mistakes made can be very costly.

GRAEME J. TAYLOR C.A.





Still the great films of 2001 keep coming. Here are two more that have recently been on in cinemas, and should soon be out on video.

Let's start with "Kiss Of The Dragon". Who said that action films had to have woeful acting, no story and dreadful directing. Like most films starring Jet Li, "Kiss Of The Dragon" is an intelligent film hidden behind a flurry of upper cuts and fly kicks.

The story is intriguing (although it is hard to

CROSSWIRED

by David Griffiths

believe that even a rogue police officer could cause that much trouble and damage in Paris and get away with it) and keeps you on the edge of your seat. Through the gripping story and the brilliant acting skills of Jet Li and Bridget Fonda, you actually come to care for the characters and want the story to end in their favour.

If Jet Li keeps producing films this way, then he will soon become the thinking person's action hero.

Another excellent film is "Rock Star". Yet again it provides a surprising good acting result. Jennifer Aniston is surprisingly good in the role of the

manager/girlfriend. The star of this film, Mark Wahlberg yet again puts in a good performance but I couldn't help but think his character was too similar too his character in "Boogie Nights".

"Rock Star" is roughly based on the history of the band, Judas Priest, meaning it has one of the best soundtracks to show it's face this year.

The film is also a who's who of the music industry. Some of the members of the various bands portrayed in the film are actually band members (check out Blaise, Slaughter's drummer in the original band).

This film is a must for anyone that wonders what really happens in the music industry.

Also watch out... "Moulin Rogue" (my film of 2001) will be out on video soon. And a great Aussie film to check out is "Risk." Last Crosswired I made mention of Claudia Karvan ("Secret Life of Us"). She stars in this film alongside Tom Long and Bryan Brown...a film not to be missed.

Most of the films mentioned above should be available from Beaconsfield Family Videoland, if not now then in the near future.

Reflections Hair Design

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 2000.

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



Closed Tuesday 25th. December 2001
Closed Wednesday 26th. December 2001
Closed Thursday 27th. December 2001
Closed Friday 28th. December 2001
Open Saturday 29th. December 2001

Open Monday 31st. December 2001

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Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year



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LIVING WITH EUROPEAN WASPS

Many of you may be suffering from an infestation of European Wasps for the first time this year. According to Cardinia Shire Officer this occurs in March each year. We are assured that in May most nests die off and the queens begin to hibernate. Unfortunately the cycle begins again in November after the queen has found a new home and workers begin to build the nest again.

Suggestions for keeping wasps away from your garden are keep compost heaps and rubbish bins covered at all times; remove old and damaged fruit from fruit trees; clean up dog bones from the yard; cover or remove pet food when not being eaten by your pets; don't use sprinklers or water your garden during the day; cover bird baths and fish ponds with fine mesh or shadecloth; cover swimming

pools with a plastic sheet; remove ivy from the garden [wasps find this very attractive and frequently next in stands of ivy] and use screens on windows and doors.

Suggestions for preventing stings are cover opened drink cans and bottles; wear shoes in the garden especially when using hose; don't wear heavy perfumes; don't swat at or annoy wasps that are hovering around [although difficult, the best way to avoid being stung is to sit still]; warn children of the dangers.

Information can be obtain from council officers. To rid yourself of this pest you have to find the nest during the day as the nest is quite at night and then call a pest control expert if the nest is on your property. It is a council problem if the nest is found on council property.



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OUR NATURAL WORLD

by Peter Hansen

The magic of touch. How often do we consider the healing qualities of a simple thing like touching another human being? Touch carries that indispensable emotion called love, and without it life is almost unbearable to those of normal human needs. From the moment we are born we need to be touched, first by the mother, in order to convey the message that tells us that we are precious, and are loved by being on the earth planet. The new-born is then comforted instinctively knowing that all is well.

Who hasn't held a child, kissed the affected part (like a skinned knee), and two minutes later the child is playing as though nothing has happened. Without that touch and love however, the distress could go on for hours. The healing magic of touch at work!

The desire to heal is a natural talent, and generally speaking all those who "feel" for those who suffer, possess the gift of healing. Perhaps the greatest exponent of the healing touch was Jesus. whose abilities to heal is well known to most of humanity. On another level, many domestic arguments have been abruptly cut short, when the two combatants touch, or cuddle each other? Suddenly all is well, as the healing vibrations do their work.

You may visit someone in Hospital, and the sick one will perk up and tell you

how much brighter they feel for your visit. Your presence has been a "healing touch", simply because their condition touched you on another level, and you gave freely, even if you weren't aware of it at the time.

A somewhat sad story to illustrate our topic. In late nineteenth century America, an orphanage with dozens of babies and small children as residents. had been dying in large numbers for years, and the Medical and caring staff were mystified at the toll, not being able to explain it terms of known childhood diseases. Their little charges just seemed to fade away, regardless of the efforts of the staff, as though the will to live was absent.

One thoughtful Doctor eventually deduced that they died due to the lack of touch and the love that went with it. A peculiar feature of all the deaths was a common sunken depression in the baby's skulls, at the back of the head. Whilst no Medical opinion of this strange pathology was known at the time, it became known as the "loveless baby syndrome".

Today we know that this area on the skull is known as the Visual Cortex, which stimulates emotions, pertinent to our well-being, or otherwise.

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DO YOU ENJOY A GOOD SING?

Local Beaconsfield resident Ted Horton along with musical friends David Greenaway and Suzann Frisk of Emerald have recently attended an inspirational musical workshop weekend at Kyneton, central Victoria.

The reason for their mission was to acquaint themselves with 'VOCAL NOSH', a new participation concept that rolls together contemporary style community singing with a wholesome soup supper after. Essentially gender balanced and accepting of all ages and musical abilities it is a noncompetitive activity. People are free to choose their own level of vocal comfort and position themselves anywhere within a circle of assembled singers. Songs are kept simple, strong and with easy to follow rhythms. They are sometimes linked to issues and events of the day or seasons of the year or from

different countries echoing their cultural backgrounds and traditions. Local Australian content is encouraged with input from participants and local songwriters. Our multi cultural background is incorporated in songs.

Led by a capable songster, local sessions are usually held once a month. Participants will not have to 'note bash' or follow complicated pages of music. Mostly unaccompanied 'Acapella style', a lot of it is sung in rounds without even having written music in front of you. Participants are taught simple breathing exercises and how to limber up in order to sing to the best of their ability. The aim is to complete learning and singing a maximum of perhaps eight easy enjoyable songs in any one session. Followed by a healthy soup and crusty roll. the evening is closed in song. No one is committed to

'signing up' for Membership.
People can attend when they
want to by booking
themselves in.

Already catching on in parts of central Victoria and Melbourne suburbia too, Vocal Nosh provides a wonderful community recreation that is fast becoming popular.

How often do we hear people say, "Ooh, I wish I could sing"? Vocal nosh enables people to do so in a relaxed atmosphere. Many Nations are famous for their strong singing traditions. Wales. South Africa, Indigenous Americans and Australian Aboriginals all have songs that have enriched their cultures throughout history. It has recently been very evident that Americans have spontaneously grouped together to sing patriotic and spiritual songs of faith and hope in their time of sorrow

and tragedy over Sept 11.

With support from Vic Health here in Australia, Vocal Nosh was conceived by some very keen Victorian musicians. Vocal Nosh is all about bringing communities together with a healthy culture developing activity. Not only is singing healthy for the body and soul but coming together for some 'Nosh' afterwards is good too. There is of course a reasonable charge for those attending.

So if you enjoy a good sing and want to come and harmonise with others VOCAL NOSH is happening B E A C O N S F I E L D COMMUNITY CENTRE, Beaconsfield Ave on Sunday 20th January 3pm till 6pm.

All Catering laid on and friendly group direction given for \$10. Phone to enquire with TED 97071313, SUZANN 59685440, DAVID 59685440.





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Pastor: David Morland - 9707 4160 Church Services: Sunday 10.30 am and 7pm.

♦ Christmas Day Service - 9am

Happening:

Sunday 9am

(Sunday School and Bible Study for all ages - contact Darryl and Merrin Minter 59 432 350)

Junior Youth Group: Alternate Fridays (- Cathy & Darrell Ackerley on 9700 7775 for programme)

Senior Youth Group: Alternate Fridays (ring Adam & Helen Bek on 9769 9960 for programme)

Make and Mingle: Friendship and craft group Every Wednesday 10am - 12 noon during school term (ring Ann Taylor 9707 1996)

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BEACONSFIELD SCOUT HALL HISTORY

Scouting began in Beaconsfield in February, 1957 with twelve boys between ages of eight and eleven years, being the foundation members of the Cub Pack. They met in the Public Hall opposite the Grocery Store. This Hall was later demolished to make way for the dual highway.

in May 1957 we moved to the Buffalo Lodge Hall in Railway Avenue, now operated by the Dancing School. This building had previously been the Tynong State School, and was one of many schools to be moved when the Consolidated School at Pakenham was established. On one occasion the Hall was dislodged from some of its foundations during a wild storm, but fortunately no one was inside at the time.

The following year we had a few Scouts, but no Leaders, so the parents transported the boys to Officer, so they could continue their Scouting.

At the start of 1959 the Scouts had their meetings in a building on the cnr. Wood Street and Beaconsfield Avenue, which once was a Slipper Factory and belonged to Mrs. Kath Roberts.

In October 1960 a street stall was held and raised the

princely sum of 33 Pounds
– a very satisfactory result.
At this time numbers were
greatly depleted in the
Pack, so once a month
Officer and Beaconsfield
combined for their activities.

In July 1964 the Railways Department granted the Group the lease of the land where the Scout Hall now stands, for a period of 21 years. The rental was 3 Pounds per year and the Committee had raised approximately 200 Pounds towards the building.

"Work Begins On New Hall" was the headline in the local paper in April 1966. With many hours of voluntary work and money raised from two very successful Bazaars, and regular waste paper and bottle collections, the Hall was officially opened on 3rd May, 1969. There were 180 people in attendance, including many local and Scouting dignitaries. It was a very proud day for all those people associated with the Group.

At that stage the Hall structure ended level with the front porch, but was extended to its present size in 1971. The walls and ceiling were also lined in later years.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Why is it that we have fish cat food, lamb catfood and chicken catfood and yet no one has invented mouse-flavoured catfood?

What could you call it? Perhaps MEATY MOUSE, MARINADE OF MOUSE, MOUSE MOUSSE! Any other ideas from readers would be most welcome!



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BEACONSFIELD'S HANDYMAN



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premium quality, repainted the exterior, replaced spoutings, removed an unsightly pergola, tidied the garden. It was sold in 7 days for \$105,000 before we completed the job by hanging "new" curtains throughout. The owner spent \$6,500 and received an extra \$30,000 for the property. The Yarraville property sold for \$25,000 above the agents estimate.

With the sale of houses being so buoyant you can maximize the most attractive way. We do not advocate major work — rather we give the house maximum eye appeal. We could be pleased to advise you — we are providing a service which will make you money.

Phil Collins. Handyman – 9707 4225

MOTORISTS BEWARE

Speed cameras have been sighted in Woods Street. Remember this is a 50km speed limit like all streets in Beaconsfield.

Remember there is plenty of parking at the rear of shops between Horner and Souter Street. Please be considerate to other motorists and do not park in the No Standing Zone in Souter Street and the parking limits on Old Princes Highway. Bi Laws Officers will be patrolling Beaconsfield.



BEACONSFIELD CRICKET CLUB

and they have some very promising young cricketers.

Our Cricket season is well underway. Pre-Season started mid August with indoor training. This was well attended and very intense and knocked the cobwebs out.

Michael Mc Mahon has been reappointed senior Coach for the season 2001/2002 Mick is working toward a successful season to erase the bitter disappointment of last years narrow Grand Final loss. He has some new ideas to try and is looking forward to an enjoyable season for all grades.

The club will again field 5 senior teams and all the younger players will be given every opportunity to perform at the highest level.

The Juniors have started training and the numbers are excellent we will run 2 under 12 teams most games will be played on Friday nights. Training is on Wednesday nights at 4.30 PM Alan Sauvarin is coach and can be contacted on 97048931

The Under 14 team will be coached by Glen Stacey training is going well

Kris Fletcher has been appointed Under 16 coach and will be assisted by Russell Vincent. This will be a very competitive team with a number of the boys keen to play senior cricket in the afternoon.

The club has entered a team in the DDCA Masters competition, this is for over 35's, we play one Sunday a month 6 games all on turf, if you are interested in playing talk to Joe Mc Master 9796 1940

Trade Brake and Clutch Co, located in Springvale are the clubs major sponsor for a second season and the club appreciates their fantastic support. The other major sponsors are The Pine Grove Hotel Upper Beaconsfield and Hungry Jacks in Berwick. Sponsorship enquires should be directed to Andrew Mercier ph: 9702 2350 if you know a business who would like to become involved and support local community sport.

New players are always welcome. We play on three local grounds, the main Beaconsfield ground, St.Francis Xavier College, and Akoonah Park.



BEACONSFIELD TENNIS CLUB NEWS

by Margaret Chatfield



We wish everyone a safe and joyous festive season and a Happy New Year.

Court Hire enquiries contact Margaret Chatfield - 9707 2016

BEACONSFIELD VIDEOLAND

Margaret, Tom & Erin, would like to take this opportunity to wish all our customers and friends a very Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year. Peace and Best Wishes for 2002.

Check out the many specials available on new release overnight videos and DVD's during the school holidays.

AROUND TOWN

If any of the following bother you, be an assertive citizen and contact the Cardinia Shire (59 454222)or attend Beaconsfield Progress Association meetings which are held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month.

- * Clothing Bins at the Railway Station.
- * Parking at the Railway Station
- * Large trucks parked in the streets.
- * Illegal parking in the streets nearby local schools.
- * Cars parking over the footpath.
- * Irresponsible pet owners.
- * Graffiti & Vandalism
- * Speeding cars/motorbikes.
- * Driving up the wrong side of the Highway to enter Goff Street.
- * Inadequate footpaths.
- * Branches hanging over the footpath.

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Contact Gary

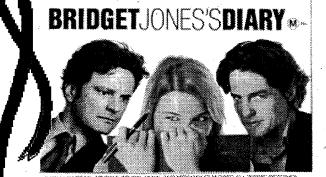
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