

Beaconsfield Banner

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NEW BUILDINGS FOR BEACONSFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL

(WRITTEN BY D. LOCKWOOD- PRINCIPAL)

Beaconsfield Primary School has a very busy year ahead in 1997. There will be a whole new school built on the site, with Stage 1 already underway.

Stage 1: One and half million dollars has been granted for this stage, the building of which will be put out to tender very soon, with works commencing early next year.

This includes seven new classrooms, a huge light and airy Library and a much needed Administration area. Playground areas and equipment will be relocated and a new hardcourt will be constructed.

Stage 2: This will be considered when school enrolments reach 450 (at present we have 260 students.) and will include another 7 permanent classrooms and a multi-purpose area for canteen, art, music and sport. There will be allocation of a further 8 relocatable classrooms as our numbers are expected to peak at 720, long term.

These new buildings are sorely needed. As you probably realise, all the classrooms placed on the site have been "portables".

The first master plan included the original school house as a focal point, but a building audit conducted by the department revealed that it was past cost effective renovation. New plans were then drawn up and have been accepted as a concept by School Council.

Because the upgrades includes the demolition of the old school building, much loved by past and present school communities, the School Council is keen to keep a link with this heritage in some way. At school and community meetings and through the school newsletter, we have asked for ideas which might best utilise the buildings materials to build some memorial to our origins here at Beaconsfield Primary School.

There have been some great ideas including the use of the bricks from the two remaining walls in a feature wall of the new building. - a rebuilding of the portico - a brick gate entrance - a bell tower - a gate house

We certainly welcome your ideas, and in consultation with the School Council and the Architect, we will choose the most appropriate design.



WHAT'S CHRISTMAS ALL ABOUT?



HAPPY CHRISTMAS - the greetings we give so often at this time of the year - the time when we look forward to being with our families, the time for surprise parcels for family and friends, the time of parties and reunions ...

But if this is all Christmas means to us we have missed its real meaning. Christmas is really a part of a wonderful story. A story of a great love and a great search.

This story began when God created a world perfect and beautiful. However this perfection didn't last for long before Adam and Eve, representative of the whole human race, decided to "do their own thing" and go in directions that led them away from God and His plan. This destroyed the harmony of the original creation and brought alienation from God. But God did not turn His back on His

world. The story of the Bible is the story of God working to bring us back to Himself. For long centuries he prepared humanity for the coming of Jesus. He is the centre-point of God's plan to bring us to a right relationship with Himself and in due course to restore earth's original harmony.

That's why the angels announced at the first Christmas time: "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all people. For to you, this day, a Saviour has been born: He is Christ the Lord." He came to reveal God's love and favour, and bring us our hearts peace. And it's a fact that those who have placed their trust in him do find peace, and renewal, through a new sense of relationship.

This is the real meaning and joy of Christmas.



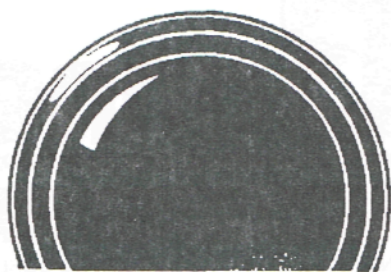
COMMUNITY CAROLS BY THE CREEK

SUNDAY DECEMBER 22nd AT 7.45PM

BOB BURGESS MEMORIAL PARK
Old Princes Highway (near the bridge)

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PRESIDENTS REPORT

By Tony Rushton



Tony Rushton

On October 29th the A G M of the Progress Association was held and was well attended. I would like to thank all members of the 95/96 committee for their support. To the retiring members Anne Goodman, Keith Goodman, Dorothy Simpson and Roy Simpson. I would like to thank them for the work they have done.

John Wells took the chair for the election of the new committee who are:- President Tony Rushton, Vice President Willem Boon, Secretary Ted Horton and Treasurer Paul Cohen. The committee

members are Lisa Edwards, Netti Abbing, Kath Clarke, Mary McGrath, Joy Bishop and John Byron.

The guest speaker John Wells spoke on some of the history of the area which was enjoyed by all. John then signed some books that he has had published. Thank you again John.

Di Lockwood Principal of the Primary School answered questions on the changes that are about to take place at the School. John Byron came up with a suggestion of a monument in Beaconsfield honoring the Pioneering Women of Gippsland.

Our next public meeting will be held at 8.00pm. on Tuesday 11th. February at the Community Centre to allow everyone to meet our prospective Councillors. (See Joy Bishop's report on page 22)

I would like to wish everyone compliments of the season.



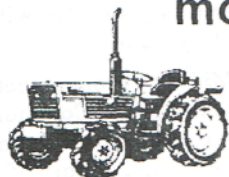
Left:- John Wells Signs a Book for Tony Rushton.

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BRUCE ADAMSON PLANNING TO LEAVE BEACONSFIELD



Bruce, the last remaining member of the Adamson family in Beaconsfield, is about to leave after 70 years: living most of his time here. It's the end of an era and with him goes a wealth of knowledge and memories. Many homes in Slingsby Ave, Beaconsfield Ave, Soldiers Road, Adamson Road and others are testimony to the craftsmanship of his father and grandfather before him. The shop in Wood Street and former public hall on the old Princes Highway were also built by Adamsons.

Bruce's Dad was one month old when the Adamson family moved to Beaconsfield from Malvern. They bought land in the township and built and opened their shop in Wood Street in 1905. They ran the town's timber and hardware business from here. Arthur, Bruce's Uncle ran it on his own until his death in 1983.

Bruce's grandfather arrived in Australia on Christmas Day in 1883. They came from Rochdale in England. Grandmother originated from Devon and Grandpa from Gretna in Scotland. As a family they lived in the green roofed house half way up Slingsby Avenue. Bruce had two older brothers and their Uncle Jim lived in another timber home behind the top of Hudson Street. Hence the road south of the creek became known as Adamson Road.

As a child Bruce attended the Primary school which he remembered as having the one snelter shed and one class room that is the school house that still stands to this day.

He walked to school each day across the railway line at the level crossing roadway that used to be where the pedestrian entrance now exists. The crossing linked Soldiers Road to Wood Street. There were no gates but further down on the South side a farm gate opened and closed to keep the cows off the line. Four cows did beat the system once and were sadly run over by the 7.45 am train and killed.

The Cardinia Creek provided many memories. The black fish were abundant in those days and good to eat. From the house in Slingsby Ave Bruce remembers looking down after dark to the winding creek that was dotted with lanterns along its bank with local fishermen enjoying the warm night air. Black fish were slow and eventually eaten out by the trout. Bruce remembers well the great flood of 1934 that washed away the Soldiers Road Bridge and several others up stream. Not until 1935/1936 was there a new bridge built and residents could only cross the creek on foot across the stronger railway bridge. The water came up so high that it even went over the tracks in parts.

Pipes, sand, timber, apples, groceries and other provisions came and went from the Beaconsfield railway station and its shunting 'branch line' that ran parallel north of the main line. The station platform and shed used to be South of the line with direct access from Kenilworth Ave. People in those days did not travel far and everyone in the town knew everyone else. Bruce's Dad never had a car, only a horse and cart.

Bruce was no academic at school and left when he was 15 years old. He worked on the railways at the Newport workshops and North Melbourne Locos.

Cont. on Page 16.

He worked as a fireman



Beaconsfield Community Centre Inc.

P.O. Box 2 Beaconsfield.
Ph. 9707 3449



Glenda Fryer

Report Written
by Glenda Fryer

The Community Centre had a wonderful opportunity on the weekend of September 28th and 29th, when Hilary from Craft Update Promotions offered us a site at the Arts, Craft 'N' Hobbies Show at the Berwick Leisure Centre. This weekend could not have been possible without the help of Denise Watkins, Chris Considine and Kaye Chapman who assisted

in setting up and attending our stall site over the weekend.

People from within our district and surrounding areas attended the show which was an ideal time to promote the Centres activities and with the help of our class tutors and students, we set up a display of some of the items which have been made in our classes. Thanks to Craft Update Promotions, many more people are aware of our Centre and their interest in our activities have increased.

The Staff and Committee of Management would like to wish you all a peaceful Christmas and safe holidays. Thankyou for your support throughout 1996. The Centre relies on the enthusiasm of volunteers and our volunteers this year have been outstanding. Thankyou.

Our Term 1 programme will be available in January 1997 with lots of new and

challenging courses for you to try. Please feel free to make your enquiries to Glenda in the office or phone 9707 3449.

MIDWAY

Midway held their Annual Melbourne Cup Day Luncheon with their usual enthusiasm. Members enjoyed entertainment provided by Gwen Neve and Doreen Saunders with a rendition of "A couple of Swells."

Trips are always well attended to a variety of places and entertainment has always been abundant. Trips have been held on other days

of the week so that Mondays are always at the Community Centre as a social afternoon.

It is with regret that the Midway group acknowledge the passing of Eddie Millen earlier this year. He will be missed by us all.

The Midway group meet at the Beaconsfield Community Centre each Monday afternoon between 1 and 3 pm. If you are interested in meeting new friends who enjoy life to the full, then the Midway group is for you. Feel free to come along or ring the centre on 9707 3449.



Above:- Gwen Neve at the Midway Cup.

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JANET BOWMAN'S STORY

*(History of former licensee of the "Gippsland Hotel"
Beaconsfield) written by John Wells*



Dana, Commandant of the Native Police.

Janet and David Bowman had eight children. Alexander, William and Elizabeth were apparently born in Scotland. John, Peter, David, Richard and James were born out here. (I said in an earlier column that the children could not have helped clear Bowman's Track, as it was claimed they did, because they were too young. Alexander would have been 24 when the track was being cleared and William might not have been much younger; I was overlooking the children born in Scotland.)

This story is about the redoubtable Janet Bowman, a lesson to all of us, even today. She must have been a woman of great courage and strength.

Janet was born at Kirriemuir, in Scotland, on 22 November 1810, the daughter of Alexander Watt. Watt was an ale-seller and this might have had great significance years later and a world away. On 5 July 1928 she married David Bowman, a weaver in what was then an important cottage industry. Power looms had not yet swept away the home weavers.

The couple had eight children, the five youngest being born after the family came to Australia in 1840. David apparently set himself up as a baker in Collingwood but in 1845 he became the licensee of the Darebin Creek Inn. This was in bushland then, on the way to Heidelberg from Melbourne.

There was then a short time on the "Monbolk" cattle run at Lysterfield before the Bowmans moved to Panty Gurn Gurn on the Cardinia Creek. They were on this run at the beginning of 1851. This date is fixed, sadly enough, by the date on which Janet's son, John Nicol Bowman, drowned in the Cardinia Creek while herding sheep. He died on 19 January 1851, a month after his ninth birthday.

While looking after the sheep with his brother, Peter, aged seven, he slipped into the water and Peter could not help him. Abraham Gardiner, from the Cardinia Station, met the boy

The Bowmans had built their home north of the Gipps Land Road between O'Neil and Glisman Roads in Beaconsfield. In 1853 Panty Gurn Gurn was transferred to David Bowman (remember that he'd been on it since 1851) by William Bowman. Nothing seems to be known about this William Bowman but I suppose the surname is not all that uncommon. There was later a Judge Bowman, for instance, who heard cases involving James Bowman and some tardy debtors, and there was no family connection.

In January 1855 David took up his Pre-emptive Right to 200 acres of the run. This cost him 200 Pounds. The PR block included most of the present Beaconsfield township site.

Being near a significant creek crossing, the Bowmans were frequently asked to provide shelter and food for travellers and it was probably because of this that they began the 'Gippsland Hotel', of which the Central Hotel is a more-or-less direct descendant. The licence for the hotel was dated 17 April 1855. The hotel was apparently the raison d'être for Bowman's Track. Mrs Bowman presumably saw the track as a way of bringing



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BEACONSFIELD FIRE BRIGADE REPORT



Above:- Captain Ron Woodfine

The Summer season is nearly on us. All house holders and land owners should have their pre-summer works well underway to make their house safe from on coming fires. If residents require information on pre-summer works or fire protection, call into the Fire Station any Sunday morning where information is available.

The phone number to call in case of fire is 000

The C.F.A. has a new Info Line for people wanting to know if they can have a summer barbecue, when they can burn off and other information about fires. The new 24hour Info Line is 131 599

It is a quick and easy way to get details about fire restrictions. People can ring for the price of a local call.

A voice tells callers how to get specific information simply by pressing a button on the phone.

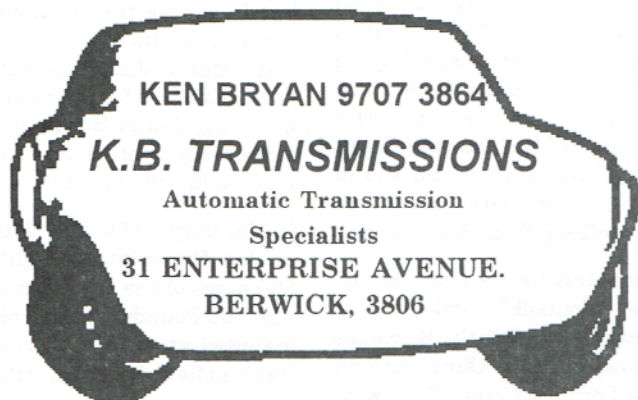
Information includes: - Details of fire restrictions such as a Total Fire Ban or a Fire Danger Period. - Details of current major fires or other emergencies. - Advice on Fire Prevention at home. - An outline on how C.F.A. is creating a safer community. - How to join your local brigade.

The new line can also link callers to a C.F.A. expert for a Business Hours discussion on Fire Prevention and Survival Planning. The information line is two-way. A brief message can be recorded with comments about C.F.A. and a request for a follow up.

The new Info Line IS NOT FOR EMERGENCIES. FOR FIRE OR OTHER EMERGENCIES DIAL 000

I would like to take this opportunity to wish the community of Beaconsfield a Happy Christmas and a Fire Safe 1997.

Ron Woodfine Beaconsfield Fire Brigade Captain.



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ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSURE*Peter N. Hansen N.D. Dip Hom.*

Regretfully, due to financial constraints I must inform the local community of the closure of my clinic at its present location.

I wish to express my thanks to all those who entrusted their health problems to me over the last 8+ years. The loyalties of many patients are gratefully acknowledged by myself, and caring treatment will still continue at my new home-based location in Beaconsfield township.

Future phone calls for appointments should now be made on 9707 1214.

May I wish you all, a festive and joyous Christmas season with peace and success in 1997.

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Situated at 100 Princes Highway,
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Local men Andrew Edwards and Brett Mott, have taken over Beaconsfield Garden Supplies.

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CARDINIA CREEK LINEAR PARK

Work is well underway in reating the new Melbourne Water Park South of the Cardinia Creek in Beaconsfield.

Melbourne Water confirm that there is to be a car park in the centre of the area and

toilets will be positioned back toward the freeway.

In time seats and a BBQ will be built. Ultimately this park will be linked by way of footpaths and bike paths to the Cardinia Reservoir Park.



Above:- Work starts on the Park on Soilders Rd. near Cardina Creek Beaconsfield.

WHAT INFLUENCED MY LIFE?

(Written by Myrtle Wilson)

When I was in grade three at Beaconsfield State School I read my first book right through all by myself. It was about pirates but I don't recall its title. Suddenly the magic of fiction came alive and I wanted to write books when I grew up.

Like most fiction writers I have experienced times, but only occasionally, when something has put the story in my head so clearly that writing it has been almost like doing dictation. If only all my writing came so easily. But it doesn't.

My most astounding experience was starting a story in 1972 about an agricultural college which I set around my home "Ayrhill" on Soldiers Road, but I gave it the fictitious name of "Gracedale". It finally appeared as my sixth published book in 1990 called "Uncle's Show" A few years later Hillcrest Christian College announced it was starting a school at "Ayr Hill" with a similar emphasis on rural activities. Fiction has become fact.

SPANISH PUZZLE

Can you imagine what an 8,000 piece puzzle, put together, glued, framed and hanging on a wall looks like?

Well Karen Wade and Matt Boon have one such puzzle hanging in their house. Matt bought Karen a Spanish puzzle "Le Rendicion de Granada Pardilla" for Mothers Day this year. During the many wintry

days they have continued to put together the 180cm x 120cm puzzle.

Taking less than 6 months to complete, it truly looks magnificent. The 15cm frame adds the final touch. Friends and family shared the delight of the finished artwork over a weekend of celebrations.

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.

We would like to thank all our clients for their support throughout the year.

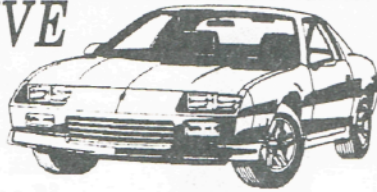
The following is details of our trading over the Christmas - New Year Holidays.

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	26th Closed
	27th Closed
	28th Appointments only
	30th Closed 31st Open
January	1st Closed
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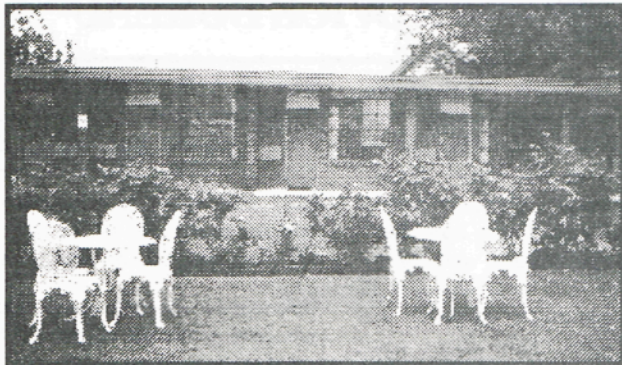


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OUR NATURAL WORLD

(Written by Peter Hansen)



Peter Hansen

CHRISTMAS - The joyous time for children, the expensive time for adults (and other mixed feelings). Present giving is high on the list of course, and hereby lies some interesting tales.

In ancient Rome, during the month of January, Romans exchanged small gifts and made seasonal offerings to the emperor - in the reign of the infamous Caligula- this was by order!

On January 1st Parisian Batchelors traditionally gave presents to friends who had entertained them through the year- a relic of the roman gift giving tradition. At the same time the Norse God Odin, was riding across the midwinter night sky scattering punishments to the wicked and presents to the good - eagerly taken up by the population, the later part at least.

The Christian church having failed to suppress the harmless although pagan customs substituted the Magi and St Nicholas (Father Christmas) as the gift bringers and decreed that presents were to be given in the name of Jesus, God's gift to man.

Medieval kings exchanged lavish gifts of carefully calculated value, but on the whole, present giving was a one-way operation. "Good" children received "surprise" presents of nuts and sweets and small toys. Clerics and Institutions gave charitable gifts to the needy. Employers presented servants with something useful, usually clothing. Tradesmen pressed small tokens on customers. Peasants gave presents to

landlords in the hope of future favour, such as being allowed to remain in their homes for a further 12 months.

The Christmas Tree is a famous symbol of Christmas, yet is a relative newcomer to the annual festivities we know so well. Martin Luther has been credited with the creation of the Christmas tree in the late 18th century.

It is said that one Christmas Eve he was so moved by the sight of the star-lit winter sky through the fir-trees, that he hurried home and tried to reproduce the sight for his children by decking a tree with candles.

The Christmas tree did not enjoy common acceptance in England until after 1840, when Queen Victoria and Prince Albert set up a tree for their children at Windsor Castle. At about the same time Princess Helene of Mecklenburg introduced the tree to Paris, this commencing its common acceptance throughout Europe and all English speaking countries. The Tree was introduced to the United States by the Pennsylvanian Germans, and is first mentioned in 1821, but it was a novelty for some years, and churches used to charge admission to see elaborately decorated versions.

Now a few well-known words, by Clement C Moore. "Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house, not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse. The stockings were hung by the chimney with care, in the hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there, the children were nestled, all snug in their beds, while visions of sugar-plums danced in their head."

By the way if you are concerned about people getting drunk, hang some Ivy up. As the sacred plant of Bacchus, it's supposed to protect against this condition.

Merry Christmas Peter Hansen.

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WINE AND FOOD

By Keith Goodman



Keith Goodman

It almost always happens, regardless of your good intentions. Christmas dinner is drawing to an end and you can hardly move and the release of a button or two or a notch of your belt is a blessed relief. Too much food and maybe too much drink combined with a quick nap seems to be 'a Christmas thing', or am I just getting older. A bit of both most likely.

The combination of champagne and a balmy summers day/evening make for the perfect way to lead into a meal. Try: Domaine Chandon Vintage Brut 91.2 or 3, \$22; Killawara premeir Brut 93, \$9. Seaview Pinot Chardonnay 93, \$12 or Yalumba D 93, \$19. With entree try: seafood with Sauvignon Blanc e.g. Yarra Ridge 96, \$14; Shaw & Smith

95, \$14 or Oxford Landing 96, \$6. Asparagus with Rhine Riesling e.g. Jacobs Creek 96 a Trophy & 2 golds & a steal at \$6; Mitchelton Blackwood Park 96, \$10; Pewsey Vale 96, \$8 or Petaluma 96, \$15. For a fuller flavoured entree or main try Dalfarras Marsanne 93, \$9 or McWilliams Mt. Pleasant Elizabeth 91, \$10 both wines are different and a big mouthfull of flavour and if you are a Chardonnay fan try: St. Huberts 94 or 95, \$15; Lindeman's Padthaway 95, \$15; Wynns Coonawarra 94 or 95 or Seaview 95, \$8.

If using a red wine consider Sparkling Burgundy especially with Turkey, Goose or Pork e.g. Seppelt Harpers Range, \$14; Andrew Garrett, \$10; Peter Rumball, \$18. Watch for the trap of buying a young potentially great wine which is full of tannins and unbalanced characters and likely to disappoint for Christmas dinner but certainly suited to under the Christmas Tree. Young Pinot Noir will not disappoint and examples are: Windy Peak 95, \$10; Jamieson's Run 95, \$11.50; Tarrawarra 93, \$27 or Tunnel Hill 95, \$14.50.

Cont. on Page 21



PAKENHAM CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

Want to know what to do, where to go, who to ask? Well the Pakenham Citizens Advice Bureau at 68 Main Street, Pakenham, have trained volunteer staff who have been answering these and many other queries over the last 17 years or more, so why not check with them about what facilities and activities are in your community.

The Pakenham C.A.B. aims to ensure that individuals and groups have access to relevant, accurate and comprehensive knowledge of their rights, responsibilities and services in order that they can be independent and effective members of the community.

The C.A.B. respects the enquirers right to make their own decision but with the bureau's information sources they can show the choice of options available which many not occurred to the enquirer.

Information is our business but we can arrange referrals to professional agencies if required. Yes, we have the lot when it comes to helping you help yourself so why not check us out next time you are in doubt.

Pakenham Citizens Advice Bureau, 68 Main Street, Pakenham open from 10am to 3 pm Monday to Friday - phone 0359 412 377.



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BAPTIST:

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Sunday. 10.30am; 7.00pm.
Sunday School 9.15am.

CATHOLIC:

Berwick. High Street.
Saturday. 6.00pm
Sunday. 9.00am; 10.30am; 6.00pm.

SALVATION ARMY:

Berwick Old Anglican Church Church Street
Sunday 10.00am.

UNITING:

Berwick. High Street.
Sunday 10.30am

RECIPE CORNER

APPLE TEA CAKE

INGREDIENTS :

175 gm SR flour
90 gm sugar
60 gm butter
1 egg
4 table spoons milk
pinch salt.



METHOD :

Melt butter, add sugar and beat well.
Add egg and beat well.
Add flour and milk alternately while continually mixing.
Pour into a 180ml (small sponge) tin.
Fan slices of apples around top then sprinkle with cinnamon and sugar.
Bake at 180C for 25 mins. until crust gets crunchy and golden.
Alternate recipe: add a handful of currants to the mix.

Anne Goodman.

FREEZES WELL

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Gerald and the staff of Beaconsfield Timber and Hardware would like to thank all their customers for the support throughout 1996.



We hope everyone has a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

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Trading times for the Christmas period are as follows:

Open	Tuesday	Dec 24th 7.30am to 3.00pm
Closed	Tuesday	Dec 24th 3.00pm-----
Closed	Wednesday	Dec 25th -----
Closed	Thursday	Dec 26th -----
Open	Friday	Dec 27th 7.30am to 5.00pm
Open	Saturday	Dec 28th 8.00am to 12.30pm
Open	Monday	Dec 30th 7.30am to 5.00pm
Open	Tuesday	Dec 31st 7.30am to 5.00pm
Closed	Wednesday	Jan 1st -----

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BRICKBATS AND BOUQUETS

Bouquets - to the Gazette newspaper whose article on my daughters stolen bike led to its return by Narre Warren Police.

Brickbats - shame on the person with the red mazda who parks, all day every day, in front of the local shops, stopping legitimate shoppers from gaining easy access.

Brick bats - to the person who is writing anonymous letters complaining about dogs barking at night instead of approaching the owners with their complaints in person. Perhaps they have some suggestion about stopping stray cat (and possums) invading the dogs territory after dark!

Bouquets - to Eastern Energy for the speedy repairs of the lights that were vandalised between Railway Station and Cardinia Creek.

Bouquets - the many people who attended the Bonfire night and were considerate enough the put their rubbish in the provided bins. It was the easiest "clean up" so far.

Bouquets - to Cardinia Shire, for the continuation of the footpath from the Drs. surgery to the Hotel.

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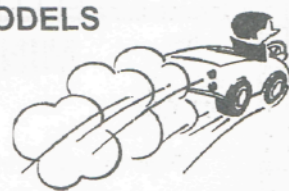
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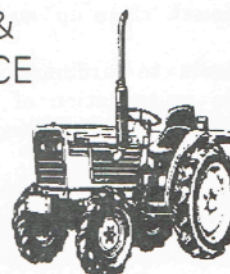
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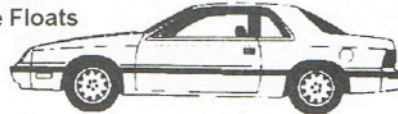
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BRUCE ADAMSON

Cont. From Page 3.

cleaning the engines of trains. He was eighteen in 1946/47, the war had ended and Bruce enlisted in the Army to go and join his mates that had gone to Japan. They sent him to Darwin instead! Bruce had several jobs throughout the rest of his working life on the railway, at the S.E.C. on Roach's farm north of the highway and from 1973 to 1985 was full time caretaker at St. Margaret's in Berwick. He and his wife Darla who he had married in 1958 lived in at the school. She worked there as the cook and it was not until 1985 that they moved into Number 1 Railway Avenue, Beaconsfield the former home of Arthur Adamson.

Bruce played football for 'Officer - Toomuc' at Officer until a bad back forced him to give up and he also played cricket at Officer. He was a

fast bowler in those days. He was very active on the Beaconsfield Hall committee along with Jim Parkes the butcher. He served in the Beaconsfield Fire Brigade for many years and was made a life member. The first fire he ever fought was in Upper Beaconsfield but many fires took them further afield to places like Yea, Frankston, the Dandenongs and Langwarrin. The most notable fires were the coolstores in Emerald Road and the Berwick Railway Station when it burnt to the ground also. Equipment was sparse in those days and the Baillieus used to 'loan' their old Dodge Fargo truck with the square tank on the back. It was a former Army truck. From this the men used to fill the knapsacks with water and fight the fires with hand pumps. Later came the hand

me down Buick fire truck from Berwick and then the much improved Austin Fire Truck which was an early forerunner of what we have today.

Darla Adamson used to work for some while at the old Bakery in Beaconsfield. She and Bruce were great friends with the owners who moved to Queensland and consequently Bruce and Darla had many holidays up there since. They almost moved up there themselves to live but due to illness partially caused by the heat they decided to remain living in Beaconsfield, Victoria.. Bruce lives on his own now

since Darla died and plans to move to Nelson in South West Victoria as soon as he has sold property here in Beaconsfield. He has friends there, it is a beautiful spot to live and he is looking forward to it. He will be sad in some ways to leave Beaconsfield, the town that his family has been so strongly associated with.

Many will want to wish him well for the future. The Adamsons will long be remembered for the active part they played in shaping the social fabric and heritage of Beaconsfield over the past 100 years or so. Its a significant period of history for the town as we grow at an alarming pace now towards the 21st century.



Above:- Adamsons Old Hardware Shop in Woods St.



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BEACONSFIELD**

BONFIRE NIGHT

(Written by W. Boon)

It was a beautiful evening this year when the Annual Bonfire Night took place in the Bob Burgess Park on Monday 4th November.

A good night was enjoyed by the crowd of around 600 people who were entertained with by S. Oldham and J. Omar.

The Beaconsfield community should be thanked for piling up one of the biggest and tidest heaps of rubbish! As with any event there are many people who contribute and I would like to thank the following:— Tony Rushton, for his lights and electrical equipment. - John Campbell, for providing his truck to be used as a stage. - Ted Horton for putting up the signs. - Paul Chapman, for helping me set up on the night. - To the Pakenham Little Athletics Club for providing the food and drinks on the night. - Beaconsfield Fire Brigade, for lighting and controlling the Bonfire. - A special thankyou to those who attended the night and for keeping the park so clean and tidy.

As a special attraction we were able to have a Fireworks display. Something we have talked about many times but managed to do this year due to the generous contribution of the following businesses. In Beauty, The Temples, The Good Tonic Cafe, Beaconsfield Squash Centre, Model Tech, Berwick Woodmachining, Beaconsfield Tractors and Mowers, R. Panjkov, Taco Bills, Beaconsfield Chiropractic Clinic, R.S.V. Engines, Beacy Washing Machine Repairs, Beaconsfield Auto Electrics, Central Hotel, Beaconsfield Video Shop, Beacy Baker, Beaconsfield and Berwick Doctor Surgery, Beaconsfield Pharmacy and Beaconsfield Pizza Shop.

The Fireworks were made possible by Southern Cross Fireworks. Thankyou to Tony for both organising the sponsorship and the fireworks.

We look forward to Cup Eve 1997 for the next Bonfire night.



Above: - A Large crowd enjoy the Bonfire.

MAKE & MINGLE

(WRITTEN BY P. DUNDAS)

Make and Mingle concluded on the 4th December with a display of craft work made during the year, carols singing and Father Christmas making his usual appearance with lollies for the children. This rounds off a very successful year for Make & Mingle.

During the year, exhibitions of our craft work were held at Narre Warren and Pakenham libraries both creating a lot of interest.

Cont. on Page 18.

Goodfellows

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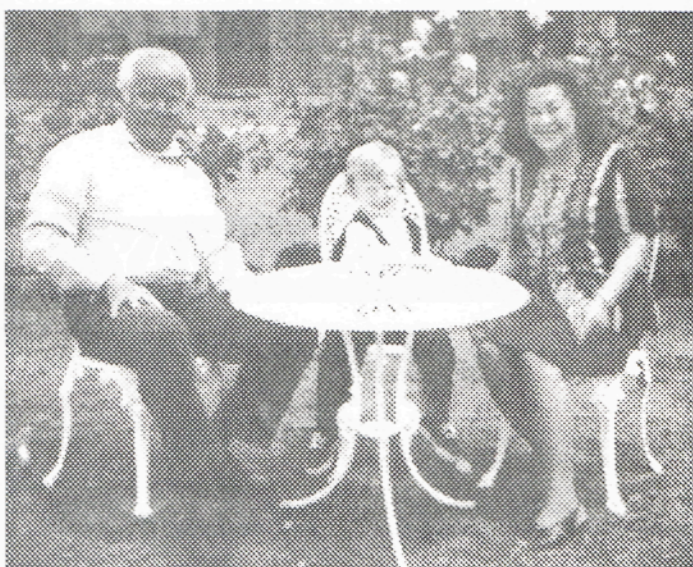
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IMPRESSIONS OF BEACONSFIELD



*Above:-Blanche and Douglas McDonald, with Richard Best at
the Budget Motel in Souther St. Beaconsfield.*

Our ten months stay at the
Beaconsfield Lodge Motel has
been very rewarding and most
cordial with host Kathy and
Robin Best especially little
Richard who has given us so
much pleasure and
entertainment.

The whole community of
Beaconsfield have taken us to
their hearts especially the
little children and to that end
Margaret Boon and her band
of children. The "Milky Bar"
children James and Sarah
children of Mark and Diana
have given hours of
memorable pleasure.

The Fish Bar with John &

Toni and young Helen and the
Pizza take away have been
very obliging.

We will continue our World
Tour after Christmas and New
Year and express our sincere
gratitude to the community
of Beaconsfield for making our
stay an enjoyable and
memorable one.

A Happy & Blessed
Christmas and Prosperous
New Year.

Blanche and Douglas
McDonald. (Mr & Mrs Donny
- named by Richard 'The Lion
Heart' Best).

MAKE & MINGLE

Cont. From Page 17.

Special days were
demonstrations of tartan
crochet rug making, marbling,
eggshories and beaded angels.
The angels make very
attractive decorations for the
Christmas tree.

Crafts learnt during the year
were embroidery, patchwork,
one-step decoupage, card
making and stamping,
Christmas gifts, cottage
crafts, sewing, stencilling,
calligraphy and spinning.

Next year Make and Mingle
begins on Wednesday 5th
February at the Baptist

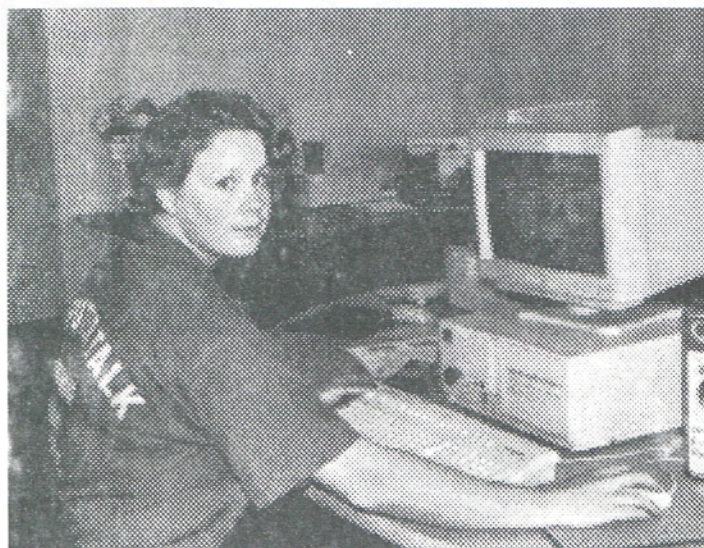
Church at 10 am. We will be
doing jewellery making and
designing, stamping,
stencilling, spinning, quilling,
sewing and a lot more.

Blank cards are available for
card designing.

We hope to see both old and
new friends next year and
wish everyone the blessings
of Christmas and a Happy
New Year.



COMPUTERS HAVE COME TO BEAconsfield.



Above Robyn Mowat at Computer Talk in Beaconsfield.

Computers are a great asset for any home or office. As well as providing great fun, they should also be able to save you time and money. If however, your computer isn't doing what you know it can do, then maybe a little extra help is needed.

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There are many great books on the market to help in this regard, but you can't beat having an experienced person sitting beside you or within easy reach of the phone, to help you out with those more difficult problems or to point you in the right direction. Computer talk caters to this need by designing a personalised schedule that runs at a time convenient to you and at a pace suit.

Computer Talk also offer specialised advice on personal and small business accounting packages. There are many on the market with now being the perfect time to implement such a system. There are many decisions to be made and the assistance and advice of a specialist with hands on experience can be of great benefit to help you avoid some costly and time consuming

problems experienced by others. Qualified staff will work with you and your organisation offering accurate advice.

As a special offer to Beaconsfield Banner readers present this article and receive \$5 off any purchase over \$30.

For more information on the services offered by Computer Talk call and speak to Greg on (019) 952 452 or at the office on (03) 9769 5277

HEALTH AND FITNESS OF OUR CHILDREN

(Written by Margaret of Juz-Kidz Fitness)

Recently we recognised Children's week. It was to highlight the needs of our children, however, it was also seen that there are many areas which are in need of correction. One of these is in regard to the health and fitness of our children.

A number of startling facts have been released indicating that Australian children are in fact rather unhealthy. To mention a few: - 50% of school children have no regular exercise. (ACHPER 1985 Australian Health and Fitness Survey)

- Approximately 50% of 10 to 15 yr olds have higher than recommended cholesterol levels. (1988 Scientific symposium on nutrition for Australian children)

It is imperative that we all consider the consequences of these statistics, however, more so as parents it is our responsibility to ensure that our children have the opportunity to grow in a healthy environment and to become and remain fit.

The most effective way to do this is to ensure that we teach and enforce a nutritious diet and also a regular exercise program.

With this in mind, Margaret Croxford, mother of two girls aged 10 and 13, who is also a Qualified Fitness Instructor and has attended workshops on Fitness Instruction for children, has recently commenced fitness classes for children aged between 8 to 14, every Wednesday at the Beaconsfield Fitness Centre, 29 Wood St., at 4pm. The classes are an hour long and incorporate Aerobics, Dance Step, Slide and Circuit. The aim is to provide children with the exercise and nutritional information they need whilst having fun.

A recent "A Current Affair" report also highlighted the need for our children to become more active and to improve their eating habits which further shows why these classes are so valuable. Should anyone be interested in their children attending classes, please contact Margaret on 015 549 339.



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BEACONSFIELD TENNIS CLUB NEWS

(Written by M. Chatfield)



Margaret Chatfield

Another busy year nearly over and Christmas only a few weeks away. I'd like to wish everyone, on behalf of the Beaconsfield Tennis Club, a Happy Christmas and a Safe and Prosperous New Year.

MIDWEEK LADIES SPRING COMPETITION TUESDAY

SECTION 6 were the only team to make it to the finals. Unfortunately they were put out in their Semi-finals. Better luck next year ladies. Midweek Ladies Autumn Competition commences in February 1997. Contact Pat Schelling on 9707 1839 for any enquiries.

SATURDAY JUNIORS AND SENIORS

Saturday Juniors and Seniors cease play on the 14th December and recommence on the 1st February, 1997. Juniors contact Heather Saunders on 9707 2081 Seniors contact Dawn Snelson on 9704 6852 Junior Practise will cease on the 13th December and recommence on 24th January, 1997.

WINTER PENNANT COMPETITION.

Anyone interested in playing pennant, need to contact Russell Clacy on 0359 413 200 before January 1997. New Season starts in April 1997.

THE B.A.G. COMMITTEE

On Saturday 19th October a combined Trivia and Presentation night was held. It was another entertaining and successful night put together by Greg Menzel and Justine Clough.

PEART TROPHY

Heather Saunders was named as the recipient of the Peart Trophy for 1996 for the time and effort of work she has contributed to the Juniors and many other areas in the club over the years as a member. Our Annual Street Stall on the 8th November was well supported by club members by donations of goods. Thank you to everyone. Thankyou to the Clough family for donating a silver coffee service. Brenda and John Douma the First and the Best Pizza for Family Pizza for our Raffle.

COMMUNITY INTEREST

Our Club has decided to take part in the National Tennis Fun Day Program again next year on Sunday 16th February 1997 between 11am and 4pm. Its FREE for everyone, so come along and join in with members and non members alike a great day full of activities and fun.

COURT HIRE

If anyone is interested in Court Hire contact Margaret Chatfield - 9707 2016.

BEACONSFIELD CRICKET CLUB NEWS

The season so far has been a good one for Beaconsfield Cricket Club, with A and B Grade sitting near the top end of the ladder and C, D and E grades all travelling well after four games. Juniors are having a good year, with both U14 and U16 recently scoring outright wins.

Highlights have included a hat trick from young Raymond Cook, seven wickets for Peter

Goodes and some big scores from Robert Read. All sides are now looking for a couple of wins in the run up to Christmas to make the race to the finals later in the season a little easier.

Socially the Cup Day Barbeque was a very good event, with many families enjoying the atmosphere. Coming up is the Little Tatts/Christmas Night on 21st December.

BE-A-CYCLIST

With the nicer weather upon us again, and with daylight savings here, maybe it is time to take the bike out of the shed, dust of the cobwebs and take it out for a ride.

It certainly amazes us how many people are cycling around Beaconsfield.

You might have seen them, going around the Princes Highway, Wood Street and Beaconsfield Ave. Maybe you would like to join us. Maybe do only a few laps for starters. Before you know it you'll be



riding for an hour. It certainly is a good training circuit for the not-so-fit or beginners.

If you interested and are fitter and can ride a bike for 3 hours or so, why not join us on Sunday morning for a ride. We leave the Kindergarten carpark at 7.30am every Sunday - weather permitting. Maybe we will see you there!

WINE AND FOOD

Cont. from Page 10.

Shiraz and Cabernet suit the bigger flavoured roasts. Shiraz examples are: Mt. Ida 91.2.4. \$18; De Bortoli Yarra Valley 93. \$18 or McWilliams Barwang 93. \$15. Cabernets are: Yalumba Menzie's 91 or 92. \$16; St Hubert's 94. \$16; De Bortoli Yarra Valley 94. \$19 or Leeuwin Art Series 92. \$30 and sheer class. Red blends are: Wynns Coonawarra Cab Merlot 93. \$11 and drinking beautifully now. Tatachilla Parteners 95. \$10; Charles Melton Nine Popes 95. \$22.

Tatachilla Keystone 95. \$14. Sweet wines are: Tolana Botrytis Rhine Riesling 93 (half). \$11 or De Bortoli Noble One 94 (half). \$20.

Note that all prices are discount from Dan's, Harry's, Phillip's or Safeway's.

When friends drop in for a Christmas cuppa try Anne's Apple Tea Cake, a long time family favourite and it is quick and easy to make.

Merry Christmas to you all and thank you for your kind wishes and offers of help during my recent health scare, things are looking rosy.



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FORTHCOMING COUNCIL ELECTIONS

By Joy Bishop

The Cardinia Shire Council arranged an information evening on the 19th November 1996 for interested persons and group representatives to hear about the forthcoming council elections to be held in March, 1997.

There were approximately 50 people in attendance, and it was an interesting and informative evening. A number of council officers spoke as did two of the commissioners.

The new council is going to be a lot different from what we have experienced in the past. We will have a bigger riding than before with fewer councillors. The Cardinia Shire will be made up of four ridings, represented by seven Councillors. Beaconsfield will be in Beaconhills riding represented by two councillors who will each serve a three year term. Beaconhills riding will take in Beaconsfield, Upper Beaconsfield, Officer, Upper Pakenham and a small portion of the eastern end of Pakenham.

The new councillors will be like a board of directors and will run the council like a business. The speakers all pointed out that it was extremely important to have quality councillors capable of running the shire efficiently and that they be good team performers so as to get the job done efficiently.

The Council will be encouraged to establish the strategic plans and policies, set standards, promote economic development and monitor performance of management, and the staff will organize service delivery, with an effective customer request system. It was also mentioned that we in the community must look for suitable quality candidates for this election and keep in mind that in the future we will need young people to look to the future, into the next millennium, community leaders. The new council will

have control of an annual budget of \$27mil. and the new councillors will be looking at a capital works projects budget of \$70mil over 10 years, so council is now big business.

It appeared from what was said that the Progress Association will have a bigger roll to play in that small things like pot holes will be handled by council staff and if your complaint is not successfully resolved it is probable that it will be taken to the Progress Association to get action on behalf of the community rather than individuals dealing directly with councillors on minor matters, as these are supposed to be dealt with by the staff.

The elections will be conducted by the State Electoral Office and are to be by postal ballot with the ballot papers being posted over a three day period 25th to 27th February 1997. Ballot papers must be returned by 6.00p.m. 14th March 1997 and counting will be done over the period 15th and 16th March 1997 with the results being announced at 9.00a.m. on Monday 17th March. An exhaustive preferential system will be used.

The Progress Association has decided to hold a meeting to allow everyone to meet the prospective Councillors. This evening will be held at the Community Centre Beaconsfield Avenue, Beaconsfield on Tuesday 11th February, 1997 at 8.00p.m.

Two of our former Councillors have indicated that they will be standing, both are well known in the area, Mr. Ted Owen and Mr. Keith Ewenson.

Who gets to vote -

- (a) All those on the State and Federal electoral rolls.
- (b) The owner of rateable land within the riding who is not a resident

Cont. on Page 23.

JANET BOWMAN'S STORY

Cont. From Page 5.

David Bowman died at the hotel on 6 August 1860 and Mrs Bowman carried on the business herself until 1868, when she sold to a Mrs Gibbs. It is claimed in the Bowman family history that the Berwick Road District Board was formed at the hotel in 1856 and that meetings were held alternately in the Gippsland Hotel and the Border Inn, Berwick. It is also claimed that at the first meeting, in the Gippsland Hotel, the idea of a district agricultural society was raised, resulting in the 1856 formation of the "Mornington Farmers' Society".

There is a problem with the dates here because the book later refers to the formation of the Berwick Roads Board in 1862. That is the correct date. Alexander Bowman, Janet's son, was a foundation member of the Board. He resigned in 1867, shortly before the formation of the Shire of Berwick on 12 May 1868.

Incidentally, when David Bowman died his estate was valued at 2000 pounds, a tidy figure in those days. In 1880, twenty years later, the hotel was up for sale again and was passed in at 1800 pounds. The 200 acres Bowman had owned would be worth millions today, and the hotel sold in 1987 for \$1.64 million. Times change, and so do prices.

Couple all this with the known fact that Prince Alfred, the Duke of Edinburgh, stayed in it in 1869, and the hotel gains added historical lustre. The government built two extra rooms for his stay and the hotel was staffed by crewmen from HMS Galatea, the Prince's frigate.

On 21 January 1904 Janet Bowman died in Dandenong. She and four of her sons had moved to that small village when they sold the Panty Gurn Gurn property (reduced to the pre-emptive right of 200 acres) and the sons had become prominent Dandenong businessmen.

It was typical of the times that the obituary said about half as much about Janet as was usually said about men who'd done less than half as much. Women were not regarded as 'good businessmen' in those days. Janet was described as having led "a useful life as a wife and mother, and a good colonist".

I'd have thought that as an immigrant who came here with very little capital and, with her husband, built up a handsome fortune, raised a large and successful family, ran a hotel after being widowed and organised the building of Bowman's Track, she might have been entitled to a little more praise.

COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Cont. From Page 22.

(c) The occupier of rateable land within the riding who is not a resident (only one person per property under (b) and (c) is entitled to vote) The occupier of a rateable property who is not a resident will need to apply to Council for a form to register to vote. The roll closes on 18th December, 1996. Nominations close 12th February, 1997.

THANKYOU

I had a phone call the other day from George Armitage who was the original printer of the Beaconsfield Banner. He said that he was very pleased with how the banner had improved and grown since it was started.

The October Banner was the first Banner he had received delivered by the mail.

Tony Rushton.

PLEASE NOTE

Many articles have been provided by readers of the Banner and are not necessarily the views of the Beaconsfield Progress Association or the Banner Production Committee.

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THANKYOU

Mary and Lyn of the Post Office would like to most sincerely thank all the special people of Beaconsfield who were so supportive of us after our upheaval. Your kindness enabled us to better cope in the days which followed and was very much appreciated.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Jill and Graham Aurisch on their 25th Wedding Anniversary. Love Mum and Dad, Diane, John, Mandy, Michael, Glenda & Steven.

DEATHS

It is with sadness that the Banner Production Committee acknowledge the deaths of two of our community members, Bruce Pollard and Ken Heriot. Condolences to both families, relations and close friends.

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