

# Beaconsfield Banner

Vol. 19 No. 2 Bimonthly Publication of the Beaconsfield Progress Association Inc. June /July 2007

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BANNER POSTAL ADDRESS - PO. BOX 217, BEACONSFIELD 3807

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**www.beaconsfield.org.au**



## BRIDGE NEARS COMPLETION

The Bryn Mawr Bridge that will connect Soldiers road to Princess Highway Berwick is scheduled to open in the coming weeks, which will hopefully reduce traffic at peak times in Beaconsfield.

## BEACONSFIELD PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

Meetings are held on the  
3rd Tuesday of each month  
7.30pm

Beaconsfield Community Complex, O'Neil Road  
**EVERYONE WELCOME**

**17th July 2007**  
**21st August, 2007**  
**18th September, 2007**

**AGM - 16th October, 2007**

<b>President :</b>	Les Reader
<b>Secretary:</b>	David Morland
<b>Correspondence to :</b>	P.O. Box 217 Beaconsfield 3807 banner@beaconsfield.org.au

## COMMUNITY REMEMBERS TONY

modest, unassuming, community minded



Tony Rushton was killed in a car accident near Swan Hill on 6th April, 2007. Hundreds gathered at the funeral service to pay tribute to a family and community man. Tony's favourite music was performed by friends Jan Dandridge and Ian Castles.

Eulogy tributes were delivered by Ted Horton (family friend), Les Reader (Beaconsfield Progress Association President) and Kate Lempriere (Cardinia Shire Mayor).

See page 20 for Eulogy given by Ted Horton, plus other tributes from various regular writers of the Banner.

In the days following the accident an appeal began on 3AW and thousand of dollars were raised to replace Simone's wheelchair which was wrecked in the accident. Through the generosity of Crown Forklift the new chair was promptly delivered. (pictured Page 3)

## BEACONSFIELD TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

The Beaconsfield Progress Association and volunteers together with the financial support of the advertisers, distribute 2400 copies of the Beaconsfield Banner FREE to the residents of Beaconsfield every second month (February, April, June, August, October and December).

### BEACONSFIELD BANNER ADVERTISING RATES

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Advert Size	Per Issue
Full Page	\$165.00
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### VISIT THE BEACONSFIELD PROGRESS ASSOCIATION WEBSITE

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## BEACONSFIELD BANNER

by Margaret Boon , Banner co-ordinator

During our lives many of us look to make a difference in the world. Tony Rushton accomplished this in both his private life and in the township of Beaconsfield. Throughout this edition of the Banner, readers will be able to recognise the many aspects of Tony's involvement in our community.

Tony was involved in the production and printing of the Banner since he volunteered his services in 1990 and continued to be an integral part of the team to his last copy in February. I valued Tony's friendship, enthusiasm, his passion, the wealth of knowledge he had and his dedication to the things that he loved.

From the first copy of the Banner in 1989 the success of the Banner is due to the commitment of many volunteer writers, collators and distributors.

Thankyou to the many who have given their support, together with the assistance of the business community to enable the continued production and distribution of the Beaconsfield Banner in the township of Beaconsfield.



Simone Rushton pictured with her new wheelchair.

## BEACONSFIELD PROGRESS ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT'S REPORT

by Les Reader

It was good to see a couple new faces at our meetings this year. There is still a lot of room for Beaconsfield residents to be involved in their town, so come along and join discussion about meaningful progress for our town.

At our meeting we heard from Tania and Tammy, two ladies interested in the environment and we talked about the possibility of making our town plastic bag free. A move that would certainly help our town to present a tidy face and of course be great help to the environment.

Further to this is planned an environmental clean up and tree planting in Beaconsfield Park adjacent to Cardinia Creek. A rubbish day has already been held and the tree planting will

take place on Wednesday mornings commencing in April at 9.30am. If you can help come along and join in the task and enjoy the fellowship.

Unfortunately our attempt to get adequate parking established for the commercial developments taking place was overruled by council. We will continue to press for suitable parking to be established as further developments take place and not accept reduced parking requirements.

Our meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month, 7.30pm at the Community Complex.

### TONY RUSHTON

At our May meeting we held a minutes silence for Tony Rushton. Tony held the position of Vice President of the BPA and had countless years of committee involvement. Tony worked tirelessly and constantly thought about the township of Beaconsfield and he will leave a real void not only in the town but around the district.

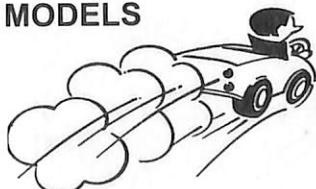
Tony never sought personal publicity but just went about his business on behalf of the community. We will endeavour to continue to embrace many projects that Tony was passionate and enthusiastic about. We extend our friendship and support to Tony's family.

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CARDINIA

# SHIRE REPORT

by Cr. Brett Owen, Central Ward

Works on the O'Neil Road Oval are almost complete and will be ready for the start of the junior football season. The works will convert the reserve into an active open space that will allow it to be used for junior football, and low grades of Cricket. This project is fully funded by council and will ease the pressure which currently exists on the Beaconsfield Recreational Reserve. It will also allow for certain Beaconsfield Sporting Clubs to return to Beaconsfield to play their games.

Currently some teams are forced to play on ovals in towns outside Beaconsfield due to a lack of sports grounds in Beaconsfield. Council is aware of the concerns of residents who live adjacent to the oval. As the oval becomes fully operational, council and the sporting clubs will work closely with local residents to minimise the impact and ease their concerns. Council is committed to increasing and improving recreational sporting facilities in Beaconsfield for the benefit of all, particularly our young people.



L to R: Brett Owen, Kate Lempriere and Bill Ronald

I participated in Clean up Australia Day at the Beaconsfield Reserve and Cardinia Creek on Sunday 4th March. Approximately 30 participants collected 80 bags of rubbish and 6 cubic metres of large waste. Volunteers included groups from Cardinia Catchments Landcare, Friends of Cardinia Flora and Fauna Reserve, Beaconsfield CFA and the general public. Litter from street signs, car engines and garden furniture to the usual plastic, food packaging and bottles were collected. It was a great turnout of volunteers and I thank all involved.

I would like to acknowledge the recent passing of Tony Rushton. Tony was passionate about Beaconsfield.

He was involved in so many community groups across Beaconsfield and the shire.

Tony was a great supporter and protector of heritage in Beaconsfield and he had a great knowledge of Beaconsfield History. In recent times he lobbied council to have the Old Coach House restored. Tony was a regular at council meetings. He was always interested in what council was doing and he was always making sure that Beaconsfield was well represented. He kept me fully informed of the issues affecting Beaconsfield. He was a true nexus between the people and council. My condolences go to Dulcie, Tony's Family and friends. Tony will be sorely missed.



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## ARTICLES AND PHOTOS ALWAYS WELCOME

If you, your club or organisation has an article or photo they would like to submit to the Beaconsfield Banner, please email to [banner@beaconsfield.org.au](mailto:banner@beaconsfield.org.au) with contact details for verification.

## VOLUNTEER COLLATORS NEEDED FOR 2007



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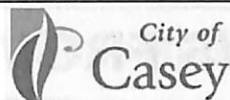
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## "Bryn Mawr Boulevard Bridge is well underway and on track for completion in mid 2007"

*by Cr. Brian Heatherton, Edrington Ward*

The new two-lane road connecting Bryn Mawr Boulevard to Soldiers Road will be approximately 600m long and include a four-span, 85m long bridge over the railway line. Both the road and the bridge will include a pedestrian and bike path on both sides and have been designed to complement the local environment, with landscaping and a wetland system for storm water runoff.

When completed, the Bryn Mawr Bridge will provide an important link across the railway line, to help

alleviate congestion in Berwick Village.

As part of the plan for this area, a new section of Soldiers Road has opened to traffic, which provides for two bus bays to accommodate the buses travelling the route from Berwick to Beaconsfield, down Soldiers Road and into the Chase Estate.

The Australian Government is funding the \$10 million project cost through its AusLink Strategic Regional Program, with the City of Casey managing the project on the government's behalf.



Pictured Bryn Mawr bridge from Soldiers Rd.  
Photo by N. Boon

**Update:** The Bryn Mawr Bridge is scheduled to be opened on Tuesday 10th July.



## NEWS FROM THE BEACONSFIELD FIRE BRIGADE

by Phil Walton

### Fire Safety in the Home

There are about 11,000 house fires in Australia each year. House fires are more common in the winter months when people are using fires, heaters and other electrical equipment. Unfortunately more than 50 people die each year as a result of house fires, with the majority of deaths occurring between 9pm and 6am, and often tragically involving children and the elderly.

Working smoke alarms provide a vital early warning in the event of a fire to ensure that people sleeping in a house wake

up and evacuate. Smoke alarms should be regularly checked and the batteries in your smoke alarm should have been replaced with the end of daylight savings on 25 March. If you have not changed your smoke alarm batteries within the last 12 months, please don't put off changing the batteries any longer.

While a smoke alarm helps to save lives in the event of fire, there are many simple things that you can do to prevent a fire occurring in the first place. These include:

\* Never leave cooking on

a stove unattended.

\* Never place electric cords, curtains, tea towels and oven cloths too close to the stove.

\* Never leave oil burners and candles left on at night or left burning while you are away from home.

\* Never leave the house without switching an electric blanket off, and never leave heavy objects on the bed when the electric blanket is on.

\* Never overload power points and power boards.

\* Always ensure that cigarette butts are extinguished before placing the butts in a bin.

\* Always clean lint filters in clothes dryers after each load.

\* Ensure that chimneys for fireplaces and wood heaters are cleaned to avoid a build up of material in the chimney.

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**000**



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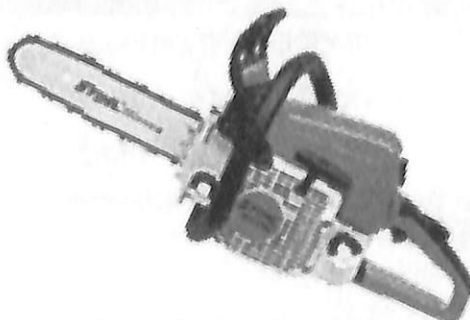
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## ANZAC DAY MEMORIAL SERVICE

The Beaconsfield Anzac Day Memorial Service was held on the afternoon of Sunday 22nd April.

The guest speaker was Lorraine Edwards, the daughter of Pte. Walter Allan Clarke. Lorraine firstly paid a special tribute to Tony Rushton, "My family and I are indeed deeply grateful for the arduous task that Tony set himself and achieved, to trace families of service personnel who enlisted in the forces from this area. Many families, including mine, will be eternally grateful to have a lasting record of our loved ones who fought for this wonderful country we live in."

Lorraine continued to address the large crowd and spoke about her father, his service history and the hardships their family faced after he was KIA on Kokoda Trail, 1942.

Upper Beaconsfield RSL President Eric Chaplin read the names of the listed men and in a very unique part of the Beaconsfield service, students from Beaconsfield Primary School and Hillcrest Christian College placed photographs of soldiers around the base of the cenotaph.



Pictured: Lorraine Edwards.  
Photo by Paul Cohen

Bugler Rodney Edwards sounded the Last Post and piper Ian Arrell played as wreaths were laid. The Australian Great War Association fired two blank ceremonial volleys while Berwick Air League members stood guard over the cenotaph. The Cranbourne Salvation Army Recorder Consort, Peter Brown and students led the hymns.

During afternoon tea at the Community Complex, Pauline Hopkins, President Beaconsfield Neighbourhood Centre, spoke about Tony Rushton and a Lemon Scented Gum was planted in his honour.



Photo by Paul Cohen



## Council Land Purchase to Boost Recreation in Beaconsfield

*Media release by Myrine Hawksworth*

Cardinia Shire Council announced the acquisition of 12 hectares of land at the corner of Holm Park Road and Beaconsfield-Emerald Road, Beaconsfield at a cost of \$2.6 million. Central Ward Councillor Brett Owen said he was excited about the purchase and the prospects it offered for Cardinia's sporting community and young people.

"There is a real need for additional sporting reserves in Beaconsfield. The number of junior and senior participants has increased dramatically in recent times and will

continue to do so with future growth. This project is a recreation priority for the Growth Corridor," he said.

A potential layout plan, developed for the site in 2005, will form the basis of community consultation to develop a detailed master plan for the area.

Council has allocated \$174,000 in the 2007-08 budget to begin the process of consultation and developing designs which will form part of the master plan. Further funding allocated over the next five years amounts to more than \$3.4 million.

Cr Owen said Council will also be seeking support from State and Federal Governments to assist with the development of this important community asset. "Based on our present knowledge of requirements, a preliminary estimate for the cost of development of the land is \$3.864 million. We will be considering a wide range of sporting options, including netball courts, playing fields for cricket, football, soccer and associated pavilions, tennis courts, family play space area, walking paths and a skate park.

"Council is keen to meet as diverse a range of recreational options as possible and will be working with the community to ensure whatever plans are developed meet both active and passive recreation needs," he said.

The Cardinia Growth Corridor Sports Strategy (Stratcorp Consulting, June 2005 and Open Space Structure Plan, adopted by Council in October 2005, provide Council's planning direction to ensure an effective distribution of formal and informal sporting facilities are strategically integrated with the total open space and leisure movement network planned for the growth corridor.

### EMERGENCY RELIEF CENTRE

The refuge centre sign at St Francis Xavier College has now been removed. It is no longer known as Refuge Centres but will be known as Emergency Relief Centres during times of bushfires or other major emergencies.

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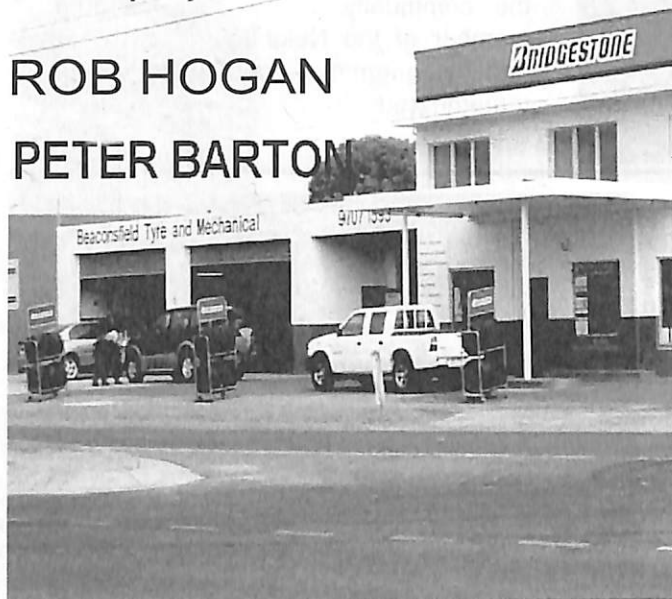
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## BEACONSFIELD BUSINESS GROUP (BBG)

It is with great pleasure to write our first report in relation to this exciting achievement accomplished recently. In our inaugural report, we would like to congratulate all those business owners who made the time to come to our first meeting held on the 23rd of May to make a difference to our town's business centre.

On the night, there was an overwhelming support from all of those who attended and it was also decided that a Chamber of Commerce for Beaconsfield was required. The group decided collectively for the chamber to be known as the 'Beaconsfield Business Group' – BBG. The reason for this was basically to allow all business owners, no matter the type of business and where they operated from, to feel they can be part of this terrific, positive and proactive group that will allow our town to rival neighbouring towns.

The group has decided, just to name a few projects, to pursue issues such as Marketing Beaconsfield as 'Beaconsfield Village' and take advantage of the greatest asset this town has which is that 'old town/village' feel that other

towns have lost due to the urban sprawl. We will be pressuring the council for fund towards improving the streetscape of Beaconsfield's main street (Old Princes Highway) by beautifying it with such things as new pavements, seating and planting of trees in front of shops, to establish that 'Village' feel, attracting a major supermarket to town and most importantly parking issues.

Our group will be meeting on the last Wednesday of each month at 6.00pm at the Beaconsfield Community Complex. Next meeting scheduled - 25th July. We encourage all business owners whom wish to contribute in a positive, proactive manner to attend our meetings and together we can make Beaconsfield Village the preferred place to do your shopping.

If you wish to contact us, you can call our Secretary, Vicky O'Callaghan on 9769 8722 or Michael Muaremov, President on 9769 9134.

Warmest Regards, On Behalf of the Beaconsfield Business Group, Michael Muaremov.



L to R : Michael Muaremov, Vicky O'Callaghan, Jeff Wesling

Located in the Community Complex  
8 O'Neil Road



Phone **8768 4400**

Centre Coordinator - *Miriam Gillespie*



## TO REMEMBER OUR COMMUNITY FRIEND

A Lemon Scented Gum stands tall at the entrance of the complex as a tribute to our friend Tony Rushton.

Tony gave his time generously to benefit the community. He was an inaugural member of the Neighbourhood Centre and his enormous contribution will be remembered.

## OPEN DAY NOVEMBER 24th 10am - 3pm

Exciting exhibition of craft, fabulous dance performances and lots more.



Pauline Hopkins, President, Gwen Neve, Miryam Prasetyo and Cr. Brett Owen relax after the completion of the beautification project at the entrance of the centre.



## Evening Access to Free Internet

Beaconsfield Neighbourhood Centre has eight PIAP (Public Internet Access Program) Computers available for use during office hours (subject to availability) and now two evenings a week! Tuesdays and Wednesdays 5 – 8pm.

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Use the internet for study, research, email or games, the possibilities are endless. Volunteers will be staffing the computer room and all volunteers have police checks. Internet filtering is in place to ensure only appropriate information is available to children. We welcome new volunteers to help us provide access to this service.

Call the Beaconsfield Neighbourhood Centre during Office hours on 8768 4400 or drop in at the Beaconsfield Community Complex at O'Neil Road, Beaconsfield.



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## FROM THE ACCOUNTANTS' DESK

by Graeme J Taylor, C.A.

The Fringe Benefits Tax year ends on 31st March, hence it is appropriate for employees whose salaries are packaged with Fringe Benefits to review their arrangements in the next few months before the end of the financial year.

Some matters that employees may wish to consider are as follows:

\* The highest personal tax rate of 46.5% currently applies to taxable incomes over \$150,000 and the 41.5% rate currently applies to taxable incomes between \$75,000 and \$150,000. Fringe Benefits Tax is 46.5% of the grossed-up value of the benefits hence salary sacrificing is less attractive compared to the previous tax years' higher tax rates and lower tax thresholds.

\* It is often preferable for employees to make after tax contributions to offset deemed motor vehicle benefits rather than incur Fringe Benefits Tax, which is effectively charged at the highest personal income tax rate.

\* Salary sacrificing of car benefits including novated leases and also other expenses eg. laptop computers allows employees to obtain the benefit of GST input tax credits not otherwise available if the employee paid the expense themselves. This assumes that the Employer is GST registered.

\* Employment related

expenses exempt from Fringe Benefits Tax include mobile phones and car phones primarily for use in employment, electronic diaries, a notebook, laptop or similar portable computer and associated printer, PDA personal organiser and computer software that is work related.

\* Other exempt benefits include superannuation contributions, shares or rights under an employee share plan, certain long service and genuine staff awards, employment relocation and recruitment costs, in-house property benefits of up to \$1,000 and minor benefits of up to \$100.

\* Some employers are concessionally taxed for Fringe Benefits Tax purposes. For employees of public and private non-profit hospitals, no Fringe Benefits Tax is payable if an employee receives no more than \$17,000 of grossed-up Fringe Benefits. Certain Not-For-Profit organisations can pay reduced Fringe Benefits Tax provided the grossed-up value of benefits to an employee does not exceed \$30,000 however the employee's income must exceed \$75,000 to obtain a benefit.

All employees receiving Fringe Benefits should review Salary Packaging arrangements at least annually to ensure that the salary packaging of expenses is tax effective and they should discuss with their Accountants.

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## COMBINED PROBUS CLUB OF BEACONSFIELD

The Combined Probus Club of Beaconsfield has been chartered, and the first General Meeting was held on Wednesday 21st March 2007 at the Beaconsfield community Centre, O'Neil Road, Beaconsfield at 10 a.m.

At the June Meeting of the Probus Club of Beaconsfield, President Norm Mc Phee( pictured below right) inducted Len & Val Pimm and Val Page as new Club members.



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For further information please contact  
 President, Norm McPhee 03 9707 4546 or  
 Membership Officer, Anton Kopecek 03 9796 1385

# VALE TONY RUSHTON

by Tammy Lobato, MP, Member for Gembrook

Words cannot adequately express my devastation upon learning of the death of Tony Rushton. However, I was able to pay the following tribute to him in the Victorian Parliament as a gesture of my deep admiration for this wonderful community-minded Beaconsfield resident:

*"On Friday 6 April, like many others, I was shocked and deeply saddened to be notified of the tragic and untimely death of a very special man, Tony Rushton. Tony was one of the most selfless people I have had the pleasure of knowing, and his friendship was a privilege."*

*Tony committed his life to his family and, with his wife, Dulcie, to ensuring their children have the care and unrelenting dedication needed and deserved by them, as well as to the care of his elderly mother. With his family and his work as an electrician, it is hard to imagine how he found the time to work so tirelessly on behalf of the Beaconsfield community.*

*He was an advocate for the disabled and the disadvantaged and was passionate about the protection of our natural and built environment and heritage.*

*He was integral to the Beaconsfield Neighbourhood Centre, the Beaconsfield Progress Association and the Cardinia Ratepayers and Residents Association. He was keenly involved in local history groups and was integral to the Beaconsfield Anzac Day Memorial Service, which he organised every year. He helped the Akoonah Park Committee of Management and assisted in the staging of the Berwick show.*

*He was everyone's favourite electrician and someone who could always be relied upon when a pair of helping hands was needed.*

*Tony Rushton was truly a precious local treasure whose death will sadden many, while our community will suffer the loss of a giving and inspiring gentleman."*

Life in Beaconsfield will never be the same without Tony. We all know, however, that he would want us all to step up to the plate and learn from his example by helping to achieve more for our community. He will continue to inspire all who knew him.

This year I have been appointed to the all-party Environmental and Natural Resources Committee which has launched an inquiry into bushfires in Victoria. Public hearings will be conducted across the state and submissions can be made until 25 May. The impact and effectiveness of prescribed burns and the role of community knowledge in managing fire risks are just two of the issues to be covered. More details can be obtained from my office.

April marked the introduction of the Gardasil vaccination to target four strains of the sexually transmitted Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) with the intention of reducing the incidence of cervical cancer. HPV infections are often though not always present in women with cervical cancer. Free immunisations will be provided to girls through a school-based program supported by both Federal and State Governments.

I have significant concerns about the introduction of this vaccine, as cervical cancer rates have been in rapid decline since 1982 due to the introduction of pap smears. In 98 per cent



of cases, HPV clears by itself without medication or any intervention. Australia has the second-lowest incidence of cervical cancer and the lowest mortality rate in the world. Even with a vaccination, women will still need a pap smear every two years.

Families will need to make their own decisions about the immunisation but I urge everyone to research the issue thoroughly. I have free information packs available from my office for anyone interested. Please also do not hesitate to contact me if you need advice and assistance on other matters.

Tammy Lobato MP,  
Member for Gembrook  
1/5 Gloucester Ave  
Berwick 3806  
Tel: 9796 1987



Tammy Lobato and Tony Rushton pictured after the successful restoration of the Beaconsfield War Memorial in Feb. 2006.

## Thought Of The Moment

*To accomplish  
great things we  
must not only act,  
but also dream;  
not only plan but  
also believe.*

Anatole France,  
French novelist, 1844-1924.



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## OUR NATURAL WORLD

by Peter Hansen

Culture is a word that we hear more and more these days due in part to the world becoming a smaller place, and the movement of different peoples to other countries escaping from persecution, famine, political changes and a host of other reasons. Migration nowadays is an enormous global movement, bringing many problems in its train as people move from their land of birth and culture to societies that are totally different.

There is also another side of the picture where people can lose their cultural roots whilst still living in their country of birth, and perhaps these are the saddest of all. Our own Australian Aborigines come to mind here. Over the years many learned people have entered into discussions on what should be done to improve the lot of the Aboriginal peoples, and various Social Welfare systems have been put into place which are really hand outs but with very little success, if any at all. Having seen some of the results first hand I believe that the root cause of these failed attempts is the loss of their culture which brings a sense of hopelessness and irretrievable loss with the resulting moral breakdown of a once strict social order that used to guide their destiny.

Essentially a stone age people, the sudden fall into a European culture with which they were expected to assimilate into was simply asking too much of

them. Coupled with alcohol and mass unemployment where were they supposed to go? As tribal elders gradually disappear and old wisdoms vanish with them their future looks bleak indeed.

A similar story can be told about the native Indians of Canada and the United States where with few exceptions the loss of culture, land and old wisdoms has had the same effect, and it must be remembered that these were not stone age people but possessed a fairly sophisticated social order much in advance of our own Aborigines. The thread that links the two / three societies together is the loss of culture. Once that goes for Indigenous peoples the rot sets in and the ensuing result is all too apparent.

Understanding the importance of value in culture we can look at any racial group and applaud their attempts to keep it alive even unto the third and fourth generation. They may love the land their ancestors settled into but the connection with the past is vital to their sense of history and of "belonging" to the world of their forefathers. We all want to know about our own history and often draw up a family tree to allow us to feel that sense of meaning which is a human craving. Without it we feel like a rudderless boat on a very rough ocean.

So cling to whatever culture you have as it gives stability and interest to life.

How many times have you **heard** people say things like:

- \* I **ache** all over
- \* I'm sure my **blood pressure** is sky high
- \* I can't get rid of my chronic **heart burn**
- \* If only I could get my **cholesterol** down
- \* I wish I could **loose weight**
- \* I have to take so **many tablets**
- \* I wish I could get off my **Hormone Replacement Therapy**
- \* I think I must suffer from **Chronic Fatigue Syndrome**
- \* I'm so **stressed out** all the time
- \* I wish I could improve my **skin**
- \* I wish my **arthritis** would get better.

What do all these people have in common?

**They need to ask about RELIV now**



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## A WORD FROM WOOD

by Jason Wood,  
Member for La Trobe



Broadband is fast becoming an essential part of our homes and our businesses. The Howard Government has long held the view that high speed networks, multi-megabit services and next generation broadband are the key to our future economic and social prosperity. That is why we have spent over \$1 billion since 1997 and recently committed a further \$3.1 billion to provide a platform for investment in Next Generation broadband infrastructure.

Recently Prime Minister John Howard, Communications Minister Helen Coonan and I were in Garfield to announce the commencement of the Australian Government's \$162.5 million Australian Broadband Guarantee.

The Australian Broadband Guarantee will provide universal broadband for

all Australians, and fill in any remaining broadband blackspots. It means that people in Beaconsfield will now be able to access high quality, reasonably priced broadband services

The benefits of the Australian Broadband Guarantee include the availability of increased subsidies which means that Beaconsfield residents will receive up to a five-fold increase in their subsidy from \$500 to \$2,750. If you have any queries about the programme, see [www.dcita.gov.au](http://www.dcita.gov.au) or contact my office.

In addition, Beaconsfield residents should be aware that the \$10 million Australian Government-funded Bryn Mawr Bridge connecting Bryn Mawr Boulevard to Soldiers Road is now very close to completion. The City of Casey informs me that no date has yet been set for the opening.

## STUDENTS RETURN SAFELY

When the flood waters hit Gippsland, 70 Grade 5 Beaconsfield Primary Students were left stranded at their school camp at Camp Coolomatong, near Stratford.

The bridge, across the Avon River, that led to the camp, was cut off not allowing traffic to pass through but the children and staff were safe and dry.

Principal Gary Methven

and staff kept parents informed about when the students would return. Fortunately the waters receded allowing the bus to pass and return the students home by 3:30pm on Thursday 28th June.

Upon their return the Grade 5 students informed both parents and teachers that it was the best camp ever and the rain didn't dampen their spirits.

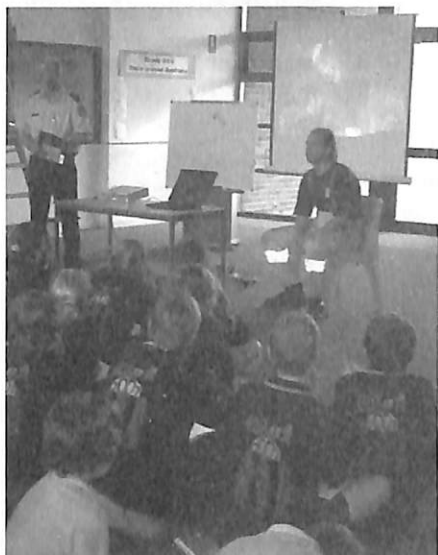




## BPS Corner

### CFA Visit

by Junior Reporters Corinne, James and Jesse



Paul and fire fighter Glen discuss bush fires with their slide show

On March 20th 2007, Paul Hayes and crew from the Beaconsfield Country Fire Authority came to Beaconsfield Primary School. They talked about fires, fire safety and fires in general. They told us that there are many different types of fires such as crown fires, ground fires, bush fires, grass fires and scrub fires. They also explained to us what each fire

was, how it burned and the different methods used to control it.

The students watched a presentation with slides of different fires and how the fire fighters contain and extinguish fires.

We were able to get onto a fire tanker and learn about the different equipment that is used. We had great fun too!



Above: Luke and Haydyn test out the equipment on the tanker.



Above: Mel checks out what the cab of the tanker is like.

Left: Katherine chats to Brian, a fire fighter with over 39 years service in the CFA.

The Grade 5 and 6 students have been busy working on Bushfire Survival Plans to help protect their property and keep themselves safe should a bush fire threaten.

It is important for everyone to take the time to make a plan for emergency evacuations and reducing the dangers of fire to their property. We also learned about how to keep safe personally if a bush fire burns. We think that everyone in the community should learn too. In fact, we think everyone should take the time to put together their own fire plan. Everyone like YOU.

The CFA are great and can help everyone in the community to put together their own emergency plans.



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# SALLY'S GARDEN



## HERBALISTS

John Gerard (1545-1612) a British herbalist experimented with herbs with some success.

Nicholas Culpeper (1616-54) became a physician after studying ancient Greek and Arabian medicine at Cambridge, England. He was strongly against using orthodox medicines and was highly ridiculed for his belief in herbal medication. His success in healing patients with his herbal medicines caused the orthodox physicians to accuse him of witchcraft. They could not believe that herbal

medicine could be as strong and viable as their orthodox medicines.

Nicholas Culpeper remained poor and died penniless, but never refused help to any sufferer.

Then Paracelsus, a German, propounded his Doctrine of Signatures. He believed that the shape and general characteristics of plants gave clues to their possible uses for the people's general health. I have been told this same thought by a Naturopath. He believed such vegetables that are shaped similar to our hearts are good for our

hearts when cooked and eaten. Such as artichokes, brussel sprouts, broccoli etc.

I quote Genesis Chpt.1: verse 29: And God said, "Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is on the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat."

From the very beginning of the earth and of the world, all our natural needs were provided for us. We simply needed to learn how best to use these provisions. Those ancient early people soon learnt which herb would heal a wound or an illness. They embalmed their Pharaohs and any other important people with oil and herbs, myrrh and incense quite successfully. But how did they learn these skills? Was it just natural instincts?

If one took ill they were told to seek a physician. Those early physicians would have had inquiring minds about the herbs and concentrated on finding out their beneficial uses. We are very grateful today that they noted the benefits of the herbs and kept a record of their uses for all the following generations.

Would an egg omelette be the same without parsley, or a meat dish without garlic, stuffing for meat dishes without a mixture of herbs, tomato soups without basil? A sprig of rosemary on lamb while it is roasting enhances the flavour, as do whole cloves and bay leaves in the water when cooking corn beef.

*Grow your own herbs and enjoy the natural flavour of them in your recipes. Enjoy your herbal garden.*

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# THE VOICE OF THE BAPTIST CHURCH

*by David Morland*

## All alone?

I saw a photograph the other day. One of those pictures that stops and makes you think. It was taken from the Voyager space craft. Voyager is

a half ton space craft launched in 1977. It is currently on the outer edge of our solar system and is further from earth than any other manmade machine

has ever been. It was sent out there to photograph the distant planets of the solar system. But the photo that struck me was one the scientists took when they

pointed the camera back at the sun. From over 14 billion kilometres away the camera picked up a tiny dot; Earth. The photo captures the immensity of space. To one side of the photo, like a spec of dust highlighted by a sunbeam sits our home floating all alone in the middle of nowhere. Is that reality?

Are we really all alone in this vast universe? Or is it true that the cosmos has a creator and a creator who is intimately involved?

A creator for whom this planet and you and I are what his whole creation is all about. A creator who in the depth of his being is love and compassion. A creator who can be known.

## MAKE AND MINGLE

The Make and Mingle friendship and craft group at Beaconsfield Baptist Church was saddened by the death of Peggy Dundas who passed away on the 22nd March 2007.

Peggy was a founding member of Make and Mingle which started almost 20 years ago. Peggy taught a number of people painting. She is remembered for her beautiful paintings and for her kindness and gentleness when teaching.

Make and Mingle, friendship and craft group meets every Wednesday 10am-12noon during school term at Beaconsfield Baptist Church. We have a range of crafts available; you can also work on your own crafts and have a chat over morning tea. Enquiries Ann Taylor 9707 1996

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# ANTHONY RUSHTON

## "Tony"

10th February, 1943 - 6th April, 2007

Born on February 10th 1943 in Cheshire in England. Tony was the second son to Albert and Kathleen. The family including his older brother David and younger sister Anne migrated to Australia when Tony was 7 years old. His Mother Kathleen had a pen friend on Phillip Island so that is where they all settled on a hobby farm.

At school Tony developed strong interests in Chemistry and Electronics and collected and repaired old radios for a hobby. At this time it was quite evident that he was not going to be either a farmer or a sportsman. It came as no surprise that while the family were playing in the local sports Tony was always so happy to be in his dad's workshop.

At aged 12, Tony began working part time in Mr Odlands electrical shop in Cowes. He served his apprenticeship with an electrical contractor, Mr Stickles, at Phillip Island and finished it with CSIRO in Melbourne.

When he was in his teens he played the trombone in the Phillip Island brass band. He also enjoyed square dancing and country music which lead him to all parts of the country. He developed lasting friendships from this, but none more important than meeting Dulcie at the Old Time Dance at the Pakenham Public Hall. They were married in Pakenham on Dulcies birthday, September 10 1966. They built their home on a vacant block in Souter Street, Beaconsfield.



Tony's career in electrical work included being a leading hand with Daveys Pumps in Huntingdale. Then with the SEC he became a laboratory assistant and progressed to being the Protection and Control Officer of the Eastern Metropolitan Electricity Supply Region. After 24 years with the SEC his job disappeared in restructuring.

Tony then turned his hobbies of badge making, engraving, printing and electrical contracting into a full time business. He used home for these business ventures. That garage with the square dancers painted on the door will be remembered by many. It disappeared when ambitious plans saw him build a new garage and multiple sheds. Tony stored much of his equipment in these. He always loved a bargain.

Business grew as he repaired electrical appliances for many shops and private homes. Ray Kelly and Alan Dessent provided a lot of work. Tony would turn customers toasters upside down on the bench at home and leave a trail of breadcrumbs to the delight of mice and the annoyance of Dulcie.



Tony was a loving family man. He was always there for his extended family and used valuable time in nurturing a close knit family unit.

In his precious spare time Tony actively supported countless community groups. They all benefited from his enthusiastic and dedicated input.

Tony enjoyed other recreational pursuits that he shared with his family and friends. He participated in square



dancing, four wheel driving and caravanning across Australia.

"Jack of all Trades" Tony has turned his hand to photography, computers, T.V. Repairs, making jewellery ceramics, repairing cars and building to name a few.

Known by many for bogging his four wheel drive, wearing colourful jumpers that his mother knitted and getting up to amusing tricks, Tony will be long and fondly remembered as a modest, unassuming, gentle man. His willingness to get involved and help others in the community combine to make Tony the special man who we have been so privileged to know.

### SPARKS IN HEAVEN

Tony Rushton, special friend  
tireless helper 'fix and mend'.  
On the road met his end .  
Rest at last in peace.

Banner print and collated  
points of view oft debated,  
his opinions rare berated,  
well respected man .

Progress , Carols, Minibah  
Community Centre, Akoonah  
known by many so wide and far,  
he'll be sorely missed .

Extended family, devoted Dad  
sense of humour always had,  
served community, willing, glad,  
fond memories do unfold.

A special place was reserved for him  
with smiling face and cheeky grin  
Peter happily let him in  
to rest his weary soul.

Taken too soon , tragic fate  
His 'zestful' life we celebrate  
and virtuous ways commemorate  
of this generous gentle man .

TH



Peggy Irene Smethurst was born on 26.5.1922 at North Carlton, Melbourne. When she was growing up as a child, life on the farm at Thorpdale was not easy. There was no power, they had only a wood fire, and a kerosene tin was used to heat water for the bath. Peggy often looked after the chickens, calves and lambs.

She attended primary school in the country at Trafalgar and her secondary schooling was at Methodist Ladies College in Hawthorn.

She lived with her nana and two aunties whilst at MLC and being a country girl at heart she found college life rather daunting. She returned home to the farm and did an art course by correspondence.

In 1941, she moved with her parents to North Balwyn where she was able to continue her art course. Peggy's dream was to complete her art course and to travel to Paris. After the war broke out she worked in an aircraft factory

## *Peggy Irene Dundas* 22 May 1922 - 22 March 2007

at Fisherman's Bend where she assisted with designs of aircraft including the McAlister.

After the war the family moved back to the farm in Trafalgar. Here she met Frank Dundas who was working there at the time. Frank had served in the army and had spent three and a half years on the infamous Burma railway. While back on the farm, Peggy's father passed away and her mother sold the farm and they moved back to North Balwyn.

Frank Dundas moved to Dandenong when Peggy moved to North Balwyn and he and Peggy were engaged in 1949. Soon after, Peggy and her mother went to England to visit relatives and stayed for one year. They

returned to North Balwyn and Peggy and Frank were married in 1952 and they moved to Beaconsfield where they purchased a house and some land. Heather joined the family in 1956. In 1965 they moved from Railway Avenue to Souter Street in the house where Peggy spent the rest of her life. In 1988, her granddaughter Naomi was born and in February 1992 just prior to their fortieth wedding anniversary, Frank passed away.

Peggy continued with her painting for many years being involved with the McClelland Art Guild and also the local



Peggy had always been a regular church-goer all her life and originally went to the Congregational church. When the Baptists came to Beaconsfield, Peggy became a member of the Beaconsfield Baptist Church in the building which was previously the old "Yellow rose of Texas" service station, take away food, restaurant. She continued to be involved in church activities, Sunday morning services, Make and Mingle, Ladies Bible Study and the retirees group "Evergreens"

She also went to Legacy meetings and enjoyed the weekly Mid-way group at the Beaconsfield Neighbourhood centre. She enjoyed regular holidays with her daughter Heather and last year visited the Gold coast.

When Heather was growing up, Peggy was involved with the Infant Welfare Centre, taught Religious Instruction at Beaconsfield Primary and Sunday School at the Old church. She was also in the Mother's club at Pakenham High.

Peggy lived in Beaconsfield for over 50 years and saw a lot of changes. She loved the town and the local community and was known and loved by many who will remember her for her quiet, gentle and caring nature and her faith in Jesus Christ. Peggy will be sadly missed by all her friends.

(Material in this article is based on an earlier article published in the Banner in June/July 2002 and information provided by Peggy's daughter Heather.



Toomuc Valley Art Group at its inception. She painted many landscapes, some for pleasure and some for customers and also numerous portraits, including about thirty variations of a local shearer, Frank Buck. She never lost her love for art but unfortunately, failing eyesight meant she had to give up her beloved painting. Nonetheless, she remained independent and was able to spend much time in her garden and walking her dog Patch.



Peggy pictured right.

To Mum: -

### *ADOPTED*

I don't know when or how or why  
But the parting won't be hard just the "good-byes."

And then my heartbreaks, tears flood my face  
'Cos I just want you there as you've always been

Then I remember that "always" is forever  
And eternity is where we will be.

I must wait and live and learn and remember  
What you gave me.

For like Christ you chose me,  
And for this I am eternally blessed.

I have made mistakes  
Yet I've been loved unconditionally.  
Accepted by a family that was not my own.  
What better birthright!

Time can never erase you  
From my memory.

As I praise my maker continually  
For the life he has given us together  
And seek to work patiently

Until we met again, for surely death has no sting.

*Heather (written 1 November 1996)*



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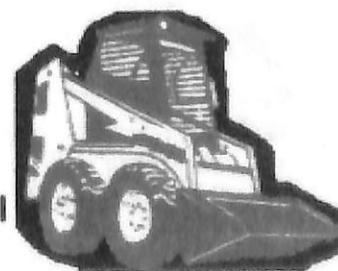
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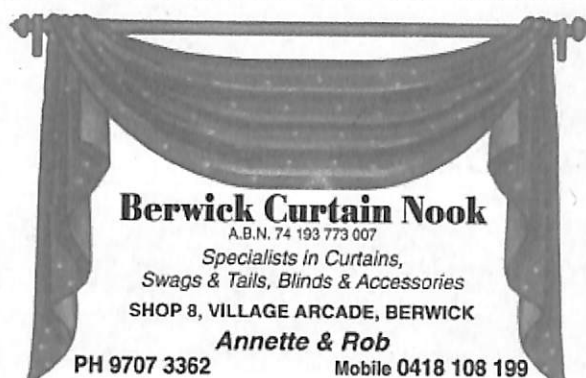
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## BEACONSFIELD'S HANDYMAN

*by Phil Collins*

The loss of two great friends, Mrs Peggy Dundas and Tony Rushton, both from the same street has bought sadness to us all and we offer the bereaved families our sympathy and support.

We were able to squeeze in some painting – re painting 3 villa units but my able assistant travelled to China leaving me to scape all the wallpaper from 5 rooms and a full re tile of the bathroom. I was "lucky" with the wallpaper. It came off in two stages. The top layer pulled off in large sheets; I used a steamer for the second layer but the steam was a bit severe and in places it lifted the paint as well. I had to use the steamer more sparingly as I went along. Sponging down with water helped a lot, but oh the mess. It sticks to your shoes, I used a garden rake to gather it all up. If the walls had not been originally painted I'd have had a more difficult job.

I have become a large manufacturer of guns, - pistols and rifles. My 6 grandsons came to visit. They are aged 5 to 15 and they requested I make them arms for some sort of battle. I asked myself whether I should encourage guns but I remembered the fascination I had as a boy. I cut an outline of a pistol out of chipboards and they painted them, themselves. The last request was for a rifle – also cut from the same chipboard. A strap was attached to ease the carrying. Off they went making the right noise and occasionally falling wounded, no doubt from flying sawdust.

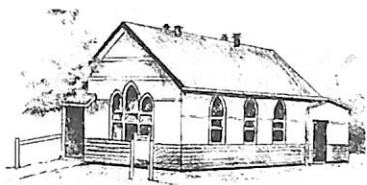
The previous visit was spent making bows and arrows from bamboo - which were potentially more dangerous than the pretend guns.

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## X-Wired

by David Griffiths



Have you ever experienced the joys of foreign cinema? I know that some of you will shudder at the thought of having to read subtitles, after all a movie is made to watch not read, right? Well I'm afraid if you haven't seen foreign films then you are missing out on some of the world's best films.

You may not realize it, but there is always one festival in Melbourne that is screening foreign movies. I recently had the pleasure of attending the premiere of the 2007 French Film Festival where I was delighted to see two brilliant films. 'Blame It On Fidel' was a confronting movie that told the story of a young girl who had revolutionaries as parents, while 'You Are So Beautiful' was a romantic comedy in the truest sense. For once I saw a romantic comedy that remembered the comedy part of its genre and actually had people laughing in the cinema. There's little doubt in my mind that Hollywood will blatantly steal this movie's storyline over the next twelve months.

But it was attending the premiere of the 'German Film Festival' that really opened my eyes up to foreign film. I saw the mediocre 'Can – His World Has Its Own Rules', which while as a movie had its heart in the right place seem to back away from the very powerful story it was trying to tell. While it smartly set up the story of the racism between German nationals and the Turkish immigrants, it seemed to pull back just when a scene needed some ferocity. Interestingly enough I found myself

constantly comparing to the Aussie movie 'Envy' which had a similar storyline but never once retreated.

I also saw the brilliant 'Grave Decisions' which in my mind is one of the best movies of 2007. It's a black comedy in its darkest sense, but what can you expect from a movie that is about 11 year old Sebastian who is convinced he is a murderer because his mother died while giving birth to him. Like I said it is a dark comedy, but it will have you laughing in the cinema as Sebastian tries to make his families life better but just seems to destroy (or kill) everything he touches).

But it was while having lunch at the premiere that I learnt my biggest lesson on films. I met a young German national who asked me 'how many German films I had seen in my life'. I had to be honest with her, while I'd seen a lot of French, Spanish, South American and Russian films, when it came to German films, all I could think of was 'Run Lola Run' and a handful of movies on SBS.

We then had a delightful discussion on how movies show their true culture in their movies and she told me that German films, she felt, were so honest about German culture it wasn't funny. It was a great discussion and one that left us both wondering what

Continued page 29

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## X-Wired (Continued from page 28)

other countries have kept their movie gems from us over the years. So apart from gaining a pen friend from that lunch, I've also gained the mission of this year seeking out movies from all over the world to see. Hopefully you will also try the same thing.

Okay for those of you still not convinced that a movie with subtitles is a good thing, can I recommend that you go and see the very English, 'Hot Fuzz'. Over the years we've seen a number of films that have attempted to send up the Action Film Genre but little have done it with a brilliant storyline in the way 'Hot Fuzz' does. From the creators of 'Shaun Of The

Dead', 'Hot Fuzz' manages to make fun of movies such as 'Bad Boys' without losing track of its own storyline or finding itself turning into two hours of 3-minute skits pasted together like a primary school child's artwork. Simon Pegg is terrific in this movie, which is the best thing to come out of the UK since 'Keeping Mum'. Check it out.

You can find a ton of reviews and a stack of entertainment news at either [www.crosscultureentertainment.com](http://www.crosscultureentertainment.com) or [www.xwiredonline.com](http://www.xwiredonline.com). Please check your media guides for X-Wired Radio and television. Happy film going.

## OXFAM TRAILWALKER CHALLENGE

*by Glenn Dorning*

On the 23rd of March at 8:30AM Sally Ott, Kathryn West, Jane Dorning and Natalie Petrucci set off walking in forecast 36 degree heat from Jells Park to a destination 100KMs away in Wesburn to participate in the Oxfam Trailwalker. The Oxfam Trailwalker is an endurance event with a difference. Not only do the participants have to complete the 100KM walk in under 48 hours but each team must also raise \$1000 for Oxfam. Oxfam is an independent secular, non-government organization working in 26 countries, including Indigenous Australia. The money raised builds better lives for some of the world's most disadvantaged people.

However a 100KM walk does not begin on the day it finishes. Training started many months ago with walks around Beaconsfield, long walks from Dandenong into the city, walks in the dark through blackberries near Monbulk, walks in the dark not through blackberries near Mount Dandenong. All the time building up endurance while wondering if enough training had been done to go the distance on the day.

In between the training, fundraising also had to be done. Donations were collected. Chocolates were sold and a trivia night was held which has raised almost double the target of \$1000. The girls would like



to thank their family and friends for all the moral and financial support they have received and would especially like to thank the Melbourne Aquarium, Taco Bills in Beaconsfield, Jims Mowing and 6 J's Wine Merchants.

Soon that hot and windy day they all walked out of Jells Park with smiles on their faces. By the time the team had reached Mount Evelyn the weather had changed and it was now pouring with rain. Unfortunately

the heat had taken a toll on one team member and reluctantly she was forced to withdraw. The remaining team members walked in the dark and rain to Worri Yallock where they rested for what remained of the night.

At 7:00 AM the next morning the 3 headed off for the final destination still in rain.

At 1:00 PM on that same day with blisters on some  
*Continued on page 32*

# CROSS CULTURE

by David Griffiths

I really must be beginning to age, because it only feels like yesterday that I was listening to a fresh young band from Newcastle, made up of three lads with the names Chris Joannou, Daniel Johns and Ben Gillies. The band was called 'Silverchair' and the album was 'Frogstomp'. But it was yesterday that 'Frogstomp' blasted into our stereos it was thirteen years ago, which definitely makes this journalist feel like I'm getting old.

Over the thirteen years 'Silverchair' has had it's share of newsworthy stories. There were the teenagers who claimed that 'Silverchair's' song 'Israel Song' led them to murder their parents, there was Daniel Johns very public battle with anorexia and there was also his marriage to pop star Natalie Imbruglia. But the one thing you could always guarantee from 'Silverchair' was a great album every few years. And then after the brilliant

'Diorama' album it seemed 'Silverchair' had petered out. Johns joined with electronica artist Paul Mac to form 'The Dissociatives' and around went the rumor that 'Silverchair' was no more.

Now in 2007 'Silverchair' have delivered another fine album in 'Young Modern'. So were those rumors close to the truth, were 'Silverchair' really close to breaking up? According to Johns, yes. The songs he had written for 'Young Modern' were actually meant for his solo album and it was only 'Silverchair' regrouping for the 'Wave Aid' concert that showed Johns that there was still life in the old 'Chair' yet.

So what's 'Young Modern' like? Well it's different to what 'Silverchair' fans have come to know and love. It's stripped back from the brutal force of the early 'Silverchair' and in Johns own words is 'very much Silverchair's pop album.' The beautiful songwriting and melodies

that are 'Silverchair's' trademarks are still there but there is also a hint of electronica as Paul Mac's influence on the album is never far from the surface. But this is definitely one for the 'Silverchair' fans.

The recent months have been great for the Aussie music scene with local artists such as Josh Pyke making the charts, it was therefore not surprising that one of Australia's finest musicians John Butler hit the charts for his Trio's new album 'Grand National'. This is one of the finest albums of 2007 and is one you should fork your money out for.

Listeners to Triple J will also have become familiar with Melbourne band 'Children Collide' as their song 'We Are Amphibious' from their terrific EP titled 'Glass Mountain Liars' has been on high rotation.

'Children Collide' are one of the best bands coming out of Melbourne at the moment and I was recently lucky enough to catch up with their lead singer John Mackay. He was excited

about the fact their EP was coming out but also on top of the world as just the night before they had performed in front of none other than Seymour Stein, who is credited with discovering 'The Ramones' and 'Madonna'.

John seemed surprised that Stein wanted to 'rush us to Colorado to work with us', but anybody who has heard 'Children Collide' definitely wouldn't be surprised. 'Glass Mountain Liars' is an excellent EP that shows how easily 'Children Collide' can go from a brash song like 'We Are Amphibious' to a Muse-like journey like 'Devil's Child'. The EP has something for both the fan of good rock music, as well as the grunge-fan and people liking light punk.

You can easily compare 'Children Collide' to Nirvana, but John says he also sees traces of 'Sonic Youth' and 'The Cure'. John himself was recently described as 'Keith Urban wearing a Kurt Cobain's overcoat'.

'Children Collide' have already found some success overseas, they have been played on the BBC's Radio 1 while they also recently returned from a tour that took them to London, Stockholm and Dublin. There is no doubt in my mind that they will also find the same success here. 'Glass Mountain Liars' is one of the best albums I have heard for a while, and is one that certainly won't disappoint.

For further information on 'Children Collide' and to read the rest of the interview with John Mackay, check out [www.crosscultureentertainment.com](http://www.crosscultureentertainment.com).

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## MORE PLATYPUS BREEDING SUCCESS



Juvenile female platypus found in Cardinia Creek survey, March 2007

Three more juvenile platypus were found in the upper and middle reaches of Cardinia Creek in an all-night survey conducted on March 26 by the Australian Platypus Conservancy in collaboration with Melbourne Water.

APC Conservation Biologist, Dr Melody Serena, said she was thrilled by the result.

"This is the second year in succession that there has been successful breeding in Cardinia Creek. The three

youngsters found during the recent fieldwork— all females—were in excellent condition," Melody said.

Since April 2004 a number of young platypus have been introduced to Cardinia Creek in the hope of re-establishing the population, which is thought to have disappeared as a result of the Ash Wednesday bushfires. The fact that the translocated animals appear now to be reproducing routinely each breeding season is a very positive sign that the

reintroduction project—the first of its kind in Australia—is well on the way to long-term viability.

Rob Skinner, Managing Director of Melbourne Water, said. "This is a great result for Cardinia Creek and shows that when we all work together to improve and protect our local rivers and creeks we help to create a healthy environment for populations of native animals such as platypus, fish and frogs."

The results from surveys also suggest that the new platypus population in Cardinia Creek is gradually extending its range downstream. The great challenge for the community is to improve conditions along Cardinia Creek in the Beaconsfield/Berwick area so that dispersing juveniles from the upper reaches can find suitable habitat.

In addition, the reported use of illegal fishing equipment, especially "Opera House" yabby and cray traps, remains of concern as such traps can easily drown platypus. Accordingly, anyone finding a trap or observing illegal fishing/yabbing activities should telephone the 24-hour fisheries hotline 13 3474 (i.e. 13 FISH).

Any sightings of platypus in Cardinia Creek should be reported to the Australian Platypus Conservancy: platypus.apc@westnet.com.au

For more information, visit the APC website [www.platypus.asn.au](http://www.platypus.asn.au)

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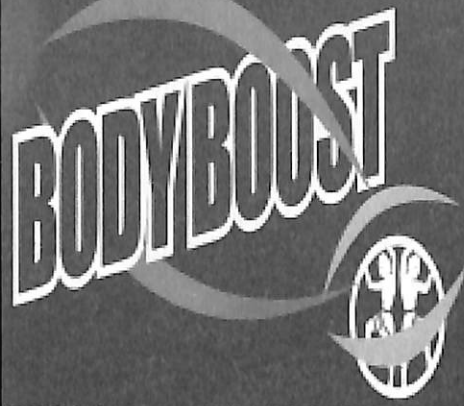


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Phone: 9762 4066BH Fax 9762 9847  
Office: 83 Boronia Road, Boronia. Vic 3155  
Email: jason.wood.mp@aph.gov.au

### STATE

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#### Tammy Lobato

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Email: Tammy.Lobato@parliament.vic.gov.au  
Office: 1/5 Gloucester Ave, Berwick, 3806.

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

#### Eumemering Province

#### The Hon Gordon Rich-Phillips, MLC

Phone: 9794 7667  
Email: gordon.richphillips@parliament.vic.gov.au

#### Adem Somyurek

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email: adem.someyuk@parliament.vic.gov.au

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*Continued from page 29*

of their feet the 3 girls joined up with their heat effected member and all walked across the finish line together as they started.

So if you have ever considered a challenge like the Oxfam Trailwalker and think that it might be out of your reach why not give it a go. The worst that you could do is get fit, learn from the experience and maybe you will effect the lives of those who you will never meet.

More details on the Oxfam Trail walker visit [www.Oxfam.org.au](http://www.Oxfam.org.au)



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## BEACONSFIELD RAINFALL

These figures are taken in a home rain gauge and are not kept for the Bureau of Meteorology.

## TALKING WEATHER

by Nathan Boon

With Victoria affected by drought every drop of rain that falls is vital. In the last few weeks there has been rain in Melbourne's catchments which has increased the water storages to 31.7%. Even with this rain Melbourne is still on stage 3a water restrictions.

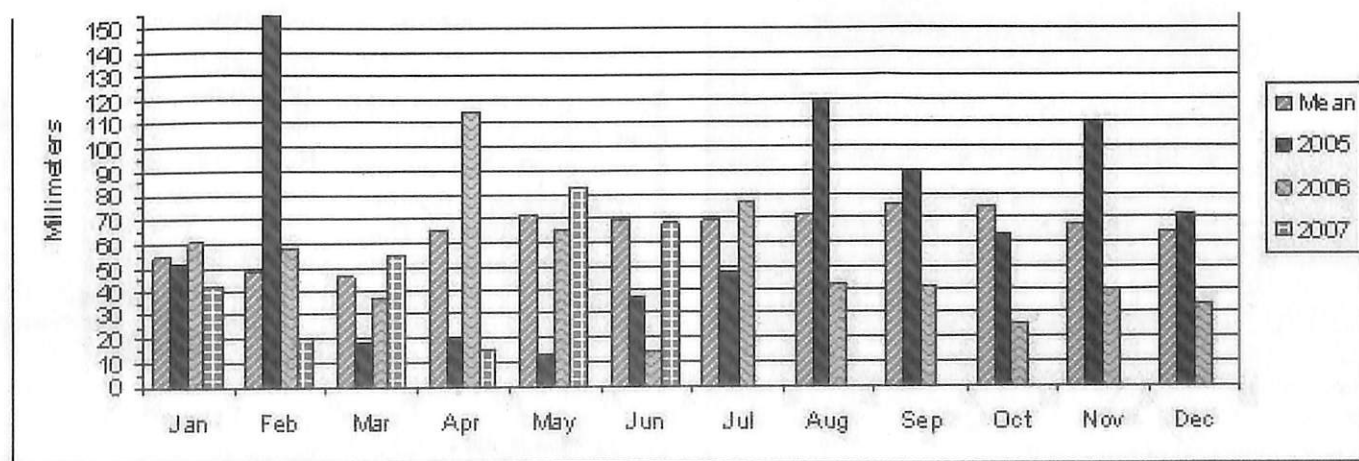
**MAY** There was 83ml of rain in Beaconsfield which fell over 9 days. This was the highest May recording since 2000 when there was 142ml.

**JUNE** In June there was 68ml of rain in Beaconsfield, this fell over 13 days. This was the highest since 2004 when there was 132mm.

The yearly total for 2007 is 283ml. This is the lowest since 2003 when there was only 274ml till the end of June but that year finished with many wet months and a total of 747ml.

The lowest 6 month total I have recorded was in 1997 when there was only 200ml. That year we finished with a total of 520ml, my lowest yearly total for Beaconsfield.

During the last few months we have experienced some extremely cold mornings with the temperature often dropping below 0°.





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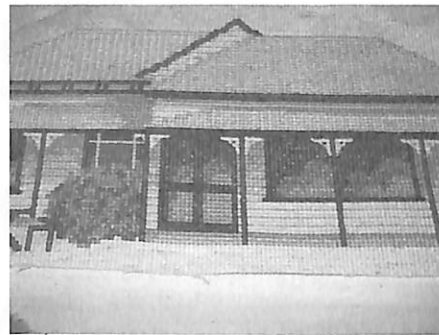
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## Cardinian Embroidery Project

by Ann Taylor



This community project is now complete and on display at the Cardinia Cultural Centre Lakeside Drive Pakenham. It consists of eight embroidered panels each measuring 190cm x 140 cm which depict the heritage and tradition of Cardinia Shire as we saw them in 2005. Even if you do not understand the intricacies of embroidery, you will enjoy identifying the well-known landmarks and recognizing neighbouring houses.

Page 25 of "The Cardinian Embroidery" edited by Eleanor Taylor has information about the Old Post Office.

**OLD POST OFFICE  
BEAconsfield** in Wood Street was worked in cross stitch by Catherine Murphy.

The post office house was built in 1889 as a weekend for the Gengout-Smith family who were leading citizens of Melbourne.

It became the Beaconsfield Post Office in 1916 after it was purchased by the Craven family, Belinda, Mattie and Alice. They were very active in the community and donated the money for the gates to Beaconsfield Park in 1938. Alice also taught Music.

In 1936 the Roberts family took over the Post Office.

Kath and her husband Mac and later helped by their two daughters Pat and Mary. They had previously run the stores on the highway and on the corner of Woods Street. The post office was very busy and Bill Watts also worked there, sleeping by the switchboard at night as it was a 24 hour telephone exchange. There were two mails in by day and two mails out by rail. The mail was then taken to Upper Beaconsfield and Guys Hill and sorted for the private bags. When war came Bill Watts joined the Army and the girls helped their parents.

The Post Office was also an agency for the Commonwealth Bank. When petrol rationing came in, petrol tickets had to be collected from the post office, pensions were paid fortnightly and many people had the phone connected.

Kath left the Post office in 1956 after her husband died. Kath Roberts Reserve in Kathleen Court was named after her in 1989. The post office was operated by a number of people including Mr. Charles, John Matthews, Olive Bartlett, Alice Daniel, Mary Holohan, Valerie Doherty and Betty Edwards.

*Continued on page 35.*



# ARTHRITIS

by Dr. Steve, Beaconsfield Vet Centre

Once again we are approaching winter, an uncomfortable time for those pets with arthritis. Arthritis is a painful degenerative bone disease that affects one in five of our pets. It can occur at any age, weight or breed.

Signs to look for include limping, stiffness, difficulty rising, reduced exercise tolerance and licking at joints to name just a few.

There are several medications that can help with arthritis, but you can also reduce its effects with some environmental changes.

Always make sure your pet has a warm stable bed off the ground (high density foam is ideal). Keep the bed out of draughts or in a well insulated kennel. Dog coats are also available, that can be worn during the colder months to help maintain bodyheat.

Making sure that your pet

isn't carrying any excess bodyweight is important as this only leads to extra stress on tired joints.

Exercise, even during the colder winter months remains important. Gentle regular exercise is best, keeping the joints moving and maintaining muscle tone. Swimming (there are heated dog lap pools in Doveton) is an ideal exercise as no pressure is placed on the joints.

If you think your pet maybe showing you signs of arthritis then please contact the Beaconsfield Veterinary Centre on 9769 8777. Unfortunately, arthritis can not be cured, but with early intervention we can help to slow its progress.

## "Shave for a Cure."

Thank you to everyone who donated to "Shave for a Cure". We managed to raise nearly \$800, and even though we were short of Josh's target, he still shaved off his locks!!!!

## Beaconsfield Gives Generously



Above: Josh and Steve after the 'Shave for a Cure Day'.



Above: Greg Cheyne, Stuart Dunbar and Rex Prewett from the Beaconsfield Pistol Club. raised over \$1300 for the Leukaemia Foundation. Their haircuts were done by Inge of Reflections Hair Design in Beaconsfield.

## Cardinian Embroidery

(Continued from page 34)

From 1978 Mary Booth became the Postmistress and continued until 2004 when she retired and sold the business to Leonie and Keith who operate the post office from new premises across the Old Princes Highway in Beaconsfield Plaza.

The old post office House building was sold and is now 'The Corner Post', Café, Homewares and Nursery.

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Better Care than Cure!

March saw the end of another successful season for Beaconsfield Cricket Club, with six junior sides and two senior sides making the finals series. Two of the junior teams, U/13 Minors and U/17 Beacy "Bandits", progressed to the grand final, along with C Grade in the senior ranks.

The commencement of the oval at O'Neill Road is a great boost for junior participation next season, with a real increase in the club's capability to provide young boys and girls with active recreation each Saturday of summer.

Any queries contact Greg Tomamichel- 0438 639 125

At the Beaconsfield Cricket Club Presentation Night held in April, Life Memberships were presented to Joe McMaster and Russell Vincent.



## BEACONSFIELD CRICKET CLUB NEWS

by Greg Tomamichel

### LIFE MEMBERSHIP



*Russell, a regular contributor of sport photos for the Beaconsfield Banner, submitted his photos and the following message.*

'A photo taken at the BCC presentation night during which Joe McMaster and myself were inducted as life members to the Beaconsfield Cricket Club for having given outstanding service to the club. It was a wonderful surprise and while the recognition is not something that we seek it is very nice when it is given.

Joe and I are extremely pleased and both feel honored to become "lifers" of such a great club which we both love dearly. The celebrations went until very late.

The photo above L to R shows Joe McMaster, Alan Sauvarin (our best mate at the club who was already a life member and who

inducted Joe and I ) and President of the club Greg Tomamichael.

Speaking of loved dearly, Laurelei and I celebrated our 30th wedding anniversary. Following a huge week with grand finals and presentation evenings for BCC juniors, BCC seniors and West Gippsland Cricket Association juniors and huge work commitments, we opted to dine out quietly as a twosome to celebrate.

The photo was taken by Dean (son) at home before we went to Tulip Thai Restaurant in Beaconsfield for a quiet celebration.

Thanks for your interest  
Warm regards and cheers  
Russell Vincent



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BEAconsfield TENNIS CLUB INC.

# TENNIS NEWS

## NIGHT TENNIS A BIG HIT AT BEAconsFIELD!

If you are looking interested in playing tennis but don't know how to go about it. Why not come down to Beaconsfield Tennis Club and see what it's all about.

In the past twelve months, night tennis at Beacy has gone from strength to strength. The Club caters for players of all standards so if you want to keep your weekends free and want to play tennis during the week, you can.

The competitions listed below are organised by the Beaconsfield Tennis Club and players do not have to be members of the Club although a nightly fee and Public Liability Insurance are charged.

Matches are played solely at the Beaconsfield Tennis Club courts. There are two playing seasons during the year. At the end of each season there is a finals series for the top four teams followed by a social presentation evening.

**Monday Night Social** - A mixed competition aimed at younger players in the 16-22 year old age bracket that can not commit to Saturday competition due to study or work.

**Tuesday Night Mixed** - Is suited to players from A-grade to B-grade. B-grade players must have attained a reasonable standard of play.

**Wednesday Night Mixed** - Is suited to players from B-grade to beginners. This is an ideal way for adults who have never played the game before to make a start and also for Junior players to socialise with adults before progressing to Senior competition.

If you are interested in any of the above, ring the relevant telephone number at the bottom of the page.

## URGENT NOTICE

Beaconsfield Tennis Club also runs an A GRADE Men's Competition on a Thursday night that is in urgent need of more players.

A once thriving competition is urging anyone who has (or once HAD) some ability to come down to the club on a Thursday night for a hit (or even a look). A & B grade are always looking for new players and anyone interested would be warmly welcomed.

Please call Ian Craig on 9707 3055 (Clubhouse) or just come down to the courts on a Thursday between 7.30 - 9.30pm.

**We NEED YOU !!!!**

## Water Restrictions

Even though there has been plenty of rain about lately, the BTC Committee has secured a reliable source of water. As part of the Beaconsfield Recreation Reserve, the BTC has permission to use water from the Cardinia Creek to water the en tout cas courts.

Over the coming months, BTC will be installing a water tank and a pump to ensure that all of the courts are able to be watered and available for play during the summer months.

## Professional Coaching



Our professional coaching team can help you improve your game whatever your standard.

**So lob into Beaconsfield TC  
and have a bash**

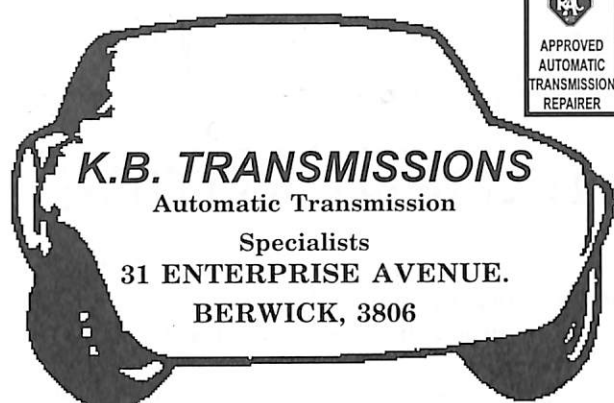
## Club Contacts

President: 5940 1186  
Secretary: 9707 2575  
Treasurer: 9707 4287

Monday Night Social: 9796 2767  
Tuesday Mixed A Grade: 9769 8503  
Wednesday Mixed B Grade: 9707 4287  
Thursday Men's A & B: 9707 4507

Mid Week Ladies: 9704 6852  
Senior Comp: 0407 527 092  
Junior Comp: 9702 5251  
Coach: 0412 682 569





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Have your say on local issues, submit anecdotes about Beaconsfield past/present, letters to the editor or articles of general interest are welcomed.

All articles in relation to births, deaths, marriages, welcomes, farewells are gladly published free of charge.

These can be emailed to [banner@beaconsfield.org.au](mailto:banner@beaconsfield.org.au) or be left at the Beaconsfield Post Office.

All articles must contain the contributors name and contact details for verification purposes.

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Anyone who is interested in receiving the Banner by post this can be arranged for a pre-paid cost of \$9. per year.

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P.O. Box 217. Beaconsfield. 3807

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### Pakenham's 4th Annual Antique Fair,

to be held on 28th July, at Pakenham Racecourse, Racecourse Road, Pakenham between the hours of 9-4pm. Admission \$5 adult, \$4 concession, children free.

There will be 40 stall holders on the day with a large variety of antiques and bargains ranging from china, glassware, pottery, small furniture, jewellery, linen etc. There will be cafe facilities.

David Freeman a well known antique valuer will do valuations from 1.00pm at a cost of \$5 per item. However this does not include jewellery, coins or stamps and photos of large furniture items can be produced on the day for valuation.

All door proceeds, stall fees and valuation proceeds will be donated back to the emergency food bank that services the needy within the Cardinia Shire. This year we need to raise \$60000 to continue the many services we provide.

Jeni Mathieson

### DEADLINE FOR BANNER ARTICLES

**August 12th,  
2007**

**[banner@beaconsfield.org.au](mailto:banner@beaconsfield.org.au)**

(articles can be posted  
or emailed)

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### CARDINIA RATEPAYERS & RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION INC. (CRRA)

*by Gloria O'Connor*

Council Budget & Plan 2007/08 was approved by six of the seven councillors on 25th June. Cr. Chatwin, being critical of the spending program and inclusion of the levy in the rates increase, voted against. CRRA 20 page submission on the budget can be seen on our website. [www.crta.org.au](http://www.crta.org.au) CRRA contact: 5942 7739 / 0419 135712 mail to: [cravic@yahoo.com.au](mailto:cravic@yahoo.com.au) PO Box 161 Officer. 3809.

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## - UPCOMING EVENTS -

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