

FREE

Beaconsfield Banner

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A MOMENT IN THE SPOTLIGHT

See page 11



BEACONSFIELD PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC.

President: Les Reader

Correspondence to:

P.O. Box 217, Beaconsfield Vic 3807

Meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, 7.30pm, Beaconsfield Community Complex, O'Neil Road

Official Website: www.beaconsfield.org.au

Website contains local information and includes copies of minutes and agendas

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The Beaconsfield Progress Association and volunteers, together with the financial support of the advertisers, distribute 2600 copies of the Beaconsfield Banner FREE to the residents of Beaconsfield every second month (February, April, June, August, October and December).

We always appreciate volunteer collators who can help with the Beaconsfield Banner once every two months - it's straightforward and fun -- contact 97075053.

BEACONSFIELD BANNER ADVERTISING RATES

2009 Banner Advertising Rates GST Inclusive.

Advert Size	Per Issue
Full Page	\$185.00
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Notice Board	\$25.00

Classified: Min \$3 for 5 words + \$1 for each 5 words thereafter plus GST

If you wish to advertise in the Beaconsfield Banner email banner@beaconsfield.org.au or contact 9707 5053

VISIT THE BEACONSFIELD PROGRESS ASSOCIATION WEBSITE

www.beaconsfield.org.au

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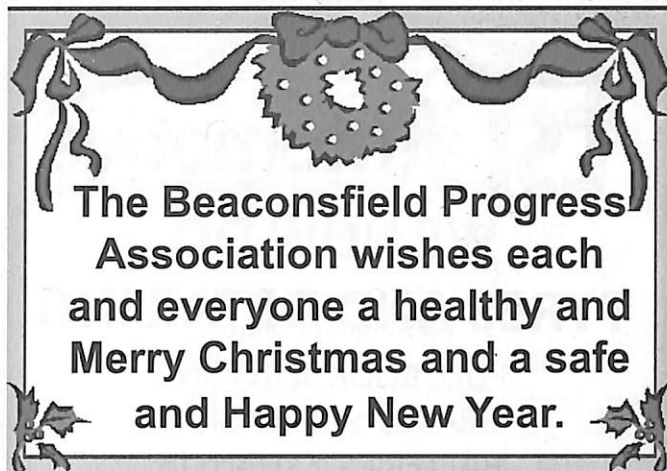
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CARDINIA SHIRE REPORT

by Councillor Alin Ross, Central Ward

It is an exciting time to be on council with so many projects undertaken and proposed for our future development.

In Beaconsfield we have begun works of the new recreational reserve in Holm Park Rd. Stage One includes the design of pavilions, site preparation, fencing, earthworks, construction of the two main ovals, site services and connections, and the building of unsealed internal roads and car park.

Council are looking to refurbish Beaconsfield Park to give it a fresh look and a new feel as it has been let go for far too long.

Very soon we will take possession of the land behind the Hotel to connect the Woolworths car park to the Beaconsfield/Emerald Road. This should give safer access for residents.

Look out for the Local Carols by Candlelight presented by the Local Groups; my family and I attended last year and found them a wonderful event.

Council, my family and I would like to wish all residents a safe and merry Christmas and look forward to representing you in the New Year.



Central Ward Councillors L to R - George Blenkhorn, Alin Ross and Brett Wen.

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SLOW INTERNET IN BEACONSFIELD

by resident of Beaconsfield

Have you noticed that sometimes your internet access is really, really slow, particularly at night time and the weekend and on school holidays? You might notice that websites take a long time to load (if at all) and that anything that requires interactivity (such as online games) are virtually impossible to play.

If you are a resident of Berwick Views/Bowman's Track (and probably most new parts of Beaconsfield and Officer), you connect to the internet for your ADSL via a Remote Integrated Multiplexer (or RIM) - one of the big green boxes you see around the estate (like the one on Beaconsfield-Emerald Road in front of the lake)

No matter which internet service provider (ISP) you choose to use for your ADSL service, your connection is delivered to you through this big box which Telstra own. Even if you choose another ISP for your internet service, you have to use this Telstra infrastructure.

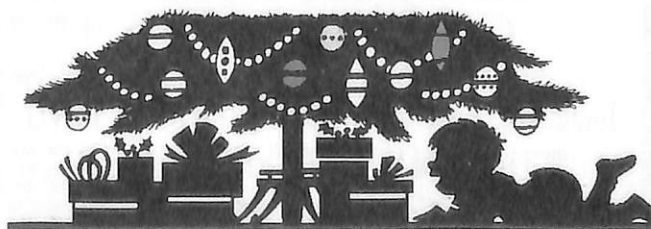
This is because the RIM you are connected to is oversubscribed. That means that too many people are trying to get

their internet service through the RIM and this slows the internet to a crawl. This slow down in performance is called 'congestion'. The only way to fix this congestion is for Telstra to upgrade the RIM. And they are refusing to do this.

We have been complaining to our ISP for the last 10 months about the slow speed. They conducted investigations and asked Telstra to do the same. Telstra investigated and confirmed that the problem with the slow internet was congestion. However, even though Telstra have admitted there are issues with internet speed, they have no plans to upgrade capacity.

So we are all paying for a service that Telstra know is defective, yet they refuse to fix.

If you are sick of slow internet, websites taking a long time to load and not being able to play your favourite online games, speak to your ISP so they can in turn pressure Telstra to upgrade the capacity on these RIMs and provide us all with the service we're paying for.



Beaconsfield CFA Getting Ready For Summer

by Mteo Darlo, St. Leutenant

The volunteers at Beaconsfield CFA have been busy preparing for the summer and the fire season that comes with it. Nine new recruits have completed their minimum skills requirement after six months of training and are now qualified to respond to incidents. These nine recruits are additional firefighters that will be aiding the response to emergency situations in the Beaconsfield community and surrounding areas.



Photos taken during crew protection training and general drills.



A Fire Ready Victoria meeting was held early in November at the Beaconsfield Community Centre with approximately 70 residents attending. Information on the importance of developing a fire plan was discussed especially as the risk of bushfires could be life threatening. It was highlighted that this did not

only apply to properties in the bush or on acreage. The last fire season saw properties in residential subdivisions impacted by ember attack, as was the case in Narre Warren South. We encourage all residents to develop a fire plan and be prepared to implement it if required. Further information is available on the CFA web site www.cfa.vic.gov.au or the Bushfire Information Line on 1800 240 667.

Finally, the members of the Beaconsfield CFA would like to thank the community for their ongoing support and wish you all a safe and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



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Council Steps Up To Improve Pedestrian Access

Have you ever had the experience of trying to navigate through chairs, tables and signage unnecessarily blocking the footpath while you are shopping?

Dangerously cluttered footpaths will now be a thing of the past with the introduction of guidelines for footpath trading coming into effect on 1 August 2009.

Over the past 12 months Council has been investigating footpath trading throughout Cardinia Shire in order to manage and maintain pedestrian safety, traffic flow and improve visual amenity. The outcome of Council's investigation is the introduction of

the Footpath Trading Code which will ensure a consistent approach to the issuing of Footpath Occupancy Permits and compliance with the Disability Discrimination Act 1992.

Manager of Local Laws Alan Giachin said the Footpath Trading Code has been introduced to maintain a practical balance between pedestrian safety and the activities of traders, as well as regulate all commercial activities on footpaths across the Shire to achieve fairness and equity between traders.

"The Code is designed to ensure that Cardinia's shopping experience remains as enjoyable as possible for all people

who live, work in or visit the Shire, while at the same time ensuring that everyone in the community is able to exercise their right to access our footpaths in a safe, dignified and unhindered manner," Mr Giachin said.

Under the Disability Discrimination Act, it is against the law for any public place to be inaccessible to people with a disability. This includes shops and department stores and public footpaths and walkways.

The aims of the Footpath Trading Code are to improve access and safety benefits for everyone through improved traffic flow and sightlines for pedestrians and traffic, as

well as improved business amenity and appeal for traders and shoppers in Cardinia Shire.

"Many other Councils who have strip shopping areas have similar policies. We are looking forward to working with everyone to ensure the best possible outcome for businesses and compliance with the Footpath Trading Code and the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 in Cardinia Shire," Mr Giachin said.

Please contact Council's Local Laws Department on 1300 787 624 if you have any questions or would like a copy of the Footpath Trading Code mailed to you.

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1st BEACONSFIELD SCOUT GROUP

by Roger Gordon

It only seems the other day that I wrote the last article and helped collate the Beacy Banner. But you cannot keep a good lady down and Margaret Boon is putting out another Banner before Christmas. Margaret does a fantastic job with her helpers and we are all very lucky and fortunate to have such a great team putting out an informative and excellent Banner.

For a change I have included photographs of our Cub Scouts and Scouts at one of their weekly meetings. The Cub Scouts were asked to dress up as vampires or other scary characters. The result was great and a load of fun. The Scouts is a troop photo at Alex's green cord presentation.

Our Group Committee has some new faces with Scott Russell our new President and his wife Fran our new Secretary. Steve Limb has also joined the Committee.

The Russells have two sons in Cub Scouts and Steve has a daughter in Cub Scouts. Scott and Steve are also active in trying to have better traffic controls at the entrance to Aldi, Woolworths and this shopping centre. The present set-up is pretty treacherous and must have been designed by someone who did not do even elementary homework onsite. All of us look forward to having sensible traffic controls put in place in this presently very dangerous spot.



Margaret Turner who was very actively involved in establishing our old (pulled down by Vic Trac) Scout Hall has arranged for the opening plaque of this Hall along with a history to go on display at our Beaconsfield Community Centre. Well done Margaret. It is important that the history of our town is preserved. (See page 21 for more information)

If you would like your sons or daughters to come to one of our Scout or Cub Scout meetings please ring Roger Gordon on 97072414 or gordon@cyberspace.net.au to make sure where we meet and get an idea of our programme, costs etc. We have a special offer where they can attend three meetings without any cost to see if they would like to join.

We wish you a great Xmas and a healthy, wealthy and happy 2010 and look forward to hearing from you in the New Year.

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by Centre Co-ordinator - Miriam Gillespie

New Courses for 2010

Don't forget to look out for your new program which will be delivered during the Christmas break.

There are loads of courses on offer and here are just a few to tempt you!.

A Compact Camera Workshop on March 4th, SLR Workshop on Saturday February 20th, Easter Cooking begins on February 18th for 5 weeks, Cartooning for 9-13 year olds and 13-16 year olds begins on February 15th and An Epipen 21659 Anaphylaxis on Wednesday 17th March.

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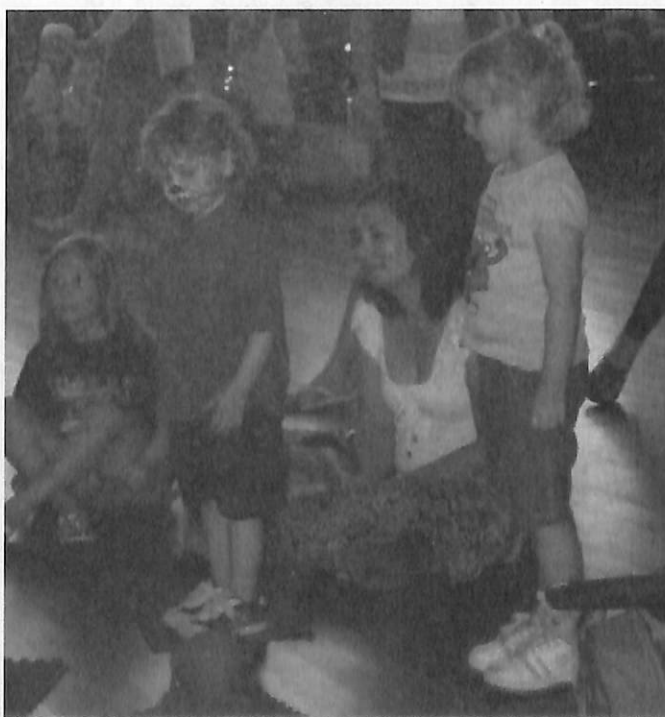
We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those that have attended the Beaconsfield Neighbourhood Centre throughout the year and making it a great place to have some fun, while learning a new skill at the same time.

May you all have a lovely break and we will see you all in the New Year with great enthusiasm. Merry Christmas and a safe, happy and healthy 2010. Be safe and take care.



Open Day Wrap Up

It was great to see so many members and friends at our Open Day. The weather was pleasant and the centre was buzzing with activities – especially from the children's dance, strength training and line dancing displays.



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MAKE AND MINGLE

by A. Taylor

The 11th Make and Mingle Craft Fair was a wonderful day on Saturday 7th November 2009. The weather was fine and warm and hundreds of people from the community came along for delicious Devonshire teas and lunches and friends, fellowship and craft. There was a beautiful display of work made by the group and handmade cushions, bags and lovely gifts and a range of craft supplies was available.

The fabulous plant stall with beautiful cut flowers and homegrown produce was very popular. There was an opportunity for visitors to put their stitch in the Cardinian Embroidery Flora and Fauna panel on display and spend some time looking at the amazing hand knitted farm.

Thank you to everyone who came along as well as all those who contributed and helped out on the day. Funds raised will be used for the missions and groups that we support.

Make and Mingle finishes on Wednesday 9th December and resumes Wednesday 3rd February



2010. You can join us in the New Year for a range of crafts, friendship and fellowship. This is always a good place to make new friends.

We meet every Wednesday during school term from 10am- 12 noon at Beaconsfield Baptist Church, Cnr Desmond Court and Old Princes Highway. Enquiries Ann 9707 1996

We hope to see you as well on Sunday 20th December at CAROLS BY THE CREEK 8pm at Bob Burgess Reserve and also at the Christmas Day service Friday 25th December at Beaconsfield Baptist Church, Cnr Old Princes Hwy and Desmond Court.



Beaconsfield District Community Bank® Branch

by G. Taylor

The Beaconsfield District Community Bank® Branch of Bendigo Bank opened on 15 September 2009. The response from both new and existing Bendigo Bank customers opening or transferring accounts has been overwhelming.

In particular, local businesses are pleased to have a bank in Beaconsfield which can cater to all their financial needs, which will eliminate travel to other towns to do their banking.

The Branch Manager is Michael (Mick) Lazari is a local resident with more than 20 years banking experience. Mick's role at

the Branch is to help you achieve your financial goals -whether you are operating a business, buying your first home or saving for the kids' education.

If you want to experience banking with a difference, come in and say hello to Mick and his team between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday and 9am and noon on Saturdays.

The branch can be found at the new Beaconsfield Hub, Shop 6, 48-62 Old Princes Highway, Beaconsfield or telephone 9769 5122.



A MOMENT IN THE SPOTLIGHT

By M. Boon

Three good friends are our first community members who feature in this new article.

So many Beaconsfield residents volunteer their time in various ways within the town for the sheer enjoyment and in this article we would like to give them their 'Moment in the Spotlight'.

Jean, Doreen and Gwen are regular volunteers at the Beaconsfield Neighbourhood Centre and during the many

years they have lived in Beaconsfield they have been involved in various groups. They are pictured here helping in the kitchen at the recent Beaconsfield Neighbourhood Centre Open Day.

When asked to complete the sentence "We laugh when..."

"... when the three of us are together we just laugh and just keep on laughing. One of us will say something and that will set us off again. You just have to be able to laugh."

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SNIPPETS FROM THE ACCOUNTANT'S DESK

by Graeme J Taylor, C.A.

HENRY REVIEW OF TAXATION

Dr Henry is currently reviewing the taxation system and will provide a Report to the Commonwealth Government during December 2009 on his recommendations. The measures will include the simplification of the tax system for the benefit of Australian taxpayers.

In late October 2009 some proposals were leaked and were reported in the media. The Henry Report is expected to recommend that wage and salary earners will receive a "mini" one page income tax return and will be allowed to claim standard work deductions rumoured to be \$00.

Currently employees claiming more than \$00 for work deductions must have receipts and be able to substantiate

deductions but without limiting the amount claimable. The approach of a standard deduction goes back many years before the substantiation requirements. Many taxpayers are entitled to claim more than \$00 in deductions and taxpayers may receive much smaller income tax refunds than previously. The recommendations could also result in the abolition of income tax returns adopting the United Kingdom model. Consideration must also be directed on the impact of up to 40 tax offsets to which taxpayers may be currently entitled to.

The Henry Report is creating much anticipated interest and all taxpayers should familiarise themselves and make their opinions known otherwise income tax refunds may be substantially reduced. The Accounting bodies and Taxation Associations will be active in voicing their opinions.



Christmas Wish for No More Violence

by Tammy Lobato, MP Member for Gembrook

Christmas is a time of peace and joy across the community, as we mark one of the most important days on the religious calendar and enjoy holiday time with friends and family.

Unfortunately for some, however, Christmas can also be a time of incredible stress and unhappiness, as family budgets are stretched and people spend more time with each other than usual, so that emotions may spill over.

One of the most common ways this stress is played out in the community is the increase in the incidence of family violence, most commonly inflicted by men against women.

This violence takes many forms but new VicHealth research released in November has shown that 75,000 women across the country each year experience violence by a current or former partner.

It also showed that the number of Australian women who experience sexual assault each year would fill every single seat in the MCG with another 20,000 women in the standing room areas.

These distressing figures not only demonstrate that human right abuses are occurring right here and now in our communities, but these abuses also come at a tremendous cost, both in human terms and in economic ones.

Violence is still the biggest single cause of death, disability and ill-health in women between the ages of 15 to 44. It impacts on women in all social classes and cultures, in every suburb and town.

The government has initiated a number of prevention initiatives to address this massive problem in communities, including in workplaces

and football clubs as well as in community health programs. VicHealth is currently investing just over \$2 million in violence prevention programs across a variety of community settings. In addition, police officers have greater powers to intervene to address this issue and people are being encouraged to speak up about these crimes rather than maintaining a veil of silence.

However, we all have a role in shaping our communities to be respectful and supportive of its citizens and creating safe and welcoming environments. This Christmas, we need to demonstrate by our actions and attitudes that we care for those around us and we are not prepared to let others be subjected to inappropriate behaviour, or violence or abuse.

I urge each of you to take up the challenge this Christmas and help



your homes, workplaces and social functions be occasions that embody the Christmas spirit of peace and love and provide safe environments for all women, children and men to enjoy, free of violence.

With best wishes
Tammy Lobato MP
Member for Gembrook



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THE VOICE OF THE BAPTIST CHURCH *by David Morland*

Living With Troubles

Thecla was a young woman who lived in the first century. She was a Christian, a fine person and held in esteem. Following her death the facts of her life were tainted. As with many Christians of her era she was caught up in the Roman persecutions and was sentenced to be burned at the stake. Thecla was tied to the stake and the straw was lit. But before the flames took she was saved by a miraculous storm which put out the fire.

Not long after this episode she was nearly raped but again there was a miraculous intervention with the man in question finding himself incapable. Later she was again arrested by the Romans and this time was sentenced to be eaten

by wild beasts. She was saved by one of the lions who instead of eating her actually protected her from the other beasts. Fortunately the rest of her life was without incident and she went on to die at the age of 72. Not long after she died Christians started to doubt these stories. Not because they did not believe in miraculous events but because the experience of being saved from life's troubles did not ring true. Christians do not normally experience God saving them from the pain and stress of life. What they do experience is the comforting presence of God in the midst of pain and heartache and anxiety.

Christians celebrate Christmas as the moment God came to us. Is God here, does God care? Let there be no doubt. The Christmas story says "yes".



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Beaconsfield Business Group (BBG)

ON THE MOVE.....

by Michael Muaremov, President - BBG

The Beaconsfield Business Group held its Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 25th October.

The group have been instrumental over the past two years since it was established, with issues of Parking, Permits, Streetscaping and Local By-Laws being addressed in a proactive approach.

The group assisted with the Beaconsfield District Community Bank being brought into town in 2007, and also with the Ornamental Pear Trees, planted along the nature strips on the Princes Hwy, in the Central Business District (between Souter & Wood St) to define the Business area from the Residential. This is the early stage of a larger Master Plan that the Group's Sub

Committee for Streetscapes, have been working towards with Michael Muaremov, who was re-elected as President on the night, with Vicki O'Callaghan (RAMS Home Loans) and Carol James (Grumbles) being the main members working on this. "Our vision is to create a feel of an English Village in Beaconsfield complete with Post / Lantern Street lights, and park benches and rubbish bins to suit places throughout the CBD," Michael said recently.

Other Sub Committees such as Marketing & Advertising, headed by Jim Byrne (Jim Byrne Real Estate), who is Vice President, has put a proposal to have a major presence in one of the main papers where members and traders in Beaconsfield, can advertise "Specials" every month and let the community know what is

available in our little town that has grown with the area.

The BBG meets on the last Wednesday of every month at 6.00pm at Jim Byrne Real Estate's office, located on the corner of Beaconsfield Emerald Rd. New members are all welcome to join our Pro Active group and are encouraged to get on board, join sub committee's of interest or just support the group and see their own business grow with the members that run very successful and long standing businesses in Beaconsfield.

To enquire about becoming a member contact Carol on 9769 8929 or Michael on 9769 9134.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 27th January 2010 at 6.00pm.



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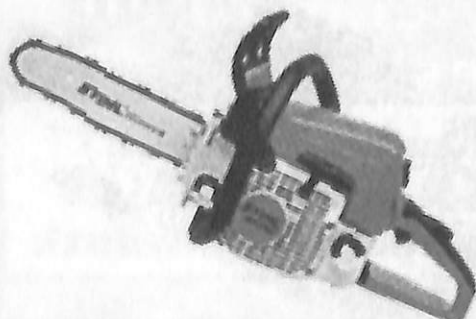
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Beware of What You Feed Your Pets

by Beaconsfield Veterinary Centre

Feeding pets food that we enjoy is not only wrong, it can also be fatal. There are some foodstuffs that humans enjoy which cause illness and even death if eaten by pets.

Macadamia nuts, garlic, chocolate, pips and onions are good examples. Each of these foods contains chemicals which rarely cause problems for humans, but for dogs, these same chemicals can be deadly.

Onion and garlic poisoning

Onions and garlic contain the toxic ingredient thiosulphate. An ingredient that causes sickness in dogs, cats and also livestock.

All forms of onion can be a problem including dehydrated onions, raw onions, cooked onions and table scraps containing cooked onions and/or garlic. Left over pizza, Chinese dishes and commercial baby food containing onion, sometimes fed as a supplement to young pets, can cause illness.

The poisoning occurs a

few days after the pet has eaten the onion. At first, pets affected by onion poisoning have vomiting and diarrhoea, show no interest in food and will be dull and weak. Your animal may become breathless and have red urine.

While garlic also contains the toxic ingredient thiosulphate, it seems that garlic is less toxic and large amounts would need to be eaten to cause illness.

The danger of macadamia nuts

The toxic compound is unknown but the affect of macadamia nuts is to cause locomotory difficulties. Dogs develop a tremor of the skeletal muscles, and weakness or paralysis of the hindquarters. Affected dogs are often unable to rise and are distressed, usually panting. Some affected dogs have swollen limbs and show pain when the limbs are manipulated.

Dogs have been affected by eating as few as six macadamia kernels (nuts without the shell). Some dogs had also been given

macadamia butter and ice-cream.

Avocados

The toxic ingredient in avocado is called persin. Symptoms include difficulty breathing, abdominal enlargement, and abnormal fluid accumulations in the chest, abdomen and sac around the heart.

Pips!

Pear pips, the kernels of plums, peaches and apricots and apple core pips all contain cyanogenic glycosides resulting in cyanide poisoning.

Signs can occur within 15-20 min to a few hours after animals consume toxic pips. Excitement can be displayed initially, accompanied by rapid respiration rate. Breathlessness follows shortly, with increased heart rate. Salivation, excess tears, and voiding of urine and feces may occur. Muscle tremors are common and progresses to generalised spasms before death. Gums are bright red but may become blue terminally. It is very important that you do not let your animals eat pips! In addition to cyanide toxicity the pips can get stuck in the intestines and cause a blockage.

Chocolates

It may seem like a good idea to give your dog a piece of chocolate as a treat for good behaviour but this can be a major mistake!

Chocolate contains theobromine which is known to be toxic to dogs. After eating chocolate, signs of toxicity may arise within 24hrs and may last up to three days. These signs usually include vomiting, stomach pain, salivation, increased thirst and urination, wobbliness and restlessness. In severe cases there may also be diarrhoea, tremors and even seizures and death.

If you know your pet has eaten chocolate you should seek veterinary assistance immediately. Generally the more they eat and the darker the chocolate, the worse the outcome.

Raisins

With Christmas just around the corner the consumption of grapes and raisins presents a potential health threat to dogs. It causes acute renal failure with anuria (a lack of urine production).

The reason why some dogs develop renal failure following ingestion of grapes and raisins is not known. Types of grapes include both seedless and seeded.

Clinical signs are vomiting and diarrhoea, this is often the first symptoms of grape or raisin toxicity. This occurs within a few hours of ingestion. Pieces of grapes or raisins may be present in the stool. Further symptoms include weakness, not eating, increased drinking, and abdominal pain. Acute renal failure develops within 48 hours of ingestion.

Pets' owners should not assume that human food is always safe for pets. Be sure that your pets can't get into your stash of chocolates, that food scraps are disposed of carefully to prevent onion and garlic toxicity and is prevented from picking up macadamia nuts.

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St Francis Xavier wins Southern Independent Schools Shield

by Maree Chapman

St Francis Xavier College Berwick & Beaconsfield successfully defended their five year winning streak in October at the Southern Independent Schools Division A Athletics Carnival.

The College Athletics team was triumphant in taking home the Overall shield on the day after winning the Junior, Intermediate and Senior sections in the competition. The team procured eight pennants on the day, the under 13, 14, 16, 17, and 21, boys, the under 14, 15 and 21 girls. The event held at Olympic Park was this year hosted by St Francis Xavier College who organised the day's competition amongst the schools which included Padua College, St Peter's College, Beaconsfield College, John Paul College and Woodleigh, Baxter.

At St Francis Xavier College the SIS Sports and Recreation is co-ordinated by Miss Siobhan Taylor at the Beaconsfield campus and Mrs Kate Gothard at the Berwick campus. Both were very appreciative of the staff who were involved in the training sessions and preparation in the lead up to the competition.

The third St Francis Xavier annual "Sports Awards Night" was held recently in November where Best and Fairest awards were presented to all SIS team members, weekly sporting teams and College teams that had won through to State finals were recognised.

Students and parents were also entertained by the presentations of guest speakers, Andrew Gaze and Brooke Hansen (who brought along her Olympic Gold and Silver medals to view).

PAINTED WATER TANKS



Pictured above: Example shown is a 3000 litre round poly tank

Ted Horton of Beaconsfield has been busy of late painting country scenes on water tanks.

His paintings blend in well with garden vegetation and enable tank owners to have them camouflaged in their own back yards.

According to Ted's neighbours they add visual appeal when looking over their backyard fence!

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Please phone Ted on 0405 505 858 to inspect his work locally and for a quote.



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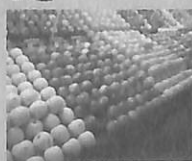
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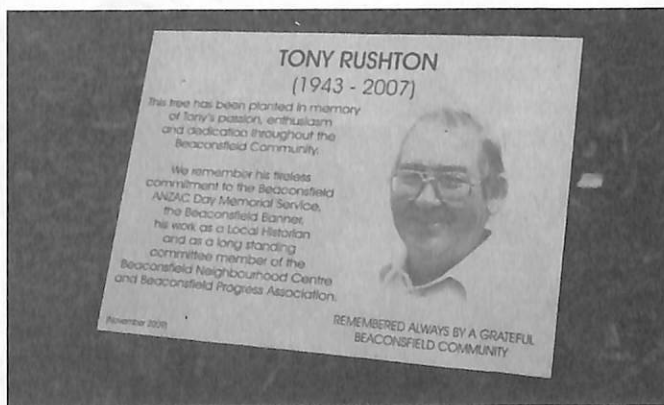


Photo courtesy D. Chan

The late **TONY RUSHTON** was honoured in a ceremony in November to unveil a plaque erected in his memory. The plaque is situated under a lemon scented gum planted for him over 2 ½ years ago at the Anzac ceremony outside the Beaconsfield Community Complex.

Our thanks to Cr Brett Owen and Shire of Cardinia who provided the ward funds for the plaque. Cr Brett Owen led the ceremony aided by Dulcie, Simone and Paul Rushton. (All Pictured above with Les Reader, President of BPA)

Afternoon tea provided by the Beaconsfield Neighbourhood Centre ladies was enjoyed by all after the ceremony. Thanks to Jeff and Eileen Wessling of Exotech in Beaconsfield who made the plaque.



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2010**





Pictured: Margaret Turner, John Campbell, Maurie Downey and Kell Lycett at Scout Hall Opening, 3rd May 1969. As District Cub Master Margaret Turner cut the ribbon to officially open the Scout Hall.



Pictured: Cub Pack of 1969, seated with Muriel Wilton, Ian Wake and Margaret Turner.
Can you name these cubs? If you can, send details to the Beaconsfield Banner P.O Box 217 Beaconsfield.

HISTORY OF 1ST BEACONSFIELD SCOUT HALL

Scouting began in Beaconsfield in February, 1957 with twelve boys between ages of eight and eleven years, being the foundation members of the Cub Pack. Meetings were held in the Public Hall that was next to the Hotel. This hall was later demolished to make way for the dual highway.

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

In the beginning of 1962 we moved to the Buffalo Lodge Hall in Railway Avenue,



Scout
Hall
1966



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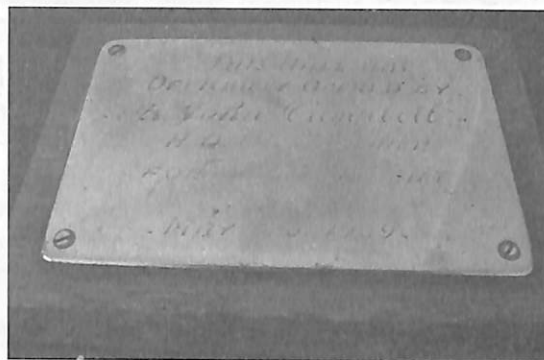
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which later became the Dancing School. This building had previously been the Tynong State School.

The Railways Department in July 1964 granted the Group the lease of land 74 ft x 130 ft. in Beaconsfield Avenue, for a period of 21 years. The rental was three pounds per year and the Committee held a fete at the end of that year and raised another 120 pounds.

"Work begins on the New Hall" was the headline in the local paper in April, 1966. With many hours of voluntary work, and money raised from very successful Bazaars, regular waste paper and bottle collections, the Committee had \$1000 in hand by the end of the year and were able to get the Hall to lock up stage.

The Scout Hall was officially opened on 3rd May 1969 by the then Scout Headquarters Commissioner - John

Campbell. There were 180 people in attendance, including many local and Scouting dignitaries. It was a very proud day for all people associated with the Group. At that stage the Hall structure ended level with the front porch and included the kitchen and Scouters' Den. It was extended in 1971. The walls and ceiling were also lined in later years.

In the latter part of 2008, the Scout Association was informed that due to asbestos contamination the Beaconsfield Scout Hall would have to be demolished.

After serving the training and the needs of many of the youth members of the local community for 40 years, the Scout Hall was finally demolished in May, 2009.

*This history provided by:
Mary McGrath
Margaret Turner
November, 2009*



Margaret and Mary presenting history and plaque to the Beaconsfield Community Centre

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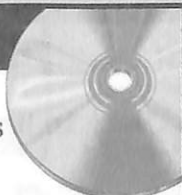
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Thursday 7 January
Lang Lang skate park (Dick Jones Park)
Westernport Road, Lang Lang

Friday 8 January
Palanham skate park (PB Ronald Reserve)
Henry Street, Palanham
(Melway ref: 317 E8)

Tuesday 12 January
Koo Wee Rup skate park (Cochrane Park)
Rostler Road, Koo Wee Rup

Wednesday 13 January
Gembrook skate park
Gembrook Road, Gembrook
(Melway ref: 299, A10)

Thursday 14 January
Garfield skate park (Garfield Recreation
Reserve)
Beewick Street, Garfield

Friday 15 January
Cockatoo skate park (Cockatoo
Community Reserve)
Palanham Road, Cockatoo
(Melway ref: 311 G4)

Tuesday 19 January
Tyrnagall hall, Railway Avenue, Tyrnagall
(Melway ref: 320 G10)

Wednesday 20 January
Nar Nar Goon bike track (Nar Nar Goon
Recreation Reserve)
Spencer Street, Nar Nar Goon
(Melway ref: 319 D10)

Thursday 21 January
Bunyip bike track (Koolangarra Park)
Corner of Hope Street and Railway Avenue

Friday 22 January
Beaconsfield Tennis Club
Beaconsfield-Emerald Road, Beaconsfield
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Wednesday 27 January
Bayles Tennis Club
Koo Wee Rup-Longwarry Road, Bayles

Thursday 28 January
Worrell Reserve (Emerald Library)
Belgrave-Gembrook Road, Emerald
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Friday 29 January
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BEACONSFIELD'S HANDYMAN

by Phil Collins

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The Toyota van which has served me for 17 years and 150,000km has passed to a new owner and in its place is a Mazda van which has power steering to help me maneuver. I do a lot of turning around and there is many a post or tree that left its mark on the Toyota.

My old motto "Have tools will Travel" has not been fixed to the Mazda, suffice I think to say after 22 years Handyman.

Advertising is an industry of huge proportions but never mind whether it is radio, print or TV the most trusted form of advertising is recommendation. So many people ask the question "Do you know someone who could?" Surely they could look up the local paper - but, no they want a personal reference. I guess I am the same. There was once an advert for Buick Cars - "Ask the man who owns one"

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CROSS CULTURE

by David Griffiths

It's hard to believe that it is almost 15 years since those of us who were in love with Nirvana were eagerly anticipating the arrival of Dave Grohl's new band, Foo Fighters. To mark fifteen years in the industry the Foo Fighters have delivered...um correction their label has delivered a 'Greatest Hits' album. See, Dave Grohl never wanted this album to be released...not until they retired anyway. Still it's not a bad little package and will be eaten up by Foo Fighters fans.

All their big hits from over the years have all been grouped together with 'All My Life', 'Best Of You' and 'The Pretender' all present. My fave 'This Is A Call' is certainly there as well as crowd faves like 'My Hero' and 'Monkey Wrench'. There is also an acoustic version of 'Everlong' and two new tracks in 'Wheels'

and 'Word Forward', which in my opinion are a bit weak compared to the rest of Foo Fighters back catalogue.

If you a true Foo Fighters fan though, make sure you go out and buy the Limited Edition version which comes with a DVD that features 23 music videos, both video clips and live vision of the Fooies.

The band may not be a fan of the album but at least as far as 'Greatest Hits' albums go this one looks after the fans.

It's also worth listening to Luna Parade. Once again the grand old state of Western Australia has delivered a good Aussie act that is well worth a listen. If their La Luna Corsa EP is anything to go by then you'll be hearing a lot of these guys in 2010 so rush out and grab this while you can.

These guys sound amazing. The opening track, 'Cult Film' sees lead singer Michael Paolino pull off vocals that sound eerily like Michael Hutchence while the music under it could easily have come from Ireland's favorite sons U2. The 90s rock sound of 'Proposal & Gunfire' will have you falling in love instantly while 'At Dawn When She Came' will be lapped up by fans of Dardenelles.

'Close To You' sees Luna Parade call on a heavy electronic rock sound while 'On & On' is not only good enough as a single... it is good enough to guarantee radio play. The closing track, 'Giant' shows that Luna Parade even sound great when they slow down.

This is an amazing EP that I don't think will be leaving stereo anytime soon.

Merry Christmas all!

For more of David's reviews go to www.subcultureentertainment.com

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X- WIRED

by David Griffiths

As a general rule when comedy and horror collides it is a good idea to run for the hills (the ones without eyes) and hide until it's gone, but with 'Zombieland' that rule goes right out the window. In fact 'Zombieland' even out does 'Shaun Of The Dead' and certainly deserves to be mentioned among some of this year's best films.

Columbus (Jesse Eisenberg – 'Adventureland', 'The Hunting Party') is one of the small number of people who have managed to survive a worldwide

zombie outbreak... he sums it up by declaring, "this is no longer the United States Of America, it is the United States Of Zombie". Columbus has survived this long because he has a set of rules he follows as he tries to head home to see if his parents have survived the onslaught. Along the way he meets Tallahassee (Woody Harrelson – '2012', 'Defendor'), a rough nut who has discovered he is an expert zombie killer. When they team up with the untrustworthy, Wichita (Emma Stone – 'Paper Man', 'Ghosts Of Girlfriends Past') and Little Rock (Abigail Breslin – 'My

Sister's Island', 'Nim's Island'), they realise the only way to survive is to try and work together.

The writers of 'Zombieland' are clearly talented. Each of the characters are three dimensional in that they all have personalities and quirks of their own... there are no one-dimensional cutouts to be seen. And while the story probably could have gone further there is enough suspense, humour and even a few touching moments to keep the film chugging enjoyably along. The fact that the team have managed to incorporate both horror and comedy without letting either side lack says a lot about their ability... so many have tried this and fallen well short.

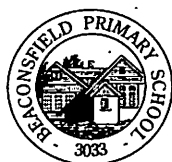
Director, Ruben Fleischer ('The Girls Guitar Club', TV's 'Jimmy Kimmel Live') shows a lot of potential as a director. He brings a great 'style' to this film that is new and inventive. Even small things like having the various 'rules' appear throughout the film (you'll know what I'm talking about when you see it) is a small stroke of genius. It was a risk but it works amazingly well. He is also well backed up by

his cast. While all are very good Jesse Eisenberg and Woody Harrelson are standouts. Eisenberg is certainly an actor on the rise, he was what made 'Adventureland' such an enjoyable film, and here in 'Zombieland' he once again plays 'the lonesome loser' to a tee. And following up from his standout performance in '2012' Harrelson has once again shown Hollywood that he is worth considering for any of the quirky roles out there.

'Zombieland' is one of the big surprises of the year. I'd be lying if I said that I was looking forward to this film, I was convinced it would be bad, really bad. Instead I was pleasantly surprised. This is one time where the comedy/horror crossover works amazingly well, and I'm proud to say that this is one of my films of the year..

Happy film going! Merry Christmas and Get Wired!

You can now check out more of David's review at www.subcultureentertainment.com



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Hugh Sidey, (1927 – 2005) Journalist for Time magazine.



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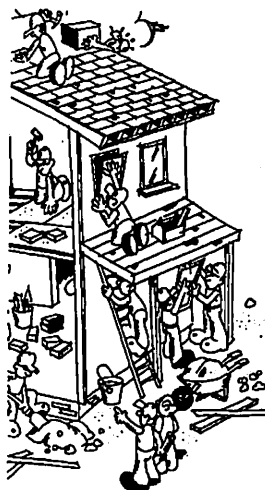
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Above : Water over the road on Beaconsfield Avenue.

TALKING WEATHER

by Nathan Boon

Weather was again a talking point in the media for the month of November.

The month started out with a string of hot days and finished with a lot of rain. Melbourne once again lived up to its reputation of four seasons in one day on more than one occasion.

November saw 121mm of rain; this was well above the November average of 69mm. While 121mm is not the highest total it was much needed rain for the area before the long hot summer.

The highest daily total was 57mm. This fell on the 21st of November. This rain which fell overnight in Beaconsfield caused some minor flooding on the Sunday morning.

The heavy down pours and storms that moved through the area on the 26th caused havoc in places bringing down trees and causing further minor flash flooding.

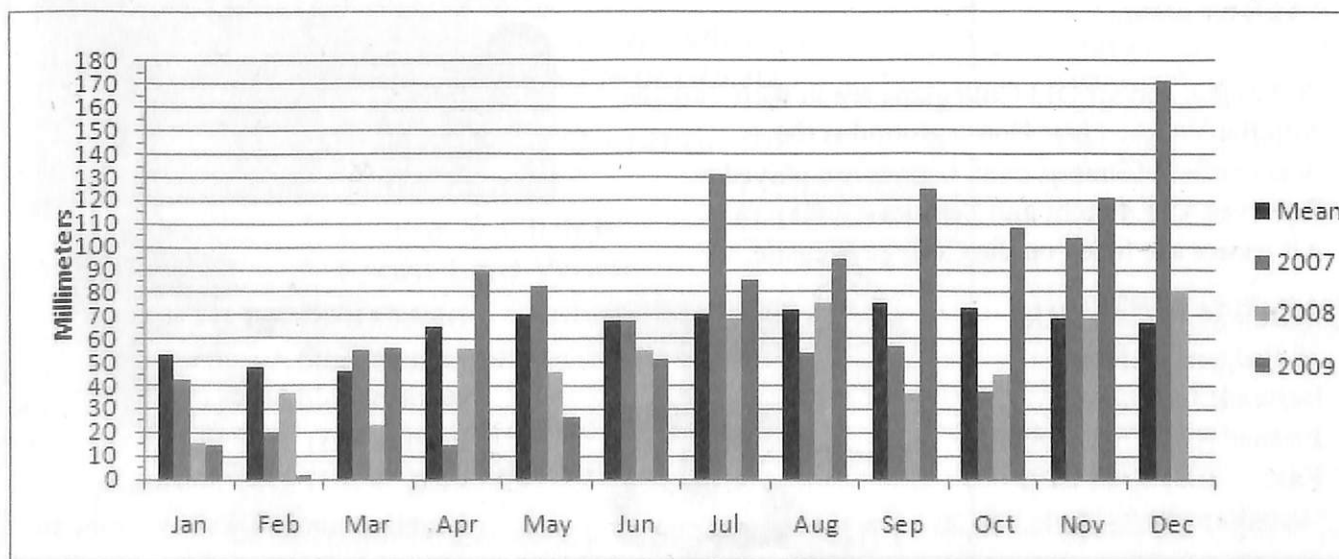
The yearly total now sits at 774mm which is 246mm above the same point as last year. Beaconsfield has almost eclipsed its yearly average which sits at 776mm.

While the rain was helpful it only took the storage level to 37.9%. This is still higher than the same time as last year.

With a long hot summer ahead of us, now is the time to make every drop count.

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OUR NATURAL WORLD

by Peter Hansen

"Let's dance and sing and make good cheer, for Christmas comes but once a year" (G. MacFarren, about 1581)

The sentiments expressed here are from long ago but the essence of the wording is still very much contemporary to our present time. The simple delight of Christmas is not so simple for the people of the 21st Century, but the underlying reasons for the celebration is as valid as ever. When all the hoop la (lead up) is over and we sit down at the table for the Christmas lunch then we are partaking of the moment that contains the meaning of it all.

Modern day Christmas is more and more a gigantic

exercise in commercial extravagance that continues to inflate more and more every year (or so it seems). The movement of people from town to town, from state to state, from country to country during the Christmas season, is a modern phenomenon that has no parallel in our history and creates stress and anxiety on a grand scale, not to mention the enormous expense incurred by so many. Is it any wonder that credit cards take a beating at this time, and more stress follows on after the excitement subsides?

Regardless of the pain and anxieties contained within this period people will go to any lengths to be able to say after that "we had a wonderful Christmas". And who are we to deny them that pleasure as after all, Christmas does come but

once a year!

Catching up with distant relatives who you may not see during the year legitimizes this once in 12 months get together (of course you may not want to see them more than once a year too). Perhaps dear friends are invited to share your table and cement that precious connection you have with them. Grandparents are able to celebrate with children and grandchildren and for a little while they feel young again as the warmth of years steal across their tired minds.

This is where the spirit of Christmas holds its power, the meeting of souls, humans enjoying the company of those they love, the gifts and presents an outward sign of the emotion behind the real reason for the gathering. For children it is a time

where they look for presents, the ones under the Christmas tree in the lounge room or those that good old Father Christmas left at the bottom of the bed. Not many chimneys to climb down these days but this is where parents have to be creative in offering a modern explanation.

Christmas is dreaded by many and for many reasons, but when all is said and done could we imagine the world without it. For a brief time we can let go the tightly held reins of the year and partake of a change of scenery that conveys a side of life we see so little.

For the one whom we celebrate these words hold firm.

Jesus Christ the same yesterday and today, and forever. (Hebrews, X11, 8)

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Casey & Cardinia Locals Needed To Lead Fight Against Cancer

by Judi Buhagiar

Cancer Council Victoria is calling on Casey & Cardinia locals to support the 641 Casey & Cardinia residents diagnosed with cancer this year by taking a lead role in the upcoming 2010 Relay For Life.

Relay For Life is a team event. Forming a team for the Casey & Cardinia Relay For Life is easy, rally a group of friends and family to participate in the overnight event, scheduled for Friday 12 & Saturday 13 March 2010 and just register at www.relayforlife.org.au, then use the simple online resources to start

fundraising today.

Casey & Cardinia Relay For Life will see teams of locals taking turns to walk or run through the night to raise funds. The money raised will fund life-saving cancer research, prevention programs to help Casey & Cardinia residents reduce their cancer risk, and provide support services for people facing cancer.

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The Dates for the Market on Sunday for 2009 – May 2010

December 20th See Santa, 27th

January 3rd, 10th, 17th

February 6th Sat NZ Waitangi Day 7th, 14th, 21st

April 25th Anzac day 12pm-4pm

May 2nd, 9th, 16th, 30th

For more information contact Tana Cartier, Market Organiser, 0415 331 229



Beaconsfield Cricket Club News

Beaconsfield Cricket Club has had good start to the 2009/2010 season. The club has fielded 6 senior sides and 11 junior sides. This makes the Beaconsfield the biggest club in the West Gippsland Cricket Association.

With the season now at the half way point it is time to start building towards the finals which will be held in March. With several sides in contention at this point of the season, now is time to put in the good performances and cement the spot in the side.

The club also welcomed Justin Stanton (pictured below) to the club as Coach for 2009/2010.



Justin has had a good start to the year. After 7 rounds

he has made 183 runs and taking 12 wickets. We wish Justin all the best for the remainder of the season.

The club is also looking forward to the completion of the new sporting complex that is being constructed on Holm Park road. This will see the club able to play all the senior game in Beaconsfield. This will be a major bonus for the club as it goes forward.

Training for all players is extremely important as it gives players both senior and junior a chance to work on their game and improve vital aspects of the game. For all training details go to the club website.

On Saturday 19th of December there will be a Beaconsfield v Berwick U13 Twenty20 game played at the club after the senior game. As this is the last Saturday before Christmas it will give players a reason to come back to the club and watch some cricket before the Christmas break.

For all the latest results and news and information go to the club website <http://beaconsfield.cricketvictoria.com.au/index.html>



Right: Tom Glen returning the ball from near the boundary during a U15's match.

TENNIS NEWS

BEAconsfield TENNIS CLUB INC

by *Briant*

Twilight Tennis Open Day

The Beaconsfield Tennis Club will be holding a Twilight Open Day in January to coincide with the Australian Open.

It will be held on Saturday, January 30 from 4.00pm to 8.00pm and will include a free BBQ dinner.

Activities include free adult and junior coaching; radar recording of serving speeds; 'tied-together' doubles games and much more.

There will also be a social round robin doubles where an adult player teams up with a junior.

It will be heaps of fun. Everyone is welcome and entry is free. So come along on January 30 and enjoy a hit of tennis at your local club.

Inquiries contact club coach, Paul Rowbottom, on 0412 682 569 or club president, Adrian Walsh, on 9702 5251 after 6pm

Club Contacts

General Enquiry

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

Night Tennis

Tuesday Mixed A Grade: 9707 2909
Wednesday Mixed B Grade: 9707 4287
Thursday Men A & B: 9707 4507
Mid Week Ladies: 9704 6852

Other Competition

Wednesday Mixed B Grade: 9707 4287
Junior Comp: 9702 5251
Coach / Snr. Comp: 0412 682 569

Get entries in for Tennis Club Championships

Tennis players interested in taking part in the Beaconsfield Club Championships had better start warming up.

Championship matches will be run over four weeks from mid February with semi-finals and finals held on Saturday, March 21. Entries close February 13. Players must be members of Beaconsfield Tennis Club.

Junior events include A, B and C grade singles and doubles. There is also a D grade junior round robin doubles event.

Senior events include A grade and B grade singles

and doubles for men and women, and veteran's doubles. For the first time there will also be singles and doubles events held just for the club's tuesday and wednesday night social players.

The finals day will include a free BBQ lunch and trophy presentations. Entry forms will be emailed to most members during January or will be available in the clubhouse.

For more information contact club president, Adrian Walsh on 9702 5251 after 6pm or club coach, Paul Rowbottom on 0412 682 569.



For all your signage requirements including:

- ✓ Digital Printing
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- ✓ And any other signage you may require

ph 9769 8144
mb 0418 153 110

GREAT HOLIDAY ACTIVITY

Making a scarecrow is great fun and can add to the appearance of the garden, as well as keep the birds away.



Once you have made a scarecrow why not enter it in the 2010 Berwick and District Annual Agricultural and Horticultural Show. Visit the website and download the on-line schedules and entries form in the Horticulture section. www.berwickshow.org.au

See page 38 for ideas of 'How To Make A Scarecrow'.

Beaconsfield Banner

ARTICLES WELCOME

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 or be left at the Beaconsfield Post Office.

All articles must contain the contributor's name and contact details for verification purposes.

DISCLAIMER

The claims of advertisers in the Banner are not endorsed by the BPA and opinions expressed are those of the author not the publisher.

Whilst every care has been taken in preparing this newsletter there may be something that has been overlooked or printed incorrectly. Please give us a call if articles or adverts do not appear as you intended.

Some articles and photo's are covered by copyright. Please have the courtesy of contacting us if you wish to copy any part of the Banner.

Make A Scarecrow

The appearance and personality of your scarecrow is only limited by your imagination

You will need:

- * Strong sticks one as high as yourself and the other half as high
- * Old pair of overalls
- * Old shirt
- * Old hat, pair of gloves, scarf
- * Old pantyhose for tying
- * Old pillow case to cover the head
- * Newspaper
- * Masking tape and glue
- * Paint for the face of buttons sew on to the face
- * Bright coloured wool
- * Straw (newspaper or plastic bags can be used as an alternative)

Method:

1. Tie the sticks firmly together with the old pantyhose. The shorter stick is for the arms and is

tied at right angles to the taller stick a little way down from the top.

2. Wind the newspaper around the top end of the taller stick to make the head. Use masking tape to keep it together.

3. Cover the newspaper with a pillow case. Paint or sew a face on to it. Glue or sew on some wool for hair.

4. Place the long stick down one leg of the overalls and put each end of the shorter stick through the shirt and overall arms.

5. Stuff the overalls with straw until they make a firm body.

6. Place the hold hat on its head, the scarf around it neck and tie in the gloves. Put some straw n the pockets

7. Tie the scarecrow to a stake if you want it stand upright in the garden.

8. Give your scarecrow a name. *

BANNER DELIVERY

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

Please send name, address to:

Treasurer, Beaconsfield Progress Association,
P.O. Box 217. Beaconsfield. 3807



Cardinia Ranges

Farmers' Market

*Meet the producers - great value -
quality - right on your doorstep.*

Farm fresh produce, direct from the local farmer to the consumer is the concept, behind the Cardinia Ranges Farmers' Market.

On the second Saturday of each month the community of Cardinia Shire hosts their farmers' market at the Pakenham Racecourse.

The market is open from 8am to 12 noon.

It offers direct from the farm gate to the plate, just picked or farm origin, handmade, delicious food to hungry shoppers who want to taste food that brings back great childhood memories of eating sun- ripened warm peaches and cherry earrings!

This authentic farmers' market received a highly recommended 2008 Vogue Entertainment Award as a fresh food market.

The Cardinia Ranges Farmers' Market operates on the second Saturday of each month at Pakenham Racecourse, Racecourse Road Pakenham.
The market is held from 8am until midday.

Contact Farmers Market Coordinator, Suzzi (03) 59450400

To subscribe to email alert- all the latest news :www.cardinia.vic.gov/farmersmarket (under business)

Proudly Supported by Regional Development Victoria & Cardinia Shire Council

NO January Market
Saturday 13th February
Saturday 13th March



8am - Midday

Pakenham Racecourse

Ph: 5945 0400

BEACONSFIELD

HOME

TIMBER AND HARDWARE

OPEN 7 DAYS

102-112 Old Princes Highway
Beaconsfield Victoria 3807

Ph: (03) 9707 5055

Fax: (03) 9707 3279

Email: sales@beaconsfieldtimber.com.au

Monday - Friday

7.00am - 5.00pm

Saturday

7.30am - 5.00pm

Sunday

9.00am - 5.00pm



Family Market

Free entry

www.akoonahpark.com.au

Akoonah Park

Berwick

Produce, Craft & Variety Market

8.00am - 1.30pm Every Sunday

Akoonah Park Market

Phone Bookings on

9796 1455



Outdoor and Undercover stalls include:

- Fresh Produce
 - New and Second Hand goods
 - Coffee and scones in the food Court
 - Wide Variety of Plants
- Plus much more.



Beaconsfield Veterinary Centre



9769-8777

14 Wood Street Beaconsfield



"The Beaconsfield Veterinary Centre supports local community groups with bi monthly donations."
Donations to date - \$16,500.

* Consultations / Vaccinations	* X ray Facilities
* House Visits	* DIY Hydrobath
* Desexing	* Free Puppy Pre School
* Microchipping	* New Clients receive 10% off first consultation
* Dentistry	* Pet Merchandise

-Centre Hours-

MONDAY - FRIDAY 8AM - 7PM

SATURDAY 8.30AM - 4.30PM



**Everyone at the Beaconsfield Veterinary
Centre would like to wish all our clients
and their pets a very Merry Christmas
and a safe and Happy New Year.**



CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Go into the draw to win a Christmas Hamper valued at \$300, with goodies for you and your furry friend. Just pop your receipt in the box at reception for your chance to win. A winner will be drawn on Monday 21st December. Good luck!

Christmas stockings will be available to purchase as a present for your furry friend this Christmas. There will be a range to suit dogs as well as our feline friends



"BECAUSE WE CARE"

www.beaconsfieldvet.com.au