

BEACONSFIELD BANNER

FREE

Quarterly Publication of the Beaconsfield Progress Association

Spring 2024 Edition

Chocolate Lilly

Dichopogon strictus

Also known as the Nodding Chocolate Lily, gets its name from its chocolate scented flowers. Its bush food value, however, comes mainly from its juicy tubers, which can be eaten raw or cooked. This species is found in grassland, woodland and forest regions of New South Wales, South Australia, Queensland, Western Australia, Tasmania and here in Victoria.

One of the many beautiful photos taken by Beaconsfield's own Alex Smart. Alex is leaving us soon. See a tribute to Alex and his last article on page 16.

Photo - Alex Smart

Upcoming Public Events

Beaconsfield Progress Association upcoming meetings, open to the public at the Beaconsfield Community Centre

Monthly General Meeting - September 17 @7:30pm

AGM - October 15 @ 7:30pm

AGM Guest Speaker - Member of Victoria Police
from Public Service Area of Cardinia

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COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION of VICTORIA
 the voice of the community
MEMBER 2024

President's Report



Welcome to this Spring edition of the Beaconsfield Banner. The Banner is available on our BPA website www.beaconsfield.org.au and printed copies are available in the town at businesses including the Beaconsfield Post Office and Beaconsfield Pharmacy.

A significant local issue we are dealing with is the Level Crossing Removal Project (LXRP) and, in particular, the Level Crossing at Station Street, Beaconsfield. Work on the Project continues at a fast rate and, at times, works are happening 24/7. In particular, works have continued on the Road Bridge Overpass which is overwhelming in size and will significantly change the landscape. In July, there was a high amount of rainfall causing flooding of Cardinia Creek and the retarding basin other than in the vicinity of areas where the overpass is which have been built up. The machinery to drive pylons into the ground were very noisy and repetitious which must be annoying for the local residents. A meeting was held online recently with the LXRP Authority updating the works being done. A meeting with Michael Galea MP was held for local residents to discuss concerns with the LXRP Authority Works.

Beaconsfield Reservoir and Beaconsfield Nature Conservation Reserve (BNCR)

Earlier this year, it was pleasing to note that Melbourne Water have commenced a slow drawdown of the Reservoir. The drawdown will be over 3 years reducing the water level by 4.85M AHD. There will be extended areas of wetlands to enhance the ecology. This accords to the Melbourne Water Partial Upgrade Plan which is preferred by BPA, Inc. We look forward to future works including amenities in the BNCR so that the Reservoir and BNCR are a safe park which the public can access and enjoy in the future.

There is a lot of activity near Beaconsfield-Emerald Road in the Berwick Views Estate to replace the three Boardwalks. The Boardwalk closest to the carpark entrance has now been replaced with an attractive timber bridge. The second boardwalk

alongside Fieldstone Blvd. and Lakeside Terrace has now been replaced with retaining walls and new gravel paths. The third boardwalk on Beaconsfield-Emerald Road has now been replaced with a steel platform and is awaiting the new decking.



Above: Phil Walton, Beaconsfield CFA Captain and Graeme Taylor at the CFA award ceremony.

The Beaconsfield CFA recently held their annual awards ceremony. We were privileged to be invited to attend and we congratulate all recipients of the awards and we are so thankful to our CFA for their care and protection of our town and residents. They attend to call outs 24 /7.

BPA recently received a Cardinia Shire Wellbeing Support Grant for our Operation Christmas Trees at Beacy Project. After last year's fabulous Christmas Trees Display, we would really like to have Beaconsfield looking great this year and we hope you can help us out. Please contact us at secretary@beaconsfield.org.au if you would like to help out.

Cardinia Shire Council has honoured the late Rob Porter of Officer with renaming the Officer Recreation Reserve to the Rob Porter Recreation Reserve. We were able to attend the renaming of the Reserve and heard Cr Brett Owen speak about the amazing contribution Rob and his family have made to Officer and the District.



Above: Carol Porter, wife of the late Rob Porter, at the rededication ceremony in Officer.

Works have commenced on the Jim Parkes Reserve upgrade. We attended the Sod Turn in June and works commenced soon after and should be completed in September/ October. There was extensive consultation with the community to discuss the upgrade of most of the Reserve and playground equipment. The original Digger will be reinstalled later as part of the project. This Reserve has always been popular with children particularly due to being close to Beaconsfield Primary School.

Our Incorporated Association will hold its Annual General Meeting on 15 October at the Beaconsfield Community Complex commencing at 7.30 pm. All local residents and business owners are most welcome to attend. All the Association Office Bearers' positions are declared vacant and if you would like to be a member or Office Bearer or just attend please contact us at secretary@beaconsfield.org.au at least 7 days before the Annual General Meeting. Our General Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month except January and December starting at 7.30pm .

Graeme Taylor
President
Beaconsfield Progress Association

Beacon Hills Ward Councillors' Report



Cr Brett Owen

Revitalisation of Jim Parkes Reserve – Souter Street, Beaconsfield

Council has turned the first sod to mark the revitalisation of the Jim Parkes Reserve in Beaconsfield.

Featuring a new playground, open space, gathering areas, landscaping and a new shelter, the site upgrade has been informed by local community consultation.

The Jim Parkes Reserve revitalisation is supported and funded by Council and the Victorian Government's Growing Suburbs Fund.

These works will provide additional opportunities for



Above: (L-R) Cardinia Shire Mayor Councillor Jack Kowarzik officially marked the construction at the site with Lee Tarlamis and Michael Galea, Members for South-Eastern Metropolitan Region, alongside Beacon Hills Ward Councillor Brett Owen.

(Continued on page 6)

Councillors' Report

(Continued from page 5)

recreation, relaxation and play and really bring the community together.

The reserve's concept plan was adopted in 2023 following community consultation. The reserve upgrade is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

For more information on Jim Parkes Reserve, please visit - <https://creating.cardinia.vic.gov.au/jim-parkes-beaconsfield>

Beaconsfield "Coronel Wetlands" Boardwalk Renewals

To improve community safety and access, the existing timber boardwalk is being replaced with different materials including new timber, retaining walls and granitic sand footpaths.

The wooden bridge at the southern end of the wetlands (near the shops) and the improved paths near the section of the wetlands at Fieldstone and Scenic Boulevard are now complete.

The works for the replacement of the extensive boardwalk along the Beaconsfield-Emerald Road to the north of Fieldstone Boulevard continues. The board walk screw poles, steel structure and concrete abutments are complete.

Unfortunately, there has been a delay in the delivery of decking material. It was originally intended to be installed in August, but due to supply issues it is envisaged that this will be installed in September. Some footpath realignment will also occur after the deck is installed.



These works are being completed as part of Council's Bridge Renewal program.

Book a FREE hard waste collection



Want to get ahead of the spring clean? Book your FREE hard waste collection!

Each Cardinia Shire household gets 2 free hard waste collections per year.

Just in March this year we collected 348.06 tonnes worth of hard waste collections. This included about 686 mattress and 228 tyres that were recycled and saved from landfill.

Before you decide to put something out for hard rubbish, consider whether the item could be repurposed or donated. Please remember to make a booking BEFORE putting any waste out.

Additional collections can be booked at a cost.

To book a hard waste service:

www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/hardwaste

Get Summer ready with Council's FREE green waste drop-off events

Council's free green waste drop-off events are a great way to clean up your yard and reduce your fire fuel load throughout the year.

Our June event at Future Recycling, Pakenham had 412 vehicles drop off nearly 90 tonnes of green waste. That is nearly the same weight as 65 Toyota Corollas!

Lysterfield – Monday 7 to Sunday 13 October
Cleanaway Resource Recovery Centre
840 Wellington Rd, Lysterfield
Monday to Friday: 8am – 3:30pm
Saturday: 8:30am - 11:30am

Pakenham – Monday 9 to Saturday 14 December
Future Recycling Transfer Station

30-32 Exchange Drive, Pakenham
Monday to Friday: 7:30am - 4pm
Saturday: 8am – 2:30pm



For more information –
<https://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/dropoff>

Emerald Lake Park - Visitors Parking Pass

All annual car parking passes are valid until 31 August and must be renewed each year. Failure to display your pass on your windscreen with the expiry date visible from outside the vehicle may result in a parking infringement.

All Cardinia residents can enjoy free parking at Emerald Lake Park if their vehicle has a current annual car parking pass.

To apply for a pass: apply online <https://au.openforms.com/Form/eceaa342-4853-495f-bb2f-b1d255beb4a3>

Experience 'Grow': a sustainable farming story told through art

'Grow' – an innovative art exhibition planting the seed for the future of farming in Cardinia Shire – is coming to Cardinia Cultural Centre this August!

The exhibition will be on show at Cardinia Cultural Centre (40 Lakeside Boulevard, Pakenham) from 2 August to 22 September 2024. Admission to the exhibition is free, and no booking is required.

Featuring powerful photographs, complemented by

imaginative artworks and props, the exhibition depicts the rewards and dreams for sustainable agriculture and local farmers in Cardinia Shire. Collectively, the display offers a visually compelling narrative that bridges the present and future of this vital industry.

More information

- For more information about 'Grow' or other exhibitions at Cardinia Cultural Centre, visit www.cardiniaculturalcentre.com.au/exhibitions or call 1300 887 624.
- For more information or enquiries about the Futureproofing Farming in Cardinia Shire project, visit www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/futureproofingfarming, email livinghealthy@cardinia.vic.gov.au or call Council's Customer Support team on 1300 787 624.

Rob Porter Recreation Reserve

Earlier this year the Porter Family, Officer Recreation Reserve Asset Committee and Council worked together with Geographical Names Victoria to rename the Officer Recreation Reserve in honour of the late Rob Porter.

Rob Porter's remarkable dedication and immeasurable contribution over more than 50 years has made the reserve a very cherished community facility.

Rob's impact on the Officer township and the wider community was incredible and his legacy will never be forgotten.

On Saturday the 3rd of August there was an event to officially unveil the new reserve sign, signifying that the Officer Recreation Reserve will now be known as the Rob Porter Recreation Reserve.

Brett Owen
Councillor
Beacon Hills Ward
Cardinia Shire Council



Beaconsfield CFA



The brigade continues to be busy with fire calls sometimes three a day combined with weekly training on a Tuesday night and further training and maintenance of the three trucks and supporting

vehicle on Sundays.

The hoses need to be tested regularly for stress tears, leaks, and normal wear. This task is expertly carried out by a long time member Brian Unwin who has served this brigade for nearly 60 years and who with James Cain ensure our hoses are fit for purpose and do not fail in the critical times.

The brigade has three vehicles. Two supplied by the CFA and one brigade owned. This vehicle started its life as a Holden one ton ute with a tank on the rear. Its primary purpose in 1982 was to have some fire

protection when the CFA tanker was seconded to other parts of the state.

As the town grew so did the fire fighting requirements. The Holden was replaced with an Izuzu truck and large tank. Funds for this truck was raised by members with raffles, street stalls, and businesses in Beaconsfield.

Today replacement cost is in excess of 300k and plans are in place to explore what options are available and how to pay for a new tanker in the future. Meantime the current truck is still fit for purpose and well maintained.

Please remember to check your smoke alarms are operational and that you have an exit plan in case of fire.

Regards,
Tony Lukas

Brigade Annual Awards

The Beaconsfield Fire Brigade held its annual awards dinner on 28 June 2024 at the Beaconsfield Club with 2024 marking the 80th anniversary of the brigade having been formed in 1944.

The following members were issued with Country Fire Authority service awards:

- Mackenzie Gardner – 5 years
- Chris Jensen – 5 years
- James Cain – 25 years
- Bob Macpherson – 35 years
- Michael Ott – 35 years
- Andrew Wenczel – 40 years

The following members were issued with Beaconsfield Fire Brigade awards:

Scott Huijbregsen – Bob Burgess Award. The award honours Bob Burgess a former long standing captain who made an outstanding contribution to the

brigade and to the CFA more broadly. The award recognises leadership, knowledge and skills in fire suppression, and diligent participation in brigade activities.

Sam Dorning – Adamson Award. The award recognises service and commitment by a member to support the running of the brigade.



Kylie Jeffrey – Mathew Baldwin Award. The award recognises a newer member who has demonstrated aptitude and tenacity to their work within the brigade.





BEACONSFIELD KINDERGARTEN

The Beaconsfield Kindergarten children have been very busy during Term 3, with lots of exciting things happening at kinder.

Kinder Olympics

All of our kinder groups followed the Olympics, looking at different events, nations and flags and even keeping a medal tally (go Aussies!). The Olympics also provided fantastic opportunities to look at resilience, diversity, inclusion and healthy lifestyles.



Each kinder child participated in an Olympic themed experience and received their very own Beaconsfield Kindergarten medal to take home.

Incursions

Our 4 year old kindergarten groups have participated in protective behaviours sessions with KidsROAR during August. Protective Behaviours has two core themes that are emphasised throughout the KidsROAR Programs:

Theme 1: We all have the right to feel safe at all times.

Theme 2: We can talk about anything with someone we trust, no matter what it is.

During the sessions, children were given the foundation for understanding:

- feelings
- early warning signs

- safe and unsafe behaviours
- the difference between public and private
- their private body parts
- the difference between safe and unsafe secrets
- how to implement the NO, GO, TELL strategy
- who their trusted adults are.

Many of our kinder groups have been learning about emergency services, which helps to support their learning about what they can do in the event of an emergency. Children as young as four have been able to call triple zero and provide essential information to emergency services. Some of our groups have been very excited to have visits from the SES and paramedics.

Community Connections

Partnering with other services in our community is an important way of fostering relationships and building our community. Our 4 year old kinder groups have recently participated in walking excursions to Beaconsfield Primary School, where they visited a Prep classroom, did a tour of the school and were introduced to what a school setting might look like.

Our community artwork project is up and running again in 2024. Keep an eye out in the following local cafes and businesses for our children's artwork:

- Ducky in the Field
- Becky Fresh
- Greens & Grain
- Amcal Pharmacy
- Pure Beauty



Visiting with Ambulance Victoria (right), and the SES (below)



Central Hotel Timeline (Bowmans Inn and Gippsland Hotel)

By Penny Harris Jennings

The Central Hotel has been a constant in Beaconsfield for almost 100 years, the site has been a hotel for 170 years, formerly the Bowmans Inn and Gippsland Hotel. A timeline of owners and licensees, 1853-1987 is as follows:

1853: Panty Gurn Gurn Run Land transferred to David Bowman by William Bowman (no relation).

1855: David took up his pre-emptive Right to 200 acres of the run, cost 200 pounds, The Hotel licence for the Hotel is dated 17 April 1855.

1856: Census, David Bowman Gipps Land Hotel, Innkeeper, leasehold, on Cardinia Creek.

1856: Meeting place for the Mornington Farmers Society.

"The annals of the Mornington Farmers' Society is as yet (February, 1858) both short, and simple. A meeting was held at Mr. Bowman's Inn, on the Cardinia Creek, for the purpose of forming a district road board, about two years ago. It was at that meeting I first proposed my scheme for establishing a farmers' society in this district under the auspices of the Port Phillip Farmers' Society, and before the meeting dispersed about twenty, or nearly all the gentlemen present, had enrolled their names as members of the proposed society. At the next meeting of committee

Leader, 24 November 1906.

1860: David Bowman died 6 August 1860, Hotel valued at 2000 pounds.

1861-1868: The Hotel was operated by Janet Bowman

1862: Berwick Road District Board, son Alexander Bowman foundation member, resigned 1867.

1868: 10 July, transfer to Helen Sarah Ann Gibbs 1500 pounds.

1869: Prince Alfred, the Duke of Edinburgh stayed at the Hotel; 2 extra rooms were built and paid for by the government.

1869: 24 November, transfer to Charles Souter 1200 pounds.

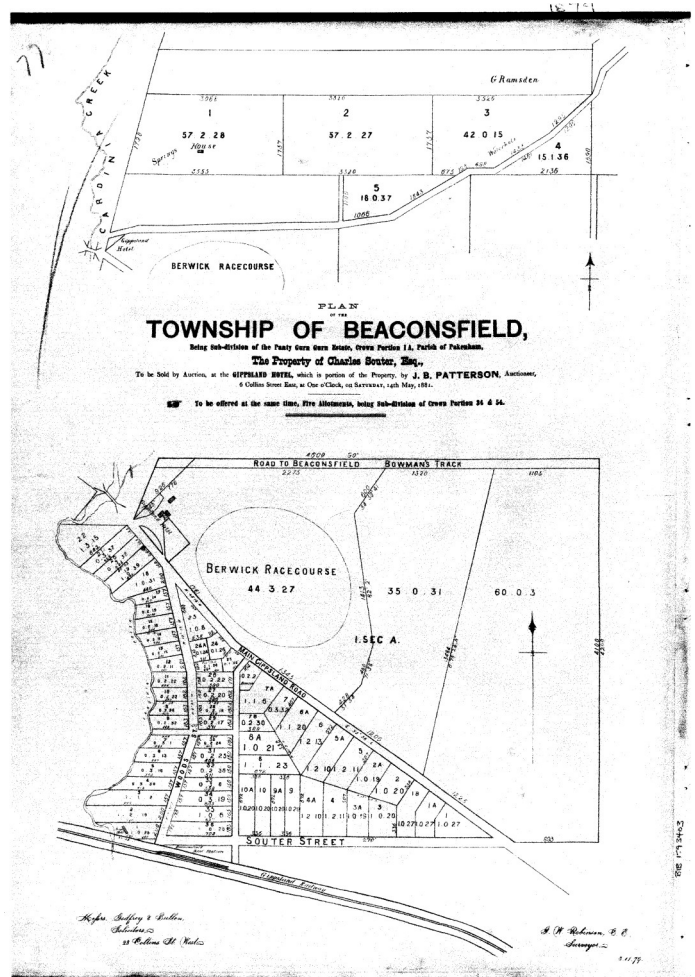
1879: A Norman, Licensee.



South Bourke and Mornington Journal, 10 December 1879

1880: Gippsland Hotel for sale, passed in at 1800 pounds.

1880: Clearing Sale Auctions conducted at Hotel for local farms.



1881: Edward Henry Key, Licensee.

1882-1915: Racecourse meetings and functions.

1882-1884: Mary Ann Key (Souter) Gippsland Hotel, Licensee.

1885-1891: Mrs George Gissing Licensee, refurbished.

1886: Pigeon racing meetings.

1887: Magisterial Inquiry into the death of George Brown Jnr, body stored there until the funeral (Inveresk, Berwick) (Cricket played on adjoining racecourse).

1890: 28 August. George Gissing died.

1893-1900: John Vail Cogle, Licensee, died suddenly 8 January 1901 age 77.



The Gippsland Hotel c. 1914 advertised with a Billiard room, Good Stabling and motor vehicles were offered for hire.

1914: Gippsland Hotel with 43 acres sold by Mrs Catherine White to Mrs Emily Bragg, 2 July, 3000 pounds, Emily had intentions to modify. The Hotel was advertised with a Billiard room, Good Stabling and Motor vehicles were offered for hire.

1914: 24 December, Gippsland Hotel now named the Central Hotel.

1915: 19 August Mrs Emily Bragg was granted License of the Central Hotel as Mr Arthur Robert Bragg had joined WW1.

1915: Albert Birchinall Steele, publican died 14 July.

1915: 11 November Mrs Albert Birchinall (Sarah) Steele has obtained lease of Bragg's Central Hotel.

1916: 7 December. Sarah Steele, Licensee.

1916-1917: Beaconsfield Sports Club Meetings.

1919: Transfer of Licensee, Clarrie Alberta May Steele (executrix of the late Sarah Steele, who died 16 January), to Edith Grace Rainford.

1919: "Mr John Alfred Peake, of the Druids Hotel, South Melbourne, has purchased the Central Hotel, Beaconsfield, from Mrs Emily Bragg, and intends to renovate the premises. The transaction also includes the racecourse paddock".

In October Jane Prentice became Licensee.

1920: 2 December, Mrs Alice Cecelia Minogue purchased Central Hotel (clearing Sale cancelled).

1922: Charles Stewart Turnley, from Sydney "commenced Hotel keeping at the Central Hotel, Beaconsfield, of which a lease was purchased for the modest sum of 600 pounds" (The Licensing records do not reflect that Turnley did operate the hotel).

(Continued on page 12)

IN THE WILL of John Vail Cogle
late of Beaconsfield
of Victoria Hotel Keeper deceased

We Eliza Cogle of Beaconsfield in the State of Victoria Widow and Frances Ellen Cogle of Beaconsfield Executors do severally make oath and say -

1. That we seeking to obtain Probate of the Will of the above-named John Vail Cogle deceased.

2. The said deceased died on the eight day of January one thousand nine hundred and one at the "Gippsland Hotel" Beaconsfield deceased

3. The said deceased left a Will bearing date the second day of February One thousand eight hundred and eight nine which is as we believe the last Will and Testament of the said deceased and which is unrevoked

4. By his said Will the testator appointed us these deponents

(Extract of Probate)



1904: 21 January. Janet Bowman died.

1907-1911: Mrs Catherine White, Owner and Licensee, charged with trafficking in liquor during prohibitive hours.

1912: Frederick Umhauer, Licensee Gippsland Hotel.

1913: Transfer of Licensee, 3 September Mr Frederick Umbauer to Arthur Robert Bragg.

At 11 a.m.

**Important Clearing Sale
Of Cattle, Horses, Vehicles, Etc.,
And 20 Rooms Furniture and Effects
Of the
Central Hotel, Main Gippsland Road
BEACONSFIELD**

MONDAY, 6th DECEMBER

**Adamson, Strettle and Co. Pty. Ltd
In Conjunction with H. May**

HAVE been favored with instructions from Mrs A. Minogue, whose lease has expired, to sell on the premises, Central Hotel, Beaconsfield, on the above date, at 11 a.m., as follows:—

BILLIARD ROOM.

Billiard table and outfit, couch, pictures, etc.

BAR PARLOR

Six chairs, couch, overmantel, clocks, lino, mirrors, etc.

FRONT VERANDAH.

Sofa, couch, tea tables, 6 canaries and aviary, garden seat, gas generator

DINING ROOM.

Three large tables, 2 round tables, chiffonier, 10 pictures, 24 Vienna chairs, curtains and poles, lino., 4 cruet stands, crockery, glassware, cutlery.

DRAWING ROOM.

Piano, 3 couches, 3 card tables, 3 pair curtains, 12 pictures, large mirror, fender and irons, 3 wicker chairs, lino., carpets, sideboard, whatnots.

PRIVATE BEDROOM

Double bed, chest drawers, washstand and ware, wicker chair, fender and irons, lino. and carpets.

PRIVATE ROOM.

Sewing machine, deck chair, office table, lino., matting.

HALL.

Pictures, hall stand, curtains, lino., matting, letter rack.

KITCHEN AND WASHHOUSE

Tables, utensils, crockery, etc., mangles, baskets.

8 BEDROOMS 8

Comprising double and single beds and bedding, washstands and ware, duchesse chests, linos., mirrors, curtains and poles, dressing tables, etc.

OUTSIDE.

Spring cart, rubber tyred jinker (motor back), 3 knife chaffcutter, jinker harness, spring cart harness, saddle and bridle, lot poultry, quantity tools, garden tools, sundries too numerous to mention.

CATTLE.

2 Cows in milk
40 Head Mixed Cattle
1 Ayrshire bull

HORSES.

1 Grey Mare, broken to saddle and harness
2 Jinker Ponies

Sale 11 a.m. Terms Cash. Luncheon.

South Bourke and Mornington Journal 25 November 1920.

Charles Stewart Turnley, now in the early forties, came from Sydney in 1922 and commenced hotel-keeping at the Central Hotel, Beaconsfield, of which a lease was purchased for the modest sum of £600.

The Herald, 14 July 1936

1922: 21 February, license transfer, Jane Prentice to Eric Albert Stone.

In July, John Culpin becomes Licensee.

1923: In May, Lucy Dickinson becomes the Licensee.

1925: In March, Norman Parslow becomes Licensee.

1926: In October, Sidney Stella Smith becomes Licensee, one room is described as the Music Room.

1927-1931: 16 July 1927, William and Joanna Ethel Gough, Licensee (Phone No 1).

From Licensing Board, stating that the rebuilding of Central Hotel, Beaconsfield, was to commence by 1st February next.—Received.

(opened by 5 April 1928, auction advertised)

The Dandenong Journal 22 September 1927

"GOUGH'S"
NEW CENTRAL HOTEL
PRINCE'S HIGHWAY,
BEACONSFIELD
Superior Accommodation. Cricket and Football Grounds. Picnic Parties Catered for.
Phone: Beaconsfield 1.

The Dandenong Journal 2 October 1928



Rebuilt Central Hotel, Beaconsfield c. 1928 photographed from the old Berwick Racecourse field (approximate location of Woolworths today).

1935: 19 March, Gough transfers License to Vernon Webb of St Kilda.

1937: 14 September transfer of License from Vernon Webb to Henry Joseph Sharp.

1938: 2 February, transfer of License from Henry Joseph Sharp to Harry Ellis and John Thomas Nicholls

1937-1968: During this time the Hotel had wedding receptions and breakfasts.

1941: 21 October, transfer of License from Harry Ellis and John Thomas Nicholls to Linda Blanche Budge.

1941-1968: George Thomas David Howison Budge and Linda Blanche (Lawrence) Budge owners.

1944: 20 January Central Hotel saved from Bushfire.

In November Licensee is Annie Elizabeth Heathcote.

1947-1949: 3 November Licence transferred from Linda Blanche Budge to Walter Martin and Myrtle Irene Coloe.

1951: In November, Licensee is William McTaggart Traill Campbell.

1953: The License is transferred to George Edgar Budge and Wallace Charles Budge.

1958: George Edgar "Ted" Budge and Joan Irene Budge are now trading as "GE & JI Budge".

1976: In February the License is transferred to Ronald Frederick and Margaret Thelma Spinks.

1981: Cardinia Investments, Robert Bruce Donaldson, Licensee.

1987: The Hotel sold for \$1.64 million and in December B & G Pollard, Richard Graham Pollard is operating as Licensee.



Central Hotel, Beaconsfield 2003.



Try Scouting today and find out why each week almost half a million young people enjoy fun, friendship and outdoor adventure. They develop a sense of optimism and strong values as well as the leadership and teamwork skills that are more valuable today than ever before.

- Joey Scouts – 5-8 years old – Tuesday 5.30-6.30pm
- Cub Scouts – 8-11 years old – Tuesday 6.45-8.15pm
- Scouts – aged 11-15 years old – Thursday 7-9pm
- Venturer Scouts – 15-18 years old – Monday 7.30-9.30pm
- Cumoot Rover Unit – 18-25 years old – Monday 7.30-9.30pm

Contact: beaconsfieldscoutgroup@gmail.com



**Beaconsfield
Officer**
Scout Group

BEACONSFIELD PUBLICAN GIVES NEW SITE FOR HALL

IN VIEW of the fact that the Beaconsfield Hall now stands on C.R.B. property, Mr. G. Budge, of the Central Hotel, has offered to give a block of land at the corner of Lisle Av. and Prince's

Highway for the re-erection of the hall; also a gift of £100 towards the cost of removal. Mr. Budge is to be highly commended for his generous offer and public spiritedness.

The Dandenong Journal 11 November 1953

Beaconsfield Reservoir - A Much Needed Public Park for Future Growth

by Harry Jensen and Andre Bokos

Those who lived locally before the firestorm which engulfed Upper Beaconsfield (UB), Beaconsfield, Officer, etc in February 1983, will recall the aftermath – the loss of life, homes, property, animals and local infrastructure, etc. Loss of life did not touch everyone’s family or home, but much was destroyed leaving behind a smouldering blackened landscape to

moved out of the area to safer locations. New arrivals to UB will not have experienced the wrath and aftermath of a firestorm such as Ash Wednesday and by God’s grace, we hope they never do. However, the chances of a reoccurrence of such an event, are considered greater than ever, because we are simply not prepared for it as we should be.



Beaconsfield Reservoir looking west showing existing dam wall prior to lowering of the water level commencing.

all points of the compass. Livestock, haysheds, fences, pasture all gone. No birds or wildlife. It took many days to bury the dead and swollen livestock. Very stark and sombre viewing on rural properties, with some families having to face even greater tragedies. Such an event is etched into your soul never to be removed. In many cases it took over a decade for things to get back to anywhere near normal.

Over the past 41 years the bush has returned bigger and more confronting than in 1983. The regrowth and “leaf area” has increased significantly. Horizons that were clearly visible prior to Ash Wednesday are now blocked from view. Many new residents and their families have moved into local estates. The number of children attending schools is testament to that. After the “experience”, original residents

In the areas of South Belgrave and Upper Beaconsfield some 92 square kms were burnt, 21 fatalities and 238 homes destroyed not to mention various local infrastructure like the Pinegrove Hotel, Shops, the Church, etc. In Cockatoo 6 lives and 307 homes were lost. Among the lives lost were a notable number of brave and heroic volunteer CFA and CFS firefighters. We honour them whenever possible similar to the ANZACS. Those that died on Ash Wednesday, locally, but also those who died in SA and elsewhere on that fateful day need to be remembered by preparing the communities here and elsewhere for the next firestorm. There have

been several hot summers since 1983 and we have been stunningly lucky not to have suffered a repeat of Ash Wednesday, although we have had some close moments. The legacy that was



left by those who died was that we the survivors should do whatever it takes to defend, protect and survive.

Were you aware that the water supply in Upper Beaconsfield failed on Ash Wednesday, because the power supply was cut by the fire or the electricity supplier? At the most crucial moment there was no water. The loss of power could happen again in the next firestorm. Since then, Melbourne Water (MW) has upgraded the pumping arrangements to the water tower in U B and we hope that town water supply will be maintained during an event. But we need more to protect us.

This area has been described as one of the worst fire zones in Australia. The speed and ferocity of the flames on Ash Wednesday, aided by abundant fuels due to a lack of necessary fuel reduction by Cool Burning, and a landscape immersed in smoke, made fire suppression and containment impossible (at ground level). Couple that with a failed town water supply. We are told repeatedly that we are not to expect the CFA to attend our properties. They might, but there is not even a semblance of a guarantee. We each have to take responsibility for how we protect ourselves, our families, our properties. Not a comforting scenario.

But now there is a gamechanger in all of this. CFA Firefighting Helicopters. Victoria has some 60 fire-bombing aircraft in its firefighting fleet spread around the State. It's an impressive defence force. Forty years ago, not many helicopters were

operating apart from the occasional police helicopter with a loudspeaker urging residents to immediately vacate from their homes. Back then, there were a few helicopters to bomb the fire from above with the ability to deliver thousands of litres of water in one pass. These aircraft can refill from water bodies in a few minutes.

Beaconsfield Reservoir is the nearest water body with a huge capacity closest to our communities of UB, Beaconsfield, Officer, and Pakenham West, but

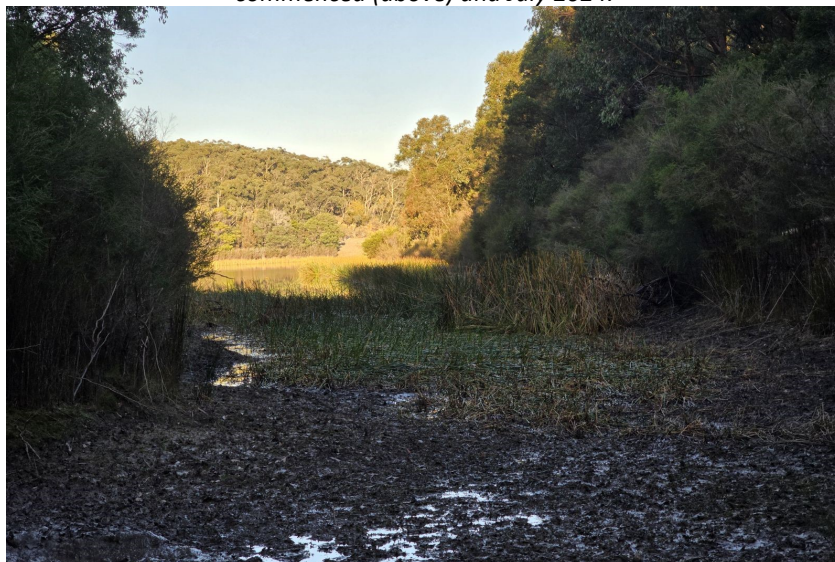
MW is hell bent on destroying it. Take a moment to think about that. The very public asset that can change how all of our communities cope with a wildfire is being destroyed by a Government Authority that arrogantly has no interest in protecting our communities from a repeat of Ash Wednesday. On March 4, 2024, Melbourne Water informed us that it would start draining the reservoir's water which will continue for another 3 years! When the draining has been completed, MW will begin to bulldoze 8 metres of the wall, leaving very little of the original reservoir which supplied

HMAS Cerberus Naval Base and formed a 100 Km aqueduct line which supplied our region and Mornington Peninsula. MW is moving ahead by dropping the water level in the reservoir from a 525 megalitre capacity down to a mere 90. (Full Supply Level was 912 megalitres). At the Decommissioned Supply Level of 525 megalitres, several helicopters can draw water from the reservoir at the same time.



Harry Jensen Photography

Taken from the most northern inlet, visible water loss since the draining commenced (above) and July 2024.



(Continued on page 24)

Microbats by Alex Smart

We were busy preparing to move into a retirement village. During a working bee in June they needed blankets to protect furniture loaded onto a trailer. Wendy went into our shed and chose an old bedspread. When it was unfolded there was a loud call which demanded me to attend.

A pair of Microbats had been comfortable in the bedspread where they were either in torpor or hibernating until warmer days increased the insect population. They had no problem entering the shed as the back roller door was jammed open.

With this excitement, photos were essential after which Wendy carefully carried them and installed them in a fork of a Blue Berry Ash (*Eleocarpus reticulatus*). Less than half an hour later they were gone hopefully to a safe spot. It was a privilege to have the opportunity to



photograph these tiny nocturnal animals. While most Australian animals are marsupials microbats like you and me are mammals. Bats are the only mammals capable of flying.

A little more information may be of interest. In winter there are so few insects about that microbats, in cold climates (e.g. southern Australia), save energy by hibernating.

They usually choose a cold sheltered place and are able to slow their heart rate and drop their body temperature close to that of their surroundings. They have eyes but navigate to catch insects using sonar, the pitch being higher than the range of human hearing. Microbats weigh up to 30 grams which is the weight of a AA battery.

They certainly are abundant in Beaconsfield and on summer nights they can sometimes be seen flying over shrubs or trees feeding on insects.

Fairwell Alex and Wendy

Alex and Wendy Smart moved to Beaconsfield in 2012 and built a home with a native plant garden.

They are both very interested in Australian wildlife and native plants. They were members of the Friends of Cranbourne Gardens. Wendy was co-ordinator of the Friends Fabrication Group for six years and this also involved holding a textile stall in conjunction with the RBGC Friends plants Sale. Alex was a Past President and one of the things he did was to organize a building for the Growing Friends Plant nursery. Being a keen photographer with native plant knowledge, he was able to contribute so much to the group.



In 2017 Alex was recognised with an order of Australia medal for service to conservation and the environment. He has worked with the Helmeted Honeyeater recovery committee and with their plans to reintroduce the birds back to the Upper Beaconsfield and Guys Hill areas.

Their native plant knowledge lead them both to become members of the Australian Plant Society (APS) with the Casey Cardinia group at Wilson Park as Office Bearers contributing greatly to the group. More recently they were instrumental in moving the group to Deep Creek Pakenham, an excellent facility working with the community nursery and establishing it as APS Cardinia Region Group Inc.

Alex has contributed regularly to Beaconsfield Banner with cover photos and articles. These included research on the rocks at Pink Hill and excellent articles about the Helmeted Honeyeater. He has taken part in community meetings at Beaconsfield about the Helmeted Honeyeater program

Thank you to Alex and Wendy for all they have contributed to these groups and the environment and wildlife. Beaconsfield and this local area has really gained from all you have done. We have been able to learn so much about the environment, native plants and wildlife.

We wish you good health and happiness as you move to be closer to family.

BEACONSFIELD BANNER

**Would you be interested
in being a part of the
Beaconsfield Banner?**

**The Banner is a quarterly publication
produced by volunteers.**

**If you're interested in being a regular
contributor on any subject or current
local news events, or a photographer,
we'd like to hear from you.**

**Are you in High School or Uni and are
interested in journalism?**

**Or if you'd be interested in organising in
the background on our committee,
please let us know.**

**Contact the Banner at
banner@beaconsfield.org.au**



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Michael Galea MP

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Akoonah Park Market is a vibrant and community-focused market, which hosts over 350 indoor and outdoor stalls every Sunday from 8:00am–1:30pm.

Delicious food and drinks, a huge variety of stalls, and live entertainment are just some of the reasons to support local at Akoonah Park Market this weekend!

Visit us at 2 Cardinia St, Berwick





Andrew Devienne
Director

☎ 03 9113 4616
📱 0423 615 118
✉ adevienne@synergyitservices.com.au
🌐 synergyitservices.com.au

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JASON WOOD

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR **LA TROBE**



Authorised by Jason Wood MP, Liberal Party of Australia,
Unit 3, 16 Langmore Ln, Berwick VIC 3806.

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Australian Plants Sale

to be held on

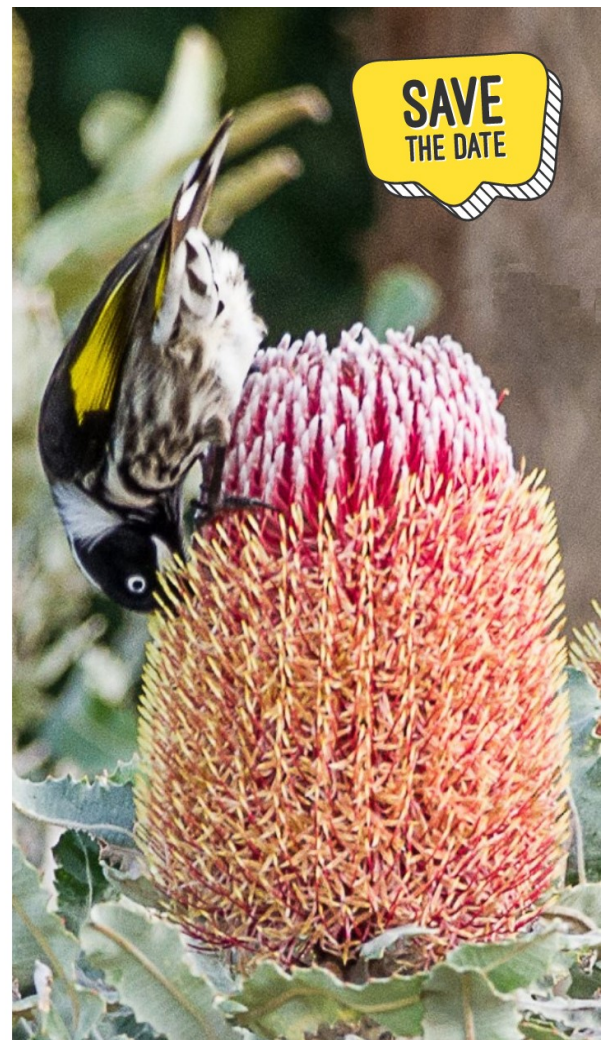
**Sat, 7th September
9am to 3pm**

at

**Akoonah Park
2 Cardinia St, Berwick**

hosted by the

**Australian Plants Society (APS)
Cardinia Region Inc**



✉ apscardinia@gmail.com  facebook.com/APSCardiniaRegion

Member for South-East Metropolitan Region

By Michael Galea MP



Michael Galea, MP

Big news for Casey Hospital! We're soon to be doubling the capacity of the emergency room, by creating an additional 45 points of care. Funded in this year's State Budget, this is a really important upgrade for the hospital as the area's population continues to grow.

You may have seen works already taking place around Jim Parkes Reserve in the centre of

town. The State Government has partnered with Council to jointly fund a major upheaval of this treasured but tired playground and park, with new play equipment, drainage, paths and gardens currently being installed.

I also know that better bus services are an important issue locally. So I'm delighted to report on a recently announced network extension in Casey-Cardinia that will benefit Beaconsfield. The 928, currently wholly within Pakenham, will be extended to Berwick and serve the newest parts of Beaconsfield and Officer, running along Rix Rd and Brunt Rd, areas which are currently without service.

The route will be taking advantage of the recently built road bridge as part of the Brunt Rd level crossing removal project. This is a very timely project that's part of the State Government's broader package of removing all 22 level crossings on the Pakenham line. Thank you to the local community for your patience whilst this crossing was removed.

Residents of the Banner will be familiar with the community's successful campaign to preserve our historic Railway House and Bunya Bunya tree. I was proud to be able to announce last year that the Government had listened and would no longer be demolishing the house and tree as part of this project.

Today I'm happy to report that the modification works will be far less intrusive than had been expected. Not only will the original heritage aspects

of the house be retained fully, but the vast majority of the newer house extension will also be preserved, with only one small corner (the sunroom) requiring removal.

This is an excellent result for the community, and I'd again like to thank the passionate locals who have spoken up on this issue.

Now is a great time to make your voice heard over what future you'd like to see for this historic building. Would it make a good community venue, or a social enterprise café? Would you like to see Council manage the site, a private business or a local not-for-profit? I'm keen to hear your thoughts.

As the weather starts to warm up it's time once again to start thinking about fire plans for the summer fire period. The Government has recently upgraded a number of Ultra Light Tankers across Victoria. These light vehicles have been equipped with compressed air foam-based deluge systems which can be deployed in the event of a burn-over, to save the lives of the occupants inside. At the announcement we had our very own Upper Beaconsfield brigade in attendance who demonstrated the new system on one of their vehicles.



Make and Mingle

See article on Page 27

MAKE AND MINGLE meets every Wednesday 10am-12 noon during School term at Beaconsfield Baptist Church, 7 Desmond Court. We finish term 3 on 18th September and 4th term starts 16th October and finishes 4th December.

We are sorry to say that MAKE AND MINGLE CRAFT FAIR has been CANCELLED for this year, due to illness and other unforeseen circumstances. Sorry to disappoint you but this is unavoidable. We hope to hold the Craft Fair next year on Saturday 8th November 2025.

You are very welcome to come along to Make and Mingle for a cuppa and a chat

Contact:

makeandmingle@beaconsfieldbaptist.com.au



Phone 8768 4400

Neighbourhood Natter

Another term is zooming by, but any time is a good time to have a look at what's in the BNC program that may interest you. Check out a copy of our Term 3 program for the details of all the regular activities and workshops that take place at our wonderful, welcoming Centre. It's available on our website www.bncinc.org.au or call past the Centre for a hard copy from reception.

We are looking for more interested people to join Beginners Ballroom Dancing classes on Thursdays 7.30pm-8.30pm. An 8-week term is \$112, and you will learn a variety of rhythms from easy, well known sequenced dances, to stimulating Latin and Ballroom styles. All those new to the joy of dance are welcome, including singles or couples.



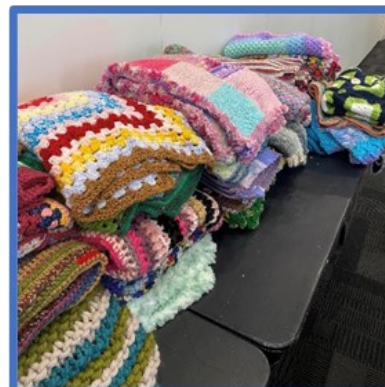
We know belts are continuing to tighten in our community and the free food pantry here at the Centre has been helping people in a small way. The pantry offers a discreet and accessible way for our local community members in need to access the necessities they require. It also is a pressure-free way to donate whatever you can afford to those who may need urgent food relief – cash donations or in-date, non-perishable products are welcomed.



We are grateful to recently partner with Community Bank Beaconsfield District who have contributed funding to help with the annual costs of keeping the shelves stocked with pantry staples.

They are making good things happen and we encourage you to like and follow their page: www.facebook.com/communitybankbeaconsfielddistrict

We also have immense gratitude for the work of our fabulous volunteers who pick up the food diversion produce from Woolworths and straighten everything up. It takes a village! Thanks to Bron, Louise, Rach and Shaz! We miss Martine and wish her luck and strength in her current journey.



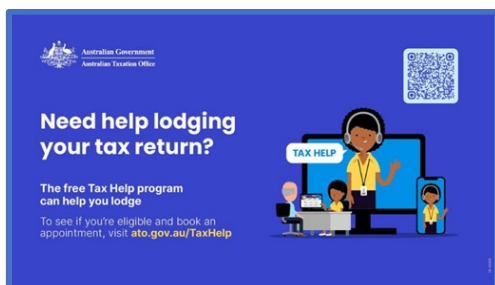
Our talented knitters have handed over another massive selection of blankets, rugs, beanies and scarves to help those in need to stay warm in beautiful, unique, hand-knitted items.

Donations of wool support the work of this group and can be dropped off at reception. New knitters are also encouraged to join us for an engaging, social afternoon whilst engaged in doing these good works for charity. It is a free session for members to attend.

We are lucky to have the professionals from Hearing Australia here again on Friday 29th November to conduct free hearing checks. Book your no-obligation appointment between 12-2pm to check your hearing.

BNC is proud to be part of the ATO's free tax help again this year with appointments every Friday morning

between 9.30am-12.30pm until October. Bookings are essential on 8768 4400. To find more information or to check if you're eligible, contact us or visit: ato.gov.au/taxhelp.



Notice of AGM:



2024 Annual General Meeting

ALL WELCOME

You are warmly invited to join us in the Meeting Room
1:00pm, Tuesday October 15, 2024
Email: contactus@bncinc.org.au
to RSVP for catering purposes.

See what we've been doing this last year and enjoy light refreshments.

We'd also love to welcome some new general members to the Committee of Management.
Consider volunteering some of your time.
It's easy, fulfilling, and you will be supported every step of the way.

8 O'Neil Road, Beaconsfield
Phone 8768 4400

Two of our current Committee of Management members went along to the Mayor's Volunteer Reception & Stan Henwood Award back in May. This annual event celebrates the amazing work of

volunteers across the Cardinia Shire. Cardinia Shire Council put on a lovely evening for Monica (left) and Katharine (right), and we appreciate the deserved recognition and thanks for all volunteers.



BNC Children's Room

We have had an amazing first round of expressions of interest for next year's Occasional Care sessions with all days filled. We are still taking names on waiting lists as there will undoubtedly be some movement before people lock in their final decisions for care in 2025. There will also be an opportunity to be on the list for casual places if a permanent place can't be guaranteed.

The talented staff in our Children's Room keep coming up with fresh, innovative ideas to engage our early learners in Occasional Care. Some of the latest colour and interest comes from a new mural to keep adding to and adapting as the seasons change.



The 2025 Playgroup Enrolment Day will be coming up next term on Monday 25th November from 9am. There will be two playgroup sessions to choose from on Tuesdays during school terms. Pay a \$20 non-refundable deposit to secure a spot for your children for the 9am sessions or the 11.30am sessions.

Add us on Facebook and Instagram for the latest updates. We welcome your enquiries and feedback.

Beaconsfield Neighbourhood Centre
8 O'Neil Road, Beaconsfield
Phone: 8768 4400
Web: www.bncinc.org.au

A Much Needed Public Park (Continued from page 15)

Queuing is likely unnecessary, but not so at 90 megalitres.

MW has stated that it prefers CFA helicopters to source water from Cardinia Reservoir, which it points out is only a few minutes away to the north of the UB CBD. But just think about that for a minute. If fire is travelling at 50 Kms per hour, it is essential to draw water from the closest source to save water refilling time and save houses. Minutes are incredibly important, but seconds are even more so. A large part of UB township, the whole area to the south of Salisbury Rd - Leppitt Rd to Beaconsfield township, Pakenham West, Officer and communities are clearly better protected by retaining Beaconsfield Reservoir at the 525 megalitre level. The time lost for an aircraft travelling to Cardinia Reservoir to get water to fight a fire front in O'Neil Rd, Browns Rd, or Dickie Rd, which are the boundary of the Beaconsfield Reservoir, is a complete and utter nonsense.

Another important factor is that Cardinia Reservoir is really water storage for Melbourne's potable drinking water, whereas Beaconsfield Reservoir is not. The pollution caused by an aircraft accident in Cardinia dam spilling surfactant and dye must be taken into account. A pollution incident in the Beaconsfield Reservoir won't affect Melbourne's drinking water.

In effect, MW is all but removing the very asset that offers a realistic hope of saving lives, properties,

assets and local infrastructure - the schools, shops, hotels, Kinders, Halls, the Community Centres, aged care communities, Fuels stations, Churches, etc. The

demise of the reservoir by MW is based on a barely transparent cost cutting factor. However, MW is claiming its justification is based on safety concerning the reservoir wall. This premise has been challenged by an eminently qualified Large Dam Engineer, Robert Evans (Dip. Civil Engineering 1968, Member Institute Engineers Australia, Past Secretary the Australian National Committee on Large Dams – ANCOLD, Senior Engineer Hydraulic Structures - Snowy Mountains Engineering Corporation, Retired). He has joined the "Save the Beaconsfield Reservoir Action Group" Committee. Our 1,650 members are on Facebook. MW's original decommissioned reduction in water level from 912 megalitres to 525 megalitres has all but mitigated the 1 in 1,000,000-year risk of the reservoir wall collapsing. MW's preferred option has more to do with cost and maintenance issues. The Officer and District Community, which is most subject to any risk of wall collapse, has never been formally consulted about the matter which should question MW's unprofessional attitude towards community consultation. MW's claimed risk is insignificant when

compared to the huge risk from another Ash Wednesday bushfire.



Picnic table overlooking the reservoir showing the water has receded from view by June 2024.



MW has a responsibility to protect life and property, but now it is not only destroying our reservoir, it is putting in jeopardy the entire surrounding area. To date, it has shown an unwillingness to do any more than consider what is in its best interest, rather than what is best for the public. To a greater or lesser degree MW is not alone. The position of Cardinia Council, Emma Vulin MP representing Pakenham Electorate, the entire Pakenham CFA Group, the former UB Association, DEECA, and the former managers of BNCR - the Cardinia Environment Coalition, have done little or nothing to protect the Beaconsfield Reservoir from demolition. The State Government has supported MW's decision, so this has become political, but what is political about wanting to better protect local communities from another Ash Wednesday, when another El Nino summer can occur again at some stage. With the increased risk from climate change causing future droughts and bushfires as well as other perspectives at play, it is exceptionally irresponsible that these groups appear content to let MW do what it wants. When so much is at risk to the public, that particular attitude is completely unacceptable.

To avoid a future charge of "culpability", all parties involved must support the retention of the 525 megalitre water level. Those who govern or represent us, have a moral (if not "mandatory") obligation to protect all who live within this fire prone area of Cardinia Shire, especially given the Ash Wednesday experience which brought death and destruction. By preserving the Reservoir water level at 525 megalitres we bolster our defences by enabling fire-fighting aircraft to draw water from it.

Cardinia Council promotes the "Active places", and "Open Spaces Strategy" The Active places project encourages residents to be physically active in their community. A walk guide sets out 10 motivating walks in various parts of the Shire. The Cardinia Shire Open Space Strategy 2023–2033 provides a framework for Cardinia Shire Council to plan, deliver and maintain open space to create a network of enticing, inclusive, well connected, sustainable and equitable open space, that meets the current and future needs of our community. The reservoir presents a unique opportunity (maybe the most unique) for residents to have a new walking trail through the reserve and "around" the reservoir. What could be more desirable? Cardinia Council should be more strongly supporting saving Beaconsfield Reservoir from MW's determined,

unconsulted action.

The photos show the total disregard for saving this significant environmental area which was until this year, a thriving area of biodiversity that supported a healthy wetland and bushland environment. Now this environment, and the safety of local residents, in the event of a bush fire impacting our area, is being put at serious risk and safety. We urge all who are willing to speak in favour of preserving the current Beaconsfield Reservoir wall and water level at 525 megalitres. We need to do so with gusto and conviction to convince those in power, and to demand a reversal of the current course of action by MW. There is no time to lose.

The campaign to save Beaconsfield Reservoir is urgently needed to support public enjoyment in both Cardinia and Casey. Our committee has written to the Environment Minister and DEECA, asking for the appointment of another Manager to BNCR, such as Parks Victoria, to allow public access to this enormous public park of 417 acres with Beaconsfield Reservoir at its centre. The reservoir lake was previously covering 17 acres, and would have allowed fishing, canoeing, swimming, picnicking, Botanical research for school groups, bush walking, and photography. It is also a vital water sanctuary for migratory water birds flying from the coast to inland waters.

Please sign our paper Petition in Upper Beaconsfield at Up the Hill Bakery, the Post Office and the Foodworks Supermarket, or in Beaconsfield at the Post Office, and Middle Ground Café. In Berwick at Physiofit and the Acoonah Park Mens Shed, and in Officer at the Saddlery in Tivendale Rd, and Officer Recreation Reserve Tennis Club and Sports Rooms. Alternatively, an e-Petition is available: www.parliament.vic.gov.au/get-involved/petitions/public-access-to-beaconsfield-reservoir/

Harry Jensen , President
Andre Bokos, Vice-President

Editor's note: The Save the Beaconsfield Reservoir Action Group is an independent community group and are not affiliated with the Beaconsfield Progress Association.

Member for Berwick

By Brad Battin MP



Brad Battin, MP

I always count myself fortunate to live where I do and wake up to share the day with my family, friends and local community. We have had some beautiful days filled with sunshine which has seen a lot more people out and about. This is great to see as we continue to support our local community and thank the people who work and live here.

As we head into spring and activities pick up, it is crucial to turn our attention to the issue that affects everyone, the condition of our major roads and road safety. These concerns are mostly focused on potholes and the delays in getting them fixed.

From potholes to crumbling edges, these problems are not just cosmetic—they pose real risks to drivers, cyclists, and pedestrians alike. VicRoads are working to address the issues, but it was highlighted, the maintenance budget has been cut across the state as more money is injected into the Suburban Rail Loop project.

It is concerning that road safety in our area has been neglected, and I encourage everyone to reach out if you have concerns. We can offer advice to the best way to seek compensation for damage. It is vital to address these concerns and work together to ensure our roads are safe for everyone. And please, I ask all to drive to the conditions and be safe.

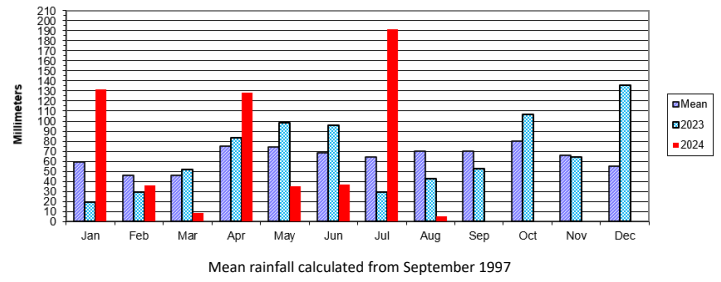
Finally, spring is approaching. A time of renewal and opportunity. There will be more activity around town, and I look forward to catching up with you at festivals, events or just a coffee.

Please feel free to drop by my office if you have any questions or comments to share, or you can contact me on 5953 0216 or via berwick@parliament.vic.gov.au.

You can also follow me on social media via my website: www.bradbattin.com.au,
 Twitter: @BradBattinMP,
 Facebook: /BradBattinMP,
 Instagram: @bradbattinMP,
 Linked In: Brad-Battin,
 and YouTube: Brad Battin.



Beaconsfield Rainfall



	2024							2023				
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
mm	131.5	36	9	128.1	27	37	191.2	5.2	52.5	106.5	64	136.5
Rain Days	8	4	3	11	3	4	16	5	6	9	8	10

BEACONSFIELD BANNER

We would appreciate your feedback.

Please scan the QR code to take our reader survey. *Thank you*

SAGE ACCOUNTING

Mark A. Sage FCPA
 Business Consultant
 Registered Tax agent

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Make and Mingle

Make & Mingle meets every Wednesday 10am-12 noon during school term at Beaconsfield Baptist Church, 7 Desmond Court. We finish 3rd term on 18th September and 4th term starts 16th October and finishes 4th December.

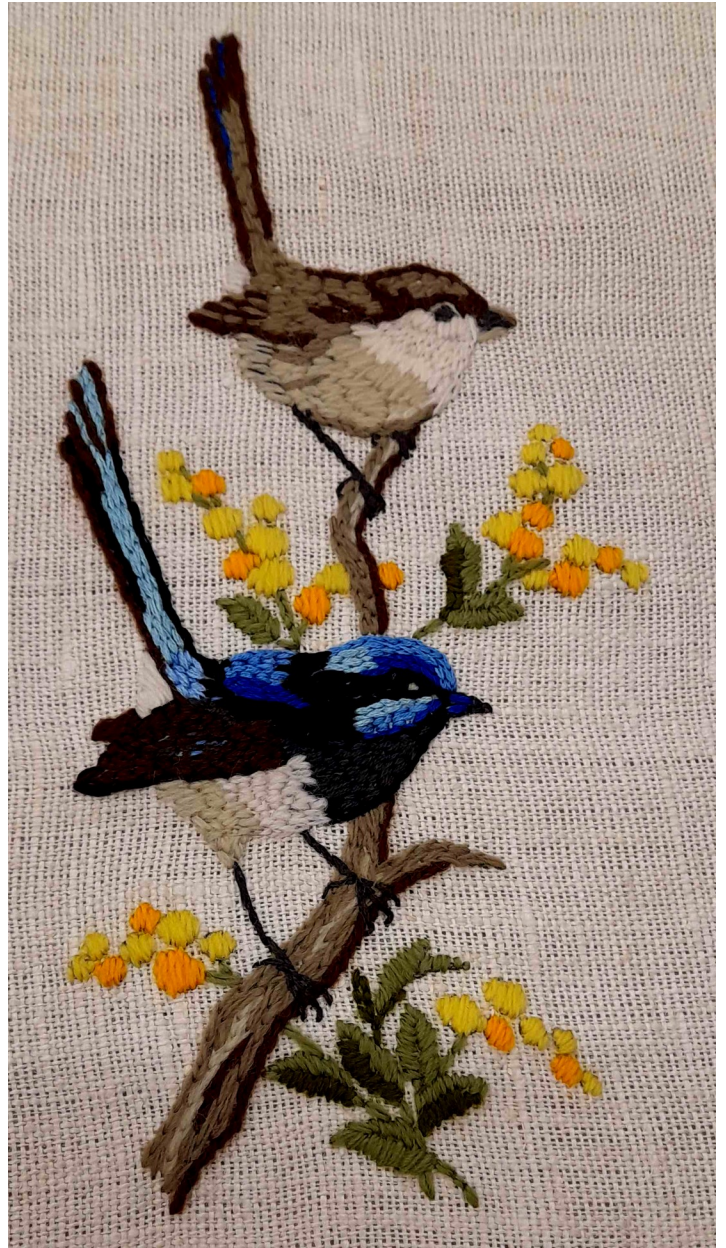
We had a visit from the Beaconsfield CFA Captain Phil Walton who talked about safety issues in the home. We all learnt some new information to put into practice. Thanks to Beaconsfield CFA for caring for our town. Cr Brett Owen and Cr Tammy Radford also visited Make and Mingle to tell us about various council facilities and information. Thank you to them both for visiting.

Each week we have craft and a cuppa and lots of time to chat. There are also lots of craft ideas shared with greeting card making, quilting, patchwork, embroidery and knitting. Everyone is welcome.

We are sorry to say that MAKE AND MINGLE CRAFT FAIR has been CANCELLED for this year, due to

illness and other unforeseen circumstances. Sorry to disappoint you, but this is unavoidable. We hope to hold the Craft Fair next year on Saturday 8th November 2025.

Your used postage stamps can help raise money for missions. If you save the stamps, please leave them on the envelopes or with a big margin around them and drop off to Beaconsfield Baptist Church. The stamps are then trimmed and sorted and go to



stamp dealers and the money raised helps support missions both in Australia and overseas.

You are very welcome to come along to Make and Mingle for a cuppa and a chat.

Contact:

makeandmingle@beaconsfieldbaptist.com.au

Cr Brett Owen and Cr Tammy Radford visit to Make and Mingle with the knitted farm.





This year started with lots of new committee members, with some of our wonderful existing members and executives moving on, after giving years of their lives contributing to our great little club – thank you, you will be missed! But with one door closing, another door opens, and with that, we have a few new members volunteering their time for our club.

- President Mat Anderton
- Secretary Dora Vrakatselis
- Treasurer Jodie Bullen
- Registrar Pip Veerman
- Training Co-Ordinator Tania Harrowfield
- Meeting Minutes Narelle Anderton
- Coaches Co-Ordinator (Jells Park Comp) John Howat
- Coaches Co-Ordinator (Casey Comp) Caz King
- Social Media + Sponsorship Donna Cargill
- Uniform Co-Ordinator Susanne Carlin
- Tournaments Co-Ordinator Shelley Ziesler

We now have a Social Events Committee consisting of Sophie Anderton, Jess Graham and Denise Clancey.

Beacy had a successful 2024 Autumn Season with two Premiership teams: U/15 Austin and U/17 Giants (both Casey comp) and two runners up: U/13 Cyclones (Casey) and U/13 Pearls (WNNA), and many other teams making Semi finals. Our U/9 and U/11 teams do not have finals, but completed the season with a lot of fun and big smiles – which is what junior sport is all about!!



U/17 Giants Premiers

We currently have 21 teams registered across two different competitions in age groups ranging from U/9 – U/17 for the Spring Season, which runs from July - December. Monday and Wednesday nights at Casey Stadium we have 13 teams, and Saturday mornings at Jells Park we have 8 teams representing Beacy Junior Netball Club. We also have over 20 girls participating in our NetSetGo program at the club on a Tuesday afternoon. NetSetGo is a great way to introduce netball to the younger ones - we like to think of it as

our 'future Beacy stars program'!

To kick off the Spring season we put on a Sausage



Sizzle for all our players, such a great way to boost morale and encourage chit chat and bonding



U/15 Austin Premiers

(Continued on page 31)



The 2024 football season is now at the pointy end with Beaconsfield's Seniors & Reserves teams making finals with our reigning Thirds premiership team surprisingly missing out as they finished 6th.

Our youthful senior side won their first final in the Eastern comp when they beat Montrose in the Elimination final. The Reserves couldn't progress past the first week but gained very valuable experience.

The Womens team had a tough season in the strong 1st Division and couldn't get a win but their enthusiasm & energy never faltered and coach John Blackburn was full of admiration for their spirit.

We recently got to present the \$5000 funds raised from our great Ladies Day event to Tim Cook from the "Outside the Locker Room" organisation to assist with their much-needed work. Well done to all involved in making this such a great event.

On the weekend of **Friday 5th July & Saturday 6th July** we held a magnificent triple premiership celebrations of our flag winning teams of 1974, 2004 & 2014 teams. There was a great gathering of players, committees & supporters with many travelling from interstate. The guest panel of Warren Ellam, Haydn Robins & Scott Meyer along with interviewer Dave Nagel was informative & entertaining. The terrific premiership booklet produced by Michael Fisher was a real highlight.



Premiership players & officials from 1974/2004/2014.

Congratulations to our Junior Club on a very successful first year in the strong Eastern FNL junior competition. They had 10 sides make finals with U/12 Blue and U/14 Blue winning premierships, and U/12 Girls being runners up. Well done to all involved, including committee, coaches & officials and especially parents.

PRESENTATION NIGHT – THURSDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER AT PINK HILL HOTEL , BEACONSFIELD

Presentation Night for our Senior club's four teams is once again at Pink Hill Hotel which proved a great venue last year. It is on the eve of the grand final holiday and bookings are essential per link below.

www.trybooking.com/CUJAO

You can keep up with all the Beacy footy news on our Facebook page and we would encourage you all to get involved with your community club in 2024 and beyond whether it's with the Juniors or Seniors but it is a great place to form life long connections and friendships.



Beacy Ball Kids

Congratulations to BTC Juniors, Kai McQualter and Jaxson Westling. Kai has made it through the selection trials for the 2025 Australia Open ball kids. Kai had a great experience in January this year and



On the nets. Above: Kai McQualter.

Right: Jaxson Westling

will once again be strutting his stuff next year... keep an eye out for him on TV. Jaxson Westling, was chosen to be one of the ball boys at the Australia vision impaired tennis tournament in July. He has also been asked to work at the wheelchair tennis event coming soon.

Beaconsfield Tennis Club couldn't be prouder of both these boys. They have both shown bravery, resilience, and sportsmanship as they strive for more challenges in the game of tennis.

Coaching Award Finalists

Congratulations to Coach Paul and Coach Tyler on reaching the list of Finalists for the 2024 Tennis Coaches Australia Awards. Paul is in the running for the 'Coach of the Year' award and Tyler is a finalist

for the 'Rookie Coach of the Year' category. Beaconsfield Tennis Club would like to wish them both all the best in the upcoming award ceremony. Go Beacy!



Left to right: Coach Raja, Coach Aditi, Coach Paul (Ossie), Lynton from AATC

Welcome to Coach Aditi

Beaconsfield Tennis Club would like to offer a huge welcome to Coach Aditi who has recently arrived from India to join Ossie's Tennis Coaching team. Head Coach, Paul Osbourne worked with the AATC – Australasian Academy of Tennis Coaches to secure Aditi's visa. She will join our other international coaching team, Coach Raja, from India, and Coach Franco from Argentina. Together with all our other talented coaches, our students are in for some fun this season.

Interclub Competition

Midweek Women's Comp

For the ladies, our club participates in the Dandenong and District Tennis Association competition on both Tuesday and Wednesday mornings commencing at 9:30. Contact Anja Potter 0437 074 287

Junior competition

For both girls and boys up to the age of 18, our club participates in the Berwick and District Tennis Association on both Saturday and Sunday mornings commencing at 8:00am. Contact Brad Meates 0405 428 208

Senior competition

Our club participates in the WDTA on Saturday afternoons and is open to all ladies and gentlemen. Contact Adrian Walsh 0425 747 615



Social Competition

Monday/Wed night mixed Comp

Beaconsfield and Officer have two social competitions in collaboration with each other. Wednesday night social is for all abilities for all ages. It's a great night out for those who like a game of tennis but don't take it very seriously. For the more experienced serious player, Beaconsfield/Officer have a Monday night advanced hitters' competition. The format is Rubbers with teams of two. Price per night for both Monday and Wednesday night competitions: Members \$5 and Non members \$10. Contact Maurie on 0437 759 793 for Wednesday night social and contact Josh McCormick on 0458 869 252 for Advanced Hitters.

Veterans Day Social

For a Sunday morning social hit, come down to the courts at around 8:00 am for a social hit and free coffee from the canteen. Contact Les Donaldson 0409 435 121

Women's Social

Casual hit with other women from Beaconsfield Tennis Club. Members are free. Non-members \$5. Monday mornings commencing at 9:30. Contact Anja Potter 0437 074 287

Casual Court Hire

\$15 per court (per hour)

Book a court is now available through our website: www.beaconsfieldtennisclubinc.com

Go to Court hire and follow the links. The synthetic grass courts are available for hire only when not in use. Competitions and coaching take precedence.

Main Contact Details:

All General Queries Ph: (03) 8820 5853

Facebook: Beaconsfield Tennis Club Community

Mail: P.O. Box 132, Beaconsfield, VICTORIA, 3807

Website: www.beaconsfieldtennisclubinc.com

Coach: Ossie's Tennis Coaching

Ph: 0413 594 633

Email: ossie30@bigpondnet.au



(Continued from page 28)

amongst our teams and families. The music was going, the sausages were sizzling, and there were lots of giggles and laughing to be heard around the courts – so

great to see!

A big thanks to our Social Events Committee for organising – great job!

We would like to thank our sponsors, for providing game day awards for all our players – greatly appreciated!

Slice'd Pizzas, Daniels Donuts, Daydreamers Café, YOMG Berwick, Berwick Springs Hotel, Bellevue Farm Gate

Some big thank yous from our club:

A big thank you to all of our volunteers on training and game days – Coaches, Team Managers and Scorers – without you, our kids couldn't play the sport they love.

To our Supporters – Mums, Dads, Brother, Sisters, Aunties, Uncles and Grandparents -thank you for always being in our corner, supporting and cheering us on – we appreciate you!

To all of our Committee members – without you guys working away in the background every week, our club wouldn't be where it is today – Thank you!

If you are interested in joining our wonderful club, please reach out to bjncenquiries@gmail.com and include your child's name, year of birth and netball experience (if any), and we will contact you when Autumn 2025 registrations open.

Our players in Casey Netball competition play Monday night (U/9 only) and Wednesday night (U/11, U/13, U/15, U/17) and train Tuesday Nights (Friday for the U/9's). Woolworths NetSetGo train on Tuesdays also.

Our players in Waverley Netball/Jells Park competition play Saturdays (U/9, U/11, U/13, U/15, U/17) and train Friday nights.

Training is at Holm Park Reserve, Beaconsfield Emerald Rd, Beaconsfield

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T.Radford@cardinia.vic.gov.au



Editor's Note

With each edition of the *Beaconsfield Banner* we attempt to capture some of the special things going on in our small town.

A sincere thank you to everyone involved in capturing these special moments by taking the time to prepare and submit articles and photographs.

Perhaps it goes without saying but all of us at the BPA have a passion and love for our great town. If you feel

the same way, you can get involved by:

- Attending our monthly public BPA meetings
- Submitting an article (any subject welcome)
- Advertising in the *Beaconsfield Banner*

We are very lucky to have so many great businesses in Beaconsfield. There is no clearer illustration of community spirit, than the businesses who advertise in the Banner. **More than ever, our local businesses need your support. Please get behind them.**

We hope you enjoy this edition of the *Beaconsfield Banner*.

- Editor

Correspondence

All correspondence to P.O. Box 217, Beaconsfield, Vic 3807 or email banner@beaconsfield.org.au

Articles Welcome

Articles can be emailed to the editor at banner@beaconsfield.org.au. Please send photos as attachments.

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

Advertising

The Beaconsfield Banner is published quarterly. Pricing per edition for advertising in the Beaconsfield Banner is as follows:

	B&W	Colour
½ page advertisement	\$100	\$150
¼ page advertisement	\$50	\$80
Business card advertisement	\$30	\$50

All advertising enquiries please email to: banner@beaconsfield.org.au.

Advertisements can be submitted by email as Adobe PDF, JPG, PNG, or Microsoft Word document.

Next Deadline

The deadline for contributing to the next edition of the Beaconsfield Banner for articles and advertising is

15th November, 2024.

Disclaimer

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