

FREE

BEACONSFIELD BANNER

Triannual Publication of the Beaconsfield Progress Association

Autumn 2026 Edition



Upcoming Public Events

Beaconsfield Anzac Memorial Service

Bonette Reserve at the Beaconsfield War Memorial

Cnr Woods Street and Old Princes Highway

Sunday 19th April, 2026 at 2pm



BEACONSFIELD POST OFFICE



Trading hours

Monday - Friday: 9am - 5pm

Every Saturday: 9am - Noon

- Parcel Locker (After hours drop off & pickup)
- Banking facilities
- Western Union money transfers
- Household key cutting
- TFN applications
- Identity services
- Land Title ID checks
- Working with Children ID Checks
- Passport applications & photos
- Local business partner
- Postage discount assessment for small local business

PHONE: 9707 1053

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

Licensees: Ketan & Shaila Goswami

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Cardinia Shire Council



COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA

the voice of the community

MEMBER 2026

President's Report



Welcome to this Autumn 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. Beaconsfield Progress Association (BPA) provides a link between the residents and businesses with governing authorities, predominately our local government Cardinia Shire Council.

A Grant of \$1,000 was received from Cardinia Shire Council for Wellbeing/Support to enable Christmas Trees and some lights and decorations to be installed in Beaconsfield. This Project involved the local community and schools as in recent years. Five Christmas Trees were placed in front of the Beaconsfield Baptist Church, Old Princes Highway as you enter Beaconsfield. Many favourable comments were received to reflect on Christmas.

APA has been conducting essential maintenance work on the T60 Longford to Dandenong Pipeline in Beaconsfield Park. APA Group decided it was not viable to relocate the drain at Beaconsfield Park. APA are now re-instating the existing infrastructure and the land. There has been considerable planting of shrubs and plants and new turf was laid. The concrete slab has been laid awaiting installation of the Picnic Table. Once these works have been completed, the area that is used by the public will be larger and will be re-instated at least to what was there previously.



The recent Green Waste Drop Off for Cardinia Shire residents at Pakenham was very popular. Cardinia Shire Council is planning for future Green Waste Drop Off's to handle the expanding needs of our community.

Carols by the Creek unfortunately had to be cancelled due to forecast heavy rain at the time that the Carols would have been held. This was disappointing however we hope for better weather next year. Thanks to all those who were involved in the planning of the event.

Planning is well underway for the Beaconsfield Anzac Memorial Service to be held on Sunday 19 April 2026 at the War Memorial site at Bonette Reserve. As in previous years there will be a march along Woods Street, Memorial Address, reading of the Beaconsfield Soldiers' names, Ode to the Fallen, Last post, One Minute's silence, Rouse and laying of Wreaths. An afternoon tea will be held after the Service.

A Grant of \$8,476 was received from the Department of Veterans Affairs to enable plaques to be made and installed on the Plinths at Bonette Reserve to recognise WW2 Soldiers from or connected with Beaconsfield. This work is nearing completion and a big thankyou to Penny Harris Jennings for all the research undertaken and to Ann Taylor for managing the Project. Thanks also to the Commonwealth Government for the Grant and to Cardinia Shire Council for their support.

Our Brochure and Display Banner have been updated and expanded by Committee Member Bronwyn McCormick detailing work done and the role of Beaconsfield Progress Association in the community and the Events we are involved with. It was appropriate that Bronwyn received an Australia Day Award from Jason Wood MP for outstanding volunteer service to Beaconsfield community sport and events.

Since 2025 BPA has produced the Beaconsfield Banner each four months. The Beaconsfield Banner is available in the printed format from outlets in the town as well as electronically on our website and mobile phones. Thanks to Bob Cooper for his work as Editor. Our Facebook page continues to be popular and gets many hits. To assist with our printing costs, our Association received a Grant of \$900 from Cardinia Shire Council.

(Continued on page 7)

Beacon Hills Ward



Mayor, Cr Brett Owen

Wellbeing Support Grants now open

Applications are now open for Cardinia Shire Council's 2026-27 Wellbeing Support Grants program.

Council is inviting local com-

munity groups, not-for-profit organisations and volunteer-led initiatives to apply for the 2026-27 Wellbeing Support Grants to help fund projects that improve the health, wellbeing, resilience and social connection of Cardinia Shire residents.

As part of Council's 2026-27 Wellbeing Support Grants, eligible groups can apply for the following three categories:

- Seeding grant (up to \$5,000)
- To support setting up new organisations, groups, clubs, projects, programs or services.
- Volunteer Support grant (up to \$3,000)
- To grow and develop volunteering in Cardinia Shire, such as:
 - ✦ establishing volunteering programs
 - ✦ training and development of volunteers, where not mandated by regulation, nor within the scope of training that is provided by the organisation*
 - ✦ promotion of volunteering opportunities.
- Small change grant (up to \$1,000)
 - To help with a range of minor operational and equipment costs that cannot be met through other funding sources. Applications for community Christmas decorations will be considered.

These grants aim to empower local organisations to deliver programs that support community participation, build inclusion, and enhance the sustainability of community services.

Our grants support non-for-profit groups to continue to thrive, establishing new community connections, forming new groups, and starting community-focused projects and services.

Applications for the 2026-27 grant program are open and will close on 10 April 2026.

To find out more about Council's grant programs, visit www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/grants

Clear the garden clutter this Autumn with our free Green Waste Drop Off

From 10 - 13 April 2026, Cardinia Shire residents can drop off their excess green waste for free at the Cleanaway Resource Recovery Centre in Lysterfield.

In addition to the kerbside food and garden bin, and hard waste, residents are encouraged to use this free service to clear garden materials from their properties and dispose of them responsibly.

This free service is a simple and sustainable way to manage excess green waste, helping residents to reduce fire-fuel loads, create safer properties, minimise pest risks, and contribute to a cleaner, tidier neighbourhood.

Residential green waste can be dropped off, including:

- garden clippings
- tree branches and trunks (up to 30 centimetres wide and 1 metre long)
- weeds
- leaves
- flowers

Drop-off dates and location

Cleanaway Resource Recovery Centre, 840 Wellington Rd, Lysterfield

Operating times:

- Friday 10 April: 7am to 3:30pm
- Saturday 11 April: 8am to 11:30am
- Sunday 12 April: 8am to 11:30am

(Continued on page 6)

Councillors' Report

(Continued from page 5)

- Monday 13 April: 7am to 3:30pm

This drop-off service is only open to Cardinia Shire residents, so please present photo ID as proof of residence when you arrive. Residential green waste is only accepted via cars, utes and residential trailers; commercial vehicles or business operators cannot access this service to dispose of green waste.

All the collected green waste is turned into high-quality soil conditioner, which is used to support Victorian farms and gardens.

For more information about all upcoming waste events, visit www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/dropoff

Don't fur-get to register your pets!

Cardinia Shire Council is encouraging all pet owners to register or renew their pet's registration by 10 April.

Pets play an important role in the lives of families across Cardinia Shire, bringing joy to our suburbs, Hills townships and rural communities. As more households welcome new furry companions, Council is reminding all residents that registering their cats and dogs are an essential part of responsible pet ownership.

Registration is required for all cats and dogs over three months old under the Domestic Animals Act 1994 and registration needs to be renewed every year.

Registering a pet ensures lost animals can be quickly reunited with their owners, helps reduce the number of roaming animals, and supports safe and welcoming shared spaces including parks and playgrounds.

Registration fees directly support Council's pet management services, including returning lost animals, investigating dog attacks and nuisance complaints, managing domestic animals, off-leash areas, and delivering education programs that support responsible pet ownership across the shire.

Registration also works alongside microchipping, desexing and general pet care to build a safer, kinder, more pet-friendly community.



If an unregistered pet is found wandering without a tag or outdated microchip information, it may be taken to the Lost Dogs Home and owners may receive fines. Registration is the simplest way to avoid this and to make sure your pet is returned home fast.

Residents can register or renew their registration online, over the phone or in-person at the Civic Centre.

Discounts are available in a range of circumstances, including if you're a member of an eligible organisation or your pet has completed recognised obedience training.

For more information on pet registration, fees, discounts and requirements, visit

www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/pet-rego

Ageing Well Newsletter - Edition 23

Ageing Well highlights a range of services and exciting opportunities for seniors to stay healthy and connected in Cardinia Shire. Printed copies are distributed to more than 25 locations across the shire, including the Cardinia Shire Council Civic Centre, Cardinia Cultural Centre, community houses, libraries, seniors' groups, medical and allied health businesses, retirement villages, and individual residents upon request.

Stay informed on latest opportunities, news, and events with the Ageing Well newsletter. An enjoyable read with plenty of useful information.

Read online or Subscribe:

View the [latest edition](#) - available in Large print (Word document) or PDF

Scan the QR code to subscribe and receive future



editions by email

For more information about Ageing Well, visit Council's website at www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/ageingwell or call 1300 787 624

ART SHOW

PAKENHAM

ARTISTS

Closing Date for Entries:

16 MAY 2026

OFFICIAL OPENING

Pink Hill Hotel

4 JUNE 2026

GENERAL VIEWING

5-8 JUNE 2026



Lorica Plumata by David Cox

Cardinia Ageing Well Speak Up information session



Join us for a community information session that supports older people to stay informed, feel confident and listened to.

At the session, Safe Steps and Elder Rights Australia will help you:

- Understand family violence, financial abuse and the misuse of powers of attorney
- Recognise signs of elder abuse and how to help
- Understand your rights and stay in control of your care
- Speak up with confidence and know where to get support

After the presentations, guests can enjoy refreshments, browse information stalls and talk with presenters.

**FREE
EVENT**

Tuesday 16 June, 10.30am - 12.30pm

Deep Creek Reserve Centre, 62 Cameron Way, Pakenham
FREE (light lunch included) but bookings are essential
Call 1300 787 624 or email ageingwell@cardinia.vic.gov.au



This event supports World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, recognised globally on 15 June each year. It is an opportunity for communities to stand together against the abuse, mistreatment and neglect of older people.

TOGETHER WE CAN
Act Now to end Family Violence in Cardinia Shire

Safe Steps

ERA Elder Rights Australia
Promoting the human rights of all older people

Cardinia

President's Report Cont..

(Continued from page 4)

There will be a Coffee with the Community and Safe Plate Day on Friday 21 August 2026 from 10am to 12 noon at Middle Ground Café. Representatives from Victoria Police and Cardinia Shire Council will attend to discuss local crime trends, safety initiatives, crime prevention strategies and emerging issues and concerns. Come along and talk to your local Police and Council representatives and enjoy a complimentary coffee.

Our Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each alternate month commencing February 2026 and there are no meetings in January and December. Meetings commence at 7.30pm at the Beaconsfield Community Complex. All residents, business owners and others with an involvement in Beaconsfield are welcome to attend the Meetings.

GRAEME TAYLOR OAM
PRESIDENT BPA Inc



Beaconsfield CFA Update



With summer now behind us and autumn settling in, it's a good time to look back on a very busy season for the Beaconsfield Fire Brigade.

Over summer, our volunteers supported fire-fighting efforts at Longwood and worked tirelessly on a significant hayshed fire that took several days to fully extinguish due to the size and complexity of the hay rolls involved. Closer to home, the brigade continues to respond to numerous car accidents along O'Shea Road and the freeway on and off-ramps. A reminder to everyone: please take extra care when travelling through the green light sequences in this area, as too many drivers are still ignoring red lights.

The brigade also enjoyed being part of the Berwick Show, giving the community a chance to see our equipment up close and learn more about the vital work volunteers contribute every day.

As winter approaches and daylight saving comes to an end, it's the perfect time to check your smoke alarms and replace the batteries. Working smoke alarms save lives—without them, the chances of surviving a house fire are extremely low.

Our volunteers continue to respond to an average of four callouts each week, with some days seeing up to three turnouts. Their commitment to keeping our community safe is unwavering, and we thank them for everything they do.



Make and Mingle

Just before Christmas, Beaconsfield CFA Captain **Phil Walton** visited the *Make and Mingle* group at Beaconsfield Baptist Church, where

he was warmly welcomed and presented with a thoughtful collection of gifts — including a very cute **firefighter Care Bear** that brought plenty of smiles.

Make and Mingle is a relaxed, friendly weekly gathering where everyone is invited to bring along their craft, knitting, sewing, artwork, or simply enjoy a cuppa and a chat. It's a lovely way to connect with others in the community and unwind mid-week.

The group meets **every Wednesday from 10am to 12 noon during school terms. Term 2 begins on Wednesday 22 April**, and newcomers are always welcome.

Phil Walton is pictured with Ann Taylor from Make and Mingle.



BEACONSFIELD ANZAC MEMORIAL SERVICE 2026

The Beaconsfield Anzac Memorial Service first held in 1999, is always held on the Sunday before ANZAC Day. This year the service will be held on Sunday 19 April, at Bonette Reserve, Beaconsfield War Memorial on the corner of Woods Street and Old Princes Highway. There will be a march, for all those who would like to participate, leaving at 1.50pm from the CFA fire station in Woods Street. The Service commences at 2pm at the War Memorial.

Members of the community are invited to come to the War Memorial and seating will be provided.

The usual program of National Anthem, Memorial Address, Soldiers' Roll, Flag Raising and Wreath laying will be followed. Please join us as we remember and honour Servicemen from all conflicts. This special tribute is organised by Beaconsfield Progress Association and supported by Cardinia Shire. Afternoon tea will be provided after the service.

Beaconsfield has a history of dedicated war service. The website www.beaconsfield.org.au has information about the Beaconsfield Avenue of Honour and all their WWI Servicemen, the Honour Board and the Beaconsfield War Memorial.

Beaconsfield's Digital Memorial can now be accessed from the website and provides information about the two World Wars, the Shrine of Remembrance in Melbourne and Beaconsfield Soldiers.



Beaconsfield Anzac Memorial Service

Beaconsfield Progress Association and the Cardinia Shire Council would like to invite you to the Beaconsfield Anzac Memorial Service.

Bonette Reserve
Beaconsfield War memorial
Cnr Woods Street & Old Princes Hwy



Sunday 19th April

March Commences : 1:50pm
Service Commences: 2pm

Contact:
secretary@beaconsfield.org.au

Proudly supported by
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Violet Wilson of "Ayrhill" Beaconsfield.

Written by Penny Harris Jennings (from the memoir of Myrtle Wilson)

As a young woman Violet Crump was an accomplished pianist and photographer living with her mother in Dandenong. Having won a photography competition at the Royal Melbourne Show in 1923, Violet observed that opportunities for photography competitions were few, she then decided to turn her natural creative talent to handcrafts.

In 1930 Violet married Alan Wilson and they lived at "Ayrhill", Soldiers Road, Beaconsfield. Most days Violet would sit a few hours by the window which enabled her to work with natural light on her handcrafts. At this time there was no electricity in Beaconsfield, Violet would sit each evening working her pieces of craft under the light from a kerosene lamp.



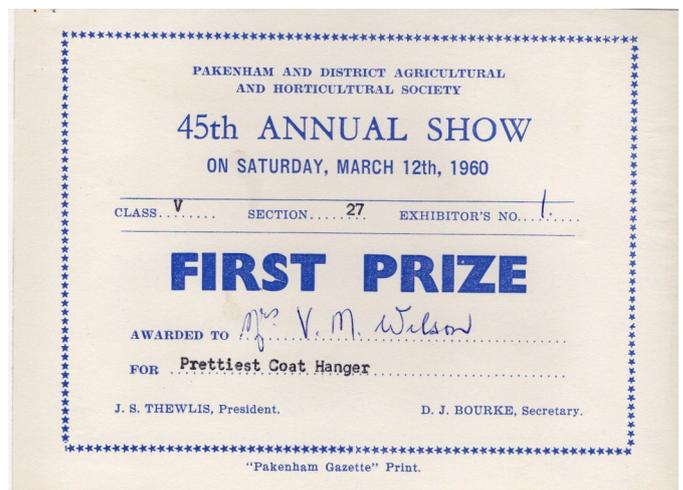
Violet continued expanding her love of handcrafts. Tatted work was Violet's initial focus, learning from exhibits at Agricultural shows.

A remarkable piece she created in 1941, a Tatted butterfly doyley won 100 firsts, 43 seconds, 1 third and reserve champion at numerous shows throughout Australia.



Violet's skill at craft continued to diversify from tating to knitting, crochet, embroidery, tapestry and sewing. She was awarded Champion at many shows throughout Australia. Violet's most successful tapestries were creations made from silk. Free-hand drawing was not Violet's forte, she would mostly use transfers but add her specialty stitches to give the piece a unique look. Many pieces featured impressions of the flowers grown in her own garden, these included iris, pansies and roses.

In 1951 electricity was connected to "Ayrhill", not only was there now lighting for the evening craft, an electric iron was a great asset to the pressing of the show exhibits.



Violet Wilson of "Ayrhill" Beaconsfield Cont....

Violet was diligent in recording and posting her creations of craft to shows and exhibitions all over Australia, 1958 was her busiest year entering 256 shows. Her entries won continuously including championships and aggregates. In her long career Violet made over 450 pieces of show standard work and won near 500 championships. Her projects were diverse in whichever textiles she worked to produce a new exhibit. She was most proud of her success, displaying the winning sashes and trophies in her home. Prize money won was spent on postage and freight for her ongoing entries all over Australia.

In her life Violet won an estimated 24,000 prizes. In the mid 1960's Violet's eyesight began to deteriorate and in 1976 she retired from her life passion of exhibiting craft.

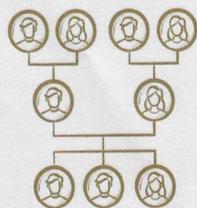
Violet passed away 23 July 1982 and is buried in Dandenong Cemetery. Many of her award-winning handcraft items are in Museums Victoria and the National Museum, Canberra.



Pakenham Library
myli.org.au (03) 5940 6200

FAMILY HISTORY

Book in for one-on-one assistance with your family history research from our Literacy Librarian - Local History and Genealogy during a 1hr free session.



BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL
CALL 03 5940 6200 OR
EMAIL PAKENHAM@MYLI.ORG.AU

WEDNESDAY MORNINGS 10-12

MAKE & MINGLE

~ Friendship and Craft Group ~

Bring along your craft or just come for a cuppa and a chat. Make and Mingle meets every Wednesday morning during the school term.

Beaconsfield Baptist Church.
7 Desmond Court, Beaconsfield, VIC 3807.

ENQUIRIES:
makeandmingle@beaconsfieldbaptist.com.au

Bringing Christmas Cheer to Beaconsfield

Beaconsfield was looking wonderfully festive this past Christmas thanks to the hard work and enthusiasm of local volunteers who came together to brighten our town. With the support of a **\$1,000 Cardinia Shire Council grant**, provided each year to volunteer organisations for community decorations, the Beaconsfield Progress Association was able to get creative and spread some Christmas cheer.

To make an even bigger impact, the **BPA contributed an additional \$1,000**, allowing volunteers to install a range of decorations across Beaconsfield. This included **five Christmas trees outside the Baptist Church**, a collection of cheerful **festive signs around town**, and **beautiful red ribbons** lining the main street and continuing down Fieldstone Avenue.

We'd love to build on this success and make next Christmas even more magical. If you're interested in helping with decorations later this year—whether you have creative ideas, practical skills, or simply a willingness to lend a hand—please contact the **BPA Secretary** for more information.





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Beaconsfield Officer

Scout Group

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.

Contact: beaconsfieldscoutgroup@gmail.com

Joey Scouts 5 - 8 Years	Tuesdays 5.30 pm – 6.30 pm
Cub Scouts 8 - 11 Years	Tuesdays 6:45 pm – 8.15 pm
Scouts 11 - 15 years	Thursdays 7 pm – 9 pm
Venture Scouts 15 - 18 years	Mondays 7 pm – 9 pm
Cumoot Rovers 18 - 25 years	Mondays 7.30 pm – 9.30 pm

Here to
Help



Michael Galea MP

Your State Labor Member for
South Eastern Metropolitan Region



Level 2, 55 St Andrews Place East Melbourne VIC 3002 (temporary office)

michael.galea@parliament.vic.gov.au (03) 7501 8688

MichaelGaleaALP @MichaelGaleaMP

Authorised by M. Galea. L2, 55 St Andrews Pl, East Melbourne VIC 3002.



**BEACONSFIELD
PHARMACY**

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Come and get your flu vaccine at Beaconsfield Pharmacy



Fast - Convenient - Walk ins welcome*



Scan now to book your flu vaccine!

*Walk ins available on weekdays between 9am-4pm



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Beaconsfield District

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AKOONAH PARK MARKET

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





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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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I'm super proud to be named **#1 Agent** in Beaconsfield by realestate.com.au. Thank you to our wonderful clients and community – deeply grateful after 23 years for every conversation, every referral, every property journey.

- *Amanda Charles*

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Member for Berwick

By Brad Battin MP



Brad Battin, MP

On the last weekend of February, I attended the amazing annual Berwick Show. I always value the opportunity to speak with local business owners and showgoers, and the recent conversations were no exception. Across the board, one issue shaped discussion: crime. It was

front of mind for many, reflecting a shared and growing concern within the community. They are not alone in holding these concerns. For many, crime has become an unsettling reality, with Victorians increasingly expressing that they no longer feel safe in their own homes or on their streets. In my capacity as Shadow Minister for Police and Corrections, my priority is to restore community safety and ensure Victorians feel safe in their homes and neighbourhoods once again. Victorians don't need spin or headlines, they need practical, accountable action. That starts with properly resourcing our police and corrections system. Police must have the tools, staffing and support they need to keep our community safe. Our corrections system must be funded and managed to rehabilitate where possible, deter serious offenders and protect the public. Many also raised concerns about the condition of our local roads, pointing to widespread graffiti, potholes and general neglect. Due to reductions in government funding, these issues are not unexpected and have resulted in maintenance failing to keep pace with community expectations. I remain in ongoing discussions with Council and relevant Ministers to address these concerns promptly and prioritise community safety. If you encounter any neglect or maintenance issues affecting roads or roadsides, please contact my office. Every Victorian deserves safe, clean, and well-maintained public spaces that reflect our shared pride in Victoria. My office is always open in Berwick, if you have any questions or comments to share, 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

	2025											2026		
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F
mm	68	20	53	14	22.1	78	68.8	43.1	63.7	66.4	236.5	51	3	53
Rain Days	6	6	4	6	4	11	15	11	15	13	19	10	3	8

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



Berwick Mechanics' Institute & Free Library Inc. Talk

Heather Arnold will present her talk "A Social History of Mechanics' Institutes" at the Berwick Mechanics' Institute & Free Library. Mechanics' Institutes have played a role in the life of communities for over 180 years.

Heather's talk takes an eclectic look at some of the stories and events associated with these buildings. Light refreshments to follow. All welcome. Wednesday 6th May 2026 2.00pm to 4.00pm. 15 High Street, Berwick.





Phone 8768 4400

Neighbourhood Natter

As we step into 2026, we welcome the Year of the Fire Horse in the Chinese Zodiac. The Horse represents energy, independence and forward movement, and the Fire element symbolises passion and vitality. While this cultural tradition isn't everyone's cup of tea, it still provides a lovely reminder to embrace new beginnings and positive momentum for the year ahead.

Here at the Centre, that spirit of energy is already underway! Our new term program is packed with many of the activities our members love, along with some exciting new additions.

If you haven't seen the latest program yet, visit www.bncinc.org.au, drop by the Centre to chat with our friendly team, or pick up a printed copy while you're here. We always love seeing new and familiar faces walk through the door.

The Courageous Journey



A new workshop is on offer with success coach Geoff Edwards, designed to help you explore and identify your personal calling.

The Courageous Journey encourages participants to have the courage to live their best life and make a meaningful difference. Over five weekly sessions, you'll work on enhancing your motivation, bringing more positivity into your life, and challenging yourself to clarify goals and take positive steps forward. The cost is just \$100 for the full five-week program. Express your interest today!

Children's Dance with Miss Erin

Looking for a fun, confidence-building activity for your little one? You're looking in the right place!



Our Tuesday pre-school dance classes are perfect for children aged 2–6 years. These classes are relaxed, friendly and designed to help young children build confidence, coordination and creativity through movement.

With small group sizes, no uniforms required, and parents staying in the room, the classes provide a supportive and comfortable environment for children to explore dance.

Best of all, sessions are run by a highly experienced teacher and priced very reasonably — but places are limited. If you're interested, secure your spot early as spaces fill quickly.

Funding & Advocacy

As part of the campaign to increase state funding in the next budget, Wednesday 18 February marked the Neighbourhood House sector's **Day of Action**, bringing people together on the steps of the Victorian Parliament.



Staff, volunteers, and supporters from all over Victoria showed up in droves to support our sector. The message was simple but powerful: Neighbourhood Houses matter, and sustainable funding is needed to keep our doors open.

To learn more about this campaign, visit <https://www.nhvic.org.au/2026-campaign>.

Raffles

Our Christmas raffle was a tremendous success, thanks to the incredible support of our community. So many people purchased tickets and donated wonderful prizes.

With all the support received, we were thrilled to award a total of 19 prize hampers to our lucky winners and raise \$789 to support our Centre.

Now we're turning our attention to our next big fundraiser — our Mother's Day Raffle. To help make this event just as successful, we are inviting individuals and businesses to consider donating a prize.



If you have a small item, product, or voucher you would be willing to contribute, we would be incredibly grateful for your support in helping us continue our fundraising efforts. Bring any donations to reception, or contact us to make other arrangements if required.

Community Food Pantry



Our Community Food Pantry continues to provide vital support for people in our local area, offering free pantry staples and fresh produce for anyone who may need a little extra help.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to Fire Church, one of our Sunday venue hirers, for their generous donation to help restock the pantry. We also appreciate the support we receive from Woolworths Beaconsfield and the Community Bank Beaconsfield District, whose ongoing contributions help keep this important initiative running.

If you'd like to support the pantry, consider shopping locally at Woolworths and following the Community Bank's Facebook page to see the great work they do in our community. You can also contribute cash or food donations directly to the pantry.

BNC Children's Room



Our Children's Room has been full of smiles, curiosity and new friendships as families settle into the new year. The focus has been on creating a strong sense of belonging for every child and family.

We encourage families to come and visit the room and meet our fabulous staff to discuss your needs. Come and see why so many local families love our welcoming,

community-based Children's Room — where every child is valued, and every family belongs.

CHILDCARE (OCCASIONAL CARE)

Occasional Care is an affordable alternative to long day care centres or family day care. It provides professional childcare in a purpose-built space within a nurturing, community-based environment.

Our Children's Room has a warm and caring atmosphere, with qualified, experienced staff providing a wide range of engaging activities within a fully licensed childcare service. CCS is available for eligible families to reduce their out-of-pocket costs.

Sessions are thoughtfully planned and run in small groups, allowing siblings to stay together and enjoy the familiarity and comfort of our long-term, caring staff.

Our experienced team ensures children have the time and space they need to settle into the Centre and explore at their own pace while getting to know each child — their interests, strengths, personalities, and what helps them feel safe and confident.

We understand that starting (or returning to) childcare can be a big transition. Our nurturing environment supports children as they develop independence, confidence, and a strong sense of community.

PLAYGROUP

Our Tuesday Playgroups with Alicia are very popular, running two sessions each week during school terms. The 9:00am session currently has a waiting list and the 11:30am session can accommodate an immediate start.



Parents and carers stay to participate in the activities Alicia sets up—a great opportunity for children to learn through play and for adults to connect with other local families.

To book, or for more information on any of our programs, get in touch!

[Beaconsfield Neighbourhood Centre](#)

[8-18 O'Neil Road, Beaconsfield](#)

contactus@bncinc.org.au

[Phone: 8768 4400](tel:87684400) [Website: www.bncinc.org.au](http://www.bncinc.org.au)

Art Show- Pink Hill Hotel- Beaconsfield

Calling all Artists and Art Lovers

The Art Show is back in Beaconsfield. **5 Days over the Kings Birthday Weekend in June.**

Friday 5 June, to Monday 8 June 11am to 7pm and Tuesday 9 June 2026 11am - 5pm. General viewing entry is by donation.

Don't miss out on this amazing art show held in the fabulous Pink Hill Hotel Function rooms.

20 Pink Hill Blvd, Beaconsfield.

Once again, we will be displaying all forms of art including painting, watercolour, drawing, sculpture, textile, mixed media, digital, youth and wearable art.

This year's special category is 'Thinking Outside the Square'. Artists can interpret this literally or metaphorically and pieces can be 2D or 3D in any Medium.

Artists wishing to apply do so via our website until 16 May 2026

www.artshowpakenham.com.au

Prize money totals \$7,200 and we will have two 'Best in Show' again; one for traditional art the other for modern art. 33 prizes are up for grabs.

The committee is also looking for volunteers to get on board. We welcome new members to bring fresh ideas, and we need volunteers to help with set up and pack down of the art show. Please register by emailing; artshowpakenham@gmail.com

The Opening Night will be held on Thursday 4 June 2026 from 7pm. The night includes supper, the amazing Wearable Art Parade and announcement of winners. Drinks can be purchased at the bar.

Tickets to Opening Night are \$20 available at:

<https://www.trybooking.com/DKCKI>



Limited door sales are available.

Purchase a glass of bubbly or stop for a meal or coffee and spend a pleasant time soaking up the culture.

Keep up to date on our Facebook page.

Art pictured: Lorica Plumata by David Cox

A Fond Farewell and a Warm Beaconsfield Welcome

After 15 wonderful years at the Beaconsfield Post Office, Liang and his wife Wei have decided it's time for a well earned break and a brand new adventure. They've always greeted everyone with warmth and efficiency, and their contribution to our community has been truly appreciated.

We're now delighted to welcome the new owners, Shaila and Ketan, along with their two children. Coming from hospital and health care backgrounds, they bring a caring, people focused approach that's already shining through. Early feedback has been glowing — friendly faces, great service, and a genuine eagerness to become part of the Beaconsfield community.

We wish Liang and Wei all the very best, and we warmly welcome Shaila and Ketan as they settle in and make Beaconsfield their new home.

Pictured opposite: Shaila and Ketan Goswami, the new owners of the Beaconsfield Post Office.

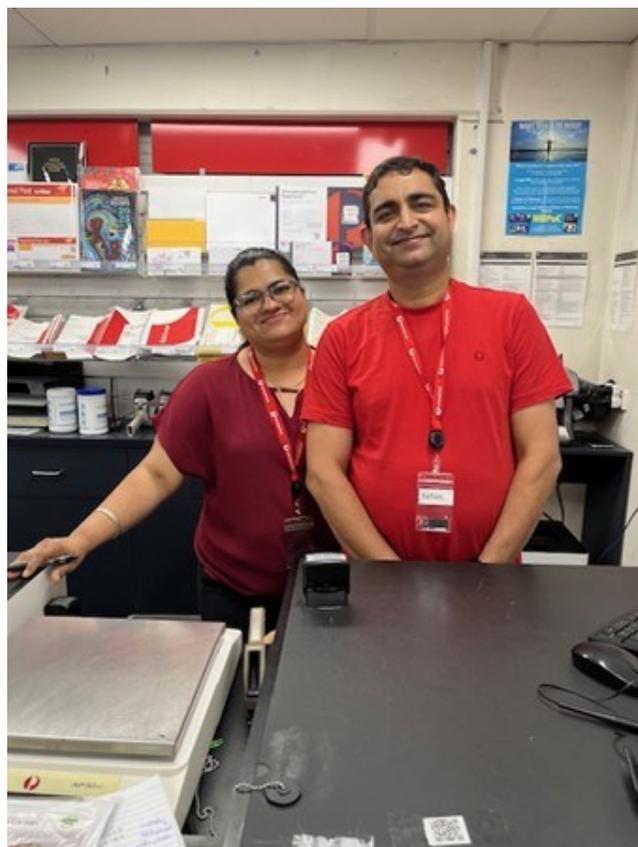


Photo by: Suzanne Brewer

Community Rallies to Protect Beaconsfield Reservoir

Residents are stepping up their campaign to stop Melbourne Water's *Beaconsfield Dam Upgrade Project*, arguing it will strip the reservoir of its firefighting value, destroy a historic landmark, and reduce a treasured bushland reserve to a shallow pond. The project would drain the reservoir from 525 megalitres to just 90, leaving *"only one-sixth of the former capacity"* and removing its ability to support CFA helicopter operations during major bushfires.

Locals say the reservoir's location makes it the most effective aerial water source between Upper Beaconsfield and the Princes Highway, an area packed with vulnerable homes and businesses. *"Beaconsfield Reservoir is best situated to be used by CFA helicopters to control bush fires..."* the document notes, highlighting years of CFA practice flights there.

Community leaders also question Melbourne Water's shifting explanations for alleged wall instability—first overtopping, then leakage, then

earthquake risk—none of which, they say, have been backed by evidence. *"One year later, Melbourne Water changed its claim once again... but provided NO VISIBLE PROOF."*

Built between 1912 and 1918 to supply the Westernport Naval Base, the reservoir is regarded as a significant heritage site. A 2019 community vote strongly supported a full safety upgrade rather than partial decommissioning, yet Melbourne Water proceeded with its preferred option.

Support for preservation continues to grow, with more than 2,250 campaign members and over 4,000 petition signatures calling for the 417 acre reserve to become a public nature park for walking, canoeing, fishing, and conservation. *"Everyone believes that the Historic nature of the reservoir must not be destroyed and should be preserved for future generations."*

For more information, contact : Harry Jensen, President, Save the Beaconsfield Reservoir Action Group

PROJECT TIMELINE

- 2020 - 2024 Initial assessment and planning
- EARLY 2025 Site investigations
- 2025 - 2026 Project approvals
Planning, design and start reintegration works
Cultural heritage assessments
- 2027 Construction starts (pending approvals)
- LATE 2029 Construction finishes and rehabilitation starts
- 2030 Reservoir Park reinstatement

Project assessments
We are working with multiple agencies and departments, including Parks Victoria, the Department of Planning, and the Burnson Land Council Aboriginal Corporation to plan, design and secure approvals for the project. Consultation is essential through the assessment process, and we will keep the community updated as assessments progress.

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Assessment
We are preparing a referral to the Federal Minister for Environment under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act. This is because the project could impact listed species through the removal of native vegetation. The Minister will determine whether the project is a controlled action under federal legislation.

State government assessment
The project will also be assessed under the State Projects Class 52.3 planning pathway - also known as the Ministerial pathway. The state approval pathway will be influenced by the outcomes of the EPBC referral.

Cultural Heritage assessments
Cultural heritage assessments are underway to understand potential impacts of construction and measure potential impacts to the surrounding environment.

MOBILE INFORMATION

If you have any questions, please contact the project team or visit the web page for more information.

1800 955 766
Cardioupgrade@melbournewater.com.au
letstalk.melbournewater.com.au/cardinia-dam-upgrade

Scan the QR code for direct access to the project web page.

To access the TVV and Interceptor Services, TTY 183 877
Interpreting 131 450

CARDINIA DAM UPGRADE

Community Newsletter - February 2026

Melbourne's reservoirs supply the water that sustains our way of life. Melbourne Water is upgrading the dam walls at Cardinia Reservoir to ensure the continued integrity and stability of the dam wall so the reservoir can continue to supply world class drinking water to Melbourne.

What are we doing?
Cardinia Reservoir, Victoria's second largest, is a vital source for the city's south-east. We're upgrading the dam structure that supports the reservoir to keep it safe and resilient, securing Melbourne's water supply for generations to come. We'll be upgrading key features in and around the dam including:

- Raising sections of the dam walls
- Upgrading the filters inside the dam walls
- Improving sewage monitoring and collection
- Installing new security fencing along the crest wall of the main dam
- Upgrading access roads
- Surrounding park amenity improvements

 As we prepare for these works, we have lowered the water level in Cardinia Reservoir by 4 metres.

Once these necessary upgrades are complete, we will restore the reservoir to full capacity.

Why are these works necessary?
Cardinia Reservoir was built in the early 1970's to the highest standards of the day. This upgrade will make the dam compatible with the latest industry standards, that have improved over time. Proactive management of our reservoirs is one of Melbourne Water's most important responsibilities and is essential to maintaining a reliable water supply for everyone.

Cardinia Reservoir Park and access roads will be closed throughout construction for public safety.

Park closure timeline

- JANUARY 2027 Park closure / Construction starts
- 2029 Construction complete
- 2030 Park reopens

Cardinia Dam Upgrade

PROJECT IMPACTS

Managing community impacts
Upgrading the dam will require large machinery and trucks to access the construction site. For public safety, we will need to close Cardinia Reservoir Park and its access road for three years, while construction is underway. This includes all carparks, roads, walking trails and recreational areas. We know that community access to green spaces is important. Alternative parks you can visit include Aura Vale Park, Emerald Park and Yesterfield Lake Park. Once the dam upgrades are nearing completion, we plan to reinstate the park. The new park will be designed in consultation with local community members and stakeholders.

OUR COMMUNITY

Get involved
Engagement with the community is a crucial part of major works. We are working with key stakeholders and will be engaging with local communities impacted by the project through drop-in sessions, park signage, newsletters, notifications, and social media updates. We'll publish engagement opportunities on our Let's Talk page, including opportunities to provide your feedback about the new park design.

February 2026

PROJECT AREA

VEGETATION

Vegetation removal
To allow access and create space for dam improvements, we will be removing areas of native vegetation surrounding the dam site.

- Up to 15 hectares will be removed for the expansion of the dam wall footprint and new permanent dam infrastructure.
- Up to 6.5 hectares will be cleared to provide access to the dams to complete the works and for the laydown of machinery and materials.
- Approximately 3 hectares of giant pine scale infested pine trees will also be removed as part of this project.

It is always our preference to avoid native vegetation removal wherever possible. Our avoidance approach has involved both reducing the number of trees to be removed and avoiding areas of high ecological value. We are working alongside the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action, and other relevant agencies and experts to ensure native wildlife and biodiversity are protected during this process. We are currently revegetating other areas of the park, including planting 5ha of carbon forest and 40ha of vegetation around the parklands. We will consider other opportunities for revegetation following construction.

Cardinia Reservoir will continue to service Melbourne throughout the dam upgrade construction.

What is a carbon forest?
Carbon forests are planted specifically absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and play an important role in reducing emissions and mitigating climate change.



The Beaconsfield Football Club 2026 season is well under way having commenced with a big pre-season starting back in November and with lots of enthusi-

asm & plenty of youngsters coming through the ranks. Off field our senior committee under the leadership of new president Emma Fergusson are working hard but would certainly welcome more volunteers to help out on matchdays. Three practice matches were played at Holm Park with excellent local support as well as Richmond's VFL team playing their first match of the season at Holm Park on 21st March. On the coaching front, a well known local in Scott Kerr takes over as senior coach, with Darren Hamilton as his assistant. Both have previously been involved at Beaconsfield FC as well as the Superrules club. Matty Wilson has stepped into the Development coaching role while Mark Winterton is U/19.5's coach and Glen Davies continues as Women's coach after an impressive debut season in charge.

The season fixtures are attached for both our Men's & Women's teams – the Men first home game vs North Ringwood is on Sat 11th April and the Women start with, away game vs Blackburn on Sat 18th April. All locals are very welcome to come along to Thursday evening meals upstairs in our Social Rooms, get to mix with the players and learn team selections. Our Annual Past Players & Official Luncheon gathering will be a Bless "em All" day to be held on Sat. 27th June when we play Boronia. Sponsorship is a crucial ingredient in operating our football club and a great way for local business to get involved & also gain exposure to a large local community organisation. For more information, please contact our Sponsorship Manager, Nat Niezgodka on 0455 888 956. Membership tickets are another great way to support the club and enjoy Saturdays at our great facilities at Holm Park Reserve and are great value at \$60 (\$40 concession). Memberships are available at the ground on training nights or contact Kym Ingram on 0425 205 044. 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 2026, whether it's with the Juniors or Senior's, it is great place to form life long connections and friendships.

BEACONSFIELD F.C. FIXTURES FOR 2026 SEASON -

MEN

R1: SATURDAY 11TH APRIL VS. NORTH RINGWOOD (HOME)	RD10: SATURDAY 20TH JUNE VS. NORTH RINGWOOD (AWAY)
RD2: SATURDAY 18TH APRIL VS. BORONIA (AWAY)	RD11: SATURDAY 27TH JUNE VS. BORONIA (HOME)
RD3: SATURDAY 25TH APRIL (ANZAC DAY) VS. WANTIRNA SOUTH (HOME)	RD12: SATURDAY 4TH JULY VS. WANTIRNA SOUTH (AWAY)
RD4: SATURDAY 2ND MAY VS. PARK ORCHARDS (HOME)	RD13: SATURDAY 11TH JULY VS. PARK ORCHARDS (AWAY)
RD5: SATURDAY 9TH MAY VS. MOOROOLBARK (AWAY)	RD14: SATURDAY 18TH JULY VS. MOOROOLBARK (HOME)
RD6: SATURDAY 16TH MAY VS. BAYSWATER (AWAY)	RD15: SATURDAY 25TH JULY VS. BAYSWATER (HOME)
RD7: SATURDAY 23RD MAY VS. MITCHAM (HOME)	RD16: SATURDAY 1ST AUGUST VS. MITCHAM (AWAY)
RD8: SATURDAY 30TH MAY VS. NORWOOD (HOME)	RD17: SATURDAY 8TH AUGUST VS. NORWOOD (AWAY)
SATURDAY 6TH JUNE - BYE	RD18: SATURDAY 15TH AUGUST VS. MONTROSE (HOME)
RD9: SATURDAY 13TH JUNE VS. MONTROSE (AWAY)	

WOMEN

R1: SATURDAY 18TH APRIL VS. BLACKBURN (AWAY)	RD8: SATURDAY 13TH JUNE VS. BLACKBURN (HOME)
RD2: SATURDAY 25TH APRIL (ANZAC DAY) VS. KILSYTH (HOME)	RD9: SATURDAY 20TH JUNE VS. KILSYTH (AWAY)
RD3: SATURDAY 2ND MAY VS. HEATHMONT (AWAY)	RD10: SATURDAY 27TH JUNE VS. HEATHMONT (HOME)
RD4: SATURDAY 9TH MAY VS. MONTROSE (AWAY)	SATURDAY 4TH JULY - NO GAME
RD5: SATURDAY 16TH MAY VS. PARK ORCHARDS (HOME)	SATURDAY 11TH JULY - NO GAME
RD6: SATURDAY 23RD MAY VS. ROWVILLE (HOME)	RD11: SATURDAY 18TH JULY VS. MONTROSE (HOME)
RD7: SATURDAY 30TH MAY VS. WAVERLEY BLUES (HOME)	RD12: SATURDAY 25TH JULY VS. PARK ORCHARDS (AWAY)
SATURDAY 6TH JUNE - NO GAME	RD13: SATURDAY 1ST AUGUST VS. ROWVILLE (AWAY)
	RD14: SATURDAY 8TH AUGUST VS. WAVERLEY BLUES (AWAY)



Beaconsfield Tennis Club: Honouring a Life, Celebrating Renewal, and Welcoming an Exciting Year Ahead

The Beaconsfield Tennis Club community has entered 2026 with a mix of reflection, gratitude, and renewed energy as we honour a much loved volunteer, unveil refreshed club facilities, and launch new programs for our members.

Remembering Barry Palmer

Our club was deeply saddened by the recent passing of **Barry Palmer**, who served as the BDTA Score Secretary for more than a decade. Barry was a familiar and friendly face around the courts, especially on Sunday mornings when he joined our local Veterans for a hit. His dedication, warmth, and quiet reliability made him a treasured part of our tennis family. Barry will be greatly missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing him.

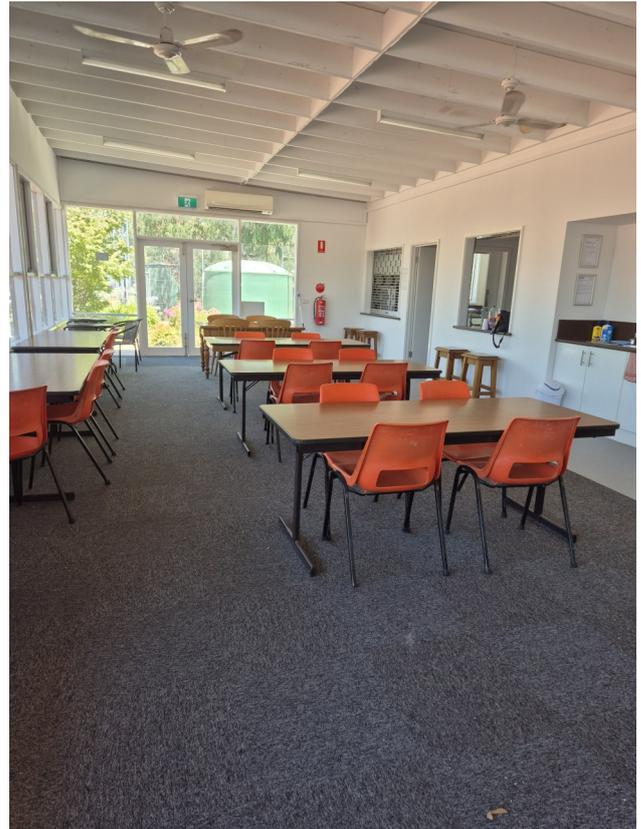
Clubhouse Renovations Bring New Life to the Heart of the Club

Over the Christmas break, our clubrooms received a much anticipated refresh, and we are incredibly proud to share the results with our members. The space now boasts a bright, modern feel, complete with a **brand new TV** and **beautifully updated flooring**. Our flags and honour boards will soon return to the walls, completing the transformation.

This upgrade was made possible thanks to the generosity and hard work of several valued supporters.

A heartfelt thankyou goes to our sponsor, **Tee Sohail from Harcourts Berwick**, who organised **4A Design Painting** to repaint the entire interior over Christmas. Their work has given the clubhouse a clean, fresh atmosphere that truly lifts the space.

We also extend a big shout out to our very own members, **Carmen Bailey and her husband, Ash**, along with **Floorway Trading Pakenham**, who



supplied and installed the stunning new flooring. Their contribution has made an enormous difference to the look and feel of the clubrooms.

The clubhouse now feels welcoming, modern, and ready for a fantastic year of tennis and community connection. We encourage all members to pop in, take a look, and enjoy the refreshed environment.

New Thursday Night Social Tennis

We are excited to introduce **Thursday Night Social Tennis**—a relaxed, no pressure evening designed for anyone who simply wants to turn up and enjoy a friendly hit.

- **Members:** \$5 per night
- **Non members (new price):** \$10 per night

It's a great way to stay active, meet new people, and enjoy the game in a welcoming environment.

A New Gate and Lighting System for Easier Access

Another exciting development is the installation of our new gate system, now fully connected to **Book a Court** and the court lighting. This improvement was made possible through the generous support of **Bendigo Bank Beaconsfield**, who assisted with funding the lighting connection.

Members and non members can now enjoy evening tennis with ease—an especially welcome option as we head into the cooler winter months.

Celebrating an Australia Day Honour

We are delighted to share that **Bronwyn**, our current President, received an **Australia Day Award** this year. This honour came thanks to the thoughtful nomination from **Paul at Ossie's Tennis Coaching**, and the award was presented by our local federal MP, **Jason Wood**. It was a proud moment for Bronwyn and a wonderful recognition of her dedication to the club and broader community.



Contact Information:

- General Queries: (03) 88205853
- Email: info@beaconsfieldtennisclubinc.com
- Facebook: Beaconsfield Tennis Club Community
- Mail: P.O. Box 132, Beaconsfield, VICTORIA, 3807
- Coach: Ossie's Tennis Coaching
- Phone: 0413594633
- Email: ossie30@bigpond.net.au

(Pictured below: Lachie and Kai, two BTC junior players selected to be ball kids at this years Australia Open)



Your Representatives

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

MEMBER FOR LA TROBE

Jason Wood MP

Unit 3/16 Langmore Lane

BERWICK Vic 3806

9768 9164

Jason.Wood.MP@aph.gov.au



STATE GOVERNMENT

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Brad.Battin@parliament.vic.gov.au



Legislative Council (Upper House)

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Ann-Marie.Hermans@parliament.vic.gov.au



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MEMBER FOR EASTERN VICTORIA

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5134 8000

Harriet.Shing@parliament.vic.gov.au



CARDINIA SHIRE

Beacon Hills Ward

Mayor, Cr. Brett Owen

B.Owen@cardinia.vic.gov.au



Officer Ward

Cr. Samantha-Jane Potter

S.Potter@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.

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 bimonthly 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 tri-annually. 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 July, 2026.

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 contact us if articles or advertisements do not appear as you intended.

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876digital.media



Cardinia Shire Council

Coffee with Community

Victoria Police, Cardinia Shire Council and the Cardinia Shire Safer Communities Partnership Committee are partnering with Beaconsfield Progress Association to organise 'Coffee with Community and Safe PL8 Day' pop-up event!

Come down for a free coffee and talk to us about how we can all work together to make a safer community. Free anti-theft screws for your motor vehicle will also be available.

Middle Ground Café, Old Princes Hwy, Beaconsfield
Friday 21 August, 10am-12pm

These events are a great opportunity for you to talk to representatives from Victoria Police, Council, and other community safety partners about working together to make a safer community.



This initiative relates to our 'Thriving communities' objective in our 2025-29 Council Plan. Find out more at cardinia.vic.gov.au/councilplan

More information

1300 787 624 | cardinia.vic.gov.au | mail@cardinia.vic.gov.au



Translating and Interpreting Service
131 450 (ask for 1300 787 624)



Staying connected:

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BRAD BATTIN MP

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