

Warrandyte Historical Society

Post Office Box No. 67
Warrandyte, Vic., 3113



NEWSLETTER

"Recording the History of Warrandyte"

NO. 76

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from the
President and Officers of the Society*

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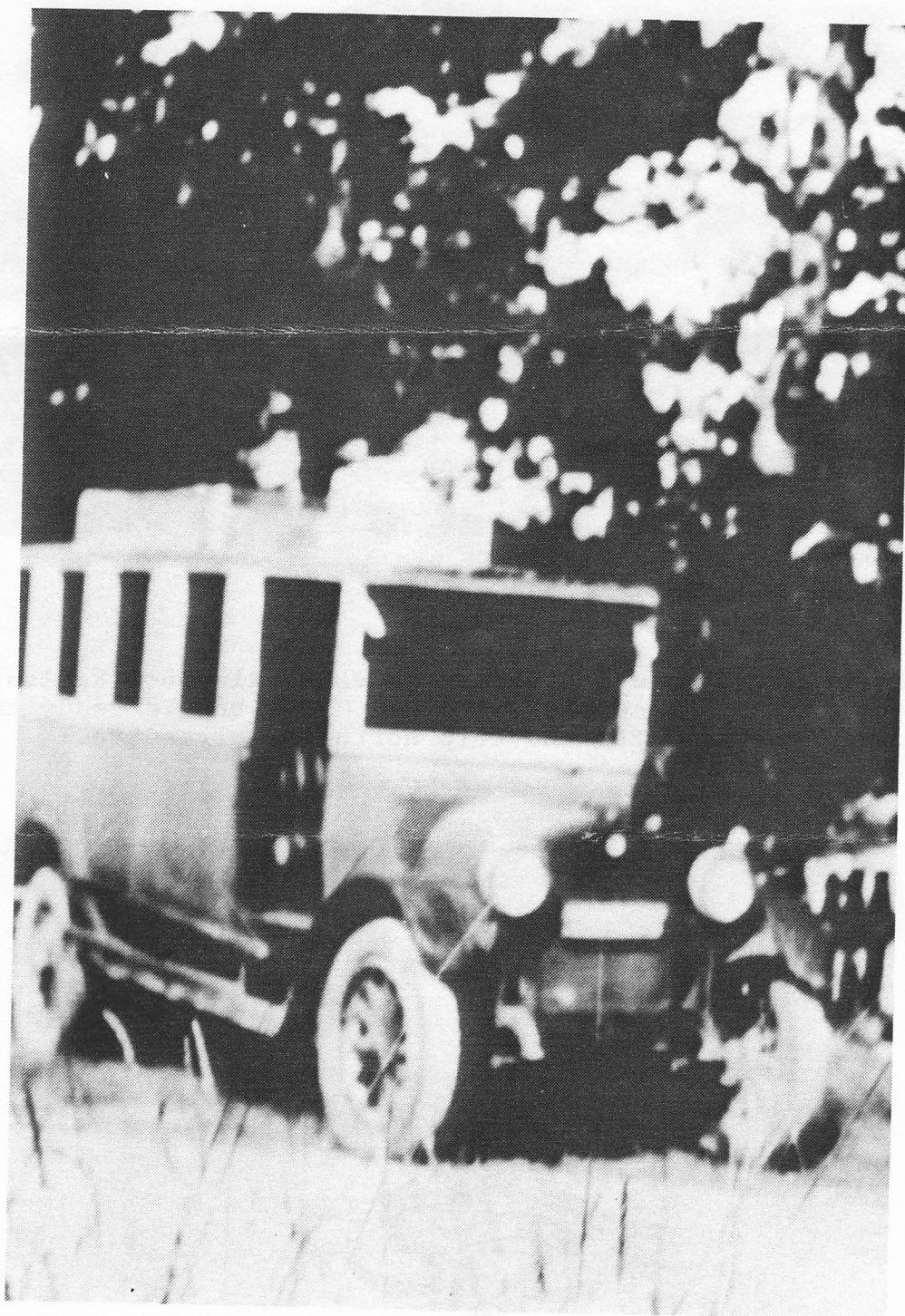
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ARE YOU HAPPY TO BE INCLUDED ON THE MUSEUM ROSTER ?.....
FAMILY \$10 ... SINGLE \$7 ... STUDENT \$0.50 ... PENSIONER \$5 ...

Erle put his age on three years and joined the Army in June 1940 as a gunner. He was commissioned on 23 December 1941 and held the rank of Captain when he left the Army. After the war he continued operating the bus service and slowly expanded it to include various other routes in the Mitcham and Doncaster areas. At his peak, he operated about ten buses. Erle sold his service to Percy Withers sometime in the 1950's.



The first motor bus used on the Ringwood to Warrandyte run was the Federal bus shown above. Erle Stewart bought this bus just after the Depression and later sold it again. The above photo shows the bus just prior to being taken away - the date and location are unknown.

BRACKENBURY STREET

This series was started by our former editor, Dianne Baird. The streets of Warrandyte are interesting as most of the names derive from the early days of settlement and commemorate families or facets of our history.

This issue we look at Brackenbury Street. This street has taken a lot of work and research which has not been helped by the date on the survey being illegible. It took four trips to the Latrobe Library to find when the section which originally gave access onto the bridge was officially closed.

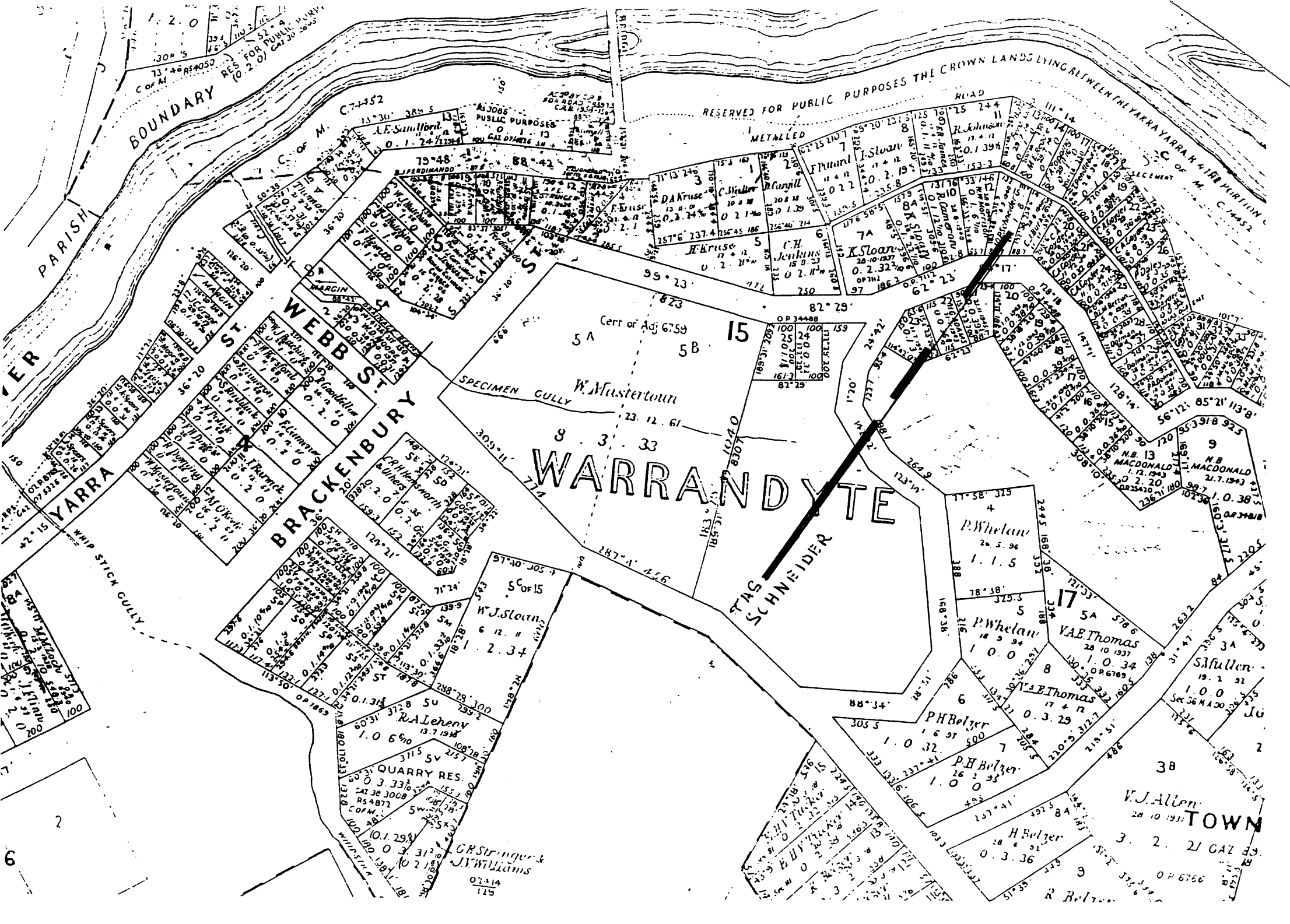
Brackenbury Street was named after Charles Brackenbury who was the first gold warden in the area. The 1856 map of the town of Warrandyte shows his tent on what is now 75 Yarra Street. Charles Brackenbury was often in trouble with his employer and was dismissed from a number of Government jobs, but was promptly appointed or reappointed. He was always popular with the Warrandyte miners. In one instance he sued a Police superintendent for defamation and won.

Although Brackenbury Street was surveyed and shown on the map of Warrandyte for 1856, it is still not possible to travel its length as it has never been made across any of the numerous gullies that cross it. Even today it still has five separate sections, one of them still unmade.

Brackenbury Street at one time used to connect with Yarra Street opposite to the bridge on the maps. This section was closed in 1935 and is part of the land which now contains the War Memorial.

The section of the street between Mitchell Avenue and Mullens Road was made when Tas Schnider bought Lot 15. He dug the road out by hand and it was tailor-made to take his Harley Davidson and sidecar. The track then stopped at his block.

The section of road between Forbes and Anderson Streets was fenced off and Jack Stewart grazed his horses on the Anderson Street end while Dr Adelaide Gault grazed hers on the section at the Forbes Street end. The road did not exist when Bruce and Wilma Bence bought the block at 53 Brackenbury Street and they put the culvert in at the Forbes Street end and improved the road with pick and shovel as the Council was not prepared to do anything. Getting building material to the site was a problem as the drivers would not come back for a second trip. Fortunately the local carrier, Jim Schubert, was always prepared to deliver as he would drive down through Dr Gault's onto Yarra Street. There were no other houses in this section of the road at that time. When Dr Gault sold a block of land to her brother, the Council graded and formed the road into their property and they started building at 59 Brackenbury Street in 1961.



EXTRACTS FROM *The Evelyn Observer*

15 January 1897

Eugene Holloway, aged 17 years, was employed at the Victory Company's mine which was owned by his stepfather, Mr McGill. Eugene and two other boys named Jones and Sabelberg, went into the dam immediately next to the battery.

Holloway, it appears, could not swim and in crossing the dam to get his clothes, slipped into deep water. His companions noticed him striking the water and saw him sink. Information was given to Mr McGill but it was some twenty minutes before the body was recovered and all efforts by Constable McCormack and others to restore animation proved unavailing.

The young lad was universally respected in the district for his quiet gentlemanly demeanour and his funeral last Saturday afternoon was well attended.

A magisterial enquiry was held at the court house at 8 o'clock on Saturday afternoon by Captain Selby JP when the following evidence was taken:

John McGill (sworn): "I am a mine owner residing in Warrandyte and the deceased was my stepson. At about 5 pm, I came up to the engine room and told him to knock off. The last I saw of him was coming out of the engine room with his clothes under his arm. About half an hour afterwards, Percy Sabelberg came and told me that Eugene had drowned. I went to the dam, but could see nothing and the place where he sank was pointed out to me. I immediately stopped the engine and went for assistance. I saw Messrs Davis and McKay and informed them of the circumstances and further on saw the Davis brothers and asked them to get grappling irons. They immediately proceeded to the claim. I did not return to the claim until about half an hour afterwards when I saw the body on the bank. I had not previously made any endeavours to get it out."

William John Jones and Percy Sabelberg's evidence was simply that they were bathing together when they saw the deceased striking the water and sink, and immediately informed Mr McGill. George and William Davis proved the meeting with McGill and told him that if he went for the grappling irons they would go to the claim and do their best. They both went into the water and with the assistance of some piping, they found the body in ten feet of water.

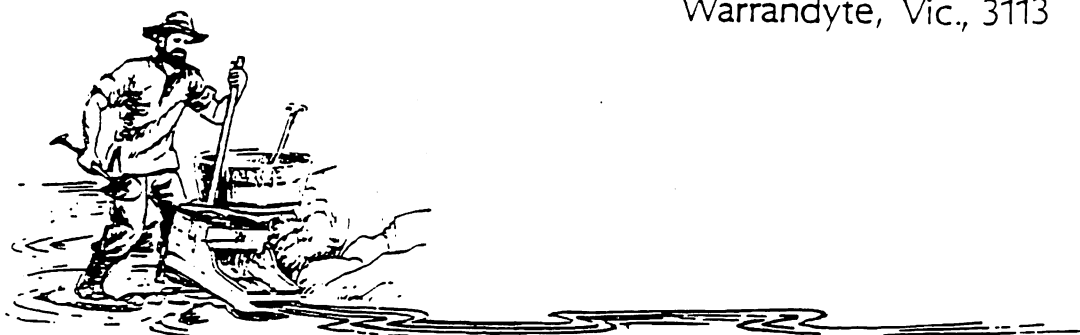
George Davis dived in and recovered the body. Captain Selby designated it a brave act.

As the afternoon was sultry and the water in the dam was many degrees colder than the river water, a verdict of accidental death was recorded.

Constable McCormack, Mr Gromann, Mr Squires and others were on the ground by the time that the body was recovered, and every effort was made to restore animation without avail.

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EARLY HISTORY OF KANGAROO GROUND.

NOTES BY J. BELL, J.P.

(Edited by B. Cozens.)

The following sketch of the early history of Kangaroo Ground was read by Mr. John Bell, son-in-law, at the inaugural meeting of the Progressive Association held in the local hall on Wednesday evening, the 17th ultimo. Mr. Bell with his parents and grandparents are so interwoven with the early doings of this district that he may be regarded as eminently qualified to speak as an authority on such a subject.

Kangaroo Ground consists of a beautiful tract of agricultural land of a hilly nature situated about twenty miles from the Melbourne Post Office. The altitude of some of the hills is 800 feet above sea level. The nature of the soil is volcanic and therefore good for almost any kind of cultivation. From the large flocks of kangaroo that made these hills their rendezvous in the early days. The Kyrle Bros. were amongst the earliest settlers, and to them the credit is generally conceded of having given this district the name by which it is known at the present time.

The earliest settlers were the Donaldsons, whose descendants are still in possession of large areas here. Towards the end of April in 1842 their house was "stuck up" by a gang of bushrangers, four in number, who were reported to have left a lodging-house of ill repute in Little Flinders Street, Melbourne, which was kept by a man named Seymour.

The leader of the gang was an Irishman, John Williams, and his companions' names were Fogarty, Daniel Jepps, and Ellis. Williams and Fogarty had their passages paid to this country by the Government. Jepps had been a ship captain, was educated and well connected. Ellis was a mere youth of 19 years. He had emigrated from Surrey to Sydney, and had travelled overland to Melbourne.

These four men started on a career of robbery in the Dandenong district, then crossed the Yarra near its junction with the Plenty and made for Kangaroo Ground. They visited Mr. Donaldson's house, which was then situated close to the boundary of the farm now in the occupation of Mr. F. Smith. Amongst the things taken by them was a cap made out of the skin of a native cat, which was worn by Fogarty when he was executed about two months afterwards. The gang then turned their course towards Greensborough, where they were captured by a band of civilians who, on learning that the bushrangers were in that district, mounted horses, armed themselves and set out in hot pursuit. They came up with the gang at a station occupied by a man named Campbell Hunter, where they were enjoying themselves at breakfast. With the exchange of many shots on both sides, the leader fell mortally wounded. Then after a parley, in which old Jack Ewart, or "Happy Jack," as he was familiarly called, played an active part, the gang surrendered and were taken to Melbourne by their captors, whose names were Peter Snodgrass, James Thompson, Chamberlain, Henry Fowler, and Oliver Gourlay. Fogarty, Jepps and Ellis were tried, sentenced to death, and hanged publicly near where the Melbourne Gaol now stands.

Another early settler was James Brown, who depastured a flock of sheep near where James Walters now resides. Then came Messrs. Ellis and Johnston, who lived and died here, and were both well known. Other names that were linked with the pioneers were Sam Deacon, who lived on James Donaldson's farm, Messrs. Chapman and Barry, who occupied a portion of Mr. Woodley's farm, on which Mr. Chapman buried several children.

The Furphys also resided on the north-east corner of Mr. Woodley's farm, which was then known as the "Anta Nest," and followed the occupation of bootmakers. Mr. Stevenson was at this time on Christmas Hills, but later on took up his residence on Kangaroo Ground, where he is still located. As far as my recollection will serve me and from information I have gleaned in past years from the earliest settlers, Mr. Donaldson was the first man who resided on his own land. The spot where Mr. A. White now lives was originally purchased by my grandfather from Mr. Donaldson in the year 1843. Another portion was sold to Mr. Thomas Armstrong, who, after taking up residence there for a time, moved to the Yarra Flats.

One of the most important events in the early history of Kangaroo Ground was the purchase of land from the Sydney Government. It took place about 1848 or 1849. The persons to whom various blocks of land were sold were Messrs. John Bell, Thomas Bell, John Donaldson, Barr, Rogerson, T. Armstrong, John Jardine, Andrew Harkness, Alexander Thompson, James Johnston, J. Stevenson, John Thompson, and James Walters, senr. These pioneers set to work at once, clearing the ground and preparing it for cultivation. Wheat growing was the principal industry and it became very remunerative, especially after the gold-digging started in 1851. Subsequently, oat growing was tried and it proved a great success. Not only did the soil yield largely, but high prices ruled. As much as £1, and more, per bushel could be obtained in those days for oats. Of course, it must not be forgotten as a set off against this that the cost of living and cartage was a big item of expenditure. Bullock teams were used largely in those days for drawing the heavy rigs together in clearing the land and for ploughing. Horses were then hard to obtain. The ploughs in use at that period were the old-fashioned ones with wooden beams. Harrows had wooden frames. At harvest time the only means of cutting the crop was by the old-fashioned sickle, or reaping-hook as it was sometimes called, and it cost the farmer about £1 per acre to get the crop out. Two grain was threshed out by the flail. In the slack part of the year, the farmers did carrying to the diggings. The principal gold-fields at the time were Bendigo, Ballarat, Castlemaine, and Boochworth. Amongst the topics of special interest for conversation when the farmers would meet socially in the evenings was bullocks. The good old faithful working bullock was their ministry. Naturally he was a valuable asset. Indeed to the bullock much is due in the development of Australia's primary industries. As much as £20 per head was paid for these animals, and they were frequently considered cheap at that price. The land set apart for cultivation was only partially cleared at first, as the great thing was to get the plough going and produce something. It was the gradual work of many years before the paddocks were brought up to the cleared condition in which we see them to-day. The farmers worked late and early, grubbing and burning off, putting the fires together the last thing at night and the first thing in the morning. A fair estimate of the cost of clearing the land thoroughly would be about £10 per acre.

In the year 1853 Messrs. T. Bell and J. Rogerson sailed for Scotland, and were instrumental in importing a number of ploughs and harrows, as well as horse-power threshing machines. Some of the latter are being used on the Ground to this day. In due time the scythe and cradle superseded the sickle in the cutting of the crops. It was not until the seventies that the farmers had the benefit of the back-deliveries. These machines were a great boon to the man who had had to use the sickle and scythe. With the march of events, seed sowing by hand,

a tedious work, gave place to seed drills; whilst the sickle, scythe, cradle and back-deliverer receded into obscurity as the inventive genius of man heralded the advent of the reaper and binder.

JULY 1911

NOTES BY J. BELL, J.P.

(Edited by B. Cozens.)

(Continued from a previous issue of the Observer.)

The dairying industry has never been a leading feature of Kangaroo Ground's productivity. There have been, and are various reasons for this. The volcanic soil, or what is generally known as the black soil, is more remunerative for hay and grain growing than for using it as grass land for purposes of dairying only; whilst the lighter or poorer quality of soil that tapers away from the volcanic patch does not produce grass of a sufficiently succulent nature, so essential for the production of milk.

An interesting period in the history of this locality was that in which the school was established. About 1851-52 a school was started by Mr. Andrew Ross, who was the first teacher of the Scotch school in Melbourne, now known as the Scotch college. Those were the days when committees were formed to look after the interests of the schools; and the parents had to pay fees for their children's education.

Mr. Ross was enterprising enough, later on to open a Board school, and he frequently had more than a dozen boarders. In addition to his Board school, he worked a piece of land for the purpose of teaching farming; and engaged a competent man to instruct the scholars in the tilling of the soil. Experiments proved that sugar cane could be successfully grown, but this industry for a variety of reasons was never followed up. The school was conducted in a building situated just above where the Presbyterian Church now stands. In due time Mr. Ross retired from school life, and returned to England to end his days. He displayed not only proficiency as a teacher, but excellent qualities as a man, and will always be held in affectionate remembrance by his old scholars.

As is well-known, there has only been one church organisation at Kangaroo Ground during all these years, and that is of the Presbyterian persuasion. Why the Presbyterian Church alone has been responsible for publicly expressing orthodox religion, is a matter for conjecture. Possibly some mysterious atmospheric influence has rendered denominational competition impossible. The first minister to conduct religious services, which were held in Mr. Donaldson's barn, was a Mr. Smith, who afterwards took up work in the Western district, where he met with a tragic death, by being drowned in a flooded river. The Rev. David Boyd was the first "settled" minister. He officiated also at Heidelberg. Succeeding Mr. Boyd came the Revs. A. Mackie, Duncan Fraser, and John Darroch. After Mr. Darroch's time Kangaroo Ground became a Mission Station, and has ever since been supplied by students from Ormond college.

The Eltham Road Board was formed in the year 1856; and Kangaroo Ground was made a part of the district under its jurisdiction. The men who comprised the first membership of that Board were Messrs. Henry Stroke (Chairman), Alfred Armstrong, Thomas Armstrong, John Barr, and John Bell. Later on our present member for Evelyn, the Hon. E. H. Cameron, M.L.A., became a member of the Board.

On the formation of Eltham as a municipality, Mr. Cameron was elected with the first batch of councillors, and has retained his seat on the Council continuously ever since. In fact he is the only person living of the original Eltham Road Board.

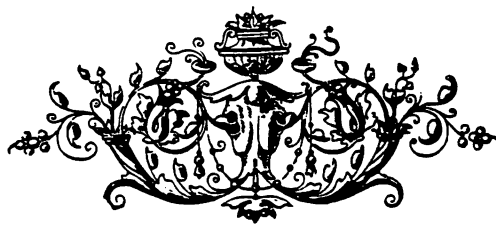
The late Mr. Wingrove was a name always held in honour and respect. For over 45 years he was the joint possessor of Secretary and Engineer to the Eltham Council.

The roads in our district at that time in the early days were almost impassable. The night of heavy drays being bogged in the sticky mud soil was a common one. Once an unfortunate working bullock was stuck for days in a mud patch out far from where the State school now stands. Under Mr. Wingrove's supervision the roads in and around Kangaroo Ground were formed and metalled. Mr. Wingrove found them amongst the worst in Victoria, and completely transformed them. They are the pride of the local residents, and the admiration of strangers. They are a monument to the fine capabilities and sterling worth of Mr. Wingrove. The cost of making these roads was, of course, very heavy, but the benefits derived amply compensated for the outlay.

In these days it might be thought by some that the health-giving properties of Kangaroo Ground would render unnecessary the existence of a burying place, but, alas! such has proved not to be the case. Humanity has to submit to the same processes of life and death here as any other part of the globe. Hence the existence of our necropolis situated in that locality known as "Stevenson's Corner." The ground was originally unfenced. As far back as 1851 there is a record of the burial of Judith Purphey, a daughter of the Furphys referred to in the previous edition of these notes. Prior to 1858 several burials took place, but in that year, on the 26th of July, at a meeting of the trustees, Mr. Ross was requested to apply to the Government for a grant of £150 in order to fence and clear the land. This sum of money was obtained in July, 1859. The clearing cost £10, and £85 was expended on the erection of a fence. The first persons elected trustees of the cemetery were Messrs. Jardine, Harkness, Soarce, Wippell, O'Callaghan and Sweeney. Mr. Soarce is still a trustee, and the only survivor of the above-named gentlemen. According to the records, up to date, about 260 persons have been deposited in this their last resting place. Early in the 70's the Evelyn Observer Newspaper Co. was established, Mr. Rossier being the first editor, but after being carried on for a few years as a company, the business was purchased by Mr. Harris, the present proprietor and editor. In the early days the printing and publishing was conducted in the old school residence, then situated on the Church ground. Upwards of 32 years ago, Mr. Donaldson erected the building which is now known as the Observer office. Another notable structure about this period was the Presbyterian Church, the late Mr. Maplestone being the architect, and Mr. Bell as contractor. This sacred edifice was duly opened by the Rev. A. D. Kinninmont on June 9th, 1878. Of all the original land holders in this district in 1850 only one man is left, viz., James Walters, who came here in the vigor of youth in 1849. Henry Soarce also arrived in Kangaroo Ground in the same year, but did not purchase any land for several years afterwards. It is to be hoped these brief notes may be of some interest to those who peruse them, and at the same time serve to commemorate the deeds of our worthy pioneers.

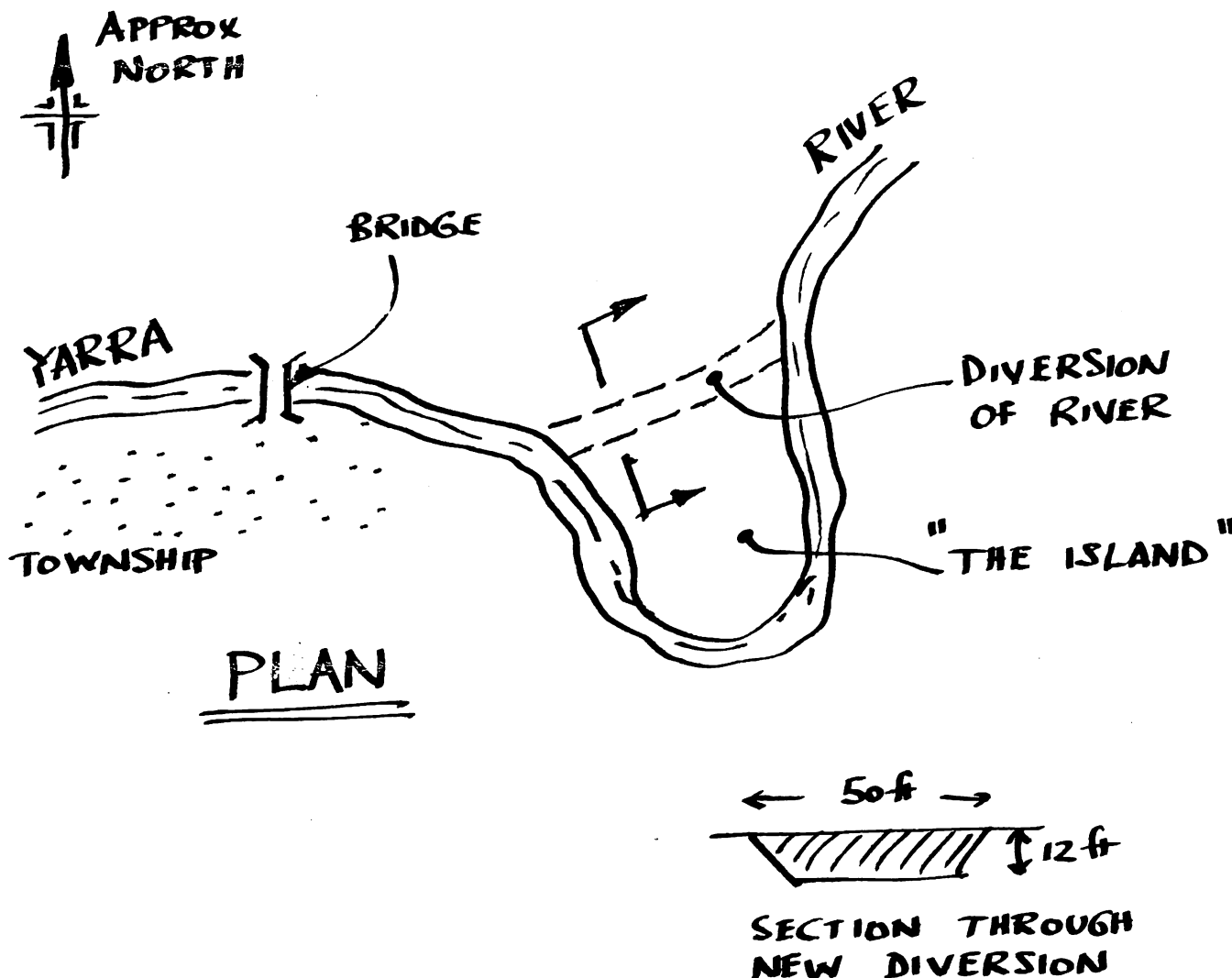
To prevent the action of the water exercising more than a maximum of power on the whole construction, this face or "walling" of the dam is inclined at an angle of about forty-five degrees up stream.

When this part of the work has been completed, it will be backed up with bags of sand, something like a thousand of which will be required in the work. This, it is believed, will render the work almost water-tight and enable the permanent dam, which will be formed of logs of timber built in, to be constructed, and the gold seeking part of the company's undertaking to be prosecuted.



YARRA YARRA MINING COMPANY

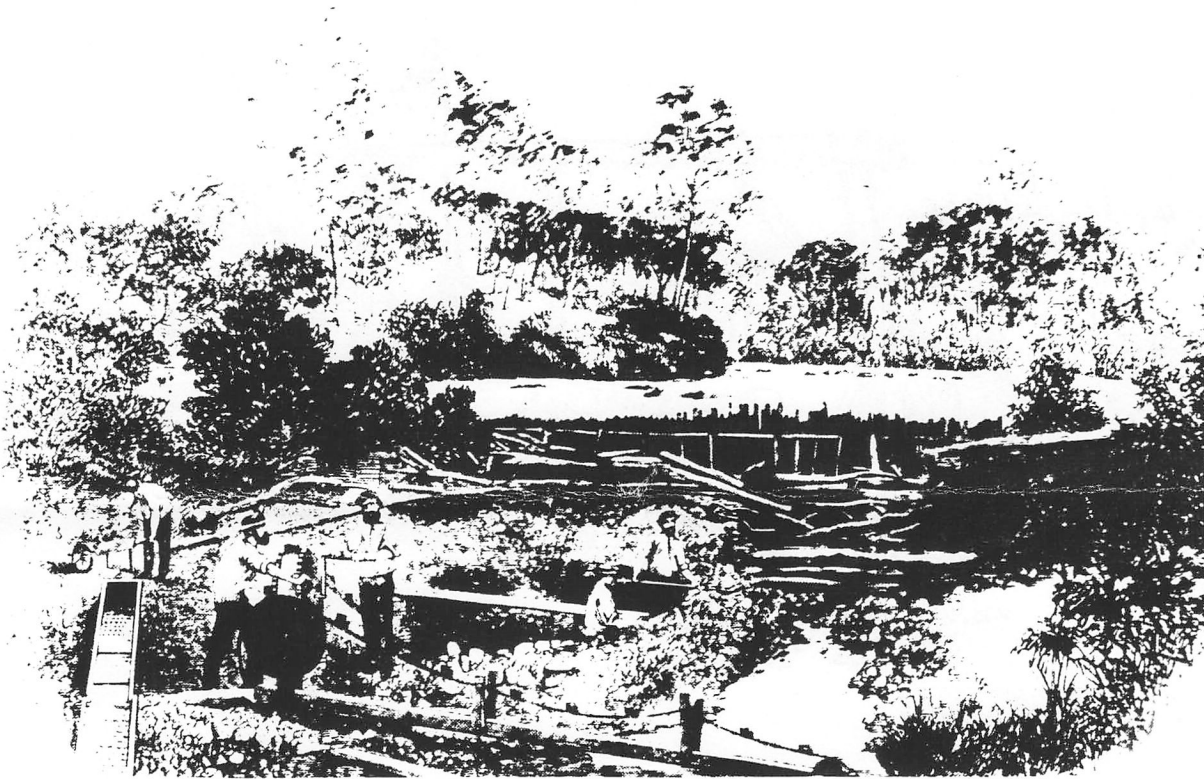
In May 1859 Messrs Clark and Brown (Bourne?) commenced the construction of a diversion of the Yarra River at Thompson's Creek. The diversion was constructed to allow alluvial mining in the stream bed of the section of river exposed by the new course.



The estimated cost of the whole of the undertaking was £700. When commenced in May the works employed about 25 men but by June work was forced to cease due to flooding in the Yarra. The men were employed sinking shafts on the nearby river banks to ascertain what sort of materials were likely to be encountered.

The work was recommenced in September 1859 and about 30 men were employed there. In November the work is listed as being carried out by the Yarra Yarra Gold Mining Company and that they were employing 58 men.

By February 1860 the company name had changed to the Yarra Yarra Sluicing Company and the upper dam and the cut to divert the river had been completed. The site was being prepared for pumping machinery,



An illustration showing the diversion at Thompson's Bend which was prepared by an itinerant artist of the time Mr C Walters.

DR OWEN'S PATENTED PUDDLING MACHINE

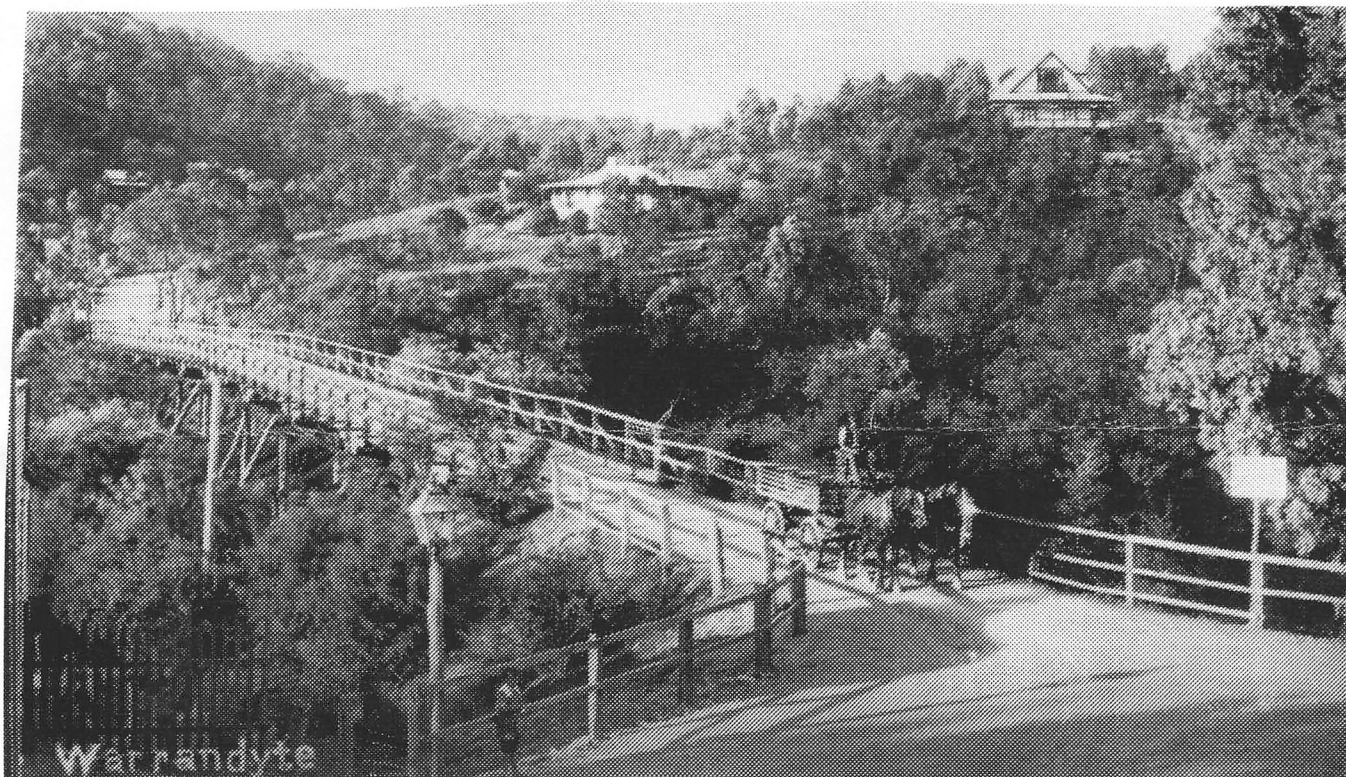
In May 1859 Dr Owens applied under Rule 25 of the By-Laws for an extended claim of 3 acres at Whipstick Gully. The purpose of the claim was to erect one of his recently patented puddling machines. By June 1859 he had all of his machinery and plant on the ground ready to start working his claim. The machinery consisted of one of his patented puddling machines and a portable steam engine of 4 or 6 horse power.

The Mining Surveyor reported in September that "Dr Owens has been for some time working his new patent puddling machine, which is very successful as to its puddling capabilities, and very efficient for saving the gold."

The machine must have been successful for in January 1860 he installed a larger version which included a number of improvements. The larger machine could handle 140 loads of washing stuff a day which was a vast improvement on the smaller version. By April the machinery had been tested sufficiently for the Mining Surveyor to note:

"It is able to puddle a cubic yard of tough clay every two minutes leaving the stones and gravel perfectly clean owing to the peculiar construction of the machinery itself. I have no doubt that it saves all the gold."

FROM THE ARCHIVES



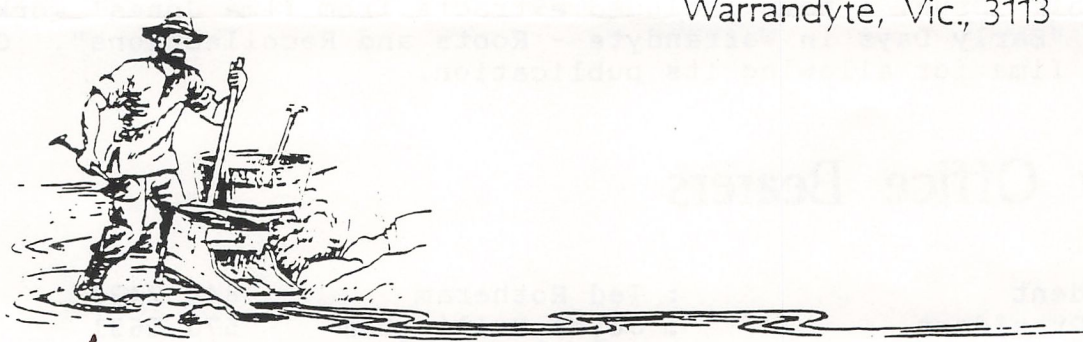
This photo of the bridge over the Yarra is believed to have been taken around 1906. It is interesting to note that the house on the hill in the left background is still there having survived the ravages of time and bushfires. Also, in the foreground, is one of the petrol-operated street lamps.



The photo above was taken in the 1950's and shows the single lane timber bridge. Of interest are the Bridge Cafe to the left, the car outside the cafe parked in what was the taxi rank and the bus timetables in the centre foreground.

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Sat 19th Feb 1927

BUSH FIRES AGAIN

Struggle to Save Warrandyte

Bush fires approaching in severity those of a year ago occurred in many parts of Victoria last week. Three persons, a father and two sons, were burned to death in a fire at Stonyford, about 12 miles from Camperdown, and numerous people have received severe burns. The damage done to land and other property by the flames is extensive.

The towns of Queenstown, Darra-welt-Gulm, and Warrandyte had narrow escapes from being wiped out. The flames approached to within a few hundred yards before changing direction.

Appeals for reinforcements from the city were broadcast.

Among the fire-fighters who fought the flames between Warrandyte and Kangaroo Ground, was the Governor (Lord Somers), and Captain Brinkman. There were several cases of outstanding heroism and everywhere the women worked as hard as any of the men in an effort to quell the flames.

Brief details of the fires follow.

QUEENSTOWN

A message reached Melbourne at 2.30 p.m. on Friday stating that a bush fire had reached to within 100 yards of the Post Office at Queenstown. An urgent call was sent from Queenstown at 2.40 to the Heidelberg Fire Brigade, stating that if help were not immediately forthcoming the town would be wiped out within an hour. Assistance was rushed from

Warrandyte, Ringwood, and adjoining towns to the fire zone, in an endeavor to stem the onward career of the flames. The fire, which menaced Queenstown, started early on Friday morning, on the property of Mr Marriott, north of Queenstown, and in a very short time, fanned by a high wind, the flames were within 100 yards of the Queenstown post office. In spite of the fire-fighters' efforts, the fire continually broke away, and on the Smith's Gully road became entirely out of hand. After destroying several properties, the fire veered around to the north of Pantom Hills township, where a number of outlying homes had narrow escapes. The township of Queenstown was saved by the change of wind.

KANGAROO GROUND

Meanwhile another fierce fire was burning at Kangaroo Ground. One house was destroyed, and many others were saved after a hard fight. This fire started on Wednesday, February 9, and, after being subdued, broke out again. The fire entered Wonga Park, where it swept through land owned by Mr W. J. Morgan, of Essendon, and destroyed a small house. From that point the fire advanced rapidly towards Croydon, where strenuous efforts on the part of the workers prevented disaster. Two hundred and fifty sheep had narrow escapes, but were rescued after a few had been burned.

WARRANDYTE

A change in the direction of the wind, and the efforts of thousands of fire-fighters, saved the township of Warrandyte from destruction. The fires, which broke out on Friday, traversed the country between Queenstown and Warrandyte, and grave fears were entertained for the town's safety. The fire burned to within a mile or so of the town. The position was relieved about 1 p.m. on Saturday by the change of wind. Among the fighters was the Governor (Lord Somers). Interviewed, he said he had heard that the fires were bad, and he thought he should go out and give a hand. "The fire fighters are a wonderful lot of fellows," he said. "They have fought heroically against terrible odds."

Two Men Burned

Two men were caught and severely burned in the fire about a mile and a half from Warrandyte on Saturday morning. Both were rescued, one in a critical condition. They were George Clarke, about 35, of Warrandyte, and an unknown man, who was a volunteer from the railway employees. He was sent to Melbourne. They were caught in a clearing with about 15 other men near a wooden house and garage. Two hundred yards away there was a farmhouse owned and occupied by a family named Higgins. Runners of fire from the main blaze encircled the two houses and trapped the men who were near the garage. An attempt was made to get through the fire in a

car laden with fire-fighters, but after it had gone 400 yards it had to reverse the whole distance to prevent those in it being burned. Blinding smoke swept across the clearing, and when the flames were within 20 yards everyone, except W. Carroll, of Kangaroo Ground, George Clarke, the railway employee, and a representative of The Herald (Curtis Wilson) dashed along the road in the opposite direction towards Kangaroo Ground where they were temporarily safe. They did so George Clarke said. He heard a call for help from the direction of Higgins' farm house. "I'm going over there," he said. "They want me." W. Carroll tried to hold him back but he dashed through the smoke and was lost to sight. Just as he left the railway employee collapsed and W. Carroll, of Kangaroo Ground, lifted him up and with Curtis Wilson dashed through the flames to the rest of the party. When Carroll had almost succeeded in getting through he was dazed by the smoke and fell. Wilson pulled him, and as he did so yelled to the rest of the party, as they dragged Carroll and the railway employee beyond the flames. After about 20 minutes the worst of the fire passed the clearing, and Carroll, Wilson, four others and the cameraman went back to the timber house. While there they heard three calls for help in the direction of Higgins' farm house. Carroll remembered that

Clark had disappeared in that direction, but the flames were still too fierce for anybody to get through alive. After the calls for help had ceased the gravest fear was felt for Clark. There was no chance of getting through along the road towards Higgins' except by making a detour along the back Warrandyte road and approaching Higgins' from the other side.

The journey around the back road was about three miles. Three motor cars, containing the party that was trapped, left to go by this route before the flames reached the track and made it impossible. But just as motor cars left the clearing, the wind changed, and saved the back road and Warrandyte.

When the journey along the back road was almost completed the leading car, containing volunteer fire fighters from Melbourne, saw George Clark face downwards on the ground in Higgins' paddock. He had evidently raced ahead of the flames and fallen in their path. Just before he was picked up the flames reached him and burnt his hair and arms. He was taken to the farmhouse of the Sloan family where he became delirious and called out repeatedly, "Where are the Higginses? It was terrible down at that place."

★ ★ ★
But Warrandyte, one of the black spots on the State-wide canvas of destruction, with its tragic memories of the fires of 1939, is once again rising to the occasion.

Neighbour is helping neighbour, whether friend or foe, and as always seems to happen on occasions of great common disaster, the finest qualities in human nature are "coming out strong".

Self-interest is forgotten in giving the other chap a hand—and he never needed it more than now when in so many cases he has lost all he had.

Behind the smoke-grimed faces of the fire-fighters, the strain and the fatigue on the faces of the women there lies a hardihood, a will to carry on and start again, that breeds courage and performance in the face of disaster.

★ ★ ★
And now, only a few days from the holocaust, the wheels of reconstruction are beginning to turn. There is an Administration Centre to deal with accommodation problems, insurance, and relief claims, sanitation and health, emergency issues of stock food, tools and fencing, and cleaning up, a depot at the hall for food, clothing and bedding, a depot at the Scout Hall for furniture, water and toilet facilities.

There is also a laundry at the Baby Health Centre where Hoovermatic is taking care of villagers' clothes, for free.

★ ★ ★
Most tragic happening before the fire was the fatal car accident in which the artie Halpern's 14 year old daughter Jacqueline was killed at Anderson's Creek road when returning from a dance in

★ ★ ★
The only thing saved from the Cowden's two-storey house was the Devil. His Satanic Majesty, in the form of a pottery mask, was the work of Reg Preston, and it fell from the top floor into the ashes below, suffering no other blemish than a red streak down the nose, an excellent addition to the greenish-blue colouring of the now porcelainised mask.

"The devil looks after his own," quipped Lionel as he spoke of the kindness and generosity of friends following the loss of his house.

The Cowdens will now build a flat over their almost-completed garage at West Warrandyte, and in Mt. Gambier limestone, the same as the garage.

★ ★ ★
Viv Williams, at Warrandyte Quarries, next to the garage, was also burnt out at Kangaroo Ground road. He is living at his office (Captain Cook's Cottage) until he rebuilds his house. The pipe house, built by Viv and Phyl Williams, was one of the most charming places in the district. It will probably be replaced in Mt. Gambier limestone.

★ ★ ★
Rex Dwight, tall and popular foreman mechanic at the garage, is Captain of the Rural Brigade at North St. Andrews. He was one of a very gallant band, and also managed to save his own house though his land was

★ ★ ★
At Warrandyte Bob Trezise, son of Arthur Trezise, of the Grand Hotel, was outstanding among the fire-fighting young stalwarts. He said that when the blaze hit Warrandyte it had no head—fires were everywhere.

And on the way to Selby from the Kangaroo Ground road area the smoke was so dense he collided head-on with another car. Flames were on either side of the road, and visibility was nil. He lost his Landrover and the temporary use of water tank and high-pressure pump. Peter Gray, Geoff Day and Andrew McDonald, in the other car, were all injured.

★ ★ ★
Robbie Carlton, of The Pines, on K.G. road, a house still standing in a sea of black bushland, said this was her fourth fire, and the only one which had not burnt her out. She has also weathered three floods, and says she's more than ready to settle for a quiet life from now on.

★ ★ ★
Warrandyte Waxworks were saved though the house where proprietor Ferdie Hornidge, lived with his mother and sister, Brianly Martin, was destroyed. As Brianly and her budgie were driven away, one jump ahead of the fire, the budgie was the only cheerful member of the party. "How are ya, mate?" he chirped. "I'm fine."

AFTERMATH: FRIDAY

Rain came this morning, and a couple of hours later—the birds came back. Gradually, during the week, they have been here in varying flights, but not until today have they really been "at home".

The slow flapping stroke of winged things came to rest on the grass—once lawn—and ever vigilant, pecked timorously at the insects and worms coming through parched topsoil for something to tempt an appetite unappeased since almost a week ago.

Time to stand and stare—through a window, lest they be disturbed, it was evident that the cheeky sparrow was the first explorer. Bedraggled wings, thirsty, he—and she, we guess—drank from the bird-bath until satisfied, and then proceeded to peck until completeness.

Then one lone minah arrived—extremely timid, but so hungry. He pecked, watched, listened for his mate. The "lawn" was thick with mud-larks, sparrows, and then it happened—his family had apparently flown in! The grass was one happy hunting ground for the bills of just a mass of parthed bedraggled flight feathers feebly flapping in search of another titbit.

Conrad and Helen

I was formerly Ilma Schult, daughter of Conrad and Helen (known as Con and Nell), youngest sister to Joan, Steve and Audrey. Our mother was the eldest of the eight children of Stephen Henry and Jane Houghton (Speers). Our father was the third of the four children of Carl and Mary Schult, born when Carl was fifty-nine years of age. Our parents were cousins twice removed. Details of the family relationship can be found in the family tree which has been compiled by my niece, Rosemary Naitoko. While dad lived his childhood in Warrandyte, mother grew up in Malvern. She often spoke of visits by horse drawn coach to her Aunt and Uncle at the Warrandyte Post Office, also to her grandma Speers in Alexander Road, Warrandyte and to 'old' Mr. Schult, who had a reputation of being a very generous man, particularly to one of the Houghton families. This may have been our grandfather Stephen Houghton's mother, brother and sisters, as his father had died leaving a young family. Mother told of an early meeting with her future husband about the turn of the century. As children they had sat together on a wood heap and he had given her a bird's egg or nest. It is possible that they did not meet again until the years of the 14-18 war when dad was in camp at Broadmeadows with mother's brothers. Dad's mother had died in 1902, aged 45 years, when he was only twelve. He was twenty-one when his father died in 1911 at the age of 79. During those years, dad lived for some time with his sister Alice and her husband Charlie Hillman who was a blacksmith in Doncaster. He left school the year of his mother's death, having attended at both Warrandyte and Doncaster.

Marriage and Army Years

As the eldest of eight children, it was mother's duty to stay at home to help care for the family. Her father, Stephen Houghton, whom she loved dearly was constantly troubled with ill health. He was a signalman with the Victorian Railways and was in charge of the vital signal box near Flinders Street Station. He was advised to take a boat trip, so when mother was only seventeen, she was given the responsibility of caring for her younger brothers and sisters when her parents went to Japan for three months. Her father died tragically in 1918, aged fifty-two, just a short time before his sons returned from the First World War. On August 10th of the same year, mother and dad were married in mother's family home at Paxton Street, East Malvern. During the years before marriage, she had taken lessons in millinery, piano and singing, and her beautiful contralto voice remained with her for most of her life.

On October 1st 1914 dad had joined the Australian Imperial Expeditionary Force at Mildura, aged twenty-four, after working at Irymple on a property owned by the Roberts family. During that time, he was a member of the choir at the local Presbyterian Church. Having attained the rank of sergeant in the 13th Light Horse, he was unable to serve overseas with his regiment because he became ill with typhoid fever and a heart problem. He was discharged, medically unfit on June 15th 1915 at Broadmeadows. On December 15th 1917 he joined the A.I.E. Home Service and was discharged at his own request, on enlistment for service abroad on October 19th 1918, two months after marriage. He served in New Guinea as an assistant to a Mr. Williams, a surveyor in the time of change over from German rule. Details of this time in dad's life are rather scanty; but, as his children, we have memories of the stories he told of native friends and the Pidgin English he mastered and remembered until his death. We have no record of service abroad or day of discharge; but we know that he was brought home very ill with malaria, and that our mother went to Sydney to visit him.

Black Friday

Before moving to Ringwood at the end of January 1939, we lived for just a few months in a house in Kangaroo Ground Road, previously owned by the artist Penley Boyd. Joan had longed for a room of her own; but the eerie atmosphere of that double story house, with dark wall paper and rats that scampered in the night, encouraged family closeness rather than teenage isolation. That summer will never be forgotten, for on Black Friday January 13th, Warrandyte, with other places, was devastated by fire. It happened during a particular hot spell, with temperatures continually above 113 degrees (46). On the morning of the 13th mother took Audrey and I by bus and train to her sister Bertha's home in Bentleigh for a holiday. Steve had been sleeping on a balcony, so mother took the bedding inside to prevent sparks catching it in time of fire. This proved to be a very wise move. The house was of a rough caste type, so did not burn easily. Unfortunately, quite a few of our possessions stored in an outside shed were burned. A green frock which Joan had made was hanging on the line at the time of the fire, it fell to the ground, the fire burned around it; but it remained untouched and Joan wore it again.

As a very hot day was expected, dad had taken fourteen year old Steve to work with him on Bamford's timber truck. They were together in the Dandenongs when the fire hit, an experience not to be forgotten. Mother, dad, Joan and Steve returned that night to see the devastation, while Audrey and I stayed at Bentleigh before coming home to see the blackened ruins of much that had been our childhood environment. The houses in both Beauty Gully Road and Belzer's Hill were destroyed, as were three of the Speers homes in Alexander Road (including the one we had just left). Many of our Warrandyte relatives lost their homes; but some of the town remained, including the School and the original Russell house.

A new beginning

After the fires, our family rented a house in Wilana Street, Ringwood for about one year before settling in Tamar Street on the northern side of the town. Later we bought the house from Mr. Brierly and it remained the family home until mother and dad moved to Stanley in September '59. 1939 brought war once more and Steve was called up for military service when he turned eighteen. After two years in Australia, he served two years in the island war zone of the north. When he moved to Ringwood in '39, dad had returned to his old job as driver for Bamford's Timber Yard; but the work proved to be too heavy, so he changed to the P.M.G. (now Telecom) in Ringwood, where he worked both as lineman and storeman until he retired in 1955.



Joan was married to Manson McAlpin from North Ringwood in April '43. Their children are Helen, Rosemary, Sharyn and Leonie.

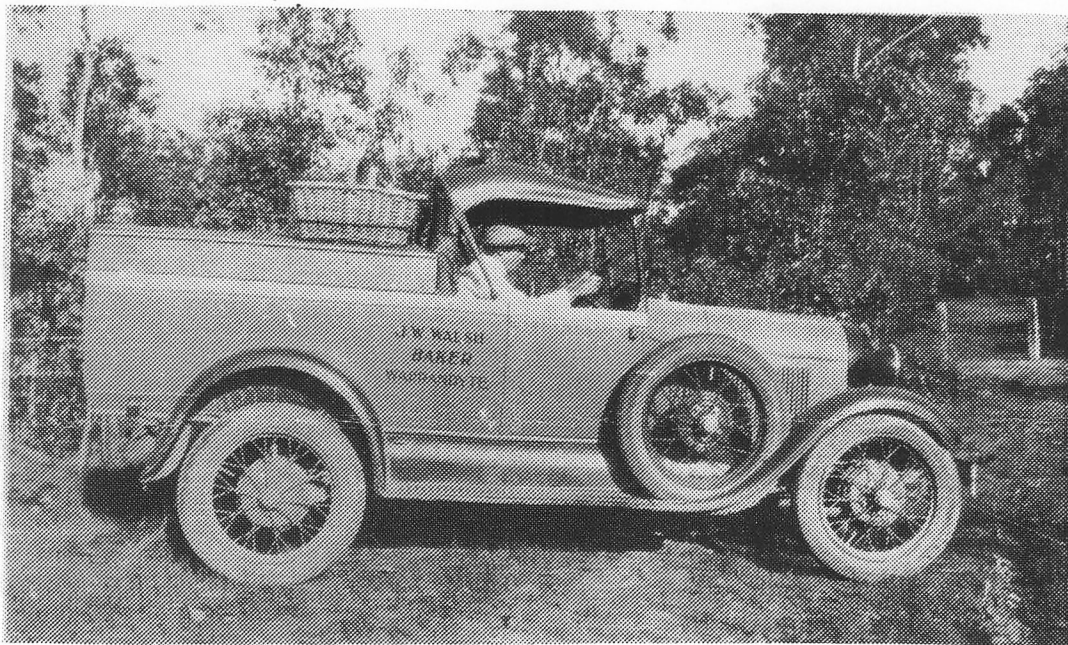
Steve married Frances Turner of West Brunswick in April '50. Their three sons are Gregory, Andrew and Martin.

Audrey's children are Arthur, Barbara, Geoffrey and Heather - sadly her husband Don Scragg, from Bayswater, whom she married in 1947, was tragically killed in a road accident in November '67.

I was married to Ken Jones January '59 and we have two children, Stephen and Leanne. With my brother and sisters I now have grandchildren to carry on the family tree.

Our parents retired to Stanley in 1959 and mother died after a short illness, aged 77 on October 4th 1965. In later years dad sold his Stanley home and moved into a flat in Ford Street, Beechworth. During his last years, dad spent quite some time in Beechworth District Hospital where he died on September 17th 1974, having returned to his flat for about three months shortly before his death aged 84 years.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

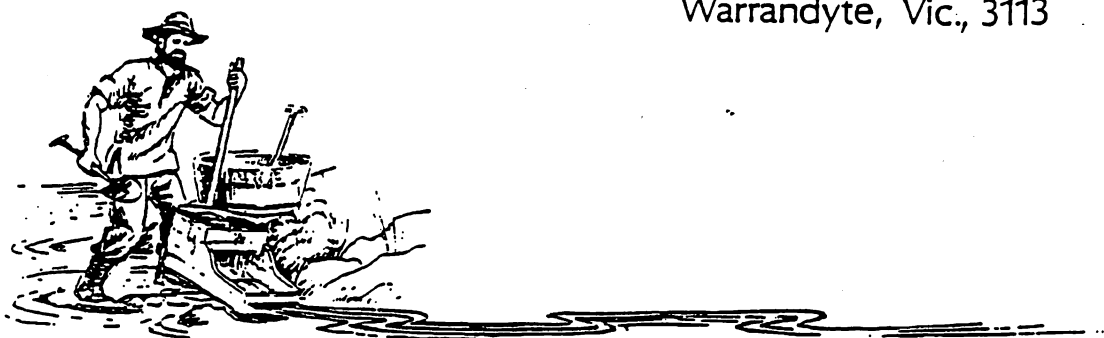


Both of these photos relate to the old bakery in Yarra Street. The photo above was taken some time between 1930 and 1945 and shows Jim Walsh's bakers cart. The photo below was taken outside the bakery and shows the horse-drawn bakers cart. The date of this photo is unknown.



Warrandyte Historical Society

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" TAFFY " JONES' RESIDENCE

Bruce Bence has prepared the following article on "Taffy" Jones' residence in Yarra Street. For those with a keen eye and who have walked along Yarra Street between the old bakery and the bridge, they will have noticed some concrete foundations near the entrance to the tennis courts. These are all that remains of the house that was destroyed in the 1939 bushfires. A photo of the ruins of the house was published in "From the Archives" in Newsletter No 70 of December 1989.

"Taffy" Jones' residence was located on Lot 13 Section 5 Parish of Warrandyte, County of Evelyn and was originally bought from the Crown on 11 April 1912 by A.E. Sandford. It was then 1 rood 24 perches in area and was later subdivided into three lots.

Alma Sandford bought the freehold of the property and lived on it. In 1920 the Miller family ran the Kia-Ora Cafe on a part of the site at which time Taffy Jones lived next door to them between the cafe and the bridge. The Millers left Warrandyte and moved into the city until they bought the Whitehouse in 1932 from the Lowe family. Most of the older residents of Warrandyte who knew Taffy Jones, only ever knew him as Taffy although it is thought by some that his name was Jack. He had a son called Jack and a daughter called Colva. Living with him was his housekeeper, Mrs Cook, and his grandson, Stan. They ran a mixed business selling sweets and vegetables and also provided afternoon teas etc for tourists. The concrete remains were the walls of rooms under the building which were used by people who came to the area for picnics. Some people can still remember the charabancs and furniture vans lined up outside the place at holiday times.

These ruins formed the ground floor of Taffy Jones' residence. The house survived the 1934 flood when the flood waters submerged the ground floor. Taffy remained in the upstairs part of the dwelling surrounded by swirling flood waters indignantly refusing to be removed to safety.

Taffy's grandson, Stan, is still well remembered as a bit of a daredevil by those who went to school with him. He is also remembered for his incredible driving skills which he polished up on the mining tracks in whatever vehicle he could borrow. Stan's driving practice stood him in good stead in later years when he took to motor racing in the famous Maybach Special powered by a 3.8 Litre engine taken from a German Scout car.

Despite tyre trouble, Stan brought the Maybach into second place in the 1952 Australian Grand Prix and won the event in 1959. Stan's son, Alan, was to inherit his father's driving skills and in 1980 won the Australian Grand Prix and the World Formula 1 Championship.

While Stan was a pupil of the Warrandyte school, the boys used to slide down the hill on boards and out onto Brackenbury Street which was then

unmade. The trick was to remember to lie flat as you went under the wire of the fence at the bottom of the yard. Stan improved on the sport, he would curl up inside a tyre and the boys would then roll him down the hill. Stan apparently didn't have to worry about the fence as the tyre would bound clean over it.

Stan frequently borrowed his grandfather's car and took joy rides at lunchtime while he was at school. On one occasion he invited one of his school mates to go with him. In an absent-minded moment, his mate went and after a very hair-raising trip, he never made that mistake again.

After the fires of Black Friday, 13 January 1939, the Kia-Ora Cafe and Taffy Jones' home were only blackened ruins, with only the chimneys and the concrete walls standing.

After the fires, what is now Annie's Rose Cottage (270 Yarra Street) was built. Joyce Bellingham (nee Robertson) ran a dress shop in it until she joined the Land Army in the early 1940's. Later Mrs Robertson ran a cafe and sold delicious hamburgers at weekends. The shop was then run by Mr and Mrs Bennett for many years as a mixed business. They also operated the fire brigade radio from the shop for some time. Happy Medium Photography operate from the ground floor and the shop has had a number of gift shops in it in recent years.

The ruins of Taffy Jones' premises are the only visible remains of the 160 houses destroyed in the 1939 fires and it is suggested that a brass plaque could be put in place to commemorate the fact. It could also be used to record the names of those people from Warrandyte who have died in bush fires over the years, namely:

EARNEST SCHAFTER	died 13/1/1939	collapsed and died while fighting the fire in Alexander Road
FRED TOPPING	died 13/1/1939	when he entered his burning home in Yarra Street to save community records
HAROLD BETTON	died 16/1/1962	Blooms Road
LEONARD BROWN	died 16/1/1962	Blooms Road

Harold and Leonard were neighbours who died trying to save their homes.

EXTRACTS FROM The Evelyn Observer

22 APRIL 1892

HOW HE PASSED SENTRY.

*An Incident of the Langwarrin
Encampment.*

"Who goes there?"
"Friend."
"Advance and give the countersign."
"The what?"
"The countersign."
"Sure, I haven't brought it with me."
"Come on, now."
"Sure, that's what I want to do, and you won't let me."
"Give me the word for the night first."
"Ye might as well ask me for the word for the day. Do you want it in French?"
"Stand back."
"Don't be prodding at me with that skewer of yours."
"You can't pass without the countersign."
"Devil take the countersign, and you too. Is that Mickey Phelan?"
"That's me."
"You're not going to keep an old friend dancing an Irish jig out here in the wet for want of a paltry wurd, Mickey Phelan?"
"It's after bugle-roll, and my orders are to let no one pass unless they can give the countersign."
"Oh! be hanged to you. I don't believe ye know it yourself."
"I'll swear I do."
"You never had much of a memory. Look here, I've got a flask of whisky—the rare stuff, in my pocket. I'll bet ye that on it ye don't know the blessed countersign, as ye call it."
"Done. It's 'Hopetoun.' Pass it over."
"When I get inside."
"Stand back. You haven't the word."
"Yes, I have. 'Hopetoun.'"
Form vanishing in the darkness. Sentry cursing. Atmosphere foggy with un-Christian utterances.—*Melbourne Punch*, April 21st, 1892.

25 MAY 1894

COACHING.



ROYAL MAIL

LINE OF COACHES

LEAVE the Old England Hotel, Heidelberg, for Lower Plenty, Kitham, Kangaroo Ground, Panton Hill, and Queens-
town; Templestowe and Warrandyte, at
the following times:—

KANGAROO GROUND AND QUEENS-
TOWN LINE.

Queenstown ... 6.15 a.m.
Kangaroo Gd. 7.30 a.m.
Leave Heidelberg ... 3.30 p.m.

TEMPLESTOWE AND WARRANDYTE
LINE.
Daily.

Coach Trains 3.10 p.m. from Collingwood.
R. LEWIS & CO.,
Proprietors.

Notice.

THE

Royal Mail Coach

LEAVE Diamond Creek for Heidelberg
Railway Station at 7.45 a.m. and 3.30
p.m. Leaves Heidelberg for Diamond
Creek at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Free Paddock at Diamond Creek for
passengers' horses.

DAY RETURN . . . 3s.
W. WILSON.

Popular Girl Quest

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18

1943.

Warrandyte Infant Welfare Appeal

Your Help is Urgently Needed

We realise that the coming generation needs our help. Wars bring about a decline in health, and it is our duty to remedy this factor.

FACTS THAT PROVE WHY HEALTH CENTRES ARE ESSENTIAL:—

1. Expectant Mothers can receive advice on Diet and General Care of their Health.
2. Mothers can take their Babies for regular weighing and obtain advice in Infant Management and Feeding.
3. Mothers can take Toddlers and Children to School Age for advice on Diet and General Care.
4. Infantile mortality for Victoria some years ago was 120 per 1000 for babies under 1 year. In 1941 it was 36 per 1000.
5. Fifty years ago the death rate from Diarrhoea was 29.66 per 1000. Four years after the first Centre opened it dropped to 9.85 per 1000. For wasting diseases amongst babies it was 22.24 per 1000, and dropped to 6.77 after the first Centre was opened; and in 1941 it was 1.42 per 1000.

All advice is given free by a Trained Sister.

The lessening of mortality can be attributed to the growth of Baby Health Centres.

At present our local Centre is carried on in the Public Hall, but as conveniences are limited, it is unsuitable for the Sister to carry out her duties.

The land, situated in the centre of the town, on the Main Road, has already been granted for a Centre. For nearly four years the Committee have refrained from appealing to the public, realising that "Win the War" policy was first preference. This appeal will take the form of—

A POPULAR GIRL QUEST

The Chosen Girls are—MISS LOIS HASLEM (South). MISS BARBARA TODD (Central). MISS MARGARET MAHONY (West)

OPENING NIGHT—NOVEMBER 10

List of Functions—

CARD NIGHT, Nov. 6

OFFICIAL OPENING, Nov. 10

PICTURE NIGHT, Nov. 12

NOVELTY NIGHT, Nov. 20 (Miss Haslem)

NOVELTY NIGHT, Nov. 27 (Miss Mahoney)

NOVELTY NIGHT, Dec. 4 (Miss Todd)

PICTURE NIGHT, Dec. 10

NOVELTY FAIR, Dec. 11

GRAND FINALE, Dec. 18

£150.00

(3)

£237.00

①
£239.00

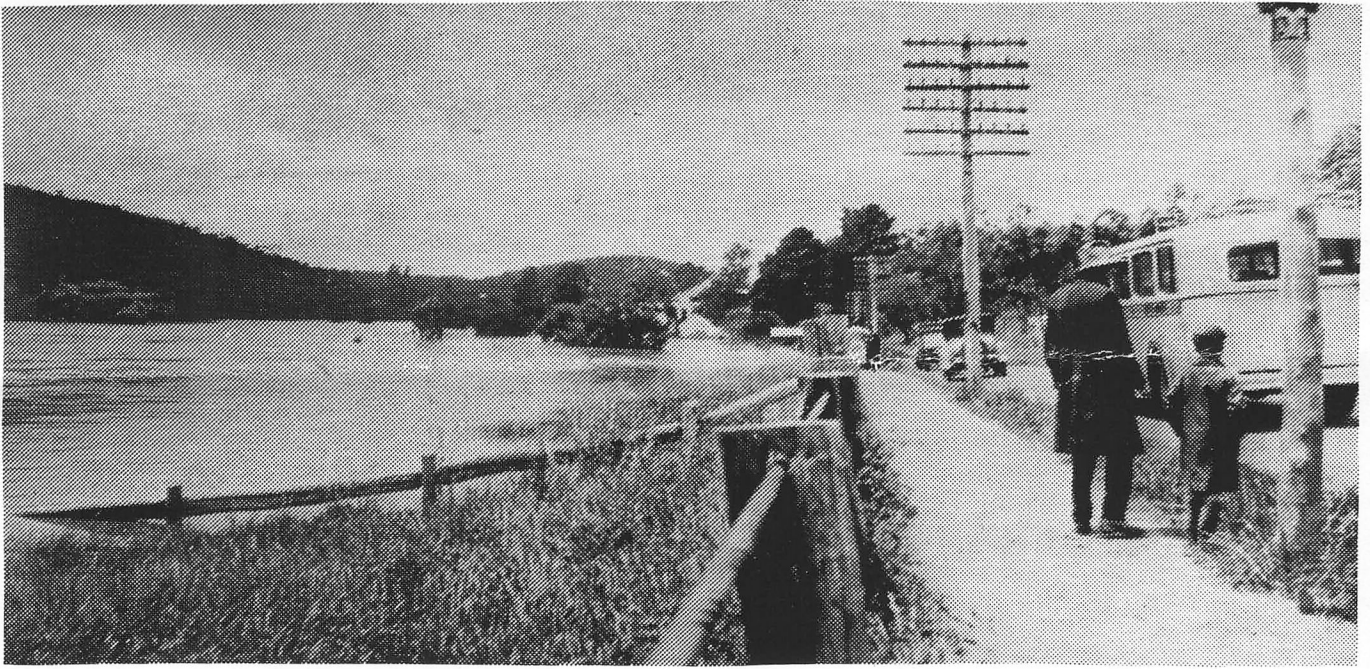
Authorised Collectors will canvass the Warrandyte District.

Donations may be credited to any of the Popular Girls if so desired, and may be forwarded to—

MRS. M. JONES, Hon. Secretary.

CONSTABLE McCOLL, Hon. Treasurer.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

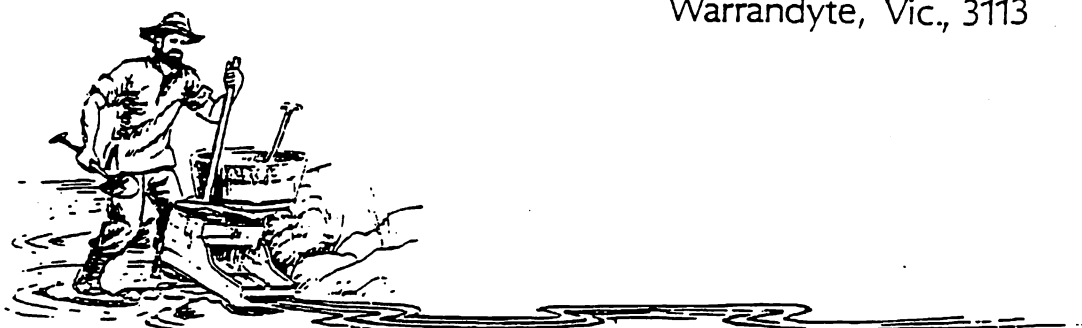


Both of these photos were taken during the 1934 floods. The photo above was taken from the end of Anderson Street looking to the east. The road was cut off opposite Whipstick Gully as shown in the photo below. To the left is the Presbyterian Church and in the background is the Grand Hotel.



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A Home of our own at last ??

The Historical Society's final home for the museum is still to be decided but we know it will be either in the Historic Post Office or in the new Community Centre. The outcome will be decided by the Citizens' Advice Bureau who are considering a move to the Community Centre.

Vale - Stan Houghton

The Warrandyte Historical Society lost a valued member recently when Stan Houghton died suddenly on Monday, 8 July. Stan had a vast store of information about Warrandyte and the Houghton family, as those who attended the seminar last year will no doubt remember.

Stan will be sadly missed and our sincere sympathy goes to his wife, Fay, and family.

Some years ago, Stan gave the Society some notes on the Houghton family and these will be included in a later issue of the Newsletter.

Good response to appeal

From the Committee of Management, we would like to extend our sincerest thanks to all members who contributed to the fund-raising cake stall and raffle on Saturday, 6 July. We are happy to announce it was a most successful day, and once the raffle has been drawn on Saturday, 3 August, we shall announce the winners and the total funds raised in The Warrandyte Diary.

The local traders were very generous with over \$600 worth of prizes donated for our raffle. Tickets are on sale in many outlets around Warrandyte and we are confident that this too will be a success.

We have been touched by the support of our members and the local community, and to all concerned, give our thanks.

Gina Jones, Secretary

The Society thanks the following:

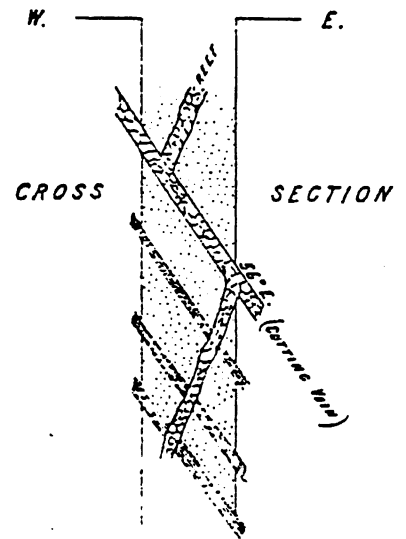
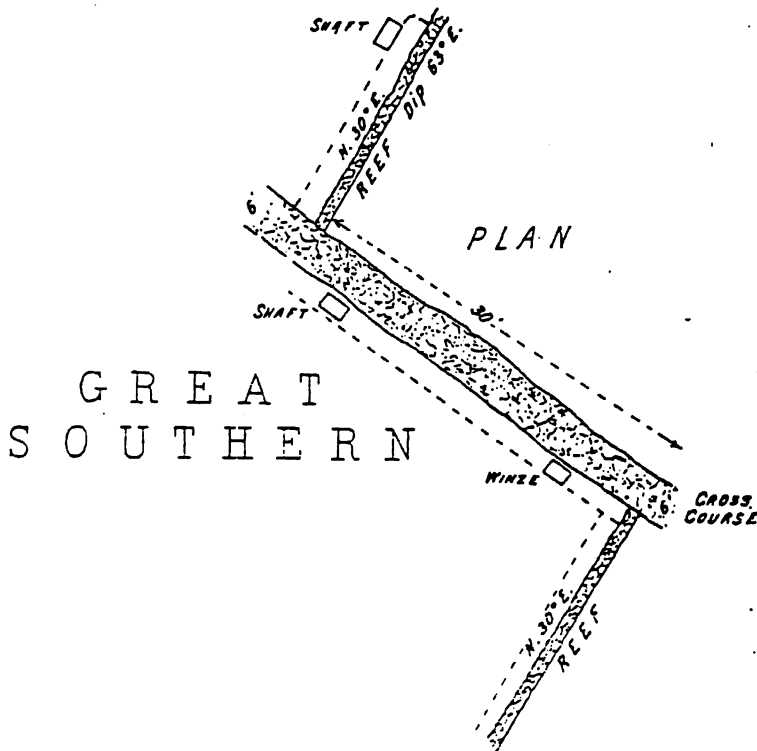
Beasleys Nursery
Goldfields Pharmacy
Canoe Shed
Hairline
Marris Meats
Village Butcher
Way Ahead
Pins and Needles
The Flower Basket
The Greenery, Templestowe
S M Jones
Pigeon Bank
Warrandyte Natural Food Store

Harry Heaths
Headline
Bruce Bence
The Lunch Box
Warrandyte Hardware
River Clay
Goldfields Delicatessen
Riverview Motors
Len and Lee Phillips
Warrandyte Garden Centre
Warrandyte Cellars
Aumann's Nursery

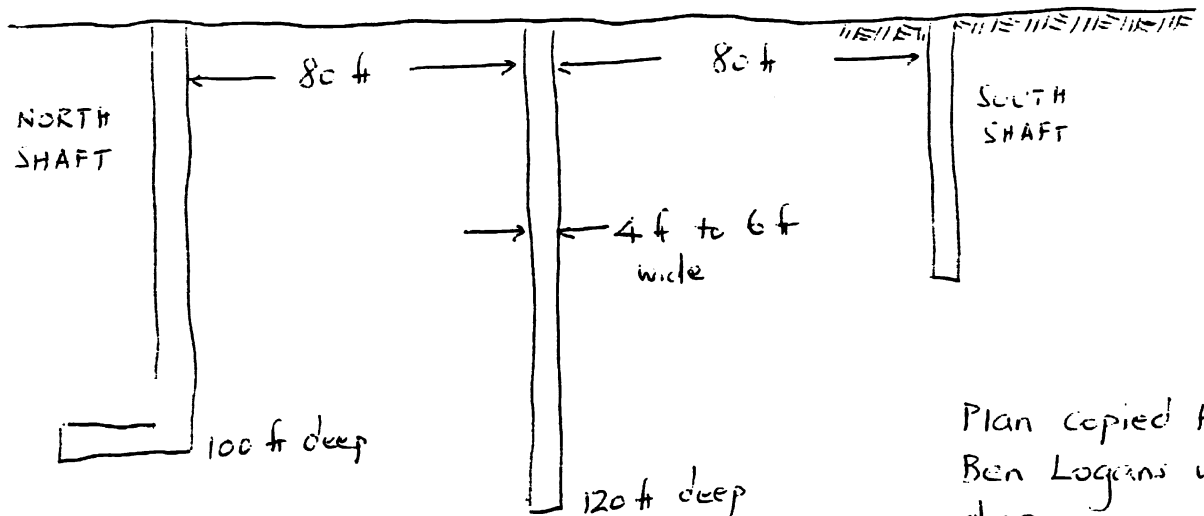
GREAT SOUTHERN HILL.

(1) on Plan.—From the north side of the cross-course, $7\frac{1}{2}$ tons yielded 51oz. 4dwt.; 2 tons, 3oz. 10dwt. From the south side of the cross-course 15 tons gave 55oz. 10dwt.; these returns have been obtained by Holloway, Dixon and Company, within the last few months. In the old workings the reef is estimated to have yielded up to 8 ounces per ton.

(2) From Whipstick Gully south to Fourth Hill operations have been confined to the eastern ground containing spurs, and worked over 60 feet in width, results averaging up to 3 ounces per ton, rich patches were occasionally obtained.



Extracts from a geological surveyors report of 1898 showing some sketches of the Great Southern Mine and also some notes on it. The reef being mined was between 4 and 8 inches thick.



Plan copied from
Ben Logans work
diary
(Not to scale)

THE CALEDONIA GOLD MINE

The Caledonia Gold Mine was located at the end of what is now Tills Drive. A detailed account of the official opening of the mine on 14 September 1906 was given in Newsletter No 71 of February 1990. The following report was given by Mr E J Dunn F.G.S. who was the Director of Geological Survey. Also shown is plan and cross section of the mines as they were in May 1907. Note from the longitudinal section that there were shafts and tunnels to a depth of 408 feet at that stage.

THE CALEDONIA GOLD MINE, WARRANDYTE, NEAR MELBOURNE.

(NO. 23 ON LOCALITY MAP.)

By E. J. Dunn, F.G.S., Director, Geological Survey.

Warrandyte is 18 miles north-east from Melbourne, and the mines one mile by road, or half-a-mile direct, north-east from the township. An engine shaft, 12 feet by 4 feet, has been sunk to a depth of 110 feet to the level, and a well is being sunk another 20 feet. Baling is done by means of a steam winch and vertical boiler. In sinking this shaft 30 feet of alluvial ground was first encountered; then about 30 feet of altered Silurian rock, the balance being in unaltered sandstones and mudstones of light to dark grey colour. Iron pyrites is abundant in the beds.

At 300 feet north of the engine shaft is Upton's shaft, 150 feet deep, from which payable stone has been obtained. At 190 feet south of the engine shaft is the whip shaft, 110 feet deep, from which the quartz is being hauled. The prospecting shaft, 80 feet deep, is 50 feet south of the engine shaft; and on the bank of the Yarra River, still further to the south, is Grant's shaft, 90 feet deep, not now used. From this shaft quartz yielding as much as 7 ounces per ton is said to have been obtained. All these workings are on a flat on the eastern side of the Yarra.

The strike of the Silurian rocks is about north and south, and the dip at the bottom of the whip shaft is 40 degrees to east. The general strike of the reef channel is about north 32 degrees west. The pitch of the country-rocks is northward.

Auriferous quartz is being stoped at the 110-foot level and about 250 feet south from the whip shaft. This level is extended to 310 feet south from the whip shaft. There is a distinct lode formation, with up to 4 feet of broken country-rock, and a quartz veinstone between the walls. The lode channel has been fractured and displaced by a series of faults, striking a few degrees west of north; the channel in each case going north, is thrown to the west. Although the channel is thus displaced, the quartz veins are continuous across the faults, as though they had been formed later. The dip of the lode is 85 degrees to west. Besides the principal quartz vein, ranging from 3 inches up to 2 feet in thickness in the channel, there are also auriferous quartz veins, an inch or up to 3 inches thick, in the country-rocks. In fact, the country-rocks are not explored, and more cross-cuts should be put in to search for other quartz veins, especially on the western side, where centre-country must lie. Recently 205 tons of quartz have been crushed for a return of 387 ozs. 5 dwts. of gold. If properly opened up, this promises to be a productive mine. At 90 feet to the east is the Black Swan reef, from which some rich patches of quartz are reported to have been taken. This line of reef could be conveniently prospected or worked from the Caledonia workings.

Southward from the Caledonia mine, what is considered the same reef was worked as the Yarra Tunnel mine, and from it excellent returns are reported. Other reefs that have been worked in this locality are the Pig Tail (now called Hornabrook's Reward) and the Victory, right in the township of Warrandyte. The "Dyke," a few chains to the east from the Caledonia, has been extensively worked also.

[Report sent in 28th August, 1905.]

INTERESTING LETTER

As part of his research into the historic Post Office, Bruce Bence received the following letter giving additional background information.

Bruce Bence,

Warrandyte
Victoria 3113

Dear Bruce,

Thank you for your letter of 24 May 1991, requesting information of the experiences of Mary Emma Clara HILL - my grandmother - during the 1939 bushfires in the area around South Warrandyte.

Mary HILL was Postmistress of the South Warrandyte Post Office from 1924, taking over from her daughter, Edith Mary HILL, who married in that year. Edith M. HILL began as Postmistress at South Warrandyte on 3 April 1921.

A Post Office Van was sent to rescue Mary HILL on Black Friday, January 13th 1939. Mary had time only to save Post Office possessions - the cashbox, Crown Seal, date stamp and the Post Office clock. All her own possessions exploded in flames. The Van driver unscrewed the post receiving box from Mary's front fence, and drove swiftly away with his shocked and stunned passenger. Mary HILL glimpsed her life's possessions being devoured by an inferno as they left the scene of destruction.

The fire had swept down from the timbered hill and up through Mary's orchard to engulf both grandmother's home and the Post Office. Nothing remained except two majestic pine trees, which stood sentinel over the devastation.

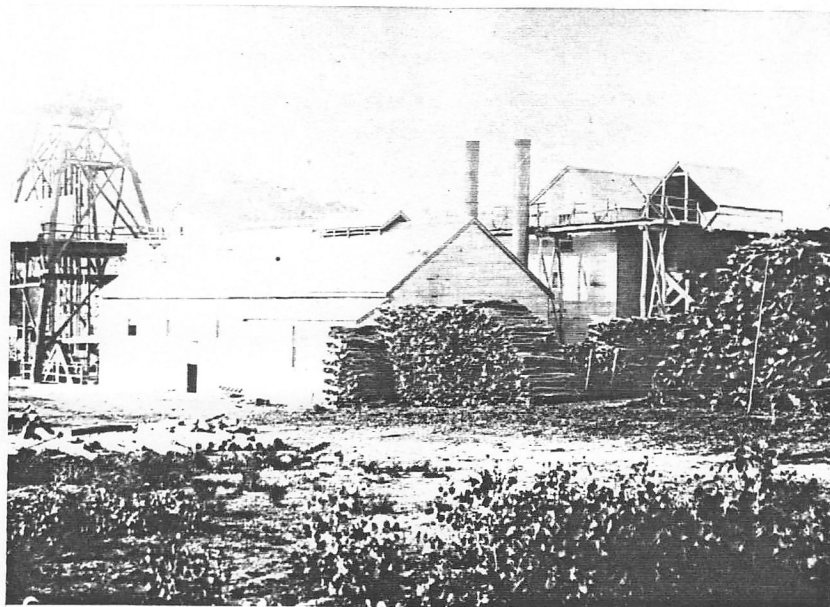
The above information is contained in my book - "A Tapestry of Ancestry", which is lodged with the Royal Historical Society of Victoria, the State Library of Victoria, and the Library of the Australian Institute of Genealogical Studies.

Is this information to be lodged with the Warrandyte Historical Society or the Ringwood Historical Society?

Yours faithfully,

(Mrs.) Dorothy C. Cross

FROM THE ARCHIVES



The Caledonia Gold Mine in its heyday with substantial buildings and a large poppet head. This photo is thought to have been taken in about 1908.



Walsh's Bakery in Yarra Street looking back towards Melbourne. This photo was taken by W. Walsh probably in the 1940's.

Warrandyte Historical Society

Post Office Box No.67
Warrandyte, Vic., 3113



NEWSLETTER

"Recording the History of Warrandyte"

NO. 81

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OCTOBER 1991

Registered by Australia Post
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VICTORIA GOVERNMENT GAZETTE

28-12-1883

POST OFFICES.

IT is hereby notified that Post Offices have been opened at the undermentioned places, viz. :—

BOWEYA, *viâ* GLENROWAN,
CLIFTON HILL,
DARK RIVER, *viâ* SNOWY CREEK,
MOONDARA, *viâ* MOE,
PARKVILLE, and
WARRANDYTE RAILWAY STATION.

It is also notified that the name of the Post Office,
WATERLOO, GIPPSLAND,
has been changed to "YARRAGON."

GRAHAM BERRY,
Postmaster-General.

Post Office and Telegraph Department,
General Post Office,
Melbourne, 20th December 1883.



Stall at Warrandyte Market

Our Secretary, Gina Jones, reports that the Society will be holding a stall at the Warrandyte Market during the November and December markets. We have a good selection of items which make ideal Christmas presents.

Why not come and have a look - the market is held on the first Saturday of the month at Stiggants reserve.

By the time Wally Manders came into the little deeds of the outhouse it had a decided lean to port, but this, said Wal, was mutual.

He left it that way, and furnished it with a comprehensive library and some Van Gogh prints.

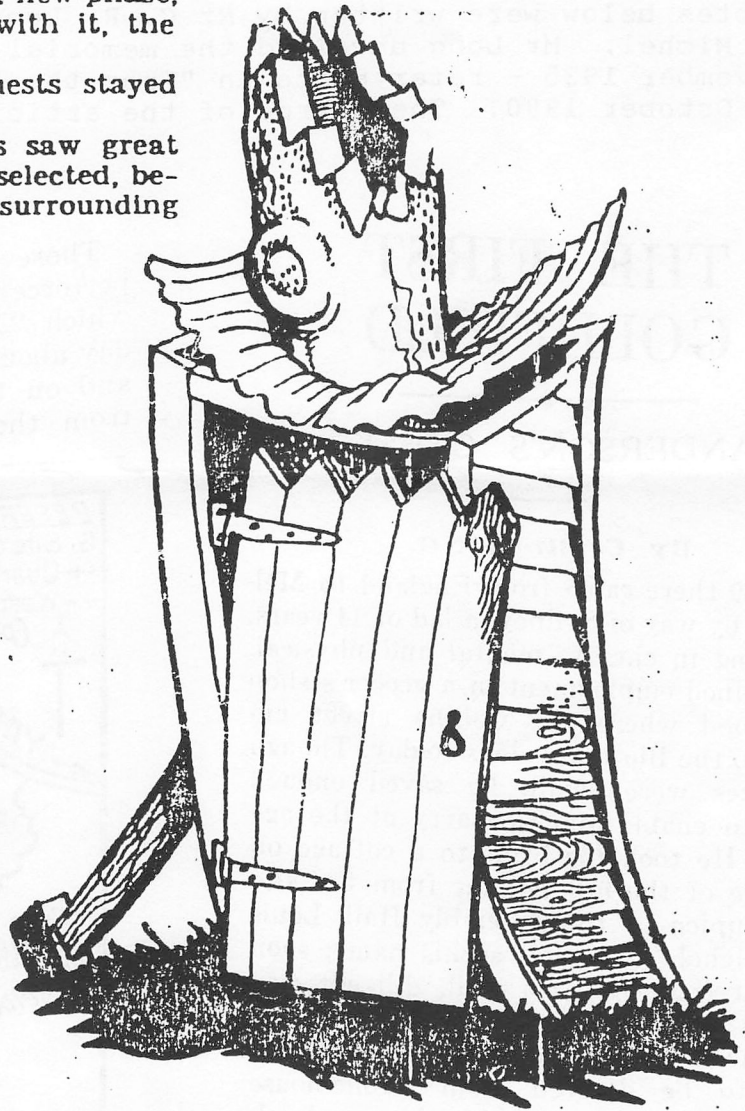
So the building settled down to a new phase, but so did the mine shaft, and, with it, the floor.

Only the most adventurous guests stayed long at Wally Manders'.

The arrival of a Mrs. Manders saw great changes made. A new shaft was selected, beneath a large, shady redgum, the surrounding

RIGHT: The gentle noises of Wainandyte's bell birds were interrupted by the crack of a huge red gum limb and the "CRASH" as it landed — a direct hit.

You can keep a good house out but not down



earth was levelled, the building was refloored, painted, and the library extended.

Visiting Wal recently, we were lying on the lawn, listening to the bellbirds, when we heard a loud "crack" over in the direction of the redgum.

"Don't worry," said Wal, "redgums always make that noise on hot, still days—it doesn't mean a thing."

Crack—swish CRASH!!—an enormous bough fell through the roof of the tough old outhouse—it was a direct hit.

After thanking our lucky stars that nobody had been using the library at the time—especially ourselves—we deplored the passing of such a fine old warrior.

"Finish?" said Wal. "No, she'll be jake."

He started to drag the redgum clear, saying: "Not often you get two tons of firewood delivered free."

A little hammering, kicking, and shoving, soon had the old warrior back to a comfortable 30 degrees list.

"There you are," said Wal. "You'd never know the difference."

Looking up apprehensively, we remarked that there still remained many massive boughs poised ominously over the frail-looking cubicle, and asked if he was going to do anything about them.

"Yairs I will," said Wal, and took out all the reading material.

example, as those of John (afterwards Sir John) O'Shanassy, Richard Heales, J. P. Fawcner, and William Westgarth. The committee lost no time in announcing the offer of a "reward of 200 guineas for the finding of a workable goldmine or deposit within 200 miles of Melbourne, capable of being wrought to advantage."

An Energetic Prospector

Michel had not waited for an incentive of this kind. He was one of those who had formed a party and started on the search. This party (himself, W. Habberlin, James Furnival, James Melville, J. Headen, and B. Greenig) was already some miles up the Yarra, diligently tracing its tributaries and trying here and there for the "colour." On the last day of June, in the neighbourhood of the Deep Creek, now better known as the Mullum Mullum, flowing from the south-east into the Yarra, not far from Eltham, gold in quartz was discovered, and the reef was traced for some distance. The place where the gold was found was shown on July 5 to Dr. Webb-Richmond, as the representative of the gold discovery committee. It was in the bed of Anderson's Creek, and, according to the local tradition, was a mile or so up the creek from its junction with the Yarra. More important to the public was the information that the "find" was about 17 miles from Melbourne, in the vicinity of Warrandyte. On July 8 full particulars were communicated to Lieutenant-Governor Latrobe. The committee met on July 16, and expressed satisfaction with the sample of gold submitted by Michel, and the newspapers announced on the following day the existence and whereabouts of the discovery. On August 4 further discoveries were communicated to the committee by Michel's party. It was said to have obtained with only shovel and tin dish among the alluvial deposits gold, minute but tolerably abundant.

By this time the Government had become interested, and a Crown Lands Com-

missioner (N. A. Fenwick) was instructed to make inquiries on the spot and report. On August 6 he, with several members of the gold discovery committee, including the secretary (H. J. Hart) and a jeweller (H. Walsh), set out for Anderson's Creek. Several members of the party tried their luck with tin dishes, and every dishful of wash-dirt yielded some particles of gold—one ten, another six, and a third four. The whole yield was put together and handed in a tin match-box to the commissioner for the inspection of the Governor. On August 20 it was reported that there were between 150 and 200 men on the field. The ground extended along the creek for about three miles. Tom Fletcher cleared £8 in a week. Cradles were in use. It is on record that a cradle owned by Michel, in which quicksilver was used to catch the gold, proved ineffective, and was turned into two cradles of the ordinary kind. A few days later a Crown bailiff, named Armstrong, and four mounted constables, pitched their tents at Anderson's Creek, and permits to search, which preceded by a few days the gold licence.

LILYDALE EXPRESS

JANUARY 1919

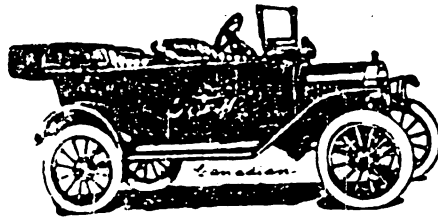


LILYDALE

Motor Garage.

Burton Bros.

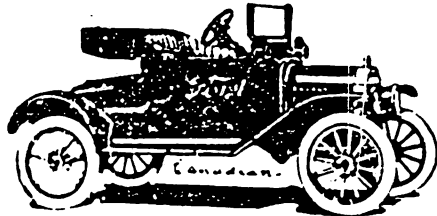
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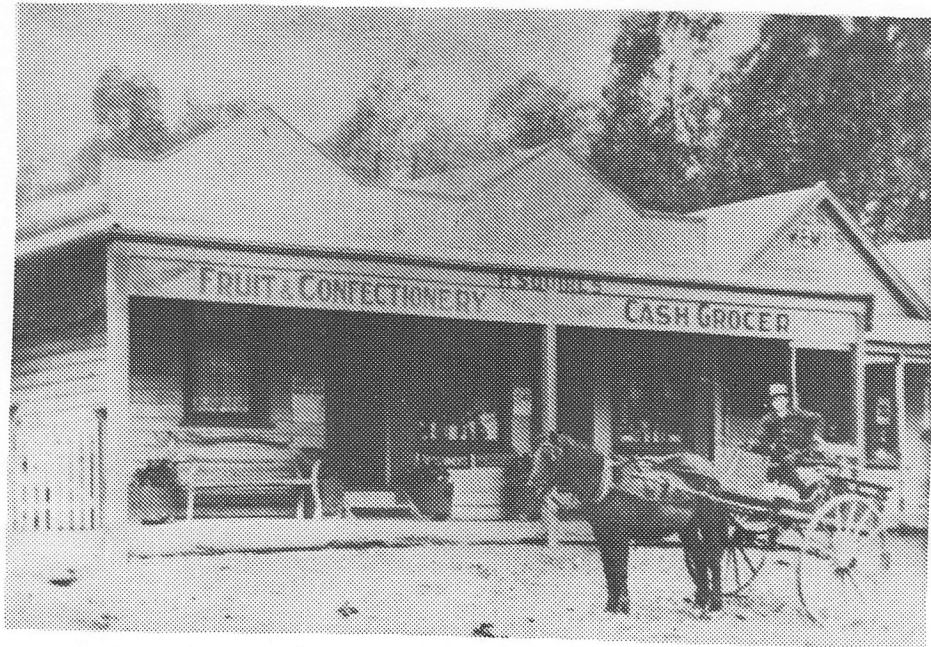
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FROM THE ARCHIVES



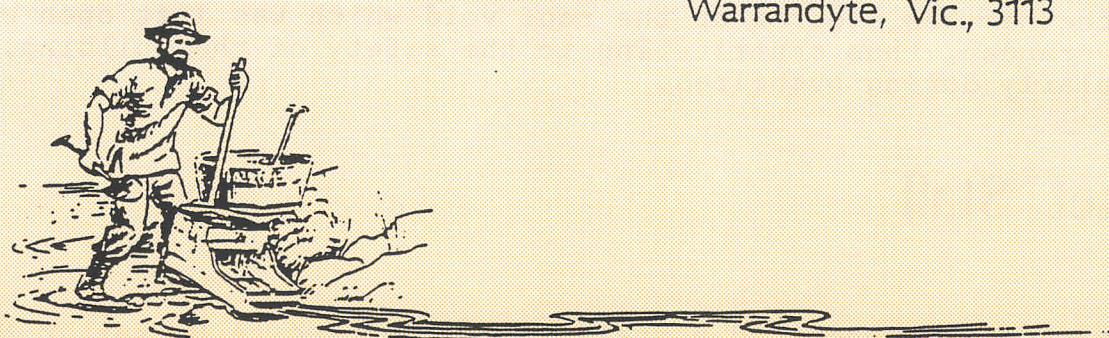
The original grocery store in Yarra Street was owned by Mr H Squires who was a local farmer. The original butcher shop was located just to the left of this photo. The photo was taken some time before 1914 when Mr Squires died.



Walsh's Warrandyte Hotel was located on the corner of Yarra Street and Mitchell Avenue where the Mechanics Institute is now situated. This photo is thought to have been taken in the early 1920's, some time before it burnt down in 1925.

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Publication No. VBH5874

Membership Application Form

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION (Please send to P.O.Box 67, Warrandyte, 3113)

RENEWAL _____ NEW _____

NAME.....

TEL NO.....HOME.....WORK

ADDRESS.....

SPECIAL INTERESTS OR SKILLS.....

ARE YOU HAPPY TO BE INCLUDED ON THE MUSEUM ROSTER ?.....

FAMILY \$10 ... SINGLE \$7 ... STUDENT \$0.50 ... PENSIONER \$5 ...

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Vice President	: Bruce Bence	844 3122
Vice President	: Michael Willersdorf	898 4381
Secretary	: Gina Jones	844 3662
Treasurer	: Alan Alder	844 3237

COMMITTEE

- Newsletter Editor	: Richard Warwick	844 1089
- Newsletter Distribution	: Ken Crook	844 3323
- Incorporation Officer	: Ian Hodgson	844 3651



*To All Members
from the
President and Officers of the Society*

This collection of paintings of many of Warrandyte's now quite famous artists is presented by the Warrandyte Historical Society. The task of locating most of the paintings has been long and difficult. Information about the painters is sketchy and in many cases not documented at all. The works all come from private collectors, as the present structure of Victoria's public National Gallery makes borrowing paintings for an exhibition of this kind an impossibility. The Society wishes to sincerely thank all those who have allowed their most treasured pictures to be put on exhibition.

In the late 1890's, as the gold was running out and the river valleys were slowly returning to the serenity of the pre-mining days, artists first became interested in Warrandyte. Among these pioneers was Clara Southern, who, through the National Gallery School, soon convinced others to join her. Jo Sweatman built a cottage and studio on "The Hill" beside Clara Southern in 1910, and these cottages can still be seen overlooking the township from the north side of the river.

In 1913 Penleigh Boyd returned from England and built in Warrandyte. His house still exists in Kangaroo Ground Road, just up from the bridge, and is classified by the National Trust.

Adrian Lawler built on "The Hill" and Nutter Buzacott, Frank Crozier, Arnold Shore, Jock Frater and Ambrose Hallam all lived in the town for differing periods around this time.

1937 saw the arrival of Danila Vassilieff, who built a beautiful stone and log house, "Stonygrad" in Hamilton Road. He taught at the Koorngong School not far from his home, and carved in stone using Lilydale rock.

After World War Two pottery became more predominant in the district, but such artists as Harry Hudson, Wally Manders, Lindsay Tonkin, Howard Matthews and Christine Gray-Aldor continued the standards set by the earlier Warrandyte Artists.

NUTTER BUZACOTT. (Born Perth 1905, died 1977).
He studied at the Melbourne National Gallery School and at Ian McNabb Grosvenor School, London. He lived and painted at Warrandyte for some time before moving to Queensland. He won the Crouch Prize in 1940.

PENLEIGH BOYD. (Born England 1890, died 1923).
He was noted for his paintings of wattles, the bush and the river Yarra at Warrandyte. He studied at the Melbourne National Gallery School and Europe. He won 2nd Prize in the Federal Capital Site Competition in 1913 and the Wynne Prize in 1914.

FRANK CROZIER. (Born Maryborough 1883, died Warrandyte 1948).
A first world war artist who had studied at the

Melbourne National Gallery School in 1907. He was well known during the "Middle Period" of Australian Landscape Painting. He exhibited extensively in Australia and overseas.

WILLIAM FRATER. (Born Scotland 1890 —
He was a pioneer of Post-Impressionism in Melbourne. He studied at Glasgow School of Arts, in London and Paris. He won a prize in the Dunlop Competition in 1950 and the Eltham Art Award in 1965.

CHRISTINE GRAY-ALDOR. (Born Blackwood, South Australia 1913, died Warrandyte 1970).
She was a painter and a print maker who studied at the South Australian School of Arts and Crafts and under George Bell (1949-53). She was founder of "Melbourne Prints".



MODEL AND PAINTERS join in informal studio supper after class. Member pay 1/6 each towards model's fee. H. V. Manders, one of group, lives in studio

A group of Warrandyte artists enjoying an informal supper after a painting class. The date and location of this photo are not known.



EXTRACTS FROM "The Ringwood Mail"

DEATH OF WARRANDYTE.. FOOTBALLER

W. McAULEY KILLED ON ACTIVE SERVICE

The news of the death of Bill McAuley, killed in action in New Guinea, was received with feelings of profound regret throughout the Warrandyte district. The news was received by his mother on Tuesday.

Bill McAuley served in the Middle East for two years, and on his return was sent to New Guinea. A prominent athlete, Bill McAuley played football and cricket with the Warrandyte Club for a number of years. A strong footballer, he was known to all the fans by the way he came through with the ball. These dashing tactics made him the ideal soldier—one who never knew when he was beaten.

A good son, a kindly brother, and a firm friend, Bill McAuley's passing will be regretted by all who knew him; and we "dips our lid" to one who has played the game and paid the supreme sacrifice.

FEBRUARY 11 1943

NOVEMBER 4 1943

WARRANDYTE GIFT NIGHT

On Saturday, October 21, a gift night was tendered to Miss Joyce Robertson by her many friends in honor of her approaching marriage to Mr V. Bellingham. The evening proved a happy and enjoyable one, and dancing was enjoyed to the strains of Milne's Dance Band, with Mr T. Warr as MC.

The guest of honor looked charming in a black silk beaded suit, and the other guests were received at the door by the hostesses, Mesdames C. Warr, A. Tresize, V. Cooper and M. and I. Higgins.

The hall was attractively decorated by Mrs C. Warr.

The guest of honor was the recipient of many useful and beautiful gifts. A dainty supper was served by the hostesses.

WARRANDYTE PRIMARY SCHOOL 1872

Reproduced below is an extract from a contemporary report from the Warrandyte Primary School giving details of attendances in 1872-73 and comments regarding the buildings in 1873.

5. Attendances 1872-73

A letter signed by Thomas Hurly, Head Teacher as at 31 January 1873 gives the following enrolment and average attendance figures:

Enrolment for the year 1872:	37 boys, 45 girls, total	82
January 1873:	45 boys, 46 girls,	91
Average attendance week ending		
18 January 1873:		35.2
25 January 1873:		68.1
1 February '73:		79.1

6. Old building in disrepair by 1873

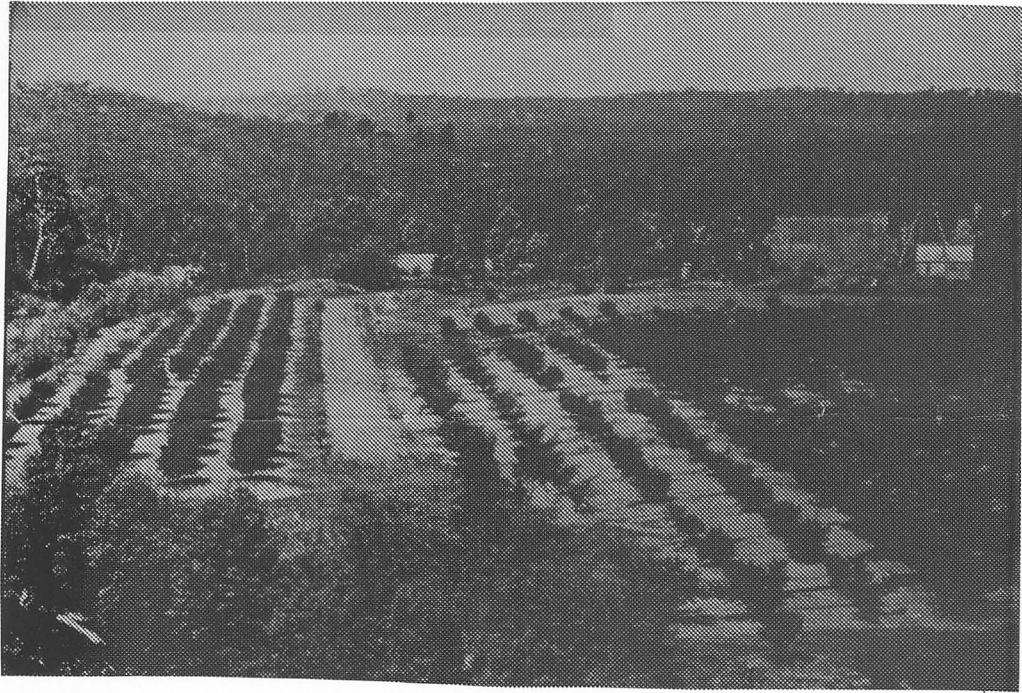
In view of the increasing enrolment, Building Inspector

A. McIntyre was asked to report on the state of the school. On 4 May 1873 he reported as follows: "The above school is in a very unsatisfactory condition. The building is of split slabs and round posts. The plates laid on the ground are decaying... consequently the building is sinking... the walls have been heightened... on top of original... and without any stays. A verandah along the front is the only support which prevents it from blowing down. The roof is also in a dilapidated state. The timbers of the roof are of round poles, covered with half palings, which admits the rain to go through all over. I consider it undesirable that any money be spent on the present building, as £25 would be required for temporary repairs, which would not give any satisfaction when done."

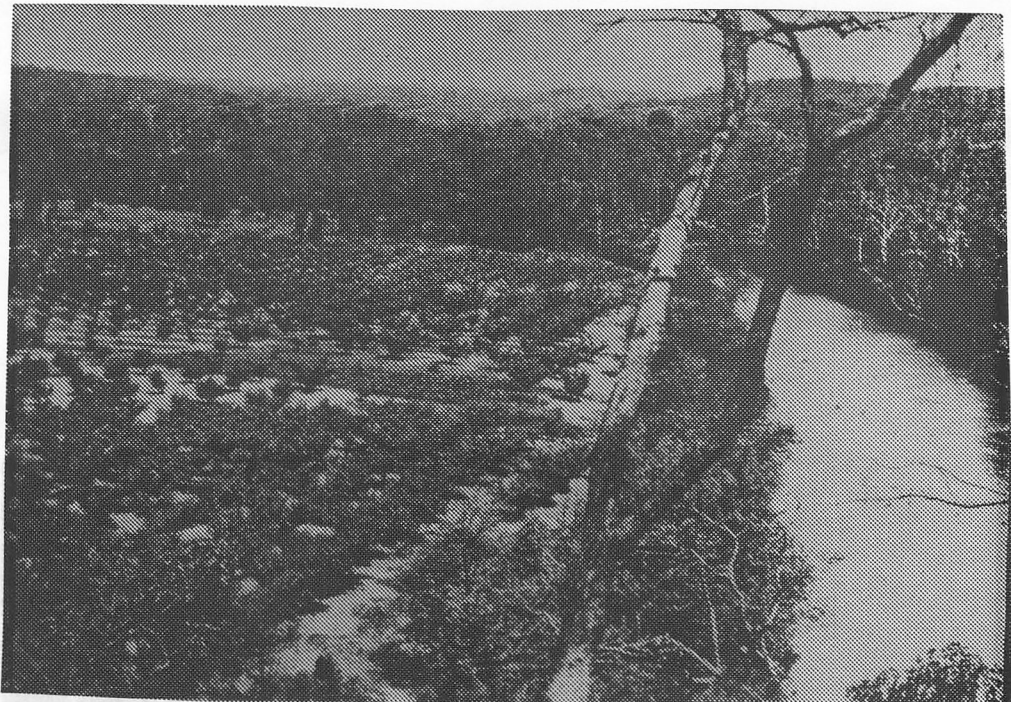
Departmental Architect Herbert R. Bastow agreed that a new building was necessary, but meanwhile requested "... the adoption of "some temporary expedient to keep rain from penetrating the roof".

McIntyre recommended "that the roof be carefully repaired with palings (at as little expense as possible) to make it water-tight, and a temporary stay fixed at end... this may answer for a few months... the cost should not exceed say £6."

FROM THE ARCHIVES



These two views of Till's Orchard were taken in about 1920. The orchard was located on the south side of the river at the end of what is now Till's Drive. The top photo shows the Caledonia Gold Mine on the right hand side.



Warrandyte Historical Society

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FEBRUARY 1992

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WE NEED A SECRETARY !

Gina Jones has regretfully resigned as Secretary of the Society as she now has full time employment. Gina has offered to continue with a number of jobs that she has been doing for the Society outside of her Secretarial duties.

It is with regret that we accept Gina's resignation and would like to thank her, Andrew and their girls for their input to the Society. We will miss Gina's drive and enthusiasm and we thank her for a job well done.

The Society has appointed an acting Secretary but would like to hear from anyone who could take on this important position. The Secretary's job is interesting and vital to the future of the Society. If you are interested please write to P. O. Box 67 Warrandyte, 3113.

WARRANDYTE FESTIVAL

This year's Festival will be held on the weekend of 28/29 March. The theme of the Festival will be "Wildlife in Warrandyte" and the Society is currently planning a float - see Ted or Bruce if you have any ideas or would like to assist.

VICTORIAN HERITAGE FESTIVAL

The Victorian Heritage Festival will be held during the period 4-16 April 1992. The Society, in conjunction with the City of Doncaster and Templestowe, will be conducting the following on 5 and 12 April (both Sundays):

- * Historic walk along the river
- * Historic walk through Andersons Creek Cemetery

For further details contact Ted or Bruce

KANGAROO GROUND FIRE BRIGADE

The Kangaroo Ground Fire Brigade has recently celebrated its Centenary. To mark the occasion Bruce Bence has written a book covering the history of the brigade from 1892 to 1992. The book, which costs \$10.00 is available at the Museum or from the Kangaroo Ground Fire Brigade.



An old prospector at Warrandyte who frequently wins "colours" of gold from the "pans" and the old workings.

The ceaseless tapping of the pick punctuated his words. Beads of perspiration slid down his face. When the sugar bag was full of "specimens" it was at a trot rather than a walk that he shambled down to the pool. Rigid and silent, he played the water round the dish. Silver and gold flashed dazzlingly. Then the agitating hands became still, and there, in the dish, was only coarse sand and clayey water. Slowly, one after the other, great beads of perspiration splashed into the water. His eyes searched unavailingly.

After the billy had been boiled we sat down outside the hut and watched the white smoke drifting away into the darkness. As the after glow faded, the trees seemed to draw closer, and became a solid black mass. Below, the Yarra tumbled in its rocky bed.

BARE-KNUCKLE ENCOUNTERS

"There were four hotels and nearly a thousand miners on the Warrandyte diggings then," continued the old fossicker. "Rough times they were, and a rough crowd. Good hearted enough, but you were no good as a man unless you could fight and drink and swear. The main street outside Floyne's Hotel was a kind of recognised battleground. Just a couple of words and there would be a ring in the twinkling of your eye, with two big, red shirted fellows hammering each other like pile drivers. The quietest fellows were generally the most dangerous. I remember seeing George Woodfield, a very silent chap, holding the head of a swaggering bully "in chancery" one day, and hammering him mercilessly until his face was a pulp."

"In a big barn in Templestowe we held dances. Real barn dances. We pushed the straw bales back against the walls and swept a space clear in the centre. Polkas, quadrilles, valettas, cotillions - we danced them all and when we were tired we perched our partners on top of the straw bales and sprawled on the loose straw below them. So you see even on the diggings we had our sense of gallantry. We always put women on a pedestal.



By the old-fashioned panning-out method several old miners gain a livelihood.

AN EARLY MINING DISASTER

"At Wheeler's mine, near Templestowe, in the eighties I was present when a terrible accident occurred. They were sinking a new shaft near an old shaft and drive which were full of water. They were working continuous shifts. Louis Grant and Jimmy Young had come home from a dance shortly after midnight, and we chatted together as they changed into their working clothes. They must have known the danger of striking water because before they went down Jimmy Young said to me, "Well we're going down, Mike, but we don't know whether we'll ever come up again." They were dead before they had been down half an hour. At the second charge they fired they broke into the old waterlogged drive.

1864, but I still laugh when I think of that journey. Bullock wagons were the usual means of transport, but at that time bullocks were scarce, and we were fortunate in securing a team. On the way we met a less fortunate party travelling in a light cart which had been forced to use a lazy old rascal of a horse called "Snookems" as leader with a dehorned bullock, a "poley" as they used to call them, behind it. We travelled with them for quite a long time. Up hill and down dale they went with their strange team, the bullock violently butting the horse every time it dozed off in the shafts, which was pretty frequently.

RICH REEF IN THE TOWNSHIP

"We met with success from the moment we reached the diggings. Within three weeks we took nearly 500 oz. of red gold out of one patch within two chains of where the present hotel stands. The miners were passing all day long, but nobody knew anything about it until the gold was in the bank. It didn't pay to talk. It's a strange thing, but where gold is very rich it is generally reddish, and the dirt around it is red - almost as though the ground had been soaked in blood.



Entrance to the Victory tunnel at Warrandyte, which runs direct for 300 yards into the centre of Victory Hill.

"My father and I also discovered the Masterton reef, which was small but rich - it went about 130 oz. to the ton. On the very day I returned to Warrandyte after a trip to the Farmer River diggings in North Queensland I found the best reef that had been discovered on the field up until that time. That was the Pigtail reef on Pigtail Hill at the back of the township. We won gold worth £12,000 from it."

HISTORY OF POTTERS COTTAGE

The following is a brief history of Potters Cottage and has been reprinted from a brochure advertising the Gallery and Restaurant.



MOONLIGHT COTTAGE

In 1958, five Warrandyte potters — Phyl Dunn, Arthur Halpern, Gus McLaren, Reg Preston and Charles Wilton, with John Hipwell as president — joined forces to promote an interest in Australian handmade pottery. The potters took over an old cottage near the Warrandyte bridge that was then known as "Moonlight Cottage", having been built in the 1890's by a miner working by moonlight after spending the day digging for gold at the New Caledonian mine.

After raising capital of £100 the potters spent many hours repairing and fitting out the old cottage. The name POTTERS COTTAGE was registered and officially opened by Dame Mabel Brookes in September, 1958. Public reaction was immediate: people could buy handmade pottery and talk to the potter. Word travelled quickly and soon most weekend visitors to Warrandyte called in to browse, buy or chat. In fact, so good was the public response that within two years, Potters Cottage had outgrown its origins and a larger property was purchased to replace "Moonlight Cottage".

The old Zock farmhouse on six acres was for sale and so in 1961, Potters Cottage moved to its present site in Jumping Creek Road. With the move came three new potters to the company, Elsa Arden, Sylvia Halpern and Kate Janeba. Once again the job of renovating and fitting out kept all hands busy. The official opening was performed by Professor Zelman Cohen on September 30th, 1961.

Again with overwhelming public response, the original cottage was considerably extended to meet the demand for handmade pottery and craft. Exhibitions were also popular with collectors and several pieces from Potters Cottage joined the permanent ceramics collection of the National Gallery of Victoria. In 1965 came the Potters Cottage Prize, where a cash prize was offered to the best exhibitor as encouragement for excellence in ceramics. Those who have won the prize include Les Blakeborough, Robin Welsh, Peter Rushforth, H. R. Hughan, Milton Moon, Greg Daly, Jo Szirer, Kim Martin, Paul Davis, Jeff Mincham and Victoria Howlett.

EXTRACTS FROM "The Ringwood Mail"

14 DECEMBER 1944

SOUTH WARRANDYTE

BUSH FIRE BRIGADE

A branch of the Bush Fire Brigade was formed at South Warrandyte last year, when over £40 was subscribed and handed to the central branch at Warrandyte for the purchase of equipment, which, with a truck and tank kindly loaned by Mr J Wilson, and an engine and pump loaned by Mr E Humphries, proved to be an effective fire fighting unit last year.

Since then further improvements have been made in equipping the sub-branch, and at the last meeting it was decided to install a siren on Mr Wilson's property.

With increased membership and the interest of all residents, this sub-branch will be a great asset to the district in safeguarding it from the menace of fires.

The membership fee is only 2/6 per year, but donations will be gratefully received by Mr Fleming, head master, State school, and Mr G Statton, hon sec, Croydon rd, Stn, Warrandyte.

MARCH 9 1944

BUSH FIRE RELIEF

CROYDON FUND

Previously acknowledged.	£22	12	0
Mr and Mrs G R White ..	1	0	0
	£23	12	0

RINGWOOD FUND

Previously acknowledged .	£74	0	0
Ringwood East Baptist Church	6	5	3
	£80	5	3

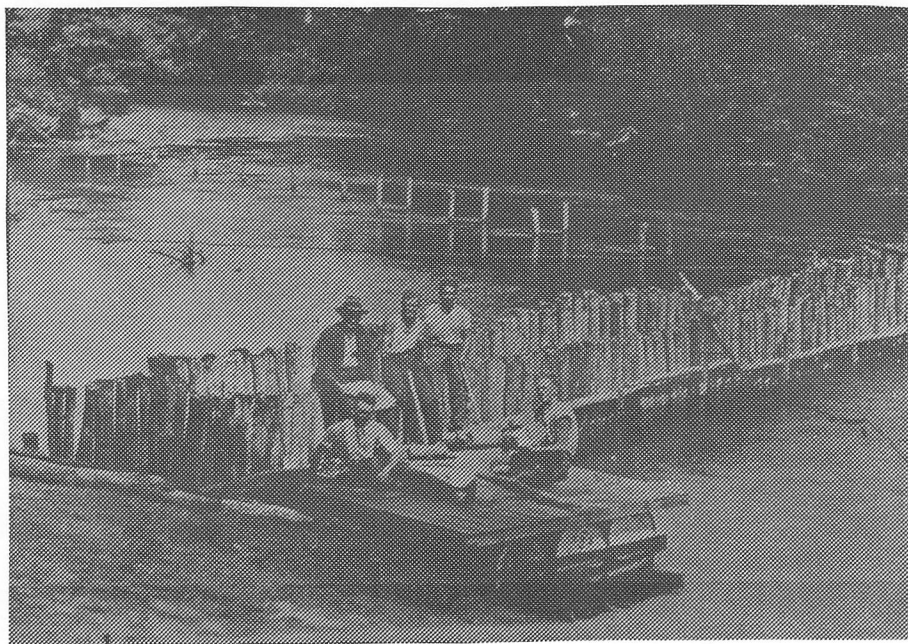
SOUTH WARRANDYTE

£21 RAISED FOR BUSH FIRE FUND

Held in aid of the Bush Fire Relief Fund, the dance at South Warrandyte on March 4, and the community singing at the hall on the previous Sunday, brought in £21 to the funds. Both functions were well attended, and the fund was helped by gifts and donations.

The prize of towels was won by Mrs C Milne. Mr Maggs acted as MC at the dance.

FROM THE ARCHIVES



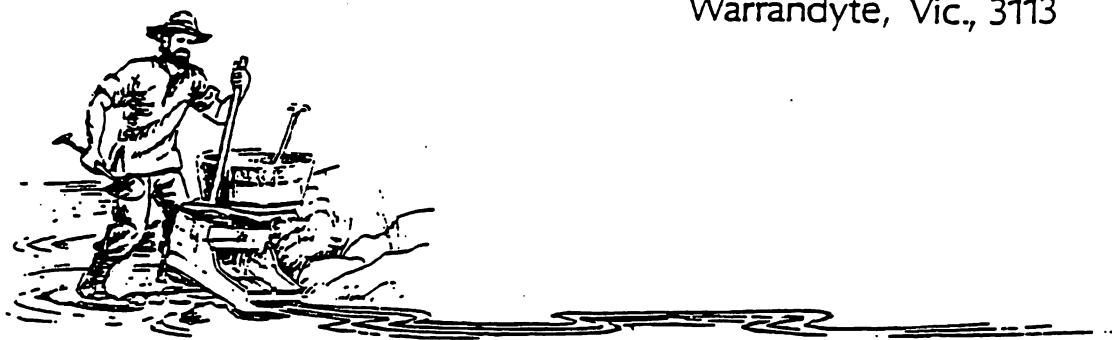
A coffer dam constructed in the river behind the Post Office during the Depression in the 1930's. The dam was used to keep water out whilst the river bed was searched for gold. There are still some remains of these timbers that can be seen when the water level is low.



The Old Post Office taken during the 1960's. It is interesting to note the types of cars being used at the time and also the old style telephone boxes in which you could actually hear the person talking to you !

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Creek.

A short time after Harry's arrival a sister Miriam arrived with her husband Henry Stiggant and her children. Thus at this time three brothers and two sisters were in the colony and four of them still in Andersons Creek.

James and his sons after spending some time at South Yarra moved on to Gippsland where at Rosedale they established the Gippsland Brick Works. James and his boys were joined by his wife Harriet and daughter Ellin. The family later sold the brickworks and took up land at Boolara where James ultimately died in 1896. James was not the only member of the family connected with brick making as in the late 19th century James Grey Russell owned and operated the Standard Brick Works at Box Hill. This family connection carried on unbroken until the 1970's. James' son Walter managed the works until his death in 1949 his place being taken by Edwin Houghton a grandson of Harry Houghton. Four of Edwin's brothers also worked at various times at the works and one brother Sydney having his right arm severed in an accident there in the 1930's. These works are still operating at the time of writing.

At Warrandyte the Stiggant family almost immediately struck it rich with discoveries of rich reefs. They discovered the Masterton Reef, the rich Pig Tail Mine, and two other lesser reefs. They remained at Warrandyte until the early 1920's when they moved to Box Hill.

After Harry's arrival he and Stephen lived together exactly opposite the present day gates of the Cemetery. In fact, fruit trees they planted there, were still standing until most of them were destroyed in the 1939 fires, although a cherry plum tree survived until at least 1949. Their gold prospecting efforts were not rewarded with any notable success.

Harry was a giant of a man and was renowned in the area for his great strength. He for some time operated the punt over the Yarra at Warrandyte, this punt was the only access to the north for several miles. In October 1866 on a very wet night, Harry's sister Ruth allowed a wet and hungry traveller to stay the night in a back shed. In the morning Harry rowed the man across the river. Only later did they discover that this man was the notorious bushranger Robert Bourke and the day after crossing the river he shot and killed a man named Hurst on the present site of Hurstbridge. Bourke was later hanged for this crime at Melbourne Gaol.

Harry was a Lay Preacher in the Wesleyan Church and in 1877 he married Jane Charlotte Osmond who was at the time the Principal of the Boroondara Ladies School "Matoonga Lodge" Hurvey Road, South Bourke.

daughter of James Wilkinson Mitchener who with his two brothers owned four blind manufacturing factories, the largest being in Russell Street, Melbourne where the Independent Church now stands, another was in Victoria Street, Abbotsford, one in Drummond Street, Carlton and another in Emerald Hill. The family owned the freehold of all these properties and the area in Emerald Hill bounded by Clarendon Street, Dorcas Street and John Street was owned by James Wilkinson Mitchener. Although for that time the family were in business in a large way, they suffered dreadfully in the Bank Crash and ensuing depression of the 1890's and were almost wiped out financially. Herbert Forden was a manager for his father-in-law so his circumstances were also much changed for the worse and as a consequence, the family moved to Warrandyte. May's brother Albert, was later killed in France in the First World War.

George's younger brother, Edwin, later married May's younger sister Elizabeth thereby further connecting the two families.

Herbert worked as an engine driver on the Caledonian Mine and the family later moved to the wattle and daub house on the corner of Main Road and what is now Trezise Street. This land was locally referred to as Perry's and was the site of Warrandyte's first Post Office. Herbert (Bert) who had a reputation as a man who could fix anything with his hands, conducted a boot making and repairing business plus a watch and clock repairing business at these premises. He also repaired cricket bats for a large number of Cricket Clubs in the Ringwood district. Bert died in 1942, his wife having predeceased him by several years. Both were buried in the Melbourne General Cemetery.

George and May Houghton lived immediately after their marriage, in the Warrandyte School residence which was then vacant. They only lived there a short time as they had purchased land on the corner of Main Road and Harris Gully Road where they built a house. They also purchased the Clark orchard which separated their land from George's father's property. Thus the only people to live in that area since 1855 were in fact Houghtons. When the Council named the road dividing his two properties, "Betton Crescent", George was annoyed and disgusted. The Bettons were comparatively recent arrivals and had either resided north of the River or in the eastern end of the township. The naming of this road once again illustrated the lack of judgement of Councils and also the lack of consideration shown in their almost indecent haste to name a street or road after a fellow Councillor without taking into account the community services rendered by other people.

George and May reared their ten children in the house. The house was burnt to the ground in the 1939 bushfire and another house was erected further down the hill and this remained the family home until George's death in July 1956, May having predeceased him in July 1953.

(to be continued)

Other reefs marked on the plan are the Hastings, the Scrubby, and the Eagle, situated to the south of the Caledonia Consols, the Black Swan to the south-east of the Caledonia mine, and the Bendigo, a little to the south-east of the Caledonia South. Dyke workings are seen on the hill-top directly to the east of the Caledonia. For yields, workings, &c., see reports mentioned below.

Felspar associated with the quartz reefs was noted at several of the mines, probably indicating the presence of small dykes other than the main north-west and south-east line, and adjacent to each reef. The Caledonia case is one example.

The reports mentioned below on this area and its reefs, leave but little for me to add:—

E. J. Dunn, F.G.S., Caledonia mine, Warrandyte. Rec. Geol. Survey, Vict., Vol. II., pt. 1, pp. 50-51, 1907.

R. A. F. Murray, F.G.S., Report on the Warrandyte Gold-field. Special Report, Department of Mines, Victoria, 1896.

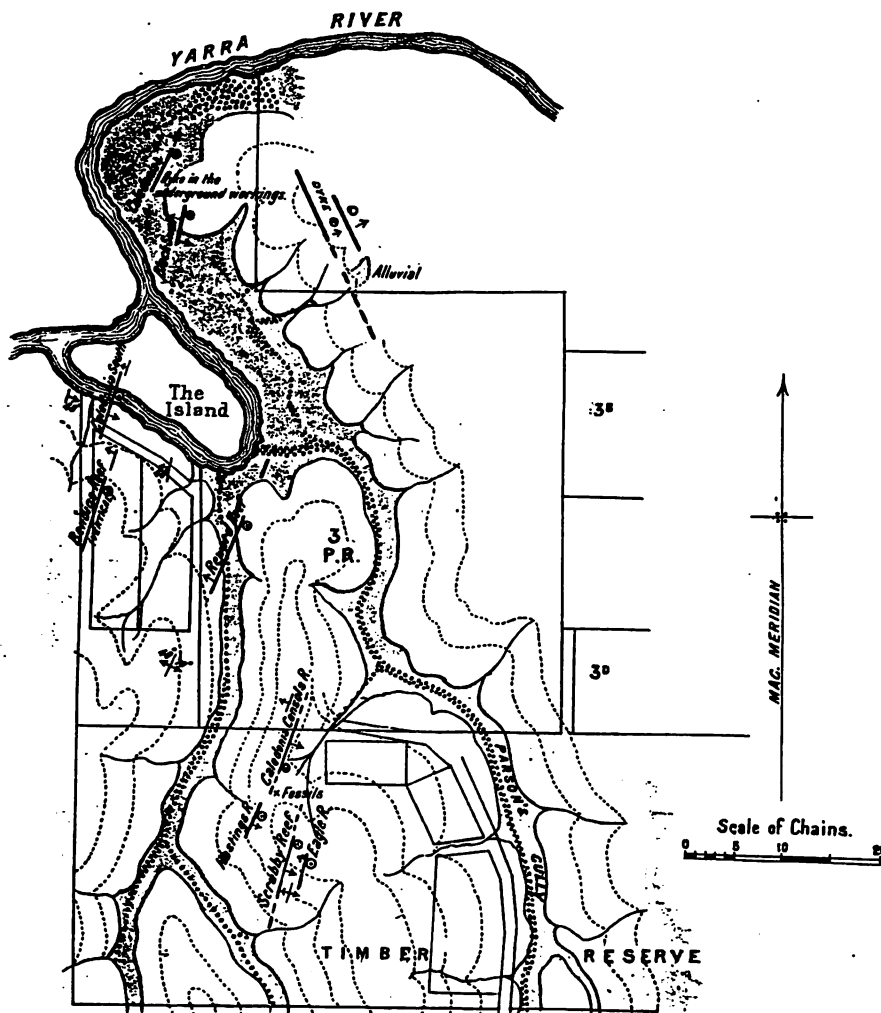
W. Forbes, Report on the geological survey of Warrandyte. Progress Report, Geological Survey, Victoria, No. IX., pp. 47-48, map and sections, 1898.

Other plans to the north and south of this area are:—Geological plan of Nillumbik by O. A. L. Whitelaw. Geological Quarter-Sheet 40 N.W., Warrandyte-Ringwood, by R. A. Moon, B.E.

[Report sent in 24.4.07.]

GEOLOGICAL PLAN

PORTION OF THE PARISH OF WARRANDYTE SHOWING THE REEFS OF THE CALEDONIAN GROUP



REFERENCE.

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| Alluvium. | Silurian (Mudstones, slates, shales & conglomerate). |
| Reefs, | Dykes, |
| Dips, | Anticlinal Folds, |
| Synclinal Folds, | Fossils. |
| Alluvial workings. | |

EXTRACTS FROM "The Ringwood Mail"

WEDDING

BELLINGHAM—ROBERTSON

A wedding of interest to Warrandyte residents was celebrated at Scots Church, Collins street, Melbourne, on Saturday, 13th November, when Joyce Agnes, 2nd daughter of Mr and Mrs A. Robertson of Warrandyte, was married to Lieut. Victor Bellingham, returned from Middle East and New Guinea, eldest son of Mr and Mrs T. Bellingham, Ballarat.

The bride was recently a member of the AWLA, and a number of Land Army girls formed a guard of honor.

The bride, who was given away by her father, presented a charming appearance in her wedding gown of heavy white suede crepe, elegantly beaded both sides of the centre front around a long hip line, with circular skirt billowing into a long train. A coronet of orange blossom, held in place a long white tulle veil falling gracefully to end of train. She carried a bouquet of water lilies and gardenias.

The train was carried by the bride's two nephews, Craig and Bruce Chivers and niece Lois Anderson. The white suits of the boys were of the same material as the bride's gown, with color patch of the groom on the pockets. Lois Anderson wore a frock of pale blue figured georgette and blue head dress with forget-me-nots and pink fairy roses.

The bride was attended by a bridesmaid, Pam Higgins, and a matron of honor, Mrs E. Chivers (sister). Their frocks were of pale blue suede crepe with long hip length bodice and full circular skirts. Their pale pink tulle head-dresses were held in place by delphiniums, blue hydrangeas and cornflowers. Their bouquets were of blue delphiniums interlaced with Cecil Brunner roses.

The best man was Flight Sgt. C. Robertson, brother of the bride. The groomsmen were F. Bellingham, brother of the groom. The uniforms and gowns made a colorful picture.

Following the ceremony over fifty guests were entertained by Mr and Mrs Robertson at the breakfast at the Warrandyte Hall.

Mrs Robertson chose a black suede crepe ensemble, with shoulder spray of orchids. The groom's mother wore a navy blue crepe ensemble and a spray of orchids.

The usual toast list was honored, the toast of the bride and bridegroom being submitted by Cr C. Hemsworth. The three tiered wedding cake was made by the bride's mother.

Over 200 guests attended the reception in the evening, and a happy time was spent in dancing to the strains of Milne's dance band.

Solos were rendered by Mrs H. Johnston, and Fay Anderson gave a display of tap dancing. Mr J. Schubert proved an efficient MC.

The happy couple were the recipients of many beautiful and valuable gifts.

The evening closed with the singing of *Auld Lang Syne*, and the bride and groom left amid cheering and best wishes to spend their honeymoon at Lorne.

18 NOVEMBER 1943



The Grand Hotel looking eastward in about 1900. Of interest in the photo are the horse and buggy in the foreground, the open balcony of the hotel, and the other buildings in Yarra Street.



The old Post Office in Yarra Street. The date when this photo was taken is not exactly known but it was at a time when it was used as a General Store selling newspapers. It is also known that between 1951 and 1956 it was used as a local lending library.