

Village Calendar

is on
PAGE TWO
this month



THE WARRANDYTE Diary

NUMBER 5

MAY 1, 1971

FREE

Circulating throughout Warrandyte, South Warrandyte,
North Warrandyte, Warranwood, Wonga Park
and Kangaroo Ground.

- This month Warrandyte Diary takes up editorial cudgels on a live and topical local issue.

WE SEEK OUR SHARE OF COUNCIL 'CAKE'

Warrandyte ratepayers were surprised to learn recently of the amount Doncaster and Templestowe City Council has contributed towards recreational facilities at Park Orchards compared to Warrandyte.

Some residents are asking if there is any truth in a report that council intends spending something like \$40,000 to acquire land to further develop Domeney Reserve at Park Orchards.

Warrandyte Diary understands that council originally spent \$20,000 to build a hall and pavilion at Domeney Reserve.

Later, an additional \$20,000 is said to have been spent on extensions.

Residents are asking what council is doing to provide similar facilities in Warrandyte.

Warrandyte Diary is sponsored by the youth club, a rapidly growing and well organised community project. That's why we are interested.

Let's face it. The Warrandyte Community Youth Club is catering for more than 120 active members each week.

Their cause cannot be

ignored on these figures. When it was suggested a youth club be formed in Warrandyte there were many who "knocked" the idea.

But now that it is a success, a problem lurks.

Our existing facilities are totally inadequate. The approach of winter will create further difficulties.

And there are other local organisations apart from the youth club, attempting to cater for their members in totally inadequate surroundings.

There is an urgent need for a community centre in Warrandyte, catering not only for the young, but also the elderly.

Cultural interests, too, could share in such a venture.

Recently, organisations in Warrandyte have been shown drawings and plans for a proposed community centre.

HOW DID THEY SUCCEED?

Why is Domeney Reserve a success?

Because:

- The people of Park Orchards worked strenuously to achieve their aims.
- They ignored sectional interests.
- They had one aim only.
- And they backed their council representatives all the way.

Their success was well deserved. What about it Warrandyte?

How concrete are these plans? Let's hope council will do everything in their power to make them a reality.

It is understood that land originally available for a community centre in Warrandyte has been reduced in size. Perhaps council can enlarge on this question.

There are many questions to be asked and answered.

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A season of one-actors

Following the success of "Goodnight Mrs. Puffin" by the Warrandyte Arts Association drama group, work has begun on another big production comprising three one-act plays.

Judging by early interest, this effort also looks like being a big success.

Casting auditions were held recently, and of 40 people, 22 were chosen to appear.

The three producers, Mairi Barkei, Jock Macneish and Doug McManus have unearthed some excellent talent.

Mairi Barkei is producing "Symphony in Illusion". Her cast includes Lois Osborne, Joan Blair, Jeanette Milner, Sharry McKenzie, Sue May, Leanne Brooks, and Sonia Hopkins, Keith McMahon is stage manager.

Jock Macneish is in charge of a smaller cast producing "The Form". In this cast are Enid Bird, Ann Martin, Jim Pleasance and Frank Turtle, Vicky Broome will be making her first attempt at stage managing.

The third play, "Love in an Ape House" is being pro-



duced by Doug McManus. His cast is Eric Bottomley, Doug Rogers, Jock Macneish, Diane Baxter. Peter Milner is stage manager.

Performance date for these plays will be June 18, 19, 24, 26, July 2, 3. A champagne supper will be served on the final night.

The drama group is considering engaging a tutor from the C.A.E. to conduct acting or production classes.

A theatre night has been planned for Sunday, May 9 to see Eugene O'Neill's "Long Day's Journey into Night" at the Balwyn Cinema. Tickets can be obtained from Joan Blair 844-3281.

Calendar

MAY

- 1st—WAA Children's Dancing & Painting Classes.
- 4th—WAA Children's Drama Class.
- 5th—Scouts & Cubs Ladies' Luncheon. Dental Talk at Kindergarten. Youth Club General Committee Meeting.
- 6th—Elderly Citizens' Club Afternoon.
- 7th—Club Night, Youth Club. ALP Meeting.
- 8th—WAA Children's Dancing & Painting Classes.
- 9th—WAA Theatre Night.
- 11th—WAA Children's Drama Class.
- 13th—Elderly Citizens' Club Afternoon.
- 14th—Club Night, Youth Club.
- 15th—WAA Children's Dancing & Painting Classes.
- 17th—Majellan Club.
- 18th—WAA Children's Drama Class.
- 20th—Elderly Citizen's Club Afternoon.
- 21st—Club Night, Youth Club.
- 22nd—WAA Children's Dancing & Painting Classes.
- 25th—WAA Children's Drama Class.
- 26th—Football Club Ladies' Luncheon. WPS Mothers' Club Meeting.
- 27th—Elderly Citizens' Club Afternoon. Scouts and Cubs Ladies' Auxiliary Annual Meeting.
- 28th—Club Night, Youth Club.
- 29th—WAA Children's Dancing & Painting Classes.

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Community centre in North Warrandyte

A community centre is to be erected in North Warrandyte, and residents expect that the first section of the centre will be in operation before the middle of next year.

The decision to build such a centre follows years of activity and agitation by North Warrandyte residents.

Plans are being prepared at the moment and the president of the North Warrandyte Infant Welfare and Pre-School Association, Mr. George James, told the Diary last week that it is hoped that an infant

welfare centre and kindergarten will be operating in the new complex by the beginning of second term, 1972.

Prior to the permanent centre becoming available, a temporary kindergarten will commence in the North Warrandyte Fire Brigade hall in Glynns Road.

Parents interested in enrolling their children in this kindergarten should contact Mrs. M. Frowd of Aton Street.

The temporary kindergarten should be in operation by the beginning of first term, 1972.

News that their community centre was at last becoming a reality was the main topic of discussion

at the annual general meeting of the North Warrandyte Infant Welfare and Pre-School Association held last month.

Office bearers elected were as follows: President: Mr. G. James, Vice-Presidents: Mrs. J. Antonoff and Mr. D. Hogg, Secretary: Mrs. M. Frowd, Treasurer: Mr. R. Bell.

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column of news and views from Doncaster and
Templestowe Council, contributed by Cr. Viv
Rush.**

Dying Trees

Doncaster and Temple-
stowe Council is the com-
mittee of management for
the river reserve near the
township.

Council asked for an in-
vestigation to be made to
determine why well-estab-
lished trees appeared to be
dying along the river bank.

The Curator, (Mr. Max
Holmyard) reported that
between Stiggant Street and
the bridge several eucalypts
have been killed with scale

and mistletoe, willows have
been ringbarked and wattles
killed by wattle grubs. In
the Stiggant Street area
filling and waterlogging has
killed several trees and in
Everard Drive filling in the
gully has killed others.

Council has directed that
the mistletoe be pruned and
dead trees be removed and
replaced. Council funds will
be used.

Meals on Wheels

Council has granted \$150
to subsidise Meals on
Wheels for Doncaster and
Templestowe city residents
in Warrandyte for twelve
months. A request was
made for 20 cents a meal.
With three meals a week
the Council could be com-
mitted to \$30 a year per
person or \$60 for each
couple. It therefore decided
on a definite committal.

Recreation Reserve

Doncaster and Temple-
stowe is also the committee
of management for the re-
creation reserve.

A meeting last month
with representatives of the
users discussed:

- Storeroom space and a
brick canteen, area for
extra cars and focussing
the floodlights for the
footballers.
- Lighting of area between
pavilion and toilets for
Youth Club.
- Repairs to the practice
nets and a light grading
of the lower ground for
the cricketers.

Due to the great damage
done it was recommended
that a sign be erected to
prohibit horses and cars on
the playing areas.

The Curator's staff was
complimented on the stan-
dard of the grounds.

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TEACHERS STATE THEIR POLICY

school rooms

"In their maturity the world will do things better." It is with these words that the staff at Warrandyte Primary School begin their "school policy".

The school's principal (Mr. L. W. Mares) stated last week that the teachers have written the policy as a guide for their own future endeavours, and as an indication to parents and others in the community of the broad aims of the school.

"Our endeavour shall be to enable each child to develop in all ways to his fullest capacity and to fit himself to become a competent member of an improving society.

"We subscribe to the view that all children are different, having a wide range of abilities and interests. Each child will therefore be encouraged to go as far and as fast as his abilities and interests permit.

"As a major initial step towards successful living, acquisition of the Basic Skills in Reading, Expression and Mathematics is considered to be essential.

"There will be little segregation into age-groups in the playground or into ability groups in the classrooms.

"Children will be encouraged to develop through their own special interests and abilities and to be conscious of the needs, abilities and rights of other children.

"The teachers will work together as a team conscious of the fact that the

development of the child began before it reached school and will continue beyond the primary school stage.

"The school will endeavour to become fully aware of the community at large and to become interested in and involved in its activities and problems.

"Similarly the community at large is invited to become interested in and involved in the activities and problems of the school.

"People with special interests and abilities will be encouraged to offer their knowledge and talents on suitable occasions to benefit the school.

"Parent bodies will be invited to submit policy suggestions for consideration.

"The goal we are aiming on the way to a happy, successful life in the society of the day."

HOW TO GET YOUR DIARY

Warrandyte Diary is letterboxed throughout the Warrandyte and North Warrandyte postal delivery areas.

Free copies are obtainable from McDonald's Newsagency, Selby Store, Golden Gate Store, and general stores in South Warrandyte, Warranwood, Wonga Park and Kangaroo Ground.



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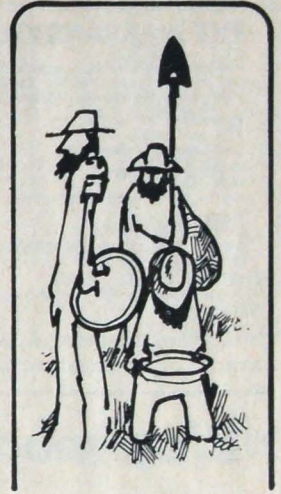
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HARRY HUDSON'S
WARRANTYTE STORY

Paddy's tunnel -and others



An Irishman named Patrick Geraghty, who pegged a claim measuring 600 yards by 200 yards on Fourth Hill in June 1859, made the first attempt at organised mining in the Warrandyte district.

In an endeavour to find the main lode, he drove a tunnel from the eastern side. In eight months the tunnelling had advanced to a distance of 400 feet, and was equipped with a light tramway. There is no record of Geraghty ever getting any return from his expensive enterprise. It is known, however, that Chatty and Smith worked it with some success later.

Geraghty, with five Warrandyte miners, prospected successfully in the Dandenoons where the Emerald Nicholson and Britannia Goldfields were established. The party was rewarded by the Government to the extent of £500. Geraghty owned the most lucrative goldmine of all in later years as proprietor of Rowena Hotel, Richmond.

Many attempts were made to uncover the gold-bearing lode, but all seemed doomed to failure during "lull years".

Messrs. Clark and Brown made the cutting at Thompson's Bend — now known

as The Island — in an endeavour to uncover about a quarter mile of river bed. £7,000 was expended on the project, which employed 56 men, but the result was only an expensive island which is still argued over.

Dr. Owen, Bendigo's first Member of Parliament, formed the Yarra Yarra Steam Puddling Co., with a plant capable of pumping 7,700 gallons of river water an hour, to treat gold-bearing soil in Whipstick Gully. Bad drainage caused this project to fail.

John Capper opened a crusher on Sloan's Hill, treating quartz at £1 a ton. Inefficient machinery caused too much wastage, so another project broke down until Grants Battery, worked by water power, was constructed in 1868.

There does not appear to have been much interest in anything other than mining around Warrandyte, although the rest of the district found farming, and later fruitgrowing, profitable.

Despite the inactivity, there was a community social life born of pioneering. Someone had a French horn which competed with the bell-birds and magpies as it echoed throughout the bush-clad hills. Cricket continued as relaxation between the men of the district. Picnics made the game a happy family affair while

the kookaburras "laughed to see such fun".

Apparently the punt had outworn its usefulness by 1860. In October of that year, William Elliot of East Melbourne contracted to build a bridge over the Yarra on the same crossing used by the punt. Within a year it was completed at a cost of £880 against the contract price of £1,200.

Warrandyte's communications were improving, as the balance of the contract price was spent in making a metal road between Warrandyte and Deep Creek, a distance of 3½ miles.

The new bridge served the district well until a phenomenal flood in December 1863 swept it away. It was never rebuilt on that site.

During the early years the settlement at Anderson's Creek was very much a "canvas town", similar in appearance to all gold-rush towns. Tents were pitched wherever claims were pegged, while larger tents acted as stores. The desire to tear wealth from the quartz did not allow for the finer things of life. The only semblance to permanent dwellings was on Major Newman's property, originally the slab huts of James Anderson.

Often during those early years the settlement was washed out when the river rose, flooding Anderson's

Creek. One can imagine the scene as the miners rowed boats over the diggings, fetching up with someone's tent across the prow amidst boisterous laughter, and possibly much horseplay as they probed the mud for their lost rum.

The good humour of our pioneer families in the face of the most appalling conditions is well known. Without their humorous outlook, the pioneers, to whom we pay tribute, could not have survived.

Throughout Australia, the spirit of the early settlers was nothing short of miraculous as they wrestled with the problems of taming this new land, so very different from overcrowded Britain.

The summer heat blazing from the incredibly blue sky turned the settlement of canvas into a veritable oven, so that the river was a haven of refreshment after work.

No doubt the rum bottle, on a string, lay cooling in the river's depths, much as fishermen of today cool a bottle of ale.

Gradually, however, during the "settling in" year, tents gave way to huts of wattle and daub, then houses with shingle roofs and later still the ubiquitous corrugated iron.

• CONTINUED NEXT
MONTH.

THE WARRANDYTE DIARY

Published monthly as a combined fund-raising and service project by the General Committee of the Warrandyte Community Youth Club.

President:

KEN MCKENZIE
David Street, Warrandyte.

Secretary:

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Harris Gully Road, Warrandyte (844 3110).

Treasurer:

LINDSAY THATCHER
Storn's Road, North Warrandyte (844 3851).

Senior Youth Leader:

GEORGE VLEK
Vallias Street, North Warrandyte.

Editor:

CLIFF GREEN
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Briarly Martin's Corner...

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ment or outraged denial
at 844 3914.

Temple Taxis have done us honour by winning the Dunlop Trophy in connection with the 3DB Children's Hospital Appeal during Easter.

The award is given for the highest aggregate of money collected for the appeal by workers for the Taxi Drive.

The trophy is a handsome shield of polished wood.

* * *

Our congratulations can take flight too, on hearing of Mrs. Inge King's awards for the winning entry of a commemorative sculpture to mark the 50th anniversary of the RAAF.

The sculpture, 25 feet high, is an imaginative conception, symbolic of both spiritual and physical achievement and will stand in Anzac Parade, Canberra.

We are proud to offer our heart-felt good wishes.

* * *

Are members of the Majellan Club here aware that the first Roman Catholic Church established in Warrandyte was named St. Gerard Majella after the patron saint who founded an order for the benefit of mothers and their children?

The church dignitary who gave the church that name must have been thinking of the hard life of mothers in Warrandyte at that time. How they toiled, brought up large families and carried on under pretty primitive conditions.

The Majellan Club meets every third Monday in the month, incidentally.

Mrs. Viv Rush would be glad to hear from anyone who has a photo of the old St. Gerard's, lost — like so much of old Warrandyte — in a fire. Her phone number is 844 3438.

* * *

With regret we now say goodbye to Alice and Ken Watson, who for so long have seen to our wants at the Grand Hotel.

They have sold the hotel and plan to amble up the east coast in a trading vessel, idling through the Malay Archipelago, calling at Jakarta, Singapore, Penang and perhaps finding themselves eventually in the South Pacific.

Their hospitality and many kindnesses will be long remembered.

FAREWELL TO FIRE CHIEF

An evening was held at Alfred's Homestead last month to farewell Mr. and Mrs. Ted Salgari.

Mr. Salgari is president of the Warrandyte Fire Brigade, and the brigade organised the occasion to honour Mr. and Mrs. Salgari who are leaving Warrandyte after 32 years' residence here to make a new home at Corio.

Mr. Salgari has been an active member of the brigade for many years, and their numerous Warrandyte friends wished them both every happiness in their new home.

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Senior farewell to Ken & Alice Watson

Last month the Warrandyte Elderly Citizen's Club farewelled Mr. and Mrs. Ken Watson.

Mr. Watson was a trustee of the club and was formerly licensee of the Grand Hotel.

Club secretary Mr. Bob Watson said this week that Mr. Watson always took a keen interest in the activities of the club.

As a gesture of appreciation for all the kindnesses shown to the club, Mr. and Mrs. Watson were each presented with a travelling rug at the club's weekly meeting.

Responding, Mr. Watson said he was sorry to be leaving Warrandyte, but assured the gathering that after nine years in the district he had made many

elderly
citizens 

friends, and both he and Mrs. Watson would be back to renew old acquaintances.

Membership of the club is 115 and weekly attendances are increasing.

Carpet bowls are proving popular and the women members are better than the men.

In March, 37 members went by charter bus on a

beach visit to Hampton. The outing was most successful.

An excellent lunch was served by mine host of the Hampton Hotel.

Club afternoons will be held on May 6, 13, 20 and 27.

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READERS'
LETTERS

● **Tripping the light fantastic**

Sir,
I note that the newspaper Warrandyte Diary is issued as a community service.

I wonder if you could put forward the suggestion that a 50/50 dance, such as is held in South Warrandyte Hall, could be held in Warrandyte on a Saturday night once a month.

If it was held on a different night to South Warrandyte many would attend both, and it could prove both popular and profitable.

I know there are other dances in the area, but they are not 50/50 dances, where the whole family can go and enjoy themselves.

—G.M.S.

● **Lead kindly light**

SIR,
There have been many accidents on the section of Ringwood Road between Masonic Avenue and Jumping Creek Road, some of them fatal.

A couple of electric light poles might be some help in this very dark area.

—(Miss) A. BRANSTON.

MORATORIUM SPEAKER

The Rev. John Lloyd, secretary of the Vietnam moratorium campaign, will speak at the meeting of the Warrandyte ALP on Friday, May 7.

The meeting is being held at the home of Mr. L. Barkei, Mitchell Ave., Warrandyte. Proceedings will begin at 8 p.m.

AS SEASON OPENS . . .

SUPPORT FOR FOOTBALLERS

No football club can function successfully without the help of women on the sidelines.

Warrandyte Football Club is fortunate in this respect. They have a keen and active band of women working to raise money for the club.

In addition to organising the refreshment booth at each home game, they conduct several social functions each year.

One of the highlights this season will be a chicken luncheon and knitwear parade on Wednesday, May 26.

Venue is the home of Mrs. K. Luttick, Beauty Gully Road, Warrandyte. The starting time is 11.30 a.m.

A full range of new season's knitwear will be available and can be purchased at a discount. More than 30 items will be on display.

Admittance is \$1.50 which includes the luncheon and sherry. Further inquiries can be made with Mrs. Luttick at 844-3687.

Away from the social scene, Warrandyte first 18 fought back strongly in the last quarter to get the better of North Ringwood.

Final scores: Warrandyte 15.9, North Ringwood 11.8. Best for Warrandyte: Stephens, Cornhill, Kerkhof, Hutchinson, G. Bensch (4 goals).

Second Eighteen: North Ringwood 10.18, Warrandyte 7.12. Best: Jackson,

Cook, Lansdowne, Johnson, J. Read.

Under 17: North Ringwood 11.6, Warrandyte 9.5. Best Austin, L. Smith, M. Bensch, P. Young.

Under 15: North Ringwood 15.12, Warrandyte 1.2. Best R. Smith, Dunnet, G. Broome, McCartin.

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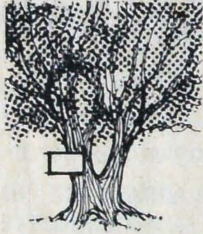


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DRAMA CLASSES FOR CHILDREN

The classes are conducted by Dr. E. Aldor under the auspices of WAA and are held each Tuesday afternoon from 4.30 until 6.00 in the Mechanics' Hall.

A call went out last week to young people interested in becoming youth leaders with the Warrandyte Community Youth Club.

The club is now conducting programs for children and young people in Warrandyte through all age groups from 8 to 21 years.

A small band of excellent young people has been attracted to the youth leadership positions within the club, but they are being drastically overworked, and unless more leaders can be found, some of the club's activities may have to be curtailed.

The club is prepared to give new people professional training, much of it at residential schools and camps organised by the Victorian Association of Youth Clubs. The cost of such training is borne by the Warrandyte club.

The Warrandyte club prides itself on the democratic, child-centred attitude it takes to children's activities. Gone are the authoritarian, uniform-wearing approach of other days.

The club's activities are

based, as far as facilities will allow, upon the child's own needs, interests and desires.

The basic requirements for youth leadership in the club are a lively interest in young people and some spare time — mainly on Friday nights, occasionally at weekends.

Anyone interested can phone Ron Harris, 844 3110.

Parents are reminded that minimum age for attendance at youth club functions is 8 years.

It has been noted that some children attending club nights are below this age. Under-age children are not covered by insurance policies taken out by the club and are an added burden on already overworked youth leaders.

**youth
club** 

Leaders cannot be expected to devote time better spent on children's activities in constantly checking rolls and ages. Parents are therefore respectfully asked not to send children to the club who are below minimum age.

ADDRESS BY DENTIST

A talk on dental care for pre-school children will be given at the Warrandyte Kindergarten on Wednesday, May 5 at 8 p.m.

Speaker will be Mr. Malcolm Bird, dentist, of North Warrandyte. His subject will be "Diet, and Teeth of the Pre-School Child."

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