

THE WARRANDYTE *diary*

NUMBER 44

NOVEMBER 1, 1974

FREE

IN RED & WHITE



OLD MINE GOES UNDER

Heritage bulldozed

One of the last chapters of Warrandyte's history has been closed . . .

By the bulldozers of officialdom.

Local residents were shocked to discover that the last remnants of the famous Victory Mine in Whipstick Gully had been obliterated.

All that remains of an irreplaceable part of Warrandyte's past is a scar on the landscape.

Said one stunned resident: "While places like Ballarat and Swan Hill are artificially reconstructing their past, real history in Warrandyte, dating from the 1880's has been destroyed in a matter of days.

"The Victory Mine, only a stone's throw from the old post office, was the second richest mine in Warrandyte. "Surely Warrandyte, Victoria's first goldfield, should fight all the way to preserve its heritage".

Gold was first discovered in Victoria on June 30, 1851, when Louis Michel, a Melbourne publican, washed some mud and gravel from the bed of Anderson's Creek and panned off a few gleaming specks.

The site of his discovery is marked by the gold memorial cairn off Gold Memorial Road, Warrandyte. This cairn has been subjected to numerous at-

tacks by vandals over recent years.

As the alluvial gold and the shallow workings gave out, the larger companies and syndicates moved in, sinking deep shafts and engaging in extensive tunnelling.

One of the most successful was the Victory Mine.

The clearing at the head of Whipstick Gully originally contained the extensive workings of the Victory Mine.

All that remained of this complex — until the bulldozers moved in — was a large drive, tunnelling deep into Fourth Hill, and a ventilation shaft, complete with timbering and a windlass.

A local syndicate, gaining access to the old Victory Mine via the ventilation shaft, worked it with some success in recent years.

It was no bonanza, but as they said, "It was more lucrative than doing overtime at work, and a lot more fun, too".

The tunnel and shaft in Whipstick Gully have been featured in newspapers and film and television productions shown all over Australia, and several scenes in the ABC's recent production "Rush" were shot in the old tunnel, now gone forever.

These historic reminders of our colourful past were situated on land "reserved for mining purposes". When this edition of the Diary went to press it was uncertain as to who was responsible for this act of official vandalism.

WALK A SUCCESS

About 80 people took part in the recent walk around Warrandyte conducted by the Warrandyte Environment League.

League officials said the walk was an outstanding success.

It began at Stiggants Reserve and went along Harris Gully and Gold Memorial roads, then through the proposed national park via Fourth Hill and Whipstick Gully.

Along the way members pointed out many interesting, and sometimes distressing features, including new estates, types of trees, road widening schemes, water pollution, erosion caused by MMBW pipeline construction and damage caused by trail bikes.

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CLYDE & OCKER



• "When are they gonna fill in that flamin' old river, Ock?"

The Warrandyte bus had reached Templestowe en route to the city and the little old lady was having trouble finding a match in her handbag.

"You wouldn't have a light, would you?" she asked of three high school kids (two fellows and a bird) sitting opposite.

"Yeah. You wouldn't have three spare cigarettes, would you?" responded one of the fellows.

The bus rolled on.

Three school kids puffing away contentedly, well satisfied with the bargain they'd struck.

And one little old lady drawing thoughtfully on her cigarette and quite possibly wondering what the younger generation was coming to.

★ ★ ★

The local bloke who gave his kids a horse laughed like hell when a neighbour (unintentional pun) said that they'd get a big kick out of it.

Same bloke wasn't laughing when, first day, it ripped the hitching rail off his verandah.

Tenders from the glue factory accepted.

★ ★ ★

"Mind if I play nine with you?" asked the young bloke of a solo golfer about to tee off at the local course.

"I don't hit the ball very far", he apologised in advance.

Nine holes later, our would-be solo golfer was still wondering if he'd seen right.

Four under the card?

This small hitter of the ball had just made golf look child's play.

And the birdie three on the last just couldn't have been faulted.

There's a logical explanation, though.

Seems our young friend is the club manager's son.

Must get a lot of practice.

And after all, he IS 12.

★ ★ ★

The Shire of Eltham works in strange and wondrous ways — and far be it for old Smokey to question 'em.

But get on to this conversation from a shire workman and an uphill pedestrian on that much-discussed Research Road work.

Pedestrian: "Are you going to pave that guttered bit?"

Workman: "Don't ask me mate — I only do the rockery".

Rockery? Rockery?

Good Lord!

★ ★ ★

Somebody Out There Loves Us Department.

Every since the Diary first hung its yellow mail box on the old cypress tree in Yarra Street, we have been the willing recipients of all manner of thoughtful trivia.

Lolly papers, icy-pole sticks, religious tracts, rat-bag notes and comments. Plus most of the news items you've read in these pages over the past four years.

Then, a while back, some kind soul began slipping pre-metric money through the little slot: a halfpenny, a couple of pennies, a sixpence or two. Last month we got a genuine ten bob note!

Keep all those cards and letters and solid gold sovereigns rollin' in, folks . . .

★ ★ ★

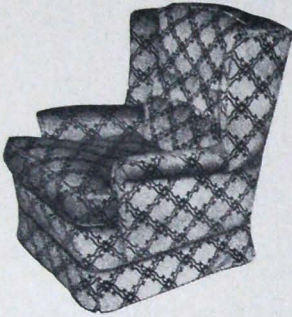
Who was the conspicuous bloke at the most successful Yarra Glen vineyard night organised by our local primary school committee?

The one who spent the evening drinking beer — produced at regular intervals from his car fridge — while the wine (which he'd paid for in advance anyway) flowed from taps.

There is possibly no truth in the rumour that he's bought a flagon of red in anticipation of an invitation to a free function at the brewery.

— Smokey Joe

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DIABETIC SURVEY

Sunday, 1st December

Tests carried out in Warrandyte area by qualified Medical Officers and nursing staff. The tests involve the taking of a blood sample which is processed — and the results made known to you immediately.

Surveys conducted by Lions in other areas have found significant numbers of diabetics in the community.

REGISTRATION FOR TESTING:

BILL RIGGS NEWSAGENCY

MONDAY, 25th — FRIDAY, 29th NOV.

EARLY DETECTION PREVENTS PROBLEMS

YOUR DECISION ON SCHOOLS IS IMPORTANT

Lions' health check

The Lions Club of Warrandyte will conduct a diabetic survey in Warrandyte on Sunday, December 1.

The local doctor Robert Allen has paid a tribute to the project.

"It's a very worthwhile project and everyone in the community should take advantage of the opportunity", he said.

The diabetes surveys were begun last year by Lions District 201S of which Warrandyte is a member.

The district presented a glucose analyser worth \$2800 to the Austin Hospital.

It is believed the Lions survey using the glucose analyser is the first of its type in Australia.

On December 20 in Warrandyte, about 20 members of the Lions Club will be helping with the survey.

Registration forms for testing will be available at Bill Riggs newsagency, Yarra St., Warrandyte from November 25 to 29.

The Warrandyte community will be given an opportunity this month to contribute to the continuing discussion around the future administration of state schools in Victoria.

A public meeting in the Warrandyte Mechanics' Hall on Wednesday, November 13, will discuss various alternative proposals and decide which form of "local government" may prevail for the local primary school.

Mr. Lance Vizard, school committee chairman, told the Diary this week:

"Some of the suggestions put forward envisage a school committee vastly different in power and composition from those at present in schools.

"It is imperative that as many parents and others interested attend this meeting, so that our final decision really does reflect the desires and needs of the Warrandyte community.

"To enable you to make a worthwhile contribution to the discussion you are advised to collect a booklet from the school, setting out

the various proposals in detail".

The four proposals, briefly stated, are as follows:

- The status quo. No change in the present structure.

- A form of council which includes elected parents, elected teachers, co-opted members of the community and, where appropriate, elected students, with an advisory function on educational matters.

- A school council which includes parents and members of the community which may or may not be advised by a school education committee consisting of principal, teachers, parents, members of the community and, where appropriate, students.

- Any combination of membership which is agreed to by the school council, principal and staff, parents and members of the community.

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Despite rain . . .

SPORTS ARE WINNER

Particularly encouraging for both children and teachers was the large number of parents who came along to cheer the competitors and enjoy the picnic atmosphere at the recent Warrandyte Primary School inter-house sports.

Here are the winners, up to the point where the sports had to be abandoned because of rain.

Boys' broad jumps: Under 6, P. Butterworth; under 7, J. Preston; under 8, P. Sharpe; under 9, M. Wagner; under 10, C. Walker; under 11, T. Cruickshank; under 12, R. Silis; over 12, B. Schepisi.

Girls' broad jumps: Under 6, A. Bone; under 7, K. Schmalz; under 8, M. Wilson; under 9, P. Gibson; under 10, J. Irving; under 11, J. Tindale; under 12, L. Day; over 12, D. Stringer.

Boys' high jumps: Under 9, G. Walshe; under 10, C. Walker; under 11, A. Plapp; under 12, B. Schepisi; over 12, S. Stringer.

Girls' high jump: Under 9, N. Rosin; under 10, A. Bury; under 11, S. Schepisi; under 12, L. Day; over 12, D. Stringer.

Boys' triple jump: Under 11, P. Morris; under 12, P. McGrath; over 12, S. Stringer.

Boys' hurdles: Under 11 (A), A. Walsh (B) D. Bishop; under 12 (A) B. Schepisi, (B) M. Irving; over 12 (A) S. Stringer, (B) G. Hills.

Girls' hurdles: Under 11 (A) L. Humphrey, (B) A. Bury; under 12 (A) E. Day, (B) L. Cruickshank; over 12 (A) D. Stringer, (B) T. Rosien.

Boys' sprints: Under 6, C. Curry; under 7, S. Torok; under 8, P. Sharpe; under 9, M. Evans; under 10, A. Manser; under 11, B. King; under 12, D. Von de Lippe; over 12, S. Stringer.

Girls' sprints: Under 6, L. Bensch; under 7, K. Schmalz; under 8, S. Smith; under 9, F. Schmalz; under 10, A. Bury; under 11, J. Andrew; over 12, D. Stringer.

The results of the postponed events, held later, arrived too late for publication. We hope to print them in our December issue.

WRITING PRIZES

St. John's Presbyterian Church, Warrandyte, will hold a prose and poetry competition in conjunction with their Christmas fair on Saturday, November 9.

The competition is open to all primary school children and will be judged according to age ability.

PASSED ON

The death occurred last month of Margo Raeburn in the Sandringham Hospital.

Margo worked in the office of the old Warrandyte Water Trust. She is survived by her sister Mrs. Carol Bayard, of Melbourne Hill.

BIRTHDAY

The Warrandyte Elderly Citizens Club will hold their birthday party in the White House on Thursday, November 7.

Everyone is welcome and afternoon tea will be served.

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FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY — DON'T MISS IT!

WEATHER BREAKS FOR CRICKET

WARRANDYTE Diary SPORTS NEWS

Following several washed out Saturdays, the season eventually got under way late last month for the Warrandyte Cricket Club.

3RD TERM PRESIDENT

Mr. Laurie Sloan was elected president of the Warrandyte Football Club recently for his third term.

Other appointments were: Vice-president: T. Warr. Secretary: V. Thornton. Assist. sec.: T. Kerkhof. Treasurer: K. Luttick. Committee: R. Garlapp, N. Smith, G. Lawrence, T. Perry, P. Lovett, J. Riddle, E. McLean, J. Blair, G. Lee, D. Street.

Team managers: First 18: S. Shore. Second 18: B. Jones. Property steward: D. Street. Registration and insurance officer: S. Shore.

Several new players have joined the club and are performing well.

But the club would like to hear from boys keen to join the three junior teams.

Despite some fine bowling by Alan Woolcock and John Tuckwell the A grade side went down by 13 runs against St. David's.

St. David's scored 127 (Woolcock 3/26, Tuckwell 3/30) and 5/144 (G. Roberts 2/33). Warrandyte scored 114 (Rowbotham 26, Ferguson 20).

The B2 side won outright by an innings and five runs against Mitcham. Warrandyte were helped along to a big score by Cooper's 69 and Warwick Blair's 35.

Scores were: Warrandyte

3/181 dec. Mitcham 76 (P. Brown 5/18) and 80 (W. Blair 5/16).

The under-16 side appeared to be in a sound position before play was washed out on the second day. Warrandyte scored 76. Ian Broome dominated the innings with a well compiled 45. East Burwood were 3/10 when play was washed out.

The under-14 side struggled for runs against the strong Box Hill North. Warrandyte scored 19 and 35. Box Hill North were all out for 125.

The under-12 side lost their first game outright and gained points in the next round when their opponents forfeited.

A recent practice game mainly for under-12 players was a success. More than 20 players turned up.

Considerable controversy surrounds the recent bowling performance of under-12 player Dale McCartin. In one game he took a wicket, bowled a no-ball, took another wicket, was no-balled again, then took another wicket.

Some cricket followers say it was a hat-trick. Others say it was not.

Once again this Christ-

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THE WARRANDYTE DIARY

"Of the community,
by the community,
for the community".

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FIRE GROUP IN BIG DISPLAY

The lower Yarra rural fire brigade group will hold a demonstration day at the Warrandyte Recreation Ground, on Sunday, November 24.

Brigades from Warrandyte, Yarrambat, North Warrandyte, Research and South Warrandyte will be present.

Brigade officials are hoping for a big attendance so that residents can see the latest in fire fighting equipment and fire fighting methods.

Top Country Fire Authority officials and local councillors will be attending. The program will begin at 9.30 a.m.

It should be an ideal day for families. Barbecues and refreshments will be available.

Catering will be handled by the combined ladies' auxiliary. Admittance is by donation and programs will be available.

The Warrandyte fire fighters social committee have held several successful functions recently. The evening at Ferguson's Winery, Yarra Glen, raised more than \$100.

Another good night was the theatre evening on October 25.

Next big effort is the seafood dinner on November 9. A raffle of toys and native plants has been planned for Christmas.

The committee is seeking new members. For further information contact Robyn Hodgkinson 844-3641 or Joan Shugg 844-2368.

LETTERS

Support

I would like to heartily applaud Cr. Ian Marsden, Mayor of the City of Doncaster and Templestowe, for his condemnation of the suggestion to form a "Municipality of Warrandyte".

The sound commonsense and the logic expressed in his comments published in the Diary should convince the few not already aware of the stupidities of such a scheme.

I regret that the short notice prevented me attending the annual general meeting of W.E.L. and stating publicly my opinion on the matter which I understand was to have been raised at that meeting.

I suggest that if the few so vocal supporters of such a scheme have experienced discrimination or difficulties in being part of the Warrandyte community due to living in North Warrandyte, it could be due to their own attitudes or activities.

AUDREY CAHN,
Osborne Road.

Retort

I wish the Diary came out more often. Then I could have replied to your Mr. R. Gough so much earlier.

Although anyone who opposes — as Mr. Gough does — the improvement of roads for the safety of children is quite possibly unworthy of reply. Still, impetuosity will out.

Trees, Mr. Gough, I love. Kids in general, and mine in particular, I love more. SHOCK-ABSORBED,
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SCHOOLS CATER FOR LOCAL KIDS

Whilst the campaign for the building of a secondary school in Warrandyte continues, a number of local post-primary students have enrolled at two interesting schools, newly-opened at the beginning of this year.

They are Eltham College and East Doncaster High School.

Eltham College is expected to increase student enrolments from 160 to 450 next year.

East Doncaster High School began functioning with an attendance of 145 children, including 16 from Warrandyte.

More than 1000 people attended the official opening of Eltham College last month.

Dr. K. R. McKinnon, Chairman of the Schools Commission, performed the opening ceremony by unfurling the college flag.

He said the forecast rate of development in the first year had been fulfilled.

The college principal, Mr. D. D. Davey congratulated staff members on the fine beginning they had made in carrying out their professional roles.

"The ship is only as good as the crew", he said.

Mr. Davey told the Diary that enrolments had exceeded expectations and

already there were small waiting lists at some levels.

To help cope with the extra pupils, the preparatory school was opened on October 5 and construction had begun on the junior school. This was expected to be open in time for the new school year.

The chairman of the Shire of Eltham, Cr. Alistair Knox, opened the college's metal and woodwork shop. The building has attracted considerable interest.

It was made of mud bricks by members of the Eltham College Community Association.

East Doncaster High School is fortunate that the contractors have stayed on the site, and the second stage of construction consisting of three further buildings is scheduled for completion about the middle of next year.

There is to be an art and craft wing, a student centre and a science block.

The advisory council has been able to arrange the excavation and forming of

sports fields in exchange for the removed filling.

As the parents and citizens' association was faced with the prospect, at the beginning of the year, of having to raise about \$50,000 towards the cost of this project, they can now concentrate on development of the grounds and the purchase of teaching aids.

The principal, Miss Potter, has been extremely helpful in meeting the special needs of Warrandyte and Templestowe children.

When the Tramways Board was unable to provide a later morning bus this year school hours were adapted to an 8.30 start and an early finish so children can catch a bus at 3.25 p.m.

Next year, depending upon numbers, it is hoped to have a bus leave Warrandyte at 8.04 a.m.

COPY CLOSING

Copy for the December issue of the Diary closes on Sunday, November 17.

DIARY MINI-ADS

● **ACCOMMODATION**
YOUNG married couple, no children, require low-cost accom. Warrandyte area whilst building. Golding, 844 3280.

● **BEE SWARMS**
BEE swarms collected Warrandyte area. No charge. Sandy Marsh, 844 3718.

● **CHILD-MINDING**
FOR child-minding in creative play situation. Enquiries, 844 3796.

● **FOR SALE**
ANTIQUe china, glass — Ruby & Carnival — silver, Victorian bric-a-bac, lamps, brass, copper, colonial items. 712 0227.

● **PROFESSIONAL**
DR. H. GELDHARD has commenced a part-time veterinary consulting practice at 42 Webb St., W'dyte. 7-8 p.m. week nights, 9-10 a.m. Sundays. Consultations by appt.: 844 3676.

● **SECRETARIAL SERVICE**
FOR your typing and keeping of small accounts, ring Joan Holley, 844 3724.

● **WANTED**
FAMILY interested in sharing transport to K.G. school. 844 3445.

BOARD WANTED
Retired accountant requires board. Please phone 848 6224.

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