

Local groups want relic preserved

Warrandyte's historic old post office will probably be immortalised.

The Warrandyte Historical Society and the Lions Club want to preserve the Yarra Street landmark as a museum.

Both groups have been examining the project for some time.

It has even been proposed that the post office be painstakingly dismantled and resurrected piece by piece at Stiggants Reserve.

This proposal envisages installing a live-in caretaker as a safeguard against vandalism.

The post office is one of Warrandyte's few remaining links with its colourful early history.

It has survived bushfires, floods and time itself.

But its biggest threat may yet be the white ant.

Termites have caused considerable damage to the structure.

Expert opinion has been sought on this problem and the general state of the building.

The post office is owned by the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works, which has agreed, in negotiations with the Lions Club, to hand the building over.

It is presently occupied, but will be vacated by the end of the year.

The building's sagging verandah was propped up recently in a combined effort by the Historical Society, the Lions and Warrandyte Timbers, which donated the material.

Late news

Bingo comes to town

Bingo comes to Warrandyte next month.

The local Lions Club has been granted this area's first permit to run the game.

It will be on at South Warrandyte Hall each Friday, 8-11 p.m., starting October 7.

So you think we've had more than our share of rain this year, eh?

Then spare a thought for the old-timers who saw out the great Warrandyte flood of 1934.

The picture above, which comes courtesy of the Warrandyte Historical Society, tells it all.

It is, of course, the old post office in Yarra Street.

The floodwaters rose so high that they started to lap the switchboard, which had to be moved to higher ground.

And if you couldn't paddle a kayak or canoe or row a boat, you just didn't go anywhere at all.

Nice to hear some interested folk in this town are doing something about preserving the post office (see elsewhere this page).

Peter McDougall really wanted to get away from it all when he left on a holiday in Queensland last month.

"Don't phone me unless the office burns down," he grinned as he said goodbye to his staff.

They phoned him all right . . . his office burned down.

The Hurstbridge

IN RED & WHITE



branch of Peter's real estate business was badly damaged by fire a fortnight after he left.

The real tragedy was that a young woman and her two children living behind the office lost just about everything they had.

At last report, however, the good folk of Hurstbridge had rallied to their assistance.

Placid, trusting souls, aren't we?

In busy Yarra Street one day last month, shoppers saw two blokes literally tear the Diary

mailbox from its tree, toss it into their car — and take off.

And nobody raised an eyebrow.

We can tell you now that the two blokes were youth club personnel Ken West and Bob Hodgkinson.

And they were merely in the process of replacing the old box, which had suffered a lot of physical abuse from various sources, over the years, with a new and (we hope) burglar-proof job.

Peter and Pat Lovett had been gone only a few days on their Queensland holiday when the postcard arrived home at Webb Street, where "kids" Michael and Jenny were minding the store.

It was from Pat and it read roughly like this:

"Having a lovely time. Don't forget to put the bins out on Sunday night."

Mums never change, do they?

—Smokey Joe

Fire: Dos and donts

With summer approaching, it is timely to remind residents of the correct emergency procedure in case of fire.

The phone numbers of the three local fire brigades are listed on the Warrandyte Directory, on brochures put out by the brigades themselves, and in each issue of the Diary.

Residents are strongly urged to phone these numbers, NOT the general emergency number "000".

A call to "000" is put through to the Metropolitan Fire Brigade, which calls the Country Fire Authority, which in turn calls the Warrandyte brigades.

It means three time-consuming phone calls instead of one straight-through local call.

The numbers to call are on Page 4 of this Diary issue.

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THE BIG CLEAN-UP!

Warrandyte is to get a
 thorough spring-clean-
 ing.

The Warrandyte En-
 vironment League has or-
 ganised a clean-up week-
 end on September 23-25.

With the help of other
 community groups and in-
 dividual volunteers, the
 league will make an all-out
 assault on litter — largely
 left by weekend tourists —
 in the town's public areas.

Community groups in-
 volved include Warrandyte
 Primary School, scouts,
 cubs, guides and brownies.

Doncaster - Templestowe
 Council and the National
 Parks Service will collect
 the litter from various

WEL declares war on litter

"depots" after the weekend
 Rubbish bags have been
 donated by Bourke's Hotel,
 Fred Grundy (Warrandyte
 Hardware) and Jim Philp
 (butcher).

WEL wants as many
 people as possible involved
 in the campaign and volun-
 teers are invited to contact
 Jan McDonald on 844-3508.

Rubbish bags (if you
 don't want to bring your
 own) will be available
 from Pam Hipwell at
 Folkart, opposite the
 bridge.

**CLYDE &
 OCKER**



No, Ock, a dead-
 line is NOT a de-
 ceased jungle cat.
 It's the absolute last-
 copy time for the
 Diary.

And the editor says
 if copy for the Octo-
 ber issue isn't in by
 September 30, he'll
 just scream!

The challenge ahead — Neil

New North Riding councillor Don Neil regards the
 next three years as the most challenging of his life.

Mr. Neill, elected late last month in a three-way battle
 for the seat vacated by Frank Maas, told the Diary:

"I have come into council at a time when such issues
 as rates and conservation are going to play an enormous
 part in the future of Eltham shire in general and the
 North Riding in particular.

"These are the issues on which I campaigned for elec-
 tion; and these are the issues on which I shall carry my
 campaign into council.

"I thank the ratepayers for their confidence in me.
 Cr. Neil, 31, of St. Andrews, defeated Smith Gully
 farmer Bert Williams, 56, by 1926 votes to 1567 in the
 North Riding poll.

Mr. Williams had unsuccessfully opposed Cr. Robert
 Marshall, now shire president in last year's election.

Lions branching out

Moves are afoot to form a Lions Club at Park
 Orchards.

Warrandyte Lions put the wheels in motion by arrang-
 ing a meeting, at the home of Doncaster-Templestowe
 councillor Peter Mulcahy.

A second meeting has been held and progress towards
 starting a club is described as most encouraging.



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CAMPAIGN TO SAVE RESEARCH CREEK

A campaign has been launched to save Research Creek.

A public meeting will be called at Research soon to discuss alternatives to a Board of Works proposal to barrel-drain the creek or line it with concrete.

Inflation eats its way in

Inflation has caught up with the Warrandyte Elderly Citizens Club Christmas dinner.

The dinner will again be held at Alfred's Homestead this year — but because of rising costs, there will be a small charge to members.

Members who have been attending at least one Thursday meeting a month before the end of the year will be charged \$3 a head for dinner and drinks.

For those who have not attended regular meetings, it will be \$6.50 a head.

The creek, which runs into Diamond Creek, is under threat in board plans to cater for future subdivision of the area.

Barrel-draining or concrete-lining would facilitate the disposal of run-off from the subdivisions.

The board has rejected as unfeasible an Eltham Shire Council alternative proposal for a retarding basin.

It has estimated that the area would require a 10-acre basin almost two metres deep.

Council will now suggest a series of smaller basins.

"We must show the Board of Works that we mean business in the Research valley," new shire president Robert Marshall told the Diary.

Cr. Marshall said that while Research Creek might be "dirty" at the moment, it would improve a great deal when the area was seweraged, as it would be.

Meanwhile, the council

has rejected a developer's application for quarter-acre subdivisions in a 78-acre area between Warrandyte-Research Road and Research-Kangaroo Ground Road.

The area is zoned for one-acre allotments.

Council turned down the application despite a guarantee by the developer, Smith Utilities Pty. Ltd., to provide considerably more than the regulation public open space.

Among other reasons, council wanted Research to retain its "village" identity, rather than become a suburb of Eltham.

GUS IN HALL OF FAME

The National Gallery has acquired one of the works of well-known potter Gus McLaren.

The gallery selected a pot from Gus' recent exhibition at the Craft Centre in Toorak.

Phyl Dunn and Reg Preston (like Gus, founding members of Potters Cottage) also have works in the gallery.

Gus will have an exhibition at Potters Cottage in September next year.

BRIGADE TO BUILD ON

South Warrandyte Fire Brigade has been given the green light to extend its existing premises.

Doncaster - Templestowe City Council has approved the consolidation of land at the corner of Brumbies and Warrandyte-Ringwood Road for the brigade to finish their extensions.

POTTERS COTTAGE

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DIARY CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

Thursday 22 to Monday 26: Environment League's spring clean-up, all over Warrandyte. 844-3508.
Saturday 24: WAA informal music night, Ken and Ann Arnold's, KG Road, 8 p.m. 844-3076.
Sunday 25: Environment League bush walk, starting from Fischer's, Stoney Creek Road, 1 p.m. 844-3307.
Tuesday 27: Historical Society Public Meeting, Primary School, 8 p.m. Guest speaker: Lil Whitehead. 844-3694.

OCTOBER

Saturday 1: Environment League tree planting (meet in front of fire station, 10 a.m.) 844-3906.
Saturday 1: St. Stephen's Anglican Church fete, church grounds, 9.30 a.m.
Wednesday 5: Warrandyte Social Club Jazz-fest, Potters Restaurant, 7.30 p.m. \$11.50 per head, BYO. 844-3794.
Saturday 22: Combined schools colonial fair, Primary School, from 10 a.m. Many stalls and events. 844-2187.
Tuesday 25: Historical Society public meeting, Primary School, 8 p.m. Guest speaker. 844-3694.
Thursday 27: Environment League annual meeting, Mechanics Institute, 8 p.m. Speaker: John Scott. 844-3307.
Monday 31: Social Club Cup Eve social, RSL Hall, 8 p.m.

• To have your event listed in the calendar each month, contact Howard Geldard on 844-3676.

NOVEMBER

Friday 11 to Sunday 13: WAA annual art exhibition, Mechanics Institute, all day (official opening 8 p.m. Saturday). 844-3076.
Saturday 12: Uniting Church fete, Church grounds.
Thursday 17: Elderly Citizens Birthday Concert, clubrooms, 1 p.m. No admission charge, all welcome. 844-3680.

IN CASE OF FIRE

Fire brigade phone numbers —
• Warrandyte 844-3798 (fires only); 844-3454 (enquiries).
• South Warrandyte 844-2174 (fires only); 844-2131, 844-3061 (enquiries).
• North Warrandyte 844-3683 (fires only); 844-3342, 844-3528 (enquiries).

First-aid

Warrandyte Lions Club is sponsoring a first-aid course conducted by St. Johns Ambulance. The course runs for 10 weeks and instruction — including lectures by local doctor Rob Allen — is given each Wednesday night at the Coffee Bean Restaurant in Yarra Street. It has attracted a full enrolment.

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CHURCH: THANKS FOR THE THOUGHT

The Church of England has responded warmly to a proposal which would help finance its elderly citizens village, planned for the corner of Warrandyte and Alexander Roads.

In the July issue of the Diary, Warrandyte RSL past president and long-time member Wal Cornhill suggested the league sell its property opposite the bridge and donate the proceeds to the community.

Mr. Cornhill said that in view of the lack of interest being shown in the local RSL Branch, it should sell out and divide the revenue between the elderly citizens village and the proposed Warrandyte community centre.

With government subsidies, each project could benefit by more than \$100,000, he said.

Mr. Cornhill has received a letter from Warden D. P. Simmons of the Church of England Homes for Elderly People (Melbourne Diocese).

It reads, in part: *It is most pleasing and encouraging to have citizens such as yourself interesting themselves in such a project and local enthusiasm such as yours could help very much in influencing the Council, which has not given us the backing and support for which we had hoped.*

The village as envisaged will comprise about 400 individual cottages built to a very high standard and will have well-equipped recrea-

tional facilities such as bowls, croquet, putting, gardens and parklands.

Coupled with this will be a hostel and a nursing home and it is intended that we will be able to provide para-medical care and other services for many local citizens.

As you probably know, the Government is no longer funding or financing in any way individual cottages or living units and therefore in its finality this will comprise a self-funding cottage scheme.

We will, however, look to the government to assist in

financing the hostel and nursing home so any donation or funds provided could greatly assist in the construction of these buildings.

It is envisaged and proposed that the complex will comprise a number of small villages each of which will be suitably named, and one of these could well be designated "The RSL Village".

At this stage, although we are cognizant that your letter to the paper was, as you put it, purely a constructive suggestion, we had to express our appreciation of your interest.

Local premiere for big weaving show

Warrandyte will be treated to a special exhibition of quality woven products next month.

The show, at St. Stephens Church Hall, Stiggant Street, on Sunday October 16, will preview a full-scale exhibition in Melbourne from October 24 to November 4.

A year's work and planning has gone into the city exhibition, to be held in the AMP Tower in Bourke Street.

It was mooted last year when local weaver Joan Golding and her classmates graduated with a certificate of handloom weaving from the Melbourne College of Textiles.

They became a group known as "Loomatics" to further their own and each other's skills.

Their former teacher, Lilija Dukes, was so impressed by their work that she happily accepted honorary membership of the group.

The "Loomatics" set their hearts 12 months ago on their own exhibition and have brought together a display of high-quality woven rugs, wall hangings, tapestries, garments and other products.

The Warrandyte showing will run from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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Jim calls it a day

The Deep Creek quarry, one of Warrandyte's famous landmarks, will lose the man who dug the first hole there 18 years ago.

Jim Heitsch, who started the quarry 18 years ago, announced his retirement this month.

Jim was manager of the quarry and has retired for health reasons.

Fair dinkum

All the fun of the fair comes to town on Saturday, October 1.

It's St. Stephens Church fete, starting 9.30 a.m. and featuring a wide range of stalls and other attractions.

A highlight will be an auction, starting at 2.30 p.m.

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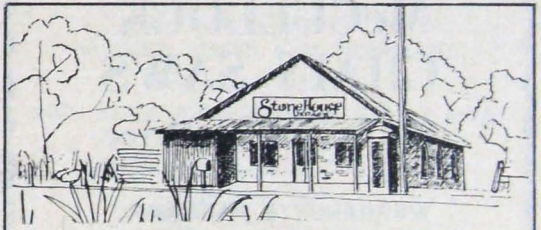
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READERS' LETTERS

Koornong? Think again

Sir — Why do Warrandyte Environment League and other bodies or individuals refer to an area of land frequently in the news of late as "Koornong Land"?

This is incorrect and an annoyance to anyone who knows anything of the history of Warrandyte and its early settlers.

The land referred to was owned by a pioneer family in the district, the Frenchams, and their historic property, especially the waterwheel on the river, was known to all except the more recent influx of residents.

"Koornong Land" is a comparatively small area situated downstream of the original Frencham property.

It was purchased just prior to the Second

World War by the Neilds when they established Koornong School.

Koornong School was one of the early co-educational and progressive schools, but unfortunately did not survive for very many years largely because of staffing and other problems created by the war.

The area is now, as present Warrandyte residents would know, a residential section and contains some of the original school buildings converted into homes.

Why not have some regard for history and recognition of one of the pioneer families of Warrandyte by referring to this area as Frencham Land?

Audrey Cahn,
Warrandyte.

TREES DEBATE IS
NOT OVER YET

SIR — It had to happen! The first time clearing for a new house was carried out, those who opposed "tree ordinances" were made the villains of the piece.

The controls as proposed, incidentally, required permission to remove all vegetation other than noxious weeds on the majority of land in the area.

This included grass and exotic trees and shrubs as well as native vegetation.

Similar controls operating or proposed in other areas cover about every aspect that can be covered, including right of entry into private dwellings.

However, let's not make it a case of those who have owned land in the area for many years versus the rest.

Those who opposed the controls covered the full range of the people who make up the community, from people currently building here to long-time residents, from large land-owners to those on minimum-sized blocks.

The same applied to those who supported the controls.

I would suggest that the people building in Brackenbury Street might well turn out to be nice people and good neighbours — given a chance.

Bruce Bence,
Brackenbury Street.

Yes, it really IS
a good feeling

SIR — On my recent, and first, visit to donate the claret of my body (1950 was a good year) to the mobile blood bank, I was much surprised.

Instead of the vampires of my imagination, I was greeted by helpful medics and the whole experience was a pleasure.

So may I commend this fine service to anyone who has yet to "get around" to donating blood as a worthwhile and painless contribution to your brothers and sisters.

I am sure Warrandyte can provide more than the 100 or so people who attend.

Peter Moran.

AN ALL-LOCAL CAST

Local women Terry Liddell and Thea Webb are exhibiting this month at the Warrandyte Palette.

Terry, mother of seven, is showing landscapes and still-life paintings; Thea is exhibiting her pottery.

Thea is a relative newcomer to potting, but shows an obvious natural talent.

WEL, council get together

Warrandyte Environment League has submitted a report to Eltham Shire Council for the preservation of public open space in North Warrandyte.

And it will follow up with a detailed submission, including a list of purchase priorities.

Shire president Robert Marshall praised the league for what he described as an "outstanding report".

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THE WARRANDYTE DIARY

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

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And they will again play a strong hand in Warrandyte's Club's fortunes in the coming season.

John and Jean Chapman were elected treasurer and secretary respectively at the club's annual general meeting this month.

John is also vice-captain of the senior men's team, daughter is vice-captain of the women's team and son Brian captain of the Under-16s.

The new committee is Brian Cleaves (president), Tony Hulme (senior vice-president), Jean Chapman (secretary), John Chapman (treasurer), Maria McGhee (social secretary), John McGrath and Sandra Burton.

Team leaders for the season are:

Men's A-grade: Stephen Pascoe (captain and coach); John Chapman (vice-captain).

C-grade: Geoff Day; vice-captain to be chosen.

Under-16: Brian Chapman; Stephen Andrew.

Under-14: Douglas Hill-ton; Dale McCartin.

Under 12: Lindsay Barr; Darren Peters.

GRAVEYARD FOR CARS

Car bodies can now be dumped at the Stintons Road tip.

Doncaster - Templestowe City Council has made provision for the car bodies to be dumped at \$10 a car.

PROTECTED

The wildflower reserve in Tindalls Road is now completely fenced off.

Doncaster - Templestowe City Council finished the project fencing this month.

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Women's B1-grade: Suzanne Martin; Jenny Chapman.

Captain and vice-captain of the men's A-Reserve team have not yet been chosen.

Practice is on each Sunday — under-12s and under-14s at 10 a.m., seniors (men and women) and under-16s at 1 p.m.

It's a new ball game

Netball is fast becoming an all-year-round sport for Warrandyte players.

With the official season over, moves are afoot to play several Warrandyte teams at the new Croydon Sports Centre on Tuesdays.

Interested players (no experience necessary) should contact Di Woodhams on 844-1646.

Facilities at the Croydon centre include a creche and a sauna.

Fans miss a treat

At least 20 jazz-lovers missed a great night's music at the Mechanics Institute Hall this month.

People came from as far afield as Ferntree Gully to hear the Storyville Jazzmen in concert — but there were at least 20 empty seats.

The concert was organised by Warrandyte Arts Association.

The Jazzmen, who had played at Warrandyte more than two years ago, delighted the 110 fans who attended.

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BAWDEN'S BEST!

By BLOODHOUND

Ruckman-forward Colin Bawden has won the Warrandyte Football Club's best and fairest award for 1977.

He won from Ken Ford and last year's winner Warwick Blair.

"This is the biggest thrill of my career," Bawden told the Diary.

"I'd like to thank all the players who made it possible for me to win this award.

"The next big job is to win a flag and if everyone hops in we could pull it off next season."

Bawden began his football in Warrandyte but later left to play in the South East Suburban League with Tooronga-Malvern.

Two years ago, he was lured back to his old club and the move proved a winner all round.

Bawden's inspiring play helped lift Warrandyte's form play and he is one of the best big men in third division of the Eastern Districts Football League.

Ken Ford has been among Warrandyte's most consistent players in recent years and this has been his best season.

John Kornachi, another player recruited this year, won the most consistent player award in the seniors.

Ruckman Colin takes Bloods 'Brownlow'

The most determined award went to Les Shore.

Popular treasurer David Mitchell won the best and fairest award in the seconds. Runner-up was Tony Vaughan. Nicky Day was third.

Most consistent award in the seconds went to R. Ireland. G. O'Reilly won the

most determined award.

Two special awards for all senior players were won by B. Onken (most improved) and E. Hogg (best first-year player).

Trophies were presented at a dinner-dance at the Park Orchards Chalet.

Although the season is well and truly over for the

Bloods, committeemen have been actively recruiting for next season.

Already a leading VFA player has been approached and two players from a Diamond Valley club have been signed.

Coming up early next month is the special effort for 1000 cans. Bill Manson has all the tickets and information.

The players' night at the Coffee Bean was voted one of the most successful get-togethers for several seasons. The hired entertainer failed to turn up but the evening did not lack any lustre.

Players and guests each did a "turn" and some previously untapped artistic entertainment was unearthed.

TERMITES HIT THE FRONT!

Warrandyte Football Club will renew pleas to Doncaster-Templestowe Council to repair white-ant devastation in the Recreation Ground pavilion.

The pavilion was fumigated several months ago but nothing has been done since to repair the door frames and panels eaten out by the termites.

Gaping holes in panels and unsecure woodwork have made the pavilion a hazard.

The football club committee is concerned that someone will be seriously injured.

The football club claims that in recent years they have undertaken most of the major improvements to the pavilion.

Approaches will be made to council to replace all the infested woodwork and for new padded goalposts.

A senior football committeeman said that if Warrandyte were promoted to second division in the Eastern Districts Football League, it was doubtful if the condition of the pavilion would come up to league requirements.

The kids kick on

Warrandyte Football Club — always a strong supporter of juniors — produced some outstanding young prospects this season.

And the club's efforts are being recognised. Coca-Cola donated two overnight bags and soft drinks for presen-

tation night gifts. Best and fairest winners in the junior sections were — Under-13: R. Smith, C. Townsend, M. Rochow; Under-15: C. Holyoak, C. Sherriff, R. Van Kuyk; Under-17: R. Dunnett, S. Garrick, M. Bence.

10 local teams in summer tennis

Warrandyte Tennis Club will have at least 10 teams in the summer competition.

It will field a minimum of six teams on Saturdays and four in the midweek fixtures.

Three local teams won pennants in the winter competitions.

Judy Green, Maureen Fiddes, Helen Bruton and Lyn Macquire were successful in mid-week Section 30 and Pam Booth, Wendy Anderson, Shelagh Morton and Heather Briggs were best in Section 11.

The Morton-Briggs combination teamed up with Bruce Little, Alby Cleaves and Geoff Jenkins to win the mixed Section 10 week-end pennant.

Warrandyte's annual Cup Day tournament is on again

(on November 1). Play will start at 12.30 p.m. and the entry fee is \$2.

Non-members are invited to join in the round-robin tournament.

The club are still seeking new members and inquiries are invited through Heather Briggs (844-3303). Coaching is available to members.

An enclosure is being built at the club to protect small children from the dangers of running on to the court and it is hoped that a sandpit will also be installed for their enjoyment.

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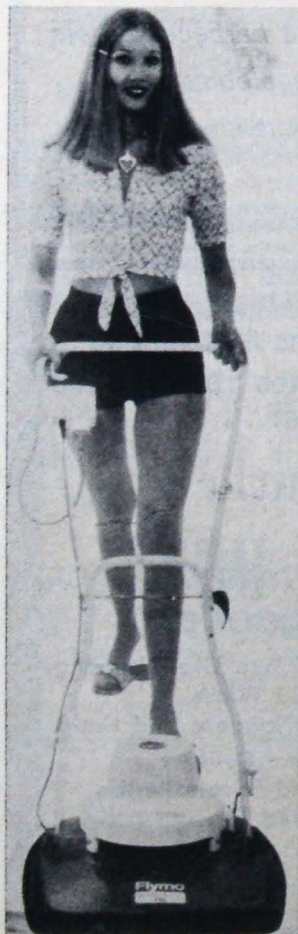
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