

MYSTERY OF YARRA ST.

WARRANDYTE
Diary
A COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB PUBLICATION

No. 79

MAY, 1978

FREE

Public meeting to solve riddle

What's in store for Yarra Street?

Warrandyte Environment League wants the clouded future of this town's main street thrashed out this month.

It has called a public meeting at the Mechanics Institute Hall for 8 p.m. on Wednesday, May 31, to get the answers.

Among things the league wants spelled out are:

- The Country Roads Board's plans for Yarra Street.

- Doncaster-Templestowe Council's policy on roads through Warrandyte.

- Opinion of local residents on the possible widening of Yarra Street.

The proposed outer ring-road and its implications for Warrandyte will also be discussed.

A CRB representative, the Doncaster-Templestowe council engineer, Warrandyte Ward councillors and local politicians have been invited to take part in the meeting.

The league urges all interested local residents to attend.

"There has been a lot of speculation over the past few months on Yarra Street's future," a WEL spokesman told the Diary.

"We think it is time to clear the air.

"And we hope the public meeting will do it."

CLYDE & OCKER



'Sounds like a job for Big Mal, Ock...'



WHO IS SHE? WHO KNOWS? SHE'S . . .

The lady with the flowers

The people at Warrandyte RSL know her well. Yet they don't even know her name.

Neither do they know where she comes from.

They know her only as "the lady with the flowers".

They say "hello" to her every year — on Anzac morning or the night before.

She comes with posies of flowers.

She lays them in the RSL grounds, on the commemorative nameplates of Warrandyte's war dead.

Then she leaves.

She comes back a year later.

She has been returning for many years.

She was there last month. She was gone again before the Anzac Day ceremony began.

"We don't know who she is, and we don't ask," RSL vice-president George Bell told the Diary.

"We don't ask because we don't believe it is our business.

"But we love what she is doing.

"We look forward to seeing her next year . . . and for many years to come."

Warrandyte's rebuilt State Savings Bank branch was officially opened last month by the mayor of Doncaster-Templestowe, Cr. R. E. Kitchingham.

The modern, air-conditioned premises were rebuilt at a cost of \$145,000.

External appearance was changed as little as possible to preserve the character of Yarra Street.

There is a good deal of Warrandyte talent involved in the bank.

Paintings by local artists Una McDougall and Ron Reynolds adorn the walls of the banking chamber and Bev Hansen was responsible for the attractive landscaping of the adjoining grounds.

The bank has a staff of eight, headed by manager Don Edmonds.

Turn on the lights!

Warrandyte Traders Association wants to throw more light on the Yarra Street shopping area — in the interests of road safety.

It has written to the State Electricity Commission asking that the street lighting be upgraded.

"Warrandyte night life centres around this area and from a safety viewpoint, the street lighting is far from adequate, a traders spokesman told the Diary.

"Three people have been hit by cars in the shopping area in the past three months," he said.

"We believe all three accidents could have been avoided if the lighting had been better."

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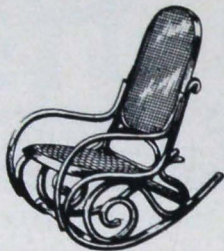
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YOUTH CLUB HITS ROCK BOTTOM

Warrandyte Community Youth Club is in danger of closing down.

Its future depends on the willingness of adults or older teenagers to serve on the committee or as leaders.

"We are in a desperate position," a club spokesman told the Diary.

"Our annual general meeting had to be abandoned and reconvened because nobody outside the existing committee attended.

"And, despite publicity, the second attempt to hold the meeting produced a similar result."

Apart from general youth activities, the club runs table tennis and calisthenics and hopes to add judo to the list.

But the spokesman said all these activities would stop unless more people were prepared to help.

Prospective volunteers should phone 844 3641, 844 2553 or 844 2401.

The Red Chinese connection . . .

You bump into the most unexpected people in Red China!

As Wal Cornhill, of KG Road, will tell you, Wal, who was on the previously-forbidden mainland this month (sightseeing while his mate, an Australian-born Russian Jew, was on a buying trip) saw a couple of familiar faces at Kwangchow (which is about Red Chinese as you can get).

None other than John and Betty Hipwell, of Research Road.

Smokey confidently predicts that 'Folkart', run by the Hipwell's lovely daughter Pam, will be selling some Chinese ware in the near future.

Yes, It Really Is A Small World (Part Two):

Trish and George Tugen, of Pound Road, didn't really expect to see familiar faces in a desert south of Katmandu, Nepal, in their travels abroad.

But there they were: Carmel and Frank Turtle, of Bradleys Lane.

Warrandyte folk get around, don't they?

To your columnist's considerable relief, Kevin and Margaret Bourke handed over the local pub this month to the Collingwood football combine of Richardson-Ireland.

Don't get me wrong. Smokey enjoyed a lovely relationship with mine host and hostess.

IN RED & WHITE



It's simply that his body could take only so much of the farewells — some planned, some impromptu — the Bourkes turned on before they bowed out.

Anyhow, when Kevin forgot himself and let me actually buy a drink before he left, he slipped me a note with the change.

It says: "To the folk of Warrandyte —

"Marg, Kev and Russ Bourke wish to thank all their patrons for the hospitality they have shown us in the time we've been here.

"There have been so many good times it is hard to recall.

"To the charming elderlies: we love you and hope to join you one day.

"To our staff, who are great, we thank you.

"To the Diary, we thank you for the publicity — good and bad.

"In the not-too-distant future, we will live in Warrandyte and meet you all in the pub.

"Lots of love . . . the Bourkes."

Ox's eyes were scarcer than hen's teeth in Warrandyte last month.

The local butchers say the eye of the ox has never been a big seller and there was no way they could fill the rush of orders.

Occasion was a biology class for the fourth-formers at East Doncaster High. Each student was asked to bring along an eye of the aforementioned beast to (yuk!) dissect.

Only three of the optics arrived at class. Three sheep's eyes also turned up.

People spend their weekend in a lot of different ways.

But for relaxed (if somewhat dissolute) living, we liked a local bloke's definition of a perfect Saturday:

"A game of golf, a skinful of beer, a few bets — and bed before Tattslotto comes on."

Great life, eh, Jimmy?

—Smokey Joe

DEADLINE

Copy for the June Diary closes on Sunday, May 28.

Advertisers and contributors are reminded that this is the absolute deadline.

Early copy is appreciated.

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COUNCIL CHIEF HITS 'GLOOM PROPHETS'

Eltham Shire president Robert Marshall has hit out at the "prophets of financial gloom".

"If people have heeded the nonsense and hysteria that has been spoken and written, they would believe that this council is on the financial skids," Cr. Marshall told the Diary.

Million dollar query for the people

Eltham Shire Council will take its controversial million-dollar leisure centre proposal to the people.

It will hold a referendum in conjunction with the council elections on August 12.

Ratepayers will be asked if they want the Eltham centre built now or after the shire has paid off its deficit.

The decision to hold the referendum was made on a split council vote this month.

It was passed on the casting vote of shire president Robert Marshall.

The leisure centre proposal has been a contentious issue in council for several months.

"As a North Riding councillor, I support it on two conditions," Cr. Marshall told the Diary.

"One is that it be built only after the council's deficit has been removed.

"The other is that it be built only after riding finance has been restored to North Riding, or some alternative deal has been made to combat the riding's rates problem."

Cr. Marshall urged residents to ensure that they were on the roll for the August elections and referendum.

"Only the holders of title deeds are automatically registered on the roll," he said.

"But spouses and rent-payers are also eligible to vote.

"I urge them to enrol and exercise their democratic right to vote."

Rolls for this year's elections close next month.

Enrolment forms are available from the shire offices.

"It is simply not so!"

Cr. Marshall was talking about the council's much-publicised deficit.

"I am tired of hearing — from ex-councillors especially — about our so-called diabolical financial situation," he said.

"I would like them to look at the records and see for themselves who accumulated the deficit and who has been paying it off.

"These are the facts:

"In seven out of the 11 years from 1964, the shire finished the trading year with a deficit.

"This was when we were on the financial skids.

"In 1975-76-77 we finished with a surplus.

"In 1975, the council started a thorough review of the state of accounts.

"It found that in preceding years, \$257,866 had not been set aside — as it should have been — for such items as staff long-service leave, plant replacement and private street construction.

"So this figure then had to be added to the accumulated deficit.

"It took the deficit up to \$600,306.

"It has since been steadily reduced to \$450,000.

"By the end of September this year it should be down to about \$300,000.

"In two years after that we should have wiped it out altogether."

Cr. Marshall said that in line with its restructuring policy, the shire had decided to rationalise and streamline council procedure.

It had replaced the three-committee system with two committees — one dealing with finance, works, building and health, the other with social and physical planning.

Instead of three councillors sitting on each committee we will now have four or five," Cr. Marshall said.

"This in turn will mean less argument in the council chamber and fewer, but more constructive, meetings.

"We have also placed routine matters in the hands of council officers rather than have them waste the decision-making time of the council itself."

BROCK WHEELS IN

Australian touring car champion Peter Brock comes to town this month to talk road safety.

Mr. Brock will give a lecture — illustrated by films — on road safety and driving techniques at a White House function organised by the Warrandyte Lions Club.

It is on May 23, starting at 7.45 p.m.

Admission is free and supper will be provided.

The Lions urge parents, particularly, to attend.

First Street a court case

Doncaster-Templestowe City Council has agreed to divide First Street — between West End Road and Taroona Avenue — into two courts.

This follows a proposal from the Warrandyte Environment League.

Council agreed to close the middle of First Street and make two courts.

The city engineer will prepare plans for local residents.

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RESIDENTS OVERRULED

ALL-CLEAR FOR CULTURE CENTRE

Doncaster-Templestowe City Council has won a battle with local residents to build an art and culture centre in Springvale Road, Donvale.

Three years ago Council bought an old church complex in Springvale Road, between Mitcham and Tindals Roads, to build the centre.

Council was granted a town planning permit and everything was set to go — until local residents protested.

They claimed the centre would create more traffic and noise problems and appealed against the Town and Country Planning Authority's decision.

However, the appeal was dismissed and council hopes to start work on the centre as soon as possible.

Warrandyte ward councillor John Scott said coun-

cil planned to use the complex as a living and learning centre as well as an art and culture centre.

He said it would be similar to the successful project in Templestowe and would be handy to Warrandyte and Park Orchards.

The centre received a boost last month when the State Government announced a \$4000 grant.

SPORTS SPACE

Warrandyte High School's sportsground problem has been solved — at least temporarily.

The new school has been given the use of Doncaster Baseball Club's ground at Deep Creek.

Things are looking up in other ways for Warrandyte High, which got off to such a bad start this year.

Planned for next year are rooms for woodwork, arts-crafts and home economics.

LOAD OF OLD RUBBISH!

Doncaster - Templestowe ratepayers can start sorting out all that unwanted junk over the next few weeks.

The Council will hold its hard rubbish collection from July 3-24.

Plan shapes up

The Warrandyte strategy plan is gradually taking shape.

The plan's consultants recently prepared five discussion papers dealing with various local needs.

The discussion papers will look at:

- Landscape requirements.
- Commercial requirements.
- Community facilities.
- The structure and attitudes of the local population, and
- Road classification.

The consultants are organising meeting dates for each paper for discussions with local residents and organisations.

League two leave town

Warrandyte Environment League farewelled two stalwarts late last month over dinner at the Coffee Bean Restaurant.

• Howard Geldard, the man behind the highly successful "This Is Warrandyte" festivals, is off to Portland to further his veterinary career.

"The pace Howard has set as WEL vice-president and festival program coordinator will be difficult to maintain," a league spokesman told the Diary.

"He has been a real glutton for punishment.

"We wish Howard, Maureen and the three children the very best."

• David Cameron, wife Lee and son Marcel have left Warrandyte for Orbost, where he will do further research into rain forests

for the Forestry Commission.

David will be remembered for his co-authorship of a series of Diary articles on Warrandyte's native flora.

WEL will host a barbecue and walk next month for their "neighbours" — the Doncaster - Templestowe Conservation Society.

A barbecue at Pound Bend Reserve, starting at noon, on Sunday, June 25 will be followed by a guided tour of the new Yarra Valley Metropolitan Park.

WEL members and other interested residents are invited.

The walk will start from the corner of Pound Road and Naughton Avenue at 2 p.m.

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GIRL GUIDE MEETING

Warrandyte Girl Guide Association will hold its annual meeting in the Warrandyte Primary School library on Tuesday, June 6, starting 7.30 p.m.

It will be followed by a talk by Mrs. Doris Spratling, hospitality convener of the Victorian Girl Guide Association.

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KOORNONG CUT-UP: IT'S ANOTHER 'NO'

Eltham Shire Council has rejected yet another subdivision application for North Warrandyte's Koornong bushland.

The applicant, Choppington Pty. Ltd., sought a permit to subdivide property at Kruses Road-Koornong Crescent into 14 lots.

Council has insisted on a maximum 12 lots.

It has also insisted on no housing on the river side of the ridgeline.

And it will not permit Kruses Road-Koornong Crescent to be a through road for anything but emergency traffic.

The battle between conservationists and developers for the Koornong has been going on for the past three years.

Warrandyte Environment League circu-

larised Eltham councillors before the latest rejection urging a "no" vote.

Meanwhile, WEL and the Warrandyte Historical have applied to have the Koornong included in the Federal Government's National Heritage Register.

Listing in the register could lead to finance grants to have the land acquired for preservation.

• WEL has also initiated a committee to investigate and report on the environmental future of the Stony Creek area.

The committee was formed at a recent public meeting and will report back to a second meeting next month.

Kiddykraft

Holiday workshops for children are on again at the North Warrandyte Community Centre.

Specialised activities for children seven years and over will be held in the hall between 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. on four days of the holidays.

The program: Tuesday, May 16 — paper sculpture; Thursday 18 — sewing; Tuesday 23 — wire sculpture; Thursday 25 — cooking.

Children aged four to seven will be offered a selection of creative-type activities in the kindergarten.

There will be a fee of 20 cents per child to cover refreshments costs.

Volunteers are required to help supervise activities.

The kindergarten would like to hear from them on 844-2066.

Freeway study is good news

Eltham Shire president Robert Marshall, has applauded the State Government's decision to undertake a full-scale study of its proposed outer ring road.

"There is no way any council could have afforded such a study," he said.

"I hope there will be a great deal of constructive input from local residents."

The freeway proposal and its implications for the Eltham - Research - Warrandyte area has deeply concerned both the Doncaster-Templestowe and Eltham councils since it was announced last year.

"We need to decide if the freeway should come through this area at all," said Cr. Marshall.

"We need to decide what form and route it should take if it must come.

"And we need to know what the Government will do to minimise the impact on our environment and lifestyles."

THE WARRANDYTE DIARY

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

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Churches get together

Warrandyte's Anglican, Catholic and Uniting Churches got together this month.

The occasion was an ecumenical service at the Uniting Church on Sunday, May 14.

The service, marking the end of an Australia-wide week of prayer for Christian unity, was conducted by the Rev. Stewart Calder, the Rev. Father Frank Mullaine and the Rev. Bruce Avery.

It was attended by the congregations of the three churches.

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READERS' LETTERS FESTIVAL: THANKS FOR BEING IN IT

SIR — Warrandyte Environment League had three main objectives when it initiated the "This Is Warrandyte" festival.

These were:

- To involve the Warrandyte people in activities which help them appreciate their unique surrounds;

- To enable them to come together as one community and

- To allow them to have fun and enjoy themselves.

I think we can really claim to have achieved those objectives this year.

The two councils (Doncaster-Templestowe and Eltham) provided the financial means to help us, for which we heartily thank them.

WEL also wishes to thank all those who worked so hard to make last month's

festival such a great success.

In particular, we thank the Warrandyte Historical Society and the Arts Association.

Most of all we thank the people of Warrandyte for turning out and giving your full support to the festival.

I hope you will continue to be involved in your community in the coming year.

I look forward to seeing you all at next year's festival.

Patrick Nuzum,
President,
Warrandyte Environment
League.

What gives at the end of the road?

Can somebody please explain what is happening at the corner of Research Road and Kangaroo Ground Road?

The short stretch left untouched when Research Road was widened as far as Bradleys Lane a couple of years ago has always been a bit of a horror strip.

But it looked as though we were in for something when the workmen moved in several weeks ago.

They scooped a big hole out beside the road, pottered about quite some time, stuck in some white posts — then picked up their shovels and went home.

They haven't been seen since and that particular section of the road is still shocking.

Perhaps the project is resting in somebody's "Too Hard" basket.

"Bewildered",
North Warrandyte.

BANK IS A BEAUTY

Congratulations to the State Savings Bank for their foresight in making such attractive use of their adjoining property in Yarra Street.

And thanks to Bev. Hanson for demonstrating how attractive even a small area can become.

"Food For Thought",
Warrandyte.

A wider reason?

SIR — It has been stated in numerous articles that the demolition of the old Warrandyte post office is due to commence for, as the Board of Works would have us believe, road widening of Yarra Street.

If this is so, one could ask why no proposal as yet has been received by relevant authorities, namely Telecom, to have extensive cable and duct work carried out at numerous cost prior to commencement of roadworks.

This plant is clearly pictured in Mr. Wright's photo in a recent article in The Sun.

Therefore the real reason for the demolition may be to enable the car park opposite the hotel to be extended to cater for increased clientele at the "Grand".

Whatever the reason, one could expect the board to give reasons to support the demolition of part of Warrandyte's historical past that do not lack credence.

J. Preston,
Blooms Road.

JUDO CLUB

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Smash hit

SIR — May I echo the sentiments of "Well Done" (April Diary) in his praise for the "This Is Warrandyte" festival.

The undoubted success of the weekend was a tribute to the organisers and the various groups which put so much effort into it.

It was great, too, to see the local residents there in such numbers.

My only complaint was the presence of the crockery-smashing stall at the carnival at Stiggant Reserve on the Sunday.

It certainly seemed to be out of character with the spirit and atmosphere of the festival.

But still, by and large it was an excellent weekend.

"Hear Hear",
Park Orchards.

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THIRD KINDER MAY NOT SEE DAYLIGHT

The proposed Yarra View Community Kindergarten may not get off the ground.

Progress has come to a halt. The future of the project will be decided in July.

The State Health Department, reflecting a cut-back last year in finances from the State and Federal Governments, has deferred issuing a capital grant to the kindergarten until July.

This is despite population growth figures favouring a third kindergarten in Warrandyte, and Eltham Shire Council's approval of plans for alterations to the North Warrandyte Community Centre to house Yarra View.

If the capital grant goes through, the council will

call tenders to start work on the alterations as soon as possible and the kindergarten will open in February next year.

Otherwise, funds raised over the past 15 months will be used to establish a community service which Warrandyte children can utilise.

If Yarra View is to go ahead, the present committee will retire in July and call for the formation of a new committee of parents whose children will use the kindergarten.

GIRLS ON THE GO

Warrandyte Football Club ladies' committee have set themselves a fund-raising target of \$3000 this season.

The committee have become the club's major individual fund-raisers and the money helps with players' payments.

Apart from the usual Saturday afternoon canteen, the committee have planned several other fund-raising ventures.

• On June 8, Suzanne Johnson will give beauty demonstrations at a chicken-and-champagne luncheon hosted by Denise Bellinger, of Falconer Road, Park Orchards.

• Also in June (date to be announced) will be a ladies' football match, which promises to be one of the highlights of the season.

For further information on any of these events contact Mrs. Chris Scott on 844 3725.

Dr. Derek Fairley

Veterinary Surgeon

Wishes to Advise he has commenced practice at Cnr. Melbourne Hill & Houghton Road,

844-3071 FOR APPTS.

THE WORLD OF CONSERVATION

World Conservation Day (Monday, June 5) will be celebrated locally at the new mudbrick Community Centre at Eltham.

WCD was instituted in 1972 by 116 countries which met at the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment in Stockholm.

The Eltham celebrations — a joint effort by the cities of Doncaster-Templestowe and Ringwood and the shire of Eltham — will start at 11 a.m.

The tentative program includes illustrated talks on building, utility services and their alternatives, landscaping, organic gardening and permaculture.

Emphasis will be on what can be done with a small suburban block.

Entertainment and refreshments will also be provided.

A small admission fee will be charged to defray costs.

Anybody wishing to take part should contact Anne Martin (844 3313).

WAA on display

Warrandyte Arts Association painters are featured next month at the Palette.

They will be showing a wide variety of works, including drawings, watercolours and oils.

Craftswoman of the month will be local potter Ildy Catmull.

IT'S A GIRL!

John Cole, formerly of Bradleys Lane, took delivery of a baby girl presented by Lorelle, at PANCH this month.

It is their second child.

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BLOODS ARE BATTLING— JUST FOR A GAME!

Warrandyte Football Club are happily embarrassed.

They have 60 players training each week for places in the first and second sides.

A few years ago, club selectors were battling to fill the two teams.

This season, club officials launched a big recruiting drive to put Warrandyte on the comeback trail.

It is still a little early to judge the outcome, but except for one bad lapse at Yarra Glen, the firsts have shown that they are no longer pushovers.

They are just out of the four. The seconds are undefeated.

It is obvious the influx of new "blood" has lifted the games of players who have been regulars in the side.

With so many experienced players available, selectors have found it difficult to stabilise a side, but it is now coming together.

In the match against The Basin, Bob Howard was tried on the wing and turned in an outstanding performance. He looks like holding down that position.

It is always hard to

By "BLOODHOUND"

unearth key position players but the Bloods have recruited an outstanding full-back in Geoff Everitt.

This has been a trouble-spot for several seasons but Everitt clinched it with some great marking and kicking against The Basin.

The seniors are also finishing full of running in their games.

Against The Basin, they kicked 7.4 to two points in the final term.

The seconds are also showing more stamina under pressure and coach

David Mitchell has them combining well as a team.

On the social side, the club are planning a dinner-dance at Lazy Harry's restaurant, Woori Yallock. David Mitchell is handling booking arrangements.

Many players and officials attended the recent wedding of popular player Craig Jackson and Bernadette Dale, of Ringwood. Warwick Blair was best man and Les Shore groomsmen.

YOUR LOCAL
FARRIER
Jeff Riddle
876 1664

Warrandyte Tennis Club have been given provisional approval to build a clubhouse.

They were given the go-ahead to detail plans for the clubhouse by Doncaster-Templestowe City Council.

"We are quite happy in

THE KIDS ARE KILLING 'EM!

Warrandyte Netball Club have a team of whizz-kids on their hands.

The Under-16s have emerged as outstanding hopes for a premiership with a great start to their season.

They have run up an unbroken string of huge wins that have left the opposition wondering if they were really in the game at all.

Warrandyte won their first game by an incredible 50 goals (56 to 6) and followed it up next week with a 49-8 score.

Also unbeaten when this issue of the Diary went to press were one of Warrandyte's two Open C-Reserve teams.

They had won three games and drawn the other.

The other C Reserves side were breaking even, with two wins and two losses.

The Under-12s and 14s started the season poorly, but were expected to improve with experience.

Tennis Clubhouse Okayed

principle with the proposal," Warrandyte ward councillor John Scott told The Diary.

The club will now prepare a plan of the clubhouse and present it to council.

They hope to start work on the building by mid-June.

The club have agreed to make two courts available for students at Andersons Creek Primary School.

They are planning a progressive dinner for July 15 and tickets can be arranged with Sue Wood (844 3562).



Tom Kerkhof Television

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