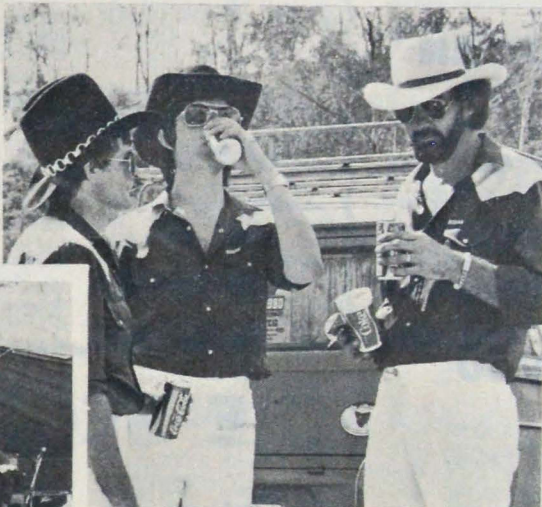
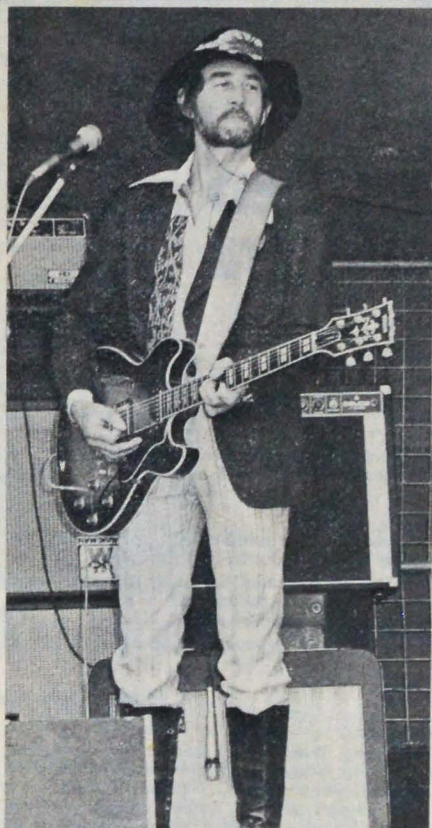


GOLF LINKS TO RE-OPEN

Editorial 844 2195, 844 2746. Advertising 844 2200.

No. 107 NOVEMBER, 1980 PRICELESS



Dispute winds up club

Warrandyte golf course — closed for more than a month in a row over the lease — seems certain to re-open soon.

The 800-member Warrandyte Golf Club, formed in 1973, disbanded late last month in a dispute with landlord Neil Abbott.

Mr. Abbott would not immediately comment on the future of the course, but it is believed that he will re-open it as soon as the damage done by its closure is repaired.

That may be within the next two or three weeks.

It is also believed that the course will be run on a club basis, but with access for green-fee players.

A special membership concession for midweek-only golfers is said to be planned.

A row over the renewal of the lease on the Alexander Road property flared early last month.

Mr. Abbott closed the course and a meeting on October 20 of 400 members voted unanimously to disband the club.

Former course manager Sydney Henderson said all members had been absorbed into other golf clubs and staff had been found other jobs.

The club, he said, had paid \$45,000 rent for the previous 12 months, but this figure had been rejected when the lease came up for renewal.

The club's contract contained an eight-year option on the land, but members had decided not to go on with it.

Up-country cookalong

It was quite a show, Warrandyte Apex Club's seventh annual country barbecue late last month.

About 2000 people turned up at the Blackburn Road Pet Park and non-stop music from country bands and non-stop food and drink kept them more than happy.

Fayne Weaver and Gene Bradley Fiske compered the bands, Homestead and White Lightning.

Local Apex spokesman Peter Pritchard said two factors had made the day such a success — the bigger venue (which allowed adequate parking) and seven years' experience.

The barbecue is the club's biggest fund-raising event each year.

All profits go to the charities which Warrandyte Apex support.

• *Whether you were hanging on every lyric of "The Outlaw" Gene Bradley Fiske (top left), doing the things kids do, enjoying a "hard" drink as much as "White Lightning" were enjoying the soft stuff, getting rapt in their music or simply putting the hunger to rest . . . it was a great day at the Pet Park.*

Pictures: SANDY BURGOYNE

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WARRANDYTE DIARY/PAGE 2

Dead trees take another bough

We have, I think, stirred up a considerable hornets nest. Nay, for "hornets" please substitute "termites".

The past two editions of this column have dealt at length with the virtues or otherwise of dead trees, the score standing at one-all.

As you read this issue of the Diary you will find the score swinging heavily back in favour of those who regard dead trees not as a boon to the environment but as a confounded nuisance.

Lyn Mitchell, a long-time resident of this town, is one of the anti-dead tree

faction — and to say he has written to us at length on the subject is a hefty understatement.

He has, in fact, written one of the longest letters in publishing history.

You'll find it and others on Pages 6 and 7.

But the matter need not rest.

If you have strong thoughts — one way or the other — about dead trees, write 'em to the Diary.

What some might regard as a dead issue could well develop into an enlightening and fascinating exercise.

Everyone seems to have their roots in a knot about trees lately.

No small consternation was caused recently when a team of helmeted men bearing ropes and saws were seen disappearing into the leafy boughs of the magnificent claret ash on the Ritter Davis site near the bridge.

Panic was soon averted when it became clear that the men were tree surgeons at work, intent on relieving some of the trauma the roots will face with car park excavation work.

Apparently, if the tree gets a good trim first, chances of survival are greater.

For sheer hospitality alone, Smokey's "Thumbs Up" award this month goes to Tony and Marg Graf, of The Boulevard, North Warrandyte.

They've had so many house guests over the past couple of months that they must have been slinging hammocks from the ceilings.

Nice people, the Grafs.

IN RED & WHITE



We know a local lady who, running late to go somewhere, reached for the hairspray — and doused herself in air-freshener instead.

Says she wouldn't recommend it, although her husband reckoned she smelled beaut.

Good to see that the echidna still survives in the fast-developing tracts of North Warrandyte.

One of the species appeared the other day at a home just off Research Road, setting off a great deal of excitement among the neighbourhood kids.

One little girl was moved to describe it as a "picuporne".

Old Smokey keeps his ear pretty close to the ground.

So if the four Warrandyte lovelies who whizzed off to Moreton Island for 10 husband-free days thought it would go unnoticed, it hasn't!

Told that Judy Brent, Laurel Ritchie, Fran Batrouney and Nancy Nicholson didn't go unnoticed on Moreton, either.

—Smokey Joe

THE SECOND COMING

Warrandyte Mechanics Institute Hall will again ring to Handel's Messiah this Christmas.

Last year the Music Group of the Warrandyte Arts Association organised such a sing-in.

Although such an event was new to Warrandyte, the hall was full and the evening was a resounding success.

As a result, it will be repeated this Christmas on Friday, December 5, at 8.15 p.m.

An orchestra, conductor and soloists will again be provided and there will be sufficient regular singers to hold it all together.

So no matter how well or badly you sing, you are invited.

There will be some music

scores available for hire at the door (ask about this when applying for tickets).

To finish off a very thirsty evening, a wine and cheese supper will follow.

If you are keen to run through some of the choruses beforehand, there will be an informal rehearsal at the Andersons (98 Bradleys Lane) on Thursday, November 27, 8 p.m.

Tickets are now available from John Drake (844 3591) at \$2.50 a head to cover costs.

Seating in the hall is limited and the event is expected to be even more popular than last year.

Tickets will be issued on a first come, first served basis.

Pat or John Anderson (844 3442) are in charge.

CLYDE & OCKER



'Yeah, Ock, and Handel's Largo was one of your first low-alcohol German beers.'

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KOORNONG: LEAGUE MEETS MINISTER

A Warrandyte Environment League deputation met the State Minister for Conservation, Mr. Vasey Houghton, last month in a new bid to secure the future of the Koornong bushland.

A Warrandyte Diary representative and members of Valuer-General's Department were also at the meeting.

The owners of the North Warrandyte land, Choppington Pty. Ltd., have a 19-lot subdivision proposal before Eltham Council Planning Committee on November 24 and if rejected, the owners may

then go to the Town and Country Planning Appeals Tribunal.

The Premier, Mr. Hamer, announced more than 18 months ago that the Government would buy the land "if there was no other way of preserving it".

Mr. Houghton reiterated at last month's meeting that Cabinet had decided that purchase of the land would be by negotiation but admitted that the new subdivision proposal increased the urgency of the situation.

WEL co-president Rosemary Tovey, who led the deputation, said that if the

owners were granted a permit by council of the Appeals Tribunal, the price of the land would become too high for purchase by the Government.

She asked that the Government either compulsorily acquire the land or speed up the valuation so that negotiations could start.

Mr. Houghton said one option would be to re-submit a proposal to Cabinet that the land be compulsorily acquired.

Since the deputation an unsubstantiated report claims that the Valuer-General's Department has been asked for a valuation "within a month".



Roz cares — do you?

Roz Miller (pictured) is a girl with a purpose. And that purpose is to raise funds for the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

December is going to be a big month for her and, hopefully, for the society.

She'll be holding a fund-raising stall at the Warrandyte Market, and a raffle.

This month, she's putting out collection tins for the society throughout Warrandyte — and she reminds prospective donors that gifts above \$2 are tax-deductible.

Roz, a local veterinary nurse, told the Diary: "I hope the Warrandyte public, service clubs and organisations will support me in this worthy venture."

Multiple sclerosis is a disease of the central nervous system and is usually progressively disabling.

Money raised will go to urgently-needed and specialised care at MS centres, to making people more aware of the disease, and to research.

Roz will happily accept donations — including goods for her stall — on 844 3071.

Residents fear big road risk

Residents of Glynn's Road, North Warrandyte are angry.

Two accidents recently have highlighted the growing traffic problem in the street.

And residents say it will get worse if the Board of Works goes ahead with its plan to open the reserve at the bottom of the road next year.

They say dust is a major problem in the summer and the increasing volume and speed of the traffic is creating dangers, particularly for children.

Speed restriction signs have been suggested as one way to ease the hazard.

One resident told the Diary he would rather "blockade the road and go to jail" than have the park opened up or the road sealed.

IT'S 25 UP FOR WAA

Warrandyte Arts Association joins the "quarter-century club" this month.

The association will hold its 25th annual general meeting in the Mechanics Institute Hall on November 13, starting at 8.30 p.m.

The 25th Annual Art Exhibition and sale will be at the same venue on November 8 and 9, from 11 a.m. till 6 p.m.

Paintings, craft and pottery will be displayed and available for purchase.

WEATHER OR NOT .

Rain, hail or shine, the Warrandyte Uniting Church fete will be held on November 15.

If the weather is fair, the fete will be held in the church grounds.

If it's foul, it will be moved inside the Whitehouse.

Stalls will include plants, cakes, herbs, gifts, aprons, books and the white elephant.

November 9 is Remembrance Sunday and members of the 22nd Battalion will be present at the church service.

A family music service will be conducted on November 30 at 10 a.m., followed by the annual church luncheon provided by Reverend Stuart and Mrs. Calder for all their Warrandyte friends.

DEADLINE

Copy for the December Diary closes on Sunday, November 16.

Advertisers and contributors are urged to be punctual.

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WARRANDYTE DIARY/PAGE 3

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JOSEPHINE IS QUITE A

A rather remarkable lady is holidaying in Warrandyte.

Josephine Van Ass Okerssen is 70, comes from Amersfoort, near Amsterdam, and is staying with niece Terry Liddell and family, of Research Road, North Warrandyte.

Josephine is a determined soul and one thing she decided when she was planning her holiday was to learn English.

And what better way

LADY

than to buy one of those records that teach you the rudiments of a foreign language.

Josephine played her record over and over but was getting nowhere. She just couldn't get the hang of this crazy English.

Eventually, it was pointed out to her that she was playing the

record at the wrong speed!

So Josephine arrived in Australia with a very limited grasp of English.

She'd been here only a few days when she remarked how much she missed her bicycle.

Despite her age, she is still an active social worker in Holland and makes her rounds exclusively by pedal power.

She admits, though, that the hills of Warrandyte are a far cry from the terrain of home.

Real estate agent Kerry McGorlick has set up shop in Warrandyte.

Kerry has been in the Diamond Valley for the past 30 years and has two other branches, at Eltham and Greensborough.

His local branch is in the new Yarra Street shops next to the hotel — and he takes pride in the fact that he has "furnished it in keeping with Warrandyte".

He employs two salesmen here, Clive Ellis and David Kelly.

Kerry lives at Eltham. He is married with two daughters, aged four and six.

His hobbies are skiing and flying.

Walter Magilton's love for MGs hasn't changed — but his priorities have.

The cars have been moved from under his house to make way for a



permanent studio-cum-gallery.

Apart from using the area for his own painting, Walter hopes to eventually conduct classes there as well as opening it regularly to the public.

The first exhibition of Walter's own works concludes at 9 p.m. on Sunday, November 9, but the gallery can be opened on request at almost any time by phoning Walter on 844 3616.

The artistic Magilton household had another success with son Matthew winning an art scholarship recently to year 12 at Eltham College.

Allison, Walter's wife, has just had a very well-received exhibition of her

tapestries conclude at the Design Centre of Tasmania in Launceston.

Her tapestry "Digger", which featured on the front of the August 1979 Diary, has gone up to Canberra War Memorial where it is likely to find a permanent home.

The Magilton's new Stony Creek Studio is in Albert Road.

Warrandyte's Wurrundjerri cub pack has welcomed two new sixers — Warren Spargo and Paul Hughes — and three seconders — Scott Macdonald, Shane Murphy and John Slabon.

New chum Justin Macdonald was also welcomed.

The Wurrundjerri and Berak packs held a combined camp at Healesville recently — and the highlight was apparently the water-bomb fights between the boys and the leaders.

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Rosemary, Jan again

Fifty people attended the recent annual general meeting of the Warrandyte Environment League.

The new Committee was elected and Rosemary Tovey and Jan McDonald were returned as co-presidents.

Claire Dawson is secretary and Arthur Vincent treasurer.

Committee members include John Addie, Michael Browning, Clive Bullen, Nonnie Seymour, John Fisher, Tony Moran, Doug Seymour and Patrick Nuzum.

New members are welcome and residents are invited to contact members on 844 3907, 844 3508 and 844 2375.

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NEW HOPE FOR YARRA ST. RELIC

New hopes for the salvation of the old post office in Yarra Street emerged at a special on-site public meeting late last month.

Several of the 60-odd people who attended the meeting volunteered their services as committee members in a concerted "save the post office" campaign.

And about \$100 was contributed as initial supporting donations.

The meeting was called by Jo Laurence, of the Warrandyte Historical Society.

Mrs. Laurence has done much of the groundwork in reviving interest in the relic's preservation.

She told the meeting that the National Trust had recently recorded the building.

"This means that after restoration, it can be re-submitted for classification," she said, "and that initially, the trust considers it worthy of preservation."

Groundwork will now begin to establish Doncaster and Templestowe Council's authority over the project, which is on Crown Land.

Research has found the building to be at least 104 years old. There have been various additions and alterations over the years, but the original wooden shingles still exist under the corrugated iron roof.

More information about the post office project — and, indeed, any historical information — can be obtained from the Historical Society.

The society stresses that non-members are most welcome to attend the meetings held in St. Stephens Church Hall on the last Tuesday of every month.

The last monthly meeting for 1980 will be on November 25.

Mrs. Laurence may be contacted on 844 3694.

GETSON SITE PASSED IN

The Getson Motors site in Yarra Street was again passed in at auction last month.

Top bid was \$195,000.

The site has been the centre of much community interest.

Warrandyte Environment League, which had the support of local councillors, had proposed that Doncaster-Templestowe City Council buy the land for public use.

Warrandyte Ward councillor John Scott told the Diary that although council had rejected the proposal, he still supported the public. Council has referred the matter to the Board of Works.

It suggested they buy the land on behalf of the council on a reimbursement scheme.

There has been no reply to this proposal.

It's dinners galore

The Warrandyte and District Welfare Service has completed another busy year of Meals on Wheels, serving a total of 3333 meals to needy people in the area.

An average of 12 people a day received meals during that time.

This band of volunteer workers, spearheaded by president Keith Wilson, consider the work to be the "essence of community service".

The group is assisted by the State Savings Bank, which audits the books and meet in the Uniting Church Hall.

Others on the committee include Mavis McLaughlin, Catherine Watts, Dorothy and Viv Rush, Peg Dunnett, Ernie Goodall, Ruby Arnaud, Kath Bennefield, Norma Webb and Anne Cameron.

Cobbers for the kids

If you dig bush bands, you must love the Cobbers.

They're among Australia's best at their trade — and they're appearing in concert at Croydon High School on Saturday, November 15.

It is a special effort for the Mankami handicapped children's group (monkami, incidentally, is Aboriginal for "thank you").

The concert starts at 8 p.m. and tickets are available at the Warrandyte Op Shop, Myer Eastland, Chirnside Shopping Centre and from Jack Huxtable (chairman of the concert committee) on 844 3539.

Prices are \$6, or \$4 for pensioners, under-16s and students with cards.

Our kids run a place

Warrandyte Primary School ran third in the annual Doncaster District Primary Schools Athletic Carnival at the George Street oval recently.

Final points were Donvale 391, Waldau 357, Warrandyte 296, Doncaster East 280 and Donburn 250.

Several children represented the Warrandyte district at the Regional Field Games Championships at George Street on October 30.

They are R. McHugh and S. Hughes (high jump), R. James (long jump), D. Fraser and M. Melksham (discus and shot put), M. Egglestone and A. Egglestone.

These championships are a forerunner to the Victorian championships at Olympic Park.

Wanted : Safe harbour

Warrandyte Scoup Group are looking for dry dock for four spanking new canoes.

The canoes, made possible only by many hours of assistance and expert advice from Max Green and Brian Lang, are to give the older scouts experience in water activities.

The scout committee is seeking secure storage in a local lock-up garage.

Apart from new canoes, the Warrandyte Scout Group has a newly-painted hall — thanks to a working bee by parents and committee.

Anyone able to help with housing of the canoes should contact Peter Volk on 844 3212.

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WARRANDYTE DIARY/PAGE 6

READERS' LETTERS

TO HELL WITH MAY THEY NOT

From LYN MITCHELL, who
remembers the bushfires

Normally, I don't write letters to the editor, but in this instance I must enter the fray on the side of Smokey Joe's mate (September Diary) who had the temerity to cut down a dead tree.

A dead tree on a residential block is a hazard in two ways.

• Firstly, it has branches and it is not unknown for these to break off and fall, as could the tree itself — particularly if termites have been at work on the roots.

The danger of a tree falling is accentuated during a storm, so becoming a hazard to life and property.

It would be ironical, to say the least, if the tree which started this controversy had fallen on to the property of the lady next door. She may well have wanted to sue!

• Secondly, in the event of a bushfire — which we have had before and will have again — if such a tree was to catch fire it would become a blazing torch, sparks from which could start secondary fires or at least intensify an already serious situation.

If the fire reached the roots, it could burn underground for days, remaining a hazard until finally burnt out.

As for trees in the bush, I would like to record a history of Warrandyte in relation to dead trees and bushfires in my experience over nearly 50 years.

My wife first introduced me to Warrandyte more than 40 years ago when she brought me up here to stay with her relatives on Pound Bend.

Settlers

In those days, the Bend carried a great deal of bush; the only cleared areas were those being worked by the few settlers there.

Pound Bend had been opened for soldier settlement after the 1914-18 War. I immediately fell in love with it and everything else about Warrandyte and was here at every available opportunity.

Eventually, we were able to rent a small cottage in North Warrandyte and in 1941 my wife moved in.

I was in the army at the time, but after the war we bought a block in Albert Road and have lived there ever since.

But back to 1938. I crossed the river from the relations' home one particularly hot day in the Christmas holidays to visit a mate who lived in Research Road, about opposite where the North Warrandyte Community Centre now stands.

We were talking about cold beer when we saw the

smoke rising from Stony Creek.

We took off, leaving half a bottle (that hurt).

My mate was an amputee from the First World War but I was flat-out keeping up with him, such was his speed as he peg-legged down the hill.

As we went down, a car came up. The registration was duly noted and passed on later to the police. It turned out that the driver had lit a fire near the creek to boil his billy and it had got away from him. He later copped a hefty fine.

The fire was just over the old Stony Creek bridge, on the Research side. It was in a heavily-grassed clearing.

My mate and I were first on the scene and we broke branches from trees to use as beaters. Just as well there were no conservationists around!

'SHE'LL BE RIGHT MATE' — BUT SHE WASN'T!

Other locals arrived and we eventually brought the fire under control — with the exception of the stump of a big tree which had fallen years before.

I was running a one-man shuttle service to and from the creek with a battered, holey old bucket trying to douse the stump, which was still well alight.

Eventually, the locals assured me that "she'll be right, mate". I argued, but they reassured me and I bowed to their superior wisdom. After all, I was just a visitor.

So we went home for lunch — my mate up the hill on his peg leg, myself across the river.

It was after lunch, when we moved out on to the verandah to relax, that we saw it. A huge column of smoke and flames rising from the very scene of our earlier battle.

Yes, that damned stump had started a beauty.

"She'll be right, mate" . . . my God, I'll never forget those words.

By this time, a strong northerly wind had sprung up and as we watched, the fire raced over the hill above the creek, down the bank and across the river as if the river wasn't there.

Neighbours materialised and hurried plans were made.

Some of the womenfolk were detailed to look after the kids and evacuate them if necessary; the others were assigned to carry water from the river. The men grabbed wet bags, shovels and rakes.

The plan was to try to contain the fire in a clearing in front of the

present hostel, but we weren't in the race. The blaze had moved with such speed that all we could do was fight the advance fires which always precede the big one.

I believe to this day that had the wind not dropped as the main fire reached the clearing we'd have had it! So would the rest of the Bend.

As it was, the wind dropped, then turned into a strong southerly, blowing the fire back on itself.

Twenty square miles of North Warrandyte and Research were burned that day, fortunately without much damage to anything but the bush.

Here I must pay tribute to the women who carted the water — drinking water for the fire-fighters, water to keep the bags wet. They were magnificent, and in

just as much danger as the men.

The point of this long-winded account is that if that "dead" stump had been thoroughly extinguished — or better still, if that idiot hadn't lit the fire in the first place — the whole thing would never have happened.

I don't really have to tell you about the next year, 1939. Black Friday. Most of the State was alight, including Warrandyte.

I was at work in the city when my wife phoned with the news. By the time I got to Warrandyte, the main fire had passed through, but I spent the next few days in a team of blokes with knapsacks, shovels and beaters putting out fires around dead trees and other debris.

It must be remembered that property left untouched by the vagaries of a main fire can be wiped out by the secondary fire that follows.

I will remember a holiday home in Research Road — not far from the previous year's blaze — in those '39 fires. The house was surrounded by a lot of dead timber and debris. The main fire bypassed it.

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READERS' LETTERS

DEAD TREES — BUT GO TO BLAZES

The secondary fire destroyed it.

I can't recall the exact number of homes lost in the 1939 Warrandyte disaster. But two people died.

Two more died in the 1962 fires. One hundred and twenty-five homes were lost. Mine was among them.

I remember visiting a friend in KG Road the day after the main fire. He wasn't home. The main fire

many years ago. Or in the case of West Warrandyte, not so long ago.

Greedy former landowners and misguided councils have turned big tracts of this beautiful and unique country into suburbia.

Question: What's the difference between Warrandyte and Collingwood? Answer: Our hills, trees and a better type of house.

it is rarely complete before a bushfire comes along. And boy, does that debris feed a fire!

In the case of a standing dead tree, the bushfire danger is obvious. As I have said, it becomes a blazing torch.

If Mr. Geldard was talking about big tracts of bush, far from habitation — like national parks and state forests — I couldn't agree with him more.

But not in Warrandyte, where the areas of bush we still possess have heavy to dense housing.

For my money, Mr. Geldard, I'd like to see all such hazards removed by the appropriate authorities.

Human lives and property mean more to me than trees and birds.

I regard myself as a bush-lover. The bush brought me here in the first place. But I also believe that conservation must go hand-in-hand with common-sense — the lack of which is exemplified by the tale of Smokey's mate and the lady next door.

Birdlife

I have no dead trees on my property. I removed them years ago and replaced them with other natives. I'll continue to do so. And the birdlife which abounds around my home leads me to believe that our feathered friends get along pretty well in live trees.

In short (which I must admit this letter isn't) I believe the bush Warrandyte still has could survive without the help of dead trees.

Finally, Mr. Geldard, if a dead tree on your property fell down tomorrow, you would be dead a long time (even if you lived to a ripe old age — which I sincerely hope you do) before it became humus for the soil.

Just a little more food for thought — not to do with trees, but with birds and other animals which live in them: I wonder how many members of WEL and other so-called conservationists own cats.

Yours greenily, brownily or any colour you like except bushfire-red,

LYN MITCHELL,
North Warrandyte.

P.S.: Despite much-improved fire-fighting services and amenities — and the dedicated people who operate them — Warrandyte remains one of the most bushfire-prone areas in Australia.

BEING RUINED? IT'S

ALREADY RUINED

had missed his house by about 50 yards, but nobody had bothered about a "dead" stump on the edge of the burnt area.

Shortly before I arrived, sparks from the stump had set fire to the grass and the flames had spread to a stack of firewood against the house.

Fortunately there was a water tank nearby and I put out that fire with a bucket. No big deal on my part. I just happened to be in the right place at the right time.

We now come to the nitty-gritty of all this.

The environment of Warrandyte on both sides of the river is not being ruined — it was ruined

We come to Howard Geldard's lecture (October Diary) on the part dead trees play in the ecology of the country. I don't dispute what he says — we learned it at school — but he doesn't take it far enough. So I'll do it for him.

When a dead tree — or a live one, for that matter — falls in the bush, it usually brings down smaller trees, saplings and branches with it. It also crushes the undergrowth in its path.

So we have a catchment area, if you like, for debris. Windblown leaves, twigs and the like accumulate and the process of producing humus for the soil begins.

The process takes many, many years and in this area

Thou shalt not ...

campaign to eradicate the insidious onion weed which is taking over so much of both public and private property in the area.

I wage a constant but rather losing battle to stop it spreading, but I suppose I could be told that this in some way interferes with nature. Heaven help us???

A lot of us came to Warrandyte a long while ago to escape some of the red tape of bureaucracy, but it would appear that a new type of "thou shalt not" is fast appearing.

JACK KENDALL,
Castle Road.

I have read with a sense of bemusement your comments in the September issue on the subject of dead trees, and Howard Geldard's reply in the October issue.

I am in the unfortunate position of having about eight very large gum trees surrounding my house. They were burnt in the 1962 fires and have gradually died.

I am more than fond of any sort of trees — as anyone who cared to visit my property would find out — but I am becoming more and more concerned each time there are high winds around that branches will finish up on my house.

Surely I have the right to have these cut down to protect myself (unfortunately they are far too large for me to tackle, and I shudder to think what it will cost to have someone else cut them down).

I would feel much more in agreement with Howard if he would start a

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WARRANDYTE DIARY / PAGE 7

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Festival planners seek early starters

GET IN EARLY! — that's the call to local clubs and groups planning to take part in next year's "This Is Warrandyte" festival.

Groundwork for the 1981 event — to be held on March 27-29 — is already being done and the Warrandyte Festival Committee is seeking maximum community participation.

It stresses, however, that any organisation wanting to hold an event or exhibition should get in touch as soon as possible.

The Committee says it is essential that the program

be finalised and printed early in the new year as part of the festival build-up.

It is a new and bigger committee and includes representatives of Apex, Lions, the Historical Society, Warrandyte Environment League, the churches, Youth Club and several independents.

New features are planned, including a billycart derby on the Sunday.

The Grand Parade on the Saturday will again be a spectacular start to the weekend's activities and the committee is hoping for an even bigger and better line-up of floats and participants.

The market and static displays will be on again, but a \$2 booking fee for a stall will be charged this

year to facilitate site allocation and avoid confusion.

The next committee meeting is at 8.30 p.m. on November 10 at the Whitehouse.

For further information contact Dennis Robertshaw (844 2225), Bill Lord (844 2556) or Ann Riley (844 3515).

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Village plan

The Pentecostal Church has applied to Doncaster - Templestowe Council for a permit to build a retirement village in Berriga Road, Park Orchards.

The proposal includes about 130 units, a hostel and a nursing home.

The land is on more than one title, part of which is zoned Special Use 1, the remainder Residential D.

The latter would probably require a zone change.

Residents have objected to the proposal.

Litter follows tip closure

Warrandyte may become an unofficial dumping ground for Doncaster rubbish. At least that is what local residents fear.

Already several trailer loads of refuse have been scattered in the Tindals Road—Harris Gully Road area since the Stintons Road tip was closed.

The alternative tipping site is in Northcote — some 16km away as the crow flies.

This tip is not open on Sundays. Stintons Road tip handled several hundred cars on a Sunday.

A Doncaster-Templestowe City Council caravan at the Stintons Road tip was destroyed by fire soon after the "closed" sign went up.

Police are investigating.

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GEORGE CALLS IT A DAY

Electrician George Maydom has retired after working 22 years in Warrandyte.

George, of Betton Crescent, has been an electrician since pre-war years and is still available for advice and small jobs.

As a boy, George came with his parents to their holiday house in Warrandyte.

He remembers riding a motor bike through the Warrandyte bush.

The Diary has a special regard for George — he was one of its original advertisers.

The Diary thanks him for his unflinching support and wishes him all the best in retirement.



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WARRANDYTE DIARY/PAGE 10

READERS' LETTERS

A WICKED WASTE!

In these days of the much-publicised energy crisis, it saddens one to see the terrible waste that goes on daily at the rubbish tips.

In the course of dumping rubbish at the Kangaroo Ground tip, I have seen load upon load of wood — ranging from sawn-up trees down to off-cuts — being thrown from trucks and trailers.

The ultimate fate of this wood is to be buried as filling by a council bulldozer.

Surely, better use could be found for it.

Anyone who has priced a load of firewood lately will agree.

Perhaps the Lions, Apex or some other service organisation would interest itself in salvaging wood from this and other tips for distribution to the needy.

The councils could assist by setting aside an area at each tip specifically for the dumping of firewood.

The service clubs could, literally, take it from there.

"Waste Not",
North Warrandyte.

River plan falls short of mark

The Warrandyte Environment League is concerned that the EPA's Draft Protection Policy for the Yarra River didn't reflect a sufficient commitment to the future care of this precious resource

The Draft has been on public display for three months and over 60 groups and individuals submitted comments.

The EPA will take these into account when finalising the document and recommending it to the State Government.

The EPA proposed that the provisions of the policy should be a basic framework for the future management of water quality in the catchment area.

The draft attempts to define beneficial uses, suitable water quality objectives and how to attain these.

The Draft had been greeted with much enthusiasm.

The league generally supports the direction of

the Draft, but a more detailed description of the existing and desirable water quality is needed.

A Draft timetable for implementation is most necessary to ensure the Policy would be implemented and enforced.

The shortfalls in the Draft may be the result of years of inadequate funding of the EPA.

We would like to see the community better informed on the benefits and costs of implementation and the serious consequences of non-implementation of the Draft policy.

Despite the inadequacies the league is pleased that some positive step has at last been taken.

Doug Seymour,
WEL.

Las Warrandyte

Is this town becoming a mini Las Vegas?

Another take-away food shop, another restaurant, another estate agent.

What about a few essentials like a dress shop — one that sells clothes locally made — or a shoe shop, or a material shop or a children's ware shop?

And now the Ritter Davis shops appear to be getting under way, what will be in them?

More pottery? More souvenirs? More fast food?

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A bit of service would go a long way in this town.

After all, we may only be a few miles from large centres either way, but when petrol is triple the price and cars double, that's a long way to walk.

As former resident mechanic Bruce McAuley once told this frustrated driver, even horses and carts have problems, so that may not be the answer either.

"SERVICE PLEASE",
North Warrandyte.

BETTER WAYS TO CLEAR

Once again it's that time of the year when thoughts turn to bush-fire prevention.

That's the time when council calls tenders for slashers.

No-one in their right mind would leave this matter unattended — but there are better ways of doing it."

I pleaded with council to authorise the Fire Brigade, the National Park rangers and the Environment League to organise a system of selective "cool burning", especially on public land, but it was all too much of a shock for the conventionalists.

I am rather surprised — I was under the impression that the matter had been raised several times in the past.

Slashing is just about the most effective way of spreading the seeds of noxious weed. It also introduces new varieties of seed which is embedded on the dirt on the machine.

Noxious weed is spreading in alarming proportions throughout Warrandyte, choking our native plants out of existence.

I hope that this year we will be able to get the machine steam-cleaned regularly.

I have asked the relevant concerned community groups to pool their expertise and come up with a submission which I can present to council early in the new year.

I urge that this be followed up by a deputation during the winter of 1981.

Hopefully an equally effective and less detrimental method of fire clearance can be organised from next year.

(Cr.) Anne Martin,
Webb Street.

cottonwood weaves

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Tennis anyone? Not yet

Warrandyte Lions are beginning to feel that the ball will never be in their court — as far as the bridge-side tennis courts go.

They have just learned that Board of Works requires a new access to be provided to the courts area to comply with the planning permit conditions.

The existing access is considered to be a traffic hazard.

Doncaster - Templestowe City Council has prepared drawings for a new ramp at right angles to Yarra Street.

This will need to be constructed on fill material curving down to the car park area.

The Lions are concerned about appearance of the proposed new work and will co-operate with council and local groups to ensure that the finished job is in keeping with the area.

The cost of these works have to be met by Lions from a council grant, as was the construction of the car park area.

Lions' decision to proceed with the courts was taken partly because Council had agreed to contribute to the cost.

The original council grant was used to construct the car park area and the 1981 allocation will probably be used in the construction of the new access.

These new developments have emerged at the same time as mounting costs associated with the courts themselves.

Lions have been confronted with more work than originally expected, which has caused delay for the contractor engaged to place the final surface.

KIDS PACK THEM IN

Two local beginners' teams have provided a highlight of Warrandyte Basketball Club's summer junior season.

Although the season has a long way to run, there was a real grand final atmosphere about a recent game between two Warrandyte under-8 boys teams.

Indicating the strong interest in junior basketball here, parents, grandparents and friends had turned up in force.

And they were not disappointed.

Amid noisy and excited scenes, the boys turned on an exciting game.

The No. 1 team took a one-point lead early in the game and clung to it until the final whistle.

The club's beginner teams are showing week-by-week improvement.

The two new under-10 teams have both won matches against more experienced opposition and the under-8 girls are also improving steadily.

AT LAST — A FLAG

Warrandyte Elderly Citizens Club are delighted with the new banner adorning their clubrooms.

Their Warrandyte Red team won the Eastern Suburbs carpet bowls competition, giving the local elderlies their first flag.

Rehearsals are on for the next elderlies' concert.

It will be held on November 20 at 1.15 p.m. at the clubrooms in Taroon Avenue.

Visitors are most welcome. Afternoon tea will be served.

The club will hold a family barbecue for players, families, supporters and friends on Sunday, December 7, starting 12.30 p.m.

It will be at the home of Brian and Bev Day, Donaldson Road, Kangaroo Ground and activities will include a yabbing competition, pony rides and the drawing of the Christmas hamper raffle.

The club's election day stall made \$180 profit.

So much for the 'weaker sex' . . .

The women are showing the men a thing or two in Warrandyte Tennis Club's various summer competitions.

Only two teams had a flawless record — six matches, six wins — when this edition of the Diary went to press.

And there was not a man among them!

The unbeaten teams were the midweek C5, captained by Bev Hollinger, and Leonie Thomas' Senior Section 13s.

The club's recent round-robin tournament drew a record field.

Trophies were won by Ian and Helen Worland.

The organisers had their hands full coping with more than 50 players on four courts.

It emphasised the urgent need for a fifth court.

A tournament for juniors is to be held on Sunday, November 23, starting at 12.30 p.m. This will be followed by a barbecue tea, with everything supplied.

Entry fee is \$1.50, and enquiries should be directed to Helen King (844 3624).

The club will hold a spit roast at the clubhouse on November 29.

Food, drinks and disco music are all-inclusive.

Everyone is welcome and tickets are available from Greg Lawrence (844 2498).

Go local—
go Diaryad!
844-2200

CRICKET DETAILS

Round 3: Warrandyte 245 (Gathercole 66, Bellinger 51) d. Norwood 79 (Blair 3/30, Le Guir 4/17) and 70 (Blair 6/21, Le Guir 3/28).

I-GRADE
Round 1: Warrandyte 108 (Sturesteps 35) lost to Bayswater Park 126 (Sturesteps 3/17, Harris 3/14).

Round 2: Warrandyte 4/111 (Revell 23, Bashford 22 n.o.) d. Lilydale 86 (Sturesteps 4/9).

Round 3: Warrandyte 140 (Voslay 41, Harris 31, Bonetti 26) d. South Croydon 69 (Harris 7/34) and 117 (Harris 3/10, Sturesteps 4/8).

WOMEN
Round 2: Warrandyte 3/87 (J. Chapman 35) drew with Waverley (rain interrupted play).

Round 3: Warrandyte 91 (C. Emerson 26 n.o.) and 5/173 (M. Share 77, McGhie 43) lost to

• From Page 12

Moorabbin 134 (J. Chapman 3/31).

JUNIORS

UNDER-16

Round 1: Warrandyte 4/77 (C. Townsend 28 n.o., C. Snaidero 20 n.o.) lost to South Ringwood 4/93.

Round 2: Warrandyte 6/82 (McDonald 45 n.o.) lost to Heathmont 6/83 (G. Walshe 3/21).

Round 3: Warrandyte 9/120 (Sciclina 40 n.o., D. McDonald 28) lost to Mooroolbark 157 (G. Walshe 4/57, Gardner 3/9).

UNDER-14A

Round 1: Warrandyte 2/140 (D. Peters 52 n.o., N. Watkins 41 n.o.) d. South Ringwood 8/49 (P. Sharpe 2/7, T. Sturesteps 4/7).

Round 2: Warrandyte 5/62 (P. Sharpe 20) lost to East Ringwood 7/84 (P. Sharpe 3/28, M. James 3/24).

Round 3: Warrandyte 110 (P. Sharpe 39, N. Watkins 33) lost to Norwood 4/211 (Voce 2/37).

UNDER-14B

Round 1: Warrandyte 4/137 (Morris 33, Creber 37, Dorning 24) d. Johnson Park 5/55.

Round 2: Warrandyte 7/89 (Creber 25) d. Croydon 76.

Round 3: Warrandyte 6/121 (Sloan 38, Dorning 26, Day 23) d. Wantirna 61 (Dorning 5/18).

UNDER-12A

Round 1: Warrandyte 4/86 (R. Kline 25, A. Snaidero 23 n.o.) d. North Ringwood 4/84.

Round 2: Warrandyte 5/59 (A. Snaidero 30) d. Croydon 9/52 (A. Snaidero 3/10).

Round 3: Warrandyte 9/173 (R. Kline 40) d. Norwood 28 (R. Kline 5/12, G. McCartin 3/0) and 65 (W. Peters 5/6).

UNDER-12B

Round 1: Warrandyte 31 lost to Circ...don 8/56 (W. Whitchurch 6/5).

Round 2: Warrandyte 7/45 lost to Heathmont 5/62.

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WARRANDYTE DIARY/PAGE 11

Hit and giggle

Sunday night has become "fun night" at the Warrandyte Squash Centre in Yarra Street.

It has developed into an informal social night of "round robins" which many locals are now enjoying.

Families, couples, singles and teenagers are all taking part.

Owner Geoff Winterton says pennant standard is not required and at \$2.50, which includes racquet and ball hire, it is an inexpensive evening.

Hitting off time is about 7 p.m.

DYTES AT HOME IN BIG-TIME

Rain has robbed Warrandyte's senior team of an opportunity to enhance their reputation in the Ringwood District Cricket Association's top grade.

The Dytes have adapted well to the tough competition in the Chandler Shield and have registered a win, a draw and a loss from three matches so far.

They started the season with a narrow defeat by reigning premiers East Ringwood, drew with Wonga Park, then turned in a good team performance to beat the traditionally-strong Montrose.

Their enthusiasm to get on with the business of winning was frustrated by rain, which washed out the first day of the fourth round.

However, Warrandyte Cricket Club are well pleased with the way the season is shaping.

"The promotions earned in the record-breaking 1979-80 season have put us in tougher, tighter competitions, but results so far are very satisfactory," a club official told the Diary.

"We have strength all the way from the Chandler Shield team to the under-12s."

The Chandler Reserve team broke the season's ice with a big win over Montrose.

Stephen Peake hit Warrandyte's first century of

And then the rains came

the season. He finished with 134.

The club's youth-coaching policy is paying dividends.

The under-14s and under-12s have returned some excellent results and officials have paid tribute to the work being done in the youth area by such senior players as Bruce Kline and Bob McDonald.

The five premierships pennants Warrandyte won last season were unfurled at a special barbecue-ceremony last month.

Ken Durham represented the RDCA.

Captains Stan Davis, John McCartin and Ian World unfurled their respective A, A-Reserve and E-Grade pennants.

Carol Peters represented husband Joe (manager of the Under-12s Section 1) and Peter Baker did the honours for the Under 12s

Section 4 which he so successfully managed.

DETAILS

SENIORS CHANDLER SHIELD

Round 1: Warrandyte 7/153 (Pascoe 35, Bowen 33, Kline 26) lost to East Ringwood 7/163 (McDonald 5/74, Kline four stumpings).

Round 2: Warrandyte 5/37 (Chapman 28) drew with Wonga Park 117 (Pascoe 5/54, McDonald 3/41).

Round 3: Warrandyte 7/272 (David 87, Kline 59, James 42 n.o., Pascoe 40) d. Montrose 261 (G. Taylor 4/35).

CHANDLER RESERVE

Round 1: Warrandyte 7/146 (Peake 29, Kline 27, McCarthy 26) lost to East Ringwood 5/195 (David 2/38).

Round 2: Warrandyte 7/134 (Kline 29, McKenzie 25 n.o.) lost to Wonga Park 5/139 (Chapman 2/37).

Round 3: Warrandyte 8/255 (Peake 134, Chapman 46, Summers 36) and 1/22 d. Montrose 178 (Moore 3/20, Davis 3/47, Leon 2/51).

C-GRADE

Round 1: Warrandyte 5/147 (Utt 58, Peters 25, Turner 23 n.o.) lost to Kilsyth 7/174 (James 3/27).

Round 2: Warrandyte 8/151 (McGrath 37, Turner 36 n.o., Day 28) lost to South Wantirna 7/160 (Day 4/58).

Round 3: Warrandyte 137 (Pianta 25 n.o.) and 7/63 v. Lilydale 78 (Bellinger 4/33, World 4/15).

F-GRADE

Round 1: Warrandyte 8/133 (Johnson 59) d. Mooroolbark Baptists 85 (McDonald 4/29, Walsh 3/26).

Round 2: Warrandyte 1/17 drew with Wantirna 171 (Townsend 5/29).

Round 3: Warrandyte 89 and 38 lost to Wonga Park 9/138 (Walsh 5/39).

H-GRADE

Round 1: Warrandyte 9/100 (Stephens 21) d. Lilydale 87 (Bellinger 5/24, Le Guier 3/18).

Round 2: Warrandyte d. South Wantirna (walkover).

● Continued Page 11

It's all 'go' for Eltham bowls

Eltham Bowling Club are moving with the times — and that's fast!

With the full support of Eltham Shire Council, the club will install an all-weather Henselite Scapegrene outdoor synthetic acrylic bowling surface.

This surface, playable all year round, has ideal speed conditions averaging 14 seconds.

A co-operative is now being formed to establish the green and clubroom and car parking facilities at the corner of Susan and Bridge Streets, Eltham.

The co-operative will provide \$60,000, which means raising \$8000 in \$1 shares paid up to the value of 10 per cent.

The shares are available to anyone interested in establishing the bowling green in Eltham.

Any person subscribing between \$50 and \$200 up to a maximum of \$1000 towards the formation of a co-operative society will have immediate priority for membership and will not be called upon to pay the usual nomination, entrance or joining fee.

Those subscribing \$100 or more, will not have to pay the first annual subscription when the green is installed.

All subscriptions to the co-operative will eventually be refunded.

The area allocated to the club is valued at about \$85,000 and provides ample space for a future second green.

A grant of \$25,000 is available from council for initial earthworks and car-parking facilities.

For further information: Lionel Cox (439 9226).

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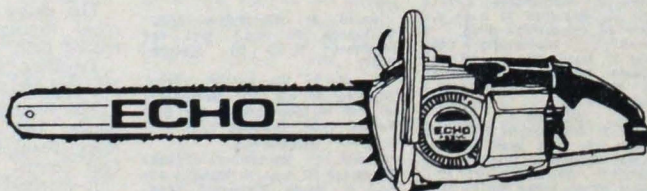
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