

Warrandyte Diary

PRICELESS

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Editorial 844 1186, Advertising 844 2820

Beneath the affluence lurks anguish

Warrandyte may be seen as a wealthy, happy community, but it has problems the same as anywhere else.

It has poor people, it has family breakdowns, it has suicides, it has lonely elderly people, it has youth unemployment. In short, it has all the problems that people like to think are limited to the poorest parts of Melbourne.

A small group of people who have had experience with social problems in the area recently

discussed them with the Diary. They are Louise Joy, Co-op chairwoman and social worker; Rosemary Tovey, Community Education Officer; Jane Webber, a single mother; Maisie Temple, of the Elderly Citizens' Club; and Jeff Berger, of the Anglican Church.

Their comments are not the result of formal research. They are based on many years' experience of Warrandyte and on a gut feeling that all is not as well as it appears. The most significant result of the meeting was that although all five

had always felt privately that significant problems existed, their fears were confirmed by the others.

A common thread throughout the discussion was the belief that the very material wealth of Warrandyte was the main factor causing the problems. It was felt that because Warrandyte is such an affluent community it is much harder to cope with financial and social problems.

Ms Joy said: "People here have such high aspirations that failure is very hard to cope with. It is

especially hard to be poor here. We're not talking about the Depression poverty of the 1930s; we are talking about relative poverty. But this relative poverty is just as serious.

"A lot of people here come from poor backgrounds, and to them the stigma of failure is immense. Success is often an obsession with them, and the fall is very painful."

Rosemary Tovey agreed. "We have very high aspirations here, and when people fail, the effects are magnified by the 'success' all round

them," she said.

"There are a lot of people out there having a hard time. It's because of the expectations people have of themselves and of other people. This is a particularly strong pressure in Warrandyte.

"It's all very well having a strong sense of community, but there is a conflict in that. To be part of the community you have to be successful. There are people here who are too ashamed to seek help from their friends and neighbors. After

Continued page 7

Davmark plan may get nod

Warrandyte looks like getting a big supermarket at the West End following the latest Planning Appeals Board hearing in the long-running dispute.

A decision on the appeal, by the Davmark development company against Doncaster and Templestowe Council's refusal to grant a planning permit, is expected within a couple of weeks.

Local people who attended the hearing say that tactical moves by Davmark and the company's strong case for a big supermarket may spell victory.

Also, the chairman of the board, Mr George McKenzie, told the hearing that it was about time the issue was sorted out. There have been about a dozen appeals by Davmark in support of a variety of plans.

Council, Warrandyte Advisory Committee, Warrandyte Environment League, local traders and residents have long opposed proposals for a big supermarket — between 1000 and 2000 square metres of shopping space — in the West End. Most would accept a supermarket of up to 1000 square metres.

In the latest case, four appeals were set down for hearing, and all were for supermarkets of almost 2000 square metres. One related to a planning permit refusal last year; the others dated back to 1983.

The successful tactical move by Davmark was to withdraw the appeal for the latest project, which involved the closure of Colin Avenue, and go ahead with the three earlier appeals.

Greg Thorpe WAC chairman, says: "It was not in the developers' interest to be in a position where the Planning Appeals Board could refuse a permit for a supermarket on the timber yard site which did not involve the closure of Colin Avenue and also to refuse a permit for a supermarket which did close Colin Avenue but was the right concept and merely required redesign. "He was faced with a decision

where he had everything to lose and everything to gain. His only choice was to withdraw the appeal for the supermarket design which included the closure of Colin Avenue and proceed with the appeals for the project that was on the timber yard site only."

This tactic allows Davmark to negotiate with council for a design which does close Colin Avenue and leaves the company with a fall-back position of a permit to build on the timber yard site if these negotiations were to fail.

The tactic also meant that WEL, WAC and local residents were not allowed to appear as objectors at the hearing because when the early plans were advertised no one objected.

WAC was able to be heard only as a witness for Doncaster and Templestowe Council.

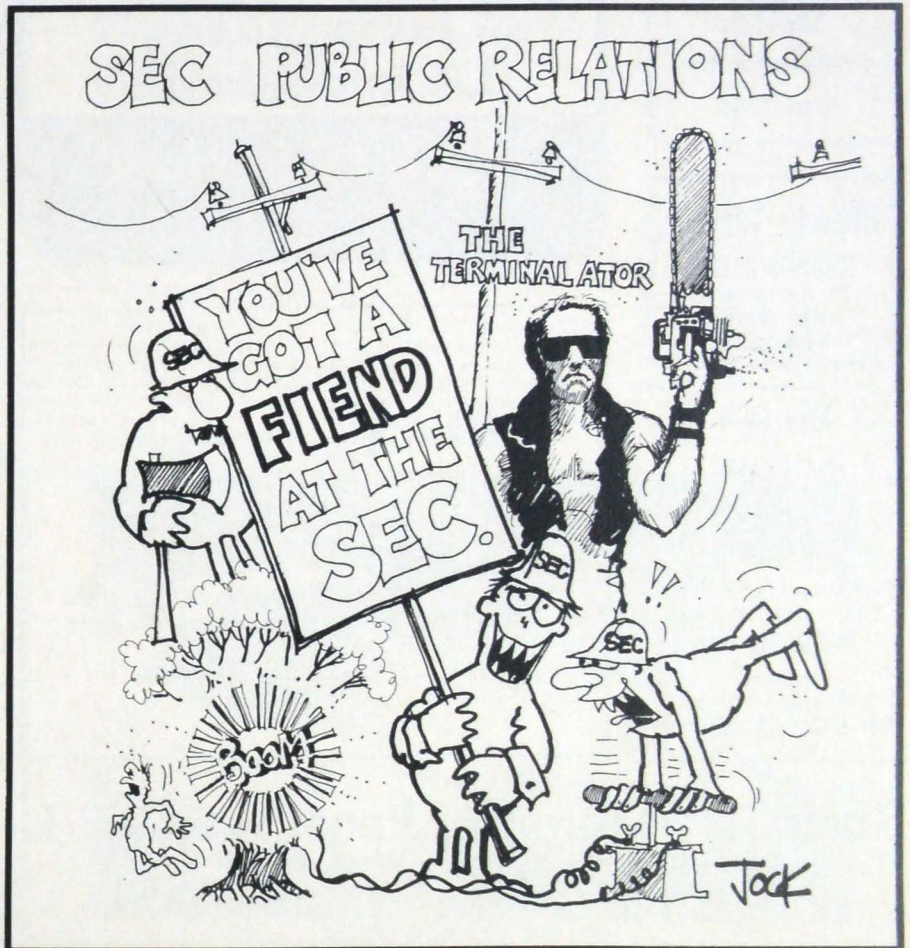
Mr Thorpe says: "This has been an expensive slip-up, failing to object and follow proper procedures. No trader or resident objected. On the other hand the appeal that was withdrawn — the latest proposal — was opposed by WEL, WAC, traders and about 50 residents. It looks much better to have an appeal before the board where there are no objectors.

"From the point of view of council and Warrandyte, things did not go very well. It is unfortunate that volunteers and amateurs are having to do battle in a legal arena.

"There were also very few members of the community who turned up at the hearing, and that was disappointing."

Another benefit for Davmark of having the three older appeals heard was that the Board of Works is soon to hear an application from council to rezone the timber yard site as "service business", rather than "commercial". This would preclude a supermarket being built there.

Mr Thorpe says: "This is why he had to have the fall-back position. Rezoning would preclude the three earlier appeals being heard by the Planning Appeals Board."



A couple of years ago I made an agreement with the SEC about the trees in front of our place in Hawkes Road.

The SEC would look after the power lines. I would look after the trees and keep them three metres away from the lines.

It was a written agreement. It had my signature on it and I respected it. I kept the trees three metres away from the power lines.

Last month the SEC broke that contract. They broke it without asking. They broke it by cutting down all the trees that I had been carefully tending. They broke it with all the arrogance and ignorance of a public service organisation that has completely lost touch with the idea of public service.

And yet an organisation is people. People at the SEC decided that my contract was of no value. Peo-

ple at the SEC decided that I wasn't worth talking to. I think those people at the SEC are incompetent and unfit to hold public office.

I could be wrong. perhaps those people at the SEC would like to

tell me who they are and we could find out if I'm wrong. Or perhaps they still think I'm not worth the trouble.

Jack

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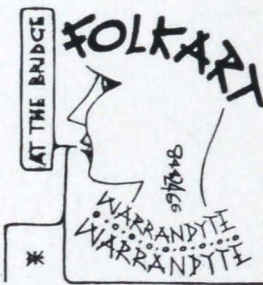
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Smokey Joe

It has been many years, obviously, since the folk of the Warrandyte RSL Sub-Branch saw active service. But on the hill overlooking the bridge, battle lines are being drawn again.

At stake is \$668 which Doncaster-Templestowe council says the sub-branch should contribute towards the cost of replacing channelling, kerbing and paving uprooted in the process of building the bridge roundabout. Council's coffer-custodians have arrived at the figure on the basis of frontage and splitting the cost down the middle. The same formula has been applied to private land-owners affected by the project. The RSL people think it stinks. For one thing, they say, their land is not privately owned but held in trusteeship. For another, let he who removes the existing stuff pay for its replacement. The latter proposition might appeal to those citizens whose minds are yet uncluttered by quaint local government philosophy. The official word is that the sub-branch will "protest". Unofficially, Smokey suggests you stand by for World War Three.

Templestowe golfer Peter McLeod had a friend over from Scotland recently, and decided that an early-morning game at Warrandyte would be an ideal introduction to Australian golf courses. All went well until the fourth green, down beside the river. Visitor was lining up an important putt, the princely sum of \$2 in the balance, when a rather large kangaroo bounded across the green and into the river-bank bush. Visitor fluffed the putt, lost the hole and the money and is still arguing with Peter, who insists he was seeing things.

You have to be crazy or a masochist to play 18 holes of golf in ill-fitting shoes, and Neil Pearson is neither. So dismay was tinged with disbelief when he was saddling up for a charity event at Koorringal GC, Altona, recently . . . and found he'd brought two right-footers. Seems that Neil and "Heavy" Harry Southall had gone to golf together at Healesville a couple of days earlier and they have identical shoes. In a mix-up which threatened to become quite painful, Harry went home with a pair of lefts, leaving Neil with the pair of rights. The situation was saved by a Koorringal official who just happened to have a pair Neil's size in his car. Having cleaned and polished the pigeon pair for the Koorringal outing (without noticing anything wrong), Neil now insists that Harry reciprocate. The strangest people play golf, don't they?

Smokey hears that one local scout leader overestimated the abilities of his young charges. It appears that L.B. thought the boys could CARRY the power pole in the festival parade. Putting it on wheels was a much better idea.

At a recent State Emergency Service/Country Fire Authority/St Johns Ambulance demonstration on the riverbank the following exchange was overheard: Young Boy — "Is that a real dummy you're using, mister?" CFA man — "No son, he's really quite smart." CFA personality/dummy was quite miffed.

Local male of Smokey's acquaintance offers to bring in the clothes from the line. Does so, and wife asks him to put out the wet clothes. Bobby boy completes task, and proudly announces fact to the misses. Several hours later missus goes outside to bring the dry clothes in, and discovers that beloved has hung out the clothes he had only minutes before brought in nice and dry.

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Hard at it (almost): North Warrandyte's very own cucumber sandwich-eating navvies.

Do-it-yourself drain-brains

Just two days after Anzac Day they were in the trenches again in North Warrandyte.

Well, THE trench, actually; a metre-deep excavation stretching down from the corner of the Boulevard and Reserve Road to Stoney Creek.

Resident Jan Vagg explains: "Last winter the corner was a swamp, a lake. We asked the council to put in a storm water drain."

Surprise, surprise. A storm water drain for that corner did not exactly top Eltham Council's list of priorities.

Local residents did, however, manage to prise \$2000 worth of

plastic pipes and scoria out of council on the proviso that they did the navvying themselves.

The gumboot brigade, including Councillor John Fisher, hopped to it. They backhoed the trench down to the creek, rolled in the pipes and poured concrete.

And while they waited for the bobcat to arrive and shift the scoria they drank tea and ate cucumber sandwiches (they're a dainty mob in North Warrandyte).

"It's great to see that people will bog in and help each other," said Jan Vagg. "Besides that, we've had a ball."

Meeting on Harris Gully development

A meeting of council representatives and officers, local residents, developers and other groups is to be held to discuss a proposal for a cluster housing development on land adjoining Harris Gully Road.

A 40-house development had been proposed, but after meetings and council studies, it is thought that a 15-home plan will be acceptable.

The Diary has been told that the developer, the Doncaster Pastoral Company, will accept the plan, and that objectors are likely to.

A meeting, chaired by Councillor Ken McKenzie, was held on April 17 between the Board of Works, council representatives, represen-

tatives of the developer, Warrandyte Environment League, Warrandyte Advisory Committee, the Warrandyte-Park Orchards Resident Action Group and local residents to discuss proposed rezoning of the land, which is necessary if the development is to go ahead.

Council is opposed to the rezoning - from Landscape Interest A and Conservation A to residential - if a 40-house development is proposed. The Diary has been told that council may consider recommending a rezoning to Environmental Living or something similar if a 15-house development is agreed to.

After-school care program

A small after-school care program, for children seven years and under, will commence at the Co-Op's child care centre, corner of Masonic Avenue and Ringwood/Warrandyte Road, at the beginning of term two. Ring Pam Booth, 844 1205, to confirm interest.

Carolanne Crowe, who is experienced with adolescents, is in charge of the Co-Op's Coffee Shop, which is open on Wednesdays from 3.30 to 11.30

pm; Fridays from 3.30 pm to midnight; Saturdays from 4.30 pm to midnight and Sundays from 4.30 pm to 10.30 pm. This is particularly suitable for secondary school children. This is not a child-minding but a recreational Centre.

There is an obvious gap in after-school care for seven-to-12 year old children. Parents concerned about their children in this age group please contact Rosemary Tovey, 844 2589, or Jean Chapman, 844 3326.

Plans on way for Professor's Hill

Plans are being prepared for Professor's Hill, bringing the North Warrandyte sanctuary a little closer.

Councillor John Fisher and local botanist David Cameron, of the sanctuary committee of management, are drawing up a draft management strategy to be put to the Shire of Eltham before it prepares its budget for 1985/86.

Cameron, who is chairman, outlined his plans to the April meeting of the committee.

Walking tracks, signposted in the same manner as those in national parks, are suggested. At first, however, many of the existing tracks in the area will have to be repaired. Some of these have been damaged by trail bikes.

The meeting agreed that jute mesh should be used to protect the tracks from erosion.

Weeds, particularly blackberries, are a problem. Landscape gardener Peter Clark has tendered to spray and cut weeds for \$1000. His quote will be sent on to Eltham council. Some fencing has been put around the hill, mainly by members of the committee and interested residents. A local contractor will be asked to quote for completing the job.

To reduce the risk of fire and help protect the fence, a perimeter break is planned. This will be maintained annually by members of the committee armed with whippersnippers and mowers.

Cameron said a four-wheel-drive vehicle had entered the sanctuary

recently and caused significant damage. The meeting decided that vehicle access be restricted to one padlocked gate at the top of the hill and two stiles and a padlocked gate for walkers.

Members agreed that the emphasis for the use of the sanctuary should be passive recreation with the priority on bushland conservation.

Kate Janeba dies in Vienna

Potter Katie Janeba, well-known and respected in Warrandyte, died in Vienna on March 13 after a long illness.

Her friend, John Hipwell, described her as one of the people who made Warrandyte a special place in the years immediately after the Second World War.

He writes: "Gentle and soft-spoken but also a strong feminist, she went about her work in the pottery in Kangaroo Ground Road in blue denim overalls with her hair bound in a scarf."

"She will be remembered as a distinguished early potter. Her kickwheel-thrown earthenware pots were much sought after. She was an exhibitor at the legendary Primrose Pottery Shop in Melbourne and later became a member of Potters' Cottage."

Katie was the wife of architect and later professor Fritz Janeba, who died last year.

Building permit for restoration of P.O.

Doncaster and Templestowe Council has approved a building permit for reconstruction of the old post office in Yarra Street.

The decision ends a long battle by the Post Office preservation Group to have the building reconstructed on its present site and means that work can start soon.

POPG is very happy with the outcome of long and delicate negotiations with the council and the State Government, which at several stages appeared to have reached an impasse.

Councillor Ken McKenzie, who

was involved in the negotiations, paid tribute to council's building surveyor, Tom Dunbar, and the chief executive officer, Brian Harper, for getting a satisfactory result. "It was a difficult project which took special understanding," he says, "and they deserve a lot of praise."

Council has in effect allowed work to proceed that is contrary to the 1983 Victorian Building Regulations. It did so because the post office is of special interest by nature of its design, appearance, location, use and environment.

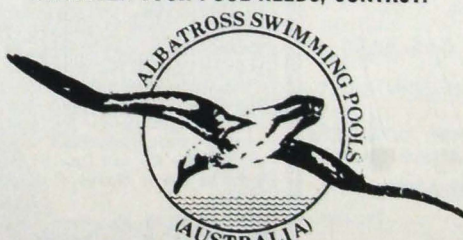


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This is an edited version of a memorial given at the service of Kel Arnold, who died recently. It was delivered by his friend Don Charlwood, who wrote it with the help of many of Kel's other local friends.

Kel Arnold, the lovable ad-libber

All of us here today are conscious of loss; to a greater or lesser degree all of us knew Kelson Arnold.

Among us are members of his family; friends with whom he grew up; others who knew him in the army or the air force or at university; many who worked with him in the Department of Civil Aviation; others who knew him here at home in Warrandyte.

Although the lively company of Kel is lost to us, we can be sure that today he would not want sombre words, much less would he wish us to eulogise him. He was, above all, honest and forthright — a man with aversion to pretence.

Some of his friends have put together this brief record of his life. In speaking from our notes, I have the feeling, at once warming and comradely, that Kel, even now is impatient to intervene to correct our facts and protest against our forms of expression. Such was the man.

His parents were well-known Ouyen people; his father had a large general store there. They were not only a very hard-working family, but a family with a strong social conscience. During the Depression, they sacrificed their own business security several times to help Mallee farmers in desperate need of credit. Kel's mother died only last year, aged 101.

Kel himself was born in 1924; he attended Ouyen Primary School, then Ouyen Higher Elementary School. He was often the despair of his teachers — not through any lack of intelligence or effort, but because of his irrepressible habit of turning a lesson into a drama with himself in the leading role. He was the autocratic organiser of his school fellows, involving them in escapades that exasperated their parents.

In 1940 he came to Box Hill Grammar School for his matriculation year. In 1942, at 18, he enlisted in the army and in 1943 transferred to the air force. He trained as a pilot and in 1944 was posted to Britain. By the time he had done advanced training with his crew, the war in Europe was ending.

In 1945, under the Commonwealth Reconstruction Training Scheme, he started an arts degree at Melbourne University. During the three years of his course he became active in the University Labor Club at a time when it was much censured by the establishment for its left-wing tendencies. He chose to involve himself in an electioneering campaign in the strongly conservative Mallee. From his own account the campaign was more notable for hilarious episodes and mishaps than for political success.

In 1948 he joined the Department of Civil Aviation as an air traffic controller, first at Essendon, then Darwin. As irony would have it, he was controller in charge at Darwin on the night the Petrovs were removed from their flight.

Air traffic control was then in its formative years. It was soon realised that Kel, with his drive and imagination and gift of expression, had much to offer in the creation of a strong central administration. For this reason he was transferred back to Melbourne and for 11 years worked in the operational control section; for the last four of these years he was in charge of the section.

It was during this time — in — 1952 — that he and Ann Heughan married. Ann had known Warran-

dyte for a long time, having been a pupil at Koornong School. She and Kel bought an old, beautifully-positioned house here in 1955 and lavished much hard work on it. In 1960 Kel was seconded to Singapore under the Colombo Plan as one of Australia's aviation advisers during the handover of administration from Britain to the government of Singapore. Ann and their two small children, Sue and Matthew, joined him there. The family was in Singapore for three years and there Miles and Andrew were born. During this secondment they lost their Warrandyte home in the bushfires of 1962; nothing was left of it. Kel returned briefly and engaged Robin Boyd to design a new house. This was ready for them when they returned to Australia in 1963.

Kel then became the senior supervisor in charge of air traffic control in the Victoria-Tasmania region, a position he was to hold until 1970 when he was nominated Australia's representative on the Air Navigation Commission of the International Civil Aviation Organisation, in Montreal. He served a 3½ year term there and on his return was appointed superintendent of operational control and search and rescue, a position he was to hold for five years. It was during this period that he was seconded for emergency service in Darwin following the 1974 cyclone. There he was coordinator between his department and other Government instrumentalities — a task in which his drive and decisiveness were of great value.

In 1978 he accepted a position under the ICAO technical assistance scheme at the Turk and Caicos Islands in the West Indies. Its purpose was to set up a Department of Aviation — an exceedingly demanding and delicate task conducted under primitive conditions. The governor of the islands personally congratulated and thanked him for the foundations he laid, but from there he was invalided home in 1980. His health did not recover and in 1982 he was retired.

Many of us here have enjoyed the hospitality of Kel and Ann in their Warrandyte home with their very wide range of friends — barbecues up above the river with Kel as sumptuous cook and baker; rich musical evenings with Ann accompanying talented local friends; reunions with friends from various parts of the world. Some of us will remember the brief career of Kelson Arnold on the stage with the Warrandyte Arts Association — a career cut short by his outrageous ad-libbing. But even those robbed of their cues forgave him, for he was a most generous and engaging friend.

Those who have been close to him over the past months know something of the burden his family has borne. To Ann we express not only our deep sympathy but our great admiration. And our sympathy goes to her and Kel's family; may they close supportively around her in the days ahead.

Kelson Arnold's love of poetry revealed perhaps the truest side of his complex nature. We close with four lines of John Donne's:

*Death be not proud, though some
called thee
Mighty and Dreadful, for thou art
not soe,
For those whom thou think'st thou
dost overthrow
Die not, poore death, nor canst
thou kill me.*

ROOTS & LEAVES

by
Wombat



*Survival
of the
fittest:
a critique*

I HAVE been watching the way you humans congregate. Groups form, build up, reach a peak and then decline, giving up their members to other groups.

There certainly is a battle for the survival of the fittest amongst your species, very much like the supposed evolutionary battle between species themselves.

What is it that contributes to a group's rise of fall? Many groups in Warrandyte have a "cause". The Post Office Preservation Group, the fire brigades, the Football Club, the Friends of the State Park and the Warrandyte Environment league all have a "cause" that, on the surface, might appear to explain their existence.

I have a theory, though, that the cause itself and its merit are only minor factors in determining a group's Darwinian fitness.

A Warrandytian might be interested in a burnt-out post office, fighting fires, playing football, being friendly to a park or helping save the environment, but he or she can hardly devote a lot of energy to these causes.

I think that some groups should take a hard look at their Darwinian fitness.

Look to the post office group as one that has drawn together large numbers of people and resources for a minor cause. These people have not forgotten fellowship and enjoyment when planning functions.

Groups such as the environment league, friends of the park, the Professor's Hill mob and the "friends of Cox Park", whom I wrote about last month, should reflect on this.

They all have infinitely more important causes, yet have not been able to attract members in proportion to the merit of their causes.

When the post office is restored, the bulk of the work of that group will be over. The energies of many of that group's members will become available to whoever can inspire them.

How about it, groups. Be a little more inspirational.

★ ★ ★

IT IS with great sadness that I record the passing of a fine stand of trees on a property to the west of Harris Gully Road, between the pipe track and Opossum Rise.

How could they do such a thing? It was not virgin bush, but nevertheless very fine eucalypt regrowth. The country was a bit too open at ground level for terrestrial mammals such as your truly, but the possums and birds had a huge housing estate on the site.

Now it is a muddy wasteland. It is hard to imagine that the clearing improved the land for any purposes except that of a Collins Street farmer. I think it was an act of aggression against ALL Australians.

A small town remembers sacrifice

Forget the Shrine and the Dawn Service; forget the big parade through the city.

The place to appreciate Anzac Day is in a small town — a place where the returned servicemen and women belong and where their sacrifices can be remembered in context — ordinary people who left their friends and family to fight, and perhaps die, in foreign fields.

Warrandyte is such a place, and the setting makes the service all the more poignant — the quiet of a village street, the trees, the birds, the children and of course the ones who came back.

There are only a handful of returned servicemen left in Warrandyte, and this too adds to the impact of the day that Australia stops to remember.



Warrandyte RSL president Viv Rush conducts the ceremony.



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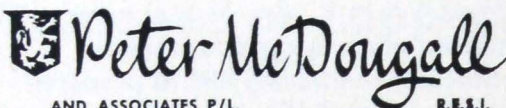
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Farewell and adieu to Mae and Mary Holland, who leave soon for Coff's Harbour. Mae, who has reached the grand age of 84 and who has brought up 10 children, is grandmother of 42 and great-grandmother of 24, is a much-loved and with-it woman. Her daughter Mary, known far and wide as Greenfingers, should have no trouble with the Coff's Harbour soil considering the magnificent success she has had amid the stones, clay and general heartbreak of Warrandyte.

There was a great debate running at the same time as the Festival Sulo bin race — whether it is better to push or pull the black monstrosities. We are able to report that the proponents of pull have won the day. Just ask Don McCraw, who suffered a cut mouth and acute embarrassment trying to put his push philosophy into practice. And the Festival committee should take note that miffed North Warrandyte residents, insulted at being unable to take part, are planning their revenge. A midnight race of metal bins full of bottles and cans through the south-of-the-river residential areas seems appropriate.

Warrandyte Primary School's grade three pupils are proudly displaying rosettes they won at an Easter art competition. They also picked up a video for the school. Congratulations to the kids and their teacher, Miss Fanan.

How They Lived

Life in our village 100 years ago, as seen by the Anderson's Creek correspondent of the Evelyn Observer

May, 1885. — Messrs Grant and Holloway (Yarra Tunnel Reef), are breaking down splendid stone and there is evidently every prospect of their next crushing being even better than the last.

A ball, in aid of the cricket club, takes place on the 29th, and I am sure it will be an unqualified success.

A public meeting is called for next Saturday, relative to the Melbourne Hill, on the main road to Melbourne.

It appears that by making a deviation through Mr H. Stiggants property a serpentine road could be formed which would be a vast improvement on the present steep gradient.

Grumbling loud and deep is heard on every side at 1s 6d rate recently struck by our shire council. It does seem hard that we should pay for what is considered to be the fault of another separate riding.

The weather is cold and wet, in fact winter has come upon us with a jump.

ANDERSONS CREEK POLICE COURT

May 4th
(Before Mr Hare, P.M., and Messrs Bell and Hutchinson, J.P.'s)

Ewen Cameron, one pound, 10 shillings, balance of fees due for child in industrial school. Order for amount.

Messrs Hoare and Anderson were fined 7s 6d and 2s 6d costs each for removing timber from Crown Lands.

Samuel Coutts — Sunday trading. Fined 10s and 20s costs.

The transfer of George Wiggin's (Ringwood Hotel) licence to James Lindsay was granted.

A carrier's licence was granted to Andrew Engel.

• Author Janet McCalman will be guest speaker at the meeting of the Warrandyte Historical Society on Tuesday, August 13. Janet wrote 'Struggle Town', the story of the suburb of Richmond from 1900 to 1965. The society is planning a bus excursion to Churchill Island in November.

the fifth column...

Anyone else noticed an increase in the number of people around town wearing unironed clothing? The reason is the departure of Jill Ward. It seems many locals would be well advised to investigate the cost of overnight parcel delivery to Western Australia. Jill, Peter, Simon and Alisa have moved to a place called Bull Creek. No bull.

And speaking of former residents in WA, Lee and Ken Virtue keep extolling the virtues (sorry about that) of the state in letters to friends. If this goes on much longer, there won't be anyone left in Warrandyte. The Virtues pass on greetings to all their former buddies.

It's been a hectic month for local socialites. The old town has been fairly throbbing with bonhomie. Sasha Reid celebrated her 21st, the Egglestones had a double birthday party (six cheers?) and Anita Laurence was married at the home of her parents, Brian and Jo. And a young couple who lived at the opposite ends of Melbourne chose the Mechanics Institute to get married.

Why? You may well ask. Because it was exactly mid-way between their respective homes. We wonder where they spend the first night of their honeymoon. The riverbank has seen stranger occurrences.

What began as a short trip for local woman Merle Foote became high drama when her car burst into flames opposite the Co-op recently. Helpful locals grabbed blankets and halted traffic until the fire brigade and police arrived. Despite a moment of terror when she announced that the car ran on gas, the brigade came to the rescue and doused the fire. All's well that ends well, of course, but many were heard to mutter that it might not have been a bad idea if the gas tank had gone up after all — taking the Co-op building with it. These poor souls who have to use this ramshackle rabbit warren are tired of waiting for the much-talked-about community centre.

Judith and Jim Pleasance have a new daughter, Calida Duana (a delightful Spanish name). Ben, Briony, Amalia, Jasmine and the local women's cricket team are overjoyed.

Alan and Iris Gibson, long-time locals, are the proud grandparents of Mirella Bottarelli, who was born nine weeks premature. Father Sergio was overseas at the time. Mum Briony and Mirella are fine.

WAC NOTES

...prepared by
Warrandyte
Advisory
Committee.

The WAC is to advise Doncaster and Templestowe Council that the landscaping plan for the roundabout at the bridge has both good and bad points. WAC is pleased to see that local stone has been specified. Problem areas include the use of a sensitive plant which is not expected to last more than two seasons; the clearing (to ground level, but not grubbing out) of the stand of prunus on the roadside next to the tennis courts; and the provision of a path along the road ONLY as far as the traffic divider leading into the roundabout from the west. The WAC believes the path should join the roadside route used to walk through to Lavender Lane and beyond. Comments were prepared for WAC by Bev Hanson and other experienced local landscape experts.

Tenants of the Community Centre, please check your finances. The latest room hire accounts are on the way.

The sage of West End planning continues with the latest Planning Appeals Board hearing held in April. Thanks to the half-dozen residents who came along at some time during the appeal to give moral support — where were the rest of the objectors?

Doug Seymour, a member of the WAC planning sub-committee, represented WAC and the Warrandyte Environment League at a meeting convened by council on the

proposed development of 61 hectares off Beauty Gully-Knees Roads. This property is zoned Conservation A and the owners, the Doncaster Pastoral Company, have proposed a rezoning to enable 40 dwellings to be built on the land. Doug was joined by other speakers in calling for a development density not greater than that allowed under the surrounding zoning — Landscape Interest A. This would allow seven dwellings. It is understood that the City of Doncaster and Templestowe has subsequently recommended to the planning authority, the Board of Works, that a cluster development of no more than 15 dwellings should be allowed. Discussions are continuing.

Why not hire a trier?

Each month we publish the names of two job seekers. If you need a job done we ask you to hire, as a community service, one of our triers.

Linda, 20, has experience at sales work. She would like similar work but is willing to tackle other jobs.

Kelly, 16, has worked as a doc-

tor's receptionist and at waitress-ing. She is interested in child care work.

Anyone able to help is asked to contact Jean Chapman on 844 2548 or 844 3326.

Another Warrandyte Community Workshop Co-operative Ltd. Project.

Ideas for parents is the plan

The Warrandyte Community Child Care Centre is thinking of having a parent education program for term two on Mondays at 1.30 to 3 pm in the Warrandyte Community Workshop Co-operative building, 176 Yarra Street.

The program will be designed around giving parents ideas to carry out in their own homes. Experts in various areas will be approached to lead each session.

Inquiries and bookings: 844 2548.

Meals on wheels keeps on helping out

Our town luckily also has more than its share of concerned citizens, the men and women who quietly help those not as fortunate as themselves.

And 50 of them belong to the Warrandyte and District Welfare Service.

The Warrandyte and District Welfare Service was established 15 years ago and immediately began delivering meals on wheels in Warrandyte and Park Orchards.

It is an independent service accredited by the Federal Government's Department of Social Security and the State Government Health Commission (hospitals and charities division).

Meals are cooked at the Austin Hospital and delivered to the Eltham Senior Citizens Club where volunteers package them.

Other volunteers then deliver them.

The meal is made up of orange juice, soup, main course and dessert and costs the recipient \$1. The actual cost is more than that, of course. The service operates five days a week, including the Christmas holidays. An extra meal is offered on the day before a public holiday.

Last year Warrandyte volunteers delivered 3165 meals.

Miss Agnes Moore came to Warrandyte with her family in 1938, and has contributed to the community for all those years.

Now the community is returning the favor by providing her with meals on wheels. Miss Moore, 83, has diabetes and suffers from cataracts on both eyes. The simple task of walking to the shops is beyond her, and the provision of a healthy meal five days a week has made life much easier.

As she says: "It's jolly handy not



Aggie Moore: "Meals on wheels makes it much easier for people like me."

having to go up the street to do the shopping, and it's nice to have a chat with the people who deliver the meals, especially now that I can't get out all that much.

"It's just too much for me to get up the street. My legs aren't what they used to be."

Miss Moore is part of the old community network that services such as meals on wheels is helping to sustain. Friends such as Lil Whitehead visit her and she regularly calls on long-time friends such as George and Molly Docking — sometimes with a plate of fresh scones. And there are regular days down at the Elderly Citizens Club.

"Meals on wheels makes it much

easier for people like me. It's only \$5 a week for five meals, and the women who deliver the meals pass on all the news and that sort of thing," she says.

And the meals themselves? "They're not bad," Miss Moore says. "Most of the people I know like them."

In fact Aggie Moore's judgment is high praise indeed. She used to run the Central Tea Rooms in the main street where the Co-Op offices are now. "I can cook as well as anybody if I had to," she says. "I did all the cooking up at the tea rooms, and I had no complaints there. And I haven't got any complaints about the Meals on Wheels food."

Behind the affluence lies the anguish

From page 1

all, who wants their next-door neighbor to know they have failed?"

Behind the big houses, the two cars, the native gardens, the beautiful clothes and the expensive furniture is, all too often, family and financial ruin.

Rosemary Tovey said: "The problem is that people have got all these material things, but if they looked at themselves and their lives they would realise that they have nothing.

"Often they have alienated themselves and their families and their friends. They live in spiritual poverty, a poverty of relationships. There are all sorts of poverty, and this is just one of them."

General poverty is not common, but the meeting agreed that there was relative poverty. Mr Berger believes that many people have such huge mortgage and other financial commitments that very little is left over for the things that make family life more rewarding.

The few problems that we do see are only the tip of the iceberg, he said. "Warrandyte regards itself, and is seen as, an area with few or no problems and therefore does not need any sort of social support system."

The problems appear to be most serious among the young, the elderly, and single-parent families.

Maisie Temple said there was a core of dedicated people who help the elderly, but more people are needed. "The elderly need relatively simple things," she said. "It often comes down to having someone to talk to and cheer them up when they are sick, or just to ease the general loneliness of those who can't get out and about."

The problem for the elderlies is

compounded by the fact that the character of Warrandyte is changing so radically and quickly.

Ms Tovey said: "Warrandyte is losing a lot of its old-time residents because they can no longer live the type of life they used to. They just can't cope any more with their homes, and the lack of services, for example. This is a sort of vicious circle in that one person leaves, another person has lost that friend and decides to leave, and so on. The old way of life has gone, and there is nothing left here for them.

"We have lost a lot of the traditional support systems that used to be of help to everyone. The close-knit neighborhood network, which was very important, is nowhere near as strong as it used to be." Mr Berger said the same sort of thing is happening to young people. "The pressures are different, but the results are the same. There is a lack of employment, a lack of stimulation, a general lack of youth-oriented things.

"There are also strong family pressures. . . father has a life in the city starting at 7 am and finishing at 7 pm during the week, then wants to keep to himself on the weekend. He has little contact with his children, and they in turn feel neglected and unwanted. This then puts pressure on his wife, and the whole family is under stress.

Warrandyte also has a large number of single-parent families. It is estimated that between 10 and 20 percent of children at local schools come from single-parent families.

Jane Webber said that, if anything, this group suffers the most. "There are phenomenal financial problems," she says. "Rent is extremely high, for example, and because of the lack of public transport here, a car is vital,

but often out of the question. Then there are always problems with schooling and child-minding.

"Many single parents just get stuck at home with nothing to do. They feel left out of the community and suffer a great deal from loneliness. Psychological pressure is a big problem — there just appears to be no way out of the rut — and there is also a lack of information on how to cope, who to turn to for help."

Ms Webber is considering setting up a single-parent network to establish such an information exchange.

Louise Joy believes that unless individuals and the community address these problems now, there is a chance that they will get worse. "We must recognise that these problems exist and then address them," she said.

"Community groups such as the Warrandyte Advisory Committee and the Warrandyte Environment League have identified the tangible problems and are sorting them out. What we now need to do is lift the community's awareness of the social problems of the eighties, problems that are subtle and less tangible."

Some help will become available soon with the establishment of a Citizens' Advice Bureau, the plan by Ms Webber to set up an information exchange for single parents, and a suggestion by Ms Joy that a public lecture be given by an expert from the Institute of family studies.

Ms Webber and Ms Joy want to hear from local people who are interested in their plans. Ms Webber can be contacted on 844 3239 and Ms Joy on 844 2548.

The Diary is also interested in hearing from readers.

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Keeping the fun in cartooning



Paul Williams: A lot of talent in Warrandyte

By JACQUELINE WRIGHT

It is said that everything must have a beginning, and for local animator Paul Williams, his highly acclaimed films began, simply, with home movies of his baby son.

Who was to guess that in future years he would be the winner of the 1975 Victorian Festival and receive a \$35,000 government grant to make a television movie that sold to America, Ireland, Canada and even South Africa.

"The Island of Neverwas" was the first of three "tele-movies" that Paul conceived, wrote, produced and directed, without even stepping outside Warrandyte.

Paul thinks there is abundant local talent to satisfy the demand for animators, photographers and characters' voices. "Everybody works at home, it's a bit of a cottage industry really," he says.

"It would cost a million to make an animated feature film in Sydney studios, with all the high-technology equipment, and I'm doing it for considerably less," he says.

The studio is a hive of activity once the production of a film starts. After the key drawings are finished, an assistant is employed to do all the in-between drawings, which complete, for example, a dance sequence or chase scene.

A team of local women traces these drawings onto plastic sheets, which are then painted and tinted. Gus McLaren, a potter and animator who lives near Paul, helps with the animation, while actor Terry Gill and his wife perfect the roars of angry generals, the hearty laughter of pirates and the bewildered mutterings of bunyips and dogs.

Finally, bit by bit, the plastic sheets are photographed in turn, breathing life into the characters.

This cottage industry set-up is, without doubt, unique to Australia. Paul describes the working atmosphere in the local environment as "very pleasant". This atmosphere filters through to the films, giving them a distinct charm of their own.

Both "The Island of Neverwas" and "The Black Planet" deal with issues crucial to today's world — the arms race, conservation and the energy crisis.

"I based 'The Black Planet' on world events," he says. "It is an action-adventure that revolves around central characters such as a nasty senator, a general, a dim-witted spy and his girlfriend, who is a women's libber."

The characters of "The Black Planet" are based on real people. The fat general with the cornpot pipe and dark glasses was General Macarthur, the "goody-goody" president was J.F. Kennedy and the Soviet Premier was Brezhnev.

But Paul stresses that they were never referred to as Americans or Russians. "It is set on a planet with two islands on it and two warring factions."

"The Black Planet" became topical after Paul finished making the film, as Russia had just invaded Afghanistan. To a certain extent

this has retarded its sales in America.

"It's a bit too heavy for them all, with the world situation as it is now," he says. "They don't expect that sort of thing in cartoons."

According to Paul, the most important rule in any animated children's film is that it has an entertaining, narrative storyline, no matter what theme is followed. "Social relevance works well with children only when it is woven into an interesting storyline," he says.

"There was a Disney film, 'Tron', which was all impressive computer graphics but they forgot that it was supposed to have a story, as well, which led to its failure," he says.

"The Phantom Tree House" is a traditional, "fairy-storyish" children's film with no direct social relevance but an intriguing and certainly interesting narrative.

It follows the adventures of Tom, an imaginative and talkative boy, his flat-footed dog, Rags, and their next-door neighbour, Lucy.

The disappearance of Lucy leads Tom to a mysterious, rambling tree-house in a swamp. They climb up and fall into a colorful land where they find out that Lucy, together with a button-nosed bunyip, are being held prisoners by a Scottish pirate captain, Black Jack MacGregor.

Numerous adventures follow, aided and abetted by Professor Crankwhistle and his gas-filled airship. Dramatic pirate fighting, accidental explosions and a volcanic eruption on Fire Island — the pirates' secret hideout — all result in a happy ending and the last-minute appearance of the bunyip, who proves the validity of Tom's story to his parents.

"The Phantom Tree House" was recently shown at the State Film Centre to 10,000 children, where it was received very well.

Paul attributes part of his success to his past experiences as an artist and his training, a year-long post-graduate film studies course, at Swinburne Institute of Technology.

Paul originally painted for a living when he first moved to Warrandyte, 12 years ago. "I painted terrace houses, homesteads and bluestone buildings. I like old buildings — still do," he says.

Paul produced a film based on the conservation of old buildings called "That's Progress". This was used as a pilot to get the Government grant for "The Island of Neverwas".

Now, between the hammering and landscaping at his newly-built bluestone house in Eileen Close, off Floods Road, North Warrandyte, Paul is negotiating with private investors for finance for his next production, "The Incredible Steamboat Adventures of Riverboat Bill".

It will be based on a series of children's books written by local writer Cliff Green. This is the first time Paul is making a film that is not based on his original script, but he regards it as a new and exciting challenge.

Paul has no immediate desire to get involved in the tense and highly competitive world of live film. He describes himself, in a matter-of-fact tone, as a "cartoonist", and says, with an air of utter contentment: "I don't care what I do, as long as it's animation."

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letters

Thanks, says the RSL

The president and members of the Warrandyte RSL Sub-Branch wish to thank all those members of the community who so generously supported our recent Anzac Day Appeal. We also wish to express our appreciation of the presence of so many members of the community at our Anzac Day service.

Our thanks are due to the Rev. Jeff Berger, who conducted the service, the Box Hill City Pipe Band, which led the march and the 7th Field Engineer Regiment, who provided the guard of honor at the memorial.

Thanks, too, to the magnificent turn-out of our guides, brownies, scouts and cubs, and to our ladies who provided and served refreshments after the service.

A new face in our parade this year was the Rev. Stan Fishley, the recently-arrived Uniting Church minister.

We remind the community that all are welcome at our Anzac Day service and that all ex-service people who served for at least six months, anywhere, anytime, are eligible to join the RSL.

Viv Rush (president),
Lyn Mitchell (secretary)

And a good time was enjoyed by all

From can-can to curtain call, there was an ebullience and easy good humour in this year's *Festival Follies* that was absolutely disarming.

In a varied and original program, cast, workers and crew collaborated the indelicate ecological balance that is Warrandyte. A (s)potting history was loosely held together by a pub set in Act I, and Mike and Mal blazed a trail of polite disbelief through contemporary Warrandyte in Act II. Pam Millikan was a superb accompanist. The ease and versatility with which she unobtrusively wove all those disparate threads into a whole was a feature of the production.

Musically, the evening offered some excellent moments, due in part to the genial good spirits of the Warrandyte Diggers, the excellent voices of Don and Doug, some charming and clever original lyrics, and the beautiful harmonising of Libby and Alan. The simplicity and gentleness of their duets, juxtaposed against the more robust quality of the rest of the evening, was extraordinarily affecting. My one quibble was with the scripts carried on stage, and the complacency implied by this practice.

The pairing of the poem WMI

REVIEW

Gill Heal

Hall and Bless this Hall was, despite their ironic tone, a nicely judged reminder of the heritage that the hall represents: a love of music and theatre, a sense of community, an old building poor in material resources but rich in human ones. It is an enviable heritage and it seemed appropriate to be reminded of it.

Although the scripts varied in quality, there were some very funny lines scattered through the night. My favourites came from the mayor's speech in Effluent Society, the Three Cars, the Pure Ones and Goldperson. I thought Mike and Neal created a special bit of magic, and the melodrama had some wonderfully funny moments: a clever wedding of convention and idiosyncrasy both in acting and scripting. The result was a fresh and often hilarious performance.

The production got 10 out of 10 in the Visual Aids Section. I thought the quality and variety of the media — the slides, the cartoons and the painting — gave the show a



special distinctiveness and strength. It was classy stuff. Technically, the deft manipulation of all these scenes in and around a very clever set made the whole act work very well indeed.

Blending a huge diversity of material and skill into a highly pleasant whole was a major achievement. Congratulations Gael and Elaine, and thanks to everyone for a terrific show.

Child care

The Warrandyte scout group is again running its holiday child-minding service.

On Tuesday May 21, children aged between five and 11 can be left at the scout hall between 9.30 am and 1.30 pm. A program of entertainment, including games and films, is offered. The \$4 charge per child (\$10 maximum per family) includes lunch. There will be full adult supervision.

For further details, ring Jan Cornell, on 844 2398.

AdVenturesome

The local scouts plan to start a Venturer Unit for boys and girls aged between 14½ and 17½. A meeting is to be held at the scout hall at 8 pm on June 14 to discuss its formation.

A nucleus has been set up by leader David Mott, who can be contacted on 844 2718 for further details. No previous scouting experience is necessary, and David is interested in hearing from potential Venturers.

Class call

The Donvale and Templestowe arts centres offer a wide variety of courses for adults and children. There are more than 70 one and two-day courses to choose from and an excellent creche is available for most day classes.

Why not make your winter more interesting by joining up. Phone Robyn at Donvale (840 9381) or Win at Templestowe (840 9382).

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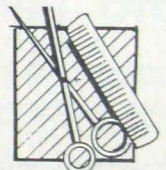
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WARRANDYTE Diary SPORTS NEWS

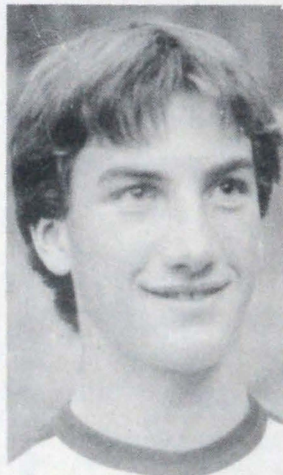
Prahran captain and Victorian player Dav Whatmore is as good a judge of batsmen as anyone, so when he is full of praise for a local junior player, it's best to take note.

Whatmore, coach/manager of the Victorian Under-16 side in the recent national championships in Canberra, believes the captain of the side, Warrandyte's Reece Kline, will go a long way in cricket.

"He's certainly got a lot of potential, that's for sure," he told the Diary recently. "It's now up to Reece to believe in himself and his ability."

"The team may not have won a game but playing at that sort of level is a great opportunity to learn. Reece showed a lot of patience as captain of a losing team; he didn't panic when his bowlers were getting hit around and he was still able to concentrate on his batting. It's a hard job captaining at that level, but he's got the patience to succeed."

Reece started with Warrandyte seven years ago, and in that



Reece Kline: Sorry to leave Warrandyte

short time has played in more premierships than most older players have in a lifetime.

He began in the Under-12 side, playing in three premierships, the last as captain. The move to the Under-14s was not such a happy experience, the side playing in two grand finals and losing both. Reece was captain in his last year.

He was vice-captain of the Under-16s for his first year in the side, which won the premiership. He was captain for the second year, in which the side was a semi-finalist.

Reece began playing for the seniors in 1981, mostly for the thirds and seconds, although he has had two games for the firsts.

Like several other members of the past two Under-16 teams, Reece was chosen by Ringwood to play in the Dowling Shield competition, the junior equivalent of the district comp. Ringwood won the flag both years, last season with Reece as captain. He has played for the state under-16 eight times.

This coming season will be his biggest test yet — Reece will be playing for Ringwood in the District competition full-time, initially in the lower grades.

He hopes to be playing for the firsts within a couple of seasons — "it's now a matter of building up my game in the thirds and seconds," he says.

"The best thing about it is playing on turf regularly and playing with the best young players in the state for the next couple of seasons."

"I'm a bit sorry about having to leave Warrandyte — it was a great time — but you've got to grow out of it at some stage."

"I've also made a lot of friends at Ringwood while I was playing in the Dowling Shield, so that will be a help."

Reece is not the only member of the



Kline at practice: Hard work brings results

Kline family to star at Warrandyte. His father, Bruce, a former district keeper, is the firsts' wicketkeeper, and elder brother Brett played a season with the firsts as opening batsman.

And younger brother Jason is no slouch, either. Although he's only 14, Jason already gets a regular game with the thirds as a wicketkeeper and batsman and was named best player in the Metropolitan District Under-12s two years ago.



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Warrandyte reserves player Wayne Patterson takes a safe mark as his Boronia opponent arrives too late on the scene to spoil.

Cricket club to pioneer revolutionary wicket

A synthetic cricket pitch, one of the first of its kind in Victoria will be installed at the Warrandyte Recreation Reserve.

It should be in use next season. Doncaster and Templestowe Council has accepted a recommendation from its sports and recreation committee that a Scapapitch be installed on an experimental basis.

Warrandyte Cricket Club, with the support of the Ringwood District Cricket Association, approached the council after being offered the opportunity to test the new surface.

The club will pay for the new pitch and its installation. Total cost is estimated at \$5000.

The club have also guaranteed to pay for the reinstallation of a concrete pitch if the new surface is unsatisfactory.

Scapapitch is an English product which has been used as a practice surface at county cricket level.

It is installed by filling a shallow excavation with a specified aggregate and treading and vibrating it to compact.

An underlay is then put down

and consolidated by rolling and soaking.

A plain surface mat is laid and held down by 650 nails around the pitch.

Because Scapapitch is an experimental product, the cricket club have acquired it at half the normal cost, with payment to be made after 12 months of satisfactory use.

The new surface is seen as an innovative step forward in the search for a viable alternative to turf wickets and the upgrading of hard-wicket pitches.

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Bloods back in business

We're set up for the season — president

Warrandyte gave notice of a successful football season ahead with a commanding win over EDFL arch-rivals Mooroolbark.

The Bloods broke away after an even first half, then withstood last-quarter challenges to win by 29 points, 22.15 (147) to 17.16(118).

It was their second win from three games this season and an important one after a disappointing performance against Boronia.

"The victory over Mooroolbark should set us up for the rest of the season," Warrandyte Football Club president Jeff Reddie told the Diary.

"Mooroolbark are always hard to toss and were unbeaten in their two previous games," he said.

"Our attitude, after a nervous start, was very good."

Warrandyte had many good players, led by ruck-rover Peter Banks, who was voted best afield. Centreman Mario Cipolla played another outstanding game and Ron Wilson handed out yet another warning to opposing full-backs by kicking 10.6.

The Bloods also had valuable contributors in ruck-rover Robert Moon, half-forward Matthew Elliott and half-back Neil Crosswaite.

Warrandyte started tentatively, a "hangover" from their defeat at Boronia, but warmed to the support of the big hometown crowd.

Moon was in everything from the outset and new ruckman Laurie Cannard, recruited from East Preston, was making the most of his height and reach to provide plenty of drive.

The first quarter was very even and there was still nothing in it at half-time.

The Bloods had been well served by Denis O'Brien on the half-forward line, Elliott, Banks, Moon, Crosswaite and recruit Peter Irving, who was "burning" on a wing.



Warrandyte broke the shackles and took a grip on the game in the third term.

Wilson came right into the game as Banks, O'Brien and Cipolla fed the ball to him.

Coach Chris Valerkou had got his message across during the interval and Warrandyte players attacked the ball with new-found determination.

Mooroolbark had no answer and the home side took a five-goal lead into the last term.

Warrandyte goaled early in the quarter to increase their lead, but the visitors came back hard. They attacked consistently for the first half of the term, but gallant defence work by full-back Chris Snaidero, backed up by Russell Dorning, Brian Scicluna and Craig Bretherton, kept them at arm's length.

John McCartin was a key player in this quarter, bobbing up all over the ground just when he was needed.

Warrandyte will be strengthened by the return after an appendix operation of key defender Gerald Walsh and the anticipated debut of rover Peter Anastasiou, whose clearance from Lalor has gone to appeal.

The reserves side were beaten by Mooroolbark, but results in the junior ranks were encouraging.

The under-14 and under-18 sides both won well and the under-16s, although beaten, are showing steady improvement.

Cricketers Meet

The annual general meeting of the Warrandyte Cricket Club will be held at the North Warrandyte Community Centre, Research Road, on May 27 at 8 pm.



There were plenty of goals and plenty of pressure in the reserves game between Warrandyte and Boronia at Boronia. Above: The Bloods' Rick Kingwell gets his kick in despite hassling from a Boronia opponent. Below: It may not be the most graceful way to spoil, but Warrandyte's Shane McCartin found it very effective. Boronia won 26.19 (175) to 18.15 (123).

HELP!

Wanted: local football supporters with a little time to spare. Warrandyte Football Club are seeking assistance with the day-to-day running of affairs, particularly on match days.


They are looking for timekeepers, scoreboard attendants, goal umpires . . . anyone, in fact, prepared to help out in any way at all.

If you feel you have something to offer the club, secretary Anthony Giles-Peters (844 2573) would like to hear from you.

The club will hold a junior disco at the White House on Friday, May 17, starting at 7.30 pm. It will be adult-supervised and no pass-outs will be issued.

Admission is \$3.





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