

Warrandyte Diary

PRICELESS

No 161 October 1985

Editorial 844 1186, Advertising 844 2820

Social club is a goer at last

Last-minute negotiations between Warrandyte Cricket and Football Clubs and the Sporting and Social Club mean that Warrandyte is almost certain to get full social club facilities at the Recreation Ground.

At least \$110,000 is likely to be available to build the clubrooms, as an extension to the pavilion, and to renovate the existing facilities.

The money consists of the \$30,000 State Government grant allocated recently to the football and cricket clubs, a matching grant by Doncaster and Templestowe Council, a low-interest council loan of \$20,000 to the clubs, plus more than \$30,000 held by the Sporting and Social Club.

Councillor Ken McKenzie, who was instrumental in arranging the negotiations, is also examining the possibility of getting several thousand dollars more from a council fund used to renovate sports ground pavilions.

Before agreement was reached between the three clubs, extensions and renovations worth about \$85,000 to \$95,000 would have been possible. This would not have included separate social club rooms, and the Sporting and Social Club would not have been involved.

The Sporting and Social Club, set up about 10 years ago as a non-profit body aimed at supporting local sporting groups through cash generated from its own clubrooms, has raised the \$30,000 through the sale of debentures and membership. The money was to be used to build clubrooms above the Recreation Ground pavilion.

The football club, through local member and supporter Lou Hill, had succeeded in getting the State Government and council to provide a total of \$60,000 in grants to enable it and the cricket club to go ahead with their own extensions and renovations.

The Sporting and Social Club saw the opportunity to get something more substantial built by using its money, and suggested that it get involved.

Initial negotiations failed, but Councillor McKenzie urged the three clubs to hold more talks. "They succeeded," he said, "and it is a great tribute to the officials of the three clubs that they will get something better than the original proposals, and something that benefits the community as a whole."

"I am absolutely delighted by all this, and I would like to thank Ian Clarke of the football club, who came up with the compromise idea, and Steve Pascoe of the cricket club, who was a great help during somewhat heated discussions."

Councillor McKenzie says plans are being drawn up for approval by council, and work should start after Christmas. He expects the building to be completed in time for the start of the next cricket season.

The social club will be run as a separate entity from the three clubs. Its management committee will consist of three representatives of each of the clubs, with an independent chairman. All profits will go to local sporting clubs.

If they want to join the social club, football and cricket club members will be able to buy \$100 debentures, which can be paid by instalment if necessary. Yearly membership, \$25, will have to be paid on top of football and cricket club memberships.

Uproar over shire amalgamation plan

The Shire of Eltham is up in arms!

After a two-year inquiry, the Local Government Commission has recommended that Eltham and Diamond Valley shires be amalgamated "on the basis of functional integration and social structure".

The new shire would be known as the Diamond Valley Shire. Diamond Valley Council has voted 7-4 in favor of the merger, but Eltham Council has voted unanimously against.

The inquiry recommendations will be referred to a statewide review of municipal boundaries, the fourth review since 1972.

If the commission recommendation is adopted, the new shire would stretch from Plenty Road along the Plenty River and Arthur's Creek, across to Watson's Creek and down the Yarra River to Warrandyte.

The new shire would be divided into four ridings, which have been determined on the basis of equal distribution of population. Geographical size and topographical limitations have not been taken into account. The shire would be a continuation of a corridor development planning approach.

The aim of the merger is to introduce economies of scale through a reduction of administration costs and staff. The report contains no supporting evidence that the welfare of residents in the affected areas would be enhanced.

Following the release of the commission recommendations, the Municipal Association of Victoria employed management consultants to report on the proposals for restructuring the municipal boundaries throughout the state.

They were employed to "compare various income and expenditure factors with population of municipalities . . .", as the commission reported that some of the expenditure factors appeared to decline with increasing municipal population.

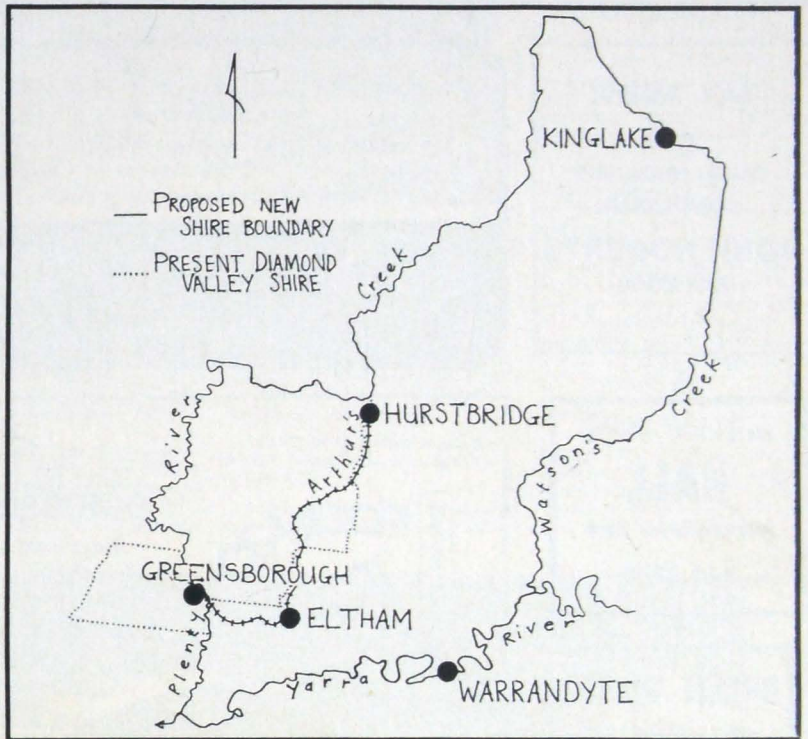
The consultant's report slates the commission's suggestions: "Our analysis shows that most of the . . . findings are not supported by the evidence. In particular . . . that significant economies of scale are available from restructure is open to serious question."

"The apparent economies of scale are . . . either caused by misapplication of per capita cost factors or by inbuilt demographic and/or service factors which apply to particular communities and which would not be altered by restructure."

"The recurring economic benefits likely to flow from wholesale restructure would be relatively small. Against this the implementation costs would be considerable."

"We consider that non-economic factors are likely to be more important than economic ones."

Of particular importance to North Warrandyte is the lack of interest of the commission in the specific problems residents in the area face.



They were not noted anywhere in the report.

North Riding councillor John Fisher is outraged. "The Shire of Eltham has been in existence for over 100 years and the Diamond Valley Shire was created in 1964," he said. "In the first instance, the historical significance of

support corridor development. It has always been implicit in Eltham Shire policies that alternative lifestyles be accommodated within the shire and this is in keeping with current planning attitudes.

"Under Diamond Valley this would be under threat as I believe we would be dominated by outside interests oriented to urban development."

"The proposed North Riding is so huge it would be impossible to adequately service. The rural interests would be seriously disadvantaged."

"The commission has not bothered to consider the interests of the elected representatives. Bearing in mind that councillors work on a voluntary basis and are usually otherwise employed as well, no one could properly represent the residents of any area this size."

"Where would the centre of government be for the shire? Would the existing Eltham Shire offices be maintained as an 'outpost' to provide



Cr Fisher: "I believe we would be dominated by outside interests oriented to urban development."

Eltham alone should require any new shire to bear the name of the Shire of Eltham. The whole proposal is outrageous."

Cr Fisher, who is a strong supporter of controlled development carefully balanced with environmental considerations, says: "We do not

Continued page 5

So, what's the rush?

Warrandyte's service clubs are combining to turn back the clock 130 years and recreate the atmosphere of a gold town.

To raise money for schools and fire brigades in the area, Lions, Apexians and Rotarians will don period costume on Sunday, October 20, and stand by for what they hope will be a new rush to Warrandyte State Park.

Visitors will be able to pan for gold in Andersons Creek and tour the tunnels of Seraghty's Mine. Refreshments, including billy

tea, will be waiting at various spots along the bush tracks. Entrance will be for the price of a miner's right, printed especially for the occasion.

And just in case the diggers become unruly (as their ancestors undoubtedly were) troopers of the Rupertswood Battery will be on hand to maintain law and order.

Richard Forde of Warrandyte Rotary can give more details about "The Warrandyte Gold Rush" on 876 1862.

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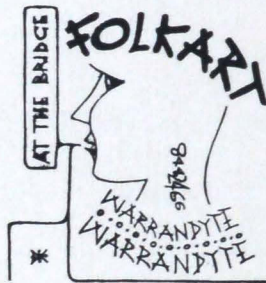
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Smokey Joe

There are three young lads around town who won't be careering down a steep local hill in their billycarts again. A lady of Smokey's acquaintance spotted them the other week and gave them a dressing down that they won't forget in a long time. The hill is dangerous enough without drivers having to contend with billycarts zooming past them in the wrong lane. Smokey tried it once in the dim dark days of his youth, only to be caught at the bottom by a grim-faced former Warrandyte police sergeant, Jim Pike. He's not sure which would be worse, the good sergeant or the good Jan Liddicut.

Speaking of speed and local roads, Smokey wonders how long it will be before one of our local firemen causes an accident in the main street while driving to the station to answer a call-out. Smokey, having been a CFA man himself, knows the necessity of getting to a fire as soon as possible, but that doesn't mean driving along Yarra Street on a busy afternoon at great speed and forcing other drivers off the road in the process. The object of fighting fires is saving lives. The object of traffic laws is the same. There is a balance to be struck, and unfortunately a tiny minority of firemen is spoiling the good reputation of our local brigades.

It's nice to have mates, isn't it Kevin? A colleague of Smokey's was enjoying a quiet beer in the rubbity the other day when he was bailed up by Max McGill, who had a tale of woe to tell about a mutual friend. The poor bloke had been fixing a light in his son's bedroom, and was standing on a chair, Stanley knife in one hand and a length of flex and a tennis racquet in the other. A tennis racquet, you ask. Well, yes. Mr Fixit explained that it was the nearest thing to hand that he could use to twist the flex around before cutting it. Of course the inevitable happened and he sliced his hand something terrible. The point of course being that when a bloke needs a bit of sympathy from his mates, don't go looking for it at the pub.

Just when we've been wooed into near-submission by those seductive public transport commercials, The Met leaves us with our knickers down, so to speak.

We tempted fate, really, by idly remarking how long it had been since a Warrandyte bus of our experience had broken down, run out of gas, boiled, failed to arrive, failed to depart, gone AWOL or otherwise left us friendless and far from home.

Very next morning, a motorbike policeman wheels in while the 7.19 via freeway is picking up at Pound Road and tells the driver his wheels are out of alignment. His wheels? Our wheels. We don't panic or mutiny or anything like that, though, because the driver is a cool hand and he phones in from Newmans Road and a bus with all wheels running the same way is awaiting several miles up the track. Nice one, Met.

Apparently, the exercise has exhausted the combined initiative of this vast, much-publicised utility because the wheels really fall off (The Met, not that particular bus) next afternoon.

The 3.38 out of the city via East Doncaster refuses to go past Abbotsford and the driver (not so cool as yesterday's) ushers us all on to a following bus which (he says) is going to East Doncaster, but which is (in fact) bound for Donvale. Again, we sit tight as we are whisked along towards a far-from-the-lap-of-the-family destination because, well, The Met's in control, isn't it?

The driver will have phoned in a report of the breakdown and the Donnie depot will meet us at the Blackburn Road junction with an all-go bus which will spirit us home, won't it? No. Not at all. No bus. Not even one of those bristling-with-efficiency inspectors to apologise and say the next one's only an hour-and-a-quarter away. You wonder about The Met as you stand in the rain, abandoned and clutching a soggy \$3.50 Travelcard. Most of all, you wonder what happened to the rescue bus. Perhaps its wheels were out of line. Or is that "lign"?

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White House Management Committee Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting chaired by Cr Anne Martin of the White House Management Committee, is to be held at the White House, Taroona Ave, Warrandyte, on Monday, October 21, 1985 at 8pm. All persons interested are invited to attend.

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Happy birthday from WAA to Warrandyte

Warrandyte Arts Association's 30th anniversary is coming up, and to celebrate, the drama group and the music group are putting on special productions.

The drama group is staging Richard Sheridan's intricate and delightful comedy of manners 'The School for Scandal'.

This play on the dangers of social gossip is essential viewing for all the Smokey Joes and Fifth Columnists of Warrandyte.

The production will also see the end of a 30-year problem that has prevented the presentation of plays with more than one stage setting on the Mechanics' Institute stage.

The production of 'The School for Scandal' boasts 12 scene changes between five separate sets, sumptuous costumes, furniture and decor of the 18th century and a highly talented cast under the direction of Bob Karl.

Bob will be remembered by many for his productions of 'You Can't Take it With You', 'Fetch me a Figleaf', 'Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead', 'The Star Spangled Girl' and 'The Comedy of Errors', to name just a few.

The season will straddle the annual art exhibition, with performance dates October 31, November 1, 2, 14, 15 and 16.

Seating will be cabaret-style, and the doors will open at 7.30 pm to allow patrons to settle in before the performance begins at 8.15 pm sharp.

Tickets (\$8) may be booked through Yvonne Morey, 844 3832.

The music group, to honor the achievement of Bach and Handel, has decided to replace its traditional and popular Christmas production with a tri-centenary celebration.

This will be presented as a kaleidoscope of music, readings and slides, covering all aspects of the lives and musical output of these two musical masters — opera and oratorio, passions and preludes, cantatas and chorales, including well-known items such as the Halleluyia Chorus and a Brandenburg Concerto, using orchestra, choir, harpsichord, solo instruments and solo voices.

Owing to the varied commitments of the large number of people involved, there will only be two performances — Friday, October 25 and Saturday, October 26 commencing at 8 pm in the Mechanics' Institute.

Tickets (\$5 and \$2.50, inclusive of supper) will be available by phoning 844 3756 for the Friday night and 844 3992 or 844 3600 for the Saturday.

The Co-op's proud record

Although the Co-op has been established in Warrandyte since 1981, with an office in the main street since 1983, people still ask what it actually does.

The following details might be useful.

The establishment of the Warrandyte Community Workshop Co-operative Ltd came from the initiative of local businessmen concerned about unemployment in the area.

Funding was obtained first through the Employment Initiative Program for a full-time manager and for young workers in the three areas selected as projects: the child care centre, mudbrick making and woodfuel deliveries.

The manager could no longer be employed with the cessation of funding in March 1984, at which point Jean Chapman and Ken

McKenzie became honorary co-managers — an arrangement that has provided extremely satisfactory and will continue.

Since the third annual general meeting, a separate Warrandyte Community Child Care Co-operative Ltd has been established to carry on the management of the child care centre, in accordance with Office of Child Care funding guidelines for parent management. This is the first example of a policy that the Warrandyte Community Workshop Co-operative Ltd has adopted: to be a "seeding" co-operative for other co-operative bodies.

New projects being planned are the establishment of a bakery and organic vegetable gardening. (Also, a grant of \$2000 has been obtained to establish a support group for sole parents.)

Why not hire a trier?

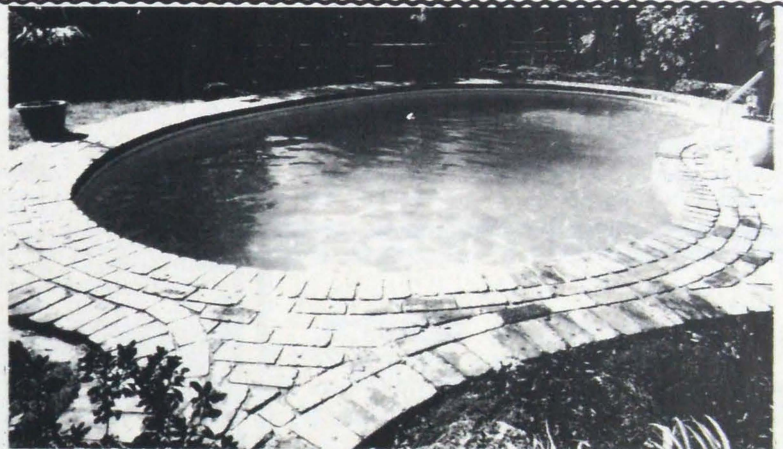
Each month we publish the names of two job-seekers. If you need a job done we ask you to hire, as a community service, one of our triers.

William, 24, has experience of landscape gardening, plant nursery work and cleaning. He is interested in any work available, especially in areas in which he has had experience.

Michael, 23, has experience in gardening and working with poultry. He is interested in obtaining this type of work.

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

Another Warrandyte Community Workshop Co-operative Ltd project.



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IN BRIEF

Brigade looks for members

With summer on the way, the Warrandyte Fire Brigade is on the lookout for new members, six to be precise.

Preferably this hardy half dozen will be living or working in Warrandyte during daylight hours, Monday to Friday. This is the time when the local brigade is at its lowest in terms of personnel.

The Warrandyte Fire Brigade meets for training at its headquarters every Thursday night at 8 pm. Prospective firefighters — men and women — can also contact Captain Ray Bellinger (844 1020) or secretary David Gelme (489 7833 bus, 844 2592 home).

Council backing

Doncaster and Templestowe Council has written to the State Minister for Conservation, Forests and Lands in support of local objections to the subdivision of the Stane Brae and Yarra Brae properties next to Warrandyte State Park.

Council said the subdivisions would be detrimental to the quality and possible future growth of the state park.

The move was in response to a request for support from Friends of the Warrandyte State Park, who have been objecting to the proposed subdivisions. The Friends were instrumental in getting the State Government to buy a small portion of the two properties.

Riding school

Doncaster and Templestowe Council has granted a two-year lease for a horse-riding school on land along Warrandyte-Heidelberg Road, opposite Warrandyte High School.

Toy library: a cause worth helping

By MARILYN MOORE

A popular spot in Warrandyte on a Thursday morning is the toy library, housed at the Co-op in Yarra Street. More than 60 members regularly use the library, which lends a wide variety of toys suitable for children aged from six months to six years.

Among the most sought-after items are Fischer-Price and Duplo products, dress-up outfits, models to assemble, and a wide range of puzzles and small toys. Large toys such as a pedal car, dolls' house and a tent are also in demand. New items are bought every few months, and another \$400 worth of goodies has just been added to the collection.

The toy library is managed by its members through a committee of volunteers. Funding is from members' subscriptions and occasional grants from the Doncaster and Templestowe City Council and the Warrandyte Market Committee. Members are rostered to assist at the library for about one and a half hours a term.

This system has worked well on the whole, since young mothers enjoy an opportunity to meet others in the same boat, as well as to be on the spot when a particularly popular toy is brought in for exchange.

Although there has been no problem attracting volunteers to staff the toy library on Thursdays, there has been some difficulty in getting members to help out on the committee. The toy library urgently needs more committee members. The amount of work required to



maintain the library is not great if shared around, but has become too much for the present few upon whose shoulders it has fallen.

An active committee is vital to the continued operation of the toy library. Please contact Sue Taft (844 1274) or Judy Lewis (844 2492) if you are a member or a prospective member who could devote a little extra time.

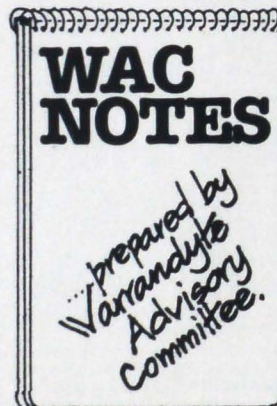
A further problem facing the committee arises from the present system of administration. Because committee members are rostered in turn to operate the library, it is difficult to maintain proper continuity. There is no one who can easily keep track of details such as toys which need mending or cleaning,

missing items, arranging meetings and liaison with the Co-op and council.

The toy library needs a volunteer co-ordinator. Please contact Sue or Judy if you think you can help. You don't need to be a user of the toy library. Someone with an older family, a retired person, or perhaps someone new to the area looking for a way to become involved in the community would be ideal.

New members are welcome. The Warrandyte toy library is open on Thursday mornings from 9 am to 12.30. Subscriptions are \$6 for six months for one child, and a further \$3 for six months for each additional child.

At our September meeting we instituted a change in our modus operandi. We rationalised and strengthened the WAC sub-committee system into Human Resources (convenor Louise Joy), Community Centre (convenor Jan Liddicut) and Physical Resources (convenor Greg Thorpe). The three convenors will act in turn as WAC chairman/woman. Jan Liddicut is chairwoman until January next year. We made these changes after a long discussion about the functions of WAC. At a time when the community is becoming more and more isolationist, local councillors are finding it increasingly difficult to gauge community attitudes and are looking to groups such as WAC to assist them. We hope to meet these needs and draw the community back into the management of its own affairs by increased use of co-opted members. There are three groups operating in different areas



which deserve special mention for the manner in which they are working in and for the community — the Citizens' Advice Bureau, the Com-

munity Workshop Co-op and the North Warrandyte Fire Brigade.

Judging by a request for community advice on landscaping, more work seems imminent on the bridge roundabout. The request follows WAC criticism of the original plans. Local landscaping experts are working on alternatives through the new physical resources sub-committee.

Moves to suburbanise Warrandyte keep on rolling in; the latest in the form of an application to rezone a parcel of land from Conservation A to Residential D. Warrandyte must remain physically different and separate if the historical, cultural and physical character is to be maintained. Otherwise the local tourist industry, the integrity of the state parks, which benefit the wider community, and last but by no means least, the Warrandyte character beloved by residents, will all be lost.

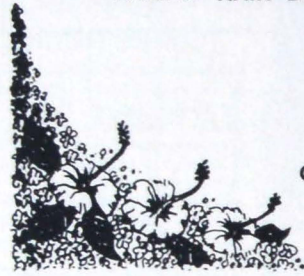
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Amalgamation uproar

Continued from page 1

an access point to residents this side of the Diamond Creek?

"It is an intolerable position for residents of North Warrandyte and beyond to have to trip to the other side of Greensborough. I doubt if even basic services would be able to be properly provided for North Warrandyte and further afield in the North Riding."

In a review of submissions, the commission acknowledges that little help could be expected from the people to be affected by a merger.

Cr Fisher says: "Quite right. There is obviously a strong feeling against amalgamation of Eltham and Diamond Valley shires. Their planning philosophy and provision of services are quite different to ours."

"Eltham does not have an ostrich head-in-the-sand attitude and accepts that some communities could be better served under one municipality, for example, all of Warrandyte under Eltham. But not Eltham under Diamond Valley."

He says that a total area that is now served by 21 councillors would be looked after by 12 councillors if the commission recommendations were effected.

The Eltham chief executive officer, Mr Rodney Roscholler, a North Warrandyte resident, says the proposed amalgamation would mean the end of controlled development with aesthetic and environmental values being taken into consideration.

"The Eltham shire, and in particular the rural North Riding, could become a mass of bitumen and intensely developed residential areas, no different to any other Melbourne suburb," he says. "Diamond Valley has a philosophy of wanting to fully service areas and once these facilities are provided there will be enormous pressure to further subdivide to maximise the expense of these services. This in turn would have a significant effect on the local environment."

Eltham Council has lobbied the Minister for Local Government with a counter-proposal which would combine the south-west of Diamond Valley Shire with the City of Heidelberg, and part of the north-east of Diamond Valley shire with the Shire of Eltham.

Support for the new proposal is growing rapidly, and the Minister recently told members of parliament: "It is refreshing to have the



Margaret James: astonished by the people of Warrandyte and their immense participation in community activities.

response from that district with a further proposal which has all the possibility of achieving the objectives of the government."

The Eltham Shire Amalgamation Task Force is optimistic that the new proposal may eventually be implemented, in preference to the recommendations of the commission.

Both Cr Fisher and Mr Roscholler urge Eltham Shire residents to protest in writing to

Good start on a hard act to follow

Warrandyte's new Community Education Officer, Margaret James, may not be a local like her predecessor, Rosemary Tovey, but she is just as hardworking.

Since taking on the job on June 17, Margaret, who hails from Heidelberg, has been attending various courses and seminars associated with the job. But her first priority has been to learn about Warrandyte and its people.

"I'm astonished by the people of Warrandyte and their immense participation in community activities, especially when it's all run on a voluntary basis," she says.

The task of learning about her new environment and its needs has been made easier, Margaret says, by the warm welcome she has received and the support that has been offered.

"People have gone out of their way to help me settle in," she says.

"Taking over from Rosie is quite a hard act to follow, but with so many helpers around, the going has been made a lot easier."

As Community Education Officer, Margaret liaises between the schools and the community. "It's a facilitating job," she says. "I will be working closely with students, headmasters, teachers, parents, and the community as a whole, providing help and resources required by them."

Margaret said an example of the type of projects she would get involved in was a proposed oral history project. This would involve Warrandyte primary schools and the Elderly Citizens' Club.

The aim is to close the generation gap and at the same time help the children become more aware of the area's history, its people and the changes that have taken place.

"Such a project will hopefully bring a better understanding of older people, who have a lot to offer," she says.

The job overall is a demanding one that requires a great deal of tact and sensitivity and that is why Margaret is concentrating on getting to know the schools and the community.

"My main problem is having to learn a lot within a short time," she says. "At the moment I'm trying to keep up with meetings and trying to absorb as much as possible."

the Minister for Local Government against the commission recommendations.

"If apathy to local government issues is not shaken, the long-term effects of this matter will be disastrous," he says. "If we are to maintain our lifestyle and preserve the environment, we must be vigilant because the threats of change are always coming."

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The Warrandyte Sloans are descended from Irish-born James Sloan, a master builder and stonemason who settled at Andersons Creek in 1854.

James Sloan and fellow stonemason William Masterton built Warrandyte Primary School in 1875.

Sloan was also overseer for the first bridge across the Yarra, and in the 1860s achieved local fame for recovering 12 ounces of gold from a bucketful of quartz.

Records show that his granddaughter, Maria Isabella Sloan, was one of the first children baptised at the Andersons Creek Catholic Church.

Most of Frank Sloan's life in Warrandyte centred on the Yarra Street butcher shop. Now aged 69, he has retired.

"My great uncle Bill owned it in the 1920s," he recalled, "and I started working there in 1932. We would fill large baskets with fresh meat and deliver it all around the area by bike. Some time later the bike was replaced by a horse and cart.

"I understand the butcher's shop was originally brought on a sled from the Kangaroo Ground area to its present location, and under part of the iron roof are the original shingles."

Several paddocks in Webb Street above the butcher's shop were used to accommodate Warrandyte's meat requirements in those days.

Frank's home today stands on the block used for grazing the cattle.

"The animals were bought in Box Hill and herded across, so a butcher's work was somewhat different from today," he said.

The slaughteryard was in the opposite paddock across Brackenbury Street.

It wasn't until 1939 that a motor car was used for deliveries, he said.

Twenty years after starting work, Frank bought the butcher shop himself. He sold it in 1948 and then owned it again from 1952 to 1960. (Other owners in this period were Mr Hemsworth and Mr Spetts).

"I knew just about everyone in Warrandyte in those days," he said. "Now, I'd be lucky if I knew two percent."

"It was just a big country town and tourists would pitch tents on the riverbank or stay in guesthouses along the Yarra.

"When I was a kid, if more than six cars went by on a Sunday, it was quite an event," he said.



James Sloan: Terry and Frank's grandfather.

Entertaining Mr Sloans

Most of us know that Warrandyte is steeped in the history of early Victoria, with the discovery of gold, one of the state's oldest school buildings and other notable dwellings.

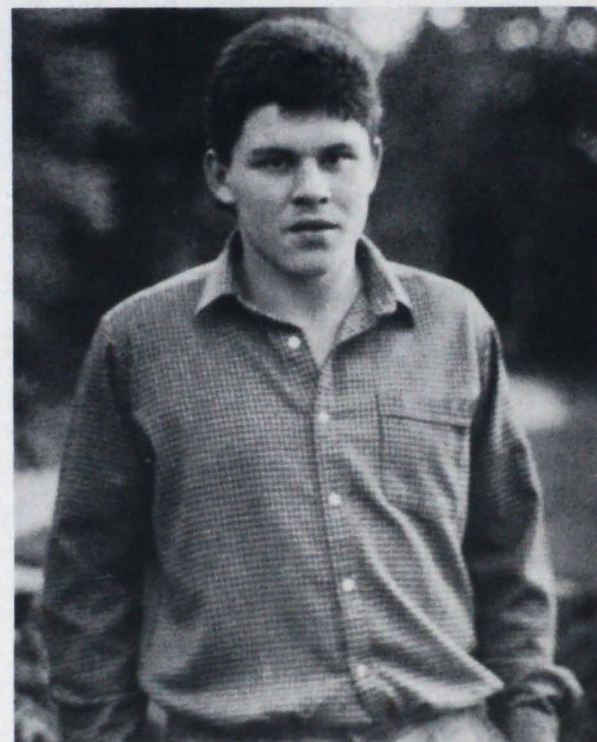
It is probably well known, too, that some families have lived in the area since those gold discovery days.

The historical significance of these people to the town has prompted the Diary to introduce some of Warrandyte's

very old families to you and let them share some of their experiences and memories.

The occasional series will feature direct descendants of Warrandyte's early settlers — people still living in the area who can trace their local connections back as far as great grandparents.

This month the Sloan family has been asked to take us back into the past, via Frank Sloan of Webb Street and his cousin Terry Sloan of Hodson Road.



David Sloan: Carrying on the family's sporting traditions.

"Travel for us was by foot. I remember walking to the Warrandyte Primary School and still remember my teacher, Miss Sinclair.

"Every time I vote at the school now, I think of the thousands of feet that have trodden that well-worn cement step at the rear entrance to the building.

"I was at school with Jack and Ralph McAuley, Lil Whitehead, the Houghtons and the Thomases," he said.

If records are correct, at one stage 53 of the 57 pupils attending Warrandyte Primary School were Sloans, their relatives and in-laws.

It was during Frank's early days delivering the meat that he met his wife, Noel "Bell" Symmonds. Bell had always lived in South Warrandyte.

Bell said: "The shop kept me busy after that, but I did have time to enjoy social tennis. Now Frank and I spend our time pottering in the garden."

I left them in their picturesque, sprawling garden bulging with spring blossoms and ringing with the familiar bird calls of Warrandyte.

The white weatherboard house in Research Road opposite Bradley's Lane was the home of Frank and

Terry's grandparents, James and Margaret Sloan. Today, locals know this area as Sloan's Hill.

Terry remembers his grandparents' tales about their 14 children.

"It was apparently very hard work keeping their boots in order," he said. "They were allowed to wear them while helping to milk the cows in the morning before school but were sent off to school barefoot after leaving a line of boots under the Mechanics' Hall. After school, they donned the boots again and helped on the farm."

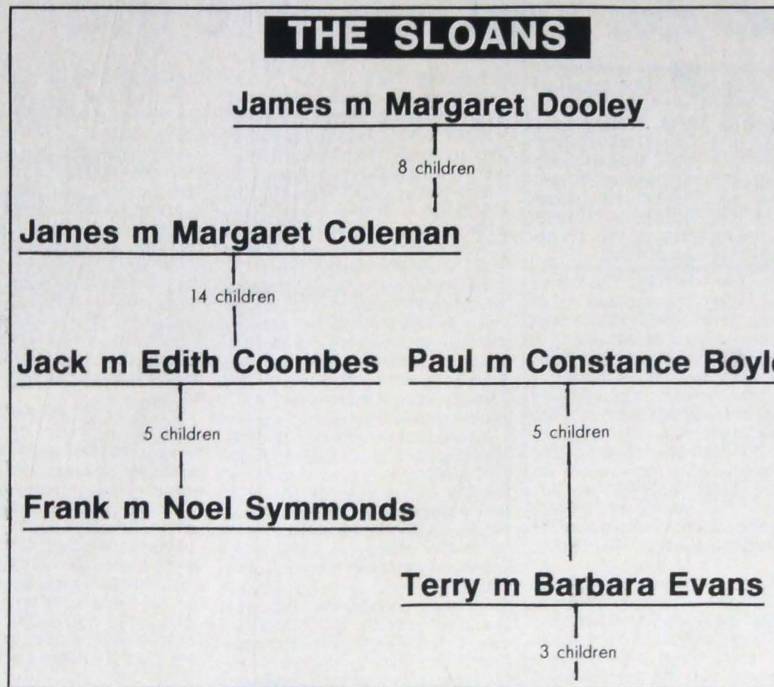
One of these children was Terry's father, Paul, who drove buses from Melbourne to Warrandyte and to Box Hill until 1949.

"I often would go for the ride with him as a nipper," Terry recalled, "and later had the onerous task of sweeping the bus."

Terry, born in 1937, grew up in a house on Pigtail Hill next to the old bus depot. It was burnt in the 1939 fires and has since been rebuilt.

"I went to work for Jack Moore in the grocer's shop at the age of 14 and earned two pounds, seven shillings and sixpence a week," he recalled.

"Early in the week I would collect all the local grocery orders on my bike, then on Friday Charlie Moore and I would deliver about



Frank Sloan the butcher: Knew just about everyone.

200 orders by truck from 6 am to 6 pm.

"During the week, grocery items like flour, sugar, rice etc. all had to be weighed and packaged.

After three years with Jack Moore, Terry started working for Ted Lyng at Bill Tin Cupboards, and in 1962 he joined the Metro-

politan Fire Brigade, his present occupation.

Terry was also a member of the Warrandyte Fire Brigade for 12 years and helped fight the 1962 fires.

He is secretary of the Andersons Creek Cemetery Trust.

He and his wife, Barbara, have

two sons, Peter, 19, and David, 17, and a daughter, Melissa, 12.

Peter enjoys skiing, David football and cricket. Melissa plays basketball.

Terry was vice-president of the Warrandyte Football Club for two years and is still involved in the district's sporting activities.



And a great time...

The Howmans of the Boulevard have returned from their American and European holiday, with children Samantha, Wendy and Robert declaring Disneyland their favorite place on earth! Despite the jetlag, a virus and an immediate return to work, Pam still managed to feel euphoric about the "great family time had by all".

It seems that Warrandyte has another budding potter. Meredith Vagg has had a piece of her work selected by East Doncaster High School as one of its entries in the National Gallery's Junior Ceramics Exhibition to be held at the gallery this month. It is an unusual sculpture of a boot. Her mother is longing for the day when she can turn out plates and cups!

And the Howman's near-neighbors, Ron and Marie Muller, have also been jetsetting around England and Europe. Marie wrote home that the Boulevard felt very remote but that the trip was great! They are now resettled in the Warrandyte bush, and admirers of Ron's gentle landscape paintings are waiting to see if the gums are being replaced by the beeches and elms of the European countryside.

Jan Tindale has a new microwave oven — one of those contraptions that requires a pilot's licence to operate. Some of us still remember the saga of the broken oven door spring, when husband Lee turned his not inconsiderable literary talents to complaint-writing.

"Could he and the wife, their children and the orphans they entertain every Christmas!" please have lunch with the general manager of the manufacturing company if he couldn't ensure repair of the door by the festive season, he wrote. Japan be warned. A hungry Tindale is not to be trifled

with. That microwave had better measure up.

Without doubt one of the most active ladies around Warrandyte is Louise Joy of Co-op fame. But "co-operative" isn't just Louise's interest in life, it is also her most notable character trait! In preference to turning people away at seemingly awkward moments, she finds herself entertaining and interviewing people in most interesting situations. Impromptu "sub-committee" meetings have been held at her bedside on lazy Saturday mornings and there are some who have thought of giving Louise a "glam" dressing gown for those unexpected visits, which invariably lead to full-scale discussions on community concerns around her hospitable table — while she is still dripping from the shower. Her beloved daughter Heidi has wondered if she is practising to be the first Warrandyte "bag lady". Whatever, her spontaneity and genuine concern for the Warrandyte community are only matched by her charm, and maybe we should all take a leaf out of her unpretentious but delightful book.

The Fifth Column was saddened to hear of the recent death of Keith Ragg in a horse-riding accident. Keith, a Doncaster and Templestowe Council employee, was a devoted family man and a person of high principle. We extend our sympathy to his wife Joan and children.

It's a boy. That was the news that greeted Warrandyte from Brian and Andre Armstrong's window following the arrival of Thatcher Jass, number 10 in this amazing family.

It's another boy. To Ian and Bindi Ellis of Research Road, Jeremy Reginald.

John Addie and son Joel are leaving Warrandyte this month. After a short sojourn in Ashburton, he hopes to live in Eltham. His friends wish him luck and hope to see him often.

WADs strikes. This mysterious group of modern Boadiceas is claiming the green belt along Harris Gully Road as its territory. If the developers' axe is raised, WADs will act.



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Variety, the spice of Warrandyte life

As I was driving one of the earlier speakers out to Warrandyte we passed the enormous new houses in Templestowe and wondered about their occupants. We then came to the less enormous but still comfortable brick homes on the outskirts of Warrandyte and through the town to the buildings of the Op Shop, the Co-operative and the Community Centre cum Community Education Office.

"I cannot match this with that," was the speaker's comment, which gave me the theme I was searching for in discussing services to families in Warrandyte.

Perhaps we should be striving not so much to match all services to all people, but to retain Warrandyte as a township which gives value to buildings, to stages of life both in prosperity and decay. Perhaps, I mused, we should not strive to build a brand new Community Centre, but we should keep as is, the Mechanics' Institute and the

White House, at the same time restoring the old Post Office to its 1930s newness.

We need to value the achievements of people at the peak of their material and social success, robust in health, contributing to the community, but also those whose lives show deterioration either through fault or no fault of their own. Warrandyte has always been the retreat of the eccentric recluse as equally many successful, happy families have grown up in this area. It is a Warrandyte of variety which I will be speaking of.

First, to give some statistical shape to these thoughts:

Over half the 80 members of the Wyena Pony Club come from Warrandyte. The Warrandyte Football Club boasts six junior teams, giving play to about 150 boys in a season. The two senior teams have 50 to 60 players and there are 150 non-playing members of the club.

The Cricket Club has 241 registered players, 100 seniors and 141 juniors, including women. The Netball Club has six teams undereens and under-sixteens, involving 60 girls.

In the arts there are Council of Adult Education reading groups

The Co-op has held a series of parent education lectures at its offices in Yarra Street. Last month the Diary published Councillor Ken McKenzie's speech on child-rearing. In this edition we present an edited text of the address by Louise Joy, chairwoman of the Co-op and tutor in social work.

which meet monthly. The Music Group meets for informal music making in people's homes and presents, in the Mechanics' Institute Hall, a program of near-professional standard each year.

Pottery, weaving and painting groups are active in the town. The Drama Group aims at a number of local productions each year. The Warrandyte Arts Association has 240 members. There are three service clubs. We can say then that active leisure and community action is a large component of Warrandyte life.

The statistics section of the Department of Social Security recorded on November 11 last year that in postcode 3113, Warrandyte, there were 6200 people. One estimate is that the neighborhood will reach a maximum of 10,000.

Setting Warrandyte in the municipal context, Doncaster and Templestowe is growing quickly, yet the slowest growing sector of the city is families with incomes of less than \$12,000 a year. One of the interpretations of this figure is that it is harder to be poor in a generally affluent area, an idea which was discussed in the May and June editions of the **Warrandyte Diary**.

The other side of the coin is that many social services which have been developed for low-income families are relevant for middle-income families who are missing traditional family supports and are facing new pressures of both parents working.

Given the number of children receiving family allowances in the 3113 postcode area, services to families and children should be a major focus. This Parent Education Program is one small part of a number of activities. The aim is raising awareness of other activities.

Church youth clubs are flourishing. Warrandyte Environment League has 100 families involved. The Post Office Preservation Group has 10 committee members, 30 members and 120 interested

regular fundraisers.

I started with an undisguised plea that we do not cease to value the eccentric recluse whom Warrandyte has always sheltered — Bill McCulloch, Adelaide Gault, Hal Cherry, Jack Smiley; very different lifestyles but essentially loners.

In 1985 the problem may be more the other way round. There are so many attractions to living alone that the burden of family life may seem intolerable. Equally, the burden of child care may be alleviated, as well as sometimes compounded, by that new extended family, the remarried, divorced spouses.

It is in this wider context of the subtle appeals offered by varied lifestyles that we may understand the marital divorces of Warrandyte, whose statistics are hard to come by, although national figures may reflect our story too.

Statistics for the elderly are much less than those for children. Yet the establishment of appropriate housing for the elderly is continually discussed in Warrandyte. Ten units for elderly with assets of no more than \$25,000 are being built in Stig-

Continued page 11

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Did you know that some Warrandyte residents have got a "home away from home" up at Mount Baw Baw? I went up there recently to investigate.

I saw a few well-known Warrandyte personalities patronising the commercialisation of the area. My usual efforts to keep out of sight were thwarted by the human trick of sneaking up very quietly on the overhead ropeway.

How interesting to hear discussions of the same area in the wonderful talk by Peter Rawlinson at the Warrandyte Environment League annual general meeting recently.

I couldn't see from where I was hiding, but I understand his remarks were supported by some excellent slides documenting, among other atrocities, the wanton destruction of the Mt Baw Baw country by commercial interests.

To make the area more suitable for commercial exploitation, people are clearing the native flora and planting weeds in noxious weed-ridden imported topsoil.

Just to make sure that the natural balance is spoiled way down the slopes as well as higher up, they are adding fertiliser.

What were once clear mountain streams have become unfit for drinking.

What do the traditional owners of this territory, such as the Baw Baw frogs, think of all this? I don't know. You will have to ask them.

The mention of frogs reminds me that Joan Kermit, the Minister for the Timber Industry, has characterised herself with some remarkable decision-making recently.

First, she missed an opportunity to save some important Warrandyte habitat from the developers' axes. More recently she seems to have decided in favor of the bush-rapers in every one of several questions put to her concerning the extent of planned destruction of Erinundra Plateau flora.

I am told that in homocentric terms these decisions may appear to have some validity. I must say that as one who is free of that dreadful bias, the argument appears pretty weak.

*Up a mount,
down
the drain,
a croak
and a call
for help*

(Did you notice how I slipped in that David Cameron "big word" homocentric, Boris? This is not the front page, Boris. This is the part of the paper that the intellectuals turn to.)

I feel that conservation-minded humans have fallen into a bit of a trap. Recognising that conservation is THE issue, and confronted with a two-party system based on the irrelevant Left-Right dichotomy, they choose to support the party with the least objectionable conservation policy.

Unfortunately, least objectionable does not mean satisfactory, or even sufficient. . . Perhaps you should try changing government at every election. Don't give any party security of tenure in government unless they DO BETTER.

As for Joan Kermit, I've only got one thing to say to her: Reeceemiiit.

Doncaster and Templestowe Council recently flogged off a lot of young garden plants to ratepayers. When asked to explain this, one of the hawkers said the idea was "to encourage the people to get the natives back into the garden."

Well, Egbert, of the 19 types of plant you had, only 17 were actual species. The other two were man-made hybrids. None of the 17 is native to the area. Only six even occur naturally in Victoria. Many are unsuitable for the area.

The problem is that they might thrive in the area and become environmental weeds. The sad part is that nine out of the 10 genera represented by your wares have species that are indigenous to this area.

But all your genetic material comes from the Southern Hemisphere, and this is the sign of a germ of a discerning spirit. Good start.

No local environmentalist can afford to be smug while contemplating this little municipal effort. Two years ago at the WEL annual meeting, John Cousins passed on a request from James Reynolds at the council for help in procuring indigenous plant stock.

I do believe that no one offered any help at all.

Come on, people, what about a few of you who can tell an animal from a plant offering a little help where it's needed.

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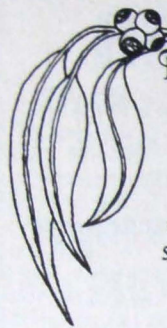
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WEL takes a plunge into the deep end

If you have ever wondered if animals have a right to live; if wilderness areas and habitats should be protected for their own value, you have begun to understand the outlook of the "deep" ecologist.

The guest speaker at the recent annual meeting of the Warrandyte Environment League, Dr Peter Rawlinson, outlined the deep and shallow ecology philosophies. His examples of the consequences of adopting shallow ecological principles shocked the audience.

Dr Rawlinson, senior lecturer in zoology at Latrobe University, is a noted ecologist and is vice-president of the Australian Conservation Foundation.

He said that the shallow ecology position was the basis of the State Government's draft conservation strategy. Such a strategy must fail, he said, as it would recognise only instrumental values — direct values to mankind. (WEL and others have submitted comments consistent with this criticism to the Ministry of Planning and Environment.)

Slides illustrating case studies of the application of shallow ecology principles were shown. Many of the sequences recorded the steady deterioration of an area over a number of years of disturbance. The conclusion was that land use management in Victoria was

seriously out of step with conservation objectives and administration.

The examples included:

□ The Latrobe Valley Water and Sewerage Board's Dutton Downs sewage farm, which processes effluent from an APM paper mill. The outfall is into Lake Coleman, a designated wildlife reserve managed by the Fisheries and Wildlife Service as a sanctuary for native fish and birds. The lake is black and has no value as a habitat.

□ The Mt Cole pine plantation near Ballarat demonstrated the hypocrisy of including a pine plantation in a wildlife reserve. Slides of the damage done to pine seedlings by wallabies and possums were shown. So, too, were slides of signs reading: "1080 POISON LAID".

□ It is an offence to pick native heath, Victoria's floral emblem, but evidently not for herbicide to be sprayed to control native flora near pine seedlings. The slides were taken in the Otways, beloved of sawmillers.

□ It is an offence to keep or otherwise endanger the protected Baw Baw Black Frog, yet it is not an offence to destroy its only habitat to develop skiing facilities.

□ The rate of logging in East Gippsland is not only destroying an irreplaceable forest type and habitat, it will lead to Australia increasingly relying on imported oregon for engineering-strength timbers.

The league is determined to participate in discussions on these and related issues in the coming year, and urges other residents to join in.

Those elected to the 1985-86 committee are Doug Seymour, Anne Warren, John Cousins, Kevin Parker, Alan Noy and a new resident, John Beadall.

John Addie, Richard Schurmann, Claire Dawson and Councillor John Fisher plan to continue their involvement in the league's work.

The mayor of Doncaster and Templestowe, Councillor Mike Ballagh, and the Eltham shire president, Councillor Mary Grant, spoke at the meeting.

No-one left the meeting unhappy after the triumphant return of Boris Bandicoot. Boris spoke on the newly-discovered weed Wood-poleus SECii (see August Diary). Reports have reached the league of a wombat seen gnashing its teeth in anger and frustration in the western woodlands of Warrandyte.

Congratulations must go to the 84-85 committee, especially president Doug Seymour, for organising what was one of the best annual meetings the league has had.

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The Warrandyte Citizen's Advice Bureau, which hopes to be operating in the old post office next year, is collecting information for its files.

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you would like its message spread through the community by the CAB, the bureau would like to hear from you.

Jan Meehan will send you a questionnaire if you write to her care of 58 Yarra Street.

INVITATION

To the Warrandyte Community

You are cordially invited to the official unveiling of the plaque at the Old Post Office on November 9, 1985 at 2pm.

Post Office Preservation Group

Further details to be displayed locally

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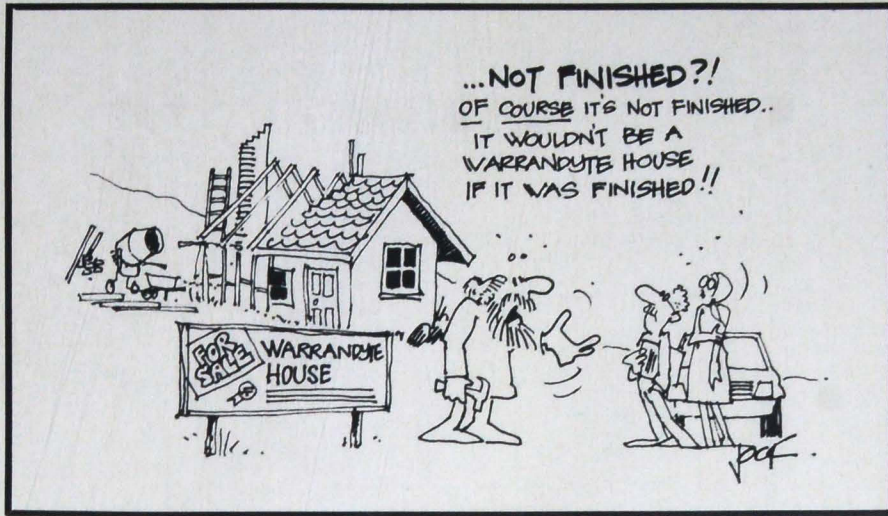
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LIBERAL PARTY

MEETS REGULARLY

MEMBERSHIP OFFICER — 844 3636



Continued from page 8

gant Street. For the owner of a house wishing to remain in this area, there is still no adequate provision.

Youth unemployment as a national issue was recognised by a group of concerned men in the Warrandyte pub who planted the seeds for what was to become, with more than 200 shareholders, the Warrandyte Community Workshop Co-Operative Ltd.

The Community Education Officer, as developed by Rosi Tovey, became a focus for the neighborhood and indicated the need for an information service in Warrandyte. A group of volunteers is developing a Citizens' Advice Bureau to operate from the restored Post Office. This could form the basis for information and support networks in the future.

In summary then, Warrandyte is well catered for in sporting clubs, arts and leisure activities. Pre-school child care is growing in a variety of services. Accommodation for single people of whatever

age is needed, as well as small units catering for single parents with one child. Support for families of whatever income at times of illness, loss of partner, major or minor tragedy, is an essential area but difficult to devise.

I see Warrandyte in danger of becoming an anonymous dormitory suburb. We need a conscious effort to build on the past strengths and create new neighborhoods of the future where each individual and family is acknowledged for the value of being.

Not only the outer achievements, but the quiet suffering, the high and low-income families, with or without assets, the flamboyant as well as the undemonstrative, each need a place in our community.

- I believe we should:
- Retain Warrandyte as a place with a tolerance for a variety of lifestyles;
 - Develop quality family support services for short-term or long-term needs of families, particularly in times of emergency, crisis or chronic inability to manage;
 - Develop housing for single

people, or single parents with one child, in bungalow or cluster development at a non-luxury basic level;

Accommodation for the elderly should encompass a range of services, not merely unsupported housing;

Continue to raise awareness, as in parent education programs, of the external pressures and some of the ancient internal drives which affect people, sometimes in most disruptive and tragic ways at any stage of life.

Awards

Continued from page 12

RESERVES

Best-and-fairest: Steve Harper 1; Rick Kingwell 2; John McCartin, Snowy Prior equal 3.

Most determined (Jeff Darby Memorial Trophy): Steve Walsh.

Most improved: Shane McCartin.

President's award: Robert Ireland.

Best clubman: Darryl Cousins.
Life membership: Monica Luttick.

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Cipolla, Banks best of Bloods

Warrandyte Football Club's recruiting policies have been fully vindicated by the 1985 best-and-fairest awards.

The seniors award was shared by centreman Mario Cipolla and utility player Peter Banks, who crossed from the Diamond Valley league this year with coach Chris Valerkou.

Third was full-forward Ron Wilson, whose "consolation prizes" were the club and competition goalkicking trophies. Wilson kicked 105, to maintain his outstanding record with the Bloods.

Cipolla, whose skills have earned him the nickname "Jezza" with local fans, capped a great season by sharing second place in the competition best-and-fairest voting.

Steve Harper won Warrandyte's reserves award, from Rick Kingwell. John McCartin and Snowy Prior dead-heated for third. Trophies were awarded at the club's annual presentation night last month at Alfred's Homestead.

Life membership was conferred on Monica Luttick, wife of club vice-president Kevin. The honour was in recognition of Mrs Luttick's outstanding service over many years, including her work as pioneer of the canteen.

Trophy-winners:

SENIORS

Best-and-fairest: Mario Cipolla, Peter Banks, equal 1; Ron Wilson 3.

Most determined (Daryl Valentine Perpetual Trophy): Craig Bretherton.

Most consistent: Matthew Elliott.

Best first-year: Mark O'Brien.

Coach's award: Gerald Walshe.

Continued page 11

Three-way deal on new sporting clubrooms

A tripartite agreement has been reached for the operation of new, extended clubrooms at the Recreation Reserve.

In a compromise deal, it will be run by the local football and cricket clubs and the Warrandyte Sports and Social Club.

A meeting last month, chaired by Doncaster-Templestowe councillor Ken McKenzie, agreed that the project — to cost an estimated \$100,000 — would go ahead under an equally-represented board of management.

Debentures are being offered at \$100 each, payable over 12 months.

Coach jobs go public

Warrandyte Football Club have advertised all coaching positions for next season.

They have asked 1985 seniors coach Chris Valerkou to reapply for his job.

"We certainly hope he does," WFC president Jeff Reddie told the Diary.

"The committee was happy with the way Chris performed his duties this year.

"By advertising all coaching positions, we are merely exercising our right to canvass the best-available talent."

Valerkou, recruited with top credentials from the powerful Diamond Valley League, lifted Warrandyte to sixth in the 14-strong Eastern Districts Football League second-division competition in his first season.

A late-season slump cost Warrandyte a place in the finals.

The Bloods, however, emerged from the season with one premiership.

The under-14s gave the club their first flag in that division with a win over South Croydon.

Warrandyte won 9.9 (63) to 5.6 (36). They set up the premiership

with a magnificent second quarter, handling the heavy conditions well to kick 4.1 to 0.2.

Warrandyte went into the last quarter with a 33-point lead and withstood a spirited fightback.

The young Bloods had many good players, brilliantly led by Eugene Hansen and expertly coached by Bill Luttick.

The best, according to Luttick, were: Hansen, Dale Vittiritti, Duc Reid, Matt Hurley, Roy Kinnane, Stewart Bardwell, Scott Riddle, Matt Luttick, Adam Smark and Lachlan McLean.

The aces are coming to town

The most impressive line-up of tennis latent ever assembled in Warrandyte goes on show next month.

About 50 overseas and 30 Australian players will take part in the Medibank Private Classic, part of the Australian Davis Cup Tennis Foundation satellite circuit, from November 11 to 16.

The field includes 1984 world junior champion Mark Kratzmann and such other notables as Simon Youll and Darren Kahill.

It is a men-only event, singles and doubles.

Winners automatically qualify for entry into the Australian Open. Warrandyte Tennis Club have spent \$6000 to stage the classic.

They have organised their own telex to send the points from the tournament direct to New York for international rating.

The clubrooms are fully licensed and catered.

The club urges all tennis fans to support this event and see the real stars in action.

Pitching in for cricket's big rebuilding year

It was a case of drop the bat and grab a gardening tool this month in Warrandyte Cricket Club's frantic preparations for the 1985-86 season.

The installation of the revolutionary synthetic scapapitch and accompanying ground works were still being completed only days before the new season got under way.

First impressions of the new pitch — laid at Warrandyte on a trial basis — were less than inspiring.

"We've tried it out and it seems to lack a bit of pace," a Warrandyte seam bowler said.

It will be largely a rebuilding season for the Dytes, who have lost several key players from 1984-85.

"This will be a testing time for our many upcoming young players," said club president Steve Pascoe.

"They will be given the chance to take the bit between their teeth and, hopefully, they will grab it and run with it."

The club have long supported a policy of giving maximum encouragement to their youth and the Dytes' prospects at senior level depend on that policy paying dividends.

Warrandyte Football Club president Jeff Reddie said the extensions were expected to start early in the new year.

"We urge football and cricket club members who are not yet debenture-holders to become involved," he said.

The existing pavilion was built by volunteer labour 30 years after its predecessor, an old wooden building, was destroyed by fire.

The extensions project has been made possible by a \$30,000 State Government grant.

Improvements envisaged include an extensive social area and much-improved player facilities.



The most significant loss is captain-coach John Salter, who has returned to District ranks.

When this edition of the Diary went to press, the club were negotiating with a possible replacement for Salter.

Other experienced players will

also be missing, for at least part of the season.

Warrandyte have 16 teams in this season's competition, including a new under-14 girls side.

There are six men's teams, a women's XI, two under-16s, three under-14s and three under-12s.

New players are invited to try out and the club are also seeking to expand social membership.

Inquiries should be directed to Mr Pascoe (844 1213) or division co-ordinators Bob Le Guier (844 3857), Jenni McLaws (842 4718) and Ian Cameron (juniors 876 3581).

Netball girls bring home winter premiership

Warrandyte Netball Club have brought home a premiership from the winter season.

The under-14A team, coached by Sandra Gangell, won their grand final in the Yarra Valley competition.

Three team members — Catherine Harry, Cara Grant and Nicole Gangell — also represented Melbourne East Netball Association in a round-robin tournament at Mornington.

Carolyn Bensch's under-16 girls also made the finals and the under-12s, coached by Jan Laing, were runners-up after winning the premiership as under-10s in the 1984 spring competition.

The club are delighted to see such a talented group as the under-12s moving up through the ranks together.

The girls are: Miranda Careedy, Briony Davis, Sophie Grant, Sheree Greatrex, Kate Holyoak, Rachael Laing, Nyree Leon, Rachel Milburn and Tamara Milner.

Teams are not preparing for the spring competition and new players are welcome. Registration forms are available from Sue Holyoak (437 1491).

Club awards have been presented to the following players:

Under 12: Rachael Laing, Rachel Milburn, Tamara Milner. Under -14A: Karen Stewart, Cara Grant,

Nicole Gangell. Under-14B: Elizabeth Delaney, Kylie Gandy, Emma Holyoak. Under-14C: Martine Sproule-Carroll, Colleen McCormack, Melanie Smart. Under-16: Louise McDonald, Andrea Bensch, Jodie Batterby. Open: Natalie Manser, Jodie Peters, Judith Tright.

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