

Warrandyte Diary

PRICELESS

No 170B, August 1986

Editorial and Advertising 844 2820



Ken McKenzie: "I take great heart".

It's Councillor Ken . . . again

Warrandyte Ward voters returned Cr Ken McKenzie to Doncaster and Templestowe Council with a resounding majority earlier this month.

Cr McKenzie defeated Mr Barry Ward, municipal officer, of Warrandyte, and Mr Wayne Wright, accountant, of Donvale.

Cr Mary Grant was returned unopposed in the North Riding of the Shire of Eltham.

After the declaration of the poll, Cr McKenzie thanked the electors for their renewed vote of confidence.

He also thanked his numerous helpers and supporters, who came from many diverse localities and groupings within the area.

"They worked hard to see me returned and I take great heart from the fact that my support obviously comes from the very grass-roots of our several communities," Cr McKenzie said.

"However, I am disappointed by the large number of informal votes and the even larger number of eligible residents who stayed away from the polls, despite the fact that voting was compulsory.

"There is obviously a serious communications problem. People don't realise that local government is now, more than ever, directly responsible to the entire community, not just to ratepayers.

"Many people, especially young people, are tragically ignorant of the services council provides. 'You do nothing for me' was a common remark around the polling places.

"They don't realise that leisure resources and support facilities are available to all age groups. Communications must be improved. The challenge is there. Councillors and council officers must respond."

Final figures for Warrandyte Ward, booth by booth, are as follows:

Warrandyte Primary School — McKenzie, 1158 (76.2%); Ward, 235 (15.5%); Wright, 126 (8.3%); informal, 103.

Warrandyte High School — McKenzie, 236 (54.8%); Ward, 121 (28.1%); Wright, 74 (17.2%); informal, 34.

Park Orchards Primary School — McKenzie, 1264 (58.2%); Ward, 614 (28.1%); Wright, 422 (19.2%); informal, 100.

Continued: middle pages

A voice promised on our future

The future of Warrandyte now rests with the Local Government Commission's Northern Melbourne study, due to commence later this year.

There is a good chance that the two halves of the village can be brought together under one administration. Whatever happens, the people of Warrandyte will have a say in their fate.

That was the state of play after the Warrandyte Advisory Committee annual general meeting on July 23 at which a hundred or so citizens heard the commission chairman, Mr Stuart Morris, and put their own views to him.

A straw poll at the meeting — a narrow base to draw conclusions from — favored amalgamation with Eltham.

It was one of the last such meetings for Mr Morris, who has

THE STRAW POLL		
	People from Eltham	People from Doncaster
Prefer one municipality if it were Eltham	21	10
Prefer one municipality if it were Doncaster	3	4
Prefer one municipality (either will do)	3	2
Status quo	10	5

said he will be concentrating more on the administrative side of statewide council amalgamations and letting his staff address community gatherings.

The Sherbrooke Shire councillor outlined the philosophy behind amalgamations. He said there were 210 councils in Victoria, the

smallest mainland state. Combining some would enhance their economic strength and make boundaries more logical.

An important point, he said, was the boundaries should not divide a community.

The Eastern Melbourne option paper, released earlier this year,

covers Doncaster and Templestowe. Eltham Shire falls under the Northern Melbourne study.

Mr Morris said there were three options available to Warrandyte. That area of north Warrandyte marked residential D could be added to the City of Doncaster and Templestowe; Warrandyte south of the river (probably marked off by the SEC transmission line) could go to Eltham; or the boundaries could stay where they are.

"But you should keep in mind that other changes are possible to both municipalities that may have an effect on Warrandyte," he said.

The good news for Warrandyte, he said, is that whatever changes people decide upon may be possible. In this case there are now powerful vested interests opposed to change.

Michael Ballagh, mayor of Doncaster and Templestowe, put his council's case to the meeting. He said the city saw little reason for altering boundaries and didn't want to take in North Warrandyte.

Councillor Ballagh said the Warrandyte Advisory Committee drew a third of its members from north of the Yarra and was an effective organisation to solve any problems brought about by the division.

The Eltham Shire president, Councillor Mary Grant, told the meeting that Eltham wanted to take in the townships of Hurstbridge and Wattle Glen. The same applied to Warrandyte, using the SEC easement as a boundary line. Questionnaires have been sent out to residents.

John Morey, of Pigeonbank Lane, told the meeting that he used to live south of the river. He asked if it was the convenience of boundaries such as the river or the SEC line that would determine matters, or would the people have a say.

Stuart Morris replied: "In this case the people can decide. Local government is a creation of state government, so it is mostly up to them (the government) to decide eventually. When it comes to this situation, (Warrandyte) plays no particular part in the greater strategy, so therefore the people can make up their minds."

John Morey: How then exactly

Continued: middle pages. Letter: middle pages.



Take away the number ...

You saw what they were doing to the front of the paper? Right underneath where it says The Warrandyte Diary?

I did, my boy, I did. I don't understand it. It says 170B. What on earth does that mean? The Age doesn't go around saying paper number 24,607C. The Herald doesn't describe itself as number 19,455½. So why did the Diary?

The Age and The Herald have clever people who can count without having to take their shoes and socks off; the Diary is not so fortunate.

You mean . . . ?

I mean that if they could count they wouldn't be amateur newspaperpersons. They'd be something socially useful like book-makers.

Then they got the numbering wrong somewhere?

You said it. And they're still going through the old issues, so stay tuned . . .

Your shout, mate. That's three rounds each.

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No, don't you remember . . . ?

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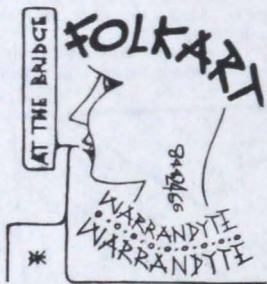
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IN RED & WHITE



Alice Watson, head held high, flapped up to Warrandyte State School on municipal polling day, chatted to the how-to-vote card mob, then disappeared into the bowels to complete her patriotic duty.

She was back within five minutes. "Darlings," she said to nobody in particular and everyone in general, "you wouldn't believe this but I'm not on the roll."

Friends took her inside to remonstrate with the returning officer. To no avail. According to the municipal roll of the City of Doncaster and Templestowe, Alice Watson, after 30 years of living and voting in Warrandyte, is a non-person.

There was a reasonable chance she might have voted for her son, Ken McKenzie.

Kawasaki (the boy seems to be reliving his childhood) and ended up down the bank with his motorcycle astride him. It seems the little darlings had been playing Tarzan and had stretched a rope from one side of the drive to the other.

★ ★

You call that snow, that smattering of flakes that scudded down late in July? Old-timers remember August 1951 when it snowed all day and left the town covered in white. The Huxtable family, newly arrived then, took an interstate visitor to Mount Macedon to see the stuff and returned to find they had missed an even better show at home.

★ ★

Smokey admires a man who sticks up for his rights and the good of the community. At the Great Debate on July 23, Roger Kibell suggested that the straw vote be taken on the premise of how many people might prefer not to have Sulo Bins.

"If Eltham alters that premise (of a Sulo-free ecosystem, one presumes) then I may be just as well off in Doncaster and Templestowe," said the good Roger.

That's the stuff of which revolutions are made.

★ ★

You've heard about indoor plants but this is ridiculous department: It's a house in Pigeonbank Lane, and there, in the lounge, right next to the open fireplace, is a pretty little ivy plant twining its way up to the ceiling.

Its owner says the ivy has two tendrils and about 10 leaves, and she loves it. A bonus is that no dirt or watering is involved.

The reason: the ivy is growing through a crack it found in the floor of this house-proud lady.

★ ★

Smokey's heart bleeds for her: Mrs Diana Windsor, aka The Princess of Wales. It's only a couple of years ago that newspapers-with-little-to-report began claiming that Herself was suffering from anorexia nervosa, the product of taking too little tucker. She would blow away in any wind over 10 kilometres an hour, said the rags.

How sad then to see The Sun News-Pictorial (Daily at Dawn) devoting two-thirds of page three to a pictorial essay entitled "Dip shows Di's Flab". The two happy snappies fail to reveal evidence of tubby tummies.

Smokey can only put this down to what they call in the trade "a slow news day". He would hate to think that anyone would take advantage of this fair blossom's physical failings.

★ ★

That ingrate! That paragraph-snitcher! Lee Tindale has insisted that the latest news on the continuing search of Anthony Giles-Peter for a place to doss be on the back page.

So be it, Tindale. But your time will come.

Mark "Toady" Davis, of Lewis Road, breezed home from work the other night astride his throbbing

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There it was, sitting outside the Golden Gate store, a white ducoed, classic-shape VW. Atop the bonnet a pale blue cluster of ribbons.

Inside, Mary Townsend was slapping together her justly praised sandwiches for the hungry lunchtime parade of workers and passers-by. Outside, her car was celebrating its 21st birthday.

"The ribbon seemed just the thing," said Mary on that day in July. "I couldn't let the day go by without marking it somehow."

Mary's husband Peter bought the car back in 1965 from Macleans of Ringwood. He paid about 900 pounds. It was a new Beetle when the Beatles were new.

For seven years policeman Peter drove the car to work and around the district. Then Mary made her play.

Mary Townsend and the object of her devotion.

Beetle mania

"I told Peter it was either have another baby or get my driver's licence. Peter gave me the car that day."

Beetle Townsend has 230,000 miles on the clock. There's a good chance it will make the half a million mark, with a Townsend behind the wheel.

"Sell it? Not on your life. It's been a good car to me and I love it. We'll hang on to it."

WEL to study grass lands fire prevention

The Warrandyte Environment League has been given \$2000 by the State Government to examine fire prevention methods in grasslands in South Warrandyte.

Lou Hill, the MLA for Warrandyte, presented a cheque for the money to WEL president Doug Seymour at the Warrandyte Advisory Council annual general meeting on July 23.

The \$2000 is only a quarter of the league's budget for the study. "But it is nearly one per cent of the money available for this sort of thing for the whole state," said Doug.

The league will be seeking extra money from other sources to make up the shortfall and will be reducing costs as far as possible by using voluntary labor.

The money comes from a fund administered jointly by the Minister for Conservation, Forests and Lands, Joan Kirner, and the Minister for Planning and Environment, Jim Kennan. The fund gives special assistance to conservation and environment groups.

WEL made its submission last February, a little after closing time for the grants.

The submission points out that research since Ash Wednesday "has caused many to look more critically at the established fire risk reduction methods" and it suggests a new approach.

Basically, WEL believes there are different types of grassland: established pasture with European annual grass, areas with primarily indigenous grass and a mixture of the two.

Of this last category, the submission says: "The important thing appears to be to dis-

courage the exotic grass and encourage the indigenous grass to achieve long-term fuel minimization.

"Fortunately most of the indigenous grasses are perennial whilst the exotics are annuals. They come to seed at different times. There is a possibility of establishing a slashing regime that will have long-term benefits.

"It might be best to slash very early to minimise the fecundity of the early maturing exotic annuals and then, if slashing is necessary again later in the season, to leave it late enough so that only mature fertile indigenous seed is cut and spread around."

The submission goes on: "Thus the cost effectiveness and the benefit to the community of fire risk minimisation might be increased and the annual cost reduced if some areas are not slashed at all, others are slashed twice and yet others are slashed twice but to a different timetable."

The study will determine whether this new approach is justified, whether the old slashing regime is better or whether some entirely new approach, "as yet unimagined", might be best.

The submission says: "The Warrandyte Environment League has members skilled in project management developed in their scientific and engineering careers. We also have considerable botanical expertise amongst our volunteer members."

WEL says the study will put on record the distribution of plants in Warrandyte at the time, so providing a base for future work.

Anyone interested in the project and willing to help should contact the convenor of the project sub committee, Richard Schurmann, on 844 2843.

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.

Mark, 19, has experience at landscape gardening. He is interested in any outside work.

Michelle, 19, is fully trained as a receptionist. She can type, handle a switchboard, file and do clerical work.

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

Another Warrandyte Community Workshop Co-operative Ltd project.

Bureaucrats put kybosh on garden

The Warrandyte Community Workshop Co-operative's plans for a market garden on the land next to the dairy have been dashed.

After two years of negotiations with the Department of Conservation, Lands and Forests, including on-site inspections, the Co-op has been informed that the site is not suitable and that there are no other suitable sites in Warrandyte.

The land near the dairy was considered unsuitable as it was too close to the road and the river. The site was also too sloping. The department said the roots of trees would interfere with the market garden.

Finally, the garden itself was considered "aesthetically unsuitable", whatever that means.

The Department of Conservation, Lands and Forests suggested that a commercial development for an organic market garden was the only possibility for Warrandyte.

Any reader who wants to take up the challenge can discuss the matter further with Jean Chapman at the Co-op, on 844 2548.

Jean says: "The idea of an organic market garden is attractive to many Warrandyte residents and is in keeping with the values of our community."

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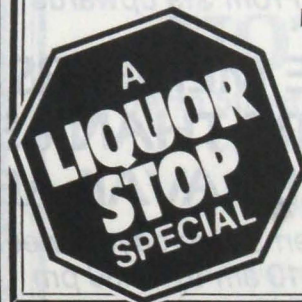
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Shade of the past over the river

August 1886: There has been a great scare during the week with reference to a ghost.

I recollect some months ago two or three parties living over the bridge, on the Nillumbik side, mentioning having seen a shadowy figure on several occasions, but as I was aware they were not exactly members of the Total Abstinence Society, some allowance was made for alcoholic influences.

However recently there have been two cases that do not come under this definition.

Some two or three weeks ago a gentleman from Melbourne returning over the bridge after dark saw a white figure hovering over him, and then heard a heavy splash in the river. He was frightened some, I believe.

Last Monday week a person, his wife and daughter attempted to cross from the Nillumbik side when the horse jibbed, and declined to proceed. This was at five o'clock in the morning.

He got down and commenced to lead it. The horse made a swerve and nearly upset the cart and load over the bridge. However, they succeeded in getting across, the horse being literally covered with foam and trembling violently.

The whole of the occupants saw the white figure hovering before the horse's head across the bridge, when it disappeared.

I, who live immediately across the bridge and pass and re-pass at all hours of night and day, either for want of faith or whisky have



A report 100 years old from the Warrandyte correspondent of the Evelyn Observer

not, as yet, been fortunate enough to see it.

Perhaps it is because I am not a believer in shadows without a substance. However there is a watch now, so perhaps the mystery may be elucidated.

The Yarra Tunnel Quartz Company has purchased the crushing engine belonging to the late Union Company, Diamond Creek. As soon as it can be carted over and erected a christening will take place and work started at once.

The second of a series of lectures, in aid of renovating our parish church, was delivered by Mr Sadlier

on Monday evening, the 9th inst., in the church. Mr Wm. Hutchinson J.P. occupied the chair. Subject of lecture, "The Journey Out from England". The collection amounted to 1 pound 16 shillings and sixpence.

The Young Colonial Company had a crushing of about 8 tons, which yielded, with gold previously obtained, 16 and a half ounces. Fully 6 tons of this stuff was a trial of the sandstone, which did not turn out as expected. However, they expect something better the next crushing.

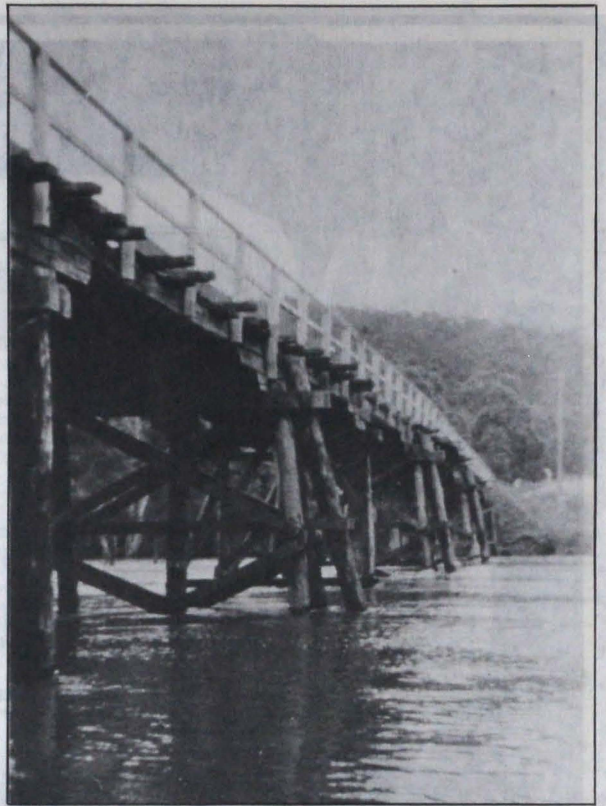
Two acres from the Yarra Bend Asylum Reserve has been granted to Messrs Farnam and Thomas, for motive power purposes, etc., in connection with their water scheme, "Yarra Tunnel". The preliminary survey will take place at once.

I am very glad that at last this venture has taken a definite form. There is no doubt as to its ultimate successful results, and it will conduce very much to the permanent welfare of the Creek.

Anderson's Creek Police Court (before Mr Hare P.M.): Mr Brown, manager of the Brick Works, Ringwood, V. Cox and another.

The two cases were for balance of rent due on tenements erected on company's land. Mr Cox stated that he had declined to pay until certain improvements, as promised, were completed. The timber had been ordered and the contract not fulfilled.

The manager stated that he had made no promise as to time when



the improvements should be made. The second defendant stated that he declined to pay the rent as he did not think the company had any right or title to claim it.

Mr Hare said that a tenant could not dispute the title of a landlord, and in leasehold or Crown lands, if the occupiers erected cottages they could rent them, but could not charge for ground rent or for wells.

Both the defendants had agreed

to pay rent, and had done so. One of them (Mr Cox) had written to him for advice on the subject. However willing he was to assist persons with his advice, as long as it could not interfere with his official position, he thought it unfair for him to be applied to in cases where he might have to adjudicate.

In both cases a verdict for the full amount and 5 shillings costs were given.

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Anderson's Creek drops the pilot

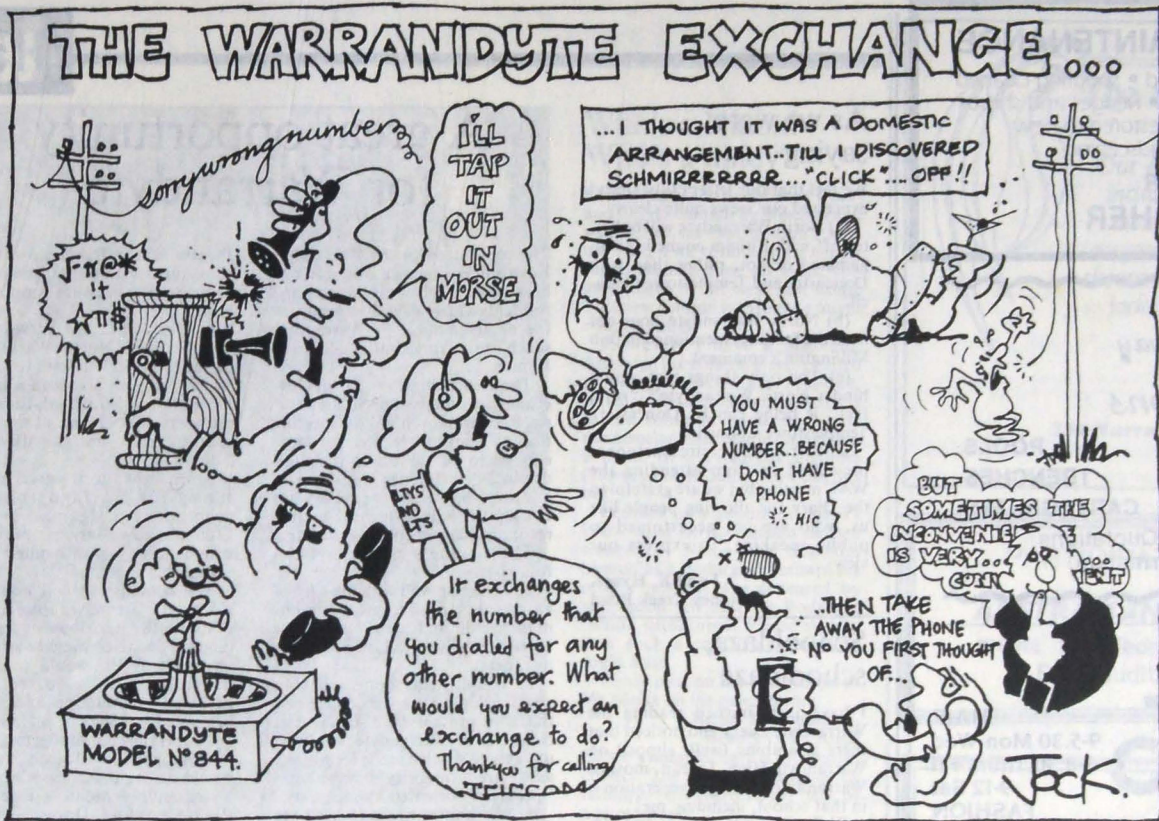
Maurice Curwood, who held the office of school council president at Anderson's Creek Primary School, has retired from that position.

Mr Curwood was elected president of the original council at Anderson's Creek in 1978 and held that office throughout his eight years as a school councillor.

He was also a member of an interim committee involved in the initial planning of the school before its opening.

Mr Curwood was presented with a book and a wine carafe with the school emblem on it at a special assembly on Thursday, July 3. The presentations were made by Mrs Sue Wedd, the school council secretary, and Mr Curwood's son, Andrew, who is a grade 6 pupil at the school.

At the assembly, the principal of Anderson's Creek Primary School, Mr John Shaw, and Mrs Wedd both spoke of Mr Curwood's involvement in all facets of the school's development and said that his direction and experience will be greatly missed.



Change

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fascinated ... at this world, unknown to other than to those who enter it; unknown to parents. Here is where "the kids" share their lives, loves, hopes, dreams, woes, worries, good-times and bad-times — where they grow TOGETHER relaxed and happy, the kid changes. Here he/she has grown, both physically and mentally. The kids stick together, each other being the backbone of their lives; of their growing. At peace, the kid walks out — changed, happy, now a grown man or woman!

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As we were saying . . .

We feel that our letter (July Diary) expressed our views quite clearly: (a) North Warrandyte will be better off with Eltham council, amalgamated or not, rather than with Doncaster and Templestowe Council.

(b) North Warrandyte does not need the facilities mentioned in Bob Millington's comment.

(c) The only things that would hinder North Warrandyte's "rural feel" is being run by Doncaster/Templestowe Council.

Unfortunately, circumstances prevented us from attending the WAC meeting but we are grateful to the Diary for allowing people like us, who are not accustomed to public speaking, to express our views.

J and K. Hynes,
Stoney Creek Road

**Schooldaze,
schooldaze**

I have just finished reading the Warrandyte Diary and noticed that there is nothing (well, almost) on Warrandyte High. I mean, most of Warrandyte's younger generation is in that school, including me!

Well, what you ask — and I'm glad you did — is going on in there? The Years 11 and 12 exams are over; the cross country has been run. (That was exhausting — 3 or 5 km. through mud and slush with teachers looking on from their posts and laughing their heads off at the sight of us poor coots jogging by).

Year 11 band, Social Cohesion, has just recorded a track and is sounding pretty good, with Mark Eggleston's vocals blending in with Nick Arnot's synth. playing and Sacha Podporrin's guitar.

School photos have just been received (without the usual six-month wait). Do I really look like that?

With school reports coming up everyone (well, almost everyone), is working like a demon to get a good report and to be able to face their parents after the parent/teacher interviews.

The uniform is coming along with quite a few people wearing it and looking okay. Home work calls.

Bronwyn Cousins (Year 8),
Morilla Place

**A great opportunity
for Warrandyte**

The committee for the Warrandyte Environment League would like to hear from local organisations and residents who may wish to argue for the amalgamation of Warrandyte south of the Yarra into the Shire of Eltham.

The chairman of the Local Government Commission, Stuart Morris, told last month's WAC meeting that as Warrandyte was not large enough to be subject to the "top down" guidelines set by the minister, then what the people want can significantly influence the final recommendation for Warrandyte.

The league's position is as follows:

1. We get on well with the City of Doncaster and Templestowe administration and with Warrandyte Ward councillors (all of whom are members).

2. Despite this good working relationship we are very concerned that the present rural-residential character of Warrandyte would be unlikely to survive in the long term, as we are a minority in an urban/"progress"-oriented municipality.

3. Warrandyte needs to heed Mr Morris's advice: go with the option/municipality most likely to relate to our community's values in the long term. The present City of

Doncaster and Templestowe seems to value its remnant semi-rural area, but the pressure is on all the time.

4. The WEL has surveyed its membership. North Warrandyte members overwhelmingly favor staying with the Shire of Eltham. A majority of south-of-the-river members (40 per cent of the total) seem to prefer amalgamation with Eltham.

5. We think this is a great opportunity for Warrandyte to get together. Amalgamation with Eltham is now a serious option. We would like to join with others in bringing this about.

The commission will now consider the Warrandyte issue as part of its Northern Melbourne segment inquiry, due to commence later this year. The WEL would prefer to participate in a collectively prepared presentation and invites interested residents to get in touch.

The Hynes family (letter, July Diary) make a lot of sense to us and would be welcome. South-of-the-Yarra involvement is essential. Please contact Doug Seymour (844 2740) or Tony Shepherd (844 2202).

Doug Seymour,
WEL president

**Congratulations,
Flanagan**

I thought Martin Flanagan's poem 'Maternity Hospital' in the July Diary was one of the most moving pieces I have read in a long time. Can we have some more, please? And who is he?

T. Jacobs,
Research Road

Editor's note: Martin is a journalist with The Age, and we will print more if we can pry them out of him.

**These dogs must
be curbed**

I feel I must voice my concern over dog/dogs running wild in the area. To my personal knowledge, in the

past 10 days (preceeding July 7) three animals have been fatally savaged — a pet rabbit, whose attackers tore open a cage before killing it, a cat, and a small-medium sized dog. All dead and all in the vicinity of Whipstick Gully to Forbes Street.

People in Warrandyte cannot safely keep rabbits, chooks, guinea pigs, goats, sheep, cats and even smaller dogs while some people insist on letting their canines run wild, some forming packs. Is there any point in reminding people that their dogs are supposed to be kept within the confines of their own properties?

Will it be a child who is the next victim. I doubt whether it is safe to leave my baby outside sleeping in her pram.

Sue Traff,
Whipstick Gully



A Warrandyte tunnel and visitor: how long will they remain open?

Who will mind the park's minders?

The State Park people are at present constructing a door at the mouth of Garry's Tunnel in the Fourth Hill State Park. It is also known as the Fourth Hill Tunnel. The purpose is to prevent entry except under their supervision. They have further plans to put a string of lights through it and to dig out its floor to make it more accessible. Accessible to whom?

As a youngster I had the use of this bush and tunnel for adventure and freedom. We didn't have to adhere to a whole lot of restrictive rules and regulations; nor were the attractions locked away for tourists and organised parties only. We were proud of our tunnel and would often take city cousins through it. During my scouting days we often used the park and would sometimes

end a night exploring the tunnel.

Over the years the tunnel has not changed nor has it deteriorated, apart from the flooring silting up, or maybe it was because I was shorter then.

OK, so we need a little management of this old mining area. The roadways probably needed to be blocked for fire access vehicles only and fences constructed around its boundary. But why go further?

It is now a matter of "Who minds the minders?" What do they develop next? Maybe Whipstick Gully would make a good Sovereign Hill-type project. Do we want all our bush and recreation areas turned into tourist attractions? Isn't it enough to have our riverbank fully developed with

**Who's a Ninox?
Who's a ninny?**

I was a keen follower of your Roots and Leaves column by Wombat and was sad to see that it wasn't kept up. Well, if we're not to have a marsupial column then an avian column might be the next best thing. This new column by Mopoke might even be better!

However, I have a problem. Although the column is represented as being written by a Mopoke, which in this area is used exclusively as the common name of Ninox novaeseelandiae, beside his name is a photo of a Podargus stigidoides (Tawney Frogmouth). How can this be?

Perhaps your columnist doesn't know what he is. Perhaps he is a transvestite Ninox who disguises himself as a Podargus. Perhaps his proper portrait was censored by your good self and the Podargus picture substituted. Please explain how such a confusing situation could arise.

Please pass on my best wishes to Mr Ninox on his new venture.

Richard Schurmann,
Beauty Gully Road

Editor's note: Richard is, of course, correct. The mistake was made by failing to read correctly the back of a photograph.

Richard has kindly provided the Diary with a photo of a proper mopoke. This mighty organ of opinion is in his debt.

**A plea for a
tunnel**

I wish to register my opposition to the development of the Fourth Hill Tunnel.

Several years ago my family and I moved to Warrandyte because it offered a much easier, relaxed lifestyle to that of other suburbs. It is therefore something I treasure and try to protect.

I am a frequent visitor to Fourth Hill with my children and friends and resent the fact that this tunnel, which is and has been a source of enjoyment and adventure for many generations of children, is soon to be closed by a padlocked gate, presumably to be opened only at specified times.

I am concerned that this is just the start of a bigger development which invariably will lead to vandalism, littering and the destruction of the natural state of the park as it is at the moment. One only has to look at what was left behind on Fourth Hill after the "Gold Rush Weekend" — piles of wood (not good in a bushfire area), steps carved out at various spots, small trees cut down, and the litter which is always a problem, to know that once you get large groups of people in a particular area, the natural unspoiled beauty is lost.

Karen Tippett

**Down with this
form of racism**

As an occasional reader of the Diary (I always pick one up when we pass through) I would like to comment on Mopoke's column. He writes that "many natives from other parts of Australia are problem weeds in the Warrandyte bushlands. Around 450 plants have been identified in the (Warrandyte State) park; 200 of these are garden escapes." I have read before in your newspaper criticism of the introduction of European trees and plants.

Are we not going overboard on this? Species have a habit of spreading and retreating as conditions change, and I'm sure the ecology of Warrandyte when the white man first came was subtly different to what it was 1000 years beforehand.

I toured Canada last year and was struck by the marvellous way in which introduced species of flowers and plants had combined with natives to produce a new landscape.

Protect our native species by all means but don't talk nonsense about wattles from New South Wales or where ever being foreigners.

Down with botanical racism.
(Mrs) S. Campbell,
Preston



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Voice promised on our future

From Page 1
are you going to find out what we want?

Stuart Morris: The (Northern Melbourne) hearing will listen to people's submissions. The public's opinions will count. Surveys may be conducted. Referendums can be held, if the State Government decides on it.

Patrick Nuzum, of Kangaroo Ground Road, was worried that the Eastern option paper might be agreed to before other matters come out at the Northern hearing which might change the minds of people.

As well, he said, delineating North Warrandyte as only the area comprising Residential D would leave out some North Warrandyte residents whose homes were in the Landscape Interest Zone.

Mr Morris said this was negotiable. "We can't always see where people are living when we make lines on maps."

Peter Harkin, of Bradleys Lane, said North and South Warrandyte had worked together for decades. The trouble lay in getting com-

munity facilities when two councils had to be approached.

"When WAC was instituted it was able to arrange quarterly meetings between itself and two councils," he said. "These have not occurred for the past two or three years."

Councillor Ballagh agreed that the City of Doncaster and Templestowe had not been as sensitive as it might have been. This had changed, he said, and the council would continue its good relationship with WAC and the Shire of Eltham.

Richard Schurmann, of Beauty Gully Road, asked about the case of Professors Hill. "The council and the community worked together on the same side. People put money into this. I wonder how they would feel if put into another municipality? Do they get compensation?"

Stuart Morris: If there is change, the assets belonging to the municipality go with the land. You must seek structural change to the council so that it has a philosophy to suit you. You have to exert influence.

Mr Morris said Warrandyte

would be set aside from the Eastern study and its future would now hinge on the results of the Northern Melbourne option hearings.

In a letter to the Diary, Doug Seymour, president of the Warran-

Councillor Ken . . . again

From Page 1
476 (21.9%); Wright, 431 (19.8%); informal, 235.

Onemda, East Doncaster — McKenzie, 2026 (44.5%); Ward, 1396 (30.7%); Wright, 1127 (24.8%); informal, 392.

Donvale Presbyterian Church — McKenzie, 1276 (47.4%); Ward, 775 (28.8%); Wright, 643 (23.9%); informal, 226.

Postal votes — McKenzie, 228 (56.6%); Ward, 135 (33.5%); Wright, 40 (9.9%); informal, 25.

Totals — McKenzie, 6188 (52.6%); Ward, 3138 (26.7%); Wright, 2441 (20.7%); informal, 1015.

Although Cr McKenzie achieved a substantial lead over his two opponents at all polling places, only

the more established communities of Warrandyte and Park Orchards returned him with an absolute majority.

Mr Ward and Mr Wright exchanged preferences. Scrutineers noted that voters remained loyal to the candidates' cards, with little leakage of preferences.

Had Cr McKenzie scored less than half the total vote cast, he would have almost certainly been defeated on preferences, with probable victory going to Mr Ward.

A total of 12,782 votes were cast out of 18,938 eligible voters in the ward. Poll officials commented that many of the informal votes cast carried messages of protest against compulsory municipal elections.

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Prestige, privilege and the power of plants

As we push the Australian bush from the path of progress, we often fail to perceive the energy forces of the land with which we are dealing.

Undisturbed bushland contains checks and balances which pull the threads of life together and account for natural upheavals and disturbances. Introduce shovels, picks and bulldozers and the rules of the game are spilled. Energy trapped within the ecosystem is set free. Where goes this force?

Is it converted into an empire of fast growing weeds crowned with blackberry? Does it snake out in powerful gushes to cut and scar the land with erosion? Perhaps it turns on itself and causes dead 'stag' branches to appear on healthy eucalypts.

Is the force diverted into the 273 square homes that prestigious Warrandyte now sports? Empty blocks of land are being quickly consumed in the rush to live here. That rural forest feel has a strong pull on the dollar. So it should, Warrandyte is a very selective piece of earth. Priceless like the Diary.

It is not hard to imagine that if the bushlands that surround us deteriorate, prices will similarly fall as the magic peters out. How prestigious will it all be then?

This Red Box forest that envelops us all gives Warrandyte a great semblance of community. It swathes us in sheafs of leaves, swaying branches, birdsong and bush life. This unique Red Box forest is slowly dying as it is dismembered backyard by backyard.

Our Red Box is a privilege to live in. A world-rare experience of modern life in a natural environment in remnant bushland. In a shaky world, we have a stable forest

Friends of Warrandyte State Park



by Mopoke

The Friends of Warrandyte State Park meet the last Sunday of every month (except December and January) at noon whistle time.

whose beauty can spellbind, whose thousands and thousands of component parts make for unlimited natural wonder.

Yet mostly we hurry past unaware of the problems of the forest and its life support system, its checks and balances, the direction of its energy forces.

Drive along any local road and see dead skeletons of branches. Dead stags against grey skies. The process that quietly kills them is also at work on the village Pine Tree. Some people blame the Bellbird but this animal does not live everywhere. What have been the consequences of our occupation of this Yarra Land?

In the State Park, threads of existence unravel. A single "Wonga Vine" lives beside a track in Black's

Flat. Alone and in bad health, it has not flowered or set seed for a number of years. No relations or offspring, it is tomorrow's extinction.

"Blanket Leaf" has but half a dozen plants. Rarer forms of orchid have been dug out. Local ferns are brinking extinction. "Cinamon Wattle" has three live plants representing its species in the park.

As the subtle beauties of the bush are plundered and lost, the powers of the forest correspondingly fail. The force that identifies the Warrandyte community will fray. Already the tips are beginning to burn. That which is particularly Warrandyte will vanish in the midsts of the Yarra Valley.

It is in the area of knowledge of our immediate environment that we fall down and allow the degeneration of our forest. Aboriginal people used the bush to great advantage because of their accumulated knowledge.

It all lies there before us. In our own backyards there is enough to begin the process of understanding. The natural forces and energies that weave the bush spirit are concepts that each of us can see and grasp.

Bellbirds sit 10 in a row on a wire over a road. Bare stags in Red and Yellow Box cause me to wonder at their death. Electric short circuits in the power web of forest life. The Bellbirds chime away like holy bells as cars grizzle past my window. Each of us apart, living in little islands within the forest of Warrandyte.

Out in the sea of leaves Manorina rings. It is our impact on the forest that ultimately decides the stores of the birds and animals. Do they call to us that one-one is an island. Do not ask for whom the Bellbirds toll; they toll for their trees, and thee.

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Gymkhana is on the way

The Wyena Pony Club has organised a gymkhana for the school holidays. It will be held in the club grounds on Croydon Road, South Warrandyte, on Tuesday, August 26, and will be open to all riders under the age of 21.

There will be open rings, a novice ring and jumping rings. Championship trophies and sashes will be given to sixth place.

Enquiries: P. Duggan 842 4311, K. Rough 844 3982, or M. Humphreys 844 3731.

Co-op becomes a shop

The original board of directors of the Warrandyte Community Workshop Co-operative suggested, as a project, the sale of products by novice local artists and craftspeople.

This project is now starting. A shop counter was donated to the Co-op by Jill Wain and Di Haskings and is ready to receive products. The proposal is that the Co-op keep displays for six months and retain 20 per cent of sales.

Ring Jean Chapman, 844 2548 or 844 3326, if you wish to become involved.



SHIRE OF ELTHAM ROADSIDE MANAGEMENT OCCASIONAL COMMITTEE

Nominations are invited from persons interested in serving on an Occasional Committee of Council to study Roadside Management with a focus on the problems involved with integrating fire management, road safety, scenic value and the conservation of flora and fauna.

It is proposed that the Committee will consist of community representatives, representatives from statutory bodies, Councillors and Council Officers.

Further information in regard to the function of the Committee may be obtained from the Chairperson, Cr John Fisher, or Shire Engineer, Mr John Stamp.

Nominations should be forwarded in writing to the Chief Executive Officer, Shire of Eltham, PO Box 21, Eltham 3095. Applications close on Friday, 29th August 1986.

Rodney J. Roscholler
Chief Executive Officer



And while we are on the subject of WAC and town planning, so is Jock. The good Mr McNeish penned the above comment the last time the shop near the bridge (Copper Kettle, was it called then?) changed hands. That was a couple of years ago.

Now with the finishing up of Lavender Lane (the closing down sale signs in the window tend to be a giveaway) the Diary's artist-not-in-residence has reached into his dusty portfolio and resurrected this cartoon.

The comment is still appropriate.

Decision time, says WAC chief

The Warrandyte community is at a crossroads, the retiring chairwoman of the Warrandyte Advisory Committee, Jan Liddicut, told the WAC annual general meeting.

"WAC remains constantly disturbed by the rigidity of standardised attitudes that we seem to encounter frequently among many policy-makers and many policy making bodies," said Jan.

"Too often we meet influential people ready to impose the collective and individual might of intellect and position dispossessed of soul on communities like ours who request alternative solutions . . ."

Ms Liddicut went on: "Consequently, we often appear forced to take a stand that seems opposed to progress in regard to town planning, or excessive in regard to human services provisions. It is not uncommon to encounter ridicule of our community spirit, for the community wishes to be ignored, or that we are collectively denounced as elitist troublemakers or weirdo greenies.

"It is not high-handed arrogance to ask for sensitive or alternative considerations for this community."

Ms Liddicut welcomed Doncaster Council's policy on outdoor advertising, saying it offered hope that intrusive advertising can be controlled.

"The saga of the supermarket in the West End appears to be over," she said, "but the problem of the lack of planned and co-ordinated development of the West End is not, as we remain stuck with a bureaucratically safe status quo that falls very short of the potential for the area."

The WAC human resources subcommittee is looking into the best way of acquiring a community bus. The market committee has given \$700 towards the project.

Jan predicted that the days of the present community centre are numbered. Local groups have decided that a joint development of the adjoining area would be the most desirable result for the community.

She said WAC appreciated the help given by Councillor Ken McKenzie of Doncaster/Templestowe and Councillor John Fisher of Eltham, and by Lou Hill, MLA, in supporting the committee's objectives.

Last year, to ease the workload, WAC was split up into three permanent subcommittees: physical resources, handling town planning and environment issues, convened by Greg Thorpe; human services, convened by Louise Joy and dealing with social welfare and family interests; and community centre administration, convened by Jan Liddicut, to manage the centre and promote planning for a new one.

Greg Thorpe and Jan Liddicut stood down at the meeting. Mark Tansley and Martin Kyne were elected to the committee.

Ms Liddicut praised the voluntary work given to the committee, particularly by Jean Chapman, Greg Thorpe, Peter Murphy, Chris Keating and Di Haskings.

She finished her address: "Our community is richly blessed with talented people whose generous spirits allow them to make their time and skills available to the community.

"WAC is the umbrella for all community interest groups and it is a forum for all opinions within Warrandyte. With the support of councillors I urge that support for WAC be maintained and increased, in the same way that WAC is available to support individuals and individual groups in their endeavors.

"We wish the 1986-87 committee great success."

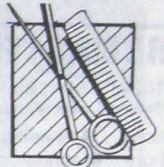
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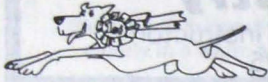
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DIARY ADVERTISING GETS RESULTS

Cross country kids score

Cross country running at Anderson's Creek Primary School is becoming a popular and most successful winter activity.

Children use the fitness track and parts of Streamside Reserve which abut the school.

A few weeks ago the school conducted a house competition for all children from Grades 3 to 6. Those children 10 years and under ran 2000 meters and the 11 years and 12 years groups ran 3000. 'Waratah' was the successful house.

Fifty-four children then competed in the Templestowe District Cross Country, held at Westfolds. Once again, the school was successful and a further 29 children continued on to compete at the zone level.

Six children qualified at this level and went on to compete at the State Cross Country Championships.

Results: Girls 10 years, Karina Reid, 1st; Girls 11, Maude Ruegg, 1st; Girls 12, Rachel Milburn, 6th; Boys 10, Trent Jacobs, 2nd; Boys 12, Bradley Valentine, 5th.

Learn these numbers; they save lives

This is the first of a series of articles that will appear in the Diary to explain how our volunteer fire brigades work and to keep residents informed on matters relating to fire prevention in and around the home.

In the area there are three fire brigades: North Warrandyte, South Warrandyte and Warrandyte. There are also brigades in the surrounding areas of Kangaroo Ground, Wonga Park, Research, Eltham and beyond.

All of these brigades operate as part of the Country Fire Authority and are manned by volunteers from all walks of life from within the community.

The three local brigades are: North Warrandyte (Glynn's Road) 844 3683, South Warrandyte (Brumby's Road) 844 2174, Warrandyte (Harris Gully Road) 844 3798.

The telephone numbers are for five calls only.

It is imperative that when you are reporting a fire to the relevant brigade that you ring the correct

Warrandyte

CFA

News

phone number as listed above. This will save valuable time.

All residents have been issued with a sticker for their telephone which gives the correct number for their area. If you do not have one of these stickers contact your local brigade.

All three brigades have recently commissioned new fire fighting tankers which will assist in providing a better service to the Warrandyte community.

Although the use of modern equipment assists our volunteers in fighting fires, there is no question that the best way is to prevent fires from starting in the first place.

Future articles will deal with fire prevention methods which are sympathetic to our local environment and which should be practiced by all residents.

Wanted: Victorian of the Year

Do you know the 1986 Victorian of the Year? It could be someone who lives or works in Warrandyte or someone you work with: an ordinary person making an extraordinary contribution to Victoria.

Max McDonald, the MLA for Whittlesea, says that if you know someone like this, the Premier would like to hear from you.

The State Government, in association with the Australia Day Committee of Victoria, introduced the award last year to officially recognise an outstanding achievement, or contribution to the community, made by a Victorian.

"There are many people whose hard work, dedication and enterprise is recognised by friends and colleagues, but whose hard work is unknown outside their own community," Mr McDonald said.

"Where would we be if all these people who so willingly worked behind the scenes suddenly stopped — even for a day? These people deserve to be recognised by the whole State," he said.

"Victorian residents with significant achievements in any field of endeavor are eligible for nomination for Victorian of the Year." Nominations can be made by writing a brief letter to the executive director, Australia Day Committee (Victoria), ground floor, the Department of the Premier and Cabinet, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne. The letter should give details of the nominee's achievements.

Nominations should be made before October 10. Final judging will take place in November with the winner announced on Friday, January 23, 1987. For further information contact Mr Murray, executive director, Australia Day Committee (Victoria), 651 5026.

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Help for women is the topic

Lieutenant Heather Thompson, a qualified social worker with the Salvation Army, will be guest speaker at the annual luncheon of the Warrandyte auxiliary of the Brotherhood of St Laurence.

The luncheon will be held at 11 am on Thursday, August 27, at St Stephens Anglican Hall, Stiggants Street.

Lieutenant Thompson and her husband are involved in residential care and work mainly with youth and children and with women.

She will explain the history of the Salvation Army, what it is doing today and its plans for the future, especially relating to the needs of women.

Lieutenant Thompson will also bring a special message from the newly appointed world commissioner, Australian Eva Burroughs.

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Community bus answers wanted

The Warrandyte Advisory Committee is considering the issue of a community bus for Warrandyte.

At issue is whether the committee should buy, lease or make other arrangements for a vehicle, so the extent of need in the village must be known.

WAC organised a questionnaire but supplies were limited and the response small. Questionnaires can still be obtained from WAC. Otherwise people can write to the committee (PO Box 74, Warrandyte) answering several questions.

These include finding out what factors make transport an issue for you. Is it the lack of a vehicle, the absence of a driver, the cost of

transport or the fact that available transport often doesn't go where you want it?

Do you need transport daily, weekly, monthly or for special occasions?

If a community bus were available would you use it around Warrandyte, in the metropolitan area or further afield (for weekend trips, for example)?

A fee for the day (where appropriate) of about \$20 would have to be charged, plus mileage. Or should that be kilometrage these days? How would these charges affect your use of a community bus?

Your answers can be dropped in also to the Co-op.

Here's a toast to ITC

International Training in Communication, a club that nurtures people in public speaking, is getting closer to forming its own branch in Warrandyte.

The club needs only eight more members to charter, and Anita Baragwanath, who is first vice president of the Warrandyte Organising Unit, would like to hear from volunteers.

The cost is a reasonable \$2 per

meeting, and members gather on the second and fourth Mondays of the month at St Stephens church hall between 10 am and 12.30 pm.

Anita says it is very rewarding to see "a splendid group of girls" gain confidence and learn to speak more effectively. She says it is challenging but lots of fun.

Anita can give those interested more information on 844 1092.

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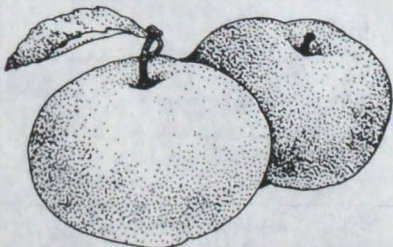
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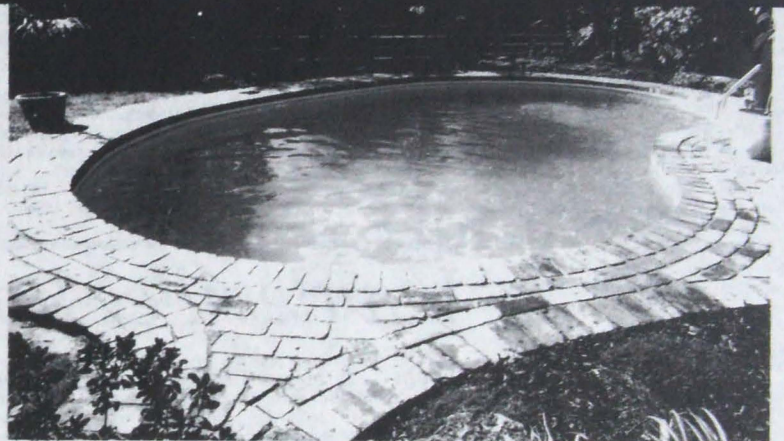
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Good Lord! It's Byron (13 times)

His name is Byron and he lived right up to it in the Forest Hill game. He was poetry in motion.

Bloods full-forward Doug Byron achieved the bizarre distinction of booting 13 goals in a losing score!

His opening stanza was sensational — seven of Warrandyte's eight goals — and coach Denis Clark told his charges at the first break if they kept pumping the ball in Byron's direction, the powerhouse spearhead would do the rest.

His mates, sad to say, didn't keep their end of the deal, but Byron continued to wage a personal war on the FH defence.

Shamefully, the Bloods surrendered what should have developed into a match-winning lead, but every time the situation looked like getting out of hand, it was a Byron goal which bounced us back into the ballgame.

For the record, he kicked 13.1.

For the unaware, he came to Warrandyte this season by way of Southport (Queensland), North Melbourne reserves and Montmorency.

We would much like him to take up long-term residency.

CAUGHT SHORT

At his own request, WFC secretary Anthony Giles-Peters moves to Page 12 of this issue — still, though, on the subject of his quest for new lodgings in Warrandyte.

You may remember his catchcry "A HOME FOR THE GNOME" on Page 2 last time.

Well, Anthony says among the houses he has since inspected is one without a toilet.

Accordingly, he has amended his advertising slogan to "A THRONE FOR THE GNOME".

How we blew it

Or how one kick wiped out our football season

A goal kicked after the siren at Forest Hill has almost certainly ended Warrandyte Football Club's run towards the EDFL finals.

It gave the home side a six-point victory over the Bloods, who had to win to realistically stay in the finals race with two home-and-away games to go.

Warrandyte, who had played top-class football to lead by almost six goals in the first quarter, gave away a 15-metre penalty seconds before the final siren, with scores level.

The siren sounded as a Forest Hill forward went back to line up the goals. A point would have done; the goal he kicked only compounded the Bloods' misery.

A draw would have kept Warrandyte in finals contention, but club officials conceded after the loss that it would need a minor miracle now.

The Bloods had wiped out an

11-point deficit at the final change to twice grab a two-point lead.

It was all tied up when Warrandyte full-forward Doug Byron kicked his 13th goal of the match with two minutes to go.

The Forest Hill mark, the 15-metre penalty, the siren and that kick will haunt the Bloods long after the season's highlights are forgotten.

Club president Jeff Reddie said after the game: "Obviously we're all terribly disappointed. It looks like our season has been decided by one kick."

"After being so far in front in the first quarter, it was unfortunate."

Coach Dennis Clark criticised his players for their inability to team together after the initial onslaught.

"After the first quarter, there was no way we deserved to win that game," he told them.

The Bloods began like a team hell-bent on a premiership. With Byron doing amazing things in front of goal, they led 8.2 to 2.6 before Forest Hill steaded.

Warrandyte took a 20-point lead into the second quarter and increased it almost immediately when captain Robin Golding goalled after a strong mark.

Then Forest Hill came back. They whittled away at their

deficit and trailed by only nine-points at the interval.

The home side hit the front 20 minutes into the third quarter and were looking the better side. Warrandyte's strength — the ability to move to the ball quickly and accurately — had gone missing and the visitors were kept in the game largely by individual efforts (notably Byron, who continued to kick goals).

Goals to Dale McCartin, Byron (his 11th) and Peter Banks early in the final term put Warrandyte back in front.

The lead see-sawed, scores twice levelled, and Byron kicked his 12th and 13th goals before time, luck — and, very likely — Warrandyte's final fling — ran out.

The Bloods' best were Byron (outstanding), Banks, Tony Sinclair, Len Halley, Colin Bawden, Golding and Craig Townsend.

Vaudeville, however, still exists

The immoderate 1986 winter has extended the EDFL season by one week. Fixtures scheduled for Saturday, July 19, were postponed after prolonged rain made most ground surfaces unplayable.

The league ruled that games set down for that day would be played on Saturday, August 23, which was to have been the start of the finals.

In the "catch-up" game, Warrandyte will be at home to The Basin.

The Forest Hill match produced one of football's uglier spectacles — a brawl between a player and a spectator.

The trouble erupted during the second quarter when a Warrandyte supporter, who shall be nameless, clashed with a Forest Hill player on the boundary. Your correspondent was in no position to apportion blame for the incident but it goes without saying that such stuff has no place at any sporting fixture.

Why, you were entitled to ask, were the Bloods sitting on the lawn, under a tree outside the pavilion, at half-time during the game at Forest Hill?

For privacy. It was a darned sight more private out there in the public glare than in the room provided by the hosts. There are few pre-match or half-time secrets between rival camps at Forest Hill. The teams are divided in the pavilion by a flimsy partition and every word of one faction is clearly audible to the other.

Rather than give away his strategy, or pass instructions on by code or handwritten notes, Warrandyte coach Denis Clark wisely chose to take his players outside.

It was a nice afternoon anyway.

It was sweet revenge this time for

Ron Wilson, Warrandyte goalkicking hero of past years and now leading Forest Hill.

The Bloods had easily won the corresponding fixture earlier this season and, just as before, their supporters gave Wilson the predictable raspberry every time he entered the thick of things.

It worried him not a bit and maybe even inspired him.

Wilson was not an outstanding player but generalised his side very well and kicked goals at crucial times.

We have seen this season what the Bloods can do on the field, now let's

see what they can do on the stage.

Warrandyte Football Club will hold a players talent quest at the Whitehouse on Saturday, August 23. And the organisers promise the night will lend new meaning to the expression "anything goes".

The club urges all supporters — even unaligned members of the public — to be there.

WFC will hold its annual presentation night at Eltham Barrel on VFL grand final eve — September 26. Tickets are available from president Jeff Reddie (844 2176) and secretary Anthony Giles-Peters (844 2573).



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