

Warrandyte Diary

PRICELESS

No 173, November 1986

Editorial and Advertising 844 2820

Going barmy on a balmy evening

I tell you it's just not the same any more, chum of my childhood. The relentless march of suburbia, the roundabout...we'll be having traffic lights next.

Easy, easy. Those whisky sours have curdled your kindness.

Gates on tunnels, pines in the park. I suspect they're planning to turn Whipstick Gully into Disneyland Downunder. Gregarious Gumnuts, God's greetings on billboards, Derryn Hinch...grumph!

Steady on. Give him a port.

Jeff Kennett, Bob Hawke, dirty talk in parliament, unleaded petrol, the H. R. Nicholls Society, \$800 million down the

gurgler on the transport system, Daryl Hinch, a VFL team in Brisbane, Peter the Pancake Purveyor shooting through...

Ease up. You'll give yourself an injury.

Warrandyte High kids voting for uniforms, bacteria in the river, articulated buses playing country and western music, Derry What'shisname, Fosters Lager taking over every sporting event, personalised number plates with smartarse names, councils counting your trees and putting medallions on your dogs, stoplights in back windows.

You're making yourself sick.

Hawthorn football team, publicans find-

ing gold, Dr Edelstein, the weather, commercial television, that bloke on 3AW, bloody spring making the bloody grass grow...

They're starting to look at you from the bottle shop.

Automatic tellers that don't tell, Saba ads, Jackie Weaver's husband, Alan Bond, Chesty Bond, Aussie Bonds...AARRGGHH!

What happened?

You had a sort of blackout. I think you were time-warped back to the glorious days of the 60s. The barman should be all right in

a day or two and I've paid for the broken glasses. You've been barred for a week, but that won't trouble us. Feel better?

Once or twice, as the actress said to the bishop. You know, it's nice out here. Balmy evening, the river bashing away in the background. That roundabout is a big improvement. I wonder whether we could do with some lights on the crossing?

By the Lord Harry Gordon, you do come the raw prawn.

How's that?

I said, mate, you must have been got at by a crook prawn.

Our special needs will be studied

Warrandyte's future could be in the balance. Doncaster and Templestowe Council is conducting a study of the Yarra River and its environs that could have far-reaching consequences for our town.

Council has applied for a grant from the federally-funded National Estate for their strategy study.

One of the questions examined will be the nature of the residential area of Warrandyte to determine if the standard planning regulations offer adequate protection for the special values of the area.

The Warrandyte Environment League believes that these regulations do not adequately protect the area.

Meanwhile, Cr John Fisher reports that the Ministry for Planning and Environment is responding positively to arguments in favor of a similar study for the residential areas of Eltham Shire.

Mr Doug Seymour, retiring president of WEL, says Warrandyte must grasp this opportunity to contribute to these studies.

"The City of Doncaster and Templestowe is reacting to pressure from Warrandyte and is looking for a way to convince the Ministry for Planning and Environment that the current planning schemes and regulations do not adequately suit Warrandyte's needs.

"The Ministry, however, has indicated that it will only be persuaded by a proper, documented study. This study is a great opportunity for Warrandyte to state its special case.

"The major question is, what aspects of Warrandyte are worthy of preservation for the future?"

"On the one hand, we have those things that are seen to be important from the angle of tourism. Conversely, there are the special attributes that could apply to us as an 'historic town'.

"I believe neither of these special positions express the particular point of view of the vast majority of residents. Warrandyte is not a tourist resort. Nor is it a museum."

Warrandyte is a living community with a very real desire to preserve and maintain the subtle ingredients of that community. The river, the surrounding bushland, the streetscape of our village, the surviving remnants of our historic heritage, our

rich neighborhood life; these things are important to us.

"But only so far as they relate to our continuing identification of community, our feelings of separate identity," Mr Seymour says.

Warrandyte has existed as a separate community for more than 130 years. That is why these things are important to us. They represent a continuity of human endeavor unrivalled in Victoria.

But they are only important if they are embraced by the entire population; the present Warrandyte community.

"It worries me that the vast majority of the Warrandyte population is not being consulted on these issues. Our sporting clubs, for example, represent the largest concentration of residents. Are they being consulted? What sort of Warrandyte do they want?"

"I strongly suspect that these peo-

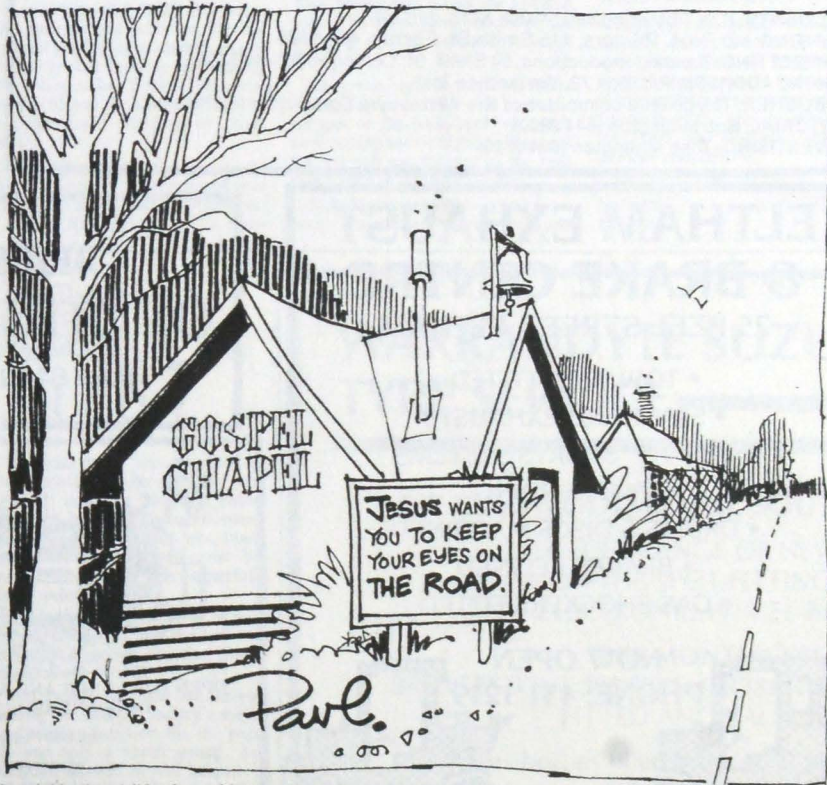
ple want the same sort of Warrandyte I want. As it exists, right at this very moment. But we must be sure of this. And we can only be sure if we ask them."

The only body that can ask these questions — of everyone — is the Warrandyte Advisory Committee. They alone exist to advise both Doncaster-Templestowe and Eltham Councils of the real aspirations of the Warrandyte community.

They alone can speak for all of us. But first they must ask the right questions — and listen to the answers.

"What is worth preserving? What is the real character of Warrandyte? WAC must ask the questions, collate the answers and present a united voice to the bodies that will determine our future," Mr Seymour concluded.

PAGE 7: Define your values, WEL is told.



Go west, young family ... somehow

The family that travels apart stays together.

Ann Hookey, of Kangaroo Ground Road, planned 1986 around a reunion of the Argus family (her mother, Mary Huxtable, was born one of them) in Western Australia and was wondering how to get there.

Children Jane, Bill and Sean came to the rescue with a return air ticket to Perth. Problem solved, you say? Not quite.

Ann had become terrified climbing past the second step on a ladder. Her fear of flying stemmed, so says family lore, from a trip 30 years ago in a piston-engined boneshaker.

"I don't want to worry you," she told the hostess, "but does the pilot know the wing's on fire?" Replied the hostess: "Dear, when you don't see the flames from the exhaust THEN we're in trouble."

But Ann was duty-bound to use the ticket so she steeled herself. Then husband Ian caught the bug. "I'd like to see the West," he declared, and trotted off to make his travel arrangements. Daughter Bronwyn was the last to declare her intentions.

The result: Ann flew, Ian took a bus from Melbourne and Bronwyn slipped up to New South Wales, met a load of Arguses from Wagga and travelled west with them on a chartered bus.

Ann found she loves flying jets, Bronwyn found a whole new heap of relatives and Ian found that you can take a gold detector out of the state to the gold-rich West and still not hear it beep in anger.

And a good time was had by all.

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They're a great mob at Warrandyte High School but they'd have trouble raffling a chook in a pub. No, Smokey takes that back. They'd do far better raffling a chook, judging by the results of the raffle at their Spring Fair. Seven prizes and not one of them went to a Warrandyte resident! You'd reckon none of them had ever heard of the tickets-stuck-the-sleeve ploy.

★ ★ ★

Last month Smokey proudly reported the victories of Kaine and Jarod Pinder of Everard Drive in the recent Australian White Water Slalom Championships on the Howqua River. Well, success is running a banker for young Warrandyte paddlers.

This month we're here to tell you that Richard Macquire (14) of Bradleys Lane took the under-16 title at the same meeting. He also shared first with his partner in the under-18 C2 (two in a canoe) event. But that's not all. At the Australian Sprint Championships (on flat water, an Olympic event) in South Australia in March he took a first, two seconds and a third place.

IN RED & WHITE



And (wait for it) he won the KI slalom event for his age group at the Victorian Titles on the Mitchell River with the best time for the whole competition. Not surprisingly, Richard has been awarded the E.J. Dominic Trophy as the best under-14 Victorian sprint paddler for 1986. He hadn't stepped into a canoe until two years ago.

★ ★ ★

Without a word of a lie, the saints preserve us, but the other day Smokey actually saw people playing on one of those synthetic-surfaced, floodlit-better-than-the-MCG, cost-an-arm-and-part-of-the-torso tennis courts that have sprung up

faster than members of the New Right on the outskirts of our village. And the old fellow thought they were there merely to raise property values!

★ ★ ★

Smokey thought he was seeing things. Dragged across to The Pines shopping centre two days after it opened, he managed to sneak away from an endless debate about pink and yellow tennis tops. Nipped into the newsagents to buy a Herald and browse through the sexy paperbacks, and there he was. Our very own Steve Hobbs of the Warrandyte Newsagency (that's the one opposite the Diary letterbox). Be-

hind the counter, what's more. No, they haven't sold one and bought the other. They've just doubled their chances. Jenny minds the shop in Yarra Street while Steve pioneers out at The Pines.

★ ★ ★

It was about time, his parents thought, that they prepared the five-year-old for trauma. You know, they said, that your teeth will fall out. Don't worry, they added. And remember that if you put the tooth under your pillow the Tooth Fairy will come along and replace it with a coin. "Is that so you can buy some new teeth?" he asked.

★ ★ ★

Mates of Smokey who live in Webb Street and adjacent environs report that emerging on to the main drag these days is a bit like escaping from East Berlin.

On any fair-to-average day they will encounter: (1) cars illegally parked on both sides of both streets — often right on the corners, (2) cars doing u-turns, (3) cars coming out of the fruit shop and/or Getsons parking areas, (4) cars backing into

Webb Street to change direction, (5) cars speeding through the village from both ends, (6) cars cutting the corner into Webb Street, (7) the cavalier use of left-turn indicators and (8) pedestrians strolling nonchalantly across, fondly imagining that the footpath continues across the street. And for cars, also read big trucks. Which is even more exciting.

If local police or the council parking officer care to drop by some time they will fill their little black books. No sweat.

★ ★ ★

Do not adjust your television set, the fault is in the advertiser, specifically those commercials implying that the Alan Bond syndicate is the "official" Australian defender of the America's Cup. For such a neat piece of subterfuge, Smokey can't help hoping that the Kookaburra mob gets the last laugh.

★ ★ ★

If you doubt that the snake season is in full slither, take the word of a North Warrandyte family who early this month despatched four big, plump browns to the vipers' valhalla in the space of a week. The first real blush of summer brought the varmints out — individually, then in multiples — from beneath a hefty bluestone rock within spitting distance, literally, of the front door. As much as the reluctant hosts respect the balance of nature and legislation which protects snakes in the wild, they figured this was beyond the Harry Butler philosophy. And full marks for accuracy-with-trembling-hands go to the Little Lady of the House who delivered a fatal fix to the biggest of them all with a loaded flowerpot dropped deftly from the balcony.

★ ★ ★

It's not surprising that David Hart has no intentions of prospecting further after finding an ounce-and-a-half nugget at the back of his Grand Hotel. Everyone knows that a pub is a goldmine anyway.

Smokey Joe



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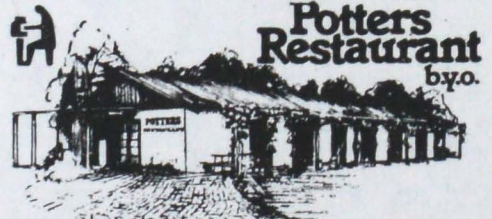
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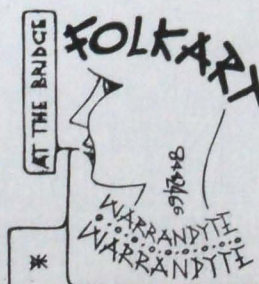
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CAB's library link

The Warrandyte Citizen's Advice Bureau has decided to splurge the remainder of its information grant on buying a Microbee computer and linking the centre with the Box Hill Doncaster Regional Library.

CAB chairwoman Louise Joy says: "This means we will have access to more than 3000 information listings and to the catalogue of books."

"A branch of the library is to be installed at the Pines Shopping Centre. People will be able to check up on a book at the CAB and order it to be delivered to the Pines."

The CAB's temporary office is now open three days a week at the back of the community centre. The hours are: Mondays, 1-3 pm; Wednesdays, 9.30 am-12.30; Fridays, 1-3 pm. The telephone number is 844 2985.

Sally George masterminded the opening, and with husband Alan in support cleared away some of the long grass. Says Louise: "The entrance is still tortuous, but with the help of service clubs and council we are hoping for improvements."

Three new volunteers — Leigh Podporin, Val Smith and Marie Mander — have started training but more are needed. The CAB will be able to open longer when it has more staff.

The first public education evening sponsored by the bureau in conjunction with Warrandyte High School was organised by Linda Draeger and Eilish Cooke. The topic was 'Sex, Drugs and Driving', and the legal issues were stressed.

Louise Joy says the bureau plans to have free legal advice available at the bureau. Already the CAB has



Lou Hill, MLA, visited the CAB office and saw the work of the volunteers.

had enquiries about vehicle roadworthiness and Workcare.

A former trade union organiser, Colin Bentley, is available for consultation on work-related problems.

Louise says the CAB recognises that some people with confidential personal or family problems might feel more comfortable in seeking help outside the Warrandyte area. For this reason the CAB keeps a list of professional services in other areas.

The Warrandyte CAB will be moving into part of the restored post office. The target date is December. Builder Ray Kelsey is now com-

pleting stage two of the restoration project. This involves finishing off the exterior, including verandah trim, doors, windows and paintwork.

The old postal chamber and two back rooms will house the CAB at first. The right hand rooms of the building will be restored in stage three.

They will become the CAB interviewing rooms, along with a peaceful spot on the wide back verandah overlooking the river. The Historical Society will use the rest of the post office for a permanent display.

Judy Macdonald says grants from both Doncaster/Templestowe and

Eltham Councils to the CAB have enabled work to continue on the building. The preservation group committee, "with tremendous support from the community", raised \$30,000 towards the cost.

Judy says the group is looking at ways to ensure the future maintenance of the building. It envisages a small committee of management with members from interested parties such as the preservation group, the CAB, the National Trust and perhaps councillors.

The post office is listed by the National Trust as a "significant" building.

School is \$10,000 richer after fair

Warrandyte High School's Spring Fair, held last month, raised about \$10,000 to buy equipment for the new school.

Pam Egglestone reports that the big money-spinners were the craft stall, which took more than \$1200, and the sweets stall and preserves, which between them gathered about \$1000.

Children were catered for with a haunted house, penny arcade and a dunk-the-teacher attraction, not surprisingly very popular with students.

'Social Cohesion' got its act together (pun intended) and serenaded the crowd on the basketball court. When rain stopped play the band moved inside to a classroom and took its audience along.

Pam Egglestone says the success of the fair was due largely to its director, Barbara Wickes, and her assistants.

The results of the monster raffle were:

1st prize: Jim Byrne, Doncaster; **2nd:** Lindy Nield, Doncaster; **3rd:** Sylvan Della, Research; **4th:** Mr Pennell, Eltham; **5th:** J. La Grutta, Donvale; **6th:** Andrew Kolloosche, Lilydale; **7th:** Wayne Murray, Templestowe.

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Lilac Time to bloom in '87

The newly-revived Warrandyte Lilac Time Ball is to be an annual event once more.

The Historical Society, organisers of last month's highly successful ball, have been inundated with requests for more of the same, and have already booked the Mechanic's Institute hall for 'lilac time', 1987.

Traditionally, the Lilac Time Ball was the high point of the Warrandyte social calendar from the 1930s right through to the late 1950s. The Warrandyte Historical Society organised the 1986 ball to mark its 10th anniversary.

All the old favorites were included: 50-50 dancing, lucky spots, a balloon dance, a belle of the ball contest (won by Jo Laurence) and a sumptuous supper. The hall was beautifully decorated with lilac and white streamers and huge bunches of locally grown lilac blossom.

Splendid music was provided by The Society Swingers led by Paul Arnaud, and Ian McCann entertained as MC and featured vocalist. A number of ladies who made their debut at the ball over the years were given an especially warm welcome.

Ruby Arnaud, Historical Society secretary, reports that the ball was not only a social success but a financial one as well.

"So much so, that we intend making the ball the society's major fund-raising function for the year. We are only a small group, but everyone pitched in and helped — before, during and after the ball.

"The response has been quite overwhelming, both from people who live here now and others who came back to Warrandyte especially. A lot of people will be quite upset if we don't go on with it. We don't intend disappointing them."

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JOHN HUTCHINSON

A life tuned to his town

by Robert White

He could be seen walking along Yarra Street. The legs a little bowed, his familiar brown jacket spread wide by hands that filled pockets you often felt reached to his knees.

It was a contented swagger topped off with a beaming smile that greeted everyone with a warm hello long before he opened his mouth to speak.

John Hutchinson was everyone's friend and there are few in the community who have not suffered in some way by his loss.

Warrandyte lost more than a family link with the town's past when John died late last month at the age of 75. It lost a character who helped shape the lifestyle and traditions on which the community has been built.

For John was how we saw ourselves fitting in with the town. His life was simple and relaxed; he cared for the community in which he lived and he had a sincere interest in both the highs and the lows of the individual.

Mrs Ethel Adams knew John almost all his life. In his schooldays, John played with Mrs Adams' brother Ron.

"He and Ron were very close friends. He was a lovely person. All the Hutchinsons were lovely people," she said. "They were a quiet family, very reserved and never got in anyone's way."

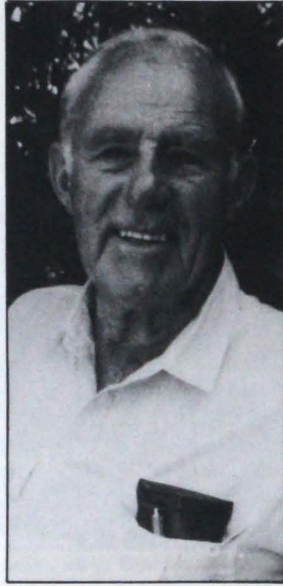
The Hutchinson family's involvement with Warrandyte dates back to 1855 when the first John Hutchinson was appointed poundkeeper here. A member of the family held the position until 1957.

Tracing the history of the Warrandyte pound, local historian Bruce Bence discovered that the first John Hutchinson played an important role in building the local school. He also helped surveyors as they built the Pound Bend Tunnel.

The first John Hutchinson was a justice of the peace and a trustee of the Anderson's Creek Cemetery when it was established in April 1867. Again, it was a tradition carried on: our John Hutchinson was a member of the trust when he died.

Trust secretary Terry Sloan described John as a long-serving member who had been determined to see the cemetery develop into an important community asset.

"He really wanted to make



John Hutchinson

the cemetery a showpiece," he said. "John will be a hard man to replace. He was always a happy bloke and he had been around so long that he seemed to know everyone and they knew him. He had a great love for Warrandyte and had the town at heart at all times."

John represented the district on Doncaster and Templestowe Council between 1948 and 1954. Again, it was an example of carrying on the family tradition: grandfather William Hutchinson sat on the council for 11 years from 1878.

Former Doncaster and Templestowe town clerk and shire secretary Jack Thompson remembered John Hutchinson as "down-to-earth". He said this was reflected by his attitude when shire president.

John held the first shire president's ball within the boundaries of Doncaster and Templestowe. Beforehand, the president's ball was danced either at Box Hill or Ringwood.

With his ties to the district, John Hutchinson played his part in helping discover stories and facts from the past. He had an important role in the centenary celebrations of the Warrandyte Primary School and was among the first members of the Warrandyte Historical Society.

Society president Ted Rotherham described John as a "good, hard-working member" of the group. "We are all shocked by his death.

Alma Hutchinson said she was overwhelmed by the number of people who attended John's funeral. She wanted to apologise to the many people whom she was unable to talk to and thank before and after the service.

She said that a mix-up over a funeral car had meant that she and her family arrived late at the church.

He was a fine character and we will miss him greatly," he said.

John Hutchinson's memories of the district are not lost. The historical society has a tape recording of his reminiscences of growing up and living in the town.

What Warrandyte people thought about John Hutchinson was clearly shown at his funeral at St Stephen's Anglican Church on October 30. People paid tribute to his life in one of Warrandyte's biggest such gatherings.

John is survived by his wife Alma, son John and daughters Julie, Sue and Din.

CENTRE PAGES: The pound at the bend.

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Just a ritual of a small town

Thomas, Ballanger, Ellis, Velde, Wilson, Conlan, Sleeth, Rennie, Peterson, Keam, Hodgson.

Life is made up of little rituals. The kindergarten annual dinner dance is one of them.

The North Warrandyte Kindergarten held its yearly get-together in the community centre on the last Saturday in October. Some 70 people turn up. There could have been more but there are enough.

The disc jockey-MC, a kindly bespectacled bloke from Kinglake with an arrangement of woofers and tweeters that would not disgrace the EMI studios, plays Glenn Miller's 'In the Mood' and tries to entice dancers to the floor.

"C'mon you lot. You can't leave Ian and Rosemary dancing alone. There's plenty of room; the lights are low and nobody's gonna notice your mistakes."

We have a variety of styles, mainly shuffles. Some remember the twist. The memories of others extend back to good 'ol basic rock 'n' roll.

All dance under the sign that reads 'Your Community Centre Needs You — if an incoming committee cannot be found the management of the hall will revert to the council.'

Janet Ballanger, the lady in red, wins the door prize, a painting. "It's the first thing I've ever won — well apart from primary school — I'm delighted."

McLean, Cuttris, Marchi, Potasnik, Crawle, Kerr, Boyle.

A light globe is found for the men's lavatory, not before one of the guests finds himself empty but locked in the dark. Where's the handle? Gone! Escape out the win-



The Pointer Sisters, Shakin' Stevens and spin the bottle.

dow? That would spoil the clobber. Think! Ah, ha. It's a kindergarten. His second moment of relief comes when he finds the door handle two feet off the floor.

The meal is magnificent: spit-roast beef slaved over by half a dozen fathers with different techniques for the best part of the day. Roast potatoes in foil and 20 bowls of salad to go with it.

The diners sip beer, champagne, orange juice, cask red or white and Orlando Maison non-alcoholic wine.

Brown, George, Fanhl, Peak and Butler.

The Pointer Sisters, Rolling Stones, Shakin' Stevens, Lou Rawls. The MC plays spin the bottle — it's

an empty 1985 Saltram white burgundy — for a bottle of champagne. Have the spout point at you and you're out. Kerry and John Boyle win it. Those dance lessons last year at Arthur Murray in Ringwood have paid off.

Debbie McLean and associates have masterminded a successful night. Faces linked with five-year-olds now have names put to them.

And now there are husbands as well.

Next year most of the children will have moved off to school and the faces will have changed. But tentative friendships will have formed and older ones been reinforced.

Just one of the rituals of a small town. But the town is richer for it. **BOB MILLINGTON**

Take a bow, everyone

The next edition of the Diary will be the last for the year and it must be out early, so a special plea: contributions before the end of November, please.

And, although we realise not everyone has access to a typewriter, we really lap up double-spaced typewritten copy. This is especially so now that our typesetters have bought a new-fangled contraption which scans the typewritten words and converts them semi-automatically into type.

Warrandyte people have responded splendidly to our call for contributions but we'll still cop more. Many thanks for your letters: our letters columns are livelier than they have ever been.

We'll return in February, having cooled our overheated typegauges. In the meantime, our thanks to the people without whom (literally) this paper would not be possible: Cliff Green for his advice and support and sparkling stories; Lee Tindale for the sports pages and for

just being Lee Tindale; R.W. Fotheringham for the smooth working of our accounts; Ken McKenzie and John Fisher for patiently explaining the workings of local government, Jean Chapman for always finding a story, and Jock, for being the best cartoonist outside of Tandberg.

Thanks as well to Mark Davis, Robert White, Jenny Wilmot, Louise Joy, Mal Morgan, Bruce Bence, Alan Cornell, Judy McDonald and lots more.

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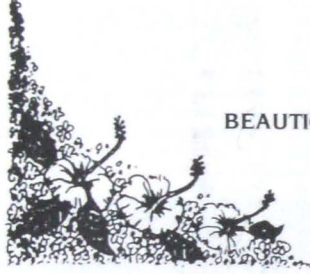
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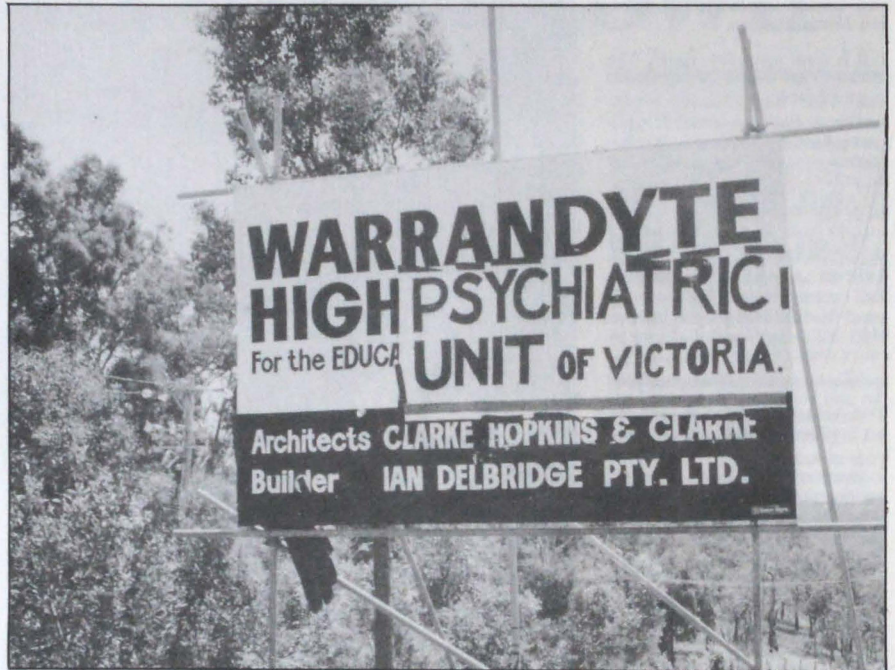
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Guess which HSC mob broke up today



Oh well, it seems like the patients have escaped.

Of Jordan's Banks and Camomel Tea

November, 1886: The third lecture and songs in aid of the funds for repairing our church took place in that building on Thursday evening, the 11th inst. Mr Hutchinson in the chair.

Our admirable choir sang during the evening anthems "Praise the Lord", "Oh, Jordan's Banks" and "Beautiful Eden". Mr W. Ross Oulson sang "Death of Nelson", "Wings" and "Camomel Tea".

Mr Sadler delivered his lecture on "Mirth and Laughter and its Conduciveness to Health", giving a description of the chest and the meeting of the blood with the air received in inspiration, &c.

He then gave a clever sketch of the lives of the great humorists, with readings from Mark Twain and Artemus Ward. The amusing anecdotes also were well given and received by the audience.

A cordial vote of thanks was passed to the Chairman, Mrs Holloway for loan of piano, the gentlemen who brought it to the church, the worthy lecturer, also to Mr Oul-

son and our admirable choir. The collection amounted to 1 pound 16 shillings, making a total of 6 pounds for the three lectures.

Death has been very busy with us. Two of our oldest residents passed away last Thursday. Mrs Hosford, aged 70 and Mr William Cargill, blacksmith, aged 71 years.

Both were highly respected inhabitants of many years' standing and they leave a blank that will not easily be filled up.

There is nothing of importance in mining matters. The "Yarra Tunnel" are progressing satisfactorily with their sinking.


ANDERSON'S CREEK POLICE COURT

Mr Hare P.M. and Wm. Hutchinson J.P.

Police v. Lorenzo Phillips. — Charged with insulting behaviour. Fined 20 shillings or 7 days' imprisonment.

Police v. John Dynes. — Charged with insulting behaviour. Fined 5 pounds or one month's imprisonment.

How We Lived



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

S. Cutts v. Lorenzo Phillips. — Charged with wilfully damaging property. Fined 5 shillings and 15 shillings damages.

Now's your chance to hire a local trier

Each month the *Warrandyte Diary* publishes the names of two job-seekers. If you need a job done, we ask you to consider hiring, as a community service, one of our triers.

Janice, 19, has a child care aide

certificate and would like work in this field if possible. But she is willing to try any other position.

Marina is 20 and has a half-time job. She wants another half-day job or full-time work. She has experience in clerical work, typing,

word processing, photocopying and bookkeeping.

Anyone able to help is asked to contact Jean Chapman on 844 2528 or 844 3326.

Another project by the Warrandyte Community Workshop Co-operative Ltd.

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ROB BUTCHER

Tree case and the WEL

The October Diary reported on legal action being taken by the City of Doncaster and Templestowe in relation to the removal of five eucalypt trees from the roadside fronting the Warren Glen Nursery.

The league has followed up on the initial report to council by one of our members because it was horrified by what had happened. The Warrandyte community should acknowledge council's decision on this matter, as roadside trees are as much our property as bus shelters, telephone boxes and street lights. There is increasing appreciation of the value of roadside verges. And Warrandyte still has some remnant areas.

Residents need not be concerned that membership of the league will involve frequent consideration of individual cases such as this. The Warrandyte Environment League jealously guards its reputation, and cases such as this are very rare.

Doug Seymour and Kevin Parker

Tourist season begins

The heat of Cup Day '86 brought out the worst of the tourists along the banks of the Yarra. Four young canoeists had to run the gauntlet of bottles, cans and mud being thrown

letters

at them as they paddled from Koonung to the Tunnel.

The debris left along the banks is unbelievable and heralds the commencement of summer in Warrandyte.

Provan

A high time at Lilac Time

The Historical Society is to be congratulated on coming up with the idea of resurrecting the Lilac Time Ball. Many I have spoken to said that it is one of the best nights they have had for a while. The band was really professional, keeping the evening lively, and certainly a lot of work was put in by the society members in decorating the old hall and in preparing the great supper.

Let's hope that this becomes an annual event, rather than waiting for the 20th birthday.

John Hanson

Inaccessible Warrandyte

I write on behalf of our association members in regards to the goldmine and wildflower areas of War-

randy State Park being inaccessible to people in wheelchairs.

The Australian Government made 1981 the year for the disabled with the slogan "Break Down the Barriers". This is not apparent at the reserve. We urge the authorities to provide people with disabilities a chance to admire nature at its best.

Our association promotes an awareness to the community for people with disabilities, and would only be too happy to be of assistance to the authorities should they require it.

M. Rabel,

Secretary,
Spina Bifida Association
of Victoria

And more on those trees

Congratulations to our local councillors, Doncaster and Templestowe Council and the Warrandyte Environment League for their recent actions which resulted in a prosecution for the removal of five eucalypts from outside Warren Glen Nursery.

If we are to have any hope of retaining the natural vegetation along our roadsides and in council reserves, now and in the future, both private citizens and public authorities must be made aware that when there is an infringement of council by-laws, swift punitive action will follow.

Carole Lush

Define your values, WEL is told

Town planner John Bayly identified the definition of the special values of Warrandyte as a priority for those interested in conserving the character of Warrandyte.

Mr Bayly was guest speaker at the 16th annual general meeting of the Warrandyte Environment League, held at Pancakes-on-the-Yarra on October 21. Fifty members and friends took the opportunity to hear John speak on "Conservation and Development Priorities — looking back and looking forward."

Introducing the speaker, retiring president Doug Seymour said the league committee was reviewing the organisation's participation in planning and wanted to encourage

residents to become more aware of the importance of participation in planning.

Mr Bayly described the definition of values as a means of "staking a claim" in this complex world. "Look back and define what you want to preserve and look forward to future pressures and alternatives," he said.

The talk and discussion covered such issues as a likely considerable increase in Australia's population, the custodial role Warrandyte residents have and the need for reform of the planning appeals system. He concluded by remarking that "planning was more than a legislative process — it was about human foresight".

The meeting re-elected Kevin Parker, Doug Seymour, Gary McKelvie, Tony and Debbie Shepherd, Alan Noy, Gay Harris, Anne Warren and John Beardall to the committee. Councillor John Fisher will continue to take a close and valuable interest in the league. Kevin Parker will take the chair for 1987.

It was voted to incorporate the league, this project being funded by a community development grant from the Shire of Eltham.

Everyone enjoyed the dinner meeting, agreeing that this was a pleasant way to conclude another very busy year for the Warrandyte Environment League.

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150 x 38	\$2.73 LM
125 x 125	\$6.89 LM
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140 x 12	\$1.15 LM
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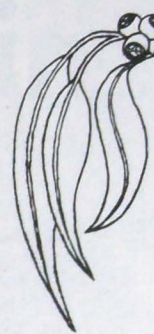
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The night the 'Dyde went crackers

By CLIFF GREEN

*Please to remember
The Fifth of November,
Gunpowder, treacle
And blot...*

That's how I thought the old Guy Fawkes nursery rhyme went when I was a child.

I grew up at Sunshine, then on the outer edge of the western suburbs, during the Second World War. We knew all about things that went bang in the night.

Ringed by army camps, we had the Maribymong munitions factory at one end of the district, the Deer Park ICI explosives complex at the other, the Williamstown Rifle Range a bike ride away, an enormous RAAF supply depot across the paddocks in Tottenham, and a sort of boiling down works for old First World War firearms at the end of a seemingly endless single railway track. This was a favorite haunt.

We crawled under the high barbed fence and crawled out again with all manner of antique ordnance. One day my mate and I (we were all of eight years old) managed to stagger back with a somewhat scorched Hotchkiss machine-gun, only to have the biggest member of our gang extort it from us in exchange for a .303 with the stock burned off and a .22 cadet rifle with a bent barrel.

My mate's big brother worked on the .303 with oil can and screwdriver until he got the action working smoothly. He clamped it in their father's woodworking vise, loaded it with a bullet someone had 'found', attached string to the trigger, walked well away and pulled. The rifle exploded, blowing a hole in the side of the corrugated iron shed.



Which brings me to Guy Fawkes' Night. You couldn't buy fireworks during the war, of course. But then who needs crummy commercial fireworks? A smorgasbord of explosive material was freely available. From the signal detonators we prised off the railway lines on foggy mornings, to the raw ingredients of bombs and artillery shells.

I have witnessed many fireworks displays since. Moomba; the opening of the Sydney Opera House; a humdinger of a show one night in Montreal. But nothing to rival cracker night in Sunshine, circa 1943.

Until Warrandyte, Friday, November 6, 1981.

Warrandyte has a long tradition of explo-

sive enterprise. Apart from sundry mining and quarrying disasters, there was that lunatic who used to ignite a keg of dynamite down near the old wooden bridge at midnight every New Year's Eve.

But 1981 still takes the prize. The State Government had announced they were about to ban the sale of fireworks. And not before time. This was The Year of the Last Big Bang.

Entrepreneurial as always, the Warrandyte Advisory Committee and our local Apex and Lions Clubs decided to get together and mark the occasion with a magnificent, albeit totally safe, bonfire and cracker night.

The event was planned as a double-bunger. As well as the fireworks display, the 'new' Community Centre, on the Getson Motors site, was to be officially opened. "Guy Fawkes' last stand: Getsons to go with a bang!" read the explosive headlines in the *Diary*.

There was an added element of sacrificial ceremony. The bonfire itself was composed of a large pile of eucalyptus branches, kindly supplied from the SEC's controversial tree-logging program.

This great bonfire stood in the centre of the open space behind Getsons. The site was ringed with local fire brigade trucks. Alan Alder and his State Emergency Service vehicles were on stand-by.

In pride of place was the long trailer

provided by the service clubs, manned by their most stalwart members. Metal rubbish bins placed along the trailer were filled as one family after another arrived, contributing their entry fee: a paper bag of fireworks, the last that would be legally purchased in Victoria.

It grew dark, the bonfire was lit, sky rockets were set in pots along the trailer, catherine wheels were fastened to a board along the back, the community centre was officially opened and the fireworks display began; magnificently.

Memories are now jaded and recollections unreliable, but it was possibly the third sky rocket to be lit that started it all. Probably faulty, it fizzed a metre or so into the air, then turned over and fell; right into a bin full of fireworks.



The results were immediate and singularly dramatic. The whole lot went up. Golden rain rained. Catherine wheels spun and wheeled in great showers of sparks across the trailer and through the crowd.

Sky rockets rocketed. Not always straight up into the night sky as was their

designed purpose. Sometimes they stayed low, snaking towards gleefully shrieking children like Cruise missiles evading Soviet radar across a Siberian landscape.

Nor was the conflagration confined to one container. Errant double-bungers and jumping jacks bounced skittishly from bin to bin, setting each one alight in turn. After a few desperate efforts to avoid impending disaster, the service club stalwarts jumped to safety.

At first the dozens of volunteer firemen present were too astonished to comprehend their good fortune. On duty at every open-air Warrandyte function since the Armistice celebrations, they had never before been called upon to demonstrate their stoic bravery in front of an entire community.

Within minutes, however, knapsack sprays had been shouldered, hoses unrolled and coupled to fire hydrants and the exploding, sparkling, squealing night chaos was full of rushing water and hissing steam. They extinguished the fireworks and the bonfire and wet down everything in sight, sending councillors and other local officials, children and their parents running for cover. Those who hadn't been swept off their feet by the water jets, that is.

Soon all was quiet and soggy. A few minor burns were treated and everyone went home, well satisfied. The greatest bonfire of them all. A night to remember.



The pound at the Bend

Warrandyte pound was established on June 1, 1854 at a site on what is now the corner of Everard Drive and Pound Road, just above Pound Bend Reserve.

There was little fencing in those days and straying stock was a constant problem, so the provision of a pound was an early priority.

The first Warrandyte poundkeeper was a Mr John James, but he was replaced six months later by Mr John Hutchinson.

John Hutchinson arrived from Lorne, County Antrim, Ireland in 1854, settling at Warrandyte, in the area that was to become known as Pound Bend.

His diary records that he attended the opening of the Warrandyte Hunting Club on Friday May 13, 1859, when the club went "Kangarooing". In November the same year he was assisting mining

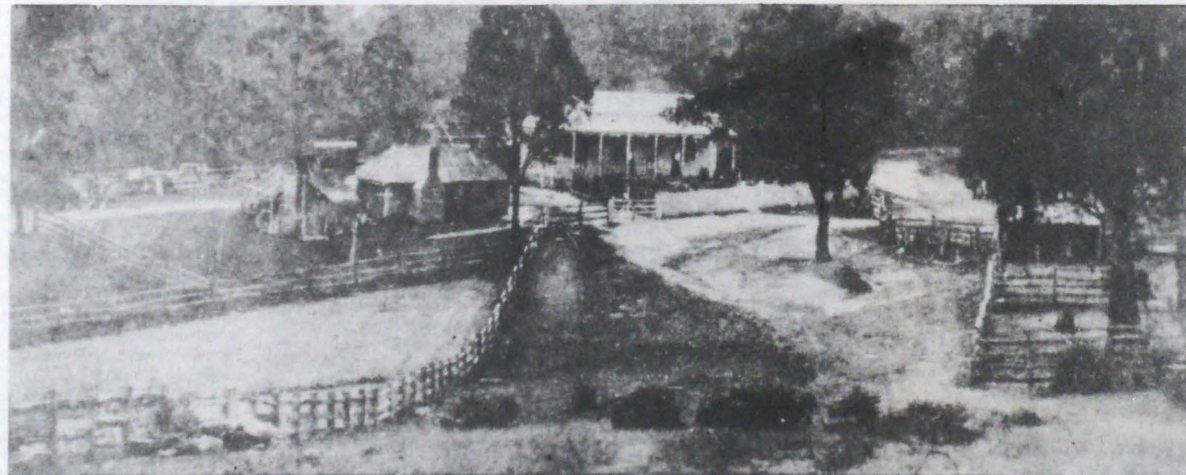
surveyors who were surveying the neck of Pound Bend in preparation for the cutting of a tunnel to divert the river so the bed could be prospected for gold.

John Hutchinson played a vigorous role in community

Warrandyte mourned the death last month of John Hutchinson, prominent member of an historic local family. BRUCE BENCE tells the story of the Hutchinsons of Warrandyte pound.

life. On 8 September 1864 he was at Warrandyte pulling down the old school house, the following day he was at home writing specifications and tender notices for the replacement building, and a week later he was cutting timber for the new school house.

He was a justice of the peace and became a trustee of the Andersons Creek Cemetery when it was established in April 1867. He



"Yarraholm" the Hutchinson property at Pound Bend, about 1860. The pound enclosures are at the right, with Pound Road running between.

moved away from Warrandyte in March 1871, having

Warrandyte mourned the death last month of John Hutchinson, prominent member of an historic local family. BRUCE BENCE tells the story of the Hutchinsons of Warrandyte pound.

built the Olinda Hotel at Lilydale. He then became poundkeeper at Lilydale.

William Hutchinson, John's brother, was appointed poundkeeper in his place. William arrived from Ireland in 1859 and after some years mining in New Zealand and Australia took over his brother's property at Pound Bend.

William married a Miss Blair in 1873. He became a councillor and a justice of the peace, and regularly presided on the bench at the Ander-

son's Creek Court.

Another brother, Joseph Hutchinson, was appointed poundkeeper at Morang in 1854, a position he occupied for many years.

William Hutchinson remained poundkeeper at Warrandyte until his death in July 1896. His 17-year-old son John was then appointed to the position.

The poundkeeper's job was no easy sinecure. There were often large numbers of stock in the pound to be fed and watered by hand, and owners were far from happy at finding their animals impounded. These were hard times and they resented having to pay the recovery fees.

By special local arrangement residents of the district were allowed a sustenance rate of one shilling (10 cents) per day, as against non-residents, who were charged two shillings and sixpence (25 cents) for each day their animal was in the pound.

"Young" John Hutchinson grew oats, which he harvested and stacked to feed his own stock and the impounded animals; mostly horses and cattle in those days.

The haystacks were full of mice and these in turn attracted snakes. On one occasion John carried an armful of hay some distance from the stack and dropped it over the pound fence. A large and

angry snake fell out.

With the coming of motor cars, horses were no longer in demand, and unwanted animals were often turned loose to forage for themselves. Needless to say, they finished up in the pound.

Their poor condition and the lack of demand resulted in little interest in the regular auctions where impounded animals were offered for sale. It was often necessary to round up the entire Hutchinson family to ensure that enough people attended the auction to satisfy regulations.

A number of horses impounded in 1927 were in such poor condition that they sold at prices down to one shilling (10 cents) each. The

amount recovered did not even cover feeding costs and Council approved payment of 15 pounds (\$30) to the poundkeeper to recoup his loss.

Prior to the 1939 fires, the pound fence was a substantial structure four rails high. Even so, some animals managed to escape.

Two horses that jumped the fence fell over the cliff into the outlet from the tunnel, sliding down the rock-face on their haunches and into the water. Both were rescued unscathed.

Warrandyte pound was a home away from home for many local animals. One horse from Wonga Park was

a regular visitor. He escaped from his own paddock on numerous occasions, always turning up at the Bend a few days later, having actually broken back into the pound.

The fires of January 13, 1939 hit the pound with appalling speed. Mrs Hutchinson saw the fire coming from the direction of Alexander Road. She was still on the phone to the brigade when the cypress pines in front caught fire and the front wall of the house collapsed.

The family had barely enough time to put a few possessions out on the road

before taking refuge in the river.

Their house and all the buildings and fences were destroyed. There was no trace left of the possessions they had placed on the road. The pound fences were also gone and had to be rebuilt.

John Hutchinson retired as poundkeeper in 1957 and Mrs Duddy was appointed to the position, thus breaking a century-long association with the Hutchinson family.

John's fee as poundkeeper in his last year was 20 Pounds (\$40). The amount was raised to 25 Pounds (\$50) on the appointment of Mrs Duddy.

The pound was again destroyed by fire in January 1962. A temporary enclosure was erected on Cr Alan Croxford's property and straying stock were rounded up and driven to Croxfords' by Wally and Geoff Riddle, with the assistance of Bob Tresize and another rider.

For the first time in many years, horsemen armed with stockwhips were seen driving stock along the main street and through the township.

After the 1962 fires the pound was moved to a site adjacent to the council quarry at the north side of the junction of Andersons Creek Road and the Warrandyte-Heidelberg Road.

A HANDSHAKE WITH THE MOON — in the village of Warrandyte

it's like this with you and me di
we're both a little crazy and it helps
knowing it and it helps caring for each other
and i'm glad i'm the village idiot
in my own home you're the only woman
i'd keep my marbles for!

— and sometimes
when you're not looking i watch you tend the flowers
and in return i know you're tended by them
and i know it's hard out there with its
overworked ideas and undernourished dreams
and people speaking words sour as lemons
but not smelling like lemons! and the absurd system
with its greatest good for the greatest number
and somehow missing out! and you and me
and our plastic cards shoved in the slot
of a machine and sent to circular eternity!

— but the morning gusts of wind
make the wooden house moan deliriously
and the blue gums the japanese maple
the plum and silver birch dance
like wanton ballerinas all out of step
while the larrikin magpies warble from honest
throats get the drift of things change trees
raise and ruffle their colours with the leaves
— and outside my window
there's growth in the soil carnage in the cities
and there are those who would destroy our village
who would laugh to hear me say
that at night there's always my handshake
with the moon

MAL MORGAN

This is the leading poem from Mal Morgan's new book, of the same name, to be published early next year.

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The bare facts on our local trees

It may have been the Year of the Dog in China (it could have been the Year of the Aardvaark, too, for all the information available to the Diary at this stage) but in Warrandyte, for International Children's Week in October, it was the Year of the Bear.

The kids at Warrandyte Primary — preps, grade one and grade two — had a heap of activities centred around the shaggy one. There was a visit by Paddington Bear and a Teddy Bear's Picnic at Stiggants Reserve, where the children enjoyed bear races and a hunt the bear competition.

There was also a bear parade where bears were awarded certificates in categories including most-loved bear, best-dressed bear and happiest bear.

A name the bear competition was held to raise money for less-fortunate children. Sixty-five dollars was gathered towards sponsoring a child under the World Vision Scheme.

The winner of the panda bear was Nathan Kenney, who chose the name 'Su Lin' for it.

The Warrandyte Primary pupils also wrote some stories about their teddy bears, and the Warrandyte Diary has pleasure in giving these budding journalists their first media exposure.

My Bears

I have three teddy bears. One is yellow. One is brown and the last one is black and white. I like all of them. My teddy has a black nose. All three of them do, and my sister thinks they are cute. My sister has about seven toys. One is Ratty. My bears are Sam, Ted and Sally. They want me to say hello to you and to say goodbye when you go. It is Sam's birthday on the 24th October. He is two. This is their goodbye and goodbye from me and Sally. She is a panda and at school we are having a competition to guess a panda bear's name.

I'm sorry that I made a mistake about saying goodbye earlier in the story. Our grade is reading bear stories, making a bear at Art and making bear mobiles at school. We are having a teddy bear's picnic on the next sunny day because it has been too wet in the last few days

LEG WAXING

Ring Lorie
870-6766

and too cold. We listened to a tape and then Mrs Reynolds had it for her class to listen to it. The songs were the Bear Hunt and the Teddy Bears Picnic. I liked talking about bears at school and at home I read my Paddington Bear and Winnie the Pooh books.

Alison Garner

Teddymania

One night in Teddyland Ruffstuff 1 and Ruffstuff 2 were going to have a boxing match. "Get to your start-



ing position," said the referee. Ding, ding, ding, ding and it is the first round. Ruffstuff 1 is down, correction, he's up. Ding, ding, ding, ding went the bell and Ruffstuff 2 is throwing everything at Ruffstuff 1 except the bathroom sink, correction everything including the bathroom sink. Ruffstuff 2 is down 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10, and Ruffstuff 1 is the champ. Good bye for now.

Luke Stickels

My Teddy Bear

My teddy is yellow, with black eyes. He has a little black nose and a little red tongue. I take him to bed and sometimes he falls off both sides of my bed. Sometimes the left. Sometimes the right. I love my teddy bear, do you?

Amber McKellar

My Bear

I love my teddy bear because my teddy bear helps me to sleep. She is my best friend. My teddy bear has a red dress with white spots. I have taken my teddy bear everywhere, even to the bush and Queensland. My teddy bear hasn't got a name.

Miranda Kenney

My Teddy

My Teddy is yellow. His name is Peter. I've had him for a few years. He's got one eye. Mum found one more except it's red and the other eye is brown but I don't care. Mum's going to sew it on tonight.

Huon Seymour

My Teddy Bears

I love my bear because it helps me make my bed and clean up my bedroom. He's the best bear in my bedroom. I love him a lot. His name is Bobby. What's your bear's name? I know Laura's teddy's name. It is Ted. I like Ted. He plays with my other teddy bears and sometimes they both have a fight and Laura and I feel sorry for them. I love my teddy bear a lot and Laura's a lot too. See you next time.

Jaime Kyne

My Teddy Bear

My Teddy bear is brown and white. He is a very nice bear. My cousin's grandma made him. His name is Teddy Lord. On Thursday our grade drew some pictures of our teddy bears and we are having a teddy bears picnic.

Justin Edwards

My Best Teddy Bear

I call my cute little cuddly friend Teddy! I take him to bed every night. If I don't I can't sleep. I think he is the cutest teddy in the world. He is yellow, has a black nose, two black eyes and a grey suit and grey socks that match. I think he's got chubby cheeks. It's a boy and it hates all bears except ones that are yellow. I think he's a super teddy. The end.

Terri George

My Teddy Bear comes to School

Today my teddy bear is coming to school. My teddy bear has to look nice. We are at school now. My teacher said hello to my teddy. Everyone wanted to have a hold of it. Then my teddy got into trouble. We had lunch. My teddy bear had honey sandwiches. Then we went home. My bear and I had a good time.

Clarissa White

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Seniors still travelling

They continue to get around, those members of the Warrandyte Senior Citizens Centre.

Early last month 48 members went to the Waverley Gardens Cinema to enjoy a basket lunch and to watch 'Crocodile Dundee'. Three days later some of them were off on a weekend trip to Albury to play the pokies there.

At the end of the month some of Warrandyte's concert party travelled down to Frankston to entertain senior citizens.



Phillip Joy (right) of Anderson's Creek Primary School was one of four Casey electorate winners of the "Parliament and You" project, set up by Bob Halverson, MHR.

Students were asked to submit contributions on any topic that would stimulate the general political awareness.

Highlights of their trip included visits to the Black Mountain Tower

and Australian War Memorial, followed by lunch with Bob Halverson in the Parliamentary Dining Room.

They were guests in the Speaker's Gallery for Question Time, attended debates in the Senate and House of Representatives, and had an extensive tour of Parliament House, visiting areas and facilities not usually open to the general public.

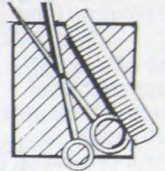
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WAC NOTES

...prepared by Warrandyte Advisory Committee.

The Warrandyte Advisory Committee is working on establishing a list of priorities for the area to submit to the councils of Doncaster and Templestowe and Eltham.

At the moment the issues being investigated include a community bus program, low-income housing to buy and rent, the establishment



of a community centre, rationalisation of car parking and zoning requirements.

The committee is keen to receive any submissions from groups or

individuals. They should be sent to PO Box 74, Warrandyte.

And all are welcome at the WAC's regular meetings, held on the fourth Wednesday of the month at the Community Centre at 8 pm.

From the left, seated are committee members Bev Hanson, Glenn Martin, Jan Loughnan and Louise Joy. Standing are Paul Hoskings, Martin Kyne and Mark Tansley.

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It's that time of the year again when we should be thinking about what fire prevention measures we can do around the home.

The spring rains have come and gone and the recent warmer weather has meant there is now a lush growth of grasses and weeds throughout the area.

The combined Warrandyte CFA fire brigades (North Warrandyte, South Warrandyte and Warrandyte) want all landowners to evaluate the fire risks near their homes and plan fire prevention work before the summer starts and fire restrictions come into force.

Bushfires can, and do, occur anywhere in Victoria, once conditions are conducive to the spread of fire. Many local residents know this fact and they reduce ground fuel growth by either slashing or mowing. The aim of our local brigades is to stop the destruction of the assets of the area and also of our unique environment.

Understand what is flammable around you. Sensible reduction of ground fuels — not necessarily complete removal — will protect your home site.

We can work together. We can minimise the risk by the community working together and carrying out fuel reduction works. If nothing is done, the risks are higher.

Intense growth on the ground may support a "crown fire" or a fire in the tops of the trees. This is the extreme form of a bushfire and one that is extremely difficult to control. With a high wind and a crown fire, the survival of people and animals in the path of the flames is threatened.

If you reduce ground fuels in conjunction with your neighbors you will reduce fire intensity and the likelihood of "treetop" fires.

The following guidelines may help you in reducing ground fuel around your home. If you have any queries, contact your local fire brigade:

1. Clear long grass with a slasher or mower. Also get rid of thick blackberries with a slasher or a goat.
2. Establish clean areas around the base of trees. Do not allow leaf litter to build up. Ensure that slashed material and dead branches are cleared away before the peak of summer. This work is critical on steeper slopes.
3. Avoid tan bark cover near the house.
4. Ensure you have cleared all guttering of dead leaves. Make sure that roof cavities are clear of debris.
5. Tie down roof tiling. Make sure there are no obvious gaps where sparks can enter.

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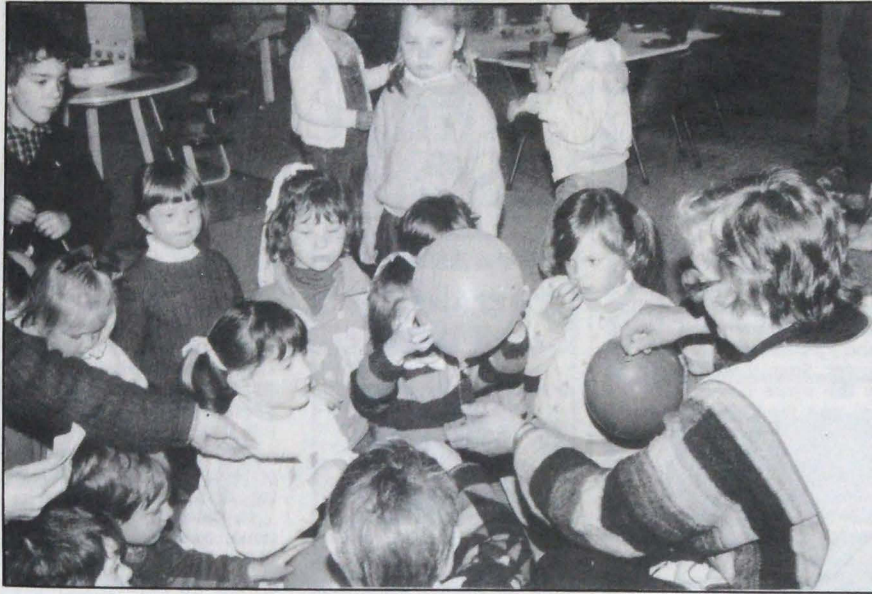
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With a huff and a puff...

Up in the air they fly (well, almost)

A balloon floats; it's a symbol of hope.

North Warrandyte Kindergarten chose balloons as their own contribution to International Children's Week in October.

Teacher Mrs Yvonne Manley supplied the puff, assistant teacher Mrs Cheryl Peters the stickers and the children the enthusiasm.

Then it was out to the bridge in the playground to

let them fly. The wind had other ideas, and the balloons fluttered forlornly then fell to the ground.

It had been better the day before when another group of kinder kids let their balloons off into a force 9 gale.

One of the balloons floated all the way to the Dandenongs where some kind person found the sticker and reported back to the kindergarten.



Off they go ... but not very far.

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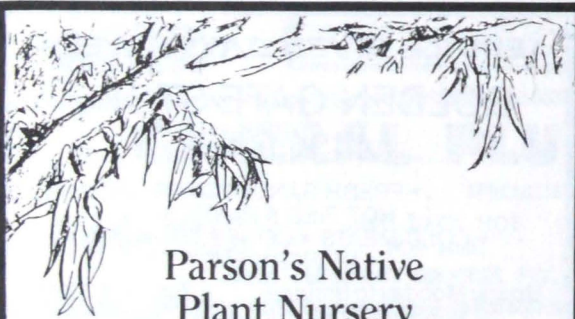
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Heads up! Watch for those koalas

Summery winds begin to wend into our days as we stroll by the glinting river, enjoying its coolness. The local river bottlebrush (*Callistemon paludosis*) begins to flower. Soon it will be joined by the white flowers of burgan and the Christmas mint bush. A lovely time of year indeed.

I was searching along the river for signs of koala. They had been feeding on trees outside my windows about a month ago and I wondered if they were still about. All I found were tracks of its relative, the wombat. The two animals are thought to have shared a common ancestry, but their sleeping quarters of the tree and the burrow show that they are now worlds apart.

The ground-dwelling wombat had marked its forest route by leaving squarish scats atop of rocks along the track. It was, no doubt, in search of its main food: native grasses. Also included in its diet are sedges, matrushes and roots of shrubs and trees. I suspect a bulb or two from my garden as well.

Koalas feed predominantly on manna gums, swamp gums, grey gums, blue gums and river red gums. They may also feed on other trees, non-eucalypts included, and they show marked local and seasonal preferences. That means a favorite feeding tree to which they will return.

In Warrandyte, we have two eucalypt species that will ensure the koala's survival. The big, tall ones along the river's edge are manna gums. Swamp gums have rough, brown bark and wavy-edged leaves. Tarroona Avenue has a

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.

that koalas know when a drought is looming and respond to the threat by not breeding. As summer is the breeding time for these animals, this would be essential knowledge for their survival. So if you hear wild grunting noises from Pound Bend Road this summer they might not all be coming from the pre-season football training squads.

Last month I had the opportunity to visit a friend living in the southern end of the Strzelecki Ranges. The area was denuded needlessly early this century for farming. I was intrigued to see what bush was left.

Five acres of a gully on my friend's land had been spared the axe, so we dropped down, past two-metre craters where mountain ash once stood, and into the forest. Inside the gully it was as if a magic curtain had been pulled away, for the bush was in the state that it always had been. No introduced weeds could be seen. No erosion or axe scars. Just a tight-knit ecosystem locking out intruders.

Then right in front of us a koala bounded effortlessly up the sheer face of a tall mountain grey gum. A survivor in a time capsule; a legend for today. Keep the forest and you keep the animal.

Back along the Yarra, clumps of kangaroo grass in lovely flower among the invading hordes of onion grass. Will anything survive its onslaught? I wonder, for it is a ticking timebomb threatening the river environment and moist gullies of Warrandyte.

It stops the regeneration of manna and swamp gum, and ultimately destroys the wombat and kolala.

lovely stand of swamp gums along the front of the houses that face the oval. Maybe they will receive a visit from some sleepy looking customers soon.

The first koalas to recolonise Warrandyte were probably those set free at the Yarran Dehran Reserve in Mitcham. Occasional excited reports and indistinct photographs announced their sightings. It is remarkable how many people have not seen a koala outside of TV or the zoo.

In November last year, 38 were released at Pound Bend, giving us a viable population. The only great danger to their survival is attacks by dogs.

Many Aboriginal legends surround the koala, mostly referring to the fact that they never normally need to drink (nothing like the legends who visit the Grand Hotel). Stories of drought and its secrets are bound up with the koala mythology.

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Jenny, Sue keep it in the family

Sisters Jenny Chapman and Sue Martin created a remarkable record during the Warrandyte women's cricket match against Mt. Eliza.

Sue took six wickets — all stumped by Jenny!

It is Jenny's first season behind the stumps, a "luxury" afforded by a recruiting campaign which has given the team greater versatility. Warrandyte has been promoted to A-grade after being runner-up last season.

One of the new players to perform well is Michelle Hooper, who is playing her first season of competitive cricket. She scored 29 in her first match and followed up in the next with bowling figures of 7/18.

The women's team has started the season well with two wins and

a three-run loss. One of the reasons behind such a sound start in a much higher grading has been the season of indoor cricket over the winter.

Women's coach Brian Chapman said the indoor season had improved the team's fielding and its ability to play under pressure.

Jenny Chapman, with an unbeaten 35, and Maria McGhee (3/6 including a hat-trick) were the stars of Warrandyte's successful season's opener, against Tecoma. The second match, against Mt. Eliza, was tight throughout, with the Dytes losing a real thriller.

Warrandyte atoned with a 10-wicket win over The Pines.

Scores:
Warrandyte 5/104 decl. and 0/69 (McLaws 35 n.o.) d. The Pines 57 (Hooper 7/18) and 109 (Martin 5/24).

Warrandyte's pennant-winning under-16 cricket team is already on target to make it two in a row.

In a rain-interrupted start to the Ringwood District Cricket Association junior season, the under-16s scored a crushing outright win over Mooroolbark. Warrandyte won by an innings and 22 runs, bowlers Walker and Graf destroying Mooroolbark in both innings and Jason Kline top-scoring with an unbeaten 31.

In the only other junior round started, the young Dytes scored a healthy 6/143, Kline contributing 46 and Reid not out in the same score. The second day was washed out.

The second under-16 side also has a win on the board — a 71-run victory over Academy spearheaded by Weatherly, who made 63, and McKenzie (33).

The under-14 sides have struggled in their matches so far and the under-12 section has yet to open its winning account.

Junior details:
Rounds 1 and 2 washed out.
Round 3: Under-16 (1): Warrandyte 6/143 (Reid 46 n.o., Kline 46, Vitinitti 33) v. Norwood.
Under-16 (2): Warrandyte 8/93 (Webb 31) v. Wantima.

Our young champs line up big double

Under-14 (1): Warrandyte 65 v. South Croydon 1/43.
Under-14 (3): Warrandyte 88 (Brent 35) v. North Croydon.
Under-12 (1): Warrandyte v. North Croydon 6/129.
Under-12 (3): Warrandyte 148 (Hose 28, Potaznik 26, Fraser 27 n.o.) d. Croydon.
Under-12 (4): Warrandyte 31 v. Heathmont 0/194.
Round 4:
Under-16 (1): Warrandyte 3/69 decl. (Kline 31 n.o.) d. Mooroolbark 13 and 34 (Graf 5/12, Walker 4/14).
Under-16 (2): Warrandyte 140 (Weatherly 63, McKenzie 33) d. Academy 59 (Webb 8/11).
Under-14 (1): Warrandyte 43 and 3/18 lost to Bayswater 162.
Under-14 (3): Warrandyte 36 and 65 (J. Hassall 18, J. Prangel 15) lost to Academy 99 (Richardson 4/3).
Under-12 (1): Warrandyte 6/91 (Grybus 30, Jacobs 22) lost to Lilydale 5/143.
Under-12 (3): Warrandyte 70 lost to Chirnside Park 129.
Under-12 (4): Warrandyte 40 and 8/45 (A. White 18) lost to Lilydale 163.

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'Baby' Dytes bat right on

Cricket club's youth policy is maturing

Warrandyte Cricket Club's junior development program is starting to pay handsome dividends following the wintry opening to the RDOA season.

The Dytes' Chandler Shield team has recorded a win and a loss in the two completed games. In the other game which got under way, rain robbed the side of a win.

But it is the performance of the younger players which is pleasing Warrandyte officials.

"Right through the club, the juniors are showing that Warrandyte has a very bright future," senior captain Robert White told the Diary.

"In the Chandler Shield side, Gerald Walshe, David Sloan, Tony Sturesteps and Colin and Russell Dorning have shown great improvement over last season and they are being pressured by Michael and Cameron Day, who are scoring runs in the seconds.

"Jason Graf is also showing his ability as a spin bowler while Sean Cameron has the makings of a good all-rounder.

"We went through a traumatic season of team-building last year when there were thoughts that we may be demoted. But the players learned what it was like to play under pressure and we are reaping the rewards this year.

"There is no reason why we can't be a finals contender."

White said the persistence and patience of such men as Bruce Kline, Tony Graf, Jim O'Connor, Graeme Jacobs and Steve Pascoe and the appointment of Ian Broome as junior coach had laid the foundations for the future.

In the opening game against Croydon United, Warrandyte was set to pounce after restricting the opposition to 8/120. But at 1/45 in

WARRANDYTE
Diary
SPORTS NEWS

the Dytes' response, the rains came and robbed the side of what loomed as certain victory.

Against reigning RDCA champion Mooroolbark, Warrandyte again bowled well to set itself a target of just 133. A middle-order batting collapse which saw six wickets fall for just eight runs cost any chance of victory.

But against arch-rival East Ringwood, Warrandyte produced its best team effort for two seasons. The Dytes scored 267 and dismissed East Ringwood for 182.

Tony Sturesteps top-scored with an aggressive 76 and Colin Dorning, Ian Broome and Gerald Walshe contributed 58, 52 and 39 respectively. Broome made it a fine double by taking 5/44 off a marathon 28 overs.

Michael Day is pressing for senior selection with two successive scores of 93 in the Chandler Reserves. Brother Cameron has also been in good form with the bat, while Fred Jungwirth destroyed East Ringwood with his leg-spinners, taking 5/25.

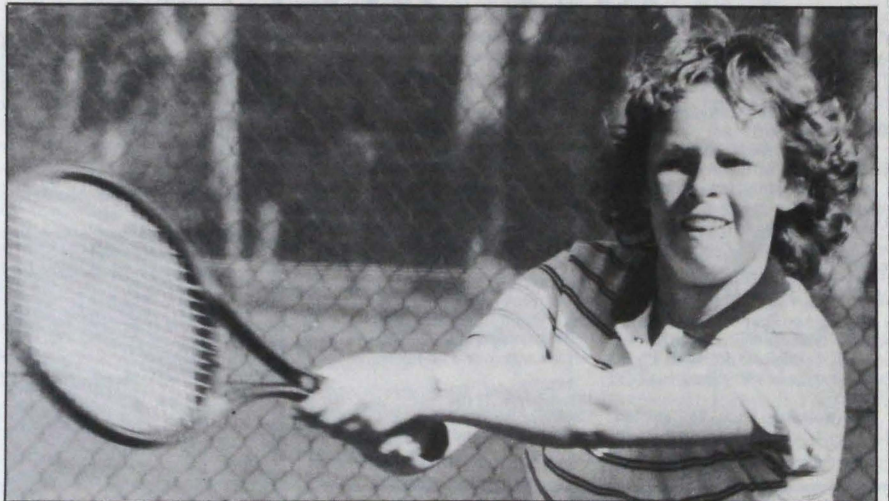
Scores from Round 4:
Chandler Shield: Warrandyte 267 (Sturesteps 76, Dorning 58, Broome 52, Walshe 39) d. East Ringwood 182 (Broome 5/44).
Seconds: Warrandyte 232 (M. Day 93, C. Day 41) d. East Ringwood 112 (Jungwirth 5/25) and 3/149.

Thirds: Warrandyte 145 (Hughes 43 n.o., Blair 34) lost to East Ringwood 6/240.

Fourths: Warrandyte 258 (Baker 49, Scicluna 43, Heinze 39) lost to East Ringwood 277 (Booker 9/135).

Fifths: Warrandyte 4/183 decl. (Roberts 64 n.o., Owen 55 n.o., Gathercole 33) d. Mt. Evelyn 50 (Owen 6/29) and 75 (Owen 4/20).

Sixths: Warrandyte 122 and 1/92 lost to Wonga Park 5/143.



Lyndal Mackintosh on her way to one of four local club titles.

Lyndal Mackintosh emerged as a star of the future with a multi-title performance at last month's Warrandyte Tennis Club championships.

Lyndal won or shared four crowns — the under-12 girls' singles, doubles and mixed doubles and the under-16 girls' doubles.

Former South Australian junior champion Lee Dehmel took the men's singles title, defeating Robert White in straight sets. It continued an exasperating run of near-misses for White, who has been runner-up for the past four years.

In the women's singles final, Annette Ruegg defeated Jane Anderson 6-3, 3-6, 6-3.

Jane also had to be content with second-best when she and Ian Rice lost the mixed doubles final to David McLean and Jenny Stubbs. But she broke through in the women's doubles, partnering Helen Worland to victory over Val Mackintosh and Lorri Ryan.

Jim McHugh and David

Little Miss Mac mows 'em down

McLean won the men's doubles championship for the second year in a row. They defeated Keith Piper and Robert White in three sets.

RESULTS: Men's singles: L. Dehmel d. R. White 6-3, 6-3.

Men's doubles: J. McHugh, D. McLean d. R. White, K. Piper 6-3, 1-6, 6-2.

Men's B singles: B. Hawkins d. F. Waites 6-3, 6-0.

Women's singles: A. Ruegg d. J. Anderson 6-3, 3-6, 6-3.

Women's doubles: H. Worland, J. Anderson d. L. Ryan, V. Mackintosh 6-2, 6-4.

Women's B singles: M. Rankin d. H. Morton 7-5, 6-1.

Mixed doubles: D. McLean, J. Stubbs d. I. Rice, J. Anderson 4-6, 6-4, 6-3.

16 and under: Boys' singles: A. Hiscock d. J. Batchelor 6-2, 6-0.

Boys' doubles: J. Batchelor, T. Ryan d. A. Hiscock, P. Ingalls 4-6, 6-3, 6-4.

Girls' singles: M. Rankin d. K. Reid 6-1, 6-0.

Girls' doubles: M. Rankin, L. Mackintosh d. N. Booth, P. Briggs 6-3, 6-0.

Mixed doubles: M. Rankin, A. Hiscock d. N. Ruegg, C. Ruegg 6-1, 6-2.

12 and under: Boys' singles: B. Worland d. D. Green 10-6.

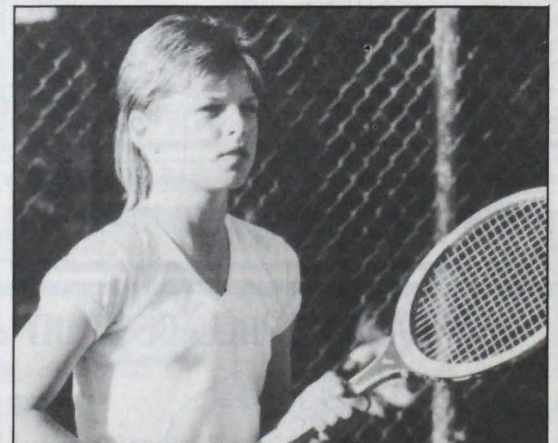
Boys' doubles: D. Green, A. Roulston d. B. Worland, B. Wedd 10-7.

Girls' singles: L. Mackintosh d. P. Hiscock 10-4.

Girls' doubles: L. Mackintosh, S. Morrison d. P. Hiscock, M. Lawrence 10-0.

Mixed doubles: L. Mackintosh, D. Green d. P. Hiscock, B. Worland 10-6.

Oriander Trophy (most improved): Sarah Morrison (12)



Concentration is written all over the faces of Melanie Lawrence (above) and Prue Hiscock, who paired unsuccessfully in the final of the under-12 doubles.



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