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Warrandyte Diary

PRICELESS

No 175, March 1987

Editorial and Advertising 844 2820

Burgled?

Make sure it doesn't happen again. See Page 3 for Alarm Safe Security.

First-round win on flats

By CLIFF GREEN

State Government will be asked to place a freeze on high density housing in Warrandyte township.

Local MP Lou Hill gave this guarantee to a meeting of concerned residents late last month.

Among other moves earlier this month, Doncaster and Templestowe Council rejected the first application for a dual occupancy permit in the township area.

"Existing rules, allowing one or more additional residences on small allotments within the township area, are absurd," Mr Hill, Member for Warrandyte, told the *Diary*.

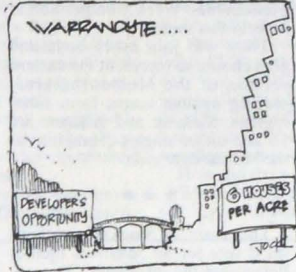
"Not only would high-density

housing destroy the character of the township, it would also lead to an inevitable and dramatic increase in population, resulting in further strain on roads and other services and an unacceptable impact upon adjacent areas of State Park and river reserve.

"I know that Jim Kennan, Minister for Planning and Environment, has always been aware of these problems and has previously suggested that dual occupancy only be allowed subject to rigorous environmental constraints.

"However, having discussed the issue with residents, I now appreciate that a major concern is population density within the area.

"I intend asking the Minister to apply a moratorium on all dual



occupancy in Warrandyte. This will effectively 'freeze' all such projects until Doncaster and Templestowe Council has completed its current investigation into residential zoning in Warrandyte and Park Orchards.

"I would expect that this study would take into account the needs of the elderly and others with special requirements, who wish to remain part of the community and for whom larger blocks are inappropriate."

Residents in the township area have mobilised around this issue following application for a 'dual occupancy' subdivision on the corner of Yarra and Anderson Streets.

As reported in the last issue of the *Diary*, Warrandyte Ward councillors and the Environment League have expressed deep concern. The proposed development has been branded 'inappropriate', 'out of character' and a 'dangerous precedent'.

Meeting in committee, council recommended rejection of the application by a bare majority. Meeting in open council later, the committee recommendation was overwhelmingly endorsed.

Residents are congratulating themselves on their 'first round win'. They fear, however, that an appeal could be lodged against Council's decision; with some expectation of success.

A group of concerned locals has prepared a submission to Doncaster and Templestowe Council's investigation into residential zoning policies.

"Historically, Warrandyte is a unique hills township," the submission states. "It has a character and a special significance which will

not survive the introduction of high density housing.

"Warrandyte must be the only place in Australia — and possibly the world — where the authorities are planning high density between a river reserve and a State Park.

"It is irresponsible to introduce high density housing into one of the world's most dangerous fire risk areas. If the fires which started in the area on Ash Wednesday had got out of control, the combination of traffic jams, fires and narrow roads would have caused a disaster beyond belief."

The residents' group is keen to provide further information to anyone interested. They can be contacted through Bruce Bence at 844 3122.

Locals do well in the Final HSC

By MARIAN WINTON

Students at local secondary schools have achieved excellent results in last year's HSC examinations.

Twenty-five of the 27 Warrandyte High School students who sat the examinations passed. At Parkwood High the figures were 49 out of 54 and at Eltham College 79 out of 85 were successful. The picture is not complete because some schools have a policy of not giving out details.

It is misleading to take the bald statistics and to use them as a means of comparing the success of individual schools. Representatives of schools in the area stress that it is the quality of the pass that counts and the relativity of specific marks to a student's hopes for a career.

For instance, a school might be able to boast that all of its students had passed a particular subject. But if most of these passes were at 'D' level then they would count little towards university entrance requirements.

Some schools — but none the *Diary* contacted — have a policy of encouraging on to HSC only those pupils who passed Year 11 convincingly. This is meant both to ensure the success of students and to boost the school's HSC success rate.

Parkwood High's acting principal said that his school encouraged all students to go on to HSC, even those who scored minimum passes in Year 11. Parkwood had found that students often matured considerably in Year 12, producing results that could not have been predicted.

Finally, if the HSC has sounded a complicated system of sending our young people off to higher education, take heart. Last year's was the last. From now on it will be the VCE. And anything new has to be simpler. Doesn't it?

School centre opens with a roar



Henry Bell addresses delegates. Workmen struggled up to the opening bell to finish the centre.

Picture: AUSTIN POLLEY

The Lions Club of Warrandyte last month played host to 340 delegates at their District Convention held over three days in the new theatre and sports centre at the Warrandyte High School.

Soaring harmony from the 30-strong Melbourne Welsh Male Voices Choir entertained the large opening ceremony audience, where official guest speakers included the Solicitor General, Hartog Berkly Q.C.; Cr Denford, Mayor of Doncaster & Templestowe; and Lions District Governor Alan Moore.

Warrandyte Lions President Gerald Morrow told the *Diary* that Convention 86-87 was "a tremendous success, following much concern that the school facilities would not be completed.

"We had a record attendance for the district, with delegates from 52 clubs throughout the State," he said. "Warrandyte Lions and Lions Ladies put an enormous effort into making it the success it was."

Business sessions occupied the daylight hours of the weekend, with one of the highlights being an

address from John Stewart of Chicago, who came especially to talk to the Convention on a new international drug awareness program, endorsed by the United Nations and directed towards prevention of drug taking by education of school children.

Open forums included one on the formation and support of Leos — a Junior Lions club for 16-20 year-olds. Warrandyte Lions plan to develop such a club in the area.

On the Saturday night 250 people sat down to dinner in the gym-

nasium at the Convention dinner dance. The spacious hall left plenty of room for dancers to enjoy and exhaust themselves.

Mr Morrow also expressed gratitude to the high school principal, teachers, students and School Council for their co-operation in staging the convention in Warrandyte. Not to mention the builder and painter who continued work right until delegates began to arrive on the Friday afternoon to ensure that the buildings were useable.

— JUDY McDONALD

Goldtown Open set for record roll-up

Local fans will be treated to world class tennis once more when the Fourth Goldtown Open gets underway at the Warrandyte courts at the end of this month.

Organised by the Warrandyte club under the auspices of the Victorian Tennis Association, the Goldtown Open is a graded 3 star event, scoring on the open points circuit.

Tournament organisers expect a record number of entries when applications close later this month. The Australian Sports Institute in Canberra is planning to send down a team of the best young tennis talent in the country.

John McCurdie, current Goldtown men's champion and Victorian state coach, has indicated his intention to defend his title. It is hoped that women's title-holder Anne Minter will also compete.

The Goldtown Open offers prize money in excess of \$2000. Principal sponsor is Medibank Private.

"The event has won a high reputation in professional tennis circles," Ian Ennis told the *Diary*. "Contestants appreciate the high level of competition, the friendly atmosphere of the club, its beautiful surroundings and the smooth and efficient running of the tournament.

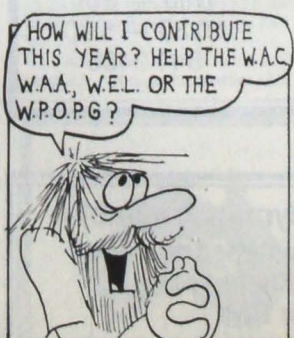
"Spectator facilities have also been improving each year. The clubhouse has doubled in size, good seating has been installed and a fully licensed bar is operating."

In previous years, the tournament has been held on the same weekend as the Warrandyte Festival.

"Club members' loyalties have been divided. They have wanted to help at the tournament — and also watch the splendid tennis — but they have also wanted to participate in other festival events — with the rest of Warrandyte.

"But now they can have it both ways. Although preliminary matches will be played during fes-

— Continued page 4



The *Diary* welcomes new cartoonist Paul Williams.

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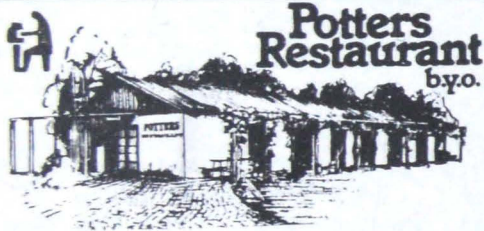
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The two drunks who meander across the front page of this paper have no sense of history. You know the ones. Chum of my childhood and his chum. Rabbiting on about the new tabloid size, one of them said the Diary started "more than 12 years ago". Twelve years? It'll be 17, come next Saint Nicholas Day, December 1970. Smokey should know. He was there, toiling his way through the editorial flagon. Although this column didn't appear to grace the front page for another three years. That's right, the front page. In those days editors knew their place — and their facts.

The local RSL giving Field Marshal Bruce Ruxton of the South African Volunteer Rifles the flick brings to mind the fate of that piece of light field ordnance that once stood outside their clubrooms, threatening the bridge and all points north. Our old soldiers decided Warrandyte wasn't likely to be attacked in the foreseeable future, so they sold it to a collector and donated the proceeds to worthy causes.

Here's a par to test the proof-readers. Another historic moment recorded for posterity. Last month Warrandyte Dairy ceased household deliveries. The Belling family have been carting milk up and down these hills — man, beast and motor truck — for longer than they'd care to count. The word is that father Ray, mild-mannered skipper of the local brigade, has retired so he can chase fires full-time. We'll miss those cheques, though. The ones you dropped in the Diary box on the tree, settling milk accounts for the past six months.

Two young members of Warrandyte Tennis Club have brought

**IN RED
& WHITE**



honor to their club and their town. Melanie Rankin (14) and Andrew Hiscock (13) have won the right to represent the Eastern Metropolitan Region in the 14 and under team contesting the 1987 Metropolitan Week Competition to be held this month.

They will join other boys and girls chosen to represent the eastern section of the Melbourne area, playing against teams from other regions. Melanie and Andrew are 16 and under singles champions at the Warrandyte club.

This mate of Smokey's reckons she'd vote for Sir Johannes Bjelke-Petersen if the incoherent 76-year-old head of the Queensland branch of the Stone Dead Party somehow became leader of the Federal Opposition. Her reason? The Noise from the North has said that he will resume sporting ties with South Africa. This would cause the rest of the world to cease playing games with Australia, such a ban to include the noble art of wielding the willow. And Smokey's mate hates cricket and the hold it has on summer television and conversation. Ah perfidy, thy name is Maureen.

The same infiltrator from Croydon, when she found that her son was attending school with a six-year-old chap called Miles, asked why the poor little fellow kilometres.

Local upstanding citizen Greg Thorpe is an SEC engineer, and one of his jobs involves checking banks of meters and dials to see that the state's power supply is in tip-top shape. Staff in the SEC car pool sometimes wonder just how he copes. They've lost count of the number of times he's complained about his car being out of petrol. Greg, the petrol gauge is the one with the little petrol tank symbol on it marked fuel. The one with the thermometer on it marked temperature tells you how hot the engine is.

When you are a good customer of the Grand Hotel, you get good service. Just ask the blokes who do their nightly slurring on the verandah beside the bottle shop. One of their number recently had a bright idea. Why walk all the way back to the bar for a refill when all that's needed is a hole in the wall. A good idea, say mine hosts, and hey presto, there's the hole and a bunch of happy drinkers.

There it was, flashing a constant warning to ships passing upstream and down. One of those yellow roadworks lights, protruding a few centimetres above the swiftly flowing water, slapbang in the middle of the river, right behind Mrs Hussey's house. It was still there three days later, except by now the battery was flat or there was water in the works, or both. Either way, it had ceased flashing. Three days later again and it had gone.

Cliff Green is a man of many parts *Diary* founding father, scriptwriter extraordinaire and all-round nice guy being but a few. We didn't realise just how many until he bobbed up in yet another role the other night at the local Chinese restaurant... delivering copies of the opposition rag! Caught red-handed, he was, and Smokey darned near choked on his excellent steak-and-black-bean. "Betrayed!" we cried. "Cliff, how could you?" As he beat a hasty retreat he explained, equally hastily, that son David, who regularly did the delivery job, was away on a high school camp and dad was merely standing in. Okay, mate, benefit of the doubt this time.

We doubt if they find time to talk much else but football in the McLean household. Kevin, who coached the Warrandyte Football Club firsts from 1981-84 inclusive and led them to the 1983 flag, is the Bloods' new president, wife Loraine is on the publicity sub-committee and son Stuart is coach of the under-10s. That's what we call making football a family affair.

Smokey Joe

THE WARRANDYTE DIARY

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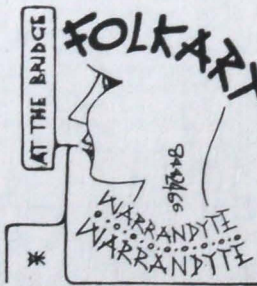
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The Great Milk War of '87



What did you do in the Great Milk War, Daddy?

Well, son, like most of the rest of Warrandyte, your mother and I tried to stay neutral. It wasn't easy but we tried.

How did it start?
Ah son, how does any war start? We woke up one morning to find it was on. No sirens. No bulletins on TV or radio. Just a couple of posters on billboards in the main street.

Just who was fighting, Dad?
The Kingdom of Warrandyte Cellars and the People's Republic of Hobbsco. I knew their leaders, Generalissimo Bernie Maher and Field Marshal, Steve Hobbs. Lovely blokes.

Who fired the first shot?
Who knows? Who will ever know? One side blames the other, the other says it's the first mob who's to blame.

What caused it, Dad?
Money, son, money. All wars have an economic basis. Don't they teach

you that in school? All we ever found out was that the price of milk had been deregulated around that time and Hobbsco had formed an alliance with a milk co-operative. Field Marshall Hobbs was getting milk more cheaply, and the Kingdom of Warrandyte Cellars obviously felt it had to retaliate.

Did they want to take over other places, Dad?

It's called territorial ambition, son, and I have to admit there was a bit of that floating around. Field Marshal Hobbs admitted that he had designs on the neighboring colony of Goldfields Plaza and had even named the date for Hobbsco's invasion there. Generalissimo Maher would have liked to expand the borders of the Kingdom of Warrandyte Cellars but was hemmed in by physical barriers.

How did the people react?
We just soldiered on, son. Put up the signs 'Business as usual' and

crossed to the other side of the street whenever we could. There were people caught in the crossfire, of course, but that's what happens in wars.

Didn't somebody try to stop it?
Sure. The United Nations sent in observers, but everyone knows how effective that lot have been.

So, how did it end?
We got tired of it, son. You can cop just so much flak. Those of us on the Left physically speaking... the North Warrandyte push... started buying their milk at the Yarra View milk bar. The Right-wingers down at the West End got their cow juice at the Golden Gate. The central front just caved in.

And that was it?
Up to a point, son. I do hear rumors that Generalissimo Maher has a heap as cheap bread coming in...

Declaration of war...
... And the reply.



IN BRIEF

Stane Brae meeting

The Save Stane Brae Committee has organised a public meeting for Friday, March 27, and brought together an impressive list of speakers to put the case for trying to preserve that stretch of bush from the developers.

Botanist, David Cameron, will speak on the flora of Stane Brae, author and naturalist, Jack Hyett will talk on fauna, Geoff Carr will cover the ecological importance of Stane Brae and Warwick Forge, director of the Victorian Conservation Trust, will explain how his organisation can help.

The meeting is at 7.45 pm at the Nunawading Horticultural Centre, 82 Jolimont Road, Forest Hill. A small donation will be sought to defray expenses.

Apex Club auction

The Warrandyte Apex Club is holding its annual auction at the Whitehouse on Sunday, March 22, beginning at 10.30 am, and is appealing to Warrandyte residents for household goods, furniture, bric-a-brac and antiques.

Goods will be accepted as donations or sold on commission. To arrange for collection, ring Bruce You (844 2835) or Bill Randall (844 2824).

Money raised through previous auctions has gone to help provide music facilities at local schools and other projects.

Principal is farewelled

More than 400 children and parents farewelled Warrandyte Primary school principal Geoff Voce who retired at the end of 1986. At a barbecue the children presented Geoff with a leather armchair. Parents and teachers gave him a silver ice bucket and a wine cooler.

Geoff won't have much time to sit and enjoy his presents, however. His wife, Elaine, has organised for him to do voluntary work with the sight-impaired.

The school council will appoint a new principal under the local selection process. The new head will take up the job in this year's third term.

Welcome aboard

This month the Diary welcomes some extra helpers. They are reporters Judy McDonald (a former co-editor of this mighty organ) and Marian Winton, photographer Austin Polley and typist Jill Howell. Their aid will be most gratefully received.

The Diary still needs news dropped into the yellow box on the tree. Features, photographs, gossip for Smokey Joe... all will be accepted.

Old and new at festival

The Tenth Warrandyte Festival, on the weekend of March 28 and 29, will be the biggest yet.

The organisers have kept the traditional events but incorporated a host of new activities. So along with the parade there will be an international food fiesta; the raft race is back and appearing for the first time is a waterslide.

The theme for this year is 'The Magic of Warrandyte', and festival secretary, Lynne Cappellani, hopes that it will conjure up weird and wonderful ideas for those taking part in the parade. She is looking out for witches, goblins, wands and magic potions. Fancy dress entrants will be judged immediately after the parade on the stage at Stiggants Reserve. All contestants will get a prize.



WARRANDYTE FESTIVAL RAFT RACE

The organisers promise a range of Indonesian and African curries, English baked potatoes and Dutch, Spanish and Filipino tucker. Home-made icecream looks a more popular bet for younger palates.

Festival T-shirts will be on sale at the information caravan at Stiggants Reserve. These pale pink and aqua cotton shirts have been printed with the festival logo — The Magic of Warrandyte — by students and teachers at the high school.

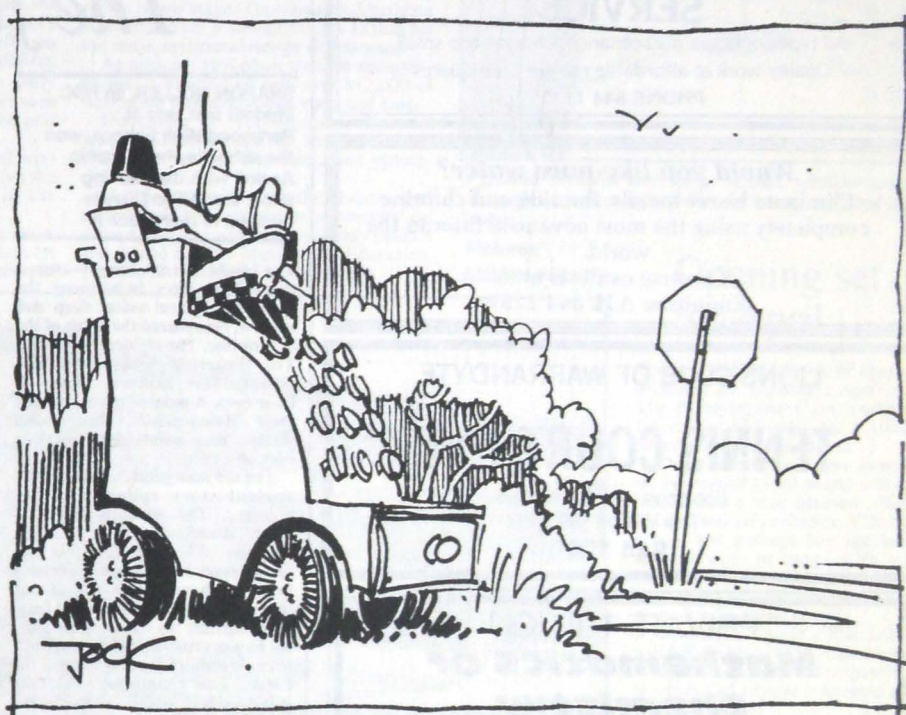
A free festival shuttle bus service will again be provided by the Shire of Eltham and the City of Doncaster-Templestowe. Buses will ferry visitors between each of the festival sites. Special parking sites will be set aside.

The Mechanics Institute and Arts Association have taken the theme of Snugglepot and Cuddlepie and Australian plants and animals for their exhibition this year at their "forest hideaway" (the old fire station to the more prosaic) in the WAA Mitchell Avenue studio.

They promise plenty of pottery, paintings and craft to browse through or buy as well as a lucky dip and coffee and homemade biscuits.

Other attractions include hay rides, a gymkhana, fire brigade competitions, fun run, the Sulo bin race, raft race, concert and a fireworks finale.

A full program is in the centre pages.



Still crazy after all of a year

A highlight of the Warrandyte Festival has been the Follies, the drama group's motley review. Except last year. Last year it went missing.

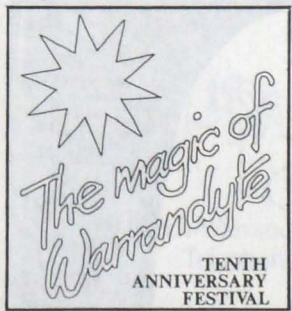
Sometimes the Follies is (are?) Let's forget about the grammar) not officially called the Follies, and this year's producers claim not to have decided upon a name.

The Follies of '87 are once again "a BYO everything cabaret-style evening". Some acts, say the producers, are at a professional level and others are, well, amateur. But the cast expects to have fun.

This year's production will feature a large cast with lots of women. Highlights will include the Dixie Cups, an all female singing group, and a sketch about relationships.

The season will cover Thursday, Friday and Saturday of the weekend of the Festival, and the one following. Dates are March 26, 27 and 28, and April 2, 3 and 4.

Book by calling Yvonne on 844 3822.



Stalls manned by Warrandyte children will be a feature of the riverside market. Other stalls will display jewellery, leadlighting, furniture, plants and home-made gifts.

By popular demand, as they say, a 50-50 old-time dance has been organised at the Senior Citizens' Hall (opposite the Whitehouse) for the Saturday night. A hot supper is provided and music will be by the 'Careys' Old Time Dance Band. Tickets are \$6 an adult and \$16 for a family. Ring Rosalie Vlek on 844 2248 for details.

The international food fiesta will take place down at the market site.

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thanks**

Just a short note to say thanks for having such a very wonderful "senior citizens club". On Monday, January 19, we arrived at Winneke Dam to have a picnic with our folk from the Gwennap Uniting Church Home for the Frail and Aged, West Footscray, to find that a main had broken up there.

And as there was no water to the toilets, we slowly came back to Warrandyte looking for a flat area for tables and chairs, also toilets, for these folk.

At 12 noon we pulled the coach into the football ground and just had our elderly seated when a tall man (Mr Temple? I'm not sure) came over and asked us what we were doing in the heat when there was a lovely cool hall we could be in.

I certainly was glad to hear that. The coach driver and your friends

letters**Development
must be stopped**

I would like to register my protest to the Government and Council planning policies that will allow closer density housing in Warrandyte.

If we allow this type of development to begin, it will set a precedent that will snowball rapidly through the township. Particularly vulnerable will be the older homes on larger building blocks. At present these houses give much of the character to the township.

They will have the potential for re-development by bulldozer and making way for a group of houses, flats, units, breeding boxes — call them what you like.

So instead of being flanked by three neighbors, we now have the potential of sharing our boundaries with around 12 other families, and along with them all the inherent goodies that come with neighbours,

and ours carried our food into the hall and helped serve our folk at tables and chairs that they organised for us in such a short time.

Afterwards we thoroughly enjoyed their concert practice. We later asked them to share with us our afternoon tea, which they did. We thanked them for the wonderful kindness they gave us.

I have met many people who go more than the extra mile but these folk surpassed that. May God bless them and care for them in the wonderful work that they do.

Mrs Enid Thomas,
Secretary,
Gwennap Home
Empress Avenue,
West Footscray.

The forsaken people

SHARON MULLER, an HSC student last year at Parkwood High School, won the school's 'Penmanship Award' with this moving short story. The *Diary* is pleased to reproduce it.

The night birds' song wavered through the trees. In harmony, the old man's lyrical voice, deep and mellow, recaptured the lights of the dreamtime. The children were still. The flickering light of the fire reflected the brilliant whites of their eyes. A painted gloss smeared their dilated pupils. Their bodies statues; their minds alert and their eyes absorbed.

The old man gently swayed as the ancient story rolled from his memory. The wizened face was dimly illuminated with dancing shadows. When he spoke his eyebrows rose, forming deep crevices in his forehead. A mat of wild hair thrust from his face in tangled fury, silver against his dark complexion. As he sat cross-legged in the dust, his naked skin felt the texture of the earth. The crumbling dirt; the spirit, sifted gently through his fingers.

But then the fire died. Smoke diffused through the air forming a hazy blanket. The night birds'



warbling song grew fainter . . . and fainter . . .

It could not be heard.

An old man sits silent. Through mounds of dry wrinkled flesh, two slits expose dark sullen eyes. Blood-shot. Water exudes from the corners squeezing its way through deep tributaries which line his deflated cheeks. His crossed legs are clothed in dirty canvas. Synthetic fibre weaves a barrier from the soil. A chequered shirt with its gaudy color advertises a western gift. But it does not blend with the subtle tones of the bush. Detached from the land and detached from its

people. The children keep their distance; in mindless game they hurtle empty cans in trails along the dust.

Alone. Gnarled fingers clench desperately to a bottle of cheap red wine. Translucent eyes are empty. Cherry colored wine dissolves all memory of the dreamtime, invading his mind until nothing is left. Nothing but a void. Raising the bottle to his parted lips he savours the last drop, but it scolds the surface as it trickles down his throat.

On the rock the tourists have their photos taken.

like 24 cats and dogs, 12 cars being tuned in the evening, 12 blaring stereos, 12 lawnmowers on Sunday morning - the mind certainly does boggle!

Residents north of the river should not remain complacent, for they will have to contend with even more traffic on our busy main street, probably adding weight to the argument of a superlaned road through the guts of our village, congested parking, over-crowded schooling facilities, township views marred by high density housing, and the sobering thought that their turn may be next.

If this is not the Warrandyte that you want in the future then now is the time to oppose it, for it will be too late once the redevelopment begins.

Ian Gedde.

**Marauding dogs
prowling again**

This letter takes the form of an appeal to people who own marauding dogs. One solution is to keep them home at night, and the other is to feed them well.

I have over the years been plagued with this type of animal. During the last few months my pet dog "Benji" had his throat slit and, in spite of much vet treatment (thanks to Dr. Fairley), the little fellow died. Now my beautiful black persian cat killed in much the same manner.

It gives one a nasty shock to find their pets in such a state, particularly when they provide such companionship as they did.

My advice is this: If you are not prepared to care for your pets don't get them in the first place.

One feels like taking the law into your own hands but (fortunately for the culprits only) one is not allowed.

Lilian C. Whitehead
Forbes Street

**Shameful
performance**

I am writing to convey my feelings of amazement and shame over the behavior displayed by certain members of the Arts Association when a tournament went five minutes overtime at my son's karate club.

I am amazed that these people were so downright arrogant and rude towards our children and I am ashamed that our guest clubs would think all Warrandyte people are like that.

I, as a parent, am truly fed up with the "holier than thou" attitude of some of these people towards our club members.

ex member of the audience.
Wonga Park

**How to win
friends . . .**

My children and 60 other people tonight, February 26, were privileged to a display of manners, the type of which I hope I don't see again.

It all happened at "The Mechanics" when the W.A.A. rudely interrupted a display of karate. The arrogance of this group left me wondering who gave them the right to treat other members of the community with such contempt. I hope their production is a success and maybe their next effort should be along the lines of "How To Win Friends And Influence People".

K. Burbridge

From page 1

tival weekend, on Sunday March 29, the main competition — and the finals — will take place the following weekend, from Friday April 3 through to Sunday April 5.

"This also means that the general tennis-loving public will be able to come and see some first-class match play — free of charge — without missing something special at the festival, like the folk concert."

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For some of our youngsters school is new; for others, the school is new



Jeremy Selleck, rising 5 (left), and Gareth Millington, 5½, are ready for their first day at Warrandyte Primary.

High, wide and most handsome

Students and staff at Warrandyte High School were not put off by 38 degree temperatures or torrential rain during the two days in which they moved from old portabls to gleaming new classrooms.

The unique complex is a superb illustration of care, planning and involvement at the school and community level. It is one of the first two or three schools where the funds were given to the School Council which appointed its own architect.

Science, home economic and art teachers, along with the librarian and other specialist staff, took months to research available facilities and to make sure the school had the best and most functional of these.

As a result the library, now five times the size of the old one, caters for the school's growth in those years; the art and craft area is in a separate 'studio design' building.

Principal Kevin Morrish told the *Diary* that as a science teacher he has "never seen a better designed science area than the new one."

Pyramid skylights and large shaded window areas throughout, reflect light from the earth, sea and sky colors used in the complex.

In 1982, the then Minister for Education, Mr Fordham allocated almost \$4 million for the building. A further \$85,000 was allowed

for additional furniture and equipment, such as machine tools which previous woodwork classes have had to do without.

Revolutionary in concept is the 280 seat theatre, over which local experts, Dennis Irving, an engineer specialising in the performing arts, Cliff Green, Jock Macneish, Bob Karl and art teacher, Chris White, liaised with the architect from Clarke, Hopkins and Clarke.

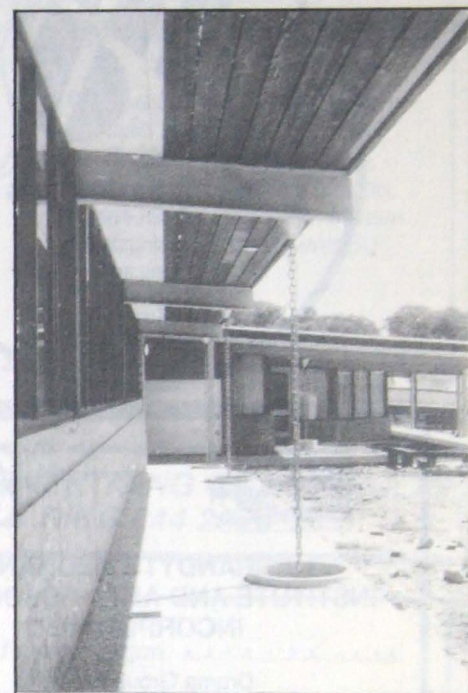
Tiered seating overlooks a flat stage area which incorporates an optional three-level orchestra pit. Sections of portable seating make theatre in the round a possibility; the whole encircled by a lighting and equipment catwalk.

A freely moveable cyclorama curtain gives the theatre space versatility as a television, film or drama area with dressing rooms below stage. This functional building was erected for a similar budget to that for the static, traditional design first mooted.

An adjacent basketball stadium and gymnasium is to be fitted with over \$12,000 of equipment including ropes, rings and bars.

Doncaster & Templestowe Council granted \$120,000 and the Shire of Eltham \$45,000 to extend the drama and gymnasium areas.

Mr Morrish said that the theatre and stadium will be available for community use when a joint-use agreement is finally ratified and signed by The Minister for Education, the school council and local councils.



Pyramid skylights and large shaded window areas throughout reflect light from the earth, sea and sky colors.

Pictures: AUSTIN POLLEY

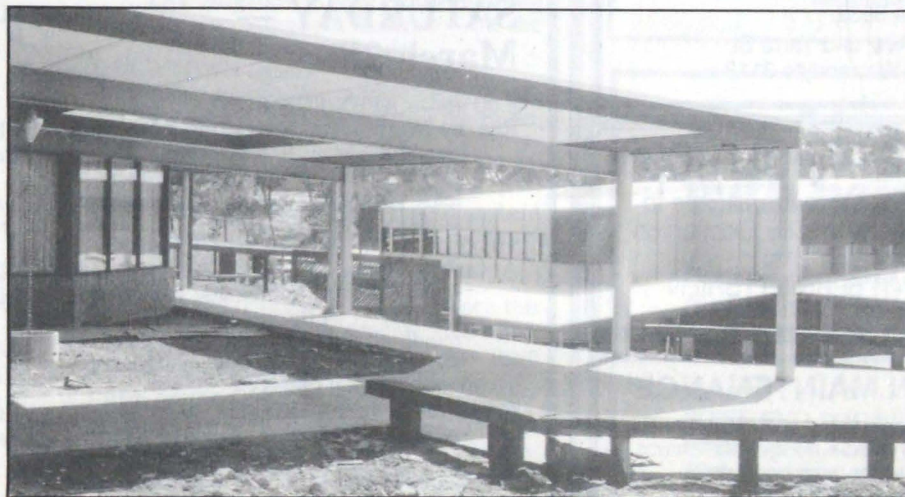
Opening set for April

The new high school will be opened officially on Saturday, April 11. The Premier, Mr Cain, and the Education Minister, Mr Cathie, have been invited to attend.

At the ceremony, a time capsule (to be opened in 50 years) will be buried and a tree planted. Then visitors will be invited to tour the school and perhaps buy specially bottled wine or mugs with the school emblem embossed. Money from the sales will go to help buy a piano for the music centre.

On the same night a foundation ball will be held in the "community complex". Past students, parents, teachers and anyone interested are invited to attend.

Bookings are available by ringing Jackie Law on 844 3852. Tables of up to 12 are available and tickets will be \$25 per person. The affair is formal (dinner or lounge suit) and it's BYO.



The complex is... "a superb illustration of care planning and involvement at the school and community level."

One reluctant beginning

On a clear blue morning February he crossed the threshold: day one in preps at Warrandyte Primary. His parents had spent a fortnight preparing.

"Of course you'll like it. There's a lovely playground there and all your mates from kindergarten are going. You'll have lots of fun. What's that? Well, big people go to work and little people go to school. Why?...the government says so. No, not Mr Hawke in this case, it's Mr Cain. No, he won't be there. Because he has lots of other things to do. Get in the car, son."

"Now you've got your play-lunch? Put the lid back on the box,

you can't eat it now. Why? Because then you'd have nothing to eat at playtime. Here we are. In you go." Suddenly it's "Goodbye, son".

The parents turn to each other. Must be a high pollen count day to account for the sniffing. Three hours later he's back.

"Seri Davis from grade one played with you? She's always been a lovely girl. You did drawing and pasting? That's a good start. Well, yes, you do have to go back tomorrow. Why don't you want to go? You don't like the wallpaper?"

"Ah, son. Believe me you'll get over it."

New post will link schools and community

A new appointment, 'Schools Community Development Officer' has been made by the Ministry of Education. Mr Bob Poppins has been appointed to the position.

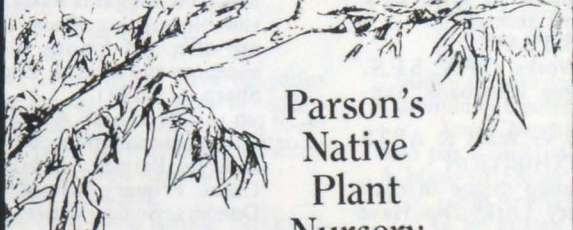
Bob was a councillor, City of Doncaster and Templestowe, 1973 - 1986 and mayor of the City in 1975. He was also a teacher at Templestowe Technical School, Ringwood Technical School, Greythorn High School and an officer with the eastern region, Ministry of Education.

Bob and his family recently moved to 'Crick Hollow Farm', Wonga Park, from Central Doncaster. They are enjoying farming a rundown hobby farm and endeavouring to smarten up a motley collection of Angora goats.

State Education is the major commitment of Bob's working life. "The new position fits exactly with my own priorities and I am very much looking forward to the task," Bob said last week.

Promotion of district schools will be a major part of the role. Promoting more effective co-operation between the district schools is another high priority of the new job.

"Perhaps the most important task in assisting public education in the area is the successful promotion of more effective working relations between parents, teachers, community organisations and school administrators," Bob said.



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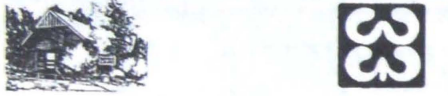
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Residents north of the Yarra are eligible to vote in the Central Highlands By Election on Saturday, March 21st.
VOTE ALP VOTE (1) BERNIE O'BRIEN
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FRIDAY NIGHT — March 27

3.30 pm to 12 midnight — **COFFEE SHOP**
Warrandyte Community Co-operative. Enjoy coffee and light snacks, Video Games and Pool Table. Community Centre. Enquiries — Jean Chapman 844 3326.

8.00 pm — **FESTIVAL FOLLIES**
Warrandyte Drama Group Revue, Mechanics Institute, Yarra Street, Cabaret. B.Y.O. Food and drink. Bookings - Yvonne Morey.

8.00 pm 12 midnight — **DISCO**
Run by Warrandyte Football Club Suitable for teenagers. Drinks and light refreshments on sale. At the Whitehouse. Admittance \$3 — NO ALCOHOL. Strict adult supervision. Enquiries — Jenny Sharpe 844 3720.

8.00 pm — **SPOTLIGHT WALKS**
Jumping Creek Reserve to Bluetongue Bend. Wear flat shoes. Bring a torch. Children welcome. STATE PARK RANGERS. Further information 844 2659

8.00 pm — **ART SHOW**
Rotary Club of Warrandyte, Warrandyte Primary School, Forbes Street.

SATURDAY — March 28

8.00 am — **APEX FUN RUN**
Run by Warrandyte Apex Club from Stiggants Reserve. 9 KM course. Prizes given. Entries on the day. Be there at least 15 minutes before start. Enquiries — Gary Brady, 844 1176

10.00 am — **OPEN AIR CRAFT MARKETS**
A variety of market stalls. Selected goods include plants, homemade cakes, toys, clothes, jewellery, leadlighting and handbuilt furniture. Stiggants Reserve Riverbank both Saturday and Sunday.

10.00 am — **FOOD FIESTA**
Large range of international stalls. Dutch, African, Indonesian, English, Chinese and Phillipino dishes available. Stiggants Reserve Riverbank all day Saturday and Sunday.

10.00 am — **KIDS MARKET**
Magnificent muddle of stalls offering hand made goods produced by local kids. Riverbank, Stiggants Reserve.

10.00 am — **STATIC DISPLAYS**
State Parks, Board of Works, C.F.A., S.E.S., Environment League. Riverbank, Stiggants Reserve.

11.00 am to 6.00 pm — **WMI & ARTS ASSOCIATION EXHIBITION**
Australian Flora & Fauna theme in craft painting and pottery. Lucky Dip. Have coffee and homemade biscuits while you browse. Michell Avenue Studio.

10.00 am — **ART SHOW**
Rotary Club of Warrandyte, Warrandyte Primary School Forbes Street.

11.00 am — **FESTIVAL PARADE**
One of the highlights of our Festival weekend. The parade includes Pony Clubs, Kinders, School and Church Groups, Senior Citizens and Local Fire Brigades and Brass Bands. Warrandyte Bridge to Stiggants Reserve, Yarra Street. (Vehicles muster at Mullens Road.) Enquiries — Jill McKimm, 844 1194.

11.00 am to 4.00 pm — **DEVONSHIRE TEAS**
Anglican Church. Fresh scones and tea sold by the ladies of the Anglican Church.

12 noon — **FANCY DRESS**
Dress up for the parade as a "Warrandyte Wacker". Follow the theme "Magic", "Spaced Out" or just "Pretty As A Picture" and then show us on stage after the parade. Entry free, prizes for all entrants. Stiggants Reserve Stage. Compares: Greg Lawrence and Richard Stubbs.

DECORATED BIKES
Competition run by the Lions Club for the best decorated bike in the parade. Judged near the stage after the parade. Prizes for the best bikes donated by the Lions Club.

BIKE REGISTRATION
Is your bike registered? If not, the Lions Club of Warrandyte and the Victorian Police will register it for you free of charge. Stiggants Reserve.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY EXHIBITION
Gold display. Historical Society Museum. Community Centre, Yarra Street.

HAYRIDES
From riverend of Forbes Street to the Dairy. Horse and cart. 50 cents per ride.

WATERSLIDE
Run by Warrandyte Scout Group. Stiggants Reserve — near playground. Changing tent provided — bring togs and towels. Small cost. Enquiries — Max Garner, 437 1666.

1.00 pm — **CANOE RACE**
From Stiggants Reserve up to the Bridge and back again. Warrandyte Canoe Club. Entries on the day. Enquiries — John Boyle, 844 3333.

1.30 pm — **JUMBUK JAPERS**
Watch out for Alf Dundee and his mob of sheep on Stiggants Reserve, looking for suitable grazing lands. Local officials are after Alf for it's illegal to graze sheep on the reserve. Enquiries - Peter Sharp, 419 6281

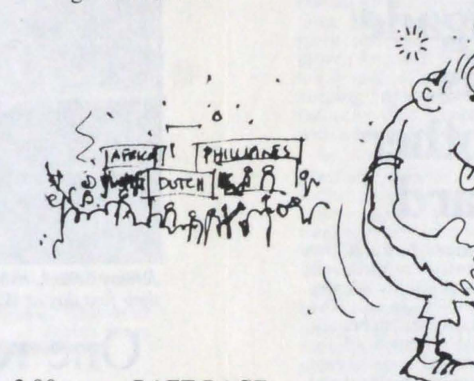
1.30 pm — **ON STAGE AT STIGGANTS**
Continuous entertainment provided by: Warrandyte Primary School Andersons Creek Primary School, Helen Briggs Dancers, Senior Citizens, Warrandyte Primary School Senior Choir, Social Cohesion, Local Bands, Karate Group,

South Warrandyte Primary School
1.00 pm to 4.00 pm — **CAR WASH**
Warrandyte District Girl Guides. At the Squash Courts car park. \$2.50 to have your car washed while you enjoy the festival.

1.30 pm — **LAWN TENNIS ASSOCIATION**
Eastern Metropolitan Grand Final Warrandyte Tennis Club, Tarooona Avenue.

2.00 pm to 12 midnight — **COFFEE SHOP**
Warrandyte Community Co-operative. Enjoy coffee and light snacks, Video Games and Pool Table. Community Centre. Enquiries — Jean Chapman, 844 3326.

2.00 pm — **GOLD MINE TOUR**
Join our tour guide, John Hanson for an hour and a half of leisurely walk through Warrandyte's Gold Rush Days and visit an actual 1850's gold mine. Bring torch and wear flat shoes. Run by Uniting Church. Meet at 104 Webb Street or catch a Free Festival Bus from Stiggants Reserve.



2.00 pm — **RAFT RACE**
From the Bridge to Stiggants Reserve. You've seen Stars and Stripes, now... Enquiries — Nick Arnott, 844 2062.

8.00 pm — **OLD TIME DANCE**
At the senior citizens hall, Tarooona Avenue, Warrandyte. Dance to "The Careys" - Piano, Sax and Drums. \$6.00 entry includes a hot super provided by the ladies of the Uniting Church. Come along on the night or book beforehand. Bookings - Rosalie Vlek, 844 2248 or Lorraine Gangell, 844 2342.

8.00 pm — **FESTIVAL FOLLIES**
Warrandyte Drama Group Revue. Mechanics Hall, Yarra Street, Cabaret. B.Y.O. food and drink. Bookings - Yvonne Morey, 844 3832.

8.00 pm — **SPOTLIGHT WALK**
Jumping Creek Reserve to Bluetongue Bend. Wear flat shoes, bring a torch. Children welcome. STATE PARK RANGERS. Further information, 844 2659.

SUNDAY — March 29

9.30 am — **BILLY CART DERBY**
Boys and girls can join in the action on this

one! Enter your cart in the Derby. Crash helmets compulsory. No go-carts, no commercial entries. Billycarts must satisfy marshalls. Enquiries - Doug, 844 2740 or Tim, 844 3139. Forbes Street, outside Police Station. Entries 50c on the day.

10.00 am — **JUMBUK JAPERS**
Watch out for Alf Dundee and his mob of sheep on Stiggants Reserve, looking for suitable grazing lands. Local officials are after Alf for it's illegal to graze sheep on the reserve.

OPEN AIR MARKETS
Riverbank Stiggants Reserve.
FOOD FIESTA
Riverbank Stiggants Reserve.



SUPER SHOT COMPETITION
Goal shooting competition open to basketball players, Netball players, anyone who wants to try their skills. Prizes for winners in each age group. 50c entrance fee for 15 shots. BASKETBALL COURTS. Tarooona Avenue. (near the oval).

COMMUNITY GROUPS
WAA, MMBW, Historical Society, W.E.L., State Park Display.

ART SHOW
Rotary Club of Warrandyte, Warrandyte Primary School, Forbes Street, Warrandyte.

10.30 am — **INTER BRIGADE COMPETITION**

See our three local Rural Fire Brigades compete for the Yarra Bent Branch, a trophy highlight prized among local fire-fighters. A demonstration of skills. Riverbank Stiggants Reserve.

10.30 am — **WATERSLIDE**
Run by Warrandyte Scout Group. Stiggants Reserve — near playground. Changing tent provided — bring togs and towels.

Small cost. Enquiries — Max Garner, 437 1666.

11.00 am — **PET PARADE**
Run by Warrandyte High School. Have you a special pet? Then bring it along to Stiggants Reserve. All pets must be under owners control. Oetails W.H.S. 844 2749.

12 noon — **STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE**
Static Display and Road Accident Rescue demonstration.

12 noon — **YARRA YOBBOS**
Novelty activities on the riverbank at Stiggants Reserve including Gumboot throwing, rolling-pin throw, egg throw. Enquiries — Alan King, 844 3622. Warrandyte Uniting Church.

12 noon to 4.30 pm — **FRIENDS OF WARRANDYTE PARKS**
Tree painting at Pound Bend — Meet at Pound Bend rangers Office. Contact, Glen Jameson.

12 noon to 5.00 pm — **WARRANDYTE HISTORICAL SOCIETY**
Gold display, Historical Society Museum Community Centre, Yarra Street.

1 pm — **TUG O WAR**
Warrandyte Fire Brigades. See local groups competing for the Tug O War Trophy. Fire Brigades, Apex, Lions, Sporting Groups. Stiggants Reserve — on the riverbank. Entry on the day.

GOLD TOWN OPEN
Preliminary rounds, Warrandyte Tennis Club, Tarooona Avenue. Contact — Ian Ennis, 844 2099.

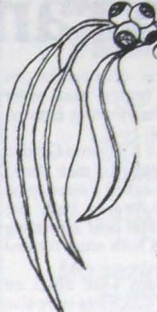
1.30 pm to 2.30 pm — **SUPER SHOT FINALS**
Final of the goal shooting competition held earlier. Basketball courts, Tarooona Avenue.

2.00 pm — **GOLD MINE TOURS**
Did you miss it yesterday? Last chance this weekend to visit a genuine gold mine, 104 Webb Street, take the bus from Stiggants Reserve or the oval.

FREE BUSH, FOLK AND JAZZ CONCERT
A six hour free outdoor concert on stage at Stiggants Reserve. Featuring Fidgety Feet, Dumboperty, soloist - Lenore Somerset, Michael Harris Quartet and ending traditionally with Paraddiddle. Bring your rugs, folding chairs, friends and family and join us on the grass. Enjoy a picnic of barbecue tea, or buy Sunday Dinner from the Fast Food Stalls.

2.00 pm to 7.00 pm — **COFFEE SHOP**
Community Centre, Yarra Street. Enquiries - Jean Chapman 844 3326.

8.45 pm — **FIREWORKS FINALE**
A blaze of colour and sparks will end the Tenth Anniversary Festival. A finale not to be missed. Stay where you are and look skyward to see this glorious display of fireworks.



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Our Australian Clothing section includes Morrisons of Australia moleskins — ladies and mens, easycare jeans — ladies and mens, shearers' shirts, bush shirts, blouson jackets and T-shirts in over 30 designs.

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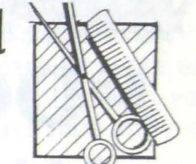
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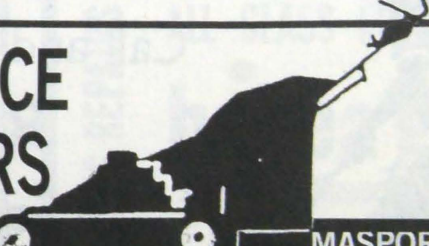
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When the ranges burned for 30 miles around

BRUCE BENGE continues his series on bushfires in Warrandyte and beyond.

By February 1914 the state was again ablaze, with country to the north of Warrandyte shrouded in a pall of smoke and the ranges alight for a distance of 30 miles.

There were fires burning from Casterton in the west to Sale in the east, and as far north as the River Murray. Travellers at Tallangatta were warned to turn back as the hills were a mass of flames.

By 17 February, 1000 acres had been burnt between Queenstown (St Andrews) and the river, and fires were sweeping towards Yarra Glen and Christmas Hills.

The volunteer brigades of the day used these enormous fires with the simplest equipment. The Ballan Bush

Fire Brigade was commended on their "effective beaters and water cart" when fighting fires at Egerton in February 1914.

The residents of Kangaroo Ground reacted immediately to their torrid experience. They called a meeting on 21 February to form a bush fire brigade. Panton Hill held a meeting a week later, and both areas formed brigades.

The Dandenongs were again on fire in February 1923. Fires were also burning in the Don Valley and the Warburton Ranges. They burnt for days and weeks and blew up into major conflagrations under the influence of the above-century temperatures and strong winds that are a feature of our summers.

Men and women fought the common enemy, not merely for their

protection but for the community. Everyone helped, and there would have been few people living outside the metropolitan area who were not experienced fire fighters by the time they were 18.

Jack McAuley of Warrandyte remembers drinking his first beer whilst fighting a fire in Dingley Dell. Buckets of beer were brought around the fire line. Unfortunately the beer was warm by the time it reached Jack. When someone chipped him about drinking at such an early age, he reckoned that if he was old enough to fight fires, he was old enough to drink beer.

The summer of 1925-26 was to produce a holocaust that for magnitude and duration has not been surpassed. Few parts of the state escaped unscathed. Fires were burn-

ing from Corryong to the western deserts and from the mountains to the sea.

They started with a huge outbreak at Rubicon in mid-December, and were still burning by the end of February.

There were fears that three huge fires burning simultaneously at Toolangi, King River Valley and Mt Buffalo would link up into one huge blaze. By 17 February, 33 people were dead or missing and the fires were still raging across the countryside.

The township of Kinglake was almost totally destroyed. The children took shelter in the post office, where a message was sent to tell of their plight before communications failed. The police and 150 volunteers made several desperate attempts to

bring help, but could get no closer than three miles along the road.

A fire started at the river in Wonga Park on 12 February. It spread on three fronts, upstream and down. Another fire raced through Wonga Park and along Brushy Creek to threaten Croydon, which was only saved after a hard fight. The school at Wonga Park was relieved following a savage battle by local residents.

The front heading downstream was stopped before it reached Warrandyte township.

By Sunday 14 February the fires were totally out of control. From Christmas Hills, fire could be seen on all sides. Saving the bush was beyond human resources, only the protection of homesteads and human life could be attempted.

Patrols were scouting the district

on horseback and in cars. As evening approached the wind gathered strength and the entire horizon appeared to be ablaze.

The people of Healesville had been fighting the fires in their area for more than a month when rain brought some relief on 27 February.

In early March, Warrandyte was threatened with total destruction. The township had been covered by a pall of dense smoke for several days. Constable Cavanagh led local volunteers in a successful fight to protect the village. On Sunday 7 March, a number of people became so alarmed by the fires that they left the area. It is believed that the koalas never came back to Wonga Park after the 1926 fires.

To be continued.

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These flats for the elderly are almost finished down opposite Stiggants Reserve.

North Warrandyte

CFA

news

Brigade wins another award

The North Warrandyte Rural Fire Brigade recently capped off another successful year by winning a prestigious CFA award. The award for the most efficient brigade within the CFA's Region 13 for 1986 was presented brigade captain John Swindley by the local regional officers, Graeme Healy and David Owen.

The award consists of a large fire bell mounted on timber plaque (formerly fitted to a fire truck) and takes the form of a perpetual trophy. This year's award is the first one given and the winning brigade's name has been engraved on it. The award is now proudly displayed at the fire station together with a number of other awards.

Judging was carried out by CFA officers and points are allotted under the following categories:

- * Fire prevention planning and implementation

- * Condition of equipment

- * Training procedures

- * Administration of brigade, etc.

There are 51 rural brigades within Region 13 which covers the area from Eltham in the west, to Upper Yarra Dam in the east and Kinglake to the north.

The brigade were also very proud to receive an award from the Australian Fire Protection Association for a "very significant contribution to fire prevention in 1986". The award was presented to three brigade members at Government House by the Lieutenant Governor, Sir John Young, as part of fire awareness week in October last year.

The award was given to the brigade for its "North Warrandyte Fire Prevention Implementation Committee" and for the newsletter which was distributed to all residents of the North Warrandyte area.

This committee was formed to discuss and formulate a comprehensive fire prevention plan for the area. The committee consists of representatives from:

- * Shire of Eltham
- * Warrandyte Environment League
- * Warrandyte Advisory Committee
- * M.M.B.W.
- * North Warrandyte Rural Fire Brigade.

To cap off a very successful year the brigade also competed in and won the "Lower Yarra Group of Fire Brigades four-man hose event" at Hurstbridge.

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Extrovert on the team

By JAN LIDDICUT

Louise Joy, a name synonymous with community activities, is spending her 'golden years' consolidating her life experiences and personal beliefs for the benefit of the Warrandyte community.

A social worker, studying philosophy in what she calls her spare time, Louise is the mother of two daughters and two sons. She lives with them and her husband Stuart, a senior public servant, in Brackenberry Street. There are also various dogs and cats.

Louise is philanthropic by nature and training. Her parents, both doctors, left Australia for the remote, impoverished northern region of India when Louise was two. They worked as medical missionaries in a Methodist hospital for Moslem women. The hospital was begun after the First World War by her aunt, Dr Adelaide Gaunt, who lived in Yarra Street for many years.

Louise says her parents faced severe criticism from friends for taking her four-year-old brother and herself to such appalling conditions. Her parents' families were more tolerant; her mother had proven her skills in the traditional wifely tasks of cooking and house-keeping. "My mother was a woman before her time, combining a career with a family," says Louise.

At first, her father could not practise medicine. Moslem law forbade a man to examine a woman. Louise says the local religious leaders finally ruled that her father was neither a man or a woman: he was a doctor.

She describes him as a gentle man of great compassion. Her mother, an alert 83-year-old, still demonstrates the strength of character and inquisitiveness that determined her success in a dual role, at a time when women in Western society were expected to be housewives.

When friends accused them of being irresponsible for taking two young children to India, the Gaults hired a kindergarten teacher. Later, and until she was 14, Louise attended an American school at Mussoori, 2000 metres up in the foothills of the Himalayas. Then Louise returned to Melbourne to board at the Methodist Ladies' College, Hawthorn.

It was the pattern of English



Louise Joy: "Being involved in the community is not everyone's ideal".

missionaries at the time to send their children home to boarding schools at very young ages, but, says Louise, her experience at the American school provided the bridge between education and family life.

At the moment, Louise is chairman of the Warrandyte Community Co-operative and convener of the human services sub-committee of the Warrandyte Advisory Committee. Since 1965 she has been actively involved in the establishment of playgroups and babysitting groups, the Yarra View Kindergarten, the Co-op, the coffee shop and the afterschool childcare program recently granted money by the Commonwealth Department of Social Services.

She is still working on projects for a Warrandyte community bus and a bakery. Louise helped establish the Warrandyte Citizens Advice Bureau.

Louise is adamant that she is a 'team' person, and always praises her co-workers in community projects. Her admiration for the job done by Jean Chapman and Councillor Ken McKenzie at the co-

operative is obvious, and when agreeing to talk to the *Diary* she was typically concerned that public recognition of their exemplary service might be submerged.

Louise is delighted that the coffee shop co-ordinators, Jackie Law and Lee Podporin, have stabilised and expanded the operations. The need for child care, says Louise, continues from babyhood to teenagers.

"It was my experience with a kindergarten teacher governess that enabled me to recognise Pam Booth's ability to co-ordinate the childcare centre in Masonic Avenue," she says.

"I don't believe life is a balance of accounts. It is a chain of events linked by past experiences and present needs and aspirations. We build on what others have given us, and it is nice to give others something on which to build their lives."

Louise says it takes local people to recognise local needs. She has often been angered at what she says is the frustrating slowness and lack of empathy of the bureaucrats who provide the money and the 'go-aheads' for facilities.

"Being involved in the community is not everyone's ideal. It can become all-consuming. But sometimes tremendous efforts are required to achieve a community facility. People need to be aware of their own limits and family responsibilities so they do not become all-consuming involvements."

Louise has an expansive personality, combining flamboyance and entrepreneurial qualities with kindness. She likes to move on when sure there is a replacement once a project is off and running.

"Sometimes, however, you have to sit with a project or idea. The youth coffee shop is an example. It took time to find the right combination of people to ensure its success and future. We had to wait and persist. Like other community services, the coffee shop has blossomed in the past 12 to 18 months, and is a vital point of contact for many Warrandyte teenagers."

Louise loves Warrandyte and the spirit that is still evident in the community.

"Warrandyte has a place for extroverts as well as hermits. We extroverts often need to retreat for a while, too, for reflection or simple rest."

As the interview drew to a close she was at pains to point out that an impression of constant success should not be given. "I've led a juggled career of successes and mistakes like everyone else," she said.

A list of her personal qualities would include kindness, chattiness and humor. There are hilarious stories of Louise in her pseudo evening dress (her red dressing gown), but as a person her life is best summed up by her statement: "I think helping and caring are normal."

"It is tragic that in our materially oriented society these qualities are viewed with suspicion and considered abnormal."

As a passing thought she commented that she had done nothing out of the ordinary in the community. "I am merely following on the tradition of community spirit and concern that many people in Warrandyte have demonstrated."

That may be true, but who has done it with such dignified flair, yet just a touch of delightful eccentricity?

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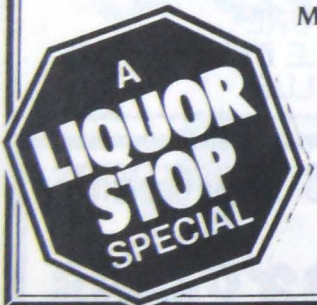
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**Echidna: nature's
little bulldozer**

The view from my studio window is a little strange these days. The ground outside looks as though someone has been putting in some overtime with a miniature bulldozer. The culprit is an itinerant echidna, who seems to pass through every few months looking for a meal.

The name echidna comes from the Latin for adder or viper and was formerly applied to certain eels. Its official scientific handle is most impressive - *Tachyglossus aculeatus*. *Tachyglossus* meaning quick tongued. This brings us to some of

the common names, which create a good deal of confusion.

The Spiny Anteater is often referred to as Porcupine or Hedgehog both of which are way off the mark. Although all three species are covered in spines or quills there are vast differences in their teeth and diets, just for a start.

In fact the echidna is completely toothless. At the end of its snout is a tiny mouth just big enough to allow the 300mm tongue, covered with sticky saliva, to dart in and out gathering ants and termites. These are ground between a horny pad on the tongue and a corresponding structure on the roof of the mouth.

The most important difference, and the one which sets the echidna and platypus apart from all other mammals, is breeding. These two animals are monotremes — they have only one opening, the cloaca, for the excretion of urine and faeces and the laying of eggs.

About 27 days after mating, the female echidna lays a single, soft-shelled egg, probably directly into her pouch. Quite a feat when you think about it! Ten days later a youngster, at approximately the same stage of development as a newborn marsupial, hatches to

remain in the pouch for the next three months. The characteristic spines develop, but remain soft and rubbery for a time. Echidnas do not have nipples, but exude their milk from the pores of the mammary glands.

After being evicted from the pouch, the young echidna is stowed in a safe niche while the mother goes off foraging. However, the female returns at intervals and will probably continue suckling her offspring for another few months.

Echidnas are found in abundance throughout Australia and Tasmania. They are a versatile lot and live in environments as widely varying as Central Australia and Arnhemland, where an almost hairless (but still spiny) form survives in air temperatures up to 40°C, to the 1200m altitude plateaux of Tasmania, where the hairy southerner appears to manage under a metre of more of snow at times. The main predators are dingoes and foxes.

In 1802 the Royal Society Journal carried an anatomical description and engraving of the echidna. It is interesting to note that the artist who produced the original drawing for it was none other than the infamous Captain Bligh.

Should you startle an echidna in the bush it will try to protect by digging in, so just wait very quietly until it feels safe enough to go about its business. Trying to dig it out won't do either party much good.

NATURE
Pamela Conder

How We Lived

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

The Creek beat the brewing

March, 1887: About 40 employees of the celebrated West End Brewery visited us on St Patrick's Day and I think I can safely say they had a good time of it.

A cricket match was played between 15 of them and 15 of the Creek, resulting in a win for the Creek by seven runs. Hopson and Paterson for the visitors did good service.

The catering was everything that could be desired, and it is likely the visit will become a yearly one.

The following are the scores:
WEST END BREWERY

Wardle, c White 5; Okley, c May 1; Carter, run out 0; Mendoza, bowled 0; Lance, bowled 1; Abraham, caught 0; R. Cathie, caught 7; Klutch, 1; Hopson, bowled 12; Palmer, bowled 0; M'Dougal, run out 1; Paterson, 22; Frost, run out 0; J. Cathie, stumped 3; Porter, bowled 1; Byes 6; Total 60.

ANDERSON'S CREEK

May, run out 7; Trezise b Wardle 0; Masteron, b Wardle 13; White, b Cathie 2; Hanley, c Wardle 9; Oldham, c Paterson 4; H. Squires, c Abraham 4; Collins, c Cathie 2; LePage, b Cathie 0; F. Squires, b Abraham 4; E. Blair, b Cathie 4; J. Blair, b Cathie 0; Mullins, b Cathie 1; Thomas, b Cathie 4; Harris, not out 1; Sundries 12; Total 67.

The Yarra Tunnel has started to work again and it is to be hoped that with the assistance of the Government grant, development will be made in the mine that will ensure its continuous and profitable working.

We are rather anxious as to our future mail delivery and hope that the Government will see the advisability of granting what the Creek has petitioned for, a coach line from Heidelberg.

At the local Police Court on Monday last (before Messrs Hutchinson and Bell JPs) C. Gould was charged by Constable Woods with cutting timber on the Warrandyte Gold Fields Common without the necessary permit, and was fined 5s with 2s 6d costs.

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From the Yarra to the Murray

Vacation becomes vocation

It wasn't that they didn't like Warrandyte. They did and do. It was more a case of turning a holiday into a longer one. A permanent holiday, you might say.

Nick and Sue Cutler once lived in Brackenbury Street; Sue's brother Hugh Diedrich and his wife Jenny lived off the Boulevard. God was in his heaven and all was well with the world.

But the families went on a caravanning holiday to Eden and thereabouts. "It was so pleasant," says Nick, that we said to ourselves, 'why don't we do this for a living?' We thought it would be a breeze. I can tell you that it isn't."

The four set about looking for a caravan park to take over. Says Hugh: "It got down to a choice between Ballarat and Mildura. The weather was the decider."

Students of Victorian climatic conditions will have deduced here that the fearless four decided on Mildura.

Home for the Diedriches and Cutlers is now the Calder Caravan Park, a clump of greenery right at the end of the Calder Highway, just before it turns right and loses itself in the clutter of suburban Mildura.



The Diedriches and the Cutlers.

The foursome, Sunraysia residents for the past two years, have 80 sites on offer. Forty are occupied with on-site vans, big beauties with their own water, TVs and toots. They intend to buy more as they go along.

"We have quite a few visitors

from Warrandyte to keep us up with the news," says Nick. "Jim and Kath Burbage, Geoff and Margaret Butler, George and Rosalie Vleck, John and Elaine George have stopped here. And Mike Browning keeps popping in..."

Nick and Sue have two children:

Paul, 7, and Anne, 5. Hugh and Jenny have Glenn, 4, and Brett, six months.

The last word goes to Nick: "We have 10 months of sun a year... and two months of winter. Winter, that's when you have to put on a shirt with long sleeves."



Keith and Norma Webb.

Off their blocks? No, on the block

Six years ago Keith and Norma Webb sold up the Warrandyte supermarket (leaving lock, stock and barrel behind) and headed about as far north as you can go without falling into the clutches of the dreaded New South Welsh-people.

Today they are "blockies", the name Sunraysia farmers give themselves. Their home is a substantial weatherboard house sitting among 33 acres of chest-high grapevines. Mildura is a dozen kilometres to the east; the border about the same distance in the other direction. They are tanned and fit and shrug off talk of the hard work they have put in to make a go of their Merbein property. It is a mite easier now; Keith figures on working only from 8 am to 6 pm instead of from sunrise to sunset.

The effort is paying off. "Last year was a good year, our first," says Keith. "We lost so much in our first three years that we've only just started paying tax."

Keith was a hard-working member of the Warrandyte Lions

Club. He has transferred his efforts and his sense of humor to the Merbein club.

Norma tells the tale: "He was catering officer for the club. The idea was that the club would make money by catering for receptions and functions and the like."

"He told them one day that he'd dobed them in for catering for a turn. 'It'll be a lot of hard work,' he said, 'but it'll be worth it. Oh, and by the way, I'll be a guest there'."

"He organised the whole thing and then sat down and was waited on by his colleagues."

Norma still helps out with church events and helped man the Quit Smoking caravan at the Mildura Show last year. In her spare minutes there she sneaked into the pavilion to see how Keith's bread offerings — his first attempt — were faring. She needn't have worried. Keith won first prizes for white loaves and for wholemeal and second prize for fancy loaf. And he took out the overall breadmaking trophy.

Perhaps all those years staring at packets of flour finally paid off.

Why not hire a trier?

Each month the *Diary* publishes the names of two local job seekers. If you have a vacancy we ask you to hire, as a community service, one of our triers.

Peter, 15 years old, is hoping to find an apprenticeship in carpentry or cabinetmaking. Janice, also 15, would like an apprenticeship as a chef.

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

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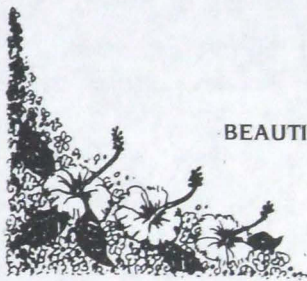
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Footy countdown on — and first up it's the old enemy



Memories of bygone glory will be revived when Warrandyte's 1987 football season kicks off on Sunday, April 12. The Bloods will be away to Coldstream, whom they beat in the mudbath, cliff-hanger 1983 third-division EDFL grand final at Doncaster.

It will be the first meeting since then, Coldstream having been promoted to second division after winning last season's lower-grade premiership.

Warrandyte senior players have been training since early February — a pre-season hampered, according to coach Dennis Clark, by unsatisfactory attendances.

"Fortunately, the ones who have trained regularly are the firsts," Clark told the *Diary*. "We are still looking for senior players and anyone who wants to play football for Warrandyte is very welcome to present himself at training (Tuesdays and Thursdays, starting 6 p.m.)."

Missing from this season's lineup will be ruckman, Len Halley (last year's best and fairest winner), defender, John Major

WARRANDYTE Diary SPORTS NEWS

and utility, Robert Moon. But Clark is confident that recruiting and the development of outstanding junior players will more-than-adequately fill any vacancies.

"We are negotiating with three new players, a young ruckman and two key position-utility men," Clark said. "And among our juniors, Kimberley O'Connor and Stuart Bardwell (under-16s) and Bob McHugh, Joey Hassall and David Griffiths (under-18s) are all strong candidates for senior selection."

Warrandyte Football Club president, Kevin McLean, sees 1987 as the first stage of a two or three-year plan to consolidate.

"It's no use going up into first division if you're going to come straight back down again," he said. Mr McLean said the club had

No prizes being offered here, but guess who? Give up? Okay. The subject of this flashback to the early 1960s is new Warrandyte Football Club president Kevin McLean, pictured during his playing days with Collingwood. Kevin played 34 games for the Magpies between 1963 and 1965 (including the 1964 grand final), served with dis-

tingtion at Hawthorn under the coaching of John Kennedy, then numbered two premierships among 74 VFA appearances with Preston. He coached Old Ivanhoe Grammarians for seven years and led Warrandyte to that memorable EDFL third-division flag in 1983, the third of his four years at the helm of the Bloods.

cut the number of contract players by more than half and rearranged the incentive scheme to encourage local players.

He also pointed to the wealth of young talent within the club. "We have seven or eight kids who have been training with VFL under-19 teams," Mr McLean said. "The calibre of kids coming through is very good and it is very encouraging for the future."

For the record: Warrandyte finished fifth in the 10-team second-division competition last season. The new teams in the division this year are Coldstream and Bayswater. The Basin have been relegated.

Warrandyte Football Club will round off their preparation for the senior season with two practice matches.

The Bloods will meet Doncaster on Sunday, March 29. The venue was undecided when this addition of the *Diary* went to press but it was hoped that the Warrandyte ground would be available.

Warrandyte will be at home to Croydon the following Saturday (April 4).

Warrandyte Football Club will hold a bush dance on Saturday, March 28, at the Park Orchards Community Centre, starting 8 p.m.

Tickets are available from any player or committeeperson or from secretary Anthony Giles-Peters (844 2573).

Wanted: Kids of both sizes

Warrandyte Football Club are seeking under-18 and under-12 players for the new season.

The Bloods will field five junior teams — under-18, 16, 14, 12 and 10 and have directed much attention to the provision of efficient off-the-field back-up.

The under-18s will be coached by Geoff Day, who urges any eligible, interested boys to contact him on 531 1697.

Under-12 candidates should contact juniors chairman Peter O'Toole (844 2419).

An under-12 coach is still to be appointed and applications are invited.

Club vice-president Bill Luttick will again coach the under-16s. Luttick has an outstanding record the under-16 premiership last season and the under-14 flag in 1985. The under-14s will be coached by Grant Brisbane and the under-10s by Stuart McLean.

Our girls bat on

Warrandyte's women cricketers will play off in their second successive finals series.

Runners-up in B-grade last season, they were promoted to A-grade East and finished the home-and-away season in fourth place.

They meet undefeated Buckley Ridges in the first semi-final and despite the quality of the opposition, can approach the game in a winning frame of mind.

In the season's previous encounter, Warrandyte failed by only a handful of runs.

Former Australian representative Sue Martin has been in excellent form and her century in the second-last round spearheaded the Dytes' win over Melbourne.

Jenny McLaws scored 84 in the same match and Jenny Chapman contributed 59.

Details: Warrandyte 2/273 deo. (Martin 100 n.o., McLaws 84, Chapman 59) d. Melbourne 218 (Martin 4/42, McLaws 3/64). Warrandyte 0/35 v. East Ringwood 200 (McLaws 4/54).

Finals chances flushed away

Rain, which plagued the opening of the season, proved the downfall of three Warrandyte teams as they fought for places in the Ringwood District Cricket Association finals.

The Chandler Shield first and second elevens were both in the top four when the final round started but dropped out when the second day's play was washed out.

This allowed other sides, which had taken first innings points on the first day, to advance to the finals at the Dytes' expense. The fifths were poised to move into the four but their hopes were also dashed by the rain.

Two Warrandyte sides will play in the finals. The under-16 (1) team

will defend its premiership and the women's eleven will meet competition leader, Buckley Ridges in a semi-final.

The performance of the senior side to all but make the finals was a remarkable turnaround from last season, when relegation had been very much on the cards.

Particularly encouraging was the improvement of a number of the younger players, which already has the club thinking in terms of big things for next season.

It must be pointed out, however, that the inconsistency and inexperience of those same players was possibly a factor in the loss of a number of games which should have been won.

One of the season's big improvers was David Sloan, who has developed into a handy all-rounder. His gritty batting, coupled with nipping, medium-pace bowling, has given Warrandyte greater balance.

Fast bowlers Mark O'Brien, Gerald Walshe and Chris Snaidero also showed marked improvement and should be all the better for the season's experience.

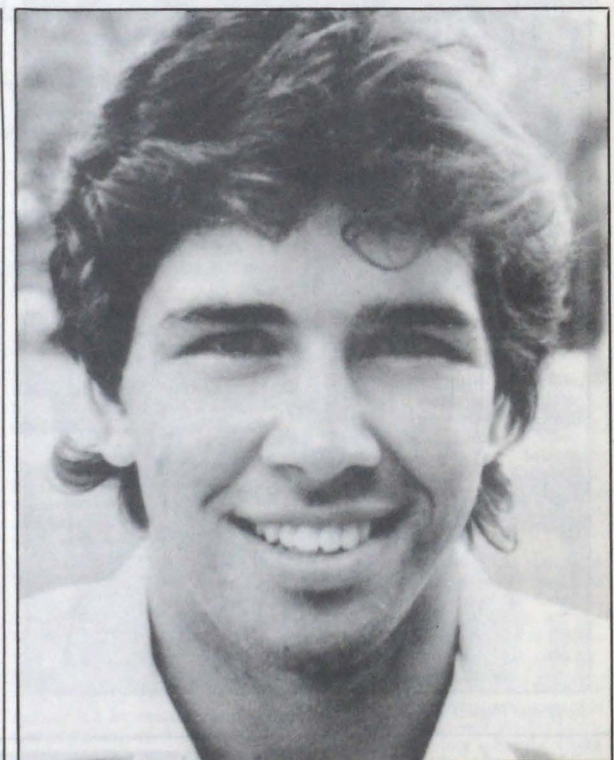
Cameron Day, fresh out of last season's under-16 premiership

team, ran up several good scores in the seconds and showed enough in the last two senior games to indicate a bright future.

The seconds had one of their best seasons, thanks to a good blending of experience and youth.

Their consistent performances all season deserved something better than being washed out of the finals.

Details:
ROUND 11:
 Chandler Shield: Warrandyte 263 (Sloan 82, Broome 81) and 6/101 (Sturesteps 37) d. North Croydon 159 (Sloan 5/37).
 Seconds: Warrandyte 196 lost to North Croydon 8/298 (Graf 4/67).
 Thirds: Warrandyte 8/292 (B. Baker 69, McMartin 38, F. Hughes 37 n.o., A. Snaidero 34) d. North Croydon 115.
 Fourths: Warrandyte 135 lost to North Croydon 179 (Booker 3/41).
 Fifths: Warrandyte 182 lost to Lilydale 222.
 Sixths: Warrandyte 207 (C. Dorning 58, Webb 54, G. Walker 31) lost Kilsyth 9/219.
LAST ROUND:
 Chandler Shield: Warrandyte 118 (Pascoe 33) v. Norwood 3/54.
 Seconds: Warrandyte 2/63 (McCarthy 35) v. Norwood 148 (M. O'Brien 5/35).
 Thirds: Warrandyte 204 (J. McMartin 71) v. Norwood.
 Fourths: Warrandyte 0/63 (Vitriritti 38 n.o.) v. Norwood 125.
 Fifths: Warrandyte 211 (Lawrence 53, Gathercole 41) v. East Ringwood 0/21.
 Sixths: Warrandyte 5/116 (Fernando 71, Conty 43 n.o.) v. South Croydon 93 (Chapman 4/12, Coffey 3/19).



Gerald Walshe... one of the big improvers

AFTER BATTLES, REWARDS

Warrandyte Cricket Club will hold two presentation nights in the coming weeks.

The first, for juniors, will be at

the clubrooms on Wednesday, March 25, starting at 6.30 p.m.

The senior presentation will be on April 4 at the South Warrandyte Hall.

Juniors gear up for big double

The Warrandyte under-16 (1) eleven will defend its RDCA premiership after another consistent season.

Led by example by Jason Kline, who has enjoyed an excellent summer with the bat, the boys are given an excellent chance of repeating their 1985-85 triumph.

Jason, who scored a century for the seconds just after Christmas, hit an unbeaten 102 in the second-last round to lead his side to a narrow win over Glen Park.

The same round produced magic moments for the under-12 (3) and (4) sides — the only win for the season in each case.

The third-division victory was particularly memorable... by two runs and scored in the last over.

Ben Saaksjarvi and Adam White both retired at the mandatory 30 in the big win by the under-12 (4) side over Mooroolbark.

The under-12 (1) team finished the season on a high note, hitting up 7/251 against Bayswater Park.

Matthew Green topscored with 37, but there were many contributors.

Details:
 Under-16 (1): Warrandyte 2/222 (Kline 102 n.o., Graf 53, Vitriritti 38) d. Glen Park 9/207 (Walker 4/58, Vitriritti 3/25).
 Under-16 (3): Warrandyte 98 lost to Chirnside Park 9/164.
 Under-14 (3): Warrandyte 64 lost to Kilsyth 146 (J. Reid 3/22, Spencer 3/24).
 Under-14 (3): Warrandyte 122 (S. O'Connor 22, Ellis 22) lost to Eastfield.
 Under-12 (1): Warrandyte 7/129 (Ryan 31 n.o., Jacobs 30) lost to Ainslie Park 9/242.
 Under-12 (3): Warrandyte 9/162 (Watkins 38, W. Hose 30 n.o.) d. Croydon 9/160.
 Under-12 (4): Warrandyte 5/170 (Saaksjarvi 30 n.o., A. White 30 n.o.) d. Mooroolbark 52 (Luttick 3/10).
Last round:
 Under-16 (1): Warrandyte v. South Croydon 9/170 (Graf 4/53).
 Under-16 (3): Warrandyte v. Lilydale 7/144.
 Under-14 (1): Warrandyte 9/105 (Read 27) v. Vermont.
 Under-14 (3): Warrandyte v. Chirnside Park 7/166.
 Under-12 (1): Warrandyte 7/251 (Green 37, Jacobs 32 n.o., Baker 31 n.o., Grybas 30, Johnson 28) v. Bayswater Park.
 Under-12 (3): Warrandyte v. Ringwood 144.
 Under-12 (4): Warrandyte 135 (A. White 41, Howell 35 n.o.) v. Boronia 2/29.

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