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Warrandyte Diary

PRICELESS

No 180, August 1987

Editorial and Advertising 844 2820

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Old gift can now aid town

By DAVID WYMAN

A prime one-acre site in Warrandyte may be offered to the State Government for a new community welfare development.

The site is known as the 'quarry disaster cottages' and is bounded by Webb Street, Brackenbury Street and Sloans Road.

The original cottages were built about 1935 to house the families of two men tragically killed in a South Warrandyte quarry accident.

But the families have moved on and while the cottages are still being rented they are in disrepair and lacking in many modern amenities.

The trustees of the Warrandyte Quarry Disaster Appeal recently sought community input into the site's future and in particular legal interpretation of sections of the trust deed.

A meeting on July 29 of an advisory group to the trustees recommended that the site be offered to the State Government for the development of welfare housing or some other community needs project.

The group resolved to "ask the trustees to inform the Housing Minister, Mr Wilkes, that the specific purpose for which land/houses were developed has now been satisfied. We would invite the Minister's interest in the land, pointing out that local residents/groups are very interested in the project and would welcome opportunity of having further and continuous input into future developments."

Chairman of the advisory group, Glenn Martin, said the recommendations have been submitted to the trustees of the quarry disaster appeal.

"There are various ways of disposing of or using the land, but we felt the best solution was to recommend that it be offered to the government for community welfare purposes. Otherwise we would try and raise money elsewhere and do it ourselves," Glenn Martin told the *Diary*.

But the future of the land is a long way from settlement. The trustees, who control the property, are known to want to consider all options and make a decision which fills a major need and is fair to all sections of the community. Among community welfare options are fa-

cilities for youth, the elderly or handicapped people.

According to the trust deed, the money from the sale of the property has to be distributed to local charities.

Most locals will be unaware of the existence of the quarry disaster cottages. They were built following a widespread feeling of sympathy for the families of two men killed on June 27, 1934, in a quarry accident.

It was the time of the nation's Great Depression, and the men were working for sustenance (about \$2 per week). They had only just started work at the quarry in Husseys Lane, South Warrandyte, owned by Bill Hussey.

According to newspaper reports at the time, the two men — Walter Black (55) and William Shea (32) — would not accept sustenance payments without working for them. They each left a wife and five children.

The deaths of the two men in such circumstances was front page news in Melbourne newspapers, and prompted parliamentary questions of compensation and assistance for the victims' families. The dependants of the victims received only 200 pounds (\$400) instead of the normal workman's compensation rate of 680 pounds (\$1360) under the Workers' Compensation Act.

Several weeks after the accident, a public meeting was held in Warrandyte and a committee was formed to organise an appeal for materials and money for the houses.

The appeal raised 130 pounds (\$260) and a quantity of building materials. Two cottages, each on a half-acre block, were built. One cottage was later burnt and rebuilt.

One of the trustees of the appeal, Viv Rush, said that most of the money was raised outside the area and came from a variety of sources.

Viv, who has virtually administered the property since becoming a trustee about 1965, said that a cinema night at the old Regent Theatre in the city "raised a lot of the money".

The coroner found that the two men "died accidentally from injuries received when a fall of earth from the side of the pit took place and buried them".

Walter Black and William Shea

Continued Page 2.



"You're doing fine, Oklahoma."

Oh what a beautiful evening...

It seems you can't go along to a school production for a good snigger anymore. You could always rely on one or two performers getting caught up in the curtains and a prompt who was more audible than the actors. In Warrandyte High School's production of 'Oklahoma' the kids and teachers strutted their stuff like professionals in a lively, spirited musical which had the audience toe-tapping and clapping for more.

By combining professional and inexperienced performers and production crew Chris White, producer, director and scenic artist extraordinaire, ensured that the first production in the new school theatre was lifted to a standard way above that of an amateur production. His efforts were supported by Bob Egglestone, musical director, and the creative choreography of Sarah Egglestone, who managed to tame even the meanest cowboy and put him through his paces. Sarah's dream sequence was an extremely well staged piece.

Greg Stewart's portrayal of Curly was full of inspiration for the aspiring actor. Greg immediately established contact with the audience, always playing out to them. His stage presence, coupled with a lovely tenor voice, was extremely beguiling.

Natalie Manser gave a mature and very pleasing performance in the shared role of Laurey and, playing the same role on alternate nights, Katherine Adcock's vocal and acting abilities ensured an outstanding performance. Mary Thompson and Barbara Gleeson



"It ain't so much question of not knowing what to do . . ."

brought their individual charms to the shared role of Aunt Ella and were obviously supportive of the cast when alternating in the chorus.

Jackie Phillips' personality was well suited to the bubbling role of Ado Annie, a coveted role of many soubrettes, and Sarah Fahie's Ado Annie literally stole the show. Sarah has tremendous natural ability. The very personable Nick Arnott

pursued both Annies with obvious pleasure.

The role of the peddler, Ali Hakim was very successfully played by Sacha Podporin, after the style of Groucho Marx, and alternately by Paul Armstrong, who showed very real promise in his first stage appearance. It took the experienced actor Forbes Hawkins, as the crusty Old Man Carnes to keep them both in line.

Jason Beringer, as the hapless Judd, sustained the character right to his last scowling curtain call. His scene with Curly set in the drab confines of his outhouse digs provided an opportunity to introduce a semi-revolving set. Set and scene changes were well handled by Barry Talman and stage crew.

None of the performances listed can be reviewed in isolation. Each was enhanced by the youthful zest and enthusiasm of the chorus and dancers.

Whilst recognising the significant contribution of the Eltham Community Orchestra and its conductor, Ian Lowe, to the success of the production, the formation of the school's own orchestra is, I understand, high on the list of priorities and is one which I am sure the community will fully support.

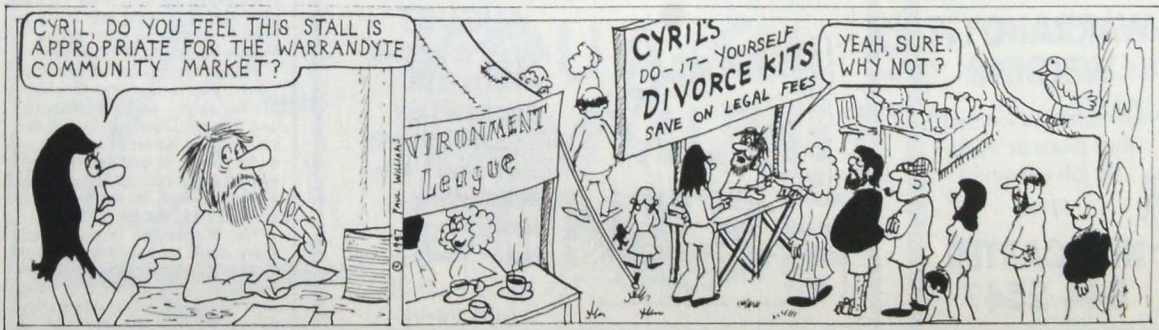
It would take a mean critter to lay too much emphasis on the odd missed cue or the occasional musical licence taken by both singers and orchestra. Overall the production was an outstanding success.

The theatre has yet to be completed in terms of lighting, but in all other respects the design works well and undoubtedly its flexibility will become evident in future productions. Chris White was justifiably pleased with the acoustics and general facilities.

Chris, who is to be congratulated on the excellence of this production, advises that there is already an advance booking of 50 seats for the school's next major production, West Side Story.

MARION WINTON

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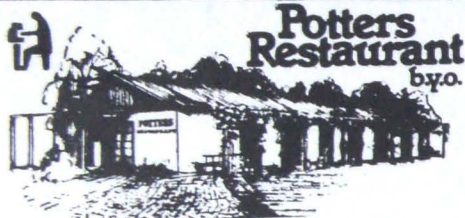
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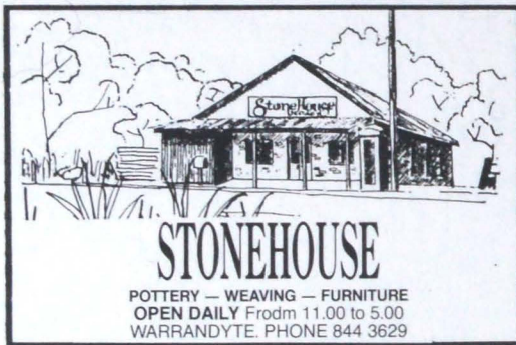
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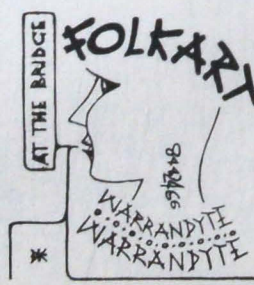
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IN RED & WHITE



We are long familiar (yet constantly surprised) by the verbal, on-air contortions of football legend-turned-commentator Jack Dyer, who numbers "he's always where the ball ain't" among his gems of phrase. And right chuffed we are to report the emergence of Captain Blood's local counterpart. Allow us to introduce Kevin (Captain Plasma) Luttkick. At a recent local game, Kevin solemnly remarked of a local player: "He's done nothing all day — but he's looking better."

We are moved — by news sense and pressure from his so-called mates — to give Kevin Luttkick a second mention this time, and to include his publicity-shy mate and accomplice, John Knox. They were having a tinnie or two (more, actually, because they had stocked up in case of nuclear attack) in John's shed when the good wife Wendy unwittingly locked them in after delivering a phone message. The durable duo insist their cries for help were carried away on the wind and that throwing the empties at the wall was also rendered useless by the prevailing atmospheric conditions. As luck would have it, they managed to dismantle the lock (an inside job) just as the last drop was drained from the last can. Wendy is still trying to establish if glazed eyes and unsteady feet are symptoms of claustrophobia.

Only split-second timing has saved the SEC from the fearful wrath of Smokey Joe. Bad enough that in this switched-on, high-tech age, the commission should all-too-often turn Warrandyte off for a whole day while it goes about whatever it does. But why July 22? Smokey slipped the saltmine's shackles that day, slid into the favourite armchair on the stroke of IV and was told that no, she couldn't warm the teev or cool the tins for the State-of-

Origin game because, sorry, the power's been off all day. Words were said, threats against State Government instrumentalities made and, as the household's only going trannie onpassed the last strains of "Advance Australia Fair" the tele and every light in the house flickered ... then worked! Timing? We have given the SEC the benefit of immense doubt by shelving the quill pen and curure.

Page three last month featured a review by Jan Liddicut of Mary Syme's Book, "Grief and Dreams". A few bods around town have commented on the confusion at the end of the article.

With a Violet Crumble as first prize (donated by none other than Smokey) we ask the following questions:

- (1) Did Jan Liddicut have an aberration?
- (2) Did the Editor have an aberration?
- (3) Did the Typesetter have an aberration?

If more than one person wins, the Violet Crumble will be sliced and shared.

We are more than chuffed. Remember back in February how we recorded the visit to Warrandyte of Irish dog show judge Dominic Harris. You must remember. He came from Kiltale, County Meath, the only village, hamlet or bus stop in the 'Old Sod' unblest with a pub. Well, we seem to have started something. Louise Joy tells us that our account is pinned to the public notice board of the Kintale corner store for the 12 residents to read. The gamekeeper's son wants to migrate to Australia. Until he can do so he is on the mailing list for the *Diary* via Marion Francis.

The things you learn in books. James Fairfax and Sons is publishing a swanky set of volumes to mark the 200th birthday of Oz. The cheap version will set you back a mere \$700 or so. We were delighted to look up Warrandyte in the "places" section and find that the railway came through here in 1902.

It was a case of love, set and match. Graeme Harris, fourth son of Bonnie and Ron Harris of, where else, Harris Gully Road, has charmed his way into the heart of Australian tennis champion Anne Minter, a Box Hill North belle. Graeme, no slouch with a racket either, popped the question in London. The wedding will take place later next year in our neck of the woods.

Smokey Joe

Continued from Page 1.

were working in the quarry filling a truck with gravel for use in Oban Road. Another man, Leonard Carrick, driver of the truck for the Shire of Doncaster and Templestowe, was there also.

Bill Hussey and Hugh Robinson, another quarry worker, were sharpening drills at a nearby house when the fall occurred, burying Black and Shea under 100 tons of gravel. Carrick was found buried up to his chest, whistling loudly for help. He urged Bill Hussey and Hugh Robinson to "get the other chaps — I can stick it".

Working in dangerous conditions, about 50 men from Warrandyte and Ringwood dug away the gravel, recovering the bodies of Walter Black and William Shea.

The accidental fall of gravel occurred after a thorough inspection of the quarry face that morning, and hammer soundings by Bill Hussey the day before. The unknown existence of a wall of mudstone against the gravel seam had formed a "greasy head" in the wet conditions, causing the gravel slip.

The Warrandyte Women's Auxiliary made arrangements for the funeral of the victims, who were buried at Anderson's Creek cemetery. Local Arbor Day celebrations, due to be held the day after the accident, were postponed.

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Councillor swaps wards

By JAN LIDDICUT

When Vernon Denford, aged 49 and married with four children stood for Warrandyte Ward, Warrandyte not only gained a new councillor but the immediate past mayor. Vernon first stood for council within Doncaster Ward in 1984.

He was born in Bristol, England. He has lived in both country and metropolitan areas, principally in the Donvale part of the city. A quiet mannered man, he is employed by the Office of Intellectual Disability Services, (Community Services Victoria) as an educational consultant.

Vernon has served on a number of council subcommittees — Committee for Regionalisation and Re-

Residents of Warrandyte, both sides of the river, were spared from voting in the recent municipal elections. Vacancies were filled unopposed.

In the Warrandyte Ward, City of Doncaster, three sitting councillors were returned; one councillor, Vernon Denford, "transferred" from Doncaster Ward. He lives within Warrandyte Ward and has filled the vacancy created by the

fusion Disposal Group, Northern Region, which is comprised of 10-12 councils; Advisory Committee for the Disabled; the East Central Weights and Measures Union, a consumer protection agency and advisory body and the Doncaster and Box Hill Regional Library.

retirement of Anne Martin. Other Warrandyte Ward councillors returned are Ken McKenzie and Christine Day.

The three Eltham North Riding Councillors were also returned unopposed. Mary Grant, Robert Marshall and John Fisher.

In this and succeeding issues, the *Diary* will "reintroduce" readers to their councillors.

Vernon, and his wife Sheila, have been driving forces behind the foundation of the Doncaster and Templestowe Palliative Care Association, which now has its "home" in Church Street, close to the Municipal Gardens. Sheila instigated the setting up of this organisation.

They perceived the need for such a community care facility from personal family experiences.

He told the *Diary* that he regarded events such as the Peace Ceremony and Mayor's Family Day as important highlights of his Mayoral year.

When asked to comment on what he hoped he could help achieve for Warrandyte Vernon replied that he was keen to help preserve the historic character of Warrandyte. He has a deep personal interest in history, inspired by his interest in antique scale collecting. He is an active member of the International Society of Antique Scale Collectors with many pieces in his collection, which he loans for special exhibitions.

New centre will be WAC topic

Interested locals have the chance to voice their opinions on the proposed new community centre later this month.

The centre will be a major topic of discussion at the annual general meeting of the Warrandyte Advisory Committee, to be held on Wednesday, August 26 at 8 pm in the Mechanics' Hall.

Doncaster and Templestowe Council purchased land for the centre almost seven years ago. Popularly known as 'Getsons', the ramshackle collection of buildings on this site has housed a number of local groups ever since.

WAC is now anxious to open wide community debate on the proposed centre: what it should contain, how it will look, how it will evolve, possible sources of finance.

Other areas to be considered include the wisdom of integrating the Mechanics' Hall and possible conflicting claims for a centre based on the Whitehouse at the recreation reserve.

CLIFF GREEN

Welcome to Diary helper

This month the *Diary* introduces a newcomer to its team of volunteer reporters. David Wyman, a professional journalist, recently moved to Warrandyte and has offered his expertise in helping to write our paper each month. Welcome aboard, David.

DISCO

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How much is that doggie in the driveway

Jennifer and Gerald Kenneman are new to Warrandyte. They are also hopping mad.

The problem revolves around their 15-year-old cross-bred terrier Bali and the reputation she enjoys, undeservedly say the Kennemans, with Eltham Council.

The Kennemans moved to Albert Road recently from a 20-acre property in St. Andrews. Their rates on the new house were paid, as is routinely done, during the property settlement. Bali's registration fee was not.

Then came a day when the ranger called and found Bali outside the fence. He took exception to her presence there and sent the Kennemans notice that they must pay the \$15 registration fee and a \$200 fine. In return the

Kennemans have sent the \$15 and a couple of letters that could best be described as "stinging".

For a start, the Kennemans object to their pet being mentioned in the same note as the phrases "unrestrained . . . dog attacks . . . stock losses". And as for her being described as a "Tibetan terrier", Jennifer Kenneman asks if this title was dreamt up "to denote our ability to pay the fines".

She goes on: "You have certainly caught her on one of the very few days when she is left outside, where she sits on an old chair. She is usually left inside the house."

Coming from St. Andrews, says Jennifer Kenneman, "we do understand the problem of dog attacks on stock in those areas of the

shire. But we feel the suburban areas are being asked to pay for what is happening in the outlying areas.

"About \$1500 must have been extracted on that Wednesday from the surrounding houses here in Warrandyte. Quite a hit."

The Kennemans are particularly upset by a letter from Eltham saying that the council has no power to alter fines set by the State Government. "The council must be given the power to operate in a humane way, as in any other instrumentality," says Jennifer. "It seems incredible that the \$200 fine could not be waived for genuine reasons."

Eltham Council now has the \$15 . . . and a fight on its hands.



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The day disaster struck

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

By the time the long hot summer of 1961-62 arrived, the district had been lulled into a sense of false security. Warrandyte brigade had its fire truck, the fire spotting, radio control and siren turn-out systems had all been perfected, and brigades in both North and South Warrandyte were up and running.

North Warrandyte, originally registered as the Stoney Creek Rural Fire Brigade, had commenced operations in 1953. The South Warrandyte brigade's experience went back to 1949.

The three Warrandyte brigades were now capable of isolating and controlling all but the most severe fires that started in the area. But they were not organised to cope with fires that were out of control by the time they hit the district.

On Sunday morning, 14 January 1962, there were several serious outbreaks within an hour and a half, all outside the area.

A fire started at the Basin, followed by at least one in Christmas Hills, north of Yarra Glen. Another fire started at Badgers Creek near Healesville, and a house fire at Chum Creek spread into dense bush and raced towards Healesville. Chum Creek brigade lost their fire unit whilst fighting this blaze.

The extremely dry conditions, and the number of serious fires going at the same time, split resources and made a successful attack almost impossible.

The Warrandyte fire truck, a Land Rover and a three ton truck with a water tank, left the area on Sunday to fight fires at St Andrews and in the Dandenongs. They fought, with short breaks, right through until early Tuesday morning, when they returned home to face fires threatening Warrandyte from both the north and the east.

They were ill-equipped to face the onslaught. South Warrandyte's equipment consisted of a few knapsack sprays and beaters; North Warrandyte had a 'Furphy' tank and pump mounted on George Stringer's truck.



Women and children seek sanctuary in Coleman's dam from bushfires that roared through the district in January 1962. (Courtesy Herald & Weekly Times Ltd.)

The wooden tower on which the North Warrandyte fire bell was mounted burnt down when the fire crossed John and Margaret Gilbert's property. Their house survived, due to the tank stand burning down, dumping the water from the tank onto that corner of the house which had just begun to burn. The fire bell was later donated to St Stephens Church of England, where it is still in use.

The fire swept all before it and came roaring into Warrandyte. Seen from Yarra Street, it filled the horizon as it surged forward with a terrifying highpitched roar, throwing a shower of sparks ahead as it came, so the bush was well alight by the time the main front hit.

Jack Cahill, an experienced bushman, was captain of the Warrandyte brigade. He led the volunteer firemen, the locals, and the many outsiders who arrived to help in the fight to save the town. Using the river as a barrier, men were stationed along the south bank to put out spot fires started by the showers of sparks that were blowing ahead of the main fire.

The firemen and other volunteers were holding the line, just outside the village on the Ringwood road, extinguishing spot fires that were creeping along the riverbank opposite the island. Suddenly they looked round. Fire was racing through the scrub south of the main road and the bush behind was a raging inferno.

The fire roared up the gully alongside Masonic Avenue, across Webb Street, over Fourth Hill, finally crossing the Maroondah Highway near the western corner of Deep Creek Road.

A Land Rover towing a pump and water tank, driven by Bob Trezize, was returning from attempting to stop the fires in Tills Drive when it hit another car coming through the smoke.

In the crash, the pump coupling was smashed and Peter Gray, a crew member, was thrown onto the road, breaking his leg and Geoff Day, another crew member, was jammed by the leg between the two front bumper bars. The rest of the crew removed Peter to the side of the road, then set about freeing Geoff. In an instant, however, the roadside verge caught alight and was burning all round Peter. A council truck separated the vehicles and took Peter away to be treated. His silhouette, in unburnt grass, was still visible on the roadside.

Typical of the many successful fights waged that afternoon was that fought by Tony and Peter Evans of Warrandyte and their friend Bruce Chivers from Templestowe. As the fire reached the

ridge above Research Road, the Evans home was showered with burning embers, starting spot fires all round the property. These were dealt with, using an electrically-powered pump from the river.

The main fire surged down the ridge, engulfing Hipwells' house in moments, then split: one front burning towards Hobdays', the other crossing Research Road, destroying Mains' and Prestons' houses. Finally the power failed, rendering the pump useless. The fight to save the Evans and McPherson homes and Jo Sweatman's cottage was continued, using buckets of water from a fish pond.

Just when things looked to be easing (and the pond was almost empty) the fire, which had been burning along the riverbank, turned and swept back up the hill. But the three young men held the line. Houses, firefighters and fish all survived by a hairsbreadth.

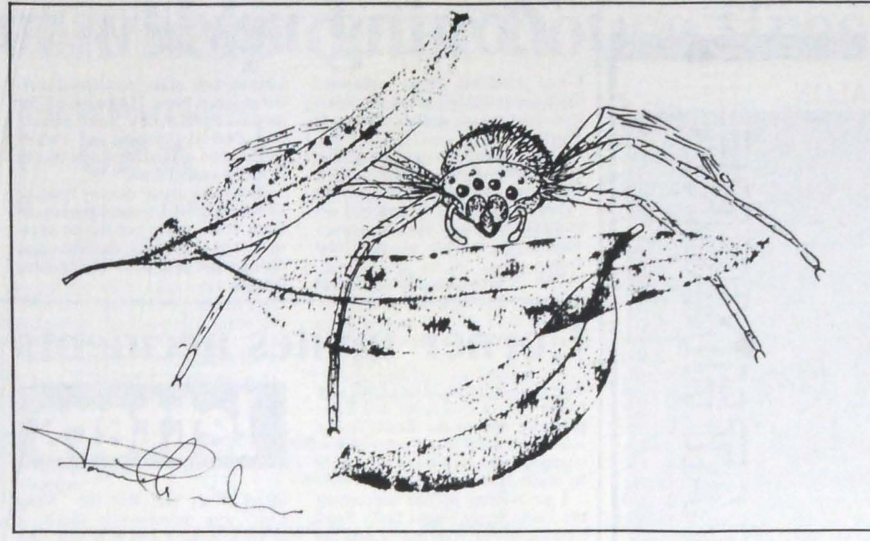
The orchardists with their spray units were invaluable that day. One arrived just in the nick of time. Yarra Street, opposite Anderson Street, was a sheet of flame all along to the dairy. The orchardist drove along, putting out the fire as he went.

At the same time, 75 year old Bill Hussey successfully extinguished the fire burning across the properties at 75, 77 and 79 Yarra Street. He fought alone, as he was the only one home at the time. Fortunately, the water had just been connected at number 75. Even so, it was touch and go. He turned the hose on himself before getting the fire under control.

Unfortunately, not all attempts to save properties met with success. In some instances the fight was lost and in two cases they ended in tragedy when the men concerned died.

They were neighbours: Leonard Brown and Harold Betton, both of Blooms Road, North Warrandyte. Mr Brown apparently dived into a concrete water tank under the house and died there. Mr Betton had earlier seen the safe evacuation of his wife and family, then returned in a last desperate bid to save the family home. He was attempting to spray the house from inside an elevated water tank when the tank stand collapsed.

To be continued.



Spider woman tells

Somewhere between my captive breeding program for snails and the intimate observation of frogs, one of those periodic invasions of the house by assorted arachnids gave me the idea of assembling a stable of huntsman spiders.

NATURE
Pamela Conder

Suitably housed in jam or coffee jars, and large enough not to require magnification, it seemed the ideal way to learn more about the ways of spiders at one's leisure.

There are various species of huntsman in this country, the body lengths of adults ranging between about two and four centimetres. They are characterised by the first two pairs of legs being longer than the two sets of back legs.

As the flattened body shape suggests, they are most at home under things — bark for instance. The legs are specially jointed to allow rapid movement in a confined space. Next time you see one on your wall, watch how it walks and you'll see what I mean.

As I mentioned, huntsmen make excellent subjects for a potted study of arachnology (at least the spider branch of it). You don't even need to catch one to make out the basic structure of cephalothorax, the combined head and chest with a bank of eyes on the front, and the velvety abdomen.

In front of the first set of proper legs you will notice two short, rather leg-like projections. These are the palps. Right on the front of the head are the fangs.

A huntsman is most unlikely to leap out and attempt to savage you. In fact, unless you happen to be taking liberties with its person, you'd probably not be bitten. All spiders have some venom to deal with their prey, but unless there is an allergic reaction, a huntsman bite would not be particularly damaging to most people.

There is certainly no call to bludgeon them to death when they choose to make a house call. In fact, when it comes to keeping insect pests in check, they're cheaper than fly spray and less likely to get up your nose. Should you wish to evict a spider, a glass over the top and a piece of card underneath is easy and effective, with no blood spilt on either side.

My less environmentally sensitive grandfather had a rather more

impressive method of dealing with spiders. Not wishing to come within striking distance of one, he would roll up a newspaper, set fire to one end and apply the improvised torch to the spider-infested curtain. Thorough, but expensive.

Huntsmen, as their swashbuckling title suggests, prefer hand-to-hand combat with their prey, rather than the beautiful, often elaborate traps of web used by some other spiders.

But they are, nevertheless, able to produce 'silk', just as the others do. It is in liquid form, and hardens on contact with the air as it is exuded from the spinnerets, visible at the rear of the abdomen.

My spider collection was banished, alas — even the mothers with egg sacs and spiderlings — after I decided to give them some air on the patio table one balmy evening. My family, lounging in folding chairs, was entertaining guests, including a lady of more than generous proportions.

When one of my specimens took it into his cephalothorax to stroll up the wall of the jar to peek out — 'giving the eye' with so many little eyes all at once — the lady was quite overcome. She squealed and took flight. Still 'wearing' our aluminium chair.

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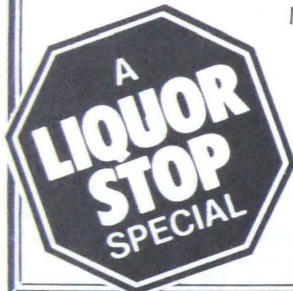
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JIM 844 3889

Zoning review welcomed

Local residents have welcomed State Government plans to review rules for dual occupancy housing in Warrandyte.

This follows an announcement by Mr Jim Kennan, Minister for Planning, that he will consider "soundly based environmental arguments as to why dual occupancy should be limited in particular areas".

The Warrandyte Environment

League and other concerned residents have been campaigning for months against new rules permitting dual occupancy and further subdivision of minimum size blocks in the township area.

They fear closer density housing would threaten adjacent pockets of State Park, exert population pressures on existing facilities and change the character of the area forever.

A spokesman for the residents' action group told the *Diary* that a recent council survey indicated overwhelming opposition to the proposal.

"We hope Mr Kennan will take heed of this solid expression of local opinion and will move to exempt us from inappropriate planning," the spokesman said.

CLIFF GREEN

Corner invites accidents

This is a copy of a letter I have sent to the City of Doncaster and Templestowe and to the Road Traffic Authority. I feel that if others wrote similar letters, improvements might be made. I wrote:

I am writing to you concerning the Yarra Street/Harris Gully Road intersection in Warrandyte and the frequent accidents and near-misses that happen there.

Within a fortnight, three people have related to me how they have been involved in an accident or near miss because of people who have driven out of Harris Gully Road and made a right-hand turn without seeing cars immediately on their right coming along Yarra

letters

Street. They feel that the "Keep Left" sign momentarily blocks a driver's view. I feel that this sign could be lowered or relocated.

Vehicles continually skid when the road is wet. A few years ago there was an advisory speed sign (I think 40 kmh or 50 kmh) for cars approaching the intersection, but this has disappeared. I feel that re-erecting these could cut accidents for motorists who are unfamiliar with this dangerous bend.

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Wine night to help kinder

You can enjoy a fine night out and help a worthy cause by popping along to the wine tasting evening lined up by the North Warrandyte Kindergarten committee for Friday, September 4.

A fine range of wines will be there for sampling in the North Warrandyte Community Hall along with cheese, biscuits, savories and coffee. Orders will be taken on the night, so bring the chequebook for a deposit.

All proceeds will go towards paying wages for integration aides at the kindergarten, and Warrandyte Rotary Club has offered to match the amount raised.

Information and tickets may be had from Sue Jaruis (844 1412) or Sandy Langford (844 2111).

Concerts for the people

The City of Doncaster and Templestowe is sponsoring an "indoor winter concert" series each Sunday at 2pm.

On August 23, the Frank Spinosa Trio and the Italian Dance Theatre will be presenting a combined program of Italian folk culture at the Bulleen Senior Citizens Club at the corner of Manningham and Balmoral Roads in Templestowe.

Warrandyte's turn comes on September 6 with "Swing Shift", which is described as a program of traditional ragtime and contemporary jazz. The site for this is the high school.

This project is supported by the music board of the Australia Council. Bookings are advised and can be made on 840 9258. Admission is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children and pensioners.

Legal advice

Solicitor Ainslie Lamb will discuss the law as it relates to families and will answer questions at an open forum to be held at the Old Post Office on Thursday, September 3, at 8pm.

Art success

Five Warrandyte artists have had paintings selected for an exhibition which will travel around Australia.

They are David Taylor, Max Wilks, David Moore, Reg Cox and Ramon Honisett. The ACTA Australian Maritime Art Awards Exhibition carries a rich prize.

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Booklet can help deter house fires

It is possible to establish permanent "built in" fire protection for your house and property by considering a number of factors. The Country Fire Authority and the Town and Country Planning Board have combined to produce a booklet entitled "Design and Siting Guidelines — Bushfire Protection for Rural Houses" which presents ideas on siting, design and landscaping rural properties for maximum protection from bushfires.

Copies of the booklet are available from the Fire Prevention Officer at the Shire of Eltham.

A well planned property needs to

North Warrandyte CFA news

locally reduce both the speed and the intensity of a fire before it reaches the more vulnerable areas. These areas need to be planned and maintained in a minimal state of inflammability.

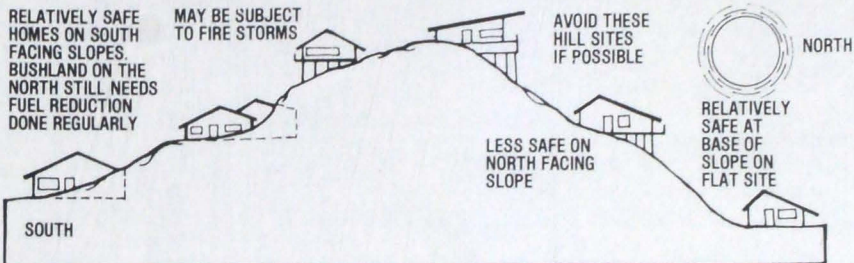
The booklet sets out details for a number of different localities — as Warrandyte predominately falls

into the "hilly" category, the major points to consider when locating houses to maximise fire safety are:

- * Avoid north or north-west facing slopes, particularly the steeper ones, and the ridges above them.
- * Locate houses at the base of, or on gentle south or south-east facing slopes. These slopes are damper and usually on the down slope side of a fire.
- * If building on ridge sites in bushland, ensure that the bush to the north or west is regularly "fuel reduced".
- * When building on slopes, it is safer to build the house on a "cut

in" bench rather than have it perched on the slope on stilts.

- * Flat or gently sloping sites are safer and easier for designing fire protection measures.
- * Roads or tracks should preferably be on the contour, or on a minimum slope.
- * Other things to consider when locating a house and planning a garden are:
 - * Houses should be located 100-150 metres (minimum) from pine plantations (because of the extremely high radiant heat levels associated with burning pine forest).
 - * Small stock grazing paddocks which can be kept eaten down in summer should be located on the fire prone side.
 - * Effluent disposal fields should be located to contribute to the green area of the garden, and planted with species of high water capacity and low fire risk.
 - * The use of cypress trees as a windbreak around a house appears to give good protection even in native forest settings. The ground beneath them needs to be kept clear of grass and dead matter.



Brotherhood luncheon

Jean McCaughey, wife of the Governor of Victoria, will be guest speaker on Wednesday, August 26 at the annual luncheon of the Warrandyte auxiliary of the Brotherhood of St. Laurence.

Mrs McCaughey is a member of the board of management of the brotherhood and helped prepare the famous poverty report issued in the early 1970s by Professor Henderson of Melbourne University.


Those who want to attend the luncheon should book on 844 3438 or 844 3203.

Adventurous Venturers

Six Warrandyte Venturers, accompanied by two leaders, hope to be among 3000 Australians attending the 16th World Scout Jamboree at Cataract Park, New South Wales, at the end of the year.

Australia will be host to 14,000 scouts and guides from overseas at the 12-day gathering, the first world jamboree to be held in the Southern Hemisphere. It will also be one of the first events of the Bicentenary.

The two girls and four boys, aged between 8 and 18, will represent the 1st Warrandyte Venturers if they can raise the \$450 to \$500 they each need to cover the cost of travel, camping at the site and expenses.



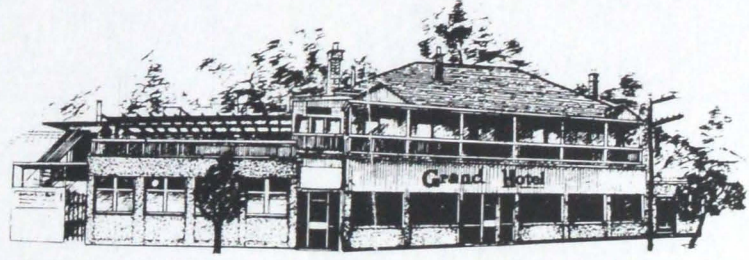
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Footy's lost weekend prolongs our agony

The agony of Warrandyte Football Club's struggle to avoid relegation has been prolonged by foul weather.

EDFL games scheduled for August 1 were called off after record midweek rains had turned grounds into quagmires. They will be played on August 29 — a week after the home-and-away season was to end.

If the Bloods' campaign to stay in second division goes right down to the wire, that postponed match (against Surrey Hills, at home) will be the decider. But when this edition of the *Diary* went to press, Warrandyte had more immediate problems on their minds.

They were preparing for the home game against Forest Hill, the only team they had beaten this season and their only "rivals" for the wooden spoon and relegation to third division next season.

Trailing by a game and percentage, the Bloods had to beat Forest Hill and win at least one of the remaining two games and hope that the Hillsmen didn't.

It was complicated stuff — and the extended season was doing nothing for nerves.

Neither did the lead-up to the Forest Hill encounter — away to Croydon — do anything for confidence.

Warrandyte were outclassed in a game which did more credit to

COACH COMES BACK... RELUCTANTLY



Dennis Clark... no enjoyment

It had been a long time between kicks (training-track punts and passes aside) for Dennis Clark.

The man who played with such flair and distinction for Melbourne (120 games) and VFA club Sandringham had last booted a ball "in anger" way back in 1982.

But the Warrandyte Football Club coach returned to active service last month in the home game against Bayswater.

Why? To give Warrandyte expe-

rience and voice on the ground.

"It was a desperate measure to try to avoid relegation," Clark said. "I've got some regrets. I regret it because I'm holding out younger players."

"But desperate situations call for desperate measures. Our remaining games will tell if it has been worthwhile."

And was he enjoying playing again? Frankly, no.

"I don't enjoy playing under duress," he said, "and I'm too old."

The coach is 36.

mud-wrestling than football. They were goal-less until 10 minutes into the third quarter and were beaten by 104 points — 21.11 (137) to 5.3 (33).

Warrandyte supporters who braved the cold and the spectacle consoled themselves by saying it could have been worse, after a half-time scoreline of 13.4 to 0.3.

The first half infuriated Bloods coach Dennis Clark. "We lacked endeavour in the first half, which was proven by the second half," he told the *Diary* after the game.

He'd had much, much more to say to his players as he paced the

dressroom floor during the interval. Few were spared his wrath — and the words obviously struck home.

Following his instruction to "pick up your opponent and beat him... let us try running numbers — what have we got to lose?", the Bloods began wading through the mud with more conviction.

They were never going to peg Croydon back — but they were damned sure going to make them earn their kicks.

Chris Snaidero broke the goal drought after a free in the forward pocket and 18.6 to 2.3 at the last

change was nothing to brag about but clearly an improvement.

Warrandyte matched Croydon goal-for-goal in the final quarter, but the final siren was universally applauded.

Best of the Bloods were captain Robin Golding (an outstanding bore-in effort in appalling conditions), Stewart Bardwell (a teenager with unlimited potential), Peter Banks and John McCartin.

"Banger" Banks continues to amaze — as does McCartin, the 1983 premierships hero who emerged from retirement last month.

Cricket. Be in it

Warrandyte Cricket Club is already in training for the new season, which starts on October 3.

And the call is out for new players.

The Dytes will field 14 teams in the new season (five men's, one women's and eight junior sides). The club has a proud history in the Ringwood District Cricket Association and is seeking maximum participation for its 1987-88 assault.

Juniors are encouraged at any level of age or experience. Ian Cameron, the junior administrator, has a full list of senior players to coach the kids at every practice session and parents are invited to phone him on 876 3581.

Men's contact: Steve Pascoe (844 1213). Women's: Jenny Chapman (844 1428). Jenni McLaws (844 4718).

Erection forecast

Extensions to the Warrandyte Recreation Reserve Pavilion are expected to be completed by November. And it will pay to be in on the "ground floor".

The football and cricket clubs are still offering \$100 shares in the development, with the entitlement of full use of the vastly-improved amenities.

The more income from now on, the better the fittings and furnishings. Contacts: Steve Pascoe (cricket club, 844 1213); Shane Revell, Kevin Luttick (football club, 844 3887, 844 3687).

They have been no world-beaters on the field this season, but you should see them on stage!

Maybe the Bloods should have spread their arms at the faintest touch (other teams do) and clasped imaginary hurts to the head in packs. No, our fellows save their thespian performances for the annual players' play and talent night.

The 1987 extravaganza is on at the South Warrandyte Hall on August 29. It's \$8 a head. BYO food and drink.

Not to be missed is the PP and TN. Particularly this year, when we've had little enough to laugh about.

Whoever penned the line "mud, mud... glorious mud" had never spent an August Saturday afternoon at the Croydon football ground. Warrandyte tends to have mud of the dark brown variety, and slippery. Largely odourless. At Croydon it is black and viscous. When the ball hits the ground it stops as if harpooned. The local players pluck it, kick it and do very well. The mud at Croydon stinks. You should always stand upwind.

Great moments are fleeting things in Warrandyte football this season. Just ask Shane Meers.

A premierships? No — but maybe an Oscar or two



Stewart Bardwell... whizzkid

Young Shane, a reserves promotee, was heartily back-slapped by his team-mates after putting through a long, raking goal (Warrandyte's second) in the third quarter against Croydon. Alas, the ecstasy was all too short lived. Croydon grabbed the ball from the ensuing throw-up in the centre, whisked it forward and goaled from



Chris Snaidero... a goal!

a chest mark in the square. Shane's goal had taken the best part of 90 minutes to achieve. The response took about four seconds.

The answer to the cynics is no, Warrandyte players haven't forgotten the words to the club victory song. They're just a little rusty on it, that's all.

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JUDY JAQUES & JAZZ EVERY THURSDAY

BOOK EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT

EARTHMOVING & LANDSCAPE CONSTRUCTIONS

Specialising in garden design & preparatory ground layout or to full completion.

- ROCKS SUPPLIED & PLACED
- RETAINING WALLS
- ALL ASPECTS OF PAVING
- QUALITY PLANTS SUPPLIED

FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICE PHONE
PAUL TROTTER 844 1218
Free quotes given