

GOLDFIELDS PLAZA



PRICELESS

WARRANDYTE

DIARY

No. 192, September 1988

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Warrandyte: what a fight!

Warrandyte will be watched very closely when Victoria goes to the polls on October 1 to elect a new state government. It is the second most marginal seat held by the Cain Government and a switch by fewer than 100 voters would have lost it to the Liberals last time.

The sitting member, Lou Hill, faces a field of five competitors, including two independents and a representative of Fred Nile's Call to Australia Party.

But Lou Hill's main opponent will, of course, be the Liberal Party candidate. The Kennett team is standing Phil Honeywood, 28, an employee relations officer, of North Ringwood.

Although the seat is a swinger, the Labor MP has at least two advantages. He has drawn ahead of Honeywood on the ballot paper, and can be expected to pick up what "donkey vote" exists in what is an electorate more educated than most.

Lou Hill should also have the preferences of the Australian Democrats candidate, laboratory technician David Ball, 30, of Elwood. In

DUAL OCCUPANCY DEAD

In what must be seen as an election-eve victory for the MLA for Warrandyte, Lou Hill, the Government announced the end to any more "dual occupancy" development in Warrandyte.

Tom Roper, the Minister for Planning and Environment, gave details of the Government's change in policy when he addressed locals at Pound Bend on Monday, 14 September.

The Minister said that Lou Hill's campaign against dual occupancy, on behalf of a spirited local opposition, had alerted the Government

to the strength of feeling.

Dual occupancy would have allowed certain landowners to subdivide some blocks into two residential lots. Warrandyte people raised objections. The area that could have been subdivided was between the State Forest and the Yarra. People were worried about problems of sewerage, drainage and traffic.

Said Lou Hill: "This decision is a great win for Warrandyte people, who with me fought hard to prevent inappropriate development in this sensitive area."

what many consider to have been a short-sighted move, Liberal Party MPs voted down a proposal to introduce proportional representation to the Legislative Council, a change that would have given the Democrats representation in state parliament for the first time.

The Democrats have retaliated by asking their voters to give their preferences to the Labor Party. The Democrats have polled well in Warrandyte in the past.

In some ways, the electorate is

misnamed. The bulk of "Warrandyte" voters live in Mooroolbark and a pocket of Croydon. A check of figures from the last election shows that the township of Warrandyte voted a slight Liberal majority.

The opening of expensive estates between the high school and Melbourne Hill could be expected to make things harder for Lou Hill.

Lou Hill, 44, a barrister, won the seat in 1982 from the former Arts Minister in the Hamer Government, Norm Lacy, a Church of England

vicar who swapped one ministry for another. Lou's margin then was about 2 per cent.

Lou Hill is campaigning on the economy: "The economic strategy of the Cain Government is paying off handsomely. We have the highest rate of employment in Australia. We have the highest rate of investment and development in Australia. Because of this our children will have a better chance of decent jobs now and in the future."

The MLA has been active in the run-up to the election, announcing a \$10,000 grant to pay for a "townscape study" of Warrandyte's traffic problems and piecemeal building development, and nearly \$500,000 to renovate Warrandyte Primary School.

He is particularly happy that Warrandyte's public transport has been improved. "There are now many more bus services in Warrandyte and Park Orchards, particularly in the peak to the city."

"Saturday buses have been increased and a Sunday service is to commence soon. Warrandyte is the first community in Victoria to be given a grant to develop a community bus, which is already serving school children and the elderly."

Phil Honeywood also sees trans-

port as an important issue. He says services in the area are still inadequate. The Liberal candidate has also attacked what he says are Labor Government proposals to develop the Lower Plenty "corridor" district to take up to a quarter of a million new homesteaders over the next 10 years. Phil Honeywood says this could have a disastrous impact on Warrandyte, as motorists are funneled into the area to cross the Yarra at one of the few bridges available.

The Liberal candidate cannot be faulted for his dedication to the battle. Mr Honeywood has peppered local newspapers with handwritten press releases, well-argued. He has been hampered, however, by the leadership's television preference for trying to claim that Premier John Cain has mismanaged the economy, a proposition that many voters may find bewildering.

The Democrats' David Ball holds impressive credentials in the field of conservation, not surprising for someone who is the party's spokesman for conservation, forests and lands, water resources, agriculture and rural affairs.

Mr Ball says his party is committed to building the rail link from Victoria Park station to East Doncaster. The Democrats would also

seek to increase housing for the poor — "low income earners" — and fight for law and order with an undefined policy "based on the concept of crime prevention".

He says: "The Democrats are in the best position they have yet occupied in terms of their ability to affect Victorian politics. Mr Kennett has already set the terms of the election by denying Victoria its chance at electoral reform, and, our members will show that the Democrats mean business when it comes to getting a fair go for Victorian voters."

Over the river and into the trees, the Labor MLA for Whittlesea, Max McDonald, would have to cop a swing of 4.2 per cent to unseat him. Max, who represents North Warrandyte voters in one of the biggest urban/rural electorates in any state, faces a straight two-way contest with timber merchant Geoff Parsons, fighting for the Liberals.

Max McDonald has at least survived one challenge to the past. At a fund-raising turn held during the campaign at the Epping Hotel none of the people taking part in the quiz could name the Member for Evelyn between 1982 and 1985.

For shame: it was Max McDonald.

Spirit of a town caught in a play

Sometimes an event becomes a snapshot of a community, a glimpse of a town poised between the past and coming change. Anyone who looks back from the vantage of 20 years might see 'The Sallow Wattle' as such a happening.

It was billed as a world premiere, and so it was. Having locals Cliff Green, Lee Tindale and Barry McKimm as playwright, lyricist and composer, meant there was very little chance of seeing 'Wattle' open on Broadway. It had to be the Warrandyte High School theatre.

Now, we should be sensible here. Broadway, or London's West End, or even a fortnight or so at Her Majesty's in Melbourne would be a lovely dream. But 'Wattle' is too parochial to be transferred. Let's be thankful for that. Nevertheless, its opening season will not be its last appearance.

It is a tale of bushfires and friendship and war. It is a comedy and a drama. And it is a tale of love. Perhaps not so many years ago the theme of a love affair between a white girl and a partly-black boy would have raised a snigger or a snort or a letter to the editor. How much we have grown since then.

The performers were a magic mix of youngsters who could step on to a professional stage as soon as an agent crooked a finger and kids who surmounted their fear and found they were actors, and did the best job possible.

First night was a combination of fluffed lines and curtain problems and nerves, nerves, nerves. On the middle pages of the Diary you can see a considered opinion and a proper review.

This is not the place for it. This is a chance to say that Warrandyte put on its best face on August and showed off the talents of its young citizens, and a parcel of its older inhabitants. All should realise they have made history.

For if the suburbs expand and take us over — and change us from a proper town where we know each other and have regard for our differences — into an appendage of the city, then at least we will have made our attitude known.

We're not a bad mob. You only have to have seen 'The Sallow Wattle' to know that.



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CYRIL BY PAUL W.



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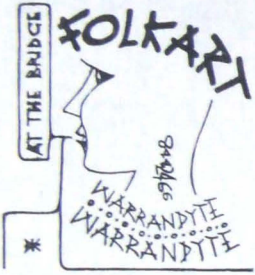
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Editor's note: Smokey has gone off the deep end again. This month the lad seems to have a bee up his kilt about Warrandyte's atrocious traffic. Please bear with him.

It's anarchy really — when the local cops refuse to book illegally parked cars (at the request of a resident), despite the danger they're causing to unsuspecting motorists as they whip around the bends of Yarra Street, and when Doncaster Templestowe Council won't appoint by-laws officers on Sundays. Our boys in blue, run off their feet on weekends by the regular invasion of tourists, reckoned they'd have had to book more than 100 cars from the bridge to the Stonehouse, or thereabouts, the day of the canoe championships. "We don't have the manpower or resources to do what should be done by council parking officers," they told the despondent resident. So, park away, people. You're pretty safe from getting pinched on Sundays down in Yarra Street. Smokey supposes we'll have to hope that not too many people get hurt or killed along the way.

Actually, we could fill the whole column with "Tall Tales But True" about Yarra Street parking. How about the new shops next to the pub? It's a hairy business getting in and out of the drive-in bottle shop. Some of us remember the struggle former councillor Johnny Scott had getting a parking bay removed from outside the bottle shop so motorists had a little bit of a change to see traffic coming from the Ringwood side of the road. Maybe now they'll be able to do drive-in shopping straight through the four plate-glass windows that are almost on the road. At least they're over the road from the CAB so some quick advice might be at hand. Like the name of a barrister or insurance broker.



The classic evidence that Yarra Street is a shemozzle at the best of times was witnessed by a resident in the early hours of the morning.

Awakened by a truck horn honking and seeing flashing yellow lights, she rushed out in her nightie to see if help was needed. Oh no, it was just the Sulo bin truck warning the fellas on the back that a car was coming as they dashed across the road to collect the bins they'd forgotten (again) from the Pancake Parlor. At this stage an MTA bus casually pulled out and passed the truck, completely blocking off the road for a few seconds. It was sheer good luck and not good management that there wasn't a pile-up. Makes you wonder. It's not often this little lady starts the day with a comforting sherry...



There used to be an auspicious group around town known as the "Warrandyte Derros Fishing Club". Smokey has seen a few "hauntings" around the place, but the club seems to have disappeared into oblivion, alcoholic or otherwise. But then again, maybe they've been scared off by canoeists and the like, especially the ones who rave over public address systems on Sunday morning, as happened recently. Perhaps the derros just gave up, like the fish who probably swam faster than they ever have before that fateful Sunday morn when the Victorian Schools Canoeing Championships took over the river, the riverbank and woke all and sundry half way to Research before 8.30 am.

(Message ends here. Meanwhile, back at the front...)

Max the gordon setter is quite a dog. Living south of the river has spared him a persecution complex and his rapport with the boss, Bob

IN RED & WHITE

Cox, is remarkable. Max and Bob both enjoy their nightly walk to the RSL Club. Bob leads Max the few hundred yards to; Max takes the leash in mouth and leads Bob from, a few pool games later. Max is a character; so is Bob, the shortest WW2 flying ace of our acquaintance. We've heard of young blokes putting up their ages to get into the services, but who (apart from Coxie) ever put up his height?

These really have been busy weeks for Cliff Green — having seen one "baby" off he took delivery of another almost immediately. On September 8, Cliff and Judy became grandparents for the third time. Adam Ewart (second son of middle daughter Kathy, and Rob) missed The Sallow Wattle's closing performance by just 12 days. And it is probably a mere rumour that "Acacia" was Cliff's favoured name for a girl.



We were somewhat peeved by one Peter Clancy's outspoken description of the *Diary* as a "little (expletive deleted) rag". Peeved enough to want to know a little more about the fellow. What did he do for a crust? we asked. "I'm into drilling and boring," said the aforementioned Clancy. He didn't have to go that far. We only asked his occupation — not the outstanding feature of his character.

Continued on Page 7



Smokey Joe

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THE LONE RANGER

The dog sat on the tuckerbox outside of Gundagai;
 An Eltham ranger passed that way, the ranger
 wondered why
 The dog was unattended (though he seemed to be
 asleep);
 "I'll bet at night," the ranger said, "you go out killing
 sheep
 "And melting roadside edges with your streams of K9P,
 "And even barking sometimes. I arrest you! Come
 with me!
 "And what is this? UNREGISTERED!! I warn you; Try
 to bite,
 "I'll draw this bloody magnum and I'll blow you out
 of your sight!
 The dog sat on the tuckerbox unmoved by pounds of
 lead;
 A salvo missed his tail by lots; a volley missed his head.
 "Give in?" the ranger challenged. "Ah, I see you have
 no fight;
 "Hands up, you cur! You'll neither kill nor bark nor pee
 this night!
 "I'll take you back to Eltham Shire and fine your owners
 heaps
 ("The ultimate deterrent for the killing of the sheeps),
 "And make 'em put up fences where the trees have
 always been;
 "I'll show 'em that the Eltham Shire is raw as it is
 green."
 The dog sat on the tuckerbox and didn't turn a hair;
 "Oh well," the ranger told him, "then I'll leave you
 sitting there;
 "But let this be a lesson: Just be warned this gun's for
 hire
 "To canine-hating good folk of the tree-green Eltham
 Shire!"
 The dog sat on the tuckerbox, his patience well-nigh
 spent
 And spoke up to the ranger just before the ranger went;
 "I say," he said, "a moment of your precious time I
 beg!"
 The dog got off the tuckerbox and piddled down his
 leg.

"Tonto",
 North Warrandyte.

Fourteen more shops set for township

By DAVID WYMAN

Warrandyte is getting another 14 shops — four next to the pub and another 10 down in the West End.

Most existing traders appear to be against the West End development, which includes a two-storey shop and office. But at least, some say, it appears this will take the area up to the full number of shops allowed under the West End's "restricted business" zoning.

In other words, there can't be many more surprises to come.

Meantime, the first stage of a "concept plan" for the West End has begun with improvements to drainage, road surfaces and footpaths in Melbourne Hill Road.

The work follows years of complaints from the parents of Anderson's Creek Primary School children and local traders and residents. They have described the roads and footpaths in the Drysdale Road, Colin Avenue and Melbourne Hill

Road areas as "a mess" and at times very dangerous.

City of Doncaster and Templestowe engineers have designed a one-way realignment of Melbourne Hill Road, with car parking bays, and better footpaths, from Warrandyte Road.

The short one-way section, a speed hump opposite Colin Avenue and concrete footpaths are prominent in the scheme to improve pedestrian safety.

There is no doubt that the present work has arisen from a need to improve underground drainage in the area with the building of eight new shops in Colin Avenue from the Drysdale Road end, with off-street parking in front, and two shops with offices above, at the other end of Colin Avenue.

A council spokesman told the *Diary* that procedures had started for the construction of Colin Avenue, Drysdale Road and Leber

Street in a "private street scheme." The sealing of these streets, with improved drainage, followed public consultation but it had to go through all the processes of the Local Government Act and could be a long way off, the spokesman said.

Continuation of the work in Melbourne Hill Road will depend on money being available for the project in the council's next financial year, beginning on October 1.

The spokesman said that during 1987, council officials consulted the primary school and traders about the future of the area.

"Following those discussions, which largely centred on circulation of traffic and the safety of school children, council adopted a concept plan. We have started the plan with the work that you see. What happens next depends on the funds allocated for the project in council's next budget," he said.

Three see world, by canoe

The Yarra seems a rather tame river to the three Warrandyte canoeists who recently travelled overseas to compete in World Championship events.

Richard Macquire and Kane Pinder went first to the USA to take part in senior competition. Richard achieved 35th and Kane a 40th place, excellent results for young canoeists in a world-class senior event.

Then it was on to Europe for the junior event in Spain. Richard came a remarkable 15th, a result he is justly pleased with, and Kane 27th. Unfortunately the third Warrandyte competitor, Tim Wilson, hurt his back and was unable to finish the course.

The team thoroughly enjoyed their travels, particularly in Europe where they got around in two cars with the canoes on top. They even managed a short skiing holiday.

They found the scenery, and the rivers, in the Pyrenees where the competition was held very exciting and different to Warrandyte.

The team wants to thank all their Warrandyte supporters, particularly Eltham Council and the Lions Club for their financial contributions. Several local businesses also made donations towards the visit, and Richard and Kane hope that if they gain selection next year they will get even better results with more community support.

Neighbourhood Watch scheme is on

Warrandyte's first Neighbourhood Watch crime prevention program will start soon, covering the western

side of Research Road from Bradleys Lane to Glynn Road.

This follows a meeting in August between interested citizens and Sergeant Dave Burge of Warrandyte Police.

The meeting was told that the crime rate in Warrandyte — burglaries, specifically — was not particularly high. Residents stressed, however, that they did not want to see it rise.

Petitions supporting the establishment of Neighbourhood Watch are available for signature by residents at local shops and milk bars, the Citizens' Advice Bureau and the Warrandyte Community Workshop Co-operative.

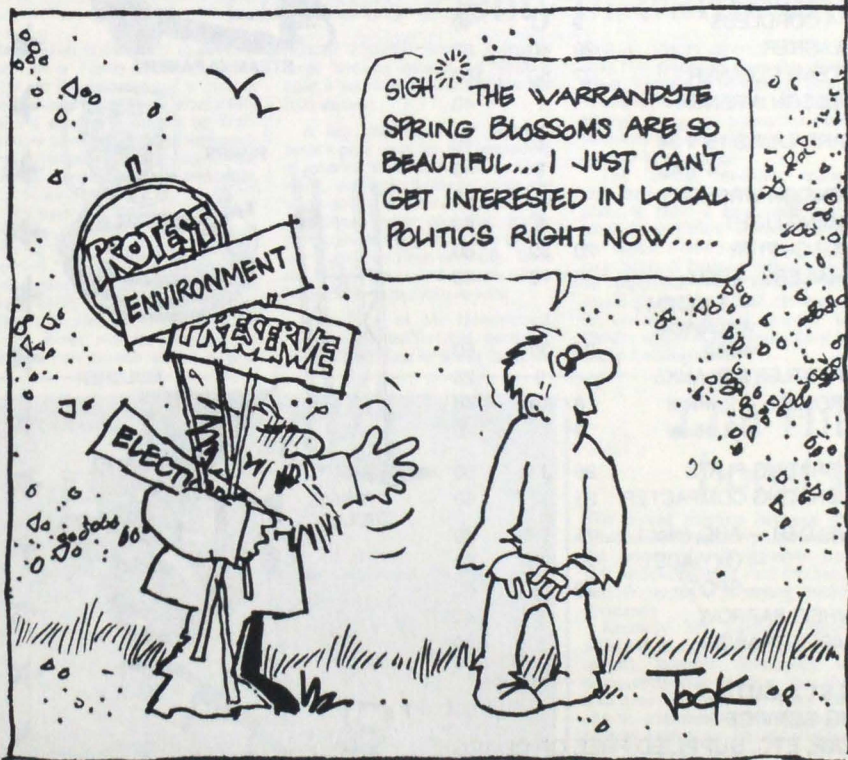
For any queries, ring 844 3082 or 844 1966.

Festival is on again

The Greensborough Festival is on again. This year, the festival will take place on Saturday and Sunday, October 8 and 9. The festival committee invites participation from all areas of the community and invites non-food stallholders, buskers and performers.

Festival

This year's Eltham Festival — its theme, "Eltham Past, Present and Future", begins on November 10.



Pipped about the prunus; any spare sets of initials?

By JUDY MACDONALD
 As someone who has been known to bore others to tears about the richness that Warrandyte's mixed flora brings to the village setting, I'd like to ask the following questions.
 • Do the Warrandyte Lions Club and the Warrandyte Environment League have a bicentennial project underway?
 • Does this, or indeed any project, include the removal of prunus clumps from the roadside and around the bridge tennis courts?
 • If so, then why — as it's our environment also — wasn't the community consulted?
 I've listened to many arguments about prunus in the state parks and would be prepared to join a quarterly "prunus pull" if that would help. However, the Warran-

dyte streetscape belongs to the whole community, albeit one divided on the issue of indigenous versus introduced.
 If it's not already too late, let us all have a say before the clearing and change goes any further.
 Landscape architects, from elsewhere, were persuaded several years ago by this community to leave the roundabout surrounds alone as much as possible. Now we are faced with a more insidious change; a change taking place from within, without community awareness.
 A further question: do the splendid stands of elms opposite the cop and the few remaining oaks around the village, face a similar fate? These colorful immigrants are part of this town's history.

Unless surrounding areas are persuaded not to plant prunus and non-indigenous species on nature strips and in gardens, removing them from Yarra Street seems futile. Birds do fly, you know!
 Surely we are not seeing the last generation of school children able to feast on sun-warmed plums on the way home from school. Sentimental? Yes, I guess so, but we came here more than 17 years ago for similar sentiments.
 I expect some caustic responses and indeed some of botanic brilliance, but that is healthy. Open debate is one way to ensure that a community has its say.
 A bicentennial project that organises a rostered, sectioned, state park clean-up, to follow annually, rather than destruction of our

streetscape would no doubt be avidly supported by those like myself, who experience a quick lift of the spirits each year when a brief cloud of blossom hovers along the river, or a rich fall of golden leaves softens the landscape.
 Perhaps if there's to be no consultation, some old initials lying around, like WPOPG, could be revived to mean the Warrandyte Prunus and Oak Preservation Group!
 Seriously though, Lions have done a great job for our community, as have past environment leagues. Wasn't it the league which fought to save the claret ash and old cyprus? Let's hope that new faces don't change old principles. Once our streetscape is erased, we've lost it forever.

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BRUSHCUTTER	19	25	60	PUMP — SUBMERSIBLE	20	30	60
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— 14" BAR	25	32	60	ROTARY HOE	37	48	100
— 12" BAR	24	30	60	ROUTER	8	10	40
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CREEPER		6	40	SEWER SNAKE	20	30	60
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CYLINDER HONE	9	11	40	SLASHER	29	40	80
ENGINE HOIST	15	20	60	STEAM CLEANER	37	50	100
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EXT. LEADS 100 mtres.		6	10	TARPAULINS 18' x 24'	6	40	
ELECTRIC JACK				24' x 40'	8	40	
HAMMER	24	30	60	TENSION WRENCH	7	40	
DRILL — IMPACT	9	12	40	TIMING LIGHT	8	40	
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GENERATOR 2½ KVA	19	25	60	TRAILERS — BOX	8	10	40
GENERATOR 3 KVA	24	30	60	— TANDEM with ramps, winch	24	30	60
HEAT GUN	8	10	40	TRESTLES & PLANKS	9	20	
HACKSAW		6	40	TROLLEY — 2 wheel	8	10	40
JIGSAW	10	14	40	— 3 wheel	9	11	40
LADDERS — 6 ft.		6	40	VIBRATING PLATE	25	35	60
— 16 ft.		7	40	VIBRATING COMPACTER	25	35	60
— 20 ft.		8	40	WELDER — ARC. (elec.)	11	15	40
— 30 ft.		8	40	— OXY-ACET.	19	25	60
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LEVEL — AUTOMATIC	15	20	40	WHEELBARROW	6	40	
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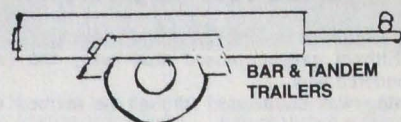
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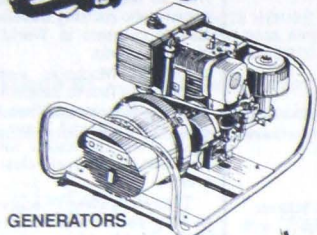
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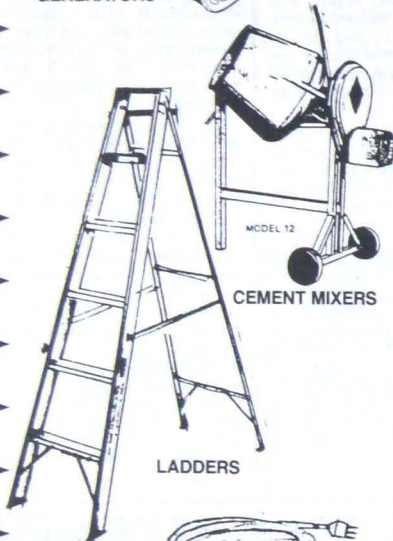
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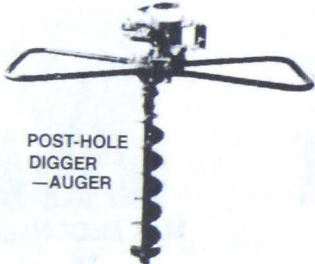
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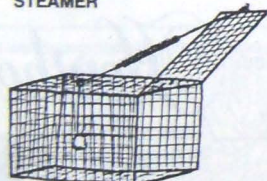
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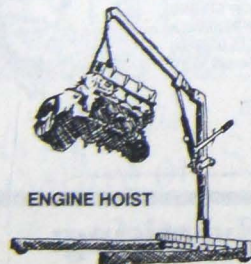
POST-HOLE DIGGER — AUGER



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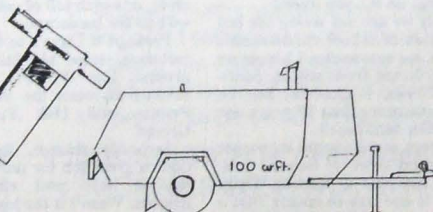


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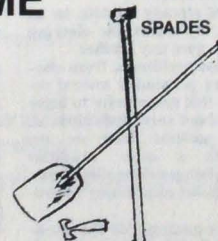


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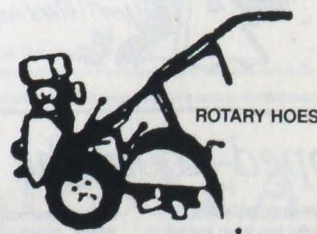
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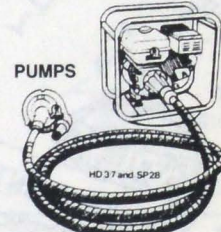
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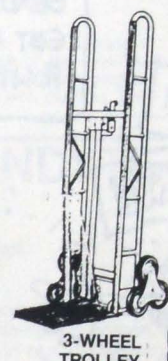
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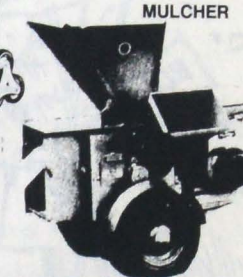
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Paradiddle plays at the opening.

State park plan unveiled

Lou Hill, MP for Warrandyte, has welcomed the State Park draft management plan, along with a major addition to the park.

Mount Lofty, one of the highest points in the area and offering 360-degree views, will be transferred from the Board of Works to the park later this year. Also included in the transfer is the Warrandyte Gorge, placing all of the gorge within park boundaries.

The Minister for Conservation, Forests and Lands, Joan Kirner, announced both the re-

lease of the draft management plan and the 88-hectare addition to the park at Pound Bend recently.

"The draft management plan recognises Warrandyte's special qualities," Lou Hill said. "Although relatively small, the park is a sanctuary for many species of mammals and birds which were once common in the greater Melbourne area."

"The draft management plan will address the problems facing the park caused by over-

use of some recreation sites, introduced plants invading some areas and the rapid urban development into Warrandyte and Wonga Park.

"The draft management plan is an example of what can be achieved through close co-operation with state government, local government and the community."

"I urge the local community to continue its high level of involvement with the park by making submissions on the draft management plan," Lou Hill said.

Lib sees Plenty of traffic ahead

State Government plans to develop the Lower Plenty corridor district with up to a quarter of a million people over the next 10 years could have a disastrous impact on Warrandyte township and the surrounding environment, according to the Liberal candidate for Warrandyte, Phil Honeywood.

He says the State Government recently released a planning scheme with associated literature entitled 'The Plenty Corridor Development Scheme'. Under the plan, much of the Plenty corridor district located to the north of the Yarra River will be targeted for rapid urban growth with a projec-

tion of 250,000 people living in large housing estates, in what is now a semi-rural area, within the next decade.

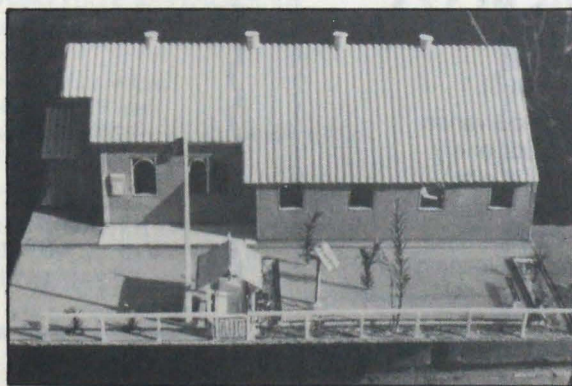
A key section of the Government's plan calls for the upgrading of arterial roads to the Plenty Corridor, running in both east-west and north-south directions. Under the plan these major upgraded traffic thoroughfares will be vital in allowing a smooth flow of traffic from the Plenty area to other parts of the Melbourne metropolitan area.

According to Mr Honeywood, "any major traffic that needs to travel either east or south from the

built-up Plenty district will have only two places to cross the Yarra River. These will be through North Warrandyte and across the Warrandyte bridge or across the Fitzsimmons Lane bridge, which would need to be upgraded."

The Liberal candidate argues that the Labor Government has no plans to build a new north-south road thoroughfare as this will be too costly, would involve resuming large areas of built-up districts such as expensive Templestowe, and would go against the whole reason for diverting urban growth to Plenty, which is the availability of cheap housing sites.

"On this basis, any traffic coming from north of the river will be forced to go through the existing, albeit upgraded, road link through North Warrandyte, across the bridge and skirting around Warrandyte township." Mr Honeywood said: "With a state election just weeks away local residents should stand up and ask where all these cars from Labor's Plenty housing scheme will go before it is too late. Otherwise such increased traffic flow together with the proposed Melbourne tourist road terminating in Yarra Road will cause irreparable damage to the local environment and character of the district."



A model of St Stephen's with the extensions.

Fete will assist fund to extend St Stephen's

A special effort is being made at this year's Anglican Church fete to boost funds for the new extension to St Stephen's.

The building should start early in 1989, and will retain the character of the existing church but double the seating capacity for the growing congregation.

The parish fete, organised by St Stephen's and Emmanuel, Park Orchards, will be held on Saturday, October 8, from 9 am to 3 pm in Stiggant Street.

Traditional home-made bread and cakes, sweets, jams, plus a delectable array of gourmet foods will be on sale. A barbecue as well as

chicken wings, satays and baked potatoes will be served at lunchtime and Devonshire teas in the afternoon.

Stalls will feature hand-made garments for all ages, second-hand clothing, books and records. The white elephant stall is sure to be popular with locals as well as tourists. A wide array of native plants will be on sale.

A monster raffle with great prizes will be drawn at 2.30 pm.

And for the kids, there will be show bags, lucky dips, face painting, mini-golf, hoopla, videos and life-be-in-it games.

Lou Hill outlines boost for buses

The recent meeting between the Minister for Transport, Jim Kennan, the member for Warrandyte, Lou Hill, and residents of Park Orchards and Warrandyte is paying further dividends.

Recently, Mr Kennan granted \$10,000 to the Warrandyte community towards developing its community bus service. He also told Lou Hill and the Park Orchards community that he would support community transport initiatives developed by them.

Lou Hill later announced that to further improve the Met service, extra bus routes and times were to be introduced on August 29.

He said there would be an extra morning bus from Hogan Avenue, Warrandyte to the city at 6.45. This brings the total of morning peak-hour buses to five, the others being at 6.59, 7.15, 7.39 and 7.59.

"There will also be an extra bus to Kingswood College and Warrandyte High School at 8.40 am, from East Doncaster junction via Andersons Creek Road. This is in addition to the bus that travels along Blackburn Road," Lou said.

Mr Hill said Park Orchards is receiving extra services. "In addition to the 5.29 pm freeway bus from the city to Park Orchards, there will now also be one at 5.50, arriving at Park Orchards at 6.46. This will give Park Orchards people coming home more flexibility with their working hours."

"Park Orchards students attending schools in the Kew and Hawthorn area, such as Siena and Strathcoma, will particularly welcome a new service from Craichie Avenue, Park Orchards, at 7.20 am to Kew Junction and return from the Kew Cemetery at 3.50 pm via the North Balwyn terminus."

Lou said the Kew/Park Orchards/Kew service was available to all commuters and gave new possibilities for commuting to the city and elsewhere.

"Furthermore, Park Orchards community transport needs on Sunday will be largely met by an entirely new service from Park Orchards to Mitcham and Ringwood. This will enable Sunday travel by a direct link to the Mitcham and Ringwood railway stations."

PHIL HONEYWOOD



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After it was finished, Carole-Ann Gill, director, showed off her flowers.

REVIEW

By MARION WINTON

We Warrandyte folk are not used to world premieres. We are familiar with musical tributes to our home among the gum trees; folksy arrangements, generally accompanied by guitar.

We were not expecting the rousing anthems and sophisticated phrasing of Barry McKimm's musical score for 'The Sallow Wattle'. The first-night audience felt a little self-conscious. We had to adjust our collective consciousness.

Did the inhabitants of 'Cattfish Row' feel like this when they first heard 'Porgy and Bess'? The names were familiar to us, Stiggant and Anderson, Hogan and Forbes. "It's clever to name the characters after streets," someone observed. We all settled down.

Warrandyte screenwriter Cliff Green based his musical play on a legend which links the wattle's continued existence to that of the local Wurundjeri tribe. This mystic theme adds a symbolic dimension to the central love interest. However, the most powerful and enduring story is that of a small closely-knit community at the outbreak of World War II, coping with the immediate drama of devastating bushfires and coming to terms with its growing involvement in global events.

As expected from a writer of Cliff's ability and experience, the script was imaginative and well crafted, using short scenes to bring the events into sharp focus.

The dramatic potential of the

play was fully realised through the tight direction of Carole-Ann Gill. I was particularly impressed with the re-enactment of the 1939 bushfires, with townsfolk forming a human chain to pass water buckets from the river to the firefighters. Here, sound effects and lighting contributed to create a scene of realistic chaos and confusion, which could well have been a disastrous piece of theatre in less experienced hands.

Above all, the 'Sallow Wattle' is a musical. Barry McKimm's modern, original score, inspired by the lyrics of Lee Tindale, demands audience attention. Performers and audience were challenged by the complex structure of the music, its changing rhythms and tonalities.

Ranging in mood from the modern, operatic 'Who Can You Blame', through rousing choruses in support of the war effort, to gentle, lyrical passages, the musical score at all times complemented and enhanced the script. Much credit is also due to the solo pianist, Phoebe Briggs, whose expressive, non-intrusive accompaniment established continuity.

And now to the players. In the main, I do not want to dwell on individual performances. This should be regarded as a positive comment on the balance of the show. I continue to be totally impressed with the talent of our Warrandyte youngsters. The majority of the 50-odd cast were under 16 years of age. The leads were required to handle emotionally-taxing roles well beyond their years.

Justin MacDonald supported his leading ladies, Katherine Adcock and Sarah Fahie, with great strength and sensitivity. Katherine gave a memorable singing performance and Sarah played the part of

Molly Anderson with great conviction. Zoe Amor, new to the Warrandyte stage, acted the part of Justin's mother with style and credibility.

If there was a "star" it was the chorus, effectively augmented by backstage singers, which carried the show. Much of the credit must go to Renee Maddocks, who pa-

tiently trained the singers, the majority of whom could not sight-read.

Greg Stewart, as the recruiting sergeant, showed us all how to effectively milk comedy lines, and his performance sits comfortably alongside those of Arthur Lowe and Windsor Davies. The "Home Guard", I felt, had a tendency to go

"over the top" and launch into self-parody. Successful group comedy scenes rely on the majority of characters playing straight roles.

Jock Macneish's characteristic flair was evident overall. His guidance and assistance in the design and construction of sets provided a valuable learning experience for students.

I believe the 'Sallow Wattle' will continue to grow and gain in stature. It would be a challenge to develop a more colloquial choreography, and I am sure this will come with time. The enthusiasm of performers and audience on opening night indicated that "The Wattle" would certainly continue to flourish.



Yes, we enjoyed it: Olive Davis, Eilish Cooke, and her husband, Lou Hill.

The 'Sallow Wattle', the original musical presented by the local high school last month, brought back memories spanning almost 50 years for a couple of long-time Warrandyte folk. Jean Chapman immediately recognised the army uniform worn in 1939 recruiting scenes in Act 2 as that of the 2nd 7th Battalion in which her late husband Allan served in New Guinea with another local identity, Alec Edwards. Jean well remembered the color patch — brown over red (or mud over blood, as it was then known) on a grey background. Allan Chapman joined up as a private at 18. He was wounded in the left arm on August 19, 1943. The Sallow Wattle premiered just one day short of precisely 45 years later.



Cliff Green, who wrote the play, winced at one of the scenes he had created — a flirtation barndance sequence at the 1938 New Year's Eve hop (at the Mechanics Institute Hall, of course). "I hate the flirtation barndance," he confided at the full-dress rehearsal. "Always have. As a kid at the country dances, I always had my head buried in some woman's bosom!" For a bloke whose way with words has taken him to the top of the scriptwriting (dare we say wattle?) tree, he might have phrased it better. But Cliff

AT THE WORLD'S PREMIERE

never did grow very tall and we think we know what he means. Damned if we know why he's complaining though.



Dreadful scene in the high school lobby at half time. Librettist Lee Tindale comes face to face with former Warrandyte resident Peter Gibson, uncle of actor Nathan Croft. "Long time no see," says Gibson. "Er, not long enough," replies the wordsmith, and turns on his Reeboks. Surely a couple of ales would settle this feud? Or perhaps we could keep it going.

Director Carole-Ann Gill had plenty of worrying moments before "The Wattle" got to stage — and there were times of unease during the six-night season as well. The run happened to coincide with male lead Justin MacDonald's work experience stint with builder John Chapman. Carole-Ann feared the worst and phoned John with a list of "dents". "Don't let him climb ladders ... don't let him do any dangerous work ... don't let any bricks fall on his head." The director had put together and rehearsed two separate casts and had an understudy for almost every speaking

role except Justin's. Young Mr MacDonald survived his trip into the workforce unscathed and did a splendid job in his role as Jack Yarra, the play's knockabout hero. We suspect he thoroughly enjoyed his part — particularly the love scenes.



Opening night of The Sallow Wattle was one of two totally-unrelated events which restored any faith this grizzled, cantankerous, irritable, irascible columnist may have lost in the younger generation. From program-vendor to stagehand to lead role, the commitment of the kids to the success of this ambitious production was something to behold. Their enthusiasm was quite total. Smokey approved — and his renewed tolerance of young folk was further stiffened very next day when he saw a Tempy Tech kid actually stand back and usher a woman on to the bus ahead of him. We are moved to pinch a line from another musical and suggest that the country's in the very best of hands.



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Sallow Wattle was a bottler

I was one of those fortunate enough to attend the world premiere of 'The Sallow Wattle' at Warrandyte High School, and what a premiere it was!

'The Sallow Wattle' shone. How charming to hear a story about Warrandyte which conveyed the spirit of Warrandyte residents, as in Molly's declaration that she loved Jack Yarra and not Bradley Lane.

Perhaps more than anything else I was impressed by the talent of our local youngsters, in particular, Katherine Adcock as Molly, whose voice and acting were breathtaking in one so young.

My congratulations to Warrandyte High School and all who contributed to this outstanding production.

One member of the audience was heard to comment in the intermission that his children did not go to Warrandyte High School as he couldn't afford it. His kids only went to private school! What better proof of the merit of our local high school?

Again, my thanks and congratulations for a most memorable evening.

Lou Hill, MP

Whitewash?

Thanks for the *Diary*, but can you explain why your photographs of late look like they have been taken underwater without a flash?

Wondering,

Kangaroo Ground Road.
Editor's note: No. But we intend to ask our printers.

Wasting weeds, but safely

At a public meeting held to discuss weed eradication within Eltham Shire, it was decided that the first step should be to appoint a consultant in order to determine the extent of the weed problem.

LETTERS

It was then agreed, once this report had been carried out, that a second public meeting should be held to discuss the methods of eradicating these pest weeds.

As Eltham Council is considering using chemical sprays as one method of weed eradication, I implore anyone who is concerned about their health and their environment to attend the next meeting to air their views.

It is only through residents registering their concern that Eltham Council will be forced to look at safer means of weed control.

Remember, it is our shire and our responsibility to ensure it is governed according to our wishes. If the council does not have input from residents, then they cannot correctly represent us.

Many people consider weeds to be an unwelcome foreigner amid our native bush, but there could not be anything more foreign and more unwelcome than chemicals which would eventually find their way into our bodies via the waterways, the food chain and through the air.

Karen M. Gellay (Mrs),
Sackville St,
Montmorency.

J. Kennett v H. B. Bear

I suppose I could say that Jeff Kennett would be as credible a premier of Victoria as would Humphrey B. Bear. I suppose I could point out that John Cain has turned around the economic fortunes of this state, making it the best-managed portion of Australia.

But I won't. I'll just say that Lou Hill has been the best and most-visible member of the Legislative Assembly that this town has had.

Good luck, Lou.

Philip H. Richards,
Warrandyte Road.

'Neglected' writes

Dear *Diary*. Remember us? Go over the bridge and you will find us. North Warrandyte is the name. Few stories in the *Diary*; little action from our council, faraway Eltham. Do we not exist also?

Ghosts of North Warrandyte
(addresses supplied)

Ruxton is OK, says someone

Dear Smokey, This time it is you who should do the investigating. If you are going to write something controversial, get your facts right.

Bruce Ruxton was elected along with the other members of the State Council by a democratic vote. Every sub-branch of the RSL has a vote and the vote at each sub-branch is directed by the members of that branch. How can you claim it is undemocratic how Bruce and his buddies cling to power? What garbage! The numbers were in his favor.

Some say he is outspoken, others believe he's a dangerous bigot, but ninety-nine per cent of us in the RSL know him as a dinkum Aussie. Just talk to the war widows or the hundreds of ex-service personnel who he has helped by fighting their claims at Veteran Affairs and other government offices; then you will learn about the real Bruce Ruxton.

If he were not a good president he would not get the majority vote for leadership and confidence from the sub-branches and members.

Believe me, it was a popular and well deserved result.

We the veterans have had enough, salvo after salvo is fired at us by the Government, little by little our benefits are being taken away and if it was not for Bruce Ruxton we would be non-identities.

Please do your research. Get hold of a copy of Bruce's speech at the Annual State Conference of July 6, 1988. You can learn from it.

Where others won't, Bruce will — he fires from the hip or the lip. It is the only way he has ever thought to do it. Sure he gets buckets tipped on him, even though it turns out that most people agree with him. What makes media headlines is only a few words of a carefully edited story designed to gain maximum exposure.

We need the Ruxtons of today to speak out for those who are too timid to do so.

I look forward to seeing your retraction.

A Concerned RSL Member.

Editor's Note: We passed this letter on to Smokey. His reply follows.

Dear Concerned RSL member. Thank you for your comments, although I should point out that the *Blessed Bruce* was mentioned not only in *Smokey Joe* last edition but in what the people who run the paper call "Pub Talk". *Smokey* wrote only *Smokey*; someone else must share his opinions.

Yes, Bruce Ruxton has done wonders for war widows and ex-servicemen who needed a champion. But to talk about Bruce Ruxton as a devotee of democracy is to say that Idi Amin believed in one man-one vote. The Warrandyte Branch of the RSL is a haven of democracy. "Concerned Member" should be glad that he does not have to struggle to put across an alternative point of view at the Beaumaris branch, long the fief of Ruxton and friends (please do your research. Get hold of a copy of a certain Beaumaris members' appeals to Federal Council. You can learn from it).

Forty-three years after the end of the Second World War, we do not need Mr Ruxton and his new federal leader, Brigadier Alf Garnett, spouting small-minded opinions held by a minority of Australians. The Second AIF was the nation in arms, the same people who put Curtin into power. Apparently only a rump of them have stayed in the RSL and let these strange dogmas dominate. When will fair-minded Diggers return to the league that needs them?

But that's only Smokey's opinion.



Spring returns to the river.

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Able baker Bonnie saw it through

By BONNIE PEAKE

I started driving the baker's van, an old A Model Ford, in mid September 1941. This came about after much persuasion from Fred Schultz, the driver at the time, who wanted to join the armed forces and couldn't because he was in a reserved occupation.

I had explained to him that I couldn't drive a car. No trouble. He and Jim Walsh would soon teach me. So after a few lessons I obtained my licence. Fred left me to it and joined up.

The only trouble was that I hadn't told my husband, Ces, who was away with the AIF, that all this was going on.

Very few women drove cars in those days and certainly not baker's vans. But Myrtle Huston worked a taxi and Babe Steward was remarkable in driving the Warrandyte to Ringwood bus. The war changed all those ideas and after a while people stopped turning their heads at the sight of a woman driver.

After I had been doing the round for three weeks I wrote and told Ces what was going on. I received a letter by return mail saying to give it up; he had enough troubles without me adding to them. But it was too late by then.

The bread round was split into two sections. The Monday, Wednesday and Friday run consisted of the township (I refuse to call it the village; it was always the township in those days, a real Australian term that I wish was still in vogue). Then it was over the river as far as Beecham's egg farm at the end of Osborne Road and down into Koornong, then back up across Bloom's Road to Stoney Creek, then back along Research Road to the bakery. People who lived out past the limit of the run had their own bread boxes on posts at various locations at the limit of the run.

Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday run was the township then South Warrandyte as far as Milne Road, along Milne Road to Park Orchards (which only had a few houses in it at that time), then back along Kneec's Road, Beauty Gully Road, Main Road, and then back to the bakery for lunch.

While on the roads at Park Orchards I had to keep a good lookout for Sharp's timber trucks which were taking all the big pine logs down to their timber mill in South Melbourne.

After a good lunch, provided by Mrs Walsh, I would load up again and off to the end of Tindals Road to Norm White's place. Then back to the Main Road to Heitsch's, then down Pound Bend and back along Everard Drive.

The hours for the Monday, Wednesday and Friday run were 9 am to 12.30 pm, and for the Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday run 9 am to 4 pm. This was all subject to breakdowns, the risk of someone milking the petrol tank (which happened a couple of times, as fuel was limited,



Bonnie Peake holding her invitation to meet the Queen at Government House, along with her 20-year service badge, awarded by the Royal Women's Hospital Auxiliary. Bonnie is still an active member of the Warrandyte Branch of the auxiliary and has served a total of 36 years as an office bearer of the organisation.

and essential services — such as bread deliveries — had an extra ration), as well as dodging the few lonely people who wanted to talk for ages.

I really liked the hour between 9 and 10 in the morning. Most people then were listening to their favorite program, 'Big Sister' with Doctor Paul (a sort of 'Days of Our Lives' on radio).

Everybody had to have a bread box on their front gate or fence. You couldn't drive off the road and waste petrol. This meant you saw some people only once a month when they paid their bill.

You may think it easy just putting bread in a box and driving off, but you haven't heard the half of it.

On account of petrol rationing, the butcher and baker combined forces, the baker taking the butcher's meat and the butcher taking the bread on alternate days. Then there was the mail and papers as well as the messages, such as "Oh baker! Could you please bring me a reel of cotton to match this piece of material next time you come?" Someone would want a bottle of port from the hotel, or could you bring my battery for the radio from the garage?

Once I was greeted by a lady from over the river with, "Good Morning dear, have you got my Age, mail, port, meat and Oh! no bread today, thank you, and please post this letter for me?"

Another time I had a wheel come off going along Tindals Road, it

must have been quite an experience for Mr Aumann to look up from picking his fruit and see this wheel flying through the air in his orchard. He very kindly put the spare on for me.

Once a month I used to hurry to finish the round. On those days I suppose people thought I was a bit off-hand as I didn't stop to talk. But you would never finish on time if you did. Mrs Miller and the Red Cross ladies used to have a social afternoon for the wounded servicemen from the Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital. There were some sad cases there and they did appreciate the entertainment and the lovely afternoon tea that was served.

Those days were always rush days for me, as I had to get two children off to school, walk to the bakery, do the round, walk to the recreation hall (White House now), then walk home, feed the chooks, light the fires and fill the lamps; no electricity in Harris Gully Road in those days.

After about five weeks I wanted to give the bread round up as I was getting wet about four days out of seven. I think it must have been one of the wettest Octobers on record. Mrs Walsh assured me it would get better, as October was always wetter than any other month. She proved right, as it happens. The weather did improve and got warmer.

It really was a good life. I needed the company and the people needed

the bread and the rest. I felt I was playing my small part in the war effort.

Ces returned home on leave once and came along to help me. I drove and he put the bread in the boxes. The only thing was he couldn't understand was all the fuss about high tin, sandwich, milk, pro vita, French, wholemeal etc. What did it matter what shape it was? Bread was bread, as far as he was concerned.

Ces had a setback when an Italian woman confronted him. He had grabbed the first loaf he came to and given it to her. She said: "I don't want the high tin, I don't want the flat tin, I don't want the brown bread, I want a milk a da loaf."

As in most things it was the people in the end that made it all worthwhile, people like George Jackson, who always had a hot cup of soup for me on a cold day, not to mention all the lovely cold drinks on the hot summer days. Then there was Jimmy Hogan (of Hogan Avenue) waiting to give me some of his first strawberries, and the many orchardists who left a bag of fruit in their bread box for me.

People like Mr Telford, who spent nearly all his meat coupons to feed his beloved dog while he ate cheese and eggs himself, and the family at South Warrandyte who were having a hard time and owed a lot of money for bread leaving a note in the bread box to say, "Dear Baker, we are taking the cow to the Croydon Market on Monday and will pay something off the bill when we sell her."

Cecil was discharged from the army in 1943. Walter Walsh took over the bread round and I became a customer again. Fred Schultz came back safe and sound, much to my relief.

One resident at the time remembers that during her career as driver of the baker's van Bonnie was given a bike, which helped her to get to her job instead of having to walk everywhere. The only trouble was that the bike was a man's machine and was too high for her. Bonnie overcame the problem by steering the bike into a convenient bank then falling off.

When Bonnie rode down to the bakery, Jim Walsh would wait outside to catch the bike and help her off. If Jim wasn't there in time, Bonnie rode around until Jim appeared.

The prices charged for bread at the time were:
 1 large loaf (the size of two large loaves today) 1 shilling (10 cents)
 1 small loaf (the size of a large loaf today) 6 pence (5 cents)
 1 quarter loaf 3 pence (3 cents)
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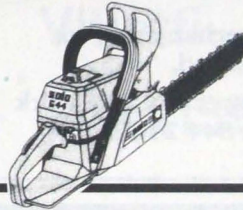
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Wildlife danger seen in bypass

The proposed Ringwood bypass road could threaten vital lifelines for wildlife in the Warrandyte area and beyond, a body formed to oppose the road believes.

Mrs Betty Oke, convenor of the Ringwood Bypass Protest Group, has told the *Diary* that plans to construct a four or six-lane highway through the Mullum Mullum Creek Valley would destroy "the most significant bushland pathway left in suburban Melbourne".

"This pathway, a 10 to 15-kilometre long green belt running along the Mullum Mullum Creek, connects suburbia-flanked vegetation to the extensive state and national forests in Warrandyte, through to Kinglake.

"Much of the vegetation in this corridor, running through the Ringwood, Doncaster-Templestowe and Nunawading municipalities, is in near-pristine condition, and is recognised as the most intact, extensive and least disturbed forest of its type remaining in suburban Melbourne.

"Virtually all of this forest will be desecrated if the proposed eastern arterial road, incorporating the Ringwood bypass, goes ahead. A unique forestway will be lost forever."

According to the group, approximately 150 bird species have been recorded in the area in recent years, plus 15 mammals and 11 reptiles.

"The remaining isolated bushland would stagnate," Mrs Oke said. "Without the connecting cor-

ridor, bird and mammal movement to the area would be choked."

The Ringwood Bypass Protest Group was formed about a year ago to fight the proposed highway along the Mullum Mullum Valley, which runs through the heart of Ringwood.

"The proposed bypass road, while causing great devastation to the creek valley, will do little to alleviate Ringwood's traffic prob-

lems, as it will be intersected by at least four sets of traffic lights," Mrs Oke said.

"It has been stated that the road is necessary to serve the proposed District Centre (Coles-Myer Eastland). The protest group has presented alternatives which could save the creek valley and better serve Ringwood's traffic problems."

Representatives of the protest group can be contacted by phoning 870 3307 or 870 8729.

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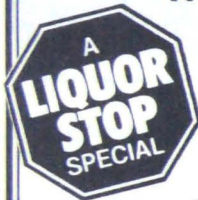
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Warrandyte trivia quest is on

Where would Ronald Reagan stay if he came to Warrandyte? If you think you know the answer come to the Great Warrandyte Trivia Quiz on Friday September 23 and demonstrate just how much you know about the town.

The quiz night is a premeditated "spontaneous" gesture of thanks to our hard-working local MP, Lou Hill, who has been so supportive to a wide range of community groups and individuals over the years. It has been organised by a group of non-political community members and promises to be a fun night.

Excellent prizes will be awarded, a delicious supper provided and the evening will be compered by Martin Walker, local wit about town. Tickets are \$20 each. Smarties should book early by phoning 844 3508 or 844 3086, or call into the florist's shop in the Bridge Arcade.

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Townscape study gets grant

By JAN LIDDICUT

The Member for Warrandyte, Lou Hill, has announced that the State Government has allocated \$10,000 to pay for a "townscape study" of Warrandyte.

Mr Hill will chair the study committee, which will have representatives from Doncaster and Templestowe City Council and the Ministry for Planning and Environment appointed to consult with the Warrandyte community. Residents and community groups will be invited to make submissions.

The study will investigate the upgrading and improvements needed on Yarra Street to relieve traffic and parking congestion. It aims to investigate how the piecemeal streetscape can be integrated, taking into account the special bushland nature and cultural heritage of Warrandyte. The study will be co-ordinated with the Warrandyte State Park Development Plan, announced recently.

Lou told the *Diary*: "Warrandyte is a beautiful part of Victoria. The study will examine ways to protect and enhance the special character of our village and better meet the needs of residents and visitors."

The chairman of the Warrandyte Advisory Committee physical resources sub-committee, Mark Tansley, was very pleased with the announcement.

"This is definitely required because both the main street and the riverbank area have become a degraded and poorly maintained environment.

"There is need for better integration of the streetscape including the commercial area, traffic flow, car-parking and recreation and conservation values of the river. WAC has been concerned about this for sometime." Mr Tansley told the *Diary* he was looking forward to the establishment of the committee.

Mrs Jan Voller, an East End trader, welcomes the news. "I hope that traders will come together and get behind this committee, giving it full support," she said.

Residents in Warrandyte's rather neglected East End are delighted that something may be done. They met Mr Hill 12 months ago, walked with him along the riverbank car-park and told him about the extreme difficulties they face getting in and out of their driveways.

One resident told the *Diary*: "It's a relief that something positive is underway at last. The danger to motorists, pedestrians and residents is reaching culpable proportions. The road is a patchwork quilt of bumps and dips; motorists cannot see around bends and parking at the river is a nightmare. It is not just restaurant patrons causing problems. It's the whole tourist population who are not catered for by existing conditions."

Another resident said he considered the riverbank carpark a disgrace. "There's no organisation or parking, and the way it is maintained is appalling."

Mr Hill handed over the cheque for \$10,000 to the City of Doncaster and Templestowe.

Bush band entertains the seniors

By ALMA HUTCHINSON

To say that the hills of Warrandyte were alive with the sound of music would be an exaggeration, but recently in the Senior Citizen's Community Hall there was plenty of toe-tapping music and singing to be enjoyed by young and old when 40 children from the Warrandyte Primary School came to perform before a full house with their bush band.

Kevin O'Mara, their teacher, is to be congratulated on the standard the bush band has attained; the children likewise on their enthusiasm and their willingness to practice.

Kevin's claim, that the band is the best he has known in his 17 years' experience, is a tribute to the members of the band.

Mrs Whitchurch was ably assisted at the piano and everyone joined together to sing a very appropriate song, 'Home among the Gum Trees', composed by local Mark Leehy.

Kevin displayed another talent which would be invaluable to any teacher, or parent for that matter, and that was his ability to know what was going on behind his back.

On a more serious note, the senior citizens thanked Kevin and the band for the pleasure their visit gave, and extended a welcome to Stewart Reid, who took up the position of vice principal at the school early this year.

Challenger seeks debate

In what could be an interesting spectacle in the forthcoming contest for the local seat, the Liberal candidate for Warrandyte, Phil Honeywood, has challenged the sitting Labor member, Lou Hill, to a public debate in the last week of the campaign in the Mechanics Institute Hall.

Mr Honeywood argues that the sitting member will go into this election with a large number of important local issues left hanging in the air. The most obvious, he says, is the dual occupancy situation with the Liberals already having promised a complete exemption from dual occupancy for Warrandyte township if they are elected.

Other issues which Mr Honeywood sees as vital to the area and therefore worthy of debate include:

- Plans to increase the number of tourists to the state park and environs;
- The road network and future traffic problems;
- Public Transport;
- Law and Order.

Primary school set for big renovation

The Adams family (no, not the TV bunch) turned out in force recently to hear about a financial boost for the school they love so well.

Five generations of Adamsons — not always with the same surname — have attended Warrandyte Primary. Three generations were on hand when the local MP announced that the school was to get \$480,000 for new buildings and renovations.

Present were Effie Adams, 88; her granddaughter Maxine Chapman; and great grandchildren Matthew, 10, Timothy, 8, and Chris, 5.

Local MP Lou Hill and Max MacDonald, North Warrandyte's Labor member, heard the Minister for Education, Mrs Caroline Hogg,

announce that \$250,000 had been set aside to remodel three classrooms, including the historic stone building, to provide a safe place for students in the event of a bushfire.

The refurbishment of the original school house, built in 1875, will include a new roof, cathedral ceilings, fire shutters and windows and repainting.

A new lavatory block — linked at last to the sewerage system — will also be provided at a cost of \$230,000. Dummies are dear these days.

Lou Hill described the work as a boost for the whole town. "The building represents the strong roots of the Warrandyte community," he said.

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My, how our kids have kicked on!

In 1981, a handful of local nine-year-olds got together as a netball team.

The girls — and coach Sandra Woodman — are still together today as the best under-17 team in Victoria.

Last month they took out the Victorian Netball Association A-grade premiership, the culmination of an ever-developing success story.

The team is Cara Grant, Yvette Hearn, Toni Clarke, Nicole Gangell, Jasmine Plea-

sance, Melinda Walsh, Susan Chandler and Natasha Withers.

Even in those early days, it was going to be a combination well above average. All the indications of a big future were there and the first five years produced six premierships in the local winter and spring competitions.

Since 1985, most of the girls have also played in an open-age night competition, reaching the grand final four times and winning two premierships.

The decision to play at Royal Park with the VNA — the pinnacle netball competition in this State — was made to further the team's experience in top company. And the results have been outstanding.

The girls were runners-up in C-grade in 1986 and were promoted to B-grade last year. Last month's premiership capped it all.

Local netball officials described it as a fitting reward for several years' dedication.

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Young racquetballers show their ample class

Some of the best junior racquetball players in Victoria showed their talents at the Warrandyte Squash Centre last month.

The occasion was a day-long, State-wide competition run by the Warrandyte Squash and Racquetball Club. Organisers described the response as "fantastic".

More than 60 boys and girls took part, in age divisions from under-19 down to under-9.

Trophies were presented to winners and runners-up in all divisions and special prizes — 10-speed racing cycles — were donated by local dealer Jones Cycles. Results:

BOYS
Under-9: Oliver Kas, 1, James Longworth 2.

Under-11: Mark Price 1, Justin Edwards 2.

Under-13: Paul Price 1, Zachary Kas 2.

Under-15: Aaron Frederiksen 1, Aaron Johnson 2.

Under-17: Jason Buchanan 1, Darren Brown 2.

Under-19: Jason Buchanan 1, Darren Burns 2.

GIRLS:
Under-9: Danielle Everett 1, Kaylene Frederiksen 2.

Under-13: Rebecca Kas 1, Sarah Kas 2.

Under-15: Leeanne Cartwright 1, Michelle Randall 2.

Under-17: Mandy Randall 1.

'Sallow Wattle' on tape

Video cassettes of the Warrandyte High School musical production 'The Sallow Wattle' will be available soon.

Recorded live during performances by both casts, the cassettes feature the full 100 minutes of the show and are said to be of good quality. Camerawork is by Kaine

Pinder, a former student at the school.

The cassettes will cost approximately \$20 each and will be available in either VHS or Beta formats. Enquiries should be directed to Don Harrison at the school, telephone 844 2749.

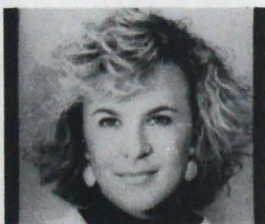
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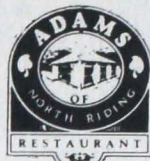
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It's Stevie wonder

Rover Steve Carroll has won Warrandyte Football Club's best and fairest award in only his second season at senior level.

Carroll, who turned 20 this month, polled 46 votes — four better than ruckman Robert (Spider) Webb, Defenders Gerald Walshe and Tony Sturestps were third and fourth with 32 and 27 votes respectively.

Carroll's success was the reward for a consistent season which he finished brilliantly. He is one of several young players nominated by 1988 coach Len Halley as keys to the Bloods' future success.

Warrandyte are already aware of outside interest in his 1989 services but will stoutly resist approaches.

Carroll will not be at the senior presentation night on September 21. He will be in Japan on a graphic arts study trip.

The reserves award went to ruckman Lou Amos by seven votes (38-31) from young defender Julian Hansen. Mick

Sporton was third with 24 votes and Craig Townsend fourth with 24.

Matt Hurley won the under-18s best and fairest. He polled 46 votes to beat Dale Vitoritti (41), Rod Valentine (34) and Dale Comrie (29).

Tickets to presentation night, at Aldred's Homestead, are available from Jenny Walshe (876 3719) and Anthony Giles-Peters (844 2573). It is \$25 single, not including drinks.

Dual Victorian representative Jonathon Hassall has capped a magnificent season by winning three top Warrandyte Football Club junior awards.

Jonathon took the under-16s best and fairest, the club's outstanding junior trophy and the Lions Club Perpetual Shield.

A 14-year-old rover, he wore the Big V last month at the national under-15 secondary schools carnival in Hobart. He had represented Victoria in the 1985 primary schools championship.

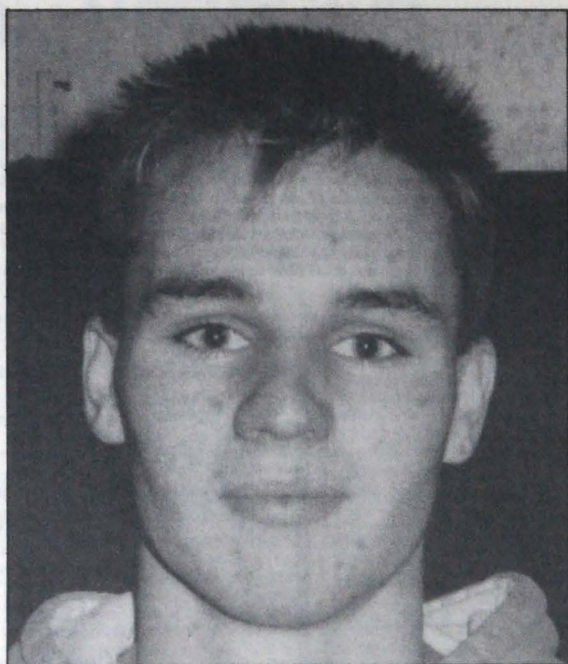
WFC junior trophies were presented at the clubrooms this month. The winners:

UNDER-16
Best and fairest: Jonathon Hassall 1, Roy Kinnane 2, Craig Mercuri 3. Coach's award: Paul Meehan. Most improved: Terry Davis. Lions Club Perpetual Shield: Jonathan Hassall. Outstanding club junior: Jonathan Hassall.

UNDER-14
Best and fairest: Brad Valentine 1, Andrew Wickes 2, Ben Brisbane 3. Coach's award: Lachlan MacRae. Most improved: Paul Reddie. Len Woods Perpetual Shield: Brad Valentine.

UNDER-12
Best and fairest: Stephen Bell, Matt Close 1, Simon Glendinning 2, Adam Luttick 3. Coach's award: Craig Dove. Most improved: John Dowd. Training award: Dylan Osler.

UNDER-10
Best and fairest: Dean Nightingall 1, Jason Bell 2, Ben Alchin, Nick Brisbane, Robert Mangos 3. Coach's award: Ross Anderson. Most improved: Tim Hamilton. Training award: Peter Dowd. Lightning premiership best: Jason Bell.



Steve Carroll... a great finish to the season.

Coaching jobs up for grabs

Warrandyte Football Club have advertised the senior, reserves and under-18 coaching positions for next season. Applications close on September 30.

The committee's decision to throw the senior position open surprised many supporters, who believed Len Halley's performance at the helm this season had warranted his reappointment.

Halley is expected to be among the applicants.

The club is also seeking a coach for the under-16s. Applications should be addressed to the secretary, Warrandyte Football Club (Juniors), PO Box 151.

★ ★ ★

It's a lot closer to home than the MCG and the atmosphere will be electric. What's more, there's a great feed to be had. And you won't have to shoulder your way through a 100,000-odd throng to get a drink.

The occasion is Warrandyte Football Club's VFL Grand Final Day at the recreation reserve social rooms.

A \$10 admission fee entitles you to watch the game on the big screen and enjoy a beef spit roast. The club urges members, supporters and friends to be in it.

The date, of course, is September 24 and proceedings kick off at 11 a.m.

Another date to remember: WFC's annual general meeting in the clubrooms on Wednesday, November 30.

★ ★ ★

The unsung "stars" of Warrandyte's 1988 football season wore skirts.

They are the women who accepted without question, without a whinge, the considerable extra workload of the opening of the new clubrooms thrust upon them. The increased canteen duties on match days and the provision of Thursday night counter meals were taken in the stride.

The club thanks committeepersons Jenny Walshe (who suggested the counter meals), Helen Revell, Bev Day, Lorraine McLean, Nola Day, Lorraine Lockhart, Beryl Sturestps — and several others — for great service.

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Dytes shape up for big season

Warrandyte Cricket Club approach the 1988-89 season well equipped to make a big impact at both senior and junior level.

The appointment of Ian Broome as junior coach brings a wealth of experience to the development of the nine underage teams the Dytes will field this summer.

And newly-appointed senior coach Greg Tregear has already made a big impression with his involvement in practice sessions and active administration. Tregear, 24, played more than 50 District games with Hawthorn-East Melbourne.

Broome is a veteran of several seasons in the tough English county competition and has excellent coaching credentials. He is keen to pass on his knowledge and the benefits of his experience to any young cricketer wanting to learn the game.

Warrandyte will field five senior men's teams and a women's A-grade side this season, which starts on October 1.

There will be two under-16 sides,

Warrandyte Cricket Club has drawn a big blank so far on a trip down memory lane.

There has been no response to an appeal, published in the July Diary, for information and photographs relating to the club's colourful, 133-year history. The material is sought for display in the

three under-14s and four under-12s. A far-sighted innovation is a non-competitive under-12 team for youngsters learning their cricket.

The under-12s practise on Mondays and the under-14s and under-16s on Wednesdays, from 4.30 to 6 p.m. in each case. All sessions are supervised by senior players.

The Dytes have acquired talented new players for the new season but are still looking for anyone — man, woman or junior — interested in a game of cricket. The contacts are: Senior men, Geoff Taylor (844 2041) and Steve Pascoe (844

club social rooms.

"We haven't heard from anyone," said WCC publicity officer Jenny Chapman. "Someone must know something about the old club!"

If you have something to offer, Jenny would like to hear from you on 844 1428.

1213); women, Jenny Chapman and Jenni McLaws (844 1428); juniors, Ron Milton (844 1244).

Senior registration will be finalised at a barbecue after practice on Thursday, September 29. Subscriptions should also be paid then to take advantage of a \$20 discount.

Shares are still available in the new social rooms at \$100 and associate membership is offered to spouses, fiancées-fiances, girlfriends-boyfriends of debentureholders. Associates must belong to the cricket or football club and the current fee is \$30.

It's a race against time at the oval

Warrandyte cricketers are watching the grass grow — literally.

With the countdown to their new season well and truly on, they are anxiously monitoring progress on the surface of the recreation reserve arena following extensive re-drainage work.

Doncaster-Templestowe City Council dug up the oval to replace blocked drains which had turned it into a sea of mud.

Conditions were so bad that Warrandyte Football Club's last home game of the season, on July 30, had to be transferred to Stinton Reserve.

Council told the cricket club the ground should be ready for the start of their season. Given favourable growing weather, that estimate may be on target.

The fact that Warrandyte's opening round will be played away gives

the recovery process a week's grace.

The Business Directory, Warrandyte Cricket Club's long-running local advertising guide, still has space in its upcoming issue.

Advertising rates for businesses and trades are very reasonable and listings for charitable organisations are free.

The contact is Steve Pascoe (844 1213).

And now, to sleep

"It's over," says the season's final issue of Bloodhound, Warrandyte Football Club's junior newsletter.

"The weekend warriors have hung up their boots. The oval has been returned to agriculture."

"And thankful mums and dads throughout Warrandyte roll over on Sunday mornings with a smile on their faces."

The newsletter reports that six parents recently completed an intensive first aid course at Kangaroo Ground. The junior club, it says, will be all the better next year for their expertise.

Yes, it's over. But it won't be all that long, will it?

"See you all next season," says Bloodhound, "when it all starts again!"

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