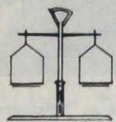


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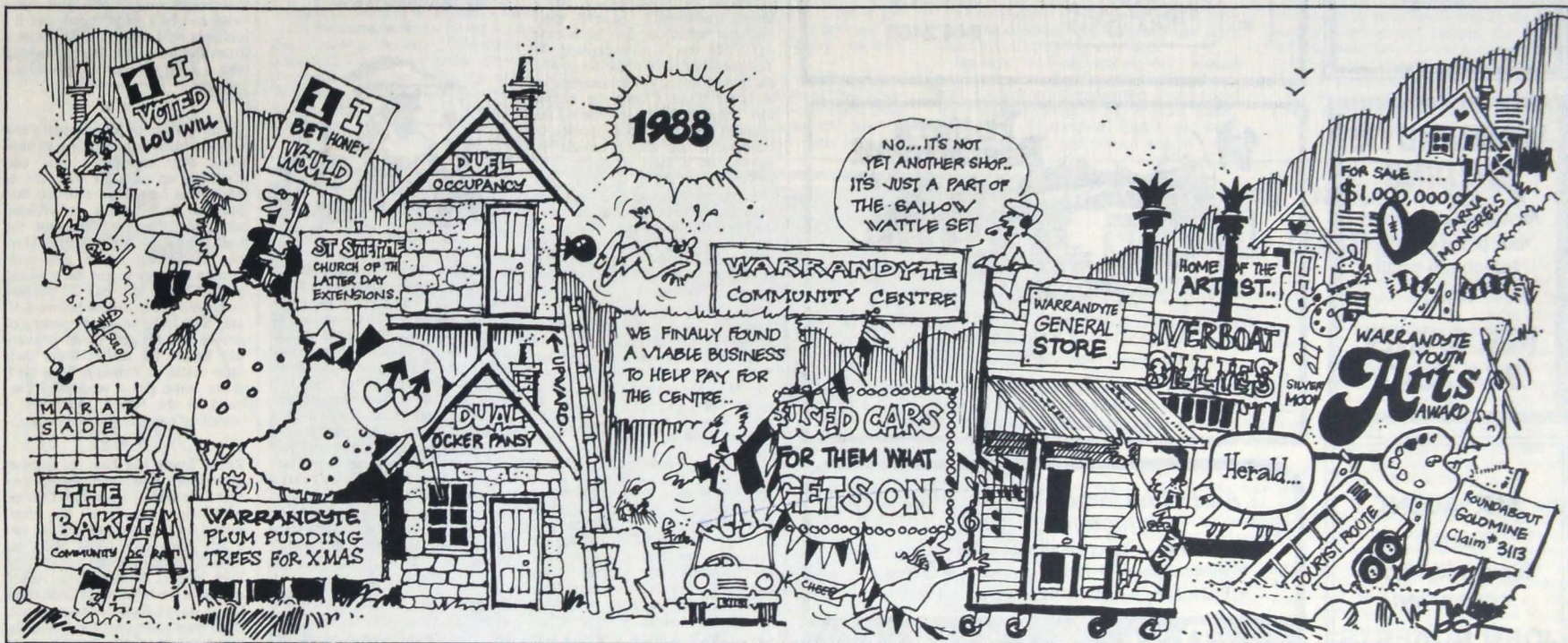
D I A R Y

No. 195, December 1988

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By the way, thanks for a great year

Rains fail to cut bushfire danger

By PETER FOSTER

Despite record rainfall over the past few weeks, local Country Fire Authority officials are reluctant to predict a low-risk summer.

"This is shaping up to be a bad year," Captain Bob Bird of the Warrandyte CFA told the *Diary*. "The heavy rainfall during the last half of November has definitely pushed back the high risk season by at least a few weeks."

But, he adds, this doesn't mean it will necessarily be any shorter.

Captain John Swindley of North Warrandyte CFA concurs. "If we get some early autumn rains, then the problem is over for this summer. But if the rains are light, or don't come at all, we could have total fire ban days well into April."

Captain John Haddon of South Warrandyte CFA believes that if we get a couple of days with low humidity and hot north winds the grass could dry out quickly, increasing the potential for fire.

"When the humidity is down around 15 per cent, the temperature climbs to 30 degrees and the winds are up around 30 kph; those are the three magic numbers," he says. "When the air is so dry that you can smell the eucalyptus coming out; that's when things can really take off."

"Although wet weather does bring short-term relief from the threat of bushfires, it can also bring a false sense of security. In addition to

promoting the growth of grass and underbrush it can also cause people to relax fire precautions and even take risks."

No matter what sort of season is in store, Warrandyte remains one of the highest fire risk areas in the world. No doubt due to this fact, and also because of its diverse geographic nature, the area is well served by three CFA brigades, with stations in North Warrandyte, Warrandyte and South Warrandyte.

However, North Warrandyte residents will gain little comfort from knowing that homes north of the Yarra are most at risk. The combination of denser bush and hillier terrain results in a faster-spreading, more intense fire because the fuel is "preheated" as the flames roar up the hills.

"North Warrandyte is one of the most difficult areas in the state for the CFA," says John Swindley. "We have people living in the bush in inappropriate subdivisions. They've got their houses perched on north-facing hills, scattered among the trees along narrow roads; all the things that are theoretically wrong when building a house in a fire-prone area."

John Swindley says that the influx of "city folk" has resulted in many residents being ignorant of the reality that they are living in a bushfire area, let alone knowing the best course of action in an emergency.

"The safest place to be during a bushfire is in your home," he says. "The worst place is out on foot, the next worst place is inside a motor car.

"Most people want to leave during a fire, but it doesn't take much imagination to work out what happens if you're driving through thick smoke, run into a tree and the roads are blocked."

He points out that although no homes were lost in Warrandyte on Ash Wednesday, there were 19 car accidents, probably largely caused by smoke blowing down from the Cockatoo fires.

Although newcomers may be ignorant of the dangers, community awareness is improving. John Haddon of the South Warrandyte brigade believes this is indicated by the kind of calls they receive.

"People get panicky about developers burning tree stumps and they call the CFA to make sure everything is under control," he says.

Warrandyte and South Warrandyte brigades have between 30 and 40 active members. North Warrandyte can count on about 60 people turning out for a fire.

"We're all volunteer brigades and we're always looking for new members," says John Swindley, "especially men and women available during the day."

All three fire captains stressed the importance of taking three simple fire prevention steps early:

- Clean up leaves and growth around your house and grounds;
- Move firewood away from the house;
- Make sure all rain gutters are clear.

This edition is the last for 1988. The *Diary* trots off on holiday now until February.

It is our chance to thank all the people who make possible this community newspaper. The list is long.

The *Diary* was in danger of collapsing under the weight of paper until Val Polley took up the position of chief of staff two years ago and reorganised us. Val has been magnificent at chasing stories and pictures and at soothing ruffled nerves when things have gone wrong.

She is leaving us for a better job in the city. We are thankful that at least she is talking about continuing to scribble for us. Well done, Val. Her successor is Jan Tindale. Jan says she may as well take the job; she spends so much time running around for husband Lee's sports pages anyway! She is too modest. Jan will be a great asset.

The *Diary* has been blessed with good writers. Judy MacDonald, Jan Liddicut, Rob Gell, David Wyman, Marion Winton and newcomer Peter Foster have our thanks. And how pleasant to see ex-editor Ken Virtue return to our pages. Thanks to all our other part-time writers as well.

Bruce Bence gets better and better. From stories with a historical base, Bruce has widened his net. Bruce and Wilma Bence also de-

serve praise for their prompt and efficient delivery of the *Diary*.

A third member of the clan, Amanda Bence, has taken over *Diary* accounts from Tony Dale.

Artists Jock McNeish and Paul Williams give the *Diary* a touch of class as does Lee Tindale with sporting news.

And one of our most important helpers is Jill Howell, who types up our stories so that they go to the printer word-perfect.

Without Trish Millington there would be no *Diary*. She handles our advertising.

Diary founder Cliff Green remains an inspiration, popping up with stories and ideas every issue. We thank him, along with the other trustees, Peter Lovett and Ken McKenzie.

Most of all we thank our readers and advertisers.

See you in February.



CYRIL BY PAUL W.



ANOTHER SOLD — ANOTHER WANTED

Due to an exceptional sales month, we have been left embarrassingly short of properties in the immediate area. We have buyers anxious to buy homes and land from \$100,000 to \$400,000. If you are thinking of selling, why not call for a free, no obligation market valuation. Remember we are the only agents in the area with a sworn valuer.

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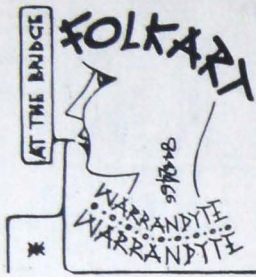
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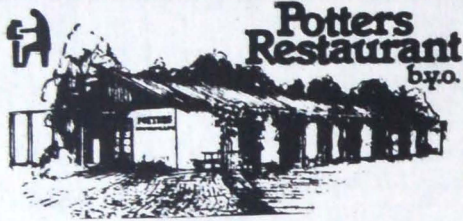
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NO JOB TOO BIG OR TOO SMALL
HAD A BINGLE? GIVE GRAEME A "TINGLE"

Not too many marks out of 10 for Australia Post, which this month managed to deliver a letter addressed to a business in Browns Road, Werribee, to a private home in Browns Road, North Warrandyte. More ammunition for the proponents of privatisation or a return to pigeon post.

There is much to be said for the tenacity of the driver of the 5.15 to Warrandyte (via freeway) on the afternoon of November 2. MET buses traditionally reserve their bitchiest behaviour for the hottest days, and this is no exception. At Templestowe, as we are becoming excited about the coldie awaiting us at home (God, I hope the missus has remembered to chill the glasses), the rear door decides to immobilise the entire vehicle by turning on a tacit tantrum. The driver, a nice fellow of Asian persuasion, goes through an opening-and-closing routine for a few minutes before apologetically suggesting we get off and await the next. We are into our second cigarette, standing out there under a merciless sun, when we realise the driver is no quitter because he is still at war with that damned door. And in the tradition of Robert the Bruce, he wins. The door eventually admits defeat, agrees to co-operate, and we are on the road again. It has got to be our lucky day because we arrive home to find the glasses finely frosted indeed.

It's hard to get a word in when you play a round of golf with or against Kevin Luttick. Kevin begins a subtle, psychological talking attack on his opposition before you've teed off on the first and he keeps it up until you've walked off the 18th green. It certainly didn't affect his own game at Healesville the other day, when he carded a net 62 and

IN RED & WHITE



broke his handicap by three. Actually, his sense of timing was lousy because the local RSL Club chaps have their annual trophy event in a few weeks and Kevin will now be among the low-markers. He exposed his form a little early — and let that be a lesson to him!



A well-known imbibor and sportsman was sounda when the hounds began to bray at 2 am in their run, to which they had been banished to keep them from the gentle ministrations of the Eltham Council dog-snatchers. In all his naked glory he trudged outside. "Shut up, you mongrels!" he roared. They persisted. He brought them inside with a cuff and a curse. Alas, they were roaring at the robber who was burgling his neighbor's car. Is our boy embarrassed? No. He figures that a glimpse of his corpulent torso, lit in scary profile by the Evereadies, probably dissuaded the villain from going on and rifling his mate's house.

It was a sight to behold, John Fisher of Eltham Council fame, stroking a cat. Now, most people would not

think stroking cats strange, but those of us who know John's past can recall the days when he wouldn't have looked sideways at a cat, let alone stroked one. Mind you, Billy, who came into John's life along with his wife Alison, has a persuasive miaow and soft furry coat and he's so well fed that it's unlikely he'd need extra sustenance from the bush. Ah, there's nothing like a good woman to set a bloke straight.

Glenn Martin, of John Spencer and Co. Real Estate, is working so hard these days earning a quid and chalking up sales at the rate of knots that he's extra relieved that Sue, his little missus, is working alongside. They've even got the kids in training. Young Ethan Martin is working out a time-and-motion strategy to get the washing pegged out in less than 20 minutes so he can get to school before 8.30 am. Sue feels he needs plenty of practice so he gets to do it every day before the family leave their little castle in Winding Way. He'll make some girl a wonderful husband in the future, especially if towelling nappies are still the go...

Rosie Tovey has had yet another promotion. Remember Rosie, our first Community Education Officer, who helped set up all the after-school music programs and the rest a few years ago? Well, she's deservedly gone up in the world to the lofty heights of ministerial liaison officer in the Ministry of Education. Good on ya Rosie! The enquiries there must surely beat the bods who wandered in off the street wanting to know when the next bus would stop out the front!

Warrandyte folk seem to have a remarkable knack for rising to the top. Ken Sharp of Brackenbury Street has just been appointed principal of the brand new Diamond Valley Secondary College, formed through the amalgamation of Hurstbridge High and Diamond Creek Technical Schools. Good one, Ken.



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\$230 per half page.
\$420 per full page.

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TYPESETTING: Bandaidd Productions Pty Ltd, 1st Floor, 83-87 Smith St, Fitzroy, 419 5385.

POSTAL ADDRESS: P.O. Box 209, Warrandyte 3113.

PUBLISHER: Warrandyte Diary Pty Ltd, as trustee for the Warrandyte Arts and Education Trust.

EDITORIAL: Chief of staff Jan Tindale, 844 3719.

ADVERTISING: Trish Millington, 844 2820.

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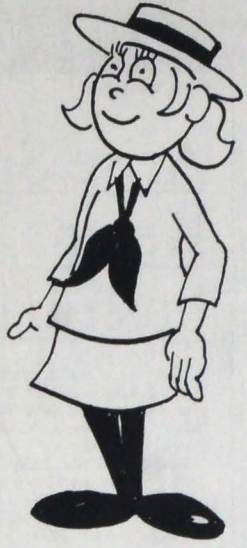
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Town the loser as gadfly departs



'Riverboat Bill' to hit the box

The Steam-Driven Adventures of Riverboat Bill, a television program of special local interest, goes to air this month.

Produced by Warrandyte animator and *Diary* artist Paul Williams, and written by local screenwriter Cliff Green, the program will be shown in three 30 minute episodes on December 21, 22 and 23, as part of Channel 10's Christmas presentation for young viewers.

Based on the first two of Cliff's popular trilogy of riverboat books for children, the film tells the story of a Murray River skipper and his crew and their exciting quest to save a legendary fire-breathing bunyip.

Paul and Cliff are not the only Warrandyte folk who worked on the production. Gus McLaren, well-known local potter and artist, did a lot of the animation, and children's voices in the film have been provided by Beate Harrison and Paul's sons, Ben and Adam Williams. Brian Lawrence, technical mainstay of so many local drama productions, was the sound engineer.

Camera operators included Maureen Geldard and Nancy McGregor. Joanne Newman, Jewell Beringer, Lorraine Green, Diane Nightingale and Colleen Baines all worked as tracers and painters, and Joyce Wilks helped with track reading.

The BBC has bought the film for screening in Britain. Sales to other countries include Greece, Israel, Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, Portugal, Korea, Taiwan, Spain and Finland.

A video cassette of the film is available through the Australian Council for Children's Films & Television, 17 St Andrew's Place, East Melbourne 3002, phone 651 1804.

Screening times for 'The Steam-Driven Adventures of Riverboat Bill' were not available as the *Diary* went to press, but a late afternoon slot is tipped.



Warrandyte is about to lose a gadfly. The town will be the poorer for it.

Jan Liddicut is shooting through to "an older, pretty part of Boronia". After about six months in exile there, Jan and her "very special friend of 2½ years, Bela, and his five kids," hope to move on to Upper Ferntree Gully, once the lounge, rumpus room and four new bedrooms are added.

Liddicut, you will be missed. Awfully. Jan became involved with the Warrandyte *Diary* back in January 1979 when former editor Lee Tindale tapped her talent. Unsubstantiated rumor has it that the In Red and White tag to Smokey Joe owes more than a little to Jan's prowess with a cask of claret and riesling.

In time she became co-editor of this news-

paper. Passion is a valuable attribute in a journalist. Jan had it, and has it, in abundance. Her opinions attracted heaps of letters, one measure of success in this business.

An editor or two later I took over the reins. I also inherited Jan. She spoke quickly and fervently on the phone. I suspect I put her off. I put her off until the day she rang from Valias Street. "I don't want to interfere," she said, "but you'd be a dill if you didn't bring your camera down here and get a shot of us residents digging our own drainage ditches."

She was right. She was generally right. Jan wrote wonderful stories for this newspaper. The best articles always come from people committed to a cause, and Jan was white-hot for justice in the same way that

Oliver Cromwell was piqued with absolute monarchy.

Mind you, Ms Liddicut could never have met the deadlines of daily journalism. Her usual style was to ring and tell me that a story was on the way. Five weeks later she would pass by in the street. "It'll be in the box tomorrow," she would say. "Good-oh, Jan," I would reply.

To be truthful, we never left a hole open for a Jan Liddicut story. But once the story came it was inevitably excellent.

Jan says: "At four, I told my dad I wanted to write books when I grew up. When I was nine I asked my grandmother if she could leave enough money to buy a house 'somewhere like Warrandyte' (but I got there before she died), and when I was 14 I told

my parents I wanted to be involved with local government. Not many people get to achieve their childhood dreams, and I have been extremely blessed in that regard."

Jan is being modest. She wrote an acclaimed series of books for children on coping with life's changes, she scraped together her dollars and bought a historic cottage on Yarra Street and she brought her own touch as an office-bearer in the Warrandyte Environment League, the Professor's Hill Sanctuary Committee, the Warrandyte Advisory Committee and the Doncaster District Health Council.

Ga'arn, Jan, As I said, you're a gadfly. But I wish Warrandyte could retain your sting.

BOB MILLINGTON



Warrandyte pre-schoolers Christopher Trim, Jacqui Pasinis and Jerod Gibson are busy preparing their works of art for the art, craft and produce exhibition to be held at St Stephen's Church hall in Stiggant Street during the Warrandyte Festival.

The Anglican Church is organising the show in conjunction with the festival, to be held on March 17, 18 and 19. Church members will also be serving traditional Devonshire teas.

Categories in the competition will include best-

painted Easter egg (three sections); biggest radish; best rose; best original greeting card, best scones; and most innovative craft entry.

There will also be paintings by children from local preschools, along with murals by local Sunday schools.

Entry forms for the show will be available early in February from local schools and stores.

For further information ring Ann Ley on 844 3543.

Lifeguards change tack

From December, the Yarra River Lifeguard Service will be experimenting with a new concept in river patrolling to give an improved service.

It has been found that the traditional method of lifeguards patrolling at a fixed location gives a very limited service. This may work at the beach but swimmers and canoeists spread themselves over several kilometres of river.

This season the lifeguards intend to have a roving patrol from upstream of the bridge to Pound Bend in addition to fixed patrols.

The roving lifeguards will patrol in specially built and equipped kayaks and will be able to cover a much larger area. The lifeguards will be in radio contact with their office and with park rangers, police and ambulance services.

The Yarra River Lifeguard Service can be contacted on 844 2997.

Guide to be dropped

Due to production difficulties, the Guide to Living and Learning supplement, which usually appears in the February issue of the *Diary*, will not be published in future. Full details concerning activities for children and adults, classes, sporting and interest groups in Warrandyte and surrounding districts can be obtained from the Citizens' Advice Bureau, located in the old post office in Yarra Street, telephone 844 3082 or 844 2197. Office hours: weekdays, 9.30 am to 4 pm; weekends, 1 to 4 pm.

Christmas services

Anglican. Christmas Eve: 11.30 pm Holy Eucharist at St Stephens, 11.30 pm Sung Eucharist at Emmanuel, Park Orchards, Christmas Day: 8 am Holy Eucharist at St Stephens, 9.30 am Holy Eucharist

IN BRIEF

at Emmanuel, Hopetoun Road, Park Orchards.

Catholic. Christmas Eve: 8 pm Family Vigil Mass at St Annes, Knees Road, Park Orchards. Midnight Mass at St Gerards, Cemetery Road, Warrandyte, Christmas Day: 10 am St Annes, Knees Road, Park Orchards.

Gospel Chapel. Christmas Day — see Notice Board for time.

Uniting Church. Christmas Eve: Carol Service 7.30 pm, Sacrament 11.30 pm. Christmas Day: 9 am service.

Church fete takes \$5200

The recent Uniting Church fete raised more than \$5200 which will help in the building of a hall to assist in the community outreach program for children and youth.

Says John Hanson: "A big thank-you must go to the members of the community who supported the fete in great numbers, and to the committee and helpers who planned and worked for a large part of the year."

Watercolors go on show

The Warrandyte Palette will be holding a two-week preChristmas exhibition of watercolor works by Terry Liddell from December 10. Terry is a long-time Warrandyte resident and a very popular artist. The Palette sells many of her works every year.

Co-op thanks

The Warrandyte Community Workshop Co-op say thanks again for the assistance received from the Warrandyte Community Market Committee for its timely donation of \$200 towards the workshop's administration costs.

Chance to talk, and to listen

The Warrandyte Neighborhood House has begun a series of evenings for people to air their views, recite poetry and just get together.

The first evening was a discussion on literacy. The second evening saw readings from the works of C.J. Dennis, Henry Lawson and Banjo Paterson.

In 1989, the Warrandyte Neighborhood House at the Community Centre, 178 Yarra Street, will be operating as an informal drop-in and chat centre on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, from 10 am to 2 pm from February 2.

The Neighborhood House will be open occasionally before then, and residents are urged to call in and tell the staff what they would like to see happening in 1989.

Firm plans for next year so far include a round-the-table French conversation group, a talk on organic gardening, music for preschoolers and a talk on money matters. There will also be family relationship programs, the first on Saturday, February 1 at 2 pm. Book with Lin on 844 2548 or 844 1966, or Linda on 844 2062.

Why not hire a trier

Each month the *Diary* publishes the names of two job-seekers. If you need work done or have a vacancy, the Co-op asks you to hire, as a community service, a trier.

Sara, 19, has office work skills but is willing to take other jobs. Danny, 25, has experience at all sorts of work and is interested in gardening or outdoor work.

Anyone able to assist is asked to contact Jean Chapman on 844 2548 or 844 3326. Another Warrandyte Community Workshop Co-operative Ltd. project.

Restored bakery gets closer to firing up

At last, work has begun on restoring the old bakery in Yarra Street. It won't be long now before the aroma of old-fashioned, hot, wood-fire oven-baked bread is wafting across the village.

Detlef Bielefeld, the Co-op's baker, has worked for 17 years in traditional bakeries. Detlef is looking forward to moving into Warrandyte and is seeking a house to rent.

The Bicentennial launching of the bakery will take place on Sunday, December 18, at 2 pm, with freshly-baked rolls and home-made jams, tea and coffee, and cordial for the children.

Detlef and his assistant, Stuart McIntyre of Warrandyte, will be at the opening together with other members of the Co-op and people who have helped with the restoration. Everyone is invited.

The Co-op acknowledges donations from Warrandyte Lions Club of \$916 for a dough machine; Vern Denford, local councillor and scales

collector, for the loan of a set of old-fashioned flour scales; the firm of APV Baker Pty Ltd for equipment at very much reduced prices.

The sad news is that the Co-op woodyard will be closing. The Co-op has wood for sale at \$95 a tonne. All equipment will be for sale. This includes a set of Avery scales, "Hydrasplit" woodsplitter, 3-tonne Daihatsu tipper truck, shed and car case pallettes. Enquiries to 844 2548 or 844 3326.

A Neighborhood House grant has been received for the development of classes, discussion groups and continuation of the community work already carried out by the Co-op. Lin Chandler and Linda Draeger have been appointed as job-sharing co-ordinators of the Neighborhood House part of the Co-op operations.

Jean Chapman will continue to manage the Co-op and handle the bakery and labor exchange projects.

JOHN SPENCER & GLENN MARTIN

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Ms Cole's 'Merlie' is quite a girlie

Just for a moment, a fleeting moment, we thought the football team that is the centrepiece of Carol Cole's play 'Merlie's Final Move' might have been the Bloods.

They do, after all, share red and white colors. But the first scene after half time ("interval") would have been quite inappropriate) dispelled the impression. The Mighty Mongrels actually won the flag, something Warrandyte has been unable to accomplish for several seasons.

For the unfortunates who missed 'Merlie's Final Move', held over six nights in the Mechanics Institute Hall late in November, we should outline the plot.

Frank Plunkett (David Mitchell) is a sort of Everybarracker. He attends every game, pops up at every training night and knows far better than the coach that "Rocket" should be switched to the ruck, leaving "Mangles" to throw roundhouse rights at anyone in the vicinity.

Mr Plunkett has a tepid romance on the back burner, turned down very low, with Merlie (short for Melaine) Hislop (Yvonne Morey). We know that this excuse for a romance has been consummated — nudge, nudge, wink, wink — but will it ever lead to the Holy and Blissful State of Matrimony?

Too right it will. For Frank's raunchy widowed mother Vera (Carol Cole) has found that her penfriend from the north, Henry (Ken Virtue) has lead in the pencil that he writes with and wants to carry her away to the sunshine with

REVIEW
Bob Millington

a view to a different form of correspondence.

Can Frank fend for himself if mum shoots through? Not really. But Merlie would be the girlie to look after him. The problem is, of course, his devotion to the football team. As he says: "I've been following the Mongrels for 30 years". Says Merlie: "And I've followed you for nine".

We know that too lurv will eventually triumph. But the state of the world is not improved by Tommy (Rowen Bavinton), Frank's best mate and a top-notch male chauvinist oinker, who insists that Frank must accompany the all-singing, all-dancing Mongrel team on its end-of-year, bugger-the-Qantas complaints; we-can-always-come-back Continental rant to Fiji.

Carol Cole paints an awful picture here. "You're only a checkout chick," Tommy tells his wife Sharon (Marg Volk), in a classic put-down line. Mind you, meeting Sharon in a dark alleyway would not be all that enjoyable. Her idea of fun is to go off on a women's self-discovery weekend.

And Merlie's final move? Well, shall we simply say that it is a magnanimous gesture that pays off. The cast were excellent. The best of the best were Rowen Bavinton, only 23 but confident and mature; Yvonne Morey, who knows that it takes brains to play a dumb broad.

Jock MacNeish, Merlie's old man, who took his almost-forgotten Scottish burr and broadened the Robbie Burns out of it for fun and profit; and Carol Cole, who submitted to the rotten task of writing a play, accepting a role in it and then copping a director who, we presume, told her how to perform the part she created.

That was Doug McManus. Other credits included Donald Baigent for the publicity, Ferrari Fashions for the wedding dress, and Warrandyte Football Club for the siren.

Faults? Sure. The premiere began 40 minutes after the advertised starting time, actors sometimes stumbled off stage left while a lonely light remained trained on them, the sets were so uniform and rudimentary that we sometimes wondered whose living room we were peeking into, and the play itself — at 14 scenes — would be none the worse for a touch of tightening.

That said, we want to emphasise that 'Merlie's Last Move' could be performed anywhere in Australia (with an appropriate change in the colors of the football scarves) and be a total success.

We realised that early on in the piece when Tommy, "smelling of beer and cigarettes", returns from the Mongrels' training session and plunks down on the couch. Sharon speaks for many wives when she says: "I can't concentrate with your nose whistling." That is one heck of an observation of married life.

Ah Carol! As a lot of us say at this time of year when we send off cards and letters, please, please do write again.

REVIEW

Ken Virtue

Arise Sir Kevin, bush bard

If Warrandyte could award medals to deserving residents then one sure winner would have to be Kevin O'Mara from Warrandyte Primary School.

Kevin's fifth and sixth grade students recently performed the musical 'Currawong Creek', and the show was an absolute delight for audience and cast alike.

Helen Cahill, a drama teacher who manages the youth drama classes in Warrandyte as well as the 'Here and Now' Theatre Workshops, dubbed it the best children's show she has seen.

Certainly this praise was reflected on the faces of all who attended the final night, for here were two entire classes involved in a colorful, original musical. Obviously they were proud of their achievement after all the hard work, and they all had fun!

'Currawong Creek' is the third major musical produced by Kevin O'Mara. "How does he keep doing it?" I heard several people say. Kevin wrote the songs with friend Mark Leehy from Paraddiddle Band, and partnered Lynne Bartlett in the book of the same name. The real magic was the relevance of this musical to the children of Warrandyte.

Little Jo McMahon was fascinating as "Selengi", the serpent with the poisonous eyes (one look and you're hypnotised), and her rendition



The cast of 'Currawong Creek' go through their paces.

of "Selengi's Song" and her costume and make-up were artful indeed.

"Archie", played by Tiffany Olpp, sang the most beautiful song of the evening with a haunting performance of 'Storm on the Summer Horizon'. Tiffany was a very poised young actress, and a central character of the show.

The other young principals held the Aussie Bush theme solidly together. James Sheehan was old man kangaroo, 'Dave'; Melissa King was the thoroughly convincing 'Union' bird; 'Kookie' cook was played by Angie McGinty; Claire McFarlane was 'Wilma', the wee-bit-slow rabbit; and Richard Winters was a confident 'Sarge' the koala.

The chorus dancers were cleverly costumed by Jill Whitchurch as native animals and birds, and the choreography by Janine Sansom, Loris Young and Kevin was first class.

A big bouquet must also go to director, Denise Farran, and stage manager Graeme Caudry for keeping so many children well organised to entertain so well.

I understand Kevin O'Mara is well underway with next year's production.

After writing, producing and mixing the music, doing the sound and a very capable master of ceremonies job, one wonders that he is now not on R & R leave.

Before the musical he also conducted the grade four recorder

group, the recorder consort, advanced guitar class and the bush-band. The man is obviously devoted to his music and "his" children, and the parents of Warrandyte all count themselves fortunate to share his loves.

Colleague Barry McKimm conducted the Community Band with a number of interesting arrangements, and must be proud of son Erin who plays a fine trumpet.

No doubt the school will have to keep searching for bigger concert halls to stage the Warrandyte Primary Concerts as their reputation grows.

And surely someone must propose a well-deserved "gong" for Kevin O'Mara. Arise, Sir Kevin. Bravo!

Warrandyte PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

By CORALIE SOUVATZIS

The Principal, Ken Wing Jan, described 1988 as a very productive year for the school. New projects have included a toilet block, the fire refuge and the shift of playground equipment to cater for specific age groups. He wished all parents, staff and students a very merry and safe Christmas.

There they were again, the Warrandyte Bush Band on The Cartoon Company, 7.30 am November 26. Is this favouritism, Mr O'Mara, or would you rather not have everyone know that you once taught one of the presenters? Time does creep up on all of us.

The school's Bicentennial mural, depicting the First Fleet, will be dedicated on Friday, December 16 by the Mayor of Doncaster Templestowe. The children are being encouraged to dress in period costume.

It's on again, folks. Carols by Torchlight. No candles, it's in the pines. Kevin (the teacher for getting his name in the paper) O'Mara, has again organised the event. All grades will be participating with a special treat for the infant grades.

The final prep outing for 1988 was a trip on Puffing Billy followed by a delicious sausage sizzle. The day was made extra special by the attendance of grandparents, parents and toddlers.



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Agency duo go out on their own

The "dynamic duo" of Warrandyte Real Estate — John Spencer and Glenn Martin — have opened up a business in Yarra Street's new shops by the pub.

Trading as John Spencer and Company Pty Ltd, the pair who have worked in real estate in the area for a combined total of 34 years have ventured out on their own service to the community.

Glenn Martin is sales manager and John Spencer is the registered proprietor.

The boys have a keen interest in the Warrandyte community. Both are long-term residents and active members of community groups. Glenn is a member of the Warrandyte Advisory Committee with a particular interest in the development of the proposed new community centre.

He has served on local school councils and was chairman of the Community Education Scheme. He has had a long history of sporting involvements. His wife, Sue, who also works in the new business, is a local girl, formerly Sue Chapman of Chapman family fame. They have three children.

John Spencer has different personal interests. Married with two sons, John takes a keen interest in junior sport, including stints of umpiring football and cricket. He is a keen painter and holds a bachelor of fine arts degree.

Both say they are keen to see the village atmosphere of Warrandyte retained along with the bush environment. "We are a company dedicated to work hard selling houses and land as well as promoting Warrandyte," said Glenn.

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HEATHER DAY

Gardener who grew friendships

Warrandyte was saddened by the death last month of Heather Day, who had lived in the area for many years. She will be remembered as a gentle woman of quiet strength and great courage.

Heather's parents lived at Bald Hills near Creswick. They had five daughters, Heather being the youngest. She went to primary school at Creswick, then to the School of Mines at Ballarat. She came to Melbourne to train as a primary teacher, and after a year returned home to work in the office of the Forestry School at Creswick.

She was married at Creswick at Christmas time in 1948, then came to Warrandyte to live, first with her parents-in-law at Rookery Nook and later in Blooms Road. Heather was a quiet, gentle girl, greatly loved by all her relatives. The friendships she made around that time have lasted 40 years.

Until her children were grown up, Heather devoted herself to being wife and mother, and to being a caring daughter-in-law of their grandmother, the late Eva Day. She was always there when Mandy and Kim needed her through the sometimes difficult years of their growing up. She shared with great joy the happiness they found with their partners Wendy and Stephen.

Heather had to contend with much illness over the years, beginning with tuberculosis, which she suffered as a young girl. But her friends never saw her as an "ill person" through all those years because she was so obviously a woman at home in the great outdoors.

Her love of the bush, which led her to travel around Australia with her family, sustained her interest in the local fire brigade. Her gentle love of growing things and creative gardening sustained her through much sadness and brought joy to all who shared her garden.

Many of Heather's friends have little pieces of her garden growing in their own, and it is these we will treasure, remembering how she would take a cutting, or share out the pots she always had flourishing on her potting benches. Many of these pots appeared over the years at church fetes. Heather's growing and planting thus spread through much of her beloved Warrandyte.

In her later years she worked in landscape gardening, and took up pottery, and many of her pieces are scattered around terraces and lawns, adding another expression of her sensitivity to her garden. She made many new friends through her pottery, as she did through her work in the local pharmacy, where her friendliness and gentle humor were greatly appreciated.

Behind her quietness lay strength, and a determination not to be a trouble to others. For this reason, some of her friends and family may not have realised how seriously ill she really was, or how close her earthly life was in coming to its end. Those who did know surrounded her with the love and care she so richly deserved.

It was just like Heather to leave us quietly, with little fuss. But she left behind such beauty; beauty that is a lasting tribute to her life.

YVONNE REID

Mollie Docking

George Docking and family thank all their Warrandyte friends for the messages of sympathy and condolences on the death on September 27 of Mollie Docking. Mollie was well-known and respected in the town. She was for many years president of the local Royal Women's Hospital auxiliary and actively involved in the Senior Citizens Club.

Judging of arts award continues

Final adjudication in the \$5000 Warrandyte Youth Arts Award is now under way, with candidates being assessed by panels of distinguished artists in a wide range of disciplines.

The awards, organised by the *Diary*, with the active co-operation and generous sponsorship of the Lions Club of Warrandyte, are being offered to young people between the ages of 18 and 25 years who normally live in Warrandyte and who intend following a career in any field of the arts.

A wide-ranging selection of talented young people have applied, including a musician, a jeweller and gold and silversmith, a painter, two graphic artists, an actress and dancer and an embroiderer.

Following preliminary discussions with the local awards committee, the applicants are now being interviewed, auditioned and their work assessed by panels of leading practitioners, among whom are some of the most distinguished artists in their respective fields in the state.

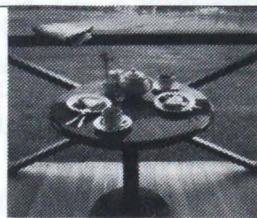
These assessments will come back to the local committee and a final decision will be made. As young artists working in diverse areas are competing for the award, the judges are seeking those applicants with the greatest potential for excellence in their chosen field. It is intended that the results will be announced at the Warrandyte Festival in March, 1989.

Judith Hall in concert

Internationally acclaimed flautist and Warrandytian Judith Hall will be playing in another concert at the high school theatre on Sunday, January 15.

Judith will be performing with the ensemble Entr'acte, which she formed in 1985. Entr'acte consists of clarinetist David Fuest and the piano duo of Kathryn and John Lenehan. In an original concept, the group has arranged musical classics to accompany classic silent films.

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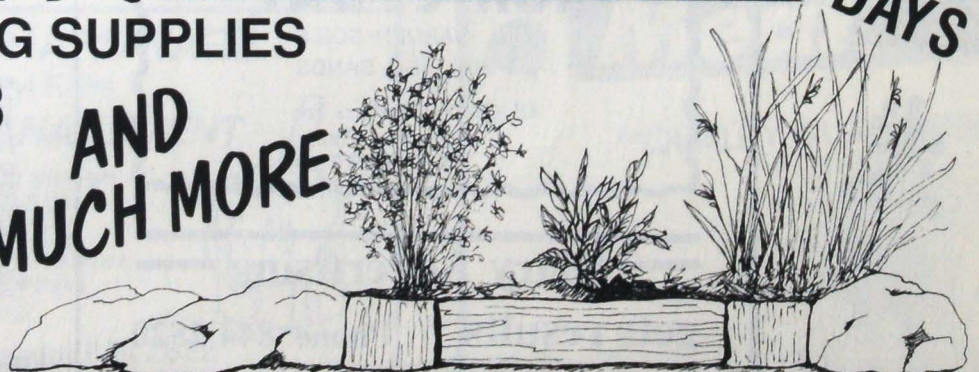
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Prunus pruning saddens artist

When I heard about the plans to remove the beautiful plum trees from the Warrandyte riverbank, I was so saddened that I felt I had to write.

From the artist's point of view, the plum trees are one of the most beautiful things about Warrandyte. In a lifetime of making pictures I treasure the memory of the times I spent painting these splendid trees, and the paintings are among the best things I've ever produced, mostly because of the aesthetic nature of the trees themselves.

They are soft and sympathetic to the environment of the riverbank. They have a poetic quality about them and I suppose that is why so many other artists have chosen to use them as subjects for their pictures. Streeton, Conder, Boyd, Southern, and many other fine Australian painters have fallen in love with the plum trees of Warrandyte and immortalised them in their works.

They are as much a part of Warrandyte as the river itself.

Dale Marsh,
Bribie Island, Qld.

Plums part of civilisation

Regarding the destruction of our township's environment, I would like to set down my views.

The township of Warrandyte has grown out of the bush since the 1850s gold rush. The people who first lived here carved their homes out of the bush and raised their children in an unfamiliar environment, surrounding themselves with familiar plants and making the gardens a reminder of the civilisation they had left behind.

Part of the character of the township we live in and love today is the cherry plum trees that blossom so profusely in gardens and along the banks of the Yarra and blend so beautifully with the wattles each spring.

There is nothing more alien to the native bush than the houses that form the township or, indeed, white man himself. The people who would rip out all non-native or non-indigenous plants should confine themselves to cleaning up the weeds and blackberries which make the river bank unsightly. If a number of our garden plant seeds escape into the parks, the vigilance of the staff should see them cleaned out without much effort.

I love the bush that surrounds our township very much, but to turn back the clock and destroy our living heritage makes a mockery of the people who came here in the early days and endured such hardships to found the township of Warrandyte.

To pull out the trees slowly so no one realises they are gone until it is



LETTERS

too late is both underhand and dishonest, and I implore all who love Warrandyte to keep their eyes open and make themselves heard each time of these trees goes down.

Shirley Rotherham,
member, Warrandyte Historical Society, Tills Drive.

Trees must survive WEL

Thirty-seven years ago my husband and I decided to leave Mildura and look for a place to settle for city education for our children. We were told that Warrandyte needed a chemist so we decided to have a look at this old gold mining town in the hills.

We arrived in springtime, the cherry plums and wattles were in bloom. We immediately fell in love with this beautiful place so close to the city and had no doubt that it was the place where we would like to live.

We built our pharmacy and residence (now owned by Sue Jones). The view from our windows in springtime of city people picnicking under the plum trees by the river, and later on in the summer picking the fruit, made us realise how lucky we were to be living and working in such a place.

Sadly, over the years we have watched this unique village become part of the suburban sprawl.

My husband and I join Lil Whitehead and all the others who remember Warrandyte the way it used to be.

Our cherry plum trees survived the bushfires; let us hope that they survive the WEL.

Dulcie Gedge,
Webb Street.

Hoons make a hash of it

Only four nights into daylight saving, temperature in the high 30s. Then it started. First the cars driving into the reserve instead of the car park (where are our rangers?). Minutes later the tinnies rattled. Then "Thump, thump, thump, splash!"

The voices rose, the yelling started as the joggers came across the river. Yes, it was the Doncaster Eltham Hash House Harriers on a fun run ending at The Boulevard where their feet rested and their thirst was quenched.

The voices got louder, and the language! We had to close the children's windows. Fortunately at 10 o'clock they packed up and left,

but not without blasting their horns for minutes at a time. I had heard enough bad language for the rest of the year.

But alas, tomorrow's another day. Upon taking a stroll through the reserve the next morning I found it: 'Hash Trash' (a members' newsletter). And that's what it was, trash! I could not believe my eyes. The newsletter was full of "f" words. No wonder the members speak as they do. What a fine example this club sets.

Please, don't come back to The Boulevard!

A disgusted resident.

In defence of dognapping

In reply to Mr Garry Clinnick's letter (November *Diary*): The reason, Mr Clinnick, that you have your money, no dog, and a very sad family, is that you weren't prepared to pay for essential desexing, registration and vaccination of said dog, not because Eltham Council is 'greedy' or 'nasty'.

The reasons that councils in these parts, as indeed in any parts, are so tough on stray dogs and cats are that there are far too many stray animals, due solely to human irresponsibility, and that these strays are a very serious threat to what little wildlife we have left.

Surely you and your family, as 'animal lovers', can understand that?

Miss S Carroll,
Dingley Dell Road.

Society's thanks go to Jo

At the official unveiling of the Warrandyte Historical Society's Photographic Access File, as I was listening to the mayor speaking, my thoughts went back to one person who wasn't there.

She started the ground work for the restoration of the old post office. Her heart was in it. The making of dozens of jars of beautiful jam month after month and the pumpkin scones. She set up a stall at our monthly market selling post office T-shirts etc. Endless hours of effort in so many different ways.

Her devotion to get the Historical Society started was equally as dedicated: interviewing, collecting photos, you name it, she did it.

That person was Jo Laurence. Thank you Jo. I appreciate what you did and will never forget. Thanks to Brian and family for being Jo's backstop in those days. I only wish you had been there.

I feel this is an opportunity to let the people know of her dedication to the Warrandyte Community.

Joyce Bellingham
(foundation member of the Warrandyte Historical Society).

Dual housing defended

Cliff Green, in the October *Diary*, wrote that Warrandyte has won the battle against dual occupancy, but what have we actually won, or have we in fact lost?

If the idea was to keep Warrandyte as it used to be, then I think we have lost.

Warrandyte used to be a place where people didn't really worry about what kind of house anyone else built or what other people did on their own block of land so as they didn't go silly cutting trees down.

What we have won is the right to build large, 30 to 50-square houses, complete with swimming pool and/or tennis court, but not the right to build two smaller 10-square houses on the same amount of land.

I am inclined to disbelieve the results of surveys.

Did every person who answered the dual occupancy questionnaire have full knowledge of the conditions pertaining to the building of a second house? There are conditions. The only additional conditions required for the Warrandyte area were those suggested by WAC, in the earlier and less emotive days of discussion on this issue, with regard to the size of trees which could be removed and the gradient of the land.

Where do the people of Warrandyte expect their senior citizens to live? They should not have to move out of the area in which they have lived most of their lives because of the shortsightedness and panic of certain local groups.

Jean Chapman,
Pigeonbank Lane.

Seniors' turn was enjoyable

Through your *Diary* I would like to record how much I, and I am sure those present, enjoyed the recent birthday celebration of the Warrandyte Senior Citizens Club.

A bountiful afternoon tea was served and there was extra great entertainment by members of the city's concert party. Their fame has spread so much so, that without any fanfare, their hall in Tarooma Avenue was packed to overflowing with past, present and, I hope, future members.

Among those present was David Mentaplay, who some people may remember. David used to deliver our bread in the town. He and his wife came down from Warburton for the special occasion so you can see it was a great opportunity to catch up with old friends and have lots of laughs and fun.

Keep up the great entertainment.
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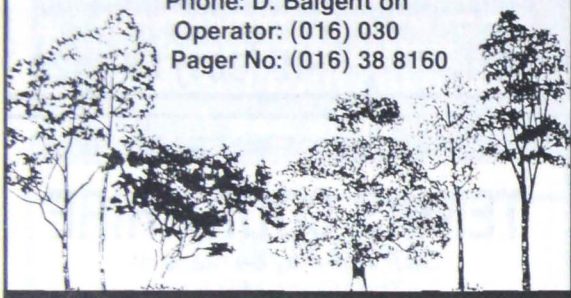
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Of singing and syrup

December, 1888: Some 25 gentlemen from the German Liedertafel, with visitors from Lilydale, paid Mr Walter a visit last Sunday. They camped not exactly under their native linden trees, but the grateful shade of pinus insignis in that gentleman's beautiful place was thoroughly appointed.

There is something rational in the German method of enjoying themselves. Beautiful singing and lager beer. Poe writes of the rhythm of the "Bells". They had the perfect rhythm of the human voice. And talk, Jupiter! how they can talk. I, who perhaps can understand one word of German out of twenty, thoroughly enjoyed the babel.

In a very neat speech the health of their host, Mr Walter, was proposed and drank with great enthusiasm. Mr Walter replied in a happy strain. On their departure they were heartily cheered.

Tenders are invited for booth, etc, for our annual picnic. According to our present promised support, there is little doubt of phenomenal success. Subscriptions are coming in very satisfactorily, and I think New Year's Day, if the weather is at all favorable, will be noted for its success and its large attendance.

January, 1889: "He held me with his glittering eye."
Well, he didn't look very much



like a poet, although he said "I have written a few verses, will you kindly look at them?"

"Ante up," said I.

No eye beheld when Cameron plunged

Young Blannin in the stream;

No human ear but Cameron's heard
Young Blannin's dying scream.

"What the devil do you mean by writing about a God-fearing, straightforward Presbyterian Scotchman like that for?"

"Metaphor, nothing but metaphor, my boy."

"And Great Scott! What's this?"

Submissive, all the electors owned Cameron for their kin;
And he, as rightful heir, possessed The County of Evelyn.

"Why do you come to me, an unarmed man, with this stuff? You should have taken it to the editor. He keeps a first-class rifle on the premises — and never misses. Now get!"

And he got — a bob from me, and hasn't harassed me since. (One Cameron was local MP at the time — Ed, WD.)

The Young Colonial Quartz Company are getting on with the sinking of their shaft, although the water is rather heavy. The dam at their waterwheel has been repaired, at all events, sufficiently for crushing purposes.

Tenders have been called for coffer dams at the bridge over us. It is the intention of the two councils to put it in thorough repair.

The weather is intensely hot, 98 in the shade, with very little appearance of a change. (From the Newspaper Collection, State Library of Victoria.)

Integration the topic

Parents and teachers gathered at Warrandyte Primary School on November 23 to discuss the integration of handicapped children into ordinary classes.

Anne Douherty from the Education Department's eastern metropolitan regional office explained how the children were slotted into schools. Barbara Johnson, from the Doncaster Support Centre, discussed the resources available to children, their parents and teachers.

Finally, teacher Shirley Roberts described a successful integration program. She emphasised that positive attitudes were needed as well as community support.

We are fortunate to have both at Warrandyte Primary School.

MERYL TETHER

Guides again

Wonga Park residents have decided to involve the community in the re-establishment of brownies and guides in the area. The feeling of the meeting was that guiding was an established part of the community.

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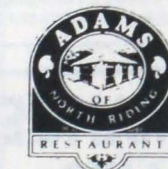
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McLean back unopposed

Kevin McLean has been returned unopposed for his third consecutive term as Warrandyte Football Club president.

And secretary Anthony Giles-Peters has extended his unbroken tenure to eight years.

Shane Revell was returned as treasurer and Brian Day replaces Bill Luttick, who did not seek re-election, as vice-president.

The appointments were ratified at the club's annual general meeting late last month.

Two committee positions were unfilled and the club would like to hear from anyone prepared to

President outlines new player payment system

serve. The club is also seeking team managers for next season and volunteers for the bar roster.

The committee at this stage comprises Joe Scicluna, John Read, Jenny Walsh, Ian Hurley, Snowy Pryor and newcomer Graham White.

In his report to the meeting, Mr McLean foreshadowed a new system of player payments next season, based on service. He said the

committee had virtually decided to pay according to games played, rather than on a contract basis.

"In the eight years I've been here, only seven or eight contract players have been real value," Mr McLean said.

The new scheme envisaged for 1989 would reward long-serving players, providing incentive for continued service.

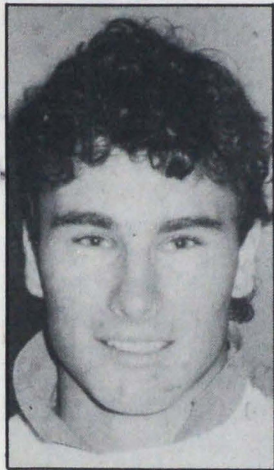
Recruits would be brought in at a level above the scale "if that's the player we want".

Of the 1988 season, Mr McLean said crucial injuries had cost Warrandyte a place in the third-division finals. "Without those injuries, we'd have made the four and played in the grand final," he said.

"With a bit more experience and commitment, we are in a position to win the flag (in 1989)."

Mr McLean said the club was in a sound financial position — a result of the new social club activities and the fact that a few contract players had not played last season.

Dytes rebound with a double



Darren Peters — among the runs.



Chris Snaidero — wickets galore.

Continued from Page 10

Andrew top-scored with 75 and Chris took the bowling honours with 4/77 as Warrandyte won by 15 runs. Chris also shone with the ball against North Ringwood, taking 5/34 and combining with Bruce Ryan (4/17) to demolish the opposition for just 57. The Dytes won by 60 runs.

The thirds showed enough in their losses to Montrose and North Ringwood to suggest they are capable of much better things and the fourths continue to impress.

Fine bowling by Colin Blackburn (5/17), Mark O'Brien (5/16) and David Stockley (4/5) had North Ringwood in danger of outright defeat in the fourths match. North were bundled out for 33 in the first innings and were 5/28 in the second in response to Warrandyte's 2/105 declared.

Jonathan Hassall, an outstanding junior footballer, showed that he can also handle a cricket ball with telling effect by taking 6/9 in the fifth match against Parkwood.

Warrandyte responded to Parkwood's first innings total of 26 with 2/170 declared, Joram Read being the main contributor.

The women's eleven were no match for North Croydon, falling 92 short of the target of 281. Angela Turnbridge made a fighting 50 for Warrandyte and had support from Sharyn Egeberg (44) and Suzanne Martin (28). First-gamer Paula Coe was 13 not out.

The girls atoned with a win over Monash University, Jenni McLaws and Egeberg bowling accurately to restrict the students to 7/48 from 35 overs. Warrandyte replied with 3/63, of which Martin made an unbeaten 23.

CRICKET DETAILS

CHANDLER SHIELD: Warrandyte 6/258 (Tregear 95, Peters 52, Jacobs 38no) d Montrose 167 (J. O'Brien 4/22). Player-of-match: J. O'Brien. Warrandyte 6/140cc (Peters 52, Pascoe 42) d North Ringwood 8/106cc (Broome 5/52). Players-of-match: I. Broome, D. Peters. Warrandyte 4/75 (Tregear 41no) drew East Ringwood 8/99. Player-of-match: G. Tregear.

CHANDLER RESERVE: Warrandyte 232 (A. Snaidero 75) d Montrose 217 (C. Snaidero 4/77). Players-of-match: C. and A. Snaidero. Warrandyte 9/117 (J. McCartin 40) d North Ringwood 57 (C. Snaidero 5/34, Ryan 4/17). Player-of-match: B. Ryan. Warrandyte 134 (Sturesteps 46, J. McCartin 37) lost to East Ringwood 0/140. Player-of-match: T. Sturesteps.

THIRDS: Warrandyte 191 (Lawrence 76, Canty 44) lost to Montrose 222 (Dick 4/49, Wilkes 3/8). Player-of-match: G. Lawrence. Warrandyte 113 lost to North Ringwood 145 (Dick 4/63). Warrandyte 5/121 (Baker 49) drew East Ringwood 6/180. Player-of-match: B. Baker.

FOURTHS: Warrandyte 205 (Vitiritti 45, Blackburn 40) d Montrose 142 (Blackburn 5/52). Player-of-match: C. Blackburn. Warrandyte 2/105dec (Taylor 39) d North Ringwood 33 and 5/28 (Blackburn 5/17, M. O'Brien 5/16, Stockley 4/5). Player-of-match: M. O'Brien. Warrandyte 3/132 (Vitiritti 38no, Valentine 38) d East Ringwood 7/125 (Baker 3/28). Player-of-match: A. Vitiritti.

FIFTHS: Warrandyte 234 (Utt 124no, C. Dornning 35) and 4/70 d Vermont 148. Player-of-match: A. Utt. Warrandyte 89 lost to St. Andrews 7/188 (Joel McCartin 4/54). Player-of-match: Joel McCartin. Warrandyte 2/170dec d Parkwood 26 and 3/60 (J. Hassall 6/9). Player-of-match: J. Hassall.

WOMEN: Warrandyte 7/189 (Turnbridge 50, Egeberg 44, Martin 38) lost to North Croydon 5/280. Warrandyte 3/65 (Martin 23no) d Monash 7/48 (McLaws 3/20, Egeberg 3/21). Warrandyte 93 (McLaws 38) lost to Bentleigh 94 (M. McGhee 4/21). Player-of-match: A. Turnbridge.

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A double dose of W'dyte!

Warrandyte rebounded from a disappointing start to the season with consecutive victories in the Ringwood District Cricket Association's Chandler Shield Competition.

The Dytes broke the 1988-89 ice with a comprehensive win over Montrose in the fourth round, then comfortably accounted for North Ringwood in a limited-over fixture.

And it would almost certainly have been three on end had not rain intervened in the sixth-round game against East Ringwood.

The 91-run win over Montrose was the senior eleven's best performance of the season so far. Chasing 167, Warrandyte cruised to 6/258.

Captain-coach Greg Tregear again led from the front, with a polished 95. Darren Peters, who

made 62, figured in a near-century partnership with Tregear and Graeme Jacobs chipped in with a punishing 38.

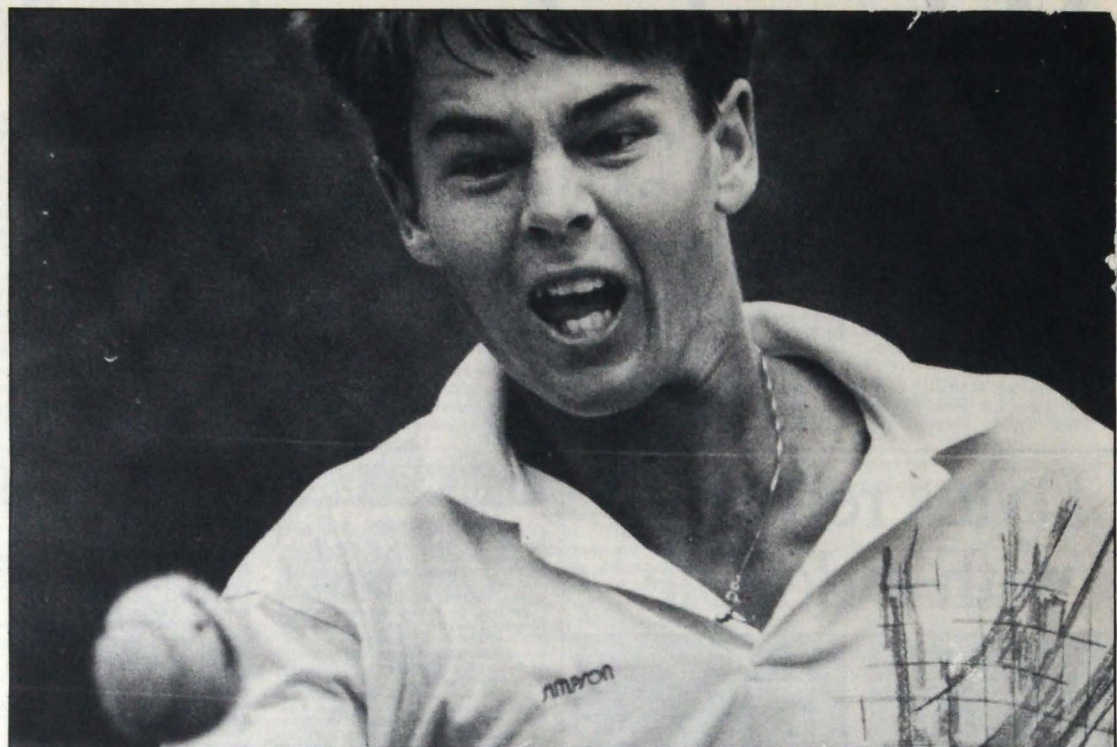
Peters carried his fine form into the one-day game against North Ringwood, top-scoring with 52, and evergreen Steve Pascoe contributed 42 to Warrandyte's 6/140.

Ian Broome had set up the win in an unchanged 19-over spell which produced 5/52 and restricted North to 8/106.

Warrandyte were just 25 runs short of victory against East Ringwood — and had six wickets in hand — when that match was abandoned because of rain. Tregear was 41 not out.

The Snaidero brothers, Andrew and Chris, made a real family affair of the Chandler Reserves win over Montrose, a result which enhanced the team's finals prospects.

• Continued Page 9



Todd Woodbridge, the young Sydneysider who swept all before him at the Warrandyte Peters Ice Cream Masters last month.

Woodbridge the young master

Young tennis internationals from the Australian Institute of Sport dominated at the Warrandyte Peters Ice Cream Masters, held at the local tennis club courts last month.

In a hard fought win over AIS colleague Johan Anderson, 17 year-old Sydneysider Todd Woodbridge took the singles final, 6-4, 0-6, 6-3. Following an evenly matched first set, during which Woodbridge just managed to get the edge on his higher-ranked opponent, Anderson then went on to blow Wood-

bridge off the court, winning six straight games in a searing 15 minutes.

With Anderson jumping to a 3-1 lead in the opening games of the third set, a repeat performance looked imminent. But Woodbridge fought back to win five straight games — and the final of the most important leg of the Victorian satellite circuit.

Johan Anderson was able to recover some glory by then taking out the doubles final with partner Richard Fromberg, yet another young AIS champion. They defeated Brett

Custer and David Macpherson in straight sets; 6-3, 6-4.

The finals were the culmination of an exciting week of top class tennis at Warrandyte. Although the local club has hosted a leg of the Victorian Davis Cup Foundation Satellite Circuit for the past several years, this is the first time they have been chosen to stage the prestigious masters tournament.

The Victorian Tennis Association has named Warrandyte "club of the month" for December 1988.

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Life award for Bill Luttick

Warrandyte Football Club stalwart Bill Luttick has been made a life member. The honour was conferred at the Club's annual general meeting last month.

Luttick, 44, is a former senior player, committeeman and vice-president and a long-serving junior coach.

He was a prime mover in the campaign for new clubrooms at the recreation reserve and was largely responsible for the success of the project.

Luttick's junior coaching work has spanned 11 years and he numbers under-14 and under-16 premierships among his achievements. He returns to coaching next year, with the under-18s.

He played most of his senior football with Newport. His career at Warrandyte was curtailed by a knee injury.

Luttick was WFC vice-president last season. He did not seek reelection.

Hopkins is Bloods' new coach

Well-credentialed Lindsay Hopkins will coach Warrandyte Football Club next season.

Hopkins, who has coached EDFL second-division club Croydon for the past three years, beat four other applicants after the job was twice advertised.

Last year's coach Len Halley withdrew from the field after an interview with the WFC committee which followed the second calling of applications.

Hopkins comes to Warrandyte as non-playing coach with an impressive record on and off the field. In his three years at Croydon, the club finished third, second and third respectively.

Hopkins played junior football for Blackburn, then spent six years at Templestowe, in the Diamond Valley league, captaining a premiership team and winning a club best and fairest award.

He won two best and fairests in seven years at East Ringwood and coached that club to a reserves premiership. He has represented the

EDFL at inter-league level and won the top player award at Mt. Waverley.

The other contenders in the final countdown for the Warrandyte coaching job were:

- David Mitchell, three-time Bloods reserves premiership coach, former president, secretary, treasurer and a life member.

- Grant Wilmot, former Collingwood player. Wilmot made himself unavailable at the last minute, having accepted a coaching position under Peter Moore at Eltham.

- Vic Hawking, who coached Nunawading in EDFL fourth division last season.

- Brian Bibby, whose background includes Brunswick (VFA) and the Diamond Valley.

Warrandyte had not appointed a reserves coach when this edition of the Diary went to press.

Testing time comes early for Warrandyte Football Club next season. The Bloods will play The Basin in the season's opener, at home on April 8.

Warrandyte won both encounters in 1988 — but The Basin went on to the grand final, in which they were beaten by Mooroolbark.

The Bloods beat the grand finalists by 16 points in the last home-and-away game but missed the four on percentage.

Football club cheif back unopposed: Page 9

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