

DIARY

No. 201, July 1989

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Now the Tills Drive carve-up

By CLIFF GREEN

Plans to subdivide 27 acres of bush and farmland at the corner of Warrandyte-Ringwood Road and Tills Drive into residential blocks were revealed at a special committee meeting of Doncaster and Templestowe Council last month.

Called to hear arguments for and against re-zoning a large section of Warrandyte Ward from Landscape Interest and Conservation to Residential D, the meeting was told that the application, if successful, would not result in the land being subdivided into one-acre lots "overnight".

"We are only looking for a zone change, not for development," planning consultant Mr Geoff Underwood told the meeting.

Several members of POLA spoke in support of rezoning, both for their own proposed subdivisions and as a matter of general principle.

They suggested that the present zoning resulted in many properties being too large to maintain. They claimed this was leading to a continuing deterioration of the natural environment, and that following subdivi-

sion, owners of one-acre lots would be able to care for and enhance their land.

"Under POLA's recommendations, rezoning will be imaginative, creative, flexible and realistic," Mr Daryl Cox, president of POLA said. He outlined plans for a "covenant committee" which would set out to enhance the land "through the planting of, and development of, native and indigenous trees, shrubs and plants".

"The covenant committee would oversee the transformation of an area, currently an environmental and ecological desert, into a place of which all of Park Orchards and indeed all of the City of Doncaster and Templestowe will be justifiably proud."

Mr Ivan Peter-Budge, an orchardist in Tindals Road, Warrandyte, suggested that most of the land under question is uneconomic for agricultural use and the only option landowners have is to graze cattle and horses on the land.

"Grazing is one of the worst uses that could take place," he said. "It almost totally destroys any understorey that would allow cover for small wildlife, birds and so on."

Mr K. Gorman of Beauty Gully Road, Warrandyte, told the meeting: "Council should give us the option of subdivision. We are being pushed out by high rates. It is time council paid landholders to look after their land."



Mr Bruce Bence of Warrandyte picked up this point when he spoke against rezoning. "People who live on large blocks are being forced to sell by the ever-increasing cost of land, which in turn increases rates and land tax," he said.

"Since the Green Wedge is a government initiative, incentives must be given to people to enable them to withstand the pressures of rising costs and the inducement of financial gain by selling to developers."

Mr Perry McNeillage told the meeting that the Park Orchards Ratepayers' Association "reconfirms its support for the Landscape Interest and Conservation Zonings for the Green Wedge. The council survey found that 80 per cent of residents in the study area did not support rezoning," he said.

"We do not have to remind council that in today's environmentally conscious community, the sight of green hillsides or bushland in the Green Wedge does not equate to the development of urban streetscapes."

Mr Alan Starke, a Park Orchards resident, said that "Mr and Mrs Average, when they settle in an area, do not anticipate that their lifestyle will be drastically changed by alterations in the zoning."

Speaking for the Warrandyte Advisory Committee, Mr Rob Gell pointed out that the area "is an asset to the entire community, not just to those who have larger lots. Rezoning would set an enormous precedent and would fly in the face of the Government's Green Wedge policy."

The State member for Warrandyte, Mr Phil Honeywood, emphasised the bipartisan approach that has been taken by political parties to the Green Wedge since its introduction by the Hamer Liberal government in the 1970s.

"At a time when people are becoming

more concerned about the environment than ever before, it would be sheer folly for government and council planners to start nibbling away at one of the last green pockets in the Melbourne metropolitan region," he said.

Mr Honeywood commented that council's own zoning study admitted that there are approximately 600 housing allotments still available for subdivision under existing zonings. He maintained that this would be enough land to service future needs without having to start "carving up" the Green Wedge areas.

He warned Doncaster and Templestowe council not to rush into supporting a rezoning of the area without ensuring these objectives met with the views of the majority of local residents.

Summing up the debate, Cr Vern Denford cautioned against council delaying too long on this vital issue. He moved that a report on submissions from the public on the Warrandyte-Park Orchards zoning report be prepared by August.

"This would include specific rezoning applications and details of any further study on environmental aspects considered necessary," he said.

"It should be specific on any anomalous zonings existing within the study area. Options for rate variations, for areas within the declared Green Wedge, will be considered at a future meeting."

Polley, Gell seek seats

Television personality Rob Gell and active local resident Val Polley are standing for the two vacant Warrandyte Ward positions in the forthcoming Doncaster-Templestowe Council elections.

This follows Cr Greg Nicolau's shock resignation and Cr Ken McKenzie's long expected decision not to seek re-election due to ill-health.

It is understood Mrs Polley and Mr Gell are conducting a joint campaign, strongly emphasising their opposition to the proposed rezoning of the Green Wedge and "a commitment to energetic, locally-sensitive representation".

Rob Gell lives in Webb Street. He has been a Warrandyte resident for six years and is a member of the Warrandyte Advisory Committee. A geographer by training, he has been strongly critical of moves to rezone Green Wedge land.

Val Polley has lived in Hutchinson Avenue for 22 years. She has been involved in a wide range of community organisations and activities and was, until recently, president of the Warrandyte High School council. Val is a planning officer with the National Parks Service.

Retiring councillor Ken McKenzie is backing Val Polley and Rob Gell. "Warrandyte Ward is facing development pressure from a number of quarters, and unless strong council representation - supported by the community - is maintained, the future looks bleak," Cr McKenzie said.

Mr Daryl Cox, founding president of the Park Orchards Landowners' Association, is standing against Val Polley. The association is campaigning strongly for Green Wedge land to be thrown open to subdivision.

Opposing Rob Gell is Mr Brian Langdon of Woodhouse Road, Doncaster. He is president of the Doncaster-Templestowe United Residents' Association, a Bulleen-based municipal reform group.

Mr Adrian Jackson and Mr Perry McNeillage, leading members of the Park Orchards Ratepayers' Association, are also standing, one in each seat. The association is bitterly opposed to Green Wedge rezoning.

It is understood that Mrs Polley and Mr Jackson, and Mr Gell and Mr McNeillage, will be exchanging preferences in a strong bid "to protect and enhance the special qualities that mark our local communities".

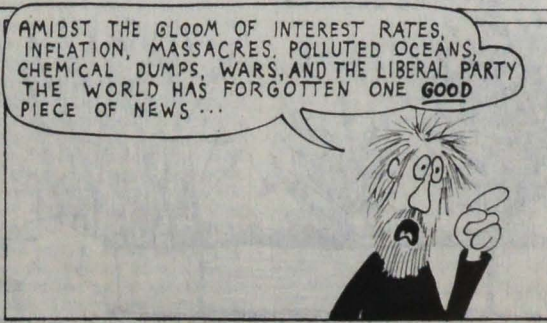


Warrandyte is well-served for heavenly voices. No fewer than three young residents of the town are members of the National Boys' Choir, and all are off to the United States to show their prowess. Two are brothers, Ben and Peter

Saaksjarvi, of Melbourne Hill Road, Ben, (left) 11, and Peter, 9, are students at St Anne's Primary School, Park Orchards. The third local member of the NBC is Andrew North of Gold Memorial Drive. A 50-strong party of lads from the choir

will fly off to America on September 16. The choir, formed 25 years ago, has recorded two albums with Tony Barber and performed for the Prince and Princess of Wales and last year's grand final crowd.

CYRIL BY PAUL W.



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When the young lady said she wanted her cappuccino hot, she really meant it. The first wasn't to her liking; neither was the second. So by way of rather bizarre protest action, she took her clothes off — all the way down to the undies she wasn't wearing at the time — in the post office milk bar. George, the proprietor, evicted her from his crowded shop and she drove away, still starkers. The tourists of the day were left with the impression that some funny things happen in Warrandyte. But don't blame us. She's from Eltham and we have the registration number (car or dog, you ask?) to prove it.



For a moment of light relief on the bus home to Warrandyte we thank the driver and Louie, an Asian student of Xavier Preparatory School. The wait for a connection at Greythorn was longer than expected and Louie asked the driver if he had time to dash into the shopping area for a bag of chips. Take your chances, said the driver — but you could sense he wasn't the type of bloke to strand a schoolkid. Louie was back in a flash and, hot chips being what they are to growing boys, was besieged by four or five schoolmates from the back seats. And that's not counting his two special mates who were part of the up-front deal. The custodian of the chips did a nice rationing job, but the driver intervened just after the bus got rolling again. "Hey, Louie," he said, "what about the other passengers?" Quite spontaneously, Louie offered the entire complement a share of his feed. There were no takers, but warm smiles all round. The driver managed to keep a straight face as he graciously declined. But we bet he broke up when he got back to the depot.

The check-out girl at The Pines supermarket certainly didn't know her onions, so to speak. She studied what was, in fact, a bulb of garlic, scratched her head, examined it again and processed the sale through the register as "One white

IN RED & WHITE

onion — seven cents". You don't get too many bargains like that these days.

Kevin Luttick is never backward in coming forward with detailed recaps on his better holes of golf. But he beat a quick retreat when we asked him how he handled the par-five 13th at Barooga during a recent golf, giggle and gulp Murray excursion with the Warrandyte RSL Club blokes. A 12, Kevin? Or was it 13? His mates blamed it on his preoccupation with the cute black and white hat he'd bought for the trip. Serves him right. I mean, who ever heard of a Carlton supporter wearing Collingwood colours?

The talk was of fishing, of legendary giant cod and trout being pulled out of the Yarra at Warrandyte in the "good old days" and of the impact of pollution on the piscatorial population. Forbes Hawkins, of Leber Street, said he had only to go back a few years to recall a memorable catch just below Anderson's Creek: A surf mat, a car tyre, a bra, a garbage bag and a football autographed by Ron Barassi. Wonder what he was using for bait?



Take a bow Nicholas Frowd, winner of the highest award given out by the Master Plumbers and Mechanical Services Association of Victoria. At the association's annual ceremony last month in the National Gallery, Nicholas — who was runner-up to the Apprentice of the Year at Box Hill TAFE in 1987 and took out the prize last year — was named winner of the Don Pritchard Award, to encourage final-year apprentices to undertake specialised studies in new technology.

Later in the presentation Nicholas shared the Andrew Letten Gold Medal for the plumbing apprentice who receives the highest mark in external examinations.

Well done, Nicholas. In line with journalistic traditions of keeping sources confidential, we must say that wild horses wouldn't drag from Smokey the information that your fellow Warrandyte Perry Atkinson was at the luncheon and alerted us to your achievement.



The Warrandyte Pre-school is holding an auction of household goods, services, and the like on August 5 at 7.30pm at the Senior Citizens Club, Tarooma Avenue.

The cost is \$5 per head which includes a complementary champagne and savory platters. Tea and coffee will be provided. BYO drink. Tickets available. Contact Diane Aitken, 844 1064.

Warrandyte residents will join the staff of her pharmacies in wishing Sue Jones and her family good luck and best wishes for a new life. Sue has served the people of Warrandyte for 13 years, and her staff express "great satisfaction and joy" in working for her during that time. "Sue's warmth and friendship crossed the counters to all her customers," they say. Best of luck, Sue, and great happiness for your future in Myrtleford.



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Preferred positions: Page one 100%; Page two 30%; Page three and Back Page 20%; any other nominated Page 10%. Mini-ads cost \$3 for four lines, then \$1 for each additional line. Mini-ads must be paid for before publication, unless other arrangements are made. Accounts of 60 days and over will be charged 5% on the amount outstanding.

ACCOUNTS: Pam Sharp, 844 3577

PRINTING: Expert Printing Co., 6 Bedford St, Collingwood, 419 0372

TYPESETTING: Bandid 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.

DEADLINE (Editorial and advertising): Last Friday of the month.

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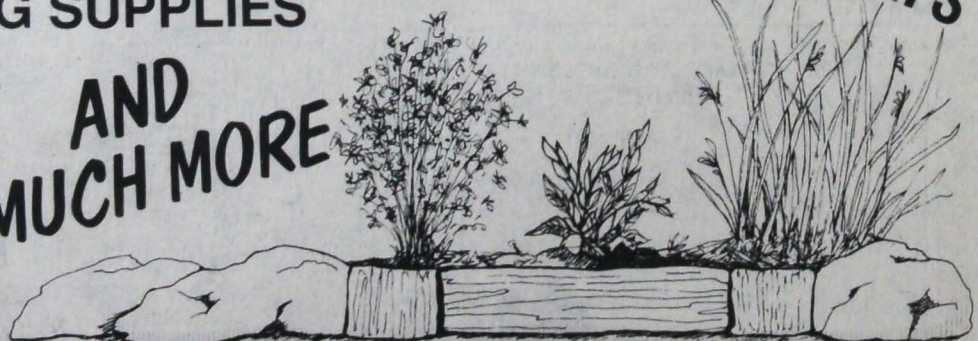
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WEL seeks rebirth and new members

By VAL POLLEY

The Warrandyte Environment League is facing a watershed.

Many members were dismayed to receive a newsletter earlier this year informing them that, due to lack of support, the committee had to put much of WEL's work on hold. Fortunately, enough people have come forward for the market stall to continue and representatives to attend the streetscape meetings and panel hearings on the special residential zone. But if WEL is to continue it needs much wider community support than it has received over the past few years.

WEL was formed in response to community concern back in July 1971. The groundswell of discontent started with letters to *The Diary* raising such issues as excessive clearing of the bush. It was time to stop and think before Warrandyte was surrounded by paling fences. The August *Diary* spoke of the "unprecedented interest in conservation sweeping Warrandyte" and published a statement, supported by many local residents, calling for a public meeting. It was at this meeting that WEL came into existence.

The inaugural committee had 15 members and formed three sub-committees. It was instructed by the public meeting to use *The Diary* to keep residents informed of its work. Immediately involved in planning issues, it gained considerable credit by working with local residents to achieve a better development in a subdivision planned for David Road.

The first few years were very busy for WEL and its members. This was the time of changes to the MMBW Planning Scheme, and WEL commenced a review under a heading of "Which Way Warrandyte" which involved holding public meetings and making submissions through the planning process.

The opposition to the subdivision between Pound Road and the main Heidelberg/Warrandyte Road occupied a great deal of time, with efforts being made to get, at the very least, better sullage disposal provisions and reduced pollution in the river. Work by WEL in bringing all the parties together led to changes in the plan for the recreation reserve which avoided diverting Andersons Creek.

The issues facing WEL were many and varied. Pollution of the Yarra, rezoning provisions, landfill and the tip, carparking in Yarra Street, writing a road making policy, producing a tree preservation ordinance, supporting the formation of Warrandyte State Park and the 100 Acres Reserve all occupied members' time.

Problems encountered due to the division of the township between two municipalities led to the "One Warrandyte" campaign in 1974 (who still has a T-shirt?). The concept gained support when the results of a community survey (undertaken by WEL and St John's Uniting Church) were released. However, as we know, a merger has never occurred, though the concept is recycled every few years.

Annual "Litter Lifts", Warrandyte Walks, recycling days and a fight to save Koornong bushland occupied WEL in the late seventies. By 1979 this fight appeared won and Robert Marshall, then an Eltham councillor, said: "It goes to show what can be achieved by determined lobbying by groups such as WEL."

There are many who would argue that WEL's greatest achievement is the Warrandyte Festival. The inaugural festival in 1977 appeared to face disaster when a state-wide petrol strike threatened to leave it without patrons. However WEL went ahead and the local community turned out in force, walking and cycling between venues, and turning the weekend into a major success from which it has just grown and grown.

Despite a few controversies over the years such as that over the supermarket plans for the West End, WEL has continued to be concerned and involved in many issues affecting the town. These include concern over increasing urbanisation, involvement in planning issues, debate over cut and fill, dual occupancy and the streetscape study.

The formation of other groups in the community such as Warrandyte Advisory Committee (an advisory committee to City of Doncaster and Templestowe), Friends of Warrandyte State Park (a "hands-on" group who work in the State Park), and Residents Group (formed to fight the dual occupancy issue) would appear to have lulled the community into feeling that perhaps WEL is no longer important.

What WEL needs is a reaffirmation of community support and new members for its team. The annual general meeting is being held in August this year to enable people to come along and inspire and strengthen WEL. The committee earnestly asks that everyone interested in environmental concerns in our town attend this most important meeting in WEL's history.

The meeting will be held on August 22 at the Grand Hotel, at 7.30 pm. The cost of dinner is \$18. Phone Garry McKelvie 844 1346.

Lions give to save lives

Warrandyte Lions Club has given life saving equipment to the Metropolitan Ambulance Service.

At a recent ceremony at Nunawading the club presented two defibrillator monitors for use at the Nunawading and Ringwood ambulance stations.

The defibrillator works by passing an electrical current through the heart. This stops muscle spasms and gives the heart a chance to restart and return to its normal rhythm. Ambulance officers can watch the electrical activity of the heart on a monitor screen.

Nearly all ambulance officers of the Metropolitan Ambulance Service have now been through training sessions to learn how to use the equipment. Previously, only mobile intensive care ambulance officers were qualified to use the units.

All ambulances on emergency duty now carry the unit and it is hoped that all ambulances will be equipped in the near future.

"The club responded without hesitation when the members realised just how important the equipment was to the work of ambulance officers," the club president, Ian Shugg, said.

Ambulance Area Superintendent, John Brown, said the continued improvement of patient care would be assisted by the contribution of the Lions Club.

"Since the beginning of the specialised training program and the availability of the units on normal ambulances on emergency duty, nearly 30 people are out of hospital and walking around. Without the training and the equipment these people would not be alive today," said Mr Brown.

Nunawading Station Officer Terry Hanlon said there was nothing more frustrating than to arrive to a patient suffering cardiac arrest and not have the new equipment available on the vehicle.



Club president Ian Shugg has his heart rate checked. Watching from left are station officer Terry Hanlon, John Gilbert of Warrandyte Lions, and area superintendent John Brown.

School bell calls 100

Rain did not dampen the enthusiasm of more than 100 past students and teachers who attended Warrandyte South Primary School's 85th birthday picnic last month.

Past and present students and teachers enjoyed a bush dancing display, afternoon tea and a birthday cake cutting ceremony performed by Mrs Rita Hamilton, who taught at the school in the 1920s, and Andrew Laurent, a present prep pupil.

The schoolchildren interviewed some of the past teachers and stu-

dents to learn more about school life in the old days at Warrandyte South Primary School. Some of the information may be included in a book to be written about the school's history.

The school will also be celebrating its birthday with a bush fair and reunion on September 9.

Anyone who would like to attend the reunion or who could provide information for the history book should contact the school on 844 3304.

Meeting resolves residents' worries

Objections by 22 Brackenbury Street residents to Warrandyte's proposed new community centre appear to have been resolved. This follows a meeting between the objectors and the joint working party.

Reported objections included badly-sited car parking in Mitchell Avenue and the inclusion of a commercial component on the site.

At the meeting, objectors pointed out that the proposed 17 parking spaces in Mitchell Avenue, uphill from a point opposite the WAA pottery studio, would greatly increase traffic hazards at the Mitchell Avenue-Brackenbury Street intersection.

This parking area would also require the building of a retaining wall and the use of considerable backfill. This was thought to be undesirable.



The architects agreed with these points, and suggested that by "reversing" the landscaping — transferring it from the commercial component site and placing it along the Mitchell Avenue verge — most if not all of the car parking spaces could be accommodated on the site.

This should also help to screen a view of the site from nearby residences. It was also agreed that "no parking" signs should be erected along that section of Mitchell Avenue to ensure the area was not used for parking.

It has been pointed out that pro-

vision of parking space is the responsibility of Doncaster Council engineers, but working party members are predicting a positive outcome to this situation.

Objection to the commercial component would appear to have been due to a misunderstanding. Plans for the community centre show the areas to be used by the Opportunity Shop, Diary, Co-Op, etc., as "shops" and "offices", thus giving the impression that most of the centre will be "Commercial".

It is believed that when this misunderstanding was corrected, the objection was withdrawn.

The future of the actual commercial component, to be built at the rear of the community centre, would now appear to be in some doubt. Doncaster Council advertised for expressions of interest from developers contemplating

proceeding with the component, but received no replies.

This appears to justify residents' claims that there is now an oversupply of commercial premises in Warrandyte.

A firm date for commencement of building has still to be announced, but working party members now believe that the community component will come first, and that the entire centre will be built as one stage.

It is believed that Doncaster Council has approached the Shire of Eltham with a request that it increase its promised financial contribution to the project.

A committee of management, comprising representatives of user groups, is being formed. It is expected that this committee will replace the joint working party once construction begins.

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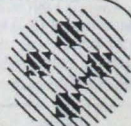
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A concept plan is currently being prepared for this section of the Yarra Valley. If you are interested in getting more information or making a submission, pick up a brochure from one of the following locations:

- Camberwell, Heidelberg, Doncaster, Templestowe and Eltham Council offices
- The Manor, Westerfolds Park
- Ministry for Planning and Environment
— bookshop, 477 Collins Street Melbourne.
— Eastern office, 38 Prospect Street, Box Hill.
- Board of Works, 3rd Floor, 601 Little Collins St

All submissions should be forwarded to the Ministry for Planning and Environment by August 11, 1989 and should be addressed to:

Environmental Policy Branch
Ministry for Planning and Environment
PO Box 2240T
Melbourne Vic 3001**Co-op picks
two more
for board**

At the Co-op's annual meeting on May 24, two new directors — Ken McKenzie and Stan Andrew — were elected to replace Raewyn O'Shea and Ron Fletcher who have retired.

Ken McKenzie, a Doncaster and Templestowe councillor, was formerly voluntary co-manager of the Warrandyte Community Workshop Co-operative Ltd with Jean Chapman, and the Co-op's happy to welcome him back.

Louise Joy has retired from the position of chairwoman after five years of dedicated, hard work. She is still, however, on the board of directors.

Raewyn O'Shea has been a stalwart of the Co-op since she joined in 1984 as administrative assistant under the Community Employment Scheme. The meeting thanked her for her efforts. Retired baker Ron Fletcher figured prominently in the restoration and internal operations of the bakery. The meeting thanked Ron for his assistance.

The board of directors is now made up of Ken McKenzie (chairman), Stan Andrew, Jean Chapman, Dick Davies, Louise Joy and Anthony Burgess.

Meanwhile the Co-op wishes to thank the Warrandyte Community Market for its donation of \$500 and the Shire of Eltham for a grant of \$900 towards administrative costs. These will help keep the Co-op afloat until it is making money from the bakery.

The bakery is now turning out bread, rolls, all sorts of buns, nut loaves, cakes, pies (meat and fruit), pasties, sausage rolls, custard tarts and real cream-filled sponges.

At the moment the Co-op is involved in the running of the Neighborhood House and has applied for funding for a Family Aid Program in Warrandyte.

The Co-op policy is that any money made from any business venture goes back into the community by way of community projects. If you have any ideas about community projects which you think are needed please call in and see Jean Chapman at the office in the community centre or ring 844 2548.

**Cairn to mark
hostel site**

To celebrate 50 years of youth hostels, a memorial cairn is to be placed at the site of Australia's first — at Pound Bend.

The ceremony will take place on Sunday, September 3 at 3.30 pm. Afternoon tea will be provided and the organisers plan to provide family entertainment. The day is open to everyone.

The building used as the hostel is still standing. The hostel was started with canoeists in mind. It closed when the state park took over the area.



She was definitely not the type of busker usually seen at the Warrandyte market.

**Mop-up now in
zoning battle**By **CLIFF GREEN**

Warrandyte people are beginning to see some of the fruits of victory in their hard-won fight against residential overdevelopment in the township area.

The final "mop up" phase of the battle began at a hearing in the Doncaster council chambers last month when government, council and community representatives argued their submissions on details of the Warrandyte Special Residential Zone.

This follows almost two years of campaigning by local residents for the township to be excluded from provisions allowing the construction of additional houses on existing allotments, culminating in a last-minute, pre-election promise

that such developments would not be permitted.

Such organisations as the Warrandyte Advisory Committee and the Warrandyte Environment League contributed to this victory, but the major campaigner was undoubtedly the Warrandyte Residents' Group, formed especially to combat dual occupancy.

"Closer development in the township was not an issue at the hearing, following the Minister's promise that dual occupancy housing and flat development would not be permitted," a spokesman for this group told the Diary.

"The group was delighted that the submissions, both from Tony Tucker of the Ministry of Planning and Birute Don, Doncaster Council strategic planner, reinforced the views of the residents.

"Now that the dual occupancy and flat development fight has been won, our remaining priority is to enshrine in the final planning document the need to maintain a minimum lot size of 1000 square metres. This is critical to the maintenance of the character of the area."

Doncaster Council supports this assertion, arguing strongly for a 1000 square metre minimum. Its submission states:

"The remaining underdeveloped land in Warrandyte which has a potential for subdivision is particularly steep and difficult to connect to reticulated sewerage. This can be highlighted by proposed subdivisions abutting Mullens Road and Harris Gully Road."

The amended planning scheme makes provision for tree controls to protect the area from unnecessary clearing of vegetation. "A number of submissions sought to tighten these controls," the residents' group spokesman said.

Despite previously expressed fears, the planning amendment proposed would still allow such housing for the aged as a retirement village, special accommodation house, hostel or nursing home to be built in the township area, under certain conditions.

However, the residents' group believes "granny flats" should also be permitted. "Provision for these is essential," the spokesman said, "but they must only be permitted for the elderly or infirm on the basis of need. When that need no longer exists they should be removed."

The residents' group also submitted that artists' studios should be permitted.

"As Warrandyte has a rich history in the arts and has many people who work in art and craft fields," the spokesman argued, "provision should be made for detached studios, built under strict permit conditions to prevent them being used as flats."

"These studios should be built behind or level with the building line of the main dwelling and should be limited in size to two squares."

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A smile on the road, teeth-gritting in the chamber

Something happened to me on the way to work last week that changed my entire day. Something quite simple, and not normally worth remarking on. I was stopped at an intersection, when the woman in the car next to me turned, and smiled. It was a broad, sunny infectious sort of grin that one could not help but respond to. I proceeded, with an idiotic grin from ear to ear, wondering what was so unusual about someone simply smiling behind the wheel. Upon reflection, it was a most unusual occurrence. How often do you see a fellow motorist smile?

Shout, gesticulate wildly, abuse, curse maybe, but smile?

It is much the same story on our busy city streets. People have forgotten how to smile from time to time.

It is amazing the power of a smile. It takes fewer muscles than frowning, and can transform not only your own day, but the day of those around you.

Thank goodness, the smile is more prevalent along the roads, and in the shops of Warrandyte than in the big smoke.

Let's hope it stays that way.

Is it round 15 or 16 of the Warrandyte re-zoning bunfight?

Whatever the tally, there were some delicious ironies at last month's special committee meeting of the Doncaster and Templestowe City Council.

I confess, it was the first time I had ventured within the inner sanctum of our council chambers. I emphasise the word "our" because obviously a great deal of our hard-earned rates contributed to this building's imposing exterior and grandiose decor.

But then, that's an old bone of contention. Let's move on.

First, the protracted battle over maintaining landscape interest and

JO'S PLACE



conservation values in our ward is one of the biggest issues the good old D. and T. councillors have had to ponder for a long time.

Yet, you could count the elected ones present at this important meeting on one hand. The mayor was not. Initially only three councillors were present — two represented Warrandyte Ward and one other — not enough for a quorum. A quorum was established later when a fourth councillor arrived. By contrast, the public gallery was well and vociferously attended.

If you have ever attended a council committee meeting, which I had

not until that night, you would appreciate how slow the proceedings can be. A few passionate presentations go a long way to keep concerned citizens on the ball, and prevent tired eyelids shutting up shop for the night.

Back to the rates and plush surroundings, because they highlight another irony of the evening's deliberations. Much of the push for rezoning, from Landscape Interest to Residential D comes from larger landholders who are feeling the pinch of burgeoning council rates... rates that not only finance essential public utilities, parks and occasion-

al rubbish collections, but also keep our magnificent council chambers functional.

We can all sympathise with the rates problem. However I cannot agree that higher rates is a viable argument for down-grading Warrandyte's environmental values.

The purpose of our existing zoning is to maintain the integrity of a special part of Melbourne; an environment we have all come to value and a vital element of the State Government's "Green Wedge" policy. An argument could be made for further tightening our environmental controls.

Mitigating circumstances, such as the financial problems of a few ratepayers, have no place in the consideration of such an important issue.

Although the stated desire of the Park Orchards Land Owners is not to develop these disputed areas, a change of zoning would ultimately allow them to be whittled away.

We also heard the argument during the evening that the land in question is already degraded, and would be better cared for in smaller parcels. That attitude is a bit like throwing out the baby with the bath water really. If the land is degraded, then we should be working to restore it, rather than further compromise the integrity of the area.

In the final analysis, it seems that the council has been more than generous in listening to the demands of those calling for rezoning.

For landowners to change the greater community's inbuilt environmental safeguards, they must be able to prove without a shadow of a doubt that the community will benefit.

Unfortunately, their own financial interests stand out as clearly as our opulent council chambers.

* Jo Pearson's new show, 'Body and Soul,' begins on the Nine Network this month.



By SANDRA BENNET, BRENT GIBSON, ANNA GIGLIOTTI, and MICHELLE TAPP

Alexander Wedd looks at the camera but Bonkers has his eyes firmly on the ball

On Friday the 2nd of June the 3/4s had a pet show at Anderson's Creek Primary school in the multi-purpose room.

There were dogs, cats, possums, pet rocks, and other things too. There were pets all kinds of shapes and sizes — big pets, small pets. Mr Gordon was the judge. The categories were:

Best dressed, best trick, smallest pet, best behaved, most like owner.

Sam Gardner brought along his possum and he entered it in the smallest pet. Some people brought

School goes bonkers; Bonkers takes prize

pet tankard. The dog we liked best was Anna's dog Bruno. Bruno is a boys name but she is a girl.

We like Bruno because she's a big dog and licks people. Anna did a trick with her. She clicked her hand up high and the dog jumped up and touched her hand.

John Provis was dressed up in a bow tie like his cat. The cat was black so John dressed in black clothes and they both looked the same. The bow tie was white.

Alexander Wedd's dog, Bonkers, had the the best trick. Alexander rolled a basketball and the dog

rolled it back. Michelle Tapp had a cat called Tigga. Tigga was dressed in dolls clothes for the best dressed.

Lorena brought along a quail. Mr Gordon said Miss McConchie's dog Saski won the prize for the best behaved. Sandra minded Saski.

I don't think that some children want to go to a pet show again because it was very noisy. Dogs are barking, cats are meowing, possums are jumping up and down.

I just don't think that Mr Gordon could put up with it. But the kids enjoyed it, so did the teachers.

Editor's note: We think the "I" in the last part of this excellent report is Brent Gibson.

The steep hill of home

By EWAN HALL

To be honest, I didn't always think that living in Warrandyte was really worth the effort.

Up at six every weekday, never home before five, and then there was always the monotonous task of homework. Of course, the buses were always a source of painful entertainment for me and other travellers, predictable only in their consistent ability to be late when you most needed them. And then there was that inevitable 20 minute walk from the bus stop to my front door every afternoon, up that never-ending Research Hill which most of us are familiar with.

All this on top of the laughter I received at school for living in a suburb which my ignorant classmates thought to be closer to Sydney than Melbourne. The question

was always whether Warrandyte had electricity yet, or which air flight had I booked for the journey home, or whether in fact I had time to get home before turning around and heading back to school for the next day's work.

It was usually when I was halfway up Research Hill, struggling with a bag overstuffed with homework, and just collecting myself after some hoon in a hotted-up Torana had flown past at 120 kilometres per hour, screaming something violent out the window, that I would start to wonder if it was all really worth it.

But about a year ago, it looked like we were going to have to leave Warrandyte. And suddenly all those minor annoyances didn't seem to matter any more. I would find myself walking down our lane admiring the trees, the generous

spaces, and the muddy road, especially with its big brown puddles and rough edges.

Who wanted a neat black road with perfect concrete drainways, and regimented sidewalks? Who wanted a five-minute walk to get home to a claustrophobic box (otherwise known as a house) which was only five metres from the next one?

Not me. And nor did I want to give up the place where I have lived for all seventeen years of my life: Warrandyte — with its people, its scenery, and its unique existence, which has almost survived the commercial suburban mentality so nauseatingly evident elsewhere around Melbourne.

I guess you have to nearly lose something important before you realise just how special it is.

Brigade goes to blazes

The North Warrandyte Fire Brigade plans a community benefit show next month, appropriately titled 'Gone to Blazes'.

This festival of music, dance and comedy will once again combine the talents of Carol Cole and Anita Baragwanath, with celebrity guest appearances featuring members of the North Warrandyte Fire Brigade.

The show will have a local and international flavor and all proceeds will go to the building and vehicle replacement program for the North Warrandyte CFA.

Book early to avoid disappointment. Three fundraising performances only, on August 10, 11 and 12. Phone Pam Thomas, 844 1084. BYO food and drink.

Crisis at First Supper

"Kids in Crisis in our City of Doncaster and Templestowe" will be the first of a series of topics presented at the inaugural Supper at St Stephen's on Wednesday, July 26, at 7.45 pm.

The guest speaker will be Paul Hawksley, chairman of the Trinity Youth Housing of Doncaster, an ecumenical community support group.

Supper at St Stephen's — that is

St Stephen's Church hall in Stiggant Street — is to be a bi-monthly meeting place for church and community, where important issues can be presented and discussed.

Future topics include: Ministry to aids sufferers, local government and the church, the church in education, and migrant refugees and the church.

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Pine not for the pines

It is thought that during the heady days of the 1850s gold rush, that *Pinus radiata*, the Monterey pine, was brought to Australia by an American miner. Like so many American imports, it has been enthusiastically embraced locally.

Its use in forestry operations is well known but has been the subject of great controversy for many years. The fact that native forests have been destroyed for pine plantations and farmland similarly converted has angered both farmers and conservationists alike.

Establishing pine plantations on sites of natural woodland is an extensively destructive process. The forest is smashed down, destroying habitat for all the forest's creatures, then it is burnt. After planting pine seedlings, the area is sprayed with 24-D or similar herbicide to kill any regrowth of the native forest. Next, 1080 poison baits are laid to discourage any mammals from entering the plantation to nip the seedlings.

The nature of pine plantations, their dense shading and heavy needle drop exclude any floristic diversity or animal habitat. They are dead forests. Once harvested, the pines are treated with a range of chemicals to preserve them.

Native hardwoods take 20 years long to harvest (total of 70 years) but have been neglected for the quicker money of pines. Native hardwoods do not need chemical treatment to preserve them as does the pine, which is used extensively around the house and in children's playgrounds. In the case of fire, the treated pine produces toxic gases when burnt.

One can only wonder at the long-term effect that pine plantations have on the soil of our country. The resins exuded by the blanket of pine needles and shading exclude virtually all life. What is the future of land used for this purpose? Farmers are not happy to see cultivated land turned to pine.

Pine trees have invaded the Warrandyte bush for as long as they have grown here. In April 1982, the Friends of Warrandyte State Park inaugural working bee witnessed truckload after truckload of pines being removed from the lovely red box forest of Fourth Hill. Three subsequent working bees have seen a total of 5700 seedlings removed by hand, especially from the northern slopes above the township and adjacent to the State School plantation.

As a result of this clean-up, the orchid population of Fourth Hill has boomed! One orchid enthusiast

Friends of Warrandyte State Park

by

Mopoke

The Friends of Warrandyte State Park meet the last Sunday of every month (except December and January) at noon whistle time.

who has observed orchids there for 30 years, closely monitoring them for the past 10 years with photography and mapping, witnessed the return of the hare orchid after an absence of almost 30 years. Many other orchid species have also proliferated.

There is no doubt that the shading affect and needle cover from the pines was responsible for the demise of the orchids. Who knows what the final solution would have been if the pines had extended their domination to become a closed, dark, dead plantation?

Not only do the pines shade out native plants, but they prepare the ground for other invaders. Introduced grasses and plants seem to flourish in the wake of the pines as they alter the forest floors chemical make-up. Introduced slugs and snails follow these plants to decimate the colony forming greenhood orchids.

Pine trees are a direct threat to the future health and integrity of our beautiful red box forest. The wind-borne seeds can travel large distances to invade new areas. The physical effort needed to keep this invader out of our natural forest is a real burden to the resources of the staff and Friends of Warrandyte State Park.

For those of you who advocate retention, or grow exotic plants that may invade the State Park or flower reserves, be aware of the consequences that your advocacy holds for the future viability of this very unique red box bushland. A bushland that is at the heart of the essence of Warrandyte.



A joy, a delight . . .

NATURE

Pamela Conder

with any manners at all, bearlike or otherwise. In fact, from stropy little Snoopy, a Flinders Island wombat and other wombatid inhabitants of Healesville Sanctuary in my youth, to the attentions of Bill and Grace in Frankfurt Zoo later on, it's a wonder I had enough fingers left to become an artist.

Perhaps their uncouth demeanor is further evidence of an evolutionary link with koalas!

The comparison to a badger was a notion that persisted among early settlers. In fact it is the origin of the

name of the Badger Creek, running through the Sanctuary, a good place to go wombat watching, if you are skittish about the discomforts of prowling around the bush at night looking for them.

They are primarily nocturnal marsupials, foraging for native grasses, sedges and roots. Wombats' teeth are rootless and grow continuously, probably an adaptation to the high silica content of their diet. Several burrows within the home range may be visited in the course of a night and may even be used by different individuals with overlapping territories, which can encompass between five and twenty-three hectares.

Young are born at any time of year, usually singletons, although the female has two teats in her rear-opening pouch. After six months in

the pouch, a juvenile wombat spends a further 11 months at heel and is sexually mature at 2 years. It may reach an age of about five in the wild or up to twenty in captivity.

Quite a number of wombats do not, however, manage the upper age limit as they succumb to sarcoptic mange, which can kill them in a space of 12 months . . . and a particularly unpleasant death it is, too. Mange seems to occur when population densities are high, thus providing a natural control on numbers.

We have, of course, been discussing the 'common wombat', a titular reference to the species habits, rather than its conservation status. I presume. Although it is still present in fairly large numbers over a wide

area of south eastern Australia, the reduction of range since the Pleistocene has accelerated since European settlement.

There has been a contraction southwards and eastwards, and those colonies in south western Victoria and south eastern South Australia are reduced to remnants. They are classified as vermin in eastern Victoria.

The two hairy-nosed wombat species have fared worse as, being plains dwellers, they came more directly into competition with farmers and graziers.

What happened to Rosetti's little friend? He ended up stuffed and standing in the hall to greet visitors, a harsh fate for a connoisseur of ladies' headgear.

How We Lived

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

July, 1889: It may be remembered by your readers, some eight or nine months ago a Mr Foote, travelling for a Melbourne publishing firm, mysteriously disappeared. Some of his things with a bottle of whiskey were found on the Yarra bank in Mr Lowe's property.

As he was considerably behind in his payments to the firm it was generally supposed he had committed suicide. A thorough search was made, and quantities of dynamite exploded in the river, but with no effect, and the then idea seemed to revert to it being a ruse, and he had got safely away.

However, yesterday afternoon one of Mr Lowe's men discovered a body (headless) in some scrub a little distance from where the things had previously been found. The body, of course, presented a shocking appearance, but, from a pocket-book and papers found on it, there is little doubt it is that of Mr Foote.

An inquest will of course be held, when, I have no doubt, the identification will be assured.

The late Mr Phillip Belzar was a very old and respected resident here. For some months back he has been working at the water-works. Lately, suffering from ill-health, he sought advice in Melbourne, and last Thursday succumbed to inflammation of the lungs.

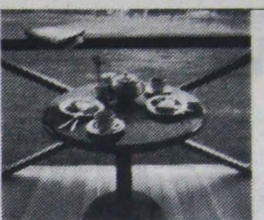
The funeral, which took place last Sunday, was a very large one, a good number of the men who had been working with him attending. Locally, the general respect in which he was held was exhibited by the crowd that followed him to his last resting place.

The Bullen Shire elections are causing a little excitement, and where opposition occurs party feeling will run very high. As per notice, Mr Andrews will address the electors next Saturday at Anderson's Creek.

I was too late last week to give particulars of Mr Jos. Smith's address at Templestowe. Mr Smith mentioned he had lived 30 years amongst them, and during the past six years he had the honor of representing them, out of 71 meetings he had only missed three. (Loud cheers.)

Although, perhaps, he had not voted to please everyone, yet he always tried to do what was fair and just. He had been accused of selfishness in connection with the main road to Anderson's Creek. That it had benefited him was true, but it had benefited the public more so. The road to Anderson's Creek was impassable, and it was time some of the ratepayers' money was spent on it.

The clear frosty nights are succeeded by delightful warm weather in day-time, and everything presents almost a spring appearance with us. (From the Newspaper Collection, State Library of Victoria.)



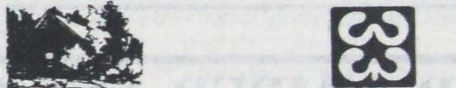
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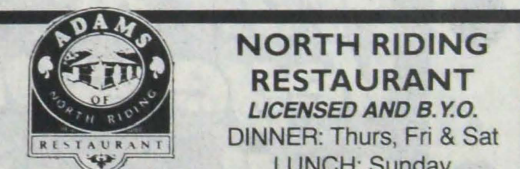
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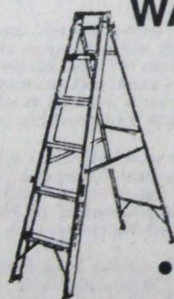
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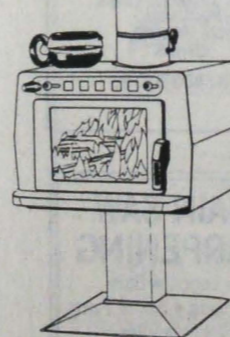
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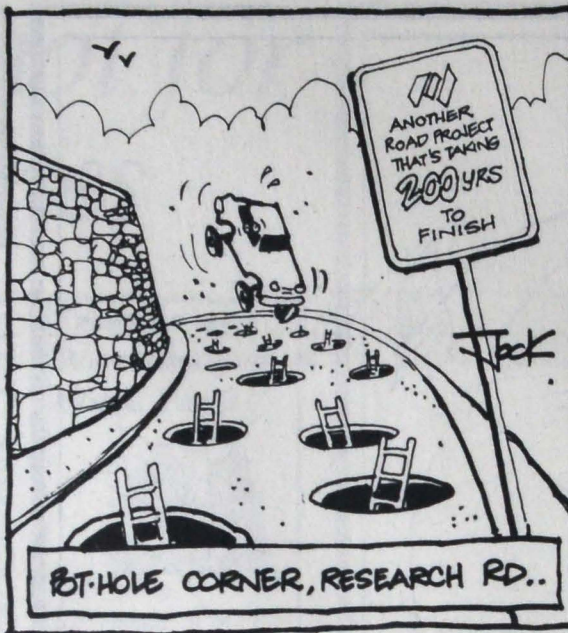
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Honeywood joins Lib green group

Mr Phil Honeywood, MP for Warrandyte, has been appointed to the State Opposition's new Environment Task Force, and is heralding a promised "new look" for Opposition environment policies.

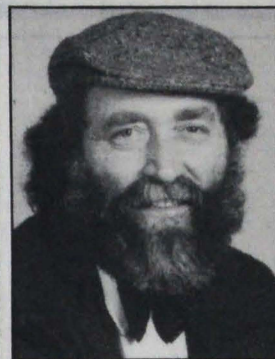
"The Warrandyte electorate, which includes Warrandyte, Croydon, Mooroolbark and Park Orchards townships, is now one of the most environmentally sensitive areas in the Melbourne metropolitan region," Mr Honeywood told the Diary.

"We live in one of the few areas close to Melbourne which still contains large areas of open parkland and green space. Yet we will face

enormous pressures as Melbourne's urban sprawl continues its outward growth.

"The challenge for the local community will be to ensure that we preserve for future generations as much recreation and parkland as possible, and that we keep our district's environment free from pollution and over-development.

"As the representative of such an environmentally sensitive area, I am pleased to be a member of this task force, which, I am sure, will lead to the adoption of a more bipartisan approach to Victoria's environment priorities."



Barry McKimm

Local music man wins state award

Warrandyte composer Barry McKimm has been named co-winner of an award for the most distinguished contribution to the presentation of Australian music in Victoria in 1988.

Organised by the Australian Music Centre, this particular round of the 'Sounds Australian' Awards were designed to mark outstanding contributions to music during the bicentenary year.

The musical play 'The Sallow Wattle', written especially for Warrandyte High School, with lyrics by Lee Tindale, book by Cliff Green and direction by Carole-Ann Gill, was one of three major works listed in Barry's nomination for the award.

The others were the choral suite 'Dandenong', commissioned by the City of Dandenong and performed by various Dandenong bands and choirs and 'Faces in the Street', a musical setting for a sequence of poems by Henry Lawson and Mary Gilmore, performed at the Castle-maine State Festival under the auspices of the Melbourne Theatre Company.

All three works were composed to mark the Australian bicentenary. Co-winner of the Victorian award is the Elision Ensemble.

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Richard Schurmann, Pam Hipwell and . . . at the *Diary's* 200th birthday.

Diary celebrates

Life with the *Diary* is not all hard slog, deadlines and panic, we must admit. There is the odd occasion when we can take off the eyeshade, roll down the sleeves, lock up the copy paper and relax. Last month was such an occasion.

A celebration dinner to commemorate the 200th issue of the *Diary* was enjoyed by our regular advertisers, *Diary* Trustees, past and present editors and staff, Lions members representing the Art and Education Trust and staff from Bandaid Productions, our long-suffering typesetter.

The advertisers made sure that not one cent of the *Diary* money was spent, 'though with Potters' superb menu not one of the 80 guests minded paying.

The evening took a humorous turn as soon as trustee Cliff Green took the floor to introduce a few speakers for the night. Led by the inimitable Jock — whose cartoons have appeared in most issues of the

Diary and who still doesn't believe "that the *Diary* will work". Several people talked of their association with the paper and the memories of those times.

Many of the memories centred around the hospitable Tindales and the proverbial flagon, a ritual that began with Cliff Green and Peter Lovett in the early 1970s, probably aided by Peter's 12 year guilt at having stolen the entire stock of copy paper left by the folding Argus. The ritual continues, we believe, as the only way to successfully complete the final layout, given that it is usually midnight on Sunday and the rest of the world is asleep.

Smokey Joe was unable to attend the dinner as he was incapacitated, but he remarked later that he had hoped to "have a go" at Cliff Green when his turn came to speak. It seems that Smokey usually misses at least two meals and even a couple of dental appointments when

Cliff gets on the phone with an idea.

Bob Millington, Jan Vagg (now Liddicut) and Ken Virtue added their humor to the night. After the fun, the general consensus was, that the *Diary*, which relies solely on volunteer staff and is nurtured by professional journalists in their spare time, has settled down to being an unbeatable local paper.

The people who have beaten each issue into shape, dragged money from "sundry debtors", typed reams of copy from illegible scraps, sought in vain for thrilling tales in the *Diary* Box or simply slogged through the rain delivering the bundles have a common bond, a desire to keep the *Diary* going.

The June celebration gave it a hearty push in the direction of the 300th issue, due, we believe, around 1998. Our motto remains the same: "all contributions gratefully accepted".

JUDY MACDONALD

Lifeguards save boy

Members of the Yarra Lifeguards Service rescued a young boy from drowning this month.

Ben Dearsley of Bulleen and John Newton of Lower Templestowe were half way through a canoe trip from Wonga Park to Warrandyte when they spotted someone in trouble in the river.

John Newton says he asked his mate Ben: "What's that kid doing swimming with his clothes on."

Ben replied: "He's not swimming — he's drowning."

Ben and John tossed a throw bag to the lad and pulled him into their canoe. He recovered quickly.

The Yarra Lifeguards said the boy told them he'd been throwing stones on the riverbank when he slipped and fell in.

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So now for edition 300

Heartiest of hearty congratulations to the *Diary*, in particular Jan Tindale, for the superb organisation of the 200th edition celebrations. The venue was perfect, the food was great and the company even better!

With such talent and commitment on the current team, how could the *Diary* ever fail? It was a pleasure to attend the evening. I look forward to the 300th! Good luck *Diary* and very well done Jan and others.

Jan Liddicut,
Devenish Road,
Boronia

Sequins no, fun yes

As I came through the kitchen door, I wondered, where are the grey suits and ties, the high heels, sequined blouses and neatly permed hairstyles? This bunch of people looked out of character with the regular function crowd at Potter's Cottage restaurant. There was a predominance of black gear, unusual, individual, but there was no pretence. This group of lively chatting, animated and friendly people were the Warrandyte *Diary* folk celebrating 200 issues of the paper.

Their capacity to devour the crudites (pre-dinner dips, for the uninitiated) was matched by their ability to eat, drink, talk and be merry throughout the whole evening. It appeared that the success of the *Diary* floated on flagons consumed during meetings and working hours for the paper.

The comradeship among these people was wonderful to see. The true essence of the term "community" was evident. Here was a group of individuals gathered together for a common cause without the lure of the mighty dollar being foremost in their purpose. And the pleasure and occasional pain it gave them was expressed in their faces and speeches. Everyone was dedicated to their task, it seemed, and yet there was always support if the job became too unmanageable. Loads of laughter, sarcasm and joking seemed to be glue to bond these folk together.

The conversations are always interesting to me as a waitress. I hear all sorts of comments as I whisk past the customers laden with delectable dinners. That night, conversation issues were predominant. The concern for our environment is obviously high on everyone's agenda around here. With such a precious delicate bushland about us, we all need this united sense of purpose towards the preservation of Warrandyte's beauty. Just a couple of days earlier, I had the pleasure of hearing Jo Pearson and Rob Gell speak to the Tintern Parents Association luncheon and I was proud that people of such calibre are in this town, prepared to be outspoken about environmental issues.

I was proud to be a Warrandyte resident on that evening. I've seen hundreds of groups go to Potters to celebrate something or another, and although every occasion is different, there is still a familiarity that is typical of our society, its standards, expectations, morals and customs. However, the obvious letting

LETTERS

go of formality and pretence that permeated this group and the sense that these individuals had a self containment in their own creative endeavors was a treat to behold.

I have always enjoyed reading the *Diary* from front to back cover. The uniqueness of our town and all of us who have chosen Warrandyte as home is a treasure to be valued and nurtured. Thank you, *Diary* staff and friends, for making my night so interesting, and awakening me to a heightened sense of community pride towards this township of Warrandyte.

Jenny Davey,
McPherson Road

Pull out the pesky prunus

Whilst I can see the merit of preserving the streetscape along Yarra Street, I think the whole matter is getting a little out of hand when some residents present a petition to the Warrandyte Townscape Improvement Study, as outlined in Judy Macdonald's letter in the last edition of the *Diary*.

If this petition is accepted as being indicative of how the majority of residents feel, it will have the ultimate effect of allowing plum trees to spread unchecked around the township.

Maintaining an attractive streetscape is one thing, but advocating the retention of introduced species of trees along the banks of the River Yarra and allowing them to spread is a different matter, and other factors must be taken into consideration.

Introduced trees such as prunus, hawthorn and the honeysuckle creeper, if allowed to spread unchecked, will slowly but surely destroy the native flora along the River Yarra, our creeks and roadside verges. One only needs to drive along the Warrandyte-Ringwood Road from Potter's Cottage onwards, to observe how the introduced species mentioned previously have become "noxious weeds" and have almost destroyed the natural beauty of the roadside verges.

In my opinion, the residents should take a more positive approach to our unique township. We should be thinking of ways to enhance and protect the natural environment of the river and the surrounding areas, in which we are fortunate enough to live, rather than continually "knocking" the efforts of those who are sincerely trying to improve Warrandyte's environment.

I'm sure many residents, as my family did, initially moved to Warrandyte because of the bushland environment, and this is what we should be aiming to retain and regenerate. Our state parks are a wonderful asset and we should all be finding out what species we could plant in our gardens, along creeks, the River Yarra, and the roadside verges to complement them. In this way we can all help our unique flora and fauna to survive and thrive, whilst further improving the quality of life in Warrandyte.

All residents should carefully consider the consequences and the alternatives, before supporting the

idea of allowing plum trees to spread unchecked along the banks of the river, our creeks and the roadside verges. We need to make an informed, rational decision about what is more important to the future of Warrandyte — the plum trees, or encouraging indigenous plants to establish and multiply. The latter would restore the landscape to something like it was in the early days before the 1850s, and assist in the maintenance and protection of our state parks and the Yarra River.

There are broader issues at stake here than just local concerns about plum trees and plum jam. We should remember the importance of the Yarra River and the Yarra Valley to the rest of Melbourne as well as ourselves.

If we, the residents, can all work together with a little more open-mindedness and a "give and take" attitude, and if we are prepared to put forward some constructive criticisms as well as some positive ideas, we can use the Warrandyte Townscape Improvement Study to make Warrandyte an even better place to live in the future.

Carol Lush,
Mopoke Road

Vandals are cowards

Few forms of crime are more cowardly than vandalism. The vandal claims strength and courage in committing the act, but at the same time shows, rather pathetically, just how weak he really is.

Today I spent an hour repairing my letterbox. The hinges on the lid had been buckled and the screws wrenched from the wood. Taking a walk up the street, I saw that we were not the only victims. Metal letterboxes had been bent over at the stem, wooden ones were evidently kicked off at their bases, and others were damaged in similar fashion. It was the aftermath of another late-night spree of destruction by some group of daring, courageous young rebels, no doubt.

Although we do not know the identity of the culprits, we can be fairly certain of their character; they are obviously feeble and cowardly, while at the same time assuming an air of importance.

This assumption of strength is a pathetic one, and the sooner such vandals realise this, the better off we will all be.

I am sick of repairing my letterbox.

Ewan Hall,
Bradleys Lane

Development is a danger

Warrandyte is recognised as a unique and special place whose natural beauty and man-made attractions, together with a history rich in the arts and mining, combine to make it so.

That Warrandyte is a unique place whose characteristics are worth preserving has been recognised in both houses of Parliament

and by both major political parties. Its history of tourism dates back well into the last century. It is the only hills township to survive in its original form in the vicinity of Melbourne and it is one of the few areas in Victoria that has consistently attracted visitors all the year round for more than 100 years.

The charm of Warrandyte is that it has remained what it has always been, a riverside town surrounded by hills and bush, inhabited by people who want it to remain that way, and it is due to those same people that it has not been developed into a replica of all the other metropolitan parklands up until now.

Warrandyte is now faced with the townscape improvement study, which proposes to alienate more of the river bank, with the existing horse track and the proposed bike and walking track accounting for a six-metre swathe between Yarra Street and the river, not to mention the area taken up by the picnic areas and extra parking.

In addition to the townscape study there is also the Warrandyte-Park Orchard Study. The Middle Yarra Concept Plan and a Heritage Study of the Warrandyte area. All of these can change the character of the area dramatically and for all time.

The Warrandyte that we know is in grave danger of being planned, designed, controlled and constructed out of all recognition. Unless the residents stand firm and make their views known in no uncertain manner this will be done no matter what the residents want.

The proposed removal of plum trees (no doubt with other species to follow) and the tennis courts, which have provided a local amenity for more than 60 years and are at present used by an estimated 300 locals and visitors a week, are classical examples.

Bruce Bence,
Brackenbury Street

Kennels should be saved


As a resident of Warrandyte and a member of the Warrandyte Environment League, I would like to draw the attention of the Warrandyte community to the closure of Yarrabrook boarding kennels. Ernie and Marion of Yarrabrook have served this community for a number of years by providing caring and responsible dog and cat kennels. Unfortunately, Yarrabrook is on land leased from the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works, which has decided not to renew the kennels' lease.

While not wishing to criticise the alternative offered by the proprietors of Yarrabrook (they will come to your home to feed and exercise your pet), I believe that this is second best. Even well-fed animals become distressed when left alone while their families are on holidays. In this situation they are more inclined to wander and become a threat to native fauna like the very grey kangaroos and swamp wallabies the MMBW is trying to protect in its new park below the kennels.

I appeal to the MMBW to reconsider its decision to close Yarrabrook.

Anne Warren,
Warrandyte

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Duncan Freemantle pictured outside the Canoe Shed.

Hassall boys a no-hassle hit!

When the brothers Hassall get hold of a football, they play for keeps. Michael, 29, and Jonathan, 15, are two of seven brothers, five of whom have played for Warrandyte.

Michael is known to opposition forwards as an "attacking defender". Jon, youngest of the Hassall boys, has an outstanding record in junior football, including selection in two Victorian schoolboy sides.

Jon has been training with the Collingwood under-19s this season but had a run with the Bloods one night this month as a forerunner to likely senior selection next year. And who should he run into — literally and twice — in man-to-man work on the track but his big brother.

Michael limped from the first encounter clutching an injured leg. After treatment in the rooms he returned to the fray and bumped into Jon again.

This time, the young Hassall came off a clear second-best. He suffered a broken nose.

Family feud? Far from it. Merely an illustration of the fierce competi-

itive spirit with which the Hassall boys play their football.

The training accidents had no long-term ill-effects on either player.

Michael, who had been sidelined by a shoulder injury, resumed with the seniors a few days later and was one of many valuable contributors to Warrandyte's big win over Mt Evelyn.

And Jon's broken nose will only temporarily interrupt his pursuit of a football career which seems destined to extend way above local level.



Melanie Rankin

The trip from one side of Australia to the other this month was totally rewarding for 15-year-old Duncan Freemantle.

Duncan was a member of the triumphant Victorian team in the Victorian junior lacrosse championship in Perth.

The Vics doubled the score of the host State in the grand final.

Duncan, of Research Road, has been an instant success in a sport invented by the North American Indians to prepare them for war.

He has been playing for just 12 months and is a member of the Doncaster club.

The national title was con-

Duncan delivers a title

tested by Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia and a composite team from those States.

Duncan was accompanied on the Perth trip by proud mum Pam, who runs the Canoe Shed, in the post office shopping centre, with husband Russell.

The boy who is almost certainly Warrandyte's first national lacrosse champion is a Year 10 student at Yarra Valley.

Melanie a top-rankin' miss

Outstanding local young tennis prospect Melanie Rankin went within a couple of aces of bringing home two titles from the recent Victorian hardcourt championships.

Melanie, 16, of Osborne Road, was runner-up in the B-grade singles and teamed with Koby Patterson, of Pantom Hill, to win the B-grade doubles.

The championships were played at the National Tennis Centre.

A year 11 student at Eltham College, Melanie has been a member of the EMRLTA Shell squad and the McDonald's squad for the past four years. She was a member of the EMRLTA team

which took part in an Easter interstate carnival this year.

Melanie has been Warrandyte Tennis Club junior champion for the past three years and is reigning women's champion.

As part of her physical education course at Eltham College, she has been involved in school coaching activities with her personal coach, Chris Saliba. She is continuing to coach on a regular basis under Saliba's supervision.

Melanie won the 1988 Apex Young Achiever award for her tennis achievements.

Her plans for the future are to play more open tournaments and graduate to State grade pennant competition.

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Bloods back with finals chance!

Sports people make it a big night for Madge

A major fund-raising event has boosted the appeal for crippled Warrandyte footballer Gary (Madge) Allsop to almost \$40,000.

More than \$15,000 was raised by a sportspeople's night attended by 580 people at Rembrandt's Restaurant, Wantirna South, on July 11.

It was the second big function organised so far in the \$250,000 appeal. The first, a disco at Casey's Nite Spot in Hawthorn, was also a big success.

Allsop, 28, of Warranwood, broke and dislocated his neck in a collision during Warrandyte's senior game at Upper Ferntree Gully on April 29. Specialists at the Austin Hospital's Spinal Unit are still unable to say if he will walk again.

The sportspeople's night, organised by the Eastern Districts Football League and Warrandyte Football Club featured as guest speakers Essendon players Paul Salmon and Gary O'Donnell, Collingwood captain Tony Shaw and former Australian basketball vice-captain Wayne Carroll. It was expertly hosted by Melbourne sporting identity Ted Ryan.

Rembrandt's donated 10 percent of the night's bar takings to the fund and the tickets were a gift from printer Neville Colenso, father of local footballer John.

The most moving moments were provided by Gary Allsop himself — in a "thank you" message taped that afternoon.

"The hush which fell in that huge restaurant just before the tape was played is hard to describe," Helen Revell, chief co-ordinator of the appeal, told the *Diary*.

Apart from giving the Gary Allsop Trust Fund its biggest input so far, the night produced other contributions and pledges of ongoing support.

Just one example: Former

The Gary Allsop appeal

North Ringwood Football Club president Des Ryan, who runs the service station on the corner of Oban and Warrandyte Roads, donated \$100 worth of petrol to the Allsop family to offset the costs of their daily visits to Gary.

The appeal's next major thrust will be a large-scale raffle, with a first prize of a trip for two to the United States, including three nights in Honolulu, four nights in Los Angeles and a day at Disneyland. The prize has been donated by Qantas and Boronia Traveland, supported by Boronia Football Club.

Upper Ferntree Gully Football Club will hold a bingo night for the appeal on July 18. All proceeds from Warrandyte's weekly bingo night at the social rooms on August 2 will also go to the fund.

Donations to the Gary Allsop Trust Fund should be addressed to PO Box 151, Warrandyte 3113. Helen Revell welcomes inquiries on 344 7105 (BH) and 844 3887 (AH).

Meanwhile, there are encouraging signs for Gary and his devoted family.

"He now has some movement in either arm and is able to feed himself with his left hand," his father, Fred, said. "He is doing two sessions a day in the hospital gymnasium."

And is Gary still in good spirits?

"Actually, he's getting a bit cheeky," Mr Allsop said.



Cameron Day — best afield against Mt Evelyn

So now it's official: We won it!

The disputed result of the EDFL third-round game between Warrandyte and Lilydale on April 22 has at last been resolved — in the Bloods' favour.

After two protests, one by each club, the league disputes committee ruled that its earlier decision to award the game to Warrandyte by eight points would stand.

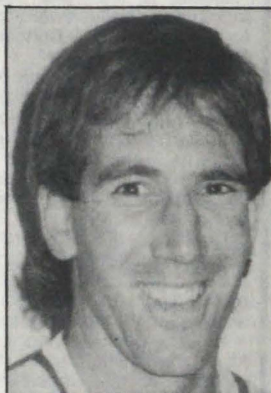
Ironically, the second and decisive protest was heard on June 23, the eve of the return match, which Lilydale won comfortably.

The goal umpires had originally awarded the April 22 game to Lilydale by three. Warrandyte protested, claiming a Bloods goal had been credited to Lilydale in the second quarter.

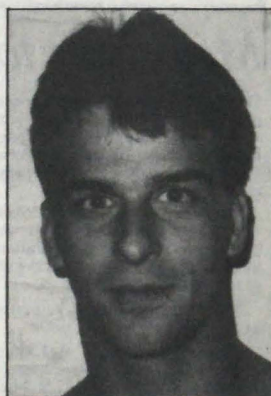
The EDFL upheld that appeal after hearing evidence from the goal umpires and reversed the result to give Warrandyte the match by eight points — 21.8 (134) to 19.12 (126).

Lilydale then protested against the procedure adopted at the first hearing. After hearing evidence from the goal umpires, timekeepers, club statisticians and respective goalkeepers of the day, the protest was dismissed.

Lilydale's case had hinged on its contention that it had kicked 10 goals in the first half. The disputes committee was not satisfied that this had been established.



Robin Golding



Wayne Clark

Massacre of Mt Evelyn puts us on course again

"We're not finished yet!" That was Warrandyte's message as they rebounded from a hat-trick of defeats to trounce Mt Evelyn in the EDFL 14th round.

The 132 point victory at home kept the Bloods' final aspirations flickering after consecutive losses to Coldstream, Lilydale and Upper Ferntree Gully — setbacks which meant the next false move would be fatal.

Warrandyte faces South Waverley-Sandown, Fair Park, Norwood and Doncaster East in the run home. There was no guarantee that they would make the finals even if they won them all.

That may depend on results elsewhere — but coach Lindsay Hopkins believes the Bloods are in the mood to keep on winning.

"The guys believe in themselves again," Hopkins said after the huge win over Mt Evelyn.

"We went through a bad flat patch but we're out of it now and the confidence they got out of this game will stand them in very good stead for the rounds ahead.

"It was a good team effort in heavy conditions."

The central umpire in charge of the Mt Evelyn game regarded the Bloods' effort as more than just "good". He told Warrandyte president Kevin McLean it was the best exhibition of running football he had seen this season.

McLean told the *Diary* the return from injury of a few key players had improved the team's confidence. "It was a much improved performance," he said.

The first quarter gave no indication of the goalrush which was to come for Warrandyte. They managed just two goals against the wind to Mt Evelyn's three — but then the floodgates opened.

Vaudeville's last outpost

There are many yet-unanswered questions about the 1989 Players' Talent Night at Warrandyte Football Club.

Will his knee injury seriously impair Matthew Elliott's Monologue? Will "The Gnome" take up the sticks again (drumsticks, not stiffs)? Will Gerald Walshe (with an E) be as inane (also with an E)



SPORT

The Bloods kicked 9.6 to nothing in the second term, 9.4 in the third and 8.3 in the last for a final score of 28.15 (183) to 7.9 (51).

Full-forward John O'Brien finished with 10 goals, a result of his aerial ability, straight kicking and capacity to shake his opponent and position himself near goal to accept over-the-top handpasses from his running team-mates.

Warrandyte's best was young half-forward flanker Cameron Day, who was in everything from the opening bounce and kept the statisticians busy recording his possessions alone.

Captain Robin Golding turned in another fine, creative game, roaming far from the centre and setting up opportunities. He kicked the last two goals of the game as the Bloods strove to answer Hopkins' three-quarter time challenge of a 30-goal final scoreline for the first time this season.

Warrandyte's defence was considerably strengthened by return from injury of full-back Wayne Clarke (playing his second senior game of the season) and centre half-back Gerald Walshe.

Clarke showed his appreciation of a run on the ball in the last quarter by kicking a booming goal. Walshe, who had missed the past few games with an ankle injury, overcame an uncertain start to stamp his authority on the game.

But the Bloods had many excellent players, among them Jarrod Dickson, Brian Scicluna, Kimberley O'Connor, Andrew Snaidero and Brad Day.

as last year? And is that possible?

And will Mick Sporton really do a phantom three-quarter time address in which Lindsay Hopkins says the opposition have NOT run their race?

All these and many more will be answered on Saturday, July 29. The hilarity starts at 7.30 and it's BYO supper.

WARRANDYTE FOOTBALL CLUB

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