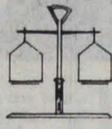


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Youth's ticket to freedom risks being free pass to the grave

Several young people from Warrandyte have been killed in road accidents in the past few months.

The State Government's safer driving campaign may slowly be starting to drag the tragic toll down, but police say too many people, particularly young drivers, are ignoring the speed warnings.

When the examiner in the back seat of the car announces you have just passed your driving test, the tendency to break loose with this ticket to independence is understandable.

Speaking as a young driver, it is just so easy to understand the desire to speed — "how fast can this thing go?". On top of that is the opportunity to go out with friends for a drink. We have all heard the warnings: "Don't drink and drive" and "Speed kills" but have they become so familiar that we no longer respect their significance?

"Speed is probably one of the biggest killers we've got," Warrandyte Senior Constable Pinder said.

"You're trying to stop a body from doing

By EWAN HALL

100 kmh — instantly". The results are obviously devastating.

Four fatalities occurred on the roads in the first three months of 1990 in the police district of Golf, an eastern suburbs area which takes in Warrandyte.

And police statistics show more than 5200 photographs of speeding motorists were taken in the Golf district over the Easter period. The State's overall tally for the same period was 22,000 photographs.

Another cause of accidents, particularly among probationary licence holders, is failing to take account of changing driving conditions.

Local panelbeater Graeme Riddell, who runs the crash repairs workshop at Warrandyte's Riverview Motors, has dealt with the twisted wreckage of many accidents in the local area.

Mr Riddell said the majority of accidents were the result of inflexible, habitual driving.

"The roads aren't the basic problem —

the conditions are what change roads; people just don't adjust to the conditions," he said.

"I believe that's what causes at least 60 to 70 per cent of the accidents.

"When you are young, you may drive perhaps a little too fast at times; you may drink more than you should. There's a certain amount of luck needed to get through that period of your life.

"Even with such programs as drink-driving and speed awareness, when you're young you can often take it with a grain of salt."

Accidental speeding may be one issue, but what about deliberate speeding, or dragging.

One young local driver known to take part in drag races down Lygon St, Carlton, on Sunday afternoon puts his high-risk pastime down to the thrill of competition.

It was all part of "an interest in cars and the thrill of winning — just like any sport" he said.

"If you beat someone, you feel good. It is as simple as that."

He said moves to introduce organised dragging on closed tracks have been shunned by many street fanatics who are drawn into dragging purely because of the high risks involved.

Street drags have marginally declined in popularity due to police attention which has sometimes resulted in the confiscation of cars.

If young drivers have been taking responsibilities on the road "with a grain of salt" perhaps we will respond better to financial penalties.

Fines for speeding have always existed, but this new element, the speed camera, can now book offenders as never before.

Snr Constable Pinder said it was effective "because it is so indiscriminate — anyone can get booked at any time".

Indeed the Victorian Easter road toll dropped from 15 last year to nine this year — perhaps evidence that drivers are starting to slow down.

New legislation scheduled to come into force on July 1 would prohibit new P-

platers from driving a car which has eight or more cylinders. They would also be banned from driving a turbo-charged car or one that has been modified without approval from the relevant authorities.

The Government has also considered banning P-platers from driving at night, excepting for employment purposes, and limiting their number of passengers.

There are problems with these new laws. It is not only V8 vehicles that are capable of high speeds. A 1600cc car could probably break the speed limit anywhere.

And in the words of a friend in Lygon St "If you want to kill yourself, you'll kill yourself".

Even with hefty fines and licence suspensions in force, perhaps the most effective deterrent against irresponsibility on the road is to be lucky enough to walk away from a car accident and realise that speed does kill; that drink drivers are bloody idiots.

Otherwise that ticket to independence may just be a free pass to the grave.

Threat to Green Wedge plan

Plans for a comprehensive environmental study of the Green Wedge, leading to a local conservation strategy, could run aground if preliminary research of the area is not funded by the Doncaster and Templestowe Council or another body.

As the *Diary* went to press, a working party formed late last year to develop terms of reference for the study was about to seek council funding through a meeting of its Physical Services Committee.

The Green Wedge is that area of the municipality east of Mullum Mullum Creek in Warrandyte, Park Orchards and Donvale. In the past few years, there has been increased pressure for urbanisation of the area with landholders pushing for rezoning to allow subdivision.

But the subject came to a head at last year's Doncaster council elections which brought in a 'green' council. The new council unanimously agreed that no further applications for subdivision or additional residential development in the area east of Mullum Mullum Creek would be considered.

At the August 29 meeting, the council resolved to establish a working party to develop terms of

By DAVID WYMAN

reference for the environmental study, and to particularly examine botanical, zoological visual and conservation matters in the Green Wedge.

It also directed the working party to examine the adequacy of existing planning controls and the development of new controls to protect and enhance the environmental quality of the study area.

The working party has met three times with a further meeting scheduled for June.

It has mainly concentrated on preparing draft briefs for the botanical zoological and visual studies which will go before the Physical Services Committee meeting this month. These studies require the use of specialist consultants who have to be paid.

The working party is designed to be representative of the local community and includes pro and anti-subdivision interests.

It is chaired by Councillor Val Polley. Other members of the party are the two other Warrandyte Ward councillors, Vern Denford and Rob Gell; Mr Richard Aumann, or-

chardist of Harris Gully Road; Mr Mark Tansley, representing the Warrandyte Advisory Committee; Mr Perry McNeilage, representing the Park Orchards Ratepayers' Association; Mr Daryl Cox, representing the Park Orchards Landowners' Association; and Mrs Birute Don, council's strategic planner.

Mrs Don has sought funds and involvement in the research projects from universities, research authorities and government departments but nothing has been forthcoming.

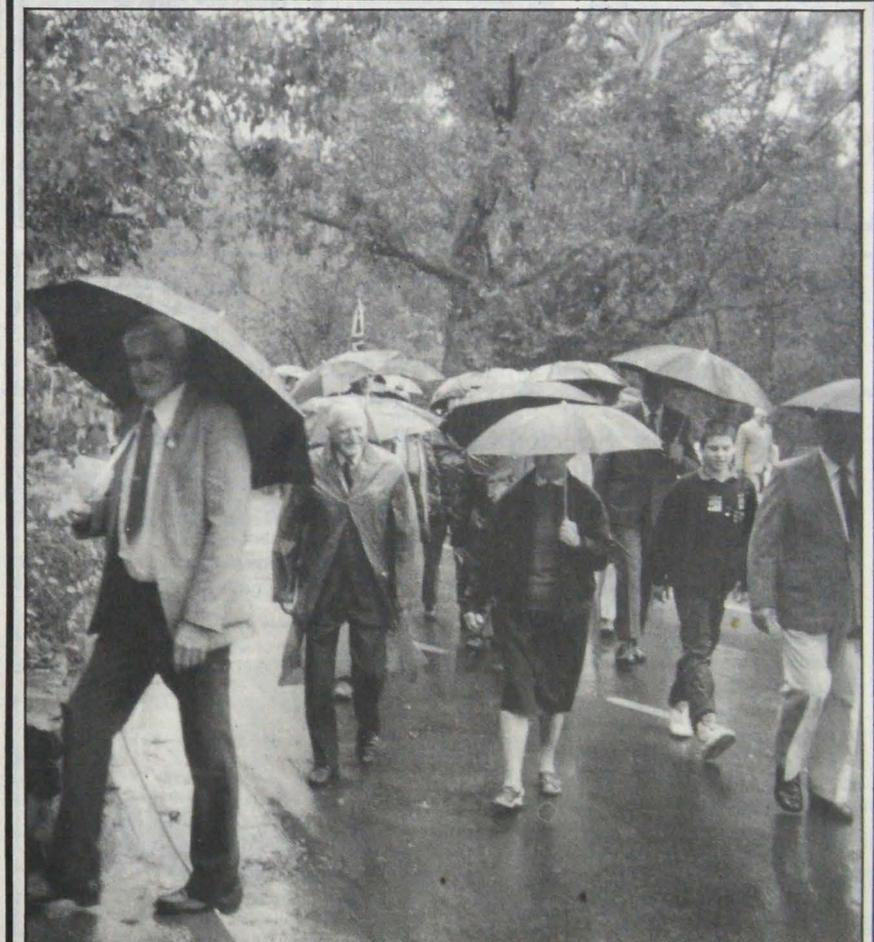
Mr Tansley told the *Diary* that if the council could not fund the environmental studies, there was not much the working party could do.

Cr Polley said the working party had not yet tackled the planning controls in the Green Wedge. It planned to examine if differential rating of properties could help retain the area.

The council's city valuer had spoken to the working party on the possibilities that would be offered under the new differential rating system of the new Local government Act.

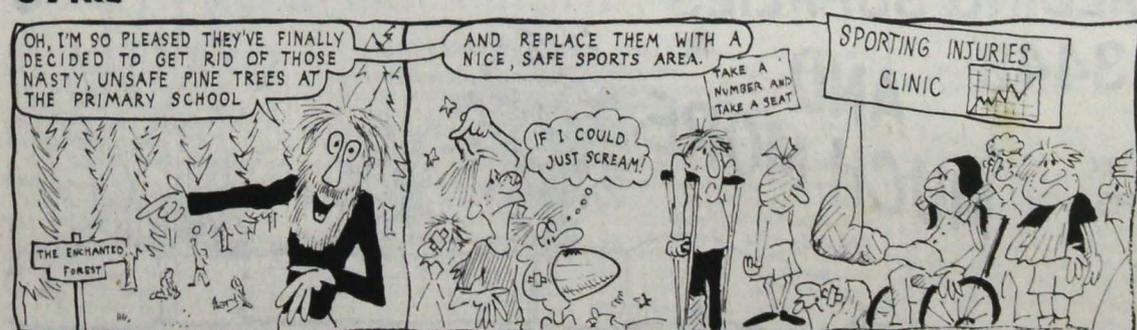
"The problem is that some prop-

Continued page 5



Age will not weary them . . . nor rain deter them. Despite the downpour, Warrandyte's commemoration of the anniversary of the Gallipoli landing was far from a wash out. Two local returned servicemen share their memories with us in this edition. Their stories are told on the middle pages. The march is recorded in details on Page 3.

CYRIL BY PAUL W.



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Mary Townsend, Warrandyte's super sandwich maker, is on the move again. The last Smokey saw of Mary she was slicing the sangers at the co-op bakery, but now we receive news that she has surfaced at the South Warrandyte general store. Most of the sandwich shops in the village have sponsored Mary's special skills at one time or another over the past 20 years. She served her apprenticeship with the late lamented Les Gilholme, who for many years had the milk bar in the shop that is now Folkart. The South Warrandyte store is now run by Natalie Retz and Dean Caulfield, who grew up in Warrandyte and "remember Mary's sandwiches from way back". Mary's recipe for success is simple enough. "I cram as much of the ingredients into a roll or sandwich as will fit. That way you fill them up and they come back next time." One of Mary's specials — long since discontinued — was her famous strawberries and cream sandwich. And her least favourite sandwich? "Egg and pickle. They make me feel sick, just thinking about them."

IN RED & WHITE



Y'KNOW OCK, IT'S AMAZING WHO'LL TURN OUT TO GET ONE OF MARY'S SANGERS.

Now you see it, now you don't. We reported last issue that a sign on a prime vacant allotment on the corner of Andersons Creek and Reynold Roads had been announcing for nigh on half a year that a Chinese restaurant would be opening there "soon". We thought, in view of the elapsed time, that "sooner or later" might have been more appropriate. It now seems that "later" will be the case because, darn it, the sign has now been removed. Just be patient, folks, and keep a tight rein on those gastric juices.

The sound of silence must have been blissfully deafening for a lot of Warrandyte folk on the last weekend in April. Their phones were on the blink — and obviously they couldn't have cared less. Local subscribers to Telecom's Easyphone service (which could save your life one day by allowing the fire brigade to interrupt your teenage marathon chat long enough to tell you your house is burning) were short-circuited on Friday night and in-communicado until Monday morning. Telecom says there are about 400 Easyphones in this area, and

guess how many subscribers reported the fault? Three. Just three. See, there is life without a telephone!

Bob Millington freely admits he's by no means mechanically minded, but he's still blushing about filling the fuel tank of his much-loved Volvo ... with diesel! If the service station bloke hadn't pointed it out, Bob would certainly have driven away, thereby giving the fuel-injected engine at least a nervous breakdown and possibly something far worse. In the end, a distant relative — who, unlike Bob, knows one end of a spanner from the other — showed him how to drain the tank.

Dr. J.B. DALITZ is pleased to announce that he has commenced General Practice at Warrandyte Consulting Rooms, 2 Trezise Street, Warrandyte. Appointments welcome. Phone: 844 1943.

Dr. B.L. BAYLY has transferred his General Practice to Warrandyte Consulting Rooms, 2 Trezise Street, Warrandyte. Phone 844 3766. 844 2295.

One of the three people who got on to Telecom's faults department was Peter (Bottles) Norman, of Watleblossom Road. But he doesn't count because he's a Telecom technician. When he was still phoneless on the Sunday night, Bots decided to write his superiors a blistering letter. Instead, he sat down, played a goodly whack of his vast Johnny Cash collection and got quite mellow.

Football crowd humour varies quite sharply from the bawdy to the cute. And into the latter category must go the quip from an unknown Lilydale supporter to a nest of Bloods fans in the last quarter at Warrandyte. "Your blokes won't need a shower after the game," he said. "They're getting a bath now!"



Smokey Joe

THE WARRANDYTE DIARY

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Assisi opens its doors to homeless

The Warrandyte home of Victoria's last mounted postman, Bill McCulloch, has begun a new life providing accommodation for families in need.

The home, in the grounds of the Warrandyte Catholic Church, is now known as Assisi House and is managed by a representative local committee.

Leased from the Catholic Church in August, 1988, the house has been the scene of activity by volunteers, notably members of Warrandyte Lions, in making the place habitable and restoring the grounds.

Publicity officer for the project, Steve Watts, a local worker with handicapped people and helper at the Warrandyte Youth Coffee Shop, said the house was being rented to small family groups in need of emergency accommodation.

"There will be a range of circumstances in the families for them to need this type of accommodation, and we see occupancy for between one or two months with rental determined by the families' means to pay," he said.

"Local families will be given first preference and we've introduced a formal method of application for rental so that we know in some detail the families' circumstances.

"The house isn't there to give people a roof over their heads permanently. We see it as a staging point to help a family in hardship to get back into life.

"We are hoping to enlist experienced volunteers to help the families in some way or another. They might require assistance in such things as cooking, running a house and making ends meet."

The house was home to Bill McCulloch and his wife Cath until he died after a long illness in October 1987. Cath was unable to

By DAVID WYMAN

continue living in the house because of illness.

The Warrandyte Catholic Church bought the house with its two hectares of grounds from the McCullochs in 1972 on the condition that Bill would be able to live there and use part of land until he died.

A popular figure in Warrandyte, Bill started as the town's mounted postman in 1950 and retired in September 1963. It was estimated he had travelled 112,630km (70,000 miles) on horseback delivering the town's mail.

He was a trustee of Anderson's Creek Cemetery for over 30 years and served a term as secretary of the trust. The McCulloch Family Memorial Gates and Piers at the cemetery were donated by Bill in 1976 and after his death his ashes were placed in one of the piers.

Bill lived all his life in Warrandyte and before becoming a postie, worked as a local coachman, orchardist and as the council ranger.

But he is remembered locally with great affection for his days on horseback travelling 32 km (22 miles) a day with the mail. Many of the town's people remember Bill on his horse and his kind words to them when they were children waiting for him and the mail.

Cleaning up the property, repairing and painting and re-equipping the house was begun by the Lions and other volunteers. A stove and other items from the old home of parish priest Father Fred Van Gestel were installed.

But the project needs more community assistance including money. Its urgent requirements are paint, furniture, bunk beds, general household equipment and particularly a pot belly stove and someone to install it. If you can help, phone Steve Watts on 844 3903.

Cheer goes up for Lil's 80 active years

The celebration of Lilian Whitehead's 80th birthday saw a large gathering of friends and relatives at the Warrandyte Elderly Citizens Club.

And if the noise levels were anything to judge by, the day was an outstanding success.

The guest list read like a who's who of old Warrandyte, including three generations of Lil's relatives. The party was organised by Lil's daughters.

After a superb meal guests were entertained by the ever-popular Popsy Bone supported by resident entertainer, from Scotland, Tom Bone. Tom, incidentally, is now a dinkum Aussie. After 39 years he has been naturalised, or sorry Tom, naturalised. Tom and Popsy were accompanied by Jack Wallace on his piano accordion.

Lilian Whitehead was born in Warrandyte in 1910 in the old bakery residence at 191 Yarra St, now the home of the River Gum Gallery. She was the fifth child born to Sam and Eva (nee Belzer). The other children were Gertrude, Evelyn (Mrs Adair), Jack, Bill and Ralph.

Sam McAuley was the stepson of Charles Newman whose father, Major Charles Newman, was one of the first settlers in the area. As a child Sam walked 11km each way to school from his stepfather's property on Deep Creek (now Mullum Mullum) to attend Anderson's Creek School No.12. The school was then the common school on the south-west corner of Forbes and Yarra streets. Sam was a student there when they carried the desks and other fittings up the hill to the present school in 1875.

Lil was 4 1/2 years old when the family bought the property on the south-west corner of Forbes and Brackenbury streets where they built a house. The house was destroyed in 1939 when fires raced through the area. Lil's family lost everything despite Sam and Ralph's efforts to save the house. The only things that they managed to save were the family photo-

graphs and the deeds to the property. Their horse had taken care of himself and that night was found munching cooked apples off the tree in the backyard.

The McAuley's new house was one of five that crews from H.V. McKay Massy Harris Pty Ltd built for families who had been burnt out in the Warrandyte area.

Lil's father supplied wood to Ruwolt's factory in Abbotsford and Jellis Bakeries in Kew. He would cut wood one day and the next day cart it with a team of Clydesdales. The horse paddock was on the south-west corner of Forbes and Brackenbury streets where Lil and her husband Norm built their house in 1955.

When her father was carting wood on Saturdays Lil would be up at 3am to prepare his breakfast so he could get to the weighbridge before it closed at noon. The wood came from "Yarra Brae" in Wonga Park.

Four generations of the McAuley family went to the Warrandyte School No.12. When Lil went to school there was only the stone building and all the grades were in one room. Lil always cried when any of her brothers got the strap. In those days before spare the rod and spoil the child, Lil would have been in tears quite often. The girls didn't get the strap although they did get a rap across the knuckles with a ruler on occasions.

As children, Lil and her brother Bill would pick armfuls of red and white heath from the Fourth Hill and sell it to passing motorists on weekends and public holidays. They also sold punnets of strawberries which their father grew on land where Jack and Ralph later built their homes at 21 and 17 Tresize Street respectively. Many of the people who bought the strawberries used to also buy clotted cream from Mrs McAuley.

Bill taught Lil to skin the rabbits he caught with nets and ferrets. The skins were stretched on wire frames and when dried were sold to local



Eighty years young, Lilian Whitehead is a hard act to follow.

dealers for 6 pence each (5 cents).

Lil left school at 13 and stayed home to help her mother as there was no transport to enable her to get a job. Lil got her first job as a live-in nursemaid in the city when she was 16 1/2, and was paid 1 pound (\$2) a week and her keep with half a day off each week.

Lil met Norm Whitehead at the dances held every Saturday night in the Warrandyte Hall.

Norm was a relieving bus driver on the Warrandyte run. They were married in 1934 and lived in Hawthorn.

When war broke out in 1939 Norm joined the airforce and was stationed in Darwin. Ralph and Bill joined the army and both served in the Middle East. Bill was killed fighting the Japanese in New Guinea.

Lil came back to live in Warrandyte in 1943 to be near her mother and has remained here ever since. Norm returned to his job of bus driving when the war ended and died in 1963.

When bush fires again swept through the area in January 1962 Lil left home with only the mixmaster under her arm. As it happened to be on the bench at the time she grabbed it as she

went out the door. Fortunately her home survived.

Lil has been involved in a number of local organisations. She has been president of the mothers club, and an active member of the football social club, the Monaki Retarded Children's Home and is still a member of The Royal Women's Hospital Auxiliary and the historical society. At an age when most people are receiving Meals on Wheels Lil is delivering them. She has also given generations of school children pleasure through her stories of her life and times in Warrandyte.

Lil and Norm had three daughters, Helen, Norma and Dianne, and Lil has two granddaughters. Sadly her only grandson was killed in a car accident some years ago.

Lil enjoys her trips down the street as they give her a chance to meet her many friends, not to mention giving her two dogs their regular exercise. However she is quite sure the walk back up the hill isn't getting any easier with the passing of the years.

In the words of her daughter Norma "she is a bloody hard act to follow."

Diggers return to honor mates

As all aircrew will recall, when they think back to the War, if the weather was bad it was the sergeant pilots who were rostered to fly.

Some have argued the degree of danger of an operation could be determined by the percentage of sergeant pilots "selected" for the job.

I do not know how much truth there was in these theories, but it was definitely sergeant pilots' weather on Anzac Day 1990.

We gathered at the Gospel Hall, the smart ones with their umbrellas, and the weather prophets oozing with confidence in the "knowledge" that rain had never before seriously affected the ceremony.

Well it rained and rained and rained from beginning to end.

Those smarties with the umbrellas shared them with their mates in true Anzac tradition. Some stood under the trees that had been planted in memory of the fallen. Even 45 to 50 years after they gave their lives, they continued to do their bit to protect those who had come to honor them.

For a week or so before the march "outsiders" from interstate

By 'THE UNKNOWN AIRMAN'

and other suburbs sought permission to join its ranks. They were joining their children and grandchildren who lived in Warrandyte for this memorable occasion. Several asked if their children and grandchildren could march and they were promptly given permission.

The children wanted to wear their father's or grandfather's medals. Who could deny them this honor?

Jack Cook had a real problem with three grandchildren, two boys and a girl, and only his father's and his own medals, what was he to do? Jack decided the boys should get the medals. His next problem: with no medals himself, spectators may think he shouldn't be marching.

The problem was solved when I offered him mine. I had a set of miniatures that I could wear. At the assembly point I pinned the medals on Jack's jacket, a complicated procedure because they were court-mustered.

A few minutes later Jack came to me, minus medals. He had taken them off and was having difficulty pinning them on his granddaughter's jacket.

Even Jim Girvan, who was serving in the Navy in the North Sea before most of the returned servicemen in the Warrandyte RSL were old enough to join up, managed to "find" a medal or two to give to the neighborhood kids to wear — and they proudly walked beside him — medals that he has maintained for years that he had never bothered to collect.

That's what Anzac Day is all about.

Special thanks must go to piper Andrew Ogilvy who helped us out again this year. He had already "blown his bags" in Melbourne's March. Then there was our resident bugler Chris Coates. Thanks again Chris.

Thanks to the women who prepared and served the refreshments. Thanks to the blokes who shared their cash with their mates in true Anzac tradition and, last but not least, thanks to the kids for coming. It was all worth it.

Elderly get to lunch in style, a la car

Did you know that our town boasts an organisation called the Warrandyte and District Welfare Service, that its members operate the local Meals on Wheels and that they've been doing this since 1971?

Well, it does, they do and they have!

You may have noticed the smiling volunteers collecting for Meals on Wheels at the three polling booths on Election Day. If you were one of the many Warrandyte folk who put their hand in their pocket then the service would like to say 'thank you' for your generous donation.

By KEN VIRTUE

Such community support is invaluable for continuing this much-needed service to our many not-so-mobile elderly citizens.

The service is run by volunteers who handle both the administration work as well as the regular Meals on Wheels home deliveries.

It is accredited by the Australian Department of Social Security, and is also registered with the Hospitals and Charities division of the Department of Health. The meals subsidy comes from the Victorian Department of Community Services.

The committee members are: Margaret Barton, Margaret Bourke, Anne Drew, Peg Dunnett, Diane Fraser, Dorothy Rush, Cath Watts, Judith Woods, Francis Jameson and Bill Glennon.

Car drivers for Meals on Wheels deliveries are always welcome, and right now there are a few vacancies. If you would like to become one of the elite band of mobile culinary volunteers simply call the roster secretary, Judith Wood, on 844 1777. She'll soon have you delivering hearty winter meals to warm the hearts and smiles of our special senior citizens.

Arts award up for grabs

Keen interest is being shown among local young artists in the Second Warrandyte Youth Arts Award, announced in March.

Valued at \$5000, the award is a joint project of Warrandyte Lions, the *Diary* and the Warrandyte Arts and Education Trust.

Offered every two years, the award is available to any artist aged between 18 and 25 years who usually resides in Warrandyte.

The first award, presented in March last year, was won by gifted young jeweller Bridget Liddell.

The term 'artist' includes painters, potters, sculptors, craftspeople, designers, dancers, singers, actors, musicians, writers, filmmakers and any other young person intending to make their career in some form of artistic endeavor.

It is intended that the \$5000 scholarship, donated by the Lions Club of Warrandyte, should be used in ways that specifically suit the needs of the winner. This could include tuition fees, a study tour abroad, a short-term living allowance, or the purchase of equipment or materials.

Candidates unsuccessful in the first award are encouraged to re-apply.

Entries close on June 30, 1990, and the winner will be announced at a special function prior to the Warrandyte Village Festival in March 1991. Further information and entry forms are available from the Citizens Advice Bureau at the old post office in Yarra St., or by writing to the Warrandyte Youth Arts Award, P.O. Box 209, Warrandyte 3113.

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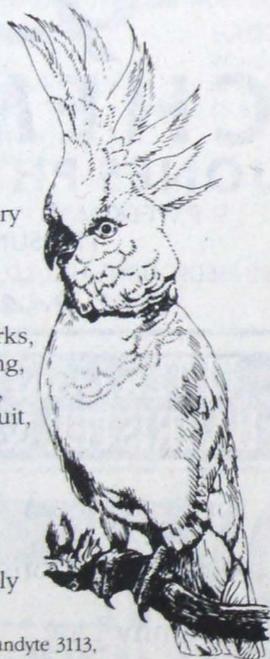
Under the Gum trees, beside the Yarra on Stiggants Reserve, Yarra St, Warrandyte 1st Saturday of each month — except January 9am-1pm

Come and join in! Hand crafted gifts of all kinds, toys, art works, pottery, plants, clothing, gift cards leatherwork, cakes, jams, honey, fruit, produce.

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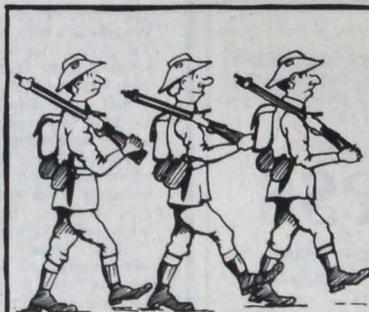
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A brief history of Warrandyte's Diggers



FIRST THE GOLD DIGGERS...



THEN THE ANZAC DIGGERS...



FINALLY THE MONEY DIGGERS

Friends of park see red over clearing

The Friends of Warrandyte State Park have called on the Doncaster and Templestowe Council to prosecute the owners of a property in Nelson Road who have cleared an area of native vegetation.

The property adjoins a south-eastern part of the Black Flat section of the State Park.

In a letter to the council the Friends said the "integrity of the park has been seriously jeopardised by this outrageous act".

They said the plants cleared were part of a very significant strip of riparian vegetation near the Yarra River, recognised by leading botanists and naturalists.

"This area is a very important habitat area of the rare yellow spot jewel butterfly," Friends co-ordinator, Margaret Burke, said.

"The clearing has included the grasses, and the topsoil has no cover."

It is understood the owners of the property had been permitted to clear vegetation, but not trees, by council.

About four hectares are involved where the owners plan to build a house and a shed.

The Friends of Warrandyte State Park want the council to force the owners to carry out restorative planting of the area.

Stand by for fun

The Warrandyte Drama Group is busily rehearsing for its next production.

"My son the lawyer is drowning" by Doug Macleod, is a fairly recent comedy, and will be directed by Ken Virtue.

The cast includes Doug McManus, Roger Kibell, Sue Dyring, Helen Bennett, Vicki Short and Donald Baigent.

Performance dates will be June 21, 22, 23, 28, 29 and 30, so plan your calendar now for a night of real laughter. Bookings open soon.



Rotary president David Curry presents the award to Warrandyte Festival Committee president John Boyle.

John's award feather in cap for festival crew

By KEN VIRTUE

You could have knocked John Boyle over with one of his own feathers when he was called up onto the Warrandyte Festival Concert Stage on that Sunday night in March.

"Blimey" I thought I heard him say as he accepted the Warrandyte Rotary Club Vocational Service Award.

It is the first time the award, which recognises outstanding service to others in the community, has been presented by Rotary.

John, who has been involved with the Festival Committee for the past 10 years and president since 1984, was characteristically quick to point out the recognition should be for all those involved in the event.

Such is the modesty of one of nature's true gentlemen, whose story is a recent slice of Warrandyte history...

About 13 years ago John and Kerrie Boyle were living in a one bedroom house in Hawthorn, expecting their first child.

"We wanted to build a mud brick home," John said, "and as we were both interested in canoeing we were attracted to the river frontages in Warrandyte."

Since then the Boyles have become part of this community, building their home and business in Osborne Road and rearing their family (David, 13, Kathryn, 10, Cameron, 8 and James, 7).

John said the business then only

imported feathers, "frivolous stuff for dancers".

Now Boyle Industries has shifted to Blackburn but still employs local young people and has expanded considerably into other craft products.

John said their first neighbor, Pat Freestone, became "part of the family" and introduced them to the street locals via a traditional Christmas get-together. The Boyles now carry on the tradition in their own garden.

The festival has become a Boyle family effort, as has their involvement with the Uniting Church, and Kerrie's work as a Brownie leader.

"The festival effort started with John Hanson asking me to attend a committee meeting," John recalled.

"My early tasks were running the billy cart derby and the canoe race."

"George Nikakis and I paddled together in the 1979 canoe race against only one other team. We fell out quite a few times during a torrential downpour and subsequently came in 'second'."

"Now some real athletes like the Pinder boys turn up, so I think it's about time I retired from canoeing."

The original committee for the 1977 festival comprised Allan Alder, Carol Bird, Geoff Coles, Tim

Ferguson, Robin Hodgkinson, Sharry McKenzie, Sheila Quarendon, Anne Riley and Phil Taig. Since then a lot of people have contributed, and John is embarrassed that the spotlight has fallen on him.

"People like Marilyn Parsons or Lyn Capalani do the real organisation work," John said. "And they don't make any fuss. In fact I suspect they only let me chair the meetings so that they can boss me around!"

John said many people were unaware the festival was run on a budget of only about \$8000.

"But the advantage of a low-cost budget is that it forces you to go around and scavenge for help," he said.

"You then have to talk to people and get them involved too. It never ceases to amaze me that there's so much talent in this town — it doesn't matter what you want you can find someone to help."

John said every effort must be made to ensure that the festival does not get too commercial.

"We've made some guidelines for this in the future so the spirit of the event will be preserved with a village character. But I'd still like to see a village band added to the festivities," he grinned.

John and Kerrie's lifestyle dream appears to be a reality, and the citizens of Warrandyte are all the better for it.

Low-lying Lion notches up year of roaring success

By JUDY MACDONALD

Bill Butler maintains that during his year in the chair as President of the Warrandyte Lions, he has endeavored to keep a low profile.

A glance at the records shows that however low this was, club achievements have been extremely high.

Mr Butler arrived in Warrandyte in 1981, joining Lions in 1983. He said he found that "integration into the community, and friend-

ships made took place much quicker" by belonging to Lions. His droll English humor and friendly wife Linda, also may have helped!

Mr Butler became secretary in 1986, working his way up to take the presidential chair last June.

Lions' donations to the community in the past year include \$5000 towards the Youth Arts Award;

\$5000 towards the purchase of a community bus; \$4000 for Assisi House emergency housing and various donations amounting to \$20,000.

The community bus was a joint service club project, supported by Lions, Apex and Rotary. A second hand bus was purchased from the Disabled Association and work undertaken to refurbish, overhaul and repaint it.

Mr Butler said around "\$14,000

of local money has been raised and put back into this project for our community".

Lions raised their contribution from a festival food stall, the Op shop, tennis court hire, debutantes' ball, gymkhanas and golf days.

The bus will be driven by Mr Colin Bentley and a small fare charged to make it fully self-funding. It is now available for community use.

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Council refusal leaves garage owner smarting

By JUDY MACDONALD

After 14 years of running Riverview Motors in Yarra St, proprietor John Smart is wondering where to turn.

Doncaster and Templestowe Council has knocked back his proposal to improve the site while recommending the front row of pumps and advertising signs be removed from the road reserve.

Ironically, Mr Smart's proposal was to move the front row of pumps back to form a single, easily accessible row and, as Riverview still offers full driveway service, to enlarge the overhead canopy both sideways and outwards.

Mr Smart told the *Diary* it was not his intention to cover the place with neon signs and that he had already employed a landscape architect to oversee the project.

So far he has laid out more than \$4000 and received no confirmation that an altered plan will be acceptable to the council.

The council received only one objection to the proposal. Its Physical Services Committee, in a report dated March 20, 1990, while dismissing the objector's concerns, homed in on the fact that the council may be liable for accidents occurring on the road reserve area.

Local groups, the Warrandyte Environment League and the Warrandyte Advisory Committee asked the council to ensure existing trees were retained; that signs be kept to a minimum and that these details as well as proposed color schemes be submitted for approval. Otherwise they had no objections to the proposal.

Mr Smart said he feared that if no plans are acceptable to the council for improvement of the site, he may be forced to demolish a house next to the service station to provide the space he needs. This house is currently let.

Conversely, a letter from Vic Roads to the council states it had "no objection to the granting of a permit ... subject to the inclusion of a permit condition that if required the developer will remove all construction on or over the road reserve."

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HOW WE LIVED

Our town 100 years ago - as seen by the local correspondent of the Evelyn Observer



Now, about that little train line

May, 1890: The new Railway Construction Bill, I should think, is just about as pleasant a job for the Government to tackle and successfully carry out at the present time as a respectable Presbyterian clergyman would find preaching to a congregation of savages with sharpened teeth and hungry looks.

That debates on this subject will be animated and lengthened there can be little doubt, and if the minimum of dissatisfaction is approached at all it will be one of the grandest feats ever seen by this or any other parliament.

Locally we trust to providence and Mr Gillies. We can show such a splendid array of assets, and such a good cause why our short line should be favorably entertained, that no objections could be reasonably and successfully fulminated against it.

That our worthy member has our interest at heart has been so often proved it would be superfluous to mention anything more. Our trust has been mutual, and thoroughly evinced at the poll on our party, and his manly straightforward conduct to us in his.

Mr W. Collins, who for many years honorably held the position of Member of the Board of Advice, Bulleen District, resigned some weeks ago. An election to fill the vacant post was held last Saturday, the nominations being — L.H. Smith, Doncaster and E. Squires, Andersons Creek.

The following is the polling: Doncaster — Smith 43, Squires 3; Templestowe — Smith 6, Squires 16; Andersons Creek — Smith 0, Squires 37. Mr Squires being returned by a majority of 7.

Our cemetery, which for years past has been in a neglected condition respecting roadways and footpaths, will shortly be improved, a tender having been let to cut and form same. (From the Newspaper Collection, State Library of Victoria.)

From page 1

erties in the area are not being maintained consistent with their zoning of Landscape Interest or Conservation — they're empty blocks and a lot of them are just growing blackberries and agisting horses," Cr Polley said.

"We'd like to come up with something that would help improve those blocks — to get the people to manage them appropriate to the Landscape Interest and Conservation zonings.

"People buy the block, let it deteriorate and say, 'Look, what merits Landscape Interest? There's nothing on it except a few blackberries!'"

Blackened days in history spark a rivetting tale



All that remained of Bill McCulloch's house after the 1939 fire.

Victoria, in common with California and the French Riviera, is one of the three most fire-prone areas in the world. Almost without exception, savage bushfires destroy some part of this State every year.

But there is no place in the world more prone to destruction by wildfire than our own area, Warrandyte. Disastrous fires have swept through this district with tragic and monotonous regularity ever since white settlement began (and, undoubtedly, for countless centuries before).

The most serious conflagration occurred on January 13, 1939 when 160 homes were destroyed in Warrandyte, as well as the Catholic, Anglican and Presbyterian churches. This appalling day has gone down in the history of Victoria as Black Friday. But there have been many other disastrous fires, before and since.

Diary writer Bruce Bence, formerly a senior officer in the Country Fire Authority, has spent the past few years researching the details of Warrandyte's epic struggle against fire, and has now brought this material together in a splendid book of documentary history, simply titled 'Fire'.

This book is an expansion of an account originally serialised in the *Diary* during 1987. It lucidly explains why wildfire is this area's greatest natural enemy and clearly and dramatically chronicles the many dreadful fires that have occurred locally in the past 100 years.

It also details the efforts made to establish, train and equip the brigades of volunteer firefighters, crucial if a community and its assets are to have any hope of survival in a bushfire.

But above all else, Bruce's book records for posterity the valiant, heartbreaking efforts of the local

people as they faced these outbreaks and of the many brave men and women who placed their own lives at risk and fought these terrifying fires, often with primitive equipment and always working under appalling conditions.

Illustrated with many contemporary photographs, it is attractively printed and strongly bound. Its production has been made possible through the support of both municipal councils, the Warrandyte Historical Society, the three Warrandyte CFA brigades, as well as the Kangaroo Ground and Wonga Park brigades.

Copies of 'Fire' are available (priced \$10) from the Citizens Advice Bureau at the old post office in Yarra Street, from the various brigades, through the historical society at P.O. Box 67, Warrandyte, 3113, or direct from Bruce Bence, phone 844 3122.

CLIFF GREEN

Community gets keys to new set of wheels

The Warrandyte community has a new set of wheels thanks to the local Lions, Apex and Rotary clubs.

The clubs' representative, Mr David George handed over the new bus recently to the local transport committee.

Committee spokesman, Mr Col Bentley, said the group was grateful for the effort that went into raising the funds and urged the community to make full use of the bus.

The Doncaster and Templestowe Council also contributed to the funding of the bus.

Doncaster and Templestowe councillors Val Polley and Vernon Denford at the official hand-over of the community bus.



Doncaster and Templestowe councillors Val Polley and Vernon Denford at the official hand-over of the bus.

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1990-91

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Young artists who usually live in the Warrandyte area are invited to apply for the Warrandyte Youth Arts Award for 1990-91. Applicants between the ages of 18 and 25 — working in any artistic field — are eligible. A prize of \$5,000 is being offered every two years to enable the winner to further their career as an artist.

Applications close 30 June 1990 and the winner will be announced in March 1991, during the Warrandyte Festival.

Further details and application forms can be obtained from the Citizens' Advice Bureau in the old post office, or by writing to:

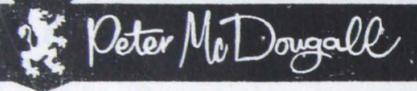
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POWs spirit still shines

BRUCE BENCE tells his story.

George "Beattie" Beavis was so keen to join the Australian Imperial Forces in World War 2 that he had to desert from the ranks of another army before the bureaucrats would listen to his pleas.

The son of a pioneering family, Beattie joined the Commonwealth Military Forces in 1941 at the age of 28. Having done a stint of driving for the Doncaster council, Beattie was sent to the Transport Officers' School in Sturt Street, South Melbourne.

As a member of the CMF Beattie was restricted to serving on Australian territory, whereas the AIF volunteers could serve anywhere in the world. Beattie wanted to go with them.

Frustrated by his repeated attempts to transfer to the AIF, Beattie deserted and reported to the Kew Drill Hall where he fronted up to a Captain Millar to explain his actions. The captain quickly marched him off to the Royal Park military camp to arrange his transfer.

Beattie was posted to the 4 Reserve Motor Transport Section and was shipped out to Johore Bahru in Malaya. Landing there in November 1941 he met up with a Warrandyte lad, Henry Moore.

The unit was soon moved on to the island of Singapore. It was here Beattie got his first real taste of war.

The Japanese kept up continued air raids, usually for a day and involving up to 100 aircraft at a time. The allied forces were overwhelmed. Inadequately equipped in numbers and woefully outclassed in the performance of their aircraft, the fighters were shot out of the skies.

When the Japanese overran the Malay Peninsula, the surrender of Singapore was inevitable. Beattie's unit was taken prisoner on February 15, 1942. It was to be the start of 3 1/2 years of unbelievable suffering and hardship.

The Aussies who made up 'A' force spent five weeks in Singapore's Changi jail before moving on to Burma as part of the 3000-strong contingent that was to construct the infamous Burma-Thailand death railway.

The Japanese took everything off the men. The only thing Beattie managed to keep was his bible, but his captors tore out its maps of the Holy Land — Beattie figured they must have feared he had an overland escape in mind. He kept that bible despite many lucrative offers from fellow prisoners hungry to use its pages for cigarette paper.

The POWs in Beattie's group started work on the railway at Thanbuzayat. It was the beginning of 25 months of horror, confined to jungle camps in the sweating tropics, working along the route of the world's most hated railway.

Its tracks were to run for some 360 kms (220 miles). Its construction cost the lives of 12,500 allied prisoners of war.

But it was not only the POWs who suffered from the barbaric treatment of the railway's creators. Large numbers of indigenous people also were forced to work on the line. Although the exact number of these who perished during its construction will never be known, it is believed to be between 120,000 and 150,000.

The railway was built without any mechanical aids. According to Beattie each man worked to a quota of one cubic metre of dirt a day, and the quota had to be filled whether the men were fit to work or not. If a man dropped out through illness, his mates had to make up his share of the work. Work did not stop until these quotas were met, and it went on relentlessly, regardless of the weather or the disease.

Once the quotas were filled the men dragged themselves back to camp for a meagre meal and what rest they could get sleeping on bamboo slats. Some men tried to escape but were soon found and shot.

Because of the need to fill quotas men who were ill were often asked by their own medics to go out to work. Beattie was no exception. He said his mates carried him back one day suffering from Dengue fever and with a temperature of 104.

Cuttings for the rail line were dug through the rock with explosives. The men built embankments and bridges using the strength of their hands, wielding picks and shovels. To place the piles for the bridges a solid block of iron weighing 2540 kgs (2 1/2 tons) was erected on a scaffold attached to four ropes. There were 12 men on each rope who would move forward when a guard signalled by chanting, thus raising the weight. When the chant stopped the men let go of the ropes. This continued until the piles were in place.

In September 1943 Beattie fell victim to Beri Beri, fever and dysentery. He was sent to a hospital camp where he weighed in at just 44 kgs (6 stone 13 pounds). Even at that weight he was considered one of the fitter prisoners.

The hospital had no walls, just bamboo benches and a thatched roof. Beattie recalled that while he was there a colonel, Albert Coates, was carried in. The colonel was a surgeon and a veteran of the Gallipoli campaign; in two days he took control and cleaned up the camp.

"It was marvellous," Beattie said. Colonel Coates carried out 120 amputations in 90 days. The patients were given a spinal injection providing just seven minutes' anaesthetic. Most of the amputations were due to tropical ulcers which, with proper medical care, would have healed.

Beattie developed a tropical ulcer on his leg and still bears the scar. The only treatment available was to scrape out the rotted flesh with a spoon — an appalling agony suffered each morning. Beattie also developed his own gentler method of treatment, in which he would stand in the creek on the edge of the

camp letting the little fish in the water clean out the ulcer.

Beattie's last jungle camp was at Tamkan on the River Kwai. The work was finished when his group of POWs met the crews who had started at the other end of the railway, in Bampton, Thailand.

With the railway finished, Beattie was moved to Singapore and was put to work on the docks. On Christmas Eve 1944 he and his fellow POWs were shipped to Japan aboard the *Awa Maru*. They were issued with clothing reputed to have been made from wood pulp. Beattie reckons it certainly felt like it. For the previous two years the men had no boots or clothing, wearing only a G-string.

After living and working in the tropical heat, the cold and snow of Japan was another trial for the physically weakened men.

Beattie soon found himself in Nagasaki where the men were forced to mine coal. They started work at 5am and finished at 5pm if the hated quotas were met. And again, all the work was done by hand. After work the men returned to their camp 11km (seven miles) from Nagasaki.

Beattie was wheeling dirt out of a tunnel when he saw the plane that dropped the atomic bomb on Nagasaki. It was August 9, 1945. Their work was over.

On August 16 the men were

Beattie Beavis was born in Doncaster in 1913. In 1945 he saw the plane that dropped the bomb on Nagasaki. A POW mining coal for the Japanese, he was just 11 kms from the point of explosion. He saw the flash and the mushroom from the blast climb into the sky, but he had no idea what it was. Despite all that mushroom-like cloud has come to symbolise since, for Beattie it was to signal the release from 3 1/2 years in hell.

lined up in front of the Japanese camp captain. It is not hard to imagine the trepidation felt by the men who had earlier been told they would be gassed in reprisal for the August 6 bombing of Hiroshima, and in the event of an invasion, buried in the tunnels.

Although the prisoners did not know it Japan had surrendered on August 14, two days previously.

The words of the captain that day remain in Beattie's memory: The order had been given he said, to "stop the fight".

After he was released and on his way home Beattie, travelled through the devastated city of Nagasaki. All the hills were blackened. There was virtually nothing left. The end of the war came too late for many of the prisoners. They weakened condition after so many years of imprisonment meant many did not survive the journey home to see their loved ones.

Beattie and the other survivors

made the long awaited trip home via Okinawa where a stage had been set up for Gracie Fields. Her welcome to the POWs went on despite pouring rain. Gracie sang all the popular wartime songs that day, songs the POWs had never heard before.

Then it was on to Manila where the men underwent medical checks. While there they were issued with complete new kits, including rifles and bayonets. Beattie recalled one character announcing: "These people must think we're bloody idiots if they think we're going to lug all this stuff home for them." And with that the men promptly dumped everything on the parade ground except for their uniforms. Beattie said he'd never seen such a heap of gear in his life.

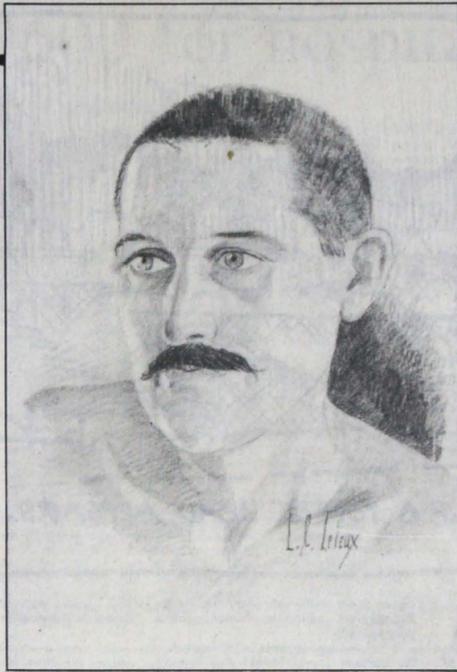
Beattie's family and friends went through a terrible time while he was prisoner of war. Listed as missing, believed dead, after the fall of Singapore it was to be 10 months

before anyone knew he was still alive. Six of Beattie's nine brothers and sisters served in the war; five boys in the army, and sister Margaret in the airforce. Despite the odds, all returned home.

Beattie was discharged in January 1946 after being checked for radiation contamination. He returned for follow-up examinations for a time, but as all the results were negative, gave up going. He has not spent a spell in hospital since.

Beattie returned to his family's orchard in Doncaster. In 1948 he married Joan Petty and the couple lived in the house Beattie built in Doncaster until 1970 when they moved to Park Orchards. The couple agist horses on their land and Beattie tends to his lemon orchard.

His memory of the war years remain strong and it took him many years to adjust after returning home. We can only wonder at the spirit and fortitude of people like Beattie.



A sketch of Beattie drawn by a fellow prisoner of war in Burma.

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Cec rides tall in answer to nation's call



Cec Peake in his army uniform in 1942.

Following World War I the Australian Government brought in compulsory military training for all young men between the ages of 17 and 21.

Cec Peake was 17 when he was called up in 1925.

When Cec passed the medical examination he was given the choice of footsloggers (infantry) or artillery training. Cec chose the Australian Field Artillery.

With the help of his wife Bonny, Cec has written down his experiences. This is his story:

When I reported to the army the first thing I had to do was learn to ride. Although I could already do so the army insisted I learn to ride their way. The riding school was in Sturt Street in South Melbourne, now the police stables.

Parades were compulsory and failure to attend without a reasonable excuse meant extra hours stripping, cleaning and reassembling rifles. Parades were held on Saturday afternoons and there were also evening parades through the week. These were the worst. After a long hard day at work I would dash home for a quick meal then change into a uniform which consisted of slouch hat, tunic, bandolier across the chest, lace up riding breeches, leggings, army boots and spurs. I then rode my pushbike to the drill hall and, by the time training had

finished and I rode home, it was the end of a long hard day.

When I passed my riding test I had to report to different drill halls around Melbourne. At different times I found my way to Percy Street, Brunswick, Reynards Road, Coburg, and North Carlton, to name just a few.

Apart from the regular weekday parades there were 12-day camps at Broadmeadows or Seymour. At Seymour we slept in tents on straw mattresses which were laid on a wooden floor. The guns and horses were sent up by train for the Seymour camp.

The guns were horse-drawn as were the limbers which carried the ammunition. The horses were all semi-draft horses and there were

six to each gun or limber. Each horse had a letter stamped on its hoof to designate his position in the team. 'L' for leader, 'C' for centre and 'W' for wheeler.

While in camp you were in charge of two horses and mine were the wheelers. Getting the horses into position to draw the guns and limbers was a complicated business.

The lead and centre horses are driven over the pole but the wheel horses were harnessed to the pole attached to the gun or limber and one of the wheelers had to be made to jump over the pole. One of each of the pairs also had a rider mounted on its back.

All the harness for my horses was issued in chaff bags. It was much heavier than that in use today. The steel traces were covered in leather so as not to scratch the horses, the saddles were big and heavy but were comfortable for the rider.

The wheel driver had to wear a huge legging running the full length of the leg with a steel bar running through it. This was to protect the rider as in rough going it was easy to break a leg if it got jammed between the horse and the pole. At the camp everything was horse-drawn or brought to the camp by horse-drawn vehicles including the feed for the horses.

Before any heavy shoot in the hills every third or fourth tree had

a notice attached to it notifying farmers who had stock on the range to move their guns.

While the guns, which were 18 pounder field guns and 4.5 howitzers, were being fired the horses were taken away and it was the riders task to hold them. It was no easy task to hold two big strong horses agitated by the gunfire and who were only interested in getting as far away from the guns as possible. Even though the horses were used to the guns being fired, each time they carried out a shoot the horses always played up at the start although they would settle down after a while.

In camp the horses had no stables and were tethered by a head rope to another heavy rope stretched between two red gun posts. To prevent them kicking each other they also had one of their back legs pulled back and tied, a very tricky operation as the horses objected to the restraint.

The horses stood in the lines without shelter come rain, hail or shine, but they were always well attended too. They came first when they returned from their morning's work their needs were attended to before the men had a meal. The horses were always thirsty after a morning's work and were eager for a drink. As they had to be held in line until a bugle sounded they became very restless and hard to hold. More than one

man was injured watering the horses when they were jammed between the horse and the water trough. After their drink the horses were given a nosebag of chaff, bran and oats.

After attending to the horses the men had a midday meal of two rounds of bread, two squares of butter, usually good old army stew and two small apricots or other fruit. Everything tasted like tin, including the tea, as all the plates and cups were made of tin.

Mounted men never had mess duties as they had their horses to attend to — grooming them and looking after their needs.

Every morning the camp was wakened by a blank howitzer shell instead of a bugle call at reveille (this certainly woke up the camp) then there was roll call. Unlike the infantry you did not have to be dressed in uniform for roll call.

On a 10-day camp I was called on to be part of a horse piquet. This consisted of a group of seven men who had to mix the horses feed, fill the nosebags and feed the horses. The feed consisted of six bags of chaff, two bags of oats and one of bran which was emptied onto the floor of a special tent and thoroughly mixed with shovels.

While three men mixed the feed the others collected the nosebags which were made of such heavy canvas that they would stand up by themselves. The men on piquet

duty were warned to only fill them to within six inches of the top, otherwise the horses could not breathe while they were eating. When they had been filled the nosebags were taken out and hung around the horses heads. A quick release string was used to take the nosebags off.

On one occasion someone had filled a nosebag too full and the poor horse couldn't breathe. It fell down and broke its leg and had to be destroyed.

While I was at camp at Broadmeadows a member of the royal family visited Melbourne and we had to take two 18 pounders to St Kilda to fire the Royal Salute. We spent two days grooming the horses and even blackened their hoofs for the grand occasion. All our own equipment had to be sparkling clean, along with the harness, guns and limbers. When the guns were in position we had to sit on our horses and keep the crowds back during the procession.

When the Japanese entered World War 2 it was back to the army for Cec along with four of his brothers who were also in the services.

Cec married Bonny who was raised in Warrandyte and they moved into their house in Harris Gully Road just after the start of World War 2.

By BONNY and CEC PEAKE.

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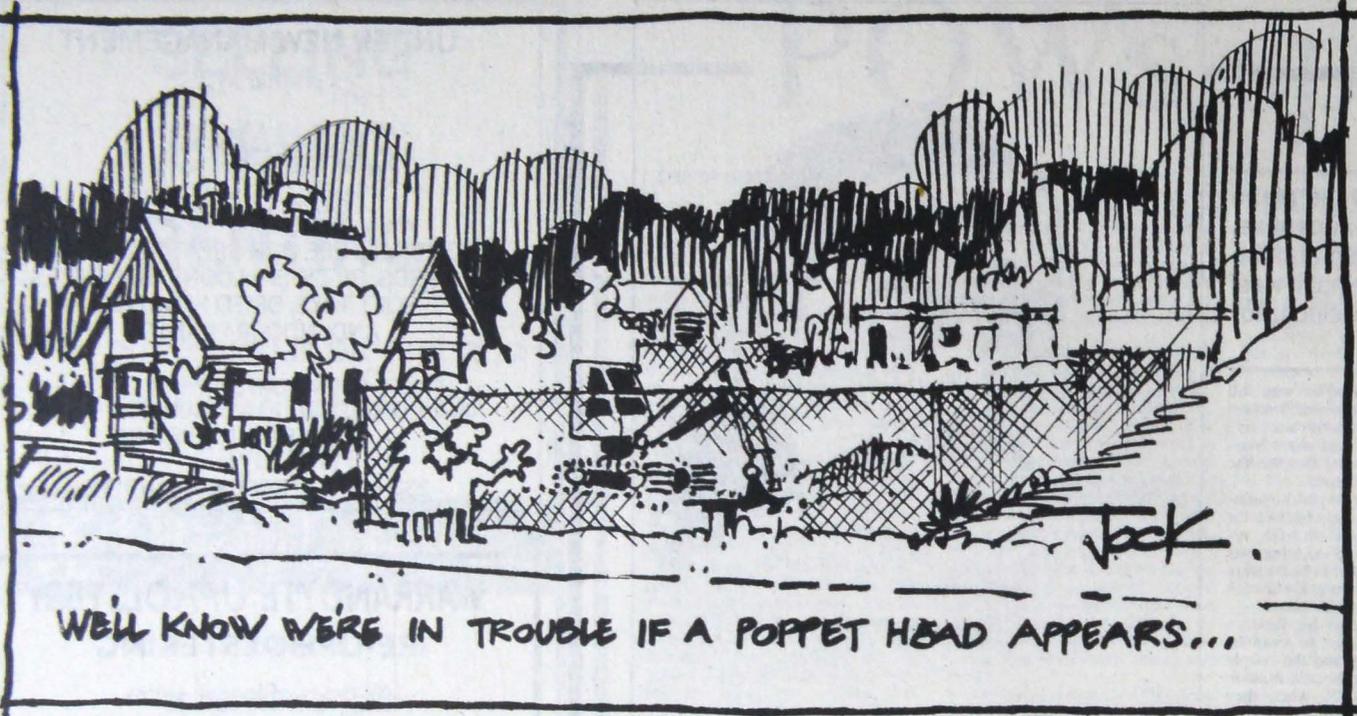
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Trees give seed to creativity

The imminent demise of the old pines at Warrandyte Primary School has sparked a flurry of activity.

The youngsters have been flat out drawing, writing and photographing the pines to have a permanent record of this much loved feature of their playground.

The following poem was written by the Grade 1's of 1/2D.

The Pines

At our school we have a pool
 And near the pool we have
 the Pines.
 On hot days in the Pines it's
 cool
 The pines all stand in straight
 green lines.
 When we play in our own cubby
 Under the trees and in the
 shade
 We get very, very grubby
 Enjoying the cubby we have
 made.
 Sometimes we trip over the
 roots
 And nearly break our arm.
 Perhaps we need some big
 strong boots
 To keep us safe from harm.
 Soon the Pines will be chopped
 down
 Our school won't be the same.
 We might feel sad and give a
 frown
 We'll have to find another game.
 But then we'll have a big flat
 space
 To kick our balls around.
 We think that it will be just ace
 To have a footy ground.

'No right' to destroy gums

Once again the City of Doncaster and Templestowe Council has disappointed us in the protection of the environment.
 Last week three beautiful old gum trees were culled on the development site at 10-18 Mullens Rd, Warrandyte. When this subdivision development had been approved by the council, the Residents Action Group was assured that "no large pre-existing gum trees" were to be cut down by the developer. And yet, here were established trees being uprooted by bulldozers.
 On inquiry with the council I discovered that the owner did not have a permit to remove any trees. I was told that "substantial fines" accompany the breaking of such



LETTERS

laws. I felt some comfort in the knowledge that the developer would be fined for cutting down these established trees. But on telephoning the next day to find out what the result was, I was told the owner was not fined but told to "get a permit" for his tree cutting.

Apparently the council has one law for the general public and another for the wealthy developers. If someone from the general public breaks a bylaw, the council does not hesitate to fine them. The council knows how to appease both sides of a dispute by agreeing to whatever they feel one wants to hear. In reality the council

comes down on the side of the developers and the trees and the environment come a poor second.

What a disappointment, in the week that the eminent David Suzuki was visiting Melbourne informing us that each existing tree was vitally important. Perhaps the council needs to buy some books for their professional development.

Lois Windridge,
 McPherson Rd.

Family's pet left for dead

Wednesday, April 17, is a day our family will never forget.
 Unfortunately our much-loved corgi,

Tom, while with us strayed onto the Research-Warrandyte Rd.

The sound of screeching tyres alerted us and we ran down to the road to find our worst fears confirmed. Tom had been hit by a car and dragged underneath for nearly 100 metres before being left to die in the middle of the road while the car sped off.

We can't imagine the sort of person who leaves a dying dog on the road without even a second glance. We wonder what would have happened if it had been a child? We hate to imagine.

We would like to thank Dr Chris Barton and the staff of the Research Veterinary Clinic for all their efforts and caring.

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Locals raise \$3600 for hospital

Auxiliary help

The Warrandyte Auxiliary of the Royal Women's Hospital held its 60th annual general meeting at the Senior Citizens Club in April. The president, Mrs Crouch, thanked the members for their hard work over the past year and on their behalf presented a cheque for \$2000 to the hospital. A further \$1600 raised by the auxiliary will be used to buy a stainless steel blanket warmer. The warmer holds blankets in readiness for new born babies or for use in cases of shock.



Conducted by JUDY GREEN

Post your news in the box on the old cypress tree opposite the Slate Bank in Yarra Street, or send it to PO Box 209, Warrandyte, 3113.

Talks and training

A new training course for Citizens Advice Bureau volunteers will start mid-year. Anyone interested should contact the training co-ordinator at the bureau at 111 Yarra St, Warrandyte or give them a ring on 844 3082. The annual general meeting of the bureau will be held on July 30 when a speaker from the Law Institute will talk on "Problems With Neighbors". On June 18 at the bureau there will be a talk by Jenny Adcock entitled "Better Hearing Australia" starting at 9pm. For more information telephone 844 3082.

Arts in Autumn

The Diamond Valley Arts Society Autumn Show will be held on the weekends of May 5 and 6 and May 12 and 13 at their premises on the corner of Grimshaw and Circuit streets, Greensborough. It will be open from 10am to 4pm each day.

Colac wedding

On April 14 at St Andrew's Uniting Church, Colac, the marriage of Wayne Burgess and Denise Hayes was celebrated. Anthony Burgess, David Chapman, Joanne and Lisa Hayes were attendants to the happy couple. Wayne is the eldest son of long-time residents, Ted and Aileen Burgess of Brackenbury Street, Warrandyte, and Denise is the eldest daughter of Bradman and Evelyn Hayes of Colac. After honeymooning in Western Australia the couple will be settling in Boronia.

Easter raffle

First prize in the Warrandyte Youth Services Easter raffle went to George Daher of Warrandyte who won a \$50 hamper. Second prize of a \$30 meat voucher was won by M. Seychell of Coburg and third prize, a \$27 cut and blow wave, went to P. Fenech of Boronia. Agnes, the co-ordinator of the youth services formerly of the Warrandyte Youth Coffee Shop, would like to thank Harry Heaths, Hamill's Quality Meats and Hairline of Warrandyte for their kind donations. The money raised will be used to purchase new equipment for the Youth Activity Centre in the new Community Centre.

Garage sale

The Warrandyte Uniting Church will hold a garage sale in the church grounds, Tarooma Avenue on Saturday, May 19, starting at 8am. Proceeds will help towards the building of a hall for children and youth activities. Any gifts would be appreciated. For more details telephone 844 3906.

Country dance

In 1989 a Save the White House petition was presented to the Doncaster and Templestowe Council and also to the Shire of Eltham.

In support of this campaign a country dance has been organised for Saturday June 2 at 8pm at the White House. Flossies three piece band will be in action for a good old fashioned evening of 50/50 dancing. There will be prizes for the lucky door ticket and lucky spots. Supper is BYO but tea and coffee will be provided. Tickets are \$5 single and \$10 for a family and can be booked at the Warrandyte Citizens Advice Bureau on 844 3082.

Courtyard concert

The Box Hill-Doncaster Regional Library continues its "Music in the Courtyard" series on Sunday May 13. The Cantada Humana ensemble will present a selection of pieces from Baroque to the 20th century and classical guitarist, Ken Murray will perform works by Malats, Laurro and Walton. Performances start at 1.45pm at the library, 1040 Whitehorse Road, Box Hill. Admission is free. For more information telephone Tracy Gibson on 890 1002.

Dogs

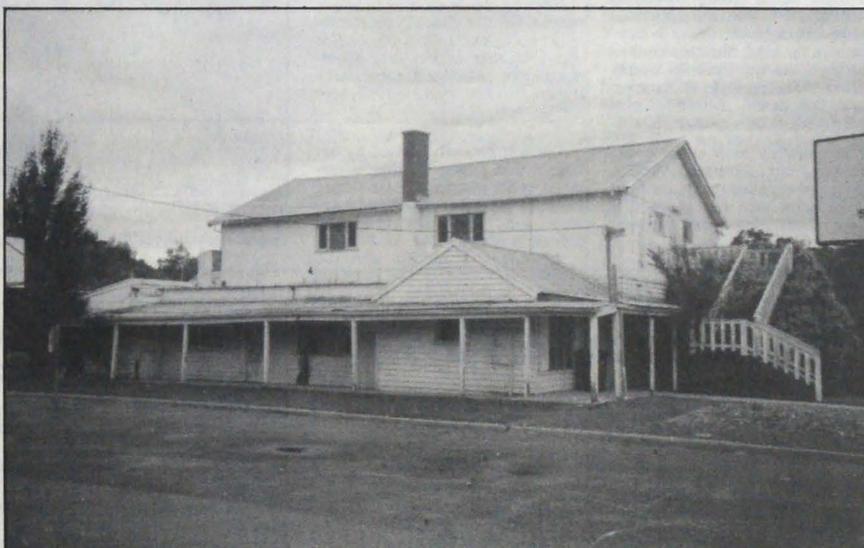
The Friends of the Box Hill Regional Library will present Michael Tucker, a highly successful guide-dog trainer and author at the Shoppingtown branch of the library on Tuesday May 15 at 8pm. He will speak about his work and introduce his recent publication, "Dog training step by step: a new guide for owners and instructors". Admission is free and refreshments will be provided. For bookings telephone 848 2965.

Schizophrenia talk

The Warrandyte Neighborhood House will host a talk by Rosemary Webster from the Schizophrenia Foundation on Wednesday, May 30, from 1.15 to 3pm. Rosemary will discuss this illness and how it affects the family and carers of sufferers. On Thursday, June 14, Suzanne Clarke from the Doncaster-Templestowe District Health Council will lead a Women's Health Workshop covering coping with menopause, cervical cancer and breast cancer. Both these sessions are free. For more details ring 844 1839 or call in at the House from 10am to 2pm Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays at 2A Masonic Avenue.

Evenings

The Warrandyte Neighborhood House promises some interesting "Evenings in Warrandyte" over the next few weeks. As part of the Armchair Travellers sessions Richard Schurmann will speak on Bali on May 17 and on June 21 Lin Wilson will talk about plane, train and boat travel through South America. These sessions begin at 8pm at the Neighborhood House, on the corner of Masonic Avenue and the Ringwood-Warrandyte Road. For further information ring 844 1839.



Moves to save the White House are moving ahead with a country dance to be held to raise funds for its restoration.

Exhibition

Warrandyte High School's art and craft exhibition and sale is fast becoming an established event in the arts calendar. This year many of Australia's leading artists will again be exhibiting, with more than 500 paintings, pottery and craft items on display. The work of Warrandyte High students will also be on show. The exhibition will open with a champagne supper on Friday June 22 at 8pm and will then continue on Saturday 23 June from 10am to 5pm and Sunday June 24 from 11am to 4pm. The school is located on the corner of the Warrandyte-Heidelberg Road and Alexander Road, Warrandyte. For more details give Vicki Flynn a ring on 437 1841 or Gai Wright on 846 2733.

Late bloomers

Did you know Warrandyte has a Cottage Garden Club? The club meets on the last Tuesday of each month at 8pm in the Mechanics Institute Annex. It is called "The Gardener's Club" or as some may asperse, "The Late Bloomers Club". The club is the brainchild of local artist, Mary Jupp, who won the Victoria Garden of the Year award in 1987. Mary found there was a strong local desire to learn about gardening and in particular traditional and cottage gardens and the club was started two years ago. The club welcomes newcomers who wish to learn more about plants and gardens and to exchange cuttings and seeds. Pam Retz on 712 0326 can provide further information.

Sole parents

This month's guest speaker at the Warrandyte Sole Parent Support Group will be a solicitor from the Nunawading Legal Service who will discuss the Family Law Act, covering custody issues, property settlement and access and child support. The talk will be held on Tuesday, June 19, between 1.15 and 3.15 pm at the Neighborhood House, 2A Masonic Avenue. The group's next weekend meeting will be on Sunday, June 17 at a member's home and will tackle the theme of "The challenges of relationships — Exploding the myths and planning the future". If you are interested in learning more about the group and its activities contact Jan on 844 2769.

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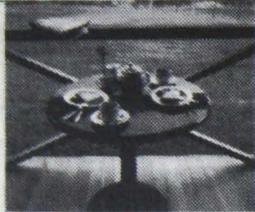
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NERIDA HORN

Time given to helping others

Nerida Gaye Horn died as a result of an accident last month at the age of 23.

Nerida went to Warrandyte High School where she completed her Higher School Certificate and went on to work at the Keep Australia Beautiful Council for six months.

A popular member of the local Guiding movement, Nerida joined Brownies at the age of seven. She continued on to Guides and Ranger Guides under the late Heather "Sprottie" Sprott.

After leaving school Nerida joined the Warrandyte Brownies as a helper under the leadership of Coralie Foster and Vicki Torresson.

She enjoyed working with children and spent some time with the 2nd Warrandyte Brownies before taking up the opportunity to be a leader at 1st Warrandyte with Lyn Leon.

Nerida loved going away on camping trips with the Brownies and could always be trusted to have a camera on hand. She also went to the big outdoor Guiding events such as a Sailing Day, Skillarama, Anzac Day ceremonies and Brownie Revels.

She qualified as a camp cook, receiving her Quarter Masters badge, and attended many camps in this capacity with Fiona Jones, a leader from Hawthorn Brownie Group.

Nerida loved crafts and shared her skills with her Brownies. Her embroidery work won her a Highly Commended certificate at the Royal Melbourne Show and a first prize in the St Stephen's Expo at the Warrandyte Festival.

In 1987 Nerida and Cameron Mackerill formed the Bullfight Rover Crew at East Doncaster. The group took its name from a mountain near Lake Mountain. The group began with six members and over time its size doubled. They took part in Rover dinners, Surf Moots and Mudhassles — weekend camps building mudbash cars and race cars.

Nerida was awarded a Service Training Star in Rovers for her service as a Brownie leader. A leader's badge for five years service was to be awarded to Nerida on the Monday after she died.

Nerida's involvement with young people in the local community made a fine example to others. She was Chairman of the 1989 Committee for the Melbourne Area Rovers Ball and organised the event for this year.

She will be sadly missed by her friends and family. Nerida is survived by her mother, Leonie, father, Peter, twin brothers David and Andrew and grandparents Jim and Marnie Horkings.



Nerida Horn . . . her involvement with young people in the community was a fine example to others.

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Weather offers lots to talk about

NATURE

By GLEN JAMESON

Almost everything seems to run on the weather. It is topic which can cross all sorts of boundaries. Our weather of late has left us plenty to talk about.

We seem to have lost our distinct four-season temperate climate over the past eight years and this has been replaced by a two-season, monsoonal climate.

Ever since the big drought of 1982-83, we seem to have slipped into a wet season/dry season regime. A 'wet season' that more or less runs from June to December and a 'dry season' that runs from January to May.

If this observation is correct and the pattern settles into a permanent regime, there will be important consequences as to how to use the land for the survival of our indigenous plants and animals. Already in the bush you can observe some big changes.

For the past four to five seasons, the local show of orchids, especially up on Fourth Hill, is nothing like that which could be seen prior to 1982. The orchids to suffer the most have been those that need warm weather during spring to flower. These include the Waxlip orchid, Brown Beak orchid and the Diuris family of orchids. The Greenhood family of orchids however seems to be enjoying the wetter, cooler springs, however they don't like the dry autumns.

A local lily, Early Nancy, also known as the Harbinger of Spring, has been coming later and later in the season and in a lot less frequent numbers.

Except for two notable exceptions, the wattle family has not been greatly affected. The Black Wattle is an important colonising plant, essential to the quick repair to damage in the Red Box forest canopy and to stop soil erosion. However over the past five or six seasons, Black Wattles have been devastated by small caterpillars and have set very little seed when in the past they were prolific seed producers.

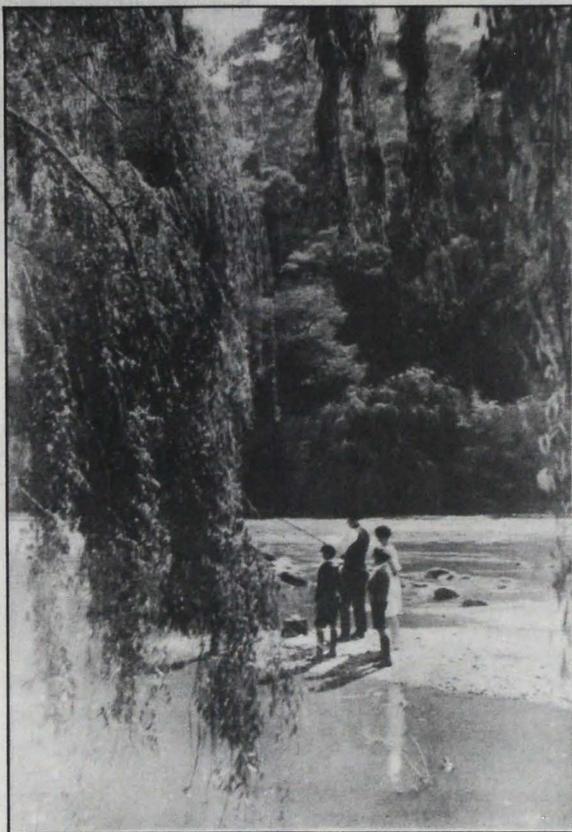
This caterpillar activity seems to be part of a general increase in insect activity in the bush and garden, especially sap sucking insects such as Woolly Aphis and Leaf Hoppers.

The humid weather of our 'new seasons' has helped promote his activity. Thrip, Lace Lerp and skeletonising insects have been on the increase in their attacks on the River Red Gums which dominate the Yarra downstream at Templestowe. Instead of a once-a-year attack they have been under an almost constant onslaught.

The Lightwood Wattle is a handsome and interesting local tree. It is one of only a handful of Victorian wattles that flowers in summer and the only one indigenous to Warrandyte that does so.

During the 1982-83 drought it began to trickle flowers and set seed from September onwards. This early and unusual timing of flowers is no doubt part of its complex drought strategy. It had been a very dry and stressful year from all the bush plants and desperate measures were needed.

Every year since then it has flo-



The Yarra River at Warrandyte in 1929 as a family takes time out for a spot of fishing.

wered normally in January/February, except for this year. The Lightwood Wattle flowered in September/October in 1989, setting seed by December. This was puzzling because of the well-watered spring and non-stressful nature of the early summer. Then we recorded one of the driest Januaries ever recorded. Despite a wet spring the Lightwood Wattle seemed to know January 1990 would be exceptionally dry. It flowered profusely in February as well, which could indicate a further stretch of dry weather to come!

Everything has its cycles and this sample of flowering patterns within the indigenous bushlands of Warrandyte has great limitations as

there is so much we do not know about the natural world.

It is in the areas where we have drastically altered the landscape, that shifts in climate and weather will have the greatest affect. Those vast stretches of treeless paddocks in wheat and sheep country would seem to be most vulnerable and in danger of desertification and salination.

The checks and balances we have in our indigenous forests will show the impact of climatic change. If our natural bushland tracts are nurtured and left to their own dynamics, they may help us to 'read' the weather a little better and perhaps understand the affects we are having upon our land.

Tennis youngsters hit up a storm

A handful of Warrandyte's younger players managed to uphold the honor of the town during an otherwise disappointing summer tennis season, recently concluded.

Three junior teams reached grand finals in the Eastern Metropolitan Lawn Tennis Association competition. Of these, two were successful, bringing home premier-ship pennants.



The winning teams were Mixed 13 (Christie Lawrence, Jo Yarwood, Kirsty De Bruijne, Darren Scritchley, Glenn Eberbach, Gwynne Thomas) and Boys 5 (Luke Bennett, Ben Saaksjarvi, Rocco Catania, Darren Simpson, Rowan Berry).

The Girls 2 team (Melanie Lawrence, Kim Edwards, Bronwyn Cousins, Sheree Greatrex, Luisa Thomas) battled through to the grand final, but were beaten on the day.

Two senior teams achieved grand final status, but they too were defeated.

They were Section 6 (Pat Abbott, Shelagh Morton, Lyndal Mackintosh, Pam Wood, Geoff Ryan, Terry Booth, Geoff Pulford) and Section 7 (Sandra Yarwood, Joan Bradbury, Barbara McBain, Robin Edwards, David Green, Ian Moore, Greg Lawrence).

At the club's annual general meeting, held late last month, all office-bearers were returned unopposed. They include president Greg Lawrence (re-elected for a fifth term), secretary James Bonthorne and treasurer Frank Waites.

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'Madge' Allsop appeal reopens

The appeal for crippled Warrandyte footballer Gary "Madge" Allsop will reopen with a fund-raising dinner. The date and venue will be announced in the next issue of the *Diary*.

A total of \$81,177 had been raised when the appeal went into recess at the end of the 1989 football season.

Allsop, 29, broke and dislocated his neck during the seniors' match at Upper Ferntree Gully on April 29 last year. He was released from the Austin Hospital's Spinal Unit in December and is now living with the family of his wife, Sue-Ellen.

He was recently hospitalised again with a serious bladder infection.

Warrandyte Football Club stalwart Helen Revell has co-ordinated the appeal from its outset. In a "thank-you" to the Eastern Districts Football League, published in the Football Record of May 5, she said:

"Gary's physical condition continues to improve, although slowly. He has limited arm movement but cannot use his hands; however, he has no doubt that with persistence, endeavour and the encouragement of his family and friends, he will overcome his injury.

"Words cannot adequately express the thanks that Gary, his wife Sue-Ellen, both families and Warrandyte Football Club feel for the contribution made by every club in the EDFL.

"I wish each club a successful 1990 season, and thank you all from the bottom of my heart."

Donations to the Gary Allsop Trust Fund should be addressed to PO Box 151, Warrandyte, 3113.

Walking wounded, but Bloods won't say die

An astonishing run of injuries has severely set back Warrandyte Football Club's 1990 premiership aspirations.

After a percentage-building start to the season against Upper Ferntree Gully, the Bloods lost their next four matches. At one stage, they had 20 senior players on the injured list, including captain Robin Golding and vice-captain Gerald Walshe.

Despite the reversals, Warrandyte's sights are set firmly on a finals berth.

"At no stage have we considered ourselves out of finals contention," coach Lindsay Hopkins said after the home-game defeat by Lilydale on May 5.

"The EDFL third division competition is very even this season and I think we may have turned the corner. We will have key players coming back from injury from now on."

President Colin Bawden agreed. "After such a good start to the season, the spate of injuries ob-

viously were a considerable blow to us," he said.

"But there were some very positive, encouraging signs against Lilydale. I think we are getting back on track."

There were certainly encouraging signs in the first quarter of the home game against Lilydale. Warrandyte started brilliantly and goals from John O'Brien (two), Steve Carroll and John Colenzo opened up a handy lead.

The pace was willing and as Lilydale started the catch-up job, chinks began to appear in the Bloods' armour. The visitors systematically reduced their deficit to six points, but goals to Mike Curry and O'Brien gave Warrandyte an 18-point cushion.

Lilydale came back hard and trailed by only a goal at the first change.

A series of lightning handpasses from the half-back line set up a goal for Danny Weatherly and a 12-point lead, but again, Lilydale were quick to respond, thanks largely to a dust-up on the edge of the centre square. While players were exchanging unpleasantries, a Lilydale player marked in front and goaled.

John McCartin replied for Warrandyte, but a goal to Lilydale shortly before the siren sent the Bloods in for the interval with a slender five-point lead.

Lilydale hit the front early in the third quarter and goaled again to take an eight-point lead. Weatherly goaled on the run to peg the visitors back, but Lilydale replied almost immediately.

Warrandyte were missing the drive around the ground of Golding, a prolific kick-winner, and the resolute defence of Walshe.

Loose defence allowed Lilydale in again, but Weatherly struck back and Warrandyte trailed by only eight points at three-quarter time.

Coach Hopkins appealed to his players to kick the first goal of the final term, but Lilydale drew first blood.

O'Brien marked and kicked truly to keep Warrandyte in touch, but the visitors goaled twice in quick succession to put their seal on the match.

They produced probably their best passage of play for the match — a chain of foot and handpasses out of defence — to goal again for a 29-point winning margin, 15.13 (103) to 11.8 (74).

Warrandyte's best were Kimberley O'Connor, Danny and James Weatherly, Daren Lawrence and Carroll.

Local boys kings of Eildon Triathlon

A young Warrandyte team blitzed a strong national field in last month's Eildon Triathlon.

Milosh Sinatkovich, Jarod Pinder and Peter Jones — sponsored by The Canoe Shed and Jones Cycles — won by three minutes, a remarkable margin in such an event.

Sinatkovich put the team in a strong position in the gruelling cross-country run and Pinder capitalised on the flying start when he took over in the paddling section.

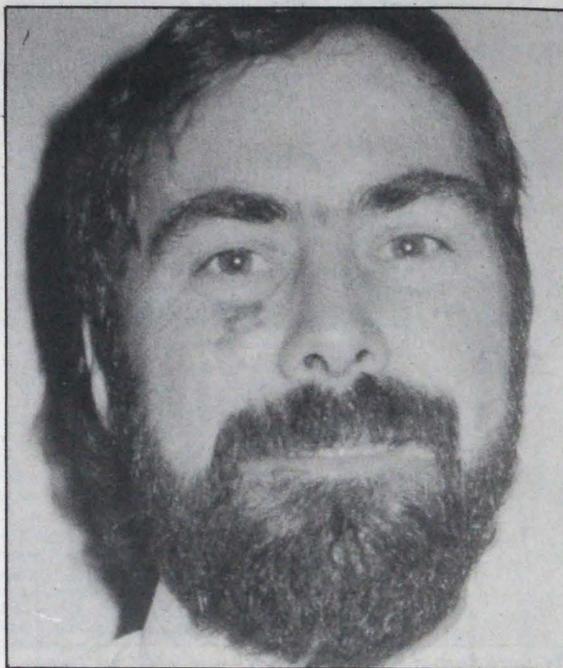
If there were any doubts about a Warrandyte victory, they were dispelled when Jones began the cycling leg. He turned in an outstanding ride and gave no other competitor a chance.

The Eildon event is one of the highlights on the Australian triathlon calendar and attracts more than a thousand athletes from all over the country.

Warrandyte members of the Yarra River Lifeguard Service provided a team of safety boats and crews for the paddle section of this year's event.

Warrandyte also struck canoeing gold in the Wildwater Cup, on a course between the bridge and Pound Bend, on April 30.

Duncan Freemantle and Stewart Thomas, representing Yarra Valley Anglican School, won the two-man Under-16/Under-18 C2 event and scored a silver medal in the open.



Colin Bawden — positive, encouraging signs.

Basketballers' field day!

Local teams excelled in the recent grand finals of the Eastern Districts Junior Basketball Association. Warrandyte was represented by 17 teams — and the result was six premierships and two near-misses.

Five boys' teams made the grand finals and the Under-10CQs, coached by Irene McLellan, set the ball rolling Warrandyte's way by coming from 12 points down to win 31-30.

There were mixed fortunes in the next division. Gavin Whitmore's Under-12BA team led throughout to beat Eltham 38-26, but Warrandyte's other team in that age group, coached by Jim Burbidge, went down by three points to Heidelberg.

The Under-14BBs, who had led their division all season demolished Doncaster. They presented coach Robert Brendal with the flag after a runaway 19-point win.

Despite Simon Appleby's 18 points, the Under-18Cs of coach Ron McLellan were beaten 41-36.

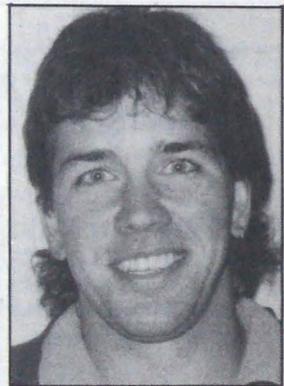
Warrandyte's three teams in the girls' grand finals had made it the hard way, through the semis and preliminaries. They were expected to find the going tough — but they emerged with a perfect record.

Nick Arnot's Under-10s ran Eltham off their feet and Gavin Whatmore had no anxious mo-

ments with his under-12s, who were untroubled to win 29-20.

The grand final of the day was that of the Under-14A2s, coached by Ashley Brybas. They had saved their best for the big game.

The girls had made the finals by less than half a percentage point but posted their biggest win for the season, a 50-23 victory over Bulleen.



Gerald Walshe — among the many casualties.

Bowlers grab the glory

Warrandyte players scooped the pool in the recent Donvale Bowls Club championships.

Ray Bellinger, a member of a well-known local sporting family, took out the men's singles in his first year with the club since crossing from Croydon.

And Margaret Pepper won the women's singles title in only her second year of bowling.

Donvale had a most successful interclub competition, with the men's No 1 side winning the division premiership and the No 2 side runners-up in their division. Both teams will be promoted next season.

The club welcomes new members. If you are interested in lawn bowls, you are invited to contact vice-president John Pepper (844 2434).

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