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Outcry at delay on charges

Doncaster and Templestowe City Council's reluctance to take punitive action over the clearing of native bush on a Warrandyte property has angered local environmentalists.

Instead, council officers are assisting the owner of Lot 3B Nelson Road, where about four hectares of bush was cleared, to adopt a landscape plan to revegetate the area.

The owner was granted a planning permit on March 9, 1990, to clear Landscape Interest A zoned land for buildings. But local environment groups were shocked at the extensive clearing, including 1000 square metres of adjacent Warrandyte State Park.

The Friends of Warrandyte State Park and Warrandyte Environment League urged the strongest action against the clearing, by council and the Department of Conservation and Environment, and local MLA Phil Honeywood raised the matter in Parliament.

The department has launched prosecution proceedings against the owner under the National Parks Act 1975.

But the council, at its meeting on July 3, deferred a decision on prosecuting the owner until its next meeting. This was to see if the final landscape plan for the property satisfied Warrandyte ward councillors, council officers and the Department of Conservation and Environment.

Ward councillors Val Polley and Vern Denford spoke strongly about the land clearing and pointed out that the community "was not happy and particularly with what appeared to be council's role in the matter".

Cr Polley said that she and Cr Denford felt there had to be stronger action against the owner of the cleared land.

Council wanted the decision on prosecution to hang in the balance to ensure the owner, who appears to be co-operating, does satisfy community demands to make good the damage," Cr Polley said after the council meeting.

"There seems to me that we can draw more into the plan in the areas of revegetation, soil conservation, supplementary planting and what to do with the cleared bush."

Friends of Warrandyte State Park coordinator, Margaret Burke, said the council's decision not to initiate prosecution proceedings showed it was not prepared to protect critical areas.

"This particular block of land in Landscape Interest A zoning was really precious. The wildlife is destroyed," she

said. "You can't just say you're sorry and come up with a native garden plan."

"For example, the Rock Correa is unique in that area. Probably hundreds were destroyed in the land clearing. The landscape plan for the property has just six Rock C/orrea in the plant list.

"The numbers of plants on the plan are ridiculous and there are great swaths of grass. It's hardly a natural concept."

The council's group manager for development control Paul Molan told the Diary that there was a general misunderstanding in the community about prosecution.

"The council can prosecute for an offence under the Planning and Environment Act and have a fine imposed in the Magistrate's Court, but the court cannot require any work to be carried out on the land," he said.

"The council and the community have to decide what is the more important issue in this case - to have the land reinstated or to have the person who has carried out the offence fined," he said.

"Council has taken the view that the most important thing is to have the land reinstated. You can't have both.

"We're trying to negotiate the revegetation of the land. What we're saying to him is that if it can all be done without going to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal, then that's the way we would prefer to handle it.

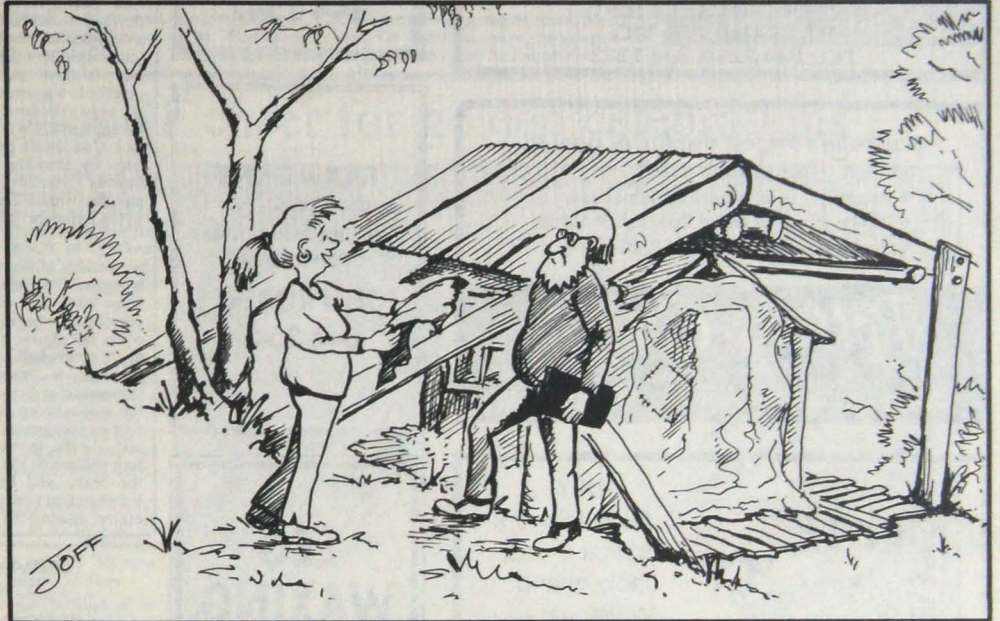
"What we want to do is involve Conservation and Environment, ward councillors and anyone else who would like to have a say in the discussions on the way the revegetation should occur," Mr Molan said.

"It may be that we can't come to an agreement with the owner in relation to the revegetation of the land. If that happens, then that's when we'll go to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal for an enforcement order.

"We feel we would be successful with that order. If the person did not comply with the enforcement order, then that's when you would prosecute. The fines for an offence against an enforcement order are much heavier than what they are for an offence of just clearing land."

Mr Molan said a Section 173 agreement under the Planning and Environment Act would bind the present owner and any future owners to the revegetation plan for the property.

He said the project of reinstating the land with indigenous plant would take some time because of the need to collect and propagate seed. It would probably take two years.



"It this paper old? Are you kidding? Look at the headline! 'Warrandyte Community Centre to be built soon.' This could be any age."

Slab hut's future in doubt

By JUDY MACDONALD

Lack of funds at the National Trust and their "closed book" attitude to Warrandyte's slab hut project could spell the demise of the historic cottage.

Trust financial statements indicate the slab hut account is overdrawn by \$15,000 and it had decided not to proceed with further work recommended to protect the fragile building.

The well-documented discovery of the primitively constructed hut enclosed within a house in Castle Road, galvanised the local community into activity.

On the Easter weekend in 1984 builder, Mr Max Green, alerted the Warrandyte Historical Society to his find and during the next few days, in torrential rain, locals took it in turn to camp at the site to ensure security was maintained.

The Trust classified the building immediately although research still proceeded, with the following provisional classification citation: "A rare example of an intact slab cottage on its original site, with a roof of bark in pieces of up to 110cm wide and an unusual sapling and pug lining".

Eltham and Doncaster councils in amazingly short time agreed to grant \$17,500 each to the National Trust so that they could purchase the property.

A National Trust appeal was established and an enthusiastic local committee formed to develop plans for care of the site.

A long period of inactivity followed on the part of the Trust, although the local committee continued to support research into the property and laid out plans for a rejuvenated garden and an innovative and fitting "sail" canopy. They pursued options for use and accessibility of the site. The Trust rejected the design for the canopy and eventually erected a solid cover.

Last year the Trust erected a two-



The historic cottage - as it was before the cover was erected.

metre-high black mesh fence along two sides of the site, removing the original gateway which opened onto what is locally called the wildflower path, leading to the bridge. Visitors can only squirt through the mesh at the structure.

The cottage looks forlorn with its protective "raincoat" hanging from the chimney, the doorway open to the elements and the bark looking decidedly damp and limp compared with the "just built" look which decades of preservation under the house roof had ensured.

The historical society has a piece of newspaper taken from the wall lining, dated February 20, 1882. Researchers believe that house was built around the hut in the 1920s by the then owner, Mary Morrison, with the intention of preserving the structure.

In February, 1989 well known architect Peter Staughton, advised the Trust that he believed there was "an urgent need to protect the hut from damage by intruders".

Mr Staughton recommended a "system of opening and folding wire mesh panels (black and dark green) supported from the poles of the covering structure all around, giving complete protection. On open days the panels would fold

away and bunch together enabling a clear view of the building".

A spokeswoman for the Trust, who refused to be named, told the Diary the Trust had decided against Mr Staughton's recommendations; that the outer fence was adequate protection, even if only on two sides and that intruders "would have to cross someone else's property" which, in her opinion, was unlikely.

Trust Administrator, Mr Douglas Hill, had little to add other than it was his personal view that the Trust was not capable of "looking after things of local significance".

"The responsibility rests between councils and local groups," he said. "Unfortunately local people lose interest and the Trust is left to look after the properties."

Correspondence shows the local committee made the last attempt to rejuvenate the project by organising a meeting which Trust representatives failed to attend.

It appears the Trust has not officially put Mr Hill's views about community maintenance to either of the councils concerned.

A past committee member told the diary the whole thing was "tragic misappropriation of people's interest and time.

The whole community was disappointed at the hours and hours of meetings and utter waste of time as no one can see or enjoy the hut," he said.

The Trust's curt dismissal of the Diary's questions and refusal to elaborate on any future plans for the unfinished project, does not augur well.

If they want the community and councils to take back the project, then formal arrangements should be made before the small building which possibly survived for a century disintegrates within a decade.

CYRIL BY PAUL W.

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Sometimes the pursuit of news for this robust little newspaper can be damned embarrassing. In her quest for information, chief-of-staff Jan Tindale phoned a certain number the other night and asked for a certain bloke. "Oh, he doesn't live here any more," said the lady at the other end. "We were divorced three weeks ago." Oops.

For the fact that they're giving him some funny looks down at the local post office, Bob Cox can thank his good mate Ken Sharp. Ken has always had a well-developed sense of fun and during a holiday in Perth recently, the temptation to send Coxie a couple of very raunchy beachgirl postcards was irresistible. So was the urge to address them "c/- The Postmistress, Warrandyte". But Bob Cox didn't get to be a war hero by shirking issues and he bravely fronted to collect his naughty mail. Damned embarrassing, just the same.

In the vein of "stop laughing this is serious" comes the tale of a large local gent of the historical persuasion who, when driving out of his Till's Drive gate, noticed his dog's tennis ball beside the road. Wanting to retrieve it before someone else did, he leaned out of the still-running car, putting one foot on the ground to steady himself. As he reached across, the foot still inside the car slipped off the brake and became wedged between that pedal and the accelerator, causing the car to proceed

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Thursday	9.00 AM — 7.00 PM
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Saturday	9.00 AM — 12.15 PM


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slowly down the road. This becomes the serious part as the gentleman is now being dragged along on his knee. Things could have turned nasty, but he managed to pull himself up and turn off the ignition. Teenagers are usually hard to beat when it comes to excuses for large holes in their jeans, but this must take the cake!

You don't have to cavedrop when Ferntree Gully footy coach Collin Morris addresses his players at the intervals or gives direction from his spot in the forward line. He's a boomer! Knows a couple of expletives, too. Must have read Lady Chatterley's Lover as a kid. The ladies in the crowd didn't actually complain about what he told his troops at quarter-time in the game at Warrandyte on June 23 — but we've had a bit of a whinge from a priest who was shopping several kilometres away at The Pines.

The Redback — that's the beer, not the bitey — has changed the lifestyle of Kevin Luttick, oft-time occupant of space in this column. Kevin developed an inordinate liking for the wheat brew during a recent trip to Perth with Monica and young Mark to visit No 1 son James, who has transferred there in the printing industry. The laconic guru of Beauty Gully Road stepped on to the bathroom scales when he got home, did a double-take and swore off beer of any description until his waistline was restored to its sylphlike former dimensions. His good and loose-tongued mate John Knox reported the event to Smokey because he figured the first interruption to any 35-year career of lager-loving was worthy of exposure. Monica says Kev's withdrawal symptoms are slowly withdrawing and that he's able to feed himself again now provided she cuts his meat into manageable small pieces.

It sounded like a good idea when Peter Norman suggested a

Monday-off counter lunch "somewhere close to home". So he led wife Judith, Harry and Jenny Southall, John and Pam Rowe and Vic and Sandra Grybas on a snowy safari to Narbethong. Even the Yeti gives Narbethong a miss at this time of year, but our hero is a very intrepid fellow. By the time the cavalcade had picked its way through the Black Sour fog, the grown-ups were creaking with hunger and the three little kids in the party were biting chunks out of the upholstery. And you wouldn't want to know that they arrived to find the Narbethong pub in a state of near-demolition as a forerunner to major renovation. A frantic dash back to Healesville just beat the lunch deadline there. They used to call Peter Norman "Bots". Now his name is Mud.

We trust the Warrandyte Football Club selectors have pencilled the name Billy Hose into a senior full-forward spot of the future. Billy booted 9.6 for the Warrandyte High School intermediates in their recent massacre of Banyule High. The final score — 37.17 (239) to 0.1 (1) — was a little embarrassing even to the Warrandyte lads.

It's a damn shame, but the graffiti children have come to town. You have probably noticed the scars. It started at the Canoe Shed last month but the full-scale attack came one night a few weeks later when these creative kids daubed their handiwork along much of Yarra Street. They even paid a visit to the RSL clubrooms in Brackenbury Street. The artists are said to be based in Park Orchards, augmented by a couple of locals. It shouldn't take Sherlock Holmes to track 'em down.



**Smokey Joe**

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Of the community, for the community, by the community

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## Joy in running for Warrandyte ward as Gell quits

Active local resident, Louise Joy, has been nominated for the Warrandyte Ward in the Doncaster-Templestowe Council elections due on August 4.

She is standing for the vacancy caused by the resignation of Cr Rob Gell, who was elected to council last August.

Mrs Joy has lived with her family in Brackenbury Street since 1965. She has chaired and worked with the Warrandyte Community Workshop Co-operative for many years in establishment of independent community based social services.

Cr Vernon Denford, who has been a councillor for six years, comes up for reelection in Warrandyte Ward for another three-year term.

Cr Denford has been particularly active in getting Warrandyte's community centre up and running, and recently extensions were completed to the Dorney Reserve pavilion in Park Orchards — a major win for Cr Denford because of his efforts in getting the project back on council's budget.

"Development is uppermost in people's minds in Warrandyte Ward," he said. "I believe the ward councillors

have to be very careful to make sure insensitive development is resisted. And if there's a conflict, the best thing is to get the people to talk it out."

He is joined by Mrs Joy in these views who lists "maintaining the Green Wedge and no dual occupancy" in her policy platform.

She wants to keep Warrandyte Ward natural with "no suburban type kerbs and guttering, no more suburban-type car parks as at Warrandyte football ground and prevent development of more unused shops as at West End Warrandyte".

Mrs Joy opposes further liquor outlets in Warrandyte and says she is in favor of some cluster housing development for elderly people not wanting to leave the area.

She supports the enforcement of prosecution of land owners who illegally clear bush, and suggests the formation of a community taxi service for short journeys for handicapped and elderly people and even those with car troubles.

At the time of going to press, Mrs Joy and Cr Denford were unopposed so their election could be automatic.



Louise Joy

## Park plan set for go-ahead

Warrandyte State Park's management plan, which emerged as a draft in August 1988, appears to be close to approval.

The Member for Warrandyte, Mr Phil Honeywood, was advised of this by the Minister for Conservation and Environment, Mr Crabb. This followed Mr Honeywood raising the plan as a matter of urgency in the last session of State Parliament.

The 200-page Warrandyte State Park draft management plan was released with a great deal of fanfare by the State Government almost two years ago. Since then, the draft plan has languished and lack of implementation has resulted in funding for the park's management remaining at an inadequate level for even minimum maintenance purposes.

Despite the increasing number of tourists who have been visiting the park over the past few years, ranger staff have not been increased and no additional resources have been provided for new signs, footpaths, weed control programs or other management priorities.

Mr Honeywood said: "The existing ranger staff and local conservation groups, such as the Friends of Warrandyte State Park and Warrandyte Environment League, deserve a great deal of credit for stopping the park from going backwards over this period. Many people would not be

aware that volunteers have had to carry an increasing burden of work to ensure that replanting of indigenous species have occurred, and that the park has remained relatively tidy."

The State Park's 586 hectares include many features of historical, educational and conservation value. The park still provides a natural habitat for native animals, such as swamp wallaby, platypus, koala and the closest natural colony of Eastern Grey kangaroos to Melbourne.

My Honeywood said rapid urbanisation and increasing demands for access to the Yarra River were placing a number of severe pressures on the State Park.

"The draft plan notes that for many years the park has provided river access and facilities but several of the better known recreational sites, including Pound Bend and Black flat, are now suffering from overuse," Mr Honeywood said.

Mr Honeywood said it was unfortunate that local residents have had to wait so long before receiving official ratification and support for such an important local natural asset.

"The cost of the State Government's concentration on creating new national parks, such as the Alpine and Mallee parks, has been the neglect of the very real management needs of existing parks such as Warrandyte" he said.

## Green Wedge study OK — so far

The natural resources study of the Green Wedge area east of Mullum Mullum Creek has been placed on Doncaster-Templestowe Council's budget estimates for the coming year.

A Warrandyte-Park Orchards zoning working party formed by the council has recommended the study of botanical, zoological, visual and conservation matters in the Green Wedge as a starting point for protecting and enhancing the environmental quality of the area.

Meanwhile, the council has advertised for a planning enforcement officer to ensure residents

meet the requirements of their zonings and planning permits.

The chairperson of the working party, Cr Val Polley, said the working party hoped there would be an education role in the planning enforcement officer's job.

Another member of the working party, Cr Vern Denford, said he believed the job was "not just catching and convicting people when they do wrong, but making sure everyone is educated."

"That's not just the landowners but people who are the potential sellers and landowners who often give misleading and even negligent advice," he said.

## Double cheer for golden celebrations

Warrandyte has celebrated two golden weddings in the past few weeks. The magic half-century of togetherness came up for Jim and Paula Girvan, of Brackenbury Street, and Maisie and George Temple, of Harris Gully Road.

The Girvans, who met in Ivanhoe in 1935, moved to South Warrandyte in 1945 after Jim's return from active service in the Royal Australian Navy. Jim went into partnership in 1950 with Bob Sergeant, building dams, roads and pumps on the Yarra in the good old horse-drawn days.

Paula and Jim built in Brackenbury Street in 1952, and the "old salt" returned to the Big Smoke, working for General Motors' Frigidaire division.

And what does he think of the old and new Warrandyte?

"Newcomers to this town will never be able to experience our years of friendship and pleasure," he said. "Like shopping on Saturday mornings at Jack Moore's store, where the stock held up the shop, and having a beer later at the Grand Hotel."

"I'll never forget how wonderfully well the Trezise girls and Nanna ran that hotel, or the freshly-cut flowers every Saturday morning, courtesy Charlie Jones."

"Looking back, Warrandyte wasn't really discovered until a decade or two ago."

"It brings to mind when I was



Magic half-century together — Jim and Paula Girvan.

booked many years ago for parking illegally in Melbourne. The copper asked me where I lived and I said, 'Warrandyte — out in the sticks'. He told me to be more careful of the parking regulations next time I came in from the bush."

It was a double celebration for The Temples — 50 years of marriage and 20 years in Australia.

Maisie and George moved to Warrandyte shortly after arriving from England and have become household names — particularly at the Senior Citizens' Club.

"They are wonderful citizens," said club secretary Phyl Foster. "Maisie has been an excellent worker for the club for many years and has made many friends, including those she has

encouraged and helped in the swimming exercises."

"She has also put a great deal of enthusiasm and effort into the concert parties, which have gone out to many clubs and nursing homes, giving a lot of enjoyment to a lot of people."

The club toasted the Temples' special occasion at a luncheon it put on in their honor on July 1.

## Song scores Tristan overseas trip

Talented Warrandyte lad, Tristan Martin, has just sung himself a place in the Victorian Children's Choir tour to America in September.

At just 11 years of age, Tristan already has plenty of experience under his belt.

A member of the Victorian Children's Choir since 1988, he has since progressed through the ranks of probationer to being a member of the training choir and the 500-strong performing choir.

Earlier this year he also won himself a place in the recital choir, which sings at such festivities as Moomba and concerts, including one at the National Gallery.

The 80 members of the recital choir also regularly perform at Senior Citizens Homes and at Christmas they perform at shopping centres around Melbourne.



Tristan Martin

The busy grade six student at Warrandyte Primary School also finds time to play footy for the Warrandyte under 12s and stamp collecting.

He was one of 40 children to win a place in the American tour, and is working hard at his singing and doing odd jobs for family and friends to help raise the money for the trip.

## Trouble in store for anti-bag brigade

By INGRID KLEINHENZ

It is amazing what strange reactions the words "no bags, thanks" can bring when shopping.

I almost felt like eating my words when a certain shop assistant looked at me the other day as though I had just stepped off the Planet Moron.

"Okay then, are you sure you don't want a bag?" I was only buying a birthday card and I was certainly able to carry it without the help of a plastic shopping bag, almost five times the size of the card.

"Yes I am sure, thanks," I said with an embarrassed smile.

Where did this happen?

Thankfully not in Warrandyte. In my experience the response here has been just the opposite, and I haven't received any dirty looks. Is this because shop assistants can think beyond a "no bags, thanks" customer as being difficult or just a weirdo, to see them for what they are — an environmentally-aware shopper doing a little bit to avoid wasteful and unnecessary packaging.

Having had experience on the other side of the counter as a salesperson the situation is similar. Usually I ask: "Would you like a bag?" Some say "yes" as if to say "of course I want one" as they cast me that old Planet Moron look. Others however, seem

determined to never accept a bag. These brave shoppers really deserve admiration.

It's amazing the loads some Warrandytes will carry rather than accept a bag.

"No I'm fine thanks" these shoppers yell as they load their arms with goods and begin a skillful balancing act towards their parked car or bike. Other clever shoppers bring baskets or string bags — great little investments.

Still, I don't think this kind of thing happens enough in Warrandyte, or anywhere else for that matter. Our grandparents had the best idea, keeping recyclable bags in a handy place so they could

always find one when they needed one.

If you find yourself without a bag, just ask yourself if you really need one. If the answer is "no" proprietors gain by saving money on bags and hopefully pass the cost-saving bag on to customers, but more importantly the planet profits by not having to deal with such unnecessary waste.

And just think, you won't have the same build up of plastic bags at the end of every trip to the supermarket. As well as this you will be doing your bit to "act locally and think globally" about our environment. It's all about getting out of old bad habits and forming new earth-friendly ones.

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# 50s child out in the cold

By ROGER KIBELL

"Now is the winter of our discontent!" If Shakespeare hadn't already written that I would. To be more honest, I would have written that about the winters of my childhood. Today, things aren't all that bad.

Today, even though our pot-bellied stove is a pain to keep supplied with fuel, there's always the gas wall furnace to fall back on when laziness sets in. Our house is well insulated, it's carpeted and has heavy, lined curtains to keep in the heat. Even the cedar planks are excellent insulation and the north-facing windows allow whatever winter's sun there is to heat the house.

Winters, cheznous, circa 1950s and 60s were appalling.

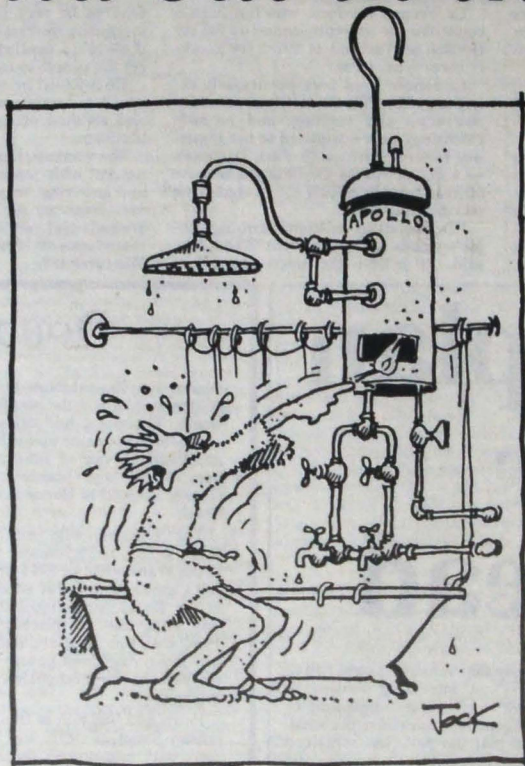
The closest I have come to experiencing the same bone-numbing cold was camping out in central Australia in the middle of winter. There, the heat of the day has no cloud cover to keep it close to the earth and therefore, each night, it rushes up to warm God's toes leaving those earth-bound with teeth chattering and a 'solid resolve' not to get out of bed to water the horse.

The sheets were perpetually damp. How is it, you can sleep in a bed all night, with all that body warmth, to awake with sheets feeling like they have escaped from the set of the 'Ice Follies'?

Turning in bed was akin to dipping one's foot into a Phillip Island surf beach rock pool. The blankets had lost heat and refused to exhibit the warming properties of wool. They seemed to be no more satisfactory than the candlewick bedspreads that, ubiquitously, covered the bedrooms of our youth.

Having "stiffened the sinews" and "summoned up the courage of a tiger," each morning I would place a foot, tentatively, on the linoleum-covered floor. Being gripped by the "lurking menace" that may have lived under the bed would have been welcomed. At least that may have got the blood and adrenalin flowing. As it was, toes touched down on a floor that felt just like dry ice.

The British always argued that immersing the body in water, too often, weakened it. I believe that was a smokescreen. What they



really meant was that they didn't want to risk death by lighting the pernicious gas water heater that smouldered malevolently in our monastic bathroom.

Our kitchen hot water heater was electric and although inefficient and expensive to run, was benign. It merely sat above the sink and farted forth gulps of steaming H<sub>2</sub>O.

The bathroom heater, on the other hand, was a beast of a different temperament. The principle was ingenious. First, light the pilot light shaped like a pistol. This was then swivelled to shoot flames into the bottom of a gas-laden cylinder above which waited the mockingly cold water. The principle and reality never seemed to mesh.

The explosion could be heard all over the house and probably the neighborhood. The top of the

cylinder was like the hat on the Tin Man in 'The Wizard of Oz'. We should have installed a bell on the roof. Sometimes the explosion only lifted the lid a metre or so above the cylinder, but at other times we hit the jackpot — the lid hit the roof. Hitting a bell would have provided some satisfaction as I laid sprawled, terrified, on my back on the floor.

The explosion always blew out the pilot light so, with baited breath and singed eyebrows and hair, I had to decide whether to: risk another Chernobyl; go dirty; or wet the soap, dampen the towel and complain a lot about how cold my shower was. My British heritage often prevailed.

In the lounge room, the old fireplace had been fitted with a new, 'you-beau' briquette space heater, complete with two-speed fan.

The fan was seldom used as that was "a waste of electricity". Instead we inched closer to the rapidly blackening glass front. If the heater worked properly, the carbon was burnt from the glass on the door. Ours always seemed to be black.

What was the effect of our winter's tale? I believe my mind went into hibernation for about four months of the year. My waking thoughts were often devoted entirely to keeping warm. There was a desperation about life. I have unlimited admiration for soldiers and explorers who had to endure POW camps, treks and trenches with inadequate clothing and footwear.

As usual, everything is relative. No doubt, in 20 years time, my lads will look back on the suffering they endured living in the wilds of Warrandyte in the 1990s. Perhaps their heating will be solar, nuclear or some as-yet-unknown technological whizz-ziggery. It certainly won't be produced by burning fossil fuels.

Under such relative adverse conditions in my day, it was essential for my mother to remedy problems as best she could.

When the weather and viruses combined and I got the 'flu or a cold, the instant remedy was Vicks Vapour Rub on my chest. On really desperate occasions, a camphor block in a cotton sock was tied around my neck. Hypol was spooned down my throat and real porridge swimming in butter and sugar was served to tempt me back to good health.

The winters passed and I survived, as have millions before me. Today I sit, warm and comfortable but I do have a nagging thought that it's at an enormous cost to the environment. I've grown soft. Perhaps we need to go back to short pants for boys until 14 and dresses for girls. I might add that in 1982 when on exchange in England, Joanne, aged 10, was not allowed to wear anything but a dress all winter despite the snow — 'gels' don't wear trousers! Perhaps such weathering is what we all need.

Bring back the lino in bedrooms I cry. What we need is more hypol, camphor blocks and Irish stew. But not quite yet! Excuse me for a moment. I just have to adjust the thermostat — up.



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# Townscape forums in for revamp

By JUDY MACDONALD

The Warrandyte Townscape Study is well into its second stage. The committee has met several times and the convener, urban designer Ms Jane Marriott has met with several interested community members, hearing additional views to those already documented.

Ms Marriott told the *Diary* she would like more of a one-to-one consultative process as she believed some residents with strong opinions about alterations to the area were intimidated by a public meeting forum.

In an attempt to communicate more easily with some concerned residents, Ms Marriott has produced a summary of the stages covered so far.

In part it said: "The committee has met five times including an on-site walk over the study area. The meetings have reviewed the recommendation of stage one with a view to implementation. These fall into the following categories:-

"Existing car-parks, access from residential allotments to Yarra Street, footpaths, signage, bus shelters, traffic flow at the Webb Street-Yarra Street corner, street furniture, picnic areas and toilet blocks."

Decisions have been made not to divide the river bank into separate paths for equestrians and pedestrians and not to build a canoe ramp near the bridge.

Ms Marriott urged people with questions or suggestions to contact her on 840 9418. She said a further public meeting would be held but in a less formal manner than the last, to enable all residents to comment on the proposals.

# Social players excel in off-court action

By EWAN HALL



Every Thursday night, a certain collection of people flick off computers, snap shut books, lock up their offices and with racquet and gear in hand, make for the Warrandyte Tennis Club.

Men and women trickle into the clubhouse casually and, it could be said, seldom punctually. However eventually enough players arrive to fill the teams — and the games begin.

Far from the "fast-lane" tennis of a Saturday morning, this Thursday evening competition

at Warrandyte is an opportunity to really relax on the tennis court: perhaps to practise those fresh-air shots; to refine that double-fault; or even to lob the ball onto the clubhouse roof.

If you came down to the courts and just watched for a while you would notice two quite distinct types of players.

One type is obviously here for the tennis. Generally they're punctual, and they will be out on the court warming up before anyone else. This type can generally remember the score, even when everyone else has forgotten (which is quite often).

Still, their diligent demeanour is easily shaken off, and between sets they can be found on the verandah, tinnie firmly in hand, telling jokes or talking shop.

Then there's the other type. For these, Thursday night is seen as a social outing, a definite chinwag session, with of course the occasional interruption for a casual game.

They are most in their element inside the clubhouse, sipping wine or coffee, perhaps polishing off a savoury dip, and undoubtedly chatting with someone.

That's not to say these mild-

mannered socialites are all at sea on the tennis court. Indeed, such types have been known, on more than one occasion, to have bought about the ruin of the seasoned competitor — but it's always done with a smile.

As the evening passes, thoughts of work or study gently fade, yielding to the tranquillising atmosphere which prevails, and usually by about 11pm many are agreeably settled by the pot-belly fire.

Perhaps for most nine-to-fivers, the only regret is that a sleep-in the next morning is out of the question.

# Wildflower fans out to show off bush at its best

The spectacular Melbourne Wildflower Show is on again soon at the Ringwood Convention Centre.

Hosted by the Society for Growing Australian Plants, it will be held over the weekend of August 11 and 12 and explore the theme "Understand the understory — the bush is more than trees".

There will be displays of interest to all, including identification, propagation and the many uses of Australian plants in the garden whether it be a small cottage garden or one of grander proportions.

Children will be encouraged to pot up their own small plant, a real "hands on" experience, and each child will be given a free plant.

Experts Roger and Gwen Elliot and Jane Edmanson will be on hand to answer questions, as will artist Stan Kelly, a well-known painter of eucalypts and other native plants, and Margaret Kelly, the author of the pictorial field guide "Wildflowers of Millewa".

Members of the Daisy Study Group will also be there with their usual eye-catching display and information about their activities.

Stan Kelly will be travelling

down from Ararat to attend the show. He is well known for his two volumes of paintings on eucalypts and the original paintings have been donated to the National Herbarium of Victoria.

A self-trained artist, Stan started out as a freelance cartoonist for a newspaper and then went on to paint wildflowers.

He is the president of the Ararat Field Naturalists and in 1981 was awarded the Order of Australia Medal for his service to the community, which included educational walks for schoolchildren through the Grampians as well as conducting talks for various organisations.

Margaret Kelly lives with her husband Keith at Meringur in the Millewa country, west of Mildura. The couple are actively involved in the farming of high-grade wheat and Margaret also finds time to explore her beloved bushland of the Millewa, an Aboriginal word meaning stars over large waters and a reference to the periodic flooding that can occur after rain in the Mallee region.

Apart from the large number of flower and foliage displays and expert advice that will be available at the Melbourne Wildflower Show, there will also be an array of plant sales including Andrew



Warrandyte resident Mark Gardner, a member of the Society for Growing Australian Plants, selects plants for the show from his own nursery.

Paget's range of plants indigenous to Melbourne.

Sales of cut and dried flowers, book stalls and environmental displays will ensure the show will have something to suit everyone.

The Ringwood Convention Centre is located in Mines Road, East Ringwood and the show will be open between 10am and 5pm each day. Admission is \$4 for adults and \$2 for pensioners. Children under 12 will be admitted free.

# Plan to plant living tribute

Members of the Warrandyte branch of Amnesty International are to conduct a tree planting day to pay tribute to prisoners of conscience.

The group hopes the tree plantings will stand as a permanent reminder of Amnesty's fight to defend human rights and each of the trees planted will be dedicated to the prisoners they represented so far this year.

To be held on Sunday, July 29, the tree plant will take place at 1pm at the State Park Depot at the end of Pound Bend Road.

The Warrandyte State Park has generously donated the trees and shared their expertise to help make the day a success.

Weather permitting, the group also plans to hold a barbecue in the Pound Bend Reserve following the tree planting.

For more information on how you can help with the planting and other group activities, contact Natalie on 844 1581.

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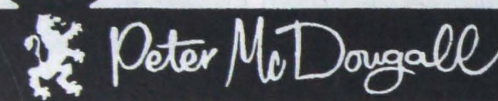
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# Local painter at peace with his bushland muse

By KEN VIRTUE

Many notable artists live and work in our village, adding their special touches to the pot pourri of Warrandyte culture and everyday life.

Maxwell Wilks, 46, is such an artist, working in his peaceful Boyd Street "dirt house" — a hand-built mud brick studio — surrounded by natural inspiration. "It's a beautiful place" Maxwell told the Diary; "the quiet and the peace of the natural bush are just lovely".

Maxwell appears to be a man at ease with his lifestyle. He and his wife Joyce, with sons, Christopher, 17, and Matthew, 15, have 'art' all around them. In the 11 years since they moved to Warrandyte from Box Hill, they have watched the house and studio burgeon with hundreds of paintings.

Since becoming a full time painter eight years ago, Maxwell has amassed incredible stocks of his works.

"I choose those which I think have the most merit for exhibition, and it's only a small percentage of what I've done" he said. "I mainly use Kew Galleries and Balmoral Galleries, and my next show at Kew is in August".

How does he discipline himself to paint every day? "I suppose I'm really very isolated from people during the week, but I've become used to painting alone" he said.

His first introduction to working overseas came when he travelled to Singapore in 1979 as the result of winning the Mt Waverley Prize. In 1980, he again won the Mt Waverley Prize which was a trip to Paris. This enabled him to view the French Impressionist paintings as well as the major galleries in London.

In 1982, Maxwell won the AME Bale Art Travel Scholarship which allowed him to live in England for six months. He stayed with his family in the Cotswolds, a beautiful area to paint and close enough to commute to London to the galleries.

In 1986, he travelled to Ireland to paint and the following year, held an exhibition of those paintings depicting the Irish landscape and way of life.

In 1988, Maxwell was invited to lead a study tour to France, Holland and England, so he took the group to the major galleries and then they painted for two weeks in the English countryside. He stayed on after the study tour to paint in France for four weeks



Maxwell Wilks

and based himself in the Loire Valley.

He is taking another study group of 10 to 15 people to England in September.

"I like to get to know various places very well" Maxwell said.

"There are simply endless subjects to paint in any one location".

Would he describe himself as a prolific artist? "I guess I'm fanatical about my work and I love drawing for the pleasure it gives. Whilst overseas, I would easily work 12 hour days — I completed about 50 pictures in my last month's travels".

"In my view, the best thing any painter can do is to study the world's great artists. It humbles you to see the best, and I guess in theory it should take you a lifetime to finally develop your best work".

Maxwell's distinctive softness of style comes from an interesting history with the Arts.

After leaving secondary school, he worked in the Graphic Arts Industry for 21 years. During this

The success of the recent Warrandyte High School art show prompted KEN VIRTUE to look at the life of local artist MAXWELL WILKS.

time, he attended night classes in drawing at the National Gallery School under Ian Armstrong, and studied commercial design at RMIT which led him to working for a few years at silk screen design and printing.

In his early 20s, he started oil painting, spending a short time with Shirley Bourne and was also assisted by Douglas Miller over a number of years.

He was introduced to a group of artists who eventually became known as "The Seven Painters". Joining this group was an important part of his development in painting as each of these artists contributed their ideas and thoughts freely and painting together was both stimulating and enjoyable. The Seven Painters stayed together for about 10 years.

Maxwell teaches a class at the Victorian Artists' Society and occasionally takes advanced students for weekend landscape painting workshops.

He has for many years exhibited with the VAS and in 1982 and 1984 he was awarded the "Artist of the Year". This is judged by fellow artists in the society over one year's work.



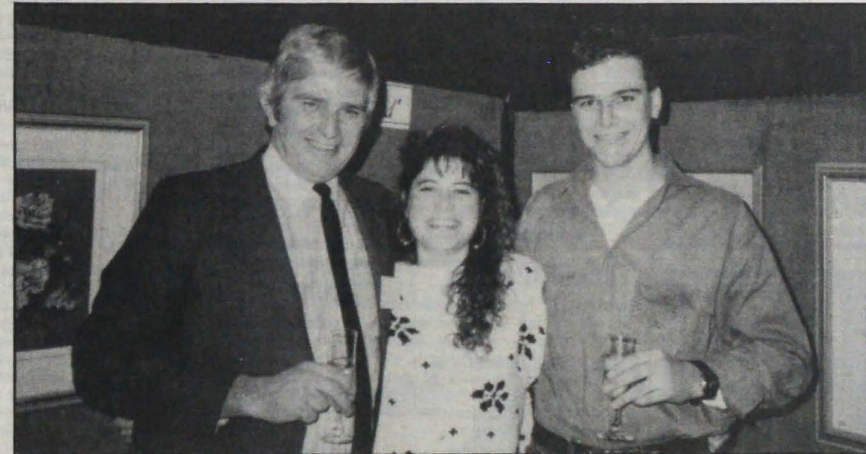
School English co-ordinator Judy Stee and arts co-ordinator Chris White.



Warrandyte High School students and friends find inspiration for a bit of a show of their own.



As the paintings, fabrics, sculptures, ceramics and other craft works lined the walls of the exhibition, musicians fill the hall with the sound of their own art.



School principal Greame Doig (left) with former students Natalie Manser and Murray Baker at the Exhibition.



Cartoonist Jock McNeish takes a look at the local arts scene with Warrandyte High School councillor John Zigmantas.



Warrandyte High School arts co-ordinator Chris White checks out the show with parents' association member Gwen Walker.

# Young artists show real touch of class

Warrandyte High School's second annual art and craft exhibition was a communal success.

With the help of local artists, a task force of parents, teachers and students mounted a professional exhibition which raised more than \$5000 towards school amenities.

The exhibition, held on the weekend of June 22 to 24, was officially opened by Warrandyte councillor and former president of the school council, Val Polley, who emphasised the tradition and importance of visual arts in this community. Guests were treated to champagne and savories prepared and served by parents and home economics students and entertained by the school band and soloists, Tony Hofman and Jennifer Keunaman.

Organisers paid particular attention to both the quality of entries and the manner in which they were displayed. They provided an environment in which the works of lesser known artists sat comfortably alongside major

works by some of our leading artists

Although most of the paintings were traditionally realistic and figurative, a strong contrast was provided by non-figurative and abstract works. The wide range of craft exhibits included functional and non-functional ceramics, silversmithing, woven fabrics and traditional items.

A great deal of interest was also shown in the work of Warrandyte High School students, from years 7 to 12, which was acknowledged to be of an extremely high standard.

The chairman of the Art Show Committee, Vicki Flynn, said she wanted to thank local sponsors and all who assisted in helping to make the exhibition such a great success.

First prize in the raffle conducted over the weekend was an oil by Max Wilks titled 'Farm at Yarra Glen'. It was won by Mrs Hardy, of Warrandyte. And Mrs Joan Withers, of East Doncaster, won a print by Reg Cox.



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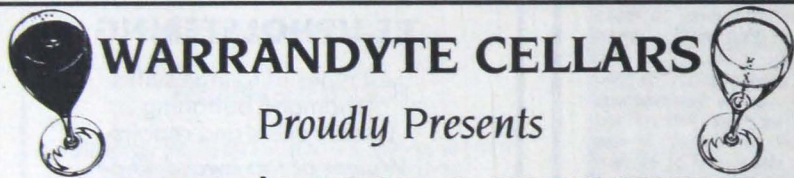
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It meets infrequently to ensure that the building is well maintained and to make decisions regarding any aspects of alteration to it.

The group still needs support from "old friends" in the form

of their \$2 subscription and any other generous donation would be welcome.

It is hoped that fund raising will never be required on a massive scale, but as the two groups inhabiting the building so ably are non-profit making concerns, maintenance monies have to be found.

The group's annual general

meeting is on July 31 at the old post office.

Drinks and supper will be served at 8pm, followed by a short meeting at 8.45pm, and an even shorter executive meeting to follow.

Newcomers, old friends and any interested bodies are welcome. Subscriptions and donations can be left at the Citizens Advice Bureau office.

**Footpath plan off rails, say residents**

The recent public meeting of the Park Orchards Ratepayers Association brought news that the footbridge over the Mullum Mullum Creek in Park Road has been approved and included in council's forward estimates. But the latest news on the Stintons Road footpath around 'The Bend' is not very encouraging. The Doncaster and Templestowe City Council seems to consider it too much trouble and expense to cut into the bank to compensate for the loss of carriageway so plans to simply move the Armcoc railing in a metre. The consequences of this procedure defies imagination.

**Chalet move**

At the request of the council a questionnaire on the proposed extensions to the chalet has been circulated to local residents. Considering there was only a short time available to respond, it was pleasing that 153 did so. Of these 60 per cent were in favor and 40 per cent against the proposed extensive developments. However, the council has rejected the application and consequently the applicant, David Edwards, is appealing.

**Tree anger**

Local anger over the recent tree cutting by the SEC has led to Park Orchards resident Allan Stark seeking membership on the tree clearing consultative committee of the SECV, and the Association has been pleased to endorse his nomination.

**Dump plea**

The scout and youth group bottle dump is under a cloud. There has

**PARK ORCHARD PARS**Conducted by  
**PAULINE BROOKE**

been a few obstacles put in its way and as it is a great fundraiser the association has resolved to write to BP explaining the importance of the venture to the community. Arthur Preusker is liaising with the parties and is hopeful of an amicable outcome.

**Candidates**

Residents are reminded that the next public meeting of the Park Orchards Ratepayers Association is on July 26 in St Anne's Hall, Knees Road, at 8pm. The meeting will give people the chance to meet the candidates for the Warrandyte Ward in the upcoming local government elections.

**Road scheme**

At the public meeting, residents of the Corriedale, Drayton and Brympton area raised questions about a roads and drainage scheme that has been mooted. Design was well under way supposedly after resident consultation. Drains are not opposed but the roads are constructed to a high standard and the residents do not believe they need to be replaced. Cr Denford has taken up the matter.

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**White House swings back to life**

By LOUISE JOY

Threatened with the bulldozer, the White House has come to life with country dances.

Reminiscent of the 50s, the Saturday night dances are a real family occasion. At the last dance in June, Hosies Three Piece Band set a merry pace while Tom Bone's Henry Lawson recitation kept the entertainment flowing on through supper.

On most dance nights you'll find the kids gathered around the BYO supper and soft drinks in the kitchen while a few of the oldies prefer a quiet nip and smoko out under the verandah.

The next dances are on Saturday, August 4 and September 29 with the fun kicking off at 8pm.

The White House is also in active use during the week, playing host to guides, brownies and dancing classes.

Monies raised from the Saturday night dances goes towards restoration of the White House.

Sure there are other halls in Warrandyte, and the new community centre with its rooms for local groups and a display by the historical society will be great and a landmark for future generations.

But let us keep the old building too, however bizarre. Let us not sit back and allow an "independently appointed" engineer to decide the fate of one of our best loved and most extraordinary buildings.

As part of the moves to save the White House, residents are being asked to support the dances and to also donate a timber plank towards its restoration.

Bookings for the dances can be made at the Citizens Advice Bureau, or at the door on the night. For information on the White House restoration fund contact Ruth Smith on 844 3082 or 844 3048.

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# Rail, land hopes crash

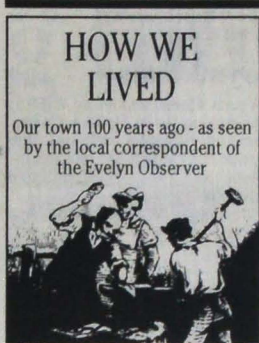
July, 1890: A large and influential meeting was held here last Saturday evening for the purpose of bringing before the Minister of Railways, through our respected member, Mr Cameron, our merits for the railway extension to Warrandyte. The matter was fully ventilated, and a memorial embodying our resources, &c., was passed to be presented to the Minister by him.

Subsequently a deputation saw Mr Cameron in Melbourne on Monday afternoon, when the matter was fully gone into. Mr Cameron promises to use his best efforts to get the extension asked for.

It is unnecessary to be continually reverting to our merits; but where within the suburban radius can be found over 4000 acres of Crown lands that would realise a handsome profit, and not only pay all expenses for construction, but leave a substantial profit.

By the time this appears the railway scramble will be over, at all events as far as the Government is concerned; and as it appears that without the iron horse those left out will be hopelessly ruined, we must expect some very bad times without there is a general bracing up to meet the circumstances.

That land boom had a good



**HOW WE LIVED**  
Our town 100 years ago - as seen by the local correspondent of the Evelyn Observer

deal to answer for. Had it lasted another couple of years it would (as the Americans say) have bust the colony. I suppose sellers who dealt exclusively for cash are the only ones who really profited, though in too many cases they also got the fever and reinvested.

What will become of all this land that has been bought at high rates? Revert back to the original owners in some, and void of easy transit, become a white elephant in others. Land, however, hereabouts if reasonable, can be disposed of.

With all the unemployed tra-

desmen in Melbourne, those who have been careful and saved up through the good times should open up the country. There are plenty of 20-acre blocks within a reasonable distance of Melbourne that a living could be made by cultivation, fowls, bees, &c., and a fine healthy life — a good deal better than unhealthy Melbourne.

A public meeting was held in Mr Grant's hall on Monday evening to receive the annual report of the committee of the Mechanics' Institute. Mr H. Squires was appointed chairman.

The review showed that during the past year satisfactory progress was made towards securing a new site for a hall, and that there remained on hand a balance of 23 pounds 5 shillings and 9 pence towards the building fund.

The following committee were elected for the ensuing year: Messrs Tresize, Symington, H. Squires, J. Mullens, J. Sloan, E. Squires, J. Flynn and A. Speers. It was decided that a subscription list in aid of the building fund be opened and Mr. E. Squires was appointed collector.

Our concert went off with great eclat. About seven pounds is expected to be cleared.

The weather is dreadful. From the Newspaper Collection, State Library of Victoria.)

## LETTERS

### Road statistics

I write in response to C. Watt's letter in *Diary* No. 211 and am happy to say I agree largely with his or her arguments in defence of young drivers.

However, police statistics show for example that both road fatalities and drink driving offences are disproportionately high among young drivers.

In 1989, P-plates accounted for 24 percent of all Victoria's drink-driving charges although they constituted only 6.7 percent of the driving population! And 30 percent of all drivers killed in 1989 on Victorian roads were no older than 25.

My article in issue No. 210 was certainly not intended to imply that all young drivers are "bloody idiots" nor that all older drivers are blameless.

There are undoubtedly many responsible young drivers on the road like C. Watt, and hopefully I am one of them!

Ewan Hall,  
Warrandyte

### Neighbours lend a hand

Warrandyte is a special place to live in, not only because of the river and the bush environment but because of the sense of community that the people who live and work here have.

Wilma and I have had a series of health problems over the year and would like to take the opportunity of thanking all those people who have generously offered help.

While there are far too many to thank individually we will mention a couple of instances in particular, the lovely posey left on the doorstep by our next door neighbor's primary school aged children Bronwyn, Lisa and Coralie Pope. Also Lil Whitehead who called one bleak wintry Saturday afternoon with a cream sponge she had baked.

Bruce Bence,  
Brackenbury Street.

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## Probus comes to town

There's a new club in town — the Warrandyte Probus Club.

Formed under the guidance of the local Rotary Club, Probus offers retired professionals and business executives the opportunity to meet in fellowship.

The president of the Rotary Club of Warrandyte presented the Probus Club charter to inaugural president Alex Knee at its May meeting.

Probus meets on the second Tuesday of every month at the Grand Hotel in Warrandyte from 10am to noon. The meetings are informal and although members are encouraged to attend regularly, there is no attendance obligation.

Guest speakers are a regular feature of the meetings and the club has already had two outings for members and their wives.

Mr Knee said anyone interested in joining the club was welcome to attend the next meeting on August 13. He can be contacted on 435 8849.

## New face on team

Visitors to the Warrandyte Citizens Advice Bureau lately would have seen a new face among the volunteer crew.

Cheryl Whittington has been on board at the bureau each Friday between 10am and 1pm as she gets to know the ropes before heading off to take part in a Community Information Workers Course at Wantirna TAFE.

The course begins in August and is designed to help volunteers answer the range of inquiries received for information and referral to other appropriate agencies.

The bureau deals with such issues as housing, employment, problems with neighbors, consumer complaints, family problems and the recreation facilities and clubs available in the area.

If you're interested in becoming a volunteer, contact the bureau on 844 3082 or call in at 111 Yarra Street, Warrandyte.



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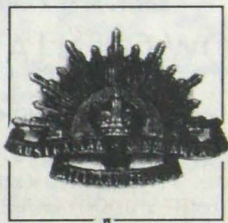
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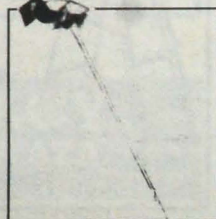
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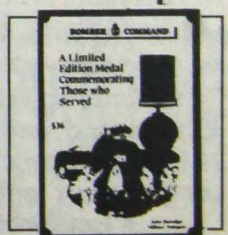
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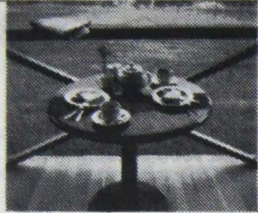
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**Party time at retirement home**

Warrandyte Retirement Home was brightly decorated with streamers, balloons and flowers to celebrate its recent 10th anniversary of service to the local elderly community. About 120 people including past and present residents and their families, staff members and doctors enjoyed a lavish afternoon tea and the cutting of the anniversary cake. Warrandyte Elderly Citizens Club members who have been very supportive over the years were also represented. Joyce Faye, of East Doncaster and who has been bringing flowers to the home for nearly 10 years, made a thankyou speech to the management and staff.

**In focus**

The Color Photography Club of Ringwood is keen to see others share their hobby. It meets at the North Ringwood Uniting Church, Dickson Crescent, North Ringwood, on the fourth Monday of each month at 8pm. Bi-monthly competitions, lectures by experienced photographers, workshops, and information nights on various subjects as requested by members make up the yearly program. If you're interested, give club secretary Judith a call on 876 2276, or Marlene on 844 2085.

**Story time**

Budding authors are being invited to try their hand in the fifth Judah Waten story writing competition being conducted by the City of Box Hill, the Box Hill-Doncaster Regional Library Authority and the Melbourne Centre of PEN International. Entries will be judged in three sections: Open, with \$1000 in prize money; Teenage, 13- 19 years of age and \$100 prize money; and Junior, below 13 years and with \$50 in prize



money. The top 10 entries will also be able to meet with the judge, author John Hanrahan, and workshop their stories after the competition. The closing date is Sunday, September 30. For more information contact Marie Ricciardi or Tracy Gibson on 890 1002.

**Literary nights**

The Warrandyte Neighborhood house hosts literary evenings at 8pm every second Wednesday of the month. Armchair Travellers Evenings take place on the third Thursday of every month at 8pm. On July 19 Jenny Adcock will present an evening on South Africa. We've been through Bali, Alaska and South America recently. If you want to share your travels or hear others come along. The House is located at the corner of Masonic Avenue and the Ringwood-Warrandyte Road, Phone 844 1839.

**Nursing mums**

The Warrandyte group of the Nursing Mothers Association of Australia holds regular coffee mornings and evening meetings for mothers who are breast and bottle feeding or expecting a baby. Its next coffee mornings are Wednesday, July 25 at 10am to noon for mothers with toddlers, and then on Wednesday August 1 from 10am to noon for mothers with newborn to crawling babies.

Ring Kristin on 431 1443 for more details.

**Gymkhana**

Wyena Horse and Pony Club is gearing up for its Holiday Gymkhana on July 22 at the pony club grounds. Competition sections include riding, novice and freshman jumping for riders under 21. If you would like to take part ring 842 4311 or 844 2938 for more details.

**Annual meeting**

Among the many groups preparing for their annual general meeting is the Warrandyte Senior Citizens Club. It will take place at the centre in Tarroona Avenue on August 2 at 1pm.

**Stall success**

Anyone who took advantage of the home made delights on the cake stall run by the Warrandyte auxiliary of the Royal Womens Hospital outside SSW on Saturday, May 12, helped to raise \$322. Mrs L Murphy was the winner of the Mothers' Day cake. The auxiliary's next meeting on July 17 will feature a Rawleigh's Demonstration.

**Pottery classes**

Students are needed for pottery classes being conducted by the Diamond Valley Arts Society. Walter Magilton has offered again to tutor, and wheel and hand building will be taught. On July 20 there will be a demonstration by Vickie Roper of Jasco. The gallery is still open every Saturday from 1-5pm at the old Greensborough school on the corner of Grimshaw Street and the Circuit opposite Safeways.

**Sad loss**

The Friends of Warrandyte State Park are sad to hear of the passing of Keith Thomson. Keith was a committee member and treasurer of the Friends group and involved himself in many activities in the State Park. His considerable talents in his workshop were enthusiastically applied to many projects at the nursery at Pound Bend. We were all aware of his involvement in wood turning, carried out at a truly professional level. Not many of us knew that his achievements were performed in spite of a severe heart condition. Keith was never the complaining type. He will be greatly missed.

**Music forums**

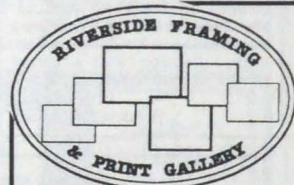
A series of six forums focusing on "Bach and Sons; a musical view of the Baroque" is about to get underway at the Box Hill Library theatre. Under the guidance of well known composer, critic and lecturer Felix Werder, the forums will begin on July 14 and continue each Saturday between 2 and 4pm until August 18. Presented by the Box Hill-Doncaster Regional Library Authority, the forums will cost \$40 for the series or \$8 per session. Pensioners and student prices are \$25 for the series and \$5 per session. For more details ring 890 1002.

**Stress relief**

Eltham Community Health Centre wants to help take the stress out of your life with a free workshop on Sunday, July 22, from 10am to 2pm. It is open to residents of the Eltham Shire and aims to help develop an awareness about how stress affects individuals and ways of conquering it. It will be held at the centre in the community room at 23 Dudley Street, Eltham. To enrol ring 431 1333.

**Women's health**

One of the more interesting requests that have been made by women participating in the Diamond Valley Community Hospital's Womens Health Program has been to include partners in the female menopause information sessions. Women participating in the program understandably want their partners to appreciate the medical condition of the menopause rather than explaining the symptoms away by describing women as "neurotic" or experiencing the "empty nest syndrome". The health program was launched at the Diamond Valley Community Hospital at the end of April and will be running for a second term until September 24. In addition to the new menopause class for women and their partners, there will also be relaxation techniques, and infant and adult resuscitation added to the second term program along with a range of existing classes. For more information about what's on at the centre and how you can take part, give Rachel Weston a ring on 435 2222.



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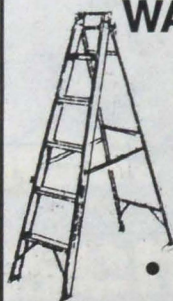
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# New cricket coach sees big future

John Sharman, an all-rounder with Waverley in the District competition, has been appointed captain-coach of Warrandyte Cricket Club for the 1990-91 season. An opening batsman and leg-spin bowler, he replaces Greg Tregear, who has held the position for the past two years. Tregear will stay with Warrandyte as a player.

Sharman, 24, of Hughesdale, told the *Diary* he looked forward to the challenge of lifting Warrandyte's performances in the new season.

"The success of Warrandyte Cricket Club depends entirely on the players," he said.

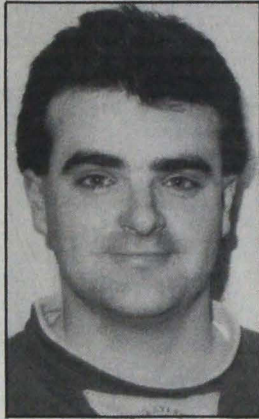
"Over recent seasons, the on-field success has not been as good as the club would have liked. This year, however, we should be looking forward to a major change in this area.

"While those who have been associated with the club over a period of time talk enthusiastically about the 'potential' of our current players, success will only come when that potential is transferred to on-field performances.

"From a coaching viewpoint, the challenge is to have the players consistently turning in high-quality performances. With a conscious effort to win and an aggressive attitude to that end, I'm confident that the immediate future of Warrandyte Cricket Club is extremely good."

New club president Mark Davis is also confident of better results in the season ahead.

"John will be an aggressive leader and if we are able to pick



John Sharman

up some new senior talent — and if some of our juniors fulfil the great promise they are showing — it will put pressure on some players who may have become complacent," he said. "The club is very well run and if that efficiency can be translated into results on the field we will have a most successful season."

Sharman was a schoolboy star who captained the Salesian College first eleven and represented Victoria in 1983-84.

He made his senior debut for Mt Waverley in the Sub-District competition in 1985-86 and joined Waverley the following season. Sharman has played the past three seasons under former Test fast bowler Rodney Hogg.

Davis, 39, has been associated with the Warrandyte club since his under-14 days. He played in three junior and senior premier-ship sides and was a member of the veterans eleven last season.

Steve Pascoe and Maria McGhee, who were awarded life memberships at the club's recent annual general meeting, will play important administrative roles in the new season.

Pascoe is secretary/treasurer and Ms McGhee is one of two vice-presidents. She is also women's representative on the committee and Warrandyte's representative on the VWCA. Pascoe and wife Anne will present the club at RDCA level.

The other vice-president is Geoff Taylor. John McCartin is chairman of the match committee and Brian Chapman will again coach the women's eleven.

The executive is backed by a strong and enthusiastic committee.

Warrandyte is likely to field an additional men's team in 1990-91. It would give the club six teams in the men's division, a women's team and seven junior elevens.

The season starts on October 6.

## Mid-term Failure

Warrandyte High School's senior football team finished their 1990 interschool campaign as they had started it — with a win. But sandwiched between was a defeat which put them out of contention. The "All-Stars" beat Templestowe Tech by 59 points in the first of their three matches but went down 8.10 to 5.4 to the powerful Rosanna East in near gale conditions.

Warrandyte showed great character to hang on by three points against Banyule High in a game marred by two send-offs.

Rover John Hassall picked up 84 possessions in the series.

The intermediate team went all the way to the semi-finals, only to be beaten by Templestowe Tech, whom they had beaten by 34 points in the opening match — the first game played at Warrandyte High's new oval.

# The Lowenbrau Caper

Seven years on, the lid can be lifted on the Lowenbrau Caper. It is not a pretty story, but if you have the stomach for it, read on.

Warrandyte Football Club were doing very well on the field in 1983 — indeed, a premiership was about to happen — but finances were not at all good. These were the days when supporting the club coffers by having a post-match drink meant braving bare bums, jock-strings and perishing cold in cramped space which doubled as the dressingroom and social facility. Happily, times have change dramatically.

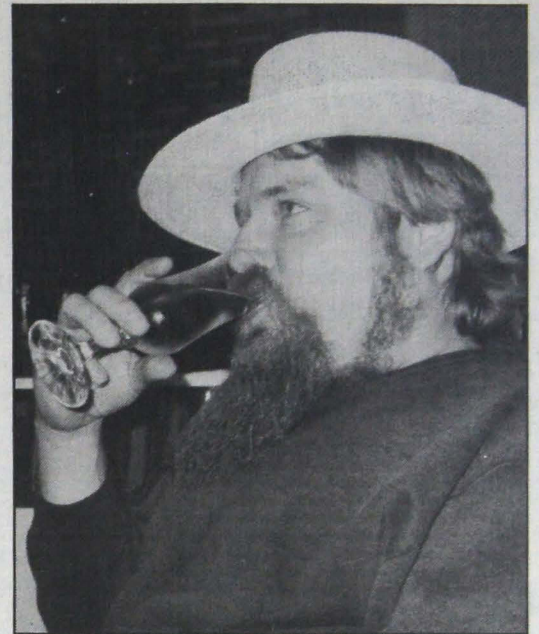
Anyway, president Ken McKenzie came up with a solution to the gathering cash crisis by acquiring a shipment of canned Lowenbrau beer at the right price. All above board, but certainly the right price.

What we'll do, said Ken, is sell Lowenbrau exclusively, and at the usual price, and we'll be back in the black before you can say "Up there Cazaly".

It was a grand vision and it might have worked if this shipment had been up to the very high standard of what is a very fine German beer. It wasn't. If they'd had "use-by" dates on beer, this lot would have been disqualified without right of appeal; and there was a suggestion that it had been left out in the sun for a couple of long, hot summers. It was bloody awful.

Neither the players nor the supporters would have a bar of it after the first tasting, and all seemed lost.

But the committee of '83 were a resourceful bunch and in the dead of one Saturday night, after a function at the Whitehouse, Ken, David Mitchell and Anthony Giles-Peters



Anthony Giles-Peters, surprised guest of honour.

funnelled a good deal of the Lowenbrau that wouldn't go away into the remnants of an 18-gallon keg of Carlton Draught. It was done by torch-light. It was a desperate measure. It didn't work.

The keg was "tapped" next day after a Superrules game and the visitors, poor buggers, unanimously deemed it the worst beer they'd tasted since a dirty sock somehow found its way into a batch of home brew one of them had whipped up several years back.

The story can now be told because David made it public during his speech last month at a surprise 40th birthday party for Anthony. That it was a surprise party was a tribute to Helen Revell and Anne Drew, who masterminded it.

More than 150 people were at the footy club to pay tribute to "The Gnome" and his eight consecutive years, now ended, as Bloods secretary.

And not a drop of Lowenbrau was drunk!

## Wyena riders win it at a canter

By ROGER KIBELL

Wyena Pony Club outrode all comers to win the Victorian "Games" last month. It was the club's first success in the event since 1964.

Wyena took on and beat 21 other clubs — regional winners from all over the State — at the Melbourne Showgrounds over the Queen's Birthday weekend.

The winning team was Nikki Vitiritti, Joanna Kibell, Matthew Borghesi, Allison McDougall, Anna Forsyth, Caroline Aston

and Tracey Walker. They scored 305 points to beat Bacchus March and Lilydale.

The Games events are all based on equestrian military exercises. These really test both horse and rider, individually and as a member of a team.

Dismounting, leading, leaning, weaving and baton-changing all test the riders' ability to control their horses.

A great deal of practice is needed to reach the standard required to win the State champion-

ship and a great deal of credit for training the team to that standard must go to Jodi Galway, the coach and team manager.

Given the number of riders seen around Warrandyte without helmets and sometimes without saddles, it is a pity that more do not belong to pony clubs where proper instructions in both riding and horse care is given by experts.

Those interested in finding out more about Wyena should contact secretary Carolyn Mills on 844 2555.



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Diary Advertising gets results



# There's life after death for the Bloods

Warrandyte have "come back from the dead" to give themselves a chance of making the Eastern Districts Football League third division finals.

The Bloods turned on their gutsiest performance of an injury-riddled season to beat second-placed The Basin at home on July 7 after being written off as finals contenders.

It left them the assignment of winning their remaining five games. Even then, they would depend on the outcomes of other matches involving teams above them.

"Statistically, we are still in with a chance," said Warrandyte Football Club president Colin Bawden after the Bloods' great last quarter against The Basin.

"It was a great fighting effort by the whole team out there today. We still have a couple of

## SPORT

players to come back from injury and what we have to do now is work our butts off to win the rest of our games."

The 22-point win over The Basin was the Bloods' fifth success in 13 games in a very even competition. It was achieved against highly-rated opponents because of sheer desperation.

It was never going to be a high-scoring affair on a ground partly soft but largely boggy. The visitors goaled after three minutes of indecisive play but did minimal damage in the ensuing 10 minutes in which it took Warrandyte to reply.

The goal came from John Shalvey, a last-minute recruit from East Ringwood, who celebrated his auspicious debut with his new

club by repeating the dose two minutes later.

When Lachlan McLean bounced one through, Warrandyte led 3.0 to 1.1 and the patriotic crowd had found considerable voice.

It was short-lived because The Basin goaled twice to lead by two points at quarter time.

Warrandyte had started the game with ruck-rover Robin Golding at full-back and can thank him, centre half-back Gerald Walshe and their aides for withstanding a series of enemy thrusts early in the second term.

When the pattern of play shifted, The Basin defence made a terrible blunder and John O'Brien said thank-you. It was to be the only goal of the quarter and it sent Warrandyte in to the interval with a five-point lead.

The third quarter belonged to Steven "Yogi" Yoannidis, who had come off the interchange bench just before half-time after a long, injury-enforced layoff just before half-time. He kicked three goals, all of them vital. Yogi kicked his first early in the term to restore the lead, his second to give the Bloods a 10-point advantage and his third to pull a nine-point deficit back to just three.

Warrandyte trailed by four points at three-quarter time and coach Lindsay Hopkins appealed to his players for "desperation ... take risks to get the ball out of the centre" to win a game which was up for grabs.

They did. A mark and goal by interchange player David (Capper) Pike regained the lead and a "screamer" by O'Brien at point-blank range set up a nine-point break.

Every Warrandyte player had lifted his game. The impossible spoils in defence became achievable and tackles were laid as if lives depended on them.

It might have been easy to defend the lead, but someone in the crowd suggested "percentage" Yogi passed to Golding in the square — and that was it for The Basin.

Or almost. Michael Day was on the end of the receiving end of a series of passes a minute later and made the final score 11.7 (73) to 7.9 (51).

Best of a very good Warrandyte bunch were Walshe, Joe Hassall, Golding, Stuart McLean, Shalvey, Yoannidis and Kimberley O'Connor.



John Hassall wearing the "Big V" again.

## Big V is just a Hassall habit!

The "Big V" looks very good on John Hassall. Which is just as well because he's collecting quite a wardrobe of them.

At 16, John has represented Victoria three times — at primary school and under-15 schoolboy level and in this month's Teal Cup in Brisbane.

He is destined to play senior football for Collingwood and those who have followed his career believe he should set aside space for a fourth State jumper, this time in the "big league".

Parochially, it is unfortunate that he is unlikely to play for Warrandyte again. He is simply too good.

John, of Stony Creek Road, North Warrandyte, began what is shaping as a spectacular career in the Warrandyte under-10s. Last year he played under-16s and under-18s for the local club and finished the season

(the last seven games) with Collingwood's under-19s.

A natural rover, he played the last four games leading up to the Teal Cup with the Magpies reserves.

Collingwood's gain has been Fitzroy's loss. As a schoolboy footballer based at Warrandyte High, John was in Fitzroy's recruiting zone. But when he crossed the river each day on the way home from school, he entered Collingwood territory.

"Fitzroy were very good to John," said proud father Mark. "It's ironical the way things have turned out because John has always been a devoted Richmond supporter."

"He was in the Richmond cheer squad a few years ago.

"John's immediate ambition is to make the Collingwood seniors. Looking further ahead, obviously he'd love to play in a Collingwood premiership team."

## B'ball kids on target for finals

By CLINTON GRYPAS

Warrandyte Basketball Club will be well represented in the finals of the Friday night junior championship.

When this edition went to press, two of Warrandyte's seven teams in the far-reaching series "had their names" on the finals berths. The 16Bs were lying third and the 12Bs equal fourth in their respective divisions.

The finals will be played at venues across Melbourne on July 27 and 28 and the grand finals on August 3.

The midweek men's intra-club was heading for a dramatic conclusion, with the spectacular Hitmen taking on tough, reliable Andersons Creek team in a shootout expected to draw a big crowd to the high school stadium.

The semi-finals saw some scintillating action with the hot hand of Gavin Whitmore racking up 15 points for the Hitmen in the first half against title favourite Peter Parkes. Peter Parkes could have won the game on the buzzer, but the shot rimmed out.

The other semi saw the Codat Lakers overpowered by Andersons Creek in a low-scoring game. In the preliminary final, Andersons Creek ran away to a 17-point win over Peter Parkes, with John Zigmantas and Stan Slaborn each scoring 18 points to set up a grand final date with the Hitmen.

Warrandyte are also making a big impression in the Saturday junior competition, holding down five top spots and four seconds and with many other teams finals chances.

All fans are urged to go along on July 21 to see arguably the best team in Warrandyte, the 17As, do battle with Eltham. It's at 6.30pm at the high school and the 17As only home game for the season.

● *Late News: The Hitmen defeated Andersons Creek 43-34 in the Grand Final of the Men's Competition.*

*Top scorer was AC's Stan Slaborn with 14 points.*

**CRICKET CLUB NAMES NEW COACH — P11**

## Your chance to make it a big night for Madge

Internationally-known local entertainer Terry Gill will host a special night this month to assist the appeal for crippled Warrandyte footballer Gary "Madge" Allsop.

Gill (a bit of a villain in *Crocodile Dundee* and a good guy in the long-running TV series *The Flying Doctors*) has made available his Hawthorn theatre-restaurant at discounted prices on Thursday, July 26.

The name of the venue — *Naughty 90s & Bull 'n' Bush* — suggests a rollicking night of fun, and that's exactly what is guaranteed.

The theme is "Let's Party" and Gill, wife Carole Ann, Renie Ann Martini, David Gould, Tony

Evans, Erin Gill and David Johnston make it all happen.

Tickets for a night, which includes a four-course meal and lots of audience participation, have discounted from \$35 to \$28. This is the first fund for the Gary Allsop Trust Fund since the appeal was reopened. Allsop broke and dislocated his neck in the fourth game of last season.

Appeal co-ordinator Helen Revell is seeking donations from local traders of goods to be raffled on the night. She can be contacted on 844 3887 (H) or 344 7105 (BH).

The Naughty 90s is at 675 Glenferrie Road. Tickets are available from Helen, Jenny Walshe (876 3710) and Anthony Giles-Peters (844 2573).

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