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New shops for village

By CLIFF GREEN

A developer plans to erect seven shops on timbered land on the high side of Yarra Street, immediately north-east of the Mechanics' Institute hall.

The shops, on relatively narrow frontages, range in area from 58.6 square metres up to 86 square metres. Architect's drawings suggest that the complex, if built, will blend in reasonably well with older buildings in the village.

However, given the current economic climate and clear indications of an over-supply of commercial premises in Warrandyte, some doubts must exist about the future viability of the shops.

Due to the elevated nature of the site and the blind bend in the main road at that point, no provision has been made for vehicle access or parking from Yarra Street.

Instead, it is proposed to build a driveway on vacant land in Mitchell Avenue, beside the Warrandyte Arts Association studio (formerly the old fire station). This will lead to 31 car parking spaces at the rear of the proposed shops.

Although additional parking in the area will no doubt be welcomed by community centre and Mechanics' Institute patrons, the present ban on vehicles turning right out of Mitchell Avenue into Yarra Street could lead to traffic congestion and an increase in cars using Brackenbury Street, Mitchell Avenue and adjoining streets.

Objecting neighbours point to this possibility, and further predict a considerable increase in noise, both from the shops and especially from the parking area behind.

"The proposed parking lot could become a gathering point for vandals and hooligans, espe-

cially at night," Brackenbury Street resident Mr Jim Girvan told the Diary.

The objectors are also questioning the need for additional retail premises. "There is already a number of empty shops in Warrandyte," Mr Girvan said.

Experience with recent retail developments in the town indicates that rentals for these shops are likely to be high. Some existing traders are already battling to survive.

In December 1987, we revealed plans for twenty new shops in Warrandyte. It was then intended to build four shops on the land beside the hall. Three years on, and the complex planned for this site is the only one of these developments still to be built.

At that time, the Warrandyte Environment League told the Diary they considered commercial zoning of this land "inappropriate".

"The land between the Mechanics' Institute and Folkart is well treed and as such is an essential ingredient of our 'bush village' atmosphere," a WEL spokesman said then.

If such commercial 'infilling' of timbered, residential and garden areas along Yarra Street was to continue unchecked, strip development could predominate, and the neighbourhood character of the township could be threatened.

As this issue was going to press, the Diary was informed that the developer has responded to neighbours' objections concerning car parking and traffic volume and has proposed that the parking area should be reduced from 31 spaces to 24, allowing an increase in landscaping.

Left: Our artist's impression of the proposed new development. Inset: What the site looks like today.



THERE'LL BE A MONSTER CLEARING SALE OF SHOPS IN W'DYTE DIRECTLY OCK!!

Green Wedge disputes still unresolved

By DAVID WYMAN

Two disputes over permits for changed building construction in the Green Wedge still face final resolution. Both part-completed buildings are in Landscape Interest zoning and differ greatly from plans approved at Doncaster and Templestowe council meetings.

Councillors have strongly rejected a new planning permit application by Faithland Inc to allow its large church building in Reynolds Road to proceed with some alteration.

The concrete structure is about two and a half times larger than originally permitted. Faithland will now appeal in the Supreme Court against the enforcement order of the Administrative Appeals Tribunal which stopped building activity on the site last August.

In the other local dispute, an AAT appeal by an owner-builder to have his redesigned and relocated three-level house in South Warrandyte proceed was heard on November 2. A decision will be made within two weeks,

after the tribunal has inspected the site.

This dispute involves an objection by the Beulke family to the building of Mr P Drijfhout, on the grounds that it is not in accordance with permits and that it intrudes on their privacy and the semi-rural environment.

Endorsed plans showed this house would be 36 metres from its common boundary with the Beulke property, but it is now 7.2 metres from the boundary.

The appeal by Mr Drijfhout

against the refusal by council to grant a permit noted that the proposal was contrary to the original planning permit, but argued that the building was precisely the same in terms of site coverage, plot ratio, height and purpose.

The bid by Faithland Inc for a new permit for its church building was unanimously rejected by council on October 16.

The organisation was originally granted a permit for a church on an area 19 metres by 18 metres. After a local

residents' unsuccessful AAT appeal, the building went ahead with a new plan - now 48 metres by 30 metres - apparently endorsed by council officers.

Residents again made an AAT appeal when they saw the massive new structure, and an enforcement order was made stopping all work. It gave Faithland until February 28, 1991 to get a new planning permit, or it would have to demolish it back to its approved size.

Mrs Sue Cook and husband

Murray have been leading opponents of the building. She said they "felt great" about the decision. "We believe it was the only one available to councillors".

"All along, council staff have talked about compromises," she said. "The planning department recommendation was to pass the permit with a few alterations, which was ridiculous."

The next move is for the Supreme Court to hear an appeal by Faithland against the AAT's enforcement order.

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Rockin' along with the hoons at the bridge

IN RED & WHITE



Walk tall, young Christian Parsons — you are in illustrious company. You might recall that in the previous issue Christian confessed to having his fly undone on stage during the last performance of Warrandyte Primary School's original musical Kids In Paradise. He was terribly embarrassed. Well, if he saw a recent TV interview, Christian would be aware that a fellow named Michael Caine was similarly exposed during his theatrical debut many years ago. The young Mr Caine was embarrassed, too. So there you go, Christian — you already have something in common with a showbiz superstar!



The Tindale family of North Warrandyte are delighted to announce the arrival of at least one tawny frogmouth chick in a nest a few metres from their kitchen window. Mrs. Frogmouth set up nursery in the same stringybark 12 months ago. Her mastery of camouflage has obviously improved since because, given an assumed incubation period, she was there at least four weeks this time before being noticed. And where is Mr Frogmouth? He's sitting a few trees away, keeping an eye on the missus and the kid(s)

Bus drivers are, quite reasonably, stopping short of their runs from Melbourne to the bridge these nights for fear of delinquents who might have done the world a service by strangling on their own umbilical cords. You can bet your monthly Met ticket that mum and dad don't know or care where or what junior is at while rocks are being rained upon buses from the RSL hill. And you can bet a like token that, confronted, they'll say: "No, not my son!" The lads showed courage to match their IQ when confronted by an angry young man who'd been cheated out of a ride to Masonic Avenue. Denied everything, dropped their rocks and fled. Perhaps the transit cops — any cops — would like to pick up the pieces.

You couldn't help but notice, as you ran for shelter from the deluge dumped on this town on the late afternoon of Wednesday, October 31, that the sprinklers going full bore on the recreation ground were somewhat superfluous. Smokey predicted immediately that the track for Saturday's cricket would be heavy.

We are indebted to former Warrandyte Mike Fitzsimons for answering our October call and explaining the origin of Fitzsimons (that's one m) Lane. It was named after his great-great-grandfather John, who arrived from Ireland in 1841 and 19 years later bought the land bordered by the Yarra and what are now Porter Street and the Lane. Mike, who played junior footy here and now lives in North Croydon, says he's happy to be able to enlighten us because the mispronunciation of Fitzsimons as Fitzsimmons has been the source of family irritation for generations. Mike is the son of Alan, who had the Inglenook Cafe near the bridge in the late 1960s and lives in Johansons Road, which was somehow corrupted at some stage from Johansens (that's with an e) Lane. And Alan should know because his mother was a Johansen and the road (oops, lane) was named after that pioneer goldmining family.



There are those who say (nudge nudge, wink wink) that Warrandyte Arts Association's latest stage production — Guess Who's Having An Affair? — was written for this town. They are probably the ones with guilty consciences. Guilty or not, you'll get a lot of laughs from Carol Cole's latest comedy, directed by Doug McManus and presented cabaret-style at the Mechanics Institute Hall on November 22, 23, 24, 29 and 30 and December 1. Very briefly, it's about intrigue and suspicion running riot when the relationships of three middle-class couples are questioned at a dinner party. You can book a table (for the play, not the dinner party) by phoning Elaine Henderson on 844 1032.

It had to happen. They've got a McDonald's hamburger joint in Moscow, and a Kentucky Fried Chicken palace on Tian An Men Square in Beijing, so it had to be Warrandyte's turn sooner or later. Well almost Warrandyte. McDonald's have applied to Doncaster council for permission to build one of their assembly line fast fooderies on the corner of Andersons Creek Road and Reynolds Road. But if that inane creature Ronald McDonald turns up at the Warrandyte Festival, or the local

tennis club renames their Goldtown Open trophy the Chicken McNugget Cup, Smokey's heading for Kinglake or Cooktown or some place further north.

Speaking of the tennis club, one Mulga Fred, gossip columnist for 'Oddball', the club's aptly-named monthly newsletter, reports a couple of scurrilous stories worthy of wider circulation. One club member, whom Mulga dubs 'Laingy', was home from work, allegedly crook. Smokey presumes his missus was out earning an honest dollar. Anyway, Laingy gets bored, climbs out of bed and decides to help with the housework. Hangs out a machine load of washing and bakes a fruit cake. By the time the missus gets home (presumably) the cake is cooked (all of two centimetres high) and the washing is dry (except it wasn't wet, because it is still unwashed). Smokey knows all about that caper. It's called practised incompetence. Do a thing badly enough often enough and you won't get asked again.

Regular old telltale, the Mulga Fred. He hangs it on "another of our devoteds," who, "after a couple of reds the other night, happened to let slip the name of the spot where she and hubby used to go 'parking' in the pre-marital days (a long time ago)." The place was Donnybrook Springs. "Strewth!" writes Mulga, breathless with excitement. "Our intrepid investigatory team finally found it on a map. It must have been worth the trip. Could be a good spot for a car trial." For the benefit of peeping toms, ever helpful Fred has included a map showing the exact location of the old trysting spot. It's near Kalkallo. He's added the cryptic inscription, "Macka was here" and circled nearby Mt Disappointment.

Have you noticed how those gum trees on that vacant land next to the Mechanics' Institute hall are dying, when all the other trees round about are hale and hearty? And what caused those mysterious small holes, bored into the trunks of those selfsame eucalypts? Probably some previously unidentified species of indigenous Australian woodpecker.



Smokey
Joe

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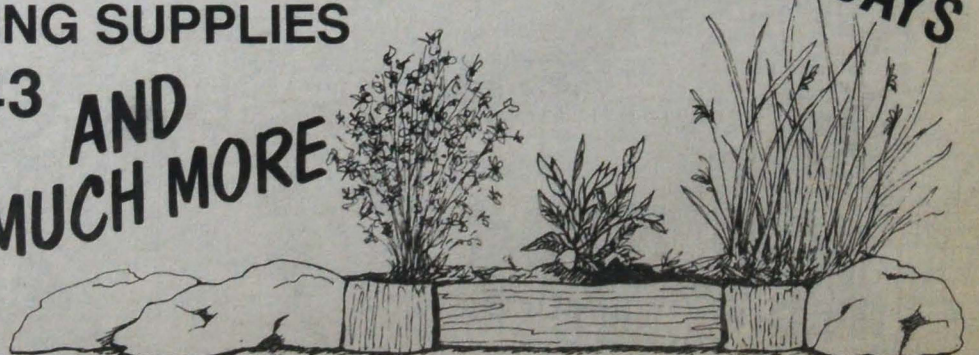
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Development plan threatens wildlife

By GEORGI STICKELS

North Warrandyte's unique bushland is again under threat. Approximately 100 acres of almost untouched country known as the Chase has been zoned for subdivision into six housing blocks.

Work on major access roads has begun, at the expense of wildlife. Naturalists consider the area to be of special significance and are concerned about the survival of a wedge-tailed eagle family and its nest.

It is believed that few areas exist in Warrandyte, or elsewhere near Melbourne, that are so sheltered from people.

The land is almost totally free of introduced weeds. It contains a huge variety of plant-life, from rocky hills covered with eucalypts to maidenhair ferns in the Stony Creek catchment areas. It is estimated that up to two hundred different plant species may exist in the area.

One place destined to be cleared is described by natural-

ists as an "orchid paradise". More than twelve species of orchid have been noted, including the bearded and donkey orchids, and the shy hare orchid, usually only seen in Warrandyte following a bushfire.

Development may wipe out these species, both by trampling and the almost inevitable introduction of weeds.

The Chase is a haven for local animals and birds. Black wallaby, eastern grey kangaroo and at least one species of possum have been noted. The wide range of birdlife includes varieties of honeyeaters and rosellas, the rufous fantail and the superb blue wren.

These animals and birds will be disturbed when building begins, and most will be forced to flee. Among those most affected will be the wallabies, which are less able to adapt.

A major concern of opponents to the subdivision is the existence of a nest, or eyrie which is home to a baby wedge-tailed eagle.

Mr Gordon Sansom, zoologist at Monash University and local resident, has examined the parent birds' droppings to discover something of their eating habits. His report states that there was no measurable trace of anything but rabbit.

The tree containing the eagles' nest is being placed on Eltham shire's list of significant trees, rating harm to the tree or the nest illegal. This step is important while the young is nestbound, although it is expected the young bird will leave the nest before the end of November.

Most other animals will not be so fortunate. Access roads already cleared have caused considerable damage. The creek, running through the floor of the valley, will be diverted to a new course in some places. Road clearing, although permitted by Eltham council, seems rather extensive. The main entry, for only six allotments, is 13 metres wide where it meets Floods Road.

Marcel Cameron, a local stu-

dent involved in the campaign to preserve the Chase said, "Such development appears to represent a massive overkill in an area where environmental protection should be given top priority".

The dusty track is a huge scar on the hillside, littered with piles of rock. This access has been likened in size to a freeway. The bulldozers are operating seven days a week and can be heard hundreds of metres away.

The Warrandyte Environment League is concerned about the future of the land and has approached the Eltham council planning department about the extent of road clearing. Council say it has examined the work, but local residents are upset about what they allege to be 'excessive' grading.

Marcel Cameron has been joined by his father, naturalist David Cameron in his bid to preserve at least some of this land. The area is close to the Professor's Hill sanctuary, and Marcel wants The Chase to become a similar refuge.



The Warrandyte habitat of the wedge-tailed eagle is under threat.

Grand overflows for 'yokels' jam session

The old Kerry Bar at the Grand Hotel overflowed with music and appreciative customers recently during an event hoped to be the first of several.

Yes folks, local entertainers have a new venue in which to perform and "jam".

Brainchild of Jonathon Ashley, the first "Local Yokels" Sunday at the pub was greeted with enthusiasm.

"I managed to attract twelve local acts and this was

very encouraging," Jon said. "It confirmed my hunch that there were a lot of local people who were either professionals appreciative of the chance to perform before a local audience, or amateurs or young people who would benefit from the experience."

"The 'Local Yokels' afternoon aimed to provide an opportunity for performers to develop their craft in a sympathetic environment."

The interest shown by

proprietor of the Grand Hotel, Michael Smith, was the catalyst which finally got the show on the road.

"He was delighted with the turn-up and is very supportive of the whole concept," Jon said.

A second "Local Yokels" afternoon is planned at the Grand on Sunday, December 9. Contact Jon Ashley (844 3953) if you'd like to add your talents to the jazz and folk-flavored line up.



Sympathy extended

The many Warrandyte friends of Mrs Bessie Kennedy will be saddened to learn of her death on October 19, following a long illness.

Mrs Kennedy, her husband Bruce and their family were residents of Warrandyte between 1947 and 1959. As well as other activities, Bessie was involved in the Warrandyte State School Mothers' Club and the scouts, and was an active member of St Stephen's Anglican Church.

Deepest sympathy, from those who knew them, is extended to Bruce, Margaret, Mark, Peter, Priscilla and their families.



Engineer slams cheap works

By DAVID WYMAN

A local civil engineer has described the work on that bend in Yarra Street, just east of the town, as "a cheap solution to a difficult problem" and "a potential liability for council". This follows a *Diary* story last month, highlighting the problem.

The local engineer, who did not wish to be named, said Doncaster and Templestowe council had made a long job of improvements on the corner.

"It started as a bit of a fiasco last year with an excavator gouging away at private property, even digging out a corner peg,

the engineer told the *Diary*. "The job started with that sort of attention to detail and it looks as though it's continued in that fashion."

He said the intrusion of the gutter crossings into the carriageway was unacceptable and "council might find itself in the position of having to defend the standard of its work should some accident result."

"I would have thought the council would find it difficult to defend its work there. In other words, it may well prove to have been cheaper to have done the job properly."

The work was initiated by council to improve sight distance for drivers on the bend. But four driveways cross the newly-constructed kerb and intrude substantially onto the road pavement. The local engineer admitted it was a difficult situation as there was no nature strip width to bring the driveways at a reasonable gradient down to the channel.

"The work that's been done is obviously on a budget, 'temporary' basis," he said.

"Higher standard methods would be to construct either a permanent grate to transition

vehicles over the culvert entry, or to drain each gutter crossing out to the north side of the road.

"In the present situation, I would have thought Vic Roads would have something to say about it, as it's a designated main road. Or they might be saying, 'We're going to have to re-do the whole street one day, anyhow,' and pass it off as temporary works."

As the *Diary* reported, council appears satisfied with the work. In our opinion, driving round that bend is still a hazardous exercise. And the footpath is clearly useless.

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To all parents of children aged between 10 and 18 years.

Do you know the whereabouts of your sons and daughters in the early hours of the morning on recent weekends?

If not, it is quite likely that your little angels were wandering around this town smashing the windows of local shops and other establishments and removing from the premises whatever they fancied.

Just what do you feel, knowing that it is possible that it is your little darlings that are causing this damage?

Are you proud of what they are doing to this town?

Would you object to having to pay a higher price for your goods so the owners of these establishments can recoup the losses your children are causing? Of course you would!

This has got to stop. Warrandyte was once a nice, quiet, enjoyable place to live until your children grew up.

Now it is getting to be like Doncaster. Before we all start blaming the "out of towners" just think how hard it is to get in or out of Warrandyte by public transport any time of the day let alone at 3 or 4 am when this vandalism is occurring.

This has got to stop, and it is up to you, the parents.

Before you start thinking that it couldn't possibly be your child, exactly where was your son or daughter last night when yet another local establishment was vandalised?

Name and address
supplied.

Most people will by now know that the bakery in Yarra Street, Warrandyte, is no longer being leased by the Warrandyte Community Workshop Co-operative.

Negotiations between Ken McKenzie of the co-op, and Audrey Drechsler, owner of the bakery, led to the co-op restoring it and providing woodfire oven-baked bread for the Warrandyte community during 1989-90.

After much discussion and consultation, the board of direc-

'Angels' smash shop windows

tors decided to incorporate a sandwich bar as part of the bakery operation in an attempt to maximise the use of the premises and provide job opportunities for local people.

However, in spite of trying a number of different ways to manage the bakery so that it became cost effective in order that any profits raised could be put into other community projects, the financial outlay in terms of wages and ancillary costs proved too heavy a burden compared with the income generated. This was true, even though the overall management was undertaken by members of the co-op's board of directors on a voluntary basis.

One of the aims of the co-op is job creation for people of all ages and the bakery fulfilled this objective during the time it operated under the co-op's management, employing 25 people on a casual and part-time basis last year.

The co-op wishes to thank all the people who have worked so hard both to restore and keep the bakery running for 18 months. The bakery is now being run by Neil Robb and his family and we wish them well.

Jean Chapman,
Secretary
Warrandyte Community
Workshop Co-operative

For so long it was the job of teachers to present the facts, and for the child to learn/memorize, often without understanding.

But the world is changing, and change means challenge and the public begins to ask, "How well equipped are the young to deal with the new challenges and new areas of responsibility they will face?"

The answer is "multi-skilling".

LETTERS

New skills, new understandings and attitudes to enable them as young adults to positively engage in the workforce and the demands which will be placed upon them.

Thus education has completely changed. Teachers have had to move away from the "imparting of knowledge" image, to one of "facilitator".

The teacher now sets up learning situations in which the child is led to solve problems with his peers and set up rules from his experience to enable him to face and solve future problems.

Terms like problem solving, risk taking and co-operative learning, are being used in our local schools with great success, as can be testified by children, parents, teachers and visitors.

Many occupations today are changing to keep up with the market as designated by public demand and modern technology. Teaching is just one example of this changing profile of the Australian work force.

Well done Warrandyte primary schools for being prepared to accept educational change in a positive and supportive manner, confident that they all share a common vision of optimism and commitment for the future of the children.

Lissa
Student

Here's an interesting tale for you!

This morning I was awoken by an inquisitive possum gingerly stepping over my bedcovers and sniffing at my hair.

I'm not sure who got the bigger fright. Let's face it, at 6am I don't look too good even to a Brushtail Possum.

Being new to Warrandyte, I could wonder if this is part of the welcoming committee.

Two days earlier I was awoken by a bird flapping around my bedroom. And, yes, he was most relieved to be picked up and set free.

The day before an enormous spider winked good night at me from above my head. It was a disconcerting sight before turning off the light — but I let him stay.

What an abundance of exciting wildlife you have here, and yes that does include spiders, snakes and lizards.

I love all the birds here. The crimson rosellas, kookaburras, magpies, gang-gangs, eastern rosellas and wattlebirds are a delight.

Naturally I claim them all as my personal property because I feed them occasionally. That's fair enough isn't it?

Trouble is, Mr Pet Possum has got a bit pushy in my opinion. He clawed a hole through my wall and snores in it and scratches all day long. It is a great temptation to yank on his long tail as if I was calling for the maid.

But really, I ask you, didn't he outstep the boundaries of civilised behavior coming into my bedroom just to have a sticky-beak?

Imagine cleaning the carpet of little birdie deposits only to find it replaced with an abundance of possum-poop.

Do I attract exotic wild creatures in the night? In Cairns little green frogs and salamanders played in my bedroom. Very odd! What would Freud make of all this? Should I charge them rent? And why is it all happening here?

I'll tell you why. Because this is Wonderful Warrandyte — the best place in the world and I'm glad to be here.

P.S. I love the *Diary*. Keep up the good work.

Rachel Buckley
Kangaroo Ground Road.

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Comic musical fulfils promise

Any misgivings I had about Warrandyte High's choice of musical production this year were largely dispelled with the rousing opening number. The promise of "Something for Everyone — a Comedy Tonight" was fulfilled.

"A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" like most Sondheim musicals, carries a degree of difficulty which would challenge a professional company.

No doubt orchestra and performers were at times stretched in coping with the difficult phrasing of the score but, under the direction of Chris White, they realised the comic possibilities of the show to provide an entertaining, escapist piece of theatre.

The musical was the perfect "Fo-

rum" for the comic talents of David Joy.

As Prologus he demonstrated the ability to connect with the audience and coax them to respond to the absurdities of the plot.

Every comic requires a foil and in the role of Hysterium, Evan Zigmantas proved an excellent straight man.

His transformation or was it transvestism, and the problems arising from mistaken identity, provided a comedy highlight.

James Egglestone, in his first appearance on the Warrandyte stage, also helped give credibility to the plot.

We again delighted in the singing of Katherine Adcock. Her performance as Phyllia, the much pursued

ingenue, lifted the production and her extensive experience was invaluable as assistant director.

Don Harrison, teacher of mathematics by day, slipped convincingly into the guise of Roman Army leader, Miles Gloriosus, passionate in pursuit of the reluctant Phyllia. No self-respecting Roman musical would be complete without dancing girls.

"Forum" featured a most athletic and liberated group of young ladies whose lifestyle owed little to the chaste doctrines of the Goddess Vesta.

Under the watchful eye of their procress, played alternately and with equal enthusiasm by Meaghan O'Connor and Judy Steel, the girls performed for the delectation of

their prospective masters and the audience.

This provided Kylea, Joanne, Sophie, Kelly, Sally and Bouthaina with the opportunity to demonstrate their individual style and dance routines.

I particularly enjoyed Matt Henderson's performance as Senex.

The role of his wife, the well-named Domina, was played on alternate nights with appropriate forcefulness by Emma Symes and Julie Byrne.

An amusing running, or in this case hobbling, gag was provided by Scott Cappellani who was required to cross the stage no fewer than seven times.

The Proteans and Soldiers de-

serve a special mention for their supportive ensemble work.

Above all, the successful staging of the show relied on unseen workers.

Chris White's set, comprising three suitably weathered ancient buildings set around a central forum provided an imaginative backdrop.

Lighting and audio crews worked smoothly under the experienced eye and ear of John Lajoie.

The costumes, designed and constructed in-house by Angie Chiodo and helpers showed originality and style.

Congratulations Chris on the successful staging of a challenging production.

Marion Winton

There's more to life, Yeti knows

By ROGER KIBELL

"If that's all there is my friend Then let's keep dancing We'll break out the booze and have a ball If that's all there is."

So sang Peggy Lee and we all know how she feels.

Thank whatever mysterious, unknown, all powerful and omniscient being in a region uncharted for the Yeti.

He's been seen again, this time by Russian border guards. Now no one can question the honesty and sobriety of a Russian guard. That proves that Yetis exist.

The Yeti exists on the frontiers of civilisations, in the snowy and icy regions of our minds, on top of mountains, in the tundra of far-flung countries and in the forests of our imagination.

Dressed in one of Stephen Dattner's best models, Yeti conducts his annual humanity-weakness-spotting trip.

Each year Yeti scours the travel brochures, agonising over where to go for the annual "spotting".

Both Greta Garbo and Yeti have the same PR man and he's worth every dollar and rouble he's paid.

He works on the philosophy that "less is more" so no public appearances except for an annual sortie close to a UPI reporter, telephone or fax machine, and no revisiting the same venue. We love our stars to be distant and unattainable. Yeti forbid that they be like us with bills to pay, underarm BO and concerns about thinning hair and middle age spread.

It's because of the Yeti's amazing anonymity that Australia's

Kurdaitcha Man has recently signed a contract with the same PR firm.

For years the Kurdaitcha Man has terrorised central Australians and before the arrival of a good PR firm two hundred years ago, he was forced to remain hidden, using effective yet excruciating feather slip-ons.

Aborigines complained about the fearful wails of Kurdaitcha Man as he stalked them, but didn't know the wails were caused by the feathers that tickled the soles of his feet.

Dreamtimes of such agony led the Kurdaitcha Man to plead with the PR man to dispense with the feathers but the PR man insisted he knew what the market wanted. The firm was worried, however, about over exposure so they tried to restrict the Kurdaitcha Man's appearances to a few gigs in out-of-the-way towns.

Market research has proven that the firm knows its stuff — publicity has never been better.

For a while the public grew tired of the mysterious and dalled with ordinary political extremism.

The PR firm kept the Yeti, Kurdaitcha Man, ET, flying saucers and "Old Faithful" on their books but had a rather lean time of it while the Russians and Chinese stole the front pages with material dialecticism, revisionism, five year plans and coups.

Perestroika and the breakdown of the Berlin Wall proved that the fickle public wanted a return to Hollywood romance.

All the firm's old hams were caught napping and had to dust off their costumes and get the adrenalin pumping.

The Yeti was first cab off the rank — what a pro!

Just as Nature abhors a vacuum, humans need the unknown to keep them going. We need to have some excitement to brighten our otherwise dreary existences.

As a lad, I loved the radio serials, "Tarzan" "Hop Harrigan" and "The Adventures of the Sea Hound" made life bearable.

Who cares if the continuity man got it wrong between the end of one week's serial and the beginning of the next.

The parachute really did open after all, and that enormous rock didn't actually land on the hero. Reality is what you want it to be!

Of course, the Phantom is real, but nowadays, I have occasional doubts.

About fifteen years ago, when I was ten, the back page of my Phantom comic book indicated that I could possess the Phantom's powers by purchasing one of his magic rings.

I sent away my money and awaited invulnerability and immortality.

About 4 pm, I slipped on the ring and awaited defecation.

The sun sank and I glanced at the bones and eyes of the skull on my ring finger.

Too light for magic, obviously, as the red paint remained just that. I checked to see whether my jeans had turned into tights, but to no avail.

I rushed to my bedroom, launched myself onto my bed and pulled the covers over my head. Here was the perfect darkness I had been anticipating.

I shut my eyes then brought up my hand and ring finger level with my face.

I composed myself and opened my eyes. No Yeti, no ET,



no glowing Phantom skull! I blinked, readjusted my hand and tried again — still no transmogrification.

Throwing off the blankets, I found the comic and reread the blurb about the ring.

"You too can have the amazing powers of the Phantom. As the skull glows you will be transformed into a creature with amazing insights and power."

"Perhaps there are some people who haven't the right body for the Phantom's power" I conjectured. "Perhaps the ring was from a bad batch."

Despair can last only so long. It was 5 pm and time for "The Adventures of the Sea Hound". I threw the ring into my top drawer and raced to the kitchen to listen to a real hero.

Now I'm grown-up and have left that nonsense behind me.

As we grow older, we realise that "this is it baby — there ain't much more".

We become sensible. We become economic rationalists and that's exactly why I've just sent my CV to the Yeti's PR firm.

If they can market products such as flying saucers, astrology,

magic pyramids and crystal power, I want in.

I don't see why I won't be able to join them and become fabulously rich and lead an international lifestyle among the exciting and spectacularly powerful.

I've just read their advertisement in a magazine and all I have to do to join the firm is send off my CV, \$5,000 and the tear-off slip. They promise that I will gain "undreamt of knowledge and gain amazing insights into human nature."

I can't wait for the return mail.

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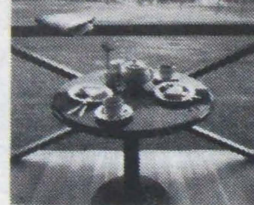
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Institute survives crises

Like most worthwhile things in Warrandyte, the Mechanics' Institute halls had to be fought for.

Fire threatened them on numerous occasions during the past century and public apathy was battled again and again.

Past committees faced funding crises with seemingly regular monotony through the years. They had to organise balls and run cake stalls and raffles. Members had to buy debentures, back overdrafts and pledge personal financial guarantees.

The advent of television in 1956 led to the most difficult of these crises. Local cinema screenings were finished and people refused to come out for balls and dances.

But, as always, Warrandyte found a way of helping itself. In the face of this general trend against community activity, the Warrandyte Arts Association was born. The Mechanics' Institute hall became WAA's principal venue. The building was no longer just another good cause, it was headquarters to a dynamic, vigorous organisation. This was formalised by the ultimate amalgamation of the institute and the arts association.

The financial battle to maintain and upgrade the hall continues, but although the future will always be difficult, it is now 'home' to a group of people who are working hard to ensure its continued life.

Not only fire, apathy and changing social patterns threatened the life of the Mechanics' Institute hall. Officialdom also played its part.

A proposal emerged during the 1960s to sell the land on which both the hall and the original fire station stand to a developer and build a new hall and fire station at the recreation reserve. Suspicious locals observed that certain vested interests would be served by shifting community focus from the village to the west end. This move was opposed at public meetings and defeated.

In August 1981, rumours abounded that Doncaster and Templestowe council intended to acquire Mechanics' Institute land to facilitate the commercial development of the adjoining property on Yarra Street. Fortunately, it appears council did not have the power to create an easement across the institute's land. (See front page story this issue.)

In the decades ahead, the WMI&AA will have to adjust to changing times and changing community needs. Whatever happens, the Mechanics' Institute hall will undoubtedly remain a Warrandyte landmark for many years to come.



Above: Yarra Street looking west about 1906, with the original Mechanics' Institute hall immediately beyond the cottage.

Right: The second Mechanics' Institute hall, as it looks today.

Ideals flourish in centenary

The first Mechanics' Institute opened its doors in London in 1824. An early experiment in adult education, the institutes were an attempt to provide facilities for young people to improve upon their scant schooling.

At that time, the term mechanic applied to any person who laboured with their hands. Warrandyte's Mechanics' Institute may have been established in the old Andersons Creek schoolhouse as early as 1878. The building was described as "rough but suitable for a goldfield".

By 1890 the old school was considered quite unsuitable for use as an institute. Also, mechanics' institutes were beginning to shift their focus from adult education to providing premises for meetings and public entertainment.

At a public meeting held in July 1890, the committee announced that satisfactory progress had been made towards securing a site for the new hall and that 23 pounds 5 shillings and 9 pence was in hand towards the building fund.

On December 5, 1890, 'The Evelyn Observer' reported that the new Mechanics' Institute hall was completed, had been passed by the Board of Health and would be opened before Christmas when it would be "ready to do its share towards paying off its liabilities".

The hall was built on crown land on the river side of Yarra Street, opposite the Webb Street corner. The site is now occupied by the pharmacy.

It was claimed that Anderson's Creek can boast one of the best and most commodious halls in the district". This was "mainly due to the indefatigable exertions of the Committee, who have not only carried their idea to a successful issue, but have made themselves personally responsible for a considerable sum in order to do so."

"There is no doubt our surrounding friends will, on the opening occasion, rally round us, and to the best of their ability assist in considerably reducing the liability on the creditable building."

The official opening of the new hall, in mid-December, was indeed a gala occasion. The building was "pretily decorated" and "talented ladies and gentlemen" took part in a concert and farce entitled "Spinks the Baker". At the ball that followed "several gentlemen remarked on the beauty of the floor, the unanimous opinion being that it was unequalled in the district". Oh yes, and "I 1925 it had become too small for the community and fund raising began for a new hall. A splendid site became suddenly available on the night of April 27, 1925 when the Warrandyte Hotel was destroyed by fire. The present hall, on the Mitchell Avenue corner, was completed in 1928.

The cost of the land and the construction of the new hall was partly financed by the sale

Next month marks the centenary of the opening of Warrandyte's first Mechanics' Institute hall. BRUCE BENCE has researched and CLIFF GREEN has written these special features.

Dances and weddings remembered

Lil Whitehead remembers going to dances in the old hall. "The floor was like glass," she said. Music was provided by a band comprising Frank Lowe playing violin, his wife Amelia playing piano and Sam McAuley on the piano accordion.

Lil also remembers the silent movies, screened by Mr Gainsford twice a year. These were eagerly looked forward to in Warrandyte, as they were a real novelty at the time. Mrs Gainsford provided a musical 'sound track' on the piano and also played during interval.

The old hall served as venue for many wedding receptions. When John Hutchinson of Pound Bend married May Sandford in 1910, 'The Evelyn Observer' reported that the guests spent an enjoyable evening and the newly-married couple left for their honeymoon by motor car. The newspaper also listed the guests and their presents, undoubtedly ensuring the receipt of some fine and costly gifts.

The present hall, on the Mitchell Avenue corner, was also used as a cinema for many years. The 'bio box' above the old front entrance doors was built for this purpose.

The Lilac Time Ball, held in the present hall, was a major event in Warrandyte's social calendar. The Royal Women's Hospital Auxiliary ran a debutante set in conjunction with the ball during October, 1946. Seven young debutantes were presented to Mrs R.G. Menzies. When the historical society revived the Lilac Time Ball 40 years later, two members of the original debut set were honoured as special guests.

During the 1950s, Warrandyte Tennis Club's only revenue was from euchre parties held in the hall.

The building took on a new lease of life with the formation of the WAA Drama Group, with Ron Golding as founding president and Enid Bird as secretary. The group went on to present a number of prize-winning productions, a highlight being the comedy "Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead", directed by the internationally famous Australian actor Charles Tingwell.

A splendid production of Jack Hibberd's wedding reception play "Dimboola", so appropriate in this setting, is affectionately remembered. The drama group has continued to flourish and in more recent years its "Festival Follies" has been an annual Warrandyte's theatrical event.

Well-attended public meetings have always been a feature of civic life in Warrandyte firstly in the old hall, then in the present building. Warrandyte's Mechanics' Institute halls have witnessed a passing cavalcade of comedy and tragedy, both real and fictional. Their rafters have rung with music and laughter, argument and applause. Their walls have encompassed the events and echoed the life of this special place for a hundred years.



Left: Debutante set, 1946; standing rear: Win Moulden; (1 to r) middle row: Ewa Gallatly, Thelma Robinson, Dawn Lloyd, Mrs R.G. Menzies, Phyllis Hussey, Stella Craushaw, Wilma Hussey; front row: Betty Endicott, Mary Sloan, Robin Homer (flower girl).

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Spreading the word on butter confusion

By KEN VIRTUE

I've always been a sucker for heavy spreading.

On toast, crumpets, Saos, Boston bun slices and even croissants.

As a child I spread slabs of butter on bread underneath a variety of toppings such as honey, jam or the ubiquitous Vegemite.

"Ugh, how can you use so much butter?" my father would scoff.

"Leave him alone, Tom, he's a growing boy," my mother would maternally retort.

Buoyed by such approval I sought out more inventive ways to pamper my palate with butter — on potatoes, peas, beans and carrots!

Even those rotten little balls of misery called brussel sprouts would have their evil taste mitigated by dollops of beautiful butter.

That was, until the advent of margarine.

Most of Australia eventually succumbed to the incessant pressure of "spread easy" advertising, and a skilful P.R. campaign. Margarine was soon number one with a knowing wink from a typical TV mum.

Butter caused cholesterol problems it seemed. That caused your humble middle-class arteries to clog and before long you'd be off to that great dairy farm in the sky.

Even cheese got sliced from a lot of sensible household menus for a while.

The funny thing was, that butter was still OK in restaurants. I



guess margarine was hard to roll up stiffly in those decorative scrolls, and anyway, a little bit every now and then wouldn't hurt anyone.

Gradually that wax-papered block of butter disappeared from supermarkets to be replaced by a dizzying variety of tubbed margarine brands.

Then, from over the top of a cow appeared Peter Russel-Clark, telling us all that butter was "only natural" and that Aussie cheese was bonzer stuff.

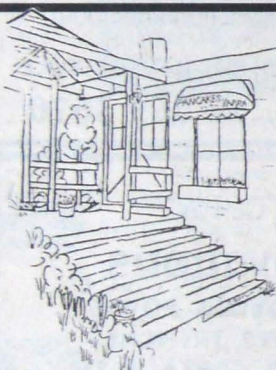
A recent magazine article also

caught my eye. It compared an incredible list of unpronounceable contents of margarine versus a few natural ingredients of butter.

What are we all to believe? I mean sugar is now "a natural part of life" and for all I know cholesterol could be a CIA plot.

Only trouble is, my adult palate has changed. Butter now tastes like it has been peppered with salt.

The person who sorts all of this out for us will certainly be "congratulated".



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Bushfire writer honored

Joan Webster, author of the internationally acclaimed Complete Australian Bushfire Book, is to receive Fire Awareness Week's Community Service Award for her contribution to public awareness of bushfire safety.

An award-winning journalist, Joan has also written articles and made broadcasts and TV appearances on bushfire safety.

She was nominated for the award by the Country Fire Authority. The Complete Australian

Bushfire Book is the standard work on bushfire safety for the public and a "bushfire classic".

In March this year, Joan became the first woman to speak on bushfire safety in South Africa when she addressed the South African Fire Institute's International Congress. She was made "honorary fireman" of two of the country's brigades and a civil defence unit.

Last year the CFA commissioned her to write a poster.

Should We Stay Home or Go?, on the dangers of abandoning homes during a bushfire.

Her articles and TV appearances warning of dangerously inadequate community disaster refuges in the Dandenong Ranges set in motion the building of school bushfire refuges by the Victorian Ministry of Education.

The Complete Australian Bushfire Book, \$29.95 post paid, PO Box 391, Blackburn 3130.

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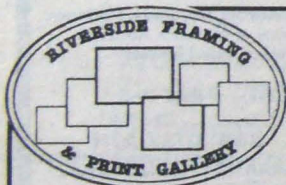
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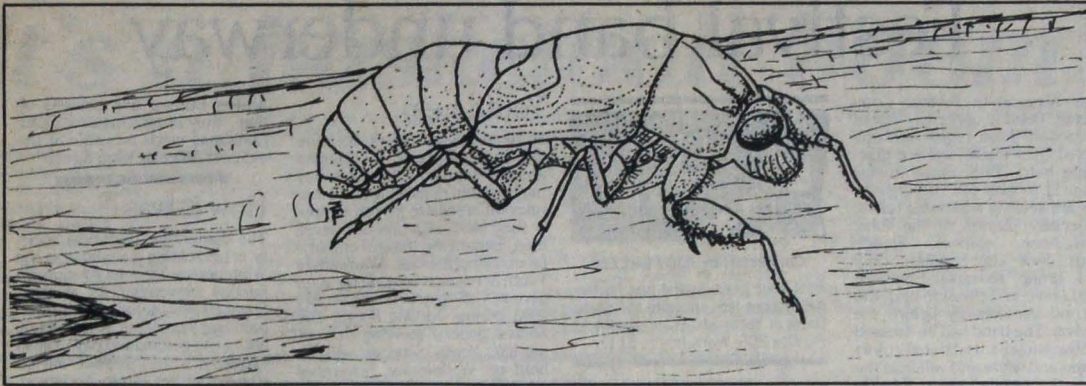


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Shed skin of a cicada nymph

Cicada's cry heralds summer

There are about a million different types of insects in the world and the cicada must surely rank among the loudest. When the ear-piercing shrill of a cicada breaks the stillness of a warm November day, you know summer must be just around the corner.

The sound, which emanates from the tree tops, builds to a throbbing crescendo as more individuals join the chorus. This in fact is an all male choir, singing ardently to attract their silent mates. The amazing high decibel noise is produced by vibration of drum-like organs situated on either side of the insects abdomen.

There are nearly 200 species of cicada in Australia. Some of the more common ones have been given imaginative names: Cherry-



NATURE

By PAT COUPAR
Drawings: MELANIE COUPAR

nose, Flurry Miller, Washerwoman, Double-drummer, Red-eye and Green Monday, are some of them.

Although frequently heard, cicadas are well concealed among the foliage of the trees. On appearance they superficially resemble an overgrown fly rather than their closer relatives, the bugs. Cicadas have large semi-transparent wings. They possess compound eyes which give them excellent vision, yet still retain a triangle of three simple eyes, situated like a jewel in the centre of

the head. Cicadas feed on sap, which they obtain by a large piercing mouthpart, from tender young shoots of native and introduced plants.

Unlike the adults, young cicadas lead silent and secretive lives below ground. After mating, the female cicada lays her eggs in tiny incisions in twigs or small branches. The emerging nymphs are minute replicas of the adult, but wingless. They burrow into the soil to feed on sap of tree roots. The nymphs may spend several years in this subterranean environment.

When they are finally ready to emerge, the mature nymphs claw their way up a verticle shaft to the surface. Attached to a support, they shed their outer skin for the last time to emerge as a fully-winged adult cicada.

The contrast between the two

environments could not be more dramatic. After years of confinement deep within the damp darkness of the soil, is it any wonder that the cicada proclaims its freedom in such a resounding manner?

Papery-brown skins, like perfect moulds of the cicada nymphs, can be found abandoned on tree trunks or scattered among leaf litter on the ground: the only evidence of their sunless and secluded past life.

Whether you like it or not, the high-pitched, penetrating call of the cicada is very much part of the hot sunny days and warm sultry evenings of the Australian summer in Warrandyte. Around this time every year, I for one eagerly await the first tentative shrill which announces the new season.

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CITY OF DONCASTER & TEMPLESTOWE

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987 NOTICE OF AMENDMENT TO THE DONCASTER AND TEMPLESTOWE PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT L34

The City of Doncaster and Templestowe has prepared Amendment L34 to the Doncaster and Templestowe Planning Scheme.

The amendment proposes to:

1. Rezone land bounded by Doncaster Road, Old Warrandyte Road, Woodhouse Road and Aminga Avenue to an 'Environmental Residential Zone' (currently Warrandyte Residential Zone or Residential 'C' Zone).
2. Amend the 'Warrandyte Residential Zone' to include a minimum lot size of 0.1 ha for subdivision and addition of a 'sewerage' condition to the detached house use and subdivision clause.

The amendment can be inspected at:

- Doncaster and Templestowe Municipal Offices, 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster 3108
- The Department of Planning & Urban Growth, Ground Floor, The Olderfleet Buildings, 477 Collins Street, Melbourne 3000
- Eastern Regional Office, The Department of Planning & Urban Growth, Suite 4/38-42 Prospect Street, Box Hill 3128

Submissions about the amendment must be sent to:

ATTENTION: Manager - Strategic Planning

City of Doncaster and Templestowe,

P.O. Box 1

Doncaster 3108

by 19 November, 1990

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Festival band underway



Conducted by JUDY GREEN

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hours a week to spare and is interested in becoming involved, they can ring 844 1839 or see Lin Chandler at the Neighbourhood House, 2a Masonic Avenue, Warrandyte.

The Warrandyte Festival Community Band is underway. About 30 people have registered, collected their music and are practising hard. They range in age from 11 to over 50. The organisers are seeking additional talent, especially players of the tuba, saxophone, clarinet, French horn, oboe and bassoon. Only two group rehearsals will be held, one in February and the second immediately before the festival. The band will be dressed in Warrandyte's traditional colors of red and white and will lead the festival parade next March. Further information can be obtained from Jane or David Sticks on 844 2514.

In the swim

Next January, the Lions Club of Warrandyte will be conducting its annual learn-to-swim program for children aged four and older. It is estimated that since 1978 about 2000 local children have learnt the basics of water survival through this program. Tuition takes place in the pool at Warrandyte Primary School. The Lions Club expects another 150 children will take part in the two nine-day sessions, which commence on January 2. Pam Freemantle and her staff from the Canoe Shed will again take the lessons. Further details and enrolment forms can be obtained from the Canoe Shed, the South Warrandyte store or by phoning Dieter Retz, the club secretary, on 712 0326.

Supporters

Warrandyte Neighbourhood House is appealing for volunteers to help with their newly-formed family support program. Helpers will receive guidance from social workers. If anyone has a few

Local drama

Carole Cole's new play, 'Guess Who's Having an Affair?' is in rehearsal. Doug McManus will have his cast ready for cabaret-style performances in the Mechanics' Institute hall on November 22, 23, 24, 29, 30 and December 1. For bookings phone Elaine Henderson on 844 1032. Elaine is also directing 'Kiwi the Koala and the Magic Tree', to be performed in local kindergartens and schools. Plans are rolling for next year's 'Festival Follies', and auditions will be held on February 3, 1991. For information ring Sue Dyring on 846 1191.

Follies

Festival Follies '91 is in the pipeline. Anyone who has ever wanted to sing, dance, act, write, strip, juggle, hang upside down or whatever, this is your chance. Audition date is Sunday, February 3. If you want to be in it, start preparing now. Ring 816 1191

Youth help

Students in youth work, accounting, financial planning, community development, business administration, marketing and other relevant areas are invited to apply their skills at a practical level, thus enhancing future employment opportunities. Warrandyte Youth Services is looking for such people. Call Agnes Fenech on 844 2985 during working hours. The annual general meeting of Warrandyte Youth Services will be held on Wednesday, November 14 at 7.30pm at the Mechanics' Institute hall. Mr Ian Patching of Eltham Youth Services will speak on 'Youth Services in the Year 2000'.

Seniors

Warrandyte Senior Citizens continue with their many activities. Forthcoming events include a day trip to Barwon Heads, Christmas luncheon and show at the Naughty Nineties Theatre Restaurant and a Christmas luncheon at the clubrooms, Tarooma Avenue. Anyone interested can contact the clubrooms on 844 2437.

50-50 dance

The Whitehouse Committee of Management is holding a 50-50 dance on Saturday, December 22 at the Whitehouse, Tarooma Avenue, Warrandyte. Flossie's three piece band is providing the music. Cost is \$10 a family or \$5 single, BYO plate. The floor is good and the music starts at 8pm.

Christmas

The festive season is coming up fast, and the Warrandyte Citizens

Advice Bureau has advised us that they now have UNICEF Christmas cards available at the old post office in Yarra Street.

How it was

The Warrandyte Historical Society is presenting a seminar at the Whitehouse, Tarooma Avenue, on Sunday, November 25 at 2pm. Speakers will include Ted Rotherham and Ray Virtue, who will talk about the goldmining days, David Crockett, whose subject will be pioneer settler James Anderson, and Stan Houghton, who will yarn about old Warrandyte. Entry is free, but donations will be appreciated.

Tuned in

Are you interested in local radio? Plenty Valley Community Radio, operating on 88.6fm, welcomes new subscribers. General meetings are held regularly at their premises, corner Ironbark and Yan Yean Roads, Yarrambat. A subscriber card entitles the holder to discounts on a wide range of products and services. For further information contact the president, Ian Lamont, on 436 5407, or membership secretary Mike Scully on 431 1438.

Music

The Box Hill-Doncaster Regional Library will present Jane Stacy on oboe, Alison Cattanaoh on flute and Simon Harris on clarinet at 1040 Whitehorse Road, Box Hill, on Sunday, November 11. The trio will perform both classical and contemporary works. On Sunday, November 25 the Box Hill Choral Society, under the direction of Michael Loughlin, will present a mixed repertoire of songs at the library.

Antipathy sparked by mail change

November 1890: The action taken by Mr Joseph Smith, Templestowe, with reference to the alteration in the time of our daily mails is cordially endorsed here; and a general feeling of surprise at the action taken by their local postmaster, Mr Hunter.

We can all perfectly understand Mr Williamson's objection to anything that savors of Warrandyte. This gentleman is only carrying out an antipathy of many years standing. I don't think any petition that can be brought against the one for the alteration, so numerous signed, will avail much.

Mr Hunter is certainly deserving of the position he has acquired at Templestowe, yet he will have to be taught that a becoming modest behaviour should be a natural consequence of the several positions which the public have very properly given him.

When I say modest behaviour,

I certainly do not wish to convey that he is an immodest man; far from it, but merely to suggest that arrogance is unbecoming in those relatively positioned.

Mr Symington, our late State school head teacher here, started for his new appointment, Bethanga, last Monday. Mr O'Meara, who has been appointed here, commenced his new duties at the same time. Mr Symington and Miss Symington (his sister) carry with them the respect of the Creek and their best hopes for their future happiness and advancement.

The return cricket match with Templestowe will be played on their ground next Saturday.

It is to be hoped that the heavy rains of the last few days will not materially injure the hay harvest. The crop is an immensely heavy one. The prospects of the farmers are looking splendidly, for which I am sure they are sufficiently grateful, and it is to

be hoped that we shall have favorable weather for getting it in.

How lovely everything looks. The green and gold of our present sunsets. Earth and sky seem to merge together; nothing else save the rippling river. This is a beautiful place, at this time of the year especially; visitors would see us at our best. What a pity we cannot get easy transit to and from the metropolis; or, rather, what a pity for the brain-worked metropolitans.

The river is rapidly falling, although, by its appearance, the snow water from the ranges accompanies it. Fishing is tolerably good; the number of large cod taken has not been equal to other years, however.

Things bid fair to be exceedingly lively here in about a hundred years - that's about the time now allowed for resuscitation. We may not be alive, yet our footprints, number elevens, may

HOW WE LIVED

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



be discernible. 'The Evelyn Observer' will certainly be in existence, but whether the proverbial Scotsman will own and edit it is doubtful. (From the Newspaper Collection, State Library of Victoria.)

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It's a basketball boom

By CLINTON GRYPAS

Warrandyte Basketball Club's new junior season is under way, with 42 teams involved.

Warrandyte has 30 teams in the boys' section and 12 in the girls'. It means that every Saturday, the ever-growing club is represented by more than 300 junior players.

When the Friday night championship teams are taken into

account, it is not difficult to see why this is the biggest participant sporting club in Warrandyte.

The Friday night teams are nearing the end of their season, with some finals matches coming up. The 12-week season was virtually a grading season for next year, when it will be three times as long.

Of the seven Warrandyte Friday night teams, the 11EQ boys and the 15BY boys are both se-

cond on the ladder and the 13BY team third.

In the men's midweek competition, the action is really hotting up as the finals approach.

With just three weeks to play, the Hitmen were clinging to a narrow lead at the top of the table with 31 points. They were just a point ahead of the two expansion teams, Makeshift and the Wobblers, who have lifted the standard of play even further.

The battle for fourth spot was just as tight, with the Codat Lakers on 28 points, Peter Parkes on 27 and Andersons Creek on 26.

The top four teams will play off in the first division finals and the bottom four for second division honours.

The finals start on December 5 and culminate on Wednesday, December 19, with the grand final at Warrandyte High School.

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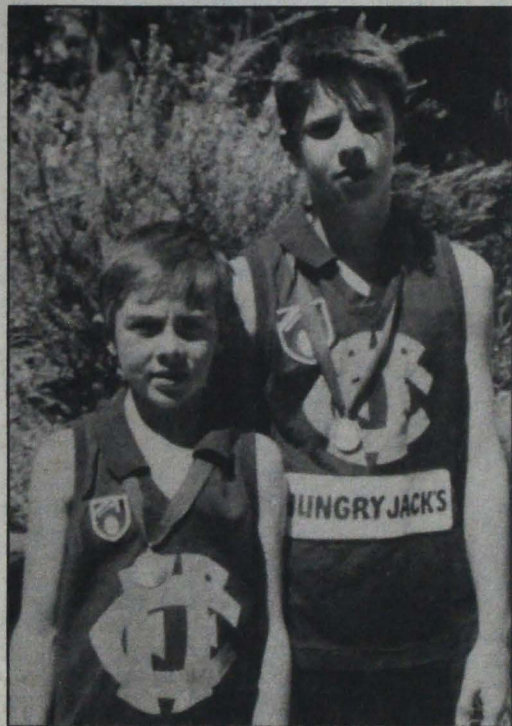
Cubs' little bit of glory

Warrandyte boys Justin Edwards (left) and Nick Brisbane were big winners in the 1990 AFL finals. They were members of the Fitzroy team which won the Little League premiership.

The two boys were selected from the Warrandyte little leaguers and trained in a Fitzroy squad of 20 which contested a knockout series during the AFL finals series.

Justin and Nick were presented with their premiership medallions on Grand Final day at the MCC.

It was two Little League flags in a row for Fitzroy. Last year another Warrandyte boy, Simon Glendinning, was a member of the premiership team.



Kids ride tall at Wyena's big day

An enthusiastic bunch of young equestrians took part in the Wyena Horse and Pony Club's School Holiday Gymkhana on September 30.

Seventy-one events were held, with trophies and sashes presented for champion led pony, champion junior rider, champion ridden pony, champion led gallopway, champion led hack, champion rider, champion ridden gallopway and champion ridden hack.

Two perpetual trophies were presented — the Novice Trophy for Champion Novice Combination and Champion Pony Club Rider Trophy.

The Novice Trophy was won by Anna Tootell, riding Yarra Brae Woodstock, and the Champion Pony Club Rider Trophy by Kylie Parker, of Yarra Glen Pony Club, riding Charlotte.

Wyena has for many years held gymkhanas in the July and September school holidays to cater for all the young riders in the area.

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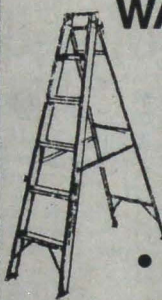
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Owzat! 1990 Dytes a big hit

Melanie blitzes titles

Junior player Melanie Rankin, 17, blitzed through the ranks of Warrandyte's female players to successfully defend her women's open singles title at the Warrandyte Tennis Club championships late last month. She overwhelmed Janine Phillips, 6-2, 6-0.

Teaming with Melissa Kerkhof, Melanie also won the women's open doubles, defeating Lyndal Mackintosh and Janine Phillips in three sets, 3-6, 6-3, 6-2.

Club coach Fabio Forlano likewise repeated his victory of a year ago, routing junior player Andrew Hiscock, 6-1, 6-0 in the men's open singles event. Forlano teamed with junior David Green in defence of their men's open doubles title, defeating David Termorshuizen and Jamie Booth, 6-1, 6-3.

Another junior, Elise Youl, was Fabio's partner in the open mixed doubles, bringing down Jenny Stubbs and David Termorshuizen, 6-4, 6-2.

This weekend (Saturday and Sunday, December 10 and 11) will see a number of international standard players battling it out on the Tarroona Avenue courts during the finals of the Warrandyte Peters Ice Cream Masters, the last leg in the Victorian satellite circuit.

Local tennis enthusiasts are reminded that all matches are open to the public and admission is free.

CHAMPIONSHIP DETAILS

Open — Men's Singles: Fabio Forlano d Andrew Hiscock 6-1, 6-0. Women's Singles: Melanie Rankin d Janine Phillips 6-2, 6-0. Men's Doubles: Fabio Forlano d David Termorshuizen-Jamie Booth 6-1, 6-3. Women's Doubles: Melanie Rankin-Melissa Kerkhof d Lyndal Mackintosh-Janine Phillips 3-6, 6-3, 6-2. Mixed Doubles: Fabio Forlano-Elise Youl d David Termorshuizen-Jenny Stubbs 6-4, 6-2.

B-Grade — Men's Singles: Richard Lowe d Sean Mueglitz 6-3, 6-3. Women's Singles: Elise Youl d Penny Kerkhof 6-0, 4-6, 7-6. Mixed Doubles: Richard Lowe-Amelia Briggs d Geoff French-Leoni Thomas 3-6, 6-3, 7-6.

JUNIORS

17U — Boys' Singles: Andrew Hiscock d Geoff Ryan 6-1, 6-0. Girls' Singles: Melanie Rankin d Lyndal Mackintosh 6-2, 6-1. Boys' Doubles: Geoff Ryan-David Green d Claes Ruegg-Richard Youl 6-4, 6-4. Girls' Doubles: Melanie Rankin-Prue Fisher d Prue Hiscock-Elise Youl 6-3, 6-3. Mixed Doubles: Geoff Ryan-Melanie Rankin d David Green-Lyndal Mackintosh 6-4, 6-2.

13U — Boys' Singles: Mike Howell d Ben Saaksjarvi 10-3. Girls' Singles: Christie Lawrence d Vanessa Kearney 10-1. Boys' Doubles: Mike Howell-Ben Saaksjarvi d Rowan Berry-Luke Bennett 10-4. Girls' Doubles: Christie Lawrence-Zoe Milner d Vanessa Kearney-Marney Pultford 10-0. Mixed Doubles: Brett Yarwood-Christie Lawrence d Ben Saaksjarvi-Marney Pultford 10-9.

Orlander trophy for the most improved junior player: Ben Saaksjarvi.

Warrandyte Cricket Club, infused with new blood and new enthusiasm, has made a fine start to the 1990-91 season. A greater depth of talent in the ranks has already been translated into improved performances at all senior levels.

The first eleven emerged from its two opening encounters with a loss and a draw but, according to club president Mark Davis, has "definitely turned the corner".

It was well situated to post its first win of the season after hitting up 5/276 on the first day of the match against Lilydale.

Michael Day led the assault with 70 and

had plenty of allies. Paul Hughes made 52, Greg Tregear 42, captain-coach John Sharman 39 and Cam Day was unbeaten on 33.

"Competition for places in the top grades is very keen and will get even keener," David said. "We have several young players pressing for senior selection."

"An indication of our improvement this season is that in both the completed rounds so far, we have been only one win short of a clean sweep in the seniors."

The second eleven convincingly won its first two games and was in a great position to make it a hat-trick after a telling performance in the field against Lilydale.

The club is struggling for numbers in its junior ranks. It had planned to field six junior teams, but could not field a second under-16 eleven.

Now the under-14(2) side is in danger. It could not muster a team in the third round and the club has appealed to any interested boys to attend training at 4.30 on Wednesday afternoons.

The junior season has produced mixed results for Warrandyte so far. The under-16s have a win and a loss on the board and their third-round game was delicately balanced, with the Dytes 7/47 in their pursuit of Montrose's 67.

Details

FIRSTS: Warrandyte 84 lost to Croydon United 197 (J. Sharman 3/50). Warrandyte 227 (C. Day 50, C. Dorrington 68) drew with East Ringwood 6/153 (G. Walshe 3/43). Warrandyte 5/276 (M. Day 70, G. Tregear 42, P. Hughes 52, Sharman 39, C. Day 33 no) v Lilydale.

SECONDS: Warrandyte 209 (Kline 52, Pascoe 68 no) d Croydon United 101 (Ryan 5/28) and 6/83. Warrandyte 8/175 (Hughes 55, Kline 40 no) d East Ringwood 153 (Graf 5/53, Pascoe 4/51). Warrandyte 1/12 v Lilydale 143 (Rogers 3/25, Graf 3/48).

THIRDS: Warrandyte 0/7 drew Croydon United 161 (Vittritti 5/23). Warrandyte 9/297 (Comrie 59, Cauty 52, A. King 34, Vittritti 59) d East Ringwood 195. Warrandyte 9/311 (Comrie 65, Brisbane 52, Creber 33, A. Hughes 31 no) v Lilydale.

FOURTHS: Warrandyte 263 (Utt 53, Gathercole 57, Snaidero 43, Valentine 44) d Croydon United 161 (Snaidero 4/26, Baker 3/35). Warrandyte 140 lost to East Ringwood 197. Warrandyte 247 Gathercole 121 no) v Lilydale.

FIFTHS: Warrandyte 6/215 (Graf 108, King 39) d Croydon United 62 (Croft 7/25, Graf 3/28) and 1/39. Warrandyte 239 d East Ringwood 59 (Read 5/26) and 6/84.

SIXTHS: Warrandyte 182 (Weatherley 55, Lawrence 42) v Bayswater Park 0/49.

WOMEN: Warrandyte 5/236 (Tunbridge 83, McLaws 77, Chapman 30) d Buckley Ridges 136 (McGhee 3/32) and 4/71 (Farrelly 3/14). Warrandyte 1/36 v South Croydon 210 (McLaws 5/46).

JUNIORS

UNDER-16: Warrandyte 6/65 (S. Howarth 22) lost to North Ringwood 2/119. Warrandyte 152 (J. Nasser 32, S. Logan 22) d South Croydon 111 (S. Baker 3/18, P. Bernard 3/23, R. Punchedon 2/24). Warrandyte 7/47 (Bernard 25 no) v Montrose 67.

UNDER-14(1): Warrandyte 2/62 (S. Bell 26 no) lost to Parkwood 4/75. Warrandyte 9/197 (Bell 51, A. Mangos 43, A. Utt 32 no, A. Luttick 27) lost to Chilmside Park 201 (Bell 2/31). Warrandyte 187 (A. White 50 ret, M. Chapman 36 no, A. Mangos 23) v North Croydon.

UNDER-14(2): Warrandyte 178 (A. Donis 46 no, A. Leigh 56 no) d Ainslie Park 31 (T. Gathercole 2/4, Leigh 2/0). Warrandyte 30 and 81 (Donis 37) lost to South Ringwood 117 (Leigh 2/14). Warrandyte forfeited Round 3 match.

UNDER-12(1): Warrandyte 0/118 (N. Raby 32 no, N. Brisbane 30 no, J. Moxeley 20 no) d Croydon North 50 (Moxeley 2/2). Warrandyte 6/158 (Raby 34 no, J. Edwards 32 no, R. Greaves 29 and 6/34) d Warrimta 67. Warrandyte 2/32 v Templeton 114.

UNDER-12(2): Warrandyte 67 d Templeton 61. Warrandyte 24 and 29 lost to Norwood 1/113 (J. Hill 1/30).

Bloods are in the red!

Warrandyte Football Club ran at a loss of \$7000 to \$10,000 in the year to October 31. Club officials blame the deficit on insufficient social activity and lack of support for functions held.

Treasurer Dennis O'Brien told the recent annual general meeting that because of accounts still outstanding, he was unable to put a precise figure on the deficit. The club will call another meeting to hear and accept the treasurer's completed report.

The latest year's figures surprised many members, who had expected the licensed clubrooms to generate a profit.

In the wake of the result, the club is likely to review player payments and heavily promote its social activities.

O'Brien also foreshadowed an intensive drive for new members and sponsors.

At the annual meeting, past president Laurie Sloan, now a member of the Eastern Districts Football League executive, asked O'Brien about \$8500 in fees which he said the club owed the league. He urged the club to "pay the debt or get a bad name".

O'Brien replied that a cheque had been posted to the EDFL that day.

"We could have had an easy payment plan," Sloan said. "We could have helped you."

"I've just been sent along to give you the message. If you have trouble next year, come along and see us."

President Colin Bawden told the meeting that 1990 had been a disappointing season on and off the field. Injuries had contributed to lack of success on the field and players had not supported the social functions, he said.

O'Brien said there had not been enough social activity and not enough support for it.

Secretary Norm Carrington foreshadowed a review of player payments and said the junior base must also be strengthened.



Warrandyte Football Club president Colin Bawden (left) and treasurer Dennis O'Brien at the annual general meeting.

Bawden, O'Brien and Carrington were returned unopposed to the key executive positions. Geoff Feltham is the new vice-president, replacing John Read, who did not seek re-election.

Other committee members are Tom Kerkhof (assistant treasurer), Roger Drew (assistant secretary), Ray Walshe, Chris Sherriff, Leigh Nightingall, Maigret Rea and Tony Hunter.

The new committee will also include a representative, yet to be chosen, of the junior sub-committee, which will leave one vacancy to be filled.

Playing coach tipped for 1991

Lindsay Hopkins has stepped down after two seasons as Warrandyte Football Club senior coach.

Hopkins, who came from EDFL second-division club Croydon, coached the Bloods into the third-division preliminary final last year. His 1990 finals aspirations for Warrandyte were frustrated by an exasperating run of early-season injuries.

Hopkins' successor is likely to be a playing coach. When this edition of the Diary went to press,

the senior and reserves coaching appointments were expected to be announced within a matter of days.

The club interviewed four men for the senior job and three for the reserves position.

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