

# DIARY

No. 220, April 1991

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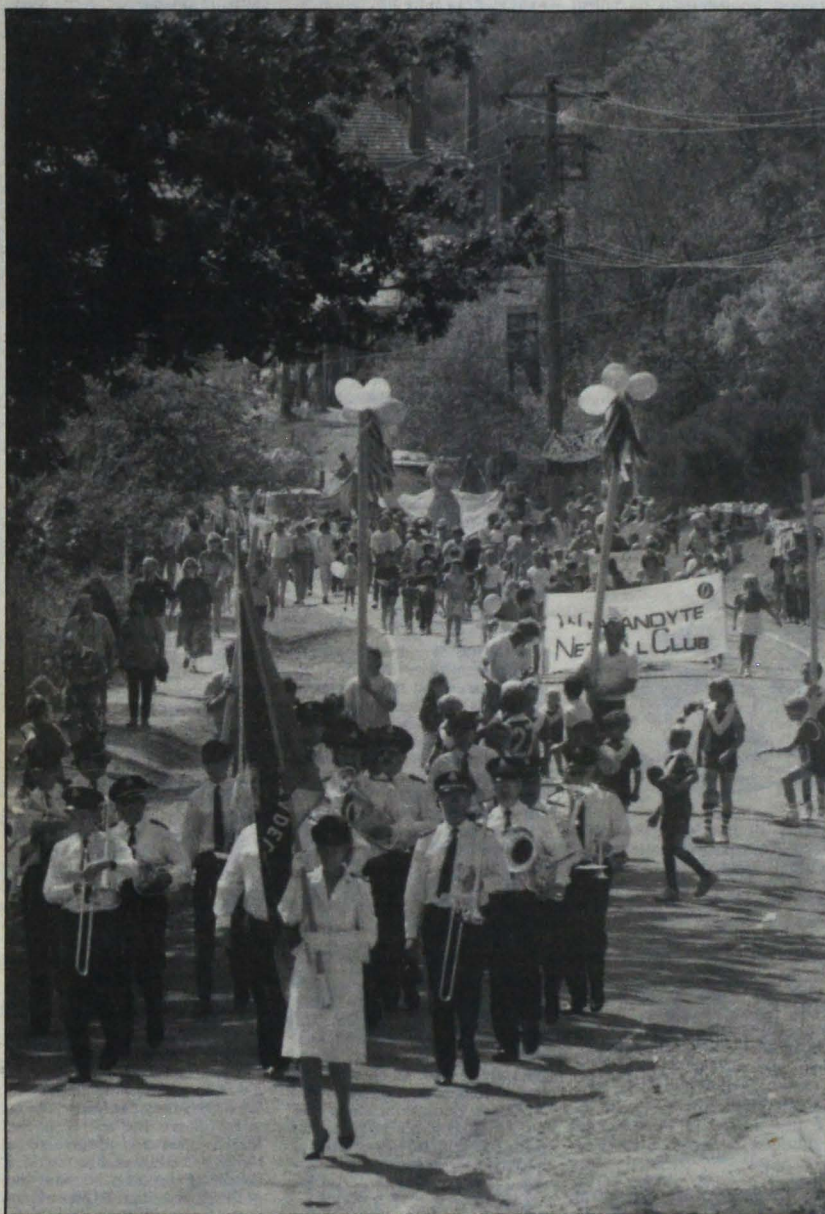
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Warrandyte on parade: The Salvation Army's Doncaster Citadel Band leads the Warrandyte Netball Club into our magical 15th festival. (Photo by Sandy Burgoyne.) More festival pictures, centre pages.

## Dancer, painter take arts award

The Second Warrandyte Youth Arts Award has been won by Gabrielle Davidson (19), ballet dancer, and Andrew Horne (22), painter. They will share the \$5000 prize money made available by the Lions Club of Warrandyte.

Organised by the club, in conjunction with the Warrandyte Arts and Education Trust, publishers of the *Diary*, the award is offered every two years. It sets out to identify and assist gifted young artists, resident in Warrandyte and aged between 18 and 25 years, with "an outstanding potential for excellence".

Presented by noted Australian actor Charles Tingwell at the dinner at Potters Restaurant on March 14, the awards cover the arts in their broadest context: painters, potters, dancers, singers, actors, musicians and so on.

The inaugural award was won by jeweller Bridget Liddell in 1989. Bridget introduced the finalists at the dinner last month.

The ten candidates for the 1990-91 award were assessed by 20 Melbourne artists, all eminent in their respective fields. The choice of winners was decided

on the basis of their assessments.

The organisers intend that the prize money should be used in ways that specifically suit the needs of the winners. This could include tuition fees, a study tour abroad, a short-term basic living allowance or the purchase of equipment and materials.

The award is designed to mark Warrandyte's special place in the history of Australian art and as a material way to help ensure the continuation of that tradition.

It is anticipated that applications for the third award will be invited in March, 1992.

# Whitehouse demolition shocks town

## Council 'overreacted'

By GEORGI STICKELS

The controversial closure and subsequent demolition of the Whitehouse — one of the town's earliest buildings — has left residents with many unanswered questions.

Last minute attempts by Warrandyte Rotary Club and rumors that a court injunction was being sought failed to win a reprieve for the old building.

The saga began on February 20 when a member of the guides discovered a rotten verandah floorboard. This was reported to the Whitehouse management committee who requested a replacement board from Doncaster and Templestowe council.

Council sent a letter to Mr Jim Pleasance, former committee chairman, on March 7. Mr Pleasance resigned six months ago. By the time the letter reached the present chairman, Mr Ken McKenzie, the building had been boarded up for two days.

The committee is outraged at what they regard as a "complete overreaction to a simple maintenance request". They point out that they have been negotiating with council on ways the building could be renovated.

Council says the Whitehouse was closed on legal advice because it was dangerous. As owner of the building, council is liable for any injury caused as a result of structural faults. Expert reports had found it "dangerous or ruinous".

The hall was cleared of furniture and equipment on March 13. The groups who use the equipment say they have no access to it.

Demolition was to commence the following day, but was delayed so that a notice could be sent to the kindergarten next door. This advised parents to keep their children home for two days to prevent exposure to potentially harmful asbestos fibres during demolition.

The committee claims that the

hall was in use for over 1700 hours last year. In addition to its regular users — brownies and girl guides and tae kwon do and dance students — private functions such as weddings and 21st birthday celebrations were held there frequently.

The Uniting Church has offered temporary accommodation to the brownies and guides. The dancers will now meet in the St Stephens church hall and Warrandyte High will host the martial arts students.

Organisers of these groups are deeply disappointed by council's action.

"They have a lot answer for," one of these people told the *Diary*. Martial arts instructor David Davenport and dance teacher Glenda Schwennesen both regret the loss of the "beautiful floor" and "excellent facilities".

Mrs Schwennesen described the hall as "safe, off the road, with a big carpark". This was ideal for her eight year-old students.

Cr Val Polley told the *Diary* that council has been aware of possible dangers to users of the Whitehouse for some time. Two reports on the building were commissioned in 1990.

The first found that "the frame and base structure is insufficient to adequately support the weight of the existing building" due to "termite holes...wood decay...dry rot...buckling warping and creeping" of the frame. It recommended that "the premises should be in whole or in part regarded as a dangerous or ruinous building".

The second report found "a need for restumping, signs of rot and borer infestation". It noted the poor condition of downpipes, windows and roofing. It concluded "complete demolition is the most reasonable course to render the area safe".

Both reports acknowledged that the hall, kitchen and toilet were in better condition than the rest. Demolition was recom-

mended because of the overall condition of the building.

Whitehouse chairman Ken McKenzie is concerned at the undue haste with which the building was condemned and torn down. He called it "bureaucratic behavior gone wild" pointing out that the building was closed on Tuesday afternoon. Council met that evening, so no-one had time to prepare a case to council contesting the closure.

Whitehouse user groups received a notice in the mail two or three days after the building was boarded up. Pupils arrived for regular classes and were turned away by the notices.

Cr Polley acknowledges the unnecessary haste and apologised to the community for the lack of notice. She said Warrandyte's councillors were given no prior warning.

The Whitehouse committee expressed concern at an attempt to demolish the building on the Thursday as they had been assured that this would not take place until the following Monday.

Council spokesman Mr Geoph Read explained that the building was a prime target for vandalism and a danger to the public. He denied that the change of plan was connected to rumors that the Warrandyte Rotary Club was taking out a Supreme Court injunction.

Local Rotarian Kevin McLean told the *Diary* that the club had been looking for a new major project. Following the closure, Rotary asked council to delay demolition for seven to ten days to allow them to consider renovation options. This was refused.


In the end, no injunction was applied for and demolition did not begin until the following Monday and the site has since been cleared.

However, the *Diary* understands that Rotary are still interested and may consider building a new hall. Local press reports suggest that Doncaster council is also considering a replacement building.

## CYRIL — BY PAUL W.



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**Scrounger scribe sheds scanties in scrub scare**

Who's the biggest little firewood scrounger in Warrandyte then? None other than *Diary* hack Lee Tindale. The sight of Lee, armed with chainsaw, clad in the famous boxer shorts, with gum-booted Jan trailing behind picking up the pieces, tickles the tonsils of the staidest kookaburra. No fallen forest giant — trunk or branch — is safe from the screaming Tindale tornado. No hungry wood lice, witchetty grub or termite tribe beats Lee to the kill. Not that he cuts down your actual growing tree. No way. Lee is a paid up birdlover and nature freak from way back. But anything wooden and deceased? Fair game. Even if way up high, still attached to mother tree. How? With a length of towrope tied to an old brass tap, that's how. So stand well clear as Lee swings this infernal contraption, hooks it around said dead branch, pulls it down and saws it up. Sometimes he misses. One day a month or two back he missed, and as ballpoint-stained fingers went up to field returning tap Border-style — perish the thought — the elastic in the famous boxers gave way. Modesty or a beheading? Lee chose life, bagged the tap, the shorts fell to his ankles and Jan and the kookaburras are still laughing.



But in all fairness, the record must show that when the recent bushfire jumped the river from Pound Bend and came roaring up the hill towards the Tindale house in Browns Road, the firefighters' defence task was made easier because ever-scavenging Lee had picked up, sawn up and stacked up every single piece of fallen wood for acres around. And, dear reader, you will be delighted to know that the extensive and now-famous Tindale woodheaps survived the holocaust unscorched.

Not so the old YHA hostel at Pound Bend, Australia's first. As reported last month, it was destroyed early in the fire's roaring progress. However, members of the Warrandyte Historical Society believe they should be taking a ticket in Taits. A year or so ago, when the old buildings on the Getson site were earmarked for demolition to make way for the new community centre, they applied to State park officials for permission to house material from the old museum in the disused youth hostel building. And were they crooked on it when permission was refused! But not now. Like many of Warrandyte

**IN RED & WHITE**

historic buildings, the hostel has gone. But our priceless historical collection is safe, and will soon be properly housed and displayed in the new centre.

\*\*\*

Since we're giving the Tindales a hard time this issue, it seems only fair to report that Smokey's social spy noted Jan at the Youth Arts Award dinner at Potters Restaurant last month. Emerging redfaced and flustered from the gents' toilet. With husband Lee away on holiday and everything, "It's my eyes," Jan explained. "I can't see a thing this late at night." Through a glass. Darkly.

\*\*\*

And since we're talking about Potters Restaurant we must mention young Paula Waters, trainee chef at the Jumping Creek Road nosher. Completing her apprenticeship at Box Hill College of TAFE, she was named dux of her final year and won a silver medal in the recent Victorian Apprentice Cook of the Year competition. Good one, Paula. No wonder the grub always tastes great at Potters.

\*\*\*

And talking of toilets, Smokey's special friends Bev and Brian Day have passed on some classic classifieds clipped from the Mansfield 'Courier'. They make our old post office dunny debate sound positively prim. With apologies in advance, Smokey reprints the following couple of choice samples, but only in the interests of a free and unconspired press.

\*\*\*

"Roll up, roll up, step this way for the best live show in town! It's entertaining, it's educational, it's Henry the Third, royal flush of septic tank cleaners, giving you a ringside toilet seat at the action. Only duck if it hits the fan. The performing troupe featuring King Henry and his court jester, backed by the Knights of the Round Tanker, do a gig worthy of an Oscar. Book front stalls now on 751 330 before winter weather turns command performance into a horror show."

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"Henry the Third, royal flush of septic tank cleaners, hereby appoints his Chief Rabbit to distribute chocolate eggs throughout the Mansfield realm for Easter festivities. Henry will be around to collect same when septic tank sends out help signals from Easter eat-a-thon. Call the King on 751 330, now and then." Yuk! It's amazing what some newspapers will print for money.

\*\*\*

If you hear the twang of the bow and the hiss of the arrow down the bottom of Bradleys Lane

these days you'll know it's not Robin Hood and his Merrie Men. It's Jim Anderson practising his archery. And to good effect. He was placed third in the State at the recent Moomba championships in his section. Good one, young Jim.

\*\*\*

Ask a silly question. We know a local lady who likes to occasionally shrug off the trappings of mundane housewifery and go up-market by shopping at The Pines. They won't be seeing her for a while though because she's home rehearsing some devastating repartee to use on the bloke at the chicken counter. "Are these chickens stuffed?" she asked when she last shopped there. "No, ma'am," he replied, "they're in prime condition."

\*\*\*

The Year 12 kids are studying Evil Angels, the book of the movie of the Azaria Chamberlain case, as a major component of their VCE English and the assignment set at Warrandyte High was to answer the question "Was Lindy Chamberlain tried by the media?" Good question that, and Madeline Liddell, of Research Road, took it very seriously. Unfortunately, she read "tired" for "tried" and had a bit of trouble making the required 1000 words. Yes, Madeline said, Lindy became very tired of the media following her around et cetera et cetera ... very tired indeed ... very, very tired. We don't know what mark English master Greg Stewart gave her, but he was highly amused and mentioned something about an A for misguided effort.

\*\*\*

The bookies at Stawell would not have been caught with their trousers about their ankles had they taken the trouble to read last month's *Diary*. They'd have known a kid from Warrandyte, kid by the name of Steve Brimacombe, could run a bit. And they would certainly not have offered the 33/1 or the 25/1 or whatever it was about him winning the Gift. We'd like to say the *Diary* "discovered" Steve on Page 15 of the March issue and threw out a thinly-veiled hint that he would, a couple of weeks on, become one of the easiest Stawell Gift winners in the history of the world's richest footrace. But modesty prevails. We fully expect Eltham to claim Steve Brimacombe as their own because he has lived there for a couple of months. Don't fall for that, though, because he was born and raised here. He's ours, mate, and we love him!



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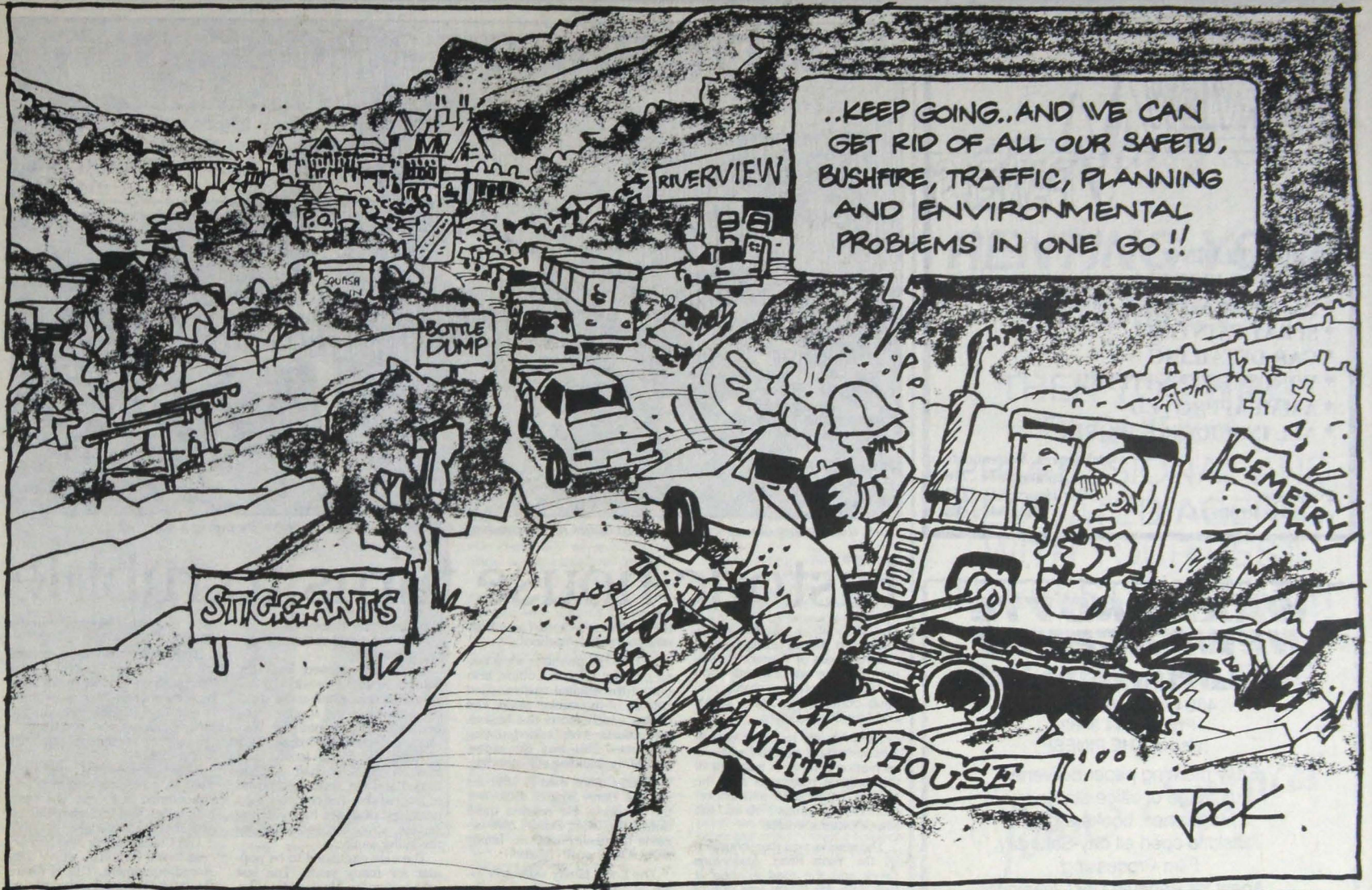
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# Bulldozer creates cemetery 'desert'

Local residents were shocked last month to find a contractor authorised by Doncaster and Templestowe council had bulldozed native bushland between the old and new sections of Andersons Creek cemetery.

The large area of bushland destroyed included many mature eucalypts.

Landscape designer Bev Hanson was deeply saddened by this action. "The bushland formed a beautiful backdrop to my mother's grave at the rear of the old section," she told the *Diary*.

"Council's bulldozing has totally destroyed this lovely setting. The area now looks like a desert."

A spokesman for the cemetery

## Eucalypts destroyed

trust told the *Diary* the trouble began when someone dumped two truckloads of treetops at the junction of Blair Reserve and the road reserve.

The trust decided this material, plus some pine logs previously felled on the road reserve, should be removed. As it constituted a fire hazard, the trust referred the matter to the council's Proper Officer.

"Council then authorised a contractor, who moved in with a bulldozer and cleared the entire road reserve, for the full width of the cemetery, back to bare earth," the spokesman said.

Residents who live close to the cemetery are understandably annoyed. The trees had been left as a buffer zone following the panel hearing that granted the use of additional land for cemetery purposes.

Mrs Sue Boyle, who lives opposite the cemetery, described the action as "the last straw".

"The bushland setting has been destroyed and someone must take responsibility for a re-planting program. However, it will

take at least ten years before this will even begin to take effect."

Mr John Prince, council's manager of engineering services, has described the trees as a "fire hazard" and said only fallen trees and blackberries had been removed.

Local residents dispute this. They point to the obvious removal of healthy, mature trees, growing along the full length of the road reserve.

Mr Prince has suggested that council would be prepared to plant more trees, "in conjunction with the trust". Meantime, the matter has been referred to Mr Leon Vidler, council's planning disputes officer.



Land cleared by the bulldozer

## Tree help underway

The Townscape Advisory Committee is taking action to ensure survival of the *Diary* tree.

Following recommendations by local arboriculture expert Donald Baigent dead wood will be removed from the landmark tree as a matter of urgency. Some of its limbs have become rotten and its state of health has been causing concern.

For the past 20 years the *Diary* letter box has been bolted to the tree, which originally was part of Meekin's garden.

Considerable efforts in the past have not rejuvenated the Monterey Cypress, although there are still some signs of vigorous growth.

BRUCE BENCE

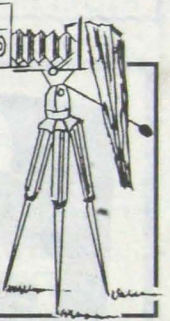
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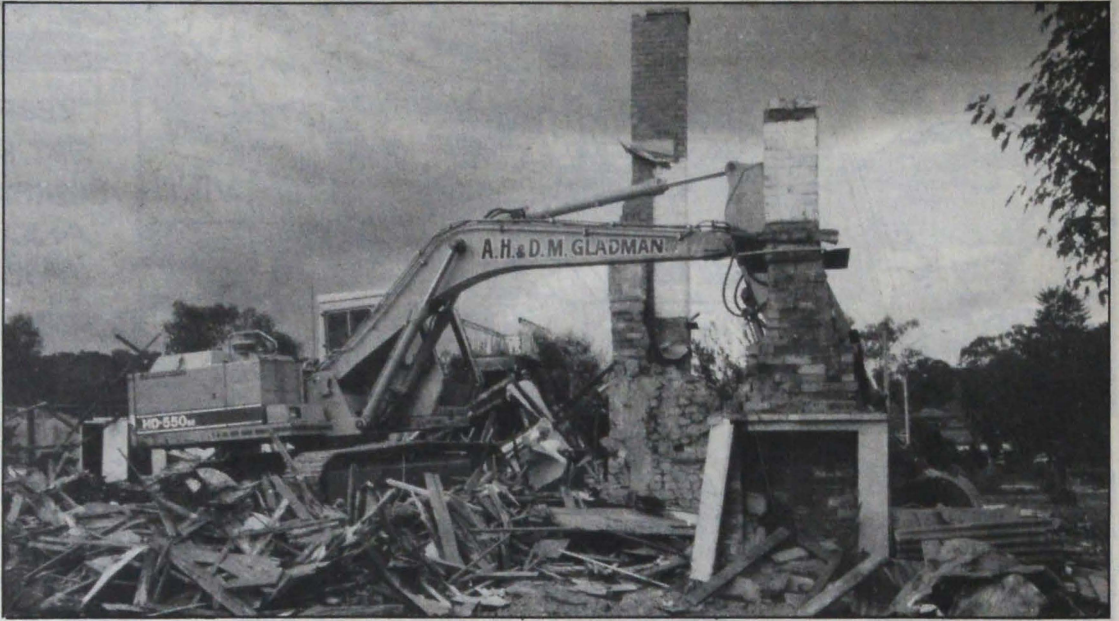
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Dark, threatening clouds witness the last hours of Warrandyte's historic Whitehouse. (Photo by Ingrid Kleinhenz)

## Historic house turns to rubble

The demolition of the Whitehouse last month brought to an end 135 years of Warrandyte history. The site was first built upon in 1856. A four-room wattle and daub cottage was home to Mr and Mrs Walter Pretty.

The property was then part of a miner's right situated within a recreation reserve. A fragment of this original reserve is now the site of the football and cricket grounds, the tennis club and the senior citizens' centre.

The reserve was then bounded by the Yarra River, Andersons Creek and the road existing at that time. Mr Pretty was one of the original trustees of the reserve and Mrs Pretty taught at

the Anderson's Creek (now Warrandyte Primary) school.

In 1886 the premises were taken over by William Collins, also one of the original trustees, and captain of the cricket team. The rooms which faced the basketball courts were added during this time. This was the oldest part of the building still standing.

When Collins died in 1891 his stepson Harry Squires took over the property. He resided there until 1910, when Frank Lowe became his new tenant. His family named the house 'Talune'.

The Lowe family were still living at Talune in 1930 when the land became freehold. They bought it at auction, but sold it

two years later. Before World War I, Frank Lowe added three rooms and a verandah.

When he returned from the fighting, Frank Lowe added a dining room, dance hall and a small shop to cater for tourists. The building was renamed the Warrandyte Recreation Ground Cafe.

When the Miller family took over in 1932, the hall was enlarged and the verandah moved to its final site. The complex then consisted of dance hall, catering service, shop and residence for the Miller family.

The cafe continued to be popular for many years. The last private owners, Mr and Mrs Howard Bensch, renamed it the Whitehouse in 1966. It was used

as a school for several months during 1970.

The Whitehouse site is owned by the City of Doncaster and Templestowe and is maintained by a committee of management. It was the original home of the elderly citizens' club and the now defunct Warrandyte Community Youth Club.

The upper storey was again used as a residence until it was condemned last year. The main hall, toilets and kitchen remained available for public use.

Girl Guide leaders also had access to the verandah, where they stored equipment. This is where the fateful rotted floorboard was discovered.

GEORGI STICKELS

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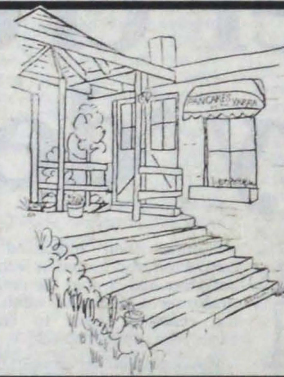
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# Win boosts young artists

The \$5000 Warrandyte Youth Arts Award is one of Australia's most valuable. JUDY MACDONALD profiles the 1990-91 winners.



Gabrielle Davidson: Touring with the Australian Ballet Company.

Dancer Gabrielle Davidson of Warrandyte is still up in the air about winning the Warrandyte Youth Arts Award, shared with Andrew Horne.

As Gabrielle is dancing 'Swan Lake' with the Australian Ballet Company in Sydney, her family was only too pleased to tell the *Diary* about her excitement and plans.

Touring Sydney, Canberra, Adelaide, Melbourne and Brisbane with the Australian Ballet — a tour which will take most of the year — meant that Gabrielle was unable to return to Warrandyte for the awards.

Assessors of Gabrielle's work for the WYAA — again the best in their field — spoke of her forte as the "dramatic interpretative quality of her dancing" saying that she was "on the threshold of an outstanding career".

They said that she has potential for outstanding achievement, possessing great talent and that she could well achieve international acclaim as a solo dancer.

Starting dancing tuition when she was four, Gabrielle has progressed well towards these predictions. When she was 18 she won a silver medal at the international Adeline Genee competition in London.

Gabrielle, now 19, would like to use her prize money to return to London to take extra tuition, working towards her ambition of becoming a soloist. Two years ago Warrandyte artist Andrew Horne told the *Diary* that his ambition was to make a living from his painting. Last month, Andrew took a big step in that direction, winning the Warrandyte Youth Arts Award with dancer Gabrielle Davidson.



At 22, after completing a fine arts degree at Warrnambool Institute, Andrew has his own studio and to date has sold every one of his works, except the three that appeared at the Rotary art show at the Warrandyte festival.

These three pieces, standing out from the predominantly pastoral scenes, demanded attention and caused much interest among the visitors. Working in mixed medium, Andrew has found that his paintings have all sold through word-of-mouth and requests to see his work.

Commenting on Andrew's work for the WYAA, the judges — all highly-qualified — noted his "enormous drive" being held back "only by limited resources". "In time," they said, "he will be one of Australia's foremost artists".

Another commented, "If the Youth Arts Award is to provide the community with the value it has promised then there is no more suitable recipient than Andrew".

Andrew is elated by the award and plans to use the \$2500 to purchase equipment, papers and other materials, working towards a solo exhibition within the next 12 months.

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Charles Tingwell with painter Andrew Horne.



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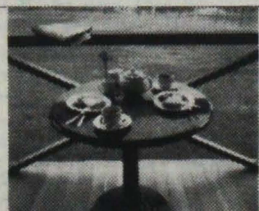
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# Park decision dismays

While on my regular walk with our dog Chloe a couple of weeks ago, I was dismayed to find that the State Park rangers have erected signs prohibiting walking dogs, even on a leash, in the old Fourth Hill mining area now a State Park.

The Ranger in Charge states they will allow horse riders to continue using the park, because they lobbied for the privilege — unfortunately the dog owners took it for granted that their right to walk a dog on a leash would not change.

There are some quite remote areas in this bush, and I have enjoyed the security of walking with a dog. I have spoken to other women who say they will now not walk in the area, if they can't take their dog.

One morning I came across a group of motorcyclists who had camped the night in the old quarry — our dog gave me some security. I heard of a woman on horseback who used her steed to make a quick exit from a group who were harassing her. A murder was committed one evening last year, just inside one of the entrances.

Usually I see no one else on my walk, but when I do, they are generally locals either horseriding or walking a dog.

The park is infested with rabbits, some of which encroach into the residential lots. Maybe we should insist that the rangers be more responsible for their own animals. There are also stray cats and the odd fox residing in the park.

Prohibiting the exercising of a dog on a leash will not address the problem of dog packs roaming at night or uncontrollable domestic cats which prey on the birds and possums.

During the gold-rush last century, this area was denuded of its vegetation, the ground was pock-marked with the diggings, and tracks were formed throughout. It remained a mining lease area until about 10 years ago. The re-growth bush that we now enjoy, grew back without the overseeing of State Park rangers.

## LETTERS

I propose that the rangers erect a "Keep dogs on leash" sign on the same uprights supporting the existing "Bridle Trail" signs.

People will do the right thing and use a dog leash, if they can see that is the rule, but at the moment it takes about 10 minutes to read the park regulations small print sign at the entrances. But most of all I object to the continuing depletion of the rights of local and visiting people to enjoy these recreation areas.

Let's face it, this re-growth examining bushland that is bordered by residential allotments, will never return to pristine wilderness. If we keep discouraging people from using the area, just who are we keeping it for?

Wendy Gedge  
Mullens Road.

## Park ban unfair

I was devastated to learn that from April 1 dogs will be totally banned from all areas of the Warrandyte State Park.

Most days I walk my dog on a lead through a section of the State Park. He needs the exercise because I'm one of the responsible dog owners who keep their dogs contained (YES we do exist).

Occasionally I meet other dog owners, almost always the dogs are on leads. Much more frequently we meet horses.

Most of these horses live in local paddocks, many of which seem to contain invasive weeds introduced in the area.

The damage they do by spreading the seeds of the weeds in their vast quantities of droppings is enormous.

When time permits our walks are slowed from pulling up invasive seedlings before they can spread further. The erosion

horses cause, especially in steep areas, is horrendous.

The problems of cats are another story again, and then we could mention goats — but not here.

Despite being a dog owner I can see the day when the only acceptable pets in sensitive areas may be goldfish (as long as they don't escape into the Yarra).

The problem of halting the damage caused by introduced plants and animals, humans included, is enormous.

We have to realise that everyone has to take responsibility before it's too late.

When my dear old dog dies I probably won't buy another one. I'll certainly miss that special relationship but maybe that's the price I'll have to pay for living where I do.

In the meantime aren't we barking up the wrong tree? Surely properly controlled, well cared for dogs are one of the smaller problems we face.

Disgusted  
(Name and address supplied)

## Praise for arts award

I am writing to say that I am very pleased to have had a part in the events leading to the Warrandyte Youth Arts Award.

I thoroughly enjoyed the experience and was only disappointed to find I couldn't attend the presentation. I heard it was a very pleasant evening and my parents enjoyed the function very much.

As it's turned out I have come to know Gabrielle Davidson through work as she is now a dancer with the Australian Ballet Company. She is indeed a fine dancer with much potential, so I was very pleased to hear you chose her as one of the winners. I hope the Youth Arts Award

continues with much success as I believe it is important for young artists to be reminded that people are interested in their development.

I think that what the Warrandyte Arts and Education Trust is doing is great, and I just wanted to make sure you were getting some positive feedback for all your good efforts.

Gigi Gould  
Kangaroo Ground Road

## Thrown butt sparks anger

People never cease to amaze me (who don't live in Warrandyte of course). I was carefully driving behind a white panel van in Research Road, almost at a standstill on occasions while the driver and passenger rubber-necked to see the damage done to the surrounding bushland from the recent fire.

Down Research hill we went with a stream of traffic behind me. The panel van waited to turn right and the driver threw a glowing cigarette butt out of the car window.

Extreme anger overcame me. (People who know me will be surprised). I jumped out of my car and gave him a verbal spray.

"Do you know that you have just driven through one of the most fire-prone areas in Victoria and you throw a cigarette butt out of the window? You ought to be hung."

"Get stuffed lady." OK, so I retreat back into my car, with cries of "good on you" from the car behind me.

I couldn't get his registration number — he didn't have a rear number plate.

To add insult, he turned left at the bridge towards Ringwood. May you rot in your little triple-fronted brick veneer and be thankful that I didn't touch your rear with my bull bar.

Jenny Southall  
3 Betton Crescent



## Memories of England

As winter approaches, and the skies grow soft and grey, I cannot help but be reminded of England, where we have lived for the past three years.

Fog coats our valleys in mystery, and the dawn air is chillingly cleansing. Such it was in England in winter.

However, apart from these fleeting similarities, Warrandyte seems another world when compared with Hertfordshire.

When we first arrived back, the trees seemed balding and sparse, and a dull, dusty grey when compared with the shaggy ball-like oaks and horse-chestnuts that adorned the countryside of Britain.

The river seemed brown and treacherous, and the birds too loud and gaudy. I must admit that I felt hostile to the hard, grey-green land here.

My mind still swarmed with images of softly lush green countryside, undulating over the bones of the land; not showing its skeletal form as it does here.

Fat black cows and rotund sheep meandered before old, old stone churches, careworn by generations of faithful congregations, many of whom are remembered by memorials inside.

Yet now I can see the beauty of both lands, with a mind unbiased towards one or the other.

Where England was gentle and ancient in human terms, Australia, and more specifically Warrandyte, is dramatic, her colors merely different, but still beautiful, her wildlife equally fascinating, and much, much older in geological terms.

Should I return in 20 years to England, what comparison would I make then, I wonder?

Kath Masiulonis  
Naughton Avenue

## Festival success

The Warrandyte festival this year was an outstanding success as all who participated will remember fondly. John Boyle's leadership needs a special mention.

John has always insisted on a community-based, non-commercially orientated festival, run by volunteers from the Warrandyte community.

His relaxed, cheerful approach and willingness to give hours of volunteer time, on top of his business commitments, inspires the children and adults of Warrandyte to become part of the planning and enjoyment of the festival. The experience gained is invaluable for everyone in other aspects of their lives.

We look forward to Warrandyte festival 1992.

Louise Joy  
Brackenbury Street

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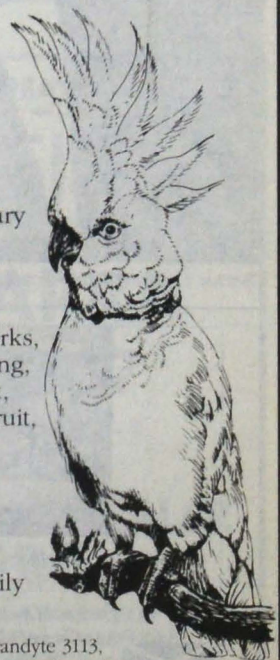
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• Editorial and advertising copy closes last Friday of each month

# Protest walk defies department dog ban

Local dog owners took direct action on Monday, April 1, following an official decision to ban dogs on leads from Pound Bend, Fourth Hill, the Timber Reserve and the Common in Warrandyte State Park.

The owners and their dogs gathered in Whipstick Gully and then walked through the park in defiance of the rule. The gathering was attended by Cr Louise Joy.

The residents conferred with a representative of the Department of Conservation and Environment. They elected a committee to continue the campaign.

This followed an initial rally early in March when some 80 people gathered to voice their concern.

Defending the ban, the Department of Conservation and Environment points out that the park is one of the few remaining habitat areas near Melbourne for the koala, eastern grey kangaroo and swamp wallaby.

"Dogs threaten the survival of wildlife in a number of ways," Ms Lynne Stronell, departmental regional manager told the *Diary*. "Dogs can chase and harass wildlife. Just their scent or sound can frighten some wildlife."

"There have been several examples of domestic dogs being seen scaring koalas. There have also been cases where dogs have frightened people, especially small children."

Local dog owners point out that these dogs must have been running free. "We support the ban on unrestrained dogs," a spokeswoman told the *Diary*. "Concerned dog owners would help enforce such a ban."

However, dog owners believe that the real threat to native wildlife comes not from restrained



Dog owners gather to oppose the ban against dogs on leads

dogs but from feral cats, foxes and packs of dogs roaming wild.

"We don't believe we're being treated fairly," the spokeswoman said. "Horses are permitted, but restrained dogs are not. Why can't the dog owners share the horse trail?"

Dog owners also believe they have not been adequately consulted regarding the move. "A couple of residents who attended a park management plan meeting back in July 1987 said the subject of the banning of dogs on leads was not even discussed."

Ms Stronell disputes this. "Community consultation was a feature of the plan," she said. "No submissions raised concerns about the restriction of domestic dogs in these areas, but several supported the proposed restrictions."

The dog owners are also anxious to retain the protection of their dogs in lonelier parts of the park. "A restrained dog is a protection for those walking alone. Local dog owners who frequent the park are also an insurance against vandals and firebugs."

The department points out that unleashed dogs have not been permitted in Jumping Creek Reserve and Blackflat Reserve since 1975.

"However, dogs will continue to be allowed on leads in all areas of the Northern River Frontage, at Norman Reserve and Andersons Creek Reserve," Ms Stronell said.

The dog owners are circulating a petition protesting the decision and as the *Diary* went to press, report that more than 220 signatures had been collected.

As Warrandyte savors the memory of yet another successful village festival, news comes to hand that our long-awaited community centre is nearing completion.

Mr Alan King, chairman of the Warrandyte Advisory Committee, told the *Diary* that the building should be finished towards the end of April or in early May.

"With groundworks and landscaping underway we could be looking at an official opening some time in late May or during June. They began work last April, and council always said it would take twelve months to build, so they're right on target."

Doncaster and Templestowe council bought the land in 1980 to provide facilities and a central focus for the Warrandyte community.

"Warrandyte has been patient," Mr King said. "But WAC believes the wait has been worthwhile."

"We spent the years refining our concepts and designs, consulting the community as to what it really needed, dealing with problems connected with community expectations, neighbors' concerns, car parking, landscaping, childcare needs and so on."

"Now we believe we've come as close to pleasing everyone as it is possible to achieve."

"We had two main priorities. To house the groups occupying the old temporary centre, and perhaps more importantly, provide flexible, workable spaces that will be available to the entire community."

The centre has been financed by the City of Doncaster and Templestowe with assistance from the Shire of Eltham. It will be administered by a committee of management, drawn largely from the local community.

Mr John Cox, president of the interim body, told the *Diary* that this committee would consist of four representatives of the centre's tenants, one representative from each of the two

## Date near for centre opening

councils and three community representatives.

"We are looking for interested members of the community, prepared to devote time and skill to this important project, to come forward and offer themselves," Mr Cox said.

An advertisement inviting people to apply for these positions appears in this issue of the *Diary*. It is believed that council will make the final decision as to who these community representatives will be.

Also nearing completion is a large mural for the centre's foyer, to be donated by its creator, former Warrandyte artist Dale Marsh. The project has been sponsored by the Warrandyte Arts and Education Trust, publishers of the *Diary*.

It is being painted in the community arts centre on Bribie Island, Queensland, where Dale now lives. A number of Bribie student artists have helped with the project, although Dale is doing all the final painting on the mural.

*Diary* artist Jock Macneish travelled to Bribie Island earlier in the year and Dale invited him to "dip a brush in some paint and join in the creative fun."

The few local residents who have seen studies for this major work are very excited by its bold design, vibrant color and aesthetic beauty. The theme of the piece is "festival" but the artist wants to dispel any notion that it will be a literal representation of the Warrandyte festival.

"The mural is intended to convey the spirit of a community celebration," Dale told the *Diary*, "whether in Warrandyte or anywhere else in the world. It must have a timeless quality."

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CITY OF DONCASTER  
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### WARRANDYTE COMMUNITY CENTRE

#### NOMINATIONS OF COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

Nominations are sought for three community representatives on the Committee of Management for the Warrandyte Community Centre, Yarra St, Warrandyte.

The centre has been constructed to provide accommodation and facilities for a range of community groups including the Warrandyte Historical Society, the Warrandyte Lions Club, the Warrandyte Diary, Warrandyte Youth Services, and the Warrandyte Neighbourhood House. The centre is due to open in May 1991.

In addition community groups and individuals will be able to hire the centre to conduct activities.

The Management Committee comprises 4 user group representatives, 1 council representative from the City of Doncaster and Templestowe and 1 from the Shire of Eltham, and 3 community representatives. Overall management of the facility will be the responsibility of the committee.

Nominations for community representatives are sought from persons who for the term of their appointment shall be residents of Warrandyte within the area defined by postcode 3113 or members or employees of an organisation operating in Warrandyte and such persons shall be concerned with and involved in the Warrandyte community but shall not be aligned or in any way involved with any of the above user groups of the centre.

For further information and to obtain nomination forms please contact Elizabeth Lloga on 840 9234.

Nominations must be received by 28 March 1991 and should be sent to

Elizabeth Lloga Manager Community Programs  
City of Doncaster and Templestowe  
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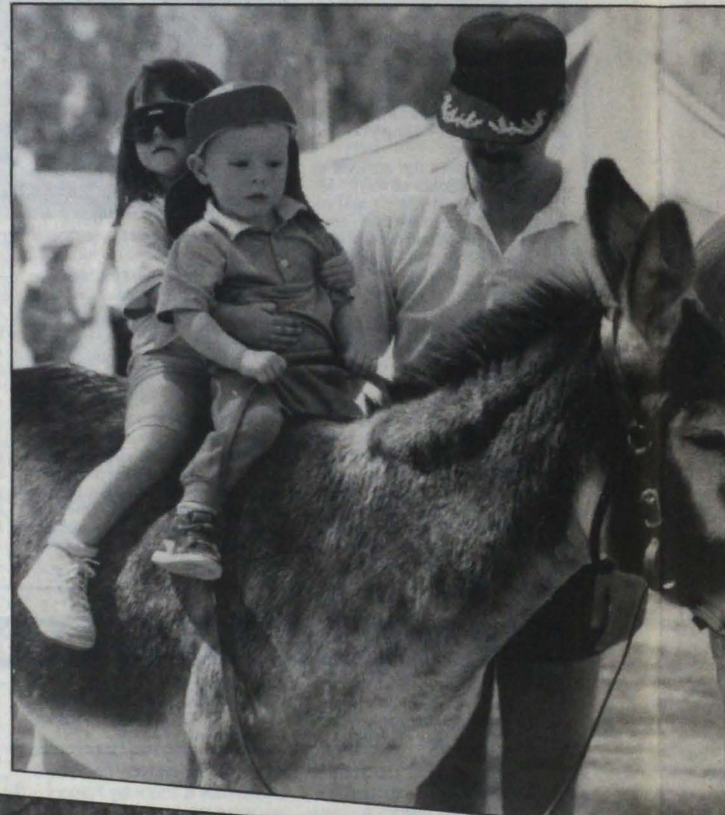
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## IT COULD SAVE YOUR LIFE!



# Festival brings cartoons to life

Is it an illusion, or is the Warrandyte festival really becoming more and more like a Jock cartoon come alive?

We see the little girl with her balloon on a string, the bearded stalwarts on the fire tanker, the helmeted kids pumping low over the handlebars of their bikes; the plump-rumped shiny horses. And dogs — dogs everywhere.

We actually feel the old Mechanics' hall rocking with laughter during a night at the follies. We see bowler-hatted Walter Magilton in his open red MG. Or is it Matthew? The generations are melding together after 15 years.

Is our festival really 15 years old? It seems only yesterday we celebrated the first event, held during a petrol strike. Melbourne looked like a scene from 'On The Beach'. No cars. But it was no disaster for Warrandyte. We walked everywhere and the air

Pictures by SANDY BURGOYNE  
Words by CLIFF GREEN

sparkled like clean crystal. For two marvellous days we discovered what it was like to live in a real village. The pattern was set. The spirit was born, the style of the Warrandyte festival was created.

But there was something special about the festival this year. It was better. And that's not an easy thing to achieve. How do you improve on the best? But it happened this year.

The music, that was special. Our new town band, and the other marching bands. The folk and concert groups on Stiggants and the rock bands down by the little bridge.

The beauty of Stiggants Reserve was still there to be enjoyed. It would have been a blackened ruin, had the

February 25 fire come over the hill and jumped the river. And what a splendid venue we have rediscovered, down there where Andersons Creek joins the Yarra. Down where they held the Sunday school picnics 100 years ago.

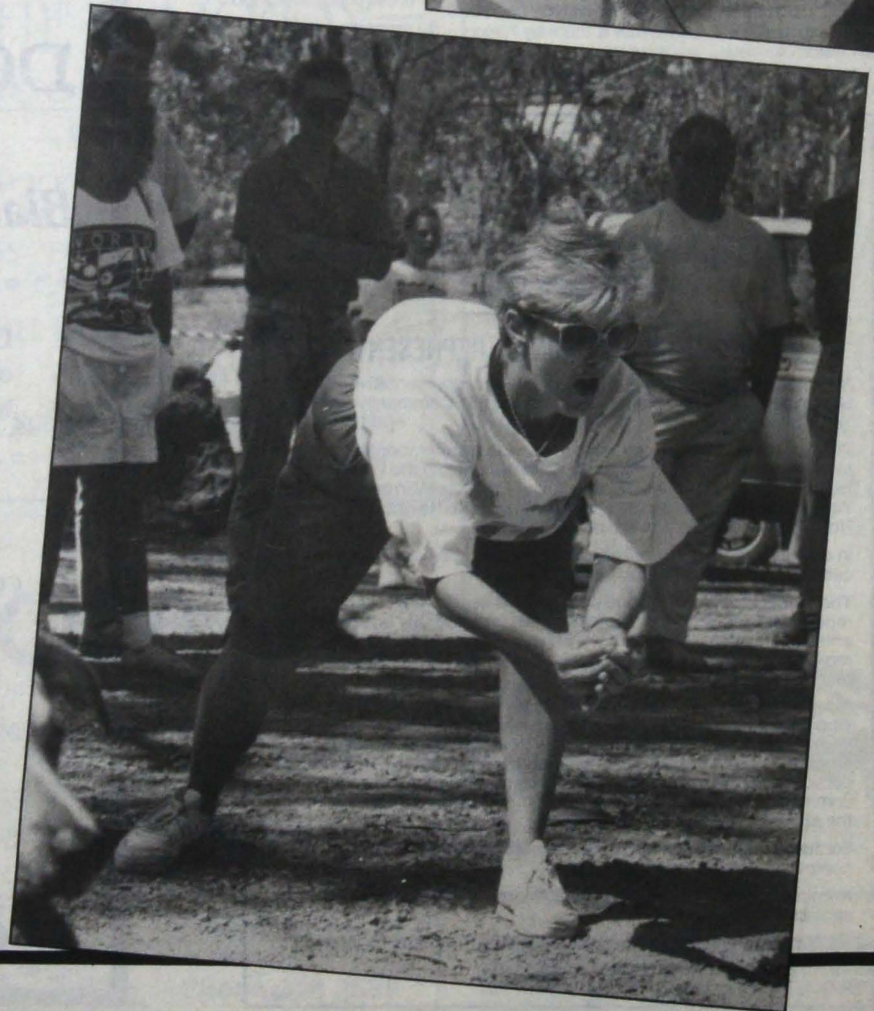
The schools' contributions to the parade were special, thanks to a visiting artist-in-residence. And the fire trucks received an extra clap this year.

There were a couple of sad moments, and that's unusual. Three drawings in angry black and red, by one of our talented young artists, at the rear of the Rotary art show tent. And the color photos of burnt koalas in the State park displays, also black and red. Charred bodies and oozing mouths. The CFA panto koala in his firefighter's helmet seemed rather poignant this year.

And did you see the big red

North Warrandyte fire truck edging patiently through the crowd along the riverbank, kids loaded on behind, water spraying out front? Guardian of our lives and homes; damp-down of dust.

Suddenly, as always, it is over. Paraddiddle rattles out their final chorus, the last firework fades to black and we all go home. The year turns. Summer slides into autumn, life in Warrandyte rolls on a frame and yet another Jock cartoon comes sharply into focus.







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"The day after the fire I saw four koalas crouched high in manna gums near the river."



# Growth follows flames

The first green shoots began to appear a few weeks after the savage fire which raced through parts of Warrandyte. I stood in silent admiration at the tiny green leaves valiantly sprouting from the blackened ground. I marvelled at the regenerative power of the Australian bush.

The morning after the fire I had wandered through the charcoal remains of silver and golden wattles. The understorey was in ruins, reduced to sticks and ash; the occasional stump still smouldering from embers deep within, like remnants of a funeral pyre which mourners had deserted.

On that day I felt like a mourner. I knew in my heart that the bush would recover, but the sight of hundreds of young trees burnt to the ground brought immense sadness. They had been planted only a year ago by groups of enthusiastic schoolchildren.

Down on the river bank the manna gums had survived albeit with severely singed leaves and blackened trunks. These trees can so easily become an ally of bush fires, when ribbons of dangling bark and leaves catch fire and are propelled high into the air by a strong updraught. These burning torches may be carried far and wide often igniting volatile vegetation well ahead of the mainfire. This

## NATURE

By PAT COUPAR

Drawings: MELANIE COUPAR

phenomenon is called "spotting" and is highly dangerous. In an area such as Warrandyte it poses an extreme threat to human life and property.

One of the characteristics of dry sclerophyll forest is its ability to recover rapidly after fire. In fact fire is a necessary component in the life cycle of some plants. Natural fires are started by a lightning strike and usually followed quickly by torrential rain. Unnatural fires often do not have the luxury of rain to douse the flames and germinate the seeds.

Eucalypts regenerate in two ways. Firstly by woody swellings below ground called lignotubers and epicormic buds which occur on the trunk and branches. These structures are normally dormant. In times of fire or injury they sprout new leaves to take over the function of those lost.

Secondly regeneration takes place from seed. Some capsules containing ripe seed, remain unopened on mature trees. During a fire the hard, woody

gumnuts protect the seeds. After a fire the fruits dry out, their valves open releasing large quantities of seed onto the warm bed of ash below. If rainfall follows seedlings will quickly appear.

The seeds of tea-trees, burgan and paperbarks are shed in the same way. Consequently these plants often dominate the understorey after fire.

Other plants will regenerate from seed stored in the soil, perhaps over many decades. The hard, protective seed coat of wattles and bush peas is cracked by the heat of a fire which kills their parents outright. Once the tough, outer covering is broken, germination can take place in the blackened but enriched soil.

Many of the smaller plants which appear dead following the fire will regrow from underground roots, tubers and rhizomes. Such plants are the grasses, sedges, lilies and orchids. The little leaves I had found belonged to this group.

The effect of fire on the native plants and of course weeds is relatively easy to monitor. Not so its effect on the animals.

Some of the wildlife that escaped may have suffered smoke inhalation or stress as a result of the ordeal. We simply do not know.

The day after the fire I saw

four koalas crouched high in manna gums near the river; they appeared alert and unharmed. Another was trapped in an area of intense heat without the safety of nearby tall trees. Lying on its side, the pathetic charred body of the koala was almost unrecognisable — little paws clenched in helpless terror; truly a pitiful sight. Likewise a ringtail possum found curled beneath a log where, in vain, it had sought shelter. Our precious native wildlife were innocent victims of a needless inferno.

The fire came perilously close to the Warrandyte State Park depot. Flames licked at the nursery where thousands of trees and shrubs were ready for planting, waiting only for cooler weather and autumn rain. Thanks to some quick thinking and brave action by members of staff, the building, nursery and most of the plants were saved.

A number of plants suffered badly from the heat and may take some time to recover, but plenty are still thriving. Soon, with enough willing helpers, these plants will be in the ground and the desolation of black will be dotted with green.

The natural regeneration process has already begun. The tiny green leaves sprouting defiantly from the scorched earth are a sure sign that the wounds of the bush are healing.

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# Veteran worker honored

Veteran local worker Jean Chapman was honored at the first annual general meeting of the Warrandyte Community Services Development Association last month. The association, which runs the neighborhood house, awarded Jean life membership in recognition of her services in establishing the house. The neighborhood house, which opened for an average of 20 hours a week during 1990, receives funding from Community Services Victoria and the Shire of Eltham. Also acknowledged was a substantial donation from the Warrandyte Community Market Committee. Further information on the house and its activities can be obtained from Lin Chandler on 844 1839.



Conducted by JUDY GREEN

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

a Community's Fight Against Fire' by Bruce Bence; 'Ordeal by Fire, the Week the State Burned Up' by W.S. Noble and 'The Complete Australian Bushfire Book' by Joan Webster.

## Seniors

The Warrandyte Senior Citizens Centre is a busy place. Activities throughout the week include swimming and concert party practice on Monday and bowls on Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. Day trips are often undertaken on Wednesday and a number of such activities as easy exercise, snooker, cards and bingo take place every Thursday. A hairdresser and chiropodist visit the clubrooms on Thursday and a three-course meal is available if ordered. A warm welcome always awaits new members. Further information from secretary George Temple (844 3852), president Isabelle Bradford (876 1942) or social secretary Helen Ward (844 2671).

## Resuscitate

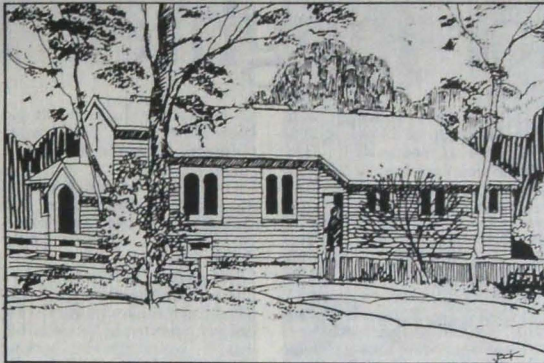
The Apex Club of Warrandyte recently sponsored demonstration nights where cardiopulmonary resuscitation skills were explained to parents of local primary schools and kindergartens. Instructors from the Eltham Leisure Centre taught the basic technique and warned of factors to watch for in an emergency situation.

## Appeal

Warrandyte's Anglican Church of St Stephen is appealing for funds to complete extensions to the church in Stiggants Street. The first Anglican church was built in Warrandyte in 1869. A new church was consecrated in 1906, but was destroyed in the 1939 fires. The present church, intended as a temporary building, was dedicated in 1940. It is now proving too small for the growing community and extensions have commenced. Donations can be sent to the Vicar at PO box 73, Warrandyte 3113.

## Fires

If your interest in Warrandyte's fires has been kindled by recent events, you may like to read these books, available at the Citizens Advice Bureau at the old post office: 'Fire: the Story of



St Stephen's Anglican Church as it will appear when extensions are completed.

## Nursing mums

Coffee mornings are held regularly by the Warrandyte Nursing Mothers Association and the date for the next one is Wednesday, May 1 at 10am. Call Kristin on 431 1443 for more details.

## Toys

The Warrandyte Toy Library is open again at the squash courts in Yarra Street. Opening hours are 3-4.30pm on Thursdays and 1-2.30pm on Saturdays. Fees are \$15 per year for one child, \$22.50 for two and \$25 for three or more. There are lots of new toys this year and some equipment for children with special needs. Call in, or ring Shirley Reynolds (844 2874), Lin Mealy (844 2570) or Philippa Coull (844 2946).

## Grandson

Ben and Jean (nee Chapman) Jones recently announced the arrival of their 11th grandchild. Their daughter Helen gave birth to a son, Mathew, in January.

## Orchestra

On Sunday, May 5 at 2.30pm the Maroonah Symphony Orchestra will perform at the Warrandyte High School Theatre, Alexander Road. The program, to be conducted by Roland Yeung, will include 'Men of Prometheus Overture' by Beethoven, 'Symphony Number 5' by Tchaikovsky and selections from 'Sound of Music'. Admission will cost \$10 for adults, \$5 concession or \$25 per family. Tickets will be sold at the door and refreshments will be available at interval. Further details from 728 1361 or 878 2426.

## Strangers

The young Warrandyte band Cast of Strangers is on top of the world after coming third in a Battle of the Bands at the recent Doncaster Youth Festival with nine bands competing. Cast of Strangers is a hard-rock band playing original and cover mate-

rial. They formed about three years ago and present members are Tolu Morgan (lead vocals) Billy Barry (drums), Scott Cappellani and Rueben Morgan (guitar and backing vocals) and Simon Taig (bass guitar). The band is available for concerts and parties and can be contacted through Scott on 844 2191.

## Art show

The work of renowned painters, potters and craftspeople will again be on display at the Warrandyte High School art show to be held from Friday to Sunday, May 24 to 26. Throughout the weekend, demonstrations will be given by leading Australian artists. An invitation is extended to everyone to come along to the opening on Friday, May 24. Tickets on sale shortly, or available at the door.

## Learning

If you want to get out and do something different this year, the Eltham Living and Learning Centre at 739 Main Road, Eltham, may be just what you need. There are vacancies in a number of classes. Enquiries on 439 3463.

## Bicycles

A new cycle club has started — the Eltham Bicycle Users Group. They are organising regular rides and occasional two-day trips. They aim to encourage the provision of bicycle lanes and tracks in the area and to support the eventual Melbourne-wide bicycle strategy plan. Anyone interested can contact Frank Hacking on 437 1729.

## Vacancies

Some vacancies still exist in the Diamond Valley Arts Society's pottery classes taken by Ernie Travis on Tuesday evenings. On Friday, April 19 a watercolor demonstration will be given by Joseph Zbukvic. Activities take place at the society's rooms, corner Grimshaw Street and The Circuit, Greensborough. Call 469 2505.



CITY OF DONCASTER  
& TEMPLESTOWE

## PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987 NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT S5

The Minister for Planning and Housing has approved Amendment S5 to all Planning Schemes in Victoria.

The amendment came into operation on 27 February 1991.

The amendment affects land greater than 0.4 hectares and requires a planning permit to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation. A number of exemptions are specified.

A copy of the amendment can be inspected free of charge during office hours at:

- Doncaster and Templestowe Municipal Offices  
699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster
- The Department of Planning and Housing  
Ground Floor  
The Olderfleet Buildings  
477 Collins Street, Melbourne
- Eastern Regional Office  
The Department of Planning and Housing  
Suite 4  
38-42 Prospect Street, Box Hill

Any queries related to this Amendment should be directed to the Strategic Planning Unit on 840 9285 or 840 9432.

Signed PAUL MOLAN  
Group Manager - Development Control

19388

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# Olympic bid 'Follies' win gold medal for laughter

You know you've made it in Warrandyte when you appear on stage in the "Follies" not as an actor but as a celebrity.

This year Steve Hobbs and Derek Fairley hit the heights.

Based on the notion of Warrandyte winning the Olympic bid to stage the games, this year's Drama Group "Follies" had a sporty theme.

Where you may ask do Steve and Derek fit into this picture? Simple, if you know the "Follies" in which everything is possible.

Derek was in charge of the medical arrangements and Steve represented the commercial interests of the games.

Sue Dyring, the director, and her team of script writers, Alan Cornell, Roger Kibell, Jock Mac-

## REVIEW

By FLASH JACK

neish, David Crockett, Carol Cole and Ken Virtue wove together a series of sketches loosely centred on things Olympic but with a Warrandyte difference.

It's encouraging to see that the "Follies" has kept up the tradition of writing original material and of giving newcomers a chance to try their acting skills in a very supportive and enjoyable environment. Many of the group's stalwarts began their "careers" as a bit part in a "follies" sketch.

With a cast, backstage and support group of 53 people it is impossible to mention them all in the fashion they deserve but here goes!

Sue Dyring showed a firm control over what can become a "Follies" monster. She was able to blend music movement and acting into a tight format.

Without the technical equipment of "The Phantom" or "Les Mis" Sue and the crew managed to transform the unpretentious Mechanic's Institute Hall into an arena, a swimming and diving pool, the Warrandyte Olympic committee room and OB opportunity spots.

Writer Alan Cornell gains brownie points for his sketches. Martin Walker and Jenny Harkin performed his Diving sketch brilliantly. Alan's Fencing sketch with Rowen Bavinton, Martin Walker, Mark Wakeham, David Crockett, Mark Glendenning and Alan Stewart brought suitable cheers and groans from the audience.

Jock Macneish, when he isn't designing the set, program, dodgers and writing scripts was a suitably evil villain to Helen Cahill's heroine and Maryanne Higgs' horsingriding princess.

Although it appeared that only Phyl Swindley and Amanda Moore were the synchronised swimmers, their various parts were cleverly played in Jock's sketch by Clair Acres, Nikki Knighton and Colleen Keating. The shark played herself!

Carol Cole's rendition was a crowd pleaser as was her concept for the Woethy sketch.

The locals, Steve Hobbs and Derek Fairley were played respectively by Ken Virtue who was interviewed by David Melville and Roger Kibell. After a word in

his ear by a woman who should know Steve's ways, Ken thereafter always tucked in his shirt on stage.

Our other celebrity, Derek Fairley, as acted by Roger Kibell, was shown to have some novel ways of dealing with Olympic competitions.

Who will be able to forget Tim Sherwood's Marathon Man? His Gilbert and Sullivan patter song, brilliantly written by Helen Cahill, was a highlight. His backing group were, Anita Baragwanath, Saphine Bartley, Gail Macrae, Jenny Harkin, Rachel Buckley, David Crockett, Roger Kibell, Ken Virtue and Kylie Crockett.

Great singing performances were also given by Bruce Mitchell, Sue Dyring, Saphine Bartley, Olivia Harkin, Rachel Buckley, Anita Baragwanath, Robyn Bonthorne, Gail Macrae and Jenny Harkin.

Future stars included, Trudy Bramhill, Lisa Garner, Cameron Guymer and Evan Zigmantis.

As ever, local pianists Phoebe Briggs and Marilyn Moore assisted by drummer Peter Kopp provided excellent accompaniment.

I was pleased by the improved sound system this year. Thanks must go to Brian Laurence and Sam Marston. Lighting by Tim Ferguson, John Baragwanath, Rob Melville and Doug McManus added the necessary ambience.

Backstage cast members are the unseen heroes. This important job was led by Yvonne Morey and her crew of Robin Atkinson and Carol and Bianca Keating.

Thanks Follies! Australia may be suffering general depression but a night at the Mechanic's Institute Hall certainly helped ease the pain.



In full voice: The festival Follies chorus line fills the stage.



Carol Cole entertains the crowd as "The Op Shop Lady".

## Festival results

Posters — Prep-Gd 3 1 Amy Green (WPS, 7); 2 (equal) Andrew Provis (ACPS, 8)/Sarah Lush (WPS, 8); highly commended: Ashley Pieper (ACPS, 8), Rocky Lobusco (St Annes, 9).  
Grades 4-6 1 Michelle Anderson (ACPS, 11); 2 Anne McCutcheon (ACPS, 10); highly commended: Belinda Dawson (ACPS, 11), Fleur Gabriel (ACPS, 9).  
Years 7-9 1 Jade Kean (WHS, 12). Years 10-12 1 Stephen King (WHS, 17); 2 Kristine Giampetro (WHS, 14).

Gymkhana — Pony club ring: Champion rider U15 — Kylie Parker (Oscar); Reserve champion — Nicole Meissner (Willowbank Dancer); Champion rider 15-21 — Marion Corrigan (Mizere); Reserve champion — Claire Lewis (Coriol).

Open ring: Champion led — Nicole Meissner (Wingana Mill Reef); Reserve champion — Shane Krack (Sequin); Champion rider U15 — Nicole Meissner (Willowbank Dancer); Reserve champion — Kylie Parker (Oscar); Champion rider over 15 — Sarah Wallia (Fella); Reserve champion — Marion Corrigan (Mizere); Champion ridden — Jessica Eason (Ebony Flame); Reserve champion — Amy McClellan (Kaylib).

Adult riding ring: Champion ridden — Debbie Marinelli (Secret); Reserve champion — Samantha Johnson (Sonny).

River events: Canoes — 1 Dean and Mark Carlton; 2 John Boyle/Duncan Freemantle; 3 B. Ragg/Rowen Bavinton 3 Kayaks — 1 Brett Thomas; 2 Chris Dunn; 3 Dianne Pierpoint.  
Duck race — 1 Oki Gardner (donated \$200 to Warrandyte Primary School); 2 Blake Tobin (\$100 to Andersons Creek Primary School); 3 Grant McAdam (\$50 to Andersons Creek Primary School).

Yarra Yobboes: 1 Hanson-Carlton team.

## Community band provides highlight

One of the highlights of the festival this year was the emergence of the Warrandyte Festival Community Band. What a sight it was to see and hear this group of local folk — young, not so young, amateurs and professionals — mixing it together in a musical way.

The human inspiration for the band came from Jane and David Stickle who, with John Byrne,

Ray Haynes and Rick Gordon formed a committee. They enlisted the talents of conductor Barry McKimm, who always throws his weight behind local musical events.

Players were plucked from everywhere. In addition to the large trumpeter in the red braces, there was the 'Follies' pianist trying some variations on a clarinet,

a well-known psychologist on another trumpet, an architecture student on a bass clarinet and some 26 other playing and three non-playing members.

They not only sounded good, they also looked good. The band got its act together at two rehearsals down on the local oval, where members were able to learn the necessary tactical manoeuvres.

We offer our heartiest congratulations to the committee for their initiative in getting the band up and going and our thanks to Doncaster council who responded to an application for a seeding grant.

We all hope that the band will be a regular part of Warrandyte community life in the future.

JOHN ANDERSON

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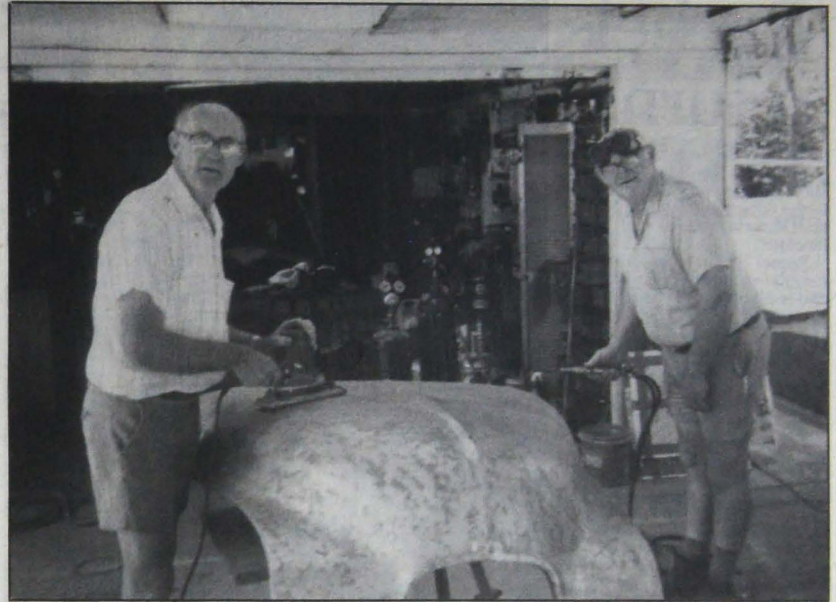
FREE QUOTES



Above: Some of the 33 Holdens on display.

Above right: David (left) and Alex in their Yarra Street workshop.

Left: The opening of the National Holden Museum at Bendigo.



## Brothers realise driving dream

By BRUCE BENCE

Few people live to see their life's dream become a reality but such has been the case for David and Alex Hughes of Warrandyte.

The two have dedicated much of their lives to the meticulous restoration and preservation of Australia's Holden car to ensure the nation's heritage will not be lost to future generations.

Their dream was realised when the National Holden Museum was officially opened on November 29, 1990, displaying the brothers' car collection.

The date was significant, as all Holden buffs will know, as it was on that day in 1948 that the first Holden rolled off the assembly line.

David and Alex have spent about 30 years on the project. Incredibly, they began thinking about preserving the history of the Holden only a few years after the first car was produced.

They were farsighted enough to buy spare parts over the years. Genuine new parts are used for the restorations, returning the cars to the same condition as when they first rolled off the assembly line.

Their foresight has also proved to be cost saving. The price of a new grille for the 1948 Holden was originally 12 pounds. Now it is \$1000 if you can find one.

David's dedication to restoring the cars became evident to other Warrandyte residents in the 1950s.

Many young couples in the area were building their own homes and construction was a major topic of conversation. David was also building but always had time to talk about Holdens.

The project has proved time consuming with some restoration taking up to 2000 hours. The brothers, with help for a time from David's son, Robert, have built up a collection of 52 Holdens.

The museum, based at the

Bendigo Pottery Tourist Complex is a tribute to their dedication.

Exhibited are 33 Holdens supplied by the brothers and General Motors Holden. Included are the Holden Hurricane, an experimental V8 research vehicle. It was the only one ever made and was first exhibited in 1969. Visitors often asked when it will be released not realising it is 21 years old. Another rarity is a 1953 station wagon which was one of only seven built.

The opening of the museum was featured on American television. It is believed to be the first time Warrandyte has been highlighted in the world media since 1893 when some local lads sat the body of John Chatty, a Chinese miner, under a bridge. The incident was featured in European papers as "The Ghouls of Warrandyte".

Amid the Holden limelight the only regret of David and Alex was that the museum housing their collection could not be in Warrandyte where they have worked on the project.

It is intended to expand the museum's collection to include every model Holden. A workshop and gallery are planned where the public will be able to view restoration work, and education facilities are proposed to allow the Hughes brothers to pass on the skills of their craft.

One car the brothers are particularly seeking is a 1940 gas producer. If anyone knows of one, David and Alex would be more than grateful for the information.



Holden registration 48 215 was one of 215 Holdens planned for 1948. The restoration took some 2000 hours.



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# Rachel returns

Local livewire Rachel Buckley is returning to the stage after a short break to play Cousin Hebe in the Gilbert and Sullivan Society of Victoria production of "HMS Pinafore".

Rachel lives in an historic gold miner's cottage in Warrandyte and is devoting herself to art and pottery, as well as rehearsals for "Pinafore". She spent last year teaching pottery in Ireland and before that was in Cairns for a year.

Rachel was involved in the Victorian Arts Centre for many years during its construction. She said that after its opening she worked "as everything from public relations, tours, backstage crew, assistant stage manager, to ticket seller".

The Gilbert & Sullivan Society was Rachel's introduction to the stage. She confessed that she went along to rehearsals to meet people and enjoy the music but got the shock of her life when the rehearsals culminated in live performances.

Now an experienced performer, Rachel has played a number of lead soprano roles, including Elsie in "Yeomen of the Guard", Phyllis ("Iolanthe") and Gianetta ("The Gondoliers").

On stage with Rachel in "HMS Pinafore" will be talented singers well-known to Melbourne audiences. The lead tenor soprano role of Josephine is played by Louise King. The lead tenor role of Ralph Rackstraw is sung by Ken Neate. Sir Joseph Porter is played by Richard Burman, Alan Brown is Captain Corcoran and Janice Donnelly is Little Buttercup. Paul Dalzell transforms himself into a dastardly Dick Deadeye.

The director is Peter Hirst and musical direction is by Peter Leech, the director of music at



Rachel Buckley as Cousin Hebe

Queens College, Melbourne University.

"HMS Pinafore" songs include "I'm called Little Buttercup" Sir Joseph's song "When I was a lad" as well as the duets "Oh joy oh rapture" and "Farewell my own".

The story revolves around the romance between Josephine, the daughter of Captain Corcoran, and Able Seaman Ralph Rackstraw. Sir Joseph, the First Lord of the Admiralty seeks to marry Josephine. He is supported in this by Captain Corcoran but Josephine favors Ralph. All difficulties are finally resolved by Buttercup, but if you don't already know the story, you'll have to go along to find out the ending.

The show will be playing on a double bill with the lesser known but hilarious "Cox and Box" at the Phoenix Theatre located in the Burwood Campus of the Victoria College.

Performances are on Friday 19, Saturday 20, Friday 26, Saturday 27 April at 8pm, plus a matinee on Saturday 27 April at 2pm. Tickets are \$14 adult and \$8.50 concession. There is a special family ticket for the matinee performance, costing \$25. Group bookings are also available. For bookings and enquiries phone 817 3683 (ask for Dorothy). Book early as Gilbert & Sullivan Society performances often sell out.

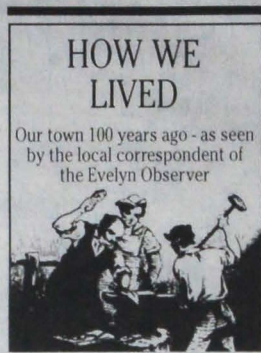
CHRIS DICK

# Crowd braves rain

April 1891: The parched ground sang paeans of praise for the rain that fell on Easter Monday, although perhaps the holiday seekers were disappointed. However, it did not alter the gentle public from well patronising the concert and ball held here that night in aid of the local cricket club, and the whole affair was an unqualified success.

Mr Curtis Blair, the hon. sec., is to be congratulated on the event, as something substantial will be added to the club funds. That is, if the "German lady" does not break the bank, which I don't think probable.

The following ladies and gentlemen took part in the concert: Overtures, Miss Hutchinson; songs, Mrs Trezise and Miss Mullen, and Messrs E. Blair, H. Stiggants, H. Sloan, Ayton, Brown (Billy), Watkins, E. Squires, Rose and W. Sloan; recitations, Mr Jones, Masters Albert Squires and J. Sharp; speech, Mr E. Blair.



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

Mr Wm. Hutchinson proposed a vote of thanks to the performers and to Mrs Trezise for the loan of piano. The vote was carried with great cheering and acclamation. The ball was well attended and delightful.

Mr Lee informs me that the herring are more plentiful this season than he recollects for the last 16 or 17 years. Captain Selby hooked what he considered to be a large trout or salmon trout or salmon last week. He considered it fully three feet long, of course it smashed everything and got away.

The Warrandyte Company are busy re-erecting the battery on their claim. There is every probability the sum of 300 pounds applied for out of the Prospecting Vote will be recommended.

Every effort will be made to make our county plain and fancy dress ball on Queen's Birthday night an unqualified success. The stewards and committee intend it to be possibly the most successful affair that has ever taken place in the county, and I am sure our outside friends will rally round and help. (From the Newspaper Collection, State Library of Victoria.)

# Brigades back into action

By BRUCE BENCE

Warrandyte fire brigades had little time to relax after the fires of Monday, February 25.

While the community repaired damage and settled back into its usual routine, the brigades were called into action again.

On March 7 three district brigades joined the Lower Yarra Fire Brigade group strike force to fight the fire which broke out in the Yarra State Park and threatened Warburton, Millgrove and East Warburton.

Warrandyte, North Warrandyte and South Warrandyte sent a total of six crews to the area comprising 66 firefighters and two tankers.

Also in their strike force were brigades from Research, Eltham and Wattle Glen.

South Warrandyte brigade left their station at 3.36pm on a day of Total Fire Ban in a temperature of 38 degrees. Humidity was down to 15 per cent and the wind was blowing at 45 kph from the north-west.

The first crews to arrive fought the fire in the rough, steep, heavily timbered country. The following crews patrolled the fire lines, dealing with spot fires.

On Friday night the brigades of the Lower Yarra group strike force stood by at Warburton fire station to give the local crews a chance to rest.

The brigades are high in their praise for the Salvation Army who kept them supplied with fruit and drinks in the field, most important to ward off dehydration while fighting fires. Among

the catering personnel were several North Warrandyte residents, including Gwen Walker who had changed her fire fighters helmet for that of Salvation Army welfare.

The Warrandyte brigades returned on Sunday, March 24. That day the North Warrandyte brigade sent a news letter out to the residents, which contained a quote well worth repeating: "The fire raced towards my house, I was terrified, but I had done my fire prevention work. The flames stopped at the edge of where I had slashed and cleared the ground fuel. This saved my house".

South Warrandyte brigade was out in force on Good Friday to collect for the Children's Hospital appeal.

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# So many flags it was almost embarrassing

By CLINTON GRYBAS

Warrandyte Basketball Club sent 11 teams into last month's EDJBA grand finals — and emerged with eight premierships.

Six of the nine boys' teams were successful and the two girls' teams were both winners.

In the under-10 boys section, the 10DC side coached by Simon Morgan scored a 23-16 win over Briar Hill, who had topped the ladder at the end of the regular season.

The two supplementary finals in which Warrandyte were involved produced a 1-1 result.

The 10DAs coached by Brian Dunne had a 31-22 win over Balwyn, Wes Ballinger shooting 24 points and taking the most determined player award.

Geordie Bate's 10DD team went down 7-18 to Eltham, with James Riley judged most determined.

Warrandyte's only winner among the under-12 grand finalists was the 12DMS combination coached by John Zigmantas. His boys beat Park Orchards 35-30, with Greg Gamblin winning the MDP award.

Jim Burbidge's 12CAW team lost 35-50 to Balwyn, whose 12DFWs defeated the Warrandyte team of Damien Arsenis by 18 points (42-24).

## SPORT

Warrandyte's under-14 boys had played exceptionally well through the season and they carried that form into their grand finals. All three local teams were successful.

Paul Hasking's 14DW boys enjoyed the advantage of playing at home and were never going to let Doncaster in. They won 29-22, with Jake Gladman picking up 13 points and the MDP vote.

Chris Henderson, who coached a winning team last year, was at it again, this time with the 14DS2s. They downed Marcellin 33-31 in a real thriller.

In the final game of the night, before a full house at Warrandyte High School, Nick Bradford's 14BB team won 46-40, Richard Kyne collecting 16 points and the MDP award.

Greg Delaney's under-10 C2 girls were superb in their 24-6 thrashing of Eltham. Steffi Mirabella was judged most determined.

The 12D1s coached by Peter Petrov completed the double for the girls with a 24-19 win over Koonung.

# To Brad Valentine, the Valentine Award

Brad Valentine, a young batsman of outstanding potential, is Warrandyte Cricket Club's player of the year for 1990-91.

As such, he has won the Darryl Valentine Shield, the perpetual trophy awarded in memory of his uncle, a dedicated local sportsman who died in a road accident in 1979.

Brad played this season in the fifth eleven and hit three centuries on his way to taking the batting honours in that grade. Club officials regard him as a champion of the near future.

WCC captain-coach John Sharman won the Jack McAuley Shield as a senior champion and Jenni McLaws the Allan Chapman Shield as the outstanding player in the women's eleven.

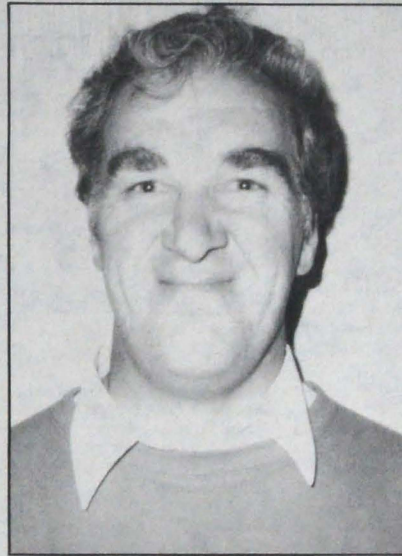
Steve Bell, who is destined to star for Warrandyte at senior level, won the Les Adams Shield as junior champion and the Derek Hilton Award, an under-12 encouragement trophy, went to James Moseley.

At presentation night last month, the club paid tribute to the ongoing contributions of former president Geoff Taylor by awarding him the McCartin Family Shield as clubperson of the year.

Life membership medallions were presented to Steve Pascoe, who completed another great season by taking both batting and bowling awards in the second eleven, and Maria McGhee.

The pennant won that afternoon by the seconds was presented by RDCA patron Bill Dean and skipper Brett Kline was the delighted recipient of the ball with which the premiership was taken.

Other special achievements recognised were Alan Vitiritti's performance in topping the association bowling averages in Chandler Shield 3 and Justin Edwards' batting average of 127 in the under-12s.



Geoff Taylor — clubperson award.



Maria McGhee — life member.

All under-12 players were presented with participation medals.

Tony Sturesteps won the first eleven batting award and captain's trophy. Gerald Walshe took the bowling honours and Greg Tregear the fielding award.

Trophy winners:

First: Tony Sturesteps (batting), Gerald Walshe (bowling), Greg Tregear (fielding), Tony Sturesteps (captain's trophy).

Second: Steve Pascoe (batting and bowling), David Booth, Andrew Rodgers.

Third: Greg Creber, Alan Vitiritti, Glen McCartin, Dale Vitiritti.

Fourth: Jim Gathercole, Colin Blackburn, Rod Valentine, David Watts.

Fifths: Brad Valentine, Kimberley O'Connor, Peter Hamilton, Steve Warr.

Sixths: Scott Bellinger, Leigh New, Damian Sproule-Carroll, Ian Brown.

Women: Angela Tunbridge (batting), Maria McGhee (bowling), Sharon Egeberg (captain's trophy).

JUNIORS

Under-16: Clinton Grybas (batting), Rob Punshon (bowling), Shane Baker (fielding), John Nasser (manager's trophy).

Under-14: Steve Bell (batting and bowling), James Logan, Anthony De Leo.

Under-12: Justin Edwards, Nick Raby, Justin Edwards, James Moseley.

### SPECIAL AWARDS

Six-a-side champions: Dale Comrie, Dean Comrie, David Booth, Stuart Howarth, Tony Sturesteps.

Seven or more wickets in an innings: Nathan Croft (7/27), Steve Pascoe(7/42), David Watts (8/102).

Centuries: Brad Valentine (130, 107, 107); Greg Creber (101, 105); Jenni McLaws (102, 103); James Weatherley (138 n.o.); Rod Valentine (135); Jim Gathercole (121 n.o.); Andrew Hood (100); Mick Day (107 n.o.); Lachlan McLean (108); Darren Peters (196); Ben Brisbane (120).

Duck Club Award: Darren Peters.

Special junior batting award: Justin Edwards (three consecutive 30 not outs).

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# A Bloodbath at Tempy!

Rocked by a series of last-minute defections, Warrandyte started the 1991 football season with a 20-goal thrashing from EDFL newcomers Templestowe.

The loss of several key players to other clubs has turned what shaped as a very promising season under new captain-coach David Purcell into a rebuilding year.

Missing from the Bloods line-up are:

- Prolific goalkicker John O'Brien, who has won a clearance to East Ringwood.

- Last year's captain and dual best and fairest winner Robin Golding, who has reversed his decision to retire and crossed to Canterbury-North Balwyn.

- Centre half-back Gerald Walshe, who has gone to Vermont.

- Ruckman Kimberley O'Connor and wingman/half-forward Dale Vitrutti, who are seeking clearances to East Ringwood.

## Depleted Warrandyte cop 20-goal hiding

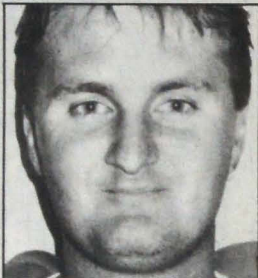
• Steve Yoannidis, who wants to play for Templestowe.

To compound Warrandyte's woes, young stars Eugene Hansen and Lachlan McLean, who have been playing for the Fitzroy and Hawthorn under-19s respectively, have changed their minds about returning to Warrandyte.

"We will be virtually rebuilding the club from scratch," Warrandyte Football Club president Colin Bawden told the *Diary*. "There is a great deal of work to be done and we'll be appealing to supporters to stick with us through the rebuilding process.

"The players who train will get a go."

Of the players who have quit the club, Bawden said: "In some cases, we had been talking with them for most of the summer, but we did not know until virtu-



John O'Brien

ally the last minute that they were leaving us."

The mass exodus is undoubtedly linked to the no-contract, incentive-only player payment scheme introduced by the club after operating at a financial loss last year.

Players are now paid \$50 for a



Robin Golding

winning game and get nothing for a loss. The three best performers in each game get \$50, \$40 and \$30 "bonuses" respectively.

Club treasurer Dennis O'Brien has resigned and is replaced by Roger Drew. Tom Kerkhof has been appointed assistant treasurer.



Dale Vitrutti

On the credit side for the Bloods is the performance on and off the field of captain-coach Purcell. Club officials are most impressed by his approach to coaching and he was clearly Warrandyte's best in the Templestowe debacle.

As this edition of the *Diary*

went to press, the club was awaiting the hearing of clearance appeals by three recruits from Heidelberg who would considerably bolster the depleted ranks.

If the appeals are granted, Peter Mastropoulos, Terry Blythmen and Blair Moxom will probably go straight into the senior side.

From Warrandyte's viewpoint, the best that could be said about the game against Templestowe is that it was a lovely autumn day.

With first use of the breeze, Warrandyte started promisingly and led by 10 points at the first change. But Templestowe, who crossed from the powerful Diamond Valley League this season, slipped into overdrive in the second term and kicked 11 goals straight while holding the Bloods scoreless.

It was a procession for the home side, who created loose men in the forward line and made it look all too easy.

Final score was Templestowe 29.14(188), Warrandyte 9.9(63).

## Seconds grab pennant



Steve Pascoe — nine-wicket haul in the finals.

John Sharman, who led Warrandyte Cricket Club out of a "recession" this season, will be back in 1991-92 to build on the strong foundations he has laid.

Sharman's reappointment for a second term as captain-coach is a formality.

A former District cricketer with Waverley, Sharman has produced big improvement at Warrandyte and saw four of the six men's teams into the finals.

The reward for his work was a premiership for the second eleven.

"When we picked up John Sharman we picked up a real winner," WCC president Mark Davis told the *Diary*. "He plays to win and he has instilled that attitude in the players.

"The season was better than we had expected and we can certainly build on what has been achieved."

The seconds' premiership was highlighted by some outstanding individual performances.

Mick English and Steve Pascoe combined to destroy Norwood in the semi-final, returning bowling figures of 5/50 and 4/44 respectively. The Dytes coasted to 3/126 in reply to Norwood's total of 123.

Ben Brisbane was Warrandyte's hero with the bat in the grand final against Ainslie Park, hitting a magnificent 120. He had fine support from Jason Graf (45) and Andy King (41).

The Dytes closed at 9/312 and again Pascoe was in devastating form with the ball, capturing 5/75 as Ainslie Park were dismissed for 269.

The first eleven, which had come from down the ladder to make the finals, were well beaten by North Croydon in their semi-final, Andrew Hood top-scoring with 74 in Warrandyte's total of 176.

The thirds lost to Croydon United by seven wickets and the fifths could muster only 79 runs against Ainslie Park.

Details:

FIRSTS: Semi-final — Warrandyte 176 (Hood 74) lost to North Croydon 249.

SECONDS: Semi-final — Warrandyte 3/126 d Norwood 123 (English 5/50, Pascoe 4/44). Grand final — Warrandyte 9/312 (B. Brisbane 120, Graf 45, King 41) d Ainslie Park 269 (Pascoe 5/75).

THIRDS: Semi-final — Warrandyte 188 (D. Vitrutti 44, G. Brisbane 45) lost to Croydon United 3/189.

FIFTHS: Warrandyte 79 lost to Ainslie Park 202 and 302 (Watts 8/108).

## Rocking for Madge

Local band Alley Oop will donate its services next month to the appeal for crippled former Warrandyte footballer Gary (Madge) Allsop.

Alley Oop, led by Greg Egglestone, will perform free of charge at a rock night at the recreation reserve pavilion on May 25.

Proceeds will go towards building a room for Allsop, who is living with his parents at Blackburn.

Admission to the night is \$5 and drinks will be available at bar prices. Strict control will be kept on the sale of drinks to young people.



Gary Allsop

## Karina's on the move

The perseverance and dedication of young Warrandyte athlete Karina Reid have been rewarded with an overseas trip.

Karina, a Year 10 student at Warrandyte High, has been a member of Doncaster Little Athletics Club for nine years and was a placegetter in the 800 and 1500 metres in this year's Victorian titles.

She was one of 40 young athletes chosen to represent Australia in competition in the United States over Easter.

"We are very proud of Karina and the determination she has shown to achieve excellence in athletics," a school spokesman told the *Diary*.

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