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Library scheme set for success

By INGRID KLEINHENZ

It looks as though Warrandyte will get a public library at long last.

Not the full-blown municipal branch library to which it is undoubtedly entitled, but a locally run and funded community library and book exchange.

Plans are afoot to establish the library in the new community centre, in the front room on the ground floor on the Webb Street corner. It is understood that the library would operate as a project of the Warrandyte Neighbourhood House.

Ever since the idea of the new community centre was mooted — back in 1980, when Doncaster and Templestowe council bought the land — local residents assumed that a municipal branch library would be included in the complex. But this was not to be.

Cr Louise Joy told the Diary that the problem was one of expense.

"The Box Hill and Doncaster regional library service said it was just not economic for a small library to become operational, especially with larger local libraries, such as the one at the Pines in direct competition," Cr Joy said.

The idea for the community library came from veteran local campaigner Jean Chapman. She envisaged it being staffed by volunteers and stocked with donated books.

Lynne Reddie, a trained library technician, has already volunteered her services as coordinator. She sees the library operating as a book exchange.

People could "buy a book for a dollar and take it away, or alternatively exchange it for another for a fee of 20 cents," she said. However, the system under which the library will operate is still being worked out.

Neighbourhood House coordinator Lin Chandler told the Diary that their policy is to "keep it simple" and not "get tied up with the administrative complications of lending, cataloguing and so forth".

In the meantime, the proposal is generating a lot of interest and excitement. Lin Chandler mentioned that local carpenters have volunteered to build shelves. Formal occupancy details have still to be worked out, but it is hoped that the library will be operating by the end of July.

Lin is adamant in pointing out that the success of the project depends upon community involvement. She stressed the need for volunteers prepared to donate a couple of hours a week helping to man the library, and appealed for books.

"Everything except Playboy-type publications would be accepted," she said. Anyone interested in contributing in any way possible is invited to phone 844 1839 and ask for Lin Chandler or Lynne Reddie.

It would be wonderful if Warrandyte had a library in their new community centre. We locals deserve a library in our township, it would be so much more convenient. We do spend a lot of time on the road.

Students especially need access to these facilities. Doing their own research and being



LETTER

self-reliant is one of the requirements of the VCE.

A library is a joy and pleasure we all can share.

Diane O'Connor Trezise Street



Our beautiful new community centre is finished at last, and everyone is invited to celebrate at the official opening on Saturday, July 13 at 2.30pm. The mayor of Doncaster and Templestowe, Cr John Bridge, will perform the honors. In the Jan Tindale photo above, management committee chairman Cr Vern Denford and garden designer Bev Hanson admire the Dale Marsh mural in the foyer.

Corner plan causes stir

By KEN VIRTUE

Users of the Mechanics Institute hall are concerned about Doncaster and Templestowe council roadworks underway at the corner of Mitchell Avenue and Yarra Street, between the hall and the new community centre.

As this issue of the Diary goes to press, a number of ticklish conflicts remain to be resolved between the Warrandyte Arts Association and Mechanics Institute and the council.

Central to the row is that Mitchell Avenue isn't. Central, that is. Where it used to be.

It seems council has been determined to achieve two outcomes. Firstly, to slow traffic along Mitchell Avenue. Secondly, to provide a widened, beautified verge around the Mitchell Avenue side of the new centre.

Admirable objectives perhaps. At first sight.

But something 'had to give', and so now the newly-designed centre of the road reserve has pushed the edge alignment of Mitchell Avenue very much closer to the hall.

Hall users weren't too impressed by this eventuality, particularly as council's original

plans called for concrete footpaths alongside the hall and literally no parking nearby.

"We were concerned about quite a few things," WMI&AA president Doug Macrae told the Diary. "And a little angry about the lack of detailed consultation — plus an unexpected \$860 bill for half the kerbing."

Following representations earlier this year, council agreed not to construct the footpaths, and ward councillors, including Cr Vern Denford, thought the matter had been resolved.

However, subsequent roadworks prompted a series of meetings between council engineering manager Mr John Prince, Warrandyte ward councillors Val Polley and Louise Joy, WMI&AA members, RSL members and some local residents.

Council's initial response was reported as: "It's a government road so we can build whatever we like as long as it is contained within the road reservation". This statement proved to be long on fact and legality, but short on the attitude necessary to satisfy hall users.

Council officers subsequently called the latest meeting with WMI&AA on May 25.

"We repeated our concerns about the lack of parking or unloading spaces, loss of our mature shrubs and trees, and a concrete driveway (fronting Yarra Street) close to the hall entrance," Doug Macrae said. "We were also concerned about risks posed by the proposed design of the intersection."

Council reiterated that Mitchell Avenue could not be widened or the new centre alignment altered. "They did offer, however, some compromises," Mr Macrae said.

These included one parking space opposite the pottery studio, an excavation between the hall and the studio for three or four car spaces, and acceptance of a WMI&AA suggestion to install a 'slip lane' in Yarra Street for traffic turning left into Mitchell Avenue.

Further, Cr Polley has taken a suggestion to council for other car spaces on the community centre verge. Bev Hanson has also kindly offered to restore the landscape around the hall so that it will appear more integrated with the new community centre.

"We're certainly pleased that these improvements have been

made to the plans," Doug Macrae said. "And we're very pleased with the help given by ward councillors."

"However, we're still worried about the position of the road and believe that there will be a safety hazard with cars coming so close to the hall corner."

A key point put to council was the high level of hall use. In coming months it will be used every day of the week, including children's drama and dance classes.

"Whilst there are no parking restrictions as such in Mitchell Avenue, its intended width of 5.5 metres simply won't allow room for safe parking," Mr Macrae said. "We believe the design of the roadworks will unfairly create difficulties for the many members of our community who enjoy the use of the hall."

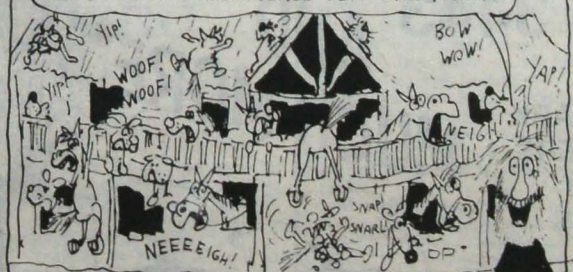
Council's final plans are awaited with keen anticipation by hall users. No doubt the community centre is a wonderful asset for this town, and hopefully the earlier plans for visual and practical harmony with the Mechanics Institute hall will become a reality after all.

CYRIL BY PAUL W.


LET'S SEE NOW. WHAT'S IN THE PAROCHIAL NEWS THIS MONTH?... DOGS TO BE BANNED FROM THE STATE PARK?... OR POSSIBLY RESTRICTED TO THE HORSE TRAILS... COME TO THINK OF IT, WEREN'T THERE ONCE PLANS TO BAN THE HORSES AS WELL? OH, AND OF COURSE THE NEW COMMUNITY CENTRE HAS BEEN COMPLETED.



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**The ill-fated blind date of our Danny**

**IN RED & WHITE**



Did Smokey's beady old eyes deceive him, or was that former local publican Danny McLoone being matched up on that naughty TV show Blind Date? My word, my word, my word it was! The man who presided over one of the more colorful eras in the Grand Hotel's recent history won himself an overnight boat trip to Sorrento with a lady named Phyllis. It turned out to be a mismatch because when the couple returned to the show to report on their adventure, Phyllis complained that her partner was too serious and his clothes smelled of mothballs. Never mind, Danny, we're sure you gave it your best shot. And you sure fortified Smokey's long-held belief that a man's never too old, only too lazy.

giant Burge pointed out, at length, that the station was undermanned at the moment and he wished the ne'er-do-wells of this town would recess for the winter. At random he quoted eight burglaries, a hit-run, drug busts and (wait for it) the theft of three Sulos. We suggest Russell Street or even Scotland Yard might lighten David's workload by taking the "bin and gone" case off his hands.

defender looking down the slope would not want to be afraid of heights; and the flanks should be avoided for fear of losing the footy in the long grass. Conditions apparently fall away after rain — so thank God for the drought! Smokey respectfully suggests Mt Evelyn returns the paddock to the cows — after which its Hereford Road was undoubtedly named.

And a standing ovation, please, for Paul Dummert, of Husseys Lane. Two of his greatest loves — wife Erica and horse sports — took Paul to the Victorian polo-crosse championships at Ballarat last month and it's fair to say he entered into the spirit of the whizzbang social event on the Saturday night. Paul doesn't drink very much, but when he has a sip he likes to do it from the top shelf. When Erica thought he'd had enough Scotch to create a worldwide shortage, she suggested it was back-to-the-motel time, but good old Paul said not to worry, darling, you take the car and I'll walk back later. Unfortunately, he took east instead of west or north instead of south — and tottered right into the Ballarat mental home. He was lucky to escape unceremoniously, lucky Erica eventually forgave him and luckier still that he has a great mate like Jeff Riddle who wouldn't dob him in to this columnist at any price.

It's a variation of Murphy's Law: try to do the right thing and suffer the consequences. Anthony Giles-Peters drove to a party at his brother's place at Balwyn, thoroughly enjoyed himself and, very conscious of the drink-driving thing, got a taxi home. And while many, many policemen were out breath-testing the metropolis at random in the wee small hours, some hoons stole two of the wheels from Anthony's car. Had they been able to lift it clean off the ground, they would undoubtedly have stolen the other two. The outrage has not weakened Anthony's dedication to law and order, but he's seriously considering returning his tickets to the Policemen's Ball.

If all the cricket fields of the RDCA and all the football fields of the EDFL were laid end to end, you'd find Joe Scicluna somewhere out there in the middle working his butt off for Warrandyte. Without him we'd very likely be consistent losers with cold clubrooms in which to lick the wounds. The debt that sport in these parts owes Joe was repaid in part when Warrandyte Cricket Club made him a life member last month. And it was very nice to see son Brian training again with the mighty Blues.

And Smokey extends deepest sympathy to Tom Kerkhof for the loss of his TV sales and service van — his mate of nine years and untold kilometres written off in a collision in High Street Road, Waverley. Not Tom's fault, of course. The van has been replaced but will not be forgotten.

No names no pack drill, but when a certain young Osborne Road motorist had trouble with her car, she took it to Riverview Motors where the (unnamed) apprentice mechanic performed the necessities and declared it fit to go. So the young motorist's mum picked up the car and drove it to Ringwood. But on the way she noticed this strange noise coming from the engine. So she took it back. As the puzzled apprentice mechanic tried to work out what was wrong, the mum noticed this piece of wood sticking out of the engine bay. "Funny," said the mum, "I've never seen that there before." So she gave it a pull. And out came a quite large engineer's hammer. "Funny," said the apprentice mechanic, "I've been looking everywhere for that." So the young motorist's car is now running like a proverbial dream. So if your engine starts hammering, try asking a certain apprentice mechanic to check his toolbox.

Following a number of reports from alarmed residents, Cr Louise Joy bailed up a busy SEC tree-logging gang in Yarra Street one day last month. Used to being treated like invading Martians infected with the Black Death, the gang was quite unfazed. "One old hand gave me his bible," Louise told Smokey later. "It's called 'Guide to Tree Planting Near Power Lines: A Description of Suitable Varieties.'" The book is now available at the CAB so we can all learn how to co-exist with the cherrypickin' chainsaw wielders.

Talking about books, one of the funniest children's picture books Smokey has seen in a long time is called 'A Kid's Guide to Cubby Houses' by Diary artist Paul Williams. Published by Hodder and Stoughton, it'll be in the bookshops soon. You'd better buy one, otherwise Paul's mate Cyril might come round and burn your house down.

Smokey's travels as a Bloods camp follower (as distinct from a camp Bloods follower) had never extended to Mt Evelyn before, and neither will they again. He's not blaming the quaint ground for a considerable defeat where a comfortable victory was anticipated, but really, the Eastern Districts Football League should take a close look at it. A visiting

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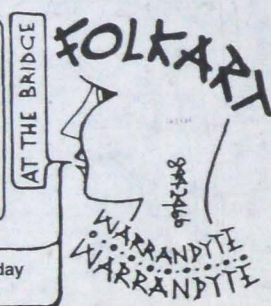
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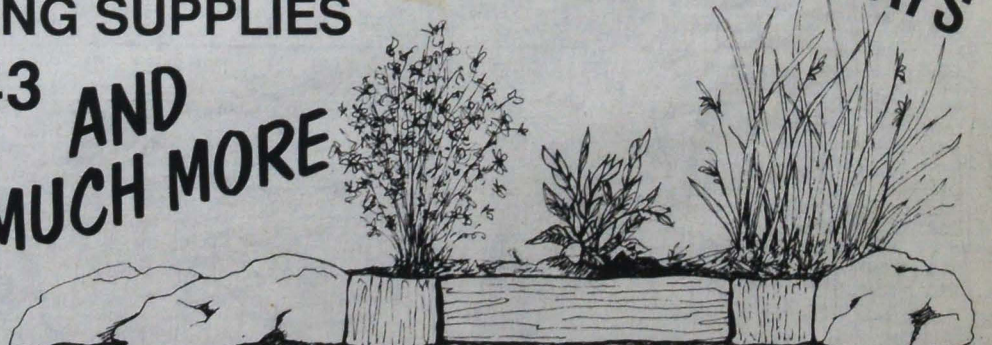
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# Planning controls tighten

By DAVID WYMAN

## Changes protect environment

Municipal councils on both sides of the river are moving rapidly towards stricter environmental controls, particularly in the Green Wedge area.

The City of Doncaster and Templestowe recently adopted four amendments to its planning scheme covering non-urban zones, and although objections have been received against three of the changes, all are expected to be introduced.

The Shire of Eltham is likely to implement a conservation strategy for the whole shire following the release of a discussion paper last year. The strategy will probably result in greater efforts to conserve areas of remnant bushland.

In Doncaster and Templestowe, council sought stricter controls over the clearing of native vegetation, excavation and landfill works, building and land works near Andersons Creek and the construction of tennis courts.

When introduced, these controls will mean:

- A planning permit will be required for the removal of any native vegetation over the entire area of the Landscape Interest A zone.
- A town planning permit will be required for land works to a maximum depth or height of three metres above or below the natural ground level, in Residential D and Environmental Residential zones.
- Any building or land works within 30 metres of Andersons Creek will require a building and works permit, in any zone.
- Special permission will be required for the construction or illumination of tennis courts in all the non-urban zones.

Council's manager for strategic planning, Mr Roger Collins, told the *Diary* that there had been no objection to the Andersons Creek works and building regulation, and the appropriate amendment to the planning scheme had been forwarded to the Minister for Planning and Housing for approval.

"Objecting submissions to various parts of the other three amendments have been referred by council to an independent panel to be appointed by the minister," Mr Collins said.

According to local press reports, when the amendments were discussed at Doncaster council's physical services committee they received objection from the president of the Park Orchards Landowners' Association, Mr Daryl Cox.

Mr Cox was unavailable for comment as the *Diary* went to press but he was quoted in a local newspaper as saying that "less control is more desirable than more regulations".

Meanwhile across the river, Eltham council's environmental officer, Mr Pat Vaughan, is working with the community to prepare a draft conservation strategy for the shire, due to be released in September.

Mr Vaughan, who has held the job for just over a year, said that there had been numerous abuses of existing regulations in the shire, particularly in land clearing without a permit. However, his task is only involved in planning when a matter is relevant to the conservation strategy. The strategy began with the issue of

a discussion paper last year and several working groups have been formed to develop various subjects, from pollution and waste, to the protection of natural habitat and sustainable land management.

"We intend to have an Environmental Week in the shire in September when the draft conservation strategy will be released for consideration by the community," he said. "The week will include tree plantings, meetings and the issue of general environmental information, with participation by local groups."

Mr Vaughan has proved a popular speaker at schools and at meetings of community groups, trying, he says, to "obtain sound environmental management for the shire".

Warrandyte Environment League members Anne Warren and Paul Horne have been active in the working group covering the natural environment. Other groups have covered the urban and rural environments.



Neil Tesier assists Warrandyte Primary School students during Arbor Week.

## Appeal victory

Property owners in Blooms Road, North Warrandyte have been refused a permit to subdivide their one hectare block into two. The property, owned by R. and I. Cusmano, is in Residential D1 zone.

Eltham council originally granted a permit for the subdivision, but local residents and the Warrandyte Environment League appealed against the decision to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal.

The tribunal subsequently allowed the appeal and refused a permit after hearing all submissions and inspecting the site and its locality.

The tribunal noted that the site was marginally suited to subdivision into two lots but that access to the newly-created lot was unsatisfactorily steep.

Mr Greg Thorpe appeared for local residents and Mr Chris Williams for WEL.

Schools celebrated Arbor Week last month by replanting areas of Warrandyte State Park damaged during the February bushfire. Children from Warrandyte, South Warrandyte and Andersons Creek primary schools helped to rejuvenate the Pound Bend area.

Senior ranger Ian Roche said that more than 1000 trees were planted.

"All of the plants have been grown by the Friends of the Park and are indigenous to the area, seed having been collected from the park," he said. "Students had the chance to view the effects of the bushfire and contribute to the restoration process."

It is planned that schools will adopt a plot of land and care for it throughout the year by taking part in such activities as weeding, planting and general maintenance.

## Schools replant Pound Bend

"Under the guidance of rangers, schools will be able to take responsibility for a part of the park," Mr Roche said.

There are several areas of cleared land in the park which staff are keen to revegetate. Schools and volunteer groups provide invaluable help in bringing these areas back to natural bushland.

## Zoning officers appointed

Both Doncaster-Templestowe and Eltham councils now have "zoning enforcement officers" whose main job is to ensure we act properly in our various property zonings.

Prior to their appointments, the job was normally shared by town planning and by-law staff. With the advent of wider environmental controls, particularly in the non-urban zones, their work will assume greater importance.

Mr Leon Vidler is the planning enforcement officer with Doncaster council. He has held this new position since August last year and was previously a policeman in New Zealand for 21 years.

Attached to the planning department, his job is mainly reactive, responding to complaints from the public that property owners are not complying with

the conditions of their permit, or that they are doing something else that is illegal, with or without a permit.

As his job develops, Mr Vidler will be more active in policing permit conditions. For example, where a permit has been issued for work to be carried out in a minimum time span.

"Generally the job involves a lot of negotiating and persuading to get people to comply with the regulations within a reasonable period of time," he said. "I can no longer go and grab them and say, 'You're nicked!'"

Shire of Eltham's planning investigation officer is Mr Allan Sterck, who started in this new position some 20 months ago. Mr Sterck was formerly a Doncaster-Templestowe traffic by-laws and planning officer.

Mr Sterck's main job is investigating and rectifying breaches of planning regulations notified by the public, council staff and councillors. Additionally, he routinely inspects properties which have conditional planning requirements.

"A big part of the job is educating ratepayers on how they can use their land, and the impact of their activities on native vegetation. If they are unsure of what they can or cannot do on their properties, they should check with council," he said.

Both officers are readily available to ratepayers. They assured the *Diary* that they would return calls should they be unavailable. Their phone numbers are: Doncaster-Templestowe (Mr Leon Vidler) 840 9333; Eltham (Mr Allan Sterck) 430 1122.

DAVID WYMAN

## Car park cash call

Local parents have long been concerned about car parking conditions at Warrandyte Primary School. Mr Phil Honeywood, State MP for Warrandyte, has called on the Ministry of Education to provide \$8,000 towards ensuring the safety of students.

"For some years, parent and teacher car parking and bus movements at the school have been unsafe," Mr Honeywood told the *Diary*. "The limited car spaces available are located on a hill with a steep gradient.

"Vehicle access to the school is extremely limited. The roads are steep and narrow and parents are forced to stop on both sides of the hill to drop off and pick up their children, many out of sight of the school grounds.

"A dangerous situation arises, particularly in wet weather, with students slipping on embankments and extreme congestion of cars and buses," Mr Honeywood said.

"It is pleasing to note that Doncaster and Templestowe council recently decided that the issue was of such importance that they were prepared to immediately contribute half of the \$16,000 needed to complete the first stage of the works.

"Given that the school is owned by the Department of Education it is only right that the State government put forward the other \$8,000."

Mr Honeywood said that he wrote to the minister, Mr Barry Pullen, three months ago calling on him to authorise payment of half the stage one costs. He has received no reply to date.

The first stage entails the relocation of the teachers' parking area and changing the bus route and turning circle, thus increasing the area available for parent parking.

The second stage, which is estimated to cost approximately \$32,000, involves extending both parent and teacher parking and asphaltting some of the new parking areas.

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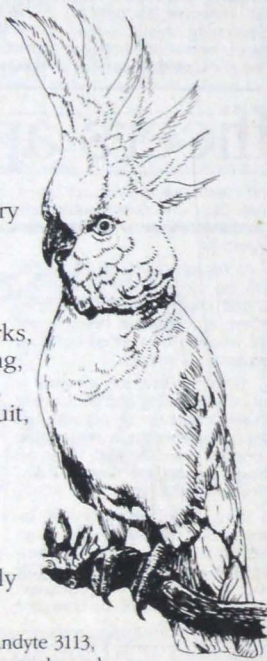
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"I don't care if he is your 'horsie', he's still not allowed in the park!"

**Dog doings disgust**

I am writing this in regard to the new bylaw 93, banning dogs from being walked in our Warrandyte State Park.

I have been a resident of Warrandyte all my life. I am now 19 and have always been disgusted with the way dogs are permitted with their owners to excrete wherever they feel the need. This could be on our public footpath or lawn. Another very popular spot is at the base of our letterbox.

We, being every member of my family, continually remove other people's dog doings from this area. I believe this is nobody's job except that of the dog owner. The only problem is how do we contact the owner? The dog doesn't leave its name, address and telephone number beside its deposit.

This is the same problem as we have beside the river. I went down on a hot day last summer to cool off at Pound Bend Tunnel, down the end of Bradleys Lane. I sat down on my towel after checking the area for remains, thinking that the coast was clear.

A moment later I smelt an awful reek. Just beside my head was a small faeces. The fact was that I could not find a space as large as my towel on the bank where a dog had not yet been.

What happens to it? The most obvious answer is that when it rains it gets washed into the river for us to swim amongst.

As well as banning walking the dogs from the State Park I feel that dog owners, when walking their dogs, should be made to carry a Pooper Scooper type of apparatus to catch their dog doings and dispose of the mess themselves.

**LETTERS**

I do like dogs and I know it is natural for them to need to go to the toilet. I just don't like it when the owners leave it to someone else to do the dirty work or make it so others cannot enjoy the natural bush surroundings, aromas included, when in Warrandyte.

Anita Thomas  
Blooms Road

**Bad news reported**

My master has just told me the bad news regarding non-availability of trees in the State forest. It seems to me that man's best friend is being treated like a dog. This is not good.

My master is well trained - in fact he does everything I ask him except fetch sticks, and I suspect that's because he has false teeth.

For generations my ancestors have provided mankind with companionship, loyalty and trust. We have guarded his possessions when asked and provided something to scratch when he goes bald.

All I am asking is somewhere to use for recreational purposes. After all, what's a tree or two between friends.

"Rover"  
Reg. No. 3614  
(Name and address supplied)

**Raffle Thanks**

We would like to thank all the people who supported us when we were selling raffle tickets outside Harry Heaths on Saturday, May 25. A sincere thanks to you all.

We would also like to mention the person who rang the police. If you were offended by any comment, joke, or by our mere presence why didn't you approach us instead of wasting police time and effort. If you were offended we can only now extend a great big apology.

The Warrandyte Community Child Care Centre has been part of the Warrandyte community for many years now and performs an invaluable service to the people of our community. Our staff and volunteers work very hard for the centre which gives excellent care to the community's children at very reasonable rates.

We are a non-profit, parent-run cooperative, therefore fundraising is a must to supply books, equipment, toys, etc., for our children.

This person showed "immense community spirit" by their action and we feel very sorry for your lack of a sense of humor, public awareness and caring of the community in which you have the privilege to live.

Thanks again to all those who did support us.

Fran Heath  
Child Care Centre  
Committee of Management

**Creek work commended**

The marking of "Creek Week" by local municipalities and government authorities earlier this month was given practical significance by the residents of Wattle Blossom Road, Warrandyte.

Their action in cleaning up the creek that runs beside their road has drawn commendation from State MP for Warrandyte, Mr Phil Honeywood.

According to Mr Honeywood, the creek has been smothered with blackberries and thick vegetation for some time. As a result snakes, and vermin such as rats, were becoming a real concern.

"A group of local residents realised that the only way to tackle the problem was to form a working-bee and get the job done themselves," Mr Honeywood told the *Diary*.

Over a number of days they managed to clear the vegetation, only to discover several car bodies, water tanks and other substantial items of refuse were blocking the normal flow of the creek.

"Unfortunately, when the Board of Works was approached to assist residents to remove the car bodies they refused to accept responsibility for the creek. Doncaster and Templestowe council were not definite about the creek coming under their jurisdiction either."

However, it appears the situation will now be resolved to everyone's satisfaction. Noting that the residents had been prepared to help themselves, council's engineering department decided to remove the offending car bodies and water tanks, thereby restoring the creek to its original pristine state.

**WARRANDYTE LIONS CLUB ANNUAL DEBUTANTE BALL**

AUGUST 16 1991

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Diary news items, gossip for Smokey and letters to the editor may be left in the box on the old cypress tree opposite the State Bank.  
Diary postal address: P.O. Box 209, Warrandyte 3113.

# College targets bush

By GEORGI STICKELS

Eltham shire's dwindling reserves of natural bushland are again threatened by development. About 40 acres of land has been earmarked for clearing to permit the construction of two sports ovals and facilities for Eltham College.

The land is opposite the college's existing campus on the Eltham-Yarra Glen Road. Ironically, the site was once the home of Neil Douglas, a local artist well-known for his commitment to conservation. It is now owned by the college.

Preliminary environmental impact studies carried out for the Shire of Eltham indicate parts of the land are in "almost pristine condition".

A large population of well-developed redbox trees is "of high local and probable regional significance" claims the report. However, other areas are weed-infested and in poorer condition.

A spokesman for Eltham Col-

lege, Mr Arthur Kirkwright, says plans for development have been underway for several years. The college's existing three ovals are too small and "in a school of 1200 (students) we need to have additional playing fields," he said.

However, the college is also concerned about the conservation issues surrounding the site. A number of students already use the site for nature studies.

Environmental impact studies carried out by council state that the proposed plans will have "no great impact" on the surrounding bush. Only 30 percent of the land will be affected by the development. It is believed a covenant will be placed on at least part of the remaining 70 percent.

Local councillor Jenni Mitchell and other concerned residents say this is not enough.

The proposed location of the ovals covers an area believed to be in the most pristine condition. If current plans go ahead 130 mature redbox trees will be removed. The area is also believed

to carry many species of wild orchid and native grasses.

Eltham College says that shire officers have considered other parts of the site for development and still believe the proposed locations will cause the least amount of damage to flora and fauna.

Cr Mitchell points out that previous wildlife studies were done in summer. She is keen to see proceedings stop until spring, when a more accurate and detailed study can be carried out.

Long-term effects also concern Cr Mitchell. Widespread damage is unavoidable, she claims. Earthworks on the scale proposed will lead to chemical leaching and weed infestation, as will the turf required to cover the ovals.

The deterioration of parts of the land since being taken over by Eltham College weakens local faith in its ability to maintain whatever wildlife is left after the ovals are built. Cr Mitchell says

the college is prepared to "fix" damaged land. But by then it will be too late.

Richard Schurmann, one of several locals to raise objections to the development, says the area is full of indigenous flora and fauna. He has observed many native birds, as well as kangaroos and echidnas living in the area.

Mr Schurmann also claims that the proposed sports ovals would bring minimal benefit for the amount of intrusion into native bushland.

"Sporting facilities... should never be allowed on bushland whilst there are old tip sites and horse paddocks available in the shire," he told the *Diary*.

The permit for construction went before Eltham council planning committee late last month. Moves to both accept and refuse the permit were denied, and the matter was deferred to a full council meeting this month. The outcome was still unknown as the *Diary* went to press.

## Museum seeks backing

The Warrandyte Historical Society is facing an urgent need for financial assistance to establish a museum in the new community centre.

The society ran a successful — if somewhat cramped — museum for several years in one of the old buildings on the site, but this was demolished before the building of the new centre.

"Our premises in the new complex are superb," a society spokesman told the *Diary*. "They will enable us to develop a museum in which the society's extensive historical collection can be properly preserved and attractively displayed."

The society intends opening the museum on a regular basis on Sunday afternoons, and at other times by special arrangement for school groups and tour parties.

However, as this will all cost money, the society is seeking sponsorship from the community. They have devised a "patronage" scheme.

"Anyone who contributes \$500 or more will be honored as a Patron, those donating between \$100 and \$499 will be deemed to be Gold Sponsors," the spokesman said.

"The names of Patrons and Gold Sponsors will be permanently listed in the society's bi-monthly newsletter as well as on an honor roll in the museum. A list of all sponsors — at whatever level they choose to contribute — will also be kept."

Negotiations are in hand to have all contributions to the museum made tax deductible, but this has not been finalised.

The Warrandyte Historical Society is anxious to hear from talented persons in the community able to contribute expertise and assistance with the design and layout of the museum.

Donations and offers of assistance can be forwarded to PO Box 76, Warrandyte, 3113 or by telephone to Shirley Rotherham, 844 2438.



## Appeal gathers momentum

A recently-launched appeal for Warrandyte policeman Glenn Pinder, tragically injured in a road accident, has so far raised more than \$1000.

Fund-raising efforts are about to gather momentum, with a number of special events planned.

A sportsmen's night will be held on July 9 at the Doncaster Rovers Soccer Club in Andersons Creek road and a wine tasting function is being arranged in conjunction with

the local Apex, Lions and Rotary clubs.

Ansett and Australian airlines have donated two "mystery trips" and a trip for two to the Gold Coast, which will be prizes in a major raffle.

Senior Constable Pinder, 27, suffered severe spinal injuries when his motorcycle and a van collided on the corner of Warrandyte and Milne Roads on March 12. He is now a paraplegic confined to a wheelchair.

Sen Const Pinder has lived in Warrandyte for six years.

He is married, with two small sons.

"We are very grateful for the donations received so far," said Warrandyte police chief Sergeant David Burge, who is coordinating the appeal. "The response from the older folk of Warrandyte has been particularly pleasing and we hope to canvass local traders for support."

Inquiries should be directed to Sgt Burge on 844 3231. Donations can be made at the local police station.

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CITY OF DONCASTER  
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## WARRANDYTE COMMUNITY CENTRE

The Council of the City of Doncaster and Templestowe congratulates the Warrandyte community on the construction of the Warrandyte Community Centre.

The Warrandyte Community Centre stands as a fitting tribute to the spirit of co-operation shown by Warrandyte community groups, the Council of the Shire of Eltham and the Council of the City of Doncaster and Templestowe in designing, funding and constructing the Community Centre which will doubtless become one of the focal points of Warrandyte.

Council's best wishes are with you for the opening on 13 July.

21258

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# Arrival

All good stories should have a beginning. Here now is the beginning. A story of 25 years of adventure and hardship of pleasure and grief. Of much learning and the finding of many good friends, all hidden now behind the years.

You will have gathered from the tale of the wallaby that the setting is Australia, in a small village nestling in the folds and foothills of mountains, with a river meandering through.

At that time there were some 200 people living in and around the village, mostly women and children. Many of the men were away at the war.

The year before we came there had been disastrous bushfires, the worst in the history of the State. The tiny village had not escaped. All over the hills and the mountains beyond and deep down in the gullies, eucalypts stood stark and blackened, pointing suppliant fingers to the sky. But these are difficult trees to kill, and already, a year or so later, one could detect tiny festoons of green along the blackened branches.

In time, the hills and mountains would be clothed in the soft grey-green of gum trees. Also in time would be cascades of golden wattle. The seeds of wattles can lie dormant for years, until extreme heat starts them into germination. Which is why now, when I want to plant wattles, I soak the seeds in boiling water.

# THE WOODEN BRIDGE

By Eve Evans

It did not happen quite that way. Having been given his freedom and relief from constantly crying children and sleepless nights, he used it to the ultimate.

For a few months he did visit us, bringing food and leaving some money. But as he became involved in his new life, which later included other women, his interest in us waned, until he came no longer. From time to time he sent some money, but this was so irregular that I could not depend on it. Then began the struggle to make ends meet and spin out the money as best I could.

I found the house through an agent, who very honestly told me that the rent was low because it was miles from anywhere. It was for sale or to rent. My husband would not buy it, but he did pay the rent, so that part of the burden was lifted. I obtained the key from the agent, and one fine day in May we drove up to see it.

Immediately left when we came over, then follow the road around for four miles. It was not really a road in any sense, but a muddy track of golden clay, high ridges and deep ruts. It was covered with small pebbles, now, after rain, glinting like many colored jewels. It wound uphill and down, then up again.

We passed only three houses. The last, a mile from the house we were going to look at, was a tiny cottage, almost like a doll's house, set back from the road.

Inside, we found everything as good as the agent had said. Seven spacious rooms, each with a fireplace so that they could be turned into bed-sitting rooms for the comfort of the nurses. There was a bathroom and a very large kitchen with an enormous black woodstove.

Miss Mac had lived here in comparative comfort. She had a kerosene-driven pump on the river for a plentiful supply of water. Half a mile below her property, along a reasonably good car track, she had shared the building of a suspension bridge across the river, thus cutting about six miles off her daily trip to town. The fires had taken the pump, the suspension bridge and the house of her neighbor. The only means of access now was the rugged, rocky clay road along which we had come.

The house stood on a high ridge, and far below the river wound around it on three sides. We could hear its roar as it bore the rains away to the sea. The river that was to be my friend and my foe.

The property was now part of a deceased estate. The original house had been burnt down in the bushfires. Its owner, known in the village as Miss Mac, had owned a private hospital in one of the suburbs, and to this house she brought her tired nurses to rest awhile.

She was determined to rebuild the house according to the original plan. She stayed in a caravan on the property while the building went on, but unable to overcome the loss of her home and all her treasures, had succumbed to pneumonia, and died before the house was finished. Her sister carried on and when the house was completed, put it up for sale or rental.

We drove up to the little cottage, and as the car stopped, there came towards us a most ill-assorted pair of elderly women.

One was tall and gaunt, brown eyes looking always beyond the present moment as though peering into another world. Everything about her was brown and sombre: the shirt and jodhpurs she wore, even her voice when she spoke, seemed to smell of brown earth.

The other was of more matronly build, with soft blue eyes and grey hair falling in wisps about a face that was wreathed in smiles. As she wiped her hands on her apron she gave the impression of a warm-hearted, friendly grandmother, as indeed she proved to be for my children, taking the place of the grandmother they never knew.

I told them I would be coming to live in the house over the hill, and would be glad if they could give me some information about getting supplies.

My husband said he was not in favor of the idea at all, but if I insisted on coming here, he would do what he could.

"We will be more than pleased to help all we can, but you must bring with you good supplies of basic foodstuffs like flour, sugar, porridge meal — and don't forget ample supplies of powdered milk, it is not possible to get fresh milk here." They told us they had a friend who owned a small general store in another village about six miles away. He had a horse and cart and would come every two weeks in the evening, bringing meat, butter and vegetables, mail too. They had their mail addressed care of him, and were

told us how happy they would be to have neighbors.

"You have a car," the matronly one said. "So shopping will not be difficult."

"No," I replied. "I won't have a car, my husband would find the distance too great to drive up and down to his work." I explained about the children's irritating skin condition, that they needed a quiet place, and that the mountain air could be good for them.

Both looked doubtful. They explained that there was little or no soil on these ridges. Over the years, rains had washed all the topsoil down into the deep gullies. Mac had been their life long friend and on their retirement they went abroad with her.

"We two stayed in England for two years to learn herb farming. When we returned, she gave us this piece of land to build the cottage, also an acre of good land down in the gully. There we grow our herbs."

Pointing to the oil lamp and candles on the table, I said, "You have no electricity, my refrigerator will be no use without electricity. How do you manage to keep food?"

"We have a Coolgardie safe. You'd better get one too."

As we went out to look at the safe, they told us that the fires had somehow bypassed their cottage, although it did much harm to their herbs in the gully, but given three or four years, the hills would all be green again.

A Coolgardie safe is one of the most useful items one can have in the country when there is no ice or refrigerator. It has strong steel corners and bottom and a steel tray on top. The sides and door are of hessian, and it has a couple of shelves. One hangs it in a tree and keeps the tray filled with water. It catches every breeze, and the water dribbles through holes in the tray, keeping the hessian wet, and so cool.

On June 1st, 1940 we moved into what would be our home for the next 25 years.

To be continued.

sure he would bring stores for me as well.

"Perhaps I can grow vegetables."

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As we left the suburbs behind we came through very beautiful orchard country. The trees — apricots, peaches, apples and cherries — seemed to have a red glow over them. That was because they already held their little fat buds tightly closed, awaiting spring to burst into flowers.

Then we passed through the village, one street with a few straggling shops on one side, the river flowed along the other side. At the end of the village street, we came to the wooden bridge.

A lofty structure, it stood high above the river on tall wooden stanchions. It had withstood fires and floods for 50 years or more. Built originally for horses and carts, it was wide enough to take only one car at a time. This, I learnt later, was the cause of many arguments as to who was on the bridge first, a car on the village side, or one from the other side.

As we crossed, it rattled with the noise of loose bolts, jumping up and down like the pistons of a car. There was then no time to stop and look but I had a slight feeling of apprehension, crossing over this bridge would cut us off from the world.

The agent had told us to turn

immediately left when we came over, then follow the road around for four miles. It was not really a road in any sense, but a muddy track of golden clay, high ridges and deep ruts. It was covered with small pebbles, now, after rain, glinting like many colored jewels. It wound uphill and down, then up again.

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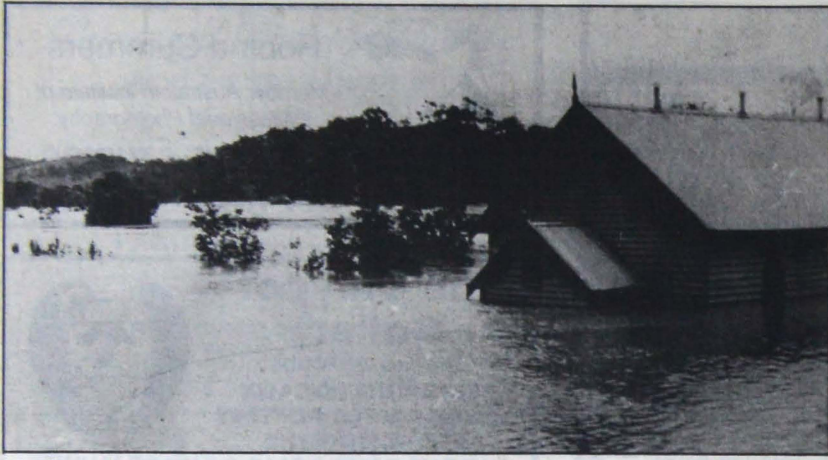
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The Warrandyte Presbyterian Church during the 1934 floods

## Church extension celebrated

Warrandyte Uniting Church held a dedication service to officially open its new hall on Sunday, May 26. The service was attended by more than 100 Uniting Church members and representatives from other church congregations.

The Rev Graeme Bucknall, who officiated at the dedication when the building was constructed as St John's Presbyterian Church in 1963, performed the service for the extension.

The story of the Presbyterian Church in Warrandyte is one of hardship and natural disaster. It began holding services in November 1923 in a disused building on the site of the Gospel Hall. The land was given to the Baptist Church by Bathia Speers in 1903.

The flood of 1934 lapped at the eaves of the church and the congregation had to shovel out 30cm of mud covering the floor before it could hold services. At the time of the flood a notice appeared outside the church reading, "The next hymn will be 'Shall we gather at the river?'"

Only five years after the building had survived the flood it was totally destroyed in the Black Friday fire of January 13, 1939.

A marquee was loaned by the Box Hill Men's Bible Class and used for services held under the giant oak tree on Bill and Sylvia Hussey's property at what is now 77 Yarra Street. When the marquee was needed elsewhere, services were transferred for a time to the Mechanics' Institute hall.

Following the fire the Rev T.J. Riddle of Ringwood, who had been a staunch friend of the Warrandyte church during its formative years and the depression, looked at the heap of ashes, then looked at the hotel that had been saved and remarked, "They must have had stronger spirits over there".

On June 15, 1940 the combined church board moved that services at Warrandyte be discontinued "for the time being".

The church restarted in the supper room of the Mechanics' Institute in the early 1950s with a small group of people; short on

numbers but long on determination and faith.

They established a church at Keen's Cutting using buildings from the Box Hill Presbyterian Church. But fire again struck and church and hall were destroyed on January 16, 1962.

The present church was designed by John Hipwell and built by Alex Edwards in 1963. The addition was designed by drafting firm DJ and DC Building Design and was built by Chapman and Gardner. The congregation voted to join the Uniting Church in 1977.

During last month's service representatives of the various disciplines that had combined to build the hall placed symbols of their trades near the altar beside the symbols of worship.

The Rev Graeme Bucknall was joined in the service by the Rev Gordon Watson and the Rev Syd Smale. The service was followed by an inspection of the extension, afternoon tea and a chance to view John Hanson's video of church life from the 1960s.

## True confessions of a gizmo junkie

The marketing men have really got me by the short and curlies. I am a gadget and gizmo junkie. Advertising agencies hold conferences about people like me. I provide the advertising executives with their latest Porsche, their trips to Aspen and their houses in Serpells Road.



receive the highest accolade possible. I get to endorse a new improved mousetrap.

Imagine, if you will, a typical Gold Coast conference. "Good morning fellow successes and welcome to our 'There's One Born Every Minute' Symposium.

"Our mission today is to examine the psyche, the brain patterns — if they can be found — (snigger snigger) — of our typical purchaser. Our fortunes depend on how well we can hook the sucker consumer. Let us take as our exemplar, that mainstay of the ephemeral market, Roger Kibbell. He is our archetypal male target.

"Our target is identified by his houseful of our products. The easy ratchet screwdriver that lasts as long as an advertising campaign. The set of mail order staysharp chisels made from a revolutionary new space-age alloy that remains razor sharp as long as it's not used.

"He will own several once-used bottles of once-a-year, long-lasting car polish, plus a Super Sudsy Swirly to use up more of our High-Sudsing Wonder Swirl Detergent. But what's most important about him is that no matter how many times he's burnt, he'll keep coming back for more!"

There is tumultuous applause, posters of me are erected in each seminar room. I am eventually deified as their patron saint and I

It doesn't kill the rodent. Instead — via its silicon chip and technologically advanced integrated circuit — it plays recordings of predatory cat noises that convince the mice to sell up and move next door.

Why? Why am I, a tertiary educated adult male of mature years, such a schmuk when it comes to buying "good things"? The things I buy seem so inexpensive, reasonable and sensible. Of course I need a wafer thin solar-powered calculator. Not because I can't add or multiply but because they're such a good use of technology.

I'm still smarting from the time I was tricked by an April Fool's Day joke. Being a patsy for such things, I was convinced by the TV news report of a revolutionary discovery.

Fish communicate via sound waves of different frequencies. Thus it was a simple step to produce a fishing rod with a metal line and a transmitter at the hook end.

You want flathead? Just dial "flathead" and down the wire

would flash the sound of an amorous flathead and, in an act of oral gratification one would be caught, as are all lovestruck fools. The annoying thing is — I still maintain it could work.

Perhaps it's just my insatiable thirst for knowledge, but those discreet ads about learning what it's like to be a Catholic are magnetic. Were it not for my pathological atheism I'd be into it in a shot.

In the field of unfairness and almost downright immorality, hardware shops take the prize. There they arrange row upon row of vitally useful stuff. A journey through McEwans can occupy me for hours.

Most evil are the throwaway boxes of discontinued or brain-dead customer specials. Things like centipedes designed for copying moulding and electronic measurers for locating studs on the opposite wall just leap into my hands.

And now the worst has happened. Harry's got a knife promotion going, and guess what? That's right, I'm a knife freak and the promotion is so sensibly appealing. If I buy enough knives, I get one free.

Herself will tell me that we have enough knives in the house. But I don't think that's the point. I have a reputation to uphold.

Besides, if I don't support the marketing men's scheme they'll take away my sainthood. Which, interestingly enough, comes complete with a battery operated digital readout of all the products I've bought and all those they know I'll buy!

ROGER KIBELL

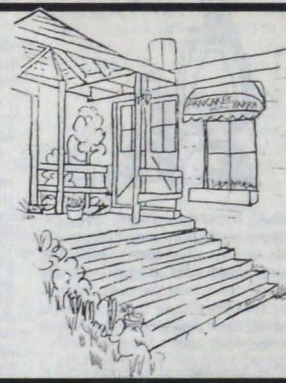
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Katherine Adcock... already a seasoned performer

## Fair lady of song

Katherine Adcock is certainly the fair and first lady of song at Warrandyte High School.

Her delightful voice and vibrant stage presence have enchanted local audiences during the last four musical productions presented by the school and contributed greatly to their success. One of her performances, in the role of Laurie in "Okalahoma" was remarkable enough to rate a very favorable mention in "The Age" at the time.

Katherine is already a seasoned stage performer. Her early theatrical experiences included performing with the Templestowe-Doncaster Music Society at the age of five and appearing in the Cheltenham Light Opera Company's production of "Sweeney Todd" when she was eight.

Currently studying for her VCE, Katherine is also preparing for

what may be her most challenging and enjoyable role to date. She will play Eliza Doolittle in the Warrandyte High School production of "My Fair Lady" to be performed at the school theatre from September 11 to 21.

"Involvement in the school musical is a very special and enriching experience," Katherine explained. "It's great to work with the teachers and other students to create a night at the theatre that audiences will enjoy and we will be proud of."

The cast, under the direction of theatrical veteran Chris White is already "treading the boards" in rehearsal and working hard to ensure that "My Fair Lady" maintains the high quality and professionalism established by past productions.

Won't it be "louverly"?

GREG STEWART

## Mission departs

A medical team led by Frank Cooksey of the Warrandyte Community Church is leaving Melbourne this month to help people in isolated areas of the Philippines.

Dr Cooksey will be part of a team of 14 doctors, dentists, nurses and technical staff who will visit the Matigslog tribes of Mindanao in the southern Philippines. Hundreds in the area are dying from measles and are starving due to prolonged drought.

"These people are only accessible by foot or pack-horses and most have never seen a white person nor had medical care," he told the *Diary*.

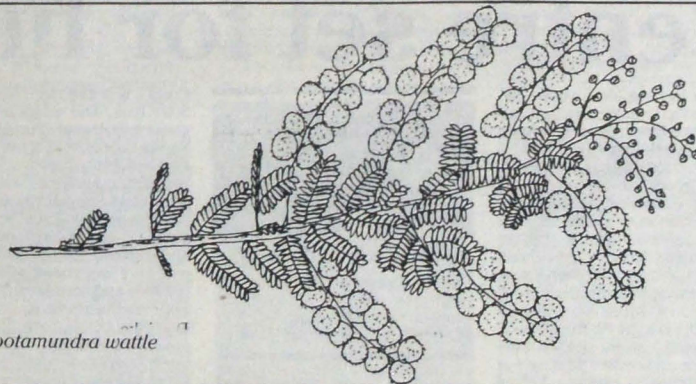
Dr Cooksey is director of Health Care for Christian Workers which on previous trips to the area has treated almost 4000 patients.

The organisation's work is carried out under the auspices of the international missionary organisations Tribes and Nations Outreach and Tribal Missions Philippines.

The main aim of Health Care for Christian Workers is to provide support for missionaries who are beyond the reach of normal medical care. But it also goes to areas not yet reached where there is a great need for medical care.

International director of Tribes and Nations Outreach, Joseph Lee, said HCCW had on previous occasions made "valuable and exemplary contributions" to the people of Mindanao.

This month's trip to the Matigslog people is mainly financed by Dr Cooksey's El Shaddai Naturopathic Centre in Wonga Park, but an appeal has been launched for food relief. Donations can be made to the centre and will be forwarded if received after June 14.



Cootamundra wattle

## Invading plants

For centuries gardens have been a source of endless pleasure to a great many people. I was born in England and grew up there. The English in particular are very proud of their gardens. Dahlias, delphiniums and the sweet perfume of roses are etched on my memories of summers long gone.

Our first home in Australia was a small, white-painted weatherboard in Ringwood. It had a large back garden consisting mostly of grass and a few fruit trees. We wanted not English roses but an Australian native garden.

With advice from friends and the local nurseryman we bought grevilleas, hakeas, bottlebrush and banksias: unfamiliar names for unfamiliar plants. We needed something quick-growing and wattles were suggested. One was especially recommended.

The cootamundra, with its distinctive bluish-grey, feathery foliage was an attractive tree. When it bloomed in mid-winter it was spectacular. I was astounded at the mass of fluffy yellow flowers that overwhelmed the tree. The cootamundra, however, carries this beautiful burden for a few brief weeks of the year.

By the time we moved to Warrandyte I had learned much about Australian native plants. I learned the difference between "native" and "indigenous". The exquisite cootamundra was indeed native, occurring naturally



### NATURE

By PAT COUPAR

Drawings: MELANIE COUPAR

in a small area of New South Wales near Wagga Wagga, but it was not indigenous to Warrandyte. It did not originate in this area.

In fact the cootamundra wattle, although stunning, is an environmental weed. In my ignorance I had always thought of a weed as something small, flat or grass-like coming up among my vegetables or in the cracks of paths. Something growing where it was not wanted and does not belong; that in essence is the environmental weed.

On my ramblings through the Warrandyte State Park I began to understand the immense problem of environmental weeds. Plants originating from other countries, such as ivy, smilax and onion weed, irresponsibly dumped in garden rubbish along roadsides or even worse directly in the bush.

Plants like blackberries, cotoneaster and boneseed which produce berries that are eaten by birds and other animals which then spread the seed far and

wide in their droppings. There are also the non-indigenous Australian natives like pittosporum and cootamundra.

All these plants are aggressive invaders. They compete with the local vegetation for light, water and soil nutrients, in time displacing them almost entirely. The structure of the vegetation is altered and degraded, consequently the habitat for our native fauna is reduced.

There are a number of plants for sale in local nurseries that should definitely be avoided. They include cootamundra and sawtooth wattle, cotoneaster, spanish heath, cape broom, bluebell creeper and ivy.

There are several reasons for considering the use of indigenous plants instead. For instance, they grow well in local soils, do not require fertilizers and are adapted to survive with little or no water.

If you would like to know more about environmental weeds, how to identify them and what to do about them, there are a number of books available from the library. Eltham council has recently published an excellent booklet entitled "Weeds of our bushland".

Further information on weeds and indigenous plants, including a list of fire retardant plants can be obtained from the Warrandyte State Park office on 844 2659.

## Whirlwind introduction for American visitor

Warrandyte made quite an impression on American visitor Bill Madden during a whirlwind five-day stay. And Bill certainly made an impression on his host and new-found buddy Shane Garrick, of Betton Crescent.

Bill, 34, a publishers' representative from Atlanta, Georgia, took the advice of mutual friend Malcolm Harris and "dropped in" on Shane on the last leg of a holiday which had started in Cairns.

What followed was a crash course in Australian, with native fauna, beer and football dominating the curriculum.

The Healesville sanctuary was a must — and a bit of an embarrassment for Shane, who pointed out a species of parrot he des-

cribed as "extremely rare, so rare that the ones you see here are introduced and the only specimens you'll find in Victoria".

Surprise, surprise to find three of those very parrots sitting in a tree outside Shane's front door when they got home!

Shane also gave Bill lessons in how to handle Victorian beer in 10-ounce receptacles — and found that the pupil did it considerably better than the master.


Bill thoroughly enjoyed Warrandyte and the feeling was mutual. He happily accepted a brainwashing from Shane about the virtues of a particular AFL team — which means that somewhere in Atlanta at this very moment is a dedicated North Melbourne supporter.



Bill Madden (left) and his Warrandyte host Shane Garrick

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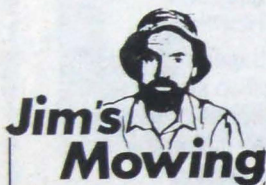
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## Queen Scout awards

Three Warrandyte Scout Venturers were honored by the Governor and Mrs McCaughey when they were presented with their Queen Scout Award certificates at Government House last month. Proudly displaying their certificates, they are from left, Robbie Gedde, Sean Meuglitz and Bruce Horkings. With them are four local scout leaders, from left, Ian Gedde, Robin Horkings, Lionel Burgess and Rainie Skinner.

## Centre set for functions

Are you looking for a venue for your group's next function or meeting or for a private party — even a wedding? The newly-completed community centre in Yarra Street has a number of areas which, when they are furnished, will be available for hire by groups or individuals in the community. There are three multi-purpose rooms, each capable of seating 64 persons. Two of these rooms, which have highly-polished wooden floors suitable for dancing, can be opened into one large room with seating for 128 at tables of eight or 192 in meeting mode. A kitchen is located between the double and single rooms. There is also a small meeting room which will seat 14 around a set of tables. The large foyer will be an ideal gathering place before receptions or meetings, and the flagged courtyard will prove a pleasant adjunct to a function. Some areas occupied by permanent groups may also be available by arrangement. Everyone is invited to look through the centre during the day, when it is usually open, or by arrangement at night. Enquiries on 844 4503, or after hours phone 844 2702.

### Job exchange

The highly-successful job exchange, which operated in Warrandyte for several years, is being re-opened by Jean Chapman under the auspices of the Neighbourhood House. It hopes to match local people seeking work with locals who are wanting jobs done. Further details from Jean on 844 3326 or the Neighbourhood House on 844 1839.

### Accommodation

An accommodation exchange is also in the pipeline at Warrandyte's Neighbourhood House. This aims to match people seeking accommodation on short, medium or long terms with local folk who may have a vacant room, bungalow or whatever at



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.

their house. Enquiries to Pam Egglestone on 844 2714 or the Neighbourhood House on 844 1839.

### Opening

Renovations and extensions to St Stephen's Anglican Church in Stiggant Street will be officially opened on Sunday, June 16 at 3pm. The service will be conducted by the regional bishop, the Right Rev Robert Butters, together with the archdeacon, area dean and former priests of the parish. The people of St Stephen's have asked us to thank all those in the community who have supported the project, with special thanks to architect Jock Macneish and engineer Doug Seymour. The community is invited to the opening service. Rev Russell Joyce will conduct his last service at St Stephen's on Sunday, July 7 at 3pm. He has been appointed by the archbishop to the parish of Werribee.

### Give away

The Uniting Church has an electric Gestetner duplicator in good working order which it would like to pass on to any community group that has need of one. Contact John Hanson on 844 3906.

### Improvements

A new beach and an upgraded carpark are features of works underway to improve Jumping

Creek Reserve in Warrandyte State Park. The works are a joint project between the Board of Works and the Department of Conservation and Environment. Native grasses and such trees as manna gums, narrow-leaf peppermint and long-leaf box will be planted in sections of the carpark and reserve and the riverbank will be revegetated with native grasses and shrubs from seeds collected in the area. The re-signing of the carpark, along with improved drainage, will help reduce erosion and improve access.

### Badges

Country Fire Authority regional officer Peter Cummings recently presented long service awards to several members of the Warrandyte brigade. Recipients were David Moss and Ken Sharp (12 year service badges), Peter Kenn (20 year clasp to 12 year badge) and Peter Horne (25 year clasp). The 12 year badge earned by the late Tom Hay was suitably mounted and presented to Margaret Hay. Guests enjoyed a pleasant social evening following the presentations.

### Help

Warrandyte Neighbourhood House is urgently seeking volunteers to assist with a range of projects following their move to the new community centre. Help is needed in such areas as phone answering, typing and filing, welcoming visitors, looking after preschoolers in the occasional childcare room, fundraising and the preparation and distribution of publicity. There will be a TAFE-accredited training course late in July to provide information to volunteers on the purpose and operation of neighbourhood houses. Enquiries to Lin Chandler on 844 1839.

### Allergies

A group of parents with allergy children recently formed a sup-

port group called PAK — Parents with Allergy Kids. They can provide support, understanding and advice to parents in this situation. The group meets on the first Tuesday of each month at the North Ringwood Community House, 120 Oban Road, Ringwood North at 7.30pm. New members are most welcome. Further information from Anne (879 2469), Liz (876 4329) or Lyn (876 1947).

### Volunteers

The Warrandyte Citizens Advice Bureau is seeking volunteers to commence training mid-year. If you are interested ring Louise Jay at the CAB, 844 3082.

### Carers

If you are caring for a person suffering from marked memory loss or mild dementia and are finding it difficult to cope, you may be interested in helping form a carers' support group in Warrandyte. Bruce McQuade is keen to initiate such a group and anyone interested can leave a message for him at the Neighbourhood House, 2A Masonic Avenue, phone 844 1839.

### It's ours

The *Diary* doesn't belong to an American billionaire, it belongs to us, the people of Warrandyte and surrounding areas. It exists for no other purpose than to serve its community. So tell us your group and personal news. Simply type (or write clearly) all such relevant details as date, time, venue and contact number and drop it in the box on the tree. We'll do the rest. But please check your calendar. We close copy on the last Friday of each month for the issue appearing on the second Friday of the month following. Such personal items as births, engagements, weddings and anniversaries are especially welcome.

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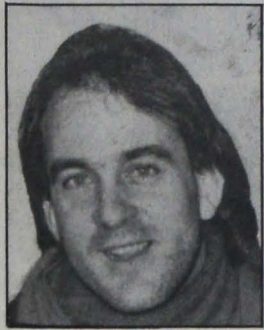
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## Rockers rally for Madge



Gary Allsop

The appeal for crippled Warrandyte footballer Gary (Madge) Allsop is \$2000 better off — thanks to the success of a rock night at the local sports pavilion on May 25.

Warrandyte band Alley Oop, led by Mark Egglestone, donated their services for the occasion, and it was standing room only!

"It was a great night and nobody enjoyed it more than Madge himself," said appeal co-ordinator Helen Revell.

"We had 270 young people there and we could not fault their behaviour.

"Alley Oop were sensational — even the few 'oldies' there agreed with that — and we can't thank the band enough for their generosity.

"Madge was so impressed with Alley Oop he wants them to play a number of songs he has written."

Allsop was a nightclub DJ before his tragic on-field accident in April 1989.

# Dytes stick with winning cricket team

Warrandyte Cricket Club have stuck with a winning team for the 1991-92 season. They have retained the on and off-field personnel who oversaw the successes of 1990-91.

Last season's coaches — John Sharman (seniors), Brian Chapman (women) and Geoff Edwards (junior co-ordinator) — have been reappointed and the committee remains very largely "as you were".

Last month's annual general meeting re-elected Mark Davis for a second term as president. His executive is Ian Cameron (vice-president, club facilities), Maria McGhee (vice-president match play), Steve Pascoe (treasurer) and Greg Tregear (secretary).

General committee members already allocated "portfolios" are: Chris Snaidero (publicity); Brett Kline (registration secre-

### SPORT



tary); Ann Pascoe (match results secretary); Geoff Taylor (bar manager); Joe Scicluna (grounds manager); Chris Dorning (Business Directory manager); John McCartin (match committee chairman); Kathleen McGhee (women's representative); Mark Davis (veterans' representative); Peter Baker (equipment manager).

The other committee members are Jenny McLaws, Jim Gathercole, Jason Gathercole, Russell Dorning and Ron Milton.

The club is still looking for a junior administrator for next season. This is a position vital to the

continued success of the club by producing senior players from home-grown under-age ranks. It is hoped the job will be filled by a parent of a present junior player.

Warrandyte will field six men's teams next season (and intend to improve on the four finalists and one premiership of 1990-91), a women's team and three competitive junior sides (under-16, under-14 and under-12). There will also be a non-competitive under-12 team.

Indoor practice will start late next month. New players are always welcome at Warrandyte and anyone interested in trying out is invited to contact Steve Pascoe on 844 1213.

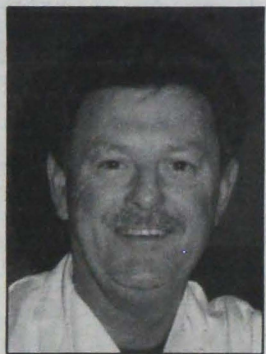
The new Warrandyte Business Directory is now being put together and inquiries should be directed to Chris Dorning on 844 1167.



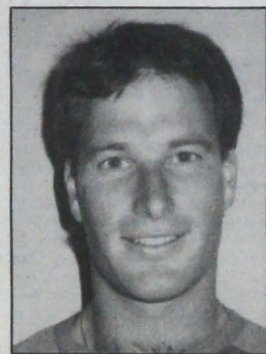
Greg Tregear — former captain-coach, now secretary.



Mark Davis



Ian Cameron



Brett Kline

## Just horsing around

Wyena Horse and Pony Club will hold a holiday gymkhana at its grounds on Sunday, July 14.

Events for riders under 21 will cater for the smallest of ponies to the largest of horses and sashes and trophies will be awarded to champion horses and riders in each category.

There will be a special ring for novice riders (those who have

not yet won an event) and a freshman's SJ, in which a rider receives a ribbon for a clear round of the course.

A topsy ring will cover such novelty events as fancy dress, pony with the shortest tail and the fluffiest pony or horse.

A special encouragement trophy will be awarded to the champion novice combination.

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# Bloods, sweat & cheers

Warrandyte have bounced right back into serious EDFL premiership discussions with an 11-goal demolition of third-placed, highly-rated Lilydale.

The 21.17 to 11.11 triumph in a rough, tough and often violent encounter lifted the Bloods to fifth position — just percentage points out of the four — on the third division ladder at the half-way mark of the season, with a record of five wins and four losses.

It has been a remarkable recovery after losing the first three matches, the first two by huge margins.

The home game against Lilydale produced a complete turnaround from a shock loss to bottom side Mt Evelyn a week earlier.

Warrandyte Football Club president Colin Bawden described the latest performance as "easily our best in my 1½ seasons as president and the best I've seen for several years".

"It was a great team effort, particularly after our horrible hiccup at Mt Evelyn," he said.

Coach David Purcell attributed the form reversal to the attitude factor. "We went to Mt Evelyn after four straight wins to play a team which had won only one," he said. "I'd worried all week about how that might affect our attitude."

"We have no superstars at Warrandyte. To win a game we rely on 15-17 contributors. We certainly had that number against Lilydale; against Mt Evelyn

## Now for Templestowe

Warrandyte Football Club players, officials and supporters have been talking about the return joust with Templestowe since April 6, the first round of the season.

The Bloods, their playing ranks in tatters after a series of last-minute defections to other clubs, copped a 125-point hiding from the EDFL newcomers at Templestowe that day and have been living with it ever since.

Things have changed dramatically in the meantime.

Templestowe, who had crossed from the Diamond Valley league, have fallen by the wayside to be sixth on the third division ladder. Warrandyte have gone quite the other way to be genuine finals contenders.

The scene is set for glorious revenge on June 15.

Bloods coach David Purcell, who played six seasons with Templestowe before crossing to Heidelberg, is particularly keen to meet his old club again — and on his new home ground.

A lot of personal bitterness exists.

"Obviously, I want to win for the club," he told the *Diary*, "but I want to win twice as much for me!"

A Warrandyte past players' and officials' luncheon will be held before the game against Templestowe and the club's raffle (first prize a cellular telephone) will be drawn at a "Snow Party" in the rooms after the game.

It is going to be quite a Saturday.

yn we had perhaps seven or eight."

Warrandyte's next opponents are Templestowe at home on June 15 — and it is shaping as a real grudge affair.

A centre-square skirmish before the ball was bounced set the pattern for the game against Lilydale. It quickly became no place for faint hearts or glass jaws.

Warrandyte set up their big win in the first quarter, conceding the first goal but kicking the next five. The McLean brothers, Lachlan and Stuart, booted the first two and Cam Day provided a preview of glorious personal deeds with a magnificent goal from the boundary.

It was the first of Day's three goals for the term. His third — a carbon-copy of the first, but from

the opposite flank — put the Bloods 41 points in front.

Warrandyte had chances to virtually wrap up the game before quarter-time, but opportunities in front went begging and Lilydale goaled twice before the change to trail by 29 points.

The McLean boys extended that margin to 48 points in the second quarter before Lilydale were able to increase their total (by a point).

An ugly brawl erupted on Warrandyte's half-forward line when Cam Day, who had continued to star, was felled.

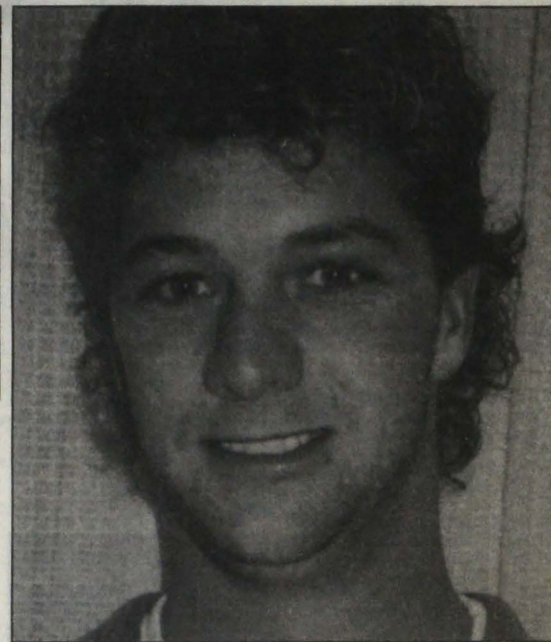
Warrandyte added 4.2 to 2.2 for the quarter. They had done everything right, capitalising on ruckman Kimberley O'Connor's dominance of the centre bounces, tackling fearlessly and running the ball efficiently out of defence.

The third quarter offered Lilydale no escape from humiliating defeat. The visitors responded quickly to an early Lachlan McLean goal, but a passage of play which started deep in the Blood's defence and put Warrandyte's 14th on the board was really the coup de grace.

It started with Matt Luttick beating a couple of Lilydale forwards with sheer determination and ended a string of hand and footpasses later — with opportunist Terry Blytheman running into an open goal.

Despite a 61-point lead at the last change, coach Purcell warned his players not to "go into the comfort zone". They didn't.

Lachlan McLean kicked a long bomb in the first minute and, after a quick reply from Lilydale,



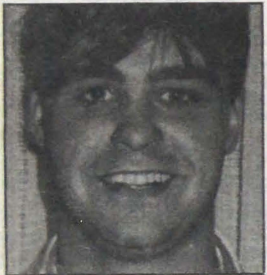
Cam Day — a sensational game

passed superbly to his brother for the Bloods' 18th. If you were a Warrandyte supporter, it was exciting stuff.

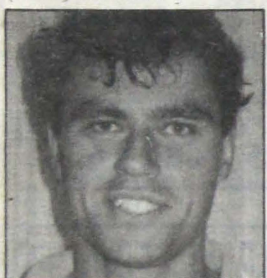
Lilydale fought it right out (in more ways than one), but the Bloods were magnificent. Purcell, who had been in the thick of everything, compounded the visitors' woes by putting through a

huge torpedo punt right on the final siren for a scoreline which earned his team a long, standing ovation.

Warrandyte had a teamful of best players, but Cam Day's four-quarter effort was outstanding. Perhaps his most valuable allies were O'Connor, Joey Hassall, Michael Day and Lachlan McLean.



The McLean brothers, Lachlan (above) and Stuart.



## Dyters fail school footy's acid test

Warrandyte High School's senior football team met their match on June 6 after a spectacular entry into the Fitzroy Cup grand final.

The Dyters had won their four qualifying matches by an average margin of 12 goals (including a 23-goal drubbing of Banyule), but were beaten by 37 points — 16.8 to 11.1 — by Rosanna East in the showdown at Templestowe.

"Our boys tried their hearts out," said Warrandyte coach Don Harrison, "but Rosanna East were able to stop our better players."

Rosanna had done their homework well — particularly

on Jon Hassall and Andrew Hamer, the Dyters' Collingwood duo. Although both played well, they were not allowed to dominate as they had in the lead-up games, in which Hassall averaged more than 40 possessions.

The Dyters' best were full-forward Trent Ferguson (four goals), Ashley Simpson, Jared Jones, Cam McBain and Mike Ramsay.

There were 14 teams in the series, the Fitzroy zone of the metropolitan secondary schools competition. Warrandyte defeated Templestowe, Macleod, Banyule and Northcote on their way to the grand final.

# Girls grabbing the glory

by CLINTON GRYPAS

Warrandyte Basketball Club is basking in the glory of its under-15 girls team in the Friday night competition.

The team, coached by Chris McIntosh, is barnstorming its way towards a premiership in what is regarded as the "championship" competition.

The girls have won their first 13 matches, mostly by big margins.

For Christie Lawrence, Amanda McLellan, Leanne Maher, Karina Reid, Rebecca Withers, Melissa King and Emma Moran, anything less than a premiership will be a big disappointment.

More than half the club's eight teams in this section should make the finals.

The new Saturday season is under way and the club has continued to grow.

Forty-eight Warrandyte teams will take part, 33 boys and 15 girls. That's 253 boys alone playing basketball each Saturday from this area.

The finals are approaching in the midweek men's competition. As this edition of the *Diary* went to press, the four had just been decided with still one week to play.

Early predictions were for Andersons Creek to battle Makeshift in the Division One final after the Hitmen crashed out of the top four.

Not only are the two-time defending champions out of the Division One play-offs, but their chances in Division Two are not great. The authority that once surrounded the Hitmen has now well and truly gone and no longer are they the team that everybody wants to watch.

The Player of the Year award is full of interest with Stan Slabon, David Dench, Chris McIntosh or Damien Thwaites the favorites.

The scoring title looks set to go to Chris McIntosh since John Moore ran out of games.

• More sport on Page 11

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