

DIARY

No. 226, October 1991

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Pound Bend listed for chemicals site

By DAVID WYMAN

Warrandyte State Park at Pound Bend was considered as a site for a storage depot for large amounts of hazardous chemicals used for weed and vermin control.

But it was ruled out, not so much on safety and environment impact grounds, but because it would be an unsuitable site for the Conservation and Environment Department's commercial business of selling herbicides and hiring spraying equipment to landholders.

The proposed storage facility would have been sited at the park's works depot at Pound Bend, close to the Yarra River and not far from the path of the February 25 bushfire.

The fact that the park was considered for the chemicals dump has astonished and annoyed local conservationists and even departmental staff. They have described the episode as "weird", "extraordinary" and "very worrying because of what they might decide to do in the future".

The chemicals are used to kill weeds and vermin in national parks and on public land around Melbourne, and on private property in rural areas outside the city. It is believed they range from Glyphosate, a universal



weedkiller, to 1080, a potent rabbit poison.

Pound Bend was one of two, possibly three sites considered for the storage depot for herbicides and pesticides, and weed-spraying trailers, when the department was directed to close its existing depot in an industrial area at Epping.

The new location of the chemical store, however, is at the Gelibrand Hill National Park works depot, near Melbourne Airport, Oaklands Junction.

Rumors about the possible use of Pound Bend for the depot have been circulating around town for several weeks. Members of the

Friends of Warrandyte State Park became worried when plans for a new chemical store at Pound Bend were unveiled and when work began on the site, adjacent to existing buildings.

The Diary spoke to Mr Mark Winfield, departmental assistant regional manager (operations), who admitted that Warrandyte State Park had been considered for the depot.

"It was ruled out fairly quickly, largely because the access road is quite narrow. The depot would have a lot of clients hiring our trailers, and their comings and goings, along with normal traffic, would have created an impossible situation," he said.

"Pound Bend is also well removed from our landholder clients."

Questioned about the suitability of Pound Bend on safety and environmental grounds, Mr Winfield said fire was not an issue because "we would have ensured that the building would be sited and protected to prevent a fire causing a problem with the chemicals."

"The same applies with the close proximity of the river. The building would have been designed to take a spill, to contain it within the building so it cannot leak out into the ground and into the water system," he said.

Mr Winfield said that Warrandyte State Park had always kept small amounts of chemicals for



Work continues on the hazardous chemicals facility at Pound Bend.

weed control, and there would be no change in the volume stored at the Pound Bend works depot.

"In the last three or four years we have actually reduced the amount of chemicals stored there, preferring to keep them in one central location at Epping, and now Tullamarine," Mr Winfield said.

Mr Winfield said the chemicals storage facility at Pound Bend had to meet the requirements of government regulations covering the safe storage of hazardous chemicals.

The old facility there was "not up to scratch" and the department had allocated funds for a new shed. This would be spacious, well-ventilated and was "much larger than we really need, but it will give us that extra margin of safety and ventilation required".

Mr Winfield emphasised that stocks of chemicals would be kept to a minimum so that there would be no problems with security or damage to the environment.

One of the Warrandyte rangers told the Diary that Pound Bend had been considered by head

office as the site for the main chemicals depot for the Melbourne region, but "we hit it on the head as soon as we heard of it".

"We didn't want it any more than local residents would want it. The new building for our local requirements will have a floor area of about six metres by six metres, will house only small amounts of chemicals and will be safe."

He said a "land preservation" team which operated out of the Epping depot would in future use the Warrandyte works depot as its base.

No 'fire refuge' at North centre

By GEORGI STICKELS

The North Warrandyte community centre and kindergarten is not an evacuation point or general refuge in times of fire, according to the centre's management committee and the North Warrandyte fire brigade.

A sign outside the centre designating it an "emergency refuge" caused some confusion during the February 25 bushfires. The management committee is submitting a report on the role of the centre to the coronial enquiry into the fire, due to begin in November.

Ms Marilyn Moore, president of the committee, told the Diary that Eltham council is required under DISPLAN to provide an emergency

refuge in case of disaster, and in the absence of anything better the centre was chosen.

The CFA places a tanker and a water cart at the centre during a fire, but firefighters urge residents to either stay and defend their homes or evacuate the area completely.

John Swindley, captain of the North Warrandyte brigade, says there is no provision for evacuating people from the centre. It is "an emergency refuge for people who may be caught in an open situation and is not meant for those who leave their homes".

Ms Moore says the centre should only be used as a refuge for people in the immediate area who can't de-

fend their homes and have no way of evacuating.

The centre was not designed to be a fireproof refuge and lacks basic equipment. Many of the staff were unaware of safety procedures during the February fire and relied on the CFA for instructions.

A report by local engineer Greg Craig identified several problems with the equipment and emergency procedures at the centre.

They include the inadequacy of Research Road for evacuation, windows located on the most vulnerable side of the building, the likelihood of power and telephone failure due to overhead lines, inadequate generators, sprinklers and pumps for utilising water.

Most of the centre's users did not know who to contact, what procedures to follow or how to use the equipment available during the fire.

The report recommends that parent volunteers attend the centre on high-risk fire days to look after the children, leaving centre and CFA workers and the shire emergency supervisor to attend to the fire.

It suggests that procedures be developed and taught to all users of the hall, and copies of instructions be left permanently in designated places. These would cover preparing for a fire and use of equipment. Fire drills and training sessions should be held regularly.

The report recommends fire-proof

shutters for exposed windows, an electric pump for roof and garden sprinklers, replacing plastic pipes with copper and constructing a permanent fire refuge. There are no regulations covering buildings used as shelters in fire-prone areas.

Ms Moore pointed out that most of these items are being acted upon. She says it is important to quell a "growing lack of confidence in the community as to the safety of the centre."


"The single most important thing is to learn from things that did and didn't happen and implement as much of this as possible ourselves. The current system is effective — as the fires showed. It just needs fine tuning."

CYRIL

By PAUL WILLIAMS



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IN RED & WHITE

canoist had fished it out and brought it in. It could only happen in Warrandyte.

went out and everyone went home. Our fugitive would have saved himself a lot of time and sweat had he known that the cops who'd set the trap for him were, in fact, council engineers and workmen repairing a road washaway produced by heavy afternoon rain.



The garden Monica has carved out of the bush immediately surrounding the Luttick ranch in Beauty Gully Road is something to behold and will get even better — thanks to incurably sentimental and romantic hubby Kevin. Mon had labored long cutting out the unwanted with her little blunt handsaw, but Kevin has made her life much easier now. He bought her a chainsaw for their recent wedding anniversary. And to show what a caring, loving soul he really is, he taught her how to start and refuel it before he had to rush off to golf.

Did a couple of Met revenue inspectors (one of either sex) spreadeagle the insolence of homegoing schoolkids on the 277 the other day! Cunningly disguised in mufti, the badge the only clue to their real identity, they materialised in Andersons Creek Road and moved down the bus like a low blizzard. In a rare display of Met efficiency, they not only demanded tickets, concession things and IDs — they actually walkie-talkie checked credentials with headquarters. One young thing who swore she was 14 eventually cracked under pressure and admitted to 16. She will face charges. Kids love to cheat The Met. Perhaps they'd get away with it if they could convince Peter Spyster it was all part of their training to be business tycoons.

The following par turned up in the *Diary* box on the tree and is published unadorned: "Thanks a lot fellas for floggin' my spotlights and CB aerial from my car on Saturday, September 14 at the Warrandyte Footy Club. P.S. I appreciated you sparing my radio aerial. Reward for any positive information, 844 2630."



Shame on us! How could we possibly have identified the young man in drag at the footy club players' talent night (Page 14 last issue) as breathtakingly-beautiful Joey Hassall when anyone with an eye for a great-looking chick could tell it was vivaciously-voluptuous Joel McCartin? We thoroughly appreciate Shirley McCartin's annoyance. I mean, after all the effort she put into dressing her son for his burlesque debut.

Stand by for the next move in the Warrandyte Chainsaw Price Massacre. It's fair to say that the Mower and Chainsaw Centre started the war by advertising a springtime saw-sharpening special — \$4 instead of \$6. Warrandyte Hardware, which was charging \$6 at the time, responded by undercutting the \$4 offer by \$1. It might be only a matter of time before someone is paying you to have your chainsaw sharpened.

When the local bloke on his way home from the Tempy pub saw the roadblock, the lights and the general activity outside the council depot-quarry one night last month, he immediately assumed the worst: booze bus! Various degrees of panic beset him ('cause he'd had a few, you know), but presence of mind won by a whisker and he did a quick right turn into the housing estate. And there he sat in his darkened car for what seemed an eternity, until activity ceased, roadblock was removed, lights

We all know Warrandyte's a heavenly place, but we didn't know Christ had a local phone number. According to the Gospel Chapel's phantom signwriter He has. This month's message reads: "Can't cope? Jesus gives hope. Phone 844 4148".



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Fairy tale show unlocks joy of childhood

Once again I was privileged to be in the audience for Warrandyte Primary School's annual play, produced by Kevin O'Mara.

Kevin and his crew showed with their latest production "Once Upon a Time" that they could maintain the extremely high standard set in previous years.

Warrandyte Arts Association president, Doug Macrae, told me it was "the best school children's production" he'd ever seen.

No doubt many in the community remain in awe of the ability of Kevin O'Mara and Mark Leehy to create such original songs. Together with Lynne Bartlett, they blend these songs with a script relative to both children and adults.

REVIEW

By KEN VIRTUE

I loved "Once Upon a Time" as a colorful, fun performance that entertained everyone, and gave obvious enjoyment to all grade five and six students who were part of the show.

The acting credits must go principally to Simon Robinson, who gave a wonderful never-out-of-character performance as the Sergeant of the Zombies.

Equally confident were Robert Williamson as a public service

Humpty Dumpty and Peter Williamson as the very "cool" Captain Boredom.

Tim Chapman was the delightfully dippy Goosey Gander, and Hilary Fairley kept them all in rein as a very matriarchal Mother Goose.

All the storybook characters were there, easily recognisable in Jill Whitchurch's wonderful costumes.

These were supplemented by a simple yet effective set of stage backdrops designed by Karen Fisher.

I particularly liked the 1991 "bad guy" balance of the Zombies who were always shuffling in their mocassins, wearing black "trackies" and "Mega Black Sheep" t-shirts.

Mother Goose's song "It's Hard to be a Mum Today" must have struck extra chords with all mothers up against homework, the TV, untidy bedrooms, unbrushed teeth, uncombed hair and young palates which will never accept brussel sprouts!

Lynne, Kevin and Mark clearly have an insight into the "generation gap" because their shows possess that special magic that lies in the non-political, unprejudiced views of our children.

Somehow younger children are more black and white about good and bad, fun and boredom, happiness and sadness. Their imagination is never limited by adult norms and logic.

Shows such as "Once Upon a Time" unlock the joy of temporarily returning to our childhood and appreciating its relative simplicity.

All of this is given extra spice if a show really works. I take my hat off to Denise Farran who miraculously stage managed about 140 characters on and off stage with absolutely no visible fuss.

The dancers, Bo-Peep's sheep, the Nursery Townsfolk and all of Old King Cole's subjects (including a modern day Private Dork) were just great. Bravo to everyone involved!

The night would also not have been complete without the Community Band, the Bushband and the guitar and recorder classes.



Colorful costumes and characters... the cast of "Once Upon a Time".

Transport report backs upgrade

By GEORGI STICKELS

A major upgrading of public transport to and from Warrandyte could follow implementation of a new Public Transport Corporation report covering the entire eastern corridor.

The corridor includes Doncaster, Templestowe, Heidelberg and stations along the Ringwood railway line.

The report, released last month, examines problems with existing routes and timetables, recommending both long-term solutions and immediate improvements.

One long-term proposal includes a light-rail service from

the city to Doncaster Shoppingtown, utilising the median strip along the Eastern Freeway. Connecting buses would service Warrandyte, reducing the peak hour journey from 70 minutes to around 40 minutes, about the same time as a trip by car.

However such a move is five to ten years away, even if accepted. The report recommends several changes to existing bus services. Those concerning Warrandyte include:

- Buses from Warrandyte to Ringwood to run every half-hour all day, and slightly more frequently during peak hours. Off-peak services currently run every two hours.
- Double-decker trains on

crowded peak-hour services from Ringwood station.

- All buses to and from the city to depart from Hogan Avenue (South Warrandyte) instead of Warrandyte bridge, West End or the Gospel Chapel. The three different departure points currently used sometimes leave passengers stranded.
- Morning peak-hour buses to leave earlier so they arrive in the city by 9am to ensure users get to work on time.
- Fewer buses to run to the city via Kew, and more freeway buses to run in peak times.

Mr Rob Ellison at the PTC told the *Diary* the changes are "part of an overall package (to) improve existing services as much

as possible". He said the main aim is to provide a frequent service with minimal travelling times. This will increase patronage and allow further upgrading of services.

Strategies to reduce travel time include running bus-only lanes on freeways and major roads to give buses preference over cars. Traffic lights would also operate to give priority to buses. Mr Ellison said this alone could cut travelling times by 25 per cent.

There is also an environmental aspect, he said. Better public transport means more patronage. This results in fewer cars on the road, which not only means less congestion and quicker peak-hour trips, but much less pollution as well.

The recommendations will go before Cabinet and hopefully be legislated during the next sitting of State Parliament.

Mrs Betty Oke, of Warrandyte, a member of the group "People for Environmentally Sustainable Transport" has welcomed the report. As well as reducing pollution, she says better public transport could avert the need for the controversial Ringwood bypass, which would run along Mullum Creek.

Mrs Oke pointed to several shortcomings in existing bus services to Warrandyte, including the fact that many buses terminate at Deep Creek. She said that, with many others, she has been stranded there for an hour until the next bus.

"Continuing the trip into Warrandyte takes only seven or eight minutes more," she said.

The Warrandyte Community Transport Group, which runs the community bus services, is anxious to see a Met bus route established from Ringwood to Heidelberg, via Warrandyte and Templestowe.

Mr Colin Bentley, a community bus founder and driver, said the route would provide a link between the Ringwood and Hurstbridge train lines.

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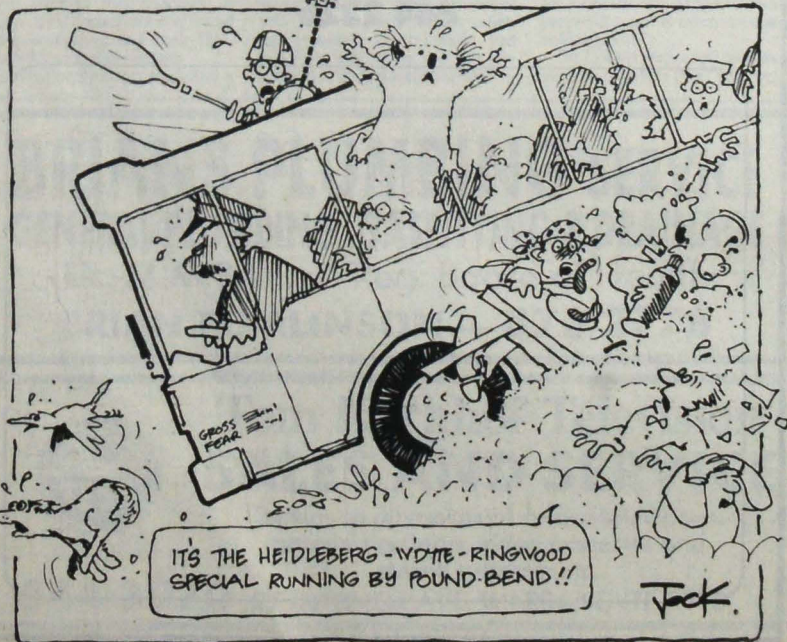
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Support pledged to state park friends

Liberal Party policies on the environment and conservation were outlined at a special day at the Pound Bend state park depot last month when Mr Mark Birrell, shadow minister for the environment, responded to an invitation from Friends of Warrandyte State Park.

Accompanied by local MP, Mr Phil Honeywood, Mr Birrell paid tribute to the work of the Friends.

He indicated that this conscientious group of volunteers has become known throughout Victoria as a role model for other such organisations. He gave an assurance that a future coalition government would provide friends' groups throughout the

state with added emphasis and support.

Mr Birrell also explained to the large group that the coalition's policy was to keep the headquarters of the Department of Conservation and Environment in Melbourne. He claimed that it would be ludicrous for the department's important activities to be carved up into disparate regions throughout the state.

While the emphasis of the afternoon was largely social, an excellent exchange of information proved to be a positive outcome for all involved. Mr Birrell and Mr Honeywood gained first-hand insight into native plant activities, seed propagation and a

range of other volunteer activities.

Children present were delighted with the yabby survey and the Friends signed up lots of new volunteers for their now-famous October koala count. Emily Birrell and Kate Honeywood, both aged three, enjoyed meeting one of Pound Bend's koala population, but Grumpy Gramps proved less enthusiastic than they were about the encounter!

High tea was held in "The Folly" the almost completed Friends' building, followed by a play based on environment issues, musical items and a barbecue dinner.



Mark Birrell at Warrandyte State Park with (from left) Margaret Burke, Greg Stroot, Cr Val Polley and Ian Roche. (Pictures by Mike Coupar)

Helpers needed

Warrandyte Youth Services is calling for assistance to run its new premises in the Community Centre.

The committee of management plans to resume its Friday and Saturday night sessions for youth as soon as helpers come forward.

The service is currently staffed by Agnes Fenech with funding applications before CODAT and Community Services of Victoria for two extra part-time workers.

In the meantime community members with previous training and experience in the youth field are asked to help.

If interested in becoming involved call Agnes on 844 2985.

Direction boosts Shakespeare production

Imaginative direction and staging was a highlight of the Warrandyte Arts Association production of "The Merchant of Venice".

The direction of Irving Reid helped overcome the language problem that is inherent in staging any of Shakespeare's plays.

Not only is the language different from present-day English but it plays a more fundamental role. Modern-day audiences tend to be conditioned to the fast action and aggressive cutting techniques of modern film and television.

Irving Reid clearly recognised that to clarify Shakespeare's language it is necessary to reinforce dialogue with physical action.

In particular I liked the busy coming and going of characters in the first scene, the use of the central aisle as an acting area,



By ALISON CASSIDY

the dancing and revelry outside Shylock's house, the live musicians and the "interval" sign between acts.

It is a pity that the latter stages of the play did not come up to the high standard of the earlier scenes — in particular the last scene did not seem to have been given the same detailed and imaginative attention.

Admittedly, the post-trial scenes in "The Merchant of Venice" are in many ways superfluous and it is difficult to maintain momentum once the climactic trial scene is resolved. However,

it is up to the director to provide the interpretation which best addresses such problems.

The setting and lighting were a highlight of this production and I liked the use of the galley's sails to represent Venice and their transformation into curtains in the Belmont scenes. The costumes were outstanding too.

The standard of acting varied but several performances stood out. The key figure Shylock was performed with great intensity and energy by Tim Sherwood, who was also physically perfect for the part.

His vocal technique was excellent, although his delivery was sometimes a little repetitive. His characterisation in the difficult trial scene, was very convincing, evoking neither too much sympathy nor too much anger.

As Antonio, Roger Kibell, gave an understated, articulate and believable performance — his handling of Shakespeare's dialogue and his assured movement were probably the best of the night.

Bassanio played by Richard Rudd, was also sincere and convincing, particularly in his affection for Portia, although his vocal delivery was often rushed and difficult to follow.

As Shakespeare's "superwoman" Portia, Helen Cahill gave a confident and spirited interpretation of the role but lacked a certain gentle elegance to balance the more assertive side of her character.

Of the minor parts, David Melville's Salerio was convincing, Carol Keating was a sparkling Nerissa, Donald Baigent and Jock

MacNeish were hilarious as the two foolish suitors, David Mitchell was an ebullient Launcelot and Irving Reid, a sympathetic, but authoritative duke.

There were, however, some problems which affected most of the performances to varying degrees. In particular, many of the actors, in trying to maintain the "pace" of the play, rushed their lines.

Lastly, many of the cast emphasised too many words in each sentence, rather than picking out the one or two key words which would make the meaning clear to the audience.

Overall "The Merchant of Venice" was a rewarding and carefully thought-out production, although the high standard of the earlier scenes did fall away towards the end.



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Heritage brings cost

"Our heritage is our inheritance. It is what we receive from our forebears and can choose to hand on to future generations."

According to Sonia Rappell, the officer co-ordinating Doncaster and Templestowe's heritage study, it aims to identify places which are not only important to Victorian and Melbourne history, but which are also of local significance and have meaning in our daily lives.

A list of more than 200 sites has been produced, including not only buildings of architectural significance, but also landscapes and other interesting features. Among them is the Yarra River and Warrandyte State Park, magnificent old river redgums, the Grand Hotel, the Mechanics' Institute, the bakery and the village butcher's shop.

But not everyone in the community has welcomed all aspects of the study.

Barry Aumann, speaking on behalf of one of our early orcharding families, feels that the conservation of heritage sites should not occur at the expense of private individuals. On the Aumann's 30 hectare property are two houses and two sheds which have been considered to be of "regional significance".

"I have no argument at all with heritage listings on publicly owned land," Mr Aumann told the *Diary*. "We've been running our orchard for three generations. We've maintained the buildings because we take a pride in our work."

He feels that as a result of being listed in the heritage study his family is being penalised both "financially and emotionally". According to Barry, the study recommends that they will now be required to obtain planning permits for any renovations, construction or demolition work on the property.

"This would compel us to retain obsolete sheds to the detriment of the viability of the orchard enterprise. Part of the sheds are steel-framed garages and it is perplexing that they should be even considered of regional significance."

"It's getting harder and harder to operate a commercially viable orchard. We have compensated for this in the past by working even harder and being innovative. We've all grown up here and had hoped to stay here as long as practical, but since this heritage listing has come up we would rather be out of the area."

One of the Aumann family's major fears is that planning restrictions on their houses and sheds will dramatically reduce the market value of the properties.

Barry also feels that consultation throughout the study was poor. He feels it was unfortunate that he and some other owners of listed properties did not receive invitations to meetings run by the council during the study.

Cr Val Polley commented that everyone whose property was included in the listings was sent a letter prior to the meetings, at which the consultants showed slides and discussed their findings with property owners.

She is deeply concerned that a

Doncaster council's heritage study has received a mixed reception. Applauded by many, it has angered some of our older families. In the first of two articles, **GEORGIE WATERMAN** examines the study and its ramifications.



This white-throated tree creeper, nesting in a hollow tree along Jumping Creek, Warrandyte State Park, is part of our natural heritage. (Picture by Wim Kerkhof.)

few owners did not receive letters, pointing out that there was, generally, excellent attendance at these meetings, particularly in Warrandyte.

Cr Polley added that it was not the intention of the study to stop development, but to "collect information about heritage sites so that all the values can be taken into account when making decisions about future uses and developments."

"In a suburban community, such as Doncaster-Templestowe, where much of the housing is recent, the older buildings and features reflect past lifestyles and human activities, adding character to the municipality."

She pointed out that all properties listed in the study as being of "local interest" would have no controls placed on them.

During the next phase of the study, owners of listed properties will be invited to a further meeting at which amendments and possible incentives will be explained and comments invited.

Cr Polley is concerned that misinformation, particularly regarding planning controls, has caused anxiety for some owners, and she has invited anyone who is worried to contact the strategic planning staff at council.

Furthermore, council has set up a Heritage Advisory Service which will provide free advice and assistance in drawing up plans for any future changes or renovations to listed buildings.

According to Roger Collins, strategic planning manager at Doncaster council, "the heritage study is a positive step in our community. Less than one per cent of the total housing and allotment stock of the municipality was considered worth listing."

"Surely it is in the interest of the community to protect what remains. In some other suburbs, a heritage listing has been shown to increase the value of some properties and is often used as a selling point."

Mr Collins reassured owners of listed properties that "when con-

sidering an application for the redevelopment of properties with a heritage listing, council would review the application on an equitable and responsible basis.

"We recognise that a person's house or property is their nest egg and we have no intention of ruining anyone's future. The owner's rights are further protected, because any decision made by council can be taken to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal if owners are dissatisfied."

The Aumann family say they are not reassured by council statements. Despite their investment in the history of the area, they have grave doubts about their future here.

It would be a great pity to lose the Aumanns and their orchard, and equally it would be a major loss to our community if our heritage sites were not preserved. Let us hope this issue is resolved soon.

• Next month: Warrandyte and the heritage study.

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We look forward to your support and, by the way, please do not dispose of medicines and drugs into the sewerage system or into landfill. Dispose of them safely by returning them to your family pharmacist during the week **Saturday 17th October to Saturday 24th October 1991**.

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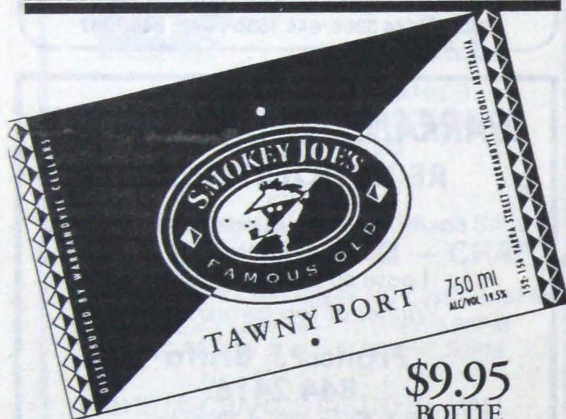
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'Nyet' to those introduced species

You think they've got problems in the Soviet Union? You should try living in Warrandyte if you own a cat, a dog or a plum tree.

Poor old Gorby. He used to be the Soviet equivalent of the Mayor of Doncaster and Templestowe. He thought he controlled the various ridings and was leading them out of the Dark Ages and into an era of truth, light and Sulo bins for everyone.

He didn't realise that within each of his regions, festering discontent reigned. We all know the old journalist's maxim that 10,000 dead in South America equals ten in Australia equals one in Victoria equals a dog with a sore paw in Bradleys Lane.

Gorby forgot this and thought his problems were on the macro scale. Had he studied local politics he might have got it right. He has minor problems compared with those he'd have if he was running Warrandyte.

Given the right circumstances, our bridge roundabout could become our Tiananmin Square (or circle) and Harry's carpark could become the battleground between four wheel drives with ideologically sound stickers and those with unused front winches.



To live in Warrandyte is to live on the razor's edge between social acceptance with rested nights and social ostracism and insomnia. Let's look at some of the insolubles and we'll soon see how easy Gorby's had it.

One domestic problem that Warrandytians have to face is whether to own a pet — a dog, cat or horse. Children benefit from owning a pet. The animal becomes a confidante, a surrogate sibling, a cheap shrink. But what can you own in Warrandyte?

Dogs are always popular, but you need a fence to stop it roaming. Now a fence is a no-no unless it's a farm fence and that usually doesn't stop Fido. Dogs require walking, the parks are taboo, and walking them along the streets leads to problems of dog deposits on thoroughfares. So, the cost of fences, inaccessibility of parks for walking and the probability of your animal joining a pack and attacking a feral goat or sheep, all lead you to decide on a cat.

Horror! They don't require fences, don't need walking, cover their own droppings and usually live inside. But they catch birds. Native birds that empathise with the way the Aborigines felt when we Europeans arrived. To own a cat is tantamount to openly advocating genocide.

It is a brave person who admits, during any social gathering, that he has to leave in time to feed the moggie. Being "in" or "out" can be determined by a careless slip of the tongue or being seen buying Whiskas in Harrys.

What then? A horse? Nah. They destroy the soil with their hooves and spread weeds via their droppings. Added to this, you need a petrol-guzzling V8 to drag the float, not to mention the acres of cleared land you need to pasture the beast. Totally defeated yet?

Now Gorby, how are you going to resolve the exotic versus native garden problem? Having planned and planted your garden along the best Burke's Backyard, ABC gardening program guidelines, you receive a

booklet in the mail, instructing you to form local KGBs to hunt and destroy introduced species.

You ask yourself, whatever happened to Australia's multi-cultural policy? It seems the local council insists we practise the most rigorous kind of eugenics. To harbor exotics is to be a fifth columnist. Solving the Balkan problems is a cinch in comparison.

Our final conundrum is a real brain-teaser. Warrandyte is small enough for individuals to be noticed, therefore the problem arises as to the organisations you should join. Deciding which groups to support is a minefield.

To join Apex is to deny the worth of the school council. To be a Friend of the Park takes the time you should be devoting to the historical society. Being a member of scouts may jeopardise your useful membership of the football club. Not to belong to anything is selfish, but to belong to too many may foster marital discontent.

I think you chose the easy way out, Gorby! Trying to govern the Soviet Union's a doddle in comparison with the difficulties of living in Warrandyte.

ROGER KIBELL

Shows shock senses

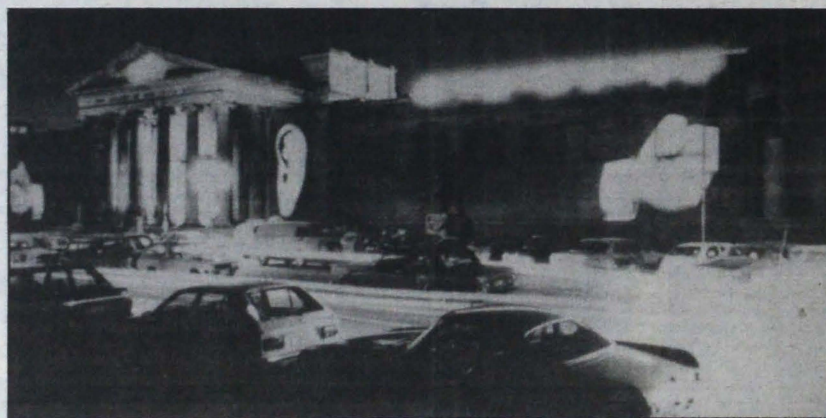
By INGRID KLEINHENZ

For 22 years local artist Hugh McSpedden has been designing and producing "multi media" shows to tantalise and shock the senses. "As a child I always had a fascination with light and color," Hugh told the *Diary*.

Hugh expressed this fascination by making experimental home movies, before discovering that his interest was more with the actual process of projection than film making.

Over the years Hugh has taken part in many festivals and events and has worked with acts such as Pink Floyd and the Monkees. Most recently Hugh has been designing special projection effects for the hit musical "Hair".

With the aid of high-powered equipment Hugh has developed hundreds of special effects and claims, "my psychedelic light



Light projection on the Art Gallery of New South Wales.

show is the brightest and most unique on earth — strange but true."

In Hugh's created "art by projection" many strange and wonderful objects and spaces including mountains, buildings and people become his canvas and according to the artist the possibilities are endless. He does "everything from private parties to Darling Harbor extravaganzas" and a fascination with exploring every dimension of a chosen space is apparent.

Hugh's next venture will be to "go mobile" and design a vehicle equipped with the necessary audio and visual technology to create and display new special effects.

Other upcoming events include projecting "his sights and sounds" onto a ski run at Mt Kosciusko as well as working with a sink hole — a 300 ft cave filled with crystal clear water in Western Australia.

After years of experimentation

and a myriad of successful events Hugh has gained a favorable reputation in the artistic community and is in demand.

Hugh is seeking an assistant and told the *Diary* that he would like to hear from young Warrandyte people with an "artistic bent" and an interest in photography or electronics to help produce occasional lighting and special effects shows. If interested or even curious contact Hugh McSpedden on 844 3558 after 8pm.

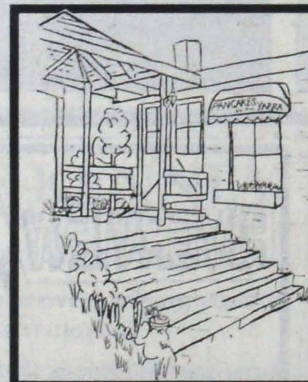
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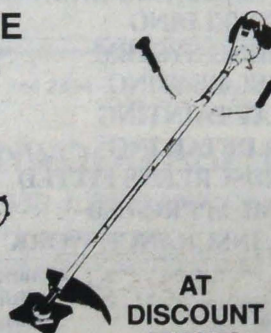
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Water, water — and none



THE WOODEN BRIDGE

By Eve Evans

As summer advanced, the few plants in my garden put on a lot of new growth. I was delighted and so were the rabbits. They nibbled the new shoots and stripped bark from the young trees. They were the bane of my life and there seemed to be thousands of them. I had run out of hessian sacks to use as guards so I turned to wattle saplings.

These had germinated very thickly after the fires and had grown rapidly. I cut bundles of them, stripped the bark and strung them together with the thin wire from Sally's bales of hay. My hands became sore and blistered from the sap and my garden looked like a graveyard with small white monuments standing up all over.



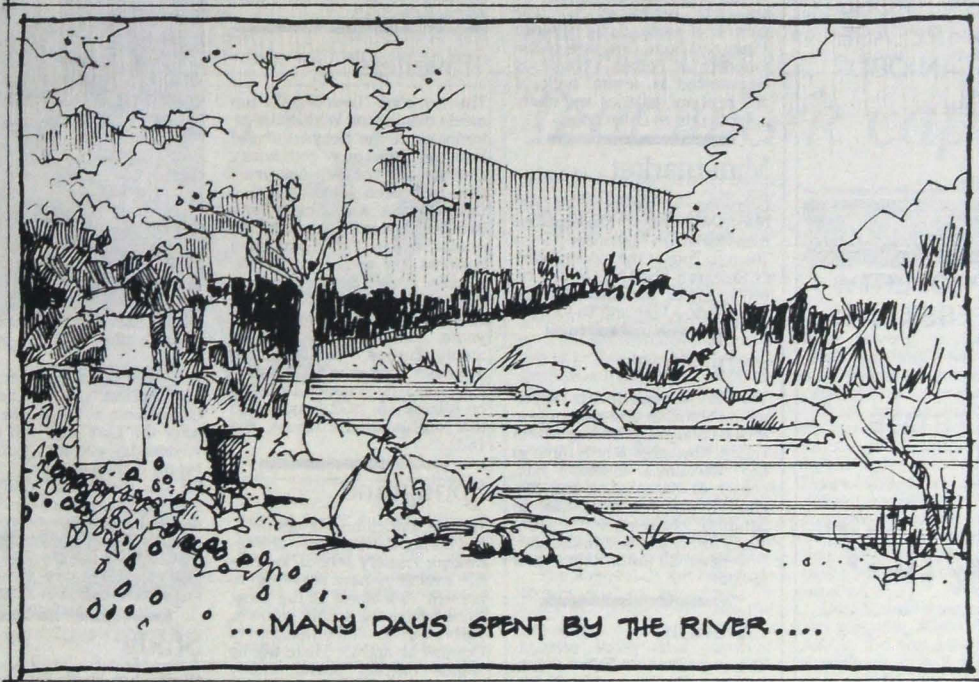
Soon we were in the middle of very hot summer weather, and high on this exposed hill we were right in the path of the searing, hot north wind that caused the timbers of the house to crackle like eggshells crushed in the hand. The distant mountains thrust jaded shoulders up through a shimmering heat haze, and my plants looked as wilted as I felt.

Sleepless nights added to my weariness. The boys slept fitfully, encased in bandages that became hot and had to be frequently changed. Although my heart bled for them I could not leave them unbandaged for fear of the damage they might do to their skin.

I would be close to the end of my tether when the change that everybody prayed for would come in a most dramatic way. Suddenly the north wind would be stilled. Far down the south side of the hill could be heard a gentle murmuring. It became louder as the south wind climbed to meet us.

We would take in gulps of cool refreshing air, the temperature would drop sharply, and I would rush to open all the doors and windows. This drama was repeated several times each summer.

Midway through that first summer another calamity befell. Accustomed as I was to simply turning on taps for water, it had not occurred to me that with little or no rain, my water tanks would run dry. The shower and the toilet ceased to work. Becoming suspicious, I climbed the high tankstand to look inside. To my utter dismay I found that two tanks were empty and the third no more than half full. I cursed myself for being a stupid



fool and I wondered what I was going to do.

I knew that no amount of hoping or praying would make the tears of heaven spill down. I could not ask my neighbors for help. They had already spoken of how precious water would be when summer came. That night I wandered in and out considering my plight. A small cloud smudged the face of the full moon.



I have always loved walking out on the nights of the full moon. Here it was more romantic and beautiful than ever it was in the suburbs, spilling its silver iridescence over the mountains and down into the valleys, hanging low in

tree tops, drooping black lace shadows about their feet.

But this was no time to feel romantic about the moon, I must be more practical. I decided that I would use the river for bathing and washing and conserve what little water I had for drinking and cooking.

Next day the sky was as cloudless as ever. I was up early and after breakfast and milking I put washing in a sack to carry on my back and packed some food. The hill immediately in front of my house was very steep, with a grade of one in three. With two small boys, one in a pusher, it was impossible to negotiate. I must take the long track down through the empty neighboring property.

On it had stood a fine brick house of twelve rooms, but the bushfires had sent gas balls down the chimneys and it had burst asunder. Now it was no more than a heap of bricks and rubble. Two expensive cars were a mass of twisted metal. The land, of some hundred acres, was for sale.

The river was at low summer level. The water crashed in high white foam around the rocks. As we neared the river we could hear tinkling, as of many little bells. These were the tiny olive-green bellbirds who lived in colonies along the

river and creeks. Brilliant rosella parrots screeched raucously as they flew from tree to tree. In the distance we could hear kookaburras laughing.

We enjoyed that day, which was the first of many spent by the river. It was crystal clear, with no hint of the pollution that was to come later. It was cool by the water, and we stayed until the heat of the day was past. The children, refreshed, slept a while on the grassy bank and I went on with the washing.



But I had a problem. The heaps of bandages had to be boiled. I solved that next time by taking a metal bucket with me and building a stone fireplace. Washing dried on branches until I strung a line between two trees. I had taken two closed billy cans, which I filled with water. Robert and I carried one each.

Thus we managed to eke out our meagre supply of water until the autumn rains came. My plants suffered badly. Roly brought a kerosene tin of water from his dam for them and I mulched them with everything to hand: old clothing, gum tree branches, old newspapers and straw. But this was not enough. I prayed over them, my tears spilt down on them, I almost spat on them, but one by one they died.



I did save the few trees, however, and they grew to maturity. The almond planted near the house loved to tap his pink fingers against the kitchen window in spring. In time, the crab apple loaded himself with his glowing red autumn crabs. The birches looked especially lovely when rain laid diamonds along their bare arms and dropped down from the brown catkins.

I discovered that the native gums, wattles and other plants survived well. They were accustomed to the harsh Australian summers. In later years I planted many of them in great variety.

My vegetable plot and the herbs in the gully garden did well with water from the dam. But the hill was too steep for us to carry water from it up to the house.

One day Watty and Patty told me that their dam was slowly leaking. They were sure 'yabbies' were the cause. "What on earth are they?" I asked.

"Little creatures, rather like very small crayfish," Watty said. "If you can catch them they make good eating." Thinking that any change in our diet of rabbits would be welcome, I asked if they knew how to catch them. A nephew of Watty's had been up a few times to fish them out, so they knew all about it.

The idea was to tie a piece of meat to the end of a short piece of string, then lie on your stomach and dangle it just below the water. When a yabby bit on it, you passed a net underneath and caught it. Towards dusk was the best time, they told me. They had a few nets I could borrow.

"When you have caught enough, you drop them into boiling water. You needn't be squeamish about it, they die instantly." If somebody dropped me into boiling water, I would die instantly too I thought.

The boys were delighted. The yabbies made delicious eating, and in later years we went further afield to find other dams.

To be continued.

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Gus pottery displayed

Gus McLaren has become well-known to many people here over the 38 years he has lived in Warrandyte, due to his talents as animator, actor, potter and bon vivant. As well as performing in the local drama group's latest production *The Merchant of Venice*, Gus has been working hard in his pottery studio. The magnificent results will be displayed at the Potters Cottage Gallery in a solo exhibition which opens at 7.30pm on October 31, continuing until November 17. The gallery is open daily between 10am and 5pm. Gus, one of the founders of Potters Cottage, is represented in several national and regional galleries and many notable private collections.

Mini-market

Everyone is welcome at the North Warrandyte Kindergarten mini-market on November 9 from 10am to 2pm at the kindergarten in Research Road. Stalls will be selling crafts, handmade goods, cakes, bric-a-brac and so forth.

Exhibition

The 36th Warrandyte Arts Association exhibition and sale of pottery, paintings and craft opens on Friday, November 8 at 8.15pm in the Mechanics Institute Hall, corner of Yarra Street and Mitchell Avenue. It will continue on Saturday, November 9, from 10am to 5.30pm and on Sunday, November 10 from 11am until 5.30pm.

Opening

The committee, staff and volunteers at the Warrandyte Neighbourhood House invite the community to join them on Saturday, November 9 at 2.15pm to celebrate the official opening of their new rooms at the community centre. Jude Munro, City of St Kilda executive officer, will perform the honors. Neighbourhood House is funded by Community Services Victoria, City of Doncaster and Templestowe, Shire of Eltham and the Division of Further Education as well as regular donations from the Warrandyte Community Market and the generosity of other members of the local community.

Birthday

The Warrandyte Senior Citizens will be celebrating their 29th birthday with a concert on Thursday, November 14 at 1pm at their centre in Taroona Avenue, beside the recreation reserve.

Penguins

Following an interest meeting in Warrandyte, a group of the Penguin Club of Australia has been set up to cater for women in the Doncaster, Templestowe and Warrandyte areas. They aim to bring women together in a friendly atmosphere to learn speaking in public. There are still some vacancies in the group. Meetings are held on the first and third Wednesdays at 8pm in the Warrandyte Community Centre. Enquiries to 842 2880 or 719 7439.



Conducted by JUDY GREEN

Drop your news in the box on the old cypress tree opposite the State Bank, fax it to 844 4168, or post it to PO Box 209, Warrandyte, 3113.

Travellers

The Armchair Travellers Group meets monthly on Wednesday afternoons, at the Neighbourhood House in the new community centre. Over the last few years they have been youth hostelling through USA and Europe with two lively over-60 year olds, to Alaska by campervan, Bali on a business trip and California with a family. Future meetings include Basil Holland in New Guinea on November 6, Jenny Hanson — a young single girl travelling around Europe — on December 4 and Bev Hanson in South America, especially Ecuador and Peru, on February 5, 1992. Enquiries to the Neighbourhood House, 844 1839.

Springtime

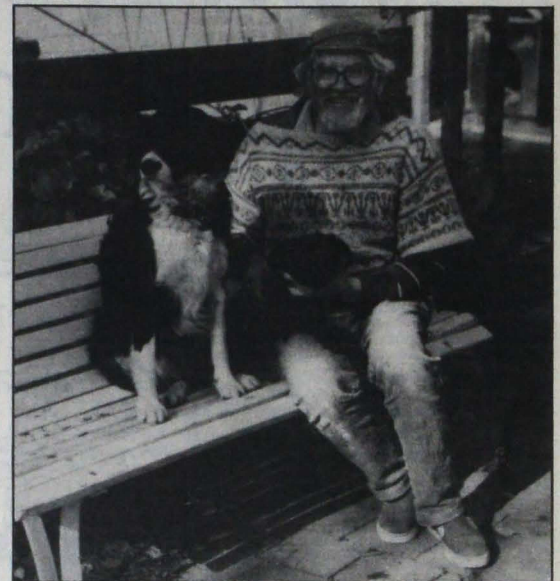
Oh, the springtime it brings on — the Spring Garden Show at Warrandyte Primary School. Twenty-five exhibitors have signed up to present their wares at the show, to be held in the school grounds, Forbes Street, on the weekend of October 12 and 13. There will be stands offering palms, cubby houses, outdoor furniture, wooden toys, orchids, native plants, conifers, roses, herbs, ferns, hand-painted pots, flowering baskets and hothouse species. Sue Boyle will be on hand to advise about gardening for the elderly and disabled. The Friends of Warrandyte State Park will explain government policy on native and exotic plants. There will be a small admission fee. Spots still available for exhibitors, who can set up a booth for \$30 for the weekend. Phone Trish Millington on 844 2820.

Annual meeting

The annual general meeting of the Warrandyte Environment League will be held on Friday, November 1, in the Warrandyte Community Centre, meeting rooms 1 and 2, commencing at 7pm for a 7.30 start. The meeting will feature an open forum, guest speakers and question time. Enquiries to Greg Stroot on 844 3459.

Courses

Term 4 courses at the Warrandyte Neighbourhood House include "Relaxation Massage" commencing Thursday, October 17 from 10 till 11.30am. This course, which will run for eight weeks, will be conducted by local resident Genni Swann. A return to study program entitled "Your Future — Your Choice" commences Tuesday, October 15, running for eight weeks from



Veteran Warrandyte potter Gus McLaren and friends

9.30am till 12noon. Occasional childcare for pre-schoolers will be available at these times. "Life After the Last Job" will run on Wednesday evenings from 8 till 10pm, commencing October 16 for four weeks and "Garden Design" will commence on Wednesday, November 6 from 8 till 10pm, also for four weeks. Further information from the Neighbourhood House at the new community centre, or phone 844 1839.

The next quarterly meeting of the Transport Group will be held at the Neighbourhood House in the new community centre at 10am on Wednesday, October 16.

Lions

The Lions Club of Warrandyte meets on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at Kellybrook Winery, Wonga Park. Enquiries to Peter Egan on 876 1004.

Sculpture

Mary and Peter Burns invite you to the Fifth Annual Invitation Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition to be held at "Kangaroo" 30 Henley Road, Kangaroo Ground, commencing November 3 and running seven days a week until December 1. The official opening and presentation of the sculpture award will be conducted by Jennifer Duncan, director of the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art at 3pm on November 3. The exhibition will be open from 11am till 5pm daily, or by appointment. Phone 712 0351.

Study

Warrandyte Youth Services commenced an eight week course of classes on October 8 entitled "Literacy-Numeracy and Study Skills". The classes are held at Level 1 in the new community centre. They aim to provide a relaxed and informal learning environment for students to receive some extra personal attention. Although the course has commenced there may still be some vacancies. Agnes Fenech on 844 2985 will help you.

Baby girl

Glenn and Deb Magann (nee Brown) wish to announce the arrival of a beautiful baby girl, Courtney Claire, on July 25 at Portland District Hospital. Weighed in at 6lb 9oz. Owen and Margaret Brown of Webb Street are the proud grandparents.

Drivers

The Warrandyte Community Transport Group is seeking people with endorsed driving licenses who may be able to help with the community bus, driving various groups and children from the After School Care Program. Colin Bentley, who has been regularly driving the bus for four years, has been laid low with back trouble. Although Colin hopes to be back in the seat soon, a register of standby drivers would be a great asset. The job is semi-voluntary and details may be obtained from the Citizens Advice Bureau on 844 3082.

Allergy kids

Parents with Allergy Kids will be getting together on November 12 to look at ideas for cooking Christmas fare for allergy families. They welcome any special recipes that could be brought to the meeting. On November 16 there will be a cake stall to raise funds for books for the library. The group meets at the North Ringwood Community House, 120 Oban Road, North Ringwood at 7.30pm and welcomes any residents who share their problem. Further information from Liz Brown on 876 4329 (BH) or Cathy on 878 4086 (AH).

It's a fax!

The *Diary* now has a fax machine, located in our office in the new community centre. Items for this column, plus all other editorial and advertising copy, can now be faxed through on 844 4168.

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**Diary Advertising
gets results**

Basketballers reap record 15 flags

By CLINTON GRYPAS

Warrandyte Basketball Club won 15 junior premierships in September — the most productive month in its history. Twelve came from the Saturday competition finals and three from the Albury tournament.

The club won 35 of 44 matches in Albury, with premierships wins in the under-12, 14 and 16 boys. Six of the nine teams which made the trip made the grand finals, the two under-12 teams meeting in their decider.

Warrandyte were represented by 11 boys' and seven girls' teams in the Saturday grand finals. The under-9B boys coached by Damien Thwaites got things started with a 41-28 win over the Taunton Street Terrors, Paul Pickering shooting 15 points for the Redbacks.

Juniors run hot at home and away

The 9CC team of Cassandra Martin won 16-10 over Doncaster after trailing 0-8 at half time. The 9CS side of Louise Bawden fell 12-18 to Eltham, with James Riley earning the most determined player award.

Ben Dawson's 9CW team lost 29-33 to Park Orchards, with Brett Thomas winning the MDP. The 11BB's of Iain Hey led at half-time but fell 16-29 against Marcellin, while Peter Messerle's 13CA team lost a thriller to Bulleen 25-27, with Liam Riley top-scoring.

It was a local derby in the 13CW section as WR4 coached by Jim Burbidge and Matt Volk met WR5,

coached by Stan Slabon. Ryan Lees from WR5 was the game's MDP but his side lost 29-35.

The 15AR's of Ron McLellan won a close battle with Marcellin 38-32, while Gavin Whitmore's 15CB also downed Marcellin, 51-36, with Adam Luttkick MDP.

The 17Cs coached by Ian Sharpe finished off a great day for the boys by thrashing Doncaster 48-18.

Warrandyte's girls won a record six premierships for the club with the 9B side of Irene McLellan starting them off with a 34-21 win over Bulleen.

The 9C side of Ian Hodgson won with an incred-

ible scoreline of 50-0 against Bulleen, Alicia Ricato shooting 22 points and winning the MDP.

Matthew Vincent's 11A girls also downed Bulleen, 32-19, with Maree Vincent MDP.

The 11D girls of Mark Mason had a 21-17 win over Ivanhoe while Bob Hillman's 11D2s won what was arguably the best game of the day, against Eltham.

Underdogs, the girls played the games of their lives to win a cliffhanger 9-8, with Vanessa Fodera MDP.

Gavin Whitmore's 17D girls won a best-of-three series against Balwyn in two straight games. Game 1 was a 29-20 win, almost mirrored by a second scoreline of 28-17.

The saddest story of the day was for Peter Brian's 9D girls, who were not informed of a venue change and missed their grand final.

Seeking elusive beauty

There is just a chance that *Genoveva* could still be found in Warrandyte.

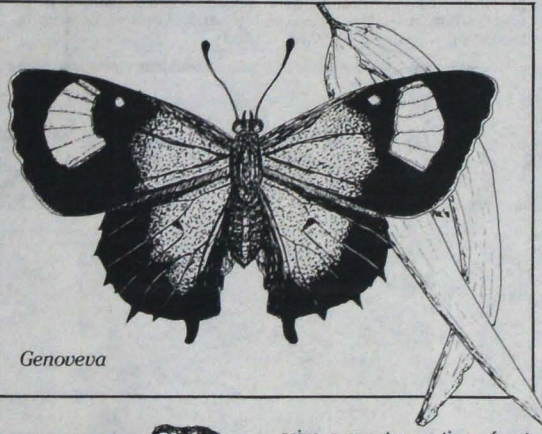
Genoveva is an azure blue butterfly whose elegance and beauty is said to rival some of the brilliant butterflies of the tropical regions.

Genoveva has been spotted in Warrandyte on several occasions, with the last sighting only a couple of years ago. Although the reports have come from reliable and informed people, a positive identification has not been made because *Genoveva* has never been captured.

Like many butterflies that carry the awesome burden of beauty, *Genoveva* has been widely sought by collectors. The saving grace for this lovely butterfly is that it spends its day flying high among the tree tops well out of reach of any collector's net!

There are two reasons why I believe *Genoveva* is still living and breeding in Warrandyte. One is the abundance of mistletoe which is the sole foodplant for its caterpillar. The other reason is the presence of large orange and black sugar ants, without which *Genoveva* could not exist.

The caterpillars of *Genoveva* make their home within the nest of the sugar ants. The nest is situated at the base of a eucalyptus tree adorned with clumps of dangling mistletoe. At nightfall, the brown slug-like caterpillars,



Genoveva

NATURE

By PAT COUPAR

Drawings: MELANIE COUPAR

accompanied by the ants, make their way up the trunk of the tree, along the branches to the mistletoe. Cloaked in darkness, the caterpillars feed on the succulent mistletoe leaves, returning before daylight to the security of the ants nest.

Throughout this nightly ritual the ants run backwards and forwards to keep their lodgers headed in the right direction. Even as the caterpillars feed they are continually attended by the busy ants.

What is the reason for this intimate association between the two insects? It is thought that the ants provide the caterpillars with protection from parasites and predators. In return the ants re-

ceive a sweet secretion of nutrients from a pair of glands on the caterpillars back.

This relationship is highly specialised and not fully understood, but whatever the reason the sugar ants are essential to the well-being of *Genoveva* caterpillars, and it has been shown that the caterpillars refuse to eat unless the ants are present.

There are many other butterflies and some moths, whose caterpillars feed only on mistletoe leaves. They include the Imperial and Wood Whites. These black and white butterflies have vivid splashes of red and yellow on the outside of their wings and are a common sight in Warrandyte during spring and summer.

This summer I will be casting my eyes skyward to the graceful clumps of mistletoe. I will scan the dangling leaves in the faint hope that I may glimpse the sheen of azure blue and gold on the wings of Warrandyte's most elusive butterfly, *Genoveva*.

Teamwork captures magic

Memo Chris White: When I heard you were producing "My Fair Lady" at Warrandyte High School I really thought you'd gone too far.

How on earth were you going to do justice to the sophisticated Lerner and Lowe lyrics and score; how to convey the subtlety of George Bernard Shaw's original play; how to stage the Ascot Gavotte and the crucial ballroom scene?

It all seemed as unlikely as a cockney flower seller being accepted by the British aristocracy. But by George, you did it! With a pocket-sized orchestra and a budget which was probably less than Alfred P Doolittle's beer money you managed to capture the essence of this magical musical.

The success of the show was largely due to teamwork. On stage, the players responded to the creative choreography of Lynette Bailey and assistant, Joanne Walker, and the disciplined chorus work was a feature of the large production numbers.

Behind the scenes a dedicated group of hands manipulated revolving stage equipment with ease, changing our perspective from a Wimpole Street interior to the sombre grey of a London (or was it Melbourne?) street scene. The musical was an appropriate choice for the farewell appearance of Warrandyte's "fair lady" Katherine Adcock.

Katherine is a gifted singer and actress whose performances have elevated the school productions to professional status. She played the part of Eliza with assuredness, with her voice ideally suited to the musical score rang-

IN BRIEF

By MARION WINTON

ing from the whimsical "Wouldn't It Be Lovely" to the strident "Just You Wait". Katherine, we wish you every success as you prepare for a larger stage.

David Joy's natural comic ability and tendency towards ironic humor were entirely appropriate to the role of the chauvinistic Henry Higgins. He managed the difficult transition from speaking to speak-singing and demonstrated his mastery of the throw-away line. David proved that he can play a leading part with poise and sensitivity.

Greg Stewart's performance as the eloquent Alfred P Doolittle was in the best tradition of the English music hall. Greg wooed and won the audience with his excellent musical renditions. Congratulations also to Emma Symes who brought authority to the role of housekeeper, Mrs Pearce, achieving the required level of tolerant resignation.

Evan Zigmantas gave a good supporting performance as Colonel Pickering, having the unenviable task of constantly reacting to Higgins' proactive posturing.

Other notable roles included James Egglestone's beguiling "Freddie"; the role of Henry's mother as played by the dramatic stalwart, Judy Steel, and Scott Cappelani, "oozing charm from every pore" as the challenging Zoltan Karpathy.

Memo solo performers: Placido Domingo can stand nailed to the stage for hours and move little more than an eyebrow, the rest of us need to move. I feel totally confident that in the expert hands of Don Harrison and his team the spotlight will follow you. Memo to audience: How poor we were at applauding. Surely the Ascot scene, based on the wonderfully extravagant Cecil Beaton designs, deserved more than a dull murmur of acknowledgment. Angie Chiodo, the make-up artists and dressers, please accept our plaudits. Thank you Chris for another memorable production.

LETTER

Students impressed

I thought I was going to a school concert last week, but instead I saw a most wonderful performance of "My Fair Lady" at the Warrandyte High School, performed by students aged approximately 14-18 years.

Had I have gone to Her Majesty's Theatre to have seen the same performance and paid \$40, it would not have owed me anything.

May I congratulate the cast, teachers and the school for a magnificent show. I am looking forward to next year already.

An admiring grandma

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Young stars dominate Goldtown Open

Two of Victoria's leading young tennis players took top honors at the 1991 Biscote Britannia Goldtown Open at Warrandyte tennis courts last month.

Dane Nebel, who defeated local player Ian Peter-Budge in the men's open singles, is number one player in the Dingley State Grade team, pennant winners for the 1991 season. Dane has only lost one pennant singles match in five years.

He won the 1990 Victorian Hardcourt Open.

The Goldtown women's open title went to 17 year-old Joanne Limmer. A



SPORT

By CLIFF GREEN

member of the Victorian Institute of Sport squad, trained by John McCurdy and Peter McNamara, Joanne recently won a \$10,000 open tournament in Canberra and was runner-up and doubles winner in a similar tournament in England.

She was a finalist in the 1991 junior doubles at Wimbledon and reached third round in both the French

Open and Wimbledon junior singles.

The Goldtown Open is a big undertaking for a relatively small club, and many outside courts had to be used. "On the Saturday we had approximately 180 matches spread out over 37 different courts," tournament director Tom Kerkhof told the *Diary*.

"But all were smoothly completed with the help of club members who volunteered to man the outside courts."

The Goldtown Open, which was a three star event this year, is being upgraded to a five star event in 1992, resulting in a doubling of

prize money. Biscote Britannia sportswear have agreed to sponsor the tournament for three years.

The tournament is also supported by a number of smaller local business sponsors.

• More international standard tennis will be featured at the Warrandyte club between October 28 and November 3 with the staging of the Masters tournament, the culminating event in the Ford Futures Men's Satellite Circuit.

A number of Australia's top internationals have competed at this tournament in Warrandyte over the years, including Richard From-

berg, Todd Woodbridge, Jason Stoltenberg and John Frawley.

Success on the circuit, and particularly in the Masters, is vital for the players because it goes towards their seeding in the international ATP tennis ranking system.

Local tennis enthusiasts are guaranteed a very high standard of match play, especially at the finals on Sunday, November 3. All games are open to the public without charge.

Other legs of the circuit are being played at Lyneham in Canberra, and at the Dingley and Glen Iris tennis clubs.

GOLDTOWN DETAILS

Open — Men's Singles: Dane Nebel d Ian Peter-Budge 6-3, 7-5. Women's Singles: Joanne Limmer d Robyn Mawdsley 7-5, 7-6. Men's Doubles: Grant O'Callaghan-Peter Caruana d Mark Philippousis-Lachlan Williams 6-3, 7-5. Women's Doubles: Joanne Limmer-Elizabeth Peers d Lisa Keller-Robyn Mawdsley 10-6.

A-Grade — Men's Singles: Anthony De Luise d Brian Lawry 6-2, 6-2. Women's Singles: Leanne Meigard d Maria Deak 6-1, 6-1.

B-Grade — Men's Singles: Matthew Breen d Scott Graham 6-1, 6-2. Men's Doubles: Michael Marincic-Nick Apostolides d Tom and Tane Rakete 6-2, 6-1.

C-Grade — Men's Singles: Steve Hubbard d David Begic 6-2, 0-6, 6-3.

Threat to cricket season

Winter 'hangover' may delay start

The long and exceptionally wet winter has threatened to delay the start of Warrandyte's cricket season.

When this edition of the *Diary* went to press, there were serious doubts that grounds in the Ringwood District Cricket Association competition would be ready for the 1991-92 season's scheduled opening on October 12.

"Many grounds are still showing the effects of the prolonged winter," Warrandyte Cricket Club president Mark Davis told the *Diary*.

"Our own ground is in fair condition, considering the amount of rain. Doncaster and Templestowe Council has done a lot of work on the ground, which has been re-surfaced with the same type of sand used on the Melbourne Cricket Ground, but the work has been hampered by the weather."

Warrandyte will field five senior men's sides in 1991-92, one fewer than last season. The sixth eleven has been disbanded for lack of players.

There will be a women's eleven and four junior sides (under-16, under-14 and two under-12).

"We had four senior sides in last season's finals and the second eleven won the premiership. We are looking to improve on that," Davis said.

Although we have lost a few players to higher levels of competition, our senior eleven is virtually intact from last season and

captain-coach John Sharman, who produced such a big improvement in the general standard, will be aiming for consistent performances from the outset."

Davis said practice form had been encouraging. "Sharman, former captain-coach Greg Tregear and big-hitting Tony Stures are among several players who have been showing good form with the bat at the nets," he said.

Davis has appealed to parents for input into the running of the junior competitions, particular the under-14s.

"We have an excellent junior coaching administrator, Geoff Edwards, but we need a certain amount of help from parents at practice sessions and a good deal of assistance on match mornings," he said.

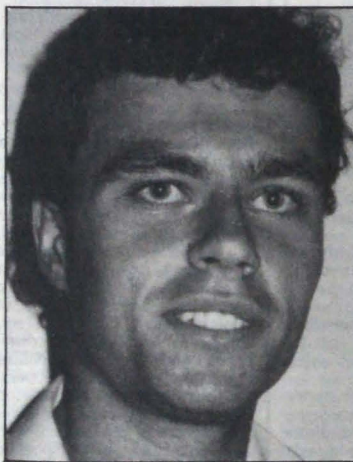
"Brendan Baker, who coaches the under-14s, plays sub-district on Saturdays, so he can't be at the kids' games.

"We'd like to hear from any parent willing to lend a hand."

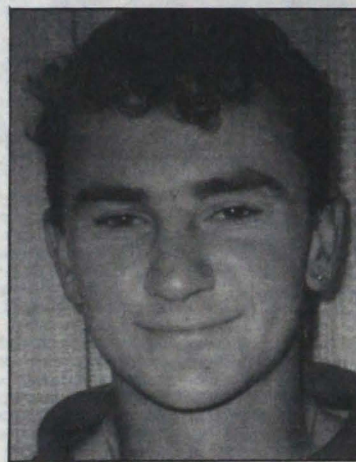
The club is awaiting responses from parents, via the primary schools, to its proposal to run a regular Friday-evening competition for eight to 10-year-old boys and girls. Initial responses have been encouraging.

Games, based on Kanga cricket rules and promoting fun and learning rather than competition, probably would be played from 5.30 to 7.30.

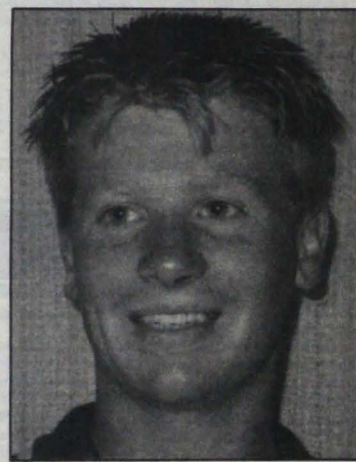
The club would encourage family participation in the evenings.



Stuart McLean



Glen McCartin



Rory Halleman

Sharpshooting McLean gets the coach's vote, too

Full-forward Stuart McLean was the big winner at Warrandyte Football Club's senior presentation night last month. Already assured of the goalkicking trophy, he also collected the coach's award.

It completed a big 1991 season for McLean, who kicked 74 goals and had been named Warrandyte Junior Football Club's best clubman for his services as a coach and runner at that level.

The Daryl Valentine Perpetual Trophy for most determined in the seniors was won by rover Glen McCartin and forward Trent Ferguson was adjudged best first-year player.

Rory Halleman won the reserves coach's award and Terry Ryan the Jeff Darby Perpetual Trophy for most determined in the twos.

Clubperson of the year went to tireless committeeman Leigh Nightingall. The clubperson award has now been "taken over" by Gary (Madge) Allsop, the former Bloods star who was crippled in an on-field accident three seasons ago. Allsop will donate the trophy annually.

As reported in the September

Diary, ruckman Kimberley O'Connor won the seniors best and fairest award, from Joe Hassall and Dale Vitritti. Paul Hay took the reserves best and fairest, ahead of Greg Creber and Roger Delli.

The club will hold its annual general meeting at the pavilion on Monday, November 18. All members are urged to attend. The meeting will elect successors to president Colin Bawden and secretary Norm Carrington who, for business and family rea-

sons, are not seeking a third term.

Bawden has warmly thanked the committee which worked so hard behind the scenes in a season which saw the Bloods fail by just one point in the first semi-final against Lilydale, who went on to win the EDFL third division premiership.

He made special mention of the contributions of Joel McCartin (social committee), Kim Mulcahy (behind the bar) and Georgie Macfie (merchandising).

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