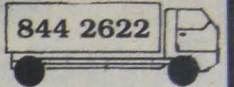


DIARY



# Meals service plan

## Blood's bold run blocked

Warrandyte's brave bid for football glory was crushed by conquering newcomers Donvale United in the EDFL third division grand final at Waverley on September 5.

The Bloods were beaten by 66 points—17.14 (116) to 7.8 (50)—by a team who had won four consecutive premierships in the Eastern Suburban Churches Football Association before crossing to the EDFL this season.

Donvale went through the season undefeated and were clearly too good for third division. The good news for Warrandyte and the other third division clubs is that Donvale are now automatically promoted to division two.

Warrandyte, who had won their way into the grand final with a huge win over Kilsyth in the first semi-final and a 14-point victory over Forest Hill in the preliminary final, were playing for a \$10,000 bonus put up by a prominent supporter, but never threatened Donvale, who were too big, too talented, too accomplished, too disciplined, too good.

The Bloods had a ghost of a chance of pulling off a major upset when they were within 33 points at the last change, but Donvale quickly put paid to that by kicking three unanswered goals in the first six minutes of the final quarter.

• Full story: Page 15.



Warrandyte's newest arrivals—Mrs and Mr Grey-backed Silver Eye's latest brood—greet the first days of spring from their environmentally sensitive, natural materials residence above Jumping Creek. (Picture by Wim Kerkhof)

## Youth training course to come

By GEORGI STICKELS

Warrandyte's Neighbourhood House has come up with a new scheme to provide both training opportunities and inexpensive quality meals for Warrandyte's needy.

As reported in last month's *Diary*, the Neighbourhood House presented a report to Community Services Victoria, which showed that, contrary to popular belief, even seemingly affluent suburbs such as Doncaster and Warrandyte have a hidden population of unemployed people with few prospects for the future.

As a direct result, Neighbourhood House co-ordinator Margory Lapworth has begun organising a complete hospitality course, which will be run from the community centre.

Margory told the *Diary* the course would focus on three study units, or modules: catering, barwork and food and drink presentation. Margory, who has had a great deal of experience in the hospitality industry, including opening her own five-star hotel before coming to Warrandyte, will also run classes on marketing, personnel management and bookkeeping.

But it is a huge task to take on alone, and the costs involved in setting it up are considerable.

"We hope we will be able to involve businesses in the community, in that maybe they will allow us to do work experience with them," Margory said. "We will be asking local experts if

they will volunteer their time or donate equipment they no longer use."

Margory is trying to get the course accredited by Box Hill College of TAFE, which will mean the project will receive government funding, and a certificate for graduates at the end of the 20 week program. She hopes they will go on to work in local establishments, or even start their own businesses.

But the course can only run if it draws enough interest. Aware of suggestions that local youth may be reluctant to make use of services, Margory is keen that the course be open to unemployed adults and people from nearby areas, although Warrandyte's young people will have first option.

"We will be hoping to involve kids not only from Warrandyte but from the wider Doncaster area as well," she said.

It is hoped that the course will eventually replace another Neighbourhood House initiative, the free meals service. All locals will be able to come in and have a three course meal for around two dollars. For those unable to pay, some service would be required.

Margory said that, in her experience, people are often proud when it comes to accepting charity. She hopes the graduates' kitchen will help both the students and their guests accept help, while at the same time feel as though they are earning it.

The meals service started on September 1 and provides one balanced meal a day for needy locals. Margory said there is quite a demand for such a service and hopes the Neighbourhood House will be able to keep it up.

The meals service is dependent on donations for food supplies and hopes to receive a share of the contents of the food bank, run at Harry Heath's supermarket. But the most valuable donation locals can make is their time, Margory said.

If the hospitality course is to run smoothly, Neighbourhood House desperately needs more volunteers to help with the course and with Neighbourhood House's administration.

"We are a pretty friendly group of people who work for three hours a day, assisting with office routines, the family support group, and advertising. And age is no barrier."

# Yarra River divides the jobs

Local unemployed people living north of the Yarra may soon be benefitting from government grant money, whereas those on the south side will miss out.

Under the terms of the recently released federal budget, Eltham and Diamond Valley councils will get more than \$2 million for employment projects, whereas the City of Doncaster and Templestowe will receive nothing.

Mr Phil Honeywood, Liberal MP for Warrandyte believes "this is political pork-

barrelling and discrimination at its worst".

According to Mr Honeywood, Diamond Valley council, with 7.4 percent local registered unemployed, will receive \$1,281,000 and Eltham council, with 7.1 percent local registered unemployed, will receive \$887,000.

"These two councils are in the marginal Labor Federal seat of Jagajaga," Mr Honeywood told the *Diary*. "Doncaster and Templestowe, in the Liberal electorate of Casey, has similar levels of

unemployment, yet receives nothing.

"An unemployed Warrandyte resident who lives on the Doncaster side of the river will have no hope of competing against an unemployed North Warrandyte resident for jobs on Eltham and Diamond Valley projects.

"The whole basis for the grants is that they provide employment for registered unemployed residents within the designated municipality."

Mr Honeywood argues that Warrandyte township has a higher level of unemploy-

ment, when compared to the average figure throughout Doncaster-Templestowe.

"The latest unemployment statistics indicate that in the Warrandyte 3113 postcode area, 116 local people were in receipt of Job Search or New Start allowances in February 1991, compared to 179 in February, 1992.

"These figures show that our local community has been just as severely affected as many western and northern areas of Melbourne.

"There is a need for job creation schemes to be fairly

distributed across all areas of Melbourne."

Mr Peter Staples, Federal Labor member for Jagajaga, has defended the allocations, pointing out that the safe Labor seat of Preston is receiving \$3.9 million, as against the lesser amounts being granted in more marginal areas, such as Eltham and Diamond Valley.

It is also understood that municipalities in country electorates, many with Liberal and National MPs, are receiving funding under the federal scheme.

## CYRIL

By PAUL WILLIAMS



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# How Joff's cartoon went missing at sea



You will notice that Joff Manders' cartoon is missing from this issue, and thereby hangs quite a tale. Put simply, he was too busy fighting fires at sea and drifting off the NSW coast to draw it. Quite apart from being an artist and potter, Joff is a district officer with the Metropolitan Fire Brigade and was sent to Brisbane a couple of weeks ago to pick up a container ship from Singapore and instruct the crew on fire-fighting techniques on the voyage south. Good thing he was on board, too, because somewhere between Brisbane and Sydney the ship's engine blew up and caught fire! Then, as the crippled craft limped towards Sydney, came news of a water-side dispute there, which meant drifting for a day before mooring at Pittwater and eventually docking at Botany Bay. Barring infernos, shipwrecks or earthquakes, Joff's work will return to grace our October issue.



There are several things in life you don't do. You don't, as a pop song of several years back advised, step on Superman's cape, spit into the wind or tear the mask off the Lone Ranger. Neither, we suggest, do you call Warrandyte footy club stalwart Anne Drew "bucketmouth". A lady from Coldstream did in 1989 when warm, lovable Anne was having a bit of a say from the local boundary about the performances of the visitors and the umpire. Bucketmouth? It fair shook her. In the 12 months that followed, Anne rehearsed some devastating put-downs which made "bucketmouth" sound like a term of endearment and, come the 1990 home game against Coldstream, patrolled the boundary looking for her personal foe. Alas, no appearance. Things cooled down after that because Coldstream won the premiership that season and were promoted to second division. They're hotting up again though because the Streamers had a terrible 1992 and will be back in division three next season, which means we'll be meeting them twice in the home-and-away rounds. Hmm, says Mrs Drew. Hmm.



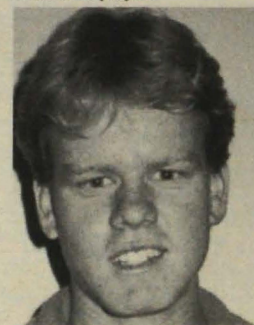
The question about the origin of Kevin Luttick's black eye had to be asked and it was answered thus: "Post hole digger. I was planting the first of 30 native trees around the house (you greenies ought to be pleased with me for that), gave the digger a bit of a shake and accidentally hit myself in the eye with the blunt end. But I didn't let it stop the planting. No, I went right on and did the entire 30!" Welcome to the conservation movement, Kevin.



Boys will be boys (or in this case dads dads) and only they could turn a game of netball, which is supposed to be a non or minimal-contact sport, into a

## IN RED & WHITE

shirt-fronting free-for-all. Warrandyte Netball Club invited the mums and dads on to the court at presentation day late last month to see if they'd picked up any of the game's finer points by watching their daughters in action. The mums had; the dads hadn't. In the process of being sin-binned for unduly rough play and disputing the umpires' decisions the chaps managed to invent a brand new sport incorporating all the worst features of Aussie Rules, rugby and soccer. They had heaps of fun though. Then the daughters took the court and showed how netball should be played.



Mark Harbolt



There is no telling just how far young Mark Harbolt will go in football, but he may have set some sort of local record this season by playing in three grades and polling best and fairest votes in all of them. Mark, 17, was recruited from Doncaster pre season and played his first few games for the Bloods in the under-18s. He showed straight away that he was a cut above that comp and was promoted to the reserves. He proved a bit good for that, too, and finished the season in the seniors. The vote counts told the story. Mark amassed enough votes in less than a handful of under-18 appearances to finish fourth in that award. He bolted in with the reserves trophy and was also mentioned in the seniors count. For the fact that he is now wearing red and white we can thank his dad, Rudi, who intervened with a forceful, personal approach when Doncaster wouldn't entertain the idea of clearing Mark. We've not met Rudi, but we're sure we'd like his style.



Jetlag wouldn't affect him, Jim Harris assured wife Lorraine as they turned in after their arrival home from a two-month trip to and through Britain and Europe. No sir, he'd be up bright and early in the morning. Jim was still sleeping soundly when Lorraine got up at 7.30 and hadn't stirred three hours later when she went shopping. He was still snoring when she returned at

12.30. When eventually he opened his eyes he'd put in 14 solid sleeping hours. No, jetlag didn't affect Jim Harris. Probably didn't affect Rip Van Winkle, either.



Laurie Warr had been a North Melbourne supporter all his life, so it was no light decision to switch allegiance. What did it was North's decision to reappoint coach Wayne Schimmelbusch, whom Laurie thought had had his chances. Right, he announced, when Schimma's reappointment was announced on the morning of September 5, henceforth he was a Collingwood supporter! We're not suggesting at all that he put the mozz on the Maggies, but that very afternoon St Kilda bundled them out of the finals.



From the mouths of preps. Paul Richardson, 6, of Warrandyte Primary to mum Carole: "Mum, our principal must be awfully naughty." Mum: "Why's that?" Paul: "Because he's always being called up to the office!"



We think we have a convert to PATCS (People Against The Cashless Society), a group dedicated to the destruction of bankcards and pin numbers and to a return to sane banking procedures. A lot of these folk have reverted to the time-honoured practice of keeping their money under the mattress. Robin Ritter, of North Warrandyte, was happy to go along with the automatic teller system and all that it stands for until she used her State Bank card in a Commonwealth Bank robot the other day—and got the \$340 she asked for in \$10 notes. Crisp new notes they were, but she thought 34 of them was a bit much. C'mon, Robin, take the plunge and get with PATCS!



What does a footy club official do when the footy season ends? In the case of Geoff Feltham, vice-president of Warrandyte Football Club, he crosses the ground and haunts the tennis club. Last year he was there so often the tennis people were waiting for a moving van to arrive with his furniture. With football over again, they're making more room in anticipation of Geoff lobbing with his new buddy, WFC president Laurie Sloan, in tow.



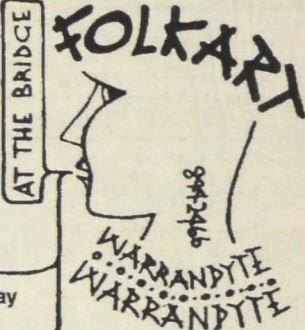
Smokey Joe

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# Council buying land for Wyena

## Future need for more open space

By DAVID WYMAN

A Doncaster-Templestowe council decision to sell a number of its small unused landholdings to finance the purchase of six hectares of land in South Warrandyte has delighted Wyena Horse and Pony Club but is causing some concern in other parts of the municipality.

The land, which abuts Andersons Creek in Husseys Lane, is owned by Melbourne Water, who have leased it for about 15 years to the Rough family, who live on a neighbouring property.

The Roughs have allowed the pony club to use the land, as well as the family's own property, as a cross-country riding course, for training and other riding events.

Council's open space strategy describes the small municipal reserves to be sold as "category four" reserves; having insufficient recreational or environmental value to warrant continued allocation of council resources, apart from limited maintenance.

Doncaster council has purchased a 12 months option on the Melbourne Water land in Husseys Lane to give it time to find a satisfactory source of funds. It is likely, in the short term at least, that Wyena will continue to use the property after it is purchased by council.

But some people associated with the acquisition of the Green Wedge land appear to foresee its ultimate use as a public recreation area, predicting the possibility of greater population density in the district in the long run.

Chairman of the council's open space advisory committee, Mr Barry McIvor, told the *Diary* that the land "has got good potential for any future use of that area. If land utilisation changes, if residential density changes, it could serve as a future district park".

Mr David Melvin, council manager of leisure services, said: "At some time in the future—and I couldn't predict when, maybe in 10, 20 or 50 years—when residential development builds out over that area, we will require

The reserves in Ringwood North (1), Warrandyte (2), Doncaster East (1), Donvale (1) and Templestowe (3) were obtained by council as "contributions from land developers".

Council's physical services committee will consider sale of the properties at its September 15 meeting, with a recommendation to full council on the 29th.

Mr David Melvin said most of the council properties being considered for sale were very small and were likely to be sold

### 'Long-term policy of having public land along waterways'

access to some land to provide recreational opportunities."

Mr McIvor said the first objective with the land was to keep it in public ownership, rather than let the government sell it to raise revenue.

"We saw it as being useful for future strategy. It fits in with our long-term policy of having public land along waterways."

"In the shorter term, the land fills a need for Wyena. The difficulty with the land is that it is not large enough, on its own, for an equestrian centre. If council decided to use it as such a centre, it may be committed to purchase more adjoining land."

Council has identified eight small municipal reserves which could be sold to finance purchase of the Husseys Lane land.

as individual building blocks, or sold to adjoining residents to enlarge their blocks. "There is not likely to be any significant change in the way some of the reserves are used now," he said.

The Warrandyte reserves are at the rear of 314 Heidelberg-Warrandyte Road and at 66 Webb Street.

It is believed that neighbours of the Webb Street site, whilst not opposing the purchase of land in Husseys Lane, contend that the council land adjacent to their properties is unsuitable for building development, due to possible drainage problems.

Mrs Pam Duggan, vice-president of Wyena Horse and Pony Club, recalled that Melbourne Water had wanted to sell the land since about October 1990.

It has applied for rezoning for housing, but the land was eventually rezoned Landscape Interest, allowing only one house.

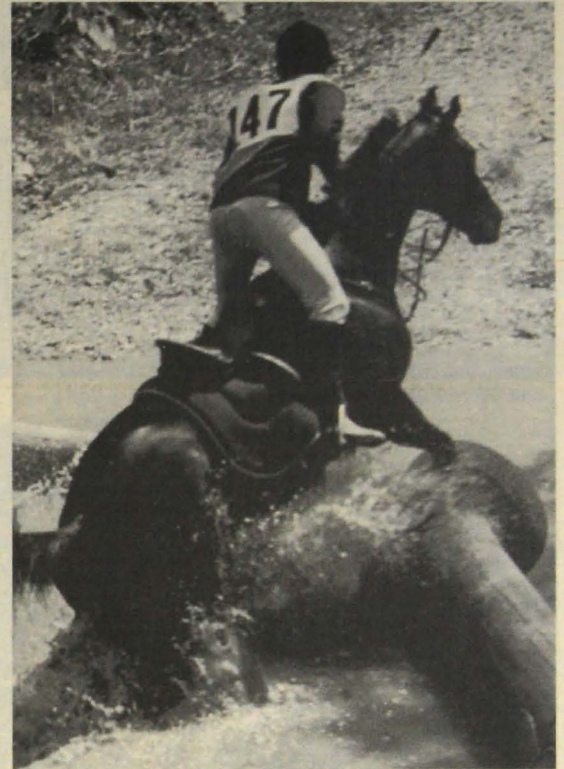
"Council would not issue a building permit for the property and this hampered its proposed sale," she said. "We have continued to lobby council about the land's potential as a future asset for the community."

Mrs Duggan described the Melbourne Water property, along with that belonging to the Rough family, as "great venues for riders".

A state qualifying event is held there in February each year. This horse trial includes dressage, cross-country and show jumping. It is a large, state-wide event, an event in which the Australian team excelled at the Barcelona Olympics.

Mrs Duggan said Wyena had a continuing membership of some 80 riders, and because Warrandyte and surrounding areas continued to maintain an equestrian interest, membership was eagerly sought.

"We have riders from Doncaster, Ringwood, Wonga Park, Park Orchards—a wide radius—and they come from all walks of life. "The club serves the broad community and obviously we hope we will continue to have use of the land."



Navigating a hazard on the Husseys Lane land.

## 21 years of serving Meals on Wheels

By JANE RICHARDSON

This year, one of Warrandyte's most important, but often overlooked, organisations began its 21st year of serving the community: Meals on Wheels.

Since its humble beginnings in 1970, the Warrandyte and District Welfare Services, which runs the local Meals on Wheels, has grown from 15 volunteers to 62. Collectively, they have given more than 1,500 hours of their time during the past year, picking up and delivering meals on to needy locals.

This effort was recognised earlier in the year when the group was presented with a certificate of appreciation under the Volunteer Recognition Program by Community Services minister, Ms Kay Setches.

Anne Drew, a member of the Warrandyte and District Welfare Services committee, told the *Diary* of the unique nature of Meals on Wheels in Warrandyte. Although the government subsidises the meals, the local service relies on volunteers to organise, pick up and deliver the meals.

This system makes it more independent than other services, which are run through local councils.

The service operates on a monthly roster, with two people collecting the meals, which come from the Kingston Centre in Heatherton. Drivers then deliver the meals to 12 to 15 people each weekday.

Ms Drew said specific diets, likes and dislikes can be catered for.

But Meals on Wheels is more than just a meals service, Ms Drew said. It also provides daily contact for people who are unable to leave their homes.

"It also relieves the minds of other family members, who know that someone will be visiting their relative each day," she said.

Meals on Wheels in Warrandyte was initiated by local

medico Dr Kostas, who called for a meals service to assist the elderly, ill and other housebound people. Meetings held during September and December 1970 looked into ways of obtaining and delivering the meals, as well as ascertaining the number of people who needed the service.

The first meal was delivered

in Warrandyte on April 14, 1971. A committee of 12 was established to run the operation, with Marie Coleman as the first president.

Three people have held the reins since. Keith Wilson was president until 1988, when Margaret Burton took over for three years. The current president is Diane Fraser.



Justin Marsden as the surgeon from 'Oh', where fantasies make dishwashing fun.

## A dramatic evening of fun, death and washing dishes

A season of three one-act plays can provide casts, directors—and audiences—with variety and a series of challenges. Especially if one of the plays is locally written and is receiving its premiere production.

Imagine a coffin, condoms and a mermaid aided by a surgeon. These images may not seem to merge well, but put in their appropriate place by the Warrandyte Drama Group—within the one act play they belong to—and it makes for a trio of very interesting performances.

'Death in Scarsdale' is written by Victor Levin and directed by

Carol Keating. It is a reflection of a man upon his life and the people within it, following his suicide. One might fear that this is to be a morbid tale, but not so, as Levin manages to inject just the right balance of drama, humor and pathos.

'Sticky Business', a locally written piece by Raine Dinale and Kylie Moppert, deals with the awkwardness between people when practising safe sex. It explores the relationships in a contemporary family with three generations of women, who attempt to make sense of the situations that arise. Kylie Moppert is the

director and this play promises to be both interesting and entertaining.

The third production is 'Oh', written by Australian playwright Ted Neilson and directed by Yvonne Morey. This play is truly surprising. It explores the sexual fantasies of a man and a woman as they wash the dishes. The fantasies develop as the play progresses, with humorous and unexpected consequences.

This spring season will run at the Warrandyte Mechanics Institute hall through September 10, 11, 12, 17, 18 and 19. Phone 844 2918 for tickets.

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South Warrandyte's new service station on the big day.

# Fun and frolic at our new service station

By BRUCE BENCE

Saturday August 15 saw the official opening party of the new Shell service station at South Warrandyte. Joe and Janis Byrne, the proud owners of the new complex, were there to greet the large number of guests who attended. One old timer was heard saying that it was the biggest crowd he had seen at Five Ways since the Black Friday bushfires!

Entertainment abounded with a jumping fun castle and a clown to keep the children occupied. Chief chef, Captain John Haddon of the South Warrandyte fire brigade, lorded over the barbecue.

The brigade also supervised traffic flow, which abounded as cars flocked to Melbourne's cheapest petrol. Joe discounted petrol by 10 cents to just 59.9 cents a litre for the morning, after filling his reserves the night before.

The new service station is a far cry from the old tin shed that served the first garage on the site, and something very special, according to the journal 'Shell Review'. Shell is taking the opportunity to trial new technology in constructing the South Warrandyte station.

It is the first of the Shell 'Year 2000' sites to be built and a lot of time and effort went into making it attractive, functional and en-

vironmentally sensitive.

Caring for the environment is a major concern with the new station, starting with the newly-developed plastic underground fuel tanks which are impervious to electrolysis and acid damage. To ensure that there is no contamination of the site from petrol leaks, the pipe serving the site is of the same material. In addition, each pump has a collection bowl to return any leaked fluid to the main tank.

The heart of the system is a sophisticated plant that removes all pollutants in runoff from the site. Operator Joe Byrne claims that after filtering, any water running from the site is fit to drink.



Members of Warrandyte Fitness Centre demonstrate aerobics.



Fire Chief John Haddon cooks up a treat at the opening.

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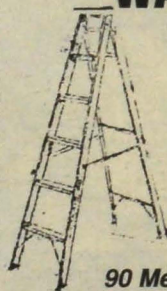
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# A new blueprint for the Green Wedge

By CLIFF GREEN and JANE RICHARDSON

Doncaster and Templestowe council has recently produced two documents of great significance to the future survival of the natural surroundings in the places where we live: the Warrandyte, South Warrandyte and Park Orchards areas.

These documents are the Environmental Studies East of Mullum Mullum Creek. They are in two parts: Study of Visual Significance, and Sites of Botanical and Zoological Significance.

Over recent years, the preservation of our environment has come to be one of the major concerns affecting our lives, especially in the Warrandyte area, where we reside amongst rare and ecologically important vegetation and wildlife.

In 1987, 1988 and 1989, Dr Dez Benko conducted a series of investigations for Doncaster council, focussing on the future of the city's non-urban areas (popularly known as the Green Wedge) and the issues surrounding their possible exploitation for subdivisional housing developments.

These enquiries raised considerable community interest and debate and led to prolonged resident action, resulting in the election of conservation-minded councillors to represent Warrandyte Ward. This followed a re-endorsement by council of the need to maintain the natural integrity of the Green Wedge.

In 1989, council commissioned an environmental study to examine the flora, fauna and visual significance of the area with a view to its conservation and rehabilitation.

The Warrandyte-Park Orchards Environmental Study Advisory Committee, consisting of representatives of interested community bodies, ward councillors and council officers was formed. Among other tasks, it was charged with overseeing the compilation of the environmental studies.

These studies are now complete. They have been struc-



tured so as to ultimately evolve into a strategy for the protection of the natural environment of the municipality east of Mullum Mullum Creek: a blueprint for the Green Wedge. They describe the natural features of the area and their importance, the flora and fauna present and their value and significance and suggest methods for the conservation and rehabilitation of these assets.

The studies also explore ways in which some future low density housing developments could evolve in less sensitive areas of the landscape.

Jane Marriott, council's urban designer, told the *Diary*: "It is most important to realise that the studies are the start of a process to try and identify the significant environmental features. There is still a lot of work to be done."

Much of the area is degraded through weed and pest infestation, over-clearing and unwise land utilisation. "If the land is left the way it is," Jane Marriott pointed out, "the environmental value will continue to decline. We need to balance the two aspects of land development and environmental preservation."

The prime purpose of the studies is to provide council with a basis for the creation of guidelines for the future conservation, maintenance and possible development of the area.

The studies recommend that a new zone should be established incorporating the existing Landscape Interest A and C zones and the Conservation A zone with controls which refer specifically to areas of botanical, zoological and visual significance.

New objectives for this zone should allow development only if it can be demonstrated that the development will enhance the environment in the long term.

The studies suggest further investigation of the principle of differential rating for those property owners who forgo their subdivision rights and actively care for their land according to an approved management plan.

The appointment by council of a conservation officer is strongly recommended. Jane Marriott told the *Diary* that money has been set aside in this year's budget for the employment of such an officer.

One of the principal responsibilities of a conservation officer, the studies recommend, would be to undertake a program of public awareness, encouraging a better understanding of the value of the natural, heritage and cultural environments of the area.

• The *Diary* is planning an in-depth series of articles on the Green Wedge studies, to be published over the coming months.



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## Is this WEL's last fight?

The Warrandyte Environment League is facing a membership crisis. As its 1992 annual general meeting comes around, WEL is looking for ways to boost membership and inject new blood into the group.

Membership within WEL has fallen by about half in recent years.

Out-going president, Greg Stroot, told the *Diary* the group is in a bit of a vacuum now as many core members have moved on or left the area.

"Despite the steady influx of new people, our committee, and indeed our membership, seems to be in decline," he said.

Greg Stroot believes attracting new members is difficult because the WEL has such a low profile in the town. "Much of our work is concealed," he said, adding that the group tries to improve this through their stall at the Warrandyte market and keeping up to date on local issues.

"A lot of work goes into maintaining a profile. We try to take an active part in any consultation process we are invited to. We also take part, uninvited, in the planning process."

But remaining WEL members fear that the decline in people and resources will make it harder for them to maintain their watchdog role. As it is, cases taken to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal are often lost because local lobby groups cannot afford solicitors and other expensive resources used by developers.

However, WEL has achieved much over the past few years. "We now have councils on both sides of the river that are taking on respectable shades of green," Greg Stroot said.

But he wonders if perhaps the role of WEL is changing. "Our aim was to become redundant and now perhaps we've achieved that," he said.

Townscape and other committees seem to be taking over WEL's traditional role in planning and appeals.

"We have conservation strategies, future designs and directions strategies, townscape committees, the Friends of Warrandyte State Park and we have the Warrandyte Advisory Committee, to name a few," Greg said.

He believes this could be a large reason for the decline in interest in the WEL and the WAC, of which he is also a member. He says one solution may be to consider amalgamating the WEL and the WAC.

"We have green councils now, but it may not always be that way, and we need to be here if that changes," he said.

Greg has been president for two years, but said the task has become too time-consuming.

"I've seen many things happen from my chair, from a panic-stricken midnight investigation of The Chase, to submitting presentations on the seven shops at the Administrative Appeals Tribunal."

"Being president is an honor I won't easily forget because there is something special about this little haven by the river," he said. He says he fully intends to remain in WEL, because "it's just too much fun to leave."

The Warrandyte Environment League annual general meeting will be held at Pasta Mania restaurant on Tuesday, September 15 at 7pm. All members and newcomers are warmly invited to attend.

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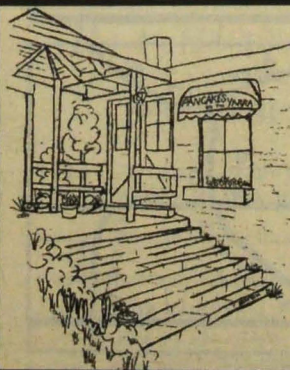
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# Youth need more support

As past workers at the "coffee shop", it was with great interest that we read the front page article in the last issue of the *Diary*. It is out of our concern for the local young people that we make this response.

Warrandyte hasn't changed. It still has a number of young people who are experiencing real difficulties, alienation, homelessness and the effects which these experiences bring with them. The coffee shop was established to reach out and help all the young people in Warrandyte, but particularly those in most need.

The direction set by the co-op and the initial board of management ensured that the coffee shop was open and provided an appropriate service to meet these needs. Yes it did have a "reputation", but among the 100-plus young people who used the service every week and a large section of the community, the coffee shop was seen as a positive place for young people of

## LETTERS

the town. Whenever you gather that many young people, who are all experiencing some difficulties, there will be problems and it will disturb some people and upset a small group who label it "bad".

The current co-ordinator is correct in admitting that there are problems, but given her admission of cancelled courses and low regular attendance we would question the need to sometimes "wonder if we're doing something wrong". The lack of support by the local young people stands as a judgement of this. The problem, however, is not a past reputation but current management and co-ordination.

Any youth service needs to be open to the young people. This means suitable hours: 10-6 weekdays is outrageous! If it is to

have wide appeal it must be a place where young people feel they belong and have some sense of ownership and control.

Young people come to places where they feel relaxed and feel that they are free from restrictions and pressures to perform. They face enough of these in school and at home.

Many are also crying out for loving, caring relationships that provide security and mutual trust, and for positive role models, not great programs. Workers need to be non-threatening, understanding and have an ability to just wait and be there when needed.

If Warrandyte Youth Services were to provide our needy young people with this type of environment (as the coffee shop did) they would soon see that they did have young people "on the waiting list".

Jackie Law & Craig Milburn  
Harris Gully Road



THEY'VE FINALLY FINISHED OFF THE HOUSE,...AND DONE THE GARDEN,... SO THEY MUST BE GOING TO SELL IT!

## Finders keepers

Who needs the council's hard garbage pick-up when we have resident phantoms in Warrandyte? After accumulating our old hot water service, lawn mower, oven, cooktop, and TV antenna, a quick telephone call to the council assured us that the hard garbage would be collected between Monday and Friday.

On Sunday night the used items were put out on the nature-strip to be collected, however less than 12 hours later the old lawn mower had

disappeared. One by one each item went missing. Much to our amusement the council truck came on Thursday, only to find a remaining empty paint tin!

We hope that our spare parts prove to be useful!

The Utt family  
Webb Street

Signed letters are preferred. If pen-names are used, actual names and addresses must be included, even if not to be published.

## Not clear

Recently the council placed posts indicating the fire plugs in Yarra Street and painted large "Keep Clear" signs on the road beside them.

Which should have, at long last, overcome the problem of people parking their cars over the top of the fire plugs. No-one could miss them, so imagine my amazement, when I was down the street the very next day, to see a car parked so precisely over one plug and sign as to make the sign virtually invisible.

I am quite certain he couldn't have parked more exactly on top of it if he had tried to.

Bruce Bence  
Brackenbury Street

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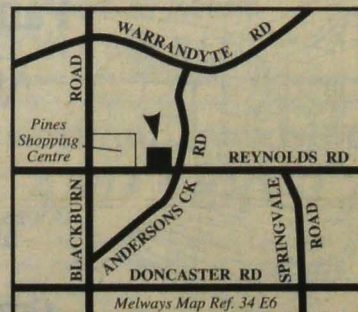
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# 'Anything Goes' at Warrandyte High School

Take a handful of Cole Porter songs and a stageful of P.G. Wodehouse characters in a variety of guises and be prepared to suspend credibility.

Based on a successful musical formula that had folks whistling their way through depressions, Warrandyte High's recent production of "Anything Goes" would seem to be an appropriate choice for the times.

On board a trans-Atlantic ocean liner headed vaguely in the direction of London, we meet failed stockbroker Billy Crocker, played with maturity and confidence by James Egglestone in his third production with the High. In order to avoid arrest, Billy is required to assume many disguises. His vocal control in the difficult Cole Porter numbers and his fresh-faced enthusiasm made him a top-hole choice as leading man.

The object of Billy's desire, Hope Harcourt, was played by the desirable Christie Lawrence, with a slight sultriness befitting



## REVIEW

By MARION WINTON

a "gel" who is prepared to risk her pedigree for love. In her first character part, Christie demonstrated that she can handle the responsibility of a leading role.

The full cast routines were well staged. Choreographer Lynette Bailey made good use of the "lower deck" and gave Reno and the four Angels a chance to dust off their taps and do a little shoe shuffling without losing anyone overboard.

The zany Julie Byrne, who alternated with Sally Morrison in the role of Reno Sweeney, put a great deal into her performance and was seen to advantage in group numbers like "Blow Gabriel Blow". I didn't see Sally Morrison perform, but understand she brought her own distinctive flair to the role and gave a strong performance.

The "Minister for all occasions", Moonface Martin, was played with a good sense of comedy by Evan Zigmantas. I particularly liked his rousing revivalist segment in the mock religious ceremony.

Joanne McMahon has that special appeal that transcends the footlights and immediately has an audience on-side. Ideally suited to the role of the warm hearted Bonnie, Joanne sings well, moves well and has a quality reminiscent of Shirley MacLaine in her early films. It is not hard to predict that Joanne has a real future in the theatre.

Emma Symes has added a new character to her collection of cameo roles. She played the role of Mrs Wadsworth Harcourt, an overpowering matron, with great zeal and almost succeeded in upstaging the ship's foghorn. Emma can be relied on to deliver her lines well and keep in character.

Mat Henderson obviously enjoyed playing the part of the Wodehouse figure, Sir Evelyn



Oakleigh, and the audience responded warmly to his interpretation of the role. Christina Oehlmann did not go unnoticed in the small but significant role of a reporter in the opening sequence and James Sheehan made a promising debut as Wall Street executive Elisha Whitney.

Under the experienced direction of Chris White, the production assumed the professionalism we have come to expect of Warrandyte musicals. Chris's effective set design, the "S.S. American" became an integral part of the routines.

This year the backstage staff

were joined by the school principal, Michael Blake, who shared the role of stage manager with John Lajoe and assisted in the construction of sets.

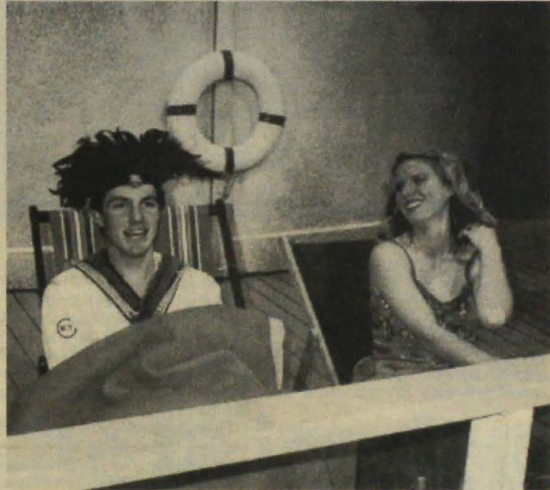
Teachers Angie Chiodo, Judy Steel, Don Harrison (and his crew) are to be congratulated for the high standards they brought to the show by way of costumes, lighting and general production.

The school orchestra continues to grow in numbers and strength and the chorus work is still a major feature of the high school's production. The students are to be commended for

copied with the challenging musical content. I felt the songs were too demanding for the individual performers, but appreciate that for most it was the first time they had used personal microphones.

Look forward to the time when Warrandyte High scripts its own shows, with original music, lyrics and dance routines. After all, the renowned Cambridge Footlights Revue had a small beginning.

Meanwhile, the magnificent efforts of Chris, the students and teachers at Warrandyte High School deserve our applause.



Top: Billy Crocker (James Egglestone) and Hope Harcourt (Christie Lawrence). Above: Billy and Hope on deck. Centre: Bonnie (Joanne McMahon) and the Angels—(Michelle Hilton, Sophie Grant, Kim Riches and Daniela Spiliotacopoulos). Right: Reno (Julie Byrne) leads the company in a rousing number.

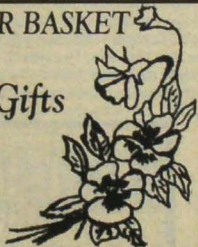


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# Local fire hero

**BRUCE BENCE** continues his occasional series on Warrandyte's former fire captains.

Jack Stringer grew up in Warrandyte between the world wars and, like all Warrandyte boys, learnt to fight fires when he was very young. He well remembers taking cold drinks and sandwiches to his father, who was fighting the Fourth Hill fires, when he was 12.

The Stringer family had lost their home on "Black Friday", January 13, 1939, while Jack's father George was away fighting fires elsewhere in Warrandyte.

It is no wonder then, that when Jack went to live in North Warrandyte, he became a foundation member of the Stoney Creek fire brigade in October 1953. The name was soon changed to North Warrandyte, to avoid confusion with another Stoney Creek brigade in Victoria.

Jack was one of a handful of brigade members who struggled to keep the brigade going in its early days. They had little money and equipment and no fire station; just plenty of hope and determination.

Jack was elected first lieutenant in 1957 and became captain two years later, a position he held until 1976. During this time the brigade went from strength to strength.

When the 1962 fires hit the area the North Warrandyte brigade had only a Furphy water tank mounted on the back of George Stringer's truck. The rest of their equipment consisted of a hand pump, three knapsacks and three rakehoes.

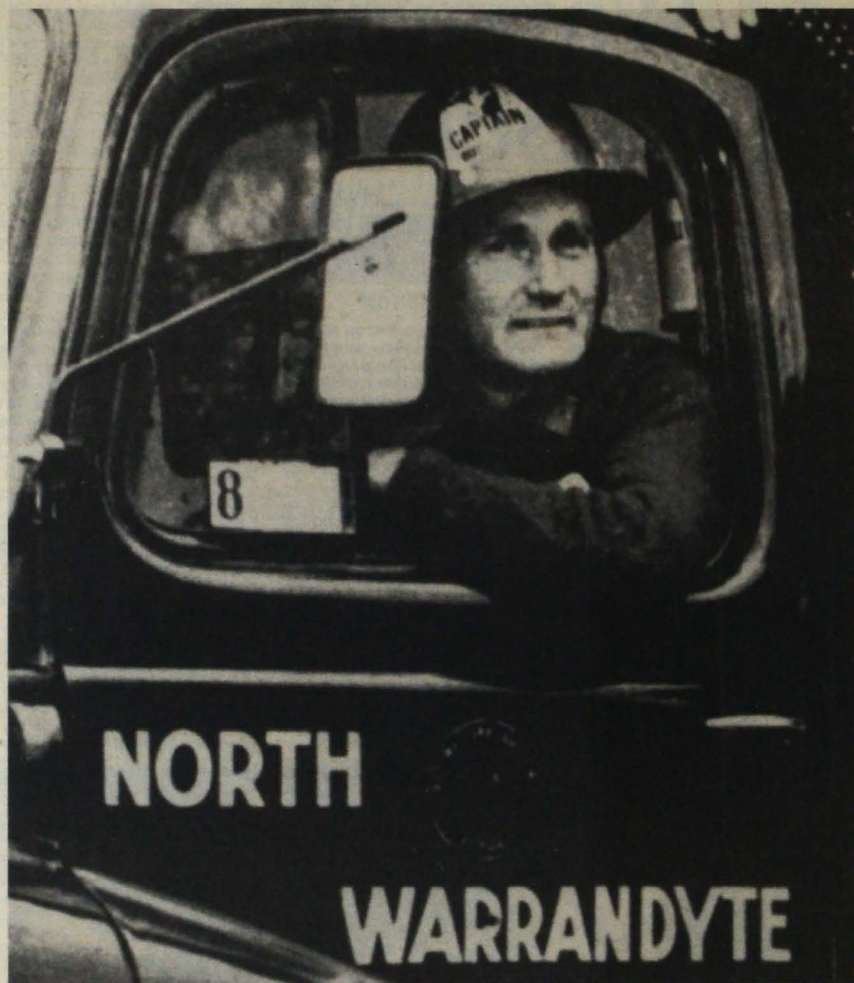
The day the fire struck Warrandyte the brigade members had stayed at home. The fire would obviously reach Warrandyte that day. A quick reconnaissance by Jack, and fellow brigade member Brian Day, revealed a pitch black sky to the north. Jack said later it looked as though the whole state was alight.

After picking up members in Blooms Road in the truck, the brigade took up position in the gully behind Blooms Road to try and stop the fire.

But it was not to be. The fire soon crowned and raced down on the men, who escaped with their lives by evacuating through a set of pig yards, avoiding the long grass which burst into flames around them.

Jack had another lucky escape that day. He was watching the fire when someone sprayed him with water from a knapsack. He looked down, only to discover that his pockets had caught fire!

But not everyone was so lucky. Leonard Brown and Harold



Captain Jack Stringer in his heyday.

Betton died when they took what they thought was safe refuge in water tanks. Tragically they perished in the boiling water as their houses burnt.

After 1962 the brigade pressed for a fire station and a truck. Previously, the owner of the land

Furphy tank and manual pump, the brigade had their first real fire truck. They soon added a radio and the CFA provided an electric pump.

About the same time the regional officer, Arthur McPhan, arranged with Eltham shire to

The brigade got the utility towed home after the fire. The benevolent regional officer arranged for the supply of a war-time lend-lease Chevrolet, soon to be phased out of service. Just six months later McPhan rang again to say he was bringing North Warrandyte a new fire truck.

The new truck came to grief without ever facing a fire. A member hit a tree stump, buckled the chassis and the truck had to go to Ballarat for repairs. The old Chev came out of retirement in the interlude.

The North Warrandyte fire station was designed and built by the brigade itself, with voluntary labor and a small donation from the CFA. Originally the spartan station, built in 1966, consisted only of an engine bay and a small radio and turnout room. The kitchen, toilets and meeting room were added later, also using voluntary labor.

January 8, 1969 was a fearful day. Some 253 fires were reported as searing temperatures and gale

Continued on page 9

*'His pockets caught fire!'*

where the fire station now stands had allowed North Warrandyte to keep their gear on his property. Meetings had to be held at the Stringers' house.

Eventually the brigade bought a secondhand utility truck that was in need of urgent repairs. Painted and fitted with the

buy a block of land for a stationhouse.

But it was not all smooth sailing from there. Racing beside the Warrandyte fire truck to reach the fires in 1965, the utility threw a con rod, and the North Warrandyte members all had to pile onto the Warrandyte truck.



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# Honors for CFA women

**GEORGIE WATERMAN** marks a special honor accorded three of Warrandyte's female firefighters

Three women firefighters have recently been awarded their 12-year badges for their active service to the North Warrandyte fire brigade. Lydia Lorenzini, Nola Harris and Phyl Swindley are the first women in the district to receive this award.

All enlisted as active firefighters in December 1979 and have continued to provide community service in that capacity ever since.

"During the last 12 years we've attended house fires, shed and garage fires and many accidents," Nola Harris told the *Diary*. "There've been quite a few cats up trees too. At one stage we helped the SES mop up after floods," she said.

Before women were officially allowed to join, there were not enough men around during the day, so women were trained to fight fires. More often they served on radio operation and other behind-the-scenes work. But in 1979 the then captain, Simon Gough, set up a recruiting drive aimed to attract women for active service.

Phyl Swindley and Lydia Lorenzini said it was hard to balance home and fire duties.

"We were all mothers and housewives when we first joined. We not only had to fight the fires, we also had to organise instant childcare, as our children were quite young."

But they added that it always worked out well. "The kids were well trained. They knew their mums had to leave them to fight fires," the women said.

All three women highly recommend involvement in the CFA. "It has been an excellent



From Left: Phyl Swindley, Lydia Lorenzini and Nola Harris: serving with North Warrandyte CFA for 12 years.

training opportunity for us. We have learned a range of practical skills as well as less tangible things such as how to control anxiety," Lydia said.

have to think of everything as you leave home. Is the soup off? Check the iron and the stove! And you have to mentally prepare yourself for

firefighters since 1973. Before then, all property owners were automatically registered, so that if a woman owned land, her name was listed too.

Captain John Swindley is proud of North Warrandyte's progressive brigade. "We were recruiting women before equal opportunity was a catchcry," he said. "If there is work to be done we all hop in and do it. Gender is irrelevant."

The brigade has won several awards in recent years, including the Australian Fire Prevention Association's community award, as well as an efficiency award.

North Warrandyte was the first brigade to use roadside markers for water supply points "and we believe we are the only brigade in the world to have a blue fire truck," Captain Swindley said.

## 'Gender is irrelevant'

"The instant the fire siren went your heart would thump and your pulse would race. But then you'd just calm down and do what had to be done."

Lydia said these practical skills have spilled over into other aspects of her life. "You

the unknown emergency ahead of you."

The pressure certainly has its kickbacks. "Learning to control my nerves has helped my game of golf enormously," Lydia said.

Women have only been allowed to register as proper

# The brigade that Jack built

Continued from page 8

force winds swept the state. North Warrandyte was spared none of the fury, as several outbreaks were reported and fires burned out of control.

Jack Stringer had gone to work that day but came home early. Police manning the road block at the bridge must have been wondering what was going on: Jack was the second brigade captain to arrive in just half an hour.

Bruce Ness, captain of the Kangaroo Ground brigade, had arrived earlier, by taxi. His truck had broken down in the Dandenongs. All

local resources were turned out to fight the fire, which was being held along Research Road when the wind dropped.

Jack returned to the station just as the wind changed and whipped up the fire again. The air was black and shot with burning cinders, the wind so strong the firefighters were hard put just standing up. Driven by the gale force wind, the fire flowed over Research Road like a river.

The brigade had placed an old Dodge weapons carrier—another war-time relic—between the hall

and the fire station, with the hoses out to protect the buildings.

But the fire came up the gully so quickly they never had a chance.

The hall was soon a mass of flames, the aerial on the Dodge melted and if Dick Termorshuizen hadn't jumped in the Dodge and driven it away, that would have been lost too.

The wind blew so hard it blew the fire out in places.

One North Warrandyte brigade member was almost decapitated when he stepped outside the station. Blinded by ash and smoke,

he did not see a 1000 gallon water tank as it flew past him. The tank was later found in Glynns Road.

Jack Stringer resigned as captain of the North Warrandyte Rural Fire Brigade in 1976 when he and his family moved to Yarra Junction.

He continued his fire service with the Yarra Junction Urban Brigade.

He was awarded the Queen's Fire Service Medal for long and dedicated service, on the recommendation of the chief officer of the CFA.

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# A new nest and a wildflower show

Nature has once again produced a wildflower show of spectacular proportions. Fiery patches of red and yellow punctuate the landscape at Professors Hill. During spring the slopes of this small bushland reserve in North Warrandyte are studded with flowers. The blazing red and yellow belongs to bushpeas, while wattles form a golden swathe across the hillside.

It was a sparkling morning. Not a single cloud spoiled the perfection of the deep cerulean sky. For the first time in months there was warmth in the sun, welcomed by plants and people alike as the return of an old friend.

Narrow tracks traverse the steep terrain of Professors Hill, the undergrowth hiding several different types of orchid that still grow in this corner of Warrandyte.

The elaborate and beautiful structures of these highly specialised flowers have fascinated people for years. Like rare gems they were avidly sought, but indiscriminate collecting and the clearing of land for housing has led to the disappearance



## NATURE

By PAT COUPAR  
Drawn by MELANIE COUPAR

of some species and a drastic decline in numbers of many others.

Hopefully, today it is only photographers and artists who capture, on film and on canvas, the exquisite beauty of our local orchids.

This glorious September morning reveals a number of orchids in flower, including several species of greenhood, donkey orchids and a colony of wispy spider orchids.

The birds are also relishing the burst of early spring warmth. Some birds are difficult to identify on their call alone, however there was no mistaking the "orry orry ole" call of the olive-backed oriole.

This seasonal migrant was announcing its return to Warrandyte in a most resounding manner, making it easy to trace the sound to a nearby eucalypt. Perched on

a branch about halfway up the tree was an elegant olive-green bird sporting a dark grey-flecked breast.

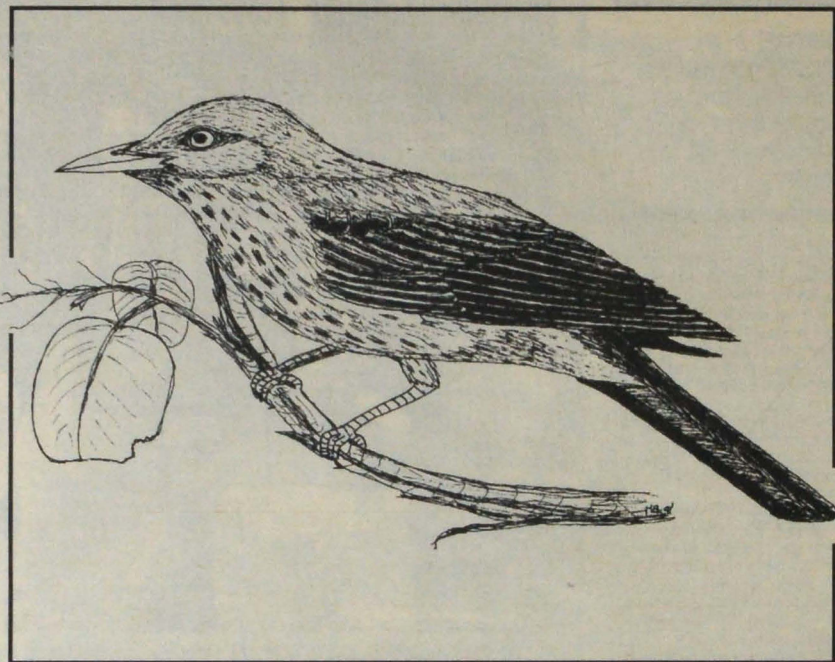
I was surprised the bird had not flown as I approached. Then I understood the reason for its reluctance to fly. Suspended from a horizontal fork in the outer foliage of the tree was a deep, cupshaped nest, a remarkable hanging nursery carefully assembled from long strips of stringybark and leaves.

Orioles have not bred in Warrandyte for some time.

For several months the cold of winter has slowed the pulse of nature, but now with the rising temperature comes a renewal of life. Birds are breeding and plants are responding in a dramatic display of color.

There is a wildflower show on in Warrandyte at the moment. It commenced in mid-August and will continue until about November.

The show may be seen at various venues close to town, including Professors Hill, Fourth Hill and the Common. This colourful pageant is highly recommended and entry is free. Don't miss it.



# The price of silence can be golden

It seems to be all the rage, this paparazzi and taped mobile phone business. Evidently you haven't made it into the big league unless you've been photographed, from a distance, without the benefit of make-up person or costume coordinator.

We've had the Monaco mob snapped by all and sundry in all possible tabloid positions and more recently we've had our Fergie keeping abreast of fashion by filling the papers with her own business dealings.

If the quick pic is not your financial scene, then what about having your most intimate spoken moments captured for posterity and the world's press? To get involved in this game you must have a mobile phone and someone with a scanner who's prepared to waste hours listening to the mind-numbing trivia that clogs the ether. Most of my phone conversations bore me, let alone some Deep Ear out there.

Let's assume the worst,

however, and concede that the Phantom of the Airwaves has stayed awake long enough to get Andrew Peacock off the line and has taped some really juicy Warrandyte goss. Once Deep Ear has waded through the latest about the house, shopping, the kids, illnesses and the cost of things, what's he going to do with any real dirt he gets? Smokey Joe can take only so much excitement.

I suggest we drop the audio tape and photo racket and go for a lucrative but typically egalitarian Warrandyte approach to the problem.

The answer has to be in our bush telegraph. Word spreads more quickly in Warrandyte than a smile on an Avon lady. What better way to soften the economic crisis than to utilise the local grapevine and the perennial Warrandytian paranoia? Our very own version of Neighbourhood Watch. Plus blackmail.

This may seem a little extreme; even illegal. Bear with me, please. The health of



## KIBBLED

any economy depends upon money acting like manure—it's most effective when it's spread around. With blackmail, Warrandyte-style, money will zoom around the village.

'Word spreads quicker in Warrandyte than a smile on an Avon lady.'

The trouble with common or garden blackmail is that it's like the dreaded chain letter. It runs out of steam after the first payout. My fiendish idea is that the chain letter should go on and on with the same money fertilising the commu-

nity's welfare as it is passed from pocket to car boot, hollow log to a jam tin under the bus stop seat to the *Diary* box on the old tree and thence to my bank account. It's called New Age economics.

Admittedly, apart from me, the rest of you haven't got world-annihilating secrets you'll pay millions to not have revealed. But you all have minor anguishes you don't want spread around the traps.

And who knows best your little foibles, your personal preferences, your secrets and your ideological indiscretions? The local shopkeepers!

What secrets does the local hairdresser possess? Who

knows what color your hair really is? Who has intimate knowledge of the state of your skin, the telltale cosmetic surgeon's scars? Just a hint casually dropped into a conversation with the next customer and it'll be unsafe to try a quick circuit of Harry's without attracting knowing looks and cynical sniggers.

I have it on good authority that the men of this fair burg can't be too smug about this. Anyone out there cringing at the mention of Grecian 2000? Perhaps the numeral suggests how much it might be worth for the smiling snipper to stay mum.

And it's not just the hairdresser. Greenies' gardens may harbor all sorts of alien plants, but who but our local nursery people know who buys what? You may think a quick trip to Warran Glen at 8.30am will avoid you being seen. But it's not just the cost that's run up on the till cum information bank computer. Surely it's worth a nominal sum to have all trace of your

clandestine transactions expunged. If the CIA can do it, we can.

As for Pigeon Bank Lane photographers - enough said! And I'm sure Peter Maher could drop a few cupboard tipplers right in it—but would effect amnesia for a reasonable retainer.

Of course, information can be created. I'm sure that within professional parameters, Chris Farmakis may be encouraged to be audibly amazed about how some of our local lads need a more than average supply of condoms.

The potential is limitless. Once the pattern has been created the money will circulate. As it's my idea, I bags first go. You know that seemingly innocent trip Cliff and Judy Green took to Noosa Heads recently? Well...

(Cliff: please make the cheque payable to the below signed, c/o Hotel Tjampuhan, Ubud, Bali.)

ROGER KIBELL

### ELTHAM COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 4th Annual General Meeting of the Eltham Community Health Centre will be held on Tuesday, 15 September 1992 at 7.30 pm at the St Andrews Community Centre, Main Road (corner School Road), St Andrews.

Following the meeting will be a guest speaker, Mrs Edith Morgan from the Older Persons Action Centre, followed by entertainment and supper.

A bus will be available to transport interested people to the meeting leaving from 7 Dudley Street, Eltham. Any persons requiring transportation please contact the Community Health Centre on 431 1333.

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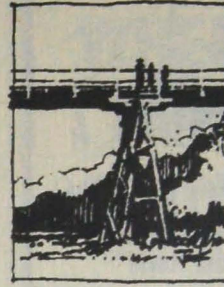


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The future of the Warrandyte Environment League, it's Committee, a change in the management structure, and profile will be discussed informally. Election of office bearers will be the official note of the night, so why not join us? You can even pay your membership at the door.



# Nuts and bolts and bits of wire



## THE WOODEN BRIDGE

By Eve Evans

**T**HERE came a time when I had managed to save 20 pounds, which I kept in a small tin on the kitchen mantelpiece. It had taken me a long time to save even that much, though I had not many accounts to pay, as most of my transactions were done by bartering.

We had no chemist in the village at that time, so I had to order ointments and medicines for the children from the city. Even at that time these were expensive, and often put large holes in my savings.

One day Ellen phoned to say she had heard that a car would be for sale in the little market on the following Monday. She had also learned that the price would be around 25 pounds.

"You told me Evelyn, that you had 20 pounds saved up. I can lend you the rest." She said she had always been uneasy about the raft.

"Oh Ellen, Ellen, I can't believe it! Me with a car!" Then, forcing myself to think soberly, I asked her if she would take us to the market. I couldn't always be asking Roly, first to buy a goat, then a pony. Besides, he knew little about buying either, and would know still less about buying a car.

Ellen agreed and I went to bed that night, dreaming happily of owning a car, and of all the adventuring we could do.

We set off early next morning and found the car already in place with a "For Sale" notice on it. The car looked very much out of place. It was an old 1924 model, the wheels had wooden spokes and very narrow tyres. The canvas hood was torn here and there, and flapped in the breeze like a large bird about to take off. There were no side curtains so we would be at the mercy of the weather.

Presently the owner came towards us. He started the car, and it seemed to run all right. "There you are missus, and a gift it is at this price. Sure, the radiator has a slight leak and the water has to be watched, but you can't expect everything for only 25 pounds."

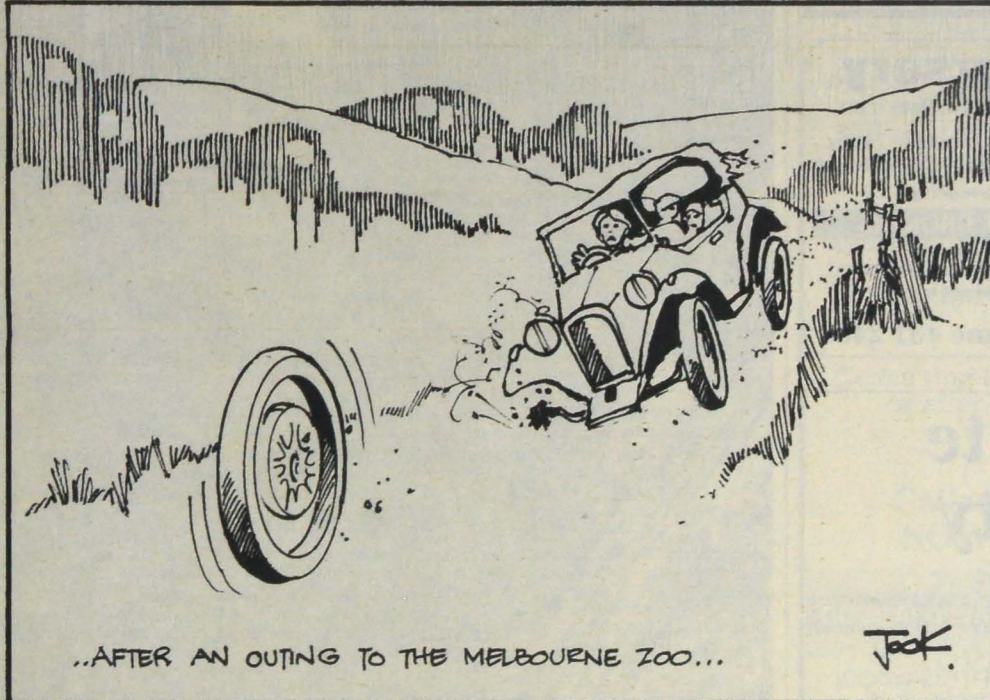
Ellen stood by smiling while I tried bargaining. "You know," I said, "considering the flapping hood and no side curtains, and that the tyres have seen the best of their days, I think you ask too much."

"Make an offer then lady."

"Well, for me, 20 pounds is plenty."

He scratched his head, straightened his greasy cap and said "OK, that's a deal. When you want to go home, come and find me in the sale yard, I'm going to buy a cow. I'll put the car on the road for you."

He did so, and I took over. The car seemed easy enough to drive. It was much the same as the burnt-out truck I had got my licence in. There was no traffic on the road except horses and carts, so I could take my time and get used to it. Ellen drove behind me, and we came at last to the wooden bridge. There, right at the entrance to the



..AFTER AN OUTING TO THE MELBOURNE ZOO...

bridge, the car stopped dead. Ellen and I got out of our cars.

"Look," Ellen said. "You seem to have dropped a few nuts and bolts, and a little stream of oil."

Dismayed, I began to wish fervently that I knew more about engines. We lifted the bonnet and found a piece of wire holding the carburettor up, and here and there a rusty nail holding something or other.

"Oh Ellen what can I do? I can't ask the garage man for help, he'll think me a bigger fool than I really am, and we'll never find that man in the market again. Even if we did I am sure he would not give me back the money. I hope his blasted cow goes dry."

"I know," she said, putting a sympathetic arm around my shoulders, "but you have the registration form that has to be transferred. If we take that to the police station, the policeman might be able to frighten the fellow."

We had one policeman in the village, a kind and friendly man, who always turned a blind eye to minor misdemeanors.

"Before we go there, we had better do something about moving the car," Ellen said. "You know the Conlan brothers just up the road. They might be able to tow it in. They do car repairs in the small workshop they have. If you have to keep this thing, it is possible they might be able to do something with it."

"Yes," I said. "I know them and they do good work."

The village policeman phoned the police in Croydon and gave them the man's address. When the reply came back, it said that the man had left that address and nobody knew where he had gone. Ellen drove us home, disappointed.

It was high summer and the tired, dusty roads walked up and down the hills. In the distance the mountains pushed jaded shoulders up through the heat haze.

Tears did not fall from my eyes, but flooded my heart as I realised I had created another fiasco. First I buy a goat, the Black Bomber, then a circus pony, and now a car held together with nails and bits of wire.

Reaching home I walked into the kitchen and stretched up to the empty tin wherein I had kept my painfully saved 20 pounds, wasted now on a useless heap of junk.

Just then a shadow crossed the window and fingers tapped on the glass. I opened the door and there stood Roly, with Lou beside him. They had heard I had bought the car, and they had come to see it.

"Oh Roly, how quickly news travels in this little village. Yes I bought a car, but it did not come further than the bridge, then it broke down and stopped."

Roly said nothing, but the way he put his cap on and off, and clutched the knees of his trousers with his great broad hands, spoke volumes in sympathy. It took Lou a little time to speak,

and even then, as always, it was difficult for me to understand him. I gathered that he did not believe in modern contraptions like cars. "Orses is better."

Since there seemed no way of finding the man who sold me the car, I was stuck with it. The Conlan boys did the best they could with it. Ellen phoned to tell me when it was ready, and to say that it would not cost me anything for their work.

"How can that be?" I asked her. "Well, they told me that you had taken their old mother into your home when she was sick, and for that they are very grateful. And now Evelyn, next time you pick up a lame dog like her, let me help you, please."

"But Ellen, I must explain. What I do is not entirely selfless. I doubt if it would earn me a crown in heaven, or even a good mark. I don't go looking for people in distress, sometimes they just cross my path. If I help them, it gives me a warm, glowing feeling inside, so that is a bit selfish. The girls Ben sends me to care for add a little to the household budget, and he himself adds more, so you could hardly say that involves any sacrifice."

"Nonetheless, I would like to help."

"But you do Ellen, how often have I had to depend on you to take a girl to hospital when her time was due? You never asked for money for petrol, nor did you complain about the bad roads for your little car."

I often thought I might have been

better off and had less worry if I had stayed with the raft, which by now was beginning to show signs of wear. Either it would have to be renewed, or I must learn more about coping with old cars, as they were the only ones I could afford.

It was all right when a breakdown occurred in or around Warrandyte, and I could get the Conlan boys to help. But when it happened further afield, necessity taught me much. Still, I was never certain whether we would reach our destination and return home without mishap.

Fortunately, traffic was very light in those days, and the old model cars were built of strong steel, which did not crumple as easily as modern cars do, and as their maximum speed was no more than 25 miles per hour, we avoided serious trouble. Nonetheless, we had some strange mishaps.

Once, when we were returning home after an outing to the Melbourne zoo, a wheel came off and went spinning up the road ahead of us, while the car fell gently onto its axle. Fortunately we were only a mile or so from a garage whose owner I knew.

We walked there and found him outside his cottage, looking miserably at a number of plants arrayed on the footpath. His wife had bought them and neither he nor she had any idea how high or wide they would grow or how to place them. I told him about my car, and said that if he would tow it in, I would put the plants in position and give him more to complete his garden.

It was not a matter of just changing a wheel, because some nuts had sheared off. While I arranged the plants, he towed the car in. Then he drove us home and said he would bring the car when it was ready in a couple of days. I told him I would have the plants ready when he came. When I asked the cost, he said, "No charge, what you did in the garden is a fair exchange."

Most of my transactions with the Conlan boys were carried out by bartering. In exchange for any work they did, I let them cut wood for their stove from my heavily timbered land.

We blew gaskets, had gearbox trouble, and broke a clutch spring. On the last occasion two kind men drew up in an empty hearse, put the car in second gear and said, "Don't attempt to change gear and we will drive ahead of you." We drove for some miles that way.

Very often of course, we had worn out batteries and I had to use a crank handle to start the car.

In the end, I did come across a reasonably decent car, a four-door sedan with windows and all. It was for sale very cheap. Nobody wanted it because the owner had committed suicide in it. Possibly people thought his ghost might be sitting up beside them!

To be continued.

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The survival of Warrandyte's birds — like these white-throated Tree Creepers — depends on the health of our trees. (Picture by Wim Kerkhof).

# Lament for our trees

By GLEN JAMESON

Sadly, the trees are dying. Despite the apparent change generally in our attitude towards the value of indigenous trees and environmental matters, the trees don't seem to be listening. There has been an alarming increase in the rate in indigenous tree death locally over the past few years.

It is the indigenous trees such as the Red Box, Yellow Box and Manna Gums that give Warrandyte so much of its character, a sense of place. A decline in our indigenous forest will mean a corresponding demise in one of the main forces that defines us as a community.

As we started to butcher the trees and break up the forest communities, tree decline began its awesome march. Some 20 billion trees across Australia (60 percent of Victoria's forests) have disappeared. Not just trees, but shrubs, grasses and herbs have vanished, along with the mammals, birds, insects and reptile communities that they supported.

All that remains are isolated remnants of forests, of which Warrandyte is a significant urban example. These remnants all across Australia are becoming increasingly vulnerable, no less so in Warrandyte.

Forest remnants have many complex and inter-related pressures bearing upon them and tree decline is a sign that the forests are beginning to fall apart beneath these pressures.

Once great swathes of forest are removed, the remaining trees have to contend with the increased effects of winds. Open cleared paddocks generate greater variances in hot and cold temperatures.

Altered drainage patterns mean too much or too little water. Vehicle damage by compacting of soil and damage to bark occurs on the remnant perim-

eters. Higher levels of nutrients as paddocks are fertilised are a problem, and insect attack increases because of concentration of insects on fewer trees.

As the distance between remnants widens, the genetic flow through the forest is greatly reduced. Genetic pollution through the planting of non-indigenous eucalypts, such as Sugar Gums, will occur. The ability to recolonise any areas by damage control plants is lessened and the remnant's ability to heal itself is diminished.

Broader influences are also at work. Vehicle and manufacturing pollution moves with prevailing winds and so reaches ar-

richness, killing the orchids and more delicate species and stopping the regeneration of the tree species. The smothering effect of the exotic grasses short circuits the dynamics of the forest. If we are not careful to balance the ecological needs of the forest around us then our gardens of pleasure will destroy the forests for millenia to come.

A reduction in the range of species weakens the strength of the forest. Simplifying the ecology breaks the web of life and interrupts the food chain.

An example of the subtle effects of a simplified ecology is in the pollination of the Tiger Orchid which at the moment is

not enough. Planting grevilleas to bring back the birds may be successful, but at the expense of those bush plants that may not be pollinated, and then perish, because the bush birds were feeding in someone's garden. Cootamundra Wattles and Sallow Wattles are not indigenous and threaten the integrity and balance of the local ecosystem. Sweet Pittosporum, a native plant of Gippsland, completely eradicates the community it invades, as it had done frequently in the state park.

To mow up to the trunk of big native trees is to condemn the tree to life without future generations and leave it vulnerable to insect attack. Try to leave an indigenous garden around it with native grasses and small shrubs and hopefully it will be healthier and leave young seedlings for the future.

It will be little patches of our backyards that will be the deciding factor in the future of the mighty Warrandyte forests.

Hopefully this is not just an argument about which is a nicer tree—a Plane or a Eucalypt. We have roses, camellias and such in our garden and enjoy them. But we also have an eye to the future, and to the nature of the place in which we live.

Already many people have decided to put back indigenous plants along our creeks and rivers and in our local reserves. It is a heartening trend, as councils also begin to understand their value and use them in developing their vision for the future.

Maybe we are developing a closer understanding of the spirit of the land. There are beliefs among the Aboriginal peoples that when they die they will be reincarnated as trees. Living trees are therefore the keepers of the soul. Plants are sacred, the healers, the givers and sustainers of life and without them we shall surely perish.

## 'Isolated remnants of forests'

as some distance from where they were produced. The pollution from our vehicles on a single trip to the village shops can still be in the atmosphere 100 years from now.

Effects from ozone depletion and the greenhouse effect are as yet uncalculated, but the shifting nature of the seasons that we seem to be experiencing—drier autumns and winters, with wet summers—is making it increasingly difficult for isolated trees and remnants in general to cope and survive.

The change in seasons has favored an explosion of insect attack upon local trees with longer breeding seasons for insects and higher rates of survival.

The flow of weeds into remnants is a serious problem. Most weeds are coming from our gardens. Weeds not only compete with local species for light, space and nutrients, but disrupt the processes of the forest.

Invasion by exotic grasses into the forests reduces the species

fairly common on bush blocks in Warrandyte.

Orchids produce no pollen and therefore rely on color or floral arrangements or mimicry to attract pollinates. It is thought that Tiger Orchids mimic the colours of the local "egg and bacon" bushes (*Pultanea's* *Dilwynnias* and *Daviesia*) and thereby get pollinating insects through mistaken identity. The "egg and bacon" bushes often need fire to regenerate, so if this is lacking they may disappear. Likewise the orchids.

There are many, many interrelationships between plants, animals and insects. We can contribute greatly to the overall health of our bushlands by growing indigenous plants in our gardens again. Our own gardens are part of the forest thread and just a small section of indigenous plants will help the bush survive. If our gardening practices do not allow or promote the regeneration of young seedlings, we must try and change them. Just to plant 'native' plants is



# North centre needs you

Have you a child at the Yarra View 3-year old kindergarten? Do you belong to one of the North Warrandyte play groups? Maybe you are an interested local resident who would like to be involved in the running of the North Warrandyte Community Centre. The committee of management of the centre is holding its annual general meeting at the centre on Monday, October 12 at 8pm. New members are urgently sought. The hall committee oversees the use and maintenance of the centre. Recent activities have included negotiations with Eltham shire to upgrade the carpark and garden, and working with the shire's emergency management office, the CFA and the police to produce a custom-made display (emergency action plan) for the centre. If you are interested you are most welcome at the AGM. Further information from Marilyn Moore on 844 1072.

## Wonga

Chris Adnam's book, 'A Childhood on Wonga', will be launched at the South Warrandyte Hall, Hall Road, on Sunday, September 27. The book is about the Aboriginal culture and history in the country along the Yarra from Bulleen to Wonga Park. There will be traditional corroboree dancing and didgeridoo performances by the last three descendants of the Yarra Yarra tribe. Activities run from 12noon to 5pm. Entry is free and tea and coffee will be provided. Children are welcome. Copies of the book, signed by the author, will be on sale at \$15 each. A percentage of proceeds will be donated to Royal Children's Hospital. Further information from 735 1185 (after hours).

## Bush dance

The Friends of Warrandyte State Park invite you to a bush dance at the Warrandyte Community Centre on Friday, November 20. Dance to the music of the Hildebrands bush band, with the support of several guest artists. Enquiries to Margaret Bourke on 844 1060.

## Memorial

On Tuesday, September 22 at 2.30pm, a service will be conducted by Rev Sid Smale in the foyer of the Warrandyte Community Centre in memory of Michael Parris. Michael has been well-known around Warrandyte over the past two and half years. Following the service, Michael's favorite music—Creedence Clearwater Revival, the Rogues and the Mamas and Pappas—will be played.



Alice Watson, as we all know and love her. Alice is now recovering from a badly broken leg. She has discarded her walking frame and is now managing with a stick. She looks forward to visits at her unit on the corner of Yarra and Stiggants Streets.

## Classes

Warrandyte Neighbourhood House will be commencing its new term classes on October 12. Enrolments begin on Monday, October 5. Call into the house at the community centre between 10am and 2pm, Monday to Thursday to collect a brochure. A full program is listed at the bottom of this page.

## Books

The Warrandyte Book Exchange, situated in the new community centre, is open Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Sunday afternoons from 1 to 3pm. Books available on all topics. Patronise your local library and help it grow and prosper. Donations of books will be appreciated.

## Arts

Annual subscriptions to the Warrandyte Mechanics Institute and Arts Association are now due. Anyone interested can contact the Membership Secretary, PO Box 150, Warrandyte 3113.

## Travellers

The next meeting of the Neighbourhood House Armchair Travellers Group will be on Wednesday, September 30 from 1.30 to 3pm. Kris Chisholm will speak on the North Island of New Zealand.

## Reserve

A management plan for Warrandyte Reserve, Tarroona Avenue,



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.

is being prepared. The plan will provide a guide for the future use and management of the reserve. A community meeting will be held in the Senior Citizens Centre, Tarroona Avenue, on Monday, September 14 at 7.30pm. Come along and share your ideas for the future of the reserve. A meeting with the clubs who presently use the reserve will be held on Wednesday, September 9 at 7pm at the Council Chamber, 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster. At this meeting, the future plans of these clubs will be discussed. Everyone interested is invited to attend this meeting. Enquiries to Kristen Allen, 840 9269.

## Rotary

The Rotary Club of Warrandyte advises that on Tuesday, September 22, it will hold a combined meeting with the Rotary Clubs of Montrose and District, Lilydale and Bayswater North at Alfred's Homestead Restaurant. Guest speaker will be the Liberal candidate for Mooroolbark, Lorraine Elliot. Visitors are most welcome. Contact Phillip Nutbean on 874 3455 or 722 2025

## Tell us

The Diary is your newspaper and we love to print news of your group's activities. Jot down all the details, including date, time, venue and contact number and drop it in our box on the old cypress tree opposite the State Bank, push it under our door at the community centre or fax it to 844 4168—and we'll do the rest. Just remember we close copy on the last Friday of each month for the issue appearing on the second Friday of the month following.

## For hire

A wide range of spaces is available in our new community centre for hire by groups, individuals and commercial organisations, with special rates for community activities. For meetings, parties, receptions, even weddings. Enquiries to 844 4503 or 844 4501.

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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. Fax: 844 4168

Copy closes last Friday of each month.

# Neighbourhood House program

Fancy yourself as your own motor mechanic? Interested in learning leadlighting or floral art? You can take classes in these and many other subjects during Term 4 at the Warrandyte Neighbourhood House.

Courses begin Monday, October 12, with enrolment week opening on Monday, October 5. Drop in to the Neighbourhood House office in the Warrandyte Community Centre between 10am and 2pm, Monday to Thursday, or phone 844 1839.

Day-by-day, the following term 4 courses are available:

MONDAY: 9.30-10.30am. Gentle Exercise. Start your week off well by coming to our gentle 'keep fit' class. Tutor: Michele Ryan. 10-11.30am. Cottage and Native Gardens. Learn about native and cottage gardens from the designer of our community centre gardens.

10.30am-12noon. Tapestry-Candlewicking. Something to do on a cold winter's night. Tutor: Pam Porteous.

12noon-1pm. Naturopathy. Learn simple home remedies, what to do about allergies and fatigue. Tutor: Corinne Christian.

1-3pm. Sole Parents Group meets.

7-8pm. Yoga and Wellbeing. Learn a holistic approach to feeling good through exercise, relaxation and concentration. Tutor: Pam Egglestone.

TUESDAY: 9.30-11am. Business of Looking Good. Learn about make-up and improving your appearance. Tutor: Pam Andrews.

9.30-10.30am. Hairdressing. Learn to trim your child's hair, use hair coloring, home perm kits and generally keep your hair healthy.

10.30am-12.30pm. Leadlighting. This is a basic leadlighting course. You will need a soldering iron. Tutor: Colin Bentley.

12.30-2.30pm. Massage. Learn therapeutic massage with our warm and sensitive tutor, Gennieve Swann.

1-4pm Bridge Club meets.

7.30-9pm. Positive Action. Would you like to have your needs met more frequently in your family relationships, at work, with friends, or when dealing with sales staff? Tutor: Jacky Gray.

7.30-9pm. Family Violence Support Group. WEDNESDAY: 10am-12noon. Craft Share Group. Come along to this enjoyable morning, learn something new and pass something on—such as Christmas gifts and decorations. \$1 per session.

10am-12noon. Basic Sewing. Learn basic sewing skills. Bring own sewing machine. 1-2.30pm. Basic Drawing and Beginners' Painting. Learn basic drawing skills and the rudiments of painting in oils. Tutor: Peter Dougherty.

1-3pm. Over 40s Out-of-work Group. Come together to help each other with ideas, skills and practical knowledge.

1-2.30pm. Floral Art. You will need Green Oasis, secateurs, scissors, bowl. Tutor: June Stonehouse.

1.30-3pm. Restoration and Basic Woodwork. Learn basic woodworking skills and how to restore that old wooden chair. Tutor: Peter Dougherty.

7.30-10pm. Garden Design. Plan your garden, learn about soils, drainage, fertilisers and watering systems. Tutor: Hilary Sansoni.

7.30-9pm. Enjoy Public Speaking. Learn how to cope with nerves and how to express yourself. Tutor: Anita Baragwanath. THURSDAY: 10am-12noon. Crafty Gifts. Make small gifts, including learning marbelling. Wear old clothes and have a ball! Tutor: Mary Clarke.

1.30-3pm. Better Hearing Group meets. 7-9.30pm Park Care. Everything you want to know about Warrandyte plants. Commences October 22 for a three week course. Faye Vanapis (844 2659).

7.30-9.30pm. Discovering Alternatives. Explore new directions for career or life transition in a calm, relaxed environment. We look at goal-setting confidence building. Tutor: Greg Coffey.

FRIDAY: 9.30-11.30am. Toddlers' Playgroup. Parent attends with child, helping to organise activities and sharing with other parents in the neighbourhood.

1-3pm. Three Year Old Playgroup.

SATURDAY: 2.30pm. Poets' Corner. Monthly. Tutor: Beth Gallagher. 1-4pm. Model Railway Club meets.



# Court cliffhangers

## A long day's Friday night!

By CLINTON GRYPAS

It was a night of high drama for two of Warrandyte Basketball Club's three teams in the recent Friday night championship grand finals.

Gavin Whitmore's Under-12AR boys recorded a thrilling victory against the Melbourne Tigers in a game so close it needed extra time to separate the teams.

Forced to bounce back after trailing by eight points early, Warrandyte stormed clear on a 19-2 run highlighted by some magnificent three-point shooting from Lachlan McDonald and stunning drives by Andrew Moore.

Then it was the Tigers' turn, a run of their own ending with a three-pointer in the last second, forcing extra time.

The Redbacks had to regroup, and did so with great maturity. Craig Dick sealed it for Warrandyte with three inside baskets for a 46-43 final scoreline.

It was a landmark victory for the Redback boys, who became the highest graded team to win a premiership for Warrandyte.

The 14B boys coached by Peter Messerle also won a nailbiter. They dominated early against the Blackburn Vikings and a 14-5 lead at half-time appeared to have set up a comfortable win.

Terrence Baranello was proving to be the difference between the two sides, his game-high 12



The "near-miss" Warrandyte High girls and coach Evan Zigmantas.

## A matter of time

The bell rang 20 seconds too late for Warrandyte High School last month—and cost it a major basketball title.

In that time, Montmorency grabbed the lead (and victory) from the Warrandyte intermediate girls' team in the final of the Victorian "AllHigh" competition.

The Warrandyte girls, aged 14-15 and coached by Year 12 student Evan Zigmantas, had qualified for the finals series by winning the Eastern Zone VSSA pennant on July 24 at Nunawading Basketball Stadium. There is no shortage of experience among

them—they play for Warrandyte Redbacks at weekends.

Warrandyte went into the big event at Albert Park confident in the knowledge that the team they had beaten in the Eastern Zone grand final had been runners-up at state level the previous year.

They accounted for Warrnambool and Korumburra in the games leading up to the final and were beaten by just two points by Montmorency in a desperate finish.

Despite the loss, it was Warrandyte High School's best performance in basketball.

points complementing his dominance of the rebounds.

The Vikings hit back hard after the interval and tied the score at 22-all before Trevor Boag regained the lead for Warrandyte.

With just seconds to go, the Vikings narrowly missed a shot which would have forced the game into overtime and the Redbacks survived 25-23.

The other Warrandyte team to make the grand finals, Paul Haskings' 16B boys, were well beaten by the Bulleen Boomers.

The Boomers quickly ran to a 19-4 lead before Richard Kyne led a Warrandyte comeback of sorts. But his eight points stemmed the tide only temporarily and the Boomers had 24 points (40-16) to spare at the end.

The Wasps, Warrandyte Netball Club's big achievers, completed an undefeated season by taking the Open B section grand final of the Doncaster and District winter competition.

They were the only winners among five Warrandyte teams to make it through to the grand finals, but it could so easily have been a treble. Two other sides were beaten by just a goal.

The Wasps had dominated their section all season but had to summon the full kit of skills and teamwork to defeat a very determined Donvale team by two goals.

Emily Green, Sharni Leon and Nicole Wilson combined well in defence and Zoe Longworth, Carla Spence and Joelle Thompson provided the drive from centre.

That left it to shooters Amy Thompson and Carissa Gall, who capitalised on their opportunities with persistence and some great rebound work.

The Wizards, Warrandyte's Open C representatives, faced Deep Creek in the grand final without two of their regular contributors. Julia Edwards had broken her nose and dislodged front teeth in a fall at school a few days before the game and Florea Lowe was ruled out with a sprained ankle.

Coach Deidre Smart filled in on court for half the game and the girls responded magnificently to their challenge. They matched it with Deep Creek all the way before going down by

# Wasps are winners all the way

the solitary goal.

It was also a case of "so near and yet" for the Warrandyte Jaffas in the Under-17 (2) grand final against DYC Pumas.

The team—Claire Provan, Casey Brent, Kylie Allardice, Britt Barrow, Louise Milton, Miki Colvin, Vanessa Keuneman and Suzie Edwards—had played fine netball all season but went down by the single shot in the big one.

The Wildcats (Michelle Anderson, Kristy Lund, Anna Gigliotti, Sharon Berry, Claire Winters, Veronica Phillips, Miranda Kenney and Leanne Dreger) had worked exceptionally hard under coach Sue Anderson to make the grand final of the Under-15 (3) section, but were outclassed on the day by Nunawading.

It was the last game with the Wildcats for Miranda and Veronica, who are leaving Warrandyte. Katherine Mirabella will fill one of the vacancies for

the spring season.

The Under-13 (2) Woodpeckers, Warrandyte's youngest team in the grand finals, drew special praise from the umpires, who described them as "an inspiration and a delight to watch".

Matched against the taller and older Donvale Stars, and missing the services of shooter Erin Lynch, the Woodpeckers lost by six goals but won a host of admirers.

Claire Burbidge, Chelsea Tobin and Angela Prokop intercepted strongly and across the centre, Sarah Murray, Seri Davis and Leanne George fed shooters Amy Green and Kym Swain beautifully. Amy and Kym were real inspirations.

Warrandyte's Under-11 teams, Wagtails and Waratahs, finished the season strongly. Their enthusiasm and energy have considerably developed their skills, teamwork and sportsmanship.

## Quite a year for our Kylie

Kylie Gangell, who has been playing, umpiring and coaching the game in this town since she was nine years old, has won Warrandyte Netball Club's top award for 1992.

Kylie's association with the club spans 16 years, the last four as coach of the Under-17 Jaffas, whom she took into the grand final of the winter competition last month.

Her award, which she received at the club's presentation day on August 30, was just another highlight of what has already been a crowded year—a year which has seen her

graduate as a Bachelor of Arts, become engaged, and buy a house. She is to marry on September 26.

All girls who had represented Warrandyte in the grand finals received trophies on presentation day and all under-11 players received club medals for their participation.

The day ended with the parents taking the court to demonstrate the netball skills they had picked up from watching their daughters in action.

(See Smokey Joe's report on Page 2).

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# Bloods outclassed by the class of '92

## Recruits boost Dytes' chances

Warrandyte Cricket Club will be fielding new faces when the 1992-93 season starts on October 3.

When this edition of the *Diary* went to press, senior captain-coach John Sharman was negotiating with a well-credentialed batsman and a fast bowler/batsman from other competitions.

And the premier women's team has added three new players to its list, offsetting the loss of quick bowler Sharon Egeberg, who has moved to the Northern Territory.

Warrandyte will be represented in the new season by six men's teams, the women's eleven (promoted to VWCA pennant reserve) and four junior sides and club president Mark Davis predicts a considerable improvement on 1991-92 results.

"I think our first eleven will be stronger and we can expect better performances right through the senior grades," Davis said.

"John (Sharman) is very confident and anxious to get on with things.

"We will be losing all-rounder Tony Sturesteps, who is going overseas, but we believe we have picked up a couple of very promising players and we have welcomed back a few of the younger local guys (including Colin Dorning) who did not play last season.

"We are also aware that the other top clubs have each lost at least one key player from last season.

The club is holding senior and women's training on Sunday mornings at the sports complex on the corner of Reynolds and Springvale Roads and welcomes any new players wanting to try out.

It is particularly keen to strengthen the ranks of the under-16s, resurrected after a season's absence.

Planning for a 1993 Warrandyte football premiership began immediately after the Bloods' failed attempt to win the 1992 flag in the EDFL third division grand final at Waverley on September 5.

Warrandyte were outclassed by 66 points by the invincible Donvale United, but the disappointment in the clubrooms that night was tempered with optimism for next season.

"Sure, Donvale were the outstanding team all season, but we were clearly the second-best," Warrandyte Football Club president Laurie Sloan told the *Diary*.

"There will be no Donvale in third division next season and I firmly believe we can win the premiership."

So does outgoing coach David Purcell, who led the Bloods to fourth and second in his two years at the helm.

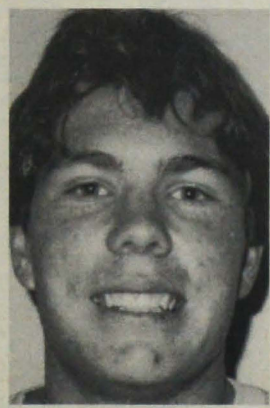
"Every dog has his day, and ours is coming," said Purcell, who will continue next year as a player.

"Donvale are a very good side, but take the last quarter of the grand final out of it, the quarter in which they really got on top, and I was very proud of our boys."

"This is a very good club and they know there is something just around the corner."

Warrandyte's immediate task is to find senior and reserves coaches for 1993 to replace Purcell and Glen Welsh. The positions will be advertised.

"And we won't be waiting until the new year to recruit players," Sloan said. "We'll be talking with new players from now on." Warrandyte will start 1993 well ahead



Dale Vitiritti, best of the beaten grand finalists.

## SPORT

of this year. The club were without a president until Sloan, who had held the position from 1973-80, stepped in at an extraordinary meeting in February. Neither did they have a secretary.

Sloan has already announced that he will be standing again and Norm Carrington will be available again as secretary after a 12-month break. Vice-president Geoff Feltham will also stand for another term.

"We started from scratch this year," Sloan said, "and I can't say enough about David Purcell, who held the players—and virtually the club—together in the absence of an executive."

"The committee was undermanned all season, leaving all the work to just a few, but we will be in much better shape to tackle the job of winning the premiership next season."

"Considering what we started with, I'm proud that Warrandyte made the grand final this year."

Donvale put the grand final writing on the wall with a flying start against the Bloods. The hot favourites had three goals on the board before Warrandyte had got warm. They were playing in front and already hunting in packs.

It took the Bloods 13 minutes to get on to the scoreboard with a goal from Brad Valentine and when Purcell was freed in front there was only eight points in it.

Donvale stretched the margin to 27 points at the first change but Warrandyte all but held their own in the second quarter, with desperate defence and goals to Darren Murphy and Purcell. Still, the feeling persisted that the Donvale floodgates might open at any time.

The Bloods were 33 points adrift at half-time but held Donvale to just two goals and kicked two themselves to be still in with a very outside chance.

Purcell urged his players at three-quarter time to bore in and take chances in the final term, but Donvale were far too professional.

It rained goals for them early in the quarter and it took the Bloods 14 minutes to trouble the Donvale defence at all. Goodnight Warrandyte. Goodbye premiership.

Best of the Bloods were Dale Vitiritti, James Weatherly, Purcell, Kimberley O'Connor, Dale Comrie and Ashley Grybas.



Three of the best. Best and fairest placegetters (from left) Brad Valentine, Glen McCartin and Kimberley O'Connor.

Ruckman Kimberley O'Connor has won Warrandyte Football Club's best and fairest award for the second year in a row.

O'Connor, 22 and in his first season as Bloods captain, polled 48 votes at the August 20 count to beat rover Glen McCartin by eight. Wingman Brad Valentine, an outstanding young prospect, was third, with 30 votes.

James Weatherly and Darren Murphy were fourth and fifth, with 25 and 24 respectively.

O'Connor, who started his football with the local under-10s and graduated through the junior ranks (collecting best and fairest trophies along the way), was a hot favorite for his second consecutive senior award.

He agreed after the count that this had been a "more consistent season" for him.

The reserves award went to 17-year-old utility player Mark Harbolt, who was recruited from Doncaster early this year.

Harbolt, who started the season in the under-18s and finished it in the seniors, polled 32 votes to beat David Joy by nine. Mark Papez and Steve Warr tied for third, with 21. Ruckman Dale Versteegen polled 18 votes to

## Kim counts them out!

win the under-18s best and fairest by two from ruck-rover Michael Ramsay. Centreman Justin Shadur was third, with 10.

The under-18s coach's award went to Lee New, the best first-year player trophy to Steve Bell and most improved to Rob Punshon. Stuart Logan won the president's award.

Senior and reserves trophies will be presented at the Park Orchards Chalet on Show Eve (September 23). Tickets to presentation night are \$50 a double and \$27 single. They are available at the clubrooms or from committee members.

## The Goldtown showdown

The finals of Warrandyte Tennis Club's Goldtown Open tournament will be played this Sunday, September 13, at the Tarroona Avenue courts.

Top seed in the men's open section is local professional Ian Peter-Budge. Sharon Bottrell is top-seeded woman player.

The Goldtown Open is a five star tournament in the Victorian Tennis Association's calendar and is a lead-up event to the Victorian satellite series.

The sponsors, Biscote Britania, have increased prize money to \$5,000.

According to tournament organiser Tom Kerkhof, entries in all sections have reached nine-year record levels.

"We've got 89 players competing in the men's open event and 56 in the women's," he said. "And we're predicting some first-class contests on finals day."

In the recently concluded Eastern Metropolitan Lawn Tennis Association winter season, three Warrandyte teams reached their semi-final matches and two went on to score premierships flags.

These were Mixed 5—Ruth Rankin, Barbara McBain, Penny

Kerhof, Ian Moore, Mike Howell and Richard Lowe; and Mixed 17—Tim Oriander, Charlie Freedman, Gwenda Ennis, Heather Farmer and Kathy Ewart.

Ten out of the 12 junior teams fought through to their final rounds, but none achieved premiership honors.

Club championship matches are now being concluded and club officials are moving into top gear in preparation for the Victorian Satellite Masters tournament, to be played at Tarroona Avenue in November.

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# The Professionals



## We have the home buyers

We have plenty of buyers on our books wanting to buy property in this area. If you are thinking of selling call us NOW ...you won't get a better chance.



### "GREAT INVESTMENT"

\$145,000

**C**entrally located, this as new chic home would ideally suit the entertaining executive or shrewd investor. Features spacious lounge, hostess kitchen, F/T family area with access to large rear decking complete with 8 person spa bath. Landscaped gardens, garage and large rear yard complement this fine home. Inspection highly recommended.



### "EXECUTIVE LIVING"

\$250,000

**A** modern open-planned home on 1/2 acre in a private, quiet location awaits the discerning buyer. Featuring 3 large bedrooms, two bathrooms, study, cellar, spacious lounge, modern kitchen, large family, separate formal lounge - inspection highly recommended.



### "POSITION AND POTENTIAL"

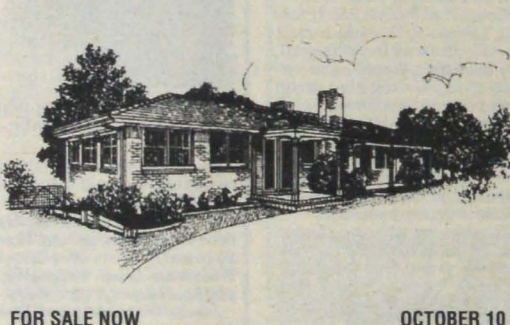
\$180,000+

**I**n a quiet court location, this immaculate four bedroom home is priced for a quick sale. Double garage, landscaped garden, open fireplace and pine-lined ceilings are some of the features of this lovely family home. Inspection a must!



### "GOOD OLD FASHIONED VALUES"

**O**ffering the charm and character of a bygone era, this family home features a country-style kitchen, 3 bedrooms, 2 open fireplaces, high ceilings and a large rear deck for those lazy summer days. Adjoining the state forest the SEVEN cleared, fully fenced acres are home to kangaroos, native flora and fauna. This peaceful property in a quiet location would ideally suit the horse enthusiast.

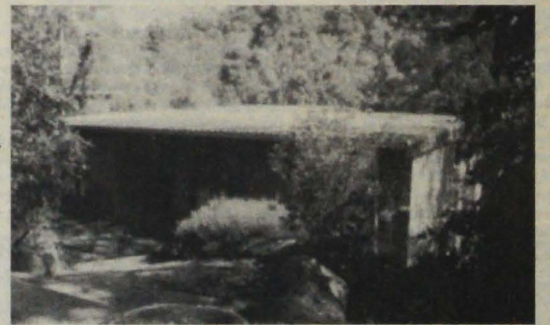


FOR SALE NOW  
OR AUCTION

OCTOBER 10  
AT 2.30pm

### "SUNNY ACRES"

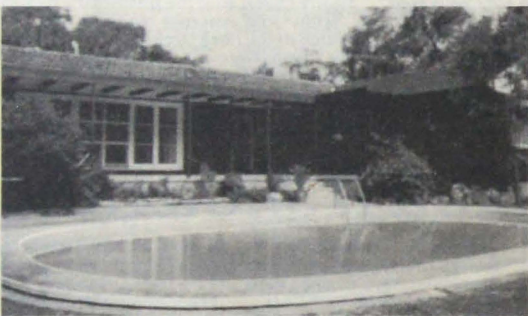
**O**ne and a half sunny gently sloping acres accommodates this elegant 4BR colonial home, menage, double stable and feed shed and pool with deck. Home comprises formal lounge/dining, family room with OFP, full ensuite and dressing/sewing room in main bedroom, large tiled patio and huge studio. Value for \$200,000+ buyers.



### "THE SECRET GARDEN"

\$160,000

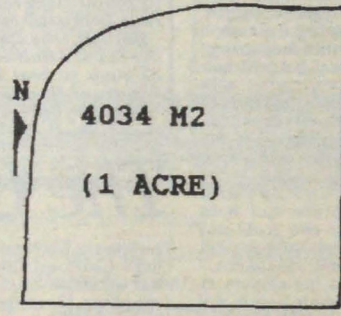
**T**ucked away in a quiet culdesac. This family home offers four good sized bedrooms, two bathrooms, spacious kitchen and an enormous family room. Realistic vendors have asked for us to present all offers. Be quick as this home won't last.



### "HORSE HEAVEN"

\$300,000+

**D**own a quiet country lane, opposite the State Park, this 5 acre allotment would ideally suit the horse enthusiast. Divided into 7 main paddocks all electric fenced, plus 2 stables, yards and feed room. The home features 3 bedrooms (BIR), large lounge/dining, kitchen and FT bathroom. All sited amongst well established gardens complete with inground pool and sprinkler system. This property is worthy of your inspection.



WARRANTYTE  
AUCTION

SATURDAY 17 OCTOBER  
AT 2.00pm

### "DON'T DREAM, DO IT"

**A** choice acre with a naturally treed outlook in one of Warrantyte's most prestigious locations. A great opportunity to secure this prime allotment. Phone today for your inspector.



### "VENDOR MUST SELL"

**S**ecure this brand new shop in this sought after location, to be sold with a guaranteed tenancy. This investment would ideally suit the retired person looking for the security in Real Estate. This investment must be sold, all offers are invited. BE QUICK - WILL NOT LAST!



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## Peter McDougall

— Rental Properties Urgently Required —

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**PETER McDOUGALL & ASSOCIATES PTY LTD**

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