

GOLDFIELDS PLAZA

WARRANDYTE

DIARY

No. 248, October 1993

WARRANDYTE HARDWARE

844 2622

PRICELESS

23rd year

For the community, by the community

Advertising: 431 2048

Editorial: 844 3719

Fax: 844 4168

Our 'go slow' project speeds up!

By CLINTON GRYBAS

Mounting concern over the escalating pace of traffic in Warrandyte has led to renewed calls for reduced speed limits.

Fears for both wildlife and human safety have caused residents to call on Doncaster council to enforce speed limits—and to lower them—particularly along Yarra Street and surrounding side roads.

Cr Vern Denford told the *Diary* that the issue has been raised constantly in council over recent months, but any VicRoads response to road planning reports "always seems to contain a reason as to why they can't do anything".

He labelled Yarra Street's speed limit through town as excessive, with the road being "of such a low standard" for the traffic using it.

While he conceded that small measures were being taken to "define the roads much better" his worries also include the policing of current limits. He hoped that would be soon rectified however, through council approval of funding for a radar gun for Warrandyte police.

Despite council's initial rejection of the motion, Cr Denford believes there is now sufficient support for it to be passed. "There's money in the budget to increase safety, so we certainly want to raise it again," he said.

Residents have also expressed concern at speed limits in and around town.

Joan McMahon was incensed that Warrandyte Road's maximum was increased to 80kmh leading into town.



JOCK'S COMMENT: Page 6

"Crossing supervisor Sue Anderson was quoted as saying that 60kmh is too much, yet behind her back it actually increases to 80. People in Warrandyte want speed limits dropped, yet we're getting these big increases on the outskirts of town and it's just crazy. Eighty is totally inappropriate for that curvy, hilly road. It's madness and I don't know how they can justify it."

Wet and slippery conditions combined to cause havoc there last month, when serious injury was only narrowly avoided in

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40 SLOW DOWN FOR WARRANDYTE

Warrandyte Diary - Community Newspaper



Children crossing in Yarra street. A 60 kmh limit can leave insufficient time for traffic to stop. (Picture by Jan Tindale)



Speed and a slippery surface took their toll in Warrandyte Road, above the West End. (Picture by Clinton Grybas)

two accidents within a week.

Mrs McMahon also cited a comparison with other suburbs and their limits. "They've got 60 posted on Everard Drive. It's a joke. Sixty is okay for suburbs where you've got good road vision, two lanes each way, footpaths—you haven't even got footpaths here."

Horse riding activist Malcolm Jefferyes is another who fears for people's safety on our roads, particularly horse riders who are being forced to ride on them. "The roads around here are crazy. It's inevitable that a kid will be killed," he said. (See story Page 5.)

The continuing danger to Warrandyte's wildlife has led Doncaster council's landscape architect Craig Eldridge to pro-

duce a plan to lower the speed limit on Jumping Creek Road.

Research has found that 14 kangaroos have been killed on that road alone in the past three and a half years, and a submission to VicRoads to lower the maximum to 60kmh will be lodged soon.

If the submission succeeds, it's likely that Johansons Road will also come under scrutiny, and steps will proceed to reduce that to 40kmh.

Six wombats have been killed there in the past two months.

• Meanwhile, *Diary* readers are being urged to show their support for the campaign—and help slow local traffic—by displaying the Slow Down For Warrandyte bumper stickers being distributed with this issue.

Welcome back!

A warm welcome awaits past residents returning for the historical society's Back-To-Warrandyte Reunion, this weekend, October 9 and 10.

Following registration and a barbecue lunch, MP Phil Honeywood will open proceedings at 2pm. The day concludes with a supper dance at the Mechanics Institute.

Guided tours to the cemetery and goldmines will follow church services on Sunday. A picnic lunch by the river will precede an old-time concert at the Senior Citizens



clubrooms. All-weekend events include a photographic display at the community centre, pottery demonstrations at the old fire station and a display of photographs and memorabilia at Warrandyte Primary School.

★ Full program: Page 12

CYRIL

By PAUL WILLIAMS



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WARRANDYTE DIARY

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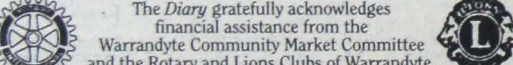
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Copy closes last Friday of each month

What's On at the WARRANDYTE COMMUNITY CENTRE

October 11 - November 29:
Warrandyte Youth Services' Parenting Teenagers Program

October 17: Warrandyte Lions Club Health Survey, 11am to 4pm

October 27: Warrandyte Advisory Committee Annual General Meeting, 8pm

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Off to Port Fairy (in a roundabout way)

Lynne Higgins, of Yarra Street, was armed with elementary instructions when she got behind the wheel to visit former locals Rod and Kerrie Le Gassick at Port Fairy. "When you get near the Westgate Bridge, look for a Highway 1 sign," said Mick O'Kane, her very best mate. "That's Princes Highway and you just follow it. Can't go wrong." Well, Lynne found Princes Highway all right and even found a bus to follow which had "Great Ocean Road" written on it. Only when she saw the sign "Frankston" did she suspect she might have turned left instead of right way back at the bridge! Lynn phoned Mick from a call box for confirmation, did a U-turn, eventually found Port Fairy and spent two very pleasant days with the Le Gassicks at their caravan park.

Trish and Bob Millington's new address at the Bend of Isles is what you might call out of the way—so much so that the police spent a couple of hours fruitlessly searching for it on the night of September 23. Funny, but the burglars had had no trouble finding it when they'd struck some time earlier, while the Millingtons were out, and relieved the house of about \$1000 worth of stuff. The Yarra Glen police managed to find the place next morning. Makes you wonder who are the smarter, the cops or the robbers. Just joshing, officer—and of course we'll have a few tickets to the Policemen's Ball!

How dare that bus driver take the law into his own hands and show a little common-sense and compassion! It was an after-dark run from the city and the young bloke at a stop in Studley Park Road realised he had the wrong number. "You don't set down before Kew Junction, do you?" he asked. Now just about everyone knows those buses don't set down before the end of the tramlines at North Balwyn. It's one of those rules that must be obeyed and we've seen drivers take little old ladies all the way there, miles beyond their destination, and apparently enjoy it. But not this driver. He motioned the young bloke aboard, dropped him off a few stops later—and the world didn't end! The Met would probably crucify the driver for inciting anarchy if they could identify him. We think they should put him in charge of their public relations department.

Warrandyte Cellars' latest nosh 'n splash night at Pancakes On The Yarra late last month was, as always, a splendid affair. d'Arry Osborn of d'Arenberg in McLaren Vale was cellar master Peter Maher's featured winemaker. Smokey's spy commented that his favorite tipples on the night were the Ironstone Pressings, composed ap-

IN RED & WHITE



Noble rot: Cellarmaster Peter Maher (left), d'Arry Osborn of d'Arenberg and Ian Biram of Bradleys Lane.

parently of the skins, stalks and pips (which says a lot about said spy's palette) and the Noble Riesling, a luscious concoction made from grapes left on the vine to rot. Talking of nobility, d'Arry explained that they're pretty sure they're descended from the Prussian ducal line of d'Arenberg. On the wrong side of the silken sheet, of course. "They enjoy our wines," d'Arry explained, "but they still refer to us as the bastards of the family." As one princely d'Arenberg actually shot through to South America on the defeat of Nazi Germany at the end of WW2, we doubt if the Australian branch of the family contains the real bastards.

John McCartin told guests at Warrandyte Football Club's Presentation Night at the Park Orchards Chalet on October 1 that president Lawrie Sloan had won the evening's worst tie award for the past 18 years. And there was no way he was going to surrender the title. Lawrie's selection this time was a stunning red bow job which went magnificently with the red-and-white stripes of his shirt. He has promised Smokey one from the next litter.

The footy premiership celebrations are now but memories of very severe hangovers—but what fun they were. Monday, September 6—the day after the Bloods' glorious victory—was memorable for the players' centre-street march on the office of Peter McDougall, the major sponsor, to present him with a couple of bottles of champagne and for the number of times the alternative (blue) club song was sung. We admired the law-abiding spirit of Noddy Ireland, who arrived for the pub celebrations

with his bed for the night already made up in the back of his van. Not that he realised it at the time, but poor Noddy damn near froze after a couple of pranksters sneaked across to the carpark after his bedtime and opened the van doors wide. And if you heard the scurrilous rumour that the players did a naughty lap of honour at the ground in the early hours of Monday morning, it is perfectly true.

The name Vic Grybas crops up so often in this column because he has a penchant for doing and saying the sort of things on which Page 2 thrives. We think he might be making a run for John (Porky) Smith's mantle as Smokey's favorite subject. Anyhow, Vic woke one recent Saturday morning and suggested to wife Sandra it would be a nice if she got up and brought him breakfast in bed. To which Sandra replied that yes, it would be nice, but seeing how she'd worked all week and had shopped until nine on Friday night, and seeing that he hadn't done an honest day's toil since he took the Telecom retirement package many months ago, any breakfast in bed that day would be made by him for her. We're told the debate ended in a nil-all draw, Vic getting his breakfast and Sandra hers. We're also told that in the interests of productivity in the Grybas household, they're going to buy Vic a barrel of yeast for Christmas to see if he'll work in that.



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SHOP LOCALLY

West End: think tank time

By DAVID WYMAN

A committee to study improvements to Warrandyte's West End shopping centre and its surroundings has already met twice and is hopeful of presenting a concept plan to the community by Christmas.

The committee is formally known as the Warrandyte West End Improvement Study committee and consists mostly of local residents.

Doncaster and Templestowe council decided to undertake the study after concerns were expressed about the West End during discussions of the Warrandyte township improvement study in 1989.

The committee has already focussed on some of the long-standing problems in the area. According to the council's strategic planner, Ben de Waard, the committee has identified the following main issues:

- Traffic and pedestrian circulation, including the use of the Goldfields Plaza carpark by parents collecting children from Andersons Creek Primary School.

- The future of the open area around and between the hardware store and the pedestrian lights in Heidelberg-Warrandyte Road.

- Ways of linking the shops for pedestrians.

"The centre is now in two sections—Goldfields Plaza and all the other shops," Ben de Waard said. "The committee is looking at ways of tying them together for better pedestrian use."

Other minor issues being considered are the use of certain service facilities in the area, untidy pockets and signage.

Mr de Waard said it was expected the committee's life would be no more than six months. "We hope to present a concept plan for discussion by the end of the year. This would be the first stage in trying to solve problems in the area; a start in arriving at a final plan."

Council background papers on townscape improvement studies state that such studies are undertaken "to create a more attractive environment and neighbourhood centre image, so as to attract financial benefits in the form of increased turnover, expanded range of shops and higher leasing levels and employment".

But the background papers also note that "the West End shops area is unlikely to experience a high level of future development (there are no vacant commercially zoned lots)".

The papers also point out that the townscape improvement studies are more concerned with improving the visual appearance of a place.

Doncaster council had no problem in receiving nominations for places on the Warrandyte West End Townscape Improvement Study committee. "We advertised in local papers for nominations for trader and community representatives and we came up easily with the right number of people," Mr de Waard said.

Locally resident committee members are: David Dyason (chairman), landscape designer; Karen Mizzi, representing Andersons Creek Primary School; Marcus Van Gulick, member of a local body corporate; John Roberts, accountant based in the West End, representing the traders' association; Warran Lloyd, student; Ian Domeyer of the deli and liquor store.

Council staff members on the committee include: Ben de Waard, Jane Marriott (urban designer) and Nick Ghasperidis (traffic engineer).

The Warrandyte community can have direct input into the study by telephoning Ben de Waard on 840 9469, or any of the committee members. A public meeting may also be held.



Grey skies over the West End: New council study should lead to improvements in this badly degraded area. (Picture by Jan Tindale)

Undercover art goes on parade

Warrandyte Primary School Grade 1 pupil Anastasia Clendinnen has won \$200 for her school in the Commonwealth Bank's Dollarmite competition.

Anastasia's drawing took out the Victorian first prize, and will now be forwarded for national judging, where it could win another \$200. Grade 4 student Chris Chapman was a runner-up.

The children were asked to either draw and color a suitable picture, or write a Dollarmite adventure story.

In other activities, all the school's students marked Book Week with a book fair in the library, together with a parade on the theme "Go Undercover".

Students put a lot of effort into their entries for the "Go Undercover" book parade.



Bus funds denied

By GEORGI STICKELS

The Warrandyte Community Transport Group has been refused funding for an additional bus leaving it unable to meet, in full, the demand for its services.

The problem arose when Warrandyte High School approached the group with requests to assist students travelling to and from North Ringwood, Park Orchards, Warrandyte and South Warrandyte.

The school said there was a lack of public bus services in these areas.

The group's two buses are used to capacity already, transporting school children to and from schools and excursions. The senior citizens also use the bus regularly for swimming and other activities.

"Other groups using the bus from time to time in the evenings and throughout the day are the local day care centres and the various kindergartens,"

the group's president, Colin Bentley, told the *Diary*.

The Transport Group approached local MP Phil Honeywood, who lobbied the Transport Minister, Alan Brown, on their behalf. Mr Brown recently informed Mr Honeywood that it could not provide Warrandyte with another community bus.

However, Mr Brown said the Public Transport Corporation may be able to deal directly with Warrandyte High to find a solution.

The Warrandyte Community Transport Group runs two community buses, seating 20 and 45 people each, which were purchased with the aid of State Government grants in 1987 and 1991, but a good deal of their funds, including ongoing maintenance costs, come from the community. Mr Bentley said these were barely met by the fees charged to the bus users.

Centre carpark is available for all comers

Patrons attending the drama group production at the Mechanics' Institute Hall one Saturday night last month were shocked when a uniformed security guard, armed with a baton, ordered them from the community centre carpark.

The guard claimed to be acting on orders from persons who had booked the public function area of the centre for a 21st birthday party. He informed people that the entire carpark had been booked for the party, and hall patrons had to park elsewhere.

Although angry and upset, most followed his instructions. However, at least one group insisted the area was a public carpark, and parked there anyway.

Enquiries the following morning revealed that the centre carpark is indeed a public area, and no-one should have been excluded.

The party organisers had

not been given exclusive use of the carpark, and the guard was acting without the authority of the centre management committee.

"I want to apologise to the public for the confusion and for any inconvenience caused," Cr Bill Penrose, management committee chairman, told the *Diary*. "The carpark is freely available for users of the hall, or for anyone else, for that matter."

"The formal, bitumenised area of the carpark is available on a first-come, first-served basis. However, the smaller, gravelled area is intended for use by community centre patrons, if they so choose, and chains can be put across to secure it for this purpose. Users of the centre can get a key from the manager, but they must police this area themselves."

"Under no circumstances should the public be excluded from the rest of the carpark."

CITY OF DONCASTER & TEMPLESTOWE



Colman Park Committee of Management

Annual General Meeting

Thursday, 7 October, 1993 - 8pm
South Warrandyte Hall, Hall Road,
Warrandyte South, 3113
Enquiries to Secretary on 844 3368

**Annual General Meeting
Warrandyte Advisory Committee**

DATE: Wednesday, 27th October 1993
VENUE: Warrandyte Community Centre
Cnr Yarra & Webb Streets, Warrandyte
TIME: 8pm

★★★★★

Two Community Representative positions are up for election.

Nominations in writing to:
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SLOW DOWN FOR WARRANDYTE!

Police at fire were only doing a job

At the recent bushfire at Bradleys Lane (1991) this area was very fortunate in not having any deaths. However, due to major disagreements that resulted within the community after the fire, the coroner decided to have an inquiry.

Many residents, on hearing that a fire might be threatening their home or family, rushed back to rescue what they could or to defend their home. Some people had elderly or very young people at home and were rightly worried.

However, they were stopped at the bridge and refused entry into the area. To further complicate the difficult situation, the police on the road block were unable to supply any information about the fire—where it was going, how big it was, when locals could get through, etc.

Since Ash Wednesday, we have heard many reports that state a home can be defended and in fact many homes are lost after the fire passes, started by minor residual burns which can be put out with buckets of water. This must have been very frustrating for people standing at that bridge, seeing the smoke in the direction of their homes.

Why did the police stop able-bodied people, quite capable of looking after themselves, and possibly able to be of major service to the fire fight and rescue?

The answer, I am afraid, is because we, the people of this shire and every other person in Australia, have asked them to do exactly that.

Over the years the police and other services have been se-

verely criticised whenever they have failed to take action to stop people putting themselves, their neighbors or anyone else into a risky situation, and this fire was very risky. It was only a very lucky wind shift that averted a major disaster.

The understandable attitude of the police, after being told they are responsible for our lives, must be to reduce the number of people in a dangerous situation.

In some cases, it is obvious that the person wishing to enter a fire zone would be capable of rescuing his or her children or mother and saving the house, but no young policeman on a roadblock can be given the authority to make that judgement. Also it is impossible to feed him sufficient information to judge the danger of any fire in any given locality.

A community action group has been formed in North Warrandyte to try and suggest some solutions to this problem, and I believe that many worthwhile suggestions will come forward. Outer boundaries, information centres, car stickers and radio broadcasting are ideas that will be worked through and I wish them every success.

But please remember that when you are next blocked from entry to a fire zone the policemen get no thrill, enjoyment or any other benefit from stopping you, other than knowing that it is at least one more life he has potentially saved.

Cr Bill Penrose
Shire of Eltham

Give us one burn a year

I feel compelled to write regarding a recent change in the City of Doncaster and Templestowe by-laws, concerning the banning of fires for the purpose of burning rubbish.

We recently applied for a permit to burn off an accumulation of combustible rubbish in preparation for the coming fire season, only to be advised that this is no longer possible, I assume in the interests of clean air.

It is obvious that yet again the council are applying rules for suburbia to the special needs of Warrandyte, and I wonder if the CFA were consulted on this issue. I certainly support clean air policies but



also believe that we need to have regulations relevant to the very real fire risk that exists.

Warrandyte may not get off as lightly next time as it did on Ash Wednesday.

The mulching service offered by the council does not take account of the sloping blocks and the difficulty of getting branches and fallen trees up the block to the front of the house, particularly with very restricted

access. I believe that the council should be urgently lobbied to allow at least one burn-off per year by permit in preparation for the fire season.

It should be restricted to waste derived from plants and trees. That is, no tyres, plastics, etc.

One thing is for sure. Bushfires are not conducive to clean air. Nor to the trees and environment we all value and enjoy.

I would appreciate any other opinions readers may have on this subject.

Ian Wood
Webb Street

WYS
making our
youth
'beautiful'

What a joy to go into the Warrandyte Youth Services rooms at the Community Centre and hear again the conversations, the click of the snooker balls and to see the smiling faces.

Thank you Craig for restoring the original coffee shop atmosphere as a place of relaxation for our young people.

I know that the transformation has come as a result of lots of hard work on the part of the committee of management so congratulations to them.

Long may it continue in the Warrandyte way as a place where our young adults may go for relaxation and help with problems, so that they will grow into beautiful adults, as have those who were the earlier users of this facility.

Jean Chapman
Taroona Avenue

Let's leave DJs in Bourke Street

"David Jones of Warrandyte." What a pity this is the name tag now given to what used to be affectionately known as "Alice's Boutique" — our local Op. Shop. The new name would appear to reflect the price tags on the items sold.

In recent months the shop has been full to overflowing with goods of all kinds: I wonder if this is an indication of the prices being charged?

Over the past five years I have

freely donated items which I hoped would be made available to others in our community at prices everyone and anyone could afford, this being especially important during the worst recession in 60 years, when more people than ever are depending on this type of help to get them through their tough times.

Whilst realising that monies raised through the Op. Shop go back into our community via other projects, I am sure that

most, if not all Warrandytians would prefer the first priority to be to come to the direct assistance of others, rather than achieving a healthy dollar bottom line.

Overheads, as in any business, do have to be met, but has anyone ever asked for volunteers to help staff the shop, thereby keeping overheads minimal?

Warrandyte still has a heart, proven by other volunteer services in our community.

Let's try to put the "opportunity" back into our shop for everyone.

Gina Jones
Doleen Road

Fix more footpaths

Well at long last the council has fixed up our footpath. They've done a good job too, so now we people without cars can walk easily along it.

Though I don't much like the horses going on the footpath. There's nothing I like better

than stirring council and I'm always on Cr Louise Joy's back. Now she'd better fix up the footpath on the other side of the Stonehouse.

Beryl Steans
Stiggant Street.

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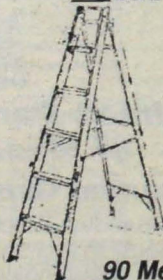
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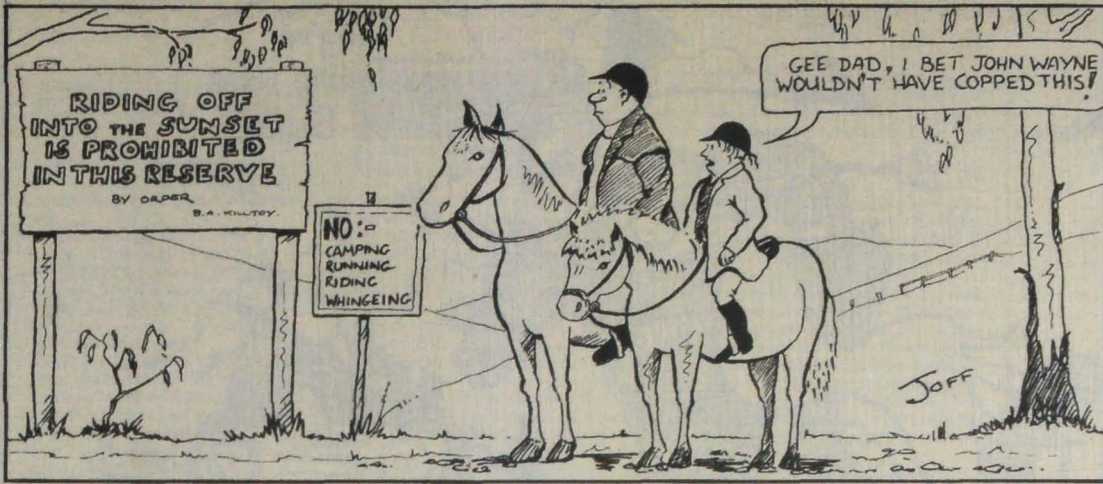
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WARRANTITTIES

By JOFF



Horse riders in protest

By DAVID WYMAN

Warrandyte and Park Orchards have become too "anti-horse" and the "greenies have got too much power in the district", according to a South Warrandyte horse rider.

Mr Malcom Jeffereys, who rides local trails frequently with his five-year old son, says horse riders in the district have lost too much land. "I agree with preserving land for conservation, but it's gone too far," he told the *Diary*.

Mr Jeffereys has arranged a protest rally of riders for Saturday, October 9 and was hopeful of a large turnout to "express our rights and keep our riding tracks open". The rally will start at the corner of Blackburn and Andersons Creek Road at 9am.

Mr Jeffereys said the closing of the eastern

end of The 100 Acres in Park Orchards was the "final straw" for him. "This has now pushed riders out into Berringa Road."

Local councils have closed several reserves to riders and riding is restricted to Warrandyte State Park. "You can't blame recent damage for their closure, because these tracks were cut through to the gold mines over 100 years ago. They are never going to re-grow again because they were cut through over bare rock," he said.

Mr Jeffereys said riding along, alongside and across roads is dangerous in Warrandyte and Park Orchards, yet these are some of the preferred trails nominated by Doncaster council. He claimed that council has closed many trails on the grounds that "technically you're not allowed to ride on

them, even though my forbears have been riding them for 100 years".

Fay Valcanis, ParkCare officer at Warrandyte State Park, said horse riders had been consulted when the park's management plan was formed and arrangements had been made where sensitive areas would be protected from riding for conservation reasons.

Other areas, less sensitive, had been declared open for riding and the park office had maps available showing these trails.

A horse riding management plan has been introduced on a trial basis in the Yarra Brae section of the park. Some 44 horse riding agreements have been signed. "The vast majority of people understand what we are doing restricting horse riding. They have been very positive," Fay Valcanis said.

North brigade marks 40 years

The North Warrandyte Fire Brigade celebrates its 40th anniversary this month.

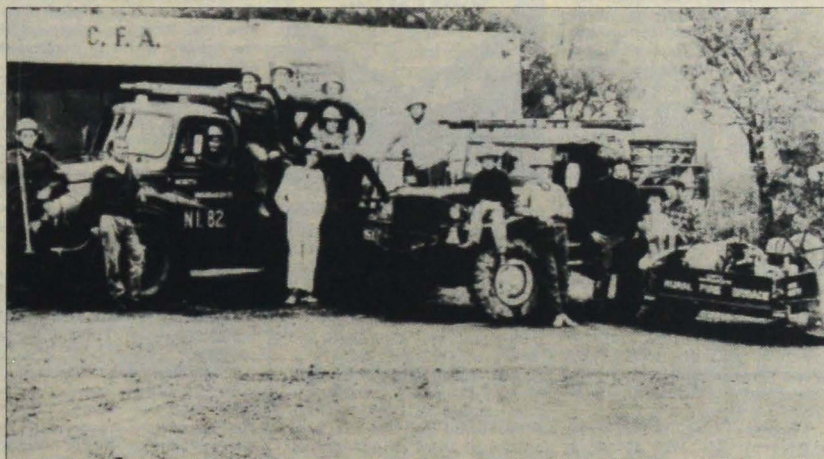
To mark the occasion, the brigade has published a booklet detailing its history and describing the major bushfires that swept the area in 1962, 1969, 1985 and 1991.

It also recalls several of the characters who have made up the brigade's membership over the past 40 years. These are available from the brigade, by contacting 844 1089 or the Historical Society Museum in Yarra Street.

The brigade was originally registered as the Stoney Creek Rural Fire Brigade in October 1953. Its name was changed to North Warrandyte in 1958 to avoid confusion with another Stoney Creek brigade elsewhere in the state.

In those early days the only equipment available was handbeaters and leather knapsack sprays. One can only imagine how difficult it must have been when firefighters were faced with such large fires as regularly occurred in the area. It was certainly a far cry from the present brigade, which has three trucks, modern pumps and sophisticated radio equipment at its disposal.

The 1962 fires proved to be devastating to the Warrandyte area; a true baptism of fire for the fledgling North Warrandyte crews. Two members, Brown and Betton, lost their lives in



Early brigade members under Captain Jack Stringer.

Blooms Road as they attempted to save their own homes from the fires.

The fire station in Glynn's Road was constructed in 1966 by Jack Stringer, who was captain at the time, and several other brigade members. It has since been extended and altered several times to accommodate the expanding retinue of equipment and members.

In 1969 large fires again swept across the northern part of North Warrandyte. These fires burned the ridge along Glynn's Road and

destroyed the community centre which was then located beside the present fire station. It also nearly destroyed a fire truck parked nearby.

Over the years the brigade has owned a weird and wonderful collection of trucks, ranging from a Fargo utility, to a Dodge weapon carrier, to the present Ford F350 unit.

The brigade is presently supplied with one truck from the CFA and the others are purchased by North Warrandyte with funds raised from within

the community.

In its 40 year history, a large number of volunteers have been involved with the CFA and it would be impossible to list them all.

To celebrate this anniversary, the brigade is holding a masquerade ball at the Eltham Community Centre on October 15 at 8pm, to which all residents and friends are invited. The price of \$27 per head includes pre-dinner drinks, a three course meal and a live band. Tickets can be obtained from Irene Allen on 437 1434.

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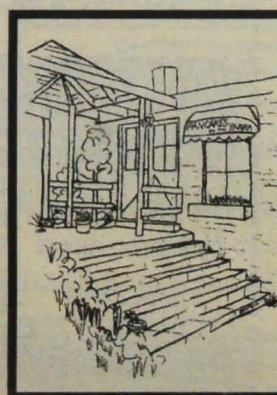
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THE POSSUM



All's not well that ends WEL

THE Warrandyte Environment League, which has been in a state of suspended animation since earlier this year, faces extinction. A dinner meeting is being called for Thursday, October 21 to decide the future of the organisation.

The league was formed in 1971 out of a campaign to save the Warrandyte environment. Unchecked development threatened to destroy our bushland and turn our village into characterless suburbia. Packed public meetings saw the need for an independent watchdog group.

In its earlier days, WEL called a public meeting when an important issue arose, thus renewing its membership and its policies through direct contact with its electorate.

The group changed through the years, but its sense of community remained. How many locals know that our annual festival was founded by WEL?

It also developed the skills to represent the community on appeals boards and consultative committees, building a small but valuable group of self-taught advocates, able to mix it with government officials, politicians and experts. Their list of successes has a proud place in the story of the survival of our local environment.

This inexorable watchdog role has taken its toll. The workload, the many hours donated by a handful of dedicated people, keeping up with the complexity of these tasks, may have led to the unavoidable neglect of its base, the broader community.

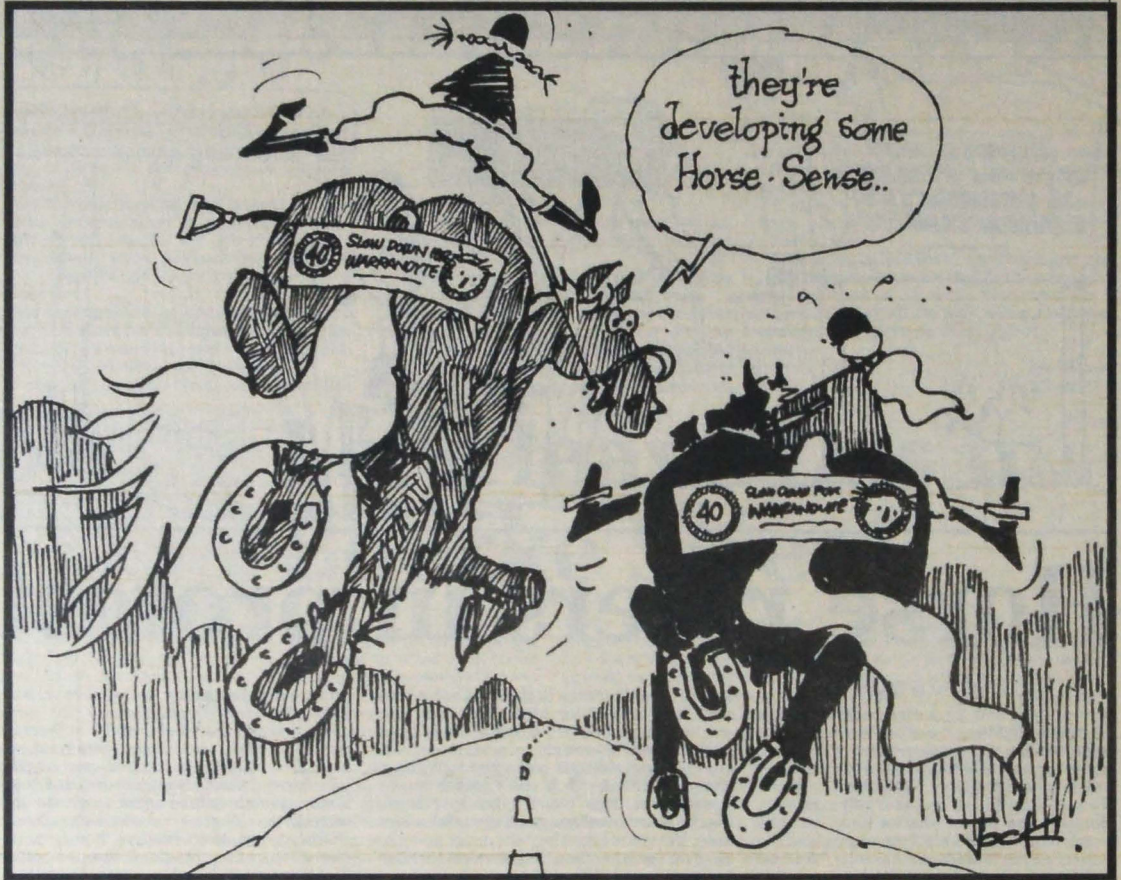
How long is it since WEL called an issue-based public meeting? With a diminishing capacity to consult and communicate has come a dropping away of support and membership. The old hands, battling gallantly on the panels and committees, preparing the endless technical reports, have wearied and finally walked away.

Perhaps the solution lies in somehow breaking through that vicious circle.

Each campaign fought, each victory won, should have seen fresh faces and new ideas brought into the group. This may well have happened had the league continued to consult with the community through that most basic democratic forum, the public meeting.

There is no less need for a strong WEL now than there was in 1971. A well-attended gathering on October 21, resolved to restore WEL to its place as a community-based pressure group, will help us resist the forces that are surely still out there.

CLIFF GREEN



Back into the winter of our discontent...

COMING home to Warrandyte in July, after three months overseas, was like running into an old love and wondering why you had never noticed the crooked nose and less-than-perfect teeth.

Having left a glorious European spring and summer, where leaves and flowers emerged with the speed of time-lapse photography from bare, wintry limbs; where primrose-filled ditches and carpets of bluebells gave way to towering rhododendrons and cascading roses covering old walls; Warrandyte looked a mess.

Admittedly it was the depths of winter. It was wet, and the wind was bleak. The bush looked black after the lime-green woods of oak and beech through which we had walked.

Tangles of blackberries filled gullies up Research Road. A strangling creeper had finally killed the large eucalypt at the bridge. The little orange fabric



By JUDY MACDONALD

safety fences still flapped wetly in Yarra Street, and it seemed as if the historical society may well have classified the hole outside the old post office, preserving it for posterity.

Trees hung over our house, persistently shedding water and leaves onto the flat roof.

The trees which we had fought for years to protect, whose annual lopping had put us on first-name terms with the SEC, now reared in front of the house, blocking out much of the light and most of the view. (The SEC, getting wise, strung bundled ca-

ble years ago, and now no pruning is necessary.)

Trees on the hillside behind the house, having tripled their size over 20 years, accentuated the feeling of being hedged-in and sunless.

I agreed with John Donne: "The worlds whole sap is sunke."

Thoughts kept returning to fields of glorious poppies, purple foxgloves tall in forest glades, lanes filled with Queen Anne's lace and rambling roses and the long, pearly twilights. A night-gale had sung for us on a warm Scottish night and the rains had stayed away.

Night-time singing on our return consisted of three dogs arguing all night about who could bark the loudest. The argument persists.

In England, dogs are named George and Henry and are dearly-loved family members. A day's routine revolves around exercise and comfort. Never barking for the sake of it, they are never left outside to bark and wander at will.

Back home, the rain continued to pour down, filling the gutters with twigs and old leaves. The garden was like a jungle. Looking at photos, we saw ourselves strolling through sunlit fields in tee-shirts and shorts, eyes squinting in the sun, faces brown.

I wanted to sell up and move out. Warrandyte was just another junction in the huge streams of commuters. The neighbouring council's street-sweeper woke me frequently at around two o'clock, sounding like a taxiing Boeing as it negotiated the roundabout at the bridge, taking 11 minutes to fade away—and who's counting?

Suburbia was upon us. Yarra Street had lost its country look. Paths were being widened, straightened, trees lopped for neatness and perhaps safety, with little regard for the shape of the tree.

Everything was too dark, too bushy, too bleak.

And then the wattles bloomed...

STREETS WHERE WE LIVE

Webb Street is one of Warrandyte's major thoroughfares. Unfortunately, little is definitely known about the origin of its name.

The 1856 map of the township of Warrandyte only shows Yarra Street and Brackenbury Street clearly, although Gold Warden Brackenbury's tent is identified—situated in the middle of Yarra Street! The general area Webb Street now traverses is referred to as Specimen Gully.

Although it may never be known for sure, it is thought Webb Street could have been named for two brothers, John and William Webb, who lived in

Warrandyte during the 1860s.

John, aged 58 at the time and described as a farmer, was accidentally killed on October 5, 1864. His brother William was killed while felling a tree on May 19, 1865, aged 60 years.

No record exists of them owning land in the area, nor is there any record of the family after the untimely deaths of the two brothers.

In the absence of any proof to the contrary, it seems reasonable to assume that Webb Street was named after these two unfortunate settlers.

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Sneaky squatters invade our bush

NOW at last, journey's end was within sight. The sleek grey bird flew over the river with graceful undulating ease and came to rest on an exposed branch of a tall red box tree. From this vantage point, she silently surveyed the familiar territory.

It had been a long flight over many weeks, and the ordeal of the journey had taken its toll on some of her weaker companions. But she was one of the strong and had returned just as the southern spring was awakening a bounty of new life.

Fan-tailed cuckoos, like other migratory birds, leave the northern regions as conditions become intolerably hot, choosing to breed in the south, where the climate is more favorable and food abundant. Hairy caterpillars—the cuckoos' preferred meal—are always in plentiful supply, as most other birds find these moth larvae distasteful.

For several weeks, fan-tailed cuckoos have been calling repeatedly. Their plaintive descending trill is quite unlike the call of their northern hemisphere counterparts, after which the birds are named.

From her lookout, the female cuckoo patiently watches the activities of other



NATURE

By PAT COUPAR
Drawn by MELANIE COUPAR

birds as she surreptitiously selects foster parents for her offspring.

She takes particular interest in a fairy wren, maintaining surveillance on the little bird as it gathers pieces of grass in its sharp bill and carries them to a low bush where a perfectly-domed nest is nearing completion.

A few days later, the time arrives for the cuckoo to lay her eggs. Squatting close to the nest containing the wren's nest, she lays a single egg, directly onto the ground. The egg is small compared to those laid by other birds of a similar size.

With great care and precision, the cuckoo picks up the fragile egg in her bill and places it in the domed nest. The white, purple-flecked egg bears a striking resemblance to those already in residence, and when the wren returns, she seems unaware of the new addition.

It isn't long before the eggs begin to hatch. The cuckoo hatchling, although blind and naked, immediately begins

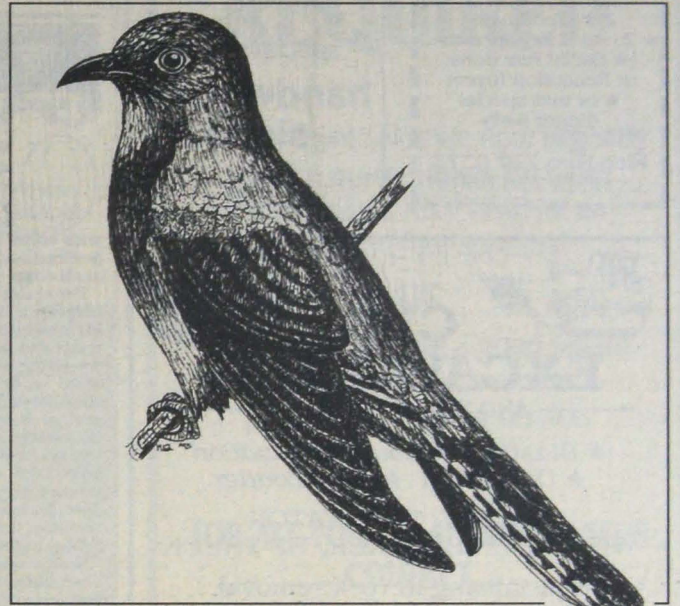
jettisoning all other occupants of the feather-lined nursery. This tiny home-wrecker shoulders out not only any unhatched wren's eggs, but all the hatchlings as well.

Once the eviction is complete, the baby cuckoo proceeds to call loudly, while adopting frantic begging postures. The adult wren responds to the huge, orange, gaping beak, and over the following months provides the young bird with a constant supply of food.

After a few weeks, the rapidly growing cuckoo, now covered with fluffy juvenile plumage, dwarfs its tiny foster parent. Over summer, the cuckoo gains strength and learns to fend for itself. As the days shorten and the nights grow cooler, the bird becomes restless. Then one day in early autumn, responding to an inborn urge, it takes off and heads north.

The following spring, that same uncanny instinct will impel the cuckoo to return to the place where it was raised. The place where, the year before, a mother cuckoo entrusted her egg into the care of a diminutive fairy wren.

On damp September mornings, the penetrating mournful trill of a fan-tailed cuckoo may be heard across the valley, sounding like the forlorn lament of a lost soul, searching for its true identity.



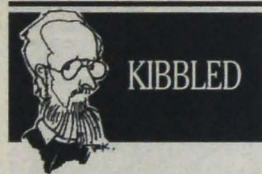
The art of getting on top of greeny grey ponds

SPRING is an inspirational time in Warrandyte. I get inspired to work in the garden: re-potting, planting and watching the weeds and grass grow. Spring is also the time I try to fix the fishpond. Again!

In a way, the "annual fixing of the pond" has taken on a special significance, similar I'm sure, to a Muslim's pilgrimage to Mecca or a Jew visiting the Wailing Wall. The pond's cyclical attraction has become obsessive.

Actually, it's not just one pond, but three, cleverly connected by under-rock gullies and an almost cunningly concealed overflow. As usual, when we decided we needed a fishpond we got a bit carried away, which is more than I can say for the shale we dug.

Towards the front of our block we had a bare section that "needed attention". We'd just been to the Melbourne Botanic Gardens, and a similar water fea-



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ture for our place seemed like a good idea.

"All you need to do is dig a bit of a hole and use the dug dirt to form a dam wall on the down side of the cut," Herself enthusiastically explained.

"I'm not sure that..."
"An even better idea is to have a few ponds, interconnecting you know, going from a small pond to larger ones. It wouldn't be all that more difficult, if we're digging anyway."

"But..."
"Have you found out how to make them watertight?"
"Uhhh..."

"Right. Let's get going!"
After the first hour with a mattock, with the hole no bigger than a mixing bowl, I decided to try a mechanical aid.

The hired rotary hoe was just as useless. Instead of digging it gave a fine imitation of icing a cake. After 10 minutes, the hole was no bigger, but the blades had polished the dirt.

Warrandyte's grand water gardens had to wait until the house next door was being built. I walked out one morning to see a bobcat attempting to make its escape up the hill.

In true martyr fashion, I flung myself in front of the machine and, choking back the tears of desperation, pleaded with the driver to take fistfuls of paper

currency in exchange for denting the dirt for the ponds. In no time at all, we had our own Yallourn open cut.

Next came the artistic bit. No tacky, obvious fibreglass ponds for us. Ours were going to blend into the environment. I hired the cement mixer, bought the waterproofing solution, screenings, reinforcing wire and away we went.

I made the mixture, tipped it into the wheelbarrow and gave it to Herself, who built up the thickness and the shapes of the ponds. The surfaces were sprinkled with pebbles and river gravel to give an appearanceless like concrete.

Several of Uluru's relatives were heaved into position and

we sat back to admire our handiwork. We had three ponds, just aching for water and fish.

After the appropriate time for curing, and the correct number of refills to get rid of stuff that kills fish, we filled the ponds. Success!

The fish were less successful. Not from the heron's point of view, but from ours. Wildlife is all very good, but the sight of a heron standing in the shallows of one's pond, spearing newly-acquired goldfish, did nothing for the economic rationalist side of my personality.

"They need protection. You need some waterlilies, or something they can hide under," a friend offered.

I didn't know what duckweed was until it had covered all three ponds. The same all-knowing friend clapped his hands over his eyes, groaned and bleated, "You'll never get rid of it now. You've got it for life!" Despite

this, I believed I was getting on top of ponds.

I'd solved the problem of mosquitoes breeding when a fishy friend gave me a bucketful of small fish that he assured me would eat the wrigglers.

All this had taken a year, and by then the plants were growing around the ponds and I was just about ready to contact the ABC Open Gardens Scheme to have the ponds declared a national treasure, when I discovered "the leak".

It's not an offensively fast leak, but fast enough. And it's only in one of the ponds. Since then, I've become an expert at siphoning, ineffectually retarding concrete and the trying of every new product that comes on the market.

In a way, I hope I never fix it. The annual "leak fix" gives a pattern and purpose to life.

ROGER KIBBELL

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Noises (and lights) off

REVIEW
 By ALISON CASSIDY

ONE of the old superstitions veteran actors carry around with them is that sharing the stage with animals or children is a perilous business, to be avoided at all costs.

The reason for this is that both animals and children tend to do unpredictable things on stage and in the process may wreck the play or, even worse, steal your scene. To that shortlist of things to avoid, the cast of *Noises Off* would undoubtedly like to add the large tree whose unfortunate rendezvous with an SEC powerline threw a large part of Warrandyte, including the Mechanics Institute, into darkness on that Friday night.

Now, actors are renowned for their improvisation skills, and improvise they did, for about five minutes, but there's not a lot you can do when they turn the lights out. Halfway through Act II, director Brian Lawrence ruefully announced to a disappointed audience, by torchlight, that the show really couldn't go on.

Instead, the Drama Group would generously provide an unscheduled repeat performance. This reviewer was looking forward to seeing the rest of the play the following Friday—until a meal containing fish of uncertain origin put an end to that. As Hamlet said, "how all occasions do inform against me".

All this preamble is a long-winded way of explaining that the following represents two-thirds of a review. *Noises Off* is a very funny play within a play. It is the sort of farce at which English writers excel.

Not only does playwright Michael Frayn offer his audience the opportunity to see life backstage during a show, but



The cast of *Noises Off*: back row Kahren Price (left) David Buck, Yvonne Morey, Rowen Bavinton, Karina Beaumont, Jamie O'Loughlin. Front row (from left) Raine Dinale, Roger Kibell, Lawrence Pollwade. (Photo by Brian Lawrence)

his characters reflect keen observations into the working world of the stock repertory actor, those brave souls who carry their productions from town to town doing a week here and a week there in rustic venues that make the Mechanics Institute seem like the State Playhouse.

The play is an interesting microcosm of the sad-yet-funny realities of life in the theatre. Ageing actors whose stars, if ever they shone at all, are certainly waning; earnest actors desperately trying to find the "deep" meaning in parts that have no deep meaning; juveniles with more enthusiasm than talent.

Noises Off is not a great play, but it is an engaging one. In Brian Lawrence's hands it gave the audience (until the dreaded tree intervened) an insight into the possibilities of a well crafted play in the right hands.

The quality of the ensemble deserves special mention. It was on the whole a very even cast without any contrived scene-stealing. Some performances, however, stood out.

Roger Kibell maintained that nervous energy that is the hallmark of the rep. director, who is both circus ringmaster and father figure to his motley "family".

Kahren Price's hen-pecked assistant stage manager was spot on and David Buck's ageing actor, Selsdon Mowbray, was very funny and always believable. He avoided all the cliches and was an entirely sympathetic figure.

Most of the cast had the problem of creating two roles—the

audience saw them as actors in rehearsal and as "themselves". Yvonne Morey, Rowen Bavinton, Karina Beaumont, Lawrence Pollwade and Raine Dinale all handled their dual roles convincingly. Jamie O'Loughlin provided good support.

The only problem, which caused an occasional jarring note, was the essentially English flavor—accent and mannerisms—of the language, which some of the cast handled better than others.

Technically, the production reached a professional standard. Jock MacNeish's impressive double-storey set is to be highly commended. His was an inspired use of a very difficult space. The set building was by most standards monumental and the set change, from front of house to backstage, first rate. Both sound and lighting complemented the imaginative setting unobtrusively.

A slice of heaven on Sunday

By LOUISE JOY

CHAMBER music, among friends in the Warrandyte Mechanics Institute on a Sunday afternoon, must be what heaven is like.

Heaven came to Warrandyte on Sunday, September 26, as Jennifer Keuneman (cello), pianist Phoebe Briggs and Rowan Thomas, playing the violin, gave their musicianship freely to raise funds for emergency relief distributed by the Warrandyte Neighbourhood House. Nearly \$200 was raised.

Variation of mood is one of the secrets of

a successful concert program, together with changes in tonal quality. Both were achieved in this concert.

The first half of the program gave a lively musical introduction with the trio playing Bach and Schurmann, followed by the cello solo *The Swan*, by Saint Saens.

Phoebe played two Chopin nocturnes and Rowan set a sizzling pace with a sonata by Handel, that most cheerful of composers, and a brilliant gypsy dance by Monti-Czardas.

After Devonshire tea we returned to a rather gruesome Scottish Ballad read by Phoebe, who gave Brahm's interpretation, written while he was grieving and played

recently by Jennifer at the funerals of two close friends. The piece is particularly suited to the deep, mourning notes of the cello.

Still in a sombre mood, Jennifer played *Von Paradis*, by Sicilienne, and *Prayer* by Bach. Rowan followed with *Thais* by Massenet, in a most reflective mood.

The finale was sheer brilliance, with Rowan's rendition of Kreisler's *Prelude* and *Allegro*, followed by the trio combining to play Mendelsohn.

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THEY WALKED WHERE WE WALK

The river stops

EACH night the awesome spectacle drew the residents from the little village of Heidelberg and beyond, to sit amongst ancient river redgums and spellbound watch the enchantment of age-old ceremonies.

The accumulated creative and spiritual powers of the Kulin nation had gathered at Bolin Bolin in Bulleen to commune with nature. All the Aboriginal tribes and their kin, from the lands that drained into the Yarra Yarra, gathered to see that rituals were performed to continue the fertility and abundance of all plants and all creatures.

Bolin Bolin, once the home of Bunyil, the great creative ancestor, and his wives who kept the secret of fire, thronged with the performance of the songlines. These were immense poems that mapped the geomorphological features of the local area, wrapping up flora and fauna details in tribal lore. They connected everyday activities with those of the dreamtime creators who brought the world into being.

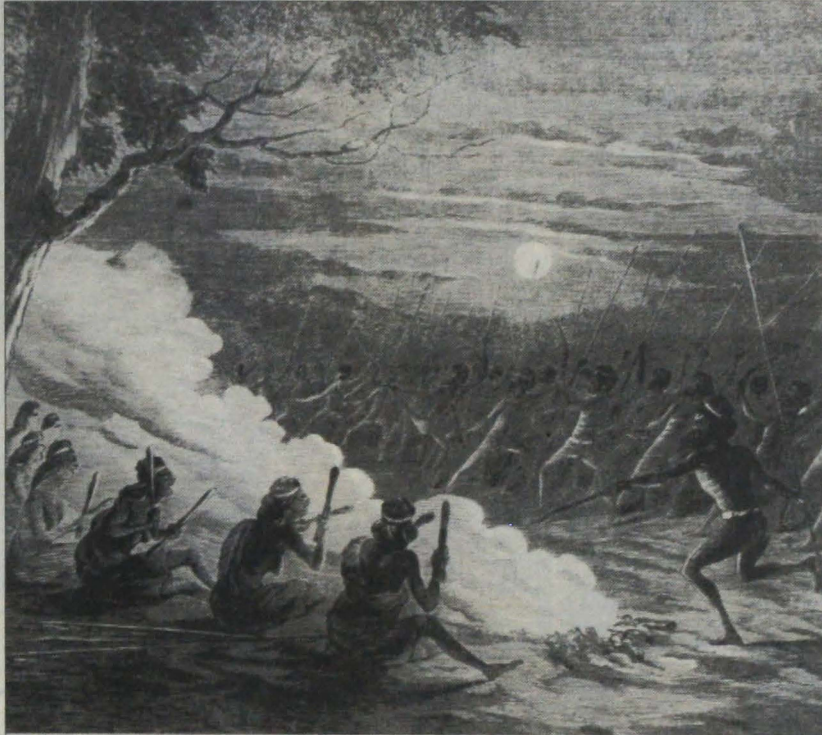
Songlines also bound everyone to their particular part of the local country. The verses that each person learned and carried were held in trust for succeeding generations. In turn, the tribe was kept in tune with the music of the cosmos. They were a sort of memorised, mythological Melways.

It was the autumn of 1838. Autumn in this dry southern land was the seasonal of renewal. After the dearth of summer, the return of the life-giving rain spirit invigorated Birrarung. Many of the creatures and plants burst into growth, life cycles began afresh, breeding preparations were renewed. It was the equivalent of the northern hemisphere's spring.

For the Wurrundjeri tribe, this time of year was for gathering together and celebrating. The mists were returning along the Yarra Valley as the first rains after summer revived life in the forests. Fungi flowered, moths came to life from their transformations and migratory birds were changing habitat and homes.

Short-finned eels were travelling down the clear, sweet waters of the mighty river Birrarung, beginning their return journey to the Coral Sea. These eels supplied abundant food for the gathered tribespeople, who painted themselves, sang and danced the gaggit, a dance of peace and accord.

More than 150 years ago, a different people walked through Warrandyte and the Yarra Valley. They had lived here for many thousands of years. But the final countdown for these people had already begun; their days were numbered. The last fatal impact was taking place. In this unique new series, GLEN JAMESON tells of the catastrophic events that marked those final days.



...gathered to see that rituals were performed...

But now matter how bright the campfires burned to warm and light the celebrations, they could not force back the gloom and darkness that threatened, on the horizon, the Kulin way of life.

What had they done to provoke the punishment that this invasion of their land seemed to be? What laws had they not upheld? Which ceremony had not been carried through correctly? Some Wurrundjeri blamed themselves, others spoke of the vengefulness of the creative dreamtime ancestors. It was a fearful time.

Many of the tribal elders spoke of the old story of the white spirits of the dead, who had not been properly respected and buried, returning to the land of the living to leave death and destruction in their wake.

News from across the Murray River was that the tribe from

Kamay (Sydney Harbour) had already perished. Friends among the new settlers told horrific stories of Tasmanian Aboriginals.

But few would have believed that within a generation, all of the ancient, primordial forests, scrub and swamps of Bolin Bolin would be utterly devastated, the wildlife driven off and the land link denied to the traditional occupiers, the Wurrundjeri; one of Melbourne's most sacred Aboriginal sites desecrated in an attempt at agriculture that was soon abandoned after the river of life, Birrarung, in turn destroyed the market gardens, orchards and vineyards in an effortless gesture.

Also, within this short time, the once clear, sweet waters of Birrarung would be polluted by goldmining, agriculture and sewerage and be no longer fit to drink. The flow of life for the

Wurrundjeri, like that of so much of the indigenous flora and fauna, was to abruptly, almost terminally, cease.

With the ceremonies completed and the season almost passed, each of the clans and family groups headed for the heartlands of their own country. The small family group whose songline centred on the gorge country of Warrandyte, prepared to follow the ancient pathway along the Birrarung.

They would have to run the gauntlet of the new settlers. The new settlers were part of the many waves of people who had come to the shores of this country to steal whatever treasures they could and return to their own country. Unlike the Aboriginals, who came from the earth of this country, these people came only to conquer.

To be continued.

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WILMA

BENCE

A beloved

WILMA BENCE, a widely-loved, life-time resident of Warrandyte, died on August 27, aged 62 years.

Born in Ringwood in 1993, Wilma June Hussey was a fourth generation descendant of Ben Logan, a goldminer, who came to the area in 1853. Her parents, Bill and Sylvia Hussey, ran the coach service between Ringwood and Warrandyte.

She grew up through the hard years of the Great Depression. And although her family struggled, there were compensations. Wilma and her four sisters rambled through the bush, swam in the river, played tennis on the main road and enjoyed the warmth and security of a loving extended family and a close and caring community.

Living on the river, the Hussey girls all learned to swim at an early age. One year, in the combined schools swimming sports, they won four first places and one second. When Wilma, the youngest, came up to accept her winner's trophy, the judge was heard to exclaim, "Not another one!"

After Wilma left school, she worked as a dressmaker in Ringwood, Camberwell and the city. She married Bruce Bence in 1952 and they settled down in their new house in Brackenbury Street. Her children all attended the primary school opposite the house, and Wilma often provided a refuge for small children whose arrangements for getting home

had gone astray.

Apart from working for the usual organisations that young mothers become involved with, and fund-raising for numerous local causes, she made a real and personal contribution to the local community throughout her life, caring for sick neighbours, providing meals when necessary and looking after neighbours' gardens and animals when they were away. She was a foundation member of Warrandyte Meals-On-Wheels.

During the 1950s and 60s, when Wilma was bringing up her family, the river at Warrandyte ran fresh and clear and the pool behind the Hussey house was a safe place to swim. Her own children all spent their first summers by the river, and were introduced to the water in such a way that they were never frightened, and all became strong swimmers.

Many local mothers brought their children down to the river each summer, and over the years, Wilma rescued a number of toddlers from the water when their mothers' attention strayed and the little ones fell over or ventured out of their depth.

Having lived through the 1939 bushfires as a young child, Wilma was ever alert to the danger of fire. During the fires of 1965, 1968 and 1969, she secured her own home and family, then went to the aid of a number of elderly widows living in the area.

Despite her suffering and the certain knowledge of the out-

come of her illness, in the words of the palliative care nurse on the day she died, "she put up a hell of a fight". These nurses were marvellous throughout Wilma's illness. In Bruce's words, "they couldn't have done more".

The long days of Wilma's illness were filled with the love and support of her family, friends and the people of Warrandyte. Her family wish to thank everyone for their help. Again in Bruce's words, "how fortunate we are to live in Warrandyte".

Roslyn Pope, a neighbour, paid tribute to Wilma at her funeral: "I loved being in Wilma's company, and the hours just flew when we were together. We became friends instantly, and she was always there for me. Wilma strived to do one achievement every day. She laid down her life for her family and friends, and life to me just won't be the same without her. She will be missed by all who knew her."



neighbor



(Based on the funeral address delivered by Cliff Green, incorporating material supplied by family and friends.)

ALMA HUTCHINSON

A most gracious lady

By BRUCE BENCE

WARRANDYTE mourned the passing, late in August, of Alma Hutchinson, a long-time resident. She was aged 82 years. Born Alma Myrtle Williams in Melbourne on January 28, 1911, she lived her early life in Moonee Ponds.

Although she grew up in difficult times and had to work hard from an early age looking after her brothers and sisters, Alma always regarded her childhood as a happy time.

She was academically gifted, the only girl from her primary school at that time, to go on to Essendon High School. After school, Alma entered the insurance industry, and her ability led her to a senior position in the AMP Society, no mean feat for a woman in those days.

She was a good sportswoman,

excelling at tennis and golf. She also liked dancing, and it was through her involvement in tennis and dancing that she met her future husband, John Blair Hutchinson.

Alma and John married in January, 1946 and lived in a small house John had built for them above the river in Everard Drive. It was here Alma spent the happiest years of her life.

Following marriage, she made the role of wife and mother her career, rearing their children John, Julie, Sue and Diana. Her husband John was elected a councillor for Warrandyte Riding from 1948 to 1954, was shire president in 1949-50, and Alma supported him strongly throughout this time.

The Hutchinson family have a long and proud association with Warrandyte, beginning in 1854, when John and Joseph Hutchinson took up land between the tunnel and the Heidelberg road.

The first John Hutchinson became pound keeper in January,

1855 and various members of the family filled this position for 103 of the 108 years the pound existed. John's grandfather William was a justice of the peace, regularly presiding at the Anderson's Creek courthouse, then at 79 Yarra Street.

In later years, Alma was devoted to her grandchildren—Blake, Henry, Andrew, Fiona, Anna, Mathew, Thomas and Chloe. During her final illness she expressed a longing that she should be spared, so that she could spend more time with her extended family. But then she said, "I musn't be greedy".

Her granddaughter Fiona wrote: "A person who gives with all her love,/Who is soft and gentle as a dove,/This is Alma,/The Nanna that we love."

(Compiled largely from material supplied by Graham Hutchinson, John's cousin.)

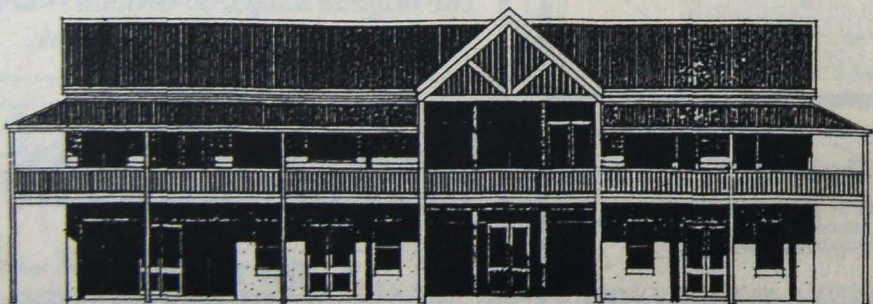


Warrandyte Community Centre

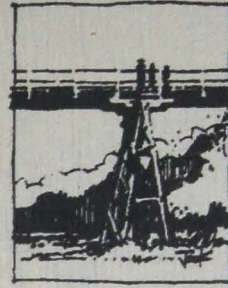
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The end thereof



THE WOODEN BRIDGE

By Eve Evans

OUR new home was on Roly's way as he went to and from the market and he never failed to call in on market days to see how things were. He was one of those who lost their homes in the bushfire. It was only a tiny log cabin, but it had been home to him so he stayed with us while, with the help of some of his brothers, he rebuilt.

I often went to the market with him, and together Roly and I watched the little market grow and grow. Where there had been only a couple of stalls in a wooden shed and the animal saleyards, the number of stalls gradually increased. Now there were some 300 and one could buy almost anything: new and secondhand clothing, materials, hardware, birds in cages, tiny kittens and puppies and all manner of foodstuffs.

Where there had been only the market, a post office and a butcher shop in the long muddy street, the road was asphalted and more and more shops sprang up. The population was increasing rapidly and it became a thriving township, ringed around by the high, and often very blue, mountains.

Sometimes we met Lou at the market. Not often, only when he had a sizeable number of rabbits to sell. Now before the end of this chapter, indeed the end of this story, I must tell more about Lou.

One night, two or perhaps three years after the bushfire, we had the most enormous hailstorm I had ever seen. Hail lay six or seven inches deep. I had a fire burning brightly and the children were sleeping.

There came a loud banging on the back door. When I opened it, there stood Lou, wet from head to foot. His hair and beard dripped water from the rain that had followed the hail.

"Come in Lou," I said. He took a couple of steps in and I shut the door behind him.

"It's me 'orse Mam, she's sick and she won't stand up." His voice trembled as he went on. "Elp me."

I put him gently down in a chair by the fire and helped him take off his sodden coat. Steam rose from his wet clothes and I asked him to tell me what had happened. But as I have said before, Lou never had many words and now he could only say, over and over, "It's me



... THAT SMALL, QUIET AND VERY BEAUTIFUL VILLAGE,
WITH AT THE CENTRE OF ITS HEART, ..THE WOODEN BRIDGE.

'orse, she's sick".

I told him, "Lou, you sit there and I'll phone for help". As I went to the phone I thanked my lucky stars it was at the end of a long passageway and Lou could not hear what I said. We had no vet in the village, the nearest one was a good 10 miles away, but the village policeman knew a good deal about animals, especially sick ones, so I phoned him.

"Colin," I said, "Old Lou is in trouble. His horse is sick, she is lying down and can't get up. It's a terrible night to ask you to come out, but I don't know what to do. She will be at the crossroads where Lou sleeps at night. She is very old and this freezing weather could be the end of her. If she can't be saved you will know what to do."

"I'll try and keep Lou here for the

night, but I know that won't be easy. Oh, and if you can bring some dry clothes, Lou is soaking wet."

I told Lou the policeman would look at Dolly and phone back.

"He wants you to stay here at least until we hear from him. It shouldn't be long."

But Lou jumped and turned to make for the door. I put a restraining hand on

his arm and pushed him back into the chair. "You must wait," I told him.

After what seemed ages, but could not really have been long, I heard a car turn into the drive. That will be Colin, I thought, coming himself instead of phoning. But from the look on his face, I knew what the news would be even before he spoke.

We stepped into the room where Lou sat gazing dumbly into the fire.

"Lou," I said, putting a hand on his shoulder. "Colin said your horse was dead before he got there. There was nothing he could do."

Then Colin spoke. "Lou, I think you had better stay here the night. I'll come in the morning and arrange things for you."

But the old man could not be persuaded, and in the end, we relented.

"Colin has brought some dry clothes for you. While I go into the kitchen to warm up the soup, you can change in here."

Colin drove him back to the only shelter he wanted, beneath his cart.

Some of us thought Lou would soon follow his horse, but he was a tough old man and for some years he could be seen stumping up and down hills, a pick over his shoulder, looking always for the reef of gold he so firmly believed in.

He did not trap rabbits any more, but at last agreed to accept the aged pension. He propped up the shafts of his cart on two fence posts and continued to sleep under it.

A few of the villagers offered to put money in to buy him another horse, but for him no beast could replace his Dolly.

Meanwhile, the village continued to expand in all directions. Many houses were built and more shops. Where once there had been only three cars in the village and we could park anywhere, traffic was fast becoming a problem and one could hardly find a parking spot at all, and we certainly could not stand in the middle of the road talking, as we used to.

I suppose there must be progress, but I am more than happy to count among my memories the years I spent in that small, quiet and very beautiful village with, at the centre of its heart, the wooden bridge.

THE END



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Back to Warrandyte Reunion Weekend

OCTOBER 9 & 10, 1993



PROGRAM: BACK TO WARRANDYTE: OCTOBER 9 & 10

Saturday



10am-4pm: REGISTRATION and PROGRAM DETAILS, Warrandyte Historical Society Museum (the Old Post Office), 111 Yarra Street. Superb opportunity to view the society's historical display, old photographs and artifacts.

10am-4pm: PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION entries will be on display in the Warrandyte Community Centre, cnr Yarra and Webb Streets. Look in on the Model Railway Club, see 'The Warrandyte Story' videotape and inspect the new complex.

10.30am-4pm: DISPLAY OF SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS and memorabilia at the Warrandyte Primary School, Forbes Street. Identify your old schoolmates. Spot the faces and give them names. Afternoon tea available.

12-2pm: BARBECUE LUNCH in the garden at the museum (Old Post Office). Barbecue provided, bring your own meat. Lunches available at local milk bars, coffee shops and bakeries.

1-4pm: POTTERY DEMONSTRATION and DISPLAY in the old fire station, Mitchell Avenue. Organised by the Warrandyte Arts Association Pottery Group. Working exhibitions with finished pieces for sale. Potters' famous freshly-brewed coffee and biscuits available.

2-2.30pm: OFFICIAL OPENING at the Old Post Office by Phil Honeywood MP. An opportunity to see the historical society's collection of photographs and artifacts.

2-4pm: FOLKART PAINTING demonstration and display, Warrandyte Community Centre, cnr Yarra and Webb Streets.

2-4pm: LOCAL FIRE STATIONS OPEN for inspection. Warrandyte—cnr Yarra Street and Harris Gully Road; South Warran-

dyte—Brumbys Road; North Warrandyte—Glynn's Road. Compare today's modern firefighting appliances with those of yesteryear.

3-4pm: AFTERNOON TEA on the rear verandah of the Old Post Office, overlooking river.

4pm: PARADE OF FIRE TRUCKS from Harris Gully Road to Five Ways, via Yarra Street.

8-12pm: OLD-TIME REUNION SUPPER DANCE, Warrandyte Mechanics Institute Hall, cnr Yarra Street and Mitchell Avenue. Dance to the live music of Triple Play. Cabaret items, supper provided. No alcohol, please. Casual dress. Tickets \$10 each from Jones Pharmacy, opposite the community centre. Enquiries: 844 3122.

Sunday



8am: MORNING SERVICE at St Stephen's Anglican Church, Stiggants Street, Warrandyte.

8.30am: MASS at St Gerard's Catholic Church, Brackenbury Street, Warrandyte.

9am: SPECIAL REUNION SERVICE, St Stephen's Anglican Church, Stiggants Street.

10am: MORNING COFFEE at Warrandyte Community Church, 57 Yarra Street, Warrandyte.

10am: GUIDED GOLDMINE TOUR. Meet at the end of Tunnel Street, off Webb Street. Community bus departs from carpark beside Gospel Chapel.

10am: GUIDED CEMETERY TOUR. Bus departs Gospel Chapel carpark.

10am-12noon: LOCAL FIRE STATIONS

OPEN for inspection. Warrandyte—cnr Yarra Street and Harris Gully Road; South Warrandyte—Brumbys Road; North Warrandyte—Glynn's Road. Compare today's modern firefighting appliances with those of yesteryear.

10am-4pm: PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION entries will be on display in the Warrandyte Community Centre, cnr Yarra and Webb Streets. Look in on the Model Railway Club, see 'The Warrandyte Story' videotape and inspect the new complex.

10.15am: MORNING SERVICE, Uniting Church, cnr Tarroona Avenue and West End Road, Warrandyte.

10.30am: MASS at St Ann's Catholic Church, Knees Road, Park Orchards.

10.30-4pm: DISPLAY OF SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS and memorabilia at the Warrandyte Primary School, Forbes Street. Identify your old schoolmates. Spot the faces and give them names. Afternoon tea available.

10.30am: MORNING SERVICE, Warrandyte Community Church, 57 Yarra Street.

12-2pm: PICNIC LUNCH by the river, in the museum garden (Old Post Office), Yarra Street. Lunches available at local milk bars, coffee shops and bakeries.

12 noon: PARADE OF FIRE TRUCKS from Harris Gully Road to Five Ways, via Yarra Street.

1-4pm: POTTERY DEMONSTRATION and DISPLAY in the old fire station, Mitchell Avenue. Warrandyte Arts Association Pottery Group. Working exhibitions with finished pieces for sale. Potters' famous freshly-brewed coffee and biscuits available.

1.30-3pm: OLD-TIME CONCERT and afternoon tea at the Senior Citizens' Clubrooms, Tarroona Avenue, Warrandyte.

2-4pm: FOLKART PAINTING demonstration and display, Warrandyte Community Centre, cnr Yarra and Webb Streets.

Free community buses will continue to run between venues throughout the weekend.

For further information: 844 3122, 844 3662. Organised by Warrandyte Historical Society.

Exhibit at Potters

Potters Cottage Gallery will soon be the venue for an exciting exhibition of work by two of the original members of the group who established the Cottage in 1958—Reg Preston and Gus McLaren. Reg, who began full-time potting in Warrandyte in 1947, is revered as one of Australia's foremost pioneer potters. Gus McLaren has lived and worked in Warrandyte for the past 40 years and is well known, not only for his talent as a potter, but also as an animator, actor and restaurateur. Both Gus and Reg are represented in overseas, national and regional galleries. The exhibition will be officially opened on Thursday, October 28 at 7.30pm by local writer, Cliff Green, and will continue until Sunday, November 13.



On September 23 the Member for Warrandyte, Phil Honeywood, presented the Friends of the Warrandyte State Park with a cheque for \$2000. The money will be used to purchase new tools for the gang working on the rabbit-proof fence around Frogland, at the rangers' office on Pound Bend Road. The (mainly female) team working on the fence are being trained by ranger Steve Anderson.

Kinder

Enrolments are now being accepted at the Warrandyte and District Pre-School in Tarooona Avenue for their 3-year old kindergarten programs for 1994 and 1995. This high quality group is run by experienced and fully-qualified staff. Further enquiries to 844 3363 or 844 2859.

Garage sale

The Warrandyte Community Childcare Co-op is holding a garage sale at their centre, corner of Warrandyte Road and Masonic Avenue, on Saturday, October 23, from 9am. Enquiries to 844 1205.

Health

The Lions Club of Warrandyte is holding their annual health survey at the community centre on Sunday, October 17, between 11am and 4pm. The survey is free, and will include diabetes, blood, hearing and sight tests. Results of the survey are confidential, and, if indicated, participants can then choose to seek appropriate medical advice.

WAC

The Warrandyte Advisory Committee's annual general meeting will take place at the Warrandyte Community Centre on Wednesday, October 27 at 8pm. Two community representative positions are up for election. Nominations can be made in writing to Glenn Martin, Secretary, PO Box 74, Warrandyte. There will be a guest speaker and everyone is welcome to attend.

Solutions

Warrandyte's Melanie Gardiner, 15, was a member of the team from Presbyterian Ladies College representing Australia at the world final of the Future Problem Solving competition held in Madison, Wisconsin, USA in June. The team previously won the Australian final in 1992. The world final theme was "Nuclear Waste" and included written and stage presentations. The PLC team, who made it through qualifying rounds to finally achieve 17th place, won first place out of 75 in the stage presentation section.

Roadsides

Friends of Warrandyte State Park are eager to help street groups to "adopt" their local roadsides and develop them as natural habitat, especially after the current SEC prunings in Park Orchards and Warrandyte. They can give help with advice and the supply of plants. A number of such groups are already operating on both sides of the river with great success. For help contact the Friends on 844 1060 or ring Stephen Ray on 840 9641.

Fundraiser

The Warrandyte Kinder Building Appeal and Anderson's Creek Primary School are jointly organising a "Millionaires Night in Monte Carlo", to be held in the South Warrandyte Hall on Saturday, November 6. It will be a night of games of chance with great prizes to be won. Cost is \$10 per ticket and booking is essential. For further information ring Jim on 844 4566 or Judy on 844 3150.

Citizens

A number of North Warrandyte folk became Australian citizens last month at a ceremony conducted by Eltham shire president, Cr Pamela Sladden. Among the brand-new Aussies are Jean, Carolyn Mathew and Roger Crowther, Lynda McDonald and Georgina, Andrew, Catherine and Victoria Jones.

PAK

The Parents With Allergy Kids Support Group are holding a special meeting at North Ringwood Maternal and Child Care Centre, 127 Oban Road, North Ringwood on Tuesday, October 26. A guest speaker from the Asthma Foundation will talk about medications and trigger factors. For further information contact Cathy on 560 4613 or Liz on 870 7015.

Fete '93

The Anglican Parish of Warrandyte with Park Orchards invites you to the St Stephens Emmanuel fete which will take place on Saturday, October 16 from 9am to 2pm at St Stephens, Stiggant Street. There will be a wide range of activities and numerous stalls with all sorts of goodies for sale.

Thanks

Bonnie and Cecil Peake of Harris Gully Road, together with their granddaughters Mrs Jeanette Thyer and Mrs Kerryann Barber and their son Stephen wish to thank their neighbours and friends for the love and support shown to them on the death of their daughter, mother and sister—Sylvia Joan. Sylvia died on September 9, 1993.

Choir

On Thursday, November 11, at 8pm the Chime Choir (the Choral Institute of Melbourne) comes to St Stephens Church. This internationally-known choir was founded by Kevin Casey in 1987. Tickets at \$10 each are available from Ann Ley on 844 3543.

Birthday

Warrandyte Senior Citizens invite you to help celebrate their 31st birthday at a concert to be held at the Senior Citizens Centre in Tarooona Avenue on Thursday, November 11 at 1pm.

Parenting

Warrandyte Youth Services Parenting Teenagers Program will be running on Monday evenings from 7pm to 9pm, commencing on October 11 through to November 29. The venue is the Warrandyte Community Centre and cost is \$15 per family. To assist parents to attend together, a range of childcare provisions



Conducted by JUDY GREEN

Drop your news in the letterbox in the front door of our office at the Community Centre, fax it to 844 4168, or post it to PO Box 209, Warrandyte, 3113, by the last Friday in the month.

will be organised. Course numbers are limited, so early registration is advised. For further information and registration forms contact Craig Milburn at the Youth Centre or phone 844 2985.

Christmas

With overseas Christmas mails soon closing, Friends of Warrandyte State Park suggest their book, Discover Warrandyte, might make an excellent present. It is available from many of the local shops. Also on sale by the Friends is a series of bird cards drawn by Melanie Coupar. If you want a copy of Warrandyte Tennis Club's history, Rallies by the River, it can be obtained by ringing 844 2096 or 844 2219.

Mums

The Warrandyte Group of the Nursing Mothers' Association will be holding an informal morning coffee on Wednesday, October 27 at 10am. The group's next discussion night, on whether or not breastfed babies are best for modern mums, will be on Tuesday, November 9 at 8pm. All pregnant women and mothers of babies and toddlers are welcome. Phone Judy on 844 3150 or Maree on 844 2897 for venues or for support and information on breastfeeding.

Auxiliary

Dulcie Crouch, president of the Warrandyte Auxiliary of the Royal Women's Hospital, tells us that her group held a cake stall outside Harry Heath's on Saturday, September 18, resulting in \$226 being raised towards their project, a bed in the oncology department. They still need \$200 to complete the task. Edith Irving of Warrandyte won the raffle. The auxiliary's final fundraising effort for the year will be a Christmas hamper raffle in December.

Tell us

The Diary is your newspaper, and we love to print news of your group's activities. Just jot down all the details, including date, time, venue and contact number, drop it through the slot of our front door at the community centre, fax it to 844 4168, or post it to PO Box 209, Warrandyte, 3113. Copy closes on the last Friday of the month for publication on the second Friday of the month following.

RON C. DAY

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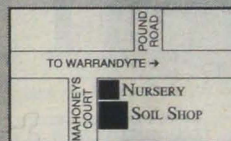
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Please feel free to contact me concerning Council matters either at my Architects' office during the day (718 2133) or at home in the evening (710 1717).

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Redbacks live dangerously in flurry of flags

By CLINTON GRYPAS

Five grand final day wins by a combined total of just 11 points catapulted Warrandyte Basketball Club to seven premierships for the EDJBA winter season. Five other teams lost their grand finals.

Two Redback sides scored by the narrowest of margins, including the under 15DS2 boys of Damian Arsenis, who beat Bulleen 30-29. Brendan Coppa scored 12 points but it was the two free throws by James Dick that did the trick with just over a minute left.

Mark Thomas' 13D2 girls also won by one, coming from behind to beat Ivanhoe 21-20.

The 11DS1 boys of Malcolm Anderson led

Doncaster 16-6 at half time and were set to cruise to victory, but had to withstand a Doncat rally to hang on 24-21.

Andrew Provis scored 11 points as Brendan Coppa's 11DW2 boys sneaked home 23-20 against Park Orchards, while the 9BB2 boys of Trent Masenhelder and Adam Thompson also endured a tense finish to beat Eltham. Jerrod Gibson netted 13 in a 22-17 win as Joshua McKellar closed out the game with four late points.

Another Redback team to survive a thriller were the 13C2 girls of Diane Stoyan, who beat the Wildcats 24-17. Narelle Kropp (eight points) earned the most determined player award for her solid play, while Emma Tice scored seven.

Warrandyte's other premierships team were the 17A1 girls of Gavin Whitmore, who didn't have to raise a sweat on grand final day. Their opponents, Bulleen, forfeited to concentrate on championship finals.

There were some narrow grand final defeats. Robert Hawkes' 9DA boys lost to Eltham 8-11, with Tom Naughtin the MDP, while Peter Brian's 9D2 girls lost to Ivanhoe 5-9.

The 13CS2 boys of Norm Pidgeon and Gavin Whitmore's other two sides, the 17C2 girls and 13A2 boys, were all defeated.

Further premierships came Warrandyte's way at the annual Albury junior tournament. Six of the 13 Redback teams entered made the grand

finals, four emerging victorious.

Diane Godwin's 12A girls pipped the ACT 37-31, with Alicia Ricato scoring 13 and Jacqui Dick 12. The 16B boys of Jo Yarwood edged out Xavier 34-31 when Adam Thompson hit a late three-pointer.

Chris McIntosh's 18B boys thrashed Tumut 65-36 and Carter Zigmantas' under-10 boys were far too good for the Celtics, winning 44-24.

Gavin Whitmore's unlucky month continued when his under-18 girls, unbeaten over the regular matches, lost to hosts Albury by one point after the overtime siren.

Brian Dunne's 12B boys lost to Melton.

Golden boy!

Sixteen-year-old Sydney school-boy Alan Belobradjic gave notice of an outstanding future in tennis by winning the Goldtown Open at Warrandyte last month.

Belobradjic, who is based at the Australian Institute of Sport defeated Steven Foote 6-3, 6-3 in the prestigious men's singles final in miserable conditions on September 12.

He took control of the match from the outset, making full use of his high-kicking service and pinpoint accuracy from the baseline to race through the first set

Story and picture:
DAVID KUTCHER

in 37 minutes.

The second set was virtually a replay of the first, with Belobradjic continuing to serve brilliantly and call the shots and Foote unable to produce the answers.

The final was all over in just 82 minutes.

Belobradjic's class and maturity clearly demonstrated that the AIS is teaching our up-and-coming players the mental

toughness and attitude which are such vital ingredients in making it to the top.

He told the *Diary*: "The Goldtown Open win is an important stepping stone in my career."

"I now hope to earn enough points on the satellite tour to qualify to play in the Australian Open."

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

The sponsor, Biscote Britannia, offers \$5000 prizemoney, plus \$400 to the winner of the Goldtown Grab.

The women's singles final was won by A. Elwood, who defeated R. Mawdsley 6-4, 6-4.

L. Williams and M. Philippoussis took the men's doubles title, downing A. Florent/S. Sruk 6-3, 2-6, 6-3, and J. Limmer combined with J. Richardson to win the women's doubles, defeating M. Avotins and R. Mawdsley 6-2, 1-6, 6-4.

The winner-take-all Goldtown Grab was won by M. Breen.



Alan Belobradjic with his Goldtown Open trophy after his easy win in the men's singles final.

SHIRE OF ELTHAM

Community Blackberry Control Program

Over the 1993-94 Summer period the Shire of Eltham will be undertaking blackberry control on Council managed land, and encourages all residents to control blackberries on their own properties.

The Shire will assist any group of five or more landowners by:

1. Working with the group to develop an appropriate blackberry control program.
2. Organizing a professional spray contractor to control blackberries on all land within the group's boundaries.
3. Limited funds are available for the Shire to finance herbicide costs where a contractor has been organized for the group by the Shire.

In return landholders are expected to cover all labour costs. This is a great opportunity for residents to get their blackberries treated with minimal fuss and at a reduced rate.

Interested groups are invited to obtain a Registration of Interest Form from the Council, which must be returned by 12th November 1993. For more information please contact Marianne Henderson, Land Protection Officer on 430 1145.

Rodney J Roscholler
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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SHIRE OF ELTHAM

Pest Plant Local Law Public Meeting

Over the past 18 months, a community based working group has been considering issues to be addressed through a proposed Pest Plant Local Law for the Shire of Eltham.

All residents are invited to comment on a discussion paper which outlines the proposal in detail and is available from the Shire of Eltham municipal offices or by contacting the phone number below.

To further help residents understand the issues and development of the proposal, two public workshops are to be held on:

October 21st, 1993: 8-10pm
at the Eltham Community Centre, Main Road, Eltham

October 24th, 1993: 1-3pm
at the St Andrews Hall, Proctor Street, St Andrews.

All written submissions relating to the discussion paper will be considered and accepted until the 9th November 1993. For further information please contact the Working Group Co-ordinator, Marianne Henderson on 430 1145.

Rodney J Roscholler
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Warrandyte Cellars

152 Yarra Street, Warrandyte. Phone 844 3282

Peter's Selection for OCTOBER

- ★★★★★ Elderton Shiraz 1990\$13.95 (\$150 per doz)
(Wine of the Month)
- ★★★ Salisbury Estate Cabernet 1992\$7.95 (\$86 per doz)
- ★★★ Salisbury Estate Chardonnay 1993\$7.95 (\$86 per doz)
- ★★★★ Hugh Hamilton Rhine Riesling 1993\$9.95 (\$110 per doz)
- ★★★★★ Tim Adams Riesling 1993\$12.95 (\$140 per doz)

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- Brand Laira 1986 \$18.50, P. Rumball \$19.50

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Dytes dig in for big season

By DAVID KUTCHER

Warrandyte Cricket Club have started the new season with big expectations—and a solid day at the crease against Norwood.

The Dytes, who are determined to improve on last season's third placing in the RDCA's Chandler Shield competition, were all out for 201, a better score than it looked on paper when a slow, soggy Norwood outfield was taken into account.



Rodney Hogg as Test batsmen remember him.

The hero was opener Andrew Hood, who made 84, an innings described by president Steve Pascoe as his finest for the club.

It was tough going for the batting side, who crawled to 1/61 off the first 40 overs.

Warrandyte suffered a major setback when captain-coach John Sharman was dismissed with the first ball after tea, but Hood continued to hold the innings together.

He consistently lofted the ball over the infield to keep the scoreboard ticking and had effective partners in Tony Sturesteps, who contributed 23, and John Barker (30).

An indication of the heaviness of the ground was a lofted shot from Harry Drysdale, which "plugged" in the turf. The Warrandyte batsmen were able to run five while the ball was dug out and returned.

The other men's sides fared not nearly as well as the seniors.

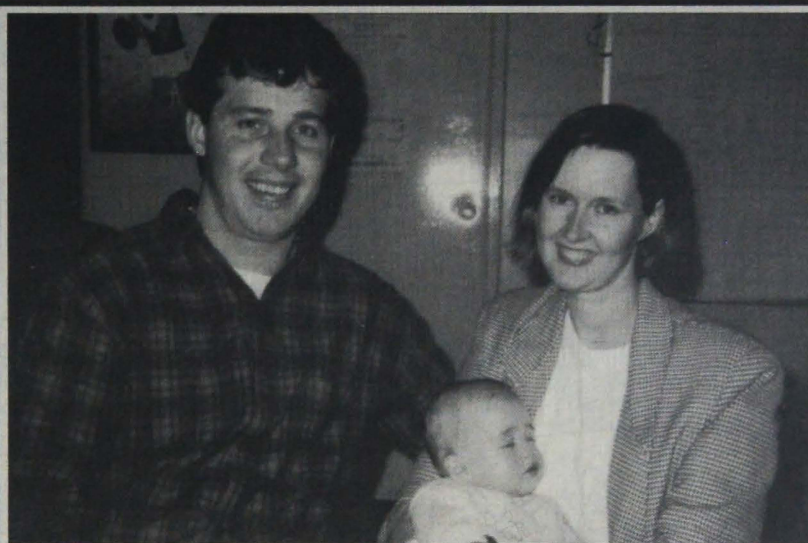
No play was possible in the seconds' game because of the sodden condition of the ground and the thirds, fourths and fifths were dismissed for 98, 100 and 97 respectively.

The senior eleven's first home game is against last year's A-grade premiers Montrose on October 16 and should see the long-awaited debut before his local fans of former Test fast bowler Rodney Hogg, who has emerged from retirement.

Captain-coach Sharman believes there are big things in store for Warrandyte in 1993-94.

"It is too early to tell," he said, "but all the signs are there that we are in for a big year."

"We have recruited well to get Hogg and former Richmond fast bowler Dean Humphries and we have been further strengthened by the return to the club of Sturesteps and Cameron Day."



Darren Murphy, wife Fiona and son Nicholas at the vote count. Below: Steve Carroll.

Two of the best

By LEE TINDALE

Century goalkicker Darren Murphy and tigerish rover Steve Carroll, the 1988 winner, have shared Warrandyte Football Club's best and fairest award for 1993.

Each polled 38 votes at last month's count.

Dale Vitiritti was third with 33 votes and John O'Brien fourth with 31. Kimberley O'Connor, who had won the award for the previous two years, finished fifth, on 24.

Murphy, a former Fitzroy player who was in his second season with the Bloods, described his win as a "great finish personally to a great season for the club"

He kicked 124 goals for the season, including 10 in the grand final.

Carroll said the award had "put the icing on the cake".

"It wasn't my personal goal to win it," he said. "My goal was to do everything I could to help Warrandyte win the premiership."

"I thought I had a chance in the award, but I couldn't get to the clubrooms in time for the count. I walked in to the fellows shaking my hand and congratulating me."

"Yes, it was a great way to finish a premiership season."

SPORT

Carroll had no way of knowing it at the time, but the best was yet to come.

At Presentation Night at the Park Orchards Chalet on October 1 he won the inaugural Gary (Madge) Allsop award for the club's most courageous player.

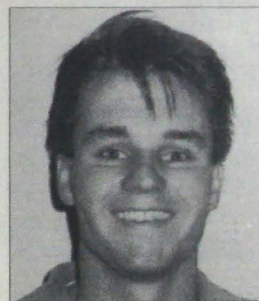
"To me this beats best and fairest and is as good as a premiership," he said, referring to the nature of the award and his mateship with and respect for the man who presented it. Allsop was crippled in an on-field accident early in the 1989 season.

The two Darrens—Murphy and coach Peters—were judged best players of the finals series.

Young ruckman Dale Comrie was a runaway winner of the reserves best and fairest award.

Comrie polled 37 votes to score by 13 from Andrew Schafer. Jamie Weatherly was third with 22 votes and Chris Moloney fourth, with 20.

All four placegetters could play significant senior roles in second division next season.



season.

Two life memberships were awarded at presentation night—to Ken Beruldsen for 24 years of contribution as a player, past player stalwart and legal adviser, and to Dawn Bellinger for 12 years' service in the canteen.

The clubperson award went to Brian Nielsen, who started the season as under-18s coach, finished it as bar manager—and ran the Harley-Davidson raffle in between.

The name Nielsen figured in another presentation, the Ken Nielsen Memorial Award (named after Brian's father) for trainers. It was won by Melanie Rankin.

Special awards were made to timekeeper Shirley McMartin, Anne Drew and Georgina McFee (meals and raffles) and Julie Ryan, Rosemary Jackson, Dawn Bellinger and Nicki Ryan (canteen).

Other trophy-winners: Seniors: Mark Harbolt (most improved); Luke McFarlane-Smith (best first-year player); Trent Ferguson (coach's award); David Pike (most determined).

Reserves: Peter Sharp (most improved); Frank Levey (most determined); Chris Moloney (coach's award).

Purcell ready to return

David Purcell, who led Warrandyte Football Club into the EDFL third division finals in 1991-92, is likely to coach the Bloods again next season.

Premiership coach Darren Peters has resigned for business reasons, but will continue as a player.

Purcell coached Warrandyte to fourth and second positions in his two seasons as coach and did much of the ground-work for this year's flag.

He has applied for the job and is odds-on favourite to get it.

"Yes, I'm keen to coach again," he told the Diary. "I resigned after the 1992 season because for a number of reasons I simply didn't have the time to put into the job."

"The main reason was that we were shifting house and I had to get the existing place ready for sale."

"I'm ready to coach again now if they want me."

There is no doubt that an overwhelming majority of Warrandyte players, officials and supporters want him. He has been immensely popular at the club since crossing from Heidelberg, in the Diamond Valley league.

Coaching positions will be announced at the club's annual general meeting at the clubrooms on Monday, October 18 (starting 8 pm).

Brett Munro, Peters' associate at the helm of the seniors this season, will not be seeking a coaching position, but will play. Warrandyte has not yet seen even a glimpse of Munro's best form. He suffered a severe viral infection early in the season and the games he managed were played under extreme difficulties.

Munro's brother Lex, a member of the 1993 match committee, has applied for the reserves coaching job.

A priority for the incoming Warrandyte committee will be the formation of a competitive under-19s side for the club's elevation to second division.

The EDFL has discontinued the under-18 competition in favour of under-19s. Warrandyte's under-18s disbanded this season for lack of numbers.

Club secretary Norm Carrington has resigned the position but is likely to be seen in the new role of football manager, working closely with the new secretary.

President Laurie Sloan has already announced his intention to stand again. It would be his 11th year of an interrupted presidency.

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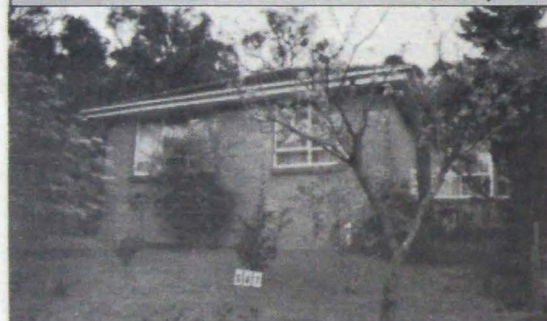
Question the motives of anyone who may suggest that you could obtain a higher price. Remember the true value of your property will ultimately be determined by the purchaser. If I can help with any of your Real Estate requirements whether buying, selling or renting a property, please call me personally on 844 3085.

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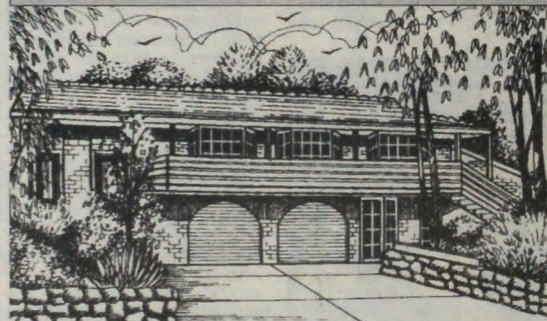


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