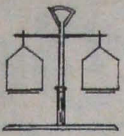


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WARRANDYTE

# DIARY



No. 262, February 1995

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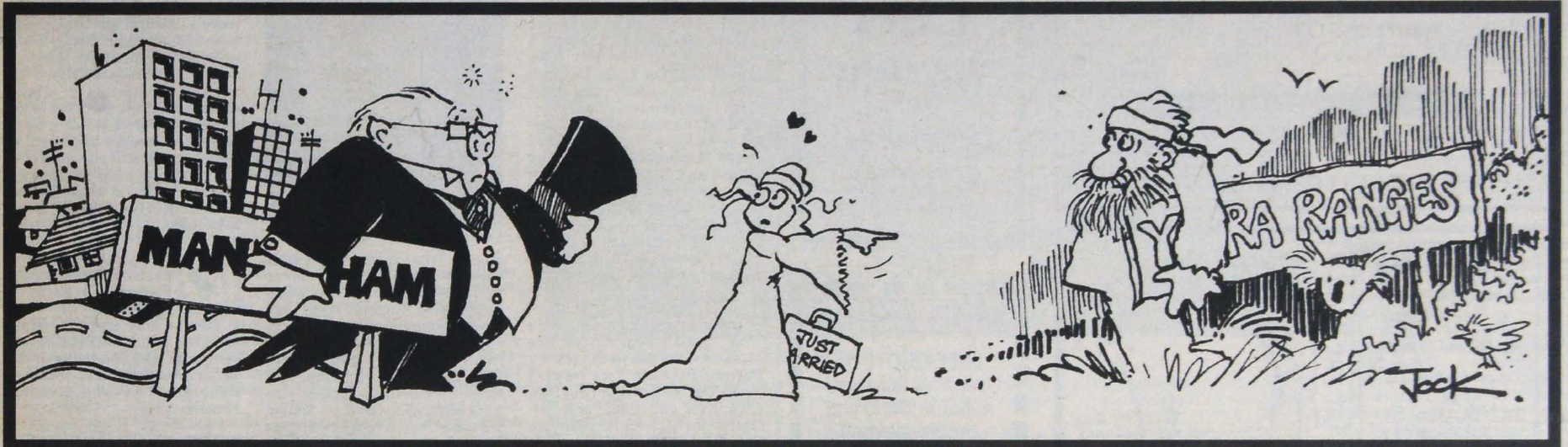
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# New council crisis



## Wonga Park wants out

By DAVID WYMAN and CLIFF GREEN

Warrandyte is anxiously watching as Wonga Park residents campaign to secede from the new, state government-created, City of Manningham.

Their main concern in being forcibly joined to the old Doncaster-Templestowe municipality lies with the probability that the new city will still be controlled by nine urban-elected councillors and their voice will be lost in a continuing clamour for commercial and residential development.

Warrandyte and Park Orchards residents know the feeling well. For a number of years they have been battling to prevent subdivision in the Green Wedge.

Urban-elected representatives on Doncaster council have continued to push for development in these environmentally-sensitive areas.

However despite this, commissioners of the new City of Manningham claim to have recognised the unique character of Warrandyte and are aware of community concern and recent planning debates about zone changes and subdivision.

In an interview with the *Diary*, chairman of commissioners, Adam Kempton, said he appreciated why people would want to live in Warrandyte. "I am aware of the sensitivities you have about your environment," he said.

"We are not a commission which will disregard your semi-rural environment. We are not a knock-it-down-and-concrete-it commission.

"But having said that, we don't anticipate that the area is going to be free from planning controversy," Mr Kempton said.

"In relation to the Green Wedge, I am certainly aware that planning and environmental issues are of great importance to you.

"I can't see that Warrandyte's place in the City of Manningham will change in the future. There has been a differential approach by council to Warrandyte's unique environment and its community's strengths."

Mr Kempton, a former Member of Parliament and solicitor in Warrnambool, and now a business broker there, has the task of convincing Wonga Park residents that they should continue to be part of the City of Manningham.

"I've told the Wonga Park residents to make out their case why they shouldn't be in Manningham," he told the *Diary*. "If they want to take it further we won't stand in their way."

A meeting arranged by the commissioners with Wonga Park residents late last month appeared to backfire on the commissioners when they were told Wonga Park wanted to join the Shire of Yarra Ranges, the large new Yarra Valley shire.

Philip Glenister, secretary of the Wonga Park and District Residents' Association, summarised residents' concerns for the

*Diary*: "There were about 250 residents at the meeting which expressed several concerns.

"The first related to planning controls. A regional strategy plan currently covers Wonga Park and is about to be strengthened to give better protection to the Yarra Valley. If the provisions of that plan are moved to Manningham, they will become part of the metropolitan planning scheme—which can be changed by the minister at any time, and by councillors over time.

"The Wonga Park residents believe that the City of Manningham will continue to be controlled by nine urban-based councillors. And we are unlikely to get direct representation on the council in the short term.

"The feeling is that councillors in the Shire of Yarra Ranges would have more empathy with Wonga Park.

"Wonga Park believes the level of services it receives from Lillydale is superior to that provided by Manningham. In fact, a representative of the Park Orchards Ratepayers' Association told the meeting—in other words—'no offence, but we don't want Wonga Park'. He said they felt strongly that they were not getting a decent level of service from Manningham now and that by adding Wonga Park, service resources would be stretched further."

Wonga Park resident Bib Stillwell is proposing a meeting to work out a strategy for the area to join Yarra Ranges Shire.

## Why no houses?



This site on the corner and Webb and Brackenbury Streets should be buzzing with activity. Minister for Housing, Rob Knowles, promised late last year that our long-awaited public housing development would com-

mence on December 5. Jan Tindale's picture (above) shows how the site looked as the *Diary* went to press. Four houses set in private landscaped gardens with separate service areas are planned to be built.

CYRIL

By PAUL WILLIAMS



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# So who said bowls was a non-violent sport?



Glenn Pearson loves a party, and the one he threw at Pambula Beach last month to celebrate his 46th birthday was a ripper. We know because his brother John was there and he told us. Glenn, who'd lived almost all his life in Warrandyte before moving to the NSW Sapphire Coast with wife Virginia a few years ago, tottered to bed at 5am, aware of—but not then intimidated by—the fact that he had to be on the green at the local bowling club at 10 for the singles championship. It was a wan and wobbly GP who squinted at the kitty through heavily-bloodshot eyes, sent down his first bowl, pitched forward off the mat and measured his length on the manicured grass! Astonishment among those about him turned to mirth as he picked himself up and grinned, then astonishment again as he proceeded to produce some stunning shots to win his match handsomely. He slept very well that night.



The homing instinct of a young male koala with wanderlust has been put to the test by Warrandyte State Park rangers David Van Bockel and Paul Hay. This little guy had been "arrested" three times for roaming, at his extreme peril, from his Currawong nature reserve home on Reynolds Road. His most recent adventure took him into the service station near The Pines. Appropriately named Drifter by David and Paul, who have grown very fond of him, he has now been relocated at Jumping Creek. Let's see him find Reynolds Road from there!



We are much saddened by the passing of our mate Max, the extraordinary Gordon setter of Brackenbury Street, life-long pet, pal and family member of Bob and Paddy Cox. Max was probably the nearest thing to humanity you or I are likely to see in a dog. His one shortcoming was that he couldn't actually talk. You probably saw Max and Bob walking the riverbank. Indeed, it was on one of those daily constitutional strolls that Max earned top-of-this-page status last year by piddling down the back of a cast member of A Country Practice who was sitting on a rug eating his lunch between filming. The actor was moved to remark that "there is a true critic". Cancer claimed Max recently at the age of 11 years and three months less 10 days. But if there's such a thing as a doggy heaven, we reckon he's up there right now living the good afterlife with the likes of Lassie and Old Shep.



We'd never have taken Shane Garrick—macho young local plumber and fanatical North Melbourne supporter—for a birdwatcher, but he was one of 40-odd folk who shared Breakfast with the Birds in the very early morning of Sunday, Janu-

## IN RED & WHITE



Glenn Pearson. Oops!

ary 29. What it was was a walk through Jumping Creek reserve with celebrated local ornithologist Ken Simpson, what they saw (among other feathered delights) was a spinetail swift, an Australian hobby and a multitude of golden whistlers, and what they had for brekkie was pancakes. But back to Shane. Seems he was a late-developing fauna freak who might still be oblivious to the joys of nature but for an American buddy who stayed with him a few years back. Shane did the perfect host thing by taking him to the Healesville Sanctuary to show him a bit of our wildlife—and was deeply embarrassed to find his guest knew a lot more about it than he did. Being a very com-

but she'll tell you that it's great to be alive. Lynne was rushed to hospital on November 22 with what was diagnosed as pneumonia but turned out to be Legionnaire's disease. She spent more than three weeks under heavy sedation in intensive care, on drips and oxygen, then what seemed an eternity in a post-crisis 'twilight zone' of very slow recovery. Lynne is back home after three weeks in a rehabilitation hospital. It will be quite a while before she's back to full health, and it's unlikely that she'll return to the shop, which is for sale.



And a very special welcome to Jackson John Fisher, brand-new grandson for Diary stalwarts Judy and Cliff Green and first child for their daughter Fiona and son-in-law Mark. Jackson entered this world on December 14 and lives in Ferntree Gully.



What's this then? Do our beady old eyes deceive us, or is that Mathew Elliot training for yet another Warrandyte football season? By golly and God bless him, it is! Kooka, as they call him, has been one of the Bloods' better players for a lot of seasons. Unfortunately, he has also been one of their most



Max. Is this what they call a dog's life?

petitive fellow, Shane couldn't allow that, so he hit the books and the bush trails. He now knows there are kangaroos other than those in blue-and-white footy jumpers.



And before we fly on to other topics, let us break the news that a pair of rare, endangered regent honeyeaters was seen in Osborne Road, near the river, over Christmas. There may be fewer than 1000 of these birds left in eastern Australia.



For weeks, Lynne Kennedy, of the Village Milk Bar, literally fought for her life. She won. She's still not a well lady,

injury-prone. After each serious hurt he has announced his retirement—as he did last year and the year before et cetera—and in each retirement the footy bug bites him again and he comes back for more. Dare we say more comebacks than Dame Nellie? No? An injury-free Mathew would be an asset to the Bloods in 1995, and he's certainly overdue for a change of luck. Our cartoonist, Mal Brown, pays him tribute on Page 11.

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# DIARY

Edited by Cliff Green and Lee Tindale  
Sub-editor: Clinton Grybas

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# School hits the top

## Every student gains VCE pass

By CLINTON GRYBAS

Warrandyte High School created its own piece of history last year when all 63 of its Year 12 students received their Victorian Certificate of Education.

Delighted principal Michael Blake told the *Diary* it was the first time all students at the school had gained the certificate.

"We're very pleased to have a 100 per cent pass rate because obviously you can't do much better than that. It's something we've never had, despite some pretty good results over the last few years. We've hovered around 92 to 95 per cent but this year it shot right up to 100, and I know that's better than some other schools in the area," he said.

The school also surpassed the state average for students successfully applying to pursue further study. Of the 55 applicants, 46 gained first round VTAC offers, which included 32 university places.

The school's top student was Chris VanDeVelde, who obtained 99 out of a possible total of 100 under a new marking system introduced last year. He gained a place in the elite science-law course at Melbourne university. Six other students exceeded a score of 90. They were Dyon Balding, Anna Swindley, Fiona Johnson, Sally Symes, Terry

Kerr and Lena Condos. Close to 50 per cent of all CAT grades achieved at the school were B grade standard or better.

Michael Blake said that while the new method of assessment placed more responsibility with the school, the pass rate reflected the outstanding staff and student work rate.

"The relationship between students and staff is very good. With that we're able to see a more congenial environment for the kids to work in. The staff work very hard and put a lot of time and effort into ensuring the kids are successful. Their work ethic has become a major factor in the school's success in recent years."

He also said the school will continue a recent push to promote itself more in the community.

"I think we tend to gloss over the good things that go on. The press and everyone else is eager to go for the bad things and talk about what goes wrong, and there is a tendency not to talk about the good things when they occur."

He said that in the face of massive staff cutbacks last year the school maintained a strong sporting, camping and drama production program, while increasing its music department.

"It's no good hiding under a bush all your life, you've got to get out and tell people what's



Principal Michael Blake congratulates top student Chris VanDeVelde.

happening. It also helps in terms of getting support from the community. If you have to ask them for help in some way, then they're more ready to support you because they know what you're doing."

He expressed pride in the Japanese language program, which is now being offered right through to year 12. The program will continue to involve six primary schools this year and will gain

further cultural support from a new Japanese language assistant.

Other changes this year will see the introduction of the school's charter, which aims to improve the quality of the program for the 444 students.

"Not that we think there is anything wrong with the program," Michael Blake said, "but there is always scope to improve what we do. This can be through com-

puter technology, better teaching methods and increased student welfare."

Entering his fifth year in the school's top job he said he's very much looking forward to it. "The atmosphere and the way things happened the week before the start was fantastic. There was a lot of staff in very early, which is a sign people are positive about what's happening."

## Council seeks closer contact

By DAVID WYMAN

Manningham City Council's commissioners have signalled that property rates will be reduced by cutting council expenditure, improving operating efficiencies and services and by promoting the compulsory competitive tendering plan for council works, services and supplies. They are also encouraging closer liaison with the community.

Adam Kempton, chairman of the commissioners, told the *Diary* that it would be much harder for Manningham council to reduce rates. "All we've done is add Wonga Park; other councils have merged so they can reduce overheads enormously," he said.

Mr Kempton said the commissioners had reviewed the method of setting rates, and would have to appraise current ward boundaries.

Residents who chose to pay their rates in full will have to do so by April 11. Those who elected to pay by instalments had to have paid their first by January 3 with the remainder due by February 28, May 31 and August 31. Council will send reminder notices before each instalment is due.

Council's financial year has also been changed. The rates currently being paid by residents will cover the period to September 30. The 1995/96 financial year will run from October 1 through to June 30, 1996. Residents will therefore have three instalments to pay in that time.

Mr Kempton said that democratic council elections should return next year. "There has been talk of March, but it's not in our hands," he added.

The commissioners want to improve access by ratepayers to council's decision-making processes. Council meetings will now be held fortnightly. Residents and groups will be able to speak to commissioners at the start of the meeting by prior arrangement, for three minutes, to express concerns or views on council matters.

Mr Kempton also said the commissioners will be establishing an advisory group and have asked interested community members to nominate themselves.

"We welcome input into decisions and look forward to speaking with people who will be the voice of the community and indicate needs, desires and concerns which we will be able to take on board," he said. Residents and groups will also have the opportunity to meet with commissioners on an informal basis by appointment on Thursday and Friday afternoons. "It's just a question of phoning the council and making an appointment," Mr Kempton explained.

**NEXT MONTH:**  
We talk to  
Nillumbik council

## Work hits road dangers



Work proceeding on Melbourne Hill. (Picture by Clinton Grybas)

Two of Warrandyte's most notorious traffic accident spots have received \$200,000 worth of improvements from VicRoads and Manningham council.

Resurfacing and camber upgrades of the road were undertaken at the Melbourne Hill Road corner and near Harris Gully Road.

Graham Hawke, council's physical works and enterprises manager, said that it was council's job to ensure that the roads are safe for everyone.

"What triggered the works was the fatal accident on the Melbourne Hill Road corner last year," he said. "Where accidents occur council investigates and takes action where they believe something should be done."

"VicRoads and council undertook some testing at the sites before Christmas and decided the improvements were needed."

"So far it has worked well and been effective in making driving easier, particularly in wet conditions."

The improvements came shortly after VicRoads approved the lowering of the road's speed limit to 70 kilometres per hour in the wake of several serious accidents last year. Graham Hawke said residents concerned with other roads should write to him at the council.

"I welcome residents' suggestions on what roads are particularly unsafe in the municipality," he said. Residents can write to him care of the council at PO Box 1, Doncaster, 3106.

## Resort plan to go to public hearing

By DAVID WYMAN

The proposed Heritage Golf and Country Club Resort, planned to straddle the Yarra at Chirside Park, will be subject to public hearings in Lilydale from February 22 to 24.

Following several objections to the proposal, the Minister for Planning, Rob Maclellan, has appointed an independent panel to hear and consider submissions on the golf and country club.

The developers of the Heritage Golf and Country Club Resort are seeking amendments to the Healesville and Lilydale Planning Schemes to allow the project to go ahead. There is no provision for an environment impact study.

The development proposes two 18-hole championship golf courses, to be built mostly on the Yarra's flood plains, 305 condominiums and housing units, extensive car parks and facilities for dining, gaming, conferences, fitness and administration.

The existing St John of God property of 137 hectares south

of the river, near Mount Lofty on Homestead Road, and 213 hectares of Henley Farm, north of the river in Kangaroo Ground South, would be involved in the project if it went ahead.

A company, Heritage Golf and Country Club, holds options to purchase these properties.

Several groups are concerned over the proposal because it will virtually take over the Yarra for a stretch upstream from Lower Homestead Road. They say that public access will be denied and would prefer to see Warrandyte State Park extend into this area.

Concerns about diverting the flow of the Yarra to avoid flooding of the golf course have also been published. The impact of fertilised stormwater run-off on the Yarra has also been questioned.

One of the major shareholders in the company, David Inglis, contacted the *Diary* after we published a story on the proposed resort in November. Mr Inglis said he would fax a response to the story but this was never received.

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## Friends remember Richard

### LETTER

Richard Swift passed away as a result of an accident in December 1994, leaving his wife Jillian and daughter Rachael with significant financial burdens.

As friends and colleagues of Richard's we have taken upon ourselves to form the Richard Swift Memorial Fund, with the objective of raising up to \$40,000 to assist Richard's family overcome some of the pressing financial problems they now face.

Many offers of support, both financial and physical, have been made and on behalf of Jillian and Rachael we take this opportunity to thank you. Anyone wishing and able to make a donation should forward their cheque, made payable to "Richard Swift Memorial Fund", to 7-9 Magpie Lane, Warrandyte.

A number of social and fundraising events are being planned. Your help and support would be most appreciated.

Please feel free to contact the trustee at any time.

Steve Walker  
Adrian Mullens  
Greg Kennedy

# Cemetery landscaping complete

Andersons Creek Cemetery Trust has completed its second major landscaping project with the opening of a new pond and waterfall development.

The new area has been designed and developed to fit in with the Warrandyte environment, using suitable rocks and native vegetation.

Over the past five years almost three acres has been cleared to provide burial space.

"We are now re-developing the site with particular emphasis on keeping the cemetery as much a part of the Warrandyte environment as possible," Trust spokesman Robert White said.

"We can't lose sight of the fact that the primary use of the area is for a cemetery, but we believe that with proper planning, the impact on local residents can be reduced."

Apart from two new landscaped areas, new paths have been built along the perimeter and through specially arranged bush areas. Additional seats have also been installed.

"We have had a wonderful reaction from visitors," Mr White said. "They like the fact that the cemetery is quiet and relaxing. This is important in what is a very emotional time."

Mr White said the commitment of the staff, under works manager Alan Bellinger, was also crucial.

"It is more than a job to the staff. They take a personal pride in the work that is done and the appearance of the cemetery reflects a great deal on their efforts," he said.

The trust is also examining plans for a new office at the cemetery. It will be built to blend in with the surroundings. The office will enable the cemetery trust to have closer contact with

the community and visitors.

"The cemetery has now grown to a point where we believe we need to be more accessible," Mr White said.

"People will be able to visit the cemetery to arrange funerals and speak with our secretary. This will help overcome any concerns or fears that families may have."

The trust has also recently introduced a section for the scattering of ashes while a further plaque will be provided to record the names of people whose remains lie in other areas.

Mr White said the trust was still concerned about the future of the cemetery. "It is filling quickly and by the turn of the century there will be few burial areas remaining," he said.

"It's a Catch 22 situation—the better you make the cemetery look, the more people want to use it. And we can't refuse people the right to be buried at Warrandyte."



Works manager, Alan Bellinger, right, and staff member, Chris Walshe, plant out the newly opened waterfall at the Andersons Creek Cemetery.

### CLYDE & OCKER



"They're down to a skeleton staff at the cemetery, Ock."

## Warning on fire danger

Recent rainfall and cooler weather appears to have eased the fire danger in the area. However, residents are warned that fire restrictions are still in force. Nillumbik shire's fire prevention officer, Bernie Murray, said that during the fire danger period, fires in the open air are restricted, meaning that campfires and barbecues can only be used under certain conditions.

"Incinerators may be allowed in certain parts of the area during

the fire danger period, depending on the particular local law requirements in place from the old municipal councils," he said. "Penalties for lighting a fire illegally may be up to a \$5,000 fine and 12 months imprisonment."

Bernie Murray said that a number of people have lit fires recently only to find the fire brigade on their doorstep.

"Turning out to illegal fires lit by residents at this time of year is a nuisance that the brigades

do not need. It can also be rather costly if the police happen to follow along to the reported fire.

"There is still potential for the fire danger to become high again this year and fire restrictions will not be lifted until this period has passed."

He urged residents to maintain their properties in fire-safe condition and to monitor the fire restriction signs around the area. He can be reached for further information on 430 1277.

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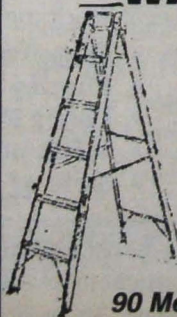
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SERGEANT KEITH WALKER



# Fags are a drag for local young

By CLINTON GRYBAS

Warrandyte's youth have a higher incidence of smoking than the rest of Melbourne, according to preliminary research undertaken by a project officer investigating drug and alcohol use in Warrandyte.

Tom Delahunty, who started the 12 month project in September, told the *Diary* that children as young as 13 and 14 are involved in drugs and alcohol.

"One thing I have found here is that the incidence of smoking appears to be higher than generally across Melbourne. My research to date with primary and secondary schools has been consultative. I go and talk to a group of kids and get them to respond to certain questions.

"That's where we've got an image of their perceptions of smoking and drinking and their actual involvement in it. By and large in primary school they're not using alcohol or tobacco, but by the end of years seven and eight significant numbers of young people are involved in experimental use of tobacco, alcohol and it would appear marijuana too.

"Marijuana use among young

people is very high across Australia. Something like 30 per cent of people under 25 have used it in the last 12 months—and they do use it fairly young. We'll know more about this in the second part of the research."

Tom Delahunty said he had met

people recognise drug issues and problems and they immediately think illicit drugs and syringes. There's no doubt that's a significant issue, but by far the biggest issue is tobacco and alcohol, and the most expensive in terms of premature deaths

The PCCC meanwhile donated an engraving tool to Warrandyte Cycles as part of an on-going project to put identification numbers on all bikes. Alan Alder of the PCCC said this is to try and reduce the thousands of untraceable bikes auctioned by police every year.

"Andrew Wegener at the store will offer the service to purchasers of new bikes, those brought in for servicing and those presenting bikes for marking. It will be easier if a parent or relative accompanies the young owner, as the latest police recommendation is that a driving licence number be used to facilitate speedy identification."

Sergeant Walker is delighted with the progress of the PCCC after nearly a year of operation.

"It has certainly brought the police into closer contact with the community, finding out through their representatives what they want from their local police.

"I believe the information we're getting back at this stage is that the police are doing what the local community wants. That is to be out there, be seen and be a part of the community."

**...as young as 13 are involved...**

with co-operation and enthusiasm from the five primary and three secondary schools involved in the project.

"The approach taken at primary and secondary levels is one of harm minimisation, accepting that some young people will make the choice to use alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. We will help them to identify what the potential harm is and how they can minimise this, rather than having a blanket abstinence recommendation, which is always ignored."

He said the message will be sent out through service groups and sporting clubs, helping the community come to terms with drug and alcohol issues.

"One of the problems is that

and time lost off work."

Tom Delahunty praised the assistance of the Warrandyte and Park Orchards Police Community Consultative Committee (PCCC), who put in the submission for the project.

Keith Walker, local police sergeant and chairman of the committee, said the pilot project results will be widely published.

"We've had numerous enquiries from people throughout Victoria who are keen to follow suit and get a project worker for themselves. I have no doubt that when the results are known and published at the end of Tom Delahunty's term they will be utilised, certainly on a state basis, and I have no doubt it will go national," he said.

# New hope for unemployed

Local unemployed young people are being invited to apply for one of 15 positions available for a 26 week Landcare and Environmental Action Program (LEAP).

A training program for young people aged 15-20, it will investigate and promote conservation, recycling and waste minimisation strategies within the Warrandyte community.

Offering a combination of formal training and practical experience, the program is a Department of Employment, Education and Training initiative, sponsored by Warrandyte Youth Services. It will commence on March 6 and run to September 1.

Young people registered with the CES are eligible to apply, with those successful paid a training allowance while on the

program.

They will also explore existing and develop new conservation networks within the Warrandyte community. The participants will then promote the strategies and networks to the community. A pilot recycling program will be initiated within the Warrandyte area.

A spokesman for the Recycling Warrandyte Project said it is hoped the project will provide participants with a range of skills that will transfer to employment and further education options.

"The formal training will generally be accredited so that it can relate to other vocational courses if young people wish to do further training," he said. These can range from office procedures and word processing skills to environment and cultural concepts.

"During the project, each participant will have work re-entry plans developed to ensure that by the end of the project they have secured either work or a place with a training institute," he said.

"Contact with the participant will continue over a three month period, to ensure the placement is progressing well."

The project will be run from an office in the West End area of Warrandyte. An information session will be held on Monday, February 27 at 10am at the Warrandyte Community Centre. The project will be explained in detail and those present will be given an interview time by the CES.

For further information contact Carol at the Ringwood Youth Access Centre on 871 1848, or Craig Milburn at Warrandyte Youth Services on 844 2985.

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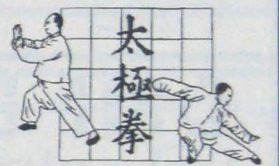
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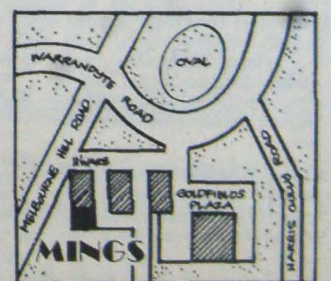
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WARRANDYTE

# One summer's day in a eucalypt tree



**T**HE sun had slipped beyond the zenith but the energy-sapping heat showed no sign of abating. The koala had sat for most of the day slouched in the fork of a majestic gum tree. From this elevated position she was able to see the silvery meander of the reed-edged river, the neat indentations of the dusty car park and between the two, the grassy picnic area, parched brown from too much sun and too little rain.

The koala knew this place well, the tall trees that grow here provide good habitat for eucalypt-dependant animals like herself. But it was not a quiet place, especially on days like these when the summer sun burns in a sky of brilliant blue and the air is heavy with the scent of aromatic bush oils.

Though she had seen it all before, the native marsupial languorously watched the comings and goings that were taking place below. From mid-

## NATURE

By PAT COUPAR  
Drawn by MELANIE COUPAR

morning, the noisy machines had begun to arrive, doors opened and occupants spilled out.

Young, old, families and couples—what social animals people are. Out came all the paraphernalia for the picnic lunch: table cloths, plates, cups, food and drink. After their feed the koala noticed that the children became more active, while the adults rested in the shade of the trees.

Some of the group played in the water. Despite her dumpy appearance and thick fur coat, the koala was also quite adept at swimming. In fact swimming had once saved her life.

It was a day much like today, except on that occasion the searing heat had been accompanied by a strong northerly wind that rattled and swayed the trees with alarming force.

Midway through the afternoon the koala's sensitive nose had detected a faint acrid smell in the air. It was the first sign that something was wrong. Not long after came the ominous crackle of incinerating leaves. Banners of burning bark came flying through the air, igniting trees along the way.

She had never experienced fire before, but an inborn instinct compelled the koala to escape. Scrambling down the tree she scampered to the river. Swimming for her life she reached the other side just as a sudden wind change turned the fire back on itself.

That was four years ago, and the young animal had taken a long time to recover from the terrifying ordeal.

A sudden shout roused the

koala from her somnolent state. She had been spotted, a small group was gathering beneath her tree. Although she could never understand their interest in her, and others of her kind, the koala did not fear the people for she knew that their tree-climbing skills were limited. However, she disliked the clapping and other loud noises that they often made to try and attract her attention.

On occasions, when some of them brought their four-legged pets with them, she grew wary. Koalas have few predators, but dogs have been known to attack and kill these harmless marsupials if caught on the ground.

As the light faded and darkness took over, the animals of the day departed their playground. In the trees, the night animals began to stir. The koala stretched. Time to be moving on. It would be many hours before the car people came again.



## The Lions Corner

■ **Learn to Swim Programme.** Despite the best efforts of the weather to spoil the programme, a total of 66 children now have a degree of competence in water. The programme will continue next year.

■ **Lions in Warrandyte.** Ladies get your men into an organisation that will give them an interest and they will enjoy—get them into Lions!

■ **Warrandyte Jazz Festival—April 29.** An exciting line up of top jazz musicians and bands have been booked for this event. More information will appear in the next month's *Diary* or listen to ECB FM. For ticket bookings write to The Jazz Coordinator, PO Box

18, Warrandyte. Proceeds from the festival are destined for community projects.

■ **Amyopia Testing Returns to Warrandyte.** After last year's outstanding success, testing for grade 1 & 2 children will be available on 25 February in the Community Centre. The programme will be run in conjunction with Park Orchards Lions. To register interest, parents should contact their children's schools. It is anticipated that some 400 children will be turning up.

■ **Security Offer.** There are a limited number of Peep Holes and Smoke Detectors still available for our older and infirm residents. Call 844 4501.

This corner has been inserted by your local Lions Club to let residents know how Lions are active in the community and to inform everyone of forthcoming events.

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# A life stuffed by the stuff of life

**A**S we walked up to the door I had the oddest feeling that life had changed forever. We pressed the buzzer and waited a short time until Boy Wonder opened the door. "Hi Mum. Hi Dad. I suppose you should come in and look around."

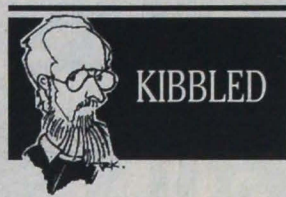
Herself and I looked at each other. An unspoken recognition that things would never be the same again flashed between us. Here we were, the parents of an older son, being invited to look through the place he now calls 'home'.

We were well aware that the shift from home to shared accommodation was to take place. BW had been talking about it for some months and we had agreed that it would be a good idea.

The transition between theory and practice, however, was clouded by the fact that it happened whilst we were away. We had left to go on holidays with Boy Wonder still ensconced in the midden that used to be called an attached flat.

We had become accustomed to the constant SES communication receivers that crackled throughout the day. When the two-way apparatus was first installed and an aerial to rival Mount Dandenong was attached to the roof, I was constantly terrified that the voices emanating from his flat were those of robbers, or the first wave of party-goers. There were times that fear turned to envy as a succession of female voices drifted from his bedroom. Envy turned to disappointment when I came to understand that the female voices were just that—disembodied voices.

The move to the flat from his bedroom had been one of those normal family sanity exercises. Our house was rapidly becoming



too small for us to share.

The house could have been the size of Bob Hawke's ego and it would still have been too small for us to share. The shift into the flat meant the 'stuff' that was kept under pressure and confinement in his room and playroom was now able to spread itself over the six squares of the flat. Stuff is by nature lonely, so it was natural that more stuff was brought home to keep the older stuff company.

All of this leads me to two points. One, that the shift into shared accommodation for Boy Wonder was a stuff-regressive step. When he showed us around the new place it was like we had entered Dr Who's tardis and had gone back in time.

Three years ago BW's stuff had occupied his bedroom and part of the playroom. Now, three years later, he has only two small bedrooms, theoretically, for all his possessions. I say theoretically because in the intervening years his stuff has multiplied exponentially.

And this leads us to point number two. That is, the shift happened whilst we were away and, therefore, we had quite a shock to return to the flat to find it relatively little altered. True, the double bed and the couch and a few other bits of furniture had gone, but all the cupboards were still crammed

with stuff.

We have suggested tea chests under the house as a solution. Which presents another problem in itself—under the house.

The world can be divided into clutterers and hoarders and clean deskers and heavers. BW has a genetic predisposition to the former as both Herself and I are serious collectors of good stuff. However, at the moment, Boy Wonder is untrained. He must learn that you can keep good things, but not the cardboard boxes they come in.

Clean deskers on the other hand can be equally terrifying. At the end of the day their work desks are spotless. Not a scrap of paper, not a paper clip or sign of life to be seen. They are the type of person who does not need an under-the-house.

The clutterers and hoarders, however, need an under-storey for stuff they put there for just-in-case situations. Warrandyte houses are mixed blessings for such people. Given the precipitous nature of most building blocks, most houses have far too much under-the-house hoarding space.

The CFA tells us not to provide fuel dumps under the house, but genetic inheritance is stronger than common sense and too often we find ourselves saying, "I'm not sure what I can do with it, but I'll put it under the house just in case".

We've finally cleaned up the flat. Under the house is full.

Gorgeous Creature has been making reconnaissance trips down to the flat and has been muttering that her room is far too small for all her stuff. Panic!

Wanted: One clean-desker to rent a lovely flat situated above a CFA time bomb.

ROGER KIBELL

## Coup d'etat at town hall

**W**HAT are you going to do with all that spare time? That's the question most

people have asked me when they discover I'm no longer a councillor. After five and a half years (over latter months almost a second full-time job), it is surprising still to realise my time is my own again, though I have to confess it has filled up rapidly with other pursuits.

However, like many others in the community now being sacked—even from a part-time, unpaid, voluntary position such as councillor—I find the experience is not a good one. Fellow councillors and myself had several sessions agonising over whether to resign before being sacked, or whether to see the time out.

Eventually the latter view prevailed, because most councillors felt they had an obligation to the ratepayers who had



elected them. But they were adamant they would not make it easy, and would have to be sacked.

Clive Pick from Templestowe Ward made it quite clear that he was not prepared to hand in his councillor's keys. He maintained he had been elected for a certain term, which was not complete, and would therefore retain his key to the council rooms.

In the event, it didn't matter too much. There was no formal 'sacking', the announcement was made in the media, locks on the doors were changed and our role as councillors ceased. It was non-dramatic and almost non-climactic. Demands for the re-

turn of equipment and the mayoral car followed rapidly. It was very much a case of 'off with the old and on with the new'.

Of course, this did not come without warning. There had been a long lead time. Amalgamations had been flagged for ages and it became quite a race: Which would come first—amalgamations or Christmas 1994. Amalgamations won, and the old Doncaster and Templestowe council met formally for the last time on December 13.

It has been interesting to see how the whole issue of the demise of elected local representatives has been handled by the media. Because there have been so many changes (there is only a handful of elected representatives left in Victoria), there has been very little public debate over the later amalgamation issue. Indeed, the greatest controversy appears to have been over the names of the new municipalities.

The principal newspapers have run some analytical comment, but the local press has been either accepting of the changes or critical of previous council. Criticism that councillors did not attend the swearing-in of the new commissioners appeared, despite them not having been informed of the swearing-in ceremony. It was only by chance that Cr Waring managed to attend and ask questions from the floor.

With commissioners now in both the new Shire of Nillumbik and the new City of Manningham, there must be some debate on the new regimes. Whether or not it is good to have (as one person said) a benign dictatorship, and when and how we return to locally-elected representatives. Hopefully that debate will be possible through the pages of our local press.

VAL POLLEY

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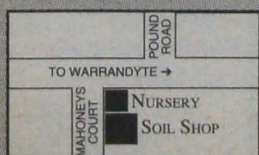
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# RICHARD SWIFT

## He flew high through a good, generous life

**W**ARRANDYTE mourned the passing of Richard Norris Meade Swift on December 19 last year in a work-related accident. Richard, an electrician whose greatest passion was flying, was a highly respected member of the community, heavily involved with the CFA.

Born on December 7, 1942, to Major Richard Francis and Betty Swift, Richard was raised in Healesville and attended Healesville Primary School.

From an early age he showed a fascination for gadgets, experimenting with crystal set radios and chemistry equipment. He gave his parents a few grey hairs with explosives in the days when fireworks were readily available.

While a bright student, he chose not to pursue an academic career after schooling at Trinity Grammar, instead opting for an apprenticeship as an electrician, while studying theory at RMIT.

At the age of 19, a bad accident on his new motorbike left him in hospital for a number of weeks, resulting in surgery and skin grafts to a severely damaged foot. It left him with a slight limp and discomfort.

Shortly after leaving hospital, with his leg in plaster to the knee, he played in his A grade table tennis team's grand final and won. This typified Richard's indomitable spirit. The greater the odds against him, the greater the challenge he accepted.

After completing his apprenticeship he found employment with Australian Paper Mills as a service technician. Shortly after he successfully applied for the position of instrument technician with Air New Zealand and in 1966 headed across the Tasman.

Only intending to stay a couple of years, he found the work intensely interesting and earned promotion to become head of the avionics department in the instrument section.



Richard Swift

He stayed in New Zealand 17 years, often travelling overseas during this period.

He returned to Australia only once during that time. For a very special reason. To marry Jillian, whom he had met whilst she was on holiday from Australia. They returned briefly to Jillian's home town Brisbane in 1969 and were married on October 25, before returning once more to New Zealand.

Richard became a competent pilot and flying instructor around this time. Logging up more than 4000 flying hours, his stories of fixed wing and helicopter flights among the rugged mountains of New Zealand are exciting stuff.

Dick and Jillian's daughter Rachael was born in New Zealand. This prompted a move to Melbourne in 1983. After just six months however, Jillian wanted to return to New Zealand, but a move to Warrandyte changed her mind and this became the family's permanent home.

Dick could not find work in his specialised field, and was unemployed for some months. He eventually obtained employment at Bradmills as an electrician and they soon discovered his worth. Other jobs followed,

but in recent years he commenced his own business.

His move to Warrandyte quickly marked a partnership with the CFA brigade. With his extensive knowledge of electronics, he was an invaluable member of the team, serving as communications officer.

Richard continued flying in his spare time and his skill as a pilot inspired such confidence that even people with a fear of flying were able to overcome their trepidation.

Richard will be remembered as a man who showed courage throughout, dealt effectively with the hardships, and took great pleasure in all the good things that came his way.

Honest, caring, reliable and with a positive attitude and generous spirit, Dick would help anyone at any time.

The magnificent, unreserved and on-going support given to Jillian and Rachael by friends and colleagues in Warrandyte, particularly in the CFA, is some measure of the esteem in which he was held.

He will be remembered for his loyalty to his friends and for his love and his commitment to the well-being of his wife and daughter.



# FESTIVAL '95

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THURSDAY 23 TO SUNDAY 25 MARCH

## Weekend to remember

Special new features at this year's Warrandyte Festival include balloon rides and cycle races at the Recreation Reserve. Warrandyte Drama Group are not doing anything new. They're re-hashing beloved classics from their highly popular Festival Follies, which has been running almost as long as the festival itself.

The grand parade takes place, as usual, at 11am on the Saturday. In addition to the usual commentaries and buskers for those awaiting the parade, the community centre is turning on a sausage sizzle breakfast.

Pavement artists will have decorated Yarra Street in front of the village shops, adding to the festive air.

This year, in keeping with the sporting theme, the Saturday lunchtime program will feature tightrope walkers and circus acts.

### Art

Other new events include more art and craft exhibitions and demonstrations, a rock-works climbing wall, blacksmith and goldminer on the riverbank, and displays in shop windows around town of artwork from local schools.

### Buskers

Warrandyte Festival Committee is looking for buskers, actors, musicians and so on to give impromptu performances at Stiggants Reserve during the festival weekend. An open invitation is offered to local kids,

students and more mature budding performers. No payment either way, but you may choose to put out a hat for a collection. Interested? Contact Leigh Hauser on 844 1182.

### Photos

The Warrandyte Historical Society reminds readers of their photography competition, to be run in conjunction with the festival. Entry forms are obtainable from Rob and Lynne's Village Milk Bar, at the museum in the old post office in Yarra Street, or through Shirley or Ted Rotherham, 844 2438. There are sections for primary students, secondary students and adults.

### Stage

Budding local bands or performers who would like to be considered for a slot on-stage during one of the festival concerts are urged to send a demo tape. Contact Paul Haskings on 844 1182 in the first instance. The committee is finding it increasingly difficult to re-book successful acts from previous years because many have moved on to bigger things. So this could be your big opportunity!

### Fireworks

Australian Pyrotechnics, who are engaged to produce the Fireworks Finale at the festival, recently won the Silver Jupiter trophy for fireworks presentation at the world champion-

ships in Montreal. They also produced the Skyshow over Sydney Harbour on New Years Eve. This year's display at Warrandyte will feature their newest and most exciting silver comets, which leave thick trails of silver as they are fired from the mortars. Don't miss this year's show! (Weather and CFA permitting, of course.)

### Floral

In conjunction with the Warrandyte Festival on March 25 and 26, St Stephens Anglican Church are presenting an exhibition of floral art in their beautiful church. Anyone interested is invited to display their talents. Call Ann Ley on 844 3543 for further details.

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# Workshops are feature

Warrandyte Neighbourhood House has moved away from its traditional course program to introduce one day workshops this year.

Co-ordinator Margory Lapworth said that while the successful yoga, leadlighting, folk art and calligraphy courses will continue, there will be 17 workshops, ranging from abseiling to landscaping a natural garden.

"As well as the workshops we will also provide occasional day care and sessions for three year-old playgroups," she said. "This enables mothers to relax and enjoy their time with us or to go out and do their shopping or something."

The day care operates from 9am to 12pm each weekday at

a cost of \$6 while the playgroups are at 1-4pm Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

"We also have our sole parents' support group, which assists single parents with social activities, gardening bees, legal and financial guidance and all manner of problems," she said.

The house also co-ordinates the Warrandyte Market and Warrandyte Community Transport. The market takes place on the first Saturday each month. Buses are available for private bus tours and also carry children to and from school activities.

Margory Lapworth said that family support, emergency and material aid are all available from the house with a "drop-in" service every day.

## NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE PROGRAM

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**CALLIGRAPHY:** Tuesdays from 1.30pm, commencing February 14 for eight weeks. Cost: \$40.

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Cost: \$30.

**EXPLORING WARRANDYTE:** Wednesday, May 3, 9.30am-2pm. Cost: \$20.

**FOLK ART:** Mondays, 7.30pm; Wednesdays, 7.30pm; Fridays, 10.30am. For eight weeks.

Cost: \$40.

**ITALIAN:** Wednesdays from 9.30am, commencing February 15 for eight weeks. Cost: \$40.

**LANDSCAPING a Natural Garden:** Saturday, March 25, 1-4pm. Cost: \$25.

**LEADLIGHTING:** Tuesdays from 9.30-11.30am, commencing February 14 for eight weeks.

Cost: \$40.

**PAPERTOLLE:** Saturday, May 20, 10am-2pm.

Cost: \$30

**PICTURE FRAMING:** Saturday, March 25, 10am-2pm. Cost: \$35.

**RAFFIA HATS:** Saturday, February 25, 10am-2pm.

Cost: \$25.

**TASSELS AND GILDING in gold:** Saturday, June 10, 10am-2pm. Cost: \$35.

**THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE:** Sunday, May 21, 1-4pm. Cost: \$10.

**WINERY TOURS:** Wednesday, March 29 and Saturday, June 3. 10am-3pm. Cost: \$30.

**YOGA:** Mondays, 7pm and 8.15pm; Wednesdays, 7pm. Commencing Monday, February 13.

Cost: \$40.

# Kirner predicts local poll battle

By CLINTON GRYBAS

**F**ORMER premier Joan Kirner believes that such local issues as the threatened ring road could lead to the re-election of an ALP candidate in the state seat of Warrandyte.

"It would be sacrilege to have a ring road through Warrandyte," Joan Kirner told the *Diary*.

"One certainty is that if they tried, Labor would win this seat. People of Warrandyte won't stand for that. We got a huge swing to us in Park Orchards in the early 1980s because there was a threat of a ring road through there. Trouble is, some people don't understand history so they never learn from it."

Joan Kirner was at Pancakes On The Yarra Restaurant in December, helping to launch Croydon resident Jenny Stray's campaign to win back Warrandyte for Labor.

Despite needing a massive 17 per cent swing to oust Liberal MP Phil Honeywood, Jenny Stray believes she can return the seat to Labor at the next state poll.

"Phil's been here for two terms and people have seen what he has done and what he hasn't. I'm a member of the community, I live in the electorate and I know the people."

She told the *Diary* that it would not take much to see a substantial local swing towards her party.

"The problem for Phil Honeywood," Joan Kirner said, "is that he actually represents Jeff Kennett and not the electorate. All members of parliament on the Liberal side are required to put Jeff Kennett and not the electorate first."

"That's a real problem, particularly so for Phil, because this area is used to being represented by community activists."

"Although there appears to be a big margin now, it would only take a few things like the threatened ring road, and if he sticks with his leader, I don't think he'll survive. It's a lot closer than people think it is."

Kirner said she had been part of several



Joan Kirner at Warrandyte High School in 1989.

"tall order" campaign wins before, both locally with Lou Hill and with Kay Setches in Ringwood. She forecasts an instant victory if the mooted ring road through Warrandyte goes ahead.

While Phil Honeywood told the *Diary* in December that if the road proceeds "it will be many years away", Joan Kirner says a reversal of that thinking will hand the seat to the ALP.

## Support for Green Wedge

Jenny Stray was equally adamant about the road's threat to Warrandyte. "It's hideous to think that people would put an eight-lane road right through the middle of this. It's just not appropriate."

"But it's not inevitable. It just means that people are going to have to fight very hard to stop things like that."

She also pledged her full support for the preservation of the Green Wedge. This provoked an interesting admission from Joan Kirner regarding the wedge-tailed eagles in North Warrandyte.

"We have this threatened land where there are rare eagles, land that I preserved when I was Minister for

Conservation," she said. "Yet here they go again. This is the people's land. I only wish I'd given it national park status, instead of leaving it on crown lease."

Recent changes to the planning amendments also raised a point of concern. "Where are you going to have your McDonalds?" Joan Kirner asked. She said it was the combination of these issues that gave the Liberals their biggest problem.

"While you've got Jeff Kennett on the big screen saying, I am the greatest, we've got the casino, we've got this and we've got that, what's percolating through in all these communities, especially in a place like Warrandyte, is larger class sizes, loss of hospital care, wondering if you're going to get an ambulance, fears about condominiums, loss of local government."

Jenny Stray's early pre-selection is seen as a way for the ALP to try and regain the confidence of the electorate. The party came under fire in 1992 when their candidate, a Richmond resident, was nominated only a day before nominations closed.

This was undoubtedly one factor that allowed Phil Honeywood, who held a precarious margin of 1.3 per cent after the 1988 election, to be returned with the biggest Liberal swing in the state. The historically marginal seat had been converted into a 'true blue' Liberal stronghold.

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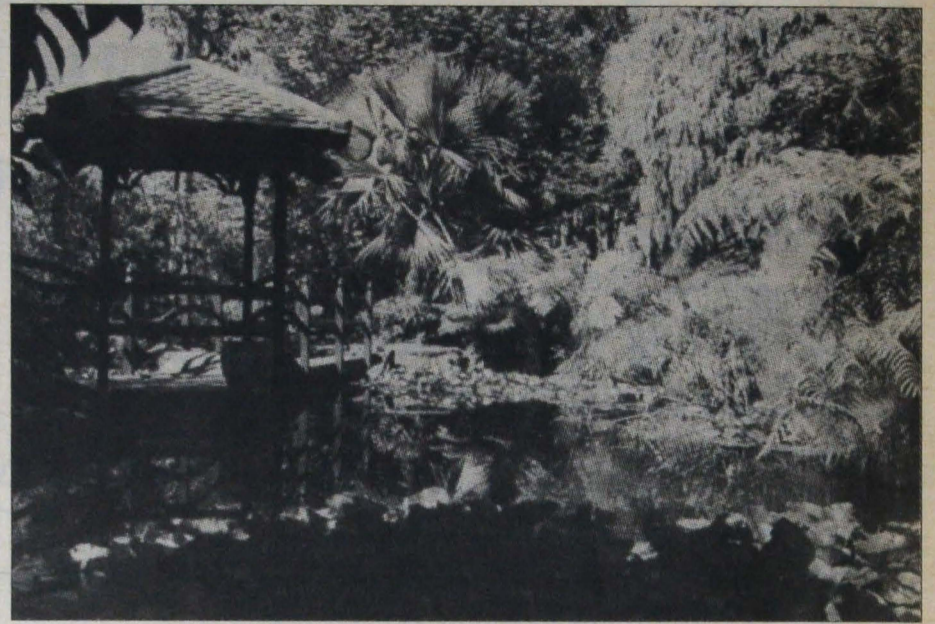
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A corner of the beautiful Van Der Haar garden. (Picture by Jan Tindale)

# Garden show

The Van Der Haar family are opening their beautiful garden on the weekend of March 4 and 5, from 10am to 4pm, in aid of the Asthma Foundation. Light luncheons and devonshire teas will be available. The garden is on the corner of Heidelberg-Warrandyte Road and Orchard Grove, Warrandyte. Admission is \$5 per adult. Outstanding features of the one and half acre garden include a display of more than 500 roses and spectacular water gardens.

## Learning

LearningGuild is an educational and social movement open to all who want to go on learning and helping others to learn. The Warrandyte branch has a special interest in the English language, they also include a variety of other subjects in their discussions. Meetings commence on Wednesday, March 1 in the library at the Senior Citizens' Centre in Taroona Avenue, from 1.30 to 3pm. Bring your own lunch. For further information, phone Louise Joy on 844 3600.

## First aid

St John Ambulance will be conducting a senior first aid course from February 17 at the Warrandyte Community Centre. The course will run for six Friday nights from 7 to 10pm. Cost is \$110. A CPR update course will be conducted over one night on Friday, April 7 at a cost of \$35. Bookings for both courses can be made by ringing James Clearihan at St John Ambulance on 696 0000.

## Youth

The Uniting Church Youth Club caters for secondary and late primary age children. Details of activities are obtainable from Leeanne Keam on 844 2038. Sunday school, catering for three year-olds up to late secondary level, meets at 10.15am each Sunday. Contact Lorraine Gangeil on 844 2342.

## Health

Manningham City Council, in conjunction with the Whitehorse division of General Practice, the Outer Eastern Women's Health Service and a number of local community groups, is hold-



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.

## Fitness

As part of Women's Health Week, Riverside Fitness Centre in Yarra Street is holding free fitness classes on the Tuesday and Wednesday mornings and on the Thursday evening. A seminar on weight management will be held at the centre on Tuesday, March 7 at 11.30am, and a further seminar, entitled 'Healthy Bones' will take place on Thursday, March 9 at 7.30pm.

## Aroma

Also during Women's Health Week, Warrandyte Neighbourhood House is conducting an aromatherapy evening on Wednesday, March 8 and a relaxation workshop and therapeutic massage workshop on the afternoon of Saturday, March 4. Various other workshops and seminars will be held throughout the municipality. For a detailed program and further information on all these activities, ring the council's health promotion officer on 840 9377.

## Teenagers

Warrandyte Youth Services is running another of their successful 'Parenting Teenagers' programs. It will cover a wide range of issues affecting parents and teenagers today. The program commences on Tuesday, February 14 and will run for eight weeks. For more information contact Craig Milburn on 844 2985.

## Brotherhood

The Warrandyte Auxiliary of the Brotherhood of St Laurence will hold their annual general meeting on Wednesday, February 22 at 11am at St Stephens Anglican Church Hall in Stiggant Street. The group is appealing to residents who may wish to become involved in their work. The group goes back over 30 years in Warrandyte. President Emmie Blackie, secretary Dorothy Rush and treasurer Joy Hook are all stepping down to a well-earned retirement. Each has served 34 years in the auxiliary. If you are interested in becoming involved, or perhaps helping with one-off fundraising projects, call Dorothy Rush on 844 3438 or Bruce King at the BSL, 483 1397.

## Rates

As a result of amendments to the Local Government Act, councils' financial year will now end on June 30, rather than September 30. This means 1995/6 rate notices will be issued in October 1995 and will only cover nine months.

## Displan

The Rev Syd Smale of Warrandyte Uniting Church has been appointed by the Victorian Council of Churches as their Displan program co-ordinator. Displan is the disaster recovery program set up by the state government following the disastrous Ash Wednesday bushfires in 1983.

## Name

What's in a name? The commissioners of the City of Manningham are aware of a number of points of view regarding the name of the newly-formed municipality. They are now seeking input and suggestions from residents. You are invited to contact Annabelle Murray-Smith on 840 9333 or write to the commissioners, PO Box 1, Doncaster, 3108.

## Sympathy

The Diary would like to pass on the condolences of the Warrandyte community to the family and friends of Harris Gully Road resident Andrew Asbury, who died so tragically late last year.

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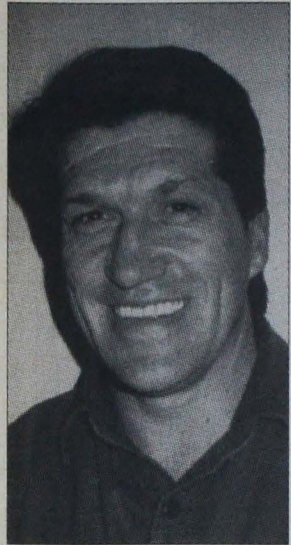
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Bloods on track and fired up for '95

# Hogg (6/33) inspires Dytes' finals charge



David Dickson

By LEE TINDALE

Warrandyte Football Club have launched their 1995 pre-season with the kind of gusto of which premierships are made.

The Bloods started training under new coach David Dickson in the first week of January and the numbers and enthusiasm on the track have delighted club officials.

"We couldn't be happier at this stage," president Lex Munro told the *Diary*. "We've had probably 60 senior players here through the various sessions and they are responding very well to David's training methods. Among them are several experienced players from other clubs. It would be premature to name them now, but they represent a lot of football talent."

One recruit who can be named is Forest Hill's Darren Searle, who has been appointed assistant (playing) coach of the seniors.

Warrandyte's season in EDFL second division starts on April 8, away to Doncaster. Two practice matches have already been arranged—against Sorrento at Sorrento on March 5, and against Ivanhoe amateurs on March 11 at a venue to be announced.

The Bloods have not yet named a reserves coach, but Robert (Noddy) Ireland will direct the resurrected under-18s side.

Junior training will start on February 16. The response to an appeal for under-18 players has been disappointing and anyone interested in a run should contact Ireland on 725 5065.

Warrandyte's major fundraiser this season will be a car raffle. First prize is a Suzuki Swift Cino valued at \$17,200 from Eastland Suzuki, second a 14-inch NEC colour TV and third \$375 worth of car window tinting from Australia Auto Tint of Ringwood. Tickets are \$5.

By CLINTON GRYBAS

The seasons of Warrandyte Cricket Club's first and second elevens hang in the balance, with wins needed in the last two games to make the finals.

A vintage performance of 6/33 from captain and former Test quick Rodney Hogg kept the Dytes' sixth-placed Chandler Shield side in the race with a 44-run victory over second-placed Parkwood on February 4.

Having won the toss and elected to bat, the Woods were soon counting the cost as Tony Sturesteps broke through with just the eighth ball of the match. When he claimed another scalp a few overs later the visitors were 2/9, soon to be 3/14 as Hogg struck the first of many blows.

Parkwood staggered painfully to 4/98 after 47 overs before Hogg delivered one of the finest overs of cricket seen in 130 years of the game at Warrandyte Reserve.

The triple-wicket maiden would last seven minutes, as he found the edge to keeper Dave Mooney with the first and third balls and rattled the stumps with the fifth.

Hogg knocked over another batsman soon after to have figures of 5/18 in 22 overs with the Woods all but shut out of the contest.

A defiant stand of 41 by the last pair added respectability to a final score of 162, Hogg taking the last wicket to deny Gerald Walshe a better return than 2/54 off 24 lion-hearted overs.

Warrandyte's reply was free of the traditional crash that has presided over much of the season. This time, David Stickels (32), Ben Brisbane (34) and Brett Kline (36) stabilised the innings early.

Greg Tregear (41 not out) helped himself to five fours but it was Sturestep's 10 boundaries that set up an early declaration.

He scored 51 in just 35 minutes to propel the Dytes to 5/206 and allow time for 21 more overs at the Woods.

When Walshe quickly had them 1/0, the spectators pondered a miracle, but Parkwood hung on to be 2/47 at stumps.

Club president Steve Pascoe said the team simply had to keep winning to earn a finals berth.

"While we have to keep winning and hope a couple of the top four teams stumble, the draw is such that it makes it highly possible," he said.

"We've improved since Christmas, with David Stickels adding stability to the batting line-up. He hasn't scored heaps quickly but has taken some pressure off the lower order.

"Gerald Walshe has bowled quite steadily with a heavy workload for 27 wickets at an average of 18, while Rodney



Rodney Hogg

Hogg has also come good with the bat this season.

The team's cause would have been helped significantly had they disposed of second-bottom Lilydale in a one-day match at home in mid-January.

Having snared 4/0 late in the Dales' innings to restrict them to 133 off the 40 overs, Warrandyte were cruising at 1/76 in reply. But in just five overs they lost 5/12 to be stranded on 8/120 at the end.

Warrandyte's finals fortunes could hinge on their last game (February 25, March 4) at Warrandyte Reserve against Norwood. A repeat performance from Hogg would make it well



Tony Sturesteps

worth being there.

The seconds' finals campaign has hinged recently on remarkable bowling performances from Chris Snaidero. He's taken 25/236 at an average of nine over the last five games, including a hat-trick against Parkwood.

Currently in fourth place, Warrandyte have not conceded more than 190 runs in the field since round one. Two wins to end the season would secure their spot in the finals and a chance to atone for last year's defeat.

While the thirds and fifths can't make the play-offs, the fourths are back in the hunt after a thrilling outright win against

## Cricket details

FIRSTS: Warrandyte 236 (Brisbane 66) d Ainslie Park 215 (Hogg 7/51). Warrandyte 71 (Tregear 24) and 4/92 (Sturesteps 40) lost to Wantirna South 6/123 (Ratten 2/31). Warrandyte 8/214 (Tregear 52, Hogg 37 n.o.) d Croydon United 160 (Hogg 4/41, Walshe 4/47). Warrandyte 8/120 (Sturesteps 29, Tregear 27) lost to Lilydale 133 (Sturesteps 3/20, Walshe 3/34). Warrandyte 5/206 (Sturesteps 51, Tregear 41 n.o.) d Parkwood 162 (Hogg 6/33) and 2/47.

SECONDS: Warrandyte 253 (S. Baker 42) d Ainslie Park 182 (Davis 4/51). Warrandyte 71 lost to Wantirna South 119 (Snaidero 4/51). Warrandyte 101 (S. Baker 37 n.o.) and 1/69 d Croydon United 61 (Snaidero 5/31, Warr 3/19) and 106 (Snaidero 4/24) outright. Warrandyte 144 lost to Lilydale 145 (Snaidero 4/62). Warrandyte 302 (Davis 74, R. Dorning 49)

d Parkwood 133 (Snaidero 5/24 inc hat trick) and 4/79.

THIRDS: Warrandyte 225 (Creber 48, Summers 42) lost to Ainslie Park 381 (Beatie 3/71). Warrandyte 187 (B. Baker 46, Goddard 40) d Croydon United 132 (Reyment 4/12) and 6/99 (Summers 4/21). Warrandyte 281 (G. Brisbane 101, B. Baker 58, Summers 45) d Parkwood 188.

FOURTHS: Warrandyte 189 lost to Ainslie Park 7/233 (Vitoritti 4/45). Warrandyte 4/163 (J. Gathercole 84 n.o.) d Parkwood 40 (Croft 6/15) and 98 (Vitoritti 3/15, Sharp 3/18) outright.

FIFTHS: Warrandyte 235 (T. Gathercole 42, Cloke 31) lost to North Ringwood 416. Warrandyte 237 (J. Gathercole 70, Brent 53) lost to Wonga Park 314. Warrandyte 150 (Brent 41, C. Dorning 36) lost to South Warrandyte 181 (Cloke 3/48) and 7/69.

Parkwood.

Having crashed through on the first day to rout the Woods for 40, Warrandyte declared at 4/163, with Jim Gathercole unbeaten on 84.

With just nine balls to be bowled the following week they grabbed the last Woods wicket to have them out for 98.

The veterans are also flying the club's flag high. After an unbeaten, five-game regular season, they will play Croydon North in the grand final on Sunday, February 26, at Silcox Reserve in Croydon.

Rob White hasn't been dismissed in his three digs, forced to retire at 40 each time. Mark

Davis and Grant Brisbane have also found touch, and captain David Stickels said Steve Pascoe had been "miserly" with the ball.

Pascoe will represent the RDCA against the FTDCA in the annual over-40s grudge match. Alan King and Fred Jungwirth will be the Warrandyte representatives in the over-50s game.

Also among the wins the club juniors, who made a rare clean sweep recently of their five games.

The club is hoping for a big turn-out to its trivia night on Saturday February 11, starting at 7.30. Bookings can be made with Brian Chapman on 725 7629.

# Not really our day

By CLINTON GRYBAS

Warrandyte Basketball Club's new year got off to a mixed start at Eltham's Australia Day weekend tournament.

The Redbacks entered 10 teams in the Southern Hemisphere's biggest basketball gathering and emerged with an under-12B grade premiership. Gavin Whitmore coached the boys to a thrilling 36-31 win over the host club in the grand final.

Nothing separated the two sides in the second half, with the Wildcats hauling a four point half-time deficit back to just one with a few minutes left.

The key play came with 1:47 left in the game as Eltham were called for an offensive foul. Reece Borella (18 points) converted possession into two points with a driving lay-up and the premiership was on ice after six wins in seven matches.

Three other club sides made the semi-finals but could not go on with it.

Whitmore's 16B boys led Whittlesea 10-5 a minute before half-time but fell away to lose 21-24. They made the finals only after an hour-long protest hearing went

their way.

Tied with two other teams for two play-off spots, they were initially ruled out on percentage, but that was overturned to give them another game.

They had provided one of the tournament's highlights in their second regular match when Luke Twomey fired in a quarter-court shot at the buzzer to beat Vermont by three.

The under-14B girls of Diane Godwin also bowed out in the semis. After a 4-1 regular record they were tied 12-12 with Kilsyth heading into the last 10 minutes of their final.

But the Cobras steadied better than the Redbacks and won 27-19, missed free-throws hurting Warrandyte badly down the stretch.

Warrandyte's other finalists were the 20B boys, also coached by Whitmore. After qualifying first in their section, they struggled throughout against Southern Peninsula and lost 23-46.

A highlight of the weekend was under-18 player Bradley Giampietro's shot against Bulleen. He let fly from 75 feet as the siren sounded and found nothing

but the bottom of the net!

Had the shot been recorded on video it would certainly have made the sports segments of TV news bulletins.

The club will hold a registration day on Saturday, February 18, for new players wishing to join for the winter season.

Games are played on Saturdays between April and September.

Anyone who is interested but unable to attend the day, between 10am and 4pm at the Warrandyte High School stadium, should call the registrars for more information.

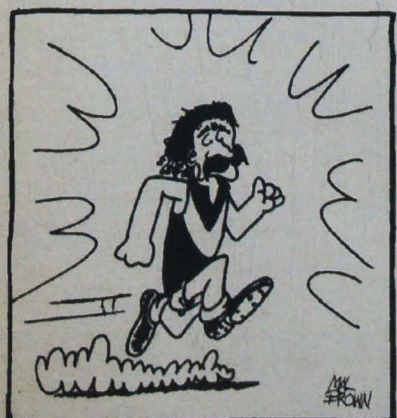
They are Bruce Macdonald (boys) on 844 3200 and Sue Cutler (girls) 722 1504.

In the Greyburn Cup grand finals in December, the Hitmen broke a four-year drought by snatching victory from TRHC.

Sharpshooter John Moore won them the match when he made a three-pointer with just three seconds left. It was his seventh triple for the game.

The Plastics defeated the Wobblers in the over-30 section final.

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By MAL BROWN

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Phone 844 2589

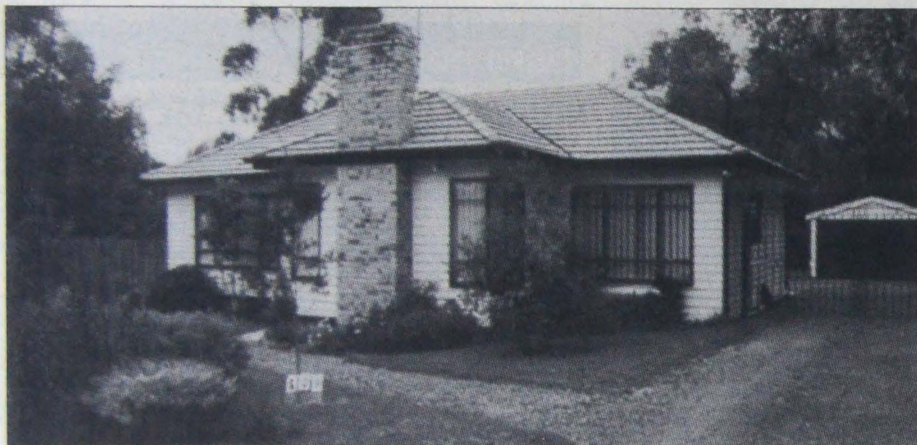
**The Professionals**

# Wilson McDougall

This office is independently owned and operated.

183 YARRA STREET  
WARRANDYTE

**844 3085**



**POINTING HAND** **SOLD in 4 days**

There's one thing about putting our sign on the front of your home, it changes from FOR SALE to SOLD almost before you know it.

Enlist the services of the areas largest Real Estate Agency by contacting Andrew Wilson on 844 3085 or after hours on 844 4747.

**WARRANDYTE NORTH** **\$149,950**

**"MUD BRICK COTTAGE"**

**O**N nearly one acre and within a stones throw from the Yarra this mudbrick home offers the charm and character you would expect in a typical Warrandyte property. Your own orchard, dam and native flora awaits the environmentally concerned buyer. Comprising 2 bedrooms, study, hostess kitchen and spa room this home represents good value. Call today for an inspection.

**AH: ANDREW WILSON 844 4747**

**WONGA PARK** **BY NEGOTIATION**

**"UNIQUE HOME & W/SHOP"**

**S**ITUATED on over 3/4 of an acre of fully usable land, this property boasts of three different buildings. Firstly the home features, 3BRs, ensuite, formal lounge with stone OFF, timber kitchen and cottage style gardens. Secondly, the shop or retail area complete with office upstairs, lunch room and concrete floors would lend itself to many uses. Lastly the rear factory of approx. 4,000 sq ft is an older style building complete with timber flooring and office area.

**AH: ANDREW WILSON 844 4747**

**WARRANDYTE** **\$167,000**

**"YOUR PRIVATE OASIS"**

**A**WARM and inviting home of generous proportions, in a nice leafy treed environment of just under half an acre of usable land. A large lounge with brick feature wall, spacious family room, blackwood kitchen, two bathrooms, 3 double bedrooms, garage and large rear decking are some of the features. Inspection highly recommended.

**AH: STACEY ORACZ 725 2964**

**WARRANDYTE AUCTION, SAT 18 MARCH, 2pm**

**"LEAVE THE WORLD BEHIND"**

**A**N elevated treed environment overlooking lush greenery, abundant with native flora and fauna. This mudbrick home oozes charm and character, only found in Warrandyte. Featuring large entry, spacious lounge, sep. dining room & modern galley kitchen and rumpus all open onto the deck which runs across the rear of the home. 3 BRs, spa room, multipurpose playroom and bathrooms are on the lower level with lots of playing areas for children and excellent security. This is an ideal home for the family

**AH: STACEY ORACZ 725 2964**

**WARRANDYTE** **\$120,000**

**"FIRST HOME BUYERS FORM A QUEUE"**

**E**XCELLENT opportunity for first home buyers to acquire this 2 bedroom brick veneer home, situated on 1/3 of an acre with your own private creek frontage. Comprising lounge with open fire place, cedar kitchen, BIRs, ducted heating and featuring an extensive use of timber, slate and ample car parking. See it today!

**AH: GRAHAM PORTER 059 67 4452**

**WARRANDYTE** **\$185,000**

**"A STROLL TO THE RIVER"**

**F**EATURING the charm and character of Warrandyte, this elevated home offers a tranquil and peaceful environment away from the rat race of the 90s. Four bedrooms, polished flooring, large balcony and spacious living areas are some of the features.

**AH: ANDREW WILSON 844 4747**



ANDREW WILSON  
Managing Director



PETER McDOUGALL  
Sworn Valuer



LEANNE DEAN  
Property Manager



STACEY ORACZ  
Sales Executive



GRAHAM PORTER  
Sales Executive



ALEXANDRA COLVIN  
Receptionist



MICHELLE SHUEY  
Quality Assurance Manager

**The Professionals**



*Together we'll make it happen*