

Houses in State Park torn down



By FIA CLENDINNEN

Under orders from the state government, one house in Warrandyte State Park has been demolished and three more will come come down within the next two weeks.

All houses were in good condition, three of them have rangers living in them. Gavin Clancy, spokesman for the Minister for Conservation and Environment said that "once the houses have been bulldozed, the sites will be regenerated with native vegetation and incorporated in the park".

Margory Lapworth, co-ordinator of Warrandyte Neighbourhood House is "angry that they're tearing down houses when there's a desperate need for emergency housing in Warrandyte".

"I've got queues of people waiting. One man came to us recently asking for emergency accommodation and we literally had to say to him, 'you're on the street'. We couldn't find him anything."

The decision to demolish the houses is part of the government's broad policy to rid itself of responsibility for employees' housing. As part of the same move, the residence next to the police station in Warrandyte, which has been occupied by the police sergeant and his family for many years, will be sold off.

"I think it's disgusting, accommodation should be part of the job," Margory Lapworth told the *Diary*. "If he has to move out of Warrandyte to find housing he loses contact with the people. We as the community will suffer because we won't have a 24 hour local service. Up until now it's been very convenient; if anything happens he's always there."

Sergeant Keith Walker, officer-in-charge at Warrandyte and currently occupying the residence said, "For 40 years at least there has been a resident policeman in Warrandyte. My belief is that being a local policeman and a lo-

cal resident gives me a greater sense of belonging and a greater affinity with the community." Sergeant Walker has been living in Warrandyte for nearly three years.

"I thoroughly enjoy working and living in Warrandyte. The community is very supportive of the police, which makes me want to do my best. I had intentions of staying in Warrandyte for the next 15 years."

Resident rangers and resident police have provided a deterrent and out-of-hours service that the community has taken for granted. "On-site rangers do a fantastic lot of vigilant work," a spokesperson for the Friends of Warrandyte State Park said. "They are constantly on the look-out for dogs, trail bikes, shooting, and so on. I think it's a worry, because their absence leaves the park more vulnerable."

Sergeant Walker estimates that he deals with around 20 out-of-hours calls each week. The phone at the police station automatically transfers to Sergeant Walker's private number whenever the station is unattended.

Both the police and the rangers rent their government-owned houses at a subsidized rate. The loss of subsidized housing, thus forcing them to pay market rental, will represent a considerable drop in salary.

Gavin Clancy said that "government policy is that it will not provide subsidized housing in areas where there is a favourable private rental market. Warrandyte is considered to have a

CLYDE &
OCKER

"They'll be flogging off the birds' nesting boxes soon, Ock!"

favourable market".

"The rangers' salary is already much too low," the FOWSP spokesperson said. "With the loss of housing, employees lose morale and move on."

Sergeant Walker said that the loss of housing will affect morale in the police force throughout the state. "We've made this house a home," he said. "Leaving will have a devastating effect, not just on me, but on the whole family."

One government source, who asked not to be named, commented: "Hard decisions based on economic rationalisation are being made by this government, right across the board. There's very little consideration of social justice."

Fizzo helps them hear

Fizzo the clown visited Warrandyte Community Centre last month to help the Lions Club of Warrandyte run their hearing test confirmation program. In this Jan

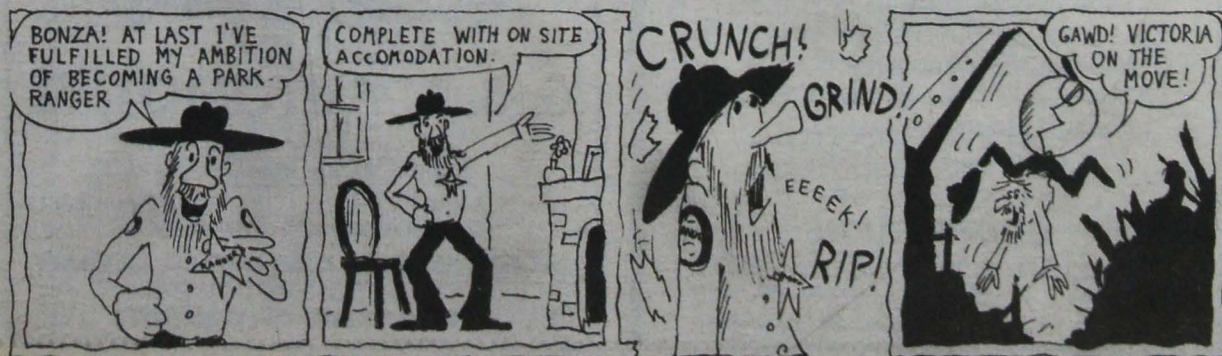
Tindale picture, Fizzo is seen with Callum Griffiths and Courtney and Brianna Castles. Health checks are a feature of the club's community work.

All that remains of a ranger's house at Pound Bend, Warrandyte State Park.



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By PAUL WILLIAMS



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The dastardly doing of Chainsaw Scruffy



If you read this column as avidly as readers of quality newspaper columns should, you'll remember last month's expose of Alan (Scruffy) Edhouse and the Winton chainsaw massacre. A local rozzar rumbled Scruffy as he was cutting up a fallen tree for a campfire outside the Winton touring car circuit, near Benalla—much to the mirth of his petrolhead companions Alan (Coatsy) Koetsveld, Laurie Holmes and Geoff Feltham. Told that cutting and/or removing timber from this particular area was punishable by a \$1000 fine, Scruffy gave the nice policeman his name and address and hoped to hell he'd hear no more about it. He was on pretty good terms with himself, too, when a couple of development-free weeks passed. Then it arrived: formal notification on police letterhead that Mr Edhouse's conduct had been investigated, his background thoroughly researched and, in the light of an acceptable record, it had been decided that the \$1000 would be waived if he presented himself at his local police station and signed up for 25 hours' unpaid community work. Scruffy scampered straightaway to throw himself upon the mercy of the local cop shop, presented his letter and waited while records there were checked. No, they knew nothing, but would look into it. Oh no! Did this mean the FBI would become involved? Interpol? Please read on.



If Scruff had been an avid reader of this column (which he all of a sudden is), he would have caught the piece in the *Diary* which had come out the previous day reporting the Winton misadventure and suggesting that any police correspondence he received about it might well be a hoax. And if he'd read the name and number on the bottom of the letter he'd have saved himself a great deal of embarrassment. It was signed Senior Sergeant O.G. Dunnagen, O410E (the second 0 there to be read as nought). Done again? Roundly.



Also involved in an environmental drama recently were a koala and her joey, minding their own business in a tree on the new housing estate roughly across the road and down the hill from the high school. One of the contractor blokes phoned the local park rangers and said he and his mates had a bit of a problem. There were these koalas, see, and every time the bulldozer was started up mum would climb down the tree with baby on her back as if she wanted out of there. But every time she climbed down, the workmen's dogs would jump out of the trucks, cars or whatever and tree her again. What should he do? The rangers suggested they lock the dogs in the cars, trucks or whatever (a piece of logic that appealed to us) and chances were that when next the dozer roared into life, Mrs Koala would take her young 'un out of that tree and find another,

IN RED & WHITE



Alan Edhouse: not Interpol!

in a quieter nearby locale, in which to get a bit of sleep. And so she did. Koalas are very sensitive to loud noises. And here endeth Smokey's nature lesson for July.



Did something leap out of the pages of last month's *Diary* and hit you in the eye? You're right—it was the reproduction quality of the photographs. We just hadn't been able to get the scanning process right and our reaction to the picture quality in some previous issues had ranged from mild disappointment to dismay. So we called in an expert, a jovial fellow named Ian Benson, from Truth (now Truth Sport). Lured to the village by the promise of an excellent lunch and a bottle of Brown Brothers white at the Grand Hotel, followed by a walk in the state park, Benno has turned our whole technique around and we can now guarantee outstanding illustrations. He was most impressed with Warrandyte, but said if he owned a block with river frontage here he'd bulldoze all the trees and run lawn all the way down to the Yarra. We think he was joking, but you never know because he's from Benteigh.



Our photographs may have improved out of sight, but not so the diligence of our sports editor, Lee Tindale, who managed to report that the footy match against Croydon was on May 3 when obviously it was June 3. As punishment, we cut his pay from nothing to minus and demanded that he write out 1000 times: "June is just after May and just before July and aren't I a silly sausage?" Punishment along similar lines has been meted out to Lee's wife Jan, our chief-of-staff, who lent the footy club ladies the *Diary* camera with which to take shocking, candid shots of their outrageous Man O Man night last month—but forgot to load it with film. Hence the absence of shocking, candid Man O Man pictures from this issue. Still, the next one's less than 12 months off.



And while we can offer no pictorial evidence, we can tell you that Man O Man was really something—every bit as spec-



tacular as last year's inaugural event. This is the Bloods ladies' big night out and any humiliation suffered by the players as 115 girls put them through the hoops was nothing to what they'd been suffering on the field recently. Terry Blythman—a dasher both on and off the field—was THE man, surviving (among other things) karaoke and a mini-triathlon to beat last year's winner Anthony Magner and eight other would-be spunks. There were a lot of high-lights, among them a salacious strip by super-celebrity guest Cher (aka Craig Bramich), and a class act by the player/waiters, who wore only jocks, bow ties and smiles. John McCartin hosted the show very smoothly and Melissa Kerkhof and Melanie Rankin eliminated the chaps round by round with cream pies. The ladies thank everyone involved.



Mirror, mirror on the wall, who are the oldest of us all? The Grand Hotel is seeking out Warrandyte's most senior citizens to invite them to a special free lunch next month as part of its centenary celebrations. In keeping with the name of the pub, it will indeed be a grand day. If you reckon you're among this town's oldest, give Bradley Valentine a call on 9844 2193 and see if you qualify.



Also researching its history right now is the Warrandyte RSL Sub-branch which, as a matter of record, is trying to establish just when the memorial was built in its grounds, and by whom. We go back quite a way here, to the early 1920s, so there's every chance the creator has passed on, but maybe you heard your father or your grandfather mention involvement with the memorial at some stage. If you can provide any clue at all, please phone RSL president Neil Pearson on 9844 3546.



The Warrandyte under-10s footy team are still blitzing them. These kids are so good they look like going through the season undefeated. It is now proposed the under-10s play a "little league" game at half-time of a local senior fixture and we think that's a great idea because these boys are really worth seeing. More on the "Rampaging Baby Bloods"—and Mal Brown's cartoon—on Page 15.



Smokey Joe

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Support for anti-ring road group

By FIA CLENDINNEN

A group of local residents opposed to a ring road through Warrandyte held their first public meeting on June 19 at the Warrandyte Community Centre.

"Attendance at the meeting surpassed all expectations. It is clear from this that there is widespread interest in the issue. Many people were inspired to join the campaign," said Marcel Cameron, spokesperson for ARRO—Anti-Ring Road Organisation—as the new group has been named.

Seventy-five people were at the meeting. They came from Warrandyte, Donvale, Eltham, Kangaroo Ground and Templestowe. The question most frequently asked was,

"Where is the ring road going to go?"

"We don't know," said another group spokesperson. "They won't tell us. But wherever it does go, it will cause massive environmental destruction and the demolition of scores of homes."

"I'm really wild," said one resident. "My husband and I have just bought a house along one of the suggested routes for the ring road. Phil Honeywood says it won't happen for 10 years. Ten years isn't very long when you've just bought a brand new home."

The ring road, a six-lane freeway that will circle Melbourne at a distance approximately 15 kilometres from the central business district

and costing around \$3 billion, is a proposal VicRoads has pushed before.

In the late 1970s the same proposal met with massive opposition. The new ARRO group have taken their name from a highly successful opposition group at the time.

"In 1981 the state government said it would not go ahead with any ring roads and all the road reservations were sold out," said a spokesperson from the old ARRO. "I couldn't believe it when I saw that this was back on the agenda".

New fears about the ring road have been raised by Banyule commissioners' open promotion of the proposal and by VicRoads themselves. Linking Melbourne, a document put out

by VicRoads last year, states that an "outstanding issue" is the "need for a link between Greensborough and Ringwood".

Some experts dispute that there is a need, however. "There's no demand for the ring road at all," said Paul Mees, president of the PTUA (Public Transport Users Association) and one of the speakers at the meeting.

"For example, the 1991 census figures show that of the total workforce in Ringwood, almost 80 percent either work locally or travel towards the city. Only 2.7 percent need to travel to work across several suburbs and would benefit from a ring road.

"This has been beaten once before.

There are a lot of marginal seats out here, it gives you a lot of power."

Phil Honeywood, state MP for Warrandyte, has been quoted as saying that "the eastern extension of the outer ring road is well behind other more important priorities. I am not satisfied there is a need for it. I would fight very hard for it to come nowhere near Warrandyte."

ARRO will be holding another public meeting, entitled, Green Wedge or Ring Road Freeway, on Tuesday, August 1 at 7.30pm at the Mechanics Institute Hall.

Further information can be obtained from Marcel Cameron on 9844 3849.

Bushland for sale

Council angers locals

By FIA CLENDINNEN

Residents in the Shire of Nillumbik have been angered by the commissioners' decision to sell Pretty Hill, an 85 hectare property in Kangaroo Ground.

"The sale of shire assets should be based on community consultation," said Kahn Franke, chairman of the Green Wedge Protection Group. "Where does it end? I believe the commissioners may sell off every asset we've got."

The commissioners' argument is that "the empty tin which is the refuse fund" will be replenished by the sale of Pretty Hill. They hope to make \$1.69 million from the sale.

But Bill Penrose, an ex-councillor from the Shire of Eltham, says this is nonsense. "Funds are not required for the refuse fund. The funds were needed to build a tip, which is a major capital investment," he said.

"However, since all the refuse will be going out of the shire (to quarry sites in either Epping or Whittlesea) the biggest investment we'll need is a couple of trucks. It's just an excuse to sell the land."

Pretty Hill, an old dairy farm, was bought by Eltham council in 1991 as a potential tip site. The state government, however, decided that only quarries can be used as tips because of the problems of seepage down gullies and eventually into the Yarra River.

The council then considered subdividing Pretty Hill into 11, 20 acre home-sites and retaining a small portion of bushland as



For sale: Friends of the Warrandyte State Park explore Pretty Hill. (Picture by Jan Tindale)

public open space. But some councillors objected to the sale of the hill and after much debate finally voted unanimously to retain Pretty Hill.

"There's no perceived need at this point of time, but who knows?" said Peter Graham, another ex-councillor from the Shire of Eltham. "Where would we be if the old planners of the City of Melbourne had not thought of the Botanical Gardens? You can't just be a 'now' councillor and think (only) about mending the footpath. You've got to have a vision of the future."

The decision to sell Pretty Hill is one of many far-reaching decisions the shire commissioners

have made without community consultation. This has alienated wide sections of the community.

"We invited the commissioners to a public forum but they refused to come," said Cath Giles, secretary of the Kangaroo Ground Waste Management Group. "They're very defensive. They will only meet with individuals and small groups."

"Because the commissioners refuse to come to any public meetings they have no credibility," Bill Penrose said.

Some residents are also unhappy at the number of dedicated and knowledgeable staff who have been dismissed from the shire. "The majority of the staff at Eltham were idealistic,

motivated and forthright," said Kahn Franke. "But there's been a purge, there's no doubt about that. Unless you're a yes-man, you're not going to get a job in Nillumbik."

Don Cordell, chief commissioner with the Shire of Nillumbik, denies this. "Jobs were awarded purely and simply on the basis of merit," he told the *Diary*. "It is inevitable that people in Victoria are going to get hurt. The implementation of change in local government is long, long overdue. And with change it is inevitable that people get hurt."

The staff at Nillumbik Shire Council are so unhappy with the way the changes are being im-

plemented that they went on strike. "It was extremely stressful and financially difficult," said a spokesperson. "We did not do it for fun."

According to Barry Miller from the ASU and MEU union, such strike action is unprecedented amongst the new shires in Victoria.

Currently circulating within the shire is a petition demanding the dismissal of the new chief executive officer at Nillumbik, Barry Rochford.

Kahn Franke said that the community will continue to make its feelings known. "We want to let the commissioners know we are a community deeply involved in our shire," he said.

Gully display opens

The rich goldmining history of Warrandyte came alive last month with the opening of major visitor facilities at Whipstick Gully in the state park.

The works were carried out with \$250,000 funding from the Melbourne Parks and Waterways Program, resulting in site redevelopment and landscaping, a new carpark, picnic settings, mine stabilisation, walking tracks and interpretation facilities, including a visitor information shelter which recalls the mining heritage of the site.

A full scale replica poppet head is one of the attractions.

Ian Christie, acting Port Phillip area manager for DCNR, said the redevelopment of Whipstick Gully has received enthusiastic support from the local community, including the Friends of Warrandyte State Park and the Warrandyte Historical Society.

"Whipstick Gully has the greatest concentration of gold heritage sites within the Warrandyte State Park," he told the *Diary*. "Not only is the site steeped in gold mining history, it is also hoped that Whipstick Gully will become the gateway for visitors to explore many other attractions throughout the park."

Warrandyte MP, Phil Honeywood, opened the visitor interpretation shelter. Chairman of the Melbourne Parks and Waterways Funding Advisory Council, he said he was delighted with the project.

"The input by the local community has been greatly evident and the successful completion of this project has given Whipstick Gully an ecological and historical face-lift," he said.

Part of the community involvement was recognised by the dedication of the Bruce Bence walking track. Bruce was one of the many local residents involved in the project and was responsible for much of the original research.

● See Pages 6 and 7

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Our Craig will head north

Craig Milburn is retiring as co-ordinator of Warrandyte Youth Services on Friday, July 21. Craig is taking the opportunity to move north to Port Macquarie where he will be working in a local government position assessing the need for and implementing programs for young people across the shire. The community of Port Macquarie has gained for themselves a great asset in the field of youth and community work.

Craig is well known and highly regarded in the Warrandyte community. He was instrumental in establishing Warrandyte Youth Services from the original concept of a community coffee shop. After an absence of several years he returned at the end of 1992 to again assist with the re-development of Warrandyte Youth Services, after it had been closed for a short time. He established an excellent community resource, meeting the needs of young people and their families.

In the new premises at the Warrandyte Community Centre we now have a well resourced 'drop in centre' and office. The youth service works well with the neighbourhood house, citizens advice bureau and community groups, service clubs and churches.

Craig has developed a network beyond the immediate community and is held in high regard across Victoria as a youth worker who gets things done for the young people in his area. He has also developed strong links in the

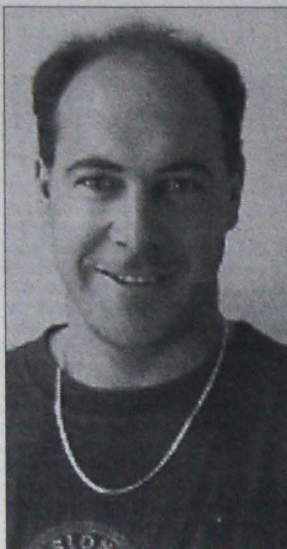
Manningham city council and Nillumbik shire.

Under Craig's guidance, Warrandyte Youth Services have supported several special projects. The mural project of 1994 provides commuters through Warrandyte with a spectacular blaze of colour and the 'Girls Night' program has provided opportunities for these young women which are innovative and responsive to their interests.

The development of an 'Outdoor Education and Recreation' program has also broadened the opportunities available to our young people.

Two other significant programs initiated by youth services and co-ordinated by Craig are the Youth and Community Drug and Alcohol Project and the Landcare Environmental Action Program (LEAP). Both of these programs have the potential to change the nature of the opportunities available to our young people quite significantly.

The drug and alcohol project has involved community education and support for the local schools as well as research into aspects of substance use and family dynamics. The LEAP project has provided an employment opportunity for long-term unemployed young people. The recent launch of the projects magazine, Recycling Around Warrandyte—RAW, shows how young people can become involved in their community and contribute significantly to it.



Craig Milburn

Craig will be missed by many families who have used him to assist in the resolution of family issues. Parenting adolescents is often a difficult responsibility and Craig in his mediation and counselling sessions has helped many young people and their parents to resolve issues and achieve that difficult win-win situation.

In his outreach work he has contributed significantly to the local schools, particularly Warrandyte High. He has worked closely with the local police and helped resolve situations before they became very difficult.

We wish Craig well in his new position and know that he will be missed here in Warrandyte and appreciated in Port Macquarie.

Tom Delahunty
Warrandyte Youth Services

Dogs are killers

Recently I have had the unfortunate and distressing experience of being witness to the result of damage being inflicted on our native wildlife in and adjacent to the Warrandyte State Park by uncontrolled dogs running loose.

A couple of weeks ago, a mother and baby wombat were attacked by dogs in the Stanebrae area, in what can only be described as a 'frenzied' attack given the evidence found at the site. The young wombat, a male of about 12 months old, was killed almost instantly. Its ears had been torn off and it had severe claw slashes all over its body.

The mother, still lactating, died several days later of similar injuries. Both animals had tried to take refuge in a concrete drain under a trail. The dogs, in their effort to get to the wombats, had tried to dig the drain out of the ground! It was obvious from the paw prints in the mud that two or three large dogs were involved. I have little doubt that these dogs came from the Wonga Park area off a property or properties backing onto the vicinity of Jumping Creek Road.

Another incident occurred on the Kangaroo Ground Road about a month ago at the '100 steps' section of the park. I was walking on the viewing area just below the road when a swamp wallaby rushed past me, actually brushing my jacket. Within seconds, two large dogs did the same, intent on pursuing the wallaby. I would like to think that the wallaby got away. These two dogs had also been seen in the Pound Bend area of the park several days earlier by myself and park staff and were seen actually swimming the river to get away.

LETTERS



I have on several occasions seen dogs of different types running wild within the state park. I would also say that I am not the only person who has witnessed the results of uncontrolled dogs in the Warrandyte area. There has at different times been evidence found of young kangaroos and joeys being attacked by dogs.

Due to the nature and geographical location of Warrandyte State Park, there are a lot of private properties adjacent to its boundaries. This in itself puts pressure on our wildlife without dogs adding to it.

I would like to think that the majority of people who live in the Warrandyte area and own pets are in the main responsible for the actions of their dogs. It is obvious though that there are some dog owners in the area who couldn't care less about our wildlife and environment when they let their dogs out for a 'run' (they run alright—crazy!).

When I see the results of what damage domestic pets are doing to the wildlife in our area, I feel like getting hold of the pet owners responsible, showing them and saying, "Here, have a bloody good look at that."

We live in a very special area in Warrandyte and as a community we should not take the state park and surrounding area for granted. It is, with its native flora and fauna, very fragile and does not need the added pressure of uncontrolled domestic pets wreaking havoc on our wildlife. As a community we should all

take a responsible attitude to controlling our pets, in particular dogs and cats. To those pet owners who let their dogs run loose around the park, just stop and think where those animals may wander to and what damage they may inflict on our wildlife before you let them out. That way our local environment will have one less problem and our wildlife will be able to breathe a little bit easier.

Ron Taylor
Pound Bend Road

Dolly missed

Having seen no mention in the last two issues of the *Diary*, it occurred to me that many Warrandytians must be unaware that one of our great characters, Dolly Clifton, passed away recently.

Having not seen her for some time, I recently made enquiries and was informed that she died approximately three months ago, shortly after admission to a nursing home. Warrandyte just won't be the same without Dolly!

Hugh McSpedden
Everard Drive

The *Diary* hopes to publish a tribute to Dolly next issue.

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

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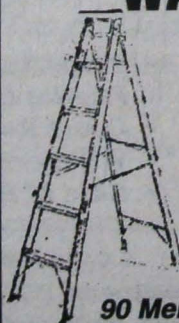
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Seniors' village plan on hold

By CLINTON GRYBAS

The future of Warrandyte's long-awaited retirement housing project will be known shortly, with government-appointed Manningham commissioners deciding whether to release the \$350,000 granted by the previous, resident-elected, Doncaster council.

Warrandyte Community Retirement Housing Project Committee recently lobbied the commissioners in a final bid to get the project underway. The commissioners, believing there could be financial risk with the project, will review a controversial business plan on the project before reaching a decision.

The plan, costing \$23,000, has been

labelled a "total waste of money" by the committee. While recommendations in the plan appear certain to go against the proposal, the commissioners do not have to follow them. The local committee's chairman, Syd Smale, said the meeting with the commissioners was productive.

"They expressed their support for this project and were in agreement with the principle of Warrandyte elderly residents being accommodated within Warrandyte," he said. "The key question yet to be answered is whether the council can be assured of community financial backing for the project."

The \$350,000 was agreed to in September last year after three years lobbying by the community, but the commission-

ers put the project on hold because of the "risk factor". They contracted Impact Consulting Group earlier this year to produce a business plan. The committee's Margory Lapworth said the plan and survey were not needed, as they had already established a large support base of potential buyers.

"This survey is just a total waste of \$23,000. The need for retirement housing has been amply shown, this report is only going to say what we have already told them," she said.

"They can have the \$350,000 back when we sell the properties, so it can be advanced on a loan basis."

She said that some questions in the Impact survey asked of earlier respondents were skewed to provide mislead-

ing data. "His survey involved questions like 'Why did I want to leave my house?'. He did not ask me if I was prepared to pay money in advance, which was one of his points in the preliminary plan."

She said it had been suggested to the local committee that they should find another backer for the project. They are investigating this through a consortium of local builders and a church group. A private developer is unlikely to gain the approval of the local community because of sensitivity over the dual occupancy issue.

"It sets a precedent. Another private developer could come in, buy land and put up units," Margory Lapworth said that the Warrandyte Environment

League will only support the project if it is done through a community-based group.

Chief Commissioner Adam Kempton said he agreed with the committee's goals. "Older people who are ready to move into smaller accommodation often do not want to leave the area in which they live. We are keen to facilitate the process of achieving more appropriate housing for them," he said.

"Council can assist this process by providing expert advice on siting, planning and subdivision, as well as helping with re-zoning." He added, however, that they would not be prepared to put ratepayers' money at risk.

Blue Light top disco on again

By CLINTON GRYBAS

Warrandyte's young people reacted favourably to the first police blue light disco at the Mechanics Hall in May, prompting a second disco to be arranged for July 21.

Craig Milburn of Warrandyte Youth Services said that while the attendance number was slightly down on what was anticipated, the enjoyment and benefits gained from the evening ensured they will continue.

"There was a good range of kids from years six to 11 and nearly all of them spent the night on the floor dancing. They really got into it and enjoyed themselves," he said.

"The other really positive thing about it was the combination of staff we had. They were from the police, McDougalls, Apex club and youth services, and to see most of them up dancing with the

kids was really positive. It was good to see the interaction between the kids and the adults. It's really important to get the young people mixing with the older people in the community."

The majority of those who attended were from Warrandyte and all said they would be back on July 21. Again a Friday night, it will begin at 7.30pm with an entry charge of \$5.

Attendance at the dance promises to be swelled by the number of local young folk saying farewell to Craig Milburn, who will leave shortly to live in New South Wales.

Meanwhile, youth services has been putting in extended hours in counselling lately, with Milburn dealing with more than 30 crisis appointments in the month of May. These appointments involved local young people and their families and dealt with such is-

CLYDE & OCKER



"The kids can kick on at the Blue Light disco — long as they don't make any noise!"

such as running away from home, suicidal tendencies and family conflict.

"So far we have a 100 per cent success rate, in that every school kid who has come to us has not only returned home but has returned to school, which is the main thing," he said. "But it's certainly a job we would prefer not to have to do."

Other news at youth services is the appointment of Marnie Wood to the permanent part-time position in outdoor education. The 21 year-old is developing the outdoor program and the young women's group, and has already led a canoeing trip and a trip to Torquay.

New river track goes under

Hailed as a great boon for pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders, stretches of the widely publicised walking track from the bridge to the Stonehouse have already disappeared beneath the wintry waters of the Yarra.

Obviously built—at least in part—below the floodline, the track was funded by Manningham council and Melbourne Parks and Waterways.

PRESSURE POINT

The Jan Tindale picture (below) shows that the track would serve well for launching canoes, but is hopeless for walkers, cyclists and horse riders who aren't prepared to swim!



FIENDS OF THE PARK

By MATTHEW BISSETT-JOHNSON



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The Lions Corner

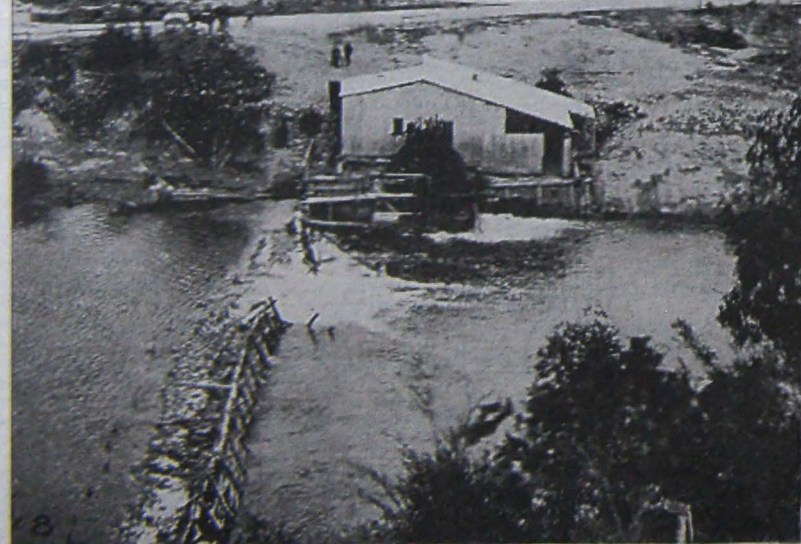
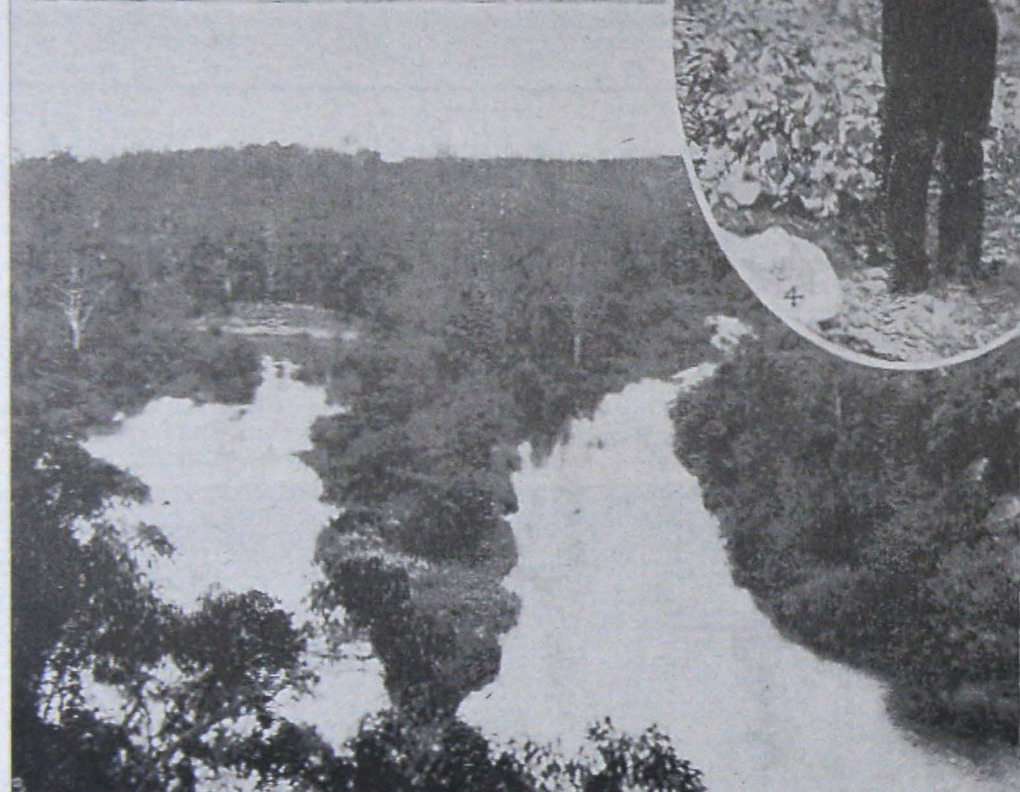
■ **Installation Night.** The new President of Warrandyte Lions was recently installed. Ron Cuthbert succeeds John Penwill after a successful year which saw a number of new initiatives introduced such as the Housing Project and Jazz Concert as well as the consolidation of established events. The importance of the Health checks was re-emphasised with several specialist referrals being made. Ron was also President in '81-'82 and says that this will help him enormously in discharging his duties in the forthcoming year.

■ **Youth Award.** It is hoped that there will be, by the time of this publication, a more positive response to this award as its viability for the future could be threatened.

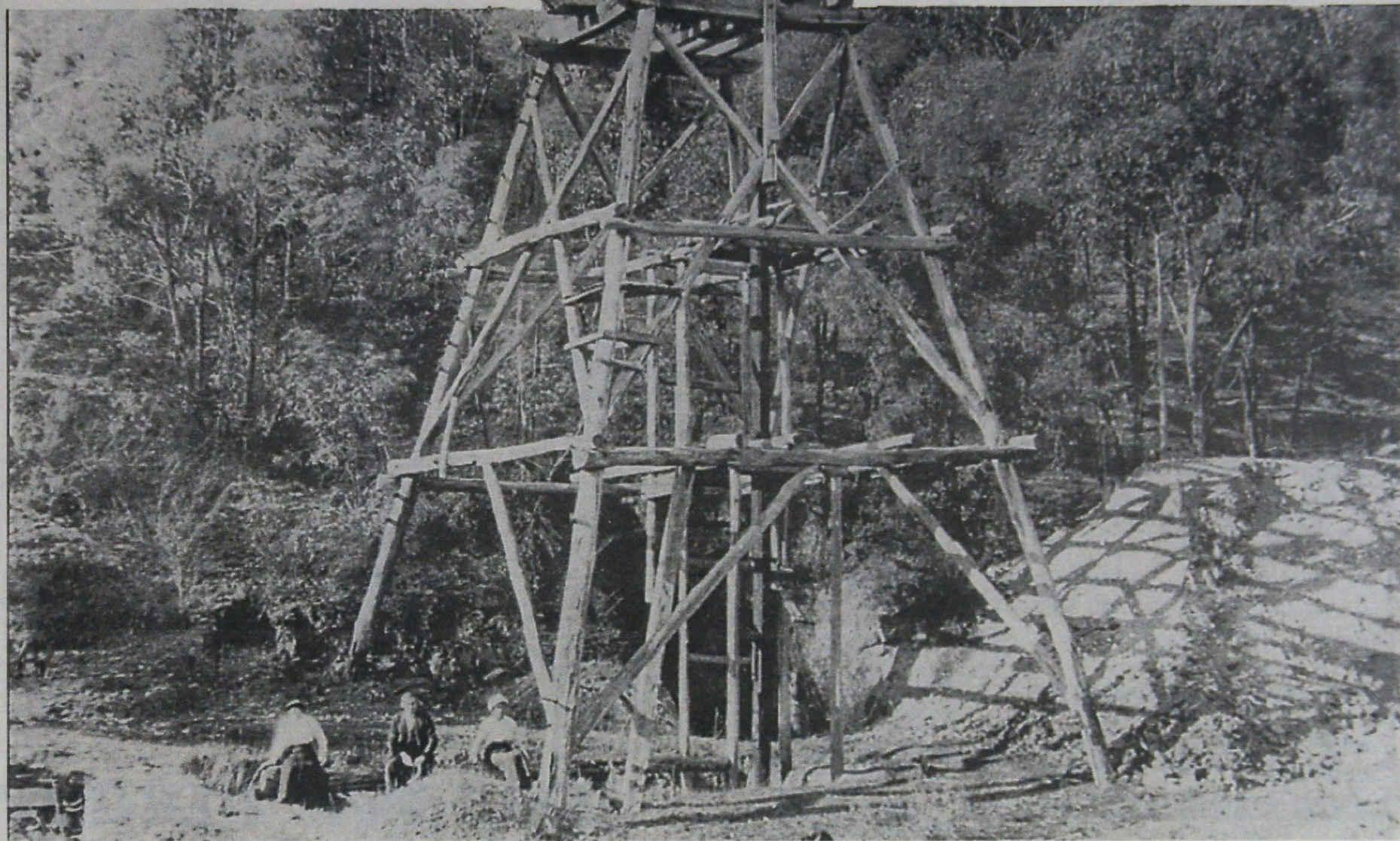
■ **Op Shop.** Some of the 20 volunteers who assist in running this vital community fundraiser as well as the shop management attended the Installation Night, which gave them and the Lions a rare chance to meet up and enjoy themselves together.

■ **Cakes and Mints.** Though it may be 6 months before Christmas, don't forget the best way to avoid all the hassle of cake making is to buy a Lions Cake. They also make excellent presents! Mints are another ongoing fundraiser, we will be asking all our office and shop supporters to take some more on-board this year. If you would like cakes or mints they can be ordered through any of the Lions or Dennis Robertshaw on 9874 1660 during business hours.

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.



A Victory... ..revealed



A poppet head, deep in the Warrandyte bush.

THE recent developments at Whipstick Gully, Warrandyte State Park, have been designed to throw light on the gold history and natural attractions of the site.

The historic signs and displays in the gully are based on a report containing accurate research and colourful anecdotal material provided by local historian Bruce Bence, two years before his death. As a tribute to Bruce and to the hard work and lives of the goldminers who worked in Whipstick Gully and around Fourth Hill, we here reprint some material from this report.

As you walk up Whipstick Gully, past the last house on your left, you come to a series of abandoned stone quarries. The last and biggest quarry is adjacent to the Victory Mine. This site would have been a hive of activity in the 1890s, with several mines operating, steam engines thumping away and the crashing din of the stamping battery.

All the gullies running from Fourth Hill were quickly worked out. The miners usually sank shallow shafts around three metres deep until they came to the ancient stream beds which contained the gold bearing gravel. The miners were fit men who could work hard all day swinging a pick. One old miner could sink 12 feet in a day, on his own, in hard ground.

Mining in Warrandyte went through a number of stages and it was one of the longest surviving fields in Victoria, having produced gold from 1851 until 1920, not to mention the minor rush of fossickers during the depression in the 1930s.

After the initial alluvial workings, quartz mining was carried out by manual mining. This usually involved two or three mates working a claim down to about

100 feet, or 30 metres. Around the 1890s the area saw the introduction of mining companies using machinery, at mines like the Victory, the Caledonian, the Pig Tail, the South Caledonian and the North Caledonian. All were quite extensive and mined several levels.

The Warrandyte Company started to work a claim in Whipstick Gully. This was later to become the Victory Mine. The mine produced yields of 10 ounces to the ton. One of the difficulties of tracing the story of the mines is that the leases frequently changed hands, which quite often meant a change of name. The North Victory Mine was originally in a different location, but lease number 6602, adjacent to the Victory lease, was taken out in 1925 and became void in July 1929.

There is another extensive mine tunnel opposite the Victory Mine, but the entrance was covered by the Mines Department many years ago. This tunnel bears to the north in the direction of Yarra Street. Perhaps this was the reef that Mr Grant was hoping to strike when he sank a shaft in his bed-

room in February 1892!

In 1890, the Evelyn Observer reported that the Victory Mine had produced 38 ounces 15 pennyweights of smelted gold (20 pennyweights equalled one ounce). A further report, in March 1912, stated that prospecting parties were working the old Victory leases with promising results.

In May 1906 a writer in the Australasian commented that Warrandyte was a busy little mining centre, with upwards of 250 miners employed and new mines about to be started. Every stranger who came to town was either a mine manager or a speculator. The banks of the Yarra were dotted with tents of newly arrived miners. (See pictures opposite.)

Perhaps the last phase in gold mining was during the depression when unemployed men came to Warrandyte. They lived in abandoned miners' huts and fossicked for gold. The locals made several attempts to re-work old mines and revive old schemes from winning gold from the river, to duplicating many of the earlier schemes.

The final chapter on the Victory Mine came in 1929 when the

Mines Department gave permission for the Victory Mine to be used to deposit night soil.

Bruce Bence was full of wonderful, entertaining anecdotal material about Victory (Whipstick) Gully, Fourth Hill and the gold mining days of Warrandyte. He once commented that despite the hard work, the daily battles and dust, the wins and losses, the miners really stuck together in the end. They were especially respectful to "their dead" and there were often large "turn-outs" at funerals.

With a glint in the eye, Bruce added words to effect that "many of the diggers though, would watch very carefully as the coffin was being lowered. After all, they never knew when they'd find a gold bearing quartz vein."

It is fitting indeed that the trail leading upwards from Whipstick Gully, along the ridge and down again to a point near the re-opened Victory Mine, should be named The Bruce Bence Track.

A goldfield they forgot

By GEORGINA SAUNDERS

Warrandyte's historic goldfields and mining relics appear to have been forgotten in Australian history text books, despite a log of impressive claims to fame.

Many local people know that the first officially proclaimed gold discovery in the then colony of Victoria was in 1851 at Andersons Creek, on the other side of Fourth Hill. Louis John Michel, who found this historic piece of metal, claimed that his discovery had profound implication for the future state of Victoria.

"Permit me to say," he wrote in *The Argus*, circa 1854, "that it was the immediate publication of my discovery that stemmed the tide of immigration to New South Wales," where gold had already been discovered.

The single fact of gold discovery, might, you would think, secure for Warrandyte a firm place in our nation's history books—but we have more superlatives to claim.

The first official goldfield in Victoria, for instance, was also at Andersons Creek. Named The Victoria Field it was also the site where Victoria's first gold licences were issued.

And there's more. Local historians have, over the years, put forward the notion that we can also claim one of the longest surviving goldfield in Vic-



Phil Honeywood: opened display

toria. After all, this area produced gold from 1851, when it was first discovered, until 1965 when the Monument Gold Mine on Fourth Hill was declared void. And there has been some fossicking since then.

So why have our goldfields been largely forgotten? Perhaps it's because they were not especially rich. The rock here is quite unpredictable and very hard to work. Certainly our mining history was characterised by boom and bust periods, and there were much richer goldfields elsewhere in Victoria.

Perhaps Louis John Michel should have the last say. In his account of his historic gold discovery he concluded: "I shall be pleased to think that my little narrative may prove of interest to the many readers of *The Argus* who are desirous of learning something of the early history of this colony."



LEFT: This page from *The Australasian*, May 1906, depicts life in a Warrandyte still dominated by gold.

LEFT: They gathered together last month to mark the opening of the Whipstick Gully historic display and the dedication of the Bruce Bence Track.

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Murder on the window ledge

THE animal had been snared. The more it struggled the tighter the hold on its spindly legs became. But struggle it did and soon not only legs, but body and head were held fast. There was no escape. The desperate creature was condemned to a slow death by the cruellest of predatory practices. It was about to be eaten alive!

This protracted torment was actually taking place on my window sill and I watched mesmerized as one is when engrossed in a horror movie. But this was no ordinary assault. The predator on my window sill, astonishingly, was growing in a pot. It was a sundew and its prey, a tiny fly.

Sundews are just one of several groups of carnivorous plants. Others include the Venus fly-trap from North America, pitcher plants from the tropics and bladderworts, which are less spectacular but more widespread.

All of these plants have acquired an appetite for animals, mainly insects. But why? The answer lies in the soil. Most carnivorous plants grow in nutritionally poor soils, particularly those deficient in nitrogen—an essential element for plant growth.

Some plants are able to overcome this problem by associating with certain bacteria in the soil. They accommodate the bacteria in nodules on their roots and this enables them to 'fix' nitrogen from the air. The carnivorous plants have evolved a different approach. These plants obtain their nitrogen supplement by trapping insects and digesting their soft tissues.

Different groups of plants have developed different mechanisms for trapping. Some, like the pitcher plants, use a passive method which relies on the insect literally falling into the trap and drowning in a pool of digestive liquid at the base of the hollow pitcher. Others, like the sundews, have adopted an active strategy.

It is not known for sure what lures the insect to the plant. Maybe they are deceived by glistening globules on the leaves which resemble, but do not actually contain, nectar. Maybe the

NATURE

By PAT COUPAR
Drawn by MELANIE COUPAR

plants emit an attracting pheromone-like scent or perhaps the insects simply blunder unintentionally into the trap. Once caught, however, the gland-tipped tentacles curl inwards to form a secure cage, while enzymes secreted by the glands digest the victim.

Warrandyte is home to several species of sundew. The two most common are surprisingly dissimilar in appearance and growth habit. Ground-hugging scented sundews grow in colonies, each plant consisting of a basal rosette of spoon-shaped leaves which may be green or



pink. The single white flower is large and fragrant. In contrast, the tall sundew has several small pale pink or white flowers at the end of a slender, erect stem bearing small shield-shaped leaves on long stalks. The leaves, like those of scented sundews, are fringed with burgundy-coloured tentacles tipped with sticky droplets.

Sundews are petite plants which die back above ground after flowering and setting seed in early summer. Stimulated by this spell of wet winter weather, these buried treasurers have surfaced again. Like tiny diamonds sprinkled through the bush they sparkle, seducing unsuspecting insects who cannot resist their fatal attraction.

Inspired lunacy

SUE Dyring brought together a talented cast and team of backstageers to present what must be one of the greatest successes of the Warrandyte Drama Group. *Così* is a brilliant play by Louis Nowra about a young Melbourne university student Lewis, who is asked to direct a number of patients from an insane asylum in a play in order to "bring them out of their shells".

The scene is set around 1970, when the mood was anti-Vietnam war, free love, long hair and bell bottoms and Lewis is tasting the realities of manhood. Poor Lewis is initially overcome with his unusual cast of actors and learns more about psychology than directing as the story progresses.

Imagine his challenge when faced with a drug dependent, several obsessive behaviours, a pyromaniac who gets his kicks out of burning his mother's cats (and toilet

blocks), an insane murderer, a mad musician who wants to show his passion for Wagner and a serious introvert trying to put together an opera about Mozart's opera *Così* Fam Tutte, meaning Women Are Like That.

It is a story that tests fidelity and double standards of behaviour. One overwhelming problem is that none of them can sing or even speak Italian! (Sounds like the *Follies* rehearsals in January.)

Così is set in a partly burned-out hall, a sort of grunge look, complete with dripping roof. The set design was simple yet perfect, as it allowed the audience to stay close to the action and be challenged by what is reality and what is merely an illusion of life.

There wasn't one weak character in the cast, but there were many memorable performances. Matt Allgood was true to his name as the keen young Lewis, stepping around emotional minefields

THEATRE

By NICHOLAS PARSONS

to get the play performed by this zany cast.

The role of Roy, the inmate determined that the opera should be performed at all costs, in order to realise his "harmony of the spheres", was just made for the great talent of Tim Sherwood. Tim brought us to the realisation that brilliance and madness are very close.

Alan Cornell has been hiding his 1960s gear in his bedroom cupboard for sure. He played the part of Doug the hippie pyromaniac with great fire in the belly. A bit worrying, living so close to him and owning a cat.

Christie Lawrence brought life into her character as the drug addict who yearned for a hit and, as did all the actors, held her character through-

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Pot belly dreams of days gone by

66 **N**OW is the winter of our discontent made glorious by these gas jets." Not quite the words of the bard, but very appropriate for these cold winter days.

Herself and I had been discussing the need to replace our old Mount Eltham pot belly heater with something that didn't belch smoke and didn't require half Kinglake State Forest to provide enough heat to raise the ambient living room temperature by five or six degrees. Admittedly, the stove is 20 years-old and has had more structural and cosmetic surgery than Zsa Zsa Gabor.

In its heyday, the pot belly would glow with pride and warm all the caftans and Nepalese yak wool jackets in the room. The sides would radiate peace and goodwill with never a thought for the forests that were being consumed to keep the cheese fondue, coq au vin and boeuf à la bourguignonne dinner parties raging long into the night.

During the day, the hills were alive with the sound of chainsaws, cutting up next year's supply of entertaining.



"The hills were alive with the sound of chainsaws, cutting up next year's supply of entertaining."

"I've had to drop a tree to build the mud-brick pottery studio. Do you want the wood?" The speaker was sworn to secrecy lest other beavers would hear and get to the seam of gold before you.

"But don't you need the wood yourself?" you would ask, amazed at such selfless or stupid profligacy.

"Nah. I'm going to put in gas heating for the kiln so I might as well heat the house with gas too."

In those days, such comments were seen as ill-advised, or more probably the sign of someone who in Sir Humphrey's terms was not a "sound chap".

It was an era of Earth Mothers. In hindsight, they were probably Earth Mothers because that was all that was left after we fathers razed the trees to provide inefficient pot bellies and open fires with the fuel required to create a mediaeval ambience.

Our houses smelled of wood smoke, with every possible ledge coated in a layer of ash. We even used sea grass matting to approximate the rushes that were strewn on the floors of castles in the Middle Ages. They were used to sop up unwanted human fluids. Come to think about it, sea grass tended to do much the same thing. Replacing decades-old sea grass is like looking through a photo album.

There on the floor are not snaps of happy times of yore, but concrete examples of past babies, dogs, parties and

arguments—a veritable treasure trove for future archaeologists and sociologists.

The halcyon days of the Middle Ages became our middle age and we started to wonder about the wisdom of burning fossil fuel indiscriminately. We succumbed to gas heating, not just because of a deep and disturbing concern for the imminent nullarborising of Warrandyte, but because of laziness and a heavy McCulloch chain saw.

As Warrandyte was becoming denuded of trees it was necessitating longer and more distant forays to collect free wood. To buy it would have defeated the purpose of noble suffering and the appropriate peasant spirit. Added to this was the problem of age and a waning enthusiasm.

The first signs of defeat came when I started buying bags of briquettes to eke out the dwindling wood supply. Next came the laborious and inefficient technique of shredding newspapers, soaking them, then pressing them in a hand press until they approximated paper bricks. These were then laid out to dry for weeks. Only then could they be used instead of virgin wood. These reincarnated trees were supposed to burn for hours and give off as much heat as a thermo nuclear reactor.

Suffice it to say, I have, under the house, a hand press that will be given free to anyone who can set aside four or five months of the year to nothing more than paper brick production. Interestingly, I saw the same product advertised in the latest Australian Geographic catalogue—no doubt remaindered from the 70s.

Once terminal apathy approached, we rang Gasmart, and breathed a sigh of warm relief as the dustless, efficient heater was installed. We still have the old pot belly and I actually tried it the other day. It made a valiant effort to roar when I opened the vent but because the flue was clogged—again—all I got was a pathetic cough of acrid smoke and as much warmth and succour as a Kennett government's social policy.

I'm tossing up whether to keep the old heater for nostalgic reasons or replace it with the new "you-beaut" Coonara—or perhaps I'll simply forget the whole thing and just turn on the oven and open the door.

on a local stage

out the play.

Oh, what a performance by Greg Hildebrand, as the mad musician whose personality changed with the number of prescribed pills Zac had taken. Greg brought great energy and humour to the role.

Liz Greenwood shared the role of Ruth with Raine Dinale. Liz performed the role on the night with style and a sense of black humour. Poor Ruth has an obsessive behavioural problem and needs to do everything by numbers—exactly—and her role in the opera made the audience think very hard about the illusion and reality of theatre.

One of the strengths of the play was the calibre of the supporting cast: John Every as the social worker whose idea it was for the inmates to perform, Georgie Greenwood as the intellectually snobbish activist who shared her bed with her boyfriend, our hero Lewis, and the lust in her

life—Nick—beautifully played by Jordan Thomas.

The most memorable role was Cherry, who showed strong affection for young Lewis, maternally and in other ways. Such a warm, wacky soul was Cherry, and so well played by Caroline Shaw that she took away your heart and gave it back in a healthier state. Bravo!

Special congratulations to Sue Dyring who must have, at least a few times, felt the same way as Lewis. She brought to us a story full of wonderful characters, fun, challenges and joy. The direction was superb, the well-cast team gave Warrandyte the most enjoyable theatre evening for a long time.

In a specially set stage, which only housed 110, with central heating and a welcoming drink, what a shame the Mechanics Hall wasn't even half full. For those who missed out, you missed a fantastic night.



Greg Hildebrand: "Oh, what a performance!"

ROGER KIBELL

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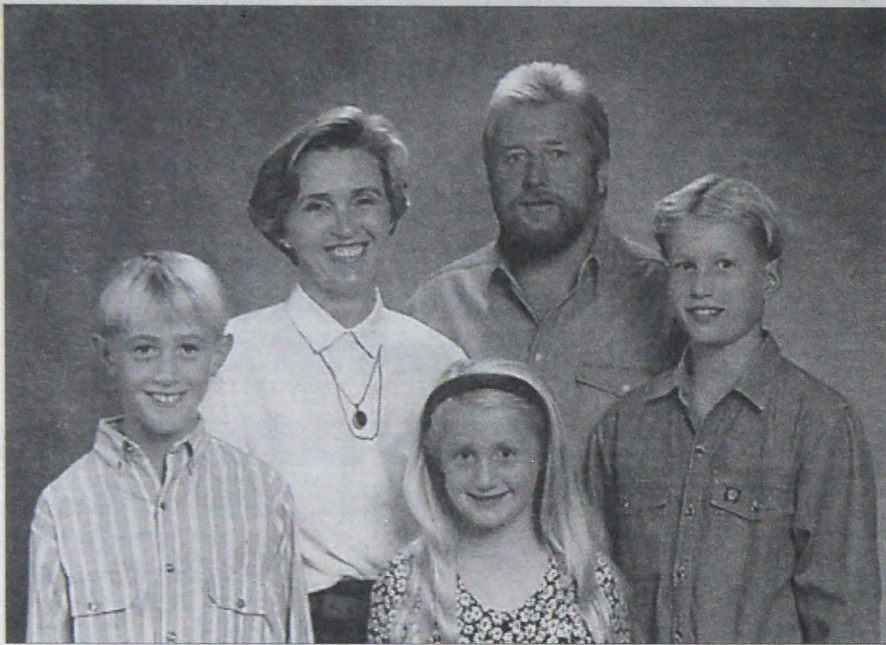
DECORATE WITH CRAFT

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PHIL GEORGE

Left a wealth of memories

By CLINTON GRYBAS



POPULAR local resident Phil George died suddenly on May 22, leaving behind a wealth of fond memories. Born in Ferntree Gully in 1953, Phil grew up on a farm at Scoresby. A move to Heathmont during primary school days commenced an involvement with Heathmont Football Club, which he played for and followed until an overwhelming passion for St Kilda took hold.

Sister Sally recalled a youngster who constantly tinkered and built things. "When he wasn't building, he was taping his own radio shows." Another of his great passions was food. "I wondered how he could extract food from my mouth in a non-contact manner."

Phil spent his secondary school years at Ringwood High, where he met the love of his life, Janet King. While their fathers had worked together, brother Geoff said that Phil believed Janet was too good for him. "After they got together there was no shutting him up, and it soon became clear it was the real thing."

After high school and two years as a copy boy at The Age, he attended RMIT and completed an associate diploma of building. Wedged in be-

Phil George and family (from left) Chris, Janet, Sami and Nic.

tween was a job as a baker's delivery, where he is rumoured to have enjoyed the left-over bread more than the pay.

In 1973 he and Janet announced their engagement and were married a year later. Phil began his building career at E.A. Watts Constructions and later Merchant Builders.

The pair moved back into Phil's parent's home in Heathmont in 1975 while they built their own house in Blooms Road. After two years of labouring for love each weekend and holiday they finally had their home completed.

Following these years of experience, he started his own building company. Such was its success that he never had to advertise, relying on word of mouth to spread the message of his fine workmanship and professionalism.

Following the birth of sons Nic and Chris and daughter Sami, they renovated a house at the opposite end of Blooms Road. The children attended Warrandyte Primary School and later Warrandyte High, and Phil was never far away when a working bee was called.

By 1992, his fondness for basketball had grown to such an extent that he was soon ferrying three children to matches, coaching, playing and acting as sponsorship manager with the Warrandyte Redbacks.

Club president Graeme Riley said he was impossible to dislike, and the club was seeking a suitable gesture to officially remember a much-loved clubman.

School works
afternoon shift
for open day

By CLINTON GRYBAS

Warrandyte High School threw open its doors last month to welcome visitors to a new-look open day. After disappointing attendances over the past few years, the school made an all-out effort to attract interest.

School hours were changed to 12noon to 7.30pm, ensuring that working parents and others had the chance to observe the school in action. School principal Michael Blake was delighted by the response to the innovative day.

"It's been very good. We've exceeded our expectations with more people turning up than those who actually said they would," he said.

"We've had a lot of people looking at the school in terms of a prospective school next year or the year after, so generally speaking it has gone very well."

The school obtained the backing of school council and then the parents before proceeding with the varied hours, while arranging extra buses to transport the students. Michael Blake said the school community was very supportive of the program, ensuring a full complement of staff

and students.

"It's very important that parents who have children at the school see what the students do. That's the reason why we've picked these particular hours, so they can have a chance to see the kids in their leisure, rather than when it suited us," he said. "Nine o'clock in the morning to 3.15 in the afternoon is very difficult for most parents."

The school advertised the day widely in the local area and put on several special activities. A rehearsal of this year's theatre production, Joseph and his Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat, packed the theatre. The library, gymnasium and maths-help programs were all running, while an information evening was held at the end of the day for prospective students and parents.

Head librarian Sally Venables said the school's library was entering the computer age. A new computer system has just been installed for book references while more student terminals were being added. She said it has come a long way in a few years and will continue to modernise.

COLLEEN DEALY

A 'grand girl' remembered

By BOB MILLINGTON



THE family once asked Eddie Morris what it was like to sit next to Colleen at Victoria Park. He shook his head.

"Let's put it this way," he said. "None of the men in white on the field had fathers who were married to their mothers."

Colleen Bernadette Dealy, who died suddenly on May 31 at the age of 35, had a pair of magnificent obsessions: the Collingwood Football Club and her family. Great as was her adoration of the Magpies, the family easily came first. No one, in her hearing, could denigrate a Dealy, a Hookey, a Huxtable, a Roe, a Fink or a Millington and get away with it.

She gave out love, laughter and joy and asked only those same gifts in return.

Colleen Dealy

It's a commonplace to say that most Down's Syndrome sufferers are happy people, and it is certainly true in Colleen's case. But underneath was a frustration. Colleen fully knew her condition made her "different" and it rankled. She wanted a "normal" life.

Her happiest days were spent among the plants and typewriters of the Monkami Special School Annex where she worked as a receptionist.

At home she became the family chronicler, and not a second cousin's birthday passed without Colleen calling attention to it. She was also a voracious reader, particularly of history.

Colleen lived with her grandparents, Mark and Jack Huxtable, in Kangaroo Ground Road. Jack died in 1993. She is survived by Mary, her mother, Anne Hookey, sisters Jane and Bronwyn and brothers Bill and Sean.

She was a grand girl.

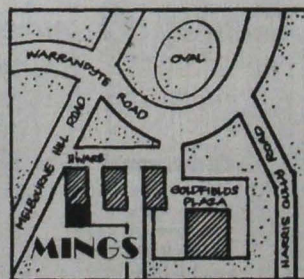
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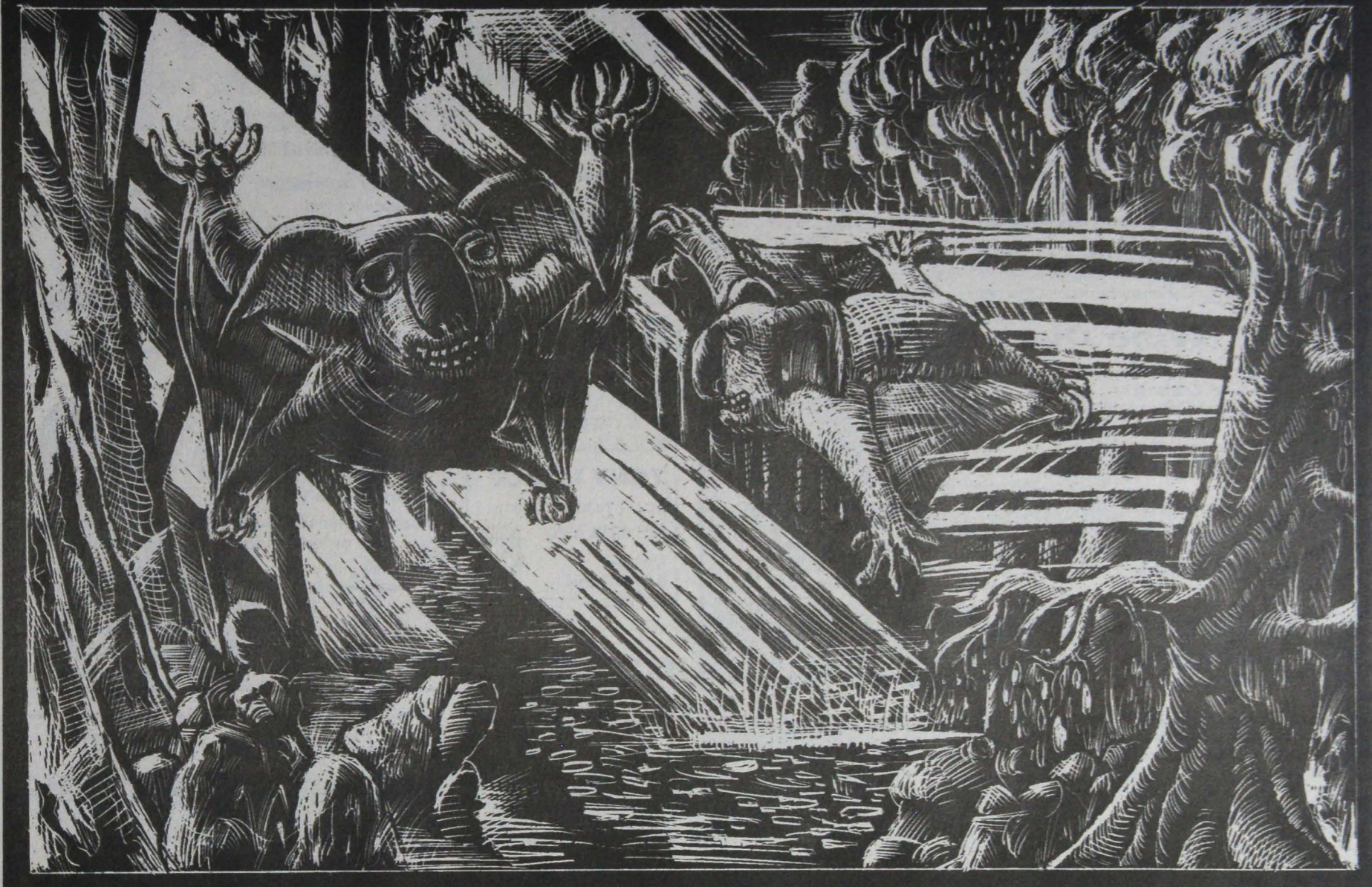
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Time of the Orrong

STORY BY GLEN JAMESON • ARTWORK BY MATTHEW BISSETT-JOHNSON

THE hill seemed much steeper than I recalled, as it climbed towards the blue spring sky. The green truck—faithful companion on a thousand field trips throughout the wilds of Australia—began to labour less than a quarter of the way up the slope. I was on a camping trip, exploring the flora-rich, red box woodland remnants around Warrandyte.

Suddenly, just ahead, appeared a place to park off the road, complete with its own small patch of bush, allowing me to follow my naturalist's curiosity as the engine cooled.

It was no easy matter to get the truck off the road due to a deep ditch, which probably persuaded people from parking there. But when I had finally managed it I forgot all about my difficulties. I had parked next to one of the most wonderful patches of bushland I had ever seen.

Bushlands that have very low levels of human disturbance and consequently very few weeds are rare, especially in urban situations. They have a magical presence, intangible and ethereal; like a song. This stretch of country had just that quality. It was as if the lights of ancient landscapes emanated from this special place.

How could this be? Warrandyte has been urbanised for more than a hundred years, yet here it was, this truly beautiful piece of bushland.

I left the truck and was immediately rewarded, for there on the grassy verge were orchids by the hundreds and in great variety. Leopard and donkey orchids, waxlips and ladies fingers, hyacinth and spider orchids. Here and there, golden-coloured pea plants and small prostrate wattles competed for the same space as did an immense profusion of lillies, daisies and small scrambling plants. Bush fragrances thickened the spring air like a perfumed hothouse.

Scurrying noises coming from the bush beyond the verge enticed me to

enter the shadowed curtain of shrubs and trees. A few careful steps into the forest revealed an even more remarkable scene. Brown antechinus scratched about my feet, seeking insects in the leaf litter, southern brown bandicoots dug foraging holes just ahead of me, phascogales leapt from tree to tree, searching bark crevices for tucker.

Animals that I had only seen in books and sanctuaries were before me, going about their everyday routines. Gentle swamp wallabies grazed quietly nearby, as eastern grey kangaroos stood tall, staring me right in the eye.

As I moved further into the forest, sugar gliders and bats swooped overhead. Ringtail possums busily built dreys and brush-tail possums chewed the gum that oozed from black wattles. Everything in the forest was busy, intent upon living. Eastern rosellas walked along poa grass stalks to reach the seeds, a rufous whistler landed on my shoulder for a better perch to view its world.

Yellow robins plucked wool from my jumper for a nest and there was a Tasmanian bettong, supposedly extinct from the mainland this century. White-footed rabbit-rats, brush rats, swamp rats and New Holland mice hopped and scurried about, or stopped to leisurely scratch as I walked past. Surely this could not be!

Then I realised that this is how the ancient sacred groves must have looked. Special places that had been established throughout the world by many civilisations through many centuries. Sacred groves of India and Africa, sanctuaries for plant and animal life. Groves in South America, settings for the religious and spiritual life of indigenous civilisations, giving protection and sanctity to each living thing. Sacred groves that Australian Aborigines decreed, allowing creatures safe breeding places, free from hunting pressures and human

disturbance.

The small areas that we set aside and call national parks and wilderness reserves have their philosophical and spiritual roots in these sacred groves of the old world.

Butterflies of every hue spiralled up from the ground and enveloped my



body, fluttering and gliding, almost in a state of suspended animation. It was as if all the glories of nature had chosen this very moment to reveal themselves to me in a shimmering dreamscape of profusion and splendour.

But there was something else, flashing and flickering from the canopy overhead, inviting me to

penetrate deeper into the forest. It was the frenetic movement of a group of flying animals, gathering high in the branches of the taller trees.

I needed to know what these creatures were and I made my way to the centre of the bushland. A few more came gliding in to join the group, enabling me to observe them more closely. But I had never seen this animal before. Not in any book or documentary film; perhaps only in dreams.

Gathering to feed on the succulent leaves at the tips of the swaying branches were animals resembling half-sized koalas. Yet they glided like flying possums. Connecting their arms and legs were skin flaps similar to those of sugar glider possums.

They were far more active than any koala I had seen, nimbly scampering around the tree tops, indulging in continuous social interaction with each other. Their language consisted of several complex noises, most of which seemed like a happy chatter. One sound, however, came constantly from the gathering: "Orrong," they said. "Orrong! Orrong!"

I was standing watching these strange creatures—the Orrongs—when I realised that only a few metres from me sat two men dressed in floppy bush hats, blue singlets and long shorts. I knew both of them well. Jack, a naturalist author and his friend Bill, who ran a local native plant nursery. They sat frozen, mutely gazing at the Orrongs. They did not acknowledge my presence, looking like two humanesque bookends.

Beyond the bushland fringe, through the trees, I could see the sunny backyards of several houses. Clearly this reserve was small, perhaps a few acres. An oasis in a suburban setting. Jack and Bill sat there like "flower pot men", lost in a kind of somnambulist rapture.

Suddenly another presence invaded my reverie. A fierce-looking youth stood there, staring at me threaten-

ingly. Fearfully, I noticed this individual was not alone as more sneering toughs materialised from the bush. They didn't respond to the few words I offered in a voice betraying fear and they herded me from the bushland. Some of them began to yell and taunt Jack and Bill, who just sat there, cocooned in their muteness.

Next moment I found myself forced out of the bushland, blinking in the bright sunlight on the road into Warrandyte. Moving slowly in a circle around me, the gang herded me towards the village, increasing the speed, coming closer and growing angrier. The pace of the taunting group became faster and faster as the first punches began to land. We were now almost running and the circle was a blur of chaos and fear. Desperately I searched for sanctuary. Anywhere; anyone.

Just at that darkest moment of despair, a car broke into the circle from behind, scattering the gang. It was a grey FJ Holden, and for some reason I noticed the number plate letters: GEM. As it broke the ranks of my circling pursuers, I grabbed hold of its roof rack, swung myself onto its roof and we sped away.

Curious, I leaned down over the front window to see who my rescuers were. There was an Orrong, driving the FJ. The car was crammed with Orrongs, their fluffy, woolly ears moving wildly all the while as they kept up their social chatter as we drove to safety: "Orrong, orrong, orrong..."

I haven't been back to that particular piece of bushland. I often find myself contemplating its power over my imagination and wondering if it has changed or if Jack and Bill are still there, guarding the sacred grove.

Just the other day, Heather heard a racket in the tree beside the house. Leaning on the sill, her face reflecting the grey sky above, she wryly observed, "It's just another bunch of those Orrongs!"

Warrandyte Cellars

152 Yarra Street, Warrandyte. Phone 9844 3282

Peter's Selection for JULY

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(Wine of the Month)
- ★★★★★ Lancefield Winery Chardonnay 1994..... \$15.95 (\$170 per doz)
- ★★★★★ Renmano Chairmans Selection Cabernet 1993 \$8.95 (\$97 per doz)
- ★★★★★ Renmano Chairmans Selection Chardonnay 1994..... \$8.95 (\$97 per doz)

Wine Diary Notes

- Meet talented winemaker **Andrew Pattison of Lancefield Winery** for a tasting and discussion of his wines—in the store Friday 14 July, 4-7pm
- **Brown Brothers Dinner** at Pancakes on the Yarra. Thursday 17 August, \$45 per head all inclusive. For bookings please phone Peter on 9844 3282.

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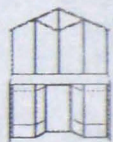
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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

of the Warrandyte Festival Committee to be held in the Warrandyte Community Centre, Yarra Street, Warrandyte at 8pm, Wednesday, 26 July 1995. All interested community members invited to attend. Further details—John Boyle 9894 2233 (BH), 9844 3120 (AH).

What group was that?



YOUR GUIDE TO LOCAL ORGANISATIONS & SERVICES

BUSES

Hurstbridge Bus Lines: 9438 2222
National Bus Co: 9418 8333
Warrandyte Community Transport: 9844 3082



CHILDCARE

North Warrandyte Maternal & Child Health Centre: 9844 2066
North Warrandyte Pre-School: 9844 3808
Toy Library: 9844 2874
Warrandyte After School Care Program: 9844 3537
Warrandyte Chapel Playgroup: 9844 2528
Warrandyte Community Child Care Co-op: 9844 1205
Warrandyte Maternal & Child Health Centre: 9844 3297
Warrandyte Occasional Childcare; Three Year Old Playgroup: 9844 1839
Warrandyte Pre-School: 9844 3363
West End Occasional Childcare: 9844 3150
Yarra View Pre-School: 9844 1038
Yarra View Pre-School (3 year-olds): 9844 3808

CHURCHES

Anglican: 9844 3473
Catholic: 9876 1509
Community: 9844 2528
Uniting: 9842 2418



COMMUNITY SERVICES

Andersons Creek Cemetery: 9844 3850
Assisi House Emergency Housing: 9844 3903
Better Hearing Group: 9844 1839
Family Support Group: 9844 1839
Sole Parent Kids' Support Group: 9844 2769
Warrandyte Advisory Committee: 9844 3622
Warrandyte Citizens Advice Bureau: 9844 3082

EMERGENCY!

AMBULANCE: 000

DOCTORS

Dr Brian Bayly: 9844 2295
(AH) 9844 3766
Dr Roger Brenchley: 9844 2000
(AH) 9429 5677

POISONS

Information Centre: 9345 5678

POLICE

D24: 000

Warrandyte Police Station:
9844 3231 (if no answer 9841 0222)

FIRE

Kangaroo Ground: 9712 0343
North Warrandyte: 9844 3683
South Warrandyte: 9844 2174
Warrandyte: 9844 3798
Wonga Park: 9722 1288

Warrandyte Community Centre Management Group: 9844 4503
Warrandyte Community Market: 9844 1839
Warrandyte Diary Newspaper: 9844 4168
Warrandyte & District Welfare Service (Meals On Wheels): 9844 3438
Warrandyte Festival Committee: 9894 2233
Warrandyte Food Bank: 9844 2331
Warrandyte Job Exchange: 9844 1839
Warrandyte Residents Group: 9844 3122
Warrandyte Senior Citizens Club: 9844 2437
Yarra River Lifeguards Service: 9844 2502

COUNCILS

City of Manningham: 9840 9333
Shire of Nillumbik: 9430 1122

ELECTRICITY SUPPLY

Power failure: 131 799

ENVIRONMENT

Currawong Bush Park: 9842 7279
Friends of Warrandyte State Park: 9844 1060
Warrandyte Environment League: 9844 1346
Warrandyte State Park: 9844 2659



FIRE BRIGADES

Kangaroo Ground: 9712 0343 (FIRE CALLS ONLY) 9712 0347 (information)
North Warrandyte: 9844 3683 (FIRE CALLS ONLY) 9844 2418 (information)
South Warrandyte: 9844 2174 (FIRE CALLS ONLY) 9844 3673 (information)
Warrandyte: 9844 3798 (FIRE CALLS ONLY) 9844 2069 (information) 9844 2049 (info AH)
Wonga Park: 9722 1288 (FIRE CALLS ONLY) 9722 1732 (information)
Warrandyte Fire Social Club: 9844 2945

INTEREST GROUPS

Warrandyte Book Exchange: 9844 3345
Warrandyte Historical Society: 9844 3122
Warrandyte Mechanics Institute & Arts Association: 9844 2605
Warrandyte Model Railway Club: 9844 2529
Warrandyte Neighbourhood House: 9844 1839

POLICE

D24: 11 444
Warrandyte Police Station: 9844 3231 (if no answer 9841 0222)

POST OFFICE

Warrandyte: 9844 3291

PUBLIC HALLS

North Warrandyte Community Centre: 9844 2423
Warrandyte Community Centre: 9844 4503
Warrandyte Mechanics Institute: 9844 1376

SCHOOLS

Andersons Creek Primary: 9844 2757
South Warrandyte Primary: 9844 3304
Warrandyte Primary: 9844 3537
Warrandyte High School: 9844 2749

SERVICE CLUBS

Warrandyte Apex Club: 9844 2075
Warrandyte Lions Club: 9844 2702
Warrandyte Rotary Club: 9844 3119
Warrandyte RSL Club: 9844 3567

SPORTING

Currawong Tennis Club: 9844 8514
Martial Arts Sports (Karate): 9466 3472
Riverside Health & Fitness Centre: 9844 3001
Tai-Chi Classes: 9844 4527
Tandivale Equestrian Centre: 9844 3882
South Warrandyte Tennis Club: 9844 3863
Warrandyte Basketball Club: 9844 2787
Warrandyte Cricket Club: 9844 1186
Warrandyte Cycling Club: 9844 4647
Warrandyte Football Club: 9844 2593
Warrandyte Netball Club: 9844 1375
Warrandyte Tae Kwon-do Club: 9844 1133
Warrandyte Tennis Club: 9844 2596
Wyena Adult Riding Club: 9870 2901
Wyena Horse & Pony Club: 9844 2938



YOUTH GROUPS

Warrandyte District Girl Guides Association: 9844 1265
Warrandyte Scouts, Cubs & Venturers: 9844 1340
Warrandyte Youth Group (Uniting Church): 9844 3476
Warrandyte Youth Services: 9844 2985
Warrandyte Youth Society of Music & Drama: 9844 2883

Compiled by Warrandyte Citizens Advice Bureau: 9844 3082

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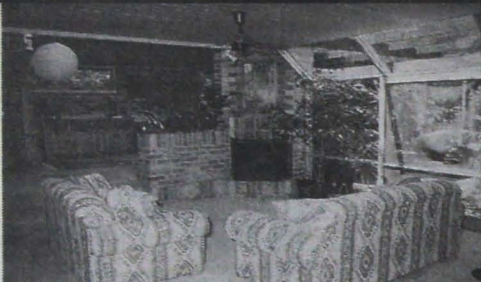
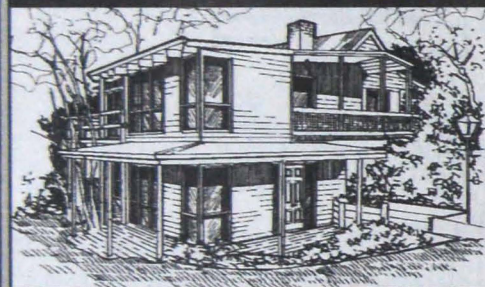
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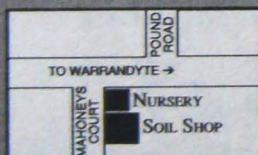
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Children at Andersons Creek Primary School were allowed to wear "free dress" on the last day of second term, providing they brought along an item for the Warrandyte Food Bank. Approximately 330 items were collected and delivered to Warrandyte Neighbourhood House. The day was organised by the children of the Junior School Council. Pictured above with the food collected are (from left) James Stefanou, Alana Canham, Des McKenzie (principal), Reece Borella, Ben Bool, Tarryn Greenlaw and Chris Laidlaw.

New top Lion

Ron Cuthbert, new president of the Lions Club of Warrandyte, was installed last month. Ron previously served as president in 1981-82. Outgoing president John Penwill outlined the many achievements of the previous year, including the start of the housing development project, a successful jazz concert, a series of health checks, Goldfields fun run and golf day. Funds raised from various activities, along with the opportunity shop, have aided many groups and individuals, the most notable being a donation of \$7,500 towards a new appliance for the North Warrandyte Fire Brigade. The club also sponsored the inaugural youth award as well as the bi-annual youth arts award.

Toys

From July 17, Warrandyte Toy Library will be opening at the community centre (near the playground) on Mondays and Wednesdays from 10 to 11am, and Fridays from 7 to 8pm.

Dance

The South Warrandyte Social Dance Committee is celebrating 45 years of organising dances in the South Warrandyte Hall on Saturday, August 12. The occasion—from 8pm till midnight—will be marked with party festivities and the cutting of a birthday cake. The old-time dances, which also include some new vogue and modern numbers, are held on the second Saturday of each month. Admission \$5. Enquiries, call 9723 3892.

Wonga Park

Manningham City Council has formed an advisory group from the Wonga Park area to advise them on the integration of Wonga Park into the new municipality.

Seniors

The 1995 annual general meeting of the Warrandyte Senior Citizens will be held on Thursday, August 3 at 1pm at their clubrooms in Taroona Avenue.

Festival

Warrandyte Festival Committee is holding its annual general meeting at the Warrandyte Community Centre at 8pm on Wednesday, July 26. All interested community members are invited to attend. Further details from John Boyle on 9894 2233 (bh) or 9844 3120 (ah).

Books

Warrandyte's book exchange, which operates in the community centre, is in urgent need of big print books and books on art and craft in particular. If you have any you wish to donate,



Conducted by JUDY GREEN

Drop your news in the letterbox in the front door of our office at the Community Centre, fax it to 9844 4168, or post it to PO Box 209, Warrandyte, 3113, by the last Friday in the month.

they would be most appreciated. The exchange is now open on Saturday mornings from 10 am to 12noon, as well as Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays from 2 to 4.30pm.

Farewell

Warrandyte guides are arranging a farewell for Elaine Provan on Monday, July 17 from 7 to 10pm at the Uniting Church hall. Elaine has been a guide leader for the past 15 years. There will be a charge of \$5 to cover catering. All past guides and leaders are welcome. Please ring Dot Hernandez on 9844 4201.

Advice

The annual general meeting of the Warrandyte Citizens Advice Bureau will be held on Saturday, August 5 at 2pm at the Warrandyte Community Centre. All welcome.

Mums

The next morning coffee get-together of the Warrandyte Nursing Mothers Association will be held at 21 Floods Road, North Warrandyte on Wednesday, July 26 at 10am. The next evening meeting is at 8pm on Tuesday, August 8 at 127 Research-Warrandyte Road, when a family law solicitor will speak. For further information, call Andrea on 9844 1112 or Jenny on 9844 4730.

History

The annual general meeting of the Warrandyte Historical Society will be held on Sunday, July 16 in the community centre at approximately 3pm, following the normal monthly meeting of the society at 2pm. The society recently passed an historic milestone of their own with the publication of their 100th newsletter. The Warrandyte Museum in the old post office in Yarra Street is open on Saturdays and Sundays from 1 to 4pm. Special arrangements can be made for group visits at other times by ringing 9844 2438 or 9844 3662.

Ensemble

Nachtmusique Chamber Ensemble is performing at St Stephens

Anglican Church on Thursday, August 31. Details from Ann Ley, 9844 3543.

Music

Parents for Music in the Doncaster-Warrandyte-Templestowe area have arranged a number of children's music workshops, to be held at the Park Orchards Community House, 572 Park Road, Park Orchards. The Saturday workshops run from 10 to 11am for 0-3 year olds and 11am to 12noon for 4-6 year olds. Cost is \$5 per family for members, \$8 for non-members. Bookings can be made with Susanne Khalek on 9876 2914.

Artspace

Manningham Artspace has arranged several exhibitions over the coming months, including paintings by Ellsworth Overton, a collection of contemporary Aboriginal art and an exhibition of rare artefacts from New Guinea. Further information from 9848 9735.

Gamblers

Maroondah Social and Community Health Centre has organised a program to help people take control of their gambling problem. Intensive one-week group programs are to be conducted monthly, commencing July 17 at the Break-Even Eastern Problem Gambling Service, 75 Patterson Street, East Ringwood. Individual counselling is available for those unable to attend the intensive program. The service is staffed by three psychologists, who are available for interview. Phone 9879 3933.

Meetings

Every alternate meeting of Manningham council is now held outside the municipal offices. The following dates and locations have been scheduled: July 25, Donvale Sports Centre; August 22, Templestowe (venue to be announced); September 19, Wonga Park Hall; October 17, St Anne's Catholic School; November 14, Warrandyte Community Centre; December 12, Heide Gallery, Bulleen. Meetings commence at 6pm and run for about an hour. Residents are invited to attend.

Tell us

The *Diary* is your newspaper and we love to print news of your group's activities. Jot down all the details, including date, time, venue and contact number and drop it in the box in our door at the community centre or fax it to 9844 4168. Just remember we close copy on the last Friday of each month for the issue appearing on the second Friday of the month following.

No stopping these relentless, rampaging Baby Bloods

By LEE TINDALE

They're calling them the "Rampaging Baby Bloods"—flagship of the Warrandyte Football Club. And these kids, the under-10s, certainly are this town's outstanding football performers this season.

There is every chance that they will go through undefeated. There is no ladder and no finals at this age level of the competition, but our under-10s are consistently blitzing the opposition.

Two months ago, the boys clean-swept a lightning premiership at

Heathmont, kicking an aggregate 14.28 in their four games while conceding just 1.1. It was immediately dubbed the Mother's Day Massacre.

Indeed, it is way they are winning and the scores that are kicking that suggests they are something pretty special.

This is not an age level conducive to big scores. A few goals is usually enough to win—but the baby Bloods are consistently kicking double figures.

Warrandyte 13.22 (100), Mooroolbark 0.0 (0). (14). Warrandyte 11.9

(75), Coldstream 0.0 (0). And so it goes on. A bit of a near thing against Chirnside park, though—9.8 (62) to 22 (14). Too close for comfort.

Word travels fast on the schoolboy grapevine and the runaway successes of the under-10s have attracted an almost embarrassing wealth of playing numbers from within and without Warrandyte.

Team manager Anthony Mirabella makes sure every boy gets on-field time every week. And no player spends more than one quarter in one position.

After each game, Mirabella writes a match report, which is distributed among the team. It is a "best seller" written with such colour as: "In action were the relentless, unbeatable, all-conquering, demoralising, rampaging Baby Bloods, the Warrandyte 'dream team'. In absolutely atrocious conditions, they did not give the opposition a sniff of the ball. They continually attacked the ball like starving piranhas to a floating carcass."

Mirabella hopes the under-10s' boundless success and enthusiasm will "infect" the other Warrandyte

Junior Football Club teams and maybe even the under-18s, reserves and seniors.

Already there are plans for more junior teams next season—and the under-10s may enter the "big time" within the next few weeks with an exhibition match during the half-time break of a seniors home game.

● The Baby Bloods' latest game, against Lilydale on July 9, was professionally videotaped and copies will be sold as a fund-raiser. The junior club's next off-field event is a dinner dance on July 22.

Oh boy—are we back!

Hooters blast the Hitmen in Cup thriller

By CLINTON GRYBAS

The North Ringwood Hooters won Warrandyte basketball's Greyburn Cup for the first time last month, beating the Hitmen 54-50 in an overtime thriller.

Grand final night again held something special for the big crowd, as the Hooters clawed their way back from what appeared certain defeat.

Trailing by two points with just seconds to go in regular time and with the Hitmen in possession, their hopes seemed forlorn. But a foul on the Hitmen turned the game around, resulting in two Hooters free throws before they missed a chance to win at the death.

They then outscored the Hitmen 8-4 in the extra five minutes to deny them the first back-to-back titles since 1991.

The Hitmen came out running early with John Moore (17 points for the game) rushing them to a 10-0 lead. The Hooters calmed the nerves in their first grand final with Scott Snowball (14 points, five assists) turning on a show.

He edged out the Hitmen's David Thwaites (eight and six) in a fiercely-contested duel at point guard.

With Brad Dean (18 points, eight rebounds) also working his way into the contest, the Hooters had drawn within two points by half-time and appeared likely to overrun their more-fancied opponents.

But Graeme Pollock (12) found several openings in the key while Ross McLellan (10 points, seven rebounds) also began to have an impact as the Hitmen stepped up the workrate to guarantee a tense finish.

Neither side could gain the ascendancy in the closing stages until Thwaites drove

the Hitmen to the lead late in the game.

When they turned on the defensive clamps and got the ball back with time winding down, the cup looked theirs. But McLellan's foul turned it around and sent the game to overtime, in which Dean twice scored on jump shots to give the Hooters the lead.

They led by just two points with 16 seconds left before Snowball came up with the steal of the season, was fouled and made both free throws to ice the championship.

In the women's Grand Hotel Cup final, the undefeated Phantoms picked a bad time to put in their worst game of the year, losing 23-25 to the two-time defending premiers, the PP Champs.

As in the game six months before, little the Phantoms did paid off, despite leading 15-10 at half-time.

Apart from Ann-Maree Reid (eight) and Alison Aldenhoven (seven), no Phantom could hit the scoresheet more than once.

In a game where defence was more important than offence, the undermanned Champs were paced by Kelly Ryan (six).

They took the lead for the first time with less than two minutes left and in a frantic finish the Phantoms' first-title dreams blew up in their faces.

In the Greyburn Cup over 30-men's section, the Plastics repeated as champs with a 46-31 win over the Wobblers.

Despite being within eight points with five minutes left, the Wobblers couldn't overcome the scoring of David Watts (15), or the rebounding of "twin towers" Steve Doyle and Paul Sleeth (21 and 15 respectively).

By LEE TINDALE

Warrandyte blasted their way out of the football horrors—and the relegation zone—with a big home win over finals hopefuls Mulgrave on July 8.

The Bloods produced an irresistible third quarter to break a tied ball game and a five-match losing streak which had threatened to return them to EDFL third division next season.

The threat still exists, but Warrandyte's position was considerably strengthened by the defeats of Doncaster and Croydon, with whom we had shared the foot of the ladder, each with three wins from 11 games.

And they way we demolished fifth-placed Mulgrave in the second half silenced the terrace critics and proved our mid-season form all wrong.

A lot of soul-searching had been done at the club after home defeats by Croydon and Doncaster, teams the Bloods had quite reasonably expected to beat.

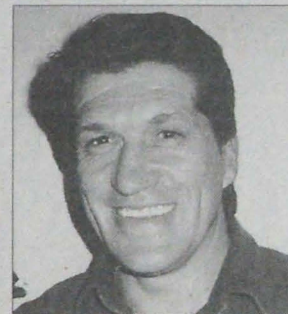
The Doncaster game was a debacle, Warrandyte conceding 18 unanswered goals after leading by seven in the second quarter.

A players' meeting and an extraordinary committee meeting the following week confirmed support for coach David Dickson, who had been coping plenty from a few traditionally-vocal local supporters.

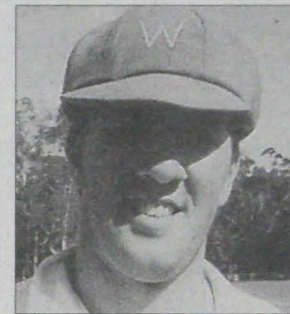
Dickson answered those critics in the best possible way against Mulgrave, ringing the changes and making full use of the interchange bench to keep key players fresh.

"We hit rock-bottom against Doncaster and I still don't know why," he said after the game.

If in doubt, just ask Mulgrave



David Dickson: answered critics in the best possible way.



Ben Brisbane: yes, he's a darned good cricketer as well.

SPORT

"The things that happened after that game obviously did us a lot of good."

"I thought we improved a lot against Bayswater last week and today was a real team effort."

For a while there, when Mulgrave skipped away to a 14-point lead in the first quarter, the danger signs of a procession were about. It had taken Warrandyte 18 minutes to find a goal (from Tony Sturesteps) and although the Bloods were winning at least their fair share if the ball, nothing was really happening.

Young Ben Brisbane changed that with a booming torpedo goal and Steve Carroll followed up to put us within two points at the first change.

In the quarter-time huddle, coach Dickson implored his players to keep the pressure on. They did.

Warrandyte hit the front when Chris Quinlan goaled after five minutes, but Mulgrave snatched back the lead four minutes later. Quinlan was having none of that nonsense and responded almost immediately.

Mulgrave again at 17, Darren Peters nine minutes later, the Mulgrave again to level it up at 6.5 apiece at the break.

Whatever Dickson said to his Bloods at half-time must have been pretty potent.

Brisbane, who was enjoying life immensely on the wing, goaled less than a minute after the resumption, John O'Brien capitalised on a great Peters solo effort five minutes later and when Cam Day steered a long one through, the terrace-dwellers really found voice.

A series of missed shots threatened to dull the Bloods' momentum, but it took the visitors 19 minutes to improve on their half-time score (by a point) and Brisbane showed them just how easy it can be when he kicked his third six minutes later.

Cricket club coach coup

By CLINTON GRYBAS

Warrandyte Cricket Club have scored a major recruiting coup by securing Dave Hampton from Fitzroy-Doncaster, in the top-level District competition, as playing coach for the 1995-96 season.

The 28-year-old all-rounder was in the Victorian squad the season before last and was being chased by several clubs in the off-season.

Former Warrandyte president Steve Pascoe said Hampton was one of the best cricketers to enter the RDCA.

"He was one of the top three or four all-round-

ers at District level last season—and that is saying something," he said. "He is certain to add something to the competition this season."

Hampton has played at Fitzroy-Doncaster for the past five years, after a stint at Dandenong-Waverley. Last season he opened the batting and was a prominent medium-pace swing bowler.

Warrandyte players will be introduced to Hampton at a "meet the coach" barbecue on Sunday, July 23. Training for the new season will begin shortly after.

Girls set the pace

Warrandyte Tennis Club's women's pennant team is holding top position on the ladder, with five matches to play.

The team—Michelle Gilling, Kim Edwards, Lyndal Mackintosh and Janine Phillips—are playing in Grade 5 of the Tennis Victoria pennant competition. The same team won the grand final in Grade 7 in 1994.

Preparations for the club's 1995 Grand Hotel Goldtown Open are now well advanced. The tournament will be played on September 1, 2, 3 and 9, with finals on September 10.

There will be graded events as well as the Open itself. Entry forms are available by calling 9844 3970.

A SPORTING CHANCE

By MAL BROWN



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WARRANDYTE

\$189,000



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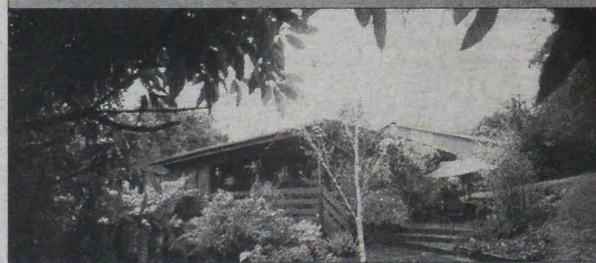


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WARRANDYTE

\$189,000

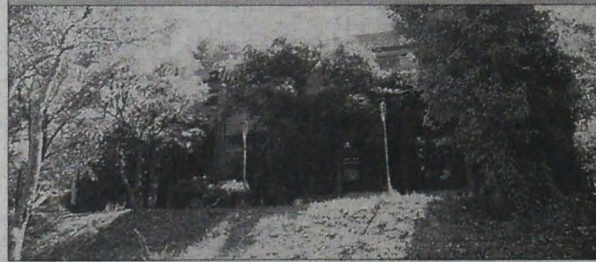


"A RARE GEM"

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