

Call for local library

By FIA CLENDINEN and CLIFF GREEN

A local resident, concerned at the lack of library services in Warrandyte, is circulating a petition to test public response to this vital issue.

The petition has been organised by Anthea Philippou, who claims many residents are dissatisfied with the library services and are supporting her call for a library in Warrandyte.

"Warrandyte has a population of around 8,000 people. That warrants a library," Anthea Philippou told the *Diary*. "I'm getting a lot of response to my petition, especially from family people with children. People are saying, I'm glad someone is taking the initiative."

Anthea Philippou, a former librarian, runs the newsagency at the Goldfields Plaza with her husband. She lives in Warrandyte.

She said she felt the lack of a local library particularly affected children in Warrandyte. "I see kids roaming the streets, they have nothing to do. Only bored kids get into trouble."

Anthea Philippou stressed that a library is much more than books. "A library is a community centre, it's a meeting place." She said she thought a library in Warrandyte would be of great benefit to those too elderly to drive. "The public transport around here is hopeless for elderly people who want to get to a library."

She also emphasized the benefits a local library would bring to Warrandyte's children. "The best thing anybody can have is a love of books. A child who feels comfortable with a library knows how to research when they're older. It's another tool for our kids," she said. "I'm looking at it from a mother's point of view."

Children should be able to walk or cycle to their local library. They should feel it belongs to them.

David Hirt, spokesperson for the Friends of Whitehorse Manningham Regional Libraries, said he'd be very happy to see a library in Warrandyte. Mr Hirt, a long-time resident of Warrandyte and a self-confessed 'bookophile' said a library could provide a focus for the township.

However another Warrandyte resident, who worked in libraries for over 30 years, was not optimistic about Warrandyte's chances of getting its own library.

"There needs to be a certain size of catchment before a library can be viable. I am 99 percent sure Warrandyte would not meet the guide-lines," the resident said.

This resident also emphasized that in the current climate of economic rationalism, Warrandyte would be considered well served by near-by libraries. "I would have thought Warrandyte had done the best it possibly could in getting the library at The Pines Shopping Centre."

But this resident said there was a chance Anthea Philippou could achieve her aim. "Who knows what can be done with some firmness."

In the past, Warrandyte has been served, on both sides of the river, by mobile libraries. Many residents felt these were quite inadequate. Books stocks were limited and were seldom rotated and the services were useless for research purposes.

It was always assumed that a branch library would form part of the new Warrandyte Community Centre. However, before the centre was built, a library was established at The Pines, and it was declared that this was adequate for Warrandyte.

Warrandyte had a public library as far back as 1882, when the original Mechanics Institute was established in the old Andersons Creek Common School building, long gone.

A book exchange has been established at the community centre. Staffed by volunteers and stocked with donated books, it was seen as some sort of compensation for Warrandyte missing out on a proper library.

Recent press reports indicate that, as part of the \$200 million expansion to Doncaster Shoppingtown, Planning Minister Rob Maclellan has ordered that \$4.6 million should be paid to Manningham council "for the expansion of library facilities in the area". Residents hope that Warrandyte will be considered "in the area".

● The *Diary* welcomes readers' comments on this issue.



Anthea Philippou and her library petition.



'There's a long, long trail a-winding...'

Their ranks are thinning, their hair has turned to silver, but Warrandyte's war veterans once more rallied to remember their lost comrades on Anzac Day, Friday April 25. Father Garry Gasson officiated. (Picture by Jan TIndale)

● See story, pic: Page 3

CYRIL

By PAUL WILLIAMS




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Keep the chapel, we'll just take the koalas!



Two interested spectators who had no intention of bidding at the auction of the Gospel Chapel on April 26 watched proceedings from on high in a huge on-site gum tree. A couple of koalas perched up there attracted lots of "oohs" and "aahs" from the folk below and almost as much attention as the auction itself. Their presence was not lost on the auctioneer, who observed with a grin that it should have added at least a couple of thousand dollars to the value of the property. It apparently didn't, though. The chapel was passed in at \$112,000 before private negotiations started with at least a couple of interested parties.

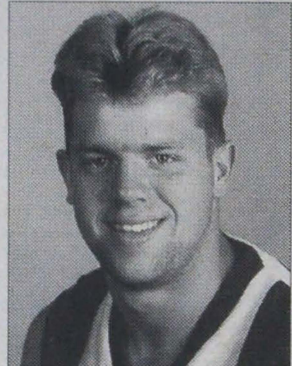


It was the perfect footy shirtfront. Chris Sharp, who is a big lump of a young bloke, picking up a mongrel, grubbed kick from a teammate during the Warrandyte reserves' home game against The Basin on April 19—and KERRUNCH! Down went his victim in a senseless heap. Unfortunately, however, Chris had collided not with an opponent but with Warrandyte water boy Rhys Ireland, 11-year-old nephew of Bloods secretary Robert "Noddy" Ireland. Young Rhys had been under the impression that carrying the water bottle for the Warrandyte reserves was a non-contact sport. To his great credit, however, he is still a water boy, although he keeps his distance from Chris Sharp these days. "It was awful" a remorseful Chris said of the incident. "Tahn Reid had kicked this terrible kick that I was trying to pick up and Rhys just got in the way. I went in one direction and he went in the same direction. Then I went the other way and so did he. Bang!" Never mind, Chris. You are about to become famous. The shirtfront was recorded on video and will soon be seen on Melbourne television's highest-rating show—in the "Almost Footy Legends" segment of Channel 9's The Footy Show.




And from an almost footy legend to a bloke who may well be on the way to becoming a fair-dinkum one. North Melbourne premiership player Glen Archer, best and fairest in last year's AFL grand final, is about to become a local. Glen has built a home in west Warrandyte and moves in within the next couple of weeks. It's a terrible shame, considering Warrandyte's precarious position on the EDFL Second Division ladder at the moment, that the Bloods don't have call on these locally-living football stars. With Archer at centre half-forward or centre half-back, Hawthorn rover Johnny Platten winning everything out of the centre and home-grown champ Jon Hassall (ex-Collingwood, now Hawthorn) running out of defence, the opposition might not even bother to turn up. And directing affairs, of course, would be Essendon premiership coach Kevin Sheedy, who actually lives at Park Orchards but is close enough to be claimed as our own.


IN RED & WHITE


Glen Archer ... gee, the embattled Bloods could sure use him.



It was a three-way conversation in Yarra Street between Diary staffers Rae Danks and Ann Hookey in the carpark opposite. Mature-age ladies discussing what mature-age ladies discuss, whatever that may be. The chat was interrupted by a wolf whistle directed at a sweet young thing by a holidaying schoolboy at the bus stop opposite the community centre. And three mature-age ladies risked whiplash by snapping their mature-age heads in the whistler's direction. Mature-age ladies live in hope, don't they? Or do old habits merely die hard?




The extent to which technology has shrunk this world was driven home last month by the arrival at the Diary office of a piece of e-mail. Good Lord, we'd only been on the Internet five minutes, it seemed, and the e-mail was rolling in. The correspondence was for staffer Lee Tindale from a bloke named David Pougher (pronounced Power rather than Puffer) who'd just happened to be trawling the net in his office at the London Evening Standard when the name Warrandyte Diary leapt out and hit him in the eye. Lee and David had worked together in Flinders Street eons back when Melbourne had a daily evening broadsheet and they became good mates, David eventually up-anchoring and returning to his homeland. Lee will eventually respond to the e-mail, but knowing his aversion to all things hi tech, it will probably be by postcard. Sent surface mail, of course.



Kevin Close is something of the eyes and ears of this town and Anne Drew knew she was in a bit of trouble when he spotted her emerging from Jewels the other day carrying enough toilet rolls to see out the average family for maybe a year. Sure enough, Closey mentioned

it to Smokey, who confronted Anne with the question that had to be asked: "Why all the dunny paper?" Well, thereby hangs a tale. Or in this case, a tail. Anne's a very busy lady and shops in bulk for things like toilet rolls and the last lot she bought was of the very flimsy type, incapable of withstanding reasonable finger pressure. So, in response to a lot of whingeing from the family she donated the entire consignment to the local footy club, of which she is a committeeperson, and replaced it with a bulk purchase of much sturdier stuff, which she was carrying to the car when Closey sprang her. So now you know, Kevin. Now the whole of Warrandyte knows.



The little lady at our house came across a volume called A Handbook of Humour For All Occasions as she conducted an historic dusting of the bookshelves (historic because it happens about every 25 years). We were particularly taken by an untitled piece of verse (author unknown) about love. We just had to share it with you:

*The wonderful love of a beautiful maid,
The love of a staunch, true man,
The love of a baby unafraid
Have existed since time began.
But the greatest love—the love of loves—
Even greater than that of a mother,
Is the passionate, tender and infinite love
Of one drunken bum for another.
Makes you go all misty-eyed, doesn't it?*



You might think that football unfairly dominates this month's column, but hell, it's the season, isn't it? So we'll kick on with it. Diary advertising/accounts lady Rae Danks (who is also in danger of dominating this month's column) was fascinated by the flock of galahs perched on a power line in Taroona Avenue in the early afternoon of Sunday, May 4. Without exception, they were hanging upside down? Did they think they were bats—or had they just been to a Pleasant Sunday Morning at the footy club? Neither, probably. They are galahs, you know.

Smokey Joe



YOUR LOCAL

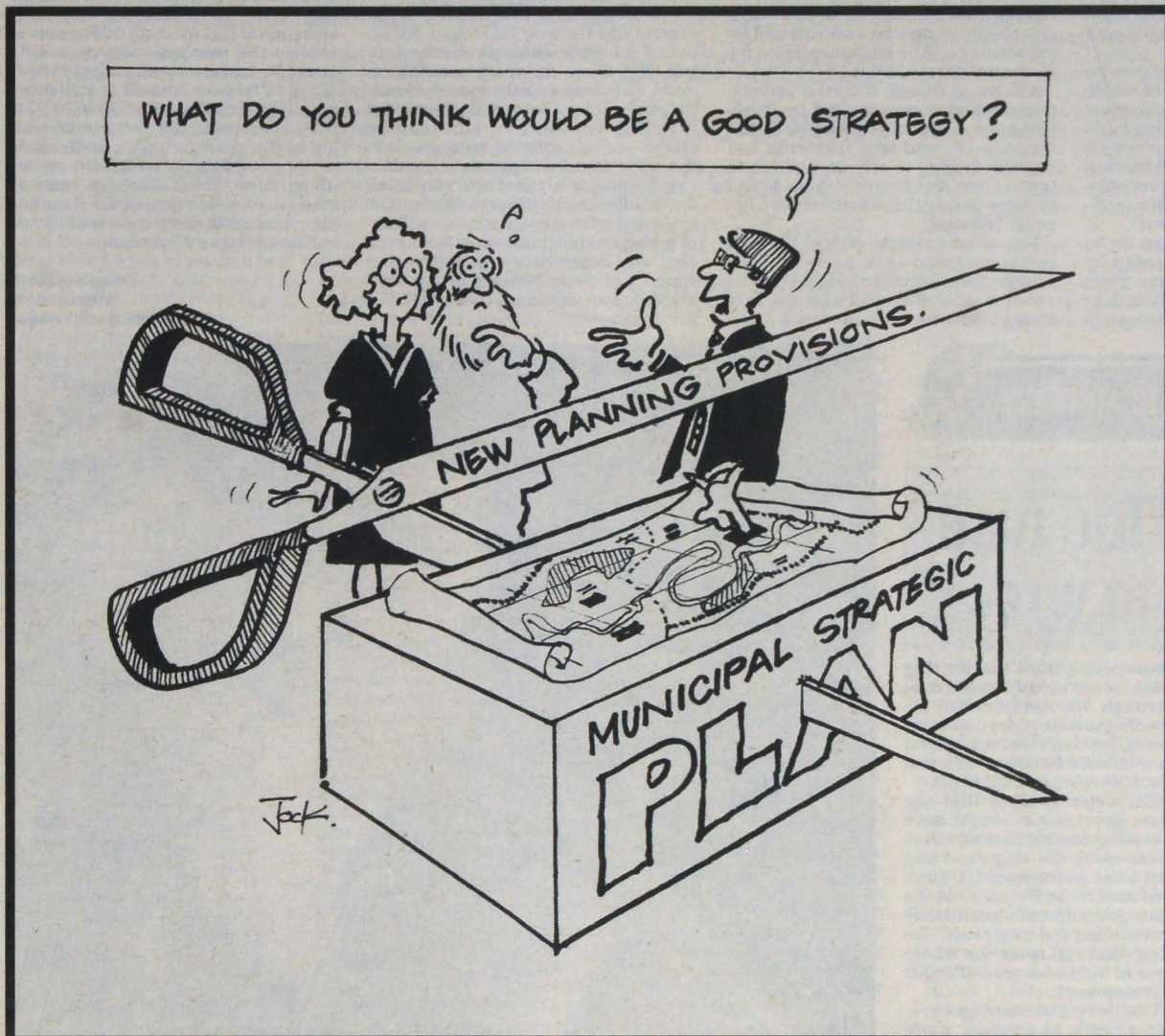
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Have your say on planning



By CLIFF GREEN

Warrandyte residents are being urged to participate in the formulation of Manningham council's Municipal Strategic Statement, part of the state-wide Victoria Planning Provisions project.

Concerned residents see this statement as crucial in the campaign to protect the integrity of the Green Wedge and to reinforce the ban on dual occupancy in the Warrandyte township.

A public workshop to discuss the strategic statement is being held at the Warrandyte Community Centre on Thursday, May 15 at 7pm.

As previously reported, under the Victoria Planning Provisions, state government has directed that each council prepares a Municipal Strategic Statement, defining land use and development direction for the municipality.

Thus the recently elected Manningham councillors will have the final say on what this statement contains, including whether or not dual occupancy is to be permitted in Warrandyte and what provisions will be made for the preservation of the Green Wedge.

Local state MP Phil Honeywood has reassured residents, through a statement to the *Diary*, that the Green Wedge and the ban on dual occupancy are both safe.

"If Manningham council were to decide to recommend alterations to existing planning policies on the Wedge or on dual occupancy, then these would be subject to an independent panel to pass on their views to the minister," Phil Honeywood said. "A planning issue of this mag-

nitude would ultimately not be changed without the approval of the minister, who would take into account issues of regional and state-wide significance.

"The minister's response has been to reassure the community."

However, local concern still persists. In a letter to the *Diary* this month (see Page 4), Doug Seymour of the Warrandyte Environment League writes: "This news (the minister's reassurance) however, should not be taken as a general assurance of stability as the new provisions could unravel many of the hard fought safeguards built up within the present planning schemes.

"As a recently issued briefing paper by Manningham council records: 'schemes will become tools for facilitating appropriate development'."

Similar concern is being expressed north of the river; and by official council planners!

In a recent statement, David Gold, Nillumbik's manager for environment and land use strategies, said council "is concerned that the concept of Nillumbik as a metropolitan Green Wedge is not clearly detailed in the Victoria Planning Provisions.

"Council will urge the Minister for Planning and Local Government to strengthen metropolitan policy to give the Nillumbik Green Wedge and other metropolitan 'green wedges' clear status."

Concerned Warrandyte residents will be asking Manningham council to take a similar stand.

"The green wedges sit between the priority growth areas, such as Whittlesea and Cranbourne, and are major environmental, economic and recreational resources for Melbourne," David Gold said.

Manningham council continues consultation before jumping creek

By DAVID WYMAN

Despite strong concerns from environmental groups, Manningham council seems set to replace the bridge on Jumping Creek Road. However, council has indicated that the final design will be "environmentally sensitive" as well as improving safety.

A council spokesperson told the *Diary* that the condition of the narrow timber bridge is recognised by some of the local community and emergency services, such as police, Country Fire Authority and the State Emergency Service, as a traffic safety hazard.

"It is proposed that the existing bridge will be replaced by a new bridge which will allow for two-lane traffic as well as a combined pedestrian and equestrian path," the spokesperson said. "Work will also include

upgrading the approaches to the bridge."

As reported last month, council's original proposal involved the loss of over 100 mature trees and considerable earthworks on both sides of the bridge.

Warrandyte State Park staff have expressed serious concerns about the road realignment and have asked the council for alternative options. Flora Anderson of the Wonga Park Environment Group, pointed out that the road "still retains the pleasant attributes that a tree canopy gives to a country road".

"The road is very close to a the state park and is a wildlife corridor. It is imperative that vehicle speeds be reduced rather than increased," she said.

Manningham council has established a reference panel

to involve community groups and interested parties in the project. Emergency Services, Parks Victoria, Friends of the Warrandyte State Park, Warrandyte Advisory Committee and the Wonga Park Residents Association are all represented.

"No design has yet been finalised," the council spokesperson said. "The council and the reference committee want to ensure that the final design will be environmentally sensitive to the area as well as improving safety for motorists and pedestrians."

The total project, which includes a new bridge and road approaches, is estimated to cost \$800,000.

Council has also invited the reference committee to have input into a road management strategy for Jumping Creek Road.

Schools collect cash

Schools in Warrandyte and Park Orchards are set to receive almost \$300,000 in direct state government grants for maintenance and minor works.

The schools to benefit include Warrandyte High School (\$28,448), Warrandyte Primary School (\$17,096), Andersons Creek Primary School (\$13,816) and Park Orchards Primary School (\$10,924).

Part of each school's global budget, the money will be used for urgent works, arranging maintenance and minor works costing less than \$30,000, and for planning for works to be done in compliance with legislative standards.

Announcing the grants, Phil Honeywood, MP for Warrandyte, told the *Diary*: "I believe providing these grants to the schools themselves makes great sense, because they know their needs and can apply the funding to its best use."



As usual, Warrandyte scouts participated in the annual Anzac Day service. (Picture by Jan Tindale)

Warrandyte did not forget

The Anzac spirit is alive and well and going from strength to strength.

That was the impression the young people of Warrandyte gave by turning up in large numbers for our Anzac Day march and service last month.

"Each year it seems that the Anzac message is getting to the young people more," said Warrandyte RSL Sub-Branch president Neil Pearson.

This year's service was conducted by Father Garry Glasson, of St Stephen's Anglican Church

and the 4th Combat Regiment Ringwood provided the cenotaph guard.

Piper Andrew Ogilvy led the march and played the lament and the Last Post and Reveille were played by bugler Chris Coates.

"The Sub-Branch thanks everyone who assisted in making the day such a success—particularly Manningham council for their help in upgrading the memorial grounds and Pot Pourri Florists for their floral contribution," Mr Pearson said.

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Warning on State planning provisions

Recent *Diary* articles on the possible impact of the new Victorian Planning Provisions on Warrandyte have done much to assure residents that our district will continue to be spared from higher density dual occupancy development.

This news should however not be taken as a general assurance of stability as the new provisions could unravel many of the hard fought safeguards built up within the present planning schemes. As a recently issued briefing paper by Manningham council records: "schemes will become tools for facilitating appropriate development".

The system and the new zones are to be imposed on every municipality by the government from this June. Both Manningham and Nillumbik will have to introduce a range of these standard

zones and this could have major implications.

The number of zones across the state is reduced from 2,871 to 25, but although this simplifies the system, a complexity of overlay controls and local policies will be implemented to try to control development.

It looks as though the local prohibition on dual occupancy will be a rare certainty as the new zones have few controls on land use, residents and councils having to rely on policies to try to maintain current strategies and to argue before the Administrative Appeals Tribunal.

This is an example of how the new provisions could work. A new zone will replace the current Residential D or D1 zones (this is the minimum one acre zone). Under the current zoning a sec-

ond dwelling is prohibited, but as there are few prohibited uses in the schedules to the new zones, an owner may apply for the second dwelling.

The proposed development may be contrary to the new municipal policy, or to a schedule within an overlay control, but these do not a prohibition make, so in response to council refusal, the applicant gathers up development drawings with lots of landscaping shown and appeals the refusal before the Administrative Appeals Tribunal.

As the proposed use is not prohibited, the maintenance of Warrandyte's character and environmental value will depend on unambiguous municipal policies, the continuing comprehensive support of those policies by the AAT and constant vigilance by councils and the community.

Manningham council is circulating every household with advice of a series of workshops—the Warrandyte session is on Thursday May 15 at the community centre (7 to 8.30pm). Hopefully someone at this meeting will be able to explain the mechanism proposed to prohibit dual occupancy. Everyone is urged to take an interest in this meeting—ring Kay Toussaint on 9840 9348 to reserve a seat. Nillumbik is also racing to the deadline and is understood to be progressing well with policy preparation. Some meetings have already been held north of the river and the return of an elected council should encourage more consultation.

Doug Seymour
Warrandyte
Environment League

Road won't bring back tranquility

Jeff Kennett and Maggie Thatcher have much in common. For example they share the ability to reduce complex issues to simplistic notions. This is very effective politically, making them masters of the 15 second grab for the evening news.

However, the development of environmentally sensitive areas poses complex questions. There are no easy answers. As citizens entrusted with the care of the Yarra Valley, we in Warrandyte must be particularly careful not to be deceived by simplistic thinking when it comes to discussions about the proposed ring road through Warrandyte.

In his letter (*Diary*, April 1997) David Hogg reminds us of the lower traffic levels of 15 years ago, the beauty of our village and the Green Wedge environment. Yet does he seriously believe that a six lane freeway is the way to rediscover the tranquility of the past, or preserve the quality of our environment and our village centres?

Nostalgia is a sentiment that Kennett and Thatcher know how to exploit. However, the proposed ring road will hardly take Warrandyte back to the early 1980s. It will change the place more than any event since the

discovery of gold but not, I believe, for the better.

Similar roads in similar settings, both in Australia and overseas, have brought with them shopping malls, increased congestion on feeder roads, high density property development, the violation of natural systems and increased concentrations of pollutants.

None of these additions will improve the quality of life in and around Warrandyte.

I agree with David Hogg to this extent—we need to focus on protecting what we love about Warrandyte. But let's not be deceived by the idea that, in some way, a ring road will reduce traffic, improve quality of life, or enhance the prospects for traders in the Warrandyte village.

The British people have finally realised that Thatcher's common sense policies had nothing common about them. In fact, they consistently reduced general welfare for the benefit of a few well placed individuals. Let's not sacrifice our children's Green Wedge for the vague promises of a similarly false prophet.

Jeremy Loftus-Hills
Kangaroo Ground Road

DEAR DIARY

Too nice to wreck

Some people think that the ring road would modify traffic flow through Warrandyte. But according to state government reports the ring road is planned to stimulate business with fast track development along it.

The reports state that the state government would have planning control over development along the ring road and not local government. I think this must make it clear what the state government's intention is in building the ring road. The ring road will make the whole area of Nillumbik accessible for development.

I believe the state government needs to consider more the long term needs of the community as a whole. The beauty and recreational value of Nillumbik and green wedges generally are much too valuable to the future of Melbourne community for them to be destroyed for short term gain.

Ron Bence
Hawkes Road



Will Warrandyte's most precious citizens survive the trauma created by the building of the Eastern Ring Road extension and the destruction of the Green Wedge?

Welcome to the rat race

In David Hogg's letter in support of the Ring Road he remembers the time when there were less cars in Warrandyte and wishes it were still so now. We would all like to see less cars on the roads but unfortunately building new freeways makes for more cars, not less, as found by the Standing Advisory Committee on Trunk Road Assessment (Britain 1996). He says that we must ensure that the route of the Ring

Road does not take traffic into our beautiful village and yet a basic understanding of traffic engineering reveals this is impossible.

What sort of traffic increase does he think will occur in Yarra Street if it becomes a feeder route for the Ring Road—the longest freeway in Melbourne? What does he think will happen to the number of cars on Research Road if the population in

North Warrandyte more than doubles due to the Ring Road? (As is predicted in a report to VicRoads).

David Hogg argues that the people of Warrandyte have no chance to stop the Ring Road. Resistance is futile, we must meekly surrender—he tells us. He seriously underestimates the people of Warrandyte!

Stephen Clendinnen
Doleen Road

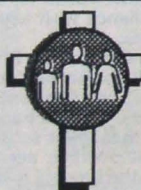
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We're taking our place in the Valley of the Arts

A new tourist map and locality guide is currently circulating around town. It's called Melbourne's Valley of the Arts and contains a user friendly map that covers a large area between Melbourne city to Kinglake, and Lilydale to Whittlesea.

"At last, places like Eltham and Warrandyte, Hurstbridge and Heidelberg to name a few are beginning to gain some recognition, firstly from those of us who live here and secondly from those who visit from the four corners of the world," Jenny Grinlington from Melbourne's Valley of the Arts Tourism Association told the *Diary*.

"Locals are delighted to discover new places to visit, markets and events to enjoy, parks they never knew existed. The first way to protect our environment and lifestyle from unwanted development is to learn all the good reasons why it should not be destroyed. Pride of ownership can belong to a community if the people of that community know what exists and want to preserve it."

At the official launch of the map, Dianne Holuigue, food writer for the *Australian*, talked at length about her memories of this region. "As we all stood in the Heidelberg gallery enjoying the wonderful Nolan paintings in the background," Jenny Grinlington said, "we felt a sense of pride in having chosen Valley of the Arts as our name. Great events of national and international significance in the arts world

have occurred in this valley and the tradition lives on today in many places, such as Potters Cottage and Montsalvat.

"Dianne emphasised that tourism here is based on a foundation of historical importance, unlike many other regions, especially in country Victoria, who base their tourism industry around a successful food product, for example, that could go broke in 10 years' time, leaving the tourism industry broke also."

On April 11, the beginning of what will be an extensive artist trail was officially opened by the Conservation and Land Management Minister Marie Tehan at Yarra Flats Park in Heidelberg.

"The trail recognises Victoria as the home of the Heidelberg School, Jenny Grinlington said, "and for the first time visitors can identify significant heritage sites where major art works were painted by the Heidelberg School artists from the 1880s to the early 1900s." This trail will soon extend through to Warrandyte so that places of significance beside the river can be identified.

"Not only is this a valley of arts connected to painting, all the arts are represented in many different locations—performing arts and music to name a few. By generating a theme or image for this region, all future development ought to enhance and protect this image, so that in a nutshell, outside visitors will know that they can have an arts-related or special interest tour in this region."

Scotchmans Hill, Mount Lofty now part of our State Park

The inclusion of Scotchmans Hill and Mount Lofty into Warrandyte State Park is now a legal reality. A bill passed through both houses of State Parliament recently, officially including these environmentally important areas within the park's boundary.

This follows several years of lobbying by both the Friends of Warrandyte State Park and the Friends of Scotchmans Hill, as well as restoration work by volunteers at both sites.

In her speech introducing the bill last month, Wendy Smith, Member for Silvan Province, promised that these "stunning and beautiful" areas will be "revegetated and protected".

Mount Lofty (88 hectares) is in need of restoration as a result of farming in the past and horse grazing more recently. Scotchmans Hill (2 hectares) has suffered degradation through illegal traffic access and neglect.

Melbourne Water acquired the land as part of the now defunct Yarra Brae Reservoir project. It is the home of several wedge-tail eagles and there are magnificent views from the area. The Yarra can be seen from the top of the ridge and canoeing is very popular down the rapids.

Fire help on way

By CLIFF GREEN

Warrandyte will soon have a full-time Country Fire Authority community support facilitator, as part of an innovative fire safety and prevention program announced last month.

"We will have on hand up to 30 facilitators to assist particularly busy brigades provide enhanced fire safety services to their local communities," CFA Chief Officer Trevor Roche told the *Diary*.

Other brigades in the CFA's Yarra Area where facilitators will be appointed include Lilydale, Montrose, Mooroolbark, Ferntree Gully, Rowville and The Basin.

"At the heart of the program is the idea of creating a safer community. We will always be there to fight fires, but this is about preventive measures. It is a partnership between CFA and the community, working together and sharing responsibility for fire prevention," Trevor Roche said.

It is anticipated that facilitators will not be directly involved in operational fire "combat" duties. As well as assisting brigade captains in their public liaison and fire prevention work within the community, they will be available to speak at schools, educate businesses and local bodies in fire safety and help develop neighbourhood fire prevention units, such as the Community Fireguard groups, the firefighting equivalent of Neighbourhood Watch.

Community fire awareness in Warrandyte was greatly increased following the February 1991 North Warrandyte fires. This led to the forming of two such fireguard groups, one at Stony Creek, the other in Osborne Road.

Resident anxiety concerning fire safety was further increased



Wildfire devastated Browns Gully in February 1991.

last December when the *Diary* revealed that local brigade captains were not prepared to risk the lives of their crews in a number of "unsafe" streets. This caused concern throughout Melbourne's high fire risk areas. The devastating Dandenongs fires in January further confirmed this concern.

It is expected that a prime task of the support facilitators will be to work within the community, educating residents how best to prevent fires and, when necessary, deal with fire emergencies.

"The community support facilitators will work with local government, other emergency services, schools, community groups, individuals and industry in creating a safer community," Trevor Roche said.

CLYDE & OCKER



"Good to hear that old fire siren sounding again, Ock."

It's all happening at Warrandyte Primary School



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Karralyka Centre
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June 11, 12 & 13

THE Kingdom of Begonia is in peril. Peasants are disappearing, falling victim to the much feared dragon which is under the evil spell of Sir Basil, who has returned from exile. His brother, King Rupert, is more interested in his garden than the running of the kingdom; and his haughty queen is too fashion conscious to care.

However, Zardok, the mediaeval wizard, tells of a prophecy in which a girl from another time comes to free the kingdom; and herself.

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Supporting program will include:

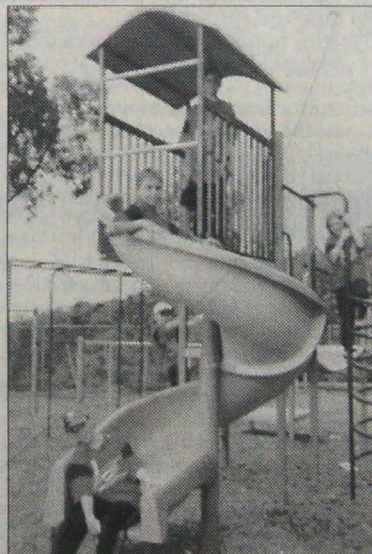
- performances featuring children from Prep to Grade 4
- Warrandyte Primary School Bushband
- Gymnastics Routine
- Choir and Recorder groups

At Warrandyte Primary School we are proud of our commitment to the performing arts. Each year a high quality school concert is held which comprises a musical, featuring Grade 5 and 6 children, and items performed by all grade levels



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Tuesday 27th May

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OPEN AFTERNOON 1.30-3.30pm

- Normal classroom programs
- Children's work on display
- Afternoon Tea will be provided

OPEN EVENING 7-8.30pm

The school will be open for you to wander around and visit classrooms and attend a number of special activities.

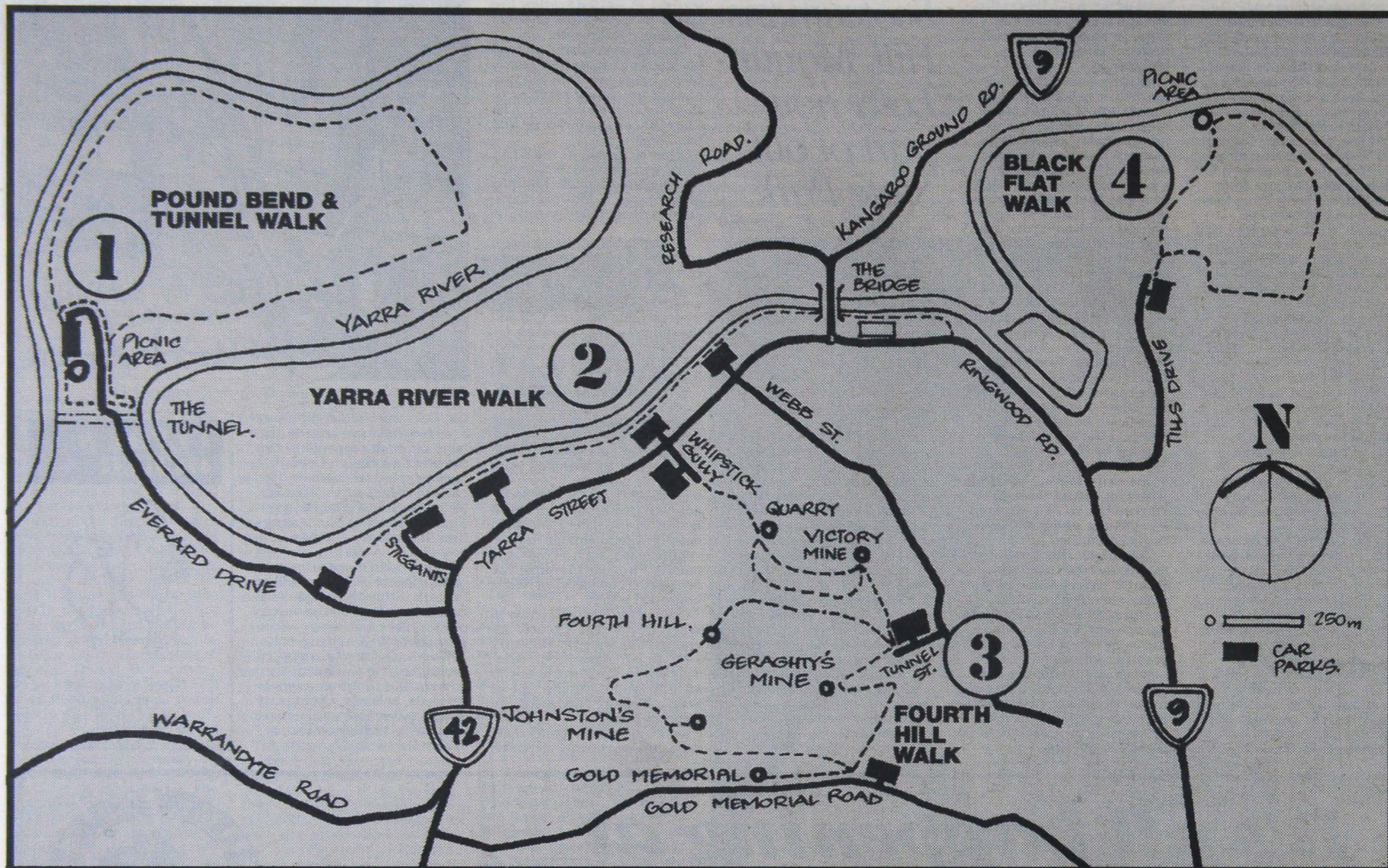
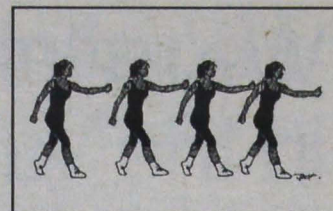
- Computer Room
- Warrandyte Bushband
- 3/4 Recorder
- Gymnastics Routine

School tours will be conducted throughout the day (these will be held on the hour starting at 10am) by Ken Wing Jan (Principal) and Darryl Furze (Assistant Principal).

**Please contact the school for further details.
Warrandyte Primary School
Forbes Street, Warrandyte. Phone 9844 3537**

4

Walks around Warrandyte



1 Pound Bend Walk

Drive to the end of Everard Drive to find Pound Bend, which is situated in a large, narrow-necked loop of the Yarra River. In the early years the land was used as a pound for cattle, hence its present name. With luck you may spot a koala high in one of the smooth-barked manna gums. The picnic area attracts many birds, including colorful parrots, honeyeaters, kookaburras and noisy miners.

A short walk from the picnic area will lead to the unique Pound Bend Tunnel. This amazing venture was carried out by David Mitchell, father of singer Dame Nellie Melba, in 1870. The tunnel, six metres wide and almost five metres high was dug through 145 metres of solid rock at the neck of the loop. A dam was built across the river and the water was diverted through the tunnel, leaving exposed a five kilometre stretch of river bed, which was dredged for gold. While no remains of the dam can be seen today, the tunnel, in which lives a colony of bats, looks as if it was carved through only yesterday.

A walking track along the Yarra River, to the north of Pound Reserve, crosses various gullies by wooden bridges and ends at a large open area. The track continues to the south-east past the plaque dedicated to the site of the first youth hostel in Victoria, then joins the entry road to the park office, and turning south continues to Pound Bend Road. For alternative walk along the ridge top, return to the tunnel site above the Pound Bend Reserve car park.

2 Yarra River Walk

Halfway along Everard Drive begins a wide track which follows the river and is shared by walkers, joggers, cyclists and horse riders. Dogs on leashes are welcome in this reserve. A wooden bridge crosses Andersons Creek just above where it joins the Yarra. (Andersons Creek was the original name for Warrandyte). At Stiggants Reserve, site of the monthly Warrandyte Community Market, there is a children's playground, a small amphitheatre, picnic tables, electric barbecues, public toilets and two picnic shelters. A small wetlands area has been created by Doncaster council and the Friends of Warrandyte State Park. Each autumn, the two-day Warrandyte Festival attracts thousands of visitors. Above the path, adjacent to Warrandyte village itself, are additional public toilets, the historic Gospel Chapel and the old Warrandyte post office, faithfully restored and home to the Warrandyte Historical Society's museum.

This walk terminates at the Warrandyte bridge. Immediately downstream is the site of the old wooden bridge, built in 1865 from yellow box timbers felled in the Stony Creek area.

The old bridge was the focal point in Warrandyte for New Year celebrations, when the locals would meet to sing Auld Lang Syne to the accompaniment of bagpipes and fireworks—and sometimes exploding gelignite! The existing steel and concrete bridge was built in 1955. A smaller picnic area, with barbecues provided, is located at the public tennis courts, downstream from the bridge. A third set of public toilets has been provided adjacent to the bridge.

3 Fourth Hill Walk

Four kilometres long, this walk takes about one-and-a-half hours. It starts from the carpark near the gold memorial cairn at Andersons Creek in Gold Memorial Road. Ford the creek, turn to the left and walk up the steep track. On your left is a mine shaft surrounded by a wooden railing. This whole area is covered with mullock heaps and other relics of the gold mining days.

About 30 metres horizontally left across the hill, on a small track, is a corrugated iron hut of a type common around Warrandyte in years past. This hillside is covered in a sea of white heath in the late winter months. Continue past the hut, and another shaft, on the steep track that climbs uphill. At a T-junction, turn right for 20 metres to reach Johnston's Mine.

Backtrack to the T-junction and continue around the hill past some mossy boulders to a vehicle track, running from Betton Crescent to the top of Fourth Hill. Turn right and follow the track straight up onto the large, open area at the top of Fourth Hill. Nearby is a grate covering an air shaft down into the Fourth Hill Tunnel.

Walk straight ahead from point of entry to a walking track which leads downhill and to the right. Continue in the same direction, past the Y-intersection, towards the park gate. Turn left at the gate along the vehicle track, following the fenceline. This track undulates down into Whipstick Gully. The shorter Bruce Bence Walk commences just behind the Information Centre to the south-west, meanders through old diggings and mullock heaps. This narrow track is only 620 metres long but quite steep. It ends on a vehicle track overlooking the Victory Mine site, which had five levels going up inside the hill. This mine is safe to explore up to 20 metres in, where a steel gate prevents further access for safety reasons. A torch should be carried.

Backtrack to the Tunnel Street gate and continue on, veering to the right, and follow it downhill to the Fourth Hill Tunnel, which runs 100 metres into the hill.

This was the first large-scale mining operation in the area, started by Patrick Geraghty, Warrandyte's first innkeeper. Geraghty did not strike the reef he was seeking, but two other miners continuing his work in the 1880s were more successful. This mine is safe to explore with a torch. Emerging from the tunnel, turn right and follow the track downhill along Wild Cat Gully to Andersons Creek, where the walk commenced.

4 Black Flat Walk

The entrance to Black Flat Reserve, Warrandyte State Park, is situated partway along Tills Drive, which leaves the Ringwood Road close by the Stonehouse craft shop. There are carparks and a picnic area at the reserve.

This is a fully-developed "nature walk", the route is marked by signs and arrows and will take about an hour to cover. Black Flat is covered by open forest, dominated by eucalypts—mostly red box—and is one of the most scenically attractive areas of Warrandyte. Each season brings its own special surprises.

One is constantly reminded of the part this area played during the goldmining era. In 1904, Warrandyte's largest mine—the Caledonian—commenced operations here. One of the boilers that provided steampower for these extensive workings can be seen on the left, not far from the entrance to the reserve.

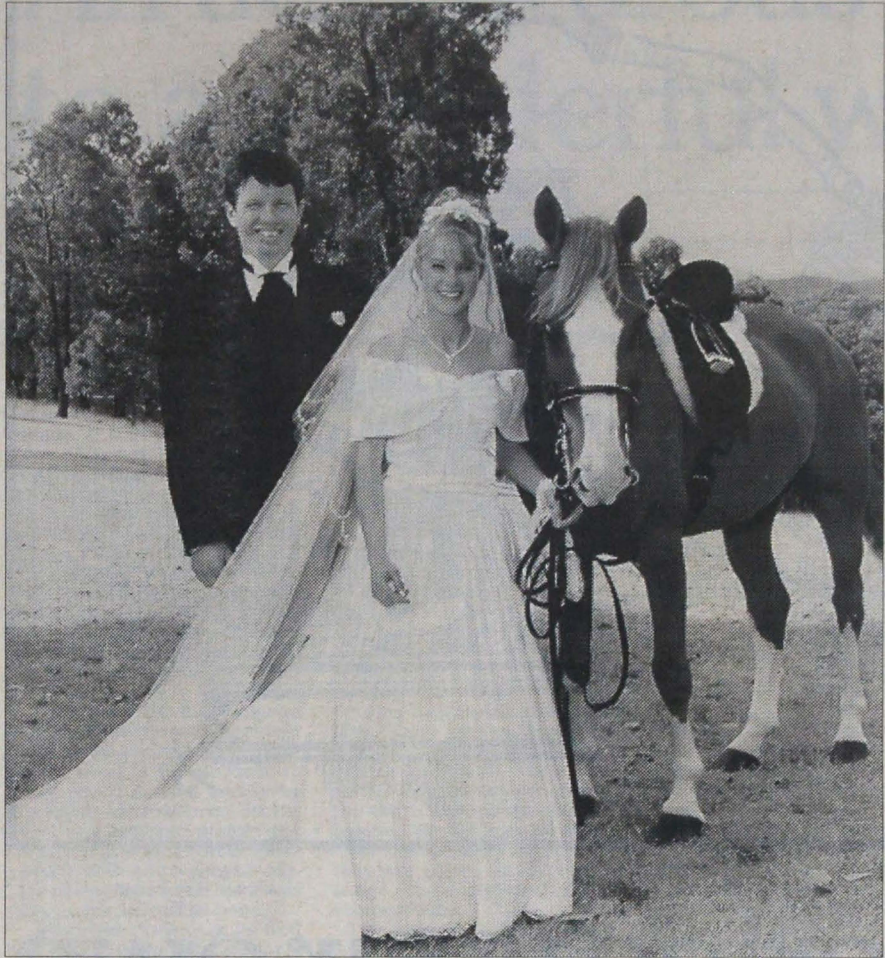
Also to be seen is a circular depression in the ground, marking the remains of a puddling machine, powered by horses walking in a circle and used to crush quartz from which gold was extracted.

Reminders of the agricultural history of the area include a grand old red box tree used as a fence post by the Mullens family, who homesteaded the area from the 1870s to 1914. Evidence of some of the orchards planted by the Mullens can also be observed, as well as a breacher dam wall.

Partway along the nature trail is a sign indicating the track to Jumping Creek Reserve, not shown on the above map. Spectacular views of the meandering river are a feature of this longer walk. Wombats have burrowed into the soft soil beside the narrow track, creating a maze of holes and tunnels.

A grassy area by the river, near the start of the track, marks the site of one of the old orchards. Close by is a pleasant swimming spot and a delightful picnic area under the shade of a huge manna gum.

The horse didn't get married



Lisa Andrew rode Sheik, the other love in her life, when she married Terry Ryan at Sugarloaf dam on Saturday, March 1. The reception was held at the Abbey in Diamond Creek.

Councillors threatened

By FIA CLENDINEN

Three of Nillumbik's councillors have been threatened with personal legal damages of up to \$10 million dollars if the proposed development in the Main Street of Eltham does not go ahead.

Solicitors acting for Dallas Howgate, the developer of the site, have written to Crs Marshall, Graves and Jennings warning them that a writ may be lodged against each of them personally, as well as against Nillumbik council.

"Council has received two very strongly worded letters from the developer's solicitors threatening legal action," Robert Marshall, shire president and councillor for Sugarloaf Ward, told the *Diary*. The solicitors claim that the councillors' decision to oppose the granting of the planning permit is illegal.

However Cr Marshall said he was not unduly worried. He explained that before deciding to oppose the granting of the permit, the council "sought extensive legal advice. We canvassed thoroughly whether the council would be financially liable. Our legal advice is that the council is not liable, and as councillors we are not personally liable".

But Cr Marshall is angered by what he describes as Dallas Howgate's "huffing and puffing" tactics. "It's a black day for democracy when elected councillors are threatened with writs from developers. My fear is that councils with less spine will feel intimidated into voting for developments they might otherwise oppose," Cr Marshall said.

Margaret Jennings, councillor for Wattle Ward, is equally undeterred by the threatened legal

action. "My view is that it is my duty to protect this site in Eltham from such an inappropriate development and I received an overwhelming mandate to do this," she said. Cr Jennings is the former secretary of EGAG (Eltham Gateway Action Group). Cr Jennings also claims that she has advice that statements made by Dallas Howgate concerning herself and Crs Graves and Marshall as quoted in the *Herald Sun* (13/4/97) could be libellous.

The proposed development, a 24 hour petrol station, Hungry Jack's and video store, at the site of the former Eltham council offices, has caused huge controversy. First the offices were demolished without warning. Then the site was sold to a developer, conditional on a planning permit.

The planning permit was later approved by the commissioners at a meeting arranged so that the community representatives on the planning special committee could not vote. The lack of community consultation with each of these steps has outraged many residents.

EGAG were preparing to go to the AAT (Administrative Appeals Tribunal) to request that the commissioner's granting of the permit be overturned when the Minister for Planning, Rob Maclellan, "called in" the application. This meant the decision now rest entirely with the minister.

Minister Maclellan appointed an independent advisory committee to consider the proposal. The committee has approximately one month to prepare a report and present it to the minister. The minister will make his decision some time after this.

Jenni Mitchell, EGAG president, claims the development

will be the biggest of its kind in Australia. "The average size of a convenience centre like this is 200 square metres.

"The proposed development is going to be 800 square metres of retail shopping. It will contain a bakery, an ice-cream parlour, a chemist, a dry-cleaner, a newsagent and other shops. Eltham will have the largest and the first of its kind in Australia."

Cr Mitchell said that because the development was so large, local traders were concerned. She said that a survey carried out by EGAG indicated that 85 percent of Eltham shopkeepers believed their business would be directly affected by the development. "The shopkeepers said it would take people away from the town centre, and they would no longer have spontaneous purchases."

Jenni Mitchell explained that profits from selling petrol are down and this is forcing operators to make far-reaching changes. A recent article in the *Financial Review* stated, "Petrol companies are looking to expand because margins are down. They are under considerable pressure to broaden their earning basis." (*Financial Review* 15/4/97.)

EGAG has spent around \$17,000 on their submission to the independent advisory committee and to cover costs they had "gone into fund-raising mode".

They will be holding an Open Studio and Devonshire Tea. On Sunday, May 11, from 10am to 5.30pm, Jenni Mitchell and Mervyn Hannan will be opening their studio at 19 Fordhams Road, Eltham. Bargains will include recent paintings, silk works, woodcraft and sculpture. A \$5 donation at the door will include devonshire tea.

Self-help course for sole parents

A pilot parent and family enrichment course for sole parent families is opening in Warrandyte, organised by the Parent Resource and Support Program.

This program has been operating in the City of Manningham for the last 12 months from both Warrandyte and Manningham Youth Services. It offers support for families with older primary and secondary aged children. This takes the form of individual counselling for families, seminars, forums and courses related to parenting issues.

"Sole parents often face difficulties with childcare when attempting to attend night-time courses," program co-ordinator Kaye Ward told the *Diary*. "Because of this we are piloting a six weeks innovative course on Wednesday evenings, beginning May 14, between 5 and 7pm.

"The program offers concurrent supervision for children and young people with the possibility of a simple shared meal to complete the evening. Depending on numbers of children involved, there is also the possibility of conducting a program appropriate to them with some connecting theme to the parents' course.

"Another exciting aspect of this program is the co-operative work of a number of agencies who all perceive support to sole parents as a service gap in our community."

The course is being conducted by the Parent Support Program in partnership with the Warrandyte Neighbourhood House. The children's and youth activities and meal preparation are being offered by Warrandyte Youth Services. The program is supported by the Warrandyte Sole Parents Association.

Both the course and the children's program will be conducted in the Warrandyte Community Centre. For further inquiries and registration forms, please contact either the Warrandyte Neighbourhood House on 9844 1839 or the Parent Support Program on 9844 4401.

Two interactive workshops for blended families will also be conducted through the Parent Support Program in partnership with the Step Family Association. These are being repeated, by popular demand, as a follow-on to the program conducted at Warrandyte High School last year.

They are on Wednesdays, May 28 and June 4 at 7.30pm at Wonga Park Primary School. Enrolments are through the Wonga Park school on 9722 1325.

CLYDE & OCKER



"You could do a streak round the footy oval, Ock. You're dressed for it!"

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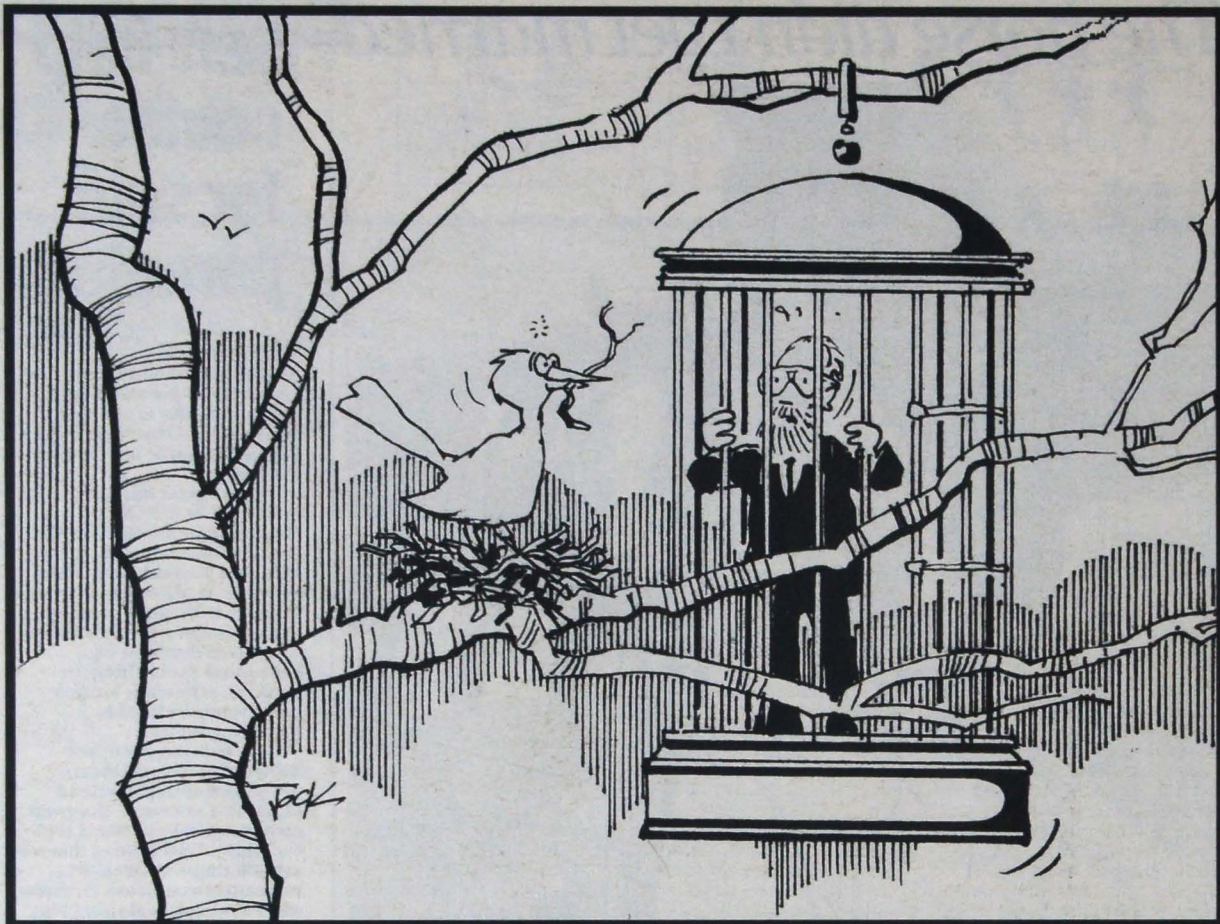
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Feathering your own nest, after a fashion

I LOOKED at the swallows and turned green. They had been returning to build their nest in our carport rafters over the past four years and each time they either added a few millimetres to the top of the mud nest or else they started from scratch and built one exactly the same as the last. Obviously it was not a design fault if the nest could be destroyed by a tall radio aerial or a feverish spring-cleaning broom.

No need for smarter designs, larger rooms or wind-swept balconies. The swallows are content to stay with the tried and true, even if the plan is not currawong-proof or human resistant. To them, a nest is a nest is a nest.

Not so with us humans. True, we do meet the normal needs, as does the swallow, of shelter and security within which to rear the young. After that, however, the budget's the limit and this is where we differ somewhat from our feathered friends.

They toil to find the nest material in their local area. We, on the other hand, mine the rest of the world to find bluer feathers and shinier pebbles with which to line our nests.

The fascinating thing is that we have such different views about what constitutes a satisfying nest.

We have some friends who



KIBBLED

"They see their house as a piece of jewellery or a new season's set of clothing..."

could not countenance living in a Warrandyte nest. The thought of all that space around the dwelling is anathema. What they want instead is clutter and jostling bodies. A party wall is to them what a leaf-littering eucalypt in the middle of the deck is to us.

They find it quaint that we like rutted dirt tracks and the excitement of instant annihilation by bushfires. We, on the other hand, find abhorrent their penchant for lead-filled air and

teeth-chattering vibrations every time a train passes by.

Again we have another set of friends who change houses and decorator items like kitchens, bedrooms and all furniture as quickly as the currawong commits murder at our swallows' nest. They see their house as a piece of jewellery or a new season's set of clothing. Once the fashion changes and the new catalogues come out they change house. All the furniture goes through the Trading Post and another estate agent and the government rub their hands with glee.

So what is it that makes us so different? Obviously filthy lucre plays a large part, but given equal amounts of dosh, why do we decide on different things to live in?

I suppose the comfort zone accounts for a lot. Some of us feel totally at home in a high tech, glass and chrome environment; the type of place you ring before visiting to check the colour scheme, lest you clash too much with the sofa.

Architects seem to love this type of nest. Something happens when they go to the nest designing school. They all learn to write in the same way, draw trees and people like snowflakes and to delight in linking zones and keeping lines clean. Houses, it seems, need integrity rather than useful living rooms and windows that open. Herself and

I were the bane of our architect's life as we insisted on having some windows that opened. Spoil the line, you see.

For others, the comfort zone is quite different. Another friend has become quite taken with an outside bathroom and one, four feet wide, freestanding wardrobe for the entire family of four. She's finding her house far too modern and unappealing, and for her next house wants an outside kitchen. If she keeps going, she will have all her facilities in the garden.

Herself and I, on the other hand, are failures. We're not muddies, we're not high tech, we couldn't tolerate the icy gusts going to the kitchen for an alfalfa fix and we're not ideologically unsound enough to want an electric everything-that-opens-and-closes house.

We certainly admire those with the passion and the power to tackle projects. Projects like renovating decrepit factories or ramshackle, decommissioned churches. We fall prostrate before those who tackle renovator's delights or those who are prepared to live in utter chaos for years whilst the wonderful little plasterer finishes the ceiling roses in the bedrooms.

My head hurts when I consider building or shifting houses. Herself loves and is good at it. But me? It must be my swallow ancestry.

ROGER KIBBELL

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A CROSS the river, in deep shadow, the cliff rose steeply to meet the sky. Perched obtrusively near the top of the cliff was a house of somewhat unconventional proportions. I envied the panoramic view from its curvaceous balcony, but resented the intrusion of such a building on the landscape. It was the only visible sign of human intervention on the whole burgan-clad hillside.

Casting my eyes downwards, I focused instead on a shoal of sparkling sun diamonds scudding across the water—a mesmerisingly beautiful spectre. I was sitting at the river's edge on a rather dusty, sandy beach, conveniently situated about halfway along the walking track between Mount Lofty and Wittons Reserve.

NATURE
By **PAT COUPAR**
Drawn by **MELANIE COUPAR**



local geological legacy of this upheaval is the tightly folded syncline and anticline of the Warrandyte Gorge, through which the Yarra River has carved a course of deeply incised meanders.

This walk has always been one of my favourites, but particularly so during the mellow months of autumn when the river is generally at its lowest and the water at its clearest. While the dry wildflower-rich forests come alive in spring, autumn is the season for the riverbank reeds and their relatives. Three species dominate, in height at least: one bright green and leafy; another, straight, narrow and cylindrical; the third, and most common, bamboo-like and topped with a fluffy flowerhead. Respectively they are called stream club-sedge, river club-sedge and common reed.

The river's edge is also a mecca for a group of plants known as knotweeds—a name which is, for the most part, phonetically correct, as six of the seven species found in the greater Melbourne region are 'not weeds', but native plants. Along the way I counted all six indigenous species and didn't see an introduced weed. Espe-

cially attractive is the spotted knotweed, a straggling herb with arrowhead-shaped leaves and slender clusters of pale pink flowers.

I had lingered at the beach long enough. The muted sun dipped behind the hill with the house and it grew suddenly cold and a little damp. The dank, musty smell of the river permeated the air. I gave an involuntary shiver. Winter was on its way.

I had seen no-one all afternoon, not even a canoeist. This place is not remote—it is only 10 minutes' drive from a number of well-populated suburbs and less than 30 kilometres from the centre of Melbourne. Yet the

feeling of remoteness is real. With the expected imminent inclusion of Mount Lofty into Warrandyte State Park, and the accompanying injection of funds for its upgrading, it would be a great shame if this impression was to change.

At the present time the walking track, a little overgrown in places, is not signposted, neither is the imposing Warrandyte Gorge advertised.

Most of us have a desire to discover, and in varying degrees, a sense of adventure. It is this spirit which keeps us going and gives us hope for the future. Even a simple walk can be a voyage of discovery and enrichment. Long may it remain.

Why don't they teach clear English in teachers' college?

MOST of us cope with the continual trickle of new-fangled expressions like 'elasticated' or 'on the back of' which creep into junk mail or news broadcasts. Most of us even invent a few ourselves. But in an age when communication rules, the spate of incomprehensible jargon from supposedly professional sources is getting to be a worry.

A council information leaflet, which was being handed out at the festival, for example, teemed with priceless waffle about 'living documents', 'stretch goals', 'global communities', 'system conditions', 'websites' and 'easy-to-access statements' as well as a few old favourites such as 'workshops', 'issues' and 'strategies'. I'm sure they meant well, but simple English would have been far more effective (and used half the quantity of paper).

It wasn't an isolated occurrence. In a recent brochure from another council, the word 'transponder', secreted in a lengthy and otherwise uninteresting paragraph, triggered the old index finger into action on the phone buttons. At the receiving end, an overworked council employee seemed rather upset at receiving "zillions of phone

OUR PLACE
By **MARILYN MOORE**

calls from fools who couldn't read what was clearly explained in the brochure" (not the exact words, but there was no doubt about the meaning). Well, along with nearly half of Warrandyte, I've read and re-read that brochure. I hope her phone's still ringing.

Jargon sometimes emanates from the most literate quarters. Take a sleepy Sunday morning just before Christmas for instance.

The old wedge-tailed eagle soaring high on his midday thermal would have peered down at us on the deck, breakfasting happily on fragrant Earl Grey tea with steaming croissants smothered in Nana's scrumptious grapefruit marmalade. Somebody picked up a dishevelled copy of the previous Friday's Age when I fell a couple of school reports, no doubt put

aside until we were feeling decidedly less Friday-ish.

They turned out to be almost unreadable. What purpose can the DSE possibly have in making teachers spend so much time on something so patently incomprehensible?

"Your child has established the ability to interact for specific purposes with people in the classroom and school community using a small range of text types." So she dabbles in a spot of cross-age tutoring. Put even more simply, she reads and writes stories with her buddy. At least I think that's what they're trying to tell me.

"Your child has established the ability to consistently make informed attempts at spelling." I'm still making uninformed attempts to establish a meaningful inference from this.

"Your child has established the ability to integrate a variety of strategies for interpreting texts." The difficulty in interpreting this particular text obviously stems from my inability to properly integrate interpretative strategies. Can they possibly be suggesting that my child frequently requests explanation? Hardly surprising, if this is anything to go by.

"Your child is consolidating her ability to understand the

properties of figures and objects." Well, consolidating is probably too strong a term for the state of my ability to penetrate the amphibolousness of such figurative objectivity.

"Your child has established the ability to control most distinguishing linguistic structures and features of basic text type." Sorry, but my ability to control even the most basic language is rapidly fading. Something regrettable might come out if I read any more.

Yet stringing together page after page of easily-understood words in such a way as to render them almost entirely devoid of meaning must be incredibly difficult. Wherever did they find such a genius? I wonder if obfuscation was specified in the job description or whether it simply evolved after months of workshopping easy-to-access system conditions.

I do hope that none of this DSE-generated codswallop is filtering through to our kids. Imagine the consternation of the Warrandytians-of-the-future if they were subjected to council pamphlets put together by a generation of communicators actually trained in bamboozlement!

I think I'll stick to reading the Diary.

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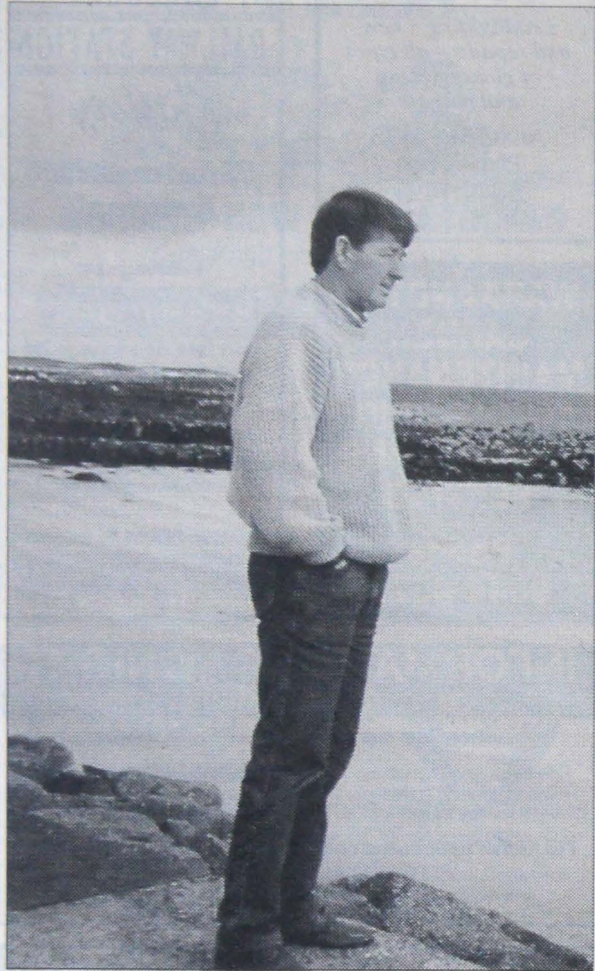
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A compassionate man



Peter O'Shaughnessy in Ireland.

ST GERARD'S Catholic Church, Warrandyte, was filled with hundreds of mourners, gathered to farewell Peter O'Shaughnessy, who died on Friday, April 11 after a long battle with cancer. The person these people came to honour was a quiet, unassuming, very low profile man, and yet he touched so many lives with his honesty and sincerity.

The many cards and letters received since his death confirm how much his way of conducting business and involvement in the community has been appreciated. His family is overwhelmed by the reaction of so many people.

Peter was only 23 when he went into partnership with Jim Smith (20 years his senior), opening the office of Smith & Shaughnessy Real Estate in Doncaster. It was one of the first estate agencies in Doncaster, the area being still mainly rural with farms and orchards.

Peter's easy style appealed to the local orchardists, and a great many entrusted Peter to look after the selling of their properties. He was at the right place at the right time and was very good at what he did. The fact that so many of his clients became his friends—and were present at his funeral—is a testament to his character.

To quote from one of the letters received: "Thirty years ago I walked into Peter's office as a stranger. I came away with a feeling of trust, and that trust has stood the test of time ever since."

Peter O'Shaughnessy was born on March 22, 1939, the sec-

ond child in a family of five. He grew up in Caulfield, then Balwyn, was educated at Marcellin and Xavier, and would be the first to admit he was not an academic. However, he was the entrepreneurial one of the family and at the age of 23, co-founded the real estate firm of Smith & O'Shaughnessy in Doncaster.

He rapidly developed a regular number of loyal clients who respected his characteristics of honesty, integrity and reliability. These characteristics were equally recognised by his fellow agents.

Peter met his lifelong partner, Rae, when he was 20 and they were married in 1965. He was the proud father of three fine sons. He was active in the local parish, both on committees and as a tireless practical worker.

Peter's major passion was the land, and he managed his Wonga Park agistment property with great energy. His extensive tree-planting at the Hooper Road property will be a living legacy of this passion. Peter once said to Rae, "The paddocks keep me sane".

We remember a man of warmth, humour, generosity and compassion, all based on a deep faith. His memory will remain as an inspiration to us all.

Peter's wish to remain at home was fulfilled through the incredible support and help received by the family through the local Catholic community, relatives and friends, and the specialised nursing expertise of the Mid Eastern Palliative Care Association.



25th birthday

By JULIE MURRAY

Twenty-five years ago eight women had the courage and foresight to establish what has now become one of Warrandyte's well known landmarks—Stonehouse Pottery.

Today only two of the original members are left. Penny Cearns and Dulce Herd have seen many changes over those 25 years. "It was our passion for clay that brought us together. It's also the reason for our success today," Penny told *Diary*.

In the early days they used to position themselves on the front verandah at their wheels, throwing pots and explaining to their visitors what they were doing.

That format has changed over the years, as has pottery itself, with the introduction of a wider variety of clays and colours. Also changed is the membership. The co-operative is now run by 17 women, both members and associates. The group works well and has a range of talents to share.

"Part of our strength is our

new members," Penny said. "Each one brings new skills and new energies. It changes the dynamics of the group and gives us another fresh perspective."

Stonehouse does not employ staff—it thrives because of the dedication of its members. "It works because we speak our minds, we respect each other's point of view, and the ultimate decision is always what is best for Stonehouse."

Dulce is the oldest member and the mother of the group. "It's been like an extended family—a wonderful support group over the years," she said. "Customers have become friends. We even have some who travel from Western Australia and Canberra each year."

To celebrate their quarter century of promoting quality Australian pottery and craft, the Stonehouse members have invited Lorraine Elliot, Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier for the Arts to officially open their Silver Anniversary Members' Exhibition on Friday, May 30.

WARRANDYTE FESTIVAL COMMITTEE

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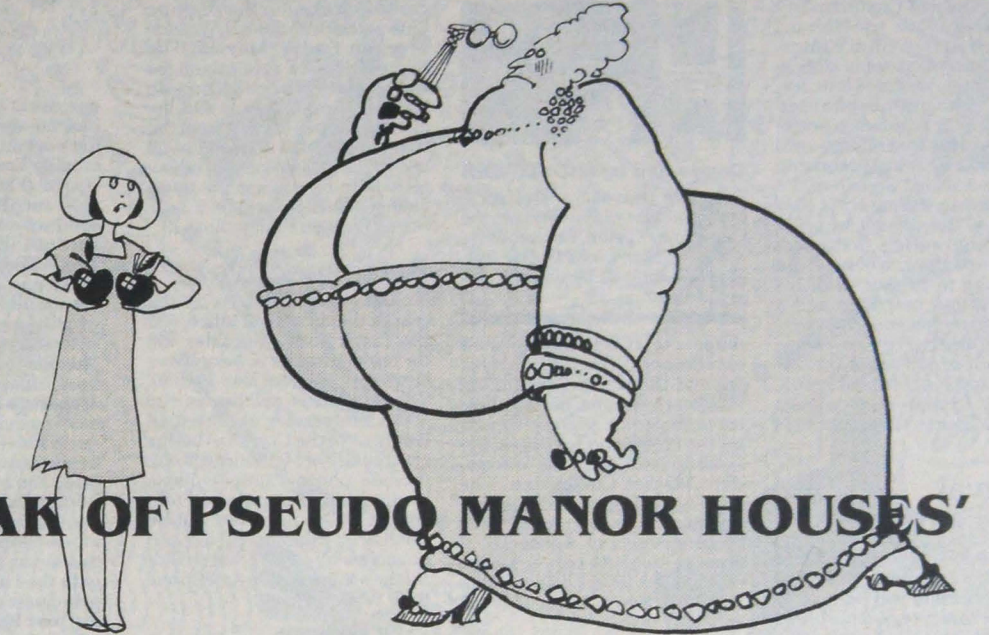
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Orchards to Ostentatía



'A TASTELESS OUTBREAK OF PSEUDO MANOR HOUSES'

By **DON CHARLWOOD**

IT HAS long engulfed us in Templestowe; it is steadily moving your way, Warrandyte. I refer to ostentatía. I doubt that it's a word defined in any dictionary yet, though there is need of it. A definition? In the sense I am using it, perhaps: "a tasteless outbreak of pseudo manor houses" or "a scourge of mansions". But to begin at the beginning...

When our hardware closed down in Templestowe several months back, it struck me that it closed largely because our do-it-yourself generation is on its way out. Most of us are in our 70s or 80s and we are not being replaced. Not in this area anyway. The new generations, those who pay two or three hundred thousand dollars for land before they start to build, are not likely to shop for paint or nails. But then I have to admit that the forerunners of these people, those who first saw the orchards of the Yarra Valley as a desirable residential area were undeniably our do-it-yourself generation.

Forty-five years ago, along with other ex-servicemen wearying of rented rooms in suburbia, I discovered this rural haven less than an hour from the city. Countryside where hillsides of peach, pear and nectarine grew in ordered rows, tended by people whose families had been tending them for three or four generations, many of them old German families famed for their fruit. Set among the trees were numerous dams for summer watering, mirror-like in the sun.

Winter for these families was a time of ploughing and pruning; spring

brought the pink and white foam of blossom; summer day-long fruit-picking and nocturnal pumping from the dams—a gentle, pulsating sound. Grading and packing went on half the night, men and women working together. Hours before dawn the men drove high-sided trucks to Victoria Market, brown-faced, laconic men whose incomes were by no means commensurate with their arduous labours.

To our surprise we heard that some of these people were selling off a few acres of their orchards. Though this seemed like subdividing the Garden of Eden while God's back was turned, we bought eagerly. For 450 pounds from my RAAF deferred pay I bought just under an acre, on it a hundred lemon trees. We heard then that a green belt was to be declared to limit subdivision. We exulted; we had bought just in time! We would have rural surroundings for the rest of our lives!

My father-in-law told us that if we drew up plans he would build us a house. As my wife and I had mentally built our ideal home for several years past, it took us only one night to get it onto paper. We took it to a draughtsman. Before long the council approved it. We went then to an importer of Austins and bought two car cases. From these my father-in-law fashioned the shack and there he went to live in his 74th year, bringing with him a saw bench he had designed.

In those first days my wife came to the shack in our Renault beetle to transcribe her father's orders for framing timbers. As soon as a power outlet was provided she joined in operating the saw while our two young children

played among the lemon trees. As for me, I cycled from Canterbury at week-ends and began digging a 180 metre trench to the nearest water main. As the weeks passed and I graduated to digging stump holes, I began thinking there must surely have been some easier way of gaining a war service home.

In June 1953, on our ninth wedding anniversary, we moved in. By now the power saw was in the lounge. At the end of each day my wife swept the sawdust into heaps while I rolled home from the city in an unpredictable bus that rolled on to Warrandyte. Our children had started at the one-roomed brick school, attended till now by generations of orchardists' families.

We all soon learnt to speak no ill of locals; their web of relationships was beyond unravelling. They were kindly people who didn't much bother to lock doors, they were always ready to stop for a yarn and to help a neighbour; they provided bountiful piles of fruit and vegetables for church harvest festivals.

We danced and held fetes in the 1922 Memorial Hall, but our main community centre was the rambling post office, its floor worn, its wooden counter long, its verandah high. It seemed to carry everything though it took a long time for some items to be found. While we waited and gossiped, we breathed scents of chaff and pollard from the old hay and corn section next door. Across the road was the blacksmith where children paid homage to Jack Mullens, resident saint of the forge. His anvil rang, horses stamped and whinnied. Though few orchardists used horses any more, Jack drew clientele from outlying pony clubs.

A generation of younger do-it-yourself people began moving in rather better-heeled than we were, and better informed. They employed architects, furthermore their architects were well versed in the edicts of Robin Boyd. Their houses were long and low and blended with the countryside. This new group favoured native trees. We got rid of our exotics.

Most of the orchards were still being worked. I confess we were guilty of feeling that the orchardists' seasonal round was a pageant put on for our delectation. We joined the newcomers in raising money for a kindergarten and a guide hall. The orchardists were faintly amused; in their lives there had been neither time nor money for such fripperies; children had been a source of labour. They now dubbed us good-humouredly 'city slickers'.

Before the 60s began, we gained a hardware, a milkbar, a pharmacy—but we lost the post office store. We stood on the bulldozed site lamenting, "Signs of regress!" Adjustments were being made to the green belt concept—it was shrinking rapidly before onslaughts of goths and vandals called developers. We city slickers began discussing what we wanted for the Templestowe of the future. Green corridors—we reckoned—contoured roads, acre blocks, houses in harmony with the countryside.

It was too late. By the time our fourth child was at the old school, relentless development had begun. Now miles of orchards were being bulldozed, their owners declaring, "We can't afford not to sell!" Who could blame them? They were gaining more than they or their

fathers or grandfathers had dreamed of. Their cherished trees were now in heaps for burning, developers rejoiced among the funeral pyres. The old dams were filled in.

What now? The outriders of a new generation arrived in Mercedes and Range Rovers. These were the super-slickers. They did not build homes, they built mansions. Our generation laughed at their first grotesqueries, then we cried, for all the orchards were being swept away and the Walt Disney school of architecture was taking over our hill-sides. Bizarre confections arose, sporting classical Greek columns, multi-gables of Tuscan tile, Tudor half-timbering, imperial eagles. They overflowed their boundaries like dowagers' bosoms. Many were fronted by Buckingham Palace gates—electronically operated. As if this were not enough, they were patrolled by pairs of german shepherds, dobermans, rottweilers. The once quiet hills resounded to burglar alarms and the baying of guard dogs. Gone were unlocked doors, gone the easy-going meetings with orchardists, gone their beautiful fruit.

The super-slickers had no need for the old school. Its numbers fell. After 120 years of use it was closed. Aged orchardists and the middle-aged children of the early city slickers attended its obsequies. We who had sought escape from suburbia had brought on ourselves ostentatía. We had witnessed loss of a way of life.

Ah, Warrantians, don't delude yourselves into thinking it can't happen to you. Ostentatía is already at your western boundaries where not long ago you had bush. Its very nature is to expand.

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Visit this play

The next presentation by Warrandyte Theatre Company will be *Visiting Hour* by Richard Harris. A series of six interlocked short plays set in an English hospital, *Visiting Hour* features a husband hospitalised following a car accident, a poignant monologue by a middle-aged daughter, a growing friendship between a white woman and a black woman during their hospital stay, the filming by a TV crew of the world's first quadruple transplant, a lonely old man living in memories of his boyhood and marriage and a timid spinster awaiting a hysterectomy. Directed by Ken Virtue, *Visiting Hour* will run at the Mechanics Institute Hall, on June 5, 6, 7, 12, 13 and 14. Bookings through Laurie Shaw on 9844 1376.

Festival

The Warrandyte Festival Committee is seeking new members and fresh ideas. Are you able to help? The committee's annual general meeting will be held at the Warrandyte Community Centre at 8pm on Wednesday, May 21.

Open

There will be an opportunity to see Warrandyte High School at work on Monday, May 26. The school will be open from 1 to 7.30pm, with a short information evening at the conclusion of the school day. For further information call the school on 9844 2749.

Thanks

Warrandyte Historical Society would like to thank all the vol-



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.

unteers who helped with their exhibition during the festival. Special thanks to Warrandyte Hardware for the use of their truck, Malcolm, Deb and Angela for the Punch and Judy float, the Dawson family and the Warrandyte Market Committee. The society is desperately seeking volunteers to help keep their museum open at weekends. If you can spare three hours once every eight weeks, please contact Gina Bevan-Jones on 9844 3662.

Exhibition

Warrandyte High School's ninth annual art and craft exhibition will open on Friday, June 20 at 8pm. The opening will be conducted by Sydd Tunn and Ona Henderson and the exhibition will remain open on Saturday, June 21 from 10am to 6pm and on Sunday, June 22 from 10am to 4pm.

Musicals

Excerpts from a number of musicals will be performed by the

Die Pratersterne professional group from the Austrian Culture Club at the Grand Hotel, Warrandyte, on Friday, May 16. The night will be a fundraiser for Warrandyte High School's music support group. Cost is \$13, including supper. Tickets from the hotel or the high school. Phone 9844 3202 for bookings. The hotel's June fundraiser for Interchange Northern will be a Tribute to Elvis on Friday, June 13.

Retrospective

Manningham Artspace, at the rear of the municipal office, 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster, will be the setting for a Neophytes Retrospective from May 10 to 30. The exhibition celebrates the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the Greek Orthodox community of Melbourne. It will include photography, collage, sculpture and paintings. From June 3 to 30, Artspace will be holding an exhibition of oils and gouaches by Chris Shelton. For further information telephone 9840 9367.

Health

The Manningham Community Health Service is currently running an ADASS (Adult Day Activity Support Service) program for older adults. It is being held at the Doncaster Senior Citizens Club on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Two further days being planned will be on Fridays at the Warrandyte Neighbourhood House and Mondays at the Park Orchards Community House from 10am to 2pm. Transport can be arranged if necessary. Enquiries to Suzy Honisett on 9846 7717.

A fine production

WOULD you believe a first-class opera production in a school theatre? At best one could expect a workmanlike amateur production, so the very high standard delivered by Eastern Metropolitan Opera (EMO) was an agreeable surprise. Such was the production of Mozart's *Così fan Tutte* (All Women Are Like That) at our local high school theatre.

It soon became obvious why the company choose Warrandyte High School Theatre for their productions as, apart from good acoustics and sightlines, it has an orchestra pit—a rare thing indeed. An enthusiastic audience comfortably filled the house.

Set in Lygon Street and Toorak, with bikies thrown in, the transition to modern times was accomplished with flair and spirit. The principals not only looked the part but sang, individually and collectively, superbly. They also acted well, bringing the characters to life. The 30-piece orchestra was satisfactory, apart from minor intonations problems and the sound balance with the singers was good.

It is difficult to single out performances as all were very fine—Jerzy Kozłowski's 'Don Alfonso' opens proceedings with great strength, David Eckstein as 'Guglielmo' and Christopher Steele as



Dimity Shepherd (*Dorabella*) and David Eckstein (*Guglielmo*) in EMO's production of *Così fan Tutte*.

OPERA

'Ferrando' play the innocent boyfriends (and the bikie blow-ins) with a strong sense of farcical hypocrisy.

Elaine McKrill's 'Fiordiligi' and Dimity Shepherd's 'Dorabella' were impressive as their beleaguered lovers and Rebecca Leitch's 'Despina' played a marvellous mischief-making maid. The principals were well supported by a fine chorus.

The high level of musicianship and operatic expertise of the company came through at all times. The simple, imaginative sets, including a sparkling Harley-Davidson (the site of a sensual love

scene) were most effective and the lighting excellent. In fact the whole production was completely professional and a credit to the director, Andrea Garing, and the EMO.

Back in 1993, Eastern Metropolitan Opera recognized an opportunity. There are very many good, young, well-trained singers around Melbourne who require opportunities to perform, particularly in complete operatic roles.

Eastern Metropolitan Opera was formed to fill that gap for singers. EMO now performs fully-staged operas in their original languages, using surtitles when their productions are not in English.

Eastern Metropolitan Opera also fills a need for audiences. Because costs are kept to a minimum by large amounts of voluntary labour, the result is much less expensive for audiences than city productions.

This is the fifth season (all at Warrandyte High) of this wonderful company, going some way to filling a gap created by the demise of the Victorian State Opera. Also, their operas are very affordable for patrons! Don't miss the next production (same venue) of a pair of operas by Puccini: *Gianni Schicchi* and *Sour Angelica* starting September 26. Phone 9435 5841 for more details.

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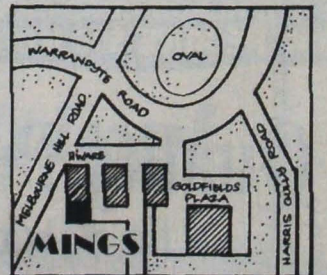
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A pleasant season

TIMELINES TIMELINES TIMELINES TIMELINES TIMELINES TIMEINES TIMELINES TIMELINES TIMELINES TIMELINES TIMELINES TIMELINES TIMELINES TIMELINES

1 EARLY WINTER

The season of pleasant, mild weather with a freshness returning to the bushlands after rains. Fungi is covering the forest floors, there is some breeding activity by local birds, all the international migratory birds are gone and new migratory birds arrive from Tasmania and the mountains.

On a rocky escarpment overlooking the swirling Yarra River is a stand of black she-oaks. With few secure refuges, it is an uncommon plant along the Middle Yarra Valley. All these plants are males. Their pendulous golden flowers cast pollen to the winds in the hope of reaching the solitary female plant standing away downstream.

She is in flower too, a bright red bunch of stamens along the ends of the longer branches, which also sport the wooden fruit of the previous season's pollination efforts. It is a precarious existence, as it is for many plants in this riparian vegetation community, perhaps one of the most degraded in the valley.

Also on the rocky escarpment above the rapids grows the rock glabra, covered in bright green bell-shaped flowers. It is being attended, at an almost frenzied speed, by eastern spinebills searching for nectar. Bell miners with chicks in their nest harass the spinebill at every opportunity.

At the base of the rock correa are fruits of fungi mosses that have returned to an emerald colour following the substantial rains, greenly illuminating the heavily shaded areas under thickets of burgan where gnat orchids flower.

On the ground at the base of a manna gum, in a hole large enough to fit your finger, is the larval case of a goat swift moth. The first heavy showers soften the ground and send the timelonic message for these great moths to emerge during the night in search of a reproductive partner. Their huge bodies make them sought after food for the birds, as was their larval form for the Koori people.

A family group of olive-backed orioles react angrily to intrusion of their territory by flying around and loudly vocalising. Soon they will be migrating northwards. Along Jumping Creek in Warrandyte State Park and along bushland corridors, many smaller birds, such as white-naped honeyeaters, brown-headed honeyeaters, grey fantails, yellow-faced honeyeaters and golden whistlers will flock together and work the trees for invertebrates.

In the lower vegetation strata, the same flocking behaviour occurs among superb blue wrens, white-browed scrubwrens, eastern yellow robins, yellow-rumped thornbills and grey shrike thrush. Unseasonal major rains have so swollen the river that in a few places, mountain tea-tree and river bottlbrush, half-submerged, drag in the fast-flowing water, whilst the leaves of a willow—the curse of the river system—are turning yellow.

The water is freezing cold and although the diversity of aquatic invertebrates is lower than during the summer seasons, there still are

chironomids, stoneflies, mayflies and elmid beetles, indicating good water quality. However, many of the invertebrate populations and large quantities of organic matter have been swept away by the racing river, to be dispersed right down to the lower reaches of the Yarra.

This scouring of the food-rich riffle areas of invertebrates depletes the favoured feeding grounds of platypus and perhaps threatens the survival of dispersing juveniles. Storm situations like these are critical times, with several years of accumulated organic matter flushed downstream, creating high turbidity levels and sometimes even major events, resulting in the creation of billabongs.

Downstream, Bolin Bolin Billabong brims to the bank with flooding water and large ephemeral wetlands are created in Yarra Flats Park, much to the vocalised praise of the common froglet, which has instantly appeared in thousands, seizing the opportunity afforded by the flood event.

All the invertebrate fauna and organic matter swept downstream spills onto the floodplains, enriching the wetland ecosystem. The Victorian smooth froglet is at its most vocal during this season, although south brown treefrogs, whistling treefrogs and pobblebongs contribute their share of noise.

A large mob of cattle feeds on the sodden grassy areas of Banksia Park and Yarra Flats Park. River redgums begin to shed their copious production of seed as their leaves are attacked by lace lepers. Grapevine moths are flying during the day, with their caterpillars still using the smooth willow herb, growing on the still-dry littoral fringe of the Annulus Billabong, as their host plant.

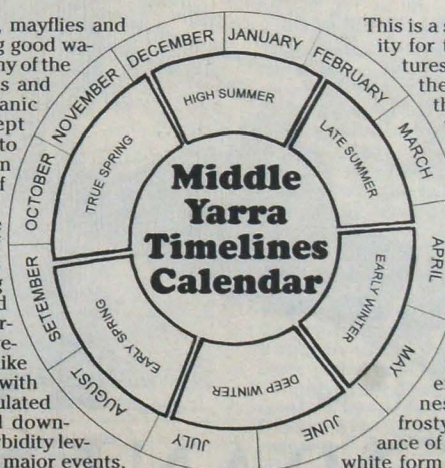
The showers that have begun to fall more frequently during early winter inject new life into the flora and fauna. After particularly heavy rain, the bushlands in the morning sun look drippingly fresh and clean. Even the heavily polluted air has been purified and the scents of the land are intoxicating.

Eucalypts now put on large amounts of new growth, with each species flaunting its characteristic young leaf colour. Yellow box is golden and red box is tinged with scarlet. Fungi grows everywhere in response to the wet weather.

Our four-season annual cycle—summer, autumn, winter, spring—arrived with the first white settlers from Europe. It bears little relevance to the natural rhythm of an Australian year. The Koori people used a sequence of six seasons. We would call them high summer, late summer, early winter, deep winter, early spring and true spring. They knew them as timelines.

The Middle Yarra Timelines project is being developed by the Field Naturalists Club of Victoria, the Gould League and the Yarra Valley Parklands section of Parks Victoria.

The theme of this series of essays by **GLEN JAMESON** is the representation of a mythical day for each of these season, a day that incorporates important seasonal indicators and patterns characteristic of that season.



This is a season of growth and activity for the bushland and its creatures, for here there are none of the shutdown produdures of the norther hemisphere autumn. Following the dry summer months, there is a sense of renewal and replenishment, a gearing-up for breeding and production.

If it is to be a dry year, with the effects of the El Nino southern oscillation bringing on drought, it will be in this season—early winter—when the effects will be suggested. An extension of summer dryness, early and excessively frosty weather and the appearance of unusual fauna, such as the white form of the grey goshawk. The lack of such early winter regulars as the moths, and restricted fungi growth, may warn of an impending dry year.

Gullies and grassy valley slopes are full of the fruiting bodies of fungi, a major feature of the winter seasons as the food chain of decay gains momentum. The yellow staining mushroom seems to have taken dominance over the much-loved, collected and eaten field mushroom. Huge boletes resemble garden settings and beneath the introduced Monterey pines is an imported range of such fungus as fly agaric and saffron milk caps.

Splashes of pink heath adorn the bush and beneath increasingly overcast skies, pink robins, which have moved down from mountain forests and gullies or across from Tasmania, enjoy the solitude of Andersons Creek along Gold Memorial Gully.

The usually solitary black swamp wallaby, also a resident of quiet gullies and steeper slopes, gives birth through the winter season and may be occasionally glimpsed with a partner during this time.

Pecking at the last heritage variety of apples in Pettys Orchard is a flock of the Tasmanian form of silvereve, over for the winter. Jacky Winters are observed, although the last sightings of dusky woodswallows and fairy martins are made as they join the migrating squadrons heading northwards.

In flight on the occasional sunny afternoon are the last of the cabbage white, common grass blue and imperial white butterflies, although on black wattles, common imperial blue butterflies are still emerging. Catching the mid-afternoon sun, a small

mob of eastern grey kangaroos lie in a clearing on a western-facing slope of Laughing Waters Park. Amidst the tangle of a huge, long since-fallen branch, are many just-hatched juvenile garden skinks, catching the sun for energy. Young black crickets and black millipedes are plentiful, often finding their way into houses.

Distant views from the ridges and hilltops are obscured as rain clouds cover the Kinglake, Dandenong and Healesville Ranges. On the dry ridges are found early-flowering forms of golden wattle and spreading wattle, uncommon forms of a plant which usually flowers during spring.

Mistletoe birds feed on the ripening fruit of the drooping mistletoe, growing from a red box which is also beginning to flower. Nearby, longleaf box carries a heavy load of flowers, as it tends to do every second year, and at its base, the drooping cassinia is flowering with brown, pendulous plumes.

Overhead, a pair of wedge-tail eagles circle anti-clockwise with the high pressure air system, keeping lookout over the terrain. One carries a European rabbit plucked from the grassy slopes of Longridge Park as they carefully scrutinise the forest. It is nest-building time and secret gullies must be evaluated for their potential.

As dusk falls, 15 Gould's wattled bats leave in succession from a nest box on a dry ridge in Yarra Valley Parklands. This organised departure may help them avoid predation by pied butcherbirds, pied currawongs and owls. Gould's wattled bats will copulate during the winter seasons, as will most of the species of bats that inhabit the Yarra Valley, although births will not take place until the spring seasons.

Drawn to house lights, their eyes glowing like golden orbs, is a staggering array of moths. After the first rains break the summer dry, great platoons of southern army worm moths appear. With them are twin emeralds, tiger moths, heliotrope moths, white satin moths and the Warrandyte foxy mascot—with a red 'W' on each white wing—the clara satin moth.

All of these invertebrates contribute to a rich harvest for the flocks of birds that glean the trees during the day, and for such night hunters as the sugar gliders and feathertail gliders. Foraging in the dark, under the bark of trees, or amongst leaf litter for arthropods, is the endangered brush-tail phascogale. Keenly alert and as agile as thought itself, this species will mate this season, after which all the males of the population will die, to leave ecological room for the offspring.

Under night skies dominated by the stars of Achernar, Sirius, Procyon, Pollux and Alderaran, and spurred on by the flush of new growth on the local eucalypts, brushtail possums rattle the tin roofs as they copulate. The females will be giving birth this season, carrying pouch young for the following four or five months. Ringtail possums also begin their breeding this season; fortunate indeed for the powerful owl, largely depending as it does on the ringtail for food.

From across the valley, where saw-toothed formations of mist mark the path of the river like the backbone of an ancient creature, comes the falsetto double hoot call of the southern boobook owl. In counterpoint is the deep, resonant hoot of the powerful owl as the largest member of the owl family contemplates the approaching breeding season.

Dytes' good Sheppards

By LEE TINDALE

Despite what his mate and fellow Warrandyte junior cricket coach Geoff Taylor would have you believe, Ross Sheppard, of Yarra Street, did not himself have an illustrious playing career.

He certainly wasn't an all-rounder for Australia, as Geoff somehow managed to sneak into a primary school newsletter.

Ross is, however, a cricket fanatic, a true lover of the game who follows it with a rare passion.

And if the deeds of his young cricketering sons are an indication, the Sheppard name may yet be up in lights on big scoreboards one day.

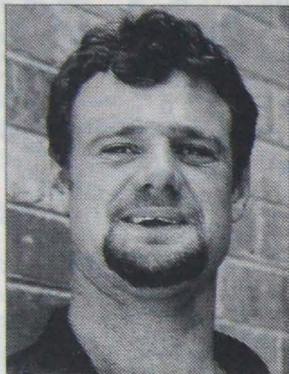
Ross coaches at Under-12 level for Warrandyte Cricket Club and sons Jack and Sam, eight and 11 respectively, are both showing outstanding potential.

The name Sheppard kept bobbing up at presentation day for the 1996-97 junior season.

Jack not only won the club bowling award for the Under-12 Section 4s, which his dad coached—he also collected the RDCA competition award.

It was an extraordinary performance for one so young: a season's analysis of 42 overs, 16 maidens 16 wickets for 53 runs (average 3.31).

But Sam wasn't allowing his kid brother all the glory. He won



Chris Snaidero ... Warrandyte's senior club champion for 1996-97.

the club best all-rounder award (must have got that all-round ability from Dad) in the Under-12s Section 1.

Matthew Gamble, of Geoff Taylor's Under-14s, was named junior club champion and Geoff's son Nicholas won the Under-14s batting trophy.

As previously reported, pace bowler Chris Snaidero was named Warrandyte's club champion and Steve Pascoe club cricketer of the year at the Bush-rangers' senior presentation night.

Full senior and junior trophy lists:

FIRSTS: David Mooney (batting), Chris Snaidero (bowling), Jason

Graf (fielding), Gerald Walshe (captain's award).

SECONDS: David Gee (batting), Peter Sharpe (bowling), Justin Edwards (fielding), Peter Raby (captain's award).

THIRDS: Luke Revell (batting), Adam Beardall (bowling), Anthony De Leo (fielding), Josh Revell (captain's award).

FOURTHS: Richard Sutherland (batting), Elvis Curiale (bowling), Warren Gay (fielding), Campbell Holland (captain's award).

Club champion: Chris Snaidero. **Club cricketer of year:** Steve Pascoe. **Best clubman:** Peter Baker. **Duck Club Award:** Ian, Warren and Andrew Gay.

Special awards: Batting: Luke Revell (123 v Kilsyth, Thirds); Andrew Jarvis (100 n.o. v Lilydale, Fourths). First eleven record score: David Mooney 184 n.o. v Croydon North. Bowling: Steve Pascoe 5/31 (including hat-trick) v Norwood, Thirds; Adam Beardall 7/97 v Wonga Park, Thirds.

JUNIORS: **UNDER-14:** Nicholas Taylor (batting), Fergus Green (bowling), Tate Marchi (fielding), Andrew McDonald (team manager's award). **Matthew Gamble (Under-14s) was named club junior champion.**

UNDER-12 (Section 1): Adrian Wilson (batting), Ben Piggott (bowling), James Gruber (fielding), Sam Sheppard (all-rounder award). **Section 4:** Josh Robins (batting), Jack Sheppard (bowling), Ben Taylor (fielding), Ben Bool (all-rounder).



Outgoing Warrandyte Tennis Club president Frank Waites (left) congratulates Mark Bence on his election. (Picture by Judy Green)

A changing of the tennis guard

Warrandyte Tennis Club elected a new president at its annual general meeting earlier this month. Previous vice-president Mark Bence has taken over from Frank Waites.

Frank, who will remain an active playing member of the club, no longer lives in Warrandyte.

He has been president for the past two years and for 14 years prior to that was club treasurer. In 1991 he was made a life member, in recognition of his service to the club.

Pauline Dusting and John Roberts were re-elected secretary and treasurer respectively.



Local Lions give Canteen kids a treat

One hundred teenagers from Canteen attended a fun and water sports day at Lake Eildon recently. The event was hosted jointly by the Warrandyte Lions Club and the Eildon Boat Club for Canteen Victoria, the organisation attending to young people suffering from cancer.

The kids were transported by bus from Melbourne to Lake Eildon where they boarded a flotilla of houseboats following a

What a lark! Warrandyte Lions gave these kids the time of their lives.

lunch at the Boat Clubhouse. Boarding was accomplished by an amphibious craft called a Lark, which collected the kids on dry land and drove them into the water and out to the waiting houseboats on the lake.

Speedboats and jetskis then joined the flotilla, so beginning an afternoon of fun on the water. Water skiing and jetskiing were first-time experiences for many participants, while others were just happy to ride in a speedboat with the wind in their hair. All finished the day with happy memories of fun and sun at Lake Eildon.

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Beleaguered Bloods!

By LEE TINDALE

It is shaping as a long, cold winter for Warrandyte Football Club. After four games, the Bloods are still looking for their first win of 1997.

The lack of a focal point—or points—up forward is telling on Warrandyte as they struggle to keep pace in EDFL Second Division.

They are winning their share of the ball but have failed to convert often enough to extend the sides they have met so far.

The Bloods fared poorly in the draw, meeting last year's finalists Montrose and The Basin in the first two games. Then followed a 55-point defeat at North Ringwood and an 85-point beating at home by Mooroolbark.

In each case, they have started promisingly but fallen away as the game progressed.

Coach Greg Cole is not predicting when Warrandyte will break the 1997 ice.

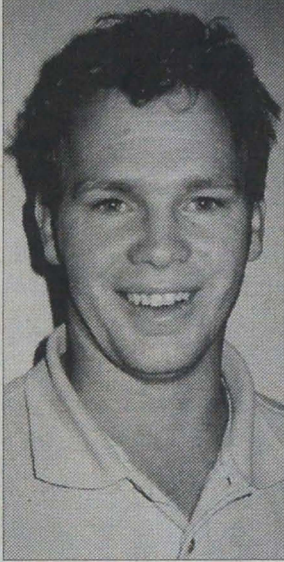
"The scoreboard wasn't a true reflection of the game today," Cole said after the Mooroolbark match.

"We have a lot of injuries, so we are undermanned, but we've just got to pushing on with the players we have. And sure, we need a key forward or two."

Warrandyte badly wanted to win the one against Mooroolbark, not only to get four premierships points on the board but to make captain John O'Brien's 200th senior game a memorable occasion for him.

O'Brien, a three-time club best and fairest winner, ran through a congratulatory banner as he led his team on to the field and

Warrandyte still awaiting first win of new season



Greg Cole... no predictions.

the Bloods could have got away to a flier but for some wayward kicking at goal.

Rover Glen McCartin missed on the run from close range in the first minute—a transgression punished by Mooroolbark two minutes later—and O'Brien himself missed a set shot at six minutes which would have put Warrandyte in front.

The visitors again made War-

SPORT

randyte pay, goals at eight, 14, 16 and 19 minutes giving them a 29-point lead and, apparently, a firm grip on the game even at that early stage.

To their credit, the Bloods bounced right back, O'Brien goaling from a free at 20 minutes and full-forward Andy Comella marking and converting a minute later.

Mooroolbark snapped cleverly to extend the lead to 23 points, but O'Brien and Comello struck again in quick succession to have Warrandyte just 11 points in arrears at the first change.

Cole instructed his players to go direct with the slight breeze in the second stanza, but three unanswered goals in the first nine minutes of the quarter but Mooroolbark firmly back in control.

It was very poor defence by the Bloods and they paid dearly for it.

It took the home side 18 minutes to register their first goal for the term—through Chris Springett—but Mooroolbark, after a couple of rare displays of goalfront inaccuracy, got that back at 25 minutes to lead by 28 points at the interval.

Warrandyte drew first blood after the break, Comello beating

two opponents to soccer a goal at the four-minute mark. But it was to be the Bloods' only major for the quarter.

In the meantime, Mooroolbark would kick six—at nine, 14, 19, 20, 26 and 27 minutes—to make the final term academic.

It had been a case of one team finishing off up forward and one team consistently unable to.

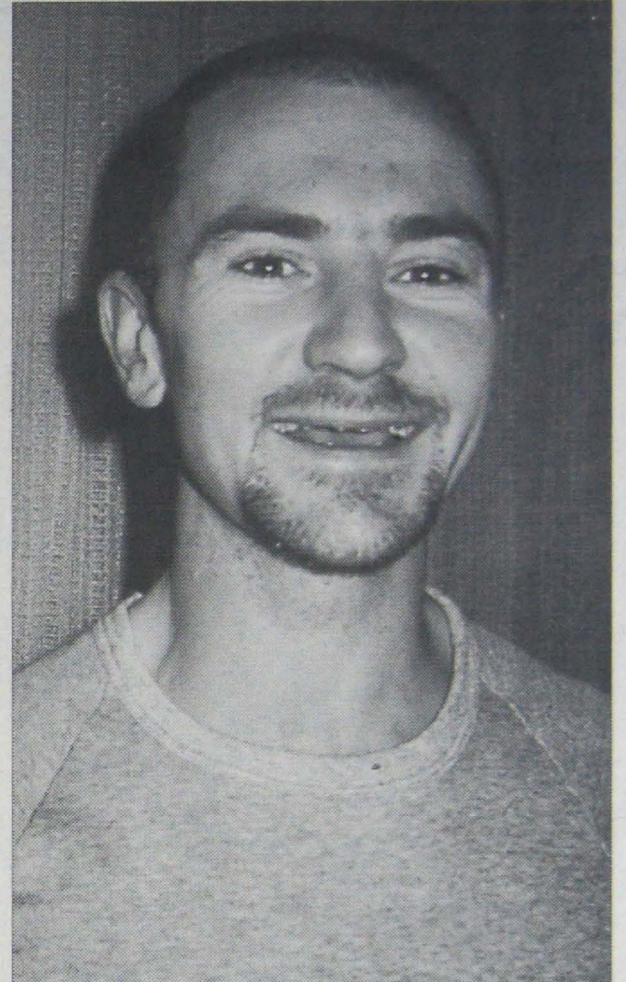
Still, Warrandyte refused to sky the towel. Three Mooroolbark goals blew the scoreline out to 19.8 to 6.8 before Scott Parnell intervened, although Mooroolbark responded immediately and followed up a few minutes later.

Fittingly, O'Brien kicked the final goal of the match—his second for the quarter and fourth for the day—but neither the skipper nor his men really had anything to celebrate.

The final score was Mooroolbark 22.11 (143), Warrandyte 8.10 (58)

Warrandyte's best were McCartin, Liam Riley and Ashley Grybas. From a future viewpoint the most encouraging aspects of an otherwise forgettable afternoon for Warrandyte were the form of last year's Under-18ers Riley and Andrew Brown, both potential stars at senior level.

Warrandyte's Reserves were also well beaten, 22.17 (149) to 6.5 (41). And it hurts to have to report that the Under-18s failed to score at all as they conceded Mooroolbark 23.20.



Glen McCartin ... Warrandyte's best against Mooroolbark.

Redbacks falter in final showdowns

By DAMIAN ARSENIS

Warrandyte Basketball Club came home disappointed last month from grand final day of the EDJBA competition.

An astonishing 19 Redbacks teams made the grand finals, but only six prevailed.

Just two of the 13 boys teams were successful in the big ones.

The girls pulled off a much more creditable four wins from six games. Gavin Whitmore's U14 girls taking the prestigious A-grade trophy in an earlier best-of-three grand final series.

Highly-graded teams coached by Gerry Pearce and Damian Arsenis won their respective grand finals to salvage some glory from an otherwise dismal day for the boys.

The U20 A2 boys of Pearce, who coached three teams on the day, whitewashed Marcellin, with Brad Giampetro receiving the most determined player award.

Arsenis' U14 AR boys came from behind, also against Marcellin, to snatch a win in the dying seconds. Cool heads prevailed at the foul line and Matthew Treeby was judged MDP.

The U16 A2 girls co-coached by Paul Haskings and Maree Vincent started underdogs in their game against Eltham but got home in another exciting finish, stealing it with a three-pointer. Caitlin Evans' gutsy display was rewarded with the MDP award.

Lorraine Parfitt's U14 C2 girls turned on an heroic display for a remarkable win over Bulleen. Walking wounded, they had only four girls left on the court at the end. Nellie Hodgson was MDP.

Ned Wallis' U16 D3 girls also won their grand final,

Shakeera Wallis taking the MDP award in a great game by all the girls.

The Redbacks' beaten grand final girls were Paul Sleeth's U14 D1/1 team (Caroline Keating MDP) and the U12 D3s of Warwick Armstrong (Laura Hains MPD).

Losing boys teams included the U10 ARs of Gavin Whitmore, who had high hopes of a premiership but struggled against Eltham.

Arsenis' U12 A2 boys also failed the acid test, lacking spark against Eltham without the services of state player Joel Macdonald. Hayden Wall turned in an outstanding game for MDP.

Ian Coull's U10 CM2 boys and Kevin O'Mara's U10 D1s also found the flag elusive. Both teams went down fighting, as did Duncan

Frost's U10 BB boys, who lost their supplementary final.

Gerry Pearce's two other teams, the U12 CS and U18CS boys, followed the pattern of the day by failing at the finishing post. Tom Naughtin, from his younger team, accepted the MDP award for his sheer hard work.

Father-son coaching team Laurie and Daniel Cookson also found success just out of reach with their U12 DM team and the U14 CS supplementary grand finalists of Brent Gibson and Alex Eastwood also fell short.

Graham Pollock's U16 CS boys had to settle for runners-up in a tough game, with Rory Pearson the MDP, and to finish a frustrating day for Warrandyte, the U18 B team of Michael Eldridge just failed in a tight match.



Zoe Milner: 'If you love sport enough you can make time for it.' (Picture by Jan Tindale)

It's all go for Zoe

By RACHEL BAKER

Zoe Milner was always going to play netball. She comes from a netballing family and now, at 17, has attracted the keen attention of the state selectors.

"My mum played netball when she was young and my sisters Tamara Bronwyn have always played in local teams," Zoe, of Beauty Gully Road, told the *Diary*.

Zoe started her career at seven, in 1987 at Warrandyte Netball Club. As her skill and enthusiasm grew she also started playing with Doncaster and district teams then made the move in 1994 to Park Orchards Netball Club.

Since then she has joined Palladians, a zone team with players from all over the state, Melbourne East and regional teams, averaging two games and five training sessions a week.

Her career has really blossomed in the past few years. "In 1995 I played for the Victorian schoolgirls team," she said.

"We travelled to Queensland and won the grand final against New South Wales.

"Apart from last year, when I had a school trip, I've also been selected and have played in regional competition for the past four years."

But Zoe's biggest achievement was selection in Victorias's state squad this year.

Discovered by Talent Identification in 1996, she was chosen for a series of games, training sessions and fitness assessments which narrowed a group of more than 100 girls down to just 25.

"There were a lot of players and a lot of competition, so I was really surprised," she said.

Although Zoe missed selection in the team of 12 to compete against the other states in Canberra in July, she was not at all discouraged.

"Next year I'll try again and hopefully get into the state under-19 team," she said. "I've still got four teams that I'm playing for, so there's plenty to keep me busy."

A year 12 student at Eltham College, Zoe admits she "finds it hard to fit everything in".

"With training and competition on top of all my homework, it can get really busy," she said.

"People have warned me about not playing too much netball because of year 12, but I just try to be organised and not leave everything to the last minute.

"I just think that if you love sport enough you can make time for it."

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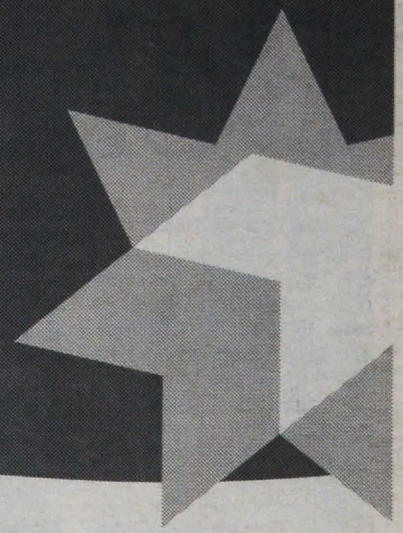
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SOME OF OUR RECENT SALES...

- 3/1 Westend Road, Warrandyte
- 9 Boyd Street, Warrandyte North
- 27 Albert Road, Warrandyte North
- 1 Blair Street, Warrandyte
- 488 Warrandyte Road, Warrandyte
- 6 Jumping Creek Road, Wonga Park
- 67 Franklin Street, Doncaster East
- 15 Dingley Dell Road, Warrandyte
- 4 Milton Close, Warrandyte
- 68 Research Road, Warrandyte
- 65 Kangaroo Ground Road, Warrandyte
- 2 Brogil Road, Warrandyte
- 106 Jumping Creek Road, Wonga Road

- 4 Masonic Avenue, Warrandyte
- 8 Opilland Drive, Warrandyte
- 6 Barry Court, Wonga Park
- 17 Wattleblossom Road, Warrandyte
- 110 Leber Street, Warrandyte
- 2 Floods Road, Warrandyte North
- 84 The Boulevard, Warrandyte North
- 139 Meander Road, Hurstbridge
- 339 Warrandyte Road, Warrandyte
- 53 Harris Gully Road, Warrandyte
- 107 Jumping Creek Road, Wonga Park
- 316 Yarra Street, Warrandyte
- 4 Judy Close, Eltham

We are experiencing strong demand for properties in

WARRANDYTE, WARRANDYTE NORTH and WONGA PARK

*If you are considering selling,
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Andrew Wilson
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Peter McDougall
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Leanne Dean
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9844 3085

183 Yarra Street, Warrandyte

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