

# New highball centre

## Government to back local club

**EXCLUSIVE**

By **CLIFF GREEN**

Warrandyte's proposed new basketball stadium at Andersons Creek Primary School has taken a major step closer to reality.

Local MP Phil Honeywood has been able to secure from education minister Phil Gude a commitment for \$300,000 from state government funds for the project, conditional upon a \$2 for \$1 contribution from Manningham council.

"This follows a recent council motion to provide up to \$600,000 for the project," Phil Honeywood told the *Diary*.

It is understood that the state government contribution will take the form of a \$100,000 cash grant and a \$200,000 interest-subsidised loan.

"In addition, the government will contribute the land on which the new, single court facility will be built at Andersons Creek Primary School," Phil Honeywood said.

This development follows several years of agitation by Warrandyte Basketball Club for increased playing facilities.

It is believed that education minister Phil Gude was persuaded to back the proposal when it was pointed out to him that only one full-size competition basketball court exists in the Warrandyte area. It was further indicated that this single court facility, at Warrandyte High School, cannot meet the increasing demand for basketball within the area.

The cost of the proposed new facility—incorporating change rooms, canteen and off-street parking—is estimated at \$900,000, although accurate costing is still to be detailed.

Phil Honeywood has been co-chairing a basketball stadium project working party with Warrandyte Ward councillor Patricia Young. "We have met on several occasions already," he said, "in order to ensure widespread Warrandyte community input."

Included on the working party are representatives from Andersons Creek Primary School, Warrandyte High School and Warrandyte Basketball Club, together with council officers.

"Early in the life of the working party it was suggested that Warrandyte High School's single



Phil Honeywood: "True win-win all round..."

court facility should continue to be used—subject to the school's approval—primarily by senior basketball players, and that the proposed new stadium at Andersons Creek should be mainly used as a junior facility." It is believed that its central location will provide easier access for younger players.

"Local traders are expected to welcome the proposal, given that a number of visitors will be attracted to using the stadium, thus providing patronage for the adjacent shopping centre."

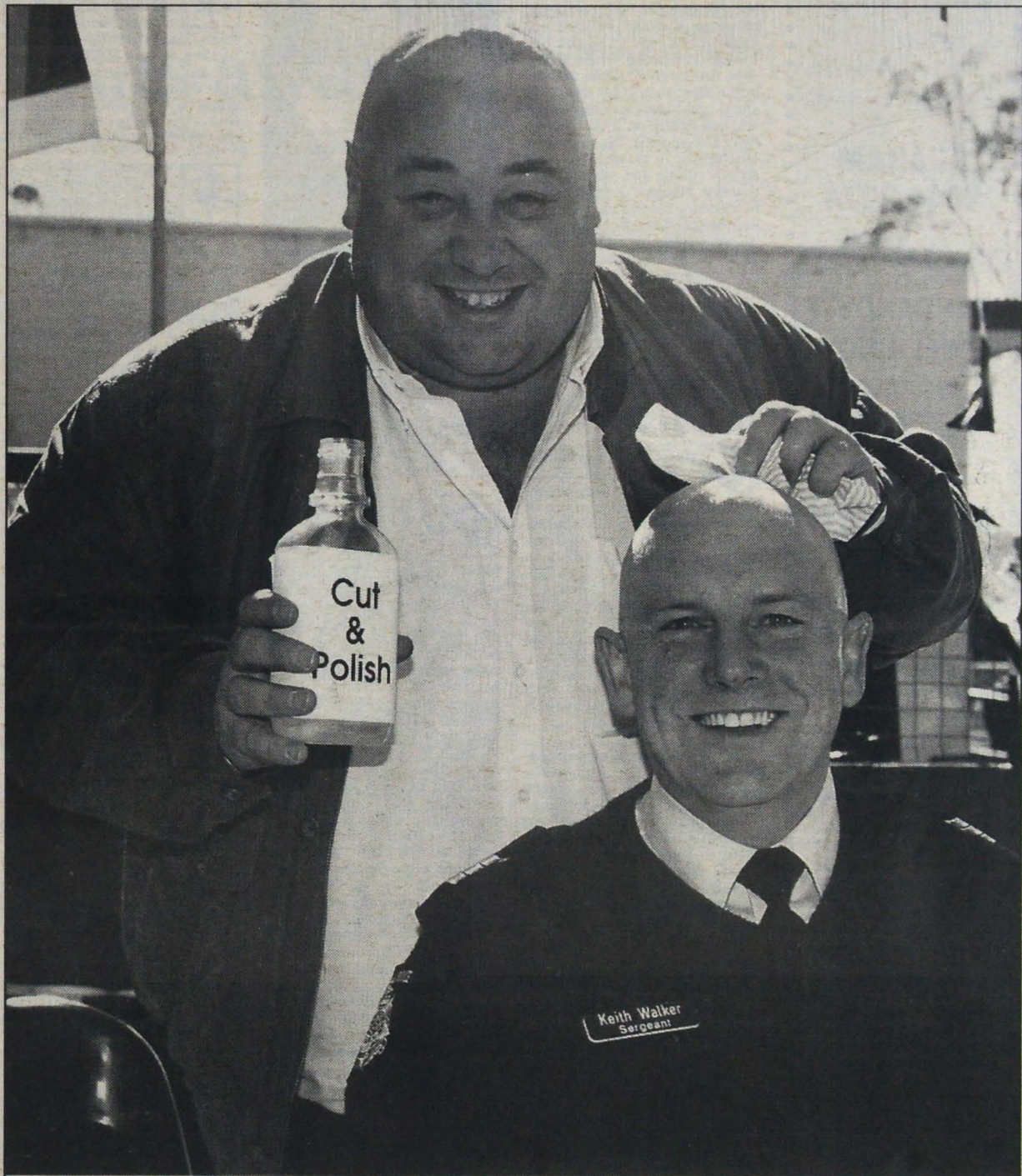
As the stadium will also be able to be used as a physical education facility by local primary school students, Phil Honeywood described the project as a "true win-win all round for the Warrandyte community".

"There is, however, still one potential problem to overcome," he said. "While the state government's financial commitment is assured, close reading of Manningham council's stadium funding motion indicates that council's contribution of up to \$600,000 involves transferring funds that had already been allocated for an extension to basketball facilities at the existing Leeds Street, East Doncaster, stadium."

It is believed the additional needs of players using this centre will be catered for at a proposed new multi-court regional basketball complex, planned for Mullauna, a few kilometres from Leeds Street.

As the *Diary* went to press, it is believed Warrandyte Ward councillors were lobbying fellow Manningham councillors in an attempt to negotiate finalisation of council's commitment.

● **LETTER:** Page 4



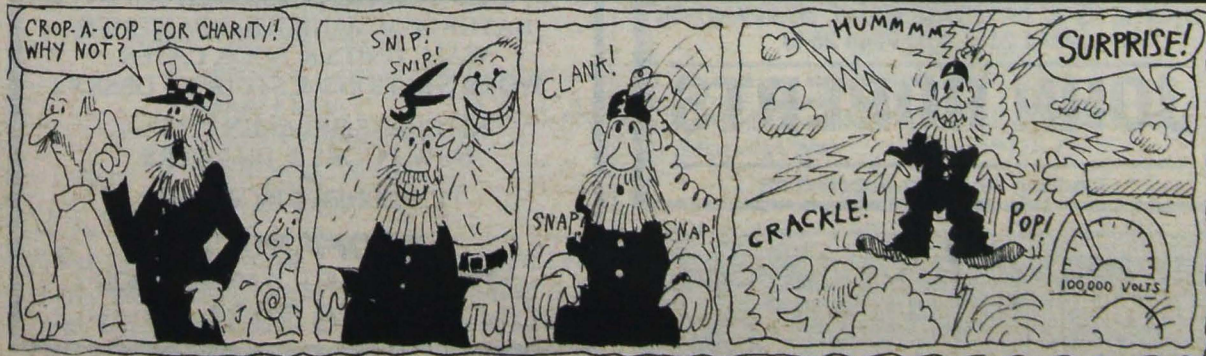
Keith Walker  
Sergeant

## Taking a shine to the fuzz!

Local estate agent Andrew Wilson polished the image of Warrandyte's police chief, Sergeant Keith Walker, at the Crop-a-Cop fundraising effort for children's cancer research at Goldfields Plaza last month. ● Story, more Sandy Burgoyne pics on Page 5.

**CYRIL**

By **PAUL WILLIAMS**



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# Bozo goes skiing and travels really light




We'd been waiting for Neil (Bozo) Dusting to break cover again because since he last graced this page we'd acquired this beautiful candid snapshot of him and we wanted to show you all what a good-looking bloke he is. We welcome him back here with the story of his holiday in the snow with his nephew, Senior Constable Steve Farrar, a trip to Mt Bogong which got off to an ordinary start when Steve forgot his airbed. Neil mildly reproached his companion for his absent-mindedness but said never mind, I have a spare so let's finish packing the van and off we go. And off they went. You mightn't have thought so, though, because when Neil's wife, the lovely Pauline, arrived home after they'd hit the road, she found hubby's complete kit stacked neatly on their bed. All he'd taken were his skis, the clothes he was wearing, his mobile phone and her bottle of whisky. Pauline immediately reached for the mobile, but Bozo had switched his off, hadn't he—the very thing for which he had so often chastised the little lady. Pauline eventually contacted her beloved at the home of his sister (Steve's mum) at Wodonga. We don't know exactly how she broke the news that all his gear for the trip was still in Osborne Road, North Warrandyte, but we do know Neil's response: "Oh, and how are you going to get it up here to me?"

## IN RED & WHITE





Neil Dusting ... at least he remembered the whisky.

said Dick, "the pump sending the candles swirling around the pool. But unfortunately all the candles were sucked into the skimmer box, which caught fire. It has to be a first—a swimming pool catching fire in Melbourne in the middle of winter!" We reckon it is, Dick.




As secretary of Warrandyte Tennis Club, Pauline Dusting is self-appointed censor of the gossip column in its newsletter, Oddball, written by a scurrilous muck-racker who goes by the name of Mulga Bill. She has wielded the heavy blue pencil so many times that Mulga was a trifle edgy when he handed her his version of the above. He needn't have worried. It was passed for publication without amendment and with just one comment: "You've been too soft on him!"



This Crop A Cop thing (see Pages 1 and 3) is in danger of getting delightfully out of hand. The more shaven heads the better, we reckon, if they're raising money for the cancer kids. One of the newly-bald around town is an RSL Club committeeman (who prefers not to be named) whose long locks hit the deck after a casual remark over a beer with Geoff Feltham and Harry Southall. He said he'd be prepared to be shorn if it would raise \$100—whereupon Geoff and Harry whipped out \$50 apiece. The cropping was done as the committee bloke sat on his favourite stool at his favourite table at the club. "We used scissors, clippers and a razor," said Geoff, "but no Band-aids. The scars were already there." That modest initial target of \$100 has now realised \$530, thanks to whiparounds at the club and the Grand Hotel.




A lovely thing happened in the McGhee's bathroom a few weeks ago. Elizabeth, formerly a member of the Warrandyte women's cricket team, gave birth to a bouncing baby boy, Jacob, who arrived unexpectedly and ever so suddenly. Mum and child both well and new grandmother Maria due back from the clouds any day now.




Warrandyte Primary School's annual Trivia Night, for parents, teachers and friends, is always a gigglefest and last month's event was right up there with the craziest. The theme this time was music, stretched pretty far with some rather tenuous links between the questions and musical clips. One of the brain-stretchers, using the Peter, Paul and Mary song Lemon Tree, required the contestants to name three other citrus fruits. We sincerely hope the kids are brighter than their


parents because one table (which quite understandably preferred to remain anonymous) nominated apples and mangoes!




Trivia Night produced the bizarre spectacle of six elegantly-dressed women furiously doing push-ups in the hope of winning passes to the Ridge Gym at Eltham. The "winners" were a little dismayed to see the prizes going to those who'd collapsed first—the judges figuring that the unfittest were the neediest.



Neil Pearson and Peter Norman, Warrandyte RSL Club president and treasurer respectively, drove off on long hauls with respective wives Bub and Joyce three months ago, a few days apart and in different directions. Neil headed west across the Nullarbor on a broad sweep of Australia; Peter headed north for Cape York. Weeks later, as the Pearsons arrived at tiny Kurumba, on the Gulf of Carpentaria, Bub said: "Look, Neil—there's Peter Norman on a bicycle!" "Rubbish," said Neil, "that's an Aborigine on a bicycle." Wrong. It was a deeply stunted Peter Norman on a bicycle." The odds about such an encounter are incalculable, but let's start at, say, a million to one. It was celebrated over freshly-cooked Gulf prawns and cold beer.



The Pearsons arrived home just in time to celebrate their golden wedding on August 25. Neil and Bub, who moved to Ringwood 12 months ago after 44 years in this town, met in Bendigo (her town) during World War 2 and were married at Albert Park (his patch). Neil reckons 50 years of marriage is deserving of the VC he never won during the war—but he was just joshing, Bub. Honest.



Manningham council invited *Diary* editors Cliff Green and Lee Tindale to a cocktail party at the community centre on September 12 in recognition of their contribution to the community. Or did they? The invites were addressed to Geoff Green and Lee Tindale. But hell, that was close enough for a couple of freeloaders.

**Smokey Joe**



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# Civic complex for Gateway site

**EXCLUSIVE**

By FIA CLENDINNEN

Community leaders are acclaiming architect Greg Burgess' concept plan for the proposed Eltham Gateway Community Precinct, on the site of the old Eltham shire offices in Main Street.

"The concept plan is very exciting," shire president Robert Marshall told the *Diary*. "It's a very creative proposal. Greg is a very creative architect. It's a vastly superior use of the site compared to the Shell-Hungry Jacks proposal."

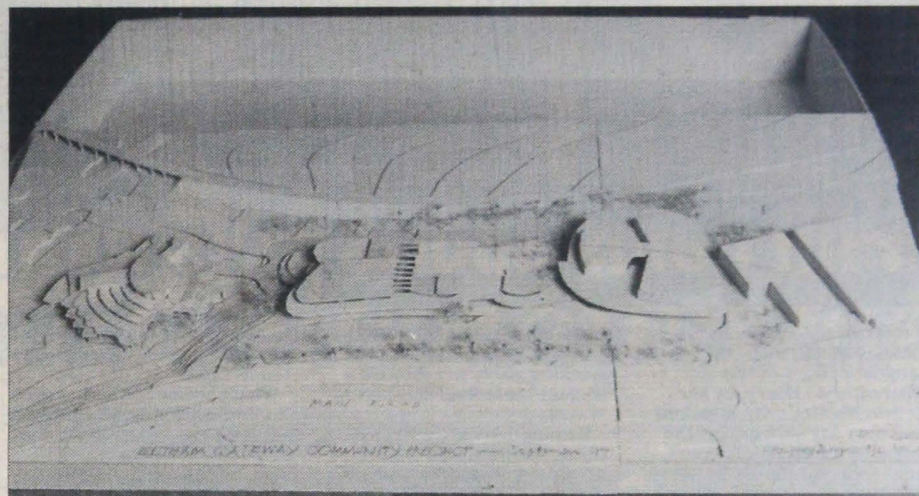
Jenni Mitchell, president of the Eltham Gateway Action Group, was also enthusiastic. "The sketch plan prepared by Greg Burgess has more than fulfilled our expectations. It's fantastic. There's so much the community would benefit from."

Greg Burgess, who designed the Eltham library and the award winning visitors' centre at Uluru, was asked by Nillumbik council to submit a schematic plan as an alternative to the controversial, proposed 24-hour petrol station, Hungry Jack's and video store.

The concept is in two stages. Stage 1, on the vacant site, includes a multi-purpose community hall, meeting rooms for the senior citizens, gallery space, three or four retail shops, a dozen studio and workshop spaces (to be leased out to artists), a cafe or restaurant and a wine bar.

Stage 2 would be built to the north of the vacant site, towards the existing CFA building. This would consist of three art house cinemas totalling 600 seats, and extra meeting rooms.

"This proposal suggests a strong community focus and reflects the ethos of Eltham," Greg Burgess said. "Eltham is a community which puts a high



Architect Greg Burgess' model for proposed Eltham Gateway community project.

priority on conservation of the environment. The proposal has a sympathetic relationship to the library and it integrates the landscape into the site. The site has a steep fall and it works with that, it steps down the incline."

He would not comment on the Shell-Hungry Jack's development, except to say, "The first proposal doesn't work with the site."

Sigmund Jorgensen, EGAG vice-president, said he thought another very positive feature of the concept plan was that it could be expected to generate income. "I've done some preliminary costing and by my estimate it's quite viable. It would pay for itself within six years and then return a profit to the community."

Cr Marshall said he thought the concept plan would do more than form an appropriate entry into the Eltham shopping centre.

"We believe our building would create more full-time jobs than the garish Shell-Hungry Jack's development. We also believe many people would use

the building, with an accent on youth. Young people would have somewhere warm and welcoming to go, rather than hanging around on the steps of the post office."

However, Cr Marshall conceded that funding the proposal would require careful planning. "Money is the big question. We've made it clear council will not be spending millions to build it. This building will only have council support on the understanding that funding will come largely from private industry. Money could come from a combination of private enterprise, grants and the council will put in some."

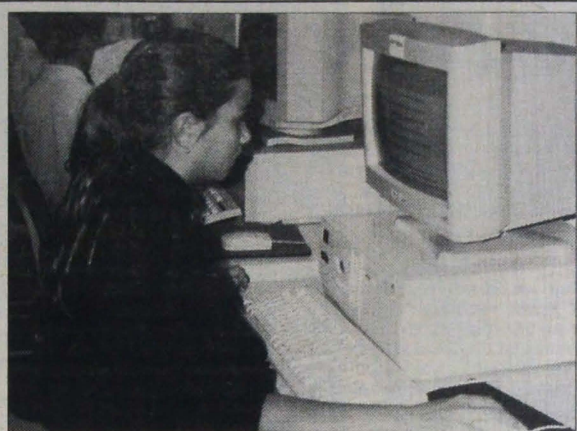
He said the next stage was to take Greg Burgess' concept plan to planning minister Rob McClellan. "The minister appointed an independent panel which was very damning of the Shell-Hungry Jack's proposal. The council's first step is to convince the minister to support the panel report. We will use the concept plan in our arguments to convince the minister."

Cr Marshall said he expected a decision from the minister in the "next few weeks" and that the council had done all it could. "It's now entirely up to the minister. And his decision is not open to challenge in any way."

Cr Marshall said there had not been as much community consultation in the drafting of the concept plan as the council would have liked. "This proposal was achieved, of necessity, in a hurry and there wasn't time for much public comment. It's already been said that some facilities are too large, while others are too small."

"But if the Minister approves this plan we would then subject it to full public consultation and make changes if appropriate," he said.

The architect also stressed that the concept plan was a starting point for discussion rather than a final blueprint. "What I have prepared for Nillumbik council is a sketch plan only. It's just giving an idea of what else could be done with the site and how it could be done," he said.



Surfing the net down at Andersons Creek

## Creek school wins awards

Andersons Creek Primary School has notched up three significant awards in the past six months. Each was received for outstanding use of technology within a school setting.

"Our first significant achievement was to be selected as the fourth-placed entrant in the International Cyberfair Contest," principal Des McKenzie told the *Diary*. "We received recognition for our web project on Local Community Groups in Warrandyte."

The contest is run by the US-based Global Schools Net with entrants from schools all over the world.

"The children collected data about their environment, scanned photographs, wrote text, recorded sound, drew pictures and conducted interviews."

The second award was for the school's homepage, Local Attractions of Warrandyte, which was awarded third place in The Australian Contest. "The prize was the expensive Macromedia software package," Des McKenzie said. "It will be invaluable in the creation of future websites and multi-media presentations."

The school's third award

came as a complete surprise, Des McKenzie said.

"Perhaps the most notable recognition we have received was connected with the recent Herald Sun Teacher of the Year awards."

A few months ago, Elaine Robertson, the school's internet co-ordinator, sent off "a few lines about our facility to the judging panel and we promptly forgot about it. We were thrown into a tailspin when the Herald Sun contacted us. It really was a great thrill to hear our name read out at the Hyatt presentation." The school received a team award for the best use of new technology.

Elaine Robertson explained that the school has become known worldwide for their excellent web presentations. "Other collaborative projects include the Travel Buddies Project, where children in grades prep to 6 have travel buddies all over the world, from South Africa to Finland, Canada and USA," she said.

"Children send a fluffy toy around the world to represent their class. Many email messages are written whilst their buddy is away, and many friendships are made with teachers and children around the world."

## Garden scheme grows

By RACHEL BAKER

Development of the Warrandyte Police Community Garden has been given the green light by Manningham council.

After going through the very long process of gaining a planning permit, the Police Community Consultative Committee's proposal received approval late last month.

Sgt Keith Walker told the *Diary* that now council approval has been announced, "funding is the big issue".

The PCCC is seeking donations from businesses and service groups to finance the initial setup of the garden. Sgt Walker wants local businesses and groups to "consider offering the

project your support—and be a part of this excellent community project.

"Then we'll be calling for manual labour from members of the community."

"After that, we'll be offering garden patches to the people who want one. Preference will be given to people from Warrandyte."

Sgt Walker hopes construction will begin in early to mid November, with gardeners commencing planting in January. "But it all depends on whether or not we can get the necessary funding."

Since the proposal was published in the *Diary* in February, it has received a lot of support.

"The project has generated a great deal of interest. We received letters of support from community groups as well as many residents."

The garden will include a mudbrick gazebo, a hothouse, garden beds, provision for wheelchair access, and a play area for young children.

It will be made available to residents, youth organisations, local schools, elderly citizens groups and intellectually and physically challenged members of the community.

"The Warrandyte Community Garden promotes Warrandyte as a town that is in touch with its community, both young and old," Sgt Walker said.

**CLYDE & OCKER**



"The Diary is STILL the best paper published in Warrandyte, Ock!"

## Life after break-in

Following our disastrous July break-in, production of the *Diary* is now back on track, with our office re-equipped, stronger security in place and staff morale high.

The *Diary* team occasionally feel that the Warrandyte community sometimes takes their newspaper for granted. It's there every month and that's all there is to it. But over the past period we have been heartened and greatly encouraged by your words and messages of concern and support, by the unsolicited donations that have come in, and by the strong response to our Christmas card offer.

The Warrandyte Welfare Fund led the donations with \$250 and gifts from individuals totalled \$244. We're not going to

embarrass you by listing names, but we want you to know how much we appreciate you remembering us.

Although we're again paying our way and the survival of the newspaper is not threatened, our funds have been seriously depleted and we have no reserves at all.

We therefore appeal to all those readers out there who have appreciated your community newspaper over the past 27 years to generously support our Equipment Fund Appeal by ordering packs of our beautiful Christmas cards. Full details are on Page 6.

Also, cards will be on sale at both the October and November markets.

CLIFF GREEN

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# Tennis courts used every day

In reply to the letter from Shirley McCartin published in last month's issue of the *Diary*, I would like to present the current situation of the Warrandyte Tennis Club.

The tennis club currently has over 700 members, with more than 300 currently registered to play in the various competitions. Each week we have 240 members playing competition tennis, 68 of these being juniors. These matches are played at Warrandyte every week in the following formats:

- Monday and Thursday nights—social competition;
- Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday nights—Lilydale and District Night Tennis;
- Friday night—junior competition;
- Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday—

- Mid Week Ladies;
- Saturday—senior and junior Eastern Region Tennis;
- Sunday—Pennant and junior competition.

In addition to this, 120 juniors and 30 senior players are coached every week.

With such heavy demands, the club is regularly forced to use outside courts for both competition play and coaching. We often use the Lions courts at the bridge, South Warrandyte, North Ringwood and Templestowe Park, especially for juniors.

The amount of tennis being played makes it difficult for many of our members to have access to the courts for social play and limits the availability of the courts for hire to the general public.

Over the past few years the local schools have used our facilities, but

## DEAR DIARY



scheduling is becoming increasingly difficult, due to lack of courts.

Our current submission before the council, to provide one additional tennis court at the Warrandyte Recreation Reserve would solve many of these difficulties. The final location of this court will be in consultation with all parties who have an interest in the reserve, including the football and cricket clubs, with whom we have had a good relationship for many years.

The tennis club has no wish to interfere

with the children involved in Vickick, cricket and the many other people in the community who use the small oval for different forms of recreation. Our proposal to the council does not include any part of this area.

As one of only two tennis clubs in the municipality that is increasing its membership, we have been working for over four years with the council to overcome our shortage of tennis courts.

With so many of the local community participating in tennis, the addition of this court would give more people the opportunity to play and enjoy the game in this unique location.

**Mark Bence**  
President  
Warrandyte Tennis Club

## Let's get active on library

How about some positive thoughts on a local library?

When meetings were held to discuss which groups would occupy the new community centre, there was a suggestion that a library be included. Enquiries revealed that there was no funding available as we were considered to cover too small an area. I have since seen libraries in smaller Victorian towns than Warrandyte.

Perhaps the first step would be to find out what their sources of funding are. The Neighbourhood House did some lateral thinking and came up with the book exchange, for want of a better name, as it was not a library but an area to be given over to donated books and bookish doings such as talks from authors, discussion groups, swapping of books etc. Ideas abound.

All it needs is a few people with commitment, library expertise, organisational ability, or just plain nous and enthusiasm. Surely there are people in Warrandyte who are not already involved up to their eyebrows in community work who could build a community library to be admired and copied by other towns.

With these people, the Book Exchange could be turned into a place of joy for booklovers.

Nicole and Jenny at Neighbourhood House are waiting for your call on 9844 1839, or ring me on 9844 3326.

**Jean Chapman**  
Taroona Avenue

## Phil helps sports

I refer to the article by Ms Shirley McCartin in the August edition of the *Warrandyte Diary*. In her letter, Ms McCartin attacked me over my support for the proposed new tennis court, and argued I should be more involved in securing basketball/netball facilities for Warrandyte.

I am amazed at Ms McCartin's lack of knowledge of what is happening in her local community!

The June edition of the *Warrandyte Diary*, page 5, has a large article headed 'Sports Courts Progress'. The paper has devoted most of this article to keeping Warrandyte residents fully informed as to the latest on the basketball issue.

It clearly states that I have

been co-chairing, with Cr Patricia Young, a local working party to establish a second basketball stadium for Warrandyte.

Negotiations are currently being finalised and we are confident of a successful outcome on behalf of Warrandyte youth.

I will continue to provide strong support for any sporting code in the local area that has an appropriate plan for its future enhancement.

The community's interests would be better served with positive actions rather than by the uninformed comments written by Ms McCartin.

**Phil Honeywood**  
State Member for  
Warrandyte

## Need to check facts

In response to Shirley McCartin's ill-informed letter regarding the Warrandyte Tennis Club.

What a shame Shirley has gone to all the trouble of writing a letter with no facts and just a lot of waffle!

On behalf of the Thursday night players, I'd like to ask Shirley: Where are we on a Thursday night if we're not playing tennis?

For the past four years (for some, longer) we have turned up on a Thursday night for our in-house competition. Play starts at 7.30pm and the lights are automatically switched off at 11.30pm.

At this point, some are still playing and don't get to complete their sets.

Let's get some facts straightened out, Shirley (which is something you should have done

before putting pen to paper). Tuesday and Wednesday nights are both competition nights.

Monday and Thursday nights are competition nights for the in-house competition. On both these nights we have actually not been able to put in teams because we don't have enough courts for the number of people wanting to play.

Friday night is junior competition night. Saturday and Sunday are both competition days, which means (by the tennis club's calculations) the courts are used seven days/nights a week.

The schools in the local area can use the courts, provided they are not being used for competitions or club championships.

If Shirley had bothered to write to the club instead of mouthing

off, she would have found that schools like St Anne's, Park Orchards, Andersons Creek Primary School, Warrandyte High and, I'm sure, others, have used the courts and the club coach on numerous occasions as part of their sports programs. I think it's time Shirley got her facts straight and realised that the tennis club is one that is greatly used by the community and by some businesses for corporate and bonding nights.

It is not a clique group and everyone is welcome to play, however the lack of courts means that we have had to restrict the number of teams.

Shirley, your comment about "groups who only think of themselves" is so unfounded, it's embarrassing.

**Antoinette Thomson**  
Oakland Drive

## Andrew enjoyed cop cropping

Over the past six weeks, I have had the pleasure of being involved in the fundraising for the Crop-a-Cop campaign to raise money for kids with cancer.

In that time we have raised in excess of \$8,700. This could not have been achieved without the generosity of the Warrandyte traders who all, without exception, donated either goods or money to enable us to hold the inaugural Warrandyte Country and Western Night, with raffles, sausage sizzles, auctions and door prizes.

The generosity of the Warrandyte people, who give their time and money to a good cause such as this, never ceases to amaze me.

I would like to thank all the

helpers, including Keith Walker, Des McKenzie (Andersons Creek Primary School), Jill La Grutta, Jane Link, Andrew Dickson, Peter Koger, Gary Templeton, Kate Walker, Steve Walker, Laurie Shaw, Warrandyte RSL, Jackie Law, Doncaster SES, the Warrandyte police, my staff at Wilson McDougall and the hairdressers, who all contributed to this great fundraising event.

The people of Warrandyte should be proud that we are so fortunate to be living in a caring community.

I urge you all to support the Warrandyte traders, who will in turn support you.

**Andrew Wilson**  
Wilson McDougall



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# Cropping cops and other tops for kids cancer help

By **SANDY BURGOYNE** and **RACHEL BAKER**

As bald as a coot; nude nut; flies' aerodrome; chrome dome; eggshell blonde—our society has never been complementary to the tonsorially challenged. It follows that you would need a good reason to voluntarily become bald.

Estate agent Andrew Wilson, local parent Andrew Dickson, police officers Sergeant Keith Walker and Constable Peter Koger, and Andersons Creek principal Des McKenzie have been forced to tolerate the cold—and the embarrassment—that comes with losing your hair. But they all had a good reason. The annual Crop-a-Cop campaign, raising funds for childhood cancer research.

This organised lunacy started in Horsham a few years ago. A couple of the local police challenged the community to donate money for research into childhood cancer and in return they would shave their heads. Last year Crop-a-Cop raised

around \$250,000, but Keith Walker predicted that the national effort this year would greatly exceed that total. "This year we are trying to raise in excess of \$2 million."

"Just in Warrandyte we have raised over \$8,700 and that's with the assistance of the Warrandyte business people," he said.

There can be no doubt that the cause is worthy, but it takes a special person to put their hair on the line. How are candidates selected? In the case of Keith Walker the blame (and his hair) can be laid at the feet of local real estate man Andrew Wilson.

"It was basically a dare," Keith said. "It was at a Blue Light disco and (Andrew) said: 'What about you get it done if we can raise \$3,000?' And I said OK not thinking that they would be able to get that much money."

However, Keith had the last laugh because he organised enough donations for Andrew to get his cut, too. "It's a great cause, Andrew Wilson told the

*Diary.* Kids with cancer is such a terrible thing. We're all really happy to do anything to help.

Des McKenzie, principal of Anderson Creek primary school, was another victim—er—candidate. His students joined in the fun with a Crazy Hair Day before the public shearing. The children and staff paid a donation to wear streaks, glitter, colors, ringlets and ponytails to school.

"It was just mayhem," Des said. "One of the kids came up to me and he said: 'You're gone. We've got \$200 already!'"

Warrandyte Primary School organised their own Crop-a-Top event, as did Warrandyte RSL, each raising about \$500.

Around 200 locals packed into the Goldfields Plaza carpark to view the spectacle. The shearees lined up on the back of a truck where a team of local hairdressers wielded clippers, scissors and razors, until our five heroes were bald as—well—as bald as a child on chemotherapy.



They watched and waited as the damage was done. Pictures by **SANDY BURGOYNE**



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New boys on the block: Warrandyte CFA's new captain, Robert Kilkeny, greets their new community officer, Jeff Adair. (Picture by Les Horvath)

# Fire helper

By PRUDENCE TRUBY KING

The threat of a dangerously dry summer because of El Nino weather will be prominent in all Warrandyte residents' thought as the fire season approaches.

Leading local education in fire prevention is Warrandyte Fire Brigade's new community support facilitator, Jeff Adair of Webb Street, who took up the newly-created position early this month.

"I'm working for Warrandyte CFA to help residents reduce fire risks and to encourage the community to accept additional responsibility—particularly this summer, before the danger period starts," Jeff Adair told the *Diary*.

One of 27 community support facilitators funded by state government and appointed to urban areas across Victoria, the new position is part of a change for the CFA, from a response-only mode to an informing and educating role.

"Home safety, fire awareness and fuel reduction, plus evacuation

plans for homes and industry, commerce, schools and other public places, are all crucial safety procedures I will be promoting throughout Warrandyte and Manningham," he said.

"I'll be forming community fireguard groups, as well as encouraging volunteers to expand the range of skills within the brigade; these won't be restricted to firefighting." The brigade is constantly calling for new volunteers. "Of course, anyone within a few minutes of the fire station and available during the day is especially welcome.

"Risk management and analysis is a key aspect of my job, showing the brigade is pro-active in fire prevention and is not just a response group."

Jeff Adair has lived in Warrandyte for three years. His background is in training and development and outdoor education.

His appointment at Warrandyte CFA is not the only recent personnel change. Bob Bird, captain of the brigade for 12 years, has stood down, to be replaced in the position by Robert Kilkeny.

# Mt Lofty secured

By JENI WILLIS

At long last the champagne has been taken off ice. After 20 years of campaigning, Mt Lofty was finally made part of Warrandyte State Park when the National Parks (Amendment) Act was passed through parliament earlier this year.

Local residents, politicians and environmentalists celebrated the safeguarding of the area with a champagne barbecue lunch provided by Friends of Warrandyte State Park.

The celebrations took place on the riverbank at Mt Lofty one Sunday last month.

The 88 acre site in Wonga Park contains the only remaining natural billabong in the area, now that the adjoining billabongs have been bulldozed to make way for a golf course. It is home to some precious and rare wetland vegetation.

Originally the site was acquired by the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works to be used in the Yarra Brae reservoir project, but that never eventuated. In the late 1970s it

was decided the land would be sold off. This was halted by action taken by local residents.

Over the next 20 years, many people campaigned for Mt Lofty to officially become part of Warrandyte State Park, especially after the area was included in the park's management plan.

Mike Coupar, from Friends of Warrandyte State Park, welcomed more than 60 people to the celebration. He then introduced speakers Flora Anderson, longtime campaigner for Mt Lofty; Wendy Smith, MLA for Silvan; and Andy Nixon, ranger-in-charge, who unveiled a Warrandyte State Park sign.

Those who toasted Mt Lofty's safety included members of Friends of Warrandyte State Park; Sheryl Garbutt, shadow minister for Environment and Conservation; Friends of Mt. Lofty, Kirinari Kayak Club, Wonga Park Environment Group, Bend of Isles Conservation Association, local residents and past and present park rangers.



The Yarra River below Mt Lofty. (Picture by Pat Coupar)

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## YOUNG WOMEN OF WARRANDYTE

As of the 9th September, Warrandyte Youth Services is offering **SELF DEFENCE SESSIONS FOR WOMEN EVERY TUESDAY NIGHT**. Each session will be held at the Mechanics Hall (next to the Community Centre) on Yarra Street, with instructor Mike Quin. Time: 5pm Cost: \$5 per person. Any further enquiries phone Julie on 9844 2985.



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(Our office is only staffed on production days, so it is better to use the Editorial and Advertising numbers shown above.)

## Pony club cashed up

Wyena Pony Club is to receive \$10,000 from the state government under a Sport and Recreation Facilities Grant.

"This is the second year of the program, which was developed to improve sport and recreation facilities across the state, Warrandyte MP Phil Honeywood told the *Diary*. "Funding, which is sourced through the Community Support Fund, is derived from gaming revenue.

"This funding grant will enable Wyena to resurface their third

arena, improve drainage and replace fencing around the arena," he said.

Wyena was one of 44 clubs throughout Victoria sharing the \$2.5million granted under this program.

"Local councils were invited to submit up to five applications on behalf of groups, on a dollar-for-dollar basis. The grant to Wyena will mean that the club will also contribute \$10,000, making the total project worth \$20,000," Phil Honeywood explained.

### CLYDE & OCKER



"Poverty in Warrandyte is NOT owning a horse, Ock!"

# Making sense of the census

By FIA CLENDINEN

There are now 8077 of us living in Warrandyte, according to the 1996 census, and the good news is that not one of us is living in a tent. We've come a long way. It's not that many years ago, looking at it historically, that most of us were camped in tents on the banks of the Yarra, scrambling for gold.

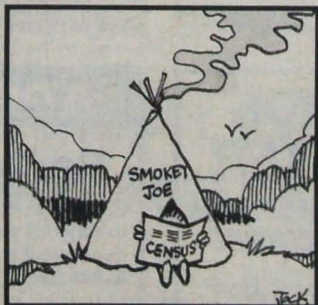
The census makes fascinating reading. Did you know there are seven adults in Warrandyte who never went to school? And while 98 of our residents are zero years in age, nine are over 90?

Probably the local ministers were surprised as I was to find that more than half of Warrandyte regards themselves as Christian. Judging from the way the churches are being sold off, I would have believed the percentage to be much less. I

suppose that in the practising of religion, as in the giving of presents, it's the thought that counts.

I was pleased to learn that multi-culturalism is alive and well in Warrandyte. Probably some inner city suburbs have a higher percentage of migrants but we have a healthy population from places as varied as Croatia, South Africa and Egypt. Interestingly, the country from which most our migrants come, after the UK, is Italy.

I wonder why? Could it be that people from Warrandyte with



their love of red wine and late night arguments, complete with shouting and arm-waving, exhibit a kind of Mediterranean temperament that makes Italians feel at home? There's something about Warrandyte, the bell-birds and the bees, spring and the wattle blossom, that makes people start thinking about—having a family.

As a result, the census tells us, there are around 2000 kids in Warrandyte.

The census also tells us some things we didn't need to know.

There are no marinas in Warrandyte and no flats over four storeys high.

Then there are things that make no sense.

Thirty-four adults in Warrandyte have a negative income. (What on earth is a negative income?)

And then there are all the things you'd love to know but the census isn't telling. Who is Smokey Joe?

On which well-known local identity is Paul Williams' Cyril modelled?

Does mezza really mean hors d'oeuvre as some linguistically knowledgeable folk like to tell us, or is it sneezing in Arabic?

Most important of all, shouldn't the census explain why Richmond has no hope of making it through to the Grand Final?







# Insect tenants who eat their landlords' guts

**T**HE caterpillar was in the process of devouring a tender young eucalypt leaf when the wasp landed on its back.

Intent on methodically munching, the slender green caterpillar didn't feel the tiny pinprick as the wasp's hypodermic-like ovipositor pierced its smooth skin. Having inserted just one single egg into the body of its victim, the wasp flew off to find another surrogate mother to hijack, while the caterpillar, unaware of the stowaway now on board, laconically looped across to a new leaf to continue its feeding foray.

Feeding is the caterpillar's sole occupation. Since hatching from an egg almost a month before, it has increased in length ten-fold and in weight over a thousand times. And it was still only half-grown. This particular caterpillar was destined to become a beautiful emerald green moth. At least it was until the wasp's untimely intervention.

A few days after its implantation, a colourless, legless grub emerges from the wasp's egg and immediately begins to feed on the fat and other non-essential tissues of its host—a somewhat misleading term since the caterpillar didn't exactly invite the wasp grub into its body to share its stores of fat.

For a while, as per norm, the caterpillar continues its daily routine of inactivity, stirring only as daylight dwindles, to resume



## NATURE

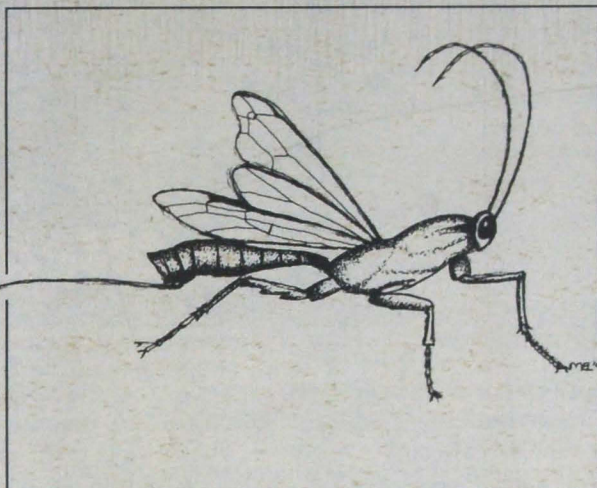
By **PAT COUPAR**  
Drawn by **MELANIE COUPAR**

feeding. But it isn't long before the effects of the parasite start to show. With its reserves drained, the caterpillar becomes sluggish, the steady increase in weight slows and is finally reversed. The wasp grub, however, is thriving. Interestingly, the whole time the grub is feeding and growing inside the caterpillar, it does not excrete any waste products, storing them instead in its own body. Only when it is just about to pupate does it get rid of them in one massive motion. The mind boggles at such chronic constipation!

When almost fully grown the grub turns its feeding attention to the caterpillar's vital organs—its primitive heart and digestive system. In a last ditch effort to save itself the caterpillar attempts to pupate by spinning itself a cocoon.

But with its vital organs all but gone, the specialized cells that perform the miraculous transformation from caterpillar to moth have been destroyed, and the cocoon is nothing more than a coffin for the caterpillar and a sure predator-proof capsule for the pupating grub.

Several weeks later, what emerges from the cocoon is not



an elegant emerald moth but a long-legged, thin-waisted wasp.

When I first started rearing butterflies and moths from caterpillars, I was not aware of insect parasitism. I was totally bewildered when an insect bearing no resemblance whatsoever to a moth emerged from what, by all appearances, was a perfectly normal caterpillar-spun cocoon.

I soon discovered that there are many species of wasps and flies that parasitise caterpillars. Eggs are not always injected directly into the victim. Sometimes they are laid externally, attached to the body of a caterpillar, leaving it up to the

emerging grub to find its own way in by burrowing through the skin. Others, which are simply laid on leaves, rely on the caterpillar itself ingesting them.

As with many aspects of nature, we humans have turned parasitic insects to our advantage, using them as biological controls, particularly for agricultural pests. But the real role of these unendearing parasites is one of control and balance in the natural environment.

They are but one strand in the delicate, intricate web of life that has evolved over the millenia to fill every available niche on this unique planet.

# To ski or not to ski, that is the question. To crash—to fall!

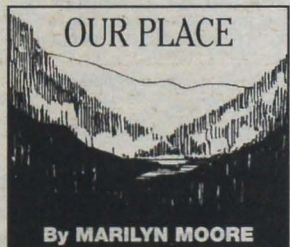
**T**HE snow, the snow, the beautiful snow... Slip on a bit, and away you go!

Not exactly immortal verse, but it's been around for longer than I have, which amounts to much the same thing. The couplet was penned, thick inky-blue, into my sister's new autograph book back in 1965. As far as I know, my Nan never actually came face to face with snow, but she certainly knew what she was talking about.

For snow, despite its floating softness and picture-postcard prettiness is, above all else, slippery. Not that we realised that fact back in 1965. It didn't snow any more often at our place then than it does now.

Occasionally, when a wet and icy mush did manage to accumulate, we'd all be out in our PJs, skidding up and down the hill. But the truth was, despite all the merriment at the time, the coefficient of friction was disappointingly high. (Probably something to do with the industrial-strength treads on the soles of our gumboots.) It required actual effort to propel oneself down the hill.

So when my grandfather told us about the way they used



## OUR PLACE

By **MARILYN MOORE**

fencing planks to hoon around the Snowy Mountains in his younger days, I imagined propulsion to be a significant difficulty. Straight lengths of sapling made sturdy stocks; it seemed logical to suppose that they pushed themselves along.

The true slipperiness of snow, its allure and its treachery, was not fully revealed until the fateful day I first donned a pair of skis. Capricious, icy, unstable, glassy, insecure, treacherous, unsteady, slithery, changeable, greasy, variable, fickle, vertiginous, unbelievable, freakish, phantasmagorical.

All the words in the dictionary, as well as quite a few unprintable ones, would not be enough to describe what goes through the mind in those first fear-filled

seconds.

Preoccupation with survival quickly takes over. Propelled by an icy rush of oxygen to the brain and a hot rush of adrenalin through the veins, one becomes intent on maintaining the sort of enhanced state of mental alertness usually reserved for stunt pilots or bomb disposal squads.

The only respite comes during the all too frequent intervals of imitating Neddy Seagoon doing his famous Houdini act in several variations of the prone position: Now folks, let's see what we have here. Right knee around left shoulder, left ankle j-u-s-t over this ear, unplug left ski tip from right shin...

The whole business is remarkably addictive. Even after epic spills, fractures, sprains, bruises and life-threatening weather, it's amazing that what we mainly recall is the extraordinary beauty of the snowfields and the thrill of accurately negotiating a difficult route.

Of course my nan was not the first to commit to verse her thoughts on the treachery of snow. Back in Elizabethan times it was described perfectly, albeit

less succinctly, by a certain nobleman as he gazed longingly across sodden moors to distant peaks gleaming whitely against a bleak midwinter sky.

*To ski or not to ski, that is the question: Whether 'tis nobler in the long run to suffer/The slings and arrows of Life's outrageous fortune/Or to adorn dull earth-bound feet with planks/And self-inflict one's own sea of troubles/ 'Til gravity and slippery calamity doth end them. To crash—to land./No more; and by so-called landing we end/The terror and the thousand unnatural shocks/ The flesh must endure: yet 'tis a consummation/Scarce to be wished. To crash, to fall;/To lie, perchance half-buried—ay, there's the rub;/For in bold dreams of snow, what slopes we conquer/ When we have shuffled from this mortal plight/Dreams give us hope—there's the reason/That makes us hunger for so much strife!*

PS—Seen at Mt Stirling last month: a rosy-cheeked couple, old enough to be Hamlet's grandparents, cruising happily along in ancient hand-knitted Nordic woolies. The bard was right. When it comes to skiing, we simply never learn.

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# Puccini double bill will charm Warrandyte

Warrandyte will be hosting yet another fine opera production when Eastern Metropolitan Opera presents a Puccini double of two one-acters, the tragic Suor Angelica and the comic opera Gianni Schicchi.

EMO, acclaimed as one of Melbourne's leading companies, is well-known for showcasing the best young professional operatic talent in the state.

The Puccini double follows the success in Warrandyte of *Così fan tutte*, of which the *Diary* critic wrote, "The principals not only looked the part but sang, individually and collectively, superbly. They also acted well, bringing the characters to life."

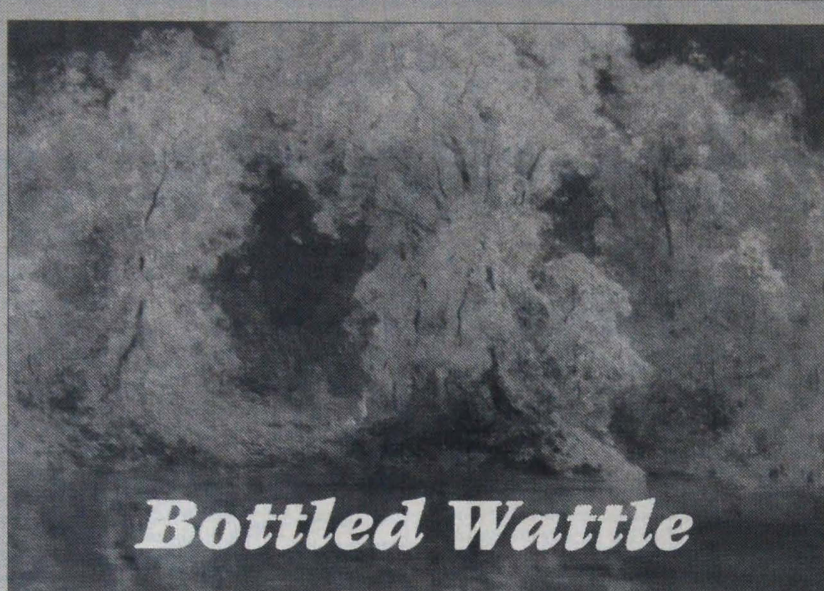
Two award-winning women are leading the production team. Director Andrea Garing won the prestigious Dame Kiri Te Kanawa scholarship and has directed productions in London. In 1996, conductor Chris Childs was the first woman selected for the ABC-Westfield Young Conductor of

Sharon Kempton sings "O My Beloved Father" in Puccini's Gianni Schicchi at Warrandyte High School Theatre.



the Year Award.

The Puccini double will be presented at the Warrandyte High School Theatre in Alexander Road in a five performance season, from Friday, September 28 through to Sunday, October 5. Tickets are priced at \$25 and \$20 and can be booked through Maureen on 9842 5413.



## Bottled Wattle

BREATH OF SPRING (1919) By Penleigh Boyd, a leading member of Warrandyte's original art colony.

Oh, what'll I do with all this wattle?  
Such profusion creates confusion!  
The vases are jammed with it,  
The garden seems crammed with it.  
Sheer quantity confounds me,  
Sun gold surrounds me,  
Soft yellow balls,  
Pollen that falls,  
Cloudy gold-dust pall,  
Drifts over all.  
Mother nature's prodigality  
Relieves winter's frugality.  
Oh, how profuse it is!  
Oh, what earthly use is it?  
Can't cook, bottle, fry it;  
Though I've heard you can dye it;  
It's no good for burning,

And it's useless for turning.  
No practical reason for it

But—

I can bury my face in it  
And the heaven-sent scent  
Carries me away.  
Each tiny gold sun burns,  
Exploding, from utter joy  
In being here.  
Look up,  
Exuberant golden flames  
Saturate winter's wan light  
With radiant incandescence.  
Hold one minute puffball,  
Poised in the palm of the hand,  
And its delicate perfection,

Just by existing,  
Praises all creation  
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Becomes meaningless.  
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Through winter's weary eye.

JANET FOOTE

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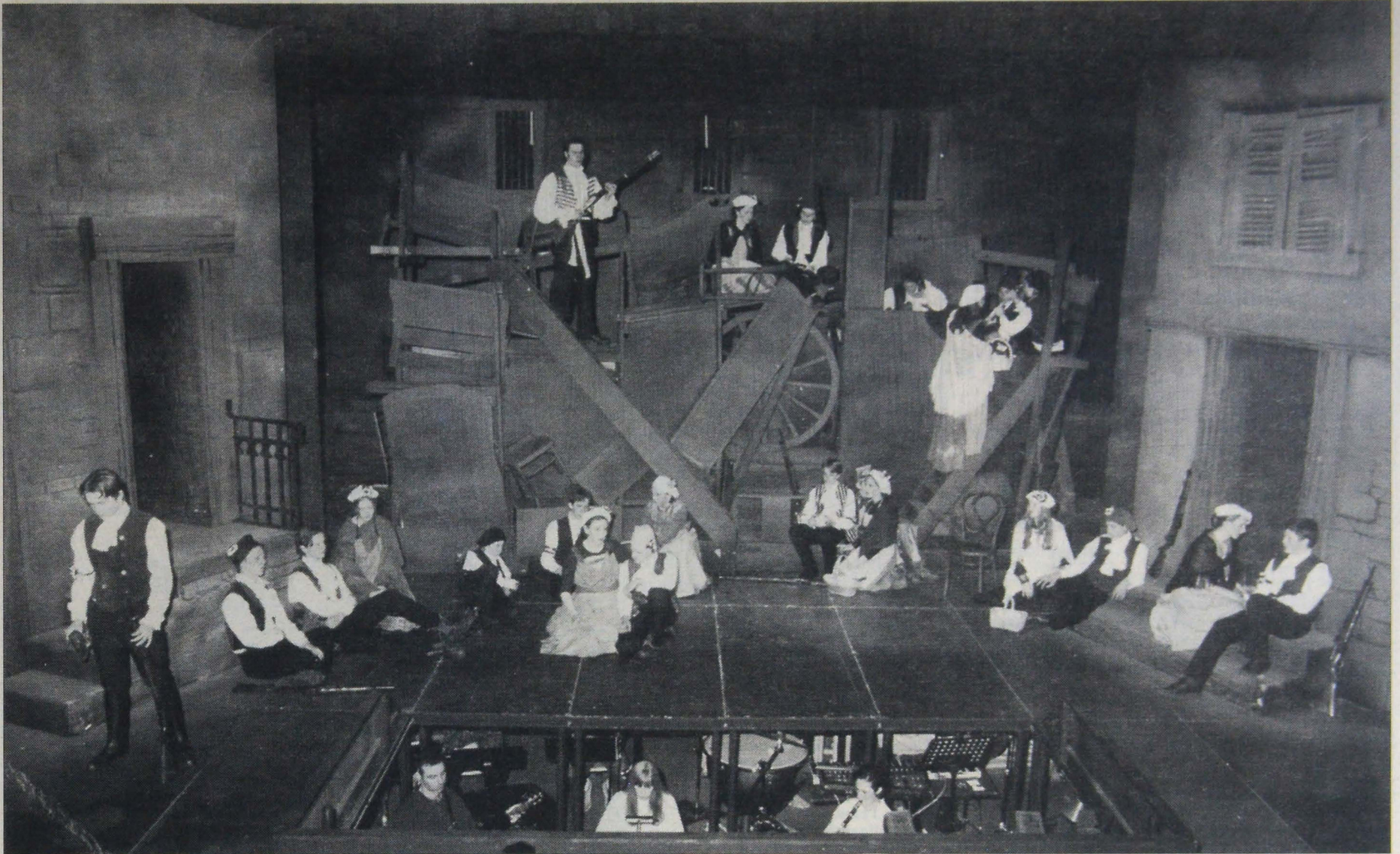
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# Singing a song of angry men

**D**IRECTORS Chris White and Lynette White demonstrated great faith in the resources of their school and the talent of their young cast when they decided to stage the Boublil-Schonberg-Kretzmer musical *Les Misérables*. But, as always, their confidence was not misplaced.

Victor Hugo's *Les Misérables* is one of the great literary experiences of the 19th century. It catalogues the life of Jean Valjean, paroled convict, who, despite being constantly pursued by the police agent Javert, rises to prosperity and honour, becomes involved, as an old man, in the Paris uprising of 1832 and finally dies, joining the spirit of his young comrades who fell on the barricades. The epic quality of the story, the

scope of the settings, the operatic style of the adaptation and the difficult music would all suggest a work beyond the range of the school stage.

But the dramatic tradition at Warrandyte High School, based as it is on so many years of outstanding productions—each one growing in complexity—has in itself made this fine presentation possible.

The husband and wife team of Chris and Lynette White, director-designer and director-choreographer respectively, must above all others receive praise for their work and congratulations on its success, not just for this production, but across the years.

Their professionalism and artistic skills inspire and develop the

## THEATRE

By CLIFF GREEN

emerging talents of their young cast, giving them the confidence to play such ambitious pieces with dramatic force, emotional sensitivity, musical precision, physical and vocal attack and comic verve.

Chris's design was appropriate, functional, imaginative and beautiful to behold. The choreography was apt and polished.

The players were uniformly good, but a few are worthy of special mention.

Karlis Atvars as Jean Valjean was outstanding. Required to age across

the years, carry the major emotional load of the play and perform several difficult numbers with a wide musical range, he worked with style and aplomb. The illusion was complete. He performed with such accomplished maturity that you believed you were watching a seasoned player, not a young VCE student.

Adam Hill was superb as the treacherous innkeeper Thenardier, convincingly handling the sinister and comic aspects of his role, creating a slimy grotesque, a true inhabitant of the sewers of Paris.

His wife, a brazen, brassy hussie, was given a bravura reading by Natasha Simpson, whose liquid movements and splendid voice lifted the character from comic farce to one of great dramatic power.

Kelly McGregor as Fantine, Justine Lenart as Eponine, Simon Jones as Gavroche and Jordan Zigmantas as the student leader Enjolras were all superb. Lisa Hill was a pitiful, engaging Young Cosette, her sweet, true voice and lithe physical presence suggesting a future star among a school of stars.

Then, of course, there was Greg Stewart as Javert, the darkly haunting police agent, running like a threatening thread through the play. It is not just that Greg, a teacher at the school, is a very talented actor and singer. He is also a constant inspiration and friend to the young people who annually tread the boards, entertain their audiences and thoroughly enjoy one of school life's great adventures.



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# Warrandyte Community Market

Under the gum trees, beside the Yarra on Stiggants Reserve, Yarra St, Warrandyte 1st Saturday of each month - except January, 9am-1pm.

Come and join in! Hand-crafted gifts of all kinds, toys, art works, pottery, plants, clothing, gift cards, leatherwork, cakes, jams, honey, fruit, produce.

Ample parking. Light refreshments available.

Bring along your family and friends.



Enquiries to 9844 4495, or write to PO Box 158, Warrandyte 3113, enclosing a stamped self-addressed envelope.

## High students on web

Recently, Warrandyte High School students from Years 7 to 11 enjoyed a special training session on web page writing. The session was conducted by Mr Paul Williams, education officer with Internet service provider, Schoolsnet.

Although keen net surfers, the students were novices in the art of HTML, the coding language required to produce material on the World Wide Web. However, the trainees soon grasped the fundamentals, and within an hour had produced web pages on their hobbies and special interests that were ready to publish to a global audience.

Computers co-ordinator, Claire Bloom, was thrilled with the students' progress, and believes the group will soon be working as a team on Warrandyte High's official web page.

"Although our home page is only in its infancy, we've already received messages and information requests from Perth, Korea and the USA. I look forward to coordinating the efforts of students and teachers as we develop our page further," she said.



## Recognition by Lions for young talent

The culmination of the Warrandyte Lions Club Youth Of The Year Award Program was an evening of celebration, recognition and encouragement at Kellybrook Winery last month.

The award program seeks to identify 16 to 18 year-olds with unique talents, skills, dedication and demonstrated achievement in one or more areas, including leadership, community interest and service, academic achievement and sporting achievement.

Four finalists were chosen by the adjudication panel following application reviews and interviews. During the evening, each finalist made a presentation speech.

Emma Rose Parsons was judged Warrandyte Lions Youth of the Year. Sharon Berry took second place, Rachel Baker came third and Justin Edwards fourth.



**COPY CLOSES ON THE LAST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH**

# What's On?



AT WARRANDYTE PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Technology Teamwork

SMALL groups of enthusiastic and inspired children from Warrandyte Primary School have been active participants in the Science/Technology Workshop program which runs in partnership with Donvale C.C. and Carey, Donvale. The program is designed to foster an interest in, and understanding of, the science around us in our world.

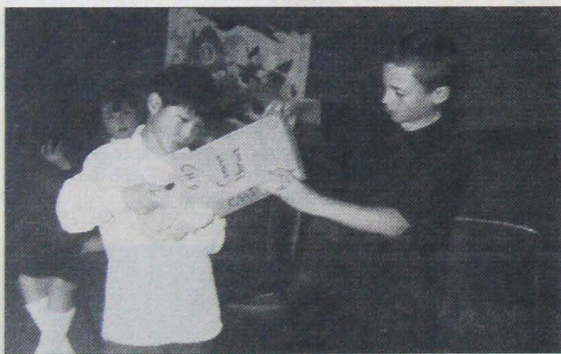
WPS was involved in the initial planning stage in 1993 and has actively contributed since then, sharing ideas, providing resources and facilities, staff expertise and most importantly—keen students.

Given a jump start with one off Federal funding in 1994, the program has been funded by participating schools since then. Parents have shared expertise, and over the years Monash University students have acted as facilitators and mentors as part of the university's "Engineers in Schools" program.

Initially, children work in groups on challenging tasks and problem solving scenarios in a 2 hour workshop session.

They then select a task to work on at home, reporting back to the group in a follow up workshop session. Some of the tasks have involved making fire extinguishers, pin hole cameras and building cable cars.

Trelawny, a participant in the most recent program commented, "I liked being able to choose my own activity and I really enjoyed making my periscope. I learnt lots of things at the workshops and it was fun meeting children from the other schools."



### Storytime

**A**N INVITATION is extended to all Pre-Schoolers to come and share a special reading activity. The program is open to all children from 3-5 years. The aim of the program is to:

- introduce children to positive reading experiences
- familiarise children with the school environment
- provide parents with ideas for storytelling
- give children the opportunity to borrow from our library.

FRIDAY 17th OCTOBER

Friday 14th November

Friday 5th December

VENUE: Warrandyte Primary School (Library)  
Forbes Street, Warrandyte

TIME: 2.15pm-3.15pm

ENQUIRIES: Phone 9844 3537

This program is offered as a service to the community and to assist children in their transition to school. Prep classes in 1998. If you are still deciding where to send your child and have not been to Warrandyte Primary, please accept our invitation to come and have a look around our school.



## Warrandyte Community Church

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(White Wine of the Month)..... \$14.95 (\$170 per doz)
- ★★★★★ Yarra Burn Sauvignon Blanc Semillon 1997 ... \$15.95 (\$170 per doz)
- ★★★★ Sevenhill Riesling 1996 ..... \$12.95 (\$140 per doz)
- ★★★★ Ingoldby Cabernet Sauvignon 1996 ..... \$13.95 (\$150 per doz)
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## Words & Pictures

By Bob Millington  
and Tony Summers  
Ring 9712 0402

**MAGAZINES  
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# Garden opening

The Van Der Haar family will be holding open days at their magnificent garden at Albatross Pools, on the corner of Heidelberg-Warrandyte Road and Orchard Grove, Warrandyte, on Saturday, October 4 and Sunday, October 5. The garden will be open from 10am to 4pm each day. Cost of admittance is \$5 per adult. All proceeds will go to the Dutchcare Nursing Home appeal. Refreshments will be available.



Friends of Warrandyte State Park celebrated the incorporation of Mt Lofty into the park with a champagne barbecue last month. (Picture by Pat Coupar)

## Reunion

Warrandyte Childcare and Preschool Centre is holding a reunion on Saturday, October 11, between 12noon and 4pm at the centre, 2 Masonic Avenue. Past families and staff are most welcome. Please bring any old photographs you think might be enjoyed. Afternoon tea will be provided. All enquiries to 9844 1205.

## Parkinsons

The Eltham support group, for patients with Parkinsons Disease and their carers, hold group meetings on the first Tuesday of each month. Activities include discussions, guest speakers, exercise sessions and social outings. Meetings are held at 1pm at the Eltham Community Centre, 917 Main Road, Eltham. New members are most welcome. Further details from president Stan Devlin on 9434 1649 or treasurer Kevin Murphy on 9457 4388.

## Volunteers

Warrandyte Youth Services are seeking volunteers for their drop-in centre on Tuesdays, between 3 and 5.30pm Wednesdays, 1 to 5.30pm and Fridays and Saturdays between 5 and 10pm. If you can help, please contact Julie or Ken on 9844 2985.

## Health

Men in Manningham are being encouraged to take a greater interest in their health as part of the men's health project. This project will be launched with a men's health night on Monday, September 15 at the Eastern Golf Club, Doncaster at 7.15pm. Guest speakers will include footballers Simon and Justin Maddern, author and actor Alan Hoppood and Dr Fred Eggleston. Bookings on 9848 2424.

Copy closes last Friday of every month



## 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.

## Jellybugs

Warrandyte and District Preschool will present the all-dancing, all-singing children's music band "The Jellybugs" at the Warrandyte Community Centre on Wednesday, October 1. For bookings rings Bronwyn Elmore on 9844 1394 or Michelle Hughes on 9844 2257.

## Young women

Warrandyte Youth Services have announced the opening of their Young Women's Only Space on Monday, September 8 from 4 to 6.30pm. The Women's Space will

run each Monday at this time in the upper level of the Warrandyte Community Centre and will provide a fun-filled, safe environment for young women from 12 to 25 years. Activities will include video nights, discussions, arts and crafts, first aid instruction and theme nights. Phone Julie or Lisa on 9844 2985 for further information.

## Emergency

An emergency after hours service is available to residents in times of emergency or crisis. It is free to anyone caring for a person with a disability or ageing issue, or who is eligible to receive specific home care. The service operates from 5pm to 9am and on weekends and public holidays. Initial contact is by phone, and a worker will be sent out if necessary. Contact Russ Sevier on 9627 7066.

## History

At the recent annual general meeting of the Warrandyte Historical Society, Andy Bevan-Jones was re-elected president. Secretary is Gina Bevan-Jones and treasurer Alan Aldor. The society is currently seeking

volunteers to help staff their museum on Saturday and Sunday afternoons. If you can help, please ring Gina on 9844 3662.

## Fish

As part of the Green Wedge environment seminar series, George Paras will talk on native fish of the Yarra on Thursday, October 2 at 7.30pm. The seminars are being held at the Warrandyte Community Centre. Enquiries to Bill Mallinson on 9840 9338.

## Artspace

Manningham Artspace is currently holding an exhibition of pastel, oil and watercolour works by Bernadine Williams, Julia Marovitch and Ingrid Smith Rijnveld. The exhibition will remain open until September 14 at 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster.

## Didgeridoo

Didgeridoo lessons are now available in Warrandyte on Wednesday evenings for \$10 per lesson or \$60 for the course. Ring 9844 1722 or 9754 2205 for information.



Information Warrandyte & Manningham  
**FACE-TO-FACE**

**Orientation to Volunteering**

If you would like to know more about where and how to volunteer:

**DATES:**  
Saturday, 15th November  
Saturday, 29th November

**TIME:** 2-5pm

**VENUE:** Warrandyte Community Centre

**TRAINERS:** Babette Oshry and Jenny Chapman

**COST:** \$10

**ENQUIRIES:**  
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# Redbacks poised for finals onslaught

By DAMIEN ARSENIS

Warrandyte Redbacks Basketball Club have a great opportunity to produce one of their most rewarding seasons in the Eastern Districts junior winter competition.

Sixteen of the 17 Redbacks girls teams entered have made it through to the semi-finals, along with 19 of the 26 boys teams.

Long-time Warrandyte coach Gavin Whitmore has again led the way, taking three of his teams straight into grand finals (to be played on September 13).

Whitmore's U15A girls—largely the team who took Fiji by storm last December—have again made the final. Underdogs for most of the season, they surprised their fancied Bulleen opponents to record a stirring semi-final win.

Whitmore's U12A2 boys are also in the big one after a convincing semi-final win, as are the U11DS boys he co-coaches.

Other major finalists are Wendi Hawley's U9A2 boys, who have improved out of sight with the

experience of playing against strong opposition all season, and the U9BS2 boys of Natalie Ansell.

The U15AR boys of Graham Drake came up short in a tough semi-final against Eltham after finishing the season on top of the ladder. They were outplayed on the day but can look forward to levelling the score if they win their preliminary final.

Among many other Redback teams with premiership aspirations are the U19B boys coached by Michael Eldridge and Kevin O'Mara's youngsters.

● With only four rounds to go, Warrandyte's championship boys teams are in a great position. Four of the 10 teams entered are on top of their respective ladders.

The U11 East boys are having an exceptional season. Coached by Gavin Whitmore, they have dropped only a couple of games in a year of competition and head for the finals full of confidence.

Confidence is something certainly not lacking

either in the U12 Metro 2 team coached by Gerry Pearce. They have scarcely been challenged all season, their only "blemish" being a draw.

The boys will go into the finals on top of their division, knowing that if their play to their best they will be virtually unbeatable.

Another Whitmore championship team, the U18 Metro 2 boys, have also had a blistering year. With recent strong wins against fellow title contenders Sunshine and Greensborough, they will also finish the season in first place and, barring injuries, should go all the way.

The U14 Metro 2 boys, also coached by Whitmore, have done it the hard way this season. After a slow start, they have clawed their way to fifth position and, after some outstanding wins against top teams, have a great chance to give the finals a mighty shake.

Graham Drake's U16 East 3 boys are also having a very promising year after a slow start. Some sensational recent wins have included a 40-point mauling of ladder leaders St Thomas and they

should finish the qualifying season in first or second place.

Drake's second team, the U18 East 3 boys, are also in with a strong chance. Despite an inconsistent year, they are currently in fifth spot with a chance of making their presence felt in the finals.

The same can be said for the U14 East 2 boys of Alan McLaren. In a very even competition, they have been unlucky to lose some close ones are in ninth spot, one place out of the finals. They would need to win at least three of their last four to qualify.

It has been a long, long season for the U14 and U16 East 4 boys, who are 11th and 12th respectively and well out of finals contention. Both teams have shown great improvement, however, and hopefully can build on that next season.

The U20 Metro 2 boys have also struggled and are lying eighth.

● The Redbacks' presentation day will be at Warrandyte High School on October 19, starting at 10.30am

## Little locals big in long run

Warrandyte's Rosalyn Moore saved her best form for the last run of the season at the recent VLAA State Cross Country Championships at Brimbank Park, Keilor.

Rosalyn, competing for the Ringwood Little Athletics Centre, finished 32nd in a field of 76 in the under-11 girls 2000-metre event, achieving by far her personal best time.

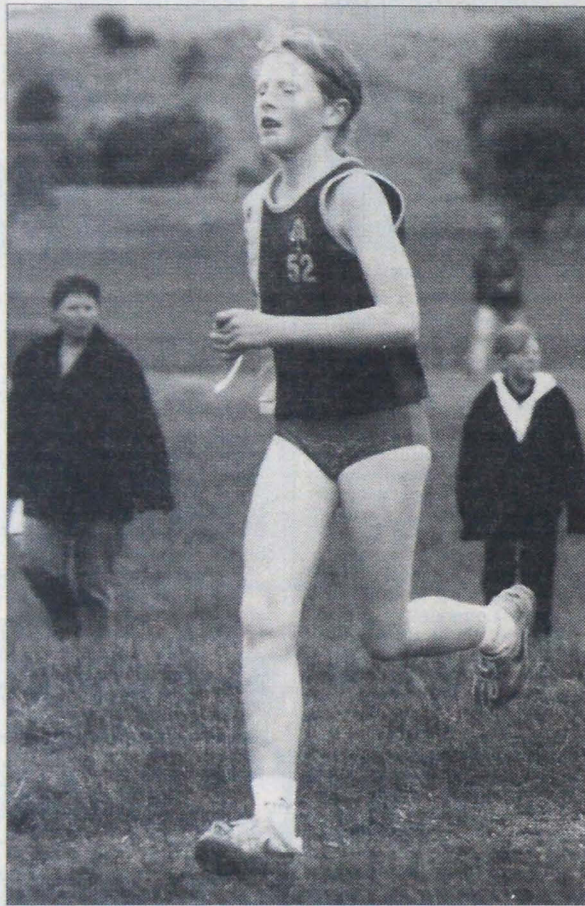
Benjamin Hirons, of South Warrandyte, also finished the cross country season on a high note, running 46th in a field of 100 in the under-9 boys event.

Ben and teammates Peter Lord (Park Orchards), Dean Wilson (North Ringwood) and Jonathon Learmont, of Mitcham, carried off the bronze team medal.

During the 1997 season, Ben helped the under-9 team to victory at numerous open days (local championship events) as well as the Eastern Metropolitan Region Championships.

Each of these five athletes was awarded the RLAC gold trophy for outstanding commitment and performance during the season.

Another local runner, Richard Moore, competing in the under-12 boys 2000 metres, also took out gold.



Rosalyn Moore on her way to a personal best at Keilor.

With cross country events now finished until next April, Little Athletics are eagerly awaiting the new track and field season, which begins at Proclamation Park, Ringwood, on October 4.

Five district clubs compete weekly at the Ringwood centre and the club for this area is Moorandah Little Athletics Club (MLAC).

Prospective young athletes of any standard in the under-7 to under-15 age groups are invited

to register. Events include relays, sprints, hurdles, middle distance, long jump, triple jump, high jump, discus, javelin and shot put.

MLAC will be taking registrations at Proclamation Park on Saturday, September 13, from nine to 11am. On the following two Saturdays there will be registrations and training from 9.30 to 11.

Further information: Lee Thompson (9876 4318) or Loris McLean (9844 1246).

# New face in, 'oldie' back

By LEE TINDALE

Warrandyte Cricket Club approach the new season with a new face at the helm and a very significant old one back in the fold.

The Bushrangers have been in training since July 21 and new captain-coach Paul Montgomery, recruited from VCA club Ringwood, has already instilled new enthusiasm after a disappointing 1996-97 season on and off the field.

Another big plus is the return of quality batsman and former coach Greg Tregear to strengthen the first eleven, which has retained all wanted players from last season.

Warrandyte have entered five senior teams in the 1997-98 RDCA competition with the innovation of a one-day team as the fifth eleven. This team will be captained/managed by Shane Bell.

The club are still negotiating with two very experienced members, hoping to entice them out of retirement to look after the fourth eleven, which is likely to be a development team including younger cricketers.

The senior season starts on October 4 and the junior season a week later.

The Bushrangers hope to field six junior teams with the creation of second under-12 and under-14 sides but still need numbers to ensure full complements and guarantee that that every youngster in the district who wants a game of cricket gets a game.

## Council comes to party

Manningham council has approved a grant of \$10,000 for an outdoor entertainment area attached to the Warrandyte recreation reserve clubrooms.

Plans for the project have yet to be approved, but Warrandyte Cricket Club hope to have the area in use by Christmas.

The club will hold a Trivia Night at the rooms on October 18, starting at eight. It's \$5 a head, BYO supper.

Also coming up is the Annual Frog Races (which are not quite what they sound) on Cup Eve, also at 8pm. It's a fun family night, entry free to members, their families and guests.

Training for the under-10s, 12s, 14s and 16s started last week and will be held each Wednesday at the main oval, starting at 4.30pm.

"We are striving to field six junior teams and if we are to achieve this we need new players," said junior coordinator Trevor Taylor in an appeal for numbers.

"If you have a friend or relative or know someone who would like to play cricket, bring them along."

Taylor said the club were trying to create a family atmosphere with improved facilities, equipment and after-match social events.

"We would welcome parent attendance to watch you play, to enjoy the after-game functions and to occasionally lend a hand to help you, your team and your club," he said.

Any interested junior should

contact Taylor on 9844 2869 or simply turn up at practice.

WCC administration manager Steve Pascoe said senior training under new coach Montgomery had been very enthusiastic — "even Tony Sturesteps has been involved in the fitness sessions!"

The final session of indoor training will be held at Maddocks Sports, Blackburn, at 11am on Sunday, September 14. Outdoor training has started at Warranwood Primary School Sport Centre at 6pm Tuesdays and at the main oval on Thursdays.

The veterans team are seeking players for the new season and anyone over 40 looking for a game is urged to contact Steve Pascoe on 9844 1213.

A get-together of veterans will be held at David Stickels' home in Croydon on Saturday, September 20.



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Book early as numbers limited. Phone Bronwyn Elmore 9844 1394 or Michelle Hughes 9844 2257.



# Three of the best!

By LEE TINDALE

Ruckman Kimberley O'Connor has won Warrandyte Football Club's best and fairest award for the third time.

O'Connor, who had taken the honours in 1991-92, polled 36 votes to score by four from rover Glen McCartin—the player he had beaten for the 1992 award—at the 1997 count on August 16.

Centremen Dale Vitoritti and wingman/half-forward Brad Valentine dead-heated for third, on 25, one vote ahead of captain and three-time best and fairest John O'Brien.

If there was an unlucky player it was McCartin who, like O'Brien, missed the last three games because of injury.

But that's taking nothing away from O'Connor, 27, a shining example of a local junior graduating through the ranks to become a champion senior player.

He started his football in the Warrandyte under-10s, collecting a string trophies on his way to senior football.

The O'Connor family also figured prominently in the Reserves award, with younger brother Jarrod runner-up to Terry Ryan. Ryan polled 13 votes, O'Connor 10 and third-placed Sean Dixon eight.

Peter Saaksjarvi won the Under-18s best and fairest by 11

## Just visiting, thanks

Warrandyte Football Club are quite determined to make their stay in EDFL Third Division as brief as possible.

Relegated after winning only one game in 1997, the Bloods have already started their 1998 campaign with sights set squarely on a quick return to Division 2.

"Obviously we don't want to stay down and we haven't taken our foot off the pedal since our season ended," club president Jeff Evans, who will be seeking re-election at the annual general meeting, told the *Diary*.

"We'll be working hard off-season to put things in place for next year."

Evans said the club's top priority was the early signing of a well-credentialed coach, preferably a

playing coach, to set directions for next season. "We've already spoken to a couple of First Division players and discussions are continuing," he said.

"Our on-field performance this season was dismal. We lacked depth and that told on us when we had injuries.

"We've been working on that problem for a couple of years now."

Off the field, however, it was not a bad season at all, successful social functions and buoyant canteen sales allowing the Bloods to approach next season "in the black".

The club will hold a calcutta night at the Grand Hotel on Cup Eve and will arrange an official "meet the coach" function as soon as he is appointed.

votes (40 to 29) from Harvey Brown, who often doubled during the season as an Under-16s/Under-18s player. Adam Thompson was third, on 28.

Presentation night was held at the clubrooms on August 30 and perhaps the biggest winner was a very pleasantly surprised Robert (Noddy) Ireland.

Club secretary and under-18s coach (among other things), Ireland won the best clubperson award and was named a life member. He was still celebrating 24 hours on.

Life membership was also conferred on Dale McCartin, a former player and Reserves coach who took over the seniors

amid coaching upheaval early in the season.

He is the fourth member of the McCartin family to become a life member, maintaining the tradition of mother Shirley, his late father John and older brother John.

Presentation night details:

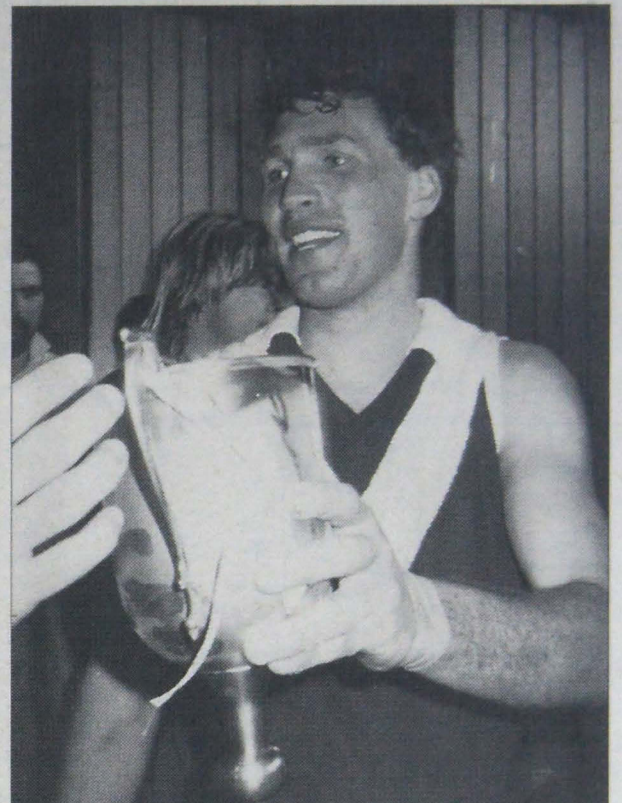
**SENIORS:**  
Best and fairest: Kimberley O'Connor 1; G. McCartin 2; D. Vitoritti, B. Valentine 3.  
Coach's award: Aaron Woolley.  
Most improved: Chris Tomlinson.  
Most determined: Liam Riley.  
Most courageous: John O'Brien.  
Best first-year player: Andrew Brown.

**RESERVES:**  
Best and fairest: T. Ryan 1; J. O'Connor 2; S. Dixon 3.

Coach's award: Paul Meehan.  
Most improved: Adrian Evans.  
Most determined: Geoff Hose.

**UNDER-18s:**  
Best and fairest: P. Saaksjarvi 1; H. Brown 2; A. Thompson 3.  
Coach's award: Luke Wilson.  
Most improved: Glen Carle.  
Most determined: Damian Fogale.  
Most consistent: Brent Gibson.

**President's Trophy:** Jim Prangley  
**Tracy (Snowy) Prior Best Clubperson Award:** Robert Ireland.  
**Life members:** Robert Ireland, Dale McCartin.  
**Appreciation awards:** Dale Comrie, Jenny O'Brien, Vic Cosmas, Dawn Bellinger, Lee and Jan Tindale, Julie Ryan, Ben Jones, Shelley Turner, Roger Drew, John McCartin, Shirley McCartin, Dale McCartin, Laurie Holmes, Vic Grybas, Prue Riley, Nicole Riley, Eric Houghton, Sue Munro, Lex Munro.



Flashback to the biggest moment of Kimberley O'Connor's football career—as captain of the Bloods' 1993 Third Division premiership team.



The winners and the near-missers ... Warrandyte Primary Schools very efficient teeballers.

## Kids are all teed up

Dedication paid off for Warrandyte in the Victorian primary schools teeball finals at the Altona State Softball Centre on August 21.

Warrandyte Primary's girls team collected the ultimate prize—the Victorian championship—and the boys finished a luckless third.

Success didn't come easily, according to coach Fiona Wells. "These children have trained twice a week after school for several months," she said.

"They've turned up in sunshine, rain and hail ... keen to learn another tactic, extend their skills or play a practice game going over skills they've already learnt.

"They've even played in weather when local football clubs have had the sense to take cover.

"Nothing was going to stop them in these finals. A 7.15am departure from school was no problem—they were keen eager and noisy all

the way to Altona. After an hour of pre-game training they were still the same."

The girls won their way into the grand final—a first for Warrandyte—with a most impressive 24-8 win over last year's champions, Wembley PS.

The boys were on next, in their semi-final against last year's runners-up Heatherton. They led by four runs after four innings, but then lost Liam Gough and Tony Fricker to injuries and saw a number of scoring opportunities go begging.

It was all tied up at the end and despite giving it their all in two innings in extra time, Warrandyte went down by two runs, 24-26.

The girls recovered from a poor start and a seven-run deficit in their grand final against Oakleigh South. Once they settled it was a real team effort, with scores level after four innings and Warrandyte running away to win 16-11.

## Young Bloods go down gloriously

Warrandyte Junior Football Club's pride and joys, the Under-12s, came home empty-handed but with heads held high from the Yarra Junior Football League's finals.

The young Bloods went down with extreme gallantry in their two finals matches—by 13 points to eventual premiers Beverley Hills in the second semi and by 17 points to McLeod (1) in the preliminary final.

Assistant coach/team manager Anthony Mirabella described the game against arch rivals Beverley Hills as "a classic encounter ... a younger version of Collingwood-Carlton clashes ... played in atrocious wind conditions".

He was full of praise for Warrandyte's performance.

The preliminary final was also played in difficult wind conditions.

"Another gallant effort by Warrandyte but unfortunately not good enough to win the game," said Mirabella.

"We can match the top clubs during the home-and-away games but, come finals time, we seem to struggle against clubs which run two teams, like Beverley Hills and McLeod," he said.

WJFC president Malcolm Eyre said the club regarded 1997 as a very successful season.

"It may not have been so in terms of results on the field, but the feeling around the club is that we have gone ahead in leaps and bounds," he said.

"We believe leaving the EDFL and joining the new Yarra junior league was the right way to go.

"This is a league fully focused on junior football and the competition is much tougher, which can only do our players good."

Eyre said the club were looking at the possibility of fielding a colts team (under-16s and 17s) next season.

"That might mean that we would not have an under-16s side, but if we could get the numbers we would have both under-16s and colts," he said.

- Junior awards:**  
**UNDER-16:** Best and fairest: Aidan Davey 1; Harvey Brown 2; Ben McKellar 3. Most improved: Michael Sleeth. Coach's award: James Brougham. Most consistent: Rick Templeton. Most determined: Adam Schaffer. Eric Houghton Perpetual Shield: Aidan Davey.  
**UNDER-15:** Best and fairest: Luke Naughtin 1; Steve Garrett 2; Scott Vickery 3. Most improved: Michael Leone. Coach's award: Luke Maiden. Most consistent: James Riley. Most determined: Andrew Griffiths. Under-15 Perpetual Shield: Luke Naughtin.  
**UNDER-14:** Best and fairest: Andrew Gordon 1; Ben Weaven 2; Chris Black 3. Most improved: David Symons. Coach's award: Jaye Tamme. Most consistent: James Johnston. Most determined: Lucas Barnes. Len Woods Perpetual Shield: Andrew Gordon.  
**UNDER-13:** Best and fairest: Joel Ashworth 1; Nicholas Malceski 2; Mathew Marcello 3. Most improved: Daniel Briffa. Coach's award: Paul Adams. Most consistent: Jerrod Gibson. Training award: Adam Atkins. Under-13 Perpetual Shield: Joel Ashworth.  
**UNDER-12:** Best and fairest: Hayden Wall 1 (and runner-up in competition Under-12 Division 1 award); Tom Naughtin 2; Rick Bourke 3. Most improved: Michael Savoia. Coach's award: Ben Finocchiaro. Training award: Gavin Hennessy. Most consistent: Michael Morello. Scott Bellinger Memorial Shield: Hayden Wall.  
**UNDER-11:** Best and fairest: Andrew Briffa 1; John Burgoyne 2; Richard Carroll 3. Most improved: Myles Pearce. Coach's award: Stephanie Simpson. Most consistent: Stephen Christopher. Most determined: Tristan Maddocks.  
**UNDER-10:** Best and fairest: James Singh 1; Dylan Matheou 2; Tom Jameson 3. Most improved: Ben Benyon. Coach's award: Daniel Andrews. Training award: Paul Garrett. Most consistent: Brod Jenkins.  
**UNDER-9 BLOODS:** Best and fairest: Beau Tobin 1; Scott Allwood 2; Tyson Fitzgerald 3. Coach's award: Ryan Hoiberg. Most consistent: Mitchell Canham. Most determined: Tulloch Grieve. Most courageous: Rick Curtis.  
**UNDER-9 BULLETS:** Best and fairest: David Wildsmith, Robert Petracca 1; Dion Mullet-Treloar 2; Luke Ebzery 3. Most improved: Alex Beltramin. Coach's award: Xan Balding. Most courageous: Chris Watson. Encouragement award: Chris Douglas.  
**Eddie Houghton Memorial Trophy:** Harvey Brown.  
**Gary (Madge) Allsop Best Clubperson:** Malcolm Eyre.  
**100-game medals:** James Brougham, Nathan Lear, Luke Naughtin, James Riddell.  
**10-year service awards:** Greg Alchin, David Clifton, Eric Houghton.

## Women fly the Warrandyte flag

Warrandyte Tennis Club have two new winners' pennants following finals in several winter competitions.

Successful in midweek women's events were Tuesday's C6 team, playing in the Eastern Metropolitan Region Ladies Tennis Association and the Wednesday Section 4 team in the Eastern District Women's Tennis Association.

The C6 team included Kerrie Van Scoy, Beris Drew, Anne Meade and Sharyn Masson. The

Wednesday winners were Shelagh Morton, Sue Thomas, Judy McHugh, Pat Adlam, Wendy Anderson and Judy Green.

Two teams in the Saturday afternoon Eastern Region Tennis Competition—Open 1 and Mixed 16—reached their grand finals but were unsuccessful. The women's Grade 5 Tennis Victoria Pennant team have so far won the first four rounds of their finals series and have reached the grand final.

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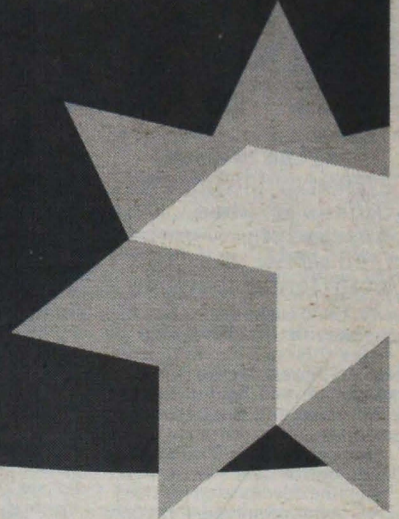
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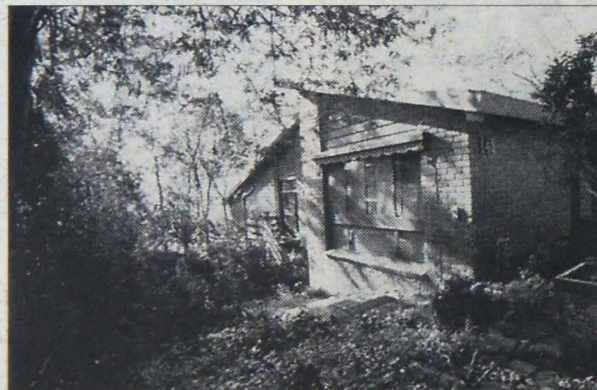
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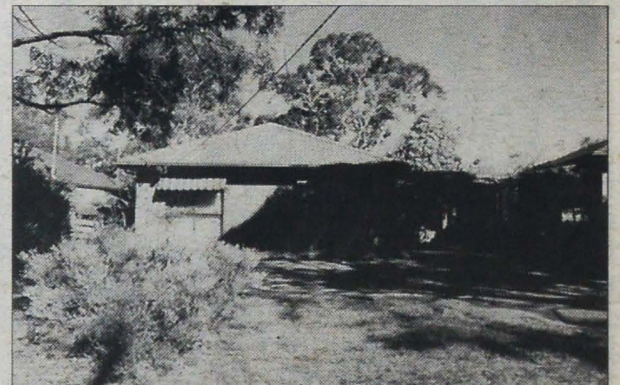
**WARRANWOOD**  
5 bedrooms and Rumpus

**\$185,000**



**WARRANDYTE**  
3 bedrooms plus study, Tri-level

**\$195,000**



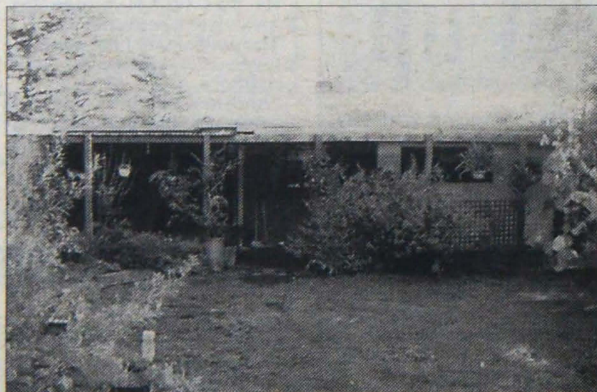
**HURSTBRIDGE**  
3 bedroom house and detached unit.

**AUCTION**



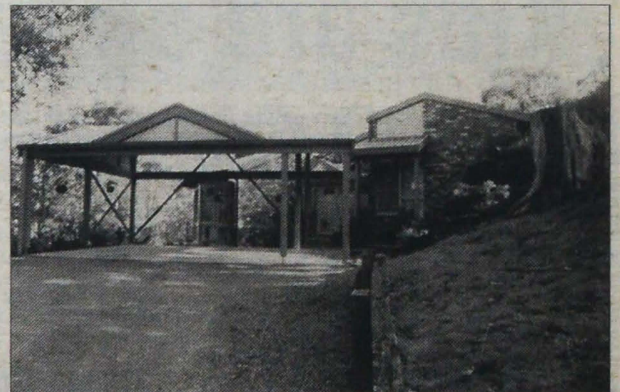
**WARRANDYTE**  
Tri-level 4 bedroom

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**WARRANDYTE**  
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**WARRANDYTE**  
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